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The

Mark Lane Express

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Agricultural Journal.

(Established 1832.)

THE LEADING BRITISH AUTHORITY ON THE PRACTICE AND SCIENCE OF THE

Farm, Live Stock, Dairy, Milling, Malting, Hops, &c.

(REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER AT THE GENERAL POST OFFICE.)

VOL. LXXXVI. No. 3667. LONDON, MONDAY, JANUARY 6, 1902. THIRTY-TWO PAGES. PRICE 3D.

SOCIETIES.

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION of ENGLISH HOP GROWERS. (Founded June 1894.)

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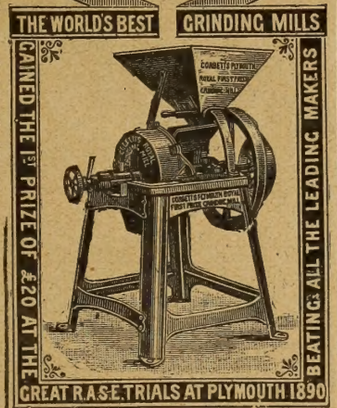
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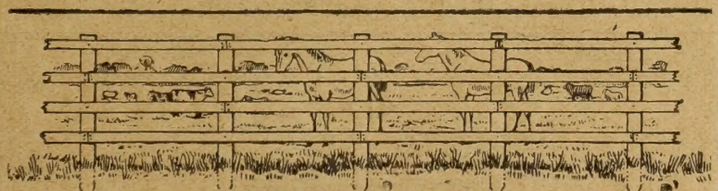
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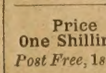
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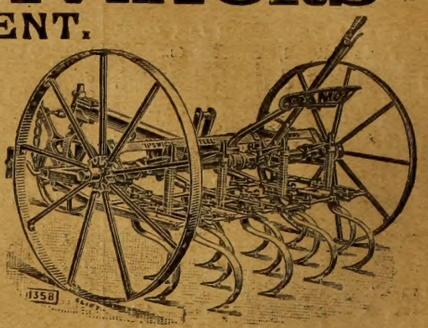
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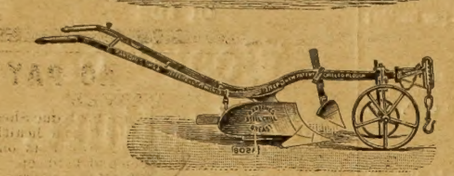
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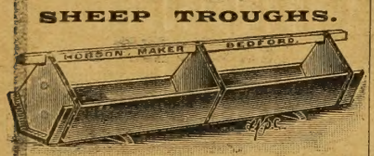


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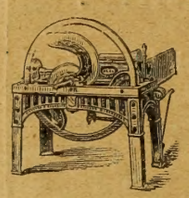
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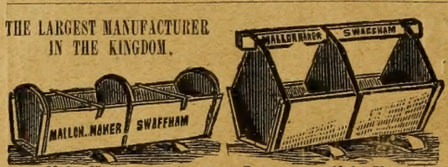


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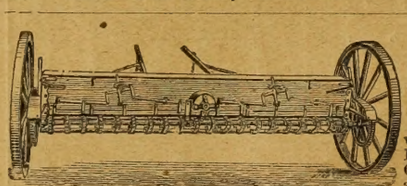
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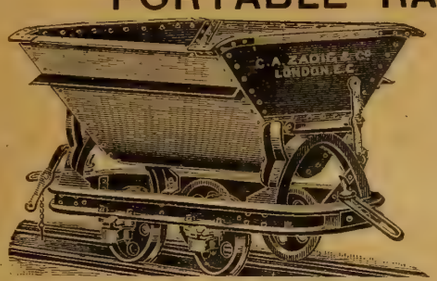
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MEASURES TO ENSURE MILK PURITY.

A very important circular to local authorities, has just been issued by the Board of Agriculture, calling their attention to the regulations to prevent milk adulteration, and to set up a legal standard of purity for that necessary article of diet, which came into operation on the 1st of September last. The very fact that the Board sees it necessary to issue this circular shows that all local authorities have not taken the necessary steps to bring them into effectual operation, yet any neglect of duty in this particular seems even more reprehensible than ignoring the provisions of the Margarine Act, considering how necessary an article of diet pure milk is for young children, how great must be the privation of those of the working classes when it is retailed in a badly adulterated state. The circular points out what everybody must admit, and producers are rejoiced to know that the standard is a most reasonable one, and as it actually does not demand so large a proportion of milk-fat and solids in milk as the genuine article usually affords, it becomes all the more urgent that every effort should be made to enforce so reasonable a standard. This can, of course, only be done by taking frequent analyses of the milk sold by suspected cream extractors and those sellers having an evil reputation among their customers for adulteration, which, in present times, is probably not effected so much by adding water as formerly, simply because separated milk is a far better agent for fraudulent practices, effecting little change in colour or taste, and being therefore less liable to detection.

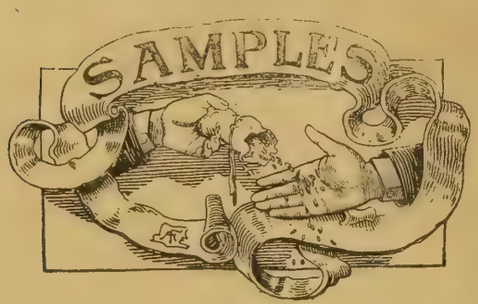
Prominence in the circular is given to the fact that according to the evidence given before the Departmental Committee, the practice of mixing separated milk with new milk, and fraudulently retailing the whole as new, is greatly on the increase. This is only too likely, as only the shrewdest of customers or those of nice taste would readily detect the deceit. Some may think that such being the case, little harm would be done. But that is a mistake, especially when children and invalids are the consumers, who urgently require all the elements to be retained to make milk perfectly well adapted to their delicate internal organisms. The classes chiefly defrauded are the least wealthy, those who have not the means of availing themselves of choicer delicacies or nutritives of a higher order. Their protectors, the local authorities, should certainly then undertake the duty of insisting that this article of diet so needful to them should be supplied in its purest, most wholesome form. Justice to producers demands this action likewise, inasmuch as every gallon of separated milk, employed in this nefarious system of adulteration, takes the place of the same quantity of the genuine article, rendered thereby not wanted in all probability, and unless the fraudulent use of the former were put a stop to, the price of milk would fall so low, as the natural result of any lengthened period of unbridled licence, as to be no longer worth being produced by farmers in the country; it would not bear middlemen's profits and the railway rates. The Board of Agriculture very rightly perceived it to be urgently important that this infamous artistic adulteration should be stamped out, and it is much to be hoped local authorities, by aid of the regulations, will so severely administer the Food and Drugs Act that the object will be fully attained.

With praiseworthy care to prevent, as far as possible, undeserved prosecutions and convictions, a special clause of the circular points out that, "although the quality of genuine milk will usually be well above the official limits of fat and solids, there may occasionally, and especially at certain times of the year, be cases in which a sample of genuine milk may fall below those limits." Hence, in the absence of other suspicious circumstances, the local authority is recommended, in the first instance, to call the attention of the vendor to the report of the analyst, with inquiry if any explanation can be given; after which they can exercise discretion whether proceedings ought to be taken or not. This is as it should be, it being perfectly well known that sudden changes, both of diet and temperature, have a marvellous influence on the character of lacteal secretion. When the subject was discussed by the Central Chamber, an instance was given of the milk of a herd going down several degrees on a winter morning owing to the windows of the cow-house having been left open all night, thereby causing a cold draught.

The arts and practices of adulteration are manifold, and it is pointed out that the custom

has been proved to be rife of adding gelatin to cream to give a fictitious appearance of richness or thickness. Local authorities are advised to instruct their analysts to ascertain whether this process of adulteration is practised in their respective districts, and, if so, whether to put a stop to its proceedings might not, with advantage, be taken under Section 6 of the Sale of Food and Drugs Act.

We think our readers will join with us in opinion that the action of the Board of Agriculture has all along been highly judicious and praiseworthy on this milk standard question. In the first place, as Mr. Hanbury told the Scotch farmers some time ago, the Board took on itself a serious responsibility when it threw over the report of its own Committee, deeming the standard recommended therein to be a perfectly ideal one. The circular is in perfect character with the regulations, which, if worked in the proper spirit, will, it is to be hoped, have the desired effect in stopping these fraudulent practices which honest producers and consumers alike have suffered from, without unduly straining the law, by prosecuting farmers and dairymen when they are the victims of circumstances.



By a Man of Mark Lane.

A telegram from Toronto states that the Canadian Packers' Association has determined to adopt active measures to develop the trade in canned fruits and vegetables of Canadian growth and manufacture in Great Britain. Stores for their sale will be opened in the leading centres in England, Scotland, and Ireland, and energetic efforts will be made to bring Canadian canned goods to the attention of British buyers.

The revenue returns issued on Tuesday show that for the quarter ending 31st December, 1901, the total revenue was £35,991,808, of which £33,071,628 was paid into the Exchequer, the balance, £2,920,180, being lodged to the credit of the local taxation account. The quarter's revenue shows a net increase of £3,596,659 on the amount paid into the Exchequer as compared with the corresponding quarter of last year. For the three-quarters of the financial year the revenue was £94,259,430, of which £87,472,160 was paid into the Exchequer and £6,787,270 to the relief of local taxation. The net increase on the revenue for the three quarters as compared with the corresponding period of last year is £7,989,525.

According to a telegram received from Winnipeg, Canada, on Tuesday, there is a serious block of grain in Manitoba and in the Northwest territories. All the railway storage elevators are filled, and also the grain buyers' elevators, and this, together with a shortage of cars, has caused a serious condition of affairs. The farmers are storing wheat at every available spot, and are piling it about the stations. Not half the crop has been marketed.

The King is patron of the National Association for the Prevention of Consumption and other Forms of Tuberculosis, but, says the *British Medical Journal*, his Majesty, who is nothing if not practical, is not content to play the passive though important part of a patron. A large sum of money —it is understood about C200,000—been placed at his disposal for charitable or utilitarian purposes by a philanthropist who, for the present, does not wish his name to be made public. This money, by the King's direction, is to be devoted to the erection of a sanatorium for tuberculous patients in England. For the carrying out of this purpose his Majesty has appointed an advisory committee, consisting of Sir William Broadbent, Sir Richard Douglas Powell, Sir Francis Laking, Sir Felix Semon, Sir Herman Weber and Dr. Theodore Williams, with Dr. Horton Smith and Dr. John Broadbent as hon. secretaries.

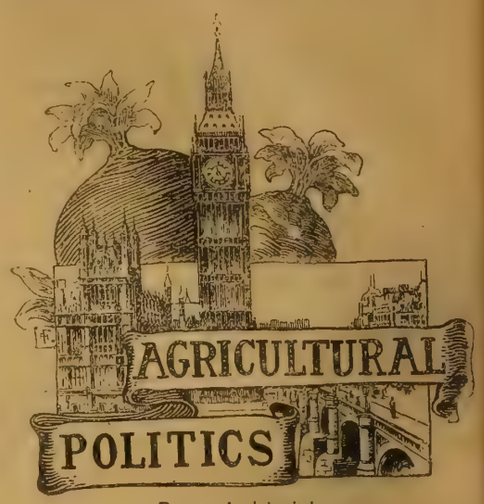
The sanatorium is intended to accommodate one hundred patients—fifty male and fifty female. Of the total number of beds eighty-eight will be reserved for persons who can only pay a small amount towards the cost of treatment, while twelve will be set apart for well-to-do sufferers. In order that no means of attaining this object may be omitted, his Majesty has approved the expenditure of £800 in prizes to be given for the best essays and plans for the construction of a model sanatorium.

The receipts on account of Revenue from April 1st, 1901, when there was a balance of £5,596,918 to December 31st, 1901, were £87,472,160, against £79,477,758, in the corresponding period of the preceding financial year, which began with a balance of £3,517,047. The net expenditure was £147,346,842, against £134,007,234 to the same date in the previous year. The Treasury balances on December 31st 1901, amounted to £1,759,847, and at the same date in 1900 to £2,915,022.

In the current issue of *M.A.P.* Mr. John Treadwell, the well-known breeder of Oxford Down sheep, is referred to, and although the particulars given are not altogether new they are worthy of reproduction. It is first stated that at the Smithfield Show His Majesty the King gave a particularly hearty handshake to Mr. Treadwell, an old acquaintance for whom he has the warmest regard. Then follow these remarks: "This well-known Bucks farmer lives near Waddesdon Manor—where the injury to the King's knee happened during one of many visits to the late Baron Ferdinand de Rothschild. He is now a tenant of Miss Alice de Rothschild, who succeeded to her brother's estate. Mr. Treadwell is a fine type of the English yeoman, tall, stalwart, and sturdy. For forty years and more he has regularly appeared at Aylesbury Market, always wearing a white beaver hat, which has gained as wide a reputation amongst agriculturists as Bernard Quaritch's ancient tile had with book-collectors.

"Mr. Treadwell lets his hats grow old in his service. Once, at the annual sheep sale held at his farm, which is attended by all the chief dealers and buyers in the country, Baron Rothschild produced, amidst much amusement, a new beaver, and requested the farmer to replace it for the extremely venerable one he had on. The King has bought many of his famous rams. This year, during the bidding, a purchaser's name was called for, and 'Edward the Seventh' given by the agent. Thereupon, Mr. Treadwell, removing his hat, remarked that he was grateful that his old friend the King had again patronised him."

Some time since I mentioned that Miss Emma H. King, of New York, had been inoculated by Dr. G. D. Barney with germs from a tuberculous cow, the object being to disprove Dr. Koch's theory that bovine tuberculosis is not communicable to human beings. The experiment, I now learn, is likely to have a fatal result, for both Dr. Barney and Miss King now agree that the lady has got consumption as the result of the injection into her of the disease germs; and three separate physicians have certified to the same effect. "I am sorry to say," Dr. King announces, "that the disease is of a decidedly virulent type." Efforts are now being made to cure the unfortunate lady of the deadly malady with which she has suffered herself to be infected.



By a Lobbyist.

I have to confess to the mistake of a premature judgment. I said last week that though we wre really on the eve of the re-assembly of Parliament, no prefatory organised attempt had been made by any section of legislators to secure legislation for the benefit of agriculture. I had for the moment forgotten the resolution of the pure beer advocates. Fortunately, this resolution has behind it an excellent wisdom. They do not intend to resist the encouragement which they have in the fact that in the last session the principle of pure beer was affirmed by a majority of 102; but they do not, at the same time, intend to repeat the moral of the criticisms passed upon their Bill. The measure was confessedly a faulty one. In the calmness of the present retrospect, I am bound to confess that I doubt not it would have been workable, or, at all events, that it would have accomplished the purpose which the organisers had in view. The revised Bill has not, I believe, been drafted, but, at all events, it is already being given a most practical consideration by the leaders of the movement, and we may be assured that they will not fail to take steps to prevent its being wrecked by effusive garrulity or trade jealousy.

I am directly glad that two names are included among those to be found attached to the circular which has been issued to M.P.'s, warning them of the intention to re-introduce the Bill in a revised guise. I refer to the names of Mr. Corrie Grant, M.P., and Mr. F. W. Wilson, M.P. Both are undeniable Liberals. Mr. F. W. Wilson is a newspaper proprietor, and he may be said to have been, through the means of his daily and weekly journals, one of the influences which have helped to keep alive Liberalism in East Anglia under circumstances which cannot be said to have been other than disheartening. His entrance into Parliament was the result of an electoral victory, which, for the moment, revived and stimulated his party. Mr. Corrie Grant, M.P., has for years been known as one of the most active members of the left wing of Liberalism. He has been one of its leading propagandists; he has been more than once selected to lead forlorn electoral hopes, and he was chosen at the last general election because of his political intrepidity to act as chieftain to the attack upon Mr. Chamberlain in what I may describe as the Chamberlain area. My gratification at the inclusion of the names of these two politicians is due entirely to the fact that it will tend to defeat the Radical parrot-cry that this is really a protective measure, and is intended to benefit the farmers and the squires at the expense of the general community—one of the more inane contentions by which it was sought to wreck Mr. Purvis's well-meant Bill. The incorporation of Radicals in the movement makes for its success. Of course, I ought in fairness to add that Mr. F. W. Wilson has been from the first one of the most strenuous advocates of the principle of the Bill.

I am induced to ask what has become of the anti-tied house agitation? It is but a few years since the House of Commons had the direst pictures limned for its benefit of the effect of this system upon the morality of our villages. Strangely enough, the towns—even in those in which the tied-house system has its most flagrant expression—were not ap-

parently considered to be sensitive to the same unfortunate results? It may be urged that the pure beer agitation will, if it be successful, in a large measure meet the situation. Of course, beer is, no doubt, the great liquor of the villages, but at the same time I believe that a Pure Beer Act would only partially meet the situation. A Pure Beer Act would still permit of a man being poisoned by pernicious whisky. I think these legislators ought to give us some explanation as to why they so precipitately and decisively abandoned their first love in this campaign.

It must not be assumed that, apart from the explanation I have given, I have any reason to withdraw a single one of the statements which I was induced into last week. There is not the slightest evidence—always, of course, excepting the activity of the pure beerites—of any organised intention on the part of any section of members of Parliament to persuade that Parliament to give problems affecting agriculture an intelligent attention. Of course, by way of excuse, it will probably be urged that the more lurid questions, which for the night possess the political mind, the very electricity with which the parliamentary atmosphere is surcharged, would render such an effort an expenditure of unnecessary labour. No labour is useless in the field of Parliamentary agitation. The very fact, indeed, that so many politicians are possessed by the same belief renders it possible that a carefully conveyed agricultural scheme would succeed. There are two questions which imperatively demand the attention of the politician woh has a direct interest in the agricultural districts. There is the question of local taxation, which has been, I may say, thrust into immediacy by the report of the Commission; and there is the question of rural education, which had been also given an immediate character by the announcement of Ministers themselves. Upon neither subject can I see any evidence of an attempt to direct a disciplined and well-regulated attention to the real necessities of ruraldom—a fact which in itself is an appalling illustration of the apathy and Parliamentary sloth which afflict those whose one chief duty should be to study the social and economic position of the countryside.

That agricultural, or rather agrarian, problems will not be excluded from the purview of Parliament in the next session is certain; and this certainty, of course, lends an added emphasis to the difference and apathy of the English agricultural M.P.'s. What is more, too, the economic significance of the problem which will be considered transcends a tenfold the importance of the two issues I have suggested. Mr. T. W. Russell has given such a force and a vitality to his agitation against Irish landlordism that a determined following will insist on the House of Commons dealing with it. His Bill for the buying out of Irish landlords means more than a land reform; it means the first effort in the last attempt to kill property in land. That since the general election Mr. T. W. Russell—who, of course, was then excluded from office—should have accomplished so much is a sufficient evidence of what can be done in the field of agrarian politics. Heaven forfend that it should be imagined for a moment that I desire to see a T. W. Russell achieving success in directing an English agrarian policy. It would be well, however, if we had associated with English agrarian politics a man with his singleness of resolution, his dogged obstinacy and his indisposition to subordinate his aim to the party whips. With English agricultural politicians the instruction of the party whips is a first consideration, and the interest of agriculture a bad second.

I thus see no reason to hope for more from the ensuing session than we secured from the last. We then say a House acquiescing in Mr. Hanbury's historic assertion that the last word on the reform of land tenure had been said. We saw agricultural M.P.'s so apathetic that they wantonly lost a hundred and one opportunities of questioning Mr. Hanbury on points of passing moment. In the last session Mr. Hanbury was little more than a lay figure. No one will rejoice more than I if it should prove to be different in the ensuing session. I repeat that I am not hopeful.

AGRICULTURAL REVIEW 1901.

The past year is one that will not be looked back upon by farmers with any great amount of equanimity. Not only has the season been a droughty one and consequently natural conditions against them, but prices for produce have been bad, and, to crown all, the labour question has been very much to the fore, in many cases sufficient assistance not being procurable to properly carry out farming operations. That this trouble is a very real and serious one is borne out by the census returns, and although the question has been debated and discussed at great length at various times no scheme of a practical nature has yet been advanced. But there can be no question that the migration of people from the country to a town is serious, and one that gives rise to a certain amount of anxiety.

Weather and Crops.

The weather we have experienced this year can by no stretch of imagination be described as favourable to farming industries. The spring was wet, cold, and backward, and in May, when "growing" weather ought to have been experienced, crops were held back by the severe night frosts which did a great deal of damage over the whole of the country. Following upon such a late and disastrous spring and summer drought made itself more severely felt than would ordinarily be the case, not only affecting farm crops but also live stock. The continued dryness throughout the back end put to a great expense many farmers who had to continue carting water until an unprecedentedly late period. The autumn otherwise was of a favourable character, and tillage operations were pushed forward to an exceptional extent so that the position of the farm at the present time is unusually forward, in fact, with anything like a sufficiency of rain during the winter, prospects for the coming season are favourable. The droughty weather made itself felt upon the yield of all crops. The root crop was a very variable one over the whole country. In one district the yield would be good, while in another adjoining neighbourhood but a very poor crop was harvested. The drought and the much dreaded "fly" left an indelible mark and usually the plant was a patchy one, although in some instances the thinness of the crop was made up for by an increased size in the individual bulbs. The yield of hay was short, for the unfavourable spring made the swathe an extremely light one, in fact, in most places the weight per acre was very much below what it had been for years past. Permanent pastures, too, suffered from the late spring and the droughty summer. The yield of hops although confined to a limited district was larger than for many years, in fact, a great portion of the secondary qualities did not pay for the cost of picking, and a considerable quantity was accordingly left on the vines.

Crop Areas.

Again we have to note a considerable contraction in the area devoted to wheat in the United Kingdom. The decrease is not confined to any particular portion of the country, but both in England, Wales, Scotland and Ireland we find that our principal bread stuff is being grown in decreasing quantities. The severe competition with which arable land farmers have to put up with from our Colonies and America give us cause to ponder over the decline in the growth of wheat, in fact, our three principal corn crops have all been cultivated to a lesser extent this year than was the case in 1900. It is true that the area devoted to barley has varied only slightly, but at the same time it all shows in which direction the cultivation of arable land tends. The minor corn crops have also suffered in a similar way, both rye, beans and peas all showing a contraction in the acreage. The acreage of green crops in the United Kingdom does not vary so greatly as that of corn crops. The 1901 area comprises 11,962,247 acres of turnips and swedes, 476,806 acres of mangels, 228,427 acres of cabbage, kohl-rabi, rape, 161,347 acres of vetches or tares, and 178,350 acres of other green crops. The total area of turnips, swedes, cabbage, kohl-rabi, and rape is 2,190,674 acres. Clover, sanfoin, and grasses under rotation, as may readily be imagined absorb a greater area than last year, being 6,140,660, as against 6,025,000; this is subdivided, as for hay 2,987,671, and not for hay 3,152,989. Permanent pasture or grass takes up 28,374,628 acres, as against 28,266,712 acres in 1900. It should be remembered that this figure does not include mountain or heath land that is used for grazing. The potato remains pretty constant, but this is rather due to the slightly increased production of this tuber in England for otherwise there has been a diminution in the area devoted to this crop. Flax was almost exclusively confined to Ireland, and it appears that the growth of this crop is becoming more profitable as the acreage has substantially increased over that of 1900. Hops and small fruit show but little variation, though it is noticeable that bare fallow is put down at 34,000 acres more than it was in 1900. From the following table can be seen the area devoted to the principal crops in the United Kingdom:

—	1901.	1900.	1899.
Total under all crops, fallow, and grass ...	47,761,266	47,795,120	47,795,270
Wheat	1,746,141	1,901,038	2,055,283
Barley or Bere	2,140,875	2,172,129	2,159,396
Oats	4,112,365	4,145,835	4,109,964
Rye.....	67,753	65,044	64,440
Beans.....	254,093	265,743	251,191
Peas	155,665	157,813	163,325
Potatoes	1,223,803	1,227,235	1,222,614
Turnips and Swedes...	1,962,247	1,994,385	2,050,422
Mangolds	476,866	484,015	437,307
Cabbage, Kohl, Rabi, and Rape	228,427	242,972	219,283
Vetches or Tares	161,347	181,677	189,769
Other green crops	178,350	170,996	154,668

Corn Yields and Prices.

A droughty season, such as the one we have passed through, is not looked upon as favourable to the British farmers, for times and customs have changed of late years, and now the area devoted to the cultivation of the three principal corn crops is steadily contracting. Year after year we see the same result; less corn is grown, and we are more and more dependent upon our Colonies, and especially foreign countries, for our supplies. It is noticeable from the table set out below that there has been a considerable decline in the yield of each of our principal crops. Wheat has suffered the least of these, but it is, unfortunately, the case that this crop is always losing ground, while the others are open to a little fluctuation. The season we have just passed was not a very good one for barley; as, owing to the late spring, much of it could not be got in until late, and in some cases where it was intended to plant this crop the land was devoted to something else. Oats show a substantial decline of very nearly four and three-quarter million bushels, the decreased production being mostly confined to England, while in Scotland the yield of the national corn crop was almost one and three-quarter million bushels more than was the case of last year. In this case not only was there an increased production, but the estimated yield was over two bushels per acre less than in 1900; on the contrary, it is estimated that in Great Britain 30.82 bushels were grown to the acre, only 28.53 bushels were grown last year. Barley and oats both show a decreased yield per acre, for while in Great Britain it is estimated that 30.88 bushels were produced, as against 31.31 in 1900 of barley, oats show a still great decline, the figures being 36.74 and 37.95 bushels in 1900. The yield of our principal cereals was:

—	1901.	1900.	+Increase −Decrease
	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.
Wheat	52,457,602	52,639,809	− 182,207
Barley	61,107,623	62,314,510	− 1,206,887
Oats	110,105,530	114,847,537	− 4,742,007

The commercial side of the question is hardly more encouraging, and prices have not materially altered since last year. There are a few fluctuations, it is true, but generally it will be found that the value of a fair average sample is very similar to what it was twelve months ago. It was expected by some that the shortness of the maize crop in America, and the consequent feeding of wheat to stock in that country, would most probably have an effect upon the range of values. Up to the present, however, this has not been the case, although wheat is cheaper in London than in many districts of the United States, where it is grown. With reference to the figures which have been prepared below, they show that the prices of wheat has been fairly steady throughout the year, there being only a range of 2s. between the highest and lowest prices. Barley has shown more fluctuation than this, but the way in which the average prices of the barley crop is collected by the Government leads rather to a misapprehension, inasmuch as no difference is made in the return between the price obtained for malting barley and that given for feeding qualities. It will be readily understood that these two separate and distinct types of grain being put together under one heading in the return would give rise to considerable fluctuation, and it is to this fact that we see that barley has shown a range of 5s. 3d. during 1901. Oats have been selling fairly well throughout the year, and prices have been maintained at a moderate level, the firmness being due to some considerable extent to the large purchases made by the Government for military purposes in South Africa. This cereal in June was as high at 20s. 3d., and although values during the last few weeks have been fairly constant, they have not since reached that figure. Altogether, growers of corn in this country have had quite as good a year as 1900, or perhaps a better way of

putting it would be that they have not suffered to any greater extent than last year.

	Highest Average.			Lowest Average.			Rate.	
	s.	d.		s.	d.		s.	d.
Year 1901 :								
Wheat	27	8	June 15 / July 6	25	8	Mar. 23 / Oct. 5	2	0
Barley	27	0	Nov. 9	21	9	July 6	5	8
Oats	20	3	June 22	17	2	Jan. 5 / Oct. 5	3	1
Year 1900 :								
Wheat	29	3	July 28	25	3	June 9	4	0
Barley	26	5	Oct. 20	23	2	July 14	3	3
Oats	19	11	Aug. 18	16	1	Feb. 17	3	10
Year 1899 :								
Wheat	28	2	Oct. 21	24	6	Apl. 15	3	8
Barley	28	3	Oct. 21	24	6	Apl. 15	3	8
Oats	18	2	June 10 / July 29	16	0	Dec. 23	2	1

Milk, Butter, and Cheese.

Dairy farmers will not look back on the past season as a favourable one; more especially will those who were under contract to supply milk to the large towns have cause to remember their losses. The spring proved wet, cold, and backward, and although it was immediately followed by a fair growing season, a succession of cold nights put a damper on the hopes of plenty of keep; and when the time came to turn out cows to pasture only the richest meadows and those that had been heavily manured were found to provide anything like a good bite. The drought which followed burnt up all the herbage, and it became difficult for the cows to continue their average supplies of milk without auxiliary assistance in the shape of cake meal or other feeding stuffs. As neither the price of milk, butter, or cheese could be raised to a degree to give anything like adequate compensation for the increased cost of cows-keeping and the diminished yield, whether it had been direct milk sale, butter-making, or the manufacture of cheese, prices rendered it difficult even for those able to carry on best management to earn more than a bare living. Cheese of high quality, for instance, has been difficult to sell at from 56s. to 60s. per cwt., but a large proportion of what makers would term their best cheese has had to be sold at substantial loss, not making more than 46s. per cwt.

Fruit growers have had only a moderate season, as such large quantities of produce came into the market at one time that values were much depressed. Especially was this the case with the plum crop, which yielded heavily, but there was such a glut in the market that much of the fruit did not pay for the cost of picking. Apples were a heavy crop, but were of poor quality, and generally small in size. Prices consequently for first-class dessert fruit have ruled good, while best quality cider fruit also was in request. The droughty season affected the strawberry crop, and generally soft fruit-growers have but little to congratulate themselves upon. Although hardly fruit, a feature of the past year was the immense quantities of mushrooms which were gathered in all parts of the country, the yield being considerably more than has been the case for many years.

The Stock Industry.

The lot of stock-breeders this year has not been a particularly easy one. The late spring and the droughty summer and consequent scarcity of keep at two important seasons of the year was unfortunate, and the result is to be seen in our returns of the number of stock in the United Kingdom. Of horses there has been an increase of some 11,000, and it is a peculiar fact that the greater bulk of this number were raised in England, all the other sections of the country being almost stationary. Cattle also show a considerable increase, the larger numbers being equally divided among beasts of all ages. The increase more especially was noticeable in Ireland, where it is estimated there are now something like 64,000 more horned stock than was the case in 1900. In fact, in England and Wales there has been a distinct decrease, and it is only to the larger number that has been bred in Scotland and Ireland that we are able to show an increase in this section of the farm. Of sheep there has again been a decline, largely due to the unsatisfactory season from the flockmasters' point of view, while the very precarious position in which the root crops were in the early summer did not afford a rosy prospect for stock-keepers. The decrease has been pretty equally divided over England, Wales, and Ireland, the only section of the country to show an increase being Scotland, where generally the season was of a more favourable character. In spite of the price of pork, the number of pigs has again been on the decline, but perhaps it is to this scarcity that values for meat have kept up in the way they have during the past twelve months. England and Ireland are the principal sufferers in this section, but the decrease all round is noticeable. Below, in tabular form, will be found the numbers of stock in the United Kingdom during the past two years:

	1901.	1900.	+Increase -Decrease
Horses	2,011,651	2,000,415	+ 11,236
Cattle	11,476,636	11,455,009	+ 21,527
Sheep	30,829,784	31,054,726	- 224,942
Pigs	3,411,040	3,663,716	- 252,676

Stock and Meat Prices.

The shortness of keep during the summer adversely affected the price of all stores. Dairy cows, except those in full profit and of a good type, have been cheap throughout the year, but a noticeable feature in our cattle markets has been that the depression was most severely felt in the lower qualities. Anything of a first-class nature throughout the year has been without difficulty turned into money. The earlier sheep fairs in the South of England found prices low and demand slow, but with improved prospects the price jumped several shillings within two or three weeks. In our Northern counties and Scotland sheep-breeders usually have had a much better time, as the drought was not felt so severely in that portion of our islands. With reference to the price of meat, just lately there has been an upward tendency, as really first-class beef has not been in such large supply as was anticipated. Otherwise, however, throughout the year values were rather below those prevalent in 1900. Pigs have varied but little in price, usually making from 2s. 8d. to 4s. 4d. and 4s. 8d. in the Metropolitan market.

Pedigree Stock.—Cattle.

The closing of the Argentine ports consequent upon the outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease in this country has had a wide and far-reaching effect upon our pedigree stock industry. Fortunately, the improved demand from the United States of America has served to instil a little life into the proceedings, for otherwise our owners of pedigree herds would have had a very disastrous season. Shorthorn breeders, where the stock has been of first-class quality, have made good prices. Mr. Duthie obtained £682 10s. for a bull calf, while twenty of this age averaged £157 11s. Lord Lovat succeeded in obtaining £420 for a bull, while Mr. Marr for a bull calf received £320 10s. As regards females, values have ruled lower, the best being that obtained by Mr. Anderson for a heifer calf, which was £162 15s. Herefords have had an exceptional year, not only in this country, but more especially in the United States. Exportations have been more numerous, up to £1,250 being paid privately for a bull. At public auction Mr. Price made 420gs., while Mr. W. Tudge succeeded in obtaining £346. Devon cattle have also had a moderate year, one belonging to Mr. Bowman making £157 10s., and a yearling bull £105. A feature of the year has been the increasing popularity of the Aberdeen-Angus. The best price obtaining for bulls during the year was £89, for one of Mr. J. H. Bridge's. Jerseys have experienced a good demand, one of Lord Rothschild's bulls realising 73gs., while at one guinea less a bull bred by Colonel McCalmont changed owners. Several cases of Jersey cows making more than £100 have to be recorded, Lord Rothschild, Duke of Marlborough, Mr. Pope, and Lady Greenall being the fortunate vendors.

Horses.

Breeders of Shire horses have again experienced a good year for their special class. Perhaps the outstanding feature was the sale of geldings held last spring by the late Lord Wantage, when fifty-one averaged very nearly £89. With regard to breeding stock, Mr. Fred Crisp secured a record when he obtained £1,627 10s. for one of his stallions, while the best sale averages were Sir J. Blundell Maple's £196 18s. 4d. and Mr. P. A. Mintz's £186 18s. 4d. Clydesdales have had a satisfactory season, a number being bought for export, Canadians especially being fond of this type of horse. Values ranged up to £80 for a gelding, while stallions realised 50gs. Hackneys have done rather better than in 1900. A stallion made £451 10s., while at the Agricultural Hall in the spring 400gs. was given for a brood mare. Hunters of good class have been in demand, up to 700gs. being obtained, while for harness horses really first-class animals have made high values. Polo pony breeders, too, had a good season, but just at present the supply of ponies is quite equal to the demand.

Sheep and Pigs.

Pedigree sheep-breeders have suffered from depression all round, this being more especially the case where foreign demand was relied upon. The best price in the sheep section was made by one of Mr. A. E. Mansell's yearling rams, for which the record price of 400gs. was paid. At the same sale a ram lamb made £189, and yearling ewes made 25gs. Lincoln long-wool breeders have had a bad year, the top price being only 52gs., which shows a very great falling off as compared with the values made in previous years. Mr. J. T. Hobbs has made a record for Oxford Down yearling rams, obtaining £178 for a ram with which he was very successful in the showyards throughout the kingdom. South Downs have experienced a quiet trade, as have also the Hampshires, except of the very highest class. Suffolks sold up to £63, while Kentish or Romney Marsh made up to £40. North country breeds have, on the whole, had a satisfactory season, though the prices recorded were hardly so good as in 1900. Of pigs, there have been one or two good sales, Mr. A. Hiscock securing an average of £10 for a draft from his herd, while during the year the large black breed, which has but recently started a herd book, attracted a good deal of attention, good prices being made for choice specimens.

Contagious Diseases.

Although general health of farm stock has left but little to be desired, various maladies scheduled under the Contagious Diseases (Animals) Act have caused a considerable amount of trouble. Foot-and-mouth disease, it seems, has at length been stamped out in England, but during the year twelve different centres of infection were discovered, the number of animals being attacked being 668, which is considerably larger than last year, when 263 animals were involved in 20 outbreaks. Pressure has lately been put upon the Minister of Agriculture to declare if a county free from foot-and-mouth disease, so as to permit the introduction into South American ports of British pedigree stock; as yet, however, no arrangement has been come to with the Argentine Republic, which is the biggest customer at present of our stock-owners. It is pleasing to note that our herds still continue free from pleuro-pneumonia, no outbreak having occurred since 1898, while as a result of the stringent regulations lately in force against rabies the country is now entirely free from the scourge. Anthrax is a trouble mostly confined to city stables, and upon reference to the returns we find that the number of animals attacked during 1901 were somewhat similar to previous years. It is true the number of attacks have been considerably more, but, at the same time, the number of individual animals involved are only a very few in excess of 1900. Increased vigilance in the direction of swine fever has led to an extremely large increase in the number of outbreaks of this troublesome complaint. Well over 3,000 centres of affection have been detected, as against only 1,868 last year and 2,262 in 1899. It is curious, however, to note that the number of swine slaughtered as diseased, or having been exposed to infection, was something like 2,000 fewer than in 1900, the number in the latter case being 17,316, as against 30,221 in 1899 and 41,218 in 1893. It is apparent, then, from the above figures that swine fever is surely but slowly losing its hold on our stock, and it is hoped that the increased attention and the more rigorous measures taken by the Board of Agriculture will result in this costly and annoying trouble being brought within still further limits, if not altogether stamped out.

Shows and Societies.

The last season has been a considerably better one for our agricultural societies, for although there have been a number of instances in which considerable sums of money have been lost through bad weather and other causes the season has been nothing like such a disastrous one as in 1900. Our premier agricultural society, The Royal, held a most successful meeting at Cardiff in June, and as a result of a visit to this densely populated neighbourhood the Council of the Society were able to put by a substantial balance, which may, however, be swallowed by the show at Carlisle in 1902 when it is expected, as this is an agricultural neighbourhood, the attendance of visitors will not be sufficiently large to cover expenses. The Bath and West of England Society which visited Croydon, however, hardly had such a pleasant experience, as in spite of almost ideal weather and its nearness to the Metropolis the public did not visit the Exhibition in the numbers that were expected. The Royal Lancashire have a satisfactory meeting to record at St. Helens, while the Yorkshire Society also met with success at Bradford. The Highland and Agricultural Society did well with their visit to Inverness, while the spring and summer shows of the Royal Dublin Society at Ballsbridge and the North East of Ireland Agricultural Society at Belfast were also well patronised, and succeeded in bringing together good collections of stock and produce.

Agriculture in Parliament.

Very little legislation affecting agriculture was carried during the year. The Agricultural Rating Act was renewed for a further term of four years,

but beyond this there was no Act of any importance affecting the position of the farmer. A useful bill, unfortunately not passed into law owing to pressure of business at the end of the season, was the Damage of Crops by Sparks from Engines, and, although it was passed at the second reading by a majority of 227 it was found impossible by the Government to take the opportunity to put it on the statute book. Another Bill that was lost through a similar cause was the Lights on Vehicles Bill, which aimed at bringing into uniformity the existing bye-laws and other local regulations affecting the carrying of lights on vehicles travelling on the High road. The arsenic in beer scare resulted in the appointment of a Royal Commision; but interest by now has practically evaporated in the subject.

Prospects for 1902.

Prices of all sorts of farm produce do not lead one to expect that farming in 1902 will be of a much more successful character than we experienced last year. The natural conditions, fortunately, leave us in a favourable position, and with a good fall of rain during the winter, so that our much-depleted wells and streams may be refilled, there can be no doubt that the agriculturist starts the year 1902 with a great deal in his favour. Competition from abroad is not likely to be any more lax this year; in fact, rather will it be still keener, and under existing conditions I am afraid that agriculturists cannot look forward to more prosperous times. The sympathetic speech of the Minister of Agriculture shows, however, that the Government are fully alive to the difficulties under which the faiming industry suffers, and it is hoped that they will be able to do something to render their lot more tolerable.

PRACTICE WITH SCIENCE.

South Eastern Agricultural College.

The annual report of the governors of the South Eastern Agricultural College, Wye, for the year 1900-1901, has been issued together with the financial statement. The receipts amounted to £12,024 4s. 11d., including £1,800 contribution from the Kent County Council, £1,200 contribution from the Surrey County Council, £1,000 grants from the Board of Agriculture, £3,379 12s. 6d. College receipts, £4,314 1s. 1d., farm receipts, and £185 18s. 5d. dairy receipts. The expenditure amounted to £13,455 7s. 9d., comprising £7,366 15s. College,, £4,732 13s. 4d. farm. £291 17s. 1d. dairy, £404 13s. 4d. general expenses, £659 9s. interest and principal on loans. There was thus left a deficiency of £1,431 2s. 10d., which, together with £1,396 5s. 7d. expended in excess of the loan for the new buildings and £196 10s. 10d. expended on new sheds, made a total of £3,023 19s. 3d. The County Council at its last meeting decided to bear its proportion of this adverse balance.

The report states that the work of the College has been efficiently and satisfactorily carried on throughout the year. The Farm, with Mr. Smith of the College acting as Farm Director, under the direction of the Farm Committee, had received careful attention throughout the year, and the Governors had expended a considerable sum for new sheds and in improving the yards and barn, whilst the cow yard was being covered in with patent boarded roofing. The loss on the year's working was accounted for mainly by the experimental work which was carried on at the Farm and for which no credit was given, and by the very low prices of the past year. The extension of the College buildings had been completed. The total cost of such buildings and the necessary alterations of the old buildings amounted to £11,396 5s. 7d., being £1,396 5s. 7d. in excess of the loan for such purpose.

The Principal's report to the Governors states that the year began with 53 students, of whom 12 were non-resident; two left at Christmas and three entered; nine left at Easter and one entered; making an average attendance of 50 students for the year. Of the students who left during and at the end of the year, 10 had been at the College for one year or less, 18 for two years, and seven for a longer period. All the students took the ordinary course except four, who were working for a special examination, and two who only attended for scientific work. Of the students who were at College during the year 19 were from Kent, 11 from Surrey, and 27 from other counties (Sussex two, London five, Croydon one).

Outbreak of Anthrax Near Spalding.—The Spalding Cattle Diseases Committee have received information of an outbreak of anthrax at Deeping St. Nicholas, four miles from Spalding. Two animals out of a herd of 49 cattle have died on the farm of Mr. George Freir. The disease has been certified by Mr. Reeks, of Spalding, veterinary inspector, as anthrax, and the usual precautions have been taken.

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The Sale of Milk: Regulations of the Board of Agriculture.

The Board of Agriculture has issued a circular to the local autorities calling attention to the regulations relating to the sale of milk, which, in pursuance of the powers conferred upon the Board by Section 4 of the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, 1899, were made by the Board on August 5th, and came into operation on September 1st last. It points out that the regulations were as follows:—(1. Where a sample of milk (not being milk sold as skimmed, or separated, or condensed, milk) contains less than 3 per cent. of milk-fat, it shall be presumed for the purposes of the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, 1875 to 1899, until the contrary is proved, that the milk is not genuine, by reason of the abstraction therefrom of milk-fat, or the addition thereto of water.

(2.) Where a sample of milk (not being milk sold as skimmed, or separated, or condensed, milk) contains less than 8.5 per cent. of milk-solids other than milk fat, it shall be presumer for the purposes of the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts, 1875 to 1899, until the contrary is proved, that the milk is not genuine, by reason of the abstraction therefrom of milk-solids other than milk-fat, or the addition thereto of water.

(3.) Where a sample of skimmed or separated milk (not being condensed milk) contains less than 9 per cent. of milk-solids, it shall be presumed for the purposes of the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts, 1875 to 1899, until the contrary is proved, that the milk is not genuine, by reason of the abstraction therefrom of milk-solids other than milk-fat, or the addition thereto of water.

Reducing the Quality of Milk.

In the regulations the limits below which a presumption is raised that the milk is not genuine were necessarily fixed at figures lower than those which are usually afforded by genuine milk, in which the proportion of milk-fat and non-fatty solids very frequently exceeds the percentages specified above. It is therefore imoprtant that local authorities should keep steadily in view the possibility of the artificial reduction of the quality of natural milk to the official limits by the abstraction of cream, or the addition of separated milk, or of water, and arrangements should be made for the taking of samples and the submission of the same for analysis whenever the existence of malpractices of the kind is suspected. In this connection it may be observed that the evidence given before the Milk Regulations Committee tended to show that the practice of fraudulently mixing separated milk with new milk has become increasingly prevalent, particularly in some of the larger towns.

Although the qutlity of genuine milk offered for sale will usually be well above the official limits of milk-fat and non-fatty solids, there may occasionally, and especially in certain seasons of the year, be cases in which a sample of genuine milk may fall below those limits. To meet cases of this kind it is suggested that in the absence of any special circumstances indicating that the case is a fraudulent one, the local authority might, in the first instance, call the vendor's attention to the analyst's report, and ask him whether he desires to offer any explanation, and if the explanation is one they are able to accept, they might, in the exercise of their discretion, refrain from the institution of proceedings or withdraw any summons, which, in order to prevent the failure of proceedings, by reason of the time-limit imposed by the Act, it may have been necessary to take out. But it may be desirable that further samples of milk should be taken in such cases, in order that a satisfactory conclusion as to the character of the milk supplied may be arrived at.

Cream.

The Milk Regulations Committee reported that the evidence submitted to them went to show that it was a common practice to add gelatin to cream for the purpose of giving it a fictitious appearance of richness or thickness. Local authorities are urged to take steps to ascertain whether this form of adulteration is practised within their districts, and if a public analyst reports the presence of gelatin or other similar substance in a sample of cream, the local authority concerned should consider whether the case is one in which proceedings might not with advantage be instituted under Section 6 of the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, 1875.

Collection and Retention of Samples.

It is desirable that, so far as may be found practicable, there should be uniformity of procedure in collecting and retaining samples of milk procured under the provisions of the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, and the following recommendations have been drawn up for the guidance of the local officials employed in this work:—

(1.) The quantity to be purchased should not be less than one pint, except that it may be expedient to purchase only half-a-pint, in cases where there is reason to believe that the object of the purchase would be defeated if a greater quantity were demanded.

(2.) The division of the sample under Section 14 of the Act of 1875, as amended by Section 13 of the Act of 1899, should be made as equally as possible, so that the portion reserved by the purchaser may be not less than one-third of the whole.

(3.) The bottle used for each divided part should have a narrow neck, and be of such capacity that the milk may nearly or quite fill it. The shape of bottle known as "Winchester" is strongly recommended, but in any case the bottles should have rounded sides, in order to give security to the sample during transit by post or otherwise.

(4.) Corks only should be used, and these should always be new and sound, and fitting so tightly as to secure the contents without any aid from the wax which is subsequently used for sealing the sample. It is most desirable that the sealing should be carried out in such a way as to prevent any attempt to remove the cork. It is therefore recommended that the cork should be slit down to one-fourth of its length and the string drawn through and securely fastened round the neck, the ends being afterwards carried to the top of the cork and sealed thereon.

(5.) Special attention should be given that the reserved portion of milk be kept in as equable and cool a temperature as posible, pending its production in court in instances where proceedings are taken; and, if directed by the Justices to be referred to the Government Laboratory, it should be carefully packed so as to secure its safe transmission.

Dairying to Replace Sugar in North Queensland.

The threatened ruin of the sugar industry is bound to give an impulse to dairying in the tropical parts of Queensland, and there are already indications that if the northern tropical coast lands take up this industry they should be able to compete satisfactorily, from their point of view, with the southern districts, where frost and cold make the housing and care of a dairy herd a matter of so much additional expense. That even with dairy-

ing on a large scale the sugar districts will produce products of a value approximating that of sugar is, of course, impossible to suppose, seeing that at the outside butter can be obtained equal to £6 an acre per year, while sugar, even in an ordinary season, is not calculated to return to the country less than £10 to £18. However, the dairy industry appears one of the few possible partial substitutes for sugar-growing. If cane is produced, as in, say, the Sandwich Islands, the product per acre would be worth something like £80, while the outside limit of dairying only approaches one-tenth of that amount. Dairying is not really a tropical industry, but it is one which may be carried on despite the tropics, if the proper steps are taken, and those steps once taken, it may be safely assumed that things will be made somewhat sultry for the southern farmers, especially for those in New South Wales and Victoria, who have at present no competitors inside the Commonwealth, and, in their blind prejudice, are determined to destroy the industry of the sugar-cane growers in the tropics.

Land and Property Sales in 1901.

Having regard to the circumstances that have generally prevailed in commercial matters during the first year of the twentieth century, the total result of the business transacted at the London Auction Mart through the same annual period may be regarded as satisfactory, and as tending to show that the public confidence in land as a safe and profitable means of investment has been steady and certain, says the "Estates Gazette." The total amount of the sales effected by auction at this important centre, during 1901, was £5,553,098, which compares very favourably with that for 1900, namely, £4,934,769, though it is nearly a million below that for 1899, when the figures were £6,290,314. In addition to these sales, however, many important transactions have been carried out by private treaty, and a number of important sales have been held in the provinces.

An analysis of the year's sales shows that whilst one or two large sums have been secured for important landed estates, and a good proportion of the residential domains offered have found purchasers, a considerable number of the ordinary minor investments in house property, as well as building land, have been made. The same observation may be applied in respect of the transactions in land carried out at the chief provincial centres and the country generally. In the metropolis the electric tube railways and tram line extensions have influenced the sale of land and property in the neighbourhood to and through which they run, and in some of these districts there has been a stead rise in values. City sites and properties have, generally, been sold and let at satisfactory prices. Freehold ground rents maintained their popularity with the investing public, but prices were of an ordinary character; the latter observation also applies to licensed properties. Three important family estates have been disposed of in small lots during the year, and in each case the tenants were the principal purchasers. These were the scattered Monmouthshire estates of the Duke of Beaufort, the 23,462 acres of which realised a total of £626,000; the Lloyd estate, Wolverhampton, the outlying portions of which alone produced £54,800; and the Donington Estate, lying in and about Ashby-de-la-Zouch, which realised £37,000.

The principal landed estates disposed of included Battle Abbey, 6,118 acres, for £200,000; Cornbury, Oxon, 5,170 acres, £200,000; Dalham Hall, near Newmarket, 3,475 acres, for over £100,000; the Foston Estate, Derbyshire, 2,800 acres, for about £88,000; the Dunottar Estate, near Stonehaven, 4,000 acres, £80,000; the Grenehurst Estate, Surrey, for about £76,000; the Inchdairnie Estate, Fifeshire, 2,228 acres, £66,000; Ball's Park, Hertford, 1,218 acres, £63,100; Shipton Court, Oxon, 1,600 acres, £61,000; the Stokeley Estate, near Exeter, 1,258 acres, £43,000; Branksea Castle and Island, 750 acres, for about £40,000; Troy House, Monmouthshire, £40,000; Balgreggie, Fifeshire, 602 acres, £46,000; and the Saline estates, in the same county, £38,000; the Netherley Estate, near Stonehaven, 2,600 acres, £34,500; Chiselden House, Wilts, 1,068 acres, £33,117; Doxford Hall, Northumberland, 609 acres, £32,200; Fasnadoich, Argyllshire, 10,000 acres, £30,120; the Trimsaran Estate, 745 acres, £30,500; the Spitchwick Manor Estate, Devon, 425 acres, £28,300; Rockshaw, Surrey, 122 acres, £27,000; the Morris Estate, Ampthill, 881 acres, £26,182; Netherdon Hall, Norfolk, 1,500 acres, £25,000; the Rowalan Estate, near Kilmarnock; Guisnes Court, Tolleshunt, D'Arcy, Essex, 1,850 acres, £22,600; an estate at Well and Snape, Yorkshire, 2,365 acres, £48,385.



The Cultivation of Maize.

A considerable amount of uncertainty appears to prevail in this country as to whether it is possible to raise a maize crop for fodder purposes or as a vegetable, and in this connection various writers in the Press devoted to agriculture have overlooked the fact that the variability of the maize plant and its pliancy of habit has given it an adaptiveness to large regions of country with varying climate; in fact, we now know of no less than 211 different varieties of *Zea mays*, and in the year 1848 considerable attention was given to the cultivation of maize in the southern portion of England in consequence of the introduction of a new variety which is said to have been eminently adapted to our climate No doubt the high prices that prevailed for wheat during the Crimean War had something to do with the ultimate loss of this variety as a crop in this country. However, this season has seen a beautiful crop of maize fully matured on the Cheshire estate of Colonel Cotton-Joddrell, while in Essex many fields have provided a fine supply of "green-corn" for use in the principal hotels in London as a vegetable, because in each case great care had been taken to secure a proper selection of seed and *variety*. As a fodder crop, during the past few years the area each year has been extended, and as a green crop it has been an unfailing success.

One advantage of maize as a crop in ngland is that it admits of being sown much later than most crops, but from the writers' experience May 15th to 31st has proved the best period if the proper variety is selected, for as soon as it starts growing it develops very fast and is ready to cut green at any time during August and September, whichever period suits the farmer; in fact, taking *Zea mays* as a family we find that the cereal will germinate at a temperature as low as 49 deg. Fahr. and as high as 115 deg. Fahr. For a successful crop the seed selected for this country must be of the early ripening varieties, which must be sown during the latter part of May, or, if wanted for green fodder, in a late season, as late as the middle of June, while the best results in the various methods of cultivation tried in this country, so far, have been found to be from thin sowing, on mounds rather than in rows; and as maize requires plenty of air and sunshine for the plant to fully develop, the seed should be planted about 3ft. apart.

In the selection of varieties, if required as a vegetable, some of the early-ripening sweet kinds must be chosen, and even when wanted for green fodder the early and quick growing kinds answer best in this country. In this connection the result of an experiment carried out on one of the Canadian experimental farms is of especial interest, inasmuch as thirty-three sorts of seed were tested, being planted on May 26th in small plots containing twenty-four mounds or hills for each kind. During the experiment the cool weather of a late spring and early summer retarded the plants, but a variety called "Northern Pedigree" was ready as a vegetable by August 10th, while "Mitchell's Extra Early," "Burbank's Early Main," "Early Cory," "Perry's Hybrid" and "Early Adams" were almost as quickly developed. From the care taken in carrying out the above experiment, for the date of planting, time of blossoming, the exact period when ready for table, size of ear, productiveness, sweetness, height of stalk and the time when ripe were carefully noted in the case of each variety, one can judge how important the proper selection of the seed is in order to obtain good results as well as to secure a variety that will suit the condition of the land and the character of the soil. Naturally, in a warm soil the plant will make rapid progress, and the writer has obtained some very fine results in a light, sandy loam which was nice and loose. In this connection it should be remembered that the root is fibrous and the plant belongs to the deep-rooting sorts.

In order to ascertain the distance to which it penetrates the soil to procure its nourishment some interesting experiments were carried out a few years ago at the North Dakota Agricultural College. For this purpose an iron frame was constructed in the shape of a cube 5ft. or 6ft. in each of its dimensions, and was filled with shelves of wire netting placed one above the other with intervening spaces of about 2in. These frames were sunk beneath the surface of the ground and maize and wheat were then planted so that as the plants grew the roots were not obstructed by the layers of wire netting embedded in the soil beneath, but forced their way readily through the meshes. In the autumn the frames were dug out and the soil washed away with water. The netting held the roots in the very position in which they grew, and a valuable object lesson for the study of root growth was presented. The roots of the maize plant had gone beyond the 6ft. limit, and some of the roots were broken off in removing the frame. In the case of the wheat plant the roots had in some cases gone downward to a depth of between 3ft. and 4ft. Concerning the maize plant as a food for live stock, a large area is cultivated in the United States and Canada solely for that purpose, and gives a greater weight of crop per acre than any other fodder plant grown there. The plant is cut and stored for this purpose as soon as the ears are *glazed*; which merely means before ripe and while the stem is green. For this country, therefore, when used as fodder, on account of our climatic differences, the early ripening sorts only must be sown. In America as high an average as 30 tons per acre has been obtained, but 20 tons might be looked for reasonably. When cut green and stacked till dry, in Canada, it has been known to lose half its weight, still there many store it in their barns and cut as wanted. The majority convert into ensilage, chopping all up into lengths ½in. to ¾in., and after being in the silo six months the ensilage is found sweet and malty in flavour and odour. Two tons, according to some observers equal one of hay, but three, all agree, certainly give as much nutriment as a ton of hay and less waste; but below we give a table showing the percentage composition of maize fodder—that is, maize grown for fodder alone and field-cured in the same manner as hay—and certain more familiar forms of hay:—

	Water.	Ash.	Albuminoids.	Fibre.	Nitrogen free extracts.	Fat.
	per cent.	per cwt.	per cwt.	per cwt.	per cent.	per cent.
Meadow hay... ...	15·0	7·0	11·7	21·9	41·6	2·8
Red clover	15·2	6·2	12·3	24·8	38·1	3·3
Lucerne	16·5	6·8	16·0	26·6	31·6	2.5
Rye grass	14·3	6·5	10·2	30·2	30·1	2·7
Barley (grain in milk	16·25	4·5	9·2	26·15	47·5	2·4
Oat hay	13·7	6·3	8·0	33·7	36·2	2·1
Maize fodder... ...	32·1	4·3	4·3	22·1	36·0	1·2

As a food for cattle and milch cows during winter it is a diet to fall back upon, but it must not be assumed that cattle will need nothing else. Horses are not fond of it from the silo, but sheep grow to take it; but judgment is required in its use, and that is only to be obtained by the results from experience. The fodder, however, gives very good results in meat and milk. There is much more to say regarding this most useful cereal, but space does not permit; but in conclusion it should be pointed out that there are varieties to suit any of the various soils or different climatic conditions that prevail in England, and providing due regard

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is paid in choosing the proper time for sowing and the other matters mentioned above, there is no reason why our farmers cannot cultivate maize as a green fodder crop which would be most useful when the pastures begin to fail, or in certain districts as a vegetable for our tables.

The Cultivation of Chicory.

In the course of a speech delivered at the annual dinner of the Derwent Agricultural Club, the Lord Mayor of York (Alderman L. Foster) drew attention to the question of the cultivation of chicory, which was at one time carried on largely in the vicinity of York. Forty years ago the duty on foreign chicory was, he said, 6s. a ton, and on English 3s. per ton. At present the duty on foreign chicory was 13s. 3d., and on English 12s. per ton. He referred to the high rents paid for land in this country as compared with land abroad, and the little necessity there was for manure abroad, where they also had the advantage of cheap labour. Something like twenty-five years ago a little over one-fourth of the chicory consumed in this country was home grown, but at present not more than one ton in every fifty consumed in this country was grown at home.

Chicory could be grown in England, and he thought it would be a good thing if the Government could be induced to take some action in the matter. The chicory question was a small one for the Government, as the duty only realised £55,000. It would be a great benefit if the Government would only take a halfpenny per pound duty off English-grown chicory or put a halfpenny per pound on that grown by the foreigners. The result would be that the great bulk of the chicory consumed in this country would be grown here, and a great deal would be grown between Stamford Bridge and York.

Trade in Fertilisers in 1901.

In the course of his annual report on the trade in chemical manures during 1901, Mr Thomson Ackman, junr., of 6, East India Avenue, Leadenhall-street, E.C., says:—"The fertiliser trade in Europe was affected by the late spring, and, with the exception of nitrate of soda, prices of all articles mark a decline on those current at date last year. The quantity of nitrate consumed during last spring, in the aggregate, showed an increase, chiefly in Germany, the Mediterranean, and the United States, but in some districts a slight falling off was noted. The price in the past three spring seasons averaged 8s., 8s. 6d., and 8s. 7½d. per cwt., but, for the coming spring, a price of fully 1s. over this seems probable owing to the restricted supply; to what extent this factor and the agricultural depression may restrict consumption can only be ascertained by results. Natural causes have led to the production of nitrate being even less than the quantity allowed by the combination of producers, but the improved prices obtained have changed this industry from one of unprofitableness to a highly profitable basis.

"Sulphate of ammonia so far has not shared in an advance in price, and remains at about last year's figure of 11s. per cwt. In some countries, notably in Germany, a falling off in production is reported, but should the Mond system of gas production be largely adopted in coming years, an increase may be looked for. The value of phosphate has fallen to the lowest point ever recorded, largely owing to the heavy fall in freights from producing countries. Peruvian guano shipments have continued on a small scale, and values have been regulated by those of other sources of phosphate and nitrogen. Bone material has shared the depression of other phosphate sources, and potash salts maintain their value. Freights, with a few short periods of improvement, have been lower than for some years, and a period of depression is generally looked for."

New Agricultural Patents.

Specially compiled for *Mark Lane Express* by Mr. G. D. Howard (Hughes, Son, and Co.), Patent Agents, 38, Chancery Lane, London, of whom all information relating to Patents, Designs, and Trade Marks may be obtained free of charge.

25,673.—Charles Hedges, of Chancery Lane, London, for "Improvements in or connected with machines for digging and gathering potatoes."

25,807.—Wilhelm Robert Gentzen and Leonhard Roth, of Chancery Lane, London, for "Improvements in the treatment of woody and other vegetable substances for the recovery of useful products therefrom."

25,841.—Thomas Parker, of London, for "Improvements in machines for crushing and grinding and the like."

Patents Sealed.

15,959.—J. Wittek, of Germany, for "Grain, treatment of."

15,972.—P. Tiedemann, of Ohio, for "Potato diggers."

Seed Crops of 1901.

Mr. John K. King, the well-known seedsman of Coggeshall and Reading, has sent us his views upon the seed crops of 1901. He says:—"I regret I cannot give you a very satisfactory report as the anticipations of the early part of the year have fallen very short. Perhaps the most disappointing crop has been that of Early Peas, both round and wrinkled, which, although at one time promising well, only yielded less than half a crop. The consequence is that such kinds as Earliest of All, Eclipse, and Gradus are a higher price than has been known for many years; in fact, the stocks are at the present moment practically exhausted. Telegraph, Telephone, and other kinds used for market have an upward tendency.

"Radish is another crop which is unusually short, the acreage planted for seed was an average one, but the dry weather and black fly played such havoc with it that in some districts the crops were practically decimated, and the French crops proving much less than anticipated, has made radishes of all kinds, not only very scarce, but unusually dear.

"Speaking of the Brassica tribe as a whole the crops have been fairly good, and have been harvested in very fine condition. I estimate that the supply will be fully equal to the demand.

Another disappointing crop has been that of Carrot. An average acreage was planted out for seed, but the dry weather so injured the growing crops that in some districts they yielded less than half of what was anticipated. Such leading kinds as Altringham and Intermediate are very high in price, and with a short crop in France they will further increase in value.

"The Mangel crop has been a good one, and prices rule very moderate. The acreage of Swede planted out was scarcely up to the average; the yield varied very much. I doubt if many crops in Essex and Kent yielded more than 16 bushels per acre, while other districts produced fully 40 bushels per acre. The seed was harvested in splendid condition.

"Yellow turnips also yielded well, and prices for these are lower than usual; white turnips, on the other hand, are short, and for such choice kinds as Grey Stone and Purple Top mammoth prices are advancing.

"Potatoes have yielded well, with the exception of early kinds, which are advancing in price, while others are comparatively cheap. There has been a brisk enquiry for seed potatoes for the Cape, the varieties principally in demand being Early Rose, Pink Beauty of Hebron, Windsor Castle, Supreme, and Up to Date. I observe that complaints have been made that the Government has placed orders for seed potatoes with German houses. If this were the case the English growers would have just reason to complain, for as we in England have to pay the War Bill it is only right that the orders should be placed in this country. But as a matter of fact, the Government have not, so far as I know, ordered any seed potatoes.

"Orders have come from Cape houses for large quantities of seed potatoes, but the difficulty has been in getting them shipped. One line of steamers possess practically the monopoly of the quick carrying of goods to the Cape, but the demands of the Government for space on these boats have been so great that English merchandise has been shut out frequently at the last moment. The consequence of this has been that Cape houses requiring the potatoes immediately and finding that they could not rely on the shipments arriving in time for planting cancelled their orders with English houses and placed them with German and French houses, which were able to ship them promptly. I have had orders for considerably over 1,000 cases of seed potatoes cancelled by one firm; on the other hand, a German house informs me that they have despatched between 40,000 and 50,000 cases to South Africa. As we pay very heavily for an efficient navy I should have thought that the Government could have employed fast cruisers to take stores and war material to the Cape without shutting out shipments from English merchants, and thus driving trade away from the country."

A waggoner employed by a farmer of Chelsfield, Hants, who had brought produce to Spitalfields Market, was summoned at the Worship Street Police Court, under the Police Act, on Monday, for having thrown certain vegetable refuse on a public thoroughfare. It appeared that the defendant kicked from the tail of his van a quantity of cauliflower leaves. The defence was raised that the market and certain streets surrounding it were comprised within the special charter that granted the market, and that the defendant's action was done in pursuance of market rights, which were protected from the operation of the Police Act. A penalty was not sought, only a decision, and the magistrate convicted, ordering the defendant to pay the cost of the summons—two shillings.

LITERARY NOTICES.

The Agricultural Annual and "Mark Lane Express" Almanac.

This publication has become an exceedingly popular one, and is now looked forward to by a vast number of agriculturists in all parts of the kingdom. It is usually issued during the Smithfield Show week, but the publication of the 1902 edition was, and other years' issues will be, postponed until January 1st, in order to make it a complete record of the past year and to include illustrations and particulars of some of the principal prize-winning animals at our great fat stock shows. We think this alteration will be regarded by its readers as a wise one, for the statistics, which form an important part of the work, are thus enabled to be made more complete, whilst the addition of about a dozen illustrations—reproduced from life-like photographs—of the great prize-winners at the Smithfield, Birmingham, Norwich, etc., fat stock shows, is a very important one, and will sure to be appreciated. Underneath these illustrations particulars are given as to the exhibitor and breeder, the prizes the animal won, and its age and weight on December 1st. These illustrations should prove very serviceable to stock breeders, conveying, as they do, some idea of the type of animal that secures the prizes at the premier fat stock shows. To Colonial readers they will prove even more interesting and useful, whilst in years to come this collection of illustrations will undoubtedly be frequently referred to for comparison with the future winners.

The first article deals with "The Farm in 1901," and is by Mr. Joseph Darby, who reviews the year's work on the farm, and he is of the opinion that there has seldom been before a year such as the past one, when all classes of farmers have been more generally thrown into adversity by the character of the season. The next article is appropriately one dealing with Pedigree Stock in 1901, and the writer is Mr W. W. Chapman. The article is divided into four sections—horses, cattle, sheep, and pigs—and the results of sales of each class of animals, are detailed in an interesting manner; whilst at the end the exports and imports of stock receive attention. Mr. H. Stopes, the well-known barley judge, has something to say concerning barley threshing and dressing, and his remarks will doubtless be carefully perused by barley growers. Tuberculosis has received much attention during the past year, and is still continuing to do so, therefore the article by M.R.C.V.S., entitled "Tuberculosis in Animals on the Farm," is very opportune and will be read with interest. Mr. E. G. F. Walker has a good word to say for the farmer's wife; Mr. J. B. Simpson discusses "Sheepbreeding as Affected by the Price of Wool"; "Studsman" contributes an article on "Light Horses"; and Mr. R. C. Turnbull demonstrates the advantages of well bred stock. "Lobbyist" advocates an Agricultural Party in Parliament, and sets forth the outlines of a programme. As to the necessity of such a party, he says:—"If it is not called into existence the rural Parliamentary interest will confront the growingly extravagant and disciplined demands of the towns—demands which are often brutally avowed to be anti-rural—unorganised and divided. Suspicion will permeate its councils and weakness be the badge of its ranks."

To enumerate all the other articles would be too great a task, but mention may be made of that dealing with "Weeds," by Mr. S. Eames; "The Harvest of Fruit," by Mr. J. H. Hollingworth; "The Census: Town and Country Life," by Mr. A. W. Stanton; and an obituary notice of the late Miss Eleanor A. Ormerod, by Professor W. J. Malden. The list of societies has been made even more complete than last year, whilst the various tables and statistics which have been so much appreciated in previous years have been added to and brought up to date. In addition to the fat stock illustrations, there is a large number of others of cattle, horses, sheep, pigs, and miscellaneous farm scenes, which, together with the reading matter, make up a book of great interest to all associated with the farm. The volume consists of about 250 pages, and is nicely bound in a coloured wrapper, on the front of which appear, in a most artistic frame, portraits of His Majesty the King and H.R.H. the Prince of Wales. The frontispiece is a photograph of the late Mr. A. J. Stanton, who for many years so ably edited this Almanack and the "Mark Lane Express." He was known and held in high esteem by a very large number of readers of the Almanack, and a portrait will be treasured by many as that of an old friend. A portrait is also given of Sir Edward Strachey, Bart., M.P., Chairman of the Central and Associated Chambers of Agriculture for the present year. The volume is still sold at the very low price of 6d., or by post 9d., and is published at the offices of the "Mark Lane Express," 1, Essex Street, Strand, W.C.

The Journal of the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland has already

attained somewhat a reputation among farmers for its practical articles and reports of experiments dealing with agriculture, and the December number of this useful publication does not belie its reputation. The opening article by Mr. M. G. Wallace, on "Early Potato Growing," and in this the writer points out that the cultivation of potatoes for the early market is undoubtedly one of the most profitable branches of agriculture, provided the produce can be put on the market at the beginning of the season while high prices still obtain. Some idea is given as to how the trade in early potatoes can be preserved for home-grown produce, to the exclusion of the French and other foreign produce. Other useful articles in the agricultural portion of this journal are "The Use and Purchase of Manures," and "The Diamond Backed Moth." The usual official documents and statistical tables are provided.

We have received from State-Councillor J. N. Lodijensky, Commissioner-General of the Russian Section at the Glasgow Exhibition, a copy of a book on Russia, which was on sale at that exhibition. This book will prove most useful to those having any interest in trade with Russia, as giving them a good idea of the social and economic conditions of life there prevalent.

The January number of *The Commonwealth Pictorial* contains a profusely-illustrated description of the Royal tour through the Colonies. This number is first of the second year of the existence of the paper, and will do much to enhance the reputation it has already achieved. It is edited by C. S. Rutledge, F.R.G.S., F.R.C.I., at 28, St. Martin's Lane, Cannon Street, E.C.

The "Scottish Farmer Album" for 1902 is, like its predecessors, a capital picture gallery of numerour prize-winning animals at the pricipal shows—both fat stock and otherwise—of the past year. The illustrations, which are from photographs, number about one hundred, and include the various breeds of horses, cattle, and sheep, but there is only one pig, and that a large white boar. It may be that pigs do not find favour with the canny Scot, but one would expect to see the "gintlemin that pays the rint" better represented than one in a hundred. Still, this is the only fault we have to find with the album, which is a wonderfully cheap sixpennyworth of live stock illustrations and useful reading matter. It is published by the Scottish Agricultural Publishing Co., Ltd., 93, Hope Street, Glasgow.

"The North British Agriculturalist Calendar and Scottish Farmer Year Book" for 1902 consists of a blotting book in a stout cover, with a number of fine illustrations of live stock, etc., and some very useful tables for farmers. This is published by Messrs. C. and R. Anderson, 377, High Street, Edinburgh, price 6d. post free.

Among the annual publications which are issued at this period of the year, "Sutton's Amateur Guide" is always anticipated with keen interest by the horticultural world. For the successful cropping of gardens and the adornment of homes during the entire circle of the seasons, this popular work is justly regarded as an indispensable aid. Year after year the vegetables appear to become more tempting in form, and the flowers more varied and attractive. A comparison of current illustrations with those of favourite varieties of twenty years ago affords convincing evidence of progress in the hybridizer's special art. The ambition of raisers of new peas has been to obtain higher quality, with greater abundance, on really dwarf plants, and Messrs. Sutton offer an extensive list of conspicuously successful examples. The new varieties for 1902 prove that in horticulture constant improvement is steadfastly kept in view. From the section devoted to flowers we infer that recent efforts have been directed to the attainment not merely of increased diversity in colour, but also to gracefulness of form and enhanced docorative effect. In the open ground the improvement is equally striking. Instead of the stiffness which formerly prevailed, we have many graceful flowers of which Aquilegias, Salpiglossis, Schizanthus, and Sweet Peas are typical. A large number of elegant subjects follow in succession, and make borders delightful all through the summer and autumn months. It is scarcely needful to refer to the fact that in the introduction of new potatoes of the highest table quality, combined with the power of resisting disease Messrs. Sutton stand alone. "Sutton's Amateur's Guide" is truly a most artistic and useful work, and those who obtain a copy will be deeply interested in the contents, even if they do not happen to be the fortunate owners of gardens.



Monday (December 30).—Dull and rainy weather prevailed in most parts of our islands Rain was measured in the morning, as the result of the fall in the preceding twenty-four hours, over the entire kingdom, and the fall was heavy at several of the Western stations. The winds had become Southerly over the entire kingdom, and were generally increasing in force. A brisk rise of temperature had occurred, and in the Western and Southern districts the thermometer stood at fifty degrees and above in the morning. Rain fell in the metropolis throughout the morning, but the afternoon was fine, and the temperature rose to fifty-seven degrees.

Tuesday (December 31).—The weather was again very unsettled, and rain fell in many parts of the country, while the sky was nearly everywhere dull and overcast. Rain was measured in the morning as the result of the fall in the preceding twenty-four hours at all except a few places high for the time of year, and in the South and mostly small. The temperature continued very in the West of England, but the amounts were South-west of England the thermometer did not fall below fifty degrees throughout Monday night. The midday temperatures were also much above the average. A cyclonic disturbance was travelling eastwards to the North of Scotland, and the winds were everywhere South-westerly, and were generally rather strong in force.

Wednesday (January 1st).—There was some improvement in the weather over England, although rain was again falling in places during the afternoon. A cyclonic disturbance was still situated to the North of our islands, and the winds were South-westerly over the entire kingdom, while a fresh fall of the barometer had commenced in Ireland. Rain was measured over the whole country in the morning, as the result of the fall since the previous day, and the amounts were large in the central parts of England. A considerable decrease of temperature had occurred, except in the South-west of England, where the thermometer was still very high for the time of year. A slight frost was experienced at some of the Scotch stations during Tuesday night.

Thursday (January 2nd).—The weather was generally fine over the British Islands, but showers were still reported in places. A large cyclonic disturbance had arrived from the Atlantic, and its centre was traversing Scotland. This was occasioning strong westerly winds over the entire kingdom, and a moderate to fresh gale was blowing at many places on our West and South coasts, as well as in the English Channel and the Bay of Biscay. Rain had fallen everywhere since Wednesday morning, and the amounts were large at places in the North. The temperature had risen slightly, and the midday readings were again high for the time of year. In London the day was fine, although the sky was threatening at times, and the highest temperature was fifty-three degrees, which is eleven degrees above the average.

Friday (January 3rd).—Cloudy weather prevailed in most parts of our Islands, and rain fell again in a few places, chiefly in the North and West. Rain was measured in the morning, as the result of the fall in the preceding twenty-four hours, in most parts of the country, but the amounts were small. The wind was everywhere south-westerly, and the force was still strong on our west coasts. The temperature was again very high for the time of the year, and the thermometer indicated 50 degrees and more in most parts of the Kingdom. The day was dull in London, and it was threatening rain at times; the air was, however, very warm, the thermometer registering fifty-four degrees.

Saturday and Sunday (January 4th and 5th).—The weather was generally very unsettled on Saturday, and rain fell over nearly the entire Kingdom, while the winds were, for the most part, strong and squally from the south-west. The temperature was everywhere high for the time of year, and in many places the thermometer stood ten degrees above the average. There was a considerable improvement in the weather on Sunday, although showers occurred in places, but there was at times bright intervals. The temperature has undergone a brisk fall over the whole country.

The December Weather.

Of late years the country has experienced mild weather in the month of December, partaking more of the nature of autumn or late spring than of winter. Taking the ten years 1891 to 1900 the December mean temperature for London has only twice been below the average, both 1898 and 1900 being exceptionally warm, about equal to the early part of April or the end of September. The closing month of 1901 has been characterised by much more normal conditions, the London temperature of 39½ deg. being in defect to the extent of only ½ degree. From beginning to end there was not a day on which the atmosphere was in a quiescent mood. During the opening days the wind was mainly from the southward and westward, so that for the first week mildness prevailed, but when the wind shifted into north and east temperature fell decidedly, and sharp night frosts became common. The closing days were milder than the opening ones, and more stormy. A great deal of fog or mist was experienced, whilst the month was a wet one, rain falling every day in the Shetlands and on the Mayo coast, several localities having twenty-five days and upwards. The amounts were slightly under the average only at four western stations, while in the east they ranged up to double the usual quantity. At Yarmouth 2.53in., or more than the month's average, was measured on the morning of the 1t3h, and falls of ½in. and upwards were unusually frequent over the country generally.

Rain and Sunshine in 1901.

The feature of especial interest with respect to the weather of last year is, perhaps, the persistent continuance of dry weather which characterised, not only the early months, but which continued greatly throughout the summer. In common with so many recent years, there has been a remarkable freedom from storms, although in the autumn heavy gales were generally experienced. The aggregate rainfall for the year was deficient over the entire area of the British Islands, except in the North of Ireland, where there is an excess amounting to 2in. The greatest deficiency in any part of the kingdom is 6.7in. in the South-west of England, and this is followed very closely by 6.2 in the North of Scotland. In the North-west of England the deficiency of rain was 5.2in., and it is nearly 5in. in the East of England, while it exceeded 4in. in the South of England and in the South of Ireland. The mean temperature for the year over the United Kingdom was not generally very different from the average, and there were no extreme readings of special importance. There was everywhere a large amount of bright sunshine, the excess for the year amounting to 287 hours in the North-west of England, while it was 241 hours in the North-east of England. In the South of England the excess was 199 hours. In the Channel Islands the excess for the year was only 35 hours, and in the South of Ireland 36 hours.

Powdered Milk.

The United States Consul at Gothenburg, in a recent report to his Government, says that Dr. Ekenberg, of that city, has made a discovery which will be of importance in dairy farming. He claims to have invented an apparatus by which milk can be brought into the form of powder, like flour in appearance, but possessing all the qualities of milk in concentrated form, moisture excepted. It is said that this milk flour is completely soluble in water, and can be used for all purposes for which common milk is employed. The milk flour does not get sour, does not ferment, and in the dry state is not sensitive to changes in the weather. It can be kept and transported in tin cans, barrels, bags, etc. The cost of production is estimated at about 27 cents per 106 quarts, and flour made from skimmed milk can be sold at about 13 cents. per pound.

At a recent meeting of the Academy of Agriculture, Dr. Ekenberg exhibited samples of the milk flour, which received favourable comments. It is considered that the invention will be of the greatest importance for the utilisation of skimmed milk, which heretofore has largely been wasted, but in the dry form can be transported without losing any of its original qualities. The product mentioned is considered superior to the case in products "proton" and "proteide" now manufactured from milk by the aid of rennet, acid, or lye.



Cornwall.

We have had a very wet time lately, and little has been done on the land except carting manure. Cattle are wintering fairly well, but the stock of winter provision in many cases is very short, and the stack yards have more the appearance of March than January; prices are also low, so that the unfortunate ones who have to sell their store stock will have to do so at a great sacrifice. Sheep have done all right up to now. The recent rains have caused the hoggets to lose condition, and some of the weakly ones have died. The lambing season does not commence (except in a few instances) before the middle of February. I cannot say that the outlook for agriculture is at all prosperous. What with low prices and dry seasons, this neighbourhood has suffered very considerably. Nearly all the farms have been changing hands for some years past, and but few of the old tenants remain. Some have lessened their labour bill. It is a great question if this has been advantageous. I should say not; rents have been lowered very much, and still it is difficult to make a living; and to do this my experience teaches me that the right kind of stock must be kept and the land farmed well.—W. E. M. (January 2nd).

Dorset (West).

The cattle and sheep during the month just passed have played considerable havoc with the hay ricks. We have experienced most severe frosts, deep snow, fogs, and heavy rain. The latter was sadly needed, and will be of great benefit to the many who have had to continually cart water for cattle. The Old Year departed in a blustering manner and the new one was ushered in by a mild and somewhat sunny morning, which, however, before evening relapsed into the former boisterous weather, and the night of January 1st, 1902, was a very rough and wet one in these parts. Ploughings luckily are forward, as cultivations cannot now go on for a week at least. Sheep have suffered more than cattle, owing to the heavy rains, and the turnip ground is now, and has been during the last fortnight, very cold lying. Roots are generally plentiful, but much waste goes on at present. The young wheat will be none too strong if frost sets in again after so much wet. A small area appears to be sown and few acres only are very forward. Good milch cows are selling well, but medium and poor ones are not much sought after, except at low prices. Good fresh, young barren cattle hold their own in price, and good classes of fat cattle are not likely to fall in price just yet. Neither is good mutton of nice weight of English making. Already some good cross-bred lambs are forthcoming, and making from 10d. to 11d. per lb. alive. Good calves and bacon pigs are largely sought after, and also small porkers, but the prices of feeding stuffs leave but little margin for the grazier, and the million are getting the benefit of the farmer's hard labour.—G. S. (January 2nd).

Somerset.

The late severe wintry weather, and now the very heavy rains, has left the pasture lands in a very wet and rotten condition, and caused all outdoor cattle to do badly and lose condition. The hay ricks are going very fast, especially those made the last year, which were very small and not half a crop, and farmers who had not a stock of old hay must feel themselves in queer street. As it is, few will have any hay left at the end of the season, and many will have to purchase largely of feeding stuffs to make it last out. Cattle at the autumn farm sales have sold better than anyone could have expected, considering the bad hay crop, and I think will pay the purchasers very little for wintering. Beef is selling better, and I think will continue to do so for the next few months, but store cattle will be a slow trade. Cheese has been a very dragging trade, and as yet does not seem to improve, although the make was a very short one. Altogether the past year has been a very disappointing one for dairy farmers, and when the accounts are made up few will find the balance on the right side.—E. D. (January 3).

Somerset (Cheddar).

A deal of rain has fallen of late, being very acceptable to agriculturists, as many up to a recent date, owing to ponds being empty, have been obliged to have water hauled to their live stock. Cattle have done well in the pastures, where they are generally allowed to remain during the whole of the winter in this district, owing to the weather being so dry that the cattle have been enabled to pick up all the hay without waste, which fodder is almost entirely depended on as food by the dairy farmers here for their cattle during the winter, not growing corn or green crops for their cattle, and, instead as of old making Cheddar cheese, using the whey, in addition to meal bought from the corn merchants, to fatten large numbers of pigs. Many have now given up cheese-making, the result of which have also given up in great measure the rearing and fattening of the porker, now contenting themselves with selling the milk to the milk factors, which certainly is an easy way of doing things; but I very much doubt the wisdom of such a mode of farming, as practically no manure is now carted or sown on the pastures, in order to keep up its fertility. —A. L. O. (January 4).

Worcester (South).

The rain, so long expected, came to end the old year and usher in the new, much the same as it did a year ago, and we have now floods on the low-lying meadows; but it is fortunate, with the shortness of keep, that the water has kept off them so long. Work on the land is fairly forward, and autumn-sown crops look well. Sheep have done well on the roots, the dry autumn being in their favour, as well as having helped to economise the short crop of sheep feed. The Christmas markets for beef and mutton were quite as good as expected, but owing to high price of feeding stuffs cattle did not leave much margin for profit. Steady trade for all corn at very unremunerative prices. I regret that I cannot see any signs of improvement in agricultural prospects.—J. W. D. (January 2nd).

York.

The feature of the situation is the scarcity of feeding stuffs, hay, straw, and turnips. It was expected that the supply of hay and turnips would be limited, but it was not realised that straw was so scarce. It is now making £3 to £4 per ton, and is difficult to find even at these prices. Oats are dear, compared with previous years, but other grain has not naturally advanced. Beef has sold well during Christmas and the New Year, and is keeping its price; pork, too, has met a good trade, but mutton is cheap. Potatoes are plentiful, and selling at a low price.

As for farm work, it is well forward. A good breadth of wheat was sown in the autumn, and it is looking well. Seeds, too, are fairly good.

We have had heavy falls of snow, but have missed the floods that have prevailed in places. On the moorlands, the snow has been very deep. It is reported from Dent Fell, Hawes, at the junction of Yorkshire and Westmoreland, that a sheep, belonging to Mr. W. Pratt, Garsdale, has been discovered in a crevasse, after being buried in the snow for 22 days. When found it was alive, and able to walk home, a distance of a mile and a half. The same sheep was buried under the snow for ten days in November last. This must be almost a record.—W. P. (January 3).

Foreign Prospects.

France.—Abnormally mild weather is prevalent, but there is apparently no cause for complaint, as the general aspect of the crops is most satisfactory, but farmers would prefer a lower temperature, to prevent the increase of weeds and vermin. The Paris weekly market was very quiet, and provincial Corn Exchanges are always thinly attended in the holiday season. Of the markets held last week 21 came dearer (32 in week before) 90 were firm, 120 unchanged, and 16 cheaper.

Belgium and Holland.—A complete change has taken place in the weather, and this, in conjunction with the holiday interruptions, caused quieter markets, at about steady prices. Antwerp imported 106,000 qrs. of wheat, against 70,000 qrs. in previous week, and 47,500 qrs. in 1901. The receipts of wheat in Rotterdam equalled 45,000 qrs. compared with 74,000 qrs. in preceding return, and 60,000 qrs. in year before.

Germany.—With higher temperature the ice in canals and rivers is rapidly disappearing. Berlin on New Year's Eve was quiet at harder prices, but yesterday, although demand was fairly active, value went lower. May term is quoted at a parity of 37s. 3d. per 480lb. compared with 37s. 6d. a week ago.

Hungary.—In all provinces the Autumn-sown crops present a satisfactory appearance. Budapest reports a quiet, but steady market for wheat. Yesterday's April term was quoted 33s. 7d. per 480lb., against 32s. 11d. a week ago.

Italy.—With scarcely any exception, the Autumn-sown cereals are reported to be in splendid condition, favoured by mild weather.

Spain.—Intensely cold weather last week stopped agricultural work. It is feared that the young crops have suffered.

Russia.—Rain and milder weather have displaced the snow in most of the European Governments, and in several districts farmers are busy sowing. Complaints of ravages by Hessian fly are increasing.

Roumania.—The condition of the Autumn-sown fields is irregular, those early planted looking better than the late sown. The maize crop is all cut and carried.—*Dornbusch.*

GARDEN.

The New Year came in mild and fine, but there have been some showers during the day (the first), and indications of more rain are only too plain. A moderate amount of wet will do the ground no harm, but any excess will be injurious, as likely to hinder the proper working of the land, sowing operations, etc., presently.

Things will soon begin to move again now, especially under glass. Seeds of several kinds will have to be sown shortly, so get a good supply of soil ready for use—under cover, of course—also plenty of pots washed clean and dried, and boxes mended up, and all ready for use. Among the seeds to be sown first are those of the cauliflower, cucumber, and tomato, with another batch of French beans, where these can be grown and fruited under glass. A first sowing of onions for exhibition purposes, also a few leeks, should be made in the course of another two or three weeks.

Keep young tomato plants moving on in a steady temperature of 55 to 65 degs., and cucumbers should have from 5 degs. to 10 degs. more warmth still. Prick off recently-sown seedlings of the former singly into shallow boxes as soon as they can be well handled, or pot them separately in small sizes, using good loamy soil, and keep them comfortably warm, and near the glass also.

Of varieties of the tomato a rather new one called "The Cropper" is one of the best I have ever seen or grown. It well deserves its name, the rather slender stems being loaded with long racemes or trusses of fruit right up to the top of the house. The fruit is also perfectly smooth and round, of a nice medium size, rich red colour, and capital flavour. Other good kinds are Ladybird, Comet, and the Frogmore Selected, and during the last year or two the old Ham Green is making its way to the front again, but personally I prefer Chemin Rouge, which produces almost perfect fruit, though the growth is rather long.

If there is a frame or two to spare, place them over some gentle hotbeds, with 8 in. or 10 in. of soil on the manure, and plant them with sets of a good early potato, such as Sharpe's Victor, the old Ashleaf Kidney, or the newer Ninetyfold. Or where there is a roomy vinery, either now at work or to be started shortly, or any good-sized, light, and gently-heated structure available, a number of sets may be planted in good-sized pots. An 8½-in. or 9-in. pot will grow a good single root of a good dwarf variety, such as those mentioned, or three sets may be placed equi-distantly in the 10-in. or 11-in. sizes. Do not fill the pots more than two-thirds full at first, leaving room to earth up presently, and water must be given very sparingly until the plants have rooted out well and made some amount of growth, especially in a low or cool temperature.

Lay out more early potato sets to sprout ready for planting on warm borders next month, or early in March. The place must be light, or the sprouts will be weak, and moderately warm also, but in a too high temperature they will advance too rapidly. It is a good plan to rub out all but one or two of the strongest sprouts on each set before planting.

It is time that all the outdoor pruning of hardy fruit trees and bushes was completed now, though an exception may be made in the case of peaches and nectarines, which are usually pruned when the trees are returned and re-nailed to the walls, some time next month or early in March. But even these must not be left too long, and there is no real reason why what pruning is necessary should not be done at once. Remember that peaches and their allies fruit chiefly on the young wood formed the previous season, so that this must not be cut away, or even shortened to any extent. The general rule is to leave three of such new growths to each piece of the old bearing wood, one towards the point, and one on each side (top and bottom) near the base.

See that all the cuttings of bush fruits are firmly fixed in the ground, and if any have been loosened by frost tread the soil back against them firmly with the foot.

A first batch of strawberries in pots may be brought in and started now. The best way to do this, when possible, is to plunge them in a bed of just warm leaves or tan, in a pit, with their heads close to the glass. The air temperature should not exceed about 45 degs. at night, and water must be given sparingly till the blossoms expand.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Malt: A very limited enquiry during the past week. Barley: Grinding and malting unchanged. Wheat quiet at about late rates. Oats slow. Maize dull. Flour firm.—NIXON, GOWER AND CO.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—Inasmuch as concerns cereals, the New Year was ushered in under favourable auspices to sellers; but, with customary observance during the festive holiday season, business was suspended. English wheat remains firm here. White ranges at 29s to 30s 6d, and red at 28s 6d to 30s per qr. delivered, 29s 6d being the general figure. Of foreign, arrivals off coast continue to be kept down. American firm, at last week's advance. Apart from being featureless, the flour market moved evenly, and ex store quotations pointed in sellers' favour. Bakers' grades continue moderate in supply. American first patents quoted up to 25s; seconds, to 22s. First bakers, 19s to 21s; seconds nominal. English maintained. Town households, 23s 6d; and whites, 3s per sack more. Grinding barley firm. Samples of malting were again withheld temporarily. Oats, if anything, sided more in sellers' favour, but quotations were not altered from those current last Monday, which denoted a decline on the week for Russian. American descriptions remain very scarce at high prices. English oats become more and more scarce, and farmers adopt the same indifference. Gartons, spring-sown, 25s 6d, 42lb; black winters, 23s 6d to 24s, 42lb. Maize unchanged.

Mark Lane, Friday.—There was only a limited attendance at to-day's market, with little desire for business, but prices moved steadily in the various sections. English wheat continues to be offered sparingly here, and local resorts are not in supply, quotations being steady. Whites, 29s. to 30s. 6d., and reds, 28s. 6d. to 30s. per qr. delivered up. American unchanged. Russian descriptions, as of late, are above buyers' ideas, and go to the Continent. The market for flour calls for nothing fresh. Bakers' grades remain scarce. American first patents quoted up to 25s.; second ditto to 22s. First bakers, 19s. to 20s. 6d.; seconds nominal. Cascadias, 21s. 6d. ex store. English firm. Town households, 23s. 6d.; whites, 3s. per sack more, delivered to the baker. Grinding barley rather easier since last Monday. Odessa, 19s. ex quay. Malting well maintained for both English and foreign types. Oats, the turn against sellers, but not quotably altered. American very firm, a persistent scarcity. English oats still command enhanced rates. Gartons, spring-sown, 23s. 6d. 42lb.; black Winters, 23s. 6d. to 24s. 6d., weighing the same. Scotch oats, 23s. to 24s. 6d. 42lb. Maize rather lower on the week.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Very satisfactory trade prices for wheat and feeding corn. White wheat made 28s to 31s; red, 28s to 30s; malting barley, 27s to 32s; grinding barley (English), 24s to 25s; foreign, 20s to 21s; black oats, 18s to 22s; white, 20s to 24s; and maize, 28s to 29s per quarter.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, red (new), 28s to 29s per qr; beans (old), 37s to 39s per qr; oats, 17s to 20s per qr. Trade firm, but very small show of wheat.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Market fairly well attended, but demand quiet. Prices for wheats were unchanged, English realising 10s 6d to 11s 3d per bag. Grinding barley 3d dearer, at 18s to 18s 9d Sharpness. Plate maize, 24s 6d Sharpness. English oats scarce, commanding 21s 6d to 23s for white, and 21s to 22s for black. Beans, 14s 6d for new.

Braintree, Wednesday.—Small supply and very quiet trade, red wheat making from 28s to 29s and white 29s to 30s per qr. Barley trade very quiet, prices from 25s to 33s.

Bristol, Thursday.—Since our last, with the Christmas holidays intervening, trade has continued quiet. To-day there was a fair supply of English wheat on market, making about 3d advance on the fortnight. Foreign 6d advance. Barley unchanged. Maize and oats 3d to 6d lower. Fairly good enquiry for flour at fully late rates.—GRACE BROTHERS.

Bury, Wednesday.—Wheat: Supply below average; trade firm at fully last week's prices. Reds 28s 6d to 29s 6d; whites 28s 6d to 30s per qr. on the line. Barley: With a moderate supply, the trade for all grades of useful malting parcels was steady, with a healthy demand at 28s to 32s per qr.; better descriptions firm up to 36s per qr. Oats and beans firm at last week's prices. A considerable business was done in clover seeds. Feeding stuffs quiet but steady.

Cambridge, Saturday.—During the week trade has been very quiet, and with the change from frost to soft weather many samples have quite lost their fine condition. At this market to-day there was a smaller supply of grain, the condition of which was very variable. Wheat sold steadily at last week's prices for dry lots; damp neglected. Red, 28s. to 29s., and white 29s. per 504lb. Barley was in fair supply and made quite as much money. Beans and oats fully as dear.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Fair supply of oats in our market to-day, good demand at unchanged prices. New, 20s 6d to 22s 6d per 335lb; old, 23s to 23s 6d per 335lb.—THOMAS ROBINSON.

Chichester, Wednesday.—Small attendance and very quiet market, with prices unchanged.

Chester, Saturday.—The market was fairly well attended. There were few quotable changes in values. Oats and barley were firm, while Indian corn was a little easier. White and red wheat was quoted at 4s. 3d. to 4s. 4d. per 75lb.; malting barley, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 9d. per 60lb.; grinding barley, 3s. 3d. to 3s. 6d. per 64lb.; beans, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d. per 80lb.; old oats, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d.; and new, 2s. 8d. to 2s. 11d. per 46lb.

Colchester, Saturday.—Wheat a slow trade, prices unchanged, with poor condition; barley, firmer; oats and beans, unaltered.—FRANCIS AND CO.

Croydon, Thursday.—White wheat, 29s. to 31s.; red ditto, 28s. to 30s.; malting barley, 28s. to 35s.; grinding, 22s. to 24s.; oats, 18s. to 20s.; beans, 32s. to 34s.; peas, 29s. to 31s. Trade for wheat firm at last week's prices; beans and peas dearer.

Glasgow, Tuesday.—The trade during the week has been quiet, and prices are nominally unaltered for bread stuffs, with a limited business passing. Maize has been the turn in buyers' favour owing to large supplies, and other feeding stuffs have also been rather easier.—GIBSON AND CLARK.

Leeds, Tuesday.—London and Liverpool were unexpectedly weak yesterday, and America responds with unexpected strength; shipments prove moderate and foreign limits continue out of reach. Holders of wheat consequently remain exceedingly firm, and on the business doing to-day the rates of this day fortnight are generally exceeded. Second class Yorkshire barleys still favour sellers, and meet with more demand. Maize, 3d. lower; beans and oats unchanged.—DUNNS AND CO.

Leeds, Friday.—The demand for both English and foreign wheat is still very quiet, the former at Tuesday's prices and the latter the turn dearer. Beans, peas, oats, barley, maize, and flour all firmly held, but in very limited request.

Leicester, Saturday.—Good average attendance, with fair supply of home-grown wheats. Trade steady at 28s. to 31s. per 36 stones. Malting barley in better request. Fine old oats, very firm.

Leicester, Saturday.—Fair average attendance of buyers and dealers, with moderate supplies of home-grown wheat. Trade quiet, only fine dry samples being in request. Red wheat, 28s to 30s; white wheat, 29s to 31s per 36 stones; malting barley in better request at 28s to 32s per 32 stones; grinding barley a sluggish trade; beans firm; new oats, 21s to 23s; old oats firm at 25s to 26s per 26 stones.

Lewes, Tuesday.—New white wheat, 29s. to 30s 6d.; new brown ditto, 29s. to 30s.; Malting barley, 32s. to 35s.; grinding ditto, 20s. to 24s.; oats, 20s. to 24s.; beans 35s. to 37s.; peas, 33s. to 36s. per quarter.

Lincoln, Friday.—Moderate supply of wheat, which was firmly held at late rates, the best samples making up to 30s. per qr. Barley short, and prices very firm for both malting and feeding samples. Though there was no quotable alteration in maize, beans, and peas, the tendency was decidedly upward.

Liverpool, Friday.—The market has had a moderate attendance, but wheat has met a very fair inquiry, a good business being put through at about unchanged prices for reds. White sorts are very scarce, and meet a fair inquiry. Flour is quiet, with only a small trade doing, prices being in one or two cases 6d lower for foreign. The Liverpool Millers' Associaton made no change in the price of bakers. Maize—The demand for mixed is moderate and shows a loss of ¼d since last Tuesday. European, owing to free arrivals, is ¼d to 1d lower, but has some inquiry at the decline. Plate is ¼d lower, with a moderate trade doing. Barley—Malting has some inquiry, but prices are slightly in buyers' favour. Feeding is the turn lower and very quiet. Beans are firm, with a moderate inquiry, Sadis being 3d per quarter advance since Tuesday. Peas steadily held, but quiet, at about late rates. Oats firmly held, but meet only a small inquiry at full prices for English. Foreign sorts are in moderate demand, with values occasionally ¼d lower. Oatmeal firm, but inactive at quotations. Oilcake very steadily held with a fairly good inquiry at Tuesday's prices.—SEGAR AND TUNNICLIFFE, Corn Exchange.

Manchester, Thursday.—A steady tone has ruled during the week, and this morning the tendency was slightly against the purchaser of wheat, both English and foreign. Flour continues in quiet demand, but millers are steady in price. Firmness continues in Indian corn, owing to the limited offerings, but demand is slow. Peas and beans are rather strong. Oats steady and unchanged.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—At our to-day's market wheat ruled steady at last Saturday's prices; maize favoured buyers to the extent of 3d. per 480lbs.; barley fairly steady for malting purposes, quiet for grinding. No change in peas or beans. Oats a quiet demand and slightly in buyers' favour.—JOSEPH POLLARD AND CO.

Northampton, Saturday.—A wet day and small market. Quiet business, supply and demand limited. Quotations for farm produce not any better than last week. White wheat, 28s. to 30s.; red, 27s. to 28s.; barley, 25s. to 30s.; grinding ditto, 22s. to 24s.; oats, 19s. to 22s.; fine old, 25s.; beans, 32s. to 36s.; flour, 21s. to 22s.; fine, 25s.

Norwich, Saturday.—There was a steady trade in wheat at our market to-day, but several samples were out of condition owing to damp weather. Barley was in fair supply, with no appreciable alteration in prices. Mild weather mostly prevails, with occasional showers of rain, which make the atmosphere very humid. Wheat, red, 29s. to 29s. 6d per qr., weight 63lb. per bushel Imperial. Corn—Inspector's return for the week ending 30th December, 1901:—Wheat, 1,870-5, 27s. 1¾d.; barley, 5,1 32-6, 27s. 8¾d.—Per J. A. MILLS, C. B. B.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Wheat moderate supply; condition not good; previous rates maintained. Barley in less supply; prices unchanged. Oats and beans both scarce and prices in sellers' favour.—ROBERT HUBBLE.

Peterborough, Saturday.—The damp, mild weather is against the wheat trade which was slow to-day at rather less money. Barey made full prices, and in some cases 6d. advance. Oats steady at late rates.—T. HILL AND SON.

Plymouth, Thursday.—The market here is recovering, feeding and wheat firm, at last week's prices.—ORLANDO DAVIS AND CO.

Reading, Saturday.—Owing, no doubt, to the very wet and unpleasant weather, the attendance on the exchange here to-day was much smaller than usual; the quantity of corn on offer was also considerably below the average, and trade ruled firm in all departments. Wheat made from 27s. to 31s. per qr., fully up to late rates, and other corn changed hands at recent currencies.

Ripon, Thursday.—The market presents a more brisk tone than of late and the attendance was larger. New oats firm, and making rather more money. Wheat, English, new, 29s 6d to 30s 6d; ditto foreign, 29s to 33s; barley, grinding, 22s 6d to 23s 6d; ditto malting, 26s to 31s; oats (old), 24s to 25s; ditto (new), 21s to 24s; round maize, 27s to 28s per qr; beans (old), 1s per stone.

Romford, Wednesday.—Wheat trade unchanged, and very little doing. Only a small supply on offer. Red wheat 27s 6d to 28s 6d, white 29s to 30s per qr.

Rye, Wednesday.—White wheat, 27s. 6d. to 30s. Red ditto, 27s. to 30s.; white oats, 18s., to 24s.; black ditto, 19s. 6d. to 24s.; winter ditto, 20s. to 22s.; tick beans, 34s. to 36s.; mazagan, 32s. to 34s.; grey peas, 31s. to 33s.

Spalding, Tuesday.—At the Corn Exchange there was a fair attendance of merchants and farmers. Wheat was a firm trade at 29s. per qr. Oats made 21s to 22s. Barley firm at late rates. Beans and peas unchanged, and not much business doing.

Stamford, Friday.—There was a fair show in all departments. Wheat, 30s to 30s 6d; barley, 26s to 29s; oats, new, about 22s; old oats, 26s to 26s 6d; beans, 32s to 34s. Maize made late rates.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Wheat steady, at fully late rates; barley, quiet; oats, firm; arrivals coastwise: wheat, 837 qr; barley, 532; foreign, nil.—E. AND F. RICHARDSON.

Wakefield, Friday.—Foreign wheat may be quoted firm at late rates, and English a dull trade at about last week's prices. A fair supply of malting barley on market to-day, with but few buyers. Maize 6d per qr lower on the week, and other feeding stuffs unaltered.—MICHAEL SANDERSON AND SON, LIMITED.

Wakefield, Friday.—There was a steady consumptive demand for wheat, at 3d to 6d advance from the rates of this day fortnight; this applies chiefly to American and Russian descriptions, Indians and Californians scarcely participating in the improvement. Rather more doing in malting barley, at full prices. European maize 6d lower. Other feeding stuffs firm.—DUNNS AND CO.

Winchester, Saturday.—Wheat in short supply on our market to-day, which met a quiet demand at late rates. Best samples of barley fully 1s dearer; secondary qualities, unaltered; maize, 6d cheaper, oats, slow, with rather easier tendency; flour, 22s to 23s 6d. Weather very unsettled.—FEAR, COLEBROOK AND CO., LD.

Wisbech, Saturday.—A better supply of wheat, trade slow at barely late rates. Prices, 28s 6d to 29s. Oats, 21s to 24s; barley, 26s to 29s; beans, 34s to 38s.—JAMES FLETCHER.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—There was a holiday market, with no alteration in prices. Quotations:—Wheat, new, 12s 6d to 13s per 216lb., Kansas 6s to 6s 2½d per cental; oats, old 15s 6d to 16s, new 12s 6d to 13s; beans, old 15s 6d to 16s 6d, new 14s 3d to 14s 9d per 196lb.; barley, 31s to 32s. per 448lb; maize, 27s to 28s per 480lb.

Worcester, Saturday.—Trade ruled quiet all round. Wheat in moderate supply, and values unchanged. Barley made rather more money. Oats and beans steady.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Small attendance and moderate supplies. White wheat, 28s 6d to 29s 6d; red wheat, 27s 6d to 28s 6d; best malting barley, 28s to 32s; secondary, 26s to 28s; grinding barley, 25s to 26s; white oats, 21s to 23s; black oats, 19s to 21s; ground maize, 27s to 28s per qr.

York, Saturday.—Average attendance; wheat still held at old rates, but trade kept rather dull. Good wheat, 29s. to 30s. per quarter of 36 stones. Rather less barley shown fine sorts were neglected, nquiry being for some thing at little money, of which very few samples were shown fine sorts were neglected, inquiry being for some-of 32 stones. Rather more oats on offer; blacks, 21s.; fine white 22s. per quarter of 24 stones. Beans were very scarce.

FOREIGN.

Paris, Tuesday.—Although favoured by splendid weather, there was at to-day's market, as might have been expected, a very small contingent of farmers, for this happens every year at this period. Trade as of late was almost nil. Compelled to make concessions, owing to the decline in the *Marche de Paris* and the dulness of the foreign exchanges, farmers offered very sparingly and only brought forward for sale a few trifling lots. Quotations are as follows:—Choice red, 37s 10d; ordinary, 36s 11d; and white, 37s 10d to 38s 9d per 480lb. Consumption marks flour: The position has modified but little since last week—transactions among dealers and bakers are still inactive, the demand being rather restricted, prices are nevertheless well supported although unchanged. Quotations are as follows:—Choice marks, 31f. to 31f.50 (31s 5d to 31s 11d); first marks, 30f.50 to 31f. (30s 11d to 31s 5d); good marks, 29f.75 to 30f.50 (29s 2d to 30s 11d); ordinary marks, 28f.50 to 29f.50 per 100 kilos (28s 11d to 30s 2d per 280lb). Rye: The demand is in general very quiet, the special milling trade is for the present rather dull, while distillers are also only making very few purchases. Here prices were nominally unchanged with, however, a few more sellers; buyers offer 27s 5d, but no sellers under 27s 10d per 480lb. Oats: This article is receding in value almost everywhere, and it seems that the tendency will be even weaker with the opening of the year, for farmers' and traders' offers are perceptibly in excess of the demand. Here to-day dealings were still very quiet, and values quotably unchanged on the week. Grey beauce, 24s 4d to 24s 8d; white, 25s 9d to 25s 6d; red, 25s 2d to 25s 6d; black, from the Central provinces, 24s 11d; small Picardy, 24s 11d to 25s 3d; large, 26s 5d.—DOMBUSCH.

Hamburg, Saturday.—With unseasonably mild weather and much rain, the ice in our rivers has disappeared. Trade quiet, with firm prices for wheat. The imports into Hamburg during the past year amounted to:—Wheat, 668,229 tons (1900, 318,706 tons); rye, 281,955 tons (1900, 174,612 tons); barley, 289,600 tons (1900, 255,116 tons); maize, 508,000 tons (1900, 735,113 tons). The imports during the past week amounted to:—13,699 tons wheat; 1,031 tons rye; 5,006 tons barley; 1,527 tons maize. Wheat is held for more money; hard winter No. 2 floating 29s.; February shpment, 29s. 9d.; red winter No. 2, January, 30s. 6d.; Russian, Ulka and Azima, 28s. 3d. to 29s. per 480lb.; Walla Walla, 29s. 9d. per 5001b. Rye quiet. Russian 915-20 was sold at 22s. 6d. per 480b. cif. Malting barley firm. A few parcels of fine Saal have been taken for England at 33s. to 34s. 6d., and good Bohemian to arrive, per barge, fetched 30s. 9d. per 448lb. for home use. Fine Saal continues scarce at 33s. to 35s. up to 38s. for best. Good Bohemian fica'ing is offering at 31s.; Pomeranian at 26s. 6d. to 27s. per 448lb f.o.b.—50-61. Ko. Russian feeding is held at 18s.; February shipment at 18s. 3d. per 400lb. c.i.f. Mixed maize is held at 25s. 3d.; River Plate at 23s.; Odessa and Danubian at 22s. 6d. per 480lb. ex-ship Hamburg.—JOHN TATLOCK.

FOREIGN CORN TRADE.

The shipments of grain from the chief exporting countries last week were as follows:—

	Wheat.	Flour.	Maize.	Barley.	Oats.
	Qrs.	Sks.	Qrs.	Qrs.	Qrs.
United States	260,000	200,000	30,000	76,000	—
Russia	120,000	—	146,000	—	130,000
France	—	6,000	—	—	—
Austria-Hungary	—	5,000	—	—	—
Roumania	30,000	—	150,000	10,000	—
Argentina	—	—	20,000	—	—
India	33,000	—	—	—	—
Australasia	5,000	—	—	—	—
Miscellaneous	20,000	10,000	20,000	20,000	10,000
Total	468,000	220,000	366,000	106,000	140,000

LONDON FLOUR MILLERS' ASSOCIATION.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1901.

	London Whites.		Town Households.	
	s. d.		s. d.	
September 2	(per sack) 26	0	(per sack) 23	0
,, 18	,, 25	6	,, 22	6
December 9	,, 26	6	,, 23	6

(No official change since last date given).

CORN STATISTICS.

ARRIVALS INTO LONDON.

December 25th, 1901, to January 1, 1902, inclusive.

	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat qrs.	460	43,129	43,589
Barley	1,985	11,555	13,540
Malt	9,887	...	9,887
Oats	1,200	59,000	60,200
Rye	—	2,145	2,145
Beans	234	777	1,011
Peas	155	2,703	2,858
Maize	...	21,305	21,305
Oilseeds	...	12,000	12,000
Farm seeds	468	8,961	9,429
Flour, sacks	11,881	50,249	62,130

ENGLISH WHEAT IN 1901.

Highest of Year	27s. 7d.
Lowest of Year	25s. 10d.
Gradient	1s. 9d.
Mean of Year	26s. 9d.

IMPERIAL AVERAGES.

Statement showing the Quantities sold and average price of British Corn, Imperial Measure, as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended January 4, 1902, conformably with the Act of the 45th and 46th Victoria, cap. 37.

Wheat	31,440¼ qrs.	27s. 7d.
Barley	34,777½ qrs.	26s. 7d.
Oats	11,621½ qrs.	19s. 10d.

LONDON AVERAGES.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, December 31st, 1901.

	Total Quantities. Imperial Measure.		Total Amount.			Average Price per qr. Imperial Measure.		
	Quarters.	Bus.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Wheat	1,019	7	1,440	17	2	1	8	3
Barley	574	4	859	7	6	1	9	11
Oats	360	1	378	9	9	1	1	0

IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGES.

1900.	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
Dec. 29	43,182½	26	4	109,624½	25	10	17,065	17	2
1901.									
Jan. 5	22,272	26	5	55,917⅞	25	4	9,785	17	2
,, 12	41,709⅜	26	7	92,830½	25	6	14,795½	17	3
,, 19	64,162½	26	11	119,580	25	9	22,714½	17	6
,, 26	74,277	26	10	119,320⅜	25	6	24,989½	17	3
Feb. 2	72,527½	26	7	87,205	25	7	21,707½	17	8
,, 9	44,882⅜	26	8	51,608½	25	7	16,241½	17	7
,, 16	67,350	26	4	63,870⅜	25	4	21,069½	17	7
,, 23	68,159½	26	1	65,514⅜	25	0	23,418½	17	7
Mar. 2	68,224	25	11	52,600½	25	0	21,858½	17	9
,, 9	63,714⅜	25	9	51,125⅜	25	4	19,410⅜	17	7
,, 16	55,073⅜	25	9	36,968½	25	1	14,010	17	7
,, 23	54,758½	25	8	27,840½	24	11	13,895½	17	9
,, 30	47,908½	26	0	20,179½	24	9	12,418⅜	18	0
Apr. 6	42,721⅜	26	3	14,647⅜	25	3	11,776½	18	0
,, 13	32,905	26	5	6 809½	26	0	5,936⅛	18	1
,, 20	35,737½	26	8	6,734½	25	7	8,346½	18	8
,, 27	46,572	26	8	6,985½	25	8	8,300⅜	18	8
May 4	46,616½	26	9	6,417⅜	26	4	6,869⅜	19	1
,, 11	47,118⅜	27	3	4,279½	26	2	7,049	19	1
,, 18	52,875⅛	27	7	2,508	24	3	7,345½	19	4
,, 25	49,822¼	27	7	1,511⅜	24	1	4,665½	19	8
June 1	46,514	27	7	859½	23	8	4,938	19	9
,, 8	42,202	27	6	221½	22	9	4,023½	20	1
,, 15	40,764	27	8	1,404¼	24	0	5,565⅞	19	7
,, 22	29,695	27	6	336½	23	2	3,552½	20	3
,, 29	28,191⅞	27	6	692⅜	25	4	2,803½	20	0
July 6	19,564½	27	8	140⅜	21	9	1,806⅛	19	10
,, 13	15,231⅜	27	2	49	23	10	1,675⅜	19	9
,, 20	17,462⅜	27	3	88⅜	23	4	2,040½	19	11
,, 27	18,297⅛	27	3	206⅜	22	1	2,385½	19	4
Aug. 3	18,666½	27	6	250½	23	1	3,219½	20	0
,, 10	19,156	27	7	141⅜	22	1	2,143½	19	4
,, 17	22,617½	27	4	220⅜	27	2	5,982½	18	9
,, 24	37,168⅜	27	3	976⅜	23	7	9,952⅜	18	1
,, 31	61,603⅜	27	0	4,877⅜	24	3	14,654½	17	10
Sept. 7	66,624½	26	5	14,342⅜	25	1	19,075½	17	6
,, 14	77,949⅛	26	2	34,989⅜	24	11	19,909½	17	4
,, 21	80,279½	26	0	70,096⅜	25	5	26,476½	17	4
,, 28	80,488	25	10	109,783½	25	10	22,567½	17	2
Oct. 5	60,376½	25	8	126,592⅜	26	3	21,631½	17	7
,, 12	63,656½	25	9	172,175⅜	26	5	16,815½	17	6
,, 19	58,772½	25	10	203,591⅛	26	8	15,506½	17	8
,, 26	52,984⅛	25	11	208,471⅜	25	10	18,009⅜	17	5
Nov. 2	70,314⅜	26	2	134,277½	26	10	18,350½	17	7
,, 9	62,265½	26	6	202,577½	27	0	20,063½	17	8
,, 16	57,884⅜	26	9	201,723½	26	9	20,122½	18	3
,, 23	63,150½	27	1	185,268½	26	10	20,612	18	7
,, 30	60,323½	27	1	193,434⅜	26	9	22,419½	18	9
Dec. 7	67,925½	27	1	162,996⅜	26	7	23,999½	19	0
,, 14	48,045½	27	2	182,212⅝	25	10	17,125½	17	1
,, 21	60,362½	27	7	119,398½	26	8	26,260½	19	8
,, 28	43,718⅜	27	7	81,859½	26	8	16,901½	19	10
1902.									
Jan. 4	31,440¼	27	7	34,777½	26	7	11,621½	19	10

MONTHLY AVERAGES.

(196 Market Towns.)

	1900.			1901.		
	Wheat	Barley	Oats	Wheat	Barley	Oats
January	25 10	25 7	16 3	26 8	25 7	17 4
February	26 0	25 2	16 8	26 5	25 5	17 7
March	25 11	24 10	17 0	25 10	25 0	17 10
April	25 11	24 9	17 6	26 3	25 7	18 3
May	25 9	24 10	18 2	27 6	25 2	19 4
June	25 10	23 8	19 0	27 7	23 11	19 10
July	28 10	23 8	19 5	27 4	22 9	19 8
August	28 9	23 10	19 5	27 4	24 0	18 10
September	28 6	25 7	17 6	26 1	25 4	17 4
October	28 5	26 3	17 0	25 10	25 7	17 6
November	27 3	25 10	17 0	26 9	26 10	18 2
December	26 7	25 9	17 2	27 4	26 8	19 5

YEARLY AVERAGES (OFFICIAL.)

	Wheat. s.	d.	Barley. s.	d.	Oats. s.	d.
1890	31 9 per qr.		28 8 per qr.		18 7 per qr.	
1891	37 1 ,,		28 2 ,,		20 0 ,,	
1892	30 4 ,,		26 2 ,,		19 11 ,,	
1893	26 4 ,,		25 6 ,,		18 9 ,,	
1894	22 10 ,,		24 6 ,,		17 1 ,,	
1895	23 1 ,,		21 11 ,,		14 6 ,,	
1896	26 2 ,,		22 11 ,,		14 9 ,,	
1897	30 2 ,,		23 6 ,,		16 11 ,,	
1898	34 0 ,,		27 2 ,,		18 5 ,,	
1899	25 8 ,,		25 7 ,,		17 0 ,,	
1900	26 11 ,,		25 9 ,,		17 9 ,,	

COMPARATIVE AVERAGES.

Comparative statement for the corresponding week to December 28th, in each of the years from 1897 to 1900.

	WHEAT. Qrs	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs	s.	d.
1897	30,163½	34	6	04,645¾	27	3	9,704½	17	1
1898	46,085	26	11	91,300⅜	28	4	15,191½	17	0
1899	47,6859	25	9	74,637⅜	25	5	10,463½	16	2
900	43,182½	26	4	109,624½	25	10	17,065	17	2

FLUCTUATIONS IN THE AVERAGE PRICE OF WHEAT.

PRICE.	Nov. 30.	Dec. 7.	Dec. 14.	Dec. 21.	Dec. 28	Jan. 4.
27s. 7d.	...	...	...			
27s. 4d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 2d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 1d.				...	...	...
26s. 11d.	...	...	...	...		...
26s. 9d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
26s. 6d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
26s. 0d.	...	...	...	...	...	...

TITHE RENT CHARGES.

For 1901	66	10	9
,, 1900	66	15	10
,, 1899	68	2	4
,, 1898	68	14	11
,, 1897	69	17	11
,, 1896	71	9	7
,, 1895	78	13	0
Average 1836—1901	96	2	0*

* The last time the tithe was above *par* was £100 4s. 10d. for 1883.

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF LONDON TOWN HOUSEHOLDS FLOUR.

(Sacks of 280 lb. ex-mill for cash.)

	1901.		1900.		1899.		1898.		1897.		1896.		1895.		1894.	
	s.	d	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d	s.	d	s.	d.	s.	d.
Jan. ...	24	6	21	9	23	9	29	0	25	6	18	9	18	7½	21	6
Feb. ...	24	0	22	0	23	6	30	0	24	7½	19	4½	17	9	21	6
March	23	9	21	6	22	3	30	0	23	11	19	3	18	0	21	0
April...	24	0	21	6	22	0	31	3	23	6	19	6	18	7½	20	6
May ...	23	6	21	3	22	3	39	7	23	7	19	0	20	4½	18	6
June ...	23	0	23	6	23	1½	35	0	22	7½	18	10	22	3	18	10½
July ...	22	3	24	6	21	9	29	6	22	10½	18	6	20	0½	19	3
August	22	3	24	0	21	9	27	6	26	8½	18	8½	19	10½	19	3
Sept....	22	0	25	3	22	0	26	5	30	3	19	6	19	8	19	3
Oct. ...	21	6	24	9	23	3	26	1	29	0	23	7½	18	7½	18	3½
Nov. ...	21	6	24	3	22	3	25	0	29	1	25	8½	18	4½	18	3
Dec. ...	21	9	24	0	21	9	24	3	29	0	25	7½	18	1	18	8½
Yrly. Avrg.	22	10	23	2	22	4	29	6½	25	10½	20	8½	19	2	19	7

LONDON ARRIVALS OF BREADSTUFFS.

1900.			
Jan. 6	43,157 qrs.	June 29	142,185 qrs.
,, 13	95,046 ,,	July 6	132,950 ,,
,, 20	114,928 ,,	,, 13	101,253 ,,
,, 27	124,652 ,,	,, 20	82,294 ,,
Feb. 3	70,835 ,,	,, 27	55,998 ,,
,, 10	75,000 ,,	Aug. 2	86,167 ,,
,, 17	66,804 ,,	,, 11	192,077 ,,
,, 24	62,191 ,,	,, 18	138,510 ,,
Mar. 3	79,976 ,,	,, 25	182,517 ,,
,, 10	63,702 ,,	,, 31	80,149 ,,
,, 17	162,985 ,,	Sept. 7	58,394 ,,
,, 24	111,409 ,,	,, 14	117,066 ,,
,, 31	69,356 ,,	,, 21	105,961 ,,
Apr. 7	48,302 ,,	,, 28	158,771 ,,
,, 13	131,035 ,,	Oct. 5	183,383 ,,
,, 20	82,357 ,,	,, 12	156,815 ,,
,, 27	43,783 ,,	,, 19	73,725 ,,
May 4	104,535 ,,	,, 26	98,302 ,,
,, 11	52,859 ,,	Nov. 2	77,179 ,,
,, 18	97,412 ,,	,, 9	148,972 ,,
,, 25	71,390 ,,	,, 16	105,130 ,,
,, 31	177,744 ,,	,, 23	132,964 ,,
June 8	93,147 ,,	,, 30	89,337 ,,
,, 15	86,125 ,,	Dec. 7	107,582 ,,
,, 22	196,116 ,,	,, 14	75,283 ,,

1901.			
Jan. 4	80,166 qrs.	June 26	112,522 qrs.
,, 11	107,139 ,,	July 3	191,169 ,,
,, 18	85,855 ,,	,, 10	114,447 ,,
,, 25	80,039 ,,	,, 17	80,192 ,,
Feb. 1	114,145 ,,	,, 24	124,172 ,,
,, 8	66,851 ,,	,, 31	104,626 ,,
,, 15	109,704 ,,	Aug. 7	104,603 ,,
,, 22	127,105 ,,	,, 14	103,121 ,,
Mar. 1	86,461 ,,	,, 21	84,091 ,,
,, 8	129,424 ,,	,, 28	76,200 ,,
,, 15	110,946 ,,	Sep. 4	169,539 ,,
,, 22	105,558 ,,	,, 11	92,097 ,,
,, 29	105,769 ,,	,, 18	115,900 ,,
April 2	81,152 ,,	,, 25	67,864 ,,
,, 9	99,417 ,,	Oct. 2	83,291 ,,
,, 16	69,195 ,,	,, 9	120,281 ,,
,, 23	164,482 ,,	,, 16	129,647 ,,
,, 30	74,562 ,,	,, 23	101,405 ,,
May 8	164,482 ,,	,, 30	112,824 ,,
,, 15	143,612 ,,	Nov. 6	63,254 ,,
,, 21	124,976 ,,	,, 13	41,566 ,,
,, 29	81,653 ,,	,, 20	141,420 ,,
June 5	106,630 ,,	,, 27	133,283 ,,
,, 12	141,867 ,,	Dec. 4	144,187 ,,
,, 19	201,306 ,,	,, 11	100,116 ,,

LONDON SUPPLIES OF BREADSTUFFS.

December 4th to 11th, 1901, inclusive.

Wheat	45,366 qrs.
Flour	54,750 ,,
Total	100,116 ,,
Requirements	106,000 ,,
Deficiency	5,884 ,,

IMPORTS OF POTATOES INTO UNITED KINGDOM.

CEREAL YEARS.

1900—1901	16,003,000 cwt.
1899—1900	6,363,000 ,,

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF FINE HOUSEHOLD FLOUR IN PARIS.

(Converted into English money for sacks of 280 lb.)

	1901.		1900.		1899.		1898.		1897.		1896.		1895.		1894.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Jan. ...	24	9	25	2	29	0	38	7	30	5½	25	10	27	9½	28	4½
Feb. ...	25	9	26	3	28	3	39	4	29	10½	26	2	27	10½	27	5½
March	24	0	27	3	27	6	40	1	28	9	26	0	27	5½	27	1
April...	24	6	26	9	27	6	42	3	28	5	25	6½	26	7	27	8½
May ...	25	6	26	8	28	0	40	0	28	11½	25	1½	28	0	25	6½
June ...	26	3	28	0	27	6	35	6	29	3	25	8	28	10	25	7½
July ...	28	0	26	9	27	3	32	0	31	5½	24	6	27	1	26	10
August	27	6	26	4	27	0	31	6	36	11	25	1	26	11	27	6
Sept....	27	6	26	3	25	9	31	0	38	7	27	0	27	0½	25	5
Oct.....	27	6	26	0	24	9	30	6	33	4	27	1½	27	9	25	2
Nov. ...	27	9	26	4	24	3	30	3	40	3	29	9	26	8½	26	6
Dec. ...	28	3	26	0	24	6	29	0	39	3	29	8	26	3	26	10½
Yrly. Avrg.	27	3	26	6	26	9	35	0	33	5	26	5½	27	4½	26	8

LONDON TOP PRICE FLOUR.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1901.

		s.	d.
September 2	(per sack)	29	0
,, 28	,,	28	0
(No official change since last date given.)			

POULTRY AND PROVISIONS.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Market was quite of a holiday character, and there were few buyers about; indeed, prices were wholly unchanged from those of last week. Cheddars and Dunlops varied from 52s to 58s per cwt. There are now no Canadians in the market, but it is expected that Australian and New Zealand will be forward in a month.

Smithfield, Saturday.—Supplies large, a quiet demand, and sales progressed slowly. Quotations:—Fowls: Yorkshire, 2s 6d to 3s; Essex, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; Boston, 2s 6d to 2s 9d; Surrey, 3s to 3s 6d; Sussex, 2s 9d to 3s; Welsh, 2s 9d to 3s 3d; Irish, 1s 6d to 1s 9d; turkeys, 4s 3d to 7s 6d; geese, 4s to 6s; Irish, 1s 9d to 2s; pigeons, 7d to 1s 2d; quail, 10d to 1s 2d; wild rabbits, 7d to 9d; tame, 10d to 1s each; Australian, 7s to 8s 6d per dozen; pheasants, 3s 6d to 3s 9d; young partridges, 3s; old, 1s 8d per brace; hares, 2s 6d to 2s 9d; leverets, 1s 6d to 2s; wild ducks, 1s 6d; pintail, 1s 3d to 1s 4d; widgeon, 1s to 1s 2d; teal, 8d to 10d; woodcock, 2s to 2s 3d; snipe, 8d to 10d; golden plover, 7d to 9d; black, 4d to 6d; capercailzie (cocks), 2s to 2s 9d; hens, 1s 6d to 1s 9d each.

WOOL.

Glasgow and Leith Wool Sales.—The Scotch wool market has, on the whole, been quiet in December. At the Glasgow sales on 11th the number of buyers was unusually small, and very little wool of any description was sold publicly—nor was the private buying of much importance as regards whitefaced wools, values being kept down by the low prices of English and colonial cross-breds. Towards the close of the month there has been a movement in blackfaced, principally for export, although there are also some enquiries from home users. Hogg and wedder lots being now pretty well exhausted, more attention has been turned to ewes, which have been taken up at low prices to some extent. The month closes with a strong tone, and, as holders are meeting the demand liberally, stocks are being rapidly reduced—in fact, they have not been so small for some years.—J. AND W. GREIG.

POTATOES.

Borough, Saturday.—Arrivals were good, but a slow inquiry predominated at about late rates. Scotch Maincrops, 80s to 90s; Reading Giants, Blacklands, 45s; Blacklands Up-to-ates, 45s to 50s; Lincoln Silts, 60s; Gartons, 45s per ton.

Spitalfields, Saturday.—Market heavily supplied, a fair demand prevailed, and prices ruled steady. Quotations:—Best Lincoln Up-to-Dates, 60s to 70s; Blackland ditto, 50s; Wisbech ditto, 55s to 65s; Scotch ditto, 50s to 60s; Scotch Maincrops (grey soil), 60s to 70s; Lincoln Maincrops, 80s to 90s; Reading Giants, 45s; and Blackland Gartons, 45s to 50s per ton.

HOPS.

London, Monday.—The inquiry noted in our last continues. The exceedingly low prices English hops are selling at makes them the cheapest in the world—some consumers, realising this, are stocking up.—W. H. LE MAY.

FRUIT AND VEGEABLE .

Covent Garden, Saturday.—Fair supplies of greenstuffs on offer experienced a slow demand. Potato trade very quiet. A fairly good supply of fruit met a good demand. Greenstuffs: Cabbages, 4s to 5s; savoys, 7s to 8s per tally; beetroots, 2s 6d to 3s; spinach, 1s 6d to 2s per bushel; Brussels sprouts, 1s 6d to 2s 6d per half-sieve; carrots, 2s; parsley, 2s to 3s; leeks, 2s 6d per dozen bunches; celery, 9s to 14s per dozen rolls; horseradish, 1s 3d to 1s 6d per bundle; English onions, 6s 6d to 7s per cwt; Valencia, 7s to 8s per case; Dutch, 4s to 4s 6d per bag; potatoes—Maincrops, 70s to 75s; Reading Giants, 40s; Blacklands, 40s; Up-to-Dates, 50s to 60s; Gartons, 40s per ton. Fruit: English apples, 3s to 10s per bushel; Nova Scotian, 18s to 26s per barrel; Jaffa oranges, 7s to 15s; Valencia, 9s to 15s per case; Almeria, 12s to 20s per barrel; Messina lemons, 6s to 18s per case; English tomatoes, 4s 6d to 5s per strike; pineapples, 1s 6d to 4s 6d each; bananas, 7s 6d to 12s per bunch; Redon chestnuts, 6s 6d to 12s per bag.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The year which closed in wind and rain on Tuesday night was marked by under an average amount of rain, and also of sunshine, but a full average temperature was reached, and the mean of wind force was considerably exceeded. There are many reasons for believing a windy year to be a healthy one for stock as well as for humanity, but the effect of air in rapid motion on vegetable life is not appreciable. Not so the effect of sunshine, and the poor sunshine record of 1901 would forbid our speaking favourably of the season's effect on vegetation even if there had been a sufficient rainfall. The actual rain record as ascertained by us in the County of Middlesex is as follows, the average with which it is compared being that of the last 25 years of the last century:

	1901.	Average.
January	0.90	1.85
February	0.75	1.53
March	2.58	1.54
April	1.89	1.69
May	0.72	2.00
June	1.80	1.94
July	3.69	2.58
August	2.07	2.38
September	1.50	2.34
October	2.52	2.81
November	0.90	2.34
December	3.00	1.97
Total	22.92	24.27

Harvesting is now in active progress in La Plata, and will begin in a week or so in Chile. The weather is favourable, and the early provinces of Argentina have already secured much of the grain in good condition. The good yields in the South and in the province of Buenos Ayres are expected to nearly efface the deficiency in Entre Rios, Uruguay, and the Argentine North. The Australian wheat harvest is very good in New South Wales, but only a very mediocre result is anticipated in the South. Cape Colony will need large imports in 1902. With a splendid area of fit land and with a protective duty to help home produce, it is disappointing to find wheat culture declining in this region. It must, however, be borne in mind that the vast development of Californian wheat-growing did not occur until the gold fever had died away. It may be the same in South Africa.

The record sales of British produce for the first four months of the cereal year were 1,085,000 qrs. of wheat, 2,465,000 qrs. of barley, and 354,000 qrs. of oats, which may be taken to represent about 2,712,500 qrs. of wheat, 7,395,000 qrs. of barley, and 5,310,000 qrs. of oats gone into consumption out of the United Kingdom yields for 1901. The wheat yield of the United Kingdom was estimated at from 6¾ to 7 million qrs., but in the absence of returns from Ireland, estimates of the yields of barley and oats are to a great extent guess work. In 1900, the last year for which we have returns from Ireland, the yields were 8,578,000 qrs. of barley and 20,650,000 qrs. of oats. It is to be hoped that much greater precision in these market sale returns will be attained in the new century, and that the Irish officials will be compelled to send in returns not later than those of the far greater areas controlled by Mr. Hanbury.

The Russian exports during December were very good of maize and very fair of oats, but both wheat and barley shipments were a good deal less than usual. Actual figures were:—Wheat, 652,000 qrs.; barley, 238,000 qrs.; oats, 53,900 qrs.; and maize, 432,000 qrs.

Roumania played quite an important part in December, shipping 430,000 qrs. of wheat, 94,000 qrs. of barley, 124,000 qrs. of oats, 104,000 qrs. of rye, and 482,000 qrs. of maize. These figures include Bulgarian and Turkish ports on the Black Sea.

The United States sent off good supplies of flour, 725,000 sacks, but 1,223,000 qrs. of wheat is a small quantity for America, and the shipments of maize, 96,000 qrs., and barley, 170,000 qrs., are very much below a December average.

Argentina in December shipped 64,000 qrs. of wheat, 173,000 qrs. of maize, and 4,000 qrs. of linseed. India in the same period shipped 120,000 qrs. of wheat (wholly from Kurrachee) and 66,000 qrs. of oilseeds (chiefly linseed). Egypt shipped 40,000 tons of cottonseed and 3,000 qrs. of beans. Hungary sent us 24,000 sacks of flour.

Last week's imports of grain were much below the mean:—

	Qrs.
Wheat	191,000
Barley	85,000
Oats	115,000
Maize	165,000

But of flour the imports reached the formidable total of 210,400 sacks. This sufficiently accounts for the otherwise curious fact of the new year beginning with wheat in sellers' and flour in buyers' favour. There are now, however, only 390,000 sacks of flour on passage, against 444,000 sacks a year ago, so that we may hope to see the position of flour improving as the month advances.

On New Year's Day the following quantities of wheat were on passage to the United Kingdom:—

	Qrs.
Californian	1,585,000
American	280,000
Argentine	65,000
Russian	70,000
Australasian	225,000
Indian	120,000
Other countries	20,000
1st January, 1902	2,380,000
1st January, 1901	2,060,000
1st January, 1900	1,420,000

The figures for 1900 and 1901 were small. During the last decade of the old century the mean was 2,250,000 qrs., or not much different from the figures of to-day.

New Year expectations of spring corn are as follows:—

	Barley. Qrs.	Oats. Qrs.	Maize. Qrs.	Beans. Qrs.
American	450,000	—	45,000	—
Argentine	—	—	185,000	—
Russian	115,000	125,000	400,000	—
Roumanian	70,000	40,000	300,000	—
Other countries	60,000	20,000	10,000	8,000
Total 1st Jan., 1902	695,000	185,000	940,000	8,000
1st Jan., 1901	490,000	300,000	760,000	8,000
1st Jan., 1900	535,000	250,000	820,000	9,000
1st Jan., 1899	280,000	200,000	840,000	14,000
1st Jan., 1898	610,000	200,000	740,000	11,000

It will be seen that of barley and maize our expectations are now good, but that oats and beans are likely to be scarce. The failure of America to ship oats is the feature of the above returns, in one direction, while the large supplies of Russian and Roumanian maize on passage are the leading fact in another. It may be added that the American barley is all malting on brewery grain on passage from California. There are no surplus stores of feeding barley in America. It is somewhat surprising that none of our four great sources of supply send us any beans, yet Egypt gets 34s. per quarter for her produce landed here, a price which exceeds the value of the best wheat.

The New Year opened at Paris with wheat at 38s. 6d., against 33s. 6d. a year ago, but if we deduct the 12s. 3d. duty we shall see that the intrinsic value of French wheat is only 26s. 3d. per quarter.

New York opened the campaign of 1902 with 29s. 3d. quoted for No. 2 Red Winter wheat. On 2nd January, 1901 (the 1st is an American Bank Holiday), 28s. 9d. was quoted. The price is so high, as compared with English terms, that only extremely low freights allow of America shipping at all.

The quantity of English wheat remaining in farmers' hands on New Year's Day is thus estimated:—

	Qrs.
1st January, 1902	3,560,000
1st January, 1901	3,945,000
1st January, 1900	4,240,000

These figures argue that British local markets in the period 1st January-31st August, 1902, will have much less wheat on offer than in the last two years at the same season. There should, therefore, be a larger attendance of millers at the great centres, such as Mark Lane, Bristol, Birmingham, etc., and a better feeling should soon result.

The term market opened on New Year's Day with 31s. 3d. quoted for January delivery, against 32s. 9d. on 1st January, 1901. The larger American crop is the cause of the decline, but if the American surplus is going into use in the States as a substitute for maize, the situation may soon harden, and a rise at the speculative centre herald an improvement for actual food wants also.

The imports of maize into the United Kingdom for 1901 (preliminary returns) thus compare with preceding years:—

	Qrs.
1901	11,957,000
1900	12,399,000
1899	14,511,000

As demand keeps up and supply rather falls than rises prices advance, so that the quotations now prevailing are 1s. to 2s. above those of a year, and 2s. to 3s. above those of two years ago. The American official supply is cabled at 1,313,000 qrs. against 1,057,000 qrs. a year ago.

THIS DAY'S MARKETS

[FIRST REPORT.]

MARK LANE, MONDAY.

The market to-day was well attended, but millers seemed to think that a wet wild week warranted a reduction of 6d. in wheat prices, a move which neither farmers nor merchants fell in with. Trade, therefore, was inert, prices remaining firm. The finest American wheat made 32s. 6d., the very best English 31s. 6d. The cheapest wheat offered was Essex Rivetts at 28s. 6d., and short-berried New Zealand at 29s. per qr. Barley was quiet for all malting and brewing descriptions. Feeding sorts were in fair retail request at currencies. Argentine maize was cheaper from Friday, 24s. 9d. was said to have been accepted. Round corn was for the most part unsaleable at the nominal currencies. The price of American through scarcity, is fully maintained. Rye was steady at 24s. per quarter. Oats were held above the ideas of purchasers in some cases. The trade was decidedly firm. Some very fine, Bombay linseed made three guineas per qr., and American was offered at 55s. per qr.

(For Close of Market see foot of Column.)

QUOTATIONS OFF STANDS.

Jan. 6, 1902.

BRITISH GRAIN.

		s.	s.
WHEAT, White (new)	(per 504 lb.)	29	— 32
,, (old)	,,	30	— 33
Red (new)	,,	28	— 30
,, (old)	,,	29	— 30
Chicken or Feed	(per 480 lb.)	27	— 28
BARLEY, Malting	(per 448 lb.)	30	— 38
Brewing	,,	27	— 30
Feeding	(per 400 lb.)	24	— 26
MALT, English	(per 336 lb.)	34	— 40
Scotch	,,	36	— 38
Black	,,	30	— 32
Brown	,,	29	— 32
Crystallized	,,	33	— 35
OATS, English, New Winter	,,	20	— 21
,, ,, Tartary	,,	19	— 20
,, Old Winter	,,	21	— 23
,, ,, Tartary	,,	20	— 21
Scotch	,,	22	— 23
Irish	(per 304 lb.)	19	— 20
RYE, British	(per 480 lb.)	23	— 25
BEANS, Pigeon	,,	37	— 41
Winter	,,	31	— 35
Mazagan	,,	30	— 32
PEAS, Best Marrowfat	(per 504 lb.)	70	— 74
Blue (boiling)	,,	50	— 70
Dun	,,	30	— 32
Maple	,,	36	— 40
TARES, Winter	(per 504 lb.)	50	— 54
Spring	,,	44	— 46

FOREIGN GRAIN.

(Ex-Granary.)

	s.	s.
WHEAT, per 496 lb.		
Old Duluth	32	— 33
Manitoba	31/6	—32
American Spring	31 6	—32
Red Winter	30/6	—31
Hard ,,	30	—30/6
Kansas	30	—30/6
Californian	30/9	—31
Walla Walla	30	—30/6
Australian	31	—31 3
New Zealand	29	— 30
Argentine	30	— 31
Danzig	32	— 33
Saxonka	31	— 32
Azima	30	— 31
Ghirka	29	— 30
Indian	29	— 30
MAIZE, per 480 lb.:		
Russian	25/9	—26
Roumanian	25/6	—26
Turkish	25/6	—26
American	27	—27/6
Argentine	25	— 26
OATS:		
N' Zeal'd (384 lb.)	23	— 28
Swedish (336 lb.)	21	— 23
Canadian (320 lb.)	19	— 20
American (320 lb.)	19	— 20
K'nigsb'g (320 lb.)	20	— 21
Pet'sburg (304 lb.)	19	— 20
L'bau,w'te(304 lb.)	19	— 20
,, black ,,	19	— 20
Vologda (304 lb.)	19	— 20
BEANS, per 480 lb.:		
Egyptian	33	— 34
Smyrna	31	— 32
New Zealand	34	— 36

	s.	s.
LOCUST BEANS, per ton:		
Italian	102	— 104
Cyprian	106	— 112
Portuguese	105	— 107
PEAS, per 504 lb.:		
Canadian, White	37	—37/6
Australian, White	41	— 42
New Zeal'd Maple	39	— 41
MILLET, per 416 lb.:		
White	33	— 45
Red	25	— 27
Yellow	24	— 26
DARI, per 480 lb.:		
Smyrna	24	— 25
Persian	21	— 23
RYE, per 480 lb.:		
Russian	24	— 25
BUCKWHEAT, per 416 lb.:		
French	24	— 25
Russian	24	— 26
TARES, per 504 lb.:		
Konigsberg	44	— 48
BARLEY:		
New Zeal'd (448 lb.)	26	— 29
Chilian (448 lb.)	30	— 40
Californian (448 lb.)	26	— 33
French (448 lb.)	27	— 29
Danubian (400 lb.)	19	— 21
Ouchak (400 lb.)	22	— 28
Yerli (400 lb.)	21	— 22
Russian (400 lb.)	18/6	— 19
MALT, per 336 lb:		
Californian	35	— 37
Smyrna	35	— 37

OIL SEEDS.

LINSEED. per 416 lb.	s.	s.
English	57	to 59
Dutch	56	to 58
Bombay	57	to 59
Calcutta	54	to 55
Russian	55	to 56
Argentine	52	to 53
SESAME. per 424 lb.		
Indian	48	to 50
COTTON SEED per ton.		
Egyptian	128	to 130

RAPESEED. per 416 lb	s.	s.
English	54	to 58
Calcutta	38	to 39
Guzerat	43	to 45
Ferozepore	37	to 39
Jamba	29	to 30
Ravison	27	to 29
POPPYSEED. per 377 lb.		
Indian	46	to 47
SUNFLOWERSEED. per 448lb.		
Russian	41	to 45

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

By Telephone, 2 p.m.

The market closed rather dull, but holders are not so discouraged as they were in December.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, Jan. 6.

The market to-day was dull, but steady. Oregon and Californian flour is held for 3d. advance; which checks sales. The price of the commoner American also favours sellers. Kansas straight and common baking grades are in very small supply, and anything in second hands is held for same advance.

There are some 2nd bakers' grades of Minneapolis flour on offer at 17s. 9d. per sack. All English sorts, whether London or country, are both offered and bought at the terms of last week. Oatmeal made £14 per ton for Grampian, oat flour £17 15s. for Midlothian. Canada continues to send rolled oats at £14 per ton, but "maple leaf" is hardly to be had. Maize flour is held for 18s. 6d. per sack, with buyers at 18s. Maize cones average a sovereign per sack. Red Dog flour is scarce, in fact it is for the moment scarcely obtainable.

Flour.—A quiet trade at last week's full prices. —T. S. MEDILL AND SONS.

LONDON FLOUR.

		s.	s.
Top Price	(per sack)	—	25
Town Whites	,,	—	28
,, Households	,,	—	22
No. 2	,,	—	20

COUNTRY FLOUR.

Best Patents	(per sack)	22/9—23
Fine Roller made	,,	21/9—22
Ordinary Roller made	,,	20/6—21
Best Stone made	,,	20/6—21
Ordinary Stone made	,,	19/6—20

FOREIGN FLOUR.

Minnesota First Patents	(per sack)	23/6—24
,, Second Patents	,,	21/6—22
,, First Bakers'	,,	19/6—20
,, Second Bakers'	,,	18—18/6
Milwaukee Patents	,,	22/6—23
,, Bakers	,,	18—18/6
Kansas Patents	,,	21/6—22
,, Bakers'	,,	18/6—19
Cascad'a	,,	£1 9—22
Canadian	,,	22—23
Australian Patents	,,	20—21
,, Straight	,,	19—20
Hungarian	,,	26—30
French	,,	20—22

MEAL, &c.

Whole Meal	(per ton)	164–170
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	113–115
Bran, London Broad	,,	110–112
,, ,, Fine	,,	98–100
,, Country Flake	,,	116–120
,, ,, Broad	,,	108–110
Pollard	,,	104–106
Fine Middlings	,,	120–122
Coarse Middlings	,,	108–110
Feeding Flour (Red Dog)	,,	115–120
Barley Meal	,,	124–128
Rye Flour	,,	150–155
Oat Meal	,,	270–280
Oat Flour	,,	340–360
Maize Flour	,,	164–166
Maize Meal	,,	122–126
Maize Cones	,,	170–172
Maize Germ Meal	,,	110–115
Pea Meal	,,	130–150
Bean Meal	,,	145–165
Rice Meal	,,	100–106

LONDON TERM MARKET.

WHEAT.—Calls.	Jan. s. d.	March. s. d.	June. s. d.
Dec. 30 11 a.m.	6 3	6 5	6 4
4 p.m.	6 3	6 5	6 4
Dec. 31 11 a.m.	6 3	6 5	6 4
4 p.m.	6 2	6 5	6 4
Jan. 1 11 a.m.	6 2	6 5	6 4
4 p.m.	6 2	6 5	6 4
Jan. 2 11 a.m.	6 2	6 5	6 4
4 p.m.	6 3	6 5	6 4
Jan. 3 11 a.m.	6 3	6 5	6 4
4 p.m.	6 3	6 5	6 4
Jan. 4 11 a.m.	6 3	6 5	6 4
To-day noon	6 3	6 5	6 4

Maize futures are dull; 4s 10d asked, 4s 9d paid.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS' REPORT.

Moderate arrivals of wheat, liberal of flour. Trade firm, prices fully supported. Feeding stuffs dull, prices of wheat 3d. and 6d., and of grinding barley 3d. to 6d. lower. Oats unchanged.—COVENTRY, Mark Lane.

Milling offals are in very little demand. Prices are about the same as last Monday.—JOHN BAWCOMB AND CO., Mark Lane.

Only a quiet trade in wheat is passing at to-day's market. For forward shipment, 3d. advance is asked, but only a quiet spot trade is passing at practically unaltered prices. Oats unchanged; quiet trade. Barley steady, but without change. Round maize in fair demand at 9d. less than last Monday.—W. P. WOOD AND CO.

Liverpool Stocks, 1st Jan., 1902.—Wheat, 302,670 qrs.; barley, 70,300 qrs.; oats, 17,370 qrs.; beans, 5,636 qrs.; peas, 2,110 qrs.; maize, 168,610 qrs.; flour, 42,898 sacks.

Bristol Stocks, 1st Jan., 1902.—Wheat, 132,500 qrs.; barley, 281,900 qrs.; oats, 33,876 qrs.; beans, 3,680 qrs.; peas, 250 qrs.; maize, 6,271 qrs.; flour, 124,700 sacks.

Offals.—Bran in moderate demand; prices unchanged.—GREENHILL BROTHERS (Belfast).

Flour.—The demand is improving, and prices continue firm, with an upward tendency. Values on spot are as follows—1st Spring Patents, 24s. to 24s. 9d; 2nd Spring Patents, 23s. to 23s. 6d.; American Winter Patents, 24s. to 24s. 9d.; Extra Fancies, 22s. to 22s. 6d.—GREENHILL BROTHERS (Belfast).

THE BALTIC.

There is a steady market for wheat cargoes. The sales include Californian at 30s. 6d., Blue Stem at 30s. 3d., Walla Walla at 29s. 3d., Odessa Azima at 29s. 9d., Australian at 30s. 6d., and Argentine new crop (for prompt shipment) at 29s. 6d. per qr.

Maize has been rather weak for futures, as the large supply on passage meets all wants that an ordinary January demand can amount to. Sales include Roumanian at 23s., Argentine at 21s. 9d. (for May shipment), Bulgarian at 23s., Galatz at 23s., and Caucasian at 23s. No buyers of American are to be met with, the price asked being above their ideas. Barley cargoes are very quiet, but full prices rule. Sales have comprised Kustendje at 18s. 9d., Californian Brewing at 24s., and Caucasian at 19s. per qr.

Oats are less neglected. Cargoes for January shipment have been placed at 22s. 6d. for Swedish, 17s. 6d. for Roumanian, 18s. 9d. for South Russian, 19s. for Black Libau; and 17s. 6d. for White Libau. No American oats are to be had.

Other cargo sales are Morocco beans at 32s. 6d., white Calcutta peas at 31s. 6d., green Calcutta peas at 26s., Roumanian rye at 22s. 3d., Calcutta linseed at 50s. 3d., Argentine linseed at 45s., and Turkish canary seed at 38s., all per quarter.

SEEDS.

London, Monday.—We had a fair attendance at to-day's market, and some inquiries for seeds, though little business resulted. There was a small show of English red clover, mostly of medium quality, which found buyers at late rates. Foreign is quiet and unchanged; white clover, alsiki, and trefoil are fully as dear; perennial and Italian ryegrass maintain the late advance; very little doing yet in spring tares, owing to the high prices asked; canaryseed quiet; in blue peas and haricots there is little doing.—JOHN PICARD AND CO.

London, Monday.—Messrs. John Shaw and Sons, Seed Merchants, of Great Maze Pond, Borough, London, S.E., write that the new year brings an improving inquiry for farm seeds generally, and a fair, seasonable, all-round demand is shortly expected. Meanwhile, all descriptions of clover and grass seeds are held with firmness, and stocks mostly are in moderate compass. Mustard, rape, and linseed move off slowly on former terms. The high rates demanded for Koenigsburg tares prohibit business. anary seed is dull of sale, but strong in value. Other bird seeds are wthout quotable variation. The recent mild weather has naturally restricted the consumption of boiling peas and haricot beans. Some choice giant scarlet runners are now offering on attractive terms

FEEDING STUFFS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed cakes:—In consequence of the recent open weather, there is little or no improvement in the demand, and values remain steady in the absence of any signs of weakness on the part of shippers. Russians continue to come to hand slowly, while quotations are unchanged. Americans meet a quiet sale at last week's prices. Calcutta made in bags also offer at unchanged prices. London-made are still obtainable in second hands at last Monday's quotations at which they are relatively cheap. Cotton cakes:—The low figure of 1s. 3d. per ton under last week's prices, demanded by English crushers, have had the effect of depreciation the value of Egyptian, which may now be bought at the same reduction, regardless of the comparatively small quantity available on spot. Decorticated are in fair request at unchanged prices, with meal offering at 2s. 6d. per ton more money on the week. Rape cakes dull. East India unchanged. Maize germ meal.—There is very little trade doing in this article, the high price almost entirely checking business. American and English are nominally quoted at 1s. 3d. to 2s. 6d. per ton more money. Rice meal.—Landed parcels of Rangoon make last week's prices, while the price asked for shipment is also unchanged:—

	Per ton. £ s. d.	Per ton. £ s. d.
LINSEED CAKES.		
London made ex mill	7 17 6	to 8 0 0
American, in bags ex dock	7 5 0	to 7 7 6
Russian, in mats ex dock	7 10 0	to 7 12 6
Russian, in bags ex dock	7 15 0	to 7 17 6
East India Seed ex wharf	7 12 6	to 7 15 0
COTTONSEED CAKES.		
London made ex mill	4 12 6	to 4 13 9
Egyptian, in bags ex dock	4 12 6	to 4 13 9
Decorticated	6 12 6	to 6 15 0
Meal	6 12 6	to 6 15 0
RAPE CAKES.		
East Indian Seed ex mill	—	to 4 5 0
Ravison	4 5 0	to —
MAIZE.		
American germ meal ex mill	6 2 6	to 6 5 0
English	6 2 6	to 6 5 0
RICE MEAL.		
Rangoon ex wharf	5 5 0	to 5 7 6
,, Dec.-Jan. ex ship	—	to 5 2 6

—PINNOCK BROS, Mark Lane.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

Monday, Jan. 6th, 1901.

	British.	Total.	Jan. 7th, 1901.
Beasts	1,420	1,420	1,960
Sheep and lambs	9,560	9,560	9,570
Calves	10	10	10
Pigs	50	50	110
Milch cows	60	60	60

Quotations per 8 lbs. (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.

	Inferior. s. d.	Second. s. d.	First. s. d.
Beasts	2 8 ...	4 0 ...	4 9
Sheep	3 4 ...	4 10 ...	5 6
Lambs	5 10 ...	6 4 ...	7 0
Pigs	2 6 ...	3 8 ...	4 4

Milch cows, per head, £16 to £23.

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, 65; Eastern Counties, 537; Midland, Home, and Western Counties, 733; Devon, 30; Ireland, 55.

In the beast market to-day, compared with Monday last, there was an increase of 230 head. The supply consisted chiefly of prime quality Norfolks and Scotch. Trade was of a slow nature, at late rates; second quality, at a slight decline in value; for butchering cows and bulls there was more inquiry by country buyers, with an early clearance at improved rates.

The following are top quotations per 8lb (sinking the offal):

	To-day.	Jan. 7th, 1901.
Scotch	4s 7d to 4s 9d	4s 7d to 4s 9d
Devons	4s 6d to 4s 8d	—
Herefords	4s 6d to 4s 7d	—
Norfolks	4s 6d to 4s 8d	4s 6d to 4s 8d
Runts	4s 6d to 4s 7d	4s 2d to 4s 4d
Lincolns	4s 4d to 4s 6d	4s 4d to 4s 6d
Irish	4s 2d to 4s 4d	4s 6d to 4s 8d
Fat cows	3s 8d to 3s 10d	3s 8d to 3s 10d

In the sheep market, there was an increase of 1,360 in the number penned. For wether sheep trade was dull at a decline of 2d per 8lb; best quality ewes being short in number made late rates, whilst other descriptions were more difficult to clear. A few good lambs met a ready sale. The supply included 320 Scotch, and 4,280 from the Eastern Counties.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8lb (sinking the offal), and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day.	Jan. 7th, 1901.
7½ to 8-st. Downs	5s 4d to 5s 6d	5s 8d to 5s 10d
9-st. ditto	5s 2d to 5s 4d	5s 6d to 5s 8d
10-st. Half-breds	4s 10d to 5s 0d	5s 2d to 5s 4d
12-st. Lincolns	4s 8d to 4s 10d	4s 10d to 5s 0d
10-st. Down ewes	3s 10d to 4s 0d	4s 4d to 4s 6d
11-st. Half-bred do.	3s 6d to 3s 8d	—
5-st. Down lambs	6s 10d to 7s 0d	—
6-st. Half-bred do.	6s 6d to 6s 8d	—

For pigs there was little inquiry; but small breeds were quoted at 4s 4d per 8lb.

FOREIGN CATTLE.

St. Ives (Hunts), Monday.—Beasts, 230; sheep, 262; pigs, 429. beef, 7s 6d to 8s 3d; mutton, 7s 7d to 9s 4d; pork, 6s 6d to 7s 3d; sows, 5s 6d to 6s 6d; fat beasts, brisk trade; stores, slow; fat and store sheep, middling; fat and store pigs, good; milch cows, fair prices, £14 to £22.

Liverpool, Monday.—There were more cattle in market to-day; demand slow, and last week's top prices barely maintained. Sheep supply also larger, trade quiet at late rates. Beef, 6½d to 5¼d per lb; mutton, 8d to 5d per lb. At market, 1,574 cattle, and 3,437 sheep.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—The arrivals from Ireland last week were 2,086 bales bacon, and from foreign ports 8,457 bales bacon. The bacon market was firm at the close of last week, accumulations of Irish, Danish, and Canadian having cleared fairly well, but at irregular prices. Irish ranging from 50s, 58s up to 63s; Danish, from 46s, 47s, up to 63s; and Canadian from 46s, 51s, up to 56s. The butter market was quiet; French, 104s to 118s; Danish, 100s to 114s; Australian, 80s to 108s; Russian, 86s to 100s; New Zealand, 86s to 108s. Lard steady, Irish, 54s to 63s; American, 50s to 51s.

THE BALTIC, 1 p.m.

STATE OF TRADE.

Wheat cargoes maintain full rates. Maize is 3d. cheaper for February and later shipments. Oats are 3d. dearer for futures. Barley is comparatively neglected, but holders are firm. Rape seed and cottonseed seem declining.

BUSINESS DONE.

WHEAT.—Walla Walla, 29s 6d, prompt shipment; No. 1 Northern, 29s 9d, prompt shipment; Manitoba, 30s, prompt shipment; Australian, 31s, arrived; White Kurrachee, 29s 3d January shipment; Red Kurrachee, 28s 9d, January shipment; Argentine, 29s 6d, February shipment (new crop); Red Calcutta, 28s 9d, May shipment (new crop).

MAIZE, Bulgarian, 23s 3d, February shipment; Argentine, 21s 9d, May shipment.

BARLEY.—Nicolaieff, 18s 3d, arrived; Crimean, 19s, on passage.

OATS.—Roumanian, 17s 9d, prompt shipment; Swedish, 22s 6d, prompt shipment; Konigsberg, 20s, prompt shipment, New Zealand, 23s 6d, prompt shipment

PEAS.—Indian White, 31s, May shipment; Indian Green, 25s 9d, May shipment.

LINSEED.—Argentine, 45s 3d, January shipment; Indian, 51s 9d, on passage.

RAPESEED.—Red Delhi, 40s 3d, January shipment.

POPPYSEED.—Bombay, 47s, January shipment.

COTTONSEED.—Egyptian, £6 5s, arrived; Indian, £4 7s 6d, January shipment.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW.

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS.")

Trade in London.

At the Islington Cattle Market, as usual on a Monday following Christmas Day, there was a full supply of beasts, including about 50 Scotch, 107 Irish, 363 from Norfolk and Essex, and 630 from the Midland counties. Owing to a slack demand experienced by retail butchers, their wants were soon supplied, trade from start to finish being of a very slow nature, with a marked downward tendency in value, especially towards the close of that day's business, a few middling descriptions being turned out unsold. Trade for both butchering cows and bulls, owing to the small number on offer, was firmer both in regard to tone and value. An early clearance being made on Thursday, very few transactions were recorded, notwithstanding a light supply. At Deptford, markets were held on Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday, the largest number being shown on the latter day. Trade generally was of a rather slower nature, the previous week's rates as a rule governing all transactions. No Canadians were marketed; the total number on offer was 3,469—previous week 2,528—consisting of 1,270 British (increase 800) and 2,199 foreign (increase 141). These latter consisted entirely of consignments from the United States. The following were the top rates paid per 8lbs. (sinking the offal):—90-stone polled Aberdeens, 4s. 8d. to 4s. 9d.; 90-stone Devons, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; 90-stone polled Norfolks, 4s 7d.; 100-stone Lincolns, 4s. 6d.; 90-stone Irish 4s. 4d.; 90-stone States, 4s. 5d. to 4s. 8d.; 100-stone fat cows, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.; 100-stone fat bulls, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d. The sheep trade at Islington showed a want of life, sales being rather forced. Choice Downs and Half-breds to dress under 8lbs. made late rates, but heavy sheep must be written 2d. per 8lbs. lower. Even at this reduction a clearance could not be made. Best quality ewes were firm and steady, but other grades decidedly lower. At Deptford trade ruled slow, and as usual was confined to carcass butchers. The total number penned at both markets was 10,503, consisting of 8,060 British and 2,443 from the United States; best pens made, per 8lbs., as follows——7½ to 8-stone Downs, 5s. 8d.; 8-stone Scotch, 5s. 6d.; 9-stone Downs, 5s. 6d.; 10-stone ditto, 5s. 4d.; 10-stone Half-breds, 5s. to 5s. 2d.; 10-stone Irish, 5s.; 12-stone Lincolns, 4s. 10d.; 8½-stone States, 3s. 10d. to 4s.; 10-stone Down ewes, 4s.; 11-stone Half-bred ditto, 3s. 8d. Only 20 calves on the market. Pigs numbered 160, and were slower of sale, there being less demand; best small breeds were quoted from 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d. per 8lbs. (sinking the offal).

Trade in the West.

The dulness which characterised the trade of the past week was further accentuated by deluging rains, which not only entirely put a stop to what little business there was passing, but in many districts wrought great havoc by flooding the low-lying lands, much of which for some days assumed quite the aspect of a vast sea. Stockowners can ill afford to bear such trouble at present, and to many it means a great, almost irreparable loss. The enquiry for milch beasts, of which the supply is evidently altogether inadequate to the demand, continues phenomenally active, despite the interruptions to which we have referred; and those who are fortunate enough to have reserves in this line can hardly have a more opportune moment for pulling them out, as the best young heifers and also good class cows are selling freely at from £17 10s. to £21 apiece, as a general run, whilst animals to which a fancy has been taken go up to £22. The more ordinary runs are also very saleable at from £14 to £16 or £17 apiece. Barrenners, too, are finding a capital market, the more forward bullocks especially, at prices that should induce any who have barreners at all fat for the purpose to put them out at a time when there is every prospect of their getting a fairly remunerative price for this class of stock. The best drafts, sold in pairs, meet a ready sale, at from £22 to £27, which is by no means a bad price, seeing that many fat bullocks only realise a trifle more when brought into the ring for slaughtering purposes. Plainer kinds, however, range from £16 to £20; but keen in any of these are either aged bullocks or in very backward condition. There is scarcely anything passing in store sheep, which fail to attract attention, possibly in a large measure owing to the low price to which mutton has now sunk, and with very little prospect, it seems, of anything like a revival being near at hand. All classes of mutton are making an equally unsatisfactory, for while a few very ripe wethers of nice weights make 7½d. or perhaps 8d. per lb., the great bulk of the mutton does not realise more than 6d. to 7d. Of course, the little passing in lamb is confined entirely to house-fed animals, for the best finished of which perhaps 10d. or even 11d. is paid; but then there is by no means a large enquiry at the price; the more ordinary runs are less saleable at 8½d. to 9d. Calves, too, are by no means so saleable as they were at from 6d. to 7d. per lb., the latter, except in a few rare cases, being almost an outside price. Pigs are also much slower of sale, and rates may be quoted from 6d. to 1s. lower than they were, except for fancied lots; 10s. now is almost the outside price, whilst plenty others at 8s. 6d. to 9s. 6d. Taken as a whole, the present trade outlook is by no means too roseate.

Trade in Ireland.

The supplies of cattle and sheep in last Thursday's Dublin market, while showing a large increase on the previous market, were really of moderate dimensions for this time of the year, and there was a decided improvement in business. Grass-fed cattle are practically all disposed of now, and nearly all the beef was stall-fed, but some of it not what it should be, and complaints were made of beasts which were nothing more than stores being forced on the market. There was a brisk inquiry for well-finished bullocks and heifers, and prices were firm to the close, and in some cases perhaps 10s. per head more money was realised. Prime ox and heifer beef made from 52s. to 56s. per cwt., and 58s. for extra good lots; good second-class beef 46s. to 50s., and inferior from 42s. 6d. to 45s. per cwt. A good number of coarse half-meated cattle could only be disposed of by owners accepting in-and-out prices. The number of beasts on market was 2,631, an increase of 544 on previous Thursday, but a decrease on the corresponding week of 1901 of nearly 700 head. In the mutton department there was a good inquiry for prime wethers and hoggets, and prices were from 2s. to 3s. a head better, but for rough sheep business was of a dragging nature, and many lots were not sold; still, with an increase of just 1,400 on the previous Thursday, the market must be considered a satisfactory one. For really prime wethers up to 7d. per lb. was paid, the average figure being about 6½d. per lb., good ewe 5d. to 6d., and inferior sheep from 4½d. Small to medium hoggets from 27s. to 40., and heavy ditto from 42s. to 52s. each. The shipping trade was of rather a lifeless character. A few house-fed lambs were on offer, and made about 40s. a head. Choice veal scarce, and worth from 7½d. to 8½d. per lb., rough calves difficult to dispose of at from 4½d. per lb. up. Dull sale for dairy cattle, especially for inferior qualities. Really choice springers made from £18 to £21 each. In the pig market, light-weight pigs were in small supply, and with a brisk demand sold at the extreme rates of last day. Middle and shipping qualities, however, did not share in the demand, and sold draggingly, and it was only at a late hour that a clearance was effected. Choice light-weight pigs from 44s. to 46s. per cwt., coarse from 32s. to 38s. The store cattle trade throughout the country shows little or no improvement. Reports from late fairs in the south and midlands all show business to be of a very stagnant condition.

LONDON.

London Meat.—Good supplies; trade slow. Beef carcases, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.; hind quarters, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; roastings, 5s. to 5s. 8d. Sheep, ewe, 2s. 10d. to 3s.; wether, 3s. 8d. to 4s.; hind quarters, ewe, 4s. to 4s. 4d.; wether, 5s. to 5s. 4d. Pigs, large, 3s. 8d. to 4s.; small, 4s. to 4s 4d.

COUNTRY.

Ashbourne, Thursday.—There was only a small show of horned stock at the fortnightly market, with a fair attendance of farmers, dealers, and butchers. A rather better show of milk cows, which found slightly improved sale; otherwise the market generally was unchanged. Only a few pens of sheep shown, fat wether making up to 8d. per lb. Quotations: Calving cows £18 to £20, for best secondary £15 to £16; calving heifers or stirks, £12 to £15; young barren cows or heifers, £10 to £12; lean or older cows, £8 to £10; beef, 5d. to 6d. per lb., and very little on offer.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Beef sold very well at a slight advance on former rates, prime steers and heifers ranging up to 12s. per score or a little over. Second class beasts made 10s. to 10s. 6d. Mutton was again cheap, small Down wethers making 5s. to 5s 2d. per stone of 8lb., while Kent wethers fetched 4s. 8d. to 5s., and barrens less than 4s. Veal showed a wide range, prime calves making 5s. 4d. per 8 lb., and secondary ones 4s. 6d. to 5s. Pork was scarce and dear, the best roasters fetching 11s. per score. There was very little store stock trade.

Basingstoke, Wednesday.—At Raynbird and Sons' saleyard there was a good attendance of buyers to meet a supply of 26 fat beasts, 66 calves, 481 fat sheep and lambs, 262 pigs, and 43 head of dairy and store cattle, which realised the following prices: Fat Devon steers up to £21; two year old polled heifers, £20; shorthorn steers, £19 5s; prime quality fat sheep realised from 44s to 57s; seven months' old ditto, from 34s to 48s; fat ewes, 34s to 49s 6d; rams, 32s, 37s, 44s; fat hogs, 75s to £5 5s; fat porkers, 36s to 64s; store pigs, 13s to 24s 6d; fat calves, 80s to £5 5s; small, 20s to 60s; dairy cows, £8 to £20, etc. A clearance made of the short supply of fat beasts, and full prices paid for the best lots:—A full entry of good quality fat sheep. Lambs were cleared at fully late rates, with the exception of the heavy-weight sheep, trade for which is adversely affected by the damp, close weather. A clearance was made of the dairy cows offered with a good trade and high prices. Store cattle continue a slow business. Fat calves realised more money. Fat hogs and porkers met a firm trade at the late satisfactory prices. Store pigs met a fair demand. Ruling values: Prime Devon and polled beasts, 7d to 7½d; ditto shorthorns, 6d to 6½d; bulls, cows and inferior beasts, 5d to 5¾d per lb; fat calves, 6d to 7½d per lb; best quality sheep, 7½d to 8½d; second ditto, 6½d to 7½d; old ewes, rams, and inferior sheep, 5d to 6d per lb; fat hogs, up to 10s 6d; fat porkers, 12s 6d to 12s 6d per score.

Braintree, Wednesday.—Trade at Messrs. Ball's auction mart very quiet. The pens below the average bulk, comprised 32 beasts, 97 fat sheep, 53 hogs, 20 store cattle, and 5 cows. Average prices: Beef 4s 8d and mutton 5s per stone; pork up to 11s per score.

Bristol, Thursday.—Fat cattle in large supply to-day, large proportion of inferior quality. Trade very dull. Best animals made 80s. per cwt.: second class 53s. to 56s. Short supply of sheep, limited demand at 7¾d. per lb. for light wethers and 6d. for ewes. About 1,000 pigs on offer. Baconers 9s. 3d. per score; porkers 10s. 9d. to 11s. No store cattle in market.

Bury, Wednesday.—At Messrs. Simpson and Sons' auction mart, there was a large supply of fat beasts, but the quality was hardly up to the average. There being a full attendance of buyers, a good all-round trade prevailed. The few lots of store cattle and cows found ready purchasers at late rates. Very large show of fat sheep, for which trade ruled rather slower than of late, in sympathy with the London markets, excepting for the best hoggets, which fetched fully late rates. Very short supply of keeping sheep, for which a slow trade must be reported. Good show of fat pigs, which met a sharp trade at late rates. Several lots of store pigs also sold well. At Messrs. Lacy Scott and Son's auction mart, tere was a fair supply of stock, for which trade ruled upon the lines of recent quotations. Large show of pigs, which were cheaper on the week. Fat sows went up to £7 5s. London jointers and store pigs must be reported as easier in value. In the general department of the market there was a moderate supply of store cattle, including some Irish beasts. Trade was not very brisk, and prices were about the same as of late.

CALNE, FRIDAY.—Present prices for prime pigs, in lots of net less than 10, on rail within 100 miles of Calne.

Prime Stores.	Thickness of fat in any part of the Back.	Price per Sc.
		s. d.
6 sc. 10 lbs. to 9 sc. 10 lbs.	2½ in. and under ...	9 6
Under 10 sc.	Not exceeding 2¼ in. ...	9 0
Under 11 sc. 10 lb. ...	Not exceeding 2¾ in ...	8 6
Under 12 sc.	Not exceeding 3 in. ...	

Any pigs outside these limits at their value.

Charles Harris & Co.

Cambridge, Monday.—Beast, 206; sheep, 292; pigs, 264; horses, 7. Beef, 7s to 8s; mutton, 4s 2d to 5s 4d; pork, 6s. 6d. to 7s. A few lots of store beasts, and trade slow. Fat beasts a good number to hand, trade fair. Fat sheep a fair show for the day, and prices unchanged. Stores scarcely any to hand. Fat pigs a good show, and fair prices. Stores trade not so good. Hay, straw, and roots short supplies.

Carlisle, Saturday.—On the Sands, there was a fair show of Irish store cattle, among which were a number of stripping cows. The attendance was small, and trade quiet. Stripping cows were quoted at £11 10s; heifers, £7 10s to £12 10s.

Dorchester, Wednesday.—Business still somewhat distracted, and it is somewhat perplexing to give a comparison of prices. Fair supplies came to hand. Fat bullocks ruled steady, at 10s 6d to 11s 6d per score for the best; secondary 10s. Mutton still a very slow trade, at 7½d per lb for the best wethers, and ordinary runs 6d to 7d. Best fat calves made 6½d to 7½d per lb. Good class porkers and baconers sold well at 10s to 10s 6d per score; heavy pigs 8s 6d to 9s 6d. The poultry trade very quiet, on lower terms. Good cheese brought full prices for the best. Butter unaltered.

Dublin, Thursday.—Numbers in market: Beasts 2,631, increase 544; sheep 3,490, increase 1,393; calves 41, increase 41. Finished beef in good demand at full rates of last week. Rough descriptions easier to place, and an early clearance effected. Sheep: Owing to short supplies a better trade at higher prices. Cattle: Live weight (best), 31s to 34s 6d per cwt. Other sorts, 27s to 31s per cwt. Mutton: Dead weight, 5½d to 7d per lb.—GANLY, SONS AND CO.

East Grinstead, Thursday.—Forty-five fat beasts, 200 fat sheep, and a quantity of pig and store stock. Beef made from 4s. 6d. to 4s. 10d. per stone, and mutton 5s. 6d. to 6s. per stone. Mr. Harry Turner (Messrs. Turner, Rudge, and Turner) was the auctioneer.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Bullocks and cows, 328; calves, 34; sheep and lambs, 563; pigs (fat and sows), 16; sucking pigs, 11; pigs (stores, not more than ten), 176; pigs (stores, more than ten), 102; horses, 6. Prices of stock.—Best beef, 6d. to 7d. per lb.; wether sheep, 6½d. to 8d. per lb.; ewes, 5½d. to 6d. per lb.; veal, 8d. per lb.; lamb, 9d. per lb.; pork, 5½d. to 6d. per lb.; bacon, 4d. to 5d. per lb.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons report good supplies of all descriptions, and satisfactory prices characterised the closing market of the year. Fat cattle came to hand in larger numbers than were expected, the majority of which were in excellent condition. Buyers were well represented, including some from the Midlands. Biddings were brisk and prices ranged from 8s. 3d. to 7s. 9d. per stone. Fat hoggets and shearlings were in request and realised more money, Suffolk hoggets making up to 55s., shearlings to 54s. Grazing hoggets were in fair demand up to 36s. Calves were numerous; those for weaning were dearer, the best making from 61s. to 40s. Fat calves met a better trade up to £5. Fat swine sold freely, there being plenty of buyers in attendance; recent values were fully maintained. Well-bred stores were in request. A good entry of grazing cattle, for which there was an improved demand. Polled steeres made up to £8 7s. 6d. Yearlings made from £5 10s. to £4 12s. 6d. Cows and heifers were short, those recently calved, or near, sold well from £16 15s. to £15 5s. Numbers at sales and market, 414; Calves, 55; sheep, 579; swine, 1,452; horses, 22.

Leicester, Wednesday.—Large consignments of home-fed bullocks came to hand in good condition. Buyers were well represented and trade ruled steady for choice lots, but secondary descriptions were dull. Choice bullocks made 6½d to 6½d per lb; secondary sorts 6d, cows 5d to 5½d, and heifers 6½d to 6¾d. Sheep were a full supply, and sold rather slowly at easier prices, finest making 7½d to 7¾d; large sheep 6½d to 7d, and ewes 5d to 6d. Calves flat, at 7d to 7½d.

Lynn, Tuesday.—A small market; no store beasts; fat beasts average show, trade firm, 7s 6d to 8s per st; store sheep, few shown, and made 38s to 43s each; fat sheep, average show, trade bad, at 8s to 8s 6d per st.

Newbury, Thursday.—Our market being closed for the pig trade, the supply of stock on offer to-day was not so large as usual. Messrs. Wreweatt and Watson held their usual weekly auction sale, at which the following figures were obtained:—Fresh cows, £11 5s. to £11 17s. 6d.; heifers and calves, £8 7s. 6d. to £9 12s. 6d.; calves,

£3 to £4 5s.; ewes, £1 18s. to £2 1s.; and wethers, £2 to £2 6s.

Newport (Mon.), Wednesday.—Market very quiet. Quotations: Beef, best 6½d per lb., second 6d to 6½d per lb.; cows, 5½d. to 6d. per lb.; mutton, wether, 8d per lb., ewe, 6d. to 6½d. per lb.; veal, 6½ l. to 7½d. per lb.; pigs, porkers, 11s. to 11s. 6d.; bacons, 9s. to 9s. 6d.

Norwich, Saturday.—The supply of store beasts here to-day was moderate; a quiet business was passing at about late rates. Fat beasts were in good supply; trade was somewhat inactive at 7s 6d to 8s per 14lb. The supply of store sheep was not excessive, but the demand was far from active; hoggets were quoted at 27s to 34s; and keeping shearlings at 35s to 45s per head. Fat sheep, which were in good supply, were dull at 7s 6d to 8s and 8s 6d per 14lb.

Nottingham, Wednesday.—There was a good supply of best beef, which sold at 7s. 6d. to 8s. per stone. Beef of moderate quality made 7s. to 7s. 6d. per stone. Small weight sheep realised 8d. per lb.; heavier weights 6d. to 7d., ewes 5d. to 6d., veal 7d. per lb.

Romford, Wednesday.—Large supply of fat beasts, trade slow. Best animals 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d., and middlings 4s. to 4s. 2d. per stone. Calves in very short supply, trade fair, at 5s. to 5s. 2d. per stone. Sheep in average supply, trade slow. Best sheep 5s. 2d. to 5s. 4d., and middlings 5s. to 5s. 2d. per stone. No store beasts on offer. Pigs in fair supply, trade about the same.

Rye, Wednesday.—Number of entries:—Sheep and lambs, 800; fat beasts, 40; calves, 5; pigs, 12. Heifers and steers, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d. Cows, 3s. 6d. to 3s. 10d. Maids and wethers, 4s. 8d. to 5s. Farrens, 4s. to 4s. 4d. Calves 4s. 8d. to 5s. Pigs, 3s. 6d. to 4s.

Salford, Tuesday.—About an average supply of cattle and sheep for the time of the year, and a fair attendance of buyers. Trade for both ruled slow at about last week's prices. A large show of calves and a dull trade, but late prices were fairly maintained. Cattle, 4½d to 6½d; sheep, 6d to 8½d; calves, 5d to 7½ per lb. At market: Cattle, 2,635; sheep, 6,417, calves, 156.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday.—Beef trade better all round. Mutton good, with a brisk demand. Pigs fair with a good clearance Quotations:—Beef, 5½d. to 6½d.; mutton, 6½d. to 8½ l.; and veal, 7d. to 8d. per lb. Porket pigs, 9s. to 10s. 6d.; and bacons, 8s. 6d. to 9s. 6d. per score; cows with calves, up to £22 5s. Hay up to £5 5s. and clover up to £5 per ton. Number offered, 428 cattle; 51 cows with calves; 347 sheep; 82 calves; 50 fat; 158 porket, and 301 store pigs.—(Signed) B. R. CROXTON, Markets Inspector.

Spalding, Tuesday.—A fair show of beasts, and a brisk trade for fat beef which made fully 8s. per stone. Of stores there was a good show, and for the better class of animals there was a good trade. Cows were in demand, and fetched high prices. In the sheep market Lincolns made 7d. and half-bred sheep 8d. Store sheep sold well.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There were on offer 181 cattle, 2 calves, 179 sheep, and 212 pigs. The market was of a holiday character, and trade was slow. Best cattle 7s. 6d. to 8s.; rougher kinds, 6s. 6d. to 7s. per stone; calves, 6d. to 7d.; sheep, 6d. and 7½d.; ewes, 6d.; tups, 5d. per lb.

Thame, Tuesday.—There was a fair supply of stock at market, and trade all round was brisk, there being a large attendance of buyers present. Beef was in demand at better prices, and a clearance was effected. Mr. Bond's sale comprised 41 fat beast, 163 fat sheep, 75 fat and weaning calves, and 195 pigs. Fat bullocks made £16 to £23; fat heifers made £13 to £19 15s.; fat wethers made 40s. to 46s. 6d.; fat tegs made 38s. to 45s.; fat ewes made 33s. to 50s. 6d.; fat calves, £3 to £4 7s.; cow calves, 27s. to 55s.; bull calves, 14s. to 46s.; fat pigs, 10s. per score; stores, 16s. to 27s.

Wakefield, Wednesday.—Owing to the large supply business was relatively slow. Best beef 6½d., secondary 5d. to 6d.; young sheep 7½d., heavy animals 6½d. to 7d., ewes and tups 5d. to 6d. Number in market: Beasts, 1,246; sheep, 3,104.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—There was only a small attendance of dealers and butchers. Quotations: Herefords, 6½d. to 6¾d. per lb., shorthorns 6½d. to 6½d. per lb.; calves, 7½d. to 7¾d. per lb.; wether mutton 7¾d. to 8¼d. per lb., ewes 6½d. to 6¾d. per lb.; pigs, bacon, 10s. per score, porkers 10s. 6d. to 11s. per score, sows 8s 8d. to 9s. per score.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Capital show of stock and good trade for everything except sheep, market being overstocked. Consequently prices were below late rates. Best beef to 8s., secondary 6s. 6d. to 7s. 6d. per stone, best wethers 6½d. to 7½d., ewes 5d. to 6d. per lb.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Wednesday.—Beast supplies to-day totalled 223 United States, for which a slow demand was experienced at 4s. 3d. to 4s. 5½.; exceptionally, 4s. 6d. 503 States sheep met a very dull sale at 3s. 10½. per 8 lb, to sink the offal. 420 United States beasts were not shown.

Yorkhill, Monday.—The usual weekly sale of American sheep was held in the morning, when there were penned in the sheds 286 sheep landed by the Livonian (s), from Boston, and 1,010 sheep landed by the Amarynthia (s), from St. John, N.B. The consignments consisted principally of ewes and young sheep, and as regards quality were up to the average. There was the usual attendance of buyers, but trade was very slow, and the values realised experienced a drop from those ruling last week. The deadweight quotations may be given as follows:—Young sheep, best class, to 7d. per lb.; secondary and heavier, to 6½d.; ewes, best sorts, to 5½d.; secondary and heavier, 5d.; lambs, 6½d. to 7d.; tups, to 4d.

Yorkhill, Tuesday.—A supplementary sale of American sheep was held to-day, when there were penned in the sheds 153 sheep landed by the Amarynthia (s), from St. John, N.B. Taken all round, the sheep were a handy sort, good quality, and all showed well. Trade was similar to that ruling at Monday's sale, and if anything the values were slightly lower. Young sheep secured the best demand, and they sold at fairly good prices. Ewes and tups met a stiff and dragging sale. The deadweight quotations may be given as follows:—Ewes, best sorts, handy, made to 5½d. per lb.; secondary and heavier, 5d. per lb.; young sheep, handy sorts, to 7d. per lb.; secondary and heavier, 6½d. per lb.; tups, from 4d. to 4¼d. per lb., according to quality and finish.

Yorkhill, Monday.—At the usual weekly sale of United States and Canadian cattle, held to-day, there were on offer 541 animals, bullocks again forming the greater portion. Taken all round, the animals were fully up to the average as regards quality, many of the bullocks being prime beasts, and showed well. Trade was of a good character, the demand for small, neat, well-fed beasts being keen, and high prices easily realised for them. The large number of bulls on offer was rather a drawback for them to realise good prices. Secondary and heavier animals met a good inquiry, and last week's prices were fully maintained. The deadweight quotations may be given as follow:—States bullocks, best quality, medium weight, 60s. per cwt., and for really choice from 62s. to 64s.; secondary and heavier animals, 56s. to 58s.; bulls, 48s. for butchers', and really choice up to 50s.; secondary and inferior, 44s. to 46s. Canadian bullocks, best class, handy sorts, 58s per cwt., and for choice up to 60s.; secondary and heavier bullocks, 56s.; bulls, 44s. to 48s., according to quality and finish.

BUTTER.

Leeds, Tuesday.—York lump, 15s. 6d. to 16s. 6d. per st; ditto long rolls, 1½lb, 2s to 2s 2d; fresh in 1lb prints, 1s 4d per lb. Danish: 117s to 122s per 112lb. Irish creameries, 106s to 110s. Colonial, 100s to 112s. Bedale: In rolls of 2oz, 1s. 6d. to 1s. 8d. per roll. Settle: 1s. 2d. to 1s. 3d. per lb. Spalding: 1s. per lb. Stockton: 1s. 4d. to 1s. 5d. per lb. Stone: 1s. 4d. to 1s. 5d. per lb.

Wednesday.—Colne, 1s. 3d. per lb.; Goole, 1s 3d. to 1s. 4d. per lb.; Keighley, 1s. 4d. per lb.; Kirbymoorside, 1s. 2d. per lb.; Knaresborough (wholesale), 1s. 8d. (retail), 1s. 10d. per roll of 24 oz.; Louth, 1s. per lb.; Market Drayton, 1s. 3d. to 1s. 4d. per lb.; Market Weighton, 1s. 2d. per lb.; Worksop, 1s. 3d. to 1s. 5d. per lb.

Thursday.—Brigg, 1s. 1d. to 1s. 2d. per lb.; Driffield, 1s. 1d. per lb.; Kidderminster, 1s. 5d. to 1s. 4d. per lb.; Penistone, 1s. 4d. per lb.; Ripon, 1s. 6d. to 2s. per roll of 24 oz.; Scarborough, 1s. 5d. per lb.; Wellington, 1s. 4d. to 1s. 5d. per lb.; Wetherby 1s. 2d. to 1s. 3d. per lb.

Friday.—Easingwold: 1s. 2d. to 1s. 3d. per lb. Grimsby: Danish, 116s. to 120s. per 112lb.; Dutch, 106s. to 112s.; anadian, 98s. to 106s. Helmsley: 1s. 2d. per lb. Leeds: Danish, 117s. to 122s. per 112lb.; Irish creameries, 106s. to 110s.; olonial, 100s. to 112s.; York lump, 15s. 6d. to 16s. 6d. per stone. Leyburn: 1s. 6d. to 1s. 8d. per roll of 24oz.

Saturday.—Appleby: 1s. 3d. to 1s. 5d. per lb. Berwick: 10d. to 1s. per lb. Carlisle: 1s. 2d. to 1s. 6d. per lb. Doncaster: 1s. 3d. to 1s. 6d. per lb. Grantham: 1s. 2d. to 1s. 3d. per lb. Lancaster: 1s. 3d. per lb. Malton: 1s. 3d. per lb. Pontefract: 1s. 3d. to 1s. 4d. per lb. Retford: 1s. 2d. to 1s. 4d. per lb. Richmond: 1s. 4d. to 1s. 5d. per lb. Stokesley: 1s 3d. to 1s. 4d. per lb. Whitby: 1s. 3d. to 1s. 4d. per lb.

EGGS.

Leeds, Tuesday—Yorkshire, 12s. to 20s. per 120. Irish: 13s to 17s 6d. Danish; 12s to 15s. Austrian blues: 8s 3d to 9s; ditto reds, 6s 9d to 7s. Bedale: 7 or 8 for 1s. Settle: 7 or 8 for 1s. Spalding: 10 for 1s. Stockton: 6 or 7 for 1s. Stone: 6 or 7 for 1s.

Wednesday.—Colne, 2s 8d per score; Goole, 7 or 8 for 1s; Hereford, 8 or 9 for 1s; Keighley, 6 for 1s; Kirbymoorside, 9 or 10 for 1s; Knaresborough, 8 or 9 for 1s; Louth, 12 for 1s; Market Weighton, 10 for 1s; Worksop, 2s 4d to 2s 8d per score.

Thursday—Brigg, 11 or 12 for 1s; Driffield, 9 or 10 for 1s; Kidderminster, 7 for 1s; Penistone, 7 for 1s; Ripon, 8 for 1s; Scarborough, 6 for 1s; Wellington, 8 for 1s; Wetherby, 6 for 1s.

Easingwold.—8 or 9 for 1s. Grimsby: Austrian, 6s. 6d. to 8s. 6d.; Styrian, 7s. 6d. to 10s. 8d.; Egyptian, 5s. to 5s 6d.; preserved, 6s. 8d. to 8s. 3d. per 120. Helmsley: 10 for 1s. Leeds: Yorkshire, 17s. 6d. to 19s. 6d. per 120; Irish, 12s. 9d. to 16s.; Danish, 11s. 6d. to 16s.; Austrian blues, 8s. 3d. to 9s.; ditto reds, 6s. 9d. to 7s. Leyburn: 9 or 10 for 1s.

Saturday.—Appleby: 7½ to 9 for 1s. Berwick: 1s. 6d. per dozen. Doncaster: 8 for 1s. Grantham: 8 or 9 for 1s. Lancaster: 5 to 7 for 1s. Malton: 9 for 1s. Pontefract: 9 for 1s. Redford: 2s. to 2s. 2d. per score. Richmond: 7 for 1s. Stokesley: 7 or 8 for 1s. Whitby: 7 or 8 for 1s. York: 6 or 7 for 1s.

COLONIAL DAIRY PRODUCE.

London, Friday.—Butter: The demand this week for Australian and New Zealand butter has not been brisk, but a very large quantity of butter has changed hands. Had the frosty weather continued there would have been a brisk demand. Buyers are either operating in the expectation of an immediate rise in value, or they are compelled to come on the market by exhaustion of their stocks. Owing to the delay in the arrival of the "Cuzco," there were 48,752 boxes on the market this week, and none from New Zealand. "Choicest" brands make 104s to 106s, and in special and particular cases a shilling or two more; "finest" 98s to 102s. There arrived a fair quantity of "milled" New Zealand butter on the "Paparoa," which will be landed next week, and it is selling from 86s to 94s. The Copenhagen Committee has, to the surprise of everybody here, lowered the quotation by 4 kroner, and it is now 13 kroner, or 14s 6d, below the corresponding week of last year. A north of England authority explains the reason for this lowering of the quotation as follows:—"The amount of New Zealand butter coming to the north of England this year is greater than ever; and buyers are preferring it at present values to Danish." Cheese.—The advance to 49s and 50s recently made in Canadian and New Zealand cheese has been firmly maintained, and the week closes with a tendency to higher values.—W. WEDDEL AND CO.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Monday.—Linseed cake trade since Christmas has been dull; stocks are light and shipments very small; prices are unaltered. Decorticated cake and meal very firm and dearer, owing to America buying back. Linseed has had a set back, but the tendency now is upwards. English linseed cake, £7 16s 3d to £8, ex mill; American Calcutta linseed cake, £7 12s 6d to £7 15s, ex quay; American western linseed cake, £7 5s to £7 7s 6d; decorticated cotton cake, £6 12s 6d to £6 17s 6d, ex quay; decorticated cotton meal, £6 15s, ex quay; London-made cotton cake (best), £4 15s, ex mill; Egyptian cotton cake (in bags), £4 12s 6d, ex quay; Burton desiccated ale grains (bags included), £5 7s 6d, on rail, Burton; Russian linseed in bulk, per 416lb, 53s to 57s, ex warehouse; Calcutta linseed in bags, per 410lb, 53s, ex warehouse.—ROBT. AND JOHN HEWETSON.

HAY AND STRAW.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—Arrivals smaller and a good business was effected. Best clover, 95s to 110s; inferior ditto, 80s to 90s; specially picked hay, 117s 6d; good ditto, 108s; inferior ditto, 80s to 90s; mixture and sainfoin, 90s to 110s; and straw, 28s to 40s per load.

London, Saturday.—There has been a fall in prices of Canadian and other hays during the week, and prices are about 2s 6d lower. I quote: Canadian hay (timothy and clover mixture), 86s 6d to 87s 6d; Russian hay, 90s; French and Dutch (1st cut clover), 90s to 92s 6d; good Dutch hay, 85s; inferior Dutch hay, 80s; all these prices are per ton delivered by barge alongside.—WALTER H. PRENTIS.

HOPS

Worcester, Saturday.—During the past fortnight business has been in abeyance, owing to the holidays. The New Year opens with a considerable inquiry and a good trade is looked for in a week or two, when travellers get on their rounds. A fair number of growers at market to-day, and full prices were paid for choice and good coloured hops, which are extremely scarce. Copper hops also sold well at the tempting prices they are to be bought at. 334 pockets have been weighed during the past fortnight.

WOOL.

London, Friday.—English—per pk. of 240 b.—Fleece 8 Dn. Hoggs, £7 to £8 10s; half-bred hoggs £6 to £6 10s; half-bred wethers, £5 to £6 10s; Kent fleeces, £5 to £6; South Down Ewes and wethers, £7 to £8 10s; Leicester do, £5 to £5 10s. Colonial—per lb—Vic.—Fleece super, 1s 5d to 1s 7d; scoured good, 1s 7¼d to 1s 8½d; scoured average, 1s 6d to 1s 7d; greasy average to fair, 10½d to 11½d; N. S. W., scoured average, 1s 2¼d to 1s 3d; Greasy average, 8d to 1s 2d; S. Aus., greasy average, 6½d to 6¾d; N.Z., scoured average, 1s 4d to 1s 5d; grease average, 8d to 8½d; Cape scoured sup., 1s 5d to 1s 6d; fleece average, 6¾d to 7½d; greasy average, 5d to 6d; Natal, scoured, 1s to 1s 1d; greasy average, 6d to 6¾; crossbreds—Greasy.—Vic., good to supr., 10¾d to 11½d; New Zealand fine, 8d to 9d; New Zealand medium, 4½d to 4¾d; New Zealand, coarse, 3¾d to 4½d.

Liverpool, Friday.—Since the opening of the New Year more activity has characterised the markets. Nitrate of soda is firm, whilst sulpate of ammonia is rater easier. Basic slag continues in active request, and consequently it is impossible to secure immediate deliveries, as the present demand far exceeds the rate of production. Fish guano testing 9 per cent. am. and 13 per cent. phos. can be bought at about £5 7s 6d to £5 10s per ton, January delivery. Kainit and bone meal in fair request. Feeding stuffs are attracting more attention from consumers, and in many instances command advanced rates, owing to the limited offerings; an arrival of choice new American decorticated cotton cake meal found ready buyers ex quay. To-day's quotations are as follows:—Nitrate of Soda, best quality, *i.e.*, guaranteed 95 per cent., pure, in bags, £9 7s 6d to £9 10s per ton; East India Bone Meal, fair to prime, in bags, £4 1s 3d to £4 6s 3d per ton; Kainit, prime, 25 per cent., in bags, £2 7s 6d to £2 10s per ton: Palm Nut Cake, prime, in bags, £5 12s 6d to — per ton; Linseed Cake, American thin oblong, prime, in bags, £7 12s 6d to £7 17s 6d per ton; Linseed Cake, English, prime, in bulk, £8 10s to £8 17s 6d per ton: Linseed Cake, foreign, oblong, prime, soft, and oily, in bags, £8 5s to £8 7s 6d per ton; Cotton Seed Cake, N.A., decorticated, prime, in bags, £7 2s 6d to £7 6s 3d per ton; Cottonseed Cake, English do, prime, soft, in bags, £7 0s to £7 12s 6d per ton; Cottonseed Cake, English, undecorticated, prime, in bulk, £4 15s to £5 per ton; Cottonseed Cake, Egyptian, undecorticated, prime, in bags, — per ton; Cotton-seed Cake (crushed) 20/25 per cent. oil, prime, in bags, £7 5s per ton to —; Maize Germ Meal, prime, in bags, in bags, £5 10s to £5 12s 6d per ton; Indian Meal, coarse to fine grinding, prime, in bulk, 13s 6d to 13s 9d, per 240lb; Linseed, fine bold feeding, in bags, £3 5s to £3 7s 6d per quarter, 416lb; N.A. Cloverseed, new red, fair to good, in bags, nominal; D.N.S. Brand, Superphosphate of Lime, guaranteed 25 to 27 sol., in bags, nominal; D.N.S. Brand, Superphosphate of Lime, guaranteed, 30 to 31 sol., in bags, nominal; Superphosphate of Lime, guaranteed 35 to 36 sol., in bags, nominal; Basic Slag, prime quality, guaranteed 30 to 35 per cent. phos., in bags, £1 12s to £1 13s at the producing depots; Basic Slag, prime quality, guaranteed 35 to 40 per cent. phos., in bags, £1 14s 6d to £1 15s 6d at the producing depots; Basic Slag, finest quality, guaranteed 39 to 45 per cent. phos., in bags, £1 17s 6d to £1 19s at the producing depots.—H. JONES LANGAR AND CO.

Caerphilly Cheese.

A decade since and Caerphilly was to the average Englishman practically unknown. But now this name has become a household one in many parts by means of its make of cheese. At one time the small Welsh farmers produced small thin cheeses, weighing from seven to ten lbs. each, with a sourish curd. These soon became extremely popular with the colliers, because by cutting out a chunk from the cheese wedged-shape, the collier could hold the rind in his grimy hands, and bite out the soft interior. A wasteful method certainly, but still it was useful where clean water was scarce. Anyway, the local makers could not supply the demand, and the makers soon appeared on both the Gloucestershire as well as the Somersetshire side of the Severn. Several classes were provided for it at both Gloucestershire and Somersetshire shows, and then the London Dairy Show followed the excellent lead. This gave further encouragement to the movement.

And yet how many can tell what constitutes genuine Caerphilly? No two judges have the same idea. One may select a spongy sour curd, the next may favour a miniature Cheddar. In fact, such interest now attaches to Caerphilly cheese that the following report has been presented to the Somerset County Council by its Education Committee. "Enquiries made by the County Instructor in Agriculture on the instruction of your committee have shown that Caerphilly cheese-making has become a very important industry in the north-west of the county, and your committee has promised the Somerset Dairy Farmers' Association that it will give such aid as is practicable towards the development of this industry by means of technical instruction. It is not intended at first to establish a fixed Caerphilly Cheese School, and the arrangements with regard to the Cheddar Cheese School will remain as before.



STOCK AND SHOW NOTES.

By Herdsman.

I hear that thirteen births were recorded in Mr. J. J. Cridlan's Maisemore Park herd of Aberdeen Angus cattle, between November 22nd and December 28th. The sire of six of the animals was Elate, 16,513, the champion bull at the Royal and Great Yorkshire shows last year the same number being by Elmeo, 12,450, and the other one by Mailbag, 13,637. Evergreen 2nd, daughter of Evergreen (sold at the Minmore sale with her bull calf for 405 guineas), gave birth to twins on December 19th, their sire being Elate, whilst their grandsires were the champions Equestrian, Justice, Young Viscount, etc., a truly magnificent pedigree. Evergreen 2nd is herself one of the most perfect cows in form and symmetry, and although many American buyers offered Mr. Cridlan some fancy prices for her last autumn, he would not part with her. I may mention that her daughter, Evergreen 3rd, produced a heifer calf within an hour of the twins' birth. On the 24th of December, Euphorbia, half sister to Minx of Glamis, the Smithfield champion, and bred by Lord Strathmore, produced a sweet heifer calf, whilst on December 28th, Elite (the dam of Elate, a typical Erica of the choicest breeding, purchased at the South Ella sale for 95 guineas, and whose bull calf fetched thereat 105 guineas) produced a fine bull calf by Mailbag, consequently an own brother to Elate; Pride the 13th, of Kippendavie (winner of a second prize at the Royal show at the York and Royal Counties, Weymouth), also produced a good straight bull calf, a valuable Mulden Pride.

Two cows, a present from the King of Corea to King Edward VII., have been brought home in the battleship Barfleur, which arrived at Plymouth on Tuesday night. The animals became very tame during the voyage, even taking food from the hands of officers and men.

The Norfolk Agricultural Association have decided to accept the invitation to hold their next year's show at Norwich, and at the recent annual meeting of the association Mr. Russell J. Colman, Mayor of Norwich, was unanimously elected president for the ensuing year.

The Rome correspondent of the *Morning Post* states that experiments conducted all over Italy have struck a hard blow at Professor Baccelli's cure for foot-and-mouth disease by injections of a solution of corrosive sublimate. In large numbers of cases the injections have failed to cure the disease, and have been followed by the death of the animals from mercurial poisoning. The failure of these experiments on a large scale to confirm the results of the earliest experiments is creating a sensation in medical circles. Professor Baccelli, Minister of Agriculture, declares that the bad results are due, not to his system, but to bad applications of it, and is preparing a pamphlet to show the proper means of application.

Mr. W. H. Lythall, secretary of the Birmingham Agricultural Exhibition Society, has forwarded me a list of the shows to be held at Bingley Hall, Birmingham, during the present year. The spring shorthorn show and sale will take place on March 5th, 6th, and 7th, entries closing February 4th, and the autumnal show and sale of the same breed of cattle is fixed for September 11th, entries closing on August 16th. There will be a show and sale of Aberdeen Angus cattle on March 11th, and of Jerseys on March 13th, the entries for which close onFebruary 1st and 18th, respectively. The annual fat stock show will be held on November 29th and December 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th, entries closing as follows: —Implements, October 20th; stock, poultry, etc., November 1st.

The deliveries at the Halles Centrales, Paris, this Christmas were very large, according to *Le Bulletin*. During the last four days, from December 21st to December 24th, the demand was higher for pork than any other meat, there being about 5,472 cwts. sold. Beef came second with an average of about 708 cwts. per day; veal, 669 cwts.; and mutton, 295 cwts. There wre nearly 74 cwts. of butter per day; 1,100,000 eggs; 2,263 cwts. of poultry, which included fowls, turkeys, geese, and ducks; 73 cwts. of truffles; whilst among other dainties there were no less than 63 cwts. of edible snails.

As many of our raders probably notice, the wording undernath the illustration given on this page last week was incorrect—a result of the wrong block being accidentally inserted. We therefore give on this page the correct illustration of Miss Alice de Rothschild's cross-bred steer. The animal illustrated last week was the natural-polled heifer Not Too Bad, bred by and exhibited at the Royal Dublin Society's Winter Show last year by the Right Hon. Viscount de Vesci, Abbeyleix House, Abbeyleix. Not Too Bad was calved on April 20th, 1899, its sire being the Aberdeen Angus Jumper II., and its dam a shorthorn dairy cow. At the show mentioned this heifer won first prize in the class for natural-polled heifers over two years and not exceeding two years eight months old, and was reserved for the Challenge Cup for the best animal in the cattle classes bred by the exhibitor.

Gloucestershire Horse Society.

The annual general meeting of shareholders in the Gloucester Shire Horse Society, was held at the New Inn Hotel, on the 28th ult. The President (Mr. J. Skipworth Gibbons) in the chair, and he presented the financial statement, which showed that the receipts, including a balance brought forward of £52, amounted to £185—(67 shareholders' nominations at 35s., £117 5s., and seven outside nominations at 45s., £15 15s.). After payment of expenses, there was a balance left in hand of £80 18s. 3d. As the expenses included five quarters' keep of the horse — one quarter's, amounting to £13, having been left over from the previous year—the profit on the year's workings was £41 18s. 3d. The President remarked that he considered that a satisfactory state of affairs, and that the object for which the society was founded had so far been attained. The society was in a condition of absolute solvency—if it were wound up now all the members could be paid back their shares; and then there would be left something to the good; and he hoped that it would continue to progress satisfactorily.

The election of officers was then proceeded with. Mr. Gibbons was re-elected President, Mr. W. Priday vice-president, and Mr. H. B. Chandler secretary. The committee were re-elected as follows:—The President, Vice-president, Secretary, Messrs. Sidney Chandler, Martin Crump, W. S. Dowding, Benjamin Read, and Joseph Surman.—A proposition that the fee should be raised from £1 15s. to £2 was rejected by nine votes to seven.



THE CROSS-BRED STEER we show above is an Aberdeen-Angus Shorthorn Cross, and was bred and exhibited at the Birmingham Fat Stock Show by Miss Alice de Rothschild, Waddesdon Manor, Aylesbury, Bucks. At that show it won first prize in its class, and was awarded the special prize for the best young steer in the show.

SHEEP.

The Sheep Diseases Inquiry.

In our last issue we announced that the President of the Board of Agriculture had appointed a Departmental Committee to investigate the diseases of sheep, known as louping-ill and braxy. On Thursday we received a note from the Board of Agriculture confirming this statement. The Committee is to "report as to the etiology, pathology, and morbid anatomy of the diseases of sheep known as louping-ill and braxy; to make experimental investigations as to the bacteriology and life history of these diseases, and as to their communicability, either directly or indirectly, from animal to animal; to bring together the results, if any, of the work of investigators at home and abroad; and to indicate the directions in which preventive or remedial measures are likely to be successful."

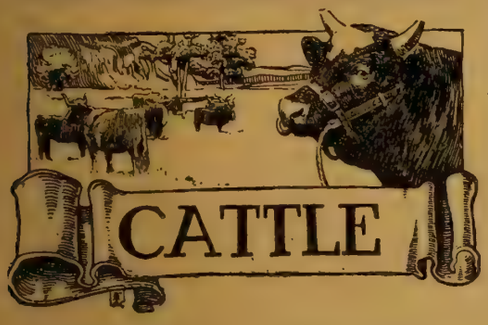
The committee consists of the following gentlemen, viz.: — Professor D. J. Hamilton, M.B., F.R.C.S.E., of Aberdeen University (Chairman); Mr. J. Mc. I. McCall, M.B., C.M., M.R.C.V.S., Assistant Veterinary Officer, Board of Agriculture; and Mr. E. G. Wheler, of Alnwick. The Secretary and Demonstrator to the Committee is Mr. R. B. Greig, F.H.A.S., F.Z.S., of the Durham College of Science, Newcastleon-Tyne.

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The Increase of Store Cattle.

An interesting address on the increase of store cattle was given at the last meeting of the Morayshire Farmers' Club, by Mr. Archibald Macneilage, of Glasgow, who said that he had got the opinions of fifty representative breeders and feeders from Sutherland in the north to Yorkshire in the south. They were in general agreement that the scarcity of stores last season was caused by an abundance of winter keep in 1900-1, and by the luxuriance and earliness of the grass in the spring both in Ireland and this country. Breeders could thus keep on their stores longer than they otherwise would have done. There was also a prevailing tendency to lay down land to pasture, and this militated against so many keeping stores over the winter, and they were early in the market looking for them in the spring. There was also the increasing desire for light cattle, and lean beef, and this depreciated the older sorts and especially cow beef. The slaughter of young heifers to meet the demand could not but have a more or less permanent effect on the quantity of calves in the country.

While, therefore, the situat on at the beginning of this season might fairly be representative to a large extent of the scarcity of suitable store stock rather than of store stock generally, there could be no doubt that there were at present fewer lean cattle put upon the market than was necessary to supply the demand for cattle at rates which in normal circumstances would leave a fair profit. Breeders could do much to relieve the market. Much could be done in the north of Scotland to extend the breeding of suitable stores, dairy farmers could help by using a better class of bulls or mak ng a more judicious selection, more interest could be taken in the work by farmers, and farms of from 80 to 200 acres could be re-established in the fertile valleys now given over to deer. If railway companies lowered their present prohibitive rates cattle could be brought north from the English districts.

All classes agreed that there is abundance of the right sort of sires available if they were only taken advantage of. It was held by many that ignorance and carelessness were wofully rampant amongst those engaged in cattle-breeding in this country. The feeling of many prominent agriculturists was against Government interference with the cattle-breeding industry in Scotland either by way of giving bulls or by subsidising heifers for service by selected bulls, except, perhaps, in a few of the more remote and upland districts of the western and northern Highlands. But many are of opinion that Government should secure to the home producer of beef fair play in the markets of his own country. Others advocated several farmers joining in the purchase of a first-rate sire for use in their herds jointly. Cows could also be made to foster two or three calves, and feeders should breed three-fourths of the stores they require, and buy the rest from small farmers.

Live Stock in the United States.

Some interesting particulars as to the number of live stock in the United States were given in the course of a paper, read at the annual convention of the National Live Stock Association, held recently in Chicago. Mr. Powers, chief of the Agricultural Bureau of the ensus Office, U.S.A., was the writer of the paper, and he stated that for the first time the census of the United States has attempted a complete enumeration of the domestic animals of the country. Since 1850 the Government has collected statistics of the animals on farms, but no census has ever been taken of the domestic animals not on farms or ranges; that is, the animals in cities and towns and those possessed by the small householders scattered throughout the country, but not living upon farms. There were in the country on June 1, 1900, including those on and off farms, 18,172,914 dairy cows; 11,686,829 other cows, kept mainly for breeding purposes; 15,641,480 calves or neat cattle under one year; 7,041,643 steers one and under two years; 5,227,378 steers two and less than three years; 3,141,722 steers three years and over; 1,337,277 bulls one year and over; 7,273,731 heifers one year and less than two; making a total of neat cattle in the United States (June 1, 1900) of 69,522,734.

At the same time there were 18,532,137 work horses two years old and over; 1,359,652 colts less than one year of age, and 1,473,461 colts one year and under two; a total of 21,365,250 horses. There were 2,912,953 work mules over two years of age; 255,166 mule colts less than one year old, and 291,458 mule colts one year and over; a total of 3,459,582 mules. There were also 119,992 asses and burros. Of sheep one year and older there were 32,056,129 ewes and 8,060,124 rams and wethers, a total of 40,116,263 wool-bearing sheep. There were also 21,529,062 lambs under one year, making a grand total of sheep of 61,645,325. There were in the country a total of 64,615,363 swine and 1,893,491 goats. The sheep on farms and ranges constituted more than 99.6 per cent. of all sheep in the country.

The number of wool-bearing sheep in the United States in the last decade increased from 35,935,364 to 39,936,663, a gain of 11.1 per cent. This gain was confined to one of the five grand divisions of states and territories, the Western. In the North Atlantic the percentage of decrease was 38.9; the North Central, 18.3; the South Atlantic, 27.4; and the South Central, 46; while the gain in the Western was 104.1. On the ranges sheep husbandry is still a leading industry, and in the Western states we find the number of wool-bearing sheep increasing in ten years from 10,806,999 to 22,211,325. This increase is confined almost wholly to the ranges, and represents in these states the substitution of over 11,000,000 sheep for their equivalent in cattle on the public domain.

Particulars of Transactions in Store Stock.

[*From the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland.*]

At the fair at Mallow, Co. Cork, on Wednesday there was an average supply of cattle, for which there was a fair demand. A few buyers from grazing counties attended, but did not consider stock shown good enough. Prices: Calves, first class, £3 19s. 5d. to £4 15s.; second class, £3 10s. to £3 15s.; third class, £2 10s. to £3. Yearlings, first class, £7 5s. to £8; second class, £6 to £6 15s.; third class (24), £5 to £5 7s. 6d. Two-year-olds, second class, £8 to £9 15s.; third class, £7 10s. to £7 12s. 6d. Three-year-olds, first class, £10 10s. to £13 5s. Springers, second class, £13 to £13 10s.; third class, £9 to £10 10s. Sheep were not in much demand. Lambs, first class, £1 5s. to £1 10s.; second class, £1 2s. 6d. to £1 4s.; third class, £1 1s. 6d.; over 12 and under 24 months old, first class, £2 to £2 4s.; second class, £1 11s. to £1 15s.; third class, £1 5s. to £1 7s.

The fair at Bandon, Co. Cork, held on Wednesday, was a small one of store cattle; demand slow. Prices: Calves, second class, £3 12s. 6d. to £4 10s.; third class, £2 5s. to £3 5s. Yearlings, second class, £6 to £6 15s.; third class, £4 7s. 6d. to £5 10s. Two-year-olds, second class, £7 to £8 10s.; third class, £5 15s. to £6 10s. Springers, first class, £14 7s. 6d. to £16; second class, £11 10s. to £13; third class, £9 15s. to £10 15s.

At the fair held at Killarney on Monday there was but a small supply of cattle, and the demand was slow. Prices: Calves, second class, £3 5s. to £4; third class, £2 7s. 6d. to £3. Yearlings, second class, £5 10s. to £6; third class, £3 12s. 6d. to £5. Two-year-olds, second class, £7 5s. to £8; third class, £4 5s. to £6 10s. Springers, second class, £11 to £12; third class, £7 15s. to £10 2s. 6d.

Messrs. Hitchcock's flour mills at Leicester were destroyed by fire on Thursday evening, the damage done being estimated at £30,000.

Farm Fires near Crewe.—At Crewe, on Thursday, William Butler was charged with setting fire to a haystack at Weston. The evidence showed that during the last few weeks several fires have occurred in the Crewe district, and it was supposed that they were the work of an incendiary. On December 22, early in the morning, prisoner was seen leaving a burning haystack at Weston, his clothes being covered with hay seeds. He was committed for trial.



The London Horse Shows: Notes of this Year's Prize Lists.

King's Premiums for Thoroughbred Stallions.

The show of thoroughbred stallions suitable for getting half-bred horses, held under the auspices of the Royal Commission on Horse-breeding, will be held in conjunction with the Hunters' Improvement Society's Show at Islington on March 11th, 12th, and 13th. This year twenty-eight King's premiums of £150 are offered, or one less than last year, the age of the animals being the same, namely, between four and twenty years old. The district in which one premium has been withdrawn is that named "C," and which is for Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Lincolnshire, Northamptonshire, Nottinghamshire, and Rutlandshire. With but one exception the districts are the same as last year, the exception being "K," which is for Moray, Nairn, and Banff-shires. Whereas last year it was entitled "Inverness and District."

We give below a list of the districts together with the number of premiums offered:—

District A.—Bedfordshire, Buckinghamshire, Cambridgeshire, Essex, Hertfordshire, Huntingdonshire, Middlesex, Norfolk, Oxfordshire, Suffolk—three premiums each.

District B.—Cumberland, Durham, Northumberland, Westmoreland—three premiums each.

District C.—Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Lincolnshire, Northamptonshire, Nottinghamshire, Rutlandshire—three premiums each.

District D.—Berkshire, Cornwall, Devonshire, Dorsetshire, Hampshire, Kent, Somersetshire, Surrey, Sussex, Wiltshire—four premiums each.

District E.—Yorkshire—three premiums.

District F.—Gloucestershire, Herefordshire, Monmouthshire, Shropshire, Staffordshire, Warwickshire, Worcestershire, South Wales—four premiums each.

District G.—Cheshire, Lancashire, North Wales—three premiums each.

District H.—Roxburghshire, Berwickshire and district—one premium.

District I.—Fifeshire and district—one premium.

District J.—Ayrshire and district—one premium.

District K.—Moray, Nairn, and Banff-shires—one premium.

District L.—Ross-shire—one premium.

Hunters.

The total amount offered in prizes by the Hunters' Improvement Society for their show at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, on March 11th, and three following days, is £1,195, as compared with £1,160 last year. The classes and prizes are very much the same as last year, but there are one or two notable alterations which we will mention.

At the last show Class II. was for registered hunters, colts, three-year-olds, and upwards, calculated to make hunter sires, and three premiums of £10 each were offered, but no entry was received for it. This evidently induced the society to alter the class, for in the present prize schedule it is for colts, and is divided into three sections, viz. (a) yearlings, (b) two-year-olds, and (c) three-year-olds, bred as follows:—Thoroughbred or registered hunter sire, dam's sire, and g. dam's sire; the dam a mare registered, or entered for registration, in the Hunter Stud Book. Two premiums of £15 each are offered in each section, thus making a total of £90 in this class only. The yearling and two-year-olds entered in this class can also compete in the other classes.

The only other alteration we noticed was the withdrawal of the special prizes of £10 each for the best colt or gelding in classes 3, 4, and 5, and the best filly in classes 6, 7, and 8. The other special prizes are again offered, namely, the society's challenge cup, value £50, for the best filly, colt, or gelding in the young stock classes; the challenge cup, value 100 guineas, and gold medal, for the best mare or gelding; and the special prizes of £10 each for the best mare and best gelding.

Entries close on February 3, but post entries at double fees will be received up to February 10th. Forms of entry, prize lists, etc., can now be had on application to the secretary, Mr. A. B. Charlton, 12, Hanover Square, London, W.

Polo Ponies.

The Polo Pony Society's third annual show will be held on March 13th and 14th, in connection with the Hunters' Improvement Society's Show. The prize list has been considerably augmented, the total amount offered being £536 5s. 0d., as against £455 in 1900. A few remarks concerning the alteration of the classes may prove interesting, and we will take them in the order of the prize list. The first section is for polo pony stallions, and here there is a new class for polo-bred sires, 3, 4, or 5 years old, with a 1st prize of £10, 2nd £7, 3rd £5, and 4th £3. In the other three classes in this section, the amount of the prizes has been altered. For stallions not exceeding 14.2, the prizes are now:—1st £10, 2nd £7, 3rd £5, and 4th (a new prize) £3; for those not exceeding 15.2, the 2nd prize has been increased from £3 to £5, and a third prize of £3 added; whilst for Eastern sires, a fourth prize of £3 has been added at the expense of the others.

In the sections for brood mares and young stock the classes and prizes are as last year. A new riding class has been added, and it is for four-year-olds and upwards not exceeding 15.2 hands, the prizes being £5, £3, and £2. Army re-mounts are provided for, there being offered prizes of £7, £5, and £3 for animals five to nine years old, not exceeding 14.2 hands; whilst there is a new class for mountain and moorland ponies.

With the exception of Sir Humphrey de Trafford's gold challenge cup, which was won outright last year by Mr. Barker, all the challenge cups and special prizes are again offered, together with some new ones. The Rev. D. B. Montefiore has given a challenge cup, value £50, for the best stallion or entire colt in the show. Mr. J. Norris, Midwood, a five-guinea cup of the best Eastern sire; Mrs. D. B. Montefiore, a five-guinea cup for the best three or four year old brood mare; and Mr. H. C. Stephens, M.P., a cup, value five guineas, for the best Arab brood mare; whilst Professor Cossar Ewart and Mr. E. Mucklow, jun., give five-guinea cups each for the best mare in the Mountain and Moorland sections respectively. The entries close on February 3rd at ordinary fees, and on February 10th, at double fees. The secretary is Mr. A. B. Charlton, 12, Hanover Square, London, W., from whom prize lists, entry forms, etc., can be obtained.

Hackneys.

The complete prize list of the London Hackney Show, to be held on March 4th, 5th, 6th, and 7th, at the Agricultural Hall, Islington, has now been issued by the society. The schedule includes classes for Hackney and Pony Stallions and Mares of all ages and heights, one of the several new features being a separate class for four-year-old stallions, which will in future compete among themselves, and not with older horses as hitherto. Attention is drawn also to the fact that the barren mares and geldings which must be registered in the Studbook, or at least be by a registered Hackney sire, can also be exhibited in harness, whilst the limit of age has been extended to include horses six years old.

The pony section has been amplified by the inclusion of an additional class for mares; one being for mares not exceeding 13 hands, and the other for mares over 13 and not exceeding 14 hands. The class for ponies in harness remains the same. The produce group is again included, and the auction sale on the last day will, as last year, be conducted by Messrs. Sexton, Grimwade, and Beck. It is intended also to publish a separate sale catalogue, containing descriptions which the vendors will be asked to furnish. Copies of the prize schedule and entry forms can be obtained of the Secretary, at 12, Hanover Square, London, W.

Shires.

The Shire Horse Society have made no alteration in the classes for their show to be held at Islington on February 25th, 26th, 27th, and 28th, but they have considerably increased the prize money, the sum offered for competition being £2,007, or £470 more than last year. Of the latter sum no less than £235 is given in additional breeders' prizes in some classes as many as is being added. The largest number is given in the class for three-year-old stallions, where no fewer than eleven are offered, and the same number of ordinary prizes, the first being £20, the second £15, third £10, and the others £5 each. These sums are the same as in the other classes for stallions, the prizes for mares and fillies being, first £15, second £10, and the others £5; whilst for geldings a first prize of £10, second, third, and fourth of £5 each are offered. Additional ordinary prizes are also offered in some of the stallion and mare and filly classes.

One new feature has been introduced, and it will undoubtedly prove a most popular one with exhibitors, and is likely to be adopted by other societies in a flourishing condition; it is the awarding of prizes to animals receiving reserves, highly commended, and commended tickets. The society has taken last year's awards as an estimate, and set aside £200 for the purpose, and the exhibitor of each reserve animal will receive £3, the highly commended £2, and commended £1. This applies only to stallions, mares, and fillies, the gelding classes not being included.

The valuable cups and medals are offered as last year, and with such a generous prize list the society should have a record show this year. January 20th is the last day for entries of double fees. Prize lists, entry forms, etc., can be had of the secretary, Mr. J. Sloughgrove, 12, Hanover Square, W.

Nitrate of Soda Report.

Messrs. W. Montgomery and Co.'s half-yearly nitrate of soda report was issued on Tuesday. In it they state that the nitrate of soda trade in the first year of the new century has been marked by development in consumption and advance in price, the former establishing a fresh record.

During the year also the combination agreement of the producers for the restriction of production has come into operation, and to this circumstance must, to some extent, be ascribed the upward movement in prices during the summer and autumn. The coming agricultural season is, therefore, looked forward to with interest, and in some quarters with anxiety, in order to learn whether or not any serious check is to be experienced in the consumption by reason of this steady appreciation in price, which to-day is 20s. per ton over that of December, 1900.

The visible supply as compared with that of 31st December, 1900, shows a deficiency of 150,000 tons, but this deficiency will be reduced by steamer shipments in January and March (in excess of 1901) by 60,000 tons, so that we calculate the following quantities may be relied upon for actual consumption to the 15th May next, as compared with the quantities in 1901:—Visible supply to-day, 642,000 tons, against 794,000 tons on 31st December, 1900; estimated steamer shipments, January and March, 1902, 135,000 tons, against 68,000 tons in January-March, 1901; total of 777,000 tons, as against 861,000 last year.

The consumption from 1st January to 15th May, 1901, was 770,000 tons. So that whilst there may be enough on this basis to go round, there is little margin for stock or for the many unforeseen emergencies which so often occur in regard to nitrate of soda. The supply also in inland warehouses is, this year, believed to be smaller than usual, the small arrivals and correspondingly light deliveries during October and December, appearing bearing this out.

Prices close very firm. Cargoes due are worth 9s. 7d. to 9s. 8d. per cwt. November shipments, 9s. 9d. December and January shipments 9s. 8d. to 9s. 6d. per cwt. Refined quality has been in continuous demand throughout the year at from 2d. to 3d. per cwt. over the value of ordinary.

The total consumption of the world for the past three years has been as follows:—

	1899. Tons.	1900. Tons.	1901. Tons.
Continent of Europe	1,017,000	991,000	1,036,000
United Kingdom	123,000	135,000	118,000
United States	160,000	175,000	192,000
Other countries	30,000	23,000	18,000
Tons	1,330,000	1,324,000	1,364,000
Shipments	1,373,000	1,429,000	1,263,000

The Inspectors of the Board of Agriculture has paid a visit to the Somerset County Council's experimental farm. In his report, he states that the farm was in a very poor condition when the County Council acquired it. Now it already shows a distinctly improved appearance. The land is cleaned, and is being gradually got into better condition. Attention was called to a stack of silage made from over ninety loads of mixed fodder, viz., tares, lucerne, oats, and a certain amount of maize. To provide similar food for next year, a field of eight acres was on the day of my visit being drilled with a mixture of two bushels winter tares, one bushel beans, half a bushel winter oats, and half a bushel of wheat per acre, but the crop of most interest to me was a field of lucerne. At this time last year, it presented only a fair appearance, but has subsequently done exceedingly well. Three, and in one part of the field four, cuts have been made during the current year, and the crop is now standing some nine inches to one foot high.

Mention must be made of the deficient hay crop. This was, of course, due to the abnormally dry season, but it has enabled a most important lesson to be taught to those who care to learn. Had this farm been managed in the ordinary way, one of two things must have taken place. Either the stock kept on the farm would have had to have been greatly diminished, or else a considerable quantity of hay at high prices would have had to have been purchased. As it is, owing to the system of fodder crops and catch crops grown on this farm, the full head of stock can probably be carried through the winter without the purchase of any extra fodder.



Causes of soft Pork.

Experiments have recently been carried out at the Ottawa Central Experimental Farm, in order to investigate the character and causes of softness in the fat of pork. The experiments were conducted under the guidance of F. T. Shutt, M.A., who is the chemist to the Dominion of Canada Experimental Farms. The results presented in this report throw much light on this difficult subject, for by persistent chemical research, based on the results obtained from the feeding of a variety of rations, the causes and conditions by which softness in the fat of pork is brought about are satisfactorily shown.

In his introduction to the report of the experiment Mr. Shutt states that the export bacon trade is one of great importance to Canada, the value of last year's exports to England alone being more than 12,000,000 dols. Moreover, the limit has not yet been reached; those engaged in the packing business assure us that the demand for first-class Canadian bacon will continue to increase for some years to come. It is, therefore, advisable that our farmers and dairymen should well understand the requirements of this large and remunerative market as regards size, shape, fatness, and, above all, the character or quality of the bacon. These are matters which closely concern the raiser of pigs, for they are not under the control of the packer. Further, it is well to remember that the highest price will only be paid in England for that article which conforms with the demands of the consuming public, and that it is only first-class bacon that can be exported with profit.

As the particulars of this experiment cannot fail to be of interest to a good many pig breeders on this side of the Atlantic, we give below some extracts from the report.

Naturally, the first step in undertaking the solution of this difficult problem was to ascertain the difference in composition of "firm" and "soft" pork, so that chemical analysis might be employed as an accurate discriminating agent in the examination of pork produced under varying conditions of food, exercise, etc. The tables prepared during this investigation are given in the report, and they clearly show that the fat of the "soft" bacon contains a much larger proportion of olein than that of the "firm" bacon, accompanied necessarily by a correspondingly decreased proportion of the solid fats, palmitin and stearin. We have in this fact—the large percentage of olein—the explanation of the peculiar and characteristic flabbiness of "soft" pork. We also have afforded us in this discovery, through the estimation of olein, a ready means of tracing the effect of any particular food or condition on the pork produced.

Next an examination was made of four very young pigs in order to learn the nature of the fat of immature animals, and the results indicate that it seems probable that the fat of all young pigs contains a large amount of olein, and is consequently more or less soft. This and subsequent work inclined the experimenters to think that age and maturity or ripeness are factors of importance towards a "firm" fat. It was found that the fat of animals slaughtered when about 100lbs. live weight invariably possessed a large percentage of olein than that of pigs, fed on the same ration, which were not slaughtered until they had reached a live weight of 180 to 200lbs.

On the completion of the preparatory work the first series of feeding trials was instituted upon the Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa, followed by a laboratory examination of the pork produced. There were in all about one hundred and eighty pigs, and the experiment was commenced in the month of May, 1899, when the majority of them were between one and two months old. They were either Tamworths or Tamworth grades. The scheme of the trial was such that information would be gained as to the effect upon the quality of the pork of the following possible factors—Character of food (a) fed throughout life, and (b) fed during the initial and finishing periods respectively; limited and unlimited supply of food; soaked or cooked grain as against dry or uncooked grain; age of animal when slaughtered; exercise and lack of exercise; locality or district where raised.

Result of First Experiments.

The more important inferences drawn from the first series of trials may be briefly stated as follows:—That of all the grain rations employed, that consisting of equal parts of oats, pease, and barley gave the firmest pork. It may further be added that the fat was deposited evenly, and not too thickly, and that this ration gave a very

thrifty growth. That no difference could be observed in the firmness of the pork from the preceding ration, whether fed soaked or dry. That when half the grain ration consists of corn meal the resulting pork shows an increased percentage of olein; in other words, a tendency to softness. That in this ration (half corn meal, half oats, pease, and barley in equal parts) the feeding of it boiled gave a slightly higher olein content, but this is only apparent when the average from the four pens is taken into consideration. That, considering the effect of feeding the ration of oats, pease, and barley during the first period (to a live weight of 100lbs.) and corn meal during the finishing period, compared with the reverse of this plan—that is, corn first, followed with oats, pease, and barley—we may conclude that the former gives a firmer pork.

That in both methods mentioned in the preceding paragraph, no marked difference was to be observed from the ration fed dry or previously soaked, though taking an average of the two groups on each ration the "dry" feed gave a somewhat higher olein content. That when corn meal formed half the first period ration, and the whole of the second period ration, the resulting pork was somewhat softer than from that of any of the rations already discussed. We conclude that the longer the period during which the corn is fed as a large proportion of the ration, the softer will be the pork. That beans produce a soft and inferior pork. The growth of the pigs so fed was poor and miserable, and the deposition of the fat meagre. That corn meal fed exclusively as the grain ration, either dry or previously soaked, results in an extremely soft fat, the percentage of olein being considerably higher than from any other ration tested. The pork was of an inferior quality. Here also we noted the miserable growth of the animals, the ration in no sense being an economical one.

noticed, however, that a large proportion of corn in the ration tends to an increase in the deposition of fat, especially above the shoulder.

Clover was not tried save in conjunction with a grain ration, half of which was corn meal. We are scarcely in a position, therefore, to speak positively as to its effect upon the relative firmness, but there are certainly strong indications that its influence is in the same direction as corn, increasing the percentage of olein. It is quite evident that the root crops—turnips, mangels, and sugar beets—can be used with benefit and with impunity in such a ration as meal, oats, peas, and barley, the animals fed on which produced first-quality pork. No softening effect due to the results of feeding rape, artichokes, or pumpkins, cooked or raw, was noticed.

Conclusions.

The more important conclusions drawn from the whole investigation are set forth as follows:—

1. That the one great controlling factor in the quality of the pork of finished pigs lies in the character of the food employed. 2. That Indian corn and beans tend to softness, i.e., to increase the percentage of olein in the fat. If these grains are used they must be fed judiciously if first-class firm pork is to be produced. If fed in conjunction with skim milk it has been shown that a considerable proportion of Indian corn may be used in the grain ration without injuring the quality of the pork. 3. That a grain ration consisting of a mixture of oats, pease, and barley, in equal parts, gives a firm pork of excellent quality. 4. That skim milk not only tends to thriftiness and rapid growth, but counteracts in a very marked manner any tendency to softness. 5. That rape, pumpkins, artichokes, sugar beets, turnips, and mangels can be fed in conjunction with a good ration without injuring the quality of the pork. 6. That the fat of very young pigs and animals of unthrifty growth is softer than that of finished pigs that have increased steadily to the finishing weight.



THE TWO CROSS-BRED PIGS which form the subject of the above illustration are the property of and were bred by Mr. A. Brown, of Hill Farm, Southampton. They are by a Black pig, their dam being a Large White, and at the Smithfield Show they were 11 months, 2 weeks 5 days old. At that Show they were awarded the £10 Silver Cup for the best pen of any distinct or crossbred pen of pigs, and also won first prize in their class.

Second Series.

On the completion of the work of the first set of experiments it was thought desirable to institute a further series to obtain corrobation of certain results, as well as to ascertain the influence of several modifications in the rations already employed. In this second series the effect of the ration on the fat of the finished pig simply was determined. It was also decided to examine chemically the fat taken from above the shoulder only, the difference in olein content between the shoulder and loin fat from the same carcase being, as a rule, extremely small. In all important features the deduction drawn from the results of the first experiments received strong confirmation from the data of the second series. There were, however, from this latter series several additional and important features noted. The first was with regard to the use of skim milk in conjunction with the grain ration. In every instance in which it was tried skim milk produced a much firmer fat than resulted from the same grain ration, fed without skim milk. The softening effect of corn, so repeatedly referred to, was in a very large measure counteracted by this means. Therefore, while the results point to the injurious effects of a ration containing one-half or more corn without skim milk, its use as a part of the grain ration in conjunction with skim milk produced an excellent quality of pork. It was

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Rochdale Dairy Farmers' Combine.—The farmers of Rochdale and district have decided to form a Farmers' Association and raise the price of milk from 3d. to 3½d. per quart. It was mentioned that provender is now 3s. per load dearer than it was last summer; that hay is very scarce and higher in price; that in the surrounding towns farmers were receiving 3½d. per quart for the milk, and some 4d., whereas in Rochdale the price was 3d. a quart.

Plant Colonists.—Mr. R. Lloyd Praeger writes as follows in "Knowledge" on "Plant Colonists"—"When our forefathers commenced to till the ground, a destruction of the native plant associations was the result; and this gave an opening for other plants suited to the new conditions. Annuals could maintain their hold year by year on the tilled land, where the former perennial plant-groups could no longer exist. And clearly those plants whose seeds happened to be mixed with the grain which the early husbandmen sowed, would have an excellent opportunity of survival. Thus we can conceive that the now large and well-marked group of weeds of cultivation had a very early origin.

TRADE IN FEEDING STUFFS IN 1901.

Business in London.

Messrs. Ashton, Edridge, and Co., of 30, St. Mary Axe, E.C., have issued their annual circular dealing with the trade in linseed and cottonseed, etc. They state that high prices have been maintained for linseed throughout the year. The crop in Argentina has proved the largest on record. As regards cotton seed, the Egyptian crop has been a good one; and a somewhat new feature has been the unprecedentedly large sale of Bombay seed, which may be accounted for by the high prices ruling for Egyptian. Reporting on the trade in linseed, Messrs. Ashton, Edridge, and Co. state:—January opened with a firm market for all near positions, an increased estimate of the Plate crop, coupled with heavy shipments from that quarter, caused a sharp decline for forward positions. In February continued heavy Plate shipments still further weakened the market, but the month closed firm with a demand for transhipment to the U.S.A. and North Russia. Towards the close of March, with the advance in oil, light shipments from all quarters and small offers from the shippers, values steadily improved, 47s. paid for March Calcutta, and up to 45s. for April-June; Plate on the spot made 45s. At Hull, Calcutta April-June made 45s. 6d., and 45s. was paid for spot Plate. In April unfavourable crop news from India, coupled with continued scarcity of first-hand offers, prices rapidly rose with up to 52s. 6d. paid for Calcutta on passage, and 50s. 3d. for April-June. At Hull, Plate afloat made 47s. 9d., shipping 47s., and April-May 46s. 3d., scarcely any business passed in Calcutta. During the greater part of May the advance continued, further stimulated by a good demand for oil; heavy arrivals subsequently causing a partial reaction. Calcutta arrived sold from 54s. to 55s. 3d., but closed 52s.; April-June touched 52s. 6d. At Hull, Calcutta 15th May, made up to 53s.; Plate changed hands from 48s. 3d. to 50s. June opened with a quiet market, which developed into a good consumptive demand. North America bought seed both here and in Calcutta, and prices rose to 52s. 3d. spot, and 52s. for shipment.

During July prices continued to improve, and a considerable business done, although shippers offered cautiously. Calcutta in near positions sold up to 55s. 6d., while 55s. 9d. paid for shipment. At Hull a quantity of July-August done between 52s. 6d. and 56s.; Plate on passage touched 54s. The earlier part of August marked a further advance, but towards the close of the month North America offered very freely, and values rapidly declined; Calcutta due touched 56s. 9d. and 58s. paid for September-October, closing 55s. and 56s. respectively. At Hull, business done between 56s. 9d. and 57s. 6d. for August-September; Plate, ex store and on passage, made 54s. 6d. During September values showed little alteration, business being restricted owing to the unsettled state of the American market. October opened with a dull market, which developed into a good enquiry at advancing prices on unfavourable crop news in the Plate, and the stiffness of the Indian shippers. Throughout November near positions continued steady, the forward market eased with increased shipments from India. Calcutta, shortly due, sold at 57s. 3d. to 56s. 3d., while down to 54s. 9d. taken November-December. At Hull 55s. accepted for a line of November Calcutta; Plate changed hands from 49s. 6d. to 47s. 6d., December-January shipment. During December values steadily declined, the shipments from all quarters were much larger than anticipated. Calcutta spot and near sold from 54s. 6d. to 51s. 6d.; November-December shipment closes 51s. 6d.; a few sales of April-June recorded at about 46s. At Hull Calcutta on passage nominally 53s.; Plate was dealt in from 47s. 9d. to 45s. December-January, while 44s. accepted January-February.

Linseed Cakes.

In January, market firm but only a moderate trade passed at £8 6s. 3d. to £8 12s. 6d. for London made. During February demand was very slow, despite the cold weather which prevailed, quotations ranged from £8 7s. 6d. to £8 10s. March opened with a continuation of the poor enquiry, but closed firm at a decline of 10s. per ton, £7 15s. to £8 being closing value. Throughout April, stocks being very limited, market continued firm at £7 13s. 9d. to £7 15s. In May, notwithstanding the small trade, values showed little alteration, closing £7 12s. 6d. Throughout June prices declined to £7 7s. 6d., the demand being almost lifeless. In July, with the advance in seed, values improved to £7 17s. 6d. During August and September, through scarcity, £8 2s. 6d. was hard, but business was much restricted. Throughout October values dropped, and trading continued at a minimum, £7 16s. being the ruling price. During November there was a better consumptive demand, values improving to £7 17s. 6d. During December demand again improved, closing quotations being £7 17s. 6d. for London made. The import of foreign cakes for

all kinds into the United Kingdom in 1901 amounted to about 390,000 tons, against 394,889 tons in 1900.

Cotton Cakes.

During January market steady, with an improving demand at £4 17s. 6d. to £5 for London make. Towards the close of February, after a good business done, demand slackened, £4 17s. 6d. being the closing value. Throughout March prices continued to droop, but closed steadier at £4 10s. to £4 15s. In April the improvement was maintained, with London makes selling up to £4 17s. 6d. During May free arrivals from Egypt caused a reaction to £4 11s. 3d. In June, owing to scarcity, values were maintained, although the consumption was below the average; and in July prices advanced to £4 18s. 9d. In August, with the improvement in seed, and continued scarcity, £5 3s. 9d. was paid. During September demand was only moderate, and values declined at £4 18s. 9d. In October down to £4 12s. 6d. taken, but a considerable trade passed at the lower price. During November cakes sold freely at improving prices, which ranged from £4 11s. 3d. to £4 15s. Throughout December the trade continued good at £4 12s. 6d. to £4 15s. for London made.

Messrs. Keighley, Maxted, and Co.'s Report.

In the course of their annual review of the past year, Messrs. Keighley, Maxted and Co., of Hull, making some interesting statements concerning the trade in feeding stuffs, and below we give some extracts from the review:—

Linseed.

The imports into Hull for the year are 732,566 qrs., against 572,106 qrs. last season. The market has again been characterised by wide and sometimes violent fluctuations. The year opened with a serious slump in values, caused in the first instance by reports of an enormous linseed crop in the Argentine, and further accentuated by large—in fact record—shipments from that country in January and early February. Weekly shipments during this period varied from 38,000 qrs. to the largest, viz.: 238,000 qrs. Values dropped to 38s. for River Plate, and Calcutta April-June to London was sold at 3s8. 6d. These figures showed a drop from the highest values of about 12s. to 14s. per quarter. These low prices, lasting only a few days, were followed by a substantial and continuous recovery. Indian shipments were fairly liberal, viz.:—737,000 qrs. United Kingdom, 980,000 qrs. Continent, total, 1,717,000 qrs., but these were counteracted by the practical failure of the Russian crops, both North and South.

Owing to the extreme scarcity, Baltic oil commanded a high premium, and the small quantities of seed shipped from Petersburg realised very high prices. Report has it (and this may not be altogether legendary) that one shipper stored a parcel in warehouse, as he was not prepared to accept the price of 61s. per quarter. The upward tendency was, therefore, with the exception of occasional relapses, steadily maintained, until prices again reached a high level in the month of August, River Plate seed touching 56s. 3d., and Calcutta 57s. 6d. to 58s. In the late autumn, America offered freely, and the market has been "jumpy," with an ultimate downward trend, values at the close of the year being 55s. 6d. Calcutta, 46s. 3d. December Plate, 45s. December-January, and 44s. January-February. Baltic sorts, owing to scarcity, remain on a high level. Riga and Libau 54s. delivered.

Linseed Cake.

Owing to the falling off in the supplies of foreign cakes, especially from Russia, by reason of the deficient seed crop in that country, Hull linseed cakes have been in better demand than might have been expected considering the high prices current throughout the year. Early in the year, an abnormal supply of linseed was expected with consequent low prices, and the result was an enormous drop in both seed and oil, but it soon became evident that the expectation was not justified, and prices recovered to practically the levels at which they stood at the beginning of the year. As oil declined with seed, cakes did not vary so much when the decline was in force, as would otherwise have been the case. Prices of 95 per cent. quality were as follows:—January 1st, £8 7s. 6d., at which they remained to February 15th, declining to £8 by March 1st; March 15th, £7 12s. 6d.; April 15th, £7 12s. 6d.; May 1st, £7 10s.; June 1st, £7 7s. 6d.; June 15th, £7 (the lowest point in the year for spot); July 1st, £7 5s.; July 15th, £7 10s.; August 1st, £8 2s. 6d.; August 15th, £8 7s. 6d., and they continued at that to £8 5s. up to the end of the year.

Cotton Cakes.

The supplies of seed have been liberal, especially during the last three months. Prices of best quality cakes from Egyptian seed have ruled at the following prices:—January 1st, £4 17s. 6d.; January 15th, £5; February 1st, £4 17s. 6d.; March 1st, £4 12s. 6d.; March 15th, £4 15s.; April 15th, £4 15s.; May 1st, £4 12s. 6d.; May 15th, £4 10s.; June 15th, £4 7s. 6d. (the minimum of the year); July 1st, £4 15s.; July 15th, £4 15s.; August 1st, £5; August 15th, £5 7s. 6d.; September 1st, £5 2s. 6d.; September 15th, £5 5s.; October 1st, £5; October 15th, £4 15s.; November 1st, £4 10s.; November 15th, £4 12s. 6d., at which the price remained to the end of the year. The make is now (December 28th) much larger than usual, but the mills are bare of stock. Cotton cakes are cheaper than anything else, and the very large trade for them is expected to continue right into the spring. Cotton seed crushing has been very profitable for some months past.

Feed Cakes have been in good demand throughout the year, many of the best makes, being of a very superior quality, are attracting a large volume of trade. The year closes with a more hopeful and satisfactory outlook than has been the case for many years.

Agricultural Co-operation.

One of the questions which is frequently asked is "What would happen if England was to drift into a great war and had its food supply cut off?" That was a question which concerned him as a Londoner apart from the interest he took as an Englishman in what was the greatest of their national industries. If the food supply was cut off, and even if it was threatened there would be bread riots in London, where six millions of people were crowded together. Nothing but the invasion of a foreign foe or a bombardment could inflict upon them anything equal in horror to what would take place under such circumstances in an overcrowded city like London. The question of food supply, therefore, was one which should apply to every Englishman, no matter what his politics or creed might happen to be. It might become absolute life or death to the nation, and in that sense the question must be of peculiar interest to those engaged in agriculture, as upon them would fall the necessity of providing the supply in time of war. They must put themselves, therefore, to some little inconvenience, and look at the question apart from the immediate personal effect it might have on their individual interests.

It was common knowledge that two-thirds of their food was imported from foreign countries, and that the country only supplied one-third of the food required for the population. That was the outcome of a system of free trade which he did not intend to discuss from its economic point of view, further than to say that the strongest supporter of Free Trade recognised, like Mr. Cobden recognised at the outset, that the throwing open of our ports involved the question of universal peace which they must endeavour to maintain. Further, if they had foreign imports of corn they must have such a navy that, no matter what combination was brought against it, it was capable of ensuring the food supply not being cut off. They lived in a fools' paradise sometimes with respect to their fleet if they thought it was in that happy position. If they were to have free imports of corn as they had had since 1847 the navy must be kept up to such a state of efficiency that any combination of Powers could be resisted. The navy was not now in that position, and that was one of the questions on which agriculturists should combine and co-operate upon to force the powers that be to do their duty.

Using the word co-operate in its ordinary acceptation, to supply combination, he said he did not know why, but the farmers throughout the country evinced a grave objection to anything like a systematic co-operation amongst themselves. They did not perhaps like their neighbours to know what they were doing, but that was a narrow way of looking at the question. The real rival of the British farmer was not his next door neighbour, but perhaps a gentleman residing three thousand miles away, and what they had to face was the flooding of the markets and competition to which they were exposed through the sending of American and other corn by farmers they had never seen, and who were able to flood the English markets through their combination. Corn was bought by agents for miles round Chicago and stored in granaries to be sent to foreign countries who required it. It was a modified form of combination amongst the farmers, for the distribution of the corn, and such a form as that might be adopted by the English farmer for ensuring their produce being dealt with in bulk, and thus saving an expense which might possibly sometimes convert a margin of loss into a slight margin of profit.

The workmen in the towns were indirectly interested in that question of maintaining the great industry of agriculture, not only with respect to the great question of food supply, which might assume a terribly grave aspect in times of war, but in other respects, and it was for the farmers to combine and see that those in the town were made acquainted with that indirect interest. This included the maintenance of the physical condition of the race. If the soldiers and sailors were to be drawn from the ranks of overworked and overcrowded population of the great cities they would not obtain the same amount of blood and muscle which had hitherto carried their arms to victory in foreign countries. They must have a healthy leaven of the country blood in the towns, in the army, in the navy.

He did not think the British workman was so narrow-minded, unpatriotic, and selfish not to see the force fo such arguments as these when placed before him by persons interested in agriculture, and in order to show the working man how much it was to his interest to try and uphold the agricultural industry they must send missionaries to him. They had their farmers' clubs throughout the country, and the Central Chamber to assist them. They also had a Board of Agriculture, but that, being a Government department, was hampered with the inevitable red tapeism. At present many people knew nothing of the importance of the great industry, but if they tried to make the hundreds of thousands of workmen know about it they would listen and take an interest in it perhaps, but if the farmers held aloof and allowed their votes to be swamped by the voting power of the workmen of the towns their interests would be neglected.

Co-operation to Secure Legislation.

The agricultural interest had the same right to combine and show they had the power by their votes to have a really legitimate grievance discussed as the brewing and other interests. They should also be in a position to say to their Parliamentary or County representatives if they were going to regard the brewing or any other interest and disregard the agricultural interest the agriculturists would take good care to have such a political form of organisation or combination that those representatives would not dare to pass by their just grievances, and which they were asked to remedy through the Legislature. If the farmers did that they would meet their adversaries on equal terms; if they were in the right they would prevail; but at the present time, without combination, whether right or wrong, they could not expect to prevail, as they could not get or enforce an hearing. At the present time they were ignored as being a negligible quantity without organisation amongst themselves or those they employed.

He had heard there was an antagonism between farmer and labourer, but he could hardly believe it. There may be individual cases of the kind, but those in subordinate positions looked to their employers generally. If such was not the case he thought the farmer would do well to remedy that state of affairs. He did not for a moment suggest the farmer should imitate the policy pursued by modern trades unionism, which had, through being so much abused, lost all traces of trades unionism, and become a form of conspiracy. By the Act of 1875 workmen were allowed to combine on the assumption they would use that liberty for the purpose of combining, but there was all the difference in the world between the combination contemplated by the Trades Union Acts and the combination used now in the abuse of those Acts. The combination meant was to band together for their own good, but it was a conspiracy to band together to do others harm, even if they employed legal means to obtain their object. He did not suggest that kind of combination to agriculturists, but asked them to guard against it; and to combine together in a proper manner was a duty they owed to themselves, and a duty, he would say, they owed to their country. If they combined to do themselves good and advance the true interests of agriculture they would be adding to the strength, health, and wealth of the whole of the country. He asked them to look at such combination from a patriotic point of view, and to work out the details of such combination amongst themselves in their individual districts.

The Provision Trade in 1901.

Here the year 1901, like its predecessor, has been clouded over by an almost uninterrupted spell of unprofitable rates at prime cost, and operations in provisions have in consequence been under severe restraint. As the margin between profit and loss has become narrower, the strain on buyers or distributors has grown more acute towards the close, with little promise of relief; and additional anxiety having been produced by the announcement of dishonourable financial failures, the trade at one time and another has been wrought up to a high pitch of nervous tension as to "Who's who?" in commercial circles.

Butter.

Taking the augmenting imports into the United Kingdom as a criterion (which is indeed the only one we can adopt as a guide), the consumption of

butter in this country may be said to progress at an accelerated rate, which it requires all the resources of home and foreign producers adequately to satisfy, and prices, as a natural sequence, have nearly always been on an ascending scale. For the finest qualities this has been peculiarly the case, and it has often happened that the choicest brands of different descriptions of butter have been commanding the same money, till in October they were dearer than in December last. Within the past month prices of most kinds except Dutch and French have declined about 10s. per cwt. A conspicuous feature in the supply during the year 1901 has been the surprisingly heavy quantities received here from Russia and Siberia, which have frequently so encumbered the warehouses and cold-storage chambers that holders have scarcely known what to do with them, or how to dispose of them quickly enough to ensure a satisfactory sale; and where the quality has undergone deterioration, more undeniably so than in other years, the difficulties in effecting a speedy riddance of the same have been greatly increased. Fancy creamery butters have taken a decided lead in the market throughout their respective seasons, Irish and Canadian most of any; but while these, together with the receipts from Holland, have been heavier than in 1900, the importations of Colonial sorts, as well as those from France, have largely fallen off, and have thus conduced to a higher range of quotations, which the retailers, try all they know, have, for the most part, been unable to resist, till quite near the close, when choicest qualities were procurable at



THE DEXTER HEIFER LUCAN NELLIE, 1,643, which we illustrate above, was exhibited at the Royal Dublin Society's Winter Show last month by Mr. R. G. Nash, Finnestown Lucan, and won first prize in the class for Dexter heifers under four years old, also being reserve for the Waterhouse Cup for the best animal in the Kerry and Dexter classes bred and fed in Ireland. We may mention that Mr. Nash was awarded this cup in 1900, and if he had won it last month it would have become his property. It has to be won twice by the same exhibitor before becoming his property, but not necessarily in succession, so that Mr. Nash has yet a good chance of winning the cup outright.

102s. to 106s., or 14s. under the opening rates of the season.

Margarine and Mixtures.

bear evidence of a good trade having been done so far as it relates to the increased turnover; but in respect to the prices obtainable there is not much benefit on which to congratulate producers, who have had to pay materially enhanced rates for the raw materials, such as "Oleo" and other substances, although at the same time they have been powerless to secure a corresponding advance from the retailers for the manufactured article.

Bacon.

A persistent shrinkage in the supplies from Denmark and Canada within the last year or two, only imperfectly made up for by enlarged importations from the United States into this country, has been the chief cause of the continued high prices that have been maintained during the past twelve months. To account fully for the dearness of bacon it must also be taken into account that the consumption of this necessary of life has been actively extending among all classes of the community, who have had more ample means of purchasing what extra provisions they require, and under this stimulus to fresh activity in the demand one improvement has been added to another, until quotations have been piled up to a height which has deprived the smaller distributors to the public of all reasonable profit, and left them at a palpable disadvantage in catering for the wants of consumers. How to get a fair monetary return for cutting up a side of bacon has been a puzzle to a good many retail salesmen during 1901, and the question of raising the "ticketed" prices to their customers, in accordance with the upward moves in the import market, has also been a ticklish one where competition in any neighbourhood has been peculiarly keen. Placed thus between two evils—constantly advancing rates on one hand, and retail figures fixed at too low a point on the other—the retailers have occupied a rather awkward position as concerns bacon in the past year; and their ingenuity in trimming their sales to their purchases, so as to make both ends meet, has been taxed to the utmost. With quotations for "green" bacon more generally pointing to the "seventies" (i.e., 70s. per cwt.) than otherwise, the chances of dealers making a profit have been strongly against them, notwithstanding the growing popularity of this article of food; and it is, therefore, to be hoped that, after so long a period of adverse fortune in not always successfully managing their business in bacon, a return of more prosperous times in greater abundance and cheapness being assured will by-and-by be witnessed.

In other salted or scalded meats nothing particularly interesting has occurred during the year now closing, the market for which has invariably followed the same course as that above noticed, and stiff prices have mostly been current. Scarcity and its consequent attendants, rising values, have entirely controlled the trade in hams in the year now passed, and intervals of depression have been less frequent than before. Although the imports of lard into the United Kingdom have been heavier than in 1900, stocks nearly everywhere have been reported to be light, if not entirely exhausted, and consequently insufficient for ordinary needs, proving that the latter must have outgrown former limits, and prices all round have ruled considerably above those in the previous year, being at the best points 52s. to 53s. per cwt. for American pails, 58s. to 70s. for Irish (kegs and bladders), and 70s. to 80s. for English bladdered.

Cheese.

For home produce the market has been the least affected of any by movements that have been going on elsewhere, supplies sent forward having been so regulated as to occasion little or no deviation from the beaten track of common-place dealings in cheese for immediate use, and no extremes of buoyancy or inactivity have been experienced. The new season's make of English has been of fair average extent, enough to meet all demands, without leaving over surplus quantities of any weight, to be forced off at reduced figures later on; and full to somewhat better prices have been asked and obtained almost throughout the year, more especially for the primest qualities. With Canadian and American cheese, however, the case has been very different and much less satisfactory, the season 1900-01 having turned out to be a disastrous one for operators on this side of the Atlantic. The losses incurred by speculation (on extravagant "c.f. and i." terms) carried to undue lengths were never thoroughly recovered by the trade here, who were consequently little inclined to resume active purchases on the opening of another campaign last spring; and the occasional spurts put on since have been unequal to the task of cleverly handling an outturn of cheese described as being one of the biggest ever produced. Reports of heavy unsold stocks both at the shipping and arrival ports have also exercised a depressing influence during the latter half of the present year, and transactions of moment have been practicable only at drooping rates. At first Canadian cheese, costing 56s. to 58s. to arrive, was thrown on this market at a ruinous sacrifice—44s. to 48s. per cwt., and it can hardly be said that the unlucky importers, as a body, have yet survived the shock. Afterwards a healthier feeling seemed to set in, when newly-arrived cheese began to be freely purchased, and early in August finest coloured realised 49s. to 50s., and white 48s. to 49s.; the order of the two grades being reversed from what it was in 1900, when white took top and coloured makes second place in point of value. From that time onwards the tendency was rather downwards, when the same kinds were sold landed at 45s. to 47s. per cwt.; but the value has since returned to 48s. to 50s. The season for New Zealand cheese has been of a more favourable character, liberal supplies of superior quality having been received and disposed of with facility at relatively good prices, whilst some other descriptions were partly unsaleable. Dutch cheese has kept up remarkably well for farmers' products, the outlet for which seems to have been considerably widened, and very firm rates have been quoted all the year through. Factory sorts have likewise claimed a large share of attention, and the decline which took place at the commencement was afterwards followed by a smart reaction. —*The Grocer.*

East Stirlingshire Agricultural Society.

A general meeting of the Eastern District of Stirlingshire Agricultural Association was held at Falkirk on the 26th ult., Mr. Charles Brown Kerse, president, in the chair. The secretary, Mr. William Wright, submitted the annual report, from which it appeared that while the affairs of the society continued generally in a fairly prosperous condition, the funds in hand showed a further decrease of £23 19s. 5d., the balance at December, 1900, being £183 17s., while this year it was £159 17s. 7d. This continued decrease in the funds seemed mainly due to the larger sums that had been paid away as prize-money this year, to the considerably reduced sum drawn at the gate at the summer show, and partly to the number of still outstanding subscriptions.

The chairman, in moving the adoption of the report, suggested the introduction of military and other sports at the summer show in order to draw the people out. Mr. Buchan, Dalgrain, seconded the adoption of the report, which was approved unanimously.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending December 31, 1901:—

Swine Fever.	Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.		No.	126	1,093	15,237	17,933	
							30,797	
	Outbreaks.		No.	27	36	3,140	1,940	
					25		2,322	
					41		2,464	42,700
Rabies.	Cases Reported.	Oth'r Anim'ls.	No.	...	...	1	5	
					...		...	
					...		...	
		Dogs.	No.	...	...	1	6	
					...		9	
					1		17	
Pleuro-Pneumonia.	Cattle slaughtered.	Exposed to Infection.	No.	...	...	...	...	
					...		...	
					...		220	
		Diseased.	No.	...	...	...	...	
					...		...	
					1		1	
	Outbreaks.		No.	...	...	...	...	
					...		...	
					...		...	
Glanders (incl. farcy).	Animals Attacked.		No.	31	21	2,332	1,858	
					28		1,472	
					24		1,370	
	Outbreaks.		No.	14	13	1,350	1,119	
					19		953	
					18		738	
Foot-and-Mouth Disease.	Animals Attacked.		No.	...	...	669	266	
					...		...	
					...		...	
	Outbreaks.		No.	...	...	12	21	
					...		...	
					...		...	
Anthrax.	Animals Attacked.		No.	27	31	956	956	
					13		986	
					16		845	
	Outbreaks.		No.	13	15	647	471	
					5		634	
					10		551	
Period.	Week ended Dec. 28, 1901				1900	Total for 49 weeks, 1901	1900	
					1899		1899	
					1898		1898	
	Corresponding week in ...				1900	Corresponding period in ...	1900	
					1899		1899	
					1898		1898	

NOTE.—The figures for the current Year are approximate only.

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1901.

The year that has gone has been a bad one in many ways, and in very few of the many branches of agriculture can farmers or those depending on them look back with satisfaction. So far as the growth of barley is concerned this is especially the case. The worst seed time in living memory was followed by a harvest of the worst type. I say this advisedly, for the shortness of time of ingathering is of dubious benefit to the great majority of farmers, and the early rush of grain into the markets effectually kept down prices to a level utterly inconsistent with the facts, if there is any truth in the old axiom that prices are ruled by the laws of supply and demand.

The statistics furnished by the Board of Agriculture, with the admirable precision and promptness characteristic of so much done by the Board (to the immense advantage of practical men if they only would learn how to turn them to account), made it early evident that this season there must be a

Small Supply of Barley.

Yet, because of the methods of dealing recently adopted by buyers, there was such a rush of new corn to the markets, that in the recorded sales in the registered markets we find that, whilst in the three months June, July, and August under 10,500 quarters of barley were sold, in the one month of September (September, mark you), no less than 233,200 quarters were sold, followed by 710,700 quarters in October, and 917,300 quarters in November.

It is not surprising that buyers found no difficulty in getting all they wanted, and that prices stood almost stationary throughout the year. Yet it was well known, in addition to the decreased acreage under barley and the known poor yield, that the maize crop was a failure, and had caused the price of what our American cousins call "corn" to go up 5s. to 7s. per quarter, and there had been a duty placed upon sugar which may be roughly put at the same amount, say 5s. to 7s. per quarter. Had prices risen in accordance with the facts, the position of barley growers would not have been much improved, but with the average standing at a dead level of sameness, the outcome of the year's work to the majority of growers must be of a most unsatisfactory type.

Prosperity turns on Price

to a greater degree than upon anything else. A short crop at a high price makes it possible to live, but a poor crop with stagnant prices is ruination.

Probably no trade has suffered greater stagnation in the past autumn and winter than brewing. Yet it is well known that once the price of grain is forced below a certain limit there is no direct gain to the brewer, and there is much indirect loss. Bearing these facts in mind, a retrospective glance at 1901 is very alarming. Barley growers have met with much discouragement. Many classes of other traders, directly and indirectly affected by the success of barley growers, are suffering from depression or stagnation.

But the chief loss is of a more serious type. It is a grave

National Risk

to have the steady decrease of arable cultivation of our soil going on without a check. If we allow arable land to be represented by wheat, barley, oats, peas, beans, green crops, and roots we lost last year alone from under the plough upwards of 250,000 acres. This follows a loss in thirty years of nearly 3,400,000 acres. What this means in keeping workers on the soil is little realised or understood. More important still is the value of such an area under arable cultivation to the nation as a source of national defence and for provision of necessary food.

It is obvious to any thinker that there is something radically wrong somewhere. The farmers of this country prove every year by the quality and quantity of their produce that they are practical men who deservedly stand first in many walks in their industry, and on a high plane in nearly all others. Yet they are being steadily killed by

Unfair Competition

and the steady reduction in price obtainable for their produce. Were it a matter that affected the farmers solely they might be left to fight their own battles and take their chance. But there is a much more important question involved. National defence and the integrity of the Empire have become phrases filled with a deep meaning now they would not have possessed to anyone only a few years ago. In them rest the lives and property of the majority of the peoples in these islands, and the maintenance of our soil under conditions of fullest productiveness has ceased to be a mere matter of business concerning only a dwindling number of farmers and their poorly educated employees, it is a question of deepest and truly vital significance to the dwellers in towns and industrial centres. The disastrous year of 1901 will not be an unmixed evil if the public conscience is awakened through it to the true sense of our national duty.

The Pure Beer Bill.

A circular has been addressed to all members of Parliament asking whether they are disposed to ballot for a Bill dealing with the Brewing and Sale of Beer, which is to be introduced into Parliament next session. The circular, which is signed by Sir Cuthbert Quilter, Sir John Dorington, Colonel Brookfield, Colonel Kenyon-Slaney, Messrs. Griffith-Boscawen, Corrie Grant, Laurence Hardy, R. J. Price, Robert Purvis, James Round, and F. W. Wilson, points out that the Bill of last sesion passed its second reading by a majority of 112, and was subsequently referred to the Grand Committee on Law, but unfortunately the proceedings on another Bill, also affecting the trade and referred to the same Committee, were so persistently delayed as to make it useless to persevere with it in the short time that remained before the rising of Parliament. It is hoped, however, that the criticisms it elicited and the time afforded for consideration will result in the framing of a measure, which will not only prove of advantage to beer-drinkers and agriculturists, but will also meet with greater approval at the hands, both of the Inland Revenue authorities and of the better class of brewers.

Agricultural Produce.

The following is an account showing the quantities of certain kinds of Agricultural Produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended December 28, 1901, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year :—

		1900.	1901.
Animals, Living :—			
Oxen, bulls, cows, and calves	Number	8,012	4,759
Sheep and lambs	,,	5,981	6,928
Swine	,,	—	—
Fresh Meat :—			
Beef	Cwt.	40,182	36,509
Mutton	,,	31,201	20,861
Pork	,,	12,523	17,954
Salted or Preserved Meat :—			
Bacon	Cwt.	98,454	77,658
Beef	,,	2,222	4,336
Hams	,,	27,692	23,682
Pork	,,	3,902	1,303
Meatunenumerated, saltedorfresh	,,	5,241	5,451
Meat, preserved otherwise than by salting	,,	7,788	10,274
Dairy Produce and Substitutes :—			
Butter	Cwt.	70,027	63,897
Margarine	,,	13,725	14,527
Cheese	,,	21,451	44,234
*Milk, Fresh, in cans or drums	,,	469	661
*Milk, Cream	,,		204
*Milk, Preserved, other kinds	,,		29
Milk, Condensed	,,	16,219	12,989
Eggs	Great Hundred	283,443	289,506
Poultry and Game	Value £	42,477	38,219
Rabbits, dead (not tinned)	Cwt.	6,472	3,760
Lard	,,	39,912	30,890
Corn, Grain, Meal, and Flour :—			
Wheat	Cwt.	1,141,800	818,600
Wheat Meal and Flour	,,	384,100	548,500
Barley	,,	354,800	313,100
Oats	,,	311,500	311,800
Peas	,,	57,200	37,800
Beans	,,	36,600	16,100
Maize or Indian Corn	,,	1,245,700	706,800
Fruit, Raw :—			
Apples	Cwt.	37,109	22,397
Apricots and Peaches	,,	—	—
Bananas	Bnchs.	9,942	22,525
Cherries	Cwt.	—	—
Currants	,,	—	—
Gooseberries	,,	—	—
Grapes	,,	333	247
Lemons	,,	8,654	1,244
Oranges	,,	175,601	140,233
Pears	,,	688	92
Plums	,,	115	2
Strawberries	,,	—	—
Unenumerated	,,	164	321
Hay	Tons.	1,634	5,459
Hops	Cwt.	11,074	7,149
Vegetables, Raw :—			
Onions	Bush.	95,005	111,695
Potatoes	Cwt.	100,505	81,539
Tomatoes	,,	8,163	2,003
Unenumerated	Value £	8,793	4,060
†Dried	Cwt.	—	6,269
†Preserved by canning	,,	—	2,250

* In 1900 these were not shown separately.
† Included with Vegetables, Unenumerated, prior to 1901



By Lupulin.

Trade Notes.

The Borough.

Hop traders returned to the scene of their labours on Monday morning, and have since been fairly busy in handling samples in preparation for the visits of travellers to the town and country brewers. The journeys of these gentlemen will be resumed to-day, and I trust their holiday rest will invigorate them and create additional energy in commending their goods to the notice of customers. During the week many lots have changed hands, and the total amount of business done has been quite up to expectation. There is still evident much desire to get hold of good qualities, and merchant has not infrequently bought from merchant, with profit to the original buyer, as it is practically impossible to find any choice or even first-quality hops in the hands of growers. The great bulk of the unsold balance is only ordinary, medium, or inferior, but there is demand even for these, and, at present rate of selling, it cannot be long before the market is absolutely cleared. But the drawback of unremunerative prices still remains, although there is not an ounce of pressure upon the market from abroad. The bugbear of foreign competition is for the moment banished out of sight, and we have to face the truism that

The English Crop is the Principal Factor

in determining the value of English hops. There may be exceptional seasons in which a superabundant foreign supply exercises a depressing influence upon our prices, but inasmuch as our brewers are compelled by the taste of their customers and the other exigencies of their business to use English hops in far greater proportion than Californian or any other foreign growth, the quantity of native produce available must invariably be the main feature in fixing the range at which our hops are marketable. According to the official returns, we have grown in the last three crops 1,658,707cwt, and I suppose experience has taught us that these figures hardly represent the actual weight produced; but if we take them as they are, we are given an average of over 550,000cwt. per annum, which, considering the imports and the estimated annual consumption, is a greater yield than home demand requires. If the average were reduced by about 20 per cent. it would be nearer the mark. This surplus is doubtless the cause of the low prices of the present season, and when we also bring into account the large proportion of inferior stuff with which the market has been overloaded, it is scarcely surprising that growers have had to submit, and are still compelled to submit, to sales at ruination rates. The more closely this matter is examined the more urgent appears the necessity and desirability of a curtailment of the acreage. The careful growth and gathering of the choicest hops only, the unsparing destruction of all the poorest sorts—such a line of policy is forced upon us both by past and present circumstances, and I earnestly trust that my friends will well consider their surroundings and take action without hesitation. Let them not lose sight of the serious fact that every pocket now bought by brewers in excess of their annual requirements is being put aside in cold storage for future use, and will ultimately act as a double-edged sword in their hands, which they will ruthlessly use in slaughtering planters next season. We can only meet them with any prospect of success by limiting the supply and thus securing control of the business. This is our only effective shield, and, if we handle it aright, will protect us from the otherwise inevitable attack.

Continental Markets.

retain the firmness with which they closed before the holidays. At Nuremberg business has been resumed with animation, and an appreciable advance has taken place in the value of all the best hops on offer. Only the poorer samples are stationary, but a general movement upwards is anticipated, and there is little doubt that, as stocks are much reduced, the stronger tendency will be supported throughout the remainder of the season. Present values are far above English level, therefore exports are very limited, and the home demand is solely accountable for the healthy tone of the trade. In Belgium the holidays have inter-

fered with business, with the result that a temporary slight reaction from previous strength is noticeable. As soon as the people settle down again to their ordinary avocations the brewery demand will be resumed, and it is expected that a higher range of hop values will be established.

The Consul-General at Warsaw reports that the annual hop fair in that city turned out rather badly for local growers, contrary to expectation. The bulk of the crop was late, and did not come up to promise, being more or less damaged by the weather. The main object of the fair is the fixation of prices, but on this occasion but little trade was done, and no prices could be established. A depression in the local brewing trade also reacted upon the business of the fair.

At New York the market is by no means active, brewers being very cautious in their dealings. Hops are worth nearly as much in the country centres as they will at present realise at New York. It is, therefore, a bad time for dealers, whose profits are cut down to the lowest margin. Values of choice samples remain at 14 to 15½ cents. The shipment of Oregon hops to England, under the auspices of the local growers' association, to which I previously referred, has been effected to the extent of 2,800 bales. The agents who accompany the hops have promised to return to growers the proceeds of their sales in London within 45 days of the date of shipment, being confident of quick business at remunerative prices. The general trade on the Pacific coast is active, and values are fully maintained.

English and Foreign Hops.
German Criticism.

At the request of a large brewer in North Germany, an eminent scientific authority has recently undertaken to test the comparative value as brewing material of hops from various sources, and I am indebted to the editor of "Mittheilungen Deutschen Hopfenbau-Verein" for the results of this interesting inquiry.

The total number of samples tested was 94, the whole being of the 1900 growth, and the process adopted was that of "Reibsläche," or surface rubbing, perfected by the professor 20 years ago, and since constantly used by him for the practical information of brewers. Of German growths the following were examined:—From Spalt 4 samples, Spaltlaux 6, Middle Franconia 1, Aischgrund 2, Hallertau 9, Wurtemberg 3, Baden 3, Alsace 4, Lorraine 2, Altmark 2, Neutomischetz (Poland) 8, being 44 samples in all, of which 22 were from Bavaria. Austria contributed 20 samples, 12 being from Saaz, 5 from Rothauscha, 2 from Dauba, and 1 from Styria. There were 7 samples of Russian origin, chiefly from Volhynia, also 2 samples of Burgundian hops, and 2 of Belgian. Of English growths, the professor tested 2 samples, each of choice Worcesters, Wealds, Mid and East Kents, Sussex, and Farnhams, making a total of 12 samples, and also examined 8 samples from New York State, Washington, Sonoma, Sacramento, and Oregon, U.S.A. It will, therefore, be observed that the whole of the world's hop-growing districts were fairly represented.

The expert's conclusions are that the test as to lupulinic contents is the most favourable in the cases of hops grown in England and America, the German and Austrian produce being much less desirable in this respect. The same comparison is made with regard to the quality in the bittering principle, and it is remarked that all the English varieties were very choice, Farnhams being at the head of the list, East Kents coming in second, followed by the Mid and Weald of Kent growths. American hops proved to be remarkably rich in the essential constituents, but they did not equal the English samples. Of the samples grown in Russia, the professor speaks very highly, stating that they surpassed in brewing value those from Germany and Austria. A few samples of the German and Austrian products were exceptionally rich and choice, but the general average was not satisfactory, the German growths being somewhat superior to the Austrian. The Polish hops were deficient in lupin and general quality, but those from Wurtemberg, Baden, and Alsace were rather more attractive. The Burgundian samples were fairly supplied with lupulin, while the general quality was not very good. The most unsatisfactory results were found in the samples from Belgium, which were poor in condition and flavour, and very short of bitter. Regarding the flavour alone, our author ty awards the highest praise to a sample from Markt Au, in Hallertau, this being followed by the sample of "sealed" hops from Wolnzach.

A few samples of the 1901 crop were also tested, Saaz hops proving to be usually rich in lupuiin, aroma, and bitter, both Moravians and Spalts being inferior to them.

On the whole, English growers have reason to be gratified by the issue of this investigation. Being conducted by one whose prejudices were reasonably favourable to h's own people, it proves that, despite the supposed disadvantages of our climate and our soil, our planters, who exercise their skil in the production of choice hops, can still hold their own in respect of quality against the world's competition.



A Plea for Protection.

Sir,—I have read the article in "The Financial Times" of the 18th inst. on Mr. Byng's book, showing that manufacturers are tired of Free Trade, and I have also at the Farmers' Club dinner, on the 10th inst., heard Mr. Chaplin in a part of his speech advocate Protection for farming by imposing a small duty on wheat. Mr. Chaplin and Mr. Byng both seem to think that the poor agriculturist wants Protection. I, being a farmer, think just the opposite. What the farmers require is Free Trade for all articles the country cannot produce, wheat included; protect everything else, the British workman included. As we all know, England cannot grow enough for her own consumption, and what is grown is grown at a loss. Many earnest thinkers are now advocating the purchase and storage of wheat by the Government to protect the country's food supplies in case of war or a successful corner in wheat, but the objections to such a course are serious injury to agriculture and its prohibitive cost. Now, if the Government will condescend to take advice from a farmer—if instead of placing a duty on wheat the Government will give the farmer a bounty of 5s. per quarter on wheat, or so much per acre grown, on the understanding that the farmers will hold one year's stock of wheat on hand, this would mean that the Government would have such a granary at their back that they need not think of imitating Pharaoh.

I am, etc.,
C. Hedges.

Heath Farm, Godalming, Dec. 23rd, 1901.

The Apple Orchard.

Sir,—I cannot notice the remarks, in the Mark Lane Express of the 30th December last, of a "Fruit Grower in Kent," as in any way a *reply*, in reference to my detailed statistics in the previous week's Express, as to the cost of establishing "the Apple Orchard."

The "Fruit Grower in Kent" says of me, "I *think* if he were to go into detail he would discover his error." Well—into detail I have gone, and given most minutely—of the purchase of the stocks, the distances in setting out the area, the cost of labour in planting, the appliances necessary, and their cost for securing the stocks from injury, the pruning for the formation of their heads for the future, and for the proper use of the pasture also—and I have given the figures of the cost of each in detail. What further does "Fruit Grower" want? Why has he not set them forth?

The only further detail with the industry I have not given is the gathering and the storing of the produce, which may be covered by 1s. per bushel; but it may be noted I have put the sale price of "Blenheims" at 8s. per bushel—they are now quoted in the wholesale market at 12s. 6d.—and they can be sold on "the spot" at this without any further expense attending. As "Fruit Grower in Kent" has not made the slightest attempt to overthrow the figures I have set forth, I think I may venture to assume that he is very prejudiced against the further extension of the apple orchard, and that it is a disagreeable subject to him to entertain. So, like the lawyer who has a bad case, and cannot oevrthrow his opponent's facts, he takes to mere carping and personally depreciating the opposite party. Of myself, "Fruit Grower" says, and that without any warranty, "I should *think* the gentleman knows nothing about apple growing." Well, I may tell him I am 85 years old, and I have had between 50 and 60 years' practical experience in the industry.

In his feeble attempt to oppose apple orchard extension, "Fruit Grower" throws as a stumbling block in the way the 10 years before the "Blenheims" come to fruit. I know it quite as well as he, for I have planted the trees, and I did not propose to establish the orchard *entirely* with these trees. I expressly said "keeping apples," and indicated with the Blenheim, Wellington, Hanwell, Sowering, etc., expressly for those who cannot rest to wait for the prolonged ever better result.

The "Fruit Grower's" 10 years' stumbling block of the Blenheim gives me the opportunity of showing the handsome investment from the orchard planted entirely with this tree. Take, say, the period of 21 years in an orchard planted on a field of pasture land 20 acres.

In the first ten years there would be on the average a sprinkling of fruit:—

	£	s.	d.
During the succeeding 11 years the produce from 108 trees per acre one bushel average each at 8s. The market price is now 12s. 6d.	43	4	0
For 20 acres	20	0	0
	864	0	0
For 11 years	11	0	0
21)	9504	0	0
Average of 11 years spread over 21 years, per year	452	12	0

This, I think, must be considered a very good investment on £214 13s. 4d. required, as I have shown, to completely establish an orchard of 20 acres, the expense afterwards being merely a very little judicious pruning, and an occasional supervision to see guards and stakes properly in order.

Yours truly,
The Advocate of the Apple Orchard.

January 2nd, 1902.

BEST TREATMENT FOR FINGER AND TOE.

Sir,—I shall feel greatly obliged if you or any of your readers can give me any information as to the best treatment of land subject to finger and toe. Lime made from chalk at the rate of 160 bushels per acre is the remedy usually applied in this district, which is very costly. I have not read of any experiments with either basic slag or basic superphosphate, but should be glad to know if any have been made, and, if so, with what success.

Yours truly,
Gilbert Eames.

IMPROVED IMPLEMENTS AND MACHINERY.

Hardy Trenching Strutt and Automatic Slip Hook.

The Hardy Patent Pick Co., Ltd., of Sheffield, have recently introduced two novelties which are worthy of attention. One is the "Hardy" trenching strutt, a tool which will be appreciated by all interested in drainage or entrenching of any kind, for by its use the many falls which occur in trenching, the great waste of timber in strutting, and the loss due to unnecessary labour will be avoided. The barrel is of wrought steel tubing, 2½ inches in diameter, fitted with removable nuts, solid steel square-threaded screw, with flexible feet at each end for automatic adjustment to any irregularity in the trench sides. For trenching in rock the strut may also be used as a bar, from which boring machines for blasting may be worked. It is capable of extension from 27 inches to 42 inches, or may be made to any special dimensions desired. It will thus be seen that the tool is a very serviceable one in the work of drainage, etc.

The other new appliance is the "Hardy" Automatic Slip Hook for tipping tubs, loading and unloading buckets of all descriptions, and for the automatic release of large stones, iron, or blocks of any materials, without manual assistance. The tipping tub or box is provided with four eyebolts—two on each side; one at the back, and also a short chain at the mouth. When in use for tipping the box is hung by the two back side eyebolts and the hook to the short chain in front. As soon as the box rests on the tip or place at which it is desired to deliver the material, the spring lifts the handle, giving instantaneous release. It will be readily seen that with such an apparatus the services of a man to release the tub are not required.

The release is not effected until the load touches the place on which it is to be deposited, and the discharge is gradually brought about by the withdrawal of the box. There is no tipping action, therefore dust is reduced to a minimum, and, what is of great importance, there is an absence of breakage when dealing with friable materials.

Both the above new patents, of which the Hardy Patent Pick Co. are the sole manufacturers, have been thoroughly tested in practice and have given the greatest satisfaction.

Serious Floods.—Reports from North and South Wales show that the recent floods were of a most extensive character. The Severn, Dee, Conway, and Clwyd have been out of their courses for many miles, owing to the continuous rains and melting of snow in the mountainous districts. So high did the Dee rise that in the Vale of Llangollen the waters leaped over the chain bridge. The village of Bangorisycoed was surrounded and rendered inaccessible. Many farmers have sustained serious losses of sheep and cattle, and work had to be suspended at many Welsh mills.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL

Exports of Wheat Grown from the United States in 1901.

According to returns issued by the United States Treasury Department, the exports of wheat from that country for the ten months ended October 31st, 1901, exceeded the exports for the corresponding months in 1900 by 75,201,993 bushels; and exports of wheat flour for the same months in 1901 exceeded those for the corresponding period in 1900 by 552,744 barrels. Flour is usually expressed in bushels of wheat by counting 1 barrel of flour equivalent to 4½ bushels of wheat. Exports of wheat flour, therefore, for the first ten months of 1901 exceeded those of the corresponding period in 1900 by a quantity equivalent to 2,487,348 bushels of wheat; and the total exports of wheat and flour, as wheat, up to November 1, 1901, exceeded like exports for the same period in 1900 by 77,689,341 bushels, an increase of almost 52 per cent.

The total value of wheat and wheat flour exported during the first ten months of 1901 amounted to 172,309,733 dols., against a total of 114,022,100 dols. for exports in the corresponding period of 1900. The increase in the total value of exports of these products to November 1, 1901, over those of the same period in 1900 amounts to 58,287,633 dols., or over 51 per cent., corresponding very closely to the increase in exports as measured by quantity and indicating a remarkable steadiness in export prices during the two ten-month periods.

The following statement gives the quantities and values of wheat and flour exported during the first ten months of 1901 and 1900:—

	1901.		1900.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quality.	Value.
	Bushels.	Dollars.	Bushels.	Dollars.
Wheat ...	155,142,574	113,197,125	79,940,581	57,465,111
	Barrels.		Barrels.	
Flour ...	16,014,182	59,112,608	15,461,438	56,556,989

A fact which for some months has attracted much attention and discussion is that the remarkable increase in the 1901 exports of wheat and wheat flour, taken together is, upon analysis, found to be almost entirely due to increased exports of wheat; the exports of the manufactured article, flour, show little increasing tendency. In other words, exports of wheat in 1901, as shown in the above statement, have increased, as compared with those of 1900, about 94 per cent. in quantity and 97 per cent. in total value; exports of wheat flour, on the other hand, have increased only 3½ per cent. in quantity and about 4½ per cent. in total value.

In oyly two previous years within the past decade have exports of wheat from the United States been on an exceptionally large scale, as compared respectively with the years immediately preceding; but, in both, exports of flour have faield to increase in anything like a corresponding ratio. In 1898, owing to short crops in Europe, exports of wheat increased in quantity over those of 1897 by about 86 per cent., but exports of flour showed an increase of only about 5 per cent. In 1892 likewise, exports of wheat, as compared with those of the preceding year, increased by about 185 per cent., while exports of flour, though showing a more decidedly increasing tendency than in the other years mentioned, increased by only 34 per cent., a gain, however, which has never since been wholly lost.

The International Live Stock Exposition at Chicago.

The International Live Stock Exposition held in Chicago at the beginning of last month was a great success, and some idea of the estimation in which it was held by the breeders and Press in the United States may be gathered from the following extracts from a very lengthy report given in the "Breeders' Gazette," Chicago:—

"The expected happened. All records fell before the second International Live Stock Exposition. A milestone has been set in the forward movement of the industry. Another monument to the magnitude of the live stock trade has been built. The faith of the promoters of this show met with full fruition. Projected in confidence, born of knowledge, planned with breadth and liberality, nurtured with ceaseless and intelligent care, this creation of the organised efforts of breeders of meat-making animals assumed the proportions and dignity befitting the industry, and writ a new record in magnitude, character and spectacular display. All that had been hoped for was realised. Appreciative of the opportunity for a grand exposition of the industry, grateful to the corporate enterprise that made it possible, cognisant of the supreme importance of the show which leaped into life almost in a day, the breeders and feeders of America made royal returns. The second International Live Stock Exposition, which claimed the attention of the world at Chicago, set a new mark for the expanding industry which it illustrated, and closed the records of a remarkable year in marvellous manner. Standing beside it, it towers so magnificently as even to dwarf the memory of its predecessor. Viewing it as it recedes, it assumes place as the capsheaf of live stock expositions of the world."

The national scope of the Exposition was typified in the presence of the Hon. James Wilson, Secretary of Agriculture, on the opening night, and by the attendance of Governor Yates, of Illinois; Governor Shaw, of Iowa; Governor Bliss, of Michigan; Governor van Zant, of Minnesota, and Governor Savage, of Nebraska. An international air was lent, not only by the exhibits from Canada and by the presence of animals imported from across the seas, but also by the official representations of a number of foreign countries. Two representatives of the Governments of Argentine, Germany, and Italy were present, and one each from Belgium, Japan, Mexico, and Central America.

Few shows have been better judged. With the exception of two or three glaring instances of incompetency, the record in this regard is a gratifying one. Considerable of the complaint current during the past season has been stilled by the work of the judges, most of whom were men experienced in the responsibilities of the position. A single judge was used in the competitions under the management of the executive committee of the International, and in some of the breed shows where the suggestion of that committee was heeded. In other sections the two-judge system with alternating referee was in use. The marked celerity of the work of the single judges was in sharp contrast to the tedious examinations and consultations of the committees, and furnished a potent argument for the adoption of the one-judge plan where the rings are so large as at this show.

In this connection it is a great pleasure to record an appreciative word of the very clever work of Mr. James Peter, Berkeley, Eng., who allotted positions among the grades and crosses in the fat stock show and selected the champions in that section. Keen-eyed and keen-witted, intelligent in discrimination, clear as to type, and quick to discern and conclude, the work of Mr. Peter among the bullocks furnished one of the most satisfactory records ever left by a judge at our fat stock shows. His breadth of view, his thorough appreciation of the superior stock submitted to his inspection, and the excellent taste in which his comments were couched, appealed to the consideration of all and won him a place high in the esteem of those who were privileged to make his acquaintance or follow his work.

The fat stock show proved alike a disappointment and a source of gratification. Undeniably the single animal classes were not up to expectation. Of course a two-year-old bullock cannot be made in a year, but the younger classes did not show that preparation for the future which the re-establishment of the fat stock show demanded. The "toppers" were bell-ringers that sounded clear and convincing notes; the champions by ages and the grand champion and reserve were clinkers—of grand character, object-lessons of rare value, an enduring credit to their breeders and fitters. But the sub-standard sorts were far too much in evidence. Breeders must address themselves to this problem quickly and seriously. The carload lots redeemed the show. Little wonder is it that Mr. Peter expressed the greatest regret that his time-limit would not permit him to visit the ranches, the farms and the feed lots of the West and Central West where such grand bullocks as he saw in the pens are bred and fed. Marvellous has been the improvement in our beef stocks, and the International is the prophet of this industry.

It was "white-face" year. The gloom cast so long by the colour of the dusky "lack-skins" over the Christmas spirits of the advocates of other breeds has been dispelled. The grand champion of the show was a pedigreed Hereford and the champion car-load lot was composed of grade Herefords bred in the Pan-handle. The "blacks" made a gallant fight, but this time got no higher than second place. As to the Shorthorns—shall we be obliged to import bullocks as well as breeding cattle to win?

The horses emphasised their claims to positions in this show. Rarely has such an exhibit of breeding horses been assembled, and certainly this country never witnessed such displays of draft horses in harness. The days of horse breeding have returned. All breeds were creditably represented in the classes for breeding horses and some of the rings were sensational. Local interest added greatly to the throngs which witnessed the contest among the packers in the harness classes, but the constituency which was drawn out by the displays of breeding horses was very large. Memorable was the exhibition, and record-breaking the sales of stallions and mares directly resulting from it.

Sheep and swine furnished one of the most imposing exhibits yet chronicled. Taken all together, considering the strength of the wether classes in numbers and character, it is doubtful if such a show has ever been assembled. Britain and the Continent had been searched for sheep, and a few of the swine had made the trip across the seas.

Corn Exchange New Year's Notices.

The London Corn Trade Association contract forms for 1902 contain material modifications from 1901. They should therefore be acquired as soon as possible from the offices, at 2, Line Street Square, Fenchurch Street. Books containing all the forms are supplied.

Messrs. Schwartz and Dupee, the well-known wheat brokers, of Chicago, retire as from January 1st, Messrs. J. F. Harris and E. W. Kalb, by arrangement, succeeding them and taking over their connection.

The London Flour Trade Association have elected Mr. Langdon and Messrs. Byrne, Mahony and Co. as members from the new year. This brings up the list of members to sixty-four, which is the highest number yet attained.

Messrs. Harter and Co., of Manchester, will be represented in London by Mr. Percy Brandon, at 147, Fenchurch Street, E.C.

The Corn Exchange smoking concert is fixed for 8 p.m., at Cannon Street Hotel, on January 29th. The receipts are applied to the benefit of corn factors and their clerks who have fallen into want, and so well is the concert supported that although the tickets are only 2s. each a net profit of £50 is obtained in a good year. We hope it will be surpassed for 1902.

Tickets for the Corn Exchange concert may be had of Mr. Sydney Young, the secretary to the Exchange, who kindly offers his services in this not unimportant respect. Mr. Young's office is in the passage leading from the Old Market into Seething Lane.

Mr. Scaramanga, one of the leading Greek merchants at the Baltic, has retired from business. The firm of Scaramanga and Eumorphopoulos is dissolved, and the business will be carried on under the name of the Brothers Eumorphopoulos.

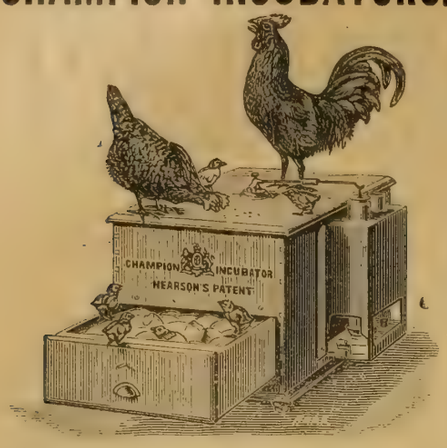
Mr. Frank Cyril Tiarks has been admitted a member of the firm of Messrs. Schroder and Co.

Berlin Term Market re-opens for 1902 with forward quotations for May wheat, rye and rape oil. Forward prices for maize are also licensed, but no grain has as yet been tendered. The defeat of the Kaiser's restrictions seems tolerably complete.

The Rapeseed Committee announce that from January 1st standard samples can be inspected at Camomile Street Chambers, close to the Baltic's present quarters at the Liverpool Street Station Hotel.

Among the town houses sold have been Stratheden House, Hyde Park, for over £80,000; Nos. 2 and 8, Belgrave Square, S.W., for £20,000 and £21,000 respectively; No. 8, Stratton Street, S.W., £20,000; No. 2, Palace Green, Kensington (Thackeray's house), £15,500; and the historic house, No. 4, Whitehall. Metropolitan and City sites, offices, and mansions disposed of included the area occupied by the Indigent Blind Schools in St. George's Circus, for £140,000; a site in the Haymarket, W., for £60,000; a site of 600ft. in Great Marlborough Street, £13,750; 3,800ft. in Bishopsgate Street, £30,000; 10,000ft. in Kensington Court, W., £12,000; 7,917ft., in Beech Street, Barbican, £20,000; Nos. 62 and 63, New Bond Street, W., and Nos. 15 to 17A, Brook Street, £70,000; No. 37, Cornhill, 752ft. super., £40,800; Nos. 7 to 10, South Place, Finsbury, £33,750; 15,000ft. super., in Ely Place, Holborn, £36,500.

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EGG-PRODUCING
POULTRY POWDER.

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It has by far the largest sale of any similar preparation, and all poultry-keepers, from the humble cottager with his pen of four or five barn door fowls to the large breeder and exhibitor, speak of it in glowing terms (see testimonials). It is the best poultry tonic on the market, and its use guarantees
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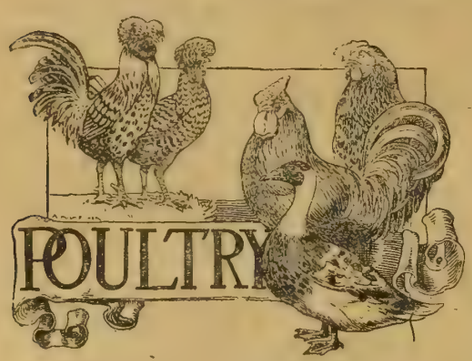
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60 " " ...	2	15	0
30 " " ...	2	7	

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Eggs and the Egg Trade.*

By A. NEWPORT.

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My subject for this lecture is "Eggs and the Egg Trade,"* and I am delighted to have the opportunity of speaking upon a topic upon which I have long had very strong opinions. It will be a relief to me to be able to point the little items whereby we allow our trade in this commodity to be wrested from us by the foreign producer. Also I shall be glad to disturb some of the existing fallacies with regard to English and foreign eggs. Some of you are probably aware of a few of these points, but others I believe I speak of for the first time, and though it may not be pleasant to us poultry keepers, yet I believe the best way of combating a danger is to first recognise it and then face it boldly. To begin with, let us go into the matter of the egg itself. This is roughly divisible into three distinct portions—the shell, the white, and the yolk. The shell is composed of granules of carbonate of lime; but these granules do not form a perfect covering, and so the shell is porous, that is to say, there are numerous holes through it. I dare say most of you already know this, but I doubt whether you appreciate to what extent they exist. For home proof, take a cold, raw egg—new-laid or otherwise—drop it into a tumbler of warm water and watch the effect. The air held between the granules expands with the heat and rises in bubbles, giving somewhat the effect of soda water. This proves then that the shell is porous, and you can readily understand that evaporation takes place through the shell. Nor is this all that comes of this porosity, and I shall have occasion to refer to it again in a moment.

The next part, the white or albumen, contains about 86 per cent. of water. This quantity varies, and I dare say you have noticed (particularly the ladies who use cooking eggs) that some eggs are more gelatinous and others more watery than the average. This wateriness is particularly noticeable at times in the Mediterranean goods such as Italians, and they are styled "weak," that is, the keeping powers are not great, owing to the large percentage of water. As soon as this water begins to evaporate, the albumen becomes the victim of the microbe and decomposition starts. The albumen contains sulphur, and this gives rise in time to that decidedly unpleasant smell, sulphuretted hydrogen, that accompanies an egg kept too long. This decomposition in turn reacts upon the third portion, the yolk, and those of you who have ever had the misfortune to be in the vicinity of a broken, addled egg, or a very stale specimen indeed, know how powerful the gas is that is freed when the shell is broken.

All these defects are owing, primarily, to the porosity of the shell; but, as I promised, they are not only drawbacks that follow its decomposition, for in addition to creating bad odours within itself, this delicate composition, the egg, is greedily voracious in acquiring foreign flavours, that is to say, it is capable of taking and retaining the smell and tastes of other substances. At one time this caused a lot of trouble in certain portions of the trade, viz., the Moroccos, and it was some time before we could persuade the shippers in those countries to use more care. The complaint was that the eggs always possessed a certain "faint" flavour, and this was owing to having travelled in ships that carried fruits, *e.g.*, oranges, as part of their cargo, the flavour of the fruit being seized upon and retained by the eggs, giving thereby the "faintness" so objectionable. Even now we occasionally get eggs that travel in fruit ships, and they are spoken of as "fruity," and so lose value.

The retailers, too, are often worried by this power of acquisition of other flavours that the egg possesses, for example: The housewife or servant goes out shopping, and in the course of her perambulations purchases, say, onions, fish, fruit, and eggs. These are all deposited in the same receptacle—the market bag, or basket—and possibly left there till wanted for use, with the result that the shopkeeper gets a scolding at the next visit for selling eggs, warranted perhaps new-laid, and which were "Oh, so nasty!" "No; they were not absolutely bad, but had a funny taste."

The English Egg Trade.

I think I have now said sufficient to show you to what variation the flavour and goodness of the egg is subject, and how it can be influenced for the better by care and fore-thought. I shall now proceed to speak of the trade in English eggs, and endeavour to show you where the faults mostly occur. I am not going to be at all merciful in my comments, for I consider the time for tolerance has passed, and if I condemn the English egg as a whole, you can rely upon it, the reproof is well earned. You will say, "How do I know that?" I can answer that I speak of these things as I find them, and I find them bad. I don't want to put any of you off poultry-keeping for egg-production, but it will be just as well to cut deeply whilst I am about it.

As I said at the beginning, I am glad to have this opportunity of laying bare the bad places, and giving you the knowledge of where faults lay. I shall now speak of the English egg, and shall enumerate some of the faults. We are much too easy-going, too ready to overlook mistakes and errors of calculation and judgment, and whilst we are behaving like this the foreigner is stepping in and taking our trade by his acuteness and general business methods. Who has not heard that we spend five or six million pounds a year on foreign eggs? And why? Because the foreigners have managed their trade better than we have. I admit there are other influences at work, but we don't occupy that position in the market that we easily could. As I see them, English eggs are unsorted, unreliable, dirty, badly packed, the supply is irregular, also they are not obtainable in large quantities. Speaking in detail on these points, I dare say I shall convey to you, by comparison, some idea of the foreign trade.

Sorting Eggs.

First of all they are unsorted. This is not a very grave fault, as the English trade is at present, but if we grow more pretentious in other details, this will need alteration also. The assortment is made in two ways, viz., weight and colour. In weight we want more uniformity. If I open a hamper of English eggs, what do I get? A part as large as marbles, some of medium size, and the rest large eggs, some of which are monstrosities in shape. This causes me trouble, both in fixing the price returned, and in selling. Then as to colour. It is a fallacy to suppose the consumer does not care about the colour so long as the contents are good. This may be the experience of those who have a private sale for small quantities, but it never answers in trade. Give customers the chance of choosing between chalky-white and coloured eggs at the same price, and the latter always go first. I admit there is nothing different in the interior, but the eye takes more kindly to the brown than to its white neighbour, and in retailing eggs, to please the eye goes a long way. I have here a list of one week's prices from one of the biggest firms in London, and I quote as examples: Italians (all white), 17lb., 11s. per 120, down to 13lb. at 7s. 3d.; French (all brown), 14s.; white, 12s., a difference of 2s. per hundred on account of colour. Styrians (blues), about 75 per cent. coloured, 15lbs. 9s. 6d. reds, smaller and more white, 7s. 3d.; English new laid, so-called, 17s. 6d.; Moroccos, the marbles of the present season, 6s. 6d.; Glycerine Canadians, 7s. 6d. Home-grown, genuine English new-laids are worth as much as you can get for them. Referring to weight. The standard weights are 11, 13, 14, up to 18lb., and if you do not know what an advantage it is to me to buy by weight, I will tell you. If I buy 11lbs. eggs, I know just what size I am getting, and that they will be all of the same size. Let me say that the foreigner is generally a shade over, rather than under, the specified weight; and if I prefer coloured to whites, I must pay an increased price for them, but I can depend upon getting what I pay for. Another advantage is, there is less inducement to the man selling by weight to keep back his eggs, as they evaporate in keep and lose weight.

Unreliability.

This is one of the points upon which the wholesaler is very keen, and it is a ground of serious complaint against English eggs. It is only one perhaps among the others, but it is the one the broker is most ready in quoting. I can recall the names of several firms who used to work genuine

*A lecture delivered under the auspices of the Utility Poultry Club by Mr. A. Newport.

English eggs, but now do not do so. I will guarantee that if I went into the stores of the ten largest brokers in London I should not find an egg of English origin. Why? The answer they give is, "unreliable." Again, suppose we discover that a case of foreign eggs is not in such good condition as the price warrants, we can obtain an abatement or return them. Another of the fallacies I want to draw attention to is this: People think that all foreign eggs are in a state of incipient or advanced rottenness, and no matter how old an English egg may be, the foreigners are worse. This is decidedly not so. The eggs from abroad are put on the market in absolutely prime and fresh condition.

This gives me the opportunity of speaking upon *Blending*. This is one of the greatest menaces that the winter English new-laid (genuine) has to contend with. It has got to be quite a large trade to send best quality foreign eggs out of London, to be unpacked, repacked, and returned to London as new-laid. Could this be done if the foreign eggs are rotten? When they come back they make up to 17s. 6d. per hundred. The eggs so treated are principally the all-brown French, but lately these have been too dear, and so Styrians are used. About a month ago French were making more money than English; and I have known French eggs sold here for 11s. 3d., for which the packers were paying the peasant producer at the rate of 12s. 6d. Rather than lose touch with their customers they are prepared to sacrifice a little.

As illustrating the blending, here are one or two instances. One firm has a weekly customer in the country for twenty cases of Styrians (best blues at 9s. 6d.), and these are re-packed as genuine English. Another mixes four English with eight foreign to the dozen, and so on to no end. Also French eggs travelling from St. Nazaire via Newhaven, circulate in tons through the southern counties, and eventually arrive in London as new-laids. Returning to the question of freshness, I have done a great deal of artificial incubation, and tried to hatch eggs from almost every country that sends them to us, and successfully with French, Italian, Styrian, Danish, and Austrian. Russian I have just been again experimenting with, though without result, nor do the Canadians hatch, owing to the glycerine and chilling chamber.

Dirtiness.

is the next point. I need not say much upon this after what I have told you of the porosity of the shell, and the acquisitiveness of the contents. The foreigners sort all these out most religiously, and sell them at about 2s. per hundred less than the clean ones. They know, and I want you to remember, that a dirty egg not only spoils itself, but several others in the immediate vicinity.

Packing.

This is another department in which we fall short, and it will continue, I suppose, until all the other faults are remedied. Taken side by side with other countries we are not in it in this section, nor shall we be until we can bulk many small supplies together and get them treated expertly. You must not think that the vast consignments from abroad are the production of a few large farms. No! They are the converged produce of many small poultry keepers.

Take the Russian, for instance. The district from which their eggs, poultry, and butter come is badly served by travelling facilities, and the buyers post up notices at the canal locks and railway stations, saying that so-and-so will attend on given dates to buy specified produce. That is quite sufficient; and on the days named the goods are brought, bought, and forwarded by the agents to the depots to be there properly dealt with. This is where we lose. We could do this if we chose, but our independent spirit does not fall that way.

As things are at present the division box is perhaps the best packing; but if you pack your eggs in an open box, put them in clean, sweet straw, as hay is too compressible, and they seldom arrive in good order if placed in it. Pack three layers of eggs only—it requires an expert to manage four. Allow plenty of straw to line the case and separate the layers. In closing, press down the whole firmly and evenly; but only experience can give the necessary knowledge, and egg-packing is an art that very few in this country possess.

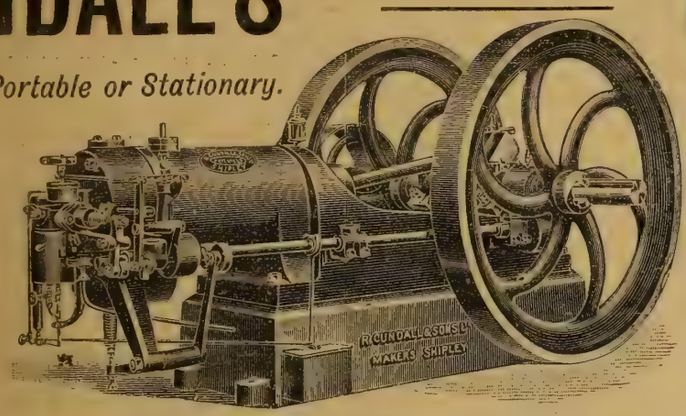
(To be continued.)

Already the golden-flowered winter aconite is beginning to expand its green-frilled blossoms in sheltered spots, and this will soon be followed by the snowdrops, crocuses, narcissi, tulips, and many more. A sadly-neglected class of hardy spring-flowering plants are the lenten roses (Hellebores); these have handsome blossoms of rose, pink, purple, and similar colours, often finely spotted, and are very floriferous and useful. Seed of Hollyhocks, Pyrethrum (P. roseum), Delphiniums, Aquilegias, Antirrhinums, and a few other perennials, as well as of the biennial Coreopsis grandiflora, sown this month in a gentle heat will produce flowering plants in the course of the coming season.

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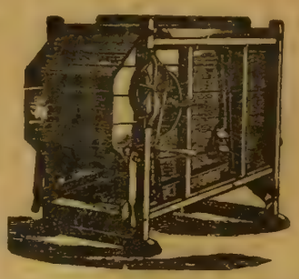
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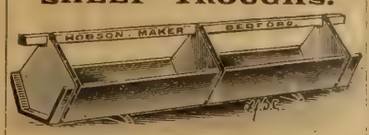
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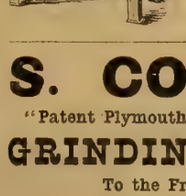
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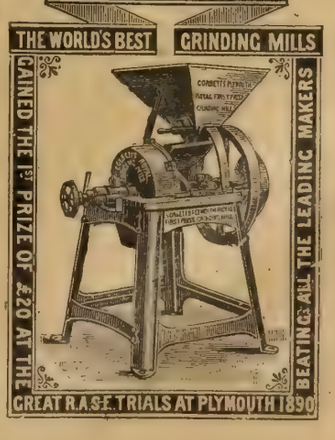
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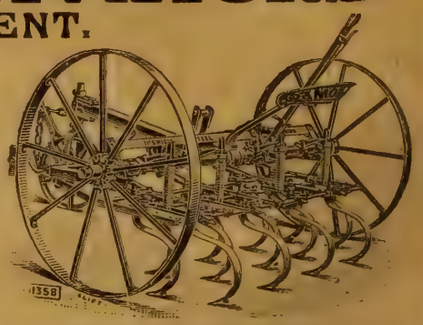
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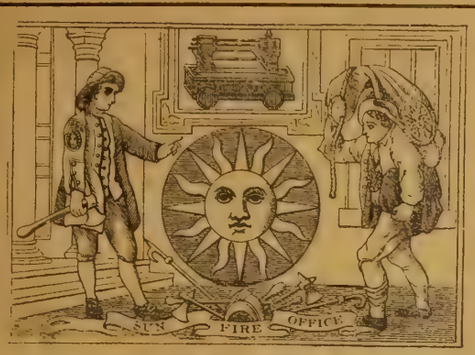
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FOOD SUPPLIES: OUR PRESENT POSITION.

What is the salient fact about the past year on the London Corn Exchange? It is the undisturbed and unbroken cheapness of bread. The price of the best white loaf in the West-End has been a level fivepence from January to December, while fourpence-halfpenny has been the usual suburban value, and fourpence that of wholesale cash contracts. The matter would be one for congratulation if the material for the loaf, from the first labour of the sower to the removal of the loaf itself from the oven, could be supplied at the price. But it cannot, and thus the new century starts with a declining wheat average. The price of straw, the necessity of rotations, above all the force of custom, combine to keep the acreage at a higher figure than wheat prices justify, but the stream of tendency is inevitable, and if the prices to rule in the twentieth century do not exceed those which thus far have ruled wheat culture will cease in England before the half-way-house of 1950 is reached. Fifty years is so little in the life of a great nation that we may fairly speak of the crisis as already imminent.

The competition of foreign wheat is, of course, a leading cause of the depression in the home-grown grain. The population of the wheat-consuming countries increases year by year, and it is probable that the annual consumption of wheat in the civilised lands is augmented by not less than four million quarters annually. Hitherto, however, the area of new land ploughed and sown with wheat has exceeded two million acres annually, and as new land produces perhaps an average of three quarters per acre, supply has got ahead of demand. The future in this matter depends on not very many countries, but they are optimists who hold that the stream of competition in wheat has already culminated. Argentina, South-Eastern Europe, and the Canadian North-West are now the only regions where new land remains in any quantity to be subdued to the plough. We refer to land fit for growing wheat, and for obvious reasons we omit South Africa, where unprecedented conditions prevail. From La Plata we do not expect increased wheat supplies; on the contrary, it is likely that the figures of 1894, 1899, and 1900 will remain a high-water mark. But the other two possibilities are not calculable.

South-Eastern Europe includes Roumania, Servia, Bulgaria, Greece, with Crete and the other islands, and Turkey in Europe. Only one of these five political units is under anything like a good Government, and that one, Roumania, though neither the largest or the most fertile, has shown an advance in agriculture and resulting exports perfectly surprising. The corn trade can only watch political developments; it cannot influence them. But we must be prepared for a great increase in production in this long-neglected quarter of the world. This is not a statistical article, but we give elsewhere a special return of Roumanian grain exports, not previously published. It will, we think, surprise many of our readers. With respect to the Canadian North-West, fuller information is needed, and should be forthcoming. Mr. Hanbury might well reappoint the commission on which Mr. Read and Mr. Pell did yeomen service about twenty years ago. The conditions then existing have been completely changed, both by the Pacific Railway and by the extraordinary fall in ocean-borne freights.

Competition has yet to culminate. The American wheat area may be called stationary, but during 1901 the depression of Mark Lane has been very largely due to American influences. America is determined to seize the manufacturing profit, as it is called, in other words, is interested in delivering flour rather than wheat. There is a saving in the offals which are retained for stock use in America; there is a saving in freights and there is a saving in the continued use of machinery. America is fully aware of all this, and thus we have closed 1901 with wheat mending a little on the year, but household flour a florin down. The depression in London makes of flour is directly due to American competition. There was on the market at Christmas a plethora of fine and strong flour from the United States, and the London miller asking 24s. for his town household would have found the baker able to buy the choicest products of the famed Minnesota mills at the same price, or even at about sixpence less. The farmer was not helped by the miller in 1846, and is inclined to take little interest in the latter's difficulties now. This, however, is a short-sighted policy; all the agricultural interests must stand or fall together. The millers in 1901 have appointed a committee to investigate and see if the English wheat cannot be so strengthened as to be more largely useable in ordinary milling mixtures. But the protection of the mill stands on a different footing to a duty on imported wheat, and the taxation of foreign flour would not raise the price of bread if wheat continued to come in free. Farmers can be helped in other ways than by an import duty on corn.

It seems but yesterday that there was a scare about maize being used to adulterate wheat. The year that has just closed has "changed all that," and maize is now almost as dear as wheat. Rice is quite as dear, and it may therefore be taken for granted that in 1901 we have enjoyed a remarkably pure and unadulterated loaf. The use of rye-bread in 1901 has scarcely increased, but the property a rye-loaf has of keeping moist and palatable for quite three days is one which the ordinary consumer should bear in mind at Bank Holidays and other times when the baker is irregular. Large families, where much bread is eaten, might well take a rye loaf weekly as a pleasant and healthy variant. The wholemeal and other so-called hygienic loaves do not make any great advance in use, and the buckwheat recently imported in increased supply has been for poultry and pheasants. In France and America buckwheat cakes are deservedly appreciated by children. They are healthy and very rich in fattening matter, so that they might well be tried here.

Rolled oats and oatmeal have increased in favour for human consumption in 1901. The use of lentils for soup, &c., has, on the other hand died away in a remarkable manner, this form of pulse being no longer emphasised even at the vegetarian restaurants. The imports have fallen to a figure which is quite trivial. Haricot beans show a small advance in London favour, but it is surprising how seldom they are served at the ordinary middle-class table, though in nutritious value they stand extremely high, and the wholesale price, three-halfpence per pound, enables the householder

to add a useful vegetable to the table at a twopence per pound level. Cornflour at present high prices is not so remunerative as it was in the nineties, but the profits on confectionery and fancy cakes are high also, and in this branch of baking it is the securing of custom which is the great thing. From time to time the Londoner is advised to bake his own bread, make his own cakes, and otherwise save the middleman's profit. It only remains to state that 1901 has shown no material signs of such advice being taken. The consumption of breadstuffs in London, however, appears to be influenced rather noticeably by the cheapness and abundance of green vegetables, and although the population of the metropolitan area increases by fifty thousand persons annually the total imports of breadstuffs into that area do not need to be increased. The best judges are of opinion that London grain food wants have been stationary for the last three years, the decline in the consumption per head of population about balancing the increased number of people to be fed.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE.

The law of school attendance has been the subject of so much tinkering in recent years that it is not surprising that a good deal of doubt exists as to the provisions at present in force. The confusion arising from the various enactments, depending for comprehension on constant reference to other statutes, and to bye-laws varying in different localities, might well daunt all but the most indefatigable inquirers. When therefore we were asked recently by a correspondent to discuss the law of school attendance we hesitated at first to embark on a task which for its adequate discharge would demand more space than is at our disposal for the purpose.

However, we do not forget that we exist for our readers, and if we can be of any assistance to them in any particular direction, we are only too glad to have the opportunity of helping them. We have therefore endeavoured to summarise the law of school attendance in rural districts, in the shape of the following epitome.

All children between the ages of five and twelve years must attend school full time, with the single exception of children employed in agriculture, where special bye-laws authorising such employment have been adopted. The school authorities, however, are under no duty or obligation to make bye-laws to facilitate the employment of children in agriculture, and if they fail to do so the ordinary rule will apply. If the local bye-laws so provide, a child who has reached eleven years of age may claim partial exemption, under the following conditions:—

(*a*) The parent must give notice to the local authority that the child is to be employed in agriculture.

(*b*) The child must have reached the standard named in the bye-laws as qualifying for partial exemption.

(*c*) The child cannot claim total exemption until the age of thirteen is reached; and

(*d*) The child must attend school 250 times in each year between the ages of eleven and thirteen.

Between the ages of twelve and thirteen a child must attend school full time, unless he has reached the standard fixed by the local bye-laws for either partial or total exemption.

If the bye-laws do not provide for partial exemption, then full time attendance is compulsory until the total exemption standard has been reached.

Between the ages of thirteen and fourteen, if the local bye-laws extend to a child of the age of fourteen years, then a child between these ages must attend school until either partially or totally exempted by the bye-laws. If the bye-laws do not so extend, then the child must attend school until he has either passed Standard IV. or has attained a certificate of having made 350 attendances after five years of age, in not more than two schools during each year for five years. These years need not be consecutive.

There are three exceptions which are held to be reasonable excuses for the non-attendance of a child who ought to attend school, viz.:—

1. That the child is under efficient instruction in some other manner.
2. That the child is prevented from attending school by sickness or any unavoidable cause. The members of a school authority and the magistrates have an unlimited discretion as to what constitutes an "unavoidable cause."
3. That there is no public elementary school open which the child can attend within three miles. The bye-laws, however, generally cut down the distance exemption to two miles.

The maximum penalty for breach of bye-laws for school attendance has recently been increased from 5s. to £1.

The bye-laws frequently provide that children twelve years of age shall be totally exempt on passing a certain standard. It will be noticed, however, that if advantage is taken of a bye-law permitting children to be employed in agriculture on reaching eleven years of age, such children are bound to make up their lost time by remaining at school till thirteen, even though they pass the standard for total exemption; but they need not make more than 250 attendances in any year if they have passed the standard fixed for partial exemption. The bye-laws may provide that those 250 attendances must be made within a specified period or periods of the year, leaving the child totally free for the remainder of the year.

The employment during school hours of children legally liable to attend school is prohibited under a penalty of 40s., unless such children can claim total or partial exemption. This exemption does not accrue merely by being placed by the schoolmaster in a particular standard. The child must be specially examined by an inspector of schools and must obtain a labour certificate before it can be employed.

Thus there is a considerable risk in employing boys or girls under fourteen years of age. If the child is only thirteen years old, even if there be no bye-law requiring him to attend until he is fourteen, he cannot lawfully be employed until he has obtained a certificate that he has passed Standard IV. or made 350 attendances per annum for at least five years. If he be under thirteen, but over twelve, his employment is illegal until he obtains a certificate of partial or total exemption, whilst if he be under twelve it is illegal to employ him at all (during school hours) except in agriculture, and then only if he has reached eleven years of age, and has obtained a certificate of partial exemption, and only in those districts where a bye-law permitting such employment has been formally made.

Vines of the Black Hamburgh, Buckland Sweetwater, or Foster's Seedling varieties may be started at any time now, whether planted out or in large pots, but of course pruning them and cleaning the house down well previously. Pot Vines are very convenient, especially in small gardens, as a few can be brought into a forcing or other warm house at any time, and started.

Be very cautious in ventilating vines all through the spring, and until the leaves are well developed and have attained some degree of substance, as a current of cold air acting on the young and tender foliage, even for a short time, is almost certain to induce an attack of mildew. A temperature of about 55 degs. at night is usually sufficient until the first leaves are well expanded, and the trusses of bloom beginning to show, when 5 degs. more should be afforded, if possible. Maintain a nice, sweet, moist atmosphere at all times, and mulch the borders with some good, half-decayed manure.



By a Man of Mark Lane.

It has been pointed out to me that the recent visit of a Russian deputation for the purpose of studying English agriculture is not an unprecedented event. The *Bath Chronicle* of February 10th, 1780, contains this announcement:—"Bath Agriculture, &c., Society meeting, held February 8th, 1780. Monsieur Komhoff, from Russia, now in England, by order of the Empress, for the purpose of studying agriculture, being proposed and elected an honorary and correspondent member, the secretary is directed to inform him by letter of such election." I may mention that the "Bath Agriculture, &c., Society" is now the Bath and West and Southern Counties Society, which, under its earlier name, was founded in 1777.

It is stated that the Royal Commission on Arsenical Poisoning, presided over by Lord Kelvin, will resume its sittings soon after the opening of Parliament. A considerable volume of evidence has yet to be collected, and many offers of expert testimony have been made, but it is not thought that the inquiry will be protracted. A final report will probably see the light within three or four months.

In France the agricultural year of 1901 has left behind it, according to the "Journal d'Agriculture Pratique," nothing but disappointment. After the harvesting of the very medium cereal crops growers had counted upon a rapid improvement in prices. Some advance, it is true, did take place, but it was slow in progress and fell short of expectations. The decline in the price of alcohol and sugar has been seriously felt in the northern districts, whilst the midland departments have suffered not less owing to the over-production of wine. France experienced heavy falls of rain, rough winds, and high temperatures during the week before last, and the latter helped on the later-sown wheats. Wheat and winter oats are receiving more attention from northern growers on account of the discouraging prices they have been receiving for sugar-beet. In the western districts also winter oats have been more largely sown. The crop outlook is regarded as satisfactory.

The Board of Trade returns issued on Tuesday show that the imports for last month were £46,770,097, against £46,446,662 in December, 1900, being an increase of £323,435. The exports for December amounted to £24,313,777, as compared with £23,611,972 for same month of 1900, an increase of £701,805. The imports for the year ended December 31st were £522,238,986, against £523,075,163 in 1900, being a decrease of £836,177. The exports for last year amounted to £280,498,889, as compared with £291,191,996 in 1900, a decrease of £10,693,107.

The Bengal Department of Land Records and Agriculture has issued its final report on the winter rice crop of Bengal, 1901, in the course of which it is stated that on the whole the weather was unfavourable for the crop. The normal area under the winter rice crop in this Province is estimated at 30,443,600 acres. The area actually sown this year is estimated at 28,727,200 acres, as compared with 28,474,400 acres sown last year, the increase being due to seasonable weather during transplantation.

Out of the 45 districts in the Province, only eight (24-Parganas, Darjeeling, Pabna, Faridpur, Backerganj, Noakhali, Chittagong, and Manbhum) estimate an outturn of 100 per cent. or over. Mymensingh and Dacca expect 93 and 94 per cent., respectively. In six districts (Birbhum, Bankura, Midnapore, Jalpai-

guri, Tippera, and Puri) the estimate varies between 80 and 89 per cent., and in nine it varies from 70 to 79 per cent. In 14 others the outturn is estimated at between 50 and 69 per cent., while the remaining six districts show an outturn below 50 per cent. Saran, with a 25 per cent. crop, being the worst in the whole province. In all the Bihar districts the crop has been a failure. This is due to the serious deficiency of the June and October rains.

The final estimates made by the District Officers give an outturn of only 74 per cent. for the whole province, but the directors of the department mentioned above estimated the outturn at 75 per cent., or a twelve-anna crop, for the province as a whole. Taking the provincial outturn at 75 per cent., the gross outturn for the province will amount to about 237,439,100 cwts. this year, as compared with an estimated outturn of 263,591,600 cwts. in 1900.



Basic Slag Deficient in Phosphates.

John W. Proctor and Richard Thompson, trading as Richardson and Co., chemical manure manufacturers, York, were summoned at the Leicester County Police Court on the 4th inst., under the Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Act, 1893, for selling basic slag which was deficient in phosphates.

Mr. Rowlatt, on behalf of the County Council, said the defendants were large traders at York, who had gained, he did not hesitate to say, a well-earned reputation, and he did not believe that they would be guilty intentionally of the offence charged against them.

Evidence was given showing that Mr. Garrett, agent for the estates of Lord Stamford, ordered the best basic slag from the defendants at 43s. 7d. per ton, but samples taken from the slag delivered were found on analysis to contain 7 per cent. less phosphates than the standard fixed for the lowest quotation.

Mr. W. Simpson, for the defendants, stated that when the order was placed for the basic slag they had not it in stock, and they sent on to Messrs. Smith and Morris to execute the order, and that firm having no slag on hand executed the order through another firm, who occupied a high position in the trade, and were in fact the largest dealers. The defendants paid a full price for the slag, so that it was not a case of getting an inferior article and charging it as the best to Mr. Garrett. There was no moral offence, and if there was anything wrong with the sample they were anxious to make it good.

Mr. Thompson, one of the defendants, gave evidence in support of this statement, and Mr. George Morris, of the firm of Messrs. Smith and Morris, said they supplied the slag as asked for, and as of the best quality.

Mr. Simpson asked to be allowed to call a member of the firm who supplied the slag, but the Bench stated that they were quite satisfied as to the standing of all the parties.

After consulting in private, the Magistrates stated that they had decided to convict, but as this was the first case to be brought before them they were inclined to deal with it as a test case. The defendants were fined 20s., and costs 52s.

Berwick Shepherds' and Farm Stewards' Hirings.—There was a fair attendance of shepherds and farm stewards at the annual hiring market held at Berwick on 4th. Numbers are now engaged by means of advertisement, but, nevertheless, the parties take an opportunity like this to meet one another. In consequence of the varying conditions under which shepherds are hired it is impossible to give any distinct figures regarding the terms of their engagements, but farm stewards were generally receiving 18s. to £1 per week, with the usual perquisites. The money and stock wages of shepherds were stated to be practically the same as before.



By a Lobbyist.

It would be ridiculous not to pay a great heed to the recent speech of M. A. E. Pease and the recent letter of Sir G. Giffen. They have the utmost and the gravest significance for the agricultural interest. Let me take Mr. Pease's speech first. I attach significance to that speech because it illustrates the fact which I have more than once laid down that the Liberal party is abandoning its old fetish-adoration for what I prefer to call anti-Protection. Mr. Pease may be described as a lineal descendant of the leaders of the Manchester school. A Quaker by descent, he has inherited many of the sympathies of that profession, and has reflected heretofore not a few of its prejudices. Yet it is this man who has advised the levying of a registration duty of one or two shillings per quarter upon all wheat imported into this country. I am not going to minimise the significance of this declaration by any comments. Its importance is best indicated by its own unchastened directness. It means the loosening of the bond; it means the relinquishment of a narrow idea conceived only for the benefit of the great urban princes; it means that Liberalism is at last becoming aware of the parlous state into which agriculture is drifting. It is enough to say this. The rural world should appreciate its import.

The declaration of Sir G. Giffen is of even a graver moment. It is all very well for Sir Michael Hicks-Beach to dub him an "amateur financier." It is a stupid description. Giffen—for the future will not apply any prefix to his name—is probably the greatest economist of his time. He is officially regarded as a statistician; but he is infinitely greater than that, for the statistician is, after all, little better than an accurate recording machine. Giffen belongs to the line of Mill and Fawcett—never forget this. Yet it is this man of all others who has not hesitated to advise the Chancellor of the Exchequer to impose a tax upon foreign grain. Again, I am not going to emphasise this fact. I deliberately desire it to stand by itself. Giffen is a great economist; and, I repeat, of the line of Mill and Fawcett. His declaration is another indication of the loosening of the bond—of the return of Liberalism to sanity. I heard a Liberal M.P. declare to-day "Free Trade is only justified when a country cannot supply its own necessities; if I were in a virgin country like Australia I should probably be a Protectionist." Another indication, my dear readers. The fetish is being discrowned; and when the deed is finally accomplished it will be well for agriculture. The object, in fact, of all this discrowning is to benefit our interest. This fact is better than the formulation of a score of agricultural programmes. The world moves, and the sun shines.

I have again to apologise. I said—who of my readers will not remember it?—that I perceived no evidence in the Parliamentary portents of a resolve on the part of agricultural benefit of agriculture. Mr. Rowlands is the honorary secretary of the Land Law Reform Association; and that association is possessed by a virile, strenuous, determined purpose. If I were asked to indicate the purpose of the association I should describe it as the embodiment of Channingism—Channingism, that is, minus the desire of Mr. Channing to eternally survey the world from China to Peru. Moved thus, it is determined to make itself felt in the next session. It refuses to accept Mr. Hanbury's assertion that Parliament has said its last word—what a stupidly-fatal phrase—on the question of legislation with a view to the equalisation of the rights of tenants and landlords.

I wonder how Mr. Hanbury regards this activity on the part of the association of which Mr. Rowlands is so excellent an honorary official. Mr. Rowlands has been a friend of mine for years. I remember once accompanying him to a meeting called, I fancy, by the accoutrement-makers to the army; and I then found that his co-agitator was Mr. Hanbury, the persent Minister for Agriculture. The purpose of the two was to secure a redress of grievances which were urged against the War Office. Mr. Rowlands has assuredly a fine declamatory power, but he cooed as gently as any sucking dove in comparison with the denunciatory, vehement Mr. Hanbury. I wonder how the Minister for Agriculture likes his erstwhile associate tapping vigorously at his Ministerial door! Does he pardon his vigour? Does he condone his energy for the sake of old times? Well, whether he does or not, the Land Law Reform Association will—if I know my Rowlands aright—allow nothing to come between the wind and the nobility of its aim.

It is well that we agrarian politicians should know something more of this association, and in order to secure this knowledge I waited upon Mr. Rowlands, who fiercely glowered upon me because I had dared be inappreciative of its activity. First as to its representative character. A sufficient indication of this is to be found in the fact that at the last conference on the housing question in the villages—and the reform of housing is probably one of the keenest of its purposes—there were representatives present from five county councils, twenty-nine town councils, twenty rural district councils, sixteen urban district councils, and fourteen boards of guardians, in addition to many medical officers of health and many representatives of the municipal authorities of the greater towns. Its representative character is good, but its purpose is better. "You advocate the three F.'s," I said to Mr. Rowlands. Now, my ex-Parliamentarian is a cautious man, and I saw that I had not gone far enough. True, I had indicated the object of Sir Arthur Arnold's old organisation; but we have moved since that had its being. "Well," quothed he, "that may be your description of our object, but don't give it as mine."

Now, as to the objects of the association—which is resolved if it can to make its influence felt in the session which assembles a week hence. In the first place, it assails Mr. Hanbury's "final word" theory. It wisely accepts Mr. George Lambert's Tenure Bill. It then echoes the purpose of men like Earl Carrington and advises the extensive provision of land for small holdings, and the more extensive utilisation of land for public purposes. It indulges in a platitude—will my friend Rowlands forgive this?—by averring that it is "in favour of effective legislation to provide the country with healthy and adequate housing." A good mouthful this, which may mean anything or nothing. It advises "the acquirement of land by the people for residence and cultivation," which, I suppose, means the cheapening of the cost of transfer. It would abolish the customary tenure and obsolete manorial rights, would decapitate the law of primogeniture, and would forbid any landlord creating life estates in land. This, you may say, is too ambitious a purpose to be easily realised. In saying his, you know not the energy of the secretary, Mr. Rowlands, who confidentially imparted this information to me. And its president, Mr. F. A. Channing, M.P., is not without the quality of persistence. Ah, if he would only concentrate this quality on agrarianism rather than distribute it over the world at large!

Extensive Rick Fire.—The rickyard of a large farmer named Jones, of Tettenhall, near Wolverhampton, caught fire on Wednesday, and several ricks of hay, valued at some thousands of pounds, were involved. Altogether ten of them were burnt to the ground.



The Growing of Early Potatoes.

The opening article of the current issue of the "Journal of the Department of Agriculture and Technical Education for Ireland" is on "Early Potato-Growing." Mr. M. G. Wallace is the writer of the article, and he says:—The cultivation of potatoes for the early market is undoubtedly one of the most profitable branches of agriculture, provided the produce can be put on the market at the beginning of the season, while high prices still obtain. In May phenomenally high prices are procurable; any time in June the price is good enough to secure handsome profits; the first half of July is, as a rule, better than the ordinary late or main crop, and the latter half of July as good as winter marketing. With the advent of August prices often fall to a very low point, and the risk of disease being very great, only those growers who are in favoured positions as respects markets and freightage can succeed. It should be borne in mind that the cost of production is much greater than in the case of the late crop, and unless several pounds sterling per acre more is received for the early crop it is not profitable. Within the last twenty years great developments have taken place in this industry. Foreign countries have participated in a trade which was thought impossible to them, and in our own country the crop has been greatly accelerated. The season opens in April with potatoes from Malta and Teneriffe. In May great quantities are poured into our markets from Jersey and Cotes du Nord, France. Strangely enough, the next place in point of earliness is a strip of seaboard on the west coast of Scotland, where for fifty miles in Ayrshire and Wigtonshire the Gulf Stream exercises a beneficent influence directly through the North Channel, and renders that district singularly immune from spring and May frosts. The Ayrshire season commences generally about the middle of June. Good crops ready to raise at that date are worth £40 per statute acre, and are sold growing to merchants, who take all further risks and bear the expense of raising, the farmer having no more to do except cart the potatoes to the nearest station.

Ireland's share in this lucrative industry has hitherto been small, although her physical conditions are extremely favourable. It would not be possible to approach the earliness of the Channel Islands, but what can be done in Scotland may assuredly be improved upon in Cork and Kerry, subject to the same ameliorating influences in even greater degree, 200 miles further south, and possessing ideal soil. The east coast of Ireland does not enjoy so mild a climate, but whatever is lacking in that respect is compensated for by contiguity to markets and greater facilities for intensive farming. Early potato-growing has long been practised in county Dublin, and at one time Scottish markets were largely supplied from there. Even now it is perfectly wonderful what has been achieved at Rush, by a race of shrewd and hardy men, whose ceaseless and laborious industry deserves a better reward. By the adoption of some of the new methods for accelerating the crop, they can in some measure recover their lost supremacy, and Ireland generally may to a very large extent participate in the extremely profitable industry of supplying England with early potatoes. Soils have considerable influence on earliness. Sandy loams are best, red or grey. It is wonderful what can be done even with poor sand under favourable circumstances and with generous treatment. Here again Rush may be cited. Much of the soil there appears to be drifting sand, and farmers have to resort to an expedient of lacing it with straw and seaweed to keep it from blowing away and laying bare the potato sets. Still it bears good crops of potatoes. Blacklands, or bogs, are not suitable for early potatoes, as the frost seems to grip more keenly there, and besides the sample is not so nice, nor is the quality so good.

Early Production.

As the success of an early potato crop depends chiefly upon the date at which it can be marketed, there is a constant striving to accelerate the crop. Considerable success has attended these efforts, and the date of raising has been put forward a fortnight to three weeks. This acceleration has been achieved mainly by three causes, viz.—Seed: the selection of early tubering varieties. Sprouting the seed in boxes before planting. Manuring. The selection of early tubering varieties, that is, kinds that commence to form young potatoes at an early stage of their growth, and which grow to root simultaneously with the top, has resulted in a great gain to earliness. At the same time, something has been lost in quality, and occasionally, in a wet season, one is apt to sigh for the good old Red Bog Kemp, which has been supplanted by less tasty kinds. The public, however, will have early potatoes, and the business of the farmer is to produce what is wanted. In purchasing early seed it is obvious that purity is most important—much more so than in the case of a late crop. In a late crop if there should be a sprinkling of another late sort, they will ripen together, and it may not matter much in the marketing, but if there be present in an early crop a mixture of later potatoes, it is fatal. Great care should therefore be exercised in selecting, that the stock should be true to name and pure. Another consideration is, what is the best change of seed? Whatever has been found to suit for the late crop will make an equally good change for earlies, with this exception, that potatoes grown on black moss or bog do not make the best seed for earlies, as they germinate and mature much more slowly than those grown on red or grey soil.

Selection of Varieties.

To determine the best variety to cultivate is a matter of some difficulty. A sort that does well in one climate may not suit another, and what does well one year may do badly the next. Then the fashion of the market to which the produce is consigned has to be considered. Some will only have them round in shape and white in flesh; others will only take kidneys; while all are more or less shy of lemon-fleshed sorts, wherein they show great lack of discrimination, as these are often the best quality.

Exhaustive experiments with early varieties are being made by the Department of Agriculture, and no doubt by another year an authoritative pronouncement will be given upon the best sorts to cultivate. So far as Scotland is concerned, "Early Puritan" undoubtedly holds the field, and has probably had a longer tenure of life and popularity than any other of the same class. It is round, white, very early, and good enough quality to hold the market for a few weeks. It is an American variety, which has been in commerce in this country since 1884. It is consequently of an age when its vigour may be expected to flag, but its successor has not yet arrived. In Jersey only kidney-shaped tubers are grown, flukes and ashleaf prevailing. If a kidney is desired, there is one new sort which deserves mention, "Duke of York." It is early (on the heels of "Puritan"), and far surpassing "Puritan" for quality and flavour. It is, however, long-shaped and of a deep yellow flesh, which detracts from its popularity in some markets. Several new seedlings of a first early class have recently been brought out by Messrs Sutton, Sons, and others, which promise to meet a want.

Sprouting in Boxes Before Planting.

Another important matter is the size of the sets, and this falls naturally to be considered with the method of sprouting in boxes or trays before planting. This method is the most powerful agent in hastening on the early potato crop. It is now in universal use in England and Scotland wherever early crops are grown, and it has so much to commend it that in many districts it has been adopted for the late crop also. The system, however, is not well known in Ireland.

Marketing the early crop requires no little forethought. In districts where large quantities are grown, merchants appear and provide all the plant necessary for packing and conveying to market. But with an industry in its infancy growers will need to look ahead and find out how best their produce can be quickly disposed of. The cities and large towns of Ireland can no doubt absorb a large quantity, but a considerable surplus must find its way somehow to English markets. Green potatoes will not carry in bags; they must be packed either in baskets or barrels. As a rule, commission salesmen are willing to supply these, and if they are filled and firmly packed on the top with fresh, green stalks and laced securely, they will carry quite safely by rail or steamer.

Canker in the Potato Plant.

Mons. C. Priston, the departmental professor of Agriculture of Charente, writes in the *Journal d'Agriculture Pratique* that during the last few years the extremely dry summers have been the cause of the appearance of disease in the potato which is of a microbe origin, and causes the destruction of the whole crop. He says—"It was not the end of July or the beginning of August that the disease first appeared, and in 3 or 4 days whole fields were destroyed. Perfectly healthy crops turned a pale grey, withered and died. Upon the tubers being lifted the stalks are found to be partially or entirely rotten at the base, and the tubers not receiving any nourishment, soon dry up."

In this department of Charente many growers have entirely lost their crop owing to this disease, and those which have suffered the worst are those who have sown a late variety which matures either in the late summer or autumn. The cause of the disease is called the "Bacillus Caulivorus."

Mons. Prillieux, the professor of the French National Agronomic Institute, is of opinion that canker of the potato stalk chiefly attacks those plants which are obtained from tubers cut in pieces for seed. This is not the cause, as we know growers who always use whole tubers for seeds, and whose crops have been absolutely destroyed by canker (gangrene). Neither can it be said to be caused by the use of manures, because it has been seen in most diverse situations, in rich as well as poor soil dry and calcareous, and in land fed with farmyard or chemical manures, or without any at all. Neither do we believe that the fact of the same crop being grown on the same land two seasons running plays a very important part, as in Charente the system of rotation is carried out, the potato usually following two consecutive crops of cereals. From recent observations the disease has been equally developed on lands which have not been sown to potatoes for some years as on those which had been grown with them.

If plants or seeds from neighbouring departments which were perfectly free from disease were procured and planted, would that produce good results? Mons. Prillieux says that he could not say that this would prevent it, as last year many growers exchanged seeds on account of a very medium crop following a dry summer, and these varieties have also suffered like the others. It is true they do not know if the seeds came from a non-attacked locality.

When one reflects on the sudden appearance of the disease in the most varied places and soils, with this characteristic, however, that it is, perhaps, in the most humid calcareous land, which is reputed to be most healthy, that the greatest ravages have been made, one is inclined to ask whether the growth of the disease should not be attributed to atmospherical conditions.

In that locality excessive heat and great drought prevailed in mid-July, but during the last week of that month an abundance of rain fell, accompanied with a fall of temperature to below normal. These atmospherical phenomena have brought about a great disturbance in plant life, by gorging with water all the tissues, and maybe breaking the stalks in certain places with the great pressure of liquid, which would offer under these conditions a favourable spot for the penetration and growth of the bacilli. It would be useful to find out whether some varieties are more liable than others, and thus be able to cultivate the most resistant.

As great difficulties have been found during the last few years in potato cultivation resulting from the drought causing canker in the stalk, the following hints might be taken:—(1) Reduce the surface sown to potatoes to the smallest extent possible, and give a more important part to the cultivation of the Jerusalem Artichoke, which is a hardy plant, and gives a tuber of excellent qualities for ruminants. (2) Grow early varieties, which mature in July, and be careful to plant them early in the spring.

The Cheshire Potato Experiment.

There has just been issued the report of the experiments in potato-growing which have been carried out during 1901, at the Holmes Chapel Agricultural School, under the supervision of Mr. E. Druce, the principal. The object of the experiments was to try the productiveness of certain classes of tubers, their quality, the effects of different manures, and the liability to disease of certain varieties. The net result of the experiment shows that the average yield of potatoes per acre this season was considerably greater than 1900, and that the disease was less prevalent. The yield, however, was not so large as it had been in previous years.

The planting of fairly large sets gave a greater return than small sets. That the best and most profitable yields were again obtained from a good dressing of farmyard manure, supplemented with a full mixture of artificials, containing nitrogen, phosphorus, and potash in an available form.

The experiments showed that manures have considerable influence upon the size of the tubers, and that a small dressing of muriate of potash is more economical than a larger one.

Kainit was found to be the least profitable of the potassic manures used during the trials.

The Deterioration of Hill Farms.

An interesting paper on the above subject was read at the last meeting of the Teviotdale Farmers' Club by Mr. W. M. Oliver, Whitriggs, who said he thought it was an undisputed fact that hill farms do not now carry the same amount of stock that they did fifty or sixty years ago. He proposed to point out some of the causes which he thought were responsible for this state of matters. Some

would say that, owing to the improvement in the breed of Cheviot sheep, they were larger in size, and so required more ground to carry them. That might to some extent account for the matter, but was it not also a fact that even farms which still carried stocks of the old-fashioned breed, were also not able to carry the same numbers, consequently some other cause must be looked for. One reason he would suggest was the yearly cast sold off the farms, consisting of bone, mutton, wool, etc., without anything being returned to the land. To illustrate his meaning, he would take the old data of a farm carrying 1,000 sheep, which, allowing 1½ acres to the sheep, spoke to an area of about 1,500 acres. He took the average live weight of the lambs sold off the farm at, say, 36 lb., and that of the ewes at 70 lb.; thus they had:—lambs at 56 lb., 13,968 lb.; 140 ewes at 70 lb., 9,800 lb.; wool and skins, say, 3,800 lb.; total, 27,568lb., or about 12½ tons, which, distributed over the 1,500 acres, gave something like 18½ lb. per acre of what he might call the essence of the soil off every year.

Or, to put it another way, in forty-five years it amounted to over 7½ cwts. per acre, equal to a very fair dressing of artificial manure containing all the constituents necessary for the enrichment of the soil. Some of this might be returned to the soil by atmospheric means, but how much he was not scientific enough to judge. It was something like a continuation of the old system of cropping, according to which a patch of land was ploughed and corn crops taken off it every year, so long as it would give any return, after which it was allowed to lie fallow, and take on a sward of such grasses or weeds as the wind supplied the seeds—a system which no sane agriculturist would think of following nowadays. Of course, in those times to which he referred there was no such thing as rotation of crops, and turnips were seldom grown, and artificial manures were totally unknown. The only remedy for this wastage that he was able to suggest, which it was within the power of a tenant-farmer to adopt, was hand-feeding.

Another reason was the reduction of the land area by the removal of turf in making open drains. While the old circular drains still remained, the new system of straight up and down drainage had been very largely adopted, and when this matter came to be looked into a rather startling fact became apparent. Of course, the whole of the land did not require draining, but let them take, say, 800 acres of the 1,500, and make their drains at a distance of 18 yards apart, with a surface width of 21 inches, they removed turf to the extent of about 156 square yards per acre, which over 800 acres amounted to over 25 acres. But they must bear in mind that was the best of their land, which might probably carry nearly one sheep to the acre, so that they had removed the sustenance of from 2 to 2½ per cent. of the number of sheep that the farm was originally supposed to carry, and that without taking into consiedration the gulfs which very often occurred on steep land or where the soil was friable, and which might sometimes extend to 21 feet instead of 20 inches.

The old circle drains did their work very well, and had these been cleaned it would have been more profitable for the farmer to-day if not a single straight drain had been cut. These straight drains had also an effect on salmon fishing. He held that these drains were not only directly responsible for the destruction of millions of salmon ova, but indirectly they assisted to a great extent in both river pollution and poaching. It had often been remarked to him by strangers going over the hills in summer, "Surely the hills might carry far more sheep than you have on them, seeing the amount of roughness there is." His answer to such was, let them put on as many sheep as they liked, the numbers would soon reduce themselves to their proper level, and the only profit they would realise would come from the increased number of skins.

Small Holdings and Rural Depopulation.

The subject under discussion at the meeting of the Boroughbridge Agricultural Society, held on the 4th inst., was the question of small holdings.

It was introduced by Major Dent, of Ribston Hall, who in the course of an interesting speech, remarked that the recent census returns had proved conclusively that in most parts of the kingdom the population was leaving the country and flocking to the towns. Many thoughtful people saw in this migration a great danger, and thought it would lead to a deterioration of the nation's physique and character. Various ideas were held as to the best means for preventing it, and bringing the people back to the land. Townspeople might be and were being brought into the country by the establishment of industrial villages on modern principles, and by the extension of town suburbs. What they would, however, like to see was a plan whereby the country people might be kept on the land. At the same time, it must be borne in mind that nowadays the farmer required fewer hands for his work than he did 30 years ago, owing to the development of machinery, and that if the rural population was largely increased, occupation and employment must be found for them.

Mr. Rider Haggard, at the end of his interesting series of articles on the state of the country districts, strongly advocated the encouragement and development of small holdings, by which he presumed the distinguished author meant principally small freeholds, not tenancies. No doubt, there was great interest and pleasure in the ownership of land, as well as responsibility, and a man was more likely to spend time, labour, and money on what was his own than on another's property, but he was by no means sure that the man would not get a better return for his capital by hiring land than by buying it. If we could see the old race of yeomen once more brought into existence he certainly would welcome it, though he feared that that was not likely. Nor did he believe that peasant proprietors, as on the Continent, were suited to England at the present time. Had the children of small holders stayed on the land more than others? He feared not. One of the chief reasons for the disappearance of the yeoman class had been that the younger generation were not content to live on the land as their forefathers did, and, as far as his own experience went, the same applied to the labouring class.

He took it that the term small holding might mean anything from a rood in an allotment field to a farm of 100 acres managed by a man and his family, without the help of any hired labour. Small holdings might be divided into three classes:

1. Those in which the occupier was mainly dependent on regular employment for his income, and supplemented that by his holding.

2. Those in which a man's income was largely derived from his holding supplemented by some trade or occasional labour, etc.

3. Those in which the occupier was solely dependent on his holding.

He did not think there was truth in the statement sometimes made that landowners and farmers were averse to the development of small holdings. In certain districts and under certain conditions an increase of small holdings would, he was sure, benefit all classes. He looked upon what he had termed Class 2 as most useful in providing extra hands for the farmer at busy times, while Class 1 ought to give his regular labourers an inducement to settle down and stop with him. As a landlord, he had always found a steady demand for small holdings of all three classes, even at what at first sight seemed to be high rents. It must, however, be remembered that most of the land so occupied was the best land, and most conveniently situated, while a landlord might easily have to spend two or three years' rent in improvements and repairs without being able to charge any extra rent for the outlay.

Examining the matter from the occupiers' point of view, Major Dent said that Class 1, with a bit of grass land for a cow, as well as an allotment, could do very well if his wife would do most of the work and his allotment was not too big. A rood was sufficient arable land for a man to cultivate in his spare time. No. 2 could also do very well if his wife would do a considerable share of work in the management of the holding, and when circumstances made poultry, fruit, or vegetable raising profitable. Class 3 had the hardest task. If a man had a family growing up who could help he would often do well, but he was afraid, often at the expense of the children. The man took them early away from school, and they worked on the land for their keep alone, whereas they might be earning wages if they went out to service. He also often suffered from want of capital, and consequently could not do full justice to his land or avail himself of the best markets.

It had been said that by increasing small buildings they would increase the produce of the land, but his own experience was that the large farmer who farmed well could produce more per acre cheaper than the smaller one. Manure was the chief difficulty on small holdings. Only a limited amount of farmyard manure could be made, and the small holder could not afford, and had not the opportunities of purchasing artificial manures that the large farmer had. His arable land might be fairly well done to, but his grass land suffered. He did not refer to fruit cultivation or any special industries, as he had practically no experience of them.

If some small holdings were to be increased in numbers, were they to desire any legislation on the subject? Personally, he did not believe in creating industries by Act of Parliament. If there was real need for small holdings they would gradually be developed, and present legislation would suffice. It might perhaps be possible to further simplify and cheapen the sale and transfer sale of land. He had always lived on the best of terms with his small freehold neighbours, and though they all had "Naboth's vineyards," he should be sorry to see small freeholders all absorbed by larger people.

In concluding, Major Dent said he thought that in some districts and under favourable circumstances, small holdings might with advantage be largely increased and developed, while in others they are not needed; and that no legislation is wanted on the subject, unless it may be to further simplify the sale and transfer of land.

Tithe Commutation—Septennial Averages.

The Editor of "Willich's Tithe Commutation Tables" states that as the result of the corn averages for the seven years to Christmas, 1901, published in Tuesday's "London Gazette," viz., wheat, 3s. 5½d per imperial bushel; barley, 3s. 0½d. per imperial bushel; oats, 2s. 1d per imperial bushel, each £100 of tithe rent-charge for the year 1902 will amount to £67 3s. 8¾d., being on the commutation rather over ½ per cent. more than last year. The following statement shows the worth of £100 of tithe rent-charge for the last seven years:—For the year 1895, £73 13s. 0½d.; 1896, £71 9s. 6¾d; 1897, £69 17s. 11½d.; 1898, £68 14s. 11d.; 1899, £68 2s. 4¾d.; 1900, £66 15s. 9¾d.; 1901, £66 10s. 9¼d.

It is to be remarked that tithe rent-charge shows a rise in value—however slight—for the first time for many years past, there having been a constant decrease since 1878, when the value of £100 of tithe rent-charge stood as high as £112 7s. 5d. It fell to £66 10s. 9d. in 1901, when it stood at its lowest.

SEED REPORTS.

Messrs. Goldsmith Bros.

Messrs. Goldsmith Brothers, of Bury St. Edmunds, have issued their annual seed report, in which they state that of red clover and cow grass not a great quantity has been held over. A large acreage was saved, and was mostly harvested in good condition. The seed suffered very much from the drought, and the greater part is consequently very small in the grain, but there are some fine seeds which sell readily. The yield is very variable, some farmers getting as much as 3½ cwt. per acre, and others only getting ½ cwt., but we think that, taking all things into consideration, there is an average crop.

Very little single-cut cow grass was held over, and new seed is scarce. Next to nothing in useful white clover was held over. Here again the yield is very variable, but there is an average crop of good quality seed. Of red suckling very little was held over, and there is but a small crop of new seed. Prices advanced rapidly owing to the autumn sowing demand. Trefoil was practically cleared out at the end of last spring. A good crop of fine seed at very reasonable prices, which we think will harden as the season advances.

The Italian ryegrass crop was under an average, and very little indeed held over from last season. Prices have advanced recently, but this article will go much dearer, as practically the whole of the crop has been marketed. A very large crop of common sainfoin, but a small crop of giant. Both secured in good condition. Giant very reasonable in price now, but expected to be very much dearer. Rape, a small crop; fine black seed is very scarce. Mustard is a good crop of fine quality seed, which is being offered at very low prices. Winter tares are under average crop. Windsor beans: Very short crop. Fine samples scarce owing to the drought.

Messrs. Hurst and Son.

Messrs. Hurst and Son, of 152, Houndsditch, E., state in their clover and grass seed circular for 1902 that the general conditions seem to point to a rather high range of prices for most articles, and as stocks are low, and as yet very little buying has taken place, it seems probable that values will be firm throughout the season. Concerning the various seeds, Messrs. Hurst report as follows:— Of English red clover and cow grass there has been a large acreage saved in most of the producing counties; so far as threshing has progressed yields seem very variable. From the latest saved crops on the heavy lands good reports come to hand, but the earlier crops on the light lands are reported short in yield. We notice a peculiarity of this season, that the great majority of the samples run particularly even both in size and colour. Very fine coloured and large-grained seed is decidedly scarce. The single-cut cow grass crop is reported small, and very few yearling lots were held over.

The American crop of red clover in many of the States is below an average, and as they will require seed for their own use we do not expect a large export. Canada has a good crop of fine quality, and at the present time it is being freely taken by the States. France will not be able to export, and is already buying from this country. Germany, as far as we have seen, has none of the fine seeds so extensively used in this country last season, and her crop is reported under average. In England the acreage of white clover saved was extensive, and the samples already brought to market would indicate a large yield. Germany

reported a small crop, and has been buying to a limited extent from this country, but the latest offers of their own seeds show a decline in value, seeming to point to their having originally underestimated their own crop.

Alsike is a smaller crop both in America and Canada than for some years past, and coming after a medium crop only in 1900, the present available supply must be very restricted. Germany may have some lower qualities to send us, but being generally weedy they are not popular in this country. There was a large crop of trefoil in England of good quality. Continental crops under average in almost all districts. Lucerne was under an average crop in France, and quality of samples not equal to the usual standard. America reports a short crop. The English crops of both varieties of sainfoin are quite up to an average in extent, and of good quality. Very short crops of giant in France, but a large one of common. There was but a short crop of English Italian ryegrass. The crops in the best districts of France were very light, and more weedy than usual. The expense of re-cleaning is so great this season that perfectly-machined seeds are commanding very high prices. The Irish crop was large and of good quality, and it will to a great extent have to make up for the shortage of French seed; prices have already advanced, and all appearances point to a yet higher range. A fair crop of perennial ryegrasses of a very high average natural weight, so that lower-weight grades will be scarce. As stocks were so low everywhere at the commencement of the season an advance in values soon took place, and as an active demand may be anticipated prices will continue to rule high.

Natural grasses, with few exceptions, are much below average supply, and many in consequence rule high in price. Timothy, meadow, foxtail, meadow fescue, tall fescue, crested dogstail, and several of the finer grasses are very scarce. Cocksfoot and poa pratensis are plentiful. Of white mustard there are good supplies of excellent quality. Rape was an average crop in both England and Holland. Very short crops of spring tares, much above average prices. Supplies nearly exhausted of winter tares.

New Agricultural Patents.

Specially compiled for the *Mark Lane Express* by Mr. G. D. Howard (Hughes, Son and Co.), Patent Agent, 38, Chancery Lane, London, of whom all information relating to Patents, Designs, and Trade Marks may be obtained free of charge.

26,127.—August Mayer, of Liverpool, for "Improvements in mowing machines."

26,184.—Albert Hateley, of Birmingham, for "Improvements in bins for corn and other bird foods."

26,249.—Anatole Borsu, of New Bridge Street, London, for "Improvements in centrifugal separators."

Patents Sealed.

16,099.—J. McDonald, of Dumbartonshire, for "Planting tools for garden use."

16,199:—E. W. Morris, of Whitechapel, for "Milk."

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Leeds Dairymen and the Tuberculin Test.

A deputation from the Leeds and District Cowkeepers and Dairy Farmers' Association waited on the Leeds Corporation Sanitary Committee, on Thursday, to draw attention to the losses to which cowkeepers and dairymen are exposed in the event of any of their cattle being declared tuberculous.

The first suggestion put forward by the deputation was that the Corporation should grant compensation for loss on the milk of cows suffering from supposed tuberculosis of the udder during the time they are being tested with tuberculin by order of the medical officer. Equally important was the suggestion that the Corporation should purchase such cows with tuberculous udders as re-acted to the test, at a fair and reasonable value, according to the practice in Liverpool.

The deputation represented that the milk clauses of the recent Leeds Corporation Acts are most stringent, and the medical officer had given notice that these would be strictly enforced. When a dairyman received notice that the milk was tuberculous according to the bacteriological test, the Corporation veterinary surgeon went and examined such cows as he thought suspicious, and if these cows re-acted the dairyman was forbidden to sell any more of the milk for human consumption. If found selling such animals for slaughtering, and they proved to be suffering from "general" tuberculosis, he was liable to a fine of £20 under the Public Health Act. A cowkeeper must either break the law or send his cows to the destructor, which meant ruin to many.

If the Corporation did not offer some assistance, many of the dairy farmers in and around Leeds, who retail their milk to the city, would be compelled to reduce the number of cows they kept, and to buy their milk from districts over which the Corporation had no sanitary control. This, it was pointed out, would cost the Corporation considerably more in inspection expenses than the small amount they would be asked to pay for the slaughter of cows under their direct supervision.

Questions were put to the deputation. In reply, Mr. Hackney said if cattle re-acted to the tuberculin test, and had tuberculous udders, dairy farmers would, when they could, sell to the butcher. Should the meat prove to be generally tuberculous, the dairyman would be liable to a penalty of £20. The milk from cattle which re-acted could be used for pigs or calves, but not for human consumption. That, of course, distributed the disease to other animals.

Asked whether cowkeepers could not have cattle tested before buying them, Mr. Hackney replied in the negative. There was, he said, such a good demand for young and "apparently healthy" dairy cattle that a farmer or cattle dealer could sell them readily, and would not think of having them tested before bringing them to market. Certain dealers might allow their cows to be tested, but the purchaser would then have to pay £2 to £3 per head more for them, and to wait five or six days to see if they re-acted to the test. Our customers, added Mr. Hackney, would not wait that time for the milk.

With regard to cows no longer giving milk, it was stated that those not sent to the butcher were sent into the country and sold for breeding purposes. This, however, was distributing disease if it existed in any of the stock, and the same cattle might again come into the cities.

After the committee had conferred in private, the chairman said they were in favour of giving compensation for the loss of milk whilst cattle were undergoing the tuberculin test. On the question of compensation for slaughtered stock the committee were favourably disposed towards partial compensation, but they could not give a definite answer until they obtained more information as to what was being done in other parts of the country. The matter would, however, receive immediate consideration. A small committee was appointed to make full inquiries.

It was reported to the committee by the city analyst that there had been a distinct improvement in the general quality of the milk sold in the city, due, he thought, to the regulations issued by the Board of Agriculture.

PRACTICE WITH SCIENCE.

A Mangold Experiment.

Mr. John H. Wilcox, of Patterdown, Chippenham, Wilts, sends us some notes concerning a simple experiment on mangolds carried out by him. He says:—"The whole of the piece had farmyard manure, and when singled out were top-dressed with 1 cwt. nitrate of soda per acre. Soil gravelly sand. The sort grown was Yellow-fleshed Golden Tankard. Two plots were marked out and dressed in addition to the above, Plot 1, nitrate 2 cwt. per acre; Plot 2, 2 cwt. muriate of potash per acre.

"The leaves on Plot 1 were bigger and better colour after being dressed with the nitrate, but, quite contrary to my expectation, Plot 2, dressed with muriate of potash, gave nearly 10 tons per acre more; the cost of dressing would be about the same in each case.

"It appears from the above that it is not so beneficial to use all one sort of manure, but the right combination seems to answer best.

The death is announced of Mr. Eskricke John Inman, of York, who was for over 30 years superintendent of the horse and corn department of the North-Eastern Railway Company. He was 75 years of age.

Tuberculous Pork.—At the Guildhall Police Court, on Thursday, George Saunders Weston, farmer, of Hall Farm, Bildeston, near Hadleigh, Suffolk, was summoned for sending the carcase of a diseased pig to the Central London Market, intending it for sale as human food. Mr. Vickery prosecuted, and said defendant had several pigs, which were in so poor a condition that he could not sell them, so he sent for a local butcher and instructed him to kill and dress them and send them to London for him. This was done, and the butcher found that the lungs of one of the pigs had adhered to the side. The pigs were hung up, and pointed out to the defendant, but he took no further trouble in the matter. The pigs were duly sent to London, and this one was seized in the London market by Inspector Terrett as being unfit for food. Dr. Collingridge, the medical officer, described the state of the meat, which formed part of an animal which had died from acute tuberculosis. He considered the eating of such meat would be highly prejudicial. Defendant gave evidence on his own behalf, and said he saw nothing in the pigs in question to suggest disease. He had never been in trouble before, as he had always been very strict not to evade the law.—Cross-examined: He was told that the lungs had adhered to the chest of one of the pigs, but this was after they had been sent to London. Had he thought anything was wrong with them he should have examined them himself.—The Alderman said he did not think the defendant knew that the meat was unfit for food, but still he had been careless, and he must pay a fine of £10 and £3 3s. costs.



A Brief View of the Past Year.

As might have been expected, only a limited amount of business in the sale of flour has been done during the past week or two, but for all that prices are generally firm, and in some parts have advanced 6d per sack, in sympathy with the rise in wheat. Trade in offals of all kinds has been, as usual, brisk, especially in bran and pollards, at very remunerative prices, so much so that some millers have been tempted to make more flour than they would otherwise have done for the sake of the bye-products. English wheat has not been in very plentiful supply during the past week or two, and the parcels which have been received at the mills have, in most cases, not been in the best of milling condition.

Re-introduction of Porcelain Rolls.

With the coming of the New Year it is usual in most industries to take a look back at the progress made during the past twelve months. In the case of flour-milling machines, there is very little new to record; practically the year has been an uneventful one in this direction. Nothing better than the roller-mill has been found for the reduction of the raw material, and the successive processes until the finished flour reaches the packers are very much the same as they were at the dawn of 1900. True, there have been some few changes, both in machinery and in process of manufacture, but they have been rather a continuation of the developments of the past few years than absolutely novel to the present.

The introduction of porcelain rolls for the reduction of middlings has made some progress during the year which has passed, and one is not surprised, considering that they approximate nearer to the millstone than the ordinary smooth rolls. It is thought by some millers who have introduced them into their reduction system that they make flour of a better colour than that from cast-iron rolls. Certain it is that they are infinitely superior to the old type of porcelain roll, which was introduced by Mr. Wegmann from the Continent in 1877. The old rolls were soft and easily wore away; they were also very short, while the adjustments were not nearly so handy as in the roll lately introduced. It is probable that on certain stock in the mill these rolls can be used to great advantage.

The Perfection of the Roller Mills.

The ordinary roller mill, as now built by the best firms of milling engineers, has reached such a state of perfection that it is really difficult to look for further improvements. If any changes come in the future they will probably have reference to entire reconstruction on different lines altogether, as well as to the relative position of the rolls to each other, to differential and to the angle of grooving on break rolls. In fact, a new mill has been brought before the public during the past year or two. In this machine the rolls are placed diagonal to each other, that is to say, at a large angle from the vertical, although there are one or two mills made now in which the rolls are slightly out of the vertical.

As to methods, the past year has seen a further tendency to reduce the breaks from four to three, and this again entails another change in that it would not be possible to make fine patent flours on two breaks and a bran roll unless the wheat was thoroughly conditioned, the skin of the berries having been so toughened as to prevent the making of a minimum amount of bran powder.

The Conditioning Process.

In cases where three breaks are found—and such a system is now to be seen in some of our largest mills—a great deal of the work of reduction of the wheat must be done on the first break, and if the covering of the endosperm is not properly prepared the flour will be specky and anything but clear. This question of conditioning is the one, perhaps, more than any other which has received the most attention during the past year. Water and heat have for some years been the principal factors in conditioning, but there is at the present time a tendency to rely more upon water. An exception, however, must be made in the case of Indian wheats, for unless these are treated to what may be called a bath of steam their peculiar ricey flavour will not be dissipated.

Very little changes have been made in the construction of either the purifier or the flour dresser. The battle between the centrifugal and the plansifter is still being waged, although it seems clear that the former is losing ground. Still, the difference of opinion held by millers in regard to the plansifter is remarkable.

Future Prospects.

Some have not a good word for it, although confessing it is capable of good work on some of the break stock, while others swear by it for all purposes of separation in the mill—scalping, grading, and dressing. The tendency during the past year has been to shorten systems; to get the flour into the sacks as soon as possible consistent with purity. This has, in some cases, led to less purification, some millers endeavouring to reduce pure semolina at one operation, whereas the popular method has been to gradually reduce it in order that it may be gradually purified. But in the new method a great deal of the work of purification is done on other machines than that called the purifier, and in this the flour-dressers have contributed their full quota. Practically every machine in the mill is a purifier. These are the principal points of interest so far as practical milling is concerned, but owing to competition and underselling, and the difficulty of making a profit at all, most millers have had to pay special attention during the past year to commercial points. Unfortunately millers are not so associated as they were a year ago, an unfortunate state of things, born chiefly, it would seem, of mistrust. What the coming year will see in this direction it would not be safe to prophesy; but, except for this dark side of the position, millers could look confidently to the future, and in most cases anticipate a prosperous and successful year. Let us hope that the New Year will see an improvement. MILLER-FARMER.

LITERARY NOTICES.

Among the practical articles contained in the issue of the Journal of the Board of Agriculture is a useful one on "Cultivation by the Use of Deep-rooting Plants" (Mr. R. Elliot), and another on "Manures for a Four Years' Rotation," by D. A. Gilchrist, B.Sc. There is the usual number of short papers dealing in an instructive manner with nearly all branches of farm work, while an illustrated article on the Currant Aphides will be found most useful by market-gardeners and fruit-growers. The usual tables and reports of foreign crops are included.

Some useful hints may be obtained by farmers from the report on the potato-growing experiments which have been carried out at the Holmes Chapel Agricultural and Horticultural School, under the supervision of Mr. E. Druce, the principal at Holmes Chapel.

Messrs. Little and Ballantyne, of Carlisle, who are seedsmen to his Majesty the King, have now issued their 1902 catalogue of vegetable and flower seeds, and it contains particulars, together with illustrations, of a very large and choice variety of seeds. This firm's collection of vegetable seeds have in past years been exceedingly popular, and the collections given in the new catalogue should be equally satisfactory.

A useful and profusely-illustrated manual and seed catalogue has been issued by Mr. J. K. King, of Coggeshall, Essex, and Reading. With this is sent an abridged seed catalogue, containing in an abbreviated form all that was given in the larger catalogue.

From Z. Coleman, seed grower and merchant, of Sandwich, Kent, we have received a copy of a catalogue of vegetable and flower seeds.

The seed guides sent out by Messrs. Barr and Sons, 11, 12, and 13, King Street, Covent Garden, usually enumerate a large stock and variety of specimens, and this year's list is no exception. The illustrations are somewhat insignificant, otherwise the catalogue is well and conveniently presented.

Watered His Master's Milk.—A milk carman named William Jones, 23, of Roman Road, Barnsbury, who was caught outside a dairy at Hoxton, pouring water into a large churn of milk, and thus wilfully damaging it, was, upon pleading guilty, at Worship Street Police Court, on Thursday, sentenced to two months' hard labour. The magistrate remarked that it was rarely the man who adulterated the milk was caught, and that it was a bad offence, as the prisoner's employer or the retailer of the milk might have suffered.

The Woods and Forests Commissioners' Report.

The annual report of the Commissioners of his Majesty's Woods, Forests, and Land Reserves was issued as a Blue Book on Tuesday. It gives a sketch of the changes that have taken place in the administration of the office since 1832; and it then states that the system under which the land revenues are now managed was inaugurated by the Act 14 and 15 Vict., c. 42 (1851), and as it differs materially from that under which they were previously managed, the following observations are confined to the period (fifty years) that has since elapsed. The hereditary possessions of the Crown in 1851 were widely dispersed, and in England there were few counties that did not contain detached and outlying parcels of land, which, from being intermixed with, and in some cases surrounded by, the estates of private individuals, were more valuable to the adjoining owners than to the Crown. In some instances blocks of land of considerable extent, belonging to the Crown, possessed, to adjoining owners, an accommodation value. In other parts of the United Kingdom the Crown revenues were largely derived from fixed rents charged on, or from interest in, or rights affecting, properties belonging to private owners. It was consequently decided, as opportunities offered, to sell such properties or rights provided the full value could be obtained, and to re-invest the consideration moneys in the purchase of other land adjacent to more extensive Crown estates, or of estates large in themselves, and thus, by consolidating the Crown estates, to diminish the cost of management. Copyholds have also been enfranchised, and manors and quit and fee farm rents have been sold. The amount realised by these sales and enfranchisements between March 31st, 1852, and March 31st, 1901, was £4,212,925. During the same period a total sum of £4,531,506 has been invested in the purchase of estates, houses, and premises, and in the redemption of charges.

Since 1873 ground-rents, secured upon high-class houses and buildings in London, have been purchased to a considerable extent as investments for capital moneys, and out of the moneys invested in purchasing estates, etc., a total sum of about £1,982,336 has been expended in buying ground-rents, while further sums amounting to about £326,362 have, since the same date, been invested in the purchase of other house property in London. The ground-rents so purchased amounted to £75,909 per annum, and the rental obtained for the houses, etc., purchased and let otherwise than at ground-rents amounted to £12,682 per annum. The investment of about £2,308,698 has, therefore, produced an average return of nearly £4 per cent., and, in addition to this, the capital values of the properties acquired have now very largely increased

The net income of the Land Revenue between 1851 and 1901 showed an increase of £205,265 a year; the revenue having been £259,178 in March, 1852, and £464,443 in March last. Excluding the land belonging to individuals over which the Crown posseses no rights whatever, or merely a bare forestal right, the Royal forests and woodlands, exclusive of Windsor, extend to about 98,000 acres. Of that quantity a little less than one-sixth part, or about 17,000 acres, belong to the Crown absolutely, free from any rights of common. The whole of these 17,000 acres are planted or otherwise occupied. Upon the remaining five-sixths, which are subject, when unenclosed, to rights of common by a numerous body of persons, there are in the open forests about 23,000 acres covered with timber or trees, and there are about 18,000 acres of growing timber and trees, which have been planted in enclosures, under the provisions of various Acts, by which the Crown is empowered to enclose and plant certain limited quantities of the commonable land, and to keep them enclosed as long as may seem desirable.

At Wakefield County Court on Tuesday, Mr. J. H. Holdsworth, who farms some land at Hall Green, Wakefield, was awarded £48 3s. 10d. as damages against Mr. C. H. Hebblethwaite, seed merchant, Wakefield. The plaintiff purchased seed potatoes from the defendant on the representation that they were of a variety known as "Up-to-date," whereas a large proportion were a less productive kind.

Sheep-worrying near Swindon.—Early on Thursday morning a number of sheep belonging to Mr. E. J. Keyloch, of Broome Manor, near Swindon, were worried in a shocking manner. The animals were left in apparent security the previous night, but when the shepherd visited the fold in the morning he found two dead and eight others so mutilated that one subsequently succumbed and the rest had to be destroyed. Most of the ewes were in lamb, and the loss to Mr. Keyloch is consequently a very serious one. All efforts to trace the ownership of the dog which was responsible for the mischief have proved futile, and Mr. Keyloch has offered a substantial reward for information.



The Cultivation of Maize.

Sir,—I notice an article in the MARK LANE EXPRESS this week on the growth of maize in this country. It is well known that it has been grown here successfully for many years as a fodder crop; but you also mention a crop which was grown in Cheshire last year which fully matured. As there appear to be so many different varieties, it would be interesting to know the kind which produced this crop, in order that it might be more generally grown. I have for several weeks now sown a small quantity in the garden, about the second week in May, from seeds grown the year previous. I herewith send you a specimen of last year's seed, of which I do not know the name, but believe it was taken from a sample bag at market some years since. I do not know whether by growing it consecutively here for some years it would become sufficiently acclimatised to admit of its being sown earlier, which would give a better maturity. The late Wm. Cobbett, I believe, endeavoured to grow it here, but failed to do so; but it does not follow with the many varieties obtainable in the present day, that it cannot be done now.

NOWTON, H. H.

Orchards v. Plantations.

Sir,—The nom de plume adopted by a recent correspondent to the EXPRESS, viz., "The Advocate of the Apple Orchard," induces me to write a few lines on a subject of vital importance to the modern fruit grower. Those whose business carries them into several of our large fruit-growing districts, cannot fail to notice how the old-fashioned grass land orchard still remains, in spite of its numerous disadvantages. The effect of turf on the health and prolificacy of young trees is most marked, and those who during last autumn have set young trees in grass would do well to consider the advisability of its removal. Surface culture, the application of artificial manures, and the sweetening and purifying influence of sun and rain, are all rendered difficult when the surface soil is clogged with an almost impenetrable mat of root fibres. Besides, nourishment which rightly belongs to the trees themselves is required to sustain this useless encumbrance. By adopting the plantation system, proper attention can be given to surface culture, root pruning, feeding, and the destruction of insect pests. Furthermore, the space between the trees can be intercropped with a variety of small fruits, vegetables, etc., these giving a return until the trees themselves are capable of yielding paying crops. It would be interesting if some advocate of the orchard or grass land system would give his views on the subject; personally, I fail to see how profitable fruit culture can result, either from its adoption or continuance.—I am, etc.,

AN ADVOCATE OF THE PLANTATION SYSTEM.
Jan. 10.

Best Treatment for Finger-and-Toe.

Sir,—On page 28 of your issue of the 6th inst. Mr. Eames asks for information as to the best treatment for finger-and-toe, and it is presumed that anbury or clubroot is intended, and not the real finger-and-toe. In anbury the tap-root is badly dwarfed and the side-roots swollen, and to the appearance thus presented the term finger-and-toe is often applied. In true finger-and-toe there is a malformation of the root, but the growth is otherwise healthy, while in anbury the growth is filled with decaying matter. This disease of the cruciferous crops (turnips, swedes, rape, cabbages, etc.) is particularly rife on some soils, more especially those of a light and sandy nature, and it is aggravated by certain manures, in particular by acid-treated manures, and it is also aggravated by forcing manures such as nitrate of soda. When the disease makes its appearance there is no remedy whatever for the affected roots, and so the farmer must confine himself to methods of prevention. One plan is to postpone the taking of another cruciferous crop during the next rotation, but this is not practicable in every case, especially on soils where the four-course system of its modifications are common. If the taking of another crop of this kind can be avoided for the space of seven or eight years, an attack may be averted, but, as already pointed out, this course is impracticable on many soils. One plan, however, is resorted to with great success, and that is, in each rotation to sow with mangolds, potatoes, etc., half the land falling for roots, and to sow the other half with turnips, swedes, etc., thus taking a turnip crop from the same land only once in two rotations, and in this way the disease can be kept under.

Where this is impracticable, the use of lime is the sovereign remedy for anbury, although the use of potassic manures is sometimes of service. Lime may be applied in various forms, the most efficacious and durable being in the form of carbonate as chalk. In this way dressings of from 70 to 100 tons of chalk to the acre are applied; but this is a very costly remedy, and is only available where chalk can be got in the affected field or in adjoining land. The application, if made, is very durable, and will avert finger-and-toe for the remainder of the life of the applicant. A much smaller quantity would suffice if the chalk were only ground to fine powder. Where true marl can be obtained, it forms an equally potent dressing, and is also much better for the land. Mr. Eames says that in his district 160 bushels of lime to the acre are found to be necessary, but there are soils where even larger dressings fail to effect a complete cure and where the soil is light, and badly affected, 160 bushels per acre is insufficient. If practicable, lime should be applied for this purpose, hot from the kiln, and a couple of years in advance of the root crop, although it is found that its effects are intensified of applied only a year in advance. For this purpose some apply lime to old leas before sowing with wheat, the wheat being followed by turnips. In the application of lime, one great object is to secure its equal distribution in the soil, and so some slake the lime slightly before spreading The best method is to apply finely-ground lime hot from the kiln, but it is difficult to obtain lime in this form—where it is practicable, a decidedly smaller dressing will suffice. Superphosphate is no remedy for anbury; on the contrary, it tends to aggravate this affection because of the treatment with sulphuric acid, but, on the other hand, basic slag is said on some soils to be a decided source of prevention. This is because of the excess of lime it contains and because of the fine powder to which it is reduced.

Light land, subject to anbury, should be consolidated before sowing with turnips. When such soils have become very full of twitch, and are thoroughly cleansed in the spring before sowing with turnips, the danger of an attack of anbury is increased, but this may be to some extent avoided by the free use of the roller before drilling the turnips.

M. Y.

GARDEN.

The severe winter phophesied by so many has not put in an appearance so far, but as there is plenty of time for a good spell of hard weather yet, perhaps it will be as well not to holloa till we are quite out of the wood. Still, the fact remains that the weather for some time past has been and still is remarkably mild for the time of year. Quite recently I saw quite a nice gathering of blossoms of the Viola from the open air in one of the Midland Counties, and there they have had much more severe frosts than any experienced here, in the Metropolitan district.

Cucumber seed may be sown at any time now, with good results; plants from a sowing made now—say the middle of January, should begin cropping about the end of April, if grown on vigorously with plenty of warmth and moisture. A good hotbed at 70 to 75 deg. is necessary to induce vigorous germination of the seed, and this should be sown singly in small 2in. or 2½in. pots—never in "store" pots or boxes, with several seeds in each—when this is done the young plants always suffer a good deal when potted off singly, and this throws them back for some time. But when started singly in small sizes, they can be moved on into larger pots, with scarcely the loss of a single rootlet, and will go right ahead throughout. If to be planted out in a bed, or mounds, of soil, the plants need not be moved into larger than 4½in. or 5in. pots, but where this cannot be done they may be grown and "fruited" in large pots, those 10in. to 12in. in diameter being most suitable.

There is time enough for melons yet, unless wanted very early.

Cauliflowers raised from seed sown during the next two or three weeks, in a little warmth, will form hearts nearly as soon as the autumn-sown plants, and even if a little later they will form a useful succession. Keep the little plants near the glass from the first, with plenty of air in mild weather; prick them off or pot singly when about 3in. high, and if they can be got into 5in. pots for a time before being planted out so much the better.



MONDAY (January 6th).—The weather was fine in most parts of our islands, but there was still a great deal of cloud. Rain was measured in the morning as the result of the fall in the preceding twenty-four hours at several places in the North and West, and the amounts were fairly large in the extreme North. A large cyclonic disturbance had its centre on the coast of Norway, and under its influence we were experiencing strong West to North-west winds over the whole country. Temperature had risen briskly over the entire kingdom, and the midday readings were everywhere high for the time of year. The day was fine in London, and the thermometer rose to fifty-two degrees, which is ten degrees above the average.

TUESDAY (January 7).—Fine weather prevailed over the greater part of the British Islands, although rain was again falling at a few places in the North-west. Very little rain was measured in the morning as the result of the fall in the preceding twenty-four hours, and there was scarcely any appreciable amount anywhere in England. The winds continued strong from the West and North-west over the United Kingdom. Temperature had changed rather irregularly, although it had generally decreased somewhat, but the thermometer was everywhere above the average. The day was fine in London, and the temperature rose to forty-eight degrees.

WEDNESDAY (January 8th).—Dull and gloomy weather was experienced over the British Islands, but there was very little rain anywhere. The weather was still unusually mild for the time of year, especially over the northern and western portions of the kingdom, where the thermometer was as high as in any part of Western Europe, and warmer by several degrees than on the south coast of France. The mercury was steadily falling throughout the day, and the wind had shifted to the south-west and south. The wind was strong in the extreme north of Scotland and in the North Sea. The weather was gloomy in London throughout the day, and the temperature rose to 47 degrees.

THURSDAY (January 9th).—The weather was again generally dull and cloudy, and rain fell at a few places in the West of our Islands, where rain was also measured in the morning as the result of the fall in the preceding twenty-four hours. A mild South-Westerly wind was still blowing over us from the Atlantic, and the wind continued strong in the North and West. The temperatures over the United Kingdom in the morning were higher than in any other part of Western Europe, while the mid-day readings were commonly above 50deg.

FRIDAY (January 9th).—The weather was cloudy over our islands, and rain fell again at several places in the West. Rain was measured in the morning as the result of the fall in the preceding twenty-four hours, over nearly the entire country; but it was only in the North that the amounts were large. The winds were still everywhere South-westerly, and they were strong on our North coasts. The temperatures in the United Kingdom continue much higher than in the South of France, and at eight o'clock in the morning London was ten degrees warmer than Nice. The day was dull in the metropolis, and the temperature rose to fifty-five degrees, which is twelve degrees above the average.

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY (January 11th and 12th).—The weather continued very damp and mild over our islands during these two days, although the conditions varied considerably in different parts of the kingdom. The barometer was again lower in the north than in the south, and the winds were chiefly light from the south-westward. Rain fell in several places, and misty weather occurred in many parts of the country. The temperature had considerably decreased in Scotland on Saturday, and there was a sharp frost at many of the northern stations during the succeeding night, but the thermometer in the west and south continued much above the average. Misty rain fell in London throughout Saturday, but Sunday was fine. On both days the temperature in the metropolis rose to about 50 degrees.



Bucks (Central).

A nice rain came just right to fetch up the late sown wheat, and to freshen up everything after the frost. It has been very drying this week so far, and sheep are now much more comfortable than they were after the frost went. Turnips and swedes now go away very fast—the crop being so light but luckily there is a fair crop of mangolds to fall back upon. No lambs in this locality at present; the end of the month and the beginning of next will be about the commencement. Sheep look healthy, and have done fairly well, but fat sheep will most assuredly be very scarce hereabouts shortly. Although markets have been overdone for some time previous to Christmas, beef does not seem to quite keep up the Christmas market prices, but that will be very short about here ere long. It is too expensive to make, with a short hay and root crop. Wheat has a trifle hardened in price, but 28s. or 29s. for good wheat is a ruinous price, and I think about the cheapest feed we can have for stock; but maize or other like corn to mix with it makes it (with the grinding) come up high for feed. Barley turns out very bad indeed, and the price gets lower for chaffing every year. Beans are the worst crop for years, except the winter ones, and although higher in price, we have none to sell—rather have to buy for seed.—J. T. (Jan. 10).

Gloucester.

The year 1902 has opened rather boisterously, bringing with it the much-needed rain to fill the ponds and raise the supply of water at the springheads. Few can remember the ponds on the farm being dry close on to Christmas, but such was the case in this district, and the water-supply had become extremely short for all purposes. Now, on January 7th, ploughing is being proceeded with under very favourable conditions, thus showing the dry state in which the land was previous to the latter rainfall.

Wheats, as a rule, are looking a thin plant, which was to be expected with such a deficiency of moisture at seeding-time and since. Beans are looking fairly strong. A continuation of the present open weather will be much appreciated by stock owners, as it will tend to save the very small hayricks. All kinds of feeding-stuffs maintain a high price. Cattle and sheep are healthy, and their condition is fair.—B. R. (January 8th).

Leicester.

Wheat and winter oats good. Cattle have done well on grain so far. Sheep looking well. Turnip, "swedes," rotting, believe owing to grub eating from bottom to heart, of swede, where they are found dead. Thousand heads of cabbages destroyed last spring by fly. Turnips have had black aphis on leaf all summer.—J. P. C.. (Jan. 8)

Nottinghamshire.

The weather of late has been of a very variable character, and accompanied by heavy rainfalls, which have ended in a large tract of land being flooded, especially the low-lying fields. The ploughed land is very saturated with moisture, so that very little field work has been possible during the excessive rains. The frosts were very severe about Christmas time, when a great inroad was made into the fodder stacks, which were hereabouts, generally speaking, of small dimensions. The wheat plant has withstood the rigorous weather in a marvellous manner, and, generally speaking, looks very well, considering the harsh weather encountered. Winter beans and tares are variable in appearance, and leave something better to be desired. All store cattle are reported to be healthy and doing nicely, and the flocks are doing well. Not many lambs about yet, but there are a few early ones. The ancient adage, "If January calends be summerly gay, it will be wintry weather to the calends of May," will perhaps help us to bear philosophically the trying weather generally associated with January. It is pre-eminently the month for frosts. A few would not come amiss now, rather than later in the spring. There will be a large number of spring sales, many farms changing hands again, for corn does not yield up to expectation; many farmers find it very difficult to make ends meet. The outlook all round is not of an encouraging character in North Notts.—"Agrestic" (January 10).

Shropshire.

Weather mild and showery; strong wind from the north-west. No interruption to ploughing or carting. Farm work forward yet. The gale rising now at 2 p.m.—J. G. (January 3).

Somerset (West).

The New Year comes in with changeable and rainy weather, the same as the Old Year ended with, some days very mild, making the grass land look quite green and growing; but cabbage, swedes, and turnip keep is shrinking fast, showing that the crop of past year was not a good one. Only a small breadth of wheat is sown. Some of it is a good plant, other looks like wire worm in it. Ploughing is proceeding rapidly, in preparation for the barley crop, which is the main straw crop grown in this part. Some early lambs are ready for market and others coming on, and a later lot now lambing for a month hence. I hear a favourable account of health in the flocks and herds; also a fair increase. Prices for beef and mutton are fair and not complained of. I am thinking that hay and straw will be pretty well finished up by the time winter ends. We trust that the year may be altogether a most favourable one. As yet we can make no speculation.—A. B. (January 10).

Staffs (Mid.)

Under the influence of the abnormally mild weather, following the melting of the snow (of which we had a heavy fall in the concluding days of the old year), grass land is looking fresh and growing. There is every probability of a keen enquiry for cattle and sheep later on, and if the warm temperature is maintained a short time longer, buyers will begin to fill up for spring grazing. On the whole, the winter season up to now has made less demands on dry fodder than is usual at the time of year, and the general health of both cattle and sheep is very satisfactory. According to the doctrine of averages, a grazing year is now due, and a full produce of grass in our pastures would be all the more acceptable, because of its scarcity in recent summers. Our streams and ponds are now well supplied with water, and at the same time the condition of the surface and subsoil on all descriptions of land is favourable to vegetable life. The higher prices of all feeding stuffs have considerably increased the cost of production of milk and meat, and owners of live stock are by no means favourable to an import duty on grain or other food used for farm stock. Consumers of breadstuffs, as things now go, do not buy so many quarters of wheat and flour as the owners of live stock buy of feeding stuffs.—T. C. S. (Jan. 10).

Westmoreland.

December, with its severe frosts, bitter and biting cold winds, followed by almost unprecedented storms of wind and heavy falls of snow, which in several districts blocked highway traffic and caused a large number of sheep to be overblown on the Crossfell and other mountain ranges, a great quantity of which have perished through the extreme severity of the weather and weight of snow by which they were overlaid. It is many years since anything so disastrous to the fell side farmers has occurred. The extreme wintry character of December has seriously shaken the confidence of our local weather prophets, who predicted that a mild winter was sure to succeed a hot, dry summer. This feeling was strongly supported by the delightful November weather which immediately preceded; so much for human sagacity. The Christmas fat shows are now things of the past, but the general results are not so soon forgotten; the prices obtained for mutton were extremely disappointing, and left little or nothing for their expensive keep since autumn. Beef was more satisfactory, as there was a general rise upon previous values, though the rise was more apparent than real, as Christmas cattle are, almost without exception, heavier in the carcase in proportion to live weight than ordinary fed cattle. There is reason to think that butchers, dealers, and other distributors fared better than producers, which we hope may react upon values in future. Outdoor labour has been almost entirely suspended during the month, but as stock of all kinds has depended entirely upon hand feeding much extra labour has been required over them. A very serious inroad has, however, been made upon the shortage of fodder, which is evidently causing considerable alarm, as is evidenced by the sharp and considerable rise in the price of all feeding stuffs, especially oat straw, which is now realising more per cwt. than the best hay does under normal conditions. Threshing has been proceeding rapidly, and the general results are more satisfactory than was expected. Prices, too (in harmony with other feeding stuffs), are rising. There are two subjects of a general character which are beginning to excite some interest among agriculturists—viz., education and the line which the Chancellor may adopt to replenish his exhausted exchequer. It is to be hoped that the farmers' interests in the former subject may not be entirely overlooked, and when the opportunity occurs that they may make their voices heard and have some scheme adopted which will produce more satisfactory results than the hard and fast line of the London syndicate, who appear to have no sympathy for farmers, and, if possible, less knowledge of their requirements.—T. B. (January 7th).

Foreign Prospects.

FRANCE.—The weather is mild, and in farmers' opinion, too mild for the well-being of the wheat crop, which they consider would be all the better for lower temperature, to strengthen the plants and exterminate weeds and vermin. The only change of note in the market position, is the growing inclination of farmers to sell instead of continuing to hold wheat in hope of higher prices; on the other hand, millers are apathetic and will buy only just enough to meet pressing needs, the demand for flour and bran not being remunerative.

HOLLAND AND BELGIUM.—Weather continues suitable for agricultural matters, but a colder spell would not be amiss to dry the land and give a filip to consumtive inquiry. Rotterdam reports a quiet trade for wheat, while flour is firmer and meets inquiry for immediate delivery.

GERMANY.—Much rain and unseasonably high temperature have cleared away the ice from inland navigation, but have not improved the tone of grain markets, which are more dependent for their cue upon American cables than upon the healthier influences of supply and demand.

RUSSIA.—In the south the weather continues mild and damp; snow has fallen again in Central and Eastern districts; there is nothing of importance to say about crop prospects, farmers are already busy where the land is clear, and spring sowings will soon become general. The approach of the New Year (old style) has a quieting influence upon trade everywhere; the milling demand for wheat continues good, but the wretched state of the roads prevents vehicular traffic, and thereby supplies are stopped.

HUNGARY.—Crop conditions continue satisfactory. Weather dull, damp, and very mild. Business at Budapest during the last few days was quiet, but yesterday there seems to have been a sudden upspring in term wheat, which closed 10d. per 480 lb. higher, with demand active to the last.

ROUMANIA.—The condition of the young cereal crops leaves little to be desired, and snow would be welcomed to protect the late sown fields.

SPAIN.—No weather report to hand. Barcelona market has been quiet. Millers buy wheat sparingly, as flour sells slowly. Feeding stuffs tend easier.

ITALY.—The latest crop accounts are satisfactory.

UNITED STATES.—The wheat plant is tender in some sections, but the general position favours good results, barring the development of adverse conditions later. Farmers are selling live stock and holding grain, especially wheat.—*Dornbush.*

We are in receipt of a copy of the thirtieth annual circular of the West Norfolk Farmers' Manure and Chemical Company, Ltd., King's Lynn. As in previous years, it is an interesting review of the past year from an agricultural point of view.

Farm Fire near Maidenhead.—A destructive fire occurred on Thursday night at Knowl Hill, near Maidenhead, on Micklem Farm, belonging to Mr. William Tomlinson. The cause of the conflagration is unknown. It originated in a barn, which was totally destroyed, together with other outbuildings, two corn ricks, and a threshing machine and gear.

Interesting Presentation.—Mr. James Forbes, M.V.O., King's Commisioner at Balmoral, who recently retired from his Majesty's service in order to superintend the management of the Duke of Atholl's estates in Perthshire, has been presented with a massive silver bowl and candelabra, the former being a replica of the Monteith bowl in possession of the Vintners' Company, London, 1702, as a mark of esteem from those employed under him. The presentation was made at Abergeldie Castle, in the name of the retainers and tenants on the Royal estates.

Light Railways.—The Board of Trade has recently confirmed orders authorising the construction of light railways in the Boroughs of Jarrow and South Shields, in the County of Durham; in the City of Worcester and in the rural districts of Pershore and Upton-on-Severn, in the County of Worcester; in the County of Sussex, between Northiam and Rye; in the parish of Clifton, in the rural district of Barton-on-Irwell, in the County Palatine of Lancaster; and in the County of Leicester, from Loughborough to Mountsorrel, and in the Borough of Loughborough.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Malt: A quiet trade. Barley: Grinding 3d per qr cheaper; malting rather dearer. Wheat: Firm. Oats: Steady. Maize: About 3d per qr lower on the week. Flour: Unchanged.—NIXON, GOWER AND CO.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—There was only a small attendance at market, and buyers evinced little desire for fresh business, but the general tendency of prices denoted steadiness. Home-grown wheat, though slow, inclines in sellers' favour, the supply being still scanty. Good reds about 29s 6d per qr delivered. American unchanged. No. 1 Northern Manitoba, 31s 9d ex ship. Hard Kansas Winters, 30s 3d ex ship; 30s 9d ex quay. Flour unaltered. Iron Duke quoted 20s ex store. Grinding barley neglected at the recent decline. Odessa, 18s 6d ex ship. Oats the turn better in tone, and maize unchanged. Beans and peas remain at late high prices, while sparingly submitted. Arrivals of grain this week: English and Scottish: Barley, 170qr; maize, 120qr. Foreign: Wheat, 8,960qr; barley, 1,540qr; oats, 57,200qr; beans, 610qr; peas, 190qr; maize, 22,410qr. Flour, 40,060 sacks.

Mark Lane, Friday.—To-day's Exchange was thinly attended, and what little business transpired proved unimportant. Prices were without material alteration. The supply of English wheat continues to come up very sparingly, as town millers still manifest no inducement to farmers, while country markets continue wanting, and prices keep firm. Whites range at 29s 6d to 31s, and reds at 28s to 30s 6d per qr., delivered up. Foreign descriptions unchanged, and arrivals off the coast continue small. Sellers of American descriptions evinced no desire to press. No. 1 Northern Manitoba held for 31s 9d ex-ship; No. 1 hard Manitoba, 32s ex-ship. Hard Kansas, Winters, 30s 9d landed, and nominal ex-ship. Flour generally firm, despite a poor consumptive demand. Town households were again fixed this afternoon at 23s 6d; and whites 3s per sack more. Whole meal, 172s per ton. Grinding barley easy. Odessa 18s 6d asked ex-ship to come up, and 19s ex-quay. English malting well maintained, useful types remaining scarce up to 40s. Attention is still being paid to anything suitable for spring seed sowings at 27s to 30s. Inferior sorts continue plentiful. Oats, although slow, were fairly steady. English very firm. Holders of beans and peas remain indifferent, despite rather less money being named for the former recently.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Trade for wheat firm, with a little more inquiry. No improvement in prices, which ranged between 28s and 30s for both red and white varieties. Oats up to 23s; and maize, 28s per quarter.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, red (new), 28s to 28s per qr.; beans (old), 37s to 39s per qr.; oats, 17s to 20s per qr. Market firm to 6d or 9d more money.

Birmingham.—Although fairly well attended the market was quiet. English wheats were unchanged on the week, realising 10s 6d to 11s per bag. Foreign wheats unchanged to 3d lower. Grinding barley 18s to 19s 3d per qr. Sharpness flat maze, 4s 9½d per cental Liverpool. English oats very scarce, and English beans 3s per bag dearer.

Boston, Wednesday.—Wheat, 28s 6d to 29s; malting barley, 26s to 31s; oats, 20s to 21s; peas, 52s to 56s; beans, 34s; grinding barley, 22s 6d; maize, 25s 9d.

Braintree, Wednesday.—There was a large attendance, but trade ruled quiet. Prices showed no inclination to rise.

Bristol, Thursday.—Since our last a moderate trade has passed. To-day English wheat was in fair supply, and made about 6d advance. Foreign 3-1 higher. Barley 3d dearer. Maize and oats both 3d to 6d lower. Demand for flour not large, consumers being reluctant to pay the advance.—GRACE BROTHERS.

Bury, Wednesday.—Wheat: The supply was barely sufficient to meet the local demand. This made trade firm, and prices were fully equal to last week's. Reds and whites, 28s 6d to 29s 6d per qr. Barley in about average supply, with a steady demand for all useful samples, running from 28s to 33s per qr. Not many better sorts on offer, but some trade at 34s to 36s per qr. Feeding corns very firm, except maize, which was steady, but no better on the week.

Cambridge, Saturday.—During the week trade has been quiet. Supplies are fair, but many samples lack condition. Spring corn is sparingly offered, and there is some demand for parcels for seed. At this market, to-day, we had a good supply of wheat. Trade was quiet, but no change can be noted in values. Red, 28s to 29s; and white, up to 29s per 504lb. Barley is falling off in quantity offering, and prices are against the buyer. Some inquiry for seed lots. Oats very firm.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Better supply of oats in our market to-day; good sale at late rates; new 20s 6d to 22s 6d, old 23s to 23s 6d per 336lb.—THOMAS ROBINSON.

Chester, Saturday.—English grain met more inquiry, and wheat is quoted 2d dearer. Oats in good demand at similar advance. Beans and barley firmer. Wheat, 4s 4d to 4s 6d per 75lb; malting barley, 3s 8d to 3s 9d per 60lb; grinding barley, 3s 3d to 3s 6d per 64lb; old oats, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; new oats, 2s 10d to 3s 1d per 46lb.

Chichester, Wednesday.—There was a moderate supply of wheat on offer, and trade was firm at fully last week's prices. A similar remark applies to other departments. The attendance was about up to the average.

Colchester, Saturday.—Wheat: Small supply; very firm market at the extreme prices of last week. Beans, peas and oats fully maintained.—FRANCIS & Co.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There was a good attendance at our market to-day. Wheat and flour are quiet, and prices rather in buyers' favour. Indian corn and round maize quiet, and about 3d per 280lbs cheaper. Foreign oats quiet at late rates. Home oats slow, and 3d to 6d per 264lbs easier. Grinding beans scarce on spot, and rather dearer. Canadian pease unchanged. Barley steady. Bran and thirds steady, and unchanged. Oatmeal dull.—GIBSON & CLARK.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Wheat, with a rather better supply, was steady, at last week's prices, although the condition of samples was hardly so good; reds 29s to 30s; whites 29s to 30s per qr. Barley was in good average supply, with a fairly healthy demand for all useful parcels, running from 28s 6d to 33s per qr; a few better class parcels made 34s and 35s per qr; grinding corn firm; foreign 3d lower. Oats: Last week's prices were well maintained, good parcels being worth fully 23s to 26s per qr. Beans and peas a small but firm trade. Lentils: German scarce and nominal: Indians, to arrive, 33s per 504lbs. Maize quiet, and unaltered; new round 24s to 24s 6d: old round and flat nominal. Linseed cakes firm, at £8 5s to £8 10s per ton. Cotton cakes £5 5s per ton. Bran easier, at £5 10s per ton.

Leeds, Tuesday.—Wheat and flour stocks in the United Kingdom prove lighter than expected, and shipments continue moderate. The American markets display great strength, and Continental ones follow suit; millers in this country, whether they like it or not, have to pay more money, and with an improved consumptive demand for wheat, last week's rates are exceeded, Russians and Americans being 6d dearer; barley, unaltered; maize, 6d lower; beans and oats, steady.—DUNNS AND CO.

Leeds, Friday.—Both English and foreign wheats fully maintain Tuesday's advanced prices, with a further slight rise for finest qualities, English making from 30s to 31s, and foreign 28s to 31s 6d. Flour the turn dearer, and all other articles very firm.

Lincoln, Friday.—Good supply of wheat, which sold at the full rates of last week, top price being 31s qr. Malting barleys, small show, and very firm at recent quotations. New maize a trifle easier, but old maize, beans, and peas very firm. Oats a little dearer.

Leicester, Saturday.—Fair supplies of wheats. Dry samples in better demand at 28s to 31s 6d per 36 stones. Malting barley a better trade. Grinding barley quiet. Fine oats in very good demand.

Liverpool, Friday.—The market has had a fair attendance, but wheat is only in moderate demand, resulting in a quiet trade, with prices unchanged from last market day, the gain of ½d in the interim being lost. Flour continues to hold steady at previous rates, but only a slow trade is passing in foreign. A slight improvement is to be noted in domestic flours; prices unaltered. Maize—Mixed is very scarce, but is ½d lower, with a quiet trade. European is unchanged to 1½d lower, but meets a good demand at the decline, Odessa selling freely at 4s 10½d. Plate meets a fair inquiry, but only a moderate trade is in progress at 1d decline. Barley is very quiet for malting without alteration. Feeding slow, but steady. Beans are firmly held, but inactive. Peas had a moderate inquiry at a reduction of ½d per cental for Canadian. Oats are very steadily held, with only a small inquiry at late rates for English. Foreign sorts are steady without change in price. Oatmeal firm, but inactive at quotations. Oilcake continues to have a brisk demand at last market day's full prices.—SEGAR AND TUNNICLIFFE.

Maidstone, Thursday.—Trade for wheat to-day very slow. Mild, dark weather affects the condition, and with a slack demand, the tone is very weak and inclined to relapse. Other grain quite a small business, the prices such as to cause buyers only to supply for passing needs. No change in rye, tares, hemp, bran, sergum, or millet.

Manchester.—The tendency this week has been for the most part towards slightly higher rates. English wheat is quoted at fully last Thursday's prices, but foreign is rather worse to buy. Demand limited. Flour is quoted 6d per sack dearer, but here also business is only of retail extent. Indian corn tends against buyers. Oats and barley quietly steady, in odd quarters. Peas and beans are slightly cheaper, but mostly unchanged.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—Wheat at our to-day's market ruled steady at last week's quotations; maize favouring buyers; beans and peas a fair demand, last week's prices maintained; barley quiet, no change in values; oats in buyers' favour.—JOSEPH POLLARD & Co.

Newport, Wednesday.—Wheat steady, and no change. Maize slow demand, and 3d to 6d cheaper on the week. Barley, oats, and beans, no change in price. Flour, fines 23s 6d per sack. Offals were dearer.

Northampton, Saturday.—Wet day, stormy and unpleasant. Small market; supply limited; demand inactive. Quotations very firm; in some cases for very fine samples of wheat a trifle dearer. White wheat, 28s to 30s; red, 27s to 29s; barley, 26s to 32s; grinding ditto, 21s to 25s; oats, 19s to 22s; old fine, 25s; beans, 33s to 34s; old fine, 40s; flour, 22s to 23s; fine, 26s

Norwich, Saturday.—Wheat was in better supply today, but with no new feature in the trade. Only a small supply of barley offering, prices being about the same as last week. Mild and open weather continues. Wheat, red, 28s 6d to 29s per qr; weight, 63lbs per bus. Imperial corn inspector's return for the week ending January 6th, 1902: Wheat, 2,477, 26s 5¾d; barley, 5,180.5, 28s 7½d.—J. ARTHUR MILLS.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Wheat in moderate supply; fair trade; values in sellers' favour. Barley, less offering; trade steady at full rates. Oats and beans small show, and each 6d higher.—ROBERT HUBBLE.

Peterborough, Saturday.—The supply of wheat today has not been large, but trade was flat, and last week's prices were scarcely maintained. Not much barley offering, and more money asked for it. Oats and beans firm.—THOMAS HILL & SON.

Plymouth, Thursday.—Moderate attendance. Wheat dearer; maize unaltered, spot scarce; barley and oats steady.—ORLANDO DAVIS AND Co.

Reading, Saturday.—We had an excellent attendance in the Exchange here to-day, but trade was rather quiet. Wheat came to hand plentifully, and where sales were effected the prices realised were fully up to last week's quotations. Barley also was in good supply, but here, again, the demand was limited. Recent rates, however, were fully upheld, as well as for oats, beans, and peas.

Ripon, Thursday.—There is a scarcity of samples on offer. The attendance is very thin, and little business is being done. Wheat, English (new), 29s 6d to 30s 6d; ditto foreign, 22s to 33s; barley, grinding, 22s 6d to 23s 6d; ditto malting, 26s to 31s; oats (old), 24s to 25s; ditto (new), 21s to 24s; round maize, 27s to 28s per qr.; beans, 1s per stone.

Romford, Wednesday.—Wheat trade firm at last week's prices. Only a small supply on offer. Red wheat 28s, white 28s 6d to 30s per qr.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Very little change in the wheat market, sellers maintaining last week's prices for both English and foreign wheat. Oats 6d per qr dearer; beans firm, and corn 6d a qr cheaper. Barley unchanged. Quotations:—Wheat, white, 30s to 31s; ditto, red, 30s 6d to 31s per 504lb; oats, new white, 21s 6d to 22s 6d; ditto new black, 20s to 21s per 336lb; peas, grinding, 32s to 34s; ditto blue, 53s to 80s; beans, Egyptian, 35s to 36s per 504lb; ditto English, new, 37s to 37s 6d per 532lb; barley, grinding, 21s 6d to 22s; ditto malting, 28s to 32s per 448lb; Indian corn, small, 25s to 26s; ditto American mixed, 27s 6d to 28s per 480lb.

Spalding, Tuesday.—At the Corn Exchange wheat was 3d to 6d dearer, making 29s per qr. Oats a firm trade, at 21s 6d to 22s. Beans, peas, and barley firm and unchanged.

St. Neots, Thursday.—There was not a great quantity of wheat on offer, and prices were very firm, but there was not much business passing. The trade for barley was quiet, at rates not quotably altered. Oats and beans firm.—ELGOOD AND SON.

Stockton, Wednesday.—A small supply of farmers' wheat, which made 30s to 32s per qr. Foreign wheat trade has been firm during the week, and holders are asking 6d to 9d per qr more money, the demand being fair. Oats and maize 3d easier. There was not much malting barley showing, which made late rates.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Fair supply of grain. Wheat quiet, unchanged. Spring corn steady. Arrivals coastwise, oats 420qrs, foreign nil.—E. & F. RICHARDSON.

Wakefield, Friday.—There is no material change in the trade since Tuesday; firmness is still the order of the day, America and Russia rather raising their limits, but millers hesitate to buy wheat far ahead at any advance. Barley slow. Maize, beans, and oats unchanged.—DUNNS AND Co.

Wakefield, Friday.—In the small business passing on to-day's market, foreign wheat is quoted 3d to 6d per quarter dearer, and English remains steady at late rates. Malting barley is pressed for sale at about late prices. No alteration in feeding stuffs.—MICHAEL SANDERSON AND SON, LIMITED.

Winchester, Saturday.—Wheat in moderate supply; dry samples made fully late rates; inferior lots difficult to sell. Barley firm, with more inquiry. Maize 0d to 1s cheaper. Oats quiet, with easier tendency, not quotably lower. Flour 22s 6d to 23s 6d; quiet trade.—FEAR, COLEBROOK AND Co., LTD.

Wisbech, Saturday.—A small supply of grain. Wheat maintained late rates; red 28s 6d, white 29s. Oats and barley steady at late rates.—JAMES FLETCHER.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—The proceedings were of a quiet character. Quotations:—Wheat, new, 12s 6d to 13s per 216lb; oats, old 15s 6d to 16s, new 12s 6d to 13s 6d; beans, old 15s 6d to 16s 6d, new 14s 3d to 14s 9d per 196lb; barley, 31s to 32s per 448lb; maize, 27s to 28s per 448lb.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Moderate attendance and small show of grain. White wheat 28s to 29s, red wheat 27s 6d to 28s 6d, best malting barley 28s to 32s, secondary qualities 26s to 28s, grinding barley 25s to 26s, white oats 21s to 23s, black oats 19s to 21s, maize 27s to 28s per qr, fine sharps £6 to £6 10s per ton, barley meal £6 16s 8d to £7, bran £5 10s to £6 10s per ton, flour 1s 1d to 1s 3d per stone.

York, Saturday.—Large attendance, and a moderate show of samples of grain. Best wheat sold at 29s to 30s; medium, 27s to 28s per 35 stones; fine barley, to 30s; medium, 28s to 29s; common, 26s to 27s per 32 stones. The demand was chiefly for the commoner sorts. Oats were more plentiful, but still maintained late rates. Blacks, 20s to 21s; short white, 21s to 22s per 24 stones. Beans, peas, and other feeding stuffs were firm.

FOREIGN.

Hamburg, Saturday.—Barley Report.—Market rules quiet here, but prices are maintained, as holders are by no means pressing, and finest is evidently getting very scarce. In the meantime the demand is unsatisfactory, as maltsters and brewers seem to be well stocked. Besides from England we are hare of any orders, as the prices ruling here are considered too high. I quote good to fine new Chevalier, Saale, and Bohemian, 30s to 32s; extra fine, 33s to 35s; choice, 36s to 38s per 448lb. f.o.b. steamer here, or 2s per quarter more delivered E. C. of England.

Hamburg, Saturday.—Weather rainy and boisterous. Market firm for all articles, with a fair demand for wheat. The imports during the week amounted to 2,746 tons wheat; 244 tons rye; 525 tons barley; 5,085 tons maize. Hard winter wheat No. 2 is scarce and held at 30s to 30s 6d. Russian Azima, February-March shipment selling at 27s 9d to 28s 6d per 480lbs., while Kurrachee is offering at 28s 6d; Walla Walla at 33s to 33s 6d per 500lbs. ex ship at Hamburg. Rye firm; 9 15-20 South Russian, March-April, 22s 9d per 480.bs., c.i.f, Hamburg. Malting barley quiet, but fine quality continues scarce, and best Saal is eagerly taken by inland brewers at equal to 34s 6d to 35s f.o.b. Good Saale is held at 31s 6d to 32s 6d; Bohemian to arrive per barge at 30s 6d to 31s; fine Slovakian and Moravian on the spot at 37s 6d to 39s per 448 lbs f.o.b. South Russian feeding barley is selling at 18s 3d to 18s 9d per 400 lb c.i.f. Hamburg. Mixed maize floatng is offered at 25s 6d, but meets no attention. Odessa and Danubian, arriving in fair condition, is selling at 22s 3d to 22s 6d per 480lb ex ship here; demand slow.—JOHN TATLOCK.

Paris, Wednesday.—The situation of trade, as regards native wheat, exhibited a slight change from that of the previous week, in so far that on farmers' part there was a little more inclination evinced to sell at rather lower prices, if not in all, at least in the majority of the provincial exchanges. The exceptionally mild weather now being experienced is evidently the principal cause of the retrogression in values, as farmers deem it inadvisable to maintain any large stocks of wheat, which would certainly have the effect of depreciating prices later on should the growing crop, having well supported the rigours of the winter season, give promise of a bountiful yield. Offers were consequently more regular at to-day's reunion, farmers appearing to have abandoned their expectant attitude; however, millers have modified but little their mode of operations adopted since the opening of the campaign. In short, in face of more liberal offers there was still the same quietude in the demand. Quotations are as follows:—Choice red 37s 10d, ordinary 36s 11d, and white 37s 10d to 38s 9d per 480lb. Trade in foreign wheat is nil and tendency quiet. Term wheat opened weak at 15s decline, but closed supported at a slight advance, at the following rates: Jan. 38s 3d to 28s 8d, at the following prices:—Jan. 28s 2d, Feb. 28s 5d 39s 7d, March-June 39s 7d to 40s, and May-Aug. 40s to 40s 5d per 480lb. Flour.—*Fleur-de-Paris.*—The market was weaker at the opening, but closed at a slight improvement, at the following prices:—Jan. 28s 2d, Feb. 28s 5d o 28s 8d, March-April 28s 11d to 29s 2d, May-June 29s 2.1 to 29s 5d, and May-Aug. 29s 5d to 29s 8d per 280lb. Consumption marks flour.—Transactions are still within an ordinary compass among dealers and bakers, but millers firmly support their currencies owing to the high prices they have to pay for the raw material. Dealings in rye are still inactive, which is not at all surprising in presence of the dulness of the provincial centres. Under these conditions prices remain unchanged, but with a supported tendency. Here prices were nominally unaltered with, however, a few more sellers. Oats show a little firmer feeling, as farmers' supplies are already diminishing perceptibly. Transactions were still insignificant, and values of home-grown corn are quotably unchanged on the week. Barley is quiet, but unaltered. Trade is quite insignificant for maize, consumers reducing their provisions as much as possible.—*Dornbusch.*

FOREIGN CORN TRADE.

The shipments of grain from the chief exporting countries last week were as follows:—

	Wheat. Qrs.	Flour. Sks.	Maize. Qrs.	Barley. Qrs.	Oats. Qrs.
United States...	319,000	217,000	22,000	20,000	—
Russia	160,000	—	90,000	—	99,000
France.....	—	5,000	—	—	—
Austria-Hungary	—	5,000	—	—	—
Roumania	90,000	—	230,000	20,000	—
Argentina	—	—	22,000	—	—
India	29,000	—	—	—	—
Australasia	11,000	—	—	—	—
Miscellaneous ...	20,000	10,000	20,000	20,000	10,000
Total 629,000		237,000	384,000	60,000	109,000

ENGLISH WHEAT IN 1901.

Highest of Year	27s. 7d.
Lowest of Year	26s. 10d.

Gradient	1s.	9d.
Mean of Year	26s.	9d.

IMPERIAL AVERAGES.

Statement showing the Quantities sold and average price of British Corn, Imperial Measure, as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended January 11, 1902, conformably with the Act of the 45th and 46th Victoria, cap. 37.

Wheat	48,997½ qrs.	27s.	8d.
Barley	69,120½ qrs.	26s.	7d.
Oats	14,995 qrs.	20s.	0d.

LONDON AVERAGES.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, January 7th, 1901.

	Total Quantities, Imperial Measure.		Total Amount.			Average Price per qr. Imperial Measure.		
	Quarters.	Bus.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Wheat	201	4	272	16	3	1	7	1
Barley	396	1	565	15	0	1	8	7
Oats	618	3	631	17	6	1	0	5

IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGES.

1901.	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
Jan. 5	22,272	26	5	55,917½	25	4	9,785	17	2
,, 12	41,709½	26	7	92,886½	25	6	14,795½	17	3
,, 19	64,162½	26	11	119,580	25	9	22,714½	17	6
,, 26	74,277	26	10	119,320½	25	6	24,989½	17	3
Feb. 2	72,527½	26	7	87,205	25	7	21,707½	17	8
,, 9	44,882½	26	8	51,608½	25	7	16,241½	17	7
,, 16	67,350	26	4	63,870½	25	4	21,069½	17	7
,, 23	68,159½	26	1	65,514½	25	0	23,418½	17	7
Mar. 2	68,224	25	11	52,600½	25	0	21,858½	17	9
,, 9	63,714½	25	9	51,125½	25	4	19,410½	17	7
,, 16	55,073½	25	9	36,968½	25	1	14,040	17	7
,, 23	53,753½	25	8	27,840½	24	11	13,895½	17	9
,, 30	47,908½	26	0	20,179½	24	9	12,418½	18	0
Apr. 6	42,721½	26	3	14,647½	25	3	11,776½	18	0
,, 13	32,905	26	5	6,809½	26	0	5,936½	18	1
,, 20	35,737½	26	8	6,734½	25	7	8,346½	18	8
,, 27	46,372	26	8	6,985½	25	8	8,300½	18	8
May 4	46,616½	26	9	6,417½	26	4	6,869½	19	1
,, 11	47,118½	27	3	4,279½	26	2	7,049	19	1
,, 18	52,875½	27	7	2,508	24	2	7,345½	19	4
,, 25	49,822½	27	7	1,511½	24	1	4,665½	19	8
June 1	46,514	27	7	859½	23	8	4,938	19	9
,, 8	42,202	27	6	221½	22	9	4,023½	20	1
,, 15	46,764	27	8	1,404½	24	0	5,565½	19	7
,, 22	29,695	27	6	336½	23	2	3,552½	20	3
,, 29	28,191½	27	6	692½	25	4	2,803½	20	0
July 6	19,564½	27	8	140½	21	9	1,800½	19	10
,, 13	15,231½	27	2	49	23	10	1,675½	19	9
,, 20	17,462½	27	3	88½	23	4	2,040½	19	11
,, 27	18,297½	27	3	206½	22	1	2,385½	19	4
Aug. 3	18,666½	27	6	250½	23	1	3,219½	20	0
,, 10	19,156	27	7	141½	22	1	2,143½	19	4
,, 17	22,617½	27	4	220½	27	2	5,982½	18	9
,, 24	37,168½	27	3	976½	23	7	9,952½	18	1
,, 31	61,603½	27	0	4,877½	24	3	14,654½	17	10
Sept. 7	66,623½	26	5	14,342½	25	1	19,075½	17	6
,, 14	77,949½	26	2	34,989½	24	11	19,909½	17	4
,, 21	80,279½	26	0	70,096½	25	5	26,476½	17	4
,, 28	80,488	25	10	109,783½	25	10	22,567½	17	2
Oct. 5	60,376½	25	8	126,592½	26	3	21,631½	17	7
,, 12	63,656½	25	9	172,175½	26	5	16,815½	17	6
,, 19	58,772½	25	10	203,591½	26	8	15,506½	17	8
,, 26	52,984½	25	11	208,471½	25	10	18,009½	17	5
Nov. 2	70,314½	26	2	134,277½	26	10	18,350½	17	7
,, 9	62,265½	26	6	202,577½	27	0	20,066½	17	8
,, 16	57,884½	26	9	201,725½	26	9	20,122½	18	3
,, 23	63,150½	27	1	185,268½	26	10	20,612	18	7
,, 30	60,323½	27	1	193,434½	26	9	22,419½	18	9
Dec. 7	67,925½	27	1	162,996½	26	7	23,993½	19	0
,, 14	48,045½	27	2	182,212½	25	10	17,125½	17	1
,, 21	60,562½	27	7	119,398½	26	8	26,260½	19	8
,, 23	43,718½	27	7	81,859½	26	8	16,901½	19	10
1902.									
Jan. 4	31,440½	27	7	34,777½	26	7	11,621½	19	10
,, 11	48,997½	27	8	69,120½	26	7	14,995	20	0

MONTHLY AVERAGES.

(196 Market Towns.)

	1900. Wheat	Barley	Oats	1901. Whea	Barley	Oats
January	25 10	25 7	16 3	26 8	25 7	17 4
February	26 0	25 2	16 8	26 5	25 5	17 7
March	25 11	24 10	17 0	25 10	25 0	17 10
April	25 11	24 9	17 6	26 3	25 7	18 3
May	25 9	24 10	18 2	27 6	25 2	19 4
June	25 10	23 8	19 0	27 7	23 11	19 10
July	28 10	23 8	19 5	27 4	22 9	19 8
August	28 9	23 10	19 5	27 4	24 0	18 10
September	28 6	25 7	17 6	26 1	25 4	17 4
October	28 5	26 3	17 0	25 10	25 7	17 6
November	27 3	25 10	17 0	24 9	26 10	18 2
December	26 7	25 9	17 2	27 4	26 8	19 5

YEARLY AVERAGES (OFFICIAL.)

	Wheat. s.	d.	Barley. s.	d.	Oats. s.	d.
1890	31	9 per qr.	28	8 per qr.	18	7 per qr.
1891	37	1 ,,	28	2 ,,	20	0 ,,
1892	30	4 ,,	26	2 ,,	19	11 ,,
1893	26	4 ,,	25	6 ,,	18	9 ,,
1894	22	10 ,,	24	6 ,,	17	1 ,,
1895	23	1 ,,	21	11 ,,	14	6 ,,
1896	26	2 ,,	22	11 ,,	14	9 ,,
1897	30	2 ,,	23	6 ,,	16	11 ,,
1898	34	0 ,,	27	2 ,,	18	5 ,,
1899	25	8 ,,	25	7 ,,	17	0 ,,
1900	28	11 ,,	25	9 ,,	17	9 ,,
1901	27	2 ,,	25	3 ,,	18	5 ,,

COMPARATIVE AVERAGES.

Comparative statement for the corresponding week to December 28th, in each of the years from 1897 to 1901.

	WHEAT. Qrs	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Q s.	s.	d.
1897	51,982½	31	8	107,846½	24	10	17,406½	16	5
1898	47,863½	35	0	100,674½	27	8	17,917½	17	4
1899	68,711½	27	2	100,017½	28	2	23,650	17	1
1900	57,021½	25	11	83,421½	25	5	19,706	16	3
1901	41,709½	26	7	92,886½	25	6	14,795½	17	3

FLUCTUATIONS IN THE AVERAGE PRICE OF WHEAT.

PRICE.	Dec. 7.	Dec. 14.	Dec. 21.	Dec. 28	Jan. 4.	Jan. 11.
27s. 8d.	...	...	...	...	...	
27s. 7d.	...	...				...
27s. 6d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 5d.	...					
27s. 4d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 3d.	...					
27s. 2d.	...					
27s. 1d.		...	...	...	...	...
27s. 0d.						
26s. 11d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
26s. 10d.	...					
26s. 9d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
26s. 8d.	...	...	...	...	...	...

TITHE RENT CHARGES.

For 1902	67	3	9
,, 1901	66	10	9
,, 1900	66	15	10
,, 1899	68	2	4
,, 1898	68	14	11
,, 1897	69	17	11
,, 1896	71	9	7
,, 1895	78	13	0

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF LONDON TOWN HOUSEHOLDS FLOUR.

of 280 lb. ex-mill for cash.)

	1901 s.	d.	1900 s.	d.	1899. s.	d.	1898. s.	d.	1897. s.	d.	1896. s.	d.	1895. s.	d.	1894. s.	d.
Jan.	24	6	21	9	23	9	29	0	25	6	18	9	18	7½	21	6
Feb.	24	0	22	0	23	6	30	0	24	7½	19	4½	17	9	21	6
March	23	9	21	6	22	3	30	0	23	11	19	3	18	0	21	0
April	24	0	21	6	22	0	31	3	23	6	19	6	18	7½	20	6
May	23	6	21	3	22	3	30	7	23	7	19	0	20	4½	18	6
June	23	0	23	6	23	1½	35	0	22	7½	18	10	22	3	18	10½
July	22	3	24	6	21	9	29	6	22	10½	18	6	20	0½	19	3
August	22	3	24	0	21	9	27	6	26	8½	18	8½	19	10½	19	3
Sept.	22	0	25	3	22	0	26	5	30	3	19	6	19	8	19	3
Oct.	21	6	24	9	23	3	26	1	29	0	23	7½	18	7½	18	3½
Nov.	21	6	24	3	22	3	25	0	29	1	25	8½	18	4½	18	3
Dec.	21	9	24	0	21	9	24	3	29	0	25	7½	18	1	18	8½
Yrly. Avrg.	22	10	23	2	22	4	29	6½	25	10½	20	8½	19	2	19	7

STOCK OF GRAIN IN LONDON.

Official Returns, Published 10th January, 1902.

	Wheat. Qrs.	Flour. Sacks.	Barley. Qrs.
Jan. 1, 1902	248,988	397,965	133,203
Jan. 1, 1901	320,279	420,173	118,255

	Oats. Qrs.	Maize. Qrs.	Beans. Qrs.	Peas. Qrs.
Jan. 1 1902	592,401	46,345	8,815	8,831
Jan. 1, 1901	272,125	37,555	10,231	9,981

	Malt. Qrs.	Oil Cake. Tons.	Tares. Qrs.	Linseed. Qrs.
Jan. 1, 1902	1,433	7,053	1,048	4,741
Jan. 1, 1901	2,337	7,395	438	5,334

LONDON FLOUR MILLERS' ASSOCIATION.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1901.

	London Whites. s.	d.	Town Households. s.	d.
September 2	(per sack) 26	0	(per sack) 23	0
,, 18	,, 25	6	,, 22	6
December 9	,, 26	6	,, 23	6

(No official change since last date given).

CORN STATISTICS.

ARRIVALS INTO LONDON.

January 1 to 8, 1902, inclusive.

	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat qrs.	750	31,802	32,552
Barley	2,377	38,810	41,187
Malt	17,926	...	17,925
Oats	796	113,225	114,020
Rye	...	2,000	2,000
Beans	351	630	981
Peas	392	590	982
Maize	...	47,133	47,133
Oilseeds	...	5,000	5,000
Farm seeds	1,307	5,144	6,451
Flour, sacks	20,006	53,937	73,943

CORK BUTTER.

	ORDINARY. Firsts.	Seconds.	Thirds.	Fourths.	MILD CURED FIRKINS. Superfine.	Fine.	Mild.	FIRKINS IN MARKET.
	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.	
Monday	104	88	80	—	112	94	—	50
Tuesday	104	88	80	—	112	93	—	60
Wednesday	100	89	80	—	112	95	—	70
Thursday	104	90	80	—	115	96	—	40
Friday	104	94	81	—	115	91	—	50
Saturday	104	93	81	—	115	96	—	70

OIL SEEDS.

LINSEED. per 416 lb.	s.	s.
English	57 to 59	
Dutch	56 to 58	
Bombay	57 to 59	
Calcutta	54 to 55	
Russian	55 to 56	
Argentine	52 to 53	

SESAME. per 424 lb.		
Indian	48 to 50	

COTTON SEED per ton.		
Egyptian	128 to 130	

RAPESEED. per 416 lb.	s.	s.
English	56 to 60	
Calcutta	38 to 39	
Guzerat	43 to 45	
Ferozepore	37 to 39	
Jamba	29 to 30	
Ravison	27 to 29	

POPPYSEED. per 377 lb.		
Indian	46 to 47	

SUNFLOWERSEED. per 448lb.		
Russian	41 to 45	

POULTRY AND PROVISIONS.

Smithfield, Saturday.—Supplies moderate, trade dull at the following quotations:—Fowls: Yorkshire, 3s to 3s 3d; Boston, 2s 6d to 3s; Essex, 2s 9d to 3s 6d; Surrey, 3s 6d to 5s; Sussex, 3s to 3s 6d; Welsh, 2s to 2s 3d; Irish, 1s 9d to 2s 3d; ditto ducks, 2s to 2s 6d; turkeys (cocks), 6s 6d to 8s; hens, 4s 6d to 5s 6d; geese, 4s 6d to 6s; country ducks, 2s 6d to 3s 6d; pigeons, 9d to 1s; quail, 10d to 1s 3d; wild rabbits, 8d to 10d; tame, 1s to 1s 3d each; Australian, 7s 6d to 8s 6d per dozen; pheasants, 3s 6d to 3s 9d; young partridges, 3s to 3s 4d; tame, 1s 9d to 2s per brace; hares, 2s 6d to 3s; leverets, 1s 6d to 2s; wild ducks, 1s 6d; pintail, 1s to 1s 3d; widgeon, 1s; teal, 10d to 1s; woodcock, 2s to 2s 3d; snipe, 6d to 10d; golden plover, 8d to 10d; black ditto, 5d to 6d; Russian capercailzie (cocks), 2s to 2s 6d; hens, 1s 8d to 2s each; blackgame, 1s to 1s 2d; partridges, 1s to 1s 2d each.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent-Garden, Saturday—Fair supply of greenstuffs met a quiet sale. Supplies of fruit were of fairly good extent, and met with steady support. Potatoes quiet of sale. Vegetables: Cabbages, 4s to 6s; cauliflowers, 8s to 10s per tally; beetroot, 1s 6d to 2s 6d, spinach, 1s 6d to 2s per bushel; turnips, 2s to 2s 6d; parsley, 1s to 1s 6d; leeks, 1s 6d to 2s 3d per dozen bunches; horseradish, 1s 3d to 1s 6d per bundle; Brussels sprouts, 1s 9d to 2s 3d per half-sieve; celery, 8s to 12s per dozen rolls; forced rhubarb, 1s 6d to 2s per dozen bundles; English onions, 6s to 6s 6d per cwt; Valencia, 6s 6d to 7s per case; potatoes, 45s to 70s per ton. Fruit: English apples, 3s 6d to 12s per bushel; Nova Scotian, 18s to 24s per barrel; Californian, 9s to 10s 6d per case; English grapes, 1s to 2s 6d; Channel Islands, 9d to 1s 6d per lb.; Almeria, 10s to 18s per barrel; Jaffa oranges, 8s to 10s; Denia, 10s to 16s; Valencia, 8s 6d to 12s 6d per case; pine apples, 2s to 5s each; lemons, 10s to 18s per case; English tomatoes, 4s 6d to 6s; Channel Islands, 3s to 4s 6d per 12lb.; Canary, 4s to 4s 6d per case; Redon chestnuts, 6s to 10s per bag.

POTATOES.

Goole, Wednesday.—There was a good attendance of buyers and farmers here to-day with a better demand; prices had an upward tendency. The Co-operative Company's price was 5s 9d per load of 18 stones for imperators and maerkers. Dates and giants, 6s per load; the best quality of dates made from 6 6s to 6 7s per ton; retail price, 6d per stone.

Borough, Saturday.—Heavy supplies to hand evidenced slow support; prices, however, about unchanged. Quotations:—Scotch Maincrops, 80s to 90s; Reading Giants Blacklands, 45s; Blacklands Up-to-dates, 45s to 50s; Lincoln silts, 60s; Gartons, Blacklands, 45s per ton.

Spitalfields, Saturday.—Market heavily supplied, and with no improvement in demand, business at about late prices ruled extremely slow. Quotations:—Best Lincoln Up-to-dates, 60s to 70s; Blackland ditto, 45s to 50s; Wisbech ditto, 50s to 60s; Scotch ditto, 60s to 65s; Scotch maincrops (grey soil), 70s; Lincoln maincrops, 80s to 90s; Reading Giants, 45s to 50s; and Blackland Gartons, 45s per ton.

HOPS.

Worcester, Saturday.—During the past week the inquiry for hops has improved, and resulted in a very fair amount of business being done. Choicest samples have been in request, and useful copper hops have also sold freely. At market to-day buyers were ready to give late rates but some holders would not give way, and still ask more than current prices. Several sales resulted of choice, medium, and cheap hops.

Worcester, Saturday.—At our new market to-day there were few growers offering their hops, but a fair quantity has been sold since our last market. The demand is for the best qualities, which are very limited; but for good useful sorts there is also a fair inquiry, and where growers will accept current prices, a fair business has been done.—PERCY AND CO.

THE BALTIC.

Wheat cargoes have been a very quiet trade. Sales have included Californian at 30s. 9d., Blue Stem at 30s. 9d., Walla Walla at 29s. 9d., South Russian Winter at 30s. 3d., Roumanian at 27s. 6d., Argentine at 29s. 9d., Australian at 30s., No. 1 Northern at 30s. 6d., and White Kurrachee at 30s. per quarter.

Maize cargoes have been a reactionary market, and weak holders have suffered rather severely. Money, however, is fairly cheap, so that there is a determined resistance to decline on the part of many of the leading houses. Sales included Argentine at 22s. 9d., Odessa at 22s. 3d., Salonica at 24s. 3d., Caucasian at 23s. 6d., Turkish at 23s. 6d., and American at 25s. 6d. per quarter.

Barley is 3d. lower for cargoes of Californian, which has changed hands at 24s. 9d. per quarter. Feeding barley has made 18s. 6d. for Odessa, and the same price for Roumanian.

Oats have been irregular, but closed weak. The sales comprise White Libau at 19s., Roumanian at 17s. 3d., South Russian at 18s. 6d., Black Swedish at 22s. 3d., and fine heavy New Zealand at 25s. per quarter.

Other cargo sales of the week comprise Roumanian rye at 22s. 6d., white Calcutta peas at 31s., Calcutta linseed at 51s. 6d., Argentine linseed at 48s. 3d., brown Cawnpore rapeseed at 38s. 3d., and Smyrna dari at 23s. per quarter. There have been two cargoes of Egyptian cottonseed sold at £6 6s. 3d. per ton on passage.

Cargo arrivals January 1st to 11th include five wheat, one maize, and one linseed. The arrivals in the same period of 1901 were six wheat, five barley, and one linseed.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

Wheat is growing uncommonly well, and farmers are pleased at seeing a thick, vigorous, and regular plant. Like the British Army, all we want is to see a little more of it. The year's average price, which was below seven-and-twenty shillings, sufficiently explains the declining acreage. The Argentine crop is turning out rather well, but the price realised at Mark Lane does not encourage increased cultivation, and there is a pause in the development of Argentine agriculture. In Australasia two colonies only have good wheat crops, and the large exports of 1901 will hardly be repeated. In America rapid alternations of severe cold and thaw are bad for the autumn-sown grain, and the same news comes from Germany. The Danube and the Black Sea are extraordinarily free from ice for January, and shipments go on briskly. Twenty-four hours may, however, bring a complete change in this respect, and no trade calculations can be built upon the basis of open ports in Russia or Roumania in January, February, March, or even April. A very remarkable feature of 1901 has been the development of Roumanian trade; the following return is therefore well worthy of attention. The Bulgarian exports, for which no returns are yet available, have also been larger than usual.

ROUMANIAN SHIPMENTS IN 1901.

Qrs	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Maize.
Jan.	277,000	22,000	—	281,000
Feb.	354,000	121,000	—	241,000
March	55,000	50,000	—	13,000
April	172,000	58,000	—	169,000
May	288,000	203,000	—	410,000
June	128,000	50,000	—	1,108,000
July	19,000	20,000	—	603,000
August	161,000	15,000	—	360,000
Sept.	275,000	100,000	10,000	309,000
Oct	428,000	105,000	129,000	159,000
Nov.	513,000	400,000	265,000	190,000
Dec	430,000	94,000	118,000	428,000
Total	3,100,000	1,290,000	522,000	4,325,000

The shipments from La Plata in 1901 have been fair of both wheat and Indian corn. But they cannot be called excessive of either staple.

ARGENTINE TRADE IN 1901.

	Wheat. Qrs.	Maize. Qrs.
January	180,000	62,000
February	496,000	43,000
March	870,000	123,000
April	601,000	144,000
May	446,000	527,000
June	542,000	805,000
July	195,000	888,000
August	186,000	1,077,000
September	23,000	550,000
October	75,000	266,000
November	62,000	285,000
December	64,000	173,000
Total	3,746,000	4,553,000

Supplies on passage to the United Kingdom on 11th January are returned as follows:—

	1902.	1901.
Wheat, quarters	2,455,000	2,202,000
Barley, quarters	715,000	484,000
Maize, quarters	925,000	872,000
Beans, quarters	8,000	6,000
Flour, sacks	384,000	456,000

The wheat includes a large quantity of Californian, and not inconsiderable consignments from America. Australasia, and India. Both Russia and Argentina are represented by much smaller quantities than usual. The barley includes 190,000 qrs. of Russian and Roumanian, 460,000 qrs. of Californian, and 40,000 qrs of Turkish. The maize is mostly round and yellow corn. Very little flat is on passage. The beans, for the most part, are coming from Egypt, and the flour, as usual, is mostly American.

Imports of the week were heavy of maize, moderate of wheat and barley, fairly good of oats and flour. The total supply of breadstuffs was as follows:—

	Quarters.
English wheat	78,000
Foreign wheat	233,000
Foreign flour	130,000
Total	441,000

These supplies were about 126,000 qrs. below estimated current requirements.

Stocks of British wheat and of imported bread stuffs thus compare with a week ago:—

Qrs.	11 Jan.	4 Jan.
British	3,778,000	3,856,000
Foreign	2,827,000	2,953,000
Total	6,605,000	6,809,000

The imports of cereals in 1901 thus compare with recent years:—

	Breadstuffs. Qrs.	Barley. Qrs.	Oats. Qrs.	Maize. Qrs.
1901	23,746,000	6,259,000	8,357,000	11,231,000
1900	23,334,000	5,030,000	7,487,000	12,212,000
1899	23,002,000	4,919,000	5,715,000	14,467,000
1898	22,418,000	6,912,000	5,795,000	13,793,000
1897	20,631,000	5,278,000	5,859,000	12,358,000
1896	23,017,000	6,203,000	6,031,000	11,974,000
1895	24,816,000	6,157,000	4,954,000	7,956,000
1894	22,344,000	8,375,000	4,811,000	8,275,000
1893	21,877,000	6,396,000	5,017,000	7,673,000
1892	22,306,000	3,998,000	5,662,000	8,256,000
1891	20,692,000	4,891,000	5,960,000	6,259,000

It is only on a ten-years' comparison that the larger movements of the trade can be accurately measured. Wheat and flour imports appear to have attained a remarkably steady position. Barley imports in 1901 were larger than in the two preceding years, but smaller than in 1898. Oats seem to be a growing trade. Maize made a most remarkable advance in 1896, since when the trade has not done more on the whole than sustain the important increase in business then effected. The stocks of grain in London and Liverpool thus compare:—

	London.	Liverpool.
Wheat, qrs.	243,000	303,000
Barley, qrs.	133,000	70,000
Oats, qrs.	582,000	17,000
Maize, qrs.	46,000	158,000
Flour, sks.	399,000	43,000

London remains more than ever the capital of the oat trade, while Liverpool keeps its primacy as our chief port for maize.

There are very few price changes from a week ago. The weather has been against purchasing, and the advancing tendency expected to make itself manifest with January was dependent on the prevalence of ordinary winter rigour.

THE BALTIC, 1 p.m.

STATE OF TRADE.

Wheat cargoes are not a good sale, but prices are about maintained. Maize has opened 3d. lower for round and yellow. Barley and oats share in the general dullness.

BUSINESS DONE.

WHEAT.—Californian, 30s 6d, on passage; Walla Walla, 29s 6d, on passage; Australian, 30s 6d, on passage; Russian Winter, 29s 6d, on passage; Argentine, 29s, February shipment; No. 2 Red Winter, 29s 6d, February shipment; No. 1 Northern, 30s 3d, on passage; Fine Manitoba, 31s 9d, prompt shipment.

MAIZE.—Roumaniah, 22s 6d, May shipment; Russian, 22s 6d, on passage.

BARLEY.—Azoff, 19s, on passage; Odessa, 18s 9d., on passage.

OATS.—Konigsberg, 20s, prompt shipment; New Zealand, 24s, prompt shipment.

BEANS.—Egyptian, 31s, prompt shipment.

BUCKWHEAT.—Russian, 24s. prompt shipment.

COTTONSEED.—Egyptian, £6 15s 3d, prompt shipment.

Manitoba's Crop Yields for 1901,

The results of the last season in Manitoba are given in the bulletin issued by the Provincial Department of Agriculture at Winnipeg. With regard to the wheat crop the bulletin says that the average yield for the province is now given as 25.1 bushels per acre, and a total crop of 50,502,085 bushels. The Eastern district suffered most from too heavy straw, and heads only partly filled. The yield increased westward to the boundary of the Province, and was particularly heavy in the North-Western District. In the Rapid City district and westward and along the line of the Manitoba and North-Western Railway a wonderful crop, averaging 30 bushels to the acre, was garnered. The oat crop, although on the whole a good crop, was not up to expectation in many districts. Early sown oats are reported A 1, but late oats were very heavy in the straw, and in some districts rusted badly, so that the grain from these fields is light. A number of fields were thinned out badly by cut worms. The barley crop was generally reported as one of the best ever grown in the Province; heavy yield, and fine, plump berry. The Province has been specially free from any disastrous hailstorms. A few districts suffered slightly from the ravages of grasshoppers. Every section of the Province has been favoured this season with a bountiful harvest.

Weather Conditions.

From the time the seed was sown the conditions were most favourable to plant growth. Excessive growth put some crops partly down, and a few hot days were blamed for preventing wheat from filling properly. The ripening season, however, was almost perfect. The time of cutting satisfied everybody, and a record was made in all parts of the Province in cutting and stocking grain. Then for a month or six weeks farmers were almost in despair on account of continued wet weather, and so much grain in stock, but a change came, and Manitoba has experienced the finest of weather for threshing and marketing the great crop during October and November. A cold dip came the first day of November, stopping fall ploughing, but up to the date of issue of the bulletin (December 12th), weather conditions were most favourable for all outdoor works, and roads in splendid condition for marketing grain.

THIS DAY'S MARKETS

[FIRST REPORT.]

MARK LANE, MONDAY.

The market to-day commands a fair attendance, but the enquiry for bread stuffs is limited, and prices for English wheat are barely so good as last week. Fine No. 1 Northern American of the 1900 crop makes 32s. to 32s. 6d., new crop about 9d. lower than old. The best Australian from Victoria realises fully 31s. 3d., while there are samples of short berried New Zealand as low as 28s. 6d. Indian wheat is very scarce. Russian is dull at currencies. Argentine is scarce, pending new crop supplies. Maize is very firm for American, but Russian, Roumanian, and Turkish sorts are fully 1s. cheaper on the week, and 6d. decline may also be quoted in La Plata. The spot market for this article is much weakened by the "bear" movement on the speculative or "term" market for future delivery. Barley is quiet, there are a small number of steady buyers of Californian at 25s. to 26s., and of Russian at 19s. to 19s .3d. per quarter. The trade is expected to improve with the first touch of colder weather. Oats are rather neglected. South Russian at 18s. 6d., and Roumanian at 17s. 9d. have a certain quiet sale. The holders of English, Swedish, and New Zealand are very firm. Beans make 31s. to 31s. 6d. for samples from Tangiers, and peas 37s. for anadian. Malt is unchanged in price; there is a little more doing from last week at currencies.

(For Close of Market see foot of Column.)

QUOTATIONS OFF STANDS.

Jan. 13, 1902.

BRITISH GRAIN.

		s.	s.
WHEAT, White (new)	(per 504 lb.)	29	— 32
,, (old)	,,	30	— 33
Red (new)	,,	28	— 30
,, (old)	,,	29	— 30
Chicken or Feed	(per 480 lb.)	27	— 28
BARLEY, Malting	(per 448 lb.)	30	— 34
Brewing	,,	27	— 30
Feeding	(per 400 lb.)	24	— 24
MALT, English	(per 336 lb.)	34	— 40
Scotch	,,	36	— 38
Black	,,	30	— 32
Brown	,,	29	— 32
Crystallized	,,	33	— 35
OATS, English, New Winter	,,	20	— 21
,, Tartary	,,	19	— 20
,, Old Winter	,,	21	— 23
,, Tartary	,,	20	— 21
Scotch	,,	22	— 23
Irish	(per 304 lb.)	19	— 20
RYE, British	(per 480 lb.)	23	— 25
BEANS, Pigeon	,,	36	— 40
Winter	,,	31	— 35
Mazagan	,,	30	— 32
PEAS, Best Marrowfat	(per 504 lb.)	70	— 70
Blue (boiling)	,,	50	— 74
Dun	,,	31	— 33
Maple	,,	36	— 40
TARES, Winter	(per 504 lb.)	30	— 34
Spring	,,	44	— 46

FOREIGN GRAIN.

(Ex-Granary.)

	s.	s.
WHEAT, per 496 lb.		
Old Duluth	32	— 33
Manitoba	31 6	— 32
American Spring	31 6	— 32
Red Winter	30/6	— 31
Hard ,,	30	— 30 6
Kansas	30	— 30 6
Californian	30 9	— 31
Walla Walla	30	— 30 6
Australian	31	— 31 3
New Zealand	29	— 30
Argentine	30	— 31
Danzig	32	— 33
Saxonka	31	— 32
Azima	30	— 31
Ghirka	29	— 30
Indian	29	— 30
MAIZE, per 480 lb.:		
Russian	25	— 25/6
Roumanian	25	— 25/6
Turkish	24 6	— 25
American	27	— 27/6
Argentine	25	— 26
OATS:		
N. Zeal'd (384 lb.)	23	— 28
Swedish (336 lb.)	21	— 23
Canadian (320 lb.)	20	— 21
American (320 lb.)	20	— 21
K'nigsb'g (320 lb.)	20	— 21
Pet'sburg (304 lb.)	19	— 20
L'bau, w'te (304 lb.)	19	— 20
,, black ,,	19	— 20
Vologda (304 lb.)	19	— 20
BEANS, per 480 lb.:		
Egyptian	33	— 34
Smyrna	31	— 32
New Zealand	34	— 36
LOCUST BEANS, per ton:		
Italian	102	— 104
Cyprian	106	— 112
Portuguese	105	— 107
PEAS, per 504 lb.:		
Canadian, White	37	— 38
Australian, White	41	— 42
New Zeal'd Maple	39	— 41
MILLET, per 416 lb.:		
White	33	— 45
Red	25	— 27
Yellow	24	— 26
DARI, per 480 lb.:		
Smyrna	24	— 25
Persian	21	— 23
RYE, per 480 lb.:		
Russian	24	— 25
BUCKWHEAT, per 416 lb.:		
French	24	— 25
Russian	24	— 26
TARES, per 504 lb.:		
Konigsberg	44	— 48
BARLEY:		
New Zeal'd (448 lb.)	26	— 29
Chilian (448 lb.)	30	— 40
Californian (448 lb.)	26	— 33
French (448 lb.)	27	— 29
Danubian (400 lb.)	19	— 21
Ouchak (400 lb.)	22	— 28
Yerli (400 lb.)	21	— 22
Russian (400 lb.)	18/6	— 19
MALT, per 336 lb:		
Californian	35	— 37
Smyrna	25	— 37

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

By Telephone, 2 *p.m.*

THE MARKET CLOSED WITH DULNESS, BUT WITHOUT DEPRESSION.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, Jan. 13

There was a fair demand for country makes at 21s. to 24s., the latter price being demanded for the special brands of well-known East Anglian firms. The price of London makes was fully maintained. American flour was rather firmer on the week for the secondary types; it is an anomaly of current trade that the finest qualities should be the most difficult to sell. There were hardly any buyers of Hungarian, the prices asked being decidedly high. Australian had a small but steady sale. French flour was neglected. Bran middlings and oatmeal were all rather in buyers' favour, the recent weather having reduced the retail requirements in a noticeable manner.

LONDON FLOUR.

		s. s.
Top Price	(per sack)	— 25
Town Whites	,,	— 28
,, Households	,,	— 22
No. 2	,,	— 20

COUNTRY FLOUR.

Best Patents	(per sack)	22/9—23
Fine Roller made	,,	21/9—22
Ordinary Roller made	,,	20/6—21
Best Stone made	,,	20/6—21
Ordinary Stone made	,,	19/6—20

FOREIGN FLOUR.

Minnesota First Patents	(per sack)	23/6—24
,, Second Patents	,,	21/6—22
,, First Bakers'	,,	19/6—20
,, Second Bakers'	,,	18—18/6
Milwaukee Patents	,,	22/6—23
,, Bakers	,,	18—18/6
Kansas Patents	,,	21/6—22
,, Bakers'	,,	18/6—19
Cascadia	,,	21/9—22
Canadian	,,	22—23
Australian Patents	,,	20—21
,, Straight	,,	19—20
Hungarian	,,	26—30
French	,,	20—22

MEAL, &c.

Whole Meal	(per ton)	164—170
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	113—115
Bran, London Broad	,,	110—112
,, ,, Fine	,,	98—100
,, Country Flake	,,	116—120
,, ,, Broad	,,	108—110
Pollard	,,	104—106
Fine Middlings	,,	120—122
Coarse Middlings	,,	108—110
Feeding Flour (Red Dog)	,,	115—120
Barley Meal	,,	121—128
Rye Flour	,,	150—155
Oat Meal	,,	270—280
Oat Flour	,,	340—360
Maize Flour	,,	164 166
Maize Meal	,,	122—126
Maize Cones	,,	170—172
Maize Germ Meal	,,	110—115
Pea Meal	,,	130—150
Bean Meal	,,	145—165
Rice Meal	,,	100—106

LONDON TERM MARKET.

This market is held twice a day except on Saturday, when there is no afternoon call. The market is open to elected members only. No business except for future delivery is done, and the smallest quantity that can be purchased is 1,000 quarters, or 4,800 centals. The name of the month stands for guaranteed delivery (if required) on or before the last day of that month, and the following have been the prices per cental recently made :—

WHEAT.—Calls.	Jan. s. d.	March. s. d.	June. s. d.
Jan. 6 11 a.m.	6 3	6 5	6 4
4 p.m.	6 3	6 5	6 4
Jan. 7 11 a.m.	6 4	6 5	6 4
4 p.m.	6 4	6 5	6 4
Jan. 8 11 a.m.	6 4	6 5	6 4
4 p.m.	6 4	6 6	6 5
Jan. 9 11 a.m.	6 4	6 6	6 5
4 p.m.	6 4	6 6	6 6
Jan. 10 11 a.m.	6 4	6 6	6 6
4 p.m.	6 4	6 6	6 6
Jan. 11 11 a.m.	6 4	6 6	6 5
To-day noon	6 4	6 5	6 5

The "bear" movement in maize continues, and spring delivery was obtainable this morning at 4s. 8d. per cental.

The Term Market standard wheat is No. 1 Northern Spring American sold on the Duluth certificate. Other sorts of wheat can be bought at the above prices plus or minus agreed difference between the other sort and the standard quality. Quotations are by the "true hundredweight" or cental of 100 lb. We do not give fractions of a penny per cental. The maize quoted is fair average quality from the United States.

The deposit required from members of the Term Market has been fixed at £50 minimum and 1s. per quarter margin on any purchases above 1,000 quarters.

The Term Market (while the "Baltic" is rebuilding) is temporarily situated at the Great Eastern Hotel, No. 190, Bishopsgate-street, ground floor.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS' REPORTS.

Offals.—Bran at the moment is rather slow sale and tendency of prices in favour of buyers.—GREENHILL BROS. (Belfast).

Flour.—In view of strong cables from America spot flour is being quoted 6d. to 1s. per sack higher; there is, however, but little response so far from buyers. Values on spot are as follows: 1st Spring Patents, 24s. 6d. to 25s. 3d.; 2nd Spring Patents, 23s. 6d. to 24s.; American Winter Patents, 24s. 6d. to 25s. 3d.; Extra Fancies, 22s. 6d. to 23s.—GREENHILL BROS. (Belfast).

Flour.—Values are again 6d. per sack higher, and there is a fair trade passing in winter wheat grades. Grain: Round and flat Indian corn are depressed owing to heavy shipments and arrivals. Oats and oatmeal are in buyers' favour. Oilcake firm. Pease, beans, and barley are quiet. Millstuffs: Bran and thirds steady.—MCKINNON AND MCDONALD (Glasgow).

Arrivals are small of both wheat and flour. Trade firm; prices fully supported. Maize been lower for round; flat unchanged. Barley quiet; prices unchanged. Oats dull and 3d. per quarter cheaper.—COVENTRY, Mark Lane.

Flour firm at an advance of 6d. over the price of this day week. Forward business impracticable, owing to the prohibitive prices asked from the mills.—T. S. MEDILL AND SONS.

SEEDS.

London, Monday.—Messrs. John Shaw and Sons, Seed Merchants, of Great Maze Pond, Borough, London, S.E., report a fair all-round business now doing. English red cleverseed offers more freely, and choice samples of same are readily placed, but inferior qualities are more difficult of sale. Fine parcels of alsyke and white are scarce, and realise high rates. Trefoil, meantime, keeps steady, whilst the recent advance in perennial and Italian ryegrasses is well maintained. Tares are more inquired for, but the long prices asked restrict the demand. Linseed somewhat favours buyers, but mustard and rapeseed are unchanged. Canary and hempseed are both dearer. The late unseasonably mild weather curtails the consumption of blue peas and haricot beans. The Board of Trade returns give the imports for the last month into the United Kingdom, of clover and grass seeds as 44,912 cwts, value £93,704, as against 29,280 cwts, value £60,736, for December, 1900.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed Cakes.—The tone of the market has distinctly improved during the last few days. Country dealers have shown more inclination to operate at present prices, but with fairly heavy accumulation of foreign, values, although firm, are not quotably dearer. Russians sell steadily, and are unchanged in price. Americans are still obtainable at last week's prices. Calcutta made in bags remain relatively cheap, with quotations unchanged. English are the turn dearer, and crushers now ask 2s 6d per ton over last week's prices. Cotton Cakes.—There is a fairly active demand, probably owing to the low figures at which these cakes are obtainable, but with a considerable quantity in second hands, values remain quiet, best Egyptian offering at last Monday's prices, and English 1s 3d per ton dearer. Decorticated are in more request and slightly dearer, and meal slightly easier. Rape cakes dull, East India offering at 5s per ton less money. Maize germ meal.—Both American and English are scarce and without change. Rice meal.—Some steamer parcels of Rangoon afloat offer at £5 1s 3d to £5 2s 6d, which is also the price asked for January and February shipments, while landed lots are unchanged in price :—

	Per ton. £ s. d.	Per ton £ s. d.
LINSEED CAKES.		
London made ex mill	8 0 0	to 8 2 6
American, in bags ex dock	7 3 9	to 7 7 6
Russian, in mats ex dock	7 10 0	to 7 12 6
Russian, in bags ex dock	7 15 0	to 7 17 6
East India seed ex wharf	7 12 6	to 7 15 0
COTTONSEED CAKES.		
London made ex mill	4 13 9	to 4 15 0
Egyptian, in bags ex dock	4 12 6	to 4 13 9
Decorticated	6 12 6	to 6 16 3
Meal	6 12 6	to 6 13 9
RAPE CAKES.		
East Indian Seed ex mill	—	to 4 0 0
Ravison	4 5 0	to —
MAIZE.		
American germ meal ex mill	6 2 6	to 6 5 0
English	6 2 6	to 6 5 0
RICE MEAL.		
Rangoon ex wharf	5 5 0	to 5 7 6
ex ship	5 1 3	to 5 2 6

—PINNOCK BROS., Mark Lane.

London, Monday.—Linseed Cake.—Market quiet. Prices of English cake have advanced 2s 6d, and there is a better demand for this class of cake. Decorticated cake and meal steadily unchanged. Undecorticated rather easier. Linseed strong and 1s dearer on the week.

English Linseed Cake	8 0 0	to 0 0 0	ex mill
American Calcutta Linseed Cake	7 12 6	,, 7 15 0	ex quay
,, Western ,,	7 5 0	,, 7 7 6	,,
Russian Oil Cake	7 10 0	,, 7 17 6	,,
Feeding Cake, Samuelston's S.P.F. (10 to 12 per cent. O.l)	ex warehouse.		
Compo Cake, Samuelson's S.P.F. (7 to 9 per cent. O.l)	do.		
Decorticated Cotton Cake	6 12 6	,, 6 17 6	ex quay
do. do. Meal	6 15 0	,,	do.
London-made do. Cake (best)	6 12 6	,, 4 15 0	ex mill
Egyptian do. do. (in bgs)	4 12 6	,, 4 10 9	ex quay
Burton Desiccated Ale Grains (bags included)	5 7 6	on rail, Burton.	
Guinness, Desiccated Porter Grains (bags included)	ex warehouse, Lonpon.		
Rangoon Rice Meal	ex warehouse.		
Russian Linseed in bulk, per 416 lbs	2 12 6	to 2 17 6	ex w'r'h'se.
Calcutta Linseed in bags, per 410 lbs	2 12 6d	to 2 13 6	do.
American Linseed in bulk, 410 lbs	2 13 0	do.	do.

ROBERT AND JOHN HEWETSON.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

Monday, Jan. 13th, 1902.

	British.	Total.	Jan. 14th, 1901.
Beasts	1530	1,530	1,500
Sheep and lambs	8,470	8,470	7,760
Calves	20	20	—
Pigs	—	—	130
Milch cows	45	45	50

Quotations per 8 lbs. (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.	Inferior. s. d.	Second. s. d.	First. s. d.
Beasts	2 8	4 0	4 9
Sheep	3 4	4 10	5 6
Lambs	5 6	6 0	6 8
Calves	3 0	4 8	5 0

Milch cows, per head, £15 to £22 10s.

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, 102; Eastern Counties, 588; Midland, Home, and Western Counties, 707; Devon, 30; Ireland, 103.

In the beast market to-day, compared with Monday last, there was an increase of 100 head, chiefly from Scotland, Ireland, and Norfolk. Trade was of a slow nature, but late rates were maintained. Fat cows, being in excess of the demand, were slow of sale, even at a reduction of 2d per 8lbs. On the other hand, fat bulls, being shorter, remained firm.

The following are top quotations per 8lbs. (sinking the offal) :—

	To-day.	Jan. 14th, 1901.
Scotch	4s 8d to 4s 9d	4s 7d to 4s 9d
Devons	—	4s 6d to 4s 8d
Herefords	4s 6d to 4s 7d	—
Norfolks	4s 6d to 4s 8d	4s 6d to 4s 8d
Runts	4s 4d to 4s 6d	—
Lincolns	4s 4d to 4s 6d	4s 4d to 4s 6d
Irish	4s 2d to 4s 4d	—
Fat cows	3s 8d to 3s 10d	3s 6d to 3s 8d

In the Sheep Market there was a decrease of 1,030 in the number present. For wether sheep trade was firmer at late rates; best quality ewes, being short in number, made more money. The few good lambs on offer sold readily. The supply included 300 Scotch and 4,390 from eastern counties.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8lbs. (sinking the offal), and are for the best of each class penned :—

	To-day.	Jan. 14th, 1901.
7½ to 8-st. Downs	5s 4d to 5s 6d	5s 8d to 5s 10d
9-st. ditto	5s 2d to 5s 4d	5s 6d to 5s 8d
10-st. Half-breds	4s 10d to 5s 0d	5s 2d to 5s 4d
12-st. Lincolns	4s 6d to 4s 8d	4s 10d to 5s 0d
10-st. Down ewes	4s 0d to 4s 2d	4s 4d to 4s 6d
11-st. Half-bred do.	—	4s 0d to 4s 2d
5-st. Down lambs	6s 6d to 6s 8d	—
6-st. Half-bred do.	5s 10d to 6s 0d	—

Calf trade nominal. No pigs on the market.

Central, Monday.—Good supplies; trade slow. Beef carcases, 3s 10d to 4s; hindquarters, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; roastings, 5s to 5s 8d; sheep, ewe, 2s 6d to 2s 10d; wether, 3s 10d to 4s 2d; hindquarters, ewe, 4s to 4s 4d; wether, 5s to 5s 4d; pigs, large, 3s 8d to 4s; small, 4s to 4s 4d.

ST. IVES (HUNTS), Monday.—Beasts, 223: sheep, 1,515 pigs, 380. Beef, 7s. 6d. to 8s. 3d.; mutton, 7s. 7d. to 9s. 4d., pork, 6s. 6d. to 7s. 3d.; sows, 5s. 6d to s. 6d. Fat beasts brisk trade; stores slow; fat and store sheep middling; fat and store pigs good. Milch cows fair prices, £14 to £22.

FOREIGN CATTLE

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts, 1,203. There was a fair average supply of beasts for a Monday's market, consisting entirely of shipments from the United States, trade for which was of a very slow nature at a slight decline on Monday's currencies. The best on offer to dress about 720lbs made 4s 6d per 8lbs, offal given in; second quality, 4s 3d. Sheep, 1,406, consisting of consignments from the United States, trade for which ruled slow, carcass butchers being in no hurry to buy. Best pens made from 3s 8d to 3s 10d per 8lbs., offal given in. On Saturday 406 States beasts, 245 States sheep, and 700 Canadian sheep were on offer. Beasts were firm in value, best making 4s 6d and occasionally 4s 7d per 8lbs. Sheep trade dull and heavy; States quoted at 3s 8d and Canadians 3s 4d to 3s 6d. The following were the numbers on offer on the corresponding day last year, with the current top rates :—

HAY AND STRAW.

Manchester, Wednesday.—Hay, 6½ to 7½d; clover, 6¾d to 8d; ditto Canadian clover, 6¾d; straw (wheat), 5¾d to 6½d; ditto (oat), 6d to 6½d per stone.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—Supplies met a fair demand at steady prices. Best clover, 95s to 110s; inferior ditto, 80s to 90s; specially picked hay, 117s 6d; good ditto, 108s; inferior ditto, 80s to 90s; mixture and sainfoin, 90s to 110s; and straw, 28s to 40s per load.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—The arrivals from Ireland last week were 3,049 bales bacon, and from foreign ports 8,455 bales bacon.

The Bacon market was quiet last week, especially for all fat Irish and Danish selections, and these were easier in price. Irish ranged from 52s. to 57s. up to 63s. Danish ranged from 50s. to 57s. up to 63s., and Canadian from 46s. to 51s. and up to 56s.

The Butter market was quiet, and prices showed little alteration from previous week.

The Lard market was slightly weaker, especially for American.

Derby Horse Repository Sales.

The pocket list of fixtures to be held at the Cattle Market, Derby, issued by the auctioneer, Mr. Andrew Smith, gives the following dates and sales :—

February 5th.—Heavy and light horses.

March 26th.—Spring sale of Shire-bred mares, stallions, etc; also light horses.

May 29th.—Sale of heavy and light horses.

July 31st.—Sale of heavy and light horses.

October 1st.—16th annual sale of Shire-bred foals.

October 2nd.—Sale of Shire-bred mares, fillies, colts, and geldings.

October 22nd.—Special sale of Shire-bred foals, mares, geldings, etc.; also light horses.

December 3rd.—Sale of heavy and light horses

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW.

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS.")

Trade in London.

The trade for fat beasts at Islington, both for prime and second quality, was again of a very slow and dragging nature, especially for the latter, which must be written lower in value, the former only with difficulty obtaining last week's rates. The supply consisted chiefly of consignments from the North and Midland counties, neither being up to the usual quality in consequence of the failure of the root crops. For fat butchering cows and bulls, our both market days, especially Monday, there was a good demand, rates consequently being firmer. At Deptford, markets were only held on Wednesday and Saturday, arrivals consisting entirely of shipments from the United States; here trade ruled steady, no alteration in value being noticeable; the total number on offer at both markets was 3,200, as against 3,469 during the previous week; the supply consisted of 1,550 British (increase 280), and 1,650 from the United States (decrease 549). The following were the top rates paid per 8lbs. (sinking the offal):—90-stone polled Aberdeens, 4s. 8d. to 4s. 9d.; 90-stone Devons, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; 90 to 95-stone Herefords, 4s. 7d.; 95-stone Runts, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 7d.; 100-stone Lincolns, 4s. 6d; 110-stone ditto, 4s. 4d.; 95-stone Irish, 4s. 4d; 90-stone States, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 7d.; 100 stone fat cows, 3s. 10d.; 100-stone fat bulls, 3s. 6d. to 3s. 8d. In consequence of the larger supply of sheep at Islington trade was extremely slow, notwithstanding that sellers were freely willing to accept 2d. per 8lbs. less money, this remark applying to both wethers and ewes, though the best of the latter made late rates. The few lambs on offer were soon disposed of. At Deptford the business was confined to Saturday, and was very dull; the total number of sheep penned at both markets was 11,575, consisting of 9,930 British (increase 1,870), and 1,645 American (decrease 798); best pens made per 8lbs. as follow:—7½ to 8-stone Downs, 5s. 6d.; 8-stone Scotch, 5s. 6d.; 9-stone Downs, 5s. 4d.; 10-stone Downs, 5s. 2d.; 10-stone Half-breds, 5s.; 11-stone Hampshires, 5s. 2d.; 12-stone Lincolns, 4s. 10d.; 9-stone States, 3s. 10d. to 4s.; 10-stone Down ewes, 4s.; 11-stone Half-bred ditto, 3s. 8d.; 5-stone fat Down lambs, 7s.; 6-stone Half-bred ditto, 5s. 8d. Calves numbered only 25 and pigs 120; the best of the former were quoted at 5s., and the latter 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.

Trade in the West.

With rather more favourable weather than we have been having of late, we are glad to note a slight revival in business in local stock markets, both in respect to fat as well as store things. Some impetus has been given to operations in fat stock in consequence of butchers having completely exhausted the supplies which they laid in prior to Christmas, whilst the improvement in the weather and the subsidence of the floods in many districts has induced a more speculative spirit on the part of many who were in no mood to buy when in many cases their land was half under water. No doubt rain was much wanted; but we should think that, with the fall there has been, the inadequacy has now been fully met—at least that is undoubtedly the case throughout Dorset, and also in many parts of Somerset, Wilts, and Hants. With a better inquiry for bullocks there, with an attenuated supply, being a decidedly improved tone as regards mutton, which has evidently touched its lowest price; at least, indications are not wanting that this is the case in this part of the country. Whilst all the better-most grades of fat beasts make 11s. to 11s. 6d. per score (or from £18 to £23 apiece for all the better weights, either in steers or heifers), with a good selling trade at the price, mutton has undoubtedly become a good deal stronger since our last report, and we consider we are quite justified in quoting prices from ½d. to 1d. per lb. better than they were—1d. in the case of the very best class of Sussex or Southdown wethers, which are again making 8d., and ewes 6½d. to 7½d., the short deliveries coming to hand at all the leading centres importing unusual buoyancy to the trade, which is matter for warm congratulation after the protracted "slump" there has been in the fat sheep market. The few house-fed lambs which are being marketed—mostly cross-breds—also attract very close attention, and the best command quite fancy prices, 10d. to 10½d. per lb., which is likely to be maintained whilst supplies continue as scarce as is the case just at present. The veal trade has also participated in the all-round improvement that is being realised, good ripe calves of medium weights making from £4 up to £6 apiece (or 8d. per lb. for the best and 7d. to 7½d. for seconds). Pigs, though not quotably dearer, are evincing more activity, especially in the lighter weights, which are again selling very freely up to 10s. 6d, if not more, though we cannot quote the ordinary runs of baconers more than 9s. to 10s. Fat sows vary in price as they do in quality, medium weights 8s. to 8s. 6d., and very coarse and heavy pigs 7s. to 7s. 6d. And as there are by no means heavy supplies on hand that we can learn of of any kind of stock for slaughtering purposes, we think that there is good reason to anticipate a better trade all round for some little time to come. As regards stores, the chief inquiry is for milch beasts, which meet a very quick sale at from 17 10s. to £21 10s. each, and cows from £14 to £17, the average for anything at all useful being better now than for some little time past. In-calvers are also very saleable, and there is now more speculation also in regard to barreners, the best of which—those really "fresh"—make up to £30 per pair, or even more, and plainer bullocks from about £18 to £22 or £23. Compared with the outlook a few weeks back the prospect is undoubtedly far more encouraging all round.

Trade in Scotland.

John Swan and Sons, Ltd., give the following as their report on above for the current week:—The number of fat cattle on offer has been rather smaller than last week. The quality, however, has been good. There has been an active demand throughout, and trade has been dearer at prices for the best class, 10s. to 25s. a head up from last week. There was an exceedingly large show of both fat cows and bulls, which had a fair trade.

The supplies of fat sheep on offer have been considerably smaller. Owing to this and a better demand on the part of the butchers, trade has improved to the extent of from 1s. to 2s. 6d. a head over the exceedingly low prices obtained for the last two or three weeks. Ewes also have made more money.

A smaller show of both fat calves and fat pigs continue to make very high prices.

In the store markets, as is usual at this season of the year, there has been very little business done.

A very small show of sheep met a fairly good enquiry at prices more in sellers' favour, to the extent of fully 1s. a head. There was also a very small and indifferent lot of store cattle offered for sale and only a few of the better-conditioned bullocks could get sold. Stirks and calves of secondary quality met no demand at all. A much larger show of milch cows than for several weeks. The best class met a fair trade at prices much similar to those current lately. Extreme top price of best cattle per live cwt. from 38s. 6d. to 41s., current from 36s. to 39s. Mutton from 6½d. to 7¾d. per lb.

Trade in Ireland.

Though there was a good attendance of buyers at last Thursday's Dublin market, an increased supply of both cattle and sheep had a depressing effect on business, which was not nearly so spirited as on the previous Thursday. For really first-class beef rates were fairly well maintained, but for the general run of beasts prices were down about 10s. per head on the week, but a clearance was effected. Prime heifer and ox beef ranged from 52s. to 55s. per cwt., and for a few extra choice animals even 58s. to 60s. was given; second quality, 46s. to 50s., and inferior 42s. to 45s. per cwt. There were 2,276 cattle offered for sale, an increase on the week of 145 head. A slightly better demand for sheep for city and north of Ireland trade was experienced, and the value of best mutton was maintained, but the heavy increase of 1,560 more sheep than last day made buyers more independent, but still they were unable to reduce late rates. Aged wethers and choice, well-finished ewes were scarce, and there was keen competition for them. Prime hoggets sold at a figure equal to what could be got for them on the London market, so shippers were not very keen on business. Best wether mutton, 6½d. to 7d. per lb.; ewe, 5d. to 6d.; inferior sheep from 4½d. to 5d. Small to medium hoggets from 27s. to 40s. each, heavy ditto 42s. to 54s. There was not much inquiry for the few house lambs on offer.

Best veal made from 7½d. to 8½d. per lb.; other descriptions not in request. For prime young springers from £18 to £21 was freely paid, but in the ordinary run of milkers not much business was done. Pig market extensively supplied, but trade sluggish, and prices receded from 2s. to 3s. per cwt. Choice light pigs from 45s. to 46s. per cwt.

The numerous and important fairs throughout Ireland during the week were poorly stocked, but the supply was quite equal to the demand, which is still very sluggish. The reverses of last season have made both dealers and graziers very timid, and buying will not be conducted on the reckless lines of last year. It is expected, however, that the outlook may be brighter in a few weeks' time. In southern markets fat cattle are scarce, and best are selling at from 54s. to 56s. per cwt. Sheep are rather scarce, too, and 7½d. per lb. is freely paid for choice wethers, while other sorts sell from 6d. to 7d. per lb.

LONDON.

Islington, Thursday.—Good supplies offered, and, as usual on this day, the bulk comprised fat bulls and rough cattle. The demand was of a steady nature, and fair sales were effected. Fat bulls, 3s 4d to 3s 8d. The market for sheep ruled dull, and trade proved quite nominal, the supply being too small to form reliable quotations. Calf trade and supply remain nominal. Pigs quiet. Neat small porkers 4s 6d to 4s 8d per 8lb. to sink the offal. Total supplies:—130 beasts, 370 sheep, 15 calves, 5 cows, and 70 pigs.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—With the new year the regulations for the movement of pigs came into force, but they seemed to have little effect. Roasters fetched 10s 6d to 11s per score, and large hogs 9s 6d to 10s, while sows realised 8s per score. Beef sold readily at 10s 6d to 12s per score for the best. Small Southdown and half-bred wethers made 5s to 5s 2d, but for Kent wethers 5s was not reached in any single instance. Veal made 5s to 5s 4d for best qualities, and 4s 8d to 5s for rough calves. No store trade.

Basingstoke, Wednesday.—At Raynbird and Sons' saleyard there was a good attendance of buyers to meet a supply of 46 fat beasts, 59 calves, 453 fat sheep, 310 pigs and 59 head of dairy and store cattle, for which the following prices were realised: Fat Devons up to £25 10s; shorthorn steers £21 15s; shorthorn heifers up to £22 10s, and cows up to £17 10s; Welsh steers made £18 10s; polled heifers for Mr. J. F. Frearson £19 10s, bulls up to £17. Prime quality fat sheep realised from 44s to 56s; 12 months old ditto from 36s to 50s; fat lambs 27s and 42s. Fat ewes 35s to 42s. Rams 30s to 44s. Fat calves 60s to £5 7s 6d, small 20s to 50s. Fat hogs 70s to £5 11s. Porkers 45s to 60s, small 28s to 38s. Store pigs 8s 6d to 28s 6d. Dairy cows £8 to £22. The show of fat beasts included some prime Devon shorthorns, Welsh, and polled Aberdeens, for which there was a brisk demand and a clearance made. Fat sheep and lambs were shown in full numbers, and of good qualities, and attracted attention from local land distant buyers. A clearance was effected at slightly better figures for heavy-weight sheep, and at late full prices for young sheep and lambs. The supply of ewes was short, values inclining upwards. A large entry of dairy cattle on offer, which met a good trade at high prices. Store cattle dull. Fat calves met a fair trade at about previous quotations. Fat hogs and porkers met a good trade at the late satisfactory prices. A large entry of fat sows met a good trade. Store pigs met a fair demand. Ruling values: Prime Devon and polled beasts 7d to 7½d; ditto shorthorn ditto, 6d to 6½d; bulls, cows, and inferior beasts, 5d to 5½d per lb; best quality fat sheep, 7½d to 8½d; second ditto 6½d to 7½d.; old ewes, rams and inferior sheep, 5d to 6d per lb; fat calves, 6d to 7½d per lb; fat hogs up to 10s; porkers, 10s 6d to 12 per score.

Boston, Wednesday.—Best beef, 8s; cow beef, 7s 6d per stone; stores, of which there was a poor show, £9 to £12 10s; in-calvers, £18 to £20; heifers, £16 to £18; calves, 55s to 60s; best wether mutton, 7½d to 8d; ewes, 5½d per lb; hogs, 30s to 34s each.

Bristol, Thursday.—Fair supply of fat cattle. Trade steady at 60s per cwt. for best qualities. Moderate number of sheep. Light wethers fetched 7½d to 7¾d per lb.; ewes, 6d. About 1,000 pigs. Baconers sold at 9s 6d per score; porkers, 10s 9d.

Bury, Wednesday.—At Messrs. Simpson and Sons' auction mart, there was a good show of fat beasts for the time of year. Trade was rather better than last week for the best qualities. Hardly any store cattle shown. Large supply of fat sheep. Trade for all the best hoggets was rather better than of late. Shearlings met a dull trade. Fat ewes sold at about last week's rates. Large show of store hoggets, which sold quite as well as anticipated, many making from 36s to 38s per head. A useful lot of black-faced ewes in lamb went up to 32s 6d, and averaged about 30s per head. Large supply of pigs. Big hogs were hardly so dear on the week. Medium-sized and store pigs fetched about last week's prices.—At Messrs. Lacy, Scott and Son's auction mart, there was a fair supply of stock. Fat beasts were a good trade, at full prices. Fat cows and bulls were in request, and sold readily. Milch cows made up to £18 10s, given for those consigned by Mr. Paley; £16 15s for those consigned by Mr. Dyer. Other cows fetched from £16 downwards. Large supply of calves for weaning, and, except for the best bred ones, prices were easier. Very large show of pigs. Fat pigs were cheaper on the week, but London jointers sold well. Store pigs came to market in large numbers, but buyers from a distance were well represented, and better prices were obtainable for stores than last week.—In the general departments of the market, there were very small supplies of cattle and sheep.

Calne. FRIDAY.—Present prices for prime pigs, in lots of net less than 10, on rail within 100 miles of Calne.

Prime Stores.	Thickness of fat in any part of the Back.	Price per Sc. s.	d.
6 sc. 10 lbs. to 9 sc. 10 lbs.	2½ in. and under ...	9	6
Under 10 sc.	Not exceeding 2½ in. ...	9	0
Under 11 sc. 10 lb. ...	Not exceecing 2¾ in ...	8	6
Under 12 sc.	Not exceeding 3 in. ...		

Any pigs outside these limits at their value.—Half-truck, 12 pigs. Whole trucks, 25,—Charles & Thomas Harris & Co., Limited, Calne, Wilts.

Cambridge, Monday.—Beasts, 212; beef, 7s to 8s. Sheep, 951; mutton, 3s 10d to 5s 2d. Pigs, 155; pork, 6s to 7s. Horses, 12. Only a few store beasts shown; fat beasts, a good number to hand, and a fair trade at late rates; fat sheep, a good show, and trade not so good; stores, a few good lots, and trade fair; fat pigs, a large number to hand, and prices not so good; stores, a poor trade; hay, straw, and roots, short supplies.

Carlisle, Saturday.—On the sands there was a light supply of Irish store cattle. The attendance of buyers was small, and trade dull, useful heifers, which formed the bulk of the supply, being quoted at £10 10s to £15 10s.

Chichester, Wednesday.—There was a fair attendance to meet a moderate supply. Beef was steady at late rates; fat mutton marked a slight rise, but the store trade was still dull and quiet, though most eventually changed hands. The pig department showed a fair amount of activity, and porkers generally sold well. Good bacon pigs were scarce. The stock in market was as follows: Cattle, 381; sheep, 2,661; pigs, 706; calves, 103; horses, 15; total, 3,866. Tolls taken, £21 15s 3d.

Dorchester, Wednesday.—Good supplies came to hand, and a little better business resulted than at the previous market. Fat bullocks ruled steady, at 10s 6d to 11s per score for the best. Mutton still depressed, at about 7½d per lb for the best wethers, and ewes 6½d to 7d. Few lambs offering as yet, the general run for which was 8½d to 9d per lb. Best fat calves made about 7d per lb; seconds, 6½d; rearers, 10s to 35s. Pigs a quieter

trade, at 57s to 90s for baconers and porkers (or 10s to 10s 6d per score); heavy pigs, 8s 6d to 9s. Chickens rather dearer, at 5s to 5s 8d per couple. Good cheese very dear, at 50s to 66s for best Dorset.

Dublin, Thursday.—Numbers in market: Beasts 2,776, increase 145; sheep 5,050, increase 1,560; calves 44, increase 3. There was a weaker tendency in the cattle trade, last week's quotations for choice qualities being barely maintained, while concessions had to be made to buyers of the rough descriptions in order to effect a clearance. Quieter trade for all classes of sheep, best qualities barely making late rates; other sorts favouring buyers. Cattle, live weight (best), 31s to 34s per cwt; other descriptions, 27s to 30s per cwt. Mutton, dead weight, 5¾d to 7d per lb.—GANLY, SONS AND CO.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Bullocks and cows, 621; calves, 86; sheep and lambs, 786; pigs (fat and sows), 48; sucking pigs, 7; pigs (stores, not more than ten), 349; pigs (stores, more than ten), 95; horses, 5. Prices of stock: Best beef, 6d to 7d per lb; wether sheep, 6½d to 8d per lb; ewes, 5½d to 6d per lb; veal, 8d per lb; lamb, 9d per lb; pork, 5½d to 6d per lb; bacon, 6d to 5d per lb.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons report a short supply of fat cattle, which met a sharp trade at an advance of 6d per stone. A grand Cumberland shorthorn bull realised £28. Fat sheep were forwarded in larger numbers; trade was slow, and prices ruled lower. Halford hoggets, to 53s 6d; Suffolks, to 52s 6d; Suffolk shearlings, to 53s 6d; grazing hoggets were well represented, but they were not in much request; Suffolk ewe hoggets, from 34s 6d to 30s; wethers, to 31s 6d. A good entry of calves for weaning, which sold briskly, the best making from 69s to 38s; fat calves, short, and somewhat cheaper. A capital supply of fat swine, and a large attendance of buyers, including representatives from the Midlands. A sharp trade was experienced, recent values being well maintained. Several lots of well bred store pigs forwarded; these were in request at rather more money. Grazing cattle were penned in fair numbers for the time of year; the demand was not so good as last week, and prices were a trifle lower. Fresh-calved cows and heifers were wanted, and sold well, up to £19 10s. Numbers at sales and market: Cattle, 482; calves, 47; sheep, 1,174; swine, 1,663; horses, 30.

Leicester, Wednesday.—There was a very good supply of home-bred stock at market, but a good many lots were out of condition. Trade for choice qualities was active, but inferior were very slow. Choice bullocks made 6¼d to 6¾d per lb; secondary, 5¾d to 6d; cows, 5d to 5¼d; heifers, 6¼d to 6¾d. Sheep were a large supply, and sold rather slowly at low prices, the finest qualities making 7¼d to 7¾d per lb; large sheep, 6¼d to 6¾d; and ewes, 5d to 5¾d per lb. Calves sold steadily at 7d to 7¾d per lb.

Newport, Wednesday.—Quotations were:—Best beef, 6¾d to 6¾d per lb; secondary sorts, 6d to 6¼d; cows, 5¾d to 6d; best wether mutton, 7¼d to 8d; ewes, 5¼d to 6d; lamb, 0d; veal, 6¾d to 7¼d; porker pigs, 11s 3d to 11s 6d per score; and baconers, 9s 3d to 9s 6d. A good supply of cattle and a fair lot of sheep. A clearance effected.

Norwich, Saturday.—The supply of store beasts on offer here to-day was considerable. Trade was quiet, and a complete clearance was by no means effected. Prices however, showed little change. Fat beasts, which were in moderate supply, were firm at 7s 6d to 8s per 14lb. The show of sheep was smaller than of late; keeping hoggets brought 28s to 35s per head. Fat sheep, which were offered to a fair extent, were dull at 7s 6d to 8s and 8s 3d per 14lb.

Romford, Wednesday.—Shorter supply of fat beasts; trade about the same. Best animals made 4s 4d to 4s 6d, and middlings 4s to 4s 2d per stone. Very short supply of calves; trade about the same, at 5s 4d to 5s 6d per stone. Shorter supply of sheep; trade a little better. Best sheep, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; middlings, 5s 2d to 5s 4d per stone. No stores on offer. Pig trade a little better. Small porkers made up to 4s 6d per stone.

Salford, Tuesday.—The supply of cattle was slightly in excess of last week. Trade rather slow, but late prices maintained. About the same number of sheep on offer as at last market. There was a slow demand, and prices were in favour of buyers, the top quotation being obtained only in a few cases. A smaller show of calves, and a better trade for choice quality at higher prices. Quotations:—Cattle, 4¾d to 6¼d; sheep, 6d to 8¼d; calves, 5d to 8d per lb. At market: Cattle, 2,764; sheep, 6,573; calves, 126; pigs, 47.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Small show of milch beasts, fair demand for the best qualities, which made £18 to £22; secondary lots, £12 to £16. No pigs.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday.—Large supplies of pigs and fat cattle; trade slower generally. Quotations: Beef, 5¾d to 6¾d; mutton, 7d to 8¼d; and veal, 6¾d to 7¾d per lb; porket pigs, 9s to 10s; bacons, 8s 6d to 9s per score; cows, with calves, up to £20 15s; hay, up to £5 5s; swedes, up to 18s 3d per ton. Number offered: 817 cattle; 51 cows, with calves; 915 sheep; 81 calves; 76 fat, 210 porket, and 555 store pigs.—(Signed) B. R. CROXTON, Markets Inspector.

Spalding, Tuesday.—A better show of beef, and a very good demand; best fully 8d per stone. A good show of store beasts, but a dragging trade, except for the choicest lots. In the sheep market a small show and trade slow, making up to 7¼d per lb.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There were on offer 152 cattle, 206 sheep, and 221 pigs. Rather fewer cattle of the best quality, and trade was firm at 7s 9d to 8s per stone; rougher kinds, 6s 6d to 7s; calves, 6d to 8d; young sheep, 7¼d; ewes, 5d to 6d; tups, 4d to 5d per lb.

Thame, Tuesday.—The opening sale of the New Year is generally one of the largest till the grazing season commences, and Tuesday's sale was no exception to the rule, there being a large entry of all kinds of stock, of capital quality, which met with a ready and brisk sale, and a clearance was quickly effected at even better prices than the previous week, the best quality beef making quite 5s per stone. Mr. Bond's sale comprised 77 fat beasts, 247 fat sheep and store tegs, 73 fat and weaning calves, 199 fat pigs and stores, and 2 horses. Prime bullocks made £17 to £22 10s; fat heifers, £14 to £22 12s 6d; fat wethers, 48s to 52s 6d; fat tegs, 42s to 47s; fat ewes, 35s to 42s; store tegs, 27s to 31s 6d; fat calves, £3 10s to £5; cow calves, 23s to 60s; bull calves, 21s to 48s; fat hogs, 8s 6d to 10s per score; store pigs a better trade.

Wakefield, Wednesday.—An average show of sheep, with a slow sale. Small animals made 7½d to 7¾d per lb; and other sorts from 5d to 7¼d. Beef was dearer; the top price was fully 6¾d; other qualities varying from 5d to 6½d per lb. Numbers: Beasts, 1,278; sheep, 3,356.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—There was a fair supply of beasts and sheep, but trade was quiet. Only a few calves were offered, and they were in fair demand. Quotations: Beef, 5d to 6¾d per lb; mutton, 6½d to 8¼d per lb; veal, 6½d to 8d per lb; pigs, bacon, 9s per score; porkets, 10s 6d to 11s per score; sows, 8s 6d per score.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Good show of all kinds of stock, especially sheep. Good trade. Best quality beef made up to 7s 9d, and secondary qualities 6s 6d to 7s 6d per stone; best wether mutton, 6¾d to 7¼d; and ewes and other sorts, 5d to 6d per lb.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Wednesday.—Beast supplies to-day amounted to 1,244, this being an increase of 1,021 head as against last Wednesday's figures, and comprised shipments from the United States. Trade ruled slow, but firm at 4s 3d to 4s 6d, exceptionally 4s 7d per 8 lb to sink the offal. 788 United States beasts were not shown.

Yorkhill, Monday.—The usual weekly sale of United States and Canadian cattle was held to-day, when there were on offer 17 animals ex Livonian (s) from Boston, 10 ex Amarynthia (s), from St. John's, and 77 by the Marina (s) from Baltimore, all of which were held over from last week, and 307 cattle landed by the Rosarian (s) from Portland (Me.). Bullocks, as is generally the case, formed the greater proportion of the total number. The cattle all round were up to the average as regards quality. There was the usual attendance of buyers, but trade was very slow, although good prices were obtained. Small, neat, well-fed beasts secured the best inquiry, and fully maintained last week's values. Secondary and heavier animals were very slow to cash. Owing to the large number of bulls on offer trade for them was very bad, and were difficult to cash. The values they received were in favour of the buyers. The deadweight quotations may be given as follows:—States bullocks, best class, medium weight, 58s per cwt., and for really choice up to 60s; secondary and heavier, 56s; bulls, best class, handy sorts, to 48s; secondary and inferior, 44s to 46s. Canadian bullocks, best quality, handy sorts, 56s per cwt., and for really choice to 58s; secondary and heavier, to 54s; and bulls made similar prices to those ruling above.

Yorkhill, Monday.—A sale of American sheep was held to-day at Yorkhill, 135 animals being offered. The consignment consisted principally of ewes, but there were also a few hoggs included. The sheep were fully up to the average, many being suitable for the requirements of the trade. The attendance of buyers was fair, but business ruled rather slow; a clearance, however, was effected. The dead-weight quotations may be given as follows:—Ewes, best class, handy sorts, 5½d per lb; secondary and heavier, 5d; lambs, best sorts, to 7½d; and secondary, to 6¾d per lb.

BUTTER.

Tuesday.—Bedale: In rolls of 24oz, 1s 3d to 1s 5d. Leeds: York lump, 15s 6d to 16s 6d per stone; long rolls, 1½lb, 1s 10d to 2s; fresh in 1lb prints, 1s 4d per lb. Danish, 112s to 117s per 112lb. Irish creameries, 106s to 110s. Colonial, 100s to 112s. Settle, 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Sheffield, 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Spalding, 1s per lb.

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 1s 4d to 1s 5d per lb. Boston: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Colne: 1s 3d per lb. Goole: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Ipswich: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Hereford: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Keighley: 1s 4d per lb. Kirkbymoorside: 1s to 1s 2d per lb. Knaresborough: Wholesale, 1s 6d; retail, 1s 8d per roll of 24oz. Louth: Wholesale, 1s per lb. Market Drayton: Best, 1s 2d to 1s 3d; seconds, 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Northallerton: 1s 7d to 1s 9d per lb. Stockton: 1s 2d to 1s 5d per lb. Worksop: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb.

Thursday.—Brigg: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Birmingham: 1s 3d to 1s 5d per lb. Driffield: 1s 1d per lb. Kidderminster: 1s 7d per lb. Penistone: 1s 4d per lb. Ripon: 1s 6d to 1s 9d per single roll of 24oz. Scarborough: 1s 5d per lb. Wellington: 1s 4d to 1s 5d per lb. Wetherby: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb.

Saturday.—Appleby, 1s 2d to 1s 5d per lb. Carlisle, 1s 5d per lb. Doncaster, 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Grantham, 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Howden, 1s 4d per lb. Lancaster, 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Lancaster, 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Malton, 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Pontefract, 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Retford, 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Richmond, 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Skipton, 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Stokesley, 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Whitby, 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. York, 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb.

EGGS.

Tuesday.—Bedale: 9 or 10 for 1s. Leeds: Yorkshire, 16s to 17s 6d per 120; Irish, 12s 6d to 15s; Danish, 10s to 12s; Austrian blues, 8s 3d to 9s; ditto reds, 6s 9d to 7s. Settle: 9 or 10 for 1s. Sheffield: 7 or 8 for 1s. Spalding: 11 for 1s.

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 7 or 8 for 1s. Boston: 10 or 11 for 1s. Colne: 2s 8d per score. Goole: 9 and 10 for 1s. Hereford: 10 per 1s; wholesale, 10 to 12 per 1s. Ipswich: 7 or 8 for 1s. Keighley: 7 for 1s. Kirkbymoorside: 10 or 11 for 1s. Knaresborough: 9 or 10 for 1s. Louth: 12 for 1s. Market Drayton: 9 or 10 for 1s. Northallerton: 8 or 9 for 1s. Stockton: 6 or 7 for 1s. Uttoxeter: 2s 2d to 2s 4d per score. Worksop: 2s 2d to 2s 4d per score.

Thursday.—Birmingham: 7 and 8 for 1s. Brigg: 11 to 12 for 1s. Driffield: 10 or 11 for 1s. Kidderminster: 7 for 1s. Penistone: 8 for 1s. Ripon: 8 to 9 for 1s. Scarborough: 6 for 1s. Wellington: 8 for 1s. Wetherby: 9 or 10 for 1s.

Saturday.—Appleby, 8 or 9 for 1s. Berwick, 1s 8d per dozen. Carlisle, 7 or 8 for 1s. Doncaster, 9 or 10 for 1s. Grantham, 10 or 12 for 1s. Howden, 11 for 1s. Lancaster, 7 to 8 for 1s. Malton, 10 for 1s. Pontefract, 8 for 1s. Retford, 1s 10d to 2s per score. Richmond, 8 and 9 for 1s. Skipton, 6 to 8 for 1s. Stokesley, 8 or 9 for 1s. Whitby, 8 and 9 for 1s. York, 7 or 8 for 1s.

COLONIAL DAIRY PRODUCE.

London, Friday.—Butter: The demand for Australian and New Zealand butter continues to improve, although there were signs of weakness a day or two ago, but some of the large agents remained firm and the tone recovered. It would not surprise anyone if a rise of 2s took place next week. Values meantime remain unchanged since last week, except in special cases 108s is made. In the north of England New Zealand butter is closely approaching Danish in price. Choicest Danish in Liverpool yesterday was sold at 110s and 112s; choicest New Zealand, 106s and 108s. The Copenhagen Committee has left the official quotation unchanged, and it remains at 14s 6d below last year. On the spot Danish butter is 18s below that period, while Australian and New Zealand is only 8s below. Cheese: There is a good steady demand for Canadian and New Zealand cheese, and for the transatlantic variety there has been an advance of 1s per cwt on the week. New Zealand remains unchanged.—W. WEDDEL AND CO.

CHEESE.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There were a few fresh arrivals of cheese, but little business was done, as holders were asking more money, which buyers were reluctant to give. Cheddars and Dunlops were quoted from 50s to 48s per cwt. There was a fair trade passing in late-made Canadian cheese at steady prices. New Zealand parcels of good quality are now coming to hand.

Newport, Wednesday.—Quotations: Caerphillies, 54s to 60s; fancy dairies, 62s to 64s; Derbys, 61s to 63s; doubles, —s to —s; truckles, 64s to 68s; and Cheddars, 54s to 65s. There was a small supply of best cheese, with a good trade.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Hull, Tuesday.—Linseed: The arrivals are 2,218 qrs from Boston, 12 qrs Harlingen, 637 qrs Konigsberg, 1,750 qrs Libau, 5,546 qrs New York, 525 qrs Riga, 100 qrs Rotterdam, 21 qrs San Nicolas; total, 10,809 qrs. The market shows a moderate recovery on the week. Calcutta, spot, 52s 6d nominal. River Plate, 46s 6d asked shipping or shipped; 46s asked Dec.-Jan., 45s 9d paid; 44s 9d paid Jan.-Feb. American, 52s 6d spot; no business doing for shipment. Baltics, practically unchanged. Cottonseed: With heavy shipments and good supplies here the market continued to give way, and down to £6 3s 9d accepted spot and passage, but there is a steadier tone again with buyers at the price to-day; January, £6 5s, which taken last week up to March, but £6 6s 3d now the value these months. Oils: Exports for the week ending 31st December, 1901.—Linseed oil: 11 America, 5 Holland, 1 Italy, total, 17 tons. Cotton oil: 30 Austria, 48 Belgium, 24 Denmark, 47 France, 105 Germany, 289 Holland, 2 Norway, 90 Sweden; total, 635 tons. The market is steady, and not much doing. Linseed oil: 27s 9d spot, 26s 4½d Jan.-April. Cotton oil: 21s 3d spot, 21s 4½d Jan.-April, 22s buyers May August; crude, 20s spot, 20s Jan.-April, 20s 6d May-August. Rape oil: Jamba naked, 24s spot; 1st quality naked, 24s 6d spot.

London, Thursday.—Linseed.—Owing to large shipments and cheaper offers from La Plata, prices have declined during the week, but the market closes firmer owing to a strong American inquiry in La Plata. Spot 51s, afloat Calcutta to London 51s, January 50s 6d, April-June 46s 5d. La Plata December-January 47s 3d, January-February 46s 3d. Hull steadier. La Plata shipping or shipped 48s 9d, December-January 47s, January-February 46s. To the Continent, Bombay, January-February 52s, February-March 50s, March-April 49s 3d, March-May 49s. Calcutta December-January 51s 6d, April-June 47s 3d. La Plata, December-January 47s 6d, January-February 47s. Linseed oil continues quiet and inactive on the spot, but forward positions are firmer. We quote spot in pipes £29, barrels £29 5s, January-April £28, May-August £26 10s. Hull spot naked £28, January-April £27, May-August £25 10s. Linseed cakes are quiet. London made, £7 15s to £8 ex mill; American Westerns, £7 5s to £7 7s 6d; Russians, £7 10s to £7 12s 6d. Cotton cakes are steady. London made £4 11s 3d to £4 13s 9d. Rapeseed is quieter. To London we quote: Yellow Cawnpore, January-February, 40s 6d; Brown Cawnpore, 38s 9d. To the Continent Yellow Guzerat December-January, 42s 6d. Yellow Cawnpore January-February 40s 6d, Brown Cawnpore, November-December 39s, Brown Calcutta 38s 9d. Ferozepore, November-December 39s. Jamba, February-March to Hull, 29s 9d.—THE PRODUCE BROKERS' COMPANY, LIMITED.

WOOL.

London, Friday.—Fleeces S. Dn. Hggs., £7 to £8 10s; half-bred hoggs, £6 to £6 10s; half-bred wethers, £5 to £6; Kent fleeces, £5 to £6; South Down ewes and wethers, £7 to £8 10s; Leicester do, £5 to £5 10s. Colonial—per lb.—Vic.—Fleece super, 6½ to 7d; scoured good, 1s 7½d to 1s 8½d; scoured average, 1s 6d. to 1s 7d; greasy average to fair, 10½d to 11½d; N. S. W. scoured average, 1s 2½d to 1s 3d; greasy average, 8d to 8½d; S. Aus., greasy average, 6½d to 6½d; N. Z. scoured average, 1s 4d to 1s 5d; greasy average, 8d to 8½d; Cape, scoured superfine, 1s 5d to 1s 6d; fleece average, 6¾d to 7½d; greasy average, 5d to 6d. Natal scoured, 1s to 1s 1d; greasy average, 6d to 6¾d. Crossbreds—Grs—Vic. good to superfine, 10½d to 11½d; New Zealand fine, 8d to 9d; New Zealand medium, 4½ to 4¾; New Zealand coarse, 3¾d to 4¼d.

MANURES.

Liverpool, Friday.—There is more inquiry for nitrate of soda, and, owing to the strong statistical position, holders show rather a disposition to advance values. Sulphate of ammonia of 24 per cent. test offers at £11 5s to £11 7s 6d per ton. Liebigs guano testing 8 to 9 per cent. ammonia and 34 to 35 per cent. phosphates offers at £5 15s to £6 per ton. Bone meal and kainit command late rates and are more inquired for, as also basic slag; but so far the home demand for superphosphate of lime is quiet. Considering the mild open weather for this period of the year, there is a fair demand for feeding stuffs, and the advanced prices seem likely to be maintained owing to the shortage in the American maize crop and the greater consumption of oil cakes in America. The following are the rates at which business is transpiring in this market:—Nitrate of soda, best quality, *i.e.*, guaranteed 95 per cent., pure, in bags, £9 10s per ton; East India bone meal, in bags, £4 2s 6d to £4 5s 0d per ton; kainit, prime, 23 per cent., in bags, £2 7s 6d to £2 10s per ton; palm nut cake, prime, in bags, £5 12s 6d per ton; linseed cake, American thin oblong, prime, in bags, £7 12s 6d to £7 16s 3d per ton; linseed cake, English, prime, in bulk, £8 10s to £8 15s per ton; linseed cake, foreign, prime, soft and oily, in bags, £8 5s per ton; cottonseed cake, N.A., decorticated, prime, in bags, £7 3s 9d to £7 7s 6d per ton; cottonseed cake, English, decorticated, prime, soft, in bags, £7 10s to £7 12s 6d per ton; cottonseed cake, English, undecorticated, prime, in bulk, £4 15s to £5 per ton; cottonseed (crushed 20/25 per cent. oil, prime, in bags, £7 5s per ton; maize germ meal, prime, in bags, £6 5s to £6 7s 6d per ton; rice meal, Rangoon, as imported, in bags, £5 10s to £5 12s 6d per ton; Indian meal coarse to fine grinding, prime, in bulk, 13s 6d to 14s per 240lb; linseed, fine bold feeding, in bags, £3 5s to £3 7s 6d per qr 416lb; D.N.S. superphosphate of lime, guaranteed, 25 to 27 sol., in bags, £2 5s to £2 7s per ton, at the producing depots; D.N.S. superphosphate of lime, guaranteed, 30 to 31 sol., in bags, £2 10s to £2 12s per ton, at the producing depots; superphosphate of lime, guaranteed 35 to 36 sol., in bags, £3 to £3 2s per ton, at the producing depots; basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed, 30 to 35 per cent. phos., in bags, £1 12s to £1 13s per ton, at the producing depots; basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed, 35 to 40 per cent. phos., in bags, £1 14s 6d to £1 15s 6d per ton, at the producing depots; basic slag, finest quality, guaranteed, 38 to 45 per cent. phos., in bags, £1 17s to £1 19s per ton, at the producing depots.—H. JONES LANGAR AND CO.



STOCK AND SHOW NOTES.

By Herdsman.

Sir George Macpherson-Grant has forwarded me a copy of a small catalogue of his Ballendalloch bulls. They number twenty-seven, and all are of the choicest pedigree, many of them being of the highest individual excellence. With the exception of five calved in December, they were calved at the beginning of last year, their sires being the well-known Bion (11,454), Prince Ilo (12,869), Prince Inch (13,844), Black Peter (14,145), and Eblito (14,306). Some of the animals are offered for sale by private treaty, and it is intended to dispose of the others at the Perth, Aberdeen, and Inverness spring sales. Further particulars may be had on application to Mr. McGilchrist, Home Farm, Ballendalloch.

The Brentnor and Lydford Pony Society has decided to hold this year's show on August Bank Holiday at Lydford Junction, the entries closing on July 9th. Mr. J. N. Jackman, of Burnville, Tavistock, is the honorary secretary.

The concluding sales of pure-bred cattle in the United States were brisk, good prices being realised. At the sale on the 10th and 11th ult. of Herefords—some bred by the late Mr. K. B. Armour—£141 was given for Phœbe, this being the highest price. The average obtained for the whole of the animals disposed of was £67 10s.; the average for 90 females being £69 15s., and for 20 bulls £57 10s. At the sale of shorthorns bred by Mr. C. A. Saunders £365 was given for Grand Nerissa II., while £150 was fetched by the imported roan cow Lady Bell V. The average obtained for 49 animals was £46. In spite of a raging snowstorm, Mr. C. D. Bellows had a fairly successful sale of shorthorns at South Omaha, Nebraska, on the 18th ult. Fifty-nine head were sold for £2,556, an average of £46 10s.

The prize-list has now been issued for the Royal Dublin Society's Spring Show, which is to be held at Ball's Bridge on Tuesday, April 15th, and three following days. £2,270 is offered in money prizes, and £1,400 in cups and specials, whilst £4,000 is offered in 269 Government premiums for bulls, making the total value of prize-money over £7,500. In addition the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland is prepared to distribute a large number of premiums for bulls and boars. The Government premiums for bulls are awarded on the condition that each bull shall serve, during the season 1902, not less than 20 cows in the case of yearling bulls and bulls calved in 1900 on or after September 1st, or 50 cows in the case of bulls, calved in 1900 before September 1st, at a service fee of 1s. for each cow, including all charges. Each cow must be the property of a farmer, the aggregate valuation of whose holding or holdings does not exceed £100 per annum. The term "farmer" is to be understood to mean a person who derives his means of living from farming.

The premiums will, as far as practicable, be divided as follows between the different breeds, viz.:—156 premiums for shorthorn, 66 for Aberdeen-Angus, 36 for Hereford, and six for red-polled bulls; and five premiums of £8 each for Kerry or Dexter bulls of any age. The value of the premiums for bulls other than Kerry or Dexter is £15 for those calved on or after September 1st, 1900, and £10 for those calved before that date. In the distribution of bulls by the Royal Dublin Society, regard will be had, as far as possible, to whether or not a county to which the bull is proposed to be sent contributes aid under the provisions of Section 16, Sub-section 6, and Section 19, of the Agriculture and Technical Instruction Act, 1899. No bull having been awarded a premium by the Department in 1902 will be eligible for a premium from the funds administered by the Royal Dubin Society.

Under the scheme of the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland for encouraging improvement in the breeds of cattle or swine, a large number of premiums for bulls and boars will be granted throughout the country. Such animals as are selected for premiums by the judges appointed to officiate for the Royal Dublin Society will be provisionally approved by the Department for such premiums as may be applied for at this show. Breeders may offer their animals for these premiums without being charged any additional entry fee. Copies of the Department's scheme can be had on application to the Secretary, Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland, Upper Merrion Street, Dublin.



Above we give an illustration of a POLDERS COW, a description of which breed is given on another page. The animal shown above won the champion prize at the Paris Exposition of 1900, the exhibitor being M. G. Wydenes, of Iwisk, Holland. Our illustration is reproduced from the *Journal a' Agriculture Pratique.*

In comparing the Society's class prizes with those offered last year I noticed a few alterations, but no very striking change. In the cattle section the only alterations are as follows: In the class for Hereford bulls calved in 1901 on or after April 1st, the first prize is reduced from £10 to £8, the second from £8 to £5, the third is £3 instead of £5, and the fourth £2 instead of £3; in the Aberdeen class for bulls calved in 1900 on or after September 1st, the prizes are £10, £8 and £5, as compared with £15, £10 and £8 last year; in the extra stock section a first and second prize of £3 and £2 respectively are substituted for a silver medal; and in the milking test the sums offered are £15, £10, £5 and £3, against £20, £15, £10 and £5 last year. The prizes and classes for pigs are exactly the same as in 1901.

The agricultural horses classes make a welcome re-appearance, for they were left out last year, and with the exception of the horse-and vehicle parade no heavy or agricultural horses were shown. I notice that the hackney colt or filly class is omitted, but a class for mules 14 hands and over is added, the first prize (presented by the Right Hon. Lord Ardilaun) being £8, and the second £3. Last year there was a class for asses, and two entries were received, but neither put in an appearance at the show. Still, the Society has continued the class and increased the prizes, Lord Ardilaun offering a first of £10 and the Society a second of £5, the corresponding prizes last year being of the value of £3 and £2 respectively. Harness horses are catered for on the same lines as in 1901; whilst in the polo pony section a bending competition is added, the first prize being £10, second £7, and third £3.

The various champion and challenge cups, cups, and special awards offered last year are, with but one exception, again put forward for competition, the exception being the hackney stallion challenge cup, which was won outright last year by Mr. Frederick Wrench, he having won it on three different occasions. There is, however, one important alteration, namely, the Queen Victoria Cup, value £100, and the Leinster Cup, value £150—two perpetual challenge cups—are offered for the best group of Aberdeen-Angus cattle, whereas in 1901 they were for Herefords. This is another striking instance of the great growth in popularity in Ireland of the Aberdeen-Angus breed. The entries close as follows:—Stock, dairy produce, &c., close finally Thursday, March 13th; harness horses, hackneys, and polo ponies, single fees, March 13th; double fees, March 22nd; jumping competitions, close finally, single fees, on Tuesday, April 8th; implements, machinery, close finally February 24th. Entry forms, &c., may be had of the Agricultural Superintendent, Leinster House, Dublin.

Messrs. Ransomes, Sims, and Jefferies, Ltd., Orwell Works, Ipswich, have been appointed by Royal warrant manufacturers of agricultural and horticultural machinery to his Majesty King Edward VII.

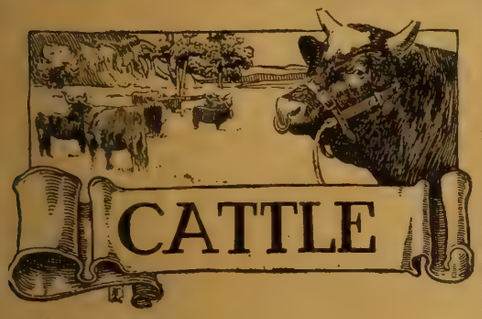
Irish Tenants' Objection to Paying Rent—At Roscommon Quarter Sessions on Wednesday, after granting over a hundred ejectment decrees on the Defreyne estate, near Castlerea, where the tenants have refused to pay rent until they get a reduction of 6s. 8d. in the pound, the same as the neighbouring tenants on the Dillon estate, County Court Judge O'Conor Morris made a strong protest against the combination in opposition to paying rent. There had been, he said, between 360 and 370 ejectments granted on the Defreyne and Murphy properties. He could not shut his eyes to the fact that, though virtually the tenants defended the cases, it was the organisation behind them. He trusted those who were responsible for the government of the country would give their attention to it. The so-called system of land purchase was an iniquitous system, which was sufficient to expose every landlord to the non-payment of rents. He hoped the attention of the Legislation would be called to the subject before it became too extended.

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The Transport of Cattle.

On the last Monday of 1901 there were, amongst a consignment of cattle to Deptford belonging to Armour and Co., one bunch of 25 Hereford heifers, which attracted universal admiration, not for size, but for their almost perfect shape, condition, and quality, says the *Meat Trades' Journal*. When killed they presented carcasses free from bruise or blemish of any kind, and as ripe as if they had just left their stalls a few hours. While this is practically such an every-day occurrence as hardly to call for special notice at Deptford, it is a matter that offers serious grounds for contemplation to those concerned on this side in the transit of live stock. When one considers the length of the journey by rail and steamer that these heifers made, we must admire the method, care, and intelligence which directed their travels. In the first place, they were railed a considerable distance from their feeding-place to the Union Stock Yards in Chicago; thence, after two or three days, they were sent on by rail to Boston, close on 1,000 miles; from there they were shipped on board a steamer, and after a voyage much longer than usual, they arrived safely at Deptford, terminating a land and sea voyage of fully 4,000 miles. Surely this is an object lesson to British and Irish farmers and graziers, and also to the railway and steamship managers of the United Kingdom.

It is a matter of common knowledge to Metropolitan dealers that cattle from Norfolk and other home-grazing counties are always more or less bruised, arriving in a sadly deteriorated condition, considering their comparatively short journey by rail. With regard to stock from Ireland, although no doubt some improvement has been effected since the trade demanded a Government inquiry a few years ago, yet much still remains to be done, and no one thinks of buying either Irish stores or fat cattle without reckoning a certain amount for bruises, etc. This ought not to be the case, and if farmers and feeders were only a little more determined and less careless of their own interests in the matter of transit, we believe a much-needed improvement would speedily be initiated.

At the present moment, owing to this laxity and indifference on the part of agriculturists, the railway and cross-channel shipping companies simply do what they like with stock, as they are fortified by an iron-clad consignment note that legally relieves them from all and every possible liability. Recent proceedings have disclosed very fully that railway companies will cheerfully go to law and spend £1,000 rather than admit a just and equitable claim for loss. These are facts our agriculturists must be made more fully aware of, and they should also use that influence they possess both in and out of Parliament to remedy this great evil.

Particulars of Transactions in Store Stock.

(Reported to the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland.)

The fair at Thurles, Co. Tipperary, held on Tuesday, was a small one; demand for cattle suitable for shipping purposes, and a good many sold. Small and backward stock sold slowly, and a considerable number failed to find purchasers. Fair supply of springers, which sold well. Prices—Calves, 2nd class, £3 5s. to £4 15s.; 3rd class, £2 15s. to £3; yearlings, 1st class, £8 5s. to £9; 2nd class, £5 17s. 6d. to £7 15s.; 3rd class, £4 10s. to £5 10s.; two year olds, 1st class, £12 to £12 12s. 6d.; 2nd class, £9 to £11; springers, 1st class, £15 10s. to £18; 2nd class, £12 10s. to £15; 3rd class, £9 10s. to £10. Small supply of lambs, for which there was fair demand, but all were not sold. Prices—Lambs, 1st class, £1 7s. 6d. to £1 12s.; 2nd class, £1 2s. to £1 7s. Young pigs, 8 to 10 weeks old, sold at from 20s. to 24s. each.

American Pedigree Cattle Sale in 1901.

The last year was a splendid one for breeders of pedigree stock in the United States. Colonel F. M. Woods, the well-known auctioneer, in the course of a review in the "Breeders' Gazette" (Chicago), states that he "never knew a year when buyers were as discriminating as during the one just past. The time has come that good pedigrees will not sell them unless the individuals are right, but I can recall quite a number of instances where the word 'imported' has helped moderate animals to sell too high. This remark applies more particularly to animals brought over from Canada than those from over the ocean. The demand for choice specimens of bulls has been extra good, the demand for medium ones, fair, and for common to poor ones never so bad."

The offerings during the year have been large, several dispersal sales and increased imports from this side of the ocean having helped to swell the total of animals to be disposed of. In spite of this, bidding has never once flagged, and buyers have always been present to take the beasts at sometimes sensational, and always remunerative, prices.

The highest prices obtained during the year were given for shorthorns, an imported cow, Missie, fetching £1,200, and another imported animal, Lord Banff, £1,020. Herefords came next in the list of big prices, a home-bred cow, Dolly 2nd, fetching £1,000, the next price being £400 paid for a bull, Beau Donald 33rd, of the same breed. Equal money was paid for a Galloway imported bull, McDougall 4th of Tarbreoch, while £340 was paid for an imported Angus cow.

The following figures show the averages obtained by these and other breeds:—

Breed.	No. sold	Total. £	Avrge. £ s.
Shorthorns	4,045	227,258	56 10
Angus	894	49,635	55 10
Herefords	1,855	91,661	48
Red Polls	79	3,642	45
Polled Durhams	243	10,541	43
Galloways	68	2 823	41 10
Total	7,214	385,514	53 10

The Dutch Polder Cattle.

The rearing of fat cattle is an industry which is steadily growing in Holland. During the past twenty-five years the number of cattle raised has increased by 200,000 head, although the area of pasture land devoted to grazing has not been added to to any material extent.

The lands which are now used for the purpose of raising dairy cattle were at one time covered by the sea, or else so low lying as to be constantly inundated and practically useless. By means of raising dykes and cutting canals these lands have been drained, and have now become pasture land of a quality suitable for feeding dairy cattle. The breed special to these districts are Polders, which derive their name from the lands they feed on.

The Polder cattle are high in the legs, with a black and white coat, thin narrow head, and arched neck. The horns are short and flat, and they have a fine skin and well-developed udder. They are not of much use for fattening purposes, but are in the front rank as dairy cattle.

According to the district in which the cattle are raised, the milk is consumed, or else made into butter or cheese. In the provinces of Utrecht and of Holland cheese is made, but in Frise, Drenthe, and Overyssl butter-making is the staple industry. For this purpose the milk produced by the cattle fed on the Polders is particularly suitable, as it is very rich in fat, owing to the rich pasture land the cattle feed on and the particular breed raised.

Seven Cows Burned to Death.—At Banbury on Monday night, a fire broke out at some cow-sheds in which were housed seven milking cows, the property of a local dairyman named Morgan. When the fire brigade arrived the animals were all dead, having been roasted alive.

Bullock in a Butter Market.—While the Boston butter market was in full swing on Wednesday a runaway bullock dashed into the building, upsetting the stands and scattering their contents and the stallholders in all directions. A large quantity of butter was damaged, and hundreds of eggs were broken, whilst several people had narrow escapes. The bullock afterwards rushed across the market-place into the grounds of the Session House, where it was shot.



The London Horse Societies' 1902 County Show Schemes.

The various London horse societies will this year again give medals at county shows, and below we give some particulars concerning the offers of the Hackney Hunters' Improvement and Polo Pony Societies.

The Hackney Horse Society's scheme provides for the offer of £10 redeemable gold medals for hackney stallions and mares, silver medals without any restrictions for shows which do not offer enough money in prizes to qualify for a gold medal, and £5 redeemable gold harness medals for mares and geldings not less than 15.2 hands exhibited in single harness. The amount of prize money necessary to qualify for this medal has hitherto been £100, but to secure the distribution of a larger number the limit has been reduced to £50, thus placing it within the reach of most of the shows in the country.

The Hunters Improvement Society offer gold medals for hunters brood mares (with a special concession to one-day shows), and silver medals for hunter fillies, geldings, and qualified hunters; while they offer a special silver medal for hunter yearling colts. The particulars of each scheme are appended, and particular note should be taken of the conditions of the offer, for in some cases they are different with each year.

At any associated county show, or associated show of two or more days' duration, where a minimum amount of £25 is given in prizes for brood mares in hunter classes, the society will offer a gold medal, or £5 and a bronze medal, under the following conditions:—For the best hunter brood mare by a thoroughbred or registered hunter sire (in foal to, or with foal at foot by, a similarly qualified sire), not having previously won the society's gold medal as a brood mare in 1902, which, if not already entered, must be registered within a month of the award in the Hunter Stud Book, possessing a certificate of soundness from hereditary disease. In the case of mares entered as "in foal," a further certificate of foaling must also be lodged with the secretary of the Hunters' Improvement Society, before the award will be confirmed.

If the judges select a brood mare whose entry for the Stud Book was lodged before the date of the Associated Society's show, the prize will be increased to a gold medal and £1, or £5 and a silver medal.

At any associated one-day show, where a minimum of £20 is given in prizes for brood mares in hunter classes, the society will offer a gold medal, or £5 and a bronze medal, under the conditions specified above.

At any associated show where a minimum amount of £50 (not including jumping prizes) is given in prizes in hunter classes, the society offer a silver medal for the best hunter filly (by a thoroughbred horse or registered hunter sire) not exceeding three years old, and not having previously won the society's silver medal as a filly in 1902, which, if not already entered, must be registered within a month of the award in the Hunter Stud Book, possessing a certificate of soundness from hereditary disease. If the judges select a filly whose entry for the Stud Book was lodged before the date of the Associated Society's show, the prize will be increased to a silver medal and £1.

At any associated show where a minimum amount of £100 (not including jumping prizes) is given in prizes in hunter classes (the fillies competing in classes distinct from the colts and geldings), the society will offer two silver medals, under the following conditions:

(1.) For the best hunter filly (by a thoroughbred horse or registered hunter sire), not exceeding three years old, not having previously won the society's silver medal as a filly in 1902, which, if not already entered, must be registered within a month of the award in the Hunter Stud Book, possessing a certificate of soundness from hereditary disease.

(2.) For the best hunter gelding (by a thoroughbred horse or registered hunter sire), not exceeding three years old (foaled in 1899, 1900, or 1901), not having previously won the society's silver medal as a gelding under this scheme in 1902,

whose dam, if not already entered, must be registered within a month of the award in the Hunter Stud Book, possessing a certificate of soundness from hereditary disease.

If the judges select a filly whose entry for the Stud Book was lodged before the date of the Associated Society's show, or a gelding, whose dam's entry similarly complied, the prizes will in each case be increased to a silver medal and £1.

At any associated show the Council will offer a silver medal for the best hunter mare or gelding of any age, bred as follows:—By a thoroughbred or registered hunter sire, out of a registered mare or a mare entered for registration in the subsequent volume of the Stud Book.

If a mare is selected, both she and her dam, if not already entered, must be registered within a month of the award in the Hunter Stud Book; if a gelding is selected, the dam must comply with such conditions before the award will be confirmed. No animal may take more than one medal under this scheme in 1902.

At any associated show, providing prizes amounting to £10 in a class for yearling hunter colts, fillies, or geldings, the society will offer a silver medal for the best hunter colt, by a thoroughbred or registered hunter sire, out of a mare registered in the Hunter Stud Book, or entered for registration in the subsequent volume, possessing a certificate of soundness from hereditary disease. No colt may take more than one silver medal under this scheme in 1902. Award must be completed within a month of the date of associated show.

It should be mentioned that in each case the certificate of soundness from hereditary disease has to be signed by the local society's appointed veterinary inspector (who must be a member of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons), after his examination on the show ground. Only prize-winners will be eligible for the medals, those getting reservers and lower awards being debarred.

The Polo Pony Society offer during the current year, to any associated society offering £10 in money prizes in a class or classes for polo ponies (not including prizes for bending races), a silver medal for competition at its annual show. For the best polo pony brood mare registered or eligible for registration in the Stud Book. The conditions are as follows:—

(1.) Height in such polo pony classes not to exceed 14.2, and this height to be distinctly printed in the description of each polo pony class, while the height of all winners tendered for registration must be confirmed by Hurlingham certificate, or that of a qualified veterinary surgeon. (2.) No pony to be awarded a silver medal which has in the same year taken one of the Polo Pony Society's gold medals (Royal, Dublin and London Shows included). (3.) No pony to be eligible to take more than one silver medal during any one year. (4.) If not already entered in the supplement or registered in the Stud Book, the entry of the winner must be duly lodged with the Polo Pony Society. (5.) All brood mares to have foal at foot or to foal in 1902) by a thoroughbred, Arab, registered, or entered sire.

The society also offer two silver medals to any associated society offering not less than £15 in money prizes, in a class or classes for polo ponies (not including prizes for bending races), for (1) the best polo pony brood mare registered or eligible for registration in the Stud Book. (2.) For the best polo pony mare registered or eligible for registration in the Stud Book, or best polo pony filly, one, two, or three years old (to be shown in hand).

As to the conditions, it may be stated that 1, 2, 3, and 4 are precisely the same as those given above, and 5 as applying to brood mares.

To any associated society during the current year offering not less than £20 in money prizes in a class or classes for polo ponies (not including prizes for bending races) the society offers three silver medals as follows:—

(1.) For the best polo pony stallion registered or eligible for registration in the Stud Book, or best polo pony entire colt, two or three years old. (2.) For the best polo pony brood mare registered or eligible for registration in the Stud Book. (3.) For the best polo pony mare registered or eligible for registration in the Stud Book, or best polo pony filly, one, two, or three years old (to be shown in hand).

The conditions are precisely the same as in the preceding scheme.

The forms of application for the Hunters' Improvement and Polo Pony Societies' medals can be had of the secretary, Mr. A. B. Charlton, 12, Hanover Square, London, W., and they have to be returned not later than April 1st next.

Reading College.—The Court of Governors of Reading College have elected the Lord Lieutenant of Berks (Mr. J. Herbert Benyon) President of the College, in the place of the late Lord Wantage. A fund of £1,000 a year for five years has been raised to augment the existing income. Lady Wantage, Mr. Benyon, and Mr. Alfred Palmer have each contributed £250 a year to this fund.

SHEEP.

The Trade in Wool During 1901.

In their annual review of the wool trade during the past year Messrs. Helmuth Schwartze and Co., wool brokers, of Moorgate Street Buildings, London, E.C., state that the past year represents in the woollen trade and industry a period of convalescence. The formidable losses caused by the heavy fall in values in 1900 had led to a more or less chaotic state. Wool and its manufactured products had, during a large part of that year, become practically unsaleable, or saleable only in very limited quantities, and the supplies in the Central London Market had, to prevent utter collapse, to be cautiously doled out to the trade, importers becoming the holders of stocks, instead of dealers and manufacturers. Consumption had become contracted to such an extent that the holding back of supplies on a large scale produced absolutely no effect, and it almost looked as if wool were no longer wanted or had been displaced by other materials. All this has in the past year been gradually brought back to normal conditions. What was held back in 1900 has swelled, and swelled largely, the supplies in 1901; but, though of Colonial wool alone close upon 600,000 bales more were offered to the trade than the year before, it has, notwithstanding the strained conditions of credit, all been absorbed without difficulty, showing that the contraction of requirements in 1900 was abnormal and temporary, and that the power of consumption of the article had remained unimpaired. The heavy industrial losses were met by financial reorganisations, and the feeling of confidence, shaken to its foundation in 1900, has insensibly and gradually returned in the course of the past year and become fairly re-established in the minds of the trade.

Compared with the two turbulent preceding years, the past twelvemonth presents, as far as Australian merino wool is concerned, an appearance of perfect calm. There are price fluctuations, upwards and downwards, but they are small, and the average level of values remains much the same. The condition of the trade, too, seems to remain the same. It may be described as never very good in the way of buoyancy or high profitableness, but as always good in the sense that manufacturers were well employed and had no difficulty in obtaining contracts.

The picture which the market for cross-bred presents is a totally different one. Here—excepting the comparatively small group of fine qualities—the weakness is intense, and the fall in values seems interminable. It amounts for the coarser descriptions to 30 to 35 per cent., and reduces them and kindred River Plate and domestic wools to an altogether unprecedentedly low level.

We give in the following the cost per lb. clean of a few representative descriptions of wool, both merino and cross-bred, at the end of the past four years:—

					Australian Crossbred		
	Pt. Phillip Good	Adelaide Average	B. Ayres Average	Cape Short Washing	Fine (Super)	Medium	Coarse
December,	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
1898	21	18½	17	15	16	11	9
1899	33½	31	26½	24	25	16	12½
1900	19½	17	14½	13½	15	11½	9½
1901	21	18½	15½	14	16	8	6½

It will be seen that after the great upward and downward movements of 1899 and 1900 Colonial merino wool and the finest cross-bred have returned to much the same level they occupied at the end of 1898, the time, that is, before the perturbation took place. Medium and coarse cross-breds, on the other hand, are 25 to 30 per cent. cheaper than at the close of 1898, and compared with the high point of 1899 they have fallen to about half their value. The reason for this immense decline is mainly the large increase in the production of these wools.

While the production of wool at the three chief sources of supply has receded about 6 per cent. its composition is so altered, that cross-bred presents an increase of 50 per cent., and instead of standing at 31.7 per cent., now counts for nearly half of the whole, and includes, moreover, a much larger proportion of coarse wools than was the case in 1895. It seems natural that a great decline in value should accompany so considerable a growth. At the same time, the impression remains that the fall has run its full course, and some indications of a rally have shown themselves during the last few weeks.

Considering the financial strain under which the woollen industry has laboured, and considering also that the export business has remained stagnant, and that the American demand for wool and goods, which used to give so great an impetus to trade, has continued absent, the result of the year cannot be called unsatisfactory. The industrial profits may indeed be only moderate, and the heavy losses of 1900 but very imperfectly repaired, but the general feeling in the trade is much more reassured, and the market is brought back to sound and normal conditions.

The fluctuations of merino wool were within moderate compass, and at the end of the year Australians were mostly 10 per cent., Capes only slightly higher than in November, 1900. River Plate stood 5 to 7 per cent. above the close of 1900. Fine Australian cross-breds were, if anything, slightly dearer, but medium and coarse cross-breds 30 to 35 per cent. cheaper. Among lustre wools Alpaca was about 10 per cent. higher, but Lincoln hogs and Mohair were lower; for the bulk of English long wools, for Peruvian, and for most of the low wools, East India excepted, the depreciation is enormous.

The average per bale—£10½—is the lowest on record, and compares with £11 in 1895. This is entirely due to the exceedingly low prices of cross-breds, which realised on the average of last year fully 30 per cent. less than in 1895, while the value of merinos was still 10 per cent. higher than the average of 1895. Based on last sales' rates the value per bale is also £10½, or the same as in November, 1900, against £19 in November, 1899. The total average value of the last two clips was only £21 millions, against about £25½ millions on the average of the preceding eleven years.

The total deliveries of Colonial wool for Europe and America are 585,000 bales more—2,052,000 bales, against 1,467,000 bales—but they are still below the period 1892—1897. The sales in London amounted to 1,361,000 bales (1,269,000 Australasian and 92,000 Cape), against 728,000 bales (697,000 Australasian and 31,000 Cape) in 1900, leaving still a fair-sized stock, viz., 43,000 bales—mostly cross-bred wools. The direct purchases amounted to 691,000 bales (549,000 Australasian and 142,000 Cape), against 739,000 (652,000 Australasian and 87,000 Cape) in 1900. The shares of the English, Continental and American consumption were 47½, 49½, and 3 per cent., against 42, 54, and 4 per cent. in 1900, showing an unusually large proportion falling to the share of the English consumption.

The imports into the principal European ports of Extra European wools (including Turkish wools, Mohair, Alpaca, and Camels' hair) for the calendar year show an increase of 436,000 bales, but, notwithstanding the great reduction in the preceding year, they are smaller than in any year from 1892 to 1899. This is partly due to the large falling off in sundry foreign wools. Last year only the imports of Mohair and Punta Arenas were larger, while those of all the other principal descriptions were smaller. The total deliveries are 3,023,000 bales, against 2,187,000 bales in 1900, but if the two years are taken together the average of 2,605,000 bales will still remain far below the figures from 1891 to 1899. The stocks of Colonial wool comprise about 43,000 bales held over wools in London, against 133,000 bales in 1900. The stocks of "other sorts" are reduced in nearly all descriptions.

The quantity left for home consumption is large, and has only been exceeded in 1898. The total stocks in ports at the end of 1901 amounted to 69 million lbs., against 126, 50, 63, and 63 million lbs. in the four preceding years. Taking this into consideration, the quantity at the disposal of the home trade in 1901 was 598 million lbs., by far the largest total on record, against 426, 536, 568, and 490 million lbs. in the four preceding years. To this great increase of 172 million lbs. the Colonies contributed about 120 and the River Plate about 24 million lbs. Taking the last two years together it will however be found that the average was less than in the two or three preceding years, while the stocks of domestic and imported coarse wools in the interior are probably larger than usual.

The value of exports shows a reduction of 10 per cent., and is the smallest since 1862. Only mohair and alpaca yarns show an increase, while the falling off affects every other description of woollen manufactures. The exports to Canada, India, and China were fairly well maintained, but all other countries took less, particularly Germany, South America, and Japan.

Although merino wool had weak moments in the past year, there was yet a general feeling that it was in a really safe position; and it is probable that a greater improvement in prices than actually took place would have resulted, had it not been for two considerations. One was the impaired purchasing power of the trade and the consequent enforced absence of any strong speculative movement; and the other the very great disparity in the value of merinos and of cross-breds, which latter, though in the lower grades a totally different article, yet to some extent compete with or influence fine wools. Both these considerations are likely to continue in force in the present year, and for that reason too sanguine expectations would probably be out of place. But in view of the absence of large stocks in the hands of the trade, and of the fact that even with a moderate increase in the production this year's supplies must necessarily fall short of those of 1901, we think it is not too much to say that the outlook is satisfactory, and the present position of the article a sound one; sound in the case of merino wools on account of their moderate supply, and in that of cross-breds on account of their cheapness.

SOCIETIES.

Highland.

A meeting of the directors and the annual general meeting of the Highland and Agricultural Society took place at 3, George IV. Bridge, Edinburgh, on Wednesday, Sir Ralph Anstruther presiding at both meetings. At the meeting of directors the following special prizes for the Aberdeen show this year were intimated:—By Shropshire breeders, £10 for pens of cross-bred lambs got by a Shropshire ram; by Oxford Down Sheep-Breeders' Association, £10 for pens of cross-bred lambs got by an Oxford Down tup; by Mr. Howatson, of Glenbuck, £10 for best five black-faced shearling tups; and £14 for black-faced shearling tup best adapted for producing stock to yield early maturity mutton, irrespective of wool value. It was agreed to offer Highland pony prizes for the best stallion, three years old or upwards, not exceeding 14.2 hands, and for the best three-year-old mare. A special prize of £10 for the best in these classes was intimated from the Polo Pony Society. Before recommending any premium for trials of thrashing machines the committee preferred to have an investigation of improved mills at present or soon to be at work in farms throughout Scotland, and to learn from the farmers their experience of difficulties. The committee was continued, with power to make this investigation. On the motion of Sir James Gibson Craig it was agreed to hold the 1904 show at Perth.

Mr. John Speir, Newton, moved the following resolution:—"That the directors of this society invite the council of the Royal Agricultural Society of England to co-operate with them in arranging a conference with the principal botanists, so that some recognised method of testing seeds and tabulating the results may be adjusted and adopted by the botanists." He suggested that the two national societies should do for botanists what the Chemical Society had done for chemists, namely, to have one standard way of doing this work. He moved that it be remitted to the Science Committee. Mr. Cross, Knockton, seconded. The resolution was adopted.

Annual Meeting.

There was a large attendance at the annual meeting, at which sixty-seven new members were elected.

Sir James H. Gibson-Craig, the hon. treasurer, gave in the financial report. The total receipts for the year amounted to £11,233, and the expenditure to £10,145, leaving a balance of £1,087. In view of the fact that the show of last year fell to be held at Inverness, where the show has hitherto resulted in a substantial loss, the directors anticipated that the society's income for the year would not have been equal to the outlay. Fortunately, however, the Inverness show of last year was so successful as to do something more than pay its own expenses, and largely on this account the directors have been enabled to add a sum of £2,000 to the society's invested capital (applause). They had now held eight shows under the management of Mr. Macdonald, and only one of them had been a loss.—The report was approved.

In the course of a report on the Inverness Show Mr. Cameron, Balnatsyle, stated that the receipts of the show exceeded the outlay by about £100, a pleasing contrast to a loss of £1,088 in 1892, of £838 in 1883, and of £1,401 in 1874. This was all the more gratifying when it was remembered that the amount offered in premiums last year was nearly £900 more than the sum offered in 1892.

Forthcoming Shows.

Mr. A. M. Gordon, convener of the local committee, reported that arrangements were progressing satisfactorily for the Aberdeen show on the 15th of July. The Town Council had, as in former years, met the society handsomely, agreeing to give a free site, subscribing £100 to the local fund, and providing a free supply of water. A handsome list of premiums had been prepared for the show, the sum offered in prizes from the society's own funds exceeding £2,380, and being about £470 more than the sum offered by the society at the Aberdeen show in 1894.

Sir James H. Gibson-Craig, convener of the Shows Committee, reported that for the show of 1903 an admirable site had been secured on the old racecourse at Tinwald Downs, Locharbriggs, Dumfries. The Town Council had resolved to contribute £75, and it was hoped the support from the district would be, as usual, liberal. In 1895 the sum of £1,701 was raised locally.



The SHORTHORN STEER shown above is FLOWER BOY, sire Cabin Boy, 66,766, dam Flower Girl, exhibited at the Smithfield, Birmingham, and Norwich Fat Stock Shows last year by Miss Alice de Rothschild, who was also its breeder. At the Smithfield Show Flower Boy won first prize in the class for steers of its breed over two and not exceeding three years old, the £25 silver cup for the best shorthorn, and was reserve for the best steer or ox in the show. At Birmingham he only got a second prize, but at Norwich he won a first, and was reserve for the best ox or steer in the show. His age on December 1st was 2 years 11 months 1 week 6 days, whilst his weight at Norwich was 18 cwt. 2 qrs. 6lb.; and at Smithfield exactly 6 lb. less.

District Shows.

Mr. Elliot, Hollybush, submitted the report on district competitions, showing that in 1901 grants of money and medals had been given in 296 districts. The total expenditure under that head amounted to £452. For the current year the directors proposed the following grants:—Under section 1: Eighteen districts for grants of £12 each for cattle, horses, and sheep, and eight districts in intermediate competition with a grant of three silver medals to each. Under section 2: Twelve districts for grants of £15 each for stallions; special grants of £40 for Highland home industries; £20 to Kilmarnock Cheese Show; £5 to Shetland; and £3 each to Orkney, East Mainland, West Mainland, and Sanday, Orkney; thirty districts for two medals each; the usual medals at ploughing competitions; and sixteen districts for two medals each for cottages and gardens—making the total sum offered £588, against £452 awarded in 1901.

Veterinary Adviser Suggested.

Mr. Johnston, of Sands, proposed the following motion:—"That a permanent veterinary inspector to the society be appointed, as the present system is unsatisfactory to exhibitors, and that this meeting recommend the appointment of Principal Owen Williams, of the New Veterinary College, Edinburgh, to the post of veterinary inspector to the society as filled by his late father, Principal Williams." In speaking to the motion, he said that after the death of Principal Williams the directors had resolved not to fill up the vacancy, but to rely on a local veterinary inspector at the different places where the show was held, and he did not regard that system as at all satisfactory. They all knew that local veterinary surgeons were naturally inclined to be lenient towards their own clients, and to give the benefit of the doubt to animals that might belong to people who patronised them. What they wanted was an impartial referee who held a high position in the veterinary world. He had had professional experience of Professor Owen Williams for the last twenty years, and he had always found him a most experienced, capable, and fearless judge, and one who could be thoroughly trusted. He thought the directors were incurring a serious responsibility in having a different inspector each year to examine the stock exhibited at their national show.

Mr. Skirving, Niddry Mains, seconded, but thought Mr. Johnston might have left it to the directors to appoint any man they wanted.

The Chairman justified the action the directors had taken on the death of Principal Williams in unanimously agreeing not to fill the place, but to leave the matter open, so that they should be able to consult upon special veterinary points any recognised expert upon the subject, and get the very best opinion they could.

Mr. A. M. Gordon spoke to the same effect.

It was subsequently decided by a large majority to remit the matter back to the directors with full powers.

Mr. Johnston's motion was withdrawn.

Improving Upland Pastures.

Mr. Ferguson, Pictstonhill, reported that the experiment carried on jointly by the society and the West of Scotland Agricultural College, with the assistance of the Board of Agriculture, whose object was the improvement of upland pastures and the measurement of the success attending the means employed by noting the increase of the number of sheep the various plots were able to carry, and the quality of the mutton produced, had now passed the preliminary stage, and the results had justified the opinion of the committee that a preliminary gauging of the natural fertility of each plot on each of the three stations was not only expedient, but essential to the success of the experiment. At each of the three stations—Boon, Sunderland Hall, and Naemoor—20 acres had been fenced off, and divided into five plots of four acres each. They had been grazed by sheep during the past summer, and these had been regularly weighed at proper intervals, with the anticipated result that considerable differences in the productiveness of the various plots had been detected. Had the committee begun to treat the plots in various ways without this preliminary year's grazing, during which the plots had nothing done to them, the differences due to the natural fertility of the plots would have been regarded as due to the different treatment they had received, and the results could only have been misleading. The treatment the plots were now to undergo was the following:—One plot would be left in its natural state as a blank experiment to serve as a gauge for the remainder; one plot would have fed upon it a certain amount of oilcake; and on the remaining three plots there would be applied basic slag, basic slag and kainit, and, lastly, superphosphate, preceded by an application of lime. These were the top-dressings which, in the opinion of the combined committee of the society, the college, and the Board of Agriculture, were most suitable to apply, and likely to elicit the most useful information. The experiments were under the immediate charge of local committees, familiar with the farming of the districts, and interested in the investigation.

Professor Wallace pointed out, with regard to the experiment at Tibbers, in Nithsdale, that it was a small area of hill grasses, and they all knew that hill sheep would not thrive in a small area.

The Rev. Dr. Gillespie said the experiment in question was under the care of the West of Scotland Agricultural College and a local committee, and he asked that they should suspend their judgment until they saw the results.

Forestry.

Sir Robert Menzies moved that the grant of £50 to the lecturer on forestry in the Edinburgh University be continued for the current year. He also reported that the next examination for the society's certificate in forestry would be held, in accordance with the new regulations, in April, 1903. The success which had attended their first exhibition of forestry at the Inverness show had, he said, induced the Royal Scottish Arboricultural Society to arrange for a similar display at Aberdeen this year.

The Education Depatment and Agriculture.

The Rev. Dr. Gillespie reported, on behalf of the Education Committee, that at the examination

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Miss Eleanor A. Ormerod, The late
The Village Smithy
Summer
A Devonshire Village
Kerry Cow
In the Hayfield
Milking Time
Buff Orpington Cock
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held at the Dairy Institute, Kilmarnock, in the first week of October last, for the national diploma in dairying, there were eleven candidates, of whom two obtained the diploma. The directors recommended that a grant of £60 be given for the current year to the Glasgow and West of Scotland Agricultural College, in aid of the expenses in conducting the Kilmarnock Dairy School. He congratulated Scottish agriculturists on the establishment of three colleges—at Edinburgh, Glasgow, and Aberdeen. Great advance had been made in the higher education.

Etomologist's Report.

The annual report from the society's entomologist, Dr. R. S. MacDougall, was presented, and stated that a good many complaints of insect attacks had been received during the past year, the fine weather having favoured the development and multiplication of insect life. Attacks by the following insects were investigated and reported upon, viz.:—(1) On agricultural crops—diamond-backed moth, turnip moth, and the granary weevil; (2) on fruit and fruit trees—strawberry beetle, raspberry moth, apple blight, and the small ermine moth; (3) on trees—the pine beetle, the pine weevil, the pine tortrix moth, the larch moth, and the wood wasp. Dr. MacDougall had continued his investigations regarding the disease which did so much damage amongst swedes two years ago, especially in the south-west of Scotland. He had proved that the disease was caused by bacteria. From cultures prepared from diseased plants, he had experimentally produced the disease in healthy turnips. Although the bacteria were not able to invade a perfectly sound turnip, they gained entrance by a wound, such wound being in many cases caused by insect attack. In turnips grown in three widely separated districts, Dr. MacDougall found at work grubs which, on being fed and bred up to the adult stage, produced flies, which, so far, remained undetermined. They were certainly new to Britain, and it was believed might be new to science.

Professor Wallace thought the disease had been imported in bad seed some sixteen years ago, and he suggested that there should be some inquiry to ascertain if that was the case.

On the motion of the Chairman, a vote of thanks was awarded to Sir Ralph Anstruther for presiding.



The Pen of Black-faced Mountain Sheep illustrated above is that which won the £10 silver cup for the best pen of mountain sheep and a first prize at last year's Smithfield Club's Show. These animals were bred and exhibited by Mr. John McDowall, Girdstingwood, Kirkcudbright, N.B., and on December 1st were 1 year 7 months and 2 weeks old, whilst their total weight was 5 cwt. 3 qrs. 23 lb.

Dairy Trade and Can Protection.

A Council meeting of the Dairy Trade and Can Protection Society was held at their registered offices, 57-58, Chancery Lane, on Wednesday, F. Ramsay, Esq., in the chair.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The reports of the Working Committee were presented, and after the comments of the President, were unanimously adopted.

The Chairman of the Law and Parliamentary Committee (Mr. J. T. Horner) then brought forward a further consideration as to the Departmental Committee's report on Preservatives and Colouring Matters, and quoted the evidence given before the Departmental Committee of the late Dr. Bond, and Dr. Bell, of Glasgow, and also that of Mr. James Brierley, which decidedly showed that a preservative with boron basis was perfectly harmless, and proposed that the objections of the society to the abolishing of the use of so harmless a preservative in milk should be forwarded to the President of the Local Government Board.

The Can Exchange Report was then read by the Secretary, which showed that 278 cans and 28 churns had been recovered during the month of December, and the delivery consisted of 145 cans and 16 churns to their owners. The Secretary also mentioned an amusing incident that had lately taken place as to recovering churns. It appeared that he asked a certain railway company to forward from the country eight railway churns belonging to one of the members, sending labels addressed to him at the Exchange. This they undertook to do in the early part of December, and after waiting a considerable time he wrote to the company, asking what had become of the churns. The reply was that instructions had been given for them to be sent. After some days elapsed, and the churns not arriving, he wrote again, when he received a reply that the churns had arrived, but they could not be found. Subsequently he discovered six had been taken away by the owners, who acknowledged receipt, and two had been taken away from the country station by someone.

The analysts, Messrs. Redwood and Hailes, reported that during the month of December they had received direct from members of the society 120 samples of milk, eight of which were found to be of poor quality, and 38 adulterated. The inspector collected 136 samples from various stations during the same period, six of which were of poor quality and 15 were adulterated.

The reports on a number of complaints of the loss of churns and cans were then read, and although not the whole of the property had been recovered, the major portion had. One or two important cases of the loss of churns which had only arrived a few hours before the meeting were left in the Secretary's hands for enquiry.

Warwickshire Farmers.

A dinner in connection with the Warwickshire Farmers' Association was held at Nuneaton on Wednesday, at which the secretary (Mr. Rowland) presented a report as to the amount of work that had been done since the start of the association, nine months ago. He stated that they had now nine branches, and a membership of 600, of whom 444 had already paid their subscriptions. The largest branch was Coventry, with 152 members, Nuneaton coming next, and being followed by Coleshill and Alcester respectively. The receipts had amounted to £209 1s. 11d., of which £149 6s. 2d. had been expended. A provisional committee had been formed during the week of the Coventry Farmers' Dairy (Limited), to which the farmers could send their milk, and it was the intention, if the trade would not buy at their price, to go direct to the consumers. Six of the branches had taken up trading on co-operative lines.

The association had succeeded in getting Captain Fife, of the Remount Department, to hold a sale at Coventry, at which twelve horses were sold for good figures, and an assurance had been given that the association should be kept acquainted with the requirements of the Army authorities as to horses. He contended very strongly that the association was not intended as a rival to the Warwickshire Chamber of Agriculture, and in answer to a statement made at the last meeting of that body that the people at the head of the association affairs were all landlords, he pointed out that the Executive Committee, which consisted at present of thirty-two members, was wholly composed of farmers.

Several other speakers very strongly condemned what they termed the anti-landlord feeling that permeated the Chamber of Agriculture

Stockton Chamber.

The thirteenth annual dinner of the Stockton Chamber of Agriculture was held at Stockton on Wednesday, Mr. J. T. Wilson presiding over a company of about 70, which included Mr. A. E. Pease, M.P., the Mayor of Stockton (Alderman J. Richardson), Captain Lilley (Billingham Hall), Mr. Thomas Appleby, and Professor Middleton.

The Chairman gave the Royal toasts, and was followed by Alderman A. G. Rudd, who proposed "The Army, Navy, and Reserve Forces," to which Major Smith and Surgeon-Major Blandford responded. Alderman J. W. P. Page gave "The Houses of Parliament," to which he coupled the name of Mr. A. E. Pease, M.P. for Cleveland.

Tax on Imported Wheat.

In responding, Mr. Pease said that whatever their political opinions might be they must agree that the large landlords were the best landlords. As legislators he did not think the House of Lords did as much as it might do for the prosperity of agriculture. With regard to the Lower House, he rather imagined that it did not stand at the present moment as high in the estimation of the public as it had done in former years. He believed that, something like their War Office, it was subjected to a good deal of criticism at the hands of members of all parties. If the House of Commons was to blame for its present condition the cure was with the people. There were measures of small importance which they ought to expect from even the present House of Commons, and he was glad to know that the chambers of agriculture and the Central chamber had put three or four measures of a minor character prominently upon its programme, and there was no reason why those small measures should not be passed into law at an early date. There was, for instance, the bill for compensation for damaged crops received by the sparks from locomotive engines, also the measure to amend the law of trespass on agricultural land, and another to amend the law with regard to boundary fences. He was a Free Trader, and took up his present position in the special circumstances of the hour, and the needs of the nation, when he said that, in his opinion, it was perfectly justifiable for the purposes of war taxation to levy a reasonable duty upon the importation of wheat, such as 1s. registration fee per quarter. That would yield an enormous revenue, and would not be appreciably felt by the working classes. It would be a tax which would fall evenly over all the population who, having supported the Government in the way they had, should bear some share of the burden. (Applause.)

Councillor T. Speck Walker, J.P., submitted "Success to Agriculture," to which Professor Middleton replied.—"Success to the Chamber" was proposed by Mr. T. Appleby, who expressed the opinion that the agriculturist interest was by far the greatest interest in the country. He sincerely trusted that pressure would be brought to bear upon the County Council to provide an experimental farm.

The President, replying, said for the most part the land in Stockton district was of a strong clay-like nature, and during the past 40 years the farmers had had to change altogether their methods of farming. What used to be a wheat-growing district was now changed. Farmers, fortunately, had been able to adapt themselves to circumstances, and had so changed their methods until dairying had become the chief industry amongst them.

The concluding toast, "The Donors of Prizes and Judges," was proposed by the President and responded to by Messrs. C. Robinson and I. C. Bainbridge.

Woodbridge Horse Show.

There was a large attendance at a meeting of the members of the above society at Woodbridge, on Thursday, under the presidency of Mr. Alfred J. Smith.

Mr. Alfred J. Smith, Major A. W. Cobbold, and Mr. S. Toller were unanimously elected chairman, vice-chairman, and auditor respectively. The list of members of the committee was revised, the name of Mr. E. F. Quilter being substituted for that of Mr. Lionel Digby, who had left the neighbourhood. On the motion of Major A. W. Cobbold, seconded by Major R. J. Carthew, it was decided that the prize list for the show to be held on March 31st should remain as last year, so far as those given by the society were concerned, and that the secretary (Mr. G. Shipman) should write to the donors of special prizes, and that the result of their replies should be reported at another meeting, to be held that day fortnight.



By Hordeum.

Seed-Barley.

The time has come when good barley growers have to begin thinking about what they mean to do this year, so far as they have it in their power to control events. In the direction of a farm there is so little that is merely mechanical and can be taken for granted, so that every step has to be taken as circumstances permit. It rarely happens that anyone can be quite sure of what he will do. But this need not lead to a general policy of drifting, or, worse still, to the adoption of no policy at all. It is wiser to mark out a clear common-sense line and follow it as closely as practicable. For instance, it is not possible to say to-day when sowing can commence, but it is distinctly useful to give the matter careful attention, and if a really good seed bed is open for use at an early date, to have the seed ready to sow, and get it in.

Early Sowing is Good

nineteen times out of twenty. One of the clearest and most constant lessons taught by the experience gained at the Brewers' Exhibition is to gain the superior advantages that so continually fall to samples got in early, and to try to avoid the loss to late ones.

It is quite time to determine what varieties of grain will be used, and to secure the supply. Some men use their own grain, and seldom or never change stock. Others buy tail-corn from a neighbouring maltster, and there are yet more who hold that all a man need do is to get a small, light, healthy barley at a pound (20s.) a quarter, with 20 to 30 per cent. more grains in a bushel than if big, fat, round-berried barleys are sown that ought to be made into malt.

A good many men—and, happily, the number is rapidly increasing—who persistently buy selected seed from a first-class seedsman of repute, and give up to eighty shillings (80s.) per quarter for it. In some notable instances this is not the highest price paid by good, sound, level-headed men of business, who know their business and make it pay.

Fine Quality Seed

is absolutely necessary, and it cannot be too carefully dressed and cleaned from every defect. It is not merely necessary that seed should grow, but it must grow freely, regularly, and free from all rivals and pests. Only good, regular, even seed can do this, but it need not necessarily be big grain. A very noteworthy instance of this occurred last year, when the heaviest sample of the year grown in Kent was raised from a thin, light, Norfolk barley that only weighed 54lb. to the bushel. But it was a regular, healthy grain, and the change of soil and climate just suited it.

A practical question has often been raised as to the desirability or otherwise of

Steeping Seed-Corn,

This has been done with the view of securing the more uniform absorption of water than can occur in the soil, and also, in most instances, to add sulphate of copper or some other similar antiseptic. It is somewhat significant that of the samples so treated sent up to the Brewers' Exhibition half obtained prizes, and further information is much needed. Another question of almost precisely the same type is the use or otherwise of kiln-drying or sweating grain prior to sowing. It is generally admitted that maltsters find this process a desirable one, and the cost and labour are fully justified. But there is this difference: the growth on floor in a malthouse is a totally different thing to vegetation in an open field; the difference of hours in the one case is of more influence than days or even weeks in the other.

Sweating may and does lead to even sprouting in a malthouse, but it has not yet been demonstrated that it is of use in the field. Here, again, however, there is one thing about which no uncertain sound need be made. If sweating is adopted it should be done at once, if it is not already finished, for

Sweating needs Mellowing.

or the subtle influences that arise from storage after kiln-drying. To sweat grain just immediately prior to use is never so good as giving it time to mellow, and nothing has, thus far, been suggested to show that the experience gained by maltsters is not applicable to open germination of the grain.

Of much more importance than any of the above questions is the selection of the fields for barley-sowing, and the right consideration of the actual effects and possible influences of the preceding crops, and the manures used in the production of the same.

One of the most curious results of the use of artificials in barley-growing is becoming apparent when two varieties are used in successive crops or years, or where some good type is employed, when with the previous crop none had been added. One has only to turn up the facts as at present recorded to see this, and as it is opening out a lot of new possibilities all good barley growers who like to satisfy themselves on some points instead of getting all their information from the experiences of others may so regulate their cropping and manures as to help in determining the truth.

Arsenic in Beer.

A joint committee of the Society of Chemical Industry and the Society of Public Analysts have prepared a report on the question of the arsenical poisoning of beer. After an examination of various methods, the committee recommend that of Marsh-Berzelius. This test is recommended as one of such extreme delicacy that, with quantities of about twenty grains, it will give an indication of one part in seven million parts of arsenious oxide. The committee do not suggest any limits for quantities of arsenic which may be regarded as permissible, but they express the opinion that limits should officially be fixed by the Royal Commission or otherwise.

Agricultural Imports.

The following is an account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Jan. 7, 1902, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year :—

	1901.	1902.		1901.	1902.
	No.	No.		Cwt.	Cwt.
Cattle ..	7,441	8,236	Wheat ...	1,205,000	998,000
Sheep.....	5,321	9,819	Flour.....	529,100	376,200
Swine.....	—	—	Barley ...	370,500	455,200
Horses ...	—	335	Oats	433,800	477,000
			Peas	40,500	31,900
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Beans ...	42,500	11,900
Beef	97,238	88,055	Maize ...	1,565,800	1,429,500
Mutton ...	117,007	58,747		Bunches	Bunches
Pork	22,551	27,046	Bananas	26,985	22,174
Bacon ...	116,865	145,718			
Beef, salt	1,829	2,229		Cwt.	Cwt.
Hams.....	23,087	28,690	Apples ...	39,041	29,135
Pork, salt	2,836	3,528	Apricots & Peaches	—	—
Meat, salt & Fresh	10,115	8,823	Cherries	—	—
Do. pres.	14,364	19,294	Currants	—	—
Butter ...	68,978	96,198	Goosebr's	—	—
M'rg'rine	12,833	18,027	Grapes ...	3,851	658
Cheese ...	35,413	20,857	Lemons...	23,128	51,379
* Milk, Fresh, in cans or			Oranges	128,505	301,545
			Pears.....	224	96
			Plums ...	—	—
			Strawb'r's	—	—
drums.	150	440	Oth'r Fr't	1,390	3,531
* Milk Cream.	74	205		Tons.	Tons.
* Milk pr's'v'd, other			Hay	698	5,623
				Bush.	Bush.
			Onions ...	75,364	114,161
kinds ...	—	9		Cwt.	Cwt.
Con. Milk	14,938	15,660	Hops	3,912	10,835
			Potatoes	101,961	56,282
	No.	No.	Tom'to's	9,521	4,667
Eggs	272,170†	236,621†	Other Veg'bles	Value. £ 6,747	Value. £5,540
Poultry & Game	Value. £24,344	Value. £35,396	‡Dried ...	Cwt. 510	Cwt. 1,980
			‡Pres'v'd by canning ...		
	Cwt.	Cwt.		2,695	6,472
Rabbits	11,616	9,558			
Lard	35,128	36,671			

* In 1900 these were not shown separately.
† Great Hundreds.
‡ Included with Vegetables unenumerated prior to 1901.

"Pure Butter."—At the North London Police Court on Friday Frank Ward, a shopkeeper, of Sidworth Street, Hackney, was summoned by the Hackney Borough Council to answer a charge of having sold as pure butter an article to which the Public Analyst certified an addition of 94 per cent. of foreign fat, this consisting of cotton seed oil.—Mr. Williams, solicitor to the Borough Council, called evidence to show that the "butter" in question was purchased at the defendant's shop as "shilling butter," and it turned out that the stuff was only worth about 4d. a pound.—Mr. Fordham: It is a shocking fraud—a shocking fraud? Selling stuff nearly entirely composed of cotton seed oil is wicked, and the defendant is fined £10 and £2 2s. costs.—The defendant: This is my first offence, sir.—Mr. Fordham: It is an exceedingly bad case, and I am not quite sure that I ought not to have you fined £20. You will pay £12, or go to gaol for a month.

HOPS.

By Lupulin.

Looking Backward.

The retrospect of the past year can hardly be otherwise than unsatisfactory to the majority of our people, whatever their station or occupation in life. Commencing in the dark shadow cast upon the land by the death of our revered and venerable Queen, each month of 1901 has brought its anxieties and sorrows to every class. "The harsh and boist'rous tongue of war," has unceasingly reminded us of the drain upon our national resources, both material and financial. Our trade has been seriously depreciated, while our taxes and other charges have increased. The invasion by American capitalists threatens our commercial future, and agriculture, formerly the accredited source of our national strength and prosperity, has suffered to such an extent that we are compelled to admit that the period has gone when the British farmer

"Might, free from trouble, pass his days
In his own way, and pay his rent with praise,"

for his calling is on the whole unremunerative, and consequently productive of more trouble than comfort. I have no desire to pose as a confirmed pessimist, for I know "'tis not for mortals always to be blest," and being of a sanguine inclination, I would rather look forward to possible brightness than meditate upon the cloudy atmosphere by which we have been enveloped. Nevertheless, it is my duty to present a faithful chronicle, and I much regret that my experience in the section of agriculture with which I am especially connected does not justify me in presenting an attractive sketch of

The History of our Industry in 1901.

The market opened in January last with a fairly healthy tone, which was maintained for a short time, but as we advanced into the following month demand relaxed, and merchants showed such anxiety to clear their stocks that keen competition in selling to consumers resulted, causing general reduction of quotations. The close of February was marked by tendency towards lower prices, which was further accentuated in March. It was expected that the destruction of some thousands of pockets in the burning of Messrs. Horsley's warehouse would have given strength to the trade, but this occurrence did not affect the course of events, and a loss of value to the extent of 15s. to 20s. per cwt. was the final issue of the operations of the month. Throughout April and May similar dulness prevailed, with but little relief, and reference to my notes made during the three following months shows that, apart from exceptional and brief revivals of demand, there was no appreciable variation in the downward slide, which became more rapid as the estimates of the new crop became more reliable.

The Growth of the Bine.

was promoted from the commencement by favourable climatic conditions. The older roots wintered well, and the younger plants were healthy and sound. Bright dry weather in April enabled farmers to get on with their preliminary cultivation, and though the start of actual growth was late, the early shoots being checked by cold winds in May, good progress was evident by the end of that month. The increase of heat in June assisted the gardens, but a rather long drought, and the appearance of fly created some anxiety. The natural vigour of the bine, however, overcame all obstacles, and rapid progress was evident, which continued throughout the following month, although the aphis blight was persistent, and washing was necessarily practised in all districts. About the middle of July forecasts of a heavy yield were made by outside observers, but were emphatically rejected by growers. I then ventured to point out that the production of large crop would certainly be prejudicial to the market value, and suggested that if such a result were probable an agreement should be arranged to limit the picking. My remarks were scouted as "nonsensical," but events have proved that all growers would have been benefited had they taken my words as worthy of at least a little consideration. The weather continued to suit the hops "down to the ground," and up to the top. The bine increased in height and strength, the laterals were freely pushed out, the barr appeared in abundance, and, despite the constant presence of fly, every garden promised well. Indeed, as the close of the growing season approached it appeared more than probable that the second yield of 1899 would be equalled and perhaps surpassed. Thus we arrived at the September harvest time, when a fresh attack of blight upon the cones, the running of mould in many gardens, and the almost universal premature ripening of hops, created the expectation that the weight gathered would be substantially reduced. Urgent advice to abstain from picking any but sound coloury hops was circulated amongst the planters; some of them acted upon it, but too many were heedless, with the

result that the market was speedily burdened with large quantities of very inferior stuff, and the prospects of a profitable trade were ruined. When the official estimates were published they confirmed our fears by stating that we had produced no less than 649,387 cwts., which is practically on a par with the crop of 1899.

It is therefore not surprising that growers have suffered very seriously. The large proportion of poor hops has pulled down the value of all descriptions, so that even choice samples have been sold at much under their real worth, while the range of prices of the lower sorts, which are lower than those of any previous season, demonstrate the folly of the policy which has led to such disastrous results. The market has drifted, throughout the concluding months of the year, from bad to worse, only providing satisfaction for brewers, who have readily absorbed the main part of the crop, to their present and future profit.

Continental Reports.

show that the course of trade has followed similar lines to our own, save that throughout the year the value of hops at Nuremberg and other great centres has been much in excess of our market prices, and that consequently international business has been limited. Belgian hops might have found a larger outlet with us if the qualities had been more acceptable. The indications of all Continental markets at the holiday suspension were in favour of higher prices in the New Year. It is hardly necessary to trace the history of the growth of the crop in Germany, Austria, and other districts. The great results were, with the exception of Bohemia, unfavourable as to quantity, and not very satisfactory in the point of quality. Bohemia produced a full crop of generally excellent hops, which have commanded very high prices throughout the season, and even the lower qualities from Baden, Alsace, Wurtemberg, Hallertau, Franconia, etc., have been taken over freely by consumers, and at good figures, as they became aware of the general deficiency of the yield.

America.

Having but scanty information as to climatic influences during the growth in 1901 I confine my survey to the practical issue that has been evolved since the opening of the season's trade in September last. Owing to a report that the Pacific coast crop would exceed average, the early days of the trade were marked by extreme dullness, but as soon as reliable information came to hand it was seen that the yield of every hop-growing State would be limited, so that the total was not expected to exceed 220,000 bales. A month later, when the picking was about half-completed, this estimate was reduced to 200,000 bales, the most important falling off being in Washington and Oregon. The consumption in 1899 was officially stated to be 193,883 bales; it is certainly not less at the present time, and as very few hops are imported it will be seen that the 1901 crop leaves hardly any surplus for exportation. Steadily but gradually the local markets have hardened, and the business of the year closed with a firm tone, and anticipation of higher rates in the early future.

Imports and Exports.

Our imports of foreign hops from all sources were much less during 1901 than they have been for several years. The total quantity received was 116,042 cwt., of which America sent us 73,660 cwt., and other countries 43,382 cwt. The details which make up the last-mentioned figures are not yet available, but judging from past experience we may reckon that Belgium was our chief source of supply, followed in succession by Germany, Holland, and France, with small shipments from Russia. To demonstrate the shortage of imports in 1901, it is wise to compare them with the three previous years, which were 198,494 cwts., 180,233 cwts., and 244,136 cwts. respectively. Our exports were substantially increased during last year, being 17,796 cwt. of English and 4,906 cwt. of foreign produce, thus amounting to 22,702 cwt., and showing a balance against our market of only 93,340 cwt., which is about half of the corresponding balance for 1900. Foreign competition has been, therefore, reduced to an unimportant point as regards quantity, while the prices realised for imported hops, being above the average currency of our own produce, have further minimised the influence exercised thereby. We export hops to Sweden, Denmark, Germany, Holland, and in small quantities to U.S.A., but our chief customers are our own Colonies, where English growths are most in favour.

Colonel F. J. Justice, agent for Lord Tredegar's Monmouthshire estates and Glamorgan farm estates, was found dead in bed at his house, Craig-yr-Hoel, Castletour, near Newport, on Thursday morning, heart disease being apparently the cause of death. He was at the Cardiff rent audit on Monday, and in Newport on Wednesday, so that his death was totally unexpected. The deceased gentleman was colonel of the 2nd Volunteer Battalion South Wales Borderers.

Mr. Colston, M.P., on Agricultura Questions.

The prizes awarded at the Chipping Sodbury Fat Stock Show and Sale held on December 10th were distributed by Mr. Edward Colston, M.P., on Tuesday last. At the dinner Mr. Colston proposed the toast of the day, namely, "Success to the Chipping Sodbury Fat Stock Show and Sale," and in doing so said that he rejoiced to hear the show and sale were so good in quantity as well as quality. He was told that the prices realised, if not so good as those who were selling would like, were very fairly satisfactory. He congratulated those who initiated the show last year, and said it was worthy of all support and encouragement. He hoped their success would stimulate others to do likewise. He sincerely wished he could tell them that agriculture generally was in a prosperous condition. For years past it had been going through a very sad period of depression. He thought they might, notwithstanding, congratulate themselves that farmers had more heart and more hope now than they had before. The feeling of goodwill and sympathy between those who owned and those who cultivated the land was, he believed, never better and never stronger than at the present time. Of course it was impossible to prophesy as to the future. He read that 50 years ago that little country, Denmark, was in a very parlous condition as regarded agriculture, but, owing to the extraordinary energy of the people, and to the fact that farmers there had combined science with practice, and had improved their methods and system, a different condition of things obtained in that little country. He hoped that with all the experience farmers in England had, and with the resolution and energy which we with reason boasted of, we should in future be able to keep our hearths and home together, as our forefathers had done in the past. He hoped they would see a fair return for the capital invested.

Agricultural Rates Department.

The Agricultural Land Rating Act had been extended for a further period. Those who were opposed to the land cast this in their teeth, and called it a charitable dole to the landlords, tenants, and those connected with the land. He repudiated any suggestion of the kind. This Act was a fair act of justice towards the land, and its object was to relieve burdens which had been so unfairly and unduly pressing upon the land for many years. Those burdens ought to have been removed many years ago, when the Corn Laws were done away with. So far as he knew, very little of the benefit of that Act had come to the landlord, except, of course, that landlords necessarily benefited from increased prosperity on the part of the tenants. Tenants had had their fair share of benefit from the Act, and agricultural labourers had had their share by improved wages during the last few years.

Compensation for Farm Labourers.

Speaking of the Workmen's Compensation Act, he said he thought those present, as practical men, would agree with him that in these days, when it was so difficult to keep men upon the land, any well-considered measure of Parliament which improved the lot of men and made them more contented, and inclined them to remain on the land and feel they were cared for by Parliament and their employers, would have their cordial welcome and support. There was a time, a few years ago, when it was supposed to be impossible to extend the boon of the Workmen's Compensation Act to the agricultural labourer owing to the great expense. But insurance companies had looked into the matter and offered such terms that employers had been able to extend this advantage to their workmen at a very small cost to themselves. With the extended use of machinery accidents must necessarily happen from time to time, and it was a great and reasonable satisfaction to them, and others situated like them, to know that at small cost to themselves they could confer great advantages on their men.

Education.

Referring to the question of education, he said he knew that as a body farmers had always been reputed to be against education. He confessed, when he saw the results of the Education Act of 1870 in the rural districts, he was not surprised at it, because they well knew that their older men, who had never had the benefit of education, such as prevailed now, were certainly more skilled labourers than the younger generation. He thought they would agree with him that the education which the children of the elementary schools in the rural districts—he was speaking of the purely rural schools—received was too literary and too bookish. What they wanted was to interest the children in the soil, and try to keep them in the rural districts when they grew up to be young men, and men full of growth and stature. France had been inclined to take the wind out of their sails, and had set them an people were waking up, and they now realised that they must make education in the rural districts of a more practical character (hear, hear). example. After many years had passed English They wanted to interest the children in the soil and in their surroundings. They must not only move with the times, but they must introduce a system of education in the agricultural districts of a more practical character (hear, hear).

The point he wanted to make was that they should interest children of tender years in the elementary principles of agriculture. They might be taught the nature of animals, plants, and the soil, the air, the water, and everything around them. If opportunity were given they might be taught some practical application of the knowledge as well as the theory. Many teachers were already well qualified to teach such things as he had mentioned, but they would be still more competent if they had opportunities of attending agricultural colleges, so many of which had opened lately. For some years past in France education of the character he had indicated had been made compulsory in the rural districts. They did not want compulsion in England; nevertheless, they must move with the times and grasp the situation. They should realise that children in the past had not had that kind of education which best fitted them for their work (hear, hear). It had been more of a character that enabled them to go away and become clerks. What they wanted to do was to keep their children in the country districts, and if their education were made a little more practical than it had been in the past they might succeed (hear, hear).

Another important question was their

Food Supply in Time of War.

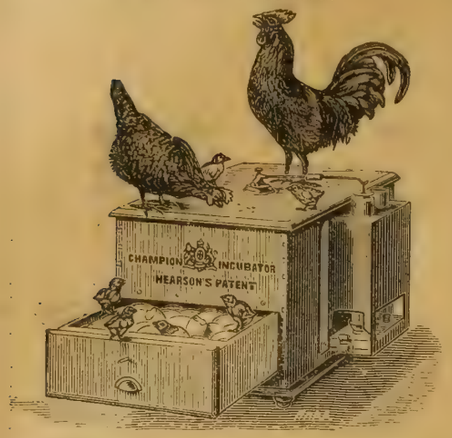
They all knew that the proportion of wheat grown in this country was very small compared with the quantity consumed. True, their Navy was the finest the world had ever seen. They knew that European nations hated England with a deadly hatred, and nothing would give them greater pleasure than to form some gigantic combination against this country. Even if they were not successful in sweeping the British fleet from the seas, it was certain that a great many corn ships would be taken, the price of corn would go up, possibly a panic would ensue, and great scarcity would result (hear, hear). Although they spent enormous sums on the Navy and in strengthening their defences, the forts were not victualled. They needed to have some reserves of corn, so that should bad times come they might have something to fall back upon. If any disaster overtook the fleet it would not be necessary for a foreign nation to land a single man to force this country to surrender, for the people would be starved into submission. He thought the question was of such vital importance that the Government ought to endeavour to deal with it.

Mr. Jefferies, a Hampshire member of Parliament, had put forward a project which seemed eminently practical from a national point of view. It was not to preserve wheat in granaries and storehouses, which would cost enormous sums to build, but to preserve it in the stack for twelve months. Farmers, however, must be paid for doing that—it must be made worth their while to do it. It was suggested that they be paid 2s. a quarter for loss on capital, 2s. for loss through vermin, and 1s. for keep, making 5s. in all. If four millions of quarters were thus preserved for twelve months it would give the country a little breathing time, although it would not keep the people for very long. The cost of that would be a million a year.

Regarding the method of meeting the cost, Mr. Gladstone took off 1s. registration duty on corn. The Chancellor of the Exchequer told them that that 1s. duty, which most people did not know existed, and would not affect the price, would at the present time produce £2,225,000 a year. If that was again put on there would be a million of money for the purposes he had named, and the remainder for any other object—a sum which would be very acceptable just now. He did not think it would raise the price of wheat. He thought it would be better for the people generally to make some little sacrifice than to run the risk of a great national disaster and ruin occurring (hear, hear). If they ever got into the position he had suggested—and it was possible—this country would have to pay an enormous indemnity, which would cripple the nation for generations. He thought that the Government might be asked to look into the matter.

The Trustees of Guy's Hospital have decided to dispose of their South Lincolnshire estates of 6,000 acres. They are first offering the farms to the existing tenants at a valuation, one-third of the purchase money to be paid down, and the balance during thirty years. The trustees have other offers, but are giving the first refusal to the tenants. The value of the land is said to be about £30,000.

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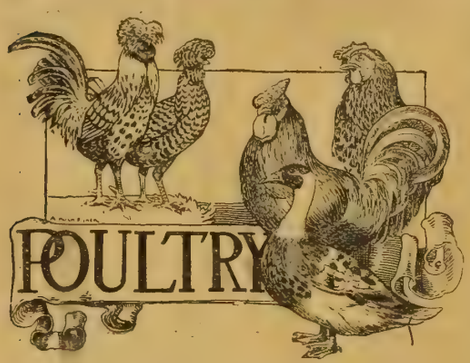
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Eggs and the Egg Trade.

By A. NEWPORT.

(Copyright.)

(Continued from page 31.)

Irregular Supply.

You will all agree that this country has a fair number of eggs from March to September, but from October to February they are very scarce. There is not much profit to be got out of eggs when they are so plentiful, and when profits might be made, no eggs. To some extent this is being remedied, but by blending we risk the whole trade. To show how irregular the supply is, I can quote from what occurred to me last March. During that month I had to reply to offers amounting in the aggregate to 30,000 eggs per week, and with but very few exceptions, I replied that we were getting elsewhere all new wanted, but should be glad to hear from the writers this October. This October came and I had one offer only, asking what we were giving. I quoted the current price, but he has never sent any eggs.

I don't know how this appeals to you, but I give my view of it. Say I'm a retailer in a large business. I must have eggs for my customers all the year round. What am I to do for the 50,000 a week that we want at this time of year? You English producers can't supply me, or if you could, they wouldn't come at a price that all my customers can pay. So I am forced into the foreign market, and if I deal of a factor all through the light season, he naturally has some claim on my orders when eggs get cheaper. If I don't study him, where will I be next winter? Again, when does the English egg-grower come to me? In the spring, when he outruns the local demand. He must dispose of his wares somewhere, so he tries me. This goes on till the light season approaches, the consignments getting less and less, and one day he writes me saying his birds have stopped laying. Yes, they have stopped laying for *me*, because he finds the local prices are as good as mine, and they can clear him. You don't blame the man—but where am I? I know, too, where he will be when he tries to unload his burden on my shoulers next spring. This is where the foreign agent gets the advantage—he will always find you eggs if you will pay the price.

Quantity.

I say English eggs are not obtainable in anything like quantity. This is a fault. To some people two or three hundred seems a lot; to others, a dozen cases represents a huge quantity; but in the trade such figures are nothing at all. London alone requires millions every week. Can anyone here tell me where I could at this moment find 10,000 genuine English new-laids? Would you, or is there a man in this country who would undertake to book me a supply all the year round of 10,000 per week? No! And yet I could to-morrow morning order ten times ten thousand in each of the following: French, Austrian, Styrian, Russian, Hungarian, Galician, Danish, Italian, and Morocco, and they would be delivered the following day.

It is no uncommon thing for one Russian house that I know of to have an order for three hundred cases at once; and they would be used up in a week by the manufacturing firm placing the order. It would be a revelation to you, I am sure, to visit such a place as Willow Walk depot, to see the stacks made of cases of eggs, each as big as a house, and dozens of stacks. Surely this will give you some idea of the London egg trade, and it is all the result of collection from a multitude of small producers.

Now for just a word of advice. I speak as one not only interested in the egg trade, but as an egg-producer for profit. If you want to make the best thing possible out of English new-laid eggs, get your chickens early in the year, force them along, and make them lay all the winter. Then, when the glut of eggs arrives, kill them off and send to market. They will fetch a fair price as old hens in March, and you are relieved of the anxiety of an overburden of eggs, and can devote all your land and energies to raising pullets for the next autumn and winter laying. There is profit to be made from winter eggs, but in spring and summer they are more trouble to lots of people than they are worth. It is not within the province of my lecture to instruct you how, and under what conditions, winter eggs can be obtained. I can do it—I have to—and what I can do others also can manage. The great factors are, get the pullets early hatched, of good constitution, bred from good layers, and properly fed.

The Rearing of Chickens.

During January, February, and early March, while the weather is cold, it is important that during the time the hens are sitting they should be taken off the nest every day and fed. This is where many people make a great mistake. They have an idea if the hens sit properly things must be going on all right. Now, this is not always the case. In cold weather fowls require a great deal more to eat to keep up the warmth of the body. It often happens when hens are sitting they go off their appetite, and eat but very little. Now, when that is the case it is impossible for the birds to impart proper heat to the eggs; instead of the latter being from 100 degrees to 103 degrees, many of them are down to 70 degrees and 80 degrees, particularly the outside ones, such as those under the wings.

Those poultry-keepers who hatch eggs by incubators should take particular care to keep them the proper temperature, as near as possible to the heat of those under a hen. There is not more than one in a hundred who gives this subject sufficient thought.

If the hen does not eat properly it is well to mix a little soft food, and put down her throat—say, about four tablespoonfuls of barley meal, with one teaspoonful of roup powder to three hens. If that is done one or two mornings the owner will find he will not have much more trouble with the hens if they are healthy. When the birds eat well, all they require is good food, such as barley and Indian corn. They are the best grains in cold weather for sitting hens, as they contain a good deal of fattening and heating material.

Many poultry-keepers put young chickens in a greenhouse when they are first hatched out, thinking to bestow a little extra care upon the young birds, and should the weather keep cold they keep the chickens there for weeks. This is altogether a mistake. If chickens are kept under glass they require plenty of fresh air, and on no account should there be any hot pipes running through the greenhouse, that is if the hen is with them.

In nineteen cases out of every twenty where people attempt to rear chickens under glass, they have cramp and go off their feet. The toes become crooked, and they lose the use of their legs. Other people will put them in a stable or barn, and keep them there for a long time. In that case the difficulty is after they have been kept in a warm, sheltered place for a time, and are then put out in the cold, damp atmosphere, one-third, or very often a half of them will get congestion of the lungs.

When they are put in an open shed, and are sheltered from the wind and rain, or in large coops, they are accustomed to the outer air, and very few die. The Sussex, Surrey, and Kent people, who rear for the London markets, hatch out in September, October, and the early part of November, and bring up thousands of chickens, and they lose comparatively very few.

Chickens should never be kept under cover, where the outer air does not get to them, more than from three to seven days; if so they become delicate. In the early part of the season it is the best and safest plan to have a hen in a coop, and there should be moss peat about two inches deep in the bottom of the coop. In all cases it is well to nail a small piece of board inside, so that the hen does not scratch the peat out. It is even better to use granulated peat for the bottoms of the coops, as there are no hard pieces in this to hurt the feet of the little chickens.

The peat should be two inches thick, and be stirred up with a small hand rake every third day. If it becomes wet with rain or snow, it should be removed. Dry road dust is frequently used by those who live in the country for their coops, and this answers well. In the spring and summer months a supply should be collected and stored in a covered shed.

When hatching with incubators, care should be taken not to over-crowd the foster-mothers. Not more than 35 chickens should be put in one rearer, and a less number is better, as they overcrowd, and get on top of each other for the warmth, and the weaker ones frequently get suffocated. Early-hatched chickens which are cooped with their mother should have their liberty on fine, bright days, and when it is windy, the small

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runs which we have frequently referred to as useful should be securely hooked on to the coops, so that there is no danger of the birds getting too far away from the coops, and being unable to get back.

The hen should always be cooped during the winter and early spring. This course is adopted for two reasons—if she has her liberty she takes the birds too far, and when she is cooped she broods her chickens more frequently, and shows that quiet treatment of her little brood so essential to the well-being of the birds, and which is much to be preferred to the roaming habit. After the chickens have partaken of food and water in their small run they run back to their mother, who opens her wings for them to shelter under at once. Where a nice wood or sheltered plantation or hedgerow is available, it is a good plan to allow the hen one hour's liberty with her little brood just in the middle of the day, when it is fine, as the exercise will do the bird good, as well as the chickens. Coops should have bottoms in them early in the season, as when these are adopted and well covered with peat or dust, the birds' legs are kept quite dry, and the risk of cramp is lessened.

The majority of poultry-keepers fully realise the importance of giving their young birds sharp grit, but there are still some who omit to do so. Young chickens require to get the full benefit of their food in order that they may make headway, and in order that this may be achieved, some sharp material is very necessary, so that assimilation of the food takes place at once. Sharp, but very fine grit, made of broken flint, is the best that can be given. When the stones are broken for grit for fowls this should be sieved, and the fine kept out for the chickens.

Mr. Wyndham, Chief Secretary for Ireland, speaking on Saturday afternoon at Belfast, declared himself emphatically opposed to any scheme of compulsory land purchase, and added that the Government had no intention of introducing a Bill to compel Irish landlords to sell or Irish tenant farmers to buy their holdings. He would, however, next session introduce a measure to simplify and facilitate the transfer of land in Ireland. As to the present agitation in Ireland, it was a ridiculous one.

Wharfedale Chamber.

The annual meeting of the Wharfedale Chamber of Agriculture was held at Otley on the 3rd inst., Mr. J. Bailey, of Riddlesden Hall, presiding, at which the principal business was a discussion as to the continuance or dissolution of the Chamber. The accounts presented showed a credit balance of 12s. 6d., as against an adverse balance of £1 4s. 3d. last year.

Mr. Francis Darwin, in proposing that the Chamber be continued, said he did so because there was a necessity for it. A theoretical as well as a practical knowledge of farming was required by any man engaged in the culture of land. Just as Lord Rosebery had said that the politics of 1892 were different from those of 1901, so the farming of the past was different from that of the present. He said that with all humility, as he had only been a farmer seventeen years. The competitors of the Wharfedale farmers in the past were Knaresborough, Pateley Bridge, Wetherby, and such places. Now they included Denmark, France, the United States, and even Siberia. In order to voice their grievances the farmers must have some body to which they could appeal, and the Chamber of Agriculture was exactly that body. He had been a farmer for seventeen years, and during that time had lost £117 15s. 4d., but he had got an immense amount of amusement, he had gained a large amount of information, and was now able to estimate the feelings of the cultivators of land. When he commenced farming he charged himself 22s. an acre, and had since risen the rent to 27s. Starting with sheep-breeding, he lost the first male, first by its disappearance, and, after it was discovered, it was killed by another sheep. Scotch cattle were then tried, but though they were lovely animals in the field when the sun was shining on their backs, they did not look quite so lovely in the balance-sheet. (Laughter.) From a farmer's point of view, they were useless. Welsh cattle were similarly a failure. He then tried Herefords, which always looked ready for the butcher, but which the butcher would rarely look at. Later he tried Devon cattle and Jersey, but was not able to make any of them pay. He did not purchase any Guernseys, as he had an unfavourable report from a relation in that island. Last of all he tried half-bred Irish, and these were the only ones on which he could make a profit.

Mr. M. D'Arcy Wyvill seconded the motion, and stated that Mr. R. W. Hanbury, President of the Board of Agriculture, had accepted an invitation to speak in the Otley Division.

Other speeches followed, and the proposition to continue the Chamber was carried unanimously.

Mr. F. H. Fawkes was elected president, and Mr. James Bailey vice-president.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending January 7, 1902:—

Swine Fever.	Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.	No.	251	105	312	1,242	15,237	17,933
	Outbreaks.	No.	44	38	36	39	3,140	1,940
Rabies.	Cases Reported. Oth'r Anim'ls.	No.	...	1	...	...	1	5
	Dogs.	No.	...	...	...	...	1	6
Pleuro-Pneumonia.	Cattle slaughtered. Exposed to Infection.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Diseased.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Outbreaks.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	1
Glanders (incl. farcy).	Animals Attacked.	No.	73	40	32	28	2,382	1,858
	Outbreaks.	No.	26	23	15	10	1,350	1,119
Foot-and-Mouth Disease.	Animals Attacked.	No.	...	...	...	...	660	266
	Outbreaks.	No.	...	...	...	...	12	21
Anthrax.	Animals Attacked.	No.	33	19	12	8	956	956
	Outbreaks.	No.	23	13	8	4	647	671
Period.	Week ended Jan. 4, 1902			Corresponding week in ... (1901 / 1900 / 1899)			Total for 49 weeks 1901	Corresponding period in ... (1900 / 1899)

NOTE.—The figures for the current Year are approximate only.

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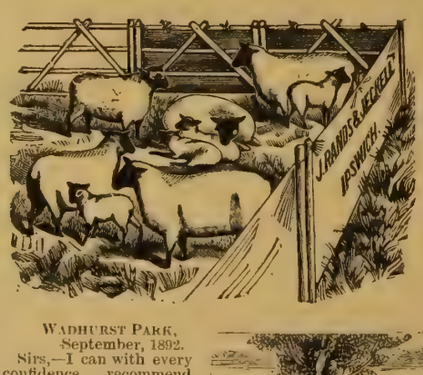
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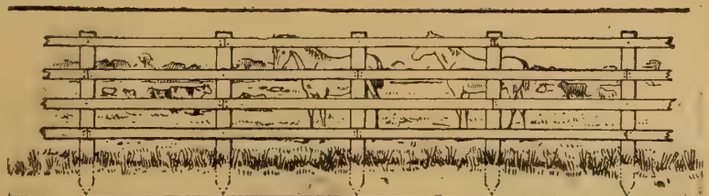
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For the convenience of Exhibitors at the above Show, the London and North Western Railway Company will arrange the running of Special Through Vans for the conveyance of Dogs, Poultry, Pigeons, &c., to Liverpool, on Monday, January 27th, by the Trains leaving

London (Euston) ... ... at 2.45 p.m.
Carlisle ... ... at 1.40 p.m.
Birmingham (New St.) ... at 2. 0 p.m.
Shrewsbury ... at 11.25 a.m. 3.55 p.m.

These will be in addition to the Vans running regularly on the Through Trains to Liverpool.

Consignments from the Branch Lines, and from Nottingham, Peterboro', Oxford, Cambridge, &c., will be placed in these Vans at the various Junctions, thus ensuring direct transit to the Exhibition.

The Show closes at 5 p.m. on January 30th.

Arrangements will also be made for the return of the Traffic in Through Vans direct from Liverpool (Lime Street) at the close of the Show, and Exhibitors wishing to avail themselves of these facilities are requested to order their consignments "Per London and North Western Railway."

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Consignments of Poultry and Pigeons travelling by the L. & N. W. Ry. will be conveyed free of charge between Lime Street Railway Station and the Exhibition.

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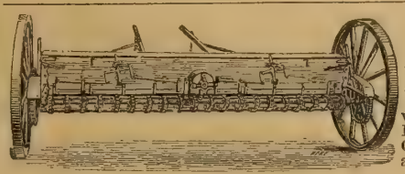
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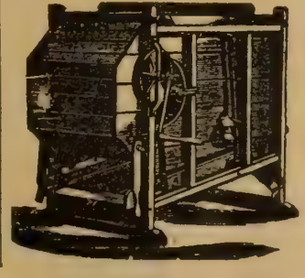
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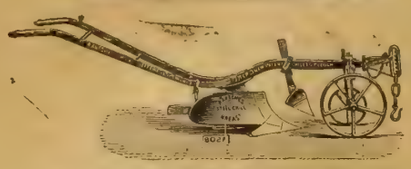
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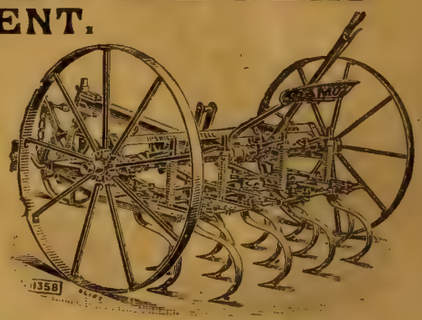
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We asked our readers to tell us which of these groups were fed on New Milk, and 707 Farmers, Farmers' wives, their sons and daughters competed for a small prize which we offered to those who guessed correctly.
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We think the above striking FACT speaks volumes for "Cream Equivalent."
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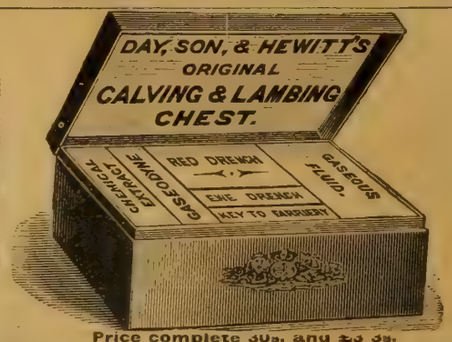
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MONDAY, JANUARY 20, 1902.

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FEEDING STUFFS AND THEIR PRICE ON THE MARKETS.

Man is a stubborn animal, particularly over his food. The scientist may indicate what his ideal diet should be and doctors may prescribe his meals as they do his medicine. But the scientists are left deploring his "invincible ignorance," and physicians are proverbially "in vain." Many of his familiar health troubles might be avoided if he would get in the habit of using brown bread at one meal a day; other troubles are due to his habit of eating too much meat in proportion to green vegetables. Nor is he a wise user of fruit; few Englishman at least eat enough fruit, except a small minority, who eat far too much of it. Man won't be advised, cannot be driven, and is altogether a problem to producers of food for his use. But with animals it is another story. A great deal can be done towards feeding them in a scientific manner, and even foods which they do not take to naturally may be rendered palatable by condiments. Habit gradually introduced will also effect much. Calves in Iceland pass from milk to such little grass and hay as can be procured, but this is too expensive a dietary to be kept up for long. Gradually the use of dried fish is introduced, and eventually it becomes the main food. In a similar manner several entirely foreign products, such as maize, dari, and locust beans have long since won their way into the most extensive acceptance. With this almost indefinite extension of the feeders' and owners' choice there arrives a state of things in the market for feeding stuffs which is in striking contrast to the wheat trade. Wheat may easily show a gradient of only half a crown per quarter on the year, profits are cut exceedingly fine, and there is a permanent tendency towards an equilibrium.

But the trade in barley, oats, and maize, in beans, peas, pari, millet, &c., is unstable. There is not a week in the year wherein vigilance in securing the profitable bargain may not be rewarded. The buyer who wishes to make his live-stock pay well must watch the market value of not one, but a score of articles. Nor can he leave everything to a factor. He must be perpetually adjusting his purchases to the health and needs of his animals as well as to the market fluctuations. Thus if a feeding stuff of neutral action on live stock becomes scarce and dear he must see if he cannot replace it by a combination of cheaper feeding stuffs which are so balanced in the ration that constipation and relaxing actions are employed to neutralise each other. There are, of course, the further questions of whether it is wanted to fatten stock rapidly or to more gradually build them up, and if whether the work they have to do or the climate they have to stand makes some particular article well worth a high price by reason of its stimulating power. There is even such a thing as keeping live stock in good spirits over crises of work or weather.

Thus it will be seen that the buyer of feeding stuffs needs to be particularly alert, ready and well informed. No man can afford to neglect his agricultural paper nor take his eye off the markets for long. The supplies of particular articles are often quite moderate, and only to hand for a comparatively brief period. The belated buyer sends up his order only to find that the staple is no longer obtainable. Even in the more stable articles, such as maize, feeding barley, oats, and pulse, the fluctuations are far more marked than in wheat, and the supply far less regular.

During the past year the feeding stuffs which have been uniformly dear have been oats, linseed, and cottonseed. Maize was cheap up to August, but has since then risen

somewhat sharply. Rye, on the other hand, was dear in August, but is now cheap and worthy of attention. Tares since midsummer have been dear and rather hard to get, fine Scotch and German gores hardly obtainable in England. Lentils were extremely dear early in 1901, but they are now much more moderate in price.

A useful feeding stuff, Persian barley, came to hand during the summer at 17s. to 18s., and was recommended to our readers. Those who did not buy then cannot get a ton of it now without the greatest difficulty. What Persia had to spare seems to have been shipped, and there is no reply to orders for fresh shipments. Smyrna beans, South Russian beans, Indian peas, and Syrian dari are other examples where the intelligent buyer not only did well, but secured a practical monopoly. There is no fresh supply for the time being. The case of course, has its other side. Locust beans, which a year ago were rather dear, may now be obtained, ground, kibbled and also whole, on more reasonable terms. Buckwheat, both Russian and French, has come down in value, and is now tempting in price. As nobody knows how much more may be forthcoming, and as the total crops of the article all were large, and looks as if those who bought now at 24s. to 25s. per quarter would stand to do well.

The great item of our expenditure on feeding stuffs is for maie, which has cost us thirty-eight millions sterling in three years. This is a formidable sum to go out of the country, as does every penny of it, spent as it is on a cereal which will not ripen in England. At a half-penny per pound maize is indeed difficult to undersell, but there ought to be large areas of uplands and of bleak, unprofitable soils which, being held at a nominal rental, would pay to grow oats, even if only thirty bushels per acre were secured in lieu of the usual forty off fair soil. The rise in the price of oats in 1901 cost the country over a million sterling beyond the cost in 1900 for foreign sorts. And farmers participated in the rise by reason of the advance of their own produce, and the total sent abroad included fair cheques to Canadian, New Zealand, and Australian fellow subjects. It is a curious thing about maize that though Australia, India, and the Cape could grow all we need, scarcely anything comes from our own colonies.

TREASURES OF THE SOIL AND AIR.

Tapping the nether strata of soils to bring uppermost for utilisation latent fertility must be deemed as important for the interests of farming as accumulating nitrogen from the atmosphere by the nodules of leguminous plants. In either case manure is obtained for nothing, and the cultivator realises unearned increment. Consequently the system Mr. Elliot, of Roxburghshire, has found so remunerative for the past fifteen years, and which he has described in the December number of *The Journal* of the Board of Agriculture, ought to recommend itself very much to the consideration of all in search of economic farming, the more so as it requires no great outlay of capital, either of labour of specie, to set it going, and is as well adapted for the struggling dairyman or sheep-farmer, who finds it difficult to earn a living, as for the farm capitalist who owns pedigree stock. In fact, the system appears well calculated to be a perfect boom to the large section of farmers who suffer greatly from the two gigantic evils, low prices for corn and labour scarcity, for it is that of substituting for modes of cropping, which require frequent corn growths and harassing labour applications, one in the carrying out of which two in ten years suffices, these being wholly manured for by accumulated vegetable matter. This is stored in the soil by the pasture-layer having remained unbroken for six years, during the whole of which time deep-rooting plants have been busily employed in tapping the lower depths in search of latent wealth. Mr. Elliot states in the article referred to that after his land has been in pasture for that period he finds that he can grow four good arable crops, two or corn, and the others roots or green fodder crops, and that the only manure they receive is a little phosphate artificial for turnips.

His chief deep-rooting plants are, however, two not commonly cultivated or, indeed, esteemed very much by those who have professed to teach the arts of agriculture in modern times. They are chicory and burnet, of both of which Arthur Young wrote in highest terms, yet, strange to state, we look in vain for them in the catalogues of our modern seedsmen. But if more effective than any other plants in the performance of the invaluable service of making the earth give up her mineral treasures for the uses of farming, their inclusion in an occasional pasture-seeding ought not to be omitted. Lucerne, sainfoin, red clover, and giant cow grass all have the same property of sending their roots deep down to obtain nutriment from nether strata, they being one and all fitted with lengthy tap-roots for the purpose, but none of them are so well adapted to perform the work if associated with grasses in a pasture as when cultivated by themselves. Mr. Elliot's two plants are more hardy and better adapted for the poorer soils, and it appears to be in this that their peculiar excellence for working his system lies.

When either lucerne, sanfoin, or red clover can be grown, not only is the same useful work carried out effectually of utilising previously latent soil fertility, but their nodules at the same time attract and absorb nitrogen, owing to which most marvellous instances of land improvement and immense increments of fertility have been experienced. Red clover, being a biennial, does not remain long enough to raise the fee simple value of estates, as both lucerne and sainfoin have often done, but in a single year the former is well known to produce root development sufficient for the sustenance of a crop of wheat, often a heavier one than a wheat crop manured with dung. Unfortunately, owing to clover sickness, this valuable plant is not grown more than once in a dozen years on the generality of soils, while for some cause or other, neither lucerne nor sainfoin are grown to a hundreth part the extent theorists declare they ought to be. From the days of Jethro Tull to those of Arthur Young, and ever since, they have been strongly recommended, but the areas devoted to them have always been exceedingly small compared to the extensive ones of several foreign countries. Probably climate has something to do with it in the case of lucerne, while sainfoin always fails when the subsoil is a stiff clay.

Naturally the supposition might be entertained that as Mr. Elliot's method of culture only differs from the long-term pasture, short-term tillage system by being specially invested with two deep-rooting plants, and that one has been proved to be the very best yet propounded for remedying the two gigantic evils of the times—low corn prices and dear, scarce labour—that it would be eagerly welcomed everywhere, especially as it promises by the deep-rooters to accumulate vegetable matter enough to manure the corn crops gratuitously which they would grow by the new system. Yet very much is it to be doubted if such will be the case. The long-term pasture system has always been more or less exemplified, and when wheat commenced to tumble down, and depression in the acutest form was experienced, there was, as may be supposed, some extension of it, and the Earl of Leicester and others gave practical demonstration, by adopting it on large farms, of what was possible to be done, together with the advantages likely to accrue. Solely as the result of adopting this system, there was a reduction of the staff of labourers, on the Holkham Home Farm of 879 acres, from 22 to 12, and 18 horses were found sufficient for the reduced tillage, whereas 34 were employed before. Further, although Lord Leicester had nothing to do with any coarse, hardy plants, such as chicory and burnet, which the schools despise, and confined his deep-rooting ones to the respectable cocksfoot, tall fescue, timonthy, and alsike clover, the fact was stated in the leading journals in 1895, and, indeed, made public by the Royal Commission on Depression, that when the Holkham occasional pastures, after remaining unbroken for a lengthy term of years, are returned to tillage, the Earl finds that "he can grow four remunerative crops, two of roots and two of corn, without the application of any manure whatever." So that evidently the self-same advantages which Mr. Elliot claims to be so intimately resultant from his system were obtained long before.

As this has been the case, what right have we to expect that farmers generally will more readily adopt the long-term, occasional pasture system any more readily or generally than they did in 1895 after Mr. Martin J. Sutton had set forth its high value so thoroughly before the Farmers' Club? The reason the leading arable sheep farmers do not adopt it is from a fancy that their lands would get foul thereby, their impressions having been falsely derived by having experienced this when the layers of annual clover and grasses have been kept even a second year. If these men refused to listen to the truth then, we may rest assured they will be no more inclined to do so by being advised to carry out the object with the aid of two plants so-called scientific men pronounce to be weeds. But for all that, it by no means follows that Mr. Elliot's system is not the very one best calculated to redeem the mass of struggling, middle-class farmers from depression, and perhaps ruin. The majority have no sufficient capital to establish the pedigree herds, flocks, and studs by which the higher class of farmers get their chief returns, but they possess dairy cows and ordinary flocks which it would be profitable for them to increase by the adoption of the long-term pasture system. And lest they should harbour any fears respecting the despised chicory and burnet, they may be assured that Arthur Young declared that there was no plant so advantageous as chicory for light-blowing sands or for poor soils generally, while Pitt, in his "Survey of Staffordshire," written for the old Board of Agriculture in 1796, asserted that cows preferred burnet to clover, that it was one of the very best plants he knew to form part of a cow pasture, and that one of his neighbours, the owner of a very large dairy herd, would that year have sowed 10 cwt. of the seed if he could have obtained it. One of Arthur Young's correspondents assured him that in a scorching summer drought his burnet grew as vigorous as if it got frequent showers of rain, while all neighbouring pastures were burnt up. Also that it grew so strongly in winter, and gave such early feed in spring, that it was more reliable to grow burnet instead of turnips for sheep in spring.

The recent death of Mr. E. Yeld, of Endale, deprives the Hereford breed of cattle of one of its best-known and ablest supporters. For something like a quarter of a century the Endale herd has occupied a foremost place, and by the excellence of the bulls especially, which it has disseminated over the country and sent abroad, it has been largely instrumental in improving the quality and advancing the fame of the West Midland variety. Of the late Mr. Yeld's success as a breeder of first class cattle some idea may be gathered from the fact that he bred over 200 prize-winners.



By a Man of Mark Lane.

A conference on old-age pensions, convened by the Trades Union and Co-operative Union Congress, was held at the Memorial Hall, Farringdon Street, E.C., on Tuesday and Wednesday. Several motions were submitted, and some carried, but the following resolution was adopted on the second day as summing up the business of the conference:—This conference urges upon the Government the necessity of establishing a national system of old-age pensions which shall be universal in its application to all citizens, male and female, on attaining the age of 60 years, the pension to be at the rate of at least 5s. a week, and that the entire cost of such a scheme be contributed by the State, and met entirely by means of Imperial taxation; and that the Parliamentary Committees of the Trades Union and the Co-operative Congress be requested to take such steps as may seem most desirable to work jointly in bringing the results of this conference to the attention of the Government and the country generally, including the promotion of an Old Age Pensions Bill in Parliament.

Colonel Brookfield, M.P., was present at the annual dinner of the Frant Farmers' Club, held on Tuesday, and in the course of an interesting speech said that at the present time there were symptoms which might well call for action on the part of statesmen, one of the most serious being the decreasing area of land under cultivation for corn crops and the country's increasing dependence upon foreign countries for supplies. They were learning fast all sorts of lessons from the colonies, and attention should be paid to some system of agricultural protection. Although he did not see any immediate prospect of legislation coming to the rescue, there were various useful measures to be considered, which would benefit agriculture. Perhaps, however, farmers should place more value upon technical education. He knew there were strong prejudices against it, but he thought scientific measures were necessary if the British farmer was to compete with the world.

The receipts on account of revenue from April 1st, 1901, when there was a balance of £5,596,918, to January 11th, 1902, were £93,573,733 against £84,943,545 in the corresponding period of the preceding financial year, which began with a balance of £3,517,047. The net expenditure was £155,581,182, against £144,074,015 to the same date in the previous year. The Treasury balances on January 11, 1902, amounted to £4,611105, and at the same date in 1901 to £1,704,028.

The agricultural correspondent to the Labour Department of the Board of Trade, on information contained in 242 returns, reports that agricultural labourers were, generally speaking, regularly employed during December. Casual labourers, however, in many cases lost some time owing to unfavourable weather. There was in many districts but little demand for extra men, farm work being in a forward state owing to the open weather during the autumn. The weather in the early part of the month was favourable for outdoor employment, such as ploughing, threshing, hedging, and ditching, &c. During the latter part of the month, however, rain, snow, or frost interrupted field work for a time, but in wet weather work under cover was generally found for the regular men, and in frosty weather threshing, manure carting, and wood-cutting were proceeded with.

I have received during the past week a copy of the second general memorandum on the rice crops of the season 1901-2 in Bengal, Madras, and Burma, issued by the Government of India Statistical Department on December 21st. In Bengal the season was not wholly favourable for the autumn rice. From April to August the rainfall was unevenly distributed, and in July was deficient almost everywhere. General and copious rain fell in September, but in October the rains ceased abruptly. The area sown was 7,160,600 acres, which is slightly larger than last year's area, but about 4 per cent. below the average. Taking 87 per cent. to represent the probable yield, the gross quantity of cleaned autumn rice may be estimated at 45,769,400 cwt., as compared with 44,630,400 cwt. last year.

For the winter rice the season was more unfavourable. The abrupt termination of the monsoon in September, for there was very little general rain in October, did great injury to the crop, and in all the Bihar districts where the rainfall in June was also very deficient it is a failure. The weather was seasonable during transplantation, and the area sown extends to 28,727,200 acres, as compared with 28,474,400 acres last year, and an average for the seven previous years of 30,911,800 acres. The yield which was estimated in October to be 95 per cent. of a normal crop is reduced to 75 per cent., which will amount to about 237,439,100 cwt., as compared with 263,591,600 cwt. last year, and an average for the previous seven years of 303,549,800 cwt.

In Madras the reports of the areas sown up to the end of November in raiyatwari villages give almost the same comparative results as those summarised two months ago in the first memorandum. The total area of 5,351,700 acres is almost normal and practically the same as the area reported for the same period of last year. The estimates, which in the aggregate give a yield of 87 per cent. of the normal, indicate a crop varying from fair to good.

The first forecast of the wheat crop for 1901-1902 issued by the North-Western Provinces and Oudh Department of Land Records and Agriculture, giving particulars of the crop in the district up to December 15th last, states that during the months of July and August rainfall was sufficient for all agricultural requirements, but in the next two months it was deficient in the Meerut division and in parts of Agra and Rohilkhand. In these tracts moisture was not sufficient at the time of sowings, which in most places were effected with the aid of irrigation; the area under wheat will consequently be below the normal. In the rest of the province there was sufficient moisture at the time of sowing, and the wheat area is expected to come up to the normal. Germination is reported to have been good, and prospects are hopeful so far, but depend on winter rainfall. There has practically been no rain in the last six weeks, and it is now urgently required everywhere; irrigation is being done where practicable.

The same Department has also issued on the same date its first forecast of the linseed and rape seed crops, in which it is stated that the autumn rains in the latter half of the season were insufficient in the Meerut division and in parts of the Agra and Rohilkhand divisions—tracts where winter oil-seeds are not, however, largely grown. In the rest of the provinces, where these crops are important, conditions were favourable, and the crop was generally sown in time. Germination has been good, except in very dry lands, where it is poor. Prospects are good so far, but everything depends upon winter rains, which are urgently wanted. The area is likely to slightly fall short of the normal area.

In Burma the area reported under rice in the fourteen principal districts is estimated to be 6,461,649 acres, an increase of 152,616 acres, or 2.4 per cent. over the area cultivated last year. The crop is reported to be in good condition in all districts, and the outturn is expected to be slightly above the normal. The surplus available for export is estimated to be 2,200,000 tons of cargo rice, equivalent to 37,288,135 cwt. of cleaned rice



By a Lobbyist.

I apprehend that no reader of this column is disappointed with the King's Speech. It does not contain even the most distant allusion to agriculture. Our interest may be as far apart from the anxieties of his Majesty's Government as the esoteric theories of Buddhism. In the speeches which we have had delivered during the week agriculture and its necessities have never been mentioned. Of course, in some degree this was to be anticipated, because of the more lurid issues that have intruded themselves upon the public attention. But the painful fact remains that, at least on Friday, the legislators were able to give attention to problems which had not a tithe of the immediacy of the agricultural problem. Can it be said that the question of conceding local self-government to Wales has a greater significance than have the necessities of the great traditional interest of the country? The one simply embodies a mere academic grievance; the other is a vital, actual, supreme fact. The worst is that this is not an incident; it is symptomatic. Parliament, as at present constituted, is indifferent to the necessities of agriculture; and it is useless to conceal this.

At the commencement of each session I generally reflect, as far as it is possible, the purpose and intention of the rural M.P.'s. In the last few days I have pursued a different plan. I have sought to obtain some idea of the intention of urban M.P.'s towards agriculture. I was sorely disappointed. I did not find a single member for any of the great centres who was not, in a more or less degree, astounded that agriculture should dare possess any grievances. It may suit the electoral purpose of the Radical politician to declare that the Rating Act was a conspiracy to put money only into the pockets of the landlords; but in the lobby of the House of Commons he holds this same Rating Act to be a fulfilment of every duty which Parliament may owe to the farmer in the next ten years. As a fact, he thinks infinitely more of that measure than he does of the Agricultural Holdings Act. I doubt, indeed, that he gives the economic significance of that measure a single thought. You see the Rating Act is assumed to be a more or less financial transaction—it takes money out of his purse, and this to him is the supreme consideration.

There is one section of town members who, I now recall, did reveal a certain oblique interest in agriculture. This was the representatives of the great northern centres, but this interest was entirely confined to a desire to know the amount of vigour and determination which the agricultural M.P.'s are likely to associate with the agitation in favour of the Pure Beer Bill. Of course, there is not a single northern member of significance, be he Radical or be he a Tory, who is not prepared to vote against the Bill. The strange fact is that men who have for years been suspected of dallying with Protection now shake their portentous heads over this measure "because, my dear sir"—so they assure you—"it smacks of Protection." "If once," said a Tory who, in the days when Fair Trade was a possible policy, was among its most strenuous advocates, "if once we begin to protect the farmer in this connection, we shall have to concede the entire principle of

Protection." "Are you," he added, turning to me, "prepared to tax the food of the people?" I am compelled to confess that I was too astounded at the audacity of the man and of his proposition to reply. I perceived, however, that the incident provided a significant evidence of the influences which are to be brought into operation against this Bill. Men—honest men, too—are prepared to play the hypocrite, in a modest fashion, to secure its defeat.

Of course, you have a right to ask me if the rural M.P.'s are not possessed by some purpose directly affecting agriculture? In the fight at Saffron Walden and Andover the further amendment of the Agricultural Holdings Act was a distinct ambition of the candidates, and orators waxed earnest over it. Was there no reference to the subject in the lobby during the prophetic anticipations of the legislators? One or two local Chambers of Agriculture have been concerned over the ineffectiveness of the Board of Agriculture, and have suggested steps for giving it a more practical character. Was nothing suggested during these speculations as to the methods to be adopted for clothing the present skeleton machinery with pulsating flesh? Well, I must perforce answer each of these questions in the negative. The Agricultural Holdings Act and its reform, the Board of Agriculture and its reform, were subjects which apparently never suggested themselves for a moment to the mind of any rural legislator until I, with more or less delicacy, intruded them. I am bound to say that in one or two cases my interposition was treated with petulance. The attitude of more than one member may be described in these sentences: "Why refer to the unpractical? If we brought any of these questions forward the House, in its present temper, would simply laugh at us? Why should we be laughed at? Is it not wiser to wait a more serene time?" That serene time is always arriving, and is as far distant as the Kalends.

I may be asked if these men have no conception of the advantage of Parliamentary agitation. I am bound to say that, so far as I could see, they had none. They do not comprehend the value of the old Parliamentary method of continually pegging away. Their view is rather that if their object be unpopular they should at once abandon it. If you advise them that this means an assured non-success they laugh at you. "Why," asked a southern M.P. of me, "make yourself a nuisance to the House and to your own whips?" This gentleman—who is, by the way, the representative of one of the most characteristic agricultural constituencies in the country—does not comprehend that it is only by making yourself a nuisance that you can achieve your purpose. The way to success in Parliamentary life is by offending conventionality. If you conciliate them, or even seek to conciliate them, you invariably fail. The purpose of this paragraph is to indicate that not only, so far as I can judge, have the rural Parliamentarians no purpose; they have no ambition.

There was one significant statement made to me in the lobby by another southern M.P. which I carefully present to my readers. "Why should we," said he, "do that which we are not asked to do? There is no popular force behind the questions upon which you ask us to agitate." He added that he had in his constituency a local Chamber of Agriculture, which met with regularity and which was representative of the best brains in the agricultural class of the district. "True," said he, "they have considered the question as to whether the Agricultural Holdings Act Amendment Act goes far enough, and, thanks to you, they have brought themselves to the belief that the Board of Agriculture lacks vitality; but they have never preferred a request to me that I should adopt any specific attitude towards either the Bill or the Board. Am I altogether wrong in assuming that they do not desire any action to be taken?" Will local Chambers of Agriculture heed this declaration? Of more importance, will the Central Chamber heed it? These bodies seem to be satisfied with chewing the dry remainder biscuits in the groves of Académe.

IN PARLIAMENT.

The King's Speech.

On Thursday, His Majesty the King, who was accompanied by the Queen, opened the second session of his first Parliament in full state, the ceremonial being the same as when His Majesty opened the first session in February last. Their Majesties drove in the State coach drawn by eight cream-coloured horses, being preceded by the Officers of State and members of the Household in State landaus, each of which was drawn by six horses with positilions. At the heads of the horses walked grooms in Royal livery and Household Cavalry and Yeomen of the Guard escorted the procession. The route, which was by the Mall, the Horse Guards, and Whitehall, was lined with troops, and large crowds assembled, and gave their Majesties an enthusiastic reception. When the King and Queen arrived at the House of Parliament they were received at the Victoria Tower by a procession of pursuivants, heralds, and the great officers of State, and the King having robed, the procession, with the King and Queen, went to the House of Lords, through the Victoria Gallery, where a brilliant company of peeresses and privileged persons had assembled to see the pageant. After the King had read his Speech in the House of Lords their Majesties returned through the Victoria Gallery, and, having re-entered the State coach, returned to Buckingham Palace, being again loudly cheered by the spectators in the streets. The Prince and Princess of Wales, who had preceded their Majesties to Westminster, were in the House of Lords during the function.

The following is the full text of His Majesty's speech, which was delivered in a voice clear and strong, and was heard in every corner of the chamber.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

Since the close of the last Session of Parliament I have had the happiness to welcome back the Prince and Princess of Wales on their return from their lengthened voyage to various parts of my Empire. They have everywhere been received with demonstrations of the liveliest affection, and I am convinced that their presence has served to rivet more closely the bonds of mutual regard and loyalty by which the vigour of the Empire is maintained.

My relations with other Powers continue to be of a friendly character.

I regret that the war in South Africa has not been yet concluded, though the course of the operations has been favourable to our arms.

The area of the war has been largely reduced, and industries are being resumed in my new Colonies. In spite of the tedious character of the campaign, my soldiers have throughout displayed a cheerfulness in the endurance of the hardships incident to guerilla warfare, and a humanity, even to their own detriment, in the treatment of the enemy, which is deserving of the highest praise.

The necessity of relieving those of my troops who have most felt the strain of the war has afforded me an opportunity of again availing myself of the loyal and patriotic offers of my Colonies, and further contingents will shortly reach South Africa from the Dominion of Canada, the Commonwealth of Australia, and from New Zealand.

On the invitation of the King of the Belgians, an International Conference on Sugar Bounties has recently reassembled at Brussels. I trust that its decision may lead to the abandonment of a system by which the sugar-producing Colonies, and the home manufacturers of sugar, have been unfairly weighted in the prosecution of this most important industry.

I have concluded with the President of the United States a Treaty, the provisions of which will facilitate the construction of an inter-oceanic canal under guarantees that its neutrality will be maintained, and that it will be open to the commerce and shipping of all nations.

I have concluded a Treaty with the President of the United States of Brazil referring to arbitration questions relative to the frontier between my Colony of British Guiana and Brazil. I have much pleasure in stating that the King of Italy has consented to act as arbitrator.

In my Indian Empire the rainfall has been less abundant than was desired, and the continuance of relief measures, though on a less extensive scale than in the past year, will be necessary in certain parts of the Bombay Presidency and of the adjoining Native States. I anticipate a further improvement in the methods and efficiency of famine relief in the future from the labours of the Commission who have recently reported.

The death of Abdur Rahman, the Ameer of Afghanistan, has been followed by the accession of his son and appointed heir, the Ameer Habibulla, who has expressed his earnest desire to maintain the friendly relations of Afghanistan with my Indian Empire.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

The Estimates for the service of the year will be laid before you. They have been framed as economically as a due regard to efficiency renders possible, in the special circumstances of the present exigency.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

Proposals for the co-ordination and improvement of primary and secondary education will be laid before you.

A measure will be introduced for amending the administration of the water supply in the area at present controlled by the London Water Companies.

A Bill for facilitating the sale and purchase of land in Ireland will be submitted for your consideration.

Measures will be proposed to you for improving the law of valuation, for amending the law relating to the sale of intoxicating liquors and for the registration of clubs, for amending the patent law, and for sundry reforms in the law of lunacy.

I pray that, in the consideration of these important questions, you may have the guidance and blessing of Almighty God.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL

The Dairying Industry in Manitoba in 1901.

The season of 1901 has been the most successful season in the history of the dairy industry of Manitoba. The conditions throughout the season in that part of the Province lying west of the Red River have been most favourable for the production of butter. The pasture came on early in the season, was abundant and good, and the plentiful supply of rains kept it in splendid condition until the creameries closed in the latter part of October and early in November. The increase of dairy butter has been 31 per cent. over last year, and the average price has remained about the same, showing a correspondingly large increase in the net value. The output of creamery butter has made a most phenomenal stride, showing an increase of 96 per cent. over last year. The average price is about 1 1-5 cents lower than last year, but the net value has largely increased. There have been few drawbacks to creamery industry, and the general report throughout the season has been most gratifying. There has been very little increase in the output of cheese, and the average price has been a little over 1½ cents below last year. The conditions in the cheese districts of Manitoba were such as to diminish the flow of milk during the entire season, which is the only accountable reason, the bulletin says, for not showing a greater increase. The quality and make of cheese have greatly improved, and less complaints have been received from this year's work of any year in the past history of this industry. A steady growth is predicted by all by interested in the dairy industry for the coming season, and a tendency is noted in this direction throughout the entire Province.

Reports are unanimous in stating that the past season has been one of the best on record in the Province for hay and for haying. The heavy rains in the month of June induced a remarkable growth of the finest quality. Cutting commenced about July 15th, and, though many of the lower meadows were at that date too wet to cut, they dried later. As a result, not only the usual meadows have been mown, but many higher areas that in ordinary seasons are too dry to produce a crop of the native grasses.

French Agriculture.

The French Ministry of Agriculture has just published its annual statistics showing the yield of agricultural produce for the year 1900.

The book contains tables showing the crop production in France for the last ten years. The surface sown in 1900 to wheat was 17,160,175 acres and the yield was 315,454,920 bushels. Meteil, which is mixed wheat and rye, produced 8,833,412 bushels upon an area of 501,400 acres; rye 3,549,450 acres, with a yield of 57,444,750 bushels; barley 1,892,982 acres, with 39,584,380 bushels; oats 9,853,550 acres, with a crop of 242,852,280 bushels; buckwheat 1,506,452 acres and 22,449,974 bushels; maize 1,352,977 acres and 21,545,315 bushels, and potatoes on an area of 3,774,745 acres. The surface devoted to the cultivation of sugar beet is higher for the year 1900 than it has been during the decade dating from 1891.

The number of animals on the farms at the end of December, 1900, was as follows:—Horses, 2,903,063; mules, 205,002; asses, 356,239; cattle, 14,520,832; sheep, 20,179,561; goats, 1,557,925; pigs, 6,740,405.

The book also contains tables showing the imports and exports and agricultural statistics of foreign countries.



Acreage and Produce of the Irish Crops in 1901.

The Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland has issued a report showing the extent in statute acres and the produce of the crops in Ireland for the year 1901; also tables showing the average yearly extent under the principal crops, and the average produce thereof in the ten years 1891-1900, and beekeeping statistics for the season 1900. The report is written by Mr. W. P. Coyne, Superintendent of Statistics and Intelligence Branch of the Department, and he points out that as he is looking forward to having all the available details regarding agriculture in Ireland in 1901 fully arranged and submitted early in the coming year in the annual detailed report on agricultural statistics, he has not in the present statement gone much beyond some general observations on the crop returns of 1901, as compared with those of 1900, and the average of the preceding ten years.

The report being an interesting one, we give below some extracts from it.

Acreage Under Crops.

Comparing the extents under the chief cereal crops in 1901 with those for 1900, we find a decrease of 10,887 acres, or 20.2 per cent. in wheat; a decrease of 5,715 acres, or 0.5 per cent. in oats; a rather notable decrease of 12,462 acres, or 7.2 per cent. in barley; and a decrease of 406 acres, or 3.6 per cent. under rye. In green crops, potatoes decreased by 18,758 acres, or 2.9 per cent.; turnips decreased by 8,100 acres, or 2.7 per cent.; and mangel wurzel and beet root increased by 8,654 acres, or 12.6 per cent. In other crops, flax increased by 7,991 acres, or 16.8 per cent., following an increase of 35.6 per cent. in 1900 as compared with 1899; the area for hay from clover, sainfoin, and grasses under rotation increased by 9,950 acres, or 1.6 per cent.; and the area for hay from permanent pasture or grass not broken up in rotation, increased by 2,927 acres, or 0.2 per cent. Compared with the average acreage for the ten years 1891-1900, mangel wurzel and beet root showed an increase of 22,274 acres, or 40.4 per cent., and permanent pasture or grass not broken up in rotation an increase of 34,235 acres, or 2.2 per cent.; but each of the other chief crops exhibits a decrease in the extent devoted to it, the decrease in wheat being 11,155 acres, or 20.6 per cent., in oats, 94,251 acres, or 8.1 per cent., in barley, 8,784 acres, or 5.2 per cent., in rye, 1,614 acres, or 12.8 per cent., in potatoes 65,620 acres, or 9.4 per cent., in turnips 15,422 acres, or 5.1 per cent., in flax 8,936 acres, or 13.9 per cent., and in clover, sainfoin, and grasses under rotation, 14,098 acres, or 2.2 per cent.

The following table shows the average yearly extent of land under the principal crops in the ten years 1891-1900, and the extent in 1900 and 1901 respectively:—

Crops.	Average yearly Extent in the ten years, 1891-1900. Statute acres.	Extent in 1900. Statute acres.	Extent in 1901. Statute acres.
Wheat	54,089	53,821	42,934
Oats	1,193,586	1,105,050	1,099,336
Barley	170,318	173,986	161,534
Bere	234	177	150
Rye	12,615	11,407	11,001
Potatoes	700,941	654,079	635,321
Turnips	305,181	297,859	289,759
Mangel wurzel and beetroot	55,183	68,803	77,457
Flax	64,378	47,451	55,442
For hay—			
Clover, sainfoin, and grasses under rotation	631,428	607,380	617,330
Permanent pasture or grass not broken up in rotation	1,527,027	1,558,335	1,561,262

Rates of Produce of the Crops.

Coming to the question of the rates of produce per acre of the crops, we find, on comparison with those of 1900, that the rate for wheat rose from 16.7 to 18.3 cwts.; for oats from 15.8 to 16.2 cwts.; for barley from 16.0 to 18.0 cwts.; for bere from 14.1 to 14.4 cwts.; for rye from 12.8 to 13.7 cwts.; for potatoes from 2.8 to 5.3 tons; for turnips from 14.9 to 16.9 tons; for mangel wurzel and beet root from 17.2 to 18.8 tons; for flax from 34.3 to 38.3 stones; while the rate for hay from clover, sainfoin, and grasses under rotation fell from 2.2 to 2.1 tons; and for hay from permanent pasture or grass not broken up in rotation, from 2.5 to 2.2 tons.

Comparing the average rates of produce per acre in 1901 with the mean rates for the ten years 1891-1900, we find the following increases in 1901:—Wheat from 16.8 to 18.3 cwts., oats from 15.2 to 16.2 cwts., barley from 17.1 to 18.0 cwts., bere from 13.6 to 14.4 cwts., rye from 12.8 to 13.7 cwts., potatoes from 3.7 to 5.3 tons, turnips from 14.7 to 16.9 tons, mangel wurzel from 15.7 to 18.8 tons, flax from 28.8 to 38.3 stones (an increase of 33.0 per cent.). There is a decrease for hay from permanent pasture or grass not broken up in rotation from 2.3 to 2.2 tons; while the rate for hay from clover, sainfoin, and grasses under is the same for both periods.

The total estimated produce of wheat in 1901 was 787,568 cwts., being 12.6 per cent. under the produce for the preceding year, and 13.3 per cent. under the average for the ten years 1891-1900; the total quantity of oats was 17,782,956 cwts., being 1.5 per cent. more than the produce in 1900, but 1.8 per cent. below the average for the ten years 1891-1900; the quantity of barley was 2,915,498 cwts., being 4.9 per cent. over the produce in 1900, and 1,238 cwts., or 0.04 per cent. over the average for the ten years 1891-1900; bere yielded 2,164 cwts., against 2,501 cwts. in 1900, and an average of 3,174 cwts. for the ten years 1891-1900; and the produce of rye was 150,354 cwts., being 2.6 per cent. over that for the preceding year, but 6.4 per cent. below the average for the ten years 1891-1900.

The total produce of potatoes was 3,372,214 tons, being 83.1 per cent. greater than the yield in 1900, and an increase equivalent to 30.8 per cent. as compared with the average produce for the ten years 1891-1900. The turnip crop was 4,884,301 tons, being 10.3 per cent. above the produce in 1900, and 8.9 per cent. above the average for the ten years 1891-1900; and the total quantity of mangel wurzel and beet root was 1,449,266 tons, being 22.1 per cent. more than in 1900, and 66.5 per cent. over the average for the ten years 1891-1900.

The yield of flax was 13,267 tons, being 30.3 per cent. over the produce in 1900, and 16.2 per cent. over the average quantity for the ten years 1891-1900.

The produce of hay from clover, sainfoin, and grasses under rotation was 1,306,687 tons, showing a decrease equal to 4.4 per cent., as compared with the quantity in 1900; and the quantity of hay from permanent pasture and grass not broken up in rotation was 3,433,055 tons, being 10.8 per cent. under the quantity of such produce in 1900. The aggregate quantity of hay under both headings (4,739,742 tons) is 474,226 tons (or 9.1 per cent.) below that for 1900, and shows a decrease equivalent to 2.0 per cent. as compared with the average produce for the ten years 1891-1900.

The Potato Crop.

In 1880 a special return to Parliament was made as to the acreage under each variety of potato, their yield, and their liability to disease at that time. Since that period an annual return has been made of the acreage and yield of each variety of potato in Ireland, which has been published as part of the agricultural statistics; that for 1901 is given in the report under notice. A table of the acreage under each of the principal varieties of potatoes planted in 1901, shows that 66.4 per cent. of the acreage consists of Champions, leaving only 33.6 per cent. for all other varieties—the percentage of some of these being so small as to be barely appreciable when put into figures.

The "Champion" potato was first introduced in quantity into Ireland in the year 1880, after the failure of the potato crop in 1879. Since that year it has constituted the main potato crop of the country, but from 1891 to 1900 the proportion under Champions showed a gradual decline from 79.7 per cent. to 66.1 per cent. In 1901, however, the proportion shows a slight increase to 66.4 per cent. In the counties of Dublin, Kildare, and Wicklow, and in the following Ulster counties, viz.:—Antrim, Donegal, Down, Londonderry, and Tyrone, there is less tendency to rely on Champions than in the other counties of Ireland.

The potato crop of 1901 stands out as a remarkably good one in yield. We must go back over half a century to find any season in which the estimated produce was so high as 5.3 tons per statute acre. Not till we reach the year 1849, in fact, in which year an estimated yield of 5.6 tons per statute acre is recorded, is this year's potato crop rivalled. It comes out in sharper contrast, inasmuch as the yield of the crop of 1900 was the fifth lowest in a period of twenty years. The average yield per ton per acre of potatoes for the whole of Ireland in each year for the period 1882-1901 is shown in the following tabular statement:

Years.	Tons.	Years.	Tons.	Years.	Tons.
1882	2.4	1889	3.6	1896	3.8
1883	4.3	1890	2.3	1897	2.2
1884	3.8	1891	4.0	1898	4.4
1885	4.0	1892	3.5	1899	4.2
1886	3.3	1893	4.2	1900	2.8
1887	4.5	1894	2.6	1901	5.3
1888	3.1	1895	4.9	Mean	3.7

Bee Keeping.

The inquiries made in the preceding fifteen years relative to the extent to which bee-keeping is followed in Ireland, and the degree of success attained in this special branch of rural economy, were repeated last year with reference to the season of 1900.

According to the returns received, the quantity of honey produced in 1900 was nearly double the average quantity for the preceding ten years. It was, however, 16.4 per cent. below the quantity for the year 1899, the returns for which showed an increase of 41.7 per cent. as compared with the quantity in 1898.

The quantity of honey produced was 623,559 lbs.; of this 143,368 lbs. were produced in the province of Leinster; 211,821 lbs. in Munster; 155,962 lbs. in Ulster; and 112,408 in Connaught. Of the 623,559 lbs., 403,207 lbs. were produced "in hives having movable combs," and 220,352 lbs. "in other hives." It was stated that 260,074 lbs. was "run honey," and 363,485 lbs. "section honey."

The number of stocks brought through the winter of 1900-1901, amounted to 33,171; of which 16,754 were in the hives having movable combs, and 16,417 in other hives. According to the returns collected there were 6,743 lbs. of wax manufactured in 1900, of which 3,394 lbs. were from hives having movable combs, and 3,349 lbs. from other hives. The returns received in 1900 gave the quantity of honey produced in 1899 as 745,692 lbs.; the number of stocks brought through the winter of 1899-1900 as 31,045, and the quantity of wax manufactured in 1899 as 4,873 lbs.

Trade in Feeding Stuffs.

In the course of their annual circular, issued on Wednesday, Messrs. H. Jones Langar and Co., of 12, Exchange Station Buildings, Tithebarn Street, Liverpool, make some remarks on the trade in various feeding stuffs during 1901. With regard to oilcakes, they state that throughout the past year there has been little variation in price, the higher values being generally maintained with few exceptions, in fact, latterly they have improved to the extent of 5s. to 10s. per ton, and there does not seem any likelihood of an early declension. The causes that have contributed to the strong position of the markets are the prevailing high prices of seed, a serious deficiency in the American maize crop, and the increased consumption of cotton cakes in America, curtailing the exports of that article. For some considerable time past, the consumptive demand in Great Britain cannot be said to have been an active one, but there has been no accumulation of stocks, the imports being on a reduced scale, and since the New Year opened more disposition is evinced to purchase, which, when colder weather sets in, it is only reasonable to expect will be stimulated.

Linseed cakes are rather quiet, but firm at £7 10s. to £7 15s. for fair to prime American, £8 5s. to £8 7s. 6d. for prime soft and oily River Plate, and at £8 10s. to £8 17s. 6d. per ton, in bulk, according to make, for English productions. Decorticated cotton cakes move somewhat freely into consumption, Americans at £6 15s. to £7 for inferior hard descriptions, £7 2s. 6d. for good ordinary, and £7 3s. 9d. to £7 6s. 3d. for the choicest brands of new season's make, with prime new meal at £6 18s. 9d. to £7. English makes of decorticated cotton cake are preferred by some users on account of the softness, and sales are transpiring at £7 7s. 6d. to £7 12s. 6d., whilst English undecorticated finds buyers at £4 15s. to £5, in bulk, according to make. Recently, palm nut cake and meal advanced 10s. per ton, but are cheap at £5 12s. 6d. and £5 15s. respectively, at which sales are transpiring.

Crushed linseed (pure linseed meal) maintains late rates owing to the high value of seed, but at 18s. to 20s. per cwt. it is better value than many calf foods now on the market at same price. The high values of linseed are maintained, and screened feeding qualities, of which the offerings are limited, realise 63s. to 66s. per 416lbs. for good to bold seed.

The American Potato Market

The following extract from an article in the "Chicago Herald" will be read with interest by potato growers:—"It is asserted that four-fifths of the potatoes reaching New York for consumption during the last three weeks have come from Europe. The people of New York, no doubt, prefer imported tubers stamped 'Grown in Ireland,' but the rest of the country does not want to be ruined by the pauper potatoes of Europe. When the Dingley Tariff Bill put a duty of 25 cents a bushel on potatoes, it was thought that the wall was amply high enough to protect our infant potato patches from the pauper products across the seas. But potatoes from Ireland, Scotland, and Belgium are climbing over the tariff wall in a manner that threatens to prostrate home industry. If this flood of potatoes could be kept out long enough, the farmers who are lucky enough

to have planted a good acreage could market all they have at from 4 dol. to 5 dol. a barrel. Potatoes can be bought in Europe, however, for 70 cents a bushel. After paying the duty on them, they can be landed on the pier at New York for 1 dol. 70 cents a barrel. This is a great thing for people who eat potatoes, but statesmanship should not concern itself about the consumer; the producer must be protected from the products of cheap foreign labour."

Co-operative Farming in Scotland.

The committee of management of the Dunfermline Co-operative Society, who lease a farm at Urquhart, near Dunfermline, have issued a statement showing that the profits on the farm proper for 1901 amounted to £260, and on the dairy department the profits were £1,333 14s. 9d. The following table shows the profits and losses on the farm and the dairy from the beginning of the lease:—

	Farm.		Dairying.
	Profits.	Losses.	Profits.
1893	£181 16 3½	—	—
1894	97 10 0	—	£551 0 7½
1895	—	£181 2 10½	865 14 6½
1896	240 1 5½	—	385 8 5½
1897	37 10 8	—	590 3 10
1898	337 10 0	—	632 1 8
1899	—	619 14 8	709 17 1
1900	—	103 0 11	1,154 17 6
1901	260 0 0	—	1,333 14 9

In 1898 the balance to the good on the farm proper was just such as to allow 4½ per cent. on the capital invested; in 1899 and 1900 nothing was allowed for interest on capital invested; in other years 4½ per cent. was deducted. Although a loss is brought out on the farm for some years, it is scarcely fair to speak of it as a loss. A good profit is brought out each year on the dairying, and the dairy may be spoken of as a department of the farm.

PRACTICE WITH SCIENCE

Sir W. Hart Dyke on Technical Education.

Sir William Hart Dyke, Bart., M.P., ex-Minister of Education, was the chief guest at the Yorkshire College Governors' dinner, held at the Hotel Metropole, Leeds, on the 9th inst., and in proposing the toast of "The Future Prosperity of the Yorkshire College," made some interesting remarks concerning the education problems. At the outset of his speech, Sir William said that some years ago he had the pleasure of distributing the prizes at the College, and in those days the institution had no little title to admiration, it had a good name and was rewarded by those who in the county sacrificed so much for its benefit. From that time to now, he noticed, the progress of the College had been steady and continuous; and we could say of it to-day that as a great educational institution it was yearly making a serious impression on the splendid trades and industries with which it was closely identified. Such colleges represented a great national necessity, and being a national necessity should receive greater national support in the future than in the past. The scheme with which the Yorkshire College was identified was a great educational scheme. A happy combination of colleges appealing to a degree-granting University was, in his opinion, a system that bore the impress of common sense; moreover, it had this advantage: it had well stood the test of time and experience.

There was no doubt that Parliaments and Governments had been far too niggardly in their dealings with universities and colleges. A paltry sum of £25,000 for twelve universities was, he thought, ridiculous. When he considered the enormous sums paid by the taxpayers—aye, and by ratepayers also—it seemed perfectly absurd how paltry the sum was that was given to these universities. He believed he was right in saying that in the current financial year the educational budget amounted to about nine millions of money. But whether it was nine or thirteen millions—he was told it was thirteen—it was perfectly childish to assert that a proper demand for a university system such as they sought to establish in Yorkshire, or would have to establish, would be met by such a paltry sum as that at present received. He could only say that Sir Francis Powell and himself would do their best when the Estimates were considered to draw the attention of the Government to the present state of things.

The reports of the Yorkshire College contained a record of nothing but success. The numbers of day students spoke for themselves, increasing as they had done from 218 to 783. But they showed also that while the demands on the College were hourly increasing, the stress and strain upon its resources were increasing also. So far as he could see the curriculum was admirably suited to a thoroughly industrial county like Yorkshire. There was not one possible industry or manufacture in the county to-day, he believed, which did not come within its meshes. One part of the curriculum in which he was deeply interested was that concerning the teaching of scientific and practical agriculture. Speaking as an unfortunate agriculturist, he was not so foolish as to believe that they were going to revivify agriculture by the better and more practical teaching of agriculture. In the south-eastern counties of England they were going through a difficult period with regard to the supply of labour, but for two years past he had been chairman of a committee that had as its object the re-modelling of the teaching in the schools of the district—not, of course, dropping the most important subjects, but at the same time teaching the scholars everything they could with regard to rural and farm life—everything, in short, that tended to take their minds to country and rural life rather than to the towns. These efforts had been attended, he was glad to say, with great success. As one who had advocated this system in and out of Parliament, it was a great pleasure to him to come down to Yorkshire and see in their College such an excellent course of scientific agriculture, a splendid laboratory like theirs, and such practical work as he found they were doing on their model farm. It was most satisfactory to him to think that in their different ways they were combining to make some real change for the lasting benefit of the agricultural community in this country.

Proceeding, Sir William said he had friends on both sides of the House of Commons, and there were many who were anxious to deal with this great problem of education without party bias of any kind and without prejudice; men on both sides were eager to go to the root of the question, and co-ordinate education in a way to lead to the taking of University degrees. How long were we to be the only country in Europe whose educational system was to be so muddled and chaotic? It was surely time that we ought to have some great comprehensive measure capable of satisfactorily dealing with this great question. He had himself, some years ago, introduced a measure that afforded an opportunity of satisfactorily dealing with the question of general secondary education, but that opportunity was not seized. He was, he confessed, frightened, and he turned his horse away in another direction. Now some people talked of technical instruction as if it was something apart from the general course of education. He considered that technical instruction ought to be regarded as a necessary part of all thorough education, for in his opinion a technical instruction that did not combine a good general education spelt failure.

While it was true that Germany, France, Switzerland, and America were ahead of our own country in respect of technical instruction, it must be remembered that these countries had spent much more money on the general education of their youth, that they had spared no effort in the promotion of the thorough and deep education of their people. We had a long lee-way to make up. What the measure of the Government was likely to be he was not going to say that night. He had not the slightest idea of what their scheme was. There were two great elements, however, with which any satisfactory measure must be borne in mind. The first was the demand on behalf of the voluntary schools for assistance. That voluntary system must be kept up As taxpayers we would have charges heavy enough to pay in connection with the South African war and in other ways without being called upon to provide the millions that would be required to take over the voluntary schools of this country.

In Parliament and out of Parliament religion and rates had been badly mated for thirty years. In the second place there was to be considered the desire of advocates of School Boards to the effect that if there was to be an application of rates to voluntary schools there must be some public representation in regard to these schools. The way out of the difficulty was a policy of give and take. The West Riding County Council had, he noticed, decided that while they were agreeable to take on secondary education, they were not prepared to be saddled with the management of elementary schools. That was an intelligible position to take up. To my mind, said Sir William, there is only one way to satisfactorily settle the question. We must be firm on the point; the Government must introduce a Bill not for the benefit of a party but for the good of the country, and if they give their supporters to understand that their measure must be supported, it will become law. With the sinking of party feeling the Government could not but carry an educational measure worthy of the nation. There must be evidence of self-sacrifice on both sides. It was no use School Board people declaring that they alone must be considered, and if Church people were to preserve their schools they must be prepared to make some sacrifice with regard to the management of their schools. Let us have sacrifice on both sides, and then we shall satisfactorily settle this great problem, because we shall approach it in a proper spirit.



The Carriage of Milk in Unfastened Churns.

Dr. A. E. Harris, Medical Officer of Health for Islington, has issued a report on the carriage of milk, which contains many points of interest to those engaged in the milk trade. In almost every prosecution for the adulteration of milk taken against the large vendors the defence of warranty is raised, but in addition the defendants nearly always declare that the milk was sold as it was received from the farmer. "When, however, the latter is appealed to, he declares," says Dr. A. E. Harris, "and I think generally truthfully, that he has not tampered with it, and had sent it to London just as it came from his cows—pure milk, with all its cream. The inference, therefore, naturally arises that it had been tampered with on the railway, an event which I believe to be of very rare occurrence. There could, however, have been no tampering with the churns if they had been locked or sealed. When the vendors or consigners are asked in court why they did not seal or lock their churns, they invariably declare that the railway companies will not allow them to do so, as it would interfere with the examination, the measuring, or the weighing of the contents.

'In studying the evidence of the Departmental Commission on Milk, I find that this statement is absolutely incorrect, for in a letter dated May 29, 1899, the Assistant Secretary of the Board of Agriculture enquired of the Railway Companies' Association through the Board of Trade if it was their practice to require milk churns to be unlocked, and if in consequence the consigner is unable to take any precautions to prevent persons tampering with their contents, and in reply was informed by the Railway Companies' Association, in a communication dated October 12, 1898, and signed by Sir Henry Oakley, that 'senders have been for a long time allowed to send milk in sealed cans, the companies accept the declaration of the senders at to the quantity conveyed, no extra charge being made; the only condition the companies require to be fulfilled is that the tare weight of the cans shall be stamped on the outside of the can, so that in case of doubt the quantity of milk within the churn can be approximately ascertained by allowing 10¼lb. for each gallon of milk declared. It does not appear to the companies that there is any difficulty in the senders protecting themselves against alleged loss of milk in transit by sealing, padlocking, or otherwise fastening the cans.'

"This correspondence is of the greatest importance, as it altogether disposes of the consignors' and vendors' contention. If, hitherto, this contention has been made in ignorance of the railway regulations, then the sooner such ignorance is dispelled the better. I therefore suggest," continues Dr. Harris, "that a communication be addressed to each milk vendor in Islington who receives milk by rail advising him to get it delivered to him in sealed, padlocked, or fastened churns; at the same time enclosing a copy of the correspondence laid before the Milk Committee, and cautioning him that if hereafter his milk should be found adulterated and a prosecution follow, that fact that he has not availed himself of the permissible means to protect the milk supply while in transit will be urged against him, although he may produce a warranty, and that the court will be asked to say that he has been guilty of contributory negligence. I would further suggest that the railway companies carrying milk for Islington purveyors should insist, not only in the interests of their servants, who are practically looked upon as the delinquents, but particularly in that of the public, that all cans sent to them for delivery shall in future be locked, sealed, or fastened."

The medical officer adds that he has not the least doubt that, if the railway companies refused to carry milk in unfastened cans, the adulteration of milk would be much checked, and the unfortunate farmer would cease to be so frequently, and often undeservedly, made the scapegoat for the large wholesale milk vendors in London and elsewhere. This statement is based on the fact

that out of 562 milks arriving at the G.N.R. Station, Finsbury Park, from farmers, only seven were found on analysing to be adulterated.

Cheshire Farmer's Protest Against a Cowsheds Order.

A meeting of the members of the Stockport and District Farmers' Club was held on the 10th inst. for the purpose of discussing the new regulation recently adopted by the Bramall Urban District Council, by which cowsheds in the district are to be provided with 1,000 cubic feet of air-space per cow.

Lord Newton, who presided, said, in his opinion, the space was somewhat large, and he might almost say it was an extortionate demand. He had been assured that such a demand as 1,000 feet had not been insisted upon in any part of the world, and if this experiment were to be tried he very much preferred that it should be tried somewhere else than in his own immediate neighbourhood. The milk trade was a very important industry throughout Cheshire, and it did not do to light-heartedly propose what really would be a severe burden upon that particular industry. He asked the gentlemen of the Bramall Council to reflect seriously, and, if necessary, he thought steps ought to be taken to restrain those gentlemen in the course they were taking.

He did not believe it was the object of the Local Government Board that such stringent measures should be enforced. He thought it entirely contrary to the spirit of the administration of the Local Government Board. Many persons thought if the regulation of 1,000 cubic feet were insisted upon they would have no cows left, because they would in all probability die. If local authorities were going to make this sort of revolution to hamper the milk-producing of Cheshire, he asked them to consider the agricultural produce all round. There was milk and butter from abroad, but what did we know about that produce? It seemed to him the height of absurdity to insist on regulations of this kind when they did not attempt to deal with other articles of consumption from abroad.

A formal resolution in opposition to the regulation, stating that "not more than 600 cubic feet should be insisted upon," was carried.

Bath and West Cheese School.

The fifth draft (weighing over three tons) of this year's cheese, made during September and October, at the Cheese School carried on by the Bath and West and Southern Counties Society for the Somerset County Council, at Hambridge Farm, near Taunton, has just been sold to Messrs. Hill Bros., of Evercreech, at 66s. per cwt. of 112lbs.; 6,670 gallons of milk made 7,798 lbs. of green cheese, which, when sold, weighed 7,297 lbs., showing a shrinkage of about 6½ per cent.

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Agricultural Imports and Exports.

The Trade and Navigation Returns for 1901, issued last week by the Board of Trade, contain particulars of agricultural imports and exports, which, although set entirely in tabular form, afford interesting reading to all connected with the greatest industry, and below we give some facts compiled from these Returns. First of all, we may mention that the total value of living animals for food imported last year was £9,400,033, as compared with £9,622,319 in 1900, or a decrease of £222,286; but the articles of food and drink imported showed a considerable increase in value, the total being £210,545,167, as against £205,320,617 in 1900. Strangely enough, the exports varied in the same way as the imports, the value of exported live animals decreasing, and that of articles of food and drink increasing. In 1900 the value of living animals exported amounted to £901,843, or £159,344 more than last year, the figures for articles of food and drink being: 1901, £14,884,915, and 1900, £13,621,755, or an increase last year of £1,263,160.

As regards the quantity of the various agricultural items imported and exported, we have compiled two tables from the Returns, and they will show at a glance how last year's trade compared with that of 1901 and 1900. The following table shows the quantity of the chief agricultural imports:—

	1901.	1900.	1899.
Cattle .....No.	494,225	495,645	503,504
Sheep and lambs ..... ,,	381,481	382,833	607,755
Pigs ..... ,,	—	—	—
Horses ..... ,,	40,856	51,786	43,899
Total number of animals.. ,,	916 562	930,264	1,155,158
Beef, fresh..Cwt.	4,508,746	4,128,130	3,802,893
,, salt .. ,,	206,514	192,934	178,183
Mutton .... ,,	3,608,229	3,392,850	3,446,022
Pork, fresh.. ,,	791,509	695,395	668,972
,, salt... ,,	247,050	248,728	284,720
Bacon ..... ,,	5,772,348	5,641,238	5,804,583
Hams ..... ,,	1,860,670	1,802,670	1,978,626
Rabbits .... ,,	394,036	473,162	377,311
Meat, unremunerated, salted or fresh do...	610,271	530,688	464,759
Meat, preserved otherwise than by salting, do.	769,364	805,943	652,421
Total of dead meat, do. 18,768,737		17,911,738	17,658,490
Poultry and game	£980,739	£1,010.369	£785,294
Wheat .....Qrs.	16,274,494	16,022,881	1,548,418
Wheat meal and flour ...Cwts.	22,575.230	21,548,131	22,945.708
Barley .....Qrs.	6,185,629	4,775,397	4,813.020
Oats ..... ,,	8,068,332	7,218,816	5,609,595
Peas ..... ,,	453,847	499,818	611,767
Beans ..... ,,	436,721	400,811	438,018
Maize ..... ,,	11,986,987	12,635,366	14,639,648
Oatmeal ..Cwts.	840,335	837,440	789,810
Maize meal ,,	1,638,026	1,633,505	1,814,766
Other kinds of corn and meal, do.	1,733,015	1,664,460	1,964,697
Total of corn	196,388,807	189,636,088	194,338,667
Butter .....Cwts	3,702,810	3,378,516	3,389,851
Margarine .. ,,	962,082	920,412	953,175
Cheese .... ,,	2,586,885	2,705,878	2,384,069
Eggs ..Gt. hdrs..	17,072,795	16,882,078	16,174,756
Milk, condensed unsweetened, do.	33,345	—	—
Ditto, sweetened, do.	887,675	987,003	824,599
Lard, do.	1,966,256	1,927,274	2,188,049
*Apples, do.	1,830,208	2,128,541	Bushels. 3,861,172
*Pears, do.	348,866	476,901	Bushels. 571,832
*Plums, do.	263,700	423.019	Bushels. 558,273
Strawberries, do. ..	38,604	52,225	—
Gooseberries, do. ..	21,735	26,045	—
Currants, do.	70,402	64,462	—
*Cherries, do.	212,683	242,525	Bushels. 281,236
Potatoes, do. 7,076,882		8,910,962	5,159,011
Onions, bushels ..7,285,418		7,087,105	7,018,299
Tomatoes, cwts. ..	793,991	833,030	—
Hops, do.	116,042	198,494	180,233
Wool, sheep or lamb's, lb 686,931,950		553,154,732	663,351,817
Manures, tons	546,214	598,430	656,785
Oil and seed cake, do.	379,529	394,890	441,934
Clover and grass seed, cwts.	282,092	261,957	299,268
Linseed, qrs. 1,684,667		1,666,031	1,798,887
Rape, do.	160,654	184,243	207,648

* Denomination changed from bushels to cwt. in 1900.

The above table speaks for itself, but we may draw attention to the fact that the greatest increase is shown by barley and oats, over a million and a half quarters more of the former cereal being imported last year than in 1900 and 1901; whilst the increase in oats is a little under a million quarters when compared with the quantity imported in 1900, but considerably over two million quarters more than in 1899; whilst wheat shows a slight increase. The quantity of maize imported last year was over a half a million quarters less than in 1900, and two million and a half quarters smaller than the quantity received in this country during 1899. As to the importation of live animals, it will be noticed that we have received fewer cattle, sheep and horses than in the previous two years; but the quantity of dead meat imported has increased to the extent of nearly a million cwts. when compared with the figures of 1900, and even more than that amount when comparing those of 1899.

Below we give a table showing the quantity of the various exports of British and Irish agricultural produce so far as enumerated in the Returns. Other agricultural items were also exported from this country, but they were merely imports re-shipped, and need not be given here. From the following table it will be seen that the exports of live horses, cattle, sheep and pigs, all show a disappointing and considerable decrease compared with the two previous years. A larger quantity of butter was exported in 1901 than in either 1900 or 1899, but cheese show a decline, as does also wool. The quantity of provisions, including meat, is not given, but the value shows an increase of close on £500,000 against 1900, and even more than that when compared with the figures of 1899:—

	1901.	1900.	1899.
	No.	No.	No.
Horses	27,661	30,038	33,701
Cattle	1,629	2,742	2,979
Sheep and Lambs ..	2,754	4,934	7,586
Pigs	392	435	938
Other Animals ..	68,077	75,642	56,381
	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.
Butter	11,116	10,510	9,936
Cheese	9,259	9,345	9,758
Provisions (including meat) ..	£ 1,815,212	£ 1,385,639	£ 1,096,059
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
Wool, Sheep & Lambs	20,232,300	24,928,800	22,627,800
	Cwts	Cwts.	Cwts.
Hops	17,736	14,999	11,310
Bran and Pollard ..	1,209,090	811,172	—

In conclusion, we may mention that the total value of agricultural imports last year was £197,250,411, as against £191,680,797 in 1900, and £184,701,776 in 1899; whilst the value of the agricultural exports for the three years was as follows:—1901, £19,689,238; 1900, £15,884,742; and 1899, £18,225,039. It will be seen that the value of the imports in each of the three years was considerably over £150,000,000 more than that of the exports.

GARDEN.

Although we have experienced a slight spell of wintry weather of late—the frost was quite severe on two or three mornings this week—yet it does not appear to have "come to stay," and already there are indications of a return to milder weather, a fact for which I, for one, am (or shall be) devoutly thankful.

One of the next things to be thought of in the vegetable garden is the planting-out of the autumn-sown onions and lettuces, which should always be done some time during February, if possible. For the former, choose a piece of good ground in an open and sunny position, and trench it two or three spades deep, adding a liberal dressing (more or less according to the previous condition of the soil) of good, half-decayed manure. Where the land is light the manure should be of the most substantial description obtainable, some good farmyard "muck" being about the best thing, or cow or pig-manure may be employed. Use a little lime also, as this always tends to consolidate light soils. Heavy ground should be dressed with old hotbed or mushroom-bed manure, leaf soil, etc., and some burnt earth, wood-ashes, or anything of the kind is always useful; this should be applied on or near the surface.

When finished, tread or roll the plot down to a firm condition, rake the surface to an even level, and then set out the plants carefully, using a dibber, and placing them about 6 inches apart, with a foot between the rows. With ordinary care these will make very large and fine bulbs.

The lettuce plants, from seed sown in a frame in October, as directed at the time, should have a sheltered and sunny border, of fairly light and rich soil. Place them 8 inches to 12 inches apart, according to the variety, and keep a sharp look out for slugs.

Weather permitting, make a good sowing of peas as soon as possible, choosing a warm and sheltered position, of course. Any of the numerous good first and second early varieties, dwarf or tall, may be employed, and on light land in particular they will thrive and crop better if got in now, or shortly, than much later on. The best way to sow on comparatively narrow south borders is to place one or two rows of tall kinds at the back, and one or two of a dwarfer kind in front, the rows running east and west, naturally. Otherwise, sow in parallel rows running north and south, as usual. At the same time, get in a few rows of broad beans. I like the Seville Longpod best for this batch.

Any autumn-sown peas that are now through the ground should be lightly moulded, protected from cold winds by means of some evergreen twigs, and from slugs by an occasional sprinkling of soot or lime.

Prepare ground for planting out the forced rhubarb roots shortly, also the sets of sea-kale a little later on.

In light, warm soils, some sweet peas also may be sown now. These usually do best in well-manured trenches, placing the seed a few inches below the general level, but not covering them with more than an inch or so of soil at first. Or a number of 5in. pots may be sown, placing about a dozen seeds in each; raise them in any gently-warm house or frame, near the glass, and when 4in. to 6in. high turn out into good soil in the open.



The Cultivation of Maize.

Sir,—The very valuable information you have given in your issue of the 6th inst. in regard to maize may yet, I think, be extended. Maize, of all plants, appears to be best suited to give a succulent food from the silo. This and its abundant yield give it pre-eminence—placed in the silo it cannot be until it ripens. Is your correspondent of opinion that with any variety of maize this ripening may sufficiently be expected to make the use of the American silo advisable? Should he inquire of Messrs. Garton, I believe he will learn that for years they have experimented to find a maize which will mature in England, and without success. If this be so it may be better that attention should be turned to other crops which may give a succulent feed from the silo, such as tares. An entirely trustworthy communication from America says, "The aim of progressive dairymen in the United States is to get protein at the lowest possible cost, the other food ingredients being in excess here. And feed as succulent a ration as possible, and the best and cheapest succulence will without doubt be obtained through the medium of the silo. But we have been very slowly awakening to this fact. Remember our winters in Northern Iowa are very tedious, and the summers usually hot, and sometimes droughty."

I wish, Sir, you would give your readers your opinion as to which crop or crops are most likely to provide a succulent feed when placed in the American silo, crops giving an abundant yield, such as maize and tares. As regards the use of maize as a forage crop, your correspondent does not appear to be in agreement with Mr. Gilbert Murray, who, in Vinton's Agricultural Almanac, 1902, p. 59, speaks of the plant as containing a large percentage of water, as being poor in albuminoids, and of little feeding value. Your correspondent is in agreement with many in being of a contrary opinion, and yet we look to Mr. Gilbert Murray for a sober judgment.

Yours obediently, J. D.

Jan. 14th, 1902.

The Apple Orchard.

Sir,—I am rather pleased to read 'An Advocate of the Plantation System's" letter in your journal of 13th inst., because it gives me opportunity to dispose of another lion in the way coming forward to prevent, or at least to retard, efforts to retain at home, to fructify in our countrymen's pockets, the million a year sent out to import apples from abroad.

It would seem from the "Plantation Advocate's" letter that he has been moved by the proposals of the advocate of "the apple orchard" for the immediate extension of apple culture on turf land, to so decidedly oppose as even to advise that the spade should be put into the orchards now on grass land, and that the turf be dug in and the land put into small fruit and vegetable cultivation.

This would be market garden cultivation at once; but before anyone should be deluded to follow this advice he would do well to consider what is involved in it. First, a capital four times larger would be needed than for orchard culture on turf land, and the industry could only be carried out successfully within a radius of a to-and-fro journey in a day of a great town where there is an assured sale of perishable, soft produce. Also, it would be necessary to success that the market gardener should have had and have a thorough practical knowledge—not soon acquired—of selection for growing, and the packing and the marketing by himself of the produce, and always with unremitting supervision of the workmen in all details. Now, considering that the land near towns is already nearly all occupied, and rents consequently high, I do not think apple culture could be much advanced on the "plantation system," but the apple orchard on turf land could, and if the pasture is properly grazed, and the trees occasionally nourished by the filtration of surface manuring, and duly tended with the little trouble needed, fruit as fine and abundant will be yielded from it as by land under plantation cultivation, and the cash result far greater Further, the plantation business is all care, ceaseless, exacting, soiling labour. The orchard on pasture land comparatively Arcadia.

Yours truly,

THE AUTHOR OF "THE APPLE ORCHARD."

Jan. 16, 1902.

Our Food Supplies in Time of War.

Sir,—During the past seven years you have kindly published letters of mine on the above question.

The war in South Africa has aroused public interest on all questions of warfare.

Amongst others the above is receiving attention from the man in the street.

Kindly allow me to review a few points in connection with the question.

Bread to feed the masses during a naval war is of as much importance to us as ammunition. About four-fifths of our bread comes from abroad.

It is too well known abroad that we have a weak spot in our food supplies, and that will receive the chief attention of our enemy. Hostile fast cruisers, using the coal of their prizes to fill their bunkers, could greatly harass vessels laden with food for us.

It is doubtful whether we have enough cruisers to act as scouts for our fleet.

It would be easy for secret agents abroad to give information as to the sailing of food-laden vessels.

Exporters would be likely to demand payment before they allowed any food to leave their country, and thus might be pleased to hear that a cargo of food had been lost, as any they had to export would be increased in value. The price of wheat would rise greatly, even were no corner formed.

The insurance against war risks would be very high, and necessarily the price of any food that reached this island would be enormous.

The poor would suffer greatly, and hunger would be fighting for our enemy more effectually than any armed force, and, although our Navy might be victorious wherever they were able to meet the enemy, without doubt a bitter cry of anguish would go up from our starving people for food and peace, and our Government might be helpless to resist a shameless peace.

England has so long been blessed with peace that we are apt to forget the lessons learned by our forefathers, who were never so foolish as to depend for food upon others, who might later on become hostile.

The right, the natural, and, I contend, the only way for us to obtain or secure reserve of food is by encouraging an increased production of food in the United Kingdom, then at all times the reserve will be automatically replaced.

Some forty years ago we were practically self-supporting in the matter of food; but now much of our land that formerly produced wheat is practically waste land.

The fact is, the position has come about by depending on outside sources for food instead of producing most, as formerly.

It appears no better remedy to solve the question has been placed before the country than what I suggested about seven years ago, that is, a bounty on home-grown wheat to counteract the loss on production. Then we should soon be producing six months' supply, and were this kept for six months in ricks we should commence each year with one year's supply in the country—six months' in our rickyards and six months in our wheat fields. Many of our able-bodied would find remunerative work on the land, and thus live under healthier conditions than in our slums. Much money would be kept in the country that is now going abroad for imported food, and we need much money to pay for the war. Since bounties on production tend to decrease the price of an article, and import duties tend to increase it, it follows bounties and import duties on wheat can be so arranged as to return our farmers 40s. per quarter for producing and storing wheat without any increase in the price of bread. By such means the foreign producer would pay the bounty for the use of our markets, and the nation would be secure from famine and surrender in time of war.—

Faithfuly yours, THOMAS G. READ.

8, Holles Street, Cavendish Square,
London, W., Jan. 13th, 1902.

Professor of Agriculture at Cambridge.—At Cambridge University on Wednesday, Mr. Thomas H. Middleton, B.Sc., professor of agriculture at Durham College of Science, Newcastle-on-Tyne, was elected to the Professorship of agriculture, vacant through the resignation of Mr. W. Somerville. The stipend is £800 per annum.

The Waterloo Mills Cake and Warehousing Company, Limited, of Hull, the manufacturer of the celebrated "Waterloo" feeding cakes, have recently issued a blotting-pad and calendar for 1902. Like the one they gave last year, it is nicely got up and printed, and, in addition to being very serviceable, will be an ornament to any desk, either at the business place or at home.



MONDAY (Jan. 13).—Fine and dry weather prevailed over our Islands, and the conditions had generally become much more settled. Slight rain was measured in the morning, as the result of the fall in the preceding twenty-four hours, at several places in the North and West, but no rain occurred during the day. The winds were generally light from between North and East, but a North-West gale was still blowing in the North Sea. A decided fall of temperature had occurred over the whole country, and there was a sharp frost during Sunday night in the Northern, Eastern, and central portions of the Kingdom. The mid-day temperatures were everywhere much lower than of late.

TUESDAY (January 14th).—Fine and cold weather prevailed over our Islands. An anticyclone, or region of high barometer readings, embraced the whole of the United Kingdom, and the winds were generally light from between north and east. A further fall of temperature was experienced, and the thermometer was everywhere below the average for the time of year. Sharp frost was experienced during Monday night in most parts of Great Britain, and at Penrith the thermometer in the shade fell 24 degrees below the freezing point. In parts of England the midday temperatures scarcely rose above 32 degrees.

WEDNESDAY (January 15th).—Fine weather was prevalent over our islands, but there was a good deal of cloud and mist in different places. Rain was measured in the morning, as the result of the fall since the previous day, at a few of the Northern stations; but the conditions had for the most part remained dry. A cyclonic disturbance was passing eastwards to the North of Scotland, and under its influence the wind had generally shifted to the westward, while its force had considerably increased in the North. Temperature had risen briskly in Scotland and in the North of England; but the weather still remained cold over the Southern portion of the kingdom.

THURSDAY (January 16th).—The weather was generally cloudy and dull over our islands, but scarcely any rain was reported. A further rise of temperature had occurred; and in the Northern and Western districts the readings were considerably above the average for the time of year. The barometer was still very high. The anticyclone, which had been situated over the United Kingdom had moved somewhat southwards, and had its centre over the Bay of Biscay. The wind was chiefly westerly, under the influence of lower barometer readings in the extreme North, and a gale from the North-West was experienced on the coast of Norway. The weather was fine in London, and the mid-day temperature was forty-seven degrees.

FRIDAY (January 17th).—Fog or mist was very prevalent over England, but no rain fell, and there was none reported for the preceding twenty-four hours, except in the extreme north. The weather also continued dry in nearly all parts of Western Europe. The barometer had fallen somewhat, but the readings were still high over the United Kingdom, and the conditions continued anti-cyclonic over the southern portion of the kingdom. The winds were chiefly between south-west and west, and they were for the most part light. The temperature varied considerably in different parts of the country, but the weather was generally warm for the time of year.

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY (January 18th and 19th).—The weather continued fine in most parts of our islands during these two days, although rain again fell at several places in Scotland. The type of weather continued anti-cyclonic, but the barometer was decidedly falling on Sunday, apparently under the influence of disturbed weather in the Atlantic. The wind had again become south-westerly, and it was increasing in strength over the northern and western portions of the kingdom. A slight frost occurred over the central parts of England on Saturday morning, and during the succeeding night the frost was rather keen in the central and eastern districts, the sheltered thermometer registering twenty-one degrees at Dungeness. On Sunday the temperature in London rose to forty-four degrees.



Berkshire.

The weather has been very changeable, but at the same time not very hindering for farm work, for when it was too frosty for ploughing it was a good time for carting manure, and therefore we may consider that work is in rather a forward state. Although it has been mild at times, we have had some extraordinarily sharp frosts, but we do not see that the roots are damaged. The wheat looks fairly well, but not gay, and the late plantings have been a long time coming up. Rye, vetches, and trifolium all look well, and the young grasses appear to be a fair plant. It has been a bad time for the pastures, which have not been of much service for the cattle for some time; consequently great inroads have been made on the hay and straw, and considering the short crop grown last year it is no wonder that it is getting both scarce and dear. There is a good inquiry for cattle, as beef has been selling well. Sheep have done well, and lambing has commenced in many places, and we hear the lambs fall strong and healthy, with no great loss among the ewes; but as regards the trade, we can tell but little about it, as there are no fairs at the present time, but dealers are about picking up lots when they can get the offer. The swine fever order has paralyzed the pig trade, and bacon hogs are selling at rather lower prices. The price of wheat continues very low, but there is a steady demand, and it will probably be dearer later on, for with the continual reports of gluts of wheat in America it must be remembered that their population is increasing very fast, and that they must have food; and another noticeable fact is that the tide must be turned, as we have tithe 10s. per cent. higher than last year. Labour is more plentiful, as the military fever has a little died out, and those who come home are not very eager to go back to South Africa.—J. L. (January 16).

Cornwall (West).

We have had very fine weather this month, which has helped on all farm work. Wheat is looking fairly well. Very few lambs about yet. Beef selling fair, about 56s. cwt. Hay scarce, price about £5 per ton, which will pay the farmer better than feeding cattle. Straw also scarce, and worth about 50s. to £0s. Cows, calves, and store cattle selling very well. The early brocoli crop is now being cut and sent to market, and prices are fair, very much better than last year, and the growers are expecting a fair season, which all want badly, and hope to have. Seed potatoes have been dear, and there will be a decrease in the acreage planted. Narcissus are now being sent away from the hothouses, and are selling fairly well. The labour question is not so acute here as in many places, and enough can be had for all work.—F. C. (January 16th).

Herefordshire (North).

We are entering on a new year, which, I hope, may be more fruitful than the last, hops being the only good crop of the season, and they are almost worthless, too many being grown by nearly one-half, and yet they keep coming over the water to compete with ours. Very few growers have sold out, and still the brewers see mfull; they may be used perhaps instead of moss litter. All kinds of stock seems healthy and doing well. The dry seasons always suit them. The general work on the farm is forward, and some are busy hauling out dung and preparing for the spring-planted. Several farms are changing hands, but they seem taken; not many remain on landlords' hands. All corn grown in this district is used with the stock.—W. H. (January 17).

Hunts.

The New Year has opened very favourably for the occupiers of heavy land and low meadows, of which this county furnishes a considerable proportion. The frosts have been keen, but not unduly sharp, so that the ploughs have done much grand work, and the calls on the fodder supply have not been excessive. Much of the land for spring corn has been ploughed, and is now in good form for working as soon as the season for such work approaches. Both the quality and quantity of the barley suffered last year from the wretched condition of the land and the late period at which much of the seed corn was committed to the earth. We should have to go back to the year 1893 for a similar unfortunate and unprofitable season, so far as spring corn is concerned. Live stock continue healthy, and have generally made good progress at comparatively little cost for extra keep. The crop of mangolds was a good one, whilst kohl rabi were by no means bad, and the straw, though short and thin on the ground, was harvested in very fine condition. The extreme price of feeding stuffs, compared with the value of wheat, has not therefore been so severely felt by farmers as they feared might prove to be the case.—AMATEUR (January 16).

Somerset.

This first month of the New Year should find the farmer taking stock and balancing up the doings of 1901; this should disclose the state of affairs, whether it be a profit, or it may be a loss, on the year's working, and is material help in forming plans for the future. One spends an evening amongst his neighbours and hears of wonderful returns from such and such a crop, or it may be from a different outlet for milk or make of cheese, and almost makes up his mind to go in for that in 1902; but in asking himself next day whether he should adopt the system, so many considerations have to be taken into account that they get bewildering, and it often ends in going on in the old routine, hoping that this year will give more rainfall, and consequently more grass, than the last, for in this district that is all important, as arable land lately has been so reduced and grass land extended that the rearing of stock, the production of beef, and dairy produce, is the chief aim of the farmer, and here I would remark that the placing of an import duty on corn and cake would do the farmers hereabouts more harm than good, for were they to look up their accounts for foreign feeding stuffs they would doubtless show a much greater expenditure on these heads than all the income from corn sold off the farm. Your excellent weekly report on "Trade in the West," sets out the values of the various kinds of stock in such detail that it is unnecessary to go into that, but I would like to point out that, as very few of us have farmyard manure enough to give the grass land a dressing, that artificials should be used, whether it be slag, or bone meal, or super, as is most suitable to the soil. They are all cheap enough to a man who will go about their purchase in a businesslike way by buying with a guarantee, paying cash, and taking the liberal discount from makers' or dealers' list prices, as they are usually fixed on the self-protecting basis of heavy expenses of procuring orders, long credit, and possible bad debts.—R. B. (January 15th).

Somerset.

There is not much doing on the farm just now to call for special mention. The weather continues all one could wish, both for getting on the work and also helping to save the hayricks. All growing crops are looking strong and healthy; there has been just frost enough to check unseasonable vegetation. Very few lambs have yet made their appearance, but ewes are in capital condition. Live stock generally is healthy and doing well. The demand for good beef has been the feature of the Christmas trade; this still continues, but mutton is and has been rather slow to sell. Newly-calved cows sell well, but the trade in store cattle will hardly open up until another month, when there is a probability that the demand will be good for grazing purposes. There is and has been a ready sale for milk during this winter, but the short hay crop, dear labour, and dear feeding-stuffs leave a small margin of profit.—C. P. (January 17).

Suffolk (East).

The winter so far has been very dry and mild, and peas and beans and also oats and barley are being drilled on lighter lands. The old rule of not putting your spring corn in till the land was warm seems to have given way to the one of drilling any time after New Year, when it will do well. Wheat generally is up a good plant, and looking green and well, and winter beans look strong. Beef and mutton sell fairly well, and pork keeps a good trade. Corn prices are about the same, peas, beans, and oats being rather more saleable. Potatoes seem overdone in the big towns at present; disease also is a good deal noticeable. Parliament has just met again; why they do not work more than about six months in a year I should like to know; but no one supposes they will do any good for agriculture; but some hope they will do no harm; but still farmers as a body can hardly complain, for they neither ask them to do or not to do anything.—H. P. Y. (January 17).

Sussex (Mid).

Walking about yesterday I was surprised and pleased to see how much better the young seeds look than I expected to see them looking back to the end of last harvest, when the plants required looking for carefully. The clovers look more promising than the trefoils. Wheat on the whole looks fairly well where not sown too thickly, which is the case on some fields. Winter beans and tares, too, look well. Beasts are doing well in yards. There is abundance of mangold and swedes, and no anxiety is felt about winter keep. More anxiety has, until recently, been felt on account of the scarcity of water; every drop having to be carted from a brook for the use of all cattle and horses for several weeks.—F. C. C. (January 18).

Foreign Prospects.

FRANCE.—The wheat crop continues to present a satisfactory appearance, but colder weather to check the growth of weeds would be appreciated. The wheat market both in Paris and in the provinces continues quiet; farmers' offers are moderate, but quite equal to millers' demand.

BELGIUM AND HOLLAND.—Early in the week colder weather was experienced. The markets have taken their complexion from American advices. Yesterday Antwerp closed quiet but steady, quotations showing no marked change on the week.

GERMANY.—Stormy weather, with snow in the north, has not been detrimental to the autumn-sown wheat and rye crops. Berlin, after fluctuations, was yesterday about 3d. per quarter lower on the week for term wheat, and the turn dearer for spring rye. Hamburg reports quiet trade at easier prices.

RUSSIA.—Except in north-eastern districts, snow has disappeared. Heavy rains fell in the north, while in the south no rain has fallen for some time—the season is unusually mild. The inland markets opened firm after the holidays.

HUNGARY.—Weather is considered too mild, and snow is desired, in expectation of frost. Budapest reports a quiet trade at about last week's quotations.

ITALY.—In northern provinces wheat is growing well, much rain has fallen in Tuscany and other districts, but the crop has not suffered injury.

SPAIN.—The growth of the wheat crop is checked by very cold weather.

UNITED STATES.—The weather is somewhat unfavourable for the growing wheat, but not much injury is as yet apparent. The country is still firmly holding wheat, but the tone is somewhat easier for maize, although the movement has not much increased.—*Dornbusch.*

Agricultural Imports.

The following is an account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Jan. 11, 1902, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year :—

	1901.	1902.		1901.	1902.
	No.	No.		Cwt.	Cwt.
Cattle ...	8,707	8,829	Wheat ...	726,900	1,251,300
Sheep.....	7,766	9,000	Flour.....	545,500	493,700
Swine.....	—	—	Barley ...	492,200	290,800
Horses ...	—	505	Oats	452,900	358,900
			Peas	82,500	36,700
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Beans ...	12,800	31,600
Beef.....	71,334	84,999	Maize ...	1,140,000	1,476,400
Mutton...	50,939	82,391		Bunches	Bunches
Pork	20,705	23 641	Bananas	22,451	33,509
Bacon ...	130,103	131,927			
Beef, salt	3,471	5,546		Cwt.	Cwt.
Hams.....	30,705	27,492	Apples ...	34,076	41,631
Pork,salt	2,895	3,060	Apricots		
Meat,salt			&Peaches	—	—
& Fresh	12,071	9,922	Cherries	—	—
Do. pres.	19,201	20,220	Currants	—	—
Butter ...	77,363	74,337	Goosebr's	—	—
M'rg'rine	15,162	19,503	Grapes ...	56	181
Cheese ...	31,979	40,251	Lemons...	24,272	22,254
* Milk,			Oranges	182,295	191,140
Fresh,			Pears.....	97	115
in cans			Plums ...	—	—
or			Strawb'r's	—	—
drums.	584	80	Oth'r Fr't	2,711	132
* Milk ...					
Cream.	140	51		Tons.	Tons.
* Milk			Hay	1,636	7,904
pr's'v'd,				Bush.	Bush.
other			Onions ...	86,303	165,794
kinds ...	—	29		Cwt.	Cwt.
Con.Milk	18,670	18,985	Hops	13,800	8,692
			Potatoes	68,489	29,438
	No.	No.	Tom'to's	7,476	2,714
Eggs	231,968	302,798†	Other	Value.	Value.
			Veg'bles	£ 5,261	£7,701
Poultry&	Value.	Value.		Cwt.	Cwt.
Game	£26,450	£54,476	‡Dried ...	5,158	3,245
			‡Pres'v'd		
	Cwt.	Cwt.	by can-		
Rabbits	15,865	6,951	ning ...	4,106	3,428
Lard	35,578	29,835			

* In 1900 these were not shown separately.
† Great Hundreds.
‡ Included with Vegetables unenumerated prior to 1901.

The directors of the Colonial College, Hollesley Bay, Suffolk, announce that they have appointed Mr. Walter J. Malden, A.S.I., late Professor of Agriculture at Downton College, and since Principal of the Uckfield Agricultural College, to be Principal of the Colonial College, in succession to the late Mr. Robert Johnson, recently deceased. Mr. Malden will commence his duties at the Colonial College at the opening of the ensuing term, on the 1st February.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Malt: The trade continues quiet. Barley: Both grinding and malting remain firm. Wheat: Unchanged. Oats: Quiet at last week's prices. Maize: 3d to 6d per qr cheaper. Flour: 6d per sack dearer.—NIXON, GOWER, AND CO.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—English wheat remains scarce, and quotations show no alteration. Whites ranged at 29s to 30s 6d; reds, 28s 6d to 30s per qr delivered. Of foreign arrivals off coast continue light. American about unchanged. Russian sorts are still considered too dear for this market, and is scarcely offered. Indian still extremely scarce. The market for flour retains firmness, despite only a slow consumptive trade. Town households still fixed at 23s 6d per sack, and whites 3s more. Grinding barley without improvement. Useful types of English malting continue steadily supported, fine ranging up to 40s, while attention continues a good deal centred upon parcels suitable for spring seed sowings between 28s and 30s. There was a rather steadier tendency for Russian oats during the fore part of the day (forced sales having now ceased), but rates were not quotably altered. American remains out of supply. English firm and scarce. Garton's spring sown, 2 s 6d 42lb. Grey winters, weighing the same, 23s to 23s 6d; and Black ditto, 23s 6d to 24s. Flat maize remains practically exhausted on spot, and nominal at 27s ex quay. Round corn at the last reduction. The market for imported beans and peas has lost none of its stability.

Mark Lane, Friday.—There was nothing of interest stirring at to-day's market, and, while breadstuffs moved steadily, feeding stuffs were occasionally against the seller, the attendance being limited. English wheat continues to come up very slowly here, but the markets in the country are sufficiently supplied. Whites, 29s to 31s 6d; reds, 28s 6d to 30s per qr, delivered. American descriptions 3d easier since last Friday. Flour maintained, although slow. First patents quoted up to 24s 6d; ordinary ditto, 23s 9d ex store; second patents of the Guinea Gold type, 22s. First bakers, 19s to 20s ex store. Cascadias, 21s 9d ex store. English unaltered. Town households, 23s 6d; whites, 26s 6d per sack, delivered to the baker. Top price town made, 28s net. No. 1 household, 23s 9d cash per sack at the mill door. Whole meal, 174s per ton. Australian patents, 20s to 20s 6d per 280lb ex store. Of feeding stuffs, grinding barley neglected, and again easier to buy. English malting well maintained for all useful specimens, fine commanding up to 40s; foreign steady; Californian, 25s to 28s. Oats steady, with a better tendency since Friday last, but quotations of Russian are much the same. American descriptions remain out of supply; New Zealand, supported in value, at 25s to 26s per 384lb ex store; English scare, and sellers have no difficulty in securing full rates; gartons, 23s 6d, 42lb; grey winters, 23s to 23s 6d; black winters, 23s 6d to 24s, 42lb. Scotch oats, weighing the same, 23s to 23s 6d. Flat maize, nominal, with next to nothing here on spot; mixed American, 27s ex granary. Round corn generally again rather easier in tone since last Friday. The market for imported beans and peas was again very firm, being poorly supplied, and Canadian white peas are difficult to be had, even at 27s ex granary.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Wheat at 28s to 30s for both white and red descriptions of good quality. Foreign grinding barley advanced 6d on the week, being quoted up to 22s per qr, while Mazagan beans rose 1s to 34s for best samples. Other descriptions of corn remained unchanged, and flour was quoted from 23s to 28s per sack.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, red (new), 28s to 29s per qr; beans (old), 37s to 39s per qr; oats, 17s to 20s per qr. Trade very quiet at late rates.

Birmingham, Thursday.—The market was well attended, but trade generally was quiet. Foreign wheats unchanged to 3d cheaper, and English wheat unaltered at 11s to 11s 3d per bag. Maize unchanged, round realising 23s 6d to 23s 9d per qr. Grinding barley, 18s to 19s 3d per qr. Sharpness English oats without change, and English beans 14s 6d to 14s 9d per bag.

Braintree, Wednesday.—A fair supply and a good trade. Prices: Red wheat 27s 6d to 28s, and white 29s to 30s per qr. Barley short, samples selling from 28s to 30s.

Bristol, Thursday.—Trade has continued quiet during the past week. At our market to day English wheat was in good supply, being somewhat lower in value. Foreign unchanged. Barley, 3d to 6d lower; maize, 9d to 1s lower; Oats, 3d decline. Flour remains unchanged in price.—GRACE BROTHERS.

Buston, Wednesday.—A small market. Wheat, 28s 6d; grinding barley, 23s to 23s 6d; oats, 20s to 21s 6d; peas, 32s to 33s; barley, 34s 6d; new maize, 24s; old maize, 25s 6d.

Bury, Wednesday.—Wheat, with only a moderate supply, was firm, at last week's prices. Reds and whites, 28s 6d to 30s per qr. Barley: There was nothing new to note in the trade. A fair consumptive demand continues for all useful malting parcels, running from 28s to 33s per qr. Fine parcels are getting scarcer, but are no dealer; grinding corn firm. Beans and peas were firm, also oats, but maize was a trifle easier at 24s 9d to 25s per qr for new round corn.

Cambridge, Saturday.—During the week, notwithstanding that supplies have not been too abundant, wheat has had to give way 6d per qr., whilst spring corn has remained quite as dear. At this market to-day there was a very fair supply of wheat, and farmers could only sell at 6d per qr. less money. Red, 28s to 29s; and white up to 29s per 504lb. Spring Corn sparingly offered, clean lots fit for seed commanding better prices.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Fair supply of oats in our market to-day; quick sale, at late rates. New, 20s 6d to 22s 6d per 336lb; old, 23s to 23s 6d per 336lb.—THOMAS ROBINSON.

Chester, Saturday.—The demand for English grain was well maintained, and free prices were asked for all kinds. Quotations:—Wheat, white and red, 4s 4d to 4s 6d per 75lb.; malting barley, 3s 8d to 3s 9d per 60lb.; grinding barley, 3s 3d to 3s 6d per 84lb.; beans, 5s 6d to 5s 8d per 80lb.; oats, new, 2s 10d to 3s 1d; old, 3s 4d to 3s 6d per 46lb.; Indian corn, 13s 3d to 14s 6d per 240lb.

Chichester, Wednesday.—Small attendance and quiet market. Wheats were steady without change, and a similar remark applies to feeding stuffs. Flour was unaltered at 24s per sack.

Colchester, Saturday.—Moderate supply of wheat, dull trade, prices as last week. Beans, peas, and oats steady.—FRANCIS AND CO.

Crovdon, Thursday.—White wheat, 25s to 31s; red ditto, 28s to 30s. Malting barley, 28s to 36s; grinding, 22s to 24s. Oats, 19s to 22s. Beans, 31s to 33s. Peas, 29s to 31s. Trade for wheat remains quiet at last week's prices; oats firm, beans and peas remain the same.

Faversham, Wednesday.—White wheat, 29s to 31s; grown ditto, 28s to 30s. Malting barley, 28s to 35s; Grinding ditto, 23s to 26s. Black oats, 21s to 23s; white ditto, 21s to 24s. Beans, 34s to 38s. Grey peas, 33s to 34s.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There was the usual attendance at our market. Wheat and flour quiet trade, with prices about unchanged. Mixed corn quiet, and 3d per 280lb cheaper. Grinding beans and Canadian pease quiet, but steady. Foreign oats quiet and unchanged. Home oats dull and easier. Barley quiet. Bran and thirds firm, but small trade. Oatmeal slow, and prices easier.—GIBSON AND CLARK.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Wheat: Holders were trying to make a small advance at the opening of the market, but were unsuccessful, and the business done was only at last week's full prices. Reds and whites worth about 29s 6d per 504lbs delivered at Ipswich. Barley: Supply smaller, trade for useful malting samples steady on the week. Maize about 3d per quarter lower, at 23s 6d to 29s per quarter for new round corn. Other feeding corns firm. Linseed cakes rather dearer.

Leeds, Tuesday.—With moderate shipments and firmness in the leading Continental markets, America's decline fails to have much influence on the trade, beyond temporarily checking the demand. Indian and American wheats are rather easier on the week, other descriptions unchanged; malting barley steady; maize 6d lower; beans and oats unchanged.—DUNNS AND CO.

Leeds, Friday.—Slow demand for both English and foreign wheats at about Tuesday's prices, with, if anything, the turn in favour of buyers. Flour also the turn easier. Beans, peas, oats, barley, and maize without change.

Leicester, Saturday.—Fair attendance, with moderate supplies of home-grown wheats, but only fine samples in request, and prices easier at 28s to 31s per 36st. Malting barley steady. Grindng barley quiet. Fine oats very firm.

Lewes, Tuesday.—New white wheat, 29s to 30s; new brown ditto, 28s to 30s. Malting barley, 32s to 35s; grinding ditto, 20s to 24s. Oats, 20s to 24s. Beans, 35s to 38s. Peas, 32s to 35s per qr.

Lincoln, Friday.—Shorter supply, and prices rather easier. Best samples, 29s on rail, and up to 30s delivered. Small supply of barleys; malting from 27s to 32s per qr., grinding, 22s to 23s. Oats and beans firm at later rates, and maize 6d lower on the week.

Liverpool, Friday.—The market has had a fair attendance, but wheat is in moderate demand, a quiet business being put through, prices holding steady at ¼d below last Tuesday for all descriptions; white wheats nearly exhausted. Flour: American grades are quiet and meeting a limited inquiry, prices being 6d per sack lower; Hungarian, owing to a combination of millers who are restricting the output, and in consequence of the high prices ruling in Austria-Hungary for wheat, has led to an advance of 1s per sack. The Liverpool Millers' Association make no change in their quotations, with a quiet trade. Maize: Old mixed, owing to extreme prices, is rather neglected, and shows ¼d loss from last market day. European in moderate request, but prices are generally ¼d to 1d lower. Plate, prime old, is in good demand, and fully maintains last market-day's quotations. Barley: Malting is quiet, with only very occasional sales, prices unchanged; feeding slow, and the turn lower. Beans: Firmly held at recent quotations. Peas: Steady, with fair inquiry at late rates. Oats: Firmly held with only a moderate inquiry at Tuesday's prices for English; foreign sorts are in favour of buyers, but no change is made in quotations. Oatmeal: Steady, but meets a slow demand at quotations. Oilcake has had only a moderate inquiry, and is steadily held at last market-day's prices.—SEGAR AND TUNNICLIFFE.

Maidstone, Thursday.—Very slightly improved tone in the wheat trade to-day, and the full cost of last week secured. In other grain but little business passing, barley and oats barely being former terms. Round maize is decidedly cheaper; flat is too scarce to go down in price much. There is not any alteration in rye, tares, brank, hemp, lergum, or millet.

Manchester, Thursday.—The tendency in most sections has been in favour of the buyer. English wheat is less firmly held than seven days ago, and buyers are able to do better in foreign sorts also. Flour moves quietly at a decline of 6d per sack. Oats and barley are quiet without material change. Peas and beans are nominally steady. Indian corn repeats late rates, but there is no weight of trade going on.

Newcastle, Saturday.—The demand for wheat at our to-day's market was limited, without, however, any change in values. Maize slow sale and favouring buyers. Beans tand peas unaltered. Scotch oats 3d to 6d cheaper on the week. Foreign oats quiet at late rates. No enquiry for barley.

Newport (Mon.), Wednesday.—Quiet market and little business doing. Wheat was unchanged, maize easier than last week, and other grains unaltered. Mill offals scarce and 5s per ton dearer.

Northampton, Saturday.—A lifeless market. Supply and demand inactive. Quotations about the same as last week, with a downward tendency. White wheat, 28s to 29s; red, 27s to 29s; barley, 26s to 32s; grinding barley, 21s to 24s; oats, 19s to 22s; fine old, 25s; beans, 32s to 40s; flour, 21s to 22s; fine, 24s.

Norwich, Saturday.—There is no new feature in the wheat trade to-day, with prices same as last week. Barley in larger supply, with a firm trade at late rates. Fine weather prevails, with night frosts. Wheat, red, 28s 6d to 29s per qr, weight 63lb per imperial bushel. Corn Inspector's return for the week ending January 13th, 1902:—Wheat, 3,313, 27s 2¾d; barley, 10,954.1, 28s 4½d.—J. ARTHUR MILLS.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Wheat, moderate supply; millers bid 6d less, but holders were firm. Barley, less offering, and values were well maintained. Oats and beans, both firm.—ROBERT HUBBLE.

Peterborough, Saturday.—There has been more wheat offering to-day and a slow trade, with prices occasionally 6d cheaper. Barley in small supply, and held for more money. Oats firm, at fully late rates.—THOMAS HILL AND SON.

Plymouth, Thursday.—Moderate attendance, but business very dull. Maize, barley, and oats, slow trade, prices of last week. Wheat, very firm.—ORLANDO DAVIS AND CO.

Reading, Saturday.—The attendance in the Exchange to-day was much larger than usual, and business showed a decided improvement in point of quality. Wheat did not come to hand very plentifully, and in cases where the quality of the corn did not attain a good standard, selers had to be content with a fall of 6d per qr. on the week. Barley sold very well, recent quotations being fully maintained, while oats changed hands readily at last week's figures.

Ripon, Thursday.—We have to report a better attendance, but a slow trade. Maize and English wheat show a downward tendency. Wheat, English (new), 29s to 30s; ditto foreign, 29s to 33s; barley, grinding, 22s 6d to 23s 6d; ditto malting, 26s to 31s; oats (new), 21s to 24s; round maize, 24s to 27s per qr; beans, 1s per stone.

Romford, Wednesday.—Wheat trade firm, at 6d advance on last week's prices. Not much on offer. Red wheat, 28s to 28s 6d; white wheat, 29s to 30s 6d per qr.

Rye, Wednesday.—White wheat, 27s to 29s; red ditto, 27s to 29s. Black oats, 18s 6d to 25s; white ditto, 19s 6d to 25s; winter ditto, 20s to 22s. Tick beans, 33s 6d to 36s. Grey peas, 32s to 34s.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—A larger supply of wheat, and former prices asked. A good attendance, but buyers would operate only at a small reduction. Beans, peas, and Indian corn as before. Quotations: Wheat, white, 30s to 31s; ditto red, 30s 6d to 31s per 504lb; oats, new white, 21s 6d to 22s 6d; ditto, new black, 20s to 21s per 336lb; peas, grinding, 32s to 34s; ditto, blue, 53s to 80s; beans, Egyptian, 35s to 36s per 504lb; ditto, English, new, 37s to 37s 6d per 532lb; barley, grinding, 21s 6d to 22s; ditto, malting, 28s to 32s per 448lb; Indian corn, small, 25s to 26s; ditto, American mixed, 27s 6d to 28s per 480lb.

Spalding, Tuesday.—There was a slight fall in the value of wheat, which was quoted at 28s 6d. Small supply, and a slow trade. Oats firm. No quotable alteration in the value of other articles.

Stamford, Friday.—Wheat was fairly well represented, and there were a good many samples of barley. Wheat, 28s to 29s; barley, 27s to 30s for finest quality; new oats, 22s to 24s; old, 26s 6d; beans, 30s to 35s.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There was a very small show of farmers' wheat, which made 30s to 31s per qr. The demand for foreign wheat, which has shown an improving tendency since the previous market, evidenced a slight falling off in view of the relapse in America, and prices remained unchanged on the week. Oats and maize 6d lower. No malting barley showing.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Moderate supply of wheat, which sold at about last week's prices. Barley in good demand, and rather dearer. Oats quiet. Arrivals, coastwise, oats, 1400 qrs; foreign, nil.—E. and F. RICHARDSON.

Wakefield, Friday.—On to-day's market there is only a nominal demand for both English and Foreign wheat, at about last week's rates. There is a fair supply of barley, which meets with a slow sale, at lower prices. Maltsters being heavily stocked, are holding off. Feeding stuffs unaltered, with the exception of maize, which is 6d per qr lower.—MICHAEL SANDERSON AND SON, LIMITED.

Wakefield, Friday.—It is a remarkable fact that the American decline this week has practically only affected the option markets, the trade maintaining its firm attitude, and with the exception of a slight reduction in American and Indian wheats, prices on the week are unchanged, the tone to-day being decidedly steadier. Barley supply falling off; the lower descriptions still meet a fair demand. Maize, 6d lower; oats and beans quiet.—DUNNS AND CO.

Winchester, Saturday.—A fair supply of wheat offering on our market to-day, for which we had a quiet but firm trade, at fully last week's prices. Barley in fair request, best samples making more money. Oats steady, with more inquiry, late rates easily maintained. Maize 6d cheaper. Flour, consumptive demand at 22s to 23s 6d.—FEAR, COLEBROOK AND CO., LTD.

Wisbech, Saturday.—Wheat steady at 28s to 29s per qr; oats, 21s to 24s; barley, 22s to 30s; beans, 35s to 38s.—JAMES FLETCHER.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—There was a quiet market, the following being the quotations:—Wheat, new, 12s 6d to 13s per 216lb, Kansas 6s 3d per cental; oats, old 15s 6d to 16s, new 12s 6d to 13s 6d; beans, old 15s 6d to 16s 6d, new 14s 3d to 14s 9d per 196lb; barley, 31s to 32s per 448lb; maize, 26s 6d to 27s per 480lb.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Moderate attendance and small show of grain. White wheat, 28s to 29s; red wheat, 26s to 28s; grinding barley, 25s to 26s; white oats, 21s to 27s to 28s; best malting barley, 28s to 32s; secondary, 23s; black oats, 19s to 21s; maize, 27s to 28s per qr.

York, Saturday.—Fair show of grain,, and wheat was rather more freely offered. Sellers asked rather more money, which somewhat checked trade. Best samples made 30s per 35 stones. Far show of good samples of barley, which met rather a slow trade, buyers being more inclined to purchase medium sorts, which were scarcer. Finest barley, 30s; medium, 27s to 28s per 32 stones. Oats were a better show than last week, and prices were well maintained. Feeding stuffs keep firm.

FOREIGN.

Hamburg, Saturday.—Weather changeable; since yesterday it is unseasonably mild. Trade quiet, in sympathy with foreign markets; but holders in general make a stand against any material reduction in values. Supples, except those of maize, are falling off, and there is no accumulation of stocks in this country. The imports into Hamburg during this week amounted to: 2,179 tons wheat, 3,766 tons rye, 1,796 tons barley, 9,991 tons maize. Hard winter wheat No. 2, on the spot and for prompt shipment, is selling at 29s to 29s 3d; Barbetta is held at 29s 9d per 480lb; Walla Walla, on the spot and March June delivery here, 29s 6d to 29s 9d, 29s 9d per 500lb., ex ship at Hamburg. Rye in better demand; 9 15-20 South Russian is selling at 23s per 480lb c.i.f., March-April shipment. There is some demand for fine malting barley at 23s to 30s, but offers of such are getting scarce; good middling quality of Bohemian is held at 31s; Saale, at 33s to 35s; fine Saale, scarcer, at 35s to 39s; Helstein and Mecklenburg, 26s to 28; fine Moravian and Stovakian, 37s to 38s per 448lb f.o.b., 60-61 Ko.; South Russian barley meets a slow sale at 18s to 18s 6d per 400lb c.i.f. Hamburg. Prices of maize are slightly lower. The eastern parts of Germany get supplies by rail from Russia and Roumania, and in the Elbè districts the consumption is much restricted by the high prices. Mixed is held at 25s 3d; Odessa and Danubian, at 21s 3d to 22s; River Plate, May-June shipment, at 20s 9d per 480lb c.i.f. Hamburg.—JOHN TATLOCK.

Paris, Wednesday.—The features of the provincial exchanges for native wheat have undergone no material modification. Farmers continue to ofier very moderately, disdaining up to the present to listen to all advice to take advantage of actual rates, which are assuredly very remunerative. So that in spite of the dulness ruling in wheat in yesterday's market, holders who have of late been paying high prices for their grain in the provincial exchanges, endeavoured to maintain their currencies, and only with great reluctance were induced to grant any abatement from last week's values. Millers on their part were still hesitating to purchase, in view of the dull tone of the *Marche de Paris* and the difficulties encountered in the disposal of their product. Dealers and bakers in fact still evince a certain reserve, and are content to sell from day to day without manifesting any inclination to engage in forward transactions. Consequently trade was very restricted in its movements. Quotations are as follows:—Choice red, 37s 10d to 38s 3d, ordinary 36s 11d, and white 37s 10d to 38s 9d per 480lb. The market was quiet at the opening and closed unaltered at the following prices:—Jan. 28s 2d to 28s 5d, Feb. 28s 5d to 28s 8d, March-April 28s 11d to 29s 2d, March-June 29s 2d to 29s 5d, and May-Aug. 29s 5d to 29s 8d per 280lbs. Farmers' and traders' offers for rye are most reduced, so that prices were held at a slight advance in the majority of the provincial exchanges, and when buyers found some suitable lots they did not hesitate to pay 6d per qr advance on last week's rates. Here prices were nominally unaltered with, however,

rather more sellers; buyers offered 27s 5d, but no sellers under 27s 10d per 480lb Oats show no variation in any direction, and are not so scarce as might have been expected; but, however, are very dear; but this may be explained from the fact of there being great wants to satisfy. Here to-day transactions were still insignificant, and values of home grown about 4d per qr dearer on the week. Grey Beauce, 24s 8d to 24s 11d; white, 24s 1d to 24s 4d; red, 24s 4d to 24s 8d; black, from the Central provinces, 25s 3d; small Picardy, 25s 3d to 25s 6d. Offers of barley are still limited, good descriptions being wanting, and show no appreciable change on the week. There are sellers in Beauce for the North, and Belgium at 6f. to 16f.50 (23s 3d to 23s 11d). Choice sorts are held at 16f.50 to 17f. (23s 11d to 24s 8d). Here trade was slow, at the following rates:—Malting sorts, 16f.75 to 17f. (24s 3d to 24s 8d); grinding, 16f.50 to 16f.75 (23s 11d to 24s 3d); feeding, 15f.50 to 16f. per 100 kilos (22s 6d to 23s 3d per 400lb).—*Dornbusch*

CORN STATISTICS.

ARRIVALS INTO LONDON.

January 8 to 15, 1902, inclusive.

	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat.....qrs.	1,216	26,824	28,040
Barley	4,000	1,580	5,580
Malt	18,750	...	18,750
Oats	838	74,012	74,850
Rye	...	400	400
Beans	260	1,118	1,378
Peas	390	200	590
Maize	...	29,640	29,640
Tares	...	930	930
Buckwheat	...	167	167
Lentils	...	1,000	1,000
Dari	...	250	250
Farm seeds	1,615	2,342	3,957
Flour, sacks	22,893	55,446	78,339

ENGLISH WHEAT IN 1901.

Highest of Year	27s. 7d.
Lowest of Year	25s. 10d.
Gradient	1s. 9d.
Mean of Year	26s. 9d.

IMPERIAL AVERAGES.

Statement showing the Quantities sold and average price of British Corn, Imperial Measure, as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended January 18, 1902, conformably with the Act of the 45th and 46th Victoria, cap. 37.

Wheat	74,239½ qrs.	27s. 8d.
Barley	91,559½ qrs.	26s. 11d.
Oats	19,733½ qrs.	20s. 0d.

LONDON AVERAGES.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, January 14th, 1902.

	Total Quantities. Imperial Measure.	Total Amount.	Average Price per qr. Imperial Measure.
	Quarters. Bus.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Wheat	1,359 4	1,913 14 5	1 8 2
Barley	2,632 6	3,894 3 0	1 9 7
Oats	613 6	643 8 1	1 1 0

IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGES.

1901.	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
Jan. 5	22,272	26	5	55,917⅝	25	4	9,785	17	2
,, 12	41,709⅜	26	7	92,886¼	25	6	14,795½	17	3
,, 19	64,162½	26	11	119,580	25	9	22,714½	17	6
,, 26	74,277	26	10	119,320⅜	25	6	24,989⅜	17	3
Feb. 2	72,527½	26	7	87,205	25	7	21,707½	17	8
,, 9	44,882⅝	26	8	51,608¼	25	7	16,241⅛	17	7
,, 16	67,350	26	4	63,870⅜	25	4	21,069¼	17	7
,, 23	68,159½	26	1	65,514⅜	25	0	23,418½	17	7
Mar. 2	68,224	25	11	52,600½	25	0	21,858½	17	9
,, 9	63,714⅜	25	9	51,125⅝	25	4	19,410⅜	17	7
,, 16	55,073⅜	25	9	36,968½	25	1	14,010	17	7
,, 23	53,758½	25	8	27,840¼	24	11	13,895½	17	9
,, 30	47,908¼	26	0	20,179¼	24	9	12,418⅞	18	0
Apr. 6	42,721⅞	26	3	14,647⅝	25	3	11,776⅜	18	0
,, 13	32,905	26	5	6,809⅜	26	0	5,936⅞	18	1
,, 20	35,737½	26	8	6,734⅜	25	7	8,346⅜	18	8
,, 27	46,572	26	8	6,985⅜	25	8	8,300⅜	18	8
May 4	46,616½	26	9	6,417½	26	4	6,869⅜	19	1
,, 11	47,118⅜	27	3	4,279¼	26	2	7,049	19	1
,, 18	52,875½	27	7	2,508	24	2	7,345¼	19	4
,, 25	49,822½	27	7	1,511⅜	24	1	4,665⅛	19	8
June 1	46,514	27	7	859⅛	23	8	4,938	19	9
,, 8	42,202	27	6	221⅛	22	9	4,023¼	20	1
,, 15	40,764	27	8	1,404¼	24	0	5,565⅜	19	7
,, 22	29,695	27	6	336⅜	23	2	3,552½	20	3
,, 29	28,191⅞	27	6	692⅛	25	4	2,803⅜	20	0
July 6	19,564½	27	8	140⅜	21	9	1,800⅛	19	10
,, 13	15,231⅞	27	2	49	23	10	1,675⅜	19	9
,, 20	17,462⅜	27	3	88⅜	23	4	2,040½	19	11
,, 27	18,297⅜	27	3	206½	22	1	2,385⅛	19	4
Aug. 3	18,666½	27	6	250⅜	23	1	3,219½	20	0
,, 10	19,156	27	7	141⅜	22	1	2,143½	19	4
,, 17	22,617½	27	4	220⅜	27	2	5,982½	18	9
,, 24	37,168⅜	27	3	976⅜	23	7	9,952⅜	18	1
,, 31	61,603⅜	27	0	4,877⅜	24	3	14,654⅛	17	10
Sept. 7	66,623½	26	5	14,342⅜	25	1	19,075⅛	17	6
,, 14	77,949¼	26	2	34,939⅜	24	11	19,909½	17	4
,, 21	80,279½	26	0	70,096⅜	25	5	26,476⅜	17	4
,, 28	80,488	25	10	109,783⅛	25	10	22,567½	17	2
Oct. 5	60,376⅜	25	8	126,592½	26	3	21,631½	17	7
,, 12	63,656⅜	25	9	172,175⅜	26	5	16,815½	17	6
,, 19	58,772⅜	25	10	203,591½	26	8	15,506½	17	8
,, 26	52,984⅜	25	11	208,471⅜	25	10	18,009⅝	17	5
Nov. 2	70,314⅜	26	2	134,277½	26	10	18,350⅜	17	7
,, 9	62,265¼	26	6	202,577½	27	0	20,066⅛	17	8
,, 16	57,884⅜	26	9	201,723⅞	26	9	20,122½	18	3
,, 23	63,150⅜	27	1	185,268½	26	10	20,612	18	7
,, 30	60,323⅜	27	1	193,434⅜	26	9	22,419½	18	9
Dec. 7	67,925½	27	1	162,996⅜	26	7	23,990⅞	19	0
,, 14	48,045½	27	2	182,212⅜	25	10	17,125½	17	1
,, 21	60,562⅝	27	7	119,398½	26	8	26,260½	19	8
,, 28	43,718⅜	27	7	81,859½	26	8	16,901⅞	19	10
1902.									
Jan. 4	31,440⅝	27	7	34,777½	26	7	11,621⅜	19	10
,, 11	48,997⅜	27	8	69,120½	26	7	14,995	20	0
,, 18	74,239½	27	8	91,559⅝	26	11	19,733⅝	20	0

MONTHLY AVERAGES.

(196 Market Towns.)

	1900. Wheat	Barley	Oats	1901. Wheat	Barley	Oats
January	25 10	25 7	16 3	26 8	25 7	17 4
February	26 0	25 2	16 8	26 5	25 5	17 7
March	25 11	24 10	17 0	25 10	25 0	17 10
April	25 11	24 9	17 6	26 3	25 7½	18 3
May	25 9	24 10	18 2	27 6	25 2	19 4
June	25 10	23 8	19 0	27 7	23 11½	19 10
July	28 10	23 8	19 5	27 4	22 9	19 8
August	28 9	23 10	19 5	27 4	24 0	18 10
September	28 6	25 7	17 6	26 1	25 4	17 4
October	28 5	26 3	17 0	25 10	25 7	17 6
November	27 3	25 10	17 0	24 9	26 10	18 2
December	26 7	25 9	17 2	27 4	26 8	19 5

YEARLY AVERAGES (OFFICIAL.)

	Wheat. s. d.	Barley. s. d.	Oats. s. d.
1890	31 9 per qr.	28 8 per qr.	18 7 per qr.
1891	37 1 ,,	28 2 ,,	20 0 ,,
1892	30 4 ,,	26 2 ,,	19 11 ,,
1893	26 4 ,,	25 6 ,,	18 9 ,,
1894	22 10 ,,	24 6 ,,	17 1 ,,
1895	23 1 ,,	21 11 ,,	14 6 ,,
1896	26 2 ,,	22 11 ,,	14 9 ,,
1897	30 2 ,,	23 6 ,,	16 11 ,,
1898	34 0 ,,	27 2 ,,	18 5 ,,
1899	25 8 ,,	25 7 ,,	17 0 ,,
1900	27 11 ,,	25 9 ,,	17 9 ,,
1901	26 9 ,,	25 3 ,,	18 5 ,,

COMPARATIVE AVERAGES.

Comparative statement for the corresponding week to December 28th, in each of the years from 1897 to 1901.

	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
1897	58,955⅝	31	7	108,696¾	25	5	18,128	16	6
1898	57,158½	34	11	118,535⅝	27	10	21,674⅜	17	5
1899	76,704	27	0	111,133½	27	11	22,245½	17	1
1900	68,463⅜	26	0	100,925¼	25	8	23,122⅝	16	2
1901	64,162½	26	11	119,580	25	9	22,714½	17	3

FLUCTUATIONS IN THE AVERAGE PRICE OF WHEAT.

PRICE.	Dec. 14.	Dec. 21.	Dec. 28.	Jan. 4.	Jan. 11.	Jan. 18.
27s. 8d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 7d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 4d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 2d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 1d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
26s. 11d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
26s. 9d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
26s. 6d.	...	...	...	...	...	...

TITHE RENT CHARGES.

For 1902	67	3	9
,, 1901	66	10	9
,, 1900	66	15	10
,, 1899	68	2	4
,, 1898	68	14	11
,, 1897	69	17	11
,, 1896	71	9	7
,, 1895	78	13	0

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF LONDON TOWN HOUSEHOLDS FLOUR.

of 280 lb. ex-mill for cash.)

	1901 s.	d.	1900 s.	d.	1899. s.	d.	1898. s.	d.	1897. s.	d.	1896. s.	d.	1895. s.	d.	1894. s.	d.
Jan.	24	6	21	9	23	9	29	0	25	6	18	9	18	7½	21	6
Feb.	24	0	22	0	23	6	30	0	24	7½	19	4½	17	9	21	6
March	23	9	21	6	22	3	30	0	23	11	19	3	18	0	21	0
April	24	0	21	6	22	0	31	3	23	6	19	6	18	7½	20	6
May	23	6	21	3	22	3	39	7	23	7	19	0	20	4½	18	6
June	23	0	23	6	23	1½	35	0	22	7½	18	10	22	3	18	10½
July	22	3	24	6	21	9	29	6	22	10½	18	6	20	0½	19	3
August	22	3	24	0	21	9	27	6	26	8½	18	8½	19	10½	19	3
Sept.	22	0	25	3	22	0	26	5	30	3	19	6	19	8	19	3
Oct.	21	6	24	9	23	3	26	1	29	0	23	7½	18	7½	18	3½
Nov.	21	6	24	3	22	3	25	0	29	1	25	8½	18	4½	18	3
Dec.	21	9	24	0	21	9	24	3	29	0	25	7½	18	1	18	8½
Yrly. Avrg.	22	10	23	2	22	4	29	6½	25	10½	20	8½	19	2	19	7

STOCK OF GRAIN IN LONDON.

Official returns published 10th January, 1902.

	Wheat. Qrs.	Flour. Sacks.	Barley. Qrs.
Jan. 1, 1902	248,888	397,965	133,203
Jan. 1, 1901	320,279	420,173	118,256
	Oats. Qrs.	**Maize. Qrs.**	**Beans. Qrs.**	**Peas. Qrs.**
Jan. 1, 1902	592,401	46,345	8,815	8,831
Jan. 1, 1901	272,125	37,555	10,231	9,981
	Malt. Qrs.	**Oil Cake. Tons.**	**Tares. Qrs.**	**Linseed. Qrs.**
Jan. 1, 1902	1,433	7,053	1,048	4,741
Jan. 1, 1901	2,337	7,395	438	5,334

MAG 7 MLE

LONDON ARRIVALS.

(January 8-15.)

	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat, qrs.	1,216	26,824	28,040
Barley, qrs.	4,000	1,580	5,580
Malt, qrs.	18,750	——	18,750
Oats, qrs.	838	74,012	74,850
Rye, qrs.	——	400	400
Beans, qrs.	260	1,118	1,378
Peas, qrs.	390	200	590
Maize, qrs	——	29640	29,640
Tares, qrs.	——	930	930
Buckwheat, qrs.	——	167	167
Lentils, qrs.	——	1,000	1,000
Dari, qrs.	——	250	250
Farmseeds, qrs.	1,615	2,342	3,957
Flour, sacks	22,893	55,446	78,339

LONDON FLOUR MILLERS' ASSOCIATION.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1901.

	London Whites. s. d.	Town Households. s. d.
September 2 (per sack)	26 0	(per sack) 23 0
,, 18 ,,	25 6	,, 22 6
December 9 ,,	26 6	,, 23 6

(No official change since last date given).

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF FINE HOUSEHOLD FLOUR IN PARIS.

(*Converted into English money for sacks of 280 lb.*)

	1901. s.	d.	1900. s.	d.	1899. s.	d.	1898. s.	d.	1897. s.	d.	1896. s.	d.	1895. s.	d.	1894. s.	d.
Jan.	24	9	25	2	29	0	38	7	30	5½	25	10	27	9½	28	4½
Feb.	25	9	26	3	28	3	39	4	29	10½	26	2	27	10½	27	5½
March	24	0	27	3	27	6	40	1	28	9	26	0	27	5½	27	1
April	24	6	26	9	27	6	42	3	28	5	25	6½	26	7	27	8½
May	25	6	26	8	28	0	40	0	28	11½	25	1½	28	0	25	6½
June	26	3	28	6	27	6	35	6	29	3	25	8	28	10	25	7½
July	28	0	26	9	27	3	32	0	31	5½	24	6	27	1	26	10
August	27	6	26	4	27	0	31	6	36	11	25	1	26	11	27	6
Sept.	27	6	26	3	25	9	31	0	38	7	27	0	27	0½	25	5
Oct.	27	6	26	0	24	9	30	6	39	4	27	1½	27	9	25	2
Nov.	27	9	26	4	24	3	30	3	40	3	29	9	26	8½	26	6
Dec.	28	3	26	0	24	6	29	0	39	3	29	8	26	3	26	10½
Yrly. Avrg.	27	3	26	6	26	9	35	0	33	5	26	5½	27	4½	26	8

LONDON TOP PRICE FLOUR.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1901.

	s. d.
September 2 (per sack)	29 0
,, 28 ,,	28 0

(No official change since last date given.)

OIL SEEDS.

LINSEED. per 416 lb.	s. s.	RAPESEED. per 416 lb	s. s.
English	57 to 59	English	56 to 60
Dutch	56 to 58	Calcutta	38 to 39
Bombay	57 to 59	Guzerat	43 to 45
Calcutta	54 to 55	Ferozepore	37 to 39
Russian	55 to 56	Jamba	29 to 30
Argentine	52 to 53	Ravison	27 to 29
SESAME. per 424 lb.		POPPYSEED. per 377 lb.	
Indian	48 to 50	Indian	46 to 47
COTTON SEED per ton.		SUNFLOWERSEED. per 448lb.	
Egyptian	127 to 129	Russian	41 to 45

FOREIGN CORN TRADE.

The shipments of grain from the chief exporting countries last week were as follows:—

	Wheat. Qrs.	Flour. Sks.	Maize. Qrs.	Barley. Qrs.	Oats. Qrs.
United States	375,000	88,000	20,000	90,000	—
Russia	160,000	—	20,000	—	105,000
France	—	5,000	—	—	—
Austria-Hungary	—	5,000	—	—	—
Roumania	210,000	—	180,000	10,000	10,000
Argentina	—	—	20,000	—	—
India	30,000	—	—	—	—
Australasia	—	—	—	—	—
Miscellaneous	20,000	10,000	20,000	20,000	10,000
Total	795,000	108,000	260,000	120,000	125,000

THE BALTIC.

Prices for wheat cargoes are 3d. lower from the 14th, and the demand is not good for any kind. Sales have included Californian at 30s. 6d., Walla Walla at 30s., Australian at 30s. 9d., Manitoba at 30s. 6d., No. 1 Northern American at 30s., white Kurrachee at 29s., and No. 2 Hard Winter American at 28s. 9d. per qr. Holders of Argentine new crop ask 30s. for February shipment, but buyers are not forthcoming.

Maize cargoes are 6d. cheaper for round and 3d. for yellow, but flat are as dear as a week ago. Sales include Odessa at 21s. 9d., Galatz at 21s. 9d., Novorossisk at 21s. 6d., Roumanian at 22s., American at 26s., and Argentine at 23s. per qr. on passage, 21s. 3d. April shipment.

Barley is 3d. lower for all cargoes. The finest brewing barley from California makes 26s., the ordinary standard Californian 24s. 3d. A cargo of each has sold at these terms. Odessa feeding barley has made 18s. for three cargoes, and Azoff on passage 18s. 9d. for two cargoes.

Oats are temporarily out of favour, but those firms have probably done well who have secured a Roumanian cargo at 17s., white Libau at 17s. 9d., and white Konisberg at 19s. 9d. A cargo of Calcutta white peas for April shipment fetched on Saturday 31s. per qr.

Arrivals at ports of call last week included six wheat cargoes and one cargo of maize. The wheat cargoes were three Californian and three Australian; the maize cargo was Argentine. The chief business continues to be done for direct ports.

IMPORTANT TO FARMERS.—The best farm account books are WEBB'S PRACTICAL FARMER'S ACCOUNT BOOK, with preface by Clare Sewell Read, 70th edition, 6s. and 7s. 6d. post free. JARROLD'S IMPERIAL FARM ACCOUNT BOOK, 3s. 6d. JARROLD'S FARM LABOUR BOOKS, 2s., 2s. 6d., and 4s. 6d. List of Game and Dairy Account Books post free of JARROLD and SONS, 10 and 11, Warwick Lane, E.C.—[ADVT.]

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The principal crop advices of the week are from Argentina. Of our own fields there is nothing fresh to say. The land needs more moisture in the subsoil for most forms of vegetation, but wheat, with its special adaptation to a thirsty climate, is an exception. It is of almost ideal promise at the present moment. In Argentina the wheat surplus available for exportation is now put by tolerably trustworthy authorities at four million quarters, against four and-a-half millions last season. The wheat shipments of 1901 from Argentina to Europe were 3,745,000 qrs. only, but Brazil always takes about 250,000 qrs. There were small consignments to the Cape.

The American winter wheat is of under average promise, but the area sown has increased by some 1,717,000 acres, an increment which will suffice to balance an appreciable diminution in the yield per acre. The crop of 1901 was definitely returned in the annual Bureau Report, published on 11th January, at 14.8 bushels, against a decennial average, 1891-1900, of 13.3 bushels. It is something to begin the year with an American Government decennial average; for that is exactly what we have hitherto lacked. The monthly Bureau Reports (which seem to be in the hands of separate officials) compare the growing crop with "an ideal good crop," commonly reckoned at about fifteen bushels for the whole of the Republic, but actually varying with each separate State.

Wheat prices at the six chief markets of the international trade thus compare:—

	15 Jan.	8 Jan.	1 Jan.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
London	28 2	27 1	28 3
New York	30 6	30 0	28 3
Paris	37 9	37 5	38 0
Berlin	37 3	37 6	37 6
Buda-Pesth	33 9	34 0	33 6
Antwerp	28 0	28 9	29 6

The above figures are reduced to English money for quarters of 480lb. The actual ordinary London price to-day is 29s. 8d. per 504lb., the Mark Lane buyer declining in quite 99 per cent. of his transactions to recognise the Government decision that 480lb. is the proper quarter of trade. The term market from its opening has used the cental or true hundredweight.

The rise in prices at New York should go far to balance the depressing effect of increased supplies of wheat on passage. The shipments from Atlantic ports seem bound to fall off. The French markets are not bidding for wheat as yet, for 37s. 9d., less 12s. 3d. duty, means 25s. 6d. only, and London bids 2s. 8d. more than this. Berlin's 37s. 3d., less 10s. duty, is equal to 27s. 3d., but as 28s. is paid at Antwerp, it is difficult to see what is to cover the cost of rail or even sea transit further east. The inland position of Berlin makes it ordinarily a rather dear market.

Supplies on passage to the United Kingdom include the following quantities of wheat:—

	Qrs.
Californian	1,680,000
American	360,000
Argentine	70,000
Russian	60,000
Indian	80,000
Australian	180,000
Other Countries	48,000
Total	2,488,000

The increase from New Year's Day is 138,000 qrs., and is chiefly due to the large shipments from California.

Of articles other than wheat there are afloat:—

18 January.	1902	1901.
Flour	405,000 sacks	480,000 sacks.
Maize	830,000 qrs.	500,000 qrs.
Barley	725,000 qrs.	520,000 qrs.
Beans	5,000 qrs.	7,000 qrs.

The maize is mostly Russian and Roumanian, the barley Californian, Roumanian, Russian, and Turkish; all the beans are African. Of the flour, 310,000 sacks are coming from Atlantic ports, 40,000 sacks from California and Oregon, 30,000 sacks from Hungary, and 25,000 sacks from other countries, chiefly Australia and South Russia. We do not get flour as yet from Argentina, despite the numerous new mills started at Buenos Ayres and Rosario.

The returns of landed values, though belated, are important. They indicate that the agricultural and rural interests are still steadily losing ground.

ANNUAL LANDED VALUES.

1879	£64,133,000
1883	£62,549,000
1886	£58,154,000
1900	£52,814,000

The fall of £12,000,000 in thirty years is eloquent of only too much. It shows that all the rural districts are suffering, and indicates in what direction a relief of taxation is most urgently called for.

PRODUCE OF A PENNY ON THE INCOME TAX.

1870	£1,474,000
1880	£1,847,000
1890	£2,141,000
1900	£2,364,000

The general wealth of the country, as shown in these figures, is still increasing, and the non-rural industries can bear a greater burden than in 1870 with less effort. The corn trade, of course, feels the withdrawal of capital from rural concerns, and the markets are none of them what they used to be when the three chief cereals were all paying their way. The New Year thus far has shown no sign of reversing the position from 1901. The price of wheat and of barley was decidedly unremunerative at Christmas, and it has not mended since. The weather has been the chief cause of the dulness, but there has also been a collapse in grain holding at Chicago, which has reacted unfavourably on the British exchanges. Oats keep up at a good value at all markets.

The following figures show how much money is going year by year out of the country for foreign bread stuffs and feeding stuffs:—

FIVE YEARS EXPENDITURE ON FOREIGN CORN.

(In Millions of Pounds Sterling.)

	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.
Breadstuffs	32.9	37.6	33.0	33.3	33.4
Maize	9.2	11.3	13.0	12.3	12.3
Barley	4.6	6.8	5.0	5.1	6.2
Oats	4.0	4.4	4.2	5.2	6.3
Total	50.7	60.1	55.2	55.9	59.2

The rise of £3,300,000 in our outlay in 1901 is not a satisfactory sign, but the figures of the past year are not excessive in any separate article except oats. We get our wheat cheaper than in 1898, our maize cheaper than in 1899, our barley cheaper than in 1898. But oats cost more than in any previous year.

Supplies of bread stuffs last week were:—

		Qrs.
English	Wheat	120,000
Foreign	do.	232,000
do.	Flour	180,000
	Total	532,000
	Wants	567,000
	Surplus	25,000
Stocks 11 Jan.		2,827,000
Stocks 18 Jan.		2,852,000

The reserves of wheat in farmers' hands are put at 3,658,000 qrs.

Imports of spring corn, etc., included 345,000 rqs. of maize, 90,000 qrs. of barley, and 130,000 qrs. of oats. The receipts of barley and oats were below the average, but those of Indian corn were greatly in excess of the mean.

The wheat shipments of the week have shown an increase, but a decline in the total of flour shipped makes the total of all breadstuffs very much what it was for the first week of January. Maize shipments indicate that South-Eastern Europe is still sustaining "the burden and heat of the day." Of barley and of oats the total shipments are considerably under an average.

The quantity of linseed now on passage to the United Kingdom is 100,000 qrs., as compared with 80,000 qrs. a year ago. The price of Indian new crop linseed for May shipment is 46s. 3d., against 44s. at this time last year.

There are 14,000 qrs. of rapeseed now on passage, a quantity much in excess of our expectations in 1901. The price offered for brown Calcutta is about 37s. per quarter.

Cotton seed is dearer for February shipment than for prompt delivery, a somewhat curious state of affairs. On the 18th there were 39,000 tons on passage.

Indian shipments of sesame for 1901 were about 1,782,000 cwt., as compared with 1,532,000 cwt. in 1900. The French are the chief buyers of this serviceable Indian seed, which fetches a price at present somewhat above what most English houses are prepared to bid. However, its value is approved by the analysts, and, like sunflower seed, it is probably a "coming" article on the market.

Buyers should make the present occasion one for acquiring the bye-products of the mill, as the decline in price since Christmas is very material. Russian pollard at four guineas per ton is certainly tempting, as are Hungarian middlings at five guineas.

The sales of British produce at the 196 statute markets since the beginning of the cereal year have shown an average price of 26s. 7d. for wheat, 26s. 5d. for barley, and 18s. 4d. for oats; sales amounting to 1,164,462 qrs. of wheat, 2,568,545 qrs. of barley, and 380,345 qrs. of oats. Sales in all these cases exceed those of the corresponding period last year.

THIS DAY'S MARKETS

[FIRST REPORT.]

MARK LANE, MONDAY.

The cheapest sorts of wheat to-day were 62 lb. Red English and short-berried New Zealand, each of which were in some cases obtainable at 28s. per quarter. Sound 63 lb. English commanded 30s., Californian 39s., and the finest old American up to 33s., which was top-price. The trade was quiet, the mild weather being adverse to the retail demand. There was not a very good attendance. Maize was again rather lower for Russian sorts. Scarcely any Americans offered, a change from the last decade, which perplexes buyers. Argentine was the turn lower, but supply was not large. Barley was occasionally a little lower for the common Russian kinds, but other values were unchanged. There was a little more doing in malt, some very fine lots of English being on offer. Oats were steady. The samples from S.E. Europe were offered at about 18s. per quarter, while the finest New Zealand touched 30s. Some lots weigh 400 lbs. per quarter. Other sales included some extremely fine malt at 45s., and some Morocco beans at 31s. per quarter.

QUOTATIONS OFF STANDS.

Jan. 20, 1902.

BRITISH GRAIN.

		s.	s.
WHEAT, White (new)	(per 504 lb.)	29	— 32
,, (old)	,,	30	— 33
Red (new)	,,	28	— 30
,, (old)	,,	29	— 30
Chicken or Feed	(per 480 lb.)	27	— 28
BARLEY, Malting	(per 448 lb.)	30	— 38
Brewing	,,	27	— 30
Feeding	(per 400 lb.)	24	— 26
MALT, English	(per 336 lb.)	34	— 40
Scotch	,,	36	— 38
Black	,,	30	— 32
Brown	,,	29	— 32
Crystallized	,,	33	— 35
OATS, English, New Winter	,,	21	— 22
,, ,, Tartary	,,	20	— 21
,, Old Winter	,,	22	— 24
,, ,, Tartary	,,	21	— 22
Scotch	,,	22	— 23
Irish	(per 504 lb.)	19	— 20
RYE, British	(per 480 lb.)	23	— 25
BEANS, Pigeon	,,	36	— 40
,, Winter	,,	31	— 35
Mazagan	,,	30	— 32
PEAS, Best Marrowfat	(per 504 lb.)	70	— 70
Blue (boiling)	,,	50	— 74
Dun	,,	31	— 33
Maple	,,	36	— 40
TARES, Winter	(per 504 lb.)	50	— 54
Spring	,,	44	— 46

FOREIGN GRAIN.

(Ex-Granary.)

	s.	s.
WHEAT, per 496 lb.		
Old Duluth	32/6	—33
Manitoba	31 6	—32
American Spring	31 6	—32
Red Winter	30/6	—31
Hard ,,	30	—30 6
Kansas	30	—30 6
Californian	30 9	—31
Walla Walla	30	—30 6
Australian	31	—31 6
New Zealand	29	— 30
Argentine	30	— 31
Danzig	32	— 33
Saxonka	31	— 32
Azima	30	— 31
Ghirka	29	— 30
Indian	29	— 30
MAIZE, per 480 lb.:		
Russian	24	— 25
Roumanian	24	— 25
Turkish	24	— 25
American	27	—27/6
Argentine	25	— 26
OATS:		
N' Zeal'd (384 lb.)	24	— 30
Swedish (336 lb.)	21	— 23
Canadian (320 lb.)	20	— 21
American (320 lb.)	20	— 21
Knigsb'g (320 lb.)	20	— 21
Pet'sburg (304 lb.)	19	— 20
L'bau,w'te(304 lb.)	19	— 20
,, black ,,	19	— 20
Vologda (304 lb.)	19	— 20
BEANS, per 480 lb.:		
Egyptian	33	— 34
Smyrna	31	— 32
New Zealand	34	— 36
LOCUST BEANS, per ton:		
Italian	102	— 104
Cyprian	106	— 112
Portuguese	105	— 107
PEAS, per 504 lb.:		
Canadian, White	37	— 38
Australian, White	41	— 42
New Zeal'd Maple	39	— 41
MILLET, per 416 lb.:		
White	33	— 45
Red	25	— 27
Yellow	24	— 26
DARI, per 480 lb.:		
Smyrna	24	— 25
Persian	21	— 23
RYE, per 480 lb.:		
Russian	24	— 25
BUCKWHEAT, per 416 lb.		
French	24	— 25
Russian	24	— 26
TARES, per 504 lb.:		
Konigsberg	44	— 43
BARLEY:		
New Zeal'd (448 lb.)	26	— 29
Chilian (448 lb.)	30	40
Californian (448 lb.)	26	33
French (448 lb.)	27	— 29
Danubian (400 lb.)	19	— 21
Onchak (400 lb.)	22	— 23
Yerli (400 lb.)	21	— 22
Russian (400 lb.)	18/6	— 19
MALT, per 336 lb:		
Californian	35	— 37
Smyrna	35	— 37

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

By Telephone, 2 p.m.

THE MARKET CLOSED THE TURN IN BUYER'S FAVOUR GENERALLY.

STOCKS IN THE CHIEF PORTS.

	1st Jan., 1902.	1st Jan., 1901.
Wheat, qrs.	1,234,000	1,434,000
Barley, do.	850,000	657,000
Oats, do.	792,000	403,000
Maize, do.	450,000	461,000
Flour, sks.	915,000	917,000

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, Jan. 18.

The liberal offers of country flour at 21s. for good roller whites made the market dull for London whites at 25s. Few of the American firms asked more than 23s., even for their finest brands. The market for good Australian at 20s. 6d. was very fair. There was only a small sale of Hungarian, but 30s. was paid for best grades. The flour trade as a whole was not better from the dull business of the 13th, but as fog made the 17th a *dies non* for fine flour (requiring a good light for selection), there was more done to-day than on either the 13th or 17th.

Midlothian oatflour made as much as £18 per ton, but the trade in oatmeal and flour is not really brisk, except when there is a spell of cold weather established. We speak, of course, of the southern markets. Milling offals were again rather lower on the week. The flour market closed with a certain substratum of firmness, as several big firms hold more stiffly than last week, but the high temperature reduces bakers' enquiries.

Maize has opened to-day 1d. per cental lower for futures; 4s. 8d. per cental is accepted, and 4s. 7d. is often the best bid.

LONDON FLOUR.

		s.	s.
Top Price	(per sack)	—	25
Town Whites	,,	—	23
,, Households	,,	—	22
No. 2	,,	—	20

COUNTRY FLOUR.

Best Patents	(per sack)	22/9—23
Fine Roller made	,,	21/9—22
Ordinary Roller made	,,	20/6—21
Best Stone made	,,	20/6—20
Ordinary Stone made	,,	19/6—20

FOREIGN FLOUR.

Minnesota First Patents	(per sack)	23 — 24
,, Second Patents	,,	21 — 22
,, First Bakers'	,,	19 — 20
,, Second Bakers'	,,	18 — 19
Milwaukee Patents	,,	22 — 23
,, Bakers	,,	18 — 19
Kansas Patents	,,	22 — 23
,, Bakers'	,,	18 — 20
Cascadia	,,	21 — 22
Canadian	,,	22 — 23
Australian Patents	,,	20 — 22
,, Straight	,,	19 — 21
Hungarian	,,	26 — 30
French	,,	20 — 21

MEAL, &c.

Whole Meal	(per ton)	164—170
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	113—115
Bran, London Broad	,,	110—112
,, ,, Fine	,,	98—100
,, Country Flake	,,	116—120
,, ,, Broad	,,	108—110
Pollard	,,	104—106
Fine Middlings	,,	120—122
Coarse Middlings	,,	108—110
Feeding Flour (Red Dog)	,,	115—120
Barley Meal	,,	124—128
Rye Flour	,,	150—155
Oat Meal	,,	270—280
Oat Flour	,,	340—360
Maize Flour	,,	164—166
Maize Meal	,,	122—126
Maize Cones	,,	170—172
Maize Germ Meal	,,	110—115
Pea Meal	,,	130—150
Bean Meal	,,	145—165
Rice Meal	,,	100—106

LONDON TERM MARKET.

This market is held twice a day, except on Saturday, when there is no afternoon call. The market is open to elected members only. No business except for future delivery is done, and the smallest quantity that can be purchased is 1,000 quarters, or 4,800 centals. The name of the month stands for guaranteed delivery (if required) on or before the last day of that month, and the following have been the prices per cental recently made:—

Wheat.—Call.	Jan. s. d.	March. s. d.	June. s. d.
Jan. 13 11 a.m.	6 4	6 5	6 5
4 p.m.	6 4	6 5	6 5
Jan. 14 11 a.m.	6 3	6 4	6 4
4 p.m.	6 3	6 4	6 4
Jan. 15 11 a.m.	6 3	6 4	6 4
4 p.m.	6 3	6 4	6 4
Jan. 16 11 a.m.	6 3	6 4	6 4
4 p.m.	6 3	6 4	6 4
Jan. 17 11 a.m.	6 3	6 4	6 4
4 p.m.	6 3	6 4	6 4
Jan. 18 11 a.m.	6 3	6 4	6 4
To-day noon	6 3	6 5	6 5

POTATOES.

Goole, Wednesday.—The market here to-day was practically the same as last week. The co-operative price was 5s 9d and 6d per load. Best up-to-dates made 56s to 57s per ton. Retail price, 6d per stone.

Borough, Saturday.—Arrivals were again of good extent, and in excess of buyers' requirements, the demand showing no sign of expansion, while the tendency of values ruled against holders. Quotations:—Scotch Maincrops, 80s: Reading Giants Blacklands, 45s; Blacklands Up-to-dates, 45s to 50s; Lincoln silts, 60s, Gartons Blacklands, 45s per ton.

Spitalfields, Saturday.—Market heavily supplied, and a depressed tone prevailed. Quotations:—Best Lincoln Up-to-dates, 55s to 65s; Blackland ditto, 45s to 50s; Wisbech ditto, 55s to 60s; Scotch ditto, 60s; Scotch maincrops (grey soil), 70s to 75s; Lincoln maincrops, 80s to 90s; Reading Giants, 45s; and Blackland Gartons, 45s per ton.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORTS.

Milling offals are firmer, co-middlings being in good demand at 2s. 6d. per ton advance.—JOHN BAWCOMB & Co., Mark Lane.

Wheat prices on the spot to-day show little alteration from those of last Monday, the intervening depression having been generally recovered. C.i.f. sellers hold firmly, in sympathy with the American markets. Maize, in consequence of heavy arrivals, is 6d. lower, but there is a steady trade at the reduction. Oats steady and unaltered. Barley 6d. lower. Flour shows little or no change.—W. T. WOOD & Co., Mark Lane.

Wheat. Small arrivals. Trade firm at full prices. Flour. Heavy arrivals. Prices unchanged. Maize dull. Prices unchanged. Barley 3d. per quarter lower. Oats quiet. Unchanged in values.—COVENTRY, Mark Lane.

Flour.—Trade to-day has been very quiet, but a steady tone has prevailed, and prices are unchanged on the week.—T. S. MEDHILL & SONS.

Flour.—The tone has been easier during the last few days, and to do business prices require to be shaded. Grain: Indian corn, flat and round, are fully 6d. per boll lower. The demand for oats and oatmeal is off at present. Pease and beans meet a retail trade. Barley quiet. Oilcake slow. Mill-stuffs: Bran and thirds steady.—MCKINNON AND MCDONALD (Glasgow).

Offals: Bran continues in moderate demand; prices unchanged.—GREENHILL BROTHERS (Belfast).

Flour.—The demand for spot flour has further declined, and buyers are more disposed to hold off purchasing, in view of American reports of the wheat market, since last week. Values on spot are as follows:—1st Spring Patents, 24s. 3d. to 25s.; 2nd Spring Patents, 23s. 3d. to 23s. 9d.; American Winter Patents, 24s. 3d. to 25s.; Extra Fancies, 22s. 3d. to 22s. 9d.—GREENHILL BROTHERS (Belfast).

FEEDING STUFFS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed cakes:—There is only a limited quantity of foreign on offer, for which there has been a steady trade during the past week, and values have an upward tendency. Americans are unchanged in price. Russians remain scarce, and the turn dearer at £7 10s to £7 12s 6d. Calcutta-made in bags find buyers at £7 15s. London-made are again held for a further slight advance of about 2s 6d per ton. Cotton cakes:—There have been no fresh arrivals of foreign, and with a fairly active demand prices are fully as dear, best Egyptians in bags making last week's prices, while English are unchanged. Decorticated are in good request at last week's prices for Yazoo and Crescent brands, but meal may be bought on rather better terms at 1s 3d per ton less money. Rape cakes:—Quiet. East India unchanged. Maize germ meal:—Very little offers either in American or English, and quotations are 2s 6d per ton lower on the week. Rice meal:—Rangoon in warehouse sells quietly at £5 5s, while for shipment last week's prices are asked:—

	Per ton. £ s. d.		Per ton. £ s. d.	
LINSEED CAKES.				
London made ....ex mill	8	0 0	to 8	5 0
American, in bags ....ex dock	7	5 0	to 7	7 6
Russian, in mats....ex dock	7	10 0	to 7	12 6
Russian, in bags....ex dock	7	15 0	to 7	17 6
East India seed ....ex wharf		—	to 7	15 0
COTTONSEED CAKES.				
London made....ex mill	4	12 6	to 4	15 0
Egyptian, in bags ....ex dock	4	12 6	to 4	13 9
Decorticated	6	12 6	to 6	16 3
Meal	6	11 3	to 6	12 6
RAPE CAKES.				
East Indian Seed.. ....ex mill		—	to 4	0 0
Ravison....	4	5 0	to	—
MAIZE.				
American germ meal ....ex mill	6	0 0	to 6	2 6
English	6	0 0	to 6	2 6
RICE MEAL.				
Rangoon....ex wharf	5	5 0	to	—
,, ...ex ship	5	1 3	to 5	2 6

—PINNOCK BROS., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

London, Monday.—Linseed cake:—There is practically no change since this day sen'night. In spite of the small trade, prices are firm, owing to advance in linseed and strength of markets abroad. Cotton cakes are a steady trade at last quotations. Decorticated cakes and meal firm, and unchanged. Linseed slowly creeping up. Spot Calcutta 1s 6d up on the week. New crop is 2s dearer from the lowest. English linseed cake, £8 to £8 2s 6d, ex mill; American Calcutta linseed cake, £7 15s to £—, ex quay; ditto Western linseed cake, £7 5s to £7 10s, ex quay; Russian oil cake, £7 10s to £7 17s 6d, ex quay; Calcutta-made cake, £7 17s 6d, ex warehouse; decorticated cotton cake, £6 12s 6d to £6 17s 6d, ex quay; decorticated cotton meal, £6 15s to £—, ex quay; London-made cotton cake (best), £4 12s 6d to £4 15s, ex mill; Egyptian cotton cake (in bags), £4 12s 6d to £—, ex quay; Burton desiccated ale grains (bags included), £5 7s 6d, on rail, Burton; Russian linseed in bulk, per 416lbs, 53s to 58s, ex warehouse; Calcutta linseed in bags, per 410lbs, 54s, ex warehouse; American linseed in bulk, per 416lbs, 53s, ex warehouse.—ROBT. AND JOHN HEWETSON.

HOPS.

London, Monday.—Messrs. W. H. and H. Le May report there is rather more business passing in most descriptions of English hops at the extremely low prices now ruling, consumers taking the opportunity to stock up.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

Monday, Jan. 20th, 1902.

	British.	Total.	Jan. 21st, 1901.
Beasts	1,440	1,440	1,330
Sheep & lambs	8,160	8,160	6,380
Calves	5	5	—
Pigs	20	20	100
Milch cows	50	50	40

Quotations per 8lbs. (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.	Inferior. s. d.	Second. s. d.	First. s. d.
Beasts	2 8 ..	4 0 ..	4 9
Sheep	3 4 ..	4 10 ..	5 6
Lambs	5 10 ..	6 6 ..	7 4

Milch cows, per head, £16 to £23.

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, 105; Eastern Counties, 598; Midland, Home and Western Counties, 574; Devon, 40; Ireland, 123.

In the beast market to-day there was a fair average supply, both in number and quality. The arrivals from Ireland were more than the previous week, and Scotch and Norfolk about the same, with a few choice Herefords. Trade ruled slow. Late rates were, however, upheld. Best quality cows being short in number, made more money. On the other hand, fat bulls less. Rough cattle very unsaleable. A clearance is doubtful.

The following are top quotations per 8lbs (sinking the offal):—

	To-day.	Jan. 21st, 1902.
Scotch	4s 8d to 4s 9d	4s 6d to 4s 8d
Devons	4s 7d to 4s 8d	4s 6d to 4s 7d
Herefords	4s 5d to 4s 6d	.. ..
Norfolks	4s 6d to 4s 8d	4s 6d to 4s 7d
Runts	4s 5d to 4s 6d	.. ..
Lincolns	4s 4d to 4s 6d	4s 2d to 4s 4d
Irish	4s 4d to 4s 6d	4s 2d to 4s 4d
Fat cows	3s 10d to 4s 0d	3s 4d to 3s 6d

In the sheep market there was a decrease of 310 in the number penned compared with Monday last. Trade for both wethers and ewes were extremely dull; a clearance is not expected. A few choice Southdowns sold well at an increase in value. For lambs there was a steady demand, these being soon cleared at from 2d. to 4d. per 8 lbs. more money. The supply included 230 Scotch and 4,320 from Eastern counties. Undermentioned quotations are a tper 8 lbs. (sinking the offal), and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day.	Jan. 21st, 1901.
7½ to 8st. Downs	5s 4d to 5s 6d	5s 8d to 5s 10d
9-st. ditto	5s 2d to 5s 4d	5s 6d to 5s 8d
10-st. Half-breds	4s 9d to 4s 10d	5s 2d to 5s 4d
10-st. Yorkshires	—	—
12-st. Lincolns	4s 7d to 4s 8d	4s 10d to 5s 0d
10-st. Irish	—	—
10-st. Down Ewes	3s 11d to 4s 0d	4s 2d to 4s 4d
11-st. Half-bred ditto	3s 9d to 3s 10d	3s 10d to 4s 0d
5-st. Fat Lambs	7s 2d to 7s 4d	7s 10d to 8s 0d
6-st. Half-bred ditto	6s 10d to 7s 0d	7s 4d to 7s 6d

Pig trade not worth noting.

Central, Monday.—Moderate supplies; trade slow. Beef carcases, 3s 11d to 4s 2d; hind-quarters, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; roastings, 5s to 5s 8d. Sheep—Ewe, 2s 8d to 3s; wether, 3s 8d to 4s; hind-quarters, ewe, 3s 8d to 4s; wether, 5s to 5s 4d. Pigs—Large, 3s 8d to 4s; small, 4s 4d to 4s 8d.

Liverpool, Monday.—There was a smaller supply of cattle in market to-day. Demand slow, and prices in favour of buyers, except for best quality sheep, shown in smaller numbers. Trade quiet at late rates:—Beef, 6½d to 5¼d per lb; mutton, 8d to 5d per lb. At market 1,541 cattle, and 4,879 sheep.

St. Ives, Monday.—Beasts, 229; sheep, 234; pigs, 263. Beef, 7s 6d to 8s 3d; mutton, 7s 7d to 9s 4d; pork, 6s 6d to 7s 3d; sows, 5s 6d to 6s 6d; fat beasts brisk trade; stores slow; fat and store sheep middling; fat and store pigs good trade; milch cows fair; prices, £14 to £22.

THE BALTIC, 1 p.m.

STATE OF TRADE.

Wheat cargoes are rather down on the week, but except for Pacific sorts 3d. down, are no worse from Saturday. Maize is 3d. down for future shipment, but is steady for cargoes on passage. Oats are higher for futures, but barley is dull for all dates.

BUSINESS DONE.

WHEAT.—Californian, 30s, on passage; Walla Walla, 29s 3d, on passage; Red Walla, 29s 6d, prompt shipment; Australian, 30s, on passage; Manitoba, 30s 3d, January shipment; No. 2 Hard Winter, 29s, on passage; White Kurrachee, 29s 9d, March shipment; Red do., 29s 3d, March shipment.

MAIZE.—Galatz, 21s 9d, April shipment; Salonica, 23s 6d, on passage.

BARLEY.—Caucasian, 18s 3d, on passage; Kustendje, 18s 3d, on passage; Californian, 24s, on passage.

RYE.—Roumanian, 22s 6d, prompt shipment.

OATS.—Swedish, 22s 6d, prompt shipment; Gothenburg, 19s 3d, prompt shipment; South Russian, 17s, prompt shipment; Roumanian, 7s 3d, prompt shipment.

PEAS.—Indian White, 31s, April shipment; Indian Queen, 25s 3d, April shipment.

LINSEED.—Calcutta, 53s, arrived.

COTTONSEED.—Egyptian, £6 8s 9d, on passage.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—Fair supplies of greenstuffs were available, and evidenced a moderate sale. Potato trade slow. A fair supply of fruit was available, and, with a sustained demand, a generally steady business was effected. Greenstuffs: Cabbages, 5s; cauliflowers, 6s to 8s per tally; beetroots, 2s 6d to 3s; spinach, 1s 6d to 2s per bushel; carrots, 2s to 2s 6d; turnips, 2s to 3s; parsley, 1s 6d to 2s 6d; leeks, 2s to 2s 6d per dozen bunches; horseradish, 1s 3d to 1s 9d per bundle; forced rhubarb, 1s 6d per dozen bundles; English onions, 6s 6d to 7s per cwt; Valencia, 7s 9d to 8s per case; potatoes—Maincrops, 75s to 80s; Reading Giants, 40s; Blacklands, 40s; Up-to-dates, 50s to 55s; Gartons, 40s per ton. Fruit: English apples, 4s to 12s per bushel; Nova Scotian, 15s to 25s per barrel; Californian, 8s to 10s per case; English grapes, 1s to 2s 6d per lb; Almeria, 12s to 18s per barrel; Denia oranges, 9s to 15s per case; pineapples, 1s to 5s each; bananas, 6s to 12s per bunch; lemons, 7s to 17s per case; Redon chestnuts, 5s to 10s 6d per bag.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW.

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS.")

Trade in London.

At the Metropolitan Cattle Market, Islington, the supply of beasts, compared with the previous week, showed an increase of 160, owing to larger consignments from Scotland and Ireland; arrivals from the Midland Counties were, however, smaller, so far as fat beasts are concerned, trade was practically confined to Monday, and was of a decidedly slow nature, late rates being with difficulty maintained, a clearance not being effected. Middling descriptions were not only lower in value, but more difficult to dispose of; fat butchering cows were in steady request by country buyers, but the number on offer being too large, lower rates by fully 2d. per 8lb. had to be accepted. Fat bulls were short in number, and sold freely to rather better advantage. At Deptford, markets were held on Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday, the supply, which consisted entirely of shipments from the United States, numbering 941 more than during last week. Here trade ruled firm and steady, both in regard to tone and value. The total number offered for sale on both markets was 4,301 (previous week 3,200), consisting of 1,710 British, and 2,591 from America. The following were the top rates paid per 8lbs., sinking the offal:—90 stone polled Aberdeens, 4s. 9d.; 90 stone polled Norfolks, 4s. 7d. to 4s. 8d.; 80 stone Devons, 4s. 8d.; 95 stone runts, 4s. 6d.; 95 stone Irish, 4s. 4d.; 100 stone Lincolns, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 90 stone States, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 7d.; 90 stone fat cows, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.; 100 stone fat bulls, 3s. 6d. The trade for wether sheep at Islington opened rather firmer on the chief market day of the week, but finished off dull and heavy, with no alteration on Thursday, on which day but few transactions were recorded. Good ewes were in steady demand, and made late rates, but below this grade business was rather forced. A few lambs were on sale, and met with ready buyers. At Deptford, with no supply on Saturday, trade on Monday and Wednesday was slow, there being so little competition; rates, nevertheless, were unaffectd. Best pens of sheep made per 8lbs. as follows:—7½ to 8 stone Downs, 5s. 6d.; 8 stone Scotch, 5s. 4d.; 9 stone Downs, 5s. 4d.; 10 stone ditto, 5s. 2d.; 10 stone half-breds, 4s. 10d. to 5s.; 12 stone Lincolns, 4s. 8d.; 8½ stone States, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.; 10 stone Down ewes, 4s. to 4s. 2d.; 5 stone fat Down lambs, 6s. 8d.; the total supply consisted of 11,598, of which 9,210 were British, and 2,388 American (United States). Calves only numbered 30, best quoted at 5s. per 8lbs. Pigs totalled 50, and met with less enquiry; best small breeds made 4s. 6d. per 8lbs.

Trade in the West

The markets, with only fair deliveries of stock, which are by no means in excess of requirements, keep in a fairly healthy condition, and generally prices are pretty well maintained, the principal exception being in respect to mutton, and once more business has dropped back into the old groove, and there seems but very little indication of a revival. This is much to be regretted, as it is bound more or less to affect the price of other fat stock, though fat bullocks just now are meeting a very good sale up to 11s. per score, which is an outside figure, except for anything very special. Most of the beef now coming out makes about 10s. to 10s. 6d., which is the ordinary run, though plenty is sold from 9s. to 10s. for fat cows or contract bullocks. Still, the trade is by no means unsatisfactory, and graziers have not a great deal to complain of, though at the price they have now to pay for barreners, there is no very great margin for profit. The returns for mutton are one of the most disappointing features of the market. In very few instances is 7d. exceeded for well-conditioned wethers, while plenty is obtainable at from 6d. to 6½d. per lb., good quality ewes. A general range for wethers just at present is from 46s. to 54s. each, and ewes 40s. to 50s. There is only a moderate number of lambs as yet offering, and these are mostly cross-breds, which sell from 34s. to 42s. (or 9d. to 9½d. for the best). The veal trade has improved a trifle, but it is only in very rare cases that 8d. is touched; the bulk of the business passing is done from 6½d. to 7½d. per lb., good calves making £4 to £6 10s. each. The supplies at most of the markets are freely bought up, a considerable proportion of the younger calves being bought for rearing purposes, for which there is a wide range in values, according to the size, in some cases 40s. and over is paid, whilst in others as little as 15s. or 14s. for very young animals. Pigs continue to market very satisfactorily for all classes. The smallest weights in porkers make up to 10s. 6d., and nice quality baconers 9s. to 10s.; whilst sows for slaughtering may be quoted from 8s. to 8s. 6d. for medium size, and 7s. to 7s. 6d. for very coarse lots. In stores attention is principally absorbed by milch beasts, for which there has been a very general inquiry throughout the past week, at from £16 to £21 10s. for the better class of young bllocks, cows, though wanted, scarcely finding so much favour. Barreners are also selling very well, at from £18 to £28 per pair.

Trade in Scotland.

John Swan and Sons, Limited, give the following as their report on the above for the current week:—The number of fat cattle on offer this week has been large, and the general quality good. An active demand has been experienced, and prices have been well sustained with a good clearance. Sheep have been shown in very large numbers. Those adapted for the London market made previous prices, but for nice shop sheep and good quality ewes a shade more money has been realised. A few fat lambs have been selling at from 40s. to 43s. Pigs and calves in moderate numbers, and making, if good, very high prices. There were scarcely any store sheep in the market, and the few met a quiet trade. For the time of year there was a large supply of store cattle, many of them of an indifferent class. Anything in a forward condition met a good inquiry, and got easily sold. All others neglected, and a considerable number left over. A full supply of milch cows, the best class of which met a dear market at prices similar to last week.

Trade in Ireland.

With a shrinkage of over 200 head of cattle, and a full attendance of buyers, business in last Thursday's Dublin market was more animated, and the drop of the previous Thursday wiped off, so far as choice heifers and bullocks were concerned, as there was a keen demand for beasts of a well-finished description. For half-meated rough cattle, which are still largely in evidence, there was a very sluggish demand and cautious buying, so that last week's drop in price was barely maintained. One particularly fine lot of bullocks were taken by an English buyer at £22 a head, or about 2¾d. per lb. live weight.

Best ox and heifer beef made from 54s. 6d. to 57s. 6d., and extra good 58s. to 60s. per cwt.; second-class beef, 45s. to 52s.; and coarse from 40s. to 46s. per cwt. Trade in all classes of sheep opened dull, but improved as the day wore on. For choice wethers and ewes there was a pretty keen competition between local butchers and the North of Ireland buyers, and in consequence these classes changed hands at prices slightly in advance of last day. Hoggets of all weights dragged heavily, as the cross-Channel trade was practically nil. Rough sheep were a drug, and did not clear. Choice wether mutton, 6½d. to 7d. to 6¼d. per lb.; do. ewe, 5½d.; inferior sheep, 4½d. to 5d.; light weight hoggets, 30s. to 42s. each; heavy do., 44s. to 54s.

Limited supply of veal, choice calves making from 7½d. to 8½d. per lb. One very fine calf had 10d. per lb. refused for it, and was afterwards sold by hand at a high price. There were 2,558 cattle and 5,434 sheep in the market, being a decrease of 218 cattle, and an increase of 384 sheep on the previous week. Dairy cattle were in limited supply, and choice springers scarce, the top price being about £20. There was a big shrinkage in pigs, and a full attendance of buyers, making prices a shade firmer, with a brisker trade. Nice light weight pigs made from 46s. to 48s. pr cwt., coarse from 32s. to 38s. per cwt In the country fair there is a disposition to sell store cattle very cheaply, probably in consequence of scarcity of keep, hay bringing £5 a ton in most parts.

Beef meets with rather a dragging sale, the general price being from 50s. to 54s. per cwt., but for choice beasts as much as 56s. is paid, and it does not appear likely to go any higher. Mutton, generally, is about ½d. per lb. cheaper at the principal fairs. It is of interest to know that Canadian store cattle are now practically as dear as Irish, so that there is not much fear of congestion from that quarter for the present.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Beef sold fairly well at 10s 6d to 11s 6d per score for prime qualities, 10s to 10s 6d for secondary sorts, and 9s to 10s for cows and rough steers. Mutton was again cheaper, small neat downs and half-breeds making 5s to 5s 2d per 8lb; Kent wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; and barrens, 3s 4d to 4s.

Basingstoke, Wednesday.—At Raymond and Son's saleyard there was a good attendance of buyers to meet a supply consisting of 42 fat beasts, 45 calves, 422 fat sheep, 266 pigs, and 51 head of dairy and store cattle, for which the following prices were realised:—Fat shorthorn steers made up to £21 15s; heifers, £19; cows, £17; Devon heifers, £15 5s; young polled Angus steers, £18; Welsh steers, from Colonel Ives, made up to £19 10s; fat bulls in good demand, the best making up to £20 10s; fat calves, 80s to £5 5s; small, 20s to 50s; fat hogs, 70s to 85s; fat porkers, 48s to 62s; small, 30s to 45s; store pigs, from 15s 6d to 21s 6d; dairy cows, up to £21; prime quality fat sheep and lambs realised from 44s to 52s 6d; twelve months old ditto, from 29s to 49s 6d; fat ewes, from 33s to 45s; rams, 30s, 36s, and 44s. There was a satisfactory clearance of the supply of fat beasts, and good prices realised. The supply of fat sheep and lambs was not heavy, and trade ruled slow, with the exception of prime quality young sheep, which commanded late rates. With a good all-round trade, an easy clearance was made of the milch cows and heifers on offer at advanced prices. Store cattle continue a dull trade. Fat calves show no alteration from last week. Fat hogs and porkers met a slight reduction from the previous high prices. Fat sows, however, continue in request. Store pigs realised more money, with more inquiry. Ruling values:—Prime Devon and polled beasts, 7d to 7½d per lb; shorthorn ditto, 6d to 6½d per lb; bulls, cows, and inferior beasts, 5½ to 5½d per lb; best quality sheep, 7½d to 8½d per lb; 2nd ditto, 6½d to 7½d per lb; old ewes, rams, and inferior sheep, 5d to 6d per lb; fat calves, 6d to 7½d per lb. Fat porkers, 10s to 11s 6d per score; hogs, up to 10s per score.

Boston, Wednesday.—Best beef, 7s 9d to 8s; cow beef, 7s to 7s 6d per stone; stores, £12; in-calf heifers, £18 to £20; heifers, £17 to £19; calves, 55s; best wethers, 8d; ewes, 5½d to 6d per lb; hogs, 36s to 38s each.

Braintree, Wednesday.—Trade for beef much improved; for mutton moderate, and for pork high. Average prices:—Beef, 5s per stone of 8lbs; mutton, 5s ditto; pork, 11s to 12s per score. Numbers penned: Beasts, 32; fat sheep, 130; hogs, 76; milking cows, 6; calves, 22.

Bristol, Thursday.—Fat cattle in fair supply to-day; trade ruling steady at 60s per cwt for best animals, and 54s to 56s for secondary qualities. Sheep pens were well filled, but demand moderate, light wethers realising 7½d to 7¾d per lb.; and ewes, 6d. Large number of pigs offered, baconers making 9s 6d per score, and porkers 10s 9d to 11s.

Bury, Wednesday.—There was a very good supply of fat beasts, the quality being better than during the last fortnight. With a good attendance of buyers, a better trade prevailed for all the best-quality animals. Short supply of store beasts. Good supply of fat sheep, the quality being hardly up to the average. Good trade for all the best finished hoggets, at a trifle more money than last week. Shearlings and fat ewes fetched about late rates. Several lots of store hoggets found buyers at the low rates now prevailing. About 200 black-faced ewes, in-lamb, made 43s 6d to 35s per head, averaging nearly 40s. Good supply of pigs, for which there was a sharp trade at more money for all descriptions, there being fresh purchasers from distant counties. Several heavy sows were penned. Prices reached up to £9 12s 6d per head.

Calne, FRIDAY.—Present prices for prime pigs, in lots of not less than 10, on rail within 100 miles of Calne.

Prime Stores.	Thickness of fat in any part of the Back.	Price per Sc. s.	d.
6 sc. 10 lbs. to 9 sc. 10 lbs.	2½ in. and under	9	6
Under 10 sc.	Not exceeding 2½ in.	9	0
Under 11 sc. 10 lb.	Not exceeding 2¾ in.	8	6
Under 12 sc.	Not exceeding 3 in.		

Any pigs outside these limits at their value.—Half-truck, 12 pigs. Whole trucks, 25.—Charles & Thomas Harris & Co., Limited, Calne, Wilts.

Cambridge, Monday.—Beasts, 373; beef, 7s to 8s. Sheep, 809; mutton, 3s 10d to 5s. Pigs, 521; pork, 6s to 6s 6d. Horses, 12. A few lots store beasts, but met a slow trade. Fat beasts, a fair number to hand; trade about as usual. Fat sheep, a large show; trade not so good. Stores, only a few lots to hand. Fat pigs, a large number shown, and prices not quite so good. Stores rather slow. Hay, straw, and roots, a fair quantity to hand, and prices fair all round.

Carlisle, Saturday.—The supply of Irish cattle was again small, but rather larger than a week ago. The bulk of the animals were heifers, of a useful description, and there were a few stripping cows included. The attendance was meagre and trade dull. The smaller heifers were quoted at £8 10s to £11 5s, and the best sorts at £13 10s; stripping cows, £12 10s.

Dorchester, Wednesday.—The markets having once more assumed their normal character, yesterday witnessed a return of the business activity which characterised the trade prior to Christmas, and with a really brisk trade prevailing, good prices ruled throughout. Fat bullocks were a very firm trade, at from about £15 10s to £19 (or 10s 6d to 11s per score). Fat calves in rather better request than of late, at from £4 to £5 17s 6d each (or 7½d per lb); seconds, 40s to 75s; and rearers, 16s to 33s. Pigs were in good demand, at 60s to 85s for porkers (or 10s to 10s 6d per score); baconers, 90s to 105s (or 9s to 9s 6d); sows, £5 to £7; stores from 46s down to 16s. The mutton trade was a trifle better than for some time past, wethers making 43s to 53s (or 8d per lb), and ewes 39s to 48s (or 7d to 7½d); lambs, 32s to 40s (or 9d).

Dublin, Thursday.—Numbers in market:—Beasts, 2,558; decrease, 218; sheep, 5,434; increase, 384; calves, 39; decrease, 5. Prime finished cattle sold well at last week's full rates, but a slower tone and weaker prices prevailed for rough and unfinished sorts. More life in the sheep department at last week's full rates. Cattle—Live weight (best), 31s to 34s 6d per cwt. Other descriptions, 27s to 30s per cwt. Mutton—Dead weight, 5d to 7d per lb; extreme, 7½d per lb.—GANLY SONS AND CO.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Bullocks and cows, 533; calves, 43; sheep and lambs, 895; pigs (fat and sows), 45; sucking pigs, 33; pigs (stores, not more than ten), 289; pigs (stores, more than ten), 97; horses, 4; colts, 2. Prices of stock:—Best beef, 6d to 7d per lb; wether sheep, 6½d to 8d per lb; ewes, 5½d to 6d per lb; veal, 8d per lb; lamb, 9d per lb; pork, 5½d to 6d per lb; bacon, 4d to 5d per lb.

Leicester, Wednesday.—Very full consignments of home-fed bullocks. Buyers and dealers were well represented, and trade ruled brisk for choice qualities at very firm quotations. Choice bullocks, 6½d to 6¾d; secondary, 5¾d to 6d; cows, 5d to 5½d; heifers, 6¼d to 6¾d per lb. Sheep were a large supply, and exchanged hands more freely at 7¼d to 7¾d for light weights; large sheep, 6½d to 6¾d; ewes, 5¼d to 6d; calves, flat at 7d to 7½d per lb.

Newport, Wednesday.—At this market yesterday the general advance in beef which has taken place throughout the country was fully maintained. The supply of beef was not quite so large as recently, but mutton was more plentiful than last week. Brisk trade in beef, but the mutton trade was dull. Quotations:—Beef, best, 6¾d per lb; secondary ditto, 6¼d to 6½d per lb; best wether mutton, 7½d to 7¾d per lb; ewes, 5½d per lb; pigs, porkers, 11s to 11s 3d per score; ditto bacon, 9s to 9s 6d per score.

Norwich, Saturday.—The supply of store cattle here to-day was small, but prices showed no improvement in the moderate business effected; if anything, the turn was in favour of buyers. Fat beasts, which were offered to a fair extent, were firm at 7s 6d to 8s per 14lb. There was no great number of store sheep on offer, but trade continued inactive at about former terms. Fat sheep moved off at 7s 6d to 8s and 8s 3d per 14lb. The weather has continued open in Norfolk during the week, with frost at night.

Romford, Wednesday.—A short supply of fat beasts; trade a little better. Best animals 4s 6d to 4s 8d, and middlings 4s 2d to 4s 4d per stone. Calves very short supply; trade better, at 5s 6d to 5s 8d per stone. Sheep in average supply; trade slow. Best sheep, 5s 2d to 5s 4d; middlings, 5s to 5s 2d per stone. No store beasts on offer. Pig trade a little better; fair supply.

Rye, Wednesday.—Number of entries: Sheep and lambs, 750; fat beasts, 34; calves, 7; pigs, 8. Heifers and steers fetched 4s 4d to 4s 6d; cows, 3s to 3s 6d; maids and wethers, 4s 8d to 4s 10d; calves, 4s to 4s 4d; pigs, 4s to 4s 4d.

Salford, Tuesday.—There was an increase in the number of cattle penned to-day. Owing to the better keeping weather a good trade was experienced, and

prices were in favour of the seller. The supply of sheep was larger, but notwithstanding this there was a better demand, and sellers were able to obtain ½d per lb advance on last week's prices. About the same number of calves as at last market. Choice quality was rather scarce and in good demand at last week's full prices, but other kinds were slow of sale. Quotations:—Cattle, 4½d to 6½d; sheep, 6d to 8½d; calves, 5d to 8d per lb. At market:—Cattle, 2,708; sheep, 8,276; calves, 124.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—An average supply, and a very fair business. Best lots, £20 to £24; secondary, £15 to £18.

Spalding, Tuesday.—An unusually small show of fat beasts, and a good trade. Best quality, to 8s; cow beef, 7s 6d per stone. There was also a small show of store beasts, and a quiet trade. Cows sold well. Sheep were a small show, and prices were well maintained; best mutton, to 7½d per lb.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There were on offer 151 cattle, 375 sheep, and 203 pigs. A small supply of best cattle made 7s 9d to 8s, while rougher kinds sold at 6s 6d to 7s per stone; sheep, 7½d; ewes, 5d; tups, 4d per lb.

Thame Market, Jan. 14th.—There was a good supply of stock at market, and trade on the whole was firm, but mutton ruled in favour of buyers. Beef and veal met with keen competition, the latter making 5s 6d per stone. Mr. Bond's sale comprised 62 fat beasts, 170 fat sheep, 56 fat and weaning calves, and 150 fat and store pigs. Fat bullocks made £17 to £19 10s, fat heifers £14 to £23 2s 6d, fat wethers 44s to 49s 6d, fat ewes 35s to 44s 6d, fat tegs 40s to 45s, fat calves £5 to £5 13s, cow calves 24s to 50s, bull calves 12s to 45s; pigs, 10s per score. Stores a good trade.

Wakefield, Wednesday.—The official numbers showed an increased supply in every department. There was a good attendance of butchers and buyers, but they held back for a time and prices ruled rather in their favour. There was only a light show of Irish cattle, most of the stock coming from Scotland and the North of England. The bulk of the cattle was of a rather rough character, and really good animals were difficult to obtain. There was a pretty fair demand for best quality, and dealers obtained 6¾d per lb for this class. The average price paid was 6¼d, while other inferior sorts could be purchased at 5d to 6¼d per lb. A slow business was done in dairy cattle; superior animals, £16 to £22 10s; inferior, £11 to £15. A dragging trade was experienced in laying-off cows, which made £11 to £16; calving cows, £13 to £21 10s each. A capital trade was done in fat calves; best, 7½d; other sorts, 6d to 8d per lb. The increased supply of sheep made trade of a sluggish character. Nice small young sheep were the best to sell, and for a number of the best 7¾d pas paid, but 7½d appeared to be the general price obtained. Strong sheep met with a moderate sale at 6d to 7d per lb, but ewes and tups were difficult to dispose of at 5d to 6½d per lb. There was a good attendance at the pig market, and a fair business was done. Store pigs, 30s to 50s; porkers, about 7s per stone of 14lb.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Beasts a fair supply, moderate trade; sheep, none offered, calves, small supply, fair demand. Beef, 5d to 6¾d per lb; mutton, 6d to 8½d per lb; veal, 6d to 8d per lb; pigs, bacons, 9s 6d per score; porkets, 10s 6d to 11s per score; sows, 8s 6d per score.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Fair show of stock, and good trade. Best beef, to 7s 9d; secondary, 6s 6d to 7s per stone; best wethers, 6½d to 7d; ewes, 5d to 6d per lb.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Wednesday.—Beast supplies to-day amounted to 670 head, which is 566 less than shown on Wednesday last, and consisted of shipments from the United States. Trade ruled firm at 4s 4d to 4s 7d. 982 United States sheep sold very slowly at 3s 6d to 3s 8d per 8lb to sink the offal.

Yorkhill, Monday.—At the usual weekly sale of United States and Canadian cattle held to-day there were on offer close on 450 animals, the majority of which were bullocks. Taken as a whole, the animals were fully up to the average quality, many of the bullocks being prime beasts and very suitable for the trade. Trade for small, neat, well-fed beasts was exceptionally good, and showed an improvement on that ruling on the previous Monday. The demand was keen and the prices ruled high. Bulls were rather slow to cash, but they also showed a slight improvement. Secondary and heavier animals met a good trade, and were sold at satisfactory prices. The dead-weight quotations may be given as follow:—States bullocks, best class, medium weight, 60s per cwt, and for really choice up to 62s; secondary and heavier animals made from 54s to 58s; bulls, best class, to 48s; secondary and heavier, 46s to 47s; inferior, down to 44s. Canadian bullocks, best quality, medium weight, to 58s, and for really choice up to 60s per cwt; secondary and heavier, 54s to 56s; and bulls made similar prices to those ruling above.

Yorkhill, Monday.—A sale of American sheep was held in the morning, when there were penned in the sheds 145 sheep landed by the Sarmatian (s) from Portland (Me.). They were principally cross Down and half-bred hoggets, but there were also a number of ewes included in the consignment. There was a larger attendance of buyers than usual, and trade was of a much better character than that ruling last week, and the demand was brisker for all classes at advanced prices. The deadweight quotations may be given as follow:—Ewes, best class, to 6d per lb; secondary and heavier, down to 5d; cross Down and half-bred hoggets, to 7½d; and secondary and heavier, to 7d.

BUTTER.

Tuesday.—Bedale: In rolls of 24oz, 1s 4d to 1s 6d per roll. Gainsborough: 1s 3d per lb. Leeds: York lump, 15s 6d to 16s 6d per stone; long rolls 1½lb, 1s 10d to 2s; fresh in 1lb prints, 1s 4d per lb; Danish, 112s to 116s per 112lb; Irish Creameries, 106s to 110s; Colonial, 100s to 112s. Settle: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Sheffield: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Spalding: 10d to 11d per lb. Stone: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb.

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Boston: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Colne: 1s 2½d per lb. Goole: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Hereford: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Keighley: 1s 4d per lb. Kirbymoorside: 1s per lb. Knaresborough: Wholesale, 1s 4d; retail, 1s 6d per roll of 24oz. Market Drayton: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Market Weighton: 1s 1d per lb. Masham: 1s 5d to 1s 6d per roll of 24oz. Northallerton: 1s 5d to 1s 7d per roll of 24oz. Stockton: 1s 2d to 1s 4d per lb. Worksop: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb.

Thursday.—Brigg: 1s to 1s per lb. Driffield: 1s per lb. Birmingham: 1s 3d to 1s 5d per lb. Kidderminster: 1s 2d per lb. Penistone: 1s 4d per lb. Ripon: 1s 4d to 1s 8d per single roll of 24oz. Scarborough: 1s 3d per lb. Wellington: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb.

Friday.—Derby: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Easingwold: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Grimsby: Danish, 112s to 114s per 112lb; Dutch, 110s to 112s; Canadian, 100s to 104s. Lincoln: 1s 1d to 1s 3d per lb. Otley: 1s 7d to 1s 9d per roll of 24oz. Whitchurch: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb.

Saturday.—Appleby: 1s 2d to 1s 4d per lb. Berwick: 1s per lb. Carlisle: 1s 3d to 1s 5d per lb. Doncaster: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Grantham: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Howden, 1s 2d per lb. Lancaster: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Malton: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Pontefract: 1s 4d per lb. Retford: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Richmond: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Skipton: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Stokesley: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Whitby: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. York: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb.

EGGS.

Tuesday.—Bedale: 9 or 10 for 1s. Gainsborough: 9 or 10 for 1s. Leeds: Yorkshire, 15s 6d to 16s 6d per 120; Irish, 12s 6d to 14s; Danish, 10s to 12s; Austrian blues, 8s to 8s 6d; do reds, 6s 9d to 7s. Settle: 9 or 10 for 1s; Sheffield: 7 or 8 for 1s. Spalding: 11 or 12 for 1s. Stone: 8 for 1s.

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 7 for 1s. Boston: 10 or 11 for 1s. Colne: 2s 8d per score. Goole: 10 and 11 for 1s. Hereford: 9 to 10 for 1s. Keighley: 8 for 1s. Kirbymoorside: 11 or 12 for 1s. Knaresborough: 8 or 9 for 1s. Market Drayton: 9 and 10 for 1s. Louth: 12 for 1s. Market Weighton: 11 for 1s. Masham: 11 for 1s. Northallerton: 8 or 9 for 1s. Stockton: 7 for 1s. Worksop: 2s to 2s 4d per score.

Thursday.—Birmingham: 7 to 9 for 1s, Brigg: 11 or 12 for 1s. Driffield: 11 or 12 per 1s. Kidderminster: 9 for 1s. Penistone: 8 for 1s. Ripon: 9 or 10 for 1s. Scarborough: 8 or 9 for 1s. Wellington: 9 to 11 for 1s.

Friday.—Derby: 9 and 10 for 1s. Easingwold: 11 to 12 for 1s; Austrian, 7s 2d to 8s 6d per 120; Styrian, 7s 5d to 10s 6d; Egyptian, 4s 10d to 5s. Lincoln: 10 to 12 for 1s. Otley: 9 or 10 for 1s. Whitchurch: 8 and 9 for 1s.

Saturday.—Appleby: 8 to 10 for 1s. Berwick: 1s 8d per doz. Carlisle: 7 or 8 for 1s. Doncaster: 9 or 10 for 1s. Grantham: 9 or 10 for 1s. Howden: 12 for 1s. Lancaster: 8 for 1s. Malton: 10 for 1s. Pontefract: 9 and 10 for 1s. Retford: 2s. to 2s 2d per score. Richmond: 9 for 1s: Skipton: 6 or 7 for 1s. Stokesley: 9 or 10 for 1s. Whitby: 8 or 9 for 1s. York: 7 or 8 for 1s.

COLONIAL DAIRY PRODUCE.

London. Friday.—The demand for Australian and New Zealand butter continues good, and prices are virtually unchanged on the week. "Choicest" makes 104s to 106s, with special brands at 107, and "finest" 98s to 102s. The Copenhagen Committee has reduced the official quotation by 4 kroner, and the top price is now 92 kroner against 103 kroner last year at this time. For a long time until just lately the Committee fixed the quotation with discretion, and confidence in the decisions of the Committee was almost universal. Lately, however, the Committee has exhibited such erratic ratiocinations that no one would be surprised at anything it might do, and all confidence in it has been lost. About a month ago Danish butter was selling at 118s, and Australasian at 106s. Danish has fallen steadily since then, and now stands at 108s, while Australasian remains where it was at 106s. Cheese: The demand for Canadian cheese in London continues good, and prices have advanced another shilling per cwt. "Choicest" brands are selling at 51s and 52s, the greater portion at 51s, but there is a good business at 52s. New Zealands have not made more than 50s.—W. WEDDEL AND CO.

CHEESE.

Chester, Wednesday.—The farmers brought in about 20 tons of cheese, and there was a good attendance of buyers from Lancashire, Yorkshire, and the Midlands. The demand was sharp, and an excellent clearance was made. Both coloured and uncoloured lots of fine cheese quickly changed hands at prices ranging from 65s to 71s per cwt, while medium qualities realised 55s per cwt. and upwards.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—The high prices sought have checked sales; the wholesale dealers are giving it out that the supplies yet to come to the market are small. The trade, having moderate stocks, are choosing to work these off before they buy. Cheddars and Dunlops are quoted from 50s to 58s per cwt. There is a quiet business doing in Canadians and New Zealands.

Newport, Wednesday.—There was a fair attendance, but only a short supply. Prices were:—Caerphillies, 54s to 62s; fancy dairies, 64s to 66s; truckles, 64s to 70s; Cheddars, 60s to 65s; Derbies, 61s to 63s.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Hull, Tuesday.—Linseed: The arrivals are 140qrs from Catania, 25qs Harlingen, 750qrs Libau, 50qrs Messina; total, 965qrs. Firm but inactive. Calcutta, 53s 6d spot and passage. River Plate, 48s 3d sailed; 1st to 20th January, 47s 6d; January, 47s; February, 46s. Cottonseed: The market has not shown much activity since our last, but prices ruled steady last week with a moderate business done on spot, passage and January at 26 6s 3d, but with large arrivals there is an easier tone again with sellers at £6 5s spot and near, which most obtainable January, £6 7s 6d nearest Feb.-March. Oils.—Exports for the week ending 7th January, 1902.—Linseed oil: 2 Germany, 5 Holland, 30 India, 2 Norway; total, 39 tons. Cotton oil: 5 Austria, 92 Belgium, 18 Denmark, 35 Germany, 110 Holland, 3 Sweden; total, 263 tons. The market is quiet. Linseed oil: 28s spot, 27s Jan.-April, 25s 9d May-August. Cotton oil: 21s 6d spot, 21s 6d Jan.-April, 22s 6d May-August. Crude, 20s 3d spot, 20s 3d Jan.-April, 21s May-August. Rape oil: Jamba naked, 24s spot; 1st quality naked, 24s 6d spot.—KEIGHLEY MAXTED AND CO.

London, Thursday.—Linseed: The firmness recorded at the close of last week has continued and prices have advanced. Spot Calcutta to London 52s 3d, passage 51s 9d to 51s 6d, January 51s 3d, March 47s 9d, April-June 46s 6d. La Plata December-January 47s, January-February 46s. Hull steady, La Plata shipping or shipped 47s 6d, December-January 47s, January-February 45s 6d. To the Continent, Bombay, January-February 52s 9d, February-March 51s, March-May 49s 3d. Calcutta December-January 51s 6d, April-June 47s. La Plata December-January 47s, January-February 46s. Linseed oil has been very quiet during the early part of the week, with lower prices ruling, but closes firmer. We quote spot in pipes £28 15s to £29, barrels £29 5s, January-April £28, May-August £25. Hull spot naked £27 15s, January-April £26 17s 6d, May-August £25 15s. Linseed cakes: Quiet. We to-day quote London made £7 15s to £8 ex mill, American Western £7 5s to £7 7s 6d, Russian £7 10s to £7 12s 6d. Cotton cakes steady, London made £4 11s 3d to £4 13s 9d. Rapeseed continues quiet. To London we quote Yellow Cawnpore January-February 40s 6d, Brown Cawnpore 38s 9d. To the Continent Yellow Cuzcut December-January, 42s 9d, Yellow Cawnpore January-February 40s 6d, Brown Cawnpore November-December 38s 9d, Brown Calcutta 36s 9d. Ferozepore, November-December 38s 9d. Jamba, February-March to Hull 29s 9d. Cottonseed quiet, with rather easier tendency. Spot London £6 7s 6d, afloat £6 7s 6d, January £6 7s 6d, February-March £6 8s 9d, April £6 10s. Hull, depressed for spot and near, but closes firmer, owing to very heavy arrivals; spot £6 3s 9d, January £6 5s, February-March £6 7s 6d. Cargoes January-February £6 10s, March £6 12s 6d. Bombay to Hull is held for £4 8s 9d January.—THE PRODUCE BROKERS COMPANY, LIMITED.

WOOL.

London, Friday.—English—per pk. 240lb.—Fleeces S. Dn. Hggs., £7 to £8 10s; half-bred hogs, £6 to £6 10s; do. wethers, £5 to £6; Kent fleeces, £5 to £6; South Down ewes and wethers, £7 to £8 10s; Leicester do, £5 to £5 10s. Colonial—per lb.—Vic., Fleece super, 1s 5d to 1s 7d; scoured good, 1s 7½d to 1s 8½d; scoured average, 1s 6d to 1s 7d; greasy average to fair, 10½d to 11½d; N. S. W., scoured average, 1s 2½d to 1s 3d; greasy average, 8d to 8½d; S. Australian, greasy average, 6½d to 6¾d. N. Z., scoured average, 1s 4d to 1s 5d; grease average, 8d to 8½d; Cape scoured super, 1s 5d to 1s 6d; fleece average, 6¾d to 7½d; greasy average, 5d to 6d. Natal, scoured, 1s to 1s 1d; greasy average, 6d to 6¾d. Crossbreds—Grs—Vic, good to super, 10½d to 11½d; New Zealand fine, 8d to 9d; do medium, 4½d to 4¾d; do coarse, 3¾d to 4¼d.

MANURES.

Liverpool, Friday.—The strong statistical position of nitrate of soda has had the effect of advancing values fully 7s 6d per ton, and prime quality realises £9 17s 6d per ton on the spot. Sulphate of ammonia of 24 per cent test is about £11 7s 6d per ton. Basic slag continues in active request, and there is an increased inquiry for bone meal. At present the demand for kainit and superphosphate is quiet. Oil cakes are unchanged in values, and in moderate request at the subscribed:—Nitrate of soda, best quality, *i.e.*, guaranteed 95 per cent. pure, in bags, £9 17s 6d per ton; East India bone meal, fair to prime, in bags, £4 1s 3d to £4 6s 3d per ton; kainit, prime, 23 per cent., in bags, £2 7s 6d to £2 10s per ton; palm nut cake, prime, in bags, £5 12s 6d per ton; linseed cake, American thin oblong, prime, in bags, £7 10s to £7 15s per ton; linseed cake, English, prime, in bulk, £8 10s to £8 15s per ton; linseed cake, foreign, oblong, prime, soft and oily, in bags, £8 5s per ton; cottonseed cake, N.A., decorticated, prime, in bags, £7 2s 6d to £7 6s 3d per ton; cottonseed cake, English, decorticated, prime, soft, in bags, £7 10s to £7 12s 6d per ton; cottonseed cake, English, undecorticated, prime, in bulk, £4 15s to £4 17s 6d per ton; cottonseed (crushed), 20 to 25 per cent. oil, prime, in bags, £7 5s per ton; maize germ meal, prime, in bags, £6 5s to £6 7s 6d per ton; rice meal, Rangoon, as imported, in bags, £5 10s to £5 12s 6d per ton; Indian meal, coarse to fine grinding, prime, in bulk, 13s 3d to 13s 6d per 240lb; linseed, fine bold feeding, in bags, £3 3s to £3 6s per qr, 416lb; D.N.S. brand superphosphate of lime, guaranteed, 25 to 27 sol., in bags, £2 5s to £2 7s per ton, at the producing depots; D.N.S. brand superphosphate of lime, guaranteed, 30 to 31 sol., in bags, £2 10s to £2 12s per ton, at the producing depots; superphosphate of lime, guaranteed, 35 to 36 sol., in bags, £3 to £3 2s per ton, at the producing depots; basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed, 30 to 35 per cent. phos., in bags, £1 12s to £1 13s per ton, at the producing depots; basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed, 35 to 40 per cent. phos., in bags, £1 14s 6d to £1 15s 6d per ton, at the producing depots; basic slag, finest quality, guaranteed, 38 to 45 per cent. phos., in bags, £1 17s to £1 19s per ton, at the producing depots.—H. JONES LANGAR AND CO.

HAY AND STRAW.

Manchester, Wednesday.—Hay, 6¾d to 7½d; clover, 7d to 8d; Canadian clover, 6¾d; straw (wheat), 6d to 6½d; ditto (oat), 5½d to 6¼d per stone.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—Trade ruled steady. Best clover, 95s to 110s; inferor ditto, 80s to 90s; specially picked hay, 117s 6d; good ditto, 108s; inferior ditto, 80s to 90s; mixture and sainfoin, 90s to 110s; and straw, 28s to 40s per load.

London, Saturday.—With a steadier feeling, our market is slightly better. Canadian and Dutch hays are both in better request, and make full prices. I quote—Canadian hay, 87s 6d to 90s; French and Dutch 1st cut clover, 90s to 92s 6d; French and Dutch 2nd cut clover, 90s to 92s 6d; good Dutch hay, 85s; Inferior do., 80s; good Russian hay, 90s. All these prices are per ton delivered by barge alongside.—WALTER H. PRENTIS.

POULTRY AND PROVISIONS.

Smithfield, Saturday.—A moderate demand prevailed this morning for the fair supplies on offer. Quotations:—Fowls: Yorkshire, 2s 9d to 3s 3d; Boston, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; Essex, 2s 6d to 3s; Surrey, 3s 6d to 4s 6d; Sussex, 3s to 3s 6d: Welsh, 2s 3d to 2s 6d; Irish, 1s 9d to 2s 3d; turkeys (cocks), 6s 6d to 8s; (hens), 4s 6d to 6s; geese, 4s 6d to 7s; country ducks, 2s 9d to 3s 6d; pigeons, 9d to 1s 1d; quail, 10d to 1s 2d; rabbits, 8d to 1s 2d each; Australian ditto, 7s 6d to 8s 6d per dozen; pheasant, 3s 6d to 4s; young partridges, 3s to 3s 4d; old, 2s per brace; hares, 2s 6d to 3s; leverets, 1s 6d to 2s; wild ducks, 1s 6d; pintail, 1s to 1s 2d; teal, 8d to 10d; woodcock, 2s to 2s 6d; snipe, 8d to 1s; golden plover, 10d to 11d; black, 6d to 7d. Russian—Capercailzie (cock), 2s to 2s 6d; (hen), 1s 6d to 2s; black game, 1s to 1s 2d; partridges, 1s to 1s 3d each.

SEEDS.

London, Monday.—Messrs. John Shaw and Sons, seed merchants, of Great Maze Pond, Borough, London, report a fair all-round business now doing. English red clover-seed, of which there is a good supply, realises last week's figures; but fine white, owing to its scarcity, is dearer. There is no alteration in either alsike or trefoil. Perennial ryegrasses, meantime, still tend against buyers, while full rates are demanded for French and Italian. Tares, both spring and winter, continue dear. The inquiry just now for mustard, rape, and linseed is unimportant, whilst the sale of bird seeds is likewise meagre. As regards blue peas and haricot beans, transactions are few and small.

HOPS.

Worcester, Saturday.—At market to-day several growers were offering hops, and generally asked rather more money than of late, which tended to check business, but some sales have lately been made at full prices. There are still inquiries for choice and good medium hops, and as best samples are scarce, holders hope to realise advanced rates later on.

Worcester, Saturday.—There has been a fair trade doing in hops since the opening of the New Year, principally in the better sorts, for which prices have been fully maintained. There has also been some demand for good sound lower qualities, but anything inferior remains unsaleable.—PIERCY AND CO.



STOCK AND SHOW NOTES.

By Herdsman.

The Angus Agricultural Association is in a very flourishing condition, especially financially, for at a recent meeting of the Finance Committee at Arbroth the statement of accounts submitted showed a credit balance as at December 31st last of £1,221 16s. 2d. This excludes the value of the Cobb cups and showyard fittings, amounting to close on £100. At the same meeting Mr. William Watson, Boddin, reported that, as instructed, he had called a meeting of his Montrose committee, who had agreed to recommend Friday, July 25th next, as the date of the show there, this being the week after the Highland Society Show in Aberdeen. In the circumstances, and seeing there would be no Royal Northern show at Aberdeen, it was agreed to adopt that date, and to hold the show on a Friday this year.

I would remind shorthorn breeders that the entries for volume forty-eight of "Coates's Herd Book" have to be sent in on or before Saturday, February 1st next. Forms of entry may be had on application to the secretary, Mr. E. J. Powell, 12, Hanover Square, London, W., and applicants are requested to state how many they require, both for bulls and cows, as a separate form is required for each. Whilst on the subect of shorthorns, I may mention that the Shorthorn Society has published in sheet form a list of the prizes they are offering at the various shows this year, full details of which were given in a previous issue of this journal.

A small private catalogue of the yearling bulls in the Langshott Aberdeen Angus Herd, belonging to Mr. J. H. Bridges, has reached me. The bulls number seven, and all are by first-class animals, the sires being Equerry of Ballendalloch (x,136), Maidstone (16,848), Prettyman (14,817), and Mailbag (13,637). Some of these yearling bulls will be entered for the Aberdeen Angus Show and Sale to be held under the auspices of the English Aberdeen Angus Cattle Association at Bingley Hall, Birmingham, on March 11th, and they can be seen at the Home Farm, Langshott, Horley, Surrey, by appointment. Mr. R. Pulling, The Lodge, Beddington Park, near Croydon, is agent for Mr. Bridges.

I learn that a very nice pair of middle white pigs from the old herd of Mr. Sanders Thomas, of Holywell Manor, near St. Ives, Hunts, were shipped last week by the Netherlands Steamboat Company's steamer for the chairman of the Consultatory Committee of the Agricultural Department in Holland. This is said to be the first of a series of shipments of Holywell Manor middle white pigs to Holland for the purpose of breeding porket pigs for the London market, a purpose for which they are eminently qualified.

At a meeting of the General Committee of the Royal Northern Agricultural Society held at Aberdeen it was resolved to hold the spring show this year on Wednesday, 5th March. It was agreed that a silver medal should be given for the best thoroughbred stallion in place of a £5 prize, and that the £5 prize for hackney stallions should be divided into two prizes of £3 and £2. An additional prize will be offered for swedes containing the highest percentage of feeding material, the quality to be determined by analysis. The Society will not hold a summer show this year, in consequence of the Highland show taking place at Aberdeen in the month of July.

The completion of the weekly returns for 1901 under the Diseases of Animals Acts shows that last year there were in Ireland 227 outbreaks of swine fever, two outbreaks of anthrax, five outbreaks of glanders, and two cases of rabies, one of which occurred in a dog. The outbreaks of swine fever compare favourably with those of 1900, 1899, and 1898, when they numbered 226, 322, and 321 respectively. Of rabies the cases numbered 19, 93, and 129 respectively. Glands also registers a decrease, as the respective totals of outbreaks in the three preceding years were ten, nine, and six. As to anthrax there have only been two outbreaks in each of the last four years, but in 1897 and 1896 there was no outbreak. Ireland has also been free from foot-and-mouth disease snce 1884, and free from pleuro-pneumonia since 1892.



The animal illustrated above is the DEXTER STEER BRED, and exhibited at the Norwich Fat Stock Show, 1901, by his Majesty the King, Sandringham. Its sire was Pat and its dam Tranquil, and when exhibited at the show mentioned was 1 year 8 months and 5 days old. It was shown in one of the small cattle classes, that for steers not less than 18 months, and not exceeding 3 years old, nor 10 cwt live weight, and was awarded the first prize.

Particulars of Transactions in Store Stock.

(Reported to the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland.

There was but a very small supply of cattle at Dervock Fair (Co. Antrim) on Monday, but demand was better than at recent fairs. Prices: Calves, 2nd class, £3 10s. to £4 1s. 3d.; yearlings, 1st class, £8 to £8 10s.; 2nd class, £5 7s. 6d. to £7; two-year-olds, 1st class, £11; 2nd class, £8 to £8 17s. 6d.; springers, 1st class, £16 5s. to £19 10s.; 2nd class, £11 15s. to £14.

Cavan Fair, held on Tuesday, was an average-sized one for this time of year. A very dull demand was experienced for any cattle except one and a half and two-year-old heifers, bullocks not fetching more than they cost in May. Quotations: Calves, 3rd class, £2 8s. 4d. to £2 14s.; yearlings, 2nd class, £6 to £6 15s.; 3rd class, £4 7s. 6d. to £5 5s.; two-year-olds, 1st class, £11 to £11 10s.; 2nd class, £7 12s. 6d. to £10 12s. 6d.; 3rd class, £6 10s. to £7; springers, 1st class, £16 to £16 15s.; 2nd class, £13 6s. 8d. to £15; 3rd class, £9 15s. to £10 5s.

At the fair held at Roscommon on Monday there was a small supply of cattle, almost all of which were second class, but they met a good demand. First class springers were very dear. Prices: Calves, second class, £4 5s. Yearlings, second class, £6 to £7. Two-year-olds, first class, £11 5s. to £12; second class, £8 to £9 10s. Three-year-olds, second class, £10 12s. 6d. to £11. Springers, first class, £17 to £20; second class, £13 15s. to £15 5s.

The fair at Navan, Co. Meath, on Monday, was a very small one, and very few buyers attended; some nice lots of polled bullocks were sold, but nearly all the thin animals failed to find purchasers. Exceptionally few young stores, and they were nearly as dear as last year. Prices: Yearlings, first class, £8 5s. to £9; second class, £6 15s. to £7 10s.. Two-year-old, first class, £11 5s.; second class, £9 to £10. Three-year-olds, first class, £13. Springers, first class, £16 15s. to £19 5s.; second class, £12 5s. to £14.

The fair at Ballinasloe, co. Galway, on the 11th inst., was a much smaller one than usual, composed chiefly of second-class cattle. Buyers were numerous, and the demand very brisk throughout, more especially for aged cattle in moderate condition. Almost a complete clearance of all classes effected at prices in advance of recent fairs. Prices:—Calves, 2nd class, £3 10s. to £4 5s.; yearlings, 2nd class, £5 10s. to £6, 3rd class £4 10s.; two-year-olds, 1st class, £10 15s. to £11 10s., 2nd class, £8 to £9 7s. 6d., 3rd class, £5 15s. to £6 10s.; three-year-olds, 1st class, £13 5s. to £14 5s., 2nd class, £10 5s. to £12 10s., 3rd class £1 5s. to £9; springers, 1st class, £15 15s. to £17, 2nd class £12 to £14. Small supply of sheep, but quite sufficient for the demand, which was slow, particularly for those unsuitable for export, and a good many remained unsold. Sheep lambs, 2nd class, 18s. to £1 1s.; over 12 and under 24 months old, 2nd class, £1 12s. 6d.; two years old and upwards, 2nd class, £1 14s. to £2, 3rd class, £1 5s. to £1 8s. Young pigs, 8 to 10 weeks old, sold at from 18s. 6d. to 24s. each.

At the fair, at Oldcastle, co. Meath, on Friday, there was a good show of cattle, chiefly second class, one and two-year-olds. Any nice animals changed hands quickly, and a fair amount of business was done. Prices: Yearlings, first class, £8 5s. to £8 7s. 6d.; second class, £6 10s. to £7 5s. Two-year-olds, first class, £10 15s. to £11 2s. 6d.; second class, £8 15s. to £10. Three-year-olds, second class, £10 10s. to £11 5s. Springers, first class, £16 10s. to £18; second class, £12 5s. to £14. Young pigs, eight to ten weeks old, sold at from 18s. to 27s. 6d. each.

Week-ends Out of Town.—More fortunes are made and more constitutions ruined in London than in any other city in the universe. The city man's great mistake is that he neglects the benefits of fresh air, which are indispensable to good health. Health is the greatest wealth, and the wisest city men are those who study their health, by spending frequent week-ends in the refreshing and invigorating air of the country. The Great Northern Railway Company offer most admirable facilities to this end by the week-end excursions which they run during the winter as well as the summer months. The company announce cheap one-day excursions on alternate Thursdays in January and February, also March 6th, to Hitchin, Royston, and Baldock, with one or three days' bookings to Cambridge; one or three days' excursions to Biggleswade, Sandy, St. Neots, Huntingdon, and Peterboro'; on alternate Thursdays in January and February, day excursions to Hatfield, Hertford, St. Albans, Harpenden, Luton, and Dunstable; on Saturday, January 25th, February 15th, and March 1st, besides week-end excursions to various principal towns in the northern counties; and three, five and eight days' excursions on Saturdays, January 25th, February 8th and March 8th to various places in Lincolnshire.

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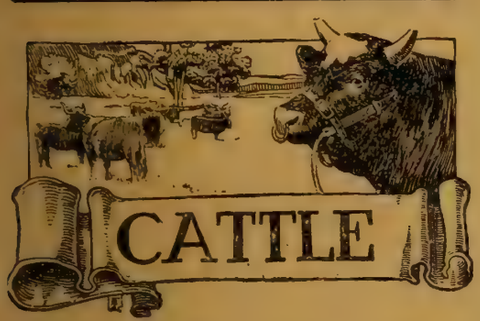
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The Frozen Meat Trade in 1901.

In their fourteenth annual review of the past year's trade in frozen meat Messrs. W. Weddel and Co., of 16, St. Helen's Place, London, E.C., state that, speaking generally, it must be admitted that 1901 was a year of unduly high expectations, which ended in disappointment to both colonial and home dealers. The year appeared to many operators to be a less satisfactory one than it actually was, because of its general calmness after the excitement of the previous year. All the disappointment and loss arose through rates being paid in the colonies higher than at any time were warranted by the position of the market at this end, and not through any unusually low range of values prevailing at Smithfield, where prices during 1901 were well up to the average, for most classes of frozen meat. The drought in Australia caused growers there to demand prices for their limited surpluses which left no margin for exporters to work upon. In New Zealand the opinion was generally entertained that stocks in that colony were shorter than was actually the case, the light shipments made during the early part of the year lending colour to the idea. Freezing companies and speculators in the colonial markets paid extreme prices for both mutton and lamb, and found difficulty in reselling to British operators without at once facing a loss. In many instances, rather than accept that position, these highly-priced purchases were sent on to London for sale on consignment, but with unfortunate results.

The total quantities imported during the year from both Australia and New Zealand were by no means excessive; but the Australian export was most erratic, and the arrival of New Zealand shipments was not well timed, receipts of mutton and lamb in the second half of the year being much too heavy for the demand at that season. Supplies from the River Plate increased in volume steadily throughout the year, so that the belated shipments of mutton from New Zealand had to face the further disability of competing with heavy arrivals from the Argentine Republic. The war in South Africa again had some influence upon the course of the market. Large quantities of beef and mutton from Australia were delivered at the Cape, instead of being brought on to London, as would probably have been the case under ordinary circumstances; and to that extent the home market was relieved. On the other hand, the general slackening of trade throughout the country, which was so noticeable during the latter part of the year, was, doubtless, due, to some extent, to the prolongation of the war.

The Board of Trade returns prove that the frozen meat trade in 1901 was of greater magnitude than in any previous year, the weight of frozen mutton, lamb, and beef imported from all sources being 226,095 tons, as against 209,231 tons in 1900, and 201,833 tons in 1899. Over and above the heavy increase in frozen meats, the returns show that the import of American chilled beef was heavier than it had ever been before, the total receipt being no less than 159,014 tons. Seldom was there any excessive supply of home-fed meats on the market, and prices of English beef and mutton were maintained fairly steadily throughout the year. In September there was rather a heavy run of Scotch lambs on the market, and prices at that time fell to a low ebb; but this was quite exceptional, and neither home-fed nor Continental supplies, at any time during 1901, had much direct influence upon the course of values for frozen meats—certainly the market fluctuations of the two classes of meat appeared to be to a very great extent independent of each other. Extended experience only confirms the views set forth in these columns in 1896 that the importation of frozen meat has practically created an entirely new set of meat consumers in this country—largely, of course, amongst the working classes, who are in consequence very much better fed than can have been the case fifteen or twenty years ago.

Mutton and Lamb.

Except in the years 1892 and 1900, the annual increase in importations of mutton and lamb into the United Kingdom has suffered no check since the time when the frozen meat trade started twenty-one years ago. In the year just closed the normal rate of progress was fully maintained, and the highest aggregate of any previous year (that of 1899) was exceeded by 225,363 carcases. The arrivals of frozen mutton and lamb into the United Kingdom from all sources totalled 7,094,782 carcases in 1901, as against 6,433,821 carcases in 1900, the total weight being, according to the Board of Trade returns, 163,925 tons, against 152,400 tons in 1900, an increase of 11,525 tons, or 7½ per cent. Importations into Liverpool and various outports barely maintained their position in the case of Australian shipments, but further increased in volume from the River Plate. The Liverpool market again proved somewhat disappointing to shippers of Australian mutton, though Australian lambs yielded very satisfactory results. The advantage of shipping direct from Australian to British ports other than London can only be tested when pressure of supplies compels shippers to avail of the northern markets, but, so long as there is a comparative scarcity of meat, as in recent years, owing to the prolonged drought, the test is not likely to be seriously applied. The first shipment of mutton and lamb from Australia to Cardiff is now on its way, and it is confidently hoped that, for lambs especially, a fair trade will be done by shipping direct to a port in South Wales.

The importations of lamb from Australia and New Zealand together were well spread over the year, and met what is now practically an all-the-year-round demand. The Argentine trade remains insignificant, but several small shipments are at present afloat, the extra good season now being experienced making it possible to export fat lambs from the Plate.

As usual, prices during the autumn months steadily receded under the pressure of the numbers then received, and the rates ruling at Smithfield must have been decidedly unremunerative to shippers. In three years out of four the price of New Zealand lambs will be found to fall steadily after June, and exporters would do well always to bear this in mind when making their shipping arrangements. Should any rise be established in the months of November-December, the advance as a rule is based almost entirely upon the fact that supplies are practically exhausted. The volume of business actually passing at that time of year is always very restricted, and quotations, being almost nominal, are apt to be misleading.

The year was characterised by a great scarcity of prime small lambs, carcases weighing over 36lb. constituting the great majority of the import. These lambs, though of excellent quality, were rather too large for the provincial trade, and also for much of the London trade. The natural result was that light lambs commanded an unsually high premium throughout the year as compared with heavy weights, and small carcases of middling quality not infrequently realised more money than heavy carcases of prime quality.

Beef.

The total weight of frozen beef received into the United Kingdom during 1901 was 62,170 tons, as compared with 56,831 tons in 1900—an increase of 5,339 tons, the whole of which came from the River Plate. Australia shows a falling-off of 7,592 tons, and New Zealand of 5,067 tons, while the River Plate import shows an increase of no less than 17,998 tons—an addition which was in excess of the whole export from New Zealand, and also in excess of the entire quantity received from Australia. The continued exclusion of Argentine live cattle from the British markets has undoubtedly hastened this development in the export of frozen beef. Of course, the reduction in importations from Australia is largely to be accounted for by the heavy shipments made to South Africa; while in the case of New Zealand the falling-off may be traced to the high prices ruling in that colony, as the result of the over-shipments of the previous year.

Chilled Beef.

The American chilled beef trade attained still larger dimensions than ever before, the imports for 1901 totalling 159,014 tons, as against 143,361 tons in 1900. This section of the imported meat trade dwarfed all the others, bulking alone almost as largely as the frozen mutton and lamb imports from Australia, New Zealand, and the River Plate together. The companies interested in the American trade gained during the past year a firmer hold over the British markets by securing the control of additional premises on the Smithfield Market, and by re-organising their provincial distributing agencies.

The successful experiments made in 1900 induced one of the River Plate companies to further test in a practical way, and on purely commercial lines, the possibility of developing a trade by bringing to London at regular intervals during the latter half of the year a number of shipments, each consisting of about 3,000 quarters. The first of these, arriving per Danube (s) in August, did not prove to be altogether successful, the meat being of indifferent quality, and most of it slightly frozen. Prices realised ranged from 3d. @ 3⅝d. per lb. fores, and 4½d. @ 5d. per lb. hinds. The later shipments, however, were more satisfactory in respect of both quality and condition, and it is understood that these trial shipments have yielded results good enough to justify the shippers in putting more steamers into the trade. This will probably be done in the early part of 1902. The meat on average realised a premium over frozen beef to the extent of about ½d. per lb. for fores, and 1d. per lb. for hinds. The total import for 1901 amounted to 24,919 quarters.

Live Cattle and Sheep.

The principal feature in this department was the marked increase in the importation of live cattle and sheep from the United States. The quantities received from that source of supply practically filled up the gap caused in 1900 by the enforced cessation of shipments from the Argentine Republic. The total number of live cattle imported from all sources shows 494,225 head, compared with 495,134 head in 1900; while arrivals of live sheep were 381,481 head, against 382,822 head in 1900. The efforts made by Argentine exporters during 1901 to get the markets of this country re-opened to their live cattle and sheep were altogether unsuccessful, and there is at the moment no more prospect than there was a year ago of that trade being immediately resumed.

General Outlook.

The agricultural outlook for 1901 for the United Kingdom did not reveal any alteration of moment in the numbers of cattle and sheep recorded, as compared with the figures for 1900—an increase of 21,527 cattle, and a decrease of 224,942 sheep, representing changes of considerably less than 1 per cent. in each case. For ten years past the flocks and herds of the United Kingdom have remained almost stationary, while the population has increased during that interval to the extent of 3,720,000 persons.

On the whole, therefore, the utmost that can be claimed for the home supply of beef and mutton is that it has nearly maintained its volume in recent years; but it does not nearly keep pace with the growth of population, and this is the natural explanation of home-fed beef and mutton values being so well maintained, notwithstanding the fact that the importation of frozen beef, mutton, and lamb increased from 83,166 tons in 1891 to 226,095 tons in 1901.

Although the general tendency in European countries is still towards a gradual decrease in the available supplies of fresh meats, the influence of the agrarian party in each country continues to be sufficient to secure the exclusion of frozen meats. The demands of the working classes in France, Germany, Austria, and Italy for better conditions of living are, however, steadily becoming more insistent. The exports from the United States of cattle, sheep, and beef all showed great expansion in 1901. It is, therefore, of comparatively little use to endeavour to estimate the shipments in the near future on the basis of these returns alone.

Although prices may be low in America the export of cattle or beef to Great Britain goes on irrespective of that fact, provided other conditions in the States call for the relief of the local markets; while if prices are high in England, the export from the States appears to be capable of immediate expansion. The shortage in the 1901 maize crop, however, and the consequent forced selling of cattle during the past three months, have already led to a marked advance in prices of fat stock in the States. Trade there is decidedly brisk at present, and these considerations warrant the expectation that there may be some slackening in the export trade in the near future. All opinions on the subject must, however, be reserved until the real statistical position can be ascertained. Exports of chilled beef from Canada may show some slight growth, and small additions to the total supplies of meat may arrive in the form of chilled beef from the Argentine Republic; but the relation of these two factors to the trade as a whole must remain unimportant for some time to come.

A good deal of interest is being shown by the Russian Imperial Government in the development of a meat export trade to this country. Small quantities of Russian beef have come to hand in recent winters, but the quality and condition were not good enough to command en-

couraging results. Possibly with proper transit facilities and Government encouragement, a larger trade might be successfully carried on; but it is not likely to assume any importance during the next twelve months.

Further satisfactory experience has been gained in South Africa during the past twelve months of the suitability of Australian frozen beef and mutton for military purposes, and the British Government has just recently called for tenders for extensive supplies to be delivered there during 1902. These will probably be drawn mainly from Australia, and, together with the quantities to be delivered for military consumption in the Philippines and at the Mediterranean ports, must materially curtail the export from the Commonwealth to the United Kingdom.

Shrewsbury Store Stock Sale.

Messrs. A. Mansell and Co.'s first sale of store stock for the year at Shrewsbury was held on the 10th inst., and there was a fair attendance of buyers, especially from the southern counties. The sale, as usual, began with the sheep, for which there was a fair demand. Every animal, as usual, was passed over the weigh bridge, and the actual weight announced. Some of the prices realised were:—Barren shorthorns, £9, £9 5s., £9 10s.; Hereford heifers, £8, £8 5s., £8 7s. 6d.; polled heifers, £9, £11 15s., £12; cross-bred heifers, £8 7s. 6d., £9 15s., £10; Hereford steers, £11 10s., £11 7s. 6d., £9, £9 12s. 6d., £10 12s. 6d., £8 15s., £9 10s., £7 £10 15s., £10, £10 17s. 6d.; Hereford bullocks, £15 17s. 6d., £13, £11 12s. 6d., £12 5s.; shorthorns, £11 2s. 6d., £11 12s .6d., £11, £12 15s., £13; shorthorn steers, £6 12s. 6d.; cross-bred bullocks, £13 5s., £12 15s.; shorthorn heifers, £9 10s., £10 1s. 6d., £11 12s. 6d., £12, £9 15s.; black polled bullocks, £12, £8 17s. 6d.; cross-bred yearlings, £7 12s. 6d.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending January 14, 1902:—

Swine Fever.	Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.		No.	406	212 593 501		657	377 905	1,746
	Outbreaks.		No.	39	33 34 42		83	71 70	81
Rabies.	Cases Reported.	Oth'r Anim'ls.	No.	...	... ...		...	1	... ...
		Dogs.	No.	...	... ...		...	...	... ...
Pleuro-Pneumonia.	Cattle slaughter'd.	Exposed to Infection.	No.	...	... ...		...	...	... ...
		Diseased.	No.	...	... ...		...	...	... ...
	Outbreaks.		No.	...	... ...		...	...	... ...
Glanders(incl. farcy).	Animals Attacked.		No.	64	47 43 17		137	93 75	45
	Outbreaks.		No.	19	23 24 13		45	46 39	32
Foot-and-Mouth Disease.	Animals Attacked.		No.	...	... ...		...	...	... ...
	Outbreaks.		No.	...	... ...		...	...	... ...
Anthrax.	Animals Attacked.		No.	18	14 12 14		51	33 24	22
	Outbreaks.		No.	14	11 4 10		37	24 12	14
Period.					Week ended Jan. 11, 1902	Corresponding week in (1901 1900 1899)	Total for 2 weeks, 1902	Corresponding period in (1901 1900 1899)	

NOTE.—The figures for the current Year are approximate only.

New Agricultural Patents.

Specially compiled for the *Mark Lane Express* by Mr. G. D. Howard (Hughes, Son, and Co.), patent agent, 38, Chancery Lane, London, of whom all information relating to Patents, Designs, and Trade Marks may be obtained free of charge.

44.—John Neil, of Manchester, for "Improvements in machines for cutting hay, straw, and the like."

125.—Frank Tebbs, of London, for "Circular moulding cutting machine."

164.—John Lowson, of Finsbury, for "Improvements in plough handles."

Patents Sealed.

16,512.—G. Harris, of Cheddar, for "Potato diggers."

16,708.—H. Brat, of Rummelsburg, Germany, for "Food preparations."

LITERARY NOTICES.

The Ruin of Rural England.*

The decay of British agriculture is a subject that has for many years attracted a great deal of attention. Authors have frequently endeavoured to show why agriculture in this country is a decaying industry, and have also pointed out that no empire has in the past survived the decay of its agriculture. In the book before us Mr. Martin attaches perhaps too much importance to the position that the railway companies have adopted; in fact, a number of the chapters might almost be termed abuse of the great carrying corporations. We are not for a minute urging that the British farmer does obtain equality of treatment with the foreigner; but, considering that in this country free trade is supposed to reign supreme, it surely must be admitted by all thinking men that a company can handle with greater facility and at lower rates goods that arrive at a port and can be loaded straight away in the trucks than they can deal with small lots collected at various country stations. Mr. Martin has drawn up seven items which are all traceable, he says, to the decay of agriculture. It is a sad fact that the nation is reduced to dependency upon foreign countries for five-sixths of its food supplies, but we cannot agree with the author when he says, "The population are only kept in employment by continuous railway and municipal borrowings." We sympathise with Mr. Martin in his endeavour to awaken those in power to a sense of their responsibility, but we fear that such a representation of the position as appears in this volume will be put aside with but scant attention, for there is surely no greater sin than to overstate one's case in any direction.

Gardening is becoming more and more popular each year, the work being essentially a healthy one, and interesting at all times. For practical work to be prosperous, system must be used, otherwise one cannot expect to gain good results. Each year great improvements are being made in this direction, and as an example we would refer our readers to "The Culture of Vegetables and Flowers," by Sutton, a tenth edition of which has now been issued. There are over 400 pages, containing a great amount of useful and sound information, it is also splendidly printed and illustrated, and certainly should find its way into the hands of all horticulturists, amateurs and professionals alike. In its pages is a highly instructive article on the pests of garden plants, giving examples of these numerous pests; also illustrations of their life and habits, this being a subject that wants to be thoroughly studied by all gardeners desirous of success. Some interesting hints are given on the laying out of lawn and tennis grounds, and there are numerous other articles worthy of attention. The fact that this publication has reached its tenth edition is sufficient evidence of its worth. It is procurable either direct from Messrs. Sutton and Sons, Reading, or from Simpkin, Marshall, Hamilton, Kent, and Co., Limited, 32, Paternoster Row, London, E.C., the price being 5s.

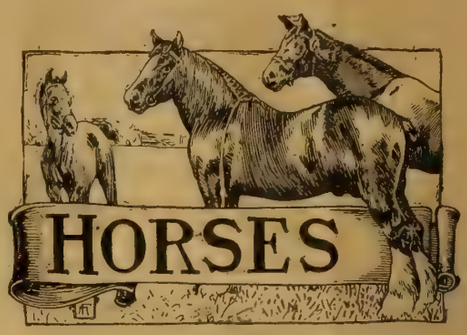
It would be impossible to enumerate here all the useful information that is contained in Purdon's Almanac for 1902. This useful publication does not confine itself to the interests of the farmer and gardener, but acts as the Irish Whitaker, dealing with all public offices, matters, and men, from H. E. Cardinal Logue to the winner of the Grand National. Full postal information is given, and a complete calendar of garden and farm work. This invaluable work is published at 1s. paper cover and 1s. 6d. boards, by "The Farmers' Gazette" Office, 23, Bachelors' Walk, Dublin.

The twenty-ninth annual issue of Willing's Press Guide is as fully up-to-date and well presented as its forerunners. There are constant changes going on in the world of newspapers, and therefore all the more credit is due to the editors for the careful manner in which these changes have been noted. This publication is a model of arrangement and handiness. It is published at 1s. by Messrs. Willings, of 125, Strand, London, W.C.

Messrs. W. Fell and Co., Limited, of Henham, seedsmen and nurserymen to H.M. the King, have issued a nicely illustrated and prepared spring seed guide for 1902.

Messrs. William Davie and Co., of Haddington, N.B., seed potato growers, seedsmen, seed growers, and manure merchant, have issued a catalogue of selected seed potatoes for this year's sowing.

* The Ruin of Rural England. By J. W. Martin. Messrs. Simpkin, Marshall, Hamilton, Kent, & Co., London; 3s. 6d.



Sale of Shires at Tring Park.

The first important Shire horse sale of the present year took place on Wednesday, when Messrs Sexton, Grimwade and Beck disposed of about forty animals belonging to Lord Rothschild, at Tring Park, Tring. This made the second sale of Shires from this well-known stud, and as at the first sale there was a capital attendance of breeders from all parts of the country. As is well known, Shires from the Tring stud won numerous prizes at the principal shows last year, and Wednesday's catalogue included a number of the prize-winning animals. In fact, all the prize mares and fillies were offered, Lord Rothschild having decided not to exhibit mares or fillies this year. The bidding was naturally brisk and well sustained, although no more spirited than the quality of the animals warranted, for they made up one of the most uniformly handsome lots that have ever been seen in a sale ring. This statement is borne out by the result of the sale, the average for the forty head being a little over £217 14s, which average has only twice previously been exceeded for Shire horses, viz., at Sandringham in 1898, and at the sale of Lord Llangallock's Shires in 1900. The top figure of the sale was 750gs., which sum was paid by Mr. R. W. Hudsons for the champion mare Alston Rose, by Vulcan VII. No fewer than four other brood mares made 400gs. or over, and the lowest price obtained was 120gs., so that the 16 mares made the excellent average of £294 6s. 6d. each. The younger animals also sold well, the best prices being 410gs. by Mr. Hamer Toogood for Fortress; 360gs. by Sir J. B. Maple for Victorious Queen; 410gs. by Mr. A. Henderson, M.P., for Birdsall Stately, and 350gs. by the Marquis of Winchester for Sunset.

A full list of the animals sold, prices realised, particulars, etc., is appended:—

	Gns.
BROOD MARES.	
Bury Starlight, bay, f 1899, s Senator II. Lord Middleton	200
Rokeby Esther, bay, f 893, s Rokeby Earl Mr. Lysaght	130
Blythwood Nora, brown, f 1892, s Norman Conqueror ..... Mr. Oakleigh	135
Windley Blossom, brown, f 1893, s Marmion II. Mr. H. W Kearns	410
Alston Rose, bay, f. 1895, s. Vulcan VII. Mr. R. W. Hudson	750
Saxon Girl, bay, f 1893, s Norman Conqueror Mr Philo Mills	440
The Nun, bay, f 1894, s Fear None Duke of Westminster	410
Dunsmore Heiress, black, f 1896, s Jeroboam Mr. P. A. Muntz	230
Hendre Merry Lass, chestnut, f 1897, s Prince Harold ..... Mr. Leopold Salomons	220
Hendre Duchess, chestnut roan, f 1890, s Glendon II. ..... Mr. Jones	170
Hitchin Victress, bay, f 1892, s Hitchin Conqueror Mr. Mander	120
Royal Rose, bay, f 1897, s Regent II. Victor Cavendish, Esq., M.P.	400
Gipsy Girl, chestnut, f 1897, s Stonewall Mr. Jackson	210
Alston Jessie, bay, f 1897, s Potentate Messrs. W. and J. Thompson	220
Dorothy Drew, red roan, f 1898, s Prince Harold His Majesty the King	300
Buttercup, brown, f 1898, s Cœur-de-Lion IV. Mr. A. Thomas	140
THREE-YEAR-OLD FILLIES.	
Fortress, brown, f 1899, s Markeaton Royal Harold Mr. Hamer Towgood	410
Duchess, bay, f 1899, s Highborn Mr. J. Williams	70
Desford Lassie, brown, f 1889, s Eastoft Lad Lady Wantage	200
Sunblossom, bay, f 1899, s Sunlight II. Mr. J. Parnell	130
Dunsmore Kelpy, bay, f 1899, s Dunsmore Combination ..... Marquis of Winchester	135
Mischief, bay, f 1899, s Royal Alfred II. Mr. Thomas Hardcastle	120
Boro' Fairy Queen, dark brown, f 1899, s Famous Lad ..... Mr. R. P. Cooper	80
Heather Bell, bay, f 1899, s Harold's Pilot Mr. Lysaght	105
STALLIONS.	
The Duke VI., bay, f 1900, s Duke of Worsley Mr. W. Jackson	120
Conqueror's Boy, bay, f 1900, s Blythwood Conqueror Mr. J. P. Cross	320
Courage, bay, f 1900, s Markeaton Royal Harold Mr. C. M. Crompton Roberts	60
TWO-YEAR-OLD FILLIES.	
Victoria's Queen, bay, f 1900, s Moors Thumper Sir Blundell Maple, Bart.	360
Birdsall Stately, bay, f 1900, s Menestrel A. Henderson, Esq., M.P.	410
Sunset, chestnut, f 1900, s Anchorite Marquis of Winchester	350
Active Girl, bay f 1900, s Anchorite Earl Egerton	165
May Queen, brown, f 1900, s Prince Harold Mr. Thomas Hardcastle	120
Nancy, black, f 1900, s Hendre Marksman Mr. J. Parnell	55

Marigold, bay, f 1900, s Royal Alfred II.
Mr. Ernest Heddington 65

YEARLING FILLIES.

Blossom's Lass, bay, f 1901, s Hertfordshire Lad
Marquis of Winchester 120

Girton Hazard, brown, f 1901, s Mormaer of Batsford
Mr. Thomas Hardcastle 100

Valour's Lass, grey, f 1901, s Hertfordshire Lad
Mr. J. P. Cross 75

Ripple, bay, f 1901, s Saxon Victor
Messrs W. and J. Thompson 70

Delight, brown, f 1901, s Jubilee Victor
Mr. Heddingham 70

Foxglove, bay, f 1901, s Blythwood Spark
Mr. Moat 80

Show and Sale at Grantham.

The first sale of horses this year at the Lincolnshire Horse Repository, Grantham, took place on Tuesday, when about one hundred animals, comprising 60 cart horses, eight unbroken colts and fillies, and 30 hunters, harness horses, and ponies, came under the hammer. As upon previous occasions, the auctioneers (Messrs. Escritt and Barrell) offered prizes of £6, £3, and £1 for cart mares and geldings four years and upwards suitable for town work. The judging was undertaken by Mr. J. C. Fisher, of Sutton-on-Trent, and Mr. John Meakin, of Eastwood, who had some difficulty in making their awards from the 29 horses which were paraded before them, but their awards were upheld at the sale. A handsome and massive chestnut gelding, belonging to Mr. W. Fillingham, was chosen for the first place, and this animal was disposed of to Mr. Meakin for 70 guineas. The blue ribbon was given to an active and well-made mare belonging to Mr. Bagguley, of Long Bennington, which was also purchased by Mr. Meakin at 65 guineas, whilst the third prize fell to a mare belonging to Mr. B. N. Smith, of Aslackby, which was knocked down to the bid of Messrs. Chaplin and Co., of London, at 60 guineas. There was a large attendance of buyers from all parts, and a good sale resulted. The trade for cart horses was brisk, and throughout the bidding for sound animals was very spirited; but the light horses were a poor lot, and many would-be purchasers returned home empty-handed. Cart horse geldings made up to 70 guineas, and mares up to 60 guineas, broken colts and fillies selling at from 22 to 35 guineas, and harness horses up to 33 guineas.



FABIANA, the Polo Pony Filly, shown above, is the property of Mr. G. Norris Midwood, The Hut, Tabley, Knutsford, Cheshire, and was bred by Mr. R. C. Vyner, Newby Hall, Ripon, Yorkshire, her sire being Minting and her dam Fabia, by Underhand. At the Royal Agricultural Society's Show at Cardiff last year Fabiana won first prize in the class for polo pony colts, geldings or fillies foaled in 1898, not exceeding 14.1 hands, whilst in a similar class at the Polo Pony Society's Spring Show in London she only got a third prize.

How to Breed Sound Horses.*

To rear good, sound stock, you must first of all get sound parents. You cannot get blood out of stone is an old and true saying, but not more true than that sound stock must come from sound parents. You must guard against hereditary unsoundness, and, starting with the head, we have cataract, an hereditary disease not always detected. It takes an expert to spot it. Roaring is a common thing in this country, and splints, which nearly all horses have, though they do not make much difference. Ringbone is another class of unsoundness which seems to be getting more common, particularly in the heavier breeds of horses. Coming to the foot we get sidebones. These, without doubt, are a most common form of unsoundness, and about three out of every five cart horses have to be rejected on account of this disease. It is a thing which may be got rid of by judicious breeding. If you build a house on sand it is not a very wise proceeding, and if you breed a horse with bad feet you have a worthless thing. You must have bottoms if you want a foundation for good horses. The first thing is to start with good feet: you can always put tops on. Coming to the hind legs, you have spavins—very common, more so in well-bred horses; and curbs, things that cause a lot of trouble. This is an unsoundness seeming to be getting more common in the lighter breeds; while shiverings and stringhalt—seen mostly in shire horses—is not seen very largely down here. In England one of

The Chief Cause of Unsoundness

in horses is the practice of allowing stallions to travel with or without a certificate. No one on the Continent is able to travel with a stallion that has not been examined by the Government veterinary and declared sound by him every year he travels. This would perhaps be a great help to English farmers, for no doubt many of the stallions of the cheaper sort, if examined, would be found to be not very sound.

In coming to the question of mating, there are lots of things which may lead to unsoundness. Get a mare standing over in front and not too well made, and mate her with a sire of the same kind, and you will get stock with the defects emphasised, and when you want to sell him at four or five years old your customer will be advised by his vet. not to buy it. It is not an unsoundness in the sire or in the mare, but defects in the conformation of the horse will lead eventually to unsoundness. If you want good sound, healthy stock, with good constitutions, it is never a good plan to breed from old mares. It is a well-proved fact that if you want good stock you must start with young parents. Three years old is quite time enough to begin. Then you get a constitution. If you want size, you must have it in the mare; not, as people seem to think, in the sire. You get the size in the colt from the mare, and not very often the other way about.

There are many other things not really unsoundness; but to be avoided.

The Question of Feet.

for instance. There are many different sorts of feet and mostly "bad 'uns"—down here anyhow. Take the ordinary big-framed Shire horse. If you don't start with good feet on both sides you very seldom get them. If the mare has bad feet it is a poor thing to breed from here at all. Don't breed from a stallion with small feet, but from one with good big feet; and from a high barrelled mare and a deep horse, and so on. It is always better to breed from good-looking horses, for they are always easier to sell, though it does not follow that a good-looking horse is sound, or that because he is sound he must be good-looking. For carriage horses it is the fashion to mate with a thoroughbred. Sometimes you get what you want, more often you don't. What you want to avoid as far as possible are ewe necks, straight shoulders, calf knees, bad feet of any description, flat sides, light bellies, slack loins, bent hocks, and small hoofs. What you want in any class is a square horse with a leg coming out of each corner like the legs of a billiard table, and then you won't be far wrong.

You are told that horses' feet have much to do with the soil and situation. From what I have seen in many counties in England, I don't think it makes much difference. You see good sound horses in every county. It is really the mating of the sires and dams, and has little to do with the farms. You can improve the farm by putting on bone manure, and do your colts good at the same time; but you don't improve the farm very much by having a lot of horses on it. It is a great mistake to have many mares breeding on any farm. It is a well-proved fact that in a few years your stock begins to get smaller, and the constitution of your stocks begins to get weaker. It has been proved in many ways. His Majesty the King had tried to breed on a stud farm for many years without success. He changed to another farm, and soon bred the winner of the Derby. That is only one of many cases. The land seems to get stale.

Foaling.

Suppose a mare carries a foal, there are several things which may happen, and the worst is "slipping." Don't work them too heavily; especially keeping them from jerking work or work in which they are required to start alone several times with a rather heavy load. It is better not to work them right up to time, but to give them a fortnight's rest before the time of foaling. Some people believe in foaling mares out of doors, and some inside. There is a good deal to be said for both sides. From the nature of the farm buildings that I meet with in my practice in Cornwall it is an absolute necessity that foaling should take place in the open. There is scarcely a building big enough for the purpose. It is a silly thing, but too often done, for a man who has a mare that he thinks a lot of to be constantly looking at her. It is better to turn her into the field and leave her to herself. They are shy at such times, and don't like to be disturbed, though it is just as well to be handy at the proper time, so that in case anything goes wrong you can send at once for the vet. (Hear, hear.) Supposing you have your foal and the bed does not properly return, don't leave it too long before sending for the vet. Neglect at such times is the source of many diseases, and causes the loss of many mares. Give at the outside twelve or fourteen hours, and if it does not return it is time you sent for the vet. at once. If the colt is dropped in the bag and is not relieved, it will soon be suffocated.

Now, foals have diseases, and sometimes cause trouble. If they will not take the milk, the use of a little honey or treacle will sometimes induce them. If not it is better to take the milk away, put it in a bottle, and feed the colt artificially with honey or treacle on the nipple attached to the bottle. When you have a colt born it is very important that you should see that its bodily functions are capable of being properly exercised. If not you may have a great deal of trouble. In the case of navel ill it is a matter for the vet., for in nine cases out of ten you run the risk of losing your colt. He goes a bit lame, his leg begins to swell, and you tell the veterinary you think he has been trodden upon. That is a disease we call joint evil, and to cure it the navel must be disinfected during the first week or ten days. In case of rupture, generally indicated by a swelling in front of the udder, it must be attended to early.

There are some common causes of unsoundness in otherwise perfectly sound colts, due to the carelessness on the part of owners and breakers. You have, for instance, sidebones in cart colts. I think it is quite possible to work your colts without getting these "treads." If you have a valuable colt it is silly to put him in the middle of a team. It is well to put him on the outside or to put him to some other kind of work.

A Common Cause of Sidebones

is this: You see a man taking a colt out of a cart, and he unharnesses it and drops the shafts on the top of the colt's coronet. That has not to be done many times before the appearance of a sidebone. Then there are sandcracks, which are very troublesome things to get rid of when once produced. If when the colts are born you haltered them and handled them so that you could always get near them, you could look at them and notice such things on their first appearance. As a rule they are not noticed till the colt is started to be broken—say two years old. A sandcrack may then have been there for six or eight months, and has very nearly reached the coronet, and it will take six or eight months to get rid of it. If I was breeding colts I should always have them shod with tips round the toes. They would not injure the feet, and if they had sandcracks you could get rid of them better. I have seen them tried having them shod from eight to twelve

* A paper read at the annual meeting of the Probus Farmers' Club by Mr. F. L. Clunes, M.R.C.V.S.

months old, and they certainly had quite as good feet as the other colts that were left running, and they were not troubled with sandcracks or anything of the kind.

Curbs often occur in the better class of horses. I have seen colts taken to the breaker to be broken in a quite sound state; but when they have been sent home they have had one or two curbs. The colt goes to the breaker, nervous and liable to jump out of his skin at anything. He is to break it in three weeks, or he gets into trouble. Now, it is impossible for a man to break a colt in that time. The common custom I know is to put a colt in a waggon with a chain in front and one behind. The colt wants to get out, he digs his toes and heels into the ground, and chucks a curb out. This might be obviated by care on the part of the owner.

There are many

More Ways of Damaging Colts,

and one fruitful source is the working colts too soon. You work them as babies. The consequence is when they have had six or eight months' work they are cocked on their joints, their joints get round and swollen. You get twelve months' early work out of them and when you go to see them you lose two or three years' work in the difference in the price as compared with what you would have realised had you allowed them to run twelve months longer. When you send a colt to the breakers they sometimes hit their joints, and a horse has not to do that many times badly without a swelling of the fetlock, and once done it causes a lot of trouble to get rid of it. Instead of working a colt that does that till he has a bad cut you should at once have him differently shod so as to prevent it.

I have been reading a book written by Sir Walter Gilbey upon a breed of horses not bred down here, a breed which has been allowed to go out of the country altogether; but a breed which I think is the most remunerative of all—the big Hackney horse. If you want to buy a good pair of big good-looking harness horses that will move, and with dash in them, you have to go abroad for them. You cannot get them in England. When the old posting days came to an end people came over here from abroad—from France and Germany—and bought the best mares, and if you want a pair of horses of the kind to which I have referred they must be brought from France. At all your agricultural dinners someone tells you how to make farming pay, and it is generally those who have done nothing of the kind themselves, some big landowner or the worst farmer in the room (laughter). No doubt this horse ought to be bred to pay. The old original stock is in the county and in the country. In 1880 we imported into this country 9,950 horses; in 1900 that nine thousand odd had grown into 51,787. That meant a good deal in cash—about £17,000,000. That would be a nice little thing if spread over the farms of the country. There is no necessity for this. The war has not accounted for this big rise, because most of the horses were bought by the Government abroad.

How Hackneys Have Been Bred.

Sir Walter Gilbey's remedy is this: Many farmers have good big vanners—active cart mares of the type left by Blagdon Active, with size and dash and character. Mate these with a thoroughbred horse and you will have a useful horse fit to drag a carriage and use for a day's hunting, and put the next mare you get as a result of the first cross to a Hackney stallion. That is how Hackneys have been bred. The Hackney stallion is looked down upon by many with a great deal of prejudice; but in my opinion it is absolutely the best living. The Hackney is better bred than any thoroughbred at the present moment. When the Darley Arabian came over in 1702 he was the sire that the thoroughbred horses were bred from, and Danegelt, which won last year, is a direct descendant from that Darley Arabian, so that the thoroughbred is not more thoroughbred than the Hackney.

The thoroughbred has been bred solely from one point—to get over a mile or two miles as fast as he can. All his faults have increased in the meantime, and at present the thoroughbred is a weedy and miserable object to what he was a hundred years ago. The Hackney has gone on improving, and in him you have good looks, stamina, and constitution, fine action, and fast enough for ordinary purposes of travelling. The thoroughbred horse will not do any trotting, and there is no doubt this country has lost the old much-prized harness horse. Every big breeder in London says when he has to order a big stylish pair of such horses, he has to go to France to get them. They could be bred here, and it would be a good plan if some would breed a few (applause).

Fatal Farm Fire.—A serious fire occurred last Monday in the outlying districts in the valley of the Stour. Practically the whole of the farm buildings at Supperton, owned by Lord Conyngham, were burned down, and two threshing machine labourers, who were sleeping on the premises, lost their lives. Several bullocks were also burnt to death.

SOCIETIES.

Edinburgh.

The directors of the Edinburgh Agricultural Association met at Edinburgh on Wednesday, Sir James H. Gibson-Craig, chairman of the directors, presiding. The Secretary of the National Veterinary Association asked the association to consider a resolution that horses exhibited at agricultural shows should be submitted to a veterinary examination. The Chairman said a similar resolution had come before the Highland Society, but no action was taken. Unless the national societies took up the matter it was useless for local societies to interfere. The letter was allowed to lie on the table.

The Secretary of the Shetland Pony Stud Book Society intimated, on behalf of Lady Estella Hope, president of the society, a champion prize of £5 for the best pony stallion exhibited at this year's show; and medals were offered by the Hunters Improvement Society, the Hackney Horse Society, and the Polo Pony Society.

The Chairman called attention to the bad conduct of some of the persons in charge of the light-legged horses at the show during the parade after the prizes had been awarded. Two or three of the directors who officiated in the ring had, he said, been assailed with much abuse and bad language from some of those in charge of animals, and he thought something should be done to protect those gentlemen who took upon themselves so much trouble. After some conversation, in the course of which several of the directors condemned the practice of which the chairman complained, and urged that some severe punishment should be imposed on the offenders, it was agreed that, should the offence be repeated by any specified individuals, entries by the employers of such persons should be refused for future shows.

The Secretary (Mr. James Wylie) presented the draft annual report, which stated that there were now 600 members on the roll, and there was a credit balance at the end of the year of £1,481 4s. 7d.—an increase of £64 10s., against a loss the previous year of £73.

The following were recommended to the general meeting for election as office-bearers for next year: President, the Earl of Rosebery; vice-president, Sir James H. Gibson-Craig; and directors, Sir John Usher of Norton, Sir James Miller of Manderston, Mr. Liddell Grainger of Ayton Castle, Captain Hope of Bridgecastle, Mr. William Renwick, Meadowfield, Corstorphine; Mr. Gavin Jack, Swanston; Mr. John Elliot, Hindhope; Mr. F. W. Christie, Dairsie Mains; Mr. George Macmillan, Corstorphine House; Mr. Duncan Stewart, Millhills, Crieff; Mr. John Kerr, Gilmerton; and Mr. Allan, South Bridge, Edinburgh.

It was agreed to hold this year's show on Wednesday, 11th June, and that Hawkhill Recreation Grounds should again be secured, the rent being £60, or an increase of £10 on last year. A committee was afterwards appointed to revise the prize list.

Monmouthshire Chamber.

The annual meeting of the Monmouthshire Chamber of Agriculture will be held on Wednesday next, the 22nd inst., at the King's Head Hotel, Newport, commencing at 12 o'clock noon. The business consists of the usual routine at annual meetings, viz., the receiving of the reports of the council and balance sheet for the past year, election of president, council, and other officers for the ensuing year, etc.

On the same day, at 2.45 p.m., a general meeting will be held in the new commercial room of the hotel named, at which a paper on "Farming in Western Canada" will be read by Mr. J. Thomas Davies. A discussion will follow, and if time then permits a copy of a paper on the subject of "Secondary education, as affecting the rates," read by the Right Hon. Lord Harris, before the Canterbury Farmers' Club and East Kent Chamber of Agriculture, will be considered, together with copy of a resolution upon same.

Lincolnshire Chamber.

The annual meeting of the Lincolnshire Chamber of Agriculture was held at Boston on Wednesday. Mr. J. N. Sutton-Nelthorpe, Scawby Hall, in the chair. The Council's thirty-ninth annual report was presented and adopted. The various subjects which have been discussed during the year were mentioned in the report, whilst it was stated that the members of the Chamber numbered only 205, which should be increased tenfold to secure adequate recognition and influence.

Mr. Cheney Garfit was elected chairman for the year, in succession to Mr. Sutton-Nelthorpe; Alderman William Frankish was reappointed vice-chairman, and Messrs. W. B. Burtt, John Evens, J. C. Mountain, and J. M. Riggall were re-elected members of the Council for the Lincoln district.

Then followed a long discussion on rural depopulation. The debate had been anticipated by a number of branch chambers in the county, and they had passed resolutions on the subject. The Grimsby branch resolved that "provision should be made for allowing boys of twelve years of age and upwards, whose parents desire it, to work on the land, while special opportunities and provision should be made for those who wish to continue their studies either in night schools or by a continuous course of ordinary or higher grade subjects, and that the practice of rural teachers in giving instruction in agricultural subjects be extended as far as possible. This, it is felt, will assist largely in checking the depopulation of the rural districts." The Brigg branch passed the following resolution: "That the Education Act should be so modified that lads of twelve should be enabled to work partially on the farm, and thus give them an interest in agricultural work, with the idea that they would be more likely to remain in the country"; while the Boston branch were of opinion that "the only remedy that would stay rural depopulation would be an increase of the price of agricultural produce so as to enable farmers to pay higher wages."

Rural Depopulation.

The discussion was introduced by Mr. D. Cheney Garfit, of Kenwick Hall who said that the subject was a very important one, not only from the agricultural point of view, but also from the Imperial point of view. This process of village depopulation was increasing. When the present generation of elderly agriculturists was extinct it was difficult to imagine the source from which their places would be filled.

"What we require to do," he continued, "is to get the people in the country to think twice before they desert the villages for the towns. Of course the gains held out to them are in many ways very fictitious. It is held out to them that wages are at a larger rate in the towns, but we must also point out to them that the rate of living in the towns is far higher, that rents and rates are higher, and that work is far more hazardous in the town than in the country. We are already beginning to see a great number of men in the towns who are out of work." He suggested two remedies. Our present educational system, he said, was invented for the cities and not for the country, a fact which had at last been realised by Sir John Gorst. To his mind the school curriculum should contain subjects suitable for country children, and during the summer months, at any rate, children ought to be half-timers, so that they might be encouraged to take an interest in farm work. Then the Board of Education might help agriculture much more than it did. £8,000 a year was a very small amount to receive for agricultural education. For every £506 given for the encouragement of art and science only £1 was given towards agricultural education. Mr Garfit expressed his thorough agreement with the resolutions of the branch Chambers.

Mr. Sutton-Nelthorpe said that this was not the only country suffering from the gravitation of the people to the towns. In France, where he had been living for some time, the same complaint was prevalent, even in official circles. That was a very curious thing, for this reason, that the country was largely cut up by a system of peasant proprietary, and it would certainly have been thought that if anything would keep people on the soil it would be actual possession of it. As a matter of fact, it had not been found so in France. People owning a quarter or half an acre, and having attained the age of 50 or 60, complained that their sons would not go back to the land to take up their little property. They, too, blamed the educational system. And yet in France there were many of those advantages for the training of children to take an interest in country life which it was suggested should be brought more definitely into the curriculum of schools in England. In the vine districts of France vine culture was taught, and in the fruit districts fruit culture; and yet that did not bring the people back to the land.

One might suggest all kinds or remedies, but he was afraid they would come back to the hard common-sense of the Boston Chamber, that more money was wanted in the country. Although some good might be done in the matter of education, he did not think it was very much jumped at by those to whom it was offered. Mr. Hanbury recently spoken in favour of agricultural colleges, and expressed a hope that County Councils would give assistance to the Board of Agriculture and the Board of Education in that direction. In the Lindsey Division of Lincolnshire this had been tried, but the results were most disappointing. Two scholarships of £25 a year and all fees and expenses for a three years' course at the Yorkshire College were offered, and there was not a single candidate. They also offered eight scholarships for a ten weeks' course at the Midland Agriculture Institute at Kingston, in Derbyshire, and for these there were only two candidates. "It is a very puzzling question," said Mr. Sutton-Nelthorpe, in conclusion, "but I believe that the need for more money is at the bottom of it."

Mr. J. Laverack, of South Carlton said that there was not the least doubt that a good price for labour was the only thing that could induce labourers to stay on the land. The rural depopula-

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tion was beginning to react on the towns, and several young fellows were going back to some of the villages. Whether they would permanently stay was another matter. If they paid a sufficient sum they would always retain the people. But to do that they must lessen the cost of production. They should use up-to-date machinery, and as little labour as possible, but the labour should be of the best. It would be better to pay 5s. a day to a man who could adapt himself to the new conditions than half-a-crown to one who couldn't.

Lord Willoughby de Eresby, M.P., suggested that they should pass a resolution asking the Government, in framing their Education Bill, to carefully consider the needs of the rural districts. At the same time he wished it to be clearly understood that he did not hold this out as a means of getting rid of rural depopulation. If they altered the system of education they would not stop the migration to the towns, but there were certain alterations in our educational system which would be of service not only to the farmers but also to the parents of the children. He believed that in Switzerland in certain months of the summer, when there was plenty of work to be done on the farms, the schools were closed altogether, and in winter the children worked at their lessons twice as hard (laughter). He could not believe that at harvest time it could possibly hurt children to help in the fields; it would be better than being at school. The question of rural depopulation, however, his Lordship regarded as an economic one, and he doubted whether any resolutions they might pass, or any action the Government might take, would alter the state of the case. It was one of those things that moved in cycles, and he believed the time was not far distant when there would be a turn in another direction. Rents and rates in towns were high and, as far as he could see, were bound to go higher, and he regarded that as the only solution of the matter. He moved the following resolution:—

"That this Chamber ask the Government, in framing their next Education Bill, to most carefully examine into and consider the educational requirements in the country districts."

This was seconded by Mr. Cheney Garfit, and carried unanimously.

Later in the day the annual dinner of the Chamber took place, at which Mr. Cheney Garfit presided.

Newcastle Farmers' Club.

The annual meeting of the Newcastle Farmers' Club was held at Newcastle-on-Tyne on the 11th inst., Mr. J. C. Straker, M.F.H., the retiring president, in the chair. The committee reported that twelve new members had been elected during the year, the total membership being 300. The accounts showed a credit balance of £14 11s. 4d. An interesting resumé of the year's work included mention of the appointment of a Trade and Traffic Committee of the Northumberland County Council as the outcome of complaints regarding inconvenience caused to the agricultural community by the inadequate provision of facilities for the conveyance of goods and live stock by rail; also, of a resolution passed in favour of adequate legislative measures to compel brewers to use malt and hops only in the manufacture of beer. It was also stated that the hon. secretary, Mr. W. A. Temperley, desired to be relieved of his duties, and the committee had passed a resolution regretting his resignation and recording their appreciation of the valuable services he had rendered during the nine years of his secretaryship.

On the motion of Mr. W. D. Foster-Coull, seconded by Mr. J. W. Wilkinson, the report and accounts were adopted.

Mr. J. R. Carr-Ellison was appointed president of the club for the ensuing year, the name of Mr. W. A. Temperley was added to the list of vice-presidents, and the four retiring members of committee were re-elected. The election of a new secretary, it was stated in the report, will take place at a special meeting on February 1.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. J. C. Straker for his services as president for 1901, the proposition being made by Mr. J. Knox Lyal.

Subsequently the annual dinner of the club was held, at which a large company was present, including the Bishops of Durham and Newcastle and the Mayor of Newcastle.

North-East Somerset.

The annual meeting of the North-East Somerset Farmers' Club was held at Chew Magna, on Tuesday, Mr. E. A. Kemble presiding. There was a good attendance of members and subscribers, including Lieut.-Col. Llewellyn, M.P., and Sir Edward Strachey, Bart., M.P.

The secretary, Mr. J. Tudball, first read the annual report of the committee, in which it was stated that the balance in hand at the end of the current year was £78 16s. 7d., compared with £60 19s. 5d. on December 31st, 1900; but that there are yet many unpaid donations and subscriptions, and if these should not come to hand the above figures will prove misleading. In concluding, the committee state: "We cannot close our report without alluding to, with expressions of great regret, the loss by death during the last year of Sir J. H. G. Smyth, Bart., and Sir Edward Strachey, Bart., both of whom had been generous contributors to this club for many years."

The Right Hon. the Earl of Warwick was elected president, and the following were added to the list of vice-presidents:—The Rev. H. G. Hellier, Mr. H. B. Napier, and the Rev. R. V. S. Penfold. The committee were setrengthened by th addition of Colonel McNair (Chew Magna), Mr. J. W. Banwell (East Harptree), H. Middle (Litton), and J. E. Blair (Newton St. Loe).

It was agreed to hold the next show at Chewton Priory on the last Wednesday in August.

On the motion of Sir Edward Strachey, Bart., M.P., it was decided that the North-East Somerset Farmers' Club should apply to the Central Chamber of Agriculture for admission.

The annual dinner was subsequently held, at which Mr. J. S. G. W. Stroud, one of the vice-presidents, occupied the chair.

Mr. C. A. Kemble, who proposed the toast of "The Members of Parliament for the County," said they were always very pleased to see present at their annual meeting the members representing any part of the county, and they had with them that night two gentlemen who were vice-presidents of the club, and who were conspicuous for the interest they took in agricultural matters and their advocacy thereof in the House of Commons. (Cheers.)

Lieut.-Colonel Llewellyn, M.P., who was very heartily received on rising to acknowledge the toast, said it was really a greater pleasure to speak at a gathering like that than at a purely political gathering, and in this he was sure his friend, Sir Edward, would agree. He thought if the Government could give private members a little time a considerable amount of good might result; but there was no chance at present for a private member with an idea, no matter how reasonable or practical, to carry it into law. For instance, he could name Sir Edward Strachey as amongst those in the House of Commons who took an interest in agricultural matters, but there was no chance just now for the private member to carry a useful practical suggestion into law. One question in which Sir Edward had interested himself lately was that of milk—a question which was important to his constituents and to himself. What they would like to see was that the farmer got not only a fair return for the milk he produced and sold, but that the milk was sold to the public in the large towns in the same wholesome condition as when it left their farmyard. Parliament would assemble this week, and they were told that a good deal of time would be taken up in matters affecting the rules of procedure. He knew nothing of what was likely to be proposed, but he hoped that the alterations, whatever they might be, would conduce to the honour of the British House of Commons, the Mother of Parliaments. He would like to refer to the carrying into operation of an Act which he thought would be both useful and effective, namely, the Light Railways Act, which was passed some time ago. He was glad to say that in their neighbourhood they had already the advantage of a light railway up the Wrington Valley—a line which he would like to see come further into their neighbourhood, because the more they saw of it the more convinced they were of the advantages to the farming community of a convenient railway system. He believed the introduction of this Act would be of great advantage to the country constituencies, and as years went on he thought they would find these railways extending, so that farmers might get their produce to large centres at less expensive rates. In concluding, the gallant member said it was a pleasure for him to meet Sir Edward and other friends at a gathering of that kind. Sir Edward had exerted himself unsparingly in the cause of agriculture, and they were all glad to know that he had succeeded another Somerset worthy as president of the Central Chamber of Commerce. (Hear, hear.)

Sir Edward Strachey, Bart, M.P., endorsed the views expressed by Lieut.-Colonel Llewellyn, when that gentleman said it should be their object to make the House of Commons a more efficient machine than it was at present for discussing more fully and more adequately the wants and the needs of the nation; but he (Sir Edward) would go further, and say that he was ready to support an alteration of the rules of procedure which would make the House of Commons more independent of the Government of the day, whatever it was, and would not tend to make the Government more independent of the House of Commons than it was. He thought it was high time that the length of the speeches of some of those members who spoke on any and every subject was curtailed. This would give an opportunity for the discussion of those questions which were of interest and importance to the community, and were now put on one side for want of time. It was satisfactory to know that the President of the Board of Agriculture had promised during the next Session to give prominence to some of the agricultural questions now before the country. He would like to point out that the report of the Committee on Food Preservatives recommended that there should be no colouring matter introduced into milk. That was a question which the hon. member for North Somerset and himself had fought in the House of Commons unsuccessfully; but they now had the satisfaction of knowing that the committee appointed to consider the matter had reported that they were right, and the Government wrong, in refusing to stop the introduction of this colouring matter. He objected to preservatives of a deleterious nature being put into milk and butter. He believed that more harm was done to the legitimate butter trade by colouring margarine than by anything else, and it was an abominable fraud upon the working classes that margarine should be foisted upon them instead of butter, and it was often sold by the shopkeepers in ignorance themselves. It was kindred questions to these which the House of Commons could not consider from want of time, and it was hoped that an alteration of the rules of procedure would give time for the discussion of the questions of real good and importance. (Applause.)

The Chairman, in proposing "Success to the North-East Somerset Farmers' Club," remarked that the club had been in existence for many years, but at its formation there were not many local organisations formed to further the cause of agriculture. He thought that that club had justified its existence, notwithstanding that the prices for cattle to-day were not so good as they were years since. That was not the fault of the club, but of the times, and he was not so sure but for that and like organisations prices would be a great deal lower. He was glad to know that the club was to be affiliated with the Central Chamber of Agriculture. He hoped with the revival of agriculture that they would see an increase in the growth of corn. He did not mind saying that he was a Fair Trader, and that he should like to see a sliding scale adopted which would encourage farmers to lay down more corn land, and so keep in the country a great deal of the vast sums of money which now went out of it.

Mr. C. A. Kemble responded, and congratulated the members upon the success of the day's proceedings. He remarked that if the usefulness of the club was to be maintained the members must progress with the times. There were several ways by which interest might be sustained and good result. The practical side of farmwork might be recognised and encouraged, and amongst these might be included three essentials — thatching, hedging, and ditching.

Northumberland.

The annual general meeting of the members of the Northumberland Agricultural Society will be held at Newcastle on the 21st inst., Lord Ridley in the chair. The usual business will come before the meeting, viz.:—To receive the council's report and statement of accounts; to elect new members of the society; to fix a place and date for holding the annual show; to elect vice-presidents for the ensuing year; to elect ten members of the council, as ordered by the articles of association; to elect a finance committee of four members of the council; to elect a local committee for the purposes of supporting the society; motion by Mr. William Bell—"That the sum of £200 be set aside to provide for the continuation of the pedigree bull scheme"; motion by Mr. Robert Carr—"That the Board of Agriculture be petitioned by this society to remove all restrictions against the free importation of Canadian cattle into this country." The report of the council states that the annual revenue account shows a loss of £7 10s. 6d., the cash balance at the credit of the society now being £1,284 18s. 3d. The annual show for 1902 will most probably be held at Newcastle-on-Tyne, in which event the council advise an amalgamation with the Newcastle Horticultural Society.

Rutland.

The Rutland Agricultural Society's annual meeting took place at Oakham, on Monday. The Earl of Gainsborough, the President, was in the chair, and stated that the accounts were, on the whole, very satisfactory, for after paying expenses they had a surplus of something like £26. They had an exceedingly good show last year, the entries being numerous, while the general excellence of the exhibition was most gratifying. In gate money they established a record, the takings amounting to £53, against £43 the previous year. He believed it was £10 more than they had ever realised in one day since the show was started. One thing which he though reflected very great credit upon the judges was the fact that their expenses only amounted to £3 8s. 6d., the bulk of which went in railway expenses for one gentleman who had to come a long distance by rail. Every one of the judges came practically at their own expense, and some from a good distance, and the society was very grateful to them. They gave their time, and many must have been considerably out of pocket. The affairs of the society were

certainly very satisfactory; they were really about £24 better off than they were last year.

A few alterations were made in the list of vice-presidents, and the four retiring members of the committee. Messrs. Rowell, Painter, J. Royce, and Simpson, were re-elected. Mr. J. Littler was re-elected veterinary surgeon. Mr. D. N. Royce auditor, and Mr. Scott treasurer, and on the motion of Mr. T. Bradshaw, seconded by Mr. Adam, these gentlemen were heartily thanked for their services during the past year. Mr. Adam proposed the re-appointment of Mr. R. Healy as secretary, remarking that he had discharged his duties in a most efficient way. This was carried unanimously.

It was resolved to hold the show this year on September 4th. Other dates were submitted, but it was pointed out that shows had already been fixed for these, and it was thought advisable to have the exhibition on a day which would not clash with other societies in adjoining districts. The various classes in last year's schedule were then revised.

Mr. J. T. Bradshaw observed that if they gave £11 more in prizes in the horse section the Shire Horse Society would give a gold medal instead of a silver one. It was agreed to adopt the suggestion, and to create an extra open class for the best shire filly, three years old, the first prize to be £8 and the second £4. It was decided to insert the words "a tenant farmer" in all the classes except the open ones, after the words "having been the property of the owner."

The Chairman said he had received a letter from Sir Arthur Fludyer, asking that his prize of £5, which had hitherto been given in class 33, for the best four-year-old hunting mare, should be given to a one, two, or three-year-old horse which had not been docked. He added that Sir Arthur had an objection to horses being docked. It was decided to give Sir Arthur Fludyer's prize for the best undocked horse in classes 30, 31, and 32, the £5 prize removed from class 33 to be substituted by a similar one from the society's funds.

The Right Hon. G. J. Noel proposed an alteration in the conditions of the lightweight class, which had hitherto stated the weight should be 13 stones and under. He had heard many complaints about this, as the heavy-weight often carried off the prize. He thought it should be made to read "to carry 13 stones and under." This suggestion was agreed to. It was pointed out that on the show day many exhibitors experienced difficulty in getting their stock there in time, and it was agreed to try for one year a proposal that the time for admission be not later than eight o'clock instead of seven.

Suffolk Horse.

The Council of the Suffolk Horse Society met at Ipswich on Tuesday, Sir Cuthbert Quilter, Bart., M.P., presiding. The first business of the meeting was to select six names, to be forwarded to the Royal Society for their consideration when appointing the Suffolk horse judges.

Mr. James Toller said there was one gentleman he should like to propose who was outside the county. He referred to Mr. Sugden, of Staffordshire, and should like to see that gentleman amongst the six names sent up to the Royal.

Mr. W. Byford thought they should exercise the utmost care in making selections from localities where there might be but few Suffolks. He was, perhaps, one of the oldest exhibitors at the Royal and other shows, and he found that there was often the greatest prejudice against the Suffolks on the part of the Shire men. It behoved them, therefore, to act with the greatest care in this matter. Before they selected a fresh man they should know something about him and the locality from which he came.

Mr. Alfred J. Smith said he believed the gentleman named was a good judge of horses.

Mr. James Toller said he certainly should not have brought the name forward unless he had good authority for so doing.

The following names were agreed upon:—Mr. F. G. Cook, Mr. Sugden (Staffordshire), Mr. W. Toller, Mr. J. Sturley Nunn, Mr. D. F. Smith, Mr. W. Byford, and Mr. Godfrey Hempson.

The date of the general meeting of the society was fixed for March 18th.

The next business was to select twelve names to be submitted to the general meeting to fill vacancies on the Council. The following were selected:—Mr. A. T. Pratt, Mr. F. S. Lewin, Mr. R. Edgar, Mr. E. A. Cook, Mr. W. Whitlock, Mr. R. Eaton White, Rev. Mr. Taylor, Mr. W. Estaugh, Mr. Peter Hay, Mr. W. E. Wilson, Mr. H. Turner, and Mr. B. A. Posford.

Seven new members were elected, and Mr. R. Eaton White was made a life member of the society.

Mr. S. M'C. Macmillan, of Laighwood, near Birnam, who was known throughout Scotland as an extensive sheep farmer and an excellent judge of stock, died suddenly on Sunday morning last. Laighwood is one of the largest farms on the Atholl estate, and had been in the occupation of Mr. Macmillan for the past twenty-five years.

BARLEY AND MALT.

By Hordeum.

Sowing.

From the way the season seems working, and bearing in mind a number of the old saws, especially those that fit in with a preconceived opinion, it seems probable we may this year have the swing of the pendulum in favour of early sowing. As last year was the latest on record, we may get a little of the supposed law of compensation and see our fields ready for sowing this Spring at an early date. Whatever happens, it is certainly wiser to be ready for any contingency than to let things drift.

It is true a number of our best seedsmen try to induce their customers to order early, but it would be a distinct gain all round, and especially to the farmer, if no such inducement were needed. It is certain seed will soon be required. It is either on the farm already or must be obtained from some outside source.

Change of Seed.

has been made by so many men with satisfactory results that it seems a desirable and commendable practice. Consequently, we may take it for granted that many growers are already thinking, or soon will be, of buying as much as they may require.

Now, there are two very practical questions at the outset which can be just as well determined at once as at any other time. These are, How much? and what?

The differences in opinion as to how much barley should be sown per acre are very extraordinary. Although it is now practically impossible to find any man still sowing as much as six bushels per acre, there are still very many who use over four bushels, and there are less who use a bushel and a-half.

Countless experiments have been made for very many years past with a view to determine the best amount to use, but the answer to the question yet remains to be given. It seems such a simple thing.

How Much to Sow?

is one of the simplest experiments that any man can gain light upon for his own guidance, with a very slight amount of care or bother. Any field can be taken which is at all uniform in the character of soil, and one half can receive four or six bushels, whilst the other half can have six or eight pecks or more. From the first tillering notice can be paid to the differences, if any, right up to the time of harvest, and then if the field is big enough to carry two stacks, one side can be kept apart altogether. If not, a very small amount of trouble is given in dividing a stack before threshing and keeping the produce apart, when all differences in quality and quantity are easily determined.

It seems very certain that if good, practical farmers are satisfied with the result of sowing six pecks, that the men who use sixteen are overdoing it, and wasting seed.

After making due allowances for all differences in soil and nature of grain sown wide, so a divergence does not seem desirable. Some ingenious theorists have tried to show that the number of grains per bushel is an important factor.

Variations in Number

are much wider than are commonly supposed, but after all the widest difference does not amount in practice to three to one. But using the same seed for the experiment on two parts of the same field reduces the limit of variation under this heading to nothing. Consequently, if one side shows any gain over the other, after all factors are allowed for duly, that would seem to be the course to adopt, and it is a great pity the whole subject is not taken up on a sufficiently general scale to make the result satisfactory and definite. A much more important question really is

What to Sow?

for here, again, we find the widest differences of opinion amongst eminently practical men of sound judgment. There are many breeds and types of barley, yet each one finds ardent champions and equally dogmatic detractors. The matter is one in which the opinions of buyers and users ought to carry some weight, only one finds some classes of brewers and maltsters affected by mere prejudice to such a degree that very scant deference can be paid to their opinions.

A ludicrous instance of this occurred only a few weeks ago, when a brewer wrote to the *Field*, stating that six-rowed barleys were not approved and used by brewers, ignoring the fact that vast quantities of this very grain have been regularly imported for many years, and malted and brewed with the utmost satisfaction. Very sorry-looking stuff some of it has seemed at times, and the percentage of husk, or thick "great coat," has been very heavy, yet even in Burton itself vast quantities have been used. We have to assume, therefore, either that prejudice makes men try to cover up the facts, or they use this stuff, which is often called chicken food, without knowing its true character, and consequently their prejudice is of a very puerile type.



By Lupulin.

Home Notes.

The Borough.

Commencing with spirit as soon as the holidays were concluded, business has developed to an extent quite exceptional for the period. The absence of any choice samples has compelled buyers to be less exacting, and they have taken over many of the medium lots previously rejected, and during the past week have even bought with comparative freedom some inferior growths. Enquiries for "olds" and "old olds" have also come forward, and several transactions have taken place therein. This general activity has strengthened the tone of the market, and slight advances have been obtained for hops that have any pretension to colour and quality. With respect to the lower sorts, wanting in colour and more or less diseased, although they are changing hands with sufficient rapidity to warrant higher prices, buyers have thus far refused to advance their offers, and the range of figures at which business is doing done is so absurdly low that I hesitate to repeat it.

This season's experience is pregnant with lessons for English growers; if they do not take them to heart, and profit by them, they must be far less alive to their own interests than I suppose them to be. May I ask my friends if they have ever worked out this simple calculation? Take this year's crop at 650,000 cwts., which apparently will not realise a higher average than 40s. per cwt. The total gross value, therefore, does not exceed £1,300,000, which sum will be largely discounted by expense before it reaches the hand of growers. Supposing that instead of this large yield of inferior stuff, the supply were limited to 450,000 cwts. of well-matured, sound hops, which would realise an average of 80s.; the total money value would then be £1,800,000, showing advantage on the selling figures alone of half a million. If to this be added the saving effected in cultivating and especially in picking the smaller crop. We may safely reckon upon a total balance in favour of the industry of at least £750,000. Surely these figures are worthy of consideration. If they are incorrect, let me be put right, but if, as I believe, they contain the germs of truth, I trust my friends will accept and act upon them, and save themselves from the painful errors of the season of 1901.

The Trade in Foreign Hops

is practically confined to American growths. A consignment of 2,800 bales from Oregon, sent under the auspices of the local hop growers' association, was disposed of before the arrival of the hops at prices quite satisfactory to the shippers, and all Pacifics are readily bought at high and improving prices. It is rather hard for English growers to know that there is no difficulty in selling such hops at 80s., while our own produce is fixed at such miserable figures. But brewers want preservative strength, on the one hand, and delicate flavour on the other, and many of them are, therefore, content to pay high prices either for American or Bavarian hops, in order to secure those qualities of which our season's growth is so generally deficient. Had we the hops to offer, which would meet the requirements of consumers, there would have been no trade at all for foreign imports this season.

Foreign Notes.

Nuremberg.

After a short period of comparative inaction, which characterised the early days of the new year, business has developed, and during the past week the demand for hops was sufficiently brisk to established a very firm tone, accompanied by manifest advance in values. As arrivals have not nearly equalled the sales, the holdings of dealers have been reduced to such an extent that they are not now pressing buyers to operate, as considerable confidence is felt that much higher prices will be obtainable in the near future. Strength is, therefore, the chief feature of the market, and

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All official reports and notices of the National Association of English Hop Growers will be printed in the MARK LANE EXPRESS, *which will also contain all current information likely to be of interes and benefit to the members of the society.*

its continuance is the more certain, as its origin is based entirely upon local requirements; the export trade being unimportant, and exercising very little influence upon the position.

Belgium.

The market is generally much firmer than before the holidays. On the Brussels Bourse values have advanced by 2 to 3 points, and the diminution of stocks in first hand is creating an upward movement of price is Alost and Papernighe. Dealers are finding more difficulty in purchasing sufficient to cover their sale contracts for January and February, as growers are very firm in their insistance upon higher prices than buyers are disposed to give. The Belgian imports for eleven months of 1981, ending Novemebr 30th, amounted to 1,487,972 kilos, being considerably deficient of the quantity imported in the same months of the previous year. As usual, the bulk of these (equal to six-sevenths of the whole) came from Germany, England contributing only a small quantity, and American hops having apparently gone out of Belgian consumption. The exports from Belgium during same period were 878,222 kilos., the largest part going to France, the shipments to England being very small. The total exports exceeded those of 1900 by about 100,000 kilos.

America.

Business in hops was necessarily limited during the holidays, and for a few days after their conclusion, but during the past week it has been resumed with vigour, and in presence of the strong home demand, values are gradually but steadily advancing. The arrival of hops at New York from September 1st to December 27th last were 49,513 bales, whereas in the same period of the previous year, 113,666 bales were received. The exports to Europe for the season present a similar striking contrast, being 44,561 in 1900, and only 22,494 bales in 1901. Careful enquiries in the hop-growing districts furnish the information that very few hops are now held by growers, the agents of buyers having been specially active during the past few weeks. The general position of affairs indicates increasing strength, and it may be concluded with comparative certainty that exports will be still further diminished, as local consumers will practically absorb the whole of the available balance of the crop.

Looking Backward.

(*Continued from page* 59.)

Parliamentary Action

during the past year has not affected the prospects of our industry to any important extent. In the early part of the session, Colonel Brookfield obtained from the Chancellor of the Exchequer an undertaking that from October 1st last, the books kept in all breweries for the information of the Officers of Inland Revenue, should include statements of the hops consumed, and also particulars of any preservatives or other substances used in substitution for or supplemental to hops. The returns arising therefrom will be valuable, in enabling us to calculate correctly our annual demand, and in regulating our supplies accordingly. The speculative estimates of consumption by which we have hitherto been guided, have, I fear, led us into error, as I am inclined to think they have been somewhat exaggerated.

The Beer Bill (the outcome of the Arsenic Scare) passed its second reading March 27th by a majority of 112, in face of the strenuous opposition of the Government. The House of Commons thus most emphatically expressed its opinion, of the necessity of further legislation for securing the purity of our national beverage; but it was admitted on all sides that the Bill was not sufficiently definite, and was practically unworkable in detail. The question was therefore shelved for the remainder of the session, and its promoters have been, in the meantime, engaged in redrafting the measure, which will be again discussed at an early date.

With reference to this subject, it may be recalled that during the period of alarm created by

The Beer-Poisoning Cases

all the materials used in brewing were investigated, and several unfounded statements were made concerning the communication of arsenic to beer by means of hops. Brewers even demanded from the traders that they should guarantee their hops to be free from the poison. The London Hop Trade Association took the matter up in earnest, and, having consulted Mr. Bryant, the eminent analytical chemist, issued a circular, quoting Mr. Bryant's letter, which declared that the accusation against hops was absolutely without foundation, and that, therefore, the traders were not disposed to give the guarantee demanded. Nothing further has since been heard of the matter; we may, therefore, safely conclude that our product is honourably acquitted of any share in the sad effects of the tainted glucose.

S.-E. Agricultural College at Wye.

This institution now occupies an important position towards the English hop-growing industry, as it is recognised as our centre of scientific investigation into the cultivation, training, and curing of our crops. The information already attained by the staff is accepted by advanced planters as most valuable, and I am therefore glad to record, that during the past year the opportunities for study at the college have been extended by the enlargement of the buildings and by costly additions to the scientific apparatus. These extensions were inaugurated in the summer by the Right Hon. the President of the Board of Agriculture, who was supported by a very numerous assembly of farmers and others interested in the college.

The annual conference of planters was held in November, and was much more largely attended than any previous similar gathering. Colonel Brookfield, M.P., presided, and the increased and more enlightened interest taken in the proceedings by the growers, proved that the days of indifference to science are rapidly passing, and that modern farmers are becoming more desirous to avail themselves of the advantages now brought within their reach.

I note that Mr. Hall, the esteemed and learned principal of the college, has visited Worcester and other hop-growing centres, and addressed several meetings on the subject of the college investigations.

The Borough Factors

have met in consultation, and have decided to issue a circular to their clients to the following effect:—"In consequence of the increased expenses incurred by factors in warehousing growers' hops, we are compelled, in order to lessen our loss, to make a charge of 4d. per pocket for receiving, weighing, and delivering on all hops sent into our warehouses for sale. In order that our commissions for selling hops may be placed on a more equitable basis, we hereby agree that every rise in price of 5s. per cwt. shall bear its proper proportion of the existing scale of commission." These resolutions will take effect from September 1st, 1902, and will, I trust, work out, on the whole, for the benefit of growers, although I am prepared to hear of some objection to the increased charge mentioned in the first paragraph.

There have been but few changes in the *personnel* of the Borough hop-traders. One defaulting member has been removed by the hand of Justice from the scene of his operations, and is now suffering the penalty of his errors. A large firm engaged in the Continental and the home trade, was compelled to consult its creditors early in the season. The offers made for the compounding of liabilities being considered unsatisfactory, it seemed probable that the business would be liquidated by the Official Receiver in Bankruptcy. I am glad to learn that this extreme course has been obviated, by the transfer of the business into the hands of another substantial house, who will unite it with their own. The general business of the past year, has been very unsatisfactory both to merchants and factors. The former were compelled by the downward course of the market to make serious sacrifices upon their early purchases, and in consequence of the low prices which have prevailed, the commissions of the latter were very unremunerative.

The Worcester Hop Fair

of September last was made notable by the revolt of the growers against an important firm, who for many years have exercised almost supreme influence over the district trade. Considering themselves aggrieved by a circular issued to brewers by the firm referred to, the growers stopped the business of the fair, blockaded the partners of the firm in their local office, and kept them prisoners during the whole of the afternoon.

My record of the events of the year would be incomplete if I did not refer to the great loss sustained by our industry in the death of

Miss Ormerod, LL.D.

This lady, whose life was devoted to the study of entomology, rendered incalculable service to hop-growers by her investigations into the origin and life history of the numerous insect pests that hinder the growth of our plants. The information she obtained was always freely placed at our disposal, and she never failed or delayed in answering enquiries or reporting on specimens submitted to her. Her published works remain as evidence of her indomitable perseverance, and their value will assist in modifying the regret with which the intelligence of her decease was received.

Another good friend to our cause has been taken from us in the person of Mr. A. J. Stanton. For many years editor of this journal, he was anxious to promote the interests of English hop-growing by making it a feature in his columns. To him is due the initiation of "Lupulin's" weekly contributions, and the writer has confidence that his efforts have not been without some good results.

In conclusion, I trust that our future will not be darkened by the clouds that have enshrouded our past, and, for the encouragement of my readers, I venture upon a classical quotation: "Sperate et vosmet rebus servate secundis," which, being freely interpreted, will read: "Live in hope, and reserve yourselves for more prosperous circumstances."

The attention of planters has been directed during 1901 to certain

New Inventions,

having for their object the better treatment of hops during the curing process. Chief amongst them, and the most novel, is the hot air drying apparatus devised by Messrs. Jones Bros., of Northington, Worcester. This arrangement approaches nearer to an ideal system of hop curing, than any that has preceded it. The absolute certainty with which the heat can be regulated, its innocuous character, and the rapidity of its action upon the hops, are features in the invention which deserve the careful attention of growers. The cost of laying down the necessary plant may perhaps interfere with its general adoption, but advanced planters will surely examine its merits. The introduction of such a system is a decided step forward on the scientific side of our industry.

Mr. Blackie, whose well-known reversible kiln boxes are appreciated by those who have tried them, has patented a modification of his system, by which he proposes to reduce the initial cost, and to render the receptacles for the hops on the kiln floor, as portable. Mr. Joseph, of Farnham, has also patented an arrangement of boxes to carry the hops to and from the drying floor, and to retain them during drying, and claims thereby to increase the heating area of the floor, and thus reduce the consumption of fuel, at the same time securing the cones unbroken. This invention has not yet gone beyond the model stage, and has yet to be tested practically.

The Associations

which watch over the interests of the two main sections of the industry, have been engaged in work to a greater or less extent. The Council of the N.A.E.H.G. has held several meetings, at which many important matters were discussed. The clause in the Beer Bill prohibiting the use of hop substitutes was initiated by us, and inserted into the Bill by our President. At a general meeting of growers held in September, the position of the crop and the probable course of the trade were carefully considered, and certain conclusions were expressed in a circular afterwards issued to the whole body of planters. Had the advice then given, been universally adopted, the trade would have been directed into much more satisfactory lines than we have since experienced. Unfortunately for the industry, the absence of unity and co-operation is its fatal weakness, and I earnestly trust that the forcible and painful lesson of the past season will induce our people to rally round the national flag, displayed for their guidance by our Association Leaders.

The proceedings of the London Hop Trade Association have taken an ordinary course, as no uncommon or striking circumstances have occurred to engage the attention of the members. A few, comparatively unimportant cases of settlement of disputes by arbitration have again demonstrated the superiority of such an arrangement over litigation. The existence of such a compact combination in the Borough, should, however, act as a powerful incentive to all English growers to combine in like manner for self-protection.

Death of Captain Tibbits.—It is with regret we record the death of Captain John Maunsell Tibbits, of Barton Seagrave, Kettering. The deceased gentleman, who was in his eighty-second year, was an enthusiastic and highly successful farmer and horse breeder, and his death will be mourned by many agriculturists as that of a friend. Captain Tibbits also wrote much on agriculture and horses, and was for years a valued correspondent of the MARK LANE EXPRESS. In 1858 he married Lady Hood (mother of the present peer) as her third husband, and she has thus outlived them all.

The Governors of Guy's Hospital have issued a circular to the tenants of their Lincolnshire estates, situate in the Sutton Bridge district, stating the terms upon which the hospital authorities offer to sell. Thirty per cent. of the purchase money is to be paid down at once, and the balance by such equal half-yearly instalments as shall repay principal at 3½ per cent. interest in a period of 30 years. The Governors also state that they have on two recent occasions received bona-fide offers for the purchase of the whole of the Lincolnshire estates at Sutton Bridge on a basis apparently calculated on a far higher scale than that of the present rental. Fifty-two acres of the property are let in allotments, and there are also a number of small holdings, but the tenants of these have not received the option of purchase, but a syndicate of local gentlemen interested in small holdings are taking steps to secure the purchase of the allotment land, so as to continue the existing allotments.

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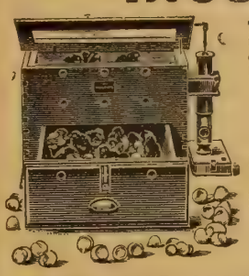


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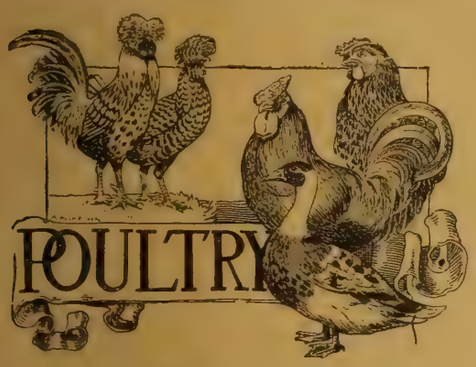
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Food-Stuffs for Poultry.*

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By H. B. GREENE, M.R.C.S.

* A lecture delivered under the auspices of the Utility Poultry Clud by Mr. N. B. Greene.

If the utility poultry-keeper will only apply the same principles of the combination of the necessary constituents to the feeding of his bords he will assuredly find that, even if the food-stuffs should cost a little more (and it does not follow that they will) a very much larger profit will be secured upon the increased and improved produce obtained by adopting a rational system of feeding.

When we speak of the "nutritive ratio" of any dietary we use a term which signifies the proportion in which the nitrogenous, as compared with the carbonaceous constituents enter into that dietary. The key to successful feeding lies in the skill with which the poultry-keeper arranges the nutritive ratio of that diet and so selects his food-stuffs that each group of chemical constituents will be represented in no more nor less than the necessary proportions.

That proportion should be so adjusted that there will be one part by weight of albuminoids to 4½ or 5 parts of carbonaceous food-stuffs.

To put it more plainly, out of every 100 parts by weight of poultry food supplied in a daily ration, the percentage of the four necessary groups should be as follows:—

Nitrogenous	12 to 15 per cent.
Carbonaceous	55 to 65 ,, ,,
Salts	1 to 4 ,, ,,
Water	32 to 16 ,, ,,

Whether the minimum or maximum figures are taken in compiling a diet will depend upon such varying conditions as the breed and size of the birds, their range of liberty, the climatic conditions of their surroundings, and the amount of produce, either in flesh or eggs, which they are at the time expected to manufacture.

Every poultry-keeper's store room should contain a tabulated list of the chemical composition of all the principal poultry food-stuffs in common use, with the aid of which it is not difficult to calculate a number of diet tables to suit all conditions under which poultry are kept, and which will conform in ratio of their constituents to the standard or ideal ratio.

For example, let us suppose that we have some fowls which have gone through a laying season as well as through their moult, and are doing what members of the theatrical profession call "resting." Let us build up a suitable dietary for these birds.

The morning meal might consist of a mash made up of:—

By weight.	Nitro.	Percentage of Car.	M. Salts.	Water.	Tl.
2 parts middlings ..	36	126	10	28	200
1 part barley meal..	12	73	3	12	100
1 part meat scraps..	16	18	4	62	100
Divide by 4.....	64	217	17	102	400
Per cent. of relative materials	16	54¼	4¼	25½	100

Now, on comparing these resulting figures with the standard laid down as advisable, we find that the nitrogenous materials are in excess while the carbonaceous are deficient. For the evening meal we would therefore select a grain which will correct the difference and balance the day's diet to the requisite standard.

Such a grain is wheat, and the result will be:—

	Nitro.	Percentage of Car.	M. Salts.	Water.	Tl.
Evening meal—wheat	12	74	2	12	100
Per cent. of morning meal was	16	54¼	4¼	25½	100
Divide by 2.....	28	128¼	6½	37½	200
Per cent. of relative materials	14	64⅛	3⅛	18¾	100

in accordance with standard ratio.

Foods for Egg-Production.

But the utility poultry-keeper naturally desires his birds to do more than rest. He expects them not only to lay, but to lay often, to lay large eggs, to lay eggs rich in nutriment.

An egg is often spoken of as being full of meat, and the saying is certainly appropriate, for eggs stand in the same nutritive relation to the embryos of oviparous animals as milk does to the young of mammalia.

Both are in their way perfect foods, and both are produced under conditions which are attended by loss of strength and physical degeneration, unless the system which is parting with so much nutriment is daily replenished by a supply more than sufficient to replace the loss. What this enormous loss is can best be realised by the following facts. A pullet weighing, say 6¼ lb. will lay an egg of 2¼ oz. (average weight). If both carcase of pullet and egg be analysed and the weight of water contained in each be deducted, it will be found that the total remaining solids (albumen, fat and salts) will, in the case of the carcase, weigh 26 oz., while the same solids in the egg will turn the scale at 7-16ths of an oz. In laying each egg, therefore, the pullet parts with about 1-60th part by weight of the total solid nutriment of her own body. Hence the necessity for a compensating increase in the proportion of solids in the diet in order to supply the nutriment for egg-formation over and above that required for growth and the maintenance of warmth, and this addition to the diet can best be effected by an increase in the nitrogenous supply; for if the carbonaceous foods are given in excess, fat is laid down around the egg organs, which, by its mechanical pressure, interferes with the formation and passage of the eggs, or else congestion of the liver occurs, causing sluggish circulation in the oviduct and consequent inflammation of its walls. In either case, diminution of the egg-supply is the result. The nitrogenous ratio can be increased by including oats, clover, hay, granulated meat, cut bone or bone meal, and green food.

I am convinced there is no better grain than good, plump oats to promote laying qualities, therefore let that be the most frequently-selected of the grains, and next to that wheat is to be commended. Clover hay is used largely in America in the diet of laying hens, either freshly-cut or dried. The dry hay is chopped very fine and steeped in hot water before mixing with the soft food, or is ground into a meal.

Clover hay has a high albuminoid ratio (about 1 : 3), and is therefore a handy addition to diet when its albuminoid ratio must be increased.

Green food of any kind is another necessary addition to the diet of laying fowls, and it has been clearly proved that in confinement a given number of birds will lay more eggs when green food is added to the dietary than the same number of birds of equal age and breed, kept under similar conditions with the exception that green food is withheld, although the size of the eggs is not affected.

But the addition of meat, whether in the form of granulated meat or a chopped-up paunch, will not only produce an increase in the number of eggs laid, but size and weight of the eggs will be greater. Most of all will this be the case when freshly-ground bone is used to increase the albuminoids, and in this particular ground bone is much to be preferred to ground meat meal, as the following experiment, conducted at the West Virginia University Experiment Station, proves.

Thirty-four Barred Plymouth Rock hens and two cocks were divided into two similar lots, and fed upon the same rations of grain, meal, water, and grit, but to the diet of one lot was added dried meat meal, while to the diet of the other lot was added ground fresh bone.

The experiment commenced on October 25th, and continued for 120 days.

The results were that the lot which was fed with ground fresh bone not only laid more and larger eggs, but they increased considerably more in weight and were healthier than the meat meal lot.

(To be continued.)

The Wet Egg.

Sir,—An egg when it is laid is a wet egg (the shell is wet), and the longer you can keep an egg wet the fresher it will remain. This is a truth expounded I believe, for the first time, and has never before appeared in print. Why do we hear so much, especially through the winter months, about bad and stale eggs? We know that hens, with all their faults, never lay stale eggs; we also know, to our cost, that but few hens during the winter lay any eggs at all, good or bad! Then where do we get our stale British eggs from? We stupidly make them stale by dry storing. If all British eggs were wet stored the day they were laid, such a thing as a bad or even an indifferent egg would become a novelty, a curiosity, instead of being an everyday article of commerce. We all know that an egg becomes

stale by keeping, but let me add, by improper keeping. If an egg is kept a week it is far from fresh, if kept a month it becomes very stale, even objectionable; if kept three or four months it becomes what is termed "the egg," "shop egg," "the foreigner," "not warranted," or, to be more precise, the bad or rotten egg!

We all know what dry storing is, when we look at a lot of eggs in a shop window or upon a shelf in the farmer's larder. Wet storing is the placing of eggs the day they are laid in glass water, and leaving them there until they are sold or required for immediate use. It matters not whether they have been wet stored a week, a month, or even five or six months, they continue equally fresh and always good alike. Surely this is a matter of some importance to the British farmer, the shopkeeper, and to every housekeeper. There is one way, and only one way, of forcing our farmers and shopkeepers to practise a little care and attention on the freshness of the eggs they supply. Let all housekeepers refuse to purchase British eggs from any shop unless they see them taken wet out of the preserving pan, and let all shopkeepers refuse to take in farmers' eggs except with a guarantee that they have all been wet stored the day they were collected from the nests. There is no more trouble to wet store than to dry store, the only difference being placing the eggs in a dry box or basket in the one case, and into a bucket one-third filled with water glass in the other instance. Where, then, is the extra labour?

Lime water has, for a century or more, been used in many private families as a preservative, but water glass is far better. The American and our own agricultural experimental farms and colleges have conclusively proved that glass-preserved eggs, even after six months' storing, were as nearly equal to a "new-laid" as a preserved egg can possibly be. Eggs kept in lime water, after several months' immersion, are apt to partake of a limy flavour, and are only useful for kitchen purposes, but not for the egg cup. I can speak personally as to the efficacy of water glass, for I have just finished two nine-gallon barrels of eggs, which I so preserved last spring and summer. These eggs proved as sound and good as when I stored them nearly six months back; and, indeed, many of them, when the top was removed, retained within that "milky" matter so characteristic of an egg taken straight from the nest.

All foreign and imported eggs are of necessity more or less stale and of uncertain age, having been laid weeks, and sometimes months, before they reach our markets. But the foreigner is more alive to his own interests than we are, and already they are beginning to practise the wet storing in water glass, and unless we mend our ways the day is not far distant when the stale, dry-stored egg will become the speciality of the British farmer and shopkeeper. It took twenty years before our farmers could be induced to adopt, even here and there, the Dutch factory system, to secure a good butter of uniform quality; how many years will it take us before we shall trouble ourselves to preserve the freshness of our eggs? As water glass is now an article of commerce, and quite cheap, let us hope that a jar of it may soon become a fixture in the larder or storeroom of all householders in town and country who can appreciate a fresh egg in preference to a more or less stale or bad one.

K. B. Baghot-De-La-Bere.

Burbage Hall, Leicestershire.

AGRICULTURAL LAW.

Milk Churns as Measures.

A case of considerable interest to dairy farmers was heard at the Hull City Police Court on Monday, when Mr. Joseph Travis, of The Grange, Shottle, Derbyshire, was summoned by the Hull Corporation for offences under the Weights and Measures Act. Mr. H. A. Learoyd prosecuted for the Corporation, and Mr. J. O. Andrews, barrister, Leeds (instructed by Messrs. Smith and Bostock), appeared for the Derby County Dairy Farmers' Association, who defended the action.

Counsel for the prosecution stated that two summonses had been taken out against the defendant under the 25th and 29th sections of the Weights and Measures Act of 1878. Under the one section he was charged with unlawfully using a milk "churn" deficient in capacity, and under the other he was charged with using a "churn" which was not stamped. The case, he said, was one of considerable importance, as it was full of difficulties. Of technical difficulties there were none; the real difficulty arose upon what he might call the moral side of the question. The defendant, last May, entered into an agreement—or an arrangement—with Mr. Charles Riley, a wholesale milk purveyor at Hull, to supply him daily with milk at so much per gallon; and the supply continued until the end of September, the milk being sent in large vessels technically called "churns."

Now, he would prove that these churns were used as measures; that they were unjust, not verified, and unstamped. He was quite aware of the great difficulties connected with the use of these churns. They were submitted to rough usage in railway transit, and got so badly dented and delved that their holding capacity was reduced, and, as measures, they undoubtedly became unjust. There was no difficulty whatever in stamping or in verification, for which elaborate preparations had been made by the Board of Trade; as a matter of fact, during the last five years 560 churns had been verified in Hull.

Counsel then read correspondence which passed between the defendant and Mr. Riley, showing that from the 1st of June, soon after the arrangement was begun, complaint was made that the milk "measured out short," and the complaint was repeated at intervals. Finally Mr. Riley took a churn to Mr. Crane Cooper, the chief inspector at Hull, who found it deficient to the extent of three pints. The Town Clerk drew the attention of the defendant to the fact, and in reply received a letter from his solicitors, who stated that "any deficiency in the churn does not arise from wilful fraud but from rough usage in transit by rail." As the defendant evidently intended to continue the use of the churns proceedings were taken.

Evidence for the prosecution was given by Charles Riley, 10, Campbell Street, Hull, a wholesale and retail milk purveyor, who spoke as to the shortage; and Mr. Crane Cooper, the chief inspector.

For the defence, it was said that soon after the passing of the Act, the Derbyshire people pointed out to the Board of Trade that if its provisions were applied in respect to their cans it would cause a revolution in the milk trade of the county. The members of the Dairy Farmers' Association alone had over nine thousand milk cans. The Board of Trade replied to the Derbyshire authorities to the effect that no inspector of weights and measures would take proceedings unless there was evident intention to defraud. These cans or churns were not stamped in Derbyshire, where, as a matter of fact, there were no facilities in the way of apparatus for stamping them; therefore, he argued that the case was not a proper one for a conviction. Justice would be met by dismissing the defendant on payment of costs.

Mr. Shackles (the Magistrates' Clerk): The Bench has only got to decide whether this 16-gallon milk churn is unjust or not.

After further evidence had been heard, the Bench had a brief consultation out of court, at the conclusion of which Mr. Morrill (the Chairman) said the Bench were quite satisfied that an offence had been committed on each count, and a conviction must ensue. The defendant would be fined 10s. and costs in respect of the first charge, and judgment would be respited on payment of costs in the second.

The Court ordered the churn to be forfeited.

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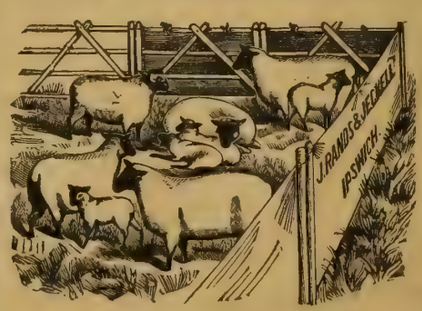
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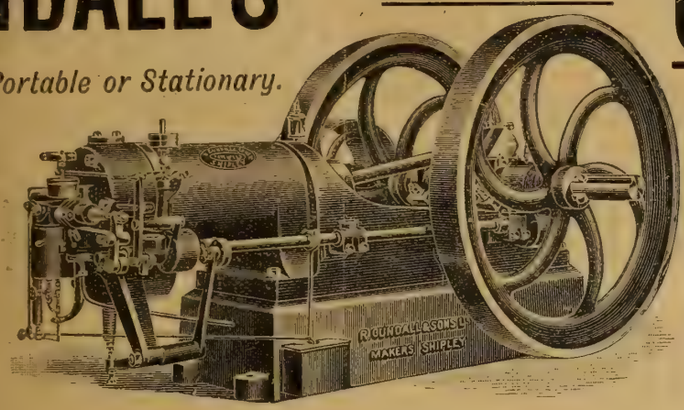
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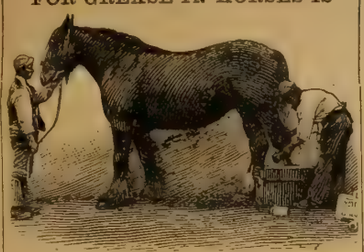
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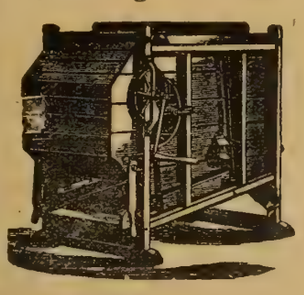
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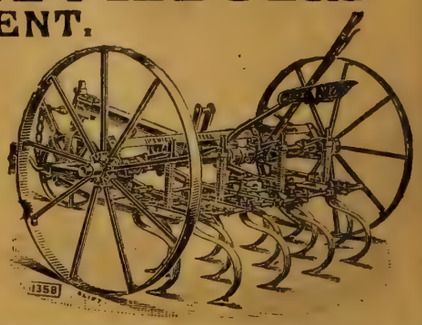
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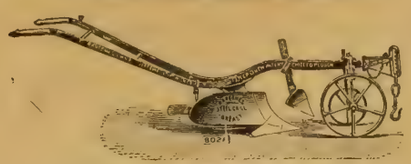
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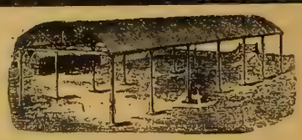


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VALUATION AUTHORITIES.

Amongst the measures foreshadowed in the King's speech the one most interesting to farmers is probably that dealing with the law of valuation. That there is room for simplification in the method of assessment is obvious to all who have any practical knowledge of the subject.

Under the existing system in England and Wales the greater portion of the local rates is raised upon the valuation for Poor Rate. Two valuations of the same property may be made for the purposes of raising Imperial Taxes, viz., one for Income Tax and one for Land Tax, and three different valuations may in some cases be made for Poor Rate, County Rate, and Borough Rate respectively. Thus it is possible to have five different values put upon the same property, and, as a matter of fact, the valuation authorities not infrequently differ in their assessments, although in practice the Poor Rate assessment is usually accepted as the basis.

To remedy the confusion and inconvenience of so many authorities, sometimes proceeding upon different principles, and consequently conflicting with and overlapping one another, the Royal Commission on Local Taxation, in their first report, recommended that there should be only one valuation authority in each county, and that the valuation list of that authority should be the basis on which rates and taxes for all purposes should be raised. It was proposed to create a new valuation authority for each administrative county, consisting of members appointed by the County Council. Each county was to be divided into districts, and for each district a committee was suggested, composed of members of the new valuation authority and of representatives of boards of guardians, borough councils, and urban councils within the district. The district committees, in making their assessments, were to follow the directions of the county authority, and, whenever practicable, the valuation list was to be prepared by professional surveyors. Every assessment was to be revised once in five years, and the Inland Revenue were to have the right to send a representative to the meetings of valuation authority and district committees. The recommendations also included the fixing of a maximum scale of deductions, compulsory returns of rent paid, notice to ratepayers of any contemplated increase or new assessment, and a right of appeal from the valuation authority to quarter sessions, with the abolition of the jurisdiction of the special sessions.

Such in brief were the general recommendations of the Commission in reference to assessment to local rates and imperial taxes. Special provisions were suggested for Lancashire, and exceptional treatment was prescribed for special properties, such as railways, canals, mines, tramways, docks, telephones, and gas, water, and electric light works. But we are writing only of the general aspect of the subject, and must confine our remarks on the exceptions to an intimation of their existence.

Will the predicted Bill deal with valuation authorities upon the lines of the recommendations of the Royal Commission? Logically it ought to do so, as such commissions are appointed specially to collect information on the subjects referred to them, and their recommendations are the outcome of deliberate and careful consideration of the facts laid before them, and are consequently entitled to the highest respect.

We confess, however, we are sceptical whether the recommendations of the Commission will be adopted in their entirety. That they would lead to greater uniformity is probable enough; but that they would result in a saving of expense to the public, or a lessening of the friction which generally accompanies the collection of rates and taxes, we take leave to doubt. We recently had an example of a Minister being strong enough to take an independent course, when Mr. Hanbury prescribed a practical standard for milk in preference to the higher ideals of his own Departmental Committee on the subject. Who knows but that with practical, commonsense men like Mr. Long and Mr. Grant Lawson at the Local Government Board the Ministry may say that in the light of later information the recommendations which the Commission issued in 1899 require modification or adaptation to the present conditions?

In this connection it may be noticed that, although Mr. T. H. Elliott, secretary of the Board of Agriculture, signed the report as a member of the Commission, yet he appended a memorandum dissenting from the constitution of the proposed valuation authorities, and preferring to continue the present assessment committees on improved lines. He argued that under a system of County Council control there would be no sufficient guarantee for a high standard of local knowledge and practical ability on the part of those by whom the valuation lists would be revised and settled. In the formation of the necessary district committees it would be difficult to enlist the services of the men of the greatest capacity for work. The committees would possess a purely subordinate status; they would be required to act in conformity with the instructions of the county valuation authority, and their decisions would be subject to review by that body. Service upon the district committees would therefore not carry with it much responsibility or prestige, and men of the requisite character and calibre might not be willing to accept the office. Taking the system of valuation for Income Tax under Schedule A as his model, Mr. Elliott arrives at the conclusion that if full powers and influence were given to the surveyors of taxes, and if provision were made for the periodical re-valuation of property and for the supply of returns of rent and

other information by owners and occupiers, satisfactory assessments might be secured, whilst at the same time the local knowledge and experience of the present assessment committees and their officers would be available. He suggests that these assessment committees should be strengthened by the accession of the surveyors of taxes to protect the Imperial Revenue on the one hand, and on the other hand by representatives of the county councils to safeguard the county rates.

We have not space to discuss the arguments by which Mr. Elliott supports his views. Suffice it that they savour of commonsense, and much can be said in their favour, although there are objections which may be urged against them. We are inclined to think that Mr. Elliott has been unconsciously influenced by the atmosphere of Somerset House, and one objection which we see to his proposal is that it would be an aggravation of the present grievance that the tribunal which fixes assessments, except in the costly alternative of quarter session, is not impartial, inasmuch as it is largely composed of the men who make the assessments and spend the money, whilst the poor ratepayer has practically no voice in the matter at all.

Farmers, at all events, should carefully consider the report and make known without delay their views upon the all-important question of the assessment of property to local rates and taxes. The incidence of taxation is a different question, with which we believe the Government will deal in a future session. If it be found that the Government prefer the individual views of Mr. Elliott to those of the whole Commission, just as they accepted Mr. Hanbury's over-ruling of his Departmental Committee, we shall at least be able to congratulate ourselves on having a strong Board controlled by sound, practical business men, in whom the Government have complete confidence.

SOME MINOR FEEDING STUFFS.

The survey at the beginning of a new year always discloses something of interest in the old year's dealings in the less important staples. It is in this quarter, for example, that we have to look for rising and coming staples, and we can sometimes watch the very birth and first growth of demand. It is only of recent years that dari, millet and sorghum have been fed at all extensively to live stock, but the use of these staples is steadily increasing. Dari at 24s. per 480lb. is very cheap in comparison with beans at 32s. for the same weight, and millet comes at 25s. per 416lb. for the ordinary kinds. It is a highly concentrated food, and as it can be grown to a great extent in India and Burma may come forward to replace wheat, which in those regions appears too dependent on periodical rains, which may fail. The poverty of the Indian farmer prevents his being able to weather the storm, or rather the want of it, for in the arid east it is the absence of rain which is the recurring calamity. Some feed millet has recently come on offer at a sovereign per quarter, and has been eagerly taken up. Canaryseed is also a staple which might be used much more widely than at present. It is classed by some botanists as "a true cereal," and is extremely rich in the most valuable feeding materials. As it makes 38s. to 40s. per quarter it probably pays the grower. We get our supply from Turkey and Morocco, but have colonies of our own on which we might easily draw in preference. Egypt, India, and the West Indies may be mentioned. With reference to India a feature of 1901 has been the offer of Indian cottonseed at £2 per ton under the price of Egyptian. As cleaning processes, decorticating, &c., still leave a substantial profit on the difference, this branch of Indian trade ought to develop.

Farmers will be glad to note a fall of 7s. 6d. per ton on the year in London-made linseed cakes, of 5s. in American, and of fully 10s. in Indian. The manufacture of the cake from the raw material has gone a little too fast for the price, and farmers would do well to buy at present rates. Argentina has a good new crop of linseed, but it is no great counterpoise to the doubtful prospects of India. Rapeseed and cake have of late gone out of favour as feeding stuffs, yet the prices are attractively low, and the taste or flavour which cattle dislike is said to have been absolutely conquered by the addition of sundry inexpensive and healthy condiments.

A development of demand for feeding flour and for "chicken" wheat has characterised the year. The American feeding flour known as "red dog" was in such brisk and extensive request all through October and November that the price rose from 13s. to 14s. 6d. per sack without checking enquiry. During December this type of flour was practically unprocurable, but it is now once more on offer, though at 15s. per sack, equal to £6 per ton, the ardour of buyers is diminished. With respect to wheat, the use of the inferior types as feed has been not inconsiderable in England, while in the United States it has been very large. The best judges are deducting on this account not less than ten million quarters from the total American yield, which in the annual report of the 11th inst. was officially declared to have been 676,848,000 bushels. With maize scarce and dear, this increase in the feeding use of wheat was only to be anticipated. Prices for feeding stuffs are now irregular, but they look like being rather high than low in the present new year.

Memorial Tablet to the late Sir John Lawes.

A handsome memorial tablet is about to be placed in Harpenden (Herts) Parish Church, bearing the following inscription:—"In affectionate memory of Sir John Bennet Lawes, Bart., F.R.S., born at Rothamsted, December 28, 1814, died at Rothamsted, August 31, 1900. He used his long life and his great knowledge and experience as an agricultural chemist and as a practical and scientific farmer in the pursuit of truth, and for the benefit of his fellow men in his own country and in all parts of the world. This tablet is erected by the parishioners of Harpenden and others who deeply feel his loss as an example and friend."

At Westminster Police Court on Thursday, Leverett and Frye (Limited), provision merchants, of King's Road, Chelsea, were ordered to pay a fine of £10 and £3 5s. costs for having infringed the Merchandise Marks Act by selling an American ham as one of Irish production.

Messrs. Hy. Richardson and Company, of Skeldergate Bridge, York, have written us *re* the case in which they were prosecuted by the Leicestershire County Council, under the Artificial Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Act, 1893, for a deficient test in a quantity of basic slag, supplied by them to a client in Leicestershire at 43s. 7d. per ton carriage paid. They state that our report of the case was substantially correct, but contained one inaccuracy, which appeared in many other papers, probably arising out of some error in transcription. From a full report of the case they send us, we see that the test made by Dr. Dyer, for the plaintiffs in the case, showed 31 per cent. of phosphates, and Messrs. Richardson's guarantee for the first quality was 38 to 45 per cent; the deficiency was therefore 7 per cent. below the minimum guarantee. The third quality which they also quoted, but which was not accepted, was 30 to 35 per cent., and the deficiency was therefore not 7 per cent. below the third quality. The wording in many papers was, "7 per cent. deficiency *on* the third or lowest quality quoted for, whereas the best quality was ordered and paid for." If *on* is read as *or*, it would then be accurate (7 per cent. deficiency, or the third or lowest quality). We may mention that the trial has attracted a good deal of attention in agricultural circles, and to those who wish to see a full report of the case Messrs. Richardson and Co. will forward (so long as they last) a re-printed extract from the "Leicester Advertiser," on application.



By a Man of Mark Lane.

The President of the Board of Agriculture has promised to visit Taunton on March 1st, when he will be entertained at a dinner by the Taunton Farmers' Club. Sir Alexander Acland Hood and several members of Parliament have promised to be present.

The ballot for private members' Bills and resolutions took place in the Grand Committee Room of the House of Commons on Monday, and about fifty members attended. Two agricultural bills secured very good positions, Mr. Tomlinson getting eighth place for the Beer Bill of last session, which he has consented to farther, on account of Sir Cuthbert Quilter being unfortunate in the drawing; whilst Mr. Hudson, who has charge of the Compensation for Damage to Crops Bill—better known as the Railway Sparks Bill—secured ninth place. It may be mentioned that Mr. Rutherford obtained the first place for a Deceased Wife's Sister Bill, and Mr. Caine the second place for a resolution as to poverty in India, the third place falling to Mr. Edwards for a Welsh Local Government Bill.

Mr. Channing has secured the first place on Wednesday next for an Old-age Pensions Bill, which is backed by Mr. Burt, Mr. John Burns, Mr. Broadhurst, Mr. John Wilson (Durham), and Sir Walter Foster. The Bill will carry out the Universal Pensions Scheme of Mr. Charles Booth, and be practically on the same lines as the programme agreed to by the Conference of the Trades Union Congress and the Co-operative Societies held in London recently.

I may mention here that Mr. Chamberlain regards the results of the Conference in London of Co-operative and Trades Union Delegates as distinctly hurtful to the cause. The Conference unanimously voted in favour of Universal Pensions absolutely independent of character and thrift. No such scheme is, in Mr. Chamberlain's opinion, ever likely to be accepted, and the extraordinary views expressed are not calculated to make converts to the principle. This expression of views on the subject was given in the course of a letter written by Mr. Chamberlain's secretary in reply to a communication dealing with old-age pensions from Mr. S. M. Holden, Accrington.

The two Bills dealing with Old-age Pensions, of which notice has been given by Mr. Raymond Greene and Mr. Goulding respectively, are identical in their provisions with the Bill introduced last Session, and the two measures are promoted by the same members. First places have been obtained for one on the 19th of March, and for the other on the 14th of May. Meanwhile, Mr. Goulding has placed the following Amendment to the Address on the Paper:—"But we humbly represent to your Majesty that the system upon which taxation is now levied should be so widened as to enable your Majesty's Government both to make adequate provision for National and Imperial defence and to proceed with a policy of social reform, including the provision of Old-age Pensions for the deserving poor."

The Beer Bill has been largely remodelled from that of last year, and is of a much simpler character. The backers, however, are practically the same, namely:—Mr. Tomlinson, Sir Cuthbert Quilter, Colonel Kenyon Slaney, Mr. F. W. Wilson, Mr. Purvis, Mr. Price, Mr. Round, Mr. Edwards, Colonel Brookfield, Mr. Broadhurst, Mr. Boscawen, Mr. Corrie Grant, and Mr. Stevenson.

The Lord Mayor of London recently received a letter from Prince Alexander Scherbatoff, dated Moscow, December 31st, stating that the Imperial Moscow Agricultural Society, on the 21st, had desired him to express to his lordship its thanks for the most cordial and hospitable reception accorded to the Russian agricultural delegations by the Corporation of the City of London. He was especially happy to represent the society on that occasion, and to be able to express to the Lord Mayor his hope that his enlightened policy would lead to a good commercial understanding and intercourse between their two countries.

Mr. H. E. Moojen, chairman of the Central Markets Committee of the City of London, has also received a letter from Prince Scherbatoff, in which he says:—"The members of the Russian agricultural deputation have been particularly impressed by the open-heartedness and goodwill which they met on the part of the Central Markets Committee of the City of London. It affords me much pleasure to express the feelings of gratitude to you personally as chairman of the committee. The impression received by the members of the deputation will spread widely all over Russia, and I am convinced will, in the near future, produce important results towards the development of the commercial intercourse between our two countries."

During the past week two leaflets have come to hand from the Government of India Statistical Department, Calcutta, both dated December 28th, 1901; one is the first general memorandum on the wheat crop of the season 1901-02, and the other the first general memorandum on the winter oilseeds crop. In the former it is stated that the excellent harvest of last spring will not be equalled, the conditions which prevailed during the sowing season having been unfavourable for the repetition of such extensive sowings as were made last year. In Northern India there has been a great contraction in the area sown, as much as a million and a half of acres in the Panjab, most of it on unirrigated lands. The monsoon rains towards the end of the season were scanty, and they ceased prematurely.

In Central and Western India also the conconditions at sowing time were unpropitious for the same reason, and they were followed by conditions adverse to germination, while a plague of rats and insects is now reported from many quarters. Rain is urgently needed everywhere now, and it has fallen within the last two days in some of the submontane districts of the Panjab and the North-Western Provinces. If this should prove to be the beginning of a period of normal and general rainfall the wheat crop will be better than the expectations warranted by present conditions.

As regards the winter oilseeds crop the prospects were, at the time of reporting, not very encouraging on the whole. Almost everywhere the area sown was appreciably restricted in consequence of the absence of rain when sowings were made or when the seed was germinating. In the Panjab the contraction of the rapeseed crop on unirrigated land is specially important, the area sown being less than half the area sown last year. The issue of the crop in that province and elsewhere in Northern India now hangs upon the winter rains, which are due and much needed. In Bombay, Central, and Western India also the area placed under oilseeds has been more or less restricted, very greatly so in Bombay, and a deficient crop must be anticipated even if the winter rains should come at once and be of their maximum utility.

The receipts on account of Revenue from April 1, 1901, when there was a balance of £5,596,918, to January 18, 1902, were £97,500,095, against £88,816,078 in the corresponding period of the preceding financial year, which began with a balance of £3,517,047. The net expenditure was £157,460,182, against £147,698,015 to the same date in the previous year. The Treasury balances on January 18, 1902, amounted to £5,083,415, and at the same date in 1901 to £2,182,561.



By a Lobbyist

Of course, the great question of the moment, so far as agriculture is concerned, is as to what extent the forthcoming budget will affect agriculture? Now, prithee, do not expect any heroic measures affecting the price of wheat and the like. Sir Michael Hicks-Beach is as stern an anti-Protectionist as was ever bred in one of the inner dormitories of the Manchester School. You must expect nothing of a vital character so long as he is at the Treasury. He regards Free Trade—and I am speaking with an intimate knowledge of his views and purposes—as being as sacred as the two stone tablets of the Commandments. I should say that the mild suggestion of a Liberal M.P. like Mr. Pease to which I referred a couple of weeks since is to him the wickedest heresy. Yet the budget will seriously affect the labourer, and it may indirectly affect the wages bill of the farmer.

Of course, it is now confessed that the last tax upon sugar did not have any effect upon the price of sugar. This was more or less due to the vast stores which had been accumulated ere the tax was inflicted. Naturally, when Sir Michael Hicks-Beach imposed this tax he expected it to yield revenue. It was not up to the present. Hence he meditates increasing the tax. This increased tax will be felt, and felt to a degree entirely disproportionate to the amount. The accumulated stores will have been exhausted, and thus the original reflection meditated by Sir Michael will be in alliance with the later imposition. Every student of rural life knows that sugar is one of the most popular of all domestic commodities. It is in a considerable measure the staple food of young Hodge. Thus the weekly budget of the housewife will inevitably be affected by the last purpose of the Chancellor of the Exchequer. Of course, in the electoral sense the last tax upon sugar was a blessing in disguise to the Tory party. The Radicals made so many prophecies of an increased price—all of which have, of course, been unrealised—that the labourer now naturally regards him as the propagator of vain fears. However, this new infliction will more than readjust the balance. It will serve to rehabilitate the flaming Radical orator, and attach the guise of truth to all his wild rhetorical efflorescence.

Mr. Horace Plunkett, the Irish Minister of Agriculture, is such a sane and wise administrator that I am surprised at the unwisdom of the latest policy which he has adopted for the purpose of stimulating the Irish farmers to more enlightened methods. He has resolved to send lecturers throughout the country in order to open out to the Irish farmers the true vision of a reformed agricultural science and of profitable markets. How, however, can he hope to get desirable and good men with the conditions of employment which he imposes. No lecturer can be certain of more than a year's employment. These lectures, to be of any avail, must come from the mouth of authoritative men; and any authoritative man would be foolish to accept a position, the tenure of which is so unsatisfactory. I could, under the circumstances, almost describe the experiment as a feeble one. At all events, there cannot be any adequate return for the expenditure. The worst of it is, too, that the idea—which might be so fruitful of good—will probably be killed.

Meanwhile, there are again strange reports in circulation to the effect that Mr. Hanbury intends to reorganise the Board of Agriculture. In all sooth, it needs it. There are, and have been splendid officials at the Board. Men of the Elliott and Jacob Wilson type are in themselves saving graces. They reveal a sympathy, a knowledge, a genuineness of interest, and a resolution which are admirable. It would be ridiculous to say that the office is manned by administrators all possessing the same character and quality. I am not myself saying that an army or a naval officer may not be a heaven-sent agricultural authority. However, I frankly confess that I would not myself prefer a man who, as Monsieur Planchette would say, "ploughs the ocean, not the lea." But it is not a mere re-shuffling of men which we want in conection with the Board of Agriculture. We want a re-organisation of methods and of machinery. The Board of Agriculture is, by its very constitution, ill-adapted for the performance of the duties expected of it. True, it has done a good work in stamping out hydrophobia and cattle diseases; but I hold that we have a right to expect more than this for an expenditure of over a hundred thousand pounds, which is what the Board costs as an establishment. If the report be true, Mr. Hanbury need not trouble himself about the personnel of his establishment. His men have got used to the work, and they do it well, What is needed is a new, a sympathetic, and a practical machinery.

There is one difficulty which Mr. Horace Plunkett has to confront in Ireland, which would not be felt by no administrator in a similar position in England. He has to meet the sullen, the determined, almost the envenomed antagonism of the ascendant section in the country. This fact the two days' debate in the House of Commons on Irish affairs, made overwhelmingly apparent. I do not say that this imposes an invincible difficulty in the path of Mr. Plunkett. Of course, it does not—the very success of his organisation is a proof to the contrary. If, however, Mr. Plunkett can secure success in spite of this sullen antagonism—in spite of the fact that Irish landlordism regards him as playing with combustible material, what ought not Mr. Hanbury to accomplish in a country where the relations between landlordism and the farmers is of the friendliest character, and in which the two form an unbreakable and most sympathetic alliance. This is a point which should assuredly stimulate the reforming zeal of Mr. Hanbury.

The House of Commons will have been, when these lines come before my readers, sitting nigh on a fortnight. Not a question has been asked, not a suggestion has been made, not a hint has been thrown out, of the most infinitesimal value or of the most indirect interest to agriculture. Is not this alone a justification for what I must describe as the Parliamentary organisation of agriculture?

The death is announced in his 86th year of Mr. William M'Adam, Whitepark, Kelton, one of the oldest and best-known dairy farmers in Stewartry. For many years he was a noted prize-winner at the various dairy produce shows, and had also gained a wide reputation as a cheesemaker. Death was indirectly due to an accident sustained during the recent frosty weather.

Light Railways.—The President of the Board of Trade received, in his private room at the House of Commons, on Wednesday afternoon, a deputation of members of the Council of the Roads Improvement Association, with reference to the proposed Light Railways Bill of the present session. The deputation appeared in support of various proposals, the most important of which was that it should be made possible for promoters to obtain power to take a long strip of land compulsorily for the purposes of building a new road on which the light railway is to be laid, and to obtain exemption from the operation of clause 92 of the Lands Clauses Act, full compensation to be paid, however, to the owners of property for any depreciation sustained by severance; in estimating this compensation, any betterment to the property resulting from the construction of the railway and the road should also be taken into consideration.



The Story of a Grass Farm on Clay.

In Vol. X (1899-1900) "Journal of the Bath and West of England Society," the above title is given to a report by Mr. C. Morgan-Richardson.

It is extremely interesting, and is a striking testimony of the marvellous improvement of very poor land of cold clay in a very moist climate by judicious treatment and the intelligent use of suitable fertilisers.

The farm in question is situated at Noyadd-Wilgym, near Cardigan, is about sixty acres in extent, and when Mr. C. Morgan-Richardson took it in hand in 1879 it was in a wretched state of cultivation, and was described by the then outgoing tenant as of such a character "as would starve a crow." The grazing lands were starved and the fields were full of moss, with that blue colour over the whole which tells of carnation moss. The brambles grew out from the fences, and tufts of rushes and clumps of gorse gave variety in the open.

In Mr. Morgan-Richardson's first year of occupation he found it difficult to satisfy the appetites of eleven horned beasts, but in 1900, after nineteen years of occupation, the same land carried a stock of 18 shorthorn cows, a bull, 14 young beasts of all ages, 8 horses and ponies, and 16 breeding ewes, all in thriving condition, and even then having an ample reserve of grass for autumn and winter use.

This marvellous transformation was effected by efficient manuring, some draining, and clearance of gorse, and by laying down the whole of the farm to grass, with the exception of one field, which was retained for roots.

It was noticed that the cattle grazed reluctantly on the lands recently dressed with farmyard manure, and greedily on the lands dressed with artificial manures, and it was determined to try these dressings in alternate years.

The land intended for hay was, however, always dressed with farmyard manure, whilst phosphatic manure was applied to the rest.

Superphosphate, at the rate of 3½ cwts. per acre, was applied to the grazing land during the first or second week in March; but when farmyard manure did not cover all the hay land, he used, in February or March, 3 cwts. of superphosphate sometimes with and sometimes without 2 cwts. of kainit, followed in April by nearly 1 cwt. nitrate of soda per acre.

Mr. Morgan-Richardson dates the first improvement of the grass land from the time he used cotton cake to support his shorthorn cattle, and from his "alternately cutting and dressing" system. From that time the improvement became more marked, and continues now from year to year.

Later on he used basic slag instead of superphosphate, applying it in November or December; but he says he is not quite satisfied as to their comparative values. His land has generally benefited by the use of lime and phosphoric acid.

Mr. Morgan-Richardson gives it as his opinion that at equal prices superphosphate would give him the best results; and one of the most useful dressings which he ever tried was from a cargo of dissolved bone superphosphate, which was wrecked on the coast and sold at a low price.

After describing his seed mixtures, management of stock, mowing, etc., Mr. Morgan-Richardson goes on to say that he finds that there are still a few people in the world who look with suspicion on the practice of using artificial manures.

They talk of over-stimulation, forgetting or not knowing that to add nitrogen, phosphoric acid, or potassium in this way is merely a simple plan of restoring to the soil the constituents which a crop takes out of it, and, moreover, that the bigger crops which result from their use mean bigger manure heaps to go back to the land on which the corn or hay is grown.

It is impossible, therefore, that the fee simple of the value of the land can suffer from a system which raises its condition and increases its crop-growing capacity.

The story of a grass farm on clay is most interesting and instructive, and if possible every farmer, and especially those who farm heavy clay lands, should read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest it.

If it exists in pamphlet form, and could be sold at a cheap price, its circulation amongst farmers would be a real aid to agriculture.

Hirings in Cumberland and Westmoreland: Proposed Change of Dates.

A large and representative conference of delegates from most of the Urban and Rural District Councils of Cumberland and Westmoreland, convened by the Chamber of Agriculture for the two counties, was held at Carlisle on the 18th inst, under the presidency of Mr. H. C. Howard, Greystoke Castle, the chairman of the Chamber of Agriculture. Owing to the inconvenience caused by Whitsuntide falling at different dates every year, and thus making the so-called half-yearly terms of unequal length, a desire has grown to have the dates for the hirings of farm servants at Whitsuntide and Martinmas fixed, and the Chamber of Agriculture convened this conference with a view of ascertaining the feeling of representative bodies all over the two counties.

Mr. Hugh Jackson, Bampton, moved, and Mr. Tinniswood, Dalston, seconded, a resolution that the terms should be made equal, the former mentioning that the County Council, to whom representations had been made on the subject, had ascertained that the Home Secretary had power to alter the dates on the representations of the District Councils. The discussion which followed revealed much diversity of opinion.

Mr. Elliott, Aspatria, moved as an amendment that no change be made in connection with the Whitsuntide hirings, but that the Martinmas hirings be fixed for the second Saturday in November instead of the Saturday nearest the 11th, as at present. When the Saturday fell a few days before the 11th much inconvenience was caused by servants wanting to leave their places before their term had expired.

Mr. Garnett, Bowness-on-Windermere; Mr. Seatree, Penrith; and other sopposed any change being made, it being represented that Whitsuntide was a national holiday, when there were sports and other amusements provided in which the farm labourers participated; whilst Mr. Garnett remarked that South Westmorland was so much connected with North Lancashire that that district should be consulted before any change was made.

In the end the amendment was lost, and the motion, that the terms be made equal, was carried. Only the delegates and not the members of the Chamber took part in the voting.

It was then moved that the dates of the hirings should be the first Saturdays in May and November, and amendments were moved in favour of the second and last Saturdays. Both amendments were lost; but the original motion, fixing the first Saturdays in May and November, was only carried by a majority of one, there being 12 for the motion and 11 against.

Much disappointment was felt at the result of the conference, and those in favour of a change being made are now hopeful that the Carlisle Rural District Council, who have passed a resolution in favour of the Whitsuntide and Martinmas hirings being on the first Saturdays in May and November, and those for Candlemas and Lammas on the first Saturdays of February and August, will take action, and ask the Home Secretary to change the date at Carlisle, and thus give a lead to the rest of the county.

New Agricultural Patents.

Specially compiled for *Mark Lane Express* by Mr. G. D. Howard (Hughes, Sons, and Co.), Patent Agent, 38, Chancery Lane, London, of whom all information relating to Patents, Designs, and Trade Marks may be obtained free of charge.

341.—James Archdale, of Manchester, for "Improvements in screw-thread milling machines."

385.—Carl Fresenius, of the Strand, for "Improvement in the treatment of inferior oil seed cakes and other residues from the manufacture of vegetable oils, to render them suitable for use as cattle food."

458.—Frederick Andrew Schouten and Aubrey Frederick Spencer, of Chancery Lane, London, for "An improved process for preserving milk, cream, and other liquids, and means and appliances therefor."

Patents Sealed.

17,256.—G. C. Marks, of Chancery Lane, for "Churns."

The campaign against the paying of rent on the De Freyne and Murphy estates has, it is stated, completely collapsed. Within the last two weeks, out of a rent-roll of £17,000, nearly £9,000 has been paid by the tenants, and out of over 100 writs issued by Lord De Freyne's solicitor only five are now outstanding. Several of the local Roman Catholic clergy exerted themselves vigorously to induce the tenants to fulfil their obligations. At the Ballymote Petty Sessions, Lord De Freyne obtained ejectment decrees in 41 cases, and the same evening in 21 cases the full amounts and costs were paid up. In the large bulk of the remaining cases the tenants promised to pay as soon as they got their contributions back from the Plan of Campaign Fund.

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Adulterated Milk Case; Warranty Destroyed by Mixing.

At Worship Street Police Court on Tuesday, Messrs. Pryce and Harris, wholesale milk dealers, of Craven Yard, Drury Lane, were summoned by the sanitary authority of Shoreditch for selling milk adulterated with 4 per cent. of added water. Mr. W. Ricketts, jun., solicitor, defended.—Mr. Robinson, LL.D., clerk of the Borough of Shoreditch, for the prosecution, called evidence showing that on the 23rd December the sanitary inspector, by arrangement with a retail dealer named John Jenkins, waited on his premises in New Inn Yard, the delivery of the morning's milk from the defendant firm. A sample was then taken from the churn put out from the van, and the analyst's certificate showed 4 per cent. adulteration.

The defence was a warranty from the farmer, and the delivery of certain churns to the defendants' firm at King's Cross Station was proved, and part traced to Jenkins. The carman who made the delivery to the latter admitted that he took from a quantity in one churn the quantity required by Jenkins, putting it into an empty churn, which he delivered.

The sanitary inspector, however, said he saw the carman mix milk from two churns before delivery, and in deciding that the defence failed the magistrate said that the warranty was destroyed by the mixing. He acquitted the firm and the carman of any intention to defraud, and ordered the defendants to pay the costs, £2 14s. 6d.

The Paris Milk Supply.

The question of the purity or otherwise of the milk supply is receiving much attention in Paris at present. For a long time housewives have been complaining of the impossibility of getting good milk. They are persuaded that horses' brains are employed to give body to an abundantly watered article. It is, at any rate, certain that serious adulteration takes place, and the swarming microbe population of the Canal Saint Martin finds an outlet through the kind offices of the "garcons laitiers" who carry the milk from house to house in the small hours, and are believed to make large profits by their thefts.



By Hordeum.

Cropping.

The April and May weather we have been having will have furnished our barley-growers with an excellent opportunity for testing on a good scale if there is any real advantage in sowing early. There can be no doubt about the undesirability of late getting in of barley on any and every class of soil, but it is still very desirable that fuller information may be acquired concerning the advantages or otherwise of planting barley before Valentine's Day, unless it be getting in of "winter" barley in the autumn.

The dry spell of open weather we have enjoyed during the greater part of the month has given a fair number of enterprising men an opportunity to put the drill to work, and on light, dry lands a quantity of barley has been sown. Time will prove if such haste is a good thing or otherwise. We can form very little opinion about what sort of weather we are likely to get, yet the success or otherwise of all the seed put in during January must depend upon the

Climatic Conditions

of the next six months. If the numerous correspondents who contribute their valuable notes on "Farm Prospects" week by week will kindly keep their eyes on fields sown early and late and remark upon same now and again right up to the time of harvest, they can do a great deal of good. All such notes become of deep interest when a really practical question of importance is broached. But all such subjects require to be approached with great care, for the results of a single season may prove utterly misleading. Many years' experience has proved late sowing to be bad, but of very early planting little is known. Virtually every acre already in will become an experiment if only due note is taken of the relative stages of growth.

In this connection due regard ought to be paid to the type of grain grown and to the fact if it is fed off at all or sheep allowed to run in it.

The Quantity Sown

is also another factor of much influence in helping to determine the date of sowing. It seems obvious that early-sown plants, whether fed off or not, stand a better chance of tillering than late ones, and if so, an economy in the quantity of seed used can be practised.

I have already referred to the wide difference in practice at different places. Some counties show twice, or even thrice, the amount planted that is used in others, but even with the county area it is often noticeable that wide differences exist. There are plenty of farmers in Suffolk who plant three, or even four, bushels per acre, whilst many more use only a bushel and a half. In the premier barley county of the West of England the practice differs from that mentioned in East Anglia, for in Somerset it is as rare to find anyone using so little as a bushel and a half as it is to find one sowing two and a half bushels. Less rather than more than two bushels seems to suffice for the majority of the men in that highly practical county.

But if two bushels serves sufficiently well to content a large number of practical men, it seems hard to comprehend why more is needed anywhere. Surely it is a

Needless Waste of Seed

and it leads to diminished weight in the grain when grown. It is very significant to turn back to the experience gained at last year's Brewers' Exhibition. Out of 200 samples no less than 140 were grown with 8 to 10 pecks against 31 with more than 10 pecks, and 29 with less than 8. But almost all samples grown with the larger quantities were unduly light, so we get the double loss of diminished weight, which generally means smaller price, and loss of seed. It is highly probable that last year half a million acres of land received a larger amount of seed than need have been used, and this year will witness the same thing unless care be taken to determine if so much as two and a half bushels be really needed.

Turning to another phase of cropping, as to what and how to sow, a new question has arisen through combining science with practice, which merits very serious attention. Apparently it is becoming evident that

Non-calcareous Heavy Land

can, and does, grow good barley, especially when we have a series of years of deficient rainfall. How long our existing relative drought may continue cannot even be guessed, but if we continue permanently with a smaller supply of water we must adapt ourselves to the new conditions, one of the readiest adaptations being the selection of soils that best lend themselves to good results under the new circumstances. Another factor in this problem must not be overlooked. We now grow lighter barleys, and of varieties that can flourish on heavy soils. The modes of cropping and rotation are changing, and the right use of proper manures is getting to be understood. All these things have led to a general conclusion that still seems almost inevitable, but if it at length proves to be correct, the more widely it is understood and acted upon the better.

Messrs. Fison's Barley Competition.

Some sixteen years ago Messrs. Joseph Fison and Co., Ltd., of Ipswich, initiated a system of giving prizes annually to the growers of the best samples of barley grown with the aid of the firm's well-known barley fertiliser. The number of entries received has increased steadily year by year, and at this year's competition so many samples were sent that the judges were unable to complete the labours in one morning, as hitherto, and were obliged to defer their final decision to the following day. Messrs. Mortimer and Alfred Sizer were once more the judges, and they expressed the opinion that the average quality of the samples was the highest they had ever seen, and that it was a pleasure to see such a fine show brought together. Their awards were as follows:—

First prize, £20, T. W. Gaze, Frenze Hall, Diss, Norfolk; second prize, £15, F. W. Stearn, Old Newton, Stowmarket; third prize, £10, F. J. Robinson, Mendlesham, Stonham, Suffolk; fourth prize, £5, A. Juby, Brandeston; fifth prize, £2 10s., A. E. Gray, Wenhaston, Halesworth; highly commended, H. Nunn, Thorndon, Eye, and W. A. Pepper, Wherstead, Ipswich.

The first-prize sample was a magnificent one, both in size, colour and skin, and had it been exhibited at the London Brewers' Exhibition would assuredly have obtained high honours. We understand that the firm are again offering fifty guineas for competition this year.

Messrs Colchester's Barley Competition.

Messrs. William Colchester and Co., of the Chemical Manure Works and Bone-Crushing Mills, Ipswich, have issued particulars of their fifth Annual Gold Cup Barley Competition. As in former years, the first prize is a massive gold cup, valued at 20 guineas, the second a silver medal and diploma, and third a bronze medal and diploma, whilst special prize medals will be awarded in addition to the next best sample from each county; thus each county has a competition to itself, besides the gold cup and diplomas. It may be mentioned that the gold cup will be specially engraved with particulars of the competition and the occasion, or the winner may elect to receive the prize in 20 guineas cash.

As to the conditions, the competition is open only to the users of the gold cup barley fertiliser (Griffin brand), prepared and manufactured by the firm. For every ton of fertiliser purchased the customer can enter one sample of the barley grown by the aid of this manure, and thus two or more tons will entitle the purchaser to stage two or more samples at his discretion. The fertiliser may be used with or without farmyard manure, as circumstances require, but an essential condition is that no form of chemical manure other than this shall be utilised in the growth of a sample. Every exhibit at the entry must be the bona-fide property of the exhibitor, grown by himself; and all barley must be of this year's growth. Entry forms must be returned not later than November 15th, and can be obtained on application to the address given above.

The following gentlemen have undertaken the duties of judges:—Mr. H. Stopes, chairman of the Board of Jurors, Malting Barley, Brewers' Exhibition, London, and Mr. T. S. Damant, Ipswich Malting Co., Ipswich.

Disastrous Farm Fire.—On Thursday, a disastrous farm fire occurred at Oxenford Farm, near Chard. It appears that a labourer entered a cow-stall early in the morning, and accidentally knocked over a lighted oil lamp which was hanging from the ceiling. Almost immediately the whole place was in a blaze, the fire spreading to the thatched roof of that and adjoining buildings. Efforts were made to remove the cattle from the stalls, but so rapidly did the flames spread that this was impossible, and 12 cows were burnt to death. The farm buildings and some haystacks were totally destroyed.



The Critical Condition of the Hop Industry.

Conference at Tunbridge Wells.

A meeting of the Tunbridge Wells Farmers' Club was held on Friday last, to discuss this important subject. Amongst those present were Mr. C. J. Parris, Crowborough (President of the Club); Mr. Williamson, Eridge; Mr. Geo. Arnold, Frant; Mr. Killick, Hadlow; Mr. Walter, Rotherfield; Mr. Scott, Pembury; Mr. Luxford, Wadhurst; Mr. White, Wadhurst; Mr. E. Albert White, Beltring; Mr. Wickham, Ticehurst; Mr. Manwaring, Tonbridge; Mr. Austin, Wadhurst; Mr. Elleray, Groombridge; Mr. White, East Peckham; Mr. Dunkley, Frant; Mr. Martin, Uckfield; Mr. Ironmonger (Secretary of the N.A.E.H.G.); Mr. Durrant (Secretary of the T.W. Club); and many others.

The Chairman (Mr. Parris) having opened the proceedings, called upon Mr. Dunkley, who said that as it was clear that the hop market was overladen with stock, and that their produce was only saleable at unremunerative prices, it was necessary they should consider their future prospects. They were informed that the greater part of the last crop was being bought for preservation in cold storage; therefore it appeared certain that another heavy crop would be disastrous to the industry. They had to decide what was the best course to pursue. When planters had expended labour and money upon the growth of the crop, it was difficult to leave any part of it unpicked, and it seemed to him that restriction of the growth was desirable. Unpleasant as those facts might be, they were compelled to face them, and he trusted that when they had heard the statements which would be made to them by the Secretary of the National Association of English Hop Growers they would be able to arrive at a decision that would be generally satisfactory.

Mr. Ironmonger, who was introduced by the Chairman, prefaced his remarks by observing that he appreciated the compliment paid to him by the Club in asking him to address them on this urgent question, which might be considered under the three heads of supply, consumption and cold storage. With regard to the supply of hops to the English market, he found that the official returns of their growths for the past four years furnished the following figures. They had produced 356,958 cwt. in 1898, 661,373 cwt. in 1899, 347,894 cwt. in 1900, and 649,387 cwt. in 1901, making a total of 2,015,612 cwt. During the same period the imports from America and the Continent of Europe had amounted to 738,905 cwt., the aggregate supply being 2,854,517 cwt., or an average of 713,629 cwt. per annum. After deducting the exports of English and foreign hops, which averaged 19,096 cwt., there remained an average balance of 694,533 cwt., which it would be shown was considerably in excess of the requirements of consumers. With respect to the actual annual consumption, the speaker was of opinion that the usual acceptance of 700,000 cwt. was deceptive. Unfortunately, they had no English official figures to guide them in their calculation, although he hoped that in the next annual returns of the materials used in brewing the exact quantity of hops would be included, in accordance with the promise made by the Chancellor of the Exchequer to Colonel Brookfield. In the meantime he would quote for their information an official statement made by the Inland Revenue department of the U.S.A., which demonstrated that the average consumption in America per barrel of 36 gallons was 1.40 lb. From this statement and other particulars furnished to him by several English brewers, he considered they might safely conclude that our English consumption did not exceed 1½ lb. per barrel. In the year 1900, when the production of beer in England was larger than in any previous year, duty was paid on thirty-seven millions of barrels of standard gravity. But as the beer issued to the public was not entirely of standard gravity, the Government estimated that the quantity named represented 39½ millions of what they described as "liquid barrels." Taking the latter figure as the basis of calculation, and giving 1½ lb. of hops to each barrel, they would arrive at the figure of 529,017 cwt. as representing the ordinary brewery consumption. There were, however, some other purposes to which hops were

applied, and there was a certain proportion of waste, which might together be reckoned at 51,000 cwt., thus bringing the total to less than 600,000 cwt., and he believed they might accept that quantity as fully meeting the annual demand. Assuming the approximate correctness of those figures, it would be seen that their own growths and the imports, after deducting exports, had exceeded the consumption during the past four years by about 450,000 cwt., a surplus which by itself sufficiently explained the low average of values from which the industry had suffered, and also provided a forcible argument for the reduction of the future output.

Mr. Ironmonger then turned to the consideration of cold storage and its influence on the trade in front of them, tracing this system of hop-preservation to the experiments of Messrs. Briant and Meacham in 1894 to 1896, those experts having first endeavoured to devise some plan for the purpose, in the use of air-tight metal cylinders, in which the air was replaced by carbon dioxide gas. Their experience in that direction being somewhat unsatisfactory, some pockets of East Kent hops of 1894 growth were tested under different degrees of heat and cold, being kept from January, 1895, to January, 1896. The results proved that while the hops stored in ordinary temperatures lost about one-third of their condition, there was no appreciable deterioration of those that were stored in an atmosphere of 32 deg. or under. The investigators were thus caused to conclude that "the old practice of storing hops is, it is certain, entirely erroneous. The one effective preservative is low temperature, and we look forward to the widespread adoption of cold storage." Their anticipations were speedily fulfilled, as Messrs. Cattley, Gridley, and Co., of Duke Street, London Bridge, shortly afterwards erected premises and plant for the cold storage of hops, which have been since extended, until that firm has now sufficient cold storage accommodation for over 3,000 pockets. Other hop merchants had followed their example, and it was estimated that at the close of last year the capacity of the cold hop stores in London was not less than 80,000 pockets. But even that was unimportant when compared with the provinces. In Birmingham a syndicate of brewers had established cold storage for 11,000 pockets, and when there was added thereto the similar provision made by brewers, corporations and public companies in Burton-on-Trent, Liverpool, Nottingham, Manchester, Glasgow, Dublin and other large towns, it might roughly be estimated that the present cold storage accommodation in the United Kingdom was equal to 200,000 to 250,000 pockets of hops. The speaker was credibly informed that every foot of that space was already occupied by hops bought during the last and previous seasons. The cold storage plant industry was already employing twelve important firms, all of whom were busily engaged. During the last year new cold storage companies had been registered with an aggregate capital of over £1,000,000, so that it was evident that the system "had come to stay," and its presence constituted a real and pressing danger to hop growers, which would be intensified if they continued to grow the excessive crops that modern methods enabled them to secure. Mr. Ironmonger concluded by quoting the opinion of eminent hop merchants in the Borough, that, taking all the present circumstances of the position into account, the only effective protection against impending disaster was the limitation of the production to the requirements of consumers, bearing in mind the imports which might reasonably be expected to continue. Endorsing that opinion by his own observations, he trusted the planters would seriously consider the matter, and act accordingly.

Mr. George Arnold then proposed the following resolution:—"That in view of the present overproduction of hops and the rapidly-increasing capacity of 'cold storage,' whereby they can be preserved for long periods, thus avoiding waste of the surplus, and whereby brewers are enabled to adopt a 'waiting' policy in regard to purchasing, which gives them practical control of the market, this meeting of the Tunbridge Wells Farmers' Club is of opinion that the only effective means of permanently and sufficiently improving the ruinous condition of the English hop-growing industry is the reduction of the output, in order to bring the average supply of English hops to a level which will not exceed the average consumption of this indispensable product." In supporting the resolution, Mr. Arnold remarked that the statistics they had heard, and for which they were deeply indebted to Mr. Ironmonger, were absolutely appalling. The remedy was entirely in their own hands, for if ruin overtook the industry, they could not look to Parliament for assistance. Hitherto they had been blind to the consequences of over-production. They had grown from 50,000 acres in the years 1899 and 1901 a larger supply than had been produced from 70,000 acres in 1885 and 1886, and were now faced by the absolute control exercised over their market by brewers as the result of cold storage. He, therefore, urged the unanimous adoption of the resolution, and trusted they would act upon it, and that the publication of their decision would induce the English growers as a body to follow their example. He then read a letter from a Borough factor, emphasising the views already expressed, and pointing out that another large crop would keep the merchants off the market, with disastrous results to planters.

Mr. Albert White seconded the resolution, and advocated organisation for the purpose of a general and proportionate grubbing of hops. He admitted the difficulty of bringing it about, but he thought that it could be effected if the National Association were better supported by growers.

Mr. J. Mainwaring considered that general grubbing was not practicable, as some would grub while others would plant, and he feared they would by such policy open the door for foreigners to come in.

Mr. W. Langridge advocated the imposition of a substantial import duty, and was of opinion that the difficulties they were experiencing would be solved by "the survival of the fittest."

Mr. Lee said that foreigners would continue to send hops to England under any circumstances, as he regretted to say that he considered that farmers were too idiotic to combine against them. He also supported an import duty, and was of opinion that, as Mr. Chamberlain was studying the interests of the colonies, and as English agriculture—their chief industry—was dying, he (the speaker) had hopes that the day was not far distant when the House of Commons would be induced to move in the direction he desired. For this purpose they should press the matter upon the attention of their representatives.

Mr. Austin trusted the resolution would be carried unanimously, and that growers would be careful to cultivate hops of the best quality in preference to inferior sorts.

Mr. Luxon considered that farmers were their own enemies, and quoted a saying of an old grower, that protection was formerly found in the fact that hops would spoil, but from what they had heard that source of safety was removed by cold storage; they must, therefore, consider their position, and move forward on new lines.

After some remarks by Mr. George Langridge and other speakers, the chairman put the resolution to the meeting, and it was carried unanimously.

The secretary of the club was then requested to send the resolution to the various farmers' clubs and societies in the hop-growing districts, and to urge upon them the desirability of taking measures for the general reduction of the acreage by at least one-fifth of the present area.

A cordial vote of thanks for his address was presented to Mr. Ironmonger, and that gentleman having briefly replied, the proceedings terminated.

All official reports and notices of the National Association of English Hop Growers will be printed in the MARK LANE EXPRESS, *which will also contain all current information likely to be of interes and benefit to the members of the society.*

AGRICULTURAL LAW.

Interesting Decision as to Fencing.

In the Worcester County Court, on Wednesday, it was held in a case before Mr. Registrar Allen that owners of property adjoining common land were bound by law to fence against cattle on the common, which was contrary to the ordinary rule that an owner of property was not bound to fence against his neighbour's cattle. The action was one brought by the Rev. L. Morgan, of Powick, t recover damages caused by cattle belonging to Mr. Harrington, of the Sandpits Farm, straying into his orchard and eating cider fruit, and also money paid to the defendant to release a heifer impounded by the defendant while straying on his land from the adjoining common. The plaintiff obtained judgment for 9s. for the trespass by defendant's cattle and the return of 5s. in respect of the impounding. The parties were represented respectively by Mr. W. W. A. Tree and Mr. T. G. Dobbs, and the former cited to the Registrar a case decided on appeal laying down the principle upon which the Registrar gave his decision.

"Mark Lane Express" Diary.

January.
30. Sale of Mr. A. J. Hollington's shire horses at Abridge, Essex.
30. 31. Sale of horses at Crewe.
31. Sale and letting of shire horses at Peterborough.

February.
1. Sale of shire horses and fillies at Peterborough.
4. Meeting of the Council of the Shire Horse Society.
4. Meeting of the Council of the Shorthorn Society.
4. Glasgow Agricultural Society's Stallion Show at Scotstoun, Glasgow.
4. Sale of shire horses, the property of H. M. the King, at Wolferton, Norfolk.
5. Sale of 40 shire horses for Mr. R. Allen at St. Germans, King's Lynn.
5. Meeting of the Council of the Smithfield Club.
5. Meeting of the Council of the British Dairy Farmers' Association.
5. Meeting of the Council of the Royal Agricultural Society.

SOCIETIES.

Worcestershire Chamber.

At a meeting of the council of the Worcestershire Chamber of Agriculture, held on the 18th inst. at Worcester, and presided over by Mr. A. Dudley Clarke, Mr. T. R. Hulbert brought forward a resolution urging the necessity for a registration duty upon all imported grain and flour, live stock and carcases of meat. Such a duty would, he contended, be felt by no one, and would result in a revenue of anything from ten to twenty millions of money if a registration fee of 1s. a quarter on all imported grain and every head of live stock and carcases were imposed. It had been a matter for very general regret that the registration duty was removed.

The Chairman suggested that the consumer would be made to pay the duty.

Mr. Hulbert did not agree. So small a duty as 1s. a head on imported stock cou'd not be apportioned to the consumers

Mr. S. Gardner seconded, and remarked that the duty was desired purely for revenue purposes.

Mr. F. Corbett agreed that 1s. per quarter on imported wheat and flour would not be felt, but if it were extended to all grain and cattle food it meant that the farmer would have to pay it.

Mr. H. C. Gardner said that the duty should be confined to wheat and flour, otherwise the revenue would be mostly found by the farmer.

After some discussion it was decided to recommend the proposal to the annual meeting of the Chamber.

A communication was received from the Central Chamber in answer to the council's enquiry as to the position of the question of the combination of agricultural implement makers to raise prices generally, stating that the matter was referred to the co-operative committee, which had not yet met.

The Chairman remarked that owing to competition he believed the attempted combine would die a natural death. He believed the movement did not threaten as much danger to agriculturists as was expected. Mr. Roxburgh demonstrated by actual experience that the movement had not been successful, and that no detriment had been occasioned farmers. The Chairman added that an attempt had been made to carry out what was impossible in these competitive times, and vendors of implements would soon regain their freedom.

It was decided to await a further communication from the Central Chamber.

Yorkshire.

A meeting of the Council of the Yorkshire Agricultural Society was held at the offices, Blake Street, York, on Thursday. The Earl of Feversham, President, occupied the chair, and at the outset thanked the members for his election, and stated that he would at the Leeds show give two special prizes of £10 each to the classes for Cleveland bay stallions and brood mares.

The Leeds Local Committee were elected members of the Council for the ensuing year.

The Secretary reported that at the close of the year the membership of the society showed a net increase of eleven members. The life members numbered 429, an increase of 35, and the annual members 835, a decrease of 24. The accounts for the Bradford meeting showed a profit of £81 15s. 4d.

The Stock Prizes Committee presented a revised prize list for the Leeds Show. The total prize money was £2,020, divided as follows:—Cattle: Shorthorns £260, dairy £50, Jersey £48, Aberdeen Angus £75. Sheep: Leicester £60, Lincoln £74, Wensleydale long-wool £63, black-faced Scotch mountain £36. Pigs £112. Horses: Thoroughbreds and hunters £350, jumping competitions £135, harness horses £60, hackneys and ponies £235, coach-horses £150, Cleveland bays (including the two £10 specials given by the President) £60, Shire horses £150. Shoeing-smiths' competitions £40. Butter £15. Cheese £30. Bee appliances, honey, and wax, £17.

The judges for the next show were selected and approved.

A letter was read from the Town Clerk of Sheffield intimating that the General Purposes and Parks Committee had passed a resolution recommending the City Council to invite them to hold their show in Hillsborough Park, Sheffield, in 1903.

Mr. T. Fairley, the analytical chemist, submitted his half-yearly report. It showed that 108 samples had been analysed. One of the samples of undecorticated cotton-cake contained over 30 per cent. of woody fibre and wool, and a cotton-cake sold as decorticated contained nearly 14 per cent. of woody fibre and only 7¼ per cent. of oil, and 29 per cent. of albuminoids. The sample of decorticated cotton-meal contained an admixture of about 40 per cent. of ground husk. This is a new form of adulteration, which has not been observed in former years.

(*Other Societies will be found on pages 122 and 123.*)

COMING SHOWS.

The Yorkshire Show at Leeds.

A meeting was held in the Lord Mayor's Rooms, at the Leeds Town Hall, on Monday, to appoint a committee to make arrangements for raising a local fund and to deal with other matters in connection with the Yorkshire Agricultural Society's Show at Roundhay on the 30th and 31st July, and the 1st August. The Lord Mayor, Mr. A. E. Butler, the convener of the meeting, was suffering from a bad cold and could not attend, so that the Deputy Lord Mayor, Alderman F. W. Lawson, presided.

At the onset the chairman recalled the circumstances under which the City Council decided to invite the Society to visit Leeds this year. The invitation was, he added, cordially accepted, and it now became necessary to appoint a local committee to make the requisite arrangement for inviting subscriptions to a local fund, and otherwise to carry out the requirements of the Society. The City Council had placed at the disposal of the Society the splendid site at Roundhay, upon which the show was held in 1898, and there was every probability that with the greatly improved tramway service the attendance would be largely in excess of the numbers who visited the show four years ago. One of the financial requirements of the Society was that a sum of not less than £1,000 should be locally contributed, but in 1898 the local committee considered it desirable to ask the public for £2,000, with the result that 364 subscribers contributed £2,273 15s., the whole of which was dealt with in contributions to the Society's general and special prize fund and other expenses connected with holding the show at Leeds. It would, therefore, be desirable to follow the precedent of 1898 and appeal for £2,000 for the financial requirements of the local committee.

Sir Arthur Lawson moved, Colonel F. W. Tannett Walker seconded, and it was agreed that the Lord Mayor should be the chairman of the local committee. On the motion of Alderman Gordon, and seconded by Councillor Boston, Alderman F. W. Lawson was appointed deputy-chairman. A large and representative local committee were chosen, with power to add to the number.

It was resolved to ask Messrs. Beckett and Co., who had promised to give £100, to act as treasurers, and the Town Clerk was appointed secretary, with liberty to nominate an assistant secretary.

The Lord Mayor, the Deputy Lord Mayor, Alderman Gordon, Alderman Tetley, and Mr. Warren were proposed as a sub-committee to approve a circular asking for subscriptions to the local fund, and to consider and decide upon the best means of promulgating the appeal.

Mr. Maughan said he felt pretty certain that the show would "go" this year. Leeds held several records. The financial result attending the visit in 1879 was the largest in the history of the Society, the profit amounting to £1,608. In 1898 the profit was £677, and although the financial gain was smaller than in 1879 there were very satisfactory features connected with the meeting. For example, there was a record entry of sheep (223), and the first day's receipts at the turnstiles and grand stands had never been equalled, the takings being £1,191 and £253 respectively. The number of life and annual members in 1898 was 1,186, and the total admission of the public into the show ground on the three days was 67,009. The ground at Roundhay was the best possible site they could have. He asked them to elect a number of local gentlemen to join the Council of the Society for the current year.

The Lord Mayor, the Deputy Lord Mayor, Sir Arthur Lawson, Colonel Tannett Walker, Alderman Tetley, Councillor Boston, and the Town Clerk were chosen to serve on the Council as suggested.

Suffolk Society at Ipswich.

A meeting of the Committee of the Suffolk Agricultural Association was held at the Town Hall, Ipswich, on Tuesday, Mr. E. Packard in the chair, for the purpose of revising and confirming the prize list for the show to be held at Ipswich on June 5th and 6th next. The Secretary, Mr. Robert Bond, read a long list of donations to the prize fund, which included £500 by the town of Ipswich, and the following awards by breed societies:—Suffolk Sheep Society, gold medal, two silver medals, and £5; the Shorthorn Society, £10; the Hunters' Improvement Society, gold and silver medals; the Shire Horse Society, gold medal; the Polo Pony Society, medals.

Sir Cuthbert Quilter, M.P., wrote that he should be glad to contribute to the prize list, but should prefer the question of the form which his contribution was to take to stand over for the present. He suggested that arrangements might well be made for a prize or prizes for the best team of Suffolk horses, harnessed to waggons, similar to the successful competition held at the Woodbridge show. It was subsequently agreed that there should be special prizes for such a class, on the same lines as at Woodbridge, the competition to take place on the second day of the show.

Mr. George Manners, of Fornham Park, Bury St. Edmunds, sent a letter, in which he stated that as President-Elect of the National Pig Breeders' Association, he wished to impress the Committee with the importance of doing all that lay in their power to improve the breeds of pigs in Suffolk. At some of the smaller shows in the county there were practically no prizes given for swine—the most useful animal on the farm. In Suffolk, of all counties, this was especially to be regretted, as, according to the Board of Agriculture returns in 1900, Suffolk owned 50,000 more pigs than any other county. Lincolnshire, with 50,000 fewer pigs, gave £84 in prizes, compared with £48 given by Suffolk. He hoped, therefore, that the Committee of the Suffolk Show would increase the prizes for swine; and thereby show that they recognised how important it was that the owners of pigs in Suffolk should keep only the best strains. A slight increase in the prize list would induce the National Association to assist by offering medals for animals eligible for the Herd Book. He (Mr. Manners) would be pleased to offer a silver cup, value £5, for the best boar and sow of the large white breed under 12 months, the property of a bona-fide Suffolk tenant farmer.

He also suggested that it was desirable to revert to the practice of former years, and confine the prizes for swine to "owners or occupiers" or "residents in the county." He would suggest "owners or occupiers" only. It did not assist local breeders to have outsiders coming in with overfatted animals which only appeared in the showring, and benefited no one in the county. He earnestly hoped that judges be imperatively instructed to consider the breeding value of the animal only, and that excessive fat should be an objection. He felt that the matter was of exceptional importance in Suffolk, so much so that he had started a pedigree herd, in the hope of doing some good. Many farmers kept no pigs because they "did not pay," and no wonder, when they were content to go on year after year using any boar, and filling their yards with gaunt, unthrifty animals. The use of good stock would make an astonishing difference. With regard to the excess of 50,000 pigs in Suffolk, if by improving the breed the modest amount of 2s. per head only was allowed for increased value for greater thriftiness on less food, there would be at once a sum of £5,000 to be divided among Suffolk farmers.

The revision and confirmation of the prize list was proceeded with, the plan followed being much on the lines of the schedule at the previous show at Ipswich. Mr. Bond informed the Committee that the amount of money available for prizes he calculated to be £1,311 9s., as against £1,020 12s. at Beccles last year. The jumping and tandem classes, etc., were improved in view of providing a special attraction for Ipswich. With regard to the pigs, it was decided that the classes be the same as at Beccles, and the prizes as at the previous Ipswich Show, the latter being a little larger. It was decided to have sheep-shearing and horse-shoeing competitions.

With regard to the butter-making competition, the advisability of holding it was questioned on the ground of the expense. Mr. Flintham strongly advocated a competition, and eventually the following resolution was passed:—"That this Committee draws the attention of the County Councils of East and West Suffolk to the advantages of demonstrations of butter-making, horse-shoeing, and sheep-shearing at the annual show, and asks their financial assistance."

The fact that the Norfolk County Council contributed £200 towards such objects was afterwards added to the resolution.

New Site for the Wirral and Birkenhead.

An appeal has been issued by the Wirral and Birkenhead Agricultural Society for contributions towards the cost of equipping their new show-yard, which, it is estimated, will need a sum of from £12,000 to £14,000. The work must be put in hand immediately, in order that the ground may be ready for the Diamond Jubilee Show of the Society, which is fixed for September 10th and 11th next. Nearly £3,000 has already been promised, and several gentlemen have promised subscriptions, but have not yet fixed the amount.

In the course of the appeal, which is signed by the chairman and the secretary, it is stated that:—"The stormy weather which prevailed while the show was being held in the year 1900 caused such extensive damage to the stands, sheds and other buildings that the cost of reinstating them would have involved the Society in a heavier expenditure than the committee felt justified in undertaking with the funds at their disposal. This, coupled with the fact that a number of prominent exhibitors had intimated their determination of not exhibiting their stock on the old show ground, also that the Society's tenancy was terminable at short notice, decided the committee to lose no time in acquiring a new site.

"Under these exceptional circumstances they were reluctantly compelled to abandon the idea of holding the annual show in 1901, but they are pleased to report that their efforts to provide a new show ground for the Society have now been brought to a successful conclusion.

"Certain gentlemen have kindly come forward and purchased a very desirable site, consisting of 22 acres of land situate in Lower Bebington (in close proximity to Bebington Station, on the London and North-Western and Great Western Joint Railway, between Chester and Birkenhead), and have agreed to lease the land to the Society for an extended term, at a rental only sufficient to pay the interest on the purchase money, also coupled with an option to the Society of purchasing the property at cost price at any time during the term.

"To enable the Society to enter into a lease and to generally deal with its property as an incorporated body, without the intervention of trustees and without the necessity of its officers incurring personal liability, it was decided to register the Society under the license of the Board of Trade, as a Society for the promotion of Agriculture, at the same time retaining its original title, viz., 'The Wirral and Birkenhead Agricultural Society.'

"This decision having now been carried into effect, the sole liability of each member, in addition to the payment of an annual subscription, will be to contribute to the assets of the Society, in the event of its being wound up, an amount not exceeding £1."

The site thus obtained is a commodious and convenient one, and, if fitted as at present planned, will be a notable example of a show-yard, being probably one of the best in the Kingdom.

Agricultural Imports.

The following is an account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Jan. 19, 1902, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year:—

	1901	1902.		1901.	1902.
	No.	No.		Cwt.	Cwt.
Cattle ...	6,957	6,117	Wheat ...	1,198,300	1,265,000
Sheep.....	2,484	6,009	Flour.....	327,200	601,100
Swine.....	—	—	Barley ...	492,200	711,200
*Horses...	—	412	Oats	424,000	334,100
			Peas	39,500	24,700
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Beans ...	2,700	20,100
Beef	58,930	53,915	Maize ...	1,046,800	1,996,500
Mutton...	19,012	56,754		Bunches	Bunches
Pork	20,522	23,140	Bananas	24,163	34,052
Bacon ...	91,354	82,037			
Beef, salt	5,304	1,560		Cwt.	Cwt.
Hams.....	17,729	12,833	Apples ...	33,637	32,666
Pork, salt	2,763	891	Apricots		
Meat, salt & Fresh	8,821	8,996	&Peaches	—	—
Do. pres.	15,825	17,435	Cherries	—	—
Butter ...	60,876	77,458	Currants	—	—
M'rg'rine	17,153	17,089	Goosebr's	—	—
Cheese ...	26,458	25,240	Grapes ...	246	64
Milk, Fresh, in cans or drums.	621	645	Lemons...	28,081	10,000
			Oranges	256,221	154,705
			Pears.....	319	29
			Plums ...	—	—
			Strawb'r's	—	—
			Oth'r Fr't	2,070	2,946
Milk ... Cream.	166	110		Tons.	Tons.
Milk pr's'v'd, other kinds ...	28	39	Hay	1,139	4,942
				Bush.	Bush.
			Onions ...	115,682	112,557
				Cwt.	Cwt.
Con. Milk	17,976	15,010	Hops	9,373	948
			Potatoes	120,461	79,852
	No.	No.	Tom'to's	5,969	3,684
Eggs	289,693	261,583	Other Veg'bles	Value.	Value.
				£5,756	£7,628
Poultry & Game	Value.	Value.		Cwt.	Cwt.
	£47,894	£37,456	Dried ...	4,230	4,586
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Pres'v'd by canning ...	2,314	2,722
Rabbits	7,370	8,808			
Lard	36,204	22,972			

* In 1900 these were not shown separately.

We regret to notice the death of Lord Rookwood, which took place on the 15th inst., in his 76th year. His lordship was a great admirer of pure bred stock of all kinds, and at his beautiful home at Down Hall, near Harlow, he at various times kept herds of Aberdeen Angus, Guernsey, and Jersey cattle. The Black Polled herd was dispersed in 1896, when one of the cows made 65 guineas, and the Guernseys were sold two years afterwards, and realised good prices. It was chiefly through Lord Rookwood's energetic action in the House of Commons that the Bill for the Slaughter of Cattle at the Port of Landing in Great Britain was passed. The funeral took place at Hatfield Broad Oak Church on Tuesday afternoon, in the presence of a large assemblage, representative of every phase of Essex county life. The Bishop of Colchester and the local clergy officiated. Lady Rookwood, Lord and Lady Aberdare, the Earl of Warwick, Lady Duncan, and the Hon. Lyndhurst Bruce were among the mourners. Numerous beautiful floral tributes were received from all parts of the country.



The Apple Orchard.

Sir,—I see that my letter of the 13th inst. re the merits and demerits of the orchard and plantation systems in modern fruit-growing has resulted in a somewhat amusing retort from the gentleman whose nom de plume I used as a peg on which to hang my somewhat decided opinions on this matter. Really the "Orchard Advocate" must have a remarkably poor opinion of the mental capacity of the modern fruit-grower if he imagines that his ideas are to be waved aside in the light and airy manner which "O. A.'s" first paragraph suggests. According to the "O. A.," every person who advocates the plantation system, or who, by adopting it himself, sets a bad example to others (which is the same thing), is aiding and abetting the foreigner in taking an odd million a year out of his countrymen's pockets. Was ever such an absurd theory advanced? In concluding my letter I mentioned that it would be interesting to hear the views of those who practise the grass-land system (of course, with profitable results), and in doing so the easiest way in which to convince the opposite side of the error of their ways would have been to dispose, one by one, of the objections which I raised against it. In taking up the cudgels on behalf of his favourite system, "A. O." has thought best to avoid any reference to my objections whatever. "A. O." is evidently under an entirely wrong impression as to the class of growers which my first letter concerns. My remarks were not intended for men who object to "soiling labour," or who are foolish enough to believe that fruit-growing for profit can, by any stretch of the imagination, be anything approaching "Arcadia." I am concerned with those who, given an acre of land, wish to make the very most out of it, and are not content with planting the trees and leaving them to practically take care of themselves. I do not attempt to deny that from a picturesque point of view, and also as regards personal comfort, there is much in the grass-land system; unfortunately neither of these qualifications tend to materially increase one's income. As regards the intercropping question, "A. O." is decidedly lugubrious, and seems to imagine that there is nothing more likely than that a man who has sufficient knowledge to manage fruit trees for profit (no easy matter) would be absolutely ignorant of anything pertaining to the growing of vegetables. At any rate, he would know how to manage bush fruits, which was one of my suggestions, and if in addition he cannot pick up sufficient knowledge to raise a few hardy outdoor vegetables he is indeed to be pitied. Of course, if he is miles from anywhere, and cannot dispose of produce; then, of course, he need not grow it; but such places are rare, and would be so unsuitable for fruit-growing itself that it would be folly to settle there. However, apart from the question of intercropping, my contention was that the presence of grass is injurious to the trees; and as "A. O." has made no attempt to convince me to the contrary, I still hold that opinion. I am quite open to conviction, but must confess that the "Arcadian" apple orchard is quite beyond my hopes of achievement.—I am, Sir, faithfully yours, PLANTATION ADVOCATE.

January 23rd, 1902.

The Ruin of Rural England.

Sir,—Your short notice of my book is so grossly unfair that I must beg leave to protest. Hostility I would not complain of, but when one is charged with writing whole chapters of abuse, and over-stating one's case, by a reviewer who does not think it worth while to quote anything from the book itself in support of his contention, an author has a just cause of complaint. Almost every phrase in which the writer of your short article has condemned the book could be confuted again and again from the contents of the book itself. I have made no statements that are not supported by ample eidence, and evidence that cannot be gainsaid. Your reviewer has replied by an expression of pious opinions which, unsupported, are of no value; the book will not be laid aside with scant attention as he supposes. I have to-day seen an agricultural paper with an appreciative article extending to three columns, and the book has been well received by local papers circulating in agricultural districts.—Trusting to your sense of fairness to insert this letter, I am, &c.,

J. WESLEY MARTIN.

Felsted, January 22nd, 1902.

GARDEN.

January is now drawing rapidly to a close, and already the days are beginning to "draw out" a little—though very slightly as yet. Still, one cannot help noticing that the dusk does not fall nearly so early now as a month or so back.

It is almost too early in the season yet to do much in the outdoor department, but the weather remains so mild and favourable to any outdoor operations that it would be a pity not to get on with anything that can be done in this way while the opportunity remains. Next month will be February, remember, and if it should deserve its old title of "February Fill-dyke"—as not infrequently happens after a mild, dry winter—there will be very little chance of getting much outdoor work accomplished then.

Any plots or beds that have not yet been dealt with had better be thoroughly dug up—or, better still, be trenched—and manured, consequently, at once, treating each, as regards both the working and manuring, in the manner calculated to best meet the requirements of the particular crop it is intended to carry. Beds to be cropped with long roots of any kind, such as carrots, parsnips, or beet, ought not to be manured now, or if any dressing is absolutely necessary, let it be placed well down below the surface, in the bottom of the trenches, which should be some 18 inches or 2 feet in depth. Turnips, however, like the manure near the surface, and just beneath the drills, and for potatoes also the dung is usually placed in the furrows, when planting, placing it either under or over the sets, according to the nature of the soil. Still, for both of these crops the ground had better be broken up, if nothing more, in order to let the air into it, and assist in obtaining a nice mellow tilth.

Do not forget the plots to be planted with rhubarb, shortly, and seakale (root-cuttings) in March; for both these the ground must be well and deeply worked and heavily manured if roots of the finest quality are to be obtained. If any asparagus is to be planted this spring, the bed, or plot, for this also may be prepared at any time now. For this subject the old raised-bed system is out of date now, and quite unnecessary. Seed-beds for raising either asparagus or seakale (from seed) ought also to be prepared in good time.

Get all peach trees, as well as apricots and nectarines, pruned and trained as soon as possible now, as if the present mild weather continues the sap will soon be commencing to move again in these precocious subjects. It will be as well, also, to decide in good time what method of protecting the trees when in bloom is to be adopted, and obtain the necessary materials. A coping fixed over the plants, along the top of the wall, if consisting of a wide board only, is always a great advantage; something of the kind is easily fixed, but of whatever kind is should be removable, so as to be taken down when no longer required.

Prepare a bed for a batch of ranunculus roots, if not already done, digging it well and working in plenty of well-decayed manure. A rather light soil suits these charming plants best; the roots are very inexpensive, and when in flower, in May or June, they are really exquisite. Plant 3in. or 4in. deep, and 4in. apart, always with the claws downwards.

At the same time, a good batch of the Crown anemones, as well as of A. fulgens, with some gladiolus, "the Bride," may be planted now, but it is too early yet for the ordinary large-flowering gladioli, and also for tigridias and others.

ROBSON'S CATTLE MART, BELFAST, HELD ON 21ST JANUARY.

The following returns are those of actual sales made in the markets referred to, the stock being weighed either before or after sale, for the week ending January 25th, 1902.

No. of Beasts	Description and Quality.	Average price per head.	Average Live weight.	Average price per cwt.
		£ s. d.	c. qr. lb.	£ s. d.
2	Bullocks (prime) ...	20 0 0	10 2 14	1 17 8
2	,, ,, ...	22 15 0	12 3 21	1 15 2
2	,, ,, ...	19 5 0	11 0 21	1 14 5
2	,, ,, ...	18 10 0	10 3 7	1 14 3
2	,, ,, ...	15 10 0	9 0 14	1 14 0
2	,, ,, ...	19 15 0	11 3 0	1 13 7
2	,, (very good) ...	17 0 0	10 1 14	1 12 9
2	,, ,, ...	16 15 0	10 1 7	1 12 6
2	,, ,, ...	16 2 0	10 0 7	1 12 0
2	,, ,, ...	18 2 6	8 1 10	1 11 6
2	,, ,, ...	13 10 0	8 2 7	1 11 6
2	,, ,, ...	15 15 0	10 0 14	1 11 1
2	,, (good) ...	12 18 9	8 2 14	1 10 0
2	,, ,, ...	13 2 6	8 3 14	1 9 7
2	Heifers (prime) ...	17 5 0	9 3 0	1 15 5
2	,, ,, ...	16 19 0	9 3 24	1 13 1
2	,, (very good) ...	15 0 0	9 1 0	1 12 5

* So'd by live weight.

Plant Colonists.

Prior to the time when man in these countries began to till the ground—say between 2000 and 5000 B.C.—the face of the land had an aspect very different from what it bears at present, says Mr. R. Lloyd Praeger, B.A., writing in "Knowledge." Long before Neolithic man introduced the arts of husbandry, and began to choose pasturage for his flocks and to sow in the ground, in order that he might reap, the land had been completely colonised by plants which are still our common wild-flowers, and every nook and corner had its chosen inhabitants. When our forefathers commenced to till the ground, a destruction of the native plant associations was the result; and this gave an opening for plants suited to the new conditions. Annuals could maintain their hold year by year on the tilled land, where the former perennial plant-groups could no longer exist. And clearly those plants whose seeds happened to be mixed with the grain which the early husbandmen sowed would have an excellent opportunity of survival. Thus we can conceive that the now large and well-marked group of weeds of cultivation had a very early origin. Nor is it impossible to conjecture that in some cases plants originally native may have found a congenial habitat on these prepared grounds, and by degrees forsaken their old haunts and established themselves mainly here, and become parasitic, so to speak, not on man, but on man's operations. Certain it is that we have plants in our flora, which are presumably original natives, yet are always or generally found in association with man (though not of any service to him) in cultivated land or about dwellings etc.

The vegetation of our islands, as it now presents itself, is by no means a homogeneous or natural assemblage of plants. The higher regions of the mountains, the large lakes, swamps, and bogs, still retain their primitive facies, and there the original flora remains almost unmolested; but as we pass from these waste lands to the inhabited areas, where highly cultivated land is dotted over with towns and villages, and intersected with roads, railways, and canals, a greater and greater number of alien plants put in their appearance, till, in waste ground adjoining harbours or mills, we may find a rank flora struggling for existence amid murk and dust, in which exotic plants, the produce of widely separated lands, form the larger portion of the vegetation. To take an instance, the flora of Ireland numbers about 900 undoubtedly native species, to which may be added about 130 others which, though now permanent members of the flora, are considered to be possibly or certainly introduced originally; and about 200 other plants have been found growing spontaneously, which are certainly exotic, and not established. In other words, of this total of 1,230 plants, 73 per cent. represent the original vegetation of the country; 10 per cent. we may generally call plants which came with man and have now won a place in the permanent flora; while 17 per cent. represent the waifs and strays brought into the country by trade, agriculture, and horticulture; some of th elast will no doubt eventually establish themselves.

To consider in greater detail the various groups of which our immigrant vegetation is composed. First we have the group of crop plants—species which are grown for economic purposes, and which may spread and establish themselves. Some of these are, others may be, original natives; others again are undoubtedly exotic. The Lucerne (*Medicago sativa*), for instance, a native of the eastern Mediterranean, has long been grown as a fodder plant, and has now established itself on banks and dry ground in many places. The Comfrey (*Symphytum officinale*), on the other hand, is undoubtedly native in England, but apparently not so in Scotland or Ireland; yet has been so widely cultivated that its range now extends all over Ireland, and well up into Scotland. The Parsnip (*Pastinaca sativa*) in rank and distribution stands on a very similar footing; it has been in cultivation since Roman times. The Turnip, in its various forms (*Brassica Rapa, Napus campestris*), may be cited as one of the plants whose standing it is now almost impossible to determine. It has been widely cultivated for several thousand years, and is so still, whether as a root crop, for fodder, or for the manufacture of rape or colza oil. Which of the many forms are or were native, and what their distribution was, are questions which cannot now be answered with any degree of satisfaction.

The writer gives many other varieties of plants which have in some way or other been introduced into our fields. Summing up, the writer says:—We see how composite a thing our present-day flora is, and how many difficulties the student of geographical botany has to contend with in endeavouring to trace the history of the vegetation of the country. A weed may perhaps be defined as a flower in the wrong place; but in Nature there are no wrong places. Let tillage cease on any portion of the earth's surface, Nature takes it in hand; and through more or less rapid progressive changes of flora, the land is occupied by the plants best fitted to hold it, and the natural equilibrium restored.



Devon (Exeter).

The extraordinary weather since the commencement of the year is very favourable for outdoor work. Wheat tilling should have been completed, and the ploughing and tilling of oats is progressing, also the ploughing for barley and preparation for root crops. Swedes are shooting out, and had better be pulled, for they lose their feeding properties, and the ground can be got ready for sowing barley early. Cattle are doing very well out of doors, and hay is being saved, which is a great consideration, as it was such a poor crop. Winter fodder will now be sufficient. Sheep have risen in price, and cattle will sure to follow, as all stock is healthy. Lambs are coming on healthy and strong, and there is some nice young grass in the pastures for the ewes, which causes their milk to increase. Everything looks favourable at present; perhaps this is a record. Wheat is selling at 62 lbs. per bushel, at 3s. 6d.; prime white oats have sold at 1d. per lb., 47 lbs. to the bushel, or 3s. 11d. so by measure—they fetched 5d. more than wheat by weight, 25 per cent. more, nearly one less than 3s. 4d. per lb., whilst oats are 1d., and this land will produce twice as much oats as wheat per acre. This will account for the decline in wheat growing, for farmers cannot be philanthropists and grow wheat for the good of the public and loss to themselves. I defy any farmer to grow wheat at a profit at 3s. 6d. or 3s. 9d. per bushel, so wheat culture must become extinct. All catch crops, like vetches, rye, trifolium, etc., are almost too forward and looking splendid, so unless the weather is very bad spring keep will be early and plentiful.—G. H. (January 22).

North Devon.

At this season in this district there is not much to report on. The weather is fine, work on the farm well forward, wheat good plant and looking well. No spring corn yet put in. All live stock healthy and selling at fair prices. Our winter keep likely to meet all demands, if we get a fairly forward spring.—G. H. (January 22).

Norfolk.

One can scarcely realise it is mid-winter, the very mild, dry weather enabling us to get the land ploughed in the finest possible condition for the spring corn. Already many acres are ridged for potato planting, and other work is in the same forward condition. Our pastures are very bare from the drought of last summer, but seldom have I seen them looking more promising at this season. Mutton was a very disappointing trade all summer and autumn, and still no improvement, beef being a fair trade throughout the year, but most expensive to produce, our pastures being short and artificial food dear. The cereals were above an average crop on well-farmed lands, and harvested in fine condition. Prices fair for spring corn, but disappointing for wheat. With increased acreage of potatoes, combined with heavy yield, markets overstocked, and prices have given way with but very little prospect of recovery except for the very best.—W. A. N. (Jan. 23.)

Oxon (North).

Things in the farming line rub along much as usual, there being no very special feature to write about. The weather is mild, favourable both to the saving of hay and straw and to the progress of work on the land, which is generally in a forward condition, as well as to the lambing season, which is in full swing. Luck seems to be fairly good, with a fair proportion of doubles, and lambs are strong. Feeding-sheep are getting over the roots very fast, and being pushed into the market, with the consequence that mutton prices are very low indeed. Beef sells well; store cattle are doing well, and spending the daytimes on the grass. Prices of wheat and barley keep low, while oats are dearer than for a long time. Hay and straw is selling well, and a lot is being sent off this time, this neighbourhood being well suited for the growth of sanfoin, but for which we should have had but very little hay the last several years. Potatoes yielded large crops, and are only making very miserable prices. Taking things all round, the year just gone cannot agriculturally be called a good one. We can only hope, as we have often done before, that the present one will be a good ing for oats or barley.—J. G. (January 24th).

Shropshire.

After a few frosty days, that were favourable for carting manure, the weather broke up, but is still open and variable, and suitable for ploughing for oats or barley.—J. E. (January 24th).

Essex (West).

Crops and stock doing well. Labour and prices are the difficulty, and until our Government see their way, if they must tax necessaries, to tax those that compete with the farmer, and through him, with his men, good men will not come back to the land. A moderate tax on foreign flour would give our local mills a chance of re-opening, and our men an opportunity of making good bread, and the offal for cattle and pig feeding. As it is, the men feed on bakers' bread, made from roller flour, which fills them with wind, instead of giving them strength, and drives them to drink adulterated beer.—E. R. C. (Jan. 24th).

York (West Riding).

The year just past, is perhaps, from an agricultural point of view, one of the most disastrous we have had in this district for a long time, caused mostly by the long drought in summer and autumn, and in some cases by the very severe frosts early in November damaging the turnips and mangolds, and in some instances potatoes. Wheat is yielding fairly well for the quantity of straw, but is not a heavy crop per acre; it was much too dry for barley and oats, and turnips were in this district almost an entire failure, causing the markets to be glutted with sheep (as there is no keep for them), and which are now being sold at ruinous prices. At the present time we are having very nice weather, the land is ploughing well, and work is proceeding satisfactorily, and we should be in a forward state at seed-time, as there are practically no turnips left on the ground to retard the ploughing.—A. M. (Jan. 24th).

Foreign Prospects.

FRANCE.—With hardly an exception the wheat crop is doing well; weather has been mild and damp, with occasional rain. Markets everywhere continue quiet, for millers buy sparingly. Foreign wheat is almost neglected in Paris and the Northern Corn Exchanges. Term wheat is fully 6d. down on the week.

BELGIUM.—Our advices make no reference to crop prospects. Antwerp market early in the week was shaping better, but ceased to improve when America retreated. Brussels had a quiet trade at barely recent quotations.

HOLLAND.—Unfavourable advices from American and other markets caused a quieter trade in Rotterdam. Wheat was in ample supply, but met only limited inquiry. Rates for rye were maintained, and barley kept firm.

GERMANY.—Weather was mild and wet but no complaints are heard respecting crop conditions. Berlin yesterday closed steady for wheat, but not quotably higher on the week.

RUSSIA.—The prevalence of frost in place of the mild, moist weather previously experienced, cannot be regarded otherwise than a very grave incident in connection with the crops, especially in the exposed state of the fields; however, having come so suddenly, it may disappear before the damage becomes irreparable. Grain supplies in the interior continue moderate, while in Azoff districts prices are easier, in consequence of increased deliveries of grain.

HUNGARY.—The crops are protected by snow; previously they had been doing well. Colder weather appears to have stimulated demand and hardened wheat prices; the lower rates asked for Wallachian and Servian samples attracted most of buyers' attention. Term wheat is fully 6d. dearer on the week.

UNITED STATES.—The *Cincinnati Price Current* of yesterday says the weather is favourable for wheat, and though much of the crop which went under a snow covering is looking brown and tender, there is but little damage, and the outlook is fairly good. The grain movement is light.—*Dornbusch.*

Mr. Charles Smith, of Redcliffe, Whittingham, who for nearly half a century discharged the duties of factor of the East Lothian Estate of the Right Hon. A. J. Balfour, M.P., and for his father before him, died on Tuesday, aged 82. He had for many years been associated with most of the public bodies in Haddingtonshire.

Cheshire Cattle Fair was held on Thursday, and was a small and quiet one. The show of store cattle presented no attraction to buyers either in the way of quality or price, and trade was slow. The best dairy stock was in demand, and good lots speedily found purchasers at good prices. No sheep or fat cattle were in the market. Prices:—Milch cows, £14 to £22; calves, £13 to £19; heifers, £8 to £12; stirks, £5 to £9.



MONDAY (January 20).—The weather was generally cloudy over our islands, and rain fell in parts of Ireland. Rain was measured in the morning at several places in the north and west, as the result of the fall in the preceding twenty-four hours. A brisk rise of temperature had occurred over the whole kingdom, and in the central parts of England the thermometer in the morning was twenty degrees higher than on Sunday. The central area of a large cyclonic disturbance was situated on the coast of Norway, and under the influence of this storm system the wind was south-westerly in the British islands, and it was strong in places on our west coasts. The weather was dull, but dry, in London, and the temperature rose to fifty-two degrees, which is ten degrees above the average.

TUESDAY (January 21st).—Dull and overcast weather prevailed over our Islands, and mist or fog occurred in many places. Rain was measured in the morning in the North and West as the result of the fall in the preceding twenty-four hours, but the weather still continued dry in most parts of England. A mild South-Westerly current was again blowing from the Atlantic, and the temperature was generally much above the average. The lowest temperatures during Monday night were very little below 50 deg., except in the North, and the midday readings were in many places 10 deg. and more higher than the normal.

WEDNESDAY (January 22nd).—The weather was again very warm over our Islands, but it continued dry in the South-East of England, although rain fell at several places in the North and West. Rain was measured in the morning, as the result of the fall since the previous day, over the entire Kingdom except in the South-East of England, but the amounts were everywhere small. The thermometer was above the average over the whole country. A fresh cyclonic disturbance was approaching the coast of Norway from the Atlantic, and under its influence the winds were still blowing from West and South-West. In London the sky was cloudy, and the weather continued very warm, the thermometer registering 54 deg.

THURSDAY (January 23rd).—The weather was again generally dull, and the temperature remained high for the time of year. Rain was measured in the morning, as the result of the fall since the previous day, over a large part of the Kingdom, but the amounts were nowhere large. Rain again fell during the day at places in the North and West. The barometer was falling generally, especially in Ireland, under the influence of a cyclonic disturbance which was approaching from the Atlantic, and the wind had freshened considerably on our North-west coast. The current of air was still everywhere South-westerly. Wednesday night was warm, the lowest temperatures ranging generally between forty-five and fifty degrees. The midday temperatures were again everywhere high.

FRIDAY (January 24th).—Unsettled weather had become general over our Islands, and rain fell over nearly the entire country. A cyclonic disturbance had arrived from the Atlantic, and barometer readings near the centre of the storm system, which was situated to the North of Scotland, were below twenty-nine inches. The wind was increasing in strength from the West and South, and a moderate gale was blowing in places on our West coasts. Heavy rain was measured in Ireland as the result of the fall since the previous day, but in the East and South-east of England the weather had continued dry until the morning. Temperature had fallen over the entire Kingdom, although the midday readings were again high in most parts of England.

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY (January 26 and 27).—Strong northerly and north-westerly winds and gales occurred in many parts of our islands during these two days, and the weather was very unsettled, with snow or sleet showers in many places. Rain or melted snow was measured over nearly the entire country on both days, and in places the amounts were fairly large. A considerable fall of temperature has occurred, and rather sharp frost was experienced at night in most parts of Great Britain, especially in the northern, eastern, and midland districts. The day temperatures also continued low for the time of year.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Malt: We have had a moderate inquiry during the past week. Barley: Grinding and malting unchanged. Wheat: Dull. Oats: Steady. Maize: About 3d per qr cheaper. Flour: Quiet.—NIXON, GOWER AND CO.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—The attendance was small, but notwithstanding a poor day's trading, quotations scarcely varied in the general sections. London millers continue content as to the present position of English wheat, but steadiness again pervaded the range of prices, as farmers send up only trivial quantities here. Whites, 29s to 30s 6d; reds, 28s 6d to 30s per qr delivered. The market for flour appears firm in general, but so inanimate that the actual position is rendered stationary at present. Stocks, however, still become gradually reduced. Town households, 23s 6d; whites, 26s 6d per sack delivered to the baker. Australian patents, 20s to 20s 6d per 280lb ex store. Grinding barley remains neglected, and easy. Odessa, 18s ex ship, 18s 6d ex quay. Danubian, in the former position, 18s. English malting continues well sold out, and attention is still being paid to samples for seeding. Oats steady, although slow, with American remaining out of supply, and Russian, etc., supplying necessary wants. English still very firm, at fully the recent advance, and in small supply. Garton's (spring sown), 25s 6d, 42lb; black winters, weighing the same, 23s 6d to 24s; and grey winters, 22s 6d to 23s 6d. New Zealand ordinary bluff, 25s to 26s per 384lb ex store. Maize unchanged. Round corn obtainable at the recent decline. Odessa 21s 6d ex ship, and 22s landed. Plate about 24s ex quay, the supply remaining small. Holders of imported beans and peas were making no concessions, apart from the poor trade going on just now; stocks, in fact, continue light.

Mark Lane, Friday.—There was nothing of interest at to-day's market, and, except in isolated instances, quotations were kept much on parity with those previously current, while buyers were assembled only in limited numbers all through. English wheat remains in scantly supply as farmers still refuse to entertain the views of London millers compared with prices procurable at local resorts. If anything, quotations sided in buyers' favour. White ranges at 29s to 30s 6d; and red, 28s to 30s per qr delivered. American without material alteration. Russian still quite out of our market. New Zealand short berry, 28s. The market for flour, although inanimate, denotes no weakness. Of English, No. 1 households, 21s 9d cash, delivered, ex mill. The London Millers' Association kept the price of town households at this afternoon's meeting at 23s 6d, and whites at 26s 6d per sack delivered to the baker. Australian patents, 20s to 20s 6d per 280lb ex store. Hungarian remains very scarce; best, 30s to 31s, and fancy brands 32s to 33s. Grinding barley steady, at last week's decline. English malting firm, with useful types still ranging up to 32s, and up to 40s for fine. Foreign slow. Californian, 25s to 28s for brewing purposes. Oats rather better since Friday last, and American remains of the past just now. F.a.q. Libau, 17s 6d to 17s 9d ex ship, and up to 19s 6d ex quay, 38lb, with 40lb Russian at 20s upwards, ex quay. Danubian, 17s 3d ex ship to come up, 38lb. English upheld, being still very scarce. Garton's (spring sown), 23s 6d, 42lb; black winters, weighing the same, 23s 6d to 24s; grey ditto, 22s 6d to 23s 6d. Flat maize nominal, being out of supply on spot, and there is nothing coming up at the moment. Mixed American, 26s 6d ex ship. Round corn better maintained. Odessa, 21s 9d ex ship, 22s 3d landed. Plate, 24s ex quay, the supply remaining light. The market for imported beans and peas keeps firm, but quiet. Egyptian splits, 23s 6d; Mazagans, 22s 6d ex mill; Morocco, 30s; New Zealands, 35s 6d to 36s 6d, 504lb, ex store. White Canadian peas held for 37s ex granary.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Wheat—Trade quiet; dry parcels pretty well supported at recent rates. Barleys—Only a moderate demand at dull quotations. Oats fully sustained late values. Beans and peas scarce, and quite as dear. White wheat, 28s to 30s; brown wheat, 27s to 29s; malting barley, 26s to 32s; grinding ditto, 22s to 25s; black oats, 18s to 21s; white ditto, 19s to 23s; old beans, 32s to 35s; grey peas, 33s to 34s.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, new red, 28s to 29s per qr; beans (old), 36s to 37s per qr. Small show of wheat at rather easier rates.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Market was fairy well attended, but trade quiet both for wheat and feeding stuffs. Wheat unchanged, English realising 11s to 11s 3d per bag. Grinding barley 3d per qr cheaper, commanding 17s 6d to 18s per qr sharpness. Maize 3d to 6d per qr lower, Plate making 22s to 22s 6d sharpness; and round, 23s to 23s 6d sharpness. Oats and beans unaltered.

Boston, Wednesday.—Wheat, 28s; malting barley, 28s to 32s; oats, 21s to 22s; beans, 34s 6d; maize, 24s; grinding barley, 22s.

Braintree, Wednesday.—A quiet trade, prices ruling about the same as last week. Red wheat made up to 29s, and white 30s per qr. Barleys, best 33s; seconds 30s.

Brighton, Thursday.—Barley, 28s to 33s; grinding ditto, 21s to 2s; oats, English, 20s to 24s; peas, 34s. Wheat, oats, and barley firm at last week's prices. An average attendance, but little business.

Bristol, Thursday.—There has been but a small trade since our last. At our market to-day English wheat was in good supply, and made late rates. Foreign wheat 3d to 6d lower. Grinding barley and maize both 3d lower. Oats unchanged. There is a fair consumptive demand for flour at late prices.—GRACE BROTHERS.

Bury, Wednesday.—Wheat, although in no great supply, was inclined to be weak, but there was not much change in prices. Reds and whites, 28s to 29s per 504lb. Some parcels of red containing smut changed hands at 26s 6d and 27s per 504lb. Barley—The supply was small, but fully enough to meet requirements; demand being dull, and late rates barely maintained at 28s to 33s per qr; grinding sorts quiet at 22s to 25s. Danubian slow at 20s to 21s per 400lb. Oats, beans, and peas firm. Maize 3d per qr lower at 24s to 24s 3d per qr; old round corn nominal.

Cambridge, Saturday.—During the week trade has been dull. Supplies continue fairly good, but some samples lack condition. At this market to-day there was not quite so large a supply as last week, but the tendency of prices was in buyers' favour. Good dry lots sold steadily, but damp parcels were neglected. Red wheat, 27s to 28s, and white up to 29s per 504lb. Spring corn very firm indeed.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Wheat a slow trade; barley in rather better demand. Ruling prices:—White [illegible]s to 31s; red, 27s to 30s; malting barley, 28s [illegible]; grinding ditto, 23s to 24s; white oats, 20s to 24s; black oats, 19s to 22s; black winter oats, 22s to 23s; [illegible] peas, 32s to 33s; thick beans, 33s to 36s; Mangans, [illegible]8s; maize, 24s to 28s per quarter; tares, 7s to [illegible] bushel.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Fair supply of oats in our market to-day. Good demand at late rates. New oats, 20s 6d to 22s 6d per 336lb.—THOMAS ROBINSON.

Chester, Saturday.—The demand for English grain is maintained, and full prices are asked for all kinds. Quotations:—Wheat, white and red, 4s 4d to 4s 6d per 75lb.; malting barley 3s 8d to 3s 9d per lb; grinding barley, 3s 3d to 3s 6d per 64lb.; beans, 5s 6d to 5s 8d per 80lb.; oats, new, 2s 10d to 3s 1d; old, 3s 4d to 3s 6d per 46lb; Indian corn, 13s 3d to 14s per 240lb.

Chichester, Wednesday.—The market was well attended, and a fair amount of business was passing. Wheat was a shade easier. Feeding stuffs quiet and unchanged. Flour also was quoted at last week's rate.

Croydon, Thursday.—White wheat, 30s to 32s; red ditto, 29s to 31s; malting barley, 28s to 36s; grinding ditto, 22s to 24s; oats, 18s to 21s; beans, 31s to 33s; peas, 29s to 31s. A slow trade for wheat; prices unchanged. Oats firm. Beans and peas remain the same.

Colchester, Saturday.—Wheat: moderate supply; slow trade at barely last week's prices. Beans, peas, and oats steady.—FRANCIS AND CO.

Devizes, Thursday.—We had a fair supply. The trade for wheat was dull at late rates, prices still tending downwards. Barley, on the other hand, sold freely. Oats dull and the turn easier to purchase. Best wheat, 14s to 15s; secondary, 12s 6d to 13s; best malting barley, 29s to 34s; secondary, 25s to 28s; grinding barley, 20s to 24s; oats, 20s to 23s; beans, 16s to 20s; fine flour, 22s to 24s; extra fine, 23s to 30s; best bread, 9d.

Faversham, Wednesday.—White wheat, 29s to 31s; brown ditto, 28s to 30s; malting barley, 28s to 35s; grinding ditto, 23s to 26s; black oats, 21s to 23s; white ditto, 21s to 24s; beans, 34s to 38s; grey peas, 33s to 34s.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There was the usual attendance at our market to-day. Wheat and flour quiet, with prices tending in buyers' favour. Indian corn slow sale, and 3d per boll down on the week. Home oats dull, and 6d per boll easier. Foreign oats quiet and unchanged. Canadian pease scarce on spot and rather dearer. Grinding beans steady at late rates. Barley unchanged Bran and thirds quiet trade at late rates. Oatmeal dull and easier.—GIBSON AND CLARK.

Glasgow, Saturday.—Flour: The sale of flour has been dull all week, and prices are 3d to 6d easier. Grain: Round maize is abundant, and pressed for sale. American corn has been shipped round from here to Liverpool. Feeding qualities of Scotch oats are plentiful and difficult to sell. Grinding beans are in buyer's favour. Barley quiet. Oilcake unchanged. Mill stuffs: Bran and thirds are in buyer's favour.—MCKINN N AND MCDONALD.

Ipswich, Tuesday. Wheat: Although the supply was by no means large, the trade was rather dull at last week's prices. Some of the samples offered were in rather poor condition. Barley: With one or two large buyers temporarily off the market, trade was quiet, but with not much change in prices; average samples 28s to 32s per qr; better class parcels were rather at a discount; grinding barley was a slow trade at 23s to 25s per qr. Low class Danubian slow at 19s to 19s 6d per 400lbs. Maize weak, and the turn lower; new round 23s per qr at Ipswich. Cotton cakes 2s 6d lower. Linseed cakes and other feeding stuffs firm.

Leeds, Tuesday.—The unsettled state of the American markets is disconcerting to the trade, and millers naturally stand out for lower rates to-day, but holders of wheat show no inclination to humour them, business is consequently restricted. No change in malting barley. Maize 3d lower. Beans and oats slow.—DUNNS AND CO.

Leeds, Friday.—With prices still lowering in America, there is less doing in all descriptions of wheat, and values show a further decline upon Thursday's reduced rates, the top price for English being 30s, and foreign 31s. Malting barley, beans, peas, maize, and flour all quiet and easier to purchase.

Leicester, Saturday.—Fair attendance and average supply of home-grown wheats, but only really good samples sought after, and prices rather weaker at 28s to 31s per 36st. Malting and grinding barley quiet. Fine oats firm.

Leith, Friday.—Trade during the past week has been very quiet, buyers being well stocked at the moment. Owing to the heavy arrivals of maize, the price has eased a bit. Wheat slow trade. Scotch oats in poor demand. Foreign oats easy. Barley, Scotch, quiet; foreign feeding, 21s. Hard white peas, 37s 6d. Beans, all varieties, 33s 6d to 34s. Round maize, 23s to 24s. Millet seed, 19s 6d. Mill Offals:—Better demand. Broad bran, 120s to 125s; medium bran, 100s to 102s 6d; sharps, 95s 6d to 97s 6d; parings, 105s to 107s 6d; cummings, 82s 6d to 87s 6d; dried grains, 100s; oat husks, 25s; meal seeds, 67s 6d; all sacks included.—WILLIAM MACLAY.

Lewes, Tuesday.—New white wheat, 29s to 30s; new brown ditto, 27s to 29s; malting barley, 32s to 35s; grinding ditto, 19s to 23s; oats, 20s to 25s; beans, 36s to 38s; peas, 32s to 34s per qr.

Lincoln, Friday.—Wheat a moderate show, and prices declined 3d to 6d per qr. There was little business doing in oats and barleys, the inquiry for seed being limited. Maize slightly easier.

Liverpool, Friday.—The market has had a fair attendance, but wheat has experienced only a moderate inquiry, with prices generally ½d below last Tuesday. The demand for foreign flour is very limited, and whilst prices remain unchanged the tendency of the market is in buyer's favour. The Liverpool Millers' Association make no change in prices and report a very quiet trade. Maize: Extreme scarcity of prime mixed checks any decline, the demand, however, is slow at unchanged prices. European has had a slight improvement in demand, but prices are generally ½d lower than Tuesday. Plate is in quiet request, and last market day's rates are repeated. Barley is slow for both malting and feeding, the latter being ½d lower to sell. Beans steady, but very quiet at unaltered rates, the exception being flat sorts, which are 6d lower. Peas steady but quiet, at late rates. Oats are very steadily held, but meet only a small demand at late rates for English. Oats are hard to sell, and prices in some cases are the turn in buyer's favour. Oatmeal steady but inactive at quotations. Oilcake firm, with a fair inquiry at about last Tuesday's prices.—SEGAR AND TUNNICLIFFE.

Maidstone, Thursday.—Considerable attendance at the Exchange to-day, but not cheerful over business, for the wheat trade is slow and prices of last week barely obtainable. Barley is on the drop, oats are fairly firm, especially for English, the stock of which is remarkably small. Beans and peas continue dear, being the least in appearance. Maize exhibits a decline, especially the round description. In rye, tares, hemp, etc., no alteration from last week.

Manchester, Thursday.—Trade has ruled quiet throughout the week in most sections of our market, with the tendency for the most part in favour of the buyer, more marked in some sections than others. English wheat can be bought at 3d per qr less money, whilst foreign is 1d to 2d per central down. Flour is reduced 6d per sack. Indian corn repeats later rates, but tends easier. Oats, peas, beans, and barley unchanged.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—A slow demand for wheat prevailed at our to-day's market, and where sales made prices favoured buyers. Maize easier; oats steady, at last week's prices; peas and beans firm, at late rates; barley unaltered.—JOSEPH POLLARD AND CO.

Newport (Mon.), Wednesday.—English wheat was more freely offered at the market, farmers having to take 1s per qr reduction on the week. Wheat and maize were slightly easier on the week; barley, beans, and oats unchanged; flour, fines, 23s per sack; mill offals scarce and dear. Attendance fair, but little business doing.

Northampton, Saturday.—Usual attendance, with a moderate show of samples of wheat and barley; business was quiet and dull; quotations a little easier than last week's. White wheat, 27s to 29s; red wheat, 26s to 28s 6d; barley, 25s to 32s; grinding barley, 22s to 24s; oats, 18s to 23s; old fine, 25s; beans, 32s to 40s; flour, 21s to 22s; fine, 24s.

Norwich, Saturday.—There was a good supply of wheat on offer at our market to-day, with prices rather easier than last week. Barley was in fair supply, with no quotable alteration in the trade. The first few days of the past week were unusually mild for the time of the year, but a change has set in with lower temperature. Wheat, red, 28s to 28s 6d per qr, weight 63lb per bushel Imperial. Corn Inspector's return for the week ending January 20th, 1902:—Wheat, 3,155.5, 27s 5d; barley, 6,910, 27s 10d. J. ARTHUR MILLS.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Wheat fair supply, and gave way 6d per qr. Barley only in moderate show, and values maintained. Oats in rather better supply, prices firm. Beans, small quantity offering, and fully as dear. ROBERT HUBBLE.

Peterborough, Saturday.—The wheat trade continues dull and apathetic, and to make sales to-day holders had to take 6d per qr less money. Barley in small supply and 6d dearer; oats and beans steady, at late rates. THOMAS HILL AND SON.

Plymouth, Thursday. Small attendance at the market to-day. Wheat 6d lower; oats unaltered; maize 6d and barley 3d decline.—ORLANDO DAVIS AND CO.

Reading, Saturday.—The Exchange was again well filled to day and business proved fairly brisk. The quantity of wheat on offer was moderate, but the inquiry did not come up to expectations, and last week's rates were generally prevailing. Barley came to hand plentifully, and met a fair demand, while oats changed hands readily at recent currencies.

Ripon, Thursday.—A very small attendance, and a light show of samples. Maize rather less money, other prices unaltered. Wheat, English (new), 29s to 30s; ditto foreign, 29s to 33s; barley, grinding, 22s 6d to 23s 6d; ditto, malting, 26s to 31s; oats (new), 21s to 24s; round maize, 24s to 27s per qr; beans, 1s per stone.

Romford, Wednesday.—Wheat trade slow at barely last week's prices. Fair supply on offer. Red wheat 28s to 29s, and white wheat 28s 6d to 30s 6d per qr.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Although the attendance was fair the sales of English and foreign wheat were only slow, and generally transactions were at last week's rates. Indian corn was 6d a qr cheaper. Prices:—Wheat, white, 30s to 31s; wheat, red, 30s 6d to 31s; oats, new white, 21s 6d to 22s 6d; new black, 20s to 21s per 336lb; barley, grinding, 22s to 23s; malting, 28s to 32s per 448lb; peas, grinding, 32s to 34s; blue, 53s to 80s per 504lb; beans, Egyptian, 36s to 36s 6d; new English, 37s to 37s 6d per 532lb; Indian corn, small, 25s to 26s; American mixed, 27s 6d to 28s per 480lb.

Spalding, Tuesday.—The corn trade was a little slower, the top price for wheat being 28s per qr. Oats 22s per qr. All kinds of spring corn held their price.

Stamford, Friday.—Fair supply of wheat. Prices varied from 27s 6d to 28s 6d, according to quality. Barley, finest, 27s 6d to 29s. Oats a very good trade. Beans realised about late rates. Maize sold for an advance on late prices.

Stockton, Wednesday.—Small show of English wheat, which made 31 per qr. During the week the trade in foreign wheat has kept very quiet, and in some cases less money had to be taken, owing to easier advices from America. This feeling was maintained in to-day's market. Oats and maize 3d to 6d easier. Practically no malting barley showing.

Sunderland, Saturday. Grain in fair supply. Wheat sold in buyers' favour. Spring corn quiet. Arrivals coastwise, wheat, 835qrs; foreign, nil.—E. AND F. RICHARDSON.

Wakefield, Thursday.—There is only a nominal business passing in wheat on to-day's market, and 31 to 6d per qr less money is accepted. Malting barley is in very fair supply and eagerly pressed for sale, but little trade done, as malsters for the most part are filled, and the tendency in price is downwards. No alteration in feeding stuffs.—MICHAEL SANDERSON AND SON, LTD.

Wakefield, Friday.—There is nothing satisfactory to report of the wheat trade, which at the moment is under a cloud, but though inanimate, there is no pressure to sell, holders being content to await a return of the demand, and prices can only be called fractionally lower. Common barley firm; best sorts slow. Feeding stuffs in small demand, but unchanged.—DUNNS AND CO.

Wisbech, Saturday.—A fair supply of grain. Wheat a quiet trade at 6d decline; red, 28s; white, 28s 6d. Oats, 21s to 24s. Barley, 27s to 30s. Beans, 34s to 38s.—J. FLETCHER.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—A fair market, but trade slow in all departments. Quotations:—English wheat, new, 12s 6d to 13s per 216lb, Kansas 6s 3d per cental; oats, old 15s 6d to 16s, new 12s 6d to 13s 6d; beans, old 15s 6d to 16s 6d, new 14s 3d to 14s 9d per 196lb; barley, 31s to 32s per 448lb.

Worcester, Saturday.—Wheat offered in limited quantity, and no alterations in values. Beans and oats sold at late rates. Barley 3d to 6d cheaper. Wheat, white, 11s to 11s 9d; red, 10s 6d to 11s per bag.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Small attendance, and very little grain on offer. White wheat, 29s to 30s per qr; red wheat 27s to 28s; best malting barley, 29s to 32s; secondary qualities, 26s to 28s; grinding barley, 23s to 24s per qr; white oats, 21s to 23s; black oats, 19s to 21s per qr; maize, 27s to 28s per qr; fine sharps, £6 to £6 10s per ton; barley meal, £6 16s 8d to £7 per ton; bran, £5 10s to £6 10s per ton; flour, 1s 1d to 1s 3d per stone.

York, Saturday.—Larger attendance, but samples of wheat were a smaller show. Wheat was reduced 6d per qr., best wheat selling at 28s to 29s, medium 26s to 27s per 36 stones. Barley was in smaller supply; medium samples were most inquired after, the finer sorts being neglected. Prices varied from 27s to 30s per 32 stones. Oats were scarce, and trade slow; black oats, 20s to 21s, short white, 21s to 22s per 24 stones.

FOREIGN.

Hamburg, Saturday.—With a continuance of unseasonably mild weather, we have a very quiet market. Prices cannot be quoted materially lower, but buyers are scarce. The imports during the week amounted to:—Wheat, 2,606 tons; rye, 2,086 tons; barley, 5,579 tons; maize, 3,622 tons. American hard winter wheat No. 2 is offering at 29s to 29s 3d; No. 2 northern spring, 28s 3d; fine South Russian, 28s 6d to 29s 6d per 480lb; Walla Walla, February to May delivery, 29s 3d to 29s 6d per 500lb. Rye firm; 915 20 South Russian, February-March, has been sold at 23s per 480lb cif. Hamburg. Good Bohemian barley has been sold at 30s 6d to 31s; good Holstein and Mecklenburg, 26s to 28s 6d; fine Saal is getting very scarce, and costs 33s 6d up to 38s for best. Fine Moravian and Slovakian on the spot is held at

to 37s 6d per 448 lb. f.o.b., 60-61 k.o. oSuth Russian feeding barley is selling at 17s. 6d. to 17s 9d per 400lb cif. Hamburg. Offers are scarce. White Holstein and Mecklenburg oats are held at 21s 3d to 21s 9d per 336lb cif. east coast. Danubian and Odessa maize, arriving seasonably dry, meets a fair sale at 21s 6d; Turkish to arrive is held at 22s 3d, mixed at 25s 3d per 480lb cif. Hamburg. —JOHN TATLOCK.

Paris, Wednesday.—The weather is mild, damp, and misty, with fine rain at intervals. Advices respecting the crops show no perceptible modification, the young wheat plants for the present look well, but it is thought that colder and drier weather would be more suitable to them, for it is feared that later on intermittent frosts will succeed the present mild weather and prove more or less prejudicial to the cereals. The attendance at the weekly market was an ordinary one, and rather less movement ruling in the trade. The situation has not materially altered, so far as home grown wheat is concerned. Farmers still make moderate offers in their endeavour to maintain prices, but buyers are not the less reserved; millers manifest little demand owing to the wretched sale of their product, coupled with the complete quietude prevailing in the speculative market. In short, transactions were still unimportant, and there is no quotable variation to note in prices. Choice red 37s 10d, ordinary 36s 11d, and white 37s 10d to 38s 9d per 480lb. The market was quiet for flour at the opening and closed with a very drooping tendency at the following prices: Jan 27s 11d to 28s 2d, Feb. 27s 11d to 28s 2d, March April 28s 5d to 28s 8d, March-June 28s 11d, and May-August 29s 2d to 29s 5d per 280lb. There is nothing very interesting to note of rye, for offers are most insignificant that traders give them but little attention. Here, prices were nominally unaltered with, however, rather more sellers; buyers offered 27s 5d, but no sellers under 27s 10d per 480lb. Oats remain firmly held in the provinces, but prices appreciably unchanged. Offers maintain a certain importance, and in general stuff does not appear to be wanting. Here the tendency was firm for grinding and feeding barley, but unaltered for malting sorts, which were quoted 17f.50 (25s 4d) for choice, and 17f.25 (25s) for good. Grinding 16f.50 to 16f.75 (23s 11d to 24s 3d), and feeding 15f.50 to 16f. per 100 kilos (22s 6d to 23s 3d per 400lb).—*Bornbusch.*

CORN STATISTICS.

ARRIVALS INTO LONDON.

January 15 to 22, 1902, inclusive.

	British.	Foreign	Total.
Wheat ..... qrs.	1,045	25,404	26,449
Barley	4,615	55,272	59,887
Malt	21,900	...	21,900
Oats	1,390	42,871	44,261
Rye	...	50	50
Beans	623	2,511	3,134
Peas	249	2,780	3,029
Maize	...	74,401	74,401
Tares	21	...	21
Buckwheat	...	...	...
Lentils	...	858	858
Dari	...	3,000	3,000
Farm seeds	473	3,200	3,673
Flour, sacks	19,567	79,972	99,539

IMPERIAL AVERAGES.

Statement showing the Quantities sold and average price of British Corn, Imperial Measure, as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended January 25, 1902, conformably with the Act of the 45th and 46th Victoria, cap. 37.

Wheat	74,753¾ qrs.	27s. 7d.
Barley	87,594 qrs.	26s. 7d.
Oats	25,382¼ qrs.	20s. 3d.

LONDON AVERAGES.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, January 21st, 1902.

	Total Quantities. Imperial Measure.	Total Amount.	Average Price per qr. Imperial Measure.
	Quarters.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Wheat ...	842	1,171 3 6	1 7 9
Barley ...	1,253	1,794 4 9	1 8 7
Oats ...	199	211 10 6	1 1 2

COMPARATIVE AVERAGES.

Comparative statement for the corresponding week to December 28th, in each of the years from 1897 to 1901.

	WHEAT. Qrs.	s. d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s. d.	OATS. Qrs.	s. d.
1897	55,878½	31 3	91,993¼	24 7	17,823½	16 8
1898	65,149½	34 6	109,683¾	27 8	21,370½	17 2
1899	75,032½	26 7	93,061¼	27 9	22,973¾	17 0
1900	65,381½	25 10	108,857½	25 9	17,814¾	16 4
1901	74,277	26 10	119,320¾	25 6	24,989¾	17 6

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF LONDON TOWN HOUSEHOLDS FLOUR.

(Sacks of 280 lbs. ex-mill for cash.)

	1901.	1900.	1899.	1898.	1897.	1896.	1895.	1894.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Jan.	24 6	21 9	23 9	20 0	25 6	18 9	18 7½	21 6
Feb.	24 0	22 0	23 6	30 0	24 7½	19 4½	17 9	21 6
March	23 9	21 6	22 3	30 0	23 11	19 3	18 0	21 0
April	24 0	21 6	22 0	31 3	23 6	19 6	18 7½	20 6
May	24 6	21 3	22 3	33 7	23 7	19 0	20 4½	18 6
June	24 0	23 6	23 1½	35 0	22 7½	18 10	22 3	18 10½
July	22 3	24 6	21 9	29 6	22 10½	18 6	20 0½	19 3
August	22 3	24 0	21 9	27 6	26 8½	18 8½	19 10½	19 3
Sept.	22 0	25 3	22 0	25 5	30 3	19 6	19 8	19 3
Oct.	21 6	24 9	21 3	26 1	29 0	23 7½	18 7½	18 3½
Nov.	21 6	24 3	22 3	25 0	29 1	25 8½	18 4½	18 3
Dec.	21 9	24 0	21 9	24 3	29 0	25 7½	18 1	18 8½
Yrly. Avrg.	22 10	23 2	22 4	29 6½	25 10½	20 8½	19 2	19 7

ENGLISH WHEAT IN 1 01.

Highest of Year	27s. 7d.
Lowest of Year	25s. 10d.
Gradient	1s. 9d.
Mean of Year	26s. 9d.

IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGES.

1901.	WHEAT. Qrs.	s. d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s. d.	OATS. Qrs.	s. d.
Jan. 26	74,277	25 10	119,320¾	25 6	24,989¾	17 3
Feb. 2	72,527½	26 7	87,205	25 7	21,707½	17 8
,, 9	44,882¾	26 8	51,608½	25 7	16,241½	17 7
,, 16	67,350	26 4	63,870¾	25 4	21,069¼	17 7
,, 23	68,159¼	26 1	65,514¾	25 0	23,418½	17 7
Mar. 2	68,224	25 11	52,600¼	25 0	21,858½	17 9
,, 9	63,714¾	25 9	51,125¾	25 4	19,410¾	17 7
,, 16	55,073¾	25 9	36,968¾	25 1	14,010	17 7
,, 23	54,755¾	25 8	27,840¼	24 11	13,895½	17 9
,, 30	47,908¾	26 0	20,179¾	24 9	12,418¾	18 0
Apr. 6	42,721¾	26 3	14,647¾	25 3	11,776¾	18 0
,, 13	32,905	26 5	6,809¾	26 0	5,936¼	18 1
,, 20	35,737¾	26 8	6,734½	25 7	8,346¾	18 8
,, 27	46,572	26 8	6,985¼	25 8	8,300¾	18 1
May 4	46,616¼	25 9	6,417¾	26 4	6,839¾	19 8
,, 11	47,118¾	27 3	4,279¼	26 2	7,049	19 1
,, 18	50,375¼	27 7	2,508	24 2	7,345½	19 4
,, 25	49,822¼	27 7	1,511¾	24 1	4,665¼	19 8
June 1	46,514	27 7	859½	23 8	4,938	19 9
,, 8	42,202	27 6	221¾	22 9	4,023½	20 1
,, 15	46,764	27 8	1,404¼	24 0	5,565½	19 7
,, 22	29,695	27 6	336¼	23 2	3,552½	20 3
,, 29	28,191¾	27 6	692¾	25 4	2,803¾	20 0
July 6	19,564½	27 8	140¾	21 9	1,805⅜	19 10
,, 13	15,231¾	27 2	49	23 10	1,675¾	19 9
,, 20	17,463¾	27 3	88¼	23 4	2,040½	19 11
,, 27	18,297½	27 3	206⅜	22 1	2,385½	19 4
Aug. 3	18,666½	27 6	250⅜	23 1	3,219½	20 0
,, 10	19,156	27 7	141¾	22 1	2,143½	19 4
,, 17	22,617½	27 4	220½	27 2	5,982	18 9
,, 24	37,168¾	27 3	976⅜	23 7	9,952⅜	18 1
,, 31	61,603¾	27 0	4,877⅜	24 3	14,654¼	17 10
Sept. 7	66,623¼	26 5	14,342⅜	25 1	19,075½	17 6
,, 14	77,949¼	26 2	34,989⅜	24 11	19,909¼	17 4
,, 21	80,279½	26 0	70,096¾	25 5	26,476½	17 4
,, 28	80,488	25 10	109,783½	25 10	22,567½	17 2
Oct. 5	60,376½	25 8	126,592¼	26 3	21,631½	17 7
,, 12	63,656½	25 9	172,175¾	26 5	16,815½	17 6
,, 19	58,772½	25 10	203,591½	26 8	15,506½	17 8
,, 26	52,984¾	25 11	208,471¾	26 10	18,009½	17 5
Nov. 2	70,314¾	26 2	134,277½	26 10	18,350¾	17 7
,, 9	62,265½	26 6	202,577½	27 0	20,066½	17 8
,, 16	57,884¼	26 9	201,723½	26 9	20,122½	18 3
,, 23	63,150¾	27 1	185,268½	26 10	20,612	18 7
,, 30	60,323½	27 1	193,434¾	26 9	22,419½	18 9
Dec. 7	67,925½	27 1	162,996¾	26 7	23,990¾	19 0
,, 14	48,045½	27 2	182,212½	25 10	17,125½	17 1
,, 21	60,562½	27 7	119,393½	26 8	26,260½	19 8
,, 28	43,718¾	27 7	81,859½	26 8	16,901½	19 10
1902.						
Jan. 4	31,440¾	27 7	37,777½	26 7	11,621¾	19 10
,, 11	48,997¾	27 8	69,120½	26 7	14,995	20 0
,, 18	74,239½	27 8	91,559¾	26 11	19,733¾	20 0
,, 25	74,753¾	27 7	87,594	26 7	25,382¼	20 3

MONTHLY AVERAGES.

(196 Market Towns.)

	1900.			1901.		
	Wheat	Barley	Oats	Wheat	Barley	Oats
January	25 10	25 7	16 3	26 5	25 7	17 4
February	26 0	25 2	16 8	25 5	25 5	17 7
March	25 11	24 10	17 0	25 10	25 0	17 10
April	25 11	24 9	17 6	26 3	25 7	18 3
May	25 9	24 10	18 2	27 6	25 2	19 4
June	25 10	23 8	19 0	27 7	23 11	19 10
July	28 10	23 8	19 5	27 4	22 9	19 8
August	28 9	23 10	19 5	27 4	24 0	18 10
September	28 6	25 7	17 6	26 1	25 4	17 4
October	28 5	26 3	17 0	25 10	25 7	17 6
November	27 3	25 10	17 0	24 9	26 10	18 2
December	26 7	25 9	17 2	27 4	26 8	19 5

YEARLY AVERAGES (OFFICIAL.)

	Wheat. s. d.	Barley. s. d.	Oats. s. d.
1890	31 9 per qr.	23 8 per qr.	18 7 per qr.
1891	37 1 ,,	28 2 ,,	20 0 ,,
1892	30 4 ,,	26 2 ,,	19 11 ,,
1893	26 4 ,,	25 6 ,,	18 9 ,,
1894	22 10 ,,	24 6 ,,	17 1 ,,
1895	23 1 ,,	21 11 ,,	14 6 ,,
1896	26 2 ,,	22 11 ,,	14 9 ,,
1897	30 2 ,,	23 6 ,,	16 11 ,,
1898	34 0 ,,	27 2 ,,	18 5 ,,
1899	25 8 ,,	25 7 ,,	17 0 ,,
1900	28 11 ,,	25 9 ,,	17 9 ,,
1901	26 9 ,,	25 3 ,,	18 5 ,,

FLUCTUATIONS IN THE AVERAGE PRICE OF WHEAT.

PRICE.	Dec. 21.	Dec. 28.	Jan. 4.	Jan. 11.	Jan. 18.	Jan. 25.
27s. 8d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 7d.				...	...	
27s. 6d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 5d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 4d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 3d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 2d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 1d.	...	...	...	...	...	...

FOREIGN CORN TRADE.

The shipments of grain from the chief exporting countries last week were as follows :—

	Wheat. Qrs.	Flour. Sks.	Maize. Qrs.	Barley. Qrs.	Oats. Qrs.
United States	380,000	160,000	5,000	5,000	—
Russia	155,000	—	156,000	70,000	71,000
France	—	5,000	—	—	—
Austria-Hungary	—	5,000	—	—	—
Roumania	110,000	—	120,000	20,000	20,000
Argentina	60,000	—	15,000	—	—
India	61,000	—	—	—	—
Australasia	80,000	—	—	—	—
Miscellaneous	20,000	10,000	20,000	20,000	10,000
Total	766,000	180,000	316,000	115,000	101,000

LONDON TOP PRICE FLOUR.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1901.

	s. d.
September 2 ..... (per sack)	29 0
,, 28 ..... ,,	28 0

(No official change since last date given.)

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF FINE HOUSEHOLD FLOUR IN PARIS.

(Converted into English money for sacks of 280 lb.)

	1901.	1900.	1899.	1898.	1897.	1896.	1895.	1894.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Jan.	24 9	25 2	29 0	38 7	30 5½	25 10	27 9½	28 4½
Feb.	25 9	26 3	28 3	39 4	29 10½	26 2	27 10½	27 5½
March	24 0	27 3	27 6	40 1	28 9	26 0	27 5½	27 1
April	24 6	26 9	27 6	42 3	28 5	25 6½	26 7	27 8½
May	25 6	26 8	28 0	40 0	28 11½	25 1½	28 0	25 6½
June	26 3	28 6	27 6	35 6	29 3	25 8	28 10	25 7½
July	28 0	26 9	27 3	32 0	31 5½	24 6	27 1	26 10
August	27 6	26 4	27 0	31 6	36 11	25 1	26 11	27 6
Sept.	27 6	26 3	25 9	31 0	33 7	27 0	27 0½	25 5
Oct.	27 6	26 0	24 9	30 6	39 4	27 1½	27 9	25 2
Nov.	27 9	26 4	24 3	30 3	40 3	29 9	26 8½	26 6
Dec.	28 3	26 0	24 6	29 0	39 3	29 8	26 3	26 10½
Yrly. Avrg.	27 3	26 6	26 9	35 0	33 5	26 5½	27 4½	26 8

TITHE RENT CHARGES.

For 1902	67	3	9
,, 1901	66	10	9
,, 1900	65	15	10
,, 1899	68	2	4
,, 1898	68	14	11
,, 1897	69	17	11
,, 1896	71	9	7

The last time the Tithe was above par was £100 4s. 10d. for 1883.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—A good quantity of green stuffs on offer met a good demand. Potatoes very quiet. Fair supplies of fruit were to hand, and experienced fair support. Greenstuffs: Cabbages, 4s 6d to 5s; cauliflowers, 7s 6d to 9s per tally; Brussels sprouts, 1s 6d to 2s per half-sieve; spinach, 1s 9d; beetroots, 1s 6d to 1s 9d per bushel; carrots, 2s; turnips, 2s to 2s 6d; parsley, 1s 6d to 2s 6d; leeks, 2s to 2s 6d per dozen bunches; horseradish, 1s 3d to 1s 6d per bundle; celery, 9s to 12s per dozen rolls; forced rhubarb, 1s 6d per dozen bundles; English onions, 7s per cwt; Valencia, 7s 6d to 7s 9d per case. Potatoes: Maincrops, 80s; Reading giants, 40s; up-to-dates, 40s to 50s; blackland, 40s; Gartons, 40s per ton. Fruit: Almeria grapes, 12s to 24s per barrel; Channel Islands, 6d to 1s 3d per lb; English apples, 4s to 10s per bushel; Nova Scotian, 18s to 24s per barrel; Californian, 8s to 10s per case; pine-apples, 1s 6d to 4s 6d each; Jaffa oranges, 10s to 12s; Valencia, 8s to 12s; Denia, 10s to 18s per case; English tomatoes, 5s to 6s per 12lb; bananas, 7s to 10s per bunch.

POULTRY AND PROVISIONS.

Smithfield, Saturday.—Supplies large, a dull demand, and only limited sales transpired. Quotations:—Fowls: Yorkshire, 2s 6d to 3s; Essex, 2s 9d to 3s 3d; Welsh, 1s 9d to 2s 3d; Boston, 2s to 2s 6d; Surrey, 3s 6d to 4s 6d; Sussex, 3s to 4s; Irish, 1s 6d to 2s; turkeys (cocks), 6s to 8s 6d; (hens), 4s 6d to 6s; geese, 4s 6d to 6s; country ducks, 2s 6d to 3s 6d; Irish, 1s 9d to 2s; pigeons, 7d to 1s; quail, 10d to 1s 3d; wild rabbits, 10d to 1s; tame, 10d to 1s 2d each; Australian ditto, 7s to 8s per dozen; pheasants, 4s to 4s 6d; young partridges, 3s 3d to 3s 8d; old, 1s 8d to 2s per brace; hares, 2s 6d to 3s; leverets, 1s 6d to 2s; wild ducks, 1s 6d to 1s 8d; pintail, 1s to 1s 4d; widgeon, 11d to 1s 3d; teal, 8d to 1s; woodcock, 2s to 2s 6d; snipe, 8d to 1s; golden plover, 10d to 1s; black, 8d; Russian—Capercailzie (cock), 2s to 2s 9d; (hen), 1s 8d; blackgame, 1s to 1s 2d; ptarmigan, 10d; partridges, 1s to 1s 4d each.

CHEESE.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—The arrivals were small of home cheese, and the inquiry was limited. Holders would yield a bit if a fair trade would ensue. Cheddars and Dunlops are priced from 50s to 58s per cwt. New Zealand cheese are commanding more attention. At present they are reckoned better value than home parcels.

Newport, Wednesday.—The supply was short, but good business was done. Prices ruled:—Caerphillies, 56s to 63s; fancy dairies, 67s to 70s; Cheddars, 60s to 65s; Derbies, 62s to 66s; truckles, 60s to 65s.

THE BALTIC.

The past week has been very slow, and wheat prices closed 3d. to 6d. lower both for cargoes on passage and for future shipments. Transactions include Californian at 30s. 3d., blue stem at 29s. 6d., Walla Walla at 29s. 3d., Oregon at 30s. 6d. nearly due, and 30s. just sailed; Russian winter at 30s. 9d., Russian spring at 30s., Australian at 30s., Argentine at 29s. 6d., and white Kurrachee at 29s. 6d. per quarter.

Maize is again substantially cheaper on the week. A cargo of Galatz has been sold for 22s., Roumanian for 21s. 9d., Salonica 23s., Caucasian 23s. 3d., Bulgarian 22s. 3d., and Argentine 21s. 6d. per quarter. The latter was for May shipment. The price of American, 26s., is prohibitory.

Barley was dull from the Tuesday to the Thursday, but closed steadier. Sales have embraced Caucasian at 17s. 9d., Crimean at 18s. 9d., Azoff at 18s. 6d., Odessa at 19s. 3d., Californian at 24s., and Yerli at 20s. per quarter. The latter is a growth of Anatolia.

Oats were firm all through the week, but large purchases did not occur. We record a sale of white Konigsberg at 20s., of South Russian at 17s., and of Roumanian at 17s. 9d. per quarter.

Beans were steady. The Egyptian new crop for May shipment was in speculative offer at 29s. 6d., with buyers at 29s. per quarter.

Other cargo sales included Portuguese locust beans at 90s., and Egyptian cottonseed at 131s. 3d. per ton.

During the past week two wheat cargoes, two barley cargoes, and one cargo of beans arrived at ports of call, making since 1st January 13 wheat, 2 maize, 2 barley, 1 beans, and 1 linseed cargo arrived.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

January of late has been masquerading as April, and the usual mid-winter rest on the farm has sometimes been broken by an outburst of energy consequent on the feeling that such fine weather should not be wasted. The land ploughs up very nicely, being neither too dusty nor too wet. A little drilling has been accomplished. Here and there a field has been addel to the wheat acreage, and occasionally, too, the February sowings of barley here have been anticipated. Grain threshings have been unduly large, for there has been too much moisture in the air, and the markets besides are already over-supplied, the high temperature effecting an automatic reduction in the consumptive demand.

The news from America is favourable, for there has been a great snowfall all over Canada and the principal States of the American Union. This was just what was required, and in the winter wheat States has relieved many anxieties. From India advices are far less satisfactory. The official reports are long, and in parts confused, but their main import is that wheat is only doing well on land which is artificially supplied with water. The natural supply is poor all over India, this winter, and the result is almost certain to be a short harvest, the irrigated area being very much smaller than the unirrigated.

The Argentine wheat surplus, according to the latest telegrams, will not exceed 2,750,000 qrs., but the harvest in the south is not yet completed. No wheat exports are expected from Chilé.

The markets of the past week have been very difficult for holders of breadstuffs, the mildness of the weather pulling millers out of sympathy with wheat and bakers with flour. The prices ruling at the close of the six days' trade were 6d down for English wheat, and 3d. for foreign sorts, while American flour fell 3d. per sack. Under all the circumstances the decline might easily have been more marked. But for the small demands for actual consumption breadstuffs would probably have rather improved in value. At the same time, the supplies on passage are rather depressing.

	Qrs.
Californ'an	1,550,000
American	350,000
Argentine	90,000
Russian	65,000
Indian	80,000
Australasian	265,000
Other Countries	20,000
Total	2,820,000

On the 1st January only 2,350,000 qrs. were on passage. The items showing increase are Californian 350,000 qrs., American 60,000 qrs., Argentine 30,000 qrs., and Australasian 65,000 qrs. Indian may not improbably show an increase next week, recent Kurrachee shipments having been rather heavy.

Sales of breadstuffs for the week exceeded an average, the slight decline in prices tempting a certain amount of speculative buying.

	Qrs.
English wheat	125 000
Foreign wheat	295,000
Foreign flour	200,000
Sales: Total	680,000
Requirements	567,000
Excess	113,000
Stocks, Jan. 8	2,852,000
Stocks, Jan. 25	2,965,000

This is only 12,000 qrs. net increase from the beginning of the year, but it wipes out the previous reduction and effaces the natural January tendency for stocks in granary to be drawn upon not increased.

The farm stocks or estimated reserves of wheat in growers' hands are returned as follows:—

	Qrs.
Jan. 1	3,656,000
Jan. 25	3,473,000

Later in the year the deliveries of home produce will show the effect of indiscreetly heavy January sales.

Imports of spring corn last week were good of barley and maize, but small of oats. It is likely, however, that arrivals of oats for the last week of January (the present week) will be large, there being about 200,000 qrs. expected before Saturday next.

The actual receipts were last week:—

	Qrs
Maize	465,000
Barley	200,000
Oats	125,000

The imports of the cereal year, 1st September to January, have been as follows:—

	Qrs.
Wheat	6,071,000
Flour	2,736,000
Breadstuffs	8,807,000
Maize	4,345,000
Barley	3,714,000
Oats	2,915,000

The supplies of maize on passage to the United Kingdom are moderate, but as the proportion of sound corn afloat is three times as large as usual the value of that kind has fallen 2s. in a fortnight, flat corn remaining dear. The yellow descriptions shipped mainly by Argentina is a little lower on the week, but there is no plethora of the sort. Barley supplies on passage are above the average. Actual quantities of spring corn, etc., on the high seas are as follows:—

	Qrs.
Maize	735,000
Barley	725,000
Beans	6,500
Linseed	125,000
Rapeseed	12,000
	Tons.
Cottonseed	45,000

The cotton seed market seems to possess a remarkable intrinsic strength, for, despite a large quantity on passage, value tends in sellers' favour, and demand is not checked by 1s. 3d. per ton advance.

The imports of oats into London for 1901 were 5,250,000 qrs. against only 4,379,000 qrs. in 1900. No wonder, therefore, that the warehouses are full. Hussia increased her supply by 800,000 qrs., and Roumania's 122,000 qrs. constituted a new item. America, however, sent us 310,000 qrs. less than in the previous year. The price of oats is high, and buyers display a worthy preference for the finer types—320 to 384 lb. to the quarter. There are some splendid samples to hand from New Zealand; soil and climate evidently favour this Antipodean land, and the only drawback seems to be that the inhabitants are "born tired." Wages of 6s. per day for unskilled labour and 8s. for anything approaching skill (a good ploughman for example) utterly fail to attract, and agricultural land is going out of culture for want of "hands." Seeing that bread, meat, clothes and tobacco are all cheaper than in England, and that the local barley makes excellent and cheap malt, it is difficult to say why, with London willing to buy every sack shipped, only 42,000 qrs. of New Zealand oats—less than a thousand quarters weekly—unloaded at London quays in 1901.

We have to record a retrograde movement in milling offals, also in rice meal. In good rice lines 21s per sack is paid. Maize flour, at 18s 6d. per sack for best, and 18s. for secondary but still sound, is in steady request.

LONDON TERM MARKET.

This market is held twice a day, except on Saturday, when there is no afternoon call. The market is open to elected members only. No business except for future delivery is done, and the smallest quantity that can be purchased is 1,000 quarters, or 4,800 centals. The name of the month stands for guaranteed delivery (if required) on or before the last day of that month, and the following have been the prices per cental recently made:—

Wheat.—Calls.	Jan. s. d.	March. s. d.	June. s. d.
Jan. 20 11 a.m.	6 3	6 5	6 5
4 p.m.	6 3	6 5	6 5
Jan 21 11 a.m.	6 3	6 5	6 5
4 p.m.	6 3	6 5	6 5
Jan. 22 11 a.m.	6 3	6 4	6 5
4 p.m.	6 3	6 4	6 5
Jan. 23 11 a.m.	6 2	6 4	6 5
4 p.m.	6 2	6 3	6 4
Jan. 24 11 a.m.	6 2	6 3	6 4
4 p.m.	6 2	6 3	6 3
Jan. 25 11 a.m.	6 2	6 3	6 3
To-day noon	6 2	6 3	6 3

The Term Market standard wheat is No. 1 Northern Spring American sold on the Duluth certificate. Other sorts of wheat can be bought at the above prices plus or minus agreed difference between the other sort and the standard quality. Quotations are by the "true hundredweight" or cental of 100 lb. We do not give fractions of a penny per cental. The maize quoted is fair average quality from the United States.

The deposit required from members of the Term Market has been fixed at £50 minimum and 1s. per quarter margin on any purchases above 1,000 quarters.

The Term Market (while the "Baltic" is rebuilding) is temporarily situated at the Great Eastern Hotel, No. 190, Bishopsgate Street, ground floor.

HOPS.

Canterbury, Saturday.—The demand for hops continues, and coloury choice parcels are making more money, some East Kents having realised over 80s per cwt during the week. Low class samples continue to be purchased, but prices for these do not advance. A good demand rules for 1899 hops.

Worcester, Saturday.—The trade on our market has been fairly good during the past week, but only for the best medium hops, which realise full prices. There is a steady sale for good, sound hops, which appear to be worth a little more money, but low qualities are not inquired for.—PERCY AND CO.

THIS DAY'S MARKETS

MARK LANE, MONDAY.

[FIRST REPORT.]

The westerly wind and the high temperature were against business, and despite a fair attendance very little trade pressed. For English wheat, old prices were not paid, but some factors had instructions to admit no decline. Where concession took place 6d. was enough to bring buyers and sellers together. Foreign wheat was 6d. lower without selling well. Maize was again 6d. down for round corn, the condition of which is far from giving satisfaction. Flat corn was firm, but very slow indeed. For oats of 320 to 384 lb. weight premiums good prices were asked, but light South Russian and Roumanian were on offer at some decline. Barley was out of favour for malting, owing to muggy weather. Feeding barley declined 3d. Beans and peas were dull. The price of linseed was maintained for English and Indian, but Argentine gave way 1s. per qr. Rapeseed declined 1s. for Guzerat, but was rather firmer for the common kinds such as Jamba and Ravison. After a brief depression, cottonseed is again hardening, and was saleable to-day at about 1s. 3d. per ton advance.

QUOTATIONS OFF STANDS.

Jan. 27, 1902.

BRITISH GRAIN.

		s.	s.
WHEAT, White (new)	(per 504 lb.)	29	— 32
,, (old)	,,	30	— 33
Red (new)	,,	28	— 30
,, (old)	,,	29	— 30
Chicken or Feed	(per 480 lb.)	27	— 28
BARLEY, Malting	(per 448 lb.)	30	— 38
Brewing	,,	27	— 30
Feeding	(per 400 lb.)	24	— 25
MALT, English	(per 336 lb.)	34	— 40
Scotch	,,	36	— 38
Black	,,	30	— 32
Brown	,,	29	— 32
Crystallized	,,	33	— 35
OATS, English, New Winter	,,	21	— 22
,, Tartary	,,	20	— 21
,, Old Winter	,,	22	— 24
,, ,, Tartary	,,	21	— 22
Scotch	,,	22	— 23
Irish	(per 504 lb.)	19	— 20
RYE, British	(per 480 lb.)	23	— 25
BEANS, Pigeon	,,	46	— 50
Winter	,,	51	— 55
Mazagan	,,	50	— 52
PEAS, Best Marrowfat	(per 504 lb.)	70	— 70
Blue (boiling)	,,	50	— 74
Dun	,,	31	— 53
Maple	,,	36	— 40
TARES, Winter	(per 504 lb.)	50	— 54
Spring	,,	44	— 46

FOREIGN GRAIN.

(Ex-Granary.)

	s.	s.
WHEAT, per 496 lb.		
Old Duluth	32/6	—33
Manitoba	31/6	—32
American Spring	31/6	—32
Red Winter	30/6	—31
Hard ,,	30	—30/6
Kansas	30	—30/6
Californian	30/9	—31
Walla Walla	30	—30/6
Australian	31	—31/6
New Zealand	29	— 30
Argentine	30	— 31
Danzig	32	— 33
Saxonka	31	— 32
Azima	30	— 31
Ghirka	29	— 30
Indian	29	— 30
MAIZE, per 480 lb. :		
Russian	23	— 24
Roumanian	23	— 24
Turkish	23	— 24
American	27	—27/3
Argentine	24	— 25
OATS:		
N' Zeal'd (384 lb.)	24	— 30
Swedish (336 lb.)	21	— 23
Canadian (320 lb.)	20	— 21
American (320 lb.)	20	— 21
K'nigsb'g (320 lb.)	20	— 21
Pet'sburg (304 lb.)	19	— 20
L'bau, w'te (304 lb.)	19	— 20
,, black ,,	19	— 20
Vologda (304 lb.)	19	— 20
BEANS, per 480 lb. :		
Egyptian	33	— 34
Smyrna	31	— 32
New Zealand	34	— 36

	s.	s.
LOCUST BEANS, per ton :		
Italian	102	— 104
Cyprian	106	— 112
Portuguese	105	— 107
PEAS, per 504 lb. :		
Canadian, White	37	— 38
Australian, White	41	— 42
New Zeal'd Maple	39	— 41
MILLET, per 416 lb. :		
White	33	— 45
Red	25	— 27
Yellow	22	— 24
DARI, per 480 lb. :		
Smyrna	24	— 25
Persian	21	— 23
RYE, per 480 lb. :		
Russian	24	— 25
BUCKWHEAT, per 416 lb		
French	24	— 25
Russian	24	— 26
TARES, per 504 lb. :		
Konigsberg	44	— 48
BARLEY :		
New Zeal'd (448 lb.)	23	— 29
Chilian (448 lb.)	39	— 40
Californian (448 lb.)	26	— 35
French (448 lb.)	27	— 29
Danubian (400 lb.)	19	— 21
Ouchak (400 lb.)	22	— 24
Yerli (400 lb.)	21	— 22
Russian (400 lb.)	18/6	— 19
MALT, per 336 lb :		
Californian	35	— 37
Smyrna	35	— 37

OIL SEEDS.

LINSEED, per 416 lb.	s.	s.
English	57	to 59
Dutch	56	to 58
Bombay	57	to 59
Calcutta	54	to 55
Russian	55	to 56
Argentine	50	to 52
SESAME, per 424 lb.		
Indian	48	to 50
COTTON SEED per ton.		
Egyptian	126	to 132

RAPESEED, per 416 lb	s.	s.
English	56	to 60
Calcutta	42	to 44
Guzerat	43	to 45
Ferozepore	37	to 39
Jamba	29	to 30
Ravison	28	to 29
POPPYSEED, per 377 lb.		
Indian	40	to 47
SUNFLOWERSEED, per 448lb.		
Russian	40	to 44

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

By Telephone, 2 p.m.

THE MARKET CLOSED WEAK AND FLAT.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE Monday

The finest sorts of American patents were offered to-day at 24s. 6d. to 25s. per sack, and ordinary good North-Western patents at 1s. under these terms. The best London white flour was offered at 25s., and town households at 22s., while country sorts were offered at 20s. to 22s. for the great majority of samples. Kansas flour showed an upward tendency, but the demand for North-Western flour was not good, and London makes were also difficult to place. There was a fair and steady, but not an average mid-winter sale for London makes. The sale of country flour was not bad considering the mild weather. Extra fine patents, mixtures of good English and best American made 24s. to 25s. Hungarian flour was 6d. dearer on the week for all the leading types. The sales, however, were small. French flour was neglected. Australian flour was weak and the turn in buyers' favour.

Maize was offered at 4s. 6d. per cental for March, 4s. 7d. for June delivery. For April and May 4s. 8d. was asked. June is cheap because of large Argentine shipments booked for May.

LONDON FLOUR.

		s.	s.
Top Price	(per sack)	—	25
Town Whites	,,	—	23
,, Households	,,	—	22
No. 2	,,	—	20

COUNTRY FLOUR.

Best Patents	(per sack)	22/9—23
Fine Roller made	,,	21/9—22
Ordinary Roller made	,,	20/6—21
Best Stone made	,,	20/6—20
Ordinary Stone made	,,	19/6—2

FOREIGN FLOUR.

Minnesota First Patents	(per sack)	23 — 24
,, Second Patents	,,	21 — 22
,, First Bakers'	,,	19 — 20
,, Second Bakers'	,,	18 — 19
Milwaukee Patents	,,	22 — 23
,, Bakers	,,	18 — 19
Kansas Patents	,,	22 — 23
,, Bakers'	,,	18 — 20
Cascadia	,,	21 — 22
Canadian	,,	22 — 23
Australian Patents	,,	20 — 22
,, Straight	,,	19 — 21
Hungarian	,,	27 — 31
French	,,	20 — 21

MEAL, &c.

Whole Meal	(per ton)	162—163
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	111—113
Bran, London Broad	,,	108—110
,, ,, Fine	,,	96— 98
,, Country Flake	,,	114—118
,, ,, Broad	,,	106—108
Pollard	,,	102—104
Fine Middlings	,,	118—120
Coarse Middlings	,,	108—110
Feeding Flour (Red Dog)	,,	115—120
Barley Meal	,,	124—128
Rye Flour	,,	150—155
Oat Meal	,,	320—280
Oat Flour	,,	340—360
Maize Flour	,,	164—166
Maize Meal	,,	122—126
Maize Cones	,,	170—172
Maize Germ Meal	,,	110—115
Pea Meal	,,	130—150
Bean Meal	,,	145—165
Rice Meal	,,	100—106

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—The arrivals from Ireland last week were 2,604 bales bacon, and from foreign ports 9,260 bales bacon. The demand for bacon last week was very unsatisfactory, and, with stocks accumulating, all prices were further reduced, especially on fat selections. Irish ranging from 46s to 52s up to 59s; Danish ranging from 44s to 52s up to 59s; Canadian ranging from 44s to 46s up to 54s. The butter market was steady; Danish, 108s to 112s; Colonials, 80s to 100s up to 108s; French, 88s to 114s. Lard quiet; Irish, 53s to 63s; American, 47s 6d to 49s.

THE BALTIC, 1 p.m.

STATE OF TRADE.

Wheat cargoes open 3d. down for future shipment. Round maize still tends in buyers' favour. Barley and oats are not in much demand, but value is fully supported. Linseed is the turn cheaper for Argentine, but cottonseed is held for good rates.

BUSINESS DONE.

WHEAT.—No. 1 Northern Manitoba, 28s 6d, on passage; Australian, 23s, prompt shipment; best Duluth new crop, 23s 6d, prompt shipment; Californian, 29s 6d, prompt shipment; blue stem, 29s 9d, just sailed; Walla Walla, 23s, on passage; Russian winter, 29s 9d, prompt shipment (ice allowing); Russian spring, 29s 3d, prompt shipment (ice allowing).

MAIZE.—American, 25s 3d, prompt shipment; Odessa, 23s, prompt shipment; Argentine, 21s 9d, April shipment; Argentine, 21s 6d, May shipment.

M.L.E. THE BALTIC Machine EIGHT

BARLEY.—Azoff, 18s 6d, on passage; Roumanian, 18s 3d, prompt shipment.

OATS.—White Libau, 17s, prompt shipment; white Konigsberg, 20s, prompt shipment.

LINSEED.—Calcutta new crop, 48s 6d, May shipment.

RAPESEED.—Ferozepore, 38s 6d, February shipment; Jamba, 29s 6d, April shipment.

MAIZE GERM MEAL.—America, 6 guineas per ton, prompt shipment.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORTS.

Flour.—Rather lower prices are being accepted for spot flour, and at the moment buyers are indisposed to purchase except for immediate requirements. Values on spot are as follows:—1st Spring Patents, 24s. 3d. to 25s.; 2nd Spring Patents, 23s. 3d. to 23s. 9d.; American Winter Patents, 24s. 3d. to 25s.; Extra Fancies, 22s. 3d. to 22s. 9d.

Offals.—The demand for Bran and Pollard is dull, and for most descriptions prices are in favour of buyers.—GREENHILL BROS. (Belfast).

The demand for milling offals during last week was small, but at this day's market there is more inquiry, and last Monday's prices are maintained. —JOHN BAWCOMB AND CO., Mark Lane.

Wheat—Trade dull; prices unchanged. Flour 3d per sack lower. Maize unchanged. Barley dull.—COVENTRY, Mark Lane.

Flour—A very quiet trade at 3d to 6d decline on the week.—T. S. MEDILL AND SONS, Mark Lane.

The arrivals into London last week were large, both of wheat, flour, and feeding stuffs. At to-day's market wheat again finds a slow sale at 3d. to 6d. reduction on the week. Maize and barley maintain last values, while oats tend dearer.—W. P. WOOD & Co.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed Cakes.—There is a more active demand than has been experienced for some time past, and, with only limited supplies, stocks are getting into a small compass, and values have a further hardening tendency. Russians are firmly held at £7 10s to £7 12s 6d in mats, and £7 15s to £7 17s 6d in bags. Americans continue in good request at unchanged prices. Calcutta-made, in bags, offer at £7 12s 6d to £7 15s. London-made move off steadily, and prices are slightly firmer. Cotton Cakes.—With some recent heavy arrivals of Egyptian, the tone of the market is not quite so good, and there are now second-hand sellers at 1s 3d to 2s 6d per ton less money. English remain as last quoted. Decorticated are without change, and meal slightly firmer. Rape Cakes.—Quiet. East India unchanged. Maize Germ Meal. Both American and English are only sparingly offered, and with practically no stocks there is little fluctuation in prices, which remain unchanged. Rice Meal.—Arrived parcels of Rangoon make £5 to £5 2s 6d, while landed lots are quite as dear, at £5 5s to £5 7s 6d.

	Per ton. £ s. d.	Per ton. £ s. d.
LINSEED CAKES.		
London made ex mill	8 2 6	to 8 5 0
American ex dock	7 5 0	to 7 7 6
Russian, in mats ex dock	7 10 0	to 7 12 6
Russian, in bags ex dock	7 15 0	to 7 17 6
Calcutta	7 12 6	to 7 15 0
COTTONSEED CAKES.		
London made ex mill	4 12 6	to 4 13 9
Egyptian ex dock	4 10 0	to 4 12 6
Decorticated ex dock	6 12 6	to 6 15 0
Meal ex dock	6 11 3	to 6 13 9
RAPE CAKES.		
East India	4 0 0	to —
MAIZE.		
English germ meal ex mill	6 0 0	to 6 2 6
American	6 0 0	to 6 2 6
RICE MEAL.		
Rangoon, in warehouse	5 5 0	to 5 7 6

—PINNOCK BROS., 80, Mark Lane, E.C.

London, Monday. — Linseed cake. — Market is unchanged; trade still quiet; supplies small. Decorticated cotton-cake and meal not quite so firm; undecorticated as before. Linseed still tends upward; spot Calcutta has got up 4s from the bottom.

English Linseed Cake ex mill	8 0	to 0 0	0 0
American Calcutta Linseed Cake ex quay	7 12	6 to 7 15	0
American Western ,, ex quay	7 5	0 to 7 7	6
Russian Oil Cake ex quay	7 10	0 to 7 17	6
Feeding Cake, Samuelson's S.P.F. (10 to 12 per cent. Oil) ex warehouse			
Compo Cake, Samuelson's S.P.F. (7 to 9 per cent. Oil) ex warehouse			
Decorticated Cotton Cake ex quay	6 12	0 to 6 17	6
,, ,, Meal ex quay	6 15	0	
London-made ,, Cake (best) ex quay	7 12	6 to 4 15	0
Egyptian ,, ,, ,, (in bags) ex quay	4 12	6 to 4 10	9
Burton Desiccated Ale Grains (bags included) on rail, Burton	5 7	6	
Guinness, Desiccated Porter Grains (bags included) ex warehouse, London			
Rangoon Rice Meal ex warehouse			
Russian Linseed in bulk, per 416 lbs. ex warehouse	2 12	6 to 1 17	6
Calcutta Linseed in bags, per 410 lbs. ex warehouse	2 12	6 to 2 13	6
American Linseed in bulk, per 410 lbs. ex warehouse	2 13	0	

ROBERT AND JOHN HEWETSON.

SEEDS.

London, Monday.—There was a fair attendance at to-day's market. The supply of English red clover is moderate. Best qualities continue firm, but medium and inferior are cheaper. White clover is in active demand at a considerable advance on best qualities. Alsike and trefoil are firm. Italian and perennial ryegrass are steady and unchanged. Spring tares are in better demand and making more money. Winter tares are scarce and wanted. Birdseeds are quiet. Blue peas and haricots are dull.—JOHN PICARD AND CO.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

Monday, January 27th, 1902.

	British.	Total. Jan. 28th, 1901.
Beasts	1,220	1,220 1,260
Sheep and lambs	7,660	7,660 7,700
Calves	30	30 —
Pigs	70	35 50
Milch cows	35	35 50

Quotations per 8lb. (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.

	Inferior. s. d.	Second. s. d.	First. s. d.
Beasts	2 8 ..	4 0 ..	4 9
Sheep	3 4 ..	4 10 ..	5 6
Lambs	5 10 ..	6 6 ..	7 4
Pigs	2 10 ..	4 0 ..	4 6

Milch cows, per head, £16 to £23.

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, 64; Eastern Counties, 504; Midland, Home, and Western Counties, 524; Devon, 30; Ireland, 98.

There was a decrease of 220 head in the beast market compared with Monday last, due to shorter arrivals from Scotland and Norfolk. Trade for both prime and second quality was brisker, and rates were firmer. A clearance is fully expected. Fat butchering cows and bulls, being also fewer in number, sold more readily at a slight advance in value.

The following are top quotations per 8lb (sinking the offal):—

	To-day.	Jan. 28, 1901.
Scotch	4s 7d to 4s 9d	4s 7d to 4s 8d
Devons	4s 7d to 4s 8d	4s 7d to 4s 8d
Herefords	4s 4d to 4s 6d	— —
Norfolks	4s 6d to 4s 8d	4s 7d to 4s 8d
Runts	4s 4d to 4s 6d	4s 2d to 4s 4d
Lincolns	4s 4d to 4s 6d	4s 2d to 4s 4d
Irish	4s 2d to 4s 4d	4s 2d to 4s 4d
Fat cows	3s 10d to 4s 0d	3s 6d to 3s 8d

In the Sheep Market there has been a decrease of 500 in the number present compared with Monday last. Wether sheep were firmer in value, and met with ready sales. For ewes also there was more inquiry, these making 2d. per 8lbs more money; lamb trade, though rather slow, maintained late rates; the supply included 220 Scotch and 4,750 from the Eastern counties.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8 lbs. (sinking the offal), and are for the best of each class penned.

	To-day.	Jan. 28, 1901.
7½ to 8 st. Downs	5s 4d to 5s 6d	5s 10d to 6s 0d
9-st. Downs	5s 2d to 5s 4d	5s 8d to 5s 10d
10-st. half-breds	4s 8d to 4s 10d	5s 4d to 5s 6d
12-st. Lincolns	4s 6d to 4s 8d	5s 0d to 5s 2d
10-st. Down ewes	4s 0d to 4s 2d	4s 6d to 4s 8d
11-st. half-bred do.	3s 10d to 3s 11d	4s 4d to 4s 6d
5-st. fat lambs	7s 2d to 7s 4d	7s 8d to 7s 10d

A small supply of pigs. Trade very slow. Best small breeds, to dress from 64 to 72 lb., were quoted at 4s 6d per 8lb.

London, Monday.—Good supplies. Trade slow. Beef carcasses 3s. 10d. to 4s.; hind quarters, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; roastings, 5s. to 5s. 8d. Sheep, ewe, 2s. 8d. to 3s.; wether, 3s. 8d. to 4s.; hind quarters, ewe, 3s. 8d. to 4s.; wether, 5s. to 5s. 4d.; pigs, large, 3s. to 3s. 4d.; small, 4s. to 4s. 4d.

St. Ives, Monday.—Beasts, 256; sheep, 258; pigs, 325; beef, 7s 3d to 7s 9d; mutton, 7s 7d to 9s 4d; pork, 6s 3d to 7s 3d; sows, 5s to 5s 9d; fat and store cattle fair trade; fat and store sheep fair trade; fat and store pigs better trade; milch cows fair demand, prices £12 to £24.

FOREIGN CATTLE

Deptford, Monday.—No beasts on the market, and none expected until Saturday. Sheep numbered 826 from the United States, trade for which, though of a slow nature, was rather firmer in regard to value, being quoted at from 3s 8d to 3s 10d per 8lb, offal given in. On Saturday last 1,531 beasts and 2,531 sheep were offered for sale, and met slow but steady trades, the former making 4s 4d to 4s 6d and occasionally 4s 8d per 8lb, and best pens of the latter 3s 8d. The following were the numbers os offer on the corresponding day last year with the current top rates:—Beasts, nil; sheep, nil.

Liverpool, Monday.—There was a smaller supply of cattle in market to-day; demand very slow, and prices generally lower, excepting for a few prime cattle. Sheep —Supply considerably less; best Scotch a shade dearer; other sorts lower. Beef, 6½d to 5½d per lb; mutton, 8d to 5d per lb. At market—1,240 cattle and 3,784 sheep.

HOPS.

London, Monday.—The demand noted in our last continues, the ridiculously low prices being accepted for English hops inducing some consumers to buy against possible contingencies.—W. H. LE MAY.

At a meeting at Toronto of the chief grain exporters of Canada on Tuesday a resolution was adopted in favour of a preferential rate for Canadian grain, in case Great Britain adopted a duty on grain, and if complete exemption could not be secured. The local Board of Trade will take the matter up, and will send a petition on these lines to Sir Wilfrid Laurier and Mr. Chamberlain.

At the fair held at Moneymore, Co. Londonderry, on Tuesday, there was but a small supply. Springers were in good demand. Prices—Calves, 2nd class, £3 15s. to £4 5s.; yearlings, 2nd class, £5 7s. 6d. to £6 8s. 9d.; 3rd class, £3 2s. 6d. to £4 12s. 6d.; two year olds, 2nd class, £8 10s. to £9; 3rd class, £5 17s. 6d.; springers, 1st class, £15 15s. to £17 10s.; 2nd class, £12 2s. 6d. to £14 5s.; 3rd class, £9 7s. 6d. to £10 2s. 6d.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW.

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS.")

Trade in London.

At the Islington Cattle Market, on both Monday and Thursday, trade for fat beasts of both prime and second quality, was of a slower nature, especially for the latter, which, with forced sales, sold at a decline of 2d. per 8lbs.; the best Scotch, Norfolks, and Devons were fairly steady in value, but rough cattle were very difficult to dispose of; fat butchering cows were in full supply, but the majority were of but medium quality, the best on offer were a shade dearer; fat bulls were easier to buy at last week's quotations. At Deptford markets were held on Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday, and, so far as supply was concerned, was chiefly confined to consignments from the United States; here trade was of a fairly firm and steady nature, last week's rates governing all transactions. The total number of beasts offered for sale on both markets was 5,140, consisting of 1,530 British (decrease 180) and 3,610 foreign (increase 1,019); these latter consisted of 3,532 from the United States and 78 from Canada; the following were the top rates obtained per 8lbs. (sinking the offal); 90-stone polled Scotch, 4s. 9d.; 90-stone Norfolks, 4s. 7d. to 4s. 8d.; 80-stone Devons, 4s. 7d. to 4s. 8d.; 95-stone Herefords, 4s. 6d.; 95-stone Runts, 4s. 6d.; 100-stone Lincolns, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 110-stone ditto, 4s. 3d.; 90-stone States, 4s. 6d.; 100-stone fat cows, 3s. 10d. to 4s.; 100-stone fat bulls, 3s. 6d. The chief feature in respect to the sheep trade has been the marked increase in the arrivals from abroad, these totalling 6,845, as against 2,388 during the previous week; they consisted of 5,445 from the United States and 1,400 from Canada, trade for which was of a very slow and dragging nature, with a marked downward tendency in value. At the Islington Cattle Market, rates for both wethers and ewes ruled fully 2d. per 8lbs. lower, business being chiefly confined to Monday. A few lambs were on sale, and found ready buyers; best pens made per 8lbs. as follows (sinking the offal): 7½ to 8-stone Downs, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; 7-stone Southdowns, 5s. 8d.; 9-stone Downs, 5s. 2d.; 10-stone ditto, 5s. to 5s. 2d.; 10-stone half-breds, 4s. 10d.; 12-stone Lincolns, 4s. 8d.; 10-stone Down ewes, 4s.; 5-stone fat lambs, 7s. 4d.; 8½-stone Canadian and States sheep, 3s. 6d. to 3s. 8d.; 6½-stone ditto lambs, 4s. 4d. There being only 10 calves and 40 pigs on the market, neither the trade or quotations are worth noting.

Trade in the West.

There has been a fair amount of business passing during the week, the milder weather we are experiencing having imparted a better tone to the trade in store things, especially barreners, the more forward grades of which are selling from £24 to £30 per pair and over, and the more ordinary runs from £16 to £22, with plenty of inquiry at the price. Grass keep being now, for the time of year, exceedingly plentiful, not only in the meadows, but also in some places in the ordinary pasture lands. Of course, this is very helpful to graziers, and affords them the opportunity for a little speculation, but for which they would be practically doing nothing. And another thing, it is equally helpful in that it enables stockowners to put out their surplus supplies in far better condition than would be the case in less favourable circumstances. Therefore, the mild weather is beneficial in more than one way, even if temporarily, though undoubtedly we shall have to suffer for it later on. The milch beast trade, too, is very firm, at prices ranging from £16 10s. to £21 for useful young heifers and for anything exceptionally good even higher rates are being paid; older bullocks meeting a quieter demand at from £15 down to £12. In-calvers are likewise in general request at from £12 to £14. Purveyors of milk are still experiencing considerable difficulty in getting their requirements met, hence the buoyancy of the trade just now. There is not very much passing in store sheep, but a few couples, as well as cross-bred wethers have changed hands during the week at fairly satisfactory rates, couples realising 44s. to 56s., and wethers up to 36s. In fat stock bullocks, which are only coming to hand to a very moderate extent, keep one of the firmest things on the market, the general run for useful breeds of steers and heifers being from £15 to £23 each (or about 11s. per score), fat cows bringing £14 to £17 (or 9s. 6d. to 10s. 6d.). Mutton continues a very disappointing trade, and, instead of prices improving, the tendency is to still lower rates, both for wethers and ewes, the former having made during the past week from 46s. to 54s. each (or 7d. to 7½d.), and ewes 36s. to 46s. (or 6d. to 6½d.). Lambs have moved off a trifle better, some suckers at Wimborne having sold up to 40s. 6d. (or 9d. to 9½d.). Veal sells a trifle better than it did, best calves bringing from £4 to £6 (or 7½d. to 8d.); seconds, 6½d. to 7d.; whilst rearers sell from 18s. to 40s., the trade being very active. Pigs keep well up in value, porkers of neat weights realising capital prices, the best making 10s. 6d. per score (or 50s. to 66s. each), whilst baconers may be quoted as making 9s. 6d. to 10s. (or 74s. to 90s.). Fat sows sell steadily at 7s. to 8s. Store pigs are in good demand for keeping on. Except for fat sheep business all round may be described as fairly satisfactory.

Trade in Scotland.

The number of fat cattle on offer this week has been rather smaller, but the general quality quite an average. Trade has been good throughout, and prices as nearly as possible similar to those of the preceding week. Sheep have been shown in average numbers. Owing to the bad London markets, no improvement in trade can be quoted, with the exception of ewes, which, being shown in smaller numbers, made a shade more money. A few fat lambs on offer continue to sell at a fair price at from 38s. to 42s. Fat calves and pigs exceedingly dear. There were scarcely any store sheep, but there was a fair supply (for the time of year) of store cattle. Those of a good class in forward condition were readily sold at fairly satisfactory prices, but rough cattle and small stirks were totally neglected. There was a good show of milch cows, and they met a satisfactory trade at rather high prices. Quotations:—Top price best beef to 8s. 6d. per stone; mutton to 7½d. per lb.—JOHN SWAN AND SONS, LIMITED.

Trade in Ireland.

In both cattle and sheep, the supplies at last Dublin's market were large for the time of year, although the offerings of sheep were nearly four hundred under last week. The increase in cattle (107) and decrease in sheep (390) brought supplies back to about the level of a fortnight ago, when trade was considered to be fairly energetic and firm. A cautious feeling prevailed, and it was harder to maintain the currencies of the previous Thursday for either beef or mutton, though there was a full attendance of buyers. The irregular way in which purchases were carried out was in a great measure due to the scarcity of well-finished cattle, the bulk of animals offered for sale being only half-meated. This description of beef dragged heavily, and it was difficult to make anything like a clearance. Best heifer and ox beef 54s. 6d. to 57s. 6d., with extra good lots making up to 60s. per cwt.; good second-class, 48s. to 52s. 6d.; and inferior 40s. to 46s. Number of cattle in market, 2,665. In the mutton department, trade was disappointing, as compared with last market. Local butchers bought cautiously for trade requirements, but there was practically no change in values current at last market. No improvement was to be noted in the export trade, notwithstanding that there was a good attendance of buyers, who claim—whether rightly or wrongly—that prices on this side are equal to those current in English markets. Well-finished light weight Cheviots sold freely enough at late rates, but rubbishy sheep—of which there were far too many—did not clear. Best wethers, 6½d. to 7d. per lb.; ewes, 5½d. to 6d.; inferior sheep, 4½d. to 5d. per lb. Light hoggets from 30s. to 40s.; and heavy from 42s. to 54s. each. House lambs of choice quality sold freely at 40s. each, but secondary qualities neglected. Prime veal scarce, and worth from 7½d. to 8½d. per lb; rough calves not inquired for. Choice milch cattle scarce, and really good springers made up to £20 and £21 each; other descriptions irregular. In the pig market, the supply was rather limited, and with a full attendance of buyers, and a fair revival in demand, prices went up from 1s. to 2s. per cwt. Best light weight pigs sold at from 45s. to 47s. per cwt.; coarse from 32s. to 40s.

LONDON.

Islington, Thursday.—Fair supplies brought forward, and, as usual on Thursday, the bulk comprised fat bulls and rough cattle. The demand was of a quiet character, but prices were unchanged. Fat bulls, 3s 4d to 3s 8d per 8lb to sink the offal. Arrivals of sheep were extremely small, and, with next to no demand, trade proved nominal. The same remarks apply to calves and pigs. Total supplies:—90 beasts, 260 sheep, 10 calves, 5 cows, and 20 pigs.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Best beef sold well, making up to 12s per score. Mutton dull of sale. Other stock unchanged. Prices:—Best beef, 11s to 12s; secondary, 10s 6d to 11s. Cows, 9s to 10s per score. Small Downs and half-breds, 5s to 5s 2d. Kent wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 8d. Barrens, 3s 6d to 4s per stone. Best veal, 4s 10d to 5s 4d; coarse ditto, 4s 8d. Pork, 10s 6d to 11s for roasters; 5 to 10 score hogs, 9s 6d to 10s 6d; sows, 8s 6d a score.

Basingstoke, Wednesday.—At Raynbird and Sons' saleyard there was a good attendance of buyers to meet a supply of 49 fat beasts, 47 calves, 455 fat sheep, 300 pigs, and 43 head of dairy and store cattle, for which the following prices were realised:—Prime Devon steers reached £24 5s; shorthorn steers made up to £22 15s; cows, £18 10s; Welsh steers, £16 10s; Scotch steers, up to £19 5s. Prime quality fat sheep and lambs realised from 40s to 55s; twelve-months-old ditto, 35s to 50s; fat ewes, from 35s to 48s 6d; rams, 40s to 45s 6d; fat calves, 60s to £5 7s 6d; small, 20s to 45s. Fat hogs, 80s to £6; fat porkers, 45s to 65s; small, 28s to 40s; store pigs, 17s 6d to 27s 6d; dairy cows, up to £20 5s. The show of fat beasts included some prime quality Devons and shorthorns; for these there was a good inquiry, and prices well maintained; for inferior beasts less money had to be taken. An average supply of good-quality fat sheep and lambs was almost cleared at about last week's values, the tendency being for a slight advance for the short entry of fat ewes. Dairy cows and heifers of all descriptions met a brisk trade with a quick inquiry. Store cattle continue a slow business. Fat calves made more money. Fat hogs and porkers sold readily at last week's quotations. Store pigs are very dear. Ruling values:—Prime fat Devon beasts, 7d to 7½d; ditto shorthorn, 6d to 6½d; bulls, cows, and inferior beasts, 5d to 5½d per lb. Best quality fat sheep, 7d to 8d; second quality, 6d to 7d; old ewes, rams, and inferior beasts, 5d to 6d per lb. Fat calves, 6d to 7¾d per lb. Fat hogs, up to 10s per score; porkers, up to 11s 6d per score.

Boston, Wednesday.—Best beef, 8s; cow beef, 7s and 7s 3d per stone. Heifers, £13 to £16; in-calvers, £18 to £21; wethers, 7½d and 8d; ewes, 5d per lb; hoggs, 38s and 42s.

Braintree, Wednesday.—There was a rather short supply of beasts and hogs at Messrs. Balls' auction mart, although the trade was sharp. Average prices: Beef 5s, and mutton 5s 2d per stone; pork, 11s per score. Stock penned: 30 beasts, 114 fat sheep, 56 hogs, and 120 store sheep.

Bristol, Thursday.—Fat cattle in large supply to-day, trade generally quiet, best qualities realising 60s per cwt; secondary animals, 54s to 56s. Moderate number. Sheep sold slowly at 7½d per lb for light wethers, and 7d for heavy. Ewes made 6d. Pigs plentiful, baconers making 9s 6d per score, and porkers 10s 9d. Little inquiry for store cattle.

Bury, Wednesday.—There was a large supply of fat beasts for the time of the year, the quality being above the average. Trade ruled good throughout, at late rates, prices reaching up to £27 10s. Several lots of forward store beasts penned. Mr. G. Baldwin's Cumberland steers, about 2½ years old, from Pippin Hall Farm, reached up to £13 15s. Ten consigned by Sir A. Noble, Bart., fetched £11 15s. Cows in or near milk made up to £19 10s. Rather short supply of fat sheep, but not much difference in trade, as compared with last week. Shearlings went up to 61s 6d. Fat ewes were in shorter numbers. Not so many store hoggets penned. One hundred good Suffolk hoggets, sent by Messrs. Sturgeon Bros., averaged 34s 6d. per head. Two hundred good black-faced ewes in lamb made from 49s to 37s 6d, and averaged about 45s per head. Good show of fat pigs. Trade about the same as last week. Fat sows went up to £9 15s.

Calne. FRIDAY.—Present prices for prime pigs, in lots of not less than 10, on rail within 100 miles of Calne.

	Thickness of fat in any part of the Back.	Price per Sc.
		s. d.
Prime Stores.		
6 sc. 10 lbs. to 9 sc. 10 lbs.	2½ in. and under	9 6
Under 10 sc.	Not exceeding 2½ in.	9 0
Under 11 sc. 10 lb.	Not exceeding 2¾ in.	8 6
Under 12 sc.	Not exceeding 3 in.	

—C. & T. Harris & Co., Ld.

Cambridge, Monday.—Beasts, 362; beef, 7s to 8s. Sheep, 738; mutton, 3s 8d to 5s. Pigs, 502; pork, 6s to 6s 6d. Horses, 14. A few lots of small stores, and all sold. Fat beasts, good show, prices unchanged. Fat sheep, a fair number to hand, trade not so good. Stores, a few lots to hand, and all sold. Fat pigs, a large show, and prices not so good. Stores, a fair all-round trade. Hay and roots, short supply. Straw, good supply, and trade fair.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Supply of Irish stripping cows and heifers for store purposes again small, as also was the attendance of buyers. Slow sale, quotations being as follows:—Stripping cows, £11 to £12; heifers, £9 to £11 10s.

Chichester, Wednesday.—Fair supply of fat stock, which sold steadily without change. Very large supply of store sheep, and, considering the general dulness of the trade, a fair proportion changed hands. There was no material change in prices. The pig department was well supplied, and an average trade was done. Altogether there were 5,373 head of stock in the market, made up as follows: Cattle, 409; sheep, 4,298; pigs, 564; calves, 90; horses, 12. Tolls taken, £28 7s 8d.

Dorchester, Wednesday.—Extensive supplies came to hand at to-day's cattle market (Messrs. Ensor's as well as Messrs. Duke and Son's), the tone of which was good throughout, with a tendency to rather higher values than otherwise. The beef trade continues good, the ordinary run of the bullocks offering being from 10s 6d to 11s per score, very little, except something very special in weights, exceeding this figure; fat cows range from 9s to 10s, and contract bullocks, 8s 6d. Calves rule steady, with values a trifle better; best calves make £4 10s to £6 5s, and seconds 60s to 78s; rearers, 15s to 38s. Mutton is still a quiet trade at low prices, wethers only in a few cases touching 50s (or about 7d to 7½d); ewes, up to 46s (or 6d to 6½d). Lambs are a good steady trade at from 34s to 38s for cross-breds (or 8½d to 9d). Porkers are dear, making 40s to 60s (or 10s per score); baconers, 70s to 90s (or 9s to 9s 6d); fat sows, £4 to £6 5s; stores, 18s to 40s.

Dublin, Thursday.—Numbers in market: Beasts, 2,665—increase, 107; sheep, 5,044—decrease, 390; calves, 46—increase, 7. The demand for beef was slower, with prices for all classes in buyers' favour and the rougher descriptions difficult to finish. The trade for sheep tending in buyers' favour. Choice light-weights and fancy qualities only made late rates. Cattle, live weight, 27s to 34s per cwt; mutton, dead-weight, 5½d to 7½d per lb.—GANLY, SONS, AND CO.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Bullocks and cows, 538; calves, 57; sheep and lambs, 691; pigs (fat and sows), 37 sucking pigs, 7; pigs (stores, not more than ten), 263; pigs (stores, more than ten), 164; horses, 2; colts, 3. Prices: Best beef, 6d to 7d per lb; wether sheep, 6½d to 8d per lb; ewes, 5½d to 6d per lb; veal, 8d per lb; lamb, 9d per lb; pork, 5½d to 6d per lb; bacon, 6d to 6d per lb.

Ipswich. Tuesday.—Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons report the number of fat cattle forwarded again showed an increase, but as they were wanted, values for all those well grazed were maintained at last week's level; secondary sorts sold freely, but in some cases were slightly easier. The fat sheep pens were full, and a slow trade prevailed at lower prices, especially in the case of ewes and partly-finished hoggets. Half-bred hoggets, from 53s 6d to 51s; Suffolk ditto, to 51s 6d; ewes, to 45s 6d; grazing hoggets sold without alteration to 35s 6d. Calves were not so numerous; those for weaning made up to 63s, and for killing to 90s. Fat swine were in short supply, but, nevertheless, trade was not so brisk and prices were somewhat lower. Stores sold well up to 26s. A fair number of grazing cattle were penned for the season; trade was dull, without change in values. Cows, fresh-calved, or near, sold well up to £18 10s. At the Drill Hall about 70 horses were offered; the best animals were in request; cart horses to 35gs, colts to 30½gs, hackneys to 22gs. Numbers at sales and market:—Cattle, 550; calves, 35; horses, 101; sheep, 946; swine, 1,222.

Leicester, Wednesday.—Very full consignments of home-fed bullocks in prime condition came forward, and, with buyers and dealers well represented, a more active trade passed in good lots, inferior, however, being rather

slow. Choice bullocks made 6¼d to 6¾d per lb, secondary descriptions 6d to 6¼d; cows, 5d to 5¾d per lb; heifers, 6d to 6¾d per lb. Sheep were a large delivery, and sold rather slowly at 7¼d to 7¾d per lb for best qualities, large weights making 6¾d to 7d per lb, and ewes 5¼d to 6d. Calves flat at 7d to 7¼d per lb.

Newport (Mon.), Wednesday.—The supply of best quality cattle was not quite so large as in recent weeks, nor was there a large supply of sheep, but trade was brisk all round. Good attendance of buyers. Quotations:—Best beef, 6¼d to 6¾d per lb; secondary, 6d to 6¼d; cows, 5¼d to 6d; best wether mutton, 7¼d to 7¾d; ewes, 6d to 6¼d; veal, 6¾d to 7¼d; pigs, porkers, 10s 6d to 11s per score; baconers, 9s to 9s 6d.

Norwich, Saturday.—The supply of store cattle here to-day was moderate; trade was quiet, and prices were the turn in favour of buyers. A fair supply of fat beasts moved off at 7s 6d to 8s per 14lb. Store sheep, which were in average supply, were dull. Keeping hoggetts brought 25s to 35s per head. Fat sheep, which were in good supply, moved off rather slowly at 7s 6d to 8s and 8s 3d per 14lb.

Romford, Wednesday.—Average supply of fat beasts; trade rather slow. Best animals, 4s 6d to 4s 8d; middlings, 4s to 4s 2d per stone. Calves in very short supply; trade dear, at 5s 6d to 5s 8d per stone. Sheep in shorter supply; trade about the same. Best sheep, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; middlings, 5s to 5s 2d per stone. No store beasts on offer. Pig market closed.

Salford, Tuesday.—The supply of both cattle and sheep was larger than last market day. Trade ruled slow for cattle, but last week's prices were obtained The demand for sheep was also slow, and the tendency of prices was against the seller. A large supply of calves, but as choice fat ones were rather scarce this class was in good demand at full prices. Quotations:—Cattle, 4¾d to 6¼d; sheep, 6d to 8¼d; calves, 5d to 8d per lb. At market: Cattle 3,056, sheep 8,693, calves 156.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—The show of milch beasts was smaller than last week, and for the best lots there was a fair demand at from £18 to £22. Secondary animals made from £14 to £17.

Spalding, Tuesday.—A small show of beef, making fully 8s per stone. Cow beef, 7s 6d per stone. A small show of store beasts, and trade rather better. Cows were in demand, and realised very satisfactory prices. In sheep there was a dull trade, prices being lower on the week. Best mutton, about 7d per lb.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday.—Good demand for store cattle; fairly brisk trade for stock generally, with a slightly upward tendency. Fat calves and beef higher in price. Quotations:—Beef, 5¾d to 7d; mutton, 6¾d to 7¾d; veal, 7d to 8d per lb. Porket pigs, 10s to 10s 6d; bacons, 9s to 10s per score. Cows, with calves, up to £22. Hay, up to £5 10s; clover, up to £5 per ton. Number offered:—668 cattle, 54 cows (with calves), 422 sheep, 97 calves, 75 fat, 186 porket, and 357 store pigs. Swedes made about 19s per ton.—B. R. CROXTON.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There were on offer 157 cattle, 352 sheep, and 311 pigs. An average show of best cattle, but few customers. Trade slow at 7s 6d to 8s per stone; rougher kinds, 6s 6d to 7s per stone; sheep, 7½d; ewes, 5d to 6d; tups, about 4d.

Thame, Tuesday.—There was a fair supply of stock at market. Beef was of excellent quality, meeting with keen competition and maintaining the good prices of the past few weeks, every head, with few exceptions, being sold. Mutton was a slow trade, and in favour of buyers. Mr. Bond's sale comprised 70 fat beasts, 120 fat sheep, 53 fat and weaning calves, and 124 fat and store pigs. Fat bullocks made £18 to £21 10s; fat heifers, £14 to £20 2s 6d; fat ewes, 35s to 43s; fat wethers, 41s to 48s 6d; fat tegs, 39s to 48s; fat calves, £3 to £4 12s; cow calves, 22s to 56s; bull calves, 18s to 48s; fat tegs, 10s per score. Stores a fair trade.

Wakefield, Wednesday.—A large supply of beasts and sheep, and a slow sale at last week's prices. Beef, 5d to 6¾d per lb; young sheep, 7¼d per lb; heavy animals, 6d to 7d per lb; ewes and tups, 5d to 6d per lb. Numbers in market:—Beasts, 1,302; sheep, 3,217.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Beasts fair supply; moderate trade. Sheep A moderate number offered, and steady trade. Calves—Small supply; good demand. Beef, 5¾d to 6¾d per lb; mutton, 6d to 8¼d per lb; veal, 7d to 7¾d per lb; pigs Bacon, 9s 6d per score; porkets, 10s 6d to 11s per score; sows, 7s 6d to 8s per score.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Fair show of stock, and moderate trade, beef being down a trifle. Best qualities of beef made from 7s to 7s 3d per stone; secondary qualities, 6s 6d to 7s per stone; best wether mutton, 6¾d to 7¼d per lb; ewes and other sorts, 5d to 6d per lb.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Wednesday.—Beast entries to-day totalled 800 head, which is an increase of 130 as compared with last Wednesday's figures, and again consisted of shipments from the United States. Trade ruled slow at 4s 3d to 4s 5d. 1,304 United States and Canadian sheep and lambs were offered (1,004 being from the former), and ruled very slow at 3s 2d to 3s 4d and 4s 4d per 8lb, to sink the offal respectively.

BUTTER.

Tuesday.—Bedale: In rolls of 24oz., 1s 6d to 1s 7d per roll. Gainsborough: 1s 3d per lb. Leeds: York lump, 14s 6d to 15s per stone; long rolls, 1¼lb., 1s 8d to 1s 11d; fresh in 1lb prints, 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb.; Danish, 109s to 114s per 112lb.; Irish creameries, 98s to 104s; Colonial, 100s to 106s. Settle: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Spalding: 10d to 11d per lb. Stone: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb.

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Boston: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Colne: 1s 2½d per lb. Goole: 1s 3d per lb. Hereford: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Kirbymoorside: 1s per lb. Keighley: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Knaresborough: (wholesale) 1s 4d; (retail) 1s 6d per roll of 24oz. Louth: (wholesale) 11d per lb. Market Drayton: best, 1s 2d to 1s 3d; seconds 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Market Weighton: 1s per lb. Northallerton: 1s 5d to 1s 7d. Stockton: 1s 2d to 1s 4d per lb. Worksop: 1s 2d per lb.

Thursday.—Brigg: 11d to 1s 1d per lb. Driffield: 1s per lb. Birmingham: 1s 3d to 1s 5d per dozen; 14s to 15s per dozen. Kidderminster: 1s 1d per lb. Penistone: 1s 4d per lb. Ripon: 1s 8d to 1s 10d per single roll of 24oz. Scarborough: 1s 3d per lb. Wetherby: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Wellington: 1s 3d to 1s 5d per lb.

Friday.—Derby: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Easingwold: 11 or 12 for 1s. Grimsby: Danish, 110s to 112s per 112lb; Dutch, 104s to 108s; Canadian, 100s to 102s. Helmsley: 11 or 12 for 1s. Leeds: Danish, 109s to 114s per 112lb; Irish creameries, 98s to 104s; Colonial, 100s to 106s; York lump, 14s 6d to 15s per stone; ditto long rolls, 1¼lb, 1s 8d to 1s 11d; fresh butter, in 1lb prints, 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Leyburn: 1s 8d to 1s 9d per roll of 26oz. Lincoln: 1s to 1s 2d per lb. Otley: 1s 6d to 1s 8d per roll of 26oz. Whitchurch: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb.

Saturday.—Appleby: 1s 1d to 1s 4d per lb. Berwick: 10d per lb. Carlisle: 1s 3d to 1s 5d per lb Doncaster: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Grantham: 1s to 1s 3d per lb. Howden: 1s 2d per lb. Lancaster: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Malton: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Pontefract: 1s 4d to 1s 5d per lb. Retford: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Richmond: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Stokesley: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Skipton: 1s 2d per lb. Whitby: 1s 2d per lb. York: 1s 2d to 1s 4d per lb.

EGGS.

Tuesday.—Bedale: 10 or 11 for 1s. Gainsborough: 10 for 1s. Leeds: Yorkshire, 14s to 15s per 120; Irish, 11s 6d to 14s; Danish, 10s to 11s; Austrian blues, 8s to 8s 6d; do reds, 6s 6d to 7s. Settle: 10 to 11 for 1s. Spalding: 11 or 12 for 1s. Stone: 10 to 11 for 1s.

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 8 for 1s. Boston: 11 or 12 for 1s. Colne: 2s 7d per score. Goole: 11 for 1s. Hereford: 9 or 10 for 1s (wholesale, 10 to 12). Kirbymoorside: 11 or 12 for 1s. Keighley: 8 or 9 for 1s. Knaresborough: 9 or 10 for 1s. Market Drayton: 10 to 11 for 1s. Louth (wholesale): 12 for 1s. Market Weighton: 12 for 1s. Northallerton: 11 or 12 for 1s. Stockton: 7 or 8 for 1s. Worksop: 1s 8d to 1s 9d per score.

Thursday.—Birmingham: 8 or 9 for 1s. Brigg: 11 or 12 for 1s. Driffield: 11 or 12 for 1s. Kidderminster: 10 for 1s. Penistone: 8 for 1s. Ripon: 11 or 12 for 1s. Scarborough: 8 or 9 for 1s. Wetherby: 9 or 10 for 1s.

Friday.—Derby: 9 or 10 for 1s. Easingwold: 11 or 12 for 1s. Grimsby: Austrian, 6s 10d to 8s 4d per 120; Styrian, 7s 2d to 9s 11d. Helmsley: 11 or 12 for 1s. Leeds: Yorkshire, 13s to 14s per 120; Irish, 10s 9d to 13s; Danish, 9s 9d to 10s 9d; Austrian blues, 8s to 8s 4d; ditto reds, 6s 6d to 7s. Leyburn: 11 or 12 for 1s. Lincoln: 10 or 12 for 1s. Otley: 10 or 12 for 1s. Whitchurch: 11 and 12 for 1s.

Saturday.—Appleby: 10 to 11 for 1s. Berwick: 1s 5d per dozen. Carlisle: 8 or 9 for 1s. Doncaster: 10 or 11 for 1s. Grantham: 9 or 10 for 1s. Howden: 11 or 12 for 1s. Lancaster: 9 for 1s. Malton: 10 for 1s. Pontefract: 7 for 1s. Retford: 2s to 2s 2d per score. Richmond: 9 or 10 for 1s. Stokesley: 9 or 10 for 1s. Skipton; 6 or 7 for 1s. Whitby: 10 for 1s. York: 8 or 9 for 1s.

COLONIAL DAIRY PRODUCE.

London, Friday.—The demand for Australian and New Zealand butter remains good but not brisk, and prices have not fallen, as some expected. On the contrary, there is, if anything, a hardening tendency, and values look as if they would shortly take an upward turn. Choicest brands make 104s to 106s, with 107s for strictly choicest lots. Finest remains at 98s to 102s. The Copenhagen official quotation has been left unchanged this week. Although there is a firmer market in Denmark, and the basis there is 4s per cwt. higher than it was last week. In the United Kingdom Danish values have advanced 2s per cwt. The demand for Canadian cheese is not so good as last week, but prices remain unchanged. New Zealand continues firm, shipments clearing as they arrive.—W. WEDDEL AND CO.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Thursday.—Linseed: Owing to a good consumptive demand, and a considerable prospective deficiency in the world's supplies, prices have improved considerably. Spot Calcutta to London 55s, passage 54s 6d to 55s 3d, January 52s 9d, March 49s 6d, April-June 48s 3d. La Plata Dec.-Jan. 48s 6d, Jan.-Feb. 47s 6d. Hull also dearer, La Plata shipping or shipped 48s 6d, Dec.-Jan. 48s, Jan.-Feb. 47s 6d. To the Continent, Bombay Dec.-Jan. 55s, Jan.-Feb. 53s 3d, Feb.-March, 51s 6d, March-May 50s 9d. Calcutta on passage 53s 3d, March-April 49s, April-June 48s 6d. La Plata Dec.-Jan. 48s, Jan.-Feb. 47s 3d. Linseed oil: Although the demand is small, prices have risen in sympathy with seed. We quote spot in pipes £29 5s, barrels £29 10s, Feb.-April £28 10s, May-August £28. Hull spot naked £28, Jan.-April £27 10s, May-August £26 10s. Linseed cakes: Quiet. We to-day quote London-made £7 15s to £8, ex mill. American Western £7 5s to £7 7s 6d, Russian £7 10s to £7 12s 6d. Cotton cakes steady, London-made £4 10s to £4 12s 6d. Rapeseed is rather steadier in tone. To London we quote Yellow Cawnpore Jan.-Feb. 40s 6d, Brown Cawnpore 38s 3d. To the Continent Yellow Guzerat Jan.-Feb. 42s 6d, Yellow Cawnpore Jan.-Feb. 40s 6d, Brown Cawnpore Nov.-Dec. 38s 3d, Brown Calcutta 36s, Ferozepore Nov.-Dec. 38s 3d. Jambs Feb.-March to Hull 29s 9d. Cottonseed, owing to a very strong oil market, has improved in value, but does not close quiet at the best. Spot London £6 10s, afloat £6 8s 9d, January £6 8s 9d, Feb.-March £6 10s, April £6 12s 6d. Hull, spot and near, £6 5s, January £6 6s 3d, Feb.-March £6 8s 9d. Cargoes February £6 13s 9d, March £6 15s, April £6 16s 3d. Bombay to Hull Feb.-March has been sold at £4 11s 3d, but at the close £4 8s 9d is utmost obtainable.—THE PRODUCE BROKERS CO., LTD.

Hull, Tuesday.—Linseed: The arrivals are 1,110 qrs from Boston, 11,275 qrs Calcutta, 135 qrs Harlingen, 663 qrs Konigsberg, 12,098 qrs New York, 50 qrs Rotterdam; total, 25,531 qrs. The market still tends upwards. Calcutta, 48s 3d reported paid April-June to Hull. Plate, 48s 6d paid and bid for afloat; 48s now asked January; 47s the value Jan.-Feb. Baltic sorts, nothing doing. Cottonseed: Notwithstanding the good arrivals the market has been very firm since our last, and values have improved in all positions, although not much business done. Spot sold at £6 5s to £6 7s 6d, which latter obtainable January, and £6 10s and £6 11s 3d paid Feb.-March, but at close to-day there is a quieter tone, with sellers at £6 6s 3d spot; £6 7s 6d January, and £6 10s Feb.-March. Oils.—Exports for the week ending 14th January, 1902.—Linseed oil: 1 America, 4 Germany, 2 Norway; total, 7 tons. Cotton oil: 40 Belgium, 5 Denmark, 5 France, 51 Germany, 222 Holland, 2 Norway; total, 325 tons. The market is quiet but steady. Linseed oil: 28s 3d spot; 27s 3d Jan.-April; 26s 6d May-August. Cotton oil: 22s spot; 22s 3d Jan.-April; 23s May-August. Crude: 20s 6d spot; 20s 9d Jan.-April; 21s 6d May-August. Rape oil: Jamba naked, 24s spot; 1st quality naked, 24s 6d spot. Oil seed cakes: Linseed cakes are fully 2s 6d per ton dearer, and in small supply. Cotton cakes continue in heavy consumption, but fresh sales are not plentiful, deliveries being mostly on contracts previously made. There is no accumulation in the mills.—KEIGHLEY MAXSTED AND CO.

WATERLOO ROUND FEEDING CAKES, £6 12s 6d PER TON; WATERLOO ROUND 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES, £9 10s 0d PER TON; WATERLOO ANGLO SHAPE 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES, £9 7s 6d PER TON; WATERLOO 97 PER CENT. PURE EGYPTIAN COTTONSEED CAKES, £6 0s 0d PER TON. ALL F.O.R. HULL.

MOLASSINE FEEDING MEAL, packed in bags, of 1½cwt. each. Price per cwt., 7s. 6d. Price per ton, £6 15s., on rail at works, Silvertown, Essex, and F.O.R. Liverpool. A sample lot of 6cwt., in 4 bags of 1½cwt. each, delivered free to any station in England on receipt of remittance for £2 11s 0d.

HAY AND STRAW.

Manchester, Wednesday.—Hay, 6¾d to 7¼d; clover, 7d to 8d; clover (Canadian), 6¾d to 7d; straw (wheat), 6¼d; straw (oat), 6¼d to 6¾d per stone.

Lincoln, Friday.—Hay and clover, 70s to 80s; straw, 60s to 70s per ton delivered on rail.

Manchester, Friday.—Hay, 6¾d to 7¼d; clover, 6¾d to 8¼d; straw (wheat), 6¼d to 6¾d; straw (oat), 6¼d to 6¾d per stone.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—The demand was very quiet, and prices tended lower. Quotations:—Best clover, 95s to 110s; inferior ditto, 80s to 90s; specially-picked hay, 115s; good ditto, 108s; inferior ditto, 80s to 90s; mixture and sainfoin, 90s to 110s; and straw, 28s to 40s per load.

WOOL.

Canterbury, Saturday.—The advance at the London wool sales has improved the tone of trade, and some splendid lots of Kent wool have changed hands at 6d. Half-bred fleeces, 6d; downs, 7d to 8d per lb.

London, Tuesday.—The first series of London sales of Colonial wool commenced to-day with catalogues comprising 9,494 bales out of an available total of 192,000 bales. There was a large attendance of both home and foreign buyers and animated competition. Prices, as compared with December closing rates, ranged for Australian merino and fine crossbred from par to 5 per cent. higher, while coarse crossbred showed a rise of 10 per cent. Cape wools were also par to 5 per cent. higher. As at present the sales will last till the 6th February.—HELMUTH SCHWARTZE AND CO

London, Friday.—English—per pk. of 240lb.—Fleeces S. Dn. Hggs, £7 to £8 10s; half-bred hoggs, £6 to £6 10s; half-bred wethers £5 to £6; Kent fleeces, £5 to £6; South Down ewes and wethers, £7 to £8 10s.; Leicester do, £5 to £5 10s; Colonial—per lb—Vic.—Fleece super, 1s. 5d. to 1s 7d; scoured good, 1s 7½d to 1s 8¾d; scoured average, 1s 6d to 1s 7d; greasy average to fair, 10½d to 11½d; N. S. W. scoured average, 1s 3d to 1s 4d; greasy average, 8d to 8¾d; S. Aus. greasy average, 6¾d to 7d; N. Z., scoured average, 1s 4d to 1s 5d; grease average, 8d to 9d; Cape scoured sup. 1s 5d to 1s 6d; fleece average 6¾d to 7¼d; greasy average, 5½d to 6¼d; Natal, scoured 1s to 1s 1d; greasy average, 6¼d to 7d; cross-breds—Grs—Vic, good to super 10½d to 11¼d; New Zealand, fine, 8d to 9d; medium, 4¾ to 5¼d; coarse, 4d to 4¼d.

MANURES.

Liverpool, Friday.—Nitrate of soda is exceedingly firm at £9 17s 6d to £10, but there is little demand experienced at present. In sympathy with the improvement in nitrate, sulphate of ammonia is dearer, but is comparatively the best value at current rates. Fish guanos are scarce at advanced rates. Kainit in fair request, as also bone meal. Basic slag is much sought for, and many of the producers having sold their season's production, it is impossible to obtain prompt deliveries; in fact, in some districts there is a difficulty in placing orders for forward delivery. Superphosphate of lime, the most soluble phosphatic fertiliser, is likely to cause more attention, and annexed are current rates in this district. Feeding stuffs are idle and values barely maintained. Prices:—Nitrate of Soda, best quality, *i.e.*, guaranteed 95 per cent. pure, in bags, £10 per ton; East India Bone Meal, fair to prime, in bags, £4 1s 3d to £4 6s 3d per ton; Kainit, prime 23 per cent., in bags, £2 7s 6d to £2 10s per ton; Palm Nut Cake, prime, in bags, £5 12s 6d per ton; Linseed Cake, American thin oblong, prime, in bags, £7 12s 6d to £7 15s per ton; Linseed Cake, English, prime, in bulk, £8 12s 6d to £8 15s per ton; Linseed Cake, foreign, prime, soft and oily, in bags, £8 5s per ton; Cottonseed Cake, N.A. decorticated, prime, in bags, £7 2s 6d to £7 6s 3d per ton; Cottonseed Cake, English, decorticated, prime, soft, in bags, £7 12s 6d to £7 15s per ton; Cottonseed Cake, English, undecorticated, prime, in bulk, £4 15s to £4 17s 6d per ton; Cottonseed Cake (crushed), 20-25 per cent. oil, prime, in bags, £7 5s per ton; Maize Germ Meal, prime, in bags, £6 2s 6d to £6 5s per ton; Rice Meal, Rangoon, as imported, in bags, £5 10s per ton; Indian Meal, coarse to fine grinding, prime, in bulk, 13s to 13s 6d per 240lb; Linseed, fine bold feeding, in bags, £3 3s to £3 6s per quarter, 416lb; D.N.S. Brand, Superphosphate of Lime, guaranteed, 25 to 27 sol., in bags, £2 5s to £2 7s; D.N.S. Brand, Superphosphate of Lime, guaranteed, 30 to 31 sol., in bags, £2 10s to £2 12s; Superphosphate of Lime, guaranteed, 35 to 35 sol., in bags, £3 to £3 2s; Basic Slag, prime quality, guaranteed, 30 to 35 per cent. phos., in bags, £1 12s to £1 13s; Basic Slag, prime quality, guaranteed, 35 to 40 per cent. phos., in bags, £1 14s 6d to £1 15s 6d; Basic Slag, finest quality, guaranteed, 38 to 45 per cent. phos., in bags, £1 17s to £1 19s per ton at the producing depots.—H. JONES LANGAR AND CO.

POTATOES.

Goole, Wednesday.—Owing to the mild weather trade was rather heavy here to-day. The Co-operative Society's price was 5s 9d per load for all varieties. Best "Up-to-Dates" made 5s to 55s per ton. Retail price, 6d per stone.

Borough, Saturday.—General tone is dull and depressed, supplies being very heavy, and demand without the faintest recovery. Quotations:—Scotch maincrops, 80s; blackland Reading giants, 45s; blackland up-to-dates, 45s to 50s; Lincoln silts up-to-dates, 55s to 60s; and Gartons, 45s per ton.

Spitalfields, Saturday.—The arrivals of potatoes this morning were again on a large scale, and extensive quantities are on rail, while with no improvement in the demand, the market remained in a dull and congested state. Quotations:—Best Lincoln up-to-dates, 60s to 65s; blackland ditto, 45s; Wisbech ditto, 50s to 60s; Scotch ditto, 60s; Scotch maincrops (grey soil), 70s; Lincoln maincrops, 80s to 90s; Reading giants, 45s; and blackland Gartons, 45s per ton.

SEEDS.

London, Monday.—Messrs. John Shaw and Sons, seed merchants, of Great Maze Pond, Borough, London, S.E., report an increasing all-round activity in farm seeds. As regards white clover-seed, fine samples of which are exceedingly scarce, the advance now established has assumed phenomenal proportions. Alsyke is likewise in short supply, and realises high rates. Meantime, English red offers freely, with rates favouring buyers. Trefoil continues cheap, but steady; whilst perennial and Italian rye-grasses fully maintain former terms. Spring tares attract more attention, without any signs of yielding in value. For mustard, rape, and linseed, the sale is meagre. With respect to canary seed, although the demand just now is confined to narrow limits, quotations remain strong, and stocks the world over are much smaller than usual. Last season's exports from Rodosto were 39,253 bags, of which only 5,280 came to England. There is a good inquiry for Eclipse seed peas. Scarlet runner beans are now obtainable on tempting terms. Blue peas and haricot beans continue a disappointing business.



STOCK AND SHOW NOTES.

By Herdsman.

The Royal Isle of Wight Agricultural Society suffered a loss of £111 16s. 10d. on their last year's show, and they have recently held a meeting to decide how to wipe out the debt. Sir Barrington Simeon, Bart., M.P., presided, and he said that "unfortunately for the society it rained very heavily on the show day, which affected them to the extent of £30 in gate money. On the other hand, the prize list was greatly increased by prizes for open classes. It was very difficult to say what should be done under the circumstances. The society came of age this year, and they did not wish to knock a promising boy on the head on the occasion of his 21st birthday. It would be very disappointing if they had to give up the society when his Majesty the King had promised his patronage." Sir Simeon further remarked that he was afraid there were many idle, selfish people in the world, some of whom might belong to that society. They did not care who paid the debts, so long as they did not. Finally, he advised them to "get what you can in the room, and see if some sense of shame may not strike those gentlemen who do not attend and do not pay up." A list was then passed round, and £46 14s promised in the room. Sir Simeon said he was convinced that the deficit would be satisfactorily wiped off, and I hope that such will be the case.

The Bridlington Agricultural Society's sixty-seventh annual show will be held at Bridlington on Wednesday, July 23rd. The secretary of the society is Mr. B. M. Townsend, Quay Road, Bridlington.

I would point out to intending exhibitors at the Birmingham Shorthorn Show and Sale to be held on March 5th, 6th, and 7th, that the entries close on Tuesday, February 4th, and that when they apply for entry forms they should state whether they are required for cows or bulls, as separate certificates are issued. The prize list contains the usual classes, viz., four for cows, heifers, and heifer calves, and seven for fulls of all ages, with thirty-eight prizes ranging from £50 to £4, including an extra prize of ten guineas for the best lot of five bulls between the ages of 9 and 21 months bred by the same exhibitor, for which the animals entered in the £50 class are now eligible. The secretary is Mr. W. H. Lythall, Bingley Hall, Birmingham.

The Committee of the Lydney and District Farmers' Club have fixed Whit Monday, May 19th, as the date of this year's show, which will be held at Lydney.

The North-East of Ireland Agricultural Association have decided to hold their spring show on April 30th and two following days, and the Horse and Sheep Show on July 23rd, 24th, and 25th, both being held at the Society's well-appointed showyard at Belfast.

The list of prizes for live stock, farm produce, &c., to be offered at the Bath and West and Southern Counties Society's Show at Plymouth on May 27th and four following days is now in course of issue. The importance of the meeting is shown by the fact that the money prizes, in addition to medals and plate, total up to nearly £3,300, distributed as follows:—Horses, £800; cattle, £1,242; sheep, £509 5s.; pigs, £245; poultry, £164 5s.; dairy, £254 15s.; shoeing, £54 10s.; shearing, £26 17s. 6d. Of this amount, £2,773 10s. is contributed by the Bath and West Society, £105 by the Plymouth Local Committee, £100 by the Devon County Agricultural Association; £80 7s. 6d. by the Devon County Technical Education Committee, and the remainder by the leading stud, herd, and flock book societies and by individual donors. In addition to the money prizes there are fifty-six prizes of medals and plate offered by breed societies and others.

In the horse section are classes for Shires and other agricultural breeds, and for hunters, Hackneys, ponies, and harness horses. There will also be jumping competitions, and a considerable sum is offered for prizes in these classes. The following breeds are represented in the cattle classes, viz.:—Devon, South Devon, Shorthorn, Hereford, Sussex, Red Polled, Aberdeen Angus, Jersey, Guernsey, Kerry, and Dexter Kerry. There are also butter-test and milk-test prizes for South Devon cows and also for cows of any breed. In the sheep section are classes for the following breeds: Cotswold, Devon Long Wool, South Devon, Southdown, Hampshire Down, Shropshire, Oxford Down, Exmoor, Dartmoor, and Somerset and Dorset Horn. The breeds represented in the pig classes are the Berkshire, Large Black, Large White, Middle White, Small White or Small Black, and Tamworth.

The prize schedule also includes classes for cheese, butter, cream, and cider, and competitions for butter-makers, milkers, shoeing smiths, and sheep-shearers. Entries for stock and produce, and for the above-named competitions, should reach the secretary, Mr. T. F. Plowman, 4, Terrace Walk, Bath, on or before April 7. The entries for machinery, implements, &c., close on March 18.

The well-known herd of Jerseys and flock of Shropshire sheep reared by the late Rev. Seymour Ashwell at Finmere Rectory, Buckingham, will be disposed of on Wednesday, February 5th. At the same time the stock of farm implements, hay, and roots will also be sold. The herd of Jerseys, which has been maintained at Finmere for many years, was kept in accordance with the late owner's taste for rearing pure-bred animals of all kinds on his farm, which he successfully managed. They are descended from excellent imported stock purchased from time to time, and from good English-bred animals from the first-class herds belonging to Captain Spicer, Captain Fraser, Mrs. Burton, and the late Mr. John Tremayne. The cows are of true character and uniform, with good milking properties, and there are some promising yearling heifers and young bulls.

The Shropshire sheep were selected from some of the best flocks, including that of Mr. J. Bowen Jones, at whose dispersal sale at Ensdon House in 1898 some good sheep were purchased. The ewes, which will mostly have lambed by the time of the sale to a well-bred ram by Ensdon Charmer 9,904, dam by Royal Attractor 9,658, are large framed, good in colour, and well woolled, and there are some promising ewe tegs, which would have come into the flock next season. There is also a choice young litter of pure-bred Berkshire pigs. The sale will be conducted by Messrs. J. Thornton & Co., and will commence at 11.30 with the implements.

Messrs. John Thornton & Co. have received instructions to dispose of a number of pure-bred Shorthorn cattle belonging to the Right Hon. Lord Barnard, and the sale will take place at Raby Castle, Staindrop, Darlington, on Thursday, February 20th. Shorthorn cattle have been kept and pure-bred bulls used for generations at Raby, where about the middle of the eighteenth century—1750 to 1800—great attention was given to the improvement of agriculture, and buildings were erected in the park. Some of the earlier bulls were obtained from those well-known breeders the Earl of Zetland, Messrs. Atkinson of Peepy, and Messrs. Angus in Northumberland, as well as Mr. D. Nesham of Gainford, and Miss Milne of Otterburn. Some of them were winners at the Barnard Castle and local shows.



THE GALLOWAY STEER KNOCKYCOID, which we show above, was winner of the first prize at the Birmingham Fat Stock Show, in the class for Galloway Steers not exceeding four years old, being exhibited by Mr. A. Palmer, Wakefield Park, Mortimer, Berks. Knockycoid was bred by Mr. W. Hyslop, Knockycoid, Barrhill, N.B., and is by Penninghame of Knockycoid, out of Cherry of Knockycoid.

Sires were selected from old-established first-class herds. Telemachus 26th 66,421 came from the Marquis of Exeter's herd at Burghley, and was full of prize blood. Knight of Raby 65,743 and Latinus 68,891 were bred from the Alnwick and Booth strains. Raby Archer 73,342, the issue of Mr. Duthie's Merry Archer and Lord Lovat's beautiful cow May, was long used, as well as his sons. White Baron 80,247 came down from the late Mr. James Bruce's herd at Inverquhomery, that had produced many Smithfield prize winners, and Gay Knight 78,936, bred from the old Angus blood in Northumberland, is now in service. The herd, coming early into the market, will afford purchasers a good opportunity of securing first-class stock, many of which are likely, under good management, to distinguish themselves at the forthcoming shows this season.

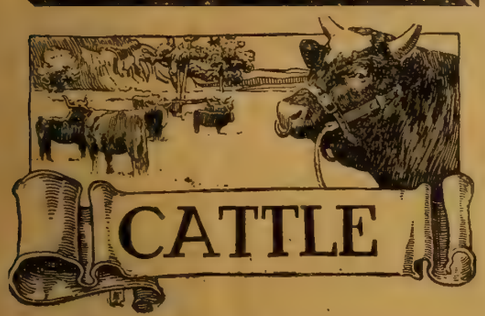
I would remind intending exhibitors that the entries for the King's Premiums at the Show of Thorough-bred Stallions to be held under the auspices of the Royal Commission on Horse Breeding at Islington in March will close on Monday next, or post entries on February 10th.

SPENCER'S
COD LIVER OIL FOR CATTLE.
Calf Brand.

The Best and Cheapest article for rearing Calves, being a natural substitute for Cream. Equally good for all other stock—a medicine and food combined, Far better and cheaper than Feeding Meals.

Write for booklet giving full particulars to the Manufacturers:—

ISAAC SPENCER & CO.,
HULL.



Sale of the Dewsall Court Herefords.

Fine weather was experienced at the dispersal sale of the Dewsall Court herd of Herefords on Thursday. The sale was occasioned by the retirement of Mr. A. H. Morris, who is leaving Dewsall Court, and the whole of the stock and farming implements was disposed of, the cattle on Thursday, and the horses, sheep, implements, etc., on Friday. Mr. W. Pye was the auctioneer, and there was a large and representative gathering of agriculturalists from Hereford and the adjoining counties.

The proceedings began at half-past eleven with luncheon, at which Mr. W. M. Haywood presided, owing to the unavoidable absence of his father, Mr. Alderman Haywood. In proposing the health of Mr. Morris, the chairman said he very much regretted that he occupied the position he did that day, as it meant the severance from them of one who was highly esteemed by the whole agricultural community of Herefordshire. He was sure all hoped Mr. Morris would have a very successful sale (applause). There was a grand lot of cows to be sold. The Dewsall Court herd might fairly nslaim to be one of the oldest and certainly one of the best non-exhibiting Hereford herds now in existence.

Mr. Arthur Morris, in reply, said he was very much obliged to Mr. William Haywood for his kindness, and he was much obliged to his friends for assembling in such large numbers, and hoped that all those who bought cattle would find them turn out satisfactorily, and also the sheep and horses. He had done his best to keep the cattle going well, but there had been three bad summers, which caused them perhaps not to look so well as they might otherwise have done. He stated, in conclusion, that all the calves would be entered in the next volume of the Herd Book, unless the purchasers informed him that they did not intend to keep some of the bulls

After the auctioneer had made a few remarks, the sale began. Following is a list of the principal prices obtained:—

COWS AND CALVES.

		gs.
Dainty 4th	Mr. T. Fountaine, Holmer	20
Her heifer calf, Dainty 8th	Mr. Clews	12½
Prim 4th	Mr. T. P. Smith	21
Her bull calf, Lancer	Mr. Evans	11½
Cowslip 3rd	Mr. T. P. Smith	23
Her heifer calf, Countess 2nd	Mr. Pyke	23
Belle 4th	Mr. E. W. Caddick	24
Her heifer calf, Belle 6th	Major W. B. Mynors	12
Silvia 4th	Mr. Peter Coats	21
Her bull calf, Laddie	Mr. Tudge	10
Lily	Mr. Clews	25
Roseleaf 3rd	Mr. R. Marfell	24
Her heifer calf, Roseleaf 5th	Mr. W. G. Bankes	10½
Princess 5th	Captain Percy Clive, M.P.	27
Her heifer calf, Prudence 4th	Major Mynors	12½
Prune	Mr. Hoddell	18
Her heifer calf, Prune 4th	Major Mynors	10
Pansy 3rd	Mr. Peter Coats	31
Her heifer calf, Pansy 7th	Mr. Bounds	18½
Prim 6th	Mr. Lewis Williams	14
Ladylove	Mr. Peter Coats	26
Her bull calf, Lonely	Mr. J. Powell	22
Dainty 5th	Mr. C. E. N. Shorting	26
Her heifer calf, Dewdrop	Major Mynors	10
Lofty 2nd	Mr. Shorting	22
Her heifer calf, Topsy 3rd	Mr. Griffiths	11
Susan 6th	Mr. R. Marfell	31
Her bull calf, Loader	Mr. J. Powell	24
Pansy 4th	Mr. Shorting	27
Her bull calf, Lighterman	Mr. F. Watts	12
Blossom 6th	Mr. Lawton Moore	27
Her bull calf, Lightning	Mr. Lawton Moore	27
Lofty 4th	Mr Paul Foley	20
Dainty 7th	Mr. Paul Foley	17½
Prune 3rd	Mr. Paul Foley	18
Her bull calf, Leader	Mr. Trotman	13½
Caroline 2nd	Mr. Shorting	24
Her bull calf, Ludwick	Mr. Clews	18½
Heifer calf, Pride 10th	Mr. J. Edwards	13
Pansy 5th	Mr. Shew	24
Prudence	Mr. Shew	23
Her bull calf, Loadstone	Mr. Maddocks	15
Prize 6th	Mr. Davies	23
Her heifer calf, Prize 7th	Mr. Davies	11½
Lofty 5th	Mr. T. P. Smith	25

TWO-YEAR-OLD HEIFERS.

Pansy 6th	Mr. T. P. Smith	24
Dainty 6th	Mr. Shorting	23
Orange Blossom 2nd	Mr. T. P. Smith	40
Caroline 3rd	Mr. Paul Foley	16
Prudence 2nd	Mr. Davies	23

YEARLING HEIFERS.

Lady Blossom	Mr. R. Marfell	13
Countess	Mr. T. P Smith	21
Dinah	Mr. Shorting	15
Lily 2nd	Mr. Gwiliam	11
Topsy 2nd	Mr. Harris, The Sheriffs	15
Lucy	Mr. J. Powell	11½
Lovelace 7th	Mr. T. P. Smith	26
Pansy 7th	Mr. Davies	22
Little Pansy	Mr. Davies	13
Primilla 2nd	Mr. J. Powell	12
Prudence 3rd	Mr. P. Morris	15½
Sensible 3rd	Captain Percy Clive, M.P.	17½
Susannah 4th	Mr. Harris	14

BULL.

Lucifer (20171)	Mr. Jones	33

Particulars of Transactions in Store Stock.

(Reported to the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland.

Athlone Fair (Co. Westmeath), held on Tuesday, was an average-sized one. A good demand prevailed for all cattle with quality and condition, and a good clearance was effected at prices favouring sellers. There was a very small supply of sheep, and a moderate demand was experienced for those suitable for export, but all others were difficult to sell at any price. Prices:—Calves, 2nd class, £3 15s. to £4 10s.; yearlings, 1st class, £7 10s to £8 5s.; 2nd class, £6 to £6 10s.; two-year-olds, 1st class, £10 10s. to £11; 2nd class, £7 15s. to £10; 3rd class, £6 to £6 10s; three-year-olds, 1st class, £13 15s. to £14 10s.; 2nd class, £10 5s. to £12; 3rd class, £7 10s. to £9; springers, 2nd class, £12 10s. to £14 5s; 3rd class, £10 to £10 10s. Lambs, 2nd class, £1 to £1 2s.; over 12 and under 24 months old, 1st class, £1 18s; two years old and upwards, 1st class, £2 2s. 6d. to £2 10s; 2nd class, £1 13s. to £1 18s.; 3rd class, £1 5s. to £1 7s. 6d.

There was an average-sized fair at Fethard (Co. Tipperary) on Tuesday, the supply consisting chiefly fo second-class one and two year old cattle. The demand was good for those in forward condition, but thin stock sold slowly, and a good number were left unsold. The small supply of springers met a good demand. A very small supply of lambs sold slowly. Prices:—Calves, 1st class, £5; 2nd class, £4 to £4 10s.; yearlings, 1st class, £8 5s. to £8 10s.; 2nd class, £6 5s. to £8; 3rd class, £4 10s. to £5 10s; two-year-olds, 1st class, £12 5s. to £13 5s.; 2nd class, £8 to £11 15s.; springers, 1st class, £15 10s. to £17; 2nd class, £11 10s. to £15; 3rd class, £9 to £10. Lambs, 2nd class, £1 2s. to £1 6s.; young pigs, 8 to 10 weeks old, averaged about 25s. each.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending January 21, 1902:—

Swine Fever.	Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.		No.	224	136	280	539	881	613 1,155 2,335
	Outbreaks.		No.	35	28	26	46	118	99 90 127
Rabies.	Cases Reported.	Oth'r Anim'ls.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	1 ... ...
		Dogs.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	... ...
Pleuro-Pneumonia.	Cattle Slghter'd.	Exposed to Infection.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	... ...
		Diseased.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	... ...
	Outbreaks.		No.	...	...	...	...	...	... ...
Glanders(incl. farcy).	Animals Attacked.		No.	40	52	20	25	177	145 95 70
	Outbreaks.		No.	31	22	16	14	76	68 55 46
Foot-and-Mouth Disease.	Animals Attacked.		No.	...	...	...	...	...	... ...
	Outbreaks.		No.	...	...	...	...	...	... ...
Anthrax.	Animals Attacked.		No.	19	9	18	26	70	42 42 48
	Outbreaks.		No.	17	7	12	11	54	31 24 25
Period.	Week ended Jan. 18, 1902 ...				1901	1900	1899	Total for 3 weeks, 1902 ...	Corresponding period in ... (1901 1900 1899)
	Corresponding week in ...								

NOTE.—The figures for the current Year are approximate only.



Banbury Horse Show.

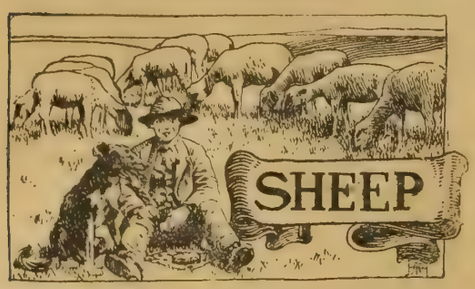
The annual horse show at Banbury took place on Monday, and for once in a while was favoured with fine weather throughout the day, so that there was a very large attendance of spectators. The entries were more numerous than for many years past, numbering 214, of which 84 were in the agricultural classes, the remainder being nags and hunters.

The judging, as usual, took place in the Horse Fair—one ring for the heavy horses and another for the light ones—and was undrtaken by the following gentlemen:—Hunters, harness horses, etc.—Mr. W. Mewburn, Pembury, Kent; and Mr. A. Britten, Great Billing, Northampton. Cart horses—Mr. T. B. Freshney, South Somercotes, Louth; and Mr. J. Lewis, Garthmyl, Montgomeryshire.

The agricultural classes were conspicuous for the improvement to be seen in the young animals compared with former years, but this was counterbalanced by a falling off in the aged classes. In were nine entries, and the animals were not so were nine entries, and the animals were not so good as are usulally seen here. Mr. A. Pepper had the premier place with a brown, bred by Mr. C. E. B. Fry, of Mollington; Mr. W. L. Hirons being second with an upstanding bay sired by Haddon Image; while Mr. J. H. Gregory was third. In the aged mare class Mr. A. C. Rogers was first with a bay sired by Harold, which has won several prizes at shows in the neighbourhood. The second prize went to Mr. J. Fox, for a very useful animal, Mr. J. Wait coming next. For cart colts under four years, Mr. J. T. Miller was first with a bay of great size and quality, and which was picked out as the winner as soon as he entered the ring. Mr. Lepper was second with a good-looking chestnut, but he was not nearly so deep-chested as the winner. Mr. F. E. Killbey was third. The fillies under four years had a great deal to recommend them, and than the five that were placed it would be difficult to find better animals. The Misses Bull had a red ribbon for a very smart-looking bay sired by King of Keele, and Mr. Rogers had the second place with a bay sired by Harold. Mr. Fry was third with a brown sired by Haddon Image, which was first last year in the class under three years, and had the premier position at Kineton as a yearling. For colts under three years there were twelve entries, and the class was an excellent one all through, giving the judges a great deal of trouble. The coveted place was secured by Mrs. Tarver, with a roan which was looked upon by all as being the winner, being well-proportioned and very promising-looking. Mr. Lepper was second. There was some excellent animals in the class for fillies under three years, and the prizes here went to Mr. Rogers and the Misses Bull, there being several commendations in the class. For the colt under two years, Mr. T. H. Hawkes was first with a bay sired by Haddon Image, and Mr. J. H. Cave was second. Mr. Rogers secured both the prizes in the filly class, which comprised some capital animals.

The first of the harness classes was for animals over 15¼ hands, and it contained nothing of great merit. Messrs. Woolliam and Spencer were first, Mr. T. E. Ivens second, and Mr. W. W. Railton third. There were no fewer than eighteen entries in the classes for animals not exceeding 15¼ hands. The first prize went to Mr. T. C. C. Morgan for a smart brown gelding with capital action, and Mr. T. E. Ivens had the second prize with a chestnut mare that went admirably, Mr. Wait being third. In the local classes the winners were Messrs C. R. Claridge, J. H. Bolton, J. H. Neale, and E. Coleman. There were some very good animals in the hackney class, Mr. T. Band securing the premier place, with Mr. C. Williams second. In the cob classes there were nineteen entries, and the leading prize went to Messrs. Woolliams and Spencer, Mr. J. R. Ivens taking the second. As may be supposed, the hunting classes were filled, and amongst the competitors were many animals known with the local packs. The hunters were put through their paces in the old agricultural show field on the Oxford road, and there were a good many spectators, including a number of well-known fox-hunters in the district. In the 12st. 7lb. class, under five years, there were no fewer than twenty entries, and the judges spent a long time before making their awards. The winner was found in a

fine-looking chestnut gelding shown by Mr. P. Berridge, sired by Ishmael. The second prize went to Mr. E. Clarke for a black gelding sired by Victor, a hunter with many excellent points. Fifteen animals faced the judges in the class up to 12st. 7lb. over five years, and here Mr. F. M. Gibbard had the premier position with a well-mannered bay gelding, which had many admirers, Mr. P. Berridge being second with a smart-looking brown gelding sired by Seymour. For weight-carriers a smart-looking bay gelding sired by Primrose, the the property of Mr. T. H. Hawkes, was placed first, and Mr. F. M. Gibbard had the second prize for a brown gelding of much merit. In the limit class, Mr. Berridge and Mr. Hawkes were successful with animals which had won in the other classes. Most of the animals were good performers over hurdles and in some instances the jumping was remarkably good.



Removal of Sheep Without a Certificate—Heavy Fine.

The Hon. Gerald Rowland Clegg Hill, Hawkstone Park, was charged at Whitchurch on the 17th inst. with removing 204 sheep on December 6, and 289 sheep on December 14 from Carnarvonshire to Whitchurch, Shropshire, without the necessary authority. The Cambrian Railway Company were also charged with conveying the said sheep without the necessary licences.

Mr. Hazlewood, of Bridgnorth, stated that on the 6th December 204 sheep arrived at Whitchurch Station from Portmadoc, and were unloaded by defendant. No certificate of their removal was received, and the police in consequence were unable to see them and ascertain if they were free from sheep scab.

The defence was that the offences were committed in ignorance as to the requirements of the law.

The Chairman said it was a most serious offence, and they would not be doing their duty to the county and to farmers if they did not inflict a heavy penalty. Defendant was fined £25 and costs in each case; the railway company £5 in the first case and £25 in the second.

LITERARY NOTICES.

The "North Wilts and District Directory" for 1902 has made its appearance. This is the twenty-eighth year of publication of this popular directory, and as several additional items of official county information have been added this year, the value of the work as a book of reference has been further enhanced. As in former years, interesting and useful details concerning the local parishes are given—the parishes being arranged in alphabetical order—and also a list of the inhabitants. That no effort has been spared to make the directory complete is evinced throughout the work. The directory of Swindon alone occupies 56 pages, or in round numbers over 8,400 names, each of which has been revised and verified. Three maps, one each of Wiltshire, Berkshire, and Gloucestershire are included, and these add to the value of what is undoubtedly one of the best local directories issued. The publishers are the proprietors of the "North Wilts Herald," Swindon, and the price is the low one of sixpence.

The 1902 edition of that popular little horticultural annual, "My Garden Diary," has now been issued, and is similar to that of last year. Most gardeners are well acquainted with and appreciate "My Garden Diary," but for those who have not seen it we may mention that it is a most artistic and useful production, in which brief but comprehensive notes on the work in the garden for each month is given, with a calendar and a nice amount of space for making notes, etc.; whilst items of general interest are also given. It has for some time past been the constant companion of numerous gardeners—both amateur and otherwise—throughout the year, and is likely to continue to be so, for it is a capital reminder. Messrs. Sutton and Sons, Royal Seed Establishment, Reading, are the publishers, and the price is one shilling.

A nicely-illustrated and brightly-written article on California and its wheat industry, by Mr. N. A. Cobb, prefaces the November part of the "Agricultural Gazette of New South Wales." Interesting and useful articles are also contributed on the fowl tick and the codling moth, while the other contents of this issue continue in the standard of excellence and utility that former issues have achieved. For a Government publication, the number is distinctly well produced, and up-to-date in style.

From the West of Scotland Agricultural College we have received a copy of a report on "Experiments on the Manuring of Turnips," which were conducted in different districts of Scotland during 1900 by R. Patrick Wright, F.A.A.S., F.R.S.E., Professor of Agriculture at the above institute.

The results obtained from the experiments on charlock spraying, carried out by the Technical Instruction Committee of the Lancaster County Council, are embodied in a report written by Mr. Frank P. Walker, B.Sc., F.A.A.S., and illustrated from photographs. Much useful information is contained in the report as to the habits and prevention of charlock.

Mr. Cecil H. Hooper has had reprinted, and is publishing through Messrs. J. B. Nichols and Sons, London, the paper on the "Cost of Cultivating Farm and Market Garden Crops." This paper should prove useful to collectors of statistics, but will serve no other useful purpose that we can see.

We have received from Messrs. Harrison and Sons, of the Royal Midland Seed Warehouse, Leicester, a copy of an illustrated price list for 1902.

Mr. William Watt, of Cupar and Perth, has favoured us with a copy of his garden seed catalogue for Spring, 1902.

A very artistic production is the 1902 issue of "Daniels Bros., Ltd., Illustrated Guide for Amateur Gardeners." It is well and handily arranged, while the illustrations are excellent.

Tuberculous Beef.—At West Hartlepool Police Court on Monday, William King, described as a horse slaughterer, was fined £10 and 19s. 6d. costs, or in default one month's imprisonment, for having deposited at the public abattoir for preparation for sale as human food the carcase of a diseased animal. The Town Clerk (Mr. Higson Simpson), who prosecuted, stated that the defendant bought a diseased and lame cow for 5s. from a Greatham farmer. A butcher named Nelson, who appeared to have been the defendant's tool and dupe, took the animal to the abattoir, saying that he had got a very nice heifer that had broken its leg, that he had bought it cheap, and had brought it to be dressed. The carcase was found to be riddled with tubercle, and was destroyed. The defence was that King sent the animal to the abattoir merely in order to secure the hide.

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PRACTICE WITH SCIENCE.

National Agricultural Examination Board.

This Board, which is composed of representatives of the Royal Agricultural Society of England and the Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland, has now issued the regulations for the examinations to take place under the auspices of the Board in 1902.

The examination for the National Diploma in the Science and Practice of Agriculture will take place in the Great Hall of the Yorkshire College, Leeds, on Monday, May 5th, 1902, and following days. The subjects of examination are: Part 1: Agricultural botany; mensuration and land surveying; general chemistry; geology; and agricultural entomology. Part 2: Practical agriculture; agricultural book-keeping; agricultural chemistry; agricultural engineering; and veterinary science.

The examination for the National Diploma in the Science and Practice of Dairying will take place at the Reading College (for English students) from Monday, September 22nd, to Thursday, September 25th, 1902, and at Kilmarnock (for Scottish students) from Monday, September 29th, to Thursday, October 2nd, 1902. The subjects of examination are:—General management of a dairy farm, including the rearing and feeding of live stock; management of a dairy, and the manufacture of butter and cheese; knowledge of the scientific principles underlying the practice of dairying, and of the composition, nature, properties, and changes undergone by the different substances met with in dairying, and a general acquaintance with the principles of laboratory methods, so far as dairying is concerned.

The entries for the Diploma in Agriculture close on Monday, March 31st, 1902, and those for the Diploma in Dairying on Monday, September 1st, 1902.

Copies of the regulations may be obtained of the secretaries of the two societies represented on the Board, viz., Sir Ernest Clarke, 13, Hanover Square, London, W., or from Mr. James Macdonald, 3, George IV. Bridge, Edinburgh.

A Canadian Ham Sold as English.—At the North London Police Court on Monday, Sidney Stone, provision dealer, Holloway-road, was summoned by an inspector of the British Bacon Curers' Association, Mark Lane, for a contravention of the Merchandise Marks Act (Section 2, Sub-section 2), 1887, by selling an American ham falsely described as an English one.—Mr. A. F. Rowe was counsel for the prosecution.—The defendant's shopman, Henry Gosling, was also summoned for selling the ham falsely described.—The facts were the same in each case.—Mr. Stone said he could not plead guilty, because at the time of the purchase of the ham he was away on a holiday at Yarmouth. Gosling said he pleaded guilty to great neglect on his part.—Mr. Rowe said it could not be too widely known that these summonses were taken out at the instance of the Board of Agriculture, who were determined to put an end to the practice of passing off as English goods articles which were of foreign origin. Acting on the instructions of an inspector of the association, a Mrs. Annie White, on September 2 last, went to Stone's shop and asked for a ham. The defendant Gosling produced two—one which he said was Canadian, and 8½d. per lb., and the other, which he said was English, and was 10d. per lb. She said she would take the English ham, and asked for a receipt and an invoice, and on this the ham was described as English. This invoice constituted the false description. Mrs. White took away her ham, and next day returned with Inspector Ward, and confronted the defendant Gosling. The latter said it was an American ham, but he had sold it as English in the interests of his employer.—Inspector Ward was called, and bore out this statement; but the defendant Stone said he doubted the assertion that Gosling said he did it in the interests of his employer.—Gosling: I did not say so.—The defendant Stone said he would have liked to see Mrs. White, to ask her how she had led Gosling into committing this offence. She said she must have an English ham, and Gosling, in order to effect a sale, brought her another ham, said it was English, and charged her a little more for it. He (Stone) was never asked for an English ham.—Mr. Fordham, in deciding the case, said he did not know that a good Canadian ham was much worse than an English one, but it was a fraud upon the public to sell an American ham for an English one. The full penalty for such an offence was four months' imprisonment, or a fine not exceeding £20. There were two summonses against each defendant, but, as there had been no previous complaints against them, Stone would be fined £10 and £3 5s. costs, and Gosling £10 and 2s. costs, or two months each.

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"From life-like photographs—of the great prize winners at the Smithfield, Birmingham, Norwich, etc., fat stock shows, is a very important one, and will sure to be appreciated." — **Bedfordshire Mercury.**

"Contains a complete record of the past year, and includes illustrations and particulars of some of the principal prize-winning animals at the great fat stock shows."—**Essex County Standard.**

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"There are reference lists, illustrations, and pages of general information, all suited to the purpose of the annual, which is neatly produced."—**Sheffield Daily Independent.**

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"Of great use and interest to agriculturists."—**Daily Graphic.**

"This publication, which has deservedly become very popular, will in future be issued at the commencement of each year, instead of as hitherto, during the Smithfield Show week, the object being to make it a complete record of the previous year. This is an admirable arrangement, and the publication before us is as complete as it is possible to make it."—**County Gentleman.**

"The statistical matter, the illustrations, and the lists of societies have been brought up to date, and the volume altogether will be a welcome addition to the library of those associated with the farm."—**Aberdeen Free Press.**

"Looked forward to by a vast number of agriculturists in all parts of the kingdom."—**Birmingham Gazette.**

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"In this well-known annual we are pleased to greet an old friend. The improvement manifests itself on almost every page of the annual."—**Chester Courant.**

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"Contains numerous articles on subjects of immediate importance to farmers."—**Globe.**

"The annual will be found as useful as ever, and is one of the works which can ill be dispensed with by either farmer or breeder."—**Nottingham Daily Guardian.**

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PRELIMINARY LIST FOR 1902.

The following fixtures of agricultural shows in 1902 have already come to hand, and we print them for the information of secretaries who have not yet made a selection of dates. As others are fixed we shall be glad to receive intimation, in order that our usual annual list may be as complete as possible:—

FEBRUARY 4.—Glasgow Agricultural Society's Stallion Show, at Scotstoun, Glasgow. Entries close, January 22. Secretary, A. Russell, 54, West Nile Street, Glasgow.

FEBRUARY 19.—Devon Cattle Breeder's Society, at Exeter. Secretary, J. Risdon, jun., Wiveliscombe, Somerset.

FEBRUARY 20.—The Highland Cattle Society of Scotland, at Oban. Secretary, Duncan Shaw, 15, High Street, Inverness.

FEBRUARY 21.—Northern Counties Breeding and Feeding Club (pure-bred bulls and heifers), at Inverness. Entries close, January 22. Secretary, F. Urquhart, 11, Union Street, Inverness.

FEBRUARY 25, 26, 27, and 28.—Shire Horse Society, at the Royal Agricultural Hall, London, N. Entries close, January 20, ordinary fees; January 28, double fees. Secretary, J. Sloughgrove, 12, Hanover Square, London, W.

MARCH 4, 5, 6, and 7.—Hackney Horse Society, at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington. Entries close, January 20; late entries, January 27. Secretary, F. F. Euren, 12, Hanover Square, London, W.

MARCH 5.—Royal Northern Agricultural Society's Spring Show at Aberdeen. Secretary, Robert R. Ross, Carmelite Buildings, Aberdeen.

MARCH 5, 6, and 7.—Birmingham Shorthorn Show and Sale, at Bingley Hall. Secretary, W. H. Lythall, Bingley Hall, Birmingham.

MARCH 6.—Galloway Cattle Sales Association, at Castle Douglas. Secretaries, Messrs. Hewarts and Dunn, Castle Douglas, N.B.

MARCH 11.—English Aberdeen-Angus Cattle Association's Show and Sale, at Bingley Hall, Birmingham. Entries close, February 1. Secretary, A. Pulling, Beddington, near Croydon.

MARCH 11, 12, and 13.—Royal Commission on Horse Breeding, at Royal Agricultural Hall, N. Entries close, February 3; post entries, February 10. Secretary, J. H. Taylor, 12, Hanover Square, London, W.

MARCH 11, 12, 13, and 14.—Hunters' Improvement Society, at Royal Agricultural Hall, N. Entries close, February 3; post entries, February 10. Secretary, A. B. Charlton, 12, Hanover Square, London, W.

MARCH 13.—Show and Sale of Jersey Cattle, at Bingley Hall, Birmingham. Entries close February 18. Secretary, W. H. Lythall, Bingley Hall, Birmingham.

MARCH 13 and 14.—Polo Pony Society, at Royal Agricultural Hall, N. Entries close, February 3; post entries, February 10. Secretary, A. B. Charlton, 12, Hanover Square, London, W.

MARCH 19.—Hereford Herd Book Society, at Hereford Cattle Market. Secretary, W. E. Britten, 20, East Street, Hereford.

MARCH 22.—Norfolk Agricultural Association's Spring Horse Show, at Agricultural Hall, Norwich. Entries close, March 15. Secretary, Caleb Barker, Last Harling, Thetford, Norfolk.

MARCH 24.—East Berks Horse Show Society Spring Show, at Hawthorn Hill Racecourse. Secretary, C. H. W. Dixon, 4, Henrietta Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.

MARCH 25.—Shrewsbury Bull Show, at Shrewsbury. Entries close, March 19. Secretaries, A. Mansell and Co., College Hill, Shrewsbury.

MARCH 26.—Campden Tog Show, at Campden. Entries close, week before show. Secretary, U. C. Stanley, Campden, Glos.

MARCH 31.—Woodbridge Horse Show. Secretary, G. Shipman, Woodbridge, Suffolk.

APRIL 3.—Castle Douglas Agricultural Society, at Castle Douglas. Entries close, March 17. Secretary, Malcolm McL. Harper, British Linen Co. Bank, Castle Douglas.

APRIL 9.—Royal Jersey Agricultural and Horticultural Society's Bull Show. Secretary, J. A. Perrée, 8, Church Street, Jersey.

APRIL 10.—South Devon Herd Book Society, at Totnes. Secretary, Alfred Michelmore, Gate House, Totnes.

APRIL 12.—Kilmarnock Farmers' Society, at Kilmarnock. Entries close, March 29. Secretary, R. D. Tannahill, National Bank Buildings, Kilmarnock.

APRIL 15, 16, 17, and 18.—Royal Dublin Society's Spring Show, at Balls Bridge, Dublin. Entries close, March 13. Secretary, R. J. Moss, F.C.S., F.I.C., Leinster House, Dublin.

APRIL 16.—Hereford Herd Book Society, at Hereford Cattle Market. Secretary, W. E. Britten, 20, East Street, Hereford.

APRIL 24.—Lincolnshire Red Shorthorn Association's Bull Sale, at Lincoln April Stock Fair Ground. Entries close, April 3. Secretary, S. Upton, St. Benedict's Square, Lincoln.

APRIL 29 and 30.—Ayrshire Agricultural Association's Show of Implements and Live Stock, at Ayr. Entries close: Implements, April 8; Live Stock, April 15. Secretary, J. Howie, 58, Alloway Street, Ayr.

APRIL 30 (probably).—New Forest Pony Association, at Cuffnells Park, Lyndhurst. Secretary, H. St. Barbe, 72, High Street, Lymington, Hants.

APRIL 30, MAY 1 and 2.—North-East of Ireland Agricultural Association's Spring Show at Belfast. Secretary, Kenneth MacRae, 37, Donegall Place, Belfast.

MAY 2 and 3.—Wharfdale Agricultural Society, at Otley, Yorkshire. Entries close, April 12. Secretary, W. Holmes, 31, Market Place, Otley.

MAY 3.—Dumbartonshire Agricultural Society, at Balloch (probably). Entries close, April 26. Secretary, W. Davie, 258, Main Street, Alexandria, N.B.

MAY 3.—Rochdale Horse and Turn-out Show, at Rochdale. Entries close, April 26. Secretary, Robert Turner, Union Bank Chambers, Rochdale.

MAY 8.—Royal Jersey Agricultural Society's Show of Cows and Heifers. Entries close, April 19. Secretary, John A. Perrée, 8, Church Street, Jersey.

MAY 10.—Darwen and District Agricultural Show, at Darwen. Entries close, April 23. Secretary, John Ainsworth, Post Office Chambers, Darwen.

MAY 13 and 14.—Oxfordshire Agricultural Society, at Whitney. Entries close: Implements, March 26; Stock, March 31; double fees, April 7. Secretary, A. F. Milton Druce, 16, Queen Street, Oxford.

MAY 14 and 15.—Newark Agricultural Society, at Newark. Secretary, E. Brooks, Barnby Gate, Newark.

MAY 14, 15, and 16.—Somerset County Agricultural Association, at Wiveliscombe. Secretary (pro. tem.), Thomas S. Penny, Taunton.

MAY 15.—Prescot and District Agricultural Society, at Knowsley Park, Prescot. Entries close, May 1. Secretary, F. W. Halsall, 12, Church Street, Prescot.

MAY 17.—Edgworth and District Agricultural Society, at Edgworth. Entries close, May 12. Secretary, James Whitehead, Greengate, Edgworth, Bolton, Lancs.

MAY 19.—King's Heath Horse Show, at King's Heath. Secretaries, Messrs. Bailey and Poste, 93, High Street, King's Heath.

MAY 19.—London Cart Horse Parade Society, at Inner Circle, Regent's Park, London. Entries close, April 28; late entries, May 5. Secretary, F. F. Euren, 12, Hanover Square, London, W.

MAY 19.—Lydney and District Farmers' Club at Lydney. Hon. Secretary, F. Montagu Lloyd, The Grange, Newnham-on-Severn.

MAY 19.—Ixworth Farmers' Club, at Bury St. Edmunds. Secretary, Chevell Lawrence, jun., Bury St. Edmunds.

MAY 19. (probably).—Clitheroe Agricultural Association, at Clitheroe. Secretary, T. Robinson, 3, Wesleyan Road, Clitheroe.

MAY 20 and 21.—Notts Agricultural Society, at Nottingham. Entries close, about May 5. Secretary, W. H. Bradwell, Thurland Street, Nottingham.

MAY 24.—Accrington Agricultural Society. Entries close, May 14. Secretary, F. C. Riley, 3, Church Street, Accrington.

MAY 26.—Newchurch and District Society, at Newchurch, near Manchester. Entries close, May 20. Secretaries, Messrs. Mitchell and Burrows, Newchurch, near Manchester.

MAY 27, 28, 29, 30, and 31.—Bath and West and Southern Counties Society, at Plymouth. Entries close: Implements, March 18; Stock and Produce, April 7 (post entries a double fees, April 14); Poultry, May 2; Harness Horses and Jumping, May 10. Secretary, T. F. Plowman, 4, Terrace Walk, Bath.

MAY 28 (about).—Eastern District of Stirlingshire Agricultural Association, at Falkirk. Entries close, May 21. Secretary, W. Wright, Newmarket Street, Falkirk.

JUNE 4.—Yealmpton Agricultural Society, at Yealmpton (seven miles from Plymouth). Secretary, John Pearse, 15, Princess Square, Plymouth.

JUNE 5.—Renfrewshire Agricultural Society, at Paisley. Entries close, May 28. Secretary, B. Lang, Solicitor, Paisley.

JUNE 5 and 6.—Suffolk Agricultural Association, at Ipswich. Entries close, May 7. Secretary, Robert Bond, Old Bank House, 6, Butter Market, Ipswich.

JUNE 10, 11, 12, and 13.—Royal Counties Agricultural Society, at Reading. Secretary, F. Simmons, Basingstoke.

JUNE 11.—Edinburgh Agricultural Association, at Edinburgh. Secretary, J. Wylie, Royal Bank, Leven Street, Edinburgh.

JUNE 11 and 12.—Northamptonshire Agricultural Society, at Daventry. Entries close, May 14. Secretary, A. E. Lovell, Harpole, Northampton.

JUNE 13 (probably).—Stirling Agricultural Society, at Stirling. Entries close, June 5 (probably). Secretary, Andrew C. Buchanan, 26, Port Street, Stirling.

JUNE 13 and 14.—Richmond (Surrey) Horse Show Society, Ltd., at Richmond. Secretary, C. Capel Smith, 1, The Little Green, Richmond, Surrey.

JUNE 14.—Ossett Agricultural Society. Entries close, June 6. Secretaries, Pollard and Shaw, Northfield, Ossett.

JUNE 17, 18, and 19.—Herefordshire and Worcestershire Agricultural Society, at Hereford. Secretaries, A. Edwards and T. H. Edwards, Corn Exchange Offices, Leominster.

JUNE 18.—Thorne Agricultural Society, at Thorne. Entries close, June 1. Secretaries, C. Haycroft and J. Servant, Thorne, Doncaster.

JUNE 18 and 19.—Essex Agricultural Society, at Romford. Entries close: Stock, May 19; Implements and Dairy, May 26; Poultry, June 2. Secretary, F. Taylor, 17, Duke Street, Chelmsford.

JUNE 18 and 19.—Norfolk Agricultural Association's Summer Show. Entries close, May 19. Secretary, Caleb Barker, East Harling, Thetford, Norfolk.

JUNE 18 and 19.—Glasgow Agricultural Society's Summer Show, at Scotstoun, Glasgow. Entries close, June 4. Secretary, A. Russell, 54, West Nile Street, Glasgow.

JUNE 20.—Waltham Cross and Three Counties Horse and Foal Society, at Waltham Cross. Entries close, May 20. Secretary, J. Gawter, Cheshunt.

JUNE 28.—Dalkeith Agricultural Society, at Woodburn Park, Dalkeith. Secretary, F. Watson Dods, Dalkeith, N.B.

JUNE 28.—Keighley Agricultural Society, at Keighley. Entries close, June 21. Secretary, F. S. Pearson, Old Bank Chambers, Keighley, Yorks.

JULY 2.—Barnstaple Agricultural Society, at Pilton Park. Hon. Secretary, T. Yeo, Barnstaple.

JULY 2 and 3.—Scunthorpe Agricultural Society, at Scunthorpe. Entries close, June 25. Secretary, G. W. Johnson, 40, High Street, Scunthorpe.

JULY 2 and 3.—Leicestershire Agricultural Society, at Leicester. Secretary, H. C. Ardron, Syston, Leicester.

JULY 2 and 3.—Doncaster Agricultural Society, at Doncaster Race Common. Entries close, June 14. Secretary, F. H. Chafer, 9, Market Place, Doncaster.

JULY 4.—Ripon and District Agricultural Society, at Ripon. Entries close, June 26. Secretary, B. North, 31, Market Place, Ripon.

JULY 4.—Malton Agricultural Society, at Malton. Entries close June 15. Secretary, T. Mitchell, Malton.

JULY 4 and 5.—County Cork Agricultural Society's Summer Horse and Sheep Show, at Show Yard, Cork Park, Cork. Entries close, June 8. Secretary, E. Corrigan, 21, Cook Street, Cork.

JULY 5.—West of Fife Agricultural Society, at Dunfermline. Entries close, June 21. Secretary, R. Husband, Solicitor, Dunfermline.

JULY 5 (probably).—United East Lothian Agricultural Society, at Amisfield Park, Haddington. Entries close June 20 (probably). Secretary, J. Stirling, Haddington.

JULY 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, and 11.—Royal Agricultural Society of England, at Carlisle. Entries close: Implements, &c., March 15; post entries, at double fees, April 1. Live Stock (horses, cattle, sheep, pigs), April 15; at post entry fees, April 30; late fees (last day) May 15. Poultry and Farm Produce, April 30, at ordinary fees; at post entry fees (last day), May 15. Secretary, Sir Ernest Clarke, 13, Hanover Square, London, W.

JULY 8, 9, and 10.—Peterborough Agricultural Society, at Peterborough. Entries close, June 14. Secretary, J. E. Little, Cowgate, Peterborough.

JULY 9.—Southmolton Agricultural Association, at Southmolton. Entries close, June 26. Secretary, J. Blackford, F.A.I., Castle House, Southmolton, N. Devon.

JULY 11.—Driffield and East Riding Agricultural Society, at Great Driffield. Entries close: Stock, June 26; Dogs, July 1; Poultry, &c., July 3. Secretary, T. Holtby, Exchange Street, Driffield.

JULY 15, 16, 17, and 18.—Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland, at Aberdeen. Entries close: Implements May 12; Stock, June 9. Secretary, J. Macdonald, 3, George IV. Bridge, Edinburgh.

JULY 16 and 17.—East Kent Agricultural Society, at Ashford. Entries close, June 2. Secretary, P. M. Collard, Canterbury.

JULY 15, 17, and 18. Lincolnshire Agricultural Society, at Boston. Entries close, June 10. Secretary, S. Upton, St. Benedict's Square, Lincoln.

JULY (middle of).—East Kent Agricultural Society, at Ashford. Secretary, P. M. Collard, Little Barton, Canterbury.

JULY 17.—Great Chesterford Colt and Foal Society. Entries close, July 5. Secretaries, Messrs. C. Edward E. Cooke, Hinxton Grange, Saffron Walden, and W. C. Emson, Strethall Hall, Littlebury, Saffron Walden.

JULY 17.—Herts Agricultural Society at Hatfield. Entries close, June 25. Secretary, W. A. Sherriff, Hatfield, Herts.

JULY 22, 23, and 24.—Gloucestershire Agricultural Society, at Tewkesbury. Entries close, June 16; post entries (double fees), June 23. Driving and Jumping, entries close, July 7. Secretary, F. J. Townsend, Cirencester.

JULY 23.—Bridlington Agricultural Society, at Bridlington. Secretary, B. M. Townsend, Quay Road, Bridlington.

JULY 23.—Cambridgeshire and Isle of Ely Agricultural Society, at Chatteris. Entries close: Stock, June 30; post entries (double fees), July 5; Implements, July 5. Secretary, R. Peters, 7, Downing Street, Cambridge.

JULY 23, 24, and 25.—North-East of Ireland Agricultural Association's Horse Show, at Belfast. Entries close, June 28. Secretary, K. MacRae, 37, Donegall Place, Belfast.

JULY 24.—Bedfordshire Agricultural Society, at Bedford. Entries close, June 21. Secretary, H. R. J. Swaffield, Ampthill.

JULY 24 and 25.—Tunbridge Wells and South Eastern Counties Agricultural Society, at Eridge Road, Tunbridge Wells. Secretary, W. Roper, 6, Kentish Buildings, Tunbridge Wells.

JULY 26.—Lauderdale Agricultural Society, at Lauder. Entries close, July 12. Secretary, G. L. Broomfield, Lauder.

JULY 30.—Morayshire Farmers' Club, at Public Park, Elgin. Entries close, July 16. Secretary, W. Ross Black, Town and County Bank, Limited, Elgin.

JULY 30.—Burton-on-Trent and District Shire Horse Society, at Burton-on-Trent. Secretary, F. D. Winterton, Walton Warren, Burton-on-Trent.

JULY 30, 31, and August 1.—Yorkshire Agricultural Society, at Leeds. Entries close, June 21; late entries, June 28. Secretary, J. Maughan, Blake Street, York.

AUGUST 2.—Craven Agricultural Society and Farmer's Club, at Skipton, Yorkshire. Entries close, July 23. Secretary, R. Wilson, Bank Buildings, Skipton.

AUGUST 4.—Wisbech and District Horse Society, at Wisbech. Entries close, July 23. Secretary, W. J. Chamberlin, Cornhill, Wisbech.

AUGUST 4.—Chepstow Agricultural Society, at Praece field Park. Entries close, July 23. Secretary, Louis C. Wrigley, Trellick Grange, Chepstow.

AUGUST 4.—Tynedale Agricultural Society, at Hexham. Secretary, R. Ord, Beaufront, Wood Head, Hexham.

AUGUST 4 (probably).—Lutterworth and District Agricultural Society, at Bitteswell Road, Lutterworth. Entries close, July 10. Secretary, T. C. Bodycote, Lutterworth.

AUGUST 4.—Ecclesfield Farmers' Club, at Hillsboro' Park, Sheffield. Entries close, July 23. Secretary, V. Siddall, Wadsley Bridge, Sheffield.

AUGUST 4.—Oxted and Godstone Agricultural Association, at Oxted. Entries close, July 12. Secretary, J. Stanley, Tandridge, Oxted.

AUGUST 4.—Herefordshire Horse Show Society, at Edgar Street, Hereford. Entries close, July 10. Secretary, W. T. Williams, 6 St. John Street, Hereford.

AUGUST 4.—Ludlow Agricultural Society, at Ludford, Ludlow. Entries close, July 21. Secretary, E. H. Wood, 30, Broad Street, Ludlow.

AUGUST 4 (probably).—South Brent and District Dartmoor Pony, Sheep, and Horse Society, at South Brent, Devon. Secretary, Wyndham Hull, South Brent, Devon.

AUGUST 4.—Whalley Agricultural Society, at Whalley. Entries close, July 23. Secretary, J. M. Rawcliffe, Regent Terrace, Whalley, near Blackburn.

AUGUST 4.—Brentnor and Lydford Pony Society, at Lydford Junction, Devon. Entries close, July 9th. Hon. Secretary, J. N. Jackman, Burnville, Tavistock.

AUGUST 5.—Border Union Agricultural Society, at Kelso. Secretary, A. Stevenson, Kelso.

AUGUST 6.—Badminton Farmers' Club, at Badminton, Glos. Entries close, July 7. Secretary, Ward Soames, Badminton, S.O., Glos.

AUGUST 6.—Adlington and District Agricultural Society, at Alderley Edge. Secretary, W. J. Trotter, 4, Church Street West, Macclesfield.

AUGUST 6.—Wisbech and District Horse Society. Entries close, August 1. Hon. Secretary, W. J. Chamberlin, Cornhill, Wisbech.

AUGUST 7 (probably).—Madresfield Agricultural Club, at Madresfield Court. Entries close, July 10. Secretary, A. D. Melvin, Madresfield, Malvern.

AUGUST 7.—Tring Agricultural Society at Tring Park, Tring. Entries close July 4. Secretary, F. J. Brown, 41, High Street, Tring.

AUGUST 7 (probably).—Market Bosworth Agricultural and Horticultural Society, at Bosworth Park. Entries close, July 26 (probably). Secretary, J. Thorpe, Nailstone, Nuneaton.

AUGUST 7 (probably).—Warrington and District Agricultural Society, at Walton Park, near Warrington. Entries close, July 16. Secretary, H. Beresford Melville, Estate Offices, Warrington.

AUGUST 7.—Keele Agricultural Society, at Keele Park, Keele, Staffs. Entries close, July 26. Secretary, W. A. Benson, Parkfields, Silverdale, Staffs.

AUGUST 8 (probably).—Barnard Castle Agricultural Society, at Barnard Castle. Secretary, J. E. Tilburn, Barnard Castle.

AUGUST 10.—Middleton-in-Teesdale Agricultural Society, at Middleton-in-Teesdale. Entries close, August 3. Secretaries, Raine and Thompson, Market Place, Middleton-in-Teesdale, via Darlington.

AUGUST 12.—Central Banffshire Farmers' Club, at Keith. Secretary, G. Donald, Ladyhill Grange, Banffshire.

AUGUST 13.—Worthing and West Sussex Horse Show, at Worthing. Entries close, July 31. Secretary, Walter Paine, Sumner House Library, Worthing.

AUGUST 13.—Crook Agricultural Society, at Crook. Entries close, August 6. Secretary, W. Pallister, The Laurels, Crook, R.S.O., Co. Durham.

AUGUST 14.—Vale of Conway Agricultural Society, at Llanrwst. Secretary, R. R. Owen, 2 Carrington Terrace, Llanrwst.

AUGUST 14.—Padiham Agricultural Society, at St. Giles Street Meadows, Padiham. Entries close, August 7. Secretary R. W. Hargreaves, 21 Church Street, Padiham, Lancashire.

AUGUST 15.—Chorley and District Agricultural Society, at Chorley. Entries close, August 9. Secretary, Peter Hodgkinson, Town Hall Sale Rooms, Chorley, Lancashire.

AUGUST 16.—Wensleydale Agricultural Society, at Leyburn. Entries close, August 2. Secretary, T. Firbank King, Edgley, Leyburn.

AUGUST 19.—Barnsley Agricultural and Horticultural Society, at Queen's Grounds. Entries close, August 7. Secretary, F. C. Browne, Westgate, Barnsley.

AUGUST 19.—North Lonsdale Agricultural Society, at Ulverston. Entries close, August 7. Secretary, W. C. Kendall, Cavendish Street, Ulverston, Lancashire.

AUGUST 20 (about).—Lancaster Agricultural Society, at Giant Axe Field, Lancaster. Entries close, August 6. Secretaries, T. Armistead and Son, 2, Victoria Chambers, Penny Street, Lancaster.

AUGUST 20.—Banwell and Weston-super-Mare Horse and Agricultural Association, at Banwell. Entries close, August 2. Secretary, Joseph Rogers, 4, Queen Anne Buildings, Bristol.

AUGUST 21.—East Berks Horse Show Society's Show, at Hawthorn Hill Racecourse. Secretary, C. H. W. Dixon, 4, Henrietta Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.

AUGUST 21.—United Counties Hunters' Society, at Carmarthen. Secretary; Grismond Philipps, Cwmgwilly, Carmarthen.

AUGUST 21 and 22.—Royal Jersey Agricultural Society, at Show Grounds, Springfield Road. Entries close, July 29. Secretary, John A. Perrée, 8, Church Street, St. Heliers, Jersey.

AUGUST 22.—Penistone Agricultural Society, at Penistone. Entries close, August 15. Secretary, J. H. Wood, Market Place, Penistone.

AUGUST 23.—Cheshire Agricultural Society, at Hyde. Secretary, T. A. Beckett, St. Werburg's Chambers, Chester.

AUGUST 23.—North Ribblesdale Agricultural Association, at Settle. Entries close, August 21. Secretary, G. K. Charlesworth, Solicitor, Settle, Yorks.

AUGUST 26, 27, 28, and 29.—Royal Dublin Society's Horse and Sheep Show, at Balls Bridge, Dublin. Entries close, July 24. Secretary, R. J. Moss, F.C.S., F.I.C., Leinster House, Dublin.

AUGUST 27.—Airedale Agricultural Society, at Bingley. Secretary, C. Mason, Main Street, Bingley.

AUGUST 27.—Newbury Horse Show. Entries close August 7. Hon. Secretary, Lieutenant-Colonel G. O. Ricardo, Broadway, Newbury.

AUGUST 27.—North-East Somerset Farmers' Club, at Chewton Priory. Secretary, J. Tudball, Chew Magna, W. Bristol.

AUGUST 27 and 28.—Staffordshire Agricultural Society, at Uttoxeter. Entries close: Live Stock, Produce, and Implements, July 19; Poultry and Pigeons, August 2. Secretary, J. P. Jones, Newcastle, Staffordshire.

AUGUST 28.—East Somerset Agricultural Society, at Wincanton. Entries close, August 14. Secretary, F. W. Harrold, Post Office, Castle Cary, Somerset.

AUGUST 28.—United Counties Agricultural Society, at Carmarthen. Entries close, August 14. Secretary, D. H. Thomas, Land Agent, Carmarthen.

AUGUST 28—Fareham and Hants Farmers' Club. Entries close, August 18; post entries, August 23. Secretary, A. Wyatt, 79 High Street, Fareham, Hants.

AUGUST 30.—Weardale Agricultural Society, at St. John's Chapel. Secretary, J. Watson, P.O., Daddry Shield, Co. Durham.

AUGUST (end of).—Worsley and District Agricultural and Horticultural Society, at Worsley.

SEPTEMBER (early in).—North Walsham and Aylsham Agricultural Association, at North Walsham. Secretary, R. Silcock, Wroxham, Norfolk.

SEPTEMBER (probably 2nd week).—Buxton and High Peak Horse Show Society, at Buxton. Secretaries, Hampson Brothers, 20, Spring Gardens, Buxton, Derbyshire.

SEPTEMBER 1.—Spilsby Foal Show, at Horse Show Ground, Spilsby. Entries close, August 25. Secretary, F. R. Bennett, Town Hall, Spilsby.

SEPTEMBER 2.—Hawkshead Agricultural Society, at Hawkshead. Entries close, August 23. Secretary, W. A. Rushforth, Eathwaite Hall, Hawkshead, Lancs.

SEPTEMBER 2.—Mid-Somerset Agricultural Society, at Shepton Mallet. Entries close, August 15. Secretary, R. Moody, Harleston House, Shepton Mallet.

SEPTEMBER 2.—Bicester Agricultural and Horticultural Association, at Bicester. Secretary, J. Roots, Bicester, Oxon.

SEPTEMBER 2, 3, 4, and 5.—Royal Lancashire Agricultural Society, at Moor Park, Preston. Entries close, August 2. Secretary, E. Bohane, Miller Arcade, Preston.

SEPTEMBER 3.—Clareborough Farming and Gardening Society, at Clareborough, near Retford. Secretary, J. Walker, Market Square, Retford, Notts.

SEPTEMBER 3 and 4.—Bath Horse Show, at Bath. Entries close, August 16. Secretary, L. C. Mundy, 41, Milsom Street, Bath.

SEPTEMBER 4.—Abergavenny Horse Show and Agricultural Association, at Abergavenny. Secretaries, Messrs. James Straker and Sons, Marvel Street Chambers, Abergavenny, Mon.

SEPTEMBER 4.—Rutland Agricultural Society. Secretary, R. Healy, West Road, Oakham.

SEPTEMBER 5 and 6.—Leek and District Agricultural and Horticultural Society, at Leek. Entries close, 14 days previously. Secretary, W. Newall, Park Terrace, Leek, North Staffs.

SEPTEMBER 6.—Wharfedale Agricultural Society's Foal, etc., Show, at Otley. Entries close, September 1. Secretary, W. Holmes, 34, Market Place, Otley, Yorks.

SEPTEMBER 6.—Barrow-in-Furness Agricultural Society, at Cavendish Park, Barrow-in-Furness. Entries close, August 23. Secretary, F. W. Poole, Cornwallis Street, Barrow-in-Furness.

SEPTEMBER 6.—Kerry Will Flock Book Society, at Kerry, Montgomeryshire. Entries close, September 1. Secretary, W. H. Langford, Chirbury Wall, Shropshire.

SEPTEMBER 9.—Greasley, Selston, and Eastwood Agricultural Society, at Moorgreen, near Nottingham. Entries close, August 26. Secretary, W. H. Attenborough, Greasley, near Nottingham.

SEPTEMBER 9.—Carmarthenshire Agricultural Society, at Llanelly. Entries close, August 31. Secretary, Rhys W. Harry, 44, Coldstream Street, Llanelly.

SEPTEMBER 10.—Wolsingham and Wear Valley Agricultural Society, at Wolsingham. Entries close, August 31. Secretary, R. E. Stobbs, Angate Ho, Wolsingham, R.S.O., Co. Durham.

SEPTEMBER 10 (probably).—Wayland Agricultural Society, at Watton, Norfolk. Entries close, August 24 probably. Secretary, S. S. George, Watton, Norfolk.

SEPTEMBER 10.—Wardle Agricultural Society, at Wardle. Entries close, September 6. Secretary, E. Howard, Church Terrace, Wardle, near Rochdale.

SEPTEMBER 10 and 11.—Cardiff and South Wales Horse Show at Cardiff. Secretary, C. M. Berkeley, Park Place, Cardiff.

SEPTEMBER 10 and 11.—Wirral and Birkenhead Agricultural Society, at Bebington. Entries close, August 23. Secretary, A. H. Edwardson, 6 Hamilton Square, Birkenhead.

SEPTEMBER 11.—Melton Mowbray District Horse Show, at Egerton Park, Melton Mowbray. Entries close, August 30. Secretary, Shafto H. Sikes, F.A.I., Nottingham Street, Melton-Mowbray.

SEPTEMBER 11.—Montgomeryshire Agricultural Association, at Welshpool. Entries close: Class 1 to about 35, September 1; leaping and turn-outs, September 8. Secretary, W. C. Barrs, Laburnum House, Welshpool.

SEPTEMBER 11.—Autumnal Show and Sale of Shorthorn Cattle, at Bingley Hall, Birmingham. Entries close August 16. Secretary, W. H. Lythall, Bingley Hall, Birmingham.

SEPTEMBER 11.—Heckington Foal Show Association, on the Green. Entries close, August 30. Secretary, J. B. Brumfield, Heckington, S.O., Lincolnshire.

SEPTEMBER 13.—South Tyne Agricultural Society, at Bellister Park. Entries close, September 3. Secretary, W. C. Croudace, V.S., Haltwhistle, Northumberland.

SEPTEMBER 16 and 17.—Compton Stud Show, at Templecombe. Entries close, August 20. Secretary, The Manager, Compton Stud, Gillingham, Dorset.

SEPTEMBER 17.—Oswestry District Agricultural Society, at Oswestry. Entries close, August 30. Secretary, Thos. Whitfield, Willow House, Oswestry.

SEPTEMBER 17 (probably).—Shap Agricultural Society, at Shap. Secretary, T. Geldart, Mill Flatt, Shap.

SEPTEMBER 17.—Loughborough Agricultural Association, at Loughborough. Entries close, August 28. Secretary, T. B. Bosworth, Kibworth, Leicester.

SEPTEMBER 18.—Hay Horse Show, at Hay. Entries close, September 4. Secretary, Mr. Chas. Griffiths, jun., Bank Chambers, Hay, Hereford.

SEPTEMBER 18.—Blandford Farmers' Club, at Bryanston Park, Blandford. Entries close, September 6; post entries, September 15. Secretary, W. H. Creech, Sturminster Newton, Dorset.

SEPTEMBER 18 (probably).—Market Harboro' Horse Show, at The Market Harboro' Cricket Field. Secretary, F. Berry, Auctioneer, Market Harboro'.

SEPTEMBER 18.—North Tyne and Redesdale Agricultural Society, at Bellingham. Entries close, September 8. Secretary, E. Dixon, Bellingham, Northumberland.

SEPTEMBER 18 (probably).—Westmoreland and Kendal District Agricultural Society, at Kendal. Entries close, August 30 (probably). Secretary, G. L. Hoggarth, Kendal.

SEPTEMBER 18.—Grantham Agricultural Society, at Grantham. Entries close, September 6. Secretary, J. F. Lyne, 8, Westgate, Grantham.

SEPTEMBER 19.—Kington Horse Show, at Kington. Secretary, T. H. Vaughan Morris, 7, High Street, Kington, Herefordshire.

SEPTEMBER 20 (about).—Wirral Farmers' Club Foal, Grain, and Root Show, at Poulton. Entries close, September 15 (about). Secretary, T. Johnson, Higher Farm Prenton, Birkenhead.

SEPTEMBER 23.—Llanymynech and Tanatside District Horse Show Society, at Llanymynech. Entries close, September 17. Secretary, J. Ellison, Morton, Oswestry, Salop.

SEPTEMBER 23 and 24.—Ayr Ram Society's Show and Sale, at Ayr. Entries close, August 25. Secretary, J. Howie, 58, Alloway Street, Ayr.

SEPTEMBER 24.—Altrincham Agricultural Society, at Altrincham. Entries close, September 6. Secretary, J. Herbert Hall, 2, Dunham Road, Altrincham.

SEPTEMBER 24.—Frome District Agricultural Society, at Frome, Somerset. Entries close, September 10. Secretary, T. C. Harding, Frome, Somerset.

SEPTEMBER 24.—Byfield Shire Horse and Foal Show and Sale, at Byfield. Entries close, September 18. Secretaries, Miller and Abbotts, High Street, Banbury.

SEPTEMBER 25.—Ashbourne Shire Horse Society, at Ashbourne. Entries close, September 10 (about). Secretaries, G. Desborough and T. Wooddisse, Market Place, Ashbourne.

SEPTEMBER 26.—Kent and Romney Marsh Sheepbreeders' Association, at Ashford, Kent. Secretary, W. W. Chapman, Fitzalan House, Arundel Street, Strand, London, W.C.

SEPTEMBER 30.—Gransden and District Agricultural Society, at Great Gransden. Entries close, September 16. Secretary, Robert J. Risley, Great Gransden, Sandy, Beds.

OCTOBER 1.—Royal South Bucks Agricultural Association, at Riding Court Farm, Datchet, Bucks. Entries close: Root Crops, July 1; other entries, August 31. Secretary, R. H. Barrett, High Street, Slough.

OCTOBER 7.—Moreton-in-Marsh Shire Horse Society, at Cricket Ground, Moreton-in-Marsh. Secretary, A. W. Drury, Moreton-in-Marsh.

OCTOBER 7, 8, 9, and 10.—British Dairy Farmers' Association, at Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, London. Entries close, September 8. Secretary, W. C. Young, 12, Hanover Square, London, W.

OCTOBER 8 (probably).—Coleshill Farmers' Club Shire Horse and Foal Show, at Cricket Field, Coleshill. Entries close, September 24. Secretary, J. W. Fifield, Coleshill, near Birmingham.

OCTOBER 9 (probably).—Princes Risborough Agricultural Association, at Princes Risborough. Secretary, W. G. Humphreys, Owlswick Manor, Risborough, Bucks.

OCTOBER (2nd week in).—Worcestershire Shire Horse Society, at Cattle Market, Worcester. Entries close, Octiber 1. Secretary T. W. Powell, Leigh, Worcester.

OCTOBER 14 and 15.—Cheshire Dairy Farmers' Association, at Chester. Entries close, October 11. Secretary, R. Challinor, St. Oswald's Buildings, Chester.

OCTOBER 18 to 24.—Brewers' Exhibition and Market, at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington. Managing Directors, Messrs. Dale and Reynolds, 45, Cannon Street, E.C.

OCTOBER 23 and 24.—Ayrshire Agricultural Association's Show of Dairy and Farm Produce, &c., at Kilmarnock. Entries close October 10. Secretary, J. Howie, 58, Alloway Street, Ayr.

OCTOBER 28.—Clavcross and District Ploughing Association, near Clavcross. Entries close, October 25. Secretary, A. Milner, Stretton, Alfreton.

OCTOBER 29.—Gravesend and Rochester Agricultural Association, near Rochester. Secretary, R. Miskin, Frindsbury Road, Rochester.

NOVEMBER 5 and 6.—Cheshire Dairy Farmers' Association, at Nantwich. Entries close, November 1. Secretary, R. Challinor, St. Oswald's Buildings, Chester.

NOVEMBER 20, 21, and 22 (probably).—Norfolk and Norwich Christmas Show Association, at Agricultural Hall, Norwich. Entries close, October 25. Secretary, Caleb Barker, East Harling, Thetford, Norfolk.

NOVEMBER 25 and 26.—Lord Tredegar's Agricultural and Poultry Show, at Cattle Market, Newport. Secretary, F. J. Justice, Tredegar Estate Office, Newport, Mon.

NOVEMBER 25 and 26.—Whitchurch Dairy Farmers' Association, at Whitchurch. Entries close, November 19. Secretary, T. Nunnerley, Whitchurch, Salop.

NOVEMBER 27 and 28.—Chippenham Agricultural Association, at Chippenham. Entries close, November 14. Secretary, Edward Burbidge, S. Wraxhall, Bradford-on-Avon.

NOVEMBER 29 to December 4.—Birmingham Agricultural Exhibition's Society's Fat Cattle and Poultry Show, at Bingley Hall. Entries close: Stock, Poultry, &c., November 1; Implements, October 20. Secretary, W. H. Lythall, Bingley Hall, Birmingham.

DECEMBER 1 and 2.—Tonbridge Fat Stock Show Association, at Tonbridge Agricultural Hall. Entries close, November 5. Secretary, Thomas M. Dove, 18, Lansdowne Road, Tonbridge.

DECEMBER 3 and 4.—Scottish National Fat Stock Club, at Waverley Market, Edinburgh. Entries close, November 1. Secretary, J. Wylie, Royal Bank, Leven Street, Edinburgh.

DECEMBER 4.—Wadhurst Christmas Fat Stock Show. Entries close, November 17. Secretary, F. Austen, Marling Place, Wadhurst, Sussex.

DECEMBER 8 to 12.—Smithfield Club (Incorporated), at Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington. Entries close: Implements, October 1; post entries, October 5. Stock, November 1; post entries, November 5. Secretary, E. J. Powell, 12, Hanover Square, London, W.

DECEMBER 9, 10, and 11.—Yorkshire Society's Christmas Exhibition of Stock, Poultry, and Roots, at York. Entries close, November 20. Secretary, F. Arey, 3, New Street, York.

DECEMBER 9, 10, and 11.—Leeds Smithfield Club, at Engineers' Drill Ground. Entries close, November 29. Secretary, J. H. Clark, Hirst's Yard, Duncan Street, Leeds.

DECEMBER 10.—Vale of Aylesbury Fat Stock Show, at Aylesbury. Entries close, November 29. Secretary, F. J. Brown, Auctioneer and Estate Agent, Aylesbury.

DECEMBER 10.—City of Liverpool and District Cowkeepers' Association, at Liverpool Hay Market. Entries close, December 6. Secretary, T. Backhouse, 58, Tetlow Street, Liverpool, N.

DECEMBER 10 and 11.—West of England Fat Stock and Poultry Society, at Devonport. Entries close, November 24. Secretary, J. Cooms, Quicks, Oreston, Plymouth.

DECEMBER 12.—Wisbech Christmas Fat Stock Show, at Wisbech. Entries close, December 7. Secretary, W. J. Chamberlain, Cornhill, Wisbech.



THE DEVON BULL DRAMATIST, which forms the subject of the above illustration, is the property of and was bred by Mr. J. C. Williams, Caerhays, St. Austell, Cornwall, being by Pretty Middling 2859, out of Ellen Terry 3rd, 12561. At the Cardiff Show of the Royal Society, where our photo was taken, Dramatist won the champion prize for the best meat Devon in the show, and also won first prize in the class for Devon bulls calved in 1897, 1898, or 1899.

SOCIETIES.

Bucks Chamber.

The annual meeting of the members of the Bucks Chamber of Agriculture was held at Aylesbury on the 15th inst., Mr. W. Weston (Chairman) presiding. The statement of accounts showed the total receipts to have been £59 19s. 5d., including a balance of £12 8s. 5d. from the previous year. The expenditure had been £59 9s. 8d., leaving a balance overdrawn of 3d. This was due to the payment of several bills from last year, and the fact that a year ago they were assisted by the receipt of three life members' subscriptions. In reality the income had been more this year and the expenditure less.

The report was adopted, on the motion of Sir E. H. Verney, seconded by Mr. D. Elliott.

The Chairman said he had great pleasure in proposing that Mr. H. S. Leon be their chairman during the ensuing year. He was sure their selection was most excellent, as Mr. Leon took a great interest in agriculture, and no doubt would take a prominent part in connection with the work of the Chamber, and thus do what he could for the benefit of the agriculturists of the county.

Mr. D. Elliott, in seconding, said he was sure they would have a good chairman in Mr. Leon.

The motion was carried unanimously.

Mr. Weston then vacated the chair in favour of Mr. Leon, who said he was much obliged to them for electing him as their chairman. He would do the best he could in the interests of the Chamber of Agriculture. He would not, however, promise to attend every meeting, but he would always do his best to be present. Aylesbury was a terrible place for him to get at, for, although Bletchley was only sixteen miles away, it took a whole day to get there and back.

Mr. John Rose said that in looking through the list of persons who had served in the office of chairman he was surprised to see that Sir Edmund Verney had never held the position. It had been customary for the Vice-Chairman of one year to be the Chairman of another. He should therefore have pleasure in proposing that Sir Edmund Verney be their vice-chairman during the ensuing year, for he had attended many of their meetings and had assisted them on several occasions (hear, hear).

Sir Edmund Verney said he believed that it was the invariable rule for a tenant farmer to be the vice-chairman of the Chamber.

Mr. Weston—No.

Sir Edmund Verney said he had another reason for declining the position. He and Mr. Leon happened to agree on some political matters, and he did not wish it to be thought that there was anything like a party character about that association. He would rather see someone holding altogether different views in the office; and if it should be their wish a year or two hence, and he should be alive, he would be pleased to accept the office.

Mr. Weston said that at the last meeting it was suggested that Mr. John Rose should be the vice-chairman for the ensuing year.

Sir Edmund Verney said he would propose that Mr. Rose be elected vice-chairman.

Mr. Weston seconded, and the resolution was carried, Mr. Rose accepting the office.

Mr. Elliott proposed, Mr. Rose seconded, and it was resolved, that Mr. Weston be the annual deputy to the Central Chamber.

Mr. Rose proposed, and Sir Edmund Verney seconded, the re-appointment of Mr. J. Whitehouse Griffin as one of the deputed members to the Central Chamber.

Mr. John Treadwell was also elected a deputed member, at the instance of Mr. T. J. George, seconded by Mr. Weston.

It was resolved that the next meeting should be held at Winslow on February 26, and that following at Newport Pagnell on March 26. The places of the other meetings were fixed as follows, but the dates were left open:—April, High Wycombe; May, Aylesbury; October, Buckingham; November, Newport Pagnell; and December and January (1903), Aylesbury.

Clydesdale Horse.

The twenty-fifth annual general meeting of the members of the Clydesdale Horse Society will be held in the Religious Institution Rooms, 200, Buchanan Street, Glasgow, on Tuesday, February 4th next, at six p.m. The annual report has been issued in advance, and we give below some extracts from it:—

"The Society will have attained its semi-jubilee on June 30th next. From its commencement it enjoyed the patronage of his Majesty the King as H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, and on his Majesty's accession to the throne in January last, he was graciously pleased to continue his patronage. The Society has had a fairly prosperous year financially, and an addition of £224 19s. 1d. has been made to the capital account. The breed again achieved a signal success at the great International Show at Chicago held in the beginning of December. The team of six geldings sent over by Messrs. A. and W. Montgomery carried the leading honours in all forms of competition against picked teams of other draught breeds. The home trade in pedigree Clydesdales has moved in the main on normal lines, but, on the whole, it cannot be described as dull. Various auction sales were held, and good averages were recorded.

Membership.

"The general effect of the changes of the year is to leave the roll less by eight names than it was at the close of 1900. Fifty names have been deleted and 42 added, the membership now being: Life governors, 96; life members, 931; annual members, 270; total, 1,297. Of the fifty deletions no fewer than 31 were due to death. Amongst those taken away were her Majesty the Queen, Lord Lionel Cecil, the Earl of Galloway, K.T., Lord Wantage, K.C.B., V.C., and Major Cheape, of Wellfield, all of whom were Life Governors of the Society. Amongst the others whose deaths are recorded was one member of Council, Mr. James Lockhart, Mains of Airies, Stranraer, who took an active share in the work of the Society, and was known far and near as a very successful breeder of Clydesdales. The names of four annual members have been struck off as being in arrears of subscription, and 15 annual members resigned.

Stud Book.

"The twenty-third volume was issued during 1901, and the twenty-fourth is now in the press. An alteration was made in the last date for receiving entries for the volume now in course of being printed. It was fixed at October 31st, and so far as the number of entries received is an indication, the alteration has been beneficial. But there are disadvantages also which require to be considered. Entrants have gone on the principle that, as this is the closing date, nothing need be done in the way of making entries until the month of October. Consequently, the staff had little or nothing to do during September, when formerly large numbers of entries were received, and the work of preparing the volume for the press was of necessity delayed until November was commenced. The printing of the book was not begun until immediately after the new year (1902), and is being pushed forward as rapidly as circumstances will permit. In view of these things, it will be for the Council to consider whether the late date of entry should in future be adhered to. The cash sales during the year amounted to £26 19s., the corresponding figure for the previous year being £15 4s. The number of volumes actually issued during the year to members and others was 1,438, as compared with 1,412 in 1900.

Exportation.

"The export trade during 1901 was fairly lively. The number of exportation certificates issued by the Society was 167, and it is known that, in addition, 150 Clydesdale mares were shipped in one order to South Africa. The 167 were distributed as follows:—Canada, 68; U.S.A., 42; Russia, 25; South America, 20; South Africa, 5; Italy, 2; New Zealand, 2; Sweden, 2; Holland, 1. The number of certificates issued in 1900 was 178.

Premiums.

"In this department the Affiliation Scheme, with grants of bronze medals, has again proved popular. Seventeen societies, as against 12 in 1900, affiliated with the Society during the year, and competitions for the Society's bronze medal took place at the shows under their jurisdiction. The particulars of the awards, as far as reported and confirmed, together with the awards of 1901, will appear in the Stud Book, Volume XXIV., Appendix C.

Devon Cattle.

At the annual meeting of the Devon Cattle Breeders' Society, Sir Thomas Acland was elected president, and Sir Redvers Buller, Mr. Lambert, M.P. and Mr. P. J. Stranger (for Devon), Messrs. R. W. Hancock, A. C. Skinner, and C. W. Skinner (for Somerset), and Mr. E. F. Maunder (for Dorset) were elected members of the Council in the place of those retiring by rotation.

The Council, in their annual report, stated that they had resolved upon offering prizes at the show and sale to be held at Exeter in February next for the best bull calved in 1900, and for the best bull calved last year. The Council, realising the necessity and importance of extending the foreign trade in Devon cattle, had appointed a committee to consider the best means of furthering the interests of the breed of such cattle at home and abroad. There were 36 life members of the society, one honorary member, and 159 ordinary members. The accounts showed that on the year's working the society had a balance in hand of about £20. The report and accounts were adopted.

The special committee appointed recommended that a correspondent be selected to write articles on the breed of Devonshire cattle, that the society take steps to circulate such articles, and that a grant be made for the purpose. An amendment that the society endeavour to create a home trade was defeated, and the recommendations adopted.

Ixworth Farmers' Club.

The annual meeting of the Ixworth Farmers' Club was held on Monday, Mr. Cordy S. Wolton presiding.

From last year's financial statement it appeared that the year commenced with a balance in hand of £14 1s. 1d.; annual subscriptions amounted to £73; special donations, £98 14s.; gift from the town of Bury St. Edmund's, £17 2s.; gate money, £88 7s.; tickets sold before the show, £20 6s. 9d.; entry fees, £12 14s., and other items, making a total of £356 14s. 4d. The expenditure included: Prize money, stock show, £143; and numerous other outgoings, leaving a balance in hand of £61 2s. 11d.

The Chairman remarked that he never remembered the club in such a flourishing financial position before. It was shown that great success had attended the stock show held in the Abbey Grounds, Bury St. Edmund's, where the attendance was large.

The Chairman moved the re-appointment of Sir E. Walter Greene, Bart, M.P., as President. Mr. Cordy Wolton bore testimony to the kindly interest which Sir E. Walter Greene evinced in the success of the club.—Mr. D. W. Taylor (Grange Farm, Bury) seconded the proposition, which was unanimously agreed to.—Mr. J. Sturley Nunn, who was again unanimously re-elected secretary, was congratulated upon the financial position of the Club. In accepting office, he spoke of the efficient services rendered by Mr. J. C. Booty, as auditor, who was also re-appointed.

A discussion ensued upon the advisability of Ixworth Farmers' Club associating itself more closely with the town of Bury St. Edmund's by holding its shows more frequently there.—The Chairman cordially agreed with the suggestion.—It was understood that the shows would be welcomed at Bury St. Edmund's, and that the Abbey Grounds would be available.

Ultimately a resolution was unanimously adopted in favour of holding a live-stock show in Bury St. Edmund's, on Whit-Monday, May 19th. As to the autumn show, it was resolved to leave the committee to decide where it should be held.

Malton.

The annual meeting of the Malton District Agricultural Club was held on Tuesday, under the presidency of Mr. William Harrison, of Hutton.—Mr. T. Mitchell, the secretary, read the report, in which it was stated that there had been a small improvement in the financial position of the club during the past year. The number of members was 62. The expenditure had amounted to £24 3s. 7d., and there was a balance in hand of £17 5s. 8d.

Mr. Fairley, the club's analyst, in his report stated that tests had been made with barleys grown by the aid of arsenical manures, and the result was that no trace of arsenic was found. Experiments in this direction would be continued, and the secretary asked for assistance in the way of samples of manures, plants, etc., from the members of the club.

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the reports, said several gentlemen from the Wolds had made very serious complaint to him about the drugging of horses, and he believed many of the farmers were terrified by it. One gentleman had told him that he had lost three horses since Martinmas, and he thought it was due to the drugging of the animals by old servants who had left. They would have to try and stop the practice, and he thought it would be wise if the Press would give a caution to carriers against getting drugs for the lads. For the present perhaps the club would not take steps, but if other cases cropped up it would be the duty of the club to take some steps.

Mr. John Abbott, vice-president of the club, suggested that the chemists should be cautioned against supplying poison to farm lads.—Mr. Humphreys seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Mr. William Harrison was re-elected president, Mr. Abbott vice-president, Mr. Thomas Collinson treasurer, and Mr. S. Mitchell secretary.

South Durham and North Yorkshire Tenant Farmers.

The annual meeting and dinner of the South Durham and North Yorkshire Tenant Farmers' Protection Association took place at Darlington on Monday afternoon, Mr. George Smurthwaite, chairman of the association, presiding at both functions.

The report presented by the Secretary, Mr. P. B. Kent, showed that last year there was a membership of 60, with 16 subscriptions in arrears. This year they had 141 members, and all the

subscriptions were paid. During the past year the membership had increased by 65. The balance in hand was now £38 9s. 5d., as against £34 4s. 6d. in the previous year. All disputes brought before the committee had been settled in a satisfactory manner, and legal opinion had been obtained for members in case of emergency. The association had been of immense value to the tenant farmers in the district, and similar organisations were being formed in other parts.

The report and balance sheet were adopted, Mr. Smurthwaite was re-elected chairman and Mr. P. B. Kent secretary.

Professor Middleton in Favour of Tenant Farmers.

At the dinner subsequently held, the toast of "Success to the Association" was proposed by Professor Middleton, who said he had always urged farmers to combine together. He thought the chairman and secretary were to be congratulated on the success which had attended their efforts in connection with the association. In the discussion which had taken place in the papers with respect to getting people back to the land, a policy had been advocated by which the people were to work their own land. He could not help thinking that was a fallacy, though it was urged by political economists. The intentions of those who wished to sweep away the tenant farmer altogether might be good, but they might well cry out for protection from their friends. The tenant farmer with a limited capital could do much better for himself working another person's land than if working his own. Land, after all, was an expensive luxury, and experience had shown them that the men who had succeeded best were tenant farmers, who were producers in the best sense of the terms. The system under which they lived—landlord, tenant, and labourer—was the best one for this country.

During a holiday on the Continent he compared the condition of agriculture there with that in the North of England, and was conscious how very inferior were the teachers of agriculture in England to those on the Continent, and especially in Germany. But he was delighted to find how very superior the practical English farmer was in the management of the land, and how much better were his cattle and sheep than anything that could be shown on the Continent. That was due to the tenant farmers of the country, who were essential to the welfare of the British nation. The political economist desired to destroy the class altogether; but what he could not do there was some risk of the farmers doing themselves. The encouragement given them to go on in the last thirty years had been very small indeed, and nothing was more common than to hear a farmer who had sons say he should not put them to the business. The census of 1881-1891 showed that while the number of farmers remained the same, the number of farmers' sons engaged in the business was very much reduced. What the result of the present census would be he could not say, but there was a great tendency to give up, and to despond as to the future.

The chairman, in responding, was very heartily cheered. He said they began the association with 30 or 40 members, but to judge by the number of smiling faces around the table they might think agriculture was the sport of kings. Professor Middleton was much cleverer than the tenant farmer. He had left farming and taken to lecture farmers. That was a very wise plan, because, when their fathers farmed, wheat sold at double the present price; they had only to turn the cattle into the field to fatten them, and wages were only half what they were now. They wanted to make the country attractive to keep the people in it; but if the landlords would only lower their rents one-half, the farmer would have no trouble in making his men live.

The Milk Standard.

In reply to the toast of "Success to Agriculture," Mr. C. Marshall (secretary of the Northumberland Dairy Farmers' Association) responded, and said recent legislation had fixed the milk standard, but, as a matter of fact, they could not fix a standard for the natural product. The difficulties of the health authorities were about as great as those of the dairy farmers in regard to milk. They had interviews with the Newcastle, Sunderland, and Gateshead Corporations, and had discussed the question of the milk supply with the medical officers, and they found that further legislation was necessary before much could be done. They were the only class of men who were assumed to be rogues until they proved their innocence. If a man sent out milk of low quality, the onus was on him to prove that it was genuine. He found a genuine desire on the part of the authorities not to deal unjustly with the farmers, but they had a duty to perform in safeguarding the milk supply. In Mr. Hanbury they had a strong man, who would see to the bottom of matters, and he was glad to find that the Board of Agriculture had set out on the lines recommended to the local authorities—that of allowing an explanation privately of any complaint of milk before any prosecution was instituted. At present they could only deal with the case in open court.

One of the difficulties arose through the magistrates not having got to the bottom of the question. The quality of the milk was absolutely beyond the farmer's control. He might feed as he liked, but they could control the quality only very slightly, and then it would go back again. The quality of milk from a herd also varied from 2 to 4 per cent. in 30 hours. They had to complain of the way in which they were treated by the analysts. An analyst could tell them that a milk was of low quality, but he could not say whether it was pure or not. In Northumberland they had several cases to fight, and were determined to carry them to the House of Lords if necessary.

Suffolk Sheep.

A meeting of the Council of the Suffolk Sheep Society was held at Ipswich on the 17th inst., Mr. J. Fleatham presiding.

The secretary read a letter from the Royal Counties' Agricultural Society in respect to the provision of classes for Suffolk sheep at their next show at Reading, the Suffolk Sheep Society having offered to contribute half the premiums for four classes. The reply he received was to the effect that the Prize Committee did not see their way to provide classes for Suffolk sheep, the prize-list being already a large one.

Some discussion took place on the subject, in the course of which the Secretary stated that he had been in communication with a friend who was a member of the Royal Counties' Agricultural Society, and it was eventually resolved, on the proposition of Mr. S. R. Sherwood, seconded by Mr. J. R. Grimsey, that the Suffolk Sheep Society should offer £20 if the Reading local committee would provide two classes, one for ewe lambs and the other for ram lambs.

Applications were made from the Suffolk, Essex, and Norfolk Agricultural Societies, respecting the grant for premiums from the Suffolk Sheep Society in 1892.—It was resolved, on the proposition of Mr. S. R. Sherwood, that premiums should be granted as in previous years, under the usual conditions. The Council also recommended the grants of silver medals and cash premiums to twelve agricultural societies and farmers' clubs—viz., eight in Scotland, and four farmers' clubs in the eastern counties.

The Editing Committee reported that in Vol. XVI. the entries received were:—Renewals, 221; new flocks 20, including one in South Wales, making 241, against 245 in 1900. The committee suggested that the portrait in the frontispiece should be that of the late Mr. George Dobito, who was really the founder of Suffolk sheep as a breed. On the motion of Mr. S. Traylen, seconded by Mr. S. A. Flick, the report was adopted.

The Secretary reported that, in accordance with the resolution passed at the meeting of the Council on May 3rd, 1901, the Veterinary Committee had carefully considered the "causes of attack of garget, and any preventive means for lessening the losses annually sustained from such attacks." The lateness of the season at the time of reference precluded any steps being taken to deal with the question prior to the lambing season of 1902, but the Secretary was instructed to ascertain the opinion of flock-owners as far as possible. The committee met on January 3rd, 1902, when a vacancy caused by the resignation of Mr. Alan Stanford was filled by the election of Mr. E. J. Cheney. It was resolved:—"(a) That a circular-letter be sent to flock-owners, asking information respecting garget, and stating that the Society was prepared to carry out, and bear the cost of, a thorough investigation into the causes of, and remedy for, the disease. (b) That Mr. E. J. Cheney, Mr. S. R. Sherwood, Mr. G. P. Watkins, and the Secretary be a sub-committee to draft the form of circular and questions. (c) That the services of a veterinary surgeon be secured to carry out the necessary investigation of any cases.

The committee are fully convinced that the loss annually caused by attacks of garget might be yearly lessened, if not altogether prevented, by a thorough and systematic inquiry into cases of disease. The investigation must necessarily extend over a considerable period and number of cases before any definite results could be expected, and the importance of a careful examination of affected animals, collection and tabulation of information respecting the periods of attacks, predisposing causes, etc., was so great that the committee recommended that the services of Mr. T. G. Heatley—an experienced veterinarian—should be retained, on the terms named by the sub-committee, and agreed to by Mr. Heatley—viz., the payment of all out-of-pocket expenses. The Secretary also read the circular which the committee had drawn up, and a number of questions were asked of the flock-owners to whom the circular was to be sent.

The report was unanimously adopted.

The draft report of the Council to be presented at the annual meeting on February 7th was subsequently considered and adopted.

Taunton Farmers' Club.

The Taunton Farmers' Club's annual meeting was held at Taunton on the 18th inst. Mr. A. C. Skinner, of Bishop's Lydeard, the vice-chairman of the club, presided in the absence of the president, Sir Alexander Acland Hood, Bart., M.P., who was unable to leave London. Mr. Walter R. J. Greenslade, secretary and treasurer, presented the balance-sheet, which showed a decrease of membership, and a financial loss on the year's working, which, however, was nearly covered by a deposit at the bank.

Sir A. A. Hood was re-elected president; Mr. Skinner, vice-president; Mr. Greenslade, secretary and treasurer; and Mr. S. Kidner, of Milverton, delegate to the Central Chamber of Agriculture.

It was stated that the President of the Board of Agriculture, the Right Hon. R. W. Hanbury, M.P., had consented to be present at a meeting of the club, and at the annual dinner, which will follow it, on Saturday, the 1st of March next, and to address both gatherings. It was decided to make every effort to render the right hon. gentleman's visit a great success, and it was stated that a very numerous attendance might be expected.

Mr. H. Nowell Harvey, of Taunton, then proposed "That it would be greatly in the interest of farmers and others in West Somerset to form an agricultural trust or company for the purpose of improving the selection, preparation, and disposal of their produce, so as to compete more effectually with foreign and colonial trade, and to obtain increased and more reliable profit." Mr. Harvey pointed out that although during the last ten years the population of the United Kingdom had increased by only one-fifth, yet the imports of agricultural produce had nearly doubled, and he thought combination amongst English farmers might remedy to a great extent this state of affairs.

Mr. Kidner, while not entirely agreeing with Mr. Harvey as to the benefits to be derived from combination, seconded the resolution, which was carried.

Yorkshire Coach Horse.

The annual meeting of the Yorkshire Coach Horse Society was held at York, on Thursday, Mr. W. Hutchinson, of Selby, presiding over a good attendance of members. In the course of the annual report it was stated that the Society, with the hopefulness that marked the lovers of all kinds of animals, looked forward with interest to the probability of his Majesty the King forming a stud for the production of full-sized carriage horses, feeling assured that no better foundation could be built upon than the beautiful Yorkshire coach horse. All who saw the exhibition at the Yorkshire Show must have been struck with the excellent quality and high character of the breed, a strong testimony to which was the fact that of the nineteen geldings shown in one class nine or ten found customers at remunerative prices. Although the expenditure of the Society for the past year had a little exceeded the income, the assets showed a balance of £157 10s. 4d. in favour of the Society after writing off £30 for the unbound books of the six volumes issued up to the present time. The medals granted to the local shows continued to be highly appreciated, as well as the grants of money which were given from time to time as funds allowed. While grants of this character might have to be curtailed in the near future, owing to the expense of the seventh volume of the Stud Book, the Society would continue to show a liberal spirit.

The following interesting communication regarding the future of the Yorkshire Coach Horse in Canada, from Mr. J. Dyke, for twenty-one years Canadian Government agent at the port of Liverpool, was read:—

"The improvement of horses in the Dominion of Canada is just now attracting a great amount of attention in that country, more especially with a view to raising high-class carriage hosres, and at the forthcoming assembly of the Provincial Legislature and Dominion Parliament at Ottawa there are to be meetings and discussions on the subject.

"Yorkshire coach horses are, of course, known in Canada, but have never received the general attention they deserve, and a great deal of good would certainly result if photographs, as large as possible, of the best typical Yorkshire coaching stallions and mares, together with descriptions of the breed, approximate prices, and what they have accomplished in Continental countries, were sent out at once

"Of course you have a strong element, the standard trotting horse breeders, to contend against, but as clean-legged, good-looking, and sweet-headed sires, free from white if possible, are sure to be in demand this spring in many parts of Canada, more especially where they are about to enter into horse-raising to supply the wants of the British artillery and cavalry and London dealers you should have nothing to fear.

"Canada is badly in need of stallions, and we can have every reason to hope that this will be a record year for sales if you help. Would there be any chance of hiring Yorkshire coaching stallions, with the option of purchase, by men giving banker's bonds and covering the horses by insurance against all risks? The risk crossing the Atlantic is nowadays little more than the journey to Ireland or the Continent."

It was agreed to forward copies of the Yorkshire Coach Horse Stud books to Canada, and also photographs of good types of the breed.

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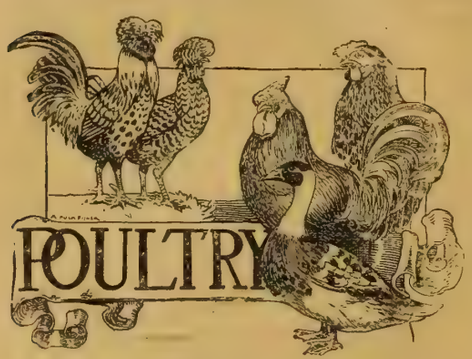
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Food-Stuffs for Poultry.*

(Copyright.)

By H. B. GREENE, M.R.C.S.

(*Continued from page* 93.)

It will be seen then that to get the best results from laying hens the albumenoid ratio of the diet must not only be higher than usual, but that the total solids in the dietary may be kept at the maximum figures of the standard ratio. Among other food stuffs which possess a high albuminoid ratio and are suitable to include as a change in the diet of laying fowls, may be mentioned peas and beans, cabbage and onions, middlings, malt sprouts, and buttermilk, while several among the patented food-stuffs are rich in albuminoids.

But the utility poultry-keeper is also desirous of rearing good table birds, and when the time comes to fatten them the diet must be quite different.

Fattening Diet.

Instead of increasing the albuminoid ratio the carbonaceous foods—that is, those which are rich in carbon—must be chosen.

Seeing that soft food is more easily and quickly assimilated than hard, the food should be given in the soft state, and may be selected from ground oats, white Indian meal (if procurable), buckwheat meal, malt sprouts, fat meat, potatoes, and buttermilk. The latter is much esteemed in Ireland for fattening turkeys, and is said to whiten the flesh. On the contrary, maize and yellow Indian meal produce yellow fat, but if this is not objected to, their use as fattening foods is not to be prohibited.

Influence of Breed and Size on Ratio of Food.

The question of the variety of breed kept will, to a small extent, affect the composition and ratio of the food. In an experiment conducted at the New York Geneva Experimental Station it was found that "the larger breeds did somewhat better on the nitrogenous ration and the smaller breeds considerably better with the less nitrogenous."

Climatic conditions and exposure to cold winds are worthy of special attention when arranging a ration, and the lesson is to be drawn from the character of diet adopted by man under conditions of extreme variations of temperature.

For instance, contrast the diet of the Esquimaux in the far North with that of the Hindoo in British India. The one, exposed to intense cold, and condemned to lead a life of constant energy to procure his nutriment, lives mainly upon food such as fish, the blubber of whales, seal, and walrus, and maintains his heat by the large quantity of fat stored up in the system by such fare, while the Oriental, living in a climate which certainly does not tend towards any superfluous exhibition of energy, pursues his leisurely way through life on a handful or two of rice, supplemented with a little fruit. To such an extent does the Hindoo use this poor component of diet to the exclusion of other items, that an ulcerative disease of the eyeball is frequently the result; while the Anglo-Indian, on the other hand, who does not limit the amount of nitrogen and fat in his diet to the climatic conditions of his new surroundings soon finds that his appetite has to be coaxed with condiments and his liver stimulated with cayenne.

The influence, therefore, of climate and temperature should teach the poultry-keeper that diet can with advantage be modified in keeping with changes of season and weather, and the degree of exposure to cold to which his birds are subjected. In a poultry farm with a bleak and wintry aspect, and especially if the birds have a large extent of range, or scratching sheds on the American principle, the carbonaceous components of the dietary can be used in excess of the limits usually advised.

Barley meal, barley, buckwheat, ground oats, and even maize, may be administered to an extent which would be fatal to success if adopted by the fancier whose runs are located in warm and sheltered localities, and whose birds are enclosed in limited space. And here let me mention that the two foods which I consider dangerous to use are maize and bran.

Maize, for the reason that it tends to lay on internal fat and to induce liver disease, should be used most sparingly, only under such conditions of exposure and exercise as I have mentioned. To the small poultry-keeper whose birds are strictly confined, I say, avoid it like a poison.

The other dangerous food is bran.

Although possessing a high and useful albuminoid ratio, bran has an undesirable affinity for water, and by the moisture absorbed from the atmosphere, fermentative processes are set up which cause intestinal irritation and diarrhœa. The sample used may be absolutely fresh, and no bad consequences may follow for some time, but the moment a degree of moisture exists sufficient to commence fermentation, then the food becomes harmful.

A highly authority has recently written that the irritant property of bran is due to the amount of husk present, but against this view is the fact that husk is present in oats in a much higher percentage, and in barley in almost as high a one as in bran, and yet they do not possess irritant properties.

The same authority has brought prominently under notice the high value of sunflower seeds as a component of poultry diet. The ratio is good, and the constituents are well balanced; but although this food is by no means unknown to those who rear and fatten turkeys, it might with advantage to the industry in general be much more universally cultivated and fed than it has been up to the present. The consideration in detail of the food-stuffs suitable for rearing chickens is in itself a special subject. I shall only touch upon one or two important points.

Food for Chicken-rearing.

In chickenhood not only is there much activity and energy expended in exercise, but growth is proceeding at a marvellous rate. Tissues have to be built up and heat maintained in a body which is still dependent on external as well as internal sources of heat. Bone and frame, muscle and fat must all be provided, and therefore the food-stuffs should be supplied in liberal and varied amount.

The albuminoid ratio should be high, and as nearly as possible approach that of the egg, which is as 1 : 2½.

The food for young chickens must therefore be rich in nitrogenous elements especially, and the most common mistake in rearing chickens is to supply too starchy foods. Bone-meal is particularly needful, not only because of its richness in animal material, but on account of the phosphates it contains, which are so necessary for bone growth.

Oatmeal and Sussex ground oats should also be included as chief items of chicken diet.

In the increased heat attending the process of moulting and sitting or broodiness we recognise conditions requiring some modification of the diet. Both are states of what might be termed "natural fever." But while in moulting this fever is characterised by a determination of blood towards the surface or skin, set up by the irritation of the dead or dying feathers, in the process of broodiness the febrile condition is characterised by a determination of blood inwards to the egg organs, producing a temperature of sometimes 107 deg.

To assist moulting by diet, the indications point to the necessity of food of a nitrogenous nature, such as lean meat, middlings, peas or beans, dari wheat, cabbages, lettuces, grass and dandelions. Maize, barley, buckwheat, rice and above all, hemp-seed must be strictly excluded.

In broodiness the preference may be given to nitrogenous or carbonaceous diet according to the desire of the poultry-keeper to stop the process or encourage it.

These, then, are some of the principles to be borne in mind in the feeding of poultry, and if in this very cursory review of poultry food-stuffs and their effects I have omitted any facts of note, I trust you will overlook the omission in considering the wide range of subject. If, on the other hand, I have, to the more experienced, seemed to reiterate knowledge with which they are already conversant, I would crave their indulgence. And to each and all I return my thanks for their kind consideration and attention this evening.

* A lecture delivered under the auspices of the Utility Poultry Club by N. B. Greene.

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IN PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

The Agricultural Rates Act. Employment of School Children.

Dr. Macnamara asked the Home Secretary on Monday what steps he proposed to take with the view to carrying out the recommendations of the Employment of School Children Committee which reported in November last.

Mr. Channing had on the paper a question to the same effect.

The Home Secretary: I have not lost sight of the matter, and I am having a Bill prepared, and hope to introduce it this Session.

New Bills and Notices of Motion.

On Tuesday numerous private Bills were brought in, and read a first time, among them being the following:—

Mr. Tomlinson.—Bill to amend the Law relating to the manufacture and sale of Beer.

Mr. Hudson.—Bill to give Compensation for Damage by Fires caused by sparks from railway engines.

Mr. Raymond-Greene.—Bill to provide Pensions for the Aged Deserving Poor.

Mr. Goulding.—Bill to provide Pensions for the Aged Deserving Poor.

Sir Edward Strachey.—Bill to amend the Outdoor Relief (Friendly Societies) Act, 1894.

Mr. Kearley.—Bill to give facilities to Leaseholders for the purchase of the fee simple of their holdings.

Mr. Haviland-Burke.—Bill for the reinstatement of the Evicted Tenants in Ireland, and for other purposes.

Mr. Channing.—Bill to provide Pensions for Persons over 65 years of age.

Sir Charles Dilke.—Bill to provide for the establishment of Wages Boards.

General Laurie.—Bill to enable Leaseholders to become Freeholders.

Colonel Long.—Bill to remove certain doubts as to the meaning of the Market Gardeners' Compensation Act, 1895.

Sir Edward Strachey.—Bill to relieve members of Friendly Societies of certain disqualifications arising from the receipt of temporary relief.

Mr. Trevelyan.—Bill to empower urban authorities to levy site value rates.

Mr. M'Crae.—Bill to amend the Lands Valuation (Scotland) Act, 1854.

Among the notices of motion given on the same day was one by Mr. Black.—That day four weeks to call attention to the question of State-conferred old-age pensions, and move a Resolution; and another by Mr. Lewis—That day four weeks to move a resolution in regard to the afforesting of waste land.

"Futures" in Corn.

On Tuesday, Mr. Field asked the President of the Board of Trade whether he had had any further correspondence with the German Government respecting the operation of their law, lately introduced, regulating exchange transactions in food stuffs by preventing gambling in "futures" in corn; and whether he would consider the advisability of co-operating with the Governments of those countries which were endeavouring by legislation to prevent corners in food supplies being engineered by exchange dealers.

Mr. G. Balfour.—The answer to both questions is in the negative.

Vice-President of the Irish Agricultural Department.

In reply to a question by Mr. Coghill, on Thursday, if a seat had yet been found for the Vice-Presidedt of the Irish Agricultural Department, Mr. Balfour was understood to say that he was not aware.

Mr. Coghill: If there is any difficulty in the matter of finding a Unionist seat for the Vice-President, will the right hon. gentleman make arrangements with the hon. gentleman the member for Waterford to do so?

No answer was given.

Duty on Corn.

On Thursday Mr. Jeffreys asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer whether he could state what amount of revenue would have been produced during the past year if the old regstration duty of 1s. a quarter upon imported corn had been imposed.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer: The duty on grain, and meal, and flour, to which my hon. friend refers, would, on the imports of 1901, have produced £2,658,000. (Cheers.)

Mr. Whitley: Can the right hon. gentleman state how much of that sum would have been drawn from the wages of persons?

The Speaker: Order, order.

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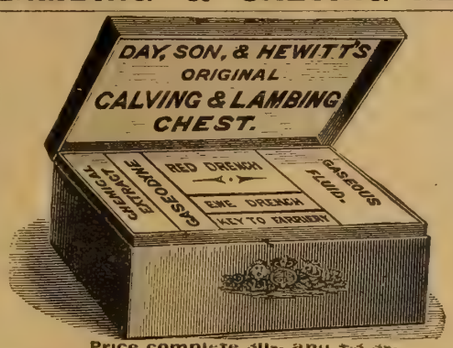
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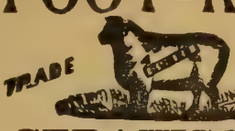
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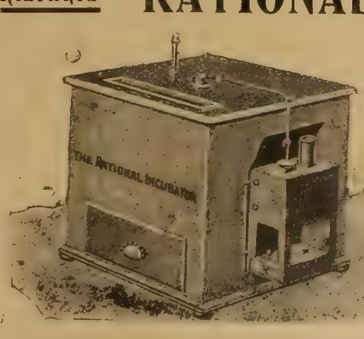
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One of the groups is being fed on New Milk and the other on Separated Milk and "Cream Equivalent."

We asked our readers to tell us which of these groups were fed on New Milk, and 707 Farmers, Farmers' wives, their sons and daughters competed for a small prize which we offered to those who guessed correctly.

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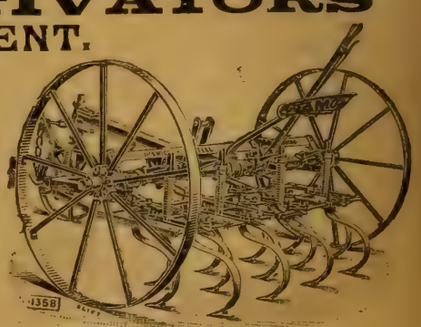
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Advertisements, Subscriptions, and business communications should be addressed to THE PUBLISHER, "Mark Lane Express," 1, Essex Street, Strand, London, W.C.

DAIRY-HERD EVOLUTIONS.

This is Candlemas week, a most important one in old times, when there was quite a numerous class in the country called dairymen, who, standing between farmers and labourers, rented cows of the former. The 2nd of February was the commencement of the dairyman's year, and this is why there are still so many Candlemas fairs held at this period. There used to be a complete lull in live stock tradings after Christmas all through January. But some of the cows were made to drop their calves soon after the beginning of the year, and it was thought right to have all the others intended to be let sufficiently forward in calf to come into profit in February or March. The want of cows to fill out dairy herds for letting was what led to the fairs, and it was only natural for th esheep-formers and dealers to bring to them their stocks of the woolly tribes which they desired to dispose of.

The new number of the "R.A.S. of E." commences with an interesting article on "Agriculture in the Reign of Queen Victoria," in which special allusion is made to the fact of dairying proving to a large extent a resource for a great many more English farmers than prevously had depended very much on it, after they were unable any longer to get profit from corn-growing. But the development of things for many years previously had been of a nature to bring cows, milk, and dairying more to the front. A leading feature of the middle of last century was the network of railways which became spread all over the face of the land. This naturally extended the direct-milk-sale trade enormously. Town and country became united. Fresh milk could flow readily from one to the other over hundreds of miles of railways, and not only did dairy farmers find it to their interest to cultivate this new trade, even to the shortening of their cheese and butter industries, but other classes of farmers, who had never thought much of dairying before, found that it would answer to combine milk with grazing, and also with the rearing of pedigree cattle. By-and-by it was discovered that pedigree cows could be bred of a kind to yield almost as much milk as the old ordinary cows, and then bull-breeding was associated with the direct sale of milk, so that many a farm which in the old days was by no means particularly noted for carrying more than ordinary stock now glories in a famous pedigree herd trained to yield emolument in two ways—by sending large quantities of milk to London or to some other large city, and by furnishing a crop of valuable bull-calves; and the latter, when coming from a pedigree dairy herd, are sure to sell.

This gigantic change and the discovery of the cream-separator together have almost

wiped Candlemas out of the calendar, so far as England is concerned, and the old dairyman who used to rent cows has long since found his occupation gone. Even for butter-making, now that the tedious labour of milk-setting can be dispensed with, the farmer finds that it answers best to do without the dairyman and "paddle his own canoe." The milk contractor must have cows in profit all the year round, the result being that, although fresh calvers and in-calvers may still form the leading features of Candlemas fairs, they are also in great demand at other periods. The discovery has long ago been made that the cows that calve just before winter, if liberally fed with auxiliary feeding stuffs until the grass-growing impetus comes, will yield much more, and sustain their lacteal secretions for a much more lengthy period than the cows that calve in spring. The latter, after seven or eight months' fertility, diminish their yield rapidly in autumn, but after the cow that drops her calf in November has, by high-feeding, given a maximum yield seven months, the influence of Green food on her system promotes secretion just at the very time it would otherwise rapidly decline.

Some of our dairy herds have developed into truly grand form for combining milk-selling with grazing without laying any claim to herd-book registry, and they are among the largest in the country. We have heard of five hundred, and even seven hundred cows in profit at one time, the whole of their milk sent daily to London, yet every calf was reared chiefly on milk-substitutes; the heifers to breed and supply the place of cows, which, after yielding milk two seasons, go for beef. Of course, pedigree bulls serve the cows, which are themselves probably quite as pure-bred as herd-book ones. Moreover, a great deal of auxiliary feeding stuffs are consumed as a regular part of the system, so that as the cows go off their milk at the end of their second year, scarcely any time is required to finish fattening them. Such a system works automatically, almost like clockwork, and if a cow while in profit meets with an accident, she is always in a condition to be converted to beef.

When we consider how profitable must be management of this kind, as well as that when regular pedigree herds are kept for combined milk-selling and bull-breeding, what a pity does it seem that by far the bulk of cattle bred, milked, and grazed in the kingdom are actually of such a decidedly mongrel, ne'er-do-well cast that, according to the land-agent who has to do with estates in three counties, and whose critical remarks on the state of our agriculture Earl Nelson quoted recently in "The Nineteenth Century," they are such as "with the best of treatment could not be expected to leave a good profit." Surely we require similar action to be taken all over the kingdom to that adopted by the Northumberland Agricultural Society, of stationing pure-bred bulls at convenient centres for the more general service of farmers.

Heavy Fine under the Swine Fever Order.—At Lambeth Police Court, on Monday, John Parker, of Hanover Street, Peckham, was summoned by the London County Council for contravening the Swine Fever Order of 1894, by moving certain pigs without the license of an inspector or officer of the Board of Agriculture.—Mr. John Coleman, from the Solicitor's Department of the Council, supported the proceedings on their behalf, and remarked that by illegally moving 31 pigs into an affected area, the defendant had rendered himself liable to a penalty of £155. In November last the Council's inspector found swine fever existing at a farm in the occupation of the defendant at Peckham. On December 14 (at which time the place was free from disease, but had not been declared free from infection), it was found that 31 fresh pigs had been brought upon the farm.—The defendant said he had the premises thoroughly disinfected, and did everything he possibly could. A month later he moved these pigs in, not knowing that he was doing wrong.—Mr. Hopkins ordered the defendant to pay a penalty of £25 and costs.



By a Man of Mark Lane.

Mr. A. Stanley Wilson, M.P. for Holderness, was present at the annual dinner of the Holderness Agricultural Club held on Tuesday, and in the course of a short speech said that we had too long favoured the foreigner to the disadvantage of the home produced, and something ought to be done to assist the latter class. He thought the time had come when a tax ought to be placed upon imported wheat. A few days ago the Chancellor of the Exchequer was asked how much a tax of a shilling a quarter upon imported corn and flour would produce. The reply was that it would be more than two millions six hundred pounds. He could not imagine a fairer tax. It would be evenly distributed over the whole country, and would hit no class of the community particularly hard. In fact, he thought it would be the very best tax that could possibly be devised at the present moment. Something must be done, and now was the Government's opportunity. If they saw their way to impose that tax it would, he was certain, be carried through the House of Commons by a very large majority.

Colonel Slacke, on behalf of the Local Government Board, recently concluded an inquiry into the Hollingbourne Rural District Council's scheme of water supply for a string of villages in Mid-Kent, lying between Maidstone and Ashford, containing considerable property owned by Mr. Akers-Douglas, M.P., as well as the historic Leeds Castle, whose famous moat, it is said, will be affected by the scheme. There was very strong opposition from landowners, brewers, farmers, the South-Eastern and Chatham Railway Company, and others, the opponents generally favouring the rival scheme of the Mid-Kent Water Company, who claim to be able to supply the district more cheaply than the Company, and to do so, moreover, without any liability to the district rate. The result of the inquiry is awaited with interest, as involving the question whether the scheme of a local authority, seeking to supply an admitted want under the Public Health Act, should be given official preference over that of a private company.

Mr. Galloway has given notice that he will move the rejection of the Compensation for Damage to Crops Bill, and Major Jameson that he will move the rejection of the Beer Bill.

The Queensland Department of Agriculture offers the substantial reward of £5,000 for the discovery of a menas of eradicating the prickly pear pest. A proviso will be made that the cost must not exceed a certain sum per acre, and the Department will have to be satisfied that the means adopted are efficacious. As it is, the Department has a process evolved from the experiments at the Westbrook State Farm, but the cost per acre is too great.

The receipts on account of revenue from April 1st, 1901, when there was a balance of £5,596,918, to January 25th, 1902, were £102,382,095, against £92,714,078 in the corresponding period of the preceding financial year, which began with a balance of £3,517,047. The net expenditure was £160,596,682, against £150,426,371 to the same date in the previous year. The Treasury balances on January 25th, 1902, amounted to £4,568,967, and at the same date in 1901 to £2,079,170.

I have received during the past week some further leaflets dealing with Indian crops. One gives the first forecast of the wheat crop of the Punjab for 1901-02, issued on December 24th last by the Punjab Department of Land Records and Agriculture. It states that the monsoon rains of 1901 were not as copious as those of the preceding year, and ceased very early. No good rain fell in the Punjab plains in August. Very light showers fell in the month of September, since which time there has been no rain at all. Both on this account and on account of the fact that the wheat crop of last year was the largest on record, the area sown this year is estimated to be 81 per cent. of that finally returned last year. The area estimated to be under wheat at the end of November, 1901, is 6,214,500 acres, as against 7,717,800 acres finally returned last year.

The same Department also issued its first forecast of the rapeseed crop of the Punjab of 1901-02 on December 24th, in which only 23 out of 27 districts are dealt with. The total area sown with rapeseed in the province, up to the end of November, 1901, is estimated at 814,700 acres, or a decrease of no less than 720,600 acres, or 47 per cent. from the area of last year, given in the final forecast as 1,535,300 acres. The decrease has occurred principally on unirrigated lands due to early cessation of the monsoon rains and the extraordinarily dry autumn. In only three districts—Kangra, Jhang, and Muzaffargarh—is the area estimated to exceed slightly that of last year. In all others there is a decrease amounting in Rohtak to 92, and in Hissar to 86 per cent.

In the first forecast of the wheat crop of the Central Provinces of India, issued by the Department of Land Records and Agriculture for that district on December 17th last, it is stated that the sowings of wheat were successfully carried out in all districts except in parts of Jubbulpore, Hoshangabad, and Raipur. The area sown is reported to be generally larger than last year, and is roughly estimated at two and a quarter million acres, or one hundred thousand acres in excess of that sown last year, but half of the normal area. In only a few districts, however, was the germination of the early sowings successful. The clear dry weather which followed the sowings rendered germination defective and encouraged insects which damaged the seedlings. Re-sowings were therefore necessary in parts.

The late sowings have generally germinated fairly well, and prospects are good at present in the open tracts in the northern districts, and fairly good in Nagpur, Raipur, and Bilaspur; but are not satisfactory in Betul, Wardha, and Bhandara. Owing to the absence of both dew and rain, the crop is suffering from a lack of moisture, and rain is everywhere most urgently needed to improve the condition of the crop.

New Agricultural Patents.

Specially compiled for the *Mark Lane Express* by Mr. G. D. Howard (Hughes, Son and Co.) Patent Agents, 38 Chancery Lane, London, of whom all information relating to Patents, Designs, and Trade Marks may be obtained free of charge.

891.—Harry Trotman and Welford and Sons, Limited, of Fleet Street, London, for "Improvements in milk churns, and the like."

1307.—George John Hutchings, of Birmingham, for "Improvements in apparatus for cooking foods for poultry, game, and the like by steam."

1328.—Robert Schultz, of the Strand, for "A new or improved method of preserving eggs."

Patents Sealed.

17,345.—P. J. Parmiter, of Salisbury, for "Hoes, horse; turnip thinning machines."

17,644.—F. W. Howorth, of Lincoln's Inn, London, for "Cooling and agitating milk, etc."

Motor-Car Regulations.—A deputation of representatives from the Association of County Councils waited on Mr. Walter Long, President of the Local Government Board, on Thursday respecting the motor-car regulations, which Lord Thring described as equally bad for the trade and the public. Sir John Hibbert explained the resolutions passed on the subject by the Association. Mr. Long, in reply, said he entirely agreed as to the necessity for some strengthening of the law with regard to the identification and driving of motor cars, but the difficulty lay in making the actual arrangements. He hoped that practical suggestions on the matter would be sent to him, and that greater security would be found in strengthening the law. He did not see why there should not be increased power given to the local police to control the traffic on the local roads, as the police did in London and other large towns.



By a Lobbyist

Anyone listening in the House of Commons as the scandal was being revealed in connection with the purchase of horses for the Army may have been pardoned had he reflected on the inutility and ineffectiveness of the English Board of Agriculture in comparison with the Canadian Board. In the Dominion the breeding and the organised sale of horses is made a distinct purpose of the Minister for Agriculture. As a result of this the Canadian farmers have reaped a considerable profit during the progress of the war, and have before them the prospect of reaping a still more considerable profit in the future supply of the British Army.

Put briefly, the scandal is that in the purchase of Austrian ponies for the Army a profit of £44,000 was made on a contract of £111,000. My readers will naturally ask why was not the English Board of Agriculture consulted in such a matter, which, after all, is a business of which its officials should be supposed to know something? The mere fact that the question instinctively suggests itself is one of the strongest criticisms that could be directed against the Board. It reveals at once the position of unimportance and disregard which the Board holds in Executive esteem. I would wager that the idea of employing officials of the Board of Agriculture never even suggested itself to the sapient officials at the War Office. For the matter of that, I would wager that it never even suggested itself to any officer having administrative authority in connection with the war. This is the measure of the esteem in which the Board is held.

Has the strange anomalous fact that there is no method of associating with the Board of Agriculture any direct representative of the farmers and of practical farming ever struck my readers? Of course, we all know that there is an indirect method of placing upon the Board representative of the Army and the Navy. I admit that we have seen excellent and practical men placed upon the Board, like Sir Jacob Wilson, Professor Somerville, and Major Craigie, and, in a less significant position, like Mr. Bew; but I aver that their selection was in spite of the general system. It would, moreover, be strange if upon a body which—if it have a purpose at all—should have in its hands the control of the destinies of agriculture, should not have associated with it one or two men who have some practical comprehension of the necessities of the interest. It is altogether different with the Irish organisation. Steps were taken in the establishment of the Irish Board to have upon it direct representatives of agricultural localities and men connected with local governing bodies. The position which in the English Board (I am speaking in this connection of the actual Executive Board, and not of the machinery) is occupied by Front Bench politicians is occupied in Ireland by men of practical knowledge both of the necessities of the interest and of the needs of localities. The contrasting result is that the English Board is sterile, and the Irish Board is fertile of good.

I am not going to discuss the old question as to whether the cultivation of horseflesh can be profitably conducted upon a wholesale scale in this country. At least, however, in the course of Friday night's debate there were M.P.'s—and I fancy that Mr. Henry Chaplin was among the number—who did not hesitate to say that a portion of the profit which must accrue from the cavalry necessities of the army might well go to the British farmer. I believe, too, that there is something in the remark of the North Devon Member who declared that the North Devon pony, with its strain of Exmoor blood in it, is admirably suited for Army work. My purpose has rather been to reveal the inocuity of the Board of Agriculture. The Canadian Board has, on the other hand, already made arrangements for securing a considerable amount of this profit. It has entered into direct and specific arrangements with the English War Office, it has proceeded to associate with it men skilled in the science of horse-breeding, and it has taken steps to persuade the keen-eyed Canadian farmers to establish horse-farms. The Canadian Board has, in fact, been wise enough to comprehend that the military future is with the horse-soldier. Even the infantryman will probably be mounted. It perceives, too, that the very extent of the British Army, and the fact that we cannot help being generally at war, must provide a continuous demand above and beyond what I may describe as the normal wear and tear of horse-flesh. What has the English Board done? For the matter of that, what can it do? Nothing. And, for the matter of that, has anybody indicated any desire that it should do anything?

Mem.—If we had systematic horse-farming under Government encouragement in England we should probably get rid of that most undesirable personage, the horse-coper.

What strange stupidities the English political hatred of Protection leads us into? During the debate on the Address we had a side revelation thrown upon this. A Member of Parliament was insisting with platitudinarian vehemence upon the necessitv of maintaining a strong Navy, and inadvertently he attacked the suggestion that we should establish granaries. "Why," said he, "'tisn't only food that we should need if once we lost command of the seas. There are a score of other necessities. Should we not also, then, because of this, establish great national hoards of these necessities, as well as build granaries?" And the House actually cheered. It never reflected that if once we lost command of the seas we should in six weeks be reduced to starvation depth. It never reflected that, after that, it would be a mere matter of days to produce a desuetude and misery in comparison with which the ravages of a brutal soldiery or of a hideous pestilence would be as naught. It never reflected that with a strain we could do without the other necessities for a year, nay, for two years, possibly for five. A queer, unthinking body is the House of Commons; and it is unthinking because of its reverence for old, worn-out, toneless cries and its loyalty to fetishes with clay-feet. The declaration of this statesman would have been laughed at incontinently in the village debating society. As I say, here at St. Stephen's it was cheered amain.

"How goes on your idea of an Agricultural Party?" Thus queried a Member for a rural constituency. Well, I am fain to confess it goes on badly. The Member himself—he is a cynic—knows that it goes on badly. But, for the matter of that, no political movement is progressing furiously at this moment. The reason is obvious. We have presented to us too many issues of more lurid moment. We have questions of life and death fascinating our attention; we have points involving the maintenance of an Empire riveting our thoughts. The very native patriotism of our representatives prevents any engrossing interest in lowlier things. Wait, however, until these issues have disappeared. The legislators, strung up to a high tension, will need occupation. I believe that even the agrarian M.P. will not be able to meander in the uninviting glades of Do-nothing-land. I am thus not without hope. We may not see an Agricultural Party; we shall see an aroused interest in the fate of agriculture. This debate on the horsing of the army was in itself a portent. Better than all, rural M.P.'s are beginning to ask what good does the English Board of Agriculture really do. The most useful thing of the many good things that the Irish Board has done is the stimulation of this inquiry. Men have been induced to it by comprehending the value of the Irish body.

Food Supplies in Time of War.

Some Press Opinions.

On another page we give a report of the discussion which took place in the House of Commons on Tuesday on the subject of our food supply in time of war. To give our readers some idea of the opinions on the subject held in various parts of the country, we give below extracts from the leading articles dealing with the matter which have appeared in some of the principal daily papers:—

The Standard says:—"A sufficiently plausible case, no doubt, can be made out for special action in the matter. Only one-third of our wheat is grown at home, and if we were engaged in serious war with a Naval Power the mere apprehension of the failure of imports would send up prices, and, if it did not involve scarcity, might easily cause inconvenient excitement in the country. But on a balance of advantages and disadvantages, the wiser thing is to face the risk. We should start with at least two months' food for the population, and, if our Navy cannot be trusted to keep the seas open for the corn ships, we may as well give up all pretence to be capable of permanently defending our shores. But it is not at all clear that there would be any serious hindrance. Food is not contraband, and might go in safety under a neutral flag to the nearest neutral ports. On the other hand, the plan of public granaries or of subsidising farmers to hold over from harvest to harvest the necessary amount of corn would mean a very large capital expenditure and a degree of State interference with the delicate machinery of trade and speculation that would bring intolerable abuses in its train. . . . There was more force in the contention that an impost on foreign corn, by encouraging our own farmers to enlarge the area under wheat, would not only ensure more food, but would breed a race that would yield good soldiers. Still, if Protection is to be commended, it must be justified first of all on its merits, and defended from the very obvious objections that occur even to those who are less dogmatically committed to Free Trade than Sir William Harcourt."

The Morning Post remarks:—"We think that the Government will be well advised to reconsider the advisability of appointing a Committee representing the nation to inquire into the whole question and to report to Parliament. Awaiting such a Committee—and we do not understand from Mr. Gerald Balfour's speech that the door is absolutely shut to such a proposal—it seems unnecessary to discuss the suggestions made by several honourable Members last night—as, for example, a duty on imported grain, the storage of wheat, or the giving of a bonus to farmers to keep the wheat in the stacks. All these suggestions are worthy of consideration; but they cannot be accepted without careful and, if we may say so, scientific consideration of all the difficulties and necessities of the case. On one point, happily, every one was agreed. The first and surest safeguard for a proper food supply in time of war is the supremacy of the British Navy. . . . . Those who have taken pains to study the organisation and efficiency of the Fleet are not at all satisfied that it is as strong as it should be. Indeed, they very frankly affirm that it is not. Therefore, let us see to the Navy first, and in the meantime the Government will be well advised to reconsider the advisability of appointing a Committee to look into the whole subject of the food supply in time of war. We fail to see any valid objection to such a course."

The Daily Chronicle:—"It is quite clear to anyone who will look the matter fairly in the face that the English wheat-producer can only be fostered at the expense of the consumer. The argument of Mr. Seton-Karr and Mr. Chaplin is that we should be prepared to enhance the price of corn now to a very considerable degree, in view of an uncertain contingency of famine prices in time of war. Even if we were prepared to do anything so foolish, it would be useless. When five-sixths of our corn supply comes from abroad no amount of tampering with natural economic conditions will enable us to increase our home production to such an extent that we can be independent of foreign supplies. It is an inevitable tendency of civilisation for the older countries to draw more and more upon remote territories of

virgin soil for subsistence and for raw material. . . . If it were possible that our enemies could intercept our merchant ships to any serious extent, our ruin could not be averted by the most magnificent system of State granaries. It is not only our food supplies that our Navy would have to protect in time of war. We are a nation of shopkeepers, and still more of manufacturers. Mr. Chaplin's vision of a Britain isolated by hostile fleets, yet secure in the strength of enormous reserves of wheat, is indeed a delirious dream. If we ever became isolated in this way, if we found ourselves unable to maintain the ingress of raw materials and communication with foreign markets in some part of the world for our manufactures, we should assuredly starve, however great might be the stores of corn lying up in our granaries."

Morning Advertiser:—"No one will deny the importance of the issues raised, though the suggestion of an inquiry on an indefinite reference had its defects. But the real basis of the security of the food supply of Great Britain during a war with a Great Power must rest on the Fleet. Unfortunately some of those members of the Opposition who echo this when they desire to dispose of the suggestion of storage granaries, or the interested proposals of the agricultural party, are not always to be found in the forefront when it comes to making the necessary provision for naval defence."

Yorkshire Post:—"But for the withdrawal, the amendment, which demanded an inquiry into the subject, would have suffered defeat by an overwhelming majority. In its opposition we believe the House of Commons to be in the right, especially because, though the mover of the amendment was careful to avoid the advocacy of any particular defence against the danger he foresees, there is no doubt that the movement has been pressed forward in behalf of two proposals—one to establish State granaries, and the other to tax corn imports, and so, for the benefit of one class in the country, to make all others pay an artificially high price for food. The success of the amendment would have been the success of one or both of these schemes, neither of which would have been of permanent advantage to the mass of our population. . . . Reference was made to Rome, and, as is usual, there was shown a lack of study of a period that should be of great interest to this country—of Rome in the height of her wealth. It was said that Rome did not fall because of her dependence on foreign corn. But that dependence had a very great share in bringing about her fall. Cicero's letters prove that agriculture was destroyed in Italy, and the masses, crowded in the towns, and especially in Rome, deteriorated physically and mentally. The great orator notes that when the Civil war began Pompey tried to get possession of the Roman fleet—in order that he might starve Italy; and Rome was, indeed, half starved when Cæsarian victories allowed corn to be shipped from abroad. The matter is, we believe, destined to have further discussion; and the first thing is to combat that complacent optimism which is not justified by the present conditions of our town populations or by the teachings of history."

Manchester Courier:—"Mr. Seton-Karr's proposal merited other treatment than the flippant scepticism with which it was treated by several Members, and a more complete answer than that which was furnished by the President of the Board of Trade. Inquiry into the matter would not of necessity involve the establishment of national granaries, absorbing a capital of £30,000,000, although Mr. Gerald Balfour based his statement on the assumption that it would, and thereby conceded the best part of Mr. Seton-Karr's argument. We all believe in the invincibility of the British Navy, but his Majesty's ships cannot be everywhere at the same time, and the bare possibility of external food supplies being cut off—even for a short time—from a country which now produces from its own soil no more than one-third of the food which it consumes is too dreadful for contemplation. Surely it demands some counter-provision. Even if the dreaded misfortune was only partial, and involved merely a 'tightening' of the corn markets and a temporary panic, the resulting misery would be much greater than the President of the Board appears to imagine. A Government store of corn would be a blessed stand-by at such a time. In any event, no sufficient case has been made out against the inquiry asked for by Mr. Seton-Karr."

Liverpool Courier.—"There is reason to fear that national granaries on a large scale would not prove an efficient remedy for our ever-increasing dependence upon foreign sources for our food supplies. The process of periodic clearing and replenishing in time of peace, apart from all considerations as to the effect upon the market, would tend neither to economy nor efficiency. Larger in'der measures will probably be found necessary. At the same time, the danger of the situation is painfully obvious, and Mr. Seton-Karr is fully justified in the persistency with which he directs attention to it. Mr. Cobden said he would not propose the abolition of the Corn Laws if he thought the result would be to decrease the wheat acreage of the country; but it is really useless to discuss Mr. Cobden's anticipations now, seeing that nearly every one of them has been falsified. . . . Our primary necessity is an invincible navy. There is no escape from that, and we should feel a good deal more comfortable in this regard if defects in propellers, condensers, and other essential equipment of a warship were less frequent. But assuming undoubted command of the sea to have been secured, there remains the problem of a food supply on a level as to price with the purchasing power of the poor, who are the majority. A state of war at once brings into operation a set of laws and regulations for international purposes, based on considerations of humanity and the rights of combatants and non-combatants respectively. The unique position of this country with reference to the food question seems to demand a national code for emergency control of prices and the prevention of a famine panic likely to prove politically calamitous."



Pasture Lands as Sources Revenue.

(From a Correspondent.)

The importation of food-stuffs into the United Kingdom is increasing with leaps and bounds, and the total figures are now simply stupendous.

Some of the items we cannot produce, because of the unsuitability of our climate, and these we may exclude.

In 1899 we imported:—

	Millions sterling.
Corn (not including maize) to the value of	45
Dairy produce " "	19¾
Cheese " "	5½
Condensed milk " "	1½
Bacon, ham, and pork " "	16½
Eggs " "	5
Beef, mutton, and other flesh foods "	30
Potatoes " "	3½
	126½

This enormous total represents food grown in foreign countries and in our Colonies, and which is brought to our shores by steamers running at low freights, is landed duty free, and is carried inland by fast goods trains at cheap and special rates.

To such a pitch is the perfection of the transport of imported food carried that it is stated to be possible to send agricultural produce from New York to London at through rates at a less cost than from country stations between, say, Southampton and London.

This enormous keen and increasing competition renders the position of the British farmer most difficult and even desperate, and it is not to be wondered at that British agriculture is declining, that our arable land is rapidly going out of plough cultivation, and that ou rrural folk are drifting to populous centres of industry—and in too many cases helping to still further increase the already congested slums of our great cities and towns.

Of the total of 47¾ millions of cultivable acres of the United Kingdom, 28¼ millions of acres consist of grass lands.

The stead decrease of the arable acreage is a very serious matter, for it means that we are getting more and more dependent on food which is brought to us from over the seas.

It is estimated that we have in the United Kingdom some seven millions of poor people who lead a hand to mouth existence. How these would fare with even a temporary cessation of food supply in war time is a question that should be seriously considered by all who have the interests of their country at heart. The latter should also consider it from their own selfish standpoint, for how would it fare with us all with a loaf treble its present value?

Many remedies for the improvement of British agriculture have been suggested, but unfortunately for the farmer, the bulk of the people of the United Kingdom take but little interest in the matter, and those that do shrink from proposing measures of a drastic character.

The farmer has, therefore, to rely on his clear head and strong arm to carry him safely through the difficulties and dangers of his business.

He has to reckon with the fact that he must grow more grass and less corn, and that he must look to his pasture lands more and more as sources of revenue, and, let us hope,, sources of profit as well.

What is the present condition of the 28¼ millions of acres of the United Kingdom now returned as permanent pasture, and what can be done to improve it?

These questions have been exercising the minds of scientists and practical farmers for some time past, with the result that large sums of money have been placed at the disposal of County Councils and agricultural colleges with the view of promoting agricultural education and for conducting field experiments.

There seems to be a consensus of opinion that, taken as a whole, the grass lands of the United Kingdom are being simply worn out for want of plant food. This is not to be wondered at, for continuous removal of fertilising constituents without adequate return in the shape of farmyard manure or chemical fertilisers must inevitably produce exhaustion.

In many districts the chief crop is grass, and of all the crops it is the most generally neglected.

Although we use great quantities of fertilisers on our roots and corn crops, we somehow seem to think that the grasses can rub along with just the modicum of farmyard manure that we can spare, and we trust to Nature to do the rest. Nature does a great deal, but animals and crops remove certain constituents from the soil which we human beings must replace. This is not being done, and millions of acres of grass land are to-day being starved for want of plant food. It is impossible to produce a tithe of the farmyard manure requisite to restore fertility to even a "small" portion of the total area under grass, and we are compelled to invoke the aid of what are called artificial or chemical manures.

For several years past experiments have been conducted in various districts of the United Kingdom with the view of ascertaining the best and cheapest means of improving the quality and largely increasing the yield of grass with consequent increase of fertility of the soil.

Professor Kinch, of the Royal Agricultural College, Cirencester, has been conducting a series of experiments for the last nine years on pastures, and the results of these during 1901 are now available. These show that the application of 5 cwt. of superphosphate per acre gave an increase of 6½ per cent. over the unmanured plot, and more striking results still were obtained by using a compound manure containing phosphates, ammonia, and potash, for the percentage of increase of yield over the unmanured plot amounted to no less than 120 per cent.

The report of the Essex Technical Instruction Committee emphasises the necessity for manuring grass lands, for numerous experiments have demonstrated that the use of phosphatic manures has produced an increase of yield of hay of 43 per cent. on old grass lands and 34 per cent. on new grass lands.

With nitrogen added to the superphosphate the average increase of hay was 102 per cent.

Commenting on the renovation of pastures, the Cornwall County Council report states that where superphosphate has been used a complete transformation has been wrought. The grass has been eaten to the last mouthful, and much of the moss has disappeared, and been replaced by a dense bottom of leguminous herbage. The committee having charge of the experiments expresses the opinion that the worn-out pastures of Cornwall may be rejuvenated at a cost of about 15s. per acre.

The University College of Wales has conducted a series of valuable experiments at 45 centres, situated in Cardiganshire, Carmarthenshire, Merionethshire, Brecoushire, Montgomeryshire, and Pembrokshire.

The latest deductions drawn from these experiments, which have now extended over a period of seven years, is to the effect that from every point of view grass lands are immensely improved in productiveness by using a mixture of phosphatic and nitrogenous manures, and that of the phosphatic manures superphosphate is rather to be preferred.

In Scotland the complaints of flock masters of the deterioration of the hill pastures and consequent inability to carry the head of stock they formerly did, have become so serious that the matter has been taken in hand by the West of Scotland Agricultural College and the County Councils of Drumfries and Kirkcudbright. These bodies have demonstrated that the phosphates removed from the soil by successive generations of flocks may be restored by suitable artificial manures, and pastures may be so improved in value that a profitable increase of mutton per acre may be obtained.

It is reported in Ireland that the results from top-dressing permanent pastures and meadows with phosphatic manures have been so satisfactory that, whenever a new creamery is started, the use of phosphates, mostly in the form of superphosphates, as a top-dressing invariably follows. It

is recognised that the quality of the herbage is improved, and that the production and quality of Irish butter have been materially assisted and enriched, enabling the creameries to re-establish the repute of Irish butter and to enter into successful competition with Denmark in the English market.

These instances are sufficient to demonstrate the enormous and profitable improvement which may be effected on the pastures of the United Kingdom by judicious manuring.

It is no exaggeration to say that hundreds of official experiments have been made on pasture lands during the past two or three years, with the result that farmers can now be confidently recommended to pay close attention to these and to manure these neglected areas to the utmost of their power. The man that can make two blades of grass grow where one grew before deserves well of his country. If we cannot grow wheat at a profit we can increase our flocks and herds and produce more milk, butter, and cheese, and to that extent be less dependent on foreign countries for the class of food comprised within this category.

Warwickshire Agriculturists and Rural Depopulation.

The subject of rural depopulation was considered by the Warwickshire Chamber of Agriculture on Wednesday afternoon, at Knowle. Councillor Blackham opened the discussion by moving that the Chamber should reaffirm a resolution passed on November 2nd calling on the Government to formulate a scheme whereby State aid might be given to the erection of cottages in country districts.

Mr. Oscar Bowen regarded the lack of proper housing accommodation as one of the greatest difficulties in the way of retaining the agricultural labourer on the soil, and seeing that only 2 per cent. return could be obtained by private builders of such dwellngs, he urged the Government to give their assistance. The importance of maintaining an efficient Army and Navy was now recognised, and it was only by subsidising agriculture in the manner suggested that a supply of healthy men would be secured.

Mr. L. C. Tipper asserted that it was only playing with the question of depopulation to suggest cottages, saying that he had driven over estates where dozens of good cottages stood empty and where others were falling into decay through their tenantless condition. The crux of the matter, he said, was wages; the farmers could not afford to pay their men on the town scale. Put the farmers in a position to make bigger profits, he continued amid applause, and they would be able to pay better wages, and retain their labourers.

Mr. Bowen, in reply, explained that his contention was that better housing of Hodge was one of the remedies. He defied anyone to prove that the agricultural labourers were properly housed. If the Chamber induced Government to remove one of the difficulties, something would be done.

In a comprehensive speech the chairman, Mr. J. Brierley, wound up the discussion, saying that he agreed with Mr. Tipper as to the effect that better wages would have upon the agricultural population. He also reminded his hearers of the attraction which town life offers to those who desire further education or amusement, although, as he pointed out, they would probably be no better off in a pecuniary sense owing to the expensiveness of living in populous centres and the necessity of paying house rent—a necessity which did not present itself in the country, where they were earning 18s. a week and breathing the pure country air. He further contended that the incidence of the death duties also helped to depopulate the villages. It was found that three years' income was often necessary to pay the duties, and the result had been that on some estates scarcely any repairs were effected and no new buildings were erected because they would increase the gross value, and, therefore, the amount payable in death duties.

The resolution having been carried *nem. con*, Mr. Tipper returned to the charge with the motion to the following effect:—"That the principal cause of the depopulation of the rural districts is the inability of the farmer to pay higher wages, and the remedy lies in the imposition of duties on all competing foreign products." Some laughter greeted this undisguised assault on Free Trade, but Mr. Tipper expressed his belief that the time was not very far off when the duty would be imposed. Captain Caldecott seconded, his opinion being that "We are too self-opinionated."—On being put to the meeting the resolution was defeated by seven votes to five.

Mr. J. T. Critchell, the London correspondent of the "Pastoralists' Review"—the wool, stock, and meat paper of the Southern Hemisphere—is about to visit Australia for a six months' holiday, after having been absent from that country for the long period of seventeen years.

IN PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Our Food Supply in Time of War.

On Monday evening, in the course of the debate on the Address, Mr. Seton Karr moved the following amendment:—"But we humbly venture to express the hope that your Majesty will direct inquiry to be made into the present large and increasing dependence of the United Kingdom on foreign imports for the necessaries of life, and the circumstances that might arise therefrom in the event of your Majesty becoming involved in war with some foreign Power or Powers, with the view of ascertaining what measures, if any, can be taken to lessen such dependence or guard against the dangers thereof." He said there were about 200,000 men in this country who were on the verge of starvation, and were only kept from riot and violence by the police, but in the event of a naval war the price of bread would go up to such an extent that that number would very largely be increased. We were in the unique position of being absolutely dependent on foreign countries for the necessaries of life. No other great Power had ever been in this position. The food supplies to this country were in private hands, and were not controlled by legislation. The hon. member was speaking at midnight, when the debate stood adjourned.

On resuming on Tuesday, Mr. Karr said there were three methods which might be adopted in order to improve the present position, and he urged the Government to inquire into those methods. The first was preferential duties in favour of our Colonies. (Hear, hear.) The second plan was that of national granaries, in which connection he considered the elevator system of the United States the best possible way of storing grain. The third suggestion which was worthy of inquiry was a food supply department founded on the principle of the committee of subsistence established in France after the Revolution. The history of the past two years showed that the Government were not omniscient, and the only way the Government could prove that they were right in their attitude towards this subject was to hold an inquiry.

Sir H. Vincent, in seconding the amendment, pointed out that the price of wheat during the American-Spanish war rose rapidly from 25s. to 50s. a quarter. That was a serious matter, but how much more serious would it be if this country and not America was engaged in a naval war with one of those countries from which we obtained large food supplies? It was absolutely essential in the present state of affairs in the Continent of Europe, when we found ourselves reduced to sixty days' supply of wheat, to ask ourselves what we should do if we were at war with France, Germany or any other Continental Power.

Mr. M. W. Ridley, in a maiden speech, said there was no doubt as to our dependence upon other countries for our food supplies. The proper way to meet the difficulty was not by the establishment of granaries, but by our present system of safeguarding our interests by the fleet. (Hear, hear.) Rome failed not because it had to depend upon foreign nations, but because of the inherent rottenness of her ruling powers. But we were not in that danger. We had the advantage of Rome in that matter and in the reliance we could place on the quickly increasing supplies we could obtain from our colonies. He thought that we should rather ask the State to establish a "corner" in ships than a "corner" in corn. (Hear, hear.)

Sir Wm. Harcourt said it was with very great pleasure that the House had witnessed the first appearance in its debates of the hon. member who had just spoken. The mover of the amendment talked of the danger to this country of "corners" in wheat in America. Did he really propose that the Government should undertake the operation of fighting "corners" in America? A more risky proposal he could not conceive. It meant that we were to buy up corn in order that if a "corner" was made in America we could let out our stock and knock down the price. In his experience no man had ever tried to make a "corner" but had come to grief—(hear, hear)—and therefore he could not conceive a more rash proposition than that the English Government should expend millions of money upon granaries in order to prevent a "corner" being made in America. It was said that in times of war ships with cargoes of wheat coming to England would be at the risk of being intercepted by the enemy. There was a great delusion on this subject. Wheat coming from Russia or America in time of war would not be consigned to England, but to a neutral Continental port, and no enemy would dare to attack a consignment to a neutral port. The wheat would go to Antwerp or Ostend, and the only risk would be on the voyage thence across the Channel. If we had to get our food supplies in time of war from the Colonies it would be at much greater risk than if we got them from, say, the United States. Such a cargo might be sent to Holland or to France, and would only become a belligerent cargo when being sent to this country. But a Canadian or Australian cargo would be liable to capture, even though going to a neutral port.

Mr. Gibson Bowles: Not in neutral bottoms.

Sir W. Harcourt: Why not?

Mr. Bowles: Because of the declaration of Paris, which lays it down that a neutral flag covers a belligerent cargo.

Sir W. Harcourt said no doubt in some cases the flag would be transferred, as it had been in the past, but now the danger was much greater, for in the case of produce from Australia they would have to be guarded in the Pacific as well as in the Atlantic. The advocates of this motion were really seeking for protection, though the mover disclaimed those views. At all events, that would be the effect of it. If we were to buy for this purpose exclusively from our own colonies, it would necessarily enhance the price, because we would be buying in a limited market. We could not always be at war, and the corn for storage purposes could not be kept beyond a certain time. Had the hon. gentleman calculated what would have been lost by the lock-up if we had stored the requisite supply of food since the Crimean war? Obviously the National Debt would be a joke compared with the loss. Was the House of Commons prepared thus to adopt the fears of the brave and the follies of the wise by committing itself to such a rash gamble at the proposal involved? (Hear, hear.)

Colonel Kenyon-Slaney said the right hon. gentleman had set up a bogey of his own in order to pummel it. The main desire of the mover, with which he agreed, was that it should be recognised by the Government that this was not an academic question, nor one which could be much longer postponed. He thought that when all the various schemes had been examined they would agree that the best way to secure the proper food supply in time of war would be so to manage our affairs that the supplies could be grown in this country.

Major Rasch said the thanks of the public were due to Mr. Seton-Karr in bringing this matter forward. He did not think it would be possible to keep any large supplies of food in granaries. The way to solve the question was to support the agricultural interests. He approved of a registration fee of a shilling per quarter, which would bring in £2,500,000 a year, and that ought to go towards the relief of agricultural rates. (Ministerial cheers and laughter.) With such encouragement a large additional acreage would be put under crops.

Mr. Jeffreys suggested that ricks of wheat might be kept and subsidised by the Government, as was the case with horses, which had been found very useful in the present war. The loss of interest on this system would be worth 2s. per quarter.

Sir W. Harcourt did not think 2s. would be a sufficient inducement to the farmer.

Mr. Jeffreys would also give another 2s. per quarter for damage by vermin and 1s. per quarter for keeping the wheat for a year. This would give a valuable reserve in the country of four million quarters, and would be an inducement to patriotic action on the part of the farmer.

Mr. Gerald Balfour, President of the Board of Trade, agreed that it would be extremely imprudent for the Government to embark upon a system of national granaries, the cost of which would be at least a million at the outset. The Government of any country was ill adapted for speculations of this sort, and it would demoralise the people. It would check the inflow of corn from ordinary sources at the very time that it was most important to the country that the corn should come in. The idea that the Government could ration the entire population was absurd and extravagent. As to the danger of a corner in foodstuffs being made in the United States in case this country was engaged in war, what advantage would it be to the merchants of America to form such a corner in time of war any more than in time of peace? Results had proved that attempts at corners in corn had been most disastrous for those engaged in them, and in the case of the great Leiter corner, the price of corn only rose above the normal for about a month. (Hear, hear.) There was really nothing to inquire into, for the rise in prices which would inevitably follow on a war would mean no real scarcity or famine prices. It would be sufficient for us in case of war if we had a Navy adequate to the interests of the country, and if we had not such a Navy, then the Government ought to be impeached for neglecting its most essential duty. (Cheers.)

Mr. Chaplin was afraid he could not add much to the information in possession of the House, but he ventured to think that this question was one more directly affecting the Secretary of State for War and the First Lord of the Admiralty rather than the right hon. gentleman who had just spoken. (Cheers.) Undoubtedly the supply of corn was a most serious item in the defence of the country. (Cheers.) When the right hon. gentleman said there was no case for inquiry he could not agree with him. This country depended for

three-fourths of its corn supply upon foreign markets, and the possibility of any failure in the supply in time of war was causing considerable anxiety. The present position of things was most unsatisfactory, and if by any misfortune this country was engaged in a European war, there was a great probability of the supply of corn from abroad being greatly interfered with. The right hon. gentleman had given them assurances, but when they remembered how completely the Government were deceived on all important circumstances connected with the present war, there was but very little comfort or satisfaction to be derived from the right honourable gentleman's declaration. (Cheers.) As to national granaries, the idea was by no means new; Joseph was a man of energy and resource among the Egyptians, and surely what was possible in the time of Joseph ought not to be beyond the resources and capacity of British statesmen. (Laughter and cheers.) No case for inquiry! He maintained that there was every necessity for it, and if it should be found that there was ground for such fears as had been spoken of in the course of the debate, it was high time this country set to work in earnest to provide a remedy. (Cheers.)

Mr. G. Whiteley remarked that the majority of the speeches delivered during the debate savoured very much of protection, and he pointed out that, whereas we grew some grain in this country, we grew no cotton. If we were to lose command of the sea, the import of raw cotton would be stopped, and that he contended would be almost as great a disaster as the stoppage of our food supply. If we were to protect our food supply, why should we not protect our drink supply? (Laughter.) The great point was to protect our shores and to maintain a strong navy. After all, the amendment pointed to an imaginary grievance, and it would be far better, he thought, if the House spent its time in trying to remedy real grievances.

Mr. T. G. Bowles could not understand hon. members representing agricultural constituencies objecting to a rise in the price of corn. He had always thought that the one desire of agriculturists was a rise in prices. (Laughter.) Then they had the illustration of Joseph. He did not think that a good one. Joseph made a corner in corn, and although a Jew often succeeded in making a corner, he believed a Gentile had never succeeded in that direction—(laughter)—and he did not believe the Government would. He ridiculed the idea that corn could be declared contraband of war, and added that the geographical situation of the British Isles was such that all the fleets of the world could not blockade our ports. If it be true that the difficulties of getting access to these islands would not be very great in time of war, he thought the price of foodstuffs would not rise very much. If we were secure as to our supply of corn we were equally secure as to our supply of raw material, and that came next in importance to corn. After all this was a question for the Admiralty, and if the people at the Admiralty had not satisfied themselves that these islands could be kept open during a time of war, every one of them ought to be taken out and beheaded on Tower Hill. (Laughter.) Of all the problems which the Admiralty would have to solve in time of war the easiest was the securing of our food supplies. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Purvis declared the amendment to be protection, and nothing but protection. It was really an attack on the policy of free trade.

Mr. D. Maciver regretted that the Government could not see their way to grant the inquiry asked for, and he hoped that the mover of the amendment would keep pegging away until he had achieved his object.

Mr. Field said it was perfectly evident that free trade as preached by the Manchester School was a sham and not a reality. There was a system of free imports only, with the result that agriculture was running to decay and ruin all over the three kingdoms. He could not understand why the Governments of the world could not co-operate to prevent "corners" in corn and rescue the producer from the hands of the gamblers in food supplies. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Seton-Karr asked leave to withdraw the amendment having regard to the interesting discussion that had taken place, and the sympathetic reply that had been given by the Government.

The amendment was by leave withdrawn.

Argentine Cattle.

On Thursday Mr S. Samuel asked the President of the Board of Agriculture whether he could state on what date the last authenticated case of foot-and-mouth disease of cattle occurred in the Argentine Republic, and whether he would now consider the removal of the prohibition against the slaughter of Argentine cattle at Deptford.

Mr. Hanbury.—No, sir. I cannot yet undertake to remove the prohibition. It is still too soon to assume that the disease has entirely disappeared. So recently as October 3, our Consul at Buenos Ayres reported the existence of the disease in the southern part of Argentina on the authority of two stock owners; but the latest reports as to the disease were made in February, 1901.

Preferential Rates for Foreign Produce.

Mr. Field asked the President of the Board of Trade whether he would consider the advisability of appointing a Select Committee to inquire into and report upon the prevailing system of preferential rates for foreign goods and produce imported into the three kingdoms.

Sir H. Vincent.—Hear, hear. A very good question (laughter).

Mr. G. Balfour.—The Railway and Canal Traffic Act of 1888 prohibits railways from making a difference of rates for foreign merchandise in respect of the same on similar services. I have no evidence that the law has been infringed, and I cannot recommend the appointment of a Select Committee, but I will inquire into any specific cases in which complaint may be made of preferential rates.

New Bills.

Amongst the new Bills introduced and read a first time on Tuesday was one by Dr. Macnamara to amend the law relating to the housing of the working classes, to establish Fair Rent Courts, and to amend the Law of Rating. This Bill embodies the Radical scheme of legislation for the housing of the working classes, and deals comprehensively with the whole question. Dr. Macnamara proposes that land should be acquirable for housing at a declared value, and that the Chancellor of the Exchequer should lend the purchase-money to local authorities at 2 per cent. interest, bearing himself whatever loss might be sustained on the transaction. No dwellings should be demolished until other houses have been provided for the people displaced, and the freeholder should be held absolutely responsible for the condition of the slum property on his land. Finally, Dr. Macnamara would establish in each district a Fair Rent Court, composed of members of the municipality and others, to whom the tenant could appeal in case of extortionate rent.

On the same day was issued another Bill, which enacts that in granting outdoor relief to a member of any friendly society, the Board of Guardians shall not take into consideration any sum received from such friendly society as sick pay, except in so far as such sum shall exceed 5s. a week. This Bill passed the Commons last year practically without opposition, only to be rejected on third reading in the House of Peers. Sir Edward Strachey has the Bill in charge. What may be regarded as a kindred Bill proposes that any member of a friendly society in receipt of temporary outdoor relief for a period not exceeding eight weeks, shall not thereby be disqualified from being registered as a voter or from voting at Parliamentary or local government elections; and that outdoor relief granted by way of loan to a member of any friendly society, and repaid within three calendar months, shall equally not disqualify for franchise. The Bill was also brought in by Sir E. Strachey, and is backed by, among others, Sir A. Rollit.

LITERARY NOTICES.

The Journal of the Royal Agricultural Society (1) makes its appearance in a neat green cover, with gold lettering. Nothing within its covers shows that this is the first of the annual volumes, but we have no doubt that such is the case. The number before us is almost treble the size of the old quarterly issues, and certainly from its appearance it will look better upon the book-shelf. Where, however, we fear that members of the society will find cause of complaint will be that they only receive one volume once a year instead of four for their subscription. Turning to the contents of the book itself, the first article consists of a lucid account of English agriculture in the reign of Queen Victoria, and this is accompanied by a very excellent picture of her late Majesty. Rather a new departure is made when second place is given to an essentially practical article, for Mr. Neville Grenville's contribution on cider-making is deserving of praise, inasmuch as the hints given will be of real use. "The Hop and its English Varieties," by Professor Percival, of the Wye College, is a well written and illustrated account of the cultivation and history of this crop, while Professor Gilchrist, of the Reading College, is responsible for an article upon "The Education of the Young Farmer." Professor McFadyean, of the Royal Veterinary College, contributes a rather lengthy article upon "Epizootic, or Contagious Abortion," in which is traced this disease in cattle, horses, and sheep. The official report of the Cardiff Show runs to a considerable number of pages, and this is followed by accounts of experiments caried out at Woburn, and other matter of an official nature. The volume altogether is one that will commend itself to the majority of the members.

(1). Journal of the Royal Agricultural Society for England.—Vol. 62 of entire series, 1901.

Dr. Conan Doyle deserves the thanks of his country men for the very thorough review (2) he has written up on the causes and the conduct of the South African War. There have been so many statements made of different natures that we fancy a great many patriotic Englishmen do not thoroughly grasp or are cognisant of much of the negotiation which preceded the war, and which had been going on for more years than the great number of people imagine. In the volume before us a complete acocunt is given of the trouble in South Africa, which led up to President Kruger's ultimatum, and for the purpose in view Dr. Conan Doyle gives a succinct history of the whole of South Africa during the last century. The chapters, too, in which he deals with the way in which the war has been conducted show that the many statements which have been floating about to the detriment of the British army are false and baseless. The price at which the book is issued is a very low one, and the "further ambition is, however, to translate it into all European tongues and to send a free copy to every deputy and every newspaper on the Continent and in America. For this work money will be needed, and a considerable sum. We propose to make an appeal to the public for these funds. Any sums which are sent to me or to my publisher will be devoted to this work. There cannot be too much, for the more we get the more we shall do." We believe we can state, without fear of contradiction, that a very large number of people's knowledge of the war is somewhat misty, and to these we can commend the book before us as being a fair, true, and reliable account of the cause of the South African troubles.

(2) "The War in South Africa; its Cause and Conduct," by A. Conan Doyle; published at 6d. by Messrs. G. Newnes, Limited, Southampton Street, Strand, London, W.C.

The Technical Instruction Committee of the Staffordshire County Council have issued a report of their manurial experiments carried out in 1901. Owing to the dry spring and summer the effect of the manures was not very noticeable, and in the case of the experiments with root crops the results were nil. The report is signed by Mr. T. Turner, Director of Technical Instruction to the Council, and Mr. J. C. Rushton, Instructor in Agriculture.

"Fertilisers, Illustrated," is the title of a most artistic and capitally got-up booklet, issued by Messrs. Joseph Fison and Co., Ltd., of Ipswich. It gives particulars of this firm's well-known fertilisers, and in order to show how universal is their usefulness a number of excellent illustrations are given of crops grown with the aid of these fertilisers. Home crops are represented by barley, wheat, mangolds, hops, and potatoes, whilst amongst foreign crops shown are sugar cane, pineapples, bananas, tobacco, etc. There is one particularly interesting illustration, and this is a photo of the Okapi, the new animal discovered by Sir H. Johnston, K.C.B., in 1901. This booklet is issued free to customers of Messrs. Fison, but others can obtain a copy, price sixpence.

We are in receipt of a copy of "Wrinch's Seed Barley Annual" for 1902, published by Mr. J. H. Wrinch, of Ipswich, who is noted for his "Premier" and "Prolific" barleys. This is the sixth year of publication of this annual, and the 1902 edition is perhaps the best issued. It is artistically got up, nicely printed, and, in addition to other items, contains two interesting articles, one being entitled, "Round and About the Markets" (chiefly East Anglian corn), and the other is on the "Tithe Rent Charge and the Corn Returns." It may be mentioned here that the world's championship at last year's Brewers' Exhibition was awarded to Wrinch's "Premier," this making the fifth occasion on which "Premier" barley has won the world's championship.

A useful catalogue has been issued by Messrs. J. T. Hobson and Co., the well-known makers of poultry appliances, etc., of Bedford. The catalogue is fully illustrated, and with it is forwarded a booklet containing a large number of testimonials from customers, showing how the goods of this firm are appreciated and valued.

Messrs. Ben. Reid and Co., Ltd., seedsmen, florists, nurserymen, and implement makers, of Aberdeen, N.B., have forwarded us a copy of their well-illustrated and conveniently-arranged catalogue of vegetable and flower seeds and various other horticultural requisites for the coming season.



Six-Rowed Barley.

Sir,—May I be allowed to correct a statement made by "Hordeum" in your issue of January 20? Referring to a letter of mine which recently appeared in the "Field," he says I stated "that six-rowed barleys were not approved and used by brewers, ignoring the fact that vast quantities of this very grain have been regularly imported for many years, and malted and brewed with the utmost satisfaction."

The facts of the case are briefly as follows:—In an article in the "Field" of November 16th last, signed by "Agricola," the writer advised English farmers to sow six-rowed barleys in autumn with a view to selling them for malting. I replied that if his advice was adopted they would get a product only fit for grinding, and suggested that the proper type of barley for autumn sowing in England was not a six-rowed variety, but a two-rowed chevalier barley of the Archer type, an opinion to which I still adhere as all the English six-rowed barleys which I have seen are only fit for grinding. It is common knowledge amongst brewers that much of the foreign barley used by them is six-rowed, and I am quite aware of the fact, as I have myself seen it growing in Asia Minor, where much of the brewing barley comes from, but the six-rowed barley grown in England is very different in character from that which we get from districts like Smyrna and Chili. Brewers are not ignorant of the true character of the barley which they buy, as "Hordeum" says, neither have they any prejudice in the matter; what they want is the best possible barley.—Yours, etc.,

W. R. Wilson.

Springfield Brewery, Wolverhampton.
January 29th, 1902.

Thousand-Headed Kale Seed.

Sir,—I saw in your columns, about a fortnight or three weeks ago, one or two advertisements of thousand-headed kale seed for sale. Can you tell me if the vendors sold the seed, and why the advertisements are not in your paper now? I have a rick of kale seed which I estimate to yield about one ton of seed when thrashed. I should like to sell, but have written to some of the largest seedsmen in England, and they have plenty themselves. Will you kindly say if you think it any use to put an advertisement in your "M. L. E."?

If I cannot sell this seed the rick need not be thrashed till next winter.—Yours truly,

Henry Butler.

Pauntley Court, Newent, Glo'shire.
January 30th, 1902.

[We pre-ume that the advertisers referred to have disposed of all their seed. Can any reader render our correspondent assistance?—Ed.]

The Apple Orchard.

Sir,—I have neither time nor inclination to enter upon the discursive methods to which "Plantation Advocate" would seem to invite one in reference to extending apple cultivation. We must take broader views of the subject if we would turn into British pockets the £1,000,000 a year we are paying to outsiders for imported apples; and no doubt it is incumbent on us, from economic and patriotic impulses, *at once* to set to work to stop this diversion of cash, the resu't of discreditable neglect in not considering increased demand, and neglecting to extend a charming and profitable industry.

Fortunately, we can *at once* take steps to obviate this state of things. There are thousands of acres of good pasture land in various localities suitable for the establishment of the orchard immediately, without doing away with valuable pasture land, and I have shown in detail in the Express of December 23rd, 1901, the result which might be secured of an average annual income of £504, throughout the first twenty-one years of a twenty-acre plantation of best sorts of keeping apples, instituted by an outlay of £214 13s. 4d., and leaving the turf, if properly tended, valuable for grazing as before, and without detriment to the productiveness of the trees and the quality of their fruit.

"Plantation Advocate" asserts spade cultivation to be the better. Well, he may begin it on his acre of land by burying two spit deep his good turf at an initial outlay of about £8 per acre for the work; but the trend all over the country is the opposite way, nor, in except in a very few limited areas, which I have indicated, will any follow on. But, to arrest the flow of capital into the pockets of outsiders, we must begin *at once* to establish our apple orchard on an extensive scale, and there's any quantity of land available. The petty plantation system of "Plantation Advocate" is useless for the purpose, as in this case time is the essence of endeavour in securing our cash at home.

I venture to think I have in my four letters fully and clearly set out my subject, and in thanking you, Mr. Editor, for the space accorded to me, I beg to say I do not propose to continue further discussion upon petty issues. I have discharged the duty incumbent on every patriotic citizen concerning a not unimportant matter.—I am, yours truly,

The Advocate of the Apple Orchard.

January 30th, 1902.

[Correspondence upon this subject must now cease.—Ed.]

The Food Supply Debate.

Sir,—The debate which has recently taken place in the House of Commons was most disappointing.

Possibly this was due to the weak manner in which the case was placed before the House, and by not enough being asked for in the amendment.

Had legislation on the matter been demanded the result might have been a Committee of Inquiry.

With the exception of the speech of Colonel Kenyon-Slaney, there was an appearance of want of perception of the crux of the question; those speaking in favour of the amendment not fully stating the case, and those speaking against seeming to exaggerate their objections.

Over a third of our so-called permanent pasture is practically waste land, and should be ploughed up, as under a proper rotation it would produce much food for men and stock.

The crux of the question—the prosperity of home agriculture—has to be faced, and the sooner it is faced the better for the safety of the nation. The only way to obtain a secure reserve of food is by encouraging an increased production in the United Kingdom, then at all times the reserve will be automatically replaced.

The fact is the position has come about by depending on outside sources for food, instead of producing most, as formerly.

Mr. Gerald Balfour's speech gave me a very bad impression of him as a statesman. He made too much of the question of a decrease in the importation of raw materials. They never have been, and apparently never will be, declared contraband of war. Whereas, there is little doubt that food will be declared contraband of war. Food supplies were treated as contraband of war during the recent troubles in Crete. England appears to have been a consenting party to this arrangement, as Her Majesty's fleet remained off the Cretan coast, and food, so necessary for the continuance of Cretan defence, was prevented reaching them. This naturally involves similar treatment from other powers when England's difficulties arise. Not only in the recent case of Crete, but twice towards the end of the eighteenth century, when we were self-supporting in the matter of wheat, our Government of the day, being at war with France, contended that food imported into that country was contraband of war. Our own precedents will be our own condemnation should hostile powers join in preventing the exportation of wheat to this country. Mr. Balfour contended that, so long as we have a Navy, it is sufficient for us to depend upon the ordinary operations of supply and demand.

He ignored the fact that during the great war with France the average price of wheat in this country was in 1800 113s. 10d., in 1801 119s. 6d., and in 1812 126s. 6d. per quarter; and that when the Crimean War commenced, in 1854, the average price of wheat for September was 56s. 7d. per quarter. In the month of November following it had advanced to 71s. 6d per quarter. It then rose in January, 1855, to 72s. 8d., and in the closing period of that year the price was above 80s. per quarter. In March, 1856, the treaty of peace was signed, and wheat fell to 68s. 11d. per quarter for that month.

At that period of our history we were almost self-supporting in the matter of wheat, and during the whole of the Crimean War there was no deficiency in our wheat crops per acre; in fact, they were better than that of 1853, when the average price was 53s. 3d. per quarter. If he had considered these facts he never could have stated that, although at the outbreak of war the price of corn would rise, the panic prices would not last very long.

He dismissed the statement that certain countries might prohibit the exportation of wheat during the war, and suggested that such action would fall heavier on Germany, Italy, and France. Apparently it has escaped his notice that the United Kingdom imports about half of the total amount of wheat exported, and other parts of Europe consume most of the remainder. The United States and Russia in an average year export about two-thirds of the wheat that wheat-importing countries require; the Russian wheat chiefly going to various parts of Europe.

Mr. Balfour's statement that the wheat imported from Russia was small was misleading. His statement that India, Canada, and the Argentina were our principal sources of supply after the United States, was also misleading, as India during recent years has not been a large exporter of wheat. During 1900 we only imported 6,100 cwt. of wheat from India. Surely it is high time for our statesmen to make themselves better acquainted with the real facts of our food supplies in time of war.—Faithfully yours,

Thomas G. Read.

8, Holles Street,
Cavendish Square, London, W.
January 30th, 1902.

Mare Eating Bedding.

Sir,—I have a big, powerful cart horse. She "handious" and eats her bedding and the timber, and is quite sick. Please could you tell me what to treat her with? I was be very glad, because she's off her meat several times. I think she has a sluggish liver.—J. B.

[There is one word in your letter, which may or may not have an important bearing on the question as a whole, which we cannot make out, or of which we do not know the meaning. It looks like "handious." What does "handious" mean? The remainder is a trifle obscure, but it is gathered generally that this cart "horse" eats her bedding, gnaws the wooden stable fittings, and behaves as though suffering from indigestion, although you think she has a sluggish liver. Obviously, the first step is to prevent the further consumption of the bedding, by providing some material which she will not eat. The consumption of any quantity of bedding material, even when it consists of sweet, clean, wheat straw, is always bad for the digestion, and incidentally for the "wind." It should be changed for moss-litter or sawdust, which even the greediest of feeders will not eat, or if there exists the morbid appetite that is sometimes associated with dyspepsia, a muzzle should be put on when the corn and hay have been consumed. The destruction of the woodwork of the manger or stall divisions should also be stopped. Biting of soft and unseasoned timber, used in stable fittings is often the beginning of crib-biting, to which habit it is not unlikely your animal is a victim. Iron manger fittings and hard wood stall divisions are best, as offering less temptation to the use of the teeth. If you have no other way out of the difficulty, there is still the muzzle, as suggested for preventing the eating of the bedding; but some horses do not "do" well when always condemned to wear a muzzle, and the plan has many drawbacks. Then comes the question of exactly what is wrong with the "horse." Is it stomach or liver? We cannot very well, on the strength of the knowledge of the case to be derived from your description, venture to prescribe medicine; but if you will be good enough to attempt an amended account of the symptoms, defining "handious," and stating what indications there are of liver derangement or improper performance of its function, we shall be pleased to try to help you.—M. R. C. V. S.]

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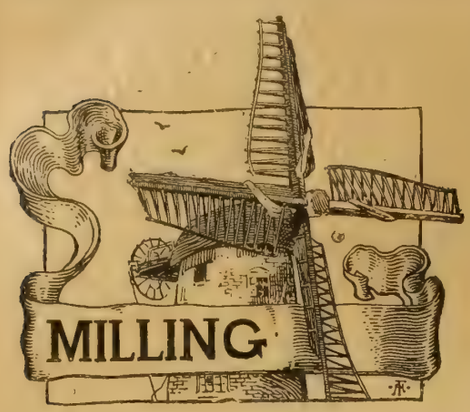
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Some Matters of Interest to the Trade.

Trade in flour has been very dull during the past two or three weeks, and prices have declined 6d. since these notes last appeared. That, however, did not bring business to millers, and as bakers are by no means well stocked it seems clear that they are waiting for a further drop. Offals of all kinds still continue to go off well; in fact, millers cannot make them fast enough, which is accentuated, as there is only a very quiet demand for flour. Prices, too, keep up, and if the present spell of colder, damp weather continues they will no doubt further appreciate. Bran appears to be in most demand, and it is very evident that a fair quantity of this product now goes out of the country. English wheat seems to have been in better supply upon the markets, but some of it has been received at the mills in anything but prime milling condition.

Local Associations.

Judging by the agenda of the recent Council meeting of the Millers' National Association which was published in the trade Press, matters are becoming a little more eventful. There seems to be a wish on the part of the association to establish local associations in different parts of the country where they do not at present exist, and to affiliate them with headquarters when in working order. This can only be regarded as a step in the right direction, for if the members of the trade could only be induced to agree and to do business on certain fixed lines it would be better for every individual among them. Hitherto there has been too much jealousy and unloyalty amongst millers, which has tended to lower prices and place the trade upon an unsatisfactory basis. The writer does not believe in association with the object of raising prices, but the latter should be such as will secure a fair return on the capital invested. That this has not been the case, owing to competition and cutting, is well known, and yet the evils go on unchecked.

Many of the larger mills have greatly increased their output in order to cheapen the cost of manufacture, with the consequence that more flour is made than can be disposed of within reasonable distances of the mills. The natural consequence is, that it must be sent to different parts of the country, where it goes into competition with the flour of local makers. But what is gained in lessening the cost of manufacture is partly or wholly lost by selling under cost price.

Where does the Advantage Come in?

There seems a wish on the part of many millers for closer union just now, and for this reason the National Association may be successful to some extent in the efforts it is making at the present time. The break-up of the North-Eastern Association was a great blow to association work, but it would never have taken place if every one of its members had been perfectly loyal to all the others. It is "never too late to mend," however, and it is to be hoped that the competition and cutting which resulted from the break-up will have taught many serious lessons. Almost every other trade and profession can form a basis of agreement; why not millers?

Other matters of interest which are being considered at the present time are those of dirt in wheat, the better education of young millers, the improvement in the quality of English wheat, and the question of a tax on imported wheat. As to the first-named, the principal trouble is with wheat from South Russia, with which screenings and other rubbish are

Deliberately Mixed b Shippers.

Besides screenings, these wheats contain stone, dirt, barley (often in large quantity), oats, rye, seeds, smut, and impurities of almost every conceivable kind. The London Corn Trade Association have been approached by the Millers' Association upon several occasions, and although concessions have been made, much more is expected. Hence the present movement.

As everyone knows, technical and commercial education is very much neglected in this country in comparison with others. This is no doubt one of the reasons why German and other nations have been able to secure such a considerable portion of the world's trade of recent years. Every workman should thoroughly understand why he does such and such things; in short, should understand the principles which underlie his trade, so that, if necessary, he may be able to adapt himself to a totally different set of circumstances. It is to be feared that in the past a great deal of cold water has been thrown on technical education; hence, when an important body like the Millers' Association take up the subject in earnest, there seems more hope than ever before.

In regard to English wheat, millers complain of want of strength, and compare some of the starchy sorts now grown very unfavourably with the old types in favour in this country. But the characteristics of any kind of wheat depend

More upon Climate and Soil than upon Seed.

Some samples of English wheat are as different to others as "chalk is to cheese." If by any means stronger wheats can be grown without affecting the yield, by all means let us have them to mill. An improved system of farming and the use of artificial manures might do something to reach the desired goal; experiments can therefore always be made with advantage. But, knowing something of farming as well as of milling, the writer is very doubtful if much good can be effected. Possibly the port millers are not very anxious to see a change, as if fairly strong wheats could be grown in this country and in greater quantity, the inland millers would at once become formidable rivals.

In regard to taxing foreign wheat on its arrival into this country, the interests of farmers and millers are somewhat opposed. A tax would no doubt lead to some little advantage for the former, but it would seriously hamper the latter, unless an equivalent duty were put upon imported flour. If any tax is imposed at all, the writer is of opinion that it should be placed upon the manufactured article in all cases, and not upon the raw material. In the case of wheat, there is the advantage, too, that the offals from its reduction are secured as foodstuffs for cattle in this country.

MILLER-FARMER.

Agricultural Imports.

The following is an account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Jan. 25, 1902, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year:—

Animals Living.	1901	1902.		1901.	1902.
	No.	No.		Cwt.	Cwt.
Cattle ...	8,611	8,786	Wheat ...	1,277,200	1,196,900
Sheep.....	6,871	21,190	Flour.....	516,200	506,200
Swine.....	—	—	Barley ...	608,000	412,400
*Horses...	—	590	Oats	296,900	527,300
			Peas	21,900	43,000
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Beans ...	18,700	54,900
Beef	85,198	79,112	Maize ...	1,464,100	1,464,100
Mutton...	73,932	63,833		Bunches	Bunches
Pork	17,890	25,033	Bananas	32,416	55,242
Bacon ...	160,117	140.533			
Beef, salt	3,734	2,863		Cwt.	Cwt.
Hams.....	27,632	30,709	Apples ...	61, 88	43,415
Pork,salt	4,532	4,531	Apr cots		
Meat,salt & resh	7,159	9,459	&Peaches	13	16
Do. pres.	17,609	16,695	Cherries	—	—
Butter ...	87,787	66,897	Currants	4	—
M'rg'rine	16,387	16,800	Goosebr's	—	—
Cheese ...	32,049	27,156	Grapes ...	393	152
Milk, Fresh, in cans or			Lemons...	13,265	32,948
			Oranges	177,999	221,713
			Pears.....	564	52
drums.	535	480	Plums ...	2	38
Milk ...			Strawb'r's	—	—
Cream.	133	157	Oth'r Fr't	42	3,095
				Tons.	Tons.
			Hay ...	1,247	6,604
				Bush.	Bush.
Milk pr's'v'd, other			*Straw ...	—	940
			Onions ...	144,154	133,346
				Cwt.	Cwt.
kinds ...	42	261	Hops	2,662	9,945
Con.Milk	17,649	17,513	* Locust Beans	—	21,445
	No.	No.	Potatoes	100,665	86,180
Eggs	215,055	237,349	Tom'to's	10 636	3,468
			Other	Value.	Value.
Poultry& Game	Value. £31,052	Value. £29,840	Veg'bles	£5,756	£7,350
				Cwt.	Cwt.
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Dried ...	6,498	8,531
Rabbits	4,301	6,964	Pres'v'd by can-		
Lard	36,091	40,335	ning ...	5,460	4,491

* Not shown in 1901.

At Woolwich Police Court on Wednesday Young Avery, a provision dealer, of Green's End, Woolwich, and John Swayne, his assistant, were each fined five pounds, with two guineas costs, for a breach of the Merchandise Marks Act, by selling as Irish a ham which was really what was known as a short cut American. It was stated that the ham was of poor quality, costing fifty shillings per cwt, and that the defendants sold it to a Mrs. Cable at the rate of eightpence-halfpenny per pound.

GARDEN.

A first batch of potatoes of any good early variety may be got in very shortly now, if not at once, on some very warm and sheltered border at the foot of a south wall or close fence, and which receives the benefit of every ray of sun, while screened from the chilling influence of north or east winds. In most gardens of any extent there is at least one such "early border"; but in default of anything of the kind, one should, if possible, be arranged, even though a wall has to be built, or a fence put up, for the purpose.

For very early potatoes the soil should be light, rich, and mellow. A lot of rank manure is unnecessary, and even injurious; but by adding moderate quantities of old hot-bed material, leaf-mould, burnt earth (or the products of a smother fire), and if the soil is naturally heavy, some road-scrapings as well, a beautifully friable and mellow, as well as fertile staple can soon be obtained. If such a bed or border is raised a foot or so above the general level, and rather more at the back, so as to slope gently towards the south, and so catch the sun more fully, so much the better, as it will be drier in wet weather and nearly always warmer.

Have the required number of sets ready sprouted in shallow boxes, and when planting these should be carried out on to the ground, and the sets transferred directly from them to the trenches, so as to avoid the risk of breaking any of the "spears" as far as possible. Select a warm, sunny day for planting, and open the trenches or drills (running north and south, of course) in the morning, letting them remain and get warm in the sun, planting and covering in the sets during the afternoon, before the sun goes off the ground. Of course, these early plantings are made rather more closely than usual, but do not crowd the plants or sets too much, a space of about 2 ft. from row to row, and 10 in. between the sets being quite close enough.

See that a good sowing of peas is made while the fine weather lasts, and look well after any early-sown rows that may be already up. Sow a few rows of broad beans in a rather sheltered spot at once.

A first sowing of onions and parsnips may be made in the open ground very shortly, weather permitting, so get the beds ready. Plant a small, sheltered bed with shallots, and in the south of England the underground or potato onion is usually planted about this time. Finish planting autumn-sown onions and lettuce, and get some of the best cauliflowers out as soon as possible—these on a very sheltered border. Sow in frames, with a gentle bottom heat, horn carrots, radishes, and a few turnips. A small bed of leeks should also be sown for an early crop.

Under glass the early-sown tomato plants should be pricked off singly, as soon as they are a full inch or so in height, with one pair of proper or "rough" leaves apiece. If sown thinly, they may stand a little longer, and then be transferred singly to small pots—2 inches or 2½ inches—but in either case keep them warm and moderately close for about a fortnight afterwards. There is still time to sow seed of tomatoes, but for planting outside the last week in the month will be soon enough.

Peaches under glass, where started last month, with a moderate degree of artificial heat, will be in bloom by this time, or nearly so. These quickly respond to very slight forcing at this season, being of a naturally precocious character, and when in full flower, a well-grown peach tree affords a pretty sight. While in bloom keep the atmosphere of the house moderately dry, no syringing being allowed, and also admit air rather freely, but take care that the roots does not want for moisture. At this early season it is usually necessary to fertilise the blossoms artificially, so whenever the sun shines for even a few minutes about the middle of the day, or between, say, 11 a.m. and 2 p.m., take the camel-hair brush or rabbit's-tail and distribute the pollen from flower to flower. If at all numerous, however, do not fertilise all the blossoms, but only those that are in the best positions, and appear strong and healthy.

As soon as the vines in the early house have fairly "broken," rub off all but the strongest or best placed one on each spur, though if the spurs are very wide apart, or the vines not very vigorous, two may be left, at least for a time. Pinch out the points of these remaining growths as soon as the trusses of bloom become prominent, and then proceed to tie them down to the wires, or trellis, but very carefully and gradually, for fear of breakage.

Beyond preparing beds or borders for planting hardy herbaceous plants, carnations, etc., presently, and perhaps sowing a few more annuals, there is not much to be done outside yet. A few climbing roses on warm walls may be pruned for early blooming, but it is decidedly too early for the general stock yet.

Indoors continue to insert cuttings of pelargoniums (geraniums) of all kinds, striking them in sandy soil and a rather dry heat. Sow a box or two of ten-week stocks, also lobelias, petunias, cannas, and others, in heat.

B. C. R.



Carmarthen.

We have had very changeable and all sorts of weather during December and January Hard frost for two or three days, then high winds and quite a tempest, with a great thickness of mist, and the barometer has been flying up and down at a great rate; then a few days of very mild, growing weather Primroses, verbenas, and snowdrops are to be seen in sheltered places, and the prognostigators for a very hard winter have made a great mistake and are quite out of it. We have not had one day's skating for a long time, fields are looking green, and cattle and sheep get good pickings during the day, which is a great save, as hay and straw are very scarce, and if we had a hard winter would have been very dear. Farmers are able to get on well with our work. We have an old proverb in Wales, "When we have a green winter we have a brown churchyard," and we find it so. We hear of many deaths. The wet, muggy, misty weather has taken many away to the great majority. But it is early yet; January is not quite out, and to-day is cold and frosty. We may have hard, cold weather again in February, March, and April, when we will want fine; mild, growing weather; but let us hope for the best, for everything is now looking favourable, with the great prospects of peace and the respite from that horrid war which has cost us so many valuable lives and a mint of money. Winter keep is now likely to be sufficient, which is a great save. The prices of cattle and sheep are looking up, and fat pigs are selling at good prices (11s. per score). Our lambing season has not commenced yet.—D. P. (Jan. 30).

Gloucester (North-West).

January began with floods, which have been favourable to everything on the farm, enabling cattle and store sheep to get most of their keep on the pastures, and there has been no waste from mud in the sheep pens, thus relieving some of the anxiety felt at the beginning of winter by the scanty crops of hay and swedes. Work is well forward; the land being so dry, it is mostly ploughed up to the hurdles. A few fields have been planted to peas and beans in the best possible condition, the frost we had making the land work well and giving a seasonable check to the autumn-planted crops, which generally look strong and vigorous. Looking to the future, however, perhaps more rain is wanted, as many springs dried last summer are not yet started, and when ploughing deep there is very little moisture in the subsoil.

Ewes are lambing down well, with a good percentage of twins, and as usual when roots are scarce the lambs come strong and healthy. Although workmen are scarce, the question of labour is not so acute as it was last year. We are learning to do with less, but anyone going about the country must notice the lack of neatness that used to be so characteristic of an English farm. To-day we are having a very rough cutting wind from the north-east, which may soon alter the agricultural outlook.

J. H. W. (Jan. 31.)

Middlesex.

Season very mild, with a nip of frost, which will do good, and will be much appreciated by people generally who have the winter's work to do, and which is all behind. Season's prospects, however, are good, and spring may even yet be early. All is promising for next year's crops.—F. K. (Jan. 29).

Wilts (North).

The present winter, with the exception of some short spells of severe frost, has on the whole been favourable as regards the consumption of provender, and as this district is somewhat better provided with hay than many others, the trade in that article has been brisk, and much has been sold, as the prices now make that plan the most profitable. The last few winters have been so dry that drainage, usually so useful in this region, has not been of the same value as in ordinary season, a good deal of the pasture land in North Wilts being on the Oxford clay, where the subsoil is of a tenacious character. Cattle have done well this winter with limited rations; at least those in the fields. Beef and mutton continue at about the same prices, and trade is fairly brisk as well as for store and dairy cattle. Large quantities of feeding stuffs are used to keep up the liberal supply of milk now required in the winter months.—W. F. P. (Jan. 31).

Salop.

The weather keeps very wintery, frosty, and cold. Barometer at the extreme height. Sheep healthy and strong, the lambs running and playing.—J. G. (Jan. 31).

Somerset (West).

Considerable rain has fallen within the last few days, still we are far short of our usual quantity and water storage is very low. Although extremes have not been experienced, the character of the season has been sudden and unexpected changes. Autumn-sown crops generally look well, but complaints are heard of wheat losing plant on the lghter lands. Although there are good reserves of mangel, swedes are being eaten off very fast, as they did not bulk as in some previous seasons; hay and straw will require care and economy to make them last until the grass comes, although there were fair surplusses left over from last year. As regards prices the season has been disappointing. Each of the chief products of the farm in turn having to be sold at less than previous years, with no corresponding advantage in purchases, or margin of profit to meet the case. Dorset horses, ewes, and lambs have had a successful time, and are looking better than for some years past; whilst other flocks are now lambing, and I hear of no complaints.—S. K. (Jan. 29).

Foreign Prospects.

FRANCE.—Weather has turned colder, to the satisfaction of farmers, and the wheat crop maintains a favourable appearance.

BELGIUM.—Colder weather may have produced a firmer market, but the crops have not suffered. Yesterday, at Antwerp, a fair amount of business went through at firm prices.

HOLLAND.—Crop conditions are mainly favourable—Rotterdam early in the week had a better tone, but subsequently became easier on American advices and freer offers.

SPAIN.—Very severe weather in many provinces has caused some detriment to autumn-sown crops and prevented the development of spring sowing.

GERMANY.—Mild weather continues, and although snow fell in the night it did not lie long on the ground. Crop prospects are regarded as favourable, and it is hoped that the time for sharp frosts is passing away.

RUSSIA.—There appears to have been some exaggeration in the report of the prevalence of severe weather in all parts of the Empire at this side of the Ural range. In the north-east the temperature last week was 9 degrees below the normal, whereas in south-west governments it was several degrees above the season's average. Rain has fallen in north-west, centre, and east, and the area under snow is relatively small. Few complaints of crop damage are heard, and the work of spring sowing should soon be inaugurated.

HUNGARY.—The snowfall of last week has disappeared, and weather is mild. The crops appear to be all right.

BULGARIA.—Autumn-sown crops are doing well; there is an absence of snow, but the young plants are said to be strong enough to withstand the probable frosty weather.

ITALY.—On the whole the agricultural outlook continues good; the condition of the wheat crop is satisfactory.

UNITED STATES.—The *Cincinnati Price Current* says snow now covers the wheat crop. Some adverse reports have come to hand, but generally conditions are fair to good. The interior grain movemenf is light.—*Dornbusch.*

Scottish Chamber.

A meeting of directors of the Scottish Chamber of Agriculture will be held within the Board Room at 10, North St. David Street, Edinburgh, odn Wednesday next, the 5th inst, at 10.30 a.m., when the following business will be transacted:—(1.) Rural depopulation. Reply from Board of Agriculture. (2.) Sheep dips and insecticides, etc. Evidence before Poisons Committee of Privy Council. (3.) Sheep worrying—promised legislation. (4.) Sale of stock by live weight. (5.) Creameries in Scotland. (6.) Conference and annual reports. (7.) Admission of new members and any other competent business.

The Agent-General for South Australia has receieved a cable from his Government announcing that Mr. J. D. Towar, of Michigan, has been appointed Professor of Agriculture and Principal of the Agricultural College in South Australia.

THE WEATHER.

MONDAY (January 27th).—The weather was generally rather finer than on Sunday, although snow showers were again experienced in the east of England, and cold rain was reported at a few places in the west. Melted snow, sleet, or rain was measured in the morning over nearly the entire kingdom, as the result of the fall since the previous day, and the amounts were fairly large in the north and west. Frost occurred in all except the western districts on Sunday night, and in the north of Scotland the sheltered thermometer indicated twenty degrees of frost. The temperature scarcely rose above the freezing point throughout the day in the north of Scotland, while in the south of England the thermometer rose to nearly fifty degrees.

TUESDAY (January 28th).—The weather continued very unsettled in our islands, and a cyclonic disturbance had its centre over the south of Scotland. Cold showers fell in the western and southern portions of the kingdom, and snow fell over nearly the whole of Scotland. Melted snow or rain was measured in the morning over the entire country, as the result of the fall since the preceding day, and the fall was rather heavy in the west. The winds were north and north-east in Scotland, but were chiefly westerly elsewhere, and a gale was blowing at the entrance of the English Channel. Temperature was higher in Scotland than on Monday, but elsewhere it had fallen and was in fair agreement with the average. The day was fine in London, and the mid-day temperature rose to forty-seven degrees, which is about five degrees above the average.

WEDNESDAY (January 29th).—A very decided alteration in the distribution of atmospheric pressure was in the morning found to have taken place over the United Kingdom. Tuesday's deep disturbance had in the night travelled across the North Sea, and its centre was now making for the Baltic. In its rear the barometer rose at a great rate over the whole of our islands. The northerly to north-westerly wind had spread to all parts, but in Scotland and the north of Ireland it was once more backing westerly. Fair to fine bright weather was extensively prevalent, but snow showers were falling in the Hebrides, hail at Holyhead, and rain at Malin Head, while a thunderstorm had visited Jersey.

THURSDAY (January 30th).—The weather was cold over our islands, although rather less so in the west than elsewhere. A large area of high barometer readings embraced the whole kingdom, and the mercury was still generally rising. The wind has decreased in strength, and continues for the most part from the northward. Small amounts of melted snow and cold rain were measured in the morning, as the result of the fall since the previous day, but the weather during the day was nearly everywhere dry. Frost occurred over nearly the entire country during Wednesday night, and in Scotland the cold was severe. The mid-day temperatures were again low for the time of year, but they were highest in Ireland, where a slight south-west wind ha dset in.

FRIDAY (January 31st).—A keen north-east wind was blowing over our islands, and a moderate gale was reported in the English Channel, and on our east coasts. A large anti-cyclone occupied the whole of the United Kingdom, and the barometer readings were exceptionally high in Scotland and in Scandinavia, the mercury in places exceeding thirty-one inches. Melted snow was measured in the morning, as the result of the fall in the preceding twenty-four hours, in the East of England, as well as in the Shetlands and Hebrides. Sharp frost occurred in many places during Thursday night, and at Nairn the thermometer in the screen fell twenty-four degrees below the freezing point. The day temperatures were below the average over the whole country.

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY (February 1st and 2nd).—A north-east gale was blowing at many places on our coasts during these two days, and the weather was generally very wintry. There was a very keen frost on Saturday morning in Scotland, and in most parts of our Islands the temperature had fallen to the freezing point, but the sensation of cold was greatly increased over England by the very strong north-east wind which blew. The barometer was still generally high, and in Scotland the mercury stood at thirty-one inches, although it was everywhere decreasing. Snow fell at times in the south-east of England on Sunday, but the amount when melted was scarcely appreciable, and the weather in other parts of the kingdom continued dry. In London the thermometer on Saturday rose to thirty-nine degrees, while the highest reading on Sunday was lower by six degrees.

Anniversary Meeting of the Royal Society.—The sixty-third anniversary meeting of the governors and members of the Royal Agricultural Society will be held at the Society's House, 13, Hanover Square, on Thursday, May 22nd, at noon, when the half-yearly report of the Council will be read, and the election of the president, trustees, and vice-presidents, and twenty-five members of the Council will take place.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—Notwithstanding a touch of sharp weather, the markets failed to be influenced to any extent, both attendance and business being limited since noon. Home-grown wheat offers at last week's decline, while town millers continue in the same indifferent mood, and nearly everything goes to local resorts. Whites range at about 29s to 30s 6d, and good reds quoted at 29s 3d per qr delivered. A better feeling prevailed respecting American descriptions, 31s ex ship being secured for No. 1 Northern Manitoba, and 30s for No. 2 ex ship. No. 1 Northern Duluth, 31s 6d ex quay. Hard Kansas, 30s 3d ex ship, 30s 9d ex quay. Californian, 30s 6d to 31s. Flour steady, although business was of only a retail character. The London Millers' Association kept their quotations at last Monday's reduction. Grinding barley remains easy. Crimean, 18s ex ship; Danubian, 17s 6d; English malting maintained, while supplies continue to grow less, fine more especially. Oats, if anything, the turn better, with, however, no actual alteration in prices. American none. New Zealand ordinary bluff, 25s. 26s, 384lb ex store. English fully in holders' favour, and still scarce. Garton's, 23s 6d, Spring-sown, 42lb; black winters, weighing the same, 24s to 24s 6d; grey winters, 23s to 24s, 42lb. Scotch oats, 23s to 23s 6d, 42lb. Flat maize remains out of offer and nominal. Round corn unchanged. Holders of beans and peas were keeping to former limits, apart from trade being at a standstill.

Mark Lane, Friday.—No relief was afforded to-day's market, the attendance of buyers being again kept down. Prices deviated but slightly, scarcely anything doing in English wheat. Whites range at about 29s to 30s 6d, and reds at 28s to 30s per qr delivered. Conditions show no improvement. Foreign descriptions unchanged, and arrivals off coast continue light. There is no feature whatever to report respecting the flour market. Arrivals of best-known brands during February are expected to be somewhat below requirements, while a good deal of the liberal supplies coming up of late have gone to complete old contracts. Town households, 23s; and whites, 26s per sack delivered to the baker. Top price town made 21s net. No. 1 households, 21s 6d cash, taken at the mill door. Whole meal, 172s per ton; and wheat germ meal, 117s 6d to 120s. Grinding barley steady at the recent decline. Crimean quoted at 18s ex ship. English malting remains in small compass, attention being still mainly devoted to suitable types. Of foreign, Ouchaks, 19s to 26s, 400lb. The better qualities of oats meet with fair attention. F.a.q. Libau, 17s 6d and over ex ship, 38lb; and 18s to 18s 6d ex quay. Danubian, ship to come up, 17s and 17s 6d ex quay, with 40lb Libau at 20s upwards ex quay. Konigsberg, 20s ex ship. English well maintained, being in small supply. Gartons, spring sown, 23s 6d, 42lb; black winters, weighing the same, 24s; and even finer types, 24s 6d; grey winters, 23s to 24s for ordinary to fine, 42lb. New Zealand ordinary bluff, 25s to 26s, 384lb ex store. American descriptions remain exhausted. Flat maize is now scarcely mentioned, while round corn is steady. Odessa, ex ship to come up. 21s 6d, and ex quay, 22s 3d. Plate, 24s ex quay. The market for imported beans and peas affords nothing fresh, holders being firm and supplies inadequate.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Wheat samples scarce, but prices unchanged. Malting barley dearer, but grinding a trifle cheaper. Some demand for superior lots of oats and barley for seed, the former commanding fancy prices. Quotations:—White wheat, 28s to 30s; red wheat, 27s to 29s; best malting barley, 32s; seconds malting barley, 27s to 28s; English grinding barley, 25s to 27s; foreign ditto, 20s to 22s.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, red (new), 28s to 30s per qr. Small show of wheat at rather more money than last week.

Birmingham, Thursday.—A much improved attendance at this market, and trading more active in all departments. Values of both English and foreign wheat remain about unchanged on the week. Quotations:—English wheat 11s to 11s 3d per bag (186lb). In foreign wheats, Plates are offered at 29s 9d per qr (496lb) Sharpness; No. 1 hard Manitoba, 32s 9d at Bristol; No. 2 hard winter, 30s 6d at Bristol; Ghirka, 29s 9d at Sharpness. Maize is about 6d down on the week, Bessarabian offering at 22s per qr (480lb); Galatz-Foxanian, 21s 9d at Sharpness. Grinding barley is 6d per qr easier at 17s 9d per 400lb at Sharpness. English beans, 14s to 14s 6d per bag (196lb), and oats, 22s to 23s per qr (312lb) delivered Birmingham.

Braintree, Wednesday.—Red wheat, 27s to 28s 6d, and white, 29s to 30s per qr. A few samples of superior barley made up to 33s. A large quantity of clover seed on offer, but very little changed hands. Trade quiet in all lines. Peas and beans in demand.

Brighton, Thursday.—Barley 28s to 33s; grinding ditto, 21s to 22s; English oats, 21s to 23s; beans, 34s to 35s. Oats and barley firm at last week's prices. Wheat in good supply, and firm at late rates.

Bristol, Thursday.—A moderate trade has been doing since last week. At market the rates for both English and foreign wheat were unchanged. Maize and barley were each 3d lower. Oats unaltered. Quotations:—English wheat, 27s 6d to 28s 6d; American, 30s to 32s; grinding barley, 17s 9d to 18s 3d. Oats—Irish black, 19s 9d to 20s; American, 19s 9d to 20s 3d; maize, round, 21s 6d to 22s. Flour—Since last week a quietly steady tone has prevailed at prices practically unchanged. The demand for flour has been only moderate, and of a hand-to-mouth character; but there is a rather better feeling generally, and a more hopeful view is taken in the trade than has been the case for the past few weeks. Quotations:—English, 21s to 26s 6d; American bakers' grades, 18s to 20s; patents, 22s to 24s.

Bristol, Thursday.—There has been a moderate trade since our last. To-day English wheat was in fair supply at late rates. Foreign also unchanged. Maize and barley both 3d. lower. Oats unaltered. The demand for flour is small; bakers are, presumably, working down their stock.—GRACE BROTHERS.

Bury, Wednesday.—Wheat was in fair average supply; demand quiet at rather less money; reds and whites, 28s to 28s 6d per qr on the line. Barley—Trade much smaller, several buyers having ceased operations for the time, but the trade for all useful medium parcels is sound and healthy, at 29s to 33s per qr. Oats scarce and strong, at full prices; white, 21s to 24s; black, 19s 6d to 21s per qr. Maize unchanged on the week, at 24s per qr for new round; flat and old round nominal. Cotton cakes rather lower; linseed cakes firm, at £8 10s to £8 15s per ton. Bran unchanged, at £5 10s to £5 15s per ton.

Cambridge, Saturday.—Quietness has been the prevailing feature of all departments during the week. Supplies have been smaller, but dry winds have improved the condition. At this market to-day there was only a moderate supply of wheat. Trade was steady, at last week's rates. Red wheat, 27s to 28s; white, up to 29s per 504lb. Barley in small supply; malting quality firm, seed lots rather dearer. Beans dull. Oats quite as dear.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Wheat slow; barley in improved demand. Ruling prices:—White wheat, 28s to 31s; red, 27s to 30s; malting barley, 28s to 35s; grinding ditto, 23s to 24s; white oats, 20s to 24s; black, 19s to 22s; black winter oats, 22s to 23s; grey peas, 32s to 33s.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Fair supply of oats in our market to-day; good demand at late rates. New, 20s 6d to 22s 6d per 336lbs.—THOMAS ROBINSON.

Chester, Saturday.—There was little trade doing, and no changes took place in prices of English grain. Indian corn 3d per sack lower. Quotations:—Wheat, white and red, 4s 4d to 4s 6d per 75lb; malting barley, 3s 10d to 4s per 60lb; grinding barley, 3s 4d to 3s 6d per 64lb; beans, 5s 6d to 5s 8d per 80lb; oats (new) 2s 10d to 3s 1d; old, 3s 4d to 3s 6d per 46lb; Indian corn 12s 9d to 14s 3d per 240lb.

Chichester, Wednesday.—There was an average attendance for a byemarket day. Wheat was in moderate supply, and with a quiet trade price were unaltered. Feeding stuffs were firm. Flour unchanged.

Colchester, Saturday.—Wheat—Small supply; quiet trade at last week's prices. Beans, peas, and oats steady. —FRANCIS AND CO.

Croydon, Thursday.—White wheat, 29s to 31s; red ditto, 28s to 30s; malting barley, 28s to 36s; grinding, 22s to 24s; oats, 18s to 20s; beans, 31s to 33s; peas, 29s to 31s. Trade for wheat quiet at last week's prices; oats firm; beans and peas unaltered.

Faversham, Tuesday.—White wheat, 29s to 31s; brown ditto, 28s to 30s; malting barley, 28s to 35s; grinding ditto, 23s to 26s; black oats 21s to 23s; white ditto, 21s to 24s; beans, 34s to 38s; grey peas, 33s to 34s.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—The trade during the week has been dull, and prices the turn in buyers' favour. There was the usual attendance at our market to-day. Wheat and flour almost nothing doing to test values, with prices tending in buyers' favour. Indian corn scarce on spot, and price steady. Round maize slow at late rates. Grinding beans and Canadian pease are steady, but quiet trade. Home and foreign oats are dull, and prices nuominally unchanged. Barley steady, but quiet. Bran and thirds quiet, but unchanged. Oatmeal steady, but slow sale.—GIBSON AND CLARK.

Hull, Tuesday.—Linseed: The arrivals are 1,614qrs from Bombay, 2,220qrs Calcutta, 40qrs Harlingen, 1,750qrs Konigsberg, 750qrs Libau, 25qrs Rotterdam; total, 6,399qrs. A strong and advancing market. Calcutta, 56s spot, 49s 6d April-June. River Plate as high as 51s reported paid for "Gena" afloat; 49s 9d to 49s 6d later boats afloat; 49s the value December-January a large business done at the price for January-February. Cottonseed: The market has been steady, without much activity. Business done spot at £6 5s to £6 6s 3d, with still sellers at latter, and at which a little January changed hands, but holders now asking £6 7s 6d, whereat one or two sales made February-March, with further buyers at this price, and £6 8s 9d to £6 10s quoted. Oils: Exports for the week ending 21st January, 1902.—Linseed oil: 3 Germany, 3 Norway; total 6 tons. Cotton oil: 89 Belgium, 4 Egypt, 26 France, 114 Germany, 75 Holland, 1 Norway, 1 Sweden; total, 310 tons. The market is steady. Linseed oil: 28s 6d spot; 27s 9d February-April; 27s May-August. Cotton oil: 21s 10½d spot; 21s 10½d February-April; 22s 9d May-August. Crude: 20s 7½d spot; 20s 7½d February-April; 21s 4½d May-August. Rape oil: Jamba naked, 24s spot; 1st quality naked, 24s 6d spot. Oil seed cakes: Linseed cakes are 2s 6d to 5s per ton dearer on the week, and in short supply. Cotton cakes: Deliveries on contracts continue very large; fresh sales have fallen off somewhat, but are expected to rally very soon; prices 1s 3d per ton cheaper on the week.—KEIGHLEY MAXSTED AND CO.

Leeds, Tuesday.—It is difficult to understand the trade just now; Europe shows comparative firmness, only the option markets following America, but the latter country exhibits undoubted weakness, causing buyers to hold back, and prices for all descriptions of wheat must be quoted 3d per quarter lower on the week. Malting barley unchanged. Maize 3d lower. Beans and oats dull.—DUNNS AND CO.

Leeds, Friday.—Little doing in either English or foreign wheats, and no change from Tuesday's reduced prices, except an easier tendency. Beans, peas, oats, maize, barley, and flour barely maintain late rates.

Leicester, Saturday.—Good average attendance of buyers and dealers, with only moderate supplies of home-grown wheats; but trade ruled rather sluggish, only fine dry samples being in request, and quotations had an easier tendency. Red wheats, 28s to 29s; white wheats, 29s to 31s per 36 stones. Malting barley in poor request at 28s to 32s per 32 stones; grinding barley a slow trade. Beans steady. Fine oats firm at 23s to 25s per 26 stones.

Leith, Friday.—There is little change in the market since last report, and trade still continues quiet. Wheat unaltered. Scotch oats cheaper; foreign oats slow sale. Barley, Scotch, unchanged; foreign feeding, 21s; hard white peas, 37s 6d; beans, all varieties, 33s 6d to 34s; round maize, 23s to 24s; mille seed, 19s 6d. Mill offals:—Demand steady. Broad bran, 120s to 125s; medium bran, 100s to 102s 6d; sharps, 95s 6d to 97s 6d; parings, 105s to 107s 6d; cummings, 82s 6d to 87s 6d; dried grains, 100s; oat husks, 45s; meal seeds, 67s 6d, all sacks included. —WILLIAM MACLAY.

Lincoln, Friday.—A fair attendance at the Corn Exchange, and about an average show of grain. Wheat trade rather quiet, and prices about 6d per qr lower than last week. Not much doing in barley and oats, prices being slightly easier. Maize, beans, and peas were quoted at about last Friday's rates.

Lincoln, Friday.—Fair supply of English wheat, with steady trade at prices in buyers' favour. Barleys, a good supply and very firm in value. Oats poorly represented and made full money. Beans peas and maize firm.

Liverpool, Friday.—The market has had a good attendance, but wheat has had only a quiet trade generally at prices unchanged to ½d higher than Tuesday, the exception being Manitobas, which meet a very good inquiry. Flour—The demand for flour is small and mostly of a retail description; prices, however, are unchanged for American descriptions. Hungarian flour is again 1s dearer in consequence of the high prices ruling for milling wheat in Hungary. The Liverpool Millers' Association make no change in the minimum price of bakers'. Maize—Mixed moves slowly, and is ¼d down from last market day. European inferior sorts are in fair request, but prime qualities are quiet at about ½d under Tuesday. Plate steady, but quiet at unchanged prices. Barley—Malting very slow, prices in buyers' favour. Feeding shows some improvement in demand, but the turn lower to sell. Beans firm owing to scarcity, but quiet. Peas are steadily held, with a moderate inquiry at late rates. Oats have had only a small inquiry, and, although prices are unchanged, the tendency is easier. Foreign sorts are getting in smaller compass, and hold steady, with some inquiry.—SEGAR AND TUNNICLIFFE.

Maidstone, Thursday.—Steady trade in wheat to-day, and last week ? for it secured, but the tone not sufficiently strong to record a rise. Other grains ? fairly good, but buyers do not care to enhance stock, as they imagine room for a fall. Articles such as maize, hemp, rye, tares, &c., show no variation since last report of their status.

Manchester, Thursday.—Moderate attendance. Fair inquiry for English wheat, which sells at last week's prices to 3d per qr easier; foreign during the week declined 1d to 2d per cental, but recovered a good 1d. Maize quiet trade, about last week's prices for mixed; European 1d lower. Oats—Better demand for English and Irish sorts; foreign quiet, rather lower. Beans, peas, and barley unchanged. Flour slow, easy.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—Wheat met with a very slow demand here to-day, buyers having their own way where sales were made. Maltings easier and 6d per qr lower. Barley—Very little offering; fine parcels were picked up at last Saturday's prices. Beans and peas dull, but not quotably lower. Scotch oats favoured buyers; foreign unchanged.—JOSEPH POLLARD AND CO.

Newport, Wednesday.—Wheat was slow, and receded 6d from last week's prices. Maize was similarly cheaper. Barley, beans, and oats unchanged. Flour, fines, 22s 6d per sack.

Northampton, Saturday.—The same indifference which has been noticed in our corn markets continues, and the quotations to-day are not much different from the several past weeks; millers and farmers are alike indisposed to operate. White wheat, 27s to 29s; red, 26s to 28s; barley, 25s to 32s; grinding ditto, 22s to 24s; oats, 18s to 23s; old fine, 25s; beans, 32s to 40s; flour, 21s to 22s; fine, 24s.

Norwich, Saturday.—Wheat was in smaller supply at our market to-day, with a firm trade at late rates. There was only a small supply of barley offering, which changed hands at former terms. Wintery weather has prevailed during the past week, with snowstorms and sharp frosts. Wheat, red, 28s to 28s 6d per qr; weight, 63.bs per bushel imperial.—J. ARTHUR MILLS.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Wheat only in moderate supply. Millers tried to buy at 6d less, but only a small business resulted, holders being unwilling to make any concession. Barley a limited show, and full rates supported; but few oats and beans offering, and values maintained.—ROBERT HUBBLE.

Peterborough, Saturday.—There is not much change in the wheat trade, which keeps slow, but prices to-day were not quotably altered from last week. Only small business passing in barley, and seed parcels again rather dearer. Oats and beans firm.—THOMAS HILL AND SON.

Plymouth, Thursday.—Wheat unaltered. Maize rather easier. Barley and oats quiet, former rate. Small attendance.—ORLANDO DAVIS AND CO.

Reading, Saturday.—The Corn Exchange was very well attended to-day, and the amount of business transacted was rather larger than usual. The quantity of wheat on offer proved quite equal to the demand, and sales proceeded at late rates. Barley was in average supply, and changed hands readily, as did also oats, the prices realised in each case being unaltered from those of recent markets.

Ripon, Thursday.—The market has a brisker tone, more business being done. Farmers' wheat rather less money; bran firm. Wheat, English (new), 28s 6d to 29s 6d; ditto foreign, 29s to 33s; barley grinding, 22s 6d to 23s 6d; ditto malting, 26s to 31s; oats (new), 21s to 24s; round maize, 24s to 27s per qr; beans, 1s per stone.

Romford, Wednesday.—Wheat trade slow at 6d a qr. decline. Fair supply on offer. Red wheat, 27s 6d to 28s 6d; white, 28s to 30s per qr.

Rye, Tuesday.—Red wheat, 27s to 29s; white ditto, 27s 6d to 29s 6d; barley, 27s to 29s; tick beans, 35s to 38s; Mazagan ditto, 34s to 37s; long pods, 32s to 35s; grey peas, 35s to 38s; black oats, 19s to 26s; white ditto, 20s to 26s.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Attendance small, and quiet trade. English and foreign wheat ruled 6d per qr lower. Full prices were obtained for beans and oats, which were firm. Quotations: Wheat, white, 30s to 31s; red, 36s 6d per 504lb; oats (new), white, 21s 6d to 22s 6d; new black, 20s to 21s per 336lb; barley, grinding, 22s to 23s; malting 28s to 32s per 448lb; peas, grinding, 32s to 34s; blue, 53s to 80s per 504lb; beans, Egyptian, 36s to 36s 6d; English (new), 37s to 37s 6d per 532lb; Indian corn (small), 25s to 26s; American mixed, 27s 6d to 28s per 480lb.

Spalding, Tuesday.—At the Corn Exchange wheats made 27s to 27s 6d per qr, trade being slow. Oats were a slow trade at 22s per qr, and not much showing. Beans 6d easier.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There was a small show of English wheat, and prices were about 6d easier. The trade in foreign wheat keeps very quiet, and to do business a reduction of 6d per qr upon last week had to be accepted. Maize 3d to 6d lower. Oats unchanged.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Little business passing at this day's market. Wheat lower to sell. Barley and oats rather easier. Arrivals coastwise:—Barley, 500 qrs; oats, 393 qrs; foreign nil.—E. AND F. RICHARDSON.

Wakefield, Friday.—There is a firm feeling in the small business passing on to-day's market in wheats, but only a small trade has been done. The supply of malting barley is quite sufficient to meet any inquiries, as maltsters are practically finished for the season. No alteration in feeding stuffs.—MICHAEL SANDERSON AND SON, LIMITED.

Wakefield, Friday.—Last week's depression has passed away, the trade having assumed a stronger and more confident tone, although the consumptive demand is still restricted. All descriptions of wheat may be called rather dearer to buy, but not to sell. Barley firm, but slow. Feeding stuffs unchanged.—MESSRS. DUNNS AND CO.

Wisbech, Saturday.—A limited supply of grain. Wheat 6d lower; prices, 27s to 28s. Oats firm, 21s to 24s. Barley, 26s to 29s. Beans, 34s to 38s.—JAMES FLETCHER.

Worcester, Saturday.—Quiet for all kinds of grain. English wheat moderately offered, and made last week's prices. Oats and beans firm, but barley showed an easier tendency. Wheat, white, 11s to 11s 6d; red, 10s to 10s 6d per bag.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Fair attendance, but small show of grain, with wheat a trifle easier. White wheat made from 28s to 29; red wheat, 26s to 28s; best malting barley, 29s to 32s; secondary qualities, 26s to 28s; grinding barley, 23s to 24s; white oats, 21s to 23s; black oats, 19s to 21s; maize, 27s to 28s per qr; fine sharps, £6 to £6 10s; barley meal, £6 16s 8d to £7; bran, £5 10s to £6 10s per ton.

York, Saturday.—Moderate show of wheat and other grain, but business was rather depressed, and in wheat prices were lower. Finest samples varied from 28s to 29s per 35 stones. Barley was very much neglected, the demand being only for medium samples. Finest barley, 29s to 30s; medium, 27s to 28s; common, 26s to 27s per 32 stones. Oats were more plentiful, but trade was quiet; black oats, 20s to 21s; short white, 21s to 22s per 24 stones. No change in feeding stuffs.

FOREIGN.

Hamburg, Saturday.—There is a better tone in the market, and prices are hardening. Offers of American wheat are now nearer the mark for importation. The imports during the week amounted to:—10,532 tons wheat, 2,162 tons rye, 5,757 tons barley, 1,460 tons maize. American hard winter wheat No. 2 is selling at 29s 1d. March shipment is held at 29s 3d. No. 2 Northern spring

at 28s 9d. Fine South Russian at 28s 6d to 29s 6d per 480lb. Walla-Walla, April-May, June delivery here at 29s 9d per 500lb. Austria is buying here Russian and American wheats. Rye quiet, 9⅓. South Russian, Feb.-March, is offering at 22s 9d, F0-F1 ko.; Danubian floating at 21s 9d per 480lb. There is some demand for good Bohemian barley to arrive per barge at 30s 3d. Good Silesian and Polish has been taken by our brewers at 26s 6d to 29s 6d. Moravian and Slovakian is held at 32s to 35s per 448lb. Stocks in the Saal district are about cleared; offers are getting very scarce. South Russian feeding barley is selling at 17s 6d to 18s c.i.f. Hamburg. Mixed maize is held at 24s 6d; there is a fair demand for sound Odessa and Turkish at 22s 3d to 22s 9d per 480lb; Danubian, offered at 21s 9d, is not in favour.—JOHN TATLOCK.

Paris, Wednesday.—Transactions in native wheat have again been only of very little importance, in spite of more liberal offers on farmers' part. Lower prices are slowly beginning to be taken, but in a progressive manner, and the occasion for them may be found in the poor sale of flour, the favourable condition of our growing crop, the reserves in the Western departments, and finaly the weaker position of the foreign markets. Millers in the immediate environs still purchase very sparingly, and the larger millers restrict their output. Sellers are compelled in order to do business to grant a concession of about 6d per qr. on last week's rates. Choice red is now quoted 37s 10d; ordinary, 36s 6d to 36s 11d, and white, 37s 10d to 38s 3d per 480lb. The flour market was supported at the opening, and closed with a slight advance at the following prices:—January, 27s 11d to 28s 2d; February, 27s 11d to 28s 2d; March-April, 28s 5d to 28s 8d; March-June, 28s 8d to 28s 11d, and May-August, 29s 2d to 29s 5d per 280lbs. The tone is still inactive, and prices for rye remain unchanged, with a weaker tendency, although offers are scarce in all directions. Here, prices were nominally unaltered, with, however, a few more selers; buyers offered 27s, but no sellers under 27s 5d per 480lb. Oats are quiet but well supported. Offers present a certain importance, and it is thought they will be maintained on the present footing until the end of February, and then will increase or diminish in March and April, according to the more or less favourable weather for the crop. Here transactions were still inactive, holders asking prices which buyers could not grant. Quotations are as follow:—Grey Beauce, 24s 8d to 24s 11d; white, 23s 9d to 24s 1d; red 23s 9d to 24s 1d; black from the central provinces, 25s 3d; small Picardy, 25s 3d to 25s 6d. Although the demand for barley remains restricted, prices are well supported in all directions. The demand is satisfactory in Auvergne, and trade, if not very brisk, is still pretty regular. Here the tendency was firm for grinding and feeding corn, but unaltered for malting sorts, which were quoted 17f.50 (25s 4d) for choice, and 17f.25 (25s) for good. Grinding 16f.50 to 16f.75 (23s 11d to 24s 3d), and feeding 15f.50 to 16f. per 100 kilos (22s 6d to 23s 3d per 400lb).—*Dornbusch.*

CORN STATISTICS.

ARRIVALS INTO LONDON.

January 22 to 29, 1902, inclusive.

	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat ..... qrs.	1,063	29,441	30,504
Barley	2,747	34,603	37,350
Oats	2,000	128,000	130,000
Rye	...	8,542	8,542
Beans	245	1,231	1,476
Peas	158	3,150	3,308
Maize	...	77,800	77,800
Tares	...	1,601	1,601
Rapeseed	...	7,297	7,297
Linseed	...	7,460	7,460
Dari	...	...	...
Cottonseed	...	5,127	5,127
Flour, sacks	22,994	87,250	110,244
Malt	...	...	...

IMPERIAL AVERAGES.

Statement showing the Quantities sold and average price of British Corn, Imperial Measure, as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended February 1, 1902, conformably with the Act of the 45th and 46th Victoria, cap. 37.

Wheat	72,381¼ qrs.	27s.	4d.
Barley	81,468⅝ qrs.	28s.	7d.
Oats	25,657¼ qrs.	20s.	2d.

LONDON AVERAGES.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, January 28th, 1902.

	Total Quantities. Imperial Measure.		Total Amount.			Average Price per qr. Imperial Measure.		
	Quarters.	Bus.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Wheat ...	1,679	3 ...	2,335	3	0	... 1	7	10
Barley ...	418	6 ...	624	14	6	... 1	7	10
Oats ...	1,654	1 ...	1,716	9	0	... 1	0	9

COMPARATIVE AVERAGES.

Comparative statement for the corresponding week to December 28th, in each of the years from 1897 to 1901.

	WHEAT.			BARLEY.			OATS.		
	Qrs	s.	d.	Qrs	s.	d.	Q s.	s.	d.
1897	63,536½ ...	30	7	79,102½ ...	24	10	16,337½ ...	16	7
1898	63,367¼ ...	34	10	88,797 ...	28	0	26,642½ ...	17	6
1899	73,555¾ ...	26	6	86,234½ ...	27	2	23,623½ ...	17	0
1900	73,796¼ ...	25	8	90,769½ ...	25	4	22,061¼ ...	16	6
1901	72,527¼ ...	26	7	87,205 ...	25	7	21,707¼ ...	17	8

FOREIGN CORN TRADE.

The shipments of grain from the chief exporting countries last week were as follows:—

	Wheat. Qrs.	Flour. Sks.	Maize. Qrs.	Barley. Qrs.	Oats. Qrs.
United States	294,000	140,000	18,000	—	—
Russia	225,000	—	125,000	50,000	103,000
France	—,	5,000	—	—	—
Austria-Hungary	—	5,000	—	—	—
Roumania	90,000	—	140,000	10,000	10,000
Argentina	3,000	—	4,000	—	—
India	3,000	—	—	—	—
Australasia	155,000	—	—	—	—
Miscellaneous ...	20,000	10,000	20,000	20,000	10,000
Total	790,000	160,000	307,000	80,000	123,000

IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGES.

1901.	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
Feb. 2	72,527¾	26	7	87,205	25	7	21,707¼	17	8
,, 9	44,882½	26	8	51,008½	25	7	16,241½	17	7
,, 16	67,350	26	4	63,870¾	25	4	21,089⅞	17	7
,, 23	68,159½	26	1	65,514⅝	25	0	23,418½	17	7
Mar. 2	68,224	25	11	52,600¼	25	0	21,858½	17	9
,, 9	63,711½	25	9	51,125½	25	4	19,410½	17	7
,, 16	55,073⅜	25	9	36,968½	25	1	14,010	17	7
,, 23	53,758⅜	25	8	27,840¼	24	11	13,895½	17	9
,, 30	47,908½	26	0	20,179¼	24	9	12,418⅝	18	0
Apr. 6	42,721⅞	26	3	14,647⅝	25	3	11,776⅜	18	0
,, 13	32,905	26	5	6,809¾	26	0	5,936⅞	18	1
,, 20	35,737⅞	26	8	6,734⅜	25	7	8,346⅜	18	8
,, 27	46,572	26	8	6,985¼	25	8	8,300⅜	18	1
May 4	46,616½	26	9	6,417⅞	26	4	6,869⅜	19	8
,, 11	47,118⅜	27	3	4,279¼	26	2	7,049	19	1
,, 18	52,875½	27	7	2,508	24	2	7,345½	19	4
,, 25	49,822¼	27	7	1,511⅜	24	1	4,665½	19	8
June 1	46,514	27	7	859½	23	8	4,938	19	9
,, 8	42,202	27	6	221½	22	9	4,023½	20	1
,, 15	46,764	27	8	1,404½	24	0	5,565⅜	19	7
,, 22	29,695	27	6	336¼	23	2	3,552½	20	3
,, 29	28,191⅞	27	6	692⅜	25	4	2,803⅜	20	0
July 6	19,564½	27	8	140¾	21	9	1,800⅛	19	10
,, 13	15,231⅛	27	2	49	23	10	1,675⅜	19	9
,, 20	17,462⅜	27	3	88⅜	23	4	2,040⅜	19	11
,, 27	18,297⅜	27	3	206⅛	22	1	2,385½	19	4
Aug. 3	18,666¼	27	6	250⅜	23	1	3,219⅝	20	0
,, 10	19,156	27	7	141⅛	22	1	2,143½	19	4
,, 17	22,617½	27	4	220½	27	2	5,982	18	9
,, 24	37,168⅜	27	3	976⅜	23	7	9,952⅜	18	1
,, 31	61,603⅜	27	0	4,877⅜	24	3	14,654½	17	10
Sept. 7	66,623½	26	5	14,342⅜	25	1	19,075⅞	17	6
,, 14	77,949⅜	26	2	34,989⅝	24	11	19,909½	17	4
,, 21	80,279½	26	0	70,096¼	25	5	26,476⅝	17	4
,, 28	80,488	25	10	109,783½	25	10	22,567½	17	2
Oct. 5	60,376⅜	25	8	126,592¼	26	3	21,631¼	17	7
,, 12	63,656½	25	9	172,175⅜	26	5	16,815½	17	6
,, 19	58,772½	25	10	203,591¼	26	8	15,506½	17	8
,, 26	52,984⅜	25	11	208,471⅜	26	10	18,009⅞	17	5
Nov. 2	70,314⅜	26	2	134,277⅛	26	10	18,350⅜	17	7
,, 9	62,265⅞	26	6	202,577½	27	0	20,066½	17	8
,, 16	57,884⅜	26	9	201,723⅛	26	9	20,122⅜	18	3
,, 23	63,150⅜	27	1	185,268½	26	10	20,612	18	7
,, 30	60,323½	27	1	193,434⅜	26	9	22,419½	18	9
Dec. 7	67,925½	27	1	162,996¼	26	7	23,990½	19	0
,, 14	48,045½	27	2	182,212⅞	25	10	17,125½	17	1
,, 21	60,562⅜	27	7	119,398⅛	26	8	26,260½	19	8
,, 28	43,718⅝	27	7	81,859½	26	8	16,901⅞	19	10
1902.									
Jan. 4	31,440⅝	27	7	34,777½	26	7	11,621⅜	19	10
,, 11	48,997⅜	27	8	69,120½	26	7	14,995	20	0
,, 18	74,239½	27	8	91,559⅝	26	11	19,733⅝	20	0
,, 25	74,753⅜	27	7	87,594	26	7	25,382½	20	3
Feb. 8	73,381½	27	4	81,468⅝	26	7	25,657¼	20	2

FLUCTUATIONS IN THE AVERAGE PRICE OF WHEAT.

PRICE.	Dec. 28.	Jan. 4.	Jan. 11.	Jan. 18.	Jan. 25.	Feb. 1.
27s. 8d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 7d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 6d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 5d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 4d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 3d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 2d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 1d.	...	...	...	...	...	...

ENGLISH WHEAT IN 1 01.

Highest of Year	27s. 7d.
Lowest of Year	25s. 10d.
Gradient	1s. 9d.
Mean of Year	26s. 9d.

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF LONDON TOWN HOUSEHOLDS FLOUR.

(Sacks of 280 lbs. ex-mill for cash.)

	1902.		1901		1900		1899.		1898.		1897.		1896.		1895.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Jan. ...	21	9	24	6	21	9	23	9	29	0	25	6	18	9	18	7½
Feb. ...	...		24	0	22	0	23	6	30	0	24	7½	19	4½	17	9
March	...		23	9	21	6	22	3	30	0	23	11	19	3	18	0
April...	...		24	0	21	6	22	0	31	3	23	6	19	6	18	7½
May ...	...		23	6	21	8	22	3	39	7	23	7	19	0	20	4½
June ...	...		23	0	23	6	23	1½	35	0	22	7½	18	10	22	3
July ...	...		22	3	24	6	21	9	29	6	22	10½	18	6	20	0½
August	...		22	3	24	0	21	9	27	6	26	8½	18	8½	19	10½
Sept....	...		22	0	25	3	22	0	26	5	30	3	19	6	19	8
Oct. ...	...		21	6	24	9	23	3	26	1	29	0	23	7½	18	7½
Nov. ...	...		21	6	24	3	22	3	25	0	29	1	25	8½	18	4½
Dec. ...	...		21	9	24	0	21	9	24	3	29	0	25	7½	18	1
Yrly. Avrg.	...		22	10	23	2	22	4	29	6½	25	10½	20	8½	19	2

WOOL.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Kent fleeces realised 5½d, with an occasional 6d for special quality. Lamb wool, 4d per lb.

Glasgow and Leith.—There is not much of interest to report in Scotch wools throughout the past month. The improved tone of business in the southern markets during the month, and especially latterly at the London sales, has not had much effect here yet. At the public sales in Leith on 28th and Glasgow on 29th, the attendance of buyers was small, and biddings were slow. In whitefaced wools good half-breds commanded some attention at pretty firm rates, and the finer lots of this quality, and also of cheviots, are now well cleared out. There is less demand for ordinary quality parcels, of which a fair quantity is still available. Blackfaced is being shipped to America to a certain extent, but the home trade still continues comparatively indifferent. Stocks are low and are firmly held.—J. AND W. GREIG.

Liverpool, Wednesday.—The first series of periodical wool auctions for this year began on the 21st instant. East India being catalogued on that an the two following days, sundry combing descriptions on the 24 h instant, and clothing sorts to-day. The arrivals of East India reached 10,350 bales, so that with 2,550 bales left out of the 2,790 bales taken in at the November sales, and a few second-hand parcels, 13,237 bales were catalogued and nearly 11,000 bales sold, the home trade taking 7,000 bales, the Continent 1,500 bales, and America 2,500 bales. There was a pretty fair number of home buyers, the usual few from the Continent, and America wanted moderate quantities both of the better as well as low duty sorts. The selection comprised some nice useful parcels, but included a good proportion of wasty, common sorts, also a large offering of Bussorah Persians, Native Skin, Goat Hair, etc. Competition was more or less quiet throughout, and compared with November currency, the fluctuations are unimportant. White Joria, Vicanere, and Kandahar are practically unchanged; good yellows, suitable for the French trade, ruled a shade easier, sometimes amounting to ¼d per lb.; medium whites, yellows, and greys, in fair condition, were steady, but dirty lots, as well as native skin and goat hair, sold irregularly, and often favoured buyers, whilst all ginned, and greasy Bussorah, declined ¼d. to ½d. per lb. There was only a moderate attendance to-day, and with quiet competition, prices on the whole were very irregular, compared with November sale rates. We quote the few offers made for Peruvians ¼d to ½d per lb. lower, while unwashed Chili and washed and greasy Morocco fetched ¼d per lb. advance, Spanish and River Plate skin being in slight request at previous figures.—RONALD AND RODGER.

THE BALTIC.

Wheat cargoes have been firmly held, and there is a slight increase in the inquiry. Sales have included Californian at 30s. 6d., Blue Stem at 29s. 9d., Walla Walla at 29s., Russian Winter at 30s. 6d., Russian Spring at 30s. 3d., Australian at 30s. 3d., Argentine at 30s., No. 1 Hard Manitoba at 30s. 9d., No. 1 Northern Duluth at 29s. 6d., No. 1 Northern Manitoba at 29s. 6d., No. 2 Manitoba at 28s. 3d., White Kurrachee at 29s. 3d., and Red at 29s. per qr.

Maize is hardening for Russian Roumanian, but Argentine for May and June shipment is pressed on sale by speculators at a low price, and a good deal of it is being taken up; in fact, it ought, on all present showing, to be a "very good thing," and 21s. 9d. has been paid for ex or term cargoes for June shipment, 22s. for two for May. The price paid for a Caucasian cargo now loading at Poti was 23s. on Thursday, but 22s. 9d. was accepted on Saturday for another cargo to sail not later than February 28th. No American has recently sold at the high prices established on the 27th ult.

Barley has fetched 24s. 6d. for Californian, 18s. 9d. for Odessa, and 18s. 3d. for Kustendje. Oats have made 17s. 9d. for Libau, 20s. for Konigsberg, and 22s. 9d. for Black Swedish; and beans have realised 29s. 6d. for new crop Egyptian, April shipment.

Oil seeds have been in fair request. Linseed has made 50s. for Argentine on passage, rapeseed 39s. for brown Cawnpore on passage, and cottonseed £6 7s. 6d. for Egyptian for February shipment.

Three wheat cargoes arrived at ports of call last week, making 16 during January, against 13 in January, 1901.

MANURES.

Liverpool, Friday.—Nitrate of soda maintains late advance, and best quality commands £10 5s per ton on the spot, but the demand is only quiet. Sulphate of ammonia is firm and comparatively better value to agriculturists than nitrate at their respective prices. A fair demand is experienced for East India bone meal and superphosphate of lime, and basic slag continues in active request, but the delays in deliveries are causing some little inconvenience to buyers. The trade in feeding stuffs is quiet, and in some instances values tend in buyers' favour, whilst English linseed cakes are slightly dearer. Current rates are as follow:—Nitrate of soda, best quality, i.e., guaranteed 95 per cent., pure, in bags, £10 5s to £10 7s 6d per ton; East India bone meal, fair to prime, in bags, £4 to £4 6s 3d; kainit, prime 23 per cent., in bags, £2 7s 6d to £2 10s; palm nut cake, prime, in bags, £5 12s 6d; linseed cake American thin oblong, prime, in bags, £7 11s 3d to £7 15s 0d; linseed cake, English, prime in bulk, £8 15s to £9; linseed cake foreign oblong prime, soft and oily, in bags, £8 5s; cottonseed cake, N.A. decorticated, prime, in bags, £7 2s 6d to £7 5s; cottonseed cake, English decorticated, prime, soft, in bags, £7 10s to £7 12s 6d; cottonseed cake, English undecorticated prime, in bulk, £4 15s to £5; cottonseed, crushed, 20 to 25 per cent. oil, prime, in bags, £7 5s; maize germ meal, prime, in bags, £6 2s 6d to £6 5s; rice meal, Rangoon, as imported, in bags, £5 10s per ton; Indian meal coarse to fine grinding, prime, in bulk, 13s to 13s 9d per 240lb; linseed, fine bold feeding, in bags, £3 3s to £3 6s per qr 416lb. D.N.S. brand, superphosphate of lime, guaranteed, 25 to 27 sol., in bags, £2 5s to £2 7s per ton; D.N.S. brand, superphosphate of lime, guaranteed, 30 to 31 sol., in bags, £2 10s to £2 12s per ton; D.N.S. brand, superphosphate of lime, guaranteed, 35 to 36 sol., in bags, £3 to £3 2s per ton; basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed, 30 to 35 per cent. phos., in bags, £1 12s to £1 13s per ton; basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed, 35 to 40 per cent. phos., in bags, £1 14s 6d to £1 15s 6d per ton; basic slag, finest qualities, guaranteed 38 to 45 per cent. phos., in bags, £1 17s 6d to £1 19s per ton. at the producing depots.—H. JONES LANGAR AND CO.

POTATOES.

Borough, Saturday.—The market was again well supplied, while heavy stocks still remain on hand, the general tone of the market being decidedly of a quiet character. Scotch Maincrops (Dunbars), 90s; Up-to-Dates ditto, 8s; Reading Giants Blacklands, 45s; Blackland Up-to-Dates, 45s to 50s; Lincoln Silts, 60s; and Gartons Blacklands, 40s to 45s per ton.

Goole, Wednesday.—There was a large attendance here to-day. Trade was quiet, and last week's prices were scarcely maintained. The Co-operative Company paid 5s 9d per load for all varieties. Best Up-to-dates made 54s per ton. Retail price, 6d per stone.

Spitalfields, Saturday.—Arrivals not quite as heavy, but proved more than adequate to buyers' requirements, and the market remained dull and prices weak. Quotations:—Best Lincoln Up-to-Dates, 55s to 65s; Blackland ditto, 45s; Wisbech ditto, 50s to 60s; Scotch ditto, 60s; Scotch Maincrops (grey soil), 70s; Lincoln Maincrops, 80s to 90s; Reading Giants, 45s; and Blackland Gartons, 45s per ton.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

January left the English wheat-fields forward, but in few parts *too* forward. During the last three days of the month a bitter wind kept back growth, and February has come in with winterly conditions prevalent. In France the rye and wheat are very advanced for the season, and the same applies to Italy and Spain. The snowfall in the East of Europe has been welcome, but no severe frost has yet been experienced, the Black Sea ports being open and the Danube very little impeded by ice.

Indian telegrams announce that there is now only little prospect of anything like an average wheat crop in either the Punjab or the North-West Provinces. The rest of India will not be able to make up the deficiency in these leading wheat regions. Indian shipments since the beginning of the shipping year, 1st August, have included 754,000 qrs. of wheat, and the months of February and March may raise the total to 800,000 qrs. But the old crop is nearly played out, and last week the shipments fell to 3,000 qrs. Argentina is not as yet shipping new wheat at all freely to Europe, as Brazil and Cape Colony bid a higher price. But full exports to Europe are expected before February is out.

The prospective arrivals of wheat and flour for the next three months are being discussed with interest, and it is generally thought that last year's moderate figures will not be exceeded. In that case the markets should advance. The arrivals from Pacific ports are likely to be 250,000 qrs. larger than last season, India may send us 46,000 qrs against nothing this time last year, Russia and Roumania should be good for an extra 50,000 qrs. and Turkey may send an extra 25,000 qrs. This gives us a total increase of 371,000 qrs. On the other hand, Argentina is not likely to ship more than half of last year's figures, Australia the same, and Hungary may diminish flour shipments by the equivalent of 50,000 qrs. The total diminution in breadstuffs at this rate will be 562,000 qrs. There remains the Atlantic, United States, with Canada, but of this region it may briefly be said that whereas none expect the increase to be more than about 250,000 qrs., many doubt if last season's figures will be more than just paralleled. On the whole, therefore, the situation is encouraging to wheat holders. The visible supply of wheat in America on February 1st is thus cabled:—

	Qrs.
1902	11,417,000
1901	10,927,000
1900	11,063,000

These figures include Canada and the United States, both seaboards.

Wheat supplies on passage on 1st February were estimated as follows:—

	Qrs.
Californian	2,000,000
American	400,000
Argentine	120,000
Russian	80,000
Indian	60,000
Australasian	350,000
Sundries	10,000
Total	3,020,000

The quantities of other staples on passage on 1st February were thus estimated:—

	1902. Qrs.	1901. Qrs.
Maize	635,000	780,000
Barley	735,000	390,000
Linseed	160,000	201,000
Rapeseed	9,000	1,000
	Tons.	Tons.
Cottonseed	41,000	26,000

The quantity of maize will be seen to be quite moderate, but that of barley is undeniably heavy. Of linseed the quantity is decidedly less than at this time last year, but increased prospective supplies of the other two oil seeds about balance the effect of the linseed returns.

The average price of household flour for January was 21s. 9d. per sack, against 24s. 6d. in 1901 and 21s. 9d. in 1900. The top price was 28s., against 30s. in 1901 and 28s. in 1900. Whites stand half way between the household and the top-price grades.

Last week's sales of English wheat were heavy, thanks mainly to which supply was in excess of demand for bread-stuffs as a whole.

	Qrs.
English wheat	186,000
Foreign wheat	279,300
Foreign flour	164,000
Total supply	629,300
Total wants	567,000
Surplus	62,000

The British visible supply of wheat on 1st February is thus estimated by *Beerbohm's List.*

	Qrs.
1st Feb., 1902	8,200,600
1st Feb., 1901	7,992,300
1st Feb., 1900	8,460,300

The general idea is that we are not so well off for stores as two years ago, but are a little better provisioned than we were last year.

Imports of maize last week were heavy, of oats a full average, of barley less than usual. But as we have already seen, the supplies of barley on passage are heavy, and the figures for the last week of January therefore represent a mere accidental lull.

The visible supply of maize in America is cabled as follows:—

	Qrs.
1st Feb., 1902	1,358,000
1st Feb., 1901	1,650,000
1st Feb., 1900	1,695,000

The price of mixed American maize in London is maintained, owing to genuine scarcity.

There is a decidedly improved sale for barley, especially for seed qualities and for the brighter samples. The country markets have been a trifle in advance of Mark Lane in this respect, but London looks like waking up for barley. There are buyers of best Norfolk and of finest Saale at 40s. There are enquiries for 448lb. on chak at 32s. to 34s., and there are fairly good sales of 448lb. Californian at 26s. to 28s. for fine, 24s. to 26s for fair average quality. A few samples of Danish have been making 27s. to 28s.; Yerli, 20s. to 22s., and New Zealand, 23s. to 29s. per qr. The Tripoli Barley newly to hand is, however, very poor stuff, and 18s. is the price that has had to be accepted. No change in Russian or Roumanian marked the last six days of January trade.

Oats are in somewhat better demand. Some business is being done for June shipment from the Baltic at 17s. 9d. per 304lb., which is not widely different from the spot price of light North Russian. Scarcely any American oats are obtainable.

There are a few buyers of Canadian peas at 37s., and of old dick beans at 42s., but for the most part the trade in pulse has lacked energy.

The linseed trade is decidedly strong, and more money has been obtained since the 29th ult. There is still a good inquiry at the rise. Cottonseed has fluctuated daily, but closed on Saturday afternoon weak. There is much complaint about the commoner makes of cotton cake, and the vendors of the unconverted article strongly support the idea of a Government standard for cake. The value of the oilseed itself is so unquestionable that the fullest tests are to be courted by its holders.

LONDON TERM MARKET.

This market is held twice a day, except on Saturday, when there is no afternoon call. The market is open to elected members only. No business except for future delivery is done, and the smallest quantity that can be purchased is 1,000 quarters, or 4,800 centals. The name of the month stands for guaranteed delivery (if required) on or before the last day of that month, and the following have been the prices per cental recently made:—

WHEAT.—Calls.	Jan. s. d.	March. s. d.	June. s. d.
Jan. 27 11 a.m.	6 2	6 3	6 3
4 p.m.	6 2	6 3	6 3
Jan 28 11 a.m.	6 2	6 3	6 3
4 p.m.	6 2	6 3	6 3
Jan. 29 11 a.m.	6 2	6 3	6 3
4 p.m.	6 2	6 3	6 3
Jan. 30 11 a.m.	6 2	6 3	6 3
4 p.m.	6 2	6 3	6 3
Jan. 31 11 a.m.	6 0	6 3	6 3
4 p.m.	6 0	6 3	6 3
Feb. 1 11 a.m.	6 0	6 3	6 3
To-day noon	—	6 3	6 4

The Term Market standard wheat is No. 1 Northern Spring American sold on the Duluth certificate. Other sorts of wheat can be bought at the above prices plus or minus agreed difference between the other sort and the standard quality. Quotations are by the "true hundredweight" or cental of 100 lb. We do not give fractions of a penny per cental. The maize quoted is fair average quality from the United States.

The deposit required from members of the Term Market has been fixed at £50 minimum and 1s. per quarter margin on any purchases above 1,000 quarters.

The Term Market (while the "Baltic" is rebuilding) is temporarily situated at the Great Eastern Hotel, No. 190, Bishopsgate Street, ground floor.

Wheat sales for future delivery during January amounted to 5,030,000 qrs.

Maize to-day was held at 4s. 7d. per cental for February and March, and at 4s. 9d. for April to

LONDON TOP PRICE FLOUR.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1901.

		s.	d.
September 2	(per sack)	29	0
,, 28	,,	28	0

(No official change since last date given.)

THIS DAY'S MARKETS

MARK LANE, MONDAY.

[FIRST REPORT.]

There was more doing at to-day's market, and the feeling among grain holders was not so depressed as at the January exchanges. A good demand for chicken and feeding wheat at 26s. to 28s. was experienced, while milling wheat of the home crop went off fairly briskly at 29s. to 30s. per 504 lb.; red, 30s. to 31s. per fine "fluff" white. Shortberry New Zealand was about the cheapest foreign sort, while old Duluth at 32s. 6d. to 33s. was about the dearest. Californian was offered at 31s., with buyers at 30s. 6d. per qr. The demand for Indian and Russian wheat was small, but supply being small also, value was fully supported. Crushed Odessa barley had a fair sale at 8s. per bag of 152 lb., while a guinea per qr. was paid for pure Danubian weighing 416 lb. There was an improved inquiry for samples fit for seed, and 40s. was not grudged for anything specially good. Beans and peas were more firmly held, owing to the severe weather. Tares were in good request. "Bluff" New Zealand oats made 25s. 6d., and all sorts of oats were firmer from the 27th ult. Maize was in improved request at previous rates, and the feeling in this branch of trade was more hopeful than at the close of January.

QUOTATIONS OFF STANDS.

Feb. 3, 1902.

BRITISH GRAIN.

		s.	s.
WHEAT, White (new)	(per 504 lb.)	29	— 32
,, (old)	,,	30	— 33
Red (new)	,,	28	— 30
,, (old)	,,	29	— 30
Chicken or Feed	(per 480 lb.)	26	— 28
BARLEY, Malting	(per 448 lb.)	32	— 40
Brewing	,,	27	— 30
Feeding	(per 400 lb.)	24	— 26
MALT, English	(per 336 lb.)	35	— 41
Scotch	,,	37	— 39
Black	,,	30	— 32
Brown	,,	29	— 32
Crystallized	,,	33	— 35
OATS, English, New Winter	,,	21	— 22
,, ,, Tartary	,,	20	— 21
,, Old Winter	,,	22	— 24
,, ,, Tartary	,,	21	— 22
Scotch	,,	22	— 24
Irish	(per 304 lb.)	19	— 20
RYE, British	(per 480 lb.)	23	— 25
BEANS, Pigeon	,,	36	— 40
Winter	,,	31	— 35
Mazagan	,,	30	— 32
PEAS, Best Marrowfat	(per 504 lb.)	65	— 75
Blue (boiling)	,,	60	— 70
Dun	,,	31	— 33
Maple	,,	36	— 40
TARES, Winter	(per 504 lb.)	50	— 54
Spring	,,	44	— 46

FOREIGN GRAIN.

(Ex-Granary.)

	s.	s.
WHEAT, per 496 lb.		
Old Duluth	32/6	—33
Manitoba	31 6	—32
American Spring	31 6	—32
Red Winter	31	—31/6
Hard ,,	30 6	—31
Kansas	30 6	—31
Californian	30 9	—31
Walla Walla	30	—30 6
Australian	30	— 31
New Zealand	29	— 30
Argentine	30	— 31
Danzig	32	— 33
Saxonka	31	— 32
Azima	30	— 31
Ghirka	29	— 30
Indian	29	— 30
MAIZE, per 480 lb.:		
Russian	22	— 24
Roumanian	22	— 24
Turkish	23	— 24
American	27	—27/3
Argentine	24	— 25
OATS:		
N' Zeal'd (384 lb.)	25	— 31
Swedish (336 lb.)	21	— 23
Canadian (320 lb.)	20	— 21
American (320 lb.)	20	— 21
K'nigsb'g (320 lb.)	20	— 21
Pet'sburg (304 lb.)	19	— 20
L'bau,w'te(304 lb.)	19	— 20
,, black ,,	19	— 20
Vologda (304 lb.)...	19	— 20
BEANS, per 480 lb.:		
Egyptian	33	— 34
Smyrna	31	— 32
New Zealand	34	— 36

	s.	s.
LOCUST BEANS, per ton:		
Italian	102	— 104
Cyprian	106	— 112
Portuguese	105	— 107
PEAS, per 504 lb.:		
Canadian, White...	37	— 38
Australian, White.	41	— 42
New Zeal'd Maple	39	— 41
MILLET, per 416 lb.:		
White	33	— 45
Red	25	— 27
Yellow	22	— 24
DARI, per 480 lb.:		
Smyrna	24	— 25
Persian	21	— 23
RYE, per 480 lb.:		
Russian	24	— 25
BUCKWHEAT, per 416 lb		
French	24	— 25
Russian	24	— 26
TARES, per 504 lb.:		
Konigsberg	44	— 49
BARLEY:		
New Zeal'd (448 lb.)	26	— 29
Chilian (448 lb.)	30	— 40
Californian (448 lb.)	26	— 34
French (448 lb.)	27	— 29
Danubian (400 lb.)	19	— 21
Ouchak (400 lb.)	24	— 32
Yerli (400 lb.)	21	— 22
Russian (400 lb.)	18/0	— 19
MALT, per 336 lb:		
Californian	35	—
Smyrna	35	—

OIL SEEDS.

LINSEED. per 416 lb.	s.	s.
English	58	to 60
Dutch	57	to 59
Bombay	58	to 60
Calcutta	55	to 56
Russian	56	to 57
Argentine	51	to 53
SESAME. per 424 lb.		
Indian	48	to 50
COTTON SEED per ton.		
Egyptian	128	to 130

RAPESEED. per 416 lb	s.	s.
English	56	to 60
Calcutta	41	to 43
Guzerat	42	to 44
Ferozepore	37	to 39
Jamba	29	to 30
Ravison	28	to 29
POPPYSEED. per 377 lb.		
Indian	46	to 47
SUNFLOWERSEED. per 448lb.		
Russian	41	to 45

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

By Telephone, 2 p.m.

THE RATHER HEAVY SNOWFALL DURING MARKET HOURS MADE THE CLOSE OF TRADE STRONG IN TONE; BUT IT REDUCED THE ATTENDANCE OF BUYERS.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE Monday

There was a stronger tone about the Exchange to-day, and the very finest of American oats were often held from 24s. 6d., a 6d. rise from the close of January. Choice Minnesota Patents came at 22s. 6d. per sack. Kansas flour seems to be all but unobtainable for future shipment, a fact which naturally tends to enhance spot values. Some cheap baking flour, at 17s., was taken up, while 14s. 9d. accepted for Red Dog also attracted buyers. If the wintry weather continues feeding flour is likely to appreciate in value. Country flour, with a free supply for the time of year, was no better on the week. A few fancy patents made 24s. per sack. Holders were firmer in tone, despite the slow sales.

London flour was in improved request at the 6d. decline allowed last week. The market for town households at 21s. 9d. to 22s. appeared to be hardening. Australian was dull, but firm. Hungarian was again the turn dearer. French continued neglected. The very wintry conditions prevailing caused some holders to ask a little more money towards the close, but the light was not good for the inspection of samples, and no very big business was done in any type.

LONDON FLOUR.

		s. s.
Top Price	(per sack)	—25
Town Whites	,,	—27/6
,, Households	,,	—21/6
No. 2	,,	—19/6

COUNTRY FLOUR.

Best Patents	(per sack)	22/6—23
Fine Roller made	,,	21/9—22
Ordinary Roller made	,,	20/6—21
Best Stone made	,,	20/6—20
Ordinary Stone made	,,	19/6—20

FOREIGN FLOUR.

Minnesota First Patents	(per sack)	23 — 24
,, Second Patents	,,	21 — 22
,, First Bakers'	,,	19 — 20
,, Second Bakers'	,,	18 — 19
Milwaukee Patents	,,	22 - 23
,, Bakers	,,	18 — 19
Kansas Patents	,,	22/6—23
,, Bakers'	,,	18 6—20
Cascadia	,,	21 — 22
Canadian	,,	22 — 23
Australian Patents	,,	20 — 22
,, Straight	,,	19 — 21
Hungarian	,,	28 — 32
French	,,	20 — 21

MEAL, &c.

Whole Meal	(per ton)	170—174
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	111—113
Bran, London Broad	,,	108—110
,, ,, Fine	,,	96— 98
,, Country Flake	,,	114—118
,, ,, Broad	,,	106—108
Pollard	,,	102—104
Fine Middlings	,,	118—120
Coarse Middlings	,,	108—110
Feeding Flour (Red Dog)	,,	114—118
Barley Meal	,,	124—128
Rye Flour	,,	150—155
Oat Meal	,,	240—300
Oat Flour	,,	340—360
Maize Flour	,,	164—166
Maize Meal	,,	122—126
Maize Cones	,,	170—172
Maize Germ Meal	,,	110—115
Pea Meal	,,	130—150
Bean Meal	,,	145—165
Rice Meal	,,	96—100

THE BALTIC, 1 p.m.

STATE OF TRADE.

The market for wheat cargoes has opened with a fair amount of business doing at Saturday's best terms. Maize may be quoted 3d. dearer, and cottonseed cargoes are also a little in seller's favour, as compared with the weak close of the trade on Saturday.

BUSINESS DONE.

Flour.—Trade to-day has been quiet, but firm at last week's prices.—T. S. MEDILL AND SONS, Mark Lane.

WHEAT.—Californian, 30s 6d off coast; Californian, 30s 3d prompt shipment; Walla-Walla, 29s prompt shipment; No. 1 Northern Manitoba, 28s 6d prompt shipment; No. 1 Hard Manitoba, 30s 6d prompt shipment; Argentine, 30s prompt shipment; Australian, 30s 3d prompt shipment; Russian Winter, 30s 6d prompt shipment.

MAIZE.—Roumanian, 22s on passage; Galatz, 22s 6d on passage; American, 26s on passage; Argentine, 22s May shipment.

BARLEY.—Russian, 17s 9d on passage; Californian, 24s 3d on passage.

OATS.—Konigsberg, 20s prompt shipment; Roumanian, 18s prompt shipment.

TARES.—Syrian, 23s 6d prompt shipment.

PEAS.—Canadian, 36s 3d arrived.

DARI.—Smyrna, 23s prompt shipment.

LINSEED.—Morocco, 58s arrived.

HOPS.

Borough, Monday.—W. H. Le May report:—The extremely low prices prevailing for English hops is causing consumers to buy more than their usual requirements, and many are being placed in cold stores.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORTS.

Maize-germ meal for shipment (American) may be purchased at from £6 2s. 6d. to £6 5s. free to truck. Rice Meal.—A little lot ex dock easily commands £5 6s. 3d., while a shipment afloat is quoted £5 ex ship.—JOHN BURSTALL AND CO. (Mark Lane).

The arrivals of wheat and flour are small. Trade is firm and prices of both articles are fully maintained. There is no change in value of maize, barley, and oats.—COVENTRY (Mark Lane).

The imports of wheat last week were light. At to-day's market demand is not active, but sellers hold for an advance of 3d. on last Monday's prices. Maize shows no change, but oats and barley are against buyers.—W. P. WOOD AND CO., Mark Lane.

The trade for milling offals, although not very brisk, is firmer, with prices against buyers, due to the colder weather. Coarse middlings are being 2s. 6d. per ton dearer.—JOHN BAWCOMB AND CO., Mark Lane.

Flour.—Stocks of flour on spot getting into smaller compass, sellers are commanding better prices, and the tone of the market has become firmer with an upward tendency. Values on spot are as follows:—1st Spring Patents, 24s. 3d. to 25s.; 2nd Spring Patents, 23s. 3d. to 23s. 9d.; American Winter Patents, 24s. 3d. to 25s.; Extra Fancies, 22s. 3d. to 22s. 9d.—GREENHILL BROTHERS (Belfast).

Offals.—Bran continues in moderate demand. Prices unchanged, but, if anything, in buyer's favour.—GREENHILL BROTHERS (Belfast).

Flour.—Prices continue in buyer's favour, there being an entire indisposition to enter into fresh contracts.

Grain.—Round and flat corn are unchanged on the week. Oats and barley are lower to sell. Pease being scarce on spot are held at full prices. Beans are 1½d. to 3d. cheaper. Oatmeal 6d. per sack down.

Mill Stuffs.—Bran and thirds 2s. 6d. per ton lower.—MCKINNON & MCDONALD (Glasgow).

FEEDING STUFFS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed cakes: There has been a fairly active demand during the past week, and with only limited supplies of foreign, the tone of the market has slightly improved, while in some instances an advance of 2s 6d to 5s per ton is demanded. Russians move off steadily at unchanged prices. Americans are only sparingly offered at last week's quotations. Calcutta-made in bags remain relatively cheap and unchanged in price. London-made have been in more request, and crushers have raised their prices, and now ask 2s 6d to 5s per ton more money. Cotton cakes: With a considerable falling-off in the demand, and some heavy supplies of foreign, coupled with the fact that most of the English mills are running on cottonseed, values have given way 2s 6d to 5s per ton, and best brands of Egyptian are obtainable at 1s 3d to 2s 6d per ton less money, while there are sellers of English at the same reduction. Decorticated are without change, and meal offers at 1s 3d per ton less money, while for Feb.-March shipment some business has been done at £6 6s 3d c.i.f. Rape cakes: Quiet. East Indian, £4 5s. Maize germ meal: There is practically no American to be had on spot, but shippers are more reasonable in their ideas, and are willing to entertain bids of £5 10s c.i.f. for early despatch from the mill. English goes quietly into consumption at £5 17s 6d to £6. Rice meal: Stocks of Rangoon are exceedingly small, and, with only a limited quantity afloat, values are firmly held up, landed lots making £5 5s to £5 7s 6d, while £5 to £5 1s 3d ex ship terms is the price asked for near at hand parcels.

		Per ton. £ s. d.	Per ton. £ s. d.
LINSEED CAKES.			
London made	ex mill	8 5 0	to 8 10 0
American	ex dock	7 5 0	to 7 7 6
Russian, in mats	ex dock	7 10 0	to 7 12 6
Russian, in bags	ex dock	7 15 0	to 7 17 6
Calcutta		7 12 6	to 7 15 0
COTTONSEED CAKES.			
London made	ex mill	4 10 0	to 4 12 6
Egyptian	ex dock	4 8 9	to 4 10 0
Decorticated	ex dock	6 11 3	to 6 16 3
Meal	ex dock	6 10 0	to 6 12 6
RAPE CAKES.			
East India		4 5 0	to —
MAIZE.			
English germ meal	ex mill	5 17 6	to 6 0 0
American		—	to —
RICE MEAL.			
Rangoon	in warehouse	5 5 0	to 5 7 6

—PINNOCK BROS., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

SEEDS.

London, Monday.—Our market to-day was fairly attended, and a fair business was transacted. The supply of English red clover was moderate, but only best samples found buyers. There was a moderate sale for Canadian red, the only new foreign which is cheap enough for this market. White clover has advanced by leaps and bounds, and is still talked higher. Alsike and trefoil are firm. Perennial and Italian grasses are quiet. Both winter and spring tares are dearer, the former being about exhausted, and eagerly sought for. Canary-seed is very quiet. Haricots and blue peas will find buyers with colder weather.—JOHN PICARD AND CO.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington

Monday, February 3rd, 1902.

	British.	Total.	Feb. 4th, 1901.
Beasts	1,440	1,440	1,190
Sheep and lambs	9,920	9,920	7,240
Calves	10	10	5
Pigs	—	—	60
Milch cows	50	50	70

Quotations per 8lb (sinking the offal).

	ENGLISH. Inferior.	Second.	First.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Beasts	2 8 ..	4 0 ..	4 9
Sheep	3 4 ..	4 8 ..	5 4
Lambs	5 4 ..	6 0 ..	6 6

Milch cows, per head, £15 to £22 10s.

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, 64; Eastern Counties, 719; Midland, home, and Western Counties, 503; Devon, 30; Ireland, 124.

In the beast market to-day there was an increase of 220 head compared with last Monday, due to larger arrivals from Norfolk, and of fat shed cows from the home districts; of these latter the consignments were heavier than has been known for many months. Trade for beasts of both prime and second quality was steadier, and a clearance is expected. Fat cows were in good request, but owing to the increased supply made only late rates; fat bulls were shorter in number and sold readily. The following are top quotations per 8lb (sinking the offal):—

	To-day.	Feb. 4, 1901.
Scotch	4s 8d to 4s 9d	4s 7d to 4s 8d
Devons	4s 6d to 4s 8d	4s 6d to 4s 8d
Norfolks	4s 6d to 4s 8d	4s 7d to 4s 8d
Lincolns	4s 4d to 4s 6d	4s 2d to 4s 3d
Irish	4s 4d to 4s 6d	4s 2d to 4s 3d
Fat cows	3s 10d to 4s 0d	3s 6d to 3s 8d

In the sheep market there was an increase of 2,260 in the number penned compared with Monday last. Amongst these was a larger supply of lambs, which were difficult to vend even at a reduction of 10d per 8lb. lower. Trade for wether sheep was dull, and still more so for ewes, at a decline of 1d to 2d per 8lb. The supply included 330 Scotch and 5,210 from the Eastern Counties. Undermentioned quotations are at per 8lb (sinking the offal), and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day.	Feb. 4, 1901.
7½ to 8st Downs	5s 2d to 5s 4d	5s 10d to 6s 0d
9st Downs	5s 0d to 5s 2d	5s 10d
10st Halfbreds	4s 8d to 4s 10d	5s 6d to 5s 8d
10st Yorkshires	—	—
12st Lincolns	4s 4d to 4s 6d	5s 2d to 5s 4d
10st Irish	—	—
10st Down Ewes	3s 10d to 4s 0d	4s 4d to 4s 6d
11st Half-bred do	3s 8d to 3s 10d	4s 2d to 4s 4d
5st Fat Lambs	6s 4d to 6s 6d	7s 8d to 7s 10d
6st Half-bred do	5s 10d to 6s 0d	6s 10d to 7s 0d

No pigs on the market.

London, Monday.—Good supplies. Trade slow. Beef carcasses, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; hind quarters, 4s 8d to 5s; roastings, 5s 4d to 6s. Sheep, ewe, 2s 10d to 3s; wether, 3s 8d to 4s; hind quarters, ewe, 3s 8d to 4s; wether, 5s to 5s 4d. Pigs, large, 3s 8d to 4s; small, 4s to 4s 4d.

St. Ives, Monday.—Beasts, 203; sheep, 312; pigs, 418; beef, 7s to 7s 9d; mutton, 7s 7d to 9s 4d; pork, 6s 3d to 7s 3d; sows, 5s to 5s 6d. Fat cattle fair trade; stores slow. Fat and store sheep fair trade. Fat and store pigs good demand. Milch cows short supply; good demand for best; prices, £14 to £23.

FOREIGN CATTLE.

Deptford, Monday.—No beasts on offer here to-day. Sheep numbered 910 from the United States, which were held back on Saturday last. Trade was of a slow but fairly steady nature, all on offer finding buyers. Best pens of wethers were quoted at 4s per 8lb, offal given in; ewes, 3s 8d to 3s 10d. On Saturday the supply consisted of 1,490 beasts and 1,682 sheep, both from the United States. For the former trade was firmer, both in regard to tone and value, and for the latter rather slow at following quotations per 8lb. offal given in:—Best quality beasts, 4s 8d; seconds, 4s 4d; best pens of sheep, 3s 10d. The following were the numbers on offer on the corresponding day last year, with the current top rates:—Beasts, 310, 4s 4d to 4s 5d, to dress about 720lb. No sheep on the market.

Liverpool, Monday.—There were a few more cattle in market to-day; demand better, and last week's prices fully maintained. Sheep shown in larger numbers; trade slow; prices for best Scotch a shade higher; others unaltered. Beef, 6½d to 5½d per lb; mutton, 8d to 5d per lb. At market—1,353 cattle and 4,036 sheep.

London, Monday.—Linseed Cake.—English-made is again dearer. American and Russian tend upwards as stocks are getting depleted. Decorticated cake and meal firm, unchanged. Undecorticated in good supply and prices a trifle lower. Linseed in the early part of the week still further advanced, but has since relapsed.

English Linseed Cake	8 5 0	to 8 10 0	ex mill.
American Calcutta Linseed Cake	7 17 6	,, 0 0 0	ex quay
,, Western ,,	7 5 0	,, 7 7 6	,,
Russian Oil Cake	7 10 0	,, 7 17 6	,,
Feeding Cake, Samuelson's S.P.F. (10 to 12 per cent. O.)			ex warehouse.
Compo Cake, Samuelson's S.P.F. (7 to 9 per cent. O.)			do.
Decorticated Cotton Cake	6 10 0	,, 6 17 6	ex quay
do. do. Meal	6 12 6	,, 6 15 0	do.
London-made do. Cake (best)	4 12 6	,, 4 15 0	ex mill
Egyptian do. do. (in bgs)	4 10 0	,, 4 12 6	ex quay
Burton Desiccated Ale Grains (bags included)	5 6 3		on rail, Burton.
Guinness' Desiccated Porter Grains (bags included)			ex warehouse, London.
Rangoon Rice Meal			ex warehouse.
Russian Linseed in bulk, per 416 lbs	2 13 0		ex w'r'h'se.
Calcutta Linseed in bags, per 4 0 lbs	2 15 0	to	do.

ROBERT AND JOHN HEWETSON.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—The arrivals from Ireland last week were 1,918 bales bacon, and from foreign ports 8 547 bales bacon. There was a slightly better demand for bacon last week, though not sufficient to clear up the old stocks. Best Irish met a readier sale, and fat Canadian bacon, from 40s to 44s, was more freely taken up; prices ranged for Irish from 46s to 54s up to 61s; Danish, 44s to 53s up to 57s; Canadian, 40s to 46s up to 52s to 54s. The butter market was generally steadier, and prices showed but little alteration. Lard was quiet and unchanged.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW.

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS.")

Trade in London.

Trade for fat beasts at Islington, with lighter supplies of prime quality, was slightly firmer in tone, but no advance in value can be noted. The finish on the chief market day of the week proved dull and heavy, without a clearance being made for butchering cows and bulls. Trade on both market days was somewhat steadier, not that there was any increase in the demand, but solely to the fact that the number on offer was so much smaller. The following were the decreases from the respective districts:—Scotland, 41; Ireland, 25; Norfolk, 94; Midland and Home Counties, 50. So far as beasts were concerned at Deptford, the trade was confined to Saturday. Here trade ruled rather slowly, last week's rates governing all transactions. The total number on offer at both markets was 2,900; previous week, 5,140, consisting of 1,410 British—decrease 120; and 1,490 from the United States—foreign decrease, 2,120. The following were the top rates obtained per 8 lbs., sinking the offal:—90 stone Polled Aberdeens, 4s. 9d.; 90 stone Polled Norfolks, 4s. 8d.; 100 stone Shorthorn ditto, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 7d.; 100 stone Lincolns, 4s. 6d.; 110 stone ditto, 4s. 4d.; 95 stone Irish, 4s. 3d. to 4s. 4d.; 90 stone States, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 7d.; 90 stone fat cows, 4s.; 100 stone fat bulls, 3s. 8d. At the Islington Cattle Market, trade for wethers, with a fairly moderate supply, was firm and steady at last week's quotations, there being more demand for ewes, especially in the early part of the week, owing to the absence of any at Deptford, trade at that market being confined to Saturday. The total number penned was 11,068, consisting of 8,560 British—increase, 140; 2,508 foreign (decrease 4,337), these latter comprising shipments from the United States. Best pens made per 8 lbs. as follows (sinking the offal):—7½ to 8 stone Downs, 5s. 6d.; 8 stone Scotch, 5s. 6d.; 9 stone Downs, 5s. 4d.; 10 stone ditto, 5s. to 5s. 2d.; 10 stone half-breds, 4s. 10d.; 12 stone Lincolns, 4s. 8d.; 10 stone ewes, 4s. 2d.; 11 stone Hampshires, 5s. 2d.; 5 stone fat lambs, 7s. 4d.; 6 stone half-bred ditto, 6s. 10d. The calf trade, with 50 on offer, was quite nominal. Pigs numbered 85, and met with forced sales, best small breeds being quoted at 4s. 6d. per 8lbs.

Trade in the West.

The sharp snap of really wintry weather, accompanied as it was by a considerable fall in some districts, will undoubtedly give a check to the trade in certain classes of store things, should the weather continue for long as cold as it was on Thursday, the first to feel the effects of the change being barreners, which up to the present have been meeting with a highly satisfactory sale, the abundance of keep everywhere sending prices up very materially, which will be well understood when we mention that all the bettermost grades of bullocks have been readily caught up, as much of from £24 to £30 per pair and over, almost the price of the ordinary runs of fat heifers, unless above the usual weights. Of course this has tended very materially to strengthen the tone of the beef trade, and to keep prices to the very satisfactory level that has now ruled for some time past. Milch beasts will hardly be affected to the extent of barreners, though we may see a falling off in the demand for this class of stock as well should we experience anything like a rigorous winter. Just now good heifers and calves are selling very well from £16 10s. to £20, which we may quote as the general run for anything like reliable milchers. That sheep are badly wanted in many districts no one will attempt to deny, and to this must be ascribed the satisfactory price realised for all useful kinds of store sheep, which is a distinctly encouraging feature, seeing the acute depression which has characterised the mutton trade now for some time past, the general run of which is from 6d. to 7d. per lb. Fat bullocks continue to maintain a very healthy tone as regards both demand and price, all the more useful qualities of steers and heifers selling at from 11s. to 11s. 6d. per score, and cows 10s. to 10s. 6d. Of course, beef can be bought for less money, but this refers only to contract bullocks and similar grades. Fat calves rule steady at from 7d. to 7½d. per lb., a price that is only exceeded in special cases; the more ordinary runs of veal selling from 6d. to 6½d. Fat pigs are an unusually buoyant trade, porkers especially, which make 10s. 6d. to 11s. per score, and baconers 10s. to 10s. 3d. The heavier class of pigs—coarse sows—have suffered a slight check, and prices within the last few days have declined 3d. to 6d. per quarter. But this is the only class affected. Taken all round, the stock markets in this part of the country are in a fairly healthy state, and, as far as we can judge at present—barring anything exceptional in the way of the weather—there is nothing likely to seriously affect the business in the coming spring, either in regard to demand or, what is still of greater importance, price either.

Trade in Ireland.

A slight increase in the number of cattle, and a pretty heavy decrease in sheep did not seem to influence last Thursday's Dublin market for the better, as business was very dull; neither the attendance of north of Ireland buyers nor of local butchers was as large as usual, and those present were very cautious in their transactions. Choice qualities of beef and mutton were not plentiful, and for really well finished last day's prices were just maintained, but for all other sorts values were decidedly easier, ordinary descriptions of cattle being down perhaps 10s. and sheep 2s. per head. The inquiry for really first-class bullocks was keen and made full values, despite strenuous efforts made by shippers to effect a reduction; for coarse cattle concessions had to be made, and even then a large number had to be left over unsold. Prime ox and heifer beef made from 52s. 6d. to 55s. per cwt., and extra good lots 56s. to 59s.; good seconds, 46s. 6d. to 52s., and inferior 42s. 6d. to 45s. Really nice wethers and ewes suitable for the Dublin trade were picked up early in the day at previous rates, but after that little business was done, the north of Ireland and Lancashire and Midland buyers being very slack in their transactions. There appears to be a good deal of difference of opinion with regard to the value of home trade mutton, butchers contending that sheep are killing very badly, and that wethers for which they are paying 7d. per lb. are really costing them from 7½d. to 7½d. The currencies were:—For prime wether mutton, 6½d. to 7½d. per lb; prime ewes, 5½d to 6½d.; inferior, 4½d. to 5d. Small, middling hoggets, 26s. to 32s.; and heavy do., from 42s. to 50s. each. There were only a few lambs on the market, but for private delivery fat house lambs were offering at 40s. each. Very little veal, and the few choice calves made fancy prices, fully 9d. per lb. being paid for them. Rough calves very irregular. Milch cows in moderate supply, and choice springers being scarce, £23 was paid for good animals. In the pig market supplies were large, heavy consignments having been sent up from country fairs. There was a good attendance of English and local buyers, but business was decidedly flat, and values all round may be written down at least 2s. per cwt. The store stock markets throughout the country are still in an unsettled state. The unusually fine weather during the first three weeks of the year made some stir in young cattle, but the severe ending up January stopped all speculation, as all sorts of forage are dear. There is some demand for forward aged bullocks and good yearlings, but prices are low. Beef in the southern markets makes from 54s. to 56s. for best, while cattle of coarse quality do not make more than 40s. per cwt. Well-finished sheep are in demand, and choice light wethers in Cork market are fetching up to 7½d. and 8d. per lb. In the same market from 45s. to 50s. each is given for fat lambs.

LONDON.

Islington, Thursday.—Good supplies of beasts, and, as usual on Thursday, the bulk comprised fat bulls and rough cattle. The demand was of a generally quiet character, but prices marked little or no change. Fat bulls, 3s 4d to 3s 8d. Fair supplies of sheep were penned, but met with slow request, only a limited business being passed at about late rates. 7½ to 8-stone Down wethers, 5s 2d to 5s 4d; 9-stone ditto, 5s to 5s 2d; 10-stone half-breds, 4s 10d; 10-stone Down ewes, 4s to 4s 2d; 11-stone half-bred ditto, 3s 10d to 4s. Pigs were unchanged; neat, small porkers, 4s 8d to 4s 10d. Calves ruled dearer, the best on offer making 5s 8d per 8lb. to cook the offal.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Trade generally slow and dragging, though mutton was scarce. Best steers and heifers, 11s to 12s. Small veal, down and half-bred wethers and maids, 4s 10d to 5s per 8lb. Kent wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 6d. Veal, 4s d8 to 5s 4d. Roasting pigs, 10s 6d to 11s.

Basingstoke, Wednesday.—At Ravnbird and Sons' saleyard there was a fair attendance of buyers to meet a supply consisting of 41 fat beasts, 53 calves, 431 fat sheep, 282 pigs, and 44 head of dairy and store cattle, for which the following prices were realised:—Prime Devon steers were sold up to £21 10s, shorthorn heifers £18 15s, a good Kerry cow £15 5s, and maiden heifer £17 15s, young Welsh steers £16, bulls up to £17. Prime quality fat sheep and lambs realised from 44s to 53s 6d; twelve months old ditto, 35s to 43s 6d; fat ewes from 33s to 47s; rams, 38s to 45s; fat calves, £5 5s; smaller, 15s to 50s; fat hogs, 60s to £5 6s; porkers, 48s to 62s 6d; smaller, 28s to 44s; store pigs, 14s 6d to 25s 6d; dairy cows, up to £18 5s. The main part of the supply of fat beasts were second class, for which the trade was slow, and lower prices had to be taken to effect sales. The few prime quality ones on offer were cleared at late rates. Fat sheep were penned in average numbers. Trade ruled slow throughout. For the very best quality young sheep and ewes of good quality recent values were maintained, but several pens of half-fat tegs left the ring unsold, vendors' ideas of value not being realised. A short entry of dairy cattle and prices ruled high, with a good demand for all best quality milchers. Store cattle continue a slow business. Fat calves are scarce, and realise more money. Fat hogs and porkers met a better trade at an advance. Store pigs continue very dear. Ruling values:—Prime Devon beasts, 6¾d to 7½d; ditto shorthorn, 5½d to 6½d; bulls, cows, and inferior beasts, 4½d to 5½d per lb; best quality sheep, 7d to 8d; second ditto, 6d to 7d; old ewes, rams, and inferior, 5d to 6d per lb; fat calves, 6d to 8d per lb; fat hogs, up to 10s 6d; porkers, 11s 6d per score. The monthly sale of hay, straw, and feed consisted of 9 ricks of hay and 2 of straw in the neighbourhoods of Winchfield and Basingstoke. The lots that changed hands realised for ryegrass and mixture 60s to 65s; clover, 75s to 80s in the place; oat straw, 37s. Several lots were held beyond buyers' views.

Braintree, Wednesday.—Messrs. Balls report trade for beef fairly good, for mutton as last week, and for pork very good. Average prices:—Beef, 4s 8d to 5s 2d; mutton, 4s 8d to 5s 4d per stone of 8lbs.; pork, 11s per score. Numbers penned:—Beasts, 53; fat sheep, 120; hogs, 65; Londoners and store pigs 360; store cattle and milking cows, 23; calves 16. There were many buyers of cows and heifers, and an enquiry for hoggets.

Bristol, Thursday.—Fat cattle in good supply. Steady trade, best qualities making 60s to 62s per cwt.; secondary animals, 56s to 58s. Short supply of sheep; best light wethers realised 7¾d per lb.; heavy wethers, 7½d. Ewes, 5½d to 6d.

Bury, Wednesday.—Fat beasts met a sharp trade, at more money, the supply being insufficient for the demand, several buyers from distant counties attending. Several lots of store beasts sold well, considering the shortness of feed. Ten good polled steers made £11 5s per head. Some well-bred yearlings fetched from £10 10s to £8 8s per head. Other lots fetched from £9 5s per head, downwards. There was an improved trade for fat sheep of all descriptions. Shearlings went up to 64s; hoggets up to 55s 6d per head. Very short supply of fat ewes, which were dearer. Hardly any store hoggets penned. About 200 black-faced ewes in lamb sold fairly well, prices ranging from 47s 6d to 43s per head. Shorter supply of pigs. Sharp trade for all heavy weights. London jointers also fetched about late rates.

Calne Friday.—Present prices for prime pigs, in lots of not less than 10, on rail within 100 miles of Calne.

Prime Stores.	Thickness of fat in any part of the Back.	Price per Sc. s.	d.
6 sc. 10 lbs. to 9 sc. 10 lbs.	2½ in. and under ...	9	6
Under 10 sc.	Not exceeding 2¾ in. ...	9	0
Under 11 sc. 10 lb. ...	Not exceeding 2¾ in....	8	6
Under 12 sc.	Not exceeding 3 in. ...		

—C. & T. Harris & Co., Ld.

Cambridge, Monday.—Small show store beast; trade slow. Fat beast fair show; trade better. Fat sheep good number to hand; prices better. Stores only a few lots to hand, and all sold. Fat pigs a good number shown, and trade better. Stores not so many to hand, and a fair trade all round. Hay and roots short supply. Straw good supply, and fair trade. Prices:—Beef, 7s 3d to 8s 3d; mutton, 4s to 5s 4d; pork, 6s to 7s. Beasts, 279; sheep, 579; pigs, 303; horses, 1.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Larger offering of sheep, but demand not brisk. Store tegs, 24s 6d to 30s; large tegs, from 31s to 34s per head.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Owing to the severity of the weather, there are no indications yet of an improvement in the Irish store cattle trade. The supply of heifers and stripping cows was again small, and there being few buyers present, trade was quiet. The smallest heifers were quoted at £7; medium sorts, £9 10s to £12 10s; stripping cows, £9 10s each.

Dorchester, Wednesday.—The market generally has taken a slightly firmer turn, despite the fact of supplies of nearly all kinds coming very freely to hand, both at Messrs. Duke's and Mr. Sampson's sale, the most notable exception to this being the depressed state of the mutton trade, which continues disappointing in the extreme, whether in respect to the best or the more ordinary runs, which in very rare cases now can be quoted over 7½d per lb., the great bulk of the fat sheep now on the market selling from 6d to 7d. Lamb is in better demand at from 34s to 40s each (or 9d per lb. for the best and 8½d for ordinary lots). Fat beasts are a good, steady trade at very firm rates—10s 6d for good useful qualities, and 9s 6d to 10s for cows. Veal follows beef as regards the tone, and we may quote best runs of calves from 6½d to 7½d; rearers also sell well at widely-varying prices up to 40s and over. Pigs also sell well, especially useful weights in both porkers and baconers, the former being worth 10s to 10s 6d and bacon pigs 9s to 9s 6d; coarse heavy pigs not so saleable at 7s to 8s.

Dublin, Thursday.—Numbers in market: Beasts, 2,705—increase, 40; sheep, 4,679—decrease, 365; calves, 30—decrease, 16. Demand for cattle not so good as recently experienced. Best qualities with difficulty made last week's rates; rough and inferior descriptions harder to move, with prices in favour of buyers. Sheep in excess of requirements; choicest descriptions only making late rates. Many rough and inferior lots remaining unsold. Cattle, live-weight, 27s to 34s per cwt; mutton, dead-weight, 6d to 7d per lb; extreme, 7½d per lb.—GANLY, SONS AND CO.

Faversham, Tuesday.—Entries: Sheep, 462; bullocks, 38; bull, 1; calves, 5; pigs, 116; wether mutton, 5s to 5s 4d; barren, 3s to 3s 6d; veal, 5s to 5s 6d per stone; beef, 10s 6d to 12s; pork, 10s to 11s per score.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Bullocks and cows, 661; calves, 82; sheep and lambs, 808; pigs (fat and sows), 37; sucking pigs, 22; pigs (stores, not more than ten), 279; pigs (stores, more than ten), 122. Prices:—Best beef, 6d to 7d per lb; wether sheep, 6½d to 8d per lb; ewes, 5½d to 6d per lb; veal, 7½d per lb; lamb, 9d per lb; pork, 5½d to 6½ per lb; bacon, 4d to 5d per lb.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons report the supply of fat cattle showed but little variation, and consisted mostly of small, neat qualities. Trade was brisk throughout, and prices ruled against buyers. Purchasers were in strong force, including additional representatives from the Midlands. Owing to the fall in values last week, fat sheep were forwarded in much smaller numbers, and met an improved demand at decidedly better prices; Suffolk hoggets to 57s, half-breds to 50s. A good entry of calves; the best for weaning sold well from 67s 6d to 40s; secondary sorts dull; fat calves, 72s 6d to 60. A short supply of fat swine, and a large attendance of buyers. Biddings were brisk, and the setback last week was fully recovered. Store pigs dearer. A moderate entry of grazing cattle, which consisted mostly of yearlings and calves; buyers were very cautious, and a slow trade resulted. Several cows and heifers were offered, and realised rather more money, a good number of heifers being purchased for Warwickshire. Cows made from £17 to £10 10s. Numbers at sales and market:—Beasts 533, calves 49, sheep 667, swine 1,328, horses 10.

Leicester, Wednesday.—Very heavy consignments of Norfolk and Lincoln store-fed bullocks to-day, and the bulk of the stock came to hand in very good condition. Buyers were well represented, but trade ruled slower, and prices declined 10s per head. Choice bullocks, 6¼d to 6¾d; secondary descriptions 6d; cows, 5d to 5¾d, and heifers, 6d to 6¼d per lb. Sheep were a large supply, and choice qualities changed hands more freely at advanced prices, the best lots making 7¼d to 8d; large sheep, 6¾d to 7d; ewes, 5¾d to 6d; calves steady at 7d to 7¼d per lb.

Newport (Mon.), Wednesday.—There was an average supply of cattle, and prices were fully maintained, but the

supply of sheep was somewhat limited. Good attendance of buyers, and brisk trade all round at the following quotations:—Beef, best, 6½d per lb; secondary quality, 6d to 6½d per lb; cows, 5½d to 6d per lb: mutton, best wether, 7½d to 7¾d per lb; ewes, 6d to 6½d per lb; veal, 7d to 8d per lb; pigs, porkers, 10s 6d to 11s per score; baconers, 9s to 9s 6d per score.

Norwich, Saturday.—The supply of store cattle on offer here to-day was small; the demand was inactive, and trade was dull at about former terms. Fat beasts, which were in average supply, made fully late rates, viz., 7s 6d to 8s per 14lb. Store sheep were not offered very freely, but trade continued dull; keeping hoggets were quoted at 25s to 35s per head. Fat sheep, which were in moderate supply, made 7s 6d to 8s and 8s 3d per 14lb.

Romford, Wednesday.—Average supply of fat beasts; trade a little better. Best animals, 4s 6d to 4s 8d; middlings, 4s to 4s 2d per stone. Calves in very short supply; trade a little better, at 5s 4d to 5s 6d per stone. Sheep in short supply; trade a little better. Best sheep, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; middlings, 5s to 5s 2d per stone. Very few store beasts; slow demand. Market still closed for pigs.

Rye, Wednesday.—Number of entries: Sheep and lambs, 550; fat beasts, 20; calves, 2; heifers and steers, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; cows, 3s 6d to 4s; wethers and maids, 4s 6d to 5s 4d; barrens, 3s 8d to 4s; calves, 5s; pigs, 3s 6d to 4s.

Salford, Tuesday.—There was a smaller supply of cattle, and a better trade at last week's full prices. The supply of sheep was also smaller. Trade ruled better, and though prices were not quotably higher the tendency was against the buyer. About the same number of calves in market, and a good demand for best quality at late rates. Cattle, 4½d to 6½d; sheep, 6d to 8½d; calves, 5d to 8d per lb. At market:—Cattle 2,765, sheep 8,354, calves 167.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Small show of milch beasts, but supply equal to demand. Best lots, £17 to £20; secondary, £13 to £16.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday.—Fairly good trade all round, with small supplies of sheep and pigs. Beef and pigs of all kinds higher in price. Quotations:—Beef 5½d to 7d, mutton 6½d to 8½d, and veal 6d to 8d per lb; porket pigs 10s to 11s, and bacons 9s to 10s per score; cows, with calves, up to £21 10s; hay up to £5 5s, and clover up to £4 15s per ton. Number offered:—862 cattle; 44 cows, with calves; 300 sheep; 74 calves; 66 fat, 165 porket, and 292 store pigs. Swedes made about 19s per ton.—B. R. CROXTON.

Spalding, Tuesday.—A short supply of fat beasts; best quality made to 8s per stone; cow beef 7s 6d. Stores sold fairly well at £10 to £17 each. Cows were in demand at good prices. In the sheep market there was a small supply, and trade rather better; mutton 7d; fat hogs to 8d per lb.

Thame, Tuesday.—There was a small supply of stock at market, but the attendance of buyers was much larger than usual, several fresh faces being noticeable, and trade all round showed a marked improvement, and a clearance effected. Beef was in demand, and created a keen competition, best quality making over 5s per stone, and veal 5s to 6s per stone. Mr. Bond's sale comprised 62 fat beast, 82 fat sheep, 45 tat and weaning calves, 137 fat hogs and stores, and 4 horses. Fat bullocks made £16 to £23, fat heifers £11 to £21, fat wethers, 41s to 52s, fat ewes 35s to 45s 6d, fat tegs 33s to 48s 6d, fat calves £3 to £5 6s, cow calves 24s to 52s, bull calves 18s to 46s, fat hogs 10s per score. Stores a better trade.

Wakefield. Wednesday.—Fewer beasts and more sheep. In the beef department trade was better; best sorts made 6¾d: other animals 5d to 6½d. A slow trade for sheep; young animals 7½d and 7¾d; others, 5d to 7½d. Number of beasts, 1,230; sheep, 3,319.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—A fair supply of beasts; moderate trade. Good supply of sheep; slow trade. Small supply of calves; good demand. Beef, 5d to 6½d per lb, mutton 6½d to 8½d per lb; veal, 6½d to 8d per lb; pigs, bacon, 9s 6d per score; porkets, 10s 6d to 11s per score; sows, 7s 6d to 8s per score.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Good show of stock; fair attendance, and good trade. Best quality beef made 7s 3d to 7s 9d per stone; secondary qualities, 6s 6d to 7s 6d per stone. Best wether mutton, 6½d to 7½d; ewes and other sorts, 5d to 6d per lb.

FOREIGN.

Yorkhill, Monday.—At the usual weekly sale of United States and Canadian cattle held to-day, there were in the lairages 688 beasts of the average quality, whilst there was the usual attendance of buyers. Small, neat, well-fed bullocks secured the best inquiry, and sold dear. Secondary and heavier were also in demand, but they scarcely realised the previous Monday's prices, although a clearance was affected. Bulls were in demand and made satisfactory prices. The deadweight quotations were as follows:—States bullocks, best quality, medium weight, 58s, and for really choice up to 60s per cwt; heavy prime, to 56s; secondary and heavier animals, 54s; bulls, best class, to 48s, and in one or two instances they made up to 50s per cwt; secondary and heavier, down to 46s. Canadian bullocks, best class, to 56s per cwt, and for really choice up to 58s; secondary and heavier, 53s to 54s; bulls, 44s to 48s, according to quality and finish.

Yorkhill, Monday.—A sale of United States and Canadian sheep was held in the morning, at which 1,070 animals were on offer, but all were not sold. Wedders formed the greater part of the consignments, but there were also a number of ewes included. All the sheep were presented in good condition, and were up to the usual standard of quality. There was a good attendance of customers, and a fair trade was experienced for all classes. Wedders and shearlings secured the best demand, and made satisfactory prices. The deadweight quotations may be given as follow:—States wedders (a large number shearlings) realised 6½d per lb for handy sorts; heavier, to 6d; Canadian young sheep, best class, to 7d; secondary, 6½d; ewes, best class, to 5d; secondary and heavier, down to 4½d.

Yorkhill, Tuesday.—To-day just over 350 sheep, held over from Monday's sale, were offered and disposed of at an early hour, the deadweight quotation being as follows:—Shearlings, best sorts, to 6½d per lb; secondary and heavier, 6d; wedders, best class, to 6d; and secondary and heavier, to 5½d. A good clearance was affected at an early hour.

BUTTER.

Tuesday.—Bedale: In rolls of 24oz, 1s 10d to 2s per roll. Gainsborough: 1s 3d per lb. Settle: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Stone: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Leeds: York lump, 14s 6d to 15s per stone; do long rolls, 1½lb, 1s 8d to 1s 11d per roll; fresh, in 1lb prints, 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb; Danish, 109s to 114s per 112lb; Irish creameries, 98s to 104s; Colonial, 100s to 106s.

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Boston: 1s 1d to 1s 2d (wholesale), 1s 2d and 1s 3d per lb (retail). Colne: 1s 2½d per lb. Keighley: Wholesale, 1s 2d; retail, 1s 3d. Kirbymoorside: 11d to 1s 1d per lb; 12s to 13s per stone. Knaresborough: Wholesale, 1s 6d to 1s 8d; do. retail, 1s 6d to 1s 10d per roll of 24oz. Louth: Wholesale, 1s per lb. Market Weighton: 1s per lb. Northallerton: 1s 11d to 2s 2d per roll of 24oz. Stockton: 1s 3d to 1s 5d per lb. Worksop: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb.

Wednesday.—Hereford: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Market Drayton: Best, 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb; seconds, 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb.

Thursday.—Brigg: 1s to 1s 2d per lb. Driffield: 1s per lb. Penistone: 1s 2d per lb. Ripon: 1s 11d to 2s 2d per single roll of 24oz. Scarborough: 1s 4d per lb. Wellington: 1s 3d to 1s 5d per lb. Wetherby: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb.

Friday.—Easingwold: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Helmsley: 1s 2d per lb. Leyburn: In rolls of 24oz, 1s 10d to 1s 11d per roll. Lincoln: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Otley: 1s 7d to 1s 9d per roll of 24oz. Leeds: York lump, 15s to 15s 6d per stone: do, long rolls 1½lb, 1s 10d to 2s; fresh in 1lb prints, 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Danish: 110s to 116s per 112lb. Irish creameries: 98s to 104s. Colonial: 100s to 106s. Derby: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb.

Saturday.—Appleby: 1s 1d to 1s 4d per lb. Berwick: 10d to 1s per lb. Carlisle: 1s 4d to 1s 5d per lb. Doncaster: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Grantham: 1s 1d to 1s 3d per lb. Howden: 1s 2d per lb. Lancaster: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Malton: 1s 2d per lb. Pontefract: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Retford: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Richmond: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Skipton: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Stokesley: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Whitby: 1s 2d per lb. York: 1s 2d to 1s 4d per lb.

EGGS.

Tuesday.—Bedale: 9 or 10 for 1s. Gainsborough: 10 for 1s. Settle: 11 or 12 for 1s. Stone: 11 to 12 per 1s. Leeds: Yorkshire, 13s to 14s per 120; Irish, 10s to 13s; Danish, 8s 6d to 10s; Austrian blues, 7s 6d to 8s; do reds, 6s 6d to 7s.

Wednesday.—Hereford: 9 or 10 per 1s, (wholesale) 10 to 12 per 1s. Market Drayton: 10 to 11 for 1s. Barnsley: 8 for 1s. Boston: 12 for 1s. Colne: 2s 7d per score. Keighley: 10 for 1s. Kirbymoorside: 11 or 12 for 1s. Knaresborough: 9 or 10 for 1s. Louth: 14 for 1s. Market Weighton: 12 for 1s. Northallerton: 8 or 9 for 1s. Stockton: 1s 3d to 1s 5d per lb. Worksop: 1s 8d to 1s 9d per score.

Thursday.—Brigg: 11 or 12 for 1s. Driffield: 11 or 12 for 1s. Penistone: 8 for 1s. Ripon: 9 to 12 for 1s. Scarborough: 8 or 9 for 1s. Wellington: 11 to 12 for 1s. Wetherby: 9 to 10 for 1s.

Friday.—Leeds: Yorkshire, 15s to 16s per 120; Irish, 10s to 13s; Danish, 8s 6d to 10s; Austrian blues, 7s 6d to 8s; do reds, 6s 6d to 7s. Easingwold: 12 to 13 for 1s. Leyburn: 12 for 1s. Lincoln: 10 or 11 for 1s. Otley: 10 to 12 for 1s. Derby: 10 for 1s.

Saturday.—Appleby: 10 to 11 for 1s. Berwick: 1s 2d per dozen. Carlisle: 8 or 9 for 1s. Doncaster: 10 or 11 for 1s. Grantham: 10 to 12 for 1s. Howden: 11 for 1s. Lancaster: 8 or 9 for 1s. Malton: 10 or 11 for 1s. Pontefract: 9 for 1s. Retford: 2s to 2s 3d per score. Richmond: 10 for 1s. Skpton: 9 or 10 for 1s. Stokesley: 9 or 10 for 1s. Whitby: 10 for 1s. York: 8 or 9 for 1s.

COLONIAL DAIRY PRODUCE.

London, Friday. — The demand for Australian and New Zealand butter is fully equal to the supply, and prices show an advance of about 2s per cwt. for "choicest" brands. There is a growing demand for Colonial butter at 90s to 96s, but arrivals of this quality are not large, and are consequently soon sold. In fact, the quality suitable for a shilling retail is diminishing weekly, and a keener competition for any pure clean-flavoured butter selling from 92s to 98s is being experienced every day. The Danish official quotation has been raised this week by two kroner, and now stands at 94 kroner, against 103 kroner at this date last year. The low prices at which Danish butter has been offering of late has brought an increased demand; but buyers have not yet realised that prices must make an advance in the near future. The rise in the official quotation yesterday will probably bring this home to many. The demand for Canadian cheese this week has been more for cheese a little under top value than for strictly "choicest" quality. Prices on the spot, however, remain unchanged at 51s to 52s for "choicest," and 47s to 50s for "finest." Quotations for c.i.f. transactions are a little lower on the week, but this is looked upon as temporary, the position generally being regarded as sound. New Zealand cheese is meeting a good demand at 50s to 51s for strictly "choicest," with a few shillings less for "finest."—W. WEDDELL AND CO.

HAY AND STRAW.

Manchester, Wednesday.—Hay, 6¾d to 7¾d; clover, 7½d to 8½d; straw (oat), 6½d per stone.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—Supplies good, but quiet demand and business slow; prices steady. Best clover, 95s to 110s; inferior, 80s to 90s; specially-picked hay, 115s; good, 108s; inferior, 80s to 90s; mixture and sainfoin, 90s to 100s; straw, 28s to 40s per load.

CHEESE.

Newport, Wednesday.—A fair supply, and good attendance. Caerphillies, 65s to 68s; fancy dairies, 70s to 72s; truckles, 60s to 68s; Derbies, 65s to 66s; Cheddars, 60s to 65s.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—The arrivals of home cheese in the Glasgow market were larger this week, but the demand was still dull. What is wanted is a cheap cheese, but that is difficult to get. Dunlops are more in demand than Cheddars. The quotations for Cheddars and Dunlops were from 58s per cwt. New Zealand cheese are not much in demand. Canadians are about over for the season.

SEEDS.

London, Monday.—Messrs. John Shaw and Sons, seed merchants, of Great Maze Pond, Borough, London, S.E., write that there is now a fair seasonable business passing in farm seeds generally. The continued and unprecedented advance in white clover seed constitutes the most interesting feature of the movement. Extreme scarcity of fine seed the world over forms the basis of this remarkable speculative movement, under which values have now reached a point not touched for many years past. Secondary qualities of red seed are meanwhile dull and difficult of sale, but for alsyke and trefoil there is a steady inquiry on former terms. Perennial and Italian ryegrasses realise late rates. The demand for spring tares improves, and at figures favouring holders. Winter vetches are still wanted. As regards canaryseed, although there are numerous and abundant statistical reasons for its getting dearer, this wayward article refuses to advance. White millet of excellent quality is now unusually cheap. Blue peas and haricot beans still move off slowly.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Thursday.—Linseed.—Continued belief in a prospective shortage of the world's supplies, and increased Continental demand, have caused prices to advance considerably. Spot Calcutta to London, 55s; passage 55s to 54s; January, 53s 6d; March, 51s 3d; April-June, 49s 9d to 50s. La Plata December-January, 49s 6d; January-February, 49s 6d. Hull is also dearer; La Plata shipping or shipped, 51s to 50s; December-January, 49s 6d; January-February 49s 6d. To the Continent, Bombay February-March, 53s; March-May, 52s. Calcutta on passage, 54s 9d; March-April, 50s 3d; April-June, 50s. La Plata December-January, 49s 6d; January-February, 49s 6d. Linseed Oil has been very firm, and a smart advance for forward positions has taken place. We quote spot in pipes £29 10s; barrels, £29 15s; February-April, £29 5s; May-August, £29 5s. Hull spot naked, £28 10s; February-April, £28; May-August, £28. Linseed Cakes quiet. We to-day quote London made £7 15s to £8 ex mill; American Western £7 5s to £7 7s 6d; Russian, £7 10s to £7 12s 6d. Cotton cakes quiet; London made £4 10s to £4 12s 6d. Rapeseed meets with more enquiry, and prices are rather dearer. To London we quote Yellow Cawnpore January-February, 41s 6d; Brown Cawnpore, 38s 9d. To the Continent we quote Yelow Guzerat January-February 42s 6d; Yelow Cawnpore, January-February, 41s 6d; Brown Cawnpore, January-February, 38s 9d; Brown Calcutta, 35s 6d; Ferozepore, January-February, 38s 3d; Jamba, March-April, to Hull 30s 3d. Cottonseed has been quiet, and prices are rather inclined to be easier. Spot London, £6 7s 6d; afloat, £6 8s 6d; January, £6 8s 9d; February-March, £6 8s 9d; April, £6 11s 3d; Hull, spot and near, £6 5s; January, £6 6s 3d; February-March, £6 8s 9d. Cargoes, February £6 11s 3d; March, £6 12s 6d; April, £6 13s 9d. Bombay to Hull February-March importers are holding for £4 12s 6d, but resellers are offering at £4 11s 3d.—THE PRODUCE BROKERS COMPANY, LIMITED.

WATERLOO ROUND FEEDING CAKES, £6 12s 6d PER TON. WATERLOO ROUND 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES; £9 10s 0d PER TON; WATERLOO ANGLO SHAPE 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES, £9 7s 6d PER TON; WATERLOO 97 PER CENT. PURE EGYPTIAN COTTONSEED CAKES, £5 0s 0d PER TON. ALL F.O.R. HULL.

MOLASSINE FEEDING MEAL, packed in bags, of 1¼cwt, each. Price per cwt., 7s. 6d. Price per ton, £6 5s., on rail at works, Silvertown, Essex, and F.O.R. Liverpool. A sample lot of 6cwt., in 4 bags of 1½cwt. each, delivered free to any station in England on receipt of remittance for £2 11s 0d

HOPS.

Canterbury, Saturday.—A healthy demand and a fair amount of business. Best growths up to 66s per cwt., but choice pockets occasionally range up to 80s.

Worcester, Saturday.—Trade has been quieter on our market this week, but a few good lots have been sold at the better prices ruling just now. Good qualities are scarcer than ever, and when offered sell readily, but any inferior sorts are difficult to sell.—PIERCY AND CO.

POULTRY AND PROVISIONS.

Smithfield, Saturday.—Good supplies, and trade steadier. Fowls:—Yorkshire, 2s 9d to 3s 6d; Essex, 2s 6d to 3s 3d; Boston, 2s 6d to 3s; Surrey, 3s 6d to 4s 6d; Sussex, 3s 3d to 3s 9d; Welsh, 2s to 2s 6d; Irish, 1s 9d to 2s 3d; turkeys (cocks), 6s to 8s; (hens), 4s to 6s; geese, 5s 6d to 7s; country ducks, 2s 9d to 3s 6d; Irish, 1s 6d to 2s; pigeons, 9d to 1s 1d; quail, 10d to 1s 3d; wild rabbits, 9d to 11d; tame, 10d to 1s 3d each; Australian, 7s 6d to 8s 6d per dozen; pheasants, 4s 6d to 5s 6d; young partridges, 3s to 3s 6d; old, 1s 6d to 1s 8d per brace; hares, 3s to 3s 3d; leverets, 2s to 2s 6d; wild ducks, 1s 9d; pintail, 1s 3d; widgeon, 1s; teal, 10d to 1s; snipe, 8d to 10d; golden plover, 1s to 1s 2d; black, 5d to 7d; Russian capercailzie (cock), 2s 6d to 2s 9d; (hens), 1s 9d; blackgame, 1s to 1s 2d; ptarmigan, 9d to 11d; partridges, 1s to 1s 3d each.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending January 28, 1902:—

| | | |



STOCK AND SHOW NOTES.

By Herdsman.

The Shire horses to be disposed of to-morrow (Tuesday) by order of H.M. the King include many winners, while several are entered for the forthcoming London Show. Most of the animals are in fit condition for showyard training, being healthy and robust, partly owing to their having been grown and wintered on the Wolferton Marshes in full exposure to the storms and winds of the Wash. The King's connection and interest in Shire horse breeding has been of great advantage to the breed, some notable sires having emanated from the Wolferton stud. As an exhibitor, and still more as a breeder of the very best Shires, His Majesty has been most successful, and in the forthcoming sale are animals nearly related to those champion winners, Gloaming and Victor's Queen, which were bred at Sandringham. Nine animals are by Harold, and all in the sale have Lincolnshire Lad or What's Wanted blood, except the promising yearling colt by Desford Vulcan Chief. Many are winners, several are entered for the London Show, and others are likely animals for showyard training. A few very good young stallions and three promising yearling colts are in the sale. Amongst the former is Benedick, splendid and worthy son of his great sire, Prince Harold.

The Warwickshire Agricultural Society's Show will be held this year at Warwick on August 27th and 28th, entries closing on August 2nd with the secretary, Mr. H. Moore, Warwick.

At the request of the Local Committee, the Essex Agricultural Society have altered the date of this year's show at Romford from June 18th and 19th to June 19th and 20th (Thursday and Friday). The date up to which entries may be received remains unaltered.

Foot and mouth disease in France has decreased during the last month of the year 1901. The "Journal d' Agriculture Pratique" says that during November there have been 1,487 establishments infected in 117 communes, against 2,333 and 966 communes in October, and 3,206 establishments and 1,023 communes in September. In regard to the Barcelli method of cure, Professor Nocurd is of opinion that this treatment, proposed by the Italian Minister of Agriculture, is not efficacious. It seems that it is not only inefficacious, but of a dangerous nature. German veterinaries have tried the remedy, and have met with a negative success, the mortality being greater with treated animals than if the disease followed its own course without treatment. The Italians have lost confidence in the Barcelli method, but Mons. Barcelli states that there have been numerous cures, and anyone is free to use it

Some time since the Polo Pony Society decided to issue an annual supplement to the Polo Pony Stud Book, the entries to consist of young ponies, either colts or fillies, foals, yearlings, and two and three year olds, without any limit to their height, provided they are (a) by a sire and out of a dam registered in the Polo Pony Stud Book, or (b) by a thoroughbred or Arab sire, out of a dam registered in the Stud Book, or (c) by a sire registered in the Stud Book out of a thoroughbred or Arab dam, (d) or if they have been awarded honours in polo pony classes at the associated shows. The first of these supplements, which is issued in connection with volume seven of the Stud Book, has now been published, and contains eighty-three entries, thirty-three being colts and fifty fillies. These ponies can be annually re-entered in subsequent issues of the Supplement till, on reaching their fourth year, they will, if holding the Hurlingham certificate, or the certificate of a qualified veterinary surgeon, that they do not exceed 14-2, be accepted for the Stud Book proper, and receive their registered number.

In the course of the preface to the Supplement it is stated that public interest has been largely evinced in the new departure, and the Council gratefully acknowledge the valued suggestions which have been offered them. The institution of the Supplement, it is pointed out, was to grapple with the height question, as specially affecting the young produce of registered parents, and to remove an anomaly subversive of the Society's objects. They are confident that the Supplement presents the best way of recording the pedigree, height, and performances of the young ponies, pending their reaching four years old, when the conditions of height and pedigree, and of height and inspection, may be reasonably applied.

The Supplement also contains a number of other items besides entries, which will prove of interest to polo pony breeders, such as the list of awards at the 1901 London show, and at provincial shows during the same year; a report of the last annual meeting, list of members, &c.; whilst as a frontispiece is given a portrait of "Summer Lightning," winner of the gold challenge cup, at the Society's show at Islington last year.

I learn that Mr. Sanders Spencer, of Holywell Manor, near St. Ives, Hunts., has recently shipped a very nice middle white board by Messrs. Scrutton, Sons, and Co.'s s.s. "Tavan" from London for Mr. Wm. Davies, of Rosean, Dominica. A Houdan cockerel from Messrs. Abbott's yard was shipped by the same steamer.

The ninth volume of the Hunters' Improvement Society's Herd-book, containing record of mares 2,245 to 2,653 and mares 21 and 22, has just come to hand. A decrease of entries received is to be noticed, as compared with the number received for the last volume. This, however, is doubtless owing to the more stringent regulations and requirements in force for animals entered in this stud book. Following the principle adopted in the two previous volumes, the new entries have been analysed to discover the authenticated number of crosses of thoroughbred blood contained therein. The separate section for Irish horses has been retained, the entries numbering 119 in that section. In the preface to the present volume it is stated that important proposals in respect of the next volume will be presented to the members of the Society in March, providing for the automatic registration of entire colts and fillies by qualified parents, and these will appear in the book under its new title of "Hunter Stud Book." This will entail an entire revision of the existing rules, and it has been deemed desirable, therefore, to retain for this ninth volume of the series the old title of "Record of Hunter Mares and Sires."

The Kintyre Agriculture Society has fixed Friday, June 6th, as the date of this year's show at Campbeltown, the entries to close on May 23rd with the secretary, Mr. G. Erskine Inglis, Estates Office, Campbeltown, Argyllshire.

The annual horse show at Woodbridge, which, by the way, is noted for its displays of the Suffolk breed, will be held on Easter Monday, March 31st. Entries will close on March 22nd, and forms, together with prize schedules, can be had post free on application to the secretary, Mr. G. Shipman, Woodbridge, Suffolk.

In 1881 good animals, chiefly of one of the best branches of the old Bates' Blanche tribe, were bought at the Duke of Manchester's sale at Kimbolton. Valuable purchases of Booth blood followed from the late Mr. Heinemann's herd in Kent. When the old Hartforth herd, so long bred by the Cradock family in Yorkshire, was dispersed, a number of the best cows and heifers were selected, and from these some really beautiful and good milking animals have been bred. Later selections were made from the Duke of Northumberland's herd at Alnwick, from Lord Lovat's at Beauly, Inverness-shire, and Sir A. H. Grant's in Aberdeenshire. These also comprised choice families, several being of the fashionable Cruickshank's, Broadhooks, from which the famous Champion bull New Year's Gift and many of the recent Beauly prize bulls have been bred.



The pen of Middle White Pigs shown above is that which won the £10 silver cup for the best pen of any Middle White breed at last year's Smithfield Show, as well as a first prize in the class for two pigs of any Middle White breed not exceeding nine months old. These pigs were bred by Mr. J. Saunders, Sutton, Cranborne, Dorset, and exhibited at the show mentioned by Mr. George Hayter, of Woodlands Farm, Wimborne. On December 1 last they were 8 months 3 weeks and 5 days old, and weighed 7 cwt. 0 qrs. 8 lb.

Butter Dealer Fined £20.—A Bolton egg and butter dealer, named John Regan, was charged at the local police court on Monday with selling butter not of the nature and quality demanded by the purchaser. It was stated that the butter when analysed was found to contain 93 per cent. of fat foreign to butter. For the defence it was stated that the shop was not lighted, and defendant served the inspector's assistant with margarine instead of butter. The Bench thought it was a very serious case, and to mark their sense of the seriousness of the case they would inflict the substantial fine of £20 and costs or one month

SPENCER'S

COD LIVER OIL FOR CATTLE.

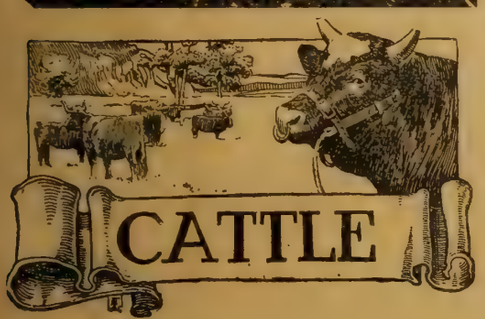
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HULL.



Our Colonies and the Army Meat Supply.

It was stated on Monday that Mr. See, the Premier of New South Wales, had cabled to the Imperial Government protesting against the contracts reported to have been placed in Argentina for the supply of meat and other produce for the British forces in South Africa. The Premier at the same time declared the statement that Australia was unable to furnish adequate supplies to be wholly unfounded, and intimated that the New South Wales Government considered such action on the part of the Imperial Government to be in unfavourable contrast with expressions of Imperial solidarity. Mr. See added that the acts of the British Colonies justified preference being given to them.

Mr. Seddon, the New Zealand Premier, made a strong speech on the subject on January 25th, and said that the action of the War Office in agreeing to take a portion of the meat supplies for the British troops in South Africa from Argentina, showed an indifference to the Colonies that was reprehensible, and declared that the ground given, namely, that, owing to the droughts, Australia could not supply the meat required, was untrue. Mr. Seddon asserted that it was unnecessary to purchase from Argentina, pointing out that New Zealand and Australia could supply the requirements of the War Office for South Africa thrice over, which a reference to the amount of frozen meat supplied to Great Britain would prove. Both Colonies had more meat than customers for it, and looked to Africa to take the surplus. The Colonies were doing all in their power to build up and strengthen the Empire, but the task was made hard when the trade was given to foreigners to the detriment of those who had made sacrifices and were prepared to do still more. A course had been taken, bringing a keen competitor into the field, and helping him, not only as regards meat, but other products also. The producers and people of Australia felt that such actions were unfriendly. They caused irritation, which should be avoided. Some one had blundered, and the error should be retrieved as a matter of abstract justice, and he (Mr. Seddon) had every confidence it would.

The subject was mentioned in the House of Commons on Monday, Major Seeley asking the Financial Secretary to the War Office whether there was any truth in the report that the contract for the supply of meat to the troops in South Africa had been given to a firm who will give preference to Argentine meat over that supplied by the various Colonies?

Lord Stanley, in reply, said there was no truth in the report that there had been a preference given to supplies of meat from Argentina over those of our Colonies for the troops in South Africa. The contract for meat supply by the Cold Storage Company will expire on March 31, and as their new tender for the new contract was at a higher figure than that of another firm, the contract now goes to new hands. But the firm to whom the contract has been given has large interests of its own in Australia, and the representative of the firm has given an undertaking, in writing, that, as far as possible, all meat supplied, both live and dead, shall be secured from our various Colonies.

On Tuesday Sir Edward Strachey asked the Secretary for War whether in the new contract for the supply of meat to the troops in South Africa the stipulation that the meat should be obtained as far as possible in Australia and New Zealand was dependent on the price, and whether the stipulation prevented the supply of meat from the United Kingdom or Canada?

Lord Stanley said that the contracts provided for the supply at one price of fresh meat and at another price of frozen meat. There was nothing in the contract which prevented the supply from the United Kingdom or from Canada.

To-day (Monday) Lord Carrington will ask the Under Secretary of State for War what portion of the meat supplies for the British troops in South Africa has been procured from Argentina; on what authority was the statement made that Australia and New Zealand were unable to furnish adequate supplies of meat for this purpose; and whether the contracts from the Argentine cannot be cancelled in view of the protests of the Premiers of New South Wales and New Zealand.

The High Price of Meat.

For some time past London butchers have felt that the time had arrived for the relaxation of the regulation of the Board of Agriculture forbidding the importation of cattle from the Argentine, and, as will be seen from the reports under "In Parliament," the matter was brought into the House of Commons on Thursday, when Mr. Hanbury said he could not yet undertake to remove the prohibition. On the subject, Mr. Deputy Malthouse, Chairman of the Cattle Markets' Committee of the Corporation, writes to the "Daily Telegraph" as follows:—

"After fifty years' experience of the meat trade I can say that I have never known it in so serious a condition. This week there is not a single bullock in Deptford Foreign Cattle Market, and it is certain that supplies from Canada and America are diminishing, and will continue to diminish. The profit is not sufficiently large to induce them to export their beasts to us, in addition to which their own people are consuming a much larger proportion of the supply than formerly. The price of meat has gone up 8d. a stone of 8 lb. since the prohibition order came into force. Of course, all connected with this traffic in imported cattle, whether on the ships, in the ports, and in the markets, have suffered considerably; but it has caused more trouble than this. For the edible offal, the heart, pluck, etc., forms a large proportion of the food of the poor, and the supply has naturally been very scanty of late.

"In the interests of all concerned, the importation of cattle from the Argentine should be permitted again without delay. It was prohibited justly enough in consequence of an outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease in that country; but the ailment has now been completely stamped out. Indeed, so effective have the remedial measures proved that a reward has been offered to anyone who will produce a beast suffering from the disease; but no one has claimed it. I think that the President of the Board of Agriculture needs only to be satisfied on this point to release the cattle.

It might be thought that one or other of our Colonies may be able to supply the deficiency; but Australia and New Zealand export only frozen meat, which is by no means to everyone's liking, and which provides none of the cheap food for the poor. . . . . The resumption of the importation of the cattle would not only reduce the high price of meat and supply edible offal for the poverty-stricken, but it would also benefit the breeders of pedigree stock in this country, for one of their chief customers would again begin to buy their animals."

Sale of Shorthorns at Killhow near Wigton.

The entire herd of Shorthorns bred by the Hon. H. J. Scott was sold by Mr. W. Hope, of Wigton, on the 23rd inst. The herd consisted principally of Booth blood, there being representatives of Lord Polwarth's famous Wave family, also of the Laurestina, Fame, and other good tribes. There was a good attendance, and the bidding was brisk, several of the best specimens making capital prices. A grand red yearling heifer, Japonica, was bought at 50gs., the highest price of the day, to join Mr. Ecroyd's well-known herd at Armathwaite; her dam Juniper goes to Alnwick at 41gs., while Royal Maiden III. was purchased by Sir Wilfrid Lawson at the same figure. Jasmine, a promising red two-year-old, was bought by Mr. Charlton at 44gs., the same gentleman taking Resolution, the roan three-year-old bull in service, at 30gs.

The following were the buyers and prices:—

COWS AND HEIFERS.

	Gs.
Hawksdale Rose, red, c Nov. 6th, 1891, s Aldersceugh 60252 ..... Mr. Saul	17
Heifer Calf, rich roan, c Nov. 23rd, 1901, s Hazel King 79042 ..... Mr. Parkin Moore	8½
Lady Gwynne, roan, c Aug., 1892, s Thorndale Gwynne 61902 ..... Mr. Ponsonby	18
Heifer Calf, rich roan, c Dec. 25th, 1901, s Gondolier 79001 ..... Mr. J. Coux	9
Ringlet V., red, c Oct. 12th, 1895, s Master of Greenhead 57455 ..... Mr. M. Marshall	23
Royal Maiden III., red and white, c April 14th, 1897 s Inglewood Cheer 67213 ..... Sir W. Lawson, Bart.	41
Juniper, red, c March 2nd, 1897, s Flower King 68553 Duke of Northumberland	41
Wave Dame, roan, c Sep. 17th, 1897, s Daisy's Knight 68444 ..... Mr. Charlton	33
Wallflower IV., roan, c Dec. 10th, 1897, s British Baronet 72112 ..... Mr. Charlton	23
Rose Isabel's Beauty III., roan, c March 14th, 1896, s Dunnottar 68554 ..... Mr. Adamson	25
Dame Bess, red and white, c April 13th, 1893, s Royal Centurion 69448 ..... Mr. Charlton	23
Queen May, red and white, c August 5th, 1899, s Royal Wild Eyes 69501 ..... Mr. J. C. Toppin	20½
Nana, red roan, c Dec. 5th, 1898, s Eastern King 70362 Mr. Charlton	18
Heifer Calf, roan, c Nov. 15th, 1901, s Hazel King 79042 Mr. T. Lambert	4½
Jasmine, red, c Jan. 21st, 1899, s Fitz-Riby 70447 Mr. Charlton	44
Forager's Lily, red, c March 20th, 1899, s Dromonby Forager 76524 ..... Mr. J. Kerr	24½
Caution, red, c March 26th, 1899, s Fitz-Riby 70447 Mr. Charlton	31
Royal Rose, red, c May 26th, 1898, s Sir Oriel Studley 73645 ..... Mr. Ponsonby	12½
Killerby Lavender, roan, c Feb. 13th, 1899, s Fitz-Booth 70446 ..... Mr. Ellbank	18
Japonica, red, c Feb. 22nd, 1900, s Fitz-Riby 70447 Mr. Ecroyd	50
Algerine, red and white, c April 1st, 1900 s Sir Algar Studley 75635 ..... Mr. Adamson	14
Wave of Ellen, roan, c June 26th, 1900, s Portsmouth 77440 ..... Mr. Marshall	14

BULLS.

Resolution 75415, roan, c June 1st, 1898, s Border Riever 68254 ..... Mr. Charlton	30
Sir Isaac Riby, rich roan, c Feb. 28th, 1900, s Royal Centurion 69448 ..... Mr. Gale	15
Sir Joseph, roan, c Oct. 4th, 1900, s Ingram's Duke 74738 ..... Mr. Ponsonby	16

SUMMARY.

	Average.	Total.
22 Cows and calves	£24 10 7 ..	£539 14 0
3 bulls	21 7 0 ..	64 1 0
25 Head	£24 3 0 ..	£603 15 0

Particulars of Transactions in Store Stock.

Reported to the Department of Agriculture and Techni al Instruction for Ireland.

At Clones, County Monaghan, on Thursday, there was an average-sized fair, composed chiefly of second and third class cattle, for which there was good demand, except those in poor condition, which were hard to sell. Prices: Yearlings, second class, £5 15s. to £7; third class, £4 6s. to £5. Two-year-olds, second class, £7 10s. to £10 5s.; third class, £6 10s. to £7 2s. 6d. Springers, first class, £15 10s. to £17; second class, £12 to £14 10s.; third class, £9 to £10 2s. 6d.

"Mark Lane Express" Diary.

February.

4. Meeting of the Council of the Shire Horse Society.
4. Meeting of the Council of the Shorthorn Society.
4. Glasgow Agricultural Society's Stallion Show, at Seotstoun, Glasgow.
4. Sale of shire horses, the property of H.M. the King, at Wolferton, Norfolk.
5. Sale of 40 shire horses for Mr. R. Allen, at St. Germans, King's Lynn.
5. Meeting of the Council of the Smithfield Club.
5. Meeting of the Council of the British Dairy Farmers' Association.
5. Meeting of the Council of the Royal Agricultural Society.
5. Meeting of the Council of the Hackney Horse Society.
5. Sale of the late Rev. Seymour Ashwell's entire herd of Jersey cattle, Shropshire sheep, and farm stock, at Finmere Rectory, Buckingham.
5. Sale of heavy and light horses at the Cattle Market, Derby.
7. Store stock sale at Shrewsbury.
7. Sale of pure-bred Sussex cattle at Hayward's Heath.
7. West of England prize horse sale at Wimborne, Dorset.

ROBSON S CATTLE MART, BELFAST, HELD ON 28TH JANUARY.

The following returns are those of actual sales made in the markets referred to, the stock being weighed either before or after sale, for the week ending February 1st, 1902.

No. of Beasts.	Description and Quality.	Average price per head.	Average Live weight.	Average price per cwt.
		£ s. d.	c. qr. lb.	£ s. d.
2	Bullocks (prime) ...	17 0 0	10 0 7	1 13 9
2	,, ,, ...	18 0 0	10 2 21	1 13 8
1	,, ,, ...	24 5 0	14 3 7	1 12 9
6	,, ,, ...	18 7 6	11 1 0	1 12 8
1	,, ,, ...	16 0 0	9 3 14	1 12 5
2	,, (very good) ...	14 7 6	8 3 0	1 12 11
2	,, ,, ...	15 5 0	9 2 3	1 12 0
1	,, ,, ...	15 5 0	9 2 14	1 11 8
*2	,, ,, ...	18 18 0	12 0 0	1 11 6
2	,, ,, ...	13 15 0	8 3 0	1 11 5
2	,, ,, ...	14 0 0	9 0 0	1 11 1
5	,, (good) ...	13 7 6	8 2 17	1 10 11
2	,, ,, ...	13 10 0	8 3 0	1 10 10
2	,, ,, ...	13 12 6	9 0 0	1 10 3
1	Heifers (prime) ...	16 0 0	9 1 0	1 14 7
1	,, ,,	13 0 0	7 2 21	1 13 10
2	,, ,,	15 0 0	9 0 0	1 13 4
2	,, ,,	13 10 0	8 1 0	1 12 9
2	,, (very good) ...	14 0 0	8 3 10	1 11 8
2	,, (good)	14 0 0	9 0 14	1 10 8
1	Cow (prime)	15 10 0	10 2 0	1 9 6
1	,, ,,	14 5 0	10 0 0	1 8 6
1	,, ,,	15 15 0	11 0 14	1 8 4
1	,, (very good)	15 0 0	11 0 0	1 7 3

* Sold by live weight.

IMPORTANT TO FARMERS.—The best farm account books are WEBB'S PRACTICAL FARMER'S ACCOUNT BOOK, with preface by Clare Sewell Read, 70th edition, 6s. and 7s. 6d. post free. JARROLD'S IMPERIAL FARM ACCOUNT BOOK, 3s. 6d. JARROLD'S FARM LABOUR BOOKS, 2s., 2s. 6d., and 4s. 6d. List of Game and Dairy Account Books post free of JARROLD and SONS, 10 and 11, Warwick Lane, E.C.—[ADVT.]

HORSES.

The Purchase of Army Remounts in Austria and Hungary: Committee's Report.

The report of the committee appointed to examine certain allegations as to bribes given to British officers in relation to the purchase of horses in Austro-Hungary was issued on Thursday as a Blue-book.

The committee state that, having examined a number of witnesses and considered the documentary statements laid before them, they believe that there is no justification for any charge of bribery or corrupt dealing against any British officers employed in connection with the purchases in question, whatever errors of judgment may have been committed. The committee believe that the officers concerned were solely actuated by the desire to do their best for the public service. In the course of his evidence Sir Blundell Maple distinctly disclaimed any intention of making a charge against British officers. His only motive was, he said, to draw attention to certain allegations as to the excessive price at which the Hungarian horses were contracted for, and as to the quality of those accepted for the service, and to demand an inquiry. While fully accepting Sir Blundell Maple's explanation, and recognising that he was actuated by a desire to serve the public interest, the committee feel bound to express their deep regret that on such grounds he should have committed himself to public statements which, whatever their intention, were universally understood to be direct attacks on the honour and integrity of British officers.

In dealing with the subject of the Imperial Yeomanry purchases, the committee state that it appears that discretion as to the method of obtaining Hungarian cobs—and as to their choice of a contractor—was left by the Imperial Yeomanry committee entirely in the hands of Colonel St. Quintin, their remount officer. The committee are satisfied that Colonel St. Quintin, who had come forward reluctantly, and only at the request of the Imperial Yeomanry committee to undertake this work, had as his only object the fulfilment of the duty assigned to him. They realised the difficulty of his position owing to the urgency of the demands which confronted him. At the same time, they regretted that before the first contract he did not take more steps to ascertain (a) what would be a reasonable price to pay, and (b) the position and capacity of the contractors to undertake a large contract of this kind without resort to middlemen. They state they must point out that had the first contract been made on the same terms as the second a saving of nearly £12,000 would have resulted. As regards the quality of the horses, the evidence, state the committee, was very conflicting. They had been unable, except in one instance, to obtain dates or details of any particular instances in which carelessness in passing horses was alleged to have taken place, and many of the statements laid before them were based on hearsay alone.

The committee find that a Mr. Lewison secured a contract for 1,500 horses free on board at Fiume at £33 16s. 8d. Mr. Lewison made the contract over to Mr. Hauser, an Austrian breeder, at £22 a piece, which left Mr. Lewison with an enormous balance of profit. A second contract was made with Mr. Lewison at £26. The cobs did not cost Hauser more than £8 to £12 or £12 to £17 free on board at Fiume. The mounted infantry cobs were purchased from Mr Hauser at £20, which shows a profit of £3 to £7 a cob. Cavalry and artillery horses were purchased for £30 and £35 respectively, and satisfactory horses were obtained.

The committee, in their general observations, express the opinion that, given a condition of great and unforeseen emergency, there is no ground for very serious criticism as to the steps taken to meet the urgent demands. Commenting on the case of the Government Remount Department, the committee state that they feel bound to express the surprise with which they learnt that, before the decision to purchase for the Government in Hungary was actually come to in April, 1900, no steps had apparently been taken since 1884 to ascertain the best sources of supply in that country, the best methods of tapping those sources, or the most reliable people to employ. It is, adds the report, certainly unfortunate that after the outbreak of the war no such preliminary arrangements were made as to avoid hurried and ill-considered measures at the last moment. Even in times of peace it should obviously be the business of the Remount Department to study systematically the possibilities afforded by the different countries as sources of horse supply in time of war, and the best means of making use of those possibilities in the event of an emergency rising. They consider that in future the Remount Department should be held responsible for obtaining such information, and for keeping it up to date by systematic reference to the military attachés and such other sources as may be available.

A Yorkshire Blacksmiths' Union: Extraordinary Methods.

"You must not fasten a horse's loose shoes, nor replace any that have been knocked off by contact with tram lines or other street obstacle, unless such shoes have been originally supplied by a member of the Yorkshire County Shoeing Smiths' Association (Limited)."

Such is the effect of one of the commandments of the big Yorkshire shoeing smiths' combine, which came into existence about two years ago. In Bradford, Huddersfield, and Halifax nearly every master blacksmith belongs to it. Of the ninety blacksmiths in Leeds, nineteen are members of this new sledge-hammer association. Their trade mark is an anvil, and on no consideration whatever will one of these associated blacksmiths fasten a loose shoe unless it bears the authorised stamp.

A Keighley gentleman gives an example.

"On Wednesday," he says, "our carter, passing through Bradford, found that one of his horse's shoes was loose. He called upon three different shoeing smiths, each of whom positively refused to fasten it, the reason given being that the horse had not originally been shod by one of the Yorkshire County Shoeing Smiths' Association."

"It is quite time," he adds, "that a counter association was formed by owners of horses to combat such shabby dealings."

The line of defence taken by the organised smiths is curious. Interviewed in Leeds on Thursday, one of them, who shoes over fifty horses a week, explained the aims and policy of their limited company.

"It is really an association to benefit the horses and the horse owners," he said. "We have a lot of men who scamp their work and charge low prices, and we want to try and raise the status and efficiency of our calling. In Bradford they are practically all in the association, and they go in strongly for technical education. In Leeds the smiths seem so frightened of each other getting a little more work that the organisation has not made the progress it ought to do."

"What guarantee do you give the public that the work done by members of the combine is any more efficient than the work done by non-members? Has a smith to pass some test before being admitted to membership?" asked the inquiring reporter.

"No, we have no test so far, but we hope to have before long. Everything must have a beginning," replied the organised smith.

"What is meant by a registered smith?"—"A smith who has passed the examination set by the Farriers' Company, London."

"Are all your members registered?"—"No, not yet; but we want them to become so. We want to get a better price for our work, so that we can afford to get technically educated."

"Would you refuse to shoe a horse that had not been previously shod by a member of the combine?"—"No, I should not refuse to shoe it. But I should decline, and have declined, to fasten a shoe that has been put on by a non-member."

"You would permit a horse to run a grave risk of laming itself in the hope of making its owner regret that he had not originally patronised a company smith?"—"We can only bring pressure to bear on the horse owners in this way."

"And you imagine the public will appreciate your method of raising the price of your work?"—"The object of our association is not to extort money from the public. It is to improve the character of our work, and thereby benefit both horses and horse owners. We want to get all blacksmiths to come into the association, and be more sociable, and not so pig-headed."

Further, our informant states that in Bradford 5s. was obtained for fully shoeing a horse, and in Huddersfield 5s. 6d., while in Leeds contracts fell as low as 3s. 6½d. As explained, the association is not very vigorous in Leeds.

A non-union Leeds smith—a qualified veterinary surgeon—who shoes over a hundred horses a week, interviewed on the same day, severely criticised the policy of the combine.

"If I were a horse owner," he said, "and a smith refused to fasten a loose shoe on my horse because it had not the anvil stamp on it, I should immediately call in a policeman and endeavour to compel compliance with my request. If the blacksmith still refused, at his own charge, to fasten the loose shoe I should hold him responsible in a court of law for any damage or loss that might ensue to myself or my horse. The society contend they have a right to refuse to fasten a shoe. I should like to have the point tested. It's a scandalous shame that dumb animals should be made to suffer in this way."

With the aim of the Yorkshire County Shoeing Smiths' Association (Limited) to educate their members, and obtain better workmanship and better pay, the public will heartily sympathise; but their attempt to foster their organisation by declining to minister to the extreme needs of dumb animals will excite some surprise and some remarks.—*Yorkshire Evening Post.*

SHOWS.

The Permanent Royal Showyard.

Assistance from the City.

On Tuesday the Lord Mayor, Sir Joseph C. Dimsdale, Kt., M.P., and the Lady Mayoress gave a luncheon at the Mansion House prior to a conference between Prince Christian, the president, and a deputation of the council of the Royal Agricultural Society of England and the masters of the principal City Guilds, with reference to the society's project for permanently establishing their exhibitions in London. Prince Christian was attended by Colonel George Grant Gordon, C.V.B., C.B. Among those present were the Earl of Derby, Earl Spencer, Viscount Baring, Mr. Victor Cavendish, M.P., Sir Walter Gilbey, Mr. Percy Crutchley, Mr. F. S. W. Cornwallis, Sir Ernest Clarke, Mr. Alderman and Sheriff and Mrs. Bell, Mr. Sheriff and Mrs. Horace Marshall, the Master of the Grocers' Company, the Prime Warden of the Goldsmiths' Company, Sir John Watney, the Masters of the Drapers', Skinners', Merchant Taylors', Tallow Chandlers', Armourers and Braziers', Saddlers', Leathersellers', Vintners', Haberdashers', Ironmongers', Cutlers', and Carpenters' Companies, and representatives of the Guilds of Mercers and Salters.

After luncheon, the Lord Mayor said that when Prince Christian asked his advice with reference to interesting the City in the society's new project for establishing a permanent showyard in the metropolis, it occurred to him that it would be a great advantage if the society could have an informal conference with representatives of the leading Guilds. Agriculture was one of our most important industries, and the past history of the Royal Agricultural Society entitled any appeal which it made to the City to attentive consideration. The scheme had been well thought out, and was, in his judgment, deserving of the support of the citizens of London.

Prince Christian, after thanking the Lord Mayor for convening the conference, said that, for various reasons beyond the Royal Agricultural Society's control, it had been found impossible to continue after this year the system of migratory shows, and from 1903 the society's annual exhibition would be held on a permanent location in London. An excellent site had been selected on land lying between Willesden and Ealing. The purchase of the site (100 acres) had involved an outlay of £30,000, and the society had been obliged to make an appeal for funds to enable it to make that purchase. His Majesty the King had contributed 250 guineas, and graciously expressed his interest and satisfaction in the decision of the council, and his hope that the money required would soon be forthcoming. They had received promises of support of a sufficient amount to warrant them in effecting the purchase of the land, but they were confronted with the problem of finding funds for the preparation of the ground to adapt it for the purposes of the society and equipping it with the necessary appliances and buildings of a permanent showyard. Many of the City Guilds owned land, and their trades were more or less closely associated with agricultural operations. The society felt that now that they had decided to make the headquarters of their annual exhibitions in London it would be very valuable to them to have the sympathy and support of the great Guilds representing the industry and commerce of the metropolis, and if the Companies should feel able to make them pecuniary grants it would help them much in the responsible task that lay before them. In any case they felt assured of their sympathetic consideration of the claims which the Royal Agricultural Society, as the representative of the great farming interest in this country, had upon the city which it had now decided to make its permanent home. He sincerely thanked the Lord Mayor—a brother grocer—for his kindness in interesting himself in the society's welfare and his generous hospitality that day.

Earl Spencer cordially endorsed all that Prince Christian had said. Excellent as had been the methods of the Royal Agricultural Society in the past, latter-day exigencies had necessitated an alteration in the old system of migratory shows. A permanent showyard in London would not only enable the society to make the annual shows more comprehensive and representative, but it would attract to the metropolis crowds of visitors from the provinces, the Colonies, and the Continent, all eager to witness the latest developments and improvements in agricultural industry, without involving the drain which migratory shows imposed on the society's resources.

The Earl of Derby said the decision of the society to have a permanent showyard in London, and to abandon their annual visits to the provinces, was not so serious a change as at first sight it might appear. Locomotion nowadays brought the provinces within easy and comfortable range of the metropolis, and a permanent site meant greater accommodation and increased facili-

ties for showing their live and dead stock, their agricultural machinery, and other agricultural exhibits. As time went on, it had been found more and more difficult to find convenient showyards in the immediate vicinity of the great provincial cities, and large sums were annually spent in temporary roads, in laying down a water supply, and in other ways, which were useless when the show closed. With a permanent showyard, all these expensive drawbacks would disappear, and country people would enjoy an annual visit to London to the society's new exhibition.

Sir Walter Gilbey also spoke, and on the part of the Guilds, Mr. Harrison, Master of the Grocers' Company, and Mr. Ernest Gardner, M.P., Master of the Drapers' Company—the latter himself a farmer of 2,000 acres—assured his Royal Highness and the council that the scheme which they had laid before them that day should have their serious, earnest, and most sympathetic consideration.

Prince Christian having tendered the thanks of the assembled guests to the Lord Mayor, the proceedings terminated.

Judges for the Highland Show.

Below we give a list of the gentlemen who have been nominated, and have agreed to act, as judges in the various departments of the Highland and Agricultural Society's show, to be held at Aberdeen in July. The directors reserve the right to make such alterations on the list as may be necessary or desirable.

Cattle: Shorthorns—William Tait, Prince Consort's Shaw Farm, Windsor; Robert Bruce, Royal Dublin Society, Leinster House, Dublin. Aberdeen-Angus—Samuel Davidson, Beech Hill, Inverness; Alexander Strachan, Wester Fowlis, Alford, Aberdeenshire. Galloway—William Stroyan, Culcaigrie, Tywnholm. Highland—Hugh Macdiarmid, Island House, Tiree, Argyllshire. Ayrshire—Thomas C. Lindsay, Aitkenbrae, Monkton. Fat Cattle—William Wallace, Chapel of Seggat, Auchterless, Turriff.

Horses: Draught Stallions, Colts, and Geldings—James Murdoch, Garteraig, Shettleston; George Cocker, Hill of Petty, Fyvie. Draught Mares and Fillies—George Bean, West Ballochy, Montrose; Alexander Burr, Tulloford, Old Meldrum. Hunters—Charles J. Cunningham, of Wooden, Kelso. Hackneys—Fred Wrench, Killacoona, Ballybrack, Dublin.

Ponies: John M. Martin, 5, Drummond Place, Edinburgh. Highland Ponies—Lord Arthur Cecil, Orchard Mains, Tonbridge, Kent. Highland Pony Stallions (competing for Lord Tweedmouth's prize)—Sir John Gilmour of Montrave, Bart., Leven. Shetland Ponies—Gilbert Anderson, Hillswick, Lerwick.

Sheep: Blackfaced—Duncan Macdiarmid, Camusericht, Rannoch Station; James Allan, Balnacoole, Shiskine, Arran. Cheviot—Donald Innes, Sandside, Thurso. Border Leicester—J. Jeffrey, Deuchrie, Prestonkirk; James Whyte, Hayston, Glamis. Half-bred—William Ballantyne, Wormiston, Eddleston. Shropshire, Oxford Down, and Suffolk—Alfred Mansell, College Hill, Shrewsbury. Fat Sheep—James White, New Market, Aberdeen.

Swine: James Rodger, Keir Mains, Dunblane.

Poultry: James Huntly, Cockburn Lodge, The Hirsel, Coldstream (classes 1 to 50 inclusive, and classes 67 to 82 inclusive); George Dick, St. Helen Street, Forfar (classes 51 to 66 inclusive).

Dairy Produce: Professor R. J. Drummond, Dairy School, Kilmarnock.

Wool: Alexander M'Naughton, manufacturer, Pitlochry; James D. Haggart, Breadalbane Mills, Aberfeldy.



THE HIGHLAND STEER, ERROL CANDIDATE 2ND, which forms the subject of the above illustration, was exhibited at the Smithfield Club Show last year by Sir W. Ogilvy Dalgleish, Bart., Errol Park, Errol, N.B., and won the first prize in the class for Highland Steers not exceeding three years old, and the £20 silver cup for the best animal of the Highland breed. Errol Candidate 2nd was bred by Mr. J. S. Blair, Melfort, Kilmelford, its sire being Iasgair 905, dam, Shuna of Melfort, 3,505, by Orag, 1,390. At the time of exhibition Errol Candidate 2nd was a little over 2 years and 10 months old, and weighed 14 cwt. 0 qrs. 20 lb.

SOCIETIES.

Ayrshire.

The report of the directors presented at the annual meeting of the Ayrshire Agricultural Association, held on Tuesday, stated that the affairs of the association continue to prosper; 102 new annual members were added to the roll in the course of the year, and in addition seven gentlemen sought admission as life members. The April show yielded a profit of £61 18s. 10d., after debiting it with £50 for use of showground; that was a decrease of £53 as compared with previous year. The debit balance against the October show was £97 12s. 9d., as compared with £93 in previous year. The annual subscriptions amounted to £399 19s., a decrease of about £13. The expenses of management amounted to £254, as compared with £225 in the previous year. The capital expenditure on the showground had been increased during the year by £248. The association's assets, after allowing for what was considered a fair sum in the way of depreciation on the cost of the several showground erections, exceeded liabilities by £3,276. On the whole transactions, excluding capital transactions, the profit for the year was £143 8s. 4d.

In addition to the cups and special prizes usually given for competition at the forthcoming April show, the following cups and special prizes have been offered for competition and accepted:—By the Ayrshire Cattle Herd Book Society, two champion cups, value £50 and £25 respectively, for each of the best male and female of the Ayrshire breed entered with a number in the Herd Book; by the Ayrshire bacon curers, for the best pen of pigs, four in number, to yield bacon most suitable for provision trade purposes, the bonafide property of the exhibitor and fed by him for at least three months prior to the show; competition limited to Ayr, Renfrew, Wigtown, Kirkcudbright, and Dumfries—first prize, £5; second prize, £3; third prize, £2.

The chairman, Mr. R. A. Oswald, of Auchencruive, moving the adoption of the report, pointed out that the association's assets, after what was considered a fair sum in the way of depreciation on the cost of the several showground erections, exceeded the liabilities by £3,276, and that on the whole transactions, excluding capital transactions, the profit for the year was £143 odd. He thought that showed a very satisfactory state of matters.

The report was adopted, and it was agreed that a subscription of £5 be paid to the Royal Scottish Agricultural Benevolent Institution.

On the motion of the chairman, the Right Hon. the Earl of Glasgow, K.C.M.G., was re-elected president; and, on the motion of Mr. J. B. Fergusson, of Balgarth, the Marquis of Ailsa and Mr. C. G. Shaw, Ayr, were elected vice-presidents, in room of those retiring.

The dates of the shows were fixed as follows:—Ayr Show, 29th and 30th April; Kilmarnock Show, 24th October. A grant of £100 was voted to the October show.

A discussion took place on the question of the system of judging at the Ayr Show. The chairman stated that the question had been before the directors several times, and they had been so evenly divided that they determined to take the decision of the general meeting as to whether there should be one, two, or three judges.

After some discussion, a vote was taken by show of hands, with the following result:—Three judges, 41; one judge, 28; two judges, 5.

Bath and West of England.

A council meeting of the Bath and West and Southern Counties Society was held at the G.W.R. Board Room, Bristol, on Tuesday. A letter from the President (the Earl of Morley), regretting that, as he had to be in the House of Lords for a Committee of Privileges, he was unable to be present, having been read, the Marquis of Bath was voted to the chair.

Sir John Cotterell, Garnons, Hereford, was elected a life member, and fifteen ordinary members were elected.

Mr. C. R. Collins, as chairman of Finance, presented the summary of the accounts for the past year and the annual statement of assets and liabilities, and moved their adoption, which was seconded by Colonel Best and agreed to.

1903 Meeting.

The Marquis of Bath, as chairman of the Special Committee, reported receipt of a communication from the Lord Mayor of Bristol conveying, on behalf of the citizens, a very cordial invitation to the society to hold its annual meeting in 1903 in that city, and expressing a belief that, should the invitation be accepted, the result, having regard to the growth of the city, would prove even more gratifying than that of the previous meetings of the society held in Bristol.

The Marquis, in moving that the invitation be accepted, remarked that the most successful exhibitions, from a financial point of view, that the society had ever held had been those at Bristol.

Sir C. T. D. Acland seconded the proposition, which was unanimously agreed to.

Experiments.

Sir C. T. D. Acland, as chairman of the Experiments Committee, presented a report which stated that experiments for the improvement of permanent pastures were being carried out upon sites in the counties of Devon, Dorset, Somerset, and Sussex, and the committee asked the council to make a grant of £150 in aid thereof. Detailed particulars of these experiments would appear in the forthcoming volume of the society's Journal. The committee also reported that they were conducting, in conjunction with the Board of Agriculture, an experiment having for its object to show the influence of manures upon the production of mutton. In moving the adoption of the report, Sir C. T. D. Acland expressed a hope that, when it was in a position to do so, the society would undertake an experimental inquiry with a view to improving the milling value of English wheat. The adoption of the report was seconded by Mr. Collins and agreed to.

Analyses.

A report from the society's consulting chemist (Dr. J. A. Voelcker, M.A., F.I.C., etc.) with respect to the samples submitted to him for analysis by members of the society, was read, the following reference to decorticated cotton cake being included in it:—

"A note on decorticated cotton cake is desirable in view of the frequent instances that I have recently met with of a deterioration in the manufacture of this valuable feeding material. It is becoming more and more the practice to have an excess of husk in the cake or even to grind up and re-mix the removed husk with the decorticated (or husk-removed) meal. This is shown in an excess of fibre in the cake, and lowering of nitrogen and oil, the quality of the cake being thereby deteriorated. A genuine decorticated cotton cake should not have more than 3 to 4 per cent. of woody fibre and about 7 per cent. of nitrogen."

On the motion of Mr. Allen, seconded by Col. Skrine, the report was approved and ordered to be printed in the society's Journal.

Plants and Seeds.

A report from the society's consulting botanist (Mr. W. Carruthers, F.R.S.), with respect to the plants and seeds submitted to him for examination by members of the society, was read. Among other matters referred to in it was the following: "A weed which was overrunning a pasture field, and which has been observed as very abundant in the South of England, was determined to be a hawkweed, a species of crepis. Its spreading leaves, close on the ground, prevent other plants getting possession of the soil, or even holding possession when they have got it. It is rejected by Stock, and as it flowers and fruits freely it multi-

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"Contains some very well written, interesting articles, together with a host of facts and figures relating to the farm and markets."—**London Corn Circular.**

"Gives astonishing value for the price, sixpence. There are a great many special articles by eminent authorities, and an abundance of illustrations."—**Sussex Daily News.**

"Reflects the greatest credit. The almanac is excellently turned out, and is full of most useful information for agriculturists. In addition to many important tables, a number of capital articles on stockbreeding, &c., are given. The illustrations of prize-taking stock, &c., are very good."—**Irish Field.**

"In addition to the fat stock illustrations, there is a large number of others of cattle, horses, sheep, pigs, and miscellaneous farm scenes, which together with the reading matter, make up a book of great interest to all associated with the farm."—**Eastern Morning News.**

"The literary contents of the number are of an appropriate and interesting description."—**Field.**

"'Tuberculosis in Animals,' 'Sheep Breeding as affected by the price of Wool,' 'Weeds,' and 'Fruit,' are a few of the numerous articles on various features of agriculture contributed by experts in their subject."—**Yorkshire Observer.**

"Is up-to-date in every detail."—**Lincoln, Rutland, and Stamford Mercury.**

"Is well-known to agriculturists for the variety and usefulness of its information. It need only be said that the issue before us for 1902 does not in any respect fall short of its predecessors."—**Surrey Advertiser.**

"In addition to the good supply of agricultural article-, it has many pages of tabular matter of constant value for reference by landlord and tenant."—**Yorkshire Post.**

"A large number of illustrations, principally reproductions from photographs, find a place in the almanac."—**Westminster Gazette.**

"A mass of information of the greatest use to farmers and breeders, much of which should also be of service to the same classes in South America and the colonies, to whom we can strongly recommend it."—**South American Journal.**

"Is to the fore again as a complete record of the past year, with illustrations and particulars of prize-winning animals at all the great fat-stock shows, and features to which an increasing number of agriculturists look forward to every year, and have learned to appreciate very highly."—**Estates Gazette.**

"Contains many articles of special interest to all concerned in agriculture."—**West Sussex Gazette.**

"The Agriculturist's favourite."—**Kent Messenger.**

"For sixpence the farmer may have an encyclopædia of agriculture beautifully illustrated, the compilation of the most practical men in the country."—**Cromer Post.**

"Taken as a whole may be said to be invaluable to farmers."—**Bristol Mercury.**

"'Lobbyist' advocates an Agricultural Party in Parliament and sets forth the outlines of the programme. As to the necessity of such a party he says: 'If it is not called into existence the rural parliamentary interest will confront the growingly extravagant and disciplined demands of the towns—demands which are often brutally avowed to be anti-rural, unorganised, and divided. Suspicion will permeate its councils and weakness be the badge of its ranks.'"—**Hereford Mercury.**

"The statistics, which form an important part of the work, are thus enabled to be made more complete, whilst the addition of about a dozen illustrations—reproduced from the life-like photographs—of the great prize winners at the Smithfield, Birmingham, Norwich, etc., fat stock shows, is a very important one, and will sure to be appreciated."—**Gloucester Journal.**

"A useful agricultural almanac."—**Surrey Times.**

"Although issued somewhat later than usual, in order to make it a complete record of the past year, and to include illustrations and particulars of some of the principal prize-winning animals at our great fat-stock shows."—**Reading Mercury.**

"'Lobbyist' advocates an Agricultural Party in Parliament, and sets forth the outlines of a programme."—**Lincolnshire Gazette.**

"Appears somewhat later than usual, the compilers having delayed its publication in order that it might be a complete agricultural record for the year.—**Lowestoft Standard.**

"The list of societies has been made even more complete than last year, whilst the various tables and statistics which have been so much appreciated in previous years have been added to and brought up to date."—**Sheffield Weekly News.**

"To enumerate all the articles would be too great a task, but mention may be made of that dealing with 'Weeds,' by Mr. S. Eames; 'The Harvest of Fruit,' by Mr. J. H. Hollingworth; 'The Census'; 'Town and Country Life.'"—**Grantham Journal.**

"Fully maintains the best traditions of the compilation. In addition to a comprehensive list of facts and figures relating to agricultural practice, it contains an interesting series of articles of definite value to those concerned with questions concerning land cultivation and stockbreeding, and has also a number of contributions which deal in a highly descriptive manner with the ordinary incidents of farm life."—**Manchester Courier.**

"There is a strong list of contributors, and the pictures of varied interest, and will appeal to all lovers of country life."—**Agricultural World.**

"Is probably the most up-to-date and practical periodical of its kind."—**Irish Farming World.**

"The volume consists of 250 pages, and is altogether more than up to its former high standard of merit, while the price remains as formerly."—**Ayr Advertiser.**

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"The volume is still sold at the very low price of sixpence, or by post, ninepence."—**Westmoreland Gazette.**

"Tuberculosis has received much attention during the past year, and is still continuing to do so, therefore the article by M. R. C. V. S., entitled, 'Tuberculosis in Animals on the Farm,' is very opportune and will be read with interest."—**Tonbridge Telegraph.**

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plies rapidly. It should be prevented from seeding by being cut down when in flower. In some places where it is very abundant it would be better to break up the pasture, to take one or two years of roots off the field with the view of thoroughly cleaning it, and then lay it down with suitable seeds."

On the motion of Mr. Gibbons, seconded by Mr. Knollys, the report was approved.

Plymouth Meeting.

The Secretary reported that the prize list for the Plymouth Exsibition, to be held on May 27 to 31 inclusive, had been issued, and that the forms relating to the machinery, implement, art manufactures, and other departments of the forthcoming show were also being issued.

County Cork.

The annual general meeting of the County of Cork Agricultural Society was held on Saturday, the 25th, at Cork, Mr. William Roberts in the chair. The annual report for the year 1901 was read by the secretary (Mr. E. Corrigan). The balance-sheet showed that a net profit of £124 19s. 3d. was left on the year's work. The report was adopted by the meeting.

The next business was the election of the president for the ensuing year, and on the proposal of Sir G. Colthurst, Mr. W. Roberts was unanimously re-elected president for 1902. Nine members were elected to fill vacancies on the general committee.

Mr. Barton moved, and Mr. Fitzgerald seconded, a proposal to hold a root and vegetable show in November, 1902. Ater some debate, the motion was rejected by 20 votes to 18, and the meeting terminated.

Edinburgh.

The annual general meeting of the Edinburgh Agricultural Association was held on Wednesday, Sir John Usher presiding. In the course of their annual report the directors stated that the eighteenth annual show was, for the first time in the history of the association, held outside the city. The site was the Hawkhill Recreation Grounds, and the show proved a financial success. The grounds were thronged with people, and the anticipation of the directors that Leith would respond to the new departure was quite realised. The drawings amounted to £294 17s. 5d., as compared with £230 0s. 8d. on the first day of the show of 1900. The funds on hand at the close of the year were £1,481 4s. 7d., against £1,416 14s. 7d. at the close of the books in 1900, thus showing an increase for the year of £64 10s. The number of members on the roll was 600, and the directors had again to impress upon the members the desirableness of increasing the number. The amount received in annual subscriptions was only £120 10s., which might easily be doubled if an effort was made in this direction. The directors tendered their best thanks to all the subscribers to the prize fund, which amounted to £456; also to the donors of challenge cups, special prizes, medals, etc.

Sir John Usher, in moving the adoption of the report, said after their vicissitudes it was gratifying to find their funds were now in a very satisfactory position. They had £1,481 at their credit, an increase fo £64 10s. Subscriptions had increased considerably, and the premiums had risen from £453 in 1891 to £696 last year. Referring to the difficulty of securing a site for the show, he said he must take some blame upon himself for their being put out of Warrender Park, which was, no doubt, the best possible site. He found that for the institute which he promised to build for the teaching of public health in connection with Edinburgh University, no better site could be had than Warrender Park. That was the reason the Agricultural Association had been put out of it. Last year the show was held at Hawkhill Grounds, which had proved fairly suitable. Mr. William Duncan, Newpark, seconded the motion, which was agreed to.

On the motion of Sir James Gibson Craig, it was agreed to hold the next show at Hawkhill Grounds on Wednesday, June 11th. The secretary intimated that donations amounting to £253 18s. 6d. had been received towards the prize fund.

Essex.

The council of the Essex Agricultural Society met at the Liverpool Street Hotel on Monday. Mr. T. Usborne presided, and said that one of the first things they ought to think of was the very great loss the county had sustained by the death of Lord Rookwood. They had all known him for many years as a most active county man. He did not think there was anybody could be said to have done more for the county, and done it successfully, than the late Lord Rookwood.

Mr. E. K. Norman wrote regretting his inability to attend, and stating that as meetings of the council were generally held on a Monday, and as that was the Thorpe Bench day, he wished to resign his seat on the council. The resignation was accepted. Col E. Tufnell, M.P., was elected a vice-president of the society.

The secretary (Mr. F. W. Taylor) reported that the dates fixed for the show to be held at Romford (Wednesday and Thursday, June 18th and 19th) clashed with the dates of the Norfolk Show, and also that a petition had been received from Romford asking that the show should be held on the Thursday and Friday, as Wednesday was market day at Romford.

Mr. H. Hollebone said it was generally considered that Wednesday would be an inconvenient day to hold the show at Romford.

The alteration in the days was agreed to, and the show will therefore be held on Thursday and Friday, June 19th and 20th.

Col. M. Lockwood, M.P., the president, who entered the room at this stage of the proceedings, took the chair for the rest of the meeting. The Ground Committee reported they had viewed Marshall's Park Farm, Romford, and considered it a very desirable site for the show, and recommended that the show be held there. They also recommended that the tenders of Messrs. Rands and Jeckell, Ipswich, for the canvas, and Messrs. Tyrell, Halstead, for the shedding be accepted. The report was adopted.

On the recommendation of a sub-committee, some alterations were made with regard to veterinary inspection of certain horse classes, with a view to making the judging more expeditious.

The President announced he would give £80 to the prize fund, and more if necessary. The secretary reported that Sir Walter Gilbey had offered to give £50 to the prize fund; Messrs. Ind, Coope and Co., a 25-guinea silver cup; Messrs. Hill and Co., bankers, Romford, a similar cup; Mr. Geo. Cortauld, Halstead, £20: Mr. Usborne, the same as last year; Lord Rothschild, £10; Earl of Onslow five guineas; Mr. C. E. Ridley (on behalf of the three Essex Hunts) offered a special prize of £20 as a champion prize in the hunters' classes; Mr. J. H. Horton, £10; Sir Fowell Buxton, £5; Col. W. N. Tufnell, £10; Mr. J. M. Balls, special prize for sheep; Suffolk Sheep Society, £10; and there were also offers of medals and prizes from various societies. It was also stated that Mr. W. Nocton, of Langham Hall, would give the same prizes as he did last year.

It was decided to grant £800 from the society's funds towards the prize list. The schedule of prizes for the show was then arranged.

Warwickshire.

The annual meeting of the members of the Warwickshire Agricultural Society was held at Warwick on the 25th ult., Mr. Broughton Dugdale in the chair.

In the annual report the Council thanked the local committee and inhabitants of Solihull for their cordial welcome to the society on their second visit to the place. The cash prizes at the show amounted to £1,082, and out of a total of £982 awarded to stock, dairy produce, and implements the sum of £674 was taken by tenant farmers resident in the county. The members and subscribers for the year were 536, against 508 in 1900, and the amount received by subscriptions and entrance fees was £1,019, against £1,014. The accounts showed the surplus assets to be £579, and that there had been a loss on the year's working of £107.

The president moved the adoption of the report, which was approved of.

The Earl of Warwick headed a deputation representing Warwick Town Council, which invited the society to hold its next show at Warwick. A strong local committee had been formed, with Mr. J. H. Margetts as hon. secretary, and a good local prize fund would be raised. The only site available for the show was the Race Common.

On the motion of the president, the invitation of Warwick was cordially accepted, and the date of the show was fixed for August 27 and 28.

The Earl of Warwick was elected president for the year, and a vote of thanks was passed to the retiring president, Mr. J. B. Dugdale, who was elected as vice-president.

Wensleydale Blue-Faced Sheep Breeders.

The annual general meeting of the Incorporated Wensleydale Blue-faced Sheep Breeders' Association and Flock Book Society took place on Tuesday at Hawes, Mr. Punchard presiding. The statement of accounts revealed a balance in hand of £83 13s. 11d., being a gain on the year's working of £16 8s. 2d. In this account a sum of £8, arrears of subscriptions, was not included.

The statement having been approved, Lord Henry Bentinck was re-elected president of the society, with a cordial vote of thanks for his past services. The Chairman said he was quite sure his lordship would appreciate the compliment, and would be glad to help forward the objects of the association.

A question having been raised as to attendances at council meetings, it was resolved that a record should be kept, and that in future non-attendance should be a disqualification for re-election. The cost of attending the two meetings at Hawes and two at Hellifield, it was stated, amounted to about £3.

The question of ear-marking all sheep entered in the Flock Book was brought forward by Mr. Jackson. It had, he intimated, been already pretty well thrashed out at the council meeting. He admitted that their purposes were served by existing arrangements, but pointed out that if a foreign demand sprang up then the foreigners would not have the means of identifying the sheep that they required, unless the society adopted an ear-marking system. The plan had, he believed, been tried by the other Flock Book Society, but had not, perhaps, been the success anticipated. For that reason he hoped before anything was decided members would be unanimous.

In reply to the chairman, Mr. Jackson said he did not advocate any particular method of marking. That could be settled by a committee. He understood that in the Lincoln Flock Book every name had its number, and that number was marked on the sheep. The Suffolks, too, he believed, were treated in similar fashion. The marking, he thought, was permanent; it was done on the tatooing principle.

The Chairman felt that the matter ought to be referred to a small committee. Their object, of course, was to secure the foreign buyer, and give him confidence. In the course of further discussion, co-operation with the other Wensleydale Society was suggested, and the Chairman observed that those to whom he had spoken said they could not amalgamate because the types were different. Ultimately, Messrs. Jackson, Thompson, and J. Willis, together with the chairman and hon. secretary, were appointed a committee to ascertain what was done by other societies, and to report to the general meeting.

On the subject of the forthcoming Royal Agricultural Show at Carlisle, the chairman stated that he had endeavoured to get the local committee to offer additional prizes for Wensleydale sheep, but had not been successful, as the feeling was that the black-faced Herdwicks, and other breeds would also have to be considered. Moreover, the other Wensleydale Society did not seem disposed to join in giving prizes, and so the matter had fallen through.

Suggestions regarding the next ram sale were afterwards discussed. The most important was the proposal to have a class for reserves at twenty guineas. This, the Chairman said, he thought would help to improve the show by bringing before intending purchasers some of the best sheep in the district. The exhibitor would pay commission as well as entrance fee, whether the animal was sold or not, but it would be an advertisement for him.

In answer to questions, the secretary said a ram might be reserved at less than twenty guineas if the exhibitor liked. Mr. Thompson thought the prize money should go to the exhibitor whether the ram was sold or unsold, and on his motion the meeting passed a resolution embodying that opinion.

Wensleydale Sheep Breeders.

The Wensleydale Sheep Breeders' Association's annual meeting was held at Bedale Town Hall on Tuesday, Mr. J. O. Trotter being voted to the chair, in the absence of the president.

The hon. secretary, Mr. T. Firbank King, read the report, which stated that the Hon. S. Cunliffe Lister had consented to act as president for the ensuing year. The position now attained by the breed for their characteristics of fine wool, good mutton, and a constitution that enabled them to go anywhere and serve ewes at any altitude up to 1,800 feet above sea-level was gradually but surely bringing them to the front. During the last season the wool from no other breed of long-woolled sheep could realise the same price as Wensleydale wool did, and the reports of the wool markets at present show that this still held good. Much success had attended the importation of Wensleydale sheep into Ireland.

The Chairman moved the adoption of the report and balance-sheet, the latter showing a balance of £83 10s. 4d. Mr. T. Styan seconded the motion, which was carried.

Mr. J. Trotter proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. MacLaren (president), remarking that everyone regretted his leaving the district. Mr. T. Thompson seconded the motion, and it was carried with acclamation.

The election of the Hon. S. Cunliffe Lister as president was carried unanimously. The vice-presidents were re-elected, with the addition of Mr. Rd. Booth in the place of Sir Powlett Milbank, whilst Alderman T. Firbank King was re-elected hon. secretary and treasurer.



By Hordeum.

Prospects of the Session.

Now that Parliament is in full swing and settling down to work, it is time to see if the Session gives promise of accomplishing anything for the advantage of barley-growers. So far as we have gone, the indications are distinctly unfavourable. The only thing concerning which there can be any certainty is the necessity for raising further funds, but even in this item there is much scope left for the imagination. We do not know, and are not permitted to guess, how it is to be done.

All taxation can be broadly divided into three classes: one which hurts barley-growers, another which does them good, and the third, which is quite neutral.

There is abundant indication that taxes can be raised in a variety of ways with little direct influence upon barley-growing, but when we get to the

Indirect Influences

the wisest amongst us cannot determine their true working.

The most direct connection between taxation and barley-growing is the beer duty. This objectionable impost exerts a dual influence. It is hard to say which is the worse. Increase of duty means inevitably undue favour to cheaper and nastier materials used by brewers in place of good barley-malt, and restricted ability to buy on the part of consumers. Now, are we likely to see any further increase in the amount of so-called beer duty?

It is well known to a variety of people that the beer duty is not a duty upon beer at all—it is merely a tax upon the materials actually used by the brewer. This being so, will the Chancellor of the Exchequer see fit to assess the duty differently? Why not make it a duty upon beer at so much per barrel, regardless of the original gravity of the beer prior to fermentation?

A fair and properly-proportioned duty would perhaps be

Six Shilings Per Barrel.

This is really as much as beer ought to contribute to the State Chest. The remission of the 1s. 6d. per barrel would be a boon to all respectable brewers, and, standing at 6s. per 36 gallons, the yield to Revenue should be £12,000,000. This amount, under these conditions, would prove to be progressive in a way not yet known.

It will be remembered that two years ago an additional tax of 1s. per barrel was placed upon beer. As it was assumed that 36,000,000 barrels of beer paid duty, it seemed probable to get in an additional amount of duty of £1,800,000; but the Chief Officers of Excise knew better, and so they expected less. But they did not anticipate that brewers would dilute to the extent they did in reality, and it is a surprise to them that the beer duty has grown only very slightly, notwithstanding a much larger consumption of beer.

This is easily accounted for when brewers have a free hand for

Unlimited Dilution.

If out of a given quantity of materials they elect to brew 50 million barrels of beer instead of the 40 millions actually brewed, or the 36 millions assumed to be brewed and charged for, there is nothing to prevent them. They may do so next year, and they have a treble incentive. There is a great saving in the actual quantity of material used, a still greater saving in the cost of such material, and a direct diminution of duty. Now, if every barrel of beer paid a uniform rate of duty regardless of strength, the most powerful of these incentives would disappear.

The advantage of the plan does not stop here. At present a good deal of trouble is given to Excise officers, who have to watch brewers with the utmost vigilance, and honest officials will tell you with sadness that they are often beaten and baffled; but if every cask that left a brewery carried its stamp, there would be very little room left for cheating.

Beer Barrel Stamps

are no novelty or new-fangled idea. They have been used for many years in the United States with the greatest satisfaction to all concerned, and if adopted in this country they would materially benefit the Revenue and protect consumers, with the consequent benefit to those who supply the raw material for beer, be it malt, sugar, or glucose. Probably in the direct action of taxation we shall get our only benefit from the legislation of the Session. There are sundry measures proposed, but it is highly probable that none of them will become law.

The Pure Beer Bill will be re-introduced in possibly some modified form, but it is needless to discuss it until it is drafted, and even then it will be only an academic discussion. There is no chance of any such measure being placed upon the Statute-book this Session. The one great opening that offered last year was lost, and opportunities once lost seldom return.

HOPS.

Home Notes.

The Borough.

During the past fortnight much activity has marked the proceedings of our traders. Merchants have sold pretty freely to brewers, and further inquiries have come forward, which have induced the representatives of our large firms to again inspect the samples of the available parcels. Factors are therefore encouraged to be firm in their quotations, and are seeking to protect the interests of their clients, with the general result that values of hops possessing colour and quality have advanced quite 10s. from the point they stood at before Christmas. In view of this movement some lots have been taken off the market, holders confidently expecting better prices as the spring opens up. There is wisdom in such a course, although it is difficult, and almost impossible, to forecast the probabilities, when we remember that the market continues to feel the pressure of large quantities of inferior sorts, which are only saleable at ridiculous figures. Nevertheless, many of these low-quality lots have changed hands, and under any circumstances they must be profitable bargains to brewers, while they are the causes of many lamentations by growers. How universally it is now confessed that so many of us made serious blunders in picking these unserviceable hops! Had no more than about 400,000 cwts. been put upon the market, what different accounts would have been found in the books of bankers in the hop-growing districts. It is too late to apply a remedy this season. We can only "learn wisdom from the past," and "wisely improve the future." We can control our own course of action; we can "grub" and reduce the acreage, or we can adopt other means whereby the output can be limited. This is the only true wisdom as applicable to this matter, and I sincerely trust that the sense of self-preservation widespread through the country, and that the powerful weapon which "cold storage" has placed in the hands of brewers, will be effectively blunted by our determination to defend ourselves, and by our effective use of the shield which is within our reach.

Our position is fortunately strengthened by the

Exportation of American Hops.

Some considerable quantities of these growths have been recently re-shipped, and the scarcity of good hops is being increasingly realised on the other side of the Atlantic. These movements confirm my oft-repeated statements that during the whole of this season foreign competition has not affected our market. The depression is due entirely to ourselves, and the axiom that the value of English hops depends upon the quantity and quality of the English crop was never more exactly demonstrated than during our recent and most unfortunate experience.

Borough Traders

are feeling the pressure of the times, for it must never be forgotten that the absence of profit to growers means that factors and merchants suffer in proportion. Low prices, caused by excessive crops, are disadvantageous to all concerned, in whatever section of the industry they may be engaged. I regret to say that a proof of the truth of this statement is found in the difficulties of one of our factors, who has this week issued circulars to his creditors, calling a meeting for the consideration of his financial position.

Foreign Notes.

Nuremberg.

Business on the hop market is steadily becoming more active, the transactions of each week advancing rapidly, while the arrivals are falling off. Consequently, stocks have been materially reduced and values proportionately augmented. The present firmness of prices promises to be more pronounced as the season progresses, and holders, instead of pressing sales, are daily becoming more conservative. The outlook is distinctly favourable to sellers, and I am prepared to see substantial improvement in prices at an early date.

Munich.

The average quotations for hops in this great brewery centre are as follows: Hallertons (choice), 152s. 6d.; Spalts, 150s.; Saaz, 170s.; and other kinds in proportion. The sales for the week ending January 24th were nearly 15,000 kilos, while the new supplies did not reach 500 kilos. Stocks are therefore much lowered, and at the date named barley exceeded 100,000 kilos, this being the smallest figure that has been recorded since the commencement of this season's trade.

German Increase of Import Duties.

It appears, from the reply of Herr Thielmann, Secretary to the Treasury, to a question concerning certain payments to a section of the army, that the proposed increase of import duties upon hops will be legalised. The trade in this produce between Austria and Germany will probably be affected to an important extent. Belgium exports will also be checked, and it is difficult to forecast the ultimate results, which may be felt throughout the beer-drinking countries of the world.

America.

Though the reports from the Pacific Coast indicate increased strength, as the consequence of more active business, the situation in New York shows very little actual improvement. Stocks in growers' hands appear to be reduced below the average at this season, therefore the future of the trade is practically controlled by the dealers and the brewers. The latter, having full knowledge of the scarcity of hops, are husbanding their resources, and are buying with the utmost caution, but the time is not far distant when their necessities will compel them to replenish their stock and provide for their summer requirements. When this inevitable movement commences dealers will reap large profits, therefore they are content to wait, and have no present anxiety for trading.

In Montgomery and Madison, Cos. (New York State) there is a growing feeling of dissatisfaction amongst growers. Several of them have sold their poles and plowed their hop yards. Very little new ground has been planted, and it is calculated that the general balance of acreage reduction will be at least 10 per cent.

Belgium.

Although the speculative business in hops on the Brussels Bourse is somewhat quiet, recent current values are well upheld. But in the country districts increased firmness prevails. Buyers are offering 43 to 43½ francs, but holders demand solidly 44 to 45 francs. The brewery consumption being somewhat restricted, it is probable that for a time no change in either direction will at present take place in values. But the general tendency is in favour of higher prices, as soon as brewers' stocks are decreased.

National Association of English Hop Growers.

Council Meeting.

A meeting of the council was held on Monday last at the Hop Exchange, when Colonel Brookfield, M.P., presided, being supported by Laurence Hardy, Esq., M.P., Mr. E. Albert White (hon. treasurer), Mr. James Chalcrofts, Mr. F. P. Thirkell, Mr. Sauter, and other planters. Apologies for absence were received from A. Baldwin, Esq., M.P., Captain Howard, M.P., Lieut.-Col. Cheesman, Mr. Herbert Leney, Mr. George Neve, Mr. J. Chapman, and Mr. G. Arnold.

The minutes of the last meeting having been read, the secretary reported that the subscriptions received in 1901 showed a substantial increase upon the previous year, and that the association was evidently becoming more fully recognised as the central and most reliable source of information, both by the general body of growers and the trade. He was frequently consulted as to the sale of hops and for the private settlement of disputes in conection therewith. He was always at the disposal of members in these matters, and gave his services gratuitously.

Mr. Thirkell regretted that the combination of growers was not more extensive, as it was only by such agreement that they could gain control of the market. Recently there had been practically no market for hops, and he believed that result had been brought about by the united action of factors and merchants, who, it appeared to him, worked for the benefit of that wealthy class, the brewers. His Majesty's subjects had suffered from the desire of brewers to increase

All official reports and notices of the National Association of English Hop Growers will be printed in the MARK LANE EXPRESS, *which will also contain all current information likely to be of interes and benefit to the member of the society.*

their wealth by the use of cheap and harmful materials, therefore it was necessary that the representatives of the hop industry in the House of Commons should press upon the attention of the Government the passing of a Pure Beer Bill, which could only be secured by the sole use of barley-malt and hops. With regard to the disposal of their produce, he wished growers to agree to withdraw their hops from the Borough, and to sell them by auction in the localities in which they were grown. Brewers would then be compelled to seek for them, and planters would realise better prices. He advocated reduction of the English acreage, and trusted the good work already done by the association might be further extended by the more generous support of the growers.

The president, while admitting that more general and more practical recognition of the value of the association was urgently required, and that good results would thereby accrue to the hop-growing industry, thought that small growers found the present Borough system of trading the most convenient to them, and he feared it would be almost impossible to raise the large capital essential to any attempt to displace the old established customs by any other methods.

Mr. Laurance Hardy concurred in the president's remarks, and was of opinion that Mr. Thirkell's suggestions were hardly practicable.

The secretary presented some evidence of the comparatively unimportant influence exercised by foreign imports upon the English market, it being specially notable during the current season when Californian hops were selling at 80s. to 90s., being nearly three times as valuable as the average English produce. He also directed the attention of the council to the rapidly increasing importance of "cold storage," that must be faced by English growers, as it introduced an entirely novel element into their future prospects, which would be permanently affected in proportion to the enlargement of the cold storage capacity.

After some remarks by other members of the council, the desirability of a reduction of the output of English hops was accepted, but no formal resolution was adopted.

Letters were read from Mr. Herbert Leney, West Farleigh; Mr. S. W. Moore, Oneida, New York State; and Messrs. Pincus and Son, Tacoma, Washington, expressing their views on the situation, and favouring organised reduction of acreage, both in England and America.

Upon consideration of the circular recently issued by the Borough Factors, the council were of opinion that the imposition of the increased charge of 4d. per pocket for warehouse expenses was most inopportune and uncalled for in the present depressed condition of the industry, and that the readjustment of the scale of commissions would be arranged more satisfactorily if it were based on a regular percentage upon the actual amount of the sales. As the matter was, however, too important to be hastily decided upon, the secretary was instructed to bring it before the next council meeting for more complete discussion.

In response to a request for information concerning the Beer Bill to be introduced in the current Session, the president said it was being seriously and carefully considered by its promoters, but that it was not yet finally drafted. Profiting by their experience last year, the framers of the Bill would endeavour to make it both concise and comprehensive, and hop-growers might be satisfied that their interests would be guarded by the prohibition of the use of hop substitutes, and of other preservatives by which hops were displaced or supplemented. Personally, he would give special attention to those points.

The secretary was instructed to write to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, suggesting that an import duty on foreign hops was most desirable, and requesting him to consider the claims of the English industry in case he should require to raise revenue by taxing imports at the port of entry.

After a vote of thanks to Colonel Brookfield, the proceedings terminated.

Herefordshire Horse Show.

At the annual meeting of the Herefordshire Horse Show Society, held at Hereford on Wednesday, Mr. R. O. Backhouse presiding, Lord Chesterfield was elected president for the ensuing year.

It was decided to follow the course pursued last year by holding a one-day show instead of two, the heavy expense of boarding and shedding being saved by the kindness of the Mayor and Corporation lending the horse market and a meadow opposite.

The annual report drew attention to the marked improvement in the financial position of the society. The receipts for the year amounted to £866, and the outgoings to £649, leaving a surplus of £217. If the show in the present year yielded as good results the society would be almost entirely out of debt by the end of the year. It was recommended that the show be again held on August Bank Holiday.

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A Successful Milk Producers' Association.

The report presented at the third annual meeting of the Cheshire Milk Producers' Association shows that the association is making progress in every respect. The number of members last year was 859, the number this year being 930, or an increase of 71. To this must be added the East Cheshire and North Derbyshire branch, which numbers about 100, making a grand total of 1,030. The income from subscriptions during the year is £339 14s. 6d., a slight increase over the previous year; this, with the balance in hand, and the amount of £90 13s. 8d. collected for members, making a total income of £681 7s. 3d. The expenditure is £342 11s. 8d.

The actural balance in hand after providing for all liabilities being £198 11s. 5d. £90 13s. 8d. was collected from defaulting traders, and passed through the association's books to the members interested; in addition to this £36 3s. 7d. was collected and paid direct, without passing through the association's books, making a total of £126 17s. 3d. It should be pointed out that no commission is charged for collecting. A number of inquiries have been made with reference to the stability of traders which have been extremely useful to members. These inquiries are preserved, so that any time in the future reference can be made to them, and thus, gradually, the men who have been for years defrauding farmers will, it is hoped, be driven out of the milk trade.

The report further stated that steps had been taken with regard to maintaining at a fair rate the price of milk, and the council were satisfied that, although all that was hoped for was not obtained, much good had resulted. As a consequence many farmers obtained a better price, and it was hoped, with a more perfect organisation, better results might be achieved in the future. Some success had attended the efforts of the council to obtain improvements in transit. Better accommodation had been given for the unloading of milk at several stations, and improvements were under consideration in other cases. More suitable trains had been provided, and claims had been settled on a more liberal basis. It was, the council believed, more than probable that the near future would see a fresh development in the form of motor lurries, which, if successful, would be of great service in the conveyance of milk, at any rate for short distances.

Colonel Cotton-Jodrell presided at the meeting and, in moving the adoption of the report, said the fact that the association had obtained better terms in the matter of transit showed that railway companies were beginning to see that the association were in earnest, and that they meant to do everything possible to promote regularity, punctuality, and proper accommodation at stations and sidings so far as it conduced to the better despatch of milk. In the formation of a new milk standard the association had taken an important part. In cases where farmers and others were summoned for supplying either adulterated or suspicious milk, the council had investigated the cases thoroughly, and had taken up those in which they felt that the farmer ought to be supported in justice to himself on the ground that he had a good case. The supply of pure and wholesome milk, he took it, was the essence of their existence.

Another important duty which the association had was that of protecting their members against harassing and bullying attempts on the part of large corporations by reason of their bye-laws, or by the over-zeal of some official, to hamper the trade of the farmer. The association had come to feel more and more that it should be the duty of some body such as the Central Chamber of Agriculture, or the Central Association of Dairy Farmers, or members of Parliament who chose to take up the work, to watch the introduction of bills dealing with the powers of corporations, and see that before such bills became law provision should be introduced into them giving due security to the tenant-farmers. He was glad to announce that the Government had, through the medium in the first instance of the Local Government Board, given power to insert a clause in corporation bills in the future providing for appeal against decisions in case of butter and milk supply to the Board of Agriculture. That was an important point gained. It had been suggested that similar powers should be given to the Board of Agriculture with regard to corporations where Acts dealing with these matters are already in operation.

Water in Butter: Departmental Committee's Recommendation.

The Departmental Committee appointed by the Board of Agriculture to inquire into and report upon the desirability of regulations for butter have presented an interim report recommending the adoption of a limit of 16 per cent. for the proportion of water in butter. This limit is to be fixed by a regulation under Section 4 of the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, 1899, the assumption being that butter containing a larger percentage of water than 16 per cent. will escape the operation of this limit provided that a sufficient disclosure is made to the purchaser.

At their first meeting, held on July 5th, 1901, the committee unanimously decided to give precedence to the part of the inquiry relating to the proportion of water in butter, on the ground that a considerable period would be necessary for collecting the evidence relating to the genuineness of butter so fat as this depended upon its other constituents, while the facts bearing upon the proportion of water were much more easily obtainable.

After they had arrived at this conclusion, the first question which the committee had to determine was whether any limit whatever to the proportion of water was required, or whether the public taste—the actual operation of the law of supply and demand—would regulate the matter without the interference of legislative or administrative action. In this matter the committee were in no doubt. The weight of evidence, in their opinion, was overwhelmingly in favour of some official regulation.

The committee consists of Mr. Horace Plunkett, Vice-President of the Department of Agriculture for Ireland (chairman); Sir Charles Cameron, Medical Officer of Health and Public Analyst for Dublin; Professor Thorpe, Principal Chemist of the Government Laboratories; Major Craigie, Assistant Secretary of the Board of Agriculture; Mr. R. A. Anderson, Secretary of the Irish Agricultural Organisation Society; Mr. Christopher Dunn, Chairman of the Trustees of the Cork Butter Market; Professor Millar Thompson, President of the Institute of Chemistry; Mr. Kearley, M.P., Mr. George Gibbons, Mr. John Gilchrist, and Mr. Patrick Hickey.

Agrarian Outrages in Ireland.—According to an official return recently placed upon the table of the House of Commons, during the quarter ended 31st December last the number of agrarian outrages in Ireland did not exceed 47, of which 26 consisted of sending threatening letters or notices.

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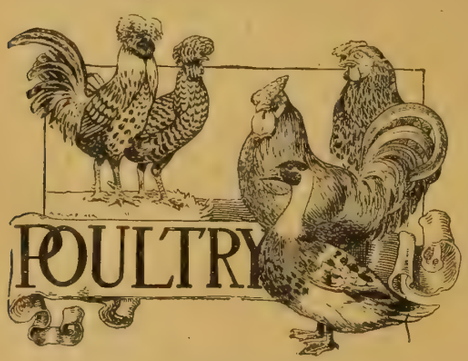
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Some French Methods of Poultry-Keeping.*

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By Mr. T. R. Robinson, F.S.I.

It gives me great pleasure to address this meeting, and to assure you that the Utility Poultry Club is doing very useful work at a minimum of expense. Perhaps you will allow me to preface my remarks in the same way as the clergyman who said, "Don't do as I do, do as I say." I neither want you to do as I do, nor to do as I say, but if in what I am giving you there are any hints which will be of service to you take and modify them according to your own circumstances. The question is often asked, why the French are so successful in poultry-keeping? The answer is because they will take infinite trouble, far more than we do. English people would not take the time or the trouble that the French are quite content to take. One must not, however, blame Englishmen for not caring to work for fourteen or sixteen hours a day.

Now, let us consider French methods. First, the man who keeps but very few birds. The birds nearly always live in the cowhouse or in the stables, or somewhere where there is animal warmth. The hen-roost is sometimes over the brick bread-oven, and the warmth is considered very conducive to the egg supply. They run out in his little plot, they are fed once a day, the children gather the eggs once or twice a day, and all the fowls bring in is practically profit; the man knows nothing and does not concern himself about the cost of keeping them. Now, as to the Jambais practice, near Houdan, and the surrounding neighbourhood. This may be said to be the centre of the poultry-raising district, and is the home of the Faverolles, although it is only a few miles from Houdan. Like nearly all English commercial poultry-keepers, they go for cross-bred fowl. In old French books you will find nothing at all about Faverolles. Monsieur R., who is one of the best authorities on poultry in France, will not admit that the Faverolles are a pure breed.

Where a man only has a very little ground, and wants to keep his one, two, or five hundred, or one thousand chickens, as I have seen on a farm of very small dimensions, he uses incubators. They adopt the artificial system more than we do, and, although you know we have some excellent machines here, yet I have hatched hundreds and hundreds of chickens from French machines without regulators, and proved that it is quite an error to say that you must have an even temperature, a certain quantity of moisture, etc. I have hatched eggs at 38deg., 40deg., and 42deg. Centigrade, and even higher, and also fresh eggs, and eggs that have been some weeks old. If you ask me, I should say begin at 38deg. and finish off at 42deg., and don't trouble much about moisture for the first fourteen days, but then give them as much as experience and egg-testing teaches you. It is a very good plan to saturate the eggs with damp steam on the nineteenth or twentieth day. It is sometimes wise to put the eggs in a bowl and swim them on the twentieth day, but in most cases give them plenty of moisture the last few days. In England we keep them in the dark, send the heat down from above, and so on; but if you look, say, at American incubators, you will find that you can hatch eggs in the light, with no moisture, and no hot-water tank, but hot air, and still hatch very successfully. People who lay down hard and fast rules are really talking without their book, and are generally those who do not know what can be done.

Testing Eggs.

A word of advice about testing eggs. Suppose you have then under a hen, have a nest on the ground run in front, set the hen in the evening, and let her come on and off when she likes, if you wish to have the minimum amount of trouble; but if you set out of doors in the winter, do not test, because you will chill the eggs, and will do more harm than good. With an incubator, on the fifth day, place a blanket ready, take your eggs one by one by the lower part, and hold them up to the light, and you will see, if fertile, a little black mark, which is the life-germ started. A perfectly clear egg is no good. Put it on one side. Then replace the good eggs, and on the fifteenth day you will find some show a large air space, and the rest of the egg a black mass—these are good. Some, again, will show a wavy line, and black and white patches; if you rattle them they will be found rotten.

Yesterday I heard a question asked as to whether the chicken turns in the egg or not, but that I will leave for someone else to decide, and will now get on with the work of actually hatching on the last day. If they hatch themselves, so much the better; but if not, then take the egg and, if chipped, give it a little, very gentle roll round between the hands to assist it, and if some time after you have to assist more, get your thumb at the back of the chicken's head, and free the head; then put it back into the incubator, and if it does not do the rest for itself you will find this chicken not worth rearing. A certain proportion of those you help in this way may do well, but do not attempt to pull them out of the shell.

The next point is the French system of rearing. Get them out in a large drying box. Presuming you have hatched 100 chickens, leave them there for a day and a half, and after they have had their first feed, put them into the foster-mother as soon as you can. The French ones I have used most are fixtures, but here we have movable ones and movable coops. The man who has only a limited ground must have a permanent fixed foster-mother, and he heats it from below. Over the top the Frenchman has a feather bed, and the chickens are lying on straw between the hot water (the water is heated by a charcoal briquet) and the feather bed. If they are at all too warm they go a little to the right or the left from under the bed. On the straw are placed for the first day the feeding troughs, for the French make a great point of never letting the chickens get wet. (Here the lecturer showed three models of feeding sticks, and pointed out which he considered the best, explaining that the crops of the chickens fit into the little curve made for the food, so protecting them from getting wet, and that they soon pick the trough perfectly clean.) The first meal is made of one-third barley meal, one-third oatmeal, or if you like oatmeal only; mixed with milk or whey, it is made into a real paste and plastered on to the feeding sticks with wooden hands. For feeding it is best to have a table with a hollow in it, and you can put your milk in first, and then your food, and mix it up with your hands or a wooden spoon. Do not feed too much at a time, and as soon as the chickens have cleared it up put on more. Feed your chickens just as often as they will eat. I have known French children run up and feed them every hour in the day, but never by artificial light. These foster-mothers are attached to sheds, and the shed is lined with straw, so that however rough the weather may be they will have somewhere dry to run out. They are always driven back at night, and the door is closed till the following morning. This is a very important point, as a protection against vermin—a single rat will clear off scores of chickens. It is also very important when they are quite young to show them how to take care of themselves. Have a little wire cage in front and drive them out, even if there is only half an hour's sunshine, as it is essential they should be in the open air when possible.

You can look after a very large number by this system almost as easily as a few, and 1,500 are no more trouble than 50 hencoops, that require constant moving.

Feeding the Chicks.

After the first three weeks, instead of the patté mixture, low troughs are used, with a rail at the top to keep the birds out, and alternately boiled buck-wheat and thick paste are given. They are still fed four or five times a day until they are three months old. Besides this they always have a little grit, and after the first three weeks they have a little meat and greenstuff. In winter they are kept off the grass entirely, because it is wet. At three months old they can usually be separated, the cockerels and pullets, and in summer, at five to six weeks old; no artificial heat is given whatever. They are shut out of the foster-mother and put into the house attached; they are never allowed to roost, but sleep on the straw, and over their backs is let down a frame some 8 ft. by 4 ft., with a loose blanket nailed underneath, which the chickens go under.

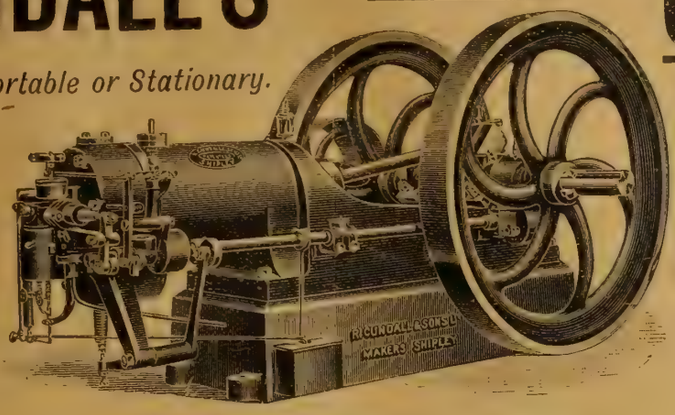
(To be continued.)

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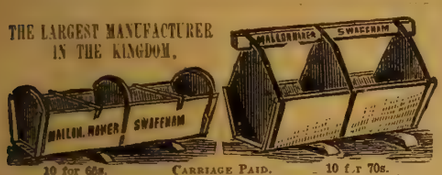
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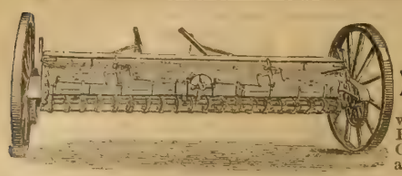
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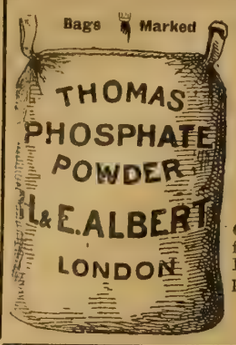
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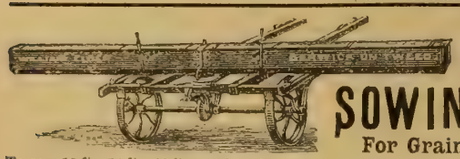
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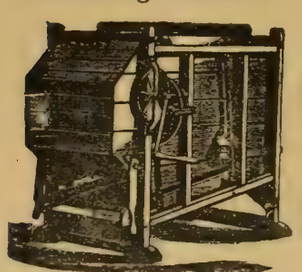
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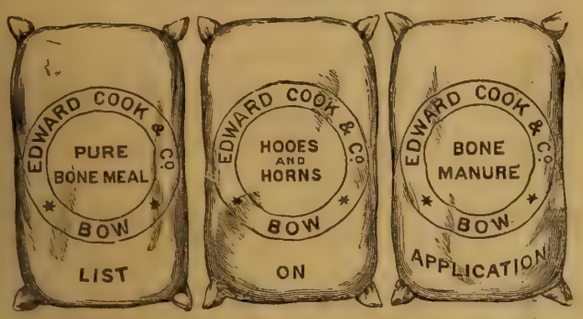
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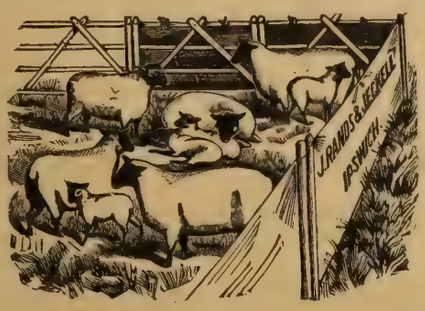
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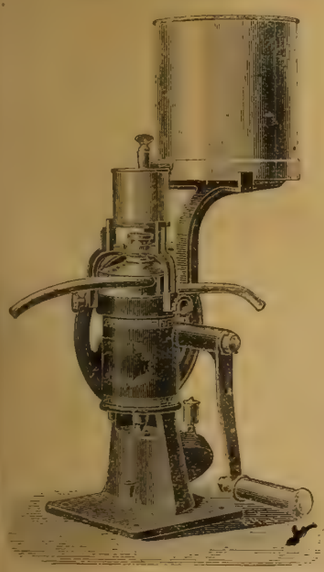
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To promote united action among English hop growers as a body for the improvement of the industry.

To promote, support, or oppose such legislative and other measures as may affect the industry.

To collect and publish, for the benefit of members, special statistical and other useful information relating to English and foreign hop-culture.

To arrange for arbitrations in cases of dispute between sellers and buyers of hops, for the avoidance of litigation.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Ordinary members, 3d. per acre of hops under cultivation; honorary members, £1 1s.; hop factors, £1 1s.

TENDERS & CONTRACTS.

CONTRACTS FOR PROVISIONS, WHEAT, FLOUR, WHOLEMEAL, AND MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES.

THE PRISON COMMISSIONERS are prepared to receive TENDERS for the supply of the above to the following Prisons, viz.:—Aylesbury, Bedford, Birmingham, Bodmin, Borstal, Brecon, Bristol, Brixton, Cambridge, Canterbury, Cardiff, Carlisle, Carmarthen, Carnarvon, Chelmsford, Dartmoor, Derby, Devizes, Dorchester, Durham, Exeter, Gloucester, Hereford, Holloway (with Newgate), Hull, Ipswich, Knutsford, Lancaster, Leeds, Leicester, Lewes, Lincoln, Liverpool, Maidstone, Manchester, Newcastle, Northallerton, Northampton, Norwich, Nottingham, Oxford, Parkhurst, Pentonville, Plymouth, Portland, Portsmouth, Preston, Reading, Ruthin, St. Albans, Shepton Mallet, Shrewsbury, Stafford, Swansea, Usk, Wakefield, Wandsworth, Warwick, Winchester, Worcester, and Wormwood Scrubs.

Forms of tender, with all necessary particulars, can be obtained at any of the Prisons, or at the Prison Commission, Home Office, Whitehall, London, S.W. (where also samples may be seen).

Tender forms must be delivered at the Prison Commission, prepared, not later than noon on Tuesday, the 11th of February, 1902.

METROPOLITAN CATTLE MARKET, ISLINGTON.

CONTRACT FOR HAY, STRAW, CLOVER, MIXTURE, OATS AND BRAN.

THE CATTLE MARKETS COMMITTEE of the CORPORATION of LONDON will meet at GUILDHALL, on WEDNESDAY, the 19th FEBRUARY, 1902, at 2.30 o'clock p.m. precisely, to receive TENDERS for the supply of the Finest Upland ENGLISH MEADOW HAY, STRAW, CLOVER, ENGLISH MIXTURE, RUSSIAN OATS, and BRAN, to the Metropolitan Cattle Market, Islington, for a period of SIX MONTHS, from the 1st March, 1902.

A printed form of tender, with conditions, may be had on application at the Town Clerk's Office, Guildhall, or at the Office of the Clerk and Superintendent, at the Market.

The Committee do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any Tender.

Tenders must be delivered by hand at the Hallkeeper's Office, Guildhall, on Wednesday, the 19th February, 1902, between the hours of One and Two o'clock.

PRIOR GOLDNEY.
Officiating Town Clerk.
Guildhall,
February, 1902.

TENDERS & CONTRACTS.

PROVISIONS.

TENDERS will be RECEIVED until NOON on Tuesday, the 25th Feb., for the Supply, for Six Months, from 1st April next, of:—

MEAT for the Royal Hospital School, Greenwich.

Also for Twelve Months from the 1st April next, of:—

FLOUR, CONES, VEGETABLES, and MILK for the Royal Hospital School, Greenwich.

Forms of Tender, containing conditions of Contract and all particulars, may be obtained on personal application at this Office, or by letter addressed "The Director of Navy Contracts, Admiralty, London, S.W."

Applications for Forms of Tender should state for what place and Article it is desired to tender.

Their Lordships do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any Tender.

GORDON MILLER,
Director of Navy Contracts.

Contract Department,
Admiralty, London, S.W.
February 8th, 1902.

NAVY CONTRACTS FOR FRESH BEEF AND VEGETABLES.

TENDERS will be received until NOON on TUESDAY, the 25th FEBRUARY, for the supply, at the following places, of FRESH BEEF, for *Six* Calendar Months from the 1st April next; and of VEGETABLES for *One* Year from the same date.

ENGLAND.	
Berwick	‡Netley
Chatham (Beef and Mutton)	Newhaven
Cowes	Penzance
Dartmouth	†Plymouth (Oxen and Sheep)
Deal and in the Downs	Poole
Dover	†Portland (Cattle and Sheep)
Falmouth	†Portsmouth (Oxen Sheep)
Felixstowe	Ramsgate and Margate
Gravesend	Rock Ferry and Liverpool
†Great Grimsby	Sheerness
†Gorey, Jersey	†Shields, North
Harwich	Southampton
†Holyhead	†Sunderland
†Hull, Hawke Roads and in the Humber	Torbay
Lowestoft	Yarmouth, Great
Milford Haven, Pembroke, and Pater	

SCOTLAND.	
Aberdeen	Kirkwall
Campbeltown	Lamlash
Granton and Leith	Lerwick
Greenock	Queensferry
Inverness	†Stornoway

IRELAND.	
Bantry	Galway
†Belmullet	Killybegs
Buncrana	Kingstown
Carrickfergus	Kinsale
Castletown (Berehaven)	†Moville
Dublin	Queenstown
Foynes and Tarbert	Rathmullen
	Waterford

† At these Ports Tenders for Vegetables are not required.

‡ Vegetables only at Netley.

Forms of Tender,* containing Conditions of Contract and all particulars, may be obtained on personal application at this Office, or by letter addressed to "Director of Navy Contracts, Admiralty, London, S.W."

Their Lordships do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any Tender.

GORDON MILLER,
Director of Navy Contracts.

* Applications for Forms of Tender should state for what place and article it is desired to tender.

Contract Department, Admiralty,
London, S.W.
8th February, 1902.

FARMS, ESTATES, MILLS, BUSINESSES, &c.

FARMS.—Rents from 10s. Acre; prices £7 Acre. Monthly List 2 stamps. RUTTER, 10, Norfolk Street, Strand, London.

MESSRS. CRONK'S LIST of FARMS, containing particulars of numerous Farms in Kent, Surrey, Sussex, and elsewhere, to be obtained gratis at their offices or will be sent by post on receipt of a stamp. Properties inserted free.—12, Pall Mall, London, S.W., and Sevenoaks, Kent.

FARM.—TO LET, from 25th March, 1902. Farmhouse and Buildings, with 295 Acres of Land, of which 187 are Grass, at Wanlip, 5 miles from Leicester, 2 miles from Birstall and Syston stations, and now in the occupation of the owner.—Apply to SIR A. PALMER, Wanlip Hall, Leicester.

SURREY.—TO BE LET from Michaelmas next, a capital FARM of about 493 acres, chiefly a good mixed soil, very suitable for sheep, with Farmhouse, Homestead, convenient off premises, and eight cottages; adjoining a station on the L. B. & S. C. Ry. (with a siding therefrom), within short distances of several other Stations, and in the centre of the great race-horse trainers' quarters. Sixteen miles from London; good hunting district. The Farm has been for many years in the occupation of a first-class tenant, who is quitting on account of failing health.—Particulars of Messrs. DEBENHAM, TEWSON, FARMER, and BRIDGEWATER, Land Agents, 80, Cheapside, E.C.

AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION.

AYNSOME AGRICULTURAL STATION.

CARTMEL, GRANGE-OVER-SANDS, LANCS.

New Chemical Laboratories with every modern improvement. Model Dairy, Experimental Feeding House, Farm 280 acres. Instructions given in Practical Chemistry, Agricultural Analysis and Research, and Practical Agriculture, &c. Splendid climate in perfect country. Terms moderate. For particulars and prospectus, apply to THE DIRECTORS of the Experimental Station, Aynsome, Grange-over-Sands.

AUCTION SALE.

On FRIDAY NEXT, FEBRUARY 14th, 1902. Great Dispersion Sale of Herd of Pure-bred Shorthorn Cattle, Flock of Registered Shropshire Sheep, and General Farming Stock, at THE BEAM HOUSE, MONTFORD BRIDGE, six miles from Shrewsbury, on the Holyhead Road, and four miles from Baschurch Station (where conveyances meet morning trains).

ALFRED MANSELL & CO. will SELL by AUCTION, as above, by order of Mr. William Thomas, who is relinquishing farming pursuits—

The grand Herd of 75 PURE-BRED SHORTHORN CATTLE, consisting of young Cows, Heifers, and Yearling Bulls.

8 NON-PEDIGREE CATTLE, viz.:—6 Cross-bred Cows (in calf), and 2 Barren Heifers.

The Registered Flock of 245 SHROPSHIRE SHEEP, including 125 young Breeding Ewes (in or with lambs), 77 Shearling Ewes (in or with lambs), 35 Ram Lambs, and 8 Rams.

17 upstanding CART HORSES and COLTS.

And an immense collection of MODERN AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS, by the best makers, consisting of Carts, Waggons, 300 Iron Hurdles, Feeding Troughs, Ploughs, Diggers, Harrows, Massey-Harris Cultivator, Drills, Mowers, Sheep Dipping Apparatus, Sheep Van; also a useful assortment of Gears.

Luncheon, 10.30; Sale at 11 prompt.

Catalogues, with detailed pedigrees and all information, from ALFRED MANSELL and CO., Pedigree Stock Salesmen, Shrewsbury.

Commissions faithfully executed.

POULTRY APPLIANCES, &c.

INCUBATORS. How to construct and successfully use a modern Incubator, with working drawings; over 100 pages with illustrated list, post free 4d.—INCUBATOR COMPONENTS MANUFACTURING CO., Stonehouse, Glos. Lists free.

CALWAY'S Circular Hot-Air Chicken Rearer has the largest sale of any Foster-Mother in this country; 30 to 50-chick size, 12s. 6d.; 50 to 100-chick size, 25s.

THE LATEST IMPROVEMENT IN CALWAY'S CHICKEN REARER is the new Lamp. Full particulars free.

POULTRY KEEPING IN THE 20th CENTURY; 1s. post free. Send for a copy; it will interest you.

MAKE your own Poultry Spice. Valuable receipt free. Send stamp for postage.—WILLIAM CALWAY, Gloucester.

POULTRY YARD.—The best money can buy. Reliable Eggs for sitting, and pure bred Cockerels and Pullets, from the following high-class birds with superior laying qualities. Guaranteed unequalled. Breeds—Anconas, Blue Andalusians, Black Minorcas, White, Brown, Buff, and Black Leghorns, Buff and Barred Rocks, Gold and Silver spangled and Black Hamburghs, Buff and Black Orpingtons, Houdans, Langshans, Campines, Dark and Silver Dorkings, Indian Game, Buff Cochins, Light Brahmas. Gold, Silver and Buff Wyandottes, and Aylesbury, Rouen, and Indian Runner Ducks. Eggs, all varities, 4s. 6d. sitting; 50 Eggs, 16s.; 100 Eggs, £1 10s., all guaranteed fertile or replaced free. Ten Cockerels of above varieties, 7s. 6d. and 10s. 6d. each; Pullets 5s. and 6s. each.—Advice gratis. Vacancy for Pupil.—JOHN PARMINTER, Farmer, Southorpe, Stamford.

BANKS, INSURANCES.

SPECIAL ADVANTAGES TO PRIVATE INSURERS.

THE IMPERIAL INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED. FIRE. Established 1803. 1, Old Broad Street, E.C., 22, Pall Mall, S.W., and 47, Chancery Lane, W.C. Subscribed Capital, £1,200,000. Paid up £300,000. Total Funds over £1,500,000.—E. COZENS SMITH, General Manager.

PHŒNIX ASSURANCE CO., Ltd.—Phœnix Fire Office, 19, Lombard Street, and 57, Charing Cross Road.
Established 1782.
LOWEST Current Rates.
Liberal and Prompt Settlements.
Assured Free of all Liability.
Electric Lighting Rules supplied.

ACCIDENTS OF ALL KINDS.
EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY,
ACCIDENT AND DISEASE
(Small Pox, Scarlet Fever, yphoid, Diphtheria, &c.
BURGLARY & FIDELITY IN URANCE.
RAILWAY PASSENGERS' ASSURANCE CO., Established 1849. Claims paid £4,450,000.
A. VIAN, *Secretary.*
64, Cornhill, London.

BANK OF AUSTRALASIA.
(Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1835.)
4, Threadneedle Street, London.
Paid-up Capital, £1,600,000.
Reserve Fund, £955,000.
Reserve Liability of Proprietors under the Charter, £1,600,000. Letters of Credit and Drafts issued on any of the numerous Branches of the Bank throughout Australia and New Zealand.
Bills negotiated or sent for collection.
Telegraphic Transfers made.
Deposits received in London at interest for fixed periods on terms which may be ascertained on application.
R. W. JEANS, Manager.

Banks, Insurances, &c., continued on page 16.

BANKS, INSURANCES, &c.

(*Continued from Front Page.*)

London & County Banking Company Limited

Registered under "The Companies Acts." Established in 1836.

CAPITAL £8,000,000, IN 100,000 SHARES OF £80 EACH.

REPORT ADOPTED AT THE HALF-YEARLY ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING, THE 6TH FEBRUARY, 1902.

WILLIAM EGERTON HUBBARD, Esq., in the Chair.

The Directors, in submitting to the Shareholders the Balance-sheet for the half-year ending 31st December, last, have to report that, after paying interest to customers and all charges, making provision for bad and doubtful debts, and allowing £31,803 15s. for rebate on bills not due, the net profits amount to £291,905 17s. 5d. From this sum have been deducted £25,000 transferred to Premises Account, and £50,000 carried to Reserve Fund, leaving £216,905 17s. 5d., which, with £89,957 17s. 8d. balance brought forward from last account, leaves available the sum of £306,863 15s. 1d.

The Directors have declared a Dividend for the half-year of 10 per cent., together with a Bonus of One per cent., which will require £220,000, leaving the sum of £86,863 15s. 1d. to be carried to the Profit and Loss New Account. The present Dividend, added to that paid to 30th June, will make 22 per cent. for the year 1901.

The Directors with deep regret announce the retirement, on account of advanced age, of Edward Harbord Lushington, Esq., who, since 1869, had been a most valued member of the Board. To fill this vacancy the Directors have appointed Ernest Haliburton Cunard, Esq., of the firm of Messrs. W. and W. S. Cunard. This creates a vacancy in the Auditorship, which it is in the power of the meeting to fill up.

The Directors retiring by rotation are Ernest Haliburton Cunard, Esq., William Howard, Esq., and William McKewan, Esq., who, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

The Dividend and Bonus, £2 4s. per Share, free of Income-Tax, will be payable at the Head Office, or at any of the Branches, on or after Monday, 17th February.

BALANCE SHEET

Of the London and County Banking Company Limited, 31st December, 1901.

Dr.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
To Capital subscribed £8,000,000, Paid up		2,000,000 0 0
Reserve Fund		1,550,000 0 0
Due by the Bank on Current Accounts, on Deposit Accounts, with Interest accrued, Circular Notes, &c.		44,474,574 13 6
Liabilities on Acceptances, covered by Cash or Securities or Bankers' Guarantees		1,564,638 17 2
Rebate on Bills not due carried to next Account		31,803 15 0
Net Profit for the Half-Year, after making provision for Bad and Doubtful Debts	291,905 17 5	
Transferred to Premises Account	25,000 0 0	
	266,905 17 5	
Carried to Reserve Fund	50,000 0 0	
	216,905 17 5	
Profit and Loss Balance brought from last Account	89,957 17 8	
		306,863 15 1
		£49,927,881 0 9

Cr.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
By Cash at the Head Office and Branches, and with Bank of England	8,274,042 0 8	
Loans at Call and at Notice, covered by Securities	2,829,890 11 9	
		11,103,932 12 5
Investments, viz. :—		
Consols (2¾ per Cent.) registered and in Certificates, New 2½ per Cents., and National War Loan 2¾ per Cent. (£6,894,491 7s. 11d., of which £370,650 0s. 0d. Consols is lodged for Public Accounts); Canada 4 per Cent. Bonds, and Egyptian 3 per Cent. Bonds, Guaranteed by the British Government	7,204,905 5 6	
India Government Stock and India Government Guaranteed Railway Stocks and Debentures	1,083,632 16 2	
Metropolitan and other Corporation Stocks, Debenture Bonds, English Railway Debenture Stock and Colonial Bonds	1,917,827 7 6	
Other Securities	6,714 17 8	
		10,213,080 6 10
Discounted Bills Current	7,590,062 15 4	
Advances to Customers at the Head Office and Branches	18,901,477 5 9	
		26,491,540 1 1
Liabilities of Customers for Drafts accepted by the Bank (as per Contra)		1,564,638 17 2
Bank Premises in London and Country, with Fixtures and Fittings	579,689 3 3	
Less amount transferred from Profit and Loss	25,000 0 0	
		554,689 3 3
		£49,927,881 0 9

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

	£ s. d.
To Interest paid to Customers	135,466 4 0
Salaries and all other Expenses at Head Office and Branches, including Income Tax on Profits and Salaries, Auditors' and Directors' Remuneration	295,760 13 0
Transferred to the Credit of Premises Account	25,000 0 0
Carried to Reserve Fund	50,000 0 0
Rebate on Bills not due, carried to New Account	31,803 15 0
Dividend 10 per cent. for the Half-Year	£200,000 0 0
Bonus 1 per cent.	20,000 0 0
Balance carried forward	86,863 15 1
	306,863 15 1
	£844,894 7 1

	£ s. d.
By Balance brought forward from last Account	89,957 17 8
Gross Profit for the Half-Year, after making provision for Bad and Doubtful Debts, and including Rebate £27,281 17s. 6d. brought from 30th June last	754,936 9 5
	£844,894 7 1

Examined and audited by us, (Signed) J. J. CATER, E. H. CUNARD, W. E. HUBBARD, } Audit Committee of Directors.

H. DEAN, Head Office Manager.
RICHARD LEMON, Country Manager.
WM. HALL, Chief Accountant.

London and County Banking Company Limited,
20th January, 1902.

In accordance with the provisions of the Companies Act, 1900, we certify that all our requirements as Auditors have been complied with, and we report that we have examined the Balance-sheet and Profit and Loss Account, dated the 31st day of December 1901, have verified the Cash-Balance at the Bank of England, the Stocks there registered, and the other investments of the Bank. We have also examined the several Books and Vouchers and certified Returns showing the Cash-Balances, Bills, and other Accounts set forth, the whole of which are correctly stated; and in our opinion the said Balance-sheet and Profit and Loss Account are properly drawn up, so as to exhibit a true and correct view of the Company's affairs as shown by the books of the Company.

(Signed) HY. GRANT, THOS. HORWOOD, } Auditors.

London and County Banking Company Limited,
23rd January, 1902.

LONDON AND COUNTY BANKING COMPANY LIMITED.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that a DIVIDEND on the Capital of the Company at the rate of 10 per cent. for the Half-Year ending 31st December, 1901, together with a Bonus of 1 per cent., will be PAYABLE to the Shareholders either at the Head Office, 21, Lombard Street, or at any of the Company's Branches, on or after Monday, the 17th instant.

By order of the Board,
21, LOMBARD STREET, 7th February, 1902. J. H. ATKINSON, Secretary.

REGISTER of AUCTIONEERS & ESTATE AGENTS.

LONDON.

Oswald R. Green & Co., Auctioneers (United Kingdom), Surveyors, Valuers, Land and Property Bureau, 1, Finsbury Circus, London, E.C.

PROVINCIAL.

BEDFORDSHIRE.

BEDFORD.

Ball, Harry, Auctioneer, Valuer, and Estate Agent, Duke Street, (Monthly Register). Telephone No. 080.

BERKSHIRE.

WALLINGFORD.

Franklin, Gale & Newton, Auctioneers, Valuers, Estate Agents, and Surveyors, Market Place. Also at Reading and Oxford.

DORSETSHIRE.

STURMINSTER NEWTON.

Senior & Godwin, Auctioneers, Valuers, and Land Agents, and at Gillingham.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

GLOUCESTER.

Bruton, Knowles & Co., Auctioneers, Estate and House Agents, Land Surveyors, Agricultural and Timber Valuers, and Valuers for Probate and Succession Duty. Telegrams: Brutons, Gloucester.

LANCASHIRE.

LANCASTER.

Harrison, Hall, & Moore, Land Agents, &c., Church Street, and 36, Albert Road, Morecambe.

LINCOLNSHIRE.

BOSTON.

Eley, James, F.A.I., Auctioneer, Surveyor, Valuer, and Land Agent, 1, Main Ridge.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

NORTHAMPTON.

Campion, J. S., Auctioneer, Appraiser, and Estate Agent, Derngate.

OXFORDSHIRE.

OXFORD.

Franklin and Jones, Land Agents and Auctioneers, Frewin Court, Corn Market Street.

SURREY.

REIGATE AND REDHILL.

Stacey, Harrie, F.S.I., Auctioneer, Land Agent, Surveyor, and Valuer.

SITUATIONS, AGENCIES.

WANTED, AGENTS for the SALE of NATURAL Ammoniacal and Phosphatic GUANOS and high-class Chemical Manures. All analyses and dry condition guaranteed.—Apply to DANIEL DE PASS & CO., 1, Fenchurch Buildings Fenchurch Street, London, E.C

AGENTS WANTED for the sale of NATIVE GUANO. The best and cheapest Manure for all Farm and Garden Crops.—THE NATIVE GUANO COMPANY, Limited, 29, New Bridge Street, Blackfriars, London, E.C.

AGENTS REQUIRED in unrepresented districts for the Imperial Accident, Live Stock and General Insurance Co., Ld. Est. 1873. Horses Insured against Death from Accident and Disease. Mares for Foaling and Loss of Foals; Farmers' Liability for Accidents to Labourers Insured. Claims paid, £200,000.—Address, MANAGER, 17, Pall Mall East, London, S.W.

TO PARENTS AND GUARDIANS.—Vacancy for a Young Gentleman in an old established firm of Corn and Seed Merchants in East Anglia; live with principal; premium required.—Apply Goldsmith Brothers, Bury St. Edmunds.

TO CORN AND SEED MERCHANTS.—Wanted, by experienced man (33), situation as MANAGER, TRAVELLER, or Place of Trust. Thoroughly understands both trades, wholesale and retail. Also hay and straw buying. Guarantee if required.—Apply, CORN, "Mark Lane Express."

PUBLICATIONS.

DALLEY'S (formerly Bell's) BRITISH FARMER'S ACCOUNT BOOK is clear, simple, and complete. New Edition just published. Price 3s. 6d.; post free, 3s. 10d.—F. A. DALLEY, Leominster; CROSBY, LOCKWOOD & SON, London.

THE NEW ZEALAND FARMER. Bee and Poultry Journal. An illustrated monthly publication, containing practical and scientific information on Farming, Stock Breeding, Cattle, Horses, Sheep, Dairying, Fruit Growing, &c. The only paper entirely devoted to Farming matters and circulating throughout the Colony. Price 1s.; by post, 1s. 2d. Proprietors, The Brett Printing and Publishing Co., Ltd., Auckland. London Manager, R. B. BRETT, 2 and 3, Imperial Buildings, Ludgate Circus, London, E.C.

THE "PRACTICAL HORSE-BREAKER" contains Haltering, Breaking, and Handling Vicious Horses; Hints on Buying; Unsoundness, etc.—"The book deserves the attention of all interested in its subject."—*Scotsman.*—Post free, 1s. 6d. R. BRUCE, Cardean Stables, Meigle, N.B.

MISCELLANEOUS.

OIL ENGINES.—"CUNDALL'S PATENT ENGINES" are the simplest to work.—Sole Makers, R. CUNDALL & SONS, Ltd., Shipley, Yorks, London, and Paris.

THE BEST HARROW for improving pastures, scattering mole-hills, distributing manure, and eradicating moss, is the "FARMER'S PROGRESS." Sent on trial.—Sole Makers, R. A. Lister & Co., Ld., Dursley.

ASHWORTH'S MANURES are the best and cheapest. All strengths of Superphosphates. Dissolved Bone Compound, Pure Dissolved Bones, Bone Meals and every other Fertilizer. Special terms to wholesale buyers on application. Agents wanted where not already represented. Also makers of the famous Ashworth's Cakes, Meals, Linseed and Cotton Cakes, Calf Meal and Condiment, &c., &c.—ASHWORTH'S, LIMITED, Manure and Oil Cake Works, Frodsham Bridge, via Warrington.

BASIC SLAG (Phosphates guaranteed).—We sell thousands of tons and can quote lowest prices. Order now to secure delivery when required. Try our celebrated CORN SACKS, special prices. Catalogue of Manures, &c., free.—CANNOCK AGRICULTURAL COMPANY, Limited, Henry R. Hart, Managing Director, Cannock, Staffs.

BASIC SLAG, SOOT, and all Manures sown with perfect evenness by the new and successful Motley Patent Distributors and Drills, Broadcast or in Ridges.—Write for particulars to the makers, T. ASHLEY & SONS, Limited, Louth, Lincolnshire.

BASIC SLAG (Thomas' Phosphate Powder).—State quantity required and station, when prices, with guaranteed analyses and full particulars, will be sent by return of post.—CLEMENT SWAFFIELD, Derby.

BASIC SLAG, or Thomas' Phosphate Powder. The cheapest and most efficacious fertilizer for grass land. Analysis guaranteed. Apply early.—THOMAS BRADBURN, Wolverhampton.

COD LIVER OIL.—To merchants only.—HUGH HIGHGATE & CO., Oil Refiners, Paisley, N.B.

COW MILKER! COW MILKER! The Celebrated self-acting Cow Milker supersedes hand labour. Milk each cow in four minutes effectually. Price 6s. each delivered.—Circular, with testimonials, on application, N. BUCHANAN, 9, Sandon Place, Sheffield.

CORRUGATED GALVANISED ROOFING Complete Roofs, Iron Fencing, Gates, Netting, Tubes, Felt, Troughs, Cisterns, and every Farm Requisite. Catalogues free.—J. A. REEVE, Stony Stratford.

HORSES.—PEDICURA, for horses' feet, cures thrush, canker seedy, brittle, shelly hoof, corns, cracked, greasy heels, foul smell of feet, itchy mane, tail, or legs, harness or other sores. Tins 2s. 6d., of agents, or post free,—GREGORY & CO., Temple, Bristol.

GALVANISED SHEEP AND WIRE NETTING.—Best quality; cheap; Barb Wire, Fencing Wire, Strand Wire, Galvanised Cisterns, Wire Arches, and all kinds of Wire Work for Gardens, Conservatories, &c.; Galvanised Corrugated Sheets; state wants and write for prices.—W. FOX & CO., 550, Mile End Road, London, and Rochford, Essex.

POWDER FOR DESTROYING LICE in CATTLE and HORSES, a sure remedy, simply sprinkled, and no washing required, and quite harmless, 1s. per lb., over 3lb. post free.—E. RUMSEY WILLIAMS & CO., Rhuddallt Fawr, Carnarvon.

TRACTION ENGINES and WAGONS, Portable, Ploughing, and Fixed Engines, Thrashing Machines, &c., second-hand, for Sale, cheap, or to be Let on Hire-purchase. Full list free. Inquiries for all classes of Machinery solicited. Largest stock in England to be seen at our Works as below. We are also buyers of good modern Engines at all times, for cash. Large stock of Beltings, Oils, and Engineers' Requisites of all descriptions.—HENRY LEWIS & SONS, Thames Bank Iron Works, Reading.

BEST & CHEAPEST MANURE for all farm and garden crops, "NATIVE GUANO," a safe and reliable fertiliser, and an effectual remedy for fly, slug, wire-worm, &c.; price £3 10s. per ton in bags, 2 ton lots carriage paid, 1 cwt. paid to any station in England on receipt of P.O. for 5s. Extracts from 26th annual collection of reports: Native Guano for Grass, Grain, and Root Crops. G. Dickson, Selby: "Oats and barley did well Heavy crop of cattle cabbage. Highly satisfied." E. Stanford, Warnham: "Clover good. Stopped fly on turnips. A good manure." H. O. Habberfield, Forestfach: "Oats 60 bushels per acre. Mangolds, best crop I ever had. Very pleased." W. Price, Hardwick: "A cheap and good manure for clover and swedes." J. Knight, Wisbech St. Mary: "Very good crops of mangolds and potatoes. Biggest and finest potatoes I ever had." W. Allsopp, Bloxwich: "Mangolds the finest crop ever seen on the farm. Swedes excellent." G. W. Gilbert, Boultham: "Cannot speak too highly of it for wheat; answers well for grub and wire-worm." J. Powell, Lulsley: "Hops, a very good crop."—Orders to the NATIVE GUANO CO., LIMITED, 29, New Bridge Street, London, E.C., where TESTIMONIALS FROM ALL PARTS AND FOR ALL CROPS MAY BE OBTAINED. AGENTS WANTED.

LIVE STOCK.

HORSES.

HACKNEYS.

MOORE, HENRY, Burn Butts, Cranswick, Hull.—Pedigree Stud of HACKNEYS, including many prize-winners, yearlings, two years, and others.—Can be seen on application to Henry Moore.

LLOYD, WALTER, Heaselands, Hayward's Heath, Sussex.—Small but select Stud of PEDIGREE HACKNEYS, Mares, Fillies, and Colts of best blood, including stock by Champion Gauymede, Agility, Winnal Fireaway, Model II., and other noted Stallions at moderate prices. Appointments to view the stud (which is 1½ miles from Hayward's Heath station, L.B. and S.C. Railway), on application to the owner, as above.

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MUNTZ, P. ALBERT, M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby. — SHIRE-BRED STALLIONS, COLTS, MARES, & FILLIES. About a hundred of all ages.—Prize-winners London and other leading shows. Also high-class Shropshire SHEEP, winners first prize at Royal Agricultural, 1886, second in 1887, and first in 1888.—Apply, THOMAS EWART, Dunsmore Farm, Rugby.

CONCHAR, JOHN, Wylde Green, Birmingham.—Breeder of SHIRES and HACKNEYS. Some good Colts and Fillies for Sale. Five minutes from Station.

FOR SALE.—Two PURE-BRED SHIRE COLTS, rising two and three years respectively. — For particulars and price apply to the owner, THOMAS SHORT, Northdown, Callington, Cornwall.

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THE SEAHAM STUD, Ltd., Seaham Harbour, county Durham. The largest stud of Pedigree Clydesdales in the United Kingdom. Stallions, mares, colts, fillies always on sale. Inspection solicited.—Apply, R. BRYDON, Seaham Harbour.

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MONTEFIORE, Rev. D. B., Mursley Hall, Winslow, Bucks.—Champion Arab Stallion "Mootrub," Polo Pony "Hurlingham," by Champion "Rosewater," and the thoroughbred Pony Stallion "Eheu," by "Despair." Particulars on application.

CATTLE.

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DALMENY SHORTHORN HERD, the property of the Earl of Rosebery, K.G. Bulls and Heifers of the choicest breeding always for sale at moderate prices.—Apply, MANAGER, Home Farm, Dalmeny Park, Edinburgh.

SWINBURNE, SIR JOHN, owns one of the Largest and Best Herds of PURE BATES SHORTHORNS in existence. The Herd being large, both Males and Females, of any age, can always be obtained. —Apply to JAMES HEPPLE, Bailiff, Capheaton, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

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CATTLE (*contd.*).

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SHEEP (*contd.*).

HAMPSHIRE DOWNS (*con.*).

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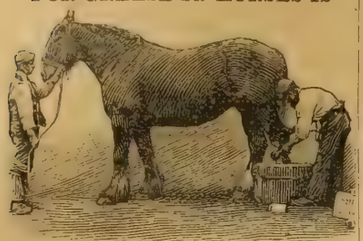
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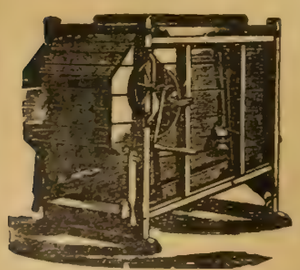
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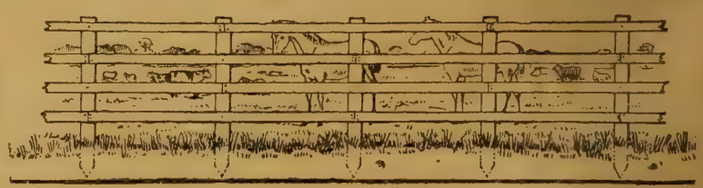


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FOR AGRICULTURAL

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USE THAT SPECIALLY PREPARED

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Samples of all grades and qualities sent upon application. Also Selected Tartarian Oats and our new White Monarch Oat.

JARMAN & CO., Chard, Somerset.
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The Rivets can be set with any hammer. Mend anything in the way of Harness, Belts, &c. For heavy Farm work. Can be carried in the pocket. Send us 1/6 for sample box, if unobtainable from your ironmonger.

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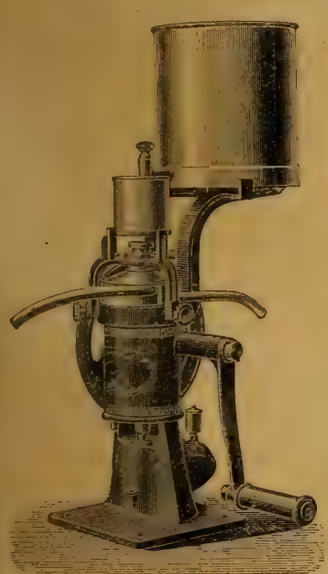
Writes 26 Languages,
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The "SVEA" Separator is the CHEAPEST because it is:—



THE SIMPLEST,
THE STRONGEST,
THE MOST DURABLE,
THE EASIEST TO TURN,
A PERFECT SKIMMER,
AND
HAS THE GREATEST CAPACITY.

Table of Sizes & Prices

No.	CAPACITY PER HOUR.	PRICE.
1	20 galls.	£9 10 0
2	33 ,,	11 10 0
3	55 ,,	17 0 0
4	75 ,,	23 0 0

The **"SVEA" Separator** being thoroughly up to date, embodies the following improvements:—

1.—**The Short Bowl Spindle** replacing the usual long one, which so soon gets damaged if not handled with great care.

2.—**The Patented Top Bearing** by means of which the bowl is supported at **both** top and bottom.

This is a special feature of the "SVEA," and is considered a great advantage as contributing to the smoother and easier running of the bowl, also preventing all accidents.

3.—**The Simplicity** of the skimming arrangement consisting of only a few rings or discs (in the small sizes 4) instead of the usual large number.

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7.—**Reduction of friction and wear** obtained by the position of the worm wheel, at an angle of 45° to the worm, instead of the usual right-angled gearing.

8.—The **extraordinary strength** and good workmanship of the machine throughout.

The "SVEA" Separator is fitted with an automatic device regulating the inflow of the milk.
The "SVEA" Separator is sent on trial. Carriage paid. No extras.

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SOLE WHOLESALE AGENTS FOR GREAT BRITAIN.

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"CREAM EQUIVALENT" for CALVES.

An Ounce of Fact is worth a Ton of Theory.

A STRIKING FACT.

In our Spring number of "Bibby's Quarterly" we reproduced the photographs of two groups of Calves which are now being reared at the Hornby House Farm, Bedale, Yorks, by his Grace the Duke of Leeds.

One of the groups is being fed on New Milk and the other on Separated Milk and "Cream Equivalent."

We asked our readers to tell us which of these groups were fed on New Milk, and 707 Farmers, Farmers' wives, their sons and daughters competed for a small prize which we offered to those who guessed correctly.

445 selected the "Cream Equivalent"-fed Calves as having been fed on New Milk.

We think the above striking FACT speaks volumes for "Cream Equivalent."

The "Cream Equivalent" can be had at 15s. per cwt., carriage paid to nearest station.

SOLE MANUFACTURERS:—

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The "FARMERS" Ordinary Poultry House.



With Floor and Wheels.
9ft. by 7ft. £4 5 0
8ft. by 6ft. £3 12 6
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Carriage Paid

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Sulphate of Potash

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These manures afford the Cheapest means of supplying potash, which is

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The heavier and better the crop required, the more potash must be supplied. May be obtained of

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Leaflets and Pamphlets are issued from the

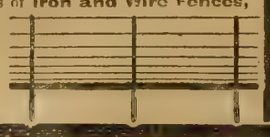
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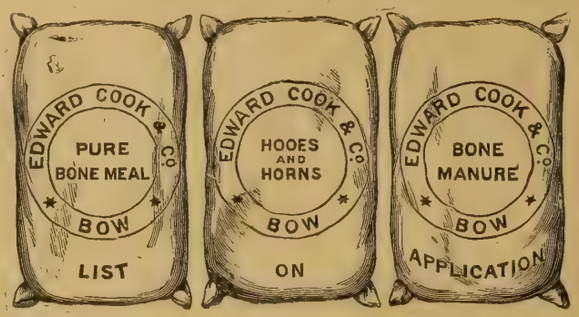
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(ANALYSIS GUARANTEED)



LIST ON APPLICATION

Specialities :—PURE BONE MEAL, BONE MANURE, VITRIOLISED BONES (made with Bone and Acid only).

English Bones Used Exclusively in Manufacture.

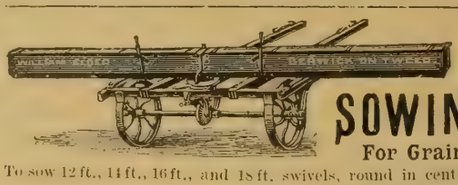
We have no hesitation in saying our PURE BONE MEAL is one of the finest on the Market, exceptionally high in Ammonia, and ground to a fine even grist.

Samples on Application.

Cereal, Mangold, Turnip, and Special Manures.

EDWARD COOK & Co., LTD.

Agricultural Chemical Works, Bow, London.



CELEBRATED BROADCAST

SOWING MACHINE

For Grain and Grass Seeds.

To sow 12 ft., 14 ft., 16 ft., and 18 ft. swivels, round in centre for going through gateways.

Illustrated Catalogue

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BEST BLACK OAT IN CULTIVATION

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WEBBS'

PROLIFIC BLACK OAT

7s. PER BUSHEL.

Sow 3 to 4 Bushels per Acre.
5 Quarters and upwards charged at 6d. per Bushel less.

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	PER BUSHEL. s.	d.
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Webbs Challenge White Oat ...	8	6
Webbs' Bosworth White Tartar Oat	8	6
Webbs' Kinver Chevalier Barley ...	11	0
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WEBB & SONS,

Seedsmen by Royal Warrant,

WORDSLEY, STOURBRIDGE.

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CELEBRATED

FOOT-ROT OINTMENT.

Effectual—Speedy—Permanent.

Used by the chief Ram Breeders and Flock-masters in the Kingdom.

IT RECOMMENDS ITSELF. TRY IT.

May be had through any Chemist; or will be sent post free at the rate of 1s. per tin, 20s. per case of two dozen tins (not less than a case at the latter rate), by the Sole Proprietor, G. STRAWSON, Chemist, Bishop's Castle.

RANSOMES, SIMS & JEFFERIES, LTD.

GRAND PRIZE AND GOLD MEDAL, PARIS EXHIBITION, 1900.

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TO SUIT EVERY REQUIREMENT.

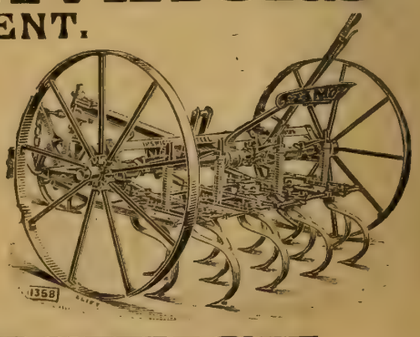


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The Strongest and Best in the Market, in all sizes.



Complete Illustrated Price Lists free on application to—

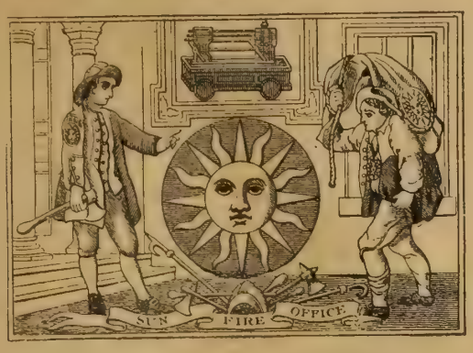
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My Abridged List of NEW & LEADING Varieties post free on appliction.
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Potato Raiser, MARKINCH, SCOTLAND.

SCHOLEY'S
Warp-Crown Spring Cereals & Potatoes
Comprising those varieties which took the lead in the County Councils' Agricultural Test Trials, are now ready for delivery; early orders for which shall have prompt and careful attention.
Descriptive circulars of the same may be obtained free on application.
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SCOTCH CROWN POTATOES
Special offers to clear.
5 tons Britannia.
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FOR PRESENT SOWING.
THE NEW
Pedigree White Oat,
JOHN K. KING & SONS'
SCOTTISH CHIEFTAIN
THE MOST WONDERFUL WHITE OAT YET INTRODUCED.
Yields 16 quarters per acre. Straws 6 feet high.
Price 43/- per quarter, Carriage free.
Full particulars of
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Seedsmen to H.M. The King by Royal Warrant,
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Sum insured in 1900 exceeded £450,000,000.

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HARDY SCOTCH CROWN.
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The only genuine new breeds offered, and superior to all others. For Prices, lists of Medals and Prizes awarded, and also practical Agriculturists' opinions, see our Illustrated Descriptive Catalogue, post free on application.
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FARMERS
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WHO WOULD
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HARRISON'S SEEDS.
Large and heavy cropping Peas and Beans for podding, Red Beet, Winter Broccoli, and large White Cauliflower, Brussels Sprouts, Solid Early Cabbage, Early Carrots for bunching, Large Red Carrots for winter use, Leeks with flags five inches across, Finest Cabbage and Cos Lettuce ever seen, Onions large and solid, Parsley grandly curled, Parsnips a grand type, Radishes early, solid, and crisp, Savoys, magnificent heads, large and solid, Tomatoes A.1., Turnips clear, solid and sweet. Send for Trade List, now ready.
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"IDEAL" High Wheel Cultivators. (SILVER MEDAL, PARIS, 1900).
COCKSHUTT High Grade PLOUGHS. (Gold Medal, Paris, 1900). "KEYSTONE WEEDER" kills charlock and all annual weeds, and unsurpassed for covering in small seeds.
DEERING HARVESTING Machinery. Binder Twine, &c. 29 Awards, Paris, 1900 (many more than any other Exhibitor).
"OHIO" HAYLOADER. Hundreds sold in 1901.
"Ideal" Lubricating Oil.
Reliable, cheap, never freezes or gets sticky. Catalogue free from Local Agents or direct from Importers
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R. W. GOOLD & CO.
35-36-37, HOP EXCHANGE, LONDON, S.E.
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HIGH-GRADE
FERTILIZERS for ALL CROPS
Sulphate of Ammonia.
Nitrate of Soda. Dried Blood
Phosphates. Basic Slag. Bone Meal.
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Kainit. Feeding Stuffs. Seeds.
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Reliable Agents wanted. Correspondence solicited

THE BEST IN THE WORLD.—(*See Official Reports*).
SPECIAL OAT FERTILIZER.
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Write for Illustrated Price List, with full particulars, to
JOSEPH FISON & CO., LTD, IPSWICH.

Mark Lane Express Agricultural Journal.
The Only English Journal devoted exclusively to Agriculture.
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1902.

Correspondents are requested to address all communications for the Editorial Department to THE EDITOR, "Mark Lane Express," 1, Essex Street, Strand, London, W.C.
Advertisements, Subscriptions, and business communications should be addressed to THE PUBLISHER, "Mark Lane Express," 1, Essex Street, Strand, London, W.C.

DRUGGING HORSES.

An evil which perennially makes itself felt among farmers—especially on the wolds of Yorkshire and Lincolnshire—is the injudicious feeding and drugging of horses by farm servants. So strongly was the danger felt some years ago that an association was formed in Lincolnshire with the express object of preventing the unlawful administration to horses of poisonous or injurious drugs or compounds or wheat, and for prosecuting offenders. The evil is none the less real because it springs from ignorance rather than vice, having its inception in a laudable but mistaken emulation on the part of farm lads to turn out the best-looking team.

The law provides that if any servant shall, contrary to the orders of his master, take from his possession any corn, pulse, roots, or other food for the purpose of giving the same to any horse or other animal in the possession of his master, such servant shall be punishable by imprisonment with or without hard labour for three months, or to a fine of £5. This enactment is aimed at the practice indulged in by over-zealous waggoners of improperly taking wheat or other feeding stuffs from the granary to give it to their horses, often with very serious results.

But even more dangerous is the surreptitious administration of arsenic and other noxious drugs to horses for the purpose of smartening their appearance. Curiously enough, the law regards this offence as less serious than the other, presumably because it does not involve theft of the masters' corn, and the dangerous substance is usually procured by the servant at his own expense. The penalty is a fine of £5, or one month's imprisonment for a first offence, or three months' for any subsequent offence.

Experience has shown, however, that these provisions are insufficient to repress the evil, as, in spite of prosecutions and convictions from time to time, there are still numerous complaints of heavy losses sustained by farmers through the mysterious poisoning of valuable horses.

Punishment has failed to kill a widespread custom, born of ignorance, and the seeds of education and enlightenment, falling too often on barren ground, have failed to germinate.

We must therefore go to the root of the evil, and endeavour to accentuate the severity of its struggle for existence, remembering how oft the means to do evil deeds makes ill deeds done. This is the principle upon which are based the provisions of the Arsenic Act and the Pharmacy Acts regulating the sale of poisons in general. Except pursuant to a medical prescription, it is illegal to sell arsenic to the public unless it be coloured by mixing with soot or indigo, but the protection intended

to be afforded by this enactment is rendered practically migratory by a proviso that where the purchaser states that he requires the arsenic for some purpose unconnected with agriculture for which such admixture would render it unfit, he may obtain as much as ten pounds of uncoloured arsenic at one time.

All poisons scheduled under the Pharmacy Act (which practically include all the more dangerous drugs), whether sold by wholesale or retail, must be distinctly labelled with the name of the article, the word "Poison," and the name and address of the seller, and they may not be sold to a person unknown to him, unless introduced by a person known to him, and before delivery entry must be made in the poison book of full particulars as to the sale, including the name and address of the purchaser, the name and quantity of the article sold, and the purpose for which it is said to be required. These particulars must be signed by the purchaser, and by the person (if any) introducing him. Penalties are imposed on chemists selling poisons contrary to these regulations, but (except in the case of arsenic) there appears to be no penalty on a purchaser furnishing false particulars for the poison book.

In the latter respect the law might usefully be made more stringent, but if loyally observed the present provisions ought to be sufficient to make it extremely difficult for farm lads to get hold of drugs well known to be harmful to horses, and yet extensively administered to them. But that it is comparatively easy to get a supply is evident from the prevalence of the mischief. The law must either be habitually disregarded, or gross deception must be practised on the vendors of drugs.

The supply must be cut off. What are the channels through which it flows? The waggoners do not often get the stuff themselves. Either they have not the opportunity, or they dread detection, or they don't know the way to go about it. Carriers and pedlars are frequently commissioned to make the purchases. If these men know the purpose for which the drugs are required they are liable, as aiders and abetters, to the same term of imprisonment as the actual offenders. If they want to make themselves safe from prosecution they should get written instructions in each case, signed by the purchaser, stating the object for which the compound is required. This precaution would generally prevent a farm lad from getting drugs for an improper purpose, as his natural reluctance to sign his name would be intensified if he thought that by so doing he was making evidence against himself.

Let the agricultural clubs and chambers distribute leaflets broadcast in their districts, setting forth the law on the subject, informing servants of the danger of the practice, and the penalties attending it, urging on chemists a strict observance of the regulations for the sale of poisons, and giving a timely warning of the risk of aiding and abetting.

London and County Bank. — The half-yearly ordinary general meeting of the London and County Banking Company, Ltd., was held on Thursday, when the directors presented a most satisfactory report, which was adopted. After paying interest to customers and all charges, making provision for bad and doubtful debts, and allowing £31,803 15s. for rebate on bills not due, the net profits amounted to £291,905 17s. 5d. From this sum was deducted £25,000 transferred to premises account, and £50,000 carried to reserve fund, leaving £216,905 17s. 5d., which, with £89,957 17s. 8d. balance brought forward from last account, left available the sum of £306,863 15s. 1d. The directors declared a dividend for the half-year of 10 per cent., together with a bonus of 1 per cent., which required £220,000, leaving the sum of £86,863 15s. 1d. to be carried to the profit and loss new account. The present dividend, added to that paid to 30th June, makes 22 per cent. for the year 1901. The dividend and bonus, £2 4s. per share, free of income tax, will be payable at the head office, or at any of the branches, on or after Monday, 17th February.



By a Man of Mark Lane.

To-morrow (Tuesday) Sir Blundell Maple will ask the Secretary for War what was the amount of money paid by the War Office in 1899, 1900, and 1901 in connection with horses for the South African Campaign, and how many horses were requisitioned, and whether it is not a fact that firms who have been receiving money for many years in connection with the supply of these horses have not been called upon to produce horses for the purposes of the Campaign.

The receipts on account of Revenue from April 1, 1901, when there was a balance of £5,596,918, to February 1, 1902, were £107,097,175, against £96,153,186 in the corresponding period of the preceding financial year, which began with a balance of £3,517,047. The net expenditure was £164,679,208, against £153,282,048 to the same date in the previous year. The Treasury balances on February 1, 1902, amounted to £5,238,656, and at the same date in 1901 to £2,670,636.

Lord Tweedmouth has given notice that he will to-day (Monday) call attention to the Report of the Committee on Horse Purchase in Austria-Hungary; and to ask his Majesty's Government whether, in pursuance of the course adopted with respect to that inquiry, they will order inquiries to be held into the circumstances attendant on the purchase of horses in other parts of the world and in the United Kingdom for remounts for British troops in South Africa.

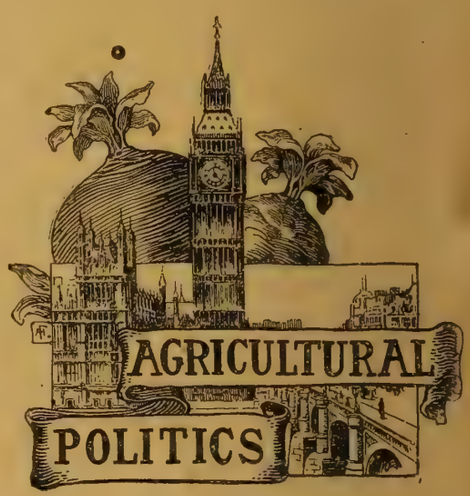
Mr. Alexander Macfu, an ex-president of the Montreal Corn Exchange, was, on Friday last, elected president of the Montreal Board of Trade, the most important position to which a Montreal business man can aspire, and, naturally enough, its attainment suggests the esteem and the confidence of his brother members, the collective representatives of the trade interests of the Dominion's commercial metropolis. The new president of the Montreal Board of Trade is "native born," and has for many years been identified with the grain exporting business, in which connection he is well known on this side the Atlantic. He succeeds Senator McKay. Mr. Macfu is a brother of Mr. K. No. Macfu, of 72 and 73, Gracechurch Street, London.

During the past week the Right Hon. R. W. Hanbury, M.P., President of the Board of Agriculture, has been confined to his room at Park Hotel, Preston, suffering from severe chill, contracted while travelling north on Tuesday evening. He was announced to attend a church bazaar in the afternoon, but a letter was read from him stating he was suffering from severe cold and bronchitis, and had been obliged to call in his medical adviser.

Sir Cuthbert Quilter, Bart., M.P., has paired until after the Easter Recess, and is going to Egypt for the benefit of his health.

A school manager, living in rather a large agricultural village, and who takes a considerable interest in rural life, has written to the 'Standard' a letter entitled "The Knowledge of Common Things." He says:—"It occurred to me the other day to question in school the 25 or 30 of the eldest children upon little matters of everyday life—79 in the school without the infants. Questioning the boys first, only three or four knew when wheat was sown—not one when barley. With the exception of one boy, none could give the names of any kinds of wheat or barley. Of bad weeds, only three or four could give names; the same of good grasses. Of the real reason why land was broken up after harvest and laid rough during the winter they had little knowledge, but to my surprise one boy knew what the subsoil was. Not one boy knew the difference between a savoy and a spring cabbage, but one girl did. A good many knew which was a horse's hock, but not one the stifle or fetlock. None could give me the names of different breeds of sheep, but they could of two or three cattle; only one boy knew the usual number of nails in a horse shoe. All could tell me the length of a chain, a pole, a mile, &c. A few could give me eight or nine names of forest trees.

"The girls had a very vague idea as to the weight of a quartern loaf, or how bread was made. The same about a cake. One had a slight idea of making beef tea; not one knew the heat at which water boils; only one knew the time to boil an egg; and not one knew what a poached egg was." The writer concludes by asking the pertinent question, "Why should not boys be instructed—not as permissive subjects—in all matters connected with the soil, plant life, works of husbandry, anatomy of animals, grafting, budding, pruning, and the like? They would like the subjects, and it would make them love their gardens, the fields, and the country generally, instead of hating it, as they, in most cases, do now."



By a Lobbyist.

The temper of the House of Commons is undeniably rising in connection with the scandal which has resulted from the method of supplying the army with horses. Fortunately, too, this temper is not so undisciplined as to dull the Parliamentary mind to the wisdom of, if possible, securing an assured supply within the Empire. However, the Parliamentary mind looks rather at present to the colonies than to the homeland as offering the necessary facilities for the establishment of horse-farms. "Why should not the War Office resort to Canada?" This is the true meaning of the questions which have been put to the Secretary for War in reference to the matter during the week. The interesting point which the Devonshire M.P. raised as to whether it would not be possible to utilise Dartmoor and Exmoor in connection with the necessity has not been revived. However, by-and-bye the wisdom of pursuing horse-culture at home will induce reflection. There is already a keen Parliamentary comprehension of the unwisdom of relying upon a foreign source of supply which may be closed to us when it is most necessary to resort to it; that is, when the country is in the throes of deadly war. The question has been raised in what we must all contess to be a very undesirable fashion; but it is well that it has been raised. The point now is—Has a new form of profitable farming been opened out to the British agriculturist?

The result of the East Down election has a great significance to the agrarian economist. It means the protrusion of the question of compulsory purchase into the field of practical politics. A constituency whose anti-Nationalist predilections are undeniable, which has been intractably Orange in the past, has shown itself prepared to forget all the prejudice and bitterness born of the Home Rule controversy in order to concentrate its energies upon the one question of land purchase. Say, if you will, that the land hunger in the north of Ireland has grown into a passion. This is true, but it is not sufficient to explain the result of this contest. The same land hunger possessed the farmers of the north

of Ireland when Mr. Parnell initiated his two great agrarian crusades, but it did not induce them to close their eyes to what they regarded as the mischievous dangers surrounding the Home Rule propaganda. They were still bitter Orangemen, still relentlessly anti-Nationalist, still unwilling to surrender their animosity towards anything that affected the policy enshrined in the Union. It is different now. A new force has thus been brought into politics, and the man who disregards it is not clear-eyed. The Nationalists and the anti-Nationalists of Ireland have revealed their readiness to unite over a common agrarian purpose; and Mr. George Wyndham will absolutely fail in his policy of breaking this alliance by means of a moderate proposal of relief.

Do I mean that the policy of compulsory purchase is likely to be adopted as a means of settling the Irish land question? I unhesitatingly do. Let me show the forces which are already in existence in favour of this policy. Apart from Orangemen of the type of Colonel Saunderson and Mr. Johnstone of Ballykilbeg, Irish politicians are unanimously in its favour. We may reckon in the near future upon a solid vote of ninety Irish M.P.'s in support of the proposal. Liberalism has adopted as a principle—I am not arguing as to its wisdom or unwisdom—that what Ireland demands Ireland must be conceded. It is certain that at the next election—all the political portents reveal this—the Liberal party will go back to the House of Commons greatly enlarged in numbers. No present Conservative will pretend to deny this. Then there are a number of Unionists, who, for the sake of getting rid of the eternal Irish question, would be, if not willing to actively support the principle, at least willing to abstain from actively opposing it. We shall probably see on this one question a force in existence after the next election similar to that which carried the second reading of Mr. Gladstone's Home Rule Bill. And do not be too certain that the House of Lords will be a barrier to the realisation of the ambition. The heroism which wrecked Mr. Gladstone's Home Rule Bill is not likely to be repeated.

What effect would the carrying of an Irish Compulsory Purchase Bill have upon English agrarian economics? There was a time when I held that every principle introduced into the Irish land laws must, sooner or later, be, in a more or less degree, introduced into the English land laws. I can no longer pretend to hold this opinion. It is a strange fact, for which no adequate explanation can be found in the rules of logic, that ther has been a gradual decline in the demand for the reform of the English land laws since the great policy of Irish land reform has been in operation. The land nationaliser and the land reformer have practically disappeared. Elections are now fought in England without the wisdom of even a moderate policy of reform being suggested. Should the land question be at all suggested it is only to consider by what means rural England can be utilised in order to arrest the congestion of population in the towns. Even the Welsh politician has, since the death of Mr. Tom Ellis, abandoned any grave interest in the land problem. Yes, I know that the Welsh Parliamentary party has had a Bill drafted dealing with the matter, but not a soul in that party has been seriously perturbed at the failure to secure a place in the Parliamentary ballot. For the nonce, therefore, the English and Welsh politicians have lost interest in the question. Hence the passing of an Irish Compulsory Purchase Bill would have no immediate or serious influence upon the English agrarian system. Still the example would always be ready at hand; and the extreme politician would, of course, invoke it. However, the English people have apparently lost their sympathy with extreme politics.

I find among the agricultural M.P.'s a strong conviction that the Central and Associated Chambers of Agriculture acted very wisely in refusing to bind itself to any special method with a view to arresting the depopulation of the villages. The question has not arrived at a ripe stage yet. A hurried panacea might only emphasise the evil. There is, of course, a concensus of opinion that small holdings have had a most beneficial influence, and are likely to exert a still more useful effect upon agrarian life. However, there is also a pretty strong conviction, at least among the Radical section of the rural Parliamentarians, that something very much more heroic will have to be resorted to. True, the increase of small holdings might prove a palliative; and the temper of the House of Commons would allow of an immediate extension of Parliamentary powers to this end. However, the House of Commons would not accept an Extension Bill as a settlement of this very grave problem. In fact, in its disappointment, it might show a too ready disposition to listen to economic quackeries. The Central and Associated Chambers have thus done wisely in the esteem of sane policians in appointing a committee unfettered by any conditions.



Home Notes.

The Borough.

Although business was last week not quite so brisk as it had been just previously, quite sufficient trade has been done to maintain recent prices. The search for samples of superior quality continues, and when any little lot of this description is found it is at once taken over, even if a slight advance is demanded. The absolute scarcity of good hops causes buyers to be more content with medium sorts, and the market is rapidly being cleared in this direction. Discoloured and otherwise inferior parcels also find purchasers, but the prices paid are still miserably low, demonstrating with increasing force the foolishness of crowding the market with such poor stuff. It is curious to observe the rapidity with which all sorts of hops are changing hands, despite the superabundance of our last crop. But the explanation is not difficult. Prices have, throughout the season, been abnormally low and tempting, the facilities of "cold storage," have greatly enlarged, therefore brewers do not hesitate to lay in stock to cover more than their present requirements, and while they are hanging on to their stocks, of good qualities, bought previous to and during the present season, they are taking the low qualities, bought at absurdly low rates, into immediate consumption for their running beers. But we must not be misled by these proceedings into any

False Estimate of the Future,

for there still stand in front of us the accumulated supplies, which will give brewers the command of our market next season. Unless growers are well advised in reducing the output. Consumers of our hops will retain the possession of the key to our trade, and will only open the door at their pleasure, as they can close it at their will. I am concerned and somewhat pained when I note the comparative indifference with which planters seem generally to regard this most serious aspect of their industrial prospects. The other day the resolution passed by the Tunbridge Wells Farmers' Club, in favour of reduction of acreage, was considered by the East Sussex Club at Lewes. The conclusion of the discussion is significant, as the report says, "no action was taken in the matter." Does not such a weak shelving of the question prove that our people are deficient of foresight. I cannot quite accept the cruel proverb, which tells us that the gods first impart folly to those whom they wish to destroy, but I must beg to be forgiven if I express an opinion that there seems to be some truth in the saying in the present case. Therefore I will again reiterate my conviction that without a large reduction of the output of English hops, whether by limitation of acreage or other equally efficient means, the industry in this country is ultimately doomed to extinction. The process may be slow or it may be sudden; in any case, it is sure, if wise counsels do not prevail to stem the torrent which threatens to overwhelm us.

Foreign Notes.

Nuremberg.

The firmness which has characterised the hop market since the beginning of January still continues, values being well maintained, although the severity of the weather has to some extent lessened the volume of business. During last month the sales, which have amounted to about an average of 1,400 bales per week, appear to demonstrate that sellers had not previously covered their engagements, and the tendency of affairs is consequently in favour of increased strength, and higher prices as the spring season opens. Any samples of good quality can easily be sold at full figures, and hops, which were previously classed as "medium," are now, owing to the change in the general position, marked and quoted as "choice." By thus raising the qualification, an important advance in actual value has been established, with the result that the current rates are really higher than the quoted figures would appear to convey. Moderate quantities of inferior hops are still exported to England, the home values of the best qualities rendering export business in them impossible.

Alsace.

Business is hindered by the high prices demanded for any samples that may be described as of good quality. Growers are getting 80 to 85 francs per 50 kilos. even for low qualities, and 110 to 115 francs for occasional superior lots. These figures represent respectively about 65s. and 90s. per cwt.

Munich.

Demand is active, and as the new arrivals for the week ending February 3rd were only 340 kilos., while the sales amounted to 14,647 kilos., stocks are considerably reduced, and values are gradually becoming higher. The selection of choice qualities becomes more restricted, the only description now quoted being Hallertans, Spalts, Saazville, and other Bohemian growths.

Belgium.

Alost hops of 1901 crop are in full demand at 44 to 45 francs, and as holders are very reserved, business is hardly possible at these figures. The indications of the market are distinctly towards continued firmness, and further improvement in values appears to be inevitable. Similar feeling dominates the speculation market on the Brussels Bourse, being encouraged by the importance of the transactions at Nuremberg, which market exercises the strongest influence upon the other Continental centres. In the Poperinghe district considerable increase of strength is also evident, and the general impression throughout Belgium is in favour of a substantial advance in values, as soon as the opening of spring causes increased production by the local breweries.

France.

At a recent meeting of the Society of Brewers, of Boulogne-sur-Mer and district, an address was delivered by M. Raymond Cottignie, on the net cost of beer. The speaker devoted some time to the consideration of hops, which he considered to be "one of the principal products used in brewing." The necessity of better knowledge of the qualities of hops by brewers was enforced, as in this department of his business the brewer was in general "un bon enfant," a good fellow, who was too easily persuaded by the plausible tongue of the travelling merchant. Inferior hops were thus frequently sold. It was therefore essential that brewers should buy at first hand, from reputable houses, and that they should themselves become acquainted with the actual qualities, and thus avoid the deceptions of which they had, too frequently, been the victims. I mention this circumstance to emphasise the advice I have frequently offered, applicable to our own trade, to the effect that more intimate association between the producer and consumer of hops is not only desirable, but necessary in the interests of both parties.

America.

Brewers are not buying quite so freely on the New York market, and general trade is rather quieter than when previously reported. But there is no relaxation of the firmness which has prevailed since the beginning of the year. Business on the Pacific Coast is sufficiently active to maintain values, and a gradual increase of strength is being developed. Exports from New York in the week ending January 17th were larger than during any previous week of the present season; but the total exports from September 1st to date named only amounted to 31,790 bales, against 51,573 bales in the same period of previous year.

From Otsego Co. (New York) I hear that "farmers are much discouraged, and have ploughed up many acres since last fall. No new yards will be set this spring; growers are taking up dairying, instead of hops." From Schoharie Co. it is reported, "Crop nearly all out of farmers' hands. Market very firm, and will probably go much higher." Ownership of the 1901 crop was changed so quickly as to excite comments from both growers and dealers." Latest quotations at New York are 14 to 15½ cents per lb. for choice, 13 to 13½ cents for prime, and 11 to 12 cents for medium samples. German hops are selling at 30 to 42 cents in New York.

The Influence of Phosphates on Farm Crops.*

Experiments at the Glasgow Exhibition.

Agriculturists as a class are slow to move out of the beaten track of things. This is perhaps the main reason why the great advantage of artificial fertilisers has not even yet been fully grasped or admitted, in spite of the fact that their influence is no longer open to question. Most of the experiments which have been conducted to ascertain, or to prove, the usefulness of these manures have, it is true, achieved local rather than extended publicity, and this may in part account for the cultivators of our farm lands failing to give due attention to facts which are unquestionably of vital moment. Whatever the cause may be for a state of things we must all deplore, we propose to-day to focus some remarkable results which have attended the careful experimental work carried on by Professor Wright, of the West of Scotland Agricultural College, both in conection with the college itself and in connection with last year's International Exhibition at Glasgow.

For some years experiments on the manuring of the chief farm crops with artificials have been conducted by the college in the counties of the west, south, and centre of Scotland; and the results and the conclusions based on them have been embodied and published in a series of annual reports. In view, however, of the difficulty constantly felt of making such results widely and generally known, the idea was mooted of taking advantage of the opportunity afforded by the International Exhibition in question to demonstrate to agriculturists and horticulturists the exact effect produced, by the important ingredients supplied in manures, on the plants which constitute our chief farm crops. For this purpose it was decided to show in the exhibition grounds during the summer a series of plants in pots treated with various combinations of artificial manures. The pots had a diameter of 9.5 inches and a superficial area of 70.8 square inches, which is about equal to 1/89,000th part of an acre. The necessary amount of water added to keep the soil sufficiently moist brought up the gross weight of the contents of each pot to 53¼ lbs., and during the whole summer the plants were regularly watered up to this weight.

It should be particularly remembered that in most cultivated soils there are three constituents which plants have difficulty in obtaining in sufficient quantity to enable them to make a full growth, and which, when applied to soils, are capable of causing a great increase in their crop-producing power. These three substances are (1) nitrogen (ammonia), (2) potassium (potash), and (3) phosphorus (phosphoric acid or phosphate). Farmyard manure owes its usefulness and efficiency chiefly to the fact that it supplies to soils these three substances, while the whole enormous trade in artificial manures, amounting to millions of tons annually, is made up almost entirely on the necessity of giving to the soil these same substances. Now, the quantity of such substances contained in the whole available supply of farmyard manure is insufficient for the requirements of modern agriculture.

In the demonstration with plants grown in pots, it was only necessary therefore to attempt to illustrate the effect produced by these three substances; and it was decided, with a view to immediate results, to supply them in their most soluble manurial forms. The nitrogen, therefore, was applied by nitrate of soda (because it is the quickest acting and most generally effective nitrogenous manure on the market); the potash was applied in the form of muriate of potash; and the phosphoric acid was applied in the form of mineral superphosphate (because this is its cheapest source in its most soluble and effective form).

A very special importance attaches to this last constituent, because it has been found to be deficient in nearly all soils, and because it can be applied with advantage to all cultivated crops. Potash is needed on most soils, and can be applied with benefit to most crops, but on some crops growing on soils in high condition, its employment occasionally proves ineffective and unprofitable. Nitrogen can also be given in such quantity to some crops, especially on soils in a high state of fertility, as to do more harm than good, while to the whole series of leguminous crops its application is, as a rule, alike useless and unnecessary. But there are few soils indeed to which phosphoric acid cannot be given with advantage, and there are no farm crops grown which are not benefited in a greater or less degree by its presence in abundance. Land kept under pasture for a series of years and grazed with farm stock becomes gradually richer in nitrogen derived mainly from atmospheric sources, and it may also become richer in available potash. But it becomes steadily poorer in phosphoric acid, because so much is carried away in the bones and carcases of the animals grazing on it. Hill pastures on which ewe flocks are kept, and on which lambs are reared, annually lose much phosphoric acid carried off in the bodies of the young animals, all of which has been taken from the soil. Herds of milking cows grazed on any pasture carry off large quantities of phosphoric acid in their milk, which always contains much phosphate, while the bones of all young cattle and horses grazing on the pasture are also formed at the expense of the phosphoric acid in the soil. The process of removal is slow, but as it has been continued year after year, and generation after generation, from the time when agriculture was first practised, without any restoration of phosphoric acid except that derived from the slow disintegration of rocky fragments in the soil, the total loss has become enormous, and the exhaustion of the soil in phosphate very great. Hence the remarkable effect—only discovered in the last century, and not yet fully appreciated—produced by applications of superphosphate, bone meal, basic slag, and other phosphatic manures, on all old pastures or poor lands, which have been apparently lacking in productive capacity and in nutritive quality chiefly from want of phosphate. Great as has been the exhaustion of phosphate brought about on old pastures in the course of time, a much more rapid exhaustion takes place on all arable land devoted to the regular cultivation of farm crops. In all of them phosphoric acid is removed in substantial quantity. Hence has grown the enormous demand for phosphate manures; 5,000,000 tons of superphosphate alone being applied annually to the crops of the world.

Plan of the Demonstration.

Eight pots were set apart for each crop grown, in order that the influence exercised by the several manures on the plants, when applied separately and also when given in the undermentioned combinations, should be fully grown. The pots were manured as follows:—Pot 1, no manure; pot 2, nitrate of soda; pot 3, superphosphate; pot 4, muriate of potash; pot 5, nitrate of soda and superphosphate; pot 6, nitrate of soda and muriate of potash; pot 7, superphosphate and muriate of potash; pot 8, nitrate of soda, superphosphate, and muriate of potash.

Eight crops were selected for the demonstration, viz., oats, perennial rye-grass, red clover, lucerne, turnips, potatoes, maize, and tobacco. The superphosphate and half the quantities of nitrate of soda and muriate of potash were mixed in dry with the soil, and the seeds of all the plants except the tobacco were sown immediately thereafter. In the case of the tobacco plant, a number of plants of equal size which had grown to a height of a few inches were procured, and these were transplanted into the pots on the same date. About a month later the remainder of the nitrate of soda and the muriate of potash were added in solution to all the pots, except those containing the turnip and tobacco plants. Only half the remainder of the nitrate and muriate was then applied to them, and the final application of the manures to these two crops was made about ten days later. The seeds germinated in all the pots in due course. The pots were kept in the open till the brairding had been successfully completed, and they were then transferred to the grounds of the Exhibition.



THIS ILLUSTRATION SHOWS THE EFFECT OF A PHOSPHATIC MANURE ON OATS.

Importance of Phosphates to Young Plants.

The observations made on the progress of the various plants after they had brairded were most instructive, and the outstanding lesson they taught was the remarkable need of young plants of all kinds for an ample supply of readily available phosphate in the stages of their growth immediately succeeding germination. No observations made in the course of the experiments conducted by the college have ever, except on the turnip crop, shown so clearly and so decisively the vital

* The "Influence of Phosphates on Farm Crops," by R. Patrick Wright, F.N.A.S., F.R.S.E., Professor of Agriculture. Published by John Lewis & Co., 5, Bridewell Place, London, E.C.

importance of phosphate to the rapid and vigorous growth of young plants, and the degree in which their progress is retarded by the absence or the deficiency of phosphate. That nitrogenous and potassic manure also exercise a great influence on the ultimate yield of crops has been amply enough demonstrated, and on some of the plants grown in the pots the influence of these manurial ingredients became quite evident at an early period, and grew more obvious as the season advanced. But in the period immediately subsequent to the germination of the seeds and the brairding of the plants, and when they were chiefly engaged in extending their roots through the soil and getting themselves firmly established in it, the one obvious fact thrown into prominence was the great effect produced by the presence in the pots of some soluble phosphate. Another most striking feature in this action of phosphates on the young plants was the fact that it seemed to be as effective on crops that are not supposed in ordinary farm practice to be specially susceptible to the influence of phosphate as on those that are known to be specially affected by it. For example, phosphate is not the dominant or most influential constituent in a manure for lucerne, or oats, or potatoes, yet the soluble phosphate mixed with the soil in the pots affected the early growth of these plants in the most remarkable manner.

Influence of Phosphates on the Period of Ripening.

In the *field* experiments carried out by the College it was observed that the application of superphosphate is followed by an earlier ripening of crops, and that the period of harvest is hastened. In what various ways the presence of readily soluble phosphate contributes to this earlier maturity is not fully known, but one probable contributing cause is deserving of mention. The seeds of plants under normal conditions contain a remarkably large proportion of phosphate. In the wheat grain, for example, nearly one-half of the total ash consists of phosphoric acid. Nature does not work by chance, and it seems obvious that the great quantity of phosphoric acid stored in the seed as compared with that found in other parts of plants indicates the importance of phosphoric acid to the embryo at the time of germination. But this also accounts in part for the influence of superphosphate in promoting the early ripening of crops. The final stage in the history of a plant's life, towards which all the previous steps in its progress tend, is that of completing the formation of the seed so perfectly that the existence of the plant may be continued in the succeeding generation. But in a soil deficient, as most soils are, in phosphoric acid, the ripening of the crops may be much retarded by the difficulty experienced by the plants in collecting the quantity of phosphate required to be stored in the seed before it becomes perfectly equipped for its primary purpose of carrying on the life of the plant through another generation. An application of a readily available phosphate to the crops removes this difficulty. It seems also a natural inference that better seed—seed more capable of producing and of nourishing strong young plants—will be obtained from land rich in available phosphates than from land in which they can hardly be gathered in sufficient quantity.

The Value of Phosphates for Cereal Crops.

In the Demonstration the oat was selected as the fittest representative of the cereal crops because of its great importance in the agriculture of Great Britain. It is known with regard to all the cereals that nitrogen forms the most important and effective ingredient in manures specially intended for these crops, *provided* the land contain a sufficiency of phosphates and potash; but the results (see illustration) obtained in the pot experiment show how comparatively inefficacious is an application of a nitrogenous manure *unless the plants can also find a readily available and ample supply of phosphates.* The oat plants manured with nitrate of soda alone were hardly stronger than those in the unmanured pot, but when superphosphate was added the two manures in their joint action produced a marvellous change on the plants, and gave them a vigour and luxuriance which are very well shown in the illustration. This observation confirms a deduction drawn from field experiments carried out by the college in 1894. These experiments were carried out on fourteen farms, and where 1 cwt. nitrate of soda per acre was applied alone, it gave on the average of all the farms a large and very profitable increase in the yield of the crop, which had a value of £2 per acre, as against an expenditure of 10s. 3d. This increase was by no means uniformly obtained on all the farms. On soils in good condition, and rich therefore in available phosphates and potash, the nitrate of soda acted very effectively on the crop, but on the poorer soils its action was much less certain and uniform, and on some it failed altogether to produce any increase in the yield of grain. But the addition to the nitrogenous manure of 2 cwt. superphosphate per acre not only added greatly to the yield of the crop on the average of the farms, but it also gave a greater uniformity and certainty to the result. On not a single one of the fourteen farms did the two manures used together fail to give a profitable increase of crop. The cost of 1 cwt. nitrate of soda and 2 cwts. superphosphate amounted to 17s. 3d., and the increase of crop per acre produced thereby had a value of £3 1s. 7d., giving a profit of £2 4s. 4d. Where sulphate of ammonia was substituted for nitrate of soda in corresponding quantity and applied with 2 cwts. superphosphate, the return in increase of crop had a value of £2 18s. 8d. for a cost of 18s. 10d., thus showing a profit of £1 19s. 10d.

In the experiments carried out in 1895 on 15 farms, the uncertainty and irregularity of the action of nitrate of soda when given alone to the oat crop were much more distinctly manifested. In that year the nitrate failed to produce any increase of crop at all on four out of the fifteen farms, while on several others the increase was insufficient to pay the cost of the manure. On the average a small profit of only 2s. per acre was obtained, which was entirely due to the effect produced by the nitrate on the soils in rich condition. But when 2 cwt. superphosphate was added to the nitrate of soda, the manures were found to be efficacious on every one of the farms, and on all of them they produced a substantial increase of crop, which gave an average profit of 12s. 10d. an acre.

The exact amounts of increase to be expected from such a manuring of the crop may be shown by placing together the average results obtained in the experiments of the three years 1894-6. (See table below):—

THE EFFECT OF PHOSPHATIC &c., MANURES ON THE OAT CROP.

Year and No. of Farms from which Averages are taken.	Unmanured.		1 cwt. Nitrate of Soda.		1 cwt. Nitrate of Soda 2 cwt. Superphosphate.	
	Yield of Grain per Acre.	Yield of Straw and Chaff per Acre.	Yield of Grain per Acre.	Yield of Straw and Chaff per Acre.	Yield of Grain per Acre.	Yield of Straw and Chaff per Acre.
	Bushels of 40lbs.	Cwt.	Bushels of 40lbs.	Cwt.	Bushels of 40lbs.	Cwts.
1894, 14 Farms	35	26	43¾	34	50	37½
1895, 15 Farms	34	23¾	37	26¾	44	28¼
1896, 14 Farms	43	30	52	36	53¾	36
Total	112	79¾	132¾	96¾	147¾	101¾
Average produce per Acre	37	26¼	44	32	49	34

The Effect of Phosphates on the Grain of Cereals.

That phosphates tend to cause an earlier ripening of the crop has been already pointed out, and that effect in itself represents an advantage which can hardly be over-estimated. This early ripening is, moreover, of very special importance when the superphosphate is given, as it ought usually to be given to the oat or other cereal crop, along with nitrate of soda or other quick-acting nitrogenous manure. Nitrate of soda applied alone is in some respects unreliable in its action, but should it cause the greater luxuriance of crop that is desired it generally prolongs the period of growth and makes the harvest later than it would be were the crop left entirely unmanured. This is a great drawback to set against the advantage derived from the increased yield, and it is one which has acted as a deterrent to many farmers who contemplated top-dressing their corn crops. But this disadvantage arising from the employment of nitrate of soda may be altogether obviated if superphosphate be given along with the nitrate, and if to the superphosphate there be added an equal quantity of potash, not only will a still larger and more profitable crop be obtained, but the harvest will actually come at an earlier date than on land that has been left without any manure. Not only, however, does superphosphate counteract the retarding effects of nitrate of soda, but it also ensures that the increased crops produced by the nitrate will be of a more valuable character. Nitrate of soda applied alone has a strong tendency to alter in some degree the character of the crop and to promote the development of the stem and leaf without producing a quite proportionate improvement in the seed. Thus in the experiments quoted in the table it was found that on the plots manured with nitrate of soda alone the percentage of straw in the total crop was somewhat increased, while that of grain was correspondingly diminished. But the application of superphosphate along with the nitrate entirely prevented this. Moreover, the phosphates not only increase the percentage of grain yielded by a corn crop, but they also add to its intrinsic value whether it be employed for feeding purposes or be used as seed.

Influence of Phosphates on the Potato Crop.

It is well known that the dominant ingredient in a manure for potatoes is potash, and that nitrogen also exercises a great effect on them. But the influence of phosphates is also of much importance. The effect shown on the plant to which nitrate of soda and superphosphate were applied together, which grew with remarkable luxuriance, and far excelled the others in the strength and abundance of its foliage was extraordinary. That phosphates cause an increase in the yield of potatoes even on land in good condition has been very well shown in some of the field experiments carried out by the College. Thus, in experiments conducted on five farms in 1897, a dressing of farmyard manure gave an average produce of 6 tons 2 cwt. tubers, but where 4 cwt. superphosphate was added to the farmyard manure the yield rose to 6 tons 17 cwt. per acre. On some dry soils the superphosphate applied in this way seemed, however, to cause a rather premature ripening and even a reduction of the crop, and its best effects were only produced where it was used along with nitrogenous and potassic manures. This was shown more clearly in the experiments carried out in the succeeding year, 1898, on 19 farms. In that year 4 cwt. superphosphate added to an application of 10 tons of farmyard manure gave an average increased yield of 8 cwt. potatoes per acre. When sulphate of ammonia was also given, the sulphate produced an increase of 11 cwt. per acre, and when sulphate of potash was also added the superphosphate gave an increase of 10 cwt. per acre. At the usual value of potatoes these were all profitable increases. But even more important, perhaps, than the influence of phosphates on the yield of the potato crop, is the satisfactory effect they have on the quality of the tubers. The tendency, too, of the phosphate to hasten the growth of the crop secures that its ripening will be more complete, and the assimilation of the maximum percentage of starch, on the presence of which in abundance the quality and nutritive value of the potato tuber mainly depends.

Influence of Phosphates on the Turnip Crop.

Of all crops there is none on which phosphates exercise such a remarkable influence as on the turnip, whether of the white, yellow, or swede varieties. Manures supplying nitrogen and potash produce a considerable effect on the yield of the crops on most soils, but phosphates form the dominant and most important constituent of a turnip manure. In the pot demonstration the attempt, on a soil poor in phosphate, to grow turnips with nitrogenous and potassic manures without phosphates was an entire failure; while the addition of superphosphate produced a remarkable change in the health, vigour, and luxuriance of the plants. The effect produced by phosphates on turnip plants is not, however, more conspicuous in their early growth than in all the succeeding stages, and it is equally shown in the ultimate size and weight attained by the bulbs or roots. The phosphates cause a much more vigorous extension of the roots of the plants throughout the soil, and this allows them to draw more fully, not only on the manures distributed in it, but enables them also to utilise more completely the ingredients of the soil itself, whether these be in the form of available nitrogen, potash, or phosphates. It is in part due to this stimulus to active root extension given by the phosphates, that their employment on soils in good condition renders the plants much less dependent on manurial supplies of nitrogen and potash than they are on poor soils. The degree to which young turnips are strengthened and forced on by phosphatic manures, has been frequently observed in the field experiments conducted by the College, in some of which turnips manured with large quantities of farmyard manure have been seen, at the time of thinning, much smaller and feebler than those which had received no manure save a few cwt. of mineral superphosphate. This rapid stimulus given to the young turnip plants is most important and valuable, as it is often the means of saving the crop from entire destruction by the "turnip fly." When an attack by the fly occurs, a weak and slow growing crop may be wholly destroyed, when, in a stronger and more vigorous crop, a sufficient number of plants may escape the ravages of the insects to give the field an adequate cover.

The remarkable effects produced by phosphates on the total yield of the turnip crop have been shown in many field experiments. For example, while a complete manure, supplying nitrogen and potash as well as phosphate, is essential to the production of a full crop, the application of phosphates in the College's experiments alone increased the yield by about 50 per cent. in 1894, and 80 per

cent. in 1895, and was sufficient without other manures, and at a very low cost, for the production of a fair yield. In both cases also the value of the increased yield of roots amounted to about four times the cost of the manure, while the superphosphate was in fact only partially utilised by the turnip crop, and remained capable of giving, and undoubtedly would give a still further return in the increased production of succeeding crops grown on the same land.

Influence of Phosphates on Grass Lands.

The effect of phosphatic manures is no less apparent on meadow and pasture than it is on arable lands; indeed, it is essential to the greatest success on grass lands that such manures should be used, for both grazing animals and dairy cattle carry off the phosphoric acid element in the soils to resupply which not anything like enough farmyard manure is used or produced. The results of experiments in England, Ireland, Scotland, and Wales—to say nothing of abroad—are conclusive on this matter. Superphosphate can be used either alone or, preferably, in conjunction with some other fertiliser: such as nitrate of soda, or kainit. The application of 2 cwt. of superphosphate (costing between 6s. and 7s.) in one of the experiments just referred to, gave an increase of more than 3 tons of grass over the portion of the field that got no manure. When slag and superphosphate were used in conjunction with 1½ cwt. of nitrate of soda, the result was still distinctly in favour of the superphosphate. In another case, viz., at the Royal Agricultural College, Cirencester slag and superphosphate were separately tested at a cost respectively of 20s. and 14s. per acre; the percentage of increase of each oveh the unmanured land being 25 for the basic slag and 62½ per cent. for the superphosphate. It only remains, therefore, to state that the best results when superphosphate is used have been usually obtained when the fertiliser is applied to the land as soon in the New Year as circumstances permit. A good top-dressing, whether for pasture or meadow land, would be a mixture of 3 cwt. high-grade superphosphate, and 2 cwt. of kainit per acre, applied in January, to be followed in March with 1 cwt. of nitrate of soda; or, if superphosphate alone is used, then 4 to 6 cwt. of the high grade would be the most beneficial.

Pasture Land as Sources of Revenue.

In the article which appeared in our last issue under the above heading, one of the percentages was, by a printer's error, incorrectly stated, the figure given being 6½ instead of 62½. It occurred in the following paragraph, which now appears correctly:—

"Professor Kinch, of the Royal Agricultural College, Cirencester, has been conducting a series of experiments for the last nine years on pastures, and the results of these during 1901 are now available. These show that the application of 5 cwt. of superphosphate per acre gave an increase of 62½ per cent. over the unmanured plot, and more striking results still were obtained by using a compound manure containing phosphates, ammonia, and potash, for the percentage of increase of yield over the unmanured plot amounted to no less than 120 per cent."

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The Hunter Stud Book.

Sir,—My attention has been drawn to a small pamphlet, issued under the title of "The Agricultural Register," its contents mainly consisting of a register of stallions and mares of various breeds of horses, tabulated under the respective title of "Imperial Stud Book of Hunter Horses," "Imperial Stud Book of Ponies," etc., etc., and, judging from inquiries which have been made to me, the use of the first-mentioned title has created an impression that this pamphlet is connected with the society's publication, "The Hunter Stud Book."

I, therefore, in order to correct this misconception, beg to state that this "Agricultural Register" has no connection whatsoever with the Hunters' Improvement Society.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

A. B. CHARLTON,
Secretary, Hunters' Improvement Society.
February 6th, 1902.

Six-Rowed Barley.

Sir,—As the writer of the article in the "Field," on six-rowed barley, referred to by Mr. W. H. Wilson in the MARK LANE EXPRESS, last week, allow me to state that he has not given the facts of the case quite correctly. I stated in my article that Mr. Stopes had informed me that two of the best of the samples exhibited at the Brewers' Exhibition were of the winter six-rowed variety, and this was the point on which Mr. Wilson the following week contradicted me. He said that the samples Mr. Stopes alluded to in such high terms were not six-rowed but Archer's. I considered this gratuitous statement an attempt to advertise a particular kind of barley that had nothing to do with the matter, but as, on referring to Mr. Stopes, he fully confirmed my former statement and promised to write to the "Field" that I had only declared what was perfectly true, I left the matter in his hands.

Mr. Wilson makes it now appear that his chief object in replying to me in the "Field," was not to advertise Archer's barley, but to prevent farmers from following my advice of growing six-rowed barley for malting purposes, inasmuch as all the six-rowed barleys he has ever seen of English growth were only fit for grinding. If Mr. Wilson's letter had been of this character I should have taken him up, for after my conversation with Mr. Stopes, I became convinced that the valuable six-rowed barley can be grown equally well for malting purposes in England as in foreign countries. I grew it myself some years since, and while the yield of crop was greatly in excess of what I should have obtained had I grown the common two-rowed, the corns were large and plump. At the time I was under the same false impression as Mr. Wilson, that the English six-rowed was unfit for malting, the ground on which I formed that opinion being that the skin was thick and coarse. But in my conversation with Mr. Stopes at the Brewers' Exhibition he gave me to understand that these thick-skinned barleys actually yield more malt than thin-skinned ones. Consequently, I opine that the six-rowed Mr. Wilson happens to have met with were grown in a dry summer, after the flag and stalks had been fed down bare in May. I stated in the "Field" that a great deal of valuable sheep-feed might be utilised in spring and the crop still be matured for grain, but this feed has sometimes been consumed after the plants have spindled up, under which circumstances thin corns, only fit for grinding, might naturally be expected.—Yours faithfully,

AGRICOLA, OF THE "FIELD."
January 6, 1902.

Wireworm in Broken-up Sainfoin.

Sir,—May I ask you for advice on the following matter:—I have a field which has been under sainfoin for eight years, and which I now wish to plough up and sow with oats. How can I best prevent the destruction of the crop by worms? Thanking you in anticipation, yours faithfully,

M. M.

[Probably the "worms" alluded to are wireworms, as broken-up sainfoin land is often badly infested with these pests. On this account some prefer to pare and burn the surface, and then cultivate deeply and take a root crop of some kind before taking a corn crop. The best remedies for wireworm are gaslime, lime, and soot; but some think rape cake is a deterrent. Whether this be so or not, the application of rape cake, which is a powerful manure, is always beneficial to the crop, and, as the particles of the cake attract the wireworm, causing them to leave the roots of the crop, there is no doubt that the application is of service, even if the cake attracts the wireworms instead of repelling them. Gaslime is a powerful insecticide, and a heavy dressing will do more to kill wireworms than any other; but it should be applied some time (say three months at least) before a crop is to be sown. It is now too late to apply gaslime without seriously prejudicing the prospects of the oat crop. Hot lime is also a useful remedy, and may still be applied with good results; but rather heavy dressings must be used, say five tons per acre, if the wireworm is numerous. Soot is a well-known deterrent of all insect pests, and it is also a forcing manure, and you can scarcely do better under the present circumstances than sow broadcast 30 to 40 bushels soot per acre, and harrow it in with the seed. Salt is sometimes found useful, but less so than any of the other dressings mentioned. After the crop is sown it should be heavily rolled, as consolidation is one of the best preventives of the attacks of wireworms and all soil grubs and worms. You cannot do better than apply the soot as already advised and afterwards roll heavily. Should the growing crop appear to be injured by the wireworm, the only thing to then do is to apply the most rapidly acting forcing manures, so as to bring the plants on past the dangerous stage of growth, and for this purpose, nitrate of soda, sown at the rate of 1 cwt. per acre, will be best. You might with advantage apply 2 cwt. of salt with each cwt. of nitrate of soda, but it will be well to divide the dressing into two equal parts, giving the one as soon as injury is apparent, and the other a fortnight or so later if the crop does not appear to be overcoming the attack.—M.Y.]

Agricultural Imports.

The following is an account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Feb. 1, 1902, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year:—

Animals Living.	1901	1902.		1901.	1902.
	No.	No.		Cwt.	Cwt.
Cattle ...	8,735	3,187	Wheat ...	798,500	1,030,900
Sheep.....	6,584	4,342	Flour.....	353,700	281,800
Swine.....	—	—	Barley ...	111,100	659,600
*Horses...	—	848	Oats	289,800	254,000
			Peas	35,100	44,900
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Beans ...	5,700	49,700
Beef	65,563	75,439	Maize ...	1,062,300	728,800
Mutton...	46,351	65,503		Bunches	Bunches
Pork	26,549	23,125	Bananas	21,625	16,246
Bacon ...	107,504	94,380			
Beef, salt	5,046	2,869		Cwt.	Cwt
Hams.....	36,690	23,806	Apples ...	69,746	47,212
Pork, salt	6,049	2,337	Apricots & Peaches	—	—
Meat, salt & Fresh	8,378	13,922	Cherries	—	—
Do. pres.	8,258	17,319	Currants	—	—
Butter ...	57,869	79,186	Gooseb'r's	—	—
M'rg'rine	17,482	18,903	Grapes ...	127	143
Cheese ...	26,658	28,620	Lemons...	21,450	13,237
Milk, Fresh, in cans or drums.	305	694	Oranges	120,067	245,496
			Pears.....	65	359
			Plums ...	2	—
			Strawb'r's	—	—
Milk ...			Oth'r Fr't	32	143
Cream.	131	120		Tons	Tons.
			Hay	1,389	7,427
Milk			Straw ...	—	1,039
pres'v'd, other				Bush	Bush.
			Onions ...	104,600	92,924
kinds ...	1,379	8		Cwt.	Cwt.
Con.Milk	18,639	17,744	Hops	3,569	6,037
			* Locust Beans	—	24,030
	No.	No.	Potatoes	109,755	44,408
Eggs	129,449	362,641	Tom'to's	7,863	4,051
			Other	Value.	Value.
Poultry & Game	Value.	Value	Vegbles	£6,562	£6,833
	£21,130	£57,712		Cwt.	Cwt.
			Dried ...	4,151	4,059
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Pres'v'd		
Rabbits	4,350	4,895	by canning ...	4,033	6,133
Lard	36,705	22,690			

* Not shown in 1901.

Sale of Fodder at Leamington.—An important sale of fodder was held by Messrs. J. Stack and Sons at Leamington last week, which drew together a large company of farmers and dealers. The lots were situated in an area which included Warwick, Kenilworth, and Southam, and there were altogether on offer no fewer than eighty-six ricks of prime old and new hay, clover, and straw. Some of the lots remained on sale by private treaty, but by far the larger portion of the fodder was knocked down in the room, and the sale realised about £5,000. Straw fetched 65s. or 66s. per ton, good hay averaged over £4 per ton, and a similar average was secured for clover.

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Bedfordshire.

We are having a taste of winter, which is welcome and seasonable. A white mantle is to-day spread o'er the landscape, to the advantage of everybody and everything except the young lambs, which now require night and day attention. Lambing is not yet in full swing in this county, but the few reports to hand are not favourable, there being much loss, both among the ewes and lambs. I have up to now only lambed thirteen ewes, all alive, but have only sixteen lambs with them.

Cattle are healthy and doing well where properly attended to, but the straw and hay is fase disappearing, and we are praying for an early spring. The wheat grown last year on the Bedfordshire clay land is far above the average, both as to quality and quantity, and, as I have before said, I hope to see 1901 repeated again and again. I was thrashing last week, and the machine filled fourteen sacks an hour. I have never experienced this before. But this sack-filling extraordinary does not even force a smile, letting alone cheerfulness. This wheat went straight away to the mill, and there was a dead loss upon every sack that went. I would never grow another kernel of wheat if it was not for the straw, that is, until the old country wakes up. The recent speeches of Mr. Pease, M.P., Sir R. Giffen, and others go to prove what I have for years stated, that agriculture will be protected by the Radicals rather than the Tories. I am not a party man sir, I have only voted once during the last seventeen years, and then I voted Liberal; but since 1886 I have, in season and out of season, through the press and on the platform, advocated a duty upon foreign corn, and have been called, even by many Tories, a fool for my pains. The "Bedfordshire Standard"—the county Tory paper—on January 3rd, said:—"Last year new duties were, very properly, imposed on imported sugar. It is much to be hoped that the success which has attended this new departure in our financial policy will encourage the Chancellor of the Exchequer to make further experiment in the same direction." If the editor of every paper who believes in fostering English industries, would show the same honest, manly courage, agriculture would begin to breathe again. I do not agree with some of the views expressed in the editor's column, but should like, sir, through your world-wide-read paper, to publicly express my gratitude to the editor of the Bedford Tory paper for his consistent and long-continued efforts on behalf of depressed agriculture.—T. S. (February 4th).

Derbyshire (West).

The weather is still frosty, but getting milder, with some sunshine. Live stock healthy, and new milched cows selling well; store stock cows, owing to fodder being short and all feeding stuffs at a premium, while wheat has been dropping in price, selling at less price than other feeding stuffs, so that a good deal will be used for stock purposes. Work on the land fairly forward. We are looking forward to an early spring, as the hay stacks are getting less fast.—C. M. (February 6th).

Hampshire (East).

Hitherto the winter's weather in this district has been favourable to the farmer, has saved his keep, and has enabled him to get well forward with his season's work. To the flockmaster it has been especially propitious, and one hears generally good accounts of the fall of lambs and their subsequent health and progress. The growing wheat looks very promising, and the frost of the last day or two will serve as a healthy check to its rather forward condition. Roots are keeping soundly, and all the autumn-sown crops look well. The corn trade is weak, with the exception of oats, for which a good demand exists. The price of good beef seems inclined to rise, but we have had a poor trade for mutton lately.—G. S. M. (February 7th).

Salop.

Weather very mild, suiting the ewes and lambs, but the effect of a light barley crop is seen plainly in the yield. Both ewes and lambs are going on well.—J. G. (February 7th).

Wiltshire.

At this time of year there is nothing of special interest to record in connection with farming. The winter so far has been favourable; we have had but little snow, with sufficient frost to make the land healthy and keep vegetation from getting too forward. The work of the farm is well in hand; cattle have done well, and are making fairly satisfactory prices. On the other hand, both fat and store sheep are selling badly, and will make a poor return for the winter's keep. Hay and straw is getting very scarce; there will be less left over than for several years past. Should we get a backward spring many farmers will have to buy.—T. P. (February 7th).

Wiltshire (North),

The weather till towards the end of January was all that could be desired, since then we have had severe north-east gales, with some snow, which still lies on the highlands. The small supply of hay and straw has held out well, till the cold came, but now it will go rapidly. The lambing has been generally satisfactory so far. On many farms straw, chaff, and cake or corn has substitutdd hay, with satisfactory results in every way. The trade is very bad, I hear, of sheep bought in September, being offered at only 3s. more now, which makes flock owners anxious for the future, lest the care and expense of wintering a flock should be wasted. Beef has been selling at a fair price, 7d. per lb. for best quality. Milch cattle also make a fair price. Only exceptionally able men with exceptional opportunities make farming pay in these days; during the last thirty years it has been a desperate struggle.—J. S. (February 10).

Foreign Prospects.

FRANCE.—The general condition of the wheat crop continues satisfactory, a large area is covered with snow, and the weather has become much colder.

BELGIUM.—There seems to be no uneasiness respecting the autumn-sown wheat crop.

HOLLAND.—Recent advices make no reference to crop prospects.

SPAIN.—Snow fell recently over most of the Peninsula, but it is feared that the crops have suffered from previous severe frost.

GERMANY.—Weather has been changeable, with rapid alternations of rain, snow, and frost, which are not calculated to improve crop conditions.

RUSSIA.—Over the greater part of the wheat and rye-growing country, temperature has been above the normal; drought prevails in many Southern districts, and no where is the rainfall equal to the season's average. Snow lies in eastern and north-eastern governments.

ITALY.—Inundations occurred in many districts, and a considerable area of the crops is under water. At Turin and Milan snow fell to a depth of three feet.

ROUMANIA AND BULGARIA.—The season has been unusually mild, and navigation on the Danube is not closed. Agricultural conditions are regarded with satisfaction; a heavy fall of snow would be greatly appreciated.

HUNGARY.—Once more the crops are under snow, and the weather is colder, with night frosts. Lower temperature has given an impetus to the wheat market.



MONDAY (February 3).—The winds were still north-easterly over our islands, but the gales had moderated on our coasts, although in the English Channel and on the East coast the force continued strong. Small amounts of melted snow and rain were measured in the eastern and southern districts in the morning as the result of the fall since the previous day. The weather continued very raw and cold, and the temperature was changing irregularly. The thermometer was everywhere low for the time fo year, and the readings were, generally, only a few degrees above the freezing point.

TUESDAY (February 4).—The winds were still generally easterly over our islands, but the force had everywhere decreased, and the strongest wind reported on our coast was a moderate breeze. Rain or sleet was measured in the morning in the southern and eastern districts, but the amounts were everywhere small, and the weather during the day was mostly dry. Slight frost occurred during Monday night in the East of England, and the midday temperatures were again low for the time of year, the highest readings being generally about 40 degrees.

WEDNESDAY (February 5th).—The weather was generally dull or cloudy, and there was a good deal of mist or fog in different parts of our islands. The barometer had continued to decrease, and a westerly wind was setting in over the northern and western portions of the kingdom, and the easterly wind seemed to be everywhere giving way. A slight frost was generally experienced during Tuesday night, and the temperatures remained low during the day. Scarcely any rain fallen.

THURSDAY (February 6).—Cloudy weather prevailed in most parts of the British islands, and snow or sleet fell at a few places in the north. The barometer continued to decrease, and readings were considerably below the normal, not only in the United Kingdom, but over the whole of Western Europe. A shallow cyclonic disturbance wa sapproaching the Norwegian coasts, and another disturbance had arrived over the Bay of Biscay. The latter storm area, although apparently shallow and unimportant, had occasioned a brisk rise of temperature in France, but had caused the wind to remain easterly, and the weather cold over England. Temperature had risen somewhat in Ireland, where a light southerly wind was blowing. The weather was dry in London, and the highest temperature was thirty-nine degrees.

FRIDAY (February 7th).—The weather was generally fine and dry over England, but slight rain was again reported at some of the Scotch and Irish stations. Rain was measured in the morning, as the result of the fall in the preceding twenty-four hours, in the north and west, as well as at several places on our south coast. The winds were everywhere light, and they continued chiefly northerly over Great Britain, whilst the southerly wind, which had set in over Ireland was dying down. Frost occurred in many parts of the country during Thursday night, and in Scotland the sheltered thermometer fell ten or twelve degrees below the freezing point. There was a slight sprinkling of snow in London on Thursday night, and the exposed thermometer indicated a frost. The temperature during the day rose to thirty-nine degrees.

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY (February 8th and 9th).—The weather continued cold over our islands during these two days, and sharp frost occurred at night over the northern part of the kingdom. In Scotland, as well as in the midland districts of England, the sheltered thermometer fell ten degrees and more below the freezing point. The midday temperatures were below the average on both days. Snow or sleet fell on Saturday in the north and east, and rain occurred in the south of England, but the amounts measured were not generally large. Shallow cyclonic disturbances were situated over the North Sea on Sunday, and under their influence the wind was chiefly north-westerly over the United Kingdom, but shallow disturbances had appeared on our south-west coasts.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Malt: The trade remains much the same as noticed last week. Barley steady. Wheat firm. Oats, 3d per qr dearer. Maize, advanced 3d per qr. Flour dull.—NIXON, GOWER, AND CO.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—With the exception of maize, steadiness was the prevailing feature. The attendance was quite of an indifferent nature. English wheat continues to be dealt with almost exclusively on the provincial exchanges, town millers here still being satisfied to abide events. Dry milling grades continue in support. Whites range at 28s 6d to 30s, and reds at 28s to 29s 6d per qr delivered. American reds well maintained. Russian sorts remain about the level of this market. Flour unaltered. English in good supply, being steady at the recent decline. Grinding barley steady, with a fair supply on hand, but not much coming forward at present. English malting qualities adapted for seeds are still mainly sought after, ranging at 26s to 30s. Useful types become more and more scarce up to 40s. The better sorts of oats are rather firmer, while generally firmness pervades the market. English commands enhanced rates. Gartons (spring sown), 23s 6d 42lb; black winters, 24s to 24s 6d; grey ditto, weighing the same, 23s to 23s 6d. Flat maize nominal, being out of supply, and round corn 6d dearer since last Monday. The market for imported beans and peas retains stability.

Mark-Lane, Friday.—There were no disturbing features, and symptoms of an improvement began to be felt. So far, however, the reaction has been but mild, while buyers were limited. English wheat continues to be dealt with almost exclusively on the provincial Exchange, as town millers adopt the same indifferent mood. Whites range at 28s 6d to 30s, and reds at 28s to 29s 6d per qr. delivered. Foreign steady, and American descriptions in small compass. Flour in general maintains a good tone, despite the laxity of trade. First patents, 23s ex granary. Of fancy patents, Mayblossom held for 23s 6d; second patents, 21s 6d to 22s 6d. Town households, 23s; and whites, 3s per sack more. Australian patents, 19s 6d to 20s ex store, 280lb. Grinding barley fairly steady, and Odessa rules at 18s 3d ex ship to come up, 18s 9d ex quay being more in supply than demand. English malting continues mainly secured for seed, which ranges at 26s to 30s. Oats rather firmer since last Friday, and are wanted. F.a.q. Libau, 17s 9d ex ship, 18s 6d and more ex quay, 38lb. Konigsberg, ordinary, 20s 6d; good, 21s ex-quay and 40lb. Libau, 20s upwards. New Zealand ordinary Bluff, 25s to 26s, 384lb ex store. American still out of supply. English fully in sellers' favour. Gartons, 23s 6d (spring sown), 42lb. Flat maize remains exhausted, and roun corn about 6d dearer on the week. Roumania and South Russia continue to send forward fairly liberal supplies. Holders of imported beans and peas were again demanding firm prices, despite few inquiries, the market being still somewhat bare.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Wheat—Trade quiet at prices scarcely so good as last week. Barleys—Moderate demand at about recent quotations. Oats were held for quite as much money. Beans and peas scarce and dear. White wheat, 27s to 30s; brown wheat, 26s to 29s; malting barley, 26s to 33s; grinding ditto, 22s to 25s; black oats, 18s to 21s; white ditto, 20s to 24s; old beans, 32s to 36s; grey peas, 34s to 35s.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, red (new), 28s to 30s per qr. Very little wheat at market, prices remaining about the same.

Birmingham, Thursday.—The market was inactive and the attendance small. English wheats unchanged at 11s to 11s 3d per bag. Maize went up about 3d, Plate offering at 23s to 23s 6d in Channel, and round 22s to 23s per qr. Grinding barley, 17s 6d to 18s 9d, Liverpool. Black English oats, 20s 6d to 21s 6d, and white, 21s to 23s per qr.

Boston, Wednesday.—A fair attendance and a small show. Wheat, 27s 6d; malting barley, 28s to 32s; oats, 19s to 21s; peas, 54s to 58s; and beans, 34s per qr. Maize 6d dearer on the week. Grinding barley 21s 6d per qr. Linseed cake £8 to £9, and cotton cake £5 5s per ton.

Braintree, Wednesday.—Wheat in average quantities; reds, 28s 6d; whites, 30s per qr. Barley trade very quiet.

Bristol, Thursday.—At our market to-day English wheat was in moderate supply at late rates; foreign unchanged. Grinding barley 3d to 6d dearer. Oats and maize firm, and unaltered in value. The flour trade still remains inactive at previous prices.—GRACE BROS.

Cambridge, Saturday.—Trade has been quiet during the week, without any change in values. The supply of wheat is about an average, but barley is coming short. At this market to-day there was an average supply of wheat, and the trade was dull, but prices were unchanged—from 27s to 28s per 504lb. Barley was in short supply, and not much wanted except in seed lots. Oats quiet and steady. Beans dull.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Wheat slow; prices unchanged. Barley and oats firm. Ruling prices:—White wheat, 28s to 31s; red, 27s to 30s; malting barley, 28s to 35s; grinding ditto, 23s to 25s; white oats, 20s to 24s; black oats, 20s to 23s.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Small supply of oats in our market to-day; good demand at late rates. New, 20s 6d to 22s 6d per 336lb.—THOMAS ROBINSON.

Chester, Saturday.—The attendance was small, and there was little 9nglish grain offering. Wheat was 1d to 2d per bushel lower. Other grain unchanged. Quotations:—Wheat, white and red, 4s 3d to 4s 4d per 75lb; malting barley, 3s 10d to 4s per 60lb; grinding barley, 3s 4d to 3s 6d per 64lb; beans, 5s 6d to 5s 8d per 80lb; oats, new, 2s 10d to 3s 1d; old, 3s 4d to 3s 6d per 46lb; Indian corn, 12s 9d to 14s 3d per 240lb.

Chichester, Wednesday.—There was an average attendance. Wheat was in moderate supply, with a quiet trade at last week's prices. Feeding stuffs firm, with a rising tendency. Flour unchanged.

Colchester, Saturday.—Wheat very small supply; trade very firm at slightly advanced prices. Feeding corn firm and rather dearer.—FRANCIS AND CO.

Croydon, Thursday.—White wheat, 28s to 30s; red ditto, 27s to 29s; malting barley, 28s to 36s; grinding, 22s to 24s; oats, 19s to 21s; beans, 31s to 33s; peas, 29s to 31s. A thin attendance at market. Trade for wheat remains quiet; barley and oats firm.

Devizes, Thursday.—We had a fair supply of corn to-day. Prices show no alteration, but wheat sells rather more freely. Quotations:—Best wheat, 14s to 15s; secondary, 12s 6d to 13s; best malting barley, 29s to 34s; secondary, 25s to 28s; grinding barley, 20s to 24s; oats, 20s to 23s; beans, 16s to 20s; fine flour, 22s to 24s; extra fine, 23s to 30s; best bread, 9d.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There was the usual attendance at our Corn Exchange. Wheat and flour met a slow sale at about last Wednesday's prices. Maize steadier, flat being held for 3d advance; round the turn in sellers' favour. Barley, fine malting, the turn better; grinding barley dull and unaltered. Oats in limited demand, and rather easier in price. Beans quiet; grinding sorts steady. Peas scarce, and held for full prices. Oatmeal very dull. Bran and milling offals are quiet, and nominally unaltered on the week.—GIBSON AND CLARK.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Wheat: With a by no means large supply, the trade was quiet, and prices barely equal to last week's. Good reds in condition 29s per 504lb, delivered at Ipswich. Barley: Supply moderate, with a fairly steady demand for useful medium samples, at 29s to 32s 6d per qr. Oats scarce and firm, at 22s to to 24s 6d per qr. Poland 22s 6d to 22s 9d, Hanoverian 22s to 22s 3d, German 21s 6d to 21s 9d per 336lb. Maize firm at 22s 9d to 23s for new round; other sorts nominal. Beans, peas, and all other feeding corns very scarce and firm. Linseed cakes firm, at £8 10s to £8 15s per ton. Cotton cakes quiet. Bran firm, at £5 10s per ton.

Leeds, Tuesday.—The wheat trade is slowly but steadily emerging from the long period of inactivity and depression and the consumptive demand shows signs of improving. Prices on the week cannot be called quotably better, but are the turn in sellers' favour. Foreign malting barley in more request; English continues firm. Feeding stuffs firm.—DUNNS AND Co.

Leeds, Friday.—English wheat firmly held at Tuesday's prices. Foreign the turn dearer owing to further rise in Americans. Maize slightly favour sellers. No change in beans, peas oats, barley or flour.

Leicester, Saturday.—Good attendance, fair supplies of wheat, and fine samples a better trade; prices, 28s to 31s per 36 stones. Malting and grinding barley quiet. Fine oats sold very freely.

Leith, Friday.—Trade during the week has improved. Prices are much firmer, but buyers are still holding off, although future prospects are encouraging. Wheat quiet sale. Scotch oats better demand at unchanged prices. Barley—Scotch dearer; foreign feeding, 21s. Hard white peas, 37s 6d. Beans—All varieties, 33s 6d to 34s. Round maize, 23s to 24s; parcels with slight heat, 21s to 22s 6d. Millet seed, 19s. Mill offals—Fair consumptive trade in bran. There is a great demand for dried grains, which has the effect of raising prices. Broad bran, 120s to 125s; medium bran, 100s to 102s 6d; sharps, 95s to 97s 6d; parings, 105s to 107s 6d; cummings, 82s 6d to 87s 6d; dried grains, 100s; oat husks, 45s; meal seeds, 67s 6d; all sacks included.—WILLIAM MACLAY.

Lewes, Tuesday.—New white wheat, 28s to 29s 6d; new brown ditto, 27s to 28s 6d; malting barley, 32s to 35s; grinding ditto, 21s to 24s; oats, 21s to 25s; beans, 35s to 38s; peas, 32s to 35s per qr.

Lincoln, Friday.—Moderate supply of English wheat, which was selling at last week's rates, 28s to 29s. Barley trade very quiet. Oats a large show and easier in value. Maize and beans firm.

Liverpool, Friday.—The market has had a good attendance, and wheat experiences an improved demand, prices being generally ½d higher, with a fair business doing. Flour has a very small inquiry, but is steadily held at unchanged prices for foreign. The Liverpool Millers' Association make no change in the minimum price of bakers. Maize: Mixed is in small demand at ½d to ¾d below last Tuesday. Plate is steadily held at unchanged prices, and receives a fair inquiry from customers Europeans have a moderate trade, with values generally ½d lower. Barley is idle for malting, and lower to sell. Feeding sorts are steadier, and meet an improved inquiry, with values ½d dearer. Beans are very firm at an occasional advance with a fair inquiry. Peas steadier, with a better inquiry, prices the turn against buyers. Oats have had only a small inquiry, and although prices are unchanged, the tendency is easier for English. Foreign sorts are in better request, and are held for ½d over last Tuesday. Oatmeal steady, but inactive at quotations. Oilcake steady, with a fair inquiry at last market day's prices.—SEGAR AND TUNNICLIFFE.

Maidstone, Thursday.—There was a good attendance at the market to-day, but business very quiet. The wheat trade about the same as last week; buyers of it not plentiful, produces inactive tone. Supply of barley quite equal to requirement, and former terms obtained not easily. Oats continue very firm, and the best article as regards relative value. Maize is weak for round corn; so much of it not in condition, holders press to get rid of it; but flat description scarce and well up to former cost. Not any change worthy of note in other grain and feeding material.

Manchester, Thursday.—A steady tone has ruled in most sections during the week; late rates are repeated for both wheat and flour, and in some instances a moderate trade is reported. Indian corn keeps steady, but purchases are not named to any great extent. Peas and beans are also steady. Barley is practically unchanged, demand rather quiet. Oats, both English and foreign, keep steady at last week's prices.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—At our market to-day a quiet trade prevailed for wheat; last week's prices, however, were maintained. Maize steady at last Saturday's prices. Peas and beans firm and favouring sellers. Oats a slow demand; quotations unaltered. Barley firm for malting purposes; feeding qualities unchanged.—JOSEPH POLLARD AND Co.

Newport, Wednesday.—A better inquiry for wheat, which was firm. Maize 6d to 9d dearer on the week. No change in all other feeding stuffs. Flour fines 23s per sack. Offals dear and scarce. Average attendance.

Northampton, Saturday.—Considering the snowy and unfavourable weather, the attendance was good. Supply and demand indifferent. Wheat and barley were more in request than last week, and buyers more inclined to operate at a slight advance. White wheat, 28s to 29s 6d; red, 27s to 29s; barley, 25s to 34s; grinding ditto, 21s to 24s; oats, 19s to 23s; old, 25s; beans, 32s to 40s; flour, 21s to 22s; fine, 25s.

Norwich, Saturday.—Wheat still in small supply, with a firm trade, and in some cases more money was made. Barley in limited supply at previous quotations. Cold weather, with easterly winds, has prevailed this week, but has now changed to rain and sleet showers. Wheat, red, 28s to 28s 6d per qr; weight, 63lb per bushel imperial. Corn inspector's return for the week ending 3rd February, 1902: Wheat, 23,117, 26s 7½d; barley, 5,694, 28s 10d.—J. ARTHUR MILLS.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Wheat in fair supply; steady trade at late rates. Barley small show, and prices in sellers' favour. Oats and beans scarce, and made full prices.—ROBERT HUBBLE.

Peterborough, Saturday.—There is no quotable change in the value of wheat to-day, trade being quiet at about last week's prices. Barley keeps firm in value, the chief demand being for seed qualities. Oats firm at the full rates of last week.—THOMAS HILL AND SON.

Plymouth, Thursday.—At market to-day average attendance; trade generally better tone, with an enlarged demand. Wheat unaltered in value. Maize, in view of reports as to crops in Argentina and small quantities due at this port, realised 3d advance. Barley held in favour of sellers. Oats very firm.—ORLANDO DAVIS AND Co.

Reading, Saturday.—We had a fair attendance today, and the trade all round proved firm. The wheat supply was rather larger than usual, and, the demand being limited, little or no change occurred in the quotations from those recorded last week. There was a steady inquiry for barley, which maintained recent values, while oats, which were in good supply, sold fairly well at unaltered figures.

Romford, Wednesday.—Wheat trade firm at last week's prices. Small supply. Red wheat, 27s to 28s; white, 28s to 30s per qr.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—To-day's market was better attended than that of a week ago. Wheats were in improved demand. Maize was 3d per qr cheaper. Beans firm at recent quotation. Oats and barley were also firmer at unchanged prices. Quotations:—Wheat, white 30s to 31s, red 30s 6d to 31s per 504lb; oats, new white 21s 6d to 22s 6d, new black 20s to 21s per 336lb; barley, grinding 22s to 23s, malting 28s to 32s per 448lb; peas, grinding 32s to 34s, blue 53s to 80s per 504lb; beans, Egyptian 36s to 36s 6d, English new 37s to 37s 6d per 532lb; Indian corn, small 25s to 26s, American mixed 27s 6d to 28s per 480lb.

Spalding, Tuesday.—At the Corn Exchange there was a good attendance of farmers and merchants, and a fair amount of trade. A small show of wheat, and a firm trade at 27s 3d to 27s 6d per qr. Oats remained firm, and late rates were well maintained. Beans, peas, and other articles unchanged.

Stamford, Friday.—The show of wheat was fair, and trade was about the same as last week. Prices ranged from 27s 6d to 29s. There was not very much doing in barley, oats, and maize, which made late rates.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There was only a very small supply of English wheat, which made 30s per qr. The foreign wheat trade keeps quiet; in some instances more money was being asked, which had a tendency to stop business. Oats and maize 3d dearer. No malting barley showing.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Fair supply of grain at this day's market. Wheat quiet and in buyers' favour. Barley and oats rather dearer. Arrivals coastwise:—Wheat, 180qrs; barley, 595qrs; oats, 847qrs; foreign, nil.—E. AND F. RICHARDSON.

Wakefield, Friday.—No alteration in prices of wheat, and the trade done on to-day's Exchange is small. Few inquiries for malting barley, as maltsters are now finished for the season. Maize 6d per qr, oats and grinding barley 3d per qr dearer on the week.—MICHAEL SANDERSON AND SON, LIMITED.

Wakefield, Friday.—The wheat trade is steady at last week's prices; offers from abroad are by no means liberal, and limits too lofty, so that little fresh business is practicable, but the demand still leaves much to be desired. Malting barley in moderate request at late rates. Maize 6d, beans and oats 3d dearer.—DUNNS AND Co.

Wisbech, Saturday.—A moderate supply of grain. Wheat a quiet trade at barely late rates; prices, 27s to 28s. Oats firm at full prices, 21s to 24s. Barley, 26s to 30s. Beans, 34s to 38s.—JAMES FLETCHER.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—There was a fair attendance, but trade was quiet. Quotations:—Wheat, new 12s 6d to 13s per 216lb; oats, old 15s 6d to 16s, new 12s to 13s; beans, old 15s 6d to 16s 6d per 196lb, new 14s to 14s 6d per 196lb; barley, 31s to 32s per 448lb; maize, 26s to 26s 6d per 480lb.

Worcester, Saturday.—Wheat trade lifeless, without any quotable alteration in values of home qualities. Barley obtained rather more money, and all feeding corn showed a steadier tendency.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Better attendance than usual, with inquiries for barley for seed. Wheat down 6d per qr. White wheat 27s 6d to 28s 6d, red wheat 25s 6d to 27s 6d, best malting barley 29s to 32s, secondary 26s to 28s, grinding barley 23s to 24s, white oats 21s to 23s, black oats 19s to 21s, maize 27s to 28s per qr.

York, Saturday.—Wheat is flat and makes 6d to 1s less money than last week. Malting barley steady, without change in price. Oats firm. Rye, 8d to 8½d per stone; beans, 10½d to 11d ditto.

FOREIGN.

Hamburg, Saturday.—Trade quiet, and prices are barely supported. Supplies of grain have fallen off, but potatoes are still plentiful and cheap. Wheat less inquired after; millers are complaining of a slow sale for flour. Hard Winter No. 2 is offering at 29s, Red Winter No. 2 at 29s 6d, Northern Spring No. 2 at 28s 6d of 480lb, Walla Walla, April-May-June delivery, at 29s 6d of 500lb. Rye maintains its value; 915.20 South Russian, March-April, is held at 23s to 23s 3d per 480lb. Malting barley quiet. Small lots of fine Saal are offering at 33s 6d up to 39s best. Silesian to arrive per barge is held at 27s 6d to 29s 6d. Bohemian at 31s 6d to 33s, Slovatian at 32s to 36s per 448lb f.o.b. South Russian and Danubian feeding barley is selling at 17s 6d to 18s 3d per 400lb ex ship. The small arrivals of maize are taken at unaltered prices. Odessa 21s 6d to 22s, Turkish at 22s 3d to 22s 6d per 480lb. Mixed is held at 25s 6d.—JOHN TATLOCK.

Paris, Wednesday.—The tendency of native wheat shows no improvement since last market day, a weak feeling still continues. This is attributed to millers still finding flour so hard to dispose of, and consequently they display some moderation in their purchases. Offers were rather numerous, but sellers manifested the same reluctance to lower their prices, and business was effected with much difficulty. The tendency may be noted as undecided at about last week's rates as follows:—Choice red 37s 10d to 37s 5d, ordinary 37s 5d to 36s 11d, and white 38s 3d to 37s 10d per 480lb. The flour market was dull at the opening, and closed a little better with an average advance of 5c. at the following prices:—February 27s 51 to 27s 8d, March 27s 8d to 27s 11d, March-April 27s 11d to 28s 2d, March-June 28s 2d to 28s 5d, and May-August 28s 8d to 28s 11d per 280lb. Rye, like wheat, displays a weaker feeling, but it must not be overlooked that the article is nowhere abundant, and that the least demand would suffice to arrest the tendency. Here prices were nominally unchanged, with a few more sellers; buyers offered 27s, but no sellers under 27s 6d per 480lb. Oats are quiet in all directions, and offers are fuly adequate to requirements, the demand remaining generally inactive. There is no alteration to report in barley, prices remaining rather steadily supported. In the North 26s 1d is paid. In Beauce good qualities are worth 23s 3d to 23s 11d. Here the tendency was steady for grinding and feeding corn, and unaltered for malting sorts. Buckwheat.—Owing some improvement in the demand, rates have made a slight advance, and quotations now stand at 27s per 480lb.—*Dornbusch.*

LONDON FLOUR MILLERS' ASSOCIATION

OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1901.

		London Whites.		Town Households.	
		s.	d.		s. d.
September	2 .....(per sack)	26	0	..... (per sack)	23 0
,,	18 ..... ,,	25	6	..... ,,	22 6
December	9 ..... ,,	26	6	..... ,,	23 6
January	29 ..... ,,	28	0	..... ,,	23 0

since last date given).

CORN STATISTICS.

ARRIVALS INTO LONDON.

January 29 to February 5, 1902, inclusive.

	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat ..... qrs.	1,214	21,557	22,771
Barley	3,222	2,634	5,856
Oats	2,700	45,000	47,700
Rye	...	...	...
Beans	485	2,010	2,495
Peas	390	700	1,090
Maize	...	21,944	21,944
Tares	20	1,252	1,272
Farmseed	932	1,536	2,468
Linseed	...	...	...
Dari	...	..	...
Cottonseed	...	...	...
Flour, sacks	21,956	39,339	61,295
Malt	24,500	...	24,500

IMPERIAL AVERAGES.

Statement showing the Quantities sold and average price of British Corn, Imperial Measure, as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended February 8, 1902, conformably with the Act of the 45th and 46th Victoria, cap. 37.

Wheat	67,470½ qrs.	27s. 2d.
Barley	69,291⅝ qrs.	26s. 9d.
Oats	25,055½ qrs.	20s. 3d.

COMPARATIVE AVERAGES.

Comparative statement for the corresponding week to December 28th, in each of the years from 1897 to 1901.

	WHEAT. Qrs	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
1897	53,440⅜ ...	29	8	68,252½ ...	24	8	17,653½ ...	16	6
1898	59,415¼ ...	35	1	75,849½ ...	27	8	21,117⅜ ...	17	5
1899	87,690⅜ ...	26	8	76,694½ ...	27	2	22,707½ ...	17	0
1900	71,482⅜ ...	25	10	80,543⅜ ...	25	3	20,822½ ...	16	5
1901	44,882⅜ ...	26	8	51,608½ ...	25	7	16,241¼ ...	17	7

MONTHLY AVERAGES.

(196 Market Towns.)

	1901. Wheat	Barley	Oats	1902. Wheat	Barley	Oats
January	26 8	25 7	17 4	27 8	26 8	20 1
February	26 5	25 5	17 7			
March	25 10	25 0	17 10			
April	26 3	25 7	18 3			
May	27 6	25 2	19 4			
June	27 7	23 11	19 10			
July	27 4	22 9	19 8			
August	27 4	24 0	18 10			
September	26 1	25 4	17 4			
October	25 10	25 7	17 6			
November	24 9	26 10	18 2			
December	27 4	26 8	19 5			

YEARLY AVERAGES (OFFICIAL.)

	Wheat. s.	d.	Barley. s.	d.	Oats. s.	d.
1890	31	9 per qr.	28	8 per qr.	18	7 per qr.
1891	37	1 ,,	28	2 ,,	20	0 ,,
1892	30	4 ,,	26	2 ,,	19	11 ,,
1893	26	4 ,,	25	6 ,,	18	9 ,,
1894	22	10 ,,	24	6 ,,	17	1 ,,
1895	23	1 ,,	21	11 ,,	14	6 ,,
1896	26	2 ,,	22	11 ,,	14	9 ,,
1897	30	2 ,,	23	6 ,,	16	11 ,,
1898	34	0 ,,	27	2 ,,	18	5 ,,
1899	25	8 ,,	25	7 ,,	17	0 ,,
1900	29	11 ,,	25	9 ,,	17	9 ,,
1901	26	9 ,,	25	3 ,,	18	5 ,,

FLUCTUATIONS IN THE AVERAGE PRICE OF WHEAT.

PRICE.	Jan. 4.	Jan. 11.	Jan. 18.	Jan. 25.	Feb. 1.	Feb. 8.
28s. 8d.	...			...	...	...
28s. 7d		...	...	...	...	...
28s 6d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
28s. 5d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
28s. 4d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
28s. 3d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
28s. 2d.	...	...	...	...	...	
28s. 1d.	...	...	...	...	...	...

ENGLISH WHEAT IN 1 01.

Highest of Year	27s. 7d.
Lowest of Year	25s. 10d.
Gradient	1s. 9d.
Mean of Year	26s. 9d.

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF FINE HOUSEHOLD FLOUR IN PARIS.

(Converted into English money for sacks of 280 lb.)

	1902. s.	d.	1901. s.	d.	1900. s.	d.	1899. s.	d.	1898. s.	d.	1897. s.	d.	1896. s.	d.	1895. s.	d.
Jan.	27	9	24	9	25	2	29	0	38	7	30	5½	25	10	27	9½
Feb.	...		25	9	26	3	28	3	39	4	29	10½	26	2	27	10½
March	...		24	0	27	3	27	6	40	1	28	9	26	0	27	5½
April	...		24	6	26	9	27	6	42	3	28	5	25	6½	26	7
May	...		25	6	26	8	28	0	40	0	28	11½	25	1½	28	0
June	...		26	3	28	6	27	6	35	6	29	3	25	8	28	10
July	...		28	0	26	9	27	3	32	0	31	5½	24	6	27	1
August	...		27	6	26	4	27	0	31	6	36	11	25	1	26	11
Sept.	...		27	6	26	3	25	9	31	0	38	7	27	0	27	0½
Oct.	...		27	6	26	0	24	9	30	6	39	4	27	1½	27	9
Nov.	...		27	9	26	4	24	3	30	3	40	3	29	9	26	8½
Dec.	...		28	3	26	0	24	6	29	0	39	3	29	8	26	3
Yrly. Avrg.	...		27	3	26	6	26	9	35	0	33	5	26	5½	27	4½

IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGES.

1901.	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
Feb. 2	72,527½	26	7	87,205	25	7	21,707½	17	8
,, 9	44,882⅜	26	8	51,608½	25	7	16,241¼	17	7
,, 16	67,350	26	4	63,870⅜	25	4	21,069¼	17	7
,, 23	68,159½	26	1	65,514⅜	25	0	23,418¼	17	7
Mar. 2	68,224	25	11	52,600½	25	0	21,858½	17	9
,, 9	63,714⅜	25	9	51,125⅜	25	4	19,410⅜	17	7
,, 16	55 073⅜	25	9	36,968½	25	1	14,010	17	7
,, 23	53,758½	25	8	27,840½	24	11	13,895½	17	9
,, 30	47,908¼	26	0	20,179½	24	9	12,418⅛	18	0
Apr. 6	42,721⅞	26	3	14,647½	25	3	11,776⅜	18	0
,, 13	32,905	26	5	6,809¼	26	0	5,936⅞	18	1
,, 20	35,737⅜	26	8	6,734⅛	25	7	8,346⅜	18	8
,, 27	46,572	26	8	6,985⅛	25	8	8,300⅜	18	1
May 4	46,616½	26	9	6,417¼	26	4	6,869⅜	19	8
,, 11	47,118⅜	27	3	4,279¼	26	2	7,049	19	1
,, 18	52,875⅛	27	7	2,508	24	2	7,345½	19	4
,, 25	49,822⅛	27	7	1,511⅜	24	1	4,665⅛	19	8
June 1	46,514	27	7	859½	23	8	4,938	19	9
,, 8	42,202	27	6	221½	22	9	4,023½	20	1
,, 15	46,764	27	8	1,404¼	24	0	5,565⅜	19	7
,, 22	29,695	27	6	336⅜	23	2	3,552½	20	3
,, 29	28,191⅜	27	6	692½	25	4	2,803¼	20	0
July 6	19,564½	27	8	140⅜	21	9	1,806⅛	19	10
,, 13	15,231⅜	27	2	49	23	10	1,675½	19	9
,, 20	17,462¾	27	3	88⅜	23	4	2,040½	19	11
,, 27	18,297⅜	27	3	206½	22	1	2,385½	19	4
Aug. 3	18,666½	27	6	250⅜	23	1	3,219½	20	0
,, 10	19,156	27	7	141⅛	22	1	2,143½	19	4
,, 17	22,617½	27	4	220½	27	2	5,982½	18	9
,, 24	37,168⅜	27	3	976⅜	23	7	9,952⅛	18	1
,, 31	61,603⅜	27	0	4,877⅜	24	3	14,654½	17	10
Sept. 7	66,623½	26	5	14,342⅜	25	1	19,075⅜	17	6
,, 14	77,949½	26	2	34,989⅜	24	11	19,909½	17	4
,, 21	80,279½	26	0	70,096⅛	25	5	26,476⅜	17	4
,, 28	80,488	25	10	109,783⅜	25	10	22,567½	17	2
Oct. 5	60,376⅜	25	8	126,592½	26	3	21,631½	17	7
,, 12	63,656½	25	9	172,175⅜	26	5	16,815½	17	6
,, 19	58,772½	25	10	203,591½	26	8	15,506½	17	8
,, 26	52,984⅜	25	11	208,471½	26	10	18,009⅜	17	5
Nov. 2	70,314⅜	26	2	134,277½	26	10	18,350⅜	17	7
,, 9	62,265½	26	6	202,577½	27	0	20,066½	17	8
,, 16	57,884½	26	9	201,723½	26	9	20,122½	18	3
,, 23	63,150⅞	27	1	185,268½	26	10	20,612	18	7
,, 30	60,323⅛	27	1	193,434⅜	26	9	22,419½	18	9
Dec. 7	67,925½	27	1	162,996⅜	26	7	23,990⅜	19	0
,, 14	48,045½	27	2	182,212⅜	25	10	17,125½	17	1
,, 21	60,562⅜	27	7	119,398½	26	8	26,260½	19	8
,, 28	43,718⅜	27	7	81,859½	26	8	16,901⅜	19	10
1902.									
Jan. 4	31,440⅜	27	7	34,777½	26	7	11,621⅜	19	10
,, 11	48,997⅜	27	8	69,120½	26	7	14,995	20	0
,, 18	74,239½	27	8	91,559⅜	26	11	19,733⅜	20	0
,, 25	74,753⅜	27	7	87,594	26	7	25,382½	20	3
Feb. 1	73,381½	27	4	81,468⅜	26	7	25,657	20	2
,, 8	67,470½	27	2	69,291⅜	26	9	25,055½	20	3

TITHE RENT CHARGES.

For 1902	67	3	9
,, 1901	66	10	9
,, 1900	66	15	10
,, 1899	68	2	4
,, 1898	68	14	11
,, 1897	69	17	11
,, 1896	71	9	7

The last time the Tithe was above par was £100 4s. 10d. for 1883.

FOREIGN CORN TRADE.

The shipments of grain from the chief exporting countries last week were as follows :—

	Wheat. Qrs:	Flour. Sks.	Maize. Qrs.	Barley. Qrs.	Oats. Qrs.
United States	366,000	162,000	88,000	—	—
Russia	220,000	—	115,000	49,000	109,000
France	—	5,000	—	—	—
Austria-Hungary	—	5,000	—	—	—
Roumania	89,000	—	110,000	20,000	30,000
Argentina	4,000	—	10,000	—	—
India	39,000	—	—	—	—
Australasia	110,000	—	—	—	—
Miscellaneous	20,000	10,000	20,000	20,000	10,000
Total	848,000	182,000	273,000	89,000	149,000

MANURES.

Liverpool, Friday.—Nitrate of soda has further advanced to £10 6s to £10 10s per ton, the latter for guaranteed best quality, and sulphate of ammonia is in sympathy firmer, but the demand is only rather quiet. Basic slag in active request, but as prompt deliveries are impracticable, more attention is being diverted to superphosphate of lime; prices as annexed. Feeding stuffs are a quiet trade, and values tend slightly in buyers' favour:—Nitrate of Soda, best quality, *i.e.*, guaranteed 95 per cent., pure, in bags, £10 7s 6d to £10 10s per ton; East India Bone Meal, fair to prime, in bags, £4 1s 3d to £4 6s 3d per ton; Kainit, prime 23 per cent., in bags, £2 7s 6d to £2 10s per ton; Palm Nut Cake, prime, in bags, £5 12s 6d per ton; Linseed Cake, American thin oblong, prime, in bags, £7 10s to £7 12s 6d per ton; Linseed Cake, English, prime, in bulk, £8 12s 6d to £8 17s 6d per ton; Linseed Cake, foreign, thin oblong, prime, soft and oily, in bags, £8 5s per ton; Cotton-seed Cake, N.A. decorticated, prime, in bags, £7 2s 6d to £7 5s per ton; Cotton-seed Cake, English decorticated, prime, soft, in bags, £7 10s to £7 12s 6d per ton; Cotton-seed Cake, English, undecorticated, prime, in bulk, £4 12s 6d to £4 17s 6d per ton; Cotton-seed Cake (crushed), 20/25 per cent. oil, prime, in bags, £7 5s per ton; Maize Germ Meal, prime, in bags, £5 2s 6d to £5 5s per ton; Rice Meal, Rangoon, as imported, in bags, £5 10s per ton; Indian Meal, coarse to fine grinding, prime, in bulk, 13s to 13s 6d per 240lb; Linseed, fine bold feeding, in bags, £3 3s to £3 6s per quarter, 416lb; D.N.S. Brand Superphosphate of Lime, guaranteed, 25 to 27 sol., in bags, £2 5s to £2 7s per ton; D.N.S. Brand Superphosphate of Lime, guaranteed, 30 to 31 sol., in bags, £2 10s to £2 12s per ton; Superphosphate of Lime, guaranteed, 35 to 36 sol., in bags, £3 to £3 2s per ton; Basic Slag, prime quality, guaranteed, 30 to 35 per cent. phos., in bags, £1 12s to £1 13s per ton; Basic Slag, prime quality, guaranteed, 35 to 40 per cent. phos., in bags, £1 14s 6d to £1 15s 6d per ton; Basic Slag, finest quality, guaranteed, 38 to 45 per cent. phos., in bags, £1 17s 6d to £1 19s per ton at the producing depots.—H. JONES LANGAR AND CO.

HAY AND STRAW.

Manchester, Wednesday.—Hay, 6½d to 7½d; clover, 6½d to 7½d; straw (wheat), 6d. to 6½d; straw (oat), 5½d to 6d per stone.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—Fair supplies met a quiet sale. Quotations:—Best clover, 95s to 110s; inferior ditto, 80s to 90s; specially picked hay, 115s; good ditto, 108s; inferior ditto, 80s to 90s; mixture and sainfoin, 90s to 100s; and straw, 28s to 40s per load.

THE BALTIC.

Wheat cargoes are held with commendable steadiness in face of the American decline. The London sales show little decline in any sort. They include alifornian at 30s. 3d.; Blue Stem at 29s. 9d.; Walla Walla at 29s. 3d.; Russian Winter at 30s.; Australian at 30s.; Argentine at 30s.; Northern Manitoba at 28s. 4d.; Hard Winter at 29s., and White Kurrachee, 29s. per quarter.

Maize cargoes are dearer for round corn and also for yellow near at hand; but yellow is a trifle easier for May shipment. Prices are:— Roumanian, 23s.; Turkish, 23s. 9d.; Galatz, 23s. 3d.; Caucasian, 22s 6d., and Argentine 23s. per quarter for cargoes on passage; 22s. 3d. for May shipment.

Barley cargoes are steady. Odessa malting, 19s.; Roumanian, 18s. 6d.; Kustendje, 18s. 3d.; Californian, 24s. 9d., and the best Saale, 38s. per quarter.

Oats have made 18s. 3d. for Petersburg; 18s. for Odessa; 20s. 3d. for Konigsberg; 18s. 3d. for Roumanian, and 24s for 384lb. New Zealand. These prices argue a firm market. Beans have fetched 29s. for Egyptian new crop May shipment. Peas are offered for May shipment from India at 25s. These are the green kind.

Other cargo sales comprise—Bombay Linseed at 53s. per quarter; Locust beans at 95s per ton, and Cottonseed at £6 5s. per ton.

The arrivals of grain and seed-laden vessels at ports of call for the week were, 1 maize (Sulina.)

The sailings of grain and seed-laden vessels from ports of call for the week were, 2 wheat (1 Belfast, 1 (Birkenhead); 1 flour (Sligo); 1 barley and wheat (Southampton); 1 maize (Belfast); total, 5.

Since 1st January, 1902, the total arrivals have been 13 wheat, 1 flour, 1 barley and wheat, 3 maize, 1 barley, 1 beans, 1 canaryseed; total, 21.

Last year during the same time the arrivals were 14 wheat, 1 flour, 3 barley and wheat, 5 barley, 2 beans, 4 pease, 2 locust beans, 2 canaryseed, 2 valonica; total, 35.

POTATOES.

Goole, Wednesday.—Plentiful supply here to-day, for which a slow trade was experienced. Prices were practically the same as last week—from 50s to 54s per ton for best. Retail price, 6d per stone.

Spitalfields, Saturday.—Very heavy supplies, and the demand showing no recovery, the market remained dull. Quotations:—Best Lincoln Up-to-Dates, 55s to 65s; Blackland ditto, 40s to 45s; Wisbech ditto, 50s to 55s; Scotch ditto, 60s to 65s; Scotch maincrops (grey soil), 70s; Lincoln maincrops, 80s to 85s; Reading Giants, 45s; and Blackland Gartons, 40s to 45s per ton.

Southampton (Friday).—Prices are as follows: Plate maize, 24s. 6d. ex quay; small Odessa, 23s. 6d. ex ship to arrive; 501b. Russian barley 19s. spot, and commoner quality, 18s. 6d. to arrive; American oats (401bs.), 21s. 6d.; black Libaus, 20s. (381b.), white Konigsbergs, 20s. (381b.), Finns 20s. (381b), black Irish 21s. (381b.), white Dutch 20s. to 20s. 3d. per 304lbs.; buckwheat, 24s.; dari, 24s.; sorghum, 20s.; white peas, 37s.; fine middlings, £5 15s.; bran, £5 10s.; pollard, £5 2s. 6d.; feeding flour, £6; distillers' dried grains, £5 7s. 6d.; maize cones, 21s. 6d. per sack; oat chaff, 65s. per ton; linseed chaff, 80s. per ton; German linseed cakes, £8 5s.; American, £7 17s. 6d.; malt dust, £4 12s. 6d. per ton, all free on rails.

Linseed Cakes.—The colder weather has given a filip to the trade, and there is every appearance of this class of cake advancing in value. Stocks are small, linseed is again dearer, and Riga is closed for the time being through ice. Best Westerns are firm at £7 6s. 3d. ex dock, and Russians in mats are quoted at £7 12s. 6d. to £7 15s.; seedy qualities in bags in good demand at from £17 16s. 3d. to £8 2s. 6d. ex dock. London cakes at to-day figures of oil and seed, show crushers a nasty loss, and prices are again dearer at from £8 5s. to £8 8s. 9d. ex mills. Cotton cakes have eased to the extent of 2s. 6d. per ton, the shipment having been rather large. However, there is a good sale for Egyptians at £4 7s. 6d. to £4 8s. 9d. ex docks, whilst home make command £4 10s. to £4 12s. 6d. ex mills. Decorticated cotton cakes move well into consumption at about previous quotations, £6 11s. 3d. for prime, £6 12s. 6d. for Yayoos and Clintons, and £6 16s. 3d. for Crescents, ex dock. Meal is unaltered on the spot at £6 12s. 6d. ex dock, but Feb.-March shipments would come at £6 10s. free to trucks from ship.

Maize Germ Meal.—American offers only to arrive about the middle of the month at £6 2s. 6d. free to truck and £6 for February mills. Best English yellow sells in its place at £6 ex wharf. Corn cake maintains a steady sale at £6 ex dock. Rice Meal.—A few tons landed in the dock offers at £5 6s. 3d., and £5 ex ship terms is named for a parcel due towards the end of the month.—JOHN BURSTALL AND Co. (Mark Lane).

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

Snow fell rather heavily in Scotland, France, and Spain during the first four days of February, and the weather was cold in most parts of England from the 1st to the 7th. On Saturday morning there was a cold thaw with rain. Wheat is not likely to take any harm from this sort of weather, which, however unpleasant for human beings, must be called seasonable. Russia is experiencing a mild winter, the soft snow is very bad for inland traffic, but the great development of the national railways enables large supplies of grain nowadays to reach the coast, even in mid-winter. Californian rainfall from September 1 to January 31 was only seven inches against an average of twelve. As February to May are the dry months on the Pacific seaboard considerable apprehensions are entertained. The rest of the American union has a hopeful outlook; the winter wheat is now said to be promising over an extended area. The special Friday cable to *Dornbusch's List* states that the maize crop in Argentina has been much benefited by timely rains. This intelligence may be expected to make yellow corn easier for future delivery.

The quantity of barley now on passage is rather above the average.

	Qrs.
Californian	480,000
Asiatic	60,000
Russian	120,000
Roumanian	40,000
Bulgarian	25,000
Total	725,000
A year ago	465,000

The price of English barley is 1s up on the year, but foreign is not dearer on the twelvemonth.

Of oats only a small supply is on passage. The total shipments from Russia 1 Jan.—8 Feb. were only 554,000 qrs., against 756,000 qrs. last year, and America having shipped nothing, the perspective supply is decidedly below the average. There is an excellent demand for seed oats, 24s. being paid for best English, and 30s. for best New Zealand. Stocks in London stand at 570,000 qrs.; or fully 200,000 qrs. more than usual. This keeps the Russian kind from advancing, but some forward movement is anticipated for March.

Beans are rather neglected, but there is very little on passage, and holders are consequently confident. Peas are weaker at Liverpool, but London is, if anything, in sellers' favour. Linseed is rather down on the week. Linseed oil has advanced £1 per ton, and is still rising in value. Rape oil is 5s dearer in sympathy with linseed. Cotton oil is 7s. 6d. dearer for February. A short crop of sesame in India makes that seed dearer to buy.

America during the past week has made British wheat markets take a somewhat downward course. The holders in the States contest a large usable supply, which on the 1st inst. stood at 11,900,000 qrs. There is plenty of corn for manipulation with such a total, and the "bear" movement since February came in has been of a somewhat decided character. London grain arrivals for the month of January are now ascertained to have been as follows:—

	Qrs.
Wheat	140,000
Barley	150,000
Oats	411,000
Maize	251,000
	Sacks.
Flour	323,000

The arrivals of wheat and flour were rather below the average, but those of barley, oats, and maize were heavy. This was the cause of a heavier fall in maize than had been anticipated; oats and barley resisted to the increase of stocks very well. Trade is showing pretty evidently that when both maize and oats are dear the average buyer prefers to have the oats.

Continental prices for wheat, thus compare with value at Mark Lane:—

	London average.	Term market.	Paris.	Berlin.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Jan. 1	28 5	31 3	38 0	37 6
Jan. 8	27 1	31 3	37 6	37 6
Jan. 15	28 2	30 9	37 9	37 3
Jan. 22	27 9	30 9	37 0	37 0
Jan. 29	27 10	30 3	37 3	37 0
Feb. 5	28 0	31 3	37 6	37 0

American prices equal 29s. 3d. per qr. at New York, 25s. at Chicago, 25s. 6d. at Duluth, and 21s. 6d. at San Francisco. The low price accepted for Californian wheat has been the cause of considerable shipments, and quantities of wheat now on passage come out thus:—

	Qrs.
Californian	2,200,000
American	285,000
Argentine	125,000
Russian	45,000
Indian	142,000
Australasian	445,000
Other Countries	10,000
Total	3,252,000

On January 1, 23,500,000 qrs. were on passage. This is a very considerable increase in forty days, and largely is responsible for the present weakness of trade.

The week's sales and imports have been as follows:—

	Qrs.
English wheat	165,000
Foreign wheat	241,000
Foreign flour	93,000
Breadstuffs	499,000
Maize	170,000
Barley	185,000
Oats	94,000

Receipts of breadstuffs and oats were below the mean, those of barley exceeded it. Of maize the supply was probably equal to the reduced inquiry. The stocks of wheat in the United Kingdom on 8th inst. were:—

	Qrs.
British	3,122,000
Foreign	2,932,000
Total	6,054,000

January imports of minor staples into the United Kingdom are thus returned:—Beans 40,000 qrs., peas 41,000 qrs., linseed 136,000 qrs., rapeseed 13,000 qrs., and cottonseed 79,000 tons. The totals are all very moderate, except that of cottonseed, which was large.

Stocks of wheat on 1st February were 392,000 qrs. at Liverpool, 37,000 qrs. at Manchester, 91,000 qrs. at Hull, 16,000 qrs. at Glasgow, 80,000 qrs. at Edinburgh, 78,000 qrs. at Newcastle, 60,000 qrs. at Gloucester, and 124,000 qrs. at Bristol. London holdings are estimated at 225,000 qrs., against 248,988 qrs. on 1st January and 285,000 qrs. on 1st February last year. These figures are not discouraging to Mark Lane.

The average price of English wheat is 9d. up on the twelvemonth; that of Californian is 3d. up on the same period. On the other hand, best flour is 2s. per sack down on the year. Household flour is 2s. 3d. down, and best American is 2s. 6d. down. The flour trade can hardly be in a healthy condition with these prices respectively ruling.

The quantity of maize on passage has fallen to 480,000 qrs., against 660,000 qrs. a year ago. Of the present expectations, 380,000 qrs. all round, 80,000 yellow, and 20,000 flat corn. The price at New York on Saturday was 23s., against 15s. 9d. on 8th February, 1901. London is 4s. dearer on the year for flat corn, but is not dearer for round. Scarcely any yellow maize is on offer in England just now, but there is an increasing business for May shipment of the new crop to be secured in March. Turkish round maize gives satisfaction, and makes 24s. per qr.

LONDON TERM MARKET.

This market is held twice a day, except on Saturday, when there is no afternoon call. The market is open to elected members only. No business except for future delivery is done, and the smallest quantity that can be purchased is 1,000 quarters, or 4,800 centals. The name of the month stands for guaranteed delivery (if required) on or before the last day of that month, and the following have been the prices per cental recently made:—

WHEAT.—Calls.	March.	June.
	s. d.	s. d.
Feb. 3 11 a.m.	6 3	6 4
4 p.m.	6 3	6 4
Feb. 4 11 a.m.	6 2	6 4
4 p.m.	6 2	6 4
Feb. 5 11 a.m.	6 2	6 3
4 p.m.	6 2	6 3
Feb. 6 11 a.m.	6 2	6 3
4 p.m.	6 3	6 3
Feb. 7 11 a.m.	6 3	6 3
4 p.m.	6 3	6 3
Feb. 8 11 a.m.	6 3	6 3
To-day noon	6 4	6 4

Maize is firmer for futures; 4sd 8d. per cental may be quoted.

The Term Market standard wheat is No. 1 Northern Spring American sold on the Duluth certificate. Other sorts of wheat can be bought at the above prices plus or minus agreed difference between the other sort and the standard quality. Quotations are by the "true hundredweight" or cental of 100 lb. We do not give fractions of a penny per cental. The maize quoted is fair average quality from the United States.

The deposit required from members of the Term Market has been fixed at £50 minimum and 1s. per quarter margin on any purchases above 1,000 quarters.

The Term Market (while the "Baltic" is rebuilding) is temporarily situated at the Great Eastern Hotel, No. 190, Bishopsgate Street, ground floor.

THIS DAY'S MARKETS

MARK LANE, MONDAY.

[FIRST REPORT.]

Country wheat was sometimes 6d. dearer to-day, and there was a decided improvement in the inquiry from millers. Where old prices were accepted the small supply to hand went into buyers hands without delay. Foreign wheat was fully as dear as formerly. Californian at 30s. 9d. was locked up. No Walla Walla was on offer. Demand for seed barley was good, and 40s. was paid for the best, whether English, Scotch, Hungarian, or Saale. Common barley for feed was neglected, though a little crushed Russian core was taken at 15s. 6d. per 304 lb. The price of oats was fully 3d. dearer for all kinds. Some White Sea oats fetched 19s. 6d., a good price, per 304 lb. weight. Samples weighing 320 lb. were seldom parted with for less than a guinea, whatever their country or type. Maize was firmer. A small quantity of American fetched 27s., and 25s., was paid for Cinquantina. Tares per feed, from Turkey, were on offer at £4 per ton. Seed oils, maize meal, and fine white cloverseed were scarce, and made somewhat fancy prices.

QUOTATIONS OFF STANDS.

Feb. 10, 1902.

BRITISH GRAIN.

		s.	s.
WHEAT, White (new)	(per 504 lb.)	29	— 32
,, (old)	,,	30	— 33
Red (new)	,,	28	— 30
,, (old)	,,	29	— 30
Chicken or Feed	(per 480 lb.)	26	— 28
BARLEY, Malting	(per 448 lb.)	32	— 40
Brewing	,,	27	— 30
Feeding	(per 400 lb.)	24	— 26
MALT, English	(per 336 lb.)	35	— 41
Scotch	,,	37	— 39
Black	,,	30	— 32
Brown	,,	29	— 32
Crystallized	,,	33	— 35
OATS, English, New Winter	,,	21	— 22
,, ,, Tartary	,,	20	— 21
,, Old Winter	,,	22	— 24
,, ,, Tartary	,,	21	— 22
Scotch	,,	22	— 24
Irish	(per 304 lb.)	19	— 20
RYE, British	(per 420 lb.)	23	— 25
BEANS, Pigeon	,,	26	— 40
Winter	,,	31	— 35
Mazagan	,,	30	— 32
PEAS, Best Marrowfat	(per 504 lb.)	65	— 75
Blue (boiling)	,,	60	— 70
Dun	,,	31	— 32
Maple	,,	36	— 40
TARES, Winter	(per 504 lb.)	50	— 54
Spring	,,	44	— 46

FOREIGN GRAIN.

(Ex-Granary.)

	s.	s.
WHEAT, per 496 lb.		
Old Duluth	32/	—33
Manitoba	31/	—33
American Spring	31/	—32
Red Winter	31/	—32
Hard ,,	30	—31
Kansas	30/	—31
Californian	30/	—31
Walla Walla	—	
Australian	30	— 31
New Zealand	29	— 30
Argentine	—	
Danzig	32	— 33
Saxonka	30	— 31
Azima	30	— 31
Ghirka	29	— 30
Indian	29	— 30
MAIZE, per 480 lb.:		
Russian	22	— 23
Roumanian	22	— 23
Turkish	23	— 24
American	27	—27/6
Argentine	—	
OATS:		
N' Zeal'd (384 lb.)	26	— 32
Swedish (336 lb.)	21	— 23
Canadian (320 lb.)	20	— 21
American (320 lb.)	20	— 21
K'nigsb'g (320 lb.)	20	— 21
Pet'sburg (304 lb.)	19	— 20
L'bau,w'te(304 lb.)	19	— 20
,, black ,,	19	— 20
Vologda (304 lb.)	19	— 20
BEANS, per 480 lb.:		
Egyptian	33	— 34
Smyrna	31	— 32
New Zealand	34	— 36

	s.	s.
LOCUST BEANS, per ton:		
Italian	102	— 104
Cyprian	106	— 112
Portuguese	105	— 107
PEAS, per 504 lb.:		
Canadian, White	37	— 38
Australian, White	41	— 42
New Zeal'd Maple	39	— 41
MILLET, per 416 lb.:		
White	33	— 45
Red	25	— 27
Yellow	22	— 24
DARI, per 480 lb.:		
Smyrna	24	— 25
Persian	21	— 23
RYE, per 480 lb.:		
Russian	24	— 25
BUCKWHEAT, per 416 lb		
French	24	— 25
Russian	24	— 26
TARES, per 504 lb.:		
Konigsberg	44	— 48
BARLEY:		
Saale (448 lb.)	38	— 40
New Zeal'd (448 lb.)	26	— 29
Chilian (448 lb.)	32	— 34
Californian (448 lb.)	26	— 33
French (448 lb.)	27	— 29
Danubian (400 lb.)	20	— 21
Onchak (400 lb.)	24	— 32
Yerli (400 lb.)	21	— 22
Russian (400 lb.)	18	6— 19
MALT, per 336 lb:		
Californian	35	— 36
Smyrna	35	— 39

OIL SEEDS.

LINSEED. per 416 lb.	s.	s.
English	58	to 60
Dutch	57	to 59
Bombay	58	to 60
Calcutta	53	to 55
Russian	56	to 57
Argentine	51	to 53
SESAME. per 424 lb.		
Indian	48	to 50
COTTON SEED per ton.		
Egyptian	128	to 130

RAPESEED. per 416 lb	s.	s.
English	56	to 60
Calcutta	41	to 42
Guzerat	42	to 44
Ferozepore	37	to 39
Jamba	29	to 30
Ravison	28	to 29
POPPYSEED. per 377 lb.		
Indian	46	to 47
SUNFLOWERSEED. per 448 lb.		
Russian	41	to 45

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

By Telephone, 2 p.m.

MAIZE, OATS, AND FEEDING BARLEY CLOSED WITH A SLIGHT ADVANCE MADE. WHEAT AND MALTING BARLEY WERE AS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE Monday

The demand for Norfolk and Cambridgeshire flour was distinctly better from a week ago, and some factors held for 6d per sack rise. But there was a good supply up, and most agents were instructed to effect a clearance at the currencies of the 7th. The price of London makes was well maintained, but not advanced. For "supers" 26s. 9d. was paid. American flour was firm for fine types, but feeding sorts were on offer at fully 1s. decline. This is a complete reversal of January position, when the common types had the call. Minor sorts of flour were in fair demand, 18s. commanding paste flour, 20s. 6d. rye flour, 21s. the best rice cones, and 20s. maize cones. There were buyers of Corbeil's A.A. French flour at 21s. 6d. per sack.

LONDON FLOUR.

		s.	s.
Top Price	(per sack)	—	25
Town Whites	,,	—	28/
,, Households	,,	—	22/
No. 2	,,	—	20/

COUNTRY FLOUR.

Best Patents	(per sack)	23/ — 24
Fine Roller made	,,	21/ — 22
Ordinary Roller made	,,	20/ — 21
Best Stone made	,,	20/ — 21
Ordinary Stone made	,,	19/ — 20

FOREIGN FLOUR.

Minnesota First Patents	(per sack)	23 — 24
,, Second Patents	,,	21 — 22
,, First Bakers'	,,	19 — 20
,, Second Bakers'	,,	18 — 19
Milwaukee Patents	,,	22 — 23
,, Bakers	,,	18 — 19
Kansas Patents	,,	23/ — 24
,, Bakers'	,,	19 — 20
Cascadia	,,	21 — 22
Canadian	,,	22 — 23
Australian Patents	,,	20 — 22
,, Straight	,,	19 — 21
Hungarian	,,	28 — 32
French	,,	20 — 21

MEAL, &c.

Whole Meal	(per ton)	172—174
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	116—120
Bran, London Broad	,,	110—112
,, ,, Fine	,,	90— 94
,, Country Flake	,,	120—122
,, ,, Broad	,,	112—116
Pollard	,,	96—100
Fine Middlings	,,	115—117
Coarse Middlings	,,	103—105
Feeding Flour (Red Dog)	,,	114—118
Barley Meal	,,	124—128
Rye Flour	,,	150—156
Oat Meal	,,	240—300
Oat Flour	,,	340—360
Maize Flour	,,	164—166
Maize Meal	,,	122—126
Maize Cones	,,	172—174
Maize Germ Meal	,,	—
Pea Meal	,,	130—150
Bean Meal	,,	145—165
Rice Meal	,,	100—105

THE BALTIC, 1 p.m.

STATE OF TRADE.

There is not much demand for cargoes of wheat of pulse or of barley, but maize, oats, and oil-seeds are in improved request, and a slight advance in prices sometimes accompanies the increase of enquiry.

BUSINESS DONE.

WHEAT.—Californian, 30s 3d, on passage; Bahia Blanca, 30s 6d, March shipment; Victorian, 29s, on passage; Manitoba, 29s 3d, on passage.

MAIZE.—Roumanian, 23s 6d, on passage; Galatz, 23s 3d, on passage; Bulgarian, 22s 9d, March shipment. Canadian, 23s. March shipment; Argentine 22s 9d, May shipment; Odessa, 22s 6d on passage.

BARLEY.—Azoff 18s 9d, May shipment; Kustendje, 18s 3d, prompt shipment.

OATS.—White Liban, 17s 9d, on passage; Black Liban, 19s 3d, on passage; Roumanian, 18s 3d, March shipment; Swedish, 22s 6d, prompt shipment.

LINSEED.—Argentine, 51s 3d, arrived; Calcutta, 51s, May shipment.

RAPESEED.—Brown Calcutta, 39s 9d, May shipment; Ferozepore, 40s 3d, April shipment.

COTTONSEED.—Egyptian, £6 8s 9d, prompt shipment; Egyptian £6 11s 3d, May shipment.

PROVISIONS

London, Monday.—The arrivals from Ireland last week were 2,159 bales bacon, and from foreign ports 9,061 bales bacon. The bacon market was steady last week, and prices on the whole were a shade better, the lower-priced Canadian having been sold up more closely. Irish ranged from 48s to 56s up to 61s. Danish ranged from 46s to 54s up to 58s. Canadian ranged from 44s to 48s up to 54s. There was a fine all round demand for butters; French from 104s to 114s; Danish from 113s to 116s; Colonials from 80s to 110s. The lard market was quiet. Irish, 53s to 63s; American, 48s, 50s.

HOPS.

Borough, Monday.—W. H. and H. Le May report:—There has been a steady consumptive demand for English hops during the past week, which still remain the best value of any hops in the world.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORTS.

The arrivals of wheat and flower are small. The demand is limited. Prices are fully supported. Maize is 6d. per quarter dearer. Barley and oats 3d. per quarter higher.—COVENTRY.

Milling Offals.—The trade in milling offals is slow, in spite of the cold weather. Prices remain about the same as Monday last. Imported stuff appears to be all cleared off, and London mills are keeping fairly clear.—JOHN BAWCOMB AND CO.

Trade to-day has been quiet but steady, and prices are unchanged on the week.—T. S. MEDILL AND SONS.

Flour.—With expected smaller arrivals, and high prices demanded for shipment, sellers are not pressing, although rather low prices are being accepted for flour on quay. Grain.—Flat corn being in small supply, has improved 3d. per boll. Round is also 3d. dearer. Oats and barley are in buyers favour. Beans are slow and 1½d. lower. Oatmeal unchanged. Mill Stuffs.—Bran and thirds dull.—MCKINNON AND MCDONALD (Glasgow).

Flour.—Notwithstanding firm quotations of flour for shipment, fluctuations in wheat have had a deterring influence on buyers with respect to flour on spot, and while quotations have not been lower, business during the week has been limited, buyers only purchasing for immediate requirements. Values on spot are as follows:—1st spring patents, 24s. 9d. to 25s.; 2nd spring patents, 23s. 9d. to 24s. 3d.; American winter patents, 24s. 9d. to 25s. 3d.; extra fancies, 27s. to 28s 6d. Offals—There is no change to report in bran. The demand is less active than is usually experienced at this period of the year.—GREENHILL BROTHERS (Belfast).

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Monday.—Linseed cake: Market rather dearer on the week, owing to advance in seed and decreasing stocks. Decorticated cotton cake firm, unchanged; meal not so strong. Undecorticated is again lower, supply exceeding demand. Linseed has been advancing almost every day, and is 2s. dearer since the 3rd.

English Linseed Cake	ex mill	8	5	0 to 8	10	0
American Calcutta Linseed Cake	ex quay	7	17	6		
American West ern ,,	ex quay	7	5	0 to 7	10	0
Russian Oil Cake	ex quay	7	12	6 to 7	17	6
Feeding Cake, Samuelson's S.P.F. (10 to 12 per cent. Oil)	ex warehouse					
Compo Cake, Samuelson's S.P.F. (7 to 9 per cent. Oil)	ex warehouse					
Decorticated Cotton Cake	ex quay	6	12	6 to 6	17	6
,, ,, Meal	ex quay	6	10	0 to 6	12	
London-made ,, Cake (best)	ex quay	4	12	6		
Egyptian ,, ,, ,, (in bags)	ex quay	4	8	9 to 4	10	
Burton Desiccated Ale Grains (bags included)	on rail, Burton					
Guinness, Desiccated Porter Grains (bags included)	ex warehouse, London					
Rangoon Rice Meal	ex warehouse					
Dutch Linseed (in bags), per 416 lbs.		2	18	0 to 3	0	0
Russian Linseed in bulk, per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse	2	13	6 to 2	17	6
Calcutta Linseed in bags, per 410 lbs.	ex warehouse	2	16	0		
American Linseed in bulk, per 410 lbs.	ex warehouse					
La Plata do.	per 416 lbs.	2	13	0 to 2	15	0

ROBERT AND JOHN HEWETSON.

SEEDS

London, Monday.—There was an average attendance at to-day's market, but not much business. In red clover there is not much passing. The supply of English seems falling off. White clover is less active, but the late advance is maintained. Attention seems now turned on alsike, which tends upwards. Perennial and Italian ryegrasses are quiet. The demand for spring tares is increasing; winter seems quite cleared off. Canary seed is dull. Haricots and blue peas attract little notice.—JOHN PICARD AND CO.

2 p.m.—There is something like a "boom" in linseed, and closing prices may be regarded as a full 1s above the printed list of quotations.

A New Shire Horse Society for Staffs.—At a largely attended meeting of farmers, breeders, and others, held at Newcastle-under-Lyme on Monday, it was decided to form a Shire Horse Society for the district, and to invite the Duke of Sutherland, who, it was stated, had promised to help in the movement, to become president of the society. It was resolved that the minimum subscription for membership should be 5s., and a radius of 10 or 12 miles of Newcastle was suggested as the most suitable area for the society, though they would not refuse to accept members from outside the area. It was decided to raise a subscription list, and the opinion was expressed that a really good horse should be obtained, even if 400 guineas had to be paid, as the object of the society was the improvement of the breed of shire horses in the district. At the close of the meeting about 50 members joined the society. Mr. E. W. Jones, Newcastle-under-Lyme, was appointed secretary.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

	Monday, British.	February Total.	10th, 1902. Feb 11, 1901.
Beasts	1660	1660	1200
Sheep and Lambs	7650	7650	8440
Calves	10	10	5
Pigs	20	20	40
Milch Cows	50	50	40

Quotations per 8 lb (sinking the offal.)

ENGLISH.

	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Beasts	2 8	4 0	4 9
Sheep	3 4	4 8	5 4
Lambs	5 4	6 0	6 6
Calves	—	—	—
Pigs	2 10	3 8	4 4

Milch Cows, per head, £16 to £23.

British arrivals include, as follows:—Scotland, 57; Eastern Counties, 788; Midland, Home and Western Counties, 657; Devon, 30; Ireland, 128.

In the beast market to-day there was an increase compared with Monday last, chiefly from the Eastern counties. Trade opened dull, both for prime and second quality, the former being scarce. Rates were firm at the commencement, but had to be lowered later, and even then a clearance is doubtful. Fat cows, being in short supply, and fewer in number, made late rates; fat bulls were firm and steady. The following are top quotations per 8lb (sinking the offal):—

	To-day.			Feb. 11, 1901.		
Scotch	4s 7d	to 4s 9d	..	4s 6d	to 4s 8d	
Devon	4s 6d	to 4s 8d	..	4s 7d	to 4s 8d	
Norfolks	4s 6d	to 4s 8d	..	4s 7d	to 4s 8d	
Lincolns	4s 4d	to 4s 6d	..	4s 2d	to 4s 4d	
Irish	4s 2d	to 4s 4d	..	4s 2d	to 4s 4d	
Fat cows	3s 10d	to 4s 0d	..	3s 6d	to 3s 8d	

In the sheep market there was a decrease in the number penned compared with Monday last. For wether sheep trade was firm at late rates. For ewes there were more inquiry, and, being short in number, cleared early at from 2d to 4d per 8lb more money. Lambs met with but little inquiry, and, being rather strong in number, made low rates, many really prime quality making only 6s per 8lb. The supply included 270 Scotch and 5,050 from the Eastern Counties.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8lb (sinking the offal), and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day.			Feb. 11, 1901.		
7½ to 8-st. Downs	5s 2d	to 5s 4d	..	5s 10d	to 6s 0d	
9-st. ditto	5s 0d	to 5s 2d	..	5s 8d	to 5s 10d	
10-st. Half-breds	4s 8d	to 4s 10d	..	5s 6d	to 5s 8d	
12-st. Lincolns	4s 6d	to 4s 8d	..	5s 2d	to 5s 4d	
10-st. Down ewes	4s 2d	to 4s 4d	..	4s 8d	to 4s 10d	
11-st. Half-bred do	3s 10d	to 4s 0d	..	4s 6d	to 4s 8d	
5-st. Lambs	6s 4d	to 6s 6d	..	7s 4d	to 7s 6d	
6st Half-bred do	5s 10d	to 6s 0d	..	6s 10d	to 7s 6d	

The pig trade was very dull at less money; best small breeds were quoted at 4s 4d per 8lb.

London, Monday.—Large supplies; trade slow. Beef carcases, 4s 1d to 4s 2d; hind quarters, 4s 6d to 4s 8d; roastings, 5s 4d to 6s. Sheep (ewe), 2s 8d to 3s; wether, 3s 8d to 4s; hind quarters (ewe), 3s 8d to 4s; wether, 5s to 5s 4d; pigs (large), 3s 4d to 3s 8d; small, 4s to 4s 4d.

St. Ives, Monday.—Beasts, 287; sheep, 296; pigs, 327. Beef, 7s to 7s 9d; mutton, 7s 7d to 9s 4d; pork, 6s 3d to 7s 3d; sows, 5s to 5s 6d. Fat cattle—Fair trade; stores slow. Fat and store sheep fair trade. Fat and store pigs good demand. Milch cows short supply; good demand; prices, £14 to £23.

FOREIGN CATTLE.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts, 683. To-day's supply was below the average both in regard to number and quality, and consisted of 550 from the United States and 133 from Canada. Trade was of a firm, steady nature, with an early clearance at following quotations per 8lb—offal given in:—Best States beasts 4s 9d; seconds, 4s 6d; best Canadians, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; ditto cows, 4s. Sheep, 970, consisting of a shipment from the United States, trade for which was very dull. Best pens were quoted at from 3s 10d to 4s per 8lb. On Saturday, February 8th, the supply consisted of 1,098 beasts, of which 800 were from the States and 298 from Canada; the trade was slow for the former, at from 4s 6d to 4s 9d, and for Canadians at from 4s 2d to 4s 6d. Sheep numbered 1,827 from the United States, and were difficult to cash, quotations being given at from 3s 10d to 4s per 8lb. The following were the numbers on offer on the corresponding day last year, with the current top rates:—Beasts, 866, 4s 5d to 4s 6d per 8lb, to dress about 680 to 720 lb; sheep, 431 slaughtered.

Liverpool, Monday.—A smaller supply of cattle; demand fair and prices about the same as last week. Sheep—Supply much smaller, the greater proportion on market being Scotch; trade better for finished quality at higher prices. Beef, 6½d to 7½d per lb; mutton, 8½d to 9½d per lb. At market—1,287 cattle and 3,603 sheep.

ROSSON'S CATTLE MART, BELFAST, HELD ON 4TH FEBRUARY.

The following returns are those of actual sales made in the markets referred to, the stock being weighed either before or after sale, for the week ending February 8th, 1902

No. of Beasts.	Description and Quality.	Average price per head.	Average Live weight.	Average price per cwt.
		£ s. d.	c. qr. lb.	£ s. d.
1	Bullocks (prime) ...	24 0 0	13 0 0	1 16 11
1	,, ,, ...	16 10 0	9 3 0	1 13 10
2	,, ,, ...	18 15 0	11 0 14	1 13 8
2	,, ,, ...	15 17 6	9 2 7	1 13 2
2	,, ,, ...	19 10 0	11 3 0	1 13 2
2	,, (very good) ...	15 10 0	9 2 10	1 12 4
1	Heifers (prime) ...	13 15 0	8 0 0	1 14 4
1	,, ,, ...	16 10 0	9 2 14	1 14 3
4	,, ,, ...	13 15 0	8 2 0	1 12 4
2	,, (very good ...	12 12 6	7 3 14	1 12 1
2	,, ,, ...	14 0 0	8 3 0	1 12 0
1	,, ,, ...	13 10 0	8 2 0	1 11 9
2	,, ,, ...	16 0 0	10 0 21	1 11 5
1	,, ,, ...	16 0 0	10 1 0	1 11 3
2	,, (good)	12 5 0	8 0 7	1 10 5
1	Cow (very good) ...	15 5 0	10 3 14	1 8 1

Litter.—Dutch peat moss litter, 32s. 6d. per ton ex wharf; free on rails or delivered in London, 35s.; in 4 ton lots ex barge free to Southern rails, 32s.; alongside customer's wharf, 32s.; ex ship Thames, 30s., all per ton nett. English moss litter, 21s. to 23s. 6d. on rail at works. (Mark Lane, Monday.)

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW.

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS.")

Trade in London.

Notwithstanding the rather larger supply of fat beasts at Islington, trade for both prime and second quality was of a firmer and steadier nature both in regard to tone and value, a clearance rather unusual than of late being made, the majority of the supply consisted of Norfolks, which, however, were not up to the general standard of quality; for fat butchering cows there was a rather better demand by both town and country buyers, though the finish was dull; fat bulls were also in good request, and made fully late rates, whilst for rough cattle there was but little inquiry. At the Foreign Cattle Market the supply was light, business being confined to Wednesday and Saturday, trade on both days ruling firm and steady, with a marked upward tendency in value, some of the best beasts on offer making up to 4s. 10d per 8lbs. The total number on offer at both markets was 3,147 (increase 247), consisting of 1,600 British (increase 190) and 1,547 foreign (increase 57); these latter comprised 1,249 from the United States and 298 from Canada. The following were the top rates paid per 8lbs. (sinking the offal):—90-stone polled Aberdeens, 4s. 9d.; 90-stone polled Norfolks, 4s. 8d.; 100-stone Shorthorn, 4s. 7d.; 100-stone Lincolns, 4s. 6d.; 110-stone ditto, 4s. 4d.; 95-stone Irish, 4s. 6d.; 90-stone States, 4s. 8d. to 4s. 10d.; 100 stone fat cows, 4s.; 100-stone fat bulls, 3s. 8d. The sheep trade at Islington ruled dull and dragging, rates ruling in favour of the buyer, this being due to the larger supply, ewes meeting with less demand and sold with difficulty at a reduction of 2d. per 8lbs.; whilst lambs, of which there was too large a proportion on the market, met with forced sales at fully 8d. per 8lbs. less money. At Deptford the supply was larger than usual, and trade was dull and heavy. On neither market days was a clearance made. The total number penned at both markets was 13,977 (increase 2,909), consisting of 10,190 British (increase 1,630), and 3,787 from the United States (increase 1,279); best pens made per 8lbs. as follows (sinking the offal): 7½ to 8 stone Downs, 5s. 4d.; 9-stone ditto, 5s. 2d.; 10-stone ditto, 5s.; 10-stone half-breds, 4s. 10d.; 12-stone Lincolns, 4s. 6d.; 10-stone Down ewes, 4s.; 8-stone States, 4s.; 5-stone fat lambs, 6s. 6d. Neither the calf or pig trade are worth noting.

Trade in the West.

The lambing season still promises to be a record one, unless anything very untoward in the way of weather should be experienced, as such a time for twins can scarce ever before be remembered. And most of those dropped are doing well—remarkably well on many farms—the favourable weather we have enjoyed for so long being a very helpful factor in the matter; in fact, there is a promise of lambs coming out in better condition than has been the case for years. And the ewes, as a rule, are keeping uncommonly well, and many flockmasters are looking hopefully forward to a good season, despite the present discouraging state of the mutton market, as 7d. to 7½d. per lb. is now the very outside price for fat sheep, plenty not making more than 6d. to 6½d. Early lambs—cross-breds—are marketing a trifle better, the present range being from 33s. to 42s. (or 8½d. to 9½d. for anything very choice). Fat bullocks maintain their old firmness, the best class of heifers and steers selling well during the past week from £16 10s. to £22 10s. each (or 10s. 6d. to 11s. 6d. per stone), and fat cows also meet a good inquiry from 10s. to 10s. 6d., according to quality; contract bullocks bringing 9s. to 9s. 6d. The veal trade has opened with unusual buoyancy and with no lack of demand. Ripe calves freely make 8d. to 8½d. per lb., and seconds 6d. to 7d. Pigs, too, have quite recovered from their recent drop, especially all the neater weights in the way of either porkers or baconers, the former realising up to 11s. 6d., and baconers 10s. to 10s. 6d. Heavy sows, though meeting a fair inquiry, are scarcely as saleable as they were, prices, too, varying considerably as regards quality. In store bullocks there is again a good inquiry, milch beasts being very generally wanted at prices ranging from £16 to £21 for all the more useful grades of good milchers. Barreners, though the cold weather caused a temporary lull, are once again being a good deal looked after, really serviceable young bullocks making £20 to £28, but older grades are not quite so free of sale. There is nothing doing just now in store sheep.

Trade in Ireland.

There was a little more animation in both cattle and sheep at last Thursday's Dublin market. A decrease of nearly 500 cattle and 250 sheep had possibly something to say to healthier business, but shippers certainly appeared more anxious to buy. Well-finished lots of bullocks and heifers were scarce, and harder to buy at prices favouring sellers, and rough cattle, which have been such a drug for some time past, were much more easily disposed of, and a clearance practically effected. Prime ox and heifer beef made from 52s. to 56s., with a few extra-finished lots making up to 60s. per cwt.; second quality, 46s. 6d. to 52s. 6d.; and inferior 42s. 6d. to 45s. per cwt.

In the mutton department a decided revival was noticeable in the demand, though it could hardly be said that there was any quotable advance in prices. For nice-aged wethers there was a good steady inquiry at the extreme rates of the previous Thursday, and the best quality of Cheviots paid from 7½d. to 7½d. per lb. Prime wether mutton ruled at from 6½d. to 7d. per lb.; ewe, 6d. to 6½d; and inferior sheep 4½d. to 5d. Hoggets for the English markets dragged rather heavily, export trade being very slow. Small to medium hoggets sold at from 27s. to 40s., and heavy from 42s. to 54s. each. Inferior sheep did not clear. Not much demand for house lambs, but the few sold made an average of 40s. each. Choice veal scarce, and selling readily at from 8d. to 9d. per lb.; coarse calves at from 4½d. per lb. up. A large supply of milch cows, but very few springers of good quality. The latter were at once picked up at prices ranging from £17 to £21. In the absence of supply there was no change to note in store cattle. A small margin of pigs, and business of a dull order, with prices a shade weaker. Local pork butchers had to pay pretty smartly, as very few suitable animals were offered for sale. Nice light pigs made from 44s. to 47s. per cwt.; coarse from 30s. to 38s. per cwt.

In the Southern fares the store cattle trade is still in a very unsettled state, but there is a good inquiry for forward bullocks and heifers, which sell well. Good calves also rule high. From 52s. to 54s. per cwt. is about the current price for good fed, with perhaps 2s. per cwt. more for prime cattle. Good mutton is worth from 7d to 8d per lb.

LONDON.

Islington, Thursday.—Supplies were fairly good, but the bulk comprised fat bulls and rough cattle. The demand was of a steady nature, and a fair business transpired at late rates. Fat bulls, 3s 4d to 3s 8d. Sheep arrivals were on a very small scale, and with next to no demand trade proved quite nominal. Calf trade and supply nominal. Pigs steady. Neat small porkers, 4s 8d to 4s 10d per 8lbs to sink the offal.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—There was a stronger tone about the trade in beef, and best steers and heifers made fully 12s 6d per score. Mutton too, was a little dearer, but the best small Down wethers did not exceed 5s 4d per 8lb. Veal remained unchanged, and pork sold well.

Basingstoke, Wednesday.—At Raynbird and Sons' saleyard there was a fair attendance of buyers to meet a supply of 43 fat beasts, 44 calves, 416 fat sheep and lambs, 167 pigs, and 51 head of dairy and store cattle, for which the following prices were realised:—The show of fat beasts included some prime Devons from Major-General Holley, Mr. R. May, and Mr. W. Bowden; shorthorns from Sir R. Rycroft, and Kerrys from the Grange Estate. Pure Devon beasts reached £21 5s; ditto cows, £18 10s; two-year-old shorthorn steers up to £20; prime shorthorn bulls from General Holley made £22 10s; Mr. J. T. Best, £18; Mr. C. Tone, £17. A satisfactory clearance was made, prime quality beasts selling readily at late rates, and good bulls and cows making more money. Fat calves, 80s to £5 5s; small, 25s to 60s; fat hogs up to £5 12s; fat porkers, 48s to 64s; smaller, 28s to 42s; store pigs, 10s to 23s 6d; dairy cows, £8 to £21 5s; prime quality fat sheep and lambs realised from 44s to 56s; twelve-months-old ditto, 35s to 49s; fat ewes, 31s to 48s 6d; fat sucking lambs, 31s to 39s. A rather short supply of fat sheep and lambs met an improved demand and prices ruled slightly higher all round. Fat wethers from Mr. T. Bishop were sold at 56s. A consignment of Dorset sucking lambs from W. Barrow Simonds, Esq., made up to 39s. A ready clearance was made of the short supply of dairy cows on offer with high prices; store cattle met with little inquiry; fat calves realised more money Fat hogs and porkers were on demand at a slight advance upon last week's figures; store pigs still keep up their value. Ruling values:—Prime Devon beasts, 6¾d to 7½d; ditto shorthorn ditto, 6d to 6½d: bulls, cows, and inferior beasts, 5d to 6d per lb. Best quality fat sheep, 7d to 8d; second ditto, 6d to 7d; fat sucking lambs up to 10d per lb; old ewes, rams, and inf rior sheep, 5d to 6d per lb. Fat calves, 6d to 8d per lb. Fat hogs up to 10s 6d, and porkers to 11s 6d per score.

Boston, Wednesday.—Stores were a quiet trade. Calves in fair demand. Beef ruled firm, with plenty of customers. In the sheep pens there was a reasonably good show of hogs, with a quiet trade except for the best. Store beasts averaged £14 to £16, in-calvers £18 to £20, heifers £15 to £17, and calves 50s to 60s each. Best beef realised 8s, and cow 7s to 7s 6d per stone. Store hogs 34s to 38s each. Choice heavy mutton 7½d and 8d, heavy 7d and 7½d, and ewe mutton a poor trade at 5½d per lb.

Braintree, Wednesday.—Messrs. Balls report at their Braintree Cattle Auction Mart trade for beef better than last week, for mutton about the same; pork good. Sheep were in shorter supply than usual. Good hoggets sold well, and in demand. Prices: Beef, 4s 8d to 5s 2d; mutton, 4s 8d to 5s per stone, 8lb; pork, 11s to 12s per score. Numbers penned: Beasts 36, fat sheep 120, hogs 50, milking cows 7, calves 17.

Bristol, Thursday.—Large supply of beef to-day, chiefly of middling quality. Trade steady for best animals, which realised 60s to 62s per cwt.; secondary qualities made 56s. Short supply of sheep, light wethers fetching 7½d to 7¾d per lb. Ewes, 5½ to 6d. Pigs were plentiful, baconers making 9s 6d per score; porkers, 10s 6d to 10s 9d. Restricted inquiry for store cattle.

Bury, Wednesday.—At Messrs. Simpson and Son's Auction Mart there was a good average show of fat beasts, which met a brisk trade at fully late rates, prices reaching up to £26 10s. Several lots of store beasts sold well at late rates. Large supply of fat sheep, which met a slow trade at rather lower rates than last week, in sympathy with London and other markets. Rather more fat ewes penned. Several lots of keeping hoggets met a rather better demand. Mr. H. E. Jobling's half-breds reaching up to 35s 6d; 200 good black-faced ewes in lamb made up to 50s. Shorter supply of fat pigs, which met a sharp trade. Several fat sows made from £8 10s to £6 10s per head. Short supply of store pigs and London jointers.

Calne, Friday.—Present prices for prime pigs, in lots of not less than 10, on rail within 100 miles of Calne.

Prime Stores.	Thickness of fat in any part of the Back.	Price per Sc. s. d.
6 sc. 10 lbs. to 9 sc. 10 lbs.	2½ in. and under ...	9 6
Under 10 sc.	Not exceeding 2½ in. ...	9 0
Under 11 sc. 10 lb. ...	Not exceeding 2¾ in. ...	8 6
Under 12 sc.	Not exceeding 3 in. ...	

—C. & T. Harris & Co., Ld.

Cambridge, Monday.—Beasts, 263, 7s to 8s 3d; sheep, 538, 3s 10d to 5s; pigs, 483, 6s 6d to 7s 6d; horses, 14. A few store beasts shown, and nearly all sold. Fat beasts a good number; trade better. Fat sheep a fair show; trade slow. Stores a poor trade. Fat pigs a good, brisk trade at more money. Stores not so good as last week. Hay and roots short supply. Straw a fair supply; trade good.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Some very useful teg sheep fetched from 28s 6d to 34s 6d; two-year-olds in good condition, from 38s to 42s per head. A few young cattle were offered, but there was little inquiry.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Notwithstanding a considerable depth of snow on the ground, a fair number of Irish store cattle were offered on the Sands. There were few buyers in attendance, and trade was dull. Stripping cows were quoted at £12 10s and £13; small heifers, £6 10s; and the best class of heifers up to £15.

Chichester, Wednesday.—Fair supply of fat stock, of which beef was in demand at rather better prices. Mutton trade dull. The supply of store sheep was not so large as usual, and though all were not sold, the tendency in prices was somewhat improved. There was a very fair business in the pig department, and a clearance was effected, though porkers were a trifle cheaper than of late. The stock in market was as follows:—Cattle, 475; sheep, 2,484; pigs, 481; calves, 81; horses, 29; total 3,550. Tolls taken, £22 10s 1d.

Dorchester, Wednesday.—If anything, there were rather more extensive supplies to-day, but the demand being brisk for most things. Good fat bullocks met a ready sale at about 10s 6d to 11s per score for the best. Fat calves sold freely at 7½d per lb.

Dublin, Thursday.—Numbers in market:—Beasts, 2,230; decrease, 475. Sheep, 4420; decrease, 259. Calves, 43; increase, 13. Brisker trade all round for cattle, particularly for choice, well-finished bullocks, which were the turn dearer. Rough sorts easier sold. More animation apparent in the sheep market, but no alteration from late quotations. Cattle, live weight (best), 32s to 35s per cwt. Other sorts, 27s to 31s per cwt. Mutton, dead weight, 6d to 7¼d per lb.—GANLY, SONS AND CO.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Bullocks and cows, 1,016; calves, 79; sheep and lambs, 742; pigs (fat and sows), 60; sucking pigs, 74; pigs (stores, not more than ten), 155; pigs (store, more than ten), 68; horses, 154; colts, 32. Prices of stock—Candlemas Fair:—Prices in Cattle Market—Best beef, 6d to 7d per lb; wether sheep, 5½d to 8d per lb; ewes, 5½d to 6d per lb.; veal, 7½d per lb.; lamb, 9d per lb.; pork, 5½d to 6d per lb.; bacon, 4d to 5d per lb.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons report an average number of fat cattle penned and a good attendance of local and distant buyers. Trade was brisk, and prices showed an upward tendency, in some cases touching 9s per stone. Fat cows and bulls were in good demand, mostly being purchased for the Midlands. The fat sheep pens were well filled, but good qualities were scarce. There was not much alteration in values, but when any was observable it was in favour of buyers. A good entry of calves for weaning; trade was slow and prices lower. Fat calves sold freely up to £6 5s. Fat swine were short, and met a very brisk demand at higher prices. Fat sows dear up to about £8 per head. Store swine in strong demand from 22s 3d to 33s 6d. A few lots of grazing cattle offered, all of which changed hands. Cows and heifers were not numerous, and were in demand up to £17 10s. Numbers at sales and market:—Beasts, 386; calves, 41; sheep, 1,746; swine, 1,397; horses, 42.

Leicester, Wednesday.—Very full consignments of Norfolk and Lincolnshire-fed bullocks, but a good proportion of the lots were of a secondary character. Buyers and dealers were well represented, and trade ruled active for choice qualities at 10s per head advance; secondary and inferior sorts very dragging, a good many lots being left unsold. Choice bullocks made 6½d to 6¾d, secondary qualities 6d to 6¼d, cows 5d to 6d, and heifers 6¼d to 6¾d per lb. Sheep were a large supply, and sold rather slowly at easier rates, choice qualities making 7¼d to 7¾d, large sheep 6¾d to 7d, and ewes 5¾d to 6d per lb. Calves a better trade at 8d to 8½d per lb.

Newport, Wednesday.—Good supply all round and with a large attendance of buyers a clearance was effected. Last week's prices were fully maintained. Quotations:—Best beef 6¼d to 6¾d per lb, secondary quality 6d to 6¼d, cows 5¼d to 5¾d; mutton, best wether 7¼d to 7¾d, ewes 6d to 6¼d; veal, 8d to 8¼d per lb; pigs, porkers 10s 6d to 11s per score, baconers 9s to 9s 6d. Good auction sales were reported.

Norwich, Saturday.—The supply of store beasts here to-day was about an average and quite equal to the demand; in the business done prices showed scarcely any change. Fat beasts, which were offered to a fair extent, were firm at 7s 6d to 8s per 14lb. Store sheep were in fair supply; trade ruled dull, hoggetts making 25s to 35s per head. Fat sheep, of which there was a pretty good number on offer, were quoted at 7s 6d to 8s and 8s 3d per 14lb. There was a slight fall of snow in Norfolk to-day, but it afterwards became showery, so that, upon the whole, the weather may be said to have continued open in the county.

Romford, Wednesday.—Short supply of fat beasts, and trade a little better. Best animals, 4s 6d to 4s 8d; middlings, 4s 2d to 4s 4d per stone. Short supply of calves; trade dear; 5s 8d to 6s per stone. Average supply of sheep; trade a little slower. Best sheep, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; middlings, 5s to 5s 2d per stone. No store beasts on offer. Pig market closed.

Salford, Tuesday.—The supply of cattle was larger than last Tuesday. There was a better demand, and sales were more readily made, but prices remained unchanged. The supply of sheep was also larger. Trade ruled slow, and prices were in favour of the buyer. A large show of calves, and a slower trade than last week at late prices. Quotations:—Cattle, 4½d to 6½d; sheep, 6d to 8d; calves, 5d to 8d per lb. At market: Cattle 3,056, sheep 9,143, calves 178, pigs 45.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Milch beasts in small supply. Quiet trade passing. Quotations:—Best lots, £18 to £20; secondary sorts, £15 10s. to £17 10s.

Spalding, Tuesday.—A rather small show of beef, which realised 7s 6d to 7s 9d per stone, there being a good attendance of buyers. Some improvement in the store trade, good animals selling readily at improved prices. In the sheep market there was little alteration in the mutton trade, which fetched 6½d to 7¼d per lb.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday.—Best beef and mutton made good prices, with a slower trade generally. Store cattle fairly firm. Quotations:—Beef, 5½d to 6½d; mutton, 6½d to 7½d, and veal, 6d to 7d per lb; porket pigs, 9s 6d to 10s; and bacons, 9s to 9s 6d per score. Cows with calves up to £23 5s. Number offered:—785 cattle; 43 cows with calves; 562 sheep; 67 calves (49 fat); 124 porket, and 444 store pigs.—B. R. CROXTON, Markets Inspector.

Thame, Tuesday.—Supply of stock was not equal to the demand, buyers being in strong attendance, and prices all round had an upward tendency. Beef maintains its price of about 5s per stone, and mutton was a much better trade. Mr. Bond's sale comprised 68 fat beasts, 88 fat sheep, 51 fat and weaning calves, and 122 fat and store pigs. Fat bullocks made £17 to £21 2s 6d; fat heifers, £14 to £22 15s; fat tegs, 44s to 52s; fat ewes, 51s to 63s 6d; fat wethers, 47s to 53s; fat calves, £4 to £6 5s; cow calves, 24s to 56s; bull calves, 21s to 45s; fat pigs, 10s per score. Stores dear.

Wakefield, Wednesday.—The market was similar to last week, although dealers in beasts got rather more money. Best beef 6¾d, secondary sorts 5d to 6½d; young sheep 7½d to 7¾d, other sorts 5d to 7½d. Nmbers of beasts 1,253, sheep 3,327.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Beasts and sheep a fair supply; trade moderate. Calves: Small number offered; good demand. Beef, 5d to 6¾d per lb; mutton, 6½d to 8½d per lb; veal, 7d to 8½d per lb; pigs, bacons 10s to 10s 6d per score, porkets 10s 6d to 11s per score, sows 8s to 8s 4d per score.

Worcester, Saturday.—Supplies small, and prices showed very little change. Slow trade for beef, and mutton at about late rates. Pork pigs in demand, and values rather firmer.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Very fair supply, and good attendance, and a decidedly better tone in the market, beasts being up quite £1 per head. Best quality beef made 7s 3d to 7s 9d, secondary 6s 9d to 7s per stone, best wether mutton 6½d to 7d, ewes and other sorts 5d to 6d per lb.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Wednesday.—At to-day's market, 449 United States beasts were offered, against nil on Wednesday last, and experienced a sharp clearance at 4s 6d to 4s 9d. 1,050 Canadian sheep and lambs met a good demand at 4s and 4s 4d per 81b, to sink the offal respectively.

Yorkhill, Monday.—At the sale of Canadian cattle held here to-day 306 animals, landed by the "Orcadian," from Portland (Me.), were offered, and all sold. Taken all round they were up to the average as regards quality, and all were presented in good condition, they having been in the sheds for the last few days. There was the usual attendance of buyers; trade was of a firmer character than that ruling last week, the demand for all classes being good throughout. Small, neat, well-fed beasts secured the best inquiry, and changed hands smartly at good prices. The deadweight quotations may be given as follow:—Bullocks, best quality, medium weight, 58s, and for really choice up to 60s per cwt; heavy prime, 56s; secondary and heavier, down to 54s; heifers, 54s to 56s; bulls, best class, to 50s; secondary and heavier, 46s to 48s.

POULTRY AND PROVISIONS.

Smithfield, Saturday.—Supplies plentiful, only small sales resulted. Quotations:—Fowls: Yorkshire, 3s to 3s 6d; Essex, 3s to 3s 3d; Boston, 2s 9d to 3s; Surrey, 3s 6d to 4s 6d; Sussex, 3s to 3s 9d; Welsh, 1s 9d to 2s 6d; Irish, 1s 9d to 2s 3d; Irish ducks, 1s 9d to 2s; turkeys (cocks), 6s to 7s 6d; ditto (hens), 4s 9d to 6s; geese, 5s to 7s; country ducks, 3s to 4s; Bordeaux pigeons, 10d to 1s; feathered ditto, 9d to 11d; wild rabbits, 9d to 11d; tame ditto, 1s to 1s 4d each; Australian, 8s to 10s 6d per dozen; pheasants, 4s to 4s 6d; young partridges, 3s; old, 1s 6d per brace; hares, 2s 6d to 3s; leverets, 1s 6d to 2s; wild ducks, 1s 6d to 2s 1d; widgeon, 1s to 1s 3d; pintail, 1s 2d to 1s 4d; teal, 1s to 1s 3d; woodcock, 2s to 2s 6d; snipe, 8d to 1s; golden plover, 9d to 11d; black ditto, 6d to 8d. Russian game: Capercailzie (cocks), 2s 6d to 2s 9d; hens, 1s 6d to 1s 9d; ptarmigan, 1s; black game, 1s to 1s 2d; partridges, 1s 1d to 1s 3d each.

HOPS.

Worcester, Saturday.—There has been little doing in hops on our market during the past week; the recent demand has toned down and business is quiet again. Any choice lots offered find a ready sale, but they are very scarce. Prices keep very firm at the recent advance.—PIERCY AND CO.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Trade healthy and a fair number of sales recorded. The demand is more especially for grades, selling at from 35s to 45s per cwt.

WOOL.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Trade disappointing; 5½d per lb now the top price for fleeces, and 4d for lamb wool.

London, Wednesday.—The first series of London sales of Colonial wool, which commenced on the 21st ult., closed to-day, the total catalogued having been 183,718 bales, against 261,759 bales in the corresponding series of last year. The net total available amounted to 192,000, of these 177,000 bales have been sold, 92,000 bales for home consumption, 77,000 bales to the Continent, and 8,000 bales to America, leaving 15,000 bales to be carried forward to next series. The result of these sales is for Australian merino wool a rise of 5 per cent. upon the closing rates of last series. This is an average figure; for the best classes of grease and for scoured clothing wools of fine quality the improvement was sometimes greater, on heavy and faulty lots occasionally less. American competition supported superior Geelong wools to some extent, as it did also, among cross-breds, both the best Port Philip and low long New Zealand wools. Fine cross-breds were about 5 per cent. dearer than in December, but in medium and coarse classes the rise was quite 10 per cent. Capes were 5 per cent. higher, with the exception of the best snow-whites, which sold on a par with December. The sales were well attended, and witnessed throughout strong competition from all quarters. They close with a good tone, leaving the market fairly clear of old stocks.—HELMUTH SCHWARTZE AND CO.

London, Friday.—English, per pk. of 240lb.—Fleeces S. Dn. Hggs., £7 to £8 10s; half-bred hoggs, £6 to £6 10s; half-bred wethers, £5 to £6; Kent fleeces, £5 to £6; South Down ewes and wethers, £7 to £8 10s; Leicester do., £5 to £5 10s; Colonial, per lb.—Vic.—Fleece super., 1s 5d to 1s 7d; scoured good, 1s 7½d to 1s 8½d; scoured average, 1s 6d to 1s 7d; greasy avr. to fair, 10½d to 11½d; N.S.W., scd. avr., 1s 3½d to 1s 4d; greasy average, 8d to 9d; S. Aus., gray avr., 6½d to 7d; N.Z.—Scoured avr., 1s 4d to 1s 5d; grease average, 8d to 9d; Cape scred sup., 1s 5d to 1s 6d; fleece average, 7d to 7½d; greasy average, 5½d to 6½d; Natal—Scourd, 1s to 1s 1d; greasy average, 6½d to 7d; crossbreds—Grs.—Vic. good to supr., 10½d to 11½d; New Zealand fine, 8d to 9d; New Zealand medium, 4½d to 5½d; New Zealand coarse, 4d to 4½d.

BUTTER.

Tuesday.—Bedale: In rolls of 24oz, 1s 11d to 2s 1d per roll. Gainsborough: 1s 3d per lb. Leeds: York lump, 15s to 15s 6d per stone; do long rolls, 1½lb, 1s 10d to 2s; fresh, in 1lb prints, 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Danish: 112s to 116s per 112lb. Irish creameries, 98s to 104s. Colonial: 100s to 106s. Stone: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Settle: 1s 2d, to 1s 3d per lb: Spalding: 1s per lb.

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Boston: 11d to 1s 2d per lb. Colne: 1s 2½d per lb. Goole: 1s 2d per lb. Hereford: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Keighley: (wholesale) 1s 2d per lb; (retail) 1s 3d per lb. Kirbymoorside: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Knaresborough: 1s 10d to 2s per roll of 24oz. Louth: (wholesale) 1s per lb. Market Drayton: best, 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Market Weighton: 1s per lb. Northallerton: 1s 10d to 2s 2d per 24oz. Stockton: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Worksop: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Uttoxeter: 1s 3d to 1s 5d per lb.

Thursday.—Brigg: 1s to 1s 2d per lb. Driffield: 1s per lb. Kidderminster: 1s 3d per lb. Penistone: 1s 2d per lb. Ripon: 2s to 2s 2d per single roll of 24oz. Scarborough: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Wellington: 1s 3d to 1s 5d per lb.

Friday.—Easingwold: 1s to 1s 1d per lb. Grimsby: Danish, 113s to 115s per 112lb; Dutch, 106s to 112s; Canadian, 100s to 104s. Helmsley: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Leeds: Danish, 114s to 118s per 112lb; Irish creameries, 100s to 108s; Colonial, 104s to 112s; York lump, 15s to 15s 6d per stone; ditto long rolls, 1½lb, 1s 10d to 2s; fresh butter in 1lb prints, 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Leyburn: 2s per roll of 26oz. Lincoln: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Otley: 1s 10d to 2s per roll of 24oz.

Saturday.—Appleby: 1s 2d to 1s 4d per lb. Berwick: 1s per lb. Carlisle: 1s 5d per lb. Doncaster: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Grantham: 1s 1d to 1s 3d per lb. Howden: 1s 2d per lb. Lancaster: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Malton: 1s 3d per lb. Pontefract: 1s 3d per lb. Retford: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Richmond: 1s 6d per lb. Skipton: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Stokesley: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Whitby: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. York: 1s 2d to 1s 4d per lb.

EGGS.

Tuesday.—Bedale: 10 for 1s. Gainsborough: 10 for 1s. Leeds: Yorkshire, 14s 6d to 15s 6d per 120; Irish, 10s to 13s; Danish 8s 6d to 10s; Austrian blues, 7s to 7s 6d; do reds, 6s to 6s 4d. Stone: 11 to 12 for 1s. Settle: 11 or 12 for 1s. Spalding: 11 or 12 for 1s.

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 8 for 1s. Boston: 10 or 11 for 1s. Colne: 2s 7d per score. Goole: 12 for 1s. Hereford: 10 to 12 for 1s. Keighley: (wholesale) 10 for 1s. Kirbymoorside: 11 to 12 for 1s. Knaresborough: 9 or 10 for 1s. Louth: 14 for 1s. Market Drayton: 10 to 11 for 1s. Market Weighton: 12 for 1s. Northallerton: 9 to 10 for 1s. Stockton: 8 or 9 for 1s. Uttoxeter: 1s 10 per score. Worksop: 1s 8d per score.

Thursday.—Brigg: 11 to 12 for 1s. Driffield: 11 or 12 for 1s. Kidderminster: 10 per 1s. Penistone: 9 for 1s. Ripon: 9 to 11 for 1s. Scarborough: 8 or 9 for 1s. Wellington: 12 to 13 per 1s.

Friday.—Easingwold: 11 to 13 for 1s. Grimsby: Austrian, 6s 5d to 7s 9d per 120; Styrian, 6s 6d to 8s 11d; Egyptian, 4s 9d; preserved, 6s 1d to 8s 6d. Helmsley: 11 for 1s. Leeds: Yorkshire, 15s to 16s per 120; Irish, 10s 6d to 13s; Danish, 8s 6d to 10s; Austrian blues, 7s to 7s 6d; ditto reds, 5s 8d to 6s 2d. Leyburn: 11 for 1s. Lincoln: 10 or 11 for 1s. Otley: 9 or 10 for 1s.

Saturday.—Appleby: 11 to 12 for 1s. Berwick: 1s per dozen. Carlisle: 8 for 1s. Doncaster: 10 and 11 for 1s. Grantham: 10 to 12 for 1s. Howden: 11 for 1s. Lancaster: 8 or 9 for 1s. Malton: 10 to 12 for 1s. Pontefract: 8 for 1s. Retford: 1s 8d to 1s 10d per score. Richmond: 9 or 10 for 1s. Skipton: 9 or 10 for 1s. Stokesley: 9 or 10 for 1s. Whitby: 10 and 11 for 1s. York: 9 for 1s.

CHEESE.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—The arrivals of cheese in the Glasgow market this week were smaller than usual. There was a fair demand for Dunlops at firmer prices. Cheddars met a quiet sale; they are now accumulating. Cheddars and Dunlops were quoted from 50s to 58s per cwt. New Zealand and Canadian parcels were in moderate request at late values.

Newport, Wednesday.—Quotations:—Caerphillies: 63s to 68s; fancy dairies, 70s to 78s. Derbys: 66s to —s; doubles, —s to —s; truckles, 63s to 68s. Cheddars: 63s to 65s. There was a short supply and a good inquiry for best quality cheese.

Nantwich, Thursday.—There was a pitch of 22 tons of cheese. The market was sharp, superior qualities being in demand, and prices were slightly better than those realised at corresponding fair last year. Best lots fetched from 66s to 74s per cwt; medium made prices down to 60s. There was no common cheese in the fair.

SEEDS.

London, Monday.—Messrs. John Shaw and Sons, seed merchants, of Great Maze Pond, Borough, London, S.E., report a steady inquiry for grass and clover seeds, etc. The most interesting article for the moment is alsyke, of which the supply is moderate, with prices favouring holders. Trefoil and white clover seed are unchanged in value. As regard red seed, inferior qualities come cheaper, and are hard to sell, but choice samples find buyers at about late figures. For perennial ryegrasses the market keeps strong, and high rates are demanded for lucerne and timothy. Spring tares continue in good request on fully former terms, whilst there is an eager inquiry for winter vetches. Mustard, rape, and linseed move off slowly at last week's currencies. Canary seed is dull; other kinds of bird seeds showing no alteration. For peas and haricots the sale is still disappointing.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—Supplies of vegetables were fair, and met a generally steady sale. Fruit, in fairly good supply, met with fair request. Cabbages, 5s to 6s; cauliflowers, 6s to 10s per tally; beetroots 1s 9d to 2s 3d per bushel; parsnips, 3s to 3s 6d per bag; carrots, 2s; turnips, 2s to 2s 6d; parsley, 2s to 2s 6d; leeks, 1s 6d to 2s 3d per dozen bunches; horseradish, 1s to 1s 6d per bundle; celery, 10s to 14s per dozen rolls; forced rhubarb, 1s to 1s 3d per dozen bundles; English onions, 6s to 7s per cwt; Valencia, 7s 6d per case; Dutch, 5s per bag. Potatoes, 40s to 85s per ton. English apples, 3s 6d to 12s 6d per bushel; Nova Scotian, 18s to 24s per barrel; Californian, 7s 6d to 10s per case; English grapes, 1s 6d to 2s 9d; Channel Islands, 1s to 1s 6d per lb; Almeria, 18s to 24s per barrel; Denia oranges, 10s to 20s; Valencia, 8s to 12s 6d; Jaffa, 10s to 12s per case; bananas, 7s to 10s per bunch; pineapples, 2s 6d to 6s each; Italian chestnuts, 12s to 15s per bag; lemons, 8s to 18s per case.

COLONIAL DAIRY PRODUCE.

London, Friday.—Australian and New Zealand butters are meeting an improved demand, owing to the lessening arrivals. In secondary grades there is an excellent demand, as this class of goods is very short in supply. Strictly "choicest" brands are making 110s per cwt, and others are fetching 106s to 108s. "Finest" grade is making 102s to 104s per cwt. The Copenhagen Committee has again raised the official quotation by another 2 kroner, and it now stands at 96 kroner, against 103 kroner last year at this date. Although the Danish imports are about 2,000 cwts per week more than last year, the Australian imports are about 6,000 cwts less, and there is a general feeling that a shortage of "choicest" butter is at hand, and high prices for the next two months are expected. "Choicest" Canadian cheese, both coloured and white, are being held for 51s to 52s per cwt. The demand is an improvement on last week, and is specially strong in underpriced goods at about 46s, of which the quantity is limited. The stocks of Canadian cheese in London are 78,000, against 142,000 last year at this time. The "Tongariro" brought about 2,692 crates of New Zealand cheese, which is selling at the same prices as last week.—W. WEDDEL AND CO.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Hull, Tuesday.—Linseed: The arrivals are 1,615 qrs from Bombay, 1,365 qrs Hamburg, 250 qrs Labau; total, 3,230 qrs. Steady. River Plate—Theft rst boat has made 50s 3d, and "Holgate" has been sold at 49s 6d full terms; Dec.-Jan. and Jan.-Feb. sellers 48s 9d; Calcutta, 49s 6d April-June. Cottonseed: The market has continued inactive, and rather les smoney accepted on spot which done last week at £6 3s 9d and £6 5s coupled, but latter price since paid, with sellers at it to-day. Small sales January B-L reported at £6 5s to £6 6s 3d, and a little Feb.-March changed hands at £6 8s 9d to £6 7s 6d. To-day there is more disposition to sell in all positions. Oils: Exports for the week ending 28th January, 1902:—Linseed oil: 27 India, 9 Norway; total, 36 tons. Cotton oil: 90 Austria, 83 Belgium, 22 Denmark, 61 France, 149 Germany, 110 Holland, 4 Italy, 3 Norway, 6 Sweden; total, 528 tons. The market is firm. Linseed oil: 28s 6d spot; 28s 1½d Feb.-April; 28s 1½d May-August. Cotton oil: 22s spot; 22s 3d Feb.-April; 22s 9d May-August. Crude: 21s 7½d spot; 21s 9d Feb.-April; 21s 4½d May-August. Rape oil: Jamba naked, 24s spot; first quality naked, 24s 6d spot. Oil seed cakes: Linseed cakes—Scarce and dearer, pending arrivals of Plate seed later in the month. Cotton cakes—Deliveries on contracts very large, but fresh sales poor. In market steady, at 2s 6d per ton decline.—KEIGHLEY, MAXSTED, AND CO.

London, Thursday.—Linseed has met with a very good demand, and prices are dearer in all positons. We quote spot Calcutta-London 56s, passage 54s 6d to 53s 6d, February 53s, March 52s, April 51s 3d, April-June 50s 9d. La Plata spot 52s 3d, afloat 50s 3d, Jan.-Feb. 50s. Hull firm. Calcutta, April-June, 51s 6d. La Plata, afloat, 50s 9d to 50s, ascording to position, Jan.-Feb. 50s. To the Continent, Bombay, Feb.-March 53s, April-May 52s. Calcutta afloat 54s, April-June 51s. La Plata shipping or shipped 49s 6d, Jan.-Feb. 49s 6d. Linseed oil.—A further considerable advance has taken place, and the market continues very firm. We quote spot in pipes £30, barrels £30 5s, which is also nearest value for all positions up to August. Hull spot naked, £29, March-April £29, May-August £29. Linseed cakes.—Steady. We to-day quote London-made £8 to £8 7s 6d ex mill, American Western £7 7s 6d to £7 10s, Russian £7 10s to £7 15s. Cotton cakes weak, London-made £4 7s 6d to £4 10s. Rapeseed.—Firm and dearer, with a good demand. Brown Cawnpore, afloat 39s 6d, March-May 40s. To the Continent we quote Yellow Guzerat Jan.-Feb. 43s 6d, March-May 45s. Brown Cawnpore afloat 39s 6d, March-May 40s. Brown Calcutta, Jan.-Feb. 36s 6d, March-May 37s. Ferozepore 39s 6d afloat. Jamba, March-May to Hull sold at 31s 3d. Cotton-seed is quiet. Spot London £6 7s 6d, afloat £6 7s 6d, Feb.-March £6 8s 9d, April-May £6 10s buyers. Hull spot £6 5s, January £6 5s, Feb.-March £6 7s 6d, April-May £6 10s buyers. Bombay to Hull £4 11s 3d Feb.-March sellers. Cargoes, Feb.-March £6 11s 3d, April, £6 12s 6d sellers.—THE PRODUCE BROKERS COMPANY, LIMITED.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed cakes:—There is no improvement in the market; both supply and demand continue exceedingly small, and values, although firmly held up, are not quotably dearer. Russians still offer at unchanged prices. Americans move off steadily, but are also unchanged in price. Calcutta made in bags remain relatively good value at last Monday's quotations. London-made meet a less active inquiry at the advanced prices now asked by crushers. Cotton cakes:—The heavy arrivals of Egyptian have a depressing effect on the market, and best brands may now be bought at 1s 3d to 2s 6d per ton less money, while English are unchanged. Decorticated are the turn cheaper at 1s. 3d. per ton under last week's quotations, and meal £6 10s. Rape cakes:—Dull. East India £4 5s. Maize germ meal.—American does not offer on spot, but there are sellers at £5 15s c.i.f. for February-March despatch. English is in moderate request at last week's prices. Rice meal.—There is no change in values of spot or near at hand parcels, but for new crop meal shippers are willing to entertain bids of £4 11s 3d to £4 12s 6d.

	Per ton. £ s. d.	Per ton. £ s. d.
LINSEED CAKES.		
London made ..... ex mill	8 5 0	to 8 10 0
American ..... ex dock	7 5 0	to 7 7 6
Russian, in mats ..... ex dock	7 10 0	to 7 12 6
Russian, in bags ..... ex dock	7 15 0	to 7 17 6
Calcutta	7 12 6	to 7 15 0
COTTONSEED CAKES.		
London made ..... ex mill	4 10 0	to 4 12 6
Egyptian ..... ex dock	4 6 3	to 4 7 6
Decorticated ..... ex dock	6 10 0	to 6 15 0
Meal ..... ex dock	6 10 0	to —
RAPE CAKES.		
East India	4 5 0	to —
MAIZE.		
English germ meal ..... ex mill	5 17 6	to 6 0 0
American	—	to —
RICE MEAL.		
Rangoon ..... in warehouse	5 5 0	to —

—PINNOCK BROS., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

WATERLOO ROUND FEEDING CAKES, £6 12s 6d PER TON; WATERLOO ROUND 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES, £9 10s 0d PER TON; WATERLOO ANGLO SHAPE 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES, £9 7s 6d PER TON; WATERLOO 97 PER CENT. PURE EGYPTIAN COTTONSEED CAKES, £5 0s 0d PER TON. ALL F.O.R. HULL.

MOLASSINE FEEDING MEAL, packed in bags, of 1¼cwt. each. Price per cwt., 7s. 6d. Price per ton, £6 15s., on rail at works, Silvertown, Essex, and F.O.R. Liverpool. A sample lot of 6cwt., in 4 bags of 1½cwt. each, delivered free to any station in England on receipt of remittance for £2 11s 0d.



STOCK AND SHOW NOTES.

By Herdsman.

Mr. Sidney Cooper, R.A., the well-known artist, died on Friday at his residence, Vernon Holme, Harbledown, near Canterbury. Mr. Cooper was born at Canterbury on September 26th, 1803, and at a very early age he showed a great fondness for drawing animals, and spent his holidays in the fields with slate and pencil drawing horses, dogs, and sheep. This fondness was maintained throughout his life, and, as is well known, the majority of his famous pictures were farm scenes. In the early portion of his career as an animal painter he found his models in Smithfield Market and in Regent's Park; but later, having settled in a country home in Kent, he bred cattle, sheep, and goats specially for the purpose of his work.

An incident which Cooper delighted in relating to his friends arose out of his having in 1848 been commissioned by the Queen to paint a certain prize Guernsey cow at Osborne. When the painting was nearly finished, the Queen expressed her approval of the picture as a portrait. The late Prince Consort, however, who was present at the inspection of the canvas, objected to some of the surroundings which the artist had introduced, especially some dock leaves and a pool of water. Cooper pleaded that artistic license was essential in order to make a good picture. "It may be a good picture," replied his Royal Highness, with mock severity, "but it is very bad farming and draining, and as such is a libel on her Majesty's Consort."

In the spring of 1834 Mr. Vernon gave him a commission for a picture, which he advised him to send to the Academy. This was "Milking Time," a study in a farmyard near Canterbury, now in the Vernon Collection. It narrowly escaped rejection for want of room, but was ultimately accepted, and thenceforward, for an unbroken period of more than sixty years, Mr. Cooper was invariably represented by a work, or works, on the Academy walls. In that exhibition alone more than two hundred and forty examples of his art have been seen at various times. He exhibited, besides, at the Society of British Artists, the Royal Institute of Painters in Oil Colours, and elsewhere, and large numbers of his works, executed to commission, have never been publicly shown at all.

At a meeting of the Reading Town Council held on Thursday the town clerk read a letter from Sir Arthur Bigge stating that the Prince of Wales hoped to pay a visit to Reading between the 10th and the 13th of June next, on the occasion of the Royal Counties Show. His Royal Highness has intimated his regret at being unable to accept the freedom of the borough of Reading, which the corporation proposed to confer upon him.

Our livestock illustrations this week were reproduced from photographs taken at the sale of shire horses belonging to His Majesty the King, at Wolferton on Tuesday, which is described in another column. With one exception, full details are given under the illustration, the exception being the small one of Benedick 17761, a bay stallion foaled in 1898, sire Prince Harold 14228, dam Hendre Beatrice 12193. Benedick, like the other horses illustrated, has won prizes at the principal shows, his record being as follows:—1899, seventh, Shire Horse Show, London; first, Royal Agricultural Society's Show, Maidstone, 1900, third, Shire Horse Show, London; first, champion and Shire Horse Show silver medal, King's Lynn; first, Lincolnshire, 1901, highly commended, Royal Agricultural Society's Show, Cardiff.

Western Canada's great agricultural fair, at which the sum of thirty-five thousand dollars (£7,000) is given in prizes open to the world, is now one of the most important in Western America, and should claim the attention of British breeders of pedigree stock of all kinds. It is held at Winnipeg, Manitoba, in July.

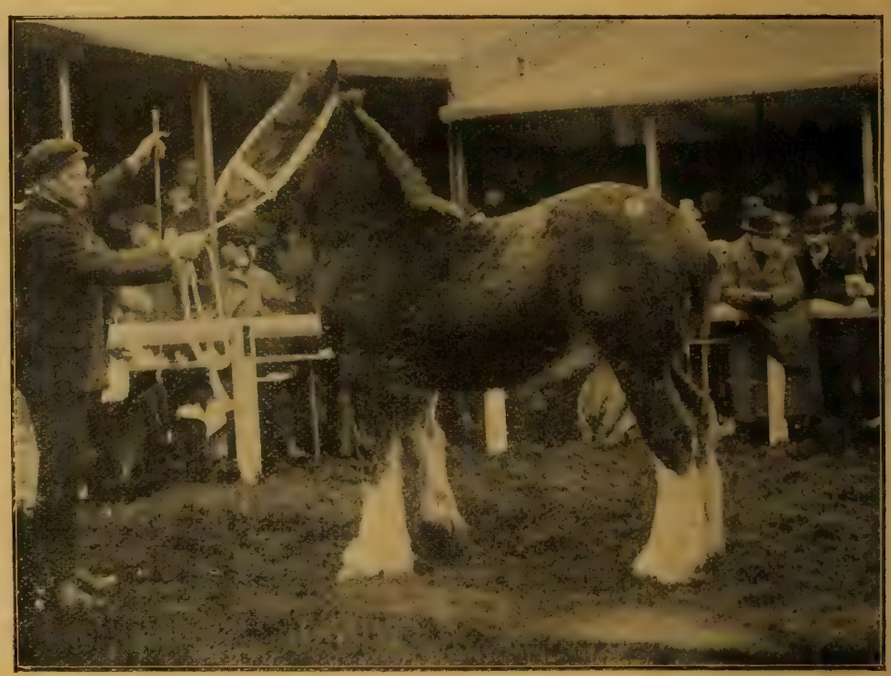
This year's show of the Cheshire Agricultural Society will be held at Hyde, on August 23rd. The entries will close on August 2nd with the secretary, Mr. Thomas A'Beckett, St. Werburgh Chambers, Chester.

A sale of pure-bred red polled cattle belonging to Mr. R. Harvey Mason will be held at Necton Hall, Swaffham, Norfolk, on Thursday, May 4th, Messrs. J. Thornton and Co. being the auctioneers. In 1849, when the Royal Agricultural Society held its meeting at Norwich, the late Colonel Mason took a prize with a three-year-old red polled bull, to which some of the pedigrees can be traced. The breed had been many years at Necton, long before the Herd Book was established. In 1879 a sale of the herd was held, and the present owner then purchased many of the best animals of the old strains and continued to improve the stock by the selection and use of the best sires in the county, including Erebus 841, champion bull at the R.A.S.E. Show at Plymouth, 1890, a son of the noted Falstaff 303, and Majorlini 3600, champion bull at the R.A.S.E. Shows in 1896 and 1897. The herd reached a high state of excellence and became very successful at the leading shows, both in this country and abroad. The Ensign 3096 exported to the United States of America in 1894 won many first prizes out there.

At the Royal Agricultural Society's Meeting at Maidstone in 1899 the first and champion prize was won with Magician 5021; many of the cows are in calf to this fine bull, who is included in the sale, as well as Crown Diamond 6104, a son of Mr. J. J. Colman's celebrated sire, Red Prince 2902, winner of the champion prize at the R.A.S.E. show at Chester, 1893, as well as numerous other prizes. Mild records were commenced in 1884, and the published returns show the continuous and rich milking qualities of the cows. The catalogue of the sale includes the entire herd that is kept at Sparham Hall Farm, as well as the young cattle from the Necton Hall herd, comprising altogether over fifty very promising animals, including several handsome young bulls and heifers.

At the annual meeting of the Tunbridge Wells and South-Eastern Agricultural Society it was decided to hold the next show on Thursday and Friday, July 24th and 25th, at Tunbridge Wells, the site being the same picturesque one of previous years. I am sorry to hear that there was a loss on the year's working, but the report presented was on the whole a satisfactory one. Mr. F. W. S. Cornwallis, of Linton Park, Maidstone, was unanimously elected president of the society for the current year. Mr. William Roper, who was unanimously re-elected secretary, states that the prize schedules for the show will be ready shortly, and can be had, together with any other information on the subject, on application to him, at the offices of the society, Kentish Buildings, Tunbridge Wells.

A three days' combination sale of drafts from twenty-three different herds of Herefords was held at Kansas City, U.S.A., on January 14th, 15th, and 16th. Owing to short keep and the somewhat inclement weather, buyers were not too eager, and no sensational prices were attained. The top price obtained was £143 for Beau Donovan, a young bull, while £122 was given for Lady Coloumbus, a cow calved in 1899. The average for 171 head was £45 10s., the aggregate sum taken being £7,788. The other important American sale of the month was the dispersal of Messrs. Moffatt's Clydesdales at Chicago on January 16th. The condition of the animals in the ring was far from perfect, and prices were not extravagant, although on the average fair sums were realised. The top price was £340 paid for an imported stallion, Palmerston, which was foaled in 1896 and has been a winner at the Royal. Forty animals in all were disposed of for £2,296, an average of £57 10s.



DEWY MAY, the Yearling Shire Filly, was sold to Lord Llangattock at H.M. the King's sale last week for 310 gs. She is a bay by Bold Harold, 15,095, out of Rokeby Friar, 14,827, and was a first prize winner at the Ashbourne Shire Horse Show last year.

Wednesday, July 23rd, has been fixed for the date of this year's show of the Chesterfield and West Derbyshire Agricultural Society, which will be held at Chesterfield. The last day for entries is July 8th, and the secretary is Mr. Thomas Wardle, Chesterfield

Following their usual custom the Native Guano Company, Ltd., of 29, New Bridge Street, Blackfriars, E.C., have issued a pamphlet of the testimonials they have received during the year from users of Native Guano, which illustrate in a remarkable manner the beneficial results of its application in the farm and garden.

Plantagenet Coins Turned up by a Plough.—It is stated that a farm servant, ploughing on a farm near Bervie, Kincardineshire, turned up an urn containing between four hundred and five hundred silver coins of about the size of a sixpence. Unfortunately, the plough broke the vessel. The coins belong to the reigns of Edward I., II., and III.



Sale of the King's Shires.

The first draft sale from Sandringham Shire Horse stud after His Majesty's accession naturally brought together a very large number of would-be buyers and spectators, and when Mr. Beck ascended the rostrum on Tuesday last to conduct the sale he found himself surrounded by a very big assemblage, amongst whom, either in person or by deputy, were most of the principal breeders of the shire. Previous to the sale there was the usual parade, and it added much to the éclat of this proceeding by its being witnessed by Her Majesty the Queen and other members of the Royal Family. The sale was a thorough good one taken in a collective sense, for though the average was not a record one, nor were any sensational prices made, the general result was one that demonstrates the vitality and genuineness of the present home demand for shire horses. A full price list, together with a detailed summary, which gives the range of values for its age and their aggregate and average, renders it needless to refer in detail to every individual lot, therefore we limit our remarks to the principal lots of the several ages as they were tabulated in the sale catalogue.

Commencing with the brood mares, whose average was a highly satisfactory one, it was evident that there would be a good competition, the first lot to reach high value was that grand mare Solace, by Lord Arthur, dam of the well-known Victor's Queen, who made 600 guineas in the 1898 sale. She, however, just failed to reach her daughter's price by making 575 guineas, the top price of the sale, going to Lord Rothschild. Southernwood Echo, by the same sire, made 300 guineas, to Mr. L. Salamons, who was one of the principle buyers, and secured in this and his other purchases some very fine and typical animals. Calwich Mavis joined Mr. F. Crisp's stud at 200 guineas; whilst Kingsbury Violet and Rocks Regina went respectively to those of Mr. Eadie and Mr. A. Henderson, M.P., at 230 guineas and 210 guineas, and Dunsmore Wy-Lass went to Mr. Stubbs at 200 guineas. Of the four four-year-old mares, the top price was 230 guineas for Girton Dolly Varden, who went to Mr. Hardcastle at that price. The well-known stallion Benedick hardly made his full value in the 500 guineas for which Mr. Smith-Carrington paid for him. Premawilhar, a three-year-old, followed, going worth the money to Mr. F. Crisp at 140 guineas, whilst the two-year-old Topsman Blind joined Mr. Muntz's stud at 170 guineas. Lord Coventry secured that very promising yearling colt Royal President, first at the last Ashbourne show, for 230 guineas, and "Hawthorn," the other yearling, went to Mr. Walpole Greenwell at 180 guineas.

Of the yearling fillies which sold well Sir J. Blundell Maple secured a gem in Mountain Echo at 350 guineas, Mr. P. L. Mills's agent being the runner up. Another of this age, Dewy May, went over three hundred, namely, 315 guineas, to Lord Llangattock, the same breeder as in the preceding case being the runner up, whilst Torfrida, whom Mr. Kearns was fortunate enough to secure, made 270 guineas. The two-year-olds excited some keen competition for the pick of them, notably for Ruby Glimpse, which, after a tussle between Mr. L. Salamons and Mr. Gibson for Mr. P. L. Mills, went to the former at 450 guineas. The nine three-year-olds were collectively a good even lot of young mares; two made 300 guineas each, Queen's Birthday to Mr. L. Salamons, and Lady Darling to the Marquis of Winchester, whilst Mr. Garrett-Taylor paid 270 guineas for Blythwood Royal Bounty, Mr. Morbey 250 guineas for Maidenhair, and Mr. Moat 155 guineas for Throstle.

BROOD MARES.

	Gs.
Rokeby Thyra 20746, bay, f 1892, s Calwich Topsman 8359 ..... Lord Llangattock	100
Clodia 23326, bay, f 1893, s Julian 3766, Mr. C. E. Cook	105
Calwich Mavis 27993, black, f 1894, s Prince Harold 14228 ..... Mr. F. Crisp	200
Solace 24787, bay, f 1894, s Lord Arthur 9834, Lord Rothschild	575
Southernwood Echo 20870, bay, f 1894, s Lord Arthur 9834 ..... Mr. Leopold Salamons	300
Dunsmore Wy-lass 21715, bay, f 1895, s Albert Lad 12704 ..... Mr. Stubbs	200
Rocks Regina 24607, brown, f 1896, s Royal Rock 14837 ..... Mr. A. Henderson, M.P.	210
Rokeby Handmaid 26760, brown, f 1896, s Harold 3703 ..... Lord Egerton	180
Kingsbury Violet 26258, bay, f 1897, s Duke of Worsley 13302 ..... Mr. Eadie	230
Janetta 36250, black, f 1897, s Prince Harold 14228 Mr. Clement Keuri	75

FOUR-YEAR-OLD MARES.

Barrow Heiress 34722, dark brown, f 1898, s Calwich Heirloom 14547 ..... Messrs. Thompson	125
Blossom Queen 34955, chestnut, f 1898, s Calwich Guardian 15038 ..... Mr. Woolfe	65
Girton Dolly Varden 36006, bay, f 1898, s Mormaer of Batsford 15242 ..... Mr. Hardcuotte	230
Golden Bounty 36028, black, f 1898, s Whirlwind 14935 Mr. Forshaw	65

STALLIONS.

Benedick 17761, bay, f 1898, s Prince Harold 14228 Mr. Smith Carrington	500
Premwilhar 19020, bay, f 1899, s Markeaton Royal Harold 15225 ..... Mr. F. Crispe	140
Topsman Blend 20118, bay, f 1900, s Calwich Blend 17226 ..... Mr. P. A. Muntz, M.P.	170

YEARLING COLTS.

Royal President (Vol. XXIII.), bay, f 1901, s Calwich Blend 17226 ..... Lord Coventry	230
Hawthorn (Vol. XXIII.), bay, f 1901, s Desford Vulcan Chief 16110 ..... Mr. Walpole Gremwell	180

YEARLING FILLIES

Cynthia (Vol. XXIII.), bay, f 1901, s Lockinge Harold 16779 ..... Sir W. Wills	95
Babingley Coral (Vol. XXIII.), bay, f 1901, s Calwich Blend 17226 ..... Mr. C. T. Part	60
Torfrida, bay, f 1901, s Harold 3703.... Mr. Kearnes	270
Dewy May, bay, f 1901, s Bold Harold 16005 Lord Llangattock	310
Westonia, bay, f 1901, s Sheen Harold 15834 Mr. Parnell	105
Mountain Echo (Vol. XXIII.), brown, f 1901, s Calwich Blend 17226 ..... Sir Blundell Maple, Bart., M.P.	350
Fernleaf, bay, f 1901, s Bold Harold 16005 Lord Rothschild	100

TWO-YEAR-OLD FILLIES.

Pilot's Hope 36883, bay, f 1900, s Harold 3703 Mr. J. Rogers	155
Ruby Glimpse 37110, bay, f 1900, s Calwich Blaze 14544 Mr. Leopold Salamons	450
Princess Thyra 36956, bay, f 1900, s Calwich Blaze 14544 ..... Mr. Gates	100
Lady Mettlesome 36354, brown, f 1900, s Harold 3703 Mr. Jackson	100
Grey Duchess 36062, grey, f 1900, s Harold 3703 Sir W. Cooke	105
Autumn Blossom 34667, grey, f 1900, s Royal Rock 14837 ..... Mr. Clement Keuri	130
Girton Peerless 36012, bay, f 1900, s Mormaer of Batsford 15242 ..... Mr. Hart (Carnock)	55
Merle 35596, brown, f 1900, s Calwich Heirloom 14547 Mr. Avis	90
Royal Heiress 37102, bay, f 1900, s Harold 3703 Mr. J. Rogers	75
Treasure Bounty 37524, brown, f 1900, s Calwich Blaze 14544 ..... Mr. H. Morton	65

THREE-YEAR-OLD FILLIES.

Maidenhair 33019, bay, f 1899, s Harold 3703 Mr. Morbey	230
Blythwood Royal Bounty 30969, bay, f 1899, s Markeaton Royal Harold 15225 ..... Mr. Garrett Taylor	270
Throstle 37459, brown, f 1899, s Calwich Heirloom 14547 ..... Mr. Moat	155
Queen's Birthday 36985, bay, f 1899, s Harold 3703 Mr. Leopold Salamons	300
Lady Darling 36337, bay, f 1899, s Calwich Heirloom 14547 ..... Marquis of Winchester	300
Lady Lilian 36347, bay, f 1899, s Watnall Collegian 15919 ..... Sir Walter Gilbey	170
Queen of the Dale 36982, chestnut, f 1899, s Harold 3703 ..... Mr. C. T. Part	75
Summer Queen 37402, bay, f 1899, s Sheen Harold 15834 ..... Mr. Clement Keuri	140
Diamond Lassie 35672, grey, f 1899, s Sheen Harold 15834 ..... Capt. W. H. O. Duncombe	70

SUMMARY

Description.	No. sold.	Highest price. £ s. d.	Lowest price. £ s. d.
Brood mares	10	603 15 0	78 15 0
Four-year-old mares...	4	246 10 0	68 5 0
Three-year-old mares..	9	315 0 0	73 10 0
Two-year-old fillies ...	10	472 10 0	57 15 0
Yearling fillies	7	367 10 0	99 15 0
Stallions	2	525 0 0	147 0 0
Two-year-old stallions..	1	178 10 0	
Yearling stallions	2	241 10 0	189 0 0
	45		

		Aggregate. £ s. d.	Average. £ s. d.
Brood mares	10	2,335 5 0	233 12 6
Four-year-old mares...	4	509 5 0	127 6 3
Three-year-old mares..	9	1,795 10 0	199 10 0
Two-year-old fillies....	10	1 391 5 0	139 2 6
Yearling fillies	7	1,354 10 0	193 10 0
Stallions	2	672 0 0	336 0 0
Two-year-old stallions..	1	178 10 0	178 10 0
Yearling stallions	2	430 10 0	215 5 0
	45	8,667 15 0	192 12 4



Sale of the King's shire horses at Wolferton: H.M. the Queen and Prince and Princess Charles of Denmark drive over to see the horses.



Shire Stallion, BENEDICK, bought at the Wolferton Sale for 500 gs. by Mr. Smith Carrington.

Mr. R. Allen's Shire Horses.

On Wednesday Messrs. Sexton, Grimwade and Beck disposed of a number of Shire horses belonging to Mr. Richard Allen, of St. Germans, near King's Lynn, in the presence of a large company of buyers. Finding that his stud was exceeding the limits of his occupation, Mr. Allen decided to sell every pedigree animal in his possession, and the catalogue comprised 40 brood mares, stallions, and fillies. The best Shire blood was represented through descendants of Harold, Premier, Royal Albert, and Bury Victor Chief, and Gipsy Gentleman, a son of Premier Beau, was the sire of most of the home-bred stock. It was a very suc-

cessful sale, the aggregate sum realised being 2,626 guineas, or an average of a little over 65½ guineas. The highest price was 360 guineas, given by Mr. Cobb, of Theobald's Park, Enfield, for a three-year-old stallion, Wiggenhall Prince, a son of Gipsy Gentleman. Wiggenhall Prince II., his brother, made 100 guineas, and Wiggenhall Rupert, a two-year-old stallion by Gipsy Gentleman, fetched 130 guineas, the buyer being Mr. Wayman, of Haddenham. Wiggenhall Spartan, a stallion foaled in 1898, sire Gipsy Gentleman, was bought by Mr. Forshaw, of Carlton-on-Trent, for 150 guineas; whilst Gipsy Gentleman himself made 100 guineas, the purchaser being Mr. Bostock, of Bury St. Edmunds. Wiggenhall Brag, a grey mare foaled in 1893, was bought by Mr. Cresswell, of Beccles, for 105 guineas. Mr. Cobb bought a three-year-old filly, Wiggenhall Star, for 105 guineas, and a similar animal, Wiggenhall Depper III., was secured by the Marquis of Winchester for 100 guineas.

Below we give the names of the principal prices and purchasers:—

BROOD MARES.

		Gns.
Wiggenhall Brag	Mr. Cresswell	105
Wiggenhall Depper	Duke of Devonshire	46

FOUR-YEAR-OLD MARES.

Aldenham Maud	C. Morley	90
Wiggenhall Diamond III.	Gregory	42
Wiggenhall Pride	H. B. Hurry	57

THREE-YEAR-OLD FILLIES.

Wiggenhall Star	Mr. Cobb	105
Wiggenhall Depper II.	White	77
Wiggenhall Beauty	Woolf	60
Wiggenhall Plug	Harris	37
Wiggenhall Fashion	T. Gee	50
Wiggenhall Smart	G. E. Hawkins	45

STALLIONS.

Gipsy Gentleman	Bostock	100
Wiggenhall Spartan	Forshaw	150

THREE-YEAR-OLD STALLIONS.

Wiggenhall Thumper II.	C. Dewar	50
Wiggenhall Prince	Cobb	50

TWO-YEAR-OLD STALLIONS.

Wiggenhall Prince II.	Mr. J. Morton	60
Grey Stallion	Mr. J. Morton	50
Wiggenhall Rupert	Wayman	130
Wiggenhall Swell	R. Burgis	40

TWO-YEAR-OLD FILLIES.

Wiggenhall Depper III.	Marquis of Winchester	100
Tinwell Blaze	Benthall	42
Flower	J. Morton	50
Denton Whitethorn	H. J. Martin	72
Wiggenhall Poppett	H. J. Martin	64
Wiggenhall Sprite	Bostock	66
Wiggenhall Smart II.	Reeve	36
Wiggenhall Jewel	Arthur Gee	53
Wiggenhall Countess	T. Gee	55

YEARLING FILLIES.

Chestnut Filly	Walter Barewood	40
Brown Filly	E. W. Betts	30
Bay Filly	White	45
Bay Filly	Sir Oswald Moseley	52
Bay Filly	E. P. Muntz	35
Bay Filly	W. D. Everington	26
Bay Filly	Betts	35
Langton Norah II.	J. Heys	28
Bay Filly	Arthur Morton	20
Roan Filly	Bass	18
Black Filly	J. Heys	38
Brown Filly	A. Morton	24

Contagious Diseases of Animals

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending February 4, 1902:—

Swine Fever.	Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.		No.	253	205	379	576	1,385	1,041	2,035	3,673
	Outbreaks.		No.	46	31	33	41	198	163	175	210
Rabies.	Cases Reported.	Oth'r Anim'ls.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
		Dogs.	No.	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Pleuro-Pneumonia.	Cattle Slghter'd.	Exposed to Infection.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Diseased.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Outbreaks.		No.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Glanders (incl. farcy).	Animals Attacked.		No.	46	53	26	29	275	262	157	124
	Outbreaks.		No.	22	37	14	9	118	135	93	67
Foot-and-Mouth Disease.	Animals Attacked.		No.	...	174	19	...	...	177	33	...
	Outbreaks.		No.	...	4	1	...	...	5	2	...
Anthrax.	Animals Attacked.		No.	29	25	14	16	129	89	71	84
	Outbreaks.		No.	16	20	9	14	83	64	41	55

Period.		
Week ended Feb. 1, 1902		
Corresponding week in	1901	
	1900	
	(1899)	
Total for 5 weeks, 1902		
Corresponding period in	1901	
	1900	
	(1899)	

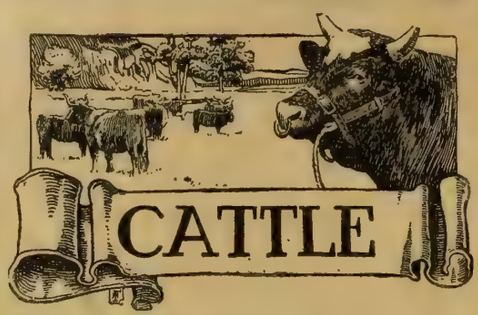
NOTE.—The figures for the current Year are approximate only.

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The Best and Cheapest article for rearing Calves, being a natural substitute for Cream. Equally good for all other stock—a medicine and food combined, Far better and cheaper than Feeding Meals.

Write for booklet giving full particulars to the Manufacturers:—

ISAAC SPENCER & CO.,
HULL.



Sale of the Finmere Jerseys and Farm Stock.

This small herd of Jerseys, bred in Buckinghamshire for many years by the late Rev. Seymour Ashwell, was sold by auction, along with the farm stock and implements, on Wednesday by Messrs. Thornton and Co. The day was very cold, but there was a large company of local farmers, who meant business, and bid up well for both the implements and the hay, straw, and roots. The Jerseys were rather small, but were good, honest cattle, and these were mostly bought to keep in the neighbourhood. The Shropshire sheep made up to 56s. for six-tooth ewes (Mr. P. Percival), and a chesnut gelding £17 10s. (Mr. A. Lepper). We give below a few of the best prices of the Jersey cattle.

COWS AND HEIFERS.

	Gs.
La Chasse Queen, vol. 7, p. 209, whole colour, c Oct. 4, 1893, s Lowland King 4616 ... Mr W. C. Cooper	17½
Countess Horace 5th, nearly whole colour, c Aug. 1, 1899, s Editor 6211 ... Mr. John Allan	21
Quince, whole colour, c Oct. 8, 1897, s Butterboy's Lad 5096 ... Mr. John Allan	21
Briar Rose, vol. 12, p. 222, whole colour, c Jan. 5, 1898, s Reminder 5711 ... Mr. John Allan	15½
Darling Girl, vol. 12, p. 243, whole colour, c March 1, 1898, s Grouville's Leo 5911 ... Mrs. Burton	17
Isla, vol. 12, p. 287, whole colour, c Sept 14, 1898, s Butterboy's Lad 5096 ... Mr. John Culley	15½
Christina, whole colour, c 1898 ... Mrs. Gresson	15½
Dairy Maid, whole colour, c April 17, 1899, s Editor 6211 ... Mr. A. Lepper	10
Starlight, whole colour, c Sept. 29, 1899, s Starboy 3rd 6716 ... Mr. A. Lepper	10
Palermo 6th, whole colour, c April 14, 1900, s Comrade 6507 ... Mr. H. E. Phillips	12
Quinoa, whole colour, c Jan. 18, 1901, s Frugal's Golden 6558 ... Mr. A Hussey Freke	12
Frugal Girl, whole colour, c March 9, 1901, s Frugal's Golden 6558 ... Mr. J. Allan	10½
Milk Pail, whole colour, c April 21, 1901, s Frugal's Golden 6558 ... Mr. E. H. E. Phillips	10
BULL.	
Cornishman, whole colour, c May 8, 1901, s Desmond 6521 ... Mrs. Heseltine	11

Particulars of Transactions in Store Stock.

Reported to the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland.

At Nenagh, Co. Tipperary, on Monday there was a small fair, composed chiefly of second-class cattle, for which prices ruled higher than a month ago. Quotations:—Calves, 2nd class, £4 11s. 6d. to £5 17s. 6d; 3rd class, £3 10s; yearlings, 1st class, £8 10s. to £9; 2nd class, £7 5s. to £8 10s; 3rd class, £6 12s. 6d; two-year-olds, 1st class, £12 5s.; 2nd class, £9 to £10 15s.; 3rd class, £7 10s; springers, 1st class, £15; 2nd class, £12 10s. to £13; 3rd class, £10 10s. Lambs, 1st class, £1 10s. to £1 15s. 6d.; 2nd class, £1 4s. 6d. to £1 7s. 6d; over 12 and under 24 months old, 2nd class, £1 19s.; 3rd class, £1 12s; two years old and upwards, 3rd class, £1 11s. 6d. to £1 13s.

Cold Storage Calendar.—A handy little calendar for the pocket has come to hand from the offices of "Cold Storage," 19 Ludgate Hill, London, E.C. An amount of useful information is presented, together with some handy memorandum tables.

Boys Fire a Rick "to have a Warm."—Three schoolboys, whose ages ranged from nine to 13, were recently, by order of the Northampton borough magistrates, birched for setting fire to a rick of hay, doing damage to the extent of £60. Their only object, they said, was to have a warm.



The Board of Agriculture and Louping Ill.

Captain MacIlvaine, deputed by the Commission appointed by the Board of Agriculture to inquire into the diseases of louping-ill and braxy among sheep, attended the meeting of the Teviotdale (Hawick) Farmers' Club on Thursday. The Captain said the Commission was composed of gentlemen fully qualified to deal with the subject, and if they could not find a remedy for these diseases they would at least be able to give valuable practical suggestions to pastoral farmers. Dr. Hamilton wished the co-operation of Border farmers. He would like to have specimens of sheep affected with louping-ill sent to Kielder, where he proposed to reside, with the view of investigating the subject thoroughly. If they could not be sent alive, he should like to have the carcases immediately after death; also specimens of ticks, which were supposed by some to be the cause of the louping-ill scourge; the names of farms on which this disease was prevalent, and liberty to come and visit these farms himself in the spring. The club agreed to heartily co-operate with the Commission, and a committee was appointed to carry out Dr. Hamilton's suggestions.

PIGS.

Somerset Farmers and the Swine Fever Orders.

A meeting held under the auspices of the Somerset Dairy Farmers' Association took place at Highbridge on Monday, the principal business being to petition the Board of Agriculture for a modification of the regulations for the restriction of swine fever. For several years the very stringent regulations of the Act for preventing the spread of swine fever have been a serious drawback to the producers, who have been unable to negotiate their sales in public markets, and another grievance which was strongly commented upon was the restriction as to breeding sows. The feeling of those present was unanimous that the authority responsible for the regulations should be appealed to, so that the public sale of pigs should be less hampered by restrictions; that infected areas should be more limited, and greater licence be granted for removals.

It was admitted that excellent results had accrued from the application of the Swine Fever Act, but the regulations were considered to be altogether too stringent, and in some cases unnecessary. It was resolved that the Somerset County Council or other necessary authority be petitioned to re-open that and other pig markets, as no case of swine fever had occurred for some considerable time, and that the regulations as to breeding sows be altered from 28 days to 14 or 20 days. This resolution the hon. secretary was instructed to forward, with a petition, to the Board of Agriculture and the Somerset County Council, together with the signatures of those who approve of the same.

Pig Salesmen Fined for "Scoring" Pigs.

Michael Flood, of the firm of Flood and Cuddy, pig salesmen, and a man named Nolan employed by them, were charged at Manchester on Wednesday with cruelty to four pigs. The evidence of two inspectors of the R.S.P.C.A. was that the pigs had deep scratches or incisions which had been made for the purpose of identifying them. Blood was trickling from the scratches, and the pigs were squealing with pain. Inspector Blackburn said similar prosecutions in different parts of the country had resulted in the scoring being discontinued. In reply to Mr. Cobbett, who appeared for the defence, he suggested that if it were necessary to mark the pigs it could be done by tatooing.

Mr. Cobbett described the case as an instance of the "periodical tilting at the windmill" which the society took. It was a necessary practice to "score" the pigs. They could not be identified after death otherwise, and if there was any pain at all it would only be very slight. Mr. Holburn, chief inspector for meat at the Corporation abattoirs, said scoring was a universal custom of the trade. It was bound to inflict a little pain, and some drops of blood would be drawn. The bench held that there had been a certain amount of cruelty, and Flood was fined 21s. and costs, and Nolan 10s. and costs.



Wirral and Birkenhead Agricultural Society.

Plan of the Proposed Show Ground.

The efforts of the committee of the Wirral and Birkenhead Agricultural Society to secure a new site for their permanent showyard has, as we have previously announced, proved successful. By the courtesy of the *Liverpool Daily Post*, we are enabled this week to give a plan of the new showyard, from which it will be seen that it is to be fitted in the best possible manner, and will rank as one of the best in the country. It may be mentioned here that stormy weather prevailed while the society's 1900 show was being held, and caused such extensive damage to the stands, sheds and other buildings that the cost of reinstating them would have involved the society in a heavier expenditure than the committee felt justified in undertaking with the funds at their disposal. This, coupled with the fact that a number of prominent exhibitors had intimated their determination of not exhibiting their stock on the old show ground, also that the society's tenancy was terminable at short notice, decided the committee to lose no time in acquiring a new site. Under these exceptional circumstances they were reluctantly compelled to abandon the idea of holding the show in 1901; but it is hoped that the new site will be ready for Diamond Jubilee Show of the society, which is fixed for September 10th and 11th next.

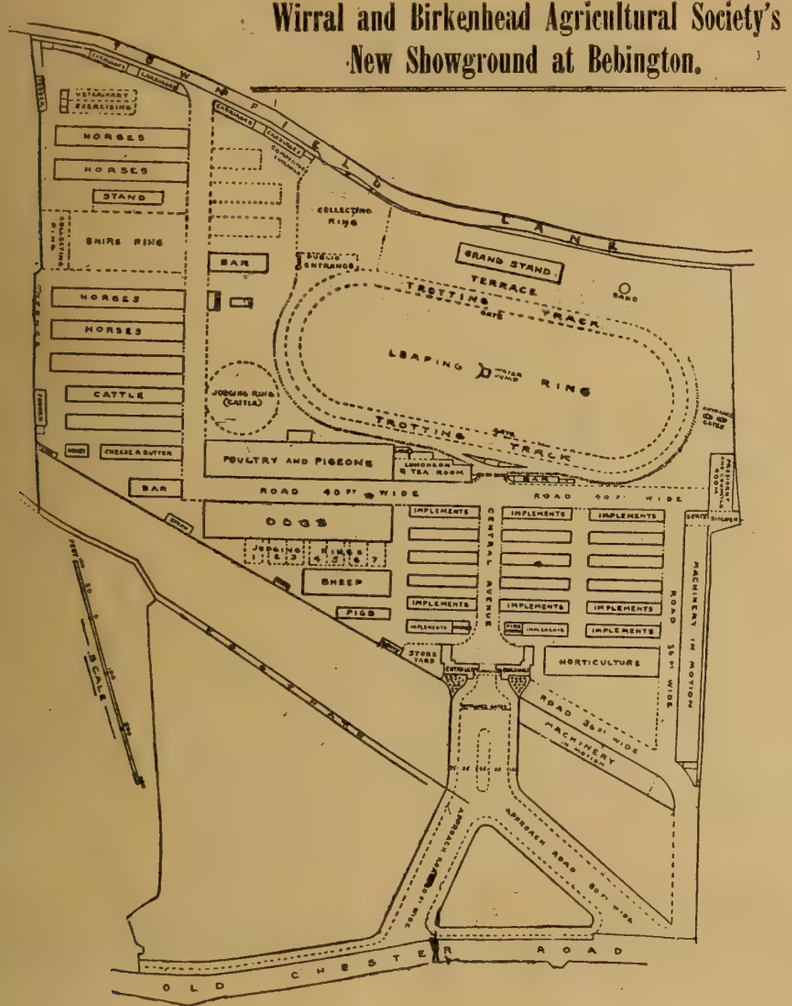
Certain gentlemen kindly came forward and purchased this desirable site, which consists of 22 acres of land situate in Lower Bebington (in close proximity to Bebington Station, on the London and North-Western and Great Western Joint Railway, between Chester and Birkenhead), and agreed to lease the land to the society for an extended term, at a rental only sufficient to pay the interest on the purchase money, also coupled with an option to the society of purchasing the property at cost price at any time during the term.

To enable the society to enter into a lease and to generally deal with its property as an incorporated body, without the intervention of trustees and without the necessity of its officers incurring personal liability, it was decided to register the society under the license of the Board of Trade, as a society for the promotion of agriculture, at the same time retaining its original title, viz., "The Wirral and Birkenhead Agricultural Society."

The society has issued an appeal for contributions towards the cost of this extensive undertaking, which it is estimated will cost between £12,000 and £14,000. That the appeal has met with a generous response is shown by the following list of donations already promised:—

	£
His Grace the Duke of Westminster	50
Sir Elliott Lees, Bart., M.P.	200
Joseph Hoult, Esq., M.P.	250
Thomas Brocklebank, Esq., J.P. (High Sheriff)	50
Charles Gatehouse, Esq. (President)	250

Wirral and Birkenhead Agricultural Society's New Showground at Bebington.



		£
Edward Twigge, Esq. (Vice-President)		25
Joseph Heap, Esq. (Chairman)		500
W. H. Lever, Esq.		1000
Edward Evans, Jun., Esq., J.P.		100
Walter Glynn, Esq.		100
J. G. Frost, Esq., J.P. (Mayor of Chester)		20
P. Allen, Esq. (Member of Council)		25
J. Ball, Esq.	do.	25
C. M. Beckett, Esq.	do.	25
T. Davies, Esq., J.P.	do.	25
J. W. Macfie, Esq.	do.	25
W. Parker, Esq.	do.	25
Ald. W. Getley, J.P.	do.	10
J. R. Turton, Esq.	do.	10
T. Johnson, Esq.	do.	5
"Anonymous"		100
J. Johnson Houghton, Esq., J.P.		100

The following gentlemen have also promised contributions:—Lord Arthur Grosvenor, Sir A. L. Jones, K.C.M.G., Edmund Taylor, Esq., J.P., J. W. Kenworthy, Esq., J.P., James Moon, Esq.

The council earnestly appeal not only to former contributors, but to all who may not hitherto have subscribed to the society for their warmest support and co-operation in the work of obtaining the necessary funds, thus enabling the society to take its place as one of the foremost organisations of the kind in England.

Glasgow Stallion Show.

The Glasgow Agricultural Society's annual Stallion Show was held at Glasgow on Wednesday in the Society's capital show ground at Scotstoun. The different sections into which the exhibition is divided were amply accommodated, and the judging proceeded under the most satisfactory conditions alike as regards those officially engaged within the rings and the eagerly-interested crowds who followed the proceedings. The attendance of the public was considerably above the average, the fine display of agricultural horses and the keenly-contested trotting match provided specially with the view of attracting city patrons combining to bring together a large number of spectators. The drawings for the day amounted to £334 4s. 6d., an increase of £106 15s. 6d. compared with last year. The entries numbered 130, against 127 in October, 1899, and 138 in February of the same year, but the quality of the animals shown was above the average, so that the show was altogether a successful one. There was one falling off, however, and that was that comparatively few selections were made, although Tuesday was reserved for the reception of deputations, many of the societies having already fixed upon horses for their districts. As has already been explained, the original intention of the promoters of the show was to give district agricultural societies and others specially interested an opportunity of selecting stud horses for their localities, and for many years it served this purpose to the satisfaction of all concerned. A number of years ago, however, breeding societies began to make selections in anticipation of the show, and this practice increased to such an extent that the date of the meeting was altered recently from February to October. It is perhaps doubtful whether this had the desired effect in wholly checking this tendency, but last year circumstances led to a reversion to the early part of the year as the most suitable period for the show, and so far as the numbers entered are concerned the old method compares favourably with the result of the experiment of holding the fixture in the autumn. This year, however, as was previously found to be the case, a much larger number of selections were made before the show than is considered desirable, and in this respect the late winter gathering compares less favourably with the autumn fixture.

Following the practice of past years the judges were ballotted for, with the following result:—Aged class (society's premium)—Messrs Alexander Love, Margaret's Mill, Kilmalcolm; James F. Murdoch, East Hallside, Newton, and William Fleming, Fulwood, Houston. Three-year-old (society's premium)—Messrs John MacDonald, Boquhanran, Dalmuir; Thomas Fleming, Easter Farm, Busby; and Stephen Fleming, Raith, Bothwell. Aged open class—Messrs. William Renwick, Meadowfield, Corstorphine, and James A. Wallace, Claycrop, Kirkinner. Three-year-old (open class) Messrs. William R. Trotter, South Acomb, Stocksfield-on-Tyne, and William Kerr, Houdstone, Girvan. Two-year-old (open class)—Messrs. Wm. Kerr and James A. Wallace. Cawdor Cup Competition—Messrs. Trotter, Renwick, Kerr, Wallace, and Wm. Fleming.

Thirty-one entries, as compared with 22 last year and 43 at the preceding show, were obtained for the Society's premium of £80 for aged horses. The preliminary examination occupied a good deal of time, and ultimately a leet of 17 was selected, including Mr. John Crawford's Mathias and Royal Success, Mr. Peter Crawford's Carbineer and Hillhead Chief, Mr James Kilpatrick's Laird of Cragie, Sir Lachlan and The Dean, Mr. A. M'Robbie's Canny Man, Lord Melbourne, and Prince of Roxburgh, Mr. A. B. Matthews's Enigma, Mr. Walter S. Park's Lothian's Best, Mr. Renwick's Gartly Squire, Mr. David Riddell's Dawdondene, Mr. Alexander Scott's Prince of Cowal, Mr. Wm. Taylor's Sir Simon, and Mr. David Whyte's Clan Chattan. They made an unusually large and interesting group, and some further time was spent by the judges in making their selection; but it was evident from the outset that Mr. Taylor's Sir Simon was the favourite, with Mr. Park's Lothian's Best as the runner up, and this was the ultimate decision. The winner, a good, thick, substantial type of Clydesdale, which has previously won prizes, was bred by Mr. Alexander Cross, Knockdon, and is getting on to six years of age, his sire being Sir Everard, and his dam the Mains of Aires mare Sunbeam. Mr. Park's horse was bred in Cumberland, and was also sired by Sir Everard, his dam being Flash Girl, a daughter of Flashwood.

In the class of three-year-olds for the Glasgow premium there were 30 entries, and here also the short leet was very extensive, including no fewer than 13 animals, namely, Mr. George Alston's Vanora's Pride, Mr. Peter Crawford's Sweet William, Mr. William Crawford's Baron Primrose, Mr. William Dunlop's Dunure Castle, Mr. Archibald Jackson's Provost, Mr. John Leckie's Here's Luck, Mr. Matthew Marshall's Manorama, Mr. Wm. Renwick's Royal Scott, Mr. David Riddell's Gallant's Pride and Mr. Tibbie's Cowt, Mr. Wm. Taylor's Sir Edward, and Mr. James A. Wallace's

Nick o'Time. In the end the premium went to Mr. Marshall's Manorama, a very pretty horse of sweet quality, and a good mover. This is the first time he has been shown. He was bred by Mr. Thomas Crawford, Dowhill, Girvan, his sire being Prince Alexander, and he is out of a Prince of Kyle mare. The reserve ticket was given to Mr. Taylor's Sir Edward, a horse also of a fine type and a good mover.

In addition to the two classes for the Society's premiums, there were three sections open to exhibitors who did not wish to be limited by the conditions imposed in the two main competitions. This, of course, brought out many horses which might not otherwise have been present. In the class for aged stallions the judges had to some extent to review the decisions of those engaged in allocating the premiums. The animals which were in competition included all those entered for the premium, as well as several newcomers, the most notable of which were Mr. John Pollock's Hiawatha, which had won the Cawdor Cup three times, and had the distinction, later in the afternoon, of winning the trophy for the fourth time, as well as Mr. Matthew Marshall's Marcellus, the son of Hiawatha, which was the runner-up for the Cawdor Cup last year. It was early seen that the competition for first place would lie between this noted sire and son, and in the result Hiawatha, which was brought out in wonderfully good form, was preferred. Being a younger animal, Marcellus rather beat Hiawatha in action, but he was not brought out in quite the same strong form as last year, and it seemed to be considered that Hiawatha had even an easier victory than on that occasion, when Marcellus very nearly tied with him for the Cawdor Cup. Marcellus has been selected by the Strathmore Association. The premium winner, Sir Simon, came third and Lothian's Best, a five-year-old, owned by Mr. Walker S. Park, which was close up to the premium-winner, but hardly up to the same size, was fourth. He has been engaged for East Stirlingshire. Mr. Peter Crawford's big, powerful horse Carbineer, rising five years old, and by Baron's Pride, and bred by Mr. Hannay, Broughton, Whithorn, was fifth.

In the open class for three-year-olds the contest for the principal award lay between Mr. W. Park's Marmion and Mr. Matthew Marshall's premium-winner Manorama, but in the end the newcomer led the way. Bred by Mr. William Park, his exhibitor, and got by Prince of Brunstane out of Lady Rose, Marmion is a horse of good size, with grand feet and legs, and a nice short back. His movement was also very good. Manorama, of course, was placed second, and was followed by Baronson, bred by Mr. David Mitchell, Millfield, Polmont, and got by Baron's Pride, out of the Prince Alexander dam, Princess Alexandra. Baronson, which was third here last year, and occupied the same position at the Highland Society's show, is a sweet horse, with nice ankles and good feet, but he hardly seemed to do himself justice in his movement. Mr. St. Clair Cunningham's Alexander Everard, of his own breeding, and got by Sir Everard, was placed fourth, Mr. James A. Wallace's Nick o' Time fifth, the latter being engaged by the Sutherland Farmers' Club.

The two-year-olds formed a class of about a dozen, and here Mr. Walter S. Park's Ardlethan, by Gold Mine, out of the Darnley's Hero mare took precedence. A son of Cawdor Cup, which was bred by Professor M'Call, and owned by Mr. James Kilpatrick, was second. Pearl Stone, as this animal is named, promises to be a bigger horse than the winner. Mr. William Clark was third, with a nice, hard-looking colt: while Mr. John Weir's Dunure Mac, a get of Montrave Mac, was fourth: and Mr. William Crawford's Bancor, a get of King of Kyle, fifth; and Messrs. J. and J. Wilson's Virgil, of their own breeding, and got by Good Gift, sixth.

For the honour of carrying off the Cawdor Challenge Cup there were four competitors—Mr. John Pollock's Hiawatha; two sons of this famous sire—Mr. A. B. Matthews's Labori, and Mr. Matthew Marshall's Marcellus—and Mr. William Park's Marmion. The contest was really between Hiawatha, which had already carried off the trophy three times, and the three-year-old Glasgow premium horse of last year. The aged horse again carried the day, and the decision of the judges was very popular with the spectators. Mr. Pollock having now won the cup three times, it becomes his property, and his horse has the distinction of having carried off the coveted honour no fewer than four times.

"Mark Lane Express" Diary.

February.
11. Council Meeting of the Kent or Romney Marsh Sheep-breeders' Association.
11. Castle Cary Annual Bull Show and Sale.
12, 13. Horse Sales at the Cheshire Repository, Crewe.
13. Show and Sale of Pure Bred Shorthorns at the Agricultural Hall, Aberdeen.
14. Sale of Shorthorns and Shropshire Sheep, bred by Mr. W. Thomas at the Bean House, Montford Bridge, Salop.
14. Dorchester Bull Sale.
18, 19. Show and Sale of Pedigree Aberdeen Angus Cattle at Perth.

SOCIETIES.

The Royal Society.

A monthly council of the Royal Agricultural Society was held on Wednesday, the Earl of Coventry, vice-president, in the chair.

The secretary having reported the receipt of a letter from H.R.H. the President, expressing regret that he would be unable to attend the meeting in consequence of another engagement, the Earl of Coventry, vice-president, was called to the chair. The minutes of the last ordinary meeting of the council, held on December 11th, 1901, having been taken as read, and approved, the election of the following thirty-seven members was proceeded with:—

Allen, Glendower, Wickmere, North Walsham, Norwich.
Alsebrook, Arthur, 5, Sansome Place Worcester.
Ashton, Thomas Gair, M.P., Hyde, Chester.
Boldero, Albert J., Rattlesden, Bury St. Edmonds.
Bosworth, A. W. T., Newland Works, Lincoln.
Colles, Thomas Orme, The Parsonage, Manchester.
*Collier, C. J., Barncote, Baslow, Derbyshire.
Dale, Harry Mayo, Crown Farm, Walton-on-Thames.
*Darlington, M., Cayley Arms Hotel, Rhos-on-Sea, Colwyn Bay.
Doherty, Major Henry, Vernon House, Weston, Bath.
Dulac, Albert, 21, Place de la Madeleine, Paris.
Fowler, George, 19, Knightrider Street, Maidstone.
Gilbert, Bernard Samuel, Ivy House, Billinghay, Lincoln.
Gyorgy, Endre, 22, Laurence Pountney Lane, E.C.
Haslam, William, Cowdray Estate Office, Midhurst, Sussex.
Hill, John Richard, Orleton Court, R.S.O., Herefordshire.
Hodgson, Archibald S., Westons, Warnham, Horsham, Sussex.
Hollond, Edmund Robert, Benhall, Saxmundham, Suffolk.
*Jones, H. T. The Grange, Tabley, Knutsford, Cheshire.
Kearns, Henry Ward, Bexenden House, Accrington, Lancashire.
*King, John B., Farthinghoe, Brackley, Northants.
Legard, Sir A. W., Bart., Ganton Hall, York.
Leslie, Arthur Cecil, Newton-le-Willows, Lancashire.
Maxwell, Major J. A. C., Wedderburn, Glenlair, Dalbeattie, N.B.
Nicholson, John, Mossthorn, Penrith.
Platt, William, Bexton Hall, Knutsford.
Roberts, Robert, Brongadair, Carnarvonshire.
Rochford, Thomas, Turnford Hall Nurseries, nr. Broxbourne, Herts.
Smethurst, W. O., Brandlesome Hall Farm, Elton, Bury, Lancashire.
Snelgrove, John S., Kingswood, Tunbridge Wells.
Thompson, Archibald, Mymwood, Hatfield, Herts.
Thorold, James E., Burghley Estate Office, Stamford.
Thorpe, Thomas Wells, "Holmwood," Beulah Hill, Upper Norwood.
Vachell, Loder W. Tanfield, Landsdown Park, Bath.
Warwick, Benjamin James, 23, Albemarle Street, W.
Wathen, John Bridge Court, Hereford.
Watson, William, Millom Castle, Millom, Cumberland.

* Re-elected under Bye-Law 12.

The reports of the various Standing Committees were then presented and adopted as follows:—

Finance.

Mr. Ashworth reported the election of Sir Nigel Kingscote as chairman of the year. The accounts for the month ended December 31st, 1901, as certified by the society's accountants, showed total receipts amounting to £2,175 5s. 8d., and expenditure amounting to £3,247 0s. 4d.

House.

The Hon. Cecil Parker reported the election of Sir Nigel Kingscote as chairman of the year, and presented a number of accounts for payment. A letter had been received from Miss Emily Drew offering the society a portrait in oils of the late Mr. John Monkhouse, of The Stow, Whitney, Herefordshire, who was a well-known breeder of Hereford cattle. The committee recommended the acceptance of this offer with thanks.

Journal.

Sir John Thorold reported his election as chairman of this year. Copies had been laid upon the table of Volume 62 of the society's Journal, of which the delivery to members had been completed. Various letters expressing appreciation of the appearance of the new volume had been received.

Sale of Poisonous Substances used in Agriculture.

Mr. Bowen-Jones, in presenting the report of the Chemical Committee, said that members of the council would no doubt remember that their attention had already been drawn to the question which was now under the consideration of a committee appointed by the Privy Council as to the operation of the Pharcacy Act of 1868, which at present regulated the sale of poisons, especially in its relations to the very numerous articles now used in agricultural and horticultural operations for insecticides, sheep-dips, and the like which contained poisonous ingredients. Since the last meeting of the council an official letter had been received from the Privy Council Office, inviting the Royal Agricultural Society to give evidence before the Poisons Committee from the agricultural point of view, and the Chemical Committee had nominated him as their chairman, to represent their views, Dr. Voelcker accompanying him to answer any question that might be raised on technical points, in which his scientific knowledge and experience would be of value.

The Act of 1868 made it illegal under panalties to sell or keep open shop for retailing certain poisons by any person other than a duly qualified chemist. The poisons that could not be sold otherwise were enumerated in Schedule A of the Act, and they could be added to from time to time under Section 2 of that Act by a resolution of the Pharmaceutical Society declaring other articles to be poisons under the Act, provided that resolution were approved by the Privy Council. The poisons named in Schedule A of the Act of 1868 that were generally used in preparations or compounds for agricultural and horticultural purposes were arsenic, and its preparations, strychnine, and all poisonous vegetable alkaloids and their salts, and corrosive sublimate. Since the passing of the Act, carbolic acid had been added under Section 2, but through the opposition of the agricultural interest this substance was excepted "in any preparations used for agricultural and horticultural purposes." The poisons referred to in the original Schedule A of the Act entered largely into the composition of insecticides, vermin killers, dressings for live stock, sheep-dips, sheep fly powders, fruit tree and hop sprayers, and disinfectants, and others might still be added from time to time under Section 2, such as butter of antimony, sulphuric acid, and sulphate of copper, which were extensively employed in agricultural and horticultural operations.

The ordinary layman's construction of the Act of 1868 would be that it never was intended to apply to such compounds as he had named, used for purposes stated. But the action of the Pharmaceutical Society two or three years ago had rather set aside such a contention. Probably the considerable increase in the use of these articles in connection with agricultural and horticultural work which had taken place in recent years might have been the exciting cause for their action; but, be this as it might, some cases were, at the instance of the council of the Pharmaceutical Society, brought before the courts, claiming penalties against vendors—who were not chemists—of preparations containing arsenic for weed-killing, and of nicotine used as an insecticide. The first case failed throug a tecnicalihty, but in the second case a conviction was obtained, and the sellers of the insecticide preparation were fined under the provisions of the Act of 1868. It appeared, therefore, that chemists had, to some extent, obtained a monopoly, and there were signs that they wished to extend it.

The Poisons Committee had been appointed to inquire and report the alterations which they deemed expedient in Schedule A of the Pharmacy Act of 1868, and to consider whether a third subdivision might not properly be added to the schedule containing substances, which, whether sold by pharmeutical chemists or not, should be labelled or otherwise distinguished. The Chemical Committee were of opinion that it would be inconvenient to farmers and others living in rural districts to compel them to purchase the articles referred to at no other place than a chemist's shop; that the effect of such action would be to create a monopoly which would much enhance the price of the commodities purchased, to the detriment of farmers and gardeners, and for the benefit of one class of traders; and that such action would be strongly resented and resisted by agriculturists generally.

With regard, therefore, to the first subject of reference to the Poisons Committee, "to report the alterations which they deem expedient in Schedule A of the Pharmacy Act of 1868," the Chemical Committee were of opinion that it was necessary—

(a) That Schedule A of the Act of 1868 should be more strictly defined than at present. For example, the first item, "Arsenic and its preparations," might be held at present to cover sheep dips, weed killers, Paris green—for fruit trees—arsenical soaps, and other articles used in agricultural operations, which were totally unconnected with pharmacy, and were not required to be dispensed, being already prepared in the form in which they are used by the public. Such articles should either be excluded from Schedule A. or otherwise excepted from the provisions of Section 15 of the Act.

(b) That the power at present given under Section 2 of the Act to the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society to declare by resolution that "any article in such resolution named ought to be deemed a poison within the meaning of the Act of 1868," should as regards agricultural and horticultural articles be only exercised with the previous approval of the Board of Agriculture.

With regard to the second reference to the Poisons Committee "to consider whether a third sub-division might not be added to the Schedule, containing substances which, whether sold by pharmaceutical chemists or not, should be labelled or otherwise distinguished," the Chemical Committee thought it would be reasonable that any vendor of what for convenience might be called "agricultural and horticultural poisons" should be allowed to do so, provided he sold the article in the same condition as that in which he received it from the manufacturers, the packet, bottle, or other receptacle being kept intact and unopened, and marked outside with an indication of its contents, and of the poisonous nature of the substance. The specific articles to be included in this third sub-division should be clearly stated in the Schedule. In the case of the more virulently poisonous of such preparations, the same precautions as defined in Section 17 of the Act of 1868, as to a register of sales, etc., might also be prescribed; but otherwise there should be no restrictions or monopoly in the sale of poisonous sub-

stances used in agricultural or horticultural operations. He proposed, therefore, to give evidence before the Poisons Committee on the lines he had explained to the council.

Unsoundness of Travelling Stallions.

A letter had been received from the Devon County Council, forwarding the following resolution and inviting the co-operation of the Society in bringing the subject to the notice of the Government:—"That, in view of the national importance of an adequate supply of sound horses, this Council is of opinion that legislation should be introduced empowering county councils to prohibit the use for hire within their districts of stallions suffering from hereditary disease."

Mr. Ashworth, referring to the resolution from the Devon County Council, said he was sure that the council of the Society were fully in sympathy with the main object which the county council had in view, viz., to secure an adequate supply of sound horses; but whether this could be effected by legislative interference was another question. It seemed to him that, in view of the action taken by the Society in permitting no animal entered in the breeding classes for horses at its show to receive a prize unless it had been first declared free from hereditary disease by the Society's veterinary inspectors, and also in view of the similar action of the Royal Commission on Horse Breeding in connection with the King's Premium Stallions, the Devon County Council were moving in the right direction. In his own neighbourhood—and, he supposed, also in the neighbourhood of every other member of the council, there were some of these unsound stallions travelling at low prices. Farmers used them, and the injury they received was not to be measured by a year's keep, as the disease did not appear until the horse was three or four years old. By the use of these unsound stallions, the animals bred were useless, and instead of encouraging the farmers it disgusted them. He contended that it was just as culpable to conceal the unsoundness of a horse which was travelling as it was to sell margarine for butter, which brought anyone guilty of such an offence into the police court. He suggested that the Devon County Council should be informed of the action which the Royal Agricultural Society had taken for a number of years past in making it a condition that no prize should be awarded to any horse or mare in the breeding classes at the Society's shows unless the animal was previously certified to be free from hereditary disease.

Mr. Alfred Smith thought the matter was worthy of careful consideration, and he had felt very strongly on the point for years past. For his own part, he did not allow a groom to travel any stallion unless he carried with him a certificate of soundness. In his opinion, the majority of small farmers were simply led away by the looks of the horses and the low fees and he believed that nine out of ten small farmers did not know in the least where to look to find unsoundness in a horse. Anything that could be done to ensure the soundness of travelling horses would be of great national benefit.

Mr. Terry thought that the subject did not only apply to stallions, but also to unsound mares that were sent to the horses.

After remarks by the Hon. Cecil Parker, Sir Nigel Kingscote, and Mr. Bowen-Jones,

The chairman observed that the question was one of considerable importance. He thought it would be sufficient, on the present occasion, if a reply were sent to the Devon County Council, stating that the council of the Society were fully conscious of the national importance of an adequate supply of sound horses, and that by their rules, under which breeding animals in the classes for horses at the Society's shows were required to be certified as free from hereditary disease before receiving prizes, they were doing all they could to encourage the breeding of sound horses.

A reply in this sense was agreed to, and the report of the Veterinary Committee was adopted.

Stock Prizes.

Mr. Crutchley reported the election of Mr. Sanday as chairman of the year, and that in Mr. Sanday's absence, through ill-health, he had been elected chairman of the meeting. The committee recommended the acceptance of the following prizes, which had been offered during the Christmas recess and provisionally accepted by the chairman:—

SHETLAND PONY STUD-BOOK SOCIETY.—Two classes for Shetland Pony Stallions and Mares, with prizes of £5, £3, and £2 in each class.

SHORTHORN SOCIETY.—Two Champion Prizes of £20 for the best Shorthorn Bull and the best Cow or Heifer.



THE SHIRE FILLY shown above is Ruby Glimpse, 37,110, for which his Majesty the King obtained 450 gs. at last week's sale, the purchaser being Mr. Leopold Salamons. Ruby Glimpse was foaled in 1900, her sire being Calwich Blaze, 14,544, and her dam Glimpse, 23,801. At the Norfolk Agricultural Society's Summer Show last year Ruby Glimpse won first prize and the Shire Horse Society's Medal.

ENGLISH KERRY AND DEXTER CATTLE SOCIETY.—Prizes of £10, £5, and £3, in two classes, for Kerry and Dexter Heifers, born in 1900 or 1901, and third prizes of £3 each in four classes provided by the Society for Kerry and Dexter Bulls and Cows.

OXFORD DOWN SHEEP BREEDERS' ASSOCIATION.—Third prize of £3 in each of the classes for Oxford Down Ram Lambs and Ewe Lambs.

HAMPSHIRE DOWN SHEEP BREEDERS' ASSOCIATION.—Two Champion Prizes of £10 each for the best Two-shear or Shearling Ram and the best Pen of Shearling Ewes or Ewe Lambs.

NATIONAL PIG BREEDERS' ASSOCIATION.—Gold Medal for the best Small White Boar or Sow.

General Carlisle.

The Earl of Derby (chairman), reported that various matters relating to the Carlisle meeting had been discussed, and that instructions had been given for the usual application to be addressed to the Chief Commissioner for the services of a detachment of the Metropolitan Police for duty within the showyard.

Selection.

Sir John Thorold reported his election as chairman of the year. The committee had to report with deep regret the death, on December 23rd last, of one of the honorary members of the society—Sir J. Henry Gilbert, F.R.S.—to whom the society was indebted for many valuable contributions to the Journal. A letter had been received from Mr. C. S. Mainwaring resigning his seat upon the council, and the committee presented their recommendation as to the nomination of a member to fill the vacancy thus created.

The Chairman said he was quite sure that the council would share the regret expressed by Sir John Thorold at the death of Sir Henry Gilbert, who had rendered such great services to the cause of agriculture. They were also sorry to learn that Mr. Mainwaring had expressed his desire to retire from the council. Mr. Mainwaring had been a regular attendant at their meetings, and it had always been a great pleasure to work with him.

Site Committee.

Mr. Crutchley reported his election as chairman of the year. Progress was being made with the fencing, draining, and other preparations of the site for the purposes of the Society's permanent show. The committee, having decided that some additional ground was necessary to provide room for trials and for other purposes in connection with the shows, had been able to secure from the owner of the property a lease for five years (with an option of purchase) of a further 14 acres of land situated to the west and north-west of the showyard, together with the farmhouse and garden, which would practically be inside the showyard.

The Earl of Derby proposed that a cordial vote of thanks be passed by the council to the Lord Mayor of London, for his courtesy and hospitality at the Mansion House, in connection with the conference his lordship had been good enough to arrange in the previous week between His Royal Highness the President and other members of their council and the representatives of the leading City Guilds. It was thought that as their shows were coming to London, and would therefore attract not only London residents, but visitors to London from the provinces, it would be useful to enlist the practical sympathies of the great City Companies in their project. At the meeting at the Mansion House His Royal Highness the President had clearly explained the position in which the society found itself when the change to a permanent showyard had been decided upon; and they hoped that they had been able to convince those whom they had the pleasure to meet of the advantages of the proposed change. The Lord Mayor's invitation had been given in a most friendly spirit, and he moved that the best thanks of the society be conveyed to him for his courtesy in inviting them to meet the representatives of the City Companies.

Sir Walter Gilbey said he had much pleasure in seconding the motion. By the kindness of the Lord Mayor, the society's representatives had had the advantage of a personal conference with the masters of the chief City Guilds, and had been able to bring before them, under the pleasantest auspices, the circumstances under which the society sought the support of the City to its new enterprise of a permanent agricultural showyard in the neighbourhood of the metropolis. He trusted that all the members of council who had interests or influence in the City, would do their utmost to support the steps which had been taken by the society towards enlisting the sympathy and financial help of the City of London. He cordially seconded the vote of thanks to the Lord Major for the courtesy and hospitality which he had extended to the society.

The Chairman then put the motion, and it was carried unanimously.

Miscellaneous.

The secretary reported the receipt, through the Royal Commission for the Paris International Exhibition of 1900, of the Grand Prix Diploma which was awarded to the society at that exhibition.

Other business having been transacted, the council adjourned until Wednesday, March 5th, 1902.

Clydesdale Horse.

The annual meeting of the Clydesdale Horse Society was held at Glasgow on Tuesday, Mr. R. Brydon (Seaham Harbour) presiding. The annual report (extracts from which appeared in our issue of January 27th) was submitted, and the chairman, in moving its adoption, expressed satisfaction with the financial position of the Society, the year's working showing a credit balance of £224 1s. 9d. He thought the Society ought to feel indebted to the Messrs. Montgomery for their enterprise in sending across to Chicago a team of draught horses, which had been so successful there. In connection with the closing date for entries for the stud book, Mr. M'Neilage suggested that, in future, entries should close on August 31st, instead of October 31st as at present, in order that the work might be got through in time to have the book out for the stallion show. Lord Arthur Cecil (Orchard Mains, Kent), seconded, and the report was adopted.

Mr. St. Clair Cunningham (Hedderwick Hill, Dunbar), was elected president, and Mr. Robert Brydon (Seaham Harbour) vice-president. Mr. Matthew Mitchell (of Messrs. Mitchell and Smith) was appointed auditor, and councilmen were elected for the ensuing year.

Central and Associated Chambers.

The first meeting of the council of the Central and Associated Chambers of Agriculture, under the chairmanship of Sir Edward Strachey, M.P., took place on Tuesday, and there was a good attendance.

The Business Committee reported that at the next meeting they proposed the two following questions for discussion, namely: (1) Food supply in time of war, and (2) Rating of Machinery Bill. Mr. Berry pointed to the necessity of considering the sugar question from the fruit-growers' point of view. The Hon. James Lowther, M.P., said he hoped it would not go forth from that Chamber that there was anything against a reasonable increase of the sugar duty, especially if accompanied with preferential items in favour of British and Colonial produce. (Hear, hear.)

The chairman, in moving the appointment of the Earl of Warwick as vice-chairman, congratulated the council in having the services of a nobleman who was so well known, and who evinced such a deep interest in agriculture. The motion was carried with acclamation.

Mr. Bowen-Jones was re-elected treasurer, and the following were elected members of the Business Committee:—Mr. A. F. Jeffreys, Mr. B. St. John Ackers, Right Hon. James Lowther, Mr. C. Middleton (Cleveland), Mr S. Kidner (Somerset), Mr. Henry Williams (Monmouth), and Professor Long (British Dairy Farmers' Association).

Local Taxation.

The Local Taxation Committee submitted a review of the final report of the Royal Commission on Local Taxation, and expressed gratification that the report, on the whole, supported the policy advocated and the claim put forward by the committee ever since its formation that a large amount from Imperial sources should, in equity, be given in aid of local rates. The committee stated its conviction that, whether the contribution comes from the central authority in the shape of "assigned revenues" or "direct grants in aid," no arrangement could be considered equitable which did not provide that local authorities should have an amount assigned from the Government fully representing the interest of the general community in local expenditure on onerous services, and that such an arrangement would not encourage extravagance if the local authorities were empowered to raise, by a local rate, the amount needed to cover any excess of expenditure over the Government grant. The committee expressed a hope that before long the Royal Commission's opinions may bear fruit in permanent legislation.

Sir John Dorrington, Bart., M.P., in moving the adoption of the committee's report, said they had had an important duty to perform in summarising the extensive report of the Royal Commission. It would be noticed that the Royal Commission agreed to what had all along been the contention of that Chamber, that the system of local rating was unfair, as throwing too big a burden on special classes of property and those paying local taxes. He thought the report presented by the committee represented very fairly the essence of the report of the Royal Commission, to which he recommended the serious consideration of the Chamber. Sir Edward Hamilton and Sir George Murray presented the minority report, and he (Sir John Dorrington) failed to see why they did not agree with the majority report, seeing they agreed with it although from different standpoints. In the minority report they drew attention to the immense complexity and difficulty of the whole matter, which prevented any satisfactory conclusion being come to in regard to placing local taxation upon the same basis as Imperial taxation —namely, a charge upon the whole of the population. A recommendation in the minority report was that a sum should be paid out of Imperial taxation towards the assistance of local taxation. For the first time it was therefore authoritatively stated that there would be a distinction between onerous and beneficial burdens; that persons who had certain advantages by local expenditure should pay for it, but where the expenditure was not beneficial to any particular class it should be distributed over the whole of the population. To remedy this, the only method suggested was the payment of a contribution from Imperial funds. The Government would not deal with the question this year, but it was promised in the King's Speech that attention would be directed during the year towards securing a fair and equal valuation throughout the country. At present there were three valuations—the Crown, the county, and the parish or Union valuations—except in London, where all the three were co-terminous. The problem to obtain a single valuation did not seem a difficult one, and the Royal Commission suggested that it should be at once taken in hand.

Mr. J. Lowther, M.P., in seconding the motion, said the producer of butter, cheese, milk, corn, and cattle in this country was ground down by rates, while his foreign competitor was left absolutely free. He regretted that the committee had not called attention to this, and suggested that reasonable means should be taken to end such a state of affairs. The principle of subvention now recommended was wrong from beginning to end, as had been shown by the way in which money given to the county councils for the promotion of technical education had been flung about.

Mr. Middleton (Stockton) thought the report, so far as agriculturalists were concerned, only touched the fringe of the subject. Several other members expressed their dissatisfaction with the character of the report, but it was in the end adopted.

Rural Depopulation.

Mr. W. Charlton (Newark) then resumed the debate, adjourned from the last meeting of the council, upon Professor Long's motion, "That this council is of opinion that the establishment of small holdings in suitable districts and under suitable conditions will tend to arrest the migration of rural labour from the land." He expressed a belief that small holdings would have the effect of increasing the supply of labour available for large farmers, but urged that such holdings would not be generally successful without the adoption of co-operation among those who took them. The condition of agriculture in Denmark showed how much could be achieved by co-operation among small producers. In the Bewdley district of Worcestershire the labourers had readily accepted the principle of self-help, and in a few months a co-operative society formed among them had taught them to work together in a way which was impossible before. Agricultural co-operation would stem the tide of rural depopulation.

Mr. Middleton (Stockton) was against the proposition, because he was sure that working men would not take the trouble to keep a cow, and milk it. There were many estates with which he was acquainted in the north where land was set aside for small holdings which no one applied for; and the owner had to keep the land in his own hand.

Mr. James Lowther expressed the opinion that such suggestions as the adoption of co-operation, the supply of small holdings, and the improvement of labourers' dwellings, though good in their way, were but tinkering and petty devices that did not touch the main point. The flight from the rural districts was due to the fact that the business of those districts had ceased to be profitable, because it was impossible for it to compete against foreign rivals who were free from taxes, absolutely absolved from rates, and often in receipt of a substantial bonus. The amount of money that went out of the country, but might be kept here by improved fiscal arrangements, was an enormous national loss. Even economists hostile to anything in the nature of protection admitted that we were at the parting of the ways, that the country must recognise that the ideas of fifty years ago were out of date, and that retrograde financiers must be relegated to some other sphere. They must no longer suffer the foreigner to come into the country, endowed as he was, to the detriment of the English farmer. This was what the chamber must make known in every direction. (Applause.)

Mr. H. Stopes (London) said the whole question was one of prices for the farmer. It was imperative for them to secure a proper remuneration for the farmers and his labourers in growing produce.

Mr. A. F. Jeffreys, M.P., remarked that if they were to wait for an improvement of agriculture until the whole fiscal policy of this country had been changed, as Mr. Lowther desired, many of them would be ruined. The working of small holdings, he believed to be beneficial if the right people were placed upon them, and not people drawn from the towns.

Mr. Buchanan (Salop) agreed with the views expressed by Mr. Jeffreys, and described the small holdings granted to labourers on his estate, where they were within three miles of a market town, as being very successful.

Mr. Lawrence Hardy, M.P., was of opinion that small holdings were very good things, but he did not think that that alone would solve the difficulty with which they were met.

Mr. Channing, M.P., spoke with satisfaction of the effect of small holdings, but did not think that the Chamber should be bound down by the resolution, and moved as an amendment, "That a committee should be appointed to consider and report what measures—whether by the promotion of small holdings or other means of improving the conditions of life in agricultural districts—will tend to arrest the migration of agricultural labour from the land."

Mr. Kidner (Taunton) seconded the amendment.

Sir Mark Stewart, M.P., urged that if they wanted to keep good agricultural labourers on the land they must pay them a wage commensurate with that with which they could earn elsewhere. He had had experience of small holdings in his district, and as a rule they were taken by men who were old, and who could not do anything for themselves in town.

Mr. Rider Haggard said the Chamber would admit that this was a matter of very great importance, and one in which the national life of the country was concerned. He thought they would admit that it was one in which that Chamber could not come hurriedly to a conclusion. When a conclusion was reached it could go forth to the world as the mature judgment of the greatest body of agricultural experts in England. For that reason he supported the amendment. It was not the slightest use introducing the question of Protection. They might or might not believe in Protection, but in crying for Protection it was like crying for the moon. (Laughter.) They knew that Protection would not appear in this country again unless some terrible catastrophe, which they never wished to see, happened. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. G. E. Francis, who proceeded to discuss the principles of Free Trade, urged that Cobden never intended universal Free Trade. Although several times called to order, Mr. Francis went on to say that Free Trade was repugnant to the success of the farmer, and that the manufacturers, by sticking to Free Trade, were doing an immense amount of damage, not only to themselves, but to agriculture. He was prepared to prove those propositions, and added that if he went out of the room still holding with Free Trade, they would be going to the ——. (Loud laughter.)

Mr. Digby Collins (Cornwall) said he had laid out a large number of small holdings, but not one farm labourer was in the occupation of one of those holdings; those in occupation were men who had an additional pursuit to help them. There was no migration of elderly people into the town; but those who drifted there were couples, or single persons in the prime and vigour of life. (Applause.)

Mr. Beechcroft (Cheshire) supported the amendment. In Cheshire a farm of 200 acres was thought to be a large holding; but they were really small, and on that account he believed they had been better able to stand up during the recent bad times. So far as his experience went, where a small holding of three or four acres was to be obtained there were scores of applicants. The question of wages had a great deal to do with the present position of matters. They must have good labourers, but they must not forget that a good labourer could not be made out of a walking-stick. (Laughter.)

Mr. J. T. Wilson (Stockton) described the various attractions which men had in towns, and recommended that some relaxation should be allowed to the labourer in the form of a holiday, or wages in lieu thereof. He supported the amendment.

Professor Long said he would adopt the amendment of Mr. Channing, so that the resolution was withdrawn, and the amendment became the substantive resolution.

Mr. D'Arcy Wyvill then moved this amendment:—"That a committee be appointed to consider the question of rural depopulation, and that the business committee select the names and submit them at the meeting of the council."

This was seconded and passed unanimously, and the meeting then adjourned.

Royal Commission on Horse Breeding.

A meeting of the Royal Commission on Horse Breeding was held on Monday at 13, Hanover Square, W. There were present the Duke of Portland (Master of the Horse), in the chair, the Earl of Coventry, Sir John Gilmour, Bart., Mr. J. Bowen Jones, Mr. Alfred E. Pease, M.P., and Mr. J. Herbert Taylor (Secretary). Sir Jacob Wilson wrote expressing regret at being unable to attend the meeting.

The financial statement for the past year was presented and passed. The stewards were appointed and the judges and veterinary surgeons nominated for the forthcoming show, to be held at Islington, on March 11th, 12th, and 13th. The number of thoroughbred stallions entered for King's Premiums was reported to be ninety-six up to the closing of first entries, but post entries will be received up to to-day (Monday).

New Agricultural Patents.

Specially compiled for *Mark Lane Express* by Mr. G. D. Howard (Hughes, Son and Co.), patent agent, 38, Chancery Lane, London, of whom all information relating to Patents, Designs, and Trade Marks may be obtained free of charge:—

1510.—Edward Meredith Griffiths, of Ludgate Square, London, for "Improvements in grinding machines."

1557.—George John Bachmann, of Chancery Lane, London, for "Improvements in planters for potatoes and the like."

1661.—Carl Aufsberg, of High Holborn, London, for "Improved process for preserving eggs."

Patents Sealed.

18,013.—C. C. Coffinberry, of Oregon, U.S.A., for "Ploughs, agricultural."

18,015.—A. Asmore and J. Nelson, of Fargo, Ga., U.S.A., for "Ploughs, combined with manure distributers."

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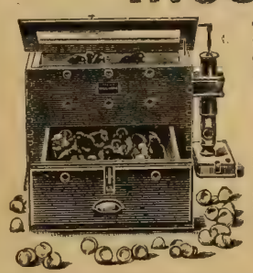


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Sir William Harcourt on the Poultry Industry.

A meeting in support of the National Poultry Organisation Society was held at Londonderry House, Hyde Park, on Tuesday, and was attended by a large and distinguished company. The Duke of Portland presided, and in opening the proceedings, said he was glad to do all he could to further a well-considered scheme likely to be beneficial to agriculture, the greatest of all our national industries; and he believed the objects of this society, if they became widely known and strongly supported, would be a very great improvement indeed. No longer could our farmers depend upon corn growing and cattle-rearing to pay their rents; they were compelled to turn attention to those articles formerly regarded as the minor products of the farm. The objects of the association were, shortly, to help farmers to meet the demand for eggs and poultry, and to encourage the keeping of poultry on farms and small holdings. This it was hoped to do by securing the best markets at the very least cost. The fact that the demand for poultry and eggs had increased very rapidly was quite unquestionable; and the increase had not nearly equalled the demand our population made upon such articles of food. This fact was borne out by the startling statistics of the foreign supply, which he proceeded to give. In the 20 years to 1901 Great Britain paid foreign countries more than 25 millions sterling for eggs alone, and in the last year the amount was double what it was in the first year. He thought such figures justified the existence and demanded public support for such a society as this. He was informed that no country in the world had a better climate or one more suitable for the poultry industry than our own, and the efforts of the society had already met with a large amount of success.

Lord Aberdeen moved "That this meeting regards with satisfaction the increasing attention given to the production in the United Kingdom of poultry and eggs of good quality, and is of opinion that the extension and development of the industry would be advantageous and profitable, whether as part of the ordinary operations of the farm or in the hands of the occupiers of small holdings and of cottages."

Mr. Grant Lawson, M.P., representing Mr. Walter Long, M.P., seconded. He rejoiced to know that all parties could unite in supporting the society, and that the simple egg, whether of English or foreign extraction, had ceased to play an active part in British politics. As a producer of eggs he could not compete with many present, but as an appreciative consumer he yielded place to no one. (Laughter.) He confessed that his appetite had often been dulled by the knowledge that he was occasionally obliged to eat foreign fowls at a fancy price, while the farmers of England were receiving an entirely unremunerative sum for their chickens.

Sir William Harcourt proposed, "That this meeting congratulates the National Poultry Organisation Society on the substantial success which has attended its efforts, and commends the society to the support of all who can render it assistance either by becoming subscribers or donors to its funds, or by taking part in the establishment of branches and collecting depots in the rural districts." He said: The thing that astonishes me, and I think must astonish you, is why I should be here to move a resolution; but I can give an account of that which will, I think, be satisfactory and conclusive. She directed me to be here. I once read an interesting novel, in which the principal character was "She, who must be obeyed." There are so many of them, and they are the lineal representatives of the first She in our history. (Laughter.) On this occasion I was directed by Lady Cranborne, the president of this association, to be here and move a resolution, and perhaps, with her intimate connection with official circles, she is of opinion that those who have long dealt in politics ought to be adepts in judiciously walking upon eggs. (Laughter.) But the real truth is that I had the advantage some weeks ago in an historical country house to hear from Lady Cranborne the objects and the works of this society. She and I live on opposite banks of the Avon in a country with a sparse population, with a wide range of district occupied principally by small holders, and inhabited also by a very independent class of labourers, and anything which tends to the advantage of such a population as that naturally interests me, as it does her.

I was very glad to hear from Mr. Grant Lawson, as a member of the Government, that the question of the import of goods to the amount of £5,000,000, is a matter that ought not to be neglected. In these days, as he very properly observed, £5,000,000 here or there is nothing. But it is in point of fact a very serious matter, and without pretending to any special or detailed acquaintance with this matter, there is one object which is, I think, of very special and urgent importance, and that is in interesting the populations that occupy our rural districts in remaining in those districts with advantage and with profit. (Hear, hear.) I am glad to think, after a long experience of life, that there is nothing more satisfactory than the improvement of the condition of the agricultural labourer. I, who can recollect when wages were much lower, when hours of labour where much longer, when, above all, the women worked in the fields (which now, I am happy to think, they hardly ever do), must know that they have means and opportunities—I might also mention their better education—of placing their time to better advantage than that in which it is now employed.

I do not believe that the development of this industry is mainly to be looked for in the large holdings of land in this country. It does not suit their industry. If you really want to popularise the production of articles like those of poultry and eggs, you must develop it among the small people. (Hear, hear.) The small holders in the district where I live have train advantages and other facilities which, if they were developed, might be very largely increased. The labourers themselves and their wives, if you only gave them proper opportunities, might make a very decent profit, as well as a very good occupation of their time.

Something had been said in a disparaging way by my friend Mr. Lawson as to the British climate, but I do not believe that the climate is an obstacle at all. It seems to me that there is no obstacle but one, and it is one which affects not only a small trade like this, but all the great trades of this country. Somehow or other, while we produce articles as good or better than the rest of the world, we are beaten by them because they have cultivated the art of bringing their commodities to the best market in a manner we have never succeeded in doing. If you read all the colonial reports and the valuable reports to the Foreign Office, you will see it is constantly said that the British manufacturer does not take the pains other manufacturers do to place his goods to the best advantage in the markets of the world.

We ought in this country to have a monopoly, if we managed it properly, of the high class of eggs, eggs which command a high price. But the fact is that eggs which really are of the highest class, in consequence of the want of facilities of marketing, get the price simply of the lowest egg in the market. That ought not to be. And you can perfectly well understand that to small holders of whom I speak, and labourers in the New Forest—it is a matter of trouble and expense to get their fresh eggs to the market. This association is for the purpose of devising means by which a small man with his dozen or so of eggs may obtain what he ought to have—the best price that can be got in the market, and the best price is about double that which he gets. There ought to be a decent profit. What a former speaker said is quite true, that there has been a great improvement in the poultry industry of this country. The breeds are better understood, the methods of production are altogether better understood, and therefore all the materials of what I would call a monopoly of price, which you ought to have, are lost and sacrificed because there is wanting a method of giving the commodity a market which it ought to have.

Mr. W. Palmer, M.P., seconded the motion, and pleaded for increased financial aid to the society, which he said required from £12,000 to £15,000 to carry out the work in hand. In return for that outlay it hoped to put into the pockets of the British farmers profits amounting to between £5,000,000 and £6,000,000. (Hear, hear.)

The resolution having been carried unanimously,

Sir James Blyth proposed a vote of thanks to the Duke of Portland, to the Marquis and Marchioness of Londonderry, Viscountess Cranborne, and others who had promoted the success of the meeting.

Mr. E. F. G. Hatch, M.P., seconded the motion, which was briefly acknowledged by the chairman.



By Hordeum.

The British Barley Society.

This society has been established with a view to undertaking a lot of useful and necessary work, and if it only accomplishes a part of it there will be general satisfaction felt with its attempt. Every thoughtful person is growing concerned at the diminished amount of food we produce, and the depopulation of our rural districts. There is no agreement as to which evil is the greater, but few sensible people dispute the fact that it will be well for the national good if both are stopped. Some can see the intimate relation they bear to each other, for if the land were made to produce more a larger number would be supported by it. Everyone acquainted with farming knows that any land under the plough or spade, if properly tilled, yields more in every way than if laid down to grass or permanent pasture. It is commonly known that it gives employment to

More Labourers,

consequently anything that gives work, if fairly paid, must keep more men on the land and in our villages. Practical farmers are agreed that one of the things that still pay to grow is barley. But by the time we reach this stage there ceases to be agreement upon any suggested course. One man wants one thing one another. Small holdings may meet certain requirements, and improved social conditions with better pay may do more, but the fundamental point after all is the production of paying crops.

Consequently, any steps that improve the quality and quantity grown per acre of a crop like barley are desirable, provided the cost equals only a part of the increased return that ought to be fairly looked for.

Now, it is certain that our barley-growers are in a parlous state. Prices have shown so little tendency to rise even under the exceptional circumstances of this season that we can only hope for improvement with the dread certainty that it is not likely to come.

The Only True Hope

may be fixed upon improvement in quality or, better still, in a much greater yield per acre. Brewers have started upon the exceedingly short-sighted and suicidal policy of grinding down the price of barley to a non-remunerative point. It is useless to look to Parliament for redress or readjustment of the wrong as it stands. We have far too large a proportion of our legislators interested in the profits of brewers to expect them to pass Acts that will protect consumers or benefit producers.

But even if they would, it is desirable in the national interest to make barley-growing pay independently of the brewers. This can only be done by greater attention being given to the practical steps in production and use.

The Barley Show

has proved that right understanding of customers' requirements has led to general improvement in the cultivation and handling of barley, but it has also brought into prominent relief the need existing for further progress.

It is not reasonable to expect private individuals to go further than the executive of the Brewers' Exhibition have already done. In fact, the whole community are under a heavy debt of obligation to Messrs. Dale and Reynolds, and the able staff of judges who have so generously helped them for many years.

But much as the Brewers' Exhibition has done, its chief value ultimately may prove the admirable start it has prepared for the young society which will have to carry on the good work so well begun.

A large number of good barley-growing counties, representing more than half the barley area of England, most of Wales, and all Scotland and Ireland have no incentives offered to exhibit at the show. This will be altered, and every small suitable area will have separate prizes offered, so that the competition will be on fair lines to all concerned. A dozen more groups of counties will be able to demonstrate to buyers their ability to offer sound, useful malting grain or seed-corn, even if they cannot expect to win champion honours.

Technical education in county areas will doubtless lead to much improvement in many ways, but this will only extend the true usefulness of the society, which can step in and do work that County Councils, agricultural schools, or colleges, and even our universities, will not be able to do.

The society starts upon the strong

Foundation of Utility.

There is much for it to do, and it only needs the support of members to do it. Well will it be for our country when it has four million acres sown to barley, instead of two, if for no other reason but to furnish sturdy country-bred recruits for our Army and Navy. It is certain that the attention of the country is turning to the reconsideration of the fallacies of Free Trade, and on this point also a vigorous organisation can be productive of great good when the right time comes. Changes will certainly occur in the methods of levying existing taxation, and probably new taxes will arise. In these changes barley at present has no representation, greatly as it is interested, but it must in the future, and the British Barley Society will make its influence for good felt in this direction also.

Mr. H. Stopes, of 11, Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C., and chairman of the judges at the Brewers' Exhibition, the hon. secretary of the British Barley Society, has forwarded us the following communication:—

There has long been a strong wish on the part of many interested in the national well-being, that there should be a society formed in order to foster the important industry of barley-growing.

It is widely felt that, whilst there are many societies devoted to the special interests of particular classes, or special breeds of horses, cattle, sheep, swine, poultry, flowers, and numerous other things, our most important cereal crop is sadly neglected, and the arable cultivation of our soil is becoming more and more restricted every succeeding year. Agriculture is hereby depressed to exceedingly grave national disadvantage.

Even our agricultural societies and farmers' clubs do not give the care and consideration to this branch of agriculture which is urgently required.

It has become unhappily true that the most valuable and important crop produced in Great Britain is barley. But, at the same time, it is equally true that this crop is the one that our islands can produce better than any of our colonies or foreign rivals have thus far done.

Probably the influence of the Brewers' Exhibition has contributed to this supremacy of barley, for it has furnished many of our best farmers with information, and provided object-lessons, from which they have been swift to learn. The judges at this exhibition are a selected band of a dozen of our best maltsters, brewers, and agriculturists, who have harmoniously worked together for many years, and have consistently tried to select the best types of barley to grow. They have also taken infinite trouble to acquire, and put into concise tables and in practical form, much information concerning the selection of soils, time to sow, quality and quantity of seed to use, manures to add or avoid, the rotation of crops, treatment of the grain, and other things.

The good thus far accomplished is the best proof of the need for more to be attempted, especially as the time has come when the further improvement of the crop, in other directions than for maltsters' use, is a vital necessity.

All this "The British Barley Society" will be able to do, provided only a small proportion of those directly concerned join the society, and give to it the power of numbers and experience.

The objects of the society are:—(1) To improve the character and quality of barley; (2) to aid growers in every way by furnishing fullest information as to soils, seed, rotation and manures, stacking, threshing, and dressing, and use; (3) to encourage the better use of barley; (4) to foster arable cultivation of the soil, keep men on the land, and where possible, to bring them back to it; (5) to aid national defence.

One purpose will be to offer incentives and direct encouragement to growers in counties where more and better barley can and should be grown.

The society will be non-political and non-contentious, but it will help the industry of barley-growing by all legitimate means, and work in entire unison with all existing organisations that aim at the improvement of agriculture.

It is proposed that, starting from January each year, the subscription shall be not less than 5s. (five shillings) per annum from each tenant farmer occupying under 250 acres, and a guinea, or upwards, from all others, the amount to be ruled by their own feeling in the matter.

The purpose is to secure members rather than funds, although the society cannot be conducted without means.

Members of the society will be able to enter at the barley show at half price, and the society starts its career with a recognised and influential annual show, ready formed, and with many years of acquired experience. It is anticipated that the utility and influence for good of the Brewers' Exhibition barley competition will be extended by the society.

You are cordially asked to join at once, for it is imperatively needed that the decrease in area of arable land may be stopped.

In the whole history of trade combination it has not yet been so manifest how much the interest of traders has been bound up with the nations gains. History does not record an instance of national defence being so dependent upon the assistance a single industry can give.

Britain grows the best barley. Join in the effort to make its production good for all concerned, growers, intermediaries, and consumers.

IN PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

On Monday Earl Carrington asked the Under Secretary of State for War what portion of the meat supplies for the British troops in South Africa had been procured from Argentina, on what authority was the statement made that Australia and New Zealand were unable to furnish adequate supplies of meat for this purpose, and whether the contracts from the Argentine could be cancelled in view of the protests of the Premiers of New South Wales and New Zealand.

Lord Raglan said that the contracts, as usual, contained no stipulation as to the sources from which the meat should be drawn, but a large portion of the supplies had consisted of frozen mutton from Australia and New Zealand. It was believed that in the course of the second year of the contract a certain amount of Argentine beef had been supplied, but it would be difficult, if not impossible, to say what the proportion was. When the tenders were issued in November special arrangements were made in the interests of the Colonies, the quotations being returnable in London so that the Agents-General might submit offers, and cabled prices being admitted to competition. Only three tenders were received, and the lowest was from a firm connected with a syndicate having close connections with South Africa and New Zealand. The Secretary of State having satisfied himself as to the financial standing of the firm, accepted their tender. The original tender contained no stipulation as to where the meat supplied should come from, but before it was signed an undertaking was obtained from the firm that as far as possible the meat should be obtained from Australia and New Zealand. It would be seen, therefore, that there were no grounds for the protests, but that, on the contrary, everything had been done which could reasonably be done to encourage the supply of meat from the British colonies.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

The Tuberculosis Experiments.

Mr. Channing asked the President of the Local Government Board whether he could state when the Commission, appointed to report on Professor Koch's theory that bovine and human tuberculosis were distinct diseases and incommunicable, was expected to report.

Mr. Lawson, who replied, said:—My right hon. friend is not in a position to state when the Commission will be able to report; but it is not likely that they can do so for a considerable time. I am informed that very extensive experiments will have to be carried out by the Commission, and that for this purpose laboratories and other buildings have been erected on the farms where this part of the work is to be done. It is, I understand, impossible to say how long these experiments will take, but arrangements have been made for the Commission to occupy the farms for three years.

Old Age Pensions.

Mr. Black asked the First Lord of the Treasury on Thursday whether His Majesty's Government would introduce or give facilities for the passing into law of a measure for providing Old Age Pensions.

Mr. Balfour: The hon. member will hardly expect me to add to the list of measures to be dealt with in the course of the session. (Laughter.)

The Plano Manufacturing Company, of Chicago, U.S.A., and 115, Southwark Street, London, S.E., have issued a capitally got up catalogue of the Plano harvesting machinery. It is most profusely illustrated; the various parts of the machinery are shown and described, and among other illustrations showing the machines at work is one particularly pretty scene, which depicts four mowers at work on a Norfolk farm.



British Draught Stallions for Canada.

The fifty million bushel wheat crop has placed the Manitoba farmers in a position to purchase high-class stock, and the demand for such should receive the immediate attention of British horse breeders. Stallions commence to travel in Canada about the 1st of May, and British sires could be landed in Winnipeg in from 15 to 18 days at comparative little cost or risk, the latter can be covered by insurance.

The Brandon correspondent, writing to the "Winnipeg Free Press" (Manitoba), of the 15th of January, 1902, says:—

"There has been an increasing demand among farmers in the West for heavy horses, averaging 1,400 pounds weight. For the last few years 1,500 horses on an average have been imported by Brandon dealers, and an average of 1,000 imported for the last 20 years; making a total of about 20,000. Add to this other horses of all description, mustangs, etc., and Brandon's total comes well up to 25,000 horses, most of which have been distributed within a radius of 30 miles of Brandon alone.

"With the better settlement of the country, and the establishing of a large number of the farmers, there has arisen the need of more home-breeding, with the best pedigreed horses. The difficulty chiefly was that of cost. Few could give £500 for a good stallion, and take the risks of bad results; but a plan which has grown popular was adopted by the dealers to suit the circumstances of the farmer. Syndicates, of about 25 farmers or less, are formed, each member taking a £30 share of the cost of the horse. This is adapted to the farmer, and lessens his chances of losing much; while on the part of the dealer it proves even more satisfactory, as he is absolutely sure of getting his money, since practically every farmer can be depended on for the £30.

"Clydesdales predominate, there being fifteen of them brought in to one of other breeds. The Percheron, which was so largely bred in the States, is being rapidly replaced by the Clydesdale. The greater number of this class of horses are brought in from Iowa, which imports them direct from Scotland mostly. One dealer has said that the large number of Scotch people in the West greatly influences the importing of Clydesdales. There is a great demand for them, and it is increasing at a quick rate. From all over the province and the Territories comes the demand for these high-priced pedigreed horses.

"Messrs. Munn and MacGregor, of Brandon, made a splendid start some 15 years ago, by importing a score of high-class Shires, purchased at Lord Ellesmere's and other sales; and although there is a good demand for draught stallions of far less value than £500 in the newer districts, the shipment of non-pedigree and inferior sires of any breed would be sure to result in failure. There is, for the present, even a greater demand for big-boned, thoroughbred, hunter, hackney, coaching, and cob stallions in the western territories than for draught.

"The Horse Breeders' Lien Ordinance, which came into force in the Canadian North-West in 1899, provides for the registration of stud horses, and a mare or foal can be followed for a service fee, which takes precedence to mules or any other claim."

Bad Meat Farmer Fined £50.—Frederick William Tatam, of Hall Farm, Harpswell, near Gainsborough, Lincolnshire, was summoned at the Clerkenwell Police Court on the 31st ult. for depositing for the purpose of sale on December 21st at 95, Charterhouse Street, Smithfield, four quarters of beef which were unsound and unfit for food of man. George Billing, meat inspector, proved the seizure and spoke of the general condition of the meat. From its appearance he concluded that the animal—a heifer—had been killed when in a moribund condition. Dr. Newman, medical officer, said the entire carcase showed signs of general inflammatory disease, and was dropsical. There had probably been acute inflammation of the kidneys. The defence was that the meat had been sent to London by the defendant's servants and without his special knowledge. Mr. D'Eyncourt said the defendant either sent the meat to London wilfully or was grossly negligent. He imposed a fine of £50, with 10 guineas costs.

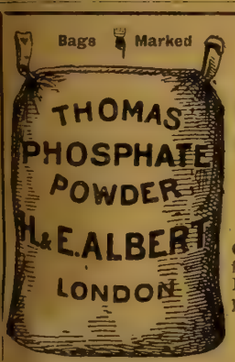
Carlisle Candlemas Hirings.—These quarterly hiring of farm servants were held at Carlisle on the 1st inst., and there was an unusually large attendance of all classes of servants. Farmers requiring their services, however, were not so numerous, and high wages being asked all round, business was dull. Owing to the high rate of wages recently paid for farm labour, farmers are now laying more land down to grass, and require less labour for ploughing, and more men are therefore seeking work. Up to £12 was asked for the quarter till Whitsuntide, including board and lodgings in the farm houses, but not more than £9 or £10 was paid for the best men, whilst boys and younger men were hired at from £4 or £5 up to £7, according to their experience and usefulness. Women obtained from £5 to £7, and girls from about £2 10s., for the quarter.

WATERLOO ROUND CAKES,

Acknowledged as the Best Feeding Cake in the Market for all Classes of Stock, and especially the Young.

Prices, Samples, and particulars free on application to AYRE BROS., THE AVENUE, HIGH STREET, HULL, or to the

WATERLOO MILLS CO., LIMITED, HULL.

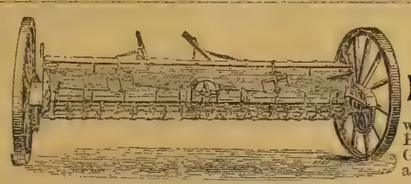


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DAY, SON & HEWITT'S
GREAT LAMBING & CALVING REMEDIES.

TO HIS MAJESTY THE KING.

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For Anointing after Calving and Lambing.
For Straining and Preventing Gangrene.
For all Sores, Wounds, and Swollen Udders.
For Sore Throats, Strains, and Rheumatism.
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THE RED DRENCH

For Cleansing after Lambing and Calving.
For Hide Bound, Red Water, and Yellows.
For Chills, Fever, and Loss of Cud.
For Preventing Milk Fever and Quarter Ill.
Price 3s. 6d. per doz. (Ewes); 13s. per doz. (Cows).

Polished Chest, with lock and key, Gratis, and full instructions sent.



Price complete 30s. and 35 or.

If required for Ewes or Cows only, please say so when ordering.

THE GASEOUS FLUID.

Cures Prostration in Cows and Ewes.
Cures Low Condition, Debility and Hoven.
Cures Scour, Colic, or Gripes, and Diarrhœa.
Cures Coughs, Colds, and Loss of Appetite.
Price 1s. 9d. per bottle; 20s. per doz.

THE GASEODYNE.

Used as Laudanum for *Deadening Pain.*
For Severe Diarrhœa and Influenza.
For *Severe* Pains during Parturition.
For Inflammatory Colic and Lung Disorders.
Price 3s. 6d. per bottle.

Estd. in the year 1833. | ROYAL ANIMAL MEDICINE MANUFACTORY, 22, DORSET STREET LONDON, W. | Beware of Imitations.

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In order to enable us to supply clean Cotton Seed and a Cotton Cake of good quality we have taken over a mill lately fitted up with the very best modern machinery, which enables us to sell at the lowest possible and at the same time turn out an Undecorticated Cotton Cake practically free from LINT, DIRT, and SAND.

The Cakes are branded "VESTA" PURE.

Buyers of the "VESTA" FEED CAKES can have the Cottons shipped at same time, thus saving any delay.

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Moisture	11·30	Moisture	10·20
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✱Albuminoids (Flesh-Forming Matters)	26·50	✱Albuminoids (Flesh-Forming Matters)	23·50
Starch, Mucilage, Sugar ...	32·55	Starch, Mucilage, Sugar ...	25·11
Indigestible Woody Fibre ...	19·28	Woody Fibre	15·36
Mineral Matter (Ash)	4·70	Mineral Matters (Ash)	4·20
	100·00		100·00
✱Containing Nitrogen ...	4·24	✱Containing Nitrogen ...	3·76
Sand	·10		

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Secure Better Breeding Results and Reduced Mortality amongst Lambs by using

J. RANDS & JECKELL'S SHEEP & LAMB SHELTERING CLOTHS



THURSCOE HALL, ROTHERHAM, March 11th, 1891.
Dear Sirs,—Please send me four more of the 20 yard Sheep Cloths, the same as you sent me in January; they are very convenient things.—Yours truly,
W. A. ELLIS.

20 yds. long, 3 ft. deep, with Brass Eyelets, and Cords for fixing to Hurdles.

6d., 9d., and 1s. per yd. Rot-Proof, 1s. 6d. per yd.

WADHURST PARK, September, 1892.
Sirs,—I can with every confidence recommend your Sheep and Lamb Sheltering Cloths, especially the "Dupla," when they form a most efficient, easily moved, and durable shelter."—Yours truly,
W. W. CHAPMAN.

20 yds. long, 6 ft. deep with Brass Eyelets and Cords for fixing to Hurdles.



1s., 1s. 6d., and 2s. per yd. Rot-proof, 3s. per yd.
Carriage paid on Orders above £2. 5 per cent. Discount for Cash.

Write for Pamphlet on SHELTER FOR SHEEP AND LAMBS.
POST FREE ON APPLICATION TO

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Sack, Rick, Cloth, & Tent Manufacturers,
By Special Royal Warrant to HIS MAJESTY THE KING.

SULPHATE OF AMMONIA.

Incomparably the BEST and CHEAPEST form of Nitrogen and Ammonia.

PRODUCES LARGER CROPS THAN ARE OBTAINED FROM THE USE OF ANY OTHER FORM OF "ARTIFICIAL" NITROGEN.

See Reports of Experiments at Dalmeny, Woburn, Midland Dairy Institute, The Coachford Agricultural Society (County Cork), The Escrick and District Agricultural Club, The North Walsham and Aylsham Agricultural Society, The Yorkshire College Experiments.

See also Report of Root Show at Scottish National Fat Stock Club, which all the First Prizes in the Open Classes were awarded to Roots and Cabbage grown with Sulphate of Ammonia.

PRODUCES CROPS OF HIGHER FEEDING VALUE THAN ARE OBTAINED BY THE USE OF ANY OTHER MANURE.

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PRODUCES BETTER QUALITY OF MALTING BARLEY THAN IS OBTAINED FROM THE USE OF ANY OTHER MANURE TESTED AT ROTHAMSTED.

See Report on "Manurial Conditions affecting the Malting Quality of English Barley," in **Journal of the Royal Agricultural Society of England, 1897.**

Also Report of Barley Competitions at the Brewers' Annual Exhibition, Royal Agricultural Hall, London.

For Pamphlets, and other Information on the subject, apply to—

W. G. BLAGDEN,

SULPHATE OF AMMONIA COMMITTEE,

4, FENCHURCH AVENUE, LONDON, E.C.

MOLASSINE MEAL

FOR

HORSES, CATTLE, SHEEP and PIGS,

A STAPLE FOOD, APPETISER & DIGESTER,

Replacing an Equal Quantity of other Food. Patented in all the Principal Countries in the World.

Old Rides, Eastchurch, Sheerness.

Dear Sir,—I have given the Molassine a fair trial, and find it a particularly good appetiser and food for **Store Lambs**; and my **Fat Beasts** (of which I tie up about 120 a year) **have never done so well as with a mixture of Molassine.**

Faithfully yours,
THOMAS HORNSPOOL
(Steward to Capt. G. L. Holford),
Equerry to H.M. The King.

Milton House, Rainham, Kent, Jan. 18, 1901.

Dear Sir,—I have given my Horses and **Turn Mark Ewes** a fair trial with your "Molassine Meal," and am well pleased with the results.

Yours faithfully
S. J. BRICE.

Bridgewood House, Burham, Dec. 31, 1900.

Dear Sir,—I have given your Molassine Meal a fair trial, and am pleased to say **I have never had my Horses in better condition than they are at the present time**: in fact, I have been working them very hard of late with my Drag-hounds, and the going has been extremely heavy. Please get me another half ton ready.

Yours truly,
BANKS W. BARLING.

Rainham, Jan. 10, 1901.

Dear Sir,—I have used the Molassine Meal which I had of you for my **Horses and Sheep** during the whole of the winter, and I must say that it makes them healthy, and gives them a very good appetite.

My sheep have done well on it, and I shall highly recommend it to all I know.

Faithfully yours,
W. DENNIS.



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Price £6 15s. per ton
in quantities not under 1 ton.
(Quantities under 1 ton at the rate of ***7s. 6d.*** per cwt.)

F.O.R. at either LIVERPOOL or LONDON. A Sample Lot of 6 cwt. in 4 Bags of 1½ cwt. each delivered free to any station in England on receipt of remittance, ***£2 11s.***

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Exclusively for
"THE MOLASSINE CO., Ltd."
Buyers are recommended to order two tons and upwards, as this quantity comes under the Cheap Railway Rates of Class C.

FOR FURTHER PARTICULARS APPLY TO

THE MOLASSINE COMPANY, Ltd.,

36, Mark Lane, London, E.C.;
Or Their Agents.

Gushmere Court, Selling, nr. Faversham, Jan. 15, 1901.

Sir,—**MOLASSINE MEAL.**—I have given this preparation a fair trial, and am pleased with the results. I first gave it to two **Farm Horses** that were out of condition, and in a few weeks saw marked improvement, and they look as well now as any of my horses, and appear to work much more cheerfully.

I am now trying Molassine on a yard of fatting Steers; they are doing very well, but the trial has not lasted long enough to say much about it yet.

Yours faithfully,
W. W. BERRY.

Allington Farm Maidstone, Oct. 4, 1900.

I cannot speak too highly of your Molassine Meal. **I tried it on all my stock, and can see a great improvement since using it.** Kindly forward me one ton to Maidstone, S.E. Railway, at your earliest.

J. EDMUNDS.

(Repeat order on Oct. 17 for one ton, to his other farm at Gillingham.)

The Manor, Borstal, Rochester, Jan. 16, 1901.

Dear Sir,—I am very pleased with the results produced by Molassine on the **Jersey Cow** I keep for the house; **she has made flesh, and kept up the quantity and quality of her milk. My lambs have all done well with it.**

Yours truly,
W. R. CRASKE.

MOLASSINE MEAL

PERUVIAN GUANO.

We are offering a wide choice of qualities, including CHINCHAS and the most recent importations.

DISSOLVED PERUVIAN GUANO,

Strongly recommended for Top-dressing, Potatoes and Fruit Culture.

Ichaboe Guano,
Pure Vitriolised Bones,
Bone Compounds,
Superphosphates,
Nitrate of Soda,
Kainit,
Basic Slag,
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(Established 1832.)

THE LEADING BRITISH AUTHORITY ON THE PRACTICE AND SCIENCE OF THE

Farm, Live Stock, Dairy, Milling, Malting, Hops, &c.

(Registered as a Newspaper at the General Post Office.)

Vol. LXXXVI. No. 3673. LONDON, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1902. THIRTY-TWO PAGES. PRICE 3D.

SOCIETIES.

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION of ENGLISH HOP GROWERS.
(Founded June 1894.)
PRESIDENT.—COLONEL BROOKFIELD, M.P.
HON. TREASURER.—E. ALBERT WHITE, Esq., Beltring, Kent.
SECRETARY.—THOMAS IRONMONGER.
CENTRAL OFFICE.—61, HOP EXCHANGE, BOROUGH, LONDON.

GENERAL OBJECTS.

To promote united action among English hop growers as a body for the improvement of the industry.

To promote, support, or oppose such legislative and other measures as may affect the industry.

To collect and publish, for the benefit of members, special statistical and other useful information relating to English and foreign hop-culture.

To arrange for arbitrations in cases of dispute between sellers and buyers of hops, for the avoidance of litigation.

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Ordinary members, 3d. per acre of hops under cultivation; honorary members, £1 1s.; hop factors, £1 1s.

BIRMINGHAM SHORTHORN SHOW AND SALE, AT BINGLEY HALL, MARCH 5th, 6th, & 7th.

ENTRIES CLOSED.

About 610 COWS, HEIFERS, and BULLS entered.

Catalogues ready February 28th, price 1s. 3d. by post.

W. H. LYTHALL, Secretary.

SOMERSET COUNTY AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION.

THE 15TH ANNUAL EXHIBITION will be held at WIVELISCOMBE, on WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, and FRIDAY, 14th, 15th, and 16th MAY, 1902.

Prizes of over £1,000, Gold and Silver Medals, &c., for Competition for Horses, Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, Cheese, Butter, Butter-making, Cider, Wool, Horse-shoeing, Poultry, and Pigeons.

Entries close:—Stock and implements, 14th April; cheese, butter, wool, &c., 16th April; poultry and pigeons, 18th April. Post entries (double fees), 21st April.

Prize List and Entry Forms may be obtained of the Secretary,

WALTER R. J. GREENSLADE,
3, Hammet Street, Taunton.

BATH & WEST & SOUTHERN COUNTIES SOCIETY.

PATRON—HIS MAJESTY THE KING.
PRESIDENT, 1901-2—THE RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF MORLEY.

GREAT SHOW AT PLYMOUTH, MAY 27, 28, 29, 30, & 31.

ENTRIES CLOSE as follows:—
Implements, Art Manufactures, &c., March 18.
Live Stock, Produce, Butter Making, Milking, Shoeing, Shearing, &c., April 7.
Poultry, May 2; Jumping and Driving, May 10.

THOS. F. PLOWMAN,
4, Terrace Walk, Bath. Secretary.

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New Chemical Laboratories with every modern improvement, Model Dairy, Experimental Feeding House, Farm 280 acres. Instructions given in Practical Chemistry, Agricultural Analysis and Research, and Practical Agriculture, &c. Splendid climate in perfect country. Terms moderate. For particulars and prospectus, apply to THE DIRECTORS of the Experimental Station, Aynsome, Grange-over-Sands.

TENDERS.

ETON UNION.
TENDERS FOR SEED POTATOES.

THE GUARDIANS of the above Union, will at their MEETING at the WORKHOUSE, SLOUGH, on TUESDAY, the 25th Instant, at 10 o'clock, a.m., receive TENDERS for supplying SEED POTATOES, as follows, viz.:—

10 Sacks Early Rose or Beauty of Hebron.
10 Sacks Dunbar Main Crop.
10 Sacks Puritans. 10 Sacks Imperator.

Tenders, together with samples, must be delivered at the Workhouse, Slough, addressed to the undersigned, not later than 10 o'clock, a.m., on the 25th Instant.

The Guardians do not bind themselves to accept the whole quantity from any person tendering.

R. H. BARRETT,
Slough, Clerk to the said Guardians.
F b. 11th, 1902.

BOROUGH OF FULHAM.

THE FULHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL is prepared to receive TENDERS for the supply of OATS, HAY, CLOVER, MIXTURE, STRAW, BEANS, BRAN, and LINSEED for about 70 horses in such quantities as may be required during the six months ending 29th September, 1902.

Tenders must be made on printed forms specifying conditions of contract, provided by the Council, sealed and endorsed "Tender for Horse Provender," and delivered at the Town Hall by 4 p.m., on Wednesday, the 5th March 1902.

The Council does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender.

By order, R. M. PRESCOTT,
Town Hall, Fulham, S.W. Town Clerk.

AUCTION SALE.

On THURSDAY NEXT, FEBRUARY 20th, 1902.—HARRINGTON HALL, SHIFNAL, about four miles from Shifnal Station, G. W. Railway, two miles from Coalport (Severn Valley Line), six miles from Bridgnorth, and 12 miles from Wolverhampton.

ALFRED MANSELL & CO. have received instructions from Mr. A. E. Mansell (who is settling in Tasmania) to SELL by AUCTION, on THURSDAY NEXT, FEBRUARY 20th, 1902, the valuable LIVE and DEAD FARMING STOCK, comprising—

476 SHEEP, including 96 Shropshire Ewes (in or with Lamb), and 380 Ripe Fat Wethers.

215 CATTLE, viz.:—117 Prime Fat Bullocks and Heifers, 80 Hereford and Hereford Cross Bullocks and Heifers (outlyers), 12 Blue Grey Heifers, 2 Cross-bred Heifers, 2 Hereford Heifers (in calf), Cross-bred Cow (in calf), Cross bred Cow (in milk), all of good quality and in nice condition.

8 Upstanding CART HORSES.
2 HACKNEY MARES, and 1 MULE.

Also a vast collection of AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS and MACHINES, 900 extra strong IRON HURDLES (equal to new), Threshing ENGINE and BOX.

The Fat Cattle—including a lot of good Herefords, Hereford and Shorthorn Cross-breds and Polled Angus Cross-breds—are an exceptionally well-fed lot of Cattle, and having had ample time they have all their best points well developed. The Store Cattle comprise a lot of beautiful Hereford Bullocks and Heifers, also some nice Blue-Greys, all of which are outlyers in nice condition, with abundance of good hair. The in-lamb Ewes are a good class of farmers' sheep, served by good rams bred at Harrington. The Fat Sheep are extra good quality, ripe, and nice handy weights. The Horses are of a superior stamp, and comprise several young horses likely to grow into money. The Implements, &c., are a unique collection, and include all the most up-to-date and approved Implements adapted for modern farming.

Sale at 10.45 prompt.

Conveyances will meet all trains at Shifnal Station to take passengers to and from the Sale at a charge of 1s. each way; also the trains at Coalport will be met.

Catalogues from ALFRED MANSELL and Co., Auctioneers, College Hill, Shrewsbury.

FARMS, ESTATES, MILLS, BUSINESSES, &c.

FARM.—TO LET, from 25th March, 1902. Farmhouse and Buildings, with 295 Acres of Land, of which 187 are Grass, at Wanlip, 5 miles from Leicester, 2 miles from Birstall and Syston stations, and now in the occupation of the owner.—Apply to SIR A. PALMER, Wanlip Hall, Leicester.

BURWELL, Cambridgeshire.—TO BE LET, from Michaelmas next, LOWER PORTLAND FARM, BURWELL, containing 116a. 1r. 26p. of arable and grass lands, with modern farmhouse and excellent farm buildings.

The above is situate three-quarters of a mile from Burwell Railway Station and one mile from Newmarket Heath.

For particulars apply to Messrs. MARTIN NOCKOLDS & SONS, Land Agents, Saffron Walden, and 2, Parsons Court, Cambridge.

SURREY.—TO BE LET from Michaelmas next, a capital FARM of about 483 acres, chiefly a good mixed soil, very suitable for sheep, with Farmhouse, Homestead, convenient off premises, and eight cottages; adjoining a station on the L. B. & S. C. Ry. (with a siding therefrom), within short distances of several other Stations, and in the centre of the great race-horse trainers' quarters. Sixteen miles from London; good hunting district. The Farm has been for many years in the occupation of a first-class tenant, who is quitting on account of failing health.—Particulars of Messrs. DEBENHAM, TEWSON, FARMER and BRIDGEWATER, Land Agents, 80, Cheapside, E.C.

BAXTER, PAYNE, AND LEPPER,
LAND AGENTS,
FARM AND TIMBER VALUERS, SURVEYORS, HOUSE AGENTS, AND AUCTIONEERS,

PREPARATION of PLANS, Superintending the Erection or Repairs of Farm Buildings, and Laying-out of Estates for Building, Planting, Drainage, &c.

MORTGAGES arranged, also Railway and other Compensations, Dilapidations, Division and Apportionment of Tithe Rent Charges, &c.

VALUATIONS and SALES of FURNITURE and FARMING STOCK; also of GROWING TIMBER and UNDERWOOD; and all kinds of work carried out incidental to the Superintendence and General Agency of large or small Estates.

Special attention paid to the Management of LANDED ESTATES, including LETTINGS, Collections of Rents, Tithes, and Valuation of Tenant Right.

Undertake valuations of FREEHOLD and LEASEHOLD ESTATES, and all kinds of PROPERTY for SALE, either by AUCTION or PRIVATE CONTRACT.

A MONTHLY Register published of Country Houses and Estates to be Let or Sold (Furnished or Unfurnished) in the Home Counties and elsewhere, free on application; also a

SEPARATE LIST OF FARMS.

Auction dates are fixed as may be required.
London office: 69, King William Street, E.C.
Country offices: Bromley, Kent; and at Beckenham.

FARMS.—Rents from 10s. Acre; prices £7 Acre. Monthly List 2 stamps. RUTTER, 10, Norfolk Street, Strand, London.

MESSRS. CRONK'S LIST of FARMS, containing particulars of numerous Farms in Kent, Surrey, Sussex, and elsewhere, to be obtained gratis at their offices or will be sent by post on receipt of a stamp. Properties inserted free.—12, Pall Mall, London, S.W.; and Sevenoaks, Kent.

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(SPECIAL ADVANTAGES TO PRIVATE INSURERS.

THE IMPERIAL INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED. FIRE. Established 1803. 1, Old Broad Street, E.C., 22, Pall Mall, S.W., and 47, Chancery Lane, W.C. Subscribed Capital, £1,200,000. Paid up £300,000. Total Funds over £1,500,000.—E. COZENS SMITH, General Manager.

ACCIDENTS OF ALL KINDS.

EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY, ACCIDENT AND DISEASE
(Small Pox, Scarlet Fever, yphoid, Diphtheria, &c.
BURGLARY & FIDELITY INSURANCE
RAILWAY PASSENGERS' ASSURANCE CO., Established 1849. Claims paid £4,450,000.

A. VIAN, *Secretary*.
64, Cornhill, London.

BANK OF AUSTRALASIA.

(Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1835.)
4, Threadneedle Street, London.
Paid-up Capital, £1,600,000.
Reserve Fund, £955,000.

Reserve Liability of Proprietors under the Charter, £1,600,000. Letters of Credit and Drafts issued on any of the numerous Branches of the Bank throughout Australia and New Zealand.

Bills negotiated or sent for collection.
Telegraphic Transfers made.
Deposits received in London at interest for fixed periods on terms which may be ascertained on application.

R. W. JEANS, Manager.

POULTRY APPLIANCES, &c.

INCUBATORS. How to construct and successfully use a modern Incubator, with working drawings; over 100 pages with illustrated list, post free 4d.—INCUBATOR COMPONENTS MANUFACTURING CO., Stonehouse, Glos. Lists free.

CALWAY'S Circular Hot-Air Chicken Rearer has the largest sale of any Foster-Mother in this country; 30 to 50-chick size, 12s. 6d.; 50 to 100-chick size, 25s.

THE LATEST IMPROVEMENT IN CALWAY'S CHICKEN REARER is the new Lamp. Full particulars free.

POULTRY KEEPING IN THE 20th CENTURY; 1s. post free. Send for a copy; it will interest you.

MAKE your own Poultry Spice. Valuable receipt free. Send stamp for postage.—WILLIAM CALWAY, Gloucester.

POULTRY YARD.—The best money can buy. Reliable Eggs for sitting, and pure bred Cockerels and Pullets, from the following high-class birds with superior laying qualities. Guaranteed unequalled. Breeds—Anconas, Blue Andalusians, Black Minorcas, White, Brown, Buff, and Black Leghorns, Buff and Barred Rocks, Gold and Silver spangled and Black Hamburghs, Buff and Black Orpingtons, Houdans, Langshans, Campines, Dark and Silver Dorkings, Indian Game, Buff Cochins, Light Brahmas, Gold, Silver and Buff Wyandottes, and Aylesbury, Rouen, and Indian Runner Ducks. Eggs, all varities, 4s. 6d. sitting; 50 Eggs, 16s.; 100 Eggs, £1 10s., all guaranteed fertile or replaced free. Ten Cockerels of above varieties, 7s. 6d. and 10s. 6d. each; Pullets 5s. and 6s. each.—Advice gratis. Vacancy for Pupil.—JOHN PARMINTER, Farmer, Southorpe, Stamford

LIVE STOCK.

HORSES.

HACKNEYS.

MOORE, HENRY, Burn Butts, Cranswick, Hull.—Pedigree Stud of HACKNEYS, including many prize-winners, yearlings, two years, and others.—Can be seen on application to Henry Moore.

LLOYD, WALTER, Heaselands, Hayward's Heath, Sussex.—Small but select Stud of PEDIGREE HACKNEYS, Mares, Fillies, and Colts of best blood, including stock by Champion Ganymede, Agility, Winnal Fireaway, Model II., and other noted Stallions at moderate prices. Appointments to view the stud (which is 1½ miles from Hayward's Heath station, L.B. and S.C. Railway), on application to the owner, as above.

SHIRES.

MUNTZ, P. ALBERT, M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby. — SHIRE-BRED STALLIONS, COLTS, MARES, & FILLIES. About a hundred of all ages. Prize-winners London and other leading shows. Also high-class Shropshire SHEEP, winners first prize at Royal Agricultural, 1886, second in 1887, and first in 1888.—Apply, THOMAS EWART, Dunsmore Farm, Rugby.

CONCHAR, JOHN, Wylde Green, Birmingham.—Breeder of SHIRES and HACKNEYS. Some good Colts and Fillies for Sale. Five minutes from Station.

FOR SALE.—Two PURE-BRED SHIRE COLTS, rising two and three years respectively. — For particulars and price apply to the owner, THOMAS SHORT, Northdown, Callington, Cornwall.

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THE SEAHAM STUD, Ltd., Seaham Harbour, county Durham. The largest stud of Pedigree Clydesdales in the United Kingdom. Stallions, mares, colts, fillies always on sale. Inspection solicited.—Apply, R. BRYDON, Seaham Harbour.

PONIES.

MONTEFIORE, Rev. D. B., Mursley Hall, Winslow, Bucks.—Champion Arab Stallion "Mootrub," Polo Pony "Hurlingham," by Champion "Rosewater," and the thoroughbred Pony Stallion "Eheu," by "Despair." Particulars on application.

CATTLE.

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DALMENY SHORTHORN HERD, the property of the Earl of Rosebery, K.G. Bulls and Heifers of the choicest breeding always for sale at moderate prices.—Apply, MANAGER, Home Farm, Dalmeny Park, Edinburgh.

SWINBURNE, SIR JOHN, owns one of the Largest and Best Herds of PURE BATES SHORTHORNS in existence. The Herd being large, both Males and Females, of any age, can always be obtained. —Apply to JAMES HEPPLE, Bailiff, Capheaton, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WORDSWORTH, REGINALD, Duffcarrig, Gorey, Co. Wexford. Herd of rent-paying Dairy Shorthorns (Cruickshank and Scotch strains). Successful in Dairy and Showyard. Young Bulls and in-calf Heifers of good colours for Sale. Exportation orders faithfully executed.

WOOD, ROWLAND, Clapton, Thrapston, has on sale pure-bred Shorthorns (pedigree, constitution, and milk considered). Shire Horses, Berkshire Pigs.—Thorpe Station, N.W.R.

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BOWERMAN, ALFRED, Capton, Williton, Taunton, Somerset. Breeder of Pedigree DEVON CATTLE, Royal prize winners, noted for size, symmetry, and robust constitutions.

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DALMENY-ABERDEEN-ANGUS HERD, the property of the Earl of Rosebery, K.G. Bulls and Heifers of the choicest breeding always for sale at moderate prices.—Apply, MANAGER, Home Farm, Dalmeny Park, Edinburgh.

OSENTON, GEORGE, Mariners, Westerham. — Pedigree Aberdeen-Angus Cattle.

MCINTYRE, JOHN, Theakston, Bedale, Yorkshire.—Aberdeen-Angus Herd. Established 1883. 150 Head. 25 Thick-fleshed Yearling Bulls on Sale. Also females of best tribes.

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GRANT, GEO. SMITH, Auchorachan, Ballindalloch, Scotland. Aberdeen-Angus Cattle. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers for sale.

HOYLES, GEORGE, Skidby Manor, near Hull. Prize-bred Angus Bulls and Heifers and Pure Lincoln Longwool Sheep. Registered Flock No. 136. Fine long, lustrous fleeces. Shire Horses for export. Inspection invited.

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TAYLOR, HENRY W., Shobe Court, Ledbury, Herefordshire. Bulls and Heifers of first-class Pedigree for Sale at reasonable prices. This Herd has won hundreds of Prizes.

CATTLE (*contd.*).

AYRSHIRES.

PEDIGREE Prize-winning Ayrshire Cattle; good milkers; hardy, healthy; heifers and bulls for sale; exports to Sweden, Egypt, South Africa.—J. WALLACE, J.P., Auchenbrack, Thornhill, Scotland.

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KERRIES—DEXTERS—KERRIES. — The undersigned has always on hand Kerries or Dexters for Breeding or Feeding purposes. Prices quoted. Delivered any part of the Kingdom. —D. M. RATTRAY, Gortnaskehy, Ballybunion, Co. Kerry. Telegrams "Rattray Ballybunion."

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HEASELANDS HERD of PEDIGREE JERSEYS, COWS and HEIFERS of the best blood at moderate prices.—Pedigrees, &c., on application to the owner, WALTER LLOYD, Heaselands, Hayward's Heath, Sussex.

ILMINSTER HERD PEDIGREE JERSEYS. — Choice about 100 finest quality Cows and Heifers, in profit and calving all seasons; prices moderate; inspection invited; shipper to all parts. — R. WHEADON, Ilminster.

TICHBORNE PARK GUERNSEYS, property of Sir H. D. Tichborne, Bart. Bulls, Cows and Heifers of very best breeding for sale.—D. Michie, Tichborne Park Office, Alresford, Hants.

PIGS.

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BURBIDGE, EDWARD, Wraxhall, Bradford-on-Avon. Pedigree Berkshire Pigs, bred from Royal and Bath and West Champion blood. Acknowledged one of largest type of Berkshires in England. Purchasers met by appointment.

PEDIGREE BERKSHIRE PIGS The Earl of Carnarvon's Prize-winning Herd. Boars and Gelts, eligible for Herd Book, always on offer. Prices Moderate.—Apply, W. T. HALL, Highclere Farm, Newbury.

PIGS, BERKSHIRE. — Apply, C. BEVAN, Mapledurham, Reading. Pedigree Berkshire Pigs, pure-bred Boars, and Gilts of all ages, and at moderate prices.

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DALMENY HERD of LARGE WHITE PEDIGREE PIGS, the property of the Earl of Rosebery, K.G. YOUNG BOARS and SOWS of the very best quality and choicest breeding for SALE at moderate prices.—Apply, MANAGER, Home Farm, Dalmeny Park, by Edinburgh.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, Stoke Farm Herd Large White Pigs, est. over 20 years. Boars and Gelts at moderate prices. Inspection invited.—A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

MIDDLE WHITES.

DEWHIRST A., Ryecroft Farm, Dudley Hill, Bradford. — Pedigree LARGE and MIDDLE WHITE PIGS. Also few BERKSHIRES for sale. All bred on farm. 200 to select from. One champion, 28 firsts, 24 seconds, 15 thirds won this year.

ILLINGWORTH, W. H., Honington, Bury St. Edmunds, Pure-bred Middle White Yorkshire Pigs. Quality and Pedigree of the finest. Inspection invited, or actual photos of Pigs sent. Trains met by appointment. Tel.: Ixworth.

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NEWNHAM HALL HERD of Improved Pedigree Yorkshire Pigs is one of the largest Herds of pure-bred Pigs in the United Kingdom. Boars and Gilts at moderate prices. — NEVILLE J. HINE, Newnham Hall, Baldock, Herts.

SHEEP.

LINCOLN LONGWOOL.

DUDDING, HENRY, Riby Grove, Gt. Grimsby, Lincolnshire, has always for inspection and sale a large flock of pure LINCOLN LONGWOOL SHEEP, including many prize-winners, having taken the leading prizes for many years at the Royal and other shows for both rams and ewes, including champion medals at both the Paris Exhibitions, Vienna, Amsterdam, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and all the leading prizes at Chicago; also the first for the best collection of Lincoln fleeces of wool at the Royal Windsor Show, which proves the character of this flock, which is most famous for their great size and 125 years' good breeding: Rams from this flock made the highest average on record last year. Riby Grove is seven miles from Great Grimsby, and three from Stallingboro' Station. Telegrams, "Dudding, Keelby."

CARTWRIGHT, JAMES, Dunston Pillar, Lincoln. Pure Bred Lincoln Rams and Ewes. Flock Book No. 53. The greater part of this flock has gone to Buenos Ayres for the last 15 or 20 years. Also Pure Bred Berkshire Pigs always on sale. Inspection invited.

SHEEP (*contd.*).

HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.

COLES, CARY, Manor House, Winterbourne, Stoke, Salisbury.—Registered HAMPSHIRE DOWNS, prize-winners Royal, Bath and West, and Royal Counties Shows; Salisbury Prize Sheep Fair, 1900 and 1901. Twenty-five guineas Challenge Cup best pen 8 Ram Lambs. Flock numbers 1,200. All ages for sale.

FLOWER, JAMES, Chilmark, Salisbury. Undoubtedly the leading flock of the day; in show yard records at all the largest shows, including the Challenge Cup at the Salisbury Great Prize Sheep Fair six years in succession; also highest average last eight years for 100 ram lambs at annual sale at Britford Fair, August 12, Ram Lambs and Ewes. The Flock is one of the oldest existing, combining fine quality, strength, constitution, and true character.

SHROPSHIRES.

NOCK, EDWARD, Sutton Maddock, Shifnal, Salop.—Owner of the old Sutton Maddock Pedigree Shropshire Flock. Founded 1832. Purest strains of blood. Registered in Flock Book.

COOPER, WILLIAM, AND NEPHEWS, "Cooper's Dip" Works, Berkhamsted, England. BREEDERS and EXPORTERS of PURE SHROPSHIRE SHEEP. First Prize for five Shearling Rams, Second for Shearling Ram, and Second for Shearling Ewes, at the Royal Show, Cardiff, 1901. First and Third for Ewes, Royal Show, 1898. 500 breeding Ewes. Largest export flock of Shropshires in England. Sires used this season include four First Prize Royal winners. The 310 Guinea Champion "Royal Record," "Ashlyns Knight" (winner of Six Firsts and two Champions), "Shenstone Cardiff," and "Royal Cardiff."—For particulars apply to FRANK WEBB, Estate Office, Shenstone, Lichfield, or J. P. MILNE, Ashlyns, Berkhamsted.

LIVE STOCK AGENTS.

INVERNESS, WEST HIGHLANDS.—JAMES ARNOTT, Scotch Live Stock Agent, Ellandonan, Inverness, established 1870, selects and supplies on commission all classes of SCOTCH STOCK. He attends all the leading markets to purchase Stock at lowest rates. References can be given if desired to customers who have been annually supplied. All orders are personally attended to. List of classes and approximate prices sent on application. Reference required; terms cash. Telegrams: "Arnott, Inverness." J.A. is now booking orders. N.B.—Polled Angus or West Highland Heifers and Black-faced Gimmers, Ewes, Wedders, and Lambs for crossing or feeding, in truck loads, at moderate prices. Fat Stock of all classes also purchased.

CATTLE FOR WINTERING. —J. A. will be glad to receive orders for the purchase of Cattle, which, owing to the shortness of straw in Scotland, can now be bought cheaply. A good profit should be the result either for feeding or wintering.

CATTLE AND SHEEP FOR WINTERING. E. GOODWIN PREECE, Live Stock Agent and Exporter, Shrewsbury, will be glad to receive orders for the PURCHASE of CATTLE and SHEEP, which, owing to the shortness of winter keep in the West of England, can now be bought very cheaply. A good profit is assured either for feeding or wintering.

Several lots of Shropshire and Clun ewes, Shropshire, Oxford and Lincoln rams, and cattle of various classes on sale, which can be seen by appointment.

Address, Portland House, Shrewsbury.

SEEDS, PLANTS, &c.

SEED POTATOES. — Splendid stocks Myatt's Duke York, Puritans, Hebrons, Challenge, Standards, Motors, Triumph, British Queen, Snowdrops, Early Rose, Up-to-Date, Windsor Castle, etc. Special low prices to farmers.—D'ALCORN, Spalding, Lincs.

POTATOES (seed size).—Few of Carter's Snowball, an immense cropper, early, superior quality, £4 per ton. Also 5 tons "Up-to-Date," from Lincolnshire last season, £2 10s.—T. PIPER, Redbourn, St. Albans.

SEED OATS.—Tartar King, early, white, 42lb. bus., 28s. qr.; Giant Eliza (white), 30s.; Abundance, 28s.; Select Black Tartarian, 40lb., very fine, 28s. qr.—E. W. KING & CO., Seedgrowers, Coggeshall.

CHEVALIER BARLEY, same stock and grown on same farm in Suffolk as won the Championship last Brewers' Show. Also Seed grown from the original Barley that won over £100 in prizes, Brewers' Show, 1899 and 1900. Grown on various soils, from 42s. qr. Samples on application.—E. W. KING & CO., Seed Barley Growers, Coggeshall, Essex.

SEED BARLEY.—Was awarded special Diploma for Seed at the late Brewery Exhibition. Hallett's Pedigree Chevalier, direct from Hallett last March, 10qrs. at 42s. per qr.; also 20qrs., bought two years earlier, at 36s. per qr. — Apply, W. TAYLOR SHARPE, Baumber Park, Horncastle.

GARTON'S Waverley White OATS; direct in 1900. Price 26s. for 10 qrs. or over, free on rail; sacks 1s. each. —PARR, Well, Alford, Lincs.

SCOTCH SEED.—All varieties, Maincrop, British Queens, Up to-Dates, &c.—Write for quotations to JOHN SHORE and SON, 39, Old Hall Street, Liverpool.

SEEDS, PLANTS, &c.

PEDIGREE WHEAT, Barley, and Oats, restarted each year for 41 years from the proved best single grain of the year. —MAJOR F. F. HALLETT, Brighton.

GARTON'S Invincible Barley, 40s. per quarter; Garton's Waverley Oats, 35s. per qr., direct from Garton last year; sacks 1s. each; sample if required. Cash with order.—J. MARRIOTT, Cropwell Butler, Notts.

FOR SALE, SEED BARLEY.—Kinver Chevalier, bold sample, well screened, 30s. per qr.—Apply, GEORGE BAYLIS, Wyfield Manor, Newbury.

SEED POTATOES.—Heavy Croppers, fine quality. British Queen and Up-to-Date, of excellent quality and shape, and exceptionally heavy croppers, grown specially for seed from select stocks. Also several new varieties offered for the first time, yielding up to the extraordinary rate of 24 tons per imperial acre, under ordinary field culture.—Illustrative descriptive catalogues and prices on application to Manager, Earl of Rosebery's Home Farm, Dalmeny Park, Edinburgh.

SEED OATS. — SELECTED NEWMARKET OAT, exceptionally heavy cropping early white oat of finest milling quality, not liable to lodge.—Illustrated descriptive Catalogue, Samples, and prices on application to MANAGER, Earl of Rosebery's Home Farm, Dalmeny Park, Edinburgh.

SELECTED SEED POTATOES of the following well-known varieties in large or small quantities:—Myatt's, 7s. per cwt.; Duke of York's, 6s. per cwt.; Snowdrops, 6s. per cwt.; Beauty of Hebron, 6s. per cwt.; Early Roses, 5s. 6d. per cwt.; Early Puritans, 6s. per cwt.; British Queen, 3s. 6d. per cwt.; British Lion, 4s. per cwt.; Up-to-dates, 3s. per cwt.; Clarke's Maincrop, 3s. 6d. per cwt.; Gartons, 3s. per cwt.; Improved Giants, 3s. per cwt. Free on rail. Bags 2d. each. Special prices for large quantities.—Apply J. W. CROSS, Old Grammar School, Wisbech, Cambs.

SEED POTATOES. — Findlay's British Queen, Up-to-Date, Challenge, Empire, and others, grown on the Lynn marshland, Norfolk.—Prices on application to H. G. WELCHMAN, Terrington, King's Lynn.

POTATOES, popular and profitable, to plant 1902; lists free. — T. KIME, Mareham-le-Fen, Boston, Lincs.

SEED BARLEY, grown last year from Hallett's renowned Pedigree Stock. Bold, level, heavy sample (weight 456lbs.).—R. BARLOW, Mereside, Ramsey, Huntingdon.

SEED POTATOES, in any Quantities.—"British Queens," and "Up-to-Dates," grown last year, from Lord Rosebery's celebrated Dalmeny Stock. Excellent quality; heavy croppers; and absolutely true.—Apply, R. BARLOW, Mereside, Ramsey, Huntingdon.

FOR SALE, Up-to-Date and British Queen SEED POTATOES, true to name, and grown from selected stocks. Price 40s. per ton.—Apply JOHN WRIGHT, Potato Grower, Sutton St. Edmunds, Wisbech.

ASHWORTH'S NEW BREED WHITE SEED OATS. "Gigantic." Very prolific. Produced 71 bushels per acre last season. One of the finest oats ever offered for seed purposes. Price on application.—ASHWORTH'S Ltd., Seed Warehouse, Frodsham Bridge, via Warrington.

POTATOES.—British Queen, and Up-to-Date, good samples of seed and ware cheap.—Apply, E. A. WHITE, Limited, Beltring, Paddock Wood, Kent.

JOHN COOPER, Barley Merchant, Ipswich, has a few hundred quarters of the following Seed Barleys for sale; Wrinch's Premier, Archer's, Hallett's, Webbs' Kinver, Golden Grain, Page's, and Spratt's.

MACDONALD'S (Pt. 16099°°) PREMIER CABBAGE PLANTER. A man can plant 1,000 an hour. At one operation, dibbling, planting and closing are performed. Scores of unsolicited testimonials. Price, post free, 2/3.—JOHN MACDONALD, Implement Maker, Lenzie, Glasgow.

SCOTCH SEED POTATOES, guaranteed Forfarshire grown, premier county for production of seed. The subscribers are offering all the leading varieties at specially low rates for present delivery; list free.—Batchelor & Hill, Potato Growers, Dundee.

POTATOES FOR SEED, grown in Lincolnshire and Cambridgeshire.—Up-to-Dates, British Queens, Gartons, Jubilees, Findlay's Improved Maincrops. —For price and particulars apply to KEEBLE BROS., Limited, Potato Growers, Peterborough.

INSKIP'S UP-TO-DATE "ONION." A new globe-shaped straw coloured Onion of first-class cropping and keeping quality. Price 5s. per lb. SEED POTATOES: Findlay's new varieties: Colonist, Ambrose, Lord Roberts, Klondyke, Conquest, &c. Particulars and price on application. SEED BARLEY: Garton's Brewer's Favourite, 40s. qr.; Standwell, 32s. qr. SEED OATS: Garton's Goldfinder, 40s. per 24st.; Garton's Waverley, 35s. per 24st. Samples free.—ALFRED INSKIP, Hardwick Farm, Shefford.

BLACK TARTARIAN OATS FOR SEED. 475 Grains grown on one Straw. Parson's Unrivalled. Result of 36 Years' Careful Selection. Price 28s. per Imperial Quarter, delivered on rail. New Sacks, 1s. each. Terms Cash.—W. B. PARSONS, Alymer Hall, Lynn, Norfolk.

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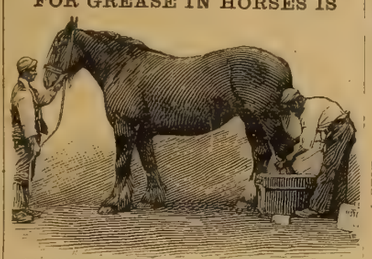
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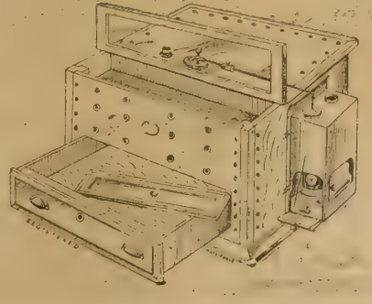
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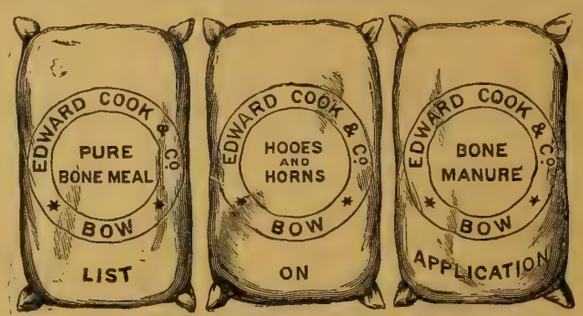
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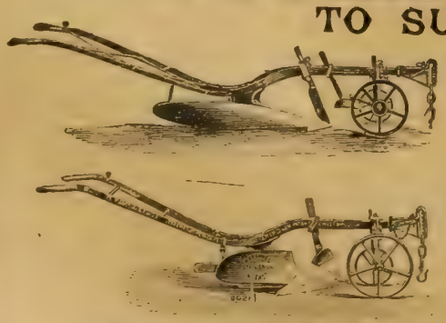
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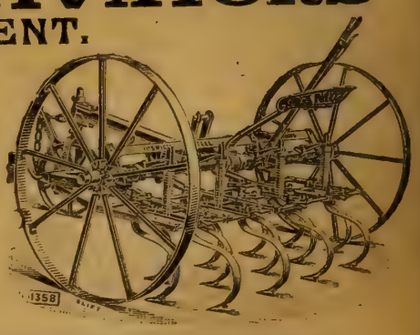


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AGRICULTURAL TRANSITION STAGES.

In the article on "English Agriculture in the Reign of Queen Victoria," in the new volume of the "Royal Journal," Mr. R. E Prothero states that it was in a transition state when the reign commenced, and that the question is open to inquiry whether agriculturists are not now "passing through another transition stage, which, like its predecessor, may effect another revolution, and necessitate another social disorganisation." The contrast is in many respects a happy one, although the changes now taking place can scarcely be considered to be affected by such social volcanic eruptions as the magnitudinous ones which were on the eve of evolvement when her late Majesty ascended the throne.

Very true is the statement that there was agricultural distress in 1837, in which particular the two periods strictly compare, and farmers were crying in vain to the Parliamentary Jupiter to lift the waggon out of the rut for them. There had been several Committees of Inquiry and Royal Commissions on depression during the previous two decades. Agriculturists were crying out for more protection, but the legislature was about to take away from them that which they already had. But grand discoveries were being made in the arts and sciences calculated to revolutionise trade and manufactures. Steam was about to throw its girdle round the world to work wonders such as had scarcely ever been dreamed of by magicians. The Railway Age, with oceanic steam traffic and the multitudinous mechanical inventions actuated by the steam-engine which came in their train, upheaved Society from its very foundations a little before and immediately after the middle of the last century, and we can scarcely expect anything the like to happen again, unless, indeed, electricity should be so cheapened by some great discovery that industrial progress and social life shall be revolutionised thereby in the twentieth just as they were transformed by the steam engine in the nineteenth century.

When Queen Victoria came to the throne, the flail was in common use. Muck was the only manure, and the few auxiliary fertilisers employed were bones broken down by hand, with a little soot, shoddy, and some trifling waste articles from manufactures, except, indeed, lime, chalk, and marl. The land was virtually corroded by pauperism. The agricultural labourers had been in a state of semi-starvation for many generations. There were agrarian riots from time to time, for the suppression of which troops of yeomanry were organised in every district, but the poor were bound by iron bonds to Parishes, and were virtually powerless to escape from abject misery and social degradation. How different the state of things now that there is depopulation of rural districts, and the cry is heard from all quarters that the exodus to the towns will soon leave only the old, lame, and physically impotent to respond to urgent farming needs. The changes of from fifty to sixty years since covered the country with a network of railways which was what in reality burst the bands of settlement and made population migratory. Farmers, it is true, have lost their labourers thereby, but they have gained some sterling compensatory advantages, such as valuable, highly effective mechanical inventions for almost every operation connected with farming, greater facilities for marketing live stock, and also for producing more remunerative kinds of them. Long before the middle of the last century, and, indeed, previously to its commencement, there were as high-bred cattle and sheep in the country as any to be found to-day, but they

were few and far between. If anyone had a shorthorn herd in the West of England he had to breed in-and-in, it being impossible to send his cows and heifers to the sires of other herds. To this is due the circumstance of our best breeds having in the past been so intimately associated with particular localities, even shorthorns having been termed Durhams until recently. We owe also our lucrative exports of pedigree stock entirely to oceanic steam traffic and the railway system. No doubt there is the corresponding magnitudinous evil working the other way of foods of well-nigh every description, the products of foreign lands being poured into our markets for our home farmers to compete with, but we are not just now balancing gains and losses, but regarding the magnitude of the revolutionary changes. Truly may it be said that old things have passed away, and all things have become new.

What are the signs, then, which lead Mr. Prothero to make the inquiry whether the "transition stage" agriculturists are now passing through "may effect another agricultural revolution, and necessitate another social disorganisation." We confess inability to discover them, and we have searched carefully through Mr. Prothero's dissertation without finding any indication why he propounded it. The question was entirely outside the subject of the review, and the fact that we find "a marvellous progress in all the processes of agriculture, which has been effected in the face of heavy sacrifices and innumerable difficulties," brings us no nearer in sight of the revolution to be expected. Mr. Rider Haggard deemed agriculturists in a stage of transition also. But on the faith of several good authorities he unfolded the probability of a large increase of small holdings becoming the result of the evolution. The debate at the February meeting of the Central Chamber of Agriculture did not thoroughly confirm that view. Still, it must be admitted that the times are very trying to the big middle section of renting farmers which were everywhere found by Mr. Haggard to be only just holding their own—a class doomed to early extinction by many prophets. All those marvellous developments of progress of the Victorian reign, proud as we are of them, tend to the advantage of farm capitalists and large holdings. They render pedigree stock-breeding a remunerative means of emolument, cause farming to pay by keeping lands up to their maximum state of fertility, and by a lavish use of labour-saving implements and machinery make it easier to manage with scarcity of hands. But only co-operation, of a much more general and wide-spread nature than any hitherto exemplified, can by any possibility cause these grand advantages to be fully shared by the large important class who occupy from fifty to one hundred and fifty acres.

South Lincolnshire has lost one of its foremost agriculturists by the death of Mr. T. G. Widdowson, of Helpringham, near Sleaford, which took place on the 8th inst. He was a large landowner of Helpringham and Clipston, Notts, and also farmed an immense acreage.

Mr. John Rogers, well known in Bedfordshire agricultural circles, died on Monday afternoon, at his residence, Rawdon House, De Parys Avenue, Bedford. His death was not altogether unexpected, for he had been ailing for some years from the result of a severe fall sustained when out hunting, and his horse rolling over him. Mr. Rogers was born in April, 1839, and early in his career took to farming, but soon his natural ability asserted itself, and he became and remained an agricultural valuer. Mr. Rogers was for some years secretary to the Beds Agricultural Society, and he has also been a vice-president of the society, and also the Beds Chamber of Agriculture, whilst at all times he has accorded both institutions hearty support. He was connected with the Bedford Wool Fair for years, and any movement to benefit agriculture always met with his hearty co-operation.



By a Man of Mark Lane.

The receipts on account of Revenue from April 1, 1901, when there was a balance of £5,596,918, to February 8, 1902, were £112,891,202, against £101,930,213 in the corresponding period of the preceding financial year, which began with a balance of £3,517,047. The net expenditure was £169,074,577, against £158,262,992 to the same date in the previous year. The Treasury balances on February 8, 1902, amounted to £6,530,554, and at the same date in 1901 to £2,646,719.

Mr. MacIver, M.P., has given notice that when the Chancellor of the Exchequer introduces his financial proposals he will move "That, in the opinion of this House, the income-tax should be reduced by one-half, and that such additional revenue as may be required should be obtained by a tax of not less than five per cent. *ad valorem* on importations generally, and of not less than ten per cent. *ad valorem* on importations of manufactured goods, in each case subject to preferential advantages in respect of those of our Dominions, Colonies, and Dependencies which accord preferential treatment to exports from Great Britain and Ireland."

The Board of Trade Returns show that imports for January amounted to £30,131,348, against £45,987,516 in the corresponding month of last year, an increase of £4,143,832. The exports for the past month were £24,354,574, as compared with £24,753,531 in January, 1901, a decrease of £498,957, which is due to the fall in the price of coal. The total imports of sugar for January were 5,540,434 cwt., which is about double the quantity imported in the two preceding Januarys.

The new number of "Symons's Meteorological Magazine" contains an interesting account of the dust or muddy rain which fell last month in the south-west of England. It was noticed at many places in Cornwall and on the western side of Devon, over an area measuring, perhaps, 80 by 40 miles, and about the Bristol Channel over another some 60 by 30 miles. No information of its descent has yet been received from the intervening district, so the two falls may have been distinct, and they certainly were not simultaneous. At Oxford, on the morning of January 21, a singular appearance was noticed in the sky, which suggested the coming of a dust storm, but nothing actually came down. On the same day splashes of a muddy rain fell in the Scilly Islands; on the 22nd, after a warm misty day, with only a slight fall of rain, the glass and woodwork of greenhouses, etc., at Chewton Priory, were covered with a rust-coloured dust; on the 23rd, iron railings and wire netting at Barry Island were "painted" a "pale salmon-pink colour" with this fine dust; at Failand, near Bristol, frames, hedges, and gates were similarly smeared, and clothes hung out to dry had to be washed again. Quethwick had the same experience on the night of the 23rd, but here the material is described as "yellowish—not unlike Peruvian guano."

The material has been examined under the microscope, and is found to be mainly terrestrial dust, not of volcanic origin, generally similar to that of the blood-rain which fell so abundantly in Southern Europe last March. It cannot be attributed to any local cause, and must have travelled far; probably from some part of Northern Africa. During the days when it was falling a high pressure area lay over the Bay of Biscay and Southern France, but the wind over South-west England was more or less from the west. The dust, however, may not have been affected by the latter current until it began to come near the surface of the earth.

PRACTICE WITH SCIENCE.

The Needs of Rural Education.

Mr. A. Keen, of Cambridge, presided at a meeting of the Association of Directors and Organising Secretaries for Technical and Secondary Education, held on the 24th ult. at the Guildhall, Westminster, to consider the provisions of the Education Bill of the Government, chiefly in relation to the inclusion of Elementary Education within the scope of control by the County Councils, and delivered an address on "Rural Education," in the course of which he said there could be no doubt as to the very great and pressing necessity for legislation that would provide an opportunity for putting rural education into a more satisfactory condition. Whether elementary, secondary, or technical, it was equally backward. Many large towns had developed splendid systems of elementary education; in many centres excellent Secondary schools already existed; while in connection with every important industry Technical schools, equipped and staffed on the most modern and liberal lines, had been established. But in agricultural districts the Elementary schools had followed the lead of the towns in curriculum, and been taught by men not specially trained for rural work; and the Secondary schools had pursued a course which generally ignored agriculture and the sciences subsidiary and essential to intelligent practice. Whereas technical instruction had formed the foundation of the progress made in various manufacturing industries, particularly in Yorkshire and the West of Scotland for the last 50 or 60 years, and in some cases even longer, it was only yesterday that agriculture, the greatest of all industries, had received recognition; and only to-day was it beginning to dawn on the minds of authorities generally that a suitable and valuable foundation could and must be laid in the Elementary schools.

He regarded the schoolmaster as the most important person in any village. The unsuitability of past teaching was not his fault. Oftentimes he struggled hard against it, but he must comply with Codes and satisfy Inspectors. He had himself heard lessons on the cotton plant, cocoa cultivation, elephants and tigers given with great painstaking to children who could not identify an apple or a plum branch. The present system of rural education was wholly out of date, and suitable education would do more than anything else to stem the depopulation of our villages, although the operation would be slow. At the present time people blamed education as the cause of this depopulation, but they should rather blame the penny post, railways, and Disraeli's splendid police pensions. In all schools there should be a uniform and common course of instruction for all boys up to 14 and 15 years of age at least, and a great deal of what was now commonly called "technical education" in rural villages ought to have previously found a place in Elementary and Secondary schools.

What we wanted was (a) a system of suitable elementary instruction which should include practical work in every standard, common to both boys and girls in the lower standards, but varied in the upper, according to sex; (b) a good supply of Secondary schools at low fees; (c) a more limited supply of higher Secondary schools of the high grade grammar school type for boys and girls who intended to continue their education beyond the usual age; and (d) for the benefit of boys intended to be farm bailiffs and other rural workers there should be in every large county, and in every group of smaller counties, a farm school for boys of 15-16 years of age and upwards.

In rural districts pre-eminently one education authority was required. As to religious education in rural schools, he declared that Bible teaching was good enough for him, and he would have no sectarian teaching recognised in the official hours of the school. Not the least important duty of the education authority would be the provision of an adequate system of scholarships, and there should be a very liberal supply of scholarships from Elementary to Secondary schools, each covering free tuition and travelling expenses for at least three years, on easy conditions. He concluded by urging that there should be one authority for all rural education.

The following resolution was subsequently adopted:—"That this Association considers it imperative that the Councils of Counties and County Boroughs should at once be constituted the supreme supervisory and rating authorities in their areas for both elementary and secondary (including technical) education and should be furnished with adequate rating powers."

IMPORTANT TO FARMERS.—The best farm account books are WEBB'S PRACTICAL FARMER'S ACCOUNT BOOK, with preface by Clare Sewell Read, 70th edition, 6s. and 7s. 6d. post free. JARROLD'S IMPERIAL FARM ACCOUNT BOOK, 3s. 6d. JARROLD'S FARM LABOUR BOOKS, 2s., 2s. 6d., and 4s. 6d. List of Game and Dairy Account Books post free of JARROLD and SONS, 10 and 11, Warwick Lane, E.C.—[ADVT.]



By a Lobbyist.

All felicitations to Mr. Jeffreys! I would that I could bring myself to think that the appointment of the member for the Basingstoke division to the eminent office of Deputy-Speaker of the House of Commons is of political moment—that it has, in a word, some significance for the agricultural interest. It has not. Mr. Jeffreys is, in a sense, the most distinctive figure among the agrarian members of St. Stephen's. However, this appointment is a tribute only to his personal influence—to his eminent character, to his dignity, and to his remarkable knowledge of Parliamentary procedure and Parliamentary regulations. In this it is fragrant—it is an evidence that the rural constituences of England send to the House of Commons men of as great intellectual parts as those who come from the bustling and hustling centres of life. Mr. Jeffreys will play his part well. He has an innate dignity which probably will be the best foil to the methods which the Irish legislators now apparently regard as supremest statecraft; he has, withal, a sympathy with the traditions of the House which will be the best buckler against any attempt to degrade it. At the same time, the appointment has, I repeat, no political significance. The election of one of the most prominent members of the Central and Associated Chambers of Agriculture to this position does not mean that the Government has any warmer sympathy with the legislative purpose of that body.

The position of Mr. Horace Plunkett, the Vice-president of the Irish Board of Agriculture, is still surrounded with a good deal of hesitancy and indecision. Do the Tory organisers intend to provide this eminent administrator with a seat in the House of Commons? If they do not, he will inevitably have to renounce a position in which he has been able to place Ireland under an incalculable obligation, and in which he has done more for the Irish tenant farmers than all the crowd of agitators of the last two decades. Mr. Plunkett himself now perceives this. Up to the present his absence from the House of Commons has not been a serious obstacle, by reason of the fact that his time has been fully occupied in laying down the lines upon which his excellent department must run. However, as Mr. Plunkett himself averred last week, we are on the eve of the introduction of legislative issues which must seriously concern the Irish Board. His absence from St. Stephen's, then, would possibly operate to the disadvantage of he Irish farmer, and he would certianly be unwise to assent to it. If it be impossible to find him a constituency, then let the position go to some other man, who will adequately reflect the purpose of the department. The absence of the only official properly equipped for indicating the position of the Irish Board on a question of moment to Irish agrarian economics, would be an unpardonable anomaly. "But why," asked an Irish farmer, of Mr. Plunkett a few days ago, "should not the party whips find you an English seat?" Why, in all sooth? There must be, on the eve of the distribution of Coronaton honours, not a few politicians anxious to place their party under some indebtedness to them. The endeavour of Mr. Horace Plunkett from the House of Commons—and official exclusion it undoubtedly is—is gravely unwise.

The possibility of providing sources of supply of British cavalry horses in Britain has deeply impressed the House of Commons. I see that the well-informed London correspondent of the "Birmingham Daily Post" declares that we shall see this anxiety given a disciplined character in the course of the next few weeks, and that it is already certain that this disciplined effort will have the prctical sympathy of some of the most distinguished men in British agriculture, and some of the most prominent men in British horse-culture. We find a justification for this effort in a confession which Mr. Brodrick made on Thursday. This confession is that the experience of the war has shown that British and Australian horses stand war-work—and altogether 59,800 British horses have been bought for service in South Africa — better than those from any other country, except South Africa. Mr. F. W. Wilson, one of the Norfolk members, who, although a newspaper proprietor, is as prime a judge of a horse as any man in the House of Commons, declares that not only have the British horses done their work better than those purchased on the Continent, but that they have enjoyed a longer life. Of course, this means that they possess a greater value than their Continental rivals. Mr. Brodrick does not at once assent to this assertion, because he is not possessed of official, authoritative information on the point. However, Mr. Wilson is persuaded of its truth, and, I believe, is able to back it up with definite statements from artillery and cavalry officers at the front.

Now, it is emphatically necessary that if, in connection with this matter, an attempt is to be made to capture a market which properly belongs to British agriculture and British horse-culture, that attempt should not be made in any undisciplined or haphazard fashion. The British ratepayer is not prepared to provide a market for the foreigner and to be done at the same time. The War Office, anxious to retrieve its position—and assuredly it would be impossible to parallel its sorry and ridiculous blunders—would be willing, nay anxious to conciliate, and while doing this, to re-establish itself. The moment has arrived for the preliminary steps to be taken in connection with the matter. May I make a suggestion? Would it possible for men like Sir J. Blundell Maple, who has certainly played a very patriotic part in this business, to, in conjunction with politicians like Mr. Chaplin, Mr. James Lowther, and Mr. F. W. Wilson, to hold conference with men of the type of Sir W. Gilbey and Lord Coventry? I emphatically say that to allow this opportunity to pass by would be an offence. Both the country and the House of Commons are sympathetic to the idea.

I must now frankly declare that, in my opinion the methods which Mr. H. R. Mansfield, the Liberal member for the Spalding division, is pursuing in connection with this horse-suppy question, is not the wise one. I do not wish over this business, that the dead past should bury its dead. I wish rather that the past should provide a lesson. The position is not in fact, an occasion for swelterng epithets and resounding adjectives. It is, indeed, only an occasion for a little business-like method. Money has been spent wastefully on the foreigner; the English farmer has not been sufficiently considered; if the money so lavishly spent on the foreign horse-raiser had been spent as freely on the English farmer—for remember it has altogther run to millions—he would be able to laugh at the idea of "distressed agriculture." All this is truly most excellent, Mr. Mansfield. If, however, the British farmer is to benefit from the position which has now been created for him he must indulge in something more effective than big-drum-political-beating. He must be practical and business-like. What steps does Mr. Mansfield propose to take in order that the British farmer and British horse-raiser may supply the British artillery and cavalry? It is all very well to call upon the War Office to buy of the British farmer and the British horse-raiser, but at least the War Office must be provided with assured and regular sources of supply.

As I am concluding my article I learn that the War Office itself looks with the utmost favour upon resorting to British markets. Mr. Brodrick is said to be the author of the change of attitude. I would to heaven, then, that the right honourable gentleman would not dissemble his love by such a cold-blooded austerity. It is true that a new avenue of rural trade is being opened out, but the rural districts ought to be encouraged to resort to it. They, as a fact, need this encouragement; and Mr. Brodrick's attitude does not provide it. Still, the point that he regards the suggestion of a horse trade with favour is significant.

Mem.—I hope it is not true that, as the London corespondent of the "Birmingham Post" says, the disciplined effort to which I have alluded has as its purpose the utilisation of places lke Dartmoor, Exmoor, and Cannock Chase as breeding centres. If this be so, then the new avenue of rural trade will have a very restricted character. It will simply become a trade for the utilisation of derelict spaces.

LITERARY NOTICES.

The stimulating and encouraging of intelligent study of Nature among the children in rural schools is an important part of the duties of the teacher in country districts. For the purpose of aiding teachers in this work the South Eastern College, Wye, has inaugurated "The Nature-Study Journal." The fore-word to the magazine is written by Sir William Hart-Dyke, M.P., and in the editorial the aim and object of the magazine is clearly stated. The publication will be the official organ of a society of rural teachers, the subscription to which is the contribution in turn to the magazine of suggestions for a "Lesson." We can heartily commend any attempt to stimulate the intelligent teaching of Nature-study among our rural schools, and particularly so when it is conducted on co-operative and sensible lines, such as laid down in the introduction by Mr. A. D. Hall. The secretary, to whom all applications must be made, is Mr. Lance Rawes, Send, near Woking, Surrey.

The new number of the Journal of the British Dairy Farmers' Association is a fairly good one, but the Dairy show of 1901 takes up a considerable number of its pages. It opens with an interesting description of butter factories in France by Mr. Granville E. Lloyd Baker, which is followed by a contribution by Mr. F. A. Hordern, who consider the Kerry as a Dairy cow. Then come three papers which were read at the Association Scottish Dairy Conference, viz., "The Pasteurisation of Milk for Sale or for Manufacturing Purposes," by Mr. James Stirling; "The Manufacture of Cheddar Cheese," by Mr. F. J. Lloyd, F.C.S., F.I.C.; and "The Supply of Milk to Large Centres," by Mr. C. B. Davies. The milking trials and butter tests of 1901 are separately and exhaustively dealt with; there is a description of last year's dairy show, and the display of poultry and pigeons at same, and a full list of the prizes in all sections; whilst under the heading of "Progress in Dairy Farming and Dairying," a number of interesting items dealing with various subjects are given.

The tenth annual report of the Technical Education Committee of the County Council of Cumberland is largely of a statistical nature, and shows the attendance and cost of the classes held during the session 1900-01. On various agricultural subjects there were given 1,136 lectures, and there were held throughout the county 109 courses of instruction in dairy work at various centres. The total expenditure in scholarships was £6,622, of which sum £35 was granted as the cost of one agricultural studentship, while 99 farm exhibitions of the value of £3 to £8 each were awarded.

A sixth edition has now been prepared and published of Mr. Martin J. Sutton's book on "Permanent and Temporary Pastures." This work is now entitled to rank as a standard work on the subject, fully deserving place in every farmer's library by its comprehensiveness and intelligent treatment of a wide subject. The present edition is beautifully printed, and bound with a number of fine plates of the principal grasses and clovers, while the text has been thoroughly revised and brought up to date, some important statistics added, and the section on temporary pastures extended. The book is published by Messrs. Simpkin, Marshall, Hamilton, Kent, and Co., Ltd., at 5s.

Mr. Henry Warren, the author of several books dealing with the inner workings of banks, has issued yet another one, which he calls "A Bee Among the Bankers." This work, like the others, illustrates the fact that Mr. Warren must have had a very intimate acquaintance with the management of banks, and he has some very strong remarks concerning their dealings with both customers and employees. The work is divided into two parts, the first telling how to increase your current account," and the second contains strong criticisms of the Australian, African, and Indian Banks in London. The work, which is worthy of being read by all who have anything to do with banks, is published by Messrs. R. A. Everett and Co., 42, Essex Street, Strand.

Those who regularly receive Sutton's Farmers' Year-Book will find in the current year's issue a considerable increase in the information compiled expressly for the service of agriculturists. It contains concise notes on clovers and grasses, and valuable hints on leys, temporary, and permanent pastures. Root crops of all kinds receive full consideration. There are also practical articles on mangels, swedes, turnips, carrots, and cabbages, with details as to the relative feeding and manurial values of various crops. The insect foes of the farm are fully described, and the most effective remedies suggested for their destruction. A number of reports are quoted of extraordinary crops which, during the past year, secured leading prizes in all parts of the country, and one of the most interesting features of the work is the admirable series of illustrations reproduced from photographs. Sutton's Year-Book also contains an excellent calendar for the current year, and a number of useful tables which must prove of great assistance to the farmer.

Messrs. Webb's annual catalogue of farm seeds for 1902 sowing is well got up and arranged, and possesses a number of capital pictures. We note with interest that this firm, which has been so long and honourably connected with the seed trade, has been strengthened by the addition of Mr. W. Harcourt Webb and Mr. E. Stanley Webb. These two gentlemen have been connected with the firm for some time, and now raise the total of partners to four. Messrs. Webb report that the past season has been very favourable for harvesting seeds, especially for mangolds and other roots, therefore various seeds of good quality may be purchased at advantageous prices.

"Kelway's Manual" for 1902 is splendidly produced and illustrated. Keats said of a thing of beauty that "its loveliness increaseth," and this is, we think, fully exemplified in the case of the book under notice. Apart from its artistic excellence, however, it is no less admirable as a catalogue, the contents being well arranged in sections and fully indexed, while the hints to gardeners on culture and arrangement should prove most useful.

Messrs. Dickson and Robinson, of Manchester, who are seedsmen to his Majesty the King, have issued a catalogue of agricultural seeds for the present year. It is not a large one, but still contains particulars, accompanied by illustrations, of all the seeds that a farmer just now requires, and as it is arranged alphabetically, it is very easy of reference.

Messrs. Toogood and Sons, of Southampton, have issued a comprehensive and well-illustrated list of farm seeds. The section devoted to pasture grasses has a distinct educational value, as not only are illustrations of the many various grasses given, but a brief and useful description is given of each variety.

An Echo of the Arsenic in Beer Scare.—The Court of Appeal gave judgment on the 8th inst. in a case arising out of the recent discovery of arsenic in beer. Richard Holden (Limited), brewers, of Blackburn, at the Manchester Assizes, sued Bostock (Limited), sugar refiners, of Liverpool, to recover damages for the loss of a quantity of beer brewed with invert sugar supplied by the defendants, which contained arsenic. Judgment was given for the plaintiffs for, in all, £1,980, and the defendants contested the decision of Mr. Justice Bilham as to two items—£50 which plaintiffs spent after finding their beer contaminated in printing notices and advertising that in future their beer would not be brewed with invert sugar, and £300, the amount which the plaintiffs would have realised for the beer they had to throw away. The Court held that these sums had been rightly allowed by the judge at the trial, and dismissed the appeal, with costs.

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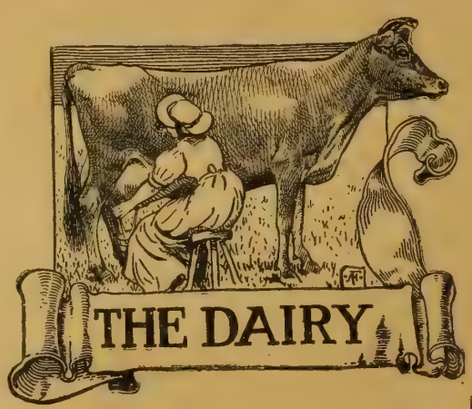


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Water in Butter: The Proposed Limit.

An interim report has been issued by the Departmental Committee on Butter Regulations, appointed in July last to "inquire and report as to what regulations, if any, may with advantage be made under Section 4 of the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, 1899, for determining what deficiency in any of the normal constituents of butter, or what addition of extraneous matter, or proportion of water, in any sample of butter shall, for the purpose of the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts, raise a presumption, until the contrary is proved, that the butter is not genuine."

The reason for issuing this interim report is explained as follows:—

"Having regard to the large number of prosecutions which had recently arisen in respect of an alleged excess of water in butter, and since the miscarriage of some of these proceedings was attributed to the absence of regulations—which must await the result of this inquiry—the committee considered it convenient to issue an interim report as soon as a conclusion had been reached regarding this particular part of the reference, and without waiting for the completion of the inquiry, or for the publication of the evidence."

The committee state that the evidence was overwhelmingly in favour of some official regulation as to the amount of water to be allowed in butter, but the real difficulty which the committee felt in arriving at a decision arose from the existence in the market of a particular article—Irish salt firkin butter—which, many witnesses declared, would be injuriously affected by any limit applicable to all other butters. It is a peculiarity of this butter, owing to the method of its manufacture, which has prevailed for many generations, that it frequently contains—and those interested in its production and distribution say it *necessarily* contains—a higher percentage of moisture than is found in any other butter coming into the market.

Some witnesses proposed that this difficulty should be met by the fixing of *two* limits—a higher one, which would probably have to be fixed at 20 per cent. for one class of butter—for which various definitions were suggested, but Irish salt firkin butter being exclusively in view—and, for all other butters, a lower limit, which was placed at from 15 to 18 per cent., the weight of evidence settling at 16 per cent.

Three bases for the division of butters under the dual limit system were suggested, *i.e.* (a) the percentage of salt in butter; (b) the trade description of the particular article in question; and (c) the price.

None of these classifications, however, appeared free from objection, and the committee was convinced of the undesirability, if it could possibly be avoided, of complicating the regulations by fixing a dual limit. The committee also felt that, given time and training, the remaining makers of Irish salt firkin butter would probably be enabled to fall into line with the vast majority of Irish butter producers, who can now with modern methods easily conform with any reasonable limit to the proportion of water in their butter; and this result would be accelerated in proportion to any further decrease in the demand for this special class of butter.

The committee moreover understand that vendors of this type of butter, containing water in excess of the proposed official limit, would be legally protected, provided that a sufficient disclosure is made to the purchaser. This consideration finally decided the committee to recommend a *single* limit, and to leave it to the vendors of Irish salt firkin butter to protect themselves in the simple manner indicated.

There then remained the question of the actual percentage of water which might be fairly adopted as the limit. The committee sought to learn from practical and scientific dairy farmers, agricultural experts, and analysts how far the amount of water was within the control of the maker. In the case of creameries and factories there was a general agreement that this question presented little difficulty. In carefully-made butters the proportion of water is found to range from 10 per cent. to 15 per cent. The difficulties mainly arose when it became necessary to take into account the position of small producers, with little knowledge, with unsuitable buildings, with rude appliances, and without access to sufficiently cold water in hot weather. After hearing a large amount of evidence on this point, the committee nevertheless came to the conclusion that a limit of 16 per cent. could safely be prescribed.

Were the limit to be placed higher than this the committee felt that the reputation of, and the demand for, home-produced in competition with imported butter must inevitably suffer. So far as could be learned no official limit to the proportion of water exists in butter-exporting countries; but it must be remembered that the industry in some of these States is controlled by inspection and branding, or the producers of butter are encouraged to secure a low percentage of water and a uniform standard of excellence by the general dissemination of information, and by educational and experimental means.

In the course of their inquiry the committee were informed that the incorporation or blending of water with butter intended for exportation to this country, in order to increase its weight, was at one time extensively practised in Hamburg and in certain parts of Holland. A modified form of this practice is now in operation in this country, and considerable quantities of a material known as "milk-blended butter," are now made by working milk into butter. As to "milk-blended butter," the committee is of opinion that the seller would be legally protected, provided that a sufficient disclosure of its real character were made to the purchaser at the time of sale.

The report concludes with the following recommendation:—"We therefore recommend the adoption of a limit of 16 per cent. for the proportion of water in butter to be fixed by a regulation under Section 4 of the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, 1899, and we make this recommendation on the assumption that butter containing a larger percentage of water than 16 per cent. will escape the operation of this limit provided that a sufficient disclosure is made to the purchaser."

"Mark Lane Express" Diary.

February.

18, 19. Show and Sale of Pedigree Aberdeen-Angus Cattle at Perth.

19. Devon Cattle Breeders' Society Show and Sale at Exeter.

19. Sale of the herd of Shorthorns, flock of Shropshire Sheep, and stud of Shire Horses belonging to Mr. A. Stretton at Wychnor, near Burton-on-Trent.

20 Sale of Lord Barnard's herd of Shorthorns at the Raby Home Farm, Staindrop, Darlington.

20. Show and Sale of pure-bred Aberdeen-Angus at the Agricultural Hall, Aberdeen.

20. Show of the Highland Cattle Society at Oban.

20, 21. Prize Horse Sales at Crewe.

21. Northern Counties' Breeding and Fat Show Club's Bull Sale at Inverness.

We learn that Messrs. Daniels Bros., Limited, the well-known seedsmen and nurserymen, have just been honoured by a Royal warrant appointing them seed growers to his Majesty the King.



The Cultivation of Maize.

As by discussion we diffuse knowledge, it is with pleasure that we have seen in these columns references to the article on the "Cultivation of Maize," that appeared in our issue of the 6th of January, and, further, to be able to place before our readers more particulars of a crop that could, with considerable advantage to our farmers, be grown in England. The cob sent by Mr. H. Hunt to us, which that gentleman states he grew in his garden, is a very fine specimen, and taken into account what our correspondent states in his letter, the variety originally came from South-east Europe, as it appears now to be becoming acclimatised, which would account for it having changed somewhat in size and colour from the original seed, unless by any chance Mr. Hunt obtained originally one of the small species of the 130 varieties we have evidence of being cultivated in Spain, the country to which corn was first sent from the New World. We communicated with Mr. Hunt, and he has kindly supplied us with a couple of maize cobs, grown by himself, and which are reproduced half their natural size on this page. With reference to the experiments of the late William Cobbett, Mr. Joseph Darby, just twenty years ago on the subject of "Green and Fodder Crops," thus wrote:—"As to maize, William Cobbett probably first propounded the idea that it might be successfully grown in this country, and one of his sons spent many years in endeavouring so to acclimatise a variety of this plant that the ripening of its corn might be a *fait accompli*, in the generality of English autumns. Experience proved his anticipations to be too sanguine, but the plant is likely to become worthy of extensive adoption for a far different purpose—to provide heavy crops of green forage for cattle and sheep at the latter part of August and throughout September and October." In this announcement we must take note of the value placed upon maize fodder as a green food for cattle in August and September and the month of October, but the writer of this article would like to draw attention to the variety of maize eminently adapted to the climate of this country that was grown by a Mr. Keene, who brought the seeds from the Pyrenees in the year 1847, where the seed had, in high latitudes, become acclimatised to such low temperatures as is experienced in this country, that it proved a most successful crop when sown in England. Mr. Keene introduced this kind of maize under the name of "Forty-day Maize," and from the result of the crops then grown in this country the question of whether maize as a crop can be produced in this climate is fully answered. In the MARK LANE EXPRESS, of the 20th ult., "J. D." requires information on practically the whole "botanical" life of Zea Mays, and in this connection most of the information that he requires will be found in an article, entitled "Maize, and its Uses," that appeared in the Journal of the Royal Agricultural Society of England, third series, Vol. x., part I., 1899. There are many seed growers and merchants and private individuals in more prosperous positions, who, no doubt, with perseverance, will succeed in placing a type of the maize plant that will mature sufficiently for use as a vegetable or a food for cattle as hay in England in our average summer, on the market, but it must be borne in mind that Zea Mays is not a cereal.

> "Maize in all its beauty,
> With its shining robes about it,
> And its long, soft, yellow tresses;
> Mondamin!

In "J. D.'s" letter maize, as a succulent food and a crop that yields abundantly is recognised but it is asserted that, "placed in the silo it cannot be until it ripens." Now, from personal experience of experiments, carried out to ascertain the value of this plant as a cattle food when green, just before the appearance of the tassel, in silk and in milk, as well as to ascertain its keeping properties at different periods of its growth, the writer cannot endorse this assertion. But in this direction the following data, representing the composition at two stages of growth of the maize plant, as analysed by F. T. Shutt, M.A., the chemist attached to the experimental farms under the Canadian Minister of Agriculture, is most interesting:—

	Stage of growth.	Water.	Dry matter.
Maize, average of 7 samples	Ears appearing	80.75	19.25
" " " "	About glazing	77.25	22.75

Composition of Dry Matter.

	Albuminoids.	Fat.	Fibre.	Carbohydrate.	Ash
Maize with ears appearing	9.17	1.08	26.98	55.60	7.17
Maize about glazing	8.28	1.45	27.36	57.58	5.33

Pounds of digestible matter in a ton (2,000 lbs.).

					Total.
Maize with ears appearing	25.58	3.10	77.16	143.91	256.31
Maize about glazing	27.41	5.00	89.68	175.77	297.72

The average in each case is from the same seven varieties of maize in the above table. Mr. Shutt, in his report on these experiments says that on account of the large yield per acre and the succulency and easy digestibility of the maize plant, it is one of the most valuable of all fodder crops, although low in albuminoids, requiring consequently the judicious addition of nitrogenous food to make it a nutritious and well-balanced fodder. In the above table the figures show that maize



MAIZE (half natural size),
GROWN BY MR. H. HUNT, NOWTON LODGE, BURY ST. EDMUNDS.

fodder at the "glazing" condition—that is, before it is ripe—contains about twice as much digestible matter as mangels, and about two-thirds as much as timothy and red-top grass cut at their best. From the analysis of two samples of this maize in the form of ensilage, taken 4th December and 5th March respectively, it was found that in composition to be fairly similar to the maize fodder from which it was made, and Mr. Shutt reckons from his experience that maize ensilage should contain from 250 lbs. to 300 lbs. of digestible matter per ton (2,000 lbs.), and its nutritive ratio should lie between 1:9 and 1:10.5. Our readers must not conclude from these remarks that maize destined for use as fodder should be cut before it has developed, for everything goes to show that the stalks of maize constantly improve until such time as the grain is formed, and the same is true, measurably, of all hay crops. The man who cuts half-grown oats, wheat, or lucerne for his stock wastes his labour, loses the use of his land, and cheats the animals to which the watery innutritious vegetable is fed, but the great value of maize as a fodder crop has never received full recognition by British stock-keepers. It is true that to get full advantage of its valuable qualities the silo is almost necessity, but wanting the silo it is yet possible in a fair autumn to do a great deal with maize as a hay crop by resort to the old-fashioned method of field-curing; however, with a good silo arrangement, such as employed in the United States, the crop can be gathered in and placed in the silo in the green state, which, considering the uncertainty of our late autumns, will be found a considerable advantage to English farmers, as the maize plant becomes more nutritious as it approaches the full development of its cob. Ordinarily the grain of maize reaches an advanced stage of ripeness long before the stalks and blades of the plant have ceased to be green and juicy, because of the heat at this period of its growth that prevails where it generally is cultivated, and the ears of the maize may, with perfect safety, be removed from the plant any time after the grain has become firm, a condition clearly indicated by the dense glazed look of the grain. If at this stage of ripeness the crop of maize is cut and stood on end in moderate-sized "stooks," the grain will ripen thoroughly in the course of a month, according to the weather, when ears can be husked and the stalks cured into fodder, and placed into a stack, or placed in the silo.

As regards ensilage-making, there still exists much misinformation, which is resulting in many more or less complete failures, but the fascinating subject of siloing is beyond the scope of the present article, except in a general way. For example, the silo, whether by this term is understood a masonry pit, a building above ground, or a system of powerful presses for use with stacks of green vegetables, must be such that it will more or less completely exclude the air from the contained fodder. Perfect exclusion of air is, of course, impossible, and, in fact, undesirable, inasmuch as a certain quantity of air seems necessary for the slow fermentation which goes on in the sweetest of silage. Maize silage, properly made, should, when first withdrawn, be of a bright straw or light green colour, and have an agreeable odour and slightly acid flavour. To obtain the desired result when the maize crop is required for silage purposes, *it should be harvested green*, but well matured, or, at any rate, if possible not cut until the seed is well advanced in the milk stage. With regard to ensilage-making it is well to point out to farmers that of all the work of the farm, unless the process is well carried out, it had better be left entirely alone. The above remarks dispose of "J. D.'s" question as to the employment of the American silo system for *green* maize, but it may be as well to point out, judging from the observations of the crops that have followed it when grown in this country, that maize does not appear to exhaust the land more than a crop of turnips. However, the following facts about the ash of the maize plant is interesting, as they relate to a crop from the Pyrenees seed produced in this country. This plant is of the small variety and matures very rapidly, and has the advantage of small grains which demand higher prices. The analysis was made to ascertain the mineral composition of the grain, of the stalks with the leaves attached, and of the pith or centre of the cobs in order to judge whether its larger production is dependent on more moderate requirements than in the case of wheat.

Percentage of water, ash, etc., in the different portions of maize plant.

	Water.	Ash.	Ash calculated on dry substance.	Sulphur on 1,000 grains undried.
Grain	9.25	1.37	1.51	2.05
Stalks and leaves	8.82	5.01	5.49	4.58
Pith of the cobb..	10.91	.50	.56	1.53

The ash of the pith is very small in quantity, being only 1-10th part that which is contained in the stem and leaves. These ashes consist of the following ingredients:—

Composition in 100 parts of the ash of different parts of the maize plant.

	Grain.	Stalks and leaves.	Pith of cobb.
Silica	1.55	27.98	26.35
Phosphoric Acid	53.69	8.09	4.37
Sulphuric Acid	traces	5.16	1.92
Carbonic Acid	—	2.87	7.46
Lime	.57	10.53	3.43
Magnesia	13.60	5.52	4.06
Peroxide of Iron	.47	2.28	.22
Potash	28.37	35.26	42.26
Soda	1.74	—	—
Chloride of Potassium	—	—	7.64
Chloride of Sodium	traces	2.29	2.28
	99.99	99.98	99.99

The first point to be noticed in the above table is that the phosphoric acid of the ash of the maize grain considerably exceeds that which is found in the ash of wheat, whilst the quantity of potash and of magnesia are very much the same in either case. The *mean* proportion of phosphoric acid in wheat ash is 45 per cent., but, on the other hand, maize only contains 1.37 per cent. of its weight of ash, whilst wheat has a mean mineral matter of 1.67 per cent. With the above analytical facts, and the weight of the crop from one acre of land, it is a matter of easy calculation as to the relatively exhausting or non-exhausting character of maize. The aggregate maize crop in England was about from 2½ to 3 tons per acre in

the following proportions after three months' natural desiccation :—

	lbs.
Dry leaves	937
Envelope of the seed head	312
Stalks with the roots	1,250
Pith of the seed head	625
Six quarters o. grain	2,880
Total	6,0004

In comparing the mineral composition of maize with that of wheat, all notion of attributing the relative produce of the two plants to their mineral peculiarities must be abandoned as—

A crop of 28 bushels of wheat carries off of phosphoric acid :—

	lbs.
In the grain	about 13
In the straw	about 7

And of potash—

	lbs.
In the grain	about 9
In the straw	about 14

But, in conclusion, we must point out that there is no species of cereal that manifests itself under such varied forms, sizes, and colours as the maize plant. Varieties are met with exhibiting every grade of size, colour, and conformation, caused by climatic influences, selection, cross-fertilisation, and cultivation. And, according to the soil, use it is intended to put the plant to, whether as vegetable for man or fodder for cattle, so must the seed be selected in this country.

Farmer Imprisoned for Cruelty to Horses.—John James Reynal Adams, farmer, of Hockliffe, near Leighton Buzzard, was, at the Woburn (Beds) Police Court, on Friday, committed to a month's imprisonment for systematically starving two horses to the verge of death. He was also ordered to pay £2 7s. 6d. costs. The accused had been twice previously convicted of similar cruelty.

Diseased Pigs at the Central Market.—At the Guildhall on Monday, George Murton, a farmer, of Denver, near Downham, Norfolk, was summoned for sending the carcasses of four pigs which were diseased to the Central London Market intending them for sale as human food.—Mr. Vickery, Assistant City Solicitor, prosecuting, said the meat when it reached London was in a very wet condition, the animals having suffered from some inflammatory disease, and the carcasses were in a state which rendered them totally unfit for the food of man. The carcasses were seized by Inspector Terrett, and, upon inquiries being made, it appeared that the defendant was the owner, and that he assisted in killing and dressing the pigs. The carcases were packed warm, which was a most unusual thing to do. This was a case of gross ignorance and carelessness.—Other evidence having been given, Sir Joseph Savory said that from the evidence it was quite clear to his mind that the defendant knew the state of the meat. Had it not been for the vigilance of the sanitary officers, great injury might have been done. He fined defendant £5 on each carcase and costs—in all, £23 10s.—Defendant paid £10 on account.

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By Hordeum.

More Red Herrings.

The prospect of another Pure Beer Bill getting actually before the House this session is causing its opponents to bestir themselves, so we consequently see brewers' societies taking active measures. Of the general question it is not necessary to speak at present; the practical point that needs prompt refutation is the direct statement that any Bill similar to the one drafted last year will be harmful to the British barley grower, as it will encourage the use of foreign grain and increase the importation of foreign beer.

Both these assertions are baseless, but it is a grave misfortune that a large number of the friends of the measure in the House believe the statements made, and therefore fear that in doing anything to interfere with brewers' malpractices that they will hurt the agricultural interest.

Foreign Barley.

has come over to this country and been generally malted for many years; in fact, a large quantity had special exemptions, permitting it to be malted by weight instead of measure, long before the repeal of the Malt Tax. But because a sugar maker told the Arsenic Committee that brewers who never in the course of their innocent lives used foreign barley would most assuredly have to do so if they were prevented using sugar by this wicked Bill, there has been a general stampede, and the brewers, finding it takes, are determined to play the card for all it is worth.

The Imperial idea also is requisitioned to keep us from the ill-effects of foreign beer.

Both arguments are utterly absurd, and it is only a further proof of the sturdiness (or want of it) of those who champion farmers' interests if they permit such claptrap to influence their action in the least.

Brewers' Emphasis,

The assertion so late in the day, that they will be driven to use foreign barley against their will sounds very curiously when it is so well known that they have persistently used all they could get for many years past. Indeed, many brewers have advisedly done this, not for initial chapness, but to keep down the demand for home produce and consequently to keep the average price at the lowest point obtainable. Yet now they try to pathetically plead that they do this forsooth "because of the constant attacks made upon us by the agricultural interest, as we are, and ever must be, among the best customers of the farmer."

Customers who contrive by the aid of substitutes to drive down the price of home grain below the cost of production only make themselves a laughing stock if they prate of their superlative goodness. Yet who, really knowing the subject, can think differently?

Hop Substitutes.

are actually referred to in the Brewers' circular with great unction Recently everyone using these things have been ordered to make entry of them. Now, the good brewers say we do not use any, and they have the temerity to assert that it is referring to the records at Somerset House. It open to anyone to verify their statements by has long been claimed that a simple and effective stop to the use of such things would be to compel a declaration of use. It is tried, and now the brewers wish to triumphantly claim that the paucity of entries is proof of their own goodness, a virtue which has always been theirs.

When we get a declaration of the use of other substitutes in a form to bring it home to the minds of consumers we shall also be again told they are not used. There is nothing to show the country of origin of malt. Consequently, brewers try to pose as martyrs, driven to use foreign barley against their will by the

Constant Attacks

of farmers. It would be very useful to know how much foreign barley has been malted during the past ten years. Very few people have any idea, and perhaps it will be another iniquitous type of persecution to say anything about it. Still, the fact remains, and deserves to be put clearly on record that the constant attacks by farmers are directed solely against those who use improper substitutes for barley malt in beer, and never a word of complaint is made, even when farmer's agitators know, and have known, perfectly well for many years, the actual facts of the case.

Members of Parliament are funny folk and easily frightened, so this cry of bogey may scare them for a little, but when they get the other side of the story told them it will be well to bear in mind it was the assertions made by brewers that led to the mischief, if any, that may arise from this wicked and unseemly threatening.



The Ownership of Fences.

The case of the Earl of Craven v. Pridmore and Others was heard in the Court of Appeal on the 1st inst. by the Master of the Rolls and Lords Justices Romer and Mathew. This was an appeal by the plaintiff, from a judgment of Mr. Justice Ridley, who tried the action at the Warwick Assizes in the spring of last year. The plaintiff sued the three defendants for trespass committed in cutting down and carrying off certain trees situated in two fences, which were the boundary fences between land owned by the plaintiff, which was let to a tenant, and land of which one of the defendants, Mr. Pridmore, was the tenant, belonging to the other two defendants, the Rev. Samuel Garrard and Mr. J. Brown. The value of the trees was agreed at £8, but the question to be determined was the ownership of the fences. At the trial evidence was given that the defendants had for many years repaired the fence and cut trees in it, but those acts were known only to the Earl's tenant and not to the plaintiff.

The Master of the Rolls, in giving judgment, said Mr. Justice Ridley had entered judgment for the defendants on the ground that the acts of ownership over the fence that the defendants had exercised rebutted the presumption that the fence was on the plaintiff's land. In this case the edge was on the side of the ditch belonging to the Earl of Craven ,and it was admitted that if the presumption in the circumstances of this case applied a trespass had been committed. An important fact in support of the plaintiff's contention was that on the discovery of documents the defendants produced, along with other papers, a map, bearing the date of the year 1856, and this showed the boundary of the defendant's land coming up to, but not beyond, the edge of the ditch. The defendants' evidence as to acts of repairing the hedge was not sufficient, in his opinion, to displace the plaintiff's evidence of ownership. The defendants' evidence on this point seemed to have been of a very neutral character. In his opinion, the appeal should be allowed.

The Lords' Justices concurred, and judgment was entered for the plaintiff for the agreed value of the property destroyed, £8, and costs.

Milk Cases: Wilts Farmers Heavily Fined.—At the Brentford Police Court, on Friday, Stephen Gay, of Malmesbury, Wiltshire, answered four summonses—one for false warranty and three for adulteration of milk sent to Ealing, the percentage of added water in one case amounting to 34 per cent. Mr. Brain, another Wiltshire farmer, answered three summonses for selling milk deficient in butter-fat, *i.e.*, skimmed milk. Gay was fined £20 and costs in one case, £10 and costs in two other cases, and £10 inclusive on the fourth summons. Brain's fines were £10 in each case—plus costs in two. Altogether the fines imposed amounted, with the costs, to exactly 100 guineas.

Warwickshire Farmers and the Price of Milk.—At a recent meeting of the council of the Warwickshire Farmers' Association, it was reported that a practical attempt had been made to deal with the difficult question of surplus milk, and a society was in course of requisition for the purpose of running a milk-distributing factory and creamery. The prices of milk were fixed at 7d. and 9d. per gallon for Birmingham, and 1s. 3d. and 1s. 8d. for London, and it was decided to confer with the Birmingham Dairymen's Association on the subject of an improvement in the wholesale prices of milk, owing to the increased cost of feeding-stuffs.



Home Notes.

The Borough

was busy last week, a wave of increased energy having affected the buyers, who have in many cases been persuaded to advance their offers, and in some instances have yielded to the higher rates demanded by holders. The market may therefore be described as being in a healthy condition, if we are able to recognise as health the first feeble efforts of a sick man to raise himself from the bed on which weakness has so long detained him. Unfortunately, there are thus far but few signs of actual strength, although I am able to record the fact that profits were made last week by earlier buyers, who have transferred their purchases to other hands. It is, of course, very satisfactory to speak of the renewal of life and vigour in a patient whose previous condition has almost suggested the banishment of hope; but, while I heartily welcome the more favourable indications of our market, I am bound to seek for the causes of it, which do not appear very plainly on the surface. If I could think that the present activity is created by the pressure of actual consumption of our product, I should rejoice exceedingly. In such a case there would be good reason for confidence in our future. On the other hand, if the brewers are already well stocked, and are only tempted to buy further by the low prices now current in order to provide against distant but possible contingencies, there is not much comfort to be drawn from the situation. I have no desire to write in pessimistic strain, and can safely appeal to my readers for evidence that my temperament is generally rather sanguine than otherwise, but nevertheless I am bound to repeat my warning of last week, that we must not be led by present circumstances towards a "false estimate" of coming events. I fear there is no doubt that brewers are now providing themselves with a weapon which they will not hesitate to use to our future detriment, and that unless English growers are wide awake to the danger that threatens the life of their industry, wounds will be inflicted from which they cannot recover.

Planters can defend themselves

if they adopt the only effective means at their disposal. The output of English hops must be reduced if we are to retain control of affairs. Some of my correspondents are of opinion that reduction of acreage is not advisable, and that the abolition of washing hops in case of an expected severe attack of blight should rather be determined upon. Others advocate neglect of cultivation, or the limitation of expenditure in manuring. Whatever scheme may be adopted, the object to be accomplished must not be lost sight of. Another crop approaching that of 1899, or that of last year, will certainly bring absolute disaster to many of our growers, and the entire future of the industry will be seriously imperilled thereby. Even a moderate yield for one year can help us but little, therefore we are driven to the conclusion that some permanent defence against present and future dangers must be found. The advocates of this imposition of an import duty on foreign hops are numerous, and I am prepared to add my voice to theirs in asking the Government to consider our claims to such protection. A letter has recently been addressed by the Council of the N.A.E.H.G. to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, suggesting that, in raising the funds for the prosecution of the war in South Africa, he should help the nation and ourselves by an import duty on hops of 40s. per cwt. I trust this appeal may be effective, but I cannot advise English growers to depend upon its realisation. The real protection rests with ourselves. We must more closely adjust the supply to the demand. Our annual production must, by some means, be regulated, so that it shall approximately meet, and not exceed, the requirements of consumers. To arrive at this point, assuming the average supply from foreign sources continues to come forward, we should not grow more than 400,000 cwts. of English hops per annum. If this annual average can be permanently arranged, and if the quality of this limited quantity can be secured, we need not fear that we shall suffer from the losses we have lately sustained, but we may confidently anticipate a prosperous series of years for all concerned.

All official reports and notices of the National Association of English Hop Growers will be printed in the MARK LANE EXPRESS, *which will also contain all current information likely to be of interes and benefit to the member of the society.*

Cold Storage in the Law Courts.

An action was brought last week at Worcester by Mr. W. H. Davies, a well known Herefordshire planter, against the Worcester Cold Storage Company for damage to hops. The evidence showed that the hops were of the 1899 crop, and that after being in cold storage for several months they had become "crushed" by damp, and were otherwise damaged by the decay of the cloth of many of the pockets. The damage was admitted by the defendants, who traced it to the incursion of rats, which had penetrated the floors and walls of the storage room to such an extent that the admission of the warmer external air had caused the deposit of moisture upon the hops. The main question at issue was the assessment of the damage, and to decide that point Mr. Justice Phillimore and a special jury were engaged for two days. A counter claim by the Storage Company for rent was also included. The result can hardly have been satisfactory to either party. Each obtained a favourable verdict, but neither was awarded the whole amount claimed. It would certainly have been a wiser course to have submitted the case to arbitration. Only a tithe of the expenses would then have been incurred, and both plaintiff and defendants would have been better satisfied. The efficacy of cold storage was not brought into question in the course of the action.

Foreign Notes.

Nuremberg.

A slight diminution of the volume of business is perceptible, inquiries from consumers being somewhat less frequent than during the preceding fortnight. This comparative calm is not attributable to any cessation of demand, but rather to the fact that the market is practically cleared of attractive qualities. New arrivals being generally of the inferior grades, have not assisted business, and a holder of any lots that can be classed as good are wililng to wait for the advancement of values, that they confidently expect, they do not run after buyers. Under these circumstances the previous firmness of quotations is well maintained, except for the very poorest sorts, of which there are considerable quantities in stock, that will not be moved until the necessities of brewers compel them to operate in this direction. Export dealers are taking small lots of the lower qualities at 45s. to 60s., but this department of the trade is very limited, and at present does not seem likely to increase.

Latest Approximate Quotations.

for first qualites are as follow:—Market hops, 70s. to 80s.; light Spalts, 85s. to 100s.; Hallertaus (unsealed), 90s. to 100s.; Hallertaus (sealed), 100s. to 110s.; Wurtembergs, 80s. to 95s.; Badens, 90s. to 100s.; Polish, 85s. to 90s.; Alsatian, 75s. to 80s.; Saag, 100s. to 110s.; Auschas, 85s. to 105s.; Galicians, 70s. to 90s.

Belgium.

Quotations on the Brussels Bourse are very firm, and are gradually advancing, Alost 8 marks being figured at 46 francs for prompt delivery, and 47 francs for March and April. Poperinghe town hops are held at 45 francs. Although there is not a great amount of business being done at the moment, the outlook seems to be favourable to further improvement in general values. It is estimated that the unsold stock of the Poperinghe district does not exceed 30,000 pounds, and holders are inclined to resist current offers, as they feel convinced that higher prices will soon be obtainable. Such small stocks at this season are very exceptional.

Belgian Imports and Exports

for the year 1901 are officially returned as follow:—

	Cwts.
Imports, 1,729,863 kilos, epual to about	34,600
Exports, 1,017,296 kilos, equal to about	20,300

Comparing these figures with those of the previous year, I find that the imports have fallen off by over 600,000 kilos, and exports have increased by about 150,000 kilos. As usual, the main bulk of hops imported were supplied by Germany, the total received from England being about 2,300 cwts., and less than half the quantity shipped to Belgium from our market in 1900. Direct trade with the United States has ceased; there is not a single entry in 1901, though in 1899 this business had attained a somewhat important position. Possibly some American hops still find their way into Belgium through English ports. The largest half of Belgian exports are sent to France, the quantity we received during last year being only about 1,500 cwts.

Hop Movements in France.

According to recent returns the French import and export trade for 1901 gave the following results:—

Imports for French consumption.....	43,258 cwts.
Exports of native growth	1,932 cwts.

Very little difference in the imports between the last and the two preceding years, but the exports have fallen off considerably. England holds only a subordinate position amongst the sources of supply of hops for French consumption.

America.

Firmness and general buoyancy are the chief characteristics of the New York market at present. Practically the whole of the last crop has passed out of first hands; the future is therefore under the control of dealers, who are naturally inclined to make the best of their opportunity. An advance of one to two cents per lb. has recently been established on all qualities, and indications are not absent that this movement will continue. I am prepared to hear at an early date that the currency for choice hops has arrived at 20 cents. The position of the market is the best possible proof of the shortage of last year's crop, especially as the internal revenue returns show that the consumption of beer is diminishing month by month to a remarkable extent. In December, 1901, the receipts from the beer tax were more than half a million dollars less than in the corresponding month of the previous year, showing a reduction of fully 10 per cent. But against this appears the reduction of the receipts of hops at New York, and the exports therefrom since September 1st of last year, these totals showing that the volume of business in each return is only a little more than half of that transacted a year ago. The general position of affairs points very distinctly to increased strength in hop values as the spring opens.

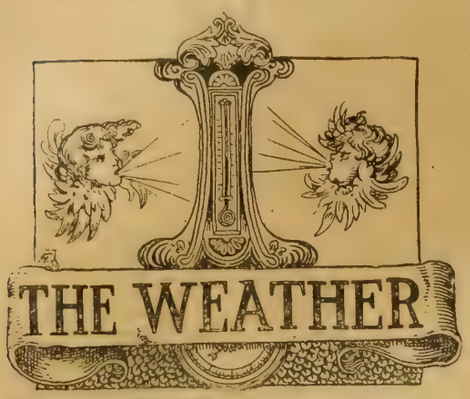
American Opinion.

The following letter from Tacoma, Washington, referred to in my report of the council meeting of the N.A.E.H.G., is, I think, sufficiently inteerstng to be printed *in extenso*, and I earnestly commend it to the attention of my readers:—

"We enter the new year with a good, healthy hop market. After a long period of depression, the market has suddenly turned, and is now advancing. The change is attributable to several causes—the main one of which is the anxiety of 'short' sellers to cover future sales. Quite a few hops are in the hands of speculators. These hops are practically out of the market, and consequently those who are forced to buy to fill sales must go to the grower. The stock in first hands on the coast is in very narrow compass, and the remaining holders, as is usually the case, are chronic holders, and generally several cents above the market. These conditions have forced the present purchasers of hops up as high as 11c. and 11½c. during the past two weeks. 12½c. and 13c. have been offered for two particularly fine lots. To strengthen the situation a good demand from brewers has come up. It is a well-known fact that several large dealers have sold heavily at low prices, and are not yet fully covered. Many of their sales are for January and February shipment. Some predict that there will be a big scramble for hops at the end of January and February, and that prices are certain to advance, possibly to 15c. by the end of next month. In any event, it is a certainty that the short sellers have the worst of it at this writing. They are eager to buy, but cannot get the goods except at prices which would mean a heavy loss.

"The crop of the U.S. for 1901 was as follows:—New York, 65,000 bales; California, 48,000 bales; Oregon, 62,000 bales; Washington, 32,000 bales; total, 207,000 bales. The following are still in first hands:—New York, 7,500 bales; California, 6,500 bales; Oregon, 3,000 bales; Washington, 2,300 bales; total stock remaining in growers' hands, 19,500 bales.

"We have read with interest your articles in the MARK LANE EXPRESS, in which you strongly urge the hop-growers of England to get together and outline some plan tending toward a reduction of the present acreage there. We think the idea a good one, and one which our growers could with advantage follow, as, with normal conditions here next year, Oregon should produce from 100 to 110 thousand bales, California 50,000 bales, Washington 40,000 bales, New York about the same as last year. Oregon will have at least 2,000 acres of hops which will come into bearing next year. With even a fair crop in England, the outlook is certainly not very encouraging for the coming season. The hop industry of the world is now facing a crisis, and unless some radical and immediate means are adopted, looking to a reduction of acreage, we can see nothing but chaos ahead. We presume your hop-raisers now see the folly of their actions last year, when they picked thousands of hundredweights of absolutely worthless hops, which crushed the market not only last year, but for some time to come. The effect of this has been felt in every hop centre of the world, but nowhere with such rigour as among your own growers. We wish you success in your laudable efforts to place the industry on a profitable footing again by a general reduction of acreage."



Monday (February 10th).—Snow showers were experienced again at many places in our Islands, especially in the northern and western districts. The conditions were generally complex, but the type of weather was chiefly anti-cyclonic, although the barometer was everywhere much below the average. The winds were, for the most part, northerly, but they were very light. Sharp frost occurred in Scotland and over the central parts of England during Sunday night, and the sheltered thermometer fell below the freezing point over nearly the entire kingdom. The highest temperatures were everywhere low, and in places it was freezing throughout the day. There was a sharp frost in London early in the morning, and the highest temperature was 34 degrees.

Tuesday (February 11th).—The weather continued very cold over our Islands, and snow showers were again experienced at a few places in the west, although the weather was very fine in most parts of the country. Snow had fallen generally in the north and west since Monday morning, but the measurements when melted were small. The winds were chiefly westerly, but they were very light. There was a very sharp frost during Monday night, and in the northern midlands the sheltered thermometer fell nearly 20 degrees below freezing point, while in Scotland the temperature was as low as 20 degrees. The mid-day temperatures were again very low, and in the east of England frost continued in places throughout the day.

Wednesday (February 12th).—The weather continued very cold over the whole of our islands, and fog was prevalent in the South-East of England. There was a further fall of snow at several places in the North and West. The winds were light, and very variable in direction. Frost occurred during Tuesday night over the entire kingdom, and in the Midlands the sheltered thermometer fell more than 20 degrees below the freezing point. In Ireland the weather was unusually cold, the thermometer indicating several degrees of frost at the coast stations. The mid-day temperatures scarcely touched 40 degrees in any part of the kingdom.

Thursday (February 13th).—The weather was again very cold over the whole of the British islands, and snow showers were reported at a few places in the north and west. Snow was measured in the morning, as the result of the fall in the preceding twenty-four hours, in Scotland, and in the North of Ireland. The winds were chiefly light from the northward, but at the entrance of the English Channel a fresh breeze was blowing from the north-east. A very sharp frost occurred over England during Wednesday night, and in many places the thermometer fell as low as at any time since the severe winter of 1894-95. At Penrith the temperature in the screen fell to four degrees, or twenty-eight degrees below the freezing point. The cold was severe in nearly all parts of the kingdom. At Liverpool the sheltered thermometer registered fifteen degrees of frost, and in the South of Ireland the temperature was nearly as low as in the great frost seven years ago.

Friday (February 14th).—A shallow cyclonic disturbance was passing to the eastward across Scotland during the day, and snow showers were experienced at many of the northern stations. The winds were generally light to moderate in most parts of our islands, and the direction was mostly north-easterly in England. Temperature had risen somewhat in most parts of Great Britain, although the thermometer was still much below the average. In Ireland the cold was still intense, and at Parsonstown the sheltered thermometer indicated fifteen degrees of frost, and it was still freezing in the morning at the Irish coast stations.

Saturday and Sunday (February 15th and 16th.— Temperature had risen rather briskly in most parts of the British Islands on Saturday morning, and a thaw became fairly general during the day, the thermometer in many places exceeding 40 degrees; but in the East of England the highest readings were only a few degrees above the freezing point. A sharp frost set in again during Saturday night, the sheltered thermometer falling about 10 degrees below the freezing point in many parts of the kingdom, and in the South-East of England the cold was very severe. The weather was very clear during Saturday night, and in the southern suburbs the thermometer in the screen fell to 14 degrees, which is the lowest temperature in any winter since 1895, and that is the only year with as low readings in February since 1856.

The Severe Weather.

Heavy falls of snow and severe frosts have been experienced throughout the country during the past week, and in many instances deaths from the cold have occurred amongst both men and beasts. Stock-breeders, especially breeders of sheep, have had a very anxious time of it, whilst generally agricultural work has been at a standstill. In North Wales the weather has been very severe, the several heavy falls of snow and hailstones practically isolating the mountainous districts. Here large numbers of sheep have disappeared under the snowdrifts, and flockmasters of the district report it to be the most disastrous season they have had for some years. In the Westmoreland hills, too, sheep-breeders have had a most trying time, the snow lying to a considerable depth.

The worst weather of all, however, has been experienced in Scotland, where heavy snowstorms have been followed by the severest frost experienced since the great frost of 1895. The thermometer has here run down to zero at several places, whilst on Monday, just outside Langholm, it went a degree below zero, while yesterday 27deg. of frost were registered. Reports from the hill districts show that flockmasters have every reason to be anxious as to sheep stocks. The ewes are heavy in lamb, and are in poor condition to undertake the duties of motherhood, having been weakened by the previous storms this winter. Snow has been over a foot deep in many places. In Dumfriesshire the season is the most disastrous that sheep-owners have experienced for a decade, some of the farmers having lost as many as 250 animals in a single night. In the Mull of Kintyre no fewer than three shepherds have died within a fortnight from the cold.

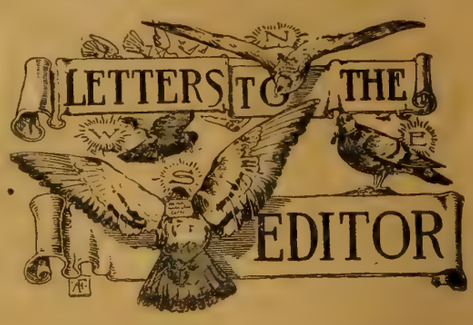
THE GARDEN.

Since writing last the frost has broken up to some extent, and again set in with still greater severity, though, fortunately, unaccompanied this time by the bitter north-east wind of the previous week. The weather generally is finer and brighter, too, and the days are certainly lengthening out considerably, while the frost will doubtless benefit the land and prevent the growth of fruit trees, as well as of vegetation generally, getting into an unduly forward state. But after so long a continuance of mild weather one seems to feel the cold rather severely.

Do not attempt to work the ground in any way while frozen to any extent, though the hardened surface affords a good opportunity to get manure wheeled out on to plots to be planted with potatoes presently. Where the ground has not yet been broken up there is, however, no valid reason why it might not be thrown up into ridges with a fork, and the frost thus enabled to act upon the soil better, but do not bury any of the frozen clods, and leave the surface as rough as possible.

Even if possible it would be very unwise to attempt to plant any potatoes under the present conditions, although, where an early supply is looked for it is nearly, if not quite, time that at least a few rows were got in. If the weather should, fortunately, break again soon, get a few rows planted on a warm south border at once, but failing this it will be advisable to get two or three good-sized frames (preferably over a mild hotbed), or a few lights of a low pit, with or without a little artificial heat, filled. This might be done at once if convenient.

Indoors, the earliest-sown tomato plants ought to be ready for pricking out by this time, and as a rule the sooner this is done after they have formed the first pair of proper or rough leaves the better. If the plants stand thinly in the seed-pan or box, however, and only a small number are required, they may, however, be allowed to remain a little longer—though not till they become crowded and "drawn"—and then transferred singly to small pots. Keep them moderately warm and close for a week or so, after being either pricked off or potted, but always in full light and near the glass. Now is a good time to sow seed of a good hardy variety for outside cropping, though any time up to the end of March will do; some advise sowing about the middle of March, but to get good, stout plants, in 5in. or 6in. pots, hardened off and ready to go out about the middle of May, the latter half of this month is not too soon to sow. Good kinds for an outdoor crop are the Early Evesham, Earliest of All (Sutton's), Open Air (Laxton's), and the good old Conqueror, or Early Red.



Custom as to "Boozy" Pasture.

Sir,—When the outgoing tenant of a farm sells all his produce and live stock in the end of the year, is he entitled to buy in new stock to put in the "boosy" pasture in the spring, or may he sub-let it?—Enquirer.

[*** Until the tenancy expires, the tenant, unless expressly restricted by his agreement of tenancy from so doing, may sublet the whole of his land, or, if restricted from sub-letting or parting with the possession of the land, he may still let the eatage, unless there are some words in the agreement expressly prohibiting the letting of the eatage. Such last prohibition is most uncommon. He may let the eatage of the herbage of the boozy pasture up to the date of the termination of the tenancy, but not after he has given up the remainder of the grass land. He cannot sub-let during the period of "hold-over," as it is sometimes called, for if he has no stock his right in the boozy pasture terminates at the same time as his right in the other pastures of the farm. Your letter does not set out your address, and customs as to boozy pasture usage vary a good deal in different districts. In some places the farmer would certainly be allowed to turn in the boozy pasture stock bought by him during the spring; and in some places, where he is bound to consume all the hay, straw, etc., on the farm, he would have the right to do this even with agisted stock during the period of "hold-over," although it is clear his right to sub-let would then be gone. Generally speaking, the tenant may turn stock in the boozy pasture during "hold-over" if he has had that stock some little time, but he would not be allowed to turn in stock expressly bought for the purpose of grazing the boozy pasture during the period of "hold-over."—M. Y.]

Six-Rowed Barley.

Sir,—I wish merely to supplement "Agricola's" forcible letter in your last issue by pointing out the great need for existing for definite meaning to be placed on the terms "winter" and "autumn" barleys, and that the true winter or six-rowed varieties can, some of them, produce good malt. It is more than strange that six-rowed barleys from hot and sub-tropical climates can produce malt to brewers' complete satisfaction from the type of barley that thrives in higher northern latitudes than the Chevalier or other two-rowed types can grow at all. It is also very well known that in such climate as Canada the six-rowed brews better than the two-rowed of any type, and adds to the beer made one characteristic that is unknown naturally in any brewed in this country, viz., lengthened storage in bottle without deposit. Yet, so important and valuable a trait, so far as I can learn, has not yet been experimented upon fairly, or even at all, by any British brewer.

But, putting the malting properties on one side altogether, the suggestion that winter barley furnishes two crops at the cost of one—with the necessary economies in labour and outgoings, and with a stronger probability of a certain return for the grain crop, if the sheep are not allowed to feed off too much or too late—deserves extended trial. No one is prepared to learn that now calcareous heavy land is able to grow duoble the percentage of prize barleys compared with calcareous soils; but the figures given in the report of the judges on last year's barley show may not be lightly set aside. What is wanted is a genuine spirit of inquiry free from prejudice, and men willing to make experiments under right conditions. With reference to winter barley there must be farmers able to grow good stocks observantly, maltsters making the produce into malt intelligently, and brewers disposed to brew it with a determination to overcome any initial difficulties should they arise.

The results are sufficiently important to warrant the hope that ere long a right understanding may be reached and so simple a matter may be amicably settled, for it is eminently more fitted for proof by practical experiment than for discussion.

H. Stores.

11, Queen Victoria Street,
London, February 15th, 1902.



Cornwall.

We have had a fall of snow and severe frost for a week, which we do not often experience in this part, but will, I am certain, do a lot of good. The young wheat was looking well before the snow and frost came, and there was a nice fresh pick on the pastures for the sheep and lambs. The lambing season on most farms has only now commenced; so far the percentage of twins is small. Roots are very good and plentiful. Straw and hay are very little, and if this severe weather should last long it will scarcely hold out against the spring. All kind of farm work is well forward. An early spring will be desirable to all. —T. F. R. (Feb. 14th).

Devon

We are having dry, frosty weather here, and the land is too hard to plough in the early part of the day. Wheat looks very well in the ground, and not hurt by the winter; it is a thick plant, and of very good colour; no other grain has been tilled yet in the writer's district, as March is the favourite month for that. There is much demand for oats at 3s. per bushel, and it is thought a large quantity will be drilled in the coming spring. The root crop is holding out well on most farms, but in some cases they are nearly finished; fortunately there is a good crop of mangolds to fall back upon, which may be invaluable in the spring, as clovers will not be very good. Hay is very scarce, and has to be doled out sparingly; straw is also running short, especially oaten straw, in consequence of the drought of last summer. Stock is healthy and doing well; prices for sheep are bad, partly attributable to the low price of wool; bullocks sell better, the price of beef being fairly good and well maintained.—L. B. G. (Feb. 13th).

Ulster (East.)

A snow storm began on the 7th inst., and in a few hours deposited over a considerable area a snow blanket varying in thickness from 6 inches to 18 inches. It has not increased since the 8th inst., but several degrees of frost has, up to the present, retained all the snow unthawed, and in several districts limited marketing and stopped all labour, except attendance upon the animals of the farm. Ulster farmers have been so unused to such severe weather that much of the turnip crop is left in the fields, and only carted in as required during the winter. This practice has been the cause of much suffering to young cattle just now, as carting between farmyards and fields is quite impossible on any of the hillside farms. When wheat constituted a large proportion of the crops, a snow blanket did not come amiss in mid-winter, but now it only shuts the young stock off the pastures, and uses up far too rapidly the scanty supply of fodder, minus the turnips, which cannot be reached just now.

Considering the very low price of stores at the end of autumn, some farmers tried to keep a large part of their young stock over winter, hoping for an open one, and a good run over pastures and meadows until near spring, but this storm increases last year's loss by a double disappointment. In orchard districts old fruit trees are yielding many fruit-bearing branches to the unwonted weight of snow. Milk and eggs are reduced in quantity. Pigs continue to thrive, and pork maintains good prices in the local markets. Efforts are being made to place within the reach of farmers the means of improving their breeds of horses, cattle, and pigs, and prizes are promised to induce a large use of these helpful improvements. So, hope springs perennial in the human breast, and farmers above all other men need it.—W. W. D. (Feb. 13th).

Glamorganshire.

Cold winds, with sharp frosts, having prevailed during the last fortnight, have cut down the young grass produced by the mild weather in January. The ewes and lambs were looking forward to a bite of the succulent grass that was to be seen last month, but, alas! they are disappointed, and have to turn their attention to hay and corn, with roots, where any are left. The dry weather is suiting the young lambs very well, although so cold. It is rather early in the season to predict what is the average crop, but so far the ewes with lambs are doing well, with a liberal allowance of food.

The February sowings of oats and barley have been delayed on account of the frost. Autumn-sown wheat was looking remarkably well and forward, and has now received the needful check. Hay and straw are now selling very well, and more money could be made out of an acre of good wheat straw than from an acre of wheat grain.—C. J. S. (February 14th).

Herefordshire.

On the whole we have had a fairly open winter, which has greatly helped the short quantity of winter keep we had to start with, and stock has done better than could have been expected. All the autumn-sown corn is looking very well, and the work on the lands is well up. Good store cattle are scarce and selling well, beef making a fair price, but mutton selling badly; cart horses lower. Labour is not too plentiful, and certainly does not improve in quality. We have had very little snow this winter, and no great amount of rain, and our springs and small streams are drier than I have ever known them at this time of year. —D. E. (Feb. 14th).

Somerset (Mid).

The mild weather experienced up till February 1st has greatly benefited all classes of stock-owners, as very few of them commenced the winter with their stack-yards full Cheddar cheese, our staple product, has experienced a better demand lately, and the fact of our making 20s. per cwt. more of it than the finest States cheese fetches shows that we Britishers can still manufacture an article which "Uncle Sam" can't beat. We are now having rather severe weather, but still it is seasonable, as we are able to cart manure on to our wet pastures without injury. In this district we grow a large quantity of apples for cider making, and the quality of the juice last autumn was excellent; in fact, it has rarely ever been equalled. Now that people are beginning to find out what an excellent drink it is, the demand has greatly increased. Of course, there have been vast improvements made in its manufacture during the last few years, and thanks particularly are due to the Bath and West of England Society, and the old-fashioned sour, hard, and vile stuff sold as cider years ago is getting quite a thing of the past.—W. T. A. (Feb. 14th).

Somerset (North-East).

The weather is seasonable and winterly, but we need a lot more rain to raise the springs. The dry weather, although cold, is favourable for young lambs, but the ewes are short of milk owing to the pastures being cut so with the winds and frost. A little cake and plenty of hay will get them through till grass comes, which we may expect after this. Store cattle have done well up to now, but the small hay ricks are going fast. Beef is selling better, but it is getting scarce. The winter and summer grazing have not paid their way, as all feeding stuffs are too dear, and hay scarce, to leave any margin of profit. A great many grazing cattle were sold at the fall at the same price or less than they cost in the spring. I think 1901 the worst year we farmers as a rule have ever known. The foreigner beats us on every hand; our rents, taxes, and labour are much too high to compete with them. The wheat plant, before the winds, looked healthy and strong; the dry weather has kept the cart wheels well employed.—G. F. K. (Feb. 13th).

Worcester.

Not much fresh to relate. All corn crops except wheat yield badly, and all sell badly except good and fancy samples of oats and peas.

Stock have as yet wintered fairly well, but I doubt if it will pay for the hay and cake eaten, but when spent the land has been improved.

The weather has been remarkable for the small rainfall except for the wet days at the end of December which brought a flood.

Grass grew in January, but we are now having a severe check—sharp frosts every night—which has enabled all arrears of dung-carting to be finished, and will give a fine seed-bed for the Lent corn.

Wheat has kept a fair plant, but having been generally sown late is far from being "proud." Clover and artificial grasses are a better plant than was expected after the dry summer.

Sheep keep promising. Roots scarce; not many grown for sheep in this district.

Sheep have paid nothing for wintering, as mutton is selling very badly, owing to large importations. Why cannot these large importations of stock, corn, and all manufactured articles, especially flour, pay something towards the ever-increasing Budget? The latter tax would set all the old country mills going again.

Have just been reading the R.A.S. Journal on the past and present phase of agriculture.

A stranger would scarcely believe that the conditions there brought before us, say in 1760, are now still in vogue in the parish of Powick, within two miles of the loyal city of Worcester. There some of the best arable land is, as stated, only in the hands of the husbandman from February until harvest for two years cropping, the third year to be given up to fallow or thistles, the best grass land either mown or stocked with an overabundance of hungry horses, cattle, and sheep. —T. R. H. (February 12th).

Foreign Prospects.

FRANCE.—Colder weather does not appear to have damaged the wheat crop, which is reported to be looking well over most of the country.

BELGIUM.—Cold weather seems to have improved the wheat market in Antwerp, which yesterday with good demand was firm and rather in sellers' favour.

GERMANY.—Over a large area of the Empire the fields are under snow. Inland navigation is closed.

RUSSIA.—Weather for the time of year is mild, except in north-west and Baltic provinces. Rainfall in the south is below the average.

HUNGARY.—Snow has fallen and covered the cereal crops. Budapest reports a quiet milling demand for wheat; millers appears to be fairly well stocked.

ITALY.—The good condition of the autumn-sown cereals is generally maintained.

UNITED STATES.—The "Cincinnati Price Current" says that the covering of snow is favourable to the wheat crop, and there is no material change in the condition, which is generally fair to good, but it is poor in the Ohio valley. The interior movement of grain is light.—*Dornbusch*

New Agricultural Patents.

Specially compiled for the *Mark Lane Express* by Mr. G. D. Howard (Hughes, Son and Co.), Patent Agents, 38 Chancery Lane, London, of whom all information relating to Patents, Designs, and Trade Marks may be obtained free of charge.

2087.—Robert Vincent Bradburn, of Wolverhampton, for "The pronged cup potato planter."

2323.—Lothian Kerr Scott, of Farnborough, for "Improvements in agricultural implements."

2548.—Alfred Durant Watson, of Cheapside, London, for "Improvements in food for cattle and the like."

Patents Sealed.

18359.—J. Boardman, of Lancashire, for "Potato diggers."

Agricultural Imports.

The following is an account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Feb. 8, 1902, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year:—

Animals living.	1901	1902.		1901.	1902.
	No.	No.		Cwt.	Cwt.
Cattle ...	5,967	6,675	Wheat ...	781,900	789,400
Sheep.....	3,439	9,178	Flour	360,900	228,300
Swine.....	—	—	Barley ...	337,900	441,500
*Horses...	—	986	Oats	538,900	149,300
			Peas	55,400	17,200
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Beans ...	41,800	10,500
Beef	69,436	55,883	Maize ...	1,574,800	622,700
Mutton...	45,902	38,120		Bunches	Bunches
Pork	24,233	18,204	Bananas	22,339	65,917
Bacon ...	123,916	79,317			
Beef, salt	1,780	1,899		Cwt.	Cwt.
Hams.....	34,406	30,909	Apples ...	46,233	25,875
Pork, salt	5,182	3,198	Apricots &Peaches	14	19
Meat, salt & Fresh	7,792	10,028	Cherries	—	—
Do. pres.	23,751	16,064	Currants	—	—
Butter ...	80,167	72,937	Goosebr's	—	—
M'rg'rine	13,784	16,613	Grapes ...	107	822
Cheese ...	34,740	25,340	Lemons...	20,534	14,350
Milk, Fresh, in cans or drums.	620	611	Oranges	227,503	209 589
			Pears.....	204	342
			Plums ...	11	50
			Strawb'r's	—	—
Milk ...			Oth'r Fr't	3,034	2,973
Cream.	163	252		Tons.	Tons.
			Hay	1,870	6,000
			*Straw ...	—	1,804
Milk pr's'v'd, other				Bush.	Bush.
			Onions ...	260,802	151,614
kinds ...	234	30		Cwt.	Cwt.
Con.Milk	19,916	20,075	Hops	5,762	3,435
			* Locust Beans	—	29,220
	No.	No.	Potatoes	144,378	38,175
Eggs	200,031	318,385	Tom'to's	8,423	5,356
			Other	Value.	Value.
Poultry& Game	Value.	Value.	Veg'bles	£6,779	£8,592
	£41,657	£21,653		Cwt.	Cwt.
			Dried ...	5,905	5,881
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Pres'v'd by canning ...	7,167	4,537
Rabbits	5,036	8,461			
Lard	50,184	18,382			

* Not shown in 1901.

In my note last week referring to the sale of red-polled cattle belonging to Mr. R. Harvey Mason, of Necton Hall, Swaffham, Norfolk, the date was, by a printer's error, given as May 4th instead of May 15th.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Malt: A little better inquiry during the past week. Barley, grinding, 3d per qr dearer. Wheat firm. Oats advanced 3d to 6d per qr. Maize made 6d per qr more money. Flour steady.—NIXON, GOWER, AND Co.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—Although business was very quiet in the general departments a continuation of wintry weather is beginning to tell, and feeding stuffs were supported without effort, while breadstuffs moved with precision, the former, in fact, being again fractionally firmer. Buyers were, however, only in small attendance all day. English and foreign wheat remains slow, but steady, and nominally unchanged. Flour held at late rates, but inactive. Maize steady, with a quiet trade at unchanged prices. Oats in moderate at fully last day's rates. Barley quiet, but steady, and without change. Beans and peas quiet.

Mark Lane, Friday.—There was about an average attendance, and only quiet demands, being mainly directed to feeding stuffs, while sellers were firm, upholding quotations on the week. English wheat again scarcely differed this week, either here or in the country, which is fairly well supplied, the town millers remaining indifferent. Whites range at 28s 6d to 30s, and reds at 28s to 29s 6d per qr, delivered. On country rail, reds (good), 28s 6d per qr. American descriptions occasionally 3d firmer since last Wednesday. No. 1 Northern Duluth, certificate, 31s 6d ex ship, 32s ex granary. No. 1 Northern Manitoba in these positions, 31s 6d and 32s. Hard Manitoba, 33s 6d landed, and none ex ship. Hard Kansas Winters, 30s 6d, and Californian, 30s 6d, landed. Russian remains above the level of this market, and Indian still fails as an exporter. Australian maintained. New Zealand Tuscan, 29s 6d to 30s, 498lb, ex store. American brands of flour unaltered, patents being still in sellers' favour. Hungarian up to 33s for best, and very scarce. Australian patents, 20s, 280lb, ex store English generally in excess of requirements. Top price town made, 28s net; No. 1 households 21s 6d cash delivered at the mill door. The London Millers' Association made no alteration at this afternoon's meeting. Town households, 23s; whites, 26s per sack delivered to the baker. Whole meal, 174s per ton. Grinding barley firm at the recent advance, and little coming up at the moment. Odessa, 19s ex ship, 19s 6d landed. Danubian, 18s 6d ex ship, 19s landed. English malting is still dealt with from time to time when found suitable for seed. Oats maintained at the last advance, without an exception respecting supply. Mixed American maize is scarcely to be had on spot, and ex ship to come up named at 26s. Round corn fully up to last week's advance. The market for imported beans and peas remains poorly supplied, with little coming to hand at present.

COUNTRY.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, red (new), 28s to 30s per qr. Trade, 3d to 6d better, but not a large show of wheat.

Boston, Wednesday.—Wheat, 27s 6d; barley, 23s; oats, 21s to 22s; peas, 48s to 53s; beans, 34s and 35s; maize, 23s 6d; malting barley, 28s to 31s 6d per qr.

Birmingham, Thursday.—The market was very quiet, and prices have undergone scarcely any change on the week. English wheats were unchanged at 10s 9d to 11s 3d per bag, and in the foreign department Russians were 5s 10½d; No. 2 Manitobas, 5s 11d, and soft red Calcutta shipped, 5s per 100lb (Liverpool). Round maize, 24s to 24s 6d (Sharpness); and the same prices at Liverpool; Plate maize, 23s to 24s per qr. at Sharpness, and 4s 11d per cental (Liverpool). Grinding barley unchanged at 18s 3d to 18s 6d (Sharpness), and 18s 3d at Liverpool. A firmer tendency was noted in regard to English oats, black offering at 21s 6d to 22s, and whites, 22s 6d to 23s 6d. New English beans, 14s 3d, and old 15s 6d to 16s per bag.

Braintree, Wednesday.—Wheat trade quiet; prices firm. Red samples made up to 28s 6d and whites 30s per qr. Barley trade slow.

Brighton, Thursday.—New white wheat, 28s 6d; new red ditto, 28s; barley, 28s to 32s; grinding ditto, 21s to 22s; English oats, 21s to 24s; beans, 34s to 38s. Wheat in fair supply and good condition; prices unaltered. Oats, 6d dearer. Barley firm. Quiet trade and small attendance.

Cambridge, Saturday.—During the week trade has been firm. Supplies are not so abundant, and farmers are disinclined to press sales at present low prices. At this market to-day a fair supply of wheat met a quick sale at the full prices of last week, and in some cases rather more money was paid. Prices: Red, 27s to 28s 6d; white up to 29s per 504lb. Barley is getting into small compass. Not a large demand, but prices are firm. Beans very firm. Oats a shade dearer.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Wheat firm. Malting barley scarce. Ruling prices: White wheat, 28s to 31s; red, 27s to 30s; malting barley, 28s to 35s; grinding ditto, 23s to 25s; white oats, 20s to 24s; black oats, 20s to 23s; grey peas, 33s to 35s; tick beans, 36s to 38s; mazagans, 33s to 34s; maize, 25s to 28s per qr; tares, 8s to 9s per bushel.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Small supply of oats in our market to-day; fair sale at unchanged prices; new, 21s 6d to 22s 6d per 336lbs.—THOMAS ROBINSON.

Chester, Saturday.—There was a quiet market. Wheat was quoted rather higher than last week, but no change in barley, beans, or oats. Indian corn 6d sack lower. Wheat, white, 4s 4d to 4s 5d; red, 4s 3d to 4s 4d, 75lb. Malting barley, 3s 10d to 4s, 60lb. Grinding barley, 3s 4d to 3s 6d, 64lb. Beans, 5s 6d to 5s 8d, 80lb. Oats, new, 2s 10d to 3s 1d; old, 3s 4d to 3s 6d, 46lb. Indian corn, 12s 9d to 13s 9d, 240lb.

Chichester Corn, Wednesday.—Wheat was in small supply and trade was firm at fully last week's rates. Feeding stuffs firm and again dearer. Flour unchanged. The attendance was small.

Colchester, Saturday.—Good supply wheat; steady trade at the extreme prices of last week. Beans and oats dearer, especially the latter.—FRANCIS AND Co.

Crovdon, Thursday.—White wheat, 28s to 30s; red ditto, 27s to 29s; malting barley, 28s to 36s; grinding, 22s to 24s; oats, 18s to 21s; beans, 31s to 33s; peas, 29s to 31s. Trade for wheat firm; 6d per qr dearer. Barley and oats remain the same.

Devizes, Thursday.—The demand for wheat is not so active, and the trade must be quoted dull, except for the best samples. Barley, with a demand for seed, is firm at late rates, and the same remark applies to oats. Quotations as follows:—Best wheat 14s to 15s; [illegible] 12s 6d to 13s; best malting barley, 29s to 34s; secondary, 25s to 28s; grinding barley, 20s to 24s; oats 20s to 23s; beans, 16s to 20s; fine flour, 22s to 24s; extra fine, 23s to 30s; best bread, 9d.

Glasgow. Wednesday.—There was the usual attendance at our market to-day. Wheat and flour are quiet at about late rates. Indian corn firm and still scarce. Round maize steady with little doing. Canadian pease firm, owing to scarcity. Foreign oats rather better in price, but quiet trade. Home oats pressed for sale, and rather easier. Grinding beans quiet. Barley steady. Oatmeal dull, and tending in buyers' favour. Bran and thirds quiet and unchanged.—GIBSON AND CLARK.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Moderate supply of wheat; trade steady, at fully late rates. Reds 28s to 29s, whites to 29s 6d per 504lb. Moderate supply of barley, which was sufficient for the demand, and which was slow, prices unaltered. Oats 3d per qr dearer. Maize firm. Beans and peas steady.

Leeds, Tuesday.—The wintry weather imparts a firmer tone to the market, notwithstanding liberal world's shipments, and holders of wheat insist upon a slight advance on last Tuesday's rates. Barley steady, but less active. Maize and oats 6d dearer. Beans unchanged.—DUNNS AND Co.

Leeds, Friday.—Both English and foreign wheats are firmly held at Tuesday's advanced prices, Americans being the turn dearer. Beans, peas, oats, barley, maize, and flour all held for fully late rates.

Leicester, Saturday.—Good average attendance of buyers and dealers, with moderate supply of home-grown wheats. Trade steady, but only fine samples active at 28s to 31 per 36 stone. Barley quiet. Fine oats very firm.

Leith, Thursday.—With the advent of cold weather, a steady demand for some classes of feeding stuffs has been experienced. Prices, however, are without much change from those of last week. Wheat, Scotch, good demand at full prices. Scotch oats steady sale at recent prices; Barley, Scotch, steady; foreign feeding, 21s; hard white pease, 37s 6d. Beans, all varieties, 33s 6d to 24s. Round maize 23s to 24s; parcels with slight heat, 21s to 22s 6d; millet seed, 19s. Mill offals:—Continued demand, with some difficulty in getting delivery, Continental contracts taking up any surplus. Broad bran, 120s to 125s; medium bran, 100s to 102s 6d; sharps, 95s 6d to 97s 6d; parings, 105s to 107s 6d; cummings, 82s 6d to 87s 6d; dried grains, brewers', 97s 6d; distillers', 102s 6d; oat husks, 45; meal seeds, 67s 6d, all sacks included.—WILLIAM MACLAY.

Lincoln, Friday.—Fair supply of English wheats, which were selling at a slight advance; reds, 28s 6d to 29s 6d; whites, 29s to 30s. Scarcely anything doing in barleys. There was no material change in oats. Maize, beans, and peas unaltered.

Liverpool, Friday.—The market has had a rather small attendance, but wheat, for American sorts, have experienced a moderate trade at ½d to 1d per cental advance over Tuesday's rates. White sorts are still scarce, and held for ½d advance, but quiet. Flour is very dull, with only a small inquiry, prices being unchanged from previous quotations. Maize: Mixed is quiet at ½d to 1d decline; European has a steady inquiry, but generally ½d below last market day's currencies; Plate is ½d lower, but has a moderate inquiry at the decline. Barley: Malting steady, with a slight improvement in the inquiry; feeding steady, and the turn dearer. Beans continue scarce, and firm at full prices. Peas are steady, but quiet at late rates. Oats are firmly held, but only a small inquiry; yellow and blacks dearer, owing to scarcity; foreign sorts are unchanged, but very steadily held. Oatmeal again experiences only a moderate inquiry, at about late rates. Oilcake very steadily held, with a fairly good inquiry at late rates.—SEGAR AND TUNNICLIFFE.

Maidstone, Thursday.—Steady trade for wheat at the market to-day; last week's prices quite realised, but an advance, though slight, was general. Barley moved off rather more freely, as the cold weather induces maltsters to purchase, especially prime lots, which are not plentiful. Grinding qualities cost 3d per qr. more than last Thursday. Oats are inclined to ascend in value, those for seed bringing good money. Not much doing in maize; round, 6d per qr. advance; flat too dear for buyers. Beans and peas a small show, and are both of them on the rise. We do not note any alteration in Rye, tares, brank, sergum, dari, or millet.

Manchester, Thursday.—Moderate attendance. English wheat 3d to 6d per qr. dearer; foreign ditto, ½d to 1d per cental dearer. Maize unchanged for round varieties, and 1½d per cental lower for mixed. Oats, a good demand for English and Irish at last week's prices. Foreign in rather better demand at ½d per bushel dearer. Barley, 1d per bushel dearer. Beans firm. Peas unchanged. Flour dull and unchanged.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—A quiet demand for wheat at to-day's market at unchanged prices. Maize slow sale, but not quotably lower. Oats a quiet demand at late rates. Barley unaltered. Beans and peas firm, and favouring sellers.—JOSEPH POLLARD AND Co.

Newport, Wednesday.—Wheat, slow sale and no change on the week. Maize, demand slow, and not much doing. All other feeding grains at last week's prices. Flour, fines, 23s per sack.

Northampton, Saturday.—Supply of wheat and barley good, but the same indifference remains with millers as to doing business, which is of a limited character; nevertheless, wheat is very firm and a little dearer than last week. Feeding stuffs are scarce and much inquired for; flour dull and not dearer. White wheat, 29s to 30s 6d; red wheat, 27s 6d to 29s 6d; barley, 26s to 34s; grinding barley, 22s to 25s; oats, 18s to 23s; old fine, 25s; beans, 33s to 40s; peas, 28s to 40s; flour, 21s to 25s.

Norwich, Saturday.—There was a fair supply of wheat at our market to-day, with no alteration in the trade. Very few samples of barley are now offering, the trade being virtually over for the season. Wintery weather has prevailed all the past week, with snowstorms and night frosts. Wheat, red, 28s to 28s 6d per qr., weight 63lb per bushel imperial. Corn inspector's return for the week ending February 10th, 1902:—Wheat, 2,040-4, 26s 6d; barley, 5,156-4, 29s 2d.—J. ARTHUR MILLS.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Wheat in small supply, and prices advanced 6d per qr; but little barley offering, and values ruled in sellers' favour. Oats and beans scarce, and full rates realised.—ROBERT HUBBLE.

Peterborough, Saturday.—There has been a fair supply of wheat at market, and trade was firm at the full prices of last week. Rather more barley offering, which sold at late rates. Oats the turn dearer.—THOMAS HILL AND SON.

Plymouth, Thursday.— Moderate attendance at our market to-day. Maize unaltered; wheat firm; barley 3d advance; oats also dearer.—ORLANDO DAVIS AND Co.

Reading, Saturday.—Business ruled firm in all departments to-day, and there was an unusually numerous attendance. The quantity of wheat on offer was fair, and the best samples made up to 30s per qr, while ordinary sorts made 28s per qr. Barley sold fairly well at recent figures; and oats, which were plentiful, changed hands quickly at late values.

Ripon, Thursday.—Farmers' wheat slow at last week's prices. A light show of samples. Attendance good. Wheat, English (new), 28s 6d to 29s 6d; wheat, foreign, 29s to 33s; barley, grinding, 22s 6d to 23s 6d; barley, malting, 26s to 31s; oats (new), 21s to 24s; round maize, 24s to 27s per qr; beans, 1s per stone.

Romford, Wednesday.—Wheat trade unchanged from last week. Small supply. Red wheat 27s 6d to 28s; white wheat, 28s to 30s per quarter.

Rye, Wednesday.—White wheat, 26s to 28s: red wheat, 26s to 27s 6d; barley, 27s to 28s; beans (Tick), 35s to 38s; beans (Mazagan), 34s 6d to 36s; beans (Long Pods), 31s to 35s; oats (white), 19s to 24s; oats (black), 21s to 26s; oats (white), 21s to 22s; peas (grey), 33s to 35s; peas (blue), 48s to 53s.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—To-day's market was better attended notwithstanding the difficulty of locomotion. In wheat there was a better business doing, and prices were up 3d to 6d per qr. Small corn showed a similar improvement. American flat maize receded 6d per qr. Quotations: Wheat, white, 30s to 31s; ditto red, 30s 6d to 31s per 504lb; oats, new white, 21s 6d to 22s 6d; ditto new black, 20s to 21s per 336lb; barley, grinding, 22s to 23s; ditto malting, 28s to 32s per 448lb; peas, grinding, 32s to 34s; ditto blue, 53s to 80s per 504lb; beans, Egyptian, 36s to 36s 6d; ditto English, new, 37s to 37s 6d per 532lb; Indian corn, small, 25s to 26s; ditto American mixed, 27s 6d to 28s per 480lb.

Spalding, Tuesday.—Wheat firm, at 27s to 27s 6d per qr. Oats advanced 6d, making 21s to 22s, trade being very firm. Other grain firm, and not much doing.

Stamford, Friday.—There was a moderate show of wheat, and prices ranged from 27s 6d to 29s 6d. Oats moved off at late rates, and beans and maize maintained last week's prices.

St. Neots, Thursday.—Slightly larger supply of wheat. The quality was very good; yet prices were rather easier than otherwise. Trade in malting barley very quiet, and little doing at former rates. Oats firm and quite as dear.—ELGOOD AND SON.

Stockton, Wednesday.—English wheat made up to 30s per qr. During the week trade in foreign wheat has been quiet, millers only buying for their immediate requirements, and prices showed no change. Oats and maize 6d dearer. No malting barley on offer. b

Sunderland, Saturday.—Few samples of grain on offer, and there is no change to note in the value of wheat, barley, or oats. Arrivals coastwise: Oats, 461 qrs; foreign, nil.—E. AND F. RICHARDSON.

Wakefield, Friday.—Wheat meets with rather more inquiry, the stiffness of sellers proving the chief obstacle to a more extensive business. The Continent is evidently beginning to buy again, which may be the signal of better doings. Barley unchanged. Maize, beans, and oats 3d per qr dearer.—DUNNS AND Co

Wakefield, Friday.—There is a firm feeling in wheats on our market to-day, and 3d per qr advance in price is obtained on the business done. There are but few buyers for malting barley, maltsters being now practically finished. Oats, maize, and grinding barley 3d per qr dearer.—MICHAEL SANDERSON AND SON, LIMITED.

Wisbech, Saturday.—A limited supply of grain. Wheat sold slowly at late rates; prices, 27s to 28s. Oats dearer to buy, 21s to 24s. Barley—Little offering, 26s to 30s. Beans, 34s to 38s.—JAMES FLETCHER.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—A steady market. Quotations: Wheat, new, 12s 6d to 13s per 216lb; oats, old, 15s 6d to 16s; new, 12s to 13s; beans, old, 15s 6d to 16s 6d; new, 14s to 14s 6d per 196lb; barley, 31s to 32s per 448lb: maize, 26s to 26s 6d per 480lb.

Worcester, Saturday.—Quiet trade all round. English wheat scarce and values steady on the week. Barley, oats, and beans were firm to 3d dearer.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Good attendance, but small show of grain, and firmer tendency for wheat. White wheat, 28s 6d to 29s 6d; red wheat, 25s 6d to 27s 6d per qr; best malting barley, 29s to 32s; secondary, 26s to 28s; grinding barley, 23s to 24s; white oats, 21s to 23s; black oats, 19s to 21s; maize, 27s to 28s per qr.

York, Saturday.—A fair attendance. Only a few samples of wheat on offer, for which there was a slow trade at last week's rates. Good white wheats, 29s to 30s; red and inferior, 28s to 29s per qr. Very little malting barley on hand which sold at late rates; best, 28s to 30s; good, 24s to 28s; medium, 24s to 26s per qr of 32 stones. Oats were more in demand, and fetched a little better price; white Tartary, 19s to 20s; blacks, 20s to 21s 6d; white Darton, 21s 6d to 22s 6d per qr. Rye, 8d to 8½d; beans, 11d per stone.

FOREIGN.

Hamburg, Saturday.—Market quiet, without material alterations in prices. There is but little demand from the interior. The imports during the week amounted to 7,625 tons wheat, 1,637 tons rye, 2,355 tons barley, 2,657 tons maize. American hard winter wheat, No. 2, on the spot and near at hand, is selling at 28s 6d to 28s 9d; March shipment is held at 29s 3d; Northern spring, No. 2, 28s 6d per 480lb; Walla Walla, about due, 29s 3d per 500lb. Rye firm, 9 15-20, South Russian, March-April shipment, is held at 23s 6d per 480lb. Malting barley quiet. Good Bohemian to arrive per barge is offering at 31s 6d to 33s; good to fine Saale is scarce at 35s to 39s; good Silesian, 27s 6d to 29s per 448lb f.o.b. Feeding barley in better demand: 60-61 Ko. Azow and Danubian, March-April, is held at 18s 3d per 400lb u.f. Hamburg. Maize firm. Mixed American is held at 25s 3d, but meets no attention at this price. Odessa is selling at 21s 6d to 21s 9d; Turkish at 22s 6d to 23s per 480lb.—JOHN TATLOCK.

Paris, Wednesday.—For the moment offers of native wheat exceed the demand, and the tendency ruled dull for good-conditioned wheat, but weaker for average and ordinary sorts. Again millers show no better disposition to purchase than of late; their attitude is rendered even still more reserved by the decline in the Marche de Paris, and consequently but little business was effected, and the few sales transacted were with difficulty concluded at the following rates:—Choice red, 37s 5d to 37s 11d; ordinary, 36s 5d to 36s 11, and white, 37s 5d to 37s 10d per 480lbs. Flour.—The market was dull at the opening, and closed at the following prices:—Feb., 27s 1½d to 27s 5d; March, 27s 5d to 27s 8d; March-April, 27s 8d to 27s 11d; March-June, 27s 11d to 28s 2d, and May-August, 28s 5d to 28s 8d per 280 lbs. Dealings in rye continue quiet, and this should cause no surprise when the great inactivity which prevails in wheat is considered. Here prices were almost nominal, but occasionally with a reduction of 6d to 1s per qr.; buyers at 26s 1d and sellers at 26s 6d per 480lb. Oats have ruled quiet in all directions, and a few cases of lower prices are reported in Beauce and Brie. Here the feeling was very quiet; offers are still most restricted and with no quotable change in values. Barley is generally very quiet, and in the absence of a regular malting demand prices will before long undergo a perceptible decline. England, Belgium, and Germany are making scarcely any purchases, and exports, from this circumstance, are falling off considerably. Here the tendency was supported for grinding and feeding corn, and unaltered for malting sorts. Grinding 16f.50 to 16f.75 (23s 11d to 24s 3d), and feeding 15f.25 to 15f.75 per 100 kilos (22s 2d to 22s 10d per 400lb). Offers of buckwheat are becoming more and more scarce, and as on the other hand the demand is generally good, a certain firmness of prices has resulted, and quotations still stand at 27s per 480lb.—*Dornbusch.*

CORN STATISTICS.

ARRIVALS INTO LONDON.

February 5 to 12, 1902, inclusive.

	British	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat ..... qrs.	1,211	13,833	15,044
Barley	4,000	25,000	29,000
Oats	2,500	15,808	18,300
Rye	...	...	...
Beans	262	2,130	2,392
Peas	204	533	737
Maize	...	48,313	48,913
Rapeseed	...	4,000	4,000
Farmseed	30	4,907	4,937
Linseed	...	11,132	11,132
Dari	...	...	...
Cottonseed	...	34,572	34,572
Flour, sacks	20,490	12,966	33,456
Malt	21,500	...	21,500

IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGES.

1901.	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
Feb. 9	44,882⅔	26	8	51,608½	25	7	16,241⅔	17	7
,, 16	67,350	26	4	63,870½	25	4	21,069¼	17	7
,, 23	68,159½	26	1	65,514⅜	25	0	23,418½	17	7
Mar. 2	68,224	25	11	52,600½	25	0	21,858⅓	17	9
,, 9	63,714⅔	25	9	51,125⅜	25	4	19,410⅔	17	7
,, 16	55,073⅔	25	9	36,968⅓	25	1	14,010	17	7
,, 23	58,758⅓	25	8	27,840½	24	11	13,895½	17	9
,, 30	47,908⅓	26	0	20,179⅔	24	9	12,418⅝	18	0
Apr. 6	42,721⅔	26	3	14,647⅔	25	3	11,776⅔	18	0
,, 13	32,995	26	5	6,809⅔	26	0	5,936⅔	18	1
,, 20	35,737⅓	26	8	6,734⅔	25	7	8,346⅔	18	8
,, 27	46,572	26	8	6,985½	25	8	8,300⅔	18	1
May 4	46,616⅔	26	9	6,417⅓	26	4	6,869⅔	19	8
,, 11	47,118½	27	3	4,279½	26	2	7,049	19	1
,, 18	52,875⅓	27	7	2,508	24	2	7,345⅔	19	4
,, 25	49,822½	27	7	1,511⅔	24	1	4,665½	19	8
June 1	46,514	27	7	859½	23	8	4,938	19	9
,, 8	42,202	27	6	221½	22	9	4,023⅓	20	1
,, 15	46,764	27	8	1,404½	24	0	5,565⅔	19	7
,, 22	29,695	27	6	336⅔	23	2	3,552⅔	20	3
,, 29	28,191⅔	27	6	692⅔	25	4	2,803½	20	0
July 6	19,564½	27	8	140⅔	21	9	1,806⅔	19	10
,, 13	15,231⅔	27	2	49	23	10	1,675⅔	19	9
,, 20	17,462⅓	27	3	88⅔	23	4	2,040½	19	11
,, 27	18,297⅔	27	3	206⅓	22	1	2,385⅓	19	4
Aug. 3	18,666⅔	27	6	250⅓	23	1	3,219⅔	20	0
,, 10	19,156	27	7	141⅓	22	1	2,143⅓	19	4
,, 17	22,617½	27	4	220⅔	27	2	5,982	18	9
,, 24	37,168⅓	27	3	976⅓	23	7	9,952⅔	18	1
,, 31	61,603⅔	27	0	4,877⅔	24	3	14,654⅞	17	10
Sept. 7	66,623½	26	5	14,342⅔	25	1	19,075⅔	17	6
,, 14	77,949½	26	2	34,989⅔	24	11	19,909⅔	17	4
,, 21	80,279½	26	0	70,093⅓	25	5	26,476⅔	17	4
,, 28	80,488	25	10	109,783⅓	25	10	21,567⅔	17	2
Oct. 5	60,376½	25	8	126,592½	26	3	21,631⅔	17	7
,, 12	63,656⅔	25	9	172,175⅔	26	5	16,815½	17	6
,, 19	58,772⅓	25	10	203,591⅔	26	8	15,506⅓	17	8
,, 26	52,994⅓	25	11	208,471⅓	25	10	18,009⅔	17	5
Nov. 2	70,311⅓	26	2	134,277⅔	26	10	18,350⅔	17	7
,, 9	62,265⅓	26	6	202,577⅓	27	0	20,066⅓	17	8
,, 16	57,884⅓	26	9	201,723⅓	26	9	20,122⅔	18	3
,, 23	63,150⅔	27	1	185,268⅔	26	10	20,612	18	7
,, 30	60,323⅓	27	1	193,434⅔	26	9	22,419⅓	18	9
Dec. 7	67,925⅓	27	1	162,996⅔	26	7	23,990⅔	19	0
,, 14	48,045⅓	27	2	182,212⅔	25	10	17,125⅓	17	1
,, 21	60,562⅓	27	7	119,398⅓	26	8	26,260⅓	19	8
,, 28	43,715⅔	27	7	81,859⅓	26	8	16,901⅔	19	10
1902.									
Jan. 4	31,440⅔	27	7	34,777⅓	26	7	11,621⅔	19	10
,, 11	48,997⅔	27	8	69,120⅓	26	7	14,995	20	0
,, 18	74,239⅓	27	8	91,559⅔	26	11	19,733⅔	20	0
,, 25	74,753⅔	27	7	87,594	26	7	25,382⅓	20	3
Feb. 1	73,851⅔	27	4	81,468⅓	26	7	25,657	20	2
,, 8	67,470⅓	27	2	69,201⅔	26	9	25,055⅞	20	3
,, 15	68,500	25	11	54,084⅓	27	5	21,824	20	3

MONTHLY AVERAGES.

(136 Market Towns.)

	1901. Wheat	Barley	Oats	1902. Wheat	Barley	Oats
January	26 8	25 7	17 4	27 8	26 8	20 1
February	26 5	25 5	17 7			
March	25 10	25 0	17 10			
April	26 3	25 7	18 3			
May	27 6	25 2	19 4			
June	27 7	25 11	19 10			
July	27 4	22 9	19 8			
August	27 4	24 0	18 10			
September	26 1	25 4	17 4			
October	25 10	25 7	17 6			
November	2 9	26 10	18 2			
December	27 4	26 8	19 5			

YEARLY AVERAGES (OFFICIAL.)

	Wheat. s.	d.		Barley. s.	d.		Oats. s.	d.	
1900 ...	31	9	per qr.	26	8	per qr.	18	7	per qr.
1901 ...	27	1	,,	25	2	,,	20	0	,,
1902 ...	30	4	,,	23	2	,,	19	11	,,
1903 ...	25	4	,,	25	6	,,	18	9	,,
1904 ...	22	10	,,	24	6	,,	17	1	,,
1905 ...	23	1	,,	24	11	,,	14	6	,,
1904 ...	26	2	,,	22	11	,,	14	9	,,
1907 ...	30	2	,,	24	6	,,	15	11	,,
1908 ...	34	0	,,	27	2	,,	18	5	,,
1909 ...	25	8	,,	25	7	,,	17	0	,,
1900 ...	28	11	,,	25	9	,,	17	9	,,
1901 ...	26	9	,,	25	3	,,	18	5	,,

LONDON AVERAGES.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, February 11th, 1902.

	Total Quantities. Imperial Measure. Quarters.	Bus.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.	Average Price per qr. Imperial Measure. £	s.	d.
Wheat ...	4,161	2	6,807	1	2	1	7	11
Barley ...	479	4	750	0	0	1	11	3
Oats ...	1,961	0	2,057	19	3	1	1	0

COMPARATIVE AVERAGES.

Comparative statement for the corresponding week to December 28th, in each of the years from 1897 to 1901:—

	WHEAT. Qrs	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
1897.....	45,976⅔ ...	28	11	54,930⅔ ...	23	9	16,008½ ...	16	5
1898.....	68,404⅓ ...	35	0	72,718 ..	27	11	21,296½ ...	17	8
1899.....	84,267⅓ ...	26	0	75,353½ ...	26	10	22,483⅓ ...	16	11
1900.....	76,611⅓ ...	26	1	80,414⅔ ...	24	11	20,986⅔ ...	16	8
1901.....	67,350 ...	26	4	63,870⅔ ...	25	4	21,069¼ ...	17	7

IMPERIAL AVERAGES.

Statement showing the Quantities sold and average price of British Corn, Imperial Measure, as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended February 15, 1902, conformably with the Act of the 45th and 46th Victoria, cap. 37.

Wheat	68,500	qrs.	26s. 11d.
Barley	54,084⅔	qrs.	27s. 5d.
Oats	21,824	qrs.	20s. 3d.

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF FINE HOUSEHOLD FLOUR IN PARIS.

(Converted into English money for sacks of 280 lb.)

	1902. s.	d.	1901. s.	d.	1900. s.	d.	1899. s.	d.	1898. s.	d.	1897. s.	d.	1896. s.	d.	1895. s.	d.
Jan. ...	27	9	24	9	25	2	29	0	38	7	30	5½	25	10	27	9½
Feb. ...	...		25	9	26	3	28	3	39	4	29	10½	26	2	27	10½
March ...			24	0	27	3	27	6	40	1	28	9	26	0	27	5½
April...			24	6	26	9	27	6	42	3	28	5	25	6½	26	7
May ...			25	6	26	8	28	0	40	0	28	11½	25	1½	28	0
June...			26	3	28	6	27	6	35	6	29	3	25	8	28	10
July ...			28	0	26	9	27	3	32	0	31	5½	24	6	27	1
August			27	6	26	4	27	0	31	6	36	11	25	1	26	11
Sept....			27	6	26	3	25	9	31	0	33	7	27	0	27	0½
Oct.....			27	6	26	0	24	9	30	6	39	4	27	1½	27	9
Nov. ...			27	9	26	4	24	3	30	3	40	3	29	9	26	8½
Dec. ..			28	3	26	0	24	6	29	0	39	3	29	8	26	3
Yrly. } Avrg. }	...		27	3	26	6	26	9	35	0	33	5	26	5½	27	4½

FLUCTUATIONS IN THE AVERAGE PRICE OF WHEAT.

PRICE.	Jan. 11.	Jan. 18	Jan. 25.	Feb. 1.	Feb. 8.	Feb. 15.
27s. 8d			...	...	...	...
27s. 7d	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s 6d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 5d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 4d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 3d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 2d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 1d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 0d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
26s. 11d.	...	...	...	...	...	...

FOREIGN CORN TRADE.

The shipments of grain from the chief exporting countries last week were as follows :—

	Wheat. Qrs.	Flour. Sks.	Maize. Qrs.	Barley. Qrs.	Oats. Qrs.
United States.....	367,000	160,000	25,000	—	—
Russia	267,000	—	240,000	62,000	56,000
France	—	5,000	—	—	—
Austria-Hungary	—	5,000	—	—	—
Roumania	45,000	—	44,000	32,000	18,000
Argentina	71,000	—	6,000	—	—
India	15,000	—	—	—	—
Australasia	145,000	—	—	—	—
Miscellaneous ...	20,000	10,000	20,000	20,000	10,000
Total	930,000	180,000	335,000	114,000	84,000

POULTRY PROVISIONS

Smithfield, Saturday.—A fair demand prevailed for the good supplies on offer. Fowls: Yorkshire, 2s 6d to 3s 3d; Boston, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; Surrey, 3s 6d to 4s 6d; Sussex, 3s to 4s; Welsh, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; Irish, 1s 6d to 2s 6d; turkeys (cocks), 6s to 7s; ditto (hens), 4s to 5s; country ducks, 2s 6d to 3s 6d; geese, 6s to 7s; Bordeaux pigeons, 10d to 1s 2d; feathered, 8d to 10d; quail, 9d to 1s 2d; wild rabbits, 8d to 10d; tame ditto, 10d to 1s 2d each Australian, 8s 6d to 11s per dozen; hares, 2s 6d to 3s; leverets, 1s 9d to 2s 3d; guinea fowls, 1s 9d to 2s 3d; wild ducks, 1s 6d to 1s 9d; widgeon, 1s to 1s 4d; pintail, 1s 6d; teal, 1s; woodcock, 2s to 2s 6d; snipe, 8d to 1s; golden plover, 8d to 11d; black ditto, 6d to 8d. Russian: Ptarmigan, 10d to 11d; capercailzie (cocks), 2s 9d to 3s; hens, 1s 9d to 2s 3d; partridges, 1s to 1s 3d; black game, 1s to 1s 2d each.

HOPS.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Prices continue to harden, having advanced for medium class hops from 10s to 15s per cwt. since December. The principal demand is for hops at from 35s to 50s per cwt, supplies of which are getting scarce.

Worcester, Saturday.—There is no change to report on our market this week; business is quiet, and the only demand is for fine useful hops, which command full prices. Prices continue firm for anything good.—PIERCY AND CO.

FRUIT AND VEGETALBES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—A fair quantity of vegetables was on offer, but trade ruled slow. Fairly good supplies of fruit were available, and experienced a fair sale. Greenstuffs: Cabbages, 5s to 6s; cauliflowers, 8s to 9s per tally; Brussels sprouts, 2s to 2s 3d per half-sieve; beetroots, 2s per bushel; carrots, 2s to 2s 6d; turnips, 2s to 3s; parsley, 2s to 3s; leeks, 2s to 2s 6d per dozen bunches; borseradish, 1s 3d to 1s 6d per bundle; forced rhubarb, 1s to 1s 6d per dozen bundles; English onions, 7s to 7s 6d per cwt.; Valencia, 10s to 11s per case. Potatoes, 45s to 90s per ton. Fruit: English apples, 4s to 10s 6d per bushel; Nova Scotian, 18s to 24s per barrel; Californian, 7s 6d to 10s 6d per case; Almeria grapes, 15s to 25s per barrel; English, 1s to 2s 6d; Channel Islands, 9d to 1s 6d per lb; Valencia oranges, 7s 6d to 12s; Jaffa, 10s to 12s per case; bananas, 8s to 12s 6d per bunch; pineapples, 1s 6d to 4s 6d each; and lemons, 8s to 18s per case.

COLONIAL DAIRY PRODUCE.

London, Friday.—The short supplies of Australian butter now arriving, owing to the excessive drought in Victoria and New South Wales, are stiffening the market very much, and values have again advanced another 2s per cwt. "Choicest" brands of both Australian and New Zealand are bringing 110s to 112s, while "Finest" fetches 104s to 108s. The "Victoria," which arrived this week, landed 11,008 boxes of Australian, and next week the "Oroya" will bring about 9,623 boxes. The "Rome," which follows, carries only 3,703 boxes. There have been no New Zealand arrivals since last week, but the "Maori" is due in a day or two with 37,000 boxes. The demand for a shilling retail butter is keener than ever, and the supply is very deficient. New Zealand "milled" butter of 1st Government grade has made 96s per cwt., and even more money is asked for "Maori" arrivals. The Copenhagen official quotation has again been raised by 4 kroner, and it now stands at 100 kroner, against 98 kroner last year at this date. The market is very firm in Copenhagen, and there seems every reason to believe that markets will remain firm for some weeks. The cold weather is somewhat checking the demand for cheese, but a fair business is being transacted, especially for goods about 46s to 48s. For "Choicest" goods the demand is quiet. White and coloured are both selling at equal values. The arrival of New Zealand cheese this season to date is very small as compared with last year.—W. WEDDEL AND CO.

WOOL.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Kent fleeces remain at 5½d per lb, with lambs' wool at 4d.

London, Friday.—English, per pk. of 240lb.—Fleeces S. Dn. Hggs., £7 to £8 10s; half-bred hoggs, £6 to £6 10s; half-bred wethers, £5 to £6; Kent fleeces, £5 to £6; Sth. Down ewes and wethers, £7 to £8 10s; Leicester do., £5 to £5 10s. Colonial, per lb.—Vic.—Fleece super, 1s 5d to 1s 7d; scoured good, 1s 7½d to 1s 8½d; scoured average, 1s 6d to 1s 7d; greasy avr. to fair, 10½d to 11½d; N.S.W., scoured avr., 1s 5½d to 1s 4d; greasy average, 8d to 9d; S. Aus., greasy avr., 6½d to 7d; N.Z., scoured avr., 1s 4d to 1s 5d; grease average, 8d to 9d; Cape scred sup., 1s 5d to 1s 6d; fleece average, 7d to 7½d; greasy average, 5½d to 6½d; Natal, scoured, 1s to 1s 1d; greasy average, 6½d to 7d. Crossbreds.—Grs.—Vic. good to supr., 10½d to 11½d; New Zealand fine, 8d to 9d; do. medium, 4¾d to 5¼d; do. coarse, 4d to 4½d.

MANURES.

Liverpool, Friday.—Nitrate of soda continues firmly held on the spot at £10 5s to £10 10s per ton, according to quality and quantity, but as yet little demand is experienced on agricultural account. Sulphate of ammonia is about 2s 6d per ton dearer, and in fair request. Basic slag continues to be inquired for, but there is a difficulty in obtaining deliveries excepting at remote dates, hence some buyers are diverting their orders to the more soluble phosphatic fertiliser, superphosphate of lime. Kainit and East India bone meal in seasonable request. The trade in feeding stuffs is quiet, notwithstanding the cold weather, and prices in some instances tend in buyers' favour. Nitrate of soda, best quality, *i.e.*, guaranteed 95 per cent., pure, in bags, £10 10s per ton; East India bone meal, fair to prime, in bags, £4 1s 3d to £4 6s 3d per ton; Kainit, prime, 23 per cent., in bags, £2 7s 6d to £2 10s per ton; palm nut cake, prime, in bags, £5 12s 6d per ton; linseed cake, American thin oblong, prime, in bags, £7 10s to £7 13s 9d per ton; linseed cake, English, prime, in bulk, £8 15s to £9 per ton; cotton-seed cake, N.A. decorticated, prime, in bags, £7 to £7 5s per ton; cotton-seed cake, English decorticated, prime soft, in bags, £7 10s per ton; cotton-seed cake, English undecorticated, prime, in bulk, £4 15s to £5 per ton; cotton-seed (crushed), 20 to 25 per cent. oil, prime, in bags, £7 5s per ton; maize germ meal, prime, in bags, £6 2s 6d to £6 5s per ton; rice meal, Rangoon, as imported, in bags, £5 7s 6d to £5 10s per ton; Indian meal, coarse to find grinding, prime, in bulk, 13s to 13s 6d per 240lb; linseed, fine bold feeding, in bags, £3 2s to £3 6s per qr, 416lb; D.N.S. brand, superphosphate of lime guaranteed, 25 to 27 sol., in bags, £2 5s to £2 7s per ton; D.N.S. brand, superphosphate of lime, guaranteed, 30 to 31 sol., in bags, £2 10s to £2 12s per ton; superphosphate of lime, guaranteed, 35 to 36 sol., in bags, £3 to £3 2s per ton; basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed, 30 to 35 per cent. phos., in bags, £1 12s to £1 13s per ton; basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed, 35 to 40 per cent. phos., in bags, £1 14s 6d to £1 15s 6d per ton; basic slag, finest quality, guaranteed, 38 to 45 per cent. phos., in bags £1 17s 6d to £1 19s 6d per ton at the producing depots.—H. JONES LANGAR AND CO.

THE BALTIC.

Standard samples of white aand red wheat from Kurrachee, and of Mutter Pulse from Calcutta can now be obtained at the offices of the London Corn Trade Association.

The week's arrivals at ports of call are 6 wheat ship from California, 1 cargo of Californian barley, and 1 cargo of Valonia.

A special cable to "Beerbohm's List" gives stocks of cottonseed at Alexandria at only 5,550 tons. On this advice the market for cottonseed cargoes closed 2s. 6d. per ton dearer on the week.

Wheat cargoes are sometimes 3d. dearer from the 11th. Sales include: Californian at 29s. 6d.; New York Northern at 29s. 9d.; No. 1 Manitoba at 30s.; Red Walla Walla at 29s. 9d.; Russian Winter at 30s. 6d.; Russian spring at 29s. 6d.; South Australian at 30s.; Victorian at 30s. 9d.; New South Wales at 29s. 9d.; Bahia Blanca (fine medium soft La Plata) at 30s.; No. 2 hard winter at 29s.; White Kurrachee at 29s.; and red Kurrachee at 28s 9d per qr.

Barley cargoes are steady. Crimean has made 18s. 9d.; Roumanian, 18s. 6d.; Californian brewing, 24s. 6d.; Standard, 25s. 6d., special quality.

Oats are 3d. dearer to buy. A cargo of white Baltic, 320lb., made 20s. 3d. on Friday, while 18s. was paid for 304lb. white Libau.

Maize has been very dull, but a cargo of Odessa made 22s. 6d. on Saturday, and one of yellow La Plata made 21s. 9d. per qr. Other cargo sales embrace Ferozpore rapeseed at 40s. 9d., and Bombay linseed at 54s., 60lb., per qr.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The fields have been enjoying a useful repose. The ground is hard with frost in the South of England, while north of the Trent it is mostly under snow. The cold has been severe in Ireland, twenty degrees of frost being registered on three successive nights. But in Great Britain the records have been of about ten degrees, as a rule, and this is not enough to penetrate very deeply into the earth. One cannot exactly measure penetration; it is impossible to say that each degree of frost goes half an inch or a quarter of an inch below the surface. But the destruction of autumn-sown wheat in Canada and Northern Russia, whereby those regions are confined to growing the spring variety, is due to the fact that when zero or 32 degrees of frost is recorded for several days in succession, the frost gets down to the roots of the wheat and kills them. Not since February, 1895, has wheat been killed even in North Britain by this degree of frost. We do not, therefore, anticipate anything but benefit to wheat from growth being completely arrested since February came in. The ploughed land is decidedly helped by the frost and will be in splendid condition for the March sowings of barley.

The wheat and flour markets of the past week have been kept from advancing by the large quantity of wheat on passage, but the stocks are being reduced, and by the end of the month should be so far altered from January as to leave space for any surplus likely to come to hand in March. Of maize less and of barley more than usual is on passage, but the malting barley, which swells the barley total, has its own buyers, and does not cause depression in the feeding kind. Quantities now on passage thus compare with a year ago:—

	1902.	1901.
	Qrs.	Qrs.
Wheat	3,100,000	2,695,000
	Sks.	Sks.
Flour	350,000	355,000
	Qrs.	Qrs.
Maize	475,000	635,000
Barley	675,000	400,000
Beans	7,000	10,000
Linseed	480,000	485,000
Rapeseed	13,000	3,000
Cottonseed	126,000	84,000

The linseed and rapeseed are mostly on passage to Hull, the cottonseed to London.

The imports of the week into the United Kingdom were small of wheat, flour, barley, oats, beans, and peas, but good of linseed, rapeseed, cottonseed, grass-seeds, lentils, and hay. The imports of maize were small as compared with ordinary years, but fully up to expectation at a time when America is not able to ship.

The following are the principal figures for the past week, and for the corresponding week last year:—

	1902.	1901.
	Qrs.	Qrs.
Wheat	184,000	182,000
Flour	76,000	120,000
Breadstuffs	260,000	302,000
Barley	123,000	111,000
Oats	55,000	198,000
Beans	4,500	9,700
Peas	3,800	12,300
Maize	148,000	367,000

The American supply, as compared with a year ago, shows an increase in rye and barley, but a decrease in wheat, maize, and oats.

Total maize shipments from all countries since November 1, the opening of the maize shipping season, thus compare with the same period in the preceding shipping years:—

	1901-2.	1900-1.
	Qrs.	Qrs.
American	523,000	7,328,000
Russian	1,635,000	241,000
Roumanian	2,012,500	634,000
Argentine	522,000	523,000
Turkish (est.)	200,000	—
Total	4,892,500	8,726,000

The deficiency is seen to amount already to 3,833,500 qrs., so that the maize market seems likely to go higher in March and April. The present price of round corn, 23s., is quite a florin lower than the situation would appear to warrant. Farmers and horse owners requiring maize will do well to buy now, for while Russia has increased her shipments from 33,000 qrs. weekly to 243,000 qrs. weekly, American shipments have fallen from 417,000 qrs. to next to nothing. The price of maize at present thus compares with other feeding stuffs:—

	per ton. £ s. d.
Maize	5 7 0
English Wheat	6 10 8
Russian Barley	5 12 0
English Oats	7 0 0
Egyptian Cottonseed	6 10 0
Canadian Peas	6 15 0
Pigeon Beans	8 0 0
Fine Middlings	5 15 0
Red Dog Flour	5 17 6
Feeding Rice	7 0 0

The idea that maize this winter is dear as compared with recent seasons is well founded. As recently as July last both sorts were obtainable at 20s. per qr. But the true comparison is with the other articles suitable for feeding to horses, etc. It will on this comparison be seen that of ten leading staples maize is the cheapest.

The stocks of wheat in the United Kingdom on the 15th inst. were thus estimated:—

	qrs.
English	2,955,000
Foreign	2,790,000
Total	5,745,000
1st January	6,809,000

Barley for malting has been in somewhat improved request, the English samples at 32s. to 34s. are often bright and good. Californian fine Chevalier makes about 31s. for new crop and 27s. for old, while at Liverpool a little Chilian has changed hands at 32s. per qr. Danish and French kinds find a few buyers at 28s. or thereabouts. Barley for seed is being bought at 40s. for ordinary best English and Saale. Hallett's Chevalier can be procured for 36s. to 42s., Garton's "Brewers' Favourite" at 40s. to 41s.; "Standwell" at 42s. to 43s. Oats for seed come at 28s. to 30s. for Garton's "Abundance," 30s. to 32s. for Garton's "Goldfinder," 28s. to 30s. for Webb's "Newmarket," white, and 26s. to 27s. for "Pioneer." Of course, it is impossible to mention many of the types on offer, but at this season we can only reiterate our advice to farmers to act freely in purchasing seed corn of leading seedsmen and of brother farmers noted as good judges of corn. The use year after year of seed grown on the farm is condemned by nearly all the experts; such corn, while often of fine quality, seems to be more predisposed to plant diseases and fungoid pests than is corn from a different county and a diverse stock. So far as we can judge, buying of spring corn for seed is above the average, and promises a somewhat extended area. Seed potatoes to buyers of a good quantity come at £6 per ton for "Ashleaf," and white "Beauty of Hebron," at £4 to four guineas for "Bruce," at £5 10s. for "Challenge," and at six guineas for "White Elephant." Here also a very fair business appears to be on foot.

LONDON TERM MARKET.

This market is held twice a day, except on Saturday, when there is no afternoon call. The market is open to elected members only. No business except for future delivery is done, and the smallest quantity that can be purchased is 1,000 quarters, or 4,800 centals. The name of the month stands for guaranteed delivery (if required) on or before the last day of that month, and the following have been the prices per cental recently made:—

WHEAT.—Calls.	March. s. d.	June. s. d.
Feb. 10 11 a.m.	6 4	6
4 p.m.	6 4	6 4
Feb. 11 11 a.m.	6 4	6 4
4 p.m.	6 4	6 4
Feb. 12 11 a.m.	6 4	6 4
4 p.m.	6 4	6 4
Feb. 13 11 a.m.	6 4	6 4
4 p.m.	6 4	6 4
Feb. 14 11 a.m.	6 4	6 4
4 p.m.	6 4	6 4
Feb. 15 11 a.m.	6 4	6 4
To-day noon	6 5	6 5

Maize futures are firm at 6s. 8d. to 6s. 9d. per cental.

The Term Market standard wheat is No. 1 Northern Spring American sold on the Duluth certificate. Other sorts of wheat can be bought at the above prices plus or minus agreed difference between the other sort and the standard quality. Quotations are by the "true hundredweight" or cental of 100 lb. We do not give fractions of a penny per cental. The maize quoted is fair average quality from the United States.

The deposit required from members of the Term Market has been fixed at £50 minimum and 1s. per quarter margin on any purchases above 1,000 quarters.

The Term Market (while the "Baltic" is rebuilding) is temporarily situated at the Great Eastern Hotel, No. 190, Bishopsgate Street, ground floor.

HOPS.

London, Monday.—W. H. and H. Le May report:—There has been a considerable clearance of the English growth since Christmas, and the stocks of all kinds are now exceedingly limited, consequently values remain firm at the low range prevailing.

THIS DAY'S MARKETS

MARK LANE, MONDAY.

[FIRST REPORT.]

English wheat at a moderately attended market moved off steadily at previous best terms. Australian was offered at firmer rates; Victorian North Australian rather favoured by buyers as compared with New South Wales. A few samples of North Russian and Polish 1899 wheat topped the market at 33s. 6d. paid, while 31s. 6d. was accepted for 1901 wheat from the same districts. A small supply of Kurrachee white wheat was on offer at 29s. 6d. to 30s. per quarter. The best South Russian winter wheat realised 31s. for 1901 crop, and 32s. for old. Argentine wheat was not on offer. Maize was held for 27s. flat, 24s. 6d. yellow, and 23s. good round. There were hardly any sales of yellow, and those of flat were of a very retail kind. But round corn at 23s. moved off well. Barley was in fair request at full prices, and oats were the turn dearer for all sorts. Split lentils at 14s. per cwt., Roumanian millet at 20s. per quarter, and Riga hempseed at 33s. 6d. per 336lb., were among the minor sales of the day.

QUOTATIONS OFF STANDS.

Feb. 17, 1902.

BRITISH GRAIN.

		s.	s.
WHEAT, White (new)	(per 504 lb.)	29	— 31
,, (old)	,,	30	— 32
Red (new)	,,	28	— 30
,, (old)	,,	29	— 30
Chicken or Feed	(per 480 lb.)	26	— 28
BARLEY, Malting	(per 448 lb.)	32	— 40
Brewing	,,	27	— 30
Feeding	(per 400 lb.)	24	— 26
MALT, English	(per 336 lb.)	35	— 41
Scotch	,,	37	— 39
Black	,,	30	— 32
Brown	,,	29	— 32
Crystallized	,,	33	— 35
OATS, English, New Winter	,,	21	— 22
,, ,, Tartary	,,	20	— 21
,, Old Winter	,,	22	— 24
,, ,, Tartary	,,	21	— 22
Scotch	,,	22	— 24
Irish	(per 304 lb.)	19	— 20
RYE, British	(per 480 lb.)	23	— 25
BEANS, Pigeon	,,	36	— 40
Winter	,,	31	— 35
Mazagan	,,	30	— 32
PEAS, Best Marrowfat	(per 504 lb.)	65	— 75
Blue (boiling)	,,	60	— 70
Dun	,,	31	— 32
Maple	,,	36	— 40
TARES, Winter	(per 504 lb.)	50	— 54
Spring	,,	44	— 46

FOREIGN GRAIN.

(Ex-Granary.)

	s.	s.
WHEAT, per 496 lb.		
Old Duluth	32/	—33
Manitoba	31/	—32
American Spring	31/	—32
Red Winter	31/	—32
Hard ,,	30/	—31
Kansas	30/	—31
Californian	30 9	—31
Walla Walla	None	
Australian	30	— 31
New Zealand	29	— 30
Argentine	None	
Danzig	31	— 32
Saxonka	30	— 31
Azima	30	— 31
Ghirka	29	— 30
Indian	29	— 30
MAIZE, per 480 lb. :		
Russian	22	— 23
Roumanian	22	— 23
Turkish	23	— 24
American	27	—27/3
Argentine	None	
OATS:		
N' Zeal'd (384 lb.)	26	— 32
Swedish (336 lb.)	21	— 23
Canadian (320 lb.)	20	— 21
American (320 lb.)	20	— 21
K'nigsb'g (320 lb.)	20	— 21
Pet'sburg (304 lb.)	19	— 20
L'bau,w'te(304 lb.)	19	— 20
,, black ,,	19	— 20
Vologda (304 lb.)	19	— 20
BEANS, per 480 lb. :		
Egyptian	33	— 34
Smyrna	31	— 32
New Zealand	34	— 36
LOCUST BEANS, per ton :		
Italian	102	— 104
Cyprian	106	— 112
Portuguese	105	— 107
PEAS, per 504 lb. :		
Canadian, White	37	— 38
Australian, White	41	— 42
New Zeal'd Maple	39	— 41
MILLET, per 416 lb. :		
White	33	— 45
Red	25	— 27
Yellow	20	— 23
DARI, per 480 lb. :		
Smyrna	24	— 25
Persian	21	— 24
RYE, per 480 lb. :		
Russian	24	— 25
BUCKWHEAT, per 416 lb		
French	24	— 25
Russian	24	— 26
TARES, per 504 lb. :		
Konigsberg	44	— 48
BARLEY :		
Saale (448 lb.)	38	— 40
New Zeal'd (448 lb.)	26	— 29
Chilian (448 lb.)	32	— 34
Californian (448 lb.)	26	— 33
French (448 lb.)	27	— 29
Danubian (400 lb.)	20	— 21
Ouchak (400 lb.)	24	— 32
Yerli (400 lb.)	21	— 22
Russian (400 lb.)	19	— 20
MALT, per 336 lb :		
Californian	35	— 36
Smyrna	35	— 36

OIL SEEDS.

LINSEED. per 416 lb.	s.	s.
English	60	to 62
Dutch	59	to 61
Bombay	60	to 62
Calcutta	55	to 57
Russian	58	to 59
Argentine	53	to 55
SESAME. per 424 lb.		
Indian	50	to 52
COTTON SEED per ton.		
Egyptian	128	to 130
RAPESEED. per 416 lb		
English	56	to 60
Calcutta	41	to 43
Guzerat	42	to 44
Ferozepore	37	to 39
Jamba	29	to 30
Ravison	28	to 29
POPPYSEED. per 377 lb.		
Indian	46	to 47
SUNFLOWERSEED. per 448lb.		
Russian	40	to 48

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

By Telephone, 2 p.m.

THE MARKET CLOSED WITH A FIRM TONE. WHEAT AND BARLEY 6d. DEARER ON THE WEEK. OTHER STAPLES WITH IMPROVED INQUIRY AT PRICES ABOVE GIVEN.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE Monday

Holders of London makes cannot as a rule get any advance, but they are increasingly firm holders at full currencies. British country whites make 25s. delivered, and the ordinary types of flour up from East Anglia are rather dearer on the week. Hungarian flour is again 6d. up, 32s. is paid for "P.W.M.O.O.O." and other finest mill brands. It is a pity this branch of the trade cannot hit upon less mysterious hieroglyphics. American flour makes to-day 22s. 6d. to 23s. 6d. for Washburns, finest, 17s. 6d. to 18s. 6d. for "Iron Duke," 18s. to 19s. for "Star," 17s. 6d. to 18s. 6d. for Morrison's best baking flour, and 18s. 6d. to 19s. 3d. for "Ceres." Kansas patents are rather higher from Friday, and Cascadia is tending in the same direction. The market for flour closed with an upward tendency for all the chief types.

LONDON FLOUR.

		s.	s.
Top Price	(per sack)	—	25
Town Whites	,,	—	28/
,, Households	,,	—	22/
No. 2	,,	—	20/

COUNTRY FLOUR.

Best Patents	(per sack)	23	— 24
Fine Roller made	,,	21	— 22
Ordinary Roller made	,,	20	— 21
Best Stone made	,,	20	— 21
Ordinary Stone made	,,	19	— 20

FOREIGN FLOUR.

Minnesota First Patents	(per sack)	23	— 24
,, Second Patents	,,	21	— 22
,, First Bakers'	,,	19	— 20
,, Second Bakers'	,,	18	— 19
Milwaukee Patents	,,	22	— 23
,, Bakers	,,	18	— 19
Kansas Patents	,,	23	— 24
,, Bakers'	,,	19	— 20
Cascadia	,,	21	— 22
Canadian	,,	22	— 23
Australian Patents	,,	20	— 22
,, Straight	,,	19	— 21
Hungarian	,,	28	— 32
French	,,	20	— 21

MEAL, &c.

Whole Meal	(per ton)	172—174
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	116—120
Bran, London Broad	,,	110—112
,, ,, Fine	,,	90— 94
,, Country Flake	,,	120—122
,, ,, Broad	,,	112—116
Pollard	,,	96—100
Fine Middlings	,,	115—117
Coarse Middlings	,,	103—105
Feeding Flour (Red Dog)	,,	112—116
Barley Meal	,,	124—128
Rye Flour	,,	150—155
Oat Meal	,,	240—300
Oat Flour	,,	340—360
Maize Flour	,,	164—166
Maize Meal	,,	122—126
Maize Cones	,,	172—174
Maize Germ Meal	,,	None
Pea Meal	,,	130—150
Bean Meal	,,	145—165
Rice Meal	,,	100—105

THE BALTIC, 1 p.m.

STATE OF TRADE.

All cargoes are a little better held than they were on Saturday, and the tone of trade is appreciably more confident from this hour on Monday last. The prices obtainable to-day show 3d advance on wheat and oats, but no appreciable rise on barley or maize. Oilseed cargoes are remarkably dear.

BUSINESS DONE.

WHEAT.—Californian, 29s 6d, prompt shipment; Walla-Walla, 29s, prompt shipment; Russian Winter, 30s 6d, prompt shipment; White Kurrachee, 29s 9d, April shipment; White Calcutta, 29s, May shipment; Best Manitoba, 29s 9d, March shipment; No. 1 Northern, 29s 9d, March shipment; South Australian, 30s 3d, on passage.

MAIZE.—Argentine, 22s 9d, May shipment; Bulgarian, 23s, March shipment; Turkish, 23s 3d, prompt shipment; Odessa, 22s 9d, prompt shipment.

BARLEY.—Roumanian, 18s 6d, on passage; Odessa, 18s 9d, on passage.

OATS.—Liban 304lb, 18s 3d, prompt shipment; Liban 320lb, 21s, prompt shipment.

LINSEED.—Calcutta, 52s, May shipment; Bombay, 54s 6d, April shipment; Argentine, 51s 3d, prompt shipment; American, 52s, prompt shipment.

SUNFLOWERSEED.—Russian, 12s per cwt, prompt shipment.

COTTONSEED.—Egyptian, £6 8s 9d per ton, prompt shipment.

PROVISIONS

London, Monday.—The arrivals from Ireland last week were 2,564 bales bacon, and from foreign ports 8,157 bales bacon. Bacon.—Owing to the shortness of the arrival of Canadian bacon, there was a firm market for all descriptions during last week. Canadian prices were advanced 2s; secondary Irish, 1s; Danish, 1s to 2s. These advances were brought about simply by shortness of supply, the trade being by no means fast. Irish ranged 50s to 58s up to 61s; Danish, 50s to 56s up to 58s; Canadian, 46s to 52s up to 56s. Butter.—There was only a fair demand for butter generally, and the rise in Copenhagen made Danish very dear. Prices ranged:—Danish, 118s to 120s up to 121s; Colonial, 104s to 108s up to 112s for finest. Lard.—Lard was a quiet market, with very little American on the spot. American pails and boxes, 49s to 50s.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORTS.

Arrivals of wheat and flour are very small. We have a firmer trade; wheat, 3d. and 6d. per quarter dearer. Flour unchanged. Maize and oats unchanged. Grinding barley 3d. to 6d. dearer.—COVENTRY (Mark Lane).

Milling offals are in fair demand at last Monday's prices. Mills just about keeping dear.—JOHN BAWCOMB AND CO. (Mark Lane).

Flour.—There has been an improved demand to-day, at an improvement of 3d. per sack over this day week, both on spot an dto arrive.—T. S. MEDILL AND SONS (Mark Lane).

Flour.—Trade continues quiet, with values rather in buyers' favour. Grain.—Flat corn continues scarce. Round corn is in small demand at 1½d. per boll advance. Scotch oats are in large supply at easier prices. Grinding beans are held for 3d. advance, but feeding qualities are lower. Oatmeal, oilcake, etc., quiet and unchanged. Mill stuffs dull and lower to sell.—MCKINNON AND MCDONALD (Glasgow).

Flour.—The demand for spot flour continues languid and without any improvement as to prices. Values on spot are as follows:—1st spring patents, 24s. 9d. to 25s. 3d.; 2nd spring patents, 23s. 9d. to 24s. 3d.; American winter patents, 24s. 9d. to 25s. 3d.; extra fancies, 23s. to 23s. 6d. Offals.—Notwithstanding the prolonged severity of the weather, the demand for bran continues dull, and for some qualities rather lower prices have been accepted. — GREENHILL BROTHERS (Belfast).

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Monday.—Linseed Cake: Market strong and tending dearer, owing to scarcity of seed and diminishing stocks. Decorticated cake and meal unchanged. London and Egyptian cotton cake not so depressed; price looks like reacting. Linseed: Market has been excited all the week, owing to great scarcity and short shipments; about 1s 6d to 2s dearer.

English Linseed Cake	ex mill	8 7	6 to 8 12	6
American Calcutta Linseed Cake	ex quay			
American Western ,,	ex quay	7 5	0 to 7 10	0
Russian Oil Cake	ex quay	7 10	6 to 7 17	6
Feeding Cake, Samuelson's S.P.F. (10 to 12 per cent. Oil)	ex warehouse			
Compo Cake, Samuelson's S.P.F. (7 to 9 per cent. Oil)	ex warehouse			
Decorticated Cotton Cake	ex quay	6 10	0 to 6 17	6
,, ,, Meal	ex quay	6 10	0 to 6 12	6
London-made ,, Cake (best)	ex quay	4 12	6	
Egyptian ,, ,, ,, (in bags)	ex quay	4 7	6 to 4 10	0
Burton Desiccated Ale Grains (bags included)	on rail, Burton			
Guinness, Desiccated Porter Grains (bags included)	ex warehouse, London			
Rangoon Rice Meal	ex warehouse			
Dutch Linseed (in bags), per 416 lbs.		2 18	0 to 3 0	0
Calcutta Linseed in bags, per 410 lbs.	ex warehouse	2 19	0	
American Linseed in bulk, per 410 lbs.	ex warehouse			
La Plata do.	per 416 lbs.	2 15	0	
Russian Linseed in bulk, per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse	2 13		

ROBERT AND JOHN HEWETSON.

SEEDS.

London, Monday.—Our market was fairly attended to-day, but business was not active, the severe weather causing dealers to postpone their purchases. English red clover is unchanged, with less offering. White clover is firm, but the demand has slackened. Alsike is strong at last week's advance. Trefoil tends upwards. Rye-grasses show no alteration. Spring tares are in fair demand, with a scarcity of best qualities. Canary seed is dull and drooping. Haricots and blue peas continue quiet, in spite of the cold weather.—JOHN PICARD AND CO.

ROBSON'S CATTLE MART, BELFAST, HELD ON 11TH FEBRUARY.

The following returns are those of actual sales made in the markets referred to, the stock being weighed either before or after sale, for the week ending February 15th, 1902

No. of Beasts.	Description and Quality.	Average price per head.	Average Live weight.	Average price per cwt.
		£ s. d.	c. qr. lb	£ s. d.
1	Bullocks (prime) ...	21 10 0	11 3 0	1 16 7
2	,, ,, ...	19 15 0	11 0 11	1 15 6
2	,, ,, ...	18 15 0	11 0 7	1 13 11
2	,, ,, ...	18 5 0	10 3 7	1 13 0
2	,, ,, ...	16 17 6	10 0 7	1 13 6
*4	,, ,, ...	16 10 0	10 0 0	1 13 0
2	,, ,, ...	18 17 6	11 2 0	1 12 10
2	,, ,, ...	19 7 6	11 3 14	1 12 8
1	,, ,, ...	16 15 0	10 1 0	1 12 8
2	,, ,, ...	13 5 0	8 1 7	1 11 11
1	,, (very good) ...	18 0 0	11 1 0	1 12 0
2	,, ,, ...	14 0 0	8 3 0	1 12 0
*8	,, ,, ...	15 11 3	9 3 6	1 11 9
2	,, ,, ...	14 5 0	9 0 0	1 11 8
1	,, ,, ...	12 10 0	8 0 0	1 11 3
2	,, (good) ...	12 5 0	8 0 14	1 10 2
1	Heifer (prime) ...	17 10 0	10 1 0	1 14 2
2	,, ,, ...	14 7 6	8 2 14	1 13 4
2	,, ,, ...	14 0 0	8 2 3	1 12 10
2	,, ,, ...	16 12 6	10 1 0	1 12 5
2	,, (good) ...	14 5 0	9 1 17	1 10 3
1	Cow (prime) ...	16 15 0	11 1 0	1 9 9
1	,, ,, ...	17 0 0	11 1 21	1 9 9

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

Monday, February 17th, 1902.

	British.	Total.	Feb. 18, 1901.
Beasts	1460	1460	1400
Sheep and Lambs	8710	8710	8480
Calves	5	5	5
Pigs	120	120	30
Milch cows	40	40	40

Quotations per 8lbs (sinking the offal):—

ENGLISH.

	Inferior.	Second.	First.
Beasts	2 8	3 10	4 8
Sheep	3 4	4 8	5 4
Lambs	5 2	5 8	5 4
Calves	—	—	—
Pigs	2 5	3 10	4 4

Milch cows, per head, £15 to £23.

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, 58; Eastern Counties, 642; Midland, Home and Western Counties, 600; Ireland 125.

In the beast market to-day there was a slight decrease compared with Monday last, the supply from Norfolk being shorter. Trade for both prime and second quality was of a slow nature, with a decline in value, particularly for the latter, a clearance of which is doubtful. Butchering cows met with steady inquiry, and made late rates; fat bulls were short in number, but rates easier.

The following are top quotations per 8lb (sinking the offal):—

	To-day.	Feb. 18, 1901.
Scotch	4s 6d to 4s 8d	4s 6d to 4s 8d
Devons	4s 5d to 4s 7d	4s 6d to 4s 8d
Norfolks	4s 6d to 4s 7d	4s 6d to 4s 7d
Lincolns	4s 2d to 4s 4d	4s 2d to 4s 5d
Irish	4s 2d to 4s 4d	4s 1d to 4s 3d
Fat cows	3s 10d to 4s 0d	3s 8d to 3s 10d

In the Sheep Market there was an increase of 1,060 compared with Monday last, amongst which was a good proportion of lambs; for these, however, owing to the cold weather, there was a slack demand, and rates low. Wether sheep were slow of sale at late rates; on the other hand, were firm and steady. The supply included 340 Scotch and 4,460 from the Eastern counties.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8lb (sinking the offal), and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day.	Feb. 18, 1901.
7½ to 8-st. Downs	5s 2d to 5s 4d	5s 8d to 5s 10d
9-st. Downs	5s 0d to 5s 2d	5s 6d to 5s 8d
10-st. half-breds	4s 8d to 4s 10d	5s 4d to 5s 6d
12-st. Lincolns	4s 6d to 4s 8d	5s 2d to 5s 4d
10-st. Down ewes	4s 2d to 4s 4d	—
11-st. half-bred do.	4s 0d to 4s 2d	4s 8d to 4s 10d
5-st. fat lambs	6s 2d to 6s 4d	6s 10d to 7s 0d
6-st. half-bred do.	5s 8d to 5s 10d	6s 6d to 6s 8d

The pig trade was slow, with a decline in value; best small breeds were quoted at 4s 4d per 8lb.

London, Monday.—Large supplies; trade slow. Beef carcases, 4s to 4s 2d; hind quarters, 4s 6d to 4s 8d; roastings, 5s 4d to 6s. Sheep, ewes, 2s 8d to 3s; wethers, 3s 8d to 4s; hind quarters, ewe, 3s 8d 4s; wethers, 5s to 5s 4d. Pigs, large, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; small, 4s to 4s 4d.

St. Ives, Monday.—Beasts 375, sheep 534, pigs 349. Beef, 7s 6d to 8s. Mutton, 7s to 8s 9d. Pork, 6s 6d to 7s 3d; sows, 5s 3d to 6s 3d. Fat beasts, good demand, dearer; stores, slow; fat and store sheep, fair trade; fat and store pigs, sharp trade; milch cows, short supply, good trade, prices £14 to £23.

FOREIGN CATTLE.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts, 1,154. To-day's supply, compared with Monday last, showed an increase of 471, and consisted entirely of shipments from the United States, trade for which was of a rather slower nature, quality not being up to the average; rates, however, were no lower; a clearance was made at the following quotations per 8lb—offal given in:—Best quality, 4s 7d to 4s 8d; second quality, 4s 3d to 4s 4d. Sheep, 1,030, consisting of consignments from the United States, trade for which was very slow, best small sheep being quoted at from 4s to 4s 2d per 8lb. On Saturday last 1,082 States beasts and 640 sheep were offered for sale; trade for the former was firm at from 4s 7d to 4s 8d per 8lb for the best; seconds quoted at 4s 4d. Sheep trade firm and steady, owing to small supply; best pens made from 4s to 4s 2d. The following were the numbers on offer on the corresponding day last year, with the current top rates:—Beasts, 667, 4s 4d per 8lb, to dress from 680lb to 720lb; sheep nil.

Liverpool, Monday.—Larger supply of cattle in market; demand slow, and prices lower, especially for middling qualities. Sheep also in larger numbers; trade hardly so good as last week, and top quotation barely maintained. Beef, 6¼d to 5½d per lb; mutton, 8½d to 5½d per lb. At market, 1,503 cattle and 4,915 sheep.

POTATOES.

Goole, Wednesday.—Weather very frosty here to-day. There was a large supply of potatoes on offer, but only a slow demand for Giants and Imperators. Up-to-Dates made up to 52s 6d per ton. The Co-operative price was 5s 6d to 5s 9d per load of 12 stones.

Borough, Saturday.—The market was well supplied, arrivals, however, showing some diminution; but the general tone of the market is slow. Scottish maincrops (Dunbars), 80s to 90s; Reading Giants, 45s; Blacklands Up-to-dates, 45s to 50s; Lincoln Silts ditto, 60s; Gartons, Blacklands, 40s to 45s per ton.

Spitalfields, Saturday.—The market was slow, despite arrivals showing signs of falling off. Quotations:—Best Lincoln Up-to-dates, 60s to 65s; Blackland ditto, 45s to 50s; Wisbech ditto, 50s to 60s; Scotch ditto, 60s; Scotch maincrops (grey soil), 70s; Lincoln maincrops, 80s to 85s; Reading Giants, 40s to 45s; and Blackland Gartons, 40s to 45s per ton.

Hamburg, Saturday.—Seed potatoes are required now for England, and there is a rather active trade doing, although for the present shipments could not be effected, as rather sharp frost continues here. Especially early varieties are in demand. I quote selected quality, hand-picked, seed size:—Early Roses, 2s 9d; Topas, 2s 9d; Silesia, 2s 2d; Bruce 2s 9d; Professor Maercker, 2s 9d; Max Eyth, 2s 9d; Hero, 2s 9d; Magnum Bonum, 2s 9d; Blue Giants, 2s 9d; Daber, 3s; Imperator, 3s; Paulsens July, 3s 1½d; Snowrose, 3s 3d—all per bag of 50 kilos, f.o.b. st. here, bags included. Nett cash in quantities not under 200 bags of each sort.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW.

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS.")

Trade in London.

At the Islington Cattle Market trade for fat beasts on both market days for prime and second quality was of a somewhat slower nature, this being due to the rather larger supply, for which there was no corresponding increase in the demand, a good many shorthorns on Monday being turned out unsold. The majority of the number on offer as usual at this season of the year, consisted of consignments from Norfolk. Fat butchering cows and bulls met a steady trade, notwithstanding a slacker deman, this being attributable to the smaller arrivals. At the foreign cattle market, though there was an increase in the supply, trade ruled firm, rates comparing more than favourably with those obtained at the Islington market, in several cases 2d. per 8lb. more money being asked and obtained, clearances on the three market days being made. The total number on offer at both markets was 4,345, increase 1,198, consisting of 1,760 British (increase 160) and 2,585 foreign, increase 1,038; these latter comprised 2,452 from the United States and 133 from Canada. The following were the top rates paid per 8lb., sinking the offal, 90-stone polled Aberdeens, 4s. 9d.; 90-stone Polled Norfolks, 4s. 8d.; 100-stone Shorthorn, 4s. 7d.; 100-stone Lincolns, 4s. 6d.; 110-stone ditto, 4s. 4d.; 90-stone Irish, 4s. 4d.; 90-stone States, 4s. 9d. to 4s. 10d.; 90-stone Canadians, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 90-stone fat cows, 4s.; 100-stone fat bulls, 3s. 8d. The sheep trade was chiefly confined to the Islington Market, and was of a generally dull nature, late rates for wethers were, however, maintained, there being a good demand for ewes and the supply short, the best were quoted at from 2d. to 4d. per 8lb. more money. The total number penned was 9,810, being a decrease of 4,167 as compared with last week. The supply consisted of 8,200 British (decrease 1,990) and 1,610 from the United States, decrease 2,177. Best pens made per 8lb. as follows, sinking the offal, 7½ to 8 stone Downs, 5s. 4d.; 9-stone ditto, 5s. 2d.; 8-stone Scotch, 5s. 2d.; 10-stone Downs, 5s.; 10-stone halfbreds, 4s. 10d.; 12-stone Lincolns, 4s. 8d.; 10-stone Down ewes, 4s. 4d.; 8-stone States, 3s. 10d. to 4s.; lambs, for which there was very little inquiry, were sold with difficulty, the very best being quoted at no more than 6s. 4d. to 6s. 6d. Calves numbered 30 and pigs 50, both trades being of a very nominal description; the best of the former were quoted at 4s. 8d. per 8lb., and the latter from 4s. 4d. to 4s. 8d.

Trade in the West.

The return of cold weather once more has given considerable stimulus to the fat stock trade, and, with only shortened deliveries of beef as well as mutton at most markets, values have generally taken an upward turn. This has undoubtedly been the case with all the bettermost qualities of beef, which now command fully 11s. 6d. per score for all the choicest weights; and mutton, we are glad to say, has also benefited by the increased demand, most of the markets this week closing with prices for fat sheep against buyers to the extent of quite ½d. per lb., if not more, wethers again touching 7½d. to 8d. and ewes 6½d. to 7d. It is almost too early just yet to attempt anything like a forecast of what the lamb trade may be; but if we may judge from the few cross-breds now coming out, and the prices they make, ranging from 74s. to 42s. apiece, the prospect is not so very discouraging after all, as good judges compute most of those selling at quite 9d. per lb. (or very little under). Calves are also an exceptionally fast trade, all the really well-finished lots finding a ready sale at 8d. per lb. (or from about £4 5s. to £6 10s. each); seconds making 6½d. to 7d. Rearers are very much inquired after at most of the chief centres, and anything at all promising is eagerly caught up at high prices. The firmer tone generally in the veal trade has in no way adversely affected the price of pigs, only that, if anything, the inclination of sellers has been to hold out for enhanced rates, which in the majority of cases have been conceded, porkers being now as dear as they have been at any period for a long time past, porkers and light-weight baconers especially so, the former now making 11s. per score and over, and baconers 10s. to 10s. 6d.; whilst the price of slips has been quite in sympathy with the upward turn taken for other classes of pigs. Milch beasts continue, as for some time past now, to be very scarce indeed, especially for good serviceable bullocks, which now sell very freely from £18 to £20 10s. for the best, the more ordinary runs marketing from £14 to £17. Graziers are looking very closely after whatever barreners may be offering at any of the district fairs or markets, as there are a good many just now wanted to make good the depleted stalls at many a farmstead, especially where grazing comes in for special attention. Good bullocks, too, are very scarce; hence the enhanced values they now realise, the best, selling singly, making from £11 to £16 each, this, of course, being specially forward bullocks; the more ordinary grades are scarcely so saleable at prices ranging from £6 to £9 or £10 each.

Trade in Ireland.

The supplies of both cattle and sheep in last Thursday's Dublin market were pretty much on a par with those of the preceding market. There was a very good attendance of buyers, but the opening of the Lenten season and other things united in keeping activity out of the business, except in the case of really prime heavy bullocks and heifers, which realised top rates of last day, and in a few cases perhaps a shade more money had to be given, but all round the market for beef was a lifeless one, and numbers of cattle were left over unsold. It was stated that on the preceding day (Wednesday) at Deptford United States' cattle made from 6½d. to 6¾d. per lb., which is from 60s. to 63s. per cwt. dead weight, or more than could be got for the very primest beasts in Dublin. Prices might be quoted: Prime ox and heifer beef, 56s. to 59s. 6d., and extra lots 61s. per cwt. good second-class beef, 48s. to 54s. per cwt.; other classes from 42s. to 46s. per cwt.; prime veal scarce and worth from 7½d to 8¼d. per lb., but coarse calves brought only from 4½d. to 6½d. per lb.

All classes of sheep were more difficult to turn into money than on the last market, and with the exception of all but aged wethers, they may safely be written down 2s. per head on the week. The sluggishness visible in the home trade was principally caused by Lent, and the export trade is still merely nominal. Best wether mutton made from 6½d. to 7d. per lb.; ewe, 5½d. to 6½d., and inferior sheep from 4½d. to 5d. per lb. Small to medium hoggets from 28s. to 38s., and large heavy do. from 40s. to 54s. each. House lambs, from 38s. to 48s. A large number of sheep did not change hands. The milch cow department was largely supplied by really choice springers were scarce, and brought fancy prices, some of them selling at from £22 to £24 each, but for ordinary cows there was little demand and at very up-and-down prices. The pig market was moderately stocked, and with a fair demand, prices recovered from 1s. to 2s. per cwt., and a clearance was effected. Nice light-weight pigs sold at from 48s. to 50s. per cwt.; heavy pigs from 46s. to 48s., and coarse and inferior from 32s. upwards.

The severe weather which has been experienced in Ireland for the past week or so has quite nipped in the bud any revival there might have been in the store cattle trade, keep being so dear and scarce that no one cares to invest, so country fairs are very slow.

Beef in the South of Ireland is ruling higher, and at Cork market was selling at 1s. per cwt. more money. Sheep are also brisk, and 8d. per lb. is given freely for prime mutton, though 7d. may be put down as the average.

LONDON.

Islington, Thursday.—Supplies of beasts fair; moderate support. Fat bulls, 3s 6d to 3s 8d. Sheep pens were filled to a moderate extent, and with favourable weather conditions cleared early at late rates. 7½ to 8 stone Down wethers, 5s 2d to 5s 6d; 9 stone, 5s to 5s 2d; 10 stone Down ewes, 4s 2d to 4s 4d. Calf trade proved steady, the best on offer making 5s 4d to 5s 6d per 8lb, to sink the offal. Pigs in moderate demand. Neat small porkers, 4s 6d to 4s 8d; extreme, 4s 10d per 8lb, to sink the offal.

COUNTRY.

Basingstoke, Wednesday.—At Raynbird and Sons' Sale Yard there was a fair attendance of buyers to meet a supply of 33 fat beasts, 43 calves, 392 fat sheep, and 62 head of dairy and store cattle, for which the following prices were realised:—Fat shorthorn steers made up to £21 15s; Welsh steers, £17 5s; Kerry cows, £15 10s; shorthorn bulls, £18 15s, and cows, £15; fat calves, 65s to 97s 6d; small, 20s to 45s; fat wethers, 35s to 53s; fat ewes, 39s 6d to 50s; dairy cows, £11 to £22 15s. An under-average supply of fat beasts (mainly shorthorns) met with a good enquiry, and a clearance very nearly made, prime qualities making extreme prices. With a short supply of fat sheep, trade showed no improvement from last week's quotations. Dairy cattle of all classes met a firm trade, and were easily cleared at an advance. Store cattle continues a slow business. Fat calves are a short supply and dear. Ruling values:—Best quality fat beasts, 6¾d to 7¼d per lb.; 2nd ditto, 6d to 6¼d per lb; bulls, cows, and inferior ditto, 5d to 6d per lb; best quality fat sheep, 7d to 8d per lb; secondary ditto and fat ewes, 5½d to 7d per lb; fat calves, 6d to 8d per lb.

Boston, Wednesday.—A small market, and a slow trade. Best beef, 8s to 8s 3d; cow beef, 7s to 7s 6d per stone; stores, £16; in-calf heifers, £18 to £20; heifers, £16 to £18; calves, 55s to 60s; wethers, 8d per lb; hoggs, 34s to 42s each.

Braintree, Wednesday.—Steady trade. Sheep not up to demand. Hogs in short supply and dear. Store hoggets met a good trade. Pens generally small.

Bristol, Thursday.—Good supply of beef; large proportion of middling quality. Best animals sold steadily, 60s to 62s per cwt; secondary qualities, 56s to 57s. Fair supply of sheep; trade steady. Best light wethers made 7¼d to 7¾d per lb; ewes, 5½d to 6d. Moderate number of pigs on offer, baconers realising 9s 6d per score; porkers, 10s 9d. Store cattle rather better demand.

Bury, Wednesday.—At Messrs. Simpson and Sons' auction mart there was a fair average supply of fat beasts, but the quality was rather below the average. A sharp trade prevailed for all qualities, at a trifle over last week's rates, prices reaching up to £26 15s. Several lots of store beasts, and there were plenty of buyers for all the best bred lots. Rather smaller show of fat sheep, and a better trade may be reported for all descriptions. Short supply of fat ewes. Several lots of store hoggets met a better demand. About 180 useful black-faced ewes in lamb, fetched from 45s to 38s per head. Rather short supply of pigs, and for all descriptions there was a sharp trade.

Calne Friday.—Present prices for prime pigs, in lots of not less than 10, on rail within 100 miles of Calne.

Prime Stores.	Thickness of fat in any part of the Back.	Price per Sc. s. d.
6 sc. 10 lbs. to 9 sc. 10 lbs.	2½ in. and under ...	9 6
Under 10 sc.	Not exceeding 2½ in. ...	9 0
Under 11 sc. 10 lb. ...	Not exceeding 2¾ in. ...	8 6
Under 12 sc.	Not exceeding 3 in. ...	

—C. & T. Harris & Co., Ltd.

Cambridge, Monday.—Beast, 274; sheep, 554; pigs, 423; horses, 4. Beef, 7s to 8s 6d; mutton, 4s to 5s 2d; pork, 6s to 7s. Very few store beast to hand. Fat beast a good show, and prices a little better. Fat sheep a fair trade all round; stores only a few lots shown. Fat pigs a good number to hand, and prices better; stores a slow trade all round. Hay, straw, and roots a fair supply, and good prices made.

Canterbury, Saturday.—The teg trade has opened fairly well, but the supply was very short owing to the snow. Some good two-year-old sheep found purchasers at from 38s 6d to 40s per head.

Carlisle, Saturday.—The show of Irish store cattle on the sands was larger than during the past few weeks, about 100 heifers and stripping cows being offered. The cows were a useful, medium-sized lot, but heifers were mostly of a small description. There was a good attendance of buyers, in spite of the fact that the snow and severe frosts which have characterised the past week are against trade. Business was a little better than recently, and prices were as follows:—Heifers, £6 10s to £9 10s; stripping cows, £10 10s to £11 10s.

Dorchester, Wednesday.—Good all-round supplies to-day, and with a ready sale, buyers realised very satisfactory prices. Fat beef keeps one of the best selling things on the market, at 10s 6d to 11s per score for the best; rough contract bullocks and old cows, 10s. The veal trade quite as good as it has been; best calves, 7½d per lb; seconds, 6d to 7d. Mutton a sluggish trade; ewes and wethers, 7d to 7½d per lb; cross-bred lambs, 8½d to 9d.

Dublin, Thursday.—Numbers in Market:—Beasts, 2,262, increase, 35; sheep, 4,285, decrease, 135; calves, 36, decrease, 7. Choicely-finished cattle early sold, realised fully last week's quotations. Later on demand fell off and became sluggish, with the result that morning prices could not be maintained. Rough and unfinished cattle more difficult to sell. Sheep, except the very choicest quality of light weights, in favour of buyers, many rough and inferior lots remaining unsold. Cattle—live weight (best), 32s to 34s per cwt, and in exceptional cases 35s per cwt.; rough sorts, 27s to 31s per cwt. Mutton—dead weight—6d to 7d per lb. Extreme, 7¼d per lb.—GANLEY, SONS AND CO.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Bullocks and cows, 424; calves, 78; sheep and lambs, 867; pigs (fat and sows), 31; Pigs (stores, not more than ten), 272; pigs (stores, more than ten), 129. Prices of stock:—Best beef, 6d to 7d per lb; wether sheep 6½d to 8d per lb; ewes 5½d to 6d per lb; veal 7½d per lb; lamb, 9d per lb; pork, 5½d to 6d per lb; bacon, 4d to 5d per lb.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons report a large number of fat cattle were forward, and an excellent attendance of local and district buyers, including new purchasers from the south coast. Trade ruled brisk throughout, and values were fully maintained for all the best qualities, but half-finished animals were somewhat cheaper. Fat cows were in request, and sold well. The fat sheep pens were well supplied, and the quality showed an improvement. Buyers were well represented, and prices ruled high for all descriptions. Half-breed hoggetts, 52s; Suffolks to 48s 6d; good ewes, from 45s to 52s; grazing hoggetts were scarce and trade slow. An average entry of calves; the best for weaning made 52s to 38s; for killing, £6 10s downwards. The supply of swine was about the same as last week, and with a large number of buyers present, competition was very brisk, and values again ruled in favour of consigners. Store pigs dear, ranging from 32s to 17s. A few lots of grazing cattle were penned, and with a slightly better demand, all changed hands. Several cows were forwarded, and the best were in strong request at an advance from £1 to £2 per head, prices ranging from £22 10s to £14. At the Drill Hall sixty cart horses and hackneys were offered; trade for the best animals was good, London buyers securing several. Numbers at sale and market:—53 horses; 480 beasts; 47 calves; 1,320 sheep; 1,228 swine.

Leicester, Wednesday.—Very full consignments of Norfolk and Lincolnshire fed bullocks, which came to hand in very good condition. Buyers were well represented, and trade ruled active for choice qualities, but secondary sorts were a very dragging business. Choice bullocks made 6¼d to 6¾d per lb.; secondary qualities, 6d to 6¼d; cows, 5½ to 6d; heifers, 6d to 6¾. Sheep were a large supply, and sold with greater freedom, choice light weights making 7¼d to 7¾d per lb.; large sheep, 6½d to 7d, and ewes, 5½d to 6d. Calves were in better demand at 8d to 8½d per lb.

Newport, Wednesday.—Quotations were:—Best beef, 6½d to 6¾d per lb; secondary sorts, 6d to 6¼d; cows, 5¼d to 6d; best wether mutton, 8d to 8¼d; ewes, 6¼d to 7d; lamb, 10d; veal, 8d to 8¼d; porker pigs, 10s 6d to 11s per score, and baconers, 9s to 9s 6d. There was an average supply, and late prices fully maintained. Messrs. Newland, Davis, and Hunt offered about 60 beasts, 200 sheep, and several calves. The beef trade good, up to 6¾d per lb. for best; tegs, 8d per lb.

Norwich, Saturday.—The supply of store beasts was moderate here to-day; the demand was rather more active for the best lots, but prices showed no advance; secondary descriptions were neglected. Fat beasts were in increased supply, and a complete clearance was not made; prices ranged from 7s to 7s 6d and 8s per 14lb, according to quality. Store sheep ruled quiet at late rates, keeping hoggets making 28s to 38s per head. Fat sheep, which were in good supply, were dull at 7s 6d to 8s and 8s 3d per 14lb.

Romford, Wednesday.—Short supply of fat beasts, trade about the same. Best beasts, 4s 6d to 4s 8d; middlings, 4s to 4s 2d per stone. Calves very short supply, trade dear, at 5s 6d to 5s 8d per stone. Sheep in short supply, trade about the same. Best sheep, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; middlings, 5s to 5s 2d per stone. No store beasts on offer. Pig market still closed.

Rye, Wednesday.—Heifers and steers, 4s 6d to 4s 8d. Kent sheep almost unsaleable. Maids and wethers 4s 4d to 4s 6d. Barrens, 3s 6d. Large pigs, 3s 6d. Small ditto, 4s to 4s 4d. Calves, 5s 4d.

Salford, Tuesday.—To-day's supply of cattle, compared with last week, showed a decrease of about 400

head. Owing to this and the fact that American beef at Birkenhead was dearer, a better trade was experienced, and last week's top price was more readily obtained, and in some cases exceeded. There was a smaller supply of sheep. Trade in this department was also better and prices higher, some choice light weights making up to 8½d per lb. An average supply of calves, and a good demand for choice fat ones at rather better prices. Quotations:—Cattle, 4½d to 6½d; sheep, 6d to 8½d; calves, 5d to 8½d per lb. At market—Cattle, 2,657; sheep, 8,134; calves, 143; pigs, 47.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Another small show of milch beasts. Demand correspondingly slack. Best lots, £19 to £22; secondary quality, £14 to £17.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday.—Numbers offered: 525 cattle; 65 cows with calves; 719 sheep; 84 calves; 58 fat; 127 porket, and 349 store pigs. Beef, cows with calves, pigs, and fat calves met a better and brisker trade. Sheep slow. Quotations:—Beef, 6d to 7d; Mutton, 6d to 7½d, and veal, 7½d to 9d per lb.; porket pigs, 9s 6d to 11s, and bacons, 9s to 10s per score; cows with calves up to £22 10s. Hay up to £5 5s, and clover up to £5 7s 6d per ton.—CROXTON.

Spalding, Tuesday.—A small show of fat beasts, and a good demand. Best beasts to 8s; cow beef, 7s 6d per stone. There was a large show of stores, but a slow trade, though prices were a shade better than last week. Sheep a small show; mutton, 7d to 8d per lb.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There were on offer 134 cattle, 307 sheep, and 269 pigs. A small show of best cattle, and trade dragged at 7s 6d to 7s 9d per stone; rougher kinds, 6s 6d to 7s; young sheep, 7½d; ewes, 5d to 6d; tups, 4d to 5d per lb.

Thame, Tuesday.—There was a limited supply of stock at market, and with an increased attendance of buyers, trade all round showed a marked improvement, every kind of stock offered, with only very few exceptions, being sold, veal being in great demand, the latter making 9s per stone. Mutton has continuously improved in price as compared with the past few weeks. Bacon pigs were scarce and dear. Mr. Bond's sale comprised 50 fat beasts, 110 fat sheep, 60 fat and weaning calves, and 145 fat and store pigs. Fat bullocks made £16 to £22 10s; fat heifers made £14 to £22 12s 6d; fat tegs, 40s to 51s; fat ewes, 39s to 53s 6d; fat calves, £3 10s to £5 15s; cow calves, 21s to 45s; bull calves, 17s to 46s; fat pigs, 11s per score; fat sows to £7 2s; stores dearer.

Wakefield, Wednesday.—A slow trade for both beef and mutton. Beef, which was again dearer, made 7d per lb; secondary sorts, 5d to 6½d; small sheep, 7½d; and other animals varied from 5d upwards. Number of beasts, 1,225; sheep, 3,537.

Wakefield, Wednesday.—Fewer fat beasts were penned, but the bulk of the stock were in capital condition. The beasts comprised Scotch, Irish, Lincolnshire, and home-fed animals. The market in the best department opened rather brisk, but fell away towards the end. The very best animals were rather difficult to sell, dealers asking the very top price, which buyers were not inclined to give. Prime beef made 6¾d; secondary, 6¼d; other sorts, 5d to 6¼d per lb. A better trade was experienced in dairy cattle, but no advanced prices were paid. Best cows, £17 to £22; secondary, £12 to £16. Store cattle were little sought after, the prices quoted being £8 to £15; calving cows, £15 to £23. The few fat calves on offer were cleared at 6d to 8¼d per lb. The increased numbers of sheep had a telling effect on the market, and dealers in not a few cases had to accept less money to effect sales. Nice small sheep were the best to sell, and fetched 7¼d; good medium, 7d to 7¼d; heavy, much inquired after, 6d to 7d; ewes, 6¾d per lb. With fewer pigs on offer, a better trade was experienced. Stores, 25s to 55s each; porkers, 7s per stone; suckers, 15s to 21s each. Official numbers—Beasts, 1,225; sheep, 3,537; calves, 11, and pigs, 159.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Beasts a moderate supply; fair trade. Sheep, good supply; slow trade. Calves, moderate supply; good demand for best. Beef, 5½d to 6¾d per lb.; a few 7d per lb; mutton, 6½d to 8d per lb; veal, 7½d to 9d per lb; pigs (bacon), 10s to 10s 6d per score; porkets, 10s 6d to 11s per score; sows, 8s to 8s 4d per score.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Very fair attendance, considering the weather, and fair show of stock. Best beef, 7s to 7s 6d per stone; secondary, 6s to 7s; best wethers, 7½d; ewes, 5d to 6d per lb.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Wednesday.—Beast supplies 820 head, being a decrease of 371 as compared with last Wednesday's figures, and comprised shipments from the United States. Trade ruled slow, at 4s 4d to 4s 8d per 8lb, to sink the offal.

Yorkhill, Monday.—The usual weekly sale of United States and Canadian cattle was held to-day, when there were penned in the sheds 225 cattle landed by the Carthaginian (s), from New York, and 256 by the Sardinian (s), from Boston. All were fully up to the usual standard as regards quality, and were very suitable for the requirements of the trade. There was the usual large attendance of buyers from all parts of the town and country; but trade was of a slow character, and the values received were scarcely up to those ruling on the previous Monday. The dead-weight quotations may be given as follow:—States bullocks, best quality, medium weight, 58s per cwt, and for really choice up to 60s; secondary and heavier, 56s; heifers, 54s to 57s; bulls, best quality, to 50s; and secondary and heavier, 46s to 48s. Canadian bullocks, best class, made up to 58s per cwt; heavy prime, 56s; secondary class, down to 54s; and bulls made similar prices to those ruling above.

Yorkhill, Thursday.—A sale of American cattle was held in the morning, when there were in the lairages 295 cattle landed by the Amarynthia (s), from St. John N.B. The majority of the cattle were bullocks, but there was also a number of bulls included in the consignment. There was only a small attendance of buyers, and trade was of a slow character. Small, neat well-fed beasts secured the best inquiry, and fully maintained Monday's prices. Secondary and heavier were very difficult to cash. The deadweight quotations may be given as follow:—Bullocks, best quality, medium weight, 58s per cwt., and a few really choice up to 60s; heavy prime, 56s; secondary and heavier animals, 54s; bulls, best class, to 48s; and secondary and heavier, 46s. At the finish a number were held over for next week's sale.

CHEESE.

Market Drayton, Wednesday.—Finest Cheshire 8d to 9d per lb, other qualities from 5½d per lb.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—The arrivals were small, indeed they will be that onward till the end of the season. There was a fair inquiry for Cheddars and Dunlops at steady values. Cheddars and Dunlops were quoted from 50s to 58s per cwt; New Zealand and Canadians have also been in fair request at previous values.

Newport, Wednesday.—Quotations: Caerphillies, 63s to 70s; fancy dairies, 72s to 73s; inferior, 40s to —s; Derbys, 66s to —s; truckles, 60s to 68s; and Cheddars, 63s to 65s. There was a short supply and a good inquiry for best quality cheese.

Dorchester, Wednesday.—Best makes 52s to 64s per cwt.

EGGS.

Tuesday.—Leeds: Yorkshire, 15s 6d to 16s per 120; Irish, 10s 6d to 13s. Bedale: 10 for 1s. Gainsborough: 10 for 1s. Settle: 11 or 12 for 1s. Spalding: 1d each.

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 8 for 1s. Boston: 11 or 12 for 1s. Hereford: 10 to 12 for 1s; (wholesale) 13. Keighley: (wholesale) 10, (retail) 9 for 1s. Kirbymoorside: 11 for 1s. Knaresborough: 9 or 10 for 1s. Louth: (wholesale) 16 for 1s. Market Drayton: 9 and 10 for 1s. Market Weighton: 11 for 1s. Masham: 11 or 12 for 1s. Northallerton: 9 or 10 for 1s. Stockton: 8 for 1s. Worksop: 1s 10d to 2s per score.

Thursday.—Birmingham: 8 and 9 per 1s. Brigg: 10 or 11 for 1s. Devizes: 12 to 14 for 1s. Kidderminster: 12 for 1s. Penistone: 10 for 1s. Ripon: 9 to 10 for 1s. Scarborough: 9 for 1s. Wellington: 10 to 11 for 1s. Wetherby: 9 or 10 for 1s.

Friday.—Easingwold: 10 to 12 for 1s. Helmsley: 10 or 11 for 1s. Lincoln: 10 or 11 for 1s. Otley: 9 and 10 for 1s.

Saturday.—Appleby: 10 or 11 for 1s. Berwick: 12 for 1s. Carlisle: 7 and 8 for 1s. Doncaster: 10 and 11 for 1s. Grantham: 10 to 12 for 1s. Howden: 10 or 11 for 1s. Lancaster: 6 or 8 for 1s. Malton: 11 to 12 for 1s. Pontefract: 9 or 10 for 1s. Retford: 1s 10d to 2s per score. Richmond: 10 and 11 for 1s. Skipton: 10 and 11 for 1s. Stokesley: 9 or 10 for 1s. Whitby: 9 or 10 for 1s. York: 9 for 1s. Exeter: 10 for 1s. Tavistock: 12 for 1s. Barnstaple: 12 for 1s. Redruth: 9d to 10d per dozen. Lostwithiel: 16 for 1s. Ashburton: 10d to 11d per dozen.

BUTTER.

Tuesday.—Leeds: York lump, 15s to 15s 6d per stone; do. long rolls, 1½lb, 1s 10d to 2s; fresh, in 1lb prints, 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb; Irish creameries, 104s to 112s; Bedale: In rolls of 24oz, 2s per roll. Gainsborough: 1s 3d per lb. Settle: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Spalding: 1s 1d per lb.

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Boston: 1s to 1s 2d per lb. Hereford: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Keighley: (wholesale) 1s 2d, (retail) 1s 3d per lb. Kirbymoorside: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Knaresborough: (wholesale) 1s 9d to 1s 11d; (retail) 1s 10d to 2s per lb of 24oz. Louth: (wholesale) 1s per lb. Market Drayton: Best 1s 3d to 1s 4d; seconds, 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Market Weighton: 1s per lb. Masham: 2s per roll of 24oz. Northallerton: 1s 9d to 2s per roll of 24oz. Stockton: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Worksop: 1s 2d to 1s 4d per lb.

Thursday.—Brigg: 1s to 1s 2d per lb. Devizes: (wholesale) 1s 1d to 1s 2d; (retail) 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Birmingham: 1s 3d to 1s 5d per lb. Kidderminster: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Penistone: 1s 2d per lb. Ripon: 2s to 2s 2d per single roll of 24oz. Scarborough: 1s 4d per lb. Wellington: 1s 3d to 1s 5d per lb. Wetherby: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb.

Friday.—Easingwold: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Helmsley: 1s 2d per lb. Lincoln: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Otley: 1s 10d to 2s per roll of 24oz.

Saturday.—Appleby: 1s 2d to 1s 4d per lb. Berwick: 1s per lb. Carlisle: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Doncaster: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Grantham: 1s 1d to 1s 3d per lb. Howden: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Lancaster: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Malton: 1s 2d per lb. Pontefract: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Retford: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Richmond: 1s 6d per lb. Skipton: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Stokesley: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Whitby: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. York: 1s 2d to 1s 4d per lb. Exeter: 1s 5d per lb. Tavistock: 1s 6d to 1s 7d per lb Barnstaple: 1s 6d per lb. Redruth: 1s 4d to 1s 6d per lb. Lostwithiel: 1s 5d per lb. Ashburton: 1s 5d to 1s 6d per lb.

HAY AND STRAW.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—The trade ruled dull at previous prices. Best clover, 95s to 110s; inferior ditto, 80s to 90s; specially picked hay, 115s; good ditto, 108s; inferior ditto, 80s to 90s; mixture and sainfoin, 80s to 100s, and straw, 28s to 40s per load.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending February 11, 1902:—

Swine Fever.	Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.		No.	128	152 362 607	1,413	1,193 2,457 4,380	
	Outbreaks.		No.	30	40 43 42	328	203 218 252	
Rabies.	Cases Reported.	Oth'r Anim'ls.	No.	...	... ...	...	1	...
		Dogs.	No.	1	... ...	2	...	...
Pleuro-Pneumonia.	Cattle Sheltered.	Exposed to Infection.	No.	...	... ...	...	...	...
		Diseased.	No.	...	... ...	...	...	...
	Outbreaks.		No.	...	... ...	...	...	...
Glanders (including farcy).	Animals Attacked.		No.	45	45 45 15	320	307 202 181	
	Outbreaks.		No.	21	27 20 10	139	162 113	
Foot-and-Mouth Disease.	Animals Attacked.		No.	...	170 30 ...	...	347 63	...
	Outbreaks.		No.	...	1 3 ...	...	6 5	...
Anthrax.	Animals Attacked.		No.	55	25 21 9	184	114 92	...
	Outbreaks.		No.	19	13 16 8	102	77 56	...

Period.						
Week ended Feb. 8, 1902	1901	1,100	1,089	Total for 6 weeks, 1902	1901	1,100
Corresponding week in				Corresponding period in		

NOTE.—The figures for the current year are approximate only.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Hull, Tuesday.—Linseed: The arrivals are 1,365 qrs from Hamburg, 500 qrs Harlingen, 1,100 Riga, 25 Rotterdam; total, 2,990 qrs. Linseed strong. Calcutta, 51s April-June. River Plate, 52s 3d paid for seed afloat for "Edendale," 53s now wanted; later boats afloat, 52s to 50s 6d, according to position; January there are re-sellers at 50s, but shippers' price is 50s 6d; Jan.-Feb. business done at 49s 9d, but 50s the value; Feb.-March, 49s 9d. Cottonseed: There has been very little doing in this article during the last week, and rather lower prices again accepted, with business done spot at £6 3s 9d, February £6 5s, and Feb.-March at £6 6s 3d, whereat the market is quiet to-day. Oils: Exports for the week ending 4th February, 1902:—Linseed oil: 1 Denmark, 2 Germany, 2 Holland, 4 Norway; total, 9 tons. Cotton oil: 135 Belgium, 26 Denmark, 10 France, 178 Germany, 183 Holland, 1 Norway, 15 Sweden; total, 548 tons. The market is firm. Linseed oil: 29s 9d spot, 29s 6d Feb.-April, 29s 3d May-Aug. Cotton oil: 22s 6d spot, 22s 6d Feb.-April, 23s 4½d May-Aug. Crude: 21s 1½d spot, 21s 1¾d Feb.-April, 22s May-Aug. Rape oil: Jamba naked, 24s 9d spot; first quality, naked, 25s 6d spot. Oil seed cakes: Linseed cakes are 2s 6d per ton dearer, and very scarce pending seed arrivals. Cotton cakes are 2s 6d per ton cheaper. Deliveries ex contracts very good, but fresh sales are very moderate.—KEIGHLEY, MAXSTED, AND CO.

London, Thursday.—Linseed: Continued belief in the shortness of crops this year, combined with an active demand, has caused prices to advance. Spot Calcutta-London 58s 6d paid—very little obtainable, passage 55s to 54s 6d, February 53s 9d, March 53s, April 52s, April-June 51s 9d. La Plata January-February 51s. Hull firm. Calcutta April-June 52s 6d paid. La Plata near 52s 6d to 50s 9d, passage 51s 3d, February, 51s. To the Continent, Bombay February-March 54s, April-May 53s. Calcutta, afloat 54s 6d, April-June 51s 3d. La Plata shipping or shipped, 50s 10½d, January-February 50s 6d. Linseed Oil: Excited and a smart advance has again to be recorded. We quote spot in pipes £31 5s, barrels £31 10s, May-August £31 5s, September-December £29 10s to £30. Hull spot naked, £30 15s, March-April £30, May-August £30, September-December, £29. Linseed cakes are firm. We to-day quote London made £8 5s to £8 10s ex mill, American Western £7 7s 6d to £7 12s 6d, Russian £7 12s 6d to £8 2s 6d. Cotton cakes weak, London made £4 7s 6d to £4 10s. Rapeseed is again firmer. Brown Cawnpore, February-March 40s 6d, March-May 40s 6d. To the Continent we quote Yellow Guzerat February-March 40s 3d, March-May 46s. Brown Cawnpore February-March 40s 6d, March-May 40s 6d. Brown Calcutta February-March 37s, April-June 39s 6d. Ferozepore February-March 40s 3d. Jamba, March-May to Hull 32s. Cottonseed: Heavy arrivals and shipments have caused the market to weaken, not much business doing. Spot London £6 6s 3d, afloat £6 7s 6d, February-March £6 8s 9d, April-May £6 10s buyers. Hull spot £6 3s 9d, January £6 5s, February-March £6 7s 6d, April-May £6 10s. Bombay to Hull £4 11s 3d, February-March sellers. Cargoes, February-March £6 11s 3d, April £6 12s 6d.—THE PRODUCE BROKERS COMPANY, LIMITED.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed Cakes: The market is barely supplied with foreign, and, with an improved demand, values continue to harden. Russian offer rather more freely for shipment, while landed lots are firmly held at last week's prices. Americans remain scarce on spot, and 2s 6d per ton dearer on the week. Calcutta made, slightly out of condition, are cheaply offered at £7 5s per ton in bags. London made sell slowly, crushers being unwilling to make any concession in price. Cotton Cakes: Some little improvement has occurred in arrived or near at hand Egyptian, which are now held at 1s 3d to 2s 6d per ton dearer, and the advance seems likely to be maintained, as a considerable quantity has been cleared off the market, and shippers are less anxious sellers. English are about 1s 3d per ton cheaper, but the trade is not fast. Decorticated are without change in value, with meal also unchanged. Rape Cakes: Quiet and unchanged in price. Maize Germ Meal: American for February-March shipment may still be bought at £5 12s 6d, at which, however, there is very little response. English offers sparingly at 2s 6d per ton more money. Rice Meal: There is no change in the position. Rangoon in warehouse moves off steadily at unchanged prices, and shippers are still willing to entertain bids at £4 11s 3d to £4 12s 6d for new crop.

	Per ton. £ s. d.	Per ton. £ s. d.
LINSEED CAKES.		
London made ....ex mill	8 5 0	to 8 10 0
American ....ex dock	7 7 6	to 7 10 0
Russian, in mats ....ex dock	7 10 0	to 7 12 6
Russian, in bags ....ex dock	7 15 0	to 7 17 6
Calcutta ....ex dock	7 12 6	to 7 15 0
COTTONSEED CAKES.		
London made ....ex mill	4 8 9	to 4 11 3
Egyptian ....ex dock	4 7 6	to 4 10 0
Decorticated ....ex dock	6 10 0	to 6 15 0
Meal ....ex dock	6 10 0	to —
RAPE CAKES.		
East India ....ex dock	4 5 0	to —
MAIZE.		
English germ meal....ex mill	6 0 0	to 6 2 6
American, Feb.-March ....ex dock	5 12 6	to —
RICE MEAL.		
Rangoon ....in warehouse	5 5 0	to —
New Crop....ex dock	4 11 3	to 4 12 6

—PINNOCK BROS., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

WATERLOO ROUND FEEDING CAKES, £6 12s 6d PER TON; WATERLOO ROUND 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES, £9 10s 0d PER TON; WATERLOO ANGLO SHAPE 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES, £9 7s 6d PER TON; WATERLOO 97 PER CENT. PURE EGYPTIAN COTTONSEED CAKES, £5 0s 0d PER TON. ALL F.O.R. HULL.

MOLASSINE FEEDING MEAL, packed in bags, of 1¼cwt. each. Price per cwt., 7s. 6d. Price per ton, £6 15s., on rail at works, Silvertown, Essex, and F.O.R. Liverpool. A sample lot of 6cwt., in 4 bags of 1½cwt. each, delivered free to any station in England on receipt of remittance for £2 11s 0d

SEEDS

London, Monday.—Messrs. John Shaw and Sons, seed merchants, of Great Maze Pond, Borough, London, S.E., write that the recent spell of wintery weather has naturally somewhat checked the consumptive inquiry for farm seeds, and diminished activity therein has resulted; nevertheless, values all round keep steady, and a healthy consumptive demand is shortly expected. Red clover-seed continues in sufficient supply, and moderate rates for same are accepted. White, meantime, remains scarce and dear, whist alsyke tends upwards. Perennial and Italian ryegrasses are quiet just now. For spring tares former terms are quoted. Linseed is strong at its recent advance, but mustard must be written dull. Mere money meanwhile is asked for rapeseed. As regards canary seed, the movements are erratic and puzzling. Blue peas and haricot beans have been in somewhat improved request.



STOCK AND SHOW NOTES.

By Herdsman.

The Royal Lancashire Agricultural Society's Show will be held in September at Preston, and already a local committee has been formed and a subscription list started. At a special meeting held for this purpose Lord Derby, who is Mayor of Preston, presided, and moved the following resolution, which was carried unanimously:—"That this meeting cordially approves the raising of a sum of £2,000 (at least) in aid of the expenses and prizes at the show, and pledges itself to aid in ensuring the success of the show." His lordship said that, judging by past shows, it was probable that the total expenses in connection with the exhibition would not be much less than £8,000 or £8,500. When the show was held at Liverpool over £2,000 was contributed towards the expenses, and last year, at St. Helens, the sum of £1,500 was raised. He was glad to say that Moor Park had been most kindly placed at the disposal of the society by the Corporation. This was a very material consideration, because Moor Park for the purposes of a show ground possessed advantages which they might have a great deal of trouble in finding elsewhere. They desired to get a good class of exhibitors, and they hoped that people would interest themselves in the matter, so that they might have, as far as possible, co-operation throughout the county. I may add that about £800 has already been promised, Lord Derby himself giving £300.

The Committee of the Denbighshire and Flintshire Agricultural Society have fixed on August 7th as the date for the holding of the Society's Diamond Jubilee Show, which will be held at Ruthvin.

Mr. R. J. Kisby, secretary of the Gransden and District Agricultural Society has informed me that this year's show is fixed for Tuesday, September 30th.

The show of the Darwen and District Agricultural Association, will, as usual, be held on the Saturday before Whitsuntide, viz., May 10th. Anyone interested in the show, and having suggestions as to classes and prizes, or any other matter affecting the interests of the show and exhibitors, are invited to send same to the secretary, Mr. J. Ainsworth, Post Office Chambers, Darwen.

A meeting held at Ipswich Town Hall for the purpose of making preliminary arrangements with reference to the annual show of the Suffolk Agricultural Association, which will be held in that town on June 5th and 6th, a sum of £257 17s. was promised towards the necessary amount required, viz., £500 at the least.

The annual sale of Percheron horses bred by the Hon. H. G. McMillan at Rock Rapids, Iowa, U.S.A., was attended by some record-breaking results. A large number of buyers was present, and the average of over £120 on twenty-four head is exceptionally good for draught horses, and has not been equalled for some years past. The highest price was £300, paid for Seducteur, an animal which holds the highest prize record of any living Percheron stallion, either in the United States or in France. Other prices made were £240 for Peltron, £200 for Condon, and an equal sum for Julien, all stallions with established breeding records. Highest price for mares was £99, paid for Perfection, while several other females fetched closely approximating amounts.

A deputation of the Lincoln City Council has been appointed to meet the Council of the Lincolnshire Agricultural Society, and invite them to hold their summer show of 1902 at Lincoln.

The Sussex County Agricultural Society have decided to hold their show this year at Preston Park, Brighton, on August 14th and 15th, the entries to close on July 10th, with the secretary, Mr F. Burfield Dyer, 2, St. Andrew's Place, Lewes, Sussex.

I have received a copy of the prize list for the North East Agricultural Association's spring show at Belfast on Wednesday, April 30th, and two following days. As in former years, liberal class prizes, as well as numerous valuable special awards, are offered for thoroughbred stallions and polo ponies, heavy and lght draught horses, shorthorn, Aberdeen Angus, Galloway, Hereford, Channel Islands, Kerry, and Dexter, and dairy cattle; pigs and poultry and eggs; whilst there will be milking trials and butter and butter-making contests. The entries close as follows:—Stock, draught horses in gear, harness horses, poultry dairy produce, implements, etc. Single fees Saturday, April 5th; double fees, the following Saturday. Jumping and trotting competitions Wednesday, April 30th. The secretary is Mr. Kenneth McRae, The Ulster Bank Chambers, 37, Dongeal Place, Belfast.

In addition to the above-mentioned awards, there are premiums for thoroughbred stallions and also for bulls. Four premiums of £50 each, from the funds administered by the Royal Dublin Society, under the Probate Duties (Scotland and Ireland) Act, 1880, will be offered for thoroughbred stallions suitable for getting hunters and other half-bred horses. Any thoroughbred stallion duly entered in Weatherby's Stud Book is eligible to enter for these premiums, but only such stallions as are accepted for the register of the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland, or other stallions standing in the country, or stallions imported into Ireland for service, will be allowed to compete for these premiums. Subject to the foregoing rule, all thoroughbred stallions entered at this show may compete for these premiums. No special entry for the premiums is required, and no extra fee will be charged.

The premiums for bulls will be offered jointly by the County Urban Committee of Agriculture and the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland, under the Department's scheme for encouraging improvement in the breeds of cattle. Breeders may offer their bulls for these premiums without being charged any additional entry fee. Full particulars of the Department's scheme can be had on application to the Secretary, Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland, Upper Merrion Street, Dublin.

The Oxfordshire Agricultural Society have now issued the prize schedules in connection with their Witney meeting, to be held on May 13th and 14th next, and I see that prizes to the amount of over £1,200 are offered, besides a Blythwood challenge bowl for Jerseys, gold and silver medals. Classes are provided for Shorthorns, Herefords, Jerseys, Guernseys, Kerry and Dexter Kerry, and dairy cattle, Shire and other heavy horses, Hunters, Hackneys, Army Remounts, Polo ponies, jumping and driving competitions, Oxford Down, Hampshire, Southdown, Shropshire, and Cotswold sheep, Berkshire and other pigs, butter, dead poultry, eggs, honey, sheep-shearing, and horse-shoeing. Demonstrations in trussing and cramming poultry, etc., will be given each day. Entries for implements close March 26th, and for stock March 31st. Prize-lists can be obtained of the secretary, A. F. Milton Druce, Estate Offices, 16, Queen Street, Oxford.

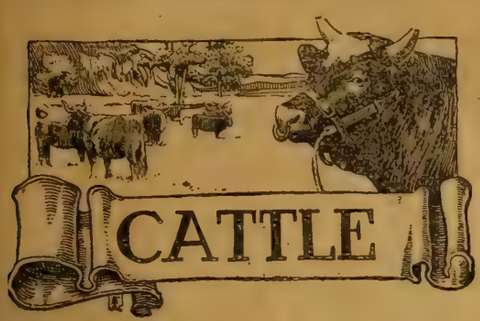
The Bath and West and Southern Counties Society offer a sum of £3,296 in money prizes for stock, produce, etc., at their show at Plymouth from May 27th to May 31st. This amount is in addition to medals and plate.



THE GALLOWAY HEIFER, "MAID OF HONOUR," which forms the subject of the above illustration, was bred by Messrs. J. and S. Nivison, Lairdlaugh, Dalbeattie, N.B.; sire "Queen's Messenger," 6,598, dam "Jean 7th, of Lairdlaugh," 13,559. "Maid of Honour" was exhibited at the Smithfield Club's Show last December, by Messrs. T. Biggar & Sons, of Chapelton, Dalbeattie, and it won first prize in the class for heifers not exceeding three years old, and was also awarded the £20 silver cup for the best Galloway in the Show.

There will also be a large display of implements, machinery, and articles of general utility, an exhibition of art-manufactures, horticultural and poultry shows, butter-making, milking, shearing and shoeing competitions, and performances by a military band. Entry forms, regulations, etc., can be obtained of the secretary (Mr. Thos. F. Plowman, Bath), to whom application should be made at once.

A council meeting of the National Sheep Breeders' Association will be held at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, on Tuesday in next week, at which some important business will be transacted. Among other items of the agenda are the following:—To receive the replies from the Southdown, Leicester, and Oxford Down Societies *re* contribution to the costs of the proposed alteration of the memorandum and articles of association; to receive report *re* carriage of rams in crates by passenger train; to receive reply from Board of Agriculture *re* resolution *re* foot-and-mouth disease, passed at the last meeting of the Council; to receive reply from Board of Agriculture *re* report of special committee on sheep scab regulations adopted by the Council on April 2nd, 1901, and forwarded to the Board of Agriculture on April 10th, 1901.



The Use of Cod Liver Oil in the Rearing of Calves.

The experiments commenced by the Yorkshire College, Leeds, and the East and West Ridings Joint Agricultural Council in 1899 on the properties and efficacy of codliver oil as a substitute for cream in calf-rearing were continued during 1900 and 1901. The 1901 experiments were commenced last spring, and are not yet sufficiently advanced for comment, but the 1900 experiments provide material for the report just issued by the above institution:—

"Twelve calves, all about a week old, were purchased between the 19th and 24th March, 1900. They were fed with whole milk twice a day, the allowance per head to begin with being six pints per day. The milk was gradually increased until each calf, when about six weeks old, was receiving eight pints per day. Having reached this age they were weighed on April 28th, and divided into two lots, one lot of four to be reared on whole milk and the remaining eight to have separated milk with a small quantity of cod liver oil gradually substituted for the whole milk on which, up to that time, they had been reared. On May 12th, when the calves were seven weeks old, the eight ceased entirely to get whole milk, and from that date their diet consisted of separated milk and cod liver oil. On the same day the quantity of milk—either whole or separated—for each calf was increased to 10 pints. The allowance of cod liver oil to each of the eight animals had now reached 2oz. per day, and this quantity was maintained. On June 9th the whole milk for each of the four calves was increased to 12 pints per day, and a similar increase was made in the case of the eight receiving separated milk. This daily allowance of milk was continued until September 15th, after which date a gradual reduction was made, and the calves were weaned on September 22nd. As regards trough food all the calves on June 2nd got their first allowance of a mixture of about 1lb. of linseed cake and bran, and as much meadow hay as they cared to eat. The quantity of cake and bran was gradually increased until on September 22nd each calf was getting about 4½lbs. per day. It should be borne in mind that the animals were not allowed out to graze.

From the figures given it appears the whole milk calves again did better than the others; also that the whole milk calves had a better "bloom," and in general appeared to be heavier than those reared on separated milk and cod liver oil, was evident to all who saw them just before weaning. The cost is, however, considerably greater in the first system than in the second.

If the whole milk is valued at 8d. per gallon, then the daily cost of each of the four calves would be 1s., when the maximum allowance of milk was given. If the separated milk is valued at 2d. per gallon, the milk for the eight would cost 3d. per head per day, to which has to be added the cost of the cod liver oil. The price paid for the oil was 5s. 6d. per gallon—containing about 150oz.—so that the cost per head per day for oil amounts to about 1d. The total cost, therefore, for each calf in lot 2 amounted to rather less than 4d per day. The difference in the average weight of the calves in the two lots is therefore not in proportion to the difference in cost.

The experiments, therefore, show that separated milk with a small quantity of cod liver oil, can be successfully employed in calf-rearing, but that better calves result from the much more expensive system of feeding with whole milk. There is, however, a great difference between the amount of fat present in 1½ gallons whole milk, and that in 1½ gallons separated milk with 2ozs. cod liver oil added. If we assume that whole milk contains 3 per cent. of butter fat and has a specific gravity of 1.032, then in 1½ gallons a calf receives slightly more than 7 2-5ozs. fat per day. This is nearly four times the amount of fat supplied to a calf getting 1½ gallons separated milk and 2ozs. cod liver oil. It therefore follows that the cod liver oil calves might continue to get 2ozs. of oil daily for about four times the period during which lot 1 received whole milk before the former had consumed an equal quantity of fat or oil.

Quality of Meat.

A doubt is often expressed as to the beef of animals reared by the help of cod liver oil being equal to that of bullocks that have been reared as calves on whole milk. The three pens of the 1899 experimental calves were all treated alike after weaning, and when about two years old were sold to the Leeds Co-operative Stores. The number of animals in each pen was originally five, four steers and one heifer. As the animals got older the heifer was withdrawn from each pen. One of the steers in pen 1 died when a little over a year old, so that those reared on whole milk were represented by three bullocks, those reared on separated milk and cod liver oil by four, and those reared on separated milk and calf meal by a similar number.

The manager of the Leeds Co-operative Stores examined the carcases, and reported as follows:—"The whole milk beasts killed the worst of the lot: only No. 1 bullock was anything like as good as the cod liver oil beasts. Calf meal beasts opened the best, there being more inside fat or suet, but they were not so good all through as the cod liver oil beasts; these were thicker on the ribs, and on the whole were decidedly the best beef. No. 14, one of the calf meal beasts, killed exceedingly well. They were all good beef and very clear, there being no signs of tuberculosis in any." From this report, therefore, there appears to be small cause for apprehension that the quality of the carcase will be interfered with by giving cod liver oil as a substitute for butter fat in the early stages of the life of the animal. The quality of the meat obtained from the 1900 calves has yet to be determined.

Sale of Sussex Cattle at Hayward's Heath.

The annual spring sale of pedigree Sussex cattle, held at Hayward's Heath, by Mr. Thomas Bannister, took place in his enclosed sale yard on the 7th inst., when the catalogue comprised thirty-three bulls and one heifer, chiefly young animals, from the herds of various well-known breeders. There was a large attendance of buyers, bidding was fairly brisk, and every animal was sold, at an average price of about 20½ guineas. The top figure of the sale was 34 guineas, realised by Mr. Saillard, for his Bewbush Baron 2nd, calved January last year. Below we give a list of the animals which went at 20 guineas and over, the names in parenthesis being those of the sellers:—

	Gs.
Sultan II. 1655, c Jan., 1899 (Mr. F. Allcorn) Mr. T. Broad	25
Lawrence II. 1735, c Dec., 1899 (Count Munster) Mr. J. E. A. Gwynne	21
Prince Napier III. 1756, c Aug., 1900 (Mr. J. Godman) Mr. F. G. Bolton	21
Bewhurst Nobleman II. 1788, c Aug., 1900 (Mr. P. Saillard) Mr. Thornton	28
Lohengrin (Vol. 16), c Sept., 1900 (Mr. P. Saillard) Mr. Ward	24
Bewbush Baron II. (Vol. 17), c Jan., 1901 (Mr. P. Saillard) Mr. Gwynne	34
Brantridge Ensign V. (Vol. 17), c Jan., 1901 (Mr. W. F. Campbell) Mr. H. Foord	33
Unamed, c Jan., 1901 (Mr. G. Warde) Mr. A. Wadman	24
Merchant Prince IV. (Vol. 17), c Jan., 1901 (Mr. J. Godman) Mr. Stanford	21
Unamed (Vol. 17), c Feb., 1901 (Mr. P. Saillard) The Marquis Camden	30
Broadgauge X. (Vol. 17), c Feb., 1901 (Mr. L. Huth) Mr. A. Wadman	30
Broadgauge XI. (Vol. 17), c Mar., 1901 (Mr. L. Huth) Mr. Stacey	22
Fitzgerald XIII. (Vol. 17), c April, 1901 (Mr. L. Huth) Mr. Ticehurst	23
Broadgauge XII. (Vol. 17), c April, 1901 (Mr. L. Huth) Mr. Harry Willett	23
Brantridge Prince (Vol. 17), c May, 1901 (Mr. W. F. Campbell) Mr. Hillyer	23
Bewbush Nobleman 1721, c Oct., 1899 (Mr. P. Saillard) Mr. Scrase	20
Heifer, Beauty VIII. 7859, c Jan., 1899 (Mr. F. Allcorn) Mr. Bolton	21

Bull Show and Sale at Castle Cary.

A show sale of about seventy pure bred shorthorn, Devon, and Hereford bulls, the property of various owners in the district, was held at Castle Cary on Tuesday by Messrs. Moody and Son, in the presence of a large company of breeders. A sum of about 40 guineas, and two champion cups, were offered in prizes, the judges being Messrs. Hobbs, Tory, and Taylor, and their awards were as follows:—

Bull, any breed, over three years: 1 and champion for best bull in show, Mr. J. Hilliard; 2, Mr. Ashford Lavington.

Bull, any breed, over two and under three years: 1, Mr. J. Day; 2, Mr. T. H. Vallis; r, Mr. G. G. White.

Shorthorn bull, over 15 months and under 24 months: 1, Mr. N. Benjamin; 2, Mr. W. J. Mullins; 3, Mr. G. G. White.

Shorthorn bull, over nine and under 15 months: 1 and reserve for championship, Mr. O. N. Holt Needham; 2 and Mr. Holt Needham's silver cup, Mr. A. J. Mullins; 3, Mr. G. G. White.

Devon or Hereford bull: 1, Mr. S. C. Hayter; 2, Mr. W. T. Havter.

Bull calf under six months: 1, Mr. W. J. Mullins; 2, Mr. G. G. White; 3, Mr. A. J. Mullins.

There was a good attendance at the sale, and some fair prices were realised. The champion bull was purchased by Mr. Tory for 32 guineas, the next highest price being 30 guineas, which sum was obtained for Mr. Holt Needham's first prize-winner. Mr. Vallis's second prize bull went at 26½ guineas, but Mr. Moody's highly commended animal realised a half a guinea more—viz., 27 guineas, whilst Mr. G. G. White's third prize animal sold for 22 guineas; other prices ranged from 20 guineas downwards, this figure being paid for a bull from the herd of the Right Hon. Lord Wolverton.

Store Stock Sale at Shrewsbury.

Messrs. Alfred Mansell and Co.'s February sale of store stock was held on the 7th inst., when the attendance of buyers far exceeded expectation. The sale, as usual, opened with the sheep, for which there was a fair demand. The feature of the sale was the fine display of Polled Angus cattle, which included eight bullocks, from Viscount de Vesci's herd, and which realised from £19 5s. to £22 each. Other prices were as follows:—

Hereford bullocks, £16 to £10 15s.; Hereford yearlings, bullocks, £8 5s. to £7 5s.; Hereford ditto, heifers, £8 17s. 6d. to £8 7s. 6d.; shorthorn bullocks, £12 15s. to £11 2s. 6d.; shorthorn heifers, £10 12s. 6d. to £9 10s.; shorthorn barrens, £11 2s. 6d. to £9 7s. 6d.; Polled bullocks, £15 17s. 6d. to £12 17s. 6d.; cross-bred bullocks, £12 15s. to £9 10s.; cross-bred heifers, £9 15s. to £7 17s. 6d.; black horned bullocks, £13 5s. to £11 7s. 6d.; Welsh runts, £11 7s. 6d. to £7 17s. 6d.

Show and Sale of Shorthorns at Aberdeen.

The annual spring show and sale of Shorthorn cattle was held at the Agricultural Hall, Aberdeen, on Thursday. There was a large number of local dealers present, while buyers for export were well represented. The quality of the older stock shown was not up to the mark, the animals somewhat off colour and weeder, but in the younger classes some very nice beasts were shown, and the quality was better all round. The following is the list of the awards:—

Bulls calved between 1st December, 1900, and 28th February, 1901—1 Wm. Anderson, Saphock; 2 Francis Simmers, Whiteside; 3 Sir Arthur Grant, Bart., of Monymusk; 4 T. F. Jamieson, Mains of Waterton; 5 James Durno, Jackston; 6 Robert Bruce, Heatherwick; 7 Wm. Connon, Nether Coullie.

Bulls calved on or after 1st March, 1901—1 Francis Simmers; 2 Wm. Adam, Baads; 3 P. Bruce, Myreton; 4 Wm. Anderson; 5 A. Watson, Auchronie; 6 and 7 James Durno; 8 Robert Bruce.

Heifers calved on or after 1st December, 1901—1, 2, and 3 John Robertson, Tocherford.

At the beginning the sale was rather slow, but soon pulled up, the hall filling as the sale proceeded. The total number of animals on offer were 138, as against 233 last year, the average this year being £22 7s. 2d., as compared with £23 14s. 6d. last. This year the bulls averaged £22 7s. 5d., while last year 208 bulls averaged £24 9s. 2d. Following are some of the

The second prize bull Count, from Whiteside, made 34 guineas, to Mr. Campbell, Harthill. The third prize bull in the same class, Quicksilver, from Monymusk, was sold at 38 guineas to Mr. Stewart Garbity, Morayshire. The first-prize bull Sentinel, from Sophock, fetched 47 guineas, the buyer being Mr. Brown, of Longhaven. Mr. Jamieson's fourth prize bull Harlaw, sold at 30 guineas, while the sixth prize bull, Stylish Prince, from Heatherwick, went at 25 guineas to Mr. John Duncan, salesman, Aberdeen. The fifth prize calf, Triumph, from Jackston, was a favourite in the ring, and went at 37 guineas to Mr. Adam, Baads, and the first prize calf in the young class, Chief, from Whiteside, fell at 38 guineas to Mrs. Law, New Keig. Coming Archer, the third prize bull from Myreton, took the fancy of several buyers, and was sold at 37 guineas to Mr. Bruce, Bogmuchals. The 4th prize calf fetched 25 guineas, and the second prize bull Deeside Hero, from Baads, 43 guineas, from Mr. Macpherson, Gibston, Huntley. The fifth prize bull Alpine Monarch, sold at 25 guineas to Mr. Manson, Kilblean.

Particulars of Transactions in Store Stock.

Reported to the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland.

There was but a small supply of store cattle at the fair at Middleton, Co. Cork, on Monday, whilst the supply of sheep was small and demand slow. Prices: Calves, second class, £3 10s.; third class, £2 7s. 6d. to £3. Yearlings, second class, £6 to £7 10s.; third class, £4 10s. to £5 5s. Two-year-olds, first class, £10 to £11; second class, £7 10s. to £9; third class, £6 10s. to £7. Springers, first class, £14 10s.; second class, £12 5s. to £13; third class, £11 2s. 6d. Lambs, first class, £1 10s. to £1 12s.; second class, £1 3s. 6d. to £1 7s. 6d. Over 12 and under 24 months, first class, £1 17s. to £2 3s.; second class, £1 10s. to £1 13s. Young pigs, 8 to 10 weeks old, sold at from 24s. to 27s. each.

Mr. William Chivers, head of the firm of Chivers and Sons, jam manufacturers, of Histon, Cambridge, died on Tuesday morning, aged 50 years.



Show and Sale at Wimborne.

Messrs. T. Ensor and Sons' first sale this year of horses at Wimborne took place on the 7th inst., when the catalogue comprised about 130 horses of all classes, the quality of which was exceptionally good. Some very useful cart horses were brought out, as well as a few choice hunters and harness horses. Trade for the latter class of animals ruled very brisk, and buyers could have been found for a few more good harness horses of the first grade. Cart horses formed the best display seen here since the September sale, but the trade for them ruled slow. The judging was kindly undertaken by Mr. J. S. Passmore (Came) and Mr. Walter White (Milborne Port) for heavy horses; whilst Mr. R. G. Cave (Almer) and Mr. White judged the light horses. In the class for mare or gelding suitable for town work, the first prize of £3 went to a bay gelding, rising 5 years, 16 2, the property of Mr. W. Besant, Bere Regis; sold at 56gs., to go to Chichester. The reserve number, after keen contest between Mr. L. Deadman, of Havant, and Mr. C. J. Waters, West Woodyates, eventually fell to the latter in consideration of age, the former securing the "V.H.C." card with a massive bay gelding, 4 years old, 17.1, this gentleman also taking the premier position in Class II. with a typical lurry horse, whilst Mr. T. Read, Ibsley, was reserve. In the light horses section the prize of £3 for the best saddle or harness horse over 15 hands went to Mr. Clem Tory, Sturminster Marshall, with a nice-quality bay gelding, 5 years, which was sold to go to Southampton, at 50gs. In the next class, for the best saddle or harness horse, not exceeding 15 hands, Mr. H. T. Gay, Scotland Farm, Winterbourne Stoke, was an easy first with a chestnut cob, shown in harness, 6 years old, 15 hands.

On coming to the sale ring the business of the day opened at noon with a few miscellaneous lots at the commencement, which sold remarkably well, scarcely a horse being passed in the first 30 lots. The following were the chief prices:—Heavy horses: Mr. J. Humby, Tarrant Munckton, 43gs.; Mr. T. B. Sprake, Knoll Hill, 35gs.; Mr. W. Besant, 56gs., 44gs., and 38gs.; Mr. Deadman, 58gs. and 35gs.; Mr. W. Munckton, 45gs., 38gs., 36½gs., and 35gs. Two cart fillies from Mr. Chisman, Parley, sold for 63gs Light horses: Two hunters from Mr. Wymer, Chettle House, 89gs.; Mr. G. W. Moody, Stapleton Manor, 45gs.; Mr. C. Tory, 50gs.; Mr. W. Munckton, 40gs.; Mr. H. T. Gray, 36gs.; Mr. Brunt, 35gs.; Mr. B. Barnes, Dorchester, 35gs.

Show and Sale at Carlisle.

The annual Candlemas show and sale of seasoned agricultural, saddle, and harness horses, ponies, and cobs, held at Carlisle by the Hetherington Auction Company, Ltd., took place on the 6th inst., when 140 animals were catalogued, the number being slightly under that of last year's corresponding sale. There was a very large attendance of buyers from all parts, and a good demand for nice, useful farmers' horses was experienced; but secondary qualities were slow to sell on account of the general scarcity of keep and it being soon on in the season.

Appended are details of the prize awards, prices realised, etc.:—

Cart horse or mare, any age: 1, Mr. William Rush, Carlisle, a brown horse, six years old, 62½ guineas, to Mr. Hodgson, Carlatton; 2, Mr. W. Rush, chestnut horse, six years old, withdrawn at 64 guineas; Mr. G. Hodgson, Carlatton, bay horse, five years old, withdrawn at 77 guineas; Mr. Underwood, Luckens, black horse, seven years old, 43 guineas, to Mr. W. Rush. Others entered in the class made from 41 guineas downwards.

Cart horse or mare, under five years old: 1, Mr. J. Underwood, Blackford, bay mare, rising four years old, withdrawn at 54 guineas; 2, Mr. Thomlinson, Jerriestown, bay gelding, rising four years old, 51½ guineas, to Mr. Robson, Fenton; Mr. Little, Bowness Hall, bay mare, rising five years old, withdrawn at 45 guineas. A five-year-old bay, sent by Mr. Thompson, Walby, sold at 56 guineas to Mr. W. Rush, others entered in the class selling up to 51 guineas.

Cart horse or mare, under three years: 1, Messrs. Twentyman, Kirkhampton, brown mare, rising three years, 47½ guineas, to Mr. Bell, Woodfield, Annan; 2, Mr. Little, Bowness Hall, bay gelding, rising three years, withdrawn at 46 guineas; Mr. Whitfield, Wiggonby, 36 guineas.

SHEEP.

The Colonies and Sheep.

In the course of his inaugural address to the students at the Colonial College, Nollesley Bay, Mr. Molden, the new principal, dealt with the subject of live stock as it affected the colonies, as well as farming at home. Sketching out the need there would be for the colonies and other sheep-raising countries to adapt themselves to the changed conditions occasioned by the low price of wool since the modern glut assumed a chronic form, and since cold storing of meat has become such a practical matter, he pointed out that it was highly desirable that those who colonised should understand the scientific laws of breeding, so that in making necessary changes of breed they might avoid the loss which errors would bring about They should also know the characteristic features of the British breeds, so that they would better be able to judge the possibilities of breeds in other countries. It was a great mistake to go abroad without that knowledge, as it was only in England that that and kindred knowledge could be obtained. The large number of students in the college from distant countries showed how desirable those in the colonies and elsewhere felt it was to get the grounding which English farming—the most skilled farming in the world—alone can give. The international character of the college was a valuable feature, for it gave young Englishmen the opportunity of learning much about countries to which they intended to go, and to specially prepare themselves with a knowledge of those breeds which are likely to prove of greatest value.

Experiment in Sheep-Breeding.

A report has been issued of the experiment in sheep-breeding carried out by Professor Winter for the University College of orth Wales at Lledwigan. The experiments, which were commenced in 1899 with the object of ascertaining the most suitable cross for Welsh mountain ewes for the production of fat lambs, were continued at Lledwigan during 1900-01.

In 1899-1900 rams of the Wiltshire, Shropshire, and Leicester breeds were used, and of these the Wiltshire gave the most satisfactory results. The lambs of this cross weighed heavier and fattened earlier than either of the other crosses. The lambs of the Leicester cross were almost as early as those of the Wiltshire, but were deficient in weight. The Shropshire cross weighed heavier, but were slower in maturing than the Leicester cross.

The experiment in 1900-01 was similar to that of the previous season except that a Southdown ram was substituted for the Leicester. Seventy-five small mountain ewes from the same farm in Merionethshire were divided as follows:—Lot I., consisting of 30 ewes, ran with a Wiltshire ram; lot II., consisting of 20 ewes, ran with a Shropshire ram; lot III., consisting of 25 ewes, ran with a Southdown ram. The rams were turned in on October 5th, and were removed on November 30th. From that date until the lambs were sold the various lots were grazed on the same land. The lambs were dropped between March 4th and April 13th. Two ewes served by the Shropshire ram were barren, and there was a dead lamb in each of the other lots. The ewes and lambs were sold as "couples" at the beginning of August to a Manchester butcher. He selected all those that were ready for slaughter on August 5th, the remainder going on September 6th.

It was found that 29 Wiltshire-cross lambs averaged 68lbs. live weight, 18 Shropshire-cross lambs averaged 68lbs. live weight, and 25 Southdown-cross lambs averaged 67lbs. live weight.

The dry season proved unfavourable for the lambs at Lledwigan. They were considerably slower in fattening, with the result that the sales of the different consignments were almost a month later than those of the previous year. They were judged by two experts—a butcher and a dealer—at the beginning of August. As regards ripeness of condition, they decided in favour of the Wiltshire cross, but were of opinion that in this respect they were closely followed by the Southdown cross. The superiority of the Wiltshire cross was less marked than in the previous year. They showed great aptitude for fattening, and possessed the mellow touch and good appearance which are of such great importance in the case of fat lambs, but although several of them were considerably heavier than any of the lambs in the other lots, they were rather uneven, and on the whole there was practically no difference in weight between them and the lambs of the Shropshire cross. The latter undoubtedly improved their position as compared with last season. They were very even in size and character, and with one exception were all selected in the first consignment for slaughter, but from the butcher's point of view they were not equal to the Wiltshire and Southdown crosses. The Southdown cross produced fat lambs of excellent quality, but they were smaller than the other crosses, particularly the earlier lambs. They were, however, nearer to them in weight than their appearance indicated. There can be no doubt that this cross is a good one for small mountain ewes. Apart from the quality of the produce, the fact that the lambs at birth have small heads and light shoulders is a strong recommendation in favour of the cross, as a great deal of the mortality in the case of little sheep is frequently caused by their inability to deliver their lambs.

A further experiment on similar lines is being conducted during the present season.



Royal Dublin Society's Spring Show.

The following is a list of the gentlemen who have consented to officiate as judges at the Royal Dublin Society's Spring Show, to be held at Ball's Bridge, Dublin, on March 15th, 16th, 17th, and 18th:—

Cattle: Shorthorns:—T. H. Hutchinson, the Manor House, Catterick, Yorkshire; J. Deane Willis, Bapton Manor, Codford, St. Mary, Bath. Herefords:—Francis Evans, Bredwardine, Hereford. Aberdeen Angus:—George Bruce, Tuchineal, Cullen, N.B.; George J. Walker, Perlethen, Aberdeen, N.B. Norfolk and Suffolk Red Polled, Ayrshire, and Dairy Cattle, and Extra Stock:—Garrett Taylor, Trowse House, Norwich. Kerry and Dexter:—R. Tait Robertson, Church Farm, Baberaham, Cambs. Channel Island Cattle and Milking Test:—Ernest Mathews, Chequers Mead, Potters Bar.

Pigs:—J. Henebery, Grace Dieu Cottage, Waterford.

Hackney and Harness Horses:—C. Edward E. Cooke, Hinxton Grange, Saffron Walden.

Agricultural Horses and Draught Horses and Vehicles:—John Marr, Cairnbrogie, Old Meldrum (Clydesdales); Garrett Taylor, Trowse House, Norwich (Shires).

Miscellaneous: Butter, Cream, Cheese, and Eggs:—J. Hudson, jun., 50 and 52, Ludgate Hill, London E.C. Home-made Bread:—John Mooney, Eastwell, Palmerston Park, Dublin. Hive and Bee Appliances:—J. M. Gillies, 51, Palmerston Road, Rathmines, Dublin.

Judges for the Oxfordshire Show at Witney.

The following gentlemen will officiate as judges at the Witney Meeting of the Oxfordshire Agricultural Society, to be held on May 13th and 14th:—

CATTLE.—Shorthorn and Family Class: J. P. Terry, Berryfield, Aylesbury. Hereford and Family Class: J. H. Yeomans, Stretton House, Hereford. Jersey: H. C. Webb, Audley End, Saffron Walden. Guernseys and Kerries: G. Titus Barham, Sudbury Park, Wembley.

HORSES.—Agricultural: Thomas B. Freshney, South Somercotes, Linc.; William Horrell, Thorney, Peterborough. Hunters, Polo Ponies, Etc.: W. H. Dunn, Wallingtons, Hungerford; Hon. A. E. Parker, Bangor-on-Dee, Wrexham. Hackneys Etc.: James Hornsby, Laxton Park, Stamford. Remounts: The Right Hon. Viscount Valentia, C.B., M.P., Bletchington Park. Jumping and Driving: The President, W. H. Dunn, James Hornsby, Hon. A. E. Parker.

SHEEP.—Oxford Down: J. P. Case, Binham Abbey, Wighton, Norfolk; W. D. Little, Estate Office, Middleton Park, Bicester. Hampshire: T. A. E. Hayter, Whitchurch, Hants. Southdown: R. Anderson, Cirencester. Shropshire: Charles Coxon, Elford Park, Tamworth. Cotswold and Any Breed: T. R. Hulbert, North Cerney, Cirencester.

PIGS.—Heber Humfrey, Shippon, Abingdon.

BUTTER.—Miss Grace Simmons, Bourton, Wokingham.

DEAD POULTRY AND EGGS.—Will Brown, Theale, Reading.

HONEY.—Rev. F. C. Dillon, Upwood, Abingdon.

SHEEP-SHEARING.—R. Dickens, Newton Purcell, Buckingham.

HORSE-SHOEING.—T. Aubery, 19, Paragon, Bath.

Farmer Charged with Arson.—A well-known Cheshire farmer, named William Griffiths, of Fabley, Knutsford, was on Monday committed to the assizes on a charge of setting fire to his brother's farm buildings. When the fire was discovered Griffiths was seen running away, and he had previously been heard to threaten to burn the place down. Griffiths had had a quarrel with his relatives, and it is alleged that he returned home late and set fire to the pen in which the cattle were lodged. The cattle were saved, but considerable damage was done, the pen being burnt down and the farmhouse damaged.

SOCIETIES.

Southdown Sheep.

A meeting of the council of the Southdown Sheep Society was held at the society's offices, 12, Hanover Square, W., on the 6th inst., Mr. Charles R. W. Adeane (president) in the chair.

The minutes of the last meeting having been read and signed as correct, the General Purposes Committee presented a report of their proceedings on October 31st, which was received and adopted.

On the proposal of Mr. Mathews, the hon. treasurer, it was resolved to invest £100 of the society's funds in 2¾ per cent. Consols, and it was further resolved that the earlier volumes of the Flock Book should be sold at the reduced rate of 2s. 6d. per copy.

A letter having been received from the Royal Counties Agricultural Society concerning the conditions attached to this society's offer of a champion gold medal at their forthcoming show, the council decided to modify the conditions so that the exhibitor of any prize-winning pen of ram lambs should compete for the champion prize with any one of his lambs in the pen.

On the motion of Mr. Drewitt, seconded by Mr. Padwick, it was resolved to make a contribution towards the cost of altering the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the National Sheep Breeders' Association so as to enable foreign and colonial societies to become affiliated.

On the question as to whether the council had any business to bring before the conference of sheep breeders to be held at Carlisle, it was resolved, on the motion of Mr. Cooper, seconded by Mr. Clayton, to send the following resolution for inclusion in the agenda, viz., "That as the prevalence of sheep scab in this country is a great hindrance to foreign trade, this council urgently recommends that compulsory dipping be insisted on by the Board of Agriculture."

Five new members were then elected.

On the suggestion of Mr. Henry Webb it was resolved to insert photographs of the presidents of the society in the forthcoming volume of the Flock Book, and on the proposition of Mr. Adeane the council unanimously elected the secretary of the American Southdown Breeders' Association an honorary member of the society.

The council then adjourned until May.

Champion Prizes.

The council offered champion prizes for Southdowns in 1901 as follows:—(a) Champion prize of ten guineas at the Royal Agricultural Society's show at Cardiff, for the best two-shear or shearling ram. (b) Champion prize of ten guineas at the Sussex County show, for the best ram or ram lamb. (c) Champion gold medal, value ten guineas, at the Bath and West show at Croydon, for the best ram or ram lamb. They have decided to continue in 1902 their offer of champion prizes (a) and (b), whilst as regards (c) the champion gold medal will be offered at the Royal Counties' show, instead of the Bath and West show.

The council offered special prizes for Southdowns during 1901 as follows:—"At shows where open classes are provided for Southdowns, two silver medals will be offered, one for the best male Southdown and the other for the best pen of female Southdowns. (a) The sheep competing must be entered or eligible for entry in the Flock Book. (b) Where classes for pens of ram lambs are provided, the exhibitors of such pens are to have the privilege of competing for the medal with any one of their exhibits. (c) At least one of the judges of Southdowns must be selected from the list issued by the Southdown Sheep Society."

The medals were accepted by the following nine shows—viz., Bath and West (for best pen of females only), East Kent, Essex, Gloucestershire, Norfolk, Oxfordshire, Royal Counties, Sussex (for best male only), and Tunbridge Wells, making sixteen medals in all. Similar arrangements have been made for the coming show season, except that the Bath and West Society will take both silver medals, and the Royal Counties' Society will take a gold medal instead of a silver medal for the best male Southdown.



THE POLO PONY, "THE BEY," shown above, is an Arab of the Tahowi Breed, and the property of Mr. G. Norris Midwood, The Hut, Tabley, Knutsford. Our photograph was taken during the Show of the Royal Society at Cardiff, where "The Bey" won first prize in the class for ponies (Eastern sire) not exceeding 14 hands 2 in. At the Polo Pony Society's Show at Loudon last spring "The Bey" was awarded the second prize in the class for Eastern sires not exceeding 14 hands 2 in.

Annual General Meeting.

The annual general meeting of members was held immediately after the council meeting.

The minutes of the last general meeting having been read and confirmed, the report of the council was submitted to the meeting, and unanimously adopted, on the motion of Mr. Chapman, seconded by Lord Northbourne.

In the course of their report the council stated that the total number of members on the register amounts to 143, of whom four are honorary members and 139 annual members.

The council stated that Sir Nigel Kingscote had accepted their unanimous invitation to hold the position of President-elect, that is, to be president for 1902-3.

Mr. Ernest Mathews (honorary treasurer) presented the statement of the society's accounts for the year 1901, duly certified as corect by the society's auditors, Messrs. Ball, Baker, Deed, Cornish, and Co., and the accounts as presented were adopted.

The income exceeded the expenditure by the sum of £29 17s. 11d., the cash in hand at the end of the year amounted to £159 12s. 2d., whilst the balance in favour of the society stood at £172 12s. 8d.

On the motion of Mr. Cooper, seconded by Mr. Chapman, the vice-presidents were unanimously re-elected.

On the motion of Mr. Mathews, seconded by Mr. Chapman, Sir William Throckmorton was unanimously elected a vice-president of the society.

On the motion of Mr. Chapman, seconded by Mr. Mathews, the twelve retiring members of council were unanimously re-elected. The vacancy on the council caused by the death of Mr. George Hampton was filled by the election, on the nomination of Mr. Allan Cooper, seconded by Mr. Chapman, of Mr. H. M. Simmons, of Eastbourne.

The question having been raised as to the date of issue of the annual volume of the Flock Book, it was felt desirable that the book should be issued to members before the Royal Agricultural Society's show, and the secretary was instructed to ask members to send in their flock returns and sheep entries by the 31st March next, instead of the 30th April, as heretofore. Notice was given of a motion to amend the bye-laws in this respect, making the last date of entry the 31st March, and imposing penalties for entries received after that date.

On the motion of Mr. Henry Webb, seconded by Mr. Cooper, a very cordial vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Adeane for the excellent manner in which he had conducted the business of the society during his year of office. The proceedings then terminated.

Suffolk Sheep.

The Suffolk Sheep Society's annual meeting was held at Bury St. Edmunds on the 7th inst., the Marquis of Bristol presiding. The council's sixteenth annual report was presented, in which it was stated that during the year 19 new members were elected, and the total number of members is now—Life members 70, annual subscribers 291, honorary members 5—total 366. The statement of accounts showed a balance in hand amounting to £912 7s., viz., current accounts £212 7s., deposit account £700, and a surplus of £1,074 9s. after payment of all liabilities. A good demand for Suffolk rams for crossing purposes was experienced during the year, more especially from the Midland and Southern counties and from Wales, and the prohibition of importation of sheep into Ireland being withdrawn in the autumn enabled a resumption of sales to that country. The export trade was fully equal to that of previous years, the principal shipments being to Canada, Chili, and France.

The Marquis of Bristol moved the adoption of the report and balance-sheet, and said that it was satisfactory to find that though they had not been illiberal in expenditure of their money in order to promote the objects of the society, the providing of awards and premiums, they yet had a substantial balance in hand. He expressed his entire concurrence with the proposal of the council that the successes of the Sufflok sheep should be advertised with a view to their introduction to far-off climes. It would not do for that society, formed as it was to give Suffolk sheep a name and a place amongst the distinctive breeds of sheep in the country, to hide its light, but it must be made known far and wide how the breed was advancing in popularity, not only in Great Britain, but various other parts of the world.

Mr. Hy. Lingwood seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Four new members were then elected, the next business being the election of president.

The Marquis of Bristol said he felt that there was a time for all things, and that the time had arrived when a younger man should be placed at the head of the society. He intimated as much at the last annual meeting, but yielded to the request that he would retain office for another year. The reasons, he urged, last year had strengthened, and he was now glad of being in the position of proposing as president for the ensuing year a gentleman who had taken great interest in Suffolk sheep, and would do all in his power to promote the influence and usefulness of the society. He therefore proposed that his Excellency Earl Cadogan, K.G., Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland, should be president.

Mr. S. R. Sherwood seconded the motion, at the same time expressing regret that the Marquis of Bristol was resigning the presidency, but the society was exceedingly fortunate in having secured the consent of Earl Cadogan to accept the position.

Mr. Hy. Lingwood proposed:—"That the members of the Suffolk Sheep Society much regret the retirement of the most Hon. the Marquis of Bristol from the office of president, and hereby place on record their sincere appreciation of the devoted and willing services rendered by his lordship as president during the past sixteen years." Having been connected with the council from the time this society was formed, he (Mr. Lingwood) could testify to the value of the services which had been rendered by the Marquis of Bristol, whose consent to accept the presidency was of itself an assurance of ultimate success. His lordship had been no mere figure-head, but had been a constant attendant at the various meetings, and always exhibited towards the members that kindly consideration for the feelings of others which was so characteristic of the family of which the noble lord was the head. It was earnestly to be hoped that his lordship might be spared many years to give not only that society, but the various benevolent and other organisations with which he was connected, the benefit of his efforts and varied experience.

Other members spoke in favour of the resolution, which was carried with acclamation. The secretary (Mr. Prentice) remarked that he had had the curiosity to look through the minutes to find out what had been the attendances of the presi-

dent. Up to that date there had been 23 general meetings and 17 annual meetings. Out of the 23 meetings his lordship had been in the chair 22 times, and in addition had presided over 38 council meetings, making a total of 60 meetings under the presidency of the noble Marquis.

His Lordship (who was loudly applauded), in acknowledging the resolution, said he was not conscious of having done anything more than taking a great deal of interest in a particular breed of sheep, and doing his best to help those who also had the same firm belief in the excellent qualities of the same class of animal. His lordship, referring to the proceedings connected with the founding of the society, referred to the services of Mr. Ernest Prentice and others who took part in the proceedings. It had been a great pleasure to him (the Marquis of Bristol) to preside over a body of gentlemen who had given such personal attention to the affairs of the society as the council had done. The society was largely indebted to these gentlemen and to the energy which had been displayed by the secretary for the satisfactory progress which had been made. As the president for so many years, he felt as the figure-head of a good ship, the "Suffolk Sheep Society," and that he might participate somewhat in the success of its voyage, and, he might say, fly on the wheel of its prosperity.

On the motion of Mr. J. Sturley Nunn, seconded by Mr. Slater, Colonel E. W. Baird (Exning) was unanimously elected vice-president.

The Hon. M. G. Tollemache was re-elected hon. treasurer, and Mr. George Blencowe and Mr. R. B. Bond hon. auditors, with thanks for their services.

The Marquis of Bristol, who continued to preside over the meeting, said he had much pleasure in proposing the re-election of Mr. Ernest Prentice as secretary, remarking that the energy and ability which Mr. Prentice had brought to bear in the past in that capacity was well known to them all, and it was to be hoped that he would remain secretary for a long time.

Mr. S. R. Sherwood seconded the motion, observing that Mr. Prentice had been a great friend to the society.

The motion was carried *nem. con.*, and Mr. Prentice briefly thanked the members.

On the proposition of Mr. H. Lingwood, seconded by Mr. Thomas Goodchild, the Marquis of Bristol was unanimously elected as honorary member of the council.

The challenge cups and medals which had been won in the flock competitions were presented by the Marquis of Bristol, the winners being as follow:—Bristol Champion Challenge Cup and gold medal, Mr. Thomas Keeble; reserve and silver cup, Mr. S. R. Sherwood. District A Challenge Cup, Mr. S. R. Sherwood; reserve and bronze medal, Mr. Herbert E. Smith. District B Challenge Cup, Mr. Henry Lingwood; reserve and bronze medal, Mr. Percy Eagle. District C Challenge Cup and silver medal, Colonel E. W. Baird; reserve and bronze medal, Mr. Robert Barclay. District D Challenge Cup and silver medal, Mr. Thomas Keeble; reserve and bronze medal, Messrs. Stanford Brothers. Pretyman Challenge Cup and silver medal (for ewe lambs), Mr. Thomas Keeble; reserve and bronze medal, Mr. Herbert E. Smith.

In District A Mr. Sherwood won the cup outright, having won it three times in four years. In District B Mr. Lingwood had also won the cup three times, and he becomes entitled to hold it permanently, while Mr. Keeble took the Challenge Cup for ewe lambs. These gentlemen were severally congratulated on their achievements by his lordship.

British Dairy Farmers.

A meeting of the council of the British Dairy Farmers' Association was held at 12, Hanover Square, London, on the 5th inst., the Right Hon. the Earl of Warwick (president) in the chair, when six new members and one affiliated society were elected.

On behalf of the Finance and General Purposes Committee, Mr. Page reported that Mr. George Barham had been elected chairman for the year. The balance at bank on January 31st was £690, against which the committee recommended sundry payments. The committee also submitted an estimate of income and expenditure for the current year. With regard to imports of milk and cream into the United Kingdom, the committee laid on the table a return showing that in the four weeks ending December 28th we imported 2,240 cwts. of fresh milk, 342 cwts. of preserved milk, and 800 cwts. of cream, making a total of 3,391, compared with 3,045 cwts. in the corresponding period of 1900. Of condensed milk the imports totalled 62,805, against 78,531 cwts. In the five weeks ended February 1st the imports of fresh milk came to 2,339 cwts. (last year 2,195), of preserved milk 355 cwts. (last year 1,449), of cream 645 cwts. (last year 694), and of condensed milk 84,911 cwts. (last year 87,863).

As chairman of the Education and Journal Committee, Professor Long reported that the society's annual Journal had been published and distributed. They recommended that examinations for the association's diplomas and certificates be held this year on May 21st, 22nd, and 23rd, and on September 10th, 11th, and 12th. The Show Committee reported that Professor Long had been elected chairman for the year, and they made recommendations upon a number of suggestions with reference to the next dairy show to be held on October 7th and three following days.

A brief report was also received from the Conference Committee.

The President announced, with great regret, the death of Mr. Jubal Webb, for many years a member of the council, and a vote of condolence with Mrs. Webb and other members of the family was passed on the motion of Lord Warwick, seconded by Mr. Pocock.

The council then proceeded to consider the recent report of the Local Government Board Departmental Committee on Preservatives and Colouring Matters in Foods.

Mr. Chris. Middleton considered that if preservatives were prohibited it would be impossible for some farmers to send milk long distances in summer. Would not this give a greater opening for foreign milk? He thought a certain quantity of preservatives should be permitted.

Mr. Pocock also saw no objection to a limited amount of preservatives in milk, and this limit might readily be fixed by the authorities. If the Departmental Committee's recommendations were adopted he felt sure the farmers would suffer very considerably.

Colonel Curtis Hayward did not think preservatives ought to be allowed in milk. The risk of "double doses" was considerable.

Mr. F. J. Lloyd moved—"That this council is of opinion that the prohibition of the use of preservatives in milk would prove a serious drawback to dairy farmers, and that a minimum quantity of boric acid should be allowed."

Mr. Ashcroft seconded this motion.

Captain Bellasis thought it quite wrong to put any preservatives in milk. Professor Long also opposed the motion, which on being put to the vote was carried by 9 votes to 6.

It was further resolved that the subject should be brought up for discussion at the general meeting.

Professor Long then moved—"That this council is of opinion that the sale of what is described as milk-blended butter, containing from 24 to 26 per cent. of water, is morally illegitimate; that the name is misleading to the public at large, and that as it is seriously affecting the home industry and the butter trade of the country, an alteration in the law is urgently necessary."

This was seconded by Mr. Chris. Middleton, and after discussion unanimously adopted, and ordered to be sent to the President of the Board of Agriculture.

The general meeting of members was fixed to be held at 2.30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 5th, the council to meet at noon the same day.

Yorkshire Union.

The annual meeting of the Yorkshire Union of Agricultural Clubs and Chambers of Commerce was held at York on the 6th inst.; Mr. J. Newton in the chair. The secretary submitted the report, which showed a balance in hand of £14 9s. 8d. and £15 carried to reserve fund, as against £15 15s. 10d. brought forward from last year.

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report and balance-sheet, said that the condition of the Union as regards membership and finance was very satisfactory.

Mr. John White, an ex-president, seconded the motion, which was carried.

Mr. John Allan, the vice-president, was elected president for the ensuing year, and Colonel Legard vice-president. Lord Herries, Mr. J. White, and Mr. J. Newton were re-appointed deputies to the Central Chamber, and the General Purposes Committee was asked to consider the advisability of sending the president for the time being as a fourth delegate. The standing committees were also constituted for the ensuing year. The report was adopted.

Shire Horse.

The Council of the Shire Horse Society met on the 5th inst., at the society's house, 12, Hanover Square, London, W., Mr. V. C. W. Cavendish, M.P. (president), in the chair, when 65 new members were elected.

The secretary reported that he had received 56 further applications from candidates for election, which he would submit to the Council at their meeting to be held during the show. These candidates would receive a ticket for the show as though already elected.

Mr. R. W. Hudson laid before the Council the balance-sheet for 1901, duly certified as correct by the society's auditor, a copy of which the Council ordered should be sent out to each member of the society with the report to the general meeting. The balance on the current account at the bankers' was £3,282 7s 7d.; accounts for payment, £1,083 14s. 8d.; arrears of subscription, £44 2s.

This report was adopted.

Lord Llangattock stated that the editing committee had that morning considered applications for the following prefixes, which they had granted:—

Prefix.	Applicant.
Billingford	Robert Hudson
Firsby	J. H. Smith.
Holbrook	Samuel Sheldon.
Mazemoor (in lieu of Town)	C. M. Moody.
Rigbolt	W. Brown.

The secretary was instructed, in response to an application from Mr. John Dyke, to send a selection of photographs of typical Shire horses to the Mayor of Ottawa and to the Deputy Commissioner of Agriculture, North-West Territories, Canada. This report was adopted.

Horse Show Committee.

The secretary reported that the number of entries received for the forthcoming show was 860, as compared with 667 in 1901, the relative entries being as follow:—1901: Stallions 335, mares 301, geldings 31; total 667. 1902: Stallions 476, mares 343, geldings 41; total 860.

Of these 860 entries there were 508 animals entered for the sale by auction. To accommodate this very large number it had been necessary to make arrangements twih the Royal Agricultural Hall Company to remodel the plan of boxes in the galleries, whereby 160 additional stalls would be provided in same, and in the annexes attached to the galleries, and these, with some minor additions in the other parts of the hall, would enable the Council to accommodate 806 horses.

The horse show committee would, under the circumstances, be compelled to stable all the yearling stallions in stalls, and also all the mares and yearling fillies. Exhibitors would, therefore, recognise the desirability of accustoming their young animals to be tied up and handled.

In view of the large entry for the auction sale, the committee recommended that the horses be offered for sale as follows:—1. Thursday, February 27th, 9 a.m. to 1.30 p.m., mares and fillies. 2. Friday, February 28th, 9 a.m., stallions and geldings.

The parade on the Thursday afternoon to commence at 2.30, and to be restricted to prize-winners and the horses awarded commendations. The report having been adopted, the secretary was instructed to draw the attention of exhibitors to the necessity of giving early notice of the withdrawal of any of the animals which they had entered for the show, so that the horse show committee might be enabled to make the best possible arrangements for the reception of those that would actually be exhibited.

The Council then considered and approved the report to the annual general meeting to be held at the Royal Agricultural Hall, on Thursday, February 27th, and appointed four scrutineers to inspect the voting papers to be sent in by the members for the election of 10 members to fill the vacancies occasioned by the annual retirement of that number from the Council. Further, the names of 20 members were selected for the voting papers.

The Council then adjourned till their meeting at the show.

SOCIETY NOTES.

The balance-sheet presented at the thirty-fifth annual meeting of the Staffordshire Chamber of Agriculture showed that the Chamber was £32 better off than in 1900, and £40 more than in the previous year. The question as to whether the Chamber should amalgamate with the Staffordshire Farmers' Association was considered. Mr. Carrington Smith, for many years chairman of the Chamber, sent a letter on the subject, in which he said: "After the Staffordshire Farmers' Association had been formed, with our county town as its centre, I earnestly tried to bring about its amalgamation with the Chamber, whose centre had been at Stafford for more than thirty years. It was then, and is now, my firm conviction that the eixtence side by side of the two bodies, one called a Chamber of Agriculture and the other a Farmers' Association, is a sign of division, and consequently a source of weakness." Some members spoke against the amalgamation, and no decision was arrived at, the subject being allowed to drop. Subsequently some discussion took place on the local County Council's proposal for the abolition of exemptions for sheep dogs, and the following resolution was carried:—"That, in the opinion of this Chamber, it is very undesirable that the exemption for sheep dogs should be taken away from agriculturists, but that greater care should be exercised in the issue of the exemptions." It was agreed that a great reformation was wanted in regard to so-called shepherd dogs, one member remarking that about three parts of them were no more shepherd dogs than the veriest curs they saw in the streets. They did not want the exemption taken away, but at the same time they would be glad if the authorities would look into this matter closer than they did, and see that the so-called shepherd dogs were shepherd

dogs, and qualified for exemption, and also that they were under proper control.

A profit of £262 2s. 2d. was the result of last year's operations of the Northamptonshire Agricultural Society, and in consequence they were able to wind up the year with the satisfactory balance at the bank of £1,000. During the year 53 new subscribers and two life members joined the society, and 43 ceased by death or otherwise to be members. A cordial invitation had been received from Daventry and district for the show to be held at Daventry this year, accompanied by a promise of a substantial contribution towards the funds, and on the recommendation of the stewards and committee, the society decided to accept the invitation.

A very different result was obtained by a society in the neighbouring county of Bucks—viz., the Royal and Central Bucks Agricultural Association, who lost £55 7s. 1d. during the year, which, the Finance Committee stated, is to be accounted for by the small attendance at the show, which consequently caused a great reduction in the receipts for the stand of at least £25. The receipts of the association from all sources were £1,043 11s. 11d., but including estimated amount to be realised from subscriptions in arrears, the total was £1,067 0s. 11d. The payments from the funds of the association were £1,118 16s., and there were liabilities amounting to £3 12s., making a total of £1,122·8s., there thus being a loss on the year's working of £55 7s. 1d. The second Thursday in September was chosen for the date of the next show, to be held at Aylesbury, whilst the Hon. Walter Rothschild was elected president.

Two important subjects were considered at the annual meeting of the Cleveland Bay Horse Society—viz., (1) a proposed class for Cleveland bays at the Royal Dublin Society's Horse Show, and (2) the provision of selling classes at local shows, with a view to the promotion of interest in the breed. After some discussion it was agreed to leave the second question alone for the present, and as regards the first, the secretary was instructed to write to the Dublin secretary asking if they would provide a class for Cleveland bay stallions, to be shown at their August show, the age to be two-year-old and upwards. A favourable report was presented and adopted, the membership being 80, and the bank balance £84 15s. 11d., while the society's assets were £98 14s. 5d. more than th eliabilities.

In the course of the annual report presented to the members of the Lancaster Agricultural Society it was stated that last year's show resulted in a profit of £11 0s. 3d., which sum will assist in a small way to wipe out the unfortunate loss of £65 5s. 2d. sustained on the 1900 show. The subscriptions amounted to £263 18s. 6d., a falling off of close on £20, but there had been a saving of £15 6s. in the prizes offered for stock crops, etc. The accounts showed that the credit balance in the bank was £142 12s. 2d. This year's show was fixed for August 21st.

At the annual meeting of the Tring Agricultural Society the report presented by the secretary, Mr. F. J. Brown, showed that the Society had had a very prosperous year. Mr. Brown stated that the first show in the new century brought a return of prosperity to the Society, and was a great contrast to the preceding show, which will be remembered as the wet show day. The Society enjoyed a record "gate," both as regards numbers passing the turnstiles and the number of carriages paying for admission. The number of members now on the list is 453, compared with 490 in 1900, 512 in 1899, 454 in 1898, and 390 in 1897. There are not so many arrears of subscriptions owing this year, although there was £90 at the end of 1901; but nearly £20 had been since received, which leaves about £70 owing at the present moment. This, Mr. Brown estimated, would produce not more than £20, which brought the balance up to £617 9s. 5d., against £336 15s. 5d. in 1900—a difference of £280. The turnstiles, award boards, etc., in stock are worth nearly £40. The report was adopted, and Lord Rothschild was unanimously re-elected president.

The council of the Fareham and Hants Farmers' Club, in their tenth annual report, state that the Club shows continued and increasing prosperity. The members now total 272, 27 new members having been elected during the year. The horse show at Petersfield was again most successful in every respect, the net financial result—a profit of £112 4s. 11d.—being rather better than at Fareham in 1900. The council congratulated the club on the continued growth of its financial strength. They had hoped to report that all liabilities had been discharged, but while a number of old outstanding accounts, amounting to upwards of £100, had been paid during the year, there still remained the £50 borrowed from members in March, 1900, and two old accounts, particulars of which had only just been received. Mr. J. H. Hulbert, of Stake Hill Lodge, near Cosham, a generous supporter of the Club, was elected president, and Mr. Whaeley Tooker (president in 1901) vice-president. Sir Frederick FitzWygram has consented to this year's show being held in Leight Park, Havant, and August 28th has been chosen as the date.

The thirty-fourth annual report presented at the annual meeting of the Northamptonshire Chamber of Agriculture showed that the total number of members was 210, of which nine were elected during the past year. The balance sheet was a satisfactory one, there being an increase in the funds in hand from £21 5s. 1d. to £27 0s. 3d. A paper on "The Depopulation of the Rural Districts" was read by Mr. E. Scriven, who, in concluding, moved:—"That, in the opinion of this meeting, more direct encouragement must be given to home producers by discriminating revenue duties on foreign imports equal to the taxation on home-grown food and other productions, in order to develop the resources of the British Empire and provide more work on the land of the country to prevent the further depopulation of rural districts." Considerable discussion followed, but no decision was arrived at, it being agreed to postpone the matter to a future meeting.

Rural depopulation was also discussed at the annual meeting of the Berks and Oxon Chamber, but here a resolution to the following effect was adopted:—"That, in the opinion of this Chamber, one of the means of keeping the labourers on the land is the provision of good cottages placed in gardens not less than a quarter of an acre, and that this Chamber recommends the Government be asked to lend money for this purpose, where necessary, at a low rate of interest; and, further, that a tax on foreign flour would assist in arresting the depopulation of the rural districts." As to the affairs of the Chamber, it may be stated, in the words of the report, that the committee regretted to report a decrease in the number of members, which had now fallen to 72. They, however, much appreciated the efforts the chairman was making to increase the membership by sending a strong appeal to the leading agriculturists in the district to join the Chamber, and pointing out the advantages it might be to them, which they hoped would have the desired effect. The committee were pleased to report that the Chamber had no liabilities, but that there was a small balance of £1 17s. in the hands of the treasurer.

The first year's working of the Mansfield and District Agricultural Society, which was founded in October, 1900, resulted in a loss of over £50. According to the treasurer's report, the total receipts amounted to £444 6s. 10d., which included gate receipts, £61 8s.; grand stand, £9 17s. 6d.; entry fees, £47 17s.; and various tenders for tents, etc., amounting to £38. The expenditure amounted to £515 0s. 3d., and the liabilities of the Society to the bank were £70 11s. 5d. Their assets were: Stand, £5; ropes, etc., £4 17s.; gates, stakes, etc., £3; leaving a total deficit of £57 14s. 5d. In the course of the report mention was made of the Society's first show, which was held on July 24th. The sum of £250 was offered in prizes and drew the satisfactory entry of 327, whilst the high quality of the stock was commented upon by the judges, so that the show was a most successful first venture. It was decided to hold this year's exhibition on Wednesday, July 2nd. The president for the year is Sir Richard Fitzherbert.

The secretary of the Chester Farmers' Club, in presenting the balance-sheet at the annual meeting, said that last year's account, as a whole, showed a loss of £10, and this year's showed a profit of £10. On the foal show account they made a profit of £10 15s., and they had reduced the debit balance on the horse account from £174 13s. 8d. to £155 18s. 6d. That showed a profit on the year of £20, which, with the foal show profit, made a profit roughly of £30. They had to deduct a loss of £20 on the club general account, so that deducting that £20 from the £30 left them a balance in hand of £70 instead of £60 which they had at the end of last year. The profit on the year would have been larger only they had given away £25 out of the funds, which did not refer at all to this year's account. They allowed that out of the horse fund, because their horse, two years ago, met with an accident. Ten new members had been added during the year, and two had been removed by death. The foal show was amalgamated with the Cheshire Agricultural Show, and was in every way a great success.

Messrs. Robert Boby, Limited, of the St. Andrew's Iron Works, Bury St. Edmunds, have issued a new catalogue of their patent grain, malt, and seed cleaning machinery, kiln burners, malt rolls, etc. It is very nicely got up and illustrated, and should prove serviceable to users of the machines described in it. We may mention that Messrs. Boby's patent dressing machine was the one used by the winner of the champion prize for barley at the last Brewers' Exhibition.

IN PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

The Remount Question.

On Thursday Lord Tweedmouth called attention to the Hungarian horse question, stating that out of £111,000 paid by the Yeomanry Committee for remounts, £45,000 was gained by various persons as profit. Replying, Lord Raglan said that a thorough and searching inquiry could not be made till the war was at an end. The Earl of Lonsdale narrated his own experience in buying remounts, and said it was astonishing that the proper authorities did not know, after years of experience, what he had been able to find out in about forty-eight hours.

The Earl of Rosebery, who supported Lord Tweedmouth, had in his hand, on rising, an affidavit by the head waiter at the hotel where the arrangement for the purchase of the Hungarian horses was made. This man swore that the members of the Commission contented themselves for the most part with eating, drinking, and driving out. A story was told to this effect. While travelling in Hungary a gentleman said to a native, "I have not seen a bad horse since I have been in this country." "No," was the reply, "they have all been sold to the British Government."

The debate was wound up by the Marquis of Lansdowne, who said it must not be forgotten that the Yeomanry Committee had done a great service to the country, procuring 11,000 men and horses. The real question seemed to him to be whether the horses were good or bad, and on that point the evidence against the animals was more open to suspicion than the evidence in their favour. They had heard the affidavit of the waiter. Never had a more extraordinary piece of evidence been given to Parliament. How it was procured or who paid for it they did not know. They might next have a coutner-affidavit from the boots and a rebutter from the chambermaid. The Government, he assured the House, desired that the matter should be thoroughly cleared up. If there were culprits, let them be punished, by all means, but that was a small affair. The real consideration was that they should place the remount department on a footing that would enable it to cope with any emergency in the future, and that was, he admitted, one of the lessons of the war.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Army Remounts.

The subject of remounts for the army in South Africa was debated at great length on the 3rd the matter being brought up on the report of the vote of £5,000,000 for additional expenditure in connection with the war.

Mr. Brodrick said that on Friday last he undertook to make certain investigations with regard to the purchase of remounts, and he thought it would be convenient that he should state the decision at which the War Office had arrived. When at the beginning of December, 1899, there was great pressure in the provision of horses for South Africa, the Government entrusted the purchase to the Yeomanry Committee, which consisted of gentlemen of the greatest experience in all that related to horses. Under the circumstances he felt it rather hard that the member for the Isle of Thanet, who knew well the capacity of those gentlemen for the work with which they were entrusted, should again and again have insisted that there had been an attempt to throw dust into the eyes of the people, and to shelter the Secretary of State from responsibility that rested upon him alone. (Hear, hear.) It would not be denied that there were on the Committee men of first-class knowledge with regard to horses.

Mr. James Lowther: I never challenged that.

Mr. Brodrick admitted that in some respects the work might have been better done, but if a particular contract did not reflect credit on their business capacity that could not be made the ground of a charge against officials of the War Office, who had no part or parcel in the contract. The Yeomanry Committee, after they had made their contract with Mr. Levison, sent out an officer to inspect the horses supplied, and an excellent selection was made for the purpose. The difficulty arose when the contract was nearly coming to an end, and Captain Webb had sailed for South Africa. There were only one or two hundred horses remaining to be examined. Colonel McLean selected Captain Hartigan to inspect them. No one would suppose that it was wise to take over the services of a man who had been serving the contractor. It was said that Captain Hartigan had since been employed as civil veterinary surgeon at Aldershot, and blame had been cast upon General Truman, the Inspector-General, on that account, but the appointment was in fact made by the principal veterinary surgeon. That officer had been called upon for an explanation, and had stated that Captain Hartigan was under circumstances of great pressure appointed without reference to General Truman. He had been

strongly urged to remove Captain Hartigan, but he asked the House to leave the matter in his hands for two or three days for further investigation, and until he had heard what Captain Hartigan had to say in regard to the full disclosure, he professed to have made of his position before Colonel McLean employed him. No imputation whatever rested upon the honour or honesty of General Truman, and he had received from that officer a letter requesting the Commander-in-Chief to hold an inquiry into the conduct of his department during the whole of the war. He thought it extremely desirable that such an inquiry should be held promptly, and an authoritative verdict pronounced on the subject. (Hear, hear.)

An Hon. Member: What sort of inquiry?

Mr. Brodrick: A military court of inquiry. The member for Westminster asked that no further contracts should be made with Housa.

Mr. Burdett-Coutts: I only asked for information as to whether any contract with Housa was now running?

Mr. Brodrick: As I understood my hon. friend's remarks with regard to Housa, they were rather taken by the House as indicating that it was desirable that there should not be further contracts in that quarter. I am open to argument on the subject, but the position is simply as follows:—Mr. Housa received the contracts because he had the largest capacity in Hungary for supplying horses. He was a man of substance and of capital, and had the best buyers in all the best districts. Undoubtedly he made a large profit, but not an excessive one. The excessive profit was made by the other gentlemen, who came in before the contract reached Housa. They could only judge by their own estimate, but in other cases Housa would have to pay £10 or £12 each for the horses, and before they were got on board they would cost another £5. ("No, no!") It could not be said that £22 was an undue profit. ("Oh, oh," and laughter.) Every horse which died on a journey of several hundred miles, or during a detention of three or four weeks, had to be paid for by Housa. Every horse which was not accepted was left on his hands, and if the ship was detained in harbour the expense of delay would fall on him. As a matter of fact, the Austrian Government paid a larger price. The question was whether we secured the animals we required. There was the universal consensus of the officers who examined them, and there was the evidence in South Africa that the Hungarian horses had done well. Housa might have made too large profits at first. He had ordered a most careful investigation in South Africa as to his last contracts, which were in heavy work, and on that would depend whether he was to continue to get contracts. To sum up, he regretted the error of judgment made by Colonels McLean and St. Quintin, but had no power to do more than express his regret. General Truman would stand or fall by the inquiry which was to be made, and Captain Hartigan would be afforded the opportunity of substantiating the evidence he had given, but unless he very distinctly cleared himself of any imputations whatever he would not be allowed to continue his temporary employment at Aldershot. Comments had been passed on the Committee of Inquiry, who, in his opinion, had discharged an unpleasant task well. So long as he represented the War Office he would endeavour that justice should be done, and he did not believe the War Office would suffer, and he was certain the country would be content if where justice was required justice was done.

Sir H. Campbell-Bannerman said they acknowledged the spirit in which the right hon. gentleman had now looked into the matter personally, and the decision to which for the moment he had come in regard to the two principal persons concerned. He did not know whether the right hon. gentleman proposed to postpone the report stage of the vote in order to enable the House to pronounce an opinion upon the conclusions to which he ultimately came, but that would seem the regular course to take. There had been an uneasy feeling in the public mind about the manner in which horses had been purchased in other places than Austria-Hungary, and he would ask the right hon. gentleman whether the Government would not promote an inquiry into the general question of the purchase of horses. (Opposition cheers.) If such an inquiry was to take place, he trusted it would be by a committee somewhat more competent to go fully and dispassionately into the question than the committee which had already dealt with it, and which he did not consider a very strong one for the purpose in view. It was really a little family party—(laughter)—and he hoped that when the next inquiry was made the members of the committee would be entirely independent of the Government, and perhaps more qualified by business experience to conduct the inquiry. (Opposition cheers.)

Colonel Kenyon-Slaney said the right hon. gentleman had accused him of not being a very strong member of the committee because he did not look with sufficient rigour on the iniquities of the occupants of the front bench. He repudiated the suggestion that the committee had been actuated by party motives, and he maintained that in reporting as they did they were simply carrying out the first duty submitted to them. Recalling the debate of Friday, he would like to know if the right hon. gentleman (Mr. J. Lowther) actually used the words "whitewashing committee" in reference to the committee of which he was a member.

Mr. J. Lowther: I applied the term to the committee, meaning that they approached the subject with a view to whitewashing everybody concerned.

Colonel Kenyon-Slaney: Then allow me to tell him plainly that I repudiate that absolutely, and it does no credit to his courtesy or to his perception of right and wrong. (Cheers.) The hon. member for King's Lynn (Mr. Gibson Bowles) had declared that part of the committee's report was disingenuous and dishonest. They were objectionable phrases, and showed not only an extreme want of taste but extreme impertinence. (Cheers and cries of "Oh.")

The last remark caused a heated discussion between the two members named, and the Speaker was appealed to, with the result that the word impertinent was withdrawn as being out of order, because Colonel Kenyon-Slaney said he did not use it in the sense that it was irrevelant, but as a proper expression in reply to the charge of disingenuity and dishonesty.

Mr. Gibson Bowles said the word dishonest was used by him in a perfectly proper and parliamentary sense. The suggestion was not that the excellent committee of all the virtues—(laughter)—was guilty of conscientious dishonesty, but that they had not followed to its logical conclusion the result of the evidence before them. (Hear, hear.) He maintained that the War Office was solely and fully responsible for the doings of the Yeomanry Committee, to whom it relegated its authority for an express purpose, with power to spend hundreds of thousands of pounds voted by that House. When the report on the other horses purchased was before them he believed it would show that unqualified officers were selected to examine the animals, but that those officers were selected for several considerations.

Mr. Brodrick submitted that the hon. member had no right to say that without mentioning names. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Gibson Bowles would withdraw the observation, but he was informed that a large proportion of the horses were useless when landed, and many more became useless soon afterwards. Large sums of money had been wasted, but the principal ground of complaint was their badness.

Sir J. Blundell Maple said he had seen a sworn document to the effect that Captain Hartigan and Colonel McLean lived together, and that Mr. Housa was often at their little lunches and dinners. He complained of the delay of the War Office in instituting the inquiry after he had placed in their hands all the information in his possession, and he insisted that further investigation on the subject of the purchase of horses was necessary.

Mr. Blake charged the Secretary for War with endeavouring to prevent the House of Commons being informed with regard to the facts by delaying presenting the report of the Committee until the latest moment possible.

Mr. Brodrick interrupted to state that there were two cases pending in the Law Courts, and he was advised he would not be justified in stating the facts to the House earlier.

Mr. Blake maintained that the War Secretary had been guilty of gross neglect of duty, and nothing could be hoped from his further promised inquiry. Although the report of this committee had been in his hands since August, Mr. Brodrick made no inquiry into the remount scandals, and would not do so now if his hands had not been forced by the House. (Radical cheers.)

Mr. Balfour retorted that this was the first time in his experience in which the Secretary for War had been accused of want of energy. A more preposterous charge was never made in that House by any man—(Ministerial cheers)—and a more reckless charge or one more absolutely without foundation it would be difficult to produce from their Parliamentary annals. (Cheers.) His right hon. friend was the most hard-worked man at this moment in the three kingdoms, and because he was not absolutely primed on all the details of transactions which happened twelve months before he was in office, and with regard to which not one penny of the £5,000,000 voted on Friday had anything to do, directly or indirectly, his right hon. friend was charged not only with incompetence, but with an idle neglect of his public duties. The charge was not worth pursuing, and he would say a few words as to the responsibility of the War Office for the duties that were delegated to the Yeomanry Committee. It was said, and said with perfect truth, that no responsibility could be got rid of by delegation, but unless delegation meant some kind of transfer of responsibility what was the use of delegation? If decentralisation did not mean that it meant nothing. (Hear, hear.) Then it would be noted that the charge could not be made against the War Office that it did not look into details. The charge could only be that it appointed an incompetent body to carry out the function. (Hear, hear.) The circumstances under which the Yeomanry Committee were asked to undertake these duties were those which rendered delegation and decentralisation absolutely necessary. This committee was asked to undertake the provision of horses immediately after the disaster of Colenso, when the War Office had thrown upon them the Herculean task of doubling the army—a task the difficulty of which was not sufficiently appreciated. (Hear, hear.) These patriotic yeomen came to the War Office, and said they would provide men, horses, and saddles, and were the Government at that moment to reject this offer? Under these circumstances it was not only most ungenerous to attack the War Office because the delegation was not carried out to the taste of hon. and right hon. gentlemen. (Hear, hear.) The leader of the Opposition had asked whether, as the result of the inquiry into remounts from Hungary had been so unsatisfactory, there was any evidence that remounting operations in other parts of the world were any better. The Government were entirely of opinion that the matter could not be allowed to rest where it was. (Hear, hear.) They thought with the right hon. gentleman that a survey of the whole of this important question must be made without fear and without favour. (Cheers.) They equally clearly held that it would be insanity to attempt it at this particular moment. (Oh, oh.) And why? Because the men who could help with that inquiry were some of them—all of them—up to their eyes at work at this moment in connection with the army in South Africa, and it would be perfect insanity to interrupt their proceedings and cause them to neglect duties which were even more important than giving information to that House. (Cheers.) He hoped that this might not mean a long delay. When the inquiry could be undertaken with public advantage it would be open to question whether it would merge in that larger inquiry which the right hon. gentleman opposite sought. Their sole object would be to get it through with as little delay as possible. He would only enter one caveat at the present stage of their discussion. When the inquiry was made he hoped the body which inquired—whether it be a committee of that House, a departmental committee, or a Royal Commission—would remember that the task practically to be done was to provide in South Africa thousands of miles from the different countries, a quarter of a million of horses, and that no such task had ever been undertaken in the history of the world. (Cheers.) He hoped that any tribunal which went into this matter would judge the difficulties in a fair and equitable spirit, and that when a report was presented to that House they would remember that when this delegation was made it was made under exceptional pressure. (Cheers.)

Mr. Asquith said the right hon. gentleman had failed to appreciate the impression which the debate on Friday had made upon the House and upon the country. The object of those who had taken part in this discussion had been not so much to select a victim as to examine the system and to prevent, if possible, the recurrence of such gross abuses. The taxpayers of this country had been mulcted to the extent of £10 or £12 per horse, and in the House of Commons they were told they must hold no one responsible for it. Under these circumstances what became of the control of the House of Commons? He would say nothing of the extraordinary unpreparedness of the War Office in matters of vital national necessity. An inquiry has been promised, and he hoped the report would be forthcoming without delay.

Mr. J. Lowther said what he had stated on Friday night he stood by. He hoped there would be a complete inquiry into those grave abuses which had been brought to light.

Mr. Labouchere averred that a more utterly, absolutely incompetent set of men in regard to the horse-buying business than the Imperial Yeomanry Committee could not be found on the face of the earth. (Laughter.)

Mr. Churchill could see no reason why an interim inquiry should hamper the progress of the war. On the contrary, he believed it would infuse greater vigour and efficiency into the operations.

Lord A. Compton gave his impressions of the Remount Department in South Africa. He was convinced also that the system was a bad one. An interim report, in his opinion, should not be delayed. It had always been the habit to blame the civil side of the War Office, but in this case it was the military side that was entirely to blame. As far as the War Office were concerned, the selection of General Truman for the Remount Department was a good one.

The House divided, a division being challenged by the Nationalists—

For the resolution	226
Against	64
Majority for	162

The report stage of the Vote was therefore agreed to.

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"'Tuberculosis in Animals,' 'Sheep Breeding as affected by the price of Wool,' 'Weeds,' and 'Fruit,' are a few of the numerous articles on various features of agriculture contributed by experts in their subject."—**Yorkshire Observer.**

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"Reflects the greatest credit. The almanac is excellently turned out, and is full of most useful information for agriculturists. In addition to many important tables, a number of capital articles on stockbreeding, &c., are given. The illustrations of prize-taking stock, &c., are very good."—**Irish Field.**

"In addition to the fat stock illustrations, there is a large number of others of cattle, horses, sheep, pigs, and miscellaneous farm scenes, which together with the reading matter, make up a book of great interest to all associated with the farm."—**Eastern Morning News.**

"Contains some very well written, interesting articles, together with a host of facts and figures relating to the farm and markets."—**London Corn Circular.**

"Gives astonishing value for the price, sixpence. There are a great many special articles by eminent authorities, and an abundance of illustrations."—**Sussex Daily News.**

"Tuberculosis has received much attention during the past year, and is still continuing to do so, therefore the article by M. R. C. V. S., entitled, 'Tuberculosis in Animals on the Farm,' is very opportune and will be read with interest."—**Tonbridge Telegraph.**

"Very neatly got up is the current issue of the MARK LANE EXPRESS ALMANAC, its cover adorned with the portraits of His Majesty the King and the Prince of Wales."—**Farm and Home.**

"The volume consists of 250 pages, and is altogether more than up to its former high standard of merit, while the price remains as formerly."—**Ayr Advertiser.**

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"There is a strong list of contributors, and the pictures of varied interest, and will appeal to all lovers of country life."—**Agricultural World.**

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"A large number of illustrations, principally reproductions from photographs, find a place in the almanac."—**Westminster Gazette.**

"A mass of information of the greatest use to farmers and breeders, much of which should also be of service to the same classes in South America and the colonies, to whom we can strongly recommend it."—**South American Journal.**

"'Lobbyist' advocates an Agricultural Party in Parliament and sets forth the outlines of the programme. As to the necessity of such a party he says: 'If it is not called into existence the rural parliamentary interest will confront the growingly extravagant and disciplined demands of the towns—demands which are often brutally avowed to be anti-rural, unorganised, and divided. Suspicion will permeate its councils and weakness be the badge of its ranks.'"—**Hereford Mercury.**

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"To enumerate all the articles would be too great a task, but mention may be made of that dealing with 'Weeds,' by Mr. S. Eames; 'The Harvest of Fruit,' by Mr. J. H. Hollingworth; 'The Census'; 'Town and Country Life.'"—**Grantham Journal.**

"Appears somewhat later than usual, the compilers having delayed its publication in order that it might be a complete agricultural record for the year.—**Lowestoft Standard.**

"'Lobbyist' advocates an Agricultural Party in Parliament, and sets forth the outlines of a programme."—**Lincolnshire Gazette.**

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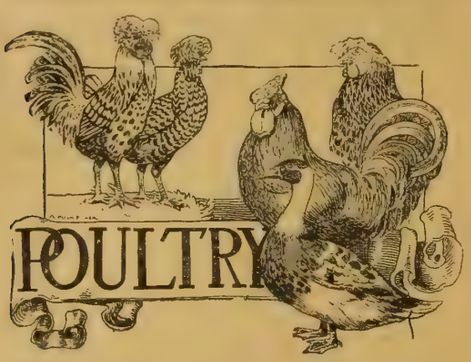
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Some French Methods of Poultry Keeping.*

(Copyright.)

By Mr. T. R. Robinson, F.S.I.

(Continued from Page 156.)

In the day time the blanket is drawn up, so that they can run in and out of the house as they like. At the end of three and a half or four months they are put into fattening cages and fed artificially. Here we say feed twice a day, but in France they feed three times a day with food something the same as ours, oatmeal or maize meal mixed with water for the first and second meal, and the same mixed with milk for the third meal. This for ten days, then they mix sour milk or whey with all the meals. Then for the last week about ten grammes of fat is used per bird, mixed up with the food. If you want to make your fowls extra-specially good, use one egg for every three birds, and cram the birds with this mixture: milk, egg, and oatmeal.

Here is an approximate price of about what 100 birds may cost:—Meal for four and a half months for 100 birds at, as nearly as possible, 1,000 kilos., averaging about 11s. an English sack, 200f.; milk, 40f.; value of chickens, day old, 30f.; fat, 18f.; making a total of 288f. Roughly, a chicken four and a half months old would cost 3f., taking no account of rent and labour. At Houdan thousands are sold every week, and I have often seen them fetch 4f.50 to 5f. each.

The French not only clean out their foster-mothers and house daily, but they take a syringe, and, with a 1 or 2 per cent. sulphuric acid solution, they squirt all over inside the place. They also burn a little sulphur in the foster-mothers. Sometimes they have a double set of troughs, etc., and when one set is out of use it is thrown into a tank of the sulphuric acid and water. They do not use these for food till after the things have been washed with ordinary water.

Briefly, I may say that they take great precautions against roup and other fowl diseases, and also that in winter they advocate warm food; they occasionally water the ground with sulphuric acid solution, and occasionally dig it up. They like to keep it as free from herbage as possible, for very young stock. They change the birds frequently from run to run. They take the drawers out of the incubators, and lay them in the sun, in order to give them an airing. In response to a question, the lecturer said that the ground would be absolutely safe for young chickens to go upon three days after being washed with sulphuric acid and water, and that as a matter of fact three hours would be quite sufficient, as the ground contains chalk, which neutralises the sulphuric acid.

*A lecture delivered under the auspices of the Utility Poultry Club, by Mr. T. R. Robinson, F.S.I.

Utility Poultry Club's Fifth Laying Competition.

The fifth annual open laying competition of the Utility Poultry Club commenced on October 16th, 1901, and ended on February 4th, 1902—a period of sixteen weeks. The pens each contained from 1901 pullets, and below we append the results and prize-winners:—

Breed.	Eggs.	Total Points.	Order of Merit.
Orpington (Bf.)	72	144	15
Leghorn (W.)	110	220	9
Orpington (Bf.)	93	186	12
Leghorn (W.)	105	208	11
Orpington (Bf.)	164	328	3
Leghorn (W.)	185	362	2
Wyandotte (S.)	124	244	6
Minorca	87	172	14
Wyandotte (G.)	200	397	1
Minorca	34	68	20
Wyandotte (W.)	114	222	8
Leghorn (Bf.)	113	223	7
Rock (Barred)	58	115	17
Ancona	68	135	16
Rock (Bf.)	107	213	10
Ancona	143	281	5
Rock (Blk.)	51	100	18
Ancona	90	178	13
Faverolles	35	70	19
Leghorn (W.)	164	328	3
	2118	—	—

In scoring, an egg weighing up to 1¾ozs. counted one point, above that weight two points. This is a slight advance upon previous competitions which have counted two points at 1½ozs. First prize went to Mrs. H. J. Austin, pen 9, hatched 3rd and 4th weeks in March. Second to Mr. E. A. Jackson, pen 6, hatched April 29th. Third and fourth prizes were amalgamated in consequence of two pens, 5 and 20, each scoring the same number of points, and went to (pen 5) Mr. W. Hambly, hatched February, and (pen 20) Mr. Rouse Orlebar, hatched April. Fifth to Mr. J. W. Giles, hatched February 16th. Sixth to Mr. H. L. Hewitt, pen 7, hatched April 7th.

The first-prize pen, having laid 200 eggs during the contest, becomes entitled to the club's second-class certificate. This has been awarded on only one previous occasion, viz., 1899-1900, when Mr. C. Bird's pen of Silver Wyandottes was similarly successful. These competitions are not given to determine which is the best breed; the club recognises that good laying is a question of strain, and not of breed, and endeavours by means of these competitions to make known those fowls which under a systematic treatment during the four worst months of the year have proved themselves to be good layers.

Annual Report and Year Book.

The Year Book, issued free to the members of the Utility Poultry Club, contains the annual report and balance-sheet of that useful society. The balance-sheet shows a balance in hand of £20, and the increase of 104 in the numbers of paying members testifies to the growing recognition among poultry keepers of the usefulness of such an organisation. Apart from the report, and in addition to the list of members, rules, etc., particulars are given of the arrangements made for granting special prizes, insuring stock against burglary, obtaining working plans of poultry houses, coop, etc., and post-mortem examinations of poultry. There is also a brief account of the work of the club during the past year, a table showing the composition of poultry food-stuffs—a most useful guide to scientific feeding—and some excellent pages of account sheets, together with an egg register for recording the number of eggs laid every day by each pen during the year.

During the National Poultry Show at the Crystal Palace a number of lectures were delivered, under the auspices of the club, by experts on the various branches of hatching, rearing, feeding, marketing, and on diseases, etc., fully in our columns.

It will thus be seen that members of the club derive somewhat substantial benefits from their membership, while it is undoubtedly the fact that the club is doing good work in encouraging the keeping and rearing of poultry for utility purposes.

Scottish Chamber.

A meeting of the directors of the Scottish Chamber of Agriculture took place at Edinburgh on the 5th inst., Mr. Thomas Elder, Stevenson Mains, presiding. Mr. John Drysdale, Arngibbon, Port of Menteith, reported that he had appeared before a Departmental Committee on butter regulation, and had recommended that there should be a fixed standard of 16 per cent. A system of fraud was being perpetrated just now whereby butter was rechurned containing 24 per cent. of moisture. He thought that a standard of 16 per cent. would cover all honestly-made stuff. The chairman, in conveying the thanks of the chamber, said Mr. Drysdale had taken up a commonsense position.

The secretary (Mr. Isaac Connell) reported that he had received a reply from the Board of Agriculture to the resolution of the Chamber requesting that a departmental committee be formed to inquire into and if possible provide remedies for the present rural depopulation. The reply stated that they would not fail to keep in view the suggestion made. It was, however, pointed out that if such an inquiry were undertaken it would probably be better that it should be entrusted either to a select committee of one or other of the Houses of Parliament, or even to a Royal Commission, rather than to a departmental committee, and that in any case it could not conveniently be set on foot until the complete results of the census were available.

Mr. George Prentice, Strathore, Thornton, initiated a discussion on the desirableness of securing the home dairy market. He admitted the good that was being done by education in butter-making, but what was wanted was that the same quality should be secured. He pointed to what was being done in Denmark and Ireland in the establishment of large creameries, and asked whether the time had not now come when they should encourage as far as possible the commencement of such creameries in districts not in connection with our large populations.

Mr. Andrew Hutchison, Beechwood, Perth, said he thought there was plenty of room for such creameries in Scotland, but at the same time the demand for milk would take up a great deal of their milk supply, and he did not think Scotland was so well adapted for it as Ireland, with its large extent of pasture land and cheaper rents.

It was subsequently remitted to the chairman's committee to bring up a report if they thought fit.

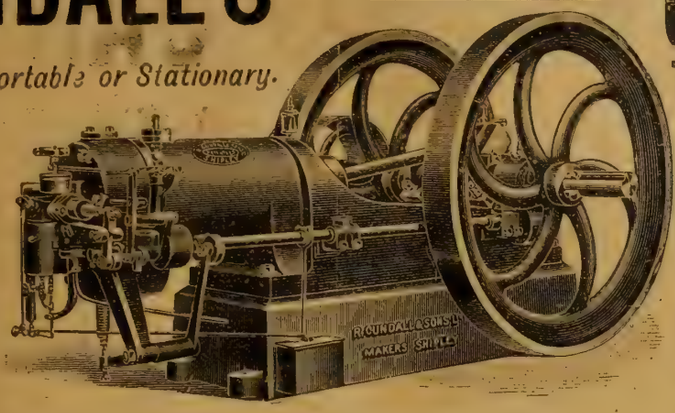
Death of Mr. D. R. Scratton.—It is with regret we announce the death of Mr. D. R. Scratton, J. P., the well-known West of England Agriculturist, which occurred on Monday evening at his residence, Ogwell House, Ogwell, near Newton Abbot, the cause being an internal complaint, for which he declined to undergo an operation. The deceased gentleman, who was 84 years of age, was a well-known and popular figure in the public life, not only of South Devon, but the county generally. He was chairman of the Devon County Agricultural Association, which he founded several years ago, and was chairman of the Newton Board of Guardians, a position which he filled with remarkable regularity and ability up to within a week or so of his demise. The inhabitants of Ogwell have also benefited through the general beneficence of the deceased, who a few years since presented them with, at a cost of several thousand pounds, a free and abundant supply of pure water. His loss will be severely felt throughout the county and the West Country. Mr. Scratton was lord of the manor and principal owner of the soil, having purchased the property in 1869 of Mr. P. G. E. Taylor.

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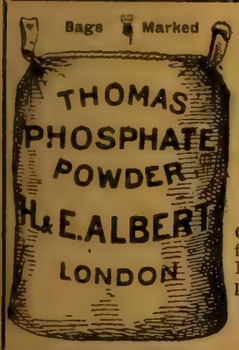
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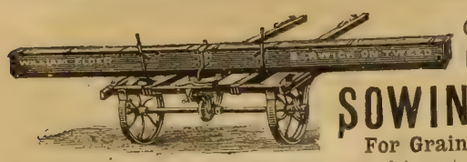
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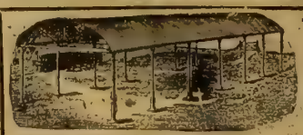
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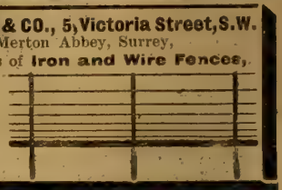
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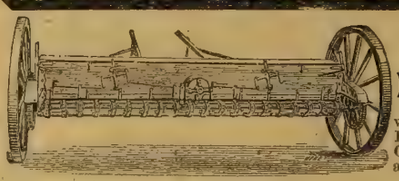
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NEVER BEATEN IN COMPETITION.

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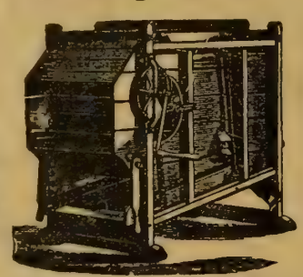
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USED ON THE ROYAL FARMS BY SPECIAL APPOINTMENT.

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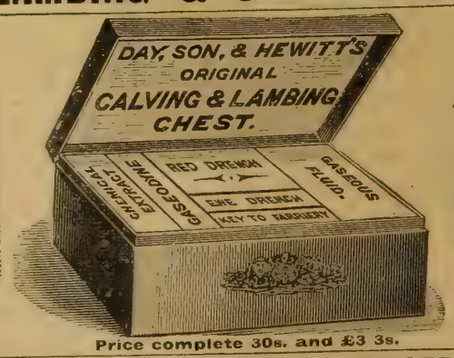
For Anointing after Calving and Lambing.
For Straining and Preventing Gangrene.
For all Sores, Wounds, and Swollen Udders.
For Sore Throats, Strains, and Rheumatism.

Price 2s. 6d., 3s. 6d., and 7s. per bottle.

THE RED DRENCH

For Cleansing after Lambing and Calving.
For Hide Bound, Red Water, and Yellows.
For Chills, Fever, and Loss of Cud.
For Preventing Milk Fever and Quarter Ill.

Price 3s. 6d. per doz. (Ewes); 13s. per doz. (Cows).



Polished Chest, with lock and key, Gratis, and full instructions sent.

If required for Ewes or Cows only, please say so when ordering.

Price complete 30s. and £3 3s.

THE GASEOUS FLUID.

Cures Prostration in Cows and Ewes.
Cures Low Condition, Debility and Hoven.
Cures Scour, Colic, or Gripes, and Diarrhœa.
Cures Coughs, Colds, and Loss of Appetite.

Price 1s. 9d. per bottle; 20s. per doz.

THE GASEODINE.

Used as Laudanum for *Deadening Pain.*
For Severe Diarrhœa and Influenza.
For *Severe* Pains during Parturition.
For Inflammatory Colic and Lung Disorders.

Price 3s. 6d. per bottle.

Estd. in the year 1833. | **ROYAL ANIMAL MEDICINE MANUFACTORY, 22, DORSET STREET LONDON, W.** | Beware of Imitations.

The "FARMERS" Ordinary Poultry House.



With Floor and Whee's.
9ft. by 5ft. £4 5 0
8ft. by 6ft. £3 12 6
7ft. by 5ft. £3 2 6
6ft. by 4ft. £2 12 6
Carriage Paid
Cash with Order.
PROMPT DISPATCH.
Catalogue One Stamp.

Reg. Copy.
J. T. HOBSON & CO., Importers and Poultry Appliance Makers, BEDFORD.
Established 60 years. Please mention Mark Lane Express.

FOOT-ROT.



STRAWSON'S
CELEBRATED
FOOT-ROT OINTMENT.
Effectual—Speedy—Permanent.
Used by the chief Ram Breeders and Flock masters in the Kingdom.
IT RECOMMENDS ITSELF. TRY IT.
May be had through any Chemist; or will be sent post free at the rate of 1s. per tin, 20s. per case of two dozen tins (not less than a case at the latter rate), by the Sole Proprietor,
G. STRAWSON, Chemist, Bishop's Castle.

EMIGRATION TO CANADA.

Canada offers great advantages to settlers including free grants of 160 acres of land, improved farms at reasonable prices, fine climate, no rent, light taxes, free schools, good markets, rapidly developing industries, and large import and export trade. Pamphlets, maps, and full particulars (supplied post free) may be obtained from the High Commissioner for Canada, 17, Victoria Street, London, S.W., or to the Allan, Dominion, and Elder Dempster Steamship Companies, or their Local Agents, or to the Canadian Pacific Railway Company.
Write for particulars.

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Patronised by Royalty. Six Prize Medals awarded. SHEEP TROUGHS, cheapest and best, 10ft. long, best foreign red deal, well hooped and bolted. LAMB HURDLES with movable rollers, three for 29s., carriage paid. Every one should send for Illustration of my Combination Registered Crib. Poultry Houses, Shepherds' Huts, Gates, &c. Send for Illustrated Catalogue, post free.

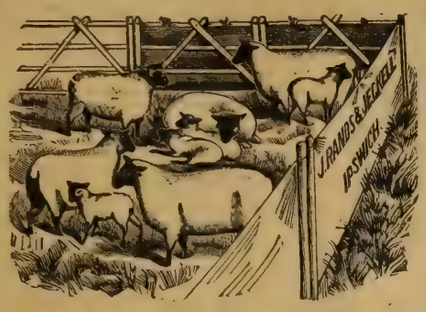
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Secure Better Breeding Results and Reduced Mortality amongst Lambs by using

J. RANDS & JECKELL'S

SHEEP & LAMB SHELTERING CLOTHS



THURSCOE HALL, ROTHERHAM, March 11th, 1891.
Dear Sirs,—Please send me four more of the 20 yard Sheep Cloths, the same as you sent me in January; they are very convenient things.—Yours truly,
W. A. ELLIS.

20 yds. long, 3 ft. deep, with Brass Eyelets, and Cords for fixin to Hurdles.

6d., 9d., and 1s. per yd. Rot-Proof, 1s. 6d. per yd.

WADHURST PARK, September, 1892.
Sirs,—I can with every confidence recommend your Sheep and Lamb Sheltering Cloths, especially the "Dupla," when they form a most efficient, easily moved, and durable shelter."—Yours truly,
W. W. CHAPMAN.

20 yds. long, 6 ft. deep with Brass Eyelets and Cords for fixing to Hurdles.



1s., 1s. 6d., and 2s. per yd. Rot-proof, 3s. per yd.
Carriage paid on Orders above £2. 5 per cent. Discount for Cash.

Write for Pamphlet on SHELTER FOR SHEEP AND LAMBS.
POST FREE ON APPLICATION TO
J. RANDS & JECKELL, IPSWICH.
Sack, Rick, Cloth, & Tent Manufacturers,
By Special Royal Warrant to HIS MAJESTY THE KING.

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LAMB FOOD
The Best and Most Wholesome Diet for all Stock.
Delivered, Carriage Paid, to all Stations.

See Pamphlet on "Good Food & Good Blood."

MACKINDER'S
PORRIDGE MEAL,
Rears Calves splendidly and cheaply
Try it. Price 11s. per cwt.

E. MACKINDER,
Inventor and Sole Manufacturer of
LAMB FOOD AND PORRIDGE MEAL,
LINCOLN.

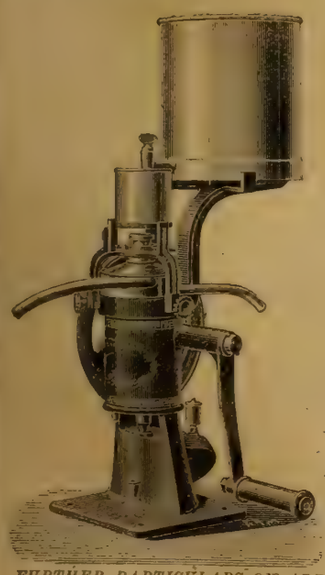
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For Fruit Trees, Charlock, Potatoes, &c.
420 FIRST PRIZES and MEDALS.
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CHARLES CLARK & CO.,
20, Great St. Helen's, London, E.C.

THE MOST NUTRITIOUS.
EPPS'S
GRATEFUL—COMFORTING.
COCOA
BREAKFAST—SUPPER.

THE "SVEA" SEPARATOR



The "SVEA" Separator is the Cheapest because it is
THE SIMPLEST, THE STRONGEST,
THE MOST DURABLE, THE EASIEST TO TURN,
A PERFECT SKIMMER, and
HAS THE GREATEST CAPACITY.

The "SVEA" Separator being thoroughly up to date, embodies the following improvements:—

1.—**The Short Bowl Spindle** replacing the usual long one, which so soon gets damaged if not handled with great care.

2.—**The Patented Top Bearing** by means of which the bowl is supported at **both** top and bottom.

This is a special feature of the "SVEA," and is considered a great advantage as contributing to the smoother and easier running of the bowl, also preventing all accidents.

3.—**The Simplicity** of the skimming arrangement consisting of only a few rings or discs (in the small sizes 4) instead of the usual large number.

4.—**The Bowl is easy to take to pieces and clean.** This fact and the small number of the parts to clean will be much appreciated by every one used to Separators.

5.—**The Conical Lugs** on the inside of the Bowl Top make it **impossible for the Bowl to get out of balance** by reason of the threads becoming worn.

6.—**The easy and noiseless motion** effected by the use of Conical Gearing instead of the usual cylindrical one, thus permitting the

7.—**Reduction of friction and wear** obtained by the position of the worm wheel, at an angle of 45° to the worm, instead of the usual right-angled gearing.

8.—The **extraordinary strength** and good workmanship of the machine throughout.

Table of Sizes & Prices

No.	CAPACITY PER HOUR.	PRICE.
1	20 galls.	£9 10 0
2	33 ,,	11 10 0
3	55 ,,	17 0 0
4	75 ,,	23 0 0

The "SVEA" Separator is fitted with an automatic device regulating the inflow of the milk.

The "SVEA" Separator is sent on trial. Carriage paid. No extras.

FURTHER PARTICULARS ON APPLICATION TO

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SOLE WHOLESALE AGENTS FOR GREAT BRITAIN.

PERUVIAN GUANO.

We are offering a wide choice of qualities, including CHINCHAS and the most recent importations.

DISSOLVED PERUVIAN GUANO,

Strongly recommended for Top-dressing, Potatoes and Fruit Culture.

Ichaboe Guano,
Pure Vitriolised Bones,
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Superphosphates,
Nitrate of Soda,
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SHIRE HORSE SHOW — SUGAR BEET EXPERIMENTS.

The

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Agricultural Journal.

(Established 1832.)

THE LEADING BRITISH AUTHORITY ON THE PRACTICE AND SCIENCE OF THE

Farm, Live Stock, Dairy, Milling, Malting, Hops, &c.

(REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER AT THE GENERAL POST OFFICE.)

VOL. LXXXVI. No. 3674. LONDON, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1902. THIRTY-TWO PAGES. PRICE 3D.

SOCIETIES.

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ENGLISH HOP GROWERS.
(Founded June 1894.)
PRESIDENT.—COLONEL BROOKFIELD, M.P.
HON. TREASURER.—E. ALBERT WHITE, Esq., Beltring, Kent.
SECRETARY.—THOMAS IRONMONGER.
CENTRAL OFFICE.—61, HOP EXCHANGE, BOROUGH, LONDON.

GENERAL OBJECTS.

To promote united action among English hop growers as a body for the improvement of the industry.

To promote, support, or oppose such legislative and other measures as may affect the industry.

To collect and publish, for the benefit of members, special statistical and other useful information relating to English and foreign hop-culture.

To arrange for arbitrations in cases of dispute between sellers and buyers of hops, for the avoidance of litigation.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Ordinary members, 3d. per acre of hops under cultivation; honorary members, £1 1s.; hop factors, £1 1s.

SHIRE HORSE SOCIETY.
LONDON SHOW.
360 STALLIONS, MARES, GELDINGS.
ROYAL AGRICULTURAL HALL.

Tuesday, Feb. 25, 8.30 a.m. to 6 p.m....2s. 6d.
Wednesday, ,, 26, 8.30 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Thursday, ,, 27, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. } 1s. 0d.
Friday, ,, 28, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Thursday, Sale of Mares and Fillies, 9 to 1.30.
Friday, Sale of Stallions and Geldings at 9.

18TH LONDON HACKNEY SHOW.

TUESDAY, MARCH 4th.
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5th.
THURSDAY, MARCH 6th.
FRIDAY, MARCH 7th.

Agricultural Hall.

Stallions, Mares, and Geldings.
GREAT SHOW OF HARNESS HORSES.
Sale by Auction March 7th.

Show Opens 9 a.m. Closes 5.30 p.m.
March 7th, 4 p.m.
Admission—First Day 2/6. Other Days 1/-
Railway Excursions from all parts.

NORTH-EAST AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION, BELFAST.

THE SPRING SHOW

Will be held on the Association's Premises, APRIL 30th, MAY 1st and 2nd,

Prizes, Premiums, Cups, and Special Prizes to the value of over £2,000.

Entries close April 5. Double fees, April 12.

KENNETH MACRAE, Secretary.
37, Donegal Place, Belfast.

SOMERSET COUNTY AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION.

THE 15TH ANNUAL EXHIBITION will be held at WIVELISCOMBE, on WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, and FRIDAY, 14th, 15th, and 16th MAY, 1902.

Prizes of over £1,000, Gold and Silver Medals, &c., for Competition for Horses, Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, Cheese, Butter, Butter-making, Cider, Wool, Horse-shoeing, Poultry, and Pigeons.

Entries close:—Stock and implements, 11th April; cheese, butter, wool, &c., 16th April; poultry and pigeons, 18th April. Post entries (double fees), 21st April.

Prize List and Entry Forms may be obtained of the Secretary,

WALTER R. J. GREENSLADE,
3, Hammet Street, Taunton.

SOCIETIES.

BATH & WEST & SOUTHERN COUNTIES SOCIETY.
PATRON—HIS MAJESTY THE KING.
PRESIDENT, 1901-2—THE RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF MORLEY.

GREAT SHOW AT PLYMOUTH, MAY 27, 28, 29, 30, & 31.

ENTRIES CLOSE as follows:—
Implements, Art Manufactures, &c., March 18.
Live Stock, Produce, Butter Making, Milking, Shoeing, Shearing, &c., April 7.
Poultry, May 2; Jumping and Driving, May 10.

THOS. F. PLOWMAN,
4, Terrace Walk, Bath. Secretary.

BIRMINGHAM SHORTHORN SHOW AND SALE.

THE THIRTY-FOURTH GREAT SHOW will be held in
BINGLEY HALL, BIRMINGHAM,
On WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, and FRIDAY, MARCH 5th, 6th, and 7th.

611 Head of COWS, HEIFERS, and BULLS, including Winners at most of the important Shows, are entered by 200 noted Breeders, and will be SOLD by AUCTION, by Messrs. LYTHALL & CO., without reserve beyond £21 each, except on 12.

Sale of the Females on Wednesday, at 11.30; and the Bulls, on Thursday and Friday, at 10.30 o'clock.

Admission, 1s. Catalogues, 1s. 3d. post free.

W. H. LYTHALL, Secretary.

AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION.

AYNSOME AGRICULTURAL STATION.
CARTMEL, GRANGE-OVER-SANDS, LANCS.

New Chemical Laboratories with every modern improvement, Model Dairy, Experimental Feeding House, Farm 280 acres. Instructions given in Practical Chemistry, Agricultural Analysis and Research, and Practical Agriculture, &c. Splendid climate in perfect country. Terms moderate. For particulars and prospectus, apply to THE DIRECTORS of the Experimental Station, Aynsome, Grange-over-Sands.

THE DURHAM COLLEGE OF SCIENCE, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

The Council invite applications for the Professorship. Stipend £500 per annum.

Applications and testimonials must be forwarded to the undersigned, on or before March 20th, 1902.

F. H. PRUEN, Secretary.

FARMS, ESTATES, MILLS, BUSINESSES, &c.

MESSRS. CRONK'S LIST of FARMS, containing particulars of numerous Farms in Kent, Surrey, Sussex, and elsewhere, to be obtained gratis at their offices or will be sent by post on receipt of a stamp. Properties inserted free.—12, Pall Mall, London, S.W., and Sevenoaks, Kent.

BURWELL, Cambridgeshire.—TO BE LET, from Michaelmas next, LOWER PORTLAND FARM, BURWELL, containing 116a. 1r. 26p. of arable and grass lands, with modern farmhouse and excellent farm buildings.

The above is situate three-quarters of a mile from Burwell Railway Station and one mile from Newmarket Heath.

For particulars apply to Messrs. MARTIN NOCKOLDS & SONS, Land Agents, Saffron Walden, and 2, Parsons Court, Cambridge.

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FARMS.—Rents from 10s. Acre; prices £7 Acre. Monthly List 2 stamps. RUTTER, 10, Norfolk Street, Strand, London.

SMALL GRASS FARM, with convenient House and outbuildings, wanted to rent, North of London, near station on main line.—Address "DAIRY," care of J. W. VICKERS, 5, Nicholas Lane, E.C.

KENT.—TO BE SOLD BY PRIVATE TREATY.—PERRY FARM, in the Parishes of Wingham, Elmstone, &c., consisting of an old-fashioned Farmhouse, Oasthouse (two kilns), convenient buildings, and 117 acres of Land (arable 74a., hops 12a., orchard 3a., and pasture 26a.), situated in a good district, well adapted for fruit growing and market gardening. About 3¼ miles from Adisham Station (S.E. and C.R.).—For particulars apply to Messrs. G. WEBB & CO., Tunstall, Sittingbourne.

BAXTER, PAYNE, AND LEPPER,
LAND AGENTS,
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PREPARATION of PLANS, Superintending the Erection or Repairs of Farm Buildings, and Laying-out of Estates for Building, Planting, Drainage, &c.

MORTGAGES arranged, also Railway and other Compensations, Dilapidations, Division and Apportionment of Tithe Rent Charges, &c.

VALUATIONS and SALES of FURNITURE and FARMING STOCK; also of GROWING TIMBER and UNDERWOOD; and all kinds of work carried out incidental to the Superintendence and General Agency of large or small Estates.

A MONTHLY Register published of Country Houses and Estates to be Let or Sold (Furnished or Unfurnished) in the Home Counties and elsewhere, free on application; also a SEPARATE LIST OF FARMS.

Auction dates are fixed as may be required.

London office: 69, King William Street, E.C.
Country offices: Bromley, Kent; and at Beckenham.

CONTRACTS.

LONDON COUNTY LUNATIC ASYLUMS.

CONTRACTS FOR MILK.

THE ASYLUMS COMMITTEE of the LONDON COUNTY COUNCIL are prepared to receive TENDERS for the supply of MILK for Twelve Calender Months from 1st APRIL next, to

1. Hanwell Asylum, Middlesex, W.
2. Heath Asylum, Bexley, Kent.
3. Horton Asylum, Epsom, Surrey.

Printed Forms of Tender (upon which alone Tenders will be received) Conditions of Contract, and Estimated Quantities required, may be obtained at the Office of the Asylums Committee, 6, Waterloo Place, S.W., on and after Monday, the 24th February, 1902.

Sealed Tenders must be delivered at the said Office by or before TEN o'clock, a.m., on WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12th, 1902.

Tenders will be opened on the same day and the result will be communicated to successful contractors after 19th March, 1902.

Persons Tendering will be required to declare in their Tenders that they pay such rates of wages and observe such hours of labour as are recognised and in practice obtained at the date of the Tender by the Trade Unions of the district where the work is to be done, and where no Trades Unions exists, such rates of wages and hours of labour as are generally accepted as fair in the trade.

The Asylums Committee do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any Tenders.

R. W. PARTRIDGE,
Clerk of the Asylums Committee.

London Asylums Committee Office,
6, Waterloo Place, S.W.,
29th February, 1902.

CONTRACTS.

METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF SHOREDITCH.
ANNUAL CONTRACTS.

The Council of the Metropolitan Borough of Shoreditch are prepared to receive proposals and to contract with any person or persons for the following Articles and Works for One Year from the 1st day of April next to the 31st day of March, 1903 (inclusive), viz.:—

MASONS AND PAVIORS.—For paving, repairing, and relaying the footway and carriageway pavements within the said Borough, and the supply of Materials. (A £10 Bank of England Note to be enclosed with Tender.)

MANUFACTURED STONE.—For supplying and laying patent or manufactured Stone, or other paving material.

ASPHALTING.
BROKEN GRANITE.
PLUMBERS' WORK.
SMITH'S WORK.
DRAIN PIPES, Junctions, Bends, &c.
DRAIN RODS, Pails, Ropes, &c.
TIMBER.
SEWER IRONWORK and STREET POSTS.
STREET LANTERNS, Cradles, &c., for the Public Lighting of the Borough.
GLASS, &c., for Street Lanterns.
LIME, CEMENT, &c.

GENERAL CARTAGE. (A £10 Bank of England Note to be enclosed with Tender.)

STREET NAME PLATES, NOTICE BOARDS, WRITERS' WORK, &c.
BALLAST, HOGGIN, SHINGLE, and SAND.

Samples of the above Articles can be seen at the Depot, Flemming Street, Kingsland Road.

UNIFORMS, CAPS, &c.

Samples of these can be seen at the Town Hall, Libraries, Public Baths, and Lighting Station.

PRINTING, for 1 or 3 years } Samples to be seen at the Town
STATIONERY, ditto. } Clerk's Office.

ELECTRICITY WORKS DEPARTMENT.—(A) Electric Cables and Sundries; (B) Engineers' Stores; and (C) Ironmongery, Tools, &c.

Wiring and Fitting Materials.

Samples may be seen at the Electric Lighting Station, Coronet Street, Hoxton, N., and Town Hall, Old Street, E.C.

SCAVENGING and other Departments.—Ironmongery, Coal and Coke, Basket Work, and Miscellaneous India-rubber Work, Brooms, Brushes, Soap, Disinfectants, and Loin Cloths.

Samples of the Articles required for this Department may be seen and forms of Tender obtained at the Town Hall, Old Street, E.C.

BATHS AND WASHHOUSES DEPARTMENT.—Soap, Brooms, Brushes, Oil, Engineers' Stores, Paints, Baskets, Towels, &c.

Samples of the Articles required for this Department may be seen at the Baths, Pitfield Street, N.

Forms of Tender for all the above-mentioned articles can be obtained on application to the undersigned.

Tenders must be sent to the Town Clerk, at his offices as under, before 3 o'clock on Tuesday, the 11th day of March, 1902, after which time no Tenders can be received.

Contractors or their Agents must attend at the Council Meeting at the Town Hall, Old Street, on Tuesday, the 11th March, 1902, at 6.30 p.m., and must agree to pay the trade union rate of wages observed at the date of the Contract, and to observe the usual hours of labour recognised by the trade, and not to sublet the Contract.

The Council does not pledge itself to accept the lowest or any Tender, and none but Tenders on the official printed forms will be received, which with any further information may be obtained from the various Departments of the Council, or from

H. MANSFIELD ROBINSON,
Town Clerk.

Shoreditch Town Hall, Old Street, E.C.,
February, 1902.

LIVE STOCK.

HORSES.

HACKNEYS.

MOORE, HENRY, Burn Butts, Cranswick, Hull.—Pedigree Stud of HACKNEYS, including many prize-winners, yearlings, two years, and others.—Can be seen on application to Henry Moore.

LLOYD, WALTER, Heaselands, Hayward's Heath, Sussex.—Small but select Stud of PEDIGREE HACKNEYS, Mares, Fillies, and Colts of best blood, including stock by Champion Ganymede, Agility, Winnal Fireaway, Model II., and other noted Stallions at moderate prices. Appointments to view the stud (which is 1¼ miles from Hayward's Heath station, L.B. and S.C. Railway), on application to the owner, as above

LEES KNOWLES, M.P., Westwood, Pendlebury, Manchester. Breeder of Pedigree Hackneys, Stud Horses: Dane Canute, 5952, by Danegelt, 174; Dainty Duke, 7417, by Garton, Duke of Connaught, 3009; and Salford Felix, 7263, by Invincible, 1806. Stock on Sale by the above-named and other noted Sires.—For particulars apply to the STUD GROOM, Dam Head Farm, Mobberley, Cheshire, or to the Owner.

SHIRES.

MUNTZ, P. ALBERT, M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby.—SHIRE-BRED STALLIONS, COLTS, MARES, & FILLIES. About a hundred of all ages. Prize-winners London and other leading shows. Also high-class Shropshire SHEEP, winners first prize at Royal Agricultural, 1886, second in 1887, and first in 1888.—Apply, THOMAS EWART, Dunsmore Farm, Rugby.

CONCHAR, JOHN, Wylde Green, Birmingham.—Breeder of SHIRES and HACKNEYS. Some good Colts and Fillies for Sale. Five minutes from Station.

CLYDESDALES.

THE SEAHAM STUD, Ltd., Seaham Harbour, county Durham. The largest stud of Pedigree Clydesdales in the United Kingdom. Stallions, mares, colts, fillies always on sale. Inspection solicited.—Apply, R. BRYDON, Seaham Harbour.

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CATTLE (*continued*).

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SHEEP (*continued*).

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£13 in prizes offered at the Brewers' Exhibition, 1902.
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Telegrams—"TOWNSEND, CHARD."

BIBBY'S
"CREAM EQUIVALENT"
for CALVES.
An Ounce of Fact is worth a Ton of Theory.

A STRIKING FACT.

In our Spring number of "Bibby's Quarterly" we reproduced the photographs of two groups of Calves which are now being reared at the Hornby House Farm, Bedale, Yorks, by his Grace the Duke of Leeds.

One of the groups is being fed on New Milk and the other on Separated Milk and "Cream Equivalent."

We asked our readers to tell us which of these groups were fed on New Milk, and 707 Farmers, Farmers' wives, their sons and daughters competed for a small prize which we offered to those who guessed correctly.

445 selected the "Cream Equivalent"-fed Calves as having been fed on New Milk.

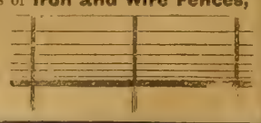
We think the above striking FACT speaks volumes for "Cream Equivalent."

The "Cream Equivalent" can be had at 15s. per cwt., carriage paid to nearest station.

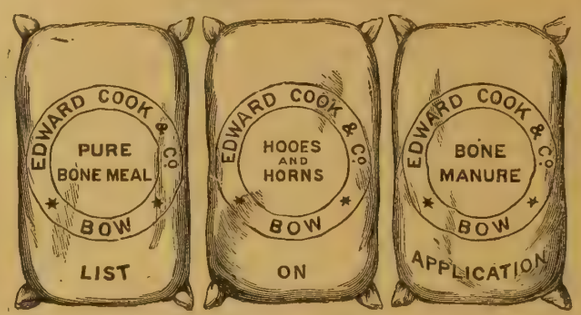
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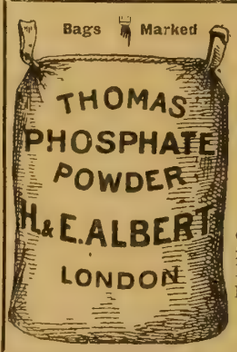
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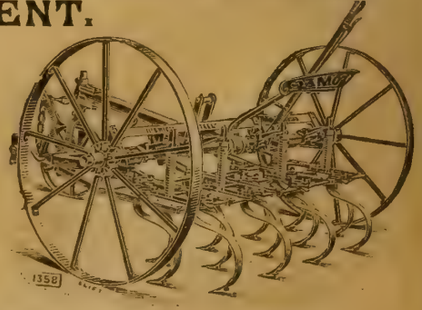
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HARDY SCOTCH CROWN.

Before contracting for this season, ask us for Samples and Quotations.

SUTTON'S FARMERS' YEAR-BOOK

For 1902

Should be read by all interested in Agriculture.

THE TIMES, in reviewing this Book on February 17th, says:—"'The first seed harvest of King Edward's reign was an excellent one.' These cheering words appear in the preface to the 1902 edition of 'Sutton's Farmers' Year-Book and Graziers' Manual.' They serve to convey to the farmer the satisfactory intimation that in purchasing his seeds during the next few weeks he will be able to obtain what he requires at moderate figures, and at prices lower than he has had to pay in some recent seasons. Clovers and grasses suited to meadows and pastures are first dealt with, and form the subjects of a number of attractive illustrations. Mixtures of seeds for one, two, and three years' ley are given in sufficient detail for the practical man."

POST FREE TO AGRICULTURISTS ON APPLICATION.

The Royal Seed Establishment, READING.

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Telegrams: "Goolds, London," "Goolds, Carlisle."

R. W. GOOLD & CO.

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HIGH-GRADE

FERTILIZERS for ALL CROPS

Sulphate of Ammonia. Nitrate of Soda. Dried Blood Phosphates. Basic Slag. Bone Meal. Sulphate and Muriate of Potash. Kainit. Feeding Stuffs. Seeds. Sheep Dips.

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SPECIAL OAT FERTILIZER.

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JOSEPH FISON & CO., LTD, IPSWICH.

Mark Lane Express Agricultural Journal.

The Only English Journal devoted exclusively to Agriculture.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1902.

A NEW FORM OF COERCION. THE VALUE OF EDITORIAL NOTICES (?).

A short time ago the Editor of the MARK LANE EXPRESS received from a well-known firm a communication, enclosing a paragraph, which in substance was nothing more or less than a puff of some particular specialities in which they were interested. Accompanying the paragraph was a memo requesting its insertion in the editorial columns. In common with communications of this character, which are far more numerous in a newspaper office than the public would imagine, the missive was consigned to the waste-paper basket. Subsequently a letter was received from the same firm, stating that unless the paragraph in question appeared in the news columns, their advertisement in the MARK LANE EXPRESS would be discontinued. The reply to this threat was a courteous acknowledgment, explaining that such notices were not inserted in the editorial columns of the MARK LANE EXPRESS, any matter of that nature being confined strictly to the review of catalogues. A reply immediately came back for the advertisement to be stopped, which was accordingly done.

The MARK LANE EXPRESS has never had to feed its advertisement pages through the influence of its editorial columns, the two departments being quite distinct, and conducted without the least partiality. The descriptive accounts of new and improved implements and other farming accessories, scientific and useful researches and experiments, as applied to manures and feeding stuffs, written by disinterested people, and which are published from time to time for the benefit of its readers, have always been a feature of the MARK LANE EXPRESS, but never used as a lever for procuring advertisements or pecuniary gain in other ways.

The MARK LANE EXPRESS, on the verge of celebrating its 70th birthday, occupies a stronger position than ever, and has no need in its old age to enlist the services so kindly suggested of any of its advertisers in the assistance of the editorial department.

SPRING HORSE SHOWS: THE SHIRE.

Once again we are on the eve of the London Spring Horse Shows. To-morrow will find the Agricultural Hall, Islington, filled with animals which have been sent from all parts of the country to take part in the twenty-third annual show of the Shire Horse Society, while in the two following weeks the same building

will be devoted to Hackneys, Thoroughbreds, Hunters, and Polo Ponies.

A record entry has been secured for the Shire Show, the number totalling 860, as against 667 last year and 545 in 1900. The sudden jump in entries is remarkable, the increase occurring principally in the class for stallions. This section shows an increase of 141, geldings an increase of 10, and mares and fillies an increase of 42. To accommodate the very large number, it has been necessary to re-model the plan of boxes in the galleries, whereby 160 additional stalls will be provided; the annexes attached to the galleries have also been re-arranged. These changes have brought about a great economy, but still the authorities found they were compelled to stable all the yearling stallions in stalls and also the yearling fillies. A further change that is worthy of notice is that so great has been the entry of animals to be sold by auction that the sale has been spread over two days. This week it will be found mares and fillies will be sold on Thursday between 9 a.m. and 1,30, while on the Friday stallions and geldings will come under the hammer.

It has long been customary to speak of the reserve, highly commended, and commended cards as "barren honours," but the Shire Horse Society have robbed this phrase of its accuracy, the council of that body, after consideration, having decided that a money prize should accompany these decorations. In future at this show exhibitors of the reserve animals will receive £3 each, highly commended £2 each, and commended £1 each. The total cost to the society of the innovation will amount to upwards of £200, but there can be but little doubt that the institution of these prizes will be warmly welcomed by exhibitors.

FARMERS' IMCOME TAX.

With the income tax at 1s. 2d. in the £, and the possibility of a further increase, it may not be inopportune to consider the position of the farmer in respect of this unpopular impost. Generally speaking, farmers are assessed under Schedule B at one-third of their rent; but they have the option, if they prefer it, of being assessed under Schedule D on their average yearly profits of the three preceding years.

Thus, if the rent be £300 a year, the assessable income is estimated at £100. But incomes under £160 a year are exempt altogether, and therefore if a farmer has no independent source of income, and does not occupy any land or houses of his own, he is not liable to pay income tax unless his rent amounts to £480 a year.

We wonder how many farmers are assessed to the tax, and go on paying year by year, who are really entitled to be exempt? That there are many such we have reason to believe from instances which are brought to our notice from time to time. It may be asked, "How can these things be, if the rent is the basis, and the exemption is fixed by law?" We answer that it is due to the indifference or carelessness with which the average farmer fills up his annual return. On the last page of the return there is a form of exemption or abatement, with explicit instructions that if it is desired to claim relief this form must be filled up, and every source of income, whether arising from the farm or not, must be set forth. If the farmer neglects to complete this claim of exemption or abatement, some surveyors of taxes appear to assume (as they are entitled to do) that he acts advisedly, and that he or his wife has an independent income, which, aggregated with the assessment of his farm, disentitles him to relief. Therefore, in the case we have put, of a rental of £300, although the apparent assessable income is only £100 (which should be exempt), it is assumed that it is not the only income, and as the surveyor has no positive information before him he gives the Revenue the benefit of the doubt, and charges the tax on the £100. Probably he argues that if he is mistaken the farmer will promptly appeal, and then the assessment can be cancelled, or adjusted to the proper amount.

In many cases, however, the farmer, from ignorance or patriotism, has accepted the burden as one of the ills that flesh is heir to, and it is only now that the tax has become so onerous that he is beginning to wake up. We do not say that this custom is universal, as we believe some surveyors give the farmer the benefit of the doubt, unless they have reason to believe that he has some other means of subsistence. The practice appears to vary in different districts, and is probably influenced by the view of the surveyor for the time being responsible for the assessment.

We have recently known several cases in which farmers, who have for years been paying on an assessment in respect of which they have been entitled to total or partial exemption, have not only sought and obtained the relief due to them, but have also obtained a return of tax for the past three years, approaching £20 in amount. Such windfalls, whether large or small, being in the nature of "found money," will surely be very welcome in many homes, and we advise farmers and others who have not already studied the question to consider whether they are not paying more than they should, and whether they also have not a nice little sum banked at Somerset House, only awaiting a proper application for its return.

Not only are incomes of less than £160 totally exempt, but incomes under £400 are entitled to an abatement of £160, and there are other smaller abatements, down to £70, on incomes between £400 and £700. Thus no one whose total assessable income is less than £700 is liable to pay the tax on the full amount, although, as we have shown, the abatement often is not allowed simply because it is not asked for.

But in arriving at the assessable amount, the wife's income must be added to that of the husband, unless she derives such income from a trade carried on apart from her husband. It is one of the inconsistencies of the law that, although it insists that husband and wife are two distinct persons, and deprives the husband of all interest in the property of his wife, yet it maintains that the two incomes are one when it wants to make them liable to taxation. We wonder when this relic of identity of husband and wife will disappear? How much longer will wives submit to this slur on their individuality?

We said at the outset that farmers had the option of being assessed under Schedule D. This is the schedule under which tradesmen and professional men pay on their average yearly profits. In the case of small farmers, with no independent means, Schedule B will be the most convenient basis, as they will be entitled to total exemption without the trouble of keeping accounts. If a large farmer has had a succession of bad years, and can show that he has made little or no profit, it may be better for him to make his return under Schedule D, and so escape assessment altogether, instead of having to pay on one-third of a heavy rent, and then claim repayment. He cannot do this unless he has kept proper accounts, and is in a position to present his balance-sheets to the surveyor of taxes. We should be the last to suggest that farmers should neglect to keep accounts, but we have to face the fact that their book-keeping is frequently defective, and too often non-existent. Rather would we urge the economy of keeping a simple form of farm accounts, for even where a farmer is assessed on his rent, and has paid the tax under Schedule B, he can obtain a return of it, wholly or in part, if he can show that his supposed profits are illusory, and that he has made nothing, or something less than one-third of his rent. Persons desiring to claim a return of tax on this ground can obtain all information from their surveyor of taxes, who will also furnish a printed form of account of profit and loss to be used in support of the claim. The form of balance-sheet is a simple one, and only involves a stock-taking at the beginning and end of the year, and an account of the year's receipts and payments under different heads. On one side there is the value of stock and produce at the beginning of the year, purchases of live stock, corn seeds, feeding stuffs, and manure, rent, tithe, rates, and taxes, labour, and tradesmen's accounts; on the other side, live stock and produce at the end of the year, sales of stock, produce, wool, corn, seeds, &c., agistments, and other receipts. The difference on one side or the other shows the profit or loss.

Farmers desiring further information on this important question are advised to apply to the Secretary of the Board of Agriculture for a copy of leaflet No. 26, "Farmers and the Income Tax," which may be obtained from him free of charge. Letters addressed to him officially are "postage free."



By a Man of Mark Lane.

The Paris "Official Journal" states that, according to the reports of the departmental professors of agriculture, the wheat crop prospects in France are very good in one department, good in thirty-four, fairly good in forty-one, passable in nine, and middling in two departments. For oats the prospects are very good in two departments, good in thirty-one, fairly good in twenty-five, and passable in six.

The receipts on account of Revenue from April 1, 1901, when there was a balance of £5,596,918, to February 15, 1902, were £117,720,202, against £107,365,213 in the corresponding period of the preceding financial year, which began with a balance of £3,517,047. The net expenditure was £171,383,420, against £160,614,314 to the same date in the previous year. The Treasury balances on February 15, 1902, amounted to £8,990,376, and at the same date in 1901 to £2,610,397.

At a meeting of the Royal Meteorological Society held on Wednesday, Mr. E. Mawley, F.R.H.S., submitted his report on the Phenological Observations for the year 1901, in which he showed that as affecting vegetation the weather was chiefly remarkable for the scanty rainfall during the growing period of the year. The deficiency was not confined to any part of the British Isles, but was more keenly felt in the English counties than in either Scotland or Ireland. Wild plants came into flower very late, but not quite as late as in the previous phenological year, which was an exceptionally backward one.

The swallow, cuckoo, and other spring migrants were as a rule rather behind their usual dates in reaching these islands. The crops of wheat, barley, and oats were all more or less above average in Scotland and Ireland. On the other hand, in England, though there was a fair yield of wheat, that of barley and oats was very deficient. Hay proved everywhere a small crop, and especially so in the southern districts of England. Beans, peas, turnips, swedes, mangolds, and potatoes were all more or less under average in England, but either good or fairly good elsewhere. The yield of hops proved singularly abundant. Apples, pears, and plums were below average, especially apples, but the small fruits as a rule yielded well. Taking farm and garden crops together, seldom has there been a less bountiful year.



By a Lobbyist.

The secession of Lord Rosebery from the Bannermanites has a considerable significance to those who are interested in the taxation of land. The causes which lie beneath the surface in connection with this secession are of more significance than are those which are immediately apparent. If my information is correct, Lord Rosebery is opposed entirely to the Radical policy of the taxation of land values. At this moment it is only proposed that the economic principle involved in this Radical proposal should be applied to urban areas. The suggested taxation should, it is advised, provide the necessary taxation for the better housing of the working-classes, and for that improved sanitation which the heroic and eloquent Radicals profess to believe will be the parent of a bettered community. However, it is impossible that, if once applied to the towns, the rural districts can be long exempted. Lord Rosebery is by no means a land nationaliser, and of land nationalisation this proposal may be said to be a kind of illegitimate offspring. He does not believe in any way encouraging the Radical theorists, who dream of a tax of twenty shillings in the pound on rent. He is, in fact, economically a sanitist. Herein lies the real significance of his split from the Bannermanites. Of course, the ineffable "C. B."—by the way, his adulators have, after the current fashion, already begun to dub him "our great and revered leader"—will swim with the extremists. The Roseberians, however, will offer a very rebuking breakwater.

Let me ask my readers if they do not perceive in the debate which has taken place on the rating of site values in towns a rebuke to that fatal apathy with which all concerned in the economic position of the rural districts regard their own weal. This Bill, which Mr. Trevelyan introduced, was confessedly modelled on the minority report of the Royal Commission on Taxation. Now, if that Commission had originally any purpose whatever, it was to equalise the taxation applying to rural areas. I do not say that it was ever intended to exclude urban taxation from the purview of the Commission, but I repeat that the idea in the minds of the authors of the Commission was to equalise the conditions of taxation in rural areas. Which among the bodies affecting to be interested in the weal of the agrarian interest has even sought to embody in a formal measure any suggestion of the Commission which would improve the rating conditions of the country districts? Well, I do not know of one. There have been one or two academic and invertebrate discussions, but that is all. It has been again left to the avaricious politicians of the towns to take advantage of an effect designed principally for the interest of farmers and landlords.

Now, there was an opportunity during the discussion on this Bill which might well have been utilised to the advantage of agriculture. If I understand the measure aright, its purpose was that urban land should not be left in the same category as turnip-fields and pasture-land. It embodied in effect a proposal that a larger part of the rates should be thrown upon the more wealthy districts. It proposed to register the fact that site value is due not to the action of the owner of the land, but to the movement of population. Now, I am not going to urge that this proposal is a justification of the Rates Act; but I do say that if the movement of a rural population to the towns, with its consequent increased building, is a justification for increased taxation, then the migration of that population from the villages is a justification for applying a more sensitive and sympathetic policy to those villages. Do not believe that I for a moment am under the foolish misapprehension that the Radicals would yield this contention. However, advantage might have been taken of the opportunity to press home the assertion that if an enlarged population justifies an increased taxation, then a diminished population justifies if not reduced taxation, at least more sympathetic treatment. But who was there ready to press this point home? Not a soul.

I must congratulate another rural M.P. in the person of Mr. Grant Lawson on his debut as a Minister. Mr. T. P. O'Connor has not too wittily—though, by the way, the Radicals have gone into ecstacies over the feeble point—dubbed him "the triangle of the ministerial band." The description is ludicrously inappropriate. Mr. Lawson revealed, even in the discussion upon this Rating of Urban Sites Bill, that he has a command of sonorous phraseology, antagonistic to, or at least inharmonically bold in comparison with, the tinkle of the triangle. He can tell you that a mild revolution in taxation—and it was a very mild proposal which this Bill proposed—will shoot the world over an economic and socialistic Niagara in as vehement a manner as ever did any man standing at the Treasury table. When Mr. Grant Lawson first entered the House of Commons I hailed him as a man calculated by his considerable abilities to place agriculture under undeniable obligations to him. I am sorry to say that he has not realised my expectation—not certainly because of any diminished ability on his part, but simply because he has preferred to, in a large measure, exhibit that ability in other fields. He has assuredly not forsaken agriculture, but he has not given it that active aid which at least I expected of him. Well, it can at least be said for him that agriculture in its sinister somnolence did not apparently desire any active interference from him on its behalf. But to return to our muttons, as the French would say. Mr. Grant Lawson has made a most creditable appearance, and, when he has got over his natural desire to say smart and resounding things, he will find that the House is appreciative of his intellectual parts.

I am glad to say that what I may describe as the agricultural possibilities which have been suggested by this remount scandal—into whose dramatic and too odorous details I am not going to again penetrate—are now fully appreciated in the House of Commons. There are nigh upon a hundred M.P.'s who are ready and even eager to ask the question, "Why should not England herself reap some of the advantage from the horse-market which the necessities of the army have called into existence?" The remarkable fact is that at the very moment when the wisdom of establishing imperial stud-farms here in England has been suggested, the very same proposal has been made to the Indian Government. The Indian proposal has, however, a greater authority than the English. That proposal emanates from a carefully-appointed commission, whose members in their report contend that it is almost fatal to the safety of our Indian Empire to allow the army to rely upon some ill-regulated and ad-captandum method of supply. The Indian Government should have assured sources of supply within its own confines to which it could resort in the certain knowledge of having its necessities met. This same argument applies in a measure to England.

The Indian proposal is that these stud-farms should be an imperial establishment. That is not the present English idea. The suggestion of the advocates in the House of Commons of a native provision of horse-flesh for the army is rather that it should be left to private enterprise, but private enterprise stimulated by a grant from the Government. Of course, it is apparent that no return could accrue to the proprietors of the farms for some years, and it is urged that it is unbusinesslike to expect these men to incur a huge expense for the mere sake of patriotism. Besides, in the first place, the effort must be more or less experimental in character. It should not be impossible to formally approach the Ministry on the question. Devonshire and Norfolk M.P.'s have revealed a particular interest in the matter. Which among these legislators has the hardihood to formulate a definite scheme? I have reason to know that the Ministry would welcome it. It is possible that, in the imperial and party excitements of the present day, it would not be given an immediate consideration, but I can assure them that Ministerial sympathy would lend it a fertilising character.



By Hordeum.

Sowing.

The hard frost of the past fortnight has followed on a season peculiarly favourable for a fine tilth, so if we get a spell of dry weather we may see a large breadth of barley sown long before we have twelve hours' sun. Much of it will be got in well, and it is a pity we have so little information as to how much this factor contributes to the ultimate success of the crop.

It has been shown, nine seasons out of ten, that early sowing is better than late, especially when quality is desired, and it stands to reason it should be so.

I have already dwelt upon the good results likely to follow careful selection of seed and preparation of soil, but there are other considerations that pay to bear in mind just at this season. Everyone need not, nor could they, if they wished, exhibit at the Barley Show at the Brewers' Exhibition, but every sower of barley this spring can at least take some of the preliminary steps that may mean a very handsome return next October.

For years past there has been a long and steadily growing

List of Rich Prizes

open to growers of barley who gave the matter a little thought in the early spring. This year the schedule is brought out much earlier than ever before, in order that all careful men may look ahead and take the necessary steps to qualify for as many of these prizes as may be offered to their locality.

Some counties have been more favoured than others, to an extent that at one time some districts were loaded down with opportunities, and others had no chance at all, excepting the rather remote one of competing against all England. This year all this is changed, and there is no single county that has not several valuable prizes open to it. Many of these are arranged so that one or two counties only are competing against each other, and as a consequence any grower, or dealer, can know within a little what he is competing against.

County Prizes

in almost every case are supplemented by a wide diversity of other awards, many of which a man can now qualify himself to secure; but he cannot do so in a few weeks time in the same way. Our seedsmen have many of them offered special prizes for years, and whilst many are taken, a greater number remain unallotted. Yet, surely, it must be wiser in the end to use approved seed, obtained from a first-class firm of repute, even if it did not bring in its train the probability of securing high county honours, and the consequent better price that prize barleys always command.

Then the various makers and dealers in all kinds of

Artificial Manures

offer very numerous rich prizes, in such manner that a lot of men may qualify with a strong probability of success.

For instance, Fison and Co. (Ipswich) offer to eight groups of counties no less than thirty prizes any one of which is worth winning. Colchester's (also of Ipswich) do the same for some counties, notably the West Riding of Yorkshire, and many others do the same for different districts. Webb and Sons (Stourbridge) favour certain Western and Midland districts; Crone and Taylor (St. Helens), are more free from restriction, and open to all, whilst mention could be made of several more. But all barley growers should get hold of

one of the schedules of the prize list, etc., now offered, and study out the matter for themselves.

Over twenty medals, thirty silver cups, and upwards of £800 in cash are already offered, and the number of classes has risen from 28 to 44, with every prospect of further increase before the list is finally complete.

Maltsters are this year going more earnestly into the matter, as they realise that improvement in barley gives them a better chance of doing business. Good malt can only be made from

Fine Barleys,

and a big supply of high grade barleys can only be got from neighbourhoods where soil and climate are seized by intelligent men and made to give good results, purely, through proper methods of cultivation being steadily practised. The very best men admit the need for further improvement, and it is cheering to find further encouragement offered to counties not before recognised. Mr. Flinn offers prizes to Ireland; Messrs. Samuel Thompson and Sons to eight West Midland counties, in which they work malt houses; Lord Wenlock again gives to East Yorkshire, and many others too numerous to specify. In fact, the schedule this year runs to no less than twelve pages, and whilst only two donors drop out, their places are very amply filled. Everyone this year can stand a chance if he will act with discretion and diligence.

THE DAIRY.

The Price of Milk.

At a meeting of the Gloucestershire and Somerset Dairy Farmers' Society the following resolution was carried unanimously:—"Resolved that, according to information received from dairy farmers' societies in other parts of the country, and also considering the present increased cost of producing and distributing milk, the council of this society cordially approve of the decision come to by an influential body of dairy farmers of the surrounding district, that a moderate increased price be charged for milk, and are of the opinion that the wholesale and retail milk-sellers of the districts covered by the society are amply justified in seeking to obtain a higher price from the public during the coming year."

On Wednesday North Derbyshire farmers decided to make an advance of 1d. per gallon for milk on and after March 25 next. The chief reason for the change is that cows, it is stated, are costing 2s. 6d. per week more to keep than they were a year ago.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending February 18, 1902:—

Swine Fever.	Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.		No.	66	161 327 048	1,479	1,354 2,784 4,928	
	Outbreaks.		No.	17	42 30 61	245	245 248 313	
Rabies.	Cases Reported.	Oth'r Anim'ls.	No.	...	...	...	1	...
		Dogs.	No.	...	...	2	...	...
Pleuro-Pneumonia.	Cattle Slaughtered.	Exposed to Infection.	No.	...	...	...	...	...
		Diseased.	No.	...	...	...	...	...
	Outbreaks.		No.	...	...	...	...	...
Glanders (inc. Farcy).	Animals Attacked.		No.	33	34 63 17	333	341 260 156	
	Outbreaks.		No.	18	13 24 11	157	175 155 88	
Foot-and-Mouth Disease.	Animals Attacked.		No.	...	...	...	31 30	...
	Outbreaks.		No.	...	1	...	6 6	...
Anthrax.	Animals Attacked.		No.	26	13 13 8	212	127 105 101	
	Outbreaks.		No.	19	9 12 6	121	86 68 69	
Period.					Week ended Feb. 15 1902	Total for 7 weeks, 1902	Corresponding period in	
					Corresponding week in		Corresponding period in	

NOTE.—The figures for the current Year are approximate only.

I am glad to be able to state that the Right Hon. R. W. Hanbury, M.P., President of the Board of Agriculture, has recovered from the severe chill contracted on the 4th inst., he being able to leave his bed on Thursday.



Home Notes.

The Borough.

Although the demand for hops last week was slightly slower than during the preceding fortnight, sufficient activity prevailed, not only to maintain values, but, in the majority of cases, to improve them. Growers are now practically off the market as regards choice or even good qualities, and if any lots of such grades are available they can be sold without difficulty at full season's prices. Failing these, buyers are condescending to examine and bid for growths, or parts of growths, which have frequently passed under their view, but which they have previously discarded as beneath their notice. The course that the trade appears to be taking is somewhat curious. Merchants are at present inclined to neglect the medium of fairly passable samples, and are giving special attention to the qualities which have hitherto rested unsold on offer at 20s. to 25s per cwt. These hops are now saleable at 30s. to 55s., and last week there was a marked inclination to make bids up to 40s. It is evident that the 1901 crop is being rapidly disposed of, and the general feeling of factors is in favour of the further hardening of values of all descriptions. The present position of affairs certainly indicates a gathering of strength. I can speak of the renewed health of the business with much more confidence than was possible in my last report, and as the hops that are now being handled are doubtless bought for immediate consumption, we may indulge in the pleasant hope that the immediate movement will be sustained, and that brighter times are awaiting the trade.

Imports and Exports.

With the Board of Trade returns for January before me, I am able to bring the figures of our foreign movements nearly up to date and find the following results. We have imported during the season from September 1st, 1901, to January 31st, 1902 from—

	Cwts.
United States of America	62,043
Other countries	20,019
Total	82,062

During the corresponding period of 1900 and 1901 our imports were—

	Cwts.
United States of America	110,336
Other countries	44,644
Total	154,980

It therefore appears that thus far there is a total deficiency of imports this season, as compared with last, of 72,918 cwts. Proportionately the falling off of 24,000 cwts. from the European supply is greater than that from America, although the latter has diminished to the extent of 48,000 cwts, or over 43 per cent. But the contrast between the two seasons is more pronounced, if we take account of the exports, which were as follows:—

	1900-1	1901-2
	Cwts.	Cwts.
English Hops ...	7,941 ...	11,861
Foreign Hops ...	1,109 ...	1,366
	9,050 ...	13,227

By deducting these figures from those given above it will be seen that the balances are:—

1900-1 ... 145,930 cwts. 1902 ... 68,835 cwts.

the actual reduction of the loading of our market therefore being 77,095 cwts., which equals fully 53 per cent.

From these calculations we may safely conclude that the

English crop mainly regulates its own value.

The examination of the returns of other seasons confirms this view, and forces upon us the conviction that English hops are estimated by English brewers from a different point of view than that from which they regard foreign growths, and that consequently English growers possess greater control over the value of their produce than they have hitherto been induced to believe. The imports bogey may be pushed aside with comparative ease and safety, and our planters should, like sensible men, set themselves to the task of regulating the quantity and quality of their annual supplies to meet the position they undoubtedly occupy. It matters not what means are adopted to adjust the supply to the demand. For instance, I am not unwilling to endorse the views of my friend, Mr. Galliers, of Wistaston; Herefordshire, whereby he urges the growth only of the best approved sorts, and the grubbing of the inferior ones. Should this policy be universally adopted, his contention that 50,000 acres will still be required for the sufficient supply, may perhaps be found to be correct. At any rate, we have to face known facts, and "by hook or by crook," the important object of limiting the supply to the actual requirement must be accomplished if our industry is to be maintained in a prosperous and remunerative condition.

Foreign Notes.

My reports concerning foreign markets are this week somewhat meagre and uninteresting, therefore I need not trouble my readers with very lengthy remarks. At Nuremberg business is going on at steady pace, though its volume has rather fallen off during the past few days. The value of any choice hops is fully maintained, and the scarcity of such qualities tends to enhance the present currency. Hallertaus are in good demand, also good Badens and Bohemians; but inferior kinds of any district can be bought at rather less money, as consumers are inclined to neglect them, and inquiries for export to England, which were expected to assist the market in this direction, have fallen off. Business in Belgium is quiet, but without any perceptible reaction from recent advancement of prices. Extremely few hops now remain in first hands, and growers who are still holding are little disposed to sell at current offers.

From America I hear that in many parts of New York State there is an increasing inclination for the reduction of acreage. Many small growers in Decatur (Otsego Co.) will go out of the business, and no new yards have been set, beyond the replacement of exhausted land. In Chenango Co. the acreage will be decreased on the whole, and similar action will be taken in Madison Co. In Schoharie Co. present acreage may probably be maintained, but no increase will take place. From Oregon I have two reports, which refer to the discouragement of growers, who, having only a light crop last year, were not sufficiently remunerated. The situation on the New York market is practically unchanged. Brewers are not active buyers, and export trade is not large. The comparison of receipts and exports of hops for last season and the present continues to show considerable advantage in favour of the former. Current quotations for all grades remain firm at previous figures, and the feeling amongst holders favours increased strength.

Staffordshire.

Mr. J. B. Bull presided at the annual meeting of the Staffordshire Agricultural Society, held on the 25th ult., at Stafford. The report of the committee stated that, notwithstanding the fact that the Newcastle show clashed with the Shrewsbury Floral Fête, it was a financial success. This was attributable more particularly to the result of the action of the sub-committee appointed last year to inquire into the general expenses of the society, with a view to curtailing them as much as possible. The exhibition was held under the presidency of Mr. T. W. Twyford, who took the greatest interest in all the arrangements for the event, and was supported in his endeavours to promote the success of the meeting by the Mayor of Newcastle (Alderman R. B. Mellard) and an influential committee. The town and district responded liberally to the appeal for support, and after providing for the usual guarantee towards the expenses and special prizes the local committee were enabled to hand over a surplus of £16 towards the society's funds.

The total receipts for the year amounted to £3,046, and the expenditure up to December 31st £2,866, showing a surplus of £179. A further sum of £13 was due for prizes awarded at the last exhibition, but not yet payable, leaving a net balance of £166 to the credit of the past year. The society's investments were valued on December 31 at £1,156. During the past year the society had sustained a loss of 64 members by death and withdrawal, while 20 members whose subscriptions had fallen considerably into arrear had been struck off. The society now consisted of 529 members, whose annual subscriptions amounted to £472.

Colonel Shaw Helier moved the adoption of the report. This was seconded by Mr. Wibberley, and carried.

A vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. T. W. Twyford, to each of the vice-presidents, to the treasurer, and to the committee for their services during the year. Mr. J. W. Phillips, of Heybridge, Tean, was elected president of the society for the year, and Mr. T. C. Smith, Admaston, Mr. F. E. Richardson, Bramshall, and Mr. T. Wood, Croxden Abbey, were appointed farmers' vice-presidents. The general committee was reappointed.

It was decided to hold the exhibition this year at Uttoxeter, on August 27 and 28.

SOCIETY NOTES.

The members of the Selby Agricultural Club met at Selby on Monday afternoon to discuss the suggested tax on imported wheat and flour. After some speeches had been made, all of which were in favour of the tax, the following resolution was carried unanimously, and a copy ordered to be sent to the Yorkshire Union of Agricultural Clubs:—"That the members of the Selby Agricultural Club are strongly of opinion that a duty on foreign flour and cereals would be to the advantage of all classes of the community, and that this special meeting of the Selby Agricultural Club requests the President of the Yorkshire Union of Agricultural Clubs and Chambers of Agriculture to call an extraordinary meeting of the Union at the earliest possible moment; to pass a resolution that a deputation from the Union wait upon the Chancellor of the Exchequer to urge upon him the advisability of imposing a duty or registration fee upon flour and cereals, or a duty or registration fee on similar lines, to partly meet the expense of the war, and that all the county members be invited to attend, and the Right Hon. James Lowther, M.P., be asked to address the meeting."

The subject was also discussed at the annual meeting of the Pocklington Agricultural Club held on Monday, and a resolution was adopted urging the Government to impose a duty upon all cereals imported from abroad other than from the Colonies of 2s. per qr. of 480lb., and on all manufactured flour of 2s. 6d. per sack of 20 stones. The report presented by the secretary showed that the club is in a very satisfactory condition. The past year closed with a balance in hand of £28 18s. 6d., although the expenses have been slightly higher than in the previous year, whilst the numerical strength of the club remained about the same.

The closing of the Argentine ports to British cattle caused a considerable loss of revenue to the Kent and Romney Marsh Sheep Breeders' Association last year, for at the annual meeting it was stated that the export certificates in 1901 only resulted in a sum of £1 15s. being added to the exchequer, whereas in 1900 the result was £25 5s. There was also another cause of a reduced revenue, namely—the decrease in the number of rams entered, this also being responsible for a reduction of some £20. Taking the year's working, a loss occurred of £12 5s. 10d. The membership, however, continues to increase steadily. It was decided to ask Major Howard, M.P., to accept the presidency for the year, and Colonel Warde, M.P., and Lieut.-Colonel Pennefather, of New Romney, were made vice-presidents.

The Wetherby and District Chamber of Agriculture celebrated its first anniversary on the 14th inst., when a dinner and the annual meeting took place. The report was a most gratifying one, the membership being shown to number 79, and the accounts revealed a balance in hand of £14 1s. 4d. It was wisely decided to affiliate with the Yorkshire Union of Agricultural Clubs. The chief speaker at the dinner was Sir Robert Gunter, M.P., who referred to the proposal to re-impose a register fee on corn, and said that by this means we could pay off at once the supplementary war vote. Such a fee would not mean protection, but would be a war tax. Bread was at present very low in price, wheat being only 28s. per quarter, and if the price were to go up he considered it would be only the bakers who would profit. At any rate he thought such a tax would do no harm.

A strong committee of the Sussex County Agricultural Society has initiated a movement for recognising the services rendered by Mr. Walter F. Ingram to that society. It is fifteen years since Mr. Ingram, in conjunction with a few other gentlemen, conceived the idea of forming the society, which has now grown to considerable importance as an agricultural society in the country. During the whole of this period Mr. Ingram has acted as Chairman of the Council, which has necessitated a vast amount of work, the Chairman of the Council also being chairman of the various committees and sub-committees appointed. It is suggested that subscriptions should be limited to one guinea, and it is hoped that a ready response will be made. The subscription list is now open, and it is proposed to close it on the last day of March. Cheques should be made payable and sent to either of the joint hon. secretaries, Mr. James Woodhams, Havelock Road, Hastings; or Mr Walter Lintott, the Estate Offices, Lewes.

The Buxton Horse Show Society is, according to the report presented at the annual meeting, now in a more flourishing condition than ever before, having a substantial balance in the bank. The Right Hon. R. W. Hanbury, President of the Board of Agriculture, was elected president for the year, in succession to Mr. Victor Cavendish, M.P., who was heartily thanked for the interest he always takes in the show. September 12 was decided upon as the date for this year's show.

SEVENTH REPORT

ON THE

SUGAR-BEET GROWING EXPERIMENTS

IN

GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

Carried out and Conducted by

SIGMUND STEIN,

Manager, Sugar Refinery, Liverpool.

In continuing my experiments of sugar beetroot growing in the United Kingdom I have the honour to publish to-day my seventh report thereon. The great progress which has been made in sugar beetroot growing in the United Kingdom can easily be seen by comparison with my previous reports. Practically better results have been achieved year after year, and the farmers who continued these experiments have now nothing to learn from their Continental confrères in the art of sugar beetroot growing.

The same as in previous years, different soils and manures have been used in these experiments, and the variety increased by the distribution of different kinds of seed cultivated under different circumstances.

In regard to the manuring, very interesting experiments have been carried out. By the kindness of Chemical Works, late H. and E. Albert, Agricultural Department, London, I have been enabled to carry out a series of experiments with basic slag supplied free of cost by them. In a number of the experiments, especially in those carried out on light soils, kainit was also applied to the plots dressed with basic slag, and was supplied gratis by the Agricultural Office of the Potash Syndicate. As will be seen from the tables below, the beetroots grown on soils manured with basic slag—or on light soils with basic slag and kainit—show excellent results, and compare favourably with those roots not so treated. I do not think that such extensive comparative experiments in manuring beets with basic slag and kainit have ever been carried out before in this country.

The results received bring me to the strict conviction that basic slag is an excellent manure for sugar beetroots, to be supplemented, specially on light soils, with kainit. The beets benefit by such manuring both in respect to saccharine strength and weight, and I am so encouraged by these excellent results that I shall recommend in future my farmer friends to use these manures. I may say that many of them agree with me in regard to my judgment as to the use of basic slag.

The time of vegetation has been the same as in previous years, viz., from 140 to 200 days. The weather was not favourable for sugar beetroot growing, and the results being so very satisfactory, it must be said that this year's experiments have been the greatest success of any year yet. As will be seen from the table below, experiments have been carried out in all parts of England, Scotland, and Ireland, and great thanks are due to all the gentlemen who supported my experiments, partly in planting and growing sugar beetroots, partly in inducing their friends to do so, and, lastly, in trying to induce others to take an interest in my scheme.

The great success of beetroot growing in the country encourages me to continue same next season, and more so as I have been asked to do so by gentlemen who have planted beetroots this year, and many others who will grow beetroots experimentally for the first time next year.

This year there have been 89 experiments in the United Kingdom, of which there were in—

England	... 57	experiments.
Scotland	... 4	,,
Ireland	... 28	,,

and the result of these experiments is as follows:—

	Average Analysis of British-grown roots, year 1901.	Average Analysis of German-grown roots, year 1901.
Average weight of roots with leaves (in grammes)	1441	1112
Average weight of roots without leaves (grammes)	851	621
Degrees Brix (dry matter)	19.38	17.66
Specific gravity	1.080	1.073
Quantity of sugar in 100 parts juice	17.02	14.76
Quantity of non sugar in 100 parts juice	2.38	2.90
Quotient of purity	87.82	83.53

As figures speak for themselves, I leave it to the reader to draw his own conclusions. Everyone can clearly see the importance of sugar beetroot growing in these islands. After these very successful experiments I do not think there is any doubt about our climate being suitable or about the ability of our farmers for growing beetroots. As I have proved in my previous publications, there is no need to be frightened of not getting sufficient labour in this country for carrying on beetroot growing.

I regret that, in spite of my instructions and warnings, dozens of people sent me beetroots for analysis without any trace of sender's name. All parcels of roots sent me were analysed, but it is impossible to publish the results without having more particulars. I have received many letters from my farmer friends urging me to let them have reports on beetroots sent, but I cannot now do so after such a long time, as I am unable to trace same. I would ask them in future to be very careful in labelling their samples properly, and to put their name and address on every lot, as well as marking and naming the seed. In future roots grown from different kinds of seed must be packed up separately, as they easily get mixed up when sent all together. It is also very important that the leaves should be attached to the roots, and not sent, as in many cases this year, without leaves. I would also beg my friends to send me only properly-washed and clean roots.

As regards the tonnage per acre, the British-grown roots this year, in tons of roots, without leaves, per acre:—

	Tons per acre.
In 1901	19.4
In 1900	19.1
In 1899	16.9
In 1898	16.3
In 1897	16.7

With regard to the amount of juice, the roots contained on an average:—

Juice	93.8 per cent.
Pulp	6.2 per cent.
	100 per cent.

With regard to the contents of glucose, I have only found traces in reference to Nos. 19, 26, 78, and 86.

The sugar beetroot growing question comes in close contact with the sugar question generally, and I am sorry to say we find ourselves in a very critical position this year in this regard. Over-production in beet and cane sugar has brought about a crisis the like of which has never been seen before. Sugar now rules at such a price as to spell ruin to the manufacturer. Of course, such a state of things cannot last long, as there is no manufacturer in the world who will make sugar for the benefit of the consumers only and for his own loss. A remedy will be found very soon, because they will not go on losing money for ever. It is to be hoped that next season will bring about a reduction of beetroot growing on the Continent of from 20 per cent. to 30 per cent., which will certainly counterbalance the accrued stock and visible supplies which are generally carried over from one season to another, and sugar will then attain its proper price, which will enable the manufacturer to the sugar beetroot grower to live and prosper.

Of course, sugar beetroot experiments are not only carried out during a brilliant commercial season, but also those seasons of critical aspects. My experiments are to prove conclusively that sugar beetroots can be grown successfully in these islands, and quite as well as on the Continent of Europe, with as much profit to the British farmer as to the Continental agriculturist.

I will allude to the remarks of the Right Hon. Earl of Denbigh with reference to the beetroot experiments carried out at Newnham Paddocks, in which he stated that, considering the great tonnage of the roots and the satisfactory analysis of same, according to his convictions, sugar beetroot growing can be carried on at a profit by the British farmer. I quite agree with his lordship, and may add that from the correspondence in my possession from many leading British agriculturists that beetroots can be grown in this country to any amount if sugar beetroot factories are established and fair play given to the British farmer, with the same advantages as the foreign sugar producers and manufacturers. British farmers, manufacturers, and capitalists would soon find the way, and would carry on this profitable industry if factories were established.

As I am writing this article an international conference is being held in Brussels to discuss the question of the abolition of sugar bounties, and I hope that same will come to a satisfactory issue; satisfactory to the continental farmers, manufacturers, and exchequers, and also satisfactory to the British farmers, manufacturers, and capitalists.

Let us have fair play; put us on the same footing as the foreigner; let us be at home in our own country; give us the same rights and no less than the foreigner enjoys in this country. Have we no right in our own country to have the run of the market for ourselves? How long shall we suffer and be the laughing-stock of the world? The foreigner comes here and undersells the Britisher, and one industry after another is going to the wall in consequence, for the benefit of continental enterprise, which countries consider the British market as their best.

If we are a free trade country, let us have free trade, but free trade in general, and not a one-sided free trade. Factories have been erected in this country before, but, as I have mentioned in

ANALYSIS OF SUGAR BEETROOT.

Reference No.	The Trials were made by Mr.	Farming at	What kind of soil?	What manure was used, and how much per acre?	Length of time of Vegetation (Days)	What had been the previous crop?	F. O. Licht, Magdeburg. Average weight in grammes.	Quantity of Sugar in 100 parts of the juice.	Quantity of Non-Sugar in 100 parts of the juice.	Purity	Klein Wanzleben Average weight in grammes.	Quantity of Sugar in 100 parts of the juice.	Quantity of Non-Sugar in 100 parts of the juice.	Purity	Quantity of Sugar in 100 parts of the roots.	Aderstedt (Original) Average weight in grammes.	Quantity of Sugar in 100 parts of the juice.	Quantity of Non-Sugar in 100 parts of the juice.	Purity	Quantity of Sugar in 100 parts of the roots.	Mette Elite. Average weight in grammes.	Quantity of Sugar in 100 parts of the juice.	Quantity of Non-Sugar in 100 parts of the juice.	Purity	Quantity of Sugar in 100 parts of the roots.
				ENGLAND.																					
1	The Right Hon. The Earl of Lathom.	Collin Lane, Latham (Lancaster)	Black loam, sand subsoil	15 tons farmyard manure, 4½ cwt. mangold manure, 5 cwt. salt.	147	Oats	631	14·18	3·02	82·44	886	17·30	2·30	88·26	16·50	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2	Right Hon. Lord Rothschild	Hastoe Farm, Tring (Hertfordshire).	Heavy clay	20 loads farmyard manure, 4 cwt. mangold manure.	151	Swedes	631	14·18	3·02	82·44	...	...	...	...	...	892	17·40	2·30	88·32	16·70	...	...	...	...	...
3	The Right Hon. The Earl of Denbigh.	Home Farm, Newnham Paddox, (Warwickshire).	Heavy loam, clay subsoil	8 cwt. basic slag, 4 cwt. dissolved bones, 2 cwt. sulphate of potash, 1 cwt. nitrate of soda.	158	Wheat	631	14·18	3·02	82·44	746	17·40	2·30	88·32	16·80	...	...	...	...	...	947	18·00	2·40	88·23	17·10
4	William Kenny	Brockhurst Farm, Newnham Paddox (Warwickshire).	Deep loam, clay subsoil	12 loads farmyard manure, 3 cwt. Peruvian guano, 1 cwt. sulphate, 1 cwt. sulphate of ammonia.	149	Winter oats.	631	14·18	3·02	82·44	888	17·80	2·30	88·55	16·80	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5	John Wright	Works, Kirby Manor Farm, Newnham Paddox (Warwickshire).	Heavy loam, clay subsoil	10 loads dung, 6 cwt. slag, 4 cwt. special, 2 cwt. soda, and some kainite.	164	Wheat	631	14·18	3·02	82·44	926	18·30	2·30	88·83	17·40	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
6	John P. Toone	High Cross, Newnham Paddox (Warwickshire).	Medium loam	10 tons farmyard manure, 3 cwts. superphosphate, 3 cwt. kainite, 1 cwt. sulphate of ammonia.	159	Dills	631	14·18	3·02	82·44	923	16·50	2·30	87·76	15·80	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
7	James L. Harrison	Pailten Fields, Newnham Paddox (Warwickshire).	Heavy loam	15 tons farmyard manure, 3 cwt. superphosphate, 1½ cwt. sulphate of ammonia.	176	Oats	631	14·18	3·02	82·44	856	18·50	2·60	87·67	17·80	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
8	T. Thomas	West Royd, Formby (Lancashire)	Sandy loam	10 tons horse manure, 3 cwt. guano	152	Grass	631	14·18	3·02	82·44	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	841	17·30	2·40	87·32	16.00
9	John Woolston, J.P.	North Fields Estate (Lincolnshire).	Medium clay	Farmyard manure, burnt ashes, artificial manure	149	Wheat	631	14·18	3·02	82·44	...	...	...	...	...	888	17·20	2·40	87·76	16·50	...	...	...	...	...
79	George Ford	Canford Farm, Westburn (Gloucestershire).	Clay	1 cwt. kainite, 1 cwt. superphosphate	183	Rye grass	631	14·18	3·02	82·44	816	18·70	2·40	88·62	18·00	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
80	,,	,, ,, ...	,,	,, ,,	183	,,	631	14·18	3·02	82·44	...	...	...	...	...	844	15·80	2·60	85·86	14·90	...	...	...	...	...
81	,,	,, ,, ...	,,	,, ,,	183	,,	631	14·18	3·02	82·44	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	910	16·60	2·50	86·91	15·40
				Average	162		631	14·18	3·02	82·44	863	17·78	2·36	88·28	17·01	874	16·80	2·43	87·31	16·03	899	17·30	2·43	87·65	16·16
							[Vilmorin, white improved.]									[Breustedt.				]	[Braune (Elite).				
10	Edw. Trelfall	Bangor Green Farm, Ormskirk (Lancashire).	Dark sandy	20 tons farmyard manure	159	Barley	582	17·38	2·32	88·22	879	15·80	2·40	86·81	15·00	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
11	Ths. Congrave	Halton, Halgate (Lincolnshire).	Silt	None	149	Mangold	580	17·13	2·47	87·40	910	16·20	2·40	87·09	15·60	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
12	James Egar	Knarr Lodge Farm, (Cambridge)	Black	None	153	Barley	580	17·13	2·47	87·40	940	17·00	2·20	88·54	16·10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
13	,,	,, ,,	,,	Basic slag and potash	153	Potatoes	580	17·13	2·47	87·40	1012	17·80	2·00	87·25	17·00	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
14	,,	,, ,,	,,	Potash and nitrate of soda	153	,,	580	17·13	2·47	87·40	986	16·40	2·30	87·70	15·90	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
15	Charles Spilstead	Park Farm, Longfield (Sussex)	Light sandy	4 ctn. salt, 1 cwt. nitrate of soda	137	Oats	582	17·38	2·32	88·22	1024	17·10	2·30	88·14	16·00	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
16	William Aldrige, B.A.	Shepton Mallet (Somerset)	Loamy	None	180	Swedes	631	14·18	3·02	82·44	910	16·20	2·40	87·09	15·60	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
17	,,	,, ,,	,,	Nitrate of soda 400 lb.	180	,,	631	14·18	3·02	82·44	860	16·70	2·50	88·02	16·00	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
18	,,	,, ,,	,,	Basic slag 600 lb.	180	,,	631	14·18	3·02	82·44	1142	15·20	2·30	86·85	14·60	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
19	,,	,, ,,	,,	Kainite 400 lb.	180	,,	631	14·18	3·02	82·44	713	16·20	2·40	87·09	15·00	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
20	,,	,, ,,	,,	Nitrate of soda 400 lb. and basic slag 600 lb.	180	,,	631	14·18	3·02	82·44	692	17·10	2·50	87·24	16·00	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
21	,,	,, ,,	,,	Nitrate of soda, kainite 400 lb. each, and 600 lb. basic slag	180	,,	631	14·18	3·02	82·44	926	14·20	2·20	86·85	13·50	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
22	,,	,, ,,	,,	400 lb. kainite and 600 lb. basic slag	180	,,	631	14·18	3·02	82·44	862	18·60	2·60	87·73	17·00	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
23	,,	,, ,,	,,	400 lb. nitrate of soda, 400 lb. kainite	180	,,	631	14·18	3·02	82·44	784	17·70	2·70	86·76	17·60	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
24	,,	,, ,,	,,	Sewage sludge	180	,,	631	14·18	3·02	82·44	946	17·50	2·60	87·06	16·70	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
25	,,	,, ,,	,,	Farmyard manure 14 tons	180	,,	631	14·18	3·02	82·44	862	17·20	2·40	87·75	16·00	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
26	Rev. N. F. Warner	Shepton-on-Stone (Warwickshire)	Clay	Basic slag and nitrate of soda	157	Grass	582	17·38	2·32	88·22	...	...	...	...	...	846	17·20	2·20	88·66	16·00	...	...	...	...	...
27	F. M. Jervoise	Herard Estate (Hampshire)	Loamy	12 tons farmyard manure, 3 cwt. superphosphate, 1 cwt. sulphate of ammonia	148	Oats	631	14·18	3·02	82·44	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	962	17·70	2·40	88·06	17·00
63	A. F. Pegg	Furze Hill, North Walsham (Norfolk)	,,	Farmyard manure and nitrate of soda	166	Carrots	631	14·18	3·02	82·41	720	16·20	2·60	86·47	15·60	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
64	,,	,, ,,	,,	Basic slag	166	,,	631	14·18	3·02	82·41	842	17·80	2·40	88·11	17·00	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
77	W. F. Lawrence, M.P.	Cowerfield Farm, Salisbury (Wilts)	Loamy sand on chalk	10 loads of farmyard manure, 3 cwt. guano	153	Wheat	631	14·18	3·02	82·41	919	17·80	2·40	88·11	16·80	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
78	W. W. Low	Meppershall Loo (Beds.)	Heavy clay	5 cwt. basic slag, 3 cwt. nitrate of soda	180	,,	631	14·18	3·02	82·41	685	17·60	2·40	88·10	16·90	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
				Average	166		615	15·15	2·82	84·12	880	16·81	2·43	87·43	15·96	846	17·20	2·20	88·66	16·06	962	17·70	2·40	88·06	17·00
							[Vilmorin, (French Rich.)]									[Schlieckmann.				]	[Braune.				]
28	E. W. Read	Barnard (Durham)	Loamy	Basic slag 4 cwt.	142	Grass	582	17·38	2·32	88·22	586	17·90	2·40	88·17	17·00	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
29	,,	,, ,,	,,	3 cwt superphosphate	142	,,	582	17·38	2·32	88·22	723	18·30	2·40	88·40	17·50	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
30	J. B. Brooks	Mundon, Maldon (Essex)	Heavy clay	Nitrate of soda, basic slag, and dung	144	Wheat	580	17·13	2·47	87·40	810	15·30	2·10	87·90	14·90	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
31	,,	,, ,,	,,	Basic slag	144	,,	580	17·13	2·47	87·40	920	17·20	2·40	87·76	16·50	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
32	,,	,, ,,	,,	None	144	,,	580	17·13	2·47	87·40	594	15·80	2·40	87·36	15·00	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
33	Rev. E. Muckleston, M.A.	Glebe Farm, Haseley (Warwick)	Sandy	7 cwt. basic slag	136	Beans	631	14·18	3·02	82·44	1148	18·40	2·30	88·88	17·00	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
34	,,	,, ,,	,,	None	136	,,	631	14·18	3·02	82·44	892	16·50	2·40	87·30	15·60	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
66	J. M. Scott	Crook Farm, Newent (Glos.)	,,	20 loads farmyard manure, 4 cwt. basic slag, 1 cwt. nitrate of soda, 5 cwt. kainite.	153	Oats	631	14·18	3·02	82·44	920	16·30	2·30	87·63	15·60	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
69	W. Newsham	Old Hall Farm, Aughton (Lanc.)	Light	None	174	Potatoes	631	14·18	3·02	82·44	924	17·70	2·40	88·06	17·10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
70	Joseph Eccles	Raven Meols, Formby (Lanc.)	Sandy loam	Horse and cow manure	199	Rye	631	14·18	3·02	82·44	813	18·30	2·30	88·83	16·40	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
71	Liverpool Corporation	Sewage Farm, Walton (Lanc.)	Dark soil	Sewage	191	Potatoes	631	14·18	3·02	82·44	913	18·70	2·50	88·20	18·00	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
72	,,	,, ,, ,,	,,	,,	191	,,	631	14·18	3·02	82·44	1147	17·00	2·40	87·63	16·10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
73	,,	,, ,, ,,	,,	,,	191	,,	631	14·18	3·02	82·44	...	...	...	...	...	914	18·30	2·60	87·56	17·00	...	...	...	...	...
74	,,	,, ,, ,,	,,	,,	191	,,	631	14·18	3·02	82·44	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	900	18·20	2·40	88·35	16·90
76	Professor Freer Thonger	Colonial College, Hollesley Bay, Suffolk	Sandy	18 loads cow manure	186	Wheat	631	14·18	3·02	82·44	916	18·80	2·40	88·67	17·70	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

82	George Ford	Canford Farm, Westburn (Glos.)	Clay	1 cwt. kainite, 1 cwt. superphosphates	183	Rye grass	631	14·18	3·02	82·44	744	18·70	2·40	85·62	18·00	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
83	J. C. Moens, J.P.	Tweed Farm, Lymington (Hants)	Sandy Loam	56 lb. of sulphate of ammonia, 112 lb. dissolved bones, 5 cwt. basic slag, 227 lb. gypsum, 112 lb. salt.	191	Sugar beet	631	14·18	3·02	82·44	1147	19·00	2·40	88·37	18·10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
84	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,
85	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,
86	Hampshire County Council	Farm School, Old Baring (Hants)	Stiff clay	10 tons farmyard manure	191	,,	631	14·18	3·02	82·44	1016	18·60	2·20	89·37	17·20	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
87	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	10 tons farmyard manure, 4 cwt. basic slag, 2 cwt. nitrate of soda	162	Oats	631	14·18	3·02	82·44	944	18·00	2·40	88·23	16·40	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
88	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	None	162	,,	631	14·18	3·02	82·44	937	18·00	2·20	89·16	16·90	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
89	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	5 cwt. basic slag, 3 cwt. nitrate of soda	162	,,	631	14·18	3·02	82·44	740	18·80	2·30	89·09	1·00	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
							631	14·18	3·02	82·44	826	18·20	2·40	88·35	17·00	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
				Average	**168**		**628**	**15·71**	**2·88**	**83·58**	**881**	**17·75**	**2·36**	**88·47**	**16·80**	**914**	**18·30**	**2·60**	**87·56**	**17·00**	**900**	**18·20**	**2·40**	**88·35**	**16·90**												

SCOTLAND.

							[F. O. Licht, Magdeburg.]				[Vilmorin, white improved.]																									
35	William Angus	Midnear (Aberdeenshire)	Loamy	Four cwts. disolved bones	170	Corn	580	17·13	2·47	87·40	952	16·70	2·30	87·89	15·90	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
36	John M. Porter	Boghead, South Kirmundy (Aberdeenshire).	Black	14 tons farmyard manure, 4 cwt. of mixture of bone dust, sulphate of ammonia and kainite	152	Oats	631	14·18	3·02	82·44	916	17·20	2·40	87·75	16·50	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
37	David Pringle	Ednam, Kelso (Roxburgh)	Loamy	Farmyard manure, 6 cwt. common salt, 1½ cwt. nitrate of soda.	130	,,	582	17·38	2·32	88·22	1134	17·30	2·40	87·82	16·10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
38	William Duncan	Tullis Farm, Nigg (Kincardinshire).	,,	20 tons farmyard manure	150	Corn	580	17·13	2·47	87·40	1011	16·90	2·40	87·56	16·00	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
				Average of the 4 Experiments in Scotland.	**150**		**593**	**16·45**	**2·57**	**86·36**	**1003**	**17·02**	**2·37**	**87·75**	**16·12**	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

IRELAND.

							[F. O. Licht, Magdeburg.]				[Schlieckmann.]					[Adstedt (original).]					[Metti (elite)]													
39	Lieutenant-Colonel Everard	Home Farm, Randlestown (Navan)	Heavy clay	35 tons farmyard manure, 5 cwt. superphosphate	189	Wheat	631	14·18	3·02	82·44	913	18·40	2·40	88·46	17·00	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
40	Professor Carroll	Government Albert Farm, Glasnevin (Dublin).	Clay loam, clay subsoil	20 tons farmyard manure	161	Beet	631	14·18	3·02	82·44	812	15·80	2·60	85·86	15·00	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
41	,,	,,	,,	2½ cwt. sulphate of ammonia	168	,,	631	14·18	3·02	82·44	900	17·30	2·40	87·82	16·60	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
42	,,	,,	,,	2 cwt. nitrate of soda	168	,,	631	14·18	3·02	82·44	947	18·00	2·60	87·38	17·20	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
43	,,	,,	,,	Mixture.—1 part sulphate of Ammonia, 1 part kainite, 2 parts mineral phosphate	168	,,	631	14·18	3·02	82·44	910	17·00	2·40	87·63	16·10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
44	,,	,,	,,	20 tons farmyard manure	168	,,	631	14·18	3·02	82·44	...	...	...	...	...	822	18·10	2·60	87·44	17·00	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
45	,,	,,	,,	2½ cwt. sulphate of ammonia	168	,,	631	14·18	3·02	82·44	...	...	...	...	...	861	17·20	2·70	86·43	16·00	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
46	,,	,,	,,	2 cwt. nitrate of soda	168	,,	631	14·18	3·02	82·44	...	...	...	...	...	916	17·30	2·40	87·82	16·50	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
47	,,	,,	,,	Mixture.—1 part of sulphate of ammonia, 1 part of kainite, 2 parts of mineral phosphate	168	,,	631	14·18	3·02	82·44	...	...	...	...	...	942	17·50	2·61	87·06	16·40	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
48	,,	,,	,,	20 tons farmyard manure	168	,,	631	14·18	3·02	82·44	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	922	18·70	2·70	87·38	17·80									
49	,,	,,	,,	2½ cwt. sulphate of ammonia	168	,,	631	14·18	3·02	82·44	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	792	17·70	2·40	88·06	17·00									
50	,,	,,	,,	2 cwt. nitrate of soda	168	,,	631	14·18	3·02	82·44	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	891	18·40	2·70	87·20	17·20									
51	,,	,,	,,	Mixture.—1 part of sulphate of ammonia, 1 part of kainite, 2 parts of mineral phosphate	168	,,	631	14·18	3·02	82·44	(Including reference No. 39.)					...	...	...	...	...	912	18·30	2·40	88·40	17·50									
				Average (of different seeds)	**168**		**631**	**14·18**	**3·02**	**82·44**	**836**	**17·30**	**2·48**	**87·43**	**16·38**	**885**	**17·52**	**2·57**	**87·18**	**16·47**	**879**	**18·27**	**2·55**	**87·76**	**17·37**												

							[Vilmorin (French rich).]				[Brenstedt.]																									
52	Professor Carroll	Government Albert Farm, Glasnevin (Dublin)	Clay loam	20 tons farmyard manure	168	Sugar beet	631	14·18	3·02	82·44	846	16·30	2·30	87·64	15·40	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
53	,,	,,	,,	2½ cwt. sulphate of ammonia	168	,,	631	14·18	3·02	82·44	912	17·00	2·40	87·63	16·10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
54	,,	,,	,,	2 cwt. nitrate of soda	168	,,	631	14·18	3·02	82·44	841	17·80	2·50	87·68	17·00	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
55	,,	,,	,,	Mixture : 1 part of sulphate of ammonia—1 part of kainite—2 parts of mineral phosphate	168	,,	631	14·18	3·02	82·44	792	16·60	2·50	86·91	16·00	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
56	Thomas Onigley	Cragroe (Co. Clare)	Loamy	None	157	Potatoes	582	17·38	2·32	88·22	...	...	...	...	...	644	17·30	2·30	88·26	16·40	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
57	James Hardman	Lenamore (Galway)	Moory	9 cwt. basic slag	183	Oats	631	14·18	3·02	82·44	870	17·20	2·40	87·75	16·00	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
58	James Grady	Lenamoria (Galway)	Bogland	4 cwt. basic slag—4½ cwt. nitrate of soda	180	Rye	631	14·18	3·02	82·44	784	17·70	2·40	88·06	17·00	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
59	J. S. Desmond	Mosspone, Bandon (Cork)	Loamy	Dung and basic slag	156	Oats	631	14·18	3·02	82·44	920	18·20	2·40	88·35	17·00	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
60	,,	,,	,,	Dung only	156	,,	631	14·18	3·02	82·44	816	16·90	2·20	88·47	16·10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
61	,,	,,	,,	Basic slag and superphosphate	156	,,	631	14·18	3·02	82·44	700	18·90	2·30	89·15	18·10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
62	,,	,,	,,	Dung and superphosphate	156	,,	631	14·18	3·02	82·44	844	17·70	2·50	87·62	16·90	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
65	Ch. McCoy	Ballyara, Tubbercurry (Sligo)	,,	5 cwt. basic slag—2 cwt. nitrate of soda	167	Turnips	631	14·18	3·02	82·44	786	16·50	2·40	87·30	15·80	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
67	W. J. Bennett	Casteltown Farm (Cork)	Medium loam	Basic slag and nitrate of soda	203	Oats	631	14·18	3·02	82·44	922	18·60	2·60	87·73	17·00	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
68	,,	,,	,,	Farmyard manure	203	,,	631	14·18	3·02	82·44	617	17·30	2·70	86·50	16·40	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
75	Munster Agricultural School	Cork	Sandy	15 tons farmyard manure—4 cwt. kainite—4 cwt. superphosphate	168	,,	631	14·18	3·02	82·44	816	17·60	2·60	87·17	16·90	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
				Average	**168**		**627**	**14·39**	**2·97**	**82·82**	**819**	**17·45**	**2·44**	**87·71**	**16·55**	**644**	**17·30**	**2·30**	**88·26**	**16·40**																

AVERAGE IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.

	SEED FROM—														
1	Vilmorin (French rich)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Compared with F. O. Licht, Magdeburg.				
2	,, (white improved)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	856	17·62	2·39	85·76	16·67
3	Klein Wanzleben	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	901	16·85	2·42	87·49	15·99
4	Aderstedt	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	863	17·78	2·35	88·28	17·01
5	Schlieckmann	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	621	14·76	2·90	83·39	
6	Mette (elite)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	880	17·21	2·51	87·24	16·28
7	Braune	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	899	17·46	2·50	87·45	16·48
8	Breustedt	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	887	17·85	2·50	87·71	16·85
		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	931	17·95	2·40	88·20	16·90
		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	745	17·25	2·25	88·43	16·20

AVERAGE OF THE 89 EXPERIMENTS IN ENGLAND, SCOTLAND, AND IRELAND....

Average of the 57 experiments in England	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	896	17·67	2·43	84·52	16·73
,, 4 ,, Scotland	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1003	17·02	2·37	87·75	16·12
,, 28 ,, Ireland	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	844	17·54	2·47	87·61	16·62
COMPARED WITH ANALYSIS OF GERMAN-GROWN ROOTS ACCORDING MR. F. O. LICHT	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	621	14·76	2·90	83·39	...
TOTAL AVERAGE IN THE UNITED KINGDOM	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	851	17·02	2·36	87·82	16·12
COMPARED WITH MR. F. O. LICHT (GERMAN-GROWN ROOTS)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		14·76	2·90	83·39	...

my previous publications, these have been failures, the reasons for which I have already explained. There has been blunder upon blunder crowned by mismanagement.

As soon as free trade is established in this country in a proper manner, and we are put on the same footing as the Continental farmers, let us start factories, erect them in proper places, have them properly managed, with a proper supply of sugar beetroots, and capitalists need not fear for their success. We are the greatest sugar consumers in the world, and we can become the greatest sugar producers in the world.

Look at America, from small beginnings the American sugar industry has grown from day to day, and very soon the United States of America will produce 200,000 tons of beetroot sugar per annum. Don't let British enterprise be shattered by American enterprise. Up to now London is the centre of the sugar market of the world; don't let London soon be changed for New York, and be ruled from America. England rules the waves, and must also rule the sugar trade.

We are patriotic enough; let our patriotism show that we can afford and wish to have home industries and home-manufactured sugar. I have mentioned in previous publications what benefits would be derived from the sugar industry if established in this country. How many hundreds of thousands of men, women, and children would find employment year in year out? The engineering, building, and allied trades would all benefit to a large extent. To cover the wants of this country 400 factories would have to be established, and not to mention the great importance from a national political standpoint great benefits to British agriculture would undoubtedly follow from the growing of sugar beetroots.

I have before proved all these assertions by facts from the Continent, where the sugar industry celebrated its 100 years of existence not long ago.

We have everything in our favour in this country, proper climate, labour, educated farmers, capital, consumption, and factories only are needed under effectual organisation. It needs only a few influential gentlemen to bring the scheme forward and its success is assured. I think the British agricultural societies should take the matter in hand, and start a sugar factory to which the farmers should supply the roots.

Let us hope that the time is not far off when we arrive at the same standpoint in regard to the beetroot sugar question, as Germany was at exactly 100 years ago.

Liverpool, January, 1902. SIGMUND STEIN.



Polo Pony Stud Book.

Sir,—I was instructed by the council at their meeting on the 14th inst. to state for the information of owners and breeders of riding ponies that the pamphlet styling itself "The Agricultural Register," with its sub-section, "Imperial Pony Stud Book," has no connection whatever with the "Polo Pony Stud Book" and its annual supplement published at this office, under the authority of the council.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

A. B. CHARLTON.

The Polo Pony Society,
12, Hanover Square, London.
February 19th, 1902.

Warping and Warp Land.—A useful article describing Warping and Warp Land is reprinted in the newly-issued catalogue of Scholey's barley, oats, and potato seed. The growers claim that the grains and potatoes cultivated on land improved by warp produce a vigorous and healthy seed, which would prove most useful to farmers as a change. Certainly the numerous testimonials printed help to sustain this contention. Messrs. Scholey's address is Eastoff Grange, Goole, Yorks, whence copies of the catalogue can be obtained.

Advertisement Frauds.—At Spalding on Tuesday a young man named George Cubley, of Gedney, Lincolnshire, was committed to prison for three months, with hard labour, for advertisement frauds. He advertised in the fanciers' papers birds, rabbits, and ferrets; and it was stated by the police that there had been complaints from various parts of the country of the accused receiving money and not supplying the birds as advertised. The Bench described the case as a barefaced swindle, and one of the worst that had ever come before the court.



MONDAY (Feb. 17).—Cold and frosty weather prevailed in most parts of England, but the conditions had become distinctly milder in Ireland. Very heavy rain had fallen in parts of Ireland since Sunday morning, but the Southerly gale which was blowing had almost completely subsided, and in most other parts of the Kingdom the winds were light, the direction in England being chiefly easterly. The weather was colder over Central England during Sunday night than it was during the previous night, the sheltered thermometer at Loughborough, in Leicestershire, registering fourteen degrees. In London the cold was not quite so intense, the lowest temperature being eighteen degrees in the shade and fourteen degrees on the grass.

TUESDAY (Feb. 18).—The changes of temperature were very irregular, and the weather was generally milder than on the preceding day. The winds were mostly very light, and fog or mist was prevalent in many places. Rain was measured at a few of the western stations in the morning, as the result of the fall in the preceding twenty-four hours, but the amounts were small. There was a slight frost in London during Monday night, and the day was again cold, the highest temperature being thirty-eight degrees.

WEDNESDAY (Feb. 19th).—Temperature had risen generally over our islands, although the readings were still much below the average over Great Britain. At eight o'clock in the morning the thermometer was nowhere below the freezing point, but the midday readings, in many parts of England, were very little higher. The weather was again mild in Ireland, and in the south-west the sheltered thermometer exceeded 50 degrees. Rain was measured at a few of the western stations in the morning, as the result of the fall since the previous day; but very little rain fell during Tuesday, although the sky was generally overcast, and fog or mist was experienced in many places.

THURSDAY (Feb. 20th).—Dull and cloudy weather prevailed in most parts of the British Islands, and slight rain fell in many places. Scarcely any appreciable rain was measured anywhere in the morning as the result of the fall since the previous day. There was hardly any frost during Wednesday night, but the temperatures in the morning were slightly lower than on the preceding day, and the midday readings were again generally below 40 degrees over Great Britain. Temperature was rather higher in Ireland than elsewhere, but less so than on Wednesday. The wind was easterly over the entire kingdom, and it was much from the same direction in most parts of Western Europe.

FRIDAY (Feb. 21st).—The air was cold during the morning, but a general rise of temperature occurred during the day, and in the south-east of England rose to about 50 degrees. In the north-east of England the thermometer again failed to touch 40 degrees. The southerly wind, which had set in over Ireland on Thursday, has spread to all other parts of the United Kingdom, and it was increasing in strength on our west coasts. There was a slight frost on the ground in the suburbs of London in the early morning, but in the course of the day the shade temperature rose to 48 degrees, which is higher than on any previous day in the last three weeks.

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY (February 22nd and 23rd).—Rainy and unsettled weather spread over our Islands from the Atlantic during these two days, but the amounts of rain measured were not heavy, except in the South-west, although the fall was general over the entire Kingdom for the first time during the present month. A further increase of temperature occurred, and on both days the thermometer touched 50 deg. in many places. The night temperatures were much higher than of late, and over a large portion of the country they did not fall below 40 and 45 deg. The winds were generally South-easterly, and they were fresh to strong in exposed positions on our coasts.

The directors of the Dumbartonshire Agricultural Society reported that they had now a reserve fund of £57, which, however, might easily be raised to £100. The next show will be held on May 3rd.

THE GARDEN.

Though not so severe yesterday (the 18th) as previously, the frost still holds, and during the last few days skating has been indulged in, even in the metropolis, to an extent unknown for several years past. Fortunately, however, there is little or no wind, and not much fog, so that the conditions generally might be very much worse. The days are lengthening out nicely now, too, and when the frost does break things will no doubt begin to move in earnest, and the spring will be here again "in no time."

But in the meantime, nearly all outdoor work is standing still, as nothing can be done to the ground until the frost is out of it, and if at all of an adhesive nature it ought to remain almost untouched until it dries to some extent. But a few days of "March wind" will soon accomplish this, as it is not at all wet even now, in most places, and only the moisture left by the frost will have to be got rid of. A good sharp spell of frost is one of the greatest of all aids to the gardener on clay lands, as, when the thaw comes after the rough clods have been frozen through, they break down almost like ashes, especially if fairly dry.

Some of the first subjects to be sown as soon as it becomes possible to do so, in the open ground, are onions and parsnips. Both are perfectly hardy, and neither can easily be grown too large, so that the sooner after the present time the seed can be got in the better. Where either a rough or a heavy and damp soil prevails, it is a good plan to provide a quantity of any light and fairly good material, such as old potting-soil, road-scrapings, leaf-mould, and burnt earth, at this season, stored in a shed to keep it dry. Then, if the soil outside does not work well, from any cause, one has only to draw extra wide and deep drills, fill them with the light stuff, treading or rolling it down firmly, and then draw other drills in it, and sow the seed in the ordinary way.

Sowings of horn carrots, radishes, and leeks should also be made on a sheltered, sunny border, as soon as possible, and it is now time to get in some spinach—the round seeded or summer kind—in the open ground. There is time enough for beet yet, but if wanted early a small bed of the Egyptian, or of the improved "Globe" variety, may be sown about the middle of March.

Plenty of peas, including some succession and main-crop varieties, must also be sown on the first opportunity, especially as the severe weather has probably destroyed all the autumn, or earlier, sown rows. Sow some broad beans also, on light land; these must be sown early, or they will probably fail.

As soon as it can be done, all the roots of parsnips, salsify, and Jerusalem artichokes still remaining in the ground had better be lifted and stored, with some light soil or sand, in heaps in some very cool and shady place, as on the north side of a wall or close fence. Here they will remain dormant for some time yet.

See that the pruning and training of peaches, apricots, and other stone-fruits on outside walls are completed, and have the nets, or whatever protection is to be given, all ready to put on directly the first buds expand. If not done already, give them a top-dressing of rich compost, containing plenty of old mortar-rubbish or chalk, with some bone-meal, basic slag, or the like. Figs should be uncovered directly the frost breaks, pruning and training the branches, and top-dressing with the same compost as above.

The trees in a cool orchard-house will soon be in bloom now, and a charming sight they afford, as the blossoms expand very finely under the shelter of the glass. Give air, more or less, as often as possible, but exclude frost and biting northerly winds as much as possible. Keep the atmosphere fairly dry, and see that the soil and roots in the pots or tubs are thoroughly moist.

Get a good batch of hardy annuals sown on fairly warm and sheltered borders as soon as possible now, not forgetting plenty of sweet peas. This applies more to gardens in which a light soil prevails, as with a heavy or damp staple there is no hurry for such things for two or three weeks yet.

Plant bulbs of the stately Hyacinthus candicans, also of tigridias (tiger-flowers—these in warm situations only), and of the early-flowering or Colvillei class of gladioli. On light soils a few of the ordinary gladioli may be planted early next month (March).

Seed of petunias, lobelias, verbenas cannas, coleus, and others may still be sown, but no more time must be lost. Start bulbs of begonias, gloxinias, and achimenes.

B. C. R.

Messrs. Gartons, Limited, of Warrington, have issued a new catalogue of their new and improved breeds of farm seeds. The experiments carried out by the firm have been described in this journal on previous occasions, and the success with which their system of plant breeding is carried out is so well known that all we say here concerning the catalogue is that it contains some striking illustrations of the firm's latest successes, and is worthy the perusal of all agriculturists.



Durham (North-East).

There is little to communicate in connection with farm prospects since my last report. Ever since the commencement of February we have had a continuation of stormy weather, with a considerable covering of snow combined with severe frosts, which has brought all the work on the land to a standstill. With the exception of hay and straw, which are fetching big prices, there does not seem to be any active demand for any other kind of farm produce. The trade in sheep is particularly bad, the worst that has been experienced for many years. The prices of cattle have remained fairly steady. At the commencement of the storm ploughing was well advanced, but if this kind of weather lasts much longer considerable arrears will require to be overtaken.—(Feb. 21st.)

Leicester.

Farming prospects I cannot say any other than very unsatisfactory to the occupier of land grazing or farming. I had a walk of eighteen miles a few days ago. I did not see a single corn stack until I got to the end of my journey. Michaelmas rent days have been fairly got over. I never saw a worse prospect to meet the next. Through the short hay crop, it is consumed, and many are buying from £4 10s. to £6 per ton, some are buying from Lincolnshire oat straw, delivered at £3 5s. per ton. Mangels are going up fast. Turnips after this blast are going rotten. Sheep will come off early and be sent to market to meet an unprofitable price. Spring ploughing is fairly forward, and I have no doubt good seed will be wanted at an advance in price. Several farmers are giving up. Some may have a little left. They consider it the wisest course to take before it is all gone. Farms, most of them, get let at lower rents, on improvements at landlords' expense. — W. C. (Feb. 20th).

Munster.

For the past week we have had wintry weather —hard frost every night—but as I write it is blowing a strong gale from the south, with heavy rain falling. The frosty weather told heavily on the young lambs, which are coming to hand quickly without any losses, but with few couples, although a neighbour of mine has had four lambs from a ewe, and all doing well. Store cattle are healthy, but on account of the scarcity of keep will not be brought out in as good a condition as last year. Both straw and hay are running scarce and dear in market. Not much wheat sown, but where sown looking well. The staple cereal of this province is the oat crop, but last year, on account of the dry summer, it threshed out badly. Gradually the land of the country is laid down to grass, and farmers have to turn to dairy-farming and sheep-raising to pay their way, although the latter system does not appear very promising. The scarcity of labour here, as in England also, threatens a serious difficulty so far as the management of large farms goes.

Beef is now selling at a fair price, making 7d. per lb. Mutton is now selling fairly well, as before Christmas fat sheep were almost unsaleable. Springers are also selling well; there is always a sure demand for this class of cattle here on account of the large number of creameries to be supplied. It is likely that in the near future, through the agency of the new Agricultural Board, the quality of the Shorthorns in this district will be materially improved, as the best bulls at the Dublin Show are purchased and placed at centres in the different counties. The same applies also to the equine department, as the owners of the best sires receive a certain grant for their horses after passing veterinary inspection, and a certain number of mares, which have gone through the same ordeal, get free service from the horses best suited for them on the list. The poultry and swine department are also being attended to. Before this there was no effort made to develop the agricultural resources of the country.—P. F. (Feb. 17th).

Pembroke.

Snow and severe frost; rents, taxes, and labour are much too high. Straw and hay are very little, and if this severe weather should last long it will scarcely hold out against the spring.—(Feb. 19th.)

Foreign Prospects.

FRANCE.—In seasonably cold weather the wheat crop is promising well, and astonishment is generally expressed at the low estimate of the crop published officially.

BELGIUM.—Cold weather has kept the market in Antwerp firm for wheat, which met good demand at full prices.

GERMANY.—Milder weather has succeeded the sharp spell of winter, but as the latter included a good fall of snow wheat and rye crops were fairly protected from frost. White wheat cargoes were in request lately and several were secured with favourable port options.

HOLLAND, like its neighbours, has felt the grip of winter; the closing of the canals practically stopped supplies to Groningen and other inland markets.

HUNGARY.—Higher temperature and rain have cleared away the snow, but no complaints are heard of crop conditions.

ITALY.—Heavy snowfalls in Piedmont and excessive rain in other parts of the upper Peninsula interfere with farm work, but so far no damage appears to have been done to the crops which, in Southern districts, are developing too rapidly.

RUSSIA.—The winter continues to be unusually mild, and as frost did not come to injure the autumn-sown wheat and rye the crop outlook is regarded with satisfaction, particularly as the open character of the season will permit of the early prosecution of spring sowing. In the South rain has fallen.

ROUMANIA.—The condition of autumn sown cereals continues excellent, and farmers are ploughing the land for spring sowings.

BULGARIA.—Recent rain has improved the appearance of the autumn crops, and active preparations are in progress for spring work.

NORTH AFRICA.—Copious rain has fallen over several districts in Tunis, but more is required in the South.

UNITED STATES.—Wheat conditions are not essentially changed, ruling fair to good. The interior movement of grain has increased slightly. Prospective increase acreage of oats. In California further rain fell, but more is wanted South of San Francisco; total to date is 10½in., against 14⅞in. same period a year ago.—*Dornbusch.*

Agricultural Imports.

The following is an account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Feb. 15, 1902, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year:—

Animals Living.	1901	1902.		1901.	1902.
	No.	No.		Cwt.	Cwt.
Cattle ...	9,110	7,107	Wheat ...	1,141,500	975,100
Sheep.....	8,123	7,715	Flour.....	270,600	373,700
Swine.....	—	—	Barley ...	350,900	496,600
*Horses...	—	870	Oats	481,900	181,100
			Peas	56,900	65,800
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Beans ...	67,700	8,900
Beef	85,607	82,940	Maize ...	691,200	864,900
Mutton...	87,230	51,922		Bunches	Bunches
Pork	18,642	20,416	Bananas	19,525	18,972
Bacon ...	100,139	108,435			
Beef, salt	3,412	2,703		Cwt.	Cwt.
Hams.....	40,223	38,714	Apples ...	53,260	40,287
Pork, salt	6,087	3,532	Apricots & Peaches	85	21
Meat, salt & Fresh	8,838	13,511	Cherries	—	—
Do. pres.	9,804	14,749	Currants	—	—
Butter ...	87,497	71,990	Goosebr's	—	—
M'rg'rine	14,914	22,427	Grapes ...	205	171
Cheese ...	36,681	38,997	Lemons...	25,100	12,146
Milk, Fresh, in cans or			Oranges	201,696	221,449
			Pears.....	270	249
			Plums ...	35	41
drums.	468	509	Strawb'r's	—	—
Milk ...			Oth'r Fr't	1,618	1,235
Cream.	107	213		Tons.	Tons.
			Hay	1,448	7,015
Milk pr's'v'd, other			*Straw ...	—	852
				Bush.	Bush.
			Onions ...	187,375	187,268
kinds ...	14	39		Cwt.	Cwt.
Con.Milk	21,779	20,331	Hops	2,446	6,810
			* Locust Beans	—	6,500
	No.	No.	Potatoes	114,576	14,540
Eggs	211,620	294,235	Tom'to's	10,684	4,036
			Other	Value.	Value.
Poultry & Game	Value. £20,462	Value. £28,843	Veg'bles	£8,247	£8,236
				Cwt.	Cwt.
			Dried ...	5,567	5,741
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Pres'v'd by canning ...	5,500	4,241
Rabbits	6,607	5,637			
Lard	22,200	35,569			

* Not shown in 1901.

A Farmer's Water Supply Rights.—At Buxton County Court on Monday, Judge Smyley, K.C., gave judgment in the case of John Allatt v. Godfrey Chapman, both farmers, at Hope, Derbyshire, in which plaintiff claimed damages for detention of water supply and sought an injunction to restrain defendant from fouling the stream by placing soapsuds and sewage in it. Plaintiff, said his honour, had established his right to the use of the water from the defendant's land, and was entitled to £5 damage, and granted an injunction restraining defendant from polluting the supply.

Death of Mr. Frederick King.

It is with regret we announce the death of Mr. Frederick King, of the Unity Villas, Wealdstone, an old and valued correspondent of this paper. Mr. King, who was a land valuer and auctioneer, played a most prominent part in public affairs, and with him rests the honour of being the pioneer of the Free Library movement in this country. In 1851, he, with five working-men, met together and arranged details, and founded and opened in 1852 the first public library and reading room at Oxford, and the first in England, which was subsequently rebuilt and opened by the Prince of Wales in 1897. This was not accomplished without strenuous opposition from the Corporation, and leading citizens were bitterly hostile to the scheme, but in spite of this it was carried to a successful issue, and as a result of this example free libraries are to be found throughout the length and breadth of the country. Mr. King was born in 1818 at Fulbrook, his father being then steward to Lord Abingdon, and at the early age of 14 was sworn in as a special constable when the press-gang was rampant, and when 21 years of age he became Chairman of the Oxford Board of Guardians, a position he held for some years. As a land surveyor and auctioneer his business ability brought him an extensive practice, and the knowledge gained led his services to be of the greatest value to Wealdstone. In a very short time the topography of the village was as familiar to him as his own loved city of Oxford, and it was his purpose to improve the condition of the place, which he was well calculated to do, though his ideas, as at Oxford, were considered too Utopian, and the time unripe for such projects. Great highways and engineering schemes he planned at Oxford, but at Wealdstone he mainly devoted his energies to defending the rights of the public. For years he contended that the Mary Pedlar charity at Roxeth had been filched from the people, and innumerable journeys to the Record Office only made him more confident in his contention; then he was attacking the robbers of the public rights at Harrow Weald Common, and only a few weeks since was publicly insisting on a 40-foot right-of-way from Wealdstone to Bushey, and he produced a copy of a musty document he had unearthed at the Record Office in support of his argument. In the political world his reminiscences were of the most interesting character, and to the last his memory rarely failed him. In politics he was an ardent Liberal, a follower and an adherent of the old principles. Latterly his increasing years and deafness have removed him from the public eye, but he was always to be found at the Vestry meetings—and in these days when quorums are a difficulty—his presence was also appreciated and his advice always sought.

THE

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CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Monday.—We beg to hand you the following report of to-day's market:—Malt: The rather improved demand noticed last week has not been maintained. Barley advanced 3d per qr for grinding. Wheat 3d to 6d dearer on the week. Oats made about 3d per qr more money. Maize improved 3d per qr. Flour firm.—NIXON, GOWER, & Co.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—The attendance was small, and the market for wheat and flour ruled dull and lower to sell. Maize quiet, and favouring buyers. Oats inactive, and nominally unchanged. Barley quiet. Beans and peas slow, unchanged.

Mark Lane, Friday.—The attendance was small, and business going on was restricted, while the little show of firmness in feeding stuffs during the early part of the week was mostly dispelled. Breadstuffs, generally unchanged. The inquiry for English wheat continues to centre amongst local resorts, and there is very little on offer here, as the town miller affords no inducement to farmers. Quotations maintained. American on spot is quiet, steady, being scarce. Russian remains above the United Kingdom level, and India still fails as an exporter. New Zealand Tuscan, 29s to 30s ex store, 490lb. Flour generally maintained for American brands, patents more especially. Mayblossom (fancy), 33s 6d, and even more for other reputed brands. For first patents, 23s ex store. Of bakers' grades, Iron Duke, 18s 6d; Princess Royal, 18s ex store. Cavendhas, 22s 3d ex store. Town households, 23s 6d; whites 26s 6d per sack delivered to the baker. Top-price town made 28s net, and No. 1 households 21s 9d per sack at the mill door. Whole meal, 172s per ton. Australian patents, 20s ex store, 280lb. Grinding barley firm on spot; none on offer ex ship to come. Odessa, 19s 3d ex quay; Danubian, in same position, 19s. English malting is still mainly moving just now for seed purposes up to 32s. Foreign in sellers' favour. Oats 3d easier as a rule since Friday last. Good Konigsbery, 20s 6d to 21s ex quay. New Zealand ordinary Bluff, 35s to 36s ex store, 384lb. English still very firm. Black Winters 24s to 24s 6d, 42lb; Scotch, weighing the same, 23s to 23s 6d. Flat maize unchanged, and in exhausted supply landed. Round corn 3d to 6d lower on the week for Odessa, at about 21s 9d ex ship to come up, and 22s 3d ex quay. Holders of imported beans and peas remained firm. White Canadian peas out of supply.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Wheat was unchanged, and there was practically no seed trade to be done owing to the severe weather.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, red (new), 28s to 30s per qr. Trade firm at late rates.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Moderate attendance; improved trade for feeding stuffs, but demand for wheats unchanged rates, English realising 10s 9d to 11s 3d per bag. Grinding barley 3d cheaper, at 18s 3d to 18s 6d per quarter. Sharpness maize unaltered to 3d per quarter dearer; Plate commanding 23s to 23s 6d per quarter; Sharpness and round, 24s. Sharpness oats and beans unchanged.

Braintree, Wednesday.—Wheat in fuller supply, and trade was fair. Prices:—Reds, 27s 6d to 29s per qr; whites, 29s to 30s. Barley trade small.

Brighton, Thursday.—New white wheat, 29s to 30s; new red ditto, 28s to 29s; barley, 28s to 33s; grinding ditto, 21s to 22s; English oats, 21s to 23s. Quiet trade and small attendance. Black oats 6d dearer. Barley firm. Wheat 6d per qr dearer.

Bristol, Thursday.—Trade has been rather quiet during the week. At our market to-day English wheat was in fair supply, and both this and foreign made fully late rates. Barley unaltered; maize and oats quiet at about 3d lower. Flour unchanged.—GRACE BROTHERS.

Boston, Wednesday.—Wheat, 27s 6d; malting barley, 28s to 32s; oats, 21s; peas, 54s to 56s; beans, 54s; maize, 25s to 24s; grinding barley, 22s to 22s 6d per qr.

Cambridge, Saturday.—During the week trade has been very quiet. Wheat supplies are about on an average, and very little change has occurred in values. The barley supply is falling off, but the demand is very small. At this market to-day there was an average supply of wheat, but the attendance was small, and trade was very quiet, without any change in value. Spring corn is not much in demand, except for clean lots for seed. Prices:—Wheat, red, 27s to 28s, and white up to 28s per 504lb.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Wheat firm, with a slow trade; oats in fair inquiry. White wheat, 28s to 31s; red, 27s to 30s; malting barley, 28s to 35s; grinding, 23s to 25s; white oats, 20s to 24s; black, 20s to 23s; grey peas, 23s to 35s; tick beans, 36s to 38s; Mazagans, 33s to 34s; maize, 25s to 28s per quarter; tares, 8s to 9s per bushel.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Small supply of oats in our market to-day; strong demand at rather more money; 21s to 22s 6d per 336lb.—THOMAS ROBINSON.

Chester, Saturday.—Wheat in small supply, and fully 1d per bushel dearer. Barley also advanced 1d per bushel. Quotations:—Wheat, white, 4s 5d to 4s 7d; red, 4s 4d to 4s 6d per 75lb; malting barley 4s to 4s 1d per 60lb; grinding barley, 3s 4d to 3s 6d per 64lb; beans, 5s 6d to 5s 8d per 80lb; oats, new, 2s 10d to 3s 1d; old, 3s 4d to 3s 6d per 46lb; Indian corn, 12s 9d to 13s 9d per 240lb.

Colchester, Saturday.—Moderate supply wheat here to-day, which sold readily at the full prices of last week. Beans, peas, and oats firm.—FRANCIS & Co.

Croydon, Thursday.—White wheat, 28s to 30s; red ditto, 27s to 29s; malting barley, 28s to 36s; grinding, 22s to 24s; oats, 18s to 21s; beans, 32s to 34s; peas, 29s to 31s. Trade for wheat quiet; prices firm. Oats dearer. Beans and peas no alteration.

Leeds, Tuesday.—America continues in her contradictory attitude, which prevents active buying on the part of millers. Prices of wheat, however, are about 3d dearer on the week for both English and foreign. Barley in small demand, at late rates. Maize, beans, and oats unchanged.—DUNNS AND Co.

Leeds, Friday.—Both English and foreign wheat in slow demand without any change from Tuesday's price, except that Americans slightly favour buyer. Barley firmly held. No alteration in beans, peas, oats, flour, or maize.

Leicester, Saturday.—Fair attendance, with moderate supplies of wheats, which met a steady sale at 28s to 31s per 36 stone. Barley in slow demand. Fine oats sold freely; prices firm.

Leith, Thursday.—Although there is little appreciable change in this market, there is every indication of a better demand taking place during the next few weeks. A very large business is being transacted in bran, grains, and other bye-products, country feeders now buying eagerly. Wheat, Scotch, slow sale favouring buyers. Oats, Scotch, quiet sale, from 19s 6d to 20s 6d; barley, Scotch, quiet sale; foreign feeding, 21s; hard white pease, 37s 6d; beans, all varieties, 33s 6d to 34s. Round maize, 23s to 24s; parcels, with very slight heat, 21s to 22s 6d; damaged, 19s to 20s; millet seed, 19s. Mill offals:—Bran is very scarce, millers only booking small quantities at top prices. Dried grains, 2s 6d per ton up, with more buyers than sellers. Cummings, numerous enquiries have been received for this article from the Continent, and several large lines have been booked during the last few days. Broad bran, 120s to 125s; medium bran, 100s to 102s 6d; sharps, 95s to 97s 6d; parings, 105s to 107s 6d; dried grains, brewers, 97s 6d; distilers, 102s 6d to 105s; cummings, 82s to 87s 6d; oat husks, 45s; meal seeds, 67s 6d, all sacks included.—WILLIAM MACLAY.

Lewes, Tuesday.—New white wheat, 28s to 30s; new brown ditto, 27s to 28s 6d; malting barley, 31s to 35s; grinding ditto, 20s to 24s; oats, 20s to 25s; beans, 34s to 38s; peas, 32s to 37s per qr.

Lincoln, Friday.—Not so large a supply of English wheats, which made about last week's rates. Reds, 28s 6d to 29s 6d; whites, 29s to 30s. Few barleys shown, prices 29s to 30s. Oats a dull sale at late rates. No change in other grain.

Liverpool, Friday.—The market has had a poor attendance of millers, and wheat has experienced a slow demand, only a small trade being put through at an occasional 1d per cental below last Tuesday for American sorts; the exception being Kurrachee wheat, which had a good sale. Flour.—The demand continues very small, but holders on the spot maintain firmer quotations, owing to the higher offers from America. The Liverpool Millers Association make no change in prices. Maize.—Mixed is in better demand, and a fair business doing at unchanged prices. European is also in fair request, but quotations are unaltered. Plate is very steady and experiences a good sale. Barley is idle for malting, but feeding is very steady, and meets some inquiry. Beans firm and 3d dearer, but quiet. Peas steady but quiet at late rates. Oats are firmly held, but only a quiet trade passing for English at late rates. Foreign sorts are firmer, but quiet. Oatmeal steady, but inactive at quotations. Oilcake.—American cakes are the turn easier with a small inquiry. English cakes are in fair request at last Tuesday's prices.—SEGAR AND TUNNICLIFFE.

Maidstone, Thursday.—Business very dull at the market to-day. Wheat sold at about last week's price, but the demand only as millers need for present use In barley the operations were not extensive, and former cost with difficulty procured. Oats are a high figure compared with other grain, and the strong tone for them continues. The sales are to consumers, who are compelled to purchase, but dealers are reticent of increasing stock of the article. Maize is much the same as recently. Beans and peas firm, being scarce, especially old sorts, which are in request at full prices. We do not note any alteration in tares, rye, hemp, brank, sergum, or millet.

Manchester, Thursday.—A steady tone, with a hardening tendency is noted in our market. Wheat, both English and foreign, tends against the buyer compared with a week ago, and salesmen in several instances have obtained slight advances. Flour continues quiet, though perhaps on the whole a little more active at steady rates. Firmness is noted in oats, peas, beans and barley. Indian corn is firm, with a quiet trade.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—No change in the price of wheat at our to-day's market; maize of all descriptions in buyers' favour. Beans and peas steady at late rates. No change in barley. A slow demand for oats at last week's prices.—JOSEPH POLLARD AND Co.

Newport, Wednesday.—Wheat firm, and prices tended higher. Maize and other feeding stuffs firm, but prices unchanged. Offals scarce and dear. Flour, fines, 23s per sack.

Newport, Wednesday.—Wheat rather firmer and in favour of sellers. Maize and all other food stuffs firm, and no change; fines, 23s; offals scarce and dear.

Norwich, Saturady.—Wheat was still in fair supply at our market to-day, with quotations similar to last week. Since last week the winterly weather has ended in a rapid thaw with a higher temperature. Wheat, red, 28s to 28s 6d per qr, weight 63lb per imperial bushel. Corn inspector's return for the week ending 15th February, 1902: Wheat, 2,065.6, 26s 6d; barley, 4,340.6, 28s 7d.—J. ARTHUR MILLS.

Northampton, Saturday.—No apparent change from last market day. A slow demand, with a slight reduction in price. Feeding stuffs much wanted. White wheat, 29s to 30s; red, 27s to 29s; barley, 26s to 34s; grinding ditto, 22s to 25s; oats, 18s to 23s; old fine, 24s; beans, 32s to 40s; flour, 21s to 22s; fine, 24s.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Wheat in better supply, and sold freely at previous values. Hardly a sample of malting barley offering by growers; holders held for 1s advance. Oats and beans both scarce, and full rates maintained.—ROBERT HUBBLE.

Peterborough, Saturday.—Wheat to-day sold at last week's prices; rather less supply than last week, but demand was not active. The few samples of barley showing were held for full rates. Oats firm, but quiet.—THOMAS HILL & SON.

Plymouth, Thursday.—Good attendance at our market to-day. Maize, barley, oats, and wheat, all unaltered, last week's prices.—ORLANDO DAVIS AND Co.

Ripon, Thursday.—Samples are being eagerly sought for seed purposes. Best barley makes a trifle more money. Other sorts firm. Wheat, English (new), 28s 6d to 29s 6d; ditto foreign, 29s to 33s; barley, grinding, 22s 6d to 23s 6d; ditto malting, 26s to 31s; oats (new), 21s to 24s; round maize, 24s to 27s per qr; beans, 1s per stone.

Romford, Wednesday.—Small supply of wheat, and samples commanded 6d per qr. advance. Red wheats, 28s to 28s 6d; white wheat, 29s to 30s per qr.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—The attendance at market was better than for some weeks past. Last week's prices ruled in good demand that prevailed for both English and foreign wheat. Oats were quoted 6d per qr dearer on the week. Maize firm, and barley and peas without change. Prices:—Wheat, white, 30s to 31s; wheat, red, 30s 6d to 31s per 50lb; oats, new white, 21s 6d to 22s 6d; new black, 20s to 21s per 336lb; barley, grinding, 22s to 23s; barley, malting, 28s to 32s per 448lb; peas, grinding, 32s to 31s; peas, blue, 53s to 80s; beans, Egyptian, 36s to 36s 6d per 504lb; beans, English, new, 37s to 37s 6d per 532lb; Indian corn, small, 24s to 25s; American mixed, 27s 6d to 28s per 480lb.

Spalding, Tuesday.—Wheat was a firm trade at late prices. Best, 28s per qr. Oats were firm at 21s to 22s. Other artices firm and unchanged.

Stamford, Friday.—Fair attendance of buyers, and the show of wheat was larger. Prices ranged from 27s 6d to 28s 6d; barley, best, 26s to 30s; seed oats 22s to 27s; beans, 24s to 26s. Maize a trifle easier.

Stockton, Wednesday.—Small supply of English wheat, which was 6d to 1s dearer on the week. The foreign wheat trade keeps steady, with only a limited demand. White wheats unchanged. Strong red wheats 6d dearer. Oats and maize unaltered.

Sunderland, Saturday. — Grain in better supply. Wheat rather lower to sell. Barley quiet. Oats steady. Arrivals coastwise: Wheat, 1,009 qrs; barley, 518 qrs; foreign nil.—E. AND F. RICHARDSON.

Wakefield, Friday.—The wheat trade is slow, but exceedingly firm. Holders of foreign insist upon and obtain more money, and even then cannot replace for shipment, Russian limits especially proving out of reach. English being in smaller supply, favours sellers. Barley quiet. Maize 3d per qr lower; other feeding stuffs unaltered.—MICHAEL SANDERSON AND SON.

Winchester, Saturday.—English wheat small demand; prices unchanged; foreign fair inquiry, and 3d advance on all varieties: barley, oats, and maize quiet trade; prices unchanged.—FEAR, COLEBROOK, & Co.

Wisbech, Saturday.—A small supply of grain. Wheat steady at fully late rates, prices, 27s to 28s; oats, 21s to 24s; barley, 26s to 30s; beans, 34s to 38s.—JAMES FLETCHER.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—There was a moderate attendance of farmers and dealers. Quotations:—Wheat, new, 12s 6d to 13s per 216lb; oats, old, 15s 6d to 16s; new, 12s to 13s; beans, old, 15s 6d to 16s 6d; new, 14s to 14s 6d per 196lb; barley, 31s to 32s per 448lb; maize, 25s 6d to 26s per 480lb.

Worcester, Saturday.—English wheat offered moderately, and sold at last week's rates. Foreign neglected. Barley, maize, and oats quiet, and occasionally 3d easier.

York, Saturday.—Farmers offered a fair supply of wheat, which sold easily at just a shade over last week's prices. The small quantity of barley on offer fuly maintained late rates. Oats steady; rye, 8d per stone; beans, 11d ditto.

FOREIGN.

Hamburg, Saturday.—Weather milder; the ice in our rivers is gradually disappearing. Trade continues quiet, there being little demand from provincial markets. Prices, however, remain firm, with an upward tendency. The imports during the week amounted to —17,417 tons wheat, 617 tons rye, 3,339 tons barley, 6,811 tons maize. Fine Saale wheat to arrive per barge is offering at 32s 3d per 504lb. American hard winter No. 2 is held at 29s 3d: Northern spring No. 2 at 28s 9d per 480lb.; Walla Walla, April-May-June, at 29s 6d to 29s 9d per 500lb. Rye in better demand and dearer; offers from Russia are scarce; 9 15-20 March-April was sold at 23s 9d to 24s per 480lb. There is some demand for fine Saale barley, but offers of such are very scarce, and 34s to 36s is asked. Finest stout, 38s 6d f.o.b.; good middling quality is held at 31s 6d to 33s per 448lb. f.o.b.; Bohemian to arrive per barge is offering at 31s 6d to 33s; Silesian at 27s to 30s; fine Stovakian on the spot has been sold at 34s per 448lb. f.o.b. Feeding barley in better demand; Danubian and Russian is selling at 18s 3d per 400lb. Sound Odessa and Turkish maize on the spot meets a fair sale at 22s to 22s 6d. For mixed American there are buyers at 24s 9d, while 25s 6d is asked; River Plate April-May, 22s to 22s 6d.—JOHN TATLOCK.

Paris, Wednesday.—To-day's market was pretty well attended by the trade, but for all that business did not show any more animation. The situation of native wheat remains stationary, trade being still just as inactive owing to buyers' reserve. Millers are making no purchases, and this is evidently the principal cause of the dullness, while other reasons are aggravating this condition, viz., the weakness of the foreign centres, coupled with the good appearance of the crops, which the climatic conditions of the last few days have further improved. Millers consequently purchase only from day to day, and evince the same reserve as of late. Farmers on their part make offers at last week's prices, and manifest some resistance to lower their rates. They were, however, compelled in the face of the poor sale of flour to grant a concession of at least 6d. per qr., but the business effected was exceedingly reduced. Quotations are as follows:—Choice red, 36s 6d to 36s 11d; ordinary, 35s 8d to 36s 1d, and white, 36s 11d to 37s 5d per 480lb. Rye continues drooping in all directions, for distilers are no longer purchasers, while the special milling trade, failing an outlet for their flour, exhibits no inclination to make fresh purchases. Here prices were almost nominal, but occasionally with a reduction of 6d to 1s per qr.; buyers at 26s 1d and sellers at 26s 6d per 480lb. Oats continue quiet and offers rather restricted, and their persistent scarcity will undoubtedly have the speedy effect of supporting prices. Here the feeling was very quiet, with no appreciable change in values. Barley remains very quiet. Prices in Beauce vary from 22s 10d to 23s 11d, according to quality. The North is buying in the West at about 23s 3d. Champagne asks 23s 3d to 25s 4d. Here the tendency was supported for grinding and feeding corn, and unaltered for malting sorts, prices being quoted as follows: 17f.50 (25s 4d) for choice and 17f.25 (25s) for good malting; grinding 16f.25 to 16f.75 (23s 7d to 24s 3d), and feeding14f.75 to 15f.50 per 100 kilos (21s 5d to 22s 6d per 400lb.). Offers for buckwheat are becoming more and more scarce, and as the demand keeps generally good, a rather perceptible advance in prices has taken place, and quotations stand at 27s 5d per 480lb.

CORN STATISTICS.

ARRIVALS INTO LONDON.

February 12 to 19, 1902, inclusive.

	British	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat.....qrs.	1,693	13,338	15,031
Barley	6,000	3,378	9,378
Malt	28,000	...	28,000
Oats	3,500	54,000	57,500
Rye	...	...	...
Beans	361	227	588
Peas	109	331	440
Maize	..	26,468	26,468
Linseed	...	18,071	18,071
Rapeseed	...	5,449	5,449
Farmseeds	1,600	4,000	5,600
Cottonseed	...	...	...
Flour, sacks	25,130	14,476	39,606

ENGLISH WHEAT IN 1901.

Highest of Year	27s. 7d.
Lowest of Year	25s. 10d.
Gradient	1s. 9d.
Mean of Year	26s. 9d.

IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGES.

	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
1901.									
Feb. 16	67,350	26	4	63,870½	25	4	21,069¼	17	7
,, 23	68,159½	26	1	65,514¾	25	0	23,418½	17	7
Mar. 2	68,224	25	11	52,600¼	25	0	21,858½	17	9
,, 9	63,714¾	25	9	51,125¾	25	4	19,410¾	17	7
,, 16	55,073¾	25	9	36,968¾	25	1	14,010	17	7
,, 23	53,758½	25	8	27,840¼	24	11	13,895½	17	9
,, 30	47,908¼	26	0	20,179½	24	9	12,418¾	18	0
Apr. 6	42,721¾	26	3	14,647½	25	3	11,776¾	18	0
,, 13	32,905	26	5	6,809¼	26	0	5,936¾	18	1
,, 20	35,737½	26	8	6,734½	25	7	8,346¾	18	8
,, 27	46,572	26	8	6,985¼	25	8	8,300¾	18	1
May 4	46,616¼	26	9	6,417½	26	4	6,869¾	19	8
,, 11	47,118¾	27	3	4,279¼	26	2	7,049	19	1
,, 18	52,875½	27	7	2,508	24	2	7,345¾	19	4
,, 25	49,822¾	27	7	1,511¾	24	1	4,665¼	19	8
June 1	46,514	27	7	859¼	23	8	4,938	19	9
,, 8	42,202	27	6	221½	22	9	4,023¼	20	1
,, 15	46,764	27	8	1,404¼	24	0	5,565¾	19	7
,, 22	29,095	27	6	336¾	23	2	3,552½	20	3
,, 29	28,191¾	27	6	692¾	25	4	2,803¾	20	0
July 6	19,564¾	27	8	140¾	21	9	1,805⅜	19	10
,, 13	15,231¾	27	2	49	23	10	1,675⅜	19	9
,, 20	17,462¾	27	3	88¾	23	4	2,040½	19	11
,, 27	18,297⅜	27	3	206¾	22	1	2,385½	19	4
Aug. 3	18,666½	27	6	250⅜	23	1	3,219½	20	0
,, 10	19,156	27	7	141⅜	22	1	2,143½	19	4
,, 17	22,617¼	27	4	220¾	27	2	5,982½	18	9
,, 24	37,168¾	27	3	976⅜	23	7	9,952⅜	18	1
,, 31	61,603¾	27	0	4,877⅜	24	3	14,654½	17	10
Sept. 7	66,623½	26	5	14,342⅜	25	1	19,075¼	17	6
,, 14	77,949¾	26	2	34,989⅜	24	11	19,909½	17	4
,, 21	80,279¼	26	0	70,096¾	25	5	26,476¾	17	4
,, 28	80,488	25	10	109,783½	25	10	22,567½	17	2
Oct. 5	60,376¾	25	8	126,592¾	26	3	21,631¼	17	7
,, 12	63,656¾	25	9	172,175⅜	26	5	16,815½	17	6
,, 19	58,772¼	25	10	203,591½	26	8	15,506¼	17	8
,, 26	52,984⅜	25	11	208,471⅜	26	10	13,009¾	17	5
Nov. 2	70,314⅜	26	2	134,277⅜	26	10	18,350⅜	17	7
,, 9	62,265¼	26	6	202,577¼	27	0	20,066¼	17	8
,, 16	57,884⅜	26	9	201,723⅜	26	9	20,122½	18	3
,, 23	63,150¾	27	1	185,268½	26	10	20,612	18	7
,, 30	60,323¾	27	1	193,434⅜	26	9	22,419½	18	9
Dec. 7	67,925¼	27	1	162,996¾	26	7	23,990¾	19	0
,, 14	48,045½	27	2	182,212¼	25	10	17,125½	17	1
,, 21	60,562¾	27	7	119,398¼	26	8	26,260½	19	8
,, 28	43,718¾	27	7	81,859½	26	8	16,901¾	19	10
1902.									
Jan. 4	31,440⅜	27	7	34,777½	26	7	11,621½	19	10
,, 11	48,997¼	27	8	69,120½	26	7	14,995	20	0
,, 18	74,239½	27	8	91,559⅜	26	11	19,733⅜	20	0
,, 25	74,753⅜	27	7	87,594	26	7	25,382¼	20	3
Feb. 1	73,381½	27	4	81,468¾	26	7	25,657	20	2
,, 8	67,470¼	27	2	69,291⅜	26	9	25,055⅜	20	3
,, 15	68,500	26	11	54,084½	27	5	21,824	20	3
,, 22	72,614⅜	27	1	53,201½	26	11	22,799	20	4

MONTHLY AVERAGES.

(196 Market Towns.)

	1901. Wheat	Barley	Oats	1902. Wheat	Barley	Oats
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
January	26 8	25 7	17 4	27 8	26 8	20 1
February	26 5	25 5	17 7			
March	25 10	25 0	17 10			
April	26 3	25 7	18 3			
May	27 6	25 2	19 4			
June	27 7	23 11	19 10			
July	27 4	22 9	19 8			
August	27 4	24 0	18 10			
September	26 1	25 4	17 4			
October	25 10	25 7	17 6			
November	24 9	26 10	18 2			
December	27 4	26 8	19 5			

COMPARATIVE AVERAGES.

Comparative statement for the corresponding week to December 28th, in each of the years from 1897 to 1901.

	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
1897	49,040¾	28	2	51,365¾	23	8	17,490¾	16	3
1898	59,262¼	35	5	54,823¼	27	6	20,485¾	17	10
1899	69,620¼	25	7	52,045	26	7	20,425¾	16	11
1900	69,534¼	26	3	63,931¾	25	1	21,132¾	16	9
1901	68 159¼	26	1	65,514¾	25	0	23,418¼	17	7

YEARLY AVERAGES (OFFICIAL.)

	Wheat. s. d.	Barley. s. d.	Oats. s. d.
1890	31 9 per qr.	28 8 per qr.	18 7 per qr.
1891	37 1 ,,	28 2 ,,	20 0 ,,
1892	30 4 ,,	26 2 ,,	19 11 ,,
1893	26 4 ,,	25 6 ,,	18 9 ,,
1894	22 10 ,,	24 6 ,,	17 1 ,,
1895	23 1 ,,	21 11 ,,	14 6 ,,
1896	26 2 ,,	22 11 ,,	14 9 ,,
1897	30 2 ,,	24 6 ,,	16 11 ,,
1898	34 0 ,,	27 2 ,,	18 5 ,,
1899	25 8 ,,	25 7 ,,	17 0 ,,
1900	28 11 ,,	25 9 ,,	17 9 ,,
1901	26 9 ,,	25 3 ,,	18 5 ,,

IMPERIAL AVERAGES.

Statement showing the Quantities sold and average price of British Corn, Imperial Measure, as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended February 22, 1902, conformably with the Act of the 45th and 46th Victoria, cap. 37.

Wheat	72,614⅜ qrs.	27s. 1d.
Barley	53,201¼ qrs.	26s. 11d.
Oats	22,799 qrs.	20s. 4d.

FLUCTUATIONS IN THE AVERAGE PRICE OF WHEAT.

Price.	Jan. 18.	Jan. 25	Feb. 1.	Feb. 8	Feb 15	Feb. 22.
27s. 8d						
27s. 7d						
27s 6d						
27s. 5d						
27s. 4d						
27s. 3d.						
27s. 2d.						
27s. 1d						
27s. 0d.						
26s. 11d.						

LONDON AVERAGES.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, February 18th. 1902.

	Total Quantities. Imperial Measure. Quarters.	Bus.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.	Average Price per qr. Imperial Measure. £	s.	d.
Wheat	4,623	0	6,532	0	9	1	8	3
Barley	712	1	1,068	3	0	1	10	0
Oats	748	3	791	10	7	1	1	2

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF LONDON TOWN HOUSEHOLDS FLOUR.

(Sacks of 280 lbs. ex-mill for cash.)

	1902. s.	d.	1901 s.	d.	1900 s.	d.	1899. s.	d.	1898. s.	d.	1897. s.	d.	1896. s.	d.	1895. s.	d.
Jan.	21	9	24	6	21	9	23	9	29	0	25	6	18	9	18	7½
Feb.	...		24	0	22	0	23	6	30	0	24	7½	19	4½	17	9
March	...		23	9	21	6	22	3	30	0	23	11	19	3	18	0
April	...		24	0	21	6	22	0	31	3	23	6	19	6	18	7¾
May	...		23	6	21	3	22	3	30	7	23	7	19	0	20	4½
June	...		23	0	23	6	23	1½	35	0	22	7½	18	10	22	3
July	...		22	3	24	6	21	9	29	6	22	10½	18	6	20	0½
August	...		22	3	24	0	21	9	27	6	26	8½	18	8½	19	10½
Sept.	...		22	0	25	3	22	0	26	5	30	3	19	6	19	8
Oct.	...		21	6	24	9	23	3	26	1	29	0	23	7½	18	7½
Nov.	...		21	6	24	3	22	3	25	0	29	1	25	8½	18	4½
Dec.	...		21	9	24	0	21	9	24	3	29	0	25	7½	18	1
Yrly. Avrg.	...		22	10	23	2	22	4	29	6½	25	10½	20	8½	19	2

TITHE RENT CHARGES.

For 1902	67	3	9
,, 1901	66	10	9
,, 1900	66	15	10
,, 1899	68	2	4
,, 1898	68	14	11
,, 1897	69	17	11
,, 1896	71	9	7

The last time the Tithe was above par was £100 4s. 10d. for 1883.

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF FINE HOUSEHOLD FLOUR IN PARIS.

(Converted into English money for sacks of 280 lb.)

	1902. s.	d.	1901. s.	d.	1900. s.	d.	1899. s	d.	1898. s.	d.	1897. s.	d.	1896. s.	d.	1895. s.	d.
Jan.	27	9	24	9	25	2	29	0	38	7	30	5½	25	10	27	9½
Feb.	...		25	9	26	3	28	3	39	4	29	10½	26	2	27	10½
March	...		24	0	27	3	27	6	40	1	28	9	26	0	27	5½
April	...		24	6	26	9	27	6	42	3	28	5	25	6½	26	7
May	...		25	6	26	8	28	0	40	0	28	11½	25	1½	28	0
June	...		26	3	28	6	27	6	35	6	29	3	25	8	28	10
July	...		28	0	26	9	27	3	32	0	31	5½	24	6	27	1
August	...		27	6	26	4	27	0	31	6	36	11	25	1	26	11
Sept.	...		27	6	26	3	25	9	31	0	38	7	27	0	27	0½
Oct.	...		27	6	26	0	24	9	30	6	39	4	27	1½	27	9
Nov.	...		27	9	26	4	24	3	30	3	40	3	29	9	26	8½
Dec.	...		28	3	26	0	24	6	29	0	39	3	29	8	26	3
Yrly. Avrg.	...		27	3	26	6	26	9	35	0	33	5	26	5½	27	4½

LONDON FLOUR MILLERS' ASSOCIATION

OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1901.

		London Whites. s.	d.	Town Households. s.	d.
September	2 (per sack)	26	0	(per sack)	23 0
,,	18 ,,	25	6	,,	22 6
December	9 ,,	26	6	,,	23 6
Jnnuary	29 ,,	28	0	,,	23 0

LONDON TOP PRICE FLOUR.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1901.

	s.	d.
September 2 (per sack)	29	0
,, 28 ,,	28	0

(No official change since last date given.)

FOREIGN CORN TRADE.

The shipments of grain from the chief exporting countries last week were as follows :—

	Wheat. Qrs.	Flour. Sks.	Maize. Qrs.	Barley. Qrs.	Oats. Qrs.
United States	290,000	100,000	36,000	—	3,000
Russia	185,000	—	245,000	122,000	43,000
France	—	5,000	—	—	
Austria-Hungary	—	5,000	—	—	
Roumania	91,000	—	59,000	17,000	3,000
Argentina	65,000	—	7,000	—	—
India	11,000	—	—	—	—
Australasia	140,000	—	—	—	—
Miscellaneous	20,000	10,000	20,000	20,000	10,000
Total	802,000	120,000	367,000	159,000	59,000

POULTRY AND PROVISIONS

Smithfield, Saturday.—Supples moderate, slow demand, and only limited sales were carried out. Quotations:—Fowls: Yorkshire, 2s 9d to 3s 6d; Essex, 2s 6d to 3s 3d; Boston, 2s 6d to 3s; Surrey, 4s to 4s 6d; Sussex, 3s 6d to 4s; Welsh, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; Irish, 2s to 2s 6d; turkeys (cocks), 6s 6d to 8s 6d; ditto (hens), 4s 6d to 6s; country ducks, 3s to 4s; goslings, 6s 6d to 7s 6d; pigeons, 7d to 1s; quail, 9d to 11d; tame rabbits, 1s to 1s 3d each; Australian, 8s 6d to 10s 6d per dozen; hares, 2s 9d to 3s; leverets, 2s 3d to 2s 6d; wild ducks, 1s 6d to 1s 9d; widgeon, 1s to 1s 3d; pintail, 1s to 1s 6d; teal, 1s 2d to 1s 4d; woodcock, 1s 6d to 1s 9d; snipe, 6d to 9d; golden plover, 7d to 10d; black ditto, 5d to 7d. Russian game: Capercailzie, cocks, 2s 6d to 3s; hens, 1s 9d to 2s; black game, 1s to 1s 2d; partridges, 1s to 1s 3d; ptarmigan, 11d to 1s; brown hares, 1s 9d to 2s; white, 1s 3d each.

THE BALTIC.

No. 1 Northern Spring wheat for August delivery came on sale on the 21st at 6s. 3d. per cental. We have now, therefore, speculative quotations for the entire remainder of the present cereal year. Wheat for prompt shipment is steady at 29s. 9d. for Californian, 29s. 6d. for Walla Walla, 30s. 3d. for Victorian, 30s. for South Australian, 29s. 9d. for Argentine, and 29s. for No. 2 Hard Winter. Arrived cargoes have made 30s. 6d. for Californian, 29s. 9d. for No. 1 Northern, and 31s. for Russian Winter wheat.

Maize is in fair request for cargoes. Sales have included Roumanian at 22s., Turkish at 23s., Galatz at 22s. 9d., Argentine at 22s., and Caucasian at 22s. 9d. per qr.

Barley is unchanged. A cargo of Californian sold on Friday for 24s. 6d., and two cargoes of Kustendge made 18s. 3d. per qr.

Oats went back on Friday, after a strong period from the Tuesday to the Thursday inclusive. A sale on Saturday occurred at 19s. 9d. for Gothenburg, March shipment.

Other cargo sales have included Egyptian beans at 29s. for May shipment, Canadian peas at 32s. 6d. for March shipment, and 29s. 6d. for Indian poppyseed, also for March shipment.

The arrivals of grain and seed laden vesse's at ports of call for the week were, wheat (1 Melbourne, 1 Portland (O), 1 Tacoma); 1 barley and wheat (San Francisco); total 4.

The sailings of grain and seed laden vessels from ports of call for the week were, 4 wheat (1 Antwerp, 2 Hamburg, 1 Swansea); total 4.

Since January 1st, 1902, the total arrivals have been 22 wheat, 1 flour, 3 barley and wheat, 3 maize, 2 barley, 1 beans, 1 canary-seed; total, 33.

Last year, during the same time, the arrivals were, 21 wheat, 1 flour, 4 barley and wheat, 6 barley, 2 beans, 4 pease, 2 locust beans, 2 canary-seed, 2 Valonea; total, 44.

POTATOES.

Borough, Saturday.—Arrivals heavy, and with no appreciable recovery in the demand, the market remained in a very dull state. Scottish maincrops (Dunbars) quoted 80s to 90s; Reading Giants Blacklands, 45s; Blackland Up-to-Dates, 45s to 50s; Lincoln Silts ditto, 55s to 60s; Garton Blacklands, 40s to 45s per ton.

Spitalfields, Saturday.—Market heavily supplied, and, with buyers reserved, trade assumed a dull and depressed character. Quotations:—Best Lincoln Up-to-Dates, 55s to 65s; Blackland ditto, 45s to 50s; Wisbech (grey soil), 70s; Lincoln maincrops, 80s to 85s; Reading Giants, 45s; and Blackland Gartons, 40s to 45s per ton.

Great Northern, Saturday.—Good supplies were available, and met a moderate demand. Scotch maincrops, 85s to 90s; Up-to-Dates, 70s to 80s; Reading Giants, 45s; Blackland Up-to-Dates, 45s to 50s; Lincoln maincrops, 80s to 90s; Lincoln Up-to-Dates, 55s to 65s per ton; Teneriffe, 14s per cwt; Algerian, 2½d per lb.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—Supplies of fruit were on a fair scale, and experienced a moderate demand. Moderate supplies of vegetables met a steady sale. Cabbages, 4s to 6s; cauliflowers, 1s 6d to 2s 6d per dozen; beetroots, 2s per bushel; carrots, 2s 6d to 3s; turnips, 2s 6d; parsley, 4s; leeks, 6s per dozen bunches; horseradish, 1s 3d to 1s 6d per bundle; celery, 12s to 14s per dozen rolls; forced rhubarb, 1s 3d to 1s 6d per dozen bundles; English onions, 8s 6d per cwt; Valencia onions, 10s per case; potatoes, 35s to 80s per ton. Fruit: English grapes, 1s 6d to 2s 6d; Channel Islands, 1s to 1s 6d per lb; Almeria, 15s to 25s per barrel; Nova Scotian apples, 20s to 25s per barrel; Denia oranges, 10s to 24s per case; Jaffa, 10s to 15s; Valencia, 8s to 12s per case; bananas, 8s to 12s per bunch; Canary tomatoes, 4s to 5s 6d per case; pineapples, 2s to 6s each; lemons, 8s to 20s per case.

SEEDS.

London, Monday.—Messrs. John Shaw and Sons, seed merchants, of Great Maze Pond, London, S.E., report a quiet inquiry for field seeds. Home-grown red cloverseed now offers less freely, and holders, more especially of fine samples, resist any further concession in price. Alsyke and white command former terms, whilst trefoil keeps very steady. Ryegrasses, however, continue to favour buyers. The sale for spring tares has recently been on a small scale. Linseed is scarce, and exhibits a substantial advance. The mustard seed trade has throughout the season been very disappointing. Stocks of Canary seed, both in London and Liverpool, are now in remarkably small compass. The consumption of blue peas and haricot beans has been of late much increased.

WOOL

Canterbury, Saturday.—No improvement in prices, which practically remain at bottom. Kent fleeces 5½d per lb.; lamb wool, 4d; cross-breds, 6d; Southdowns, 7d to 8d per lb.

London, Friday.—English—per pk 240lb—Fleeces S. D hoggs, £7 to £8 10s; half-bred hoggs, £6 to £6 10s; do wethers, £5 to £6; Kent fleeces, £5 to £6; S. Down ewes and wethers, £7 to £8 10s; Leicester do, £5 to £5 10s. Colonial—per lb—Vic., fleece super, 1s 5d to 1s 7d; scoured good, 1s 7½d to 1s 8½d; scoured average, 1s 6d to 1s 7d; greasy average to fair, 10½d to 11½d; N. S. W. greasy average, 1s 3½d to 1s 4d; greasy average, 8d to 9d; S. Australian greasy average, 6½d to 7d; New Zealand scoured average, 1s 4d to 1s 5d; grease average, 8d to 9d. Cape scoured super, 1s 5d to 1s 6d; fleece average, 7d to 7½d; greasy average, 5½d to 6½d; Natal scoured, 1s to 1s 1d; greasy average, 6½d to 7d. Crossbreds—Grs.—Vic., good to super, 10½d to 11½d; New Zealand fine, 8d to 9d; do medium, 4½d to 5½d; do coarse, 4d to 4½d.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

Severe weather prevailed from the 17th to 20th inst., but a thaw set in on the 21st, and the week ended with a "southerly wind and a cloudy sky." The markets followed the weather in an almost servile manner, being strong with the frost, but going away on the first breath of thaw. The want of a well sustained winter demand is the trouble of the corn trade at the present moment, as it has been in every February since 1896. Holders should not forget that March, and even April, have in some of thes recent years been as cold as January and February; in fact, we no longer have a medium or spring demand for bread stuffs and feeding stuffs, but experience "a mild winter demand" from the end of October to the middle of May, then passing into summer conditions of small wants from the middle of May to the end of August. September and October are the months when demand is most variable. Last year there were good sales induced by fine but quite chilly autumnal weather. But summer often lasts quite to the end of September nowadays, all the seasons having apparently got later than of yore.

Crop prospects are not so good as a week ago. If the best wheat counties in England are of fine promise, reports from the West and even Midland shires frequently show that the fine start made in December was not continued in January, and that the present outlook is none too healthy. In France the Government report of the 19th inst. is unexpectedly doubtful in its tone. The promise appearently is by no means so good as it was this time last year. Rain has fallen in Eastern Europe, where it is unwelcome at this time of year. In South-Eastern Europe, however, the rains are welcome; it is only rain on top of snow which is injurious, and not much snow is lying in California and Oregon, but the fall is still four inches below the average for the time elapsed since last harvest. In India the week has been rainless, and the prospects of the growing wheat are deteriorating. In Argentina threshings reveal a serious deficiency in the northern and western States, but the yield is excellent in the south.

Supplies of wheat on passage to the United Kingdom are as follow:—

	Qrs.
Californian	2,330,000
Russian	60,000
American	185,000
Indian	136,000
Argentine	140,000
Australasian	505,000
Other Countries	40,000
Total	3,396,000
A year ago	2,920,000

Of flour there are now on passage 384,000 sacks, against 390,000 sacks on 21st February, 1901. The present expectations include 252,000 sacks of American.

Of maize the quantity on pasage is 450,000 qrs., including 400,000 qrs. of round corn. A year ago 625,000 qrs. were afloat, and more than half of it was flat grain. Barley is in good prospective supply.

	Qrs.
Russian	50,000
Roumanian	65,000
Bulgarian	10,000
Californian	440,000
Asiatic	25,000
Total	630,000
A year ago	385,000

No wheat is on passage from Chilé, no barley from Atlantic ports, no maize from India or Australasia. It is rather surprising that neither of these British dependencies ship maize, the climate they enjoy being ideal for maize production.

The imports of the United Kingdom last week were as follow:—

Wheat—227,000 qrs.; a medium supply.
Flour—148,800 sks.; a moderate supply.
Barley—139,000 qrs.; a moderate supply.
Oats—67,000 qrs.; a very small supply
Maize—201,000 qrs.; a fair supply.

Sales of British wheat are about 169,000 qrs., and the equation of supply and demand (breadstuffs) may be thus given:—

	Qrs.
Estimated Requirements	567,000
Estimated Supplies	520,000
Withdrawn from Stocks	47,000

It is estimated that reserves of wheat are now as follows:—

	Qrs.
In Merchants' Hands	2,743,000
In Farmers' Hands	2,786,000
Total	5,529,000

Continental markets show the following changes:—Paris for wheat has declined 9d., Berlin has advanced 6d., Buda Pesth has declined 6d., and Antwerp has declined 6d. In the United States, New York has advanced 5d. on the week. These different voices contradict each other, and have neutralised each other's influence on British trade.

Linseed shipments since January 1st have been as follows:—

	Qrs.
From America	44,000
From India	102,000
From Argentina	699,000
From Russia	45,000
1 Jan.-21 Feb., 1902: Total	890,000
Same time last year	1,077,000

These figures strengthen holders of linseed in this country, where 51s. 9d. is about the lowest figure, the best qualities averaging 10s. above the lowest admitted by the Oilseed Association as fair quality linseed. Thus we may put the linseed average at 56s. 9d. per qr., a decidedly high price. There are 395,000 qrs. on passage, against 502,000 qrs. a year ago.

Rapeseed is in fair request, though there are 8,000 qrs. on passage, against 2,000 qrs. only a year ago. The price asked for fine Gujrat is 45s., while Jamba comes at 32s. per qr. Sunflowerseed gains in favour as an oilseed, and is almost 2s. per qr. of 448lb. up from earlier in the month; 46s. is averaged. The shipments of Sesame from India for January, as reported by letter just to hand, were 499,000 cwt. The price made at Bombay is about 12s. per cwt. Cottonseed is dearer for fixtures than on spot, so it should pay to hold. There is little to be had for spring delivery under 135s. per ton. The quantity on passage is 43,000 tons. Linseed oil is making £32 per ton in casks, rape oil £27 5s. per ton, and cottonseed oil £23 per ton

LONDON TERM MARKET.

This market is held twice a day, except on Saturday, when there is no afternoon call. The market is open to elected members only. No business except for future delivery is done, and the smallest quantity that can be purchased is 1,000 quarters, or 4,800 centals. The name of the month stands for guaranteed delivery (if required) on or before the last day of that month, and the following have been the prices per cental recently made:—

WHEAT.—Calls.	March.	June.	Aug't.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Feb. 17 11 a.m.	6 5	6 5	—
4 p.m.	6 5	6 5	—
Feb 18 11 a.m.	6 5	6 5	...
4 p.m.	6 5	6 5	...
Feb. 19 11 a.m.	6 3	6 4	—
4 p.m.	6 3	6 4	—
Feb. 20 11 a.m.	6 3	6 4	—
4 p.m.	6 3	6 4	—
Feb. 21 11 a.m.	6 3	6 3	6 3
4 p.m.	6 3	6 3	6 3
Feb. 22 11 a.m.	6 3	6 3	6 3
To-day noon	6 3	6 3	6 3

Unlike wheat, which, if dull, is remarkably steady, maize is very unsettled, 4s. 5d. being accepted for February and 4s. 6d. for March delivery, while 4s. 7d. is the lowest price accepted for more distant futures.

The Term Market standard wheat is No. 1 Northern Spring American sold on the Duluth certificate. Other sorts of wheat can be bought at the above prices plus or minus agreed difference between the other sort and the standard quality. Quotations are by the "true hundredweight" or cental of 100 lb. We do not give fractions of a penny per cental. The maize quoted is fair average quality from the United States.

The deposit required from members of the Term Market has been fixed at £50 minimum and 1s. per quarter margin on any purchases above 1,000 quarters.

The Term Market (while the "Baltic" is rebuilding) is temporarily situated at the Great Eastern Hotel, No. 190, Bishopsgate Street, ground floor.

SEEDS

London, Monday.—Our market to-day was fairly attended, and the weather being less wintry, more disposition was shown for business. English red clover, being less freely offered, was firmer. White clover steady. Alsike continues strong. Perennial and Italian grasses are quiet and unchanged. Spring tares in moderate request at late rates. Canary seed dull. Haricots and blue peas are rather more inquired for.—JOHN PICARD AND CO.

THIS DAY'S MARKETS

MARK LANE, MONDAY.

[FIRST REPORT.]

English wheat to-day maintained the prices of last week, but foreign sorts were the turn in buyers' favour. South Australian and fine Victorian commanded 30s. 9d., while New South Wales wheat was offered at 30s. 6d., with buyers at 30s. 3d. Some White Kurrachee made 29s. 6d. and red 29s. 3d. per qr. A few lots of finest red wheat from Stettin realised 32s. 9d. per qr. Most lots of round maize were quoted at about 23s. per qr. American made 26s. 6d. The damaged maize on offer at 19s. was a dubious bargain. Some splendid samples of 384lb. New Zealand oats fetched 31s., while a more ordinary type realised 26s. per qr. Turkish at 17s. 9d. were the cheapest oats in the market. English and Scotch were firm, but dull. Barley was quoted 24s. 6d. per standard Californian up to 32s. per Caledonian Chevalier. Barley meal sold fairly well at 19s. 6d. per 336lb. Locust beans, kibbled, made five guineas per ton, and Egyptian lentils, split, went into use at 14s. per cwt.

QUOTATIONS OFF STANDS.

Feb. 24, 1902.

BRITISH GRAIN.

		s.	s.
WHEAT, White (new)	(per 504 lb.)	29	— 31
,, (old)	,,	30	— 32
Red (new)	,,	28	— 30
,, (old)	,,	29	— 30
Chicken or Feed	(per 480 lb.)	26	— 28
BARLEY, Malting	(per 448 lb.)	32	— 40
Brewing	,,	27	— 30
Feeding	(per 400 lb.)	24	— 26
MALT, English	(per 336 lb.)	36	— 41
Scotch	,,	37	— 39
Black	,,	30	— 32
Brown	,,	29	— 32
Crystallized	,,	33	— 35
OATS, English, Black Winter	,,	22	— 23
,, Black Tartary	,,	21	— 22
,, Grey Winter	,,	22	— 23
,, White Tartary	,,	21	— 22
Scotch	,,	22	— 24
Irish	(per 304 lb.)	19	— 20
RYE, British	(per 480 lb.)	23	— 25
BEANS, Pigeon	,,	36	— 40
Winter	,,	31	— 35
Mazagan	,,	30	— 32
PEAS, Best Marrowfat	(per 504 lb.)	65	— 75
Blue (boiling)	,,	60	— 70
Dun	,,	31	— 32
Maple	,,	36	— 40
TARES, Winter	(per 504 lb.)	52	— 60
Spring	,,	48	— 52

FOREIGN GRAIN.

(Ex-Granary.)

	s.	s.
WHEAT, per 496 lb.		
Old Duluth	32/	—33
Manitoba	32/	—33
American Spring	31/	—32
Red Winter	30/	—31
Hard ,,	30	—31
Kansas	30	—31
Californian	30 6	—31
Walla Walla	None	
Australian	30	— 31
New Zealand	29	— 30
Argentine	None	
Danzig	31	— 32
Saxonka	30	— 31
Azima	30	— 31
Ghirka	29	— 30
Indian	29	— 30
MAIZE, per 480 lb.:		
Russian	22/6	—23
Roumanian	22/6	—23
Turkish	23 6	—24
American	26/6	—27
Argentine	None	
OATS:		
N' Zeal'd (Best)	27	— 31
N. Zeal'd (Bluff)	25	— 27
N. Zeal'd (Dun)	23	— 25
Canadian (320 lb.)	20	— 21
American (320 lb.)	20	— 21
K'nigsb'g (320 lb.)	20	— 21
Pet'sburg (304 lb.)	19	— 20
L'bau, w'te (304 lb.)	19	— 20
,, black ,,	19	— 20
Vologda (304 lb.)	19	— 20
BEANS, per 480 lb.:		
Egyptian	33	— 34
Smyrna	31	— 32
New Zealand	34	— 36

	s.	s.
LOCUST BEANS, per ton:		
Italian	102	— 104
Cyprian	106	— 112
Portuguese	105	— 107
PEAS, per 504 lb.:		
Canadian, White	37	— 38
Australian, White	41	— 42
New Zeal'd Maple	39	— 41
MILLET, per 416 lb.:		
White	33	— 45
Red	25	— 27
Yellow	20	— 23
DARI, per 480 lb.:		
Smyrna	24	— 25
Persian	21	— 23
RYE, per 480 lb.:		
Russian	24	— 25
BUCKWHEAT, per 416 lb.		
French	24	— 25
Russian	24	— 26
TARES, per 504 lb.:		
Konigsberg	44	— 43
BARLEY:		
Saale (448 lb.)	38	— 40
Hungarian (448 lb.)	32	— 40
New Zeal'd (448 lb.)	26	— 29
Chilian (448 lb.)	32	— 34
Californian (448 lb.)	26	— 33
Danish (448 lb.)	28	— 30
French (448 lb.)	27	— 29
Danubian (400 lb.)	20	— 21
Ouchak (400 lb.)	24	— 32
Yerli (400 lb.)	21	— 22
Russian (400 lb.)	19	—19/6
MALT, per 336 lb.:		
Californian	35	— 36
Smyrna	35	— 39

OIL SEEDS.

LINSEED. per 416 lb.	s.	s.
English	60	to 62
Dutch	59	to 61
Bombay	60	to 62
Calcutta	55	to 57
Russian	58	to 59
Argentine	53	to 55
SESAME. per 424 lb.		
Indian	50	to 52
COTTON SEED per ton.		
Egyptian	128	to 130

RAPESEED. per 416 lb	s.	s.
English	56	to 60
Calcutta	41	to 43
Guzerat	42	to 44
Feroze pore	37	to 39
Jamba	29	to 30
Ravison	28	to 29
POPPYSEED. per 377 lb.		
Indian	46	to 47
SUNFLOWERSEED. per 448 lb.		
Russian	43	to 48

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

MAIZE AT THE CLOSE OF THE MARKET WAS WEAKER THAN AT THE OPENING. OTHER ARTICLES WERE VERY SLOW OF SALE, BUT PRICES WERE NOT VARIED.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE Monday

The prices of the leading London makes were substantially unaltered from the 17th. Country whites, despite a liberal supply, were held for 25s., while 22s. commanded a good household type. Hungarian at 32s. was above buyers' ideas. American, with large imports just up the Thames, were 3d. lower from Friday, with 18s. accepted for "Iron Duke" and also for "Gilt Edge." The price of Morrison's bakers' flour fell to 17s. 3d. The only American sort favouring holders was Cascada. Milling offals were slightly lower on the week, and so was maize germ meal. The price of rye flour was 21s. 6d. per sack. Special oatmeal from Berwick realised £15 10s. per ton. Australian and French sorts of flour were neglected; former terms were nominally current.

LONDON FLOUR.

		s.
Top Price	(per sack)	— 25
Town Whites	,,	— 28
,, Households	,,	— 22
No. 2	,,	— 20

COUNTRY FLOUR.

Best Patents	(per sack)	23 — 24
Fine Roller made	,,	21 — 22
Ordinary Roller made	,,	20 — 21
Best Stone made	,,	20 — 21
Ordinary Stone made	,,	19 — 20

FOREIGN FLOUR.

Minnesota First Patents	(per sack)	23 — 24
,, Second Patents	,,	21 — 22
,, First Bakers'	,,	19 — 20
,, Second Bakers'	,,	18 — 19
Milwaukee Patents	,,	22 — 23
,, Bakers	,,	18 — 19
Kansas Patents	,,	23 — 24
,, Bakers'	,,	19 — 20
Cascadia	,,	21 — 22
Canadian	,,	22 — 23
Australian Patents	,,	20 — 22
,, Straight	,,	19 — 21
Hungarian	,,	28 — 32
French	,,	20 — 21

MEAL, &c.

Whole Meal	(per ton	172—174
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	115—117
Bran, London Broad	,,	110—112
,, ,, Fine	,,	90— 94
,, Country Flake	,,	120—122
,, ,, Broad	,,	112—116
Pollard	,,	96—100
Biscuit Middlings	,,	120—124
Fine Middlings	,,	115—117
Coarse Middlings	,,	103—105
Feeding Flour (Red Dog)	,,	112—116
Barley Meal	,,	124—128
Rye Flour	,,	150—155
Oat Meal	,,	280—290
Oat Flour	,,	340—360
Maize Flour	,,	164—166
Maize Meal	,,	122—126
Maize Cones	,,	172—174
Maize Germ Meal	,,	110—120
Pea Meal	,,	130—150
Bean Meal	,,	145—165
Rice Meal	,,	100—105

THE BALTIC, 1 p.m.

STATE OF TRADE.

Wheat cargoes near at hand come 3d. lower, but for futures from April to August are firm. Barley is steady both for malting and feeding, but both oats and maize are 3d. lower for cargoes on passage. Maize is lower, too, for future shipment.

BUSINESS DONE.

WHEAT.—No. 1 Northern Spring, 29s 9d, on passage; New South Wales, 29s 9d, on passage; Argentine, 29s 9d, on passage; White Kurrachee, 29s 3d, on passage; Russian Winter, 30s 6d, on passage; Soft Red Calcutta, 29s, April shipment.

BARLEY.—Novorossisk, 19s, on passage; Odessa, 18s 9d, arrived.

OATS.—White Lebau, 18s 3d, arrived; Odessa 17s 6d, on passage; Konigsburg, 19s 6d, prompt shipment; Turkish, 17s 6d, prompt shipment.

MAIZE.—Argentine, 21s 6d, May shipment; Odessa, 21s 6d, on passage; American, 26s, prompt shipment; Galatz, 22s 9d, prompt shipment.

BEANS.—Barbary, 31s 9d, March shipment.

RYE.—Roumanian, 22s, March shipment.

LINSEED.—Argentine, 51s 9d, March shipment.

PROVISIONS

London, Monday.—The arrivals from Ireland last week were 1,755 bales bacon, and from foreign ports 8,640 bales bacon. Owing to the continued shortness of supplies, there being some 900 bales of Danish less, and the non-arrival of Canadian bacon, due to the delay on the Canadian railways, the bacon market continues firm, and prices were unaltered. Trade, however, was not at all good, and late on Friday prices of Danish on the open market were some 2s easier, Irish ranging from 50s to 52s, up to 61s; Danish ranging from 50s to 56s, up to 58s; Canadian ranging from 46s to 52s, up to 56s. The butter market was practically unchanged, with only a fair demand for butter generally. Danish, 117s to 119s, up to 120s; Colonial, 104s to 108s, up to 112s. Lard market dull. Irish bladders from 50s to 60s. American—The market steady; pails and boxes, 49s to 50s.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORTS.

Although milling offals are cheap, compared to other feeding stuffs, they move off very slowly, and last Monday's prices are hard to maintain.—JOHN BAWCOMB AND CO. (Mark Lane).

Flour.—A quiet trade, at last week's prices.—T. S. MEDILL AND SONS (Mark Lane).

Small arrivals of wheat; large of flour. A dull trade, with prices unchanged. Round maize, 6d. to 1s. per quarter cheaper. Barley unchanged. Oats 3d. per quarter lower.—COVENTRY (Mark Lane).

Offals.—Bran continues in moderate demand, and there is no change to report in prices.—GREENHILL BROTHERS (Belfast).

Flour.—In spite of small arrivals, flour continues quiet, without much change in value. Grain.—Flat and round corn 1½d. per boll easier. Oats, Barley and Beans unchanged. Peas, owing to fresh arrivals, are 3d. easier. Oatmeal dull. Oilcake steady. Mill Stuffs.—In rather better demand.—MCKINNON AND MCDONALD (Glasgow).

Flour.—There is no perceptible change in spot flour. There is a general expectation, however, as stocks are getting smaller, that prices must very soon advance and come more into line with American quotations. Values on spot are as follows:—1st Spring Patents, 24s. 9d. to 25s. 3d.; 2nd Spring Patents, 23s. 9d. to 24s. 3d.; American Winter Patents, 24s. 9d. to 25s. 3d.; Extra Fancies, 23s. to 23s. 6d.—GREENHILL BROTHERS (Belfast).

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Monday.—Linseed Cake—Trade quiet, prices unchanged. Decorticated cotton cake and meal 2s 6d lower. Undecorticated continues in fair request at the low prices now ruling. Linseed is extremely scarce on spot, and buyers have to pay full prices for immediate delivery; it is reported no more Plate will be shipped this season.

English Linseed Cake	ex mill	8	5	0 to 8	10	0
American Calcutta Linseed Cake	ex quay					
American Western ,,	ex quay	7	10	0		
Russian Oil Cake	ex quay	7	12	6 to 8	0	0
Decorticated Cotton Cake	ex quay	6	7	6 to 6	16	3
,, ,, Meal	ex quay	6	5	0 to 6	10	0
London-made ,, Cake (best)	ex quay	4	10	0 to 4	12	6
Egyptian ,, ,, (in bags)	ex quay	4	7	6 to 4	10	0
Burton Desiccated Ale Grains (bags included)	on rail, Burton					
Guinness, Desiccated Porter Grains (bags included)	ex warehouse, London					
Rangoon Rice Meal	ex warehouse					
Dutch Linseed (in bags),	per 416 lbs.	2	19	0 to 3	2	0
Calcutta Linseed in bags,	per 410 lbs. ex warehouse	3	0	0		
American Linseed in bulk,	per 410 lbs. ex warehouse					
La Plata do.	per 416 lbs.	2	15	0		
Russian Linseed in bulk,	per 416 lbs. ex warehouse	2	15	0 to 2	18	6

ROBERT AND JOHN HEWETSON.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed cakes:—Both supply and demand are only on a moderate scale, but with a firm attitude on the part of shippers, values are fully as dear, and in some instances even a slight advance is asked. Russians sell rather more freely at 1s 3d per ton advance in mats, and last Monday's prices in bags. Americans continue to be sparingly offered at unchanged prices. Calcutta-made in bags remain relatively good value, although quotations are also unchanged. London-made are less active, owing to the higher prices now asked by crushers. Cotton cakes:—Some further heavy arrivals of Egyptian have again depressed the market, and prices are with difficulty maintained, although not quotably lower, while English remain quiet but steady at slightly easier prices. Decorticated sell slowly at last week's quotations, and meal 2s 6d per ton less money. Rape cakes: Unchanged. Maze germ meal:—There are still sellers of American at £5 10s c.i.f. for February-March despatch, but there is not much response. English moves off quietly at unchanged quotations. Rice meal: There are sellers of near-at-hand Rangoon at £4 16s 3d to £4 17s 6d, while landed parcels are slightly easier.

		Per ton. £ s. d.	Per ton. £ s. d.
LINSEED CAKES.			
London made	ex mill	8 7 6 to 8	10 0
American	ex dock	7 5 0 to 7	7 6
Russian, in mats	ex dock	7 11 3 to 7	13 9
Russian, in bags	ex dock	7 15 0 to 7	17 6
Calcutta		7 12 6 to 7	15 0
COTTONSEED CAKES.			
London made	ex mill	4 8 9 to 4	10 0
Egyptian	ex dock	4 7 6 to 4	10 0
Decorticated	ex dock	6 10 0 to 6	15 0
Meal	ex dock	6 7 6 to	—
RAPE CAKES.			
East India		4 5 0 to	—
MAIZE.			
English germ meal	ex mill	6 0 0 to 6	2 6
American, Feb.-March	c.i.f.	5 10 0 to	—
RICE MEAL.			
Rangoon	in warehouse	5 2 6 to 5	5 0

—PINNOCK BROS., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

HOPS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—W. H. and H. Le May report:—The demand is centred upon the English crop, the price of which is far below that of any other hops in the world, and many consumers are availing themselves of this favourable opportunity to lay in a stock against a possible shortage next crop.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

Monday, February 24th, 1902.

	British.	Total.	Feb. 25, 1901.
Beasts	930	930	1,190
Sheep and lambs	7,050	7,050	7,330
Calves	10	10	—
Pigs	—	—	80
Milch cows	80	80	70

Quotations per 8lb (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.	Inferior. s. d.	Second. s. d.	First. s. d.
Beasts	2 6	3 10	4 8
Sheep	3 8	4 8	5 4
Lambs	5 4	6 0	6 4

Milch cows, per head, £16 to £23.

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, 29; Eastern Counties, 523; Midland, home, and Western Counties, 249 beasts; Ireland, 109.

In the beast market there was a shorter supply compared with Monday last, consignments from Norfolk being less, also from Scotland. Notwithstanding this, trade ruled extremely dull, with a decline in value, a clearance will not be effected. Fat butchering cows and bulls, though in light suply, met a slow trade, rates having to be lowered 2d per 8lb; these will be cleared.

The following are top quotations per 8lb (sinking the offal):—

	To-day.	Feb. 25, 1901.
Scotch	4s 7d to 4s 8d	4s 6d to 4s 7d
Devons	4s 6d to 4s 7d	4s 5d to 4s 6d
Norfolks	4s 6d to 4s 7d	4s 5d to 4s 6d
Lincolns	4s 4d to 4s 6d	4s 2d to 4s 4d
Irish	4s 4d to 4s 6d	4s 2d to 4s 3d
Fat cows	3s 8d to 3s 10d	3s 6d to 3s 8d

In the sheep market there was a decrease of 1,520 in the number penned, amongst which was a smaller proportion of lambs; these met with more inquiry, rates being firm, and a clearance expected; for wether sheep trade was steadier in regard to value. Ewes were short in number, and made 2d per 8lbs. more money, and cleared early. The supply included 240 Scotch and 3,870 from the Eastern counties. Undermentioned quotations are at per 8lbs (sinking offal), and are for the best of each class penned.

	To-day.	Feb. 25, 1901.
7½ to 8st Downs	5s 3d to 5s 4d	5s 10d to 6s 0d
9st Downs	5s 1d to 5s 2d	5s 8d to 5s 10d
10st Half-breds	4s 9d to 4s 10d	5s 6d to 5s 8d
12st Lincolns	4s 6d to 4s 8d	5s 2d to 5s 4d
10st Down Ewes	4s 4d to 4s 6d	4s 10d to 5s 0d
11st Half-bred do	4s 0d to 4s 2d	4s 6d to 4s 8d
5st Dorset Lambs	6s 2d to 6s 4d	6s 10d to 7s 0d
6st Half-bred do	5s 10d to 6s 0d	6s 4d to 6s 6d

London, Monday.—Good supplies; trade very slow. Beef carcasses 3s 11d to 4s; hind quarters, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; roastings, 5s 4d to 5s 8d. Sheep, ewe, 2s 8d to 3s; wether, 3s 8d to 4s 2d; hind quarters ewe, 3s 8d to 4s; wether, 5s to 5s 4d. Pigs, large, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; small, 4s to 4s 4d.

St. Ives, Monday.—Beasts 352, sheep 537, pigs 328, beef 7s 6d to 8s 3d, mutton 7s 7d to 9s 4d, pork 6s 9d to 7s 9d, sows 5s 9d to 6s 6d. Fat beast fair demand; stores rather slow; fat and store sheep fair; fat and store pigs good trade, dearer; milch cows short supply, good demand, £14 to £23.

FOREIGN CATTLE.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts, 706. To-day's supply compared with Monday last showed an increase of 448, and consisted entirely of shipments from the United States, for which there was very dull and dragging trade, a clearance being doubtful; the best on offer were quoted at 4s 3d per 8lb; seconds, 4s per 8lb (offal given in). Sheep numbered 288 from the United States, and met with a slow trade at about 4s 3d per 8lb. On Saturday the supply consisted of 1,510, of which 1,214 were from the States and 296 from Canada; trade was fairly steady both in regard to tone and value; the former made 4s 4d per 8lb; seconds, 4s 2d; the latter were quoted at from 4s to 4s 2d. Sheep consisted of 626 from the States, and met a firm trade at 4s 3d per 8lb (offal given in). The following were the numbers on offer on the corresponding day last year, with the current top rates:—Beasts, 1,188, 4s 2d to 4s 3d per 8lb, to dress about 720lb. No sheep on offer since February 16th.

Liverpool, Monday.—A smaller supply of cattle in market to-day. Demand slow and prices lower for all qualities, in sympathy with country markets. Sheep supply also smaller, and in consequence a better trade was experienced at full prices. Beef 6½d to 5d per lb.; mutton, 8½d to 5½d per lb. At market, 1,276 cattle and 3,288 sheep.

"The council are gratified to record that from every point of view steady progress and success attend our exhibitions, and that there are unmistakable proofs of their popularity amongst our supporters and friends, as well as amongst exhibitors and the general public." Such was the satisfactory statement of affairs presented by the council of the Derbyshire Agricultural Society at the annual meeting. The balance sheet showed that there was a net profit on the year's working of £27 11s. 6d. The total expenditure was £2,487 12s. 4d., the chief item being £1,286 0s. 6d. in prizes. The income amounted to £2,515 3s. 10d., which included £1,104 3s. 2d., the proceeds of the show, £487 12s. in subscriptions, £345 12s. 6d. in donations, and £542 16s. 2d. in fees; £980 6s. 11d. was brought forward from last year's account, and this sum has now been increased to £1,007 18s. 5d. by the balance profit mentioned above. The cash in hand at the end of the year was £306 15s. 5d., £700 was on deposit, and fees remaining to be collected totalled £5 11s. The total assets of the Society amounted to £1,147 17s. 5d. Ever since the formation of the Society in 1861 the president has been a Duke of Devonshire, the present duke succeeding his father in 1892. He has always taken the warmest interest in the welfare of the Society, so that, naturally enough, he was unanimously re-elected president for this year. September 10th and 11th were selected for the dates of the next show.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW.

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS.")

Trade in London.

Though the supply of fat beasts of both prime and second quality at Islington was much shorter, especially in consignments from Norfolk, trade was of a very dull nature, owing to a slacker demand, rates ruling from 1d. to 2d. per 8lb. in favour of the buyer, at which reduction a clearance could not be made. On Thursday a few fat Shorthorns were on sale, but failed to find buyers. For fat butchering cows there was less inquiry, sales being governed by last week's quotations, whilst bulls, though short in number, were bought on easier terms. Very few rough cattle on offer, and those that did reach the market were very unsaleable. At Deptford there was a rather larger supply, chiefly from the United States, the majority consisting of middling descriptions. Here trade was also dull, with a marked downward tendency in value, especially on Wednesday. The total number on offer at both markets was 4,589 (previous week, 4,345), consisting of 1,525 British (decrease, 235), and 3,064 foreign (increase, 479). These latter comprised 2,768 from the United States and 296 from Canada. The following were the top rates poid per 8lb. (sinking the offal):—80 to 90 stone Polled Aberdeens, 4s. 8d.; 80 stone Devons, 4s. 8d.; 90 stone Polled Norfolks, 4s. 7d.; 100 stone Shorthorn ditto, 4s. 6d.; 100 stone Lincolns, 4s. 5d.; 110 stone ditto, 4s. 3d.; 90 stone Irish, 4s. 4d.; 100 stone ditto, 4s. 3d.; 90 stone States, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; 90 stone Canadians, 100 stone fat cows, 4s.; 100 stone fat bulls, 3s. 6d. For wether sheep at Islington trade was dull and heavy, with a slight downward tendency in value, whilst ewes being short in number more than fully maintained last week's quotations. Of lambs there was a good proportion, but these were most difficult too cash. At the Foreign Cattle Market with a moderate supply at an advance of 2d. per 8lb. The total number penned at both markets was 11,351, as against 9,810 during the previous week, the supply consisting of 9,190 British, 1,535 from the United States, and 626 from Canada. Best pens made per 8lb. as follows (sinking the offal):—7½ to 8 stone Downs, 5s. 4d.; 8 stone Scotch, 5s. 2d.; 9 stone Downs 5s. 2d.; 10 stone ditto, 5s.; 10 stone halfbreds, 4s.; 12 stone Lincolns, 4s. 8d.; 8 stone States, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 10 stone Down ewes, 4s. 4d.; 11 stone halfbreds, 4s.; 5 stone fat lambs, 6s. 4d.; 6 stone halfbred ditto, 5s. 10d. Only 25 calves on the market; trade only nominal. Pigs numbered 140, and met a steady trade, best making 4s. 6d. per 8lb. (sinking the offal).

Trade in the West.

The somewhat protracted spell of wintry weather we are having has so far had but little adverse effect on the store stock trade beyond the fact of compelling stock-owners to dip their hands a little more deeply into their pockets for extra feeding stuffs. With only moderately fair deliveries coming to hand, prices for store cattle have generally ruled a good deal firmer than might have been expected, this being due to the fact that just now there is insufficient stock on the market to meet the prevailing rather heavy demand, especially for dairy beasts, the best of which are selling from £17 to £22, and plainer descriptions from £12 to £16 5s.; in calvers meeting an equally brisk sale at from £9 to £14 10s. Barreners are likewise very saleable, especially the younger class of animals, which are making £22 to £32 per pair, and plainer kinds from £17 to £21; a few two-year-old steers that are offering at some of the markets selling from about £9 10s. to £10 10s. each; yearling steers, £7 to £9 each; yearling heifers, about £5 5s. each. The trade in stock bulls has been better than for some seasons past; taken as a whole, the class of animal finding the most favour with stock-owners being the medium-price bull coming of a good stock, which can be procured at from £10 or £11 up to £16 each; those more particular as to having a special strain giving £18 to £30, this, of course, being for animals very nearly approximating to pedigree strains or that possess special recommendations on the point of purity. And all the bulls on offer at most of the markets have found a quick sale. The hard weather has told more on the store sheep trade than almost anything else; but in spite of this most of the sheep now coming out find buyers, horn couples selling from 49s. 6d. to 56s. 6d.; Down ditto, 49s. 6d.; in lamb ewes, 42s. to 45s.; store Down wethers, 44s. to 47s.; Dorset horn ditto, 35s. to 37s. Fat bullocks continue to meet a brisk demand, the best grades commanding a ready sale at 62s. to 65s. per cwt., and seconds at 57s. to 59s. The calf trade is now in full swing, and the best command satisfactory rates, £4 to £6 10s. each (or 7½d. to 8d. per lb.); weanlings also sell freely, these making 25s. to 46s. each. Mutton is a slightly more saleable commodity than it was, though we can hardly quote ewes as making more than 6½d. to 7d., and best wethers about 7½d., or a trifle over for very choice weights, which occasionally bring 8d.—not more. Lambs are rather a sluggish trade; the best cross-breds make 36s. to 42s. (or about 9d.), and seconds 30s. to 35s. (or 8½d.). Bacon pigs meet a steady demand at 9s. per score, or a little over, but porkers are a much brisker sale at 10s. 6d. to 11s. per score; the demand for fat sows is quieter at 7s. to 8s. per score, according to size and quality. Considering the time of the year, business all round is quite up to sellers' anticipations; in fact, a few particular things realise more money more than they did a short time since.

Trade in Ireland.

In spite of a fairly large decrease of nearly 200 cattle and 600 sheep, business at last Thursday's Dublin market opened very weakly, cross-Channel buyers operating with great caution, consequent on the depressed state of the English markets. Shippers seem determined to hold out against paying the extreme rates of the previous Thursday, and the class of good cattle usually bought by them had to give way a little, and even for very choice beef for the home trade it was difficult to realise last week's price. Second class beef was hard to turn into cash, and it was impossible to effect a clearance, even at the regular prices which were going. Best heifer and ox beef made from 54s. 6d. to 57s. 9d.; and extra choice, 59s. to 62s. per cwt.; good second beef, 48s. to 52s.; and other classes, from 42s. to 46s. per cwt. Trade in the mutton department was equally disappointing. Business was confined almost solely to the local butchers, as the attendance of Belfast, Liverpool, and Manchester was almost nil, and the inquiry almost nominal. Prices all round were weaker than last day, and very up-and-down rates had to be accepted where owners were anxious to sell. Well-finished lightweight mountain wethers met with a fairly good sale, and were finally held for late rates, but second class and rough sheep moved off very slowly, the dullness being largely due to the arrival of big consignments of Scotch sheep, and a clearance could not be effected. There was only a limited inquiry for lambs, and prices were somewhat easier. Prime wether mutton made from 6½d. to 7d. per lb., choice Cheviots making ½d. per lb. more; ewe, 5½d. to 6½d., and rough sheep from 4½d. to 5d. per lb. Lambs sold at from 36s. to 40s. each. Prime veal is still scarce, and choice was worth from 7½d. to 8d. per lb., but rough sold at from 4½d. up. The number of cattle in market was 2,067, and of sheep 3,720. Choice springers and new milch cows were in demand at good figures; the former making at from £20 to £22 each, and the latter a couple of pounds less. Medium and inferior cows met with a sluggish sale. The store cattle trade was merely nominal; no one being anxious to buy. With hay and other feed scarce and dear. With a limited supply of pigs, and an unusually large attendance of buyers, trade in the hog market opened briskly, though at no advance of price. As the day wore on, however, the supply increased, and competition became sluggish, so that in the end it was with difficulty that a clearance was effected. Nice light weight pigs made from 48s. to 50s. per cwt.; heavy bacon pigs, 46s. to 48s.; and coarse, from 30s. to 40s. per cwt.

LONDON.

Islington, Thursday.—Only moderate supplies to hand, and met with fair request at steady prices. Fat bulls, 3s 4d to 3s 8d. Arrivals of sheep were on a very small scale, and experienced a fair demand, prices being firm to occasionally dearer. 7½ to 8-stone Down wethers, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; 9-stone ditto, 5s 2d to 5s 4d; 10-stone Down ewes, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; and 9-stone ditto, 4s to 4s 2d. Calves steady, the best on offer making 5s 4d. Pigs unaltered. Neat small porkers, 4s 4d to 4s 6d per 8lb to sink the offal, Total supplies:—65 beasts, 450 sheep, 20 calves, 10 cows, and 20 pigs.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Best beef made well up to 12s a score without any difficulty. Small Downs and half-breds 5s to 5s 4d a stone. Veal still very dear. Average supply of pork.

Basingstoke, Wednesday.—At Raynbord and Sons' Sale Yard there was a good attendance of buyers to meet a supply consisting of 41 fat beasts, 69 calves, 532 fat sheep, and 68 head of dairy and store cattle, for which the following prices were realised:—Good young fat beasts made up to £25; a very good Angus bull made £22; shorthorn bulls, £18; fat calves, 70s to £5; small, 15s to 50s; prime quality fat sheep realised from 38s to 50s 6d; 12 months old ditto from 35s to 47s; fat ewes from 34s 6d to 48s; fat sucking lambs, 37s; store tegs, 34s 6d; dairy cows from £10 to £22 15s. The show of fat beasts included some well-grazed local shorthorns and other breeds, which were readily cleared, the best making an advance on last week's figures. A fuller supply of fat sheep and lambs, and a good demand for the best quality tegs and for fat ewes. Many of the half-fat sheep met a poor trade, and were difficult to dispose of, except at store prices, and a clearance was not effected. With a full supply of dairy cows on offer, a ready clearance was made, with a firm trade for all best descriptions. Store cattle are still a very slow business. Fat calves are scarce and dear. Ruling values:—Best quality fat beasts, 6¾d to 7¼d; second ditto, 6d to 6¼d; bulls, cows, and inferior beasts, 5d to 6d per lb; best quality sheep, 7d to 8d; second ditto, 6d to 7d; fat sucking lambs up to 10s; old ewes, rams, and inferior sheep, 5d to 6d per lb; fat calves, 6d to 8d per lb.

Braintree, Wednesday.—At Messrs. Balls's auction mart the trade in bullocks was good and the supply plentiful. Sheep sold at advanced prices, and hogs showed an upward tendency. The pens were full.

Bridgewater, Wednesday.—There was a full supply of mutton, which met a very backward sale. The supply of beef on offer was moderate, but best qualities still maintained a good price. There were very few store cattle on offer.

Bristol, Thursday.—Very large supply of beef to-day, chiefly of secondary quality; trade slow, best animals making 60s per cwt; secondary qualities, 54s to 56s. Mutton plentiful; business dull, light wethers fetching 7¼d per lb.; heavy wethers, 7d; ewes, 6½d. Large number of pigs on offer, baconers realising 9s 6d per score; porkers, 10s 9d. Little inquiry for a few store cattle in market.

Boston, Wednesday.—Good show of store cattle; fair trade. A good show of sheep. Strong stores, £14 to £16; in-calvers, £18 to £20; heifers, £16 to £18; calves, 55s to 60s each; best beef, 8s to 8s 3d; cows, best, 7s to 7s 6d per stone; best wethers, 8d to 8½d; ewes, 7d to 7½d per lb; hogs, 36s to 40s each.

Calne. Friday.—Present prices for prime pigs, in lots of not less than 10, on rail within 100 miles of Calne.

Prime Stores.	Thickness of fat in any part of the Back.	Price per Sc. s.	d.
6 sc. 10 lbs. to 9 sc. 10 lbs.	2½ in. and under ...	9	6
Under 10 sc.	Not exceeding 2¾ in....	9	0
Under 11 sc. 10 lb.	... Not exceeding 2¾ in....	8	6
Under 12 sc.	Not exceeding 3 in. ...		

—C. & T. Harris & Co., Ld.

Cambridge, Monday.—Beasts, 229. Beef, 7s to 8s 6d; sheep, 519; mutton, 4s 4d to 5s 4d. Horses, 3. Small show; store beasts nearly all sold; fat beasts a fair show and good trade; fat hogs a better trade all round. Stores, only a few lots shown, and trade slow. Market closed for pigs. Hay, straw and roots a good show, but trade not very brisk.

Canterbury, Saturday. — Rather more cattle on offer, but trade slow. Tegs from 27s 6d to 33s 6d, and two-year-olds from 38s 6d to 44s; old ewes about 28s; in-lamb ewes, 33s to 43s per head.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Fair supply of cattle on the sands, chiefly of the better class of heifers. The attendance of buyers was not large, and trade moved slowly. Small heifers, £8 to £10; better sorts, to £14 10s.

Dorchester, Wednesday.—The fat bullock trade has lost none of its features of buoyancy, the best qualities of beef readily making 11s per score, and secondary grades 10s to 10s 6d. Calves met a very small sale at prices, as a rule, ranging from £4 10s to £6 15s for best, or quite 8d per lb., those not quite so ripe or well finished selling at 6½d to 7d. Mutton is still meeting a very subdued sale, and we must quote wethers as making 7d to (in a few cases) 7½d, but ewes only make 6d to 6½d. Cross-bred lambs sell comparatively better than sheep, the general range now being from 34s to 40s each (or 8¾d to 9d per lb). Pigs continue to meet a brisk sale, porkers being in active request at 46s to 68s each (or 10s 6d to 11s per score), and baconers, 70s to 88s (or 9s 6d to 10s).

Dublin, Thursday.—Numbers in market:—Beasts, 2,067, decrease, 195; sheep, 3,720, decrease, 565; calves, 44, increase 8. Consequent on bad trade across Channel the market opened very dull, and demand continued slow all day. Last week's prices were not maintained, even for the best qualities, and the rougher descriptions were difficult to move at proportionably lower rates. The very best and most suitable sheep barely maintained late rates; other sorts lower and a bad finish. Export trade almost nil. Cattle, live weight (best), 31s to 34s per cwt.; rough and inferior sorts, 27s to 31s per cwt. Mutton, dead weight, 6d to 7¼d per lb.

Dumfries, Wednesday.—Large supplies, which met a good demand at fully late rates. Horned bullocks made up to £19, polled bullocks to £20, polled heifers to £13, Ayrshire cows to £14, Galloway bulls to £18, and cross cows to £16.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Bullocks and cows, 557; calves, 61; sheep and lambs, 796; pigs (fat and sows), 36; pigs (stores, not more than ten), 204; pigs (stores, more than ten), 113. Prices of Stock.—Best beef, 6d to 7d per lb; wether sheep, 6¼d to 8d per lb.; ewes, 5¾d to 6d per lb; veal, 7¼d per lb; lamb, 9d per lb; pork, 5¾d to 6d per lb; bacon, 4d to 5d per lb.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons report larger supplies of fat cattle, the majority of which came to hand in excellent condition. Distant and local buyers were in strong force, and a sharp trade resulted at from 8s 3d to 9s per stone. Fat cows sold well up to £21, and were mostly purchased for the Midlands. Fat sheep were well represented, but trade was slow, and prices ruled in favour of buyers. Choice Suffolk hoggets to 57s 6d; do shearlings to 55s; Suffolk ewes to 51s; grazing hoggets sold without alteration. Several calves were offered; the demand was not strong; the best for weaning, 55s to 38s; fat calves, 75s to 57s. An average number of fat swine on offer. Competition was very brisk, and the recent high rates fully maintained, ranging from 7s to 8s per stone. Sows in request up to £10. Stores short and dear, from 31s to 15s 3d. About 30 cows and heifers were penned, and a large attendance of buyers, those fresh calved or near making excellent prices. Prices ranged from £16 15s to £12 10s. Some useful lots of grazing cattle were forwarded. There was rather more enquiry, and all were disposed of. Numbers at sales and market:—Beasts, 648; calves, 49; sheep, 1,419; swine, 1,086; horses, 13.

Leicester, Wednesday.—Large consignments of home-fed bullocks came to hand, but they were rather out of condition. Choice lots had an active sale, but secondary met with little attention. Choice bullocks made 6¾d per lb, secondary 6¼d to 6½d, cows 5d to 6d, and heifers 6¼d to 6¾d per lb. Sheep were a large supply, and sold readily at 7¼d to 7¾d per lb for choice qualities; large sheep 6½d to 7d per lb, and ewes 5¼d to 6d per lb. Calves were in active demand at 8½d to 8¾d per lb.

Newport, Wednesday.—Good supply met with a brisk trade, and a clearance was effected. Best beef 6½d to 6¾d, seconds 6d to 6¼d, cows 5d to 6d; mutton, wether 7¾d to 8d, ewes 6d to 6¼d; veal, 8d to 8½d; pigs, porkers 10s 6d to 10s 9d, bacons 9s to 9s 6d.

Newport, Wednesday.—A very good supply all round, a large number of buyers, and brisk, keen trade in best quality cattle and sheep. Best beef, 6½d to 6¾d; seconds, 6d to 6¼d; cows, 5d to 6d; sheep (wethers), 7¾d to 8d; ewes, 6d to 6¼d; calves, 8d to 8¾d; porker pigs, 10s 6d to 10s 9d; baconers, 9s to 9s 6d per score.

Norwich, Saturday.—Supply of store beasts pretty good, and best lots in good demand. In store beasts a pretty good trade was passing at 7s 6d to 8s per 14lb. Store sheep in rather small supply; late rates were gene-

rally maintained. Fat sheep made 7s 9d to 8s 6d per 14lb.

Romford, Wednesday.—With a large supply of fat beasts, trade was very slow. Best animals, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; middlings, 4s to 4s 2d per stone. Calves in very short supply; trade dear, at 5s 4d to 5s 8d per stone. Sheep in about average supply; trade about the same. Best sheep, 5s 4d to 6s 6d; middlings, 5s to 5s 2d per stone. Few store beasts on offer; slow demand. Pig market still closed.

Salford, Tuesday.—There was a larger supply of cattle and sheep. Trade ruled slow, and prices were in favour of the buyer. There was a large show of calves and a dull trade, with the tendency of prices against the seller. Quotations: Cattle, 4½d to 6½d; sheep, 6d to 8½d; calves, 5d to 8d per lb: At market: Cattle, 2,234; sheep, 8,374; calves, 166.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Small show of milch beasts. Best lots were in brisk demand, making up to £22: secondary lots moved slowly at £16 to £18 10s.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday.—Numbers offered:—340 cattle; 83 cows with calves; 571 sheep; 128 calves; 53 fat; 174 porket, and 505 store pigs. Larger supply of store cattle with a fair trade generally. Fat calves made high prices. Quotations:—Beef, 6d to 6½d; mutton, 6½d to 8d, and veal, 8d to 9d per lb.; porket pigs, 9s 6d to 10s 9d, and bacons, 9s to 10s per score; cows with calves up to £23 10s; hay up to £5, and straw up to £5 5s per ton; clover, £4 17s 6d.—B. R. CROXTON.

Spalding, Tuesday.—A better supply of beef, and a decided improvement in the trade. Best ox beef, 8s to 8s 6d per stone; cow beef, 7s 6d to 7s 9d. A larger supply of stores, but trade rather slow. Cows in demand. In the sheep market a small show. Wethers, to 7d; ewes, 5d to 5½d per lb.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There were on offer 133 cattle, 3 calves, 295 sheep, and 215 pigs. A small supply of best cattle, and trade slow but firm at 7s 9d to 8s per stone; rougher kinds, 6s 6d to 7s; sheep, 7½d; ewes, 5d to 6d; tups, about 4d per lb.

Thame, Tuesday.—The good prices realised for stock during the past few weeks had the effect of bringing out a large supply of fat beef from a considerable distance around. The beef was of excellent quality, but trade was a little easier, especially for mutton. Veal and fat hogs being scarce and very dear. There was again a large attendance of buyers, and a clearance effected. Mr. Bond's sale comprised 84 fat beasts, 151 fat sheep, 60 fat and weaning calves, and 108 pigs. Fat bullocks made £16 to £22 10s; fat heifers, £14 to £22 17s 6d; fat ewes, 38s to 53s 6d; fat tegs, 35s to 46s 6d; fat calves, £3 to £4; cow calves, 21s to 45s; bull calves, 14s to 51s; fat pigs, 11s per score. Fat sows to £9 3s. Stores dear.

Wakefield, Wednesday.—About an average supply of beasts, but a smaller show of sheep, and trade somewhat slow. Best beef 6¾d, other sorts 5d to 6½d; young sheep 7½d, heavy animals 6d to 7½d; ewes and tups, 5d to 6d. Number of beasts 1,241, sheep 3,637.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Beasts: A fair supply; moderate trade. A good supply of sheep; slow trade. Calves in small supply; good demand. Beef, 5½d to 6¾d per lb, a few 7d per lb; mutton, 6d to 8d per lb; veal, 7½d to 9d per lb; pigs, bacon 10s 6 dto 11s per score, porkets 10s 6d to 11s per score, sows 8s to 8s 6d per score.

Worcester. Saturday.—Moderate supplies of cattle and sheep, but pigs continue in good supply. Beef slightly firmer, and fat calves in demand. Beef, 6d to 7d; mutton, 6d to 8d; and veal, 7d to 8d per lb; pigs, 9s to 10s per score.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Very good show and trade, especially for sheep, which made a trifle more money, beef being slightly easier. Best beef, 7s to 7s 6d; secondary, 6s to 7s per stone; best wethers, 7d to 7½d; ewes, 5d to 6d per lb.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Wednesday.—Beast supplies amounted to 400 head, being 420 less than available on Wednesday last, and consisted of shipments from United States. Despite the light supply, trade ruled very slow, owing to quality being very poor. Prices realised varied between 4s 2d and 4s 5d. 505 United States sheep went at 4s 4d per 8lb to sink the offal. 250 beasts were not shown.

Yorkhill, Monday.—The usual weekly sale of United States and Canadian cattle was held to-day, when there were on offer just over 200 animals, principally bullocks. Only a small proportion of them were up to the usual standard of quality, the remainder being rough in finish. There was the usual attendance of customers, both wholesale and retail. Small, neat, well-fed bullocks secured the best demand, and realised 10s more a-head on that ruling last week. Secondary and heavier were slower to cash, and experienced a drop of 2s a-head on the values ruling at the previous sale. Bulls were in better demand than a week ago, and realised high prices. The deadweight quotations may be given as follow:—States bullocks, best quality, medium weight, 58s to 60s per cwt: heavy prime, 56s; secondary and heavier, 54s; bulls, best class, to 50s; and secondary and heavier, 46s to 48s. Canadian bullocks, best class, medium weight, realised 56s per cwt, and for really choice up to 58s; heavy prime, 54s; secondary and heavier, down to 52s; and bulls made similar prices to those ruling above.

EGGS.

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 8 for 1s. Boston: 12 for 1s. Colne: 2s 6d per score. Goole: 11 for 1s. Keighley: 9 for 1s. Kirbymoorside: 11 to 12 for 1s. Knaresborough: 9 or 10 for 1s. Louth: 16 for 1s. Market Weighton: 12 for 1s. Stockton: 8 for 1s. Worksop: 1s 8d to 1s 10d per score.

Tuesday.—Bedale: 10 for 1s. Gainsborough: 10 for 1s. Settle: 10 to 11 for 1s. Spalding: 13 for 1s.

Thursday.—Brigg: 10 to 12 for 1s. Driffield: 12 or 13 for 1s. Penistone: 10 for 1s. Ripon: 10 or 11 for 1s. Scarborough: 9 for 1s. Wetherby: 9 or 10 for 1s.

Friday.—Derby: 8 or 9 for 1s. Easingwold: 11 or 12 for 1s. Grimsby: Austrian, 5s 10d to 7s 6d; Styrian, 6s 1d to 8s 11d; Egyptian, 4s 10d to 5s 2d; preserved, 6s 1d to 7s 6d per 120. Helmsley: 10 or 11 for 1s. Leeds: Yorkshire, 14 6d to 15s 6d per 120; Irish, 10s 6d to 13s; Danish, 8s 3d to 9s 6d; ditto reds, 5s 2d to 5s 8d. Leyburn: 11 for 1s. Lincoln: 10 or 11 for 1s. Whitchurch: 10 or 11 for 1s.

Saturday.—Appleby: 10 or 11 for 1s. Berwick: 11d to 1s per dozen. Carlisle: 8 or 9 for 1s. Doncaster: 9 or 10 for 1s. Grantham: 10 to 12 for 1s. Howden: 10 for 1s. Lancaster: 8 to 9 for 1s. Malton: 12 or 13 for 1s. Retford: 1s 10d to 2s per score. Richmond: 10 or 11 for 1s. Skipton: 9 o 10 for 1s. Stokesley: 9 or 10 for 1s. Pontefract: 9 for 1s. Whitby: 10 or 11 for 1s. York: 9 for 1s.

OATMEAL.

Mark Lane, Feb. 24.—Midlothian dull at £14 15s; Aberdeen at £12 15s; rolled oats, £14 10s; Aberdeen oat flour, £13; Deeside Canadian oatmeal, £12 10s, coarse; all per ton.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Thursday.—Linseed: Resellers, becoming nervous at the market pausing, pressed forward seed on the market, which caused prices for these positions to decline. Spot and near Calcutta to London are scarce, the nominal quotation for the former is 59s 6d, passage 55s to 54s 6d, February 54s 6d, March 54s, April 52s 6d, April-June 52s. La Plata Feb.-March 52s 3d. Hull quieter. Calcutta April-June 53s 3d. La Plata, passage 54s to 52s, Feb.-March 52s. To the Continent, Bombay Feb.-March 55s 9d, April-May 55s 3d. Calcutta, April-June 53s. La Plata Feb.-March 52s. Linseed oil, after a further advance, has experienced a slight reaction, but closes firm at the decline. We quote spot in pipes £32, barrels £32, May-August £31 10s, Sept.-Dec. £29 15s. Hull spot naked, £30 15s, March-April £30 10s, May-Aug. £30 7s 6d, Sept.-Dec. £29. Linseed cakes are firm. We to-day quote London-made £8 5s to £8 10s ex mill, American Western £7 7s 6d to £7 12s 6d, Russian £7 12s 6d to £8 2s 6d. Cotton cakes quiet, London-made £4 7s 6d to £4 10s. Rapeseed quiet. Brown Cawnpore, Feb.-March 40s 9d, March-May 40s 6d. To the Continent we quote Yellow Guzerat March-May 46s 3d. Brown Cawnpore Feb.-March 40s 6d, March-May 40s 9d. Brows Calcutta Feb.-March 38s 6d, April-June 40s 3d. Ferozepore Feb.-March 40s 9d. Jamba March-May to Hull 32s 3d. Cottonseed: The market has been quiet. Spot London £6 10s, February £6 11s 3d, March £6 11s 3d, April-May £6 12s 6d. Hull spot £6 7s 6d, Feb.-March £6 8s 9d to £6 10s, April-May £6 12s 6d. Bombay to Hull, importers ask £4 17s 6d for Feb.-March but the value is about £4 10s. Cargoes, Feb.-March £6 13s 9d, April £6 15s.—THE PRODUCE BROKERS' COMPANY, LIMITED.

Hull, Tuesday.—Linseed: The arrivals are 1,392 qrs from Hamburg, 120 qrs Harlingen, 750 qrs Libau, 80 qrs Rotterdam; total, 2,342 qrs. Linseed during the week has ruled strong and advancing, but closes a shade weaker. Calcutta, shippers ask 53s 9d for April-June to Hull, but there are re-sellers at 53s 3d, and buyers at 53s. River Plate, 54s has been paid for seed arrived; afloat boats are worth from 53s to 52s, according to position, and business has been done in both Jan.-Feb. and Feb.-March at 52s. Cottonseed: The market has been without activity, but values show about 2s 6d per ton advance all round owing to paucity of offers. Spot, passage, and February sold at £6 6s 3d to £6 7s 6d, and March advanced to £6 8s 9d. A little April-June done at £6 10s, and the tone to-day is quiet in all positions. Oils: Exports for the week ending 11th February, 1902—Linseed oil: 1 Germany, 6 Norway, 5 Turkey; total, 12 tons. Cotton oil: 171 Austria, 75 Belgium, 28 France, 179 Germany, 164 Holland, 5 Sweden; total, 622 tons. The market is quiet. Linseed oil: 30s 9d spot, 30s 6d Feb.-April, 30s 6d May-Aug. Cotton oil: 23s spot, 23s 6d May-Aug. Crude: 21s 9d spot, 22s 1½d May-Aug. Rape oil: Jamba naked, 24s 9d spot; 1st quality naked, 25s 6d spot. Oil seed cakes: Linseed cakes steady, and not plentiful; cotton cakes rather firmer, with a somewhat better demand.—KEIGHLEY, MAXSTED, AND CO.

WATERLOO ROUND FEEDING CAKES, £6 12s 6d PER TON; WATERLOO ROUND 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES, £9 12s 6d PER TON; WATERLOO ANGLO SHAPE 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES, £9 10s PER TON; WATERLOO 97 PER CENT. PURE EGYPTIAN COTTONSEED CAKES, £4 15s 0d PER TON. ALL F.O.R. HULL.

MOLASSINE FEEDING MEAL, packed in bags, of 1 cwt. each. Price per cwt., 7s. 6d. Price per ton, £6 15s., on rail at works, Silvertown, Essex, and F.O.R. Liverpool. A sample lot of 6cwt., in 4 bags of 1½cwt. each, delivered free to any station in England on receipt of remittance for £2 11s 0d

BUTTER.

Tuesday.—Bedale: 1s 9d to 1s 11d per roll of 24oz. Gainsborough: 1s 3d per lb. Settle: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Spalding: 1s 1d per lb.

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Boston: 1s 2d to 1s 6d per lb. Colne: 1s 2½d per lb. Goole: 1s 2d per lb. Keighley: 1s 2d per lb. Kirbymoorside: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Knaresborough: (wholesale) 1s 9d per roll of 24oz., (retail) 1 s10d to 1s 11d. Louth: 1s per lb. Market Weighton: 1s per lb. Stockton: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Worksop: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb.

Thursday.—Brigg: 1s 1d to 1s 3d per lb. Driffield: 1s per lb. Penistone: 1s 2d per lb. Ripon: 1s 10d to 2s per single roll of 24oz. Scarborough: 1s 4d per lb. Wetherby: 1s 4d to 1s 5d per lb.

Friday.—Derby: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Easingwold: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Grimsby: Danish, 120s to 122s per 112lb.; Dutch, 114s to 116s. Helmsley: 1s 3d per lb. Leeds: Danish, 118s to 122s per 112lb.; Irish creameries, 106s to 114s; Colonial, 104s to 112s; York lump, 15s to 15s 6d per stone; ditto long rolls, 1½lb., 1s 10d to 2s; fresh butter in 1lb prints, 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb.; Leyburn: 1s 8d to 1s 10d per roll of 26oz. Lincoln: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb.

Saturday.—Appleby: 1s 1½d to 1s 3d per lb. Berwick: 9d to 10d per lb. Carlisle: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Doncaster: 1s 1d to 1s 4d per lb. Grantham: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Howden: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Lancaster: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Malton: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Retford: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Richmond: 1s 5d to 1s 6d per lb. Skipton: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Stokesley: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Pontefract: 1s 4d per lb. Whitby: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. York: 1s 2d to 1s 4d per lb.

COLONIAL DAIRY PRODUCE.

London, Friday.—The demand for Australian and New Zealand butters of the "Choicest" quality continues unchanged, and is likely to do so for some time owing to small supplies. Although the "Rimutaka," from New Zealand, docked yesterday, and the "Maori" only three days before, thus bringing a double supply on to-day's market, yet, as the next vessel, the "Tokomaru," is not due for nearly a month, this extra amount will be easily absorbed, and will not depreciate values. Prices for ordinary "Choicest" brands remain at 110s to 112s but "Fancy" qualities of New Zealand make 114s. "Finest" grade is also firm at last week's figures. There is more difficulty than ever in obtaining a really sweet butter to retail at a shilling, and consequently New Zealand "milled" butter is in demand at 94s to 100s. Cheese.—There is little change to report in the cheese market, but certain indications point to an advance shortly. Stocks are much lower than last year, and arrivals are also deficient.—W. WEDDEL AND CO.

CHEESE.

Newport, Wednesday.—A good demand existed for best qualities, which were all cleared. Quotations:—Caerphillies, 66s to 70s; fancy dairies, 72s to 74s; Cheddars, 60s to 65s; Derbies, 66s to 68s; truckles, 60s to 66s.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There were scarcely any arrivals of cheese this week. The inquiry was moderate for all classes, and as stocks are now getting into small compass prices were in sellers' favour. Cheddars and Dunlops were quoted from 54s to 60s per cwt. Canadian and New Zealand parcels were in moderate demand at previous prices.

MANURES.

Liverpool, Friday.—Reports from many parts of the provinces show that a thaw has set in, and there is now a decidedly increased inquiry for fertilisers which had hitherto been retarded by the land being unworkable owing to the severe frosts. Nitrate of soda is still quoted at £10 5s to £10 10s per ton, according to quality; demand fair. Basic slag continues in request, but many producing depots are so full of orders that deliveries are taking three or four weeks. There is a seasonable demand for superphosphate of lime, kainit, and bone meal at unchanged values. A rather better inquiry is experienced for feeding stuffs, and the market is firm, excepting for rice meal, which can be bought, spot or forward, at easier rates. The following are to-day's values:—Nitrate of Soda, best quality, *i.e.*, guaranteed 95 per cent. pure, in bags, £10 10s per ton; East India Bone Meal, fair to prime, in bags, £4 1s 3d to £4 6s 3d per ton; Kainit, prime 23 per cent., in bags, £2 7s 6d to £2 10s per ton; Palm Nut Cake, prime, in bags, £5 15s per ton; Linseed Cake, American thin oblong, prime, in bags, £7 10s to £7 12s 6d per ton; Linseed Cake, English, in bulk, £8 15s to £9 per ton; Cottonseed Cake, N.A. decorticated, in bags, £7 2s 6d to £7 6s 3d per ton; Cottonseed Cake, English, decorticated, in bags, £7 7s 6d to £7 12s 6d per ton; Cottonseed Cake, English, undecorticated, in bulk, £4 12s 6d to £4 17s 6d per ton; Cottonseed Cake (crushed), 20/25 per cent. oil, in bags, £7 5s per ton; Maize Germ Meal, in bags, £6 2s 6d to £6 5s per ton; Rice Meal, Rangoon, as imported, in bags, £5 7s 6d per ton; Indian Meal, coarse to fine grinding, prime, in bulk, 13s to 13s 6d per 240lb; Linseed, fine bold feeding, in bags, £3 2s 6d to £3 5s per qr, 416lb; D.N.S. Brand Superphosphate of Lime, guaranteed, 25 to 27 sol., in bags, £2 5s to £2 7s per ton; D.N.S. Superphosphate of Lime, guaranteed, 30 to 31 sol., in bags, £2 10s to £2 12s per ton; Superphosphate of Lime, guaranteed, 35 to 36 sol., in bags, £3 to £3 2s per ton at the producing depots; Basic Slag, prime quality, guaranteed, 30 to 35 per cent. phos., in bags, nominal; Basic Slag, prime quality, guaranteed, 35 to 40 per cent. phos., in bags, nominal; Basic Slag, finest quality, guaranteed, 38 to 45 per cent. phos., in bags, nominal.

HAY AND STRAW.

Leeds, Tuesday.—A quiet trade is reported in the warehouses for hay and straw, at firm prices. Meadow hay, 8d to 8½d; clover hay, 8d to 8½d; wheat straw, 6d to 6½d; oat straw, 6d to 6½d; rye straw (retail), 8d to 8½d per stone.

Manchester, Wednesday.—Hay, 6½d to 7½d; clover, 6½d to 7½d; straw (wheat), 6½d; straw (oat), 5½d to 6d per stone.

Lincoln, Friday.—Hay, 70s to 85s; clover, 70s to 80s per ton at the stack; straw, 40s to 45s at the stacks, and 50s to 52s 6d per ton, baled and on rail.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—Heavy supplies, slow demand, and only a limited business resulted. Prices, however, were unchanged. Best clover, 95s to 110s; inferior ditto, 80s to 90s; specially picked hay, 115s; good ditto, 108s; inferior ditto, 80s to 90s; mixture and sainfoin, 90s to 100s; and straw, 28s to 40s per load.

HOPS.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Fair amount of trade in progress, and the market is getting very bare of better-class hops. Values remain unsatisfactory. Healthy brown hops are selling fairly evenly at from 25s to 30s per cwt.

Worcester, Saturday.—There has been more trade doing on our market this week, and a fair quantity of hops has been weighed over the public scales, but only the better qualities command attention, and the prices for these remain very firm.—PIERCY AND CO.

Live Weight Quotations.

Department of Agriculture and General Instruction for Ireland.

ROBSON'S CATTLE MART, BELFAST, HELD ON 18TH FEBRUARY

The following returns are those of actual sales made in the markets referred to, the stock being weighed either before or after sale, for the week ending February 22nd, 1902

No. of Beasts.	Description and Quality.	Average price per head.	Average Live weight.	Average price per cwt.
		£ s. d.	c. qr. lb.	£ s. d.
2	Bullocks (prime) ...	15 12 6	8 3 7	1 15 6
2	,, ,, ...	17 2 6	10 0 7	1 14 0
2	,, ,, ...	18 0 0	10 2 14	1 13 11
2	,, ,, ...	16 2 6	9 2 14	1 13 6
2	,, ,, ...	15 2 6	9 0 21	1 12 11
1	,, ,, ...	14 5 0	8 3 0	1 12 7
2	,, ,, ...	13 5 0	8 0 17	1 12 6
2	,, ,, ...	15 12 6	9 2 21	1 12 3
1	,, (very good) ...	13 15 0	8 2 21	1 11 8
2	,, ,, ...	13 7 6	8 2 0	1 11 6
2	,, ,, ...	12 10 0	8 0 0	1 11 3
2	,, ,, ...	13 17 6	8 3 14	1 11 3
2	,, ,, ...	15 0 0	9 3 3	1 10 8
2	,, (good) ...	13 5 0	8 2 14	1 10 9
1	Cow (prime) ...	20 0 0	12 2 7	1 11 10

A profit of £148 was the result of the year's working of the Herefordshire and Worcestershire Agricultural Society, according to the report presented at the annual meeting on Wednesday. The balance in the bank was stated to be £347 5s. 4d., and the finance stewards had therefore placed an additional £200 to the deposit account, bringing that up to £971. Sir John Geers Cotterell, The Garnous, near Hereford, has accepted the presidency, and Mr. W. M. Haywood (Hereford) and Mr. A. Dudley Clarke (Stourport) have been made vice-presidents. The show this year will be held at Hereford about the middle of June, the site being, it is understood, the racecourse.



STOCK AND SHOW NOTES.

By Herdsman.

The Committee appointed by the Devon Cattle Breeders' Society to consider the best means of furthering the interests of the breed of Devon cattle at home and abroad recently reported that they were of opinion that a corresponding secretary should be appointed by the society to write articles on the breed in home and foreign papers, and recommended that the society make a grant for doing the work. At the last meeting of the council of the society this report was considered, and it was decided to empower the committee to spend £50 in the manner in which they thought would best further the interests of the breed.

The well-known herd of Mr. G. F. King, Chewton Keynsham, Bristol, will be well represented at the Birmingham Shorthorn Bull Sale and Show on March 5th, 6th, and 7th. The ten bulls that are to be sent include several prize-winners, among them being the champion Chewton Victor 76343, a splendid stock-getter and winner of many prizes, while a young calf deserving attention is Chewton Favourite, which comes of a renowned milking and prize-winning strain. The three heifers to be forwarded are all fine animals, two being from the renowned Countess milking tribe, and the other of the Favourite strain. All are by a bull often seen in the prize ring, Chewton Oxford Cornelius 74223, a winner of five firsts in 1900, and a get of Cornelius 8405, a bull that fetched 200 guineas for exportation to the Argentine.

Mr. King is also sending five grand young bulls to the Bristol Bull Sale and Show tomorrow (Tuesday), including Lord Bruce 79236, a rich roan, calved April 17th, 1900, which won the following prizes last year:—Second and reserve for Shorthorn Society's prize, Somerset County, v.h.c. Bath and West of England Show, third Wiltshire County, first in sweepstake, and second Gloucester County, first North-East Somerset, second Evercreech, first Frome, second Tredegar Show, Newport, beating ten of the best bulls shown in 1901, including the Royal and Bath and West winners. He is very active and a sure getter, and in good hands will bid well for the winner at the next Royal Show. Altogether the Chewton herd has won a thousand prizes. It is interesting to observe that Mr. King received from his Majesty a fine hamper of game recently. It will be recollected that his Majesty the King purchased the fine white bull Crystal Prince at Mr. King's sale in 1896.

The third annual show of the Mid-Sussex Horse Show Society will be held at Oathall Park, Hayward's Heath, on Wednesday, August 6th, the last day for entries being Thursday, July 24th. Prize schedules and entry forms may be had on application to the secretary, Mr. James Wood, Broad Street, Cuckfield.

Mr. N. F. Davin, assistant secretary of the Mallow (County Cork) Agricultural and Show Society, informs me that the society has arranged to hold a horse, cattle, and dog show on Wednesday and Thursday, July 9th and 10th next.

The German official "Law Journal" recently published a decree by which paragraph 21 of the law relating to slaughtered cattle and meat inspection will come into force on the 1st of October, 1902. The paragraph says: "In the dressing of meat for the market, no material or method of procedure which may impart to it qualities prejudicial to health shall be applied. It is forbidden to import meat prepared in such a manner from abroad or in any way to bring it on the market." The penalties for infringing this provision will come into force at the same time as the regulation itself. The same journal also published a notification that the provisions of paragraph 21 of the Meat Inspection Law apply to the following materials as well as to preparations containing such materials. Boric acid and its salts, formaldehyde, the hydroxides, and carbonates of alkali and alkaline earths, sulphurous acid and its salts, as well as hypo-sulphurous acid and its salts, hydro-fluoric acid and its salts, salicylic acid and its combinations, and chloric acid and its salts. The same applies to colouring matter of all kinds, except as regards the giving of a yellow tint to margarine and the colouring of sausage skins, in so far as this application does not run counter to other provisions of the law.

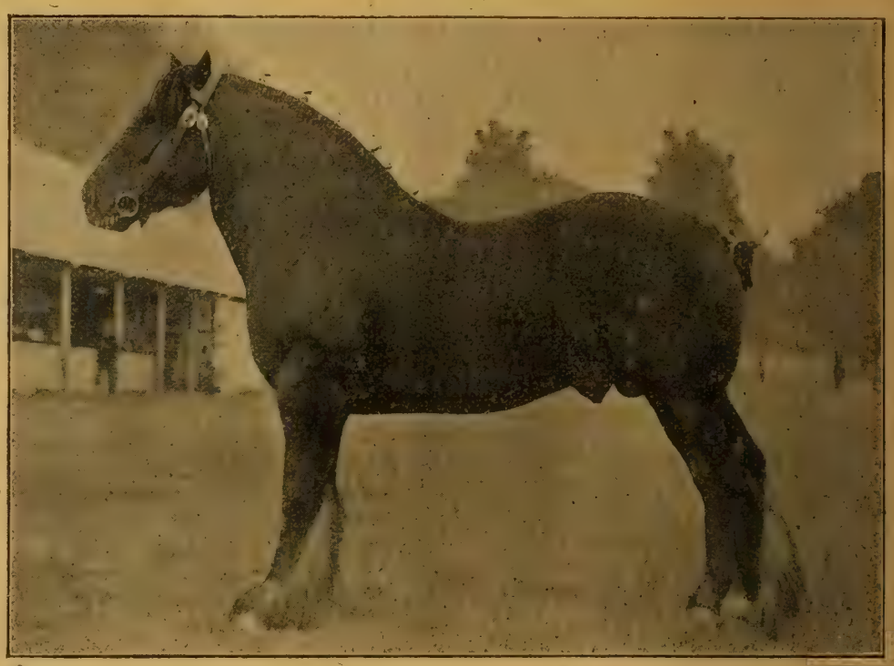
Wednesday, July 23rd, has been chosen by the Wadebridge District Agricultural Association as the date of their show this year, which will be held at Wadebridge.

Some remarkable sales were effected at the Kansas City sale of Herefords held on January 28th to 30th. As usual, the consignments to the sale came from well-known breeders in many States, while the attendance of buyers was extremely large, and drawn from all over the country. If the result of this sale is any criterion of the season, breeders of white-faces have a happy outlook before them. The feature of the event, from a price standpoint, was the sale of the thirteen-months'-old Good Cross, son of imp. Improver and The Grove Maid XXII., bred by Mr. Sotham, Chillicothe, Montana, which was bought, after spirited competition, by the Wabash Stock Farm Company, of Indiana, for £799.

The top of the female section was Happiness, bred by Mr. C. Graves, of Bunker's Hill, Indiana, which sold for £460 to Carruthers Bros. The total made by 184 head was £12,575, an average of £68. The best all-round prices were secured by the contingent from Weavergrace, bred by Mr. T. F. B. Southam; of these animals the twenty-four bulls averaged £97 10s., and the twenty-seven females £58 10s.

The herd of pure bred Jersey cattle belonging to Mr. J. Carson, of Crystalbrook Farm, Theydon Bois, Essex, has outgrown the accommodation of the farm, and it has therefore been decided to sell unreservedly the three and two-year-old and yearling heifers bred on the farm, the sale to take place on Friday, March 14th, at Crystalbrook Farm. The herd was started in 1895, purchases being made from Lord Rothschild and Mrs. McIntosh's celebrated herds, and with a view of laying the foundation of a good, sound herd, some of the highest bred, healthiest and richest milking cows were selected from the best breeders on the island. Among these was the famous cow Gamboge's Pride, winner for five years in succession of butter test prizes and medals in Jersey. Her daughter, Gamboge's Pride II., won the silver medal in the March test and the E.J.C.S. bronze medal in the May test of the R.J.A.S. Show, Jersey, 1901.

On March 20th the same auctioneers will dispose of a large number of Lady de Rothschild's Jerseys, at The Rookery, Aston Clinton, near Tring. Notwithstanding the private sales of some of the animals to home breeders, as well as to Australia and South Africa, the herd has outgrown the accommodation, so it has been resolved to sell all the prize-winners, a number of cows, and the whole of the three, two, one-year-old heifers, and young bulls; in fact, virtually the entire herd, excepting the older cows, retained as a dairy for the establishment, and the small calves born since the first of September last. As is well known, Lady de Rothschild's herd has been established from the best herds in this country, and an excellent testimony to the good judgment displayed in selecting the animals is shown by the prize-winning record of the herd. First prizes have been won four years in succession, since 1898, at the London Dairy Show, as well as one second, one third, and a Blythwood bowl, while other prizes have been won at the Tring, Northampton, Sussex, and Royal Bucks Shows. Last year the herd took quite an exceptional position, winning 30 prizes (16 of which were firsts), one champion, two Blythwood bowls, and five reserves for championships and bowls. The sale includes the whole of these beautiful prize-winners, among which may be mentioned Lady Rowena and Mystery, first and second at the London Dairy Show, Jolly Brown, Longueville Brownie IV., Carol, Suspense, Mistletoe, Peace, Virtue, and Wild Rose; also the bull Regulator, highly commended at the Royal Counties Show, Weymouth, who has been in service.



THE SHIRE STALLION illustrated above is Desford Combination, 17,934, sire Stonewall, 15,375, dam Hindlip Bonny Girl, 18,331, by Hitchin Conqueror, 4,458, bred by and the property of Messrs. W. and J. Thompson, Barron's Park Stud, Desford, Leicester. At the Royal Show at Cardiff, Desford Combination won first prize in the class for shire stallions foaled in 1898, and the Champion Gold Medal of the Shire Horse Society, for the best shire stallion in the show. This stallion was also exhibited at the last show of the Shire Horse Society, and here, too, won first prize in his class, and was reserve for the £20 cup for the best young stallion. We see that Desford Combination is entered for the show which opens to-morrow, and it will be interesting to see how he fares on this occasion when he will have to compete with 49 others.



The Shire Horse Show.

Record Entries.

The first of the spring Horse Shows at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, opens to-morrow (Tuesday), when the Shire Horse Society will be in possession, the show, as usual, closing on Friday. This is the 23rd Annual Show of the Society, and it promises to eclipse all its predecessors, for the entries received this year reach the record total of 860, the previous largest number being 667 last year, so that the increase is truly a remarkable one, and is a striking testimony to the popularity of the shire horse and its society. The increase occurs principally in stallions, which number 476, as compared with 335 in 1901, an increase of 141; the geldings show an increase of 10, and the mares and fillies an increase of 42. The totals for the three sections are:—Stallions, 476; mares and fillies, 343; geldings. 41; the entry of mares and fillies constituting another record. Below we give a table showing the entries in the various classes for this and the preceding three years:—

	1902.	1901.	1900.	1899.
Stallions, 1 year old	74	46	54	53
,, 2 years old	127	86	65	63
,, 3 ,,	120	88	73	76
,, 4 ,,	50	35	42	37
,, over 4 and under 10 years, under 16.2	28	24	29	20
,, over 4 and under 10 years, 16.2 and over	65	35	45	39
,, 10 years old and over	12	20	20	17
Fillies, 1 year old	61	53	47	58
Mares, 2 years old	89	73	52	69
,, 3 ,,	59	59	43	35
,, 4 ,,	35	23	17	24
,, over 4 years, under 16 hds.	38	25	12	31
Mares, over 4 years, 16 hds. and under 16.2	23	39	19	41
Mares, over 4 years, 16.2 hds. and over	32	23		
Geldings, 3 years old	13	10	18	10
,, 4 ,,	14	9		
,, 5 ,, and upwards	14	12	9	7
	860	667	545	586

Exhibitors.

Amongst the exhibitors this year are Lord Barnard, Earl Bathurst, Earl Beauchamp, K.C.M.G., Duke of Buccleuch and Queensberry, K.G., Sir T. Fowell Buxton, Bart., Lord Calthorpe, Earl of Camperdown, Mr. Victor Cavendish, M.P., Congested Districts Board for Ireland, Mr. F. S. W. Cornwallis, Earl of Coventry, Mr. Fred Crisp, J.P., Mr. J. P. Cross, Earl of Derby, K.G., Capt. W. H. O. Duncombe, Earl Egerton of Tatton, Sir Henry Ewart, K.C.B., Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart., Mr. A. Grandage, Hon. Robert Hardinge, Mr. Alexander Henderson, M.P., Capt. Heywood-Lonsdale, Lord Hindlip, Mr. A. J. Hollington, Lord Hothfield, Mr. R. W. Hudson, Lord Iveagh, K.P., Mr. J. W. Kenworthy, Lord Llangattock, Sir J. Blundell Maple, Bart., M.P., Lord Middleton, Mr. Philo L. Mills, Sir Oswald Mosley, Bart., Mr. P. Albert Muntz, M.P., Hon. R. P. Nevill, the Duchess of Newcastle, Mr. John Parnell, Mr. Charles T. Part, Earl of Powis, Hon. N. Charles Rothschild, Lord Rothschild, Mr. Leopold Salomons, Earl Spencer, K.G., Lady Wantage, the Duke of Westminster, Sir W. H. Wills, Bart., and Mr. R. A. Yerburgh, M.P.

Class Prizes.

The total value of the prizes offered for competition amounts to £2,007, all of which is given by the Society, and is an increase of £460 as compared with last year. The classes have been arranged on precisely the same lines as in 1901, viz., seven for stallions, seven for mares and fillies, and three for geldings, but additional prizes have been given in all classes which obtained more entries in 1901 than in 1900, whilst it has been decided to award to the exhibitor of every reserve animal the sum of £3, of every highly commended animal the sum of £2, and of every commended animal the sum of £1 (gelding classes excepted). It is anticipated that these bonuses will absorb a sum of from £200 to £250, and we feel sure exhibitors will welcome the idea as a pleasurable innovation, providing as it does for the first time in the history of shows, some monetary recognition for the owners of all horses outside the prize-winners, which may be considered by the judges to be worthy of notice. In no class are less than four money prizes given, whilst as many as eight, nine, ten, and eleven money prizes are given in certain classes.

Champion and Special Awards.

The Society offers a challenge cup, value one hundred guineas, for the best stallion in the show, and a challenge cup, value fifty guineas, for the best mare or filly, either cup to be won twice by the same exhibitor before it becomes his absolute property. Three other cups are offered by the Society for stallions, and three for mares, viz.:—£25 cup, for the best stallion in the show; £20 cup, for the best stallion in classes 1, 2, and 3; £20 cup, for the best stallion in classes 4, 5, 6, and 7; £25 cup, for the best mare or filly in the show; £10 cup, for the best filly in classes 8, 9, and 10; £10 cup, for the best mare in classes 11, 12, 13, and 14. A £10 cup is also given for the best gelding exhibited. Gold medals, each of the value of fifteen guineas, will be presented to the owners of the champion stallion and of the champion mare, and gold medals, each of the value of ten guineas, to the owners of the stallion and mare placed reserve for their respective championships.

Breeders' Prizes.

The prize-money set aside for breeders has also been largely augmented, the same number of prizes being given in each class (geldings excepted) to breeders as to exhibitors. Thus in each of the fourteen classes for stallions and mares the breeder of the first prize animal will receive £10, and the breeders of all the other prize-winners will receive £5. In the three classes for geldings the breeders of the first prize animal and of the second prize animal will receive £5. The total sum set apart for prizes to breeders is £595, as compared with £360 at the previous show.

Judging.

In judging the horses the order of the catalogue (which is shown in the table given above) will be duly followed. The judges will commence their duties at 8.30 a.m. each day, and will select not more than 25 horses in any one class for examination by the veterinary inspectors. The preliminary examination will be made throughout all the classes for stallions before the judging for prizes commences, and similarly with the classes for mares and geldings.

At the commencement of the judging of the stallions, and again at the commencement of the judging of the mares, the stewards will decide by ballot which two judges shall take the first class in each section. The second class will be taken by one of these two, and by the third judge, and so on in rotation. This system provides an automatic change of judging, and ensures that no judge shall act in more than two successive classes. In the event of any difference of opinion between the two judges acting, the third judge will be the referee.

The Sale.

Owing to the large number of entries received, the sale will this year extend over two days—Thursday and Friday. On the first the mares and fillies will be sold from 9 a.m. to 1.30 p.m., commencing with the yearling fillies; whilst on Friday the stallions and geldings will be disposed of, the sale commencing at 9 a.m. with the yearling stallions. The entries comprise 308 stallions, 181 mares and fillies, and 19 geldings, the ages being as follows:—Stallions: 60, five years old and upwards; 26, four years old and upwards; 88, three years old and upwards; 93, two years old and upwards; 41, one year old. Mares: 53, five years old and upwards; 19, four years old and upwards; 36, three years old and upwards; 53, two years old and upwards; and 20 fillies, one year old. As usual, Messrs. Sexton, Grimwade, and Beck will be the auctioneers.

The show will open on Tuesday and Wednesday at 8.30 a.m., and on Thursday and Friday at 9 a.m., and will close each day at 6 p.m. The price of admission on Tuesday will be 2s. 6d.; on the remaining days of the show 1s. The whole of Tuesday will be occupied with the judging, and on Wednesday the judging of any classes left over from the previous day will be proceeded with, at the conclusion of which the champion prizes will be awarded. A parade of horses will be held if found practicable.

On Thursday the sales of mares and fillies will commence at 9 a.m., and a parade of the prize-winning and commended animals at 2.30 p.m., whilst the annual general meeting of members will be held in the Council Chamber at the hall, under the presidency of Mr. V. C. W. Cavendish, M.P., at 12.30 p.m. Friday, as mentioned above, is reserved for the sale by auction of stallions and geldings.

A farm seed catalogue for the spring of this year has come to hand from Mr. W. Wyatt, of Cupar and Perth. It is mainly taken up with descriptions of clover and grass seeds, to which Mr. Wyatt has given considerable attention, and the results of the many experiments he has made with them are given in the prescriptions of seeds for the various purposes that have proved so singularly successful.



Devon Cattle Breeders' Show and Sale.

On Wednesday last there was the usual annual assembly of Devon Cattle Breeders in the Cattle Market at Exeter for the eleventh show and sale of pure-bred Devon cattle. There was a capital entry of 76 bulls, of which it might be said none were exceedingly good or any very weedy; they were of very fair average quality and suitable for service with any farmer's herd. The morning was given up to judging, which was entrusted to Mr. C. N. Skinner, of Hawkhurst, Bridgwater, who evoked most favourable comment as to the manner in which he performed his duties. Class was for the best bull calved in the year 1900; sixteen entered the ring. From the first it was seen that Mr. William Lutley's Sir Alexander by Mr. Alfred Bowerman's well-known bull Sir Walter, must take first place; he had an excellent back and loin, well-sprung ribs, and excellent shoulders, and was heavily fleshed; its only weak point being its head. Second to him was placed the Honourable Claud B. Portman's Minor, a well-put-together one, showing much quality. The third prize went to that well-known prize winner, Mr. Alfred Skinner, with Fancy's Pride of Pound, a very useful type of bull that some thought worthy of being a step higher, but the judge favoured youth. Mr. W. H. Gibbing's bull, sired by Chestnut, was placed reserve; he was a trifle uneven, but otherwise very growing. Highly commended was given to Mr. E. C. Norrish's Sandford Good Luck, and commended cards to Mr. William Lethbridge's Wood Gentleman and Mr. T. Trickey's Masterpiece.

The next class for the best bull calved in the year 1901, though larger in point of entry, was a rather tricky one for the judge, who had some varying types to select from the small models and others of a more weighty type. He selected for first place a smart youngster inclined to be a trifle goosey at the end, but otherwise, if small, was very full of quality; this was Mr. Alfred C. Skinner's Pound Mormon. Second prize was given to a different type, more weighty; this was Mr. William Kidner's Flower Boy II., a very level, sizeable, well-brought-on bull. Third prize was given to Mr. Charles L. Hancock's Commissioner, which possessed a good sirloin well covered, but a trifle light behind. Fourth prize was awarded to Mr. Samuel Kidner's Bickley Opal, a long bull a little inclined to be leggy, but one with size about it. Mr. Robert Cook was reserved with a very useful bull by Beauty's Duke. Highly commended was given to Mr. Alfred C. Skinner's Pound Gentleman, and a commendation to Mr. W. Trick's Duke of Raddons.

As usual, the sale was conducted by the Messrs. Risdons, the official auctioneers to the Devon Cattle Breeders' Society, the sale being opened by the veteran Jan Risdon, who has held the sand-glass over so many of the Red Rubies o' the West. Mr. E. C. Norrish's, Sandford, Good Luck, went to Mr. Pearse, at 22 gns.; Mr. A. C. Skinner's Fancy's Pride of Pound was selected by Messrs. Witheycombe and Watts at 25 gns.; Mr. W. Lethbridge's Wood Gentleman found a new owner in Mr. Henry North at 25 gns.; Mr. T. W. Smith's Ford Detective was bought by Mr. Franks at 17 gns.; the Hon. Claud B. Portman's Minor was secured by Mr. Westcott at 31 gns.; whilst Mr. John Tapp's bull went to Mr. C. Norman at 17 gns.; Mr. T. Trickey's Masterpiece fell to the bid of Mr. Stanbury, at 19 gns.; Mrs. Harriet Davis's bull found a buyer in Mr. Page at 18½ gns.; Mr. William Edbrooke's Ashbrittle's Lord went to Mr. Somers at 20 gns.; Mr. Robert Cock's bull by Beauty Duke was secured by Mr. Baker at 25 gns.; Mr. William Lutley's bull, Sir Alexander, which took the first prize, became the property of Mr. J. Rawle at 33 gns.

In the young bull class Mr. William Kidner's Flower Boy was bought by Mr. W. Lanyon at 42 gns.; Mr. William Brent's Groomsman passed to Mr. Webber at 20 gns.; the Hon. E. W. B. Portman's Hestercombe Joe found a new owner in Mr. Harris at 20 gns.; Mr. A. C. Skinner's Pound Gentleman; Mr. Charles L. Hancock's Commissioner went to Mr. Hebditch's bid of 35 gns.; Mr. William Kidner's Dumpty's Darling found a buyer in Mr. John Tapp at 30 gns.; whilst the Hon. E. W. B. Portman's Hestercombe Woodman went to Mr. Greenham at 19½ gns.; the Hon. Claud B. Portman's Middling Looks was transferred to Mr. Harris for 21 gns.; Mr. A. C.

Skinner's Pound Norman went to Mr. Morgan's bid of 27 gns.; whilst Mr. W. Trick's Duke of Raddons ebcame the property of Mr. Walter at 21 gns.

In the class for bulls sent for sale only the following exceeded 25 gns.:—Mr. William Copp's Royal Mint; Mr. T. W. Smith, at 26 gns.; Mr. John Rawle's General, to Mrs. Davis, at 28 gns.; Mr. J. L. Cornish's Lawyer, purchaser Mr. Rawle, at 35 gns.; Mr. Samuel Kidner's Bickley Naturalist, buyer Mr. J. H. Grose, at 27 gns.; Mr. A. C. Skinner's Chancellor of Pound, 32 gns., Mr. Dingle; Mr. Robert Cock's bull, by Lord Stanley, 32 gns.; Mr. A. C. Skinner's Pound Dragoman, Mr. Gooding, 27 gns.; and his other bull, sired by Lord Chevethorne, 33 gns., Mr. Madever; Mr. Charles L. Hancock's 39 gns., Mr. Merson; and Mr. Edward Badcock's bull, sired by Chestnut, went to Mr. Pearse, at 31 gns. This year there were more bulls sold over 20 gns. than under, a most satisfactory feature, and nearly every bull offered was sold.

Aberdeen Angus Show and Sale at Perth.

The first, and perhaps the most important of the spring sales of pedigree stock cattle in Scotland took place last week at Perth, the occasion being the thirty-eighth annual show and sale of Aberdeen Angus cattle by Messrs. Macdonald Fraser and Co. These annual sales of Aberdeen Angus and shorthorn cattle have become of great importance to breeders and dealers of cattle in Scotland, for they are generally recognised as the most convenient method of bringing breeders and dealers together with the most advantageous results to both. As in the past few years, separate weeks were arranged for the two breeds, the Aberdeen Angus being disposed of on Tuesday and Wednesday last—the cows and heifers were sold on the first day and the bulls on the second—whilst the shorthorns will be similarly dealt with this week. The sales are this year held under more fortunate conditions than those of the two previous years. It will be remembered that in 1900 the Irish authorities prohibited the importation of all British stock, in consequence of the existence of foot-and-mouth disease in the south-east of England, and for the same reason the English consignments were excluded from the sales at Perth, whilst last year another outbreak of disease in East Anglia led to the exclusion of stock from this side of the Border, and with that guarantee the Irish Privy Council allowed Scottish animals to be admitted, but the foreign ports remain closed. On this occasion the country has happily a clean bill of health, and there will be perfect freedom in the movement of animals purchased at the sales, for on Tuesday it was officially announced that the Government of Argentina, being satisfied by the British Government that there was no disease in the United Kingdom, had agreed to again open the Argentine ports, which have been so long closed, to cattle from Great Britain. For the two weeks' sales nearly 1,000 head of stock were entered.

The entries of Aberdeen Angus were not so numerous as last year, but the disparity between the numbers of animals actually on the ground was comparatively small. The total number of animals catalogued stood at 528, made up of 144 cows and heifers and 384 bulls, as against 409 bulls and 213 cows and heifers, a total of 622 last year, and a total of 656 in the year before. The decrease in the total was very largely due to the falling off in the entries of yearling heifers, which only numbered 63, as compared with 123 in 1901. In the bull section consignments were sent by 88 individuals, an increase of 5, and the female classes represented 40 herds, a decrease of 4. Practically all the leading breeders of polled Angus stock in Scotland, and several in the North of England, were represented. In the bull section the largest numbers were forwarded by Sir George Macpherson-Grant, the Earl of Airlie, the Earl of Strathmore, Mr. Fletcher, of Letham Grange, Mr. Whyte, Spott; and Mr. Whyte, Inverquharity, who each sent 10 or 11 animals; while in the female section Mr. M'Kelvie, Kirknewtown, entered no fewer than 16, the next largest consignment, numbering 11, being sent from Gadgirth by the trustees of the late Sheriff Orr Paterson.

The Show.

The judging, which was undertaken by Messrs. L. Beaton, Cullen House, Cullen; J. J. Cridlan, Maismore Park, Gloucester; and Wm. Stewart, Nether Blairock, Cullen, was completed on the first morning, the work occupying about three hours, the contest in several instances being very keen. The difficulty of the task that fell to the judges is indicated by the fact that some of the animals that were not well placed in the prize-lists subsequently brought much better prices in the sale ring than their more successful rivals in the show. The quality of the stock as a whole was very good, the younger animals being specially meritorious; indeed, those classes, in both bulls and heifers, have seldom been surpassed at the Perth sales. The two-year-olds were not quite so strong as they have been seen in some former years, but they comprised a number of serviceable and well-bred animals. The winner here was Duchess VIII., belonging to Mr. Wilton Milton of Noth. She is a daughter of Hengist of Pitpointie, a first prize Highland Society winner, and is a heifer with nicely-turned ribs. Mr. Chalmers, of Aldbar, came second with Mantle, by Euroclydon, a fine type of heifer, and promising to make a very good cow. She was rather at a disadvantage in being so heavily in calf. Mr. Fettes, of Corskie, came third with Jacinth, a thick, low-set heifer, perhaps slightly easy over the top, but with a nice neck. A neatly-built, pretty, little heifer sent by the trustees of the late Sheriff Orr Paterson came next. In the class for yearling heifers the first place was taken by a thick, handsome animal by Marvel of Addie out of Matilda IV., of Aldbar, the property of Mr. Chalmers (Aldbar). Mr. Robertson (Mains of Fordie) was second with Duchess XIII., a heifer of a different type, being low set, very symmetrical in appearance, and having a good head and nice top. The third ticket went to Mr. M'Conachie (Ardoch, Cullen), for a heifer that was a good deal favoured outside the ring. Curiously enough, the heifer that received only the highly-commended ticket—Eulima, belonging to Mr. Robertson (Mains of Fordie)—brought the highest price realised at the sale—viz., 77 guineas. Perhaps she is not quite so big as might be fancied, but her other qualities and her fine breeding told greatly in her favour. Mr. Robertson also carried off the commended ticket with Daisy of Fordie, another stylish heifer, and, like the other, a get of Lord Sirdar of Addie.

A striking feature of the bull classes was the great success of the Ballindalloch herd, Sir George Macpherson Grant being not only first in both classes, but also carrying off the cup for the best three bulls of the breed. In the older class Sir George came well to the front with Evictor, a bull with a beautiful head and nice long quarters. The next two tickets went to Mr. M'Laren (Auchmaguie) for a well-bred pair. Sir George Macpherson Grant was fourth with Jeshurun, another of the Ericas, and half-brother to the first prize taker. He is a little open in the shoulders, but has a nice level back and capital quarters, and he was a favourite with many round the ring. The bull calves were a little difficult to place in order of merit, but eventually the Ballindalloch herd again asserted itself, Sir George being first with Margrave, another son of Eblito, and of the Matilda family. Opinion differed among the spectators as to the placing of the second and third bulls, but the judges ultimately gave the preference to Mr. Chalmers (Aldbar) for Elmslie, a very neat and promising specimen out of a dam by Enthusiast of Ballindalloch. Sir George had a close third in Encome of Ballindalloch, another son of the fine breeding sire Eblito, whilst the fourth ticket went to Mr. Grant (Advie Mains) for Lord Archer, a symmetrical and well-proportioned bull. The silver cup for the best three bulls was awarded to Sir George Macpherson Grant for his first bull in the older class, and his first and third bull calves. Mr. M'Laren (Auchnaguie) got the reserve ticket with his second and third bulls in the older classes, and a bull calf by Delamere, which was not placed.

First Day's Sale.

As previously mentioned, only the females were disposed of on Tuesday, and although there was a big company present at the sale, bidding was by no means brisk. There was a good trade for really meritorious heifers, and they brought very satisfactory prices, but a large proportion of middling and inferior stock sold at from 13 guineas to 18 guineas, and only 46 animals, or a little more than a third of those dispased of, brought as much as 20 guineas. As regards the averages, it may be mentioned here that yearling heifers averaged £21 15s. 1d., as compared with £17 16s. 8d. last year; cows brought only £22 10s. 7d. as against £23 7s., and two-year-old heifers £24 18s. 6d. as compared with £28 2s. 7d. a year ago, but the general average for the day was better to the extent of a guinea. The highest price of the day was 77 guineas, as compared with 101 guineas last year, the former sum being paid by Mr. Findlay, of Aberlour, for Mr. Robertson's Eulima 13th which was very highly commended in the class for heifers calved after December 1st, 1900.

The first prize yearling heifer from Aldbar was only started at 25 gs., and she sold at 51 gs. to Mr. Bainbridge. Mr. Robertson's second prize heifer was purchased at 28 gs. by Mr. Speid (Forneith), whilst the third prize taker, from Ardoch, went at 33 gs. to Mr. Calder (Newcastle), but Ena of Advie, which was not placed, realised 72 gs. the purchaser being Mr. Findlay, who also bought Edna of Advie at 45 gs., Heather Honey of Selaby at 47 gs., and Lady of Gadgirth at 38 gs. The first prize two-year-old heifer, from Milton of Noth, sold at 55 gs. to Sir James Duke, of Laughton; the second prize taker, from Aldbar, went at 38 gs. to Mr. Claude Ralston; the third heifer, from Corskie, brought 47 gs., the purchaser being the Earl of Crawford and Balcarres; and the fourth heifer, from Gadgirth, sold at 50 gs. to Mr. Smith Sligo, of Inzievar. The best of the cows was an Erica, belonging to Mr. M'Kelvie, Hatton House, Kirknewton, and she was bought at 46 gs. by Mr. Claude Ralston. The total proceeds of the day's sale amounted to £2,632 7s. for 116 head of stock, as compared with £3,528 for 163 animals last year. Below we give particulars of the sales at 20 guineas and over, the names in parentheses being those of the consignees:—

		Gs.
Rubesta (Mr. W. Shaw Adamson)	Mr. Whyte	21
Gem (Mr. J. Allen)	Mr. G. Bruce	32
Corskie 9th (Mr. T. Bett)	Miss Cameron	22
Mantle (Mr. P. Chalmers)	Mr. Claud W. Ralston	38
Matilda 8th (ditto)	Mr. Bainbridge	51
Buttercup of Curr (Mr. R. Forbes)	Mr. Robb	20
Beauty of Polowick (ditto)	Mr. Grant	25
Kinloss Queen 5th (ditto)	Mr. Robb	28
Pride (Mr. Wm. Fettes)	Mr. Robb	22
Jacinth (ditto)	The Earl of Crawford and Balcarres	47
Bright Rosalie (Mr. R. G. Farquharson)	Mr. W. S. James	22
Lady Rosalie (ditto)	Sir James Duke	34
Edna (Mr. Grant)	Mr. J. R. Findlay	45
Ena (ditto)	Mr. J. R. Findlay	72
Princely Ruth (Mr. C. E. Hunter)	Mr. Fenwick	30
Heatherwell (ditto)	Mr. Henderson	22
Danesfield Lass 6th (ditto)	Mr. J. Kennedy	22
Heather Honey (ditto)	Mr. J. R. Findlay	47
Ovina 4th (Mr. F. G. M'Connachie)	Mr. Calder	33
Early (Mr. MacBean)	Mr. Allan	24
Ruby 18th of Kippendavie (Mr. Jas. M'Kelvie)	Mr. Grant	25
Jubilee Jenny (ditto)	Mr. Archibald Whyte	22
Ruby of Seaham (ditto)	Mr. M'Gillvray	21
Erica Essence (ditto)	Mr. Claud Ralston	46
Lady Ida and heifer calf (Trustees of Late Sheriff Orr Paterson)	Mr. W. Ralston	22
Visible of Glamis and bull calf (ditto)	Mr. Calder	31
Polyhymnia and bull calf (ditto)	Mr. Calder	31
Polymela and heifer calf (ditto)	Mr. Grant	25
Frosty of Noth (ditto)	Mr. Grant	20
Princess Ida 2nd (ditto)	Mr. Smith Sligo	50
Lady of Gadgirth (ditto)	Mr. J. R. Findlay	38
Ragwort (Mr. J. M'Pherson)	Sir James Duke	23
Duchess 13th (Mr. Robertson)	Mr. Speid	23
Eulima 13th (ditto)	Mr. J. R. Findlay	77
Daisy (ditto)	Mr. Speid	23
Maria 5th (Reid's Trustees)	Mr. Calder	33
May (ditto)	Mr. Scott	24
Sheila (Mr. James Speid)	Mr. Schroeder	25
Victoria 36th (Mr. Thomas Smith)	Mr. Smith Sligo	25
Blossom (ditto)	Mr. Smith Sligo	25
Ruby 55th (ditto)	Mr. Bambridge	41
Elsy 25th (Mr. Wm. Tulloch)	Mr. J. R. Findlay	27
Alice of Tedfold 6th (Mr. James Wilson)	Mr. Robb	27
Paniska (ditto)	Sir James Duke of Laughton	25
Melita (ditto)	Mr. Kennedy	23
Panikula (ditto)	Mr. J. Kennedy	25
Duchess 8th (Mr. H. Wilson)	Sir James Duke	55

Second Day's Sale.

The attendance of buyers at the second day's sale, when the bulls were offered, was, as usual, larger than that on the first day, a large number of English and Irish breeders and dealers being amongst the company, and they made a good many purchases. There was an entry of 384 bulls, which was 28 less than last year, but there were fewer animals absent than on that occasion, when the English consignments were excluded, and only 77 were not accounted for in the sale list, the total number disposed of being 307, as compared with 280 last year. Business began soon after nine o'clock, and notwithstanding the expedition with which it was carried through it was some time after four o'clock till the last animal was sold—a continuous stretch of fully seven hours, during which a brisk competition existed, especially for the outstanding animals. The feature of the sale, as of the show, was the magnificent appearance made by the Ballindalloch herd, of which eight representatives were sold, and of these only three fell below 100 guineas. One of the lower-priced ones was sold for exportation to the United States, where he will no doubt maintain the reputation of the stock from which he comes. Last year Sir George Macpherson Grant realised the very creditable average of £118 1s. for seven animals, but on the present occasion, with eight animals, he far out-distanced this record, his average reaching the splendid figure of £154 7s. The excellence of this result is greatly enhanced by the fact that the lot included one animal that brought the relatively small price of 70 guineas, another that passed out of the herd at 50 guineas, and a third which went at 46 guineas. The top price realised was the splendid sum of 360 guineas, exactly the same figure that was brought by a Ballindalloch bull at the same sale two years ago, and which constituted a record price at these sales. The animal which thus enabled Sir George to repeat his record was Evictor, which was an easy first in his class on the previous day. His sire was the same as the majority of the other Ballindalloch bulls offered, namely, Eblito, the fine bull which was taken to America by Colonel Judy last year, and which he sold the other day on the other side of the Atlantic at the phenomenal price of £1,820. Bidding for Evictor began at 100 guineas, and proceeded rapidly by bids of 10 guineas, the price at which he was knocked down being reached in a few minutes. The purchaser was Colonel Smith Grant, and the bull will now join the Auchorachan herd. The next highest price obtained was 210 guineas, and two bulls changed hands at this figure, one of them being Encombe of Ballindalloch, which was third in his class on the previous day, and which went to Major Reid, Auchterarder House, after a smart competition; the other being Elmslie, belonging to Mr. Chalmers, of Aldbar, and which was second in the class for younger bulls. Curiously enough, the purchaser in this instance was Sir

George Macpherson Grant, the popular proprietor of the Ballindalloch breed. Next in order in the matter of price came the Ballindalloch Ellendale, which went to Mr. Calder, Newcastle, for 200 guineas. From the same herd Mr. Grant, Finlarig, took Edward R. at 140 guineas, and Mr. Hamilton, of Sundrum, got Margrave at 100 guineas. Lord Strathmore was well represented at the sale by the Glamis herd, from which 10 animals were sold, the average price obtained being £42, the highest figure reached being 75 guineas for Alonso, which went to Mr. Robertson, Mains of Fordie. Lord Rosebery had entered four bulls, but they were all absentees. The Cortachy Castle herd was well represented, no fewer than nine animals being sold, at an average of £23 14s. 10d. But, next to Sir George Macpherson Grant, the best average was secured by Mr. M'Laren, Auchnaguie, whose figure ran to £63 14s., his highest price being 81 guineas for Mandaro, which was second in his class on the previous day. Mr. Robertson, Mains of Fordie, got 90 guineas for Lord Sirdar of Advie, the sire of several of the winners at the show, and his average stood at £40 5s. 10d. The total of the day's sale was £8,319 3s., and the grand total for the two days £10,951 10s.

Below we give a list of the animals which realised 25 guineas and over, the names of the sellers being given in parentheses after the animal's name:—

		Gs.
Midas (the Earl of Airlie)	Mr. Annand Balfour	25
Sir Geriant (ditto)	Mr. Purvis, of Kinaldy	25
The Pretender (ditto)	Mr. D. Smith Murroes	30
Pharamond (ditto)	Mr. Soutar, Little Kenny	26
Norseman (ditto)	The Earl of Camperdown	29
Florst (Mr. James Allan)	Mr. Thomson, Stirling	32
Dido (ditto)	Mr. Cunningham, Dallochy	25
Masher of Kinchurdy (Mr. M'Ainsh)	Mr. Stewart	29
Emlyn II. (Mr. M'Conachie)	Colonel Crawford	32
Gilderoy (ditto)	Mr. Farrell	52
Solon of Dalmeny (Mr. M'Kelvie)	Mr. MacGregor	27
Bessemer (Colonel M'Inroy)	Mr. H. Coulter	35
Lucifer (ditto)	Mr. Campbell	34
Master Everest (Mr. MacRae)	Mr. Gouch	46
Primate of Dalmeny (Paterson's Trustees)	Mr. Grant	30
Juggler (Perkins and Partners)	Mr. Forbes	32
Meridian of Glamis (Reid's Trustees)	Mr. M'Gillivray	33
Lord Sirdar (Mr. Robertson)	Mr. Grant	90
Edward VII (Mr. C. Stephenson)	Mr. Carden	55
Bold Esmond (ditto)	Mr. Nicoll	25
Jacobite of Glamis (Earl of Strathmore)	The Hon. A. D. Murray	27
Hippocoon (ditto)	Mr. Brown	25
Barberini (ditto)	Mr. Coates	73
Wizard (ditto)	The Earl of Ancaster	36
Alonzo (ditto)	Mr. Robertson	75
Belize (ditto)	Mr. Cobb	26
Juba (ditto)	Mr. Earle	46
Astor (ditto)	Mr. Murison	36
Botha (ditto)	Mr. Fletcher	35
Marcus VI. (Mr. Thomas Smith)	Mr. Whyte	29
Prelate VI. (Mr. Tulloch)	Mr. Grant	29
Jipsey Provost (Mr. William Whyte)	Mr. Arnott	32
Vine Master (ditto)	Mr. Dickinson	37
Jipsy Priest (ditto)	Mr. Wilson	34
Bowsprit (ditto)	The Earl of Longford	29
British Glory (ditto)	Mr. Cunningham	26
European Laird (ditto)	Mr. Turtle	70
Fair Field (Mr. A. Whyte)	Mr. Watson	29
Carnelian (ditto)	Mr. Cameron	35
African Boy (ditto)	Mr. Lindsay	34
Bouncing Baron (Mr. J. Whyte)	Mr. Clarke	33
By Jingo (ditto)	Mr. Balfour	26
Busy Baron (ditto)	Mr. Esler	31
Rhadamanthus (Mr. Willsher)	Mr. M'Rae	40
Laurus (Mr. Wood)	Mr. M'Callum	26

SUMMARY.
1902.

No.	Average.	Total.
307 Bulls	£27 2 0	£8,319 3 0
36 Cows	22 10 7	812 0 0
25 Two-year-old heifers	24 18 6	624 0 0
55 Yearling heifers	21 15 1	1,196 7 0
423	£25 17 10	£10,951 10 0



THE SHORTHORN STEER which we show above was bred by his Majesty the King, sire Carlyle, 65,226, dam Waterloo 56th. At the Smithfield Show at Islington last year, this Steer won the silver cup for the best beast in the show not exceeding two months old, also winning first prize in the class for Shorthorn Steers. At the show the Steer was 1 year 8 months 2 weeks and 1 day old, and weighed 13 cwt. 0 qr. 22 lb.

Rostrum of Careston (Mr. W. S. Adamson),	The Earl of Strathmore	38
Ruthenium (ditto)	The Earl of Longford	27
Erebus (ditto)	Mr. John Mackinnon	39
Proud Bon (Mr. Bainbridge)	Mr. Black	25
Eshott (ditto)	Mr. Milne	27
Just of Morlich (Mr. G. Cran)	Mr. Smith, Powrie	30
Joe of Morlich (ditto)	Mr. Maitland, Inverurie	40
Elmslie (second prize bull calf), (Mr. P. Chambers)	Sir George Macpherson	210
Opal (Colonel Home Drummond)	Mr. Scrymgeour	25
Rabbi of Kirkbridge (Mr. Earle)	Mr. Calder, Ardargie	32
Balthayock (Mr. W. S. Ferguson)	Mr Bayley, Fansmere	38
Rover of Polowick (Mr. Grant, Polowick)	Mr. M'Ainsh	31
Edict (Mr. Grant, Advice Mains)	Mr. Howieson	26
Lord Archer (ditto)	Mr. Bruce	31
Enzil (Colonel Smith Grant)	Mr. C. L. Wood	35
Jimpty (ditto)	Mr. M'Laren	25
Pictorial (Mr. George Grant)	Mr. Bruce	31
Finlarig Prince (ditto)	Mr. Wilson	35
Emperor of Pitskilly (ditto)	Mr. Smith Sligo	25
Epplet (ditto)	Mr. Wilson	40
Educator of Laggan (ditto)	Mr. Grant	29
Prince Lorgie (Sir George Macpherson Grant)	Mr. Hugh Elliot	70
Ellendale (ditto)	Mr. Calder	200
Edward R. (ditto)	Mr. Grant	140
Jeshurun (ditto)	Mr. Cran	50
Evictor (ditto)	Col. Smith Grant	360
Encombe (ditto)	Reid's Trustees	210
Elflock (ditto)	Mr. Shiach	46
Mangrave (ditto)	Mr. Hamilton	100
Prince Epens (Mr. J. C. Grant)	Sir Algernon Coote	35
Mafeking (Lord Londonderry)	Sir Algernon Coote	32
Frohman (Miss Loweon)	Mr. M'Laren	27
Edenhall of Shoestanes (Mr. Mathison)	Mr. Campbell	25
Mandaro (Mr. M'Laren)	Mr. Robb	81
Daramere (ditto)	Mr. Stirling	41
Prileno (ditto)	Mr. Kennedy	60

1901.

No.	Average.	Total.
280 Bulls	£27 8 3	£7,676 0 6
23 Cows	23 7 0	537 1 6
— Three-year-old heifers	—	—
48 Two-year-old heifers	28 2 7	1,350 6 0
92 Yearling heifers	17 16 8	1,640 12 6
443	£25 5 10	£11,204 0 6

Show and Sale of Aberdeen Angus at Aberdeen.

The annual spring show and sale of Aberdeen Angus Cattle at the Agricultural Hall, Killybrewster, near Aberdeen, was held on Thursday. There was a heavy entry of cattle, the numbers entered for the sale being in excess of recent years, and the quality of the stock all round was considered fully up to the average. The gross entries consisted of 250 bulls and 37 cows and heifers, or a total of 287. The exhibits, which were drawn for the prizes, comprised a number of animals of good outstanding merit. In the senior class of bull calves Mr. M'Pherson (Mulben) was first with Carolus, a beautiful big smart-looking calf, but was closely followed by Mr. Wilson's President of Coynachie. Mr. Grant (Wester Elchies) was third and fourth. In the young class of bulls Mr. M'Pherson (Mulben) again took the lead with Middleman, a thick-fleshed bull, Mr. Wilson (Coynachie) being again second with Norman of Coynachie, and Messrs. Smith (Dockington) were third with a sweet well-haired calf named Tennyson. There was a fair show of heifers, the winner being Sir J. F. Clark, the second and third awards going to Mr. P. Forbes.

At the sale there was a large attendance of buyers, and business started briskly, but was confined chiefly to local buyers, and, as compared with the prices realised last year, there was a considerable fall, amounting to £1 14s. 6d. in the case of bulls and £1 9s. 2d. for cows. The highest price obtained was 60 guineas, at which figure a Ballindalloch bull calf was sold by Sir Geo. Macpherson Grant to Mr. Hugh Wilson, Milton of Noth. The sixth prize calf, also from Ballindalloch, went to Mr. Duff, of Hatton, for 50 guineas, and the first-prize heifer was bought for Lord Rosebery at 35 guineas. The total sum realised for 258 animals was £5,745 12s., the average being £22 5s. 4d. Below we give a summary of the sale, and we may mention here that last year 208 bulls made an average of £24 9s. 9d., the general average for 223 head—males and females—being £23 14s. 6d.

SUMMARY.

	Average.	Total.
229 bulls	£22 15 3	£5,212 14 6
3 cows	29 15 0	89 5 0
3 two-year-old heifers	16 19 0	49 7 0
23 one-year-old heifers	17 2 10	394 5 6
258 head	£22 5 4	£5,745 12 0

The Late Mr. J. P. Apperley's Herefords.

The late Mr. J. P. Apperley's celebrated herd of Herefords was disposed of at the Stone Farm, Withington, near Hereford, on Thursday. The herd is one of the oldest in the county, and is so well known that naturally a large company of buyers was expected, and their expectation was realised. In Vol. III. of the Hereford Herd Book (the first volume in which cows were entered) there were no fewer than twenty-one entries of cows from the Withington herd, in the name of Mr. J. P. Apperley and his father, the late Mr. W. H. Apperley, who had retained a portion of the old herd. Mr. J. P. Apperley returned to Stone House, and the two herds were amalgamated. Previous to the publication of Vol. III., Messrs. Apperley, father and son, possessed a good herd of Herefords at Liver's Ocle.

At the luncheon held prior to the sale Mr. J. W. Smith, who presided, said, in the course of a short speech, that in Mr. Apperley they had a man in whom he might call a real agriculturist and a typical country gentleman. He was a real home man—fond of his home, proud of his farm and his little estate; and he had reason to be proud of it, for he and his ancestor had lived and occupied that place for something like 200 years. He thought they would agree with him that he could have been no mean farmer and no mean judge of stock. The cattle to be submitted for sale that day—he would not say they could not be rivalled—but very few could excel them. They were good hardy cattle, with plenty of size and substance, and he did not know of a herd more rent-paying in its character. Their lineage was long, and they had everything to recommend them. It would be a sale without reserve.

The sale was conducted by Mr. Walter Pye, and was a fairly successful one, but no big prices were realised, as the following list of animals sold at 20 guineas and over will show:—

COWS AND CALVES.

		Gs.
Primrose, c 1893 s Cromarty,	? Major Mynors (Bosbruy)	20
Her heifer calf Nancy	Major Mynors	17
Pink Rose, c 1894, s Cromarty	Mr. Peter Coats (Clifford)	34
Primrose III, c 1895, s Forester	Major Mynors	24
Bella, c 1895, s romarty	Mr. Longhurst	20
Blowdy, c 1895, s Oliver	Mr Peter Coats	48
Her heifer calf, Blowdy II.	Mr. J. W. Smith	20
Kitty, c 1897, s Royal George	Mr. Longhurst	22
Princess May II., c 1897, s Letton Hardwick	Mr. Pritchard	26
Her heifer calf, May Queen	Mr. Leake (Morteon Jefferies)	10
Saly, c 1897, s Commander-in-Chief	Mr. Bowcott (Aymestrey)	18
Lady Lind II., c 1894, s Hope	Mr John Powell	34
Her bull calf, Hopeless	Mr. Percy Morris (Shucknall)	16½
Rosebriar, c 1898, s Tumbler,	Mr. Helme (Monnington)	23
Cowslip II., c 1898, s Ardcarn	Mr. Bowcott	28
Plum II., c 1898, s Ardcarn	Mr. Longhurst	26
Alice, c 1898, s Ardcarn	Mr. Longhurst	21
Her heifer calf, Alice Mary	Major Mynors	12
Pink Rose III., c 1898, s Ardcarn	Mr. H. J. Dent (Perton)	41
Her bull calf, Right Stamp	Mr. Pritchard	28
Curley, c 1898, s Ardcarn	Dr. Hamlyn Williams (Kingsland)	30
Violet, c 1898, s Ardcarn	Mr. J. Powell (Warham)	18
China, c 1898, s Ardcarn	Dr. Hamlyn Williams	40

THREE-YEAR-OLD HEIFERS.

White Rose	Mr. Parry	29
Damson	Mr. Lewis	22
Lucky II.	Mr. Price	27
Curly II.	Mr. James Smith	30
Chance II.	Mr. J. Powell	38

TWO-YEAR-OLD HEIFERS.

Rachael	Mr. J. Parry	26
Cherry	Mr. P. Coats	28
Dido	Mr. Parry	23

BULLS.

King Cole (20753)	Mr. Dent	26
Joe Miller (21474)	Mr. Pike	24

Highland Cattle Society's Show and Sale.

The eleventh annual show and sale of pedigree Highland bulls, held under the auspices of the Highland Cattle Society of Scotland, took place at Oban on Thursday, and proved to be one of the most successful of the series. The weather being favourable, there was an unusually large attendance of buyers, but the supply of animals—they numbered 114, or an increase of 22 on last year's total—was in excess of the demand, as only 76 animals found purchasers. The show and was divided into three classes, and brought together the largest number of animals of this breed ever exhibited at any one show. Mr. MacDiarmid, of Castles, Lochawe, was judge, and from the large number of animals shown and the almost uniform excellence of the exhibits, especially in the second and third classes, his duties were unusually difficult. In the aged class there have been as good bulls shown at Oban, but in the two-year-old and yearling classes there has never been brought together so many animals of decided merit, from which it was evident that the operations of the Highland Cattle Society are distinctly improving the breed. In the aged class, for which there were nineteen entries, the first prize winner was Calum Man, a bull with a remarkably successful history. He has been a frequent winner at Highland and agricultural shows, and at the Oban sale as a two-year-old he was bought by Mr. Mackenzie, of Farr, for £120, but on Thursday he only realised £76. The second prize winner, bred by the Duke of Sutherland, and shown by Mr. Campbell, of Shiness, was also a bull with a good prize record, and he made £70. In the two-year-old and yearling classes the numbers exhibited were 33 and 28 respectively, and they were considered a particularly good show.

The prizes were awarded as follows:—

Bulls, calved before 1st January, 1900: 1, Mr. W. D. Mackenzie, Farr Daviot (Calum Ban of Athell); 2, Mr. J. R. Campbell, Shinness, Lairg (Ben-a-Bhraggie); 3, Mr. Archibald Turner, Kilchamaigg (Adhollach X.); hc, representatives of the late J. Stewart, Ensay (Ben Dunabheg); hc, representatives of the late Donald Graham, Tinthrev (An Gaidheal Molach); c, Mr. J. R. M. MacDonald, Largie (Somhairle).

Two-year-olds: 1, Mr. J. S. Blair, Melfort (Denovan); 2, Mr. J. MacDonald, Duntulm (Duntuilmarithid); 3r, Mr. J. Campbell, Kilberry (Iasgaire); hc, Mr. J. Campbell, Tullich (Macacuraidh); hc, Mr. J. MacDonald, Duntulm (Fear Abheallach); c, Mr. J. R. Campbell, Shinness (Suilven).

Yearlings: 1, Earl of Southesk (Caledon); 2, Mr. MacNaughton, Barguillean (Domhnuill Molach II.); 3, Mr. W. D. Mackenzie, Farr (Alastair of Farr); vhc, Earl of Southesk (Valerius); hc, Mr. Buchanan, Duntanachan (Dughall Buidhe); c, Messrs. Campbell, Kentra, Islay (Antileach).

The sale took place in Mr. Corsering's auction mart, at the conclusion of the judging. As previously mentioned, there was a large attendance, but a slow trade. For the better class of animals, however, there was a good demand, and the Congested Districts Board were, as last year, large buyers, taking off 15 bulls. The top price of the sale was obtained by Mr. Campbell, Kilberry, for his Iasgaire, third prize taker in the two-year-old class, which was secured by Mr. Thomas Bullough for the fold which he is forming at Fasnacloich, the second highest, £110, being given by Mr. W. D. MacKenzie, of Farr, for Mr. Blair's Denovan. In the aged class the top price was got for Calumban, a seven-year-old, which was secured by Mr. Martin, of Dunlossit, at £76. The second price (£70) was got for the winner of second honours, Ben a Bhraggie, which was bought by Mr. Simon Mackenzie, Lochboisdale. In the year-old class the best price, £55, was given by Lady Gordon Cathcart for the Earl of Southesk's Valerius, and the second highest, £40, by Mr. Bryce Allan for Mr. MacNaughton's Domhnuil Molach. The average price in section 1 was £28 7s. 7d. for 23 bulls, an increase of £6 1s. 1d. on last year's average. In section 2 (two-year-old) for 33 bulls the average was £20, a decrease of £1 5s. 8d., and in Section 3 (yearlings) the average for 20 bulls was £20 9s., an increase of £2 6s. 7d. After the bull sale a draft of 16 heifers and cows from the well-known Ardtornish fold of Mr. T. Valentine Smith were disposed of, realising for three-year-old heifers from £8 10s. to £19; cows, from £16 to £33. This being the first occasion on which female animals were exposed at the spring sale, the result was considered satisfactory, and it is intended to continue the experiment in future years.

Sale of Endale Herefords.

Considerable interest was centred in the sale of the late Mr. Edward Yeld's Hereford herd, at Endale, near Leominster, on Monday, conducted by Messrs H. F. Russell and Sons. It will be remembered that on August 28th, 1900, the herd was offered for sale by auction, and out of 60 animals put up, some 20 were bought in, and these were now offered, and it may be mentioned have met with a better sale than on the last occasion. A reference to the pedigrees recorded in the catalogue showed that the animals possessed the purest and most fashionable strains of blood, being descended from the celebrated Wintercott, Leen, Stocktonbury, and Twyford herds. They combined great individual merit with high parentage, and were of good size, nice character, and symmetry. The success which has for many years attended the Endale exhibits in the R.A.S.E. and other showyards is so widely known that further comment would be superfluous. The result of the sales is given in the list below. Previous to the sale of the Herefords, Mr. Frank Russell disposed of the implements, effects, and sheep, which sold at good prices.

		Gs.
Royal Primrose, c 1896, s Royal Hero	Mr. Peter Cox	32
Her bull calf, Lord Primrose	Mr. Cadwallader	16
Nancy, c 1898, s Lysander	Mr. William Tudge	37
Her heifer calf, Rosebud, s Commerce	Mr. W. Tudge	21
Hero's Princess, c 1897, s Royal Hero, and her bull calf, s Mercury	Mr Small	46
Her bull calf, Heroic, c Commerce	Mr. Britten	22
Lady Hope 3rd, c 1896, s Royal Hero, and her bull calf, s Mercury	Mr. Stephen Robinson	30
Her heifer calf, Lady Hopetoun, s Commerce	Mr. Bounds	18½
Lady Luna, c 1896, s Lead On	Mr. W. Tudge	34
Her steer calf, s Rhodesia	Mr. R. Bright	9
Luna Wilton, c 1886, s Tom Wilton	Mr. Small	16
Her heifer calf, Miss Luna, s Rhodesia	Mr. Speakman	15½
Royal Daisy, c 1887, s Assurance	Mr. Wilkes	15
Her heifer calf, Endale Daisy, s Rhodesia	Mr. W. Tudge	17
Crinky, c 1899, s Great Hero	Mr. E. Cave	16
Lady Lindon, c 1900, s Forard On	Mr. W. Tudge	21
Mercury, 21593, c 1900	Mr. R. Bright	23
Luminary, c 1901, s Rhodesia	Mr. Bowcott	24

Sales of Live and Dead Farming Stock.

In consequence of Mr. A. E. Mansell having decided to settle in Tasmania, a dispersion sale of the whole of his valuable farm stock at Harrington Hall, Shifnal, was conducted on Thursday by Messrs. Alfred Mansell and Co., auctioneers, Shrewsbury. The stock comprised 476 sheep, including 96 Shropshire ewes and 380 fat wethers, and 215 head of cattle. As was anticipated, there was a very large attendance of buyers and dealers from all parts of the country, and there was a spirited sale throughout. After an early luncheon, an adjournment was made to the sale ring, where the selling of the stock was carried out by Mr. Alfred Mansell. The sheep, which were of excellent quality, sold very well, and some good prices were realised. Ewes in lamb made from 43s. to 53s., and fat sheep from 32s. to 46s. The cattle trade was good, and there was some keen competition amongst the buyers for the best animals. The prices ranged from £6 to £22. The highest price obtained for the horses was 33 guineas, others sold down to 9 guineas.

On the 14th inst. the same auctioneers disposed of the farm stock of Mr. William Thomas, the Beam House, Montford Bridge, who has decided to relinquish farming pursuits. Amongst the animals offered for sale were 75 pure bred Shorthorn dairy cattle and 245 pedigree Shropshire sheep, representing the renowned Beam House flock. There was a very large attendance, but the sheep trade was not very grand, owing to the severe weather lately experienced and the shortness of keep. Nevertheless, some good prices were realised. Stock rams made up to 5 guineas, shearling rams 5½ guineas, shearling ewes 64s., and breeding ewes 80s. The trade for Shorthorn cows and heifers showed an improvement on that for sheep. The best prices were 36 gs., 28, 32, 26, 21, 20, and 23; heifers, 35 gs., 28, 23, 21, and 17½. Bulls made 30 gs., 22, 21, 19½, and 19. There was a good demand for horses. The highest price was 52 gs. for a roan mare; the other prices included 40 gs., 36, 33, 30, 28, and 26. Cart colts sold well, the highest prices being 27gs, 24, 20, and 18½.

HORSES.

Sale at York.

Messrs. Walker and Sons' second February sale of horses took place at their repository, York, on Thursday, when they had a catalogue of nearly 70. There was a good attendance. The principal feature of the sale was the disposal of the entire stud of Mr. H. R. Pease, of Beverley. The best prices were obtained for Barnetby, a chestnut gelding, 6 years old, who realised 135 guineas, and Molescroft, a chestnut mare, 5 years old, 50 guineas. A bay gelding, the property of the executors of the late Mr. J. Iveson, realised 72 guineas, and Pinwire, a chestnut mare, the property of Mr. C. E. Clark, 60 guineas, a number of other horses selling up to 50 guineas. The principal prices were as follows:—

	Gs.
Dark grey gelding, 6 years, 16.1 h.h.	41
Havoc, bay gelding, rising 6 years, 16 h.h.	40
Opposer, dark brown horse	45
Pinwire, chestnut mare, 6 years this time, 16 h.h	60
Bay mare, 6 years	42
Molescroft, chestnut mare, 5 years, 15.3 h.h.	50
Barnetby, chestnut gelding, 6 years, 16 h.h.	135
Dark brown gelding, about 7 years, 15.1 h.h.	35
Dark bay mare, 4 years, 15 h.h.	37
Roan gelding, 5 years, 15.2 h.h.	35
Dark chestnut gelding, 5 years, 15.3 h.h.	45
Brown gelding, 6 years, 16 h.h.	40
Black gelding, 5 years, 16.1 h.h.	41
Brown mare, rising 6 years, 15.3 h.h.	43
Bay gelding, 5 years, 16.2 h.h.	72

SOCIETIES.

Hunters' Improvement.

Captain H. Heywood-Lonsdale (vice-president) occupied the chair at a meeting of the council of this society, held on the 13th inst., at 12, Hanover Square, London, W., when 41 candidates were elected as members of the society, while the secretary as members of the society, while the secretary reported that there were 23 candidates for election at the next meeting of the council.

Finance Committee.

Lieut.-Col. Hon. W. H. Allsopp (chairman) presented the report of this committee, showing that the balance at the bank was £1,583 6s. 2d., the secretary's receipts since January 1st being checked and found correct; the arrears of subscriptions, £27 6s. Accounts amounting to £845 12s. were passed for payment. The report was adopted.

Editing Committee.

Hon. Alexander Parker (chairman) reported that Volume 9 of the Record of Hunter Mares and Sires had been duly registered at Stationers' Hall. The committee dealt with several entries made for the show, one of which (entered in class 2) they had been obliged to refuse, as it did not comply with the conditions laid down for that class. This report was adopted.

Horse Show Committee.

Mr. James Joicey (chairman) presented the number of entries for the forthcoming show as follows:—

	1902.		1901.
Thoroughbred stallions	119	..	113
Hunter sires and colts	37	..	28
Hunter mares and fillies	53	..	83
Hunter geldings	129	..	90
Chargers	58	..	75
	402	..	389
Entries in the polo pony section	198	..	141
	600	..	530

The produce of seven qualified sires were entered to compete in the produce class, namely, Chibiabos, Four Poster, Pantomime, Swallowfield, Toscano, Withernam, Yard Arm, each stallion having at least three produce entered in the young stock classes. The report was adopted.

Vice-President.

The chairman informed the council that the vice-president selection committee had met that morning, and they unanimously recommended that Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart., be asked to become vice-president (*i.e.*, president in 1903). The report of the committee having been adopted by the council, Sir Walter Gilbey thanked the members present for his nomination as vice-president to the members at the annual general meeting. He hoped that during his years of office the society might be enabled to still further stimulate the cause of horse breeding, and do something to stop the ever-diminishing number of horses in this country.

Selection Committee of Candidates for Council.

The secretary reported that the committee had met on January 16th, when they had selected from the nominations sent in by members of the council the names of 16 members, and in their selections they had endeavoured as far as practicable, to nominate candidates from counties and districts with little or no representation on the council. They proposed that the names of the following gentlemen should be sent out on the voting papers:—Barlow, E. H., Yorks; Foster, Col. W. H., Lancashire; Heywood-Lonsdale, Captain, J.P., M.F.H., Oxfordshire; Holt-Needham, O. N., Somersetshire; Jolliffe, Dr. W. J., Isle of Wight; King, J. Russell, Oxfordshire; Mann, R. J., Shropshire; Mashiter, E. T., M.F.H., Essex; Nickisson, J. L., Berks; Philipps, J. W., Pembroke; Saunders, Clervaux Morley, Devon; Smith, S. Lee, Kent; Springfield, T. O., Norfolk; Tindal, C. W., Lincs.; Wilson, H. M., M.F.H., Cheshire; Withers, Henry, Middlesex.

The secretary was instructed to send the names out to the members with the report of the council and the statement of accounts for the past year.

Registration of Stallion Committee.

Mr. J. P. Cross on behalf of the committee, stated that the returns from the owners of mares served by the stallions registered on the list in 1901 were incomplete, and therefore the committee did not propose to submit any statement to the council till the foaling season was over. In future the returns should be collected annually in June. He further reported that applications had been made for the registration of three further stallions. This report was adopted.

Soundness of Stallions.

A resolution was submitted from the Devon County Council urging that legislation should be introduced, empowering county councils to prohibit

the use for hire within their districts of stallions suffering from hereditary disease.

Sir Richard Green-Price said that this was a new departure for county councils, and that they must give the credit to the Devon County Council for first moving in this matter. The idea was excellent, but he did not think that they had the means to give effect to their resolution. In his opinion this should be a constitutional question. Nothing short of a Royal Commission would meet the case of stopping the ever-decreasing number of horses in Great Britain and Ireland, and it would be incumbent upon the Government to act upon their report. He thought that this society might pass a resolution calling the attention of the Government to the urgency of the matter, and recommending them to take evidence as to how the diminution of home-bred horses could be remedied. The time was opportune, as public opinion had been roused over the question of Army remounts, and it would be better that the money which went to the foreigners should go into the pockets of the British tenant-farmer. There was no necessity to specially appoint a Royal Commission, as they had the requisite machinery in the present Royal Commission on Horse Breeding, and he thought that the society should urge upon the Government, either by deputation or otherwise, to do something in the direction he suggested. Unless this was done it would be soon impossible to persuade the breeders to go in for light horse-breeding. He had ideas upon the subject how it might be done, but this was not the occasion to broach them, but whatever was done should be done at once, as it would take at least six years before the country would reap the advantages of any scheme put in operation.

Sir Walter Gilbey said that he thought that the suggestion of the Devon County Council was excellent, but that it was impossible to carry it out.

It was eventually resolved that a letter should be written to the Devon County Council thanking them for the suggestion put forward by them, and pointing out that the society itself was endeavouring to give effect to the principle by inviting owners to register their thoroughbred stallions after inspection and examination by a qualified veterinary surgeon.

The council then adjourned.

Smithfield Club.

A meeting of the council of the Smithfield Club was held at the Royal Agricultural Hall on the 5th inst., the Right Hon. Earl Spencer, K.G., president, in the chair.

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved and signed.

The Veterinary Inspector's report on the health of the animals exhibited at the late show was read.

The stewards reported the result of the inquiries in the dentition cases at the late show, and also recommended the following alterations in the prize list:—

Class 9.—No. 65, to which 3rd prize was awarded, not having been slaughtered in accordance with Rule 33, the 3rd prize of £5 be awarded to the reserve, No. 60, exhibited by Miss Alice de Rothschild.

Class 18.—No. 125, 2nd prize winner, not having been slaughtered, the prizes of this class be awarded as follows:—2nd prize, £10, to No. 126, exhibited by Mr. George Willsher; 3rd prize, £5, to No. 129, exhibited by Mr. J. D. Fletcher.

On the motion of Mr. W. Newton this report was adopted.

The following committees, as provided by the Articles of Association, were appointed, viz.:—

Finance Committee.—Clare Sewell Read, J. Bowen-Jones, Jonas Webb, J. P. Case, Edney Hayter, A. C. Skinner.

Stock Prize Committee.—Earl Winterton, James Biggar, J. J. Cridlan, Henry Dudding, G. S. Grant, William Newton, W. Reid, H. P. Ryland, S. Spencer, Clement Stephenson, J. Stratton, J. P. Terry, A. P. Turner, Henry Webb, J. Wortley.

Selection Committee.—Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart., Sir Jacob Wilson, W. Cooper, A. Egginton, Hugh Gorringe, Richard Stratton.

Implement Committee.—Alfred Crosskill, A. F. Milton Druce, H. D. Marshall, J. E. Ransome, Henry Smith, Garrett-Taylor.

Carcase Committee.—F. Redman, G. Adams, W. S. Ferguson, J. Lindsey, C. W. Tindall, J. Treadwell.

General Show Committee, consisting of the chairman of the foregoing committees and the stewards.

In pursuance of notice, Mr. W. S. Ferguson moved:—"That, instead of giving the judges a lump sum of £7 each in payment of their expenses, irrespective of the distances they may be from London, that in future, or until any other alteration may be considered desirable, the judges shall receive first-class railway return fare from their respective stations, and in addition a sum of £3," and in doing so said the present system of paying all judges of stock a fee of £7 was quite an anomaly. In the case of judges living near town the £7 paid was practically a fee, whilst in the case of others who came three or four hundred miles or more the sum allowed did not cover expenses. He felt it was a great honour to judge at the club's show, and that the gentlemen elected to act as judges did not require a fee for their services, but would be perfectly satisfied with their expenses, and he thought an allowance of £1 per day for three days, with return first-class railway ticket, would be a sufficient remuneration, would be more equitable, and would save the club upwards of £60 per annum.

Mr. Clement Stephenson seconded the motion.

Mr. W. Cooper moved as an amendment the previous question. He thought the present system had worked satisfactorily.

by Mr. Ferguson was a fair one as to whether it was not better to pay the judges *pro rata* according to the distances they came. There was some injustice in the present system, as a judge living in or near town made a profit, whilst the judge from a distance loses. He thought they should look if there was not something in the argument that it was a good principle to pay the judges equitably, instead of a lump sum, which did not operate in all cases anything like equitably.

Mr. W. Reid supported the principle of Mr. Ferguson's motion, but was of opinion that the amount to be paid in addition to the railway fare should be £5, and if Mr. Ferguson would alter his motion to £5 he would support it.

Mr. Garrett Taylor, in seconding Mr. Cooper's amendment, maintained that the present system had worked admirably in every way, and they had always been able to obtain the services of most excellent judges from the north. This was the first time he had heard of any complaint.

Sir John Gilmour said he felt sure they would all desire to put everyone on an equal basis, and a sound footing, and it appeared to him that by paying every man's actual expenses in bringing him to the spot, and then something, whether it be £5 or £3, to every judge, they would be upon the same footing.

Mr. Cridlan, in supporting Mr. Ferguson's motion, thought it was an injustice that a judge, say from Inverness or Ross-shire, should be brought to London to judge classes of cattle and not receive a sufficient sum to pay his railway fare, whereas gentlemen from Kent, Middlesex, Essex, or somewhere near London were paid a sum which was practically a fee.

The amendment for the previous question was the n put and declared to be lost.

Mr. Reid then proposed as a further amendment that the sum to be paid in addition to the railway fare be £5, and this was seconded by Mr. J. P. Terry.

Mr. Ferguson would not like the judges to come with a view of making a profit out of the club, and considering the honour attached to the office, he thought £3 and railway fare was quite enough, but to meet the wish of the meeting he would be disposed to make a compromise and make it £4.

Mr. J. Bowen-Jones thought that before voting the Council ought to know what the exact financial effect of this proposition would be.

The president stated that he believed that, taking the average of the last two years, Mr. Ferguson's original motion would mean a saving of about £60, and, if £5 were paid, an addition of about £12 or £15 to the present payment, and if £4 a saving of £15 or £20.

Sir Walter Gilbey and Mr. Alfred Crosskill supported Mr. Reid's amendment, which on being put to the meeting was declared to be lost.

Mr. Ferguson's motion, with the substitution of £4 for £3, was then put and carried.

Communications from (1) Mr. Sanders Spencer, suggesting a graduated scale of entry fees, detailed report of dentition cases, and carcase classes for pigs; (2) South Devon Herd Book Society, with reference to classes for South Devons; (3) English Kerry and Dexter Cattle Society, respecting abolition of small cross-bred classes; (4) Mr. H. W. Stilgoe and Mr. J. H. Dean, respecting prizes for sheep; (5) National Pig Breeders' Association, suggesting carcase competitions for pigs, were referred to the stock prize committee.

The next meeting of the Council was fixed for Wednesday, March 5th.

Shropshire and West Midland.

A very satisfactory report was presented at the 27th annual meeting of the Shropshire and West Midland Agricultural Society. It stated that one of the most pleasing features of the year was the great increase in the entry fees, the aggregate for 1901 being £999, as against £795 for 1900, or an increase of £204. The £795 in 1900 was the record up to that period. The gate money, grand-stand receipts, and sale of cheap tickets for last year's show amounted to £561 5s. 10d., compared with £476 6s. 9d. in the previous year. Two life members and 89 annual members were elected before the show in 1901, but owing to rather more than the average of resignations from various causes, and to the fact that many subscriptions for 1901 were still outstanding, the list only showed an increase of £9 11s.—£537 1s. for 1901, against £527 10s. in 1900. Since the show 42 new members had been elected. The donations were £639 11s. 6d., against £467 1s. 3d. in 1900, or an increase of £172 10s. 3d. The exhibition for 1902 would be held on Thursday and Friday, June 5th and 6th. In the balance-sheet it was shown that the receipts amounted to £2,994 7s. 6d., and the excess of receipts over expenditure amounted to £11 9s. 11d. Over £1,689 had been expended in prizes, cups, trophies, etc.

Mr. J. Bowen-Jones, in moving the adoption of the report, said he thought it would be satisfactory to the members of the society to find that the gate receipts, etc., last year amounted to £561, against £471 in the previous year. That result was due in some measure to the system pursued of selling cheap tickets before the show—a system which he hoped they would continue, for it would bear good fruit in future. Mr. Bowen-Jones called attention to the date which the Council had fixed for the next show—June 5 and 6. He said it was a most difficult thing, this year, to settle the date for holding the show, because the Coronation had interfered with the arrangements of some of the larger shows, including the Royal, the Bath and West of England, the Worcester and Hereford, and the Royal Counties. It was almost impossible to fix the show on any other dates, except in the Derby week, or postpone it until the second week in July, and the Council considered that far too late to hold a successful exhibition in Shropshire. Those were reasons which had induced the Council to fix those dates.

The report was adopted.

The Chairman proposed that Lord Barnard be president for the ensuing year. This was seconded by Mr. R. Preece (Cressage), and carried with acclamation.

Captain Dickin proposed that Mr. S. Meeson Morris (the Mayor of Shrewsbury) be vice-president. Apart from the fact of his being Mayor of Shrewsbury, he thought they could not have a better man as vice-president than Mr. Morris. He could not say more than that, and he was sure what he had said would meet with their approval. Mr. Butler Lloyd seconded the motion, which was carried. A vote of thanks to Mr. M. Hulton-Harrop, the retiring president, was carried amid applause, as were also several other votes of thanks.

Hackney Horse.

Meetings of the council and committees of the Hackney Horse Society were held on the 5th inst., at 12, Hanover Square, London, W., Baron W. von Schroder, in the unavoidable absence of Mr. Wrench, occupying the chair. Fifty-four new members were elected, and two Societies (Bognor Horse Show Society and Wisbech and District Horse Society) affiliated.

The Selection Committee submitted a list of 30 names thoroughly representative of Hackney and pony interests, and the council voted for 20, whose names will appear on the voting paper shortly to be issued to members for the election of 10. Details connected with the scrutiny of votes, etc., were finally settled.

Baron Schroder proposed that Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., be asked to consent to be the nominee of the council for the position of president-elect for the ensuing year, to follow Sir Walter Gilbey in the office of president. Sir Gilbert Greenall's name met with hearty approval by all members present.

The horse show report, which was presented on behalf of Sir Walter Gilbey (chairman), showed that the total entry for the forthcoming show was 493, compared with 484 in 1901, and 464 in 1900. Slight alterations were made in the programme of judging for Wednesday, March 5th, and it was agreed to judge one of the harness classes before the champion cup, taking the two remaining harness classes immediately after, and concluding the afternoon by a parade of stallions. Various details were settled concerning the offer of medals.

Mr. John Rowell (chairman of the Editing Committee) reported that the new volume of the Stud Book was being rapidly issued by the printers. The committee had considered a suggestion that the Society should issue export certificates for geldings, but they were not prepared to assent to it, feeling that the Society is first of all a breeding society, and that it was doubtful whether a gelding certificate would always accompany the horse from hand to hand, as in the case of a stallion or a brood mare.

The exclusive right to the following prefixes was granted to the various applicants:—

Prefix.	Applicant.
Fulford	Walter Blakey.
Southorpe	Thomas M. Bentley.
Stanley	James R. Crowther.
Terregles	Charles E. Galbraith.
Rowhook	C. B. Toms.

The Finance Committee reported that the balance in the bank was £2,063 10s. 1d., and accounts were passed amounting to £691 6s. 6d. The committee had received the usual audited statement of accounts, which showed the Society to be in a flourishing and prosperous condition. The report was adopted.

The council considered and passed, with a few minor alterations, the draft of their report to be presented to the annual meeting of members at the show. The council then adjourned until Wednesday, March 5th.

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"Reflects the greatest credit. The almanac is excellently turned out, and is full of most useful information for agriculturists. In addition to many important tables, a number of capital articles on stockbreeding, &c., are given. The illustrations of prize-taking stock, &c., are very good."—**Irish Field.**

"In addition to the fat stock illustrations, there is a large number of others of cattle, horses, sheep, pigs, and miscellaneous farm scenes, which together with the reading matter, make up a book of great interest to all associated with the farm."—**Eastern Morning News.**

"Contains some very well written, interesting articles, together with a host of facts and figures relating to the farm and markets."—**London Corn Circular.**

"Gives astonishing value for the price, sixpence. There are a great many special articles by eminent authorities, and an abundance of illustrations."—**Sussex Daily News.**

"Tuberculosis has received much attention during the past year, and is still continuing to do so, therefore the article by M. R. C. V. S., entitled, 'Tuberculosis in Animals on the Farm,' is very opportune and will be read with interest."—**Tonbridge Telegraph.**

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"To enumerate all the articles would be too great a task, but mention may be made of that dealing with 'Weeds,' by Mr. S. Eames; 'The Harvest of Fruit,' by Mr. J. H. Hollingworth; 'The Census'; 'Town and Country Life.'"—**Grantham Journal.**

"Appears somewhat later than usual, the compilers having delayed its publication in order that it might be a complete agricultural record for the year.—**Lowestoft Standard.**

"A mass of information of the greatest use to farmers and breeders, much of which should also be of service to the same classes in South America and the colonies, to whom we can strongly recommend it."—**South American Journal.**

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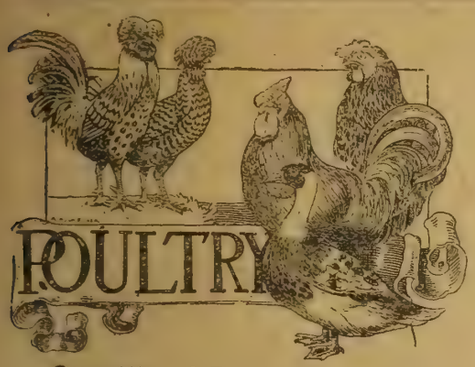
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Quantity of Food for Fowls.

"A question very often asked is," says Mr. P. J. W. Marx, in an article on "Poultry Food and Fattening," which appears in the recently-issued Journal of the British Farmers' Association, "how much food should be given to a score or a hundred fowls per day, but no practical man will commit himself to a definite answer. The time of the year, the manner in which the fowls are kept, the character of the ground over which they run, the quality of the food supplied, the condition of the fowls themselves, and their breed, are factors to be considered in the quantity of food given.

For popular guidance, fowls should be fed until they are just short of having had enough. Proper feeding is not to be done in a hurry or heedless fashion, the warm breakfast excepted; only in rare cases will this be overfed, and the feeder will not commit a great error if he doles out the supply to each flock or pen, and passes on to the next. Corn must be dealt with differently; the feeder should scatter the grain about until he notices the fowls begin to be a little particular which corn they should eat, or run from place to place in search of something better, and then with a few (depending on the number of fowls) final handfuls, the fowls may be left.

If fowls are in pens, and every particle of food has to be given to them, feeding should be more frequent and less at a time; the fowls should always be on the look-out for food. Overfed fowls stand sleeping or moping about, and are dull and listless; fowls in good order are always on the move, bright, and full of energy. Again, poultry which run over land full of worms and insects need less food than if they are kept on land poorer in animal life. Then when the fowls are coming to lay, or are laying, summer drought, or a long winter's frost, more has to be given. The large, heavy breeds will eat more than the light, active ones. An Andalusian or a Leghorn may be well fed on a quantity of food insufficient for a Plymouth Rock or an Orpington. In no case should fowls, until they can, turn away from their food; every particle should be picked up, and not a grain left for sparrows. The first feed should be given with daylight in winter, and between six and seven o'clock in the summer. The slight feed of hard corn can follow in about an hour in winter, and about nine or ten o'clock in the summer. Then the final supper of hard corn should be given early enough on a winter's afternoon to enable the fowls to eat it, have a drink, and go to roost while it is still light. In summer, from five to six is a convenient time; fowls go early to roost and are early risers. Mixing various grains together is not desirable. The system of using one kind of grain for a time, then changing to another, then to a third, or even back to the first is preferable. While variety in the corn diet is well worth studying, there does not seem any necessity to change, because it may somewhere be written down that fowls should have a change of corn every week. If the fowls are doing well, it is unlikely a change of food will make them do better, and the successful system of feeding may be continued until they flag.

The Fastern's E'en horse fair at Fyvie, Aberdeenshire, took place yesterday in clear, cold weather, with the ground partially covered with snow, and the roads sheeted with ice. Close on 500 head of horses were stanced, a full average, the great proportion being grouped in dealers' hands. Business was generally considered very stiff, farming work being generally pretty well forward, and trade dull in towns. Even the heaviest class of horses were reported more affected in value than usual. Nevertheless an extensive trade was done all over. Heavy young Clydesdales made £60 to £82, and as high as £90 was reported for consignments southward. Generally, three-year-olds realised £40 to £55; two-year-olds, £30 to £40; and yearlings, £18 to £30. Roadsters and cobs were a moderate sale, the bigger class making £25 to £45; medium sizes, £16 to £25; and small ponies £8 to £15. There was a large representation of both local and south dealers, and several studs of the northern were mostly cleared out at prices supposed to be in purchasers' favour, as an improvement is anticipated when the busy season comes in.

Lame Horses for Exportation.—At the Southwark Police Court on Wednesday Henry Hazletine, horsekeeper, of Warner Street, Borough, was charged with cruelty to a horse.—Inspector Rogers, of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, said he saw prisoner leading a horse in Tooley Street that morning, and as it was very lame on the near hind leg, he gave him into custody. Prisoner remarked that it was his own horse, and he was taking it to the docks for shipment abroad.—Inspector Rogers: This animal was for the sausage-making trade.—Prisoner was fined 40s. and £1 1s. costs, with the alternative of a month's imprisonment.—There were similar charges against Wm. Munns, carman, of Broadwall, George Adams, of Gravel Lane, and Arthur Gunn.—Inspector Rogers said that in each case the horse was very lame, and the prisoners admitted that the animals were to be shipped abroad from a wharf in Tooley Street.—Samson Gosbee, horse-dealer, of Pepper Street, Borough, was summoned for allowing the three men to take the horses out, he, it was alleged, being the owner.—Munns was fined 20s., Adams 10s. and 10s. costs, and Gunn 10s. and 10s. costs. Gosbee was fined 40s. and £1 1s. costs, in Munns' case, and was sentenced to 14 days' imprisonment on each of the other two summonses, the terms to run concurrently.

IN PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

Army Meat Contracts.

On Thursday the meat contracts question was raised by Earl Carrington, who wanted all available papers laid. He quoted Mr. Bergl's estimate that the Cold Storage Company had made six millions sterling out of its business transactions with the Government during the past two years.

Lord Raglan declined to produce the tenders asked for, as it would cause great annoyance to any firm to have thrown in their teeth the rates they had quoted to his Majesty's Government.

Lord Lansdowne said the question was, not whether the Cold Storage Company had made "very large profits indeed"—which he thought perfectly possible—but whether the contract with them was not the best that could have been made under the circumstances. He added that the Government remained of the opinion that an inquiry into the matter would be improper and inconvenient at the present time.

Lord Tweedmouth gave notice of his intention to move for a joint committee to inquire into the War Office arrangements for the outfit and maintenance of the troops in South Africa. Earl Carrington's motion was then negatived without a division.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Milk and Butter Adulteration.

On Monday General Laurie asked the President of the Local Government Board whether his attention had been called to the report of the public analyst for the borough of Paddington for the quarter ending 24th June, 1901, in which it was stated that, on a conviction for adulteration of milk by adding 22 per cent. of water, the magistrate inflicted a fine of 5s.; and, in view of other similar prosecutions by local authorities for adulteration of milk and butter which had either failed in consequence of the terms of the contract or other such reasons, or had resulted in either only the imposition of costs or modified fines, whether he could, by legislation or by other means, enable the local authorities to enforce the law against adulteration, especially of those articles in constant demand among the humbler classes.

Mr. Long: I have not received the report referred to in the question. I have no authority to intervene in the manner suggested, nor does it appear to me that I can undertake to promote legislation on the subject. I may specially point out that it must remain in the discretion of the magistrates whether a fine should be inflicted in any particular case, and, if so, what the amount should be.

Ratings of Urban Sites.

On Wednesday Mr. Trevelyan moved the second reading of the Urban Site Value Rating Bill, which, he said, would effect a fundamental alteration in our system of local taxation, and open up a source of revenue which had hitherto been largely neglected. The Bill was founded upon the report presented by the Local Taxation Commission, and the rate would be levied on the annual value of all land as distinct from the value of the buildings upon the land. It would be charged upon the present tenants, but in the case of future tenancies, the tenant would be entitled to deduct from his rent the half of the rate levied on the site value. The total amount of the new rate would be limited to two shillings in the pound on the site value, and the proceeds would be devoted to municipal purposes.

The rejection of the Bill was moved by Mr. Griffith-Boscawen, and seconded by Mr. Ridley.

Mr. Haldane thought the Bill wise and moderate. Mr. Cripps held that no case had been made out for putting a tax on site values. Mr. Fletcher Moulton spoke in support of the taxation of land values, but Mr. Vicary Gibbs held that the difficulty as to existing contracts was insuperable. Sir E. Grey held that the Bill, though a piecemeal one, was practical and just.

Mr. Grant Lawson, on behalf of the Government, opposed the Bill, which, he said, was put forward by those who advocated repudiation of contracts, spoliation of minorities, and general chaos. The question ought to be dealt with by the Government, and the Government intended to deal with it, though he could not say when.

Sir William Harcourt contended that the principle of the Bill was a just one, and that the country was determined that the matter should be grappled with.

On a division, there were:—

For the Bill	158
Against	229
Majority against	71

Remounts.

In reply to a question by Mr. J. A. Pease, on the 7th inst., Mr. Brodrick said that the number of horses captured in South Africa was reported by Lord Kitchener to be 89,705, and about 25,000 of these had been reported as commandeered or purchased. In that number of captures all horses were enumerated and not merely those taken for military purposes. The numbers purchased from other countries for South Africa between 1st October, 1899, to the 31st December, 1901, were as follows: — United Kingdom, 59,800; South America, 25,872; United States of America, 77,101; Canada, 11,304; Hungary, 23,935; and Australia, 20,015. In South Africa the total number of horses and mules purchased was approximately 228,000. The figures for horses could not be immediately separated from mules. The publication of the exact prices had always been declined. Any statement as to the average price would be taken at once to be the lowest price the dealers would ask.

On the 11th inst. Sir Blundell Maple asked the Secretary for War whether he could say how much money was paid during the years 1899, 1900, and 1901 for the call on horses in case of war; how many horses were requisitioned and bought; and whether the horses were claimed through the Remount Department; and would he state whether some firms who had received money for some years had had no requisition made upon them.

Mr. Brodrick: The sums paid as retaining fees for the financial years 1899, 1900, and 1901 to date, amount to £15,707. The number of registered horses which were requisitioned and bought during this period was 6,350. The horses were claimed through the Remount Department. Some firms who had received retaining fees had no requisition made on them because their horses were not of the stamp required for the special conditions of service in South Africa.

Sir J. Blundell Maple asked whether the horses were examined yearly to see whether it was worth while for the country to pay the fee.

Mr. Brodrick: Yes, sir, they are examined.

Mr. Labouchere asked the Financial Secretary to the War Office whether he could state now many horses had been sent under contract with the War Office from Argentina to South Africa, and what was the contract price paid to Messrs. Houlder per head for their transport across the sea.

Lord Stanley: The number of horses was 25,872. The average contract price per head paid to Messrs. Houlder for sea transport was £14 5s. 3d.

In reply to a further question by Mr. Labouchere, Lord Stanley said a discussion took place with Mr. Vickers in reference to a proposal to deliver 2,000 Hungarian horses at Capetown at £35 each. This was subsequently raised to £49 15s., it being found impossible to provide the horses at the lower price, but no contract was entered into with Mr. Vickers at one sum or the other. Nothing is known of his alleged communication to Colonel St. Quintin. A contract was subsequently entered into with Messrs. Van Laun and Co. for the supply of transport for all the horses purchased for the Imeprial Yeomanry in Hungary in full cargoes on first-class British steamers from Fiume or Trieste at £26 5s. 4d. per head for the first 1,500, and £28 per head for all over that number, inclusive of the supply of fodder, water, fittings, attendants, and insurance to Capetown, and also victualling and transport of attendants from Szabadka to the ship.

Army Meat Contracts.

On the 13th inst. Lord Stanley, in reply to several questions, said the persons named by him in connection with the formation of a company to carry out Mr. Bergl's contract had undertaken to procure the incorporation of such a company and to find the required capital. Registration had been applied for at Pretoria, but the notification had not yet arrived at the War Office. The capital of the company was £650,000. No communication of any sort or kind took place between the Government and Mr. Rhodes or anybody professing to represent Mr. Rhodes before Mr. Bergl submitted his tender for the meat contract. A number of firms who might possibly compete for the contract were invited to call at the War Office to obtain any information they required before tendering. Over thirty attended, among whom was Mr. Bergl, and the same information was supplied to them all. (Ministerial cheers.) He was not aware that any cattle captured in South Africa had been sold by auction or private tender to the Cold Storage Company, but in the contract just made captured cattle would be utilised wherever possible to reduce the quantities required of the contractor.

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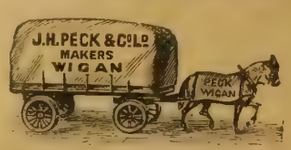
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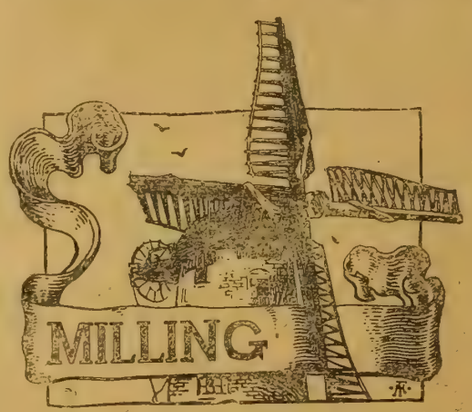


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The Treatment of the Break Stock.

Trade in home-made flour has been very dull and lifeless during the past fortnight, prices in many parts having been reduced 6d. per sack. Bakers have only been buying from hand to mouth, but in many cases stocks are low, and they will have to come into the market soon. Owing to the cold weather of all sorts of offals continue to go off well at very remunerative prices. Medium bran has been making as much as £5 10s. per ton, and broad bran is making £6 5s. up to £6 10s. per ton. So great is the demand that many millers have been grinding wheat for the sake of the offals, which has a cheapening tendency as regards flour. English wheat has been offered rather more freely, but most of it is not in such good condition as it has been, while odd parcels have been coming to the mills in a very indifferent state. The weather is, no doubt, the cause, and therefore an improvement may be expected with improved climatic conditions.

The Plansifter.

The plansifter does not seem to be making much headway in British mills, although it can be very advantageously used in scalping and grading the break stock. At the same time, some millers are using the machine for making all the separations in the mill, even to dressing the flour. The writer would not employ it for the latter purpose, but he knows good millers who are so using it. In fact, there is scarcely a machine used in modern flour mills to-day about which such a diversity of opinions is held. Odd members of the trade swear by it, and profess they can do better work with it than with any other machine; the great majority of millers who possess plansifters only use them at the head of the mill, and refuse to be allured into adopteing them as flour dressers; while there are others who prefer other appliances for treating the break stock. That the process of scalping, grading, and dusting stock for purifiers is a very important one, whatever machines are used for the purpose, no miller will deny.

The success of the process, to a very great extent, depends upon the way in which the wheat is broken down, but given good shaped middlings, reasonably free from break flour, the work of the scalpers is much facilitated. Good-shaped, granular middlings cannot be made on dull rolls, and therefore the roller man should keep an eye to the latter, with a view to having them re-grooved when they become dull. Six months will often be found long enough to run rolls without re-fluting, although some millers work them for nine months before sending them to the milling engineer's works. It has unanimously been decided that

the saw tooth is the best

for the wheats milled in this country, and that the most satisfactory way to run rolls in relation to each other is with the face of the fast roll to the back edge of the slow roll. This gives exactly the treatment required, while the grooving of the corrugations at about an angle of 15 per cent. to the plane of the axis of the roll spindle is conductive to the making of the best-shaped stock for purification.

All feeds going to and coming from rolls should receive constant attention, so that any little variation may be seen and rectified. If the rolls are sharp, and correctly set for the different kinds of stock under treatment, there will be less break flour and that of a better quality. For a straight grade flour, however, it matters little about the quantity of break flour, provided the stock is ground and not squeezed. The use of differential and angle of grooving are intended to produce a shearing action upon the stock, for while the slow roll is holding the fast one is pulling. A piece of indiarubber the size of a wheat berry, when subjected to this treatment, would stretch some distance, but as the wheat berry will not do this it breaks.

The angle of grooving has another effect also, in that it prevents the interlocking of rolls, which is sometimes the case when the grooves are cut parallel to the axis. If cut at an angle of from 10 deg. to 15 deg. the teeth of the two rolls cross each other, and the action upon the stock is

Like that of a Pair of Scissors

or shears. By lay experience these have been found to be the best conditions for grinding, and if they are carried out upon perfectly clean, thoroughly-conditioned wheat, the first step in what has really become a most scientific process will have been properly taken. But the careful treatment of the break stock must not end with the rolls; the grading and dusting are equally important. The more sizes into which the middlings are graded, in reason, the more perfect will be the result achieved. In small mills it will be found unnecessary, probably, to make more than three—semolina, middlings, and dunst—which would go to three separate purifiers, unless, however, the dunst is rolled—a practice which is often carried out. In large mills seven or eight, or even more, sizes may be made with advantage, and then the operator of the purifiers can set his air-draughts to act with good effect on each size. The machines used for separating the break stock are of less importance, provided the type used is the best of its class.

Sieves and Centrifugals.

The writer has already criticised the plansifter, and the other machines generally used are rotary sieves, centrifugals, and inter-elevator reels. The reel is old-fashioned and has not enough capacity. The inter-elevator reel is a kind of compromise between that machine and the centrifugal, its best use being on dirty stock, because it has just sufficient action to separate the flour without making more from the fine middlings. Probably more mills are using rotary sieves for scalping than any other machine, the incline being about one inch to the foot and the throw of the eccentric a little more than one inch—in some cases one and a half inches. Such scalpers should have two sieves, and then with the tail-over three very satisfactory separations for future treatment can be made. The centrifugals which are used for scalping are of a distinct type from the old machine of that name, in that they are of much smaller diameter—about two feet—while the beaters are very adjustable. In spite of their supposed roughness upon the stock they are doing excellent work in the mills in which they are being used for the treatment of the break stock.

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Specially compiled for *Mark Lane Express* by Mr. G. D. Howard (Hughes, Son, and Co.), patent agent, 38, Chancery Lane, London, of whom all information relating to patents, designs, and trade marks may be obtained free of charge.

180.—Thomas Edmund Rowe, of Northwich, for "improvement in the mechanism of one way plough, whereby the alternative movements of the implement may be put in and out of action in one movement."

25,967.—Joseph Israel, of Holborn, London, for "an improved roller mill for cereals."

Patents Sealed.

18,588.—W. D. Brown, of Forfarshire, for "reaping and harvesting machines."

18,672.—W. Glover, of Lancashire, for "potato diggers, ploughs."

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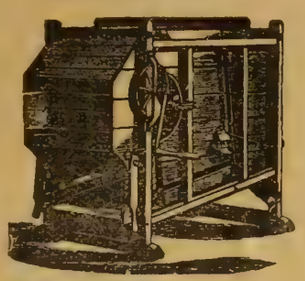
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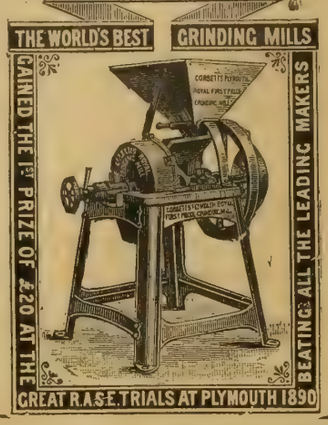
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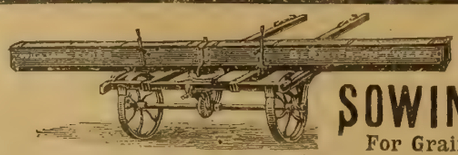
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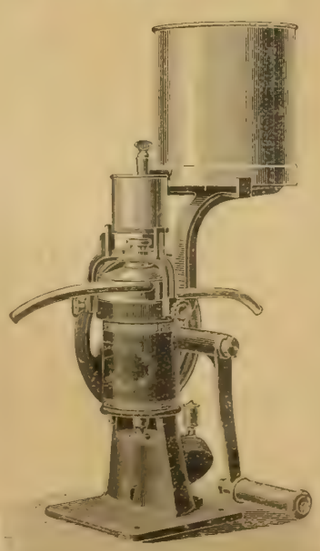
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New Chemical Laboratories with every modern improvement, Model Dairy, Experimental Feeding House, Farm 280 acres. Instructions given in Practical Chemistry, Agricultural Analysis and Research, and Practical Agriculture, &c. Splendid climate in perfect country. Terms moderate. For particulars and prospectus, apply to THE DIRECTORS of the Experimental Station, Aynsome, Grange-over-Sands.

THE DURHAM COLLEGE OF SCIENCE, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

The Council invite applications for the Professorship. Stipend £500 per annum.
Applications and testimonials must be forwarded to the undersigned, on or before March 20th, 1902.
F. H. PRUEN, Secretary.

TENDERS.

EDMONTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.
TENDERS FOR OATS.

THE Edmonton Urban District Council invite TENDERS for the SUPPLY and DELIVERY of OATS at the Edmonton Sewage Farm, or at the Cemetery, Church Street, Lower Edmonton, for the period between the 31st March, 1902, and the 30th September, 1902, or the 31st March, 1903, at the option of the Council.
Forms of Tender and full particulars may be obtained of Mr. G. EEDES EACHUS, Engineer to the Council, Town Hall, Edmonton.
It will be a condition of contract that the firm whose Tender is accepted shall pay to all workmen in their employ not less than the trade union rate of wages in force within the District.
Tenders, endorsed "Tender for Oats" (with samples), to be delivered at my office not later than 12 o'clock (noon) on Tuesday, the 11th day of March, 1902.
The Council do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any Tender, and any person whose Tender may be accepted will be required to enter into a proper contract with bond, and to supply sureties, to be approved by the Council, such contract and bond to be prepared, executed and completed in every respect, at the expense of the Contractor.
By order, WM. FRANCIS PAYNE,
Clerk of the Council.
Town Hall, Edmonton,
February 27th, 1902.

TENDERS.

TO CORN MERCHANTS.
BOROUGH OF HAMPSTEAD.
The Council of this Borough invite TENDERS for the supply of HORSE PROVENDER for six months from 1st April, 1902. Forms of Tender may be had and full particulars obtained on application to the Borough Engineer, at the Town Hall. Tenders to be delivered at my office by 5 p.m. on Thursday, 6th March.
No Tender will be received unless accompanied by £10 in cash or bank-notes (not to be enclosed) as an evidence that the Tender is made bona-fide; the amount to be returned if Tender not accepted, but to be retained in the other case until contract is duly signed. In the event of a Tender being withdrawn the deposit will be forfeited.
The expenses of preparing and stamping contract to be paid by the contractor.
The Council do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any Tender.
By order, ARTHUR P. JOHNSON,
Town Hall, Town Clerk.
Hampstead, N.W.
February 25th, 1902.

FARMS, ESTATES, MILLS, BUSINESSES, &c.

FARMS.—Rents from 10s. Acre; prices £7 Acre. Monthly List 2 stamps. RUTTER, 10, Norfolk Street, Strand, London.

MESSRS. CRONK'S LIST of FARMS, containing particulars of numerous Farms in Kent, Surrey, Sussex, and elsewhere, to be obtained gratis at their offices or will be sent by post on receipt of a stamp. Properties inserted free.—12, Pall Mall, London, S.W., and Sevenoaks, Kent.

KENT.—TO BE SOLD BY PRIVATE TREATY.—PERRY FARM, in the Parishes of Wingham, Elmstone, &c., consisting of an old-fashioned Farmhouse, Oasthouse (two kilns), convenient buildings, and 117 acres of Land (arable 74a., hops 12a., orchard 3a., and pasture 26a.), situated in a good district, well adapted for fruit growing and market gardening. About 3¼ miles from Adisham Station (S.E. and C.R.).—For particulars apply to Messrs. G. WEBB & CO., Tunstall, Sittingbourne.

BAXTER, PAYNE, AND LEPPER,
LAND AGENTS,
FARM AND TIMBER VALUERS, SURVEYORS, HOUSE AGENTS, AND AUCTIONEERS,
Undertake valuations of FREEHOLD and LEASEHOLD ESTATES, and all kinds of PROPERTY for SALE, either by AUCTION or PRIVATE CONTRACT.
A MONTHLY Register published of Country Houses and Estates to be Let or Sold (Furnished or Unfurnished) in the Home Counties and elsewhere, free on application; also a SEPARATE LIST OF FARMS.
Auction dates are fixed as may be required.
London office: 69, King William Street, E.C.
Country offices: Bromley, Kent; and at Beckenham.

AUCTION SALE.

ABERDEEN-ANGUS SHOW AND SALE, BINGLEY HALL, BIRMINGHAM.
LYTHALL & WALTERS will SELL by AUCTION, WITHOUT THE SLIGHTEST RESERVE, on TUESDAY, MARCH 11th—
109 Well-bred ABERDEEN-ANGUS (BLACK POLLED) CATTLE, comprising 58 promising Young BULLS, fit for service, and 51 Choice HEIFERS.
Judging at 9. Sale at 11.30 o'clock.
Catalogues from the Auctioneers, Bingley Hall, Birmingham, who will execute commissions to purchase.

POULTRY APPLIANCES, &c.

INCUBATORS. How to construct and successfully use a modern Incubator, with working drawings; over 100 pages with illustrated list, post free 4d.—INCUBATOR COMPONENTS MANUFACTURING CO., Stonehouse, Glos. Lists free.

CALWAY'S Circular Hot-Air Chicken Rearer has the largest sale of any Foster-Mother in this country; 30 to 50-chick size, 12s. 6d.; 50 to 100-chick size, 25s.

THE LATEST IMPROVEMENT IN CALWAY'S CHICKEN REARER is the new Lamp. Full particulars free.

POULTRY KEEPING IN THE 20th CENTURY; 1s. post free. Send for a copy; it will interest you.

MAKE your own Poultry Spice. Valuable receipt free. Send stamp for postage.—WILLIAM CALWAY, Gloucester.

POULTRY YARD.—The best money can buy. Reliable Eggs for sitting, and pure bred Cockerels and Pullets, from the following high-class birds with superior laying qualities. Guaranteed unequalled. Breeds—Anconas, Blue Andalusians, Black Minorcas, White, Brown, Buff, and Black Leghorns, Buff and Barred Rocks, Gold and Silver spangled and Black Hamburghs, Buff and Black Orpingtons, Houdans, Langshans, Campines, Dark and Silver Dorkings, Indian Game, Buff Cochins, Light Brahmas, Gold, Silver and Buff Wyandottes, and Aylesbury, Rouen, and Indian Runner Ducks. Eggs, all varities, 4s. 6d. sitting; 50 Eggs, 16s.; 100 Eggs, £1 10s., all guaranteed fertile or replaced free. Ten Cockerels of above varieties, 7s. 6d. and 10s. 6d. each; Pullets 5s. and 6s. each.—Advice gratis. Vacancy for Pupil.—JOHN PARMINTER, Farmer, Southorpe, Stamford

SITUATIONS, AGENCIES.

WANTED, AGENTS for the SALE of NATURAL Ammoniacal and Phosphatic GUANOS and high-class Chemical Manures. All analyses and dry condition guaranteed.—Apply to DANIEL DE PASS & CO., 1, Fenchurch Buildings Fenchurch Street, London, E.C

AGENTS REQUIRED in unrepresented districts for the Imperial Accident, Live Stock and General Insurance Co., Ld. Est. 1878. Horses Insured against Death from Accident and Disease. Mares for Foaling and Loss of Foals; Farmers' Liability for Accidents to Labourers Insured. Claims paid, £200,000.—Address, MANAGER, 17, Pall Mall East, London, S.W.

WANTED AT ONCE.—A thoroughly competent and experienced man, to manage a Corn and Bakery Business. Must have a good character of four years' standing. Married man preferred.—Apply, 12, High Street, Sevenoaks.

FARMERS and Others.—Wanted, strong, willing, industrious Youth, about 18 years, in high-class Fish, Game, Poultry, and Meat Establishment, as INDOOR ASSTANT; treated as an apprentice. Progres salary. Parent's Guarantee only required, in lieu of Premium, to give four years' honest and faithful service. Rare and exceptional opportunity for suitable youth to acquire a practical knowledge of all branches. Address, with full particulars and experience, to F. G. P. care of Dawson's Advertising Offices, 121, Cannon Street, London.

TO PARENTS AND GUARDIANS.—Vacancy for a Young Gentleman in an old established firm of Corn and Seed Merchants in East Anglia; live with principal; premium required.—Apply Goldsmith Brothers, Bury St. Edmunds.

LIVE STOCK.

HORSES.

HACKNEYS.

MOORE, HENRY, Burn Butts, Cranswick, Hull.—Pedigree Stud of HACKNEYS, including many prize-winners, yearlings, two years, and others.—Can be seen on application to Henry Moore.

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LEES KNOWLES, M.P., Westwood, Pendlebury, Manchester. Breeder of Pedigree Hackneys, Stud Horses: Dane Canute, 5952, by Danegelt, 174; Dainty Duke, 7417, by Garton, Duke of Connaught, 3009; and Salford Felix, 7263, by Invincible, 1806. Stock on Sale by the above-named and other noted Sires.—For particulars apply to the STUD GROOM, Dam Head Farm, Mobberley, Cheshire, or to the Owner.

SHIRES.

MUNTZ, P. ALBERT, M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby.—SHIRE-BRED STALLIONS, COLTS, MARES, & FILLIES. About a hundred of all ages. Prize-winners London and other leading shows. Also high-class Shropshire SHEEP, winners first prize at Royal Agricultural, 1886, second in 1887, and first in 1888.—Apply, THOMAS EWART, Dunsmore Farm, Rugby.

CONCHAR, JOHN, Wylde Green, Birmingham.—Breeder of SHIRES and HACKNEYS. Some good Colts and Fillies for Sale. Five minutes from Station.

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THE SEAHAM STUD, Ltd., Seaham Harbour, county Durham. The largest stud of Pedigree Clydesdales in the United Kingdom. Stallions, mares, colts, fillies always on sale. Inspection solicited.—Apply, R. BRYDON, Seaham Harbour.

PONIES.

MONTEFIORE, Rev. D. B., Mursley Hall, Winslow, Bucks.—Champion Arab Stallion "Mootrub," Polo Pony "Hurlingham," by Champion "Rosewater," and the thoroughbred Pony Stallion "Eheu," by "Despair." Particulars on application.

CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS.

DALMENY SHORTHORN HERD, the property of the Earl of Rosebery, K.G. Bulls and Heifers of the choicest breeding always for sale at moderate prices.—Apply, MANAGER, Home Farm, Dalmeny Park, Edinburgh.

SWINBURNE, SIR JOHN, owns one of the Largest and Best Herds of PURE BATES SHORTHORNS in existence. The Herd being large, both Males and Females, of any age, can always be obtained.—Apply to JAMES HEPPLE, Bailiff, Capheaton, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

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BOWERMAN, ALFRED, Capton, Williton, Taunton, Somerset. Breeder of Pedigree DEVON CATTLE, Royal prize winners, noted for size, symmetry, and robust constitutions.

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DALMENY-ABERDEEN-ANGUS HERD, the property of the Earl of Rosebery, K.G. Bulls and Heifers of the choicest breeding always for sale at moderate prices.—Apply, MANAGER, Home Farm, Dalmeny Park, Edinburgh.

OSENTON, GEORGE, Mariners, Westerham. — Pedigree Aberdeen-Angus Cattle.

McINTYRE, JOHN, Theakston, Bedale, Yorkshire.—Aberdeen-Angus Herd. Established 1883. 150 Head. 25 Thick-fleshed Yearling Bulls on Sale. Also females of best tribes.

BLUNT, H. LAYTON, Orton Longueville, Peterborough.—Black Polled Bulls and Heifers for sale, also Grazing Steers.

GRANT, GEO. SMITH, Auchorachan, Ballindalloch, Scotland. Aberdeen-Angus Cattle. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers for sale.

HOYLES, GEORGE, Skidby Manor, near Hull. Prize-bred Angus Bulls and Heifers and Pure Lincoln Longwool Sheep. Registered Flock No. 136. Fine long, lustrous fleeces. Shire Horses for export. Inspection invited.

CATTLE (*contd.*).

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PEDIGREE Prize-winning Ayrshire Cattle; good milkers; hardy, healthy; heifers and bulls for sale; exports to Sweden, Egypt, South Africa.—J. WALLACE, J.P., Auchenbrack, Thornhill, Scotland.

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HEASELANDS HERD of PEDIGREE JERSEYS, COWS and HEIFERS of the best blood at moderate prices.—Pedigrees, &c., on application to the owner, WALTER LLOYD, Heaselands, Hayward's Heath, Sussex.

ILMINSTER HERD PEDIGREE JERSEYS.—Choice about 100 finest quality Cows and Heifers, in profit and calving all seasons; prices moderate; inspection invited; shipper to all parts.—R. WHEADON, Ilminster.

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DUDDING, HENRY, Riby Grove, Gt. Grimsby, Lincolnshire, has always for inspection and sale a large flock of pure LINCOLN LONGWOOL SHEEP, including many prize-winners, having taken the leading prizes for many years at the Royal and other shows for both rams and ewes, including champion medals at both the Paris Exhibitions, Vienna, Amsterdam, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and all the leading prizes at Chicago; also the first for the best collection of Lincoln fleeces of wool at the Royal Windsor Show, which proves the character of this flock, which is most famous for their great size and 125 years' good breeding: Rams from this flock made the highest average on record last year. Riby Grove is seven miles from Great Grimsby, and three from Stallingboro' Station. Telegrams, "Dudding, Keelby."

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TREADWELL, JOHN, Upper Winchendon, Aylesbury. Oxford Down Sheep. Annual Ram Sale, first Wednesday in August. Prizes won at R.A.S.E, 24 years in succession. Ewes for sale.

FISHER, C. S., Broughton Lodge, Kettering. Annual Sale of Rams at Kettering, 2nd Friday in August. This Flock obtains many prizes. Inspection invited. Sheep generally for Sale.

HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.

COLES, CARY, Manor House, Winterbourne, Stoke, Salisbury.—Registered HAMPSHIRE DOWNS, prize-winners Royal, Bath and West, and Royal Counties Shows; Salisbury Prize Sheep Fair, 1900 and 1901. Twenty-five guineas Challenge Cup best pen 8 Ram Lambs. Flock numbers 1,200. All ages for sale.

FLOWER, JAMES, Chilmark, Salisbury. Undoubtedly the leading flock of the day; in show yard records at all the largest shows, including the Challenge Cup at the Salisbury Great Prize Sheep Fair six years in succession; also highest average last eight years for 100 ram lambs at annual sale at Britford Fair, August 12, Ram Lambs and Ewes. The Flock is one of the oldest existing, combining fine quality, strength, constitution, and true character.

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NOCK, EDWARD, Sutton Maddock, Shifnal, Salop.—Owner of the old Sutton Maddock Pedigree Shropshire Flock. Founded 1832. Purest strains of blood. Registered in Flock Book.

COOPER, WILLIAM, AND NEPHEWS, "Cooper's Dip" Works, Berkhamsted, England. BREEDERS and EXPORTERS of PURE SHROPSHIRE SHEEP. First Prize for five Shearling Rams, Second for Shearling Ram, and Second for Shearling Ewes, at the Royal Show, Cardiff, 1901. First and Third for Ewes, Royal Show, 1898. 500 breeding Ewes. Largest export flock of Shropshires in England. Sires used this season include four First Prize Royal winners. The 310 Guinea Champion "Royal Record," "Ashlyns Knight" (winner of Six Firsts and two Champions), "Shenstone Cardiff," and "Royal Cardiff."—For particulars apply to FRANK WEBB, Estate Office, Shenstone, Lichfield, or J. P. MILNE, Ashlyns, Berkhamsted.

PIGS.

BERKSHIRES.

BURBIDGE, EDWARD, Wraxhall, Bradford-on-Avon. Pedigree Berkshire Pigs, bred from Royal and Bath and West Champion blood. Acknowledged one of largest type of Berkshires in England. Purchasers met by appointment.

PEDIGREE BERKSHIRE PIGS The Earl of Carnarvon's Prize-winning Herd. Boars and Gelts, eligible for Herd Book, always on offer. Prices Moderate.—Apply, W. T. HALL, Highclere Farm, Newbury.

PIGS, BERKSHIRE.—Apply, C. BEVAN, Mapledurham, Reading. Pedigree Berkshire Pigs, pure-bred Boars, and Gilts of all ages, and at moderate prices.

STALL PITTS HERD OF PEDIGREE BERKSHIRES. One of the Oldest Herds. Unsurpassed for true character, size, and quality. Choice selection of Boars and Sows on offer at moderate prices.—J. LAWRENCE, Stall Pitts, Shrivenham, Berks.

J. H. R. HORWOOD. Pedigree Berkshires, one of the best breeders in England. Several 1st and Champions again this year. Very choice Pigs exported all over the World, and for Sale, at very reasonable prices.—Manor Farm, Drayton Beauchamp, Tring.



LARGE WHITES.

DALMENY HERD of LARGE WHITE PEDIGREE PIGS, the property of the Earl of Rosebery, K.G. YOUNG BOARS and SOWS of the very best quality and choicest breeding for SALE at moderate prices.—Apply, MANAGER, Home Farm, Dalmeny Park, by Edinburgh.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, Stoke Farm Herd Large White Pigs, est. over 20 years. Boars and Gelts at moderate prices. Inspection invited.—A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

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DEWHIRST A., Ryecroft Farm, Dudley Hill, Bradford. — Pedigree LARGE and MIDDLE WHITE PIGS. Also few BERKSHIRES for sale. All bred on farm. 200 to select from. One champion, 28 firsts, 24 seconds, 15 thirds won this year.

ILLINGWORTH, W. H., Honington, Bury St. Edmunds, Pure-bred Middle White Yorkshire Pigs. Quality and Pedigree of the finest. Inspection invited, or actual photos of Pigs sent. Trains met by appointment. Tel.: Ixworth.

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NEWNHAM HALL HERD of Improved Pedigree Yorkshire Pigs is one of the largest Herds of pure-bred Pigs in the United Kingdom. Boars and Gilts at moderate prices. — NEVILLE J. HINE, Newnham Hall, Baldock, Herts.

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CATTLE FOR WINTERING.—J. A. will be glad to receive orders for the purchase of Cattle, which, owing to the shortness of straw in Scotland, can now be bought cheaply. A good profit should be the result either for feeding or wintering.

CATTLE AND SHEEP FOR WINTERING. E. GOODWIN PREECE, Live Stock Agent and Exporter, Shrewsbury, will be glad to receive orders for the PURCHASE of CATTLE and SHEEP, which, owing to the shortness of winter keep in the West of England, can now be bought very cheaply. A good profit is assured either for feeding or wintering.

Several lots of Shropshire and Clun ewes, Shropshire, Oxford and Lincoln rams, and cattle of various classes on sale, which can be seen by appointment.

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CORRUGATED GALVANISED ROOFING Complete Roofs, Iron Fencing, Gates, Netting, Tubes, Felt, Troughs, Cisterns, and every Farm Requisite. Catalogues free.—J. A. REEVE, Stony Stratford.

GALVANISED SHEEP AND WIRE NETTING.—Best quality; cheap; Barb Wire, Fencing Wire, Strand Wire, Galvanised Cisterns, Wire Arches, and all kinds of Wire Work for Gardens, Conservatories, &c.; Galvanised Corrugated Sheets; state wants and write for prices.—W. FOX & CO., 550, Mile End Road, London, and Rochford, Essex.

SPECIAL OFFER.—Galvanised Wire Netting, 50 yards, 3ft. wide, 3in. mesh, 4s. 4d.; 2in., 5s. 3d.; 1½in., 7s. 2d.; 1in., 9s. 8d. Poultry Houses, Roofing Felt, Galvanised Corrugated Iron, Garden Seats, &c.; lists free.—JOHN ADAMS, Iron Merchant, Leicester.

TRACTION ENGINES and WAGONS, Portable, Ploughing, and Fixed Engines, Thrashing Machines, &c., second-hand, for Sale, cheap, or to be Let on Hire-purchase. Full list free. Inquiries for all classes of Machinery solicited. Largest stock in England to be seen at our Works as below. We are also buyers of good modern Engines at all times, for cash. Large stock of Beltings, Oils, and Engineers' Requisites of all descriptions.—HENRY LEWIS & SONS, Thames Bank Iron Works, Reading.

BASIC SLAG, or Thomas' Phosphate Powder. The cheapest and most efficacious fertilizer for grass land. Analysis guaranteed. Apply early.—THOMAS BRADBURN, Wolverhampton.

BASIC SLAG, Kainit, Bones Bone Meal, Superphosate, &c. State quantities required and station, when prices, analysis, &c., will be sent by return of post.—CLEMENT SWAFFIELD, Derby.

POWDER FOR DESTROYING LICE in CATTLE and HORSES, a sure remedy, simply sprinkled, and no washing required, and quite harmless, 1s. per lb., over 3lb. post free.—E. RUMSEY WILLIAMS & CO., Rhuddallt Fawr, Carnarvon.

ASHWORTH'S MANURES are the best and cheapest. All strengths of Superphosphates. Dissolved Bone Compound, Pure Dissolved Bones, Bone Meals and every other Fertilizer. Special terms to wholesale buyers on application. Agents wanted where not already represented. Also makers of the famous Ashworth's Cakes, Meals, Linseed and Cotton Cakes, Calf Meal and Condiment, &c., &c.—ASHWORTH'S, LIMITED, Manure and Oil Cake Works, Frodsham Bridge, via Warrington.

SULPHATE OF AMMONIA.—Farmers and cultivators of the soil should give this valuable fertiliser a trial. It is the best artificial manure for grass, wheat, barley, roots, potatoes, &c. One ton of Sulphate of Ammonia contains as much nitrogen and will go as far as 25½ cwt. of nitrate of soda. It is not washed out of the ground by rain, and is not so readily exhausted from the soil as nitrate of soda. Pamphlets of instructions for its use will be forwarded, post free, on application. Present price (free on rail at Sheffield), 11s. 3d. per cwt.; larger quantities specially quoted for. Cheques and post office orders to be made payable to the Manager, THE SHEFFIELD UNITED GAS LIGHT CO., Sheffield.

COD LIVER OIL.—To merchants only.—HUGH HIGHGATE & CO., Oil Refiners, Paisley, N.B.

COW MILKER! COW MILKER! The Celebrated self-acting Cow Milker supersedes hand labour. Milk each cow in four minutes effectually. Price 6s. each delivered.—Circular, with testimonials, on application, N. BUCHANAN, 9, Sandon Place, Sheffield.

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BEST & CHEAPEST MANURE for all farm and garden crops, "NATIVE GUANO," a safe and reliable fertiliser, and an effectual remedy for fly, slug, wire-worm, &c.; price £3 10s. per ton in bags, 2 ton lots carriage paid, 1 cwt. paid to any station in England on receipt of P.O. for 5s. Extracts from 26th annual collection of reports: Native Guano for Grass, Grain, and Root Crops. G. Dickson, Selby: "Oats and barley did well Heavy crop of cattle cabbage. Highly satisfied." E. Stanford, Warnham: "Clover good. Stopped fly on turnips. A good manure." H. O. Habberfield, Forestfach: "Oats 60 bushels per acre. Mangolds, best crop I ever had. Very pleased." W. Price, Hardwick: "A cheap and good manure for clover and swedes." J. Knight, Wisbech St. Mary: "Very good crops of mangolds and potatoes. Biggest and finest potatoes I ever had." W. Allsopp, Bloxwich: "Mangolds the finest crop ever seen on the farm. Swedes excellent." G. W. Gilbert, Boultham: "Cannot speak too highly of it for wheat; answers well for grub and wire-worm." J. Powell, Lulsley: "Hops, a very good crop."—Orders to the NATIVE GUANO CO., LIMITED, 29, New Bridge Street, London, E.C., where TESTIMONIALS FROM ALL PARTS AND FOR ALL CROPS MAY BE OBTAINED. AGENTS WANTED.

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PEDIGREE WHEAT, Barley, and Oats, restarted each year for 41 years rom the proved best single grain of the year. —MAJOR F. F. HALLETT. Brighton.

SEED POTATOES. — Findlay's British Queen, Up-to-Date, Challenge, Empire, and others, grown on the Lynn marshland, Norfolk —Prices on application to H. G. WELCHMAN, Terrington, King's Lynn.

FOR SALE, SEED BARLEY.—Kinver Chevalier, bold sample, well screened, 30s. per qr.—Apply, GEORGE BAYLIS, Wyfield Manor, Newbury.

SEED POTATOES.—Heavy Croppers, fine quality. British Queen and Up-to-Date, of excellent quality and shape, and exceptionally heavy croppers, grown specially for seed from select stocks. Also several new varieties offered for the first time, yielding up to the extraordinary rate of 24 tons per imperial acre, under ordinary field culture.—Illustrative descriptive catalogues and prices on application to Manager, Earl of Rosebery's Home Farm, Dalmeny Park, Edinburgh.

SEED OATS. — SELECTED NEWMARKET OAT, exceptionally heavy cropping early white oat of finest milling quality, not liable to lodge.—Illustrated descriptive Catalogue, Samples, and prices on application to MANAGER, Earl of Rosebery's Home Farm, Dalmeny Park, Edinburgh.

JOHN COOPER, Barley Merchant, Ipswich, has a few hundred quarters of the following Seed Barleys for sale: Wrinch's Premier, Archer's, Hallett's, Webbs' Kinver, Golden Grain, Page's, and Spratt's.

MACDONALD'S (Pt. 16099[00]) PREMIER CABBAGE PLANTER. A man can plant 1,000 an hour. At one operation, dibbling, planting and closing are performed. Scores of unsolicited testimonials. Price, post free, 2/3.—JOHN MACDONALD, Implement Maker, Lenzie, Glasgow.

POTATOES, popular and profitable, to plant 1902; lists free.—T KIME, Mareham-le-Fen, Boston, Lincs.

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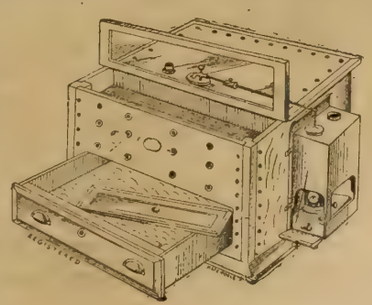
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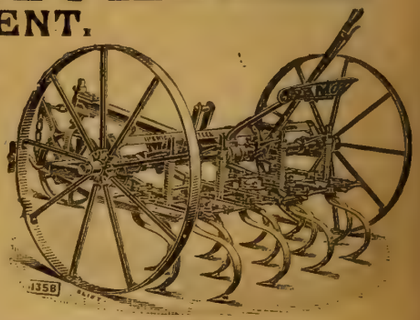




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For 1902
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THE TIMES, in reviewing this Book on February 17th, says:—"'The first seed harvest of King Edward's reign was an excellent one.' These cheering words appear in the preface to the 1902 edition of 'Sutton's Farmers' Year-Book and Graziers' Manual.' They serve to convey to the farmer the satisfactory intimation that in purchasing his seeds during the next few weeks he will be able to obtain what he requires at moderate figures, and at prices lower than he has had to pay in some recent seasons. Of mangels the Prizewinner Yellow Globe is specially deserving of attention, and in connection with it we notice an admirable photograph taken on one of the farms at Lockinge, the property of Lady Wantage. Of swedes, the Magnum Bonum, the Champion, and the Crimson King carry their own recommendations with them. Views of field-crops of the Centenary turnip growing in Northumberland, of the Perfection green-top turnip growing in Dumfriesshire, and of the Imperial green-globe turnip growing in Berkshire, show clearly the shapely form and the heavy yield of these well-known varieties.

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STALLION SELECTION.

THE magnificent Shire Horse Carnival of last week was truly one on which breeders may heartily be congratulated, both on account of the immense popularity the Shire Horse Society has acquired and the sterling excellence of the material brought out, giving evidence of a most unmistakable nature that there has been of late a considerable levelling upwards amongst studs in general, and that the breed is extending itself more widely and attracting to itself a greater share of public favour than at any former period. Little did Mr. Frederick Street think when, in the paper he read on "Cart Horses" at the Farmers' Club in March, 1878, he pointed out the necessity of a stud book for the breed and the establishment of a society to manage its affairs that he was throwing out an idea destined to fructify to such enormous magnitude. In the paper alluded to Mr. Street expressed himself thus:—"The Clydesdale and Suffolk breeders have started Stud Book Associations, and I hope that before this meeting closes a determination will be come to establish one for Shire horses. It is an acknowledged want, and never let it be said that breeders of horses of that description are indifferent to pedigree." Private stud books had been kept before, and some exceedingly high prices made of celebrated sires, some of which Mr. Street mentioned in his paper. As these were realised so early, it may be of public interest to quote them:—Honest Tom, £500; Prince of the Isles, £800; Young Samson, £750; Paragon, £600; the two-year-olds King Tom and Marvellous, £500 each; and British Wonder, £550. Mr. Street also stated:—"Two years since Mr. Stokes refused 1,000gs. for Young Champion, own brother to Mr. Statter's celebrated horse of the same name."

One of the chief needs for the new organisation proposed by Mr. Street in 1878 was that farmers might be able to make sure of getting the services of stallions of pure lineage. The canny Scotch had adopted Stud-book Register with their Clydesdales many years previously, as well as the Glasgow Stallion Prize Show for the hiring of stallions. This was clearly shown by Mr. Finlay Dun in the discussion on Mr. Street's paper. He said:—"It was a wonderful and most satisfactory sight to see collected at Glasgow during the show week upwards of 200 splendid stallions, exhibited there before the representatives of about 40 different stud associations, which caused the best-bred, best-constitutioned, and most symmetrical of the horses to go for the season into the various districts of the country." Mr. Dun further stated that the Glasgow Clydesdale Show had been then in existence for twenty years. The last show, held on the 5th of February of this year, was stated to be the 42nd, but as there were only 130 entries, the number exhibited would appear to be less than in 1878. Possibly the rapid and very great extension of the Shire-bred variety has had the effect of diminishing the numbers of the Clydesdales, although their best judges state that in a combination of high quality to grand forms they have improved greatly to what they were formerly. A telling example of how potent is the influence of certain family Clydesdale lineage is afforded by the fact that the stallion Baron's Pride, still in his prime, has no fewer than twenty-two sons

all having been hired by district horse clubs and societnes for service this season.

At the time of the formation of the Shire Horse Society, the Clydesdale threatened to be the whale to swallow up Jonah. The characteristics of the two breeds had been so intimately assimilated by the frequent employment of Clydesdale stallions on shire mares that only experts could detect any difference in the two breeds. One horse was actually exhibited at a Scotch show as a Clydesdale, and subsequently at an English one as a Shire horse. Captain Heaton, in the discussion on Mr. Street's paper, thus expressed himself: "He feared that unless something were done their Scotch friends would completely knock their legs from under them. They all knew that Scotchmen often came to England to carry back with them hundreds of Shire-bred mares, hence they derived many of the characteristics of th latter." The late Mr. Lawrence Drew, who bred more Clydesdale show winners than any other stud owner of his day, persistently blended the two breeds, and was accustomed to declare the best Clydesdales to be those possessed of a considerable intermixture of Shire blood. There cannot be the slightest doubt that there was great advantage in crossing the two breeds, greater activity of limb, and perhaps more quality, being imparted by the Clydesdale, whilst the Shire-bred could give massive substance, strong bone, and more powerful muscular development. Some farms naturally require lighter framed horses than others, and the Suffolk is considered for activity to surpass even the purest bred Clydesdale.

Farmers do not always consider the character of their land, however, in the selection of their cart mares when they have to perform the dual service of breeding foals as well as tilling the soil. Good shire foals have brought such high prices in recent years since H.M. the King and several distinguished noblemen bred Shire horses and made them so popular, that if the pastures are at all fitting, the Shire horse breed is given preference to, whether the land be heavy or light. The show of the Shire Horse Society offers them the several advantages of exemplifying what are the best lines of breeding and those calculated to prove most remunerative, the opportunity of being brought into contact with the owners of the prize-winning horses, or their agents, while the large number of animals now entered for the auction, these being of both sexes, and of all ages, causes it to be far easier than formerly for anyone either to enter the lists as a breeder or to improve the stud already possessed by the selection of a better sire.

Then there is the important enterprise of producing stalwart geldings fit for street work, one calculated to suit many farmers far better than competing in the higher branches of cart-horse breeding. There has been a gradual increase in the numbers of geldngs at the shire horse show until, from 16 five years since, they this year reached to the respectable figure of 41. The system of which the late Lord Wantage set the example of buying young geldings to train to the collar, and, after working them two years, selling them to brewers, etc., when just in their prime, might be followed remuneratively by not a few farmers who are unable to pursue breeding.

The question is often asked, why farmers do not go in more for half-bred horses adapted for army remounts, and the reply generally given is that it pays them better to breed cart foals. There are, however, lands not at all well adapted for breeding heavy horses, which might be appropriated to the object if the Government were more liberal in the purchase money, and were to take them off the hands of breeders a year younger than the present age limit. Moreover, the services of the King's premium thoroughbred stallions, to be selected at the show next week, ought tob e exclusively for the advantage of the tenant farmer section of the community. At present country gentlemen in general get the benefit.



By a Man of Mark Lane.

In the House of Lords on Monday Lord Tweedmouth moved for the appointment of a joint committee to inquire into all contracts and purchases made by the War Office in connection with the war in South Africa. After a somewhat heated debate, in which Lord Selborne, the Earl of Rosebery, the Marquis of Lansdowne, and the Prime Minister took part, the motion was defeated by eighty-eight to twenty-five votes.

At the conference of the dividing friendly societies, held at the Queen's Hall on Tuesday, a resolution was adopted expressing unqualified approval of the old age pension scheme drawn up by its executive committee, and urging all freindy societies to use every legitimate means to bring about legislation in the direction indicated. It was also resolved to seek an interview with some Minister, with a view to laying the scheme earnestly before His Majesty's Government.

The receipts on account of Revenue from April 1, 1901, when there was a balance of £5,596,918, to February 22, 1902, were £122,777,324, against £112,948,213 in the corresponding period of the preceding financial year, which began with a balance of £3,517,047. The net expenditure was £173,371,819, against £162,813,713 to the same date in the previous year. The Treasury balances on February 22, 1902, amounted to £10,931,098, and at the same date in 1901 to £7,078,998.

A special meeting of the Yorkshire Union of Agricultural Clubs and Chambers of Agriculture will be held at the Agricultural Club House, Pavement, York, on Saturday next, at 11.30 a.m., to consider the desirability of requesting the Chancellor of the Exchequer to receive a deputation from the above Union urging the advisability of imposing a duty or registration fee upon foreign flour and cereals, or a duty or registration fee upon similar lines, to partly meet the expense of the war. I may mention here that, in consequence of unforeseen official business preventing Mr. Hanbury from visiting York on Thursday, March 6th, the annual dinner of the Union has been postponed from March 6th until Saturday, March 8th, when the dinner will be held at the De Grey Rooms, York, at 1.30 p.m. (instead of 1 p.m.).

The delegates to the Sugar Conference have come to an understanding, and have entrusted the Belgian Government with the drafting of a Treaty, the terms of which are to be considered by the delegates to-morrow (Tuesday). It is stated that the Treaty will provide for the suppression of all bounties, the fixing of a surtax of six francs, and the establishment of a permanent committee to arbitrate on all sugar questions.

According to the District Officers' reports on the rice-crop prospects on the 31st December, 1901, in the fourteen chief rice-produ-cing districts of Lower Burma, the area under rice cultivation is 6,482,657 acres, being an increase of 21,008 acres over the area reported in December last, mostly due to revised figures from the Pegu district. The anna estimate is practically not altered.



Sugar Beet Experiments.

Sir,—The report by Mr. Sigmund Stein on the growth of sugar beet is most interesting, and must convince most people that sugar beet can be grown in England quite good enough for the manufacture of beet sugar, but I have often been asked if the sugar beet would deteriorate by being kept.

To show whether this is the case I have had some of the roots that were grown last year, and stored in the ordinary way, again analysed by Mr. Sigmund Stein, and the result is most satisfactory.

The roots sent for analysis were fair average ones, but they are rather heavier than those sent in October last. The average weight now is 983 grammes, as compared with 923 in October. The dry matter has increased from 18.80 to 21.60. The quantity of sugar in 100 parts of the juice from 16.50 to 19.00. The quotient of purity from 87.76 to 87.96. The quantity of sugar in 100 parts of the roots from 15.80 to 17.00.

There is, in fact, a substantial gain all round in the analysis of the roots at the present time as compared with what it was in October last, but, of course, some part of this may be on account of the roots not having been quite fully matured when they were taken up in October, but in this case it will be only necessary to store them for a time, when the full value of the roots will be brought out, and this would be a decided advantage, if we had a cold, wet season.—I remain yours faithfully,

HENRY H. CAVE.

Estate Office, Rugby,
February 24th, 1902.

Mr. T. Morris Prosser, secretary of the Monmouthshire Chamber of Agriculture, has forwarded us a list of the intended meetings of that Chamber during the remainder of this year, at which, as has been the case at former meetings, subjects of interest and importance to agriculturists will be discussed. The dates and places of meeting are as follows, the time in each case being 2.30 p.m.:—Tuesday, March 25th, Chepstow; Monday, April 21st, Usk; Monday, May 26th, Monmouth; Tuesday, October 28th, Abergavenny; Thursday, November 27th, Blackwood; Wednesday, December 31st, Newport. The annual meeting will be held at Chepstow, on Tuesday, January 27th, 1903, at 12 noon, and a general meeting after dinner, at 2.30 p.m.

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By a Lobbyist.

Mr. Hanbury had a striking evidence of his personal popularity on returning to the House of Commons after his illness. A sympathetic remark from a fellow Member induced a chorus of appreciative "Hear, hears." As a fact, the House honestly likes a man who is anxious to do good work. The Minister for Agriculture is still thought of as an administrator, with, as he was once described, "a complete thirst for added responsibilities." If that thirst is at this moment unsated, the fact is held to be due to a cadent and not to any intention on the part of the right honourable gentleman. His lot is just now cast in times when the Legislature has only an eye for the lurid and the scintillating — for legislative spectacles which are accompanied by the dire monotony of death and war. Mr. Hanbury certainly looks as if his illness has, to use a queer phrase, done him good. He is burly and bold, and has a colour worthy a son of the soil himself. Apparently he is in good spirits. Would that he could exhaust those spirits, or something more fascinating and useful than the dull and dreary round of official routine.

A distinguished Roseberian has thrown a somewhat interesting sidelight on the hate which is now being so plenteously lavished on Lord Rosebery by certain members of the Radical family; and this side-light has a direct interest for my readers. Lord Rosebery has hopelessly offended the Manchester School—perhaps, the most selfish school that ever intruded itself into into British politics; and that not merely by reason of his attitude towards the war and his refusal to regard England as the Mad-Moloch of Europe, desirous only of an eternity of Little Republics for breakfast, but also because of the fact that he is in some degree a suspect towards that Manchester-reverenced fetish, Free Trade. You will probably recall that when his lordship addressed the members of the Liverpool Corn Exchange he suggested that Free Trade might have been responsible in some indirect way for the ills that have befallen agriculture, and the agrarian and corn interests. He did not in any way decry Free Trade, and he did not for a moment suggest the re-imposition of the Corn Laws; he did not even hint a disbelief in the virtues of Cobden and of Bright. But this was enough. These Manchester Schoolites have hitherto gone about lisping this Liverpool phrase, not as though, I must confess, they loath it, but rather as a delicate morsel singularly palatable to the tongue; and their janissaries in the press have added insinuations which, in their persistence, cannot but suggest a further doubt in Lord Rosebery's loyalty to the faith of Gladstone. Mr. Chamberlain is hated by these men because he has frankly advised the adoption within the Empire of the Zollverein policy. I should not greatly wonder if in the near future we hear the malignant enemies of Lord Rosebery linking him with Mr. Chamberlain as the arch-enemy of Free Trade.

I am bound to say that I have found in the House of Commons nothing but appreciation of the character of the Government committee which has been appointed to inquire into the state of our neglected forests in particular and into the condition of forestry in Great Britain in general. The Minister for Agriculture had many suggestions presented to him of men who should be associated with this important investigation. A whole army of amateur foresters were anxious to place their services at the disposal of the Government, and to help to reveal to an indifferent country how the art of afforestation is dying out. These seductive suggestions Mr. Hanbury wisely resisted, and he has provided for us instead a committee composed largely of experts, but just having that infusion of outside common-sense which may tend to relieve some of their suggestions of the spirit of technical pedantry. Mr. Munro-Ferguson, M.P., who is to be the chairman of the body, has not intruded his knowledge of forestry upon the world; but I happen to know that he has for years given the subject a good deal of attention, so far as it affects Scotland. He is, indeed, a most excellent woodcraftsman, and has done much to stimulate its study among his brother landowners in Scotland. It is a most excellent committee, admirably representative of the Empire, and predestined to advise the increase of educational facilities for the study of forestry and a more sympathetic attention to our woodlands.

For the moment the question of organising a disciplined method of supplying the army of the Empire with an adequate number of horses rather hangs fire. Do not understand from this that the matter is in danger of being abandoned, and that the idea of establishing horse-farms in England is a mere Midsummer day-dream. It assuredly is not. The British politician, however, has a keen scent for a scandal, and when he has his nose upon the trail naught can divert him from it. At this moment he has a veritable surfeit of trails offered him, and he will not be satisfied until he has run his quarries to their shelter. However, I am able to say that the well-known British gentlemen who have taken the matter in hand are not by any means willing to allow the matter to drop. It is not without significance that, since they have been suggesting to the War Office that it would be possible to secure a considerable number of horses from the agrarian districts of England if a practical system of preliminary grants-in-aid were adopted, the Canadian Government has shown an increasing disposition to stimulate the establishment of horse-farms in the Dominion, and the Australian Government has conveyed an assurance that our Federal Empire at the Antipodes was designed both by Providence and by man for the cultivation of horseflesh. Neither will these rival appeals operate to discourage the Englishmen who have taken up the matter. There is a lull in the movement, and I believe it to be a wisely-conceived lull. The public, envenomed as it is at this moment by scandals and scandal-inquiries, would give a practical scheme but scant attention. We want for this purpose an atmosphere less charged with electricity.

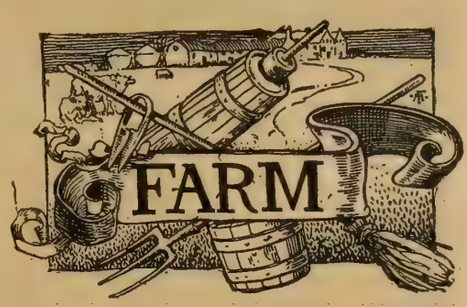
I have only to emphasise what I last week said as to the success of Mr. Grant Lawson in his role of Minister. This week he has appeared in the capacity of lieutenant to Mr. Walter Long, in connection with the London Water Bill; and he has spoken with a force, a cogency, and a sequence which have undeniably impressed the House. Like many another young Minister, he is still under the impression that it is his duty to seek to captivate the House of Commons by epigrams and by corruscating phrases. When Mr. Grant Lawson speaks in his own natural manner he will be an even greater success as a Front Bench man. He is an ideal country gentleman brought to politics, and his native ability is reinorced by that genial bluffness which never fails to lay hold of the sympathies of the House. It says something for him that he has already found favour with the caricaturists. Men like "F. C. E." would not heed him had he not created an impression. Mr. Grant-Lawson is not the kind of man to be intoxicated by his success. Still, I would have him a little more as he is, say, at home; I would have him carry a breath of the country-side to the Front Bench. That Bench will be the more fragrant for it.

Our List of Shows.

THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS" POCKET BOOK AND LIST OF AGRICULTURAL SHOWS.

Our list of Agricultural Shows is this year issued in the form of a pocket book, of a convenient size, which, in addition to containing the Show Fixtures for 1902, includes a large amount of useful information, consisting of Railway Rates for Stock, tables, etc. The Pocket Book consists of 72 pages and cover, and is of a size eminently suitable for the purpose for which it is intended. A vacant page for memoranda faces each page of the Show Fixtures, and this arrangement will be found of great use, enabling readers to easily and quickly make a note of any prospective engagements.

Copies of "The Mark Lane Express Pocket Book and List of Agricultural Shows" may be obtained on application at the offices, 1, Essex Street, Strand, London, W.C., the only stipulation being that ½d. stamp for each copy required is forwarded to cover the cost of postage.



British Forestry: Departmental Committee.

The Right Hon. R. W. Hanbury, M.P., president of the Board of Agriculture, has appointed a Departmental Committee to inquire into and report as to the present position and future prospects of forestry, and the planting and management of woodlands in Great Britain, and to consider whether any measures might with advantage be taken, either by the provision of further educational facilities or otherwise, for their promotion and encouragement.

The committee consists of the following gentlemen, viz.:—Mr. Ronald C. Munro-Ferguson, M.P. (chairman); Sir John F. L. Rolleston, M.P., Mr. Edward Stafford Howard, C.B., a Commissioner of his Majesty's Woods, Forests, and Land Revenues; Professor W. Schlich, C.I.E., Ph.D., Professor of Forestry, Royal Indian Engineering College, Cooper's Hill; Colonel Frederick Bailey, R.E., Lecturer on Forestry, Edinburgh University; Professor John R. Campbell, B.Sc., an Assistant Secretary to the Department of Agriculture, and other Industries and Technical Instruction for Ireland; Mr. John Herbert Lewis, M.P.; Mr. George Marshall, and Dr. William Somerville, an Assistant Secretary to the Board of Agriculture. Mr. Reginald H. Hooker, of the Board of Agriculture, isthe secretary to the committee.

Charlock Spraying Experiments among Corn Crops.

Some interesting results are given in the report of the results of Charlock spraying experiments carried out by the Technical Instruction Committee of the Lancaster County Council. The report written by Mr. F. P. Walker, states that Charlock is rightly regarded as one of the most troublesome weeds of the farm. It is only too plentiful in every part of Great Britain, and it is called by different names, according to the district in which it occurs. Ketlock, Kedlock, Yellow Weed, and Wild Mustard are examples.

Charlock does both direct and indirect harm when growing amongst the corn. The damage it does directly is easy to be seen and understood, but the indirect harm it works is insufficiently recognised as yet.

Among the indirect injury done by Charlock may be stated that it acts especially as the food and breeding place of the turnip flea-beetles before the ordinary cultivated food crops of the same great family as the Charlock are ready for their attack.

Time of Spraying.

The best time at which to spray Charlock is when it is about two to three inches high. At this stage the rough leaves are well developed, but the stem has not become woody. Another point which was particularly noticed is that the Char-

lock is more easily destroyed where the land is in good condition and the young Charlock is making rapid growth. Although it is undoubtedly better to spray the Charlock in this young stage, it does not follow that the spraying is not more or less effective even when the Charlock is in a much more advanced condition. It is shown that in some cases towards the end of May the Charlock was in full flower, and was growing so strong that it completely hid the corn crops. The Charlock was knee deep when sprayed, and the weather was calm and hot. In a few days after spraying the several farmers reported that, in the case of the copper sulphate solutions in particular, the Charlock was almost destroyed. The same remarks applied to the iron solutions, though in a less degree. Further examination, about a fortnight after spraying, revealed the fact that where the Charlock had not been completely destroyed, that which was left had stopped growing, and used up its energies to produce a few capsules of seeds at the top of the plant. This result is well seen if the illustrations on page 10 be examined. The barley and oats had received no check, and after spraying rapidly grew away from their enemy.

In the majority of cases when the demonstrations were given the weather was fine, calm, and warm. An inspection of the summary of results shows that when such weather prevailed the results were satisfactory, especially in the case of the rough-leaved Charlock, and proves conclusively that under such conditions the eradication of Charlock from corn crops is possible by means of spraying.

When, however, rain in any quantity followed within a short time of the spraying the results were not satisfactory, and prove that the spraying of Charlock in unsettled weather may not have the desired effect. This is one of the distinct drawbacks to the more general adoption of the method. It is also preferable to spray on a calm day; on a windy day the fine spray is not deposited on the leaves so evenly.

There are two kinds of Charlock — the true rough-leaved variety and the smooth or slate-leaved kind. After spraying at the different centres it was found that the rough-leaved kind had been destroyed by the spray, while the smooth-leaved variety had not generally been killed, though in some cases it had been considerably weakened, especially when sprayed in the very young stage. It is important, therefore, that each farmer should know what kind of Charlock grows on his land.

It would be well to state advantages and disadvantages of the use of sulphate of copper as compared with the use of sulphate of iron, as found from the demonstrations. The advantages of sulphate of copper are:—

(1.) It can be got and preserved in very fine crystals; this enables it to dissolve very quickly and in small quantities of water.

(2.) Small quantities per acre are necessary, and this causes no loss of time in waiting for it to dissolve.

(3.) It is much pleasanter to work with than sulphate of iron.

(4.) It is more destructive to the Charlock than sulphate of iron.

The disadvantages of sulphate of copper are:—

(1.) It is more expensive than sulphate of iron.

(2.) Unless bought from men of reputation it is liable to be adulterated very largely with green vitriol.

(3.) Copper sulphate solution eats holes in ordinary iron buckets; wooden buckets, therefore, ought to be used.

The advantages of sulphate of iron are:—

(1.) It is considerably cheaper per cwt. than sulphate of copper.

(2.) It is not so liable to adulteration.

(3.) It is said that in some cases it may be directly beneficial to the crop.

The disadvantages of sulphate of iron are:—

(1.) From four to five times the quantity per acre are required as compared with sulphate of copper.

(2.) It cannot be kept in very fine crystals without deteriorating; for this reason it takes a very long time to dissolve in the field, and thus occasions loss of time in waiting for it to dissolve.

(3.) It is a dirty, disagreeable substance with which to work.

(4.) It is not so destructive to the Charlock as sulphate of copper.

The cost of spraying per acre varies according to proximity of water supply, cost of material and labour in any particular district. Under favourable conditions, however, and using 15lbs. of copper sulphate, at 30s. per cwt. per acre, in 50 gallons of water, the cost should be about 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d. per acre



The Borough.

I am happy to be able to report that business has continued to be fairly brisk during the past week. Indeed, for this time of year the number of transactions is exceptional, and factors have found very little difficulty in selling hops of all qualities at prices that show unmistakable signs of gradual hardening. The establishment of a stronger tone induces many holders to be very firm, and several lots have been withdrawn from offer. This action has naturally created a keener desire for business amongst buyers, and it is pleasant to feel that our commercial atmosphere is brighter in every direction. As the spring days lengthen, and sunshine increases its intensity, it is more than probable that we shall also experience a higher degree of warmth in our trade, and that the close of our season will be much better than its opening.

The Absorption of the 1901 Crop.

is practically secured, as it is reckoned by experts that at least 90 per cent. of the growth has now passed out of planters' hands. The sale of so large a proportion of so heavy a yield, at this early date, has probably never been before accomplished, especially when such an important part of it was at first pronounced to be unsaleable because of inferiority of quality. I ventured to express an opinion in November last that when brewers had culled out all the best parcels, and put them into cold stores for future consumption, they would take over the lower grades for immediate use with their "running beers." This forecast has been and is being realised. The course of the trade is in a general sense traceable on the lines I then sketched. The disposal of so many hops is in itself satisfactory, as we may now be certain that the market will not be loaded with any unsold balances of this crop, as it has been under similar circumstances in past years. But new conditions must not be forgotten, and even though I may risk the charge of tautology, I venture to emphasise previous remarks, and would earnestly remind growers that

Consumption does not Keep Pace

with the business done. Brewers are now taking the hops over, and will continue to do so, but only because prices are abnormally low. They do not need them for immediate use, but intend to hold them in reserve to provide for future contingencies. Cold storage provides them with security against deterioration, and therefore gives them control of future business, if they are not thwarted by the determination of growers to curtail future supplies. The paramount necessity of this policy on our part must be my excuse for still insisting upon it. If English growers could be organised into a compact army for self-defence their standard might be inscribed "Multum in parvo," Much (quality) in small (quantity). Until this principle of action is recognised and put in force, there is but little hope for our future prosperity or permanence. An old friend (a grower for 30 years), writing me last week, says that he should like to assist my efforts relative to the hop industry. He grows none but the best selections, and aims to achieve high condition rather than a big crop. Consequently he has nothing to complain of with respect to his average financial results. He thinks that if all growers acted on the same lines, not only would foreign hops be kept out of the country, but that any surplus we might produce would be taken up by foreign brewers. My friend is certainly declaring the good news of salvation for the English industry in thus giving us his experience. It is within the grasp of every English planter, if they will only profit by it, and organise themselves for its universal establishment.

Nuremberg.

A steady and fairly active demand is maintained in this market. Brewers are buying to the extent of some 200 bales per day, and in addition a small export trade for England has assisted the strong tone that is current. Some lots have also been shipped to America. Local consumers are naturally anxious to secure choice samples, but by their absence are compelled to accept lower grades, for the best of which full prices are readily obtainable. Some good Russians have been sold as high as 100s., and ordinary Hallertans, Badens, and Galicians have realised 105s. to 110s. The outlook of the trade is distinctly in favour of advanced values, as the demand for the spring brewings becomes developed.

France.

The planters in Burgundy have addressed M. Jean Dupuy, Minister of Agriculture, calling his attention to the depressed condition of their industry, and demanding an increase of the import duty on hops from 30 centimes to 45 centimes per lb. The Minister, in his reply, admits that the planters have passed through a trying period, and acknowledges that their case is deserving of the careful consideration of his department. He points out, however, that the difference in quality between Bavarian and Burgundian hops is sufficiently marked to render the former indispensable to brewers of light beers, and also mentions that the London market, which previously absorbed a large proportion of the Burgundian crop, is now closed to their produce to a considerable extent. The official letter concludes with the usual vague assurances of sympathy and promises of consideration, but no tangible comfort is conveyed to the aggrieved hop-growers. It appears that the methods of application are about the same in Republican France as in Monarchial England.

Belgium.

The trade is full of strength, based upon further small advances in values, and upon steady demand for consumption, which promises to continue. In the country market, the few growers who are holding hops are absolutely firm in their refusal to accept anything less than they are asking. Stocks in first hands are reduced to a minimum, and many dealers find difficulty in covering their contracts with consumers. On the Brussels Bourse the speculative market is also active, with a very firm tone. It therefore appears probable that much higher rates will be quoted in the early future.

America.

My information this week is only fragmentary, as my usual correspondents have sent me no reports; but I hear from other sources that the trade in New York is healthy, and is improving both in volume and value. Further reshipments have been made from England, and on the Pacific coast a distinct advance of prices has taken place, consequent upon active demand for home consumption. All these facts point to the probability of increased strength, and I expect that my next advices will enable me to refer to an important general upward movement in quotations.

Mr. Hanbury on the Work of the Board of Agriculture.

The Right Hon. R. W. Hanbury, M.P., the President of the Board of Agriculture, was the principal guest at the Taunton Farmers' Club's annual dinner, held at Taunton on Saturday. He replied to the toast of "His Majesty's Ministers," and in the course of his speech said that he regarded it not only as a pleasure, but as a duty, to go about the country, for there was no department of the State which he thought ought to do more to make itself known to those whom it represented. He wanted farmers to feel that the Agricultural Department was human after all, and he wanted them to realise that he wished to get rid of red tape as far as he possibly could, and to make the Department thoroughly practical and useful. As long as he was at the Board of Agriculture, his object would be to see that the English and Scottish farmers had exactly the same assistance as was given to the Irish farmers.

With regard to agricultural education, he was not disposed to hand that work over to the Board of Education, but he thought a great deal might be done in the elementary schools by co-operation between his own Department and the Board of Education, because they desired that the education given in those schools should be more of a country nature, and that it should not give the pupils a distaste for country life and make them only too anxious to run off to the towns.

Referring to the remount question, the right hon. gentleman said he thought the British farmer should know exactly what the wants of the War Office were. The British farmers had a right to expect that the War Office should let them know what horses, and how many, it wanted. They should also be afforded information concerning the estimates of foreign crops and what markets in foreign countries were open to British produce.

With respect to adulteration, he was determined to use every effort to see that the Acts were carried out, not only in the country, but in the large towns, many of which did not want to see them carried out. There were certain powers which the Board of Agriculture held in reserve, and if he found that the large towns did not do their duty in protecting the interests of the farmers and consumers, then the Board of Agriculture would step in and do the work which the local authorities ought to do. He considered the present milk standard was high, and that it did not give fair play to the ordinary farmers. In conclusion, Mr. Hanbury strongly advised farmers to bring about a more efficient combination in their own interests.



By Hordeum.

The Beer Duty.

Suggestions are being made in influential quarters that the present mode of determining the beer duty is a mistake, and that the excessive dilution of beer by brewers must be stopped in the interest of the Revenue.

There can be no doubt whatever that in the interest of consumers, as well as a safeguard against the further watering-down of duty, that the sooner this step is taken the better; in fact, very few reforms are open to the Chancellor of the Exchequer which can give him the power to benefit others, whilst fulfilling his first duty, viz., protecting the Revenue. Every step he takes is beset with difficulties from some interest or other, and in this instance, also, it will be certain to be opposed; but, looked at widely and fairly, we have reached the stage when it may be asked, should the basis of charge of beer duty be

Quantity or Quality?

Everyone now knows that when the malt tax was supposed to be repealed it was simply reimposed in another form, as the basis of charge remained upon the actual quality or yield of the materials used, and consequently upon the materials. It has been incontestably proved that the quantity of beer made has nothing to do with the amount of duty charged, and consequently it is a complete misnomer to call it a "beer duty." It is nothing of the sort.

Beer-drinkers are finding out that, as more profit is secured by the brewer when he reduces the quantity of malt used, in a twofold way he is being rapidly carried to the point where he pays a higher price for an inferior article. The reduction of the 4lb. loaf to 2lb., or of ell-wide cloth to 18in., is precisely on all fours with such a dodge, excepting that ignorant rustics can detect the two latter frauds, whilst very few can say if in beer the amount of malt and hops used is persistently decreased.

When five barrels of beer are made for the same cost for materials and duty as four, it is obvious the duty is made a source of profit more easily than the materials.

The Official Minimum

of duty is the charge upon four barrels of beer, or, say (disregarding minor allowances), 31s., and this any very ordinary malt can give. Such malt costs, presumably, very little more, when we find the average market price of barley at 27s. per quarter. If the brewer likes to make five barrels of beer instead of four, the cost for materials is nearly the same, and other charges are only slightly increased, but the charge for duty is precisely the same; it is perfectly stationary. Five barrels of a specific gravity of 1.044 are charged the same as four barrels at 1.055, and it follows that whilst in the one case the duty is 7s. 9d. per barrel, in the other it is only just over 6s. 2d. The Revenue officials collect 1s. per barrel more than when the duty was 6s. 9d. per barrel, but the brewer gets from his customer 1s. 6d. in its place. In other words, he makes a

Profit of 50 per Cent.

upon the additional duty he collects. It used to be the fashion for brewers to claim that they paid the duty, but as they disproved their claim through undue dilution. Consumers at last are realising that the duty falls Somerset House now keep up the contention. Consumers at last are realising that the duty falls upon them, and not only do they pay it, but in addition they are callled upon to contribute a farther sum, often amounting to 50 per cent. or upwards, to the brewer, which enhances his profits.

Now, there is another side to this question, and it is a very serious one. Will any alteration of duty further prejudice the interests of those concerned with the materials used by brewers upon which duty is levied? Malt pays more duty than sugar for the simple reason that the standards fixed by the authorities for sugar-use favoured that article. 224lb. of sugar or 256lb. of glucose or varying amounts of other malt substitutes are charged the same duty as 336lb. of malt.

The Differential Duty

has always been calculated by brewers when determining the relative costs of malt and sugar, just as there is always the allowance made for the value of grains in favour of malt. The really practical question is, will it be to the benefit of barley-growers if for the future the basis of charge is no longer the *quality* of the materials brewed, but the actual *quantity* of beer made or sold? Should every 36 gallons of beer or beerine consumed pay a uniform charge of 7s. 6d. regardless of its initial strength or gravity?

No one can doubt, if he knows the subject, that had the charge been so fixed twenty years ago, we should not have reached the extreme amount of dilution now all too common. This means the use of more material than is now employed, and it also means the removal of the cruel charge upon quality of material the present method inflicts. Were superfine malts not excessively charged, as they are at present, there would be greater encouragement given to all brewers to use better-grade barley.

IN PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Potatoes for the Troops.

Lord Stanley, replying to Mr. Mansfield, on Tuesday, said that no German potatoes had been sent to South Africa by the War Office. Local orders given in the past by the military authorities in South Africa had led to the supply of some foreign potatoes, but such orders had ceased. There was, therefore, no reason to suppose that there were any quantities of foreign potatoes still to be delivered.

Aids to Irish Agriculture.

On Tuesday, Mr. Wyndham, in reply to a question by Mr. Sheehan, said the Department of Agriculture in Ireland approves of County Councils including in their schemes under the Agriculture and Technical Instruction Act provisions suitable to rural conditions, such as the encouragement of cottage gardens, poultry-keeping, swine-breeding, bee-keeping, and instruction in domestic economy The Department also aids with loans of capial the establishment of agricultural banks. Labourers can participate in the seed and manure trials instituted by the Department, but seed is not distributed free, and is only supplied for the purpose of experiment. The Department contemplate an extension of the schemes applicable to cottiers.

Notice of Motion on Local Taxation.

On Tuesday, Mr. Purvis gave notice for that day four weeks to call attention to the incidence of local taxation, and to move a resolution.

Milk-Blended Butter.

On Thursday Mr. O'Shaughnessy asked the President of the Board of Agriculture whether he was aware that considerable quantities of a material known as milk-blended butter were now made by working milk into butter by a mechanical process whereby the amount of water in the original butter was increased from a relatively small proportion up to 20 or 25 per cent.; and that quantities of foreign butter thus treated were sold monthly; and what steps he would take to prevent this practice.

Mr. Hanbury: I am aware, I regret to say, of the facts mentioned in the question. The legality of the sale of such an article as butter is before the law courts, and I must await their decision before I can properly deal with the subject by an amendment of the law or otherwise. As soon as I have been able to consider the evidence and the report of the Departmental Committee I will fix a standard.

On Friday, Sir. E. Strachey asked the President of the Board of Agriculture whether, in view of the decision of the High Court (King's Bench) given last Wednesday, quashing, with costs, the conviction of Messrs. Pearks and Co., Ltd., for selling milk-blended butter, he could take any further steps to prevent the sale of this article, or whether, after the decision of the High Court, legislation would be required to enable its sale to be stopped.

Mr. Hanbury: The decision given last Wednesday was on the point of whether sufficient notice as to the quality of the article sold had been given to the purchaser. Another appeal is pending on the further and, perhaps, more important point as to whether this milk-blended butter comes within the terms of the Margarine Act. Until a decision has been given in this case—and I expect it will be given early in March, I can express no opinion as to the necessity for legislation or otherwise.

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Blended Butter: Result of Appeal.

In the King's Bench Division on Wednesday, before the Lord Chief Justice, Mr. Justice Darling, and Mr. Justice Channell, an appeal was heard in the case of Pearks, Gunston and Lee v. Houghton. As is well known, Messrs. Pearks are grocers, and the question raised had reference to their blended milk butter, which has been the subject of prolonged litigation. The appellants were charged on July 12, 1901, at Richmond, under section 6 of the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, with having unlawfully sold to the prejudice of the purchaser half a pound of butter which was not of the nature, substance, and quality demanded, because it had had water added to it to the extent of 7.8 beyond the usual limit of 16 per cent of water natural to butter. The penalty inflicted was £20 and costs. The proceedings against the Appellants were taken by the Respondent (Mr. Houghton, an Inspector under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act), who caused a boy to purchase on his behalf, at Messrs. Pearks, Gunston, and Co.'s shop, in Richmond, half a pound of 1s. butter for the purpose of analysis, which immediately after the sale was handed over to him in Appellants' shop. The public analyst certified that the sample contained 23.8 per cent. of water, which was 7.8 per cent more water than the extreme limit of 16 per cent., the natural moisture in butter. The butter was wrapped in two pieces of paper, and on the inside one there was printed in large type the words, "Peark's Butter," and underneath, in much smaller type, a statement that the butter was blended with pure English full cream milk by new and improved machinery, whereby it retained about 20 to 24 per cent of moisture. In a frame on the wall behind the butter counter in the Appellants' shop there was a printed notice, in large letters, to the same effect as the notice on the wrapper, stating that the butter sold in the establishment was blended with pure English full cream milk, whereby it retained about 24 per cent. of moisture.

The Richmond Justices were of opinion that the printed matter on the inside of the wrapper was in its terms inaccurate and misleading, and, on that ground, was not a sufficient notice by

label within the meaning of another section of the Act—Section 8—inasmuch as it stated that the result of the blending was to "retain" in the butter about 20 to 24 per cent. of moisture, whereby it acquired delicacy of flavour, whereas the only result was to "add" 7.8 per cent. of water to the extreme limit of 16 per cent. natural in butter. For the like reasons, the notice on the wall of the shop was found not to be a sufficient notice; and the Justices were also of opinion that, as the butter was delivered in a piece of plain opaque paper, which, until removed, effectually concealed the inside wrapper and the printing upon it, and as the Respondent did not, in fact, read the printing, and did not purposely abstain from so doing, and having regard to the nature of the article asked for, and to the fact that his attention was not called to the printing inside the wrapper, this did not constitute a notice by label supplied at the time of delivering the article to the person receiving it within the meaning of Section 8. The questions for the opinions of the Court on Wednesday were therefore (1) whether the inside wrapper in which the butter was delivered was a sufficient notice by label within Section 8 of the Act; (2) whether upon the facts stated there was sufficient notice otherwise than by label to the purchaser of what he was purchasing; and (3) whether, upon the facts stated, there was any evidence that the excess of water in the butter was added fraudulently to increase the bulk or weight.

The Lord Chief Justice, in giving judgment, said the case was certainly not stated in a satisfactory way, and he did not want to express any opinion to the effect that if what was sold had been sold as butter, and nothing more had been said about it, there would not have been an offence under the 6th Section. But that was not, in his opinion, the way in which they ought to deal with the case. Taking the facts most strongly against the Appellants, the butter purchased was asked for as "half a pound of one shilling butter." If it should turn out that there were various classes of butter in Messrs. Pearks' establishment, his conclusion would have been different, but he understood that the Appellants were selling one sort of butter only viz., this blended butter. He therefore did not intend his decision to apply to a case where a man put up this kind of notice and sold different kinds of butter. The really important question in this case was whether, upon the facts stated, there was sufficient notice otherwise than by label, and he had come to the conclusion that this could not be taken to be the sale of one of many classes of butter; but it was a purchase of Pearks' butter, meaning the same thing as was described in the notice. That being so, he thought they were bound by the authorities to hold that it had been brought to the knowledge of the purchaser that the article sold was a blended one. If that was so it could not be said that the thing was being sold to the prejudice of the purchaser. It was good law and common sense that a man who was told he was buying butter blended with something else could not be said to be prejudiced. Nothing misleading in the notice could do away with the broad statement that the butter sold was in accordance with the notice. In this case, therefore, he came to the conclusion that there was no evidence that the butter was sold to the prejudice of the purchaser, and when once that was established, the question of the fraudulent addition of water did not arise at all. He could see no evidence, however, that the water was fraudulently added.

The other learned Judges concurred, and the appeal was allowed, and the conviction quashed, with costs.

New Agricultural Patents.

Specially compiled for *Mark Lane Express* by Mr. G. D. Howard (Hughes, Son, and Co.), patent agent, 38, Chancery Lane, London, of whom all information relating to Patents, Designs, and Trade Marks may be obtained free of charge.

3,295.—Jacobus Johannes Ernst Bekker and Robert Harvey, of Glasgow, for "Improvements in and relating to mills for grinding sugar cane, and like grinding purposes."

3,413.—John Richardson, of Manchester, for "An improvement applicable to lawn-mowing machines."

3,480.—Joseph Woodford and Robert William Graham, of High Holborn, London, for "improvements in hand sheep shears."

Patents Sealed.

18,936.—E. D. Bell, of London, for "food preparations."

19,081.—E. W. Petrie and R. Cunliffe, of Lancashire, for "Drying yeast, grain, peat, etc."

Watery Milk.—At the Mansion House Police Court, on Wednesday, John Williams, a dairyman, of Jamaica Road, Bermondsey, was fined £20 and costs for having on two occasions supplied to customers milk which was adulterated with added water to the extent of 17 and 12 per cent. respectively. The prosecution was instituted by the City Corporation.

PRACTICE WITH SCIENCE.

Manuring Experiments in Hampshire.

Professor Gilchrist, B.Sc., Director of the Agricultural Studies at Reading College, attended a meeting at Botley recently, and gave a lecture on the trials with manures which have been conducted in the Botley district, under the auspices of the Hampshire County Council, with the co-operation of the Botley and South Hants Farmers' Club.

Professor Gilchrist said he might remind the meeting that these trials were started in the autumn of 1897 as the result of a discussion in connection with the Botley Farmers' Club, and they had been carried out under the supervision of the club, in co-operation with the Hampshire County Council, the supervision having been actively undertaken by Mr. Jenkyns and Mr. Blundell. The supervision had involved a great deal of work, because it meant seeing that the crops were sown and harvested, that the manures were applied, the plots marked off, the produce weighed, and the results properly recorded. It was arranged to carry out a four-course rotation, the rotation being:—Mangels 1898, wheat 1899, hay 1900, and oats 1901. The manures were applied so as to last for the rotation, except on plot 5. The soil was a useful loam, fairly deep, and suitable for most crops; the subsoil was similar, but lighter in colour, with a considerable amount of gravel—in some parts of the field it was almost clay, in other parts it was lighter. In 1897 the crop was trifolium, unmanured, and cut green and carted off; in 1896 it was potatoes, which received 30 loads an acre of farmyard manure. They found land which had been treated in the same way for four or five years previously, and they had therefore a fairly good start for these trials. The results of the manures they applied were noted not only in the immediately succeeding crops, but in the four years afterwards. They decided not to use farmyard manure, not because they did not think it would give a good result, but in consequence of the discussion at the meeting of that club when it was wisely pointed out that to use farmyard manure would be misleading simply because it was so variable. On plot 4 no manure was applied during the four years, the land being merely cultivated. The plots in each instance were one acre in measurement.

Values of Nitrate of Soda and Sulphate of Ammonia.

On plot 1 the dressing was 2 cwt. nitrate of soda, 4 cwt. superphosphate, and 4 cwt. kainit. Here, then, was a complete dressing of artificial manures containing the three ingredients—nitrogen in the form of nitrate of soda, phosphates in the soluble form of superphosphate, and kainit, a potash manure. They put similar manuring on plot 2, but half the nitrogen was in the form of nitrate of soda, and the other half in the form of sulphate of ammonia. If they took up an agricultural paper they would fine on one page an advertisement stating that nitrate of soda was the best manure and gave the best results, whilst on another page there would be a similar claim in respect to sulphate of ammonia; but the fact was that these two manures were the principal nitrogenous manures, and it depended very much on the conditions of the land and climate as to which would give the better result. Generally speaking, in the south of England, especially the south-east, nitrate of soda, because of a dryer climate, gave the better result—this was not always so, but it was as a general rule. In this instance where they substituted 1 cwt. of ammonia for 1 cwt. of nitrate of soda they got an increase of a ton; it was strange he should say this, because he had been arguing the other way, but they had trials on Mr. Lee's farm at Fareham, and in that case where they used 2 cwt. nitrate of soda to 4 cwt. each of superphosphate and kainit the result was 20 tons 16 cwt. of mangels, and where 1 cwt. of sulphate of ammonia was substituted the weight of the mangels was 18 tons 18 cwt., or nearly 2 tons less. At the same time, sulphate of ammonia judiciously used, especially in a rather damp season, gave very good results; in a wet season it was likely to give a better result than nitrate of soda; and all through for mangels nitrogen was most important.

When nitrogen of soda was used it was advisable to apply part at the time of sowing the mangel, not before, and to keep back the bulk to use in two top dressings after the mangel had appeared aboye the ground. But in applying it as a top dressing it was advisable not to apply it on a dewy morning if the sun was likely to come out soon after, because it might injure the leaf of the young plant. The blank patches in fields of mangel were sometimes caused by nitrate of soda having injured the plant. If sulphate of ammonia was used it was not advisable to apply it as a top dressing, but to apply it at the time of sowing in the ground. Whilst not wanting to put the merits of manures as against each other, he again said that in this district probably the

Most Useful Manure for Mangels

was nitrate of soda. The cost of dressing plots 1 and 2 was in each instance 38s. On plot 3 the same manures were used as on plot 1, but 4 cwt. of common salt was used in addition. Mangels were cultivated from a wild seashore plant, and the plant had still some of its wild tastes—it seemed to like salt, and for that reason a small dressing of salt was applied at the time of sowing. It was not advisable to apply salt at the time they applied the potash manure—a month or two before—because it would wash out if rain came, and it was better applied just before sowing the mangel. On plot 3, instead of producing 16 and 17 tons odd, as in the case of plots 1 and 2, the result was a crop of 20 tons 6 cwt. Coming down to plot 5 the same manures were applied as on plot 1, only part of the superphosphate and part of the kainit was kept back till the autumn of 1899, so as to assist the young seed—the clover and grass seed—for the crop of 1890, and in that case the crop of mangel was lighter, but the hay crop was naturally heavier.

On many farms it was advisable not to apply all the manure to the root crop, but to keep back part of it for the young hay crop. If there was a good deal of clover, and the manure took the form of potash and phosphates applied in the autumn to the young clover plant after the corn had been removed, as a rule the clover crop would be considerably heavier. If they increased the amount of clover root in the soil the clover collected nitrogen from the air, and there was a better chance for the cereal crop that followed; in other words the heavier the crop of clover the better was the condition of the ground to obtain another crop. Some Canadian experiments had shown that a good crop of clover would collect the equivalent of about five cwt. of nitrate of soda per acre—even the roots themselves collected as much nitrogen as was equal to two cwt., or even more, of nitrate of soda.

Then coming to plot 6, they had

An Interesting Result,

viz., the same manuring with the exception that, instead of four cwt. of superphosphate, they had six cwt. of basic slag. This was a phosphate manure, the same as superphosphate, but it did not, as a rule, act so quickly, and they found that borne out—the cost was 41s. per acre, as compared with 38s., and the result was 15 tons 9 cwts. of mangels. They obtained the benefit, however, in other corps later on in the rotation. On plot 7 they again had an interesting result—a result he almost hesitated to put into words, and yet it came out. On plot 7 they had 2 cwt. of nitrate of soda, and 6 cwt. of basic slag, but no kainit; it was the only plot, with one exception, on which no kainit was employed, and if plots 6 and 7 were compared there were only 6 cwt. less mangels without the potash manure. Right through they found the potash manure had not been very effective.

Plot 8 was Mr. Blundell's plot. Mr. Blundell was a prophet in 1897; he remembered when they were discussing the subject Mr. Blundell got up and asked why they did not have a mixture of manures which should only cost about £1 an acre, or not much more, and see how that compared along with the other plots, and he promised him they would try it. On plot 8 they had 1½ cwt. of nitrate of soda and 2 cwt. each of superphosphate and kainit, at a cost of 23s. 3d., and the economical result for the four years was very good, showing a net gain of £4 14s. 5d. The highest net gain was £4 18s. 6d. on plot 7, and that on plot 8 came next. This certainly bore out the contention of Mr. Blundell that it was a mistake to apply too much manure if they wanted to get an economical result—that they could grow a heavy crop by heavy dressings of manure, but beyond a certain point it did not pay, especially at present prices, to manure too heavily. In other words, if they could get a very high price for their produce—as in the case of the Channel Islands for new potatoes—then it paid to manure heavily, but when they took the prices they had to deal with at the present time they very soon came to the margin of profit in manuring, and for that reason the more economical manuring was very often the most profitable manuring. It was remarkable that the result of plot 8 gave more mangels the first year, with the same manures applied in smaller quantities, than the result of plot 1, the weights being 16 tons 8 cwt. 64 lbs., as against 16 tons 4 cwt. 32 lbs.

These were the results so far as the mangels were concerned, and looking simply at these results one would come to the conclusion that plot 3 had given the best return, but it would be found that plots 7 and 8 at the end of the rotation, supposing any farmer had been manuring them, would have given the best results on the four years. He was, however, under the impression that plot 6, which was nitrate of soda, basic slag, and kainit, adding common salt as well, was the plot which would have given the best results in the long run.

Coming to the wheat of 1899; red wheat (2½ bushels per acre) was sown on the plots in November, 1898. In this crop, again, where the same manures were applied to plots 1 and 8, the lighter dressing on the latter gave the better result. These two plots gave more wheat than any of the others—the potash evidently told on

the wheat, although if they compared plots 6 and 7 there was actually more wheat without the potash. It was not a good year for wheat, and it was much spoiled by the sparrows; the average crop was about two quarters an acre. The wheat was sown down with seeds in the spring of 1899, and the young plants looked well on all the plots in the autumn of that year. The best result on this crop was given by the manures applied to plot 5, part of which had been reserved for the young seeds. Of the cuttings of hay in 1900 the heaviest, 3 tons 3¼ cwt., was cut on plot 5, where part of the manure was reserved, and the next best, 3 tons 1¼ cwt., was on plot 7, and it was nearly as good, 2 tons 18¾ cwt., on plot 6, which had the potash as well, but on plot 8 it was not so good, 2 tons 10 cwt., although that was better than plot 1, which was 2 tons 1¼ cwt.

Coming to oats; in 1901, the fourth crop of the rotation, the unmanured plot yielded 6 qrs. 0 bus. 36 lbs.; plots 1, 2, and 3 gave about an average of 4 bushels more, or about half-a-quarter more four years after the application of manures—roughly speaking, the increased value of the crop was some 9s. per acre. But now the marvellous staying powers of basic slag came out, there being over a quarter more both on plots 6 and 7, there being actually 7 qrs. 7 bus. 2 lbs. on plot 7. Again, on plot 8 the yield of oats was 8 qrs. 2 bus. 6 lbs. He thought, however, that Mr. Blundell would agree with him that the results on plots 7 and 8 pointed to the soil being somewhat naturally better than the other plots. (Mr. Blundell: Yes.) He did not want to modify what he said; there was no doubt as to the success of the smaller dressing, but he thought they must discount something on plots 7 and 8 on account of the greater inherent capabilities of the soil.

In calculating the

Value of the Respective Increases

mangels were valued as for home consumption at 8s. a ton, wheat at 26s. a quarter, hay £3 a ton, and oats 17s. a quarter. The net gain worked out as follows:—Plot 1, £1 3s. 4d.; plot 2, £1 7s. 10d.; plot 3, £2 12s. 9d.; plot 5, £2 14s. 5d.; plot 6, £3 6s. 2d.; plot 7, £4 18s. 6d.; plot 8, £4 14s. 5d. One could not take results like these and dogmatise on them; one must always use common sense in the choice of manures, but he thought they would agree that the valuations were not high, the cost of the manure was the actual price at which it could be bought and delivered at Botley Station, and when they worked out the figures they found that in all cases after allowing for the manures there was a profit. In planning these experiments they did not attempt anything out of the way; they wanted to get typical dressings which had given different results in different parts of the country, and to see how they would compare in this district when pitted against each other. The results proved that they could not have their cake and eat it, and if they obtained a good result in one crop it would be lighter in another; but the results also showed that they could manure so that four years afterwards they would have fairly good results from the different manures. The satisfactory results on plots 7 and 6 indicated that, on the whole, basic slag had been the most lasting and economical manure in these trials.

As far as potash manure was concerned, the results were doubtful, but it was fair to say that, taking into account other experiments in the district in which he had taken part, in many cases potash manure would give a good result. They could not, however, depend on a potash manure in the same way as they could on phosphatic and nitrogenous manures. In some cases there was already plenty of potash in the soil, and potash manures acted sometimes in a curious way, and occasionally did harm as well as good. When used, it was well potash should be applied a month or two before the crop was put in, so that it might get thoroughly mixed with the surface soil. The geological formation on which the soil of the Botley district rests is the Bracklesham beds; these were beds of clay and sand, very intimately mixed with each other, changing quickly, with a subsoil of different colours, but on the whole they gave a useful sandy loam soil, and, generally speaking, were a fairly good soil. Professor Gilchrist then went on to give the results of some

Trials with Manures at Fareham

in 1897. The best result was given with the following manures per acre:—One hundredweight nitrate of soda, one hundredweight sulphate of ammonia, four hundredweight superphosphate, and four hundredweight kainit; this gave twenty-five and a half tons of mangel. Sixteen tons of farmyard manure only gave about 20 tons, and the same dressing of artificial manures as applied on plot 2 at Botley gave somewhat under 17½ tons. In the Fareham district, where they did without phosphatic manure, and applied neither superphosphate nor kainit, the crop was reduced to 17 tons 15 cwt., and without potash manure the crop was as good as where potash manure was applied.

To be continued.

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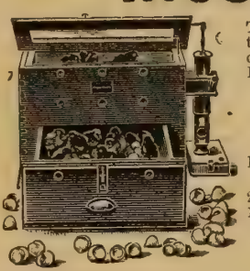


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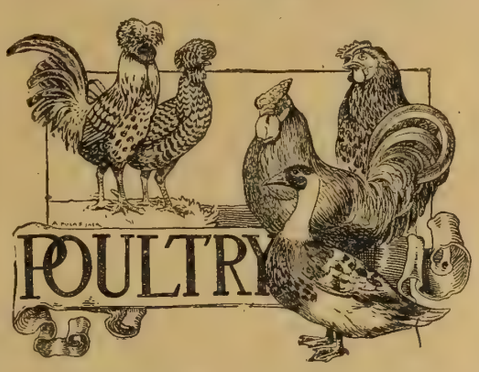
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Treatment of Newly-Hatched Chicks.

Chickens when first hatched want feeding generously at least five or six times a day for the first week, as the little crops will not contain much at a time. Probably many people are not particular enough over this, as it must be remembered that young animals are always provided with the most suitable food in the way of mother's milk, but young chickens when they are hatched are not supplied with anything like this. Some people begin to give them bread and milk for the first few days. When this is the case, they usually find the chickens go off quickly, frequently two or three dying out of ten within a week or ten days, more particularly when they scald the bread with the milk, as this often brings on violent diarrhœa.

If cold milk is poured upon stale bread it does not affect them in the same way; but we never trouble about bread and milk at all, as it is not necessary. They certainly want nutritious food, and it is natural for them to have a little animal food although this is not necessary, and as a perfect food we recommend biscuit meal, that has a little granulated meat mixed with it, just soaked in warm (not boiling) water, and not made too wet. Where cottagers have not the advantage of the biscuit meal, they should toast bread crusts, fairly hard, and then soak them in water. It is always the best to squeeze all the water out, so that it is just moist.

Groats or coarse oatmeal should always be given to them, and during February and March a little hempseed, as that is stimulating; and if people have valuable chickens and want to get them on, a little linseed, uncrushed, given to them, is very nutritious, and will keep the chicken in vigorous health. A few canary seeds, for a change, will help chickens when they are not getting on well.

Where people can give them a little meat the first wek or ten days, fresh meat cut up fine, that usually makes them very lively; but after they get a fortnight old, to save trouble, they might have a little granulated meat, but this must be given very very sparingly, as it is salt, and hundreds of chickens die from diarrhœa because of this. They are very fond of it; if mixed with a little meal, they will pick it all out, so therefore they should not have much. One teaspoonful, before it is soaked, is enough for 15 chickens when they are a fortnight old, at a time.

Many people give their chickens rice as soon as they are hatched. This makes a good change, but they ought not to have too much, and it should be boiled and then left, so that it soaks up the water. This is one of the cheapest foods for chickens. When chickens are young and doing well on the food they are having, it is wise not to change the food entirely; if so, they frequently have diarrhœa.

Whenever they get this, a little dry rice should be given them twice a day, as this, as a rule, stops it all immediately. The first fortnight, novices without experience should always notice the vent or back passage, as this often gets blocked up, and causes great pain and sometimes death. The fluff is matted together with excrement, and this must be dealt with before anything can pass. We have had scores of chickens sent to us for post-mortem, which have had nothing through them for two or three days; these chickens must be in great pain.

If chickens have cramped toes—that is to say, the toes doubled and contracted under the foot—a small piece of wood should be cut out (the same shape as the foot), of deal or a twig cut from the hedge. This should be wrapped round with cotton wool, fastened with thread or silk, and the foot bound to it with a piece of cotton wool on top of the toes and tied up carefully, so that the thread is wrapped round the toes and the wood. The warmth from the cotton wool causes the blood to circulate freely, and the bird is all right again very soon, and in three days the toes become perfectly straight and the chickens can walk. Thousands of young chickens might be saved in this way from being crippled. This can only be done where people bring up a few, or where ladies have plenty of time to do it, but it pays well in the end.

What Waterglass Is.

There have been a number of inquiries received lately as to nature of waterglass, which was recommended in these columns for the preservation of eggs, and we print here for the information of our readers a brief description of the substance and its uses.

The name waterglass is applied to both the silicate of potash and the silicate of soda. Its uses are too many to give in a short account. It can be obtained in several strengths and qualities, e.g., weighing 13¾lb., 15lb., 17lb., and nearly 19lb. to the gallon. The last is almost solid, and is prepared specially for the export trade.

I, along with several friends, have used it for the past two years for preserving eggs, and have found it all that can be desired for the purpose. We find the 17lb. to a gallon and purest quality the most economical for the purpose. It is a very stiff liquid, colourless, odourless, and almost tasteless. It has no injurious effect on either the skin or the clothing

For preserving eggs I mix 1lb. (one pound) waterglass with 1 gallon (10lb.) of water. It will mix with cold water, but it is more quickly done with hot. When cool, I fill any suitable vessel of wood, earthenware, iron, or tin, about one-third full with the prepared solution and put the eggs in as collected until full, leaving about one inch of liquid above the eggs. The vessel may be kept in a cellar or storeroom, and the eggs taken out as required, whether for use or sale

When taken out they should be rinsed in cold, or aired, water and wiped dry. I have not found that it makes any difference whether the vessel is kept in a cool cellar or in a room that varies considerably in temperature. I have tried both.

When the eggs are put in the waterglass solution quite fresh, they will come out at the end of six or twelve months in just as good condition. I am aware that this is a strong statement to make, but it has been, not in one case only, but in many.

There is another point in its favour that should be of use to your readers. The shell is harder and the contents are not affected by exposure afterwards, like a fresh one. About the end of July last year I took an egg out of the waterglass after having been in about three months and placed it in a window facing south-west for over a month, and then broke it in the presence of a friend; we could not detect any signs of its having been at all affected by such exposure.

This makes it possible for egg-producers far from good markets to preserve their eggs during a plentiful season until winter, when a better price may be obtained, as eggs preserved in waterglass will bear transit by post or rail better than even new-laid eggs.

South-Eastern College and Experiments in Surrey.

At a recent meeting of the executive committee of the Redhill Agricultural Society, a letter was read from Principal Hall, of the South-Eastern Agricultural College, Wye, relative to the suggested acquisition of some suitable site in the neighbourhood of the society to be set apart for field experiments, the college paying the expenses. A sub-committee, consisting of Messrs. W. Clifton, A. R. Cragg, H. Harker, and A. Holm, jun., was appointed to meet the principal, and at a conference since held between them, it was arranged, on behalf of the college authorities, to co-operate with the society in connection with carrying out the proposed object. It was decided at the conference to experiment on crops of maize and mangold, Mr. Harker kindly undertaking to place at their disposal for the purpose a field opposite Gatton Park, on the Merstham highway. It is anticipated that the institution of these experiments will prove, not only of considerable interest, but also of much practical value to the farmers of the district.

Gloucestershire Chamber.

At the annual meeting of the members of the Gloucestershire Chamber of Agriculture, held at Gloucester on the 25th ult., a satisfactory balance-sheet was presented, it showing a surplus of £16 3s. 6d.

The retiring president (Mr. Hawkins), in expressing his thanks to the members for the assistance which had been rendered to him on all occasions, said the Chamber had grown in strength, and he trusted in wisdom also, during his year of office; and with such an excellent man as Mr. Hanbury at the head of the Board of Agriculture, they had reason to hope that matters connected with agriculture would be well looked after in the future. Mr. J. D. Birchall, who was vice-president during last year, was formally installed as president; and Mr. H. W. Bruton was unanimously elected vice-president.

Subsequently a discussion took place on agricultural education, the subject being introduced by Mr. J. C. Medd, of Cirencester. In the course of an instructive address, Mr. Medd said in other countries agricultural education was one of the most prominent features in the educational system; and if our farmers were to compete successfully with those of other countries they must have similar advantages. Two years ago the Agricultural Education Committee was formed, and this committee had formulated a scheme for agricultural education. At the present time farmers complained that it was difficult to get men to do thatching, hedging, to make ricks, and to do other things; and in some countries instruction was being given in these subjects, and would do more than anything else to check the depopulation of the rural districts. They could not, of course, teach children in elementary schools farming, but they could break the ground, as it were, and foster a liking for rural pursuits. It was quite useless to teach boys shorthand and typewriting whose lives were to be spent in such occupations.

Mr. J. H. Jones, past-president of the Chamber, supported Mr. Medd's views, and moved:—"That this Chamber is in full sympathy with the aims of the Agricultural Education Committee, and urges upon the Board of Agriculture the importance of organising and extending its educational work, for which purpose it is essential that much larger funds be placed at its disposal."

This was seconded by Mr. Muir, and carried.



Monday (February 24th).—The weather was very unsettled over our Islands, and rain again fell in many places. Rain was measured in the morning, as the result of the fall since the preceding day over the entire kingdom, but the amounts were mostly small. South-easterly winds were again prevalent, but they were, for the most part light. It was only on our east coasts that the temperature fell below 40 degrees during Sunday night, and the thermometer during the day was everywhere above the average.

Tuesday (February 25th).—Rain fell again during the day in many parts of our Islands, and the weather was generally unsettled. Fog was very prevalent in the English Channel, and there was a good deal of mist over the greater portion of England. Rain was measured in the morning, as the result of the fall in the preceding 24 hours, in nearly all parts of the kingdom, but the amounts were not large. The winds were everywhere easterly; and, although the barometer was much below the average, the mercury was rising generally. The day was fairly warm over England, and in Ireland the temperatures exceeded 50 degrees.

Wednesday (February 26th).—The weather was fine in most parts of Great Britain, but rain was again falling at some of the Irish stations. Rain was measured in the morning as the result of the fall in the preceding twenty-four hours, over the greater portion of our islands, but the amounts were everywhere small. The wind was still easterly, and a moderate gale was blowing in the South of Ireland. Temperature was lower than on the two or three preceding nights over Great Britain, but the sheltered thermometer was nowhere below the freezing point on Tuesday night, while in Ireland the thermometer in many places did not fall below forty-five degrees.

Thursday (February 27th).—Rainy and unsettled weather prevailed in most parts of our islands, and a south-easterly gale was blowing in places on our north-west coasts. Exceptionally heavy rain was measured in the morning, as the result of the fall in the preceding twenty-four hours, at places in the west, and smaller amounts were general. The temperature had risen over England, and in the southern districts the thermometer exceeded fifty degrees.

Friday (February 28th).—Cloudy weather prevailed over our Islands, and showers were again experienced in several places. Rain was measured in the morning at all except a few of the Northern and Eastern stations, but the amounts were mostly small. The winds were Southerly except in the North, where the Easterly wind was still maintained, and the force was light, except on our North-west coasts. At several places in the West the lowest temperatures during Thursday night did not fall below 45deg., and in the South and West the midday readings exceeded 50deg.

Saturday and Sunday (March 1st and 2nd).—The weather has been changeable during these two days, and rain fell in many parts of the country, although in places there was a good amount of bright sunshine. Cyclonic disturbances continued to pass north-eastwards, in close proximity to our west coasts, and on Sunday a shallow subsidiary disturbance traversed the south of England. The principal fall of rain occurred in the north and west, but on Sunday sharp showers were experienced in the south of England. Temperature was generally high for the time of year, and the highest readings on both days exceeded 50 degs. over a large portion of the Kingdom.

Death of a well-known Scotch Agriculturist.—The death was announced at the Dalkeith Palace Home Farm, on Tuesday, of Mr. James Deans, for nearly half-a-century agricultural manager to the Duke of Buccleuch. The deceased was a well-known figure among agriculturists, and famous as a breeder of Leicester sheep and Shorthorn stock. His services as judge were in regular requisition at agricultural shows throughout Scotland. He was a member of the Committee of the Dalkeith Agricultural Society, and a native of Berwickshire. He was aged 80, and leaves a widow.

THE GARDEN.

The sharp spell has fortunately passed away, and the milder weather will enable out-door work of all kinds to be got on with again.

One of the first things to be done is to get a good batch of peas sown, especially as the severe weather experienced recently will probably have destroyed any autumn or early-sown rows. Second early or succession and main crop varieties may be sown now, as well as first-early kinds, so get a good assortment in, some on warm borders, and others in the open. Take care to dress the seed with red lead if either mice or birds are apt to be troublesome, and sow the seed thinly in wide drills. At the same time, some broad beans should be sown, including both a good form of the long pod and one or two of the broad Windsor kinds.

Plant a good breadth of early potatoes also on some sheltered border; even if a previous planting has been made, more should be got in now. Rhubarb roots should be divided and planted out at once, in deep and rich ground, of course, as they are already starting to grow. And get the root-cuttings of seakale in without delay.

Sow a small bed of asparagus seed, if any roots are likely to be wanted either next year or the following season. Get a good batch of early cauliflower plants out on a warm border; also some lettuces, and sow more seed of both. Both rhubarb and seakale may be forced in the open ground now.

Finish pruning and training vines in the open air at once, as they will soon be starting into growth now, and once the sap has begun to move the use of the knife will be followed by "bleeding." Where the pruning of gooseberries and currants is left till the last moment, as some do where birds are apt to take the buds, this also should be completed at once, but we regard this as bad, or at least faulty, practice, and much prefer to prune at the proper time, and keep the birds off by means of dressings of soot, lime, etc.

Complete the cleaning of out-door strawberry beds, so as to be all ready for the annual top-dressing of manure at any time. There is no hurry for this yet, as a rule, though on light, warm soils, where the crop is naturally early, it may be put on very shortly. On soils at all deficient in potash a good sprinkling of kainit will be found highly beneficial. This had better be given at once, and at the same time apply a little superphosphate or bone meal, which is always useful.

Bulbs or roots of ranunculi, anemones of sorts, and early gladioli of the G. Colvillei section (such as the Bride, etc.), must be planted at once. A few of the ordinary kinds of gladiolus may also be got in on a warm border of light soil, and the bed or beds be prepared to plant the main batch towards the end of the month. These showy bulbous subjects enjoy a deeply-worked and rich soil, but it should be fairly light, or "free," and good drainage is essential; place the bulbs 4in. or 5in. deep, and 8in. to 10in. apart.

Get carnations of all kinds planted out at once. For these the soil should be good, but by no means over-rich or rank; such fertilisers as burnt earth, old mortar or lime rubbish, leaf mould, etc., are, as a rule, preferable to much strong animal manure, but where a light and "thin" or poor staple prevails a good coat of well-decayed stable or cow manure had better be worked in well down below the plants. Always plant firmly.

"Mark Lane Express" Diary.

March.

4, 5, 6, and 7. Hackney Horse Society's Show at Islington.
5, 6, and 7. Birmingham Shorthorn Show and Sale at Bingley Hall.
5. Royal Northern Agricultural Society's Show at Kittybrewster, near Aberdeen.
5. Council and General Meetings of the British Dairy Farmers' Association.
5. Meeting of the Council of the Royal Agricultural Society.
5. Meeting of the Council of the Smithfield Club.
5. Meeting of the Council of the Hackney Horse Society.
6. Galloway Cattle Sales Association Sale at Castle Douglas.
6. Sale of Mr. W. Davie's shorthorn cattle, Shropshire sheep, and shire horses at Ward Lane Farm, near Rugeley.
7. Sale of Hackneys and Harness Horses at the Agricultural Hall, Islington.
7. Store Stock Sale at Shrewsbury.
8. West Staffordshire Shire Horse Society's Stallion Parade at Stafford.

We have received from Messrs. Little and Ballantyne, seedsmen, of Carlisle, a copy of their newly-issued catalogue of agricultural seeds for present sowing. This old-established firm invite all agriculturists visiting Carlisle on the occasion of the Royal Show to visit their extensive nurseries and trial grounds

Important to Farmers.—The best farm account books are Webb's Practical Farmer's Account Book, with preface by Clare Sewell Read, 70th edition, 6s. and 7s. 6d. post free. Jarrold's Imperial Farm Account Book, 3s. 6d. Jarrold's Farm Labour Books, 2s., 2s. 6d., and 4s. 6d. List of Game and Dairy Account Books post free of Jarrold and Sons, 10 and 11, Warwick Lane, E.C.—[Advt.]



Bucks (Central).

We have had just a nice refreshing rain upon the break-up of the frost, enabling us to get on with the ploughing; but the land is scarcely dry enough to get to planting. It enables us to get the ewes and lambs on to the pastures, they having been kept pretty much to the lambing pens until the frost went. They have made great inroads in the hay and root stacks during the frost. We are now about two-thirds through the lambing of a very heavy fall of lambs, with some losses of ewes and a few lambs. Triplets have been quite of common occurrence; very many doubles, and one four, all living. During the frost much thrashing and dung-carting has been done, but the price of wheat is still very bad. Beef is not so dear as it was, although it is expensive to make. Mutton is getting scarcer, and a little better in price. Milk is still scarce, and very expensive to keep up the supply, as milch cows are very bad to get, and cake and other feeds dear, excepting wheat.—J. T. (Feb. 26th).

Cornwall.

We have just passed through a spell of dry, frosty weather, and it has proved very beneficial to the land that has been ploughed, so much so that there is every promise of a good seed bed, and, on some farms, with favourable weather, oats will soon be sown. Winter provision for the stock has diminished very much during the cold weather, and it will be a serious question how to provide food for the next two or three months. The lambing season has been favourable, on the whole, very good percentage of twins, and not many losses. This district is not particularly early in this respect, and on many farms they do not commence until the first week in March. Some fields of winter oats are looking splendid, and will give fine pasturage for the flocks. Those who fatten their lambs find that nothing forces them better than a good field or two of oats, and a good crop at harvest is often reaped after they have been eaten with the sheep, nearly all through March month. Prices are just as they have been for some weeks past; a fair demand for good beef, mutton very bad trade, and stock (except for the very best) but little demand.—W. E. H. (Feb. 25th.)

Dorset (West).

I have little to say regarding farming bnsiness, except that work has been practically at a standstill for a fortnight through the severity of the frost, a little dung-carting being nearly all horses could work at. Wet has now set in, and the cultivations will still be hindered. I have heard of two or three fields of barley being sown in some very light sandy soil. The young wheat is not generally over strong, but doubtless with rain and open weather an improvement will soon be perceptible.

Good dairy cattle are selling at fair prices, and very fresh young barreners are picked up, whilst rough cattle are not selling at all well. The store sheep trade is very quiet, and fat sheep are not making remunerative prices for the feeders. An early spring will be gladly welcomed, as both hay, straw, and roots are getting into narrow compass. —G. S. (Feb. 27th).

Durham (East).

Farm prospects are considered fairly favourable in this district. The recent very severe weather was not altogether unwelcome. Vegetation has not been more than checked, and farmers were enabled to complete carting of manure and other work. Ploughed land will have received the full benefit of frost pulverisation, and should the weather in March be favourable, spring corn will be sown under good conditions. Farmers have not threshed wheat freely, prices being so disappointing; perhaps more barley and oats, which meet a better demand at rather more remunerative figures. Straw and hay are both selling very well. Straw in some districts is quite scarce. Turnips, where protected, have not suffered, and are good value, but potatoes are a dull sale and cheaper.—E. and F. R. (Feb. 28th.

Gloucester.

The present month must have been one of the driest Februarys known in the district. The early part ploughing was carried on under favourable conditions, but later King Frost held sway for nearly a fortnight, which enabled the carting of manures from the yards.

The wheat and bean plant does not appear much affected by the frost. This is accounted for from the fact that we had no high winds during the frost, which generally plays sad havoc with the beans' plant.

All kinds of tillage are well forward, and, weather permitting, spring seeding will be early accomplished. Stock generally are looking healthy, which may be accounted for from the dry lying they have had in the pastures during the whole winter. Hay is getting very scarce, and an early and warm spring is the great wish of the Agriculturaliste of the district. Favourable accounts come from the flockmasters of the Cotswolds, as from most other districts.—B. R. (Feb. 27th.)

Lincolnshire (North).

The spring must be coming, although only about 10 days ago, a temperature of 1 below zero, Fah., was registered by a Kew thermometer at Brigg. The scene is now changed, both visually and mentally, for the sun shines, the lambs skip and run into their old bacon boxes, pretending they are cold, when out they come again.

Then we are asking neighbours if they have any good seed corn. I have 50 quarters of fresh coming, and I daily expect 45 tons of Scotch Up-to-Date Potatoes, and so hope is eternally springing as ever. My neighbours are also obtaining seed, and the weather may dry with this wind, and the drill may run.

Turnips are dreadfully scarce, and good pieces of swedes will make all you could ask for them; indeed, the ram breeders must have them.

Consequently mutton is very low indeed, people must sell, even at 6½d. per lb. for fat hogs in the wool; I have known 1s 2d.

Personally, I have good swedes, and am going to await a rise, which must take place sooner or later.

Wool is the lowest price on record. Neighbours, however, who possess 10 years, have now to be half; what a price to keep to. Perhaps when I write again I shall have more cheerful news.—North Lindsey (Feb. 26th).

Somerset (Cheddar).

During the severe frost of this month it was found necessary to supply the cattle more liberally with fodder, and the hay stacks being but small at the beginning of winter, consequently what remains of it now occupies but a small space. The calves from the down calving dairy herds at the weekly auctions are fetching food prices, but I hear that abortion is prevalent in some herds, and many owners of such herds being under the impression that the malady is not infectious, therefore do not take the precaution to isolate the patient and use disinfectants by way of endeavouring to check the likelihood of its affecting other cows, which doubtless is resorted to by all the most enlightened breeders of cattle. The lambing season is now in full swing; the frost caused the death of a few weakly ones, but twins are fairly numerous, and the ewes have generally sufficient milk for the requirements of their offspring.—A. L. O. (Feb. 28th.)

Somerset (West).

The spring-like weather that we had through the middle of January was taken advantage of by many to sow barley, those having suitable land ready, that sowing is now just breaking ground, and very little chance since have we had for sowing, the weather becoming changeable—the end of January, snow, etc., for a week, then nearly three weeks of frost, very seasonable; the frost gave out a week ago, since which unsettled, although for the most part mild and spring-like. Vegetation seems again to spring into life, the grass growing and taking away the brown, dead appearance caused by the frost, and giving the country a new life of green. The ploughing and tillage part of farm work is some weeks in arrears, and we must have more settled weather before speed can be made. It seems that a chance must not be neglected, with the uncertain conditions of our climate. As yet there is no time past for spring sowing, if weather clears up in a few days. The winter is passing away, and so are the roots and hay, on most farms. Live stock of all kinds are in fair health, and the lambing season coming through with little loss. Wheat does not pay to grow much of, only on wheat land, and where near a township, that the straw may be sold to advantage. I used to grow 70 or 80 acres, but last autumn only planted 13 acres, 10 of which I have again ploughed up for barley, the plant becoming thin; and if wheat does not pay to grow, can anyone say what will pay to grow with certainty? It is almost beyond myself to reply to without conditions.—A. B. (Feb. 28th).

Westmorland.

February has well sustained its traditional character of "fill dyke either with black or white," only we have had rather an unpleasant preponderance of the latter. The first few days were fine and pleasant, followed by a succession of most bitter cold days and intense frost, which quickly rendered all standing pools of water, including the lakes, sufficiently strong to afford hundreds of young children and robust young people the finest opportunity of enjoying themselves in the winter season that they have had for many years. On the other hand, it has made a serious inroad upon the short crop of hay and straw, and enhanced the price of both, especially the latter. The displenishing sales of stock and crop held where changes of tenancy have taken place are now all over, and the result has been an agreeable surpise to all retiring tenants, as any reduction in price of live stock has been more than recompensed by the increased value of unconsumed crop all round. The root crop, mangle excepted, is all but exhausted, and has proved a very bad paying crop where consumed by sheep, and a very profitable one where consumed by fattening cattle, especially by those who were in a position to buy in the autumn. Outdoor labour was generally in a forward condition up to commencement of last month, but with the exception of carting, it was all but suspended. March has opened fine, and the teams are again busy all round. The price of oats, is, especially seed samples, higher than it has been for several years. Notwithstanding this circumstance, there is a feeling of gloom among farmers generally, which it is difficult to account for, and I hear from manure and cake agents that orders are few and most difficult to place, which is a very significant circumstances.—T. B. (March 3rd.)

Worcester (South).

We have had more and sharper frosts during the month just ending than during the rest of the winter. Since the break-up of the frost, rain has prevented any work being done on the land. Had it kept dry, a good deal of corn would have been planted this week in good condition, as work on the land was forward.

The short crop of roots is getting used up, and sheep-keep will be short. Unfortunately, the trade for fat sheep is very bad—the worst trade I ever knew in February. Cattle have wintered well, and meet a good trade for both fat and stores. Hay and straw is getting scarce, but, with a favourable spring, will last out. One cannot say much as to corn prospects, excepting that there is no winter proud wheat now, and probably some of the winter beans that were very forward may have been damaged by the frost. Wheat trade very bad; past all hope. A fair demand for spring corn for planting at better prices.—J. W. D. (Feb. 27th.)

Foreign Prospects.

FRANCE.—With rain and higher temperature, the autumn-sown crops are progressing favourably, and farmers are busy preparing for March sowings.

BELGIUM.—No complaints are made of the crop outlook.

HOLLAND.—There is nothing in crop conditions to influence trade opinion one way or the other.

GERMANY.—Slight frost was experienced early this week, but a large area of the crops is protected by snow.

RUSSIA.—In Southern and South-Eastern districts weather has turned to frost, and as the fields are exposed it is feared that damage to the crops has ensued.

HUNGARY.—Weather wet and milder. Crops present a satisfactory appearance.

NORTH AFRICA.—Recent rainfall in Algeria has proved very beneficial to grain crops.

UNITED STATES.—With the disappearance of snow the outlook for the wheat crop is regarded more hopefully than was the case a month ago. The condition is mostly fairly good, but the crop is lacking in the high vigour necessary to withstand adverse influences. Rainfall in California has increased to 13¼in. from 10½in. in week before, compared with 17⅝in. in corresponding period last year.—*Dornbusch.*

We have pleasure in welcoming the reappearance of Messrs. Sutton and Son's treatise on the laying down and management of lawns, bowling greens, putting greens, and cricket grounds. This book, which is published by Messrs. Simkin, Marshal, and Co., Ltd., of London, at 1s., deals in a comprehensive manner with the subjects indicated above, and will be found of great use by all those having in their care lawns or greens, either large or small. There are few more attractive features in a garden than a stretch of lawn, provided that it is kept in good order; while, on the other hand, an untidy or patchy lawn is a positive eyesore, and an ever-present witness of sloth, carelessness, or lack of judgment. There is no excuse, however, for persons allowing the latter description of lawn to exist when they have such an ever-ready guide to success in the book under notice. The book can be obtained from the publishers or from Messrs. Sutton and Sons, Reading.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Malt: We have had a slow trade during the past week. Barley: Grinding quiet. Wheat: Steady at fully late rates. Oats: Rather dearer on the week. Maize: Unchanged. Flour: Dull.—NIXON, GOWER, AND CO.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—The attendance was small, and the market for wheat and flour ruled dull and generally 3d lower to sell. Maize quiet unchanged. Barley steady, quiet and without change. Oats meet with more inquiry at steady rates. Beans and peas quiet.

Mark Lane, Friday.—Movements were devoid of significance, while the little business passing in most cases proved rather against sellers, and only a small attendance was present. Home-grown wheat unaltered to-day, but the turn easier since Friday last, with local resorts still fairly supplied, and there is very little showing here, as London millers retain indifference. Whites range at 29s to 30s 6d per qr, as to sample; while good reds of extra strong quality would fetch 29s 6d per qr. American descriptions frequently 3d easier during the above-named period. Russia continues above the level of this market, and India still fails as an exporter. River Plate is not offering. New Zealand long berry, 29s 6d to 30s; short berry, 28s to 29s. Flour steady, although again quite featureless, with granaries well supplied. Patents rather more freely offered. Fancy patents, 23s 6d upwards. Of firsts, Pillsbury, Golden Lily, etc., 23s. Bakers' grades unaltered. Iron Duke, 18s 6d, ex store; Cascadias, 22s 3d. Town households, 23s; whites, at 26s per sack delivered to the baker. Top-price town made 28s net. No 1 households, 21s 9d cash at the mill door. Whole meal, 172s per ton. Grinding barley remains steady, while in moderate supply. Odessa, 19s ex quay, and none ex ship. Malting generally maintained, and samples suitable for seed continue to move. Oats 3d to 6d lower on the week, but Russian offers are now less plentiful. F.a.q. Libau, 18s 3d to 18s 9d per 381b ex quay; 40lb Libau, inferior, 20s up to 21s 6d for extra bold. Good Konisberg, 21s ex quay. New Zealand ordinary Bluff, 25s 6d to 26s 6d per 504lb ex store. English very firm. Black Winters, 24s to 24s 6d per 421b; grey Winters, 23s to 24s per 421b. Maize dull at the recent decline established in round corn. Mixed American nominal. White exhausted ex granary, without anything on offer ex ship. Holders of imported beans and peas remain indifferent in face of continued small supplies. Egyptian splits, 23s 6d; Mazagans, 22s 6d ex mill, 320lb; New Zealand, 37s to 38s per 504lb ex store. Of peas, Maples, 25s 6d to 30s 6d per 5041b ex store; white Canadian, ex granary, nominal at 37s.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Wheat: Business quiet, without material alteration in value. Barleys: Inquiry limited at about recent prices. Oats steadily maintain values. Beans and peas continue dear. White wheat, 28s to 30s 6d. Brown wheat, 27s to 30s. Malting barley, 26s to 32s. Grinding ditto, 22s to 25s. Black oats, 18s to 21s. White ditto, 20s to 24s. Old beans, 33s to 35s. Grey peas, 35s to 36s.

Ashford, Tuesday.—White wheat, 27s to 29s 6d; red, 27s to 29s 6d; malting barley, 32s to 35s; English grinding barley, 20s to 22s; Mazagan beans, 33s to 34s; tick beans, 35s to 36s; flat maize, 29s; round maize, 25s to 26s; grey peas, 32s 6d to 34s; new black oats, 20s to 24s; new white oats, 19s to 24s; flour, 23s; seconds, 24s; households, 27s; whites, 28s per sack.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, red (new), 28s to 30s per qr. Small show of corn; farmers busy on land; leaving prices about as before.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Quiet market. Wheats unchanged, English realising 10s 6d to 11s 3d per bag. Maize unaltered to 3d per qr lower; Plate making 23s, and round 2s 6d per qr. Sharpness grinding barley unchanged to 3d dearer. Sharpness English black oats, 21s 6d to 22s; whites, 22s to 23s 6d. English beans, 3d per bag dearer.

Boston, Wednesday.—Wheat, 27s 6d; malting barley, 28s to 31s; oats, 21s 6d; peas, 45s to 53s (blue); beans, 33s 6d; maize, 23s; grinding barley, 23s

Braintree, Wednesday.—A steady trade, with prices unchanged. Not a great offering.

Brighton, Thursday.—New white wheat, 28s to 29s; new red ditto, 27s 6d to 28s 6d; barley, 28s to 33s; grinding ditto, 21s to 22s; English oats, 21s to 24s. Wheat unaltered. Slow trade at last week's prices. Small attendance.

Bristol, Thursday.—There has been but a small amount of business passing since our last. At to-day's market English wheat was in fairly good supply and unchanged in values foreign also unaltered. Maize and oats 3d lower. Grinding barley without change. Flour, prices keep about the same, with a little more enquiry.—GRACE BROTHERS.

Bristol, Thursday. Very little doing since last week. English wheat in fair supply to-day, and sold at about last week's prices; foreign firm at late rates. Grinding barley unaltered. Maize and oats about 3d lower. English wheat, 27s 6d to 28s 6d; American, 30s to 32s. Grinding barley, 18s to 18s 9d. Oats, Irish black, 19s 3d to 19s 6d. Maize, round, 22s to 22s 3d.

Bury, Wednesday.—Wheat was a dull, dragging trade, with no quotable change in value. Reds or whites, 27s 6d to 28s 6d per qr. Barley—The only trade left is from a few buyers of average descriptions, which remain steady, with only a retain demand, at 28s to 33s per qr. The trade in higher qualities is virtually over for the season; grinding sorts firm at 21s to 24s per qr. Oats scarce and firm, at 21s to 25s per qr. Maize 3d lower on the week, at 23s 6d to 24s per qr. Lentils quoted at 32s 6d per 504lbs. Linseed cakes firm, at £8 15s to £9 per ton. Bran steady at £5 10s to £5 15s per ton.

Cambridge, Saturday.—During the week trade has been without animation. Supplies are smaller, but appear to be equal to requirements. At this market to-day there was rather less wheat on offer, but millers were able to supply their wants at last week's prices. Wheat: Red, 27s to 28s; white, up to 28s per 504lb. Trade for malting barley is nearly over. A small trade doing in seed lots. Oats were in good supply, prices steady. Beans firm.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Wheat prices rather weak. White, 28s to 31s; red, 27s to 30s; malting barley, 28s to 35s; grinding ditto, 23s to 25s; white oats, 20s to 24s; black oats, 20s to 23s; grey peas, 33s to 35s; tick beans, 36s to 38s; mazagans, 33s to 34s; maize, 25s to 28s per qr; tares, 8s to 9s per bushel.

Carlisle Saturday.—There was a small supply of oats in our market to-day, and big attendance of buyers of seed grain. Oats were fully 9d per qr dearer than last week, 21s 6d to 23s 6d per 336lb. There is every indication of a good trade being done during the next few weeks in fine oats.—THOMAS ROBINSON.

Chester, Saturday.—Full prices were maintained for all classes of English wheat. Indian corn in good demand, and foreign beans 3d per qr dearer. Quotations: Wheat (white), 4s 5d to 4s 7d; red, 4s 4d to 4s 6d, 75.b. Malting barley, 4s to 4s 1d, 60lb. Grinding barley, 3s 4d to 3s 6d, 64lb. Beans, 5s 6d to 5s 8d, 80.b. Oats (new), 2s 10d to 3s 1d; old, 3s 4d to 3s 6d, 46lb. Indian corn, 12s 6d to 13s 3d, 240lb.

Chichester, Wednesday.—The market was fairly attended, but the tone of business was distinctly quiet. Wheats in slow demand at late rates. Feeding stuffs firm, but unaltered in values.

Colchester, Saturday.—Much less wheat offering, poorer trade, and in some cases 6d per qr advance was obtainable. Beans and oats steady.—FRANCIS AND CO.

Croydon, Thursday. White wheat, 2.s to 29s. Red ditto, 27s to 28s. Malting barley, 28s to 35s. Grinding, 22s to 24s. Oats, 18s to 22s. Beans, 31s to 33s. Peas, 29s to 31s. Trade for wheat dull, prices lower. Oats firm. Beans and peas no alteration.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There was a fair attendance at our market to-day. Wheat and flour are about unchanged, with little business passing. Indian corn and round maize small trade, with prices favouring buyers. Home and foreign oats dull at late rates. Canadian peas steady, but quiet. Barley unchanged. Grinding beans quiet, and rather dearer. Bran and thirds steady, unchanged. Oatmeal steady, but dull.—GIBSON AND CLARK.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Wheat supply was moderate, and trade quiet, but fairly steady, at last week's prices of 28s 6d to 29s 6d per qr. Barley—The trade for the higher qualities, which are now very scarce, is all but over There is still a small business passing in medium descriptions, at 28s to 33s per qr., but this trade also is getting smaller each week; foreign grinding sorts steady. Maize about 6d per qr. lower on the fortnight at 22s 6d for round. Oats, beans and peas all in small supply, and very firm. Millet offered at 19s 6d per 504lbs. Linseed cakes very firm, at £8 10s to £9 per ton. Red clover seeds rather slow. Bran unchanged, at £5 10s per ton.

Leeds, Tuesday.—The change to mild, damp weather combined with the drop in America, rather upset the equanimity of the trade. Millers are not in a humour to either buy or bid, although holders of wheat would make a slight concession to induce business. Barley quiet, without change. Maize, beans, and oats rather easier.—DUNNS AND CO.

Leeds, Friday.—Slow trade in both English and foreign wheats, without any change from Tuesday's prices, except that Americans slightly favour buyers English malting barley the turn higher. Maize, beans, peas, oats, and flour all firmly held.

Leicester, Saturday.—Very fair attendance, with moderate supplies of home-grown whites, which sold slowly at 28s to 31s per 35 stone. Barley in slow request. Fine oats in good demand.

Lewes, Tuesday.—New white wheat, 28s to 30s. New brown ditto, 28s to 29s. Malting barley, 32s to 35s. Grinding ditto, 20s to 24s. Oats, 21s to 26s. Beans, 34s to 38s. Peas, 32s to 36s per quarter.

Leith, Friday.—Trade during the week has been very dull, and there is little change to chronicle on that of last week. Owing to the scarcity of prime, sound maize, the spot prices may be written 6d. up. Wheat Scotch, slow trade prices easier. Oats, Scotch slightly better demand at late rates; foreign oats from 19s. to 21s. 6d.; barley Scotch, slow trade at 6d advance; foreign feeding, 21 hard white pease, 37s. 6d.; beans all varieties, 33s. 6d. to 34s.; round maize, 23s. 6d. to 24s.; parcels with very slight heat, 21s. to 22s. 6d.; damaged, 19s. to 20s.; millet seed, 19s. Mill offals: Unchanged from last week with a fair amount of business passing. Broad bran, 120s. to 125s.; medium bran, 97s. 6d. to 102s. 6d.; sharps, 95s. to 97s. 6d.; parings, 105s. to 107s. 6d.; cummings, 82s. 6d. to 87s. 6d.; dried grains, brewers', 9s. 6d.; distillers', 102s. 6d. to 105s.; oat husks, 45s.; mealy seeds, 67s. 6d.; all sacks included.—WILLIAM MACLAY.

Lincoln, Friday.—Small supply of English wheats, which sold at last week's rates. Reds, 28s 6d to 29s 6d; whites, 29s to 30s. Barleys confined to seed lots. Oats a slow sale at barely late rates. Beans, peas, and maize firm.

Liverpool, Friday.—The market has had a moderate attendance, and wheat experiences a fair trade at prices about unchanged from Tuesday. Flour: Foreign is extremely slow, winters being generally 6d lower. The Liverpool Millers' Association make no change in their quotations, and report a moderate business. Maize: Mixed is quiet, but firmly held for 3d advance; European quiet, but steady at unchanged rates; Plate has a moderate inquiry, but quotations are unchanged. Barley: Brewing is idle and prices are nominally unchanged; feeding slow, unchanged. Beans firmly held, but inactive. Peas are firm, with a fair inquiry, the turn dearer for Canadian. Oats are firmly held, but only a moderate inquiry at late rates for English; foreign grades are unchanged, with only a small demand. Oatmeal steady; prices unchanged from last Tuesday. Oilcake steady, with a fair demand, although the tendency for American is rather easier.—SEGAR AND TUNNICLIFFE.

Maidstone, Thursday.—Decidedly dull trade to-day: Wheat will not move off freely; sales were about as last week. Barley displays no particular change. Oats keep up well, and exceeds in proportion cost of other grain. Maize is feeble, except for the flat mixed American, which seems to be comparatively rare. Not any alteration in the value of other sorts of feeding material.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—Wheat at our to-day's market ruled quiet at unchanged prices. Maize slow sale, and 6d per 480lb below last Saturday's prices had to be accepted to make sales. Beans and peas were held for last week's prices; demand, however, was slow. Oats a quiet demand, but without any alterations in values. Barley unchanged.—JOSEPH POLLARD AND CO.

Northampton, Saturday.—No alteration from last week. Slow demand, supply limited. Feeding stuffs much wanted. Flour very quiet, and difficult to sell. White wheat, 28s to 30s; red, 27s to 29s; barley, 26s to 34s; oats, 18s to 23s; fine, 24s; beans, 33s to 40s; flour, 21s to 22s; fine, 24s.

Norwich, Saturday.—There was a smaller supply of wheat at our market to-day, with a steady trade at late rates. Finer weather has prevailed during the past week, with bright sunshine. Wheat, red, 28s to 28s 6d per qr, weight 63lb per bushel imperial. Corn inspector's return for the week ending February 22, 1902: Wheat, 2,175, 26s 7½d; barley, 3,329-2, 29s 5½d.—J. ARTHUR MILLS.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Wheat very small supply, which sold readily at last week's full rates. No barley offering from growers; needy maltsters paying a good 1s advance. Oats and beans: But few offering, and values well maintained.—ROBERT HUBBLE.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Moderate show of grain. Wheat sold at about last week's rates. Spring corn unaltered. Arrivals nil.—E. AND F. RICHARDSON.

Newport, Wednesday.—Dull trade and no change in prices.

Peterborough, Saturday.—There has been a smaller supply of wheat at market, but no improvement in the demand, trade being slow, without quotable change in value. Barley maintained the recent advance on the little offering. Fewer oats shown and prices steady.—THOMAS HILL AND SON.

Plymouth, Thursday.—Average attendance at our market to-day. Maize 3d lower. Barley and oats firm, prices as last week. Wheat steady.—ORLANDO, DAVIS, AND CO.

Reading, Saturday.—The wheat supply to-day was rather better than of late, and a fairly brisk trade took place, quotations being very firm, and practically the same as at recent markets. Barley was in average supply, and, the demand being good, recent rates were readily obtained, while for oats, which met only a dragging inquiry, there was no variation in prices.

Ripon, Thursday.—Oats firm at last week's prices, and much sought for seed. Maize a slow trade. Fair attendance. Wheat, English (new), 28s 6d to 29s 6d; ditto, foreign, 29s to 33s; barley, grinding, 22s 6d to 23s 6d; ditto, malting, 26s to 31s; oats (new), 22s to 24s; round maize, 24s to 26s per qr; beans, 1s per stone.

Romford, Wednesday.—Wheat was a slow trade at barely last week's prices. Small supply on offer. Red wheat, 28s to 28s 6d; white wheat, 29s to 30s per qr.

Rye, Wednesday.—White wheat, 27s to 29s; red wheat, 27s to 29s; tick beans, 34s to 38s; Mazagan beans, 33s to 36s; long pods, 32s to 34s; grey peas, 32s to 35s; blue peas, 45s to 60s; white oats, 21s to 25s; black oats, 21s 6d to 26s; winter oats, 21s to 23s; English barley, 29s to 33s.

Sheffield, Tuesday. The attendance has been poor, and the variations from last week's prices have been only slight. Sellers of English and foreign wheats firm at late prices. The demand for maize and beans was moderate at last week's rates. Oats and barley unchanged. Quotations:—Wheat, white, 29s 6d to 30s 6d; ditto red, 29s 6d to 30s 6d per 501b.; barley, grinding, 22s to 23s; ditto malting, 28s to 32s per 448lb.; oats, new white, 21s 6d to 22s 6d; ditto new black, 20s to 21s per 336lb; peas, grinding, 32s to 34s; ditto blue, 53s to 80s per 5041b.; beans, Egyptian, 36s to 36s 6d per 504lb; ditto English (new) 37s to 37s 6d per 532lb; Indian corn (small), 24s to 25s; ditto American mixed, 27s 6d to 28s per 480lb.

Spalding, Tuesday.—Trade slow, and wheat scarcely as good as last week, the quotation being 27s 6d, against 28s per qr. a week ago. Oats, 21s 6d, trade being firm. Good inquiry for beans and peas.

Stamford, Friday.—Wheat was well represented, but trade was rather worse. Barley, 28s to 32s per qr. for the best seed. Fair trade in oats at 31s to 35s. Maize sold off at late rates.

Stockton, Wednesday.—Moderate show of English wheat, which made 30s per qr. The trade in foreign wheat keeps quiet, with a moderate inquiry from millers, and to do business a little less money had to be taken. Maize was 6d easier. Oats unchanged.

Wakefield, Friday.—In the small business passing in wheat on to-day's market about late rates are accepted. Malting barley is pressed for sale with but few buyers. Grinding barley 3d. dearer, other feeding stuffs unaltered.—MICHAEL SANDERSON AND SON, LTD.

Wakefield, Friday.—We have a thin attendance of buyers here to-day, and trade in all articles is consequently limited. American and Russian wheats are 3d. to 6d. lower on the week, Indian and Californians fully as dear, English being barely steady. Malting barley in small demand, maize, beans and oats slow.—DUNNS AND CO.

Winchester, Saturday.—English wheat short supply and dull trade; foreign, prices unaltered, with small inquiry. Barley, oats, and maize last week's prices; quiet trade. Flour fair demand; late rates.—FEAR, COLEBROOK, AND CO., LIMITED.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—A fair attendance of buyers and sellers, and steady trade. Quotations: Wheat, new, 12s 6d to 13s per 216lb.; oats, old, 15s 6d to 16s; new, 12s to 13s; beans, old, 15s 6d to 16s 6d; new, 14s 3d to 14s 9d per 196lb; barley, 31s to 32s per 448lb; maize, new, 28s to 26s; old, 27s 6d per 480lb.

Worcester, Saturday.—Fair attendance, with moderate supplies of wheat, which met a steady sale at 10s 3d to 11s 6d per bag. Foreign quotations are rather firmer Barley steady. English beans fetch rather more money.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Poor attendance. Very few samples of wheat, and trade slow. Barley for seed in fair demand. Good oats scarce. White wheat, 28s to 29s; red wheat, 27s to 28s 6d per qr. Prices of other grains and offals unaltered.

York, Saturday.—Fair attendance. Very little corn showing, shortage in all departments. Barley, wheat, and oats made about late rates. Little more inquiry for seed corn. Average price of red and white wheat, 28s to 28s 6d; finest barley, 30s to 31s; medium, 28s to 29s; white, oats, 22s to 22s 6d; black, 21s to 22s. Very few beans showing 11d per stone; rye, 8d per stone.

FOREIGN.

Paris, Wednesday.—No market was held to-day, owing to the celebration of the Victor Hugo centennial.

CORN STATISTICS.

ARRIVALS INTO LONDON.

February 19 to 26, 1902, inclusive.

	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat .....qrs.	1,917	36,000	37,917
Barley	3,000	6,800	9,800
Malt	18,000	1 358	19,358
Oats	4,900	60,000	64,900
Tares	...	450	450
Beans	376	270	646
Peas	370	1,500	1,870
Maize	..	10,067	10,067
Linseed	...	2,581	2,581
Rapeseed	...	62	62
Farmseeds	2,789	100	2,889
Cottonseed	...	27,634	27,634
Flour, sacks	23,074	98,000	121,074

YEARLY AVERAGES (OFFICIAL.)

	Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.	
	s. d.		s. d.		s. d.	
1890 ...	31 9	per qr. ...	28 8	per qr. ...	18 7	per qr.
1891 ...	37 1	,, ...	28 2	,, ...	20 0	,,
1892 ...	30 4	,, ...	26 2	,, ...	19 11	,,
1893 ...	26 4	,, ...	25 6	,, ...	18 9	,,
1894 ...	22 10	,, ...	24 6	,, ...	17 1	,,
1895 ...	23 1	,, ...	21 11	,, ...	14 6	,,
1896 ...	26 2	,, ...	22 11	,, ...	14 9	,,
1897 ...	30 2	,, ...	23 6	,, ...	16 11	,,
1898 ...	34 0	,, ...	27 2	,, ...	18 5	,,
1899 ...	25 8	,, ...	25 7	,, ...	17 0	,,
1900 ...	29 11	,, ...	25 9	,, ...	17 9	,,
1901 ...	26 9	,, ...	25 3	,, ...	18 5	,,

MONTHLY AVERAGES.
(196 Market Towns.)

	1901.			1902.		
	Wheat	Barley	Oats	Wheat	Barley	Oats
January	26 6	25 7	17 4	27 8	26 8	20 1
February	26 5	25 5	17 7	27 1	26 8	20 3
March	25 10	25 0	17 10			
April	26 3	25 7	18 3			
May	27 6	25 9	19 4			
June	27 7	23 11	19 10			
July	27 4	22 9	19 8			
August	27 4	24 0	18 10			
September	26 1	25 4	17 4			
October	25 1	25 7	17 6			
November	25 9	26 10	18 2			
December	27 4	26 8	19 5			

IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGES.

1901.	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
Feb. 23	68,150½	26	1	65,514¾	25	0	23,418½	17	7
Mar. 2	68,224	25	11	52,600½	25	0	21,858½	17	9
,, 9	63,714½	25	9	51,125¾	25	4	19,410½	17	7
,, 16	55 073¾	25	9	36,968½	25	1	14,010	17	7
,, 23	53,755½	25	8	27,840½	24	11	13,895½	17	9
,, 30	47,908¾	26	0	20,179½	24	9	12,418½	18	0
Apr. 6	42,721½	26	3	14,647½	25	3	11,776¾	18	0
,, 13	32,905	26	5	6,809¾	26	0	5,936½	18	1
,, 20	35,737½	26	8	6,734½	25	7	8,346½	18	8
,, 27	46,572	26	8	6,985½	25	8	8,300¾	18	1
May 4	46,616½	26	9	6,417½	26	4	6,869½	19	8
,, 11	47,118¾	27	3	4,279½	26	2	7,049	19	1
,, 18	52,875½	27	7	2,508	24	2	7,345½	19	4
,, 25	49,822½	27	7	1,511¾	24	1	4,665½	19	8
June 1	46,514	27	7	859½	23	8	4,938	19	9
,, 8	42,202	27	6	221½	22	9	4,023½	20	1
,, 15	40,764	27	8	1,404½	24	0	5,565½	19	7
,, 22	29,695	27	6	336¼	23	2	3,552½	20	3
,, 29	28,191½	27	6	692½	25	4	2,803½	20	0
July 6	19,564½	27	8	140½	21	9	1,800¾	19	10
,, 13	15,231¾	27	2	49	23	10	1,675½	19	9
,, 20	17,462½	27	3	88½	23	4	2,040½	19	11
,, 27	18,297¾	27	3	206¾	22	1	2,385½	19	4
Aug. 3	18,666½	27	6	250¾	23	1	3,219½	20	0
,, 10	19,156	27	7	141¼	22	1	2,143½	19	4
,, 17	22,617½	27	4	220¼	27	2	5,982	18	9
,, 24	37,168¾	27	3	976⅜	23	7	9,952¾	18	1
,, 31	61,603¾	27	0	4,877¾	24	3	14,654½	17	10
Sept. 7	66,623½	26	5	14,342¾	25	1	19,075½	17	6
,, 14	77,949	26	2	34,989¼	24	11	19,909½	17	4
,, 21	80,279½	26	0	70,096¾	25	5	26,476¾	17	4
,, 28	80,488	25	10	109,783½	25	10	22,567½	17	2
Oct. 5	60,376½	25	8	126,592¾	26	3	21,631½	17	7
,, 12	63,656½	25	9	172,175¾	26	5	16,815½	17	6
,, 19	58,772⅜	25	10	203,591½	26	8	15,506½	17	8
,, 26	57,984¾	25	11	208,471⅛	2	10	18,009½	17	5
Nov. 2	70,314½	26	2	134,277½	26	10	18,350⅜	17	7
,, 9	62,265½	26	6	202,577½	27	0	20,066½	17	8
,, 16	57,884⅜	26	9	201,723½	26	9	20,122¼	18	3
,, 23	63,150⅜	27	1	185,268¼	26	10	20,612	18	7
,, 30	60,323¼	27	1	193,434⅜	26	9	22,419½	18	9
Dec. 7	67,925½	27	1	162,996¼	26	7	23,990⅜	19	0
,, 14	48,045½	27	2	182,212¼	25	10	17,125½	17	1
,, 21	60,562⅜	27	7	119,398¼	26	8	26,260½	19	8
,, 28	43,718½	27	7	81,859½	26	8	16,901½	19	10
1902.									
Jan. 4	31,440½	27	7	34,777½	26	7	11,621½	19	10
,, 11	48,997¼	27	8	69,120½	26	7	14,995	20	0
,, 18	74,239½	27	8	91,559⅜	26	11	19,733½	20	0
,, 25	74,753½	27	7	87,594	26	7	25,332½	20	3
Feb. 1	73,381½	27	4	81,463¾	26	7	25,757	20	2
,, 8	67,470½	27	2	69,291⅜	26	9	25,055½	20	3
,, 15	68,500	26	11	54,084¼	27	5	21,824	20	3
,, 22	72,614½	27	1	53,201½	26	11	22,799	20	4
Mar. 1	79,453⅜	27	1	43,037⅜	26	7	22,322	20	5

LONDON AVERAGES.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, February 25th, 1902.

	Total Quantities. Imperial Measure.	Total Amount.	Average Price per qr. Imperial Measure.
	Quarters. Bus.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Wheat	2,761 7	3,879 13 0	1 8 1
Barley	291 1	410 17 0	1 8 3
Oats	1,676 0	1,773 6 11	1 1 2

FLUCTUATIONS IN THE AVERAGE PRICE OF WHEAT.

PRICE.	Jan. 5	Feb. 1.	Feb. 8.	Feb. 15.	Feb. 22.	Mar. 1.
27s. 8d	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 7d	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s 6d	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 5d	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 4d	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 3d	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 2d	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 1d	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 0d	...	...	...	...	...	...
26s. 11d	...	...	...	...	...	...

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF FINE HOUSEHOLD FLOUR IN PARIS.

(Converted into English money for sacks of 280 lb.)

	1902.	1901.	1900.	1899.	1898.	1897.	1896.	1895.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Jan.	27 9	24 9	25 2	29 0	38 7	30 5½	25 10	27 9½
Feb.	...	25 9	26 3	28 3	39 4	29 10½	26 2	27 10½
March	...	24 0	27 3	27 6	40 1	28 9	26 0	27 5½
April	...	24 6	26 9	27 6	42 3	28 5	25 6½	26 7
May	...	25 6	26 8	28 0	40 0	28 11½	25 1½	28 0
June	...	26 3	28 6	27 6	35 6	29 3	25 8	28 10
July	...	28 0	26 9	27 3	32 0	31 5½	24 6	27 1
August	...	27 6	26 4	27 0	31 6	36 11	25 1	26 11
Sept.	...	27 6	26 3	25 9	31 0	38 7	27 0	27 0½
Oct.	...	27 6	26 0	24 9	30 6	39 4	27 1½	27 9
Nov.	...	27 9	26 4	24 3	30 3	40 3	29 9	26 8½
Dec.	...	28 3	26 0	24 6	29 0	39 3	29 8	26 3
Yrly. Avrg.	...	27 3	26 6	26 9	35 0	33 5	26 5½	27 4½

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF LONDON TOWN HOUSEHOLDS FLOUR.

(Sacks of 280 lbs. ex-mill for cash.)

	1902.	1901	1900	1899.	1898.	1897.	1896.	1895.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Jan.	21 9	24 6	21 9	23 9	29 0	25 6	18 9	18 7½
Feb.	22 0	24 0	22 0	23 6	30 0	24 7½	19 4½	17 9
March	...	23 9	21 6	22 3	30 0	23 11	19 3	18 0
April	...	24 0	21 6	22 0	31 3	23 6	19 6	18 7½
May	...	23 6	21 3	22 3	39 7	23 7	19 0	20 4½
June	...	23 0	23 6	23 1½	35 0	22 7½	18 10	22 3
July	...	22 3	24 6	21 9	29 6	22 10½	18 6	20 0½
August	...	22 3	24 0	21 9	27 6	26 8½	18 8½	19 10½
Sept.	...	22 0	25 3	22 0	26 5	30 3	19 6	19 8
Oct.	...	21 6	24 9	23 3	26 1	29 0	23 7½	18 7½
Nov.	...	21 6	24 3	22 3	25 0	29 1	25 8½	18 4½
Dec.	...	21 9	24 0	21 9	24 3	29 0	25 7½	18 1
Yrly. Avrg.	...	22 10	23 2	22 4	29 6½	25 10½	20 8½	19 2

FOREIGN CORN TRADE.

The shipments of grain from the chief exporting countries last week were as follows :—

	Wheat. Qrs.	Flour. Sks.	Maize. Qrs.	Barley. Qrs.	Oats. Qrs.
United States	332,000	113,000	31,000	1,000	6,000
Russia	128,000	—	220,000	92,000	58,000
France	—	5,000	—	—	—
Austria-Hungary	—	5,000	—	—	—
Roumania	37,000	—	91,000	26,000	6,000
Argentina	82,000	—	5,000	—	—
India	10,000	—	—	—	—
Australasia	55,000	—	—	—	—
Miscellaneous	20,000	10,000	20,000	20,000	10,000
Total	664,000	133,000	367,000	139,000	80,000

MANURES.

Liverpool, Friday.—Nitrate of soda is only in moderate request, and spot quotations are without alteration, as also sulphate of ammonia. The inquiries for Basic Slag are abating, whilst superphosphate is in increased request, and fair sales transpiring at the annexed rates. Kainit and East India Bone Meal unchanged in value, and move more freely. The trade in feeding stuffs is only quiet, and values barely maintained, with small sales of rice meal at easier rates; some 450 bags Peruvian cotton cake sold ex quay at £6 1s 3d to £6 8s 9d per ton, and other values as annexed:—Nitrate of Soda, best quality, i.e., guaranteed 95 per cent., pure, in bags, £10 7s 6d to £10 10s per ton; East India Bone Meal, fair to prime, in bags, £4 1s 3d to £4 6s 3d per ton; Kainit prime 23 per cent., in bags, £2 7s 6d to £2 10s per ton; Palm Nut Cake, prime, in bags, £5 15s per ton; Linseed Cake, American thin oblong, prime, in bags, £7 10s to £7 12s 6d per ton; Linseed Cake, English, prime, in bulk, £8 15s to £9 per ton; Linseed Cake, foreign, prime, soft and oily, in bags, £8 5s per ton; Cottonseed Cake, N.A. decorticated, prime, in bags, £7 to £7 5s. per ton; Cottonseed Cake, English ditto, prime, soft, in bags, £7 7s 6d to £7 12s 6d per ton; Cottonseed Cake, English, undecorticated, prime, in bulk, £4 12s 6d to £4 17s 6d per ton; Cottonseed (crushed), 20 to 25 per cent. oil, prime, in bags, £7 3s 9d per ton; Maize Germ Meal, prime, in bags, £5 17s 6d to £6 per ton; Rice Meal, Rangoon, as imported, in bags, £6 5s to £5 7s 6d per ton; Indian Meal, coarse to fine grinding, prime, in bulk, 13s to 13s 6d per 240 lb; Linseed, fine bold feeding, in bags, £3 2s 6d to £3 5s per qr, 416lb; D.N.S. Superphosphate of Lime, guaranteed, 25 to 27 sol., in bags, £2 5s to £2 7s per ton; D.N.S. Superphosphate of Lime, guaranteed, 30 to 31 sol., in bags, £2 10s to £2 12s; D.N.S. Superphosphate of Lime, guaranteed, 35 to 36 sol., in bags, £3 to £3 2s, at the producing depot; Basic Slag, prime quality, guaranteed, 30 to 35 per cent. phos., in bags; Basic Slag, prime quality, guaranteed, 35 to 40 per cent. phos.; Basic Slag, finest quality, guaranteed, 38 to 45 per cent. phos., in bags, nominal.

SEEDS

London, Monday.—Messrs. John Shaw and Sons, seed merchants, of Great Maze Pond, Borough, London, S.E., report a quiet business passing. The larger firms have already made their early purchases, whilst the general country seedsmen are only just beginning to operate. Meanwhile, values all round exhibit great steadiness, and in view of the large requirements to be satisfied, and the moderate stocks, excepting as regards red cloverseed, which have to meet same, a healthy consumptive demand is with confidence shortly anticipated. Alsyke, trefoil, and white cloverseed must be quoted firm, whilst fine home-grown cowgrass is by no means any cheaper. The ryegrass market continues dull and drooping. Full prices are, however, asked for timothy, cocksfoot, and lucerne. Mustard and rapeseed show no change, but linseed still favours sellers. Spring tares attract more attention on former terms; winter vetches being apparently exhausted. The movements in canary seed continue erratic and puzzling; other descriptions of bird seeds presenting no fresh feature of interest. Peas and haricots have been selling better.

HOPS.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Rather more trade and the quantity on hand is getting into a narrow compass. The present run of business is quite exceptional, and prices have steadily advanced from 2s to 3s per cwt

Worcester, Saturday.—Our market is quieter for hops this week, but the trade still continues for the better qualities left, and for which full recent values are being realised. The lower kinds are almost entirely neglected.—PIERCY AND CO.

HAY AND STRAW.

Manchester, Wednesday.—Hay. 6½d to 7d; clover, 7d to 8½d; straw (oat), 6d to 6½d per stone.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—Supplies met with fair support at late prices. Best clover, 95s to 110s; inferior ditto, 80s to 90s; specially picked hay, 115s; good ditto, 108s; inferior ditto, 80s to 90s; mixture and sainfoin, 90s to 100s; and straw, 28s to 40s per load.

BUTTER.

Tuesday.—Bedale: 1s 6d to 1s 8d per roll of 24oz. Gainsborough: 1s 3d per lb. Settle: 1s 1½d to 1s 2½d per lb. Spalding: 1s 2d per lb. Leeds: York Lump, 15s to 15s 6d per stone; do long rolls, 1½lb., 1s 10d to 2s; fresh, 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb.

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 1s 3d per lb. Boston: 1s 2½d to 1s 3½d per lb. Colne: 1s 2½d per lb. Goole: 1s 2d per lb. Keighley: 1s 2d per lb. Kirbymoorside: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Knaresborough: Wholesale, 1s 9d to 1s 10d; retail, 1s 11d per roll of 24oz. Louth: 1s 1d per lb (wholesale). Market Weighton: 1s per lb. Masham: 9d to 10d per roll of 24oz. Northallerton: 1s 8d to 1s 10d per 24oz. Stockton: 1s 2d to 1s 4d per lb. Worksop: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Dorchester: 1s to 1s 3½ per lb. Ipswich: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Market Drayton: Best, 1s 3d to 1s 4d; seconds, 1s 2½d to 1s 3½ per lb. Hereford: 1s 2d to 1s 6d per lb.

Thursday.—Brigg: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Driffield: 1s per lb. Penistone: 1s 2d per lb. Ripon: 1s 8d to 2s per 24oz roll. Scarborough: 1s 4d per lb. Wetherby: 1s 4d to 1s 5d per lb. Birmingham: 1s 3d to 1s 5d per lb. Kidderminster: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb.

Friday.—Easingwold: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Grimsby: Danish, 120s to 122s per 112lb; Dutch, 110s to 114s; Colonial, 110s to 116s. Helmsley: 1s 2d to 1s 3½ per lb. Leeds: Yorkshire, 11s 6d to 12s 6d per 120; Irish, 9s 6d to 11s; Danish, 8s 3d to 9s 6d; Austrian (blues), 7s to 7s 6d; ditto reds, 5s 2d to 5s 8d. Leyburn: 1s 6d to 1s 8d per roll of 24oz. Lincoln: 1s 2d to 1s 3½ per lb. Otley: 1s 10d to 2s per roll of 24oz.

Saturday.—Appleby: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Berwick: 9d per lb. Carlisle: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Doncaster: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Grantham: 1s 1d to 1s 3½ per lb. Howden: 1s 1d to 1s 3d per lb. Lancaster: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Malton: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Pontefract: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Richmond: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Retford: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Skipton: 1s 2½d per lb retail; 1s 1½d wholesale. Stokesley: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Whitby: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. York: 1s 2d to 1s 4d per lb.

EGGS.

Tuesday.—Bedale: 10 or 11 for 1s. Gainsborough: 10 for 1s. Settle: 11 or 12 for 1s. Spalding: 12 or 13 for 1s. Leeds: Yorkshire, 14s to 15s per 120.

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 9 for 1s. Boston: 12 or 13 for 1s. Colne: 2s 6d per score. Goole: 11 for 1s. Keighley: Wholesale 11, retail, 10 for 1s. Kirbymoorside: 11 or 12 for 1s. Knaresborough: 11 or 12 for 1s. Louth: 16 for 1s. Market Weighton: 12 for 1s. Masham: 11 or 12 for 1s. Northallerton: 10 to 11 for 1s. Stockton: 8 for 1s. Worksop: 2s to 2s 2d per score. Ipswich: 10 per 1s. Dorchester: 1s to 1s 3d per dozen. Market Drayton: 9 to 11 per 1s. Hereford: 12 for 1s (wholesale, 12 to 13).

Thursday.—Brigg: 11 or 12 for 1s. Driffield: 14 or 15 for 1s. Penistone: 10 for 1s. Ripon: 11 or 12 for 1s. Scarborough: 9 for 1s. Wetherby: 10 or 11 for 1s. Birmingham: 10 per 1s. Kidderminster: 11 or 12 for 1s.

Friday.—Easingwold: 11 or 12 for 1s. Grimsby: Austrian, 5s 9d to 7s 3d per 120; Styrian, 8s 6d to 9s; Egyptian, 4s 10d to 5s; Swedish, 8s 9d to 9s. Helmsley: 12 for 1s. Leeds: Yorkshire, 11s 6d to 12s 6d per 120; Irish, 9s 6d to 11s; Danish, 8s 3d to 9s 6d; Austrian (blues), 7s to 7s 6d. Leyburn: 12 for 1s. Lincoln: 11 or 12 for 1s. Otley: 9 or 10 for 1s.

Saturday.—Appleby: 10 to 12 for 1s. Berwick: 10d to 11d per doz. Carlisle: 10 to 11 for 1s. Doncaster: 9 or 10 for 1s. Grantham: 12 or 13 for 1s. Howden: 10 or 11 for 1s. Lancaster: 10 or 11 for 1s. Malton: 11 or 12 for 1s. Pontefract: 10 or 11 for 1s. Richmond: 11 or 12 for 1s. Retford: 1s 10d to 2s per score. Skipton: 11 for 1s retail; 12 for 1s. Stokesley: 9 or 10 for 1s. Whitby: 10 or 11 for 1s. York: 10 for 1s.

THE BALTIC.

Wheat is 3d. per quarter lower for cargoes, both near at hand, and for future months' arrival. The tone of the market is exceedingly flat, the firm advices from India and Argentina being outweighed by the dismal depression at New York and Chicago. Sales of the last few days of February were Californian, at 30s. 3d.; Walla Walla, at 29s. 6d.; Australian, at 30s.; Argentine, at 30s.; No. 2 Hard Winter, at 28s. 9d.; No. 1 Northern Manitoba, 29s. 3d.; No. 2, 28s. 6d.; and soft white Kurrachee, 29s. 9d. per quarter. On March 1 a cargo of Hard Winter was sold for 28s. 6d., and No. 1 Northern Spring for 29s. per quarter. Red Kurrachee was offered for prompt shipment at 29s. 3d., but was not disposed of at that price. Maize was very flat on the 24th, 25th, and 26th February, but the 27th and 28th were steady days, and on March 1 the feeding was distinctly better. Sales of the week are: Roumanian, at 22s. 3d.; Galatz, at 22s. 9d.; Turkish, at 22s. 6d.; and Argentine, at 22s. 3d. per quarter.

A cargo of arrived Azoff Rly. made 19s. on Thursday, and Roumanian oats on Saturday made 17s. 9d. per quarter.

The London Corn Trade Association notifythe following standards as available for use in March:—Odessa maize, December shipment; Galatz maize, December shipment; Danube maize, December shipment; Bessarabian maize, December shipment; Danube Cinq. maize, December shipment; Novorossisk maize, December shipment; Varna maize, December shipment; Salonica maize, December shipment; Dedeagatch maize, December shipment; Danubé rye, December shipment; Odessa rye, December shipment; Novorossisk rye, December shipment; Nicolaieff rye, December shipment; Danube barley, December shipment; Novorossisk barley, December shipment; Odessa barley, December shipment; Nicolaieff barley, December shipment; Kertch barley, December shipment; Larache beans, December shipment.

Four wheat and three barley cargoes arrived off ports of call February 24-25, and three wheat cargoes arrived on March 1. The weeks' arrivals therefore were ten cargoes.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The weather has become so mild that the wheat plant has resumed growth, and is also improving in colour with the recent showers. The total fall of rain for February was, however, much below the average, and the following figures are the reverse of satisfactory:—

	1902	1901	1875-1900
January	1.00	0.90	1.85
February	0.90	0.75	1.53
Total	1.90	1.65	3.38

The land is in a good state for barley, and the sooner it is sown the better. Farmers seem to be apprehensive as to the clover lays, and there is a larger demand than usual for lucerne, the love of which for dry weather exceeds that of nearly all the other plants of its species. The winter tares look well.

In France the wheat is regarded as of not much more than mediocre promise, but good reports of its appearance are to hand from Austria-Hungary and Italy. From America the Western States send more hopeful reports than before, while from the South-eastern and Central States there is news of serious damage to the winter wheat. The Indian crop is unfavourable. Rain has fallen very opportunely for crop prospects in Asia Minor, but Persia shares in the drought prevailing in Hindustan.

The sales of English wheat in February showed an increase on January, while the price declined. This is partly a matter of cause and effect, but it must be feared that farmers, as the month wore on, rather lost heart, and hurried grain to the market at 6d. decline. The demand for chicken wheat was rather good, but this, somewhat paradoxically, makes the average lower, as the proportion of low-quality wheat sold at market, instead of used at home, reduces the apparent value of the staple as a whole. Chicken wheat, as a matter of fact, should not be included in the averages, but how are the inspectors to enquire for what purpose the wheat has been bought. Prices and sales thus far this year are as follows:—

January	569,000 qrs. at 27s 8d per qr.
February	681,000 qrs. at 27s 1d per qr.

The average prices paid for feeding stuffs show a slight advance in oats and a slight decline in maize, while barley has been remarkably stationary in value.

	English barley.	English oats.	American maize.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
January	26 8	20 1	27 0
February	26 8	20 3	26 6

The price of best London flour is unchanged on the month, and that of Town Households, on the average of 12 market days, is 3d. up from January. But the last market of February was 6d. cheaper for household flour, and thus the survey from the 1st March back to the 1st February, shows a net decline, and not advance, of 3d. per sack.

Liverpool quotes maize at 5s. 1d. per cental for American, 4s. 9d. for Galatz, 4s. 10d. for Turkish, and 4s. 11d. for Argentine.

Continental prices for wheat, thus compare with value at Mark Lane:—

	London average.	Term market.	F.A.Q. Paris.	F.A.Q. Berlin.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Jan. 1	28 3	31 3	38 0	37 6
Jan. 8	27 1	31 3	37 6	37 6
Jan. 15	28 2	30 9	37 9	37 3
Jan. 22	27 9	30 9	37 0	37 0
Jan. 29	27 10	30 3	37 3	37 0
Feb. 5	28 0	31 3	37 6	37 0
Feb. 12	27 11	31 6	37 0	37 0
Feb. 19	28 3	31 3	36 3	37 6
Feb. 26	28 1	30 9	36 0	37 0

New York quotes wheat at 27s. 6d. and San Francisco at 25s. The latter is the only advancing market at the present moment. Foreign wheat in London is temporarily weaker than English.

Supplies of wheat on passage to the United Kingdom are as follow:—

	Qrs.
Californian	2,340,000
Russian	55,000
American	235,000
Indian	124,000
Argentine	170,000
Australasian	620,000
Other countries	21,000
1st March, 1902	3,575,000
1st January, 1902	2,360,000

Of flour there are now on passage 318,000 sacks, against 420,000 sacks on 1st March, 1901. The present expectations include 186,000 sacks of American.

Of maize the quantity on passage is 350,000 qrs., including 260,000 qrs. of round corn. A year ago 540,000 qrs. were afloat, and more than half of it was flat grain. Barley is in good prospective supply.

	Qrs.
Russian	100,000
Roumanian	70,000
Bulgarian	30,000
Californian	300,000
Asiatic	40,000
Total	540,000
A year ago	355,000

Supplies of oilseed on passage are thus returned for the 1st March:—

Qrs.	1902.	1901.	1900.
Linseed	340,000	415,000	305,000
Rapeseed	12,000	3,000	4,000
Cottonseed	98,000	80,000	90,000

The linseed includes 40,000 qrs. of Indian and 300,000 qrs. of Argentine, the rapeseed 10,000 qrs. of Indian, and the cottonseed 95,000 qrs. of Egyptian.

The American visible supply on the 1st March was called as follows:—

	Qrs
Wheat	11,400,000
Oats	1,034,000
Maize	1,968,000

Oats and maize show some decrease on the twelvemonth, but wheat returns indicate a slight increase in the Atlantic States. The Russian ports hold 1,419,000qrs. of wheat, against 1,652,000qrs. a year ago. The same ports hold 580,000qrs. of barley and 620,000qrs. of oats, against 499,000qrs. of barley and 515,000qrs. of oats at this period in 1901.

Imports of the United Kingdom last week were fairly good of wheat, heavy of flour, small of barley, moderate of oats, small of beans, good of peas, and large of maize. Actual quantities thus compare with the last week of February, 1901:—

	1902.	1901.
Wheat, qrs.	254,000	238,000
Flour, sks.	184,000	169,000
Barley, qrs.	76,000	116,000
Oats, qrs.	115,000	191,000
Beans, qrs.	4,300	6,370
Peas, qrs.	16,000	12,000
Maize, qrs.	257,500	347,000

The changes in the prices of spring corn have been very slight during the past week, but the tendency tof the market has been in buyers' favour for barley, oats, maize and canary seed. The articles held most firmly are beans, peas, oil seeds and farm seeds.

LONDON TERM MARKET.

This market is held twice a day, except on Saturday, when there is no afternoon call. The market is open to elected members only. No business except for future delivery is done, and the smallest quantity that can be purchased is 1,000 quarters, or 4,800 centals. The name of the month stands for guaranteed delivery (if required) on or before the last day of that month, and the following have been the prices per cental recently made:—

WHEAT.—Calls.	March. s. d.	June. s. d.	Aug't. s. d.
Feb. 24 11 a.m.	6 3	6 3	6 3
4 p.m.	6 3	6 3	6 3
Feb. 25 11 a.m.	6 2	6 3	6 3
4 p.m.	6 2	6 3	6 3
Feb. 26 11 a.m.	6 2	6 3	6 3
4 p.m.	6 2	6 3	6 3
Feb. 27 11 a.m.	6 2	6 3	6 3
4 p.m.	6 2	6 3	6 3
Feb. 28 11 a.m.	6 2	6 3	6 3
4 p.m.	6 1	6 2	6 3
Mar. 1 11 a.m.	6 1	6 2	6 2
To-day noon	6 1	6 2	6 3

The maize market is very weak for March delivery, 4s. 4d. being accepted. For May 4s. 7d. is demanded.

The Term Market standard wheat is No. 1 Northern Spring American sold on the Duluth certificate. Other sorts of wheat can be bought at the above prices plus or minus agreed difference between the other sort and the standard quality. Quotations are by the "true hundredweight" or cental of 100 lb. We do not give fractions of a penny per cental. The maize quoted is fair average quality from the United States.

The deposit required from members of the Term Market has been fixed at £50 minimum and 1s. per quarter margin on any purchases above 1,000 quarters.

The Term Market (while the "Baltic" is rebuilding) is temporarily situated at the Great Eastern Hotel, No. 190, Bishopsgate Street, ground floor.

LONDON TOP PRICE FLOUR.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1901.

		s.	d.
September 2	(per sack)	29	0
,, 28	,,	28	0

(No official change since last date given.)

THIS DAY'S MARKETS

MARK LANE, MONDAY.

[FIRST REPORT.]

The market was not very well attended, but there are so many different interests concentrated at Mark Lane that it is very difficult to judge from a general survey. Thus, there was more, and not less, than usual doing on the barley section on the old market, and in the farm seed section on the new. For English wheat there was a fair sale at currencies, and the small decline admitted in foreign led to a slight increase in the business put through. The greatest dulness, however, marked the trade in oats; maize, beans, peas, rye, and dari; while there also was a falling off in the demand for malt and for oilseeds. The price of maize and oats to sell was fully 6d. down, but there were few sellers at the town rate. Malting barley seldom exceeded 32s., but there were some fine lots for seed sold as high as 38s. per qr. Lucerne was locked up on the seed market at 60s. per cwt.

QUOTATIONS OFF STANDS.

March 3, 1902.

BRITISH GRAIN.

		s.	s.
WHEAT, White (new)	(per 504 lb.)	29	— 31
,, (old)	,,	30	— 32
Red (new)	,,	28	— 30
,, (old)	,,	29	— 30
Chicken or Feed	(per 480 lb.)	26	— 28
BARLEY, Malting	(per 448 lb.)	32	— 40
Brewing	,,	27	— 30
Feeding	(per 400 lb.)	24	— 26
MALT, English	(per 336 lb.)	35	— 41
Scotch	,,	37	— 39
Black	,,	30	— 32
Brown	,,	29	— 32
Crystallized	,,	33	— 35
OATS, English, Black Winter	,,	22	— 23
,, Black Tartary	,,	21	— 22
,, Grey Winter	,,	22	— 23
,, White Tartary	,,	21	— 22
Scotch	,,	22	— 24
Irish	(per 304 lb.)	19	— 20
RYE, British	(per 480 lb.)	23	— 25
BEANS, Pigeon	,,	36	— 40
Winter	,,	31	— 35
Mazagan	,,	30	— 32
PEAS, Best Marrowfat	(per 504 lb.)	65	— 75
Blue (boiling)	,,	60	— 7
Dun	,,	31	— 32
Maple	,,	36	— 40
TARES, Winter	(per 504 lb.)	52	— 60
Spring	,,	48	— 52

FOREIGN GRAIN.

(Ex-Granary.)

	s.	s.
WHEAT, per 496 lb.		
Old Duluth	32/	—33
Manitoba	32	—33
American Spring	31/	—32
Red Winter	30/	—31
Hard ,,	30/	—31
Kansas	30/	—31
Californian	30/6	—31
Walla Walla	None	
Australian	30	— 31
New Zealand	29	— 30
Argentine	None	
Danzig	31	— 32
Saxonka	30	— 31
Azima	30	— 31
Ghirka	29	— 30
Indian	29	— 30
MAIZE, per 480 lb.:		
Russian	22/6	—23
Roumanian	22/6	—23
Turkish	23/6	—24
American	26/6	—27
Argentine	None	
OATS:		
N. Zeal'd (Best)	27	— 31
N. Zeal'd (Bluff)	25	— 27
N. Zeal'd (Dun)	23	— 25
Canadian (320 lb.)	20	— 21
American (320 lb.)	20	— 21
K'nigsb'g (320 lb.)	20	— 21
Pet'sburg (304 lb.)	19	— 20
L'bau,w'te(304 lb.)	19	— 20
,, black ,,	19	— 20
Vologda (304 lb.)	19	— 20
BEANS, per 480 lb.:		
Egyptian	33	— 34
Smyrna	31	— 32
New Zealand	34	— 36
LOCUST BEANS, per ton:		
Italian	102	— 104
Cyprian	106	— 112
Portuguese	105	— 107
PEAS, per 504 lb.:		
Canadian, White	37	— 38
Australian, White	41	— 42
New Zeal'd Maple	39	— 41
MILLET, per 416 lb.:		
White	33	— 45
Red	25	— 27
Yellow	20	— 23
DARI, per 480 lb.:		
Smyrna	24	— 25
Persian	21	— 23
RYE, per 480 lb.		
Russian	24	— 25
BUCKWHEAT, per 416 lb.		
French	24	— 25
Russian	24	— 26
TARES, per 504 lb.:		
Konigsberg	44	— 43
BARLEY:		
Saale (448 lb.)	38	— 40
Hungarian (448 lb.)	32	— 40
New Zeal'd (448 lb.)	26	— 29
Chilian (448 lb.)	32	— 34
Californian (448 lb.)	26	— 33
Danish (448 lb.)	28	— 30
French (448 lb.)	27	— 29
Danubian (400 lb.)	20	— 21
Ouchak (400 lb.)	24	— 32
Yerli (400 lb.)	21	— 22
Russian (400 lb.)	19	— 19/6
MALT, per 336 lb:		
Californian	35	— 36
Smyrna	35	— 30

OIL SEEDS.

LINSEED. per 416 lb.	s. s.	RAPESEED. per 416 lb	s. s.
English	60 to 62	English	56 to 60
Dutch	59 to 61	Calcutta	41 to 43
Bombay	60 to 62	Guzerat	42 to 44
Calcutta	55 to 57	Feroz'pore	37 to 39
Russian	58 to 59	Jamba	29 to 30
Argentine	53 to 55	Ravison	28 to 29
SESAME. per 424 lb.		POPPYSEED. per 377 lb.	
Indian	50 to 52	Indian	46 to 47
COTTON SEED per ton.		SUNFLOWERSEED. per 448lb.	
Egyptian	128 to 130	Russian	44 to 48

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

THE MARKET CLOSED WITHOUT IMPROVEMENT. THE WEATHER, MILD AND OPEN, WAS AGAINST RETAIL INQUIRY FOR GRAIN.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE Monday

A feature of to-day's flour market was the offer of some splendid Russian at 28s. to 30s. per sack. The quantity was not sufficient to justify a separate item in the price list, but if Russia can turn out such quality from her mills the Old Country will have more than ever "to wake up." London and country makes to-day were held for former terms, but there was a wretched sale. American sorts, with 6d. reduction allowed for April delivery, were naturally weak on spot. Hungarian sorts were held above buyers' notions. Milling offals were generally cheaper to buy, but as prices were not quite settled it is safer to quote value as on Monday last.

LONDON FLOUR.

		s.
Top Price	(per sack)	— 25
Town Whites	,,	— 28
,, Households	,,	— 22
No. 2	,,	— 20

COUNTRY FLOUR.

Best Patents	(per sack)	23 — 24
Fine Roller made	,,	21 — 22
Ordinary Roller made	,,	20 — 21
Best Stone made	,,	20 — 21
Ordinary Stone made	,,	19 — 20

FOREIGN FLOUR.

Minnesota First Patents	(per sack)	23 — 24
,, Second Patents	,,	21 — 22
,, First Bakers'	,,	19 — 20
,, Second Bakers'	,,	18 — 19
Milwaukee Patents	,,	22 — 23
,, Bakers	,,	18 — 19
Kansas Patents	,,	23 — 24
,, Bakers'	,,	19 — 20
Cascadia	,,	21 — 22
Canadian	,,	22 — 23
Australian Patents	,,	20 — 22
,, Straight	,,	19 — 21
Hungarian	,,	28 — 32
French	,,	20 — 21

MEAL, &c.

Whole Meal	(per ton	172—174
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	115—117
Bran, London Broad	,,	110—112
,, Fine	,,	90— 94
,, Country Flake	,,	120—122
,, ,, Broad	,,	112—116
Pollard	,,	96—100
Biscuit Middlings	,,	120—124
Fine Middlings	,,	115—117
Coarse Middlings	,,	103—105
Feeding Flour (Red Dog)	,,	112—116
Barley Meal	,,	124—128
Rye Flour	,,	150—155
Oat Meal	,,	230—290
Oat Flour	,,	340—360
Maize Flour	,,	164—166
Maize Meal	,,	122—126
Maize Cones	,,	172—174
Maize Germ Meal	,,	110—120
Pea Meal	,,	130—150
Bean Meal	,,	145—165
Rice Meal	,,	100—105

THE BALTIC, 1 p.m.

STATE OF TRADE.

The following sale of cargoes are offered at 3d. decline from Saturday:—American wheat, Russian and Roumanian maize, Argentine millet, Russian oats, and Roumanian rye. Cottonseed is also in buyers' favour. Other sorts of cargoes are steadily held.

BUSINESS DONE.

WHEAT.—Argentine, 30s 3d, March shipment; Blue Stem, 29s 6d, March shipment; New South Wales, 29s 3d, March shipment; No. 1 Northern, 28s 9d, arrived.

MAIZE.—Galatz, 22s 3d, on passage; Roumanian, 22s, on passage; Odessa, 22s, on passage; Poti, 22s 6d, on passage; Argentine, 21s, June shipment; American, 25s 3d, prompt shipment.

BARLEY.—Azoff, 19s, April shipment; Roumanian, 18s, April shipment.

OATS.—White Konigsberg, 20s, prompt shipment; White Libau, 18s 3d, prompt shipment; White Libau, 18s, April shipment; New Zealand, Bluff, 24s 9d, April shipment.

MILLET.—Argentine Sorghum, 18s, April shipment; Smyrna, fine, 30s, April shipment.

CANARYSEED.—Turkish, 37s, prompt shipment.

COTTONSEED.—Egyptian, £6 6s, prompt shipment.

PROVISIONS

London, Monday.—The arrivals from Ireland last week were 2,025 bales bacon, and from foreign ports 9,697 bales bacon. Bacon.—There was a very poor demand for bacon all the week, the wholesale houses finding trade very slow. Owing to this, and also to the increase in the Danish arrivals, and the coming forward of the previously delayed Canadian, prices were considerably lower. Danish official rates, 3s, and Canadians, 2s to 3s, Irish in short supply being unaltered, prices ranging:—Irish from 50s to 56s, up to 61s; Danish from 49s to 51s, up to 54s; Canadian, 44s to 50s, up to 52s. Butter.—Butter was generally very slow and prices somewhat easier, especially for Danish, which was quoted 114s to 116s, up to 118s; Colonial, 104s to 105s, up to 108s. Lard.—Lard unchanged, quiet.

SEEDS.

London, Monday.—We had a moderate attendance to-day, and not a great deal doing. The principal dealers, having laid in fair stocks, are now waiting for the retail demand before again buying freely. English red clover, with reduced supplies, is decidedly firmer. White clover, Alsike, and trefoil are quiet, but well maintained. Perennial and Italian grasses are steady, with a fair demand. Spring tares meet a moderate inquiry at late rates. Canary seed is dull and drooping. Haricots and blue peas show no change.—JOHN PICARD AND CO.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORTS.

The wheat trade is steady; prices unchanged. Flour dull, and without change. Maize and barley unchanged. Oats 3d. per quarter lower.—COVENTRY (Mark Lane).

The trade in wheat is inactive, and the few transactions passing show a decline of 3d. to 6d. from last Monday. Maize is steady, unchanged.—WOOD AND CO.

Flour.—Trade to-day has been quiet, and prices are unchanged to 3d. lower since this day week.—T. S. MEDHILL AND SONS.

Milling Offals.—The drop in the price of bran has found buyers. Mills are now clear and sellers firmer. Pollard and middlings are slow, and must be written 2s. 6d. per ton down on the week.—JOHN BAWCOMB AND CO.

Flaur.—The demand continues slow, and, with easier American markets, prices are 3d. to 6d. per sack down. Grain.—Flat and round corn are in smaller compass, and in seller's favour. Oats and barley slow. Beans, 3d. per boll dearer. Pease are in better supply, and the turn lower. Oatmeal quiet. Oilcake unchanged. Mill stuffs are rather scarcer.—MCKINNON AND MCDONALD (Glasgow).

Flour.—With the lower cables from America 3d. to 6d. per sack reduction has been accepted for some qualities of spot flour. Values on spot are as follows:—1st Spring Patents, 24s. 9d. to 25s. 3d.; 2nd Spring Patents, 23s. 9d. to 24s. 3d.; American Winter Patents, 24s. 9d. to 25s. 3d.; extra fancies, 23s. to 23s. 6d. Offals.—There is no improvement in the demand for bran, and prices remain unchanged.—GREENHILL BROS. (Belfast).

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Monday.—Linseed cake: Spot prices keep up, as there is so very little here, but the forward market is weaker; demand very limited. Decorticated cotton-cake and meal: Dull, unchanged. Undecorticated is also without alteration. Linseed weak, and lower.

English Linseed Cake	ex mill	8 7 6	to 8 10	0
American Calcutta Linseed Cake	ex quay			
American Western ,,	ex quay	7 10 0		
Russian Oil Cake	ex quay	7 12 6	to 8 0	0
Decorticated Cotton Cake	ex quay	6 5 0	to 6 15	0
,, ,, Meal	ex quay	6 5 0	to 6 10	0
London-made ,, Cake (best)	ex quay	4 10 0		
Egyptian ,, ,, ,, (in bags)	ex quay	4 7 6	to 4 10	0
Burton Desiccated Ale Grains (bags included)	on rail, Burton			
Guinness, Desiccated Porter Grains (bags included)	ex warehouse, London			
Rangoon Rice Meal	ex warehouse			
Dutch Linseed (in bags), per 416 lbs.		2 18 0	to 3 0	0
Calcutta Linseed in bags, per 410 lbs.	ex warehouse	2 16 6		
American Linseed in bulk, per 410 lbs.	ex warehouse			
La Plata do. per 416 lbs.		2 14 6		
Russian Linseed in bulk, per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse	2 14 0	to 2 18	0

ROBERT AND JOHN HEWETSON.

POTATOES.

Borough, Saturday.—Arrivals are heavy, and the quantity proved in excess of buyers' requirements, the demand being quiet, while prices were barely maintained. Quotations:—Reading Giants Blacklands, 40s; Blacklands Up-to-dates, 45s to 50s; Lincoln Silts, 55s to 60s; Blackland Gartons, 40s per ton.

Goole, Wednesday.—Large attendance here to-day, with plenty on offer, and a dull trade. Sellers had to accept less money. Prices for warps, 5s 6d to 5s 9d per load of 18 stones. Top price for best Up-to-Dates, 52s 6d per ton.

Great Northern, Saturday.—A heavy supply was available, but the demand ruled slow. Scotch maincrops, 80s to 90s; ditto Up-to-dates, 65s to 75s; Lincoln ditto, 55s to 65s; ditto maincrops, 80s to 90s; Blackland dates, 40s to 50s per ton; New Teneriffe, 14s per cwt; and Jersey 4d per lb.

Spitalfields, Saturday.—Very heavy supplies, and met a slow demand, prices being weak. Quotations:—Best Lincoln Up-to-dates, 50s to 65s; Blackland ditto, 40s to 45s; Wisbech ditto, 45s to 50s; Scotch ditto, 60s; Scotch maincrops (grey soil), 65s to 70s; Lincoln maincrops, 75s to 85s; Reading Giants, 40s; and Blackland Gartons, 45s per ton.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—Good supplies of vegetables were available this morning, but the demand was of a slow character. Fruit was in fair supply, and evidenced a fair demand, at generally steady prices. Greenstuffs:—Cabbages, 4s to 5s; cauliflowers, 6s to 8s per tally; Brussel sprouts, 2s to 2s 6d per half-sieve; spinach, 2s to 3s; beetroots, 2s to 2s 6d per bushel; parsnips, 3s 3d to 3s 6d per bag; carrots, 2s to 2s 6d; turnips, 2s 6d to 3s; parsley, 3s 6d to 5s per dozen bunches; celery, 10s to 12s per dozen rolls; horseradish, 1s 3d to 1s 6d per bundle; forced rhubarb, 1s 3d to 1s 6d per dozen bundles; English onions, 7s 6d to 8s per cwt; Valencia, 7s 6d to 9s per case. Potatoes, 35s to 80s per ton. Fruit: English grapes, 1s 6d to 2s 6d; Belgian, 9d to 1s 6d per lb; Nova Scotian apples, 18s to 25s per barrel; Californian, 9s to 16s per case; bananas, 7s to 12s per bunch; Denia oranges, 10s to 25s; Jaffa, 12s to 14s per case; pineapples, 2s to 5s each; lemons, 8s to 20s per case; Canary tomatoes, 4s to 4s 6d per case; dates, 12s per cwt.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

Monday, March 3rd, 1902.

	British.	Total.
Beasts	1090	1090
Sheep and Lambs	7790	7790
Calves	10	10
Pigs	20	20
Milch cows	60	60

Quotations per 8lbs (sinking the offal).

	ENGLISH. Inferior.	Second.	First.
Beasts	2 6	3 10	4 8
Sheep	3 8	4 10	5 6
Lambs	5 4	6 0	6 4

Milch cows, per head, £15 to £22 10s.

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, 35; Eastern Counties, 674; Midland, Home, and Western Counties, 273; Devon, 30; Ireland, 77.

In the beast market, compared with Monday last there was an increase of 160 head, arrivals from Norfolk being heavier, with a few more from Scotland. Trade for fat beasts of both prime and second quality was dull and heavy at late rates. Fat cows, though in full supply, met with more demand at higher rates for best quality; fat bulls and rough cattle were difficult to dispose of even at a reduction.

The following are top quotations per 8lb (sinking the offal):—

	To-day.	March 4, 1901.
Scotch	4s 6d to 4s 8d	4s 4d to 4s 6d
Devons	4s 5d to 4s 7d	— —
Norfolks	4s 5d to 4s 7d	4s 4d to 4s 6d
Lincolns	4s 4d to 4s 6d	4s 0d to 4s 2d
Irish	4s 2d to 4s 4d	4s 0d to 4s 2d
Fat cows	3s 10d to 4s 0d	3s 6d to 3s 8d

In the sheep market there was an increase of 600 in the number penned, amongst which was a large proportion of Dorset lambs, which met a slower trade. A few very choice Down lambs made 1s per lb. Trade for sheep, both wethers and ewes, ruled firm, especially the latter; these cleared early. The supply included 320 Scotch and 3,980 from the Eastern Counties.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8lb (sinking the offal), and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day.	March 4, 1901.
7½ to 8-st. Downs	5s 4d to 5s 6d	5s 10d to 6s. 0d
9-st. do	5s 0d to 5s 2d	5s 8d to 5s 10d
10-st. half-breds	4s 10d to 5s 0d	5s 6d to 5s 8d
12-st. Lincolns	4s 6d to 4s 8d	5s 2d to 5s 4d
10-st. Down ewes	4s 4d to 4s 6d	4s 10d to 5s 0d
11-st. half-bred do	3s 11d to 4s 1d	4s 8d to 4s 9d
5-st. Dorset lambs	6s 4d to 6s 6d	7s 4d to 7s 6d
6-st. half-bred do	5s 10d to 6s 0d	6s 10d to 7s 0d

Calves and pigs being in short supply, trade and quotations are not worth quoting.

London, Monday.—Moderate supplies. Trade rather better. Beef carcasses, 3s 8d to 3s 9d; hind quarters, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; roastings, 5s 2d to 5s 6d; sheep, ewe, 2s 10d to 3s 2d; wether, 3s 10d to 4s 4d; hind quarters, ewe, 3s 8d to 4s; wether, 5s to 5s 4d; pigs, large, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; small, 4s to 4s 4d.

St. Ives, Monday.—Beasts, 400; sheep, 735; pigs, 300. Beef, 7s 3d to 8s 3d; mutton, 7s 7d to 9s 4d; pork, 7s to 7s 9d; sows, 5s 9d to 6s 6d. Fat cattle good demand; stores slow. Fat and store sheep fair. Fat and store pigs good demand. Milch cows, good trade for best; prices, £14 to £23.

FOREIGN CATTLE.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts, 1065. To-day's supply compared with Monday last showed an increase of 359, and consisted of 923 from the United States and 142 from Canada, these latter consisting chiefly of ordinary quality. Trade was of a very slow and dragging nature, though rates were a shade higher. The following were the quotations per 8lb.:—Offal given in best States, 4s 5d; ditto seconds, 4s 2d; Canadians best, 4s; plain, 3s 8d. Besides the above number, 350 States beasts were held back. Sheep numbered 752 from the United States, trade for which was very dull, at from 4s 3d to 4s 4d per 8lb. On Saturday the beast supply consisted of 1,213 from the United States, quoted at from 4s 2d to 4s 5d, with a fairly steady trade; Canadians 3s 8d to 4s, mostly cows. On the same day 504 States sheep were on offer, and made 4s 4d per 8lb. The following were the numbers on offer on the corresponding day last year, with the current top rates:—Beasts, 596, 4s 1d to 4s 2d per 8lbs., to dress about 720lbs.; sheep, 428, 4s 8d for ewes per 8lb., to dress about 56lbs.

Liverpool, Monday.—Smaller supply of cattle demand slow prices generally in favour of buyers, finished quality only maintaining late quotations. Sheep shown in larger numbers; demand good at higher prices. Beef, 6½d to 5d per lb; mutton, 8¼d to 5¼d per lb. At market, 1,126 cattle and 3,827 sheep.

FOREIGN CORN.

Hamburg, Saturday.—After a few days of sharp frost, we have now mild, rainy weather, and inland navigation on the Elbe is reopened. There are no complaints about the state of the autumn-sown crops. Trade quiet, without material alterations in prices. There is no fear of want of supplies. The imports during the week amounted to 13,333 tons wheat, 7,753 tons rye, 4,751 tons barley, 4,207 tons maize. German wheat is offered more freely, 32s 9d per 504lb being asked for fine Saale. American hard winter No. 2 is held at 29s, Northern spring No. 2 at 28s 9d per 480lb, Walla Walla at 29s 6d per 500lb. With an increase of offers of rye from Russia, the demand has abated, and 9 15-20 South Russian, March-April shipment, is offered at 23s 9d per 480lb c.i.f. Good middling qualities of malting barley are offered more freely, while finest quality continues scarce. Good Saale is held at 30s 6d to 32s 6d, fine at 34s to 36s, Moravian 34s to 34s 6d, Bohemian 31s to 32s, Oderbruck 28s to 30s per 448lb f.o.b. Russian feeding barley in fair demand at 18s 3d per 400lb c.i.f. Hamburg. Mixed American maize is held at 25s 3d. Odessa, February-March shipment, is selling at 21s 3d; Turkish at 22s 3d to 22s 6d per 480lb c.i.f. Hamburg. Quality of the new maize from Odessa and Turkey, with few exceptions, is giving satisfaction. River Plate, April-May, is held at 22s to 22s 3d c.i.f.—JOHN TATLOCK.

HOPS.

London, Monday.—W. H. and H. Le May report: There has not been much business done on this market during the past week. Stocks are now getting into a narrow compass.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW.

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS.")

Trade in London.

Notwithstanding a much shorter supply, trade on the chief market day of the week (Monday) opened with an entire absence of life, even at a decline of 1d. per 8 lbs.; towards mid-day, however, it became firmer, resulting in a clearance being made, though there was comparatively but few butchering cows and bulls on the market; rates to effect sales had to be lowered fully 2d. per 8 lbs. At this reduction was more or less forced. At Deptford, markets were only held on Monday and Saturday, on which days business was of a very slow nature, rates ruling in favour of the buyer. The total number of beasts offered for sale on both markets was 3,104, as against 4,589 during the previous week. The supply consisted of 1,010 British—decrease 515—and 2,094 foreign (decrease 970); these latter comprised 1,919 from the United States, and 175 Canada. The following were the top rates paid per 8lbs. (sinking the offal):—90 stone polled Aberdeens, 4s. 8d.; 90 stone polled Norfolks, 4s. 7d.; 100 stone shorthorn ditto, 4s. 6d.; 95 stone Dublins, 4s. 6d.; Waterfords, 4s. 4d.; 100 stone Lincolns, 4s. 6d.; 90 stone States, 4s. 3d.; 90 stone 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.; 100 stone fat bulls, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d. With regard to sheep, owing to the smaller number on offer, trade was of a decidedly firmer and steadier nature, this remark applying to both wethers and ewes, especially the latter, these readily making 2d. per 8 lbs. more money. For lambs there was also more inquiry, with consequently freer sale, with a marked upward tendency in value. At the Foreign Cattle Market the supply was light, and the trade was of a very nondescript character. Best pens made per 8 lbs. as follows (sinking the offal):—7½ to 8 stone Downs, 5s. 4d.; 9 stone Downs, 5s. 2d.; 10 stone Downs, 5s.; 10 stone half-breds, 4s. 10d.; 12 stone Lincolns, 4s. 8d.; 10 stone Down ewes, 4s. 6d.; 11 stone half-breds, 4s. 2d.; 8 stone States, 4s. 3d.; 5 stone Dorset lambs, 6s. 4d.; 6 stone half-breds, 5s. 8d. Of calves, the supply was very limited, as was also the demand. The best on offer were quoted at 6s. per 8 lbs. No pigs were marketed.

Trade in the West.

Now that the weather, though still excessively dull and gloomy, has once again become open, hopes of an early spring are once more revived, and trade in store middlings is benefitting under its influence. The early spring sales of barreners have opened fairly well, and with a stronger trade than might have been expected under the adverse circumstances of bitingly cold and snowy weather, and prices have been, so far, rather in advance of buyers' expectations, more particularly for young bullocks, which are making £24 to £32 per pair for heavily-fleshed beasts, and more ordinary runs £18 to £22 10s. The milch beast trade has also been attended by equally satisfactory results, at one sale in the Wiltshire district £24 10s. being made for an exceptionally smart heifer and calf, a more general run for good animals being £17 to £22; whilst cows make £12 to £16 5s. Young stock is also commanding a good deal of attention, yearling heifers selling freely from £5 to £7 5s. apiece. Stock bulls are likewise meeting a good seasonable inquiry, the present range for ordinary runs being from £9 to £15 or £16. Fat beasts, after the supply has for some little time past run rather short, are now coming a little more freely to hand, but this in no way affects the firmness of the trade, especially for home-grazed heifers, which are selling at all the leading markets from £15 to £22 each, and steers up to £26 (or quite 11s. to 12s. per score); fat cows selling from £14 to £19 15s. (or 10s. 6d. to 11s.). There is an equally good inquiry for best calves, which are making from £4 to £6 10s. each (or 8d. per lb.), and seconds from 54s. to 76s., rearers being now worth 27s. to 47s. Mutton rules fairly strong, though we hardly consider the trade as buoyant as a fortnight since. Still, anything at all fit in the way of either wethers or ewes meets a very fair sale, best wethers perhaps touching 8d. for anything exceptional in quality and weight, though from 7d. to 7½d. may be considered as a more average range, and from 6½d. to 7d. for ewes (the best class of wethers bringing from about 44s. to 52s., and ewes 42s. to 45s.). Lambs are coming in very well considering the cold; those at all ripe are making up to 38s. or 39s. each (for cross breds), ranging downwards to 30s. for those not so well finished. Store sheep are quiet just for the present, but with a return of open weather we may expect to see things "move" a bit later on, and at prices it is hoped that will in no way prove disappointing to flockmasters, for it is the universal opinion that the scarcity of sheep in the country will be bound to tell on prices as soon as sales become anything like general in the country.

Trade in Scotland.

John Swan and Sons, Limited, give the following as their report on above for the current week:—The number of fat cattle on offer this week has been large, and the general quality good. A fair demand has been experienced, and any change has in some cases slightly favoured buyers. A large show of fat cows, and for the best class a good trade was got. Sheep were plentiful. Owing to the continued bad reports from London, heavyweighted sheep and hogs continue to sell at low prices, but nice shop sheep would make an advance of quite 1s. a head. Fat lambs, if of good quality, selling well at from 37s. to 42s. Fat pigs and calves continue to sell at high prices. A remarkably small show of store sheep of a secondary class, for which there was little inquiry. Store cattle a poor show. There was a fair inquiry for the best descriptions on offer, but they were difficult to get quit of. There was a large show of milch cows, which met a quieter trade at about £1 head reduction. Quotations: Best beef to 8s. 3d. per stone; mutton to 7¾d. per lb.

Trade in Ireland.

There was a decrease of 252 cattle at last Thursday's Dublin Market, as compared with that of the previous week, and with a moderate attendance of English buyers. Trade was again of a most sluggish nature; in fact, many were of the opinion that it was the worst market since the stall-fed season opened. The cross-Channel shippers maintain—whether rightly or wrongly—that it is quite a risk buying, as they cannot be sure of making their own money on the other side. Except for the very best heifers and bullocks, the previous market's rates were barely maintained, and a large number of coarse and unfinished cattle were left unsold. Even the nice, medium-weight, well-finished beasts which generally are in active demand met with a very slow sale, with prices tending in favour of buyers. The quotations for beef were:—Prime ox and heifer, from 52s to 55s., and a few lots of extra finish from 56s. to 60s. per cwt.; second quality, from 46s. to 52s. 6d., and inferior 42s. to 45s. per cwt. The number of sheep in market was much the same, these being 3,862, or 142 more than last day. The mutton department was about as unsatisfactory as the beef. The shipping demand continues to be practically suspended, and it was hard to place the hoggets, which form a large portion of the supply. In the early morning it was thought that there would be a revival in the inquiry for light sheep for Manchester, but buyers supplied themselves very quickly. The local buying was fairly good for choice sheep, which sold at practically similar values as on previous Thursday, prime wether mutton making from 6½d. to 7½d. per lb., the latter figure ruling for well-finished Mountain and Cheviot sheep; good ewe, 5¾d. to 6½d., and inferior sheep from 4½d. to 5½d. per lb. Lamb in rather slack demand at from 30s. to 40s. each. Prime veal still scarce, and worth from 7½d. to 8½d. per lb; coarse and medium ditto from 4½d. to 6½d. Large young springer cows in active demand at from £19 to £21, but ordinary descriptions dull, at very irregular prices.

A small pig market, and good attendance of buyers, who operated very slowly at first, owing to sellers holding out for the rise of 2s. per cwt., which ruled last Thursday. As the day wore on trade became more active, and an early clearance was effected at late rates. Choice light-weight pigs made from 48s. to 50s. per cwt., and porkers a couple of shillings more; coarse pigs from 32s. to 42s. per cwt. In the South of Ireland there has been a decided improvement in the price of stores, particularly for small, forward cattle. Beef in the Cork market was weaker, and it is not expected that a better state of things will be seen for a month or so. Mutton holds its own well in Southern markets, choice wethers making from 7½d. to 8d. per lb., and second quality from 6d. to 7d.

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LONDON.

Islington, Thursday.—Supplies fair for a Thursday's market, and, as usual on this day, the bulk consisted of fat bulls and rough cattle. The demand was of a sustained character, and fair sales transpired at steady prices. Fat bulls 3s 4d to 3s 8d. Arrivals of sheep were moderate, and met with fair request at previous prices. 7½ to 8-stone Down wethers, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; 9-stone ditto, 5s 2d to 5s 4d; 10-stone Down ewes, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; and 11-stone half-bred ditto, 4s to 4s 2d. Calves slow of sale, the best on offer making 5s 4d per 8lb to sink the offal. No pigs were brought forward.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—The market rather small. Best beef was worth about 11s 6d a score. Mutton trade slow. Veal and pork cheaper.

Basingstoke, Wednesday.—At Raynbird and Sons' Sale Yard there was a fair attendance of buyers to meet a supply of 47 fat beasts, 53 calves, 420 fat sheep, lambs, and 42 head of dairy and store cattle, for which the following prices were realised:—Prime Devons made up to £21 10s, shorthorns up to £26 10s, Welsh steers £17, and Norfolk beasts £17 15s. Prime quality fat sheep realised from 44s to 50s, 13 months' old ditto 35s to 48s, fat sucking lambs 29s to 36s, fat ewes 30s to 50s, a consignment of fat tegs from J. Strattons, Esq., made up to 46s, fat ewes from Breach Farm up to 50s, fat sucking lambs from W. Barrow Simonds, Esq., up to 36s. Fat calves, 70s to £6 5s; small, 20s to 50s; dairy cows, £10 to £19 5s. The supply of fat beasts was fully up to the average as regards both quantity and quality, and a good demand was experienced, and full values made. An average supply of fat sheep and lambs, with a good attendance of buyers, and a slightly improved trade for the better quality fat sheep and ewes. With a full supply of milch cows, trade for the best descriptions was firm; secondary sorts, however, met a slow trade. Store cattle trade is still quiet. Fat calves met a very brisk trade at an advance on last week. Ruling values:—Best quality fat beasts, 6¾d to 7¼d; second ditto, 6d to 6¼d; bulls, cows, and inferior beasts, 5d to 6d per lb; best quality fat sheep, 7d to 8d; second ditto, 6d to 7d; fat sucking lambs, 9d to 10d; old ewes, ram, and inferior sheep, 5d to 6d per lb; fat calves, 6d to 8¼ per lb.

Boston, Wednesday.—A fair show of cattle, and buyers numerous. Strong store beasts, £14 to £16; incalvers, £19 to £21; heifers, £16 to £18; calves, 55s to 60s; best beef, 8s; heifers, 7s to 7s 6d per stone; hogs, 36s to 40s each; best wethers, 7d to 7½d; heavy weights, 5½d to 6½d per lb.

Braintree, Wednesday.—At Messrs. Balls's auction mart trade in cattle and sheep was rather slow; hogs better. Prime beasts met a rather sharp demand, and young sheep made fair prices. Heavy hogs found ready sale.

Bristol, Thursday.—Beef moderate supply to-day; slow trade, best qualities making 60s to 62s per cwt; secondary animals, 56s. Good supply of sheep, but trade dull. Best wethers realised 7¼d to 7½d per lb; heavy wethers, 7d; ewes, 5½d. Good number of pigs on offer, baconers fetching 9s 6d per score; porkers, 10s 9d. Little inquiry for store cattle.

Bury, Wednesday.—At Messrs. Simpson and Sons' auction mart there was a capital show of fat beasts. Trade was hardly up to the higher prices of last week, the quotations ranging up to £26, distant county purchasers attending in full numbers, but buying with rather more caution. Larger show of store cattle. Good trade for all the best bred lots. Some polled cattle fetched £13 each. Several lots of well-bred shorthorns made from £9 10s to £8 5s per head. Yearlings realised from £8 to £6 2s 6d. About an average supply of fat sheep. Trade showed very little variation in price as compared with the last few weeks. Larger show of store sheep, which met a good demand, at fully late rates. About an average show of fat pigs. Trade was hardly up to the late high quotations.

Calne Friday.—Present prices for prime pigs, in lots of not less than 10, on rail within 100 miles of Calne.

Prime Stores.	Thickness of fat in any part of the Back.	Price per Sc. s.	d.
6 sc. 10 lbs. to 9 sc. 10 lbs.	2½ in. and under ...	9	6
Under 10 sc.	Not exceeding 2¼ in. ...	9	0
Under 11 sc. 10 lb. ...	Not exceeding 2¾ in....	8	6
Under 12 sc.	Not exceeding 3 in. ..		

—C. & T. Harris & Co., Ld.

Cambridge, Monday.—Beasts, 293; sheep, 526; horses, 13. Beef, 7s to 8s; mutton, 4s 2d to 5s 2d. A few lots of store beasts, but trade very slow. Fat beasts not so good as last week. Fat sheep a good number to hand, prices lower. Stores trade quiet. Market closed for pigs. Hay, straw, and roots a fair trade.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Large supply of store sheep; working tegs, 24s 6d to 33s. A number of rough ewes, in lamb, were also offred and sold at a wide range of prices from 11s 6d to 26s 6d; strong two-year-old wethers, 44s.

Carlisle, Saturday.—The number of Irish store cattle on offer was considerably larger than a week ago, there being close on 300 heifers and stripping cows. The mild weather had a stimulating effect on the trade. There was a large attendance of buyers from a distance, and a good demand, especially for cows and the best class of heifers. Stripping cows were quoted at £9 10s to £12 10s and £13 10s; good heifers, £11 10s to £15 10s; small heifers, £7 to £8 a head.

Dorchester, Wednesday.—Business was of a brisk character to-day, and although supplies came freely to hand, a clearance was readily effected, and that, too, at prices which generally showed a slight improvement. The beef trade keeps unusually firm, fat bullocks, the best quality heifers and steers, making 10s 2d to 11s 6d per score, and cows 10s to 10s 6d. Mutton a slightly better trade, both for ewes and wethers, making 6½d to 7¾d per lb; cross-bred lambs, 6½d to 9d. The veal trade keeps good, especially for well-finished calves, which are now selling at £4 10s to £6 15s each.

Dublin, Thursday.—Numbers in market:—Beasts, 1,815, decrease, 252; sheep, 3,862, increase, 142; calves, 38, decrease, 6. Demand for choicely-finished cattle fairly well sustained, heavy-weight bullocks being most sought after. Rough sorts slow and a clearance difficult to effect. Sheep in excess of requirements; the very best scarcely made late rates; other sorts lower, with a very bad finish. Cattle, live weight (best), 32s to 34s. 6d per cwt; other sorts, 26s to 31s per cwt. Mutton, dead weight, 6d to 7½d per lb.—GANLY, SONS, AND CO.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Bullocks and cows, 478; calves, 90; sheep and lambs, 608; pigs (fat and sows), 58; sucking pigs, 3; pigs (stores, not more than ten), 204; pigs (stores, more than ten), 145; colts, 5. Prices of stock:—Best beef, 6d to 7d per lb; wether sheep, 6½d to 8d per lb; ewes, 5½d to 6d per lb; veal, 7½d per lb; lamb, 9d per lb; pork, 5½d to 6d per lb; bacon, 4d to 5d per lb.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons report rather more fat cattle were forwarded, the majority of which were of first-class quality. Local and distant buyers were well represented, and a sharp trade was sustained throughout. All finished animals fully maintained the excellent prices of last week, ranging from 8s 3d to 9s per stone. Fat cows in request up to £19. Fat sheep, amongst which was a good show of excellent hoggets, realised rather more money, the top price being 55s for hoggets (Suffolks). Suffolk shearlings to 52s 6d, half-breds to 51s 6d. Grazing hoggets were more in request, and made up to 33s 9d. A larger supply of fat and store swine, for which the trade was again brisk at fully late rates, with the exception of heavy weights, which in some cases were a trifle lower. Fat calves were dearer, up to £5 7s 6d, and the best for weaning from 61s to 35s. Forty cows and heifers were penned, and, with a large attendance of buyers, biddings were brisk, and good prices were realised, several being purchased by Warwickshire and London buyers. Shorthorn cows to £19; polled ditto to £18; in-calf heifers, £16. Several lots of grazing cattle were offered. Those with condition were in request up to £12 10s, but young cattle were slow and cheaper. Numbers at sales and market: Beasts, 635; calves, 53; sheep, 1,600; swine, 1,485; horses, 18.

Leicester, Wednesday.—The supplies of Norfolk and Lincolnshire fed bullocks were exceptionally heavy, and proved in excess of the demand. Buyers and dealers were well represented, but trade ruled rather sluggish, and prices declined 10s to 20s per head. Choice bullocks, 6½d to 6¾d; secondary, 6d: cows, 5d to 5¾d; heifers, 6d to 6¼d per lb. Sheep were in fair supply, and sold freely at 7¼d to 7¾d for light weights; large sheep, 6¾d to 7d; ewes, 5d to 6d per lb. Lambs in brisk demand at 1s per lb. Calves firm at 8d per lb.

Newport, Wednesday.—Large supply; good attendance; brisk trade. Quotations:—Best beef, 6½d; seconds, 6d to 6¼d; cows, 5d to 5¼d; wether mutton, 7d to 7½d; ewes, 6d to 6¾d; veal, 7½d to 8¼d per lb; porket pigs, 10s 6d to 11s; baconers, 9s to 9s 6d.

Norwich, Saturday.—The supply of store beasts showed some increase here to-day; trade was a little more active, but prices showed no important change. Fat beasts, which were in increased supply, made 7s 6d to 8s per 14lb. The supply of store sheep was pretty good, and keeping hoggetts were in rather better demand at 28s to 38s per head. Fat sheep, which were in good supply, were dull at 7s 6d to 8s and 8s 3d per 14lb. Keep prospects are pretty good in Norfolk, hence the better demand for hoggetts.

Romford, Wednesday.—About an average supply of fat beasts, trade slow. Best animals 4s 4d to 4s 6d, middlings 4s to 4s 2d per stone. Calves in short supply, trade dear, 5s 8d to 6s per stone. Sheep in average supply, trade about the same. Best sheep 5s 4d to 5s 6d, middlings 5s to 5s 2d per stone. A few store beasts on offer; fair demand. Pig market still closed.

Rye, Wednesday.—Number of entries: Sheep and lambs, 270; fat beasts, 27; calves, 6; pigs, 14. Heifers and steers, 4s 6d to 4s 9d. Cows, 4s. Maids and wethers, 4s 6d to 4s 8d. Barrens, 3s 6d to 3s 8d. Calves, 5s 4d. Pigs, 3s 6d to 4s.

Rye, Wednesday.—Heifers and steers, 4s 6d to 6s 9d per stone; cows, 4s; maids and wethers, 4s 6d to 4s 8d; barrens, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; calves, 5s 4d; pigs, 3s 6d to 4s.

Salford, Tuesday.—The supply of cattle was smaller, but trade was slow at late rates. There was a large decrease in the number of sheep penned. A better trade was experienced, and sellers obtained 1s to 2s over last Tuesday's prices. There was a good show of calves; and a better trade at rather more money. Cattle, 4½d to 6¼d; sheep, 6d to 8½d; calves, 5½d to 8½d per lb. At market: Cattle, 2,632; sheep, 7,264; calves, 189; pigs, 58.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—The supply of milch beasts was better than a week ago, and the quality also showed improvement. There was a fair amount of business. Best lots, £18 to £22 10s; secondary sorts, £13 to £16 10s.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday.—Fairy good trade generally. Cows with calves slightly lower, with a large supply. Small supplies of sheep. Quotations:—Beef, 6d to 6¾d; mutton, 6¾d to 8d; and veal, 7d to 8d per lb. Porket pigs, 9s 6d to 10s 6d; bacons, 9s to 9s 9d per score. Cows with calves, up to £21. Hay up to £5 12s 6d, and clover up to £5 per ton. Ewes with lambs made up to 54s 6d. Number offered:—815 cattle, 92 cows with calves, 319 sheep, 137 calves, 58 fat, 151 porket, and 458 store pigs.—B. R. CROXTON.

Spalding, Tuesday.—A fair show of beasts and sheep. Best ox beef, 7s 6d to 8s per stone; cow beef, 7s. Stores sold well; cows dear. Sheep a fair trade at 6¾d to 7¼d for best; middling sort, 5¾d per lb.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There were on offer 154 cattle, 246 sheep, and 231 pigs. A small show of best cattle, with few customers, and a slow trade at 7s 6d to 7s 9d per stone; rougher kinds, 6s 6d to 7s; sheep, 7½d; ewes, 5d to 6¼d; tups, 4d to 5d per lb.

Thame, Tuesday.—A great change in the weather and a mild, damp day had an adverse effect upon trade, particularly beef, which was slow as compared with late markets. There was a short supply, but quite equal to the demand. Mr. Bond's sale comprised 42 fat beasts, 89 fat sheep, 60 fat and weaning calves, and 61 pigs. Fat bullocks, £16 to £20; fat heifers, £14 to £20; fat bulls, £14 to £21 5s; fat tegs, 42s to 50s; fat ewes, 35s to 43s 6d; fatealves, £3 to £4 10s; cow calves, 23s to 54s; bull calves, 14s to 49s; fat hogs, 10s 6d per score; fat sows, £6 to £8 7s. Stores dear.

Wakefield, Wednesday.—Lighter show, but slow trade, at last week's prices. Best beef fully 6¾d; secondary, 6d to 6¼d; and inferior, 5d to 6d. Young sheep, 7¾d; secondary, 7d to 7¼d; other sorts, 5d to 6¾d. Numbers: Beasts, 1,236; sheep, 2,002.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Moderate supply of beasts and sheep; trade slow. Calves small supply and good demand. Quotations: Beef, 5¼d to 6¾d per lb (a few at 7d per lb); mutton, 6½d to 8¼d per lb; veal, 7d to 8d per lb; pigs, bacon, 10s 9d to 11s per score; porkets, 10s 6d to 11s per score. Only two sows were on the market.

Worcester, Saturday.—Average supplies of cattle and sheep. Trade quiet. Beef, 6d to 7d; mutton, 6d to 8d; and veal, 8d to 9d per lb; pigs, 9s to 10s per score.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Fair show of cattle, and [illegible] supply of sheep, but trade was very good, and [illegible] and sheep made more money than last week. Best beef, 7s to 7s 9d; secondary, 6s 6d to 7s per stone; best wethers, 7d to 8d; ewes, 5¼d to 6¼d per lb.

FOREIGN.

Yorkhill, Monday.—At a sale of American cattle held here to-day there were in the lairages 15 cattle landed by the Orthia (s) from Newport News, and 227 by the Pomeranian (s), from Portland (Me.). Bullocks, as is generally the case, formed the greater proportion of the total number, but there were also a few bulls. There was a fair attendance of customers, both wholesale and retail being represented. Business, however, was very slow, and values all round experienced a slight drop on those ruling last week. Small, neat, well-fed bullocks secured the best inquiry. Heavier and secondary class animals were very hard to cash. Bulls maintained last week's values. The dead-weight quotations may be given as follow:—Bullocks, best quality, medium weight, 56s per cwt, and a few choice up to 58s; heavy prime, 54s; secondary and heavier, down to 52s; stags, 50s to 53s; bulls, best class, to 48s; and secondary and heavier, down to 44s and 46s.

Yorkhill, Tuesday.—A sale of United States and Canadian cattle was held in the morning, when there were penned in the sheds about 280 anrmals. Bullocks formed the majority of the supply, and, taken all round, they were of a better quality than those exposed at Monday's sale. There was a good attendance of buyers, and trade was brisker, and good values were easier obtained than those ruling on Monday. As usual, the small, corn-fed, neat bullocks secured the best inquiry, and sold well. The deadweight quotations may be given as follows:—States bullocks, best quality, medium weight, 58s, and for a fine really choice up to 60s per cwt; secondary and heavier, 54s to 56s; bulls, best class, to 48s; secondary and heavier, 44s to 46s. Canadian bullocks, best class, to 56s, and a few extreme 58s per cwt; secondary and heavier 52s to 54s; and bulls made similar prices to those ruling above.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Hull, Tuesday.—Linseed: The arrivals are 3,726qrs Buenos Ayres, 30qrs Catania, 74qrs Hamburg, 250qrs Konigsberg, 800qrs Riga, 6,058qrs San Nicholas, 2,124qrs San Pedro; total, 13,062qrs. Linseed has been dull and lifeless all the week. Calcutta opened with sellers of April-June at 53s, but closes at 52s 6d quoted for the same position. River Plate opened with buyers of spot at 53s 9d, 52s 6d, to 52s, the value afloat according to position, and sellers of January and Feb.-March 51s 9d, but closes weaker; 51s accepted for seed just arrived, and this is the value of all positions up to March. Cottonseed: During last week the market firmed up, with business done at £6 10s spot, passage, and February, also £6 11s 3d paid March, but since yesterday there has been a quieter tone, and 1s 3d less would now buy. A little April-June done at £6 11s 3d, with more offering. New crop, Nov.-Jan., quoted £6 2s 6d. Oils: Exports for the week ending February 18, 1902:—Linseed oil: 12 Belgium, 2 Denmark, 3 Germany, 16 India, 6 Norway; total, 39 tons. Cotton oil: 87 Belgium, 19 France, 261 Germany, 245 Holland, 11 Italy, 2 Norway, 7 Sweden; total, 632 tons. The market is flat. Linseed oil: 30s 3d spot; 30s March-April; 30s May-Aug. Cotton oil: 22s 6d spot; 22s 9d March-April; 23s 1½d May-Aug. Crude: 21s 4½d spot; 21s 6d March-April; 22s May-Aug. Rape oil: Jamba naked, 24s 6d spot; 1st quality naked, 25s spot. Oil seed cakes:—Linseed cakes: With seed arrivals, prices are 2s 6d to 5s cheaper, with steady market. Cotton cakes: With a diminishing trade, due to resumed linseed crushing and dearer cottonseed, with lower oil, prices are 2s 6d to 3s 9d per ton dearer, with firm tendency.—KEIGHLEY MAXSTED AND CO.

London, Thursday.—Linseed: Owing to anticipated heavy arrivals, prices have declined. Spot nominal, near Calcutta to London 56s, passage 55s to 54s, February 54s, March 52s 3d, April 51s 6d, April-June 51s. La Plata, near 51s 6d, Jan.-Feb. 50s 6d. Hull is also easier. Calcutta April-June 52s. La Plata, spot 50s 6d, Feb.-March 50s. To the Continent, Bombay Feb.-March 55s, April-June 54s. Calcutta April-June 52s. La Plata just shipped 51s 6d. Linseed oil inactive at somewhat lower rates. We quote spot in pipes £31 5s to £31 10s, barrels £31 10s, May-Aug. £30 15s, Sep.-Dec. £29. Hull spot naked £30, March-April £29 15s, May-Aug. £20 15s, Sep.-Dec. £28 5s. Linseed cakes are firm. We to-day quote London-made £8 5s to £8 10s ex mill, American Western £7 7s 6d to £7 10s, Russian £7 12s 6d to £8 2s 6d. Cotton cakes quiet, London-made £4 7s 6d to £4 10s. Rapeseed: Neglected, and prices easier. Brown Cawnpore, Feb.-March 38s 9d, March-May 39s 9d. To the Continent we quote Yellow Guzerat March-May 46s. Brown Cawnpore, Feb-March 38s 9d, March-May 39s 9d. Brown Calcutta, Feb.-March 38s 3d, April-June 39s 6d. Ferozepore, Feb.-March 40s. Jamba, March-May to Hull 31s 9d. Cottonseed, after becoming firmer, has relapsed, and closes quiet. Spot London £6 8s 9d, February £6 8s 9d, March £6 10s, April-May £6 11s 3d. Hull spot £6 7s 6d, Feb.-March £6 8s 9d. April-May £6 10s. Bombay to Hull: Importers ask £4 15s for March-April, but the value is about £4 8s 9d. Cargoes, March £6 13s 9d, April £6 15s, May £6 16s 3d.—THE PRODUCE BROKERS CO., LTD.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed Cakes.—There is only a limited quantity of foreign available in warehouse, and spot values are well maintained, while in forward positions a fair quantity has changed hands at a slight reduction on present quotations. Russians move off quietly at unchanged prices. Americans offer for March shipment at £7 to £7 2s 6d per ton ex ship. Calcutta made in bags may be purchased at last week's quotations. London made attract very little attention, but being in small production, crushers are firm in their demands. Cotton Cakes.—The market is still well supplied with a considerable falling off in the demand; quotations are not quite so strong. Egyptians are obtainable at 1s 3d per ton less money, and English are also slightly easier. Decorticated meet a slow sale, and are unchanged in price, as also is the case with meal. Rape Cakes unchanged. Maize Germ Meal.— American offers come to hand on slightly easier terms, but buyers are still unwilling to operate, the trade generally anticipating much lower values. English is steady, but 2s 6d per ton cheaper on the week. Rice Meal.—Spot parcels of Rangoon make £5 5s, but some business is reported for April-May shipment at £4 7s 6d on the usual London ex ship terms.

	Per ton. £ s. d.	Per ton. £ s. d.
LINSEED CAKES.		
London made ..... ex mill	8 7 6	to 8 10 0
American ..... ex dock	7 5 0	to 7 7 6
Russian, in mats ..... ex dock	7 11 3	to 7 13 9
Russian, in bags ..... ex dock	7 15 0	to 7 17 6
Calcutta	7 12 6	to 7 15 0
COTTONSEED CAKES.		
London made ..... ex mill	4 7 6	to 4 10 0
Egyptian ..... ex dock	4 6 3	to 4 8 9
Decorticated ..... ex dock	6 10 0	to 6 15 0
Meal ..... ex dock	6 7 6	—
RAPE CAKES.		
East India	4 5 0	—
MAIZE.		
English germ meal ..... ex mill	5 17 6	to 6 0 0
American ..... c.i.f.	5 7 6	to 5 10 0
RICE MEAL.		
Rangoon ..... in warehouse	—	5 5 0

—PINNOCK BROS., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

WATERLOO ROUND FEEDING CAKES, £6 12s 6d PER TON; WATERLOO ROUND 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES, £9 12s 6d PER TON; WATERLOO ANGLO SHAPE 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES, £9 10s PER TON; WATERLOO 97 PER CENT. PURE EGYPTIAN COTTONSEED CAKES, £4 15s 0d PER TON. ALL F.O.R. HULL.

MOLASSINE FEEDING MEAL, packed in bags, of 1cwt. each. Price per cwt., 7s. 6d. Price per ton, £6 15s., on rail at works, Silvertown, Essex, and F.O.R. Liverpool. A sample lot of 6cwt., in 4 bags of 1½cwt. each, delivered free to any station in England on receipt of remittance for £2 11s 0d

POULTRY AND PROVISIONS

Smithfield, Saturday.—Supplies fair, with subdued demand, prices, however, being steady at the following quotations:— Fowls: Yorkshire, 2s 6d to 3s 6d; Essex, 3s to 3s 6d; Boston, 2s 6d to 3s; Surrey, 3s 9d to 4s 6d; Sussex, 3s 6d to 4s; Welsh, 2s to 2s 9d; Irish, 2s to 2s 6d; turkeys, cocks, 6s to 7s 6d; hens, 4s to 5s; country ducks, 2s 9d to 3s 6d; goslings, 6s 6d to 7s 6d; Bordeaux pigeons, 9d to 1s; feathered, 7d to 8d; quail, 10d to 1s 2d; wild rabbits, 10d to 1s 3d each; Australian, 8s to 10s 6d per dozen; hares, 2s 6d to 3s; wild ducks, 1s 6d to 2s; widgeon, 1s 2d to 1s 4d; pintail, 1s 3d to 1s 6d; teal, 10d to 1s 2d; woodcock, 2s to 2s 6d; snipe, 7d to 1s 2d; golden plover, 8d to 1s; black, 5d to 8d. Russian game:—Capercailzie, cocks, 3s to 3s 9d; hens, 1s 6d to 2s; black game, 1s to 1s 2d; partridges, 1s to 1s 2d; ptarmigan, 10d to 1s; brown hares, 1s 6d to 1s 10d; white, 1s 2d to 1s 6d each.

COLONIAL DAIRY PRODUCE.

London, Friday.—The demand for the best grades of Australian and New Zealand butters is somewhat quieter this week owing to the late advance in prices, but for inferior qualities the demand remains very brisk. "Choicest" brands may be quoted at 110s to 112s, with a few "Fancy" brands at 114s, and "Finest" brands 104s to 108s. Inferior qualities selling at about 102s are in great demand, and "milled" New Zealand makes 96s to 100s. The "Oroya," which is the last vessel carrying butter from Australia this season, is due in a day or two, with only 1,218 boxes on board. The Copenhagen official quotation remains unchanged at 100 kroner, against 96 kroner at this time last year. The recent rise in the price of Danish has checked the demand in the North of England and in London. Buyers nearly everywhere are retailing New Zealand at the same price as Danish, and as New Zealand can be purchased at a few shillings below Danish, the demand for Danish must necessarily be reduced. There is a better tone in the cheese market, and more business has been transacted than there was last week. Prices remain firm at late quotations.—W. WEDDEL AND CO.

WOOL

Canterbury, Saturday.—One or two exceptional lots of Kent wool have made 6d per lb, but the bulk of the trade is still being done at 5½d. Half-bred fleeces remain at 6d, and Downs at from 7d to 8d per lb.

Glasgow and Leith.—The course of the Scotch wool trade has been uneventful during the past month. There have been no public sales, and the private buying has been entirely for current requirements. Although prices are so low, and might be expected to stimulate speculation, there is little or none. Stocks of all classes, except ordinary Cheviots, are within very modest limits, while there is also a disposition on the part of holders to meet existing demands. Cheviots of fine quality, especially hoggs, command a ready sale at good prices; but there is not much selling in other grades of white-faced wools. Blackfaced keeps moving off to a moderate extent, for both home and foreign consumption, at firm prices. Stocks of this quality are well reduced, and would speedily disappear under any material increase of buying.—J. AND W. GREIG.

London, Friday.—English—per pk of 240lb—Fleeces S. D. hoggs, £7 to £8 10s; half-bred hoggs, £6 to £6 10s; do wethers, £5 to £6; Kent fleeces, £5 to £6; S. Down ewes and wethers, £7 to 8 10s; Leicester do, £5 to £5 10s. Colonial—per lb—Vic., fleece super, 1s 5d to 1s 7d; scoured god, 1s 7½d to 1s 8½d; scoured average, 1s 6d to 1s 7d; greasy average to fair, 10½d to 11½d; N. S. W. scoured average, 1s 3½d to 1s 4d; greasy average, 8d to 9d; S. Australian greasy average, 6½d to 7d; New Zealand scoured average, 1s 4d to 1s 5d; grease average, 8d to 9d. Cape scoured super, 1s 5d to 1s 6d; fleece average, 7d to 7¼d; greasy average, 5½d to 6½d; Natal scoured, 1s to 1s 1d; greasy average, 6½d to 7d. Crossbreds—Grs.—Vic., good to super, 10½d to 11½d; New Zealand fine, 8d to 9d; do medium, 4¾d to 5¼d; do coarse, 4d to 4½d.

CHEESE.

Preston, Tuesday.—The pitch consisted of 49 lots, comprising 666 cheeses, a decrease of four lots and 144 cheeses compared with the corresponding fair last year. Almost all the cheese was winter-made, and not quite of average quality. The demand was slow, but a clearance was effected at prices showing a slight reduction on those realised last fair. Common, 60s to 65s; medium, 67s 6d to 70s; best, 72s 6d to 77s 6d.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—The arrivals of cheese in the Glasgow market were small this week, and the demand was poor. The trade regard prices as too dear, and prefer to work off the stocks they have to augmenting them. In the meantime Cheddars and Dunlops were quoted from 54s to 62s per cwt. A fair trade, however, was passing in Canadians and Americans at late rates.

Agricultural Imports.

The following is an account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Feb. 22, 1902, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year:—

Animals Living.	1901	1902.		1901.	1902.
	No.	No.		Cwt.	Cwt.
Cattle ...	7,103	10,528	Wheat ...	1,018,700	1,089,600
Sheep.....	5,603	10,936	Flour.....	426,900	456,500
Swine.....	—	—	Barley ...	415,300	273,000
*Horses...	—	640	Oats	519,500	312,900
			Peas	54,300	71,600
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Beans ...	27,300	18,200
Beef	62,656	63,972	Maize ...	1,490,700	1,103,100
Mutton...	53,422	87,602		Bunches	Bunches
Pork	19,945	18,594	Bananas	31,272	53,719
Bacon ...	83,310	89,898			
Beef, salt	2,792	3,161		Cwt.	Cwt.
Hams.....	31,183	28,592	Apples ...	32,117	29,468
Pork, salt	5,491	5,433	Apricots & Peaches	65	30
Meat, salt & Fresh	11,358	12,447	Cherries	—	—
Do. pres.	12,871	16,269	Currants	—	—
Butter ...	61,689	88,405	Gooseb'r's	—	—
M'rg'rine	23,236	16,755	Grapes ...	210	297
Cheese ...	24,361	24,333	Lemons...	19,311	16,264
Milk, Fresh, in cans or drums.	596	468	Oranges	130,785	169,668
			Pears.....	151	208
			Plums ...	60	21
			Strawb'r's	—	6
Milk ...			Oth'r Fr't	195	642
Cream.	146	162		Tons.	Tons.
			Hay ...	1,757	8,892
			*Straw ...	—	1,285
Milk pr's'v'd, other				Bush.	Bush.
			Onions ...	183,758	175,688
kinds ...	14	82	Hops	Cwt.	Cwt.
Con. Milk	22,808	16,215		1,883	2,579
			* Locust Beans	—	52,750
	No.	No.	Potatoes	59,796	19,705
Eggs	249,747	274,484	Tom'to's	7,661	9,350
			Other	Value.	Value.
Poultry & Game	Value. £21,610	Value. £39,221	Veg'bles	£6,011 Cwt.	£7,741 Cwt.
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Dried ...	1,942	1,412
			Pres'v'd by canning ...	1,208	3,700
Rabbits .	3,225	3,286			
Lard	26,053	38,024			

* Not shown in 1901.

SUCREMA

No. 2

FEED FOR HORSES

Sample lot of 5 cwt. free to any station in England on receipt of remittance for £2 2s.

HASLAM MAKOVSKI, Ltd.

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STOCK AND SHOW NOTES.

By Herdsman.

Rather an exciting incident was witnessed at the Agricultural Hall on Wednesday afternoon, when the Prince and Princess of Wales attended the Shire Horse Show. Reaching the show at a quarter-past three, their Royal Highnesses were loudly cheered when they appeared in the Royal box, from which, after watching the exhibits for an hour, they descended to the judging ring to enable the Princess to present the principal prizes to the winners. The Princess had no sooner handed the Challenge Cup to Mr. Forshaw when the champion stallion, Stroxton Tom, became restive, as a result of the cheering. Suddenly swerving, it knocked the lid of the gold cup from Mr. Forshaw's hands. The animal was then led down the ring, but as the Royal party were leaving the enclosure the demonstrations of the spectators were renewed. The stallion instantly almost got beyond the control of the groom, and rushed for the exit. Fortunately, the Prince and Princess and the other members of the party realised their danger, and the Princess, who was nearest, grasped the situation, and stopped short. The horse rushed by her Royal Highness, missing her by some feet. Their Royal Highnesses were in no way discomposed by the incident, and smilingly acknowledged the congratulatory cheers of the crowd round the ring.

Mr. C. H. Jolliffe, of Goldicote, Stratford-on-Avon, has issued a nicely got-up private catalogue of his shorthorn herd, which has been in existence about eight years, and consists at the present time of 51 head. Animals were first purchased from good herds in the district, but these have now been superseded by the fashionable Scotch strain, and the herd almost entirely consists of animals bred from the famous herds of Messrs. Cruickshank, Duthie, Marr, Gordon, and other breeders in Scotland. The recent sires have been "Count Arthur," bred by Mr. Willis, by his champion bull, Count Lavender, "Mescombe," bred by Mr. Stephen Allen, a grandson of the same famous sire, and Handsome Boy, a prize representative of Mr. W. S. Marr's Alexandrina's family. Among the cows is Rose Blossom, a first prize Royal winner in 1897, while a number of other animals have been very successfully shown at the Oxfordshire, Herefordshire, and Worcestershire, Warwickshire, and other shows.

Details of an extraordinary driving feat have come to hand by the latest Australian mail. For a large wager, Mr. F. C. McMillen, a wealthy Westralian goldfields man, drove eleven horses (five couples and a leader) attached to his coach out of the stable yard in Coolgardie, through the town and five miles out. For the return, in the main street he turned his unwieldy team with the coach four times, and finally drove back into the yard. Beyond the swingle-bar breaking, there was no mishap, and Mr. McMillen won his wager. Every horse was driven with reins, and the driver had, therefore, six ribbons in each hand, and must have been holding a considerable dead-weight, independent of the strain of pulling his horses into place. What made the feat exceptionally difficult was that the team was taken from various sources.

In face of the renewed interest being shown in the Aberdeen Angus cattle, breeders may look forward to a good show and sale at Bingley Hall on Tuesday, March 11th. An entry of 109 bulls, cows, and heifers has been received, and a keen competition should result. There will doubtless be a good attendance of breeders and farmers anxious to obtain certified animals from which to breed useful stores and butchers' beasts.

On Tuesday evening Sir Walter Gilbey entertained the President and Council of the Shire Horse Society at dinner at Cambridge House, Regent's Park. Amongst those present were Lord Llangattock, the Earl of Verulam, Lord Belper, Lord Middleton, Lord Tredegar, Lord Hothfield, Sir J. Blundell Maple, M.P., Mr. P. A. Muntz, M.P., Mr. Alex. Henderson, M.P., and Mr. Freeman-Mitford.

The Highland and Agricultural Society has now issued the prize list for the annual National Agricultural Show of Scotland for 1902, which takes place at Aberdeen on Tuesday, July 15th, and three following days, under the presidency of the Earl of Aberdeen. The list is a very liberal one, the total value of the prizes amounting to close on £2,800, or nearly £400 more than at Aberdeen in 1894. The Society itself contributes £2,379 of the total. Horses receive the largest amount, viz., £1,029, cattle coming next with £958, then sheep with £540; a sum of £266 being spread over the other various sections. The sums alloted to the various breeds are as follows:—Cattle: Shorthorns, £178; Aberdeen-Angus, £278; Galloways, £158; Highland, £158; Ayrshires, £158; FaFt Cattle, £28. Horses: Agricultural, £450; Hunters, £94; Hackneys, £170; Ponies, £160; Driving Competition, £36; Jumping, £119. Sheep: Blackfaced, £110; Cheviots, £86; Border Leicesters, £106; Half-breds, £86; Shropshires, £44; Oxford Downs, £22; Suffolks, £30; Extra Sheep, £38; Wool, £18. Various: Pigs, £6; Poultry, £140; Dairy Produce, £40; Medals, £20.

The Earl of Aberdeen, as President of the Society, offers Champion Medals for the best animal or pen in each section of live stock, the number of these medals offered being 23. As usual, the contributions towards the prize fund by breed societies and private individuals are numerous and handsome. Amongst these contributions are the following:—Shorthorn Society, £20; the late Mr. C. Macpherson Grant, cup value £50; Sir George Macpherson Grant, cup value £50, to replace the cup finally won by him at Edinburgh in 1899; Polled Cattle Society, £20; Clydesdale Horse Society—Cawdor Cup, value 50 guineas; Sir John Gilmour, Bart., £25; Captain Clayhills Henderson, £27; Hunters' Improvement Society, £10, 10s.; Hackney Horse Society, £10; Lord Tweedmouth, £20; Polo Pony Society, £10 10s.; Lady Estella Hope, £10; Mr. Howatson, of Glenbuck, £24; Tweeddale Gold Medal for Border Leicester Tup, £20; Scotch Breeders of Shropshire Sheep, £10; Suffolk Sheep Society, £20; Oxford-Down Sheep-Breeders' Association, £10; Sir Robert Menzies, Bart., £18.

As at recent shows of the Highland Society handsome prizes are offered for jumping. The pony classes for jumping have not been well filled, and these have now been discontinued, so that this year there will be only one class for jumping each day, with prizes as follows:—Wednesday, £20, £15, £10, £5, and £2; Thursday and Friday, each £10, £8, £5, £3, and £2. A champion prize of £10 raises the prizes for jumping to no less than £119. The entries of implements close on Monday, 12th May, and of stock, poultry, and dairy produce on Monday, 9th June. Copies of the prize list may be had from the secretary, Mr. James Macdonald, 3, George IV. Bridge, Edinburgh.

The thirteenth annual show of the Newport and District Agricultural Society is fixed for Thursday, July 31, at Newport, Salop.

As others see us is always an interesting phase of life. In the "Breeders' Gazette" of Chicago a "Westerner" gives some of his opinions on the way in which the Smithfield Show is conducted. His comments are all through favourable, but let him speak for himself. "The one-judge system prevails here, and the judging is done with great swiftness. How little one can see of the judging. All classes, all breeds in their respective places, are judged at the same time. The greatest good nature prevailed; not one protest did I hear from a disappointed competitor. All the ribbons and championships were in their place by three o'clock p.m. At this show they have an admirable system of providing a separate judge for each breed. I must say I quite admire the method, and think it preferable to only one judge for the innumerable breeds we sometimes have on exhibition in our shows, making the work one of exhaustion, lasting sometimes for several days.

"Besides the stock show, there was an exhibit of table poultry of such merit as I never saw before. There were also agricultural products of the nation, agricultural implements and machinery, a veterinary surgeon's exhibit, and everything in connection with the pursuit of agriculture. The farm machinery and farm waggons of English make were, cumbersome, expensive, and poorly adapted for the purpose intended. The ploughs were lond and heavy---no improvement in the last fifty years. A potato harvester is about as complicated and expensive as a threshing machine, and required about the same number to operate it.

"The most beautiful cattle here are the cherry-red, curly-coated Sussex. They are very attractive with the long, well-tapered and polished horns. They are good and useful, too---big scale, thick-fleshed, and fine quality. Had they white faces and briskets, most of us would say pretty strong class of white faces. In this exhibit there was lack of uniformity of types. The picturesque West Highlanders are here, and, as usual, attracted more than their share of attention from the public. I should much like to see more of these in our own country. They would be a valuable addition to any collection of novelties. One mammoth bullock, dun in colour, with long, shaggy coat and great upspreading horns, creates an impression of stateliness found in no other domestic animal. The Welsh cattle are here, too. They make good killers. The largest bullock in the show was a Welsh, and weighed 2,260 pounds. The Dexter, Kerry, and Shetland cattle were the novelty in the show; they are the pigmies of the cattle family, perfect in form. The steers under three years, in highest show condition, weighed from 600 to 800lbs.---about two-fifths of the weight of the large beef breeds. The pig show embraced every breed except the Poland-China and Arkansas red. They were fine in quality and finish, and smaller than the American pigs. The sheep are here in bewildering numbers, both the pure-bred and crosses, and all of them good---every animal good enough for a champion. This perfection has been growing through the long dim ages. It is the one family of domestic animal that has steadily improved in type. A persistency of purpose has been steadily adhered to in sheep-breeding. The object of producing

good mutton has never been sacrificed for fad or fashionable pedigree."

Friday and Saturday, June 13th and 14th, are the dates chosen for this year's Royal Horse Show at Richmond, Surrey.

The entries received for the shorthorn show and sale at Bingley Hall, Birmingham, on Wednesday next and the two following days number exactly the same as last year, viz., 611, of which 138 are cows and heifers (with 32 calves at foot) and 473 bulls, the age of the latter being chiefly from nine to twenty-one months. A large number of prize-winners at the Royal and nearly all the important shows are entered, and there are representatives of nearly all the most noted families. Amongst the largest exhibitors are the Earl of Powis (13), Mrs. L. H. Holland (18), Messrs. J. W. Barnes (14), C. W. Brierley (14), W. S. Dowding (13), George Gerrard (14), G. F. King (13), Thomas Mace (15), Charles E. Morris (11), Leopold de Rothschild (11), W. H. Tremaine (13), and amongst the other principal herds represented are those of his Majesty the King, the Duke of Northumberland, the Marquis of Exeter, the Earl of Camperdown, the Earl of Crewe, the Earl of Lathom, Earl Manvers, the Earl of Powis, Earl Spencer, the Earl of Suffolk and Berkshire, Viscount Baring, Lord Fitzhardinge, Lord Lilford, Lord Lovat, Lord Moreton, Lord Penrhyn, Lord Tredegar, Lord Wrottesley, the Hon. W. F. D. Smith, Colonel Sir N. Kingscote, Major Chaffey, Captain Mytton, Captain Reeve, Captain Whitting.

As regards the arrangements for the above show, it may be mentioned that judging commences at nine o'clock on Wednesday, and the sale of the cows and heifers is to be held the same day, commencing at 11.30. On Thursday the bulls from 18 months old and upwards, including those entered for the £50 prize, will be offered, and on Friday the younger bulls will come under the hammer. The sale on each of these days is to commence at 10.30. Messrs. Lythall and Co. will, as usual, be the auctioneers.

The inhabitants of Leeds and the surrounding districts do not seem to be much interested in the coming visit of the Yorkshire Agricultural Society to Leeds, for the subscription list for the local fund of the show has met with but scanty support so far. The amount required is £2,500, and at the time of writing the total sum received and promised was only a little over £900, so that it is not surprising to find that the members of the local committee have decided to canvass for subscriptions. One would have thought that in a place like Leeds no difficulty would be experienced in raising £2,500 for a purpose calculated to do the town some good without having to canvass, but as this mode of "raising the wind" has become necessary, it is to be hoped that it will meet with success, and the £1,600 still needed will be quickly got.

Some fine prices were reached at a sale of shorthorns, mostly imported, at Chicago on February 7th. Sensational figures were not realised, but a good all-round average was obtained. Highest price was made for a roan cow, Solidity 2nd, which was knocked down for £260, while £210 was reached for another cow, Lavender Princess. The average for forty-five females was £117, while two bulls obtained an average of £130.

SHEEP.

Lambing Notes.

Suffolks.

The ewes have come in well after a somewhat trying season, owing to the severe drought of last summer. Lambing has been in progress four days, and at the time of writing there are exactly 100 lambs to 57 ewes, or a yield of 1.7 to a ewe, thoroughly confirming the extraordinary fecundity of the Suffolk ewe. They come strong and well, the ewes are full of milk, and there has not been the loss of a ewe, or, for that matter, an ailing one.—W. J. Malden, Colonial College, Hollesley Bay, Suffolk (Feb. 27th).

Hampshire Downs.

I am pleased to be able to report favourably respecting the present lambing season here. During the late severe weather a few lambs were lost from scour, etc. With a good number of twins and five triplets—14 of which are alive and vigorous—there was no difficulty in filling up vacancies. The ewes are in good condition, have a full supply of milk, and are making the lambs progress rapidly. The numbers now stand 33 per cent. of twins, deaths in ewes 1 per cent., and barren ewes 2 to 3 per cent. Over half of the ewes are two teeth. Food has been plentiful, but swedes, where unprotected from frost, are decaying, while kale and other forage crops have been cut back. Now that milder weather has come, these will recover, but may keep backward.—R. W. Lyne, Barton, Marlborough (Feb. 27th).



SHIRE HORSE SHOW: The Judges Watching a Horse Walking.

Frauds on Farmers.—At the Kent Assizes on Monday William Roberts, alias Samuel Taylor, 65, and Oscar Taylor, 36, were indicted for obtaining by false pretences large quantities of mangel wurtzel and other goods from farmers and merchants living at Bromley, Canterbury, Ashford, Chelsfield, and other towns in Kent.—The prisoners traded under the fictitious name of "Samuel Taylor and Son, carriers, contractors, and forwarding agents," and on being asked for references gave false ones. On making inquiries the police found that the prisoners only rented a letter-box at a house in Old Street, St. Luke's, London.—The jury found a verdict of guilty, and it was stated that Roberts had already undergone three terms of five years' penal servitude, and had spent nearly 30 years in prison. He was sentenced to a further term of five years' penal servitude, and Oscar Taylor received a sentence of six months' hard labour.



Shire Horses at Islington.

The annual show of Shire horses, under the auspices of the Shire Horse Society, was held during last week, commencing on the Tuesday morning last week, commencing on the Tuesday morning, at the Agricultural Hall, Islington, London. The weather throughout proved most favourable, both for man and beast, and though there were two or three cases of sickness among the horses, probably owing to the very wet day on Monday for getting them to their show quarters, on the whole the health of the stock was excellent. From the early hours of opening the show right on to its close the attendance was very large the greater part of the time, the start being quite congested, and this was the more severely felt owing to the extra large entry of horses, 860 being catalogued, which number is far in excess of any previous year. As regards the quality of the animals, this must be called most satisfactory. The leading portion has certainly never exceeded its present standard, if it can be said to have equalled it; whilst the number of inferior ones is certainly no greater than when we had a smaller total of entries.

The great increase in the prize-list, as well as the excellent innovation of giving a certain sum of money to the H.C. and C. horses, no doubt accounts for a great deal of the increase in numbers, and this plan will, there is little doubt, have a most encouraging effect on small breeders by inducing them to breed better stock, and attend to them better, as well as to see that they are all registered. This will assist very greatly in improving the breed, as many first-class mares throughout the country are not eligible for the stud book, and therefore their good properties are not so far as that they are unable to be utilised in the registered studs.

The judging of the various classes commenced on Tuesday morning and continued throughout that day and Wednesday, concluding about six on the evening of the latter day. The system adopted was the one that has worked so well in the past, namely, two judges acting in concert, with the third man standing out as umpire, if needed, and once more the plan worked admirably. The rules of the Society are that the Shire judges select a number of animals (not more than 25 in any class) to be examined by the veterinary surgeons, and afterwards those that are able to pass the examination are brought back to the ring to be finally judged. As respects soundness, though one or two good horses failed to get a clean bill, the lot on the whole were most satisfactory, every animal returning with its certificate in several of the largest classes.

Stallions.

The stallion classes were the first to be judged, commencing with the yearlings foaled in 1901. There were to commence with 74 entries of yearlings, the selected 25 of which proved a very fine lot of colts, by and in respect of their main points a vastly improved collection as compared with the earlier days of the Society; indeed, the subject of improvement was one that kept cropping up at every turn, people often remarking, "You wouldn't have been able to find pasterns like these a few years ago." This one point itself should encourage the Society in its good work, as there is no doubt the improvement mentioned is in a great measure due to its efforts in that direction. The majority of the best quality of both sexes had been winners in the foal classes of last Autumn in one district or another, and it was quite interesting to mark the varied progress they had made; this doubtless being influenced by the way in which they had been kept. The best yearling colts came from parts of the country very remote from each other, which is a great mark in favour of the cosmopolitan character of the Shire. Mr. Jackson carried off the first prize with a very fine colt full of substance and quality, bred in Yorkshire; Mr. Whithurst was second with another very promising one, bred in Hertfordshire, by Mr. Ransome; whilst the third prize went to a colt of Mr. Lewis', bred in Wales. Others came from various parts of the country, every county being pretty well represented. The third colt to-day, we may mention, was the winner of the great Challenge Cup in the Ashbourne Show last year, an achievement that is looked upon as one of the greatest importance in the country. A good deal of hard blood once more came to the front, though in some cases this strain suffered a little. Two

year-old colts were an extraordinary entry, no less than 127 being catalogued. The selection of Shire proved a very long and hard business for the judges; and when at last the selection and vetting were completed, the 25 colts returning to the ring, they proved to be one of the best collections that have been seen together, at least, for a very long time. The first prize colt in Shire was Lord Rothschild's Birstall Menestrel, bred in Yorkshire, by Lord Middleton, and sired by the Birstall Stud herd Menestrel, out of a ; he is probably the best colt of his age in size, weight, and points, that has been seen in the days of the Society—having bone and limbs, as well as quality of the highest order; indeed, later in the show, he succeeded in carrying off the runner-up for the Championship of the entire show. Captain Duncombe, Earl Egerton, and Mr. P. A. Muntz, followed in the list with very promising colts.

Class 3, for colts of three years old, was a very strong class indeed, though perhaps there were as many indifferent ones in this as any of the young classes. The leading animals in it, however, were of a very superior class. There were in all, to commence with, 120 of this age, which were brought down to 22, which came in to receive their honours from the judges. In this class were several colts, altogether 10, above the average, the best of them being Mr. J. P. Cross's Lockinge Forest King, bred by the late Lord Wantage, and sired by Lockinge Manners. This colt had practically an unbeaten career at last summer's shows throughout the country, and is probably about the best stamp of a real Shire stallion that will be seen for some time; his depth of muscle and grand finish of his limbs and feet stamp him as an outstanding sire, whilst his breeding will assist in giving effect to his progeny. Mr. Arthur Grandage contributed another capital colt for the second place of Prince William, and Harold III. were shaped and powerful with the cut of pattern and movement. A comparatively new exhibitor in Mr. Leopold Salomons won the third prize with a colt that shows his owner is going in for weight, and the sort we want as well as good blood; and so on through a long list of eleven prize-winners we find a vastly improved class of Shire colts in these three-year-olds.

Four-year-old stallions, with 50 entries, contained several of rather modest character for that age, as by this time of life we expect the worst to have been disposed of. Some of these middling ones, however, were probably forwarded more as giving an opportunity to dispose of them than as a likelihood of winning money. The best of these were a very weighty, massive horse of Captain Duncombe's, of good build, but moderate action, with a good deal of Lincolnshire Lad blood, however, which will help his progeny, and Desford Combination, shown by Messrs. Thompson, the horse that was awarded the gold medal at last year's Royal Show, and an extraordinary fine mover as well as put together properly; he is the get of Stonewall. In the class for stallions over four years old and under 16.2 hands high, what we call the short-legged class, were a lot of beautiful horses full of power and muscle, and calculated to get the right sort of mares for breeding from in the future. The class had 28 entries altogether. The best of them were Capstone Harold, a famous type of horse by Harold, shown by Messrs. Forshaw and Sons; and Waverley Triumph, another what we may call sweet stallion, got with plenty of substance, and very good movement, shown by Captain Duncombe. Waresley Triumph, by Duke of Worsley. The remaining winners were also extra nice class of horses.

Stallions over 16.2 and over four and under ten years old were perhaps the best of the adult classes. Three, at least, extraordinary horses came into contact here. Mr. Peter Stubbs's Blairsdon Conqueror, by Hitchin Conqueror, Messrs. Forshaw and Sons' Bay Thumper, by Cashier V., and Mr. Edward Green's Moors Regent, by Regent II. Three horses were eventually placed as written, though for a long time the third horse stood at the head of his class, where perhaps his beautifully balanced form and limbs might have allowed him to remain. Capital stallions followed on a long way down this class.

The aged class of stallions (over 10 years old) was the last of the male section, and was not particularly well filled. Messrs. Forshaw and Sons' Stroxton Tom, by Honest Tom, was an outstanding winner, indeed had a walkover, as may be supposed seeing he was last year reserved for the championship which this year he succeeded in capturing One or two other very good horses were shown, including Mr. W. Greenwell's Hatherton II.

Mares and Fillies.

Mares and fillies throughout, from the fine and well-filled class of yearlings up to the last class of aged mares, were a superb collection, full of quality and with thin pastern points that our Clydesdale friends so often taunt us with being too straight, beautifully shaped, and with the very carriage of real cart horses about them.

The yearling fillies were a big and good lot of 61 entries. 25 out of which received honours, and were about as good and level a lot as one could desire to see. Mr. Walter Cunningham, the Buscot Park stud, the Dunsmore stud, and several others were capitally represented with stock, containing a good deal of Harold blood, and succeeded in carrying off the leading prizes. We may, however, mention that many of the colts and fillies which will be found in the prize list were quite fit to occupy the front seats, and will probably later in life find themselves nearer to their more favoured neighbours than they are upon the present occasion.

Two years old fillies came forward to the number of 89, and out of these 24 at least received honours. Some of these were quite extraordinary in the way of development for their age, being as big and weighty as we often find them when a year older, and yet they carried themselves with all the vivacity of the two years old, their extra feeding not having in the least affected their movement or joints, or in other words, given them more than they could carry. The best of these were Mr. Parnell's Yatesbury Flower, by Lockinge Manners; Mr. James Eadie's Barrow Charm, a beautiful filly; Mr. Jackson's Kendal Bessie, and others, the quality of the class being estimated by the fact that such a grand and valuable filly as Sir. J. B. Maple's Yonno could but get just inside the money where nine prizes are given.

Three years old mares, like the two years old, gave a very good account of themselves, 59 being entered, and without many failures in the class. The head filly of these, Mr. James Eadie's Barrow Princess, who passed through an unbeaten career last season at many of the leading Shire shows was at the close of the judging given the championship of the junior classes. She possesses immense substance, and a beautiful class of limbs and moulding. Her sire was Harold, her dam by Hydrometer. Mr. R. W. Hudson followed her with Wern Blossom, a Welsh-bred filly of great calibre and a fine runner. Mr. Ashly, Mr. Hamer Towgood, and several others also exhibited good fillies in the prize list that anyone might covet, and of a class likely to give the Shire improved standing in the eyes of those who may not think so favourably of it.

Four-year-old mares made up a class of thirty-five entries, amongst which were several of last season's leading members. Messrs. Thompson's Desford Flower, a wonderfully well built mare by Lullington Harold, full of power and quality, and a good walker, topped the class, followed by such other mares as Mr. Green's Moors Peggy, by Moors Thumper, and Mr. R. A. Yerburgh's Lily of the Valley, by Southgate Honest Tom. The latter filly, it will be remembered, was champion of the young classes as last year's show, and is of the best quality and character. Mr. P. L. Mills and several others were also capitally represented in this class.

Class 12, for mares under 16 hands high, was the next to follow, and here nearly 38 animals were entered, out of which no less than over 20 were able to obtain honours from the judges' hands. We do not recollect having seen a better lot of Shire low-set mares than were included in this class. Full of quality, standing upon short legs, with their pasterns well pronounced and a great amount of power and muscle about them, they were, as a lot, the very ideal type of brood mares. Mr. P. L. Mills won the red card with an extraordinary mare, Saxon Girl, of Sir Walter Gilbey's breeding, sired by Norman Conqueror and purchased at a very high figure at Lord Rothschild's sale recently. The amount of weight and muscle, with correctness of formation, that this mare possesses in the space are quite phenomenal. Sir J. B. Maple followed with another mare of great character and quality, Cowdale Starlight, by Queen Harold, bred in Derbyshire and of the real type. She was purchased at Mr. Parnell's sale last autumn, and brought out in fine form. Captain Duncombe also exhibited a beautiful mare in Morning Starlight, by Menestrel, that came third, and altogether the class was one of the most satisfactory description.

Mares between 16 and 16-2 hands high were the next on the list. Of these the entry was but 29, and the collection suffered a little by comparison with either the previous one or the one that followed it (smaller and bigger mares). Notwithstanding this, however, there were some capital mares in the ring, the best of them being quite the cream of the show, perhaps, as in these was the champion mare of last year, Alston Rose, who was again placed in that enviable position, and Worsley Princess 7th, another splendid mare, shown by Messrs. Thompson. The former was shown now by Mr. R. W. Hudson, who purchased her from Lord Rothschild's sale at the highest price of that day, is by Vulcan 7th, and a mare of very fine style, shape, and quality. Two or three other very good mares filled the prize list in this class.

The last class for females, that for mares 16-2 hands high and over, was a very good class, though perhaps the tail end of it was not quite as good as might have been expected. This deficiency, however, was amply atoned for by the excellence of the first four mares, which represented a money value not often known in cart-horse breeding. These are Mr. Towgood's splendid mare, Rolleston Fuchsia, who came throw Messrs. Lowndes' hands in her earlier life, and to-day is certainly a very close champion, inasmuch as she was reserved for that honour and thought by many to be worthy of it. The second mare was the well-known and many times head of her class, as well as champion at country shows, Mr. Victor Cavendish's Southgate Charm, now in very good trim Mr. Smith Carrington's grand mare Hendre Crown Princess, by Prince Harold, stood third, and another well-known mare, Queen of the Shires, now in Mr. Fred. Crisp's hands, was given the fourth prize. The latter mare was looking in fine condition, and the competition between the four was fairly close, at least as regards the three last of them, Rolleston Fuchsia perhaps standing out well as the first. In addition to the remaining prize-winners some half-score of mares in this class were H.C. and C.

Geldings.

Geldings were allotted three classes, which, though they were much better filled than we have seen them at some previous shows, were still rather a small entry, the classes holding about fourteen each. There is one point, however, in connection with this, namely, their quality, which was of a much improved kind, and scarcely a moderate one amongst them. Lady Wantage's stud contributed several extraordinary horses, including the winner of the Champion Cup, a horse standing close upon 18 hands high and proportionately built. Other good mares were shown by Mr. R. W. Hudson, the Nottingham Corporation, Sir Oswald Mosley, Mr. T. Edwards, and others.

Champion Prizes.

The hall in all its various parts was very much thronged to witness the award of these trophies, which was made in the presence of T.R.H. the Prince and Princess of Wales, who afterwards distributed the cups. The Championship for the young stallions came first, in which Lord Rothschild's Birdsall Menestrel., bred by Lord Middleton, carried off the victory, Mr. Cross's fine colt Lockinge Forest King being second.

The older stallions followed, in which Messrs. Forshaw and Son's Stroxton Tom was the victor, and Mr. Stubbs' Blaisdon Conqueror the reserve. Then for the Championship of the male classes Stroxton Tom and Birdsall Menestrel were the winners and reserve as named. One of the most popular awards we recollect for some time.

Of the females Mr. Eadie's Barrow Princess and Mr. Parnell's Yatesbury Flower were winner and reserve in the junior classes, and Mr. Shilton's Alston Rose and Mr. Towgood's Rolleston Fuchsia in the older classes, the two latter names standing in the same position for the Championship of the female classes.

Judges.

Mr. A. H. Clark, Moulton Eaugate, Spalding.
Mr. F. W. Griffin, Borough Fen, Peterborough.
Mr. John Rowell, Manor Farm, Bury, Huntingdon.

Champion Cups.

STALLIONS.

Challenge Cup, value 100 guineas, for the best stallion in the show, and gold medal; Messrs. J. Forshaw and Sons, Carlton-on-Trent, Newark (Stroxton Tom); r, Lord Rothschild, Tring Park, Herts (Birdsall Menestrel).

Gold medal to the reserve for the champion, Lord Rothschild (Birdsall Menestrel).

Champion Cup valued £25, for the best stallion in the show, Messrs. J. Forshaw and Sons (Stroxton Tom); r, Lord Rothschild (Birdsall Menestrel).

Cup value £20, for the best stallion in Classes 1, 2, and 3, Lord Rothschild (Birdsall Menestrel); r, Mr. J. P. Cross, Colthorpe Towers, Rugby (Hockinge Forest King).

Cup value £20, for the best stallion in Classes 4, 5, 6, and 7, Messrs. J. Forshaw and Sons (Stroxton Tom); r, Mr. P. Stubs, Blaisdon, Newnham, Gloster (Blaisdon Conqueror).

MARES AND FILLIES.

Gold Challenge Cup value 50 guineas, for the best mare or filly in the show, and a gold medal, Mr. R. W. Hudson, Danesfield, Marlow (Alston Rose); r, Mr. Hamer Towgood, Little Shelford, Cambridge (Rolleston Fuschia).

Gold Medal to the Reserve for champion, Mr. Hamer Towgood (Rolleston Fuchsia).

Champion Cup value £25, for the best mare or filly in the show, Mr. R. W. Hudson (Alston Rose); r, Mr. Hamer Towgood (Rolleston Fuchsia).

Cup value £10 for the best mare or filly in Classes 8, 9, and 10, Mr. J. Eadie, Barrow Hall, Derby (Barrow Princess); r, Mr. J. Parnell, Rainsbrook, Rugby (Yatesbury Flower).

Cup value £10, for the best mare in Classes 11, 12, 13, and 14, Mr. R. W. Hudson (Alston Rose); r, Mr. H. Towgood (Rolleston Fuchsia).

GELDINGS.

Cup value £10, for the best gelding in Classes 15, 16, and 17, Lady Wantage, Lockinge Park, Wantage (Lockinge Ebony); r, Mr. T. Edwards Spring Bank, Zitherland, Liverpool (Woodham Royal).

Prize List.

STALLIONS.

CLASS I.—Stallions, one year old (foaled in 1901): 1, W. Jackson, The Hall, Knottingley, Yorks. (Knottingley Royal), br. ditto; 2, J. W. Whitehurst, Markeaton, Derby (Markeaton Ransome), br. A. Ransom, Hitchin, Herts.; 3, J. Lewis, Trwstllewelyn, Garthmyl, Mont. (Severn King's Cup), br. ditto; 4, J. Wainwright, Hargate Hall, Buxton (Rocks Victor King), br. ditto; 5, Lord Rothschild, Tring Park, Herts. (Girton Charmer), br. F. Crisp, Girton Stud Farm, Cambridge; 6, P. A. Muntz, M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby (Dunsmore Masterpiece), br. P. G. Atterbury, Great Haddon, Rugby; 7, A. Henderson, M.P., Buscot Park, Faringdon, Berks. (Buscot Plutus), br. ditto; 8, H. Oakley, Dewstow, Chepstow, Mon. (Dewstow Pioneer), br. ditto; r. and h.c., W. and J. Thompson, Barron's Park Stud, Desford, Leicester (Desford Stonewall II.), brs. ditto; h.c., W. Cunningham, Gorsey Cop, Gateacre, Liverpool (Coldwall Chorister), br. ditto; J. Eadie, Barrow Hall, Derby (Barrow Albert), br. ditto; J. Eadie (Barrow Statesman), br. ditto; Hon. N. C. Rothschild, Tring Park, Herts. (Ashton Lad), br. ditto; Sir W. H. Wills, Bart., Coombe

Lodge, Blagdon, Somerset (Rickford Monarch), br. ditto; c., F. Casswell (Dunsby Victor), br. ditto; W. H. O. Duncombe, Waresley Park, Sandy (Triumphant of Waresley), br. ditto; W. Hammond, Ware, Herts. (Ware Masterman), br. S. Leggate, Dogdyke, Lincoln; W. Hammond (Ware Surprise), br. F. Lemon, Sudbury, Derby; G. Hanson (Watnall Wizard), br. ditto; J. W. Measures, Dunsby, Bourne (Regal), br. W. Dook, Laughton, Gainsborough; Lord Middleton, Birdsall House, York (Birdsall Melanite), br. ditto; Duchess of Newcastle (Clumber Victor), br. ditto; Duchess of Newcastle (Clumber Derby), br. ditto; G. D. and W. J. Thody, Clothall, Baldock, Herts. (Baldock Chancellor), brs. ditto; Lady Wantage, Lockinge, Wantage, Berks. (Lockinge Anglo-Saxon), br. late Lord Wantage, K.C.B., V.C.

CLASS II.—Stallions, two years old (foaled in 1900): 1, Lord Rothschild (Birdsall Menestrel), br. Lord Middleton, 2, W. H. O. Duncombe, Waresley Park, Sandy (Conqueror of Waresley), br. ditto; Earl Egerton of Tatton, Tatton Park, Cheshire (Lymm Harold), br. J. Gould, Model Farm, Lymm, Warrington; 4, P. Albert Muntz, M.P. (Dunsmore Lieutenant), br. ditto; 5, Hamer Towgood, Little Shelford, Cambridge (Mouiton Ringleader), br. G. L. Morris, Thorney, Peterborough; 6, H. W. Blunt, Breedon-on-the-Hill, Ashby-de-la-Zouch (Lockinge Sunshine), br. late Lord Wantage, K.C.B.; 7, A. Henderson, M.P. (Buscot Gladiator), br. ditto; 8, J. Eadie (Barrow Admiral), brs. Nottingham Corporation Farm Committee, Stoke Bardolph, Sottingham; 9, E. Jones and Sons, The Bank, Pool Quay, Welshpool (Marble Wall), brs. ditto; 10, Lord Middleton (Birdsall Calamine), br. ditto; r. and h.c., J. P. Cross (Conqueror's Boy), br. E. Snow Fordham, Ashwell, Baldock, Herts; h.c., J. Eadie (Barrow Lawrence), br. J. Yates, Brailsford Park, Derby; E. Green The Moors, Welshpool (Moors Pom Pom), br. J. Warren, Hendrehaen, Welshpool; W. Jackson (The Duke VI.), br. Lord Rothschild; H. Percy Taunton, Redlynch, Salisbury (Redlynch Blue Blood), br. A. P. McMullen, Hertingordbury Park, Hertford; c., Mrs. J. A. Barrs, Nailstone, Nuneaton (Nailstone Royal Rock), br. ditto; Mrs. J. A. Barrs (Nailstone Expectation), br. J. Price, Barnesheath, Appleby Magna, Atherstone; H. W. Blunt, Breedon-on-the-Hill, Ashby-de-la-Zouch (Willaston Matchless), br. P. Allen, Willaston Hall, Chester; J. Bradley, Halstead, Tilton, Leicester (Halstead Harold), br. ditto; T. Charnock, Houghton Tower Farm, Hale, Liverpool (Conquering Champion), br. T. Warburton, Daresbury, Warrington; W. T. Everard, Bardon Hall, Leicester (Bardon Major), br. ditto; J. Forshaw and Sons, Carlton-Clower, Moxhull, Erdington, Birmingham; 2, W. and J. Thompson (Desford Combination), brs. ditto; 3, J. Forshaw and Sons (Raydon Duke), br. W. Wilson; 4, P. A. Muntz, M.P. (Watnall Victor), br. R. G. Hanson, Watnall, Notts; 5, Lord Rothschild (Monitor III.), br. ditto; 6, Earl Egerton of Tatton (Tatton Victorious), br. ditto.; 7, John Parnell (Birdsall Calamint), br. Lord Middleton; r. and h.c., W. Jackson (Knottingley Rex), br. J. W. Whitehurst; h.c., A. E. and W. S. Freshney, Grimoldby, Louth, Lincs. (Tom Spring), br. E. Snow Fordham; A. Lindley, Pledwick Stud Farm, Sandal, Wakefield (Sandycroft Sort), br. T. J. Dutton, The Beeches, Saltney, Chester; Sir O. Mosley, Bart. (Moors Extraordinary), br. G. W. Edwards, Woolston, Oswestry; c., J. King and Sons, Broom, Biggleswade (Southill Paxton), br. late W. Flowers, Beachendon, Aylesbury; T. Lowndes, Rolleston Park, Tutbury, Burton-on-Trent (Tutbury Combination), br. ditto; J. Williams, Home Farm, Merthyr Mawr, Bridgend, Glam. (Buscot President), br. A. Henderson, M.P.; S. Yarrad, Swaton, Folkingham, Lincs. (Cardyke Quality), br. ditto.

CLASS V.—Stallions, under 16 hands 2 inches high, over 4 and under 10 years old (foaled in 1893, 1894, 1895, 1896, or 1897): 1, J. Forshaw and Sons (Capstone Harold), br. W. B. Blundell, the Stocking Farm, Leicester; 2, W. H. O. Duncombe (Waresley Triumph), br. ditto; 3, J. W. Kenworthy, Castle Hill, Kelsall, Chester (Delamere Friar), br. ditto; 4, J. Lewis, (Curf Duncan), br. Herbert E. Childs, Chatteris, Cambs; r. and h.c., A. C. Rogers, Buckingham (Buckingham Premier), br. ditto; h.c., Earl Egerton of Tatton (Tatton Regent), br. Edward Green; A. Ransom (Curfew), br. R. N. Sutton-Netthorpe, Scawby, Lincs.; c., W. H. Godding, Brimslade, Marlborough, Wilts (Savernake Bar None Conqueror), br. Captain T. W. Pinder, Little Casterton, Stamford; J. M. Heathcote, Connington Castle, Peterboro' (Connington Harold), br. Lord Belper, Kingston Hall, Notts; Alexander Henderson, M.P. (Buscot Hero), br. ditto.

CLASS VI.—Stallions, 16 hands 2 inches high and over, over 4 and under 10 years old (foaled in 1893, 1894, 1895, 1896, or 1897): 1, Peter Stubbs, Blaisdon, Newnham, Glos. (Blaisdon Conqueror), br. ditto; 2, J. Forshaw and Sons (Bay Thumper), br. late J. W. Coupland, Grayingham Grange, Kirton, Lindsey; 3, Edward Green (Moors Regent), br. E. Jones and Sons; 4, J. Eadie (Barrow Conqueror), br. Col. R. Worsley-Worswick, Normanton Hall, Hinckley; 5, J. W. Kenworthy (Delamere Surprise), br. ditto; 6, Lord Rothschild (Anchorite), br. H.M. the King, Sandringham; 7, W. R. Trotter, South Acomb, Stocksfield-on-Tyne (Burston Pride), br. late J. Denchfield, Burston, Aylesbury; r. and h.c., Cannock Agricultural Co., Ltd., Canon-Trent, Newark; br. H. Thellusson, Brodsworth Hall, Doncaster; Sir J. Blundell Maple, Bart., M.P., Childwick, St. Albans (Childwick Harold), br. ditto; H. P. Taunton (Redlynch Champion), br. R. Hidderley, Longsdon, Stoke-on-Trent; J. W. Whitehurst, Markeaton, Derby (Markeaton Typewriter), br. J. Allsop, Marehay, Derby.



SHIRE HORSE SHOW: WATCHING THE JUDGING.

CLASS III.—Stallions, three years old (foaled in 1899): 1, J. P. Cross (Lockinge Forest King), br. late Lord Wantage, K.C.B., V.C.; 2, A. Grandage, Bramhope, Leeds (Bramhope Archdeacon), br. ditto; 3, Leopold Salomons (Norbury Harold), br. ditto; 4, J. Forshaw and Sons (Headon Yeoman), br. F. W. Park, Headon Manor, Retford; 5, J. Wainwright (Hargate Major), br. Miss A. Hick, Mytton Hall, Whalley, Lancs.; 6, P. L. Mills, Ruddington Hall, Nottingham (Boro' Conqueror II.), br. A. Patston, Woodstone Lodge, Peterborough; 7, W. H. O. Duncombe, Waresley Park, Sandy (Blythwood Ray), br. Sir James Blyth, Bart., Blythwood, Stansted; 8, W. and J. Thompson (Desford Conquering Lad), br. W. McTurk, Hallaton, Uppingham; 9, J. C. Waddington (Redlynch Victor Chief), br. A. Whittle, Blaby, Leicester; 10, Lord Llangattock, The Hendre, Monmouth (Hendre Wonder), brs. P. and J. Thomas, Derllys Court, Carmarthen; 11, T. B. Freshney, South Somercotes, Louth (Saltfleet Gambler), br. T. Skirrow, Spofforth, Harrogate; r. and h.c., A. J. Hollington, Forty Hill, Enfield (Bishopthorpe Duke II.), br. W. Lofthouse, Bishopthorpe, York; h.c., Henry R. Hart, Barnfields, Stafford (Barnfields Champion), br. C. Hall, Dearnsdale, Stafford; F. W. Lowndes, Rolleston Park, Tutbury, Burton-on-Trent (Tutbury Albert), br. ditto; c., J. Grimes, Highfield, Palterton, Chesterfield (Harold's Drayman), br. F. W. Park; A. Henderson, M.P. (Buscot Forester), br. ditto; J. H. Snow, Lower Castle Hayes, Burton-on-Trent (Castlehayes Royal Lad), br. ditto; A. C. Norman, The Elms, Tur Langton, Leicester (Langton Navigator), br. ditto; A. Ransom (Bowden Royal Duke), br. H. Harris, Bowden House, Chippenham; W. Richardson, Doddington, Cambs. (Normoor Herald), br. E. H. Nevile, Skellingthorpe, Lincoln; J. C. Waddington (Woodlands Samson), br. J. Wainwright.

CLASS IV.—Stallions, four years old (foaled in 1898): 1, W. H. O. Duncombe (Castle Bromwich Keith), br. A nock (Cannock Paxton), br. J. Brandon, Aston, Stone, Staffs; h.c., Lord Hothfield, Hothfield Place, Ashford, Kent (Xerxes of Hothfield), br. ditto; J. Nix, Alfreton, Derbyshire (Hendre Duke), br. Lord Llangattock; J. Richards, Llynclys, Oswestry (Llynclys Lad), br. ditto; T. and H. F. Simonds, Lovehurst, Staplehurst (Lord Salisbury IV.), br. late T. Peacock, Littleport, Ely; c., John Baker, The Grange Stud Farm, Bratton Fleming, Barnstaple (Watnall Prince Harold II.), br. R. G. Hanson, Watnall, Notts; Earl Beauchamp, K.C.M.G., Madresfield Court, Malvern Link; br. S. Curtis, Weston, Newark, Notts; H. Brookes, Blyth, Rotherham (Rolleston Royal Albert), br. T. Lowndes and Son, Rolleston Park, Burton-on-Trent; Cannock Agricultural Co., Ltd. (Royal Alfred II.), br. J. C. Waddington, The Ridge, Burnley; Mrs. E. Davis, Benefield, Oundle (Benefield Willow), br. ditto; G. H. Mullock, Poulton, Pulford, Wrexham (Watnall Merry Lad), br. R. G. Hanson; A. Ransom (Ashwell Cheerboy), br. E. Snow Fordham; W. R. Trotter (Knowle Orion), br. J. D. Lang, Knowle, Sidmouth, Devon.

CLASS VII.—Stallions, any height, 10 years old and upwards (foaled previous to 1893): 1, J. Forshaw and Sons (Stroxton Tom), br. C. R. Lynn, Church Farm, Stroxton, Grantham; 2, W. Greenwell (Hatherton II.), br. G. Brown, Churton, Chester; 3, E. S. Stock, Stud Farm, Bradfield, Manningtree (Duncan III.), br. J. Whittingham, Coton-in-the-Elms, Burton-on-Trent; 4, J. E. Shaw, Brooklands, Halifax (Duke of Worsley II.), br. Earl of Ellesmere, Worsley Hall, Manchester; r. and h.c., W. Johnson, Hatfield, Doncaster (Real Echo), br. A. Burrow, Rimington, Clitheroe; h.c., A. Ransom (Mountjoy), br. A. B. Freeman-Mitford, C.B., Batsford Park, Moreton-in-Marsh.

MARES AND FILLIES.

CLASS VIII.—Fillies, 1 year old (foaled in 1901): 1, W. Cunningham (Childwall Chant), br. ditto; 2, Alexander Henderson, M.P. (Buscot Chloris), br. ditto; 3, P. Albert Muntz, M.P. (Dunsmore Combined), br. ditto; 4, Alexander Henderson, M.P. (Buscot Electra), br. ditto; 5, H. W. Kearns, Baxenden, Accrington (Torfrida), br. W. Sargeant, Churnet Grange, Cheddleton, Leek; 6, W. Jackson (Knottingley Fuchsia), br. ditto; 7, Lord Llangattock (Poole Duchess), br. S. Jones, Poole Hall, Little Sutton, Chester; 8, P. L. Mills (Priscilla Alder), br. ditto; 9, W. Pearson (Parkside Princess), br. T. Jenkinson, Cabus, Garstang; r. and h.c., P. A. Muntz, M.P. (Dunsmore Mistress), br. W. Dunn; h.c., Lord Llangattock, (Dewy May), br. M. D. Maydew, Knowl Bank, Consall, Stoke; J. Bradley, Halstead, Tilton, Leicester (Halstead Tuder Rose), br. ditto; H. H. Smith, Carington, Ashby Folville, Melton Mowbray (Folville Madam), br. ditto; F. Casswell (Dunsby Lady Grey), br. ditto; E. Jones and Sons (Bonnie Bertha), br. ditto; Sir J. Blundell Maple, Bart., M.P. (Majestic's Queen), br. ditto; Philo L. Mills (Ruddington Heiress), br. ditto; c., H. and R. Ainscough, Burscough, Ormskirk (Ambrosia), br. ditto; H. and R. Ainscough (Apropos), br. ditto; Gooch Bros., Clay Lake, Spalding (Lake Hilda), br. ditto; J. Hodson, The Lodge, Mickleover, Derby (Sterling Harold's Last), br. ditto; M. Hubbard, Ivy House, Eaton, Grantham (Ivy Merry Girl), br. J. Wilkinson, Foston, Grantham; H. Oakley (Dewstow Matchmaker), br. ditto; W. Pearson, Parkside, Garstang (Parkside Duchess), br. J. Pearson, Nateby, Garstang; J. P. Toone, High Cross, Rugby (Miss Prim), br. ditto.

CLASS IX.—Mares, 2 years old (foaled in 1900): 1, J. Parnell Yatesbury Flower), br. G. Cowing, Yatesbury, Calne, Wilts; 2, J. Eadie (Barrow Charm), br. ditto; 3, W. Jackson (Hendre Bessie), br. Lord Llangattock; 4, P. Albert Muntz, M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby (Rokeby Winifred), br. G. Wainwright, Monksheath Hall Stud, Chelford, Cheshire; 5, Lord Llangattock (Hendre Birthright), br. ditto; 6, Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart., Elsenham Hall, Essex (Saxon Lily), br. ditto; 7, L. Salomons (Norbury Bliss), br. ditto; 8, J. P. Cross, (Catthorpe Catriona), br. Duke of Portland, K.G., Welbeck Abbey, Worksop; 9, Sir J. Blundell Maple, Bart., M.P. (Childwick Youno), br. ditto; r. and h.c., W. H. O. Duncombe (Moulton Lady Jessie), br. F. Casswell; h.c., J. Bradley (Halstead Duchess II.), br. ditto; Sir J. Blundell Maple, Bart., M.P. (Victoria's Queen), br. ditto; Duchess of Newcastle (Clumber Countess), br. ditto; L. Salomons (Norbury Gem), br. ditto; c., L. Salomons (Ruby Glimpse), br. H.M. the King; R. Barnard, Parsonage Farm, Thaxted, Essex (Thaxted Irene), br. ditto; J. Eadie (Barrow Coral), br. T. Wayte, Willington, Burton-on-Trent; F. Farnsworth, Ratcliffe House, Atherstone (Ratcliffe Sunflower), br. ditto; H. W. Kearns (Harleston Gloaming), br. W. Lowick, Harleston, Northampton; Lord Llangattock (Hendre Marguerite), br. ditto; A. Nicholson, Highfield Hall, Leek, Staffs. (Leek Starlight), br. J. Colclough, Cresswell Shawe, Alsager, Stoke-on-Trent; A. C. Rogers, Buckingham (Buckingham May Girl), br. ditto; H. Percy Taunton, Redlynch, Salisbury (Redlynch Fair Alice), br. W. T. Everard; J. W. Whitehurst (Markeaton Enchantress), br. C. Woodward, Longford, Derby.

CLASS X.—Mares, 3 years old (foaled in 1899): 1, J. Eadie (Barrow Princess), br. ditto; 2, R. W. Hudson (Wern Blossom), br. T. Gittins, Wern, Pool Quay, Welshpool; 3, E. Ashby, Surney Farm, Long Buckby (Surney Whitefoot), br. T. Lee, Rugby Fields, Rugby; 4, H. Towgood (Fortress), br. Sir James Blyth, Bart.; 5, W. and J. Thompson (Desford Stewardess), br. ditto; 6, E. Green (Moors Tip Top), br. E. Sankey, Home Farm, Leighton, Ironbridge; 7, W. Jackson (Ladysmith II.), br. J. H. Marshall, Marnham Hall, Newark; 8, Lord Llangattock (Birdsall Buttercup), br. Lord Middleton; r. and h.c., C. Bell, Norley Hall, Norley, Cheshire (Halstead Queen), br. J. Bradley; h.c., H. H. Smith Carington (Desford Shepherdess), br. W. and J. Thompson; A. Grandage (Bramhope Wood Violet), br. ditto; A. Henderson, M.P. (Lockinge Harriet), br. late Lord Wantage, K.C.B., V.C.; Lord Middleton (Birdsall Silver Pine), br. ditto; Sir Oswald Mosley, Bart. (Editha of Rolleston), br. ditto; L. Salomons (Norbury Grace), br. ditto; c., G. Bingley, Wheatley Grange, Retford (Wheatley Bute), br. ditto; R. Canning, Hollows Farm, Alvaston, Nantwich (Primrose Lady Peggy), br. ditto; Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart. (Rokeby Ladylove), br. J. Parnell; W. Knowles, Latus Hall, Goosnargh, Preston (Golden Russet), br. W. Smith, Flawborough, Orston, Notts; F. W. Lowndes, Rolleston Park, Tutbury, Stoke-on-Trent (Tutbury Nun), br. E. Beard, Bucknall, Birkenhead (Raby Violet), br. ditto; J. Ratcliffe, Boarbank Hall, Grange-over-Sands (Boarbank Peggy), br. ditto; A. C. Rogers, Buckingham (Blythwood Glowing), br. Sir J. Blyth, Bart.; R. Rowland (Creslow Belle III.), br. Exors. of W. R. Rowland; R. Wiggans, Lime Kiln Farm, Lostock Hall, Preston (Lime Kiln Pearl), br. ditto.

CLASS XI.—Mares, four years old (foaled in 1898): 1, W. and J. Thompson (Desford Flower), br. G. Gould, Hare Hill, Sudbury, Derby; 2, E. Green (Moors Peggy), br. W. Milner, Callaughton, Much Wenlock; 3, R. A. Yerburgh, M.P., Woodfold Park, Blackburn (Lily of the Valley), br. W. C. Gouiding, The Field, Whatton-in-the-Vale; 4, Philo L. Mills (Caper Sauce), br. ditto; 5, W. Jackson (Holker R. I.), br. V. C. W. Cavendish, M.P., Holker Hall, Carnforth; r. and h.c., H. H. Smith Carington, Ashby Folville, Melton Mowbray (Blackmore Belle), br. L. Marriage, Blackmore, Ingatestone; h.c., T. Bond, Ludboro', Louth, Lincs. (Ludboro' Movement), br. A. Thompson, Old Brumby, Doncaster; The Duke of Buccleuch and Queensberry, K.G., K.T. (Barnwell Forest Queen), br. ditto; J. Eadie (Buscot Songstress), br. T. Pinniger, Highworth, Wilts; J. H. Fielding, Town Farm, Woodham Ferris (Saxon Talent), br. Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart., Elsenham Hall, Essex; A. E. and W. S. Freshney, Grimoldby, Louth (Shelford Actress), br. H. Towgood; F. W. Gilbert, Mickleover, Derby (Droitwich Fashion), br. G. Allen, Sunny Side, Lichfield; P. Albert Muntz, M.P. (Buscot Flora), br. A. Henderson, M.P.; H. Percy Taunton (Keddington Alberta), br. G. R. Dawson, Martin Hall, Horncastle, Lincs.; c., The Duke of Buccleuch and Queensberry, K.G., K.T. (Barnwell Bounce), br. ditto; M. Hubbard, Ivy House, Hixon, Stafford (Holker Lassie), brs. Cooke Bros., Kedleston, Derby; Frank Needham (Oakham Bluebell), br. ditto; John Ratcliffe (Boarbank Orphan Girl), br. ditto; John E. Shaw (Sunblossom II.), br. ditto; O. R. Ward, Noon Sun Farm, Great Warford (Catherine Howard), br. G. Howard; O. R. Ward, Noon Sun Farm, Great Warford (Hogsthorpe Violet), br. W. Rutter, Rectory Farm, Hogsthorpe, Alford.

CLASS XII.—Mares, under 16 hands high, 5 years old and upwards (foaled previous to the year 1898): 1, P. L. Mills (Saxon Girl), br. Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart.; 2, Sir J. Blundell Maple, Bart., M.P. (Cowdale Starlight), br. James Salt; 3, W. H. O. Duncombe (Thorney Starlight), br. J. Topham, Thorney Park, Peterborough; 4, A. Henderson, M.P. (Moors Cambria), br. Edward Green; 5, V. C. W. Cavendish, M.P., Holker Hall, Carnforth (Boro' Quality), br. Mrs. S. A. Colvin, Money Bdg., Pinchbeck, Spalding; 5, J. Thomson, Woodperry, Oxford (Woodperry Watercress), br. ditto; r. and h.c., H. H. Smith Carington (Rokeby Petrel), br. John Parnell; h.c., P. Coats, Sheepcote, Clifford, Herefordshire (Duchess of York), br. A. Grandage; W. H. Dawson, Maple Bank, Otley, Yorks. (Hooton Countess), br. J. Christopherson, Hooton, Chester; J. Forshaw and Sons (Belle), br. late Mrs. Boddam-Whetham, Kirklington Hall, Southwell; W. Jackson (Warren Hazel), br. late Otto Strauss, New House, Southmoor, Abingdon; J. King and Sons, Broom, Biggleswade (Sterling Shire Queen), br. E. Ashby, Long Buckv, Rugby; A. C. Rogers, Buckingham (Lady Charlotte), br. W. Sargeant, Cheddleton, Leek; Lady Wantage (Lockinge Susan), br. late Lord Wantage, K.C.B., V.C.; c., F. Crisp (Calwich Mavis), br. R. Bennison, Gorsty Hill, Tean, Stoke-on-Trent; G. Freir, Tolethorpe House, Deeping St. Nicholas, Spalding (Sorrel), br. ditto; H. Percy Taunton (Redlynch Manila), br. ditto; J. C. Waddington (Eastoft Smart), br.

W. Coulman, Eastoft Hall, Goole; J. C. Waddington (Saxon Link), br. Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart.; J. W. Whitehurst, Markeaton, Derby (Markeaton Ruby), br. J. Hanson, Mackworth, Derby; R. A. Yerburgh, M.P. (Madcline), br. E. Green.

CLASS XIII.—Mares 16 hands high, and under 16 hands 2 inches high, five years old and upwards (foaled previous to the year 1898): 1, R. W. Hudson (Alston Rose), brs. Exors. of John Mercer; 2, W. and J. Thompson (Worsley Princess VII.), br. Earl of Ellesmere; 3, V. C. W. Cavendish, M.P. (Tatton Maggie), br. H. Whitehead; 4, Lady Wantage (Kelvedon Marguerite), br. Sir Henry Ewart, K.C.B., Felix Hall, Kelvedon; 5, P. Albert Muntz, M.P. (Lady Franklin), br. Earl Egerton of Tatton; 6, H. H. Smith Carington (Rocks Madam), br. J. H. Smith, Burnside, Alvaston, Derby; r. and h.c., R. W. Hudson (Desford Kathleen), br. W. H. Dicken, Bonehill, Mickleover, Derby; h.c., A. Grandage (Markeaton Myrtle), br. T. Redfern, Calton, Ashbourne; Hon. R. P. Nevill (D'Arcy Fuchsia), br. W. C. Cole, Swavesey, Cambs.; C. T. Part, Aldenham Lodge, St. Albans (Rocks Echo), br. J. Knowles; c., J. Grimes, Highfield, Palterton, Chesterfield (Darby), br. T. Howard, Gwarthlow, Montgomery; Lord Hothfield (X Rays of Hothfield), br. ditto; Frank Needham (Oakham Janet), br. W. Warn, Glebe Farm, Oakham; Duchess of Newcastle (Grove Fancy), br. E. E. Harcourt-Vernon; H. Towgood (Brown), br. A. G. Newton, Brook St. House, Soham; J. C. Waddington (Miss Pilling), br. ditto.

CLASS XIV.—Mares, 16 hands 2 inches high and over, five years old and upwards (foaled previous to the year 1898): 1, H. Towgood (Rolleston Fuchsia), br. M. Hart, Cocknage, Longton, Staffs.; 2, V. C. W. Cavendish, M.P. (Southgate Charm), br. F. Crisp; 3, H. H. Smith Carington (Hendre Crown Princess), br. J. Thorley, Mayfield, Ashbourne; 4, F. Crisp (Queen of the Shires), br. J. Blunt, Eree Ion-on the-Hill, Ashby-de-la-Zouch; 5, P. Coats, Sheepcote, Clifford, Herefordshire (Bright Light), br. T. Kinsey, Moorhampton Farm, Hereford; r. and h.c., J. Forshaw and Sons (Fairing), br. J. H. Briggs; h.c., J. E. Baddiley, The Norna, Blyth, Rotherham (Norna Sensation), br. ditto; A. Blackwell, Oughtibridge, Sheffield (Alston Bonny), brs. Exors. of John Mercer; J. Holm, Waterend, Ongar, Essex (Pluck), br. R. N. Sutton-Nelthorpe; Lord Hothfield (Xenia of Hothfield), br. ditto; R. W. Hudson (Binfield Drayman's Wife), br. Sir Robert Wilmot, Bart.; Duchess of Newcastle (Clufber Diamond), br. ditto; S. S. Raingill, The Grange, Ringway, Altrincham (Rednal Lass), br. A. W. Mostyn Owen, West Felton, Oswestry; A. Ransom (Hitchin Plum), br. ditto; Dennis Sharpe, Stanford-in-the-Vale, Faringdon, Berks. (Flower II.), br. ditto; H. Towgood (Shelford Pax), br. ditto; c., I. Dilworth, Ramsbrook Farm, Hale Bank, Widnes. (Poulton Heiress), br. Earl of Bradford, High Hall, Blymhill, Shifnal; W. C. and A. J. Flowers, Beachendon, Aylesbury (Beachendon Fuchsia), br. late W Flowers.

GELDINGS.

CLASS XV.—Geldings, 3 years old (foaled in 1899): 1, R. W. Hudson (Danesfield Rebel), br. ditto; 2, Nottingham Corporation Farm Committee (Nottingham Saint), br. ditto; 3, E. B. Wynn, Welcombe Bank, Stratford-on-Avon (Welcombe), br. Robert Hutton, Jury Street, Warwick; 4, Lady Wantage (Lockinge Blue Beard), br. Mrs. Bennett, Chacombe, Banbury; r. and h.c., W. and J. Thompson (Desford Emperor), br. J. Marriott, Scalford, Melton Mowbray; h.c., C. Coxon, Elford Park, Tamworth (Elford Lad), br. ditto; T. A. Oliver, Evedon, Scalford (Teuton Farmer), br. E. G. Allen, Metheringham, Lincoln; H. Towgood (Shelford Marksman), br. ditto.

CLASS XVI.—Geldings, 4 years old (foaled in 1898): 1, Lady Wantage (Lockinge Ebony), br. T. Brown, Middle Hulme, Leek; 2, Sir Oswald Mosley, Bart. (Bonny Captain), br. G. Plowright, Hallaton, Uppingham; 3, S. Wallace, Essendon, Hatfield (Ploughboy), br. R. S. Potter, Hawkeswell, Coleshill, Birmingham; 4, S. Draper, Crow Hill Farm, Wilden, Bedford (Duke), brs. Bedford Urban Sanitary Authority, Sewage Farm, Bedford; r. and h.c., J. T. Miller, Shutford Manor, Banbury (Shutford Duke), br. S. Bennett, Spetchley, Worcester; h.c., Sir Oswald Mosley, Bart., Rolleston Hall, Burton-on-Trent (Big Ben), br. J. Nixon, Hulme, Walfield, Congleton.

CLASS XVII.—Geldings, 5 years old and upwards (foaled previous to the year 1898): 1, T. Edwards (Redlynch Duke), br. F. Cole, Dodford, Chippenham; 2, Lady Wantage (Lockinge Prince), br. M. McMullen, Hertingfordbury Park, Hertford; 3, W. and J. Thompson (Thorney Duke), br. J. Topham, Thorney Park, Peterborough; 4, F. W. Catton, Little Ouseburn, York (Brigadier), br. R. Bibby, Carleton, Poulton-le-Fylde; r. and h.c., T. Edwards (Woodham Royal), br. E. Moss, Ilgars Manor, Woodham Ferris, Essex; h.c., F. W. Catton (General), br. W. Scholey, Hut Green, Whitley Bridge, Yorks; T. Simpson, Haynes, Bedford (Midlands Rattler), br. H. A. Underwood, Murcott, Rugby.

The Sale.

The annual sale, which took place on Thursday and Friday last, was, like the show itself, a record one in respect to the number of animals entered, but unfortunately it was not a record one for the averages realised, though we believe it placed to itself the credit of being the sale at which the largest number of horses have been sold sincet hese excellent sales were first established. There can be no question that it is the establishment of these annual sales that has most materially aided in making these annual shows so very popular among the breeders. For at these annual sales a very capital opportunity is afforded to the smaller breeder whose studs are not large enough for the periodical sales, to dispose of to full advantage any animal he may be able to breed of sufficient merit. One lesson, however, that the present sale has brought home to a very large number who consigned thereto, namely, that it is possible both to overset the value of the animal and also to over-supply the market.

We give, as in former years, a detailed summary, and therefore we need not refer to the averages made more than to remark that this year's average for the whole of the breeding animals sold works out at £77 18s. 3d. per head for 237, as against £87 2s. 9d. for 217 in 1901, £79 18s 4d. for 164 in 1900, and £74 10s. 7d. for 162 in 1899.

In dealing with the sale we follow the order of the catalogue, commencing with the yearling stallions, of which eighteen were sold at values ranging from 100 to 18 gns., the average being £42 1s. 2d., the best prices being 100 gns. for Watnal Warden, Mr. A. Whittime; 82 gns. for Lockinge Anglo-Saxon, to Mr. Paisley; 62 gns. for Ware Masterman, to Mr. G. Cowing; 46 for Dusty Victor, to Colonel Walter, etc. The range in value of the two-year-old stallions, fifty-four of which were sold, was 270 gns. to 29 gns., Mr. A. Whittome paying the former price for Redlynch Champion, from Mr. H. P. Taunton's well-known stud, another from the same stud, Redlynch Blue Blood making 190 gns. to Mr. Cresswell; another good price was that paid by Mr. F. W. Griffin, 160 gns.; for Exton Heirloom, a fine colt, with good power; 140 gns. was made by Nuilstone Expectation, to Mr. J. B. Dirmock; 120 gns. was made for Kendal Burgeon, whose sire, Burgeon, was one of Mr. Forshaw's horses, and he thus showed his appreciation of his set by taking this horse at the price named. Two others went at 115 gns. each, Souldern Vulcan, to Mr. W. R. Trotter, and Markeaton Typewriter to Mr. W. Hammond. Another pair made 110 gns. each, Durdham Tom, to Mr. G. Adams, and Poulton Prince Harold, to Mr. H. B. Ward; 105 gns. purchased Southill Vulcan, Mr. W. R. Trotter securing him at this value, and Mr. R. W. Hudson took that well-bred colt, Celtic, at 100 gns.

The three-year-old stallions were well competed for, and those sold made a fairly satisfactory average, the range in values being from 300 gns., 31 gns., a wide margin, but one that clearly demonstrates the difference in the value of the high class stock and that not of this character. The top price horse was Blythwood Ray, 7th in its class, and he was, as far as we could judge, secured by Mr. Cresswell, well within his value, at 300 gns. Next came Captain Heygate's judicious purchase, at 270 gns., Scarcliffe Old Fashion by Old Warden Royal Harold. Another real good horse in Drayman XXIII. changed hands at 230 gns., Mr. J. Forshaw being his purchaser. Two made 155 gns. each, Copenhagen, a son of the noted Harold, being taken at this figure by Mr. C. Haynes, and Prince of Rube, by Mr. Garriott, at 5 gns. less. Mr. G. Kenworthy became the owner of that fine mover, Langton Navigator. D'Arcy Royal, sent up by Mr. W. Richardson, went to Mr. Ewart, at 130 gns., and Mr. Kitchener took Coat-of-Arms at 105 gns. The four-year-old stallions did not command so good a trade as was the case last year, nor were they so much sought for as the three-year-olds. Seven only were sold at a range of values from 110 gns. to 48 gns., Mr. J. C. Hunter taking Norman President by Dunsmore Combination for the former figure. Another, D'Arcy bay made 70 gns., to Mr. Crossland, and three others went at 60 gns. each, as follows:—Duke X., to Mr. J. W. Welcher; Treasure Trove, to Mr. Cole Ambrose; and Nailstone Yeoman of the Guard, to Mr. Green. Of the older stallions, twenty-three changed hands at the range of values from 300 gns. to 13 gns., Mr. P. A. Muntz, M.P., taking Watnall Merry Lad, a commended horse, at the former figure; Mr. Walpole Greenwell secured Ashwell Cheer Boy at 190 gns.; Mr. Page, Conistro, at 115 gns.; and Mr. Delaney Sowerby, Victor, at 105 gns.

The demand for yearling fillies was not so good as the average of years, and this was one of those classes, in which, however, supply was very apparent. Five only were sold, ranging from 40 to 21 gns., the former price being paid three times, for Ivy Merry Girl, by Mr. Cooke; Spring Flower, by Mr. G. Cowing, and Desford Victoria, by Mr. Nicholson, who secured a very promising filly at a moderate price. A very much better demand was found for the two-year-old mares, whose range of values were 165 to 23 gns., the former price being made by Cutthorpe Catriona, from Mr. J. P. Cross' stud, her purchaser being Lord Iveagh; next in value was Baroness, who went to Mr. Brereton at 150 gns.; then came Alvaston Victoria, whose value was 105 gns., to Mr. Most; three others made 100 gns. each, namely, Moulton Lady Jessie, Mr. A. Moulton; Barrow Coral, a grand filly from Mr. J. Eadie's, to Lord Iveagh, and Creslow Primrose to Mr. Brereton, at 92 gns. Mr. England took that fine filly, Redlynch Royal Alice, and at 80 gns. Lord Harris got Norman Rose, a filly that looks like making a good one. The three-year-old-mares, whose range of values was from 300 gns. to 30 gns., sold well, and the top-priced one, Surrey White Foot, 3rd in her class, was one of the most eagerly competed for animals in the sale, Mr. Brereton being her purchaser, and Mr. Most the runner up. Creslow Belle III. was another that secured many admirers, and Mr. J. Pearman had to pay 175 gns. to secure her; two others made 150 gns. each, Cherry Rose to Mr. Webb and Wheatley Bute, by Calwich Tom, to Mr. Brereton. Tutbury Nunn by, Rokeby Friar, went to 120 gns, before Mr. J. Pearson stopped his competitors, and Mr. Munson gave 100 gns. for Boarbank Peggy, a daughter of Tatton Victor. Four-year-old mares, like the same age in the stallions', did not contribute largely to the aggregate number sold, for only seven of these were sold, though their average was satisfactory, the range in values being from 200 gns. to 35 gns., the former price, and also 105 gns. for another, being paid by Mr. Sheppard Cross, M.P., who has thus secured a grand pair of mares for his Herefordshire estate, the highest-priced one being Kiddington Alberta, by Waresly Albert, and the other Ludboro Movement, by that good horse, East Anglican; both these mares were h.c. in their class. Another to whom this honour went, Shelford Actress, went to Mr. Philips at 110 gns. The older mares, exhibited in three classes, made a very good average, the range of values being, however, a wide one, from 250 gns. to 13 gns., a curious coincidence for the lowest price for matured mares to be exactly the same as that for the corresdonding class of stallions; Lord Camden paying the top price of the section for Radical Lass, a grand bay 8-year-old mare, by Regent II.; next came Sterling Shire Queen, who went to Mr. Assheton for 200 gns., followed by the 10-year-old mare Rocks E Blyth's Echo, to Mr. Carr, at 180 gns.; then at 180 gns. Mr. W. R. Trotter secured D'Arcy Fuchsia, by the well-known Dunsmore Willington Boy, at 5 gns. less Mr. Steward secured Alston Bonny, a close relative of the Champion Mare; the Marquis of Winchester took Beacharden Fuchsia at 140 gns.; Stanton Nexies making 120 gns., Mr. Skinner being her purchaser; Mr. Thompson gave 105 gns. for Oakham Janet; 100 gns. being the price made by Nora Sensation to Lord Camden, by Broom to Mr. B. Ford, and by Miss Pilling to Mr. Richardson Carr.

The geldings offered were not in great demand, the values placed on them by their owners being such that prevented the sale of most of them, only five being sold. Sir O. Mosby, Barts., Bonny Captain securing 100 gns. from Mr. G. Davis, Midlands Ratten 62 gns. from Mr. W. Hammond, and Prince 60 gns. from Mr. Shead.

SUMMARY.

	No. sold.	£ s. Highest price.	£ s. Aggregate	£ s. d. Aver.
Mares above five years	29	262 10	2832 18	97 13 7
Four year old mares	7	210 0	672 0	96 0 0
Three year old mares.....	24	315 0	2159 17	89 19 9
Two year old mares	33	173 15	2033 17	61 12 7
Yearling mares	5	42 0	170 2	34 0 4
Stallions above five years..	23	315 0	1858 10	80 16 1
Four year old stallions	7	115 10	487 4	69 12 0
Three year old stallions	37	315 0	3405 3	92 0 6
Two year old stallions	54	283 10	4088 14	75 14 4
Yearling stallions	18	105 0	757 1	42 1 2
	237		18465 6	77 18 3
Geldings	5	105 0	326 11	65 6 2
	242		18791 17	77 13 0

The Hackney Show.

The Shire horses having taken their departure, Hackneys will enter into possession of the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, to-morrow (Tuesday), and will remain until Friday evening. This will be the eighteenth annual show of the Hackney Horse Society, and although the entries do not, as at the Shire Show, constitute a record, the number obtained—493—has only on one occasion been exceeded, and that in 1899, when the total was 495, so that this year's number fell only three short of creating a record. Compared with last year, there is an increase of nine entries, stallions being 11 more and geldings 35 more; but mares are fewer by 23, and in the harness section there are eight less than last year. The following table will show at a glance how this year's entries compare with those received for the five previous shows:—

	1902	1901	1900	1899	1898	1897
Hackney and pony stallions..	219	208	189	227	242	284
Hackney and pony mares	114	143	146	173	187	141
Hackney geldings	94	59	69	53	51	—
Riding and driving	66	74	60	42	—	60
Totals	493	484	464	495	480	485

Classification.

The division of the show last year into separate sections for Hackneys, cobs, and ponies was the cause of some comment, and the council have reverted to the former division into Hackneys and ponies, drafting the classes in last year's cob section into their proper position in the Hackney portion.

To relieve the classes for older stallions, which last year applied to horses four years old and over, a fresh class for four-year-old stallions has been inserted, and this has attracted an excellent entry of 42, the remaining three classes being applicable to horses five years old or over. The class for three-year-old mares has been divided, and fresh classes for barren mares and geldings (class 17) and pony mares (class 27) have been added.

Prizes.

A total of £1,215 is offered in cash prizes, as compared with £1,045 last year. The whole of this sum is provided out of the Society's funds for the encouragement of breeders of Hackneys and ponies, in addition to the large amount distributed in prizes at the country shows in the summer. In addition there are the Society's champion and challenge cups. A champion cup for stallions and a champion cup for mares, to be retained by the owner, is given each year, with the condition that a stallion or mare shall not take more than two champion cups. McKinley, the champion of 1900 and 1901, is not exhibited this year, as this debarring rule now applies to him; but Royal Danegelt, reserve to McKinley for the championship on both occasions, is competing, as is last year's

champion mare, Rosarene. The special prizes for the various classes in groups, which are sometimes termed the junior championships, are again repeated.

Breeders' Prizes.

The system of Breeders' prizes is continued, and it is safe to say that no system of premiums has ever been so favourably received by the general body of horse breeders as has this. The total sum already awarded in this competition amounts to £720.

Exhibitors.

Among the noteworthy exhibitors this year are His Majesty the King, Earl of Albemarle, Sir Walter Gilbey, Sir Gilbert Greenall, Sir Robert Moncrieffe, Lord Middleton, Mr. John Barker, Mr. Fredk. Wrench, Col. F. W. Tannett Walker, etc.

Judging.

The programme, which has been made as attractive as possible to the public as is consistent with the somewhat uninteresting duties of judging, provides that proceedings shall commence at 9 a.m. on Tuesday with the judging of Hackney stallions, which should conclude at or about 5 p.m.

On the morning of Wednesday the Hackney mares in hand will occupy the ring, and in the afternoon there will be the class for small Hackneys exhibited in harness, followed at or about 3 p.m. by the stallion championships and by two other harness classes, concluding with a parade of prize-winning stallions, if time permits.

On the third day the classes for mares and geldings in hand will be taken as soon as the show opens, to be immediately followed by ponies in hand and the special prizes for ponies. In the afternoon there will be the judging of the mare championships, followed by the ponies in harness and a parade.

The last day of the show is devoted to the judging of the best sires in the produce groups, a parade, and a sale by auction in the ring at noon.

Mr. William Henderson, of East Elrington, has received from the University of Halle an elaborate testimonial, being a letter of thanks on behalf of the German Agricultural students, who, last April, were the guests of Mr. Henderson, whose farm they visited in order to view his famous stock of Shorthorns. The scroll, which is a large one, is beautifully executed, having at the top a fine picture of the University buildings, with Handel's statue in front, displaying on the margin scenes of several agricultural operations, as also Demeter among the sheaves. The testimonial is signed by Dr. Julius Kuehn, Professor in Ordinary and Director of the Agricultural Institute of the University of Halle, and is a pleasing memento of the visit of the students.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending February 25, 1902:—

Swine Fever.	Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.	No.	92	198	421	608	1,571	1,662	3,205	5,436
	Outbreaks.	No.	22	46	39	45	207	291	287	358
Rabies.	Cases Reported. Oth'r Anim'ls.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
	Dogs.	No.	1	...	...	...	3	...	...	...
Pleuro-Pneumonia.	Cattle Slaughter'd. Exposed to Infection.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Diseased.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Outbreaks.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Glanders (inc. Chal. farcy).	Animals Attacked.	No.	27	37	39	32	380	378	304	188
	Outbreaks.	No.	16	20	23	16	173	195	168	104
Foot-and-Mouth Disease.	Animals Attacked.	No.	...	224	9	...	...	671	99	...
	Outbreaks.	No.	...	3	1	...	...	9	7	...
Anthrax.	Animals Attacked.	No.	15	13	24	47	227	140	129	143
	Outbreaks.	No.	14	11	15	15	135	97	83	84
Period.	Week ended Feb. 22, 1902 ...			1901	1900	1899	Total for 8 weeks, 1902 ...	Corresponding period in ...	1900	1899
	Corresponding week in ...									

NOTE.—The figures for the current Year are approximate only.

SUCREMA

No. 1

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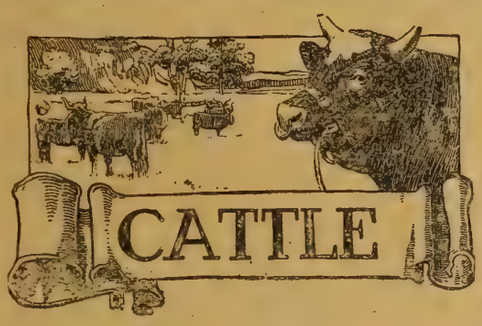
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Bristol Bull Sale.

Messrs. George Nichols, Hawes, Young, Alder, and Co. held their fourteenth annual exhibition and sale of Shorthorn bulls on Tuesday last in the Cattle Market, Bristol. There was a large and representative attendance of breeders and buyers to view the seventy animals, which were much above the average quality, and sent from a goodly distance around. The judging was entrusted to Mr. Richard Stratton, the Duffryn, Newport, and Mr. Benjamin Read, Quedgely Court, Gloucester, who got through their work speedily and satisfactorily. The first class was for Shorthorn bulls above 15, but not exceeding 30, months old; the championship of the show was won by Mr. G. F. King's Lord Bruce, Mr. Philip Jenkins's Just One being reserve champion; Charlton Prince, owner and breeder the Earl of Suffolk, commended, 22 gs., Mr. Napper Englishcombe; Motcombe Monarch, breeder Mr. Nathaniel Benjafield, owner Mr. H. G. Bush, commended, 25 gs.; Mr. E. Matthews Box, Carnoxford Knight, owner the Earl of Ducie, breeder H. G. Bush, commended, 25gs., Mr. Barton; Mr. G. F. King's Lord Bruce first and champion withdrawn at 250 gs.; Chewton Ruby, owner and breeder Mr. G. F. King, commended, 19 gs., Mr. Bryant; Bloodstone, owner and breeder Mr. J. Lear, 24 gs., Mr. Bond; Charlton Sentinel, breeder the Earl of Suffolk, 18½ gs., Mr. Hodges; Vain Count, owner and breeder Mr. Arthur Taylor, 19 gs., Mr. Hardwick; Red Robin, owner and breeder Mr. D. Stinchcombe, 22 gs., Mr. Jones; Mystic Lad, owner and breeder Mr. John Griffiths, 13½ gs., Mr. Tanner; Royalty, owner and breeder Mr. D. Stinchcombe, highly commended, 29½ gs., Mr. Loxton; Kelmscott Count, owner Mr. H. G. Bush, breeder Mr. R. W. Hobbs, 2nd prize, 34 gs., Mr. Stokes; Cuthbert, owner and breeder the Earl of Ducie, commended, 19 gs., Mr. Andrews; the same breeder's Herbert, 17 gs., Mr. James; Marquis, owner and breeder Mr. John Griffiths, 11½ gs., Mr. Vowles; Wild-Eyed Knight, 3rd, owner and breeder Mr. H. G. Bush, highly commended, 24 gs., R. Clapp; Clarence, owner and breeder the Earl of Ducie, commended, 36 gs., Mr. Isaacs; Lord Chalmer II., owner and breeder Mrs. Mary Kello, 16 gs., Mr. Hardwick; Director, owner and breeder Mr. McEwen Smith, reserve 25½ gs., Mr. Jones; Buller, owner and breeder, Mr. James Gibson Langford, 13½ gs., Mr. Jones; Hanyet Pride, owner and breeder Mr. James Gibson, 12 gs., Mr. Shepherd.

Class II. was for Shorthorn bulls over 10, but not exceeding 15, months, and they constituted a rather neat class:—Mobley Prince, owner and breeder Mr. G. F. Cullimore, highly commended, 20½ gs., Mr. Staley; Blagden Cameo II., owner and breeder Sir W. H. Wills, 14 gs., Mr. Fear; Dauntless, owner and breeder Mr. W. McEwen Smith, highly commended, 18½ gs., Mr. H. G. Thornton; Noble, owner and breeder Mrs. E. Hardwick, commended, 19 gs., Mr. Young; Silver King, owner and breeder Mr. George H. Jones, 17 gs., Mr. Cox; Chewton Cornelius IX., owner and breeder Mr. G. F. King, highly commended, 20½ gs., bought for Lord Annaly for the use of his Somersetshire tenants; Donald, owner and breeder Mr. W. McEwen Smith, 14 gs., Mr. Richards; Chewton Cornelius VII., owner and breeder Mr. G. F. King, reserved, 28½ gs., Mr. Phippen; Baron Alpine, owner and breeder Mr. John E. King, 20 gs., Mr. H. Crew; Cecil, owner and breeder, Mr. George Stephens, 16½ gs., Mr. Crossman; Dairyman, owner and breeder, Mr. McEwen Smith, 15 gs., Mr. Jones; Prince Sackburn, owner and breeder Mrs. Mary Kello, 16½ gs., Mr. Alway; Duke of Gloucester XI., owners and breeders Messrs. D. and C. Savage, 2nd prize, 32 gs., Mr. W. H. Beaven; Harry, owner and breeder Mr. George Stephens, 12 gs., Mr. Hopkins; Just One, owner and breeder Mr. Philip Jenkins, 1st prize and reserve championship, 40 gs., Dr. Fox; Count Alpine, owner and breeder Mr. John E. King, 15 gs., Mr. Gunning; Chescombe Pride, owner and breeder Mr. John Gould, commended, 17½ gs., Mr. Poole; Chescombe Prince, owner and breeder Mr. John Gould, 13 gs., Mr. H. Matthews; Hamlet, owner and breeder Mr. H. G. Bush, 25 gs., Mr. Baker; Blagden Duke III., owner and breeder Sir W. H. Mills, 17½ gs., Mr. James; Prince Alpine II., owner and breeder Mr. Thomas Benewith, commended, 19 gs., Mr. Panes; Conqueror, owner and breeder Mrs. E. Hardwick, 14½ gs., Mr. Reynolds; Jumbo, owner and breeder Mr. George Russell, highly commended, 16½ gs., Mr. W. Nichols.

Class III. was for Shorthorn bulls over 5, and not exceeding 10, months, and these did not make such a strong class as the preceding ones, either in numbers or quality, and therefore very high prices could not be expected:—Charlton Marquis, owner and breeder the Earl of Suffolk, 10 gs., Mr. Thomas; Nobility, owner and breeder, Mrs. Meredith, second prize, 12½ gs., Mr. Thatcher; Chewton Victor IV., owner and breeder Mr. G. F. King, 14 gs., Mr. Carter; Rob, owner and breeder Mr. George Stephens, 9 gs., Mr. George Marshall; Alpine Prince, owner and breeder Mr. John King, 11½ gs., Mr. Paget; What's Wanted, owner and breeder Mrs. Meredith, 1st prize, 14½ gs., Mr. Weaver; Winford Democrat, owner and breeder Mr. W. McEwen Smith, 8½ gs., Mr. Weaver.

Shorthorn Show and Sale at Perth.

The second of the spring show and sales of pedigree stock at Perth took place on Tuesday and Wednesday, when Shorthorns were the breed represented, the Aberdeen Angus cattle, it will be remembered, having been disposed of on the previous Tuesday and Wednesday. This was the thirty-eighth annual show and sale, and as in the case with Aberdeen Angus breeders, rearers of and dealers in Shorthorns, attach a considerable amount of importance to this event, and that it is as popular as ever was proved last week, for the entries were considerably larger than for some years past, whilst the same might be said of the attendance of buyers. As a rule there are not so many Shorthorns forward as at the Aberdeen Angus sale, and the rule has been to simply judge the Shorthorns on the first day, and leave all the sales to the second, but owing to the increased number this year it was deemed expedient to follow the system adopted with the "doddies," namely on the first day to judge all the animals and dispose of the females, leaving the bulls to be sold on the second day. This new departure worked well, and seemed to give satisfaction to all concerned. The total number of entries was 384, as compared with 272 last year and 289 in 1900, whilst but three years ago the total was only 205. The bulls are, of course, the most important animals, and of these there were 313, the cows and heifers numbering 71. In the older class of bulls there were 129 entries, the younger bulls numbering 184; whilst in the female section 5 cows, 5 three-year-old heifers, 21 two-year-old heifers, and 26 yearling heifers. The number of individual exhibitors in the bull section was 69, against 54 last year, and 16 herds against 14 were represented in the cow and heifer classes. There were no exhibitors from England, but most of the leading herds in Scotland were represented. The largest lot of bulls was, as usual, that from Cluny Castle, Lady Gordon Cathcart having an entry of no fewer than 26 promising young animals, a large proportion of the calves being sired by the Collynie-bred bull Royal Pride, and representing well-known tribes on the female side. Mr. Granger, Pitcur, and Mr. Thomson, Balbegno,

came next, each with 11 bulls. The Montrave, Crieffvechter, and Strowan herds were each represented by 10, most of Sir John Gilmour's lot being by the well-known bull Brave Archer. Mr. Merson, Craigwillie, had 9 entries, including his prize-takers at Huntly Show recently, and most of the consignment are got by Dorset Prince and Masterpiece, bulls which were sold at Birmingham for 200 gs. and 230 gs. respectively. A similar consignment was sent from Mr. Shepherd's old herd at Shethin; and Mr. Taylor, Pitlivie, had also 9 entered. Eight bulls were sent from each of the Westertown, Coldstream, Rettie, and Orchardmains herds; and drafts of seven were entered by Mr. Adam, Baads (all got by his prize bull Mercury); Mr. Fergusson, Dalcapon; Messrs. Lumsden and MacKenzie, Huntingtowerfield; Messrs. Law, Mains, of Sanquhar; and the Duke of Richmond. Mr. Durno, Jackston; Mr. Fletcher, of Rosehaugh; Mr. Robertson, Ballechin; and Mr. Stewart, Millhills, each had six bulls of good breeding. Lord Lovat entered three bulls, all by his famous stock-getting sire, Royal Star, whose produce in recent years has ralised such high prices. The largest consigner of heifers was Sir John Gilmour, who sent 22 females from the Montrave herd.

Judging.

The judging, which was begun at nine o'clock, occupied the whole of Tuesday morning, for the judges had by no means an easy task, for the quality was distinctly much better than the average; in fact, many thought that the bulls made the best show ever seen at Perth. They were a great advance on last year—the young bulls especially being of exceptional merit. Heifers as a whole were also very good, although the improvement in quality was not so striking as in the case of the bulls. In the older bull class the judges drew out a leet of about a dozen, and from these they selected for the first place Ronald of Minmore, a stylish roan, belonging to Colonel Smith Grant, and bred by the late Colonel Smith. He was sired by Rameses, and is a well-fleshed bull, with a capital top, and displaying much gaiety in the ring. The second prize went to Lord Lovat for one of Royal Star's produce, a roan named Viking, a bull of great merit. The third prize-taker, belonging to Mr. Fletcher, of Rosehaugh, was the red bull, Waterloo Chief, sired by Marmont, and descended on the dam's side from a long strain of Waterloo and Wellington blood. The fourth bull, belonging to Mr. Durno, Jackston, was Victor Chief, a roan with good loins and hind-quarters, sired by Lord Lynedoch, and out of a cow whose dam, Chief Blossom, won numerous prizes, including first at the Highland Society's Show. Sir John Gilmour was fifth with Montrave Baron, a neat and promising dark roan that should improve as the season advances.

The younger bulls made a large and capital class, and it was a great honour for Mr. Maxtone Graham, of Redgorton, to take both the first and second awards. The leading one was Ambassador, by White Archer, a bull of tremendous substance, with great wealth of flesh, although perhaps lacking something in masculine character, and inclined to hold himself a little easy on the top when standing. The one that came next was Dictator, by the same sire, and is a pretty and typical Shorthorn. The third and fourth prizes were awarded to the well-known northern breeder, Mr. Merson, Craigwillie, for a pair of bulls by Dorset Prince, named respectively What Not and Washington, two very fine animals. The latter is the more stylish animal, and for general character is superior to his half-brother, but he does not handle quite so well. Mr. Durno, Jackston, was fifth with another son of Lord Lynedoch, a dark roan of compact build, and with an excellent coat of hair; whilst Messrs. Law were commended for Chancellor of Sanquhar, a red bull by Rover of Sanquhar, one of the Cruickshanks strain. The cup for the three best bulls of the breed was awarded to Mr. Maxtone Graham, of Redgorton, for his first and second prize bull calves, and an animal that was not placed. Mr. Fergusson, Dalcapon, was reserve for three bulls, which were not in the prize list, but they were more uniform in character than Mr. Merson's lot, which came next.

Tuesday's Sale.

The sale of the females, which was conducted by Mr. Wedderspoon, of the firm of Macdonald, Fraser, and Co., Ltd., was well attended, and bidding was fairly brisk throughout. A dozen of the females entered were not passed through the ring, but most of the remainder brought very satisfactory prices, the average for heifers being quite seven guineas better than last year. Twenty-four of the animals sold made less than 20 gs., but in more than a score of instances 30 gs. at least was realised, while some of the choicest heifers ranged from 40 gs. upwards. One of the features of the day's sale was the extent to which purchases were made by Baroness Rothschild, no fewer than a dozen of the choicest animals being acquired on her behalf. The top price of the day was 90 gs., which was obtained by Sir John Gilmour for his first prize yearling heifer Wild Rose. She was started at 40 gs., and, after a keen competition, was knocked down to Mr. Bruce, Dublin, at 90 gs., the runner-up being Mr. Robertson, Ballechin. The highest price for heifers last year was 36 gs. The Montrave first prize two-year-old Blue Bell was put up at 30 gs., and, after some spirited bidding, the Baroness Rothschild prevailed. The second prize two-year-old from Ballechin brought 43 gs., and the third heifer from the same herd 36 gs., the purchaser in both cases being the Baroness Rothschild. The second prize yearling Nonpareil Jewel, from Kilblean, was also secured by her at 51 gs., but the third prize-taker, Active, belonging to Mr. Grainger, Pitcur, went to Ireland at 44 gs. Lord Rosebery was the purchaser at 40 gs. each, of Sir John Gilmour's Baroness Cromwell, a yearling, which did not appear in the prize list, and Mr. Napier's fifth prize winner in the same class, whilst he gave 33 gs., for the fourth prize animal. The highest average for heifers was £35, which was made by the Ballechin lot of six, which is £17 3s. above that of last year, and compares with £28 3s. 6d., last year's highest average, which was realised by the Knowehead consignment. Sir John Gilmour had the second best average with £32 12s. 1d., but he had the large draft of 19 heifers; Mr. Menzies, Tirinie, had £31 10s. for three; and Mr. Napier, Nether Dallachy, £30 0s. 7d. for five, which is about £7 more than last year. The total proceeds of the day's sale amounted to £1,636 19s. for 59 head of stock, as compared with £782 18s. for 37 females last year. The averages for the respective years being £27 14s. 11d. and £21 0s. 7d.

Below we give a list of some of the best prices realised, the name of the seller being given in parenthesis:—

	Gns.
Myrtle (Mr. D. Anderson) ..... Mr. Fleming	20
White Heather (Mr. D. Anderson) ..... Bailie Taylor	20
Vanora (Mr. D. Fergusson) ..... Mr. Forbes	24
Diamond Bracelet (Mr. J. Granger) Baroness Rothschild	22
Baroness Rothschild	31
Active (Mr. J. Granger) ..... Mr. Guinness	44
Blushing Wenlock (Sir John Gilmour, Bart.) Mr. George Campbell	27
Lay Sister (Sir John Gilmour, Bart.) .. Mr. Morrison	38
Blue Bell (Sir John Gilmour, Bart.) Baroness Rothschild	71
Charity (Sir John Gilmour, Bart.) .. Mr. Shepherd	21
Sincerity (Sir John Gilmour, Bart.) Baroness Rothschild	30
Chaperon (Sir John Gilmour, Bart.) Baroness Rothschild	35
Brunette II. (Sir John Gilmour, Bart.) .... Mr. Duncan	25
Wild Rose (Sir John Gilmour, Bart.) ..... Mr. Bruce	90
Baroness Cromwell (Sir John Gilmour, Bart.) Lord Rosebery	40
Esther VI. (Sir John Gilmour, Bart.).. Mr. Anderson	30
Pearl X. (Sir John Gilmour, Bart.) Baroness Rothschild	32
Cerise IV. (Sir John Gilmour, Bart.) .. Mr. Anderson	34
Calceolaria VII. (Sir John Gilmour, Bart.).. Mr. Grant	24
Clematis II. (Mr. R. Menzies) .... Baroness Rothschild	27
Olive Wenlock II (Mr. R. Menzies) .... Lord Rosebery	28
Emmeline VIII. (Mr. R. Menzies) Mr. Graigie, Pennan	35
Nonpareil Jewel (Mr. Manson) .. Baroness Rothschild	51
Laurestina (Mr R. Napier) ..... Mr. Moore	31
Agatha (Mr. R. Napier) ..... Mr. Forbes	23
Adelaide (Mr. R. Napier) ..... Lord Rosebery	40
Lucretia (Mr. R. Napier) ..... Lord Rosebery	33
Ruth (Mr. A. Robertson) ..... Baroness Rothschild	43
Maid of Athens IV. (Mr A. Robertson) Baroness Rothschild	39
Ballechin Tulip (Mr. A. Robertson) ..... Mr. Lee	30
Lily of Strathtay (Mr. A. Robertson) Baroness Rothschild	36
Violet Duchess (Mr. A. Robertson) ..... Lord Lovat	34
White Duchess (Captain Stirling) ..... Mr. Lee	26
Sprightly (Mr. J. Scott)..... Mr. Shepherd, Shethin	29
Mary Ann (Mr. J. Scott) ..... Baroness Rothschild	24

Wednesday's Sale.

The sale of the bulls on Wednesday proved one of the best experienced at Perth, the average of £30 4s. 4d. per head for 267 animals being obtained, which sum is £3 more than the average of last year, and the best that has been obtained for shorthorns at these sales. There was a very large and thoroughly representative gathering of breeders from all parts of the country, including a good many buyers from Ireland, on behalf of the Congested Districts Board and other parties, and they were ready purchasers, a considerable proportion of the animals sold—nearly one-third of the whole—being taken across the Channel for crossing purposes. Argentina has always been a good customer for Scottish-bred shorthorns, and several of the best animals were secured for exportation to the Argentine Republic, although their destination was not in every case announced at the sale. Only 45 of the animals entered were absent or withdrawn. There was a steady demand from first to last for the best class of stock, and almost at the close of the sale, when the demand might fairly have been expected to be fully supplied, some very high prices were obtained. Less than one-fourth of the bulls failed to reach 20gs., while 23 brought upwards of 40 gs., and five made three figures. The judging of Tuesday was a good deal upset at the sale, neither of the first prize bulls reaching three figures. The public fancy favoured some of those that were pretty far back in the prize-list, and the highest price was given for the bull which was but fifth in the older class. This was Sir John Gilmour's stylish roan, Montrave Baron, which was started at 40gs., and after keen competition, was purchased by Captain Graham Stirling, of Strowan for 145gs. The Montrave herd has thus the honour of leading the sale list in both the male and female sections. The second highest price was paid for the Redgorton second prize bull calf, Dictator, which was not reached till near the close of the sale, but it was put up at 50gs, and was soon carried to 100gs., and was finally knocked down at 135gs. to Mr. Hume, Barrelwell The second prize bull in the senior class, Lord Lovat's Viking, a roan son of Royal Star, started at 50gs., and quickly rose to the three figures, being taken out at 130gs. by Mr. Maclennan for exportation to Argentina. The fourth of the older bulls from Jackston, the roan,, Victor Chief, made the gratifying price of 120gs, his purchaser being Mr. Robertson, Ballechin. Another bull from the same herd, and by the same sire, Mr. Durno's Royal Emblem, met a spirited demand, and was sold at 100gs. to the Marquis of Londonderry. The first prize bull calf, Mr. Maxtone Graham's Ambassador, was sold at 86gs. to Mr. Tavendale, Henley-on-Thames, and one of the Jackston bulls, Vanderbilt, a roan son of Lord Lynedoch, was knocked down at 80gs. to Lady Gordon Cathcart. The Rosehaugh third prize bull in the older class, Waterloo Chief, realised 75gs, his purchaser being Colonel Smith Grant of Minmore; and Mr. Durno's fifth bull calf, King of Fame, another of Lord Lynedoch's produce, made the satisfactory price of 70gs., which was paid by Mr. Campbell, Hardhill. The first prize bull in the older class, Colonel Smith Grant's Ronald of Minmore, was offered before the pulse of the market had been fairly felt, and he sold rather cheaply to Colonel Munro Murthly, at 63gs. The third prize bull calf from Craigwillie was purchased by an English buyer at 58gs.; while the fourth bull, from the same herd and by the same sire, Dorset Prince, was taken to Ireland at 57gs.

A list of the other principal sales is given below. The result of the day's sale was a total of £8,073 9s. for 267 animals, as compared with £5,264 11s 6d. for 193 head last year. The whole proceeds of the two days' sale of shorthorn cattle, amounted to £9,710 8s for 326 animals, as against £6,047 9s 6d. for 230 cattle of the same breed sold last year. The highest herd average at the sale was made by Mr. Durno, Jackston, who had the very creditable figure of £97 2s. 6d. for four animals. Lord Lovat came next with £74 18s, and his lordship was followed by Mr. Maxtone Grahame, of Redgorton, with £67 8s. 2d. for five bulls, Mr. Douglas Fletcher, of Rosehaugh, being fourth, with £46 16s. 7d. for five animals.

Below we give a list of the sales at 25gs. and over:—

Ascot cup (Mr. Adam) ..... Mr. Anderson	30
Bridegroom (Mr. Adam) ..... Captain Stirling	47
Lovat (Mr. Adam) ..... Mr. Gordon	25
Lord Rosedale (Mr. Adam) ..... Mr. Gordon	26
Sandy Ruthven (Mr. Anderson) ..... Mr. William Roy	27
Red Duke (Mr. Anderson) ..... Mr. Cameron	25
Bismarck (Mr. Anderson) ..... Mr. Gordon	27
Lord Fanfare (Mr. Bruce) ..... Mr. Comyns, Ireland	33
Baron of Byres (Mr. Bruce) ..... Mr. Bruce	54
Branksome (The Duke of Buccleuch) ..... Mr. Menzies	27
Douglas (The Duke of Buccleuch) ..... Duke of Atholl	25
Claudius of Cluny (Lady Gordon Cathcart), Mr. Crawford	25
Courier (Lady Gordon Cathcart) ..... Mr. Malcolm	25
Cynthius (Lady Gordon Cathcart) ..... Mr. Comyns	29
Clarence (Lady Gordon Cathcart) ..... Mr. Cowan	27
Cedric (Lady Gordon Cathcart) ..... Mr. Comyns	37
Cromwell (Lady Gordon Cathcart) ..... Mr. Weir	30
Costello (Lady Gordon Cathcart) ..... Mr. Cameron	40
Chancellor (Lady Gordon Cathcart) ..... Mr. Comyns	30
Cornelius (Lady Gordon Cathcart) Captain Cheape's Trustees	27
Czar (Lady Gordon Cathcart) ..... Mr. Chambers	25
Cecil (Lady Gordon Cathcart) ..... Mr. Little	26
Cicero (Lady Gordon Cathcart) ..... Mr. Comyns	27
Clement (Lady Gordon Cathcart) ..... Mr. Bell	52
Cassius (Lady Gordon Cathcart) ..... Mr. Ingram	30
Landlord (Mr. Cameron) ..... Mr. Shillington, Belfast	38
Dandie Dinmont (Mr. Davidson) ..... Mr. M'Ewan	36
Prince Valiant (Mr. Dron) ..... Mr. Weir	30
Roan Victor (Mr. Dron) ..... Mr. Weir	25
Scottish Leader (Mr. Durno) ..... Mr. Hay	40
Champion Archer (Mr. Durno) ..... Mr. Bruce	47
Myrtle Archer (Mr. Durno) .... Captain Stirling of Keir	51
Reliable (Mr. Durno) ..... Mr. Gordon	28
Victor Chief (Mr. Durno) ..... Mr. Robertson	120
Royal Emblem (Mr. Durno), The Marquis of Londonderry	100
King of Fame (Mr. Durno) ..... Mr. Campbell	70
Vanderbolt (Mr. Durno) ..... Lady Gordon Cathcart	80
Pratis Baron (Mr. Fair) .. Mr. Stirling of Kippendavie	27
Marmont (Mr. Fletcher) ..... Mr. Weir	32
Waterloo Chief (Mr. Fletcher) .. Colonel Smith Grant	75
Baron Buller (Mr. Fletcher) ..... Mr. Cameron	66
Baron Undine (Mr. Fletcher) .... Mr. Gordon, Ireland	27
White Duke (Mr. Fergusson) ..... Mr. Bolton	26
Bright Star (Mr. Fergusson) ..... Mr. Grant	40
Pole Star (Mr. Fergusson) ..... Mr. Bell	32
Stewart Jamieson (Mr. Fergusson) ..... Mr. Carden	55
Alfred (Mr. Fergusson) ..... Mr. Weir	27
British Prince (Mr. Fergusson) ..... Mr. Cameron	26
Highland Chief (Mr. Maxtone) ..... Mr. Weir	25
Demonstrator (Mr. Maxtone) ..... Mr. Moore	48
Ambassador (Mr. Maxtone) ..... Mr. Tavendale	86
Dictator (Mr. Maxtone) ..... Mr. Hume	135
Governor (Mr. Maxtone) ..... Mr. Young	27
Bar None (Mr. Granger) ..... Mr. Alexander	25
Count Arthur (Mr. Granger) ..... Mr. Wallace	32
Champion (Mr. Granger) ..... Mr. Stewart	26
Count Nicholas (Mr. Granger) ..... Mr. Cowan	37
Montrave Baron (Sir John Gilmour of Montrave) Captain Graham Stirling	145
Montrave Gem (Sir John Gilmour of Montrave) Mr. Gordon	27

Baron Wenlock (Sir John Gilmour of Montrave)	Mr. Thornton	26
Scotsman X. (Sir John Gilmour of Montrave)	Mr. Balfour	25
Ronald (Colonel Smith Grant)	Colonel Munro	63
Richard (Colonel Smith Grant)	Mr. Comyns	27
Field-Marshal (Mr. Hume)	Colonel Porteous	28
Minter (Mr. Ingram)	Mr. Gordon	27
Magnet (Mr. Hume)	Mr. Barr	31
Roseberry (Mr. Kinross)	Mr. Auchterlonie	25
Viking (Lord Lovat)	Mr. Maclennan, Buenos Ayres	130
Vulcan (Lord Lovat)	Mr. Weir	34
Midas (Lord Lovat)	Mr. Macdonnell	50
Doubtful Duke (Messrs. Lumsden and Mackenzie)	Mr. Davidson	50
Waterton (Messrs. Lumsden and Mackenzie)	Mr. Wright	31
Alpha (Messrs. Lumsden and Mackenzie)	Mr. Gordon	25
Star of Hearts (Mr. Longmore)	Mr. White	35
Colenbrander (Mr. Longmore)	Mr. Thomson	28
Chancellor (Messrs. Law)	Mr. Henderson	32
Sanquhar Hero (Messrs. Law)	Mr. Malcolm	32
Scottish Minstrel (Messrs. Law)	Mr. Hill	26
Sanquhar Stamp (Messrs. Law)	Mr. Aitken	55
Graceful Chief (Mr. Law)	Countess of Buckinghan	27
Scotch Favourite (Mr. Law)	Mr. Fleming	35
Boyndie Chief (Mr. Murray)	Mr. Earle	26
Royal Archer (Colonel Munro)	Mr. Fraser	29
Wellington (Mr. Merson)	Mr. Gordon	27
Warner (Mr. Merson)	Mr. Guinness	34
Washington (Mr. Merson)	Mr. Crawford	57
What Not (Mr. Merson)	Captain Reeve	58
Waddington (Mr. Merson)	Mr. Greig	25
Waterloo (Mr. Merson)	Mr. Watson	90
Waverley (Mr. Merson)	Mr. Johnston	28
Bright Arthur (Mr. Mackie)	Mr. Inglis	25
Seraphion Duke (Mr. Mackie)	Mr. Comyns	37
Stoneytown Baron (Mr. M'William)	Mr. Comyns	30
Daydream's Pride (Mr. M'William)	Mr. Malcolm	33
Conservator (Mr. Napier)	Mr. Malcolm	27
Argentine (Mr. Robertson)	Mr. Christie	31
Glenorchy (Mr. Robertson)	Mr. Mailer	31
Juryman (Mr. Robertson)	Mr. Comyns	32
Loyalty (Mr. Robertson)	Marquis of Breadalbane	31
Roving Roy (Mr. Robertson)	Mr. Mackie	36
Golden Light (Mr. Robertson)	Mr. Gordon	34
Errol (Mr. Robertson)	Mr. Fergusson	25
Ury Prince (Duke of Richmond)	Mr. Duncan	54
Ursa Major (Duke of Richmond)	Mr. Fergusson	26
Unionist (Duke of Richmond)	Sir Donald Currie	30
Arundel (Mr. Shepherd)	Mr. Crawford	34
Loyalty (Mr. Shepherd)	Mr. M'Callum	26
Gay Lad (Mr. Stewart)	Mr. Cameron	39
Sir Thomas (Mr. Stewart)	Mr. M'Laren	31
Strowan Butterfly XI. (Captain Graham Stirling)	Mr. Hewetson	25
Lord-Lieutenant (Captain Graham Stirling)	Mr. Sim	32
Red Prince (Captain Graham Stirling)	Mr. Gordon	33
Strowan Butterfly XII. (Captain Graham Stirling)	Mr. Scott	31
Scotland's Glory (Captain Graham Stirling)	Mr. Robertson	30
Strowan Marquis VII. (Captain Graham Stirling)	Mr. Weir	30
Robin Adair (Captain Graham Stirling)	Col. Murray	31
Socialist (Captain Stirling)	Mr. M'Intyre	28
Sentinel (Captain Stirling)	Mr. Weir	27
Waverley (Sir Walter Thorburn, M.P.)	Mr. Jas. Sievewright	28
Barleycorn (Sir Walter Thorburn, M.P.)	Mr. Comyns	27
Border Chief (Sir Walter Thorburn)	Mr. Mungie	26
Pitlivie Sovereign (Mr. Taylor)	Mr. Crawford	30
Pitlivie Ensign (Mr. Taylor)	Mr. Wright	33
Pitlivie Conqueror (Mr. Taylor)	Mr. Bruce	58
Mountain Rop (Mr. Thomson)	Mr. Cameron	25
Roosevelt (Mr. Thomson)	Mr. Stalker	26
Surprise (Mr. White)	Mr. Weir	27
Marauder (Mr. Wilson)	Mr. Fergusson	31
Silver Star (Mr. Wilson)	Mr. Peterkin	60
Lord Settrington (Mr. Wilson)	Mr. Bruce	33
Scottish Star (Mr. Young)	Mr. Gordon	29

Show and Sale of Shorthorns and Aberdeen Angus at Inverness.

The annual show and sale of Shorthorn and Aberdeen Angus bulls and heifers, under the auspices of the Northern Counties Breeding and Fat Stock Club, was held in Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser, and Co.'s mart at Inverness on the 21st ult., when there was about an average display of stock and attendance of buyers. The judging was conducted by Colonel John Smith Grant, of Milmore, in the Aberdeen Angus section, and Mr. Durno, of Jackston, in the Shorthorn section. In the latter section there was an extra good show of quality animals, many of them from leading herds in the North. The Shorthorn championship went to a bull belonging to Lord Lovat, which showed the great substance and quality of this famous herd. Viceroy, the champion, was got by the Crombley bull Royal Star, a sire which has bred noted prize-winners, whilst the dam was one of the Broadhooks tribe, so successful at Beaufort. He was afterwards purchased by Mr. Marshall, Stranraer, for 240 guineas. Mr. Cameron, of Balnakyle, a well-known Ross-shire breeder, stood reserve with Merry Rothwell, a young bull of great size and substance, but of smaller build than the Beaufort champion. Many fancied him, and there were numerous bidders for him. He fell to the well-known exporter, Mr. S. Campbell, Kinvellar, Aberdeenshire, at 85 guineas. The representatives of the late Major Jackson, of Swordale, secured a quality bull in Benvolen, from Findon Mains, which, though only commended in the class, made 50 guineas. Another fine bull from the same farm went to the Duke of Sutherland's herd at Dunrobin at 45 guineas. Several bulls were purchased by Mr. Forsyth for the Congested Districts Board. Mr. Cameron, Caledon, Ireland, secured an excellent representative of the breed from the herd of Mr. Inglis, of Newmore, at 45 guineas. Mr. Cameron, Westside, Brechin, sold Lord Loch, a Broadhooks bull, to Mr. Douglas, Rhynie, at 62 guineas. There was a very level display of Aberdeen Angus cattle. Sir George Macpherson Grant, Bart., of Ballindalloch, carried off the principal prizes. His first prize bull, Gondolier, by Eblito, a son of Prince Ito, went to Mr. Rattray, Phoineas, at 59 guineas. Mr. Grant, The Dell, Strathspey, had Echline, a full brother of the Kinnochtry bull, which brought 360 guineas two years ago at Perth, for 50 guineas.

Appended is a list of the principal awards:—

SHORTHORN.—Bulls calved before 26th May, 1900.—1, P. B. MacIntyre; 2, H. MacRae; 3, A. MacDonell; 4, H. P. MacRae; 5, H. F. Rose. Bulls calved after 26th May, 1900, and on or before 15th November, 1900.—1, T. A. Anderson. Bulls calved after 15th November, 1900, and before 15th February, 1901.—1, Lord Lovat; 2 and 3, Mr. Anderson. Bulls calved on or after 15th February, 1901.—1, Lord Lovat; 2, C. M. Cameron; 3, Alex. MacDonell.

ABERDEEN ANGUS.—Bulls calved before 26th May, 1900.—1, Andrew Mackenzie; 2, W. Dyson Perrins; 3, J. A. Walker. Bulls calved after 26th May, 1900, and on or before 15th November, 1900.—1, 2, and 3, J. Rattray. Best bull calved after 15th November, 1900, and before 15th February, 1901.—1, Sir George Macpherson Grant, Bart.; 2 and 3, Countess Dowager of Seafield. Best bull calved on or after 15th February, 1901.—1 and 3, Mr. Maconochie; 2, Mr. Munro; 4, Countess Dowager of Seafield. Best heifer calved after 15th November, 1900, and before 5th February, 1901.—1, Wm. Stewart. Best heifer calved on or after 15th February, 1901.—1, 2, and 3, W. Fettes. Special prize of £5 5s., given by Lord Lovat for best polled Aberdeen Angus.—1, Sir George Macpherson Grant, Bart. Best group of not less than three pure-bred Aberdeen Angus bulls.—1, Sir George Macpherson Grant; 2, Countess Dowager of Seafield. Heifer calved before 15th November, 1900.—1, 2, and 3, W. Dyson Perrins.

Below we give a list of the principal prices realised at the sale, the names of the sellers being given in parenthesis:—

SHORTHORN BULLS.

		Gs.
Cerebus (Mr. Hugh F. Rose)	Mr. Forsyth	26
Uranus (ditto)	Mr. D. P. Henderson	27
Corydon (ditto)	Mr. Forsyth	28
Xenophon (ditto)	Mr. Forsyth	27
Fowler (Mr. Alex. Macdonell)	Mr. Cameron	31
Moonstone (ditto)	Mr. Robertson	31
Pat (ditto)	Mr. Gordon Smith	55
Braw Lad (Mr. P. B. Macintyre)	Mr. Mackenzie	34
Violet Prince (ditto)	Mr. Forsyth	27
Benevolen (ditto)	Representatives of late Major Jackson	50
Roosevelt (ditto)	Mr. D. Maclean	45
Prairie King (ditto)	Mr. J. A. Gordon	47
Lewellyn (ditto)	Mr. Dempster	29
Dewar (Mr. Horatio Ross Macrae)	Mr. Macintyre	29
Bride's Champion (Mr. T. A. Anderson)	Mr. Mackintosh Walker	31
White Prince (ditto)	Mr. Fraser	27
Rubenstein (ditto)	Mr. Ness	38
General French (ditto)	Mr. Cameron	41
Rover (ditto)	Mr. Macdonald	33
Statesman (Messrs. W. and J. W. Peterkin)	Mr. Forsyth	30
Golden Banner (ditto)	Mr. Donald	32
Regulus (Mr. John Ross)	Mr. Anderson	37
Rex (ditto)	Mr. Macdonald	29
Touchstone (The Right Hon. Lord Lovat)	Mr. Lee	35
Royalist (ditto)	Mr. Henderson	35
Viceroy (ditto)	Mr. M. Marshall	240
Prince of Balnakyle (Mr. C. M. Cameron)	Mr. Cumming	35
Mary Ruthwell (ditto)	Mr. S. Campbell	65
Forest Guard (Mr. J. Douglas Fletcher)	Mr. J. W. Gordon Oswald	42
Lord Loch (Mr. Archibald Cameron)	Mr. Douglas	62
Melbourne (ditto)	Mr. Davidson	28
Marquis of Edzell (ditto)	Mr. Macfarlane	41
Master Primrose (Mr. G. Inglis)	Mr. Cameron	45

ABERDEEN ANGUS BULLS.

Remus of Ardross (Mr. C. W. Dyson)	Mr. M'Lennan	25
Tartar of Ardross (ditto)	Mr. Munro	31
Abbot of Ardross (ditto)	Mr. Davidson	26
Sir Stewart of Ardross (ditto)	Major M'Kenzie	25
Baden Powell of Corncatterach (Mr. G. A. Walker)	Mr. Shearer	25
Up-to-Date (ditto)	Mr. Fraser	28
Champion (ditto)	Congested Districts Board	28
Eldorado II. of Hanover (Mrs. Fraser)	Mr. M'Lennan	25
Idol (Mr. Andrew M'Kenzie)	The Duke of Sutherland	42
Albert II. (Mr. John Rattray)	Mrs. Gallie of Morangie	28
Gordon III. (ditto)	The Mackintosh	29
Emperor (Mr. J. C. Rattray)	Mr. Chisholm	55
Earl (ditto)	Mr. Henderson	30
Eidart (The Countess Dowager of Seafield)	Mr. Thompson	40
Nova Scotia (ditto)	Mr. Robertson	29
Port Patrick (ditto)	Mr. C. W. Dyson	42
Cluny Castle (ditto)	Mr. Kennedy	25
Prince III. of Braevail (Mr. D. B. Tulloch)	Mr. Rose	33
Peter of the Brae (Sir George Macpherson Grant)	Mr. Sinclair	31
Epicteles (ditto)	Mr. Allan	31
Echline (ditto)	Mr. Grant	50
Gondolier of Ballindalloch (ditto)	Mr. Rattray	59
Bohemian (ditto)	Mr. Cameron	48
Ramadan (ditto)	Lord Tweedmouth	29
Prelate VII. of Craighead (Mr. John B. Tulloch)	Mr. Forsyth	28
Juba III. of Craighead (ditto)	Mr. Rattray	25
Horisdale (Mr. Wm. Stewart)	Mr. Sam Davidson	26
Anselm (ditto)	Mr. H. Macdonald	25
Baden-Powell of Welhouse (Mr Alex. Birnie)	Mr. Macgillivray	25
Harry of Corskie (Mr. Wm. Fettes)	Mr. Macdonald	36
Empire II. of Ardoch (Mr. F. G. MacConnachie)	Mr. Grant, Inverlaidnan	28
Emir of Ardoch (ditto)	Mr. Clyne	27
Fine Fellow of Kinchuyrd (Mr. James Macainsh)	Sir Chas. Ross of Balnagown	29
Artist (ditto)	Mr. Reid, Inchberry	27
Lord Eric (Mr. J. Douglas Fletcher)	Mr. Fearn, Tarradale	32
Escort II. (Mr. George Duff)	Mr. Maccomachie, Ardoch	38
Angus (Mr. Finlay Munro)	Mr. Clyne, Noss	28
Adam (ditto)	Mr. Stephen, Brechin	27

In the heifer section, Sir John Gilmour had by far the largest consignment, and he was with general approval awarded the leading honours in both classes, a judgment which was amply upheld at the sale. About a score of two-year-old heifers were forward, and Sir John Gilmour was easily first with Blue Bell, a sweet roan, sired by the Montrave stock bull, Brave Archer. The second and third prizes went to Mr. Robertson, Ballechin; for two fine animals, the former being a heifer of great substance and rich in colour, but not so fleshy over the loins as the winner. Mr. Napier, Nether Dallachie, was fourth with Laurestina, a daughter of Watchman, a nice-looking heifer, with long quarters. In the class for yearling heifers Sir John Gilmour was first with Wild Rose, a daughter of Spicy Baron, a heifer of splendid quality. Mr. Manson, Kilblean, was second with Nonpareil Jewel, a nicely-topped heifer; Mr. Granger third with Active, by Count Nicholas, a neat little heifer; whilst Mr. Napier was fourth with Lucretia, a bigger animal, with more substance, but in the meantime standing just a little off the ground. Another heifer from Nether Dallachie, and very much of the same kind, was fifth.

Record Prices for Aberdeen Angus Cattle in America.

The boom in Aberdeen Angus cattle appears to be assuming gigantic proportions in America, judging by the remarkable prices realised at a composite sale of the "doddies" at Chicago during the week ending February 7th. The record prices for both bull and female Aberdeen Angus were beaten by the imported Prince Ito and the yearling heifer Blackcap Judy, the fromer animal, which was bred at Ballindalloch, realising £1,820 after very spirited bidding, and the heifer £1,260. An offer was subsequently made and accepted for service by the bull at £250. The collected lot of animals imported from Scotland by Mr. Judy, besides including the two already mentioned, contained several other splendid animals, which topped the £200. Below we give some of the best prices realised by this consignment:—

COWS AND HEIFERS.

		£
Pride D. 3rd of Auchorachan 26932, c Feb. 16, 1898, s Equestrian	M. P. and S. E. Lantz	212
Careston's 2nd Pride 27827, c Feb. 2, 1899, s Junior Rover; and c.c.	L. Van Winkle	253
Pride of Hope 3rd 26793, c Jan. 17, 1898, s Free Lance of Ballindalloch; and b.c.	L. Van Winkle	270
Careston's Pride 26394, c Jan. 2, 1898, s Entertainer; and c.c.	L. Van Winkle	200
Dainty Pride of Haddo 26024, c Dec. 9, 1896, s Euraces	O. G. Callahan	300
Pride of Easkmount 22742, c Dec. 29, 1894, s Enthusiast of Ballindalloch; and b.c.	John S. Goodwin	200
Pride of Aberdeen 139th 28519, c March 17, 1896, s Equerry of Ballindalloch; and b.c.	J. W. Reedy	226
Black Enamel 22985, c Feb. 17, 1895, s Eurotas of Ballindalloch; and c.c.	B. R. Pierce and Son	500
Blackberry of Advie (Vol. 26), c April 20, 1900, s Kidnapper	O. G. Callahan	200
Blackbird 23rd 44727, c Oct. 3, 1900, s Black Monarch of Emerson	O. G. Callahan	215
Blackcap Judy 40226, c April 24, 1900, s Black Monarch of Emerson	C. H. Gardner	1260
Eppy of Laggan 25518, c Dec. 7, 1896, s Entwistle	O. G. Callahan	200
Della of Aldbar 28037, c Dec. 30, 1898, s Eurocly don; and c.c.	L. Van Winkle	220

BULLS.

Prince Ito 12869, c March 15, 1895, s Eltham	B. R. Pierce and Son	1820
Primate of Polowick (Vol. 26), c March 29, 1901, s Earl Essex	J. W. Wheatley	200

The average obtained by this consignment was £235 10s., 28 females reaching an average of £210, while the average price paid for each of six bulls was £354.

The Argentine and British Stock.

Mr. J. E. Gordon, M.P., recently wrote to Mr. Hanbury, President of the Board of Agriculture, concerning the report of the re-opening of Argentine ports to British stock. On Thursday Mr. Gordon received a reply from Mr. Hanbury, in which he says:—A cable was received at the Foreign Office on the 19th inst. from Sir W. Barrington, the British Minister, stating that "the decree re-opening Argentine ports to live stock from the United Kingdom has been signed," but making no mention of the date on which it is to come into force. The delay in answering your letter has been due to our attempt to ascertain this, but at present the Foreign Office and the Argentine Legation have no information on the point. We are, however, unofficially informed that the ports will be opened from the 8th March, and that Messrs. Lamport and Holt, of Liverpool, are prepared to accept live stock for shipment on information received by cable from their agents at Buenos Ayres.

Sale of Cumberland Bulls at Annan.

The annual sale of Cumberland Shorthorn bulls held at Annan took place on Tuesday, Messrs. Kirkpatrick and Sons being the auctioneers. About 300 yearling bulls, the majority of which were pedigreed, were catalogued, all of which were from herds in the Abbey Holm and West Cumberland districts of the Solway, and all the well-known breeders in these districts had animals forward. Some prizes were offered, the animals being divided into two classes, namely, Red and White, the former being the strongest number, just over 200, whilst white bulls totalled a little short of a hundred. The judges had considerable difficulty in making their awards, but eventually decided as follows:—

Red bulls.—1 and v.h.c., Mr. J. Lightfoot, Bowness Village; 2, Mr. William Little, Bowness Hall; 3, Mr. Park, Bowness; c., Mr. R. Brown, Whitrigg.

White Bulls.—1, Mr. J. Lightfoot, Bowness Village; 2, Mr. William Little, Bowness Hall; 3, Mr. Mattinson, Parkhead; v.h.c., Mr. Taylor, Biglands; c., Mr. R. Wilson, Whitrigg Lees.

There was a very large attendance of buyers, and some keen competition was witnessed. The red and roan bulls were exposed first, and for the best animals the prices were good all round. The first prize roan sold at £25 10s. (the animal was only 14 months old); the second prize bull sold at £22 5s.; and the third prize taker was sold at £21. Quite a number of the other red bulls sold very well. In the white bull section the first prize animal was sold for £22 15s.; the second prize taker brought £18 5s.; and the third prize winner £19 5s.; whilst the very highly commended brought £22 15s., and the commended bull £18 7s. 6d. For the very youngest animals the demand was not so good, and a number of the bulls were passed.

The Raby Castle Sale.

Lord Barnard's herd of shorthorns was disposed of by Messrs. Thornton and Co., on Thursday, February 20, at Raby Castle, Staindrop, near Darlington. The stock was brought out in ordinary condition, but the animals included some promising heifers and young bulls. There was a large attendance, but no large prices were realised, the recent severe weather doubtless having some effect on the prices. Mr. H. Straker gave thetop price of the day, 40 guineas, for Raby Beatrice, a handsome roan heifer calf; the same buyer also tok several other good animals. The folowing is a list of the principal prices and buyers' names:—

COWS AND HEIFERS.

	Gs.
Belladrum Pansy, nearly red, c March 23, 1891, s Star of Underley 56611 ..... Mr. H. Straker	37
Beatrice 9th, roan, c Jan. 23, 1893, s Retainer 63204 Mr. Edwards	28
Bess 5th, roan, c Jan. 2, 1894, s Martin 64407 Mr. F. Hodgin	22
Bella 2nd, roan, c March 23, 1894, s Martin 64407 Mr. J. Harrison	21
Fairy Queen 3rd, roan, c Oct. 5, 1895 ..... Mr. James	33
Lady Cattie, roan, c Dec. 20, 1895, s Telemachus 26th 66421 ..... Mr. Yeoman	32
Baroness Caroline, red, c Jan. 13, 1896, s Telemachus 26th 66421 ..... Mr. Halsall	23
Queen of Teesdale, roan, c March 5, 1897, s Telemachus 26th 66421 ..... Mr. Henderson	36
Lass of Langleydale, nearly red, c Sept. 14, 1897, s Knight of Raby 65743 ..... Mr. Halsall	21
Latia, nearly red, c March 19, 1898, s Latinus 68891 Mr. Mitchell	25
Raby Pink 2nd, red, c Feb. 3, 1899, s Lord of Raby 70845 ..... Mr. H. Straker	30
Her roan cow calf ..... Mr. Patten	12
Cherry Blossom, red, c March 19, 1899, s Raby Archer 73342 ..... Mr. Parkinson	20
Her roan bull calf ..... Mr. Patten	8
Constantia, red, c July 5, 1899, s Raby Archer 73342 Mr. Cazalet	25
Cottage Countess, red, c Aug. 19, 1899, s Raby Archer 73342 ..... Mr. Patten	27
Pickle, nearly red, c August 24, 1899, s Raby Archer 73342 ..... Mr. Townson	20½
Peach Blossom, roan, c Dec. 28, 1899, s Raby Archer 73342 ..... Mr. Cazalet	35
Raby Pansy 2nd, red, c Feb. 11, 1900, s Raby Archer 73342 ..... Mr. Anderson	30
Morning Dew, red, c Feb. 28, 1901, s Foghorn 74567 Mr. Cazalet	25
Raby Beatrice, roan, c March 1, 1901, s Baron of Wem 76114 ..... Mr. H. Straker	40
Raby Countess, nearly red, c May 2, 1901, s Violin 78079 ..... Mr. Cazalet	27

BULLS.

Bowman 78443, roan, c March 13, 1900, s Raby Archer 73342 ..... Mr. Ward	26
Siren, nearly red, c Aug. 20, 1900, s Foghorn 74567 Capt. Reynard	32
May Morning, roan, c Oct. 13, 1900, s Red Sunrise 75400 ..... Mr. Nesham	24
Baron Raby, roan, c Jan. 20, 1901, s Baron of Wem 76114 ..... Mr. Patten	31
Almoner, roan, c Feb. 1, 1901, s Foghorn 74567 Mr. Yeoman	22
Star of Raby, roan, c March 25, 1901, s Foghorn 74567 Mr. J. Fryer	30

SUMMARY

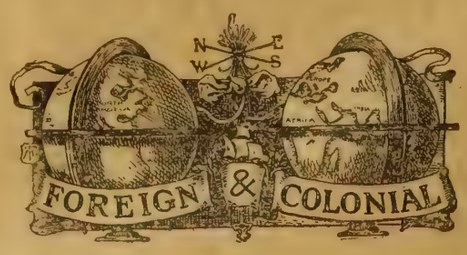
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
44 Cows and Heifers	23 14 8 ..	1,044 4 6
14 Bulls	21 7 6 ..	299 5 0
58 head averaging	£23 3 3 ..	£1,343 9 6

Particulars of Transactions in Store Stock.

The fair at Kilmallock, Co. Limerick, on Monday was a moderate sized one, composed chiefly of second-class cattle, mostly of inferior quality, and in poor condition; but there was a fair demand. The very few springers met a fair demand. Prices:—Calves, 1st class, £5 to £6; 2nd class, £3 15s. to £4 16s. 3d.; 3rd class, £2 10s. to £3; yearlings, 1st class, £8 10s. to £9 15s.; 2nd class, £7 to £8; 3rd class, £5 10s.; two-year-olds, 2nd class, £9 15s. to £11; springers, 2nd class, £12 10s. to £15.

At the fair held at Killeagh, Co. Cork, on Monday, there was but a small supply of cattle, chiefly yearlings, which met a fair demand. Prices:—Calves, 2nd class, £3 10s. to £4 10s.; yearlings, 1st class, £7 12s. 6d. to £7 17s. 6d.; 2nd class, £6 to £7; 3rd class, £4 5s. to £5 10s.; two-year-olds, 2nd class, £8 5s. to £9 5s.; 3rd class, £6 to £7 10s.; springers, 1st class, £14 10s. to £15 10s.; 2nd class, £12 7s. 6d. to £13; 3rd class, £11.

Maryborough fair (Queen's Co.), held on Monday, was a small and poor one. A fair demand prevailed for one-and-a-half-year-old cattle, but scarcely any for other sorts. Quotations:—Yearlings, 1st class, £9 5s.; 2nd class, £6 2s. 6d. to £7 10s.; two-year-olds, 2nd class, £8 15s. to £9 2s. 6d.; springers, 2nd class, £10 5s. to £14 10s.



Shire Horses in Canada and the United States.

A correspondent writes:—The annual meeting of the Dominion Horse Breeders' Association was held in Toronto on the 18th of February. Among other reports made was that of the Shire Society, which has just published the first volume of the Canadian Shire Stud Book, and registration of 31 pedigrees during the year.

At the general meeting of the association, the Lien law, the Hon. John Dryden, Minister of Agriculture, intends bringing before the Ontario Legislature shortly, was discussed.

The Manitoba Act gives a lien only on the colt. The Ontario breeders want a lien on the mare as well as the colt. It was proposed that registered stallions, with veterinary certificates as to soundness, only, should come under the Act.

The demand for high-class, heavy, draught stallions was never so great as at present, both in the United States and Canada. They could easily absorb 1,000 stallions of the right stamp every year, and would take horses too good to castrate and not good enough to retain as sires in this country. Heavy geldings, for use in the cities, are now worth as much, or more, on the other side of the Atlantic than in this country, and the demand bids fair to increase.

It is only the duty of 20 per cent. on geldings that prevents very heavy British-bred horses being shipped to the United States in large numbers. The freight and expenses would not stop them.

Through incomprehensible neglect or want of enterprise the Shire and coach horse breeders in Great Britain have left this, the best market in the world, to the tender mercies of a number of Yankee combines, some of these advertising 500 head of Percherons and French coaching stallions.

In five years as many as 1,000 of these sires, the bulk of them, of course, of a very low quality, have been imported by one of these firms. They could not get the same number, even of a similar doubtful pedigree, in any other country but France.

The Shire breeders' Society follow them up the same as the Clydesdale men have; these, however, have their hands full, and stand the best specimens of Shires, even at a loss at first, at Ottawa, Toronto, and Brandon, Manitoba, Canada, and offer medals at the leading expositories, exhibiting them at Winnipeg in July next. There are usually 5,000 American visitors there. Again, at Toronto, in September, and at the leading agricultural shows in the States.

They want to see what Shires are. Send out very best samples to sell from, the same as other merchants. If they would not pay the price, and there is little fear of that, bring them home again.

Yankee buyers were in evidence at the Agricultural Hall last week, but in the interest of the breed it is deplorable that the first large shipments should include a large number of low-priced horses, and, what is worse, unsound at that. The enterprising Percheron manipulators in the States could not wish better help than this.

The friends of Shire horses and well-wishers to United States and Canadian farmers should call the attention of both the American and Canadian Ministers of Agriculture to this fact at once.

These gentlemen can soon put a stop to such nefarious practices.

In order to be exempt from 20 or 25 per cent. duty, horses, or any other stock, must be accompanied by breed societies' permits, and this should at once be made to include a veterinary surgeon's certificate as to soundness. Hereditary and transmissable defects in an imported sire can inflict as much loss to a country as tuberculosis, scab, or other disease, which could probably be much more easily eradicated.

We have received from Messrs. John K. King and Sons, of Coogeshall and Reading (by which name the well-known business of John K. King will in future be known), a copy of their catalogue of pedigree farm seeds. It is well-arranged, while the illustrations, principally from photographs, are of a high order. For practical utility also it is well worth perusal, as there is a mass of useful information given. There are some capital illustrations of the Royal Parks, which are to be sown this, the Coronation year, with John K. King and Son's grass seeds, by order of H.M. First Commissioner of Works, being the fifth occasion that this honour has been conferred on the firm. A copy of the catalogue may be obtained free on application to John J. King and Sons, Coggeshall, R.S.O., Essex; or Reading, Berks.

SOCIETIES.

Frome.

At the annual general meeting of the Frome District Agricultural Society, Mr. Trotman, J.P., was voted to the chair, Mr. R. P. H. Batten-Pool, the retiring president, being unable to attend.

The minutes of the last meeting were taken as read, and the same course was adopted with regard to the report and balance-sheet for the past year, copies of which had been circulated amongst members.

In the course of their report the committee stated that the society still continues to fully maintain the high position it has held for so long, and that the show of September last was in no way inferior to any of its predecessors. The exhibition was, indeed, a record one, the total number of entries being far in excess of those on any previous occasion. One very important item in the year's proceedings has been the erection of a permanent grand-stand in the show field, which will add considerably to the comfort and convenience of the public. The cost of this (£230) has been met out of the society's funds, and there are no outstanding liabilities.

Including a balance of £317 9s. 10d. from the previous year, the year's receipts amounted to £1,370 19s. 3d., and after deducting expenditure, there was a balance in hand of £10 7s., and as compared with £317 9s 10d last year.

Mr. Trotman, in moving the adoption of the report and balance-sheet, said their financial position was not quite satiesfactory, but he did not think it was worth while to discuss the matter on that occasion. The reasons for the reduction of the balance had better be left for inquiry by the committee, though he might say one reason was the construction of a permanent grand-stand, which was likely to be a very good investment indeed for the society. Their last show was one of the most successful they had ever had.

Mr. Hoddinott seconded the adoption of the report and balance-sheet. He said he thought the committee could well account for the decreased balance. They had launched out, they had embraced a greater area of usefulness, and that meant extra expense. They had several assets which had been the cause of expenditure last year and which would not occur again in their accounts for many years to come. He quite agreed that the outlay on a grand-stand would prove a most economical one, and believed they might look forward to increasing their balance for many successive years. He did not take a pessimistical view of their financial position, and seconded the adoption of the report with every confidence.

The resolution was agreed to.

Mr. Jefferys moved a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Batten-Pool for the very able way in which he had carried out the duties of his office of president during the past year. This was seconded by Mr. Collins, endorsed by the chairman, and adopted by acclamation.

Mr. Lewis proposed the renomination of Lord Cork, the Duke of Somerset, and Lord Bath as patrons of the society, a resolution that was seconded by Mr. Gradidge and duly approved.

Mr. Wiltshire proposed Lord ork as president of the Society for the present year, and said that the name of Lord Cork, he felt sure, was one that would command a great warmth of feeling on the part of those present. They all knew the number of years in which his lordship had taken a kindly and active interest in the welfare of that society, and on that important occasion of the Coronation year it was most fitting and appropriate that they should have him as their head and president. He was pleased to say that he knew his lordship would accept the office if elected.

Mr. Cooper seconded the proposition, which was carried unanimously and with acclamation.

Mr. Wiltshire was re-elected treasurer, with the hearty thanks of the meeting for his past services.

In a eulogistic speech Mr. Hoddinott proposed the re-election of Mr. T. C. Harding as secretary and collector to the society. He spoke of the immense amount of work attached to the office of secretary and of the able way in which Mr. Harding performed every duty that devolved upon him. The stipend paid was most inadequate as a recompense for the work done.

The resolution was seconded by Mr. Gradidge and adopted by acclamation.

Mr. Harding, in returning thanks, said he should be pleased to do his best for the society during the coming year. He wished the society would go further afield and give him more work to do. He thought they ought to work the Christmas Show and the Milksellers' Association, and there were many questions affecting agriculture which they could well take up.

Mr. T. C. Harding mentioned that a few days ago he and Mr. Collins looked through the list of members and found that out of a total of about 230 only about 68 were actually farmers.

It was resolved that a show be held as usual on the last Wednesday in September.

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A STRIKING FACT.

In our Spring number of "Bibby's Quarterly" we reproduced the photographs of two groups of Calves which are now being reared at the Hornby House Farm, Bedale, Yorks, by his Grace the Duke of Leeds.

One of the groups is being fed on New Milk and the other on Separated Milk and "Cream Equivalent."

We asked our readers to tell us which of these groups were fed on New Milk, and 707 Farmers, Farmers' wives, their sons and daughters competed for a small prize which we offered to those who guessed correctly.

445 selected the "Cream Equivalent"-fed Calves as having been fed on New Milk.

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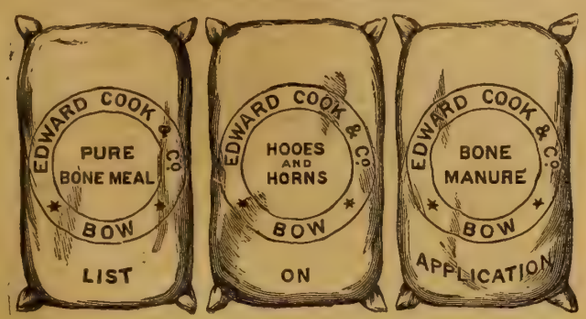
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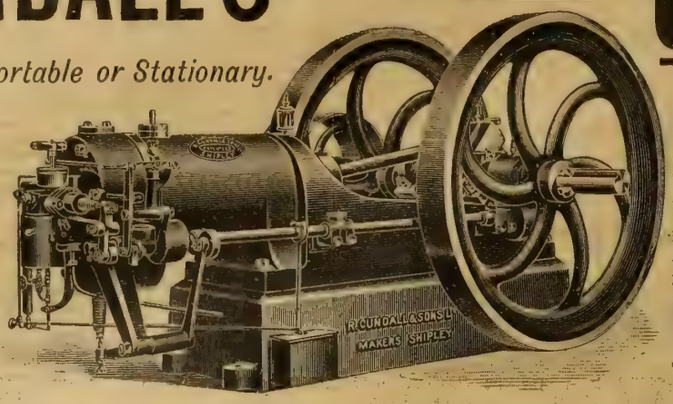
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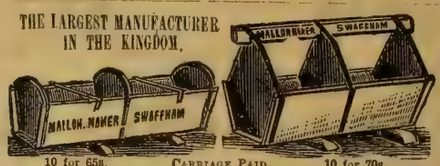
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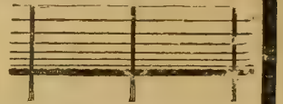
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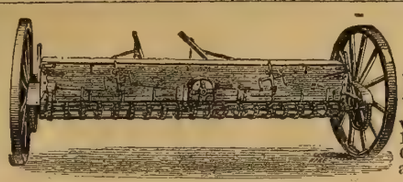
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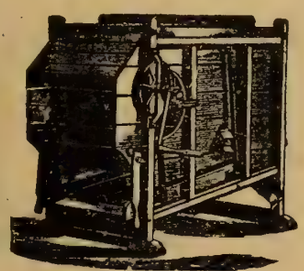
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HAROLD'S PILOT 11564 will serve a limited number of Mares. No Groom's Fees. Sire Harold 3703; dam Sudbury—Hymen 3338 by Honest Prince 1058. This Mare bred Delicacy, first-prize Mare London Show, 1891, and the dam of Dunsmore Masterman 12874.

HAROLD'S PILOT is one of the best-bred Shire Stallions in England, and has proved himself a very good stock-getter. He is a nice dark brown, smart, active horse, with short back, deep ribs, grand top, plenty of bone, muscle and hair; stands 18 hands high; is a splendid mover, with good temper and manners. He is sire of the first and second prize Geldings at Aylesbury Show, 1895, and sire of the Champion Foals at Bicester and Buckingham Shows, 1894 and 1895, and in 1896 his foals gained first at Brackley Show, first and second at Bicester Show, first, second, third, and champion at Buckingham Show, and at the Royal and Central Bucks Show the same year (in a class of thirty-five) first, second, and third prizes were awarded to foals by this horse. In 1898 his stock took first at Tring Show, Oxfordshire Show, Bicester, Buckingham, Royal and Central Bucks. He is also the sire of Sir Blundell Maple's Pioneer 16990, purchased at a thousand guineas, which won first prize as a yearling at the Royal and other Shows. His stock are nearly always to the front wherever exhibited. One of his last year's foals has been sold for 175 guineas. Address, for Nominations, to the Owner.

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(9677) ZAIZAN.

(9677) **ZAIZAN** by Astonishment II. 3422; dam (8610) Zara by Excel 1275. Foaled 1894. Breeder, late John G. Sykes.

	Harness.	Saddle.
Singleton ...		Second
Colne	Second	First
Newchurch	Third	First & H.H.S. Medal
Ramsbottom	Second	First & Gold Medal
Shropshire & W. Midland	First (C'nty)	Second
Lees	First	First & 2 Cups
Deane..... ...	First	First & Sil'r Cup

List of Prizes Won 1901.

	Harness.	Saddle.
Whalley	First	First
Cliviger.....	Second	First
Padiham	First	
Whitworth	Second	First
Blackpool	First	First
		First
Leyland	Second	First
Chorley.....	First	First
Ulverston.....	First	First
Lancaster.....	First	First

	Harness.	Saddle.
Cheshire (Chester)	First	First
Garstang	First	First
Kirkham	First	First Special
Goosnargh	First	First & Cup
Knutsford	First	First & Cup
Market Drayton	First	
Buxton.....	First	First
Manchester.....	Third	Second
Worsley		First

Summary of Prizes—1901: 37 Firsts, 8 Seconds, 2 Thirds, 1 H.H.S. Medal, 1 Gold Medal, 5 Silver Cups, 1 Special Prize—55. 1900: 9 Firsts, 12 Seconds, 1 Third, 2 Cups, 1 Challenge Cup, 1 Gold Medal, 1 H.H.S. Medal. 1899: 8 Firsts, 4 Seconds, 1 Third, 1 Silver Cup, 1 Gold Medal, 1 H.H.S. Gold Medal, 1 H.H.S. Silver Medal. 1898: Not shown. 1897: Not shown. 1896: 5 Firsts, 2 Seconds, and Special. 1895: 12 Firsts, 2 Thirds, and 4 Specials.

Grand Total—9677 Zaizan: 71 Firsts, 26 Seconds, 6 Thirds, 4 H.H.S. Medals, 3 Gold Medals, 8 Silver Cups, 1 Challenge Cup, 6 Special Prizes—125.

(13494) **FYLDE ZAZARA** by Rosador 4964; dam (9677) Zaizan. Two years old. Foaled 1899. Breeder, Thomas B. Sykes.

List of Prizes Won 1901.

Rawcliffe and District Colt Show—First Prize and Special
Singleton—First and Special
Prescot—First
Worsthorne—First and H.H.S. Medal
Edgworth—First
Nottingham—Third
Colne—First
Newchurch—First
Ramsbottom—First
Shropshire and West Midland—Second
Norden—First
Royal Lancashire—First
Whalley—First
Cliviger—Second
Padiham—First
Blackpool—First
Leyland—First
Chorley—First
Ulverston—First
Lancaster—First, and Col. Foster's Gold Medal.
Market Drayton—First

Summary of Prizes—1901: 18 Firsts, 2 Seconds, 1 Third, 1 H.H.S. Medal, 1 Gold Medal. 1900: Not Shown. 1899: 5 Firsts, 3 Seconds, 2 Thirds, and Silver Cup.

Grand Total—13494 Fylde Zazara: 23 Firsts, 5 Seconds, 3 Thirds, 1 H.H.S. Medal, 1 Gold Medal, 1 Silver Cup—34.

Keynsham

STALLIONS FO

'NONDESCRIPT'

Chestnut gelding, 14-1, foaled 1898.

Sire—St. Patrick by Mootrub (32).

Dam (715)—Kitty Owen by Patron Saint (36).



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The Keynsham Stud Company are breeder Ponies, and during the last six years over 20 **Silver Medals** have been won (over 60 in 1901) b including, Royal Agricultural Society, Polo Pony Ranelagh, Hurlingham, Richmond, Exeter, Brent Shrewsbury, Knighton, Royal Lancashire, Ches Exhibition, International Horse Show, 1900.

POLO PONI

SCHOOLMASTER (Vol. VII.). Brown, 14.2 hands (ow Parmesan by Sweetmeat. Winner of sixteen races Polo Pony Society's Silver Medal at Altrincham, 19

GOWNBOY (114). Chestnut, 14.1 hands. Sire Montezu six First, Champion, and other prizes.

HEADMASTER (Sup, I.). Chestnut, 14 hands. Sire Sch Lacydes.

POLO PO

BIRMINGHAM ROYAL (127). Chestnut, 14.2 hands, and other prizes, also Gold Medal, Paris Exhibitio

MAIDSTONE ROYAL (136). Chestnut, 14.1 hands. and other prizes, and Polo Pony Society's Silver M

WHITE MASK (190). Chestnut, 14.1 hands. Sire W including two Polo Pony Society's Silver Medals—

WHITE FLIGHT (189). Chestnut, 14 hands. Sire Whit Polo Pony Society's Gold Medal, London, 1901—by



SCHOOLMASTER (G. S. B.

THORO

MOUNTAIN DEW. Dark chestnut 16 hands. Sire B four Queen's Premiums, five Reserve Premiums, Gold Medal, Paris Exhibition, 1900.

WHITEHALL. Chestnut, 15.3 hands. Sire Hermit Winner of one Queen's Premium, one King's premi

ST. CYR. Chestnut 15.3 hands. Sire Trappist by He two Reserve Premiums, one First Prize and three

WRACK. Chestnut, 16 hands. Sire Trayles by Restles

MOORLAND HAROLD (15727). Brown, 17.3 hands shire Lad II. (1350); dam Madam (15181) by Chan

DERBYSHIRE LAD VI. (15578). Bay, 16.2 hands. Sire g.dam by Matchless (1511).

EVERTON MAINSTAY (11422). Grey, 17 hands. Si Britain's Boast (3004) by What's Wanted (2332).

BRISTOL SAMSON (17815). Red roan; 17 hands. Si The Quail (17653).

LORD ROBERTS (for vol. 24). Brown, 17.2 hands. S Staffordshire Hero (5358).

H

BRISTOL SENSATION (5109). Chestnut, 15.3 hands. Fanny II. (7849) by Charlie Merrylegs (132). Reco

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Thoroughbred).

to Q.C.). Sire Wisdom by Blinkhoolie; dam Brenta by lloway rules, value £311, four First and other prizes, and z Gownboy. Rudheath, &c.
rge Frederick; dam Santa Zita by Galliard. Winner of

er by Wisdom: dam Zeta by Chippendale; g.dam Zitza by

(Polo-Bred).

rub (32), an Arab; dam Sally (668). Winner of eight First

ıb (32), an Arab; dam Sally (668). Winner of seven First rencester, 1901.
y Hermit; dam Oh My (425)—winner of over 200 prizes, e (T.B.). Winner of six First and other prizes.
ermit; dam First Flight (615)—Champion mare and winner ar by Blair Athol. Winner of three First and other prizes.



MAIDSTONE ROYAL (136).

BREDS.

by Stockwell; dam Claret Wine by Windham. Winner of nd other prizes, also won and placed in eight races, and

nster; dam Lady Blanche by Thunderbolt by Stockwell. races value £1,196, and Gold Medal, Paris Exhibition, 1900. Agneta by Macaroni. Winner of one Queen's Premium, ıe £1,289.
ished Ashore by Soapstone. Winner of races.

S.

r to Calwich Blaze, 14544). Sire Harold (3703) by Lincoln-7007), g.dam Mettle by Sweet William (2093).
08) by Royal Albert (1885); dam by Lincolnshire Lad (1196),

ıster (4448) by Bar None (2388); dam Hornpipe (4167) by ve First and other prizes.
Jumbo (6348) by Roan Jumbo (2886); dam Violet (30336) by

ı II. by Vulcan (4145); dam by Drayman (664), g.dam by

EY.

llethorpe Fireaway (1768) by Star of the West (1575); dam n 2 minutes 45 seconds.

: reasonable prices.

Head will take place in the Autumn of 1902.

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SHIRES—

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1896—
1st, Garstang.

1897—
1st, Longridge; 1st, Garstang; 1st & Cup, Goosnargh.

1898—
1st and S. H. S. Silver Medal, Whalley.
Two 1sts, Lytham.

1898—*cont.*
1st and Cup, Garstang.
1st and Cup, Goosnargh.

1900—
1st and Cup, Ryl. Lancashre.

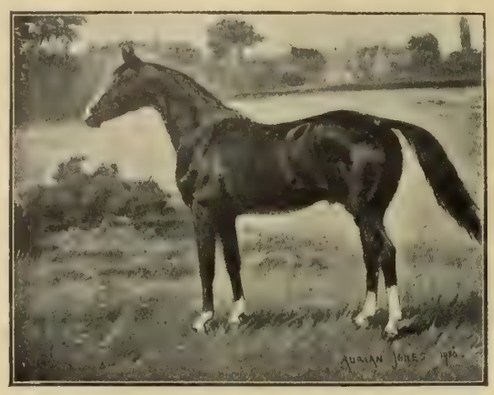
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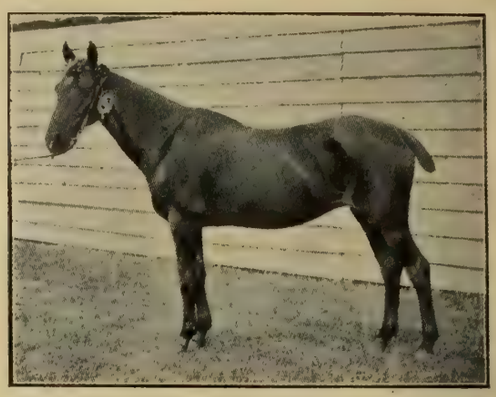
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The Stallions in this Stud of Riding Ponies have been selected with regard to their suitability to mate with the Polo, Thoroughbred, Arab, and Mountain Pony Mares of the Stud.

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POLY PONY STALLION HURLINGHAM 90. Winner of 7 prizes. He is by Champion Rosewater out of Esmeralda—a high-class Polo mare and winner of prizes at Hurlingham. He stands 13.2, and is suitable for big mares. His stock are prize-winners. Fee £3 3s. and 5s. the groom.

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The Stud consists of carefully selected mares, some of which have been high-class playing Polo Ponies (registered at Hurlingham); also Racing Ponies, Arab Ponies, and Mountain Ponies.

PRIZES WON IN 1900.

Mootrub—1st Polo Pony Society London Spring Show; 1st and Silver Medal, Liverpool Polo Club Show; 1st Royal Agricultural Society at York; 1st and Silver Medal and Champion Crystal Palace; 2nd (to Sir Walter Gilbey's Rosewater) at Tunbridge Wells and South-Eastern Counties Show.
Silver—1st Liverpool Polo Club Show.
Sunflower—3rd (Polo Ponies under Saddle) Tring.
Zither—2nd Crystal Palace; 1st Tunbridge Wells and South-Eastern Counties Show; 1st (under Saddle) Tring; 1st (Riding Ponies 13.2) Tring; Gold Medal Polo Pony Society, Tring.
Girton Girl—2nd Crystal Palace; 1st and Gold Medal Polo Pony Society, Tunbridge Wells and South-Eastern Counties Show.

PRIZES WON IN 1901.

Mootrub—1st London; 2nd Liverpool; 2nd (to Rosewater) and Silver Medal, Tunbridge Wells; 1st and Silver Medal and Championship for the best Stallion in the Show, Crystal Palace.
Gipsy—2nd Crystal Palace.
Sunflower—1st and Silver Medal, Moreton-in-Marsh.
Belle—2nd Crystal Palace.
Girton Girl—1st and Silver Medal and Championship for the best Polo Mare, Crystal Palace; 2nd Tring; 4th Royal; 1st and Silver Medal, Tunbridge Wells.
Silver—1st Crystal Palace.
Timothy—1st Tring.
The Boy—2nd Liverpool.
Spree—2nd (to Silver) Crystal Palace.
Zither—2nd London; 1st and Gold Medal and Championship for the best Polo Mare at the Royal Show at Cardiff.

And other Prizes amounting in all to 58 honours at the leading shows during the last two years.



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14711 RYBURN BEAUTY—**Sire: Lord Ryburn** 5700—exhibited in 1901, won

6 FIRSTS, Hackney Society's SILVER MEDAL, a SECOND, and TWO THIRDS.

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8 FIRSTS and 4 SECONDS

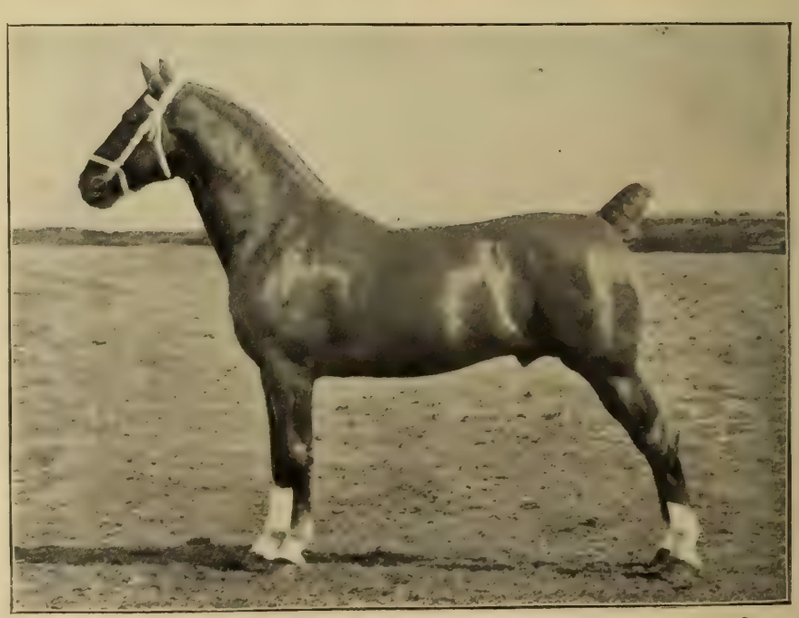
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Dark Chestnut. Height, 15.3½.

1896—2nd, LONDON HACKNEY SHOW. 1896—1st, WHAREDALE (OTLEY) SHOW.

Sire: CHAMPION GARTON DUKE OF CONNAUGHT 3009.

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(REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER AT THE GENERAL POST OFFICE.)

VOL. LXXXVI. No. 3676. LONDON, MONDAY, MARCH 10, 1902. THIRTY-TWO PAGES. PRICE 3D.

SOCIETIES.

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION of ENGLISH HOP GROWERS.
(Founded June 1894.)
PRESIDENT.—COLONEL BROOKFIELD, M.P.
HON. TREASURER.—E. ALBERT WHITE, Esq., Beltring, Kent.
SECRETARY.—THOMAS IRONMONGER.
CENTRAL OFFICE.—61, HOP EXCHANGE, BOROUGH, LONDON.

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To promote united action among English hop growers as a body for the improvement of the industry.

To promote, support, or oppose such legislative and other measures as may affect the industry.

To collect and publish, for the benefit of members, special statistical and other useful information relating to English and foreign hop-culture.

To arrange for arbitrations in cases of dispute between sellers and buyers of hops, for the avoidance of litigation.

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HUNTERS' IMPROVEMENT SOCIETY.
EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL SHOW,
ROYAL AGRICULTURAL HALL.
Judging and Parades:
March 11, Thoroughbred Stallions, admission 2s. 6d.
March 12th, Young Stock and Hunters, admission 2s. 6d.
March 13th, Chargers and Polo Pony Riding Classes, admission 1s.
OPEN 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

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THE SPRING SHOW

Will be held on the Association's Premises,
APRIL 30th, MAY 1st and 2nd,

Prizes, Premiums, Cups, and Special Prizes to the value of over £2,000.

Entries close April 5. Double fees, April 12.

KENNETH MACRAE, Secretary.
37, Donegal Place, Belfast.

OXFORDSHIRE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.
PRESIDENT—J. FRANCIS MASON, ESQ.

WITNEY MEETING.

The 92ND EXHIBITION will be held on TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY, MAY 13th and 14th next.

Implements and other Articles.—Entries close March 26th.

Cattle, Horses, Sheep, Pigs, Butter, Dead Poultry, Eggs and Honey.—Entries close March 31st.

Post Entries of Stock (at double fees) to April 7th.

Sheep-Shearing and Horse-Shoeing.—Entries close April 19th.

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F. H. PRUEN, Secretary

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SEALED Tenders for the supply of Forage and Straw for Paillasses, for Military Services, during Six months, from the 1st MAY, 1902, will be received until 12 o'clock noon, on MONDAY, the 24th day of MARCH, 1902, by the Officers in charge of the undermentioned districts:—

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North-Eastern District .	York.
North-Western District.	Chester.
Western District... ...	Devonport.
Southern District ...	Portsmouth.
South-Eastern District .	Dover.
Salisbury Plain District	Tidworth House, Andover.
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Thames District	Chatham.
Woolwich District ...	Woolwich.
Home District	23, Carlton House Terrace, S.W.
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The Tenders must be properly filled up, signed and dated; and no Tenders will be noticed unless delivered in time, at the above-named District Offices, under sealed envelope, marked "Tender" on the outside.

A. MAJOR,
Director of Army Contracts.
War Office, Pall Mall, S.W.,
March, 1902.

CONTRACTS.

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Tenders sealed and addressed to the Commissioners of Woods, 1, Whitehall Place, and endorsed "Tender for Cumberland Market Tolls," are to be delivered there before TWELVE o'clock on TUESDAY, the 25th MARCH, 1902.

For further particulars and conditions of letting, application may be made to the Office of Woods, 1, Whitehall Place, S.W.

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WALLINGFORD HAY SALE.

Important Annual Sale of HAY and STRAW.

FRANKLIN, GALE & NEWTON Will SELL by AUCTION, in the Town Hall, Wallingford, on FRIDAY NEXT, MARCH 14th, 1902, at Two o'clock precisely, 78 RICKS of well-secured CLOVER, SAINFOIN, MIXTURE, and MEADOW HAY and BRIGHT WHEAT STRAW, containing together about 1,800 TONS, the whole being well situate for removal and near to Stations on the Great Western Railway.

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McINTYRE, JOHN, Theakston, Bedale, Yorkshire.—Aberdeen-Angus Herd. Established 1883. 150 Head. 25 Thick-fleshed Yearling Bulls on Sale. Also females of best tribes.

BLUNT, H. LAYTON, Orton Longueville, Peterborough.—Black Polled Bulls and Heifers for sale, also Grazing Steers.

GRANT, GEO. SMITH, Auchoraichar, Ballindalloch, Scotland. Aberdeen-Angus Cattle. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers for sale.

CATTLE (*contd.*).

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HOYLES, GEORGE, Skidby Manor, near Hull. Prize-bred Angus Bulls and Heifers and Pure Lincoln Longwool Sheep. Registered Flock No. 136. Fine long, lustrous fleeces. Shire Horses for export. Inspection invited.

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PEDIGREE Prize-winning Ayrshire Cattle; good milkers; hardy, healthy; heifers and bulls for sale; exports to Sweden, Egypt, South Africa.—J. WALLACE, J.P., Auchenbrack, Thornhill, Scotland.

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HEASELANDS HERD of PEDIGREE JERSEYS, COWS and HEIFERS of the best blood at moderate prices.—Pedigrees, &c., on application to the owner, WALTER LLOYD, Heaselands, Hayward's Heath, Sussex.

ILMINSTER HERD PEDIGREE JERSEYS. — Choice about 100 finest quality Cows and Heifers, in profit and calving all seasons; prices moderate; inspection invited; shipper to all parts. — R. WHEADON, Ilminster.

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DUDDING, HENRY, Riby Grove, Gt. Grimsby, Lincolnshire, has always for inspection and sale a large flock of pure LINCOLN LONGWOOL SHEEP, including many prize-winners, having taken the leading prizes for many years at the Royal and other shows for both rams and ewes, including champion medals at both the Paris Exhibitions, Vienna, Amsterdam, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and all the leading prizes at Chicago; also the first for the best collection of Lincoln fleeces of wool at the Royal Windsor Show, which proves the character of this flock, which is most famous for their great size and 125 years' good breeding: Rams from this flock made the highest average on record last year. Riby Grove is seven miles from Great Grimsby, and three from Stallingboro' Station. Telegrams, "Dudding, Keelby."

CARTWRIGHT, JAMES, Dunston Pillar, Lincoln. Pure Bred Lincoln Rams and Ewes. Flock Book No. 53. The greater part of this flock has gone to Buenos Ayres for the last 15 or 20 years. Also Pure Bred Berkshire Pigs always on sale. Inspection invited.

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FISHER, G. S., Broughton Lodge, Kettering. Annual Sale of Rams at Kettering, 2nd Friday in August. This Flock obtains many prizes. Inspection invited. Sheep generally for Sale.

HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.

COLES, CARY, Manor House, Winterbourne, Stoke, Salisbury.—Registered HAMPSHIRE DOWNS, prize-winners Royal, Bath and West, and Royal Counties Shows; Salisbury Prize Sheep Fair, 1900 and 1901. Twenty-five guineas Challenge Cup best pen 8 Ram Lambs. Flock numbers 1,200. All ages for sale.

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ROWE, F. W., Trevego, Lostwithiel, Cornwall. Breeder of pure-bred South Devon Cattle of best and purest strains of blood. Bulls, Cows and Heifers for inspection and sale.

CATTLE (*contd.*).

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COOPER, WILLIAM, AND NEPHEWS, "Cooper's Dip" Works, Berkhamsted, England. BREEDERS and EXPORTERS of PURE SHROPSHIRE SHEEP. First Prize for five Shearling Rams, Second for Shearling Ram, and Second for Shearling Ewes, at the Royal Show, Cardiff, 1901. First and Third for Ewes, Royal Show, 1898. 500 breeding Ewes. Largest export flock of Shropshires in England. Sires used this season include four First Prize Royal winners. The 310 Guinea Champion "Royal Record," "Ashlyns Knight" (winner of Six Firsts and two Champions), "Shenstone Cardiff," and "Royal Cardiff."—For particulars apply to FRANK. WEBB, Estate Office, Shenstone, Lichfield, or J. P. MILNE, Ashlyns, Berkhamsted.

NOCK, EDWARD, Sutton Maddock, Shifnal, Salop.—Owner of the old Sutton Maddock Pedigree Shropshire Flock. Founded 1832. Purest strains of blood. Registered in Flock Book.

PIGS.

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BURBIDGE, EDWARD, Wraxhall, Bradford-on-Avon. Pedigree Berkshire Pigs, bred from Royal and Bath and West Champion blood. Acknowledged one of largest type of Berkshires in England. Purchasers met by appointment.

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J. H. R. HORWOOD. Pedigree Berkshires, one of the best breeders in England. Several 1st and Champions again this year. Very choice Pigs exported all over the World, and for Sale, at very reasonable prices.—Manor Farm, Drayton Beauchamp, Tring.



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DALMENY HERD of LARGE WHITE PEDIGREE PIGS, the property of the Earl of Rosebery, K.G. YOUNG BOARS and SOWS of the very best quality and choicest breeding for SALE at moderate prices.—Apply, MANAGER, Home Farm, Dalmeny Park, by Edinburgh.

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RAILWAY ANNOUNCEMENT.

LONDON AND NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY.

DOG SHOW, to be held at MANCHESTER, MARCH 25th, 26th, and 27th, 1902.

For the convenience of Exhibitors at the above Show, the London and North Western Railway Company will arrange the running of Special Through Vans for the conveyance of Dogs to Manchester, on Monday, March 24th, by the Trains leaving London (Euston) at 8.35 a.m., 12.25 p.m., 2.45 p.m.; Northampton at 10.21 a.m., 2.29 p.m.; Carlisle at 8.30 a.m., 1.40 p.m.; Leeds at 11.30 a.m., 1.45 p.m., 4.0 p.m.; Birmingham (New Street) at 7.20 a.m., 2.0 p.m.; Shrewsbury at 11.25 a.m., 4.40 p.m. These will be in addition to the Vans running regularly on the Through Trains to Manchester.

Consignments from the Branch Lines, and from Nottingham, Peterboro', Oxford, Cambridge, &c., will be placed in these Vans at the various Junctions, thus ensuring direct transit to the Exhibition.

Rates for the conveyance of the Traffic, which in no case exceed those charged by any other route, can be obtained at the various Stations on the Line.

Exhibitors are requested to be careful to write their names and addresses distinctly on the backs of the direction labels issued by the Show Committee.

The Company's representatives will be at the Show to answer inquiries with regard to the arrangements for the return journey. All information can be obtained of Mr. ROBERT TURNBULL, Superintendent of the Line, Euston Station, London; or from the Company's District Superintendent, Mr. H. LINAKER, Exchange Station, Manchester.

FRED. HARRISON,
General Manager.

General Manager's Office,
Euston Station, London, N.W.,
February, 1902.

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SCAB in Sheep CURED in ONE DIPPING.

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SEEDS, PLANTS, &c

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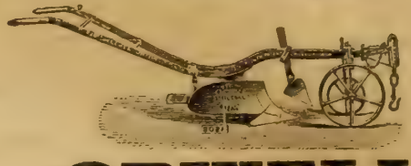
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Mark Lane Express Agricultural Journal.

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MONDAY, MARCH 10, 1902.

Correspondents are requested to address all communications for the Editorial Department to THE EDITOR, "Mark Lane Express," 1, Essex Street, Strand, London, W.C.

Advertisements, Subscriptions, and business communications should be addressed to THE PUBLISHER, "Mark Lane Express," 1, Essex Street, Strand, London, W.C.

TITHE RENT CHARGE AND LAND TAX.

Closely allied to relief from excessive income tax (on which we wrote a fortnight ago) is the incidence of tithe rent charges and the land tax.

The provision for remission of heavy tithe rent charge on agricultural land is not so widely known as it should be. The Tithe Act 1891 provides that where a sum is claimed on account of tithe rent charge issuing out of land used solely for agricultural or pastoral purposes, or for the growth of timber or underwood, and the County Court is satisfied that if the sum claimed be paid, the total amount paid for tithe rent charge for the year will exceed two-thirds of the assessment of the land for income tax under Schedule B, the Court shall order the remission of so much as is equal to the excess, and the amount remitted shall not be recoverable, and if the local rates on the tithe rent charge are assessed on the full amount thereof without such remission, the Court may remit a proportionate part of the then current rate.

This is to say, the tithe rent charge must not exceed two-thirds of the income tax assessment under Schedule B. Obviously, therefore, where there is reason to think that this provision may apply, attention should be directed to seeing that the land is correctly assessed under Schedule B.

It sometimes happens, however, that the land was, at the commutation, the subject of a special apportionment, that is, that the tithe rent charge in respect of a larger area was, by desire of the landowner, specially apportioned on a smaller area, so that the smaller area bears a greater proportion of the burden than it otherwise would have borne. In such cases the remission will not be granted unless the Court is satisfied that the applicant would have been entitled to relief if no special appointment had been made.

If the land subject to the rent charge is included under Schedule B. with other land, the Surveyor of Taxes is required, on application, to divide the annual value stated in the assessment between the lands liable to the rent charge and those which are free from it. Notice of such division is to be given to the applicant and to the tithe owner, either of whom, if dissatisfied, may appeal to the Commissioners of Income Tax.

The Act also provides for the direct payment of tithe rent charge by the landowner, where an occupier is liable under a contract made before the Act to pay the rent charge, then he is to repay to the owner the amount so paid by the latter, but contracts for payment by the occupier made after the Act are null and void. Recovery of the rent charge is to be through the County Court, but at least three months' grace must be allowed.

The land tax is not, like the income tax, charged at the same rate per pound all over the country. It is an apportioned tax, and each parish is liable to raise a fixed amount. This amount is raised in each parish by a new assessment (if necessary) every year at an equal rate on the annual value of all lands and tenements not exonerated from land tax under the provisions in force for redemption of the tax. Thus, if in any year there has been

a considerable redemption of tax the whole amount payable has to be borne by the unredeemed lands (subject to the relief about to be mentioned), and, consequently, the rate per pound upon those lands is correspondingly increased. This is why, when agricultural land becomes building land, the land tax is almost invariably redeemed, otherwise it would be payable at so much in the pound on the rateable value of the houses to be built thereon, and might thus spring from an unconsidered trifle to a serious annual burden. The sum required for redemption is thirty times the apportioned amount of the tax.

Formerly the maximum rate of land tax chargeable was 4s. in the pound; but now it is limited to one shilling in the pound, on the annual value, as assessed under Schedule A for income tax. If an assessment at this rate is insufficient to raise the quota for which the parish is liable, the balance is simply written off as irrecoverable.

Unlike the income tax, land tax when once paid cannot be recovered back by persons entitled to exemption. The remedy is not retrospective, and the only course is to look alive and see that relief is claimed from future contributions. Neither can land tax paid by a tenant be deducted from the rent, unless he has a contract to that effect. A contract purporting to deprive a tenant of the right to deduct income tax paid by him under Schedule A. is null and void, but a like contract as regards land tax is perfectly good. If, therefore, he enters into an agreement to pay the rent without any deduction for land tax, he has ground to grumble if he is called upon to pay it.

But if the owner of any property liable to land tax in any financial year before payment of the tax produces to the collector a certificate from the Surveyor of Taxes that he has been allowed total exemption from income tax by reason of his income not exceeding £160, the tax will not be collected; and if he has been allowed an abatement by reason of his income not exceeding £400, an abatement of half the land tax will be allowed.

Having regard to the disastrous year which we have just experienced, and to the parlous state of agriculture generally—a good industry, but too often rotten at the core—we strongly advise farmers to see that they avail themselves fully of the remission of taxes and burdens on land to which the law entitles them, and for fuller information on the topics with which we have been dealing we earnestly commend to their attention leaflets No. 27 (tithe rent charge) and No. 39 (land tax) issued by the Board of Agriculture.

The Lincolnshire Lambing Season.—So far as the lambing season has progressed in the southern part of Lincolnshire, the results are fairly satisfactory. Many flockmasters report that there is not quite such a large percentage of pairs as usual, but the lambs are said to be exceptionally strong and healthy. As a rule, there has not up to the present been any serious mortality among the ewes.

Berwick Hirings.—The annual March hiring market at Berwick was held on the 1st inst., and, being the first on the Borders, the attendance of masters and men from both sides of the Tweed was very large. A large number of engagements were made, generally on the old terms, and, as usual, married men with daughters as women workers easily found situations. On the north side of the Tweed the terms in such cases as these were 16s. to 17s. per week, with free house, coal led, 1,000 to 1,200 yards of potatoes, and the usual harvest allowance. Men who obtained a cow's keep only got 14s. a week, with the other perquisites. Women obtained 10s. a week all the year round, in place of 9s. twelve months ago. On the south side of the Tweed men who could supply female workers received 17s. to 18s. a week, with free house, coal led, and 1,200 yards of potatoes. Single men got 16s. to 17s., and women 10s. a week all the year round. Lads were paid according to age and ability.



By a Man of Mark Lane.

The Bengal Department of Land Records and Agriculture has issued its first note on the wheat crop of Bengal for 1901-1902, in which it is stated that the rainfall was defective in Behar at sowing time, but was normal in the other districts. The total area sown with wheat in the Province is estimated at 1,404,700 acres. Of the 19 large wheat-growing districts in the Province, only four (Rangpur, Pabna, Malda, and the Sonthal Parganas) anticipate a normal outturn; in two the outturn is estimated at from 90 to 99 per cent.; in four it varies between 80 and 89 per cent., and in five more between 60 and 79 per cent., while in Shadabad, Champaran, Muzaffarpur, and Palamau less than 60 per cent. of a normal crop is anticipated. According to the estimates of the local officers, the outturn for the Province will amount to only 75 per cent. of a normal crop, and the outturn for Behar to only 71 per cent.

The receipts on account of revenue from April 1, 1901, when there was a balance of £5,596,918, to March 1, 1902, were £126,725,602, against £116,996,584 in the corresponding period of the preceding financial year, which began with a balance of £3,517,047. The net expenditure was £175,181,877, against £166,161,587 to the same date in the previous year. The Treasury balances on March 1, 1902, amounted to £12,854,318, and at the same date in 1901 to £7,884,495.

In the report of his speech at the Taunton Farmers' Club's dinner, Mr. Hanbury, President of the Board of Agriculture, was made to say:—"He considered that the present milk standard was high, and that it did not give fair play to the ordinary farmer." Mr. Hanbury has since pointed out that he was not referring to the present milk standard, which he himself fixed, but to the standard recommended by the Departmental Committee on Milk, which reported last year. That, he thought, would have been hard on ordinary farmers, and, therefore, he imposed the standard now in force as being equable generally.

The Custom Tariff Committee of the German Reichstag has decided to raise the duty on maize and millet to five marks, as against four marks in the Government Bill. A duty of one mark and fifty pfennige, fixed in the Government draft for other articles of grain not specially mentioned, was agreed to, as was a provision that cereals in sheaves shall pay one-half of the duty fixed.

Of late rapid advance has been made in bulb culture, both in England and Ireland. Along the eastern and southern seaboards of Ireland there are large tracts of fine, sandy ground, abundantly supplied with subsoil moisture and equal in every respect, as fields for bulb culture, to the far-famed nurseries of Haarlem. At Rush, a small village near Dublin, the first Irish bulb farm was commenced on a very modest scale in 1895, and in six years this bulb farm has grown from half an acre to twenty acres.

A telegram was received from Valparaiso on Saturday, stating that, as a result of the nitrate combination, the Government propose to increase the export duty on nitrate by 6d. per quintal. This, it is estimated, will produce 50,000,000 dols. per annum extra revenue.

A useful catalogue of clovers, grasses, turnips, and miscellaneous seeds has reached us from the well-known firm of seedsmen, Messrs. J. Poynter, Son, and Macdonalds, 18, Bank Street, Dumfries, N.B.



By a Lobbyist.

This week's incident of by far the greatest interest to agricultural politics has what I may describe as an extra-Parliamentary character. I refer, of course, to the speech of Mr. Hanbury at Taunton. If intention be behind that speech—and Heaven forfend it should be esteemed that I doubt it!—then it is the most remarkable and significant utterance delivered by any Minister for Agriculture in the last half-dozen years. I am not exaggerating in this one whit. A Member of Parliament once declared that I was the eternal badgerer of Mr. Hanbury. I have badgered because it seemed to me to be a thousand pities that a man with the practical prescience of Mr. Hanbury—a statesman of the eminently common-sense type, with an inherent distaste of uselessness and waste—should not be allowed an opportunity of giving his own ideas an organised and deliberate character. I do not claim—and probably the editor of the MARK LANE EXPRESS would not claim—to have been the stimulating influence in connection with Mr. Hanbury's present resolution. I can only say that this resolution is in harmony with the suggestions persistently made in this journal.

'Tis not personal or journalistic egotism which induces these reflections. It is rather a desire to advance a justification against the frequent criticism that the persistent advocacy in this column has been inconsiderate in its vigour and inappreciative of the difficulties with which Mr. Hanbury has been environed. Three positions have been adopted in this column. In the first place, it has been contended that no interest is more deserving of sympathetic legislative and administrative treatment than the old traditional interest of agriculture. In the next place, it has been urged that the Board of Agriculture should be given a realistic character, with powers of direct iniative—that, in a word, it should be something more than a stereotyped collector of unreliable statistics and muzzler-in-chief to the dogs, something more, indeed, even than the organised enemy of cattle disease. Pointing to the effective character of the Irish body, the demand has been formally preferred that the English body should, in its methods and policy, be assimilated to that organisation. How far these suggestions have been adopted can be best indicated by the clear and straightforward language of Mr. Hanbury: "No department in the State," quothed he, "ought to do more to make itself known to those whom it represents"; "I want to abolish red-tape, and to make the department thoroughly practical and useful"; "my object is and will be to see that the English and Scottish farmers receive the same assistance as is given to the Irish farmer." Mr. Hanbury's declarations are, in fact, almost a paraphrase of the language of the reformers.

Withal, we need something more than Mr. Hanbury's oration—excellent and encouraging as that undeniably is—has provided us. We want, in a word, that Taunton speech defined. What is quite meant by the "abolition of red-tape?" What is quite meant by the promise to assimilate the English Board with the Irish Board? Let me put the matter in a specific fashion: Does Mr. Hanbury intend

to establish a series of experimental farms? Does he intend to regularly present the results of experiments which have been conducted under most useful conditions to the British farmers? Does he intend to even seek markets—for this assuredly is what Mr. Horace Plunkett has done—for the British farmer? Well, in a measure, my last question has, I would fain believe, been partly replied to by Mr. Hanbury himself. The right honourable gentleman has himself frankly confessed that the demand for horses which the necessity of the Britsh army has created should be in itself a source of profit to the British farmer. This confession I take to mean that there will be in the future the closest and the friendliest relations between the War Office and the Board of Agriculture. What methods, however—and I must be forgiven indulging in my favourite Socratic vein—does Mr. Hanbury intend to adopt in order to make the British farmer acquainted with the requirements of the War Office and to secure him a fair price? How will he see to it that the real profit on horse-culture goes into the pockets of the farmer, and not into those of any middle-man? The Minister for Agriculture has presented us a picture which has fascinated our imagination and inspired our hopes. We now desire to examine it a little more closely, and to comprehend its details. In our anxiety we even desire to know the artists' pigments; and, in a matter of this supreme moment, we have a right to this knowledge.

You will, of course, have observed that Mr. Hanbury's speech only indicated a probable internal reform of the Board of Agriculture and an extension of its administrative powers. What, however, is his attitude towards the economics affecting the interest? What are his views towards its legislative necessities? Does he still contend that the last Agricultural Holdings Act Amendment Act—which has proved itself to be more faulty in operation than even I had expected it would be—is the last word which official Conservatism has to say on the question of land tenure reform? Does he stand fast to the opinion that the farmer has no right to expect more from organised Conservatism, and that if he desires further reform he must resort to its antagonist? The right honourable gentleman has, I personally know, been made adequately aware of the fact that the proposals in Mr. George Lambert's Bill has the sympathy of a large body of Unionist and Conservative farmers. Mr. Sears, the Unionist Member for the Tavistock division, had behind him in the support which he extended to that Bill the appreciation of a volume of men who have never failed in their loyalty to the Conservative party. Mr. Hanbury's assertion was a rebuff to these men, and a rebuff which I am afraid was received in instances with ill-temper. The right honourable gentleman need not mind recalling his words, inspired as they may have been by the passion of a passing moment. Of course, he would be accused of inconsistency. But what of that? "Inconsistency," as Emerson once finely said, "is the bugbear of little minds." Mr. Hanbury has shown that he is possessed by a fine resolve. That resolve has only an administrative character. Why should the value of legislation be disdained? I am persuaded Mr. Hanbury will do well to disregard his somewhat historic and ill-fated ejaculation. There is, he will remember, no such thing as finality in politics, not even in agrarian politics.

There is still another "t" to cross and another "i" to dot in connection with this most remarkable and valuable speech of the Minister for Agriculture. It contained two explicit invitations—invitations which mean that the British agriculturists ought to co-operate with the department. The first invitation was that when a farmer has got a real effective case of over-charge in connection with railway rates he should not hesitate to appeal to the Board. The second invitation was that the farmer should assist the Board in carrying out the Adulteration Acts. Not to accept those invitations would be an act of recreancy. I myself have no doubt whatever of the sincere intention of Mr. Hanbury—his Taunton speech was fragrant with the breath of sincerity. However, the attitude of the Board towards the appeals which the Minister suggests should be made to it will in itself be a very touch-stone of the earnestness and honesty of the official announcement. Mr. Hanbury has asked agriculture to test his purpose; and it would be more than a venial offence to disregard the opportunity.

An excellent sign of the new spirit which seems to have been called into existence by Mr. Hanbury's speech is the interest which is now being shown by the agricultural M.P.'s in the question of rural education. The point is as to how the forthcoming Education Bill will deal with the rural districts. The general view is that it would be unwise to make the rural provisions an inelastic and stereotyped section of one rigid national system. In other words, the Bill must be made to provide for giving rural districts such an education as the rural necessities may require. Should, then, this system be entrusted to an existing body already sufficiently hampered with the work of county government? I am bound to say that there is a growing feeling that if this be done educational interests would of necessity suffer. They would, in fact, be given a first instead of a second place in the esteem of the controlling body. It would be well to heed the development of this view. That it should have been inspired is, I repeat, a healthy sign.



The Suggested Tax on Imported Corn and Flour.

As will be seen from the reports given below, the feeling in favour of a duty on imported cereals and flour is growing very strongly, and the matter is being discussed by agricultural societies in various parts of the country. Numerous Yorkshire chambers of agricultural societies have passed resolutions in favour of the duty, with the result that a special meeting of the Yorkshire Union of Agricultural Clubs and Chambers of Agriculture was held at the Agricultural Club House, Pavement, York, on Saturday, to consider the desirability of requesting the Chancellor of the Exchequer to receive a deputation from the above Union urging the advisability of imposing a duty or registration fee upon foreign flour and cereals, or a duty or registration fee upon similar lines, to partly meet the expense of the war.

The President of the Union (Mr. J. Allan, of Pocklington) occupied the chair, and there was a large attendance.

The Right Hon. James Lowther, M.P., had been invited to address the meeting, but he was unable to attend, and, in expressing his regrets to the secretary, wrote:—"I am very busy just now with, amongst other things, the general fiscal question, and I hardly see my way to embarking in any controversy with the members of the Yorkshire Union, which has, so far as I know, been under Cobdenite influences hitherto, and has never to my knowledge afforded any encouragement to home producers as against their foreign competitors. I shall read the report of the proceedings with interest in the hope that the Union will strike out a new line at this critical period. From a circular I have seen I gather that the demand for a recurrence to sound principles of raising revenue may be urged as a means of providing for carrying on the war in South Africa, which would lay the movement open to the retort that it would not be wise to upset the whole fiscal system for a short time of emergency. It is, however, the normal increase of national expenditure, apart from the ephemeral pressure of the present war, that has opened the eyes of the taxpayers. Hence the change should be advocated in my opinion as desirable in the permanent interests of the nation. While it is no doubt right to urge duties upon foodstuffs, it is also necessary to provide revenue by the taxation of foreign goods generally which come into competition with home industries. A preferential rate in favour of British Colonies should form part of the scheme."

The Chairman suggested that if a resolution were passed it should apply not only to foodstuffs but to imports generally. Moreover, the duty should not be imposed as a war tax. "We have been struggling under a cloud," said he; "it does not lift, but gets darker and darker every year, and it is high time that agriculturists took some step to get a remedy for the depression." (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Henry Liversidge, jun., on behalf of the Selby Club (at whose request the meeting was held), proposed the following resolution:—"That in the opinion of this meeting it is necessary for the prosperity of home producers that discriminating revenue duties should be placed on foreign imports. That this resolution be sent to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and that he be asked to receive a deputation on the matter."—This was eventually carried nem con. The majority of the members present supported the resolution, but several refrained from voting.

In the course of a letter to the secretary of the Lincolnshire Chamber of Agriculture, regretting his inability to be present at the meeting of the Chamber on February 28, Mr. Henry Chaplin, M.P., said that he had, as is well known, been an advocate for many years of the re-imposition of the old shilling duty upon grain, which was still in existence when I first entered Parliament, and I have always regarded its repeal, causing as it did, great loss of revenue without appreciable benefit to anyone, as an act of great financial folly. The burden of such a duty at the present time would be absolutely infinitesimal. The price of bread to the workers and the poorer classes would not be increased by the fraction of a farthing. In my belief no other tax productive of so large a revenue can be suggested which would so little injure or affect the general public. I know of no argument against it, except on the ground of sentiment alone, and although I must admit that its effect on agriculture would be practicaly nil, yet for the purposes of revenue it would produce to-day, according to the latest statement of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, no less a sum than £2,700,000 a year. That being so, it is encouraging to remember that such high authorities as the "Times," and Sir R. Giffen are supporting this proposal, Sir R. Giffen going even somewhat further, and we may congratulate ourselves, I think, upon the fact that the dawn of commonsense is at least apparently beginning to dispel the mists of ignorance and prejudice which have enveloped for so many years every proposal of this nature for extending the basis of taxation." At the meeting the following resolution was carried unanimously, and it was ordered that copies of it should be sent to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Central Chamber of Agriculture, and the local borough and county members of Parliament:—"That, in view of the increased taxation caused by the war, and of the deplorable state of agriculture, an appeal be made to the Government to put a duty on imported corn and flour."

At a meeting of the West Riding Chamber of Agriculture, held at Wakefield, on February 28th, a resolution was unanimously passed in favour of the imposition of a duty of 2s. 6d. per quarter on foreign wheat, and 2s. 6d. per sack on foreign flour, until the average price of wheat is 40s. per quarter.

A special meeting of the Wetherby and District Chamber of Agriculture was held on the 27th to discuss the subject, and at the conclusion of some strong speeches in favour of the duty, the following resolution was carried, with but one dissentient:—"That, in the opinion of this meeting of agriculturists of Wetherby and district, it

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is the bounden duty of the Government to re-impose a duty on cereals and flour imported into this country."

Speaking at Retford, on the 1st inst., at the annual meeting of the Bassetlaw Conservative Association, Sir Frederick Milner, alluding to the forthcoming Budget, said that personally he hoped the Chancellor of the Exchequer might put a small duty on corn. There was no doubt a 1s. duty on corn would bring in three millions of money, and would not add the 15th part of a farthing to the price of bread. He did not know how the Chancellor of the Exchequer looked upon this question, but he hoped there would be no fresh burden put upon the shoulders of the payers of income tax.

At the last meeting of the members of the Cumberland and Westmoreland Chamber of Agriculture, the subject of rural depopulation was discussed, and several speakers were in favour of a duty on corn and grain, the proceeds of such duty to be applied to the relief of agricultural rates. At the conclusion of a long discussion it was decided to further consider the matter, at a meeting to be held on the 29th inst.

The following resolution was unanimously passed, at a largely attended meeting of the Bridlington Agricultural Club:—"That this meeting would respectfully point out to His Majesty's Government that, in view of the necessity for increased taxation at the present time, a duty might be fairly and equitably placed upon all cereals and flour imported into the United Kingdom from foreign countries other than British Colonies; that in their opinion such duty should be an annual one of such amount as may be necessary for the time being, but that it should not be less than 2s. per quarter (480lb.) on cereals, and 2s. 6d. per sack (20 stones) on flour."

In the course of a discussion on the subject of our food supply during war at a meeting of the Warwickshire Chamber of Agriculture, the following resolution was moved and carried by five votes to four:—"That a shilling a quarter duty should be placed on all corn entering the British market, that a tax should be placed on all imported flour, that a federation of the British Empire for the supply of raw products should be entered into, giving our colonies preferential terms, and that part of the tax from imported corn should be used as a bonus per acre for the encouragement of wheat grown in the British Isles."

Mr. Chaplin, M.P., on our Food Supply in the Time of War.

In the course of a letter to the secretary of the Lincolnshire Chamber of Agriculture, regretting his inability to attend a meeting of that Chamber, Mr. Henry Chaplin, M.P., referred to the question of "Our Food Supply in the Time of War," and said:—"I have good reason for believing that this question is growing steadily in public interest from day to day. We depend at present for three-fourths of our bread supply upon corn and flour imported from abroad, and our position in time of war would be little different from that of an army in the field liable to be cut off at any time from its commissariat. This is a situation which in many minds is naturally causing great uneasiness, and nowhere more so than among the poorer classes, who would be the first and chiefest sufferers from an excessive or even from a serious rise in the price of bread. What we want, in my opinion, is an inquiry into all the branches of this question, which undoubtedly is one of real and grave importance.

"Whether we should look for our supplies in case of war to a large wheat reserve at home, or a larger wheat production than we have at present, or to both, or whether, for the safety of these supplies, we should continue to rely entirely on the fleet, and, if so, to what extent the fleet should be strengthened for the purpose, are all of them questions which should be the subject, I consider, of a careful but a prompt inquiry by a Parliamentary Committee or Royal Commission. I am assured by many admirals, with whom I have discussed this question, that for such a purpose, in addition to its other duties in time of war, our fleet would be inadequate. If that is so, and after the warnings we have had of the state of feeling which exists on the part of many foreign countries towards us, I am more than ever of opinion that this inquiry should be made, and made without delay. It is true that a similar demand made early in the session during the debates on the Address was emphatically refused by the President of the Board of Trade, but unless I am much mistaken we have not heard by any means the last word upon this question. I shall await with lively interest the views of your Chamber on the subject, and I am, yours very truly,"



By Hordeum.

Depressed Brewing.

One of the organs devoted to the special interests of a particular class of brewers has just published a short article upon the falling off in the amount of beer brewed. It shows that in the last quarter of 1900 the heaviest decline took place, but that the drop has been more or less persistent throughout the whole time the additional duty due to the war has been collected. The fall amounted to no less than 475,000 barrels, following upon the slightly larger amount of 495,000 in the corresponding period of the year before. This loss has not been equally distributed over the United Kingdom and Ireland, as the Emerald Isle shows a very marked increase, instead of a falling off, amounting to nearly 4½ per cent.

As the loss (?) is not to be explained by a gain in the consumption of spirits, it is lugubriously suggested that it is a proof of the

Lessened Spending Power

of the people, consequent on the diminished general prosperity of the country.

For many years the figures have been given of the number of barrels of beer brewed each year. These are officially set forth in a number of reports and returns, and owing to their official position they are looked upon as being correct. All brewers, however, know to the contrary, or they ought to, and there is now no longer any excuse for anyone to be deceived by them, or through them to try to practise deception.

One of the aspects of this very important question was dealt with by me last week, but as it will be of much advantage if a number of its bearings are known more generally, it will bear further reference, especially at the time when we cannot tell what the views and purposes of the Chancellor of the Exchequer may be.

Increase of Beer Duty

without alteration of the mode of assessing it would be a grave disadvantage to everyone, and would not benefit the revenue to the same degree as it would hurt producers and damage consumers.

Reassessing the duty and altering the basis of charge would be a certain gain to the revenue, and a distinct advantage to beer drinkers and barley growers, as was very clearly set forth in this column last week.

The explanation of the apparent loss of trade is a very simple one. The returns do not give the actual barrels brewed, but only the number assumed to be brewed from the amount of materials used by brewers. All common brewers have to make entry of all malt and its substitutes used by them, and when the total is ascertained it is a very simple calculation to turn the bushels of malt and corn, or the hundredweights of rice, sugar, and glucose into the number of barrels of beer they ought to make. For the purposes of these returns the assumption has been allowed to pass for the fact.

But at the Central Chambers of Agriculture it has been persistently pointed out that, in the interests of farmers and of beer-drinkers or consumers, it would be very useful to have the facts given instead of fancies, especially as the figures have always been available at Somerset House. In time this request has been graciously acceded to, and although it works out very unpleasantly for the brewers, it is calculated to do other people a lot of good.

In the reports of the Commissioners of Inland Revenue we now get the dual form of assumed barrels and the

Actual Bulk Barrels,

or, as it is dryly termed "liquid" barrels. Taking the latest return at present issued, up to March 31st last, whilst it was assumed that the barrels of beer retained for home consumption was 35,993,000, or at the rate of .872 barrel per head of the whole population, in reality the number of bulk or liquid barrels was no less than 39,557,000, or a difference of over 3,564,000.

Put into plain English, this means that this vast quantity of beer represents exactly so much water to all purchasers and yields nothing to the State.

That the Commissioners have at last awakened to the full perception of the facts can at present be only conjectured and hoped. It is significant that in their last return they refer to it quite clearly in two places. In one place they say that, while the apparent quantity of beer consumed has remained practically stationary, the character has been lighter. A tendency to lower gravities has been observable for many years. An increase in the beer duty is always followed by lower gravities. Last year there was only a very small increase in the actual quantity brewed throughout the whole country, but whilst in England the decrease was 2.5 per cent., in Scotland there was an increase, and in Ireland it amounted to nearly 4 per cent.

The Decreased Consumption

is accounted for much more truthfully by the arsenic scare instead of lessened spending power.

Every intelligent beer-drinker throughout the country knows perfectly well that from every gallon of beer consumed a certain amount of toll is levied by the State. It is collected by the brewer as the farmer of the tax, and he (the brewer) gets handsomely paid for his trouble in the matter; but whilst the officers of the Crown are most exemplary in the zeal with which they prevent the dilution of beer by publicans and other vendors, it is strange to note that they do not interfere with the brewer diluting to any extent he pleases.

Brewers have an absolutely free hand to make as much beer as they please from a given quantity of material, and naturally, if they pay no more duty on 20 barrels than they would on 15, there is a very strong inducement to them to dilute to that extent. But it does not stop there, and is not likely to, unless the charge is made upon a barrel of beer of 36 gallons, regardless of its gravity or strength. When this is done, dilution will be checked.

Arsenic in Beer: Lecture at Lewes.

At a meeting of the East Sussex Farmers' Club, at Lewes, on Tuesday, Mr. H. Stopes, hon. secretary of the British Barley Society, gave an address on the subject of "Arsenic in Beer." He began by explaining the importance of barley growing, and the cultivation, in prosperity, of arable land. It seemed to be forgotten that when farmers were prosperous they were not only producing a larger amount of good food, but they were doing something of more value to the country; from the arable farms of the country we got our best supply of soldiers and sailors. He had hoped that when he addressed them he would have been able to refer to the Pure Beer Bill. That Bill had been drafted the previous night, and he was acquainted with its contents; but that knowledge was at present confidential, and therefore he could not discuss it as freely as he would have liked.

Passing on to the immediate subject of his lecture, Mr. Stopes asked his hearers to look at the question from a broad basis. This was that it was most in the interests of those who drank beer that they should have no harmful ingredients in their drink. The great majority of the beer drinkers in this country preferred to have genuine beer. The brewers stated that there was a very large demand on the part of the public for beer which was brewed from sugar. He did not believe that. The threat which brewers had made that if pressure were brought to bear upon them they would have to use foreign barley instead of British barley was a disgrace to the brewers. They knew that for many years brewers had used as much foreign barley as they could get. English barley could not be beaten, and in many cases could not be equalled. He was not an agitator, and he wanted to increase the good relations between brewers, barley growers, and beer drinkers. If the brewers treated the farmer and the public fairly, he would have nothing to say.

Mr. Stopes then proceeded to remind the company of the origin of arsenic in beer agitation. In their fright the brewers had left it permanently on record that there was more harm in using malt than in using sugar; that hops contained arsenic, barley contained arsenic, that there was arsenic in certain artificial manure, that the using of sulphur with hops constituted a danger, etc. Mr. Stopes attacked these assertions. If foreign materials were used in the brewing of beer there ought to be an absolute declaration to that effect. He spoke of his experiences before the Royal Commission, and read the report of witnesses (Mr. Clare Sewell Read and himself), appointed by the Central Chamber of Agriculture. He stoutly resisted the suggestion that hop growers and maltsters should give guarantees. It was very important that beer should be brought under the operations of the Food and Drugs Act.

He strongly criticised the Report of the Royal Commission, urged that drinkers actually paid the duty on beer, and argued that the supposed ne-

cessity for the use of sugar in brewing was a fallacy. He pointed out that there were other things sometimes in beer beside arsenic, including bi-sulphite of lime. All brewers should employ better material, and then there would be no need for preservatives. In conclusion, he insisted the farmers wanted protection against unfair practices.

A hearty vote of thanks having been accorded the lecturer, the following resolution was carried:—"That the members of the East Sussex Farmers' Club regret that the preliminary, or first Report of the Royal Commission appointed to inquire into the subject of arsenical poisoning of food has been issued without publication of minutes of evidence submitted, and that much of the evidence which the witnesses nominated by the Central Chamber of Agriculture were prepared to give was not submitted. The existing powers of the Commissioners of Inland Revenue could, with advantage, be supplemented by an official and fuller definition of beer, bringing it under the Foods and Drugs Act. We would respectfully urge the completion of the inquiry, and the publication of the official recommendations and minutes of evidence at the earliest practicable date."



Home Notes.

The Borough.

The recent active demand for hops has somewhat relaxed this week, but although sales have been fewer the market shows no sign of weakness with respect to values. The selection being limited and the quantities on offer being materially reduced, buyers are compelled to content themselves with samples that have been frequently rejected in the earlier part of the season, and, realising their position, they are much more inclined to yield to the advanced prices now being asked by holders. The present aspect of affairs is therefore strongly marked by firmness, and the outlook is distinctly favourable to those who have hops in hand for sale. Especially is this the prospect with regard to such lots as can lay any claim to quality and colour. Of these so few remain that it is certain they must become much more priceworthy before long, and even the inferior and discoloured growths are being taken over with sufficient rapidity to dispel any doubt as to the ultimate disposal; consequently we may reasonably anticipate that better figures will be generally established as the available supply becomes more restricted.

Imports and Exports.

The imports from the United States during February were 14,425cwt., and from other countries 4,951cwt., the total of 19,376cwt. being almost 7,000cwt. in excess of the corresponding month of 1901. We exported last month 2,133cwt. of English and 875cwt. of foreign hops, our trade in this direction exceeding that of February, 1901, by 1,165cwt. The balances for the month are therefore 16,368cwt. this year, and 11,231cwt. in 1901. The increase may be explained by the delivery to consumers of lots previously brought, as the advanced prices current on the other side of the Atlantic are checking any present trade on the London market, and I quite expect to find our imports considerably lessened in the course of the next few weeks.

Cold Storage.

By the courtesy of the editor of "Cold Storage" I was present on Wednesday evening last at a meeting of the Cold Storage and Ice Association, held at the Institution of Mechanical Engineers, Storey's Gate, St. James's Park. The annual report read by the secretary showed that the Association now numbered nearly 100 members, and that the application of the system was rapidly extending, the capacity of the cold stores in the United Kingdom having materially increased during the past year. The Hon. Alan de Tatton Egerton, M.P., read a paper, describing a small installation which he had erected and experimented with at Knutsford. Although this had been devoted solely to the preservation of meat, poultry, game, butter, cheese, and other similar country produce, its applicability to hops was evident, and the particulars given by the president set me thinking about the feasibility of establishing similar stores in central positions in our hop-growing counties, in which farmers might keep their hops in perfect security at less cost than in the Borough warehouses, and thus in some degree protect themselves against the dangerous monopoly now in the hands of merchants and brewers. According to the figures presented to the meeting, a cold storage plant, with capacity for the preservation of about 600 pockets of hops, can be erected for about £2,500. The annual interest at 5 per cent. on this outlay and the working expenses, would apparently not exceed £250. The same plant would be useful for many other purposes, including a regular supply of ice, usually difficult to obtain in rural districts. On the whole, I think such a matter is worthy o fconsideratio, as I believe it could be worked on a profitable basis, and would furnish growers with a means of defence which would be extremely useful to them in these critical times.

A long conversation the same evening with an expert in the science of preservation of materials in atmosphere of various degrees of cold below freezing-point convinced me of the permanent utility of the system, and confirmed my previously expressed views that therein is included a most serious factor in determining the future of our industry, concerning which it behoves our growers to be wide awake.

Foreign Notes.

Nuremberg.

The course of the hop trade shows but little variation. Values are generally well and easily upheld, although the volume of business has rather diminished, and arrivals from the country districts and from Russia have created a total somewhat in excess of sales. Choice samples are distinctly dearer, but the large quantities of inferior hops which overburden the market are not readily disposed of, and in cases where holders are anxious to reduce their stocks, slightly reduced prices have been accepted.

The "Mittheilungen des Deutschen Hofenbau-Vereins" gives the current

Market Quotations,

from which I extract the following first quality figures:—Market hops, 70s. to 75s.; Ordinary Hallertans, 90s. to 100s.; Sealed Hallertans, 100s. to 108s.; Spalts, 80s. to 100s.; Wurtembergs, 80s. to 90s.; Badens, 90s. to 95s.; Alsace, 70s. to 75s.; Saag, 100s. to 105s.; Russians, 70s. to 85s.

During the season, from September 1st, 1901, to January 31st last, the

Transit of Hops by Railway,

to and from Nuremberg, was as follows:—Arrivals, 175,924 cwts.; departures, 165,110 cwts. The largest quantity, exclusive of the Bavarian growth, was supplied by Bohemia; next in importance are Wurtemberg, Austro-Hungary, Alsace, Baden, and North Germany. The supplies from Russia, Belgium, and France are comparatively small.

Belgium.

The markets, both actual and speculative, remain steady and firm at recent figures. Brewers are buying more freely, and holders of hops, whether dealers or growers, are solid in their offers, refusing to entertain lower bids, and confident in early realisation of better prices. The Belgian trade movements, officially reported, for January last, give the following results:—Imports, about 3,000 cwts; exports, about 2,200 cwts. The imports are chiefly from Germany, England having sent only a few, and the United States none. Exports have principally gone to France, with about 360 cwts. to England.

America.

Stocks in New York are being gradually lowered, although the volume of business, either local or for export, is not very large. Growers are holding their hops back for better offers, and dealers are therefore making no effort to sell, except at higher prices. The finest growths of States or Pacifics cannt be bughto under 17 cents, and there is a distinct tendency towards higher rates for all qualities. It is now anticipated that the day is not far distant when 20 cents will be obtainable for choice samples.

The "Pugallup Independent" says:—"The season of 1901 is practically over, and less than 1,500 bales of hops now remain in growers' hands. The shortage in America has caused the market to steadily advance. Prices must be higher before spring, the 'short sellers' must be heavy losers."

Reported Cure for Foot-and-Mouth Disease.—At Friday's sitting of the Budget Committee of the Lower House of the Prussian Diet, Privy Councillor Kirchner, who is a high official of the Ministry of Education, announced that success had been attained in the endeavour to discover a sure means of rendering cattle immune from foot-and-mouth disease. He added that it was justifiable to assume that a preparation would shortly be available which would enable individual owners to immunise the whole of their stock for a comparatively small sum. Professor Löffler, of Greifswald, who has been conducting the experiments, had also tested the remedy discovered by the Italian, Professor Baccelli, and had found it dangerous and not efficacious.

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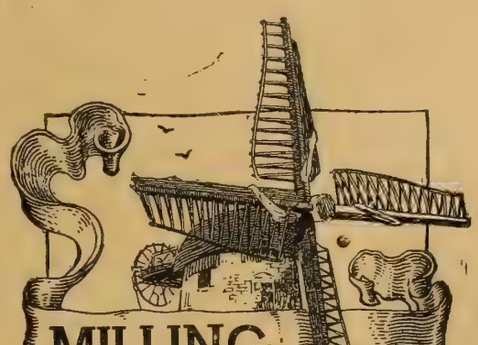


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Fine v. Coarse Dressing of Flour.

There is little fresh to report as regards the business side of the trade. Flour is still very dull and bakers, as a rule, refrain from buying, except in small lots. There is still a good demand for offals, especially in the large manufacturing centres. Broad bran goes off very well, at high figures. As is natural, however, at this time of the year, and perhaps also owing to March coming in like a lamb, in some districts offals show a downward tendency. English wheat has been in very fair supply, although there cannot be a very great deal to come forward now. The writer has seen some very fine samples during the past week, which, when milled, made a fairly strong flour, that is to say, as far as home-grown wheats go. These wheats ground well, and when dressed through No. 12 silk made a very nice granular flour, bloomy and of fine flavour. After all there is nothing like English wheat to produce the latter quality, although in the present system of milling everything is against the retention of the sweet, nutty flavour peculiar to it. In the old days, when the mill-stones were speeded very high, so high indeed that it was necessary to place the flour in a room specially provided for the purpose, in order that it might cool before selling it, the dressing was very coarse, and many particles of the bran coverings and germ were mixed with the flour. The writer has often wondered whether

this very cooling process was not the real cause

of much of the flavour being retained in flour milled from English wheat. For some years now the struggle has been in favour of strength and whiteness, to the neglect of flavour; but whether the public or the miller is to blame most it would be difficult to say. Probably both can "share the honours," if there are any honours to share. The gradual reduction system naturally brought in its train finer dressing, and the whiter, purer flour possibly took the public eye. These flours made more money, and this encouraged the miller to still persist in his efforts to cultivate the sense of sight, instead of that of taste. So that the manufacturer and the consumer played into the hands of each other, with the result that now we are dressing four through Nos. 16 and 17 silk—equal

to about 156 and 164 threads to the lineal inch—instead of Nos. 8 and 9—equal to about 84 and 94 threads to the lineal inch—in the old millstone days. As to fine dressing, we have surely reached the limit when one considers that in sifting flour through No. 16 silk each grain cannot exceed 1-24,336th part of a square inch in size. But so it is, because the number of meshes will be represented by the product of 156 multiplied by 156. Indeed each grain of flour would have to pass through a very much smaller aperture, because the silk surface itself

takes up about 50 per cent. of the whole sifting surface.

Even many country millers, who dress through No. 10 silk as their highest number, do not realise that each grain of flour must pass through a mesh as small as 1-11,236th part of a square inch in size; or, as has been said, very much less, owing to the space occupied by the silk threads themselves. The finer the dressing, the whiter the flour; but such fine dressing as is practised in some of the larger establishments in this country can only be effected by special conditions—conditions which are not possible in small mills. Sharp, large-grained flours are not nearly so white in colour as small-grained soft flours. The impurities are shown to a much greater extent, but really the difference is only in appearance. The specks and impurities are of such a size as to be easily seen in the larger grained flours, and for this reason a soft-grained flour may contain a larger proportion of impurities and yet show cleaner than the larger grained flour with which it is compared. But this is not the real reason for the difference in colour. Writing on this question some years ago, a well known expert observed:—"The granules of a large-grained flour cast shadows one upon the other in such a way as to make the whole appear darker than where

the granules are smaller and the shadows less,

To explain this, a gravel bed looks lighter than a pile of boulders of the same geological formation. Or, again, the flour from middlings looks whiter than the middlings themselves, notwithstanding the fact that it may not have been bolted. . . . . It is a mere difference of size and not of composition. The largest particles cast the heaviest shadows, and consequently show the darkest." These sentences put the whole matter in a nutshell, and this is why there is a craze for fine dressing in the larger establishments. But the stock must be bone dry, and, in fact, in some cases, hot air is passed into the dressers, which not only has a tendency to keep the meshes open by preventing condensation, but hardens the flour particles and enables them to easily pass through the silk. But small millers need not despair, as, in the opinion of the writer, this fine dressing is a fad, and has been carried to too great an extreme. It would never be possible to dress English wheat through these fine numbers, because its very nature prevents it breaking up into such small grains as some foreign wheats, such as American Springs and Russian. What country millers should do is to cultivate flavour, especially as there is a sign that the public are beginning to tire of the search after colour, to the neglect of taste.

Some Corrections,

The writer regrets that one or two rather serious mistakes occurred in the issue of the MARK LANE EXPRESS, of February 24th. Instead of "by lay experience," it should read "by long experience," and, in discussing the angle of grooving of corrugated rolls, the phrase should read, "15 degrees to the plane of the axis of the roll," and not "15 per cent. of c." And in the eighteenth line from the bottom, the word "dirty" occurs for "dusty." If the wheat is properly cleaned there is no "dirty" stock in the mill, not even in the offals. In fact, the miller should try to make pure offals as well as pure flour. The word "dirty" in the flour mill proper, it must be understood, is altogether a misnomer. "Dusty" stock is really floury stock, such as is separated from the break reductions. The writer, however, takes all the blame upon himself, as his caligraphy is anything but the best, and the terms he uses are purely technical. MILLER-FARMER.

The Mid-Suffolk Light Railway.—The Duke of Cambridge has accepted the invitation of the chairman, Mr. F. S. Stevenson, M.P., and directors of the Mid-Suffolk Light Railway, to cut the first sod of the new line, and will be the guest of Captain Pretyman, M.P., at Orwell Park, for the occasion. The ceremony will take place at Westerfield Junction, Ipswich, on May 3rd. The railway will be forty-two miles long, and will open up a highly interesting and important agricultural district, as well as supply the shortest route between West Suffolk, Cambridge, and the Midland district, and the East Suffolk seaside resorts.

SOCIETIES.

Royal Agricultural Society of England.

A monthly council of the Royal Agricultural Society of England was held on Wednesday, H.R.H. Prince Christian, K.G. (president), in the chair. The minutes of the last ordinary meeting of the council, held on February 5th, 1902, having been taken as read and approved, the election of the following three governors and thirty-two members was proceeded with:—

Governors.

Goldsmid, O. E. d'Avigdor, Somerhill, near Tonbridge.
Midwood, G. Norris, Brown Street, Salford, Lancs.
Montefiore, The Rev. D. B., Mursley Hall, Winslow, Bucks.

Members.

Ahlborn, Otto C., Hildesheim, Germany.
Brisco, Hylton Ralph, Crofton Hall, Wigton, Cumberland.
Chambers, John Edward, Park Attwood, Bewdley, Worcestershire.
Champion, B., Baron's Place, Mereworth, Maidstone.
Chrystal, William, The Villa, Houghton-le-Spring, co. Durham.
Cowing, Jacob Bushby, Estate Office, Osberton, Worksop.
Edwards, Frederic Chaplin, Faircroft, Harlow, Essex.
Eveleigh, Charles John Davy, Wilminster Park, Remenham, Henley-on-Thames.
Freeland, George Scott, 63, Quarry Hill, Tonbridge, Kent.
*Harris, G. S., Craven Cottage, Eastbourne.
Hopper, James, Kelleythorpe, Driffield, E. Yorks.
Jones, Evan Bowen, Ynysfor, Penrhyndendraeth, Merionethshire.
Langley, Hamilton W., 8, Craven Hill Gardens, W.
Large, James Day, Cherry Gardens, Goudhurst, Kent.
Lethbridge, William, Wood, South Tawton, Okehampton, Devon.
*Lycett, H. Clairville, Birkdale, Southport.
Micholls, Edward E., 39, Prince's Gate, S.W.
Owen, Edward Tudor, Ash Hall, Cowbridge, Glam.
Payn, Thomas, Villa Franca, St. Saviour, Jersey.
Reed, Leicester M., 61, Harrington Gardens, South Kensington, S.W.
Royds, John Fletcher Twenlow, The Hill, Sandbach, Cheshire.
Sanders, John, 33, Woodville Road, Ealing.
Smith, William P., Church View, Navan, co. Meath.
Tennant, Robert Craig, F.R.C.V.S., 57, Thames Street, Windsor.
Thompson, Frederic, Marton Farm, Marton R.S.O., Yorks.
Turner, James, Copt Knowle, Burpham, Arundel.
Wailes-Fairbairn, William Fairbairn, Askham Grange, York.
Wilkinson, Bathurst George, Weston Lea, Albury, Guildford.
*Wilmot, Sir Robert R., Bart., Binfield Grove, Bracknell, Berks.
Wingfield, Captain Mervyn E. G., Rhys, Barrington Park, Burford.
Wood, David Herbert, Bransbury, Micheldever, Hants.
Wykeham, Aubury A. H., Pitt Place, Brightstone, I.W.

* Re-elected under Bye-law 12.

The reports of the various Standing Committees were then presented and adopted as below.

Finance.

Sir Nigel Kingscote (chairman) reported that the accounts for the month of February, 1902, as certified by the Society's accountants, showed total receipts amounting to £1,103 13s. 7d., and expenditure to £1,396 15s. 6d. Accounts amounting in all to £2,607 16s. 10d. had been passed, and were recommended for payment.

The committee reported that they had continued to take active measures to remove from the registers the names of those members of the Society who from various causes had ceased to pay subscriptions. The committee had thus been able to reduce considerably the amount of nominal "arrears of subscriptions," though this course would necessarily diminish the total number of members on the books. The members on the registers who now owed subscriptions (other than those for the current year, which would not, under Bye-law 3, become technically "in arrear" until after June 1st next) now numbered only ninety-two (twenty-seven of whom owed for 1900 and 1901, and sixty-five for 1901).

Chemical and Woburn.

Mr. Bowen-Jones (chairman) reported that the bullock and sheep feeding experiments for the winter of 1901-02 were now nearly complete. He and Dr. Voelcker had attended at the Privy Council office on February 6th last to give evidence on behalf of the Society, before the Poisons Committee of the Privy Council with regard to the sale of agricultural and horticultural preparations containing poisonous substances; but, owing to the death of the Pharmaceutical Society's representative on the committee, the taking of their evidence had been postponed until March 12th.

Botanical and Zoological.

Mr. Reynard presented the following report by the consulting botanist (Mr. W. Carruthers, F.R.S.):—

Report of Consulting Botanist.

During the past month the Consulting Botanist has had twenty-seven inquiries from members of the Society, which have been dealt with.

Eleven samples of seeds have been examined and tested for germination. Two samples of hay seed proposed to be used for seeding were found to be composed mainly of ryegrass with some worthless grasses. The following were the ingredients:—

I.

	Per cent.
Rye grass	79
Crested dogstail	9
Soft brome	1
Vernal and cocksfoot	1
Yorkshire fog	1
Trefoil and red clover	1
Rib grass	6
Buttercup	1
Field madder	1

II.

	Per cent.
Rye grass	62
Crested dogstail	21
Yorkshire fog	11
Meadow grass	2
Foxtail, cocksfoot, and hard fescue	2
Yarrow	1
Buttercup, etc.	1

Mixtures suitable for permanent pasture on good land were supplied as follows:—

Lb.		Germinating seeds.	Cost. s.	d.
5	Timothy	6,468,000	2	1
2	Rough-stalked meadow grass	4,380,000	2	4
6	Cocksfoot	2,428,000	5	6
5	Meadow fescue	1,133,000	2	11
2	Meadow foxtail	833,000	3	4
3	White clover	2,152,000	3	0
½	Yarrow	1,492,000	1	10
	Total	18,886,000	21	0

The value of a mixture for laying down pasture depends not on its quantity or its weight, but on the number and quality of the living plants that are produced from it. As one often hears of sowing so many bushels in the field or so many pounds to the acre, it is very important to emphasise this as the correct view of a mixture. That the bulk or weight of a seed mixture is no help in forming an estimate of its value is apparent from the varying number of seeds per pound in the different grasses.

In one case it was proposed to lay down permanent pasture with a mixture consisting of ryegrass (Italian and perennial in equal quantities), 84 per cent.; clovers, 15 per cent; sheep's parsley, 1 per cent. at a cost of 24s. 6d.

Specimens of Gnomonia on wild cherry from Somerset show that this disease is extending its area of destruction.

March 4th, 1902. WILLIAM CARRUTHERS.

The committee had approved of a form of report on the purity and germination of seeds, and recommended that copies be printed for the use of the consulting botanist in reporting to members upon the samples of seeds analysed by him.

They had also considered a memorandum by the consulting chemist relating to proposed experiments on a field infested with wild onion on a farm in Hertfordshire. He suggested the experimental treatment of two acres of the infested field extending over four or five years. The committee were of opinion that the experiment should be carried out by the Society on the lines indicated by Dr. Voelcker, and they recommended that a grant not exceeding £15 per annum for five years should be placed at the disposal of the committee for the purpose.

Judges Selection.

Mr. Crutchley reported that, with very few exceptions, the gentlemen invited to act as judges at Carlisle had accepted office. Arrangements had been made for the completion of the list, and for its publication as soon as ready.

General Carlisle.

Sir Walter Gilbey reported that the local committee had offered to secure the services of a band of forty performers of the Portsmouth Division, Royal Marines, to play in the showyard during the Carlisle Meeting, provided the Society contributed a proportion of the expense, and the committee recommended that this offer be accepted with thanks. The Bishop of Carlisle had consented to preach the sermon at the service in the showyard on Sunday, July 6th. The railway cartage rates had been submitted by the companies concerned, and were substantially the same as those in force at Cardiff last year.

Showyard Works.

Sir Jacob Wilson (chairman) reported that the outbuildings in the timber-yard and the fence enclosing the showyard at Carlisle were being proceeded with, and that part of the levelling required to be done by the local committee had been completed. The main for supplying water for the implement yard had been laid. Various details connected with the Carlisle Meeting had been discussed, and instructions given thereon.

Selection.

The Hon. Cecil Parker presented the recommendation of the committee that Lord Wenlock, of Escrick Park, York, nominated at the last meeting, be elected a member of the council, in the room of Mr. C. S. Mainwaring (resigned). He made a formal motion to this effect, which was seconded by the Earl of Feversham, and carried unanimously.

Education.

Lord Moreton (chairman) reported the arrangements for the examination for the National Diploma in Agriculture, to be held at the Yorkshire College, Leeds, on May 5th and following days. The entries for the examination would finally close on the 31st inst.

Dairy.

Mr. Dugdale (chairman) reported that the judges of butter and butter-making, and of cheese, appointed for the Carlisle Meeting, had accepted office.

The committee had considered the interim report of the Departmental Committee on Butter Regulations, and recommended that the following resolution should be sent by the council to the Board of Agriculture:—

The Council of the Royal Agricultural Society of England, while approving the limit of 16 per cent. of water suggested to be prescribed for butter by the Departmental Committee on Butter Regulations, learn with much apprehension the view of the Committee that butter containing a higher percentage of water will escape the operation of the above limitation if disclosure be made of the fact beforehand. They would specially regret the making of any Regulation which would admit of "milk-blended butter," or similar mixtures not of the true nature of butter, being sold under any description implying that they were butter, or with the word "butter" attached to them.

This resolution having been formally moved by Mr. Dugdale, and seconded by the Hon. Cecil T. Parker, was carried unanimously, and ordered to be transmitted to the Board of Agriculture.

Date of Next Meeting.

The council then adjourned over Easter until Wednesday, April 9th, 1902.

Central Chamber.

A meeting of the Council of the Central and Associated Chambers of Agriculture took place on Tuesday, at the Society of Arts, Adelphi, Sir E. Strachey, M.P., presiding.

Mr. Laurence Hardy, M.P., moved the report of the Parliamentary Committee who had had under consideration the private bills of various corporations, containing clauses dealing with the milk supply within their areas. Mr. Hardy said practically their wishes had been complied with by the various Corporations which had adopted the model milk clauses. Owing to the fact of Mr. Jeffreys having received a post of considerable honour and responsibility in the House of Commons (loud applause), he was unable to take charge of their special work in Parliament, and the President had kindly offered to take Mr. Jeffreys' place (hear, hear).

Mr. B. St. John Ackers moved the report of the Cattle Diseases Committee, which dealt with the question of the Corporation private bills and the milk supply. The Committee recommended that, owing to greater knowledge and the results of the International Conference on Tuberculosis, the model milk clauses should be sent to the Chambers for further consideration. Mr. Ackers said the model clauses were the result of a compromise arrived at when their knowledge of tuberculosis was much less than at the present time, and the time had come when the whole question should be reconsidered with a view to their amendment.

Professor Lloyd doubted whether it was desirable to attempt to amend the milk clauses. If they reopened the question it was very doubtful whether they would obtain such useful clauses as they now possessed. If any effort was made to prevent the sale of milk from tuberculosis cows the supply would be reduced 50 per cent. In his opinion the Government should deal with the question in a general way.

Mr. Laurence Hardy, M.P., said when the great municipalities met them half-way it would be fatal to all progress if they reopened the question.

An amendment proposed by Professor Lloyd, omitting the recommendation as to the milk clauses, was carried by 20 votes to 12, and the report, as amended, was adopted.

Milk-blended Butter.

In a report on this subject the Dairy Products Committee remarked that the decision of the Court of King's Bench upon the successful appeal of Messrs. Pearks, Gunston, and Tee against the Richmond magistrates' decision that an excess of milk and water had been fraudulently added to butter sold by them would seem to uphold the following recommendation made by the Departmental Committee of the Board of Agriculture:—"We therefore recommend the adoption of a limit of 16 per cent. for the proportion of water in butter to be fixed by a regulation under Section 4 of the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, 1899, and we make this recommendation on the assumption that butter containing a larger percentage of water than 16 per cent. will escape the operation of this limit, provided that a sufficient disclosure is made to the purchaser." The Dairy Committee reported that they dissented from that recommendation, being of opinion that, in accordance with the principles laid down in the case of margarine, no substance should be sold as butter which did not comply with the standard fixed by the Board of Agriculture. The Committee were informed that 35 to 40 per cent. of water could be left in or incorporated with butter, and therefore recommend that the attention of the President of the Board of Agriculture be drawn to the necessity of immediate action on his part, and also that the Government be requested to legislate at once, in order to put a stop to the sale of such substances as butter.

Professor Lloyd proposed the adoption of the report, and Professor Long seconded. The latter gentleman said the company referred to in the report were selling butter imported into this country, and blending it with milk-cream, the result being that it contained twice as much water as ordinary butter. He urged that they should insist upon the authorities taking some steps compelling those selling this material to call it by its proper name, and not butter. The President of the Board of Agriculture was in sympathy with them in this matter, whereas his predecessor, Mr. W. Long, had no sympathy for them. He was in a more congenial atmosphere because he was dealing with water (laughter).

Mr. F. A. Channing, M.P., said a very unsatisfactory state of things existed, because it seemed, if they asked for butter, they got a third water.

The report was carried unanimously.

Rura Depopulation.

Mr. B. St. John Ackers proposed the following gentlemen as the Committee to consider the question of rural depopulation:—Sir J. Dorington, M.P.; Mr. D'Arcy Wyvrill, Mr. Barfoot Saunt, Mr. F. A. Channing, M.P.; Mr. W. Lipscomb, Mr. Biddle, Professor Long, Mr. James Lowther, M.P.; Mr. H. Stratton, Mr. Tedbutt, Mr. Buchanan, and Mr. Spiers, M.P.

Mr. Williams seconded the resolution, which was unanimously adopted.

Beet Sugar Committee.

The Beet Sugar Committee was requested to select members to form a deputation to the Chancellor of the Exchequer on the question of an excise duty on home-grown sugar.

Tuberculosis and the Compromise.

Dealing with tuberculosis and milk supply, the Cattle Diseases Committee, in their report, emphasised that they were of the opinion that the time had arrived when the compromise known as the model milk clauses in the private Acts of local authorities might be amended, and suggested that these clauses should be sent to the local Chambers for further consideration.

Mr. Ackers, M.P., added that the committee thought that the whole question should be reconsidered. They did not say that there were any special alterations in the clauses that they desired, but they were anxious to know how far these model milk clauses were generally acceptable to the dairymen and farmers of the country.

Professor Lloyd proposed that the last clause of the report should be omitted. Referring to the London County Council's Bill, he said it appeared they wanted not merely to control tuberculosis in the udder, but to control the supply of milk of every animal suffering from tuberculosis. Such a power could only be vested in the Government, and any attempt to deal with tuberculosis on a large scale could only be dealt with by the Government. They wanted to prevent farmers who kept cows suffering from tuberculosis with those that were not so suffering from supplying milk to London. That would mean a decrease of 50 per cent. in the milk supply to London. That would mean ruin to the dairy farmer, and therefore he thought that the whole matter should be left to the Government to deal with, and not by private Bills.

The report was adopted, after being amended in accordance with Prof. Lloyd's amendment.

Food Supply in Time of War.

A long and interesting discussion respecting our food supply in time of war was opened by Sir John Dorington, Bart., M.P., who moved—"That this chamber is of opinion that the most practical way of ensuring a food supply in time of war is the payment by the Government of a certain sum per quarter to the grower for keeping his wheat stack from nine to twelve months." He explained that he was acting on behalf of Mr. Jeffreys, who, owing to the position he had taken in the House of Commons, was unable to bring the subject forward. No more important question could be brought before the chamber. It was said that generally we had about two months' supply of corn in the United Kingdom, and there was no likelihood of scarcity as long as peace continued and the flow of ships into our harbours was uninterrupted. Extremists had an idea that our food supply from foreign scurces might be entirely cut off in time of war, but we had a magnificent fleet and an immense coast line, which it would be almost impossible to blockade, and it was difficult to conceive circumstances in which we should be reduced to rely wholly upon home-grown supplies. Still, the inflow of foreign supplies might be interfered with to such an extent that prices would be raised greatly, so that while the e would not be starvation of the population through actual lack of corn, many peopie might not be able to pay the price that would be demanded for bread. Prices might be raised similarly by a nation with whom we were at war having taken time by the forelock, and, prior to the outbreak of hostilities, having stopped the exportation of corn to this country. One course that might be adopted in such an event was for the Government to take control of the national food supplies, paying for them the price demanded at the ports, and undertaking to supply the population at prices within its reach; but that course would not be adopted until after great privations had been endured by the people. It was suggested by Mr. Jeffreys and others that the best methods 0of preparing against this risk would be that our food supply from home sources should be increased appreciably beyond the present two months' standard, and that if a supply adequate for six or eight months could be ensured there would be little risk of national disaster through lack of food. We had diminished the acreage under wheat from 4,000,000 to 1,700,000, and, instead of growing, as this country used to do, 12,000,000 quarters, it now grew only 6,000,000. In that fact lay the whole secret of rural depopulation. (Hear, hear.) By increasing the quantity of corn grown in this country, not only might a grave national risk be averted, but something would be done to restore the rural population upon which the physical strength of the nation largely depended. The suggestion had been made that, by a payment to farmers of 5s. for every quarter of wheat held by them for nine months they might be induced to hold about 4,000,000 quarters. That step, if successful, would cost the nation a million sterling a year—a mere bagatelle compared with our expenditure upon the navy and army as means of protection against national risk. Would farmers be induced to hold wheat by such a grant? (Cries of "Yes" and "No.") The establishment of huge granaries would, he believed, be far more expensive, and it would not do the same amount of good to our own population, though it might serve to avert the danger of scarcity. He thought the capital outlay upon this latter scheme would be £17,000,000.

Mr. Horne (Shropshire), in seconding the motion, said it was a subject for congratulation that public opinion was becoming increasingly in favour of some steps being taken to remedy what might prove a fatal flaw in our national defence. While we required 30,000,000 quarters of corn annually, we grew only 8,000,000, and of the 22,000,000 quarters imported 14,500,000 came from the United States, and only 3,000,000 from our colonies. That was a condition of affairs that no other country in the world would tolerate.

Mr. Kidner (Gloucester) moved as an amendment that the Government should be urged to appoint a committee to inquire into the whole question of our food supplies in time of war. He agreed that there was a national danger, and remarked that the Government treated it in a very cavalier spirit; but he thought the chamber would be unwise to adopt a definite proposal as a remedy without having made sure of their ground.

Mr. Stratton (Winchester) said they were unanimous as to the necessity of some security, and almost the whole country was agreed, although certain leading members of Parliament seemed to think the matter a joke.

Mr. Hy. Marriage (Essex) said the suggestion in the resolution was the only practical one, and he thought they could get double the wheat grown in this country to what was produced now.—Mr. Berry was opposed to the resolution, for no farmer would do anything of the kind, and there were a thousand and one reasons against it. He feared they did not realise the intensity of the danger they were running in not making any provision whatever. They were getting less quantities of wheat from the United States every year, and as Russia was opening up enormous districts in Siberia, they would be getting large supplies from there. If they got more and more wheat from Russia and less from the United States, they would be drifting into a condition of things which from a political point of view would be very serious.

Mr. J. T. Wilson (Stockton-on-Tees) declared that no farmer would keep wheat in stock for nine months for a payment of 5s. or 8s. a quarter if he had his wits about him. (Hear, hear.) The national danger was becoming more acute owing to the tendency of supplies from the United States to decrease, and to the increasing reliance that was being placed upon Russia as the source of our supplies of corn.

The Earl of Lichfield said that he should feel impelled to support the amendment. If the resolution were passed it would stand against them as their view of the most practical way of insuring the food supply in time of war. None of the arguments advanced showed that it was a practical one.

Mr. James Lowther, M.P., said it seemed to him that there was an idea of regarding the scheme as a comprehensive one. It would merely go to assure the public mind in some way. Some of the objections had weight, but for himself he welcomed the resolution as a step in the right direction. He hoped, however, that its scope would be extended, so as to include an inquiry. He thought the scheme a better one than that of huge elevators filled with foreign grain. (Hear, hear.) If they were to make wheat growing a practical pursuit rather than a mere by-product of farming, they must take some strong steps. He hoped the scheme would be extended so as to include an inquiry into the whole of our mischievous fiscal system.

Sir John Dorington accepted the amendment subject to the insertion therein, after the word "committee" of the words "or commission having representatives of agriculture and the corn trade upon it," and, this suggestion having been

adopted by Mr. Kidner, his proposal was agreed to, and copies of the resolution were ordered to be sent to members of the Government.

The Rating of Machinery.

Mr. Williams (Monmouth), moving a resolution opposing the Rating of Machinery Bill, said this Bill was a sort of hardy annual, and they had always felt it their duty to oppose it. They contended it would be an injustice to other ratepayers to exempt machinery. He contended that there could be no injustice in rating special machines. They opposed every Bill that relieved anyone else from rating. At this moment they were rated at at least one and a half of their income. The rating of the mill-owner was infinitesimal compared with theirs.

Mr. Lathom seconded.

Mr. Truston Eve (Bedford), supporting, said that if this Bill was carried someone else would have to pay the rates. It was a mistaken idea to say machinery was rateable. It was not rateable, but it had to be taken into account when they rated bricks and mortar that contained it, and he contended that that was perfectly fair. The whole thing was thrashed out in 1886, and ever since 1888 there had been a Bill in Parliament to make machinery not rateable. He hoped the Parliamentary Committee would give the matter closer consideration. He would be prepared to bring surveyors to give evidence as against the evidence of the Machinery Users' Association.

The Chairman explained that he was not in charge of the Bill this year, although his name and that of Sir John Dorington would appear at the back of the Bill. He thought it was his business merely upon this occasion to say that as regarded the Bill itself, the Bill had been considerably altered in order to bring it into form with the report of the Royal Commission upon local taxation. This chamber had generally approved of the reports of the Royal Commission upon local taxation.

The resolution of Mr. Williams was then put and carried, and the Council adjourned until Tuesday, April 8th.

Agricultural Imports.

The following is an account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended March 1, 1902, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year:—

Animals Living.	1901	1902.		1901.	1902.
	No.	No.		Cwt.	Cwt.
Cattle ...	9,805	7,171	Wheat ...	1,326,300	938,300
Sheep.....	10,584	8,055	Flour.....	463,600	288,600
Swine.....	—	—	Barley ...	338,100	355,900
*Horses...	—	740	Oats	435,600	277,100
			Peas	65,500	65,000
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Beans ...	7,600	10,700
Beef	92,067	90,162	Maize ...	1,045,800	728,800
Mutton...	111,460	103,380		Bunches	Bunches
Pork	17,933	16,451	Bananas	14,445	30,461
Bacon ...	136,136	112,479			
Beef, salt	3,738	3,754		Cwt.	Cwt.
Hams.....	32,583	36,332	Apples ...	34,663	31,996
Pork, salt	7,126	6,691	Apricots		
Meat, salt			&Peaches	—	34
& Fresh	11,683	12,035	Cherries	—	—
Do. pres.	12,059	13,912	Currants	—	—
Butter ...	93,160	67,512	Goosebr's	—	—
M'rg'rine	21,858	18,487	Grapes ...	208	272
Cheese ...	26,289	23,799	Lemons...	18,048	12,406
Milk, Fresh,			Oranges	76,927	228,739
in cans			Pears.....	229	34
or			Plums ...	—	43
drums.	593	454	Strawb'r's	—	—
Milk ...			Oth'r Fr't	1,675	1,584
Cream.	304	149		Tons.	Tons.
			Hay	865	7,079
			*Straw ...	—	885
Milk				Bush.	Bush.
pr's'v'd,			Onions ...	79,919	133,678
other				Cwt.	Cwt.
kinds ...	460	75	Hops	873	1,501
Con. Milk	24,348	19,504	* Locust Beans	—	127,545
	No.	No.	Potatoes	44,644	28,816
Eggs	243,459	291,738	Tom'to's	11,082	6,981
			Other	Value.	Value.
Poultry&	Value.	Value.	Veg'bles	£7,356	£10,798
Game	£12,233	£13,863		Cwt.	Cwt.
			Dried ...	1,012	3,015
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Pres'v'd		
Rabbits	11,207	3,277	by can-		
Lard	54,266	40,385	ning ...	3,224	2,029

* Not shown in 1901

Blandford Fair.—The first of the Blandford (Dorset) Fairs for the present year was held on Thursday, in beautiful weather, when, despite the fact of it clashing with Maiden Newton, and also with Bristol, there was a full attendance of buyers from the usual districts, and about an average supply of cattle, sheep, pigs, horses, etc. Business ruled fairly brisk for all good things, either in cattle or sheep, and late prices were well maintained. Best Down couples may be quoted from 45s. to 57s.; store wether tegs, 36s. to 43s. 6d.; fat lambs, 34s. 6d. to 37s. Heifers and calves made £14 to £18; and cows and calves up to about £15 5s.; barreners, £20 to £26 per pair; two-year-old barren heifers, to £14 each. Fat calves sold from £3 to £5 4s., and store pigs 20s. to 30s. A good clearing trade.



Monday (March 3rd).—The weather was generally overcast or cloudy, and rain was again falling at several places in Ireland. Small amounts of rain were measured in the morning in different parts of the kingdom, as the result of the fall in the preceding twenty-four hours. The winds were generally southerly, under the influence of an area of low barometer readings which had arrived on our north-west coasts from the Atlantic, and the mercury had fallen over the western portion of the kingdom. Temperature had risen in the west, but there was very little change elsewhere, and readings were generally above the average. The day was fine in London, although there was a good deal of cloud, and the highest temperature was 52 degrees.

Tuesday (March 4th).—The weather was generally fine over our islands, but there was a great deal of cloud, and fog was prevalent in the English Channel. Rain was measured in the morning, as the result of the fall in the preceding twenty-four hours, at many places in the North and West, but the conditions continued dry in most parts of England. Temperature was still high in the South of Ireland, where the lowest readings during Monday night were above 45 degrees, but the thermometer had fallen generally over England, and a slight frost had occurred on our East coast. The midday temperatures exceeded 50 degrees in the South-West, but in England the readings were not generally above the average. In London the day was dull, but dry, and the highest temperature was 45 degrees.

Wednesday (March 5th).—Rain fell at several places in the North of Scotland and Ireland, and fog was very prevalent in England. Rain was measured at a few of the northern stations in the morning, as the result of the fall in the preceding twenty-four hours, but the amounts were mostly small. No appreciable rain fell in England, and the weather was generally dry over the south-west of Europe. The winds were generally southerly, but the east wind was still blowing in many parts of England. Frost occurred in the Midland and Eastern districts during Tuesday night, and the temperature had generally decreased. The mid-day temperatures were again rather low.

Thursday (March 6th).—Fog or mist was very prevalent over a large part of our Islands, and the weather was unusually thick for the time of year. Scarcely any rain fell in any part of the kingdom, and it was only in the extreme north that rain had fallen since Wednesday morning. The barometer readings were high and uniform over England and Ireland, and the wind was in consequence light and variable. Frost occurred in many parts of England during Wednesday night, and in the midlands the sheltered thermometer fell seven degrees below the freezing point. A brisk rise of temperature occurred during the day.

Friday, March 7th.—Fog was again prevalent over the greater part of England during the morning, but it cleared during the day under the influence of a gentle North-West wind, which became general. Small amounts of rain were measured in the morning, as the result of the fall in the preceding twenty-four hours at the Northern stations, but scarcely any rain fell during the day. Temperature was changing very irregularly, and a brisk rise had occurred over the central parts of England. Frost was experienced during Thursday night over the Eastern portion of the Kingdom, but the midday temperatures exceeded fifty degrees over a large part of the country.

Saturday and Sunday (March 8th and 9th).—The weather was generally dull and cloudy over our islands on Saturday, and rain fell almost everywhere, except in the South of England, but the amounts measured were not large. On Sunday the weather had improved in most parts of the United Kingdom, although rain again fell at a few places in the North and West. The westerly wind reached the force of a gale early on Sunday morning on our North coasts, and strong squalls occurred elsewhere. The temperature remained high on both days. Saturday was dull in London, but Sunday was fine and bright, and the thermometer in the shade rose to fifty-six degrees.

THE GARDEN.

Mild weather still prevails; during the past week there have been several beautifully fine and warm days, and as very little rain has fallen lately the ground is now in excellent working order, for the most part.

Having got plenty of peas and beans (broad) sown, and a good batch of early potatoes planted, as directed last week, the next thing is to get a good-sized bed each of onions and parsnips sown, with a smaller one of one of the horn or stump-rooted carrots (of these Sutton's Early Gem is one of the best), a moderate quantity of spinach (round-seeded), more radishes, and a small bed of leeks, for transplanting.

If beet is required early, a bed of properly prepared soil in an open, yet sheltered, spot, may be sown about the middle of the month, with seed of one of the improved forms of the Egyptian or turnip-rooted beet, which is at once hardier than the ordinary kinds, and forms roots much more quickly.

A first sowing of Brussels sprouts should have been made last month, as directed, and these had better be pricked out, as soon as they attain a height of about 2in., either into one or more cold frames, or a pit, if there is one, or else into a warm and sheltered border, placing them about 4in. apart. Make another sowing of seed for the main crop.

At the same time, a moderate quantity of seed of savoys, early brocoli, cabbage for succession, and more cauliflowers (if necessary) had better be made. Harden off early-sown onions that were raised under glass, and plant them out, in the same manner as the autumn-sown plants, as soon as they attain a sufficient size. Bear in mind that the soil for onions, whether seed or plants, must be made quite firm—if of a light character it can scarcely be made too firm.

Plant out more lettuces, and sow more seed, if necessary, preferably in a pit or frame. Jerusalem artichokes should be planted this month, so get the ground well dug and manured—these appreciate generous treatment, like anything else.

Indoors, the main crop of celery should be sown within the next week or two, both red and white kinds being included. If no seed has yet been got in, sow a box of good white variety, such as the Sandringham, immediately. A genial warmth of about 60 degrees is advisable for celery in the early stages. Celeriac also should be sown about the middle of the month. A few vegetable marrow seeds may be sown for an early crop, if wanted, but, as a rule, there is time enough yet.

Tomatoes for planting out of doors ought to have been sown by this time, and be now germinating; but if neglected, get the seed in at once. Pot on early-sown plants for indoor culture, and plant them out when 6in to 9in. high, but it is never safe to put them out in a cold or unheated structure before about the middle of April, and in cold districts a week or two later is often better. Keep cucumbers warm and moist, and top dress frequently with fresh compost.

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Cumberland.

Back-end ploughing was, fortunately, forward, so now that frost has left remnants are being rapidly turned over. Boom ploughing is on, and the changes are numerous. Fodder scarce. Sheep dear, rising last week about 2s. 6d. per head. Potatoes, though cheap, are abundant, and the quality good. Oats are specially good; close by, the thresher turned out last week 17½qrs. (2 4-5 tons) per hour. "Protection" is in the air, but likely to remain there, though at our Chamber of Agriculture some advocates are persistent. The more thoughtful, however, recognising that consumers exceed, exceedingly, producers, and that the Government Front Bench is also opposed, turn their thoughts to more feasible aids for oppressed agriculture. Rural depopulation has for two sessions occupied the attention of the Cumberland and Westmorland Chamber of Agriculture, and is again to be discussed on the 29th inst. at Carlisle. Lord Muncaster's agent at last meeting suggested cheap loans and a duty on corn. The Vicar of Plumpton, agreeing with the first on the Irish Co-operative Banks system, strongly objected to the second, and was so efficiently supported that the discussion stands adjourned. The vicar's suggestion that, instead of "hirings" half-yearly, permanent farm-hands should be housed, at the rate of a house for each 100 acres of rable land, meets with general approval.—H. W. K.

Essex (Mid).

The wheats generally are not at all promising for next year. Peas and beans are now being sown, the weather preventing it before. Scarcely any barley is sown yet, but the land works much more dry than could be expected, and the ponds are not yet full. The weather has been very changeable; one night in February the thermometer registered below zero. Beef and pork have been a very fair trade, mutton not quite so good. The lambs have been an average fall up to the present. Pigs are still scarce. This is the worst year for tanners for some years. The yield of barley last year was very bad, and money gets scarcer every day.—(March 8th).

Suffolk (East).

There is not much spring corn in yet, but if we have a few more fine days, and some winds, the drills will generally be going. February has been a dry month; only a little over ½in. of rain in this district, and 1¼in. is the total rainfall for the year so far. This, of course, is very little for this season, and ponds are by no means full; but, still, if March is dusty, so much the better.

Wheats are not looking well; they went off last month extraordinarly, but they begin to look a little greener now. Live stock are generally healthy.—H. P. Y. (March 7).

Foreign Prospects.

FRANCE.—The agricultural situation is considered satisfactory and wheat is making good progress.

BELGIUM.—Weather fine and favourable to the autumn-sown crops.

HOLLAND.—Crop prospects appear satisfactory.

GERMANY.—Mild and rainy weather is clearing away the snow and river navigation has reopened. There are no complaints respecting the crop outlook at home, and the same remark being applicable to principal wheat growing countries, an easier tone was engendered in the wheat and rye markets.

DANUBIAN PROVINCES.—Weather continues mild and suitable for spring sowing. Autumn crops are reported to be doing well.

RUSSIA.—Weather almost everywhere is milder and much rain fell in several districts; snow in the south has completely disappeared, and prospects generally are favourable for spring sowing.

HUNGARY.—The autumn-sown crops present a satisfactory appearance.

NORTH AFRICA.—Rain fell in certain districts of Algeria, but in other parts and in Tunis copious moisture is deemed necessary to secure the crops.

INDIA.—The Viceroy telegraphed 1st inst., rainfall light and scattered, of no use to affected tracts.

UNITED STATES.—Wheat prospects are unchanged and fairly good. Some freezing and thawing is reported, but nothing of a serious character. There is no growing weather, but moisture is generally sufficient for the present. The roads are in bad condition. Live stock has wintered unusually well and feeding is now light. In California abundant rain has fallen, bringing the total up to date 15⅛ inches, against 18 inches same time last year.

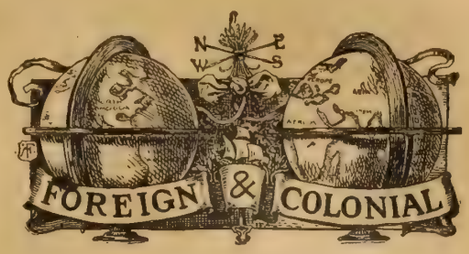
Board of Agriculture: "Not a Mere Doll Dressed in Red Tape."

The annual dinner of the Yorkshire Union of Agricultural Clubs and Chambers of Agriculture was held at Yorks on Saturday, at which the Right Hon. R. V. Hanbury, M.P., President of the Board of Agriculture, was the principal guest. In reply to the toast of "Agriculture," Mr. Hanbury said he thought the country might be congratulated on its alliance with Japan, not for aggressive purposes, but for opening up trade for British markets. He expressed the hope that the successful negotiations with regard to the sugar bounties would find approval in Yorkshire, though it might not affect the farmers so far north; yet, in the changing circumstances of agricultural life it was quite possible that the sugar beet which had been successfully grown in Warwickshire might do something to help in reviving the agricultural industry. He went on to say that he had come to York, not to talk—as he thought there was too much talking in the country—but to learn. He had not come to advertise himself, but his Board, and to make them feel that in the Board of Agriculture they had not a mere doll dressed up in red tape, not a mere London department, but a Board which desired to make itself of practical use by making itself interested in every district, and every district interested in it. (Applause). They had to fight the battle of the agriculturists. There had been too many quack remedies, and it was only by coming amongst them, and by coming into personal touch with them, and asking them to treat the Board as a friend, that they could show that they were determined to serve the farmers to the best of their ability. (Applause.)

He asked them to think out the problem for themselves in each district, and to make the Board acquainted with it as far as they could. They should not merely sign resolutions which were signed by other Chambers of Agriculture which might be applicable to one district and not to others, but should let the Board know what were the particular wants of their own district. He gave statistics to show the falling off in the area under wheat culture, the decrease in the North Riding being 31 per cent. These figures taught them that, though agriculture remained the greatest industry of the country, there was a diminished home market. He went on to speak of the adaptability which the farmers had shown to their changed positions: they had to undergo a competition with the whole world, a competition which no other industry had to undergo. The farmers had met the competition with great vigour and intellect, and he hoped that in the days which were coming—for he saw a vigorous competition arising in the manufacturing world—that the competition would be met with the same adaptability, the same vigour, and the same determination as the farmers had shown. (Applause.)

It was the duty of the Government to see that the farmer in the new industry which he had set up—that of cattle-breeding—starts fair with his rivals. In connection with this contention Mr. Hanbury detailed what had been done to protect the flocks and herds of the country from disease. He also spoke of the necessity to protect the British milk and butter producers, and said that it was the Government's duty to protect the farmer, especially the small farmer. There was one department in which the Board of Agriculture had not done as they might have, and that was in finding fresh markets and obtaining information of what was going on abroad. With regard to the purchase of remounts for the army, he thought that a great deal might be done by co-operation between the Board of Agriculture and the War Office. If the War Office wanted remounts, the British farmer had the first claim to supply them. (Applause.) During the war the very best horses which were sent to South Africa had been those produced within these islands. (Hear, hear.)

In dealing with railway rates, he said if they would bring before the Board of Agriculture, either as individuals or as an organisation, that undue rates had been established, he would undertake that the Board of Agriculture would press the matter on the Board of Trade and the railway companies, and do their utmost to fight their farmers' battles. (Applause.) He expressed the hope to see competition entered into with the railways by means of motor-cars for the conveyance of goods to the villages. The size of the motor would have to be altered, they would have to travel at a reasonable rate, and the roads would have to be put into a better state. He believed, he said, that the day was over when a Government department was merely to fold its arms and let things slide along. He did not say that they should return to days of protection, but to days of energy. He wanted to make his Department a living department, and to do this he was going about the country and studying in detail the wants of those whom he had the honour to represent in that department.



New Zealand Corn Statistics.

We have received during the past week a copy of a statement issued by the Department of Agriculture, Wellington, New Zealand, giving the area of wheat, oats, and barley for threshing, and the estimated yields; also the wheat on hand in the colony, as at 31st October, 1901. Owing to the very dry weather experienced, a portion of the area, returned at the time of the collection of the statistics as "For threshing," have since been consumed by stock. The total for the colony thus dealt with is estimated at 9,000 acres.

The following table shows the estimated number of acres and the total bushels of the three cereals enumerated above:—

	Acres.	Estimated consumed by stock.	Total bushels.
Wheat	166,562	3,100	4,086,550
Oats	410,224	4,300	13,801,416
Barley	28,114	1,600	742,392

In the "New Zealand Gazette" of 24th June, 1901, the wheat on hand, available for all purposes, as from 28th February, 1901, was stated at 8,620,659 bushels, and this has been disposed of as follows:—For seed, 167,474 acres, at 2 bushels per acre, 334,948 bushels; consumption for population of 820,000, at 6 bushels, for 8 months (28th February, 1901, to 31st October, 1901), 3280,000 bushels; wheat and flour exported from 28th February, 1901, to 31st October, 1901, less imports, 2,098,158; 2,189 bushels imports; total 5,713,106 bushels. This left on hand at 31st October, 1901, 2,907,553 bushels, but the amount actually returned on that date was 3,182,007 bushels, so that there was an apparent surplus of 274,454 bushels. A surplus of 274,454 bushels is shown, according to the amount returned. It is remarked that this may be due to the fact that the wheat on hand, unthreshed, has been overestimated, or that the yield last year was underestimated.

An illustrated treatise on Artificial Manuring by Mr. E. B. Hadley, F.C.S., has been published by the Potash Syndicate, Ltd., 110, Strand, London, W.C. The booklet is published at 6d., but a copy will be sent post free to any of our readers who apply to the above address.

We have received a copy of the prospectus of several courses of instruction in poultry-keeping to be given at the college, and on the college poultry farm, Theale.

Bristol March Fair.—Although there was no falling off in the attendance at the Bristol March Horse Fair on Thursday, the amount of business transacted was below the average. The proceedings opened quietly, but as the morning advanced a slight improvement took place, buyers being later than usual in putting in an appearance. The supply of horses of all classes was fairly good, though, as usual, most business was done in sound powerful cart horses. Prices last year ranged from £60 to £80, and there was no material change in these figures, though the number which reached the latter figure was probably smaller; and perhaps animals of a useful stamp, which were not quite first-class, were a little cheaper. Rough sorts sold very slowly. A few cart colts were on offer, the average price being about £32. Irish colts made a fair show, and commanded an ordinary amount of business. Few carriage horses were in the market, and tradesmen's horses realised from £10 to £35.

Maiden Newton Fair.—Favoured with an exceptionally fine day, the annual great March fair at Maiden Newton, Dorset, on Thursday, which is chiefly famous for the remarkable array of high-class bulls, brought together from all parts of the district, was very largely attended, and there was an enormous offer of stock, considerably in excess of previous years. Business ruled very brisk throughout, and prices compared very favourably both with last year's and also at other similar sales. Horn ewes made 36s. to 43s.; horn wethers, 38s. to 46s.; Down chilver hogs, 35s. to 37s. 6d.; store pigs, 24s. to 32s.; bulls, which included some rare Devons, Herefords, Shorthorns, and cross-breds, found a ready sale, especially medium-priced animals, prices for best ranging from 10 guineas to 23 guineas for Devons; Shorthorns, 9 guineas to 16½ guineas; Herefords, 8½ guineas to 15½ guineas; and cross-breds, from 8 guineas to 13 guineas. Most of the bulls found buyers at about the above range of prices.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Malt: No change to notice since last Monday. Barley: A slow sale at last week's prices. Wheat: Quiet. Oats: A downward tendency in price. Maize: Unchanged Flour: Dull.—NIXON, GOWER AND CO.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—The attendance was very restricted, and the market for wheat and flour ruled dull and in buyers' favour. Maize slow, and 3d to 6d lower for round sorts. Barley quiet, and in absence of business values are nominally unchanged. Oats, quiet trade at about late rates. Beans and peas slow.

Mark Lane, Friday.—Little, if anything, occured to alter the views of buyers, and business was slow, while quotations varied but slightly; attendance small. English wheat was scarcely mentioned. There is, however, sufficient in hand at present to suit all requirements of town and country millers. Whites range at 29s to 31s, and good reds 29s 6d; well-conditioned reds, 27s 9d per qr. Foreign unchanged, and here and there millers show rather more disposition to buy. The principal business in American descriptions is confined to No. 1 Northern Duluth at 31s ex ship, and 31s 3d Northern Manitoba both in very limited supply. Hard Kansas Winter's, 30s 9d ex granary. White wheats very scarce. Russian above the notions of buyers, while India still tails as an exporter. Australian well maintained. New Zealand commands the recent advance. Tuscan, 29s to 30s 496lb. American brands of flour in buyers' favour, although not quotably altered. Fancy patents, 23s 3d upwards, and 22s 9d is asked for Minnesota first patents. Cascadias, 22s 3d ex granary; country flour unaltered. At the meeting of the London Millers' Association, town households, 23s; whites, 26s per sack, delivered to the baker. Top price, town made 28s net. No. 1 households, 21s 6d at the mill door. Australian patents, 20s to 20s 6d 280lb ex store. Grinding barley steady, and none on offer ex ship, while 19s 3d is named ex granary for Odessa. Danubian, 18s 3d ex ship. Malting maintained, and seed parcels ranging between 28s and 33s. Foreign types steady. Oats the turn easier since last Friday, and in sufficient supply for all immediate requirements. F.a.q. Libau, 18s 3d ex ship, 18s 6d ex quay 38lb, and 40lb Libau. 20s 3d upwards ex quay. Good Konigsberg, 21s ex quay, 40lb. New Zealand ordinary bluff, 25s 6d to 26s 6d, 284lb ex store. English fully sustained. Round corn occasionally 6d lower on the week. Odessa quoted about 20s 6d ex ship, and 21s ex quay. Holders of imported beans and peas were asking similar rates, which were not responded to by any means readily.

COUNTRY.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, red (new), 28s to 30s per qr. Slow trade and not much wheat on offer. Prices as before. ffl ffl ffl

Birmingham, Thursday.—The market had a very quiet tone, and values have undergone little change on the week. English wheats, 10s 6d to 11s 3d per bag, and in the foreign department soft reds were 5s 5½d, and Russians 5s 10½d per cental (Liverpool). Maize had an easier tendency; prime Plate, 4s 10d per cental (Liverpool), and 22s 9d to 23s per 480lb (Sharpness); round maize, 22s 9d per 480lb (Liverpool), and 22s 6d to 23s (Sharpness). Grinding barley, 18s 3d to 18s 6d (Sharpness), and 18s 4½d to 19s 4½d per 400lb (Liverpool). Black oats were scarce, and quotations ranged from 21s 6d to 22s per qr, and whites 22s 6d to 23s 6d per 312lb (Birmingham). English beans, 3d easier; new at 13s 9d to 14s 3d, and old at 15s 6d to 16s per bag. ffl ffl

Boston, Wednesday.—A small attendance and a slow trade. Wheat, 27s 6d; grinding barley, 22s; oats, 20s to 22s; peas, 50s to 63s; beans, 34s; maize, 23s to 24s. per qr.

Brighton, Thursday.—New white wheat, 28s to 29s; new red ditto, 27s 6d to 28s 6d; barley, 28s to 33s; grinding ditto, 21s to 22s; English oats, 21s to 24s; peas, 35s to 36s. Wheat in fair supply; quiet trade at last week's prices. Average attendance.

Bristol, Thursday.—There has been about an average trade passing since our last. To-day English wheat was in rather less supply than of late, and made about last week's prices. Foreign unaltered. Maize, barley, and oats without change. The bakers seem to be working down their stocks of flour, making the demand for flour rather slack at present; prices in this article are, however, unchanged.—GRACE BROTHERS.

Bury St. Edmund's, Wednesday.—Wheat: There was a fair show, some of the samples representing considerable quantities which were being cleared off in preparation for seeding operations. The market was quiet, with a steady demand at just last week's prices. Reds or whites, 27s 6d to 28s 3d per 504lb, on the line. Barley: Very little business passing; prices same as last week. Maize, 3d per qr dearer. Other feeding corns firm.

Cambridge, Saturday.—During the week trade has been firm for all kinds of grain, with smaller supplies, as farmers are beginning their spring sowing. At this market to-day there was a small supply of all grain. Wheat sold steadily at the full prices of last Saturday. Red, 27s to 28s; white, up to 29s per 504lb. Barley nearly over; some demand for seed lots, but malting parcels in very little demand. Beans dull. Oats firm.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Wheat dull; oats firm. White wheat, 28s to 30s; red, 27s to 29s; malting barley, 28s to 35s; grinding, 23s to 25s; white oats, 20s to 24s; black, 19s to 23s; grey peas, 33s to 35s; tick beans, 36s to 38s; mazagans, 33s to 34s; round maize, 25s to 26s; flat, 28s; spring tares, 7s to 8s; giants, 8s to 9s per bushel.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Much larger supply of oats in our market to-day; good seed demand at 6d per qr over last week's prices; 22s to 23s 9d per 336lb. No wheat or barley offered.—THOMAS ROBINSON.

Chester, Saturday.—At this market, at which there was more English grain offering, wheat was barely as well sold, but oats and beans were steady. Indian corn in better demand. Barley. Scarce. Wheat, white and red, 4s 5d to 4s 6d per 75lb; malting barley, 4s to 4s 1d per 60lb; grinding, 3s 4d to 3s 6d per 64lb; beans, 5s 6d to 5s 8d per 80lb; oats, new, 2s 10d to 3s 1d; old, 3s 4d to 3s 6d per 46lb; Indian corn, 12s 6d to 13s 3d per 240lb.

Chichester, Wednesday.—There was a large attendance, but the tone of business generally was still quiet. Moderate supply of wheat, which was quoted at late rates. Feeding stuffs and flour steady, without change.

Croydon, Tuesday.—White wheat, 27s to 29s; red ditto, 27s to 28s; malting barley, 28s to 36s; grinding, 22s to 24s; oats, 20s to 24s; beans, 31s to 33s; peas, 29s to 31s. A slow trade for wheat; prices unchanged. Oats firm. Beans and peas no alteration.

Colchester, Saturday.—Short supply of wheat; trade firm at last week's prices. Practically nothing offering in barley. Oats and beans firm.—FRANCIS AND CO.

Devizes, Thursday.—We had a moderate supply of corn to-day. The trade was dull at last week's prices for all descriptions. Quotations: Best wheat, 13s 6d to 14s 6d; secondary, 12s 6d to 13s; best malting barley, 29s to 34s; secondary, 25s to 28s; grinding barley, 20s to 24s; oats, 21s to 24s; beans, 16s to 20s; fine flour, 22s to 24s; extra fine, 23s to 30s; best bread, 9d. ffl ffl

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There was the usual attendance at our market to-day. Wheat and flour slow at about late rates. Indian corn steady, but quiet. Round maize firmer. Grinding beans rather dearer, but little doing. Canadian pease unchanged. Home and foreign oats dull, and prices unaltered. Barley quiet. Bran and thirds steady, but quiet. Oatmeal dull.—GIBSON AND CLARK.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Wheat was in average supply, and with a fairly steady demand, the trade was unchanged, at last week's prices. Reds or whites, 28s 6d to 29s 6d per qr, delivered at Ipswich. Barley was quite a retail trade, but the few samples left find buyers at fully last week's quotations, from 29s to 33s per qr. Grinding sorts dearer. Maize the turn dearer, at 22s 6d per qr. Danube-Bessarabian barley, 19s 6d per 400lb. Lentils (Calcutta), 31s 6d; Bombay, 32s per 504lb. Feeding stuffs steady.

Leeds, Tuesday.—There is still a lack of activity in the trade, and the want of stability in the American markets, notwithstanding moderate shipments, makes itself felt, so that millers will only buy wheat from hand to mouth even at a slight reduction from last week's rates. Malting barley firmly held. All feeding stuffs slow.—DUNNS AND CO.

Leeds, Friday.—Little doing in both English and foreign wheats, without any change from Tuesday's prices, except a hardening tendency in Americans. Barley and oats firmly held. No change in beans, peas, maize or flour.

Leicester, Saturday.—Fair attendance, with moderate supply of home-grown wheats. Trade steady at 28s to 31s per 36 stones. Barley a slow trade. Fine oats in demand at firm prices.

Leith, Friday.—The amount of business passing still very small, prices being much about the same as last week. Wheat, Scotch, small supply. Oats, Scotch, smaller supply, with better demand; foreign oats, from 19s to 21s 6d. Barley, Scotch, dull sale; foreign feeding, 21s. Hard white peas, 38s. Beans, all varieties, 33s 6d to 34s. Round maize, 23s 6d to 24s; parcels with very slight heat, 21s to 22s 6d; damaged, 19s to 20s. Millet seed, 19s. Mill offals.—Better demand. Broad bran, 120s to 125s; medium bran, 97s 6d to 102s 6d; sharps, 95s to 97s 6d; pairings, 105s to 107s 6d; cummings, 82s 6d to 87s 6d; dried grains, brewers, 97s 6d; distillers, 102s 6d to 105s; oat husks, 45s; meal seeds, 67s 6d.; all sacks included.—WILLIAM MACLAY.

Lewes, Tuesday.—New white wheat, 28s to 29s; new brown ditto, 27s to 28s; malting barley, 32s to 35s; grinding barley, 20s to 24s; oats, 21s to 25s; beans, 35s to 39s; peas, 33s to 37s per qr.

Lincoln, Friday.—Small supply of English wheat. Trade slow, with no change in prices. Reds, 28s 6d to 29s. 6d; whites, 29s to 30s. Barleys season over. Oats a dull sale at easier rates. Beans, peas, and maize no change.

Liverpool, Friday.—The market has had a fair attendance of millers, and wheat is in better demand. Kansas and Manitobas experiencing an active trade at ½d advance over Tuesday. Other sorts are in moderate request and the turn dearer. Flour—Foreign sorts have a small inquiry, but prices remain unchanged. Local milled flours are very slow, but prices remain unaltered. Maize—Mixed rules steady at unchanged prices, but slow. European is generally ½d lower, but meets some inquiry at the decline. Plate is the turn lower, with a moderate trade. Barley—Malting steady, but quiet at unchanged quotations. Beans are firmly held, but very inactive. Peas are firm, but quiet at quotations. Oats are firm, but quiet at late rates for English. Foreign sorts are ½d lower, and very slow. Oatmeal steady, with a moderate inquiry at last market day's prices.—SEGAR AND TUNNICLIFFE.

Maidstone, Thursday.—Transactions in wheat to-day represented what is required for present needs. There is no disposition on the part of millers to extend buying, and we note a dull tone, at former cost. Barley of best quality is in fair request up to about previous value. Oats have slightly relapsed, but holders consider they will not go cheaper to any extent. Maize, especially round corn, can be obtained at less money than recently had to be paid for it. Beans and peas are both a scarce supply, and consequently hold on well. We do not note any change in the value of rye, hemp, brank, lergum, and millet.

Maidstone, Thursday.—There was a little inquiry for seed corn, but otherwise the market was exceptionally slow, notwithstanding a good attendance. Quotations: White wheat, 29s to 31s; red ditto, 28s to 30s; malting barley, 28s to 34s; grinding ditto, 21s to 23s; oats, 20s to 25s; peas, 34s to 36s; white ditto, 37s; maize, 24s to 28s; beans, 36s to 40s; tares, 7s to 8s; English linseed cake, £8 10s to £9; foreign ditto, £8 to £8 10s; cotton cake, £4 15s to £5.

Manchester, Thursday.—A poor attendance. Trade slow for both English and foreign wheat at about unchanged prices. Maize quiet at about ½d lower. Oats, beans, peas, and barley unchanged, with a quiet consumptive trade. Flour very quiet at last week's prices.

Newport, Wednesday.—A thin attendance. No change in the price of wheat. Maize rather better, but not much done. Oats and barley, no change on the week. Flour, 23s per sack for fines.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—At our to-day's market wheat ruled steady at late rates. Maize slightly easier. Scotch oats favouring sellers. Beans 6d per qr dearer on the week. Peas dearer through scarcity. Barley quiet at late rates.—JOSEPH POLLARD AND CO.

Northampton, Saturday.—About the usual attendance of farmers and millers. Business was exceedingly quiet. Samples of wheat and other grain was not plentiful; nevertheless, the demand was very slow, at scarcely the prices of last week. Feeding stuffs much wanted and dearer. Flour, dull trade. White wheat, 28s to 30s; red wheat, 27s to 28s 6d; barley, 26s to 32s; grinding barley, 22s to 26s; oats, 18s to 23s; old, fine, 24s; beans, 33s to 40s; flour, 21s to 22s; fine, 24s.

Norwich, Saturday.—There is no change in the wheat trade to-day, which remains firm at former prices. The weather continues mild, with occasional showers. Wheat, red, 28s to 28s 6d per qr, weight 63lb per bushel imperial. Corn inspector's return for the week ending March 1, 1902:—Wheat, 2,793, 26s 7d; barley, 3,622-5, 28s 7½d.—J. ARTHUR MILLS.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Wheat in fair supply, and a good trade resulted at last week's rates. Barley—Malting about cleared; grinding steady at previous values. Oats and beans small supply; steady trade at full rates.—ROBERT HUBBLE.

Peterborough, Saturday.—There has been a thin attendance at market, and a small supply of wheat, for which the trade was quiet and values unaltered. Very little doing in barley at late rates. Oats steady and unchanged.—THOMAS HILL AND SON.

Plymouth, Thursday.—Small attendance at our market to-day. Maize and barley 3d. lower. Oats quiet; demand unaltered.—ORLANDO DAVIS AND CO.

Reading, Saturday.—We had a very good attendance on the exchange to-day. There was only a limited supply of wheat on offer, and business was not very brisk. In cases where sales were effected, however, 27s to 29s per qr was obtained. The barley trade, except for seed purposes, is practically over now; but oats, which were in average supply, changed hands at former currencies.

Ripon, Thursday.—A brisk market, all inquiries being for seed purposes. Barley and oats have an upward tendency. Wheat, English (new), 28s 6d to 29s 6d; ditto foreign, 29s to 33s; barley, grinding, 22s 6d to 23s 6d; ditto, malting, 26s to 31s; oats, new, 22s to 24s; round maize, 24s to 26s per qr; beans, 1s per stone; bran, £5 15s to £6 5s per ton.

Romford, Wednesday.—Wheat trade firm at last week's prices. Only a small supply on offer. Red wheat, 27s 6d to 28s 6d; white wheat, 29s to 30s per qr.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—There was a better attendance at to-day's market. Prices of wheat unaltered. Oats being scarce, commanded better prices. Beans easier. Maize and barley without change. Quotations: Wheat, white, 29s 6d to 30s 6d; ditto red, 29s 6d to 30s 6d per 504lb; oats, new white, 21s 6d to 22s 6d; ditto new black, 20s to 21s per 336lb; barley, grinding, 22s to 23s; ditto malting, 28s to 32s per 448lb; peas, grinding, 32s to 34s; ditto blue, 53s to 80s per 504lb; beans, Egyptian, 36s to 36s 6d; ditto English, new, 37s to 37s 6d per 532lb; Indian corn, small, 23s 6d to 25s; ditto American mixed, 27s 6d to 28s per 480lb.

Spalding, Tuesday.—All kinds of corn in short supply, and a rather thin market. Wheat firm at 27s 6d to 29s per qr. Oats rather slow at 21s to 22s per qr.

Stamford, Friday.—Small quantity of wheat on offer, and prices were unchanged at 27s to 28s 6d. Good show of seed barley, which was fully 2s dearer. Very little malting barley shown. Oats, 22s to 24s 6d; seed oats, 26s. Small supply of beans, which sold at 32s to 35s. Maize about unchanged.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There was very little English wheat on offer, which made up to 30s per qr. The foreign wheat market keeps very quiet. Strong red wheats firm at last week's prices. White wheats 3d to 6d easier. Maize very dull and 3d to 6d lower on the week. Oats easier. No malting barley showing

Sunderland, Saturday.—Little grain offering. Wheat rather easier. Barley and oats dull. Arrivals coastwise:—Wheat, 740 qrs; foreign, nil.—E. AND F. RICHARDSON.

Winchester, Saturday.—English wheat short supply; last week's prices. Maize 3d cheaper. Barley and oats unaltered. Flour fair demand; late rates.—FEAR, COLEBROOK, AND CO., LIMITED.

Wisbech, Saturday.—A short supply of grain. Wheat firmer, millers giving 6d more for special lots. Oats, 22s to 24s. Barley, 27s to 30s. Beans, 34s to 38s.—JAMES FLETCHER.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—A fair attendance and steady trade. Quotations: Wheat, new, 12s 6d to 13s per 216lb; oats, old, 15s 6d to 16s; new, 12s to 13s, beans, old, 15s 6d to 16s; new, 14s 3d to 14s 9d per 196lb; barley, 31s to 32s per 448lb; maize, new, 25s to 26s per 480lb; old, 27s 6d per 480lb.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Moderate attendance; small show of grain. Slow trade. White wheat, 28s to 29s; red wheat, 27s to 28s; best barley for seed, 28s to 32s; secondary, 26s to 28s; grinding barley, 24s to 26s; white oats, 23s to 25s; black oats, 22s to 24s; maize, 24s to 26s per qr.

Wakefield, Friday.—With diminishing supplies of English wheat and firmer American advices, the trade is gradually developing a steadier tone, and though we cannot call prices quotably higher, selling pressure has vanished, and there is more inclination shown to operate. Malting barley slow and unchanged. Feeding stuffs quiet.—DUNNS AND CO.

Wakefield, Friday.—There is only a small business passing on our market to-day in wheats, and about last week's prices are obtained. Malting barley offering at about late rates, with but few buyers. Maize 3d per qr lower, and other feeding stuffs unaltered.—MICHAEL SANDERSON AND SON, LIMITED.

Worcester, Saturday.—Quiet for all kinds of grain. Only a moderate supply of English wheat, and trade was slow at last week's prices. Grinding barley firmly held. Oats and beans unchanged.

York, Saturday.—Wheat was scarce, and sold readily at last week's prices. Malting barley appears to be nearly finished, and prices were rather high. Oats firm and scarce. Rye, 8d per stone; beans, 11d per stone.

FOREIGN.

Hamburg, Saturday.—Weather frosty in the early part of the week, mild and rainy towards the end. There is more firmness in our market, with a slightly improved demand. The imports during the week amounted to 12,120 tons wheat, 7,686 tons rye, 9,589 tons barley, 15,319 tons maize. American hard winter wheat, No. 2, is held at 29s 3d, Northern Spring No. 2 at 28s 3d, fine River Plate on the spot at 29s 3d per 480lb; Walla Walla May delivery at 29s 9d to 30s, spot 30s 6d per 500lb. Rye firmer, offers from Russia having decreased, and 9 15-20 Odessa Nikolajef April shipment is held at 23s 3d per 480lb. Middling qualities of malting barley are freely offered; white fine sorts continue scarce. Good saal is held at 30s 6d to 32s, fine at 34s 6d to 36s. Bohemian and Moravian at 31s to 34s, Russian and Mecklenburg at 26s 6d to 30s per 448lb f.o.b. Russian and Danubian feeding barley is selling at 18s to 18s 6d per 400lb c.i.f. Hamburg. Maize is meeting a fair sale: Odessa and Danubian March-April shipment at 21s 3d to 21s 6d, Turkish at 22s 3d to 22s 6d per 480lb; mixed American is held at 25s 9d per 480lb.—JOHN TATLOCK.

Paris, Wednesday.—At the opening of the native wheat market holders manifested some resistance to abate their prices, but were unable to maintain them in presence of the almost complete indifference of buyers. In short, the tendency has shown no improvement to-day, transactions being apparently unchanged since last week. Choice red, appreciably unchanged since last week. Choice red, 36s 6d to 36s 11d per 480lb. The flour market was supported at the opening, and closed with an average improvement of 5s. to 10s. at the following prices: March, 25s 10½d to 26s 2d; April, 26s 5d to 26s 8d; May-June, 26s 10½d to 27s 2d; and May-August, 27s 2d to 27s 5d per 280lb. Trade is still very brisk in consumption marks flour among dealers and bakers, and prices remain unchanged. Quotations are as follow: Choice marks, 30f. to 30f.50 (30s 6d to 30s 11d); first marks, 29f.50 to 30f. (29s 11d to 30s 5d), good marks, 28f.25 to 29f.50 (28s 8d to 29s 11d); ordinary marks, 27f.50 to 28f.75 per 100 kilos (27s 11d to 29s 9d per 280lb). Transactions in rye are still insignificant, the inactivity which prevails in the wheat trade having an unfavourable influence upon the value of this cereal, which, in spite of still meagre offers, has again lost a few centimes on the week. Buyers will not exceed 25s 8d per 480lb. The situation of oats remains the same, except on the term market, where uncovered sellers are repurchasing, which thereby provoked a firmer tone. Here trade was a little quieter, with a tedious trade and restricted offers. Quotations are as follow: Grey Beauce, 24s 11d to 25s 3d; white, 23s 2d to 24s 8d;

red, 24s 8d to 24s 11d; black from the Central Provinces, 25s 3d to 25s 6d; smal Picardy, 24s 8d; In., 24s 1d to 24s 4d; white Libau, 23s 6d to 23s 9d; black, 24s 1d to 24s 4d; and Swedish, 25s 3d to 25s 6d per 320lb. Trade in barley is quiet and values unchanged. Prices in Beauce vary from 23s 11d to 24s 8d, according to quality. Champagne asks 23s 11d to 23s 4d. Here the tendency was supported for grinding and feeding corn, and unaltered for malting sorts, prices being quoted as follows: 17f.50 (25s 4d) for choice, and 17f.25 (25s) for good malting; grinding, 16f.25 to 16f.75 (23s 7d to 24s 3d); and feding, 14f.75 to 15f.50 per 100 kilos (21s 5d to 22s 6d per 400lb). Owing to the scarcity of offers and a rather important demand, the tendency of buckwheat is still firm, and a rather perceptible advance in prices has taken place, the quotation standing at 27s 10d per 480lb.—*Dornbusch*.

CORN STATISTICS.

ARRIVALS INTO LONDON.

February 26 to March 5, 1902, inclusive.

	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat .....qrs.	2,904	38,815	41,719
Barley.....	3,400	13,000	16,400
Malt.....	23,000	1,000	24,000
Oats.....	3,300	73,000	76,300
Tares.....	...	...	...
Beans	380	167	547
Peas.....	296	4,125	4,421
Maize	...	64,261	64,261
Linseed	...	15,830	15,830
Rapeseed	...	3 050	3,050
Farmseeds.....	2,000	5,676	7,676
Cottonseed	...	...	...
Flour, sacks	24,540	56,996	81,586

YEARLY AVERAGES (OFFICIAL.)

	Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
1890 ... 31	9	per qr. ...	28	8 per qr. ...	18	7 per qr.
1891 ... 37	1	,, ...	28	2 ,, ...	20	0 ,,
1892 ... 30	4	,, ...	26	2 ,, ...	19	11 ,,
1893 ... 26	4	,, ...	25	6 ,, ...	18	9 ,,
1894 ... 22	10	,, ...	24	6 ,, ...	17	1 ,,
1895 ... 23	1	,, ...	21	11 ,, ...	14	6 ,,
1896 ... 26	2	,, ...	22	11 ,, ...	14	9 ,,
1897 ... 30	2	,, ...	23	6 ,, ...	16	11 ,,
1898 ... 34	0	,, ...	27	2 ,, ...	18	5 ,,
1899 .. 25	8	,, ...	25	7 ,, ...	17	0 ,,
1900 ... 26	11	,, ...	25	9 ,, ...	17	9 ,,
1901 ... 26	9	,, ...	25	3 ,, ...	18	5 ,,

IMPERIAL AVERAGES.

Statement showing the Quantities sold and average price of British Corn, Imperial Measure, as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended March 8, 1902, conformably with the Act of the 45th and 46th Victoria, cap. 37.

Wheat	67,473½ qrs.	27s.	0d.
Barley	28,847½ qrs.	26s.	8d.
Oats	17,017 qrs.	20s.	5d.

COMPARATIVE AVERAGES.

Comparative statement for the corresponding week to March 8th, in each of the years from 1897 to 1901.

	WHEAT.		BARLEY.		OATS.	
	Qrs	s. d.	Qrs.	s. d.	Q s.	s. d.
1897.....48,630⅔	...	27 11	34,894½...	22 11	15,913⅞...	16 2
1898.....52,875½	...	35 8	36,839½...	27 10	14,665⅔...	17 9
1899.....79,274⅔	...	25 10	44,196 ...	26 7	20,436½...	16 11
1900.....53,703½	...	25 11	44,921½...	24 8	16,624 ...	16 11
1901.....63,714⅝	...	25 9	51,125⅝...	25 4	19,410⅝...	17 7

FLUCTUATIONS IN THE AVERAGE PRICE OF WHEAT.

PRICE.	Feb. 1.	Feb. 8.	Feb. 15.	Feb. 22.	Mar. 1.	Mar. 8.
27s. 8d	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 7d	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 6d	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 5d	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 4d	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 3d	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 2d	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 1d	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 0d	...	...	...	...	...	...
26s. 11d	...	...	...	...	...	...

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF FINE HOUSEHOLD FLOUR IN PARIS.

(Converted into English money for sacks of 280 lb.)

	1902.	1901.	1900.	1899.	1898.	1897.	1896.	1895.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Jan. ...	27 9	24 9	25 2	29 0	38 7	30 5½	25 10	27 9½
Feb. ...	26 3	25 9	26 3	28 3	39 4	29 10½	26 2	27 10½
March ...	...	24 0	27 3	27 6	40 1	28 9	26 0	27 5½
April...	...	24 6	26 9	27 6	42 3	28 5	25 6½	26 7
May ...	...	25 6	26 8	28 0	40 0	28 11½	25 1½	28 0
June...	...	26 3	28 6	27 6	35 6	29 3	25 8	28 10
July ...	...	28 0	26 9	27 3	32 0	31 5½	24 6	27 1
August	...	27 6	26 4	27 0	31 6	36 11	25 1	26 11
Sept....	...	27 6	26 3	25 9	31 0	38 7	27 0	27 0½
Oct.....	...	27 6	26 0	24 9	30 6	39 4	27 1½	27 9
Nov. ...	...	27 9	26 4	24 3	30 3	40 3	29 9	26 8½
Dec. ..	...	28 3	26 0	24 6	29 0	39 3	29 8	26 3
Yrly. Avrg.	...	27 3	26 6	26 9	35 0	33 5	26 5½	27 4½

LONDON FLOUR MILLERS' ASSOCIATION

OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1901.

	London Whites.		Town Households.	
	s. d.			s. d.
September 2	(per sack) 26 0	.....	(per sack)	23 0
,, 18	,, 25 6	.....	,,	22 6
December 9	,, 26 6	.....	,,	23 6
January 29	,, 26 0	.....	,,	23 0

MONTHLY AVERAGES.

(196 Market Towns.)

	1901.			1902.		
	Wheat	Barley	Oats	Wheat	Barley	Oats
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
January	26 8	25 7	17 4	27 8	26 8	20 1
February	26 5	25 5	17 7	27 1	26 8	20 3
March.....	25 10	25 0	17 10			
April	26 3	25 7	18 3			
May.....	27 6	25 2	19 4			
June	27 7	23 11	19 10			
July.....	27 4	22 9	19 8			
August	27 4	24 0	18 10			
September.....	26 1	25 4	17 4			
October	25 10	25 7	17 6			
November	26 9	26 10	18 2			
December	27 4	26 8	19 5			

IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGES.

	WHEAT.			BARLEY.			OATS.		
1901.	Qrs.	s.	d.	Qrs.	s.	d.	Qrs.	s.	d.
Mar. 2	68,224	25	11	52,600¼	25	0	21,858½	17	9
,, 9	63,714⅝	25	9	51,125⅝	25	4	19,410⅝	17	7
,, 16	55,073⅜	25	9	36,968¼	25	1	14,010	17	7
,, 23	53,758½	25	8	27,840¼	24	11	13,895½	17	9
,, 30	47,908½	26	0	20,179¼	24	9	12,418⅞	18	0
Apr. 6	42,721⅞	26	3	14,647⅝	25	3	11,776⅜	18	0
,, 13	32,905	26	5	6,809⅜	26	0	5,936⅞	18	1
,, 20	35,737⅝	26	8	6,734⅜	25	7	8,346⅜	18	8
,, 27	46,572	26	8	6,985⅜	25	8	8,300⅜	18	1
May 4	46,616⅜	26	9	6,417⅞	26	4	6,869⅜	19	8
,, 11	47,118⅜	27	3	4,279¼	26	2	7,049	19	1
,, 18	52,875⅜	27	7	2,508	24	2	7,345¼	19	4
,, 25	49,822⅜	27	7	1,511⅜	24	1	4,665½	19	8
June 1	46,514	27	7	859½	23	8	4,938	19	9
,, 8	42,202	27	6	221½	22	9	4,023¼	20	1
,, 15	46,764	27	8	1,404½	24	0	5,565⅜	19	7
,, 22	29,695	27	6	336⅜	23	2	3,552⅜	20	3
,, 29	28,191⅞	27	6	692⅜	25	4	2,803⅜	20	0
July 6	19,564½	27	8	140½	21	9	1,800⅜	19	10
,, 13	15,231⅞	27	2	49	23	10	1,675⅜	19	9
,, 20	17,462⅜	27	3	88⅜	23	4	2,040½	19	11
,, 27	18,297⅛	27	3	206⅜	22	1	2,385⅜	19	4
Aug. 3	18,666⅜	27	6	250⅜	23	1	3,219½	20	0
,, 10	19,156	27	7	141⅜	22	1	2,143⅛	19	4
,, 17	22,617¼	27	4	220⅜	27	2	5,982½	18	9
,, 24	37,168⅜	27	3	976⅜	23	7	9,952⅜	18	1
,, 31	61,603⅛	27	0	4,877⅜	24	3	14,654⅜	17	10
Sept. 7	66,623½	26	5	14,342⅜	25	1	19,075⅛	17	6
,, 14	77,949⅜	26	2	34,989⅜	24	11	19,909½	17	4
,, 21	80,279⅛	26	0	70,096⅛	25	5	26,476⅜	17	4
,, 28	80,488	25	10	109,783½	25	10	22,567½	17	2
Oct. 5	60,376⅜	25	8	126,592⅛	26	3	21,631½	17	7
,, 12	63,656⅜	25	9	172,175⅜	26	5	16,815½	17	6
,, 19	58,772½	25	10	203,591½	26	8	15,506½	17	8
,, 26	52,984⅜	25	11	208,471½	26	10	18,009⅜	17	5
Nov. 2	70,314⅜	26	2	134,277½	26	10	18,350⅜	17	7
,, 9	62,265⅜	26	6	202,577½	27	0	20,066½	17	8
,, 16	57,884⅜	26	9	201,723½	26	9	20,122⅜	18	3
,, 23	63,150⅜	27	1	185,268½	26	10	20,612	18	7
,, 30	60,323⅜	27	1	193,434⅜	26	9	22,419½	18	9
Dec. 7	67,925½	27	1	162,996⅜	26	7	23,990⅜	19	0
,, 14	48,045½	27	2	182,212⅜	25	10	17,125½	17	1
,, 21	60,562⅜	27	7	119,398½	26	8	26,260½	19	8
,, 28	43,718⅜	27	7	81,859½	26	8	16,901⅜	19	10
1902.									
Jan. 4	31,440⅜	27	7	34,777½	26	7	11,621½	19	10
,, 11	48,997⅞	27	8	69,120½	26	7	14,995	20	0
,, 18	74,239⅜	27	8	91,559⅜	26	11	19,733⅜	20	0
,, 25	74,753⅜	27	7	87,594	26	7	25,382½	20	3
Feb. 1	73,381½	27	4	81,468⅜	26	7	25,657½	20	2
,, 8	67,470½	27	2	69,291⅜	26	8	25,055⅜	20	3
,, 15	68,500	26	11	54,084½	27	5	21,824	20	3
,, 22	72,614⅜	27	1	53,201⅜	26	11	22,799	20	4
Mar. 1	79,453⅜	27	1	43,637⅜	26	7	22,322	20	5
,, 8	67,473⅜	27	0	28,847½	26	8	17,017	20	5

TITHE RENT CHARGES.

For 1902	67	3	9
,, 1901	66	10	9
,, 1900	66	15	10
,, 1899	68	2	4
,, 1898	68	14	11
,, 1897	69	17	11
,, 1896	71	9	7

The last time the Tithe was above par was £100 4s. 10d. for 1883.

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF LONDON TOWN HOUSEHOLDS FLOUR.

(Sacks of 280 lbs. ex-mill for cash.)

	1902.	1901	1900	1899.	1898.	1897.	1896.	1895.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Jan. ...	21 9	24 6	21 9	23 9	29 0	25 6	18 9	18 7½
Feb. ...	22 0	24 0	22 0	23 6	30 0	24 7½	19 4½	17 9
March ...	...	23 9	21 6	22 3	30 0	23 11	19 3	18 0
April...	...	24 0	21 6	22 0	31 3	23 6	19 6	18 7½
May ...	...	23 6	21 3	22 3	39 7	23 7	19 0	20 4½
June ...	...	23 0	23 6	23 1½	35 0	22 7½	18 10	22 3
July ...	...	22 3	24 6	21 9	29 6	22 10½	18 6	20 0½
August	...	22 3	24 0	21 9	27 6	26 8½	18 8½	19 10½
Sept....	...	22 0	25 3	22 0	26 5	30 3	19 6	19 8
Oct. ...	...	21 6	24 9	23 3	26 1	29 0	23 7½	18 7½
Nov. ...	...	21 6	24 3	22 3	25 0	29 1	25 8½	18 4½
Dec. ...	...	21 9	24 0	21 9	24 3	29 0	25 7½	18 1
Yrly. Avrg.	...	22 10	23 2	22 4	29 6½	25 10½	20 8½	19 2

LONDON AVERAGES.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, March 4th, 1902.

	Total Quantities. Imperial Measure.		Total Amount.			Average Price per qr. Imperial Measure.		
	Quarters.	Bus.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Wheat ...	2,224	5 ...	3,103	5	0	... 1	7	10
Barley ...	43	5 ...	44	17	0	... 1	0	6
Oats ...	384	3 ...	407	0	0	... 1	1	2

ENGLISH WHEAT IN 1901.

Highest of Year	27s. 7d.
Lowest of Year.....	25s. 10d.
Gradient	1s. 9d.
Mean of Year	26s. 9d.

FOREIGN CORN TRADE.

The shipments of grain from the chief exporting countries last week were as follows:—

	Wheat. Qrs.	Flour. Sks.	Maize. Qrs.	Barley. Qrs.	Oats. Qrs.
United States.....345,000	114,000	44,000	—	—
Russia 155,000	—	184,000	70,000	135,000
France	—	5,000	—	—	—
Austria-Hungary	—	5,000	—	—	—
Roumania 65,000	—	135,000	63,000	—
Argentina 79,000	—	1,000	—	—
India 34,000	—	—	—	—
Australasia 77,000	—	—	—	—
Miscellaneous ... 20,000	10,000	11,000	20,000	10,000
Total 775,000	134,000	375,000	153,000	145,000

THE BALTIC.

The sales of wheat cargoes last week were not very numerous, and prices were mostly in favour of buyers. There were three arrived cargoes sold—Australian at 30s., Californian at 30s. 1½d., and No. 2 Hard Winter at 28s. 9d. per quarter. The sales of cargoes on passage included Californian at 29s. 3d., Walla-Walla at 29s., Blue Stem at 29s. 6d., Australian at 29s. 9d., and Argentine at 28s. 9d. per quarter. Sales of futures included No. 1 Northern at 29s. 4½d., No. 1 Northern Manitoba at 29s., No. 2 Hard Winter at 28s. 9d., and No. 2 Northern Manitoba at 27s. 4½d. per quarter.

Maize cargoes have been very weak. Odessa has been pressed on sale at 20s. 6d. on passage, Argentine at 21s. 3d. for May shipment. American is not offered.

Barley has made 18s. 9d. for a cargo on passage from Caucasia. Oats have realised 17s. 9d. for white Libau, and 19s. 3d. for Gothenburg. Other cargo sales include Caucasian rye at 24s., Argentina sorghum at 18s. 9d., Egyptian beans at 29s., and No. 2 Canadian peas at 33s.—all per quarter.

Dense fog in the Channel has delayed ships' arrivals, but five wheat and two barley-laden vessels have got into port during the past week. All seven ships were from California.

BUTTER.

Tuesday.—Bedale: 1s 8d to 1s 9d per 24oz roll. Gainsborough: 1s 3d per lb. Settle: 1s 1½d to 1s 2½d per lb. Spalding: 1s 1d per lb. Stone: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Leeds: York lump, 15s to 15s 6d per stone; long rolls, 1½lb, 1s 10d to 2s; fresh, 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb.

Wednesday, Barnsley: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Boston: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Colne: 1s 3d per lb. Goole: 1s 1d per lb. Keighley: Wholesale, 1s 2d; retail, 1s 3d per lb. Kirby Moorside: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Knaresborough: Wholesale, 1s 2d; retail, 1s 9d to 1s 10d per 24oz roll. Louth: 1s 1d per lb. Market Weighton: 1s per lb. Masham: 1s 7d to 1s 9d per roll of 24oz. Northallerton: 1s 8d to 1s 10d. Stockton: 1s 2d to 1s 4d per lb, Worksop: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Ipswich: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Hereford: 1s 4d to 1s 5d per lb. Uttoxeter: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Dorchester: 1s to 1s 3d per lb.

Thursday.—Devizes: Milk butter, wholesale, 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb; retail, 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Brigg: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Driffield: 1s per lb. Penistone: 1s 2d per lb. Ripon: 1s 8d to 1s 11d per roll of 24oz. Scarborough: 1s 4d per lb. Wetherby: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Kidderminster: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Wellington: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb.

Friday.—Easingwold: 1s to 1s 2d per lb. Grimsby: Danish, 116s to 120s per 112lb; Dutch, 110s to 112s; Colonial, 106s to 112s. Helmsley: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Leyburn: 1s 6d to 1s 7d per roll of 24oz. Lincoln: 1s 1d to 1s 3d per lb. Otley: 1s 9d to 2s per roll of 24oz.

Saturday.—Appleby: 1s 2d to 1s 4d per lb. Berwick: 9d to 1s per lb. Carlisle: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Doncaster: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Grantham: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Howden: 1s 2d per lb. Lancaster: 1s 3d to 1s 3½d per lb. Malton: 1s 2d per lb. Pontefract: 1s 4d per lb. Retford: 1s 2d to 1s 4d per lb. Stokesley: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Whitby: 1s 3d per lb. York: 1s 2d to 1s 4d per lb.

WOOL

London, Friday.—English—per pk. of 240lb.—Fleeces, S. Dn. Hggs, £7 to £8 10s; half-bred hoggs, £6 to £6 10s; halfbred wethers £5 to £6; Kent fleeces £5 to £6; South Down ewes and wethers £7 to £8 10s; Leicester do, £5 to £5 10s. Colonial—per lb.—Vic—Fleece, super, 1s 5d to 1s 7d; scoured good, 1s 7½d to 1s 8½d; scoured average, 1s 6d to 1s 7d; greasy average to fair, 10½d to 11½d; N. S. W. scoured average, 1s 3½d to 1s 4d; greasy average, 8d to 9d; S. Australia, greasy average, 6½d to 7d; N. Z. scoured average, 1s 4d to 1s 5d; grease average, 8d to 9d; Cape scoured sup., 1s 5d to 1s 6d; fleece average, 7d to 7¼d; greasy average, 5½d to 6½d; Natal scoured, 1s to 1s 1d; greasy average, 6½d to 7d; Crossbreds—Grs.—Vic. good to super, 10½d to 11½d; New Zealand fine, 8d to 9d, do medium, 4½d to 5½d; do coarse, 4d to 4½d.

Canterbury, Saturday.—No improvement, and it is seldom that 6d per lb. can be realised. The more usual figures are 5½d for Kent fleeces, and 4d for lamb wool.

POULTRY AND PROVISIONS

Smithfield, Saturday.—Moderate supplies, but very slow sale. Yorkshire fowls, 3s to 3s 6d; Boston, 2s 6d to 3s; Essex, 2s 9d to 3s 3d; Surrey, 3s 6d to 4s 6d; Sussex, 3s 3d to 3s 9d; Welsh, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; Irish, 2s to 2s 6d; cock turkeys, 6s to 7s; hen, 4s to 4s 9d; country ducks, 3s 6d to 4s 3d; Bordeaux pigeons, 10d to 1s; feathered, 7d to 9d; quail, 10d to 1s 2d; wild rabbits, 11s per dozen; goslings, 6s 6d to 8s; wild ducks, 1s 6d to 2s; widgeon, 1s 2d to 1s 6d; pintail, 1s to 1s 6d; teal, 10d to 1s 3d; woodcock, 2s to 2s 6d; snipe, 6d to 9d; golden plover, 8d to 10d; black, 5d to 6d; Russian game, cock capercailzie, 2s to 2s 6d; hen, 1s 9d to 2s; blackgame, 1s to 1s 2d; partridges, 1s to 1s 2d; ptarmigan, 10d to 1s; brown hares, 1s 6d to 2s; white, 1s 2d each.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The wheat fields show a better colour since the sharp frosts of February gave place to milder conditions. They are evidently recovering from the nasty changes of thaw and biting cold, and if the month prove dry, without being too bitter, the aspect at Easter will be good. Barley sowers will also welcome this type of weather, but by April, at this rate, the deficiency in the rainfall will have become extremely serious, so much so indeed that nothing but plenty of rain in April and May will be able to give us full crops. The very dry state of the land is not encouraging to oat sowers, and the present promise is of an increased sowing of barley. We do not hear of spring wheat being sown anywhere except in parts of Devonshire, where it is traditional to sow wheat in March. Some farmers speak of sowing linseed a little later on, but despite the excellent price made for this staple in 1901, we do not apprehend any great revival of its cultivation. Not only does it exhaust the soil to a notable degree, but its price here is absolutely at the mercy of Argentina and India. When these countries have good yields the price of linseed in England is ruinously low. And Argentina, be it noted, has shipped 600,000 qrs. of the article in the past six weeks.

The Australasian wheat crops are cabled as follows:—

	Qrs.
Australia	5,950,000
New Zealand	510,000
Total	6,460,000

The estimated requirements are 4½ millions for home wants and ½ million for the Cape, leaving 1,460,000 qrs. available for shipment to England and Europe. Of this quantity 660,000 qrs. are already on passage, leaving 800,000 qrs. to be shipped in the next nine months.

Mr. Thorburn, Financial Commissioner of the Punjaub, takes a gloomy view of India and the crops there. Irrigation will not do anything, and reafforesting bare lands would not be, he thinks, any great gain. The production of food increases, but it must needs increase slowly. Population increases, even in "famine" years, less slowly, and poverty is in his opinion far more severe among "the real poor" than it was even ten years ago. The proportion of poor folk whose poverty reaches the stage of chronic underfeeding is steadily rising and as the level of robust health falls the ability to cultivate the soil with due effect falls also. Thus there is a heavy set back to the drag upon all progress in India, and the Commissioner foresees a day when the North will export as little grain, even in a good year, as is already the permanent state with the South. It may be added that, as the present promise of the growing crops in India is much below the acreage, 1902 is not likely to pass without the serious points raised by Mr. Thorburn being prominently before the British public. It is difficult, however, to believe that the taxes in India are excessive or unduly tell against agriculture. The United Kingdom's total taxes come to £1,000 per square mile, those of India to £1 per square mile.

Imports of foreign grain and flour into the United Kingdom for the first half of the cereal year (September 1 to February 28) were as follows:—

	Qrs.
Wheat	7,218,000
Flour	3,467,000
Breadstuffs	10,685,000
Barley	4,335,000
Oats	3,464,000
Maize	5,397,000
Beans	262,000
Peas	244,000

The totals of wheat and maize were below those of barley and flour above the average; the totals of pulse and oats may be considered about the mean.

February imports of oilseeds were 121,000 quarters of linseed, 17,000 quarters of rapeseed, and 80,000 tons of cottonseed.

The visible supply of wheat in merchants' hands is thus returned for the chief countries:—

	Qrs.
The United Kingdom	2,700,000
France	700,000
Germany	400,000
Russia	1,600,000
America	11,400,000
March 1, 1902	16,800,000
February 1, 1902	16,700,000
January 1, 1902	17,200,000

Farmers' holdings in the United Kingdom are reckoned at 2,409,000 quarters, as compared with 3,856,000 from January 1. The imports of the first week of March have been as follows:—

Wheat, 219,000qrs; a fair supply.
Flour, 120,000sks; a moderate supply.
Maize, 170,000qrs; under an average.
Barley, 91,000qrs; under an average.
Oats, 103,000qrs; under an average.

These figures ought to help holders and steady the market.

The following returns are for the half (cereal) year:—

Ports of the	Flour Imports: Cereal year, 1901-2. Half-year, Sept. 1 to Feb. 28. Sacks.
1. Thames	2,376,000
2. Mersey	1,654,000
3. Severn	425,000
4. Clyde	1,193,000
5. Forth	288,000
6. Humber	109,000
Total	6,045,000

These receipts include British as well as foreign, if arriving by sea (coastwise), but it is practically only London which gets any large proportion of seaborne flour from other parts of the kingdom.

London was greatly over supplied with flour in December last, and this has made January and February markets peculiarly difficult to move. London monthly receipts of flour from all sources are reckoned to average 349,000 sacks, so that four months out of the past six have been over supplied.

The Thames estuary receipts have been:—London, Rochester, Tilbury, etc.—

	Sacks.
September	277,000
October	296,000
November	448,000
December	600,000
January	372,000
February	383,000
Total	2,376,000

Supplies on passage on the 8th included the following quantities of wheat:—

	Qrs.
Californian	2,300,000
American	200,000
Argentine	200,000
Russian	70,000
Indian	140,000
Australian	660,000
Other countries	20,000
Total	3,590,000

The total quantity of maize on passage is 440,000 quarters against 630,000 quarters a year ago, that of barley is 545,000 quarters against 355,000 quarters a year ago. The barley includes 420,000 quarters of Californian, the maize 400,000 quarters of round corn from Russia, Roumania, Bulgaria, and Turkey.

LONDON TERM MARKET.

This market is held twice a day, except on Saturday, when there is no afternoon call. The market is open to elected members only. No business except for future delivery is done, and the smallest quantity that can be purchased is 1,000 quarters, or 4,800 centals. The name of the month stands for guaranteed delivery (if required) on or before the last day of that month, and the following have been the prices per cental recently made:—

WHEAT.—Calls.	March. s. d.	June. s. d.	Aug't. s. d.
March 3 11 a.m.	6 1	6 2	6 3
4 p.m.	6 1	6 2	6 3
March 4 11 a.m.	6 2	6 2	6 3
4 p.m.	6 2	6 2	6 3
March 5 11 a.m.	6 2	6 2	6 2
4 p.m.	6 2	6 2	6 2
March 6 11 a.m.	6 2	6 2	6 2
4 p.m.	6 2	6 2	6 2
March 7 11 a.m.	6 2	6 2	6 2
4 p.m.	—	6 2	6 2
March 8 11 a.m.	—	6 2	6 2
To-day noon	6 1	6 2	6 2

The market for maize futures is dull at 4s. 4d. per cental for March, 4s. 5d. for April, 4s. 6d. for May, and 4s. 7d. for June delivery. Depression on these figures should at least be abating.

The Term Market standard wheat is No. 1 Northern Spring American sold on the Duluth certificate. Other sorts of wheat can be bought at the above prices plus or minus agreed difference between the other sort and the standard quality. Quotations are by the "true hundredweight" or cental of 100 lb. We do not quote fractions of a penny per cental. The maize quoted is fair average quality from the United States.

The deposit required from members of the Term Market has been fixed at £50 minimum and 1s. per quarter margin on any purchases above 1,000 quarters.

The Term Market (while the "Baltic" is rebuilding) is temporarily situated at the Great Eastern Hotel, No. 190, Bishopsgate Street, ground floor.

LONDON TOP PRICE FLOUR.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1901.

	s.	d.
September 2 (per sack)	29	0
,, 28 ,,	28	0

(No official change since last date given.)

THIS DAY'S MARKETS

MARK LANE, MONDAY.

[FIRST REPORT.]

English wheat to-day was the turn in buyers' favour, but the prices quoted do not admit of actual change. Foreign wheat was rather lower for all the principal American descriptions, and these now predominate. There are very scanty offerings of Indian, Argentine, and Russian. New Zealand approximates in price as in quality to the English samples. Maize was a trifle lower to-day for round and flat, but yellow was too scarce to be quoted. Barley was lower for ordinary brewing types, but fine seeding barley at the top of the price list and grinding barley at the bottom were steady in value and demand. Oats were a very disappointing trade. Tares were rather dearer on the week, but linseed and cottonseed were irregularly cheaper. Linseed was depressed for the Argentine type, but not for Indian.

QUOTATIONS OFF STANDS.

March 10, 1902.

BRITISH GRAIN.

		s.	s.
WHEAT, White (new)	(per 504 lb.)	29	— 31
,, (old)	,,	30	— 32
Red (new)	,,	28	— 30
,, (old)	,,	29	— 30
Chicken or Feed	(per 480 lb.)	26	— 28
BARLEY, Malting	(per 448 lb.)	31	— 37
Brewing	,,	27	— 30
Feeding	(per 400 lb.)	24	— 26
MALT, English	(per 336 lb.)	35	— 41
Scotch	,,	37	— 39
Black	,,	30	— 32
Brown	,,	29	— 32
Crystallized	,,	33	— 35
OATS, English, Black Winter	,,	22	— 24
,, Black Tartary	,,	21	— 22
,, Grey Winter	,,	22	— 24
,, White Tartary	,,	21	— 22
Scotch	,,	22	— 24
Irish	(per 304 lb.)	19	— 20
RYE, British	(per 480 lb.)	23	— 25
BEANS, Pigeon	,,	36	— 40
Winter	,,	31	— 35
Mazagan	,,	30	— 32
PEAS, Best Marrowfat	(per 504 lb.)	65	— 75
Blue (boiling)	,,	60	— 70
Dun	,,	31	— 32
Maple	,,	36	— 40
TARES, Winter	(per 504 lb.)	60	— 70
Spring	,,	50	— 54

FOREIGN GRAIN.

(Ex-Granary.)

	s.	s.
WHEAT, per 496 lb.		
Old Duluth	32	—32/6
Manitoba	32	—32/3
American Spring	31	—31/6
Red Winter	30/3	—31
Hard ,,	30	—30/6
Kansas	30	—30/3
Californian	30/6	—31
Walla Walla	None	
Australian	30	— 31
New Zealand	29	— 30
Argentine	None	
Danzig	31	— 33
Saxonka	30	— 31
Azima	30	— 31
Ghirka	29	— 30
Indian	29	— 30
MAIZE, per 480 lb.:		
Russian	22	—22/6
Roumanian	22	—22/6
Turkish	23	— 24
American	26	—26/6
Argentine	None	
OATS:		
N' Zeal'd (Best)	27	— 31
N. Zeal'd (Bluff)	25	— 27
N. Zeal'd (Dun)	23	— 25
Canadian (320 lb.)	20	— 21
American (320 lb.)	20	— 21
K'nigsb'g (320 lb.)	20	— 21
Pet'sburg (304 lb.)	19	— 20
L'bau,w'te (304 lb.)	19	— 20
,, black ,,	19	— 20
Vologda (304 lb.)	19	— 20
BEANS, per 480 lb.:		
Egyptian	33	— 34
Smyrna	31	— 32
New Zealand	34	— 36
LOCUST BEANS, per ton:		
Italian	102	— 104
Cyprian	106	— 112
Portuguese	105	— 107
PEAS, per 504 lb.:		
Canadian, White	37	— 38
Australian, White	41	— 42
New Zeal'd Maple	39	— 41
MILLET, per 416 lb.:		
White	33	— 45
Red	25	— 27
Yellow	20	— 23
Sorghum	19	— 21
DARI, per 480 lb.:		
Smyrna	24	— 25
Persian	21	— 23
RYE, per 480 lb.		
Russian	24	— 25
BUCKWHEAT, per 416 lb.		
French	24	— 25
Russian	24	— 26
TARES, per 504 lb.:		
Konigsberg	44	— 48
BARLEY:		
Saale (448 lb.)	38	— 40
Hungarian (448 lb.)	32	— 40
New Zeal'd (448 lb.)	26	— 29
Chilian (448 lb.)	32	— 34
Californian (448 lb.)	26	— 33
Danish (448 lb.)	28	— 30
French (448 lb.)	27	— 29
Danubian (400 lb.)	19	— 20
Ouchak (400 lb.)	24	— 32
Yerli (400 lb.)	21	— 22
Russian (400 lb.)	19	— 20
MALT, per 336 lb.:		
Californian	35	— 36
Smyrna	35	— 30

OIL SEEDS.

LINSEED. per 416 lb.	s.	s.
English	59	to 61
Dutch	58	to 60
Bombay	59	to 61
Calcutta	54	to 56
Russian	57	to 58
Argentine	51	to 53
SESAME. per 424 lb.		
Indian	50	to 52
COTTON SEED per ton.		
Egyptian	126	to 128

RAPESEED. per 416 lb	s.	s.
English	56	to 60
Calcutta	41	to 43
Guzerat	42	to 44
Ferozepore	37	to 39
Jamba	29	to 30
Ravison	28	to 29
POPPYSEED. per 377 lb.		
Indian	47	to 49
SUNFLOWERSEED. per 448 lb.		
Russian	48	to 50

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

THE MARKET CLOSED STEADIER FOR WHEAT, BUT DECIDEDLY DEPRESSED FOR SPRING CORN.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE Monday

There were buyers of country flour at sixpence decline on the week and of London makes at 3d. reduction, but where old prices were insisted on the sales were extremely limited. American sorts were rather cheaper, both for bakers' grades and for fancy flour. Australian flour was fairly steady, and Hungarian was above buyers' ideas. Fine Russian made 28s. to 30s. per sack, Cascadia 22s. to 23s.; the latter is a somewhat enhanced value. The chief sorts of milling offals favoured buyers, but Messrs. Bawcombs' circular indicates a sound reason for hoping that this market will steady itself shortly. Flour closed a little firmer on improved cables from the United States.

LONDON FLOUR.

		s.
Top Price	(per sack)	— 25
Town Whites	,,	— 28
,, Households	,,	— 22
No. 2	,,	— 20

COUNTRY FLOUR.

Best Patents	(per sack)	23 — 24
Fine Roller made	,,	21 — 22
Ordinary Roller made	,,	20 — 21
Best Stone made	,,	20 — 21
Ordinary Stone made	,,	19 — 20

FOREIGN FLOUR.

Minnesota First Patents	(per sack)	23 — 24
,, Second Patents	,,	21 — 22
,, First Bakers'	,,	19 — 20
,, Second Bakers'	,,	17 — 18
Milwaukee Patents	,,	22 — 23
,, Bakers	,,	17 — 18
Kansas Patents	,,	23 — 24
,, Bakers'	,,	18 — 19
Cascadia	,,	22 — 23
Canadian	,,	22 — 23
Australian Patents	,,	20 — 22
,, Straight	,,	19 — 21
Hungarian	,,	31 — 33
Russian	,,	28 — 30
French	,,	20 — 22

MEAL, &c.

Whole Meal	(per ton	172—174
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	115—117
Bran, London Broad	,,	108—110
,, ,, Fine	,,	88— 92
,, Country Flake	,,	118— 120
,, ,, Broad	,,	110—114
Pollard	,,	90—96
Biscuit Middlings	,,	120—124
Fine Middlings	,,	114—116
Coarse Middlings	,,	104—106
Feeding Flour (Red Dog)	,,	110—112
Barley Meal	,,	124—128
Rye Flour	,,	150—155
Oat Meal	,,	230—290
Oat Flour	,,	340—360
Maize Flour	,,	164—166
Maize Meal	,,	122—126
Maize Cones	,,	172—174
Maize Germ Meal	,,	110—120
Pea Meal	,,	130—150
Bean Meal	,,	145—165
Rice Meal	,,	100—105

THE BALTIC, 1 p.m.

STATE OF TRADE.

There is a better inquiry for wheat cargoes this morning, and the decline allowed last week has evidently served its purpose in stimulating business. Barley and oat cargoes are still neglected, and round maize is decidedly difficult to place. Cargoes of beans and peas for spring shipment are the subject of an improved inquiry.

BUSINESS DONE.

WHEAT.—Californiah, 29s 6d, prompt shipment; Walla Walla, 29s 6d, prompt shipment; Victorian, 30s 3d, prompt shipment; South Australian, 30s 3d, on passage; Argentine (finest), 30s, on passage; Argentine (f.a.q.), 29s, prompt shipment; Russian Winter, 30s, prompt shipment; Odessa Chirka, 29s, prompt shipment.

MAIZE.—Argentine, 21s 6d, May shipment.

BARLEY.—Roumanian, 18s 6d, on passage.

OATS.—Konigsberg, 20s, March shipment.

BEANS.—Egyptian, 28s 9d, May shipment.

PEAS.—Canadian No. 2, 32s 9d, April shipment; Calcutta green, 23s 6d, May shipment.

LINSEED.—Argentine, 49s 6d, arrived.

HOPS.

London, Monday.—W. H. and H. Le May report: The trade during the past week has been quiet, stocks are in a very narrow compass, and prices are firm.

POTATOES.

Great Northern, Saturday.—A good supply, for which fair demand. Scotch Maincrops, 90s to 95s; Lincoln Up-to-dates, 60s to 65s; Maincrops, 80s to 85s; and Yorkshire Up-to-dates, 70s to 75s per ton.

Borough, Saturday.—Supplies good, but demand without increase. Scotch Maincrops (Dunbars), 80s. to 90s; Blackland Reading Giants, 40s to 45s; Blackland Up-to-dates, 45s; Lincoln (Silts), 55s to 60s; Gartons, Blacklands, 40s per ton.

Spitalfields, Saturday.—Supplies show no diminution, and with no recovery in demand business remains in a very slow condition. Best Lincoln Up-to-dates, 55s to 5s; Blackland, 40s to 45s; Wisbech, 50s to 60s; Scotch, ditto, 60s; Scotch Maincrops (grey soil), 70s; Lincoln Maincrops, 75s to 85s; Reading Giants, 40s; Blackland Gartons, 40s per ton.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORTS.

Small arrivals; wheat and flour firm, at full prices. Maize 9d. to 1s. per quarter lower. Barley 3d. per quarter lower. Oats quiet, unchanged.—COVENTRY, SHEPPARD AND CO.

Milling offals are slow, prices being about the same as last week. Mills are not making much offal, on account of the bad flour trade, hence there is no great pressure to sell.—J. BAWCOMB AND CO.

Flour.—A quiet trade, at about 3d. advance on the week.—T. S. MEDILL AND SONS.

Offals.—The demand for bran continues dull. No improvement to report as to prices.—GREENHILL BROTHERS (Belfast).

Flour.—Quotations of spot flour continue about the same. Trade, however, extremely dull, and very little business being done. Values on spot are as follows:—1st Spring Patents, 24s. 9d. to 25s. 3d.; 2nd Spring Patents, 23s. 9d. to 24s. 3d.; American Winter Patents, 24s. 9d. to 25s. 3d.; Extra Fancies, 23s. to 23s. 6d.—GREENHILL BROTHERS (Belfast).

Flour.—Arrivals continue small. Prices are unchanged. Grain.—Flat and round corn, after being firmer, are now slightly in buyers' favour. Beans are again 3d. per boll up. Grinding barley is also 1½d. per boll dearer. Pease are in retail demand. Oatmeal and oilcake quietly steady. Mill Stuffs.—Bran and thirds unchanged.—MCKINNON AND MCDONALD (Glasgow).

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Monday.—Linseed cake.—Spot trade dull. Prices unchanged. There is a little more doing in forward shipment of American, which may be bought at 7s. 6d. under spot price. Decorticated cotton cake and meal, nothing doing. London and Egyptian about unchanged. Linseed unchanged on the week.

English Linseed Cake	ex mill	8	5	0 to 8	7	6
American Calcutta Linseed Cake	ex quay					
American Western ,,	ex quay	7	5	0 to 7	10	0
Russian Oil Cake	ex quay	7	10	0 to 7	17	6
Decorticated Cotton Cake	ex quay	6	5	0 to 6	12	6
,, ,, Meal	ex quay	6	5	0 to 6	7	6
London-made ,, Cake (best)	ex quay	4	10	0		
Egyptian ,, ,, ,, (in bags)	ex quay	4	6	3 to 4	10	0
Burton Desiccated Ale Grains (bags included)	on rail, Burton					
Guinness, Desiccated Porter Grains (bags included)	ex warehouse, London					
Rangoon Rice Meal	ex warehouse					
Dutch Linseed (in bags), per 416 lbs.		2	13	0 to 3	0	0
Calcutta Linseed in bags, per 410 lbs.	ex warehouse	2	15	0		
American Linseed in bulk, per 410 lbs.	ex warehouse					
La Plata do.	per 416 lbs.	2	12	0 to 2	15	0
Russian Linseed in bulk, per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse	2	14	0 to 2	18	0

ROBERT AND JOHN HEWETSON.

SEEDS

London, Monday.—Messrs. John Shaw and Sons, seed merchants, of Great Maze Pond, Borough, London, S.E., report only a moderate business now doing. White cloverseed is cheaper, but fine samples of red command former terms. There is no quotable alteration in either alsyke or trefoil. Rye grasses meantime continue to favour buyers, whilst for sainfoin the sale is small. Timothy, cocksfoot, and lucerne are held with firmness, but less money is accepted for tares. Mustard and rapeseed move off slowly at previous currencies. Linseed is quiet. With regard to canary seed, of which the supplies are getting into narrow compass, some large transactions are reported. The unprecedentedly low rates at which fine white millet is now obtainable attract attention. Peas and Haricots keep steady alike in value and demand.

London, Monday.—We had a fair attendance to-day, and a moderate demand for all articles of farm seeds, without quotable alteration in any article. The supply of English red clover continues to dwindle.—JOHN PICARD AND CO.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—The arrivals from Ireland last week were 1,470 bales bacon, and from foreign ports 9,970 bales bacon. Bacon—At the lower range of prices current last week there was an improved demand for all bacon, and the market closed firm on Friday at the following quotations:—Irish, 52s to 58s up to 61s; Danish, 50s to 53s up to 55s; Canadian, 44s to 50s up to 53s. Butter—The butter market was very quiet, indeed, and lower prices were again current for nearly all descriptions; Danish, 110s to 112s up to 113s; Colonial, 102s to 108s up to 110s. Lard—Unchanged in prices, with a fair demand; Irish bladders from 54s to 63s; American pails and boxes from 48s to 50s.

CORK BUTTER.

	Ordinary. Firsts.	Seconds.	Thirds.	Fourths.	Mild Cured Firkins. Superfine.	Fine	Mild.	Firkins in Market.
	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.	
Monday	104	88	80	—	112	94	—	50
Tuesday	104	88	80	—	112	93	—	60
Wednesday	100	89	80	—	112	95	—	70
Thursday	104	90	80	—	115	96	—	40
Friday	104	94	81	—	115	91	—	50
Saturday	104	93	81	—	115	96	—	70

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

Monday, March 10th, 1902.

	British.	Total.	March 10, 1901
Beasts	1,300	1,300	890
Sheep and lambs	9,430	9,430	6,860
Calves	5	5	10
Pigs	50	50	40
Milch cows	50	60	70

Quotations per 8 lbs. (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.

	Inferior.	Second.	First.
Beasts	2s. 5d. ..	3s. 10d. ..	4s. 8d.
Sheep	3s. 10d. ..	5s. 0d. ..	5s. 8d.
Lambs	6s. 2d. ..	7s. 0d. ..	8s. 0d.
Calves	6s. 2d. ..	7s. 0d. ..	8s. 0d.
Pigs	2s. 10d. ..	3s. 10d. ..	4s. 6d.

Milch cows, per head, £16 to £23.

British arivals include as follows:—Scotland, 38; Eastern Counties, 901; Midland and Home Western Counties, Devon, 30; Ireland, 93.

In the beast market to-day there was an increase in the supply compared with Monday last, and consisted chiefly of fat beasts from Norfolk. Trade, owing to less demand, was extremely slow, with a slight decline in value, but a clearance is anticipated. Fat butchering cows and bulls, being in steady request, were firm in value. Rough cattle met with little inquiry.

The following are top quotations per 8lb (sinking the offal):—

	To-day.	March 11, 1901.
Scotch	4s 6d to 4s 8d	4s 4d to 4s 6d
Devons	4s 6d to 4s 8d	—
Norfolks	4s 7d to 4s 8d	4s 4d to 4s 6d
Lincolns	4s 4d to 4s 6d	4s 0d to 4s 2d
Irish	4s 2d to 4s 4d	4s 0d to 4s 2d
Fat cows	3s 10d to 4s 0d	3s 6d to 3s 8d

In the Sheep Market there was an increase in the number penned compared with Monday last; for lambs, of which there was a large proportion, trade was firm at late rates. Both wethers and ewes were in good request, in many cases higher rates by 2d per 8lb being obtainable. The supply included 430 Scotch and 5,340 from the Eastern counties.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8lb (sinking the offal), and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day.	March 11, 1901.
7½ to 8 st. Downs	5s 6d to 5s 8d	6s 0d to 6s 2d
9 st. Downs	5s 2d to 5s 4d	5s 10d to 6s 0d
10 st. half-breds	4s 10d to 5s 0d	5s 6d to 5s 8d
12 st. Lincolns	4s 8d to 4s 10d	5s 4d to 5s 6d
10 st. Down ewes	4s 6d to 4s 8d	5s 0d to 5s 2d
11 st. half-bred do.	4s 3d to 4s 4d	4s 8d to 4s 10d
5 st. Down lambs	7s 10d to 8s 0d	7s 10d to 8s 0d
5 st. Dorset do.	6s 6d to 6s 8d	7s 6d to 7s 8d

Calf trade nominal.

For pigs there was a slow trade; best small breeds, however, sold readily at 4s 6d per 8lb.

London (Central), Monday.—Good supplies available; trade rather slower. Beef carcases, 3s 11d to 4s; hind-quarters, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; roastings, 5s 4d to 5s 8d. Sheep—Ewe, 3s to 3s 4d; wether, 4s to 4s 4d; hind-quarters, ewe, 4s to 4s 4d; wether, 5s to 5s 4d. Pigs—Large, 3s 8d to 4s; small, 4s to 4s 4d.

FOREIGN CATTLE.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts, 1,450. To-day's supply compared with Monday last, showed an increase of 385, and consisted of 1,228 from the United States and 222 from Canada, quality being below the late average. Trade was of a rather slow nature, with a slight downward tendency in value at following quotations per 8lb (offal given in): 90-stone States, 4s 5d; second quality, 4s 2d; Canadians quoted at from 3s 8d to 4s 2d. Sheep numbered 1,184 from the United States, and met with a fairly steady trade. Best pens made 4s 4d per 8lb, to dress from 64lb to 68lb. On Saturday beasts numbered 752 from the United States, and with a firm trade, were quoted at from 4s 3d to 4s 6d per 8lb. Sheep totalled 1,291 from the same county, and met a slow tarde at from 4s 3d to 4s 4d per 8lb (offal given in). The following were the numbers on offer on the corresponding day last year, with the current top rates: Beasts, 978, 4s 1d to 4s 2d pe 8lb, to dress from 680lb to 720lb. No sheep arrivals.

Liverpool, Monday.—There were fewer cattle in market to-day; demand rather better, but prices unchanged. Sheep—Supply larger; notwithstanding this, trade was good at higher rates for all classes. Beef, 6½ to 5d per lb; mutton, 8½d to 6d per lb. At market, 1,085 cattle and 4,417 sheep.

Live Weight Quotations.

Department of Agriculture and General Instruction for Ireland.

ROBSON'S CATTLE MART, BELFAST, HELD ON 4TH MARCH

The following returns are those of actual sales made in the markets referred to, the stock being weighed either before or after sale, for the week ending March 8th, 1902

No. of Beasts	Description and Quality.	Average price per head	Average Live weight.	Average price per cwt.
		£ s. d.	c. qr. lb	£ s. d.
1	Bullocks (prime) ..	21 0 0	14 3 0	1 15 9
2	,, ,, ..	16 12 6	9 1 21	1 15 3
1	,, ,, ..	20 0 0	11 1 21	1 15 0
2	,, ,, ..	16 5 0	9 1 24	1 14 4
2	,, ,, ..	16 12 6	9 2 24	1 14 3
2	,, ,, ..	17 7 6	10 0 24	1 14 0
1	,, ,, ..	15 5 0	9 0 7	1 13 8
1	,, (very good) ..	18 0 0	10 3 14	1 13 1
2	,, ,, ..	15 0 0	9 1 0	1 12 5
2	,, ,, ..	20 5 0	12 2 7	1 12 3
2	,, ,, ..	19 12 6	12 0 24	1 12 2
2	,, (good) ..	17 12 6	11 2 21	1 10 2
1	,, ,, ..	13 10 0	9 0 0	1 10 0
2	Heifer (prime) ..	16 5 0	9 0 21	1 15 4
*4	,, (good) ..	14 9 9	9 2 0	1 10 6

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW.

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS.")

Trade in London,

At the Islington Cattle Market on the chief market day of the week (Monday) business, so far as fat beasts was concerned, proved of a dull and heavy nature, especially at the start, when higher rates were unsuccessfully demanded; in fact, as sales progressed, slightly lower rates had to be accepted, but the decline was not sufficient to alter late quotations. A clearance was made on Thursday, but few sales were recorded. Of fat butchering cows the supply was much larger, but there being more demand, especially by country buyers, trade ruled firm, best quality readily making 2d. per 8lbs. more money, other grades being steady at last week's prices. For fat bulls and rough cattle there was less inquiry, rates consequently being easier. At Deptford trade on all three market days, viz., Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday, trade was of a rather slower nature, but last week's quotations were well upheld. The total number of beasts on offer at both markets was 3,897, as against 3,104 during the previous week, consisting of 1,160 British (increase 150) and 2,737 foreign (increase 643). These latter comprised 2,595 from the United States and 142 from Canada. The following were the top rates paid per 8lbs. (sinking the offal):—90-stone polled Aberdeens, 4s. 8d.; 90-stone polled Norfolks, 4s. 7d.; 100-stone Shorthorn ditto, 4s. 6d; 100-stone Lincolns, 4s. 6d.; 95-stone Irish, 4s. 4d.; 90-stone States, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 5d.; 85-stone Canadians, 4s.; 100-stone fat cows, 3s. 10d. to 4s.; 100-stone fat bulls, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d. The sheep trade at Islington, with a larger supply, was, for both wethers and ewes, of a firmer character, both in regard to tone and value, an early clearance of the latter being on both market days made. At Deptford rates also were steadier, but sales were rather slower. Some very choice Down lambs were on sale at Islington, and made 1s. per 8lb., but Dorset ditto met a slower trade. The total number penned at both markets was 10,847 (previous week 9,002), consisting of 8,610 British (increase 410) and 2,237 foreign (increase 1,435). These latter consisted of consignments from the United States. Best prices made per 8lb. as follows:—7½ to 8-stone Downs, 5s. 6d.; 9-stone ditto, 5s. 2d.; 8-stone Scotch, 5s. 2d. to 5s. 4d.; 10-stone Downs, 5s.; 10-stone half-breds, 4s. 10d. to 5s.; 12-stone Lincolns, 4s. 8d. to 4s. 10d.; 10-stone Down ewes, 4s. 6d.; 4½ to 5-stone Down lambs, 8s.; 5-stone Dorset ditto, 6s. 6d. Calves numbered 20, and pigs 35, for both of which trade was dull. Top value, former 6s., and the latter 4s. 6d. per 8lb.

Trade in the West.

The burst of bright, sunshiny weather with which we have been favoured during the past week has been a stimulus to business all round, of which the early spring fairs held within the last few days have had the benefit, and, although the trade can hardly be termed fast, still it was better, undoubtedly, under the genial influence of fine weather than it might otherwise have been. The milch beast trade continues to monopolise attention in most districts, where sales have been in active progress of late at uniformly high rates, which show no immediate prospect of declining. It is a long time since we remember a better trade for this class of stock, really good milchers fetching any price from £17 10s. up to £22 10s. each for reputable heifers, and from £12 to £16 10s. each. In-calvers, especially those shortly coming into profit, are likewise finding a very ready sale, those calving early commanding high prices. There has been no falling off either in the inquiry for barreners, which make capital prices; for those which will not be very long in coming out from £22 to £30 per pair for young well-fleshed bullocks, and from £17 to £20 10s. for older animals. Store bulls are likewise an exceptionally good trade for moderate-price animals, a rare Devon realising 23gs. at Maiden Newton fair on Thursday. Some little business is passing in store sheep, principally couples, which are selling from 45s. to 58s.; whilst store wether tegs sell from 35s. to 44s., which is the general run. In fat stock, bullocks maintain their recent firmness, and graziers seem rather inclined to hold out for even better prices than now rule than otherwise, good-class steers and heifers making £20 to £24 a-piece (or fully 11s. to 12s. per score); cows also selling well from 10s. to 10s. 6d. (or £14 to £19 10s. each), and veal seems to be well keeping in the wake of beef, as the best calvers are now making almost as much as they will do at any period of the season; best selling from £4 10s. to £6 10s. each (or little under 8d. per lb. for the best finished animals), the more ordinary grades making 6½d. to 7d. (or from 45s. to 75s.); rearers, too, are a good trade at from 20s. to 36s. each. Mutton is again rather depressed: wethers sell from 45s. to 53s. each, and ewes from 38s. to 47s. 6d. (or for the former about 7½d. per lb., and the latter 6½d. to 7d.—not more, if so much). The cold weather has militated somewhat against a very great demand for lamb, values in which just now are none too remunerative—about 8½d. or 9d. per lb. Pigs are certainly a comparatively better trade than lamb—that is, for all the neater weights, which are bringing for their owners from 10s. to 11s. per score, according to quality, and make an almost unlimited demand at the price.

Trade in Ireland.

It is getting rather monotonous to have to write the same stereotyped "a bad market again," but this is all that can be said of last Thursday's in Dublin. There was a falling away of 270 head of cattle on the previous week, but this was discounted by a limited attendance of both home and export buyers. Really choice beef was again very scarce, and the few beasts answering this description were keenly competed for, and brought the full rates of last market. For medium and rough cattle there was a very dull inquiry, and dull, dragging sale, the general opinion being that it was the very worst market of this year. Best ox and heifer beef made from 54s. 6d. to 57s. 9d., some extra choice lots making from 60s. to 62s. per cwt., the latter price being paid for half-a-dozen magnificent polled red bullocks, fed in the county Wicklow; good second-class beef, 48s. to 52s. 6d., and other descriptions from 40s. to 46s. per cwt. Sheep met with no better luck, the cattle trade being equally dull and unsatisfactory, the only exception being for choice Cheviot and mountain wethers, which were freely purchased at the full rates of last week. For anything else in the mutton line business was particularly dull and tedious, and a large number of sheep were left over unsold at the close of the day. Prime wether mutton was worth from 6½d. to 7½d. per lb., choice Cheviots making a farthing or half-penny more per lb; ewe, 5½d. to 6½d., and inferior sheep from 5d. to 5½d. per lb. Small to medium hoggets made from 27s. to 38s., and large, heavy ditto from 40s. to 52s. each. Lambs met with a very slow demand, at very irregular prices, medium fetching from 22s. to 30s., and choice from 34s. to 40s. each. Good, well-fed veal still a scarce commodity, and worth from 8d. to 9d. per lb.; coarse calves from 4½d. to 6½d. per lb. There were 1,546 head of cattle and 3,898 sheep on the market. Choice springers and new milch cows scarce, but demand was slow at from £18 to £20 for former and £16 to £19 for latter. Other qualities in large supply, but very difficult to dispose of. A large market of pigs, numbers being sent in by dealers who bought at Athy and Ballinasloe fairs. An exceptionally sluggish demand prevailed, and prices receded fully 2s. to 3s. per cwt. As compared with previous week-end, it was impossible to effect anything like a clearance. Best light-weight pigs made from 45s. to 47s. per cwt.; porkers, 48s.; and coarse, heavy pigs, from 30s. to 40s. per cwt., according to quality.

LONDON.

Islington, Thursday.—Supplies were again moderate and, as customary on this day, the bulk consisted of fat bulls and rough cattle. The demand was of a quiet character, but prices were unchanged. Fat bulls, 3s 6d to 3s 8d. Fair supplies of sheep met with quiet request, prices, however, being steady. 7½ to 8-stone Down wethers, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; 9-stone ditto, 5s 2d to 5s 4d; 10-stone half-breds 5s; 10-stone Down ewes, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; and 11-stone half-breds, 4s to 4s 2d. Calf trade and supply nominal. Pigs steady. Neat small porkers, 4s 6d to 4s 8d per 8lb, to sink the offal. Total supplies:—70 beasts, 820 sheep, 5 cows, 10 calves, and 15 pigs.

COUNTRY.

Basingstoke, Wednesday.—At Raynbird and Sons' sale yard there was a good attendance of buyers to meet a supply of 141 fat beasts, 52 calves, fat sheep, lambs, and 71 head of dairy and store cattle, for which the following prices were realised: Fat Shorthorn steers made up to £24 10s; heifers, from £20 15s; cows, up to £18 5s; Devon steers, £20; and Welsh runts, £16 to £17; fat calves, 65s to 112s 6d; small, 15s to 50s; dairy cows, up to £16; prime quality fat sheep, 46s to 54s; 13 months old ditto, 39s to 48s; fat sucking lambs, 27s to 37s; fat ewes, 38s to 48s; store tegs, 32s 6d. A good show of prime quality fat beasts, chiefly from local graziers, were cleared at about last week's figures. A shorter supply of fat sheep and lambs of an all-round better quality, and with a good attendance of buyers, met an improved demand, and a clearance effected, with the exception of a few lots of half-fat tegs. A consignment of 25 fat sucking lambs from W. Banon Simonds, Esq., were sold up to 37s; fat tegs from Mr. E. Wigg made up to 54s; fat two-tooth wethers from Mr. J. Brownfield, 57s., etc. With a larger supply of dairy cattle on offer, prices all round, with a slow trade, must be quoted considerably lower than last week. Store cattle continues a slow business. Fat calves are in demand, and meet a brisk trade. At the monthly sale of horses 24 lots were offered, some of excellent stamp, and commanded attention from local and distant buyers. Cart horses were sold at from 7 to 44gs. Ruling values: Best quality fat beasts, 6¾d to 7¼; second quality ditto, 6d to 6¼d; bulls, cows, and inferior beasts, 5d to 6d per lb; best quality fat sheep, 7d to 8d; second ditto, 6d to 7d; fat sucking lambs, 9d to 10d per lb; old rams, ewes, and inferior sheep, 5d to 6d; fat calves, 6½d to 8¾d per lb.

Boston, Wednesday.—A good show of cattle, but a quiet trade. Strong stores, £16 to £17; drapes, £12 to £14; in-calvers, £19 to £21; heifers, to £19; calves, 55s to 60s each; best beef, 7s to 7s 9d; cow beef, 7s to 7s 6d per stone; hogs, 36s to 40s each; best wether mutton, 7d to ½d; ewes, 5½d to 6d per lb.

Braintree, Wednesday.—For beef, good for prime quality; for mutton, improved; for pork, as last week. The general tone all round was good. Young sheep freely bid for, and best beef in demand. Store cattle, although scarce, found ready sale, and cows were in demand. Large hogs made good prices. Numbers penned: Beasts 56, fat sheep 130, hogs 75, store cattle 20, milking cows 12, calves 22.

Bristol, Thursday.—Beef in fair supply to-day, best qualities making 60s to 62s per cwt; secondary animals, 56s. Moderate supply of mutton, but quiet trade. Best light wethers fetched 7½d to 7¾d per lb; heavy wethers, 7d; ewes, 5½d. Pigs plentiful, baconers selling at 9s 6d per score; porkers, 10s 9d. Prices for store cattle for opening of season considered satisfactory.

Bury, Wednesday.—With a full attendance of buyers, trade ruled sharp, at a little more money for all descriptions, especially for the ripest cattle. Several lots of store beasts found buyers at late rates. Very short supply of fat sheep, which met a sharper trade, at more money for all descriptions of young sheep. Fat ewes also made more money. Grazing hoggets also sold at rather better prices than of late, prices ranging up to 38s for half-breds, and from 34s 6d to 31s for black-faced hoggets. Rather more fat pigs at market, and a sharp trade for all heavy weights.

Calne, Friday.—Present prices for prime pigs, in lots of not less than 10, on rail within 100 miles of Calne.

Prime Stores.	Thickness of fat in any part of the Back.	Price per Sc. s.	d.
6 sc. 10 lbs. to 9 sc. 10 lbs.	2½ in. and under ...	9	6
Under 10 sc.	Not exceeding 2½ in. ...	9	0
Under 11 sc. 10 lb.	Not exceeding 2¾ in. ...	8	6
Under 12 sc.	Not exceeding 3 in. ...		

—C. & T. Harris & Co., Ltd.

Cambridge, Monday.—Beasts 361, sheep 572, horses 21; beef, 7s to 8s; mutton, 4s to 5s. A few lots of store cattle; trade a little better. Fat beasts a good show; prices unchanged. Fat sheep a large supply; trade slow at less money. Stores only a few lots shown, and trade slow. Hay, straw, and roots short supplies, and trade good.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Fairly good trade; working tegs of the better class made 27s to 32s; very strong sheep forward in condition, 32s to 35s 6d; two-year-olds, 37s to 40s, and one pen of large fat wethers sold at 44s per head. A large number of cows and calves were also on sale.

Carlisle, Saturday.—The supply of Irish store cattle was similar to that of last week, consisting of about 300 heifers and stripping cows. The high price of fodder has so far acted as a deterrent in the trade, but there was an improvement to-day, the attendance being larger and trade more active. The quotations, according to the quality of the cattle, are similar to those at this time last year. Small heifers realised £8 10s to £10 10s; best heifers, up to £14 10s; stripping cows, £8 10s to £11 10s.

Chichester, Wednesday.—There was a much larger supply of fat stock than usual, and business for beef was on the whole good. Mutton, however, was rather dull, though without alteration in price. Veal and lamb were in fair supply, and met a steady trade without alteration in values. Store sheep were in smaller supply than of late, but trade was still characterised by extreme sluggishness, and the tendency of prices was in a downward direction. A good business was done in the pig department, where prices held their own.

Dorchester, Wednesday.—The market was again well supplied. A good tone pervaded business, and prices were well maintained. The beef trade keeps strong, the best bullocks now making 11s to 11s 6d per score. Mutton scarcely so good a trade as that for bullocks, though good nice-weight wethers are making 7½d per lb and over; ewes, 6d to 7d; cross-bred lambs, 8½d to 9d. Pigs, both porkers and baconers, fetched high rates, best porkers selling at 10s 6d to 11s per score, and baconers 9s 6d to 10s; heavy sows, £4 to £7 10s.

Dublin, Thursday.—Numbers in market:—Beasts, 1,546, decrease 269; sheep, 3,898, increase 36; calves, 35, decrease 3. Only the choicer descriptions of cattle maintained late rates. Other sorts met a slow and tedious trade, with prices more in favour of buyers. No material alteration in price of best suitable sheep for home trade. Rough and inferior qualities neglected. Shipping business almost nil. Cattle: Live weight (best), 32s to 34s 6d per cwt; others, 26s to 31s per cwt. Mutton, dead weight, 6d to 7½d per lb.—GANLY SONS AND CO.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Bullocks and cows, 757; calves, 195; sheep and lambs, 751; pigs (fat and sows), 49; sucking pigs, 3; pigs (stores, not more than ten), 315; pigs (stores, more than ten), 105; horses, 1; colts, 3. Best beef, 6d to 7d per lb; wether sheep, 6½d to 8d per lb; ewes, 5½d to 6d per lb; veal, 7½d per lb; lamb, 9d per lb; pork, 5½d to 6d per lb; bacon, 4d to 5d per lb.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons report the number of fat cattle on offer was much the same as last week. Competition was sharp for all descriptions, and prices were very firm up to 9s per stone. Fat sheep were short, and sold without alteration; Suffolk shearlings, to 55s; ditto hoggetts, 51s 6d; half-breds, to 51s. An excellent show of grazing hoggets; those forward in condition fully maintained recent rates, and those with less condition advanced in value. Suffolks in nice condition made from 37s to 36s 3d, half-breds to 40s, others from 38s to 26s 3d. Fat and store swine came to hand in good numbers, and buyers were in strong force; a brisk trade was done, but prices were a trifle easier, except in the case of stores, which were dearer. For grazing cattle, with condition, there was more inquiry, but calves and yearlings were not much wanted. Home-breds made from £12 10s to £8 7s 6d, Shorthorns from £8 17s 6d to £7 7s 6d. A large entry of dairy stock, and several buyers present, but the high prices recently current were not maintained. Cows made from £18 15s to £13, heifers £17 5s to £10 10s. Numbers at sales and market:—Beasts 643, calves 80, sheep 2,237, swine 1,543, horses 19.

Leicester, Wednesday.—A good average supply of home-fed bullocks came to hand, generally in good condition, and with buyers and dealers well represented, trade was much brisker at an advance of 15s to 20s per head. Choice bullocks made 6d to 6½d, cows 5d to 5¾d, and heifers 6d to 6¾d per lb. Sheep were a full supply, and sold freely at 7½d to 8¼d per lb for choice lots; large sheep 6¾d to 7d per lb, and ewes 5¾d to 6d. Lambs were very firm at 1s per lb. Calves sold freely at 8½ per lb.

Norwich, Saturday.—The supply of store beasts here to-day was not large; the demand showed no improvement, and previous prices were barely maintained. Fat beasts, which were in large supply, moved off steadily at 7s 6d to 8s per 14lb. Store sheep were in fair supply; and keep prospects being better, there was a good demand at an advance of 1s to 2s per head on the week; keeping hoggets were quoted at from 28s to 40s per

head. Fat sheep, which were in pretty good supply, made 8s to 8s 6d per 14lb. Some moderate rains yesterday are calculated to improve keep prospects in Norfolk.

Newport, Wednesday.—Quotations were:—Best beef, 6½d to 6¾d per lb; secondary sorts, 6¼d to 0d; cows, 5½d to 6d; best wether mutton, 8d to 8¼d; ewes, 6d to 6¼d; lamb, 0d; veal, 8d to 9d. Porker pigs, 10s 6d to 11s per score; and baconers, 9s to 9s 6d. There was a small supply of sheep, and prices showed no upward tendency.

Romford, Wednesday.—Short supply of fat beasts, trade about the same. Best animals 4s 4d to 4s 6d, middlings 4s to 4s 2d per stone. Calves in very short supply, trade dear, at 5s 6d to 5s 8d per stone. Sheep in short supply, and trade better. best sheep 5s 4d to 5s 6d, and middlings 5s to 5s 2d per stone. A few lambs on offer, and made 7s 4d to 7s 6d per stone. Few store beasts on offer; fair demand. Pig market still closed.

Salford, Tuesday.—There was a smaller supply of cattle than last week. Trade ruled fairly good, and last week's prices were obtained. The supply of sheep was larger, but notwithstanding this, a good selling trade was experienced, and late rates were fully maintained. There was a good supply of calves, and a good demand for choice fat ones at last Tuesday's quotations. Quotations: Cattle, 4½d to 6½d; sheep, 6d to 8½d; calves, 5d to 8½d per lb. At market: Cattle, 2,327; sheep, 8,239; calves, 174.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Fair show of milch beasts, but the sale was very slow. Best lots, £18 to £23; less desirable animals, £15 upwards.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday.—Pigs made fair prices. Cows with calves, and calves, in good demand. Trade slower generally. Quotations:—Beef, 6d to 6½d; mutton, 6½d to 7¼d; and veal, 7d to 8d per lb. Porket pigs, 9s 6d to 10s 6d; and bacons, 8s 6d to 9s 6d per score. Cows with calves, up to £23 15s. Hay, up to £5 s 6d; and straw, up to £4 7s 6d per ton. Clover, up to £5 7s 6d. Number offered: 882 cattle, 82 cows with calves, 444 sheep, 157 calves, 75 fat, 176 porket, and 464 store pigs.—B. R. CROXTON.

Spalding, Tuesday.—A small show of fat beasts and sheep. Beef trade slow, and decidedly lower than last week. Best, 7s 6d; cow beef, 7s per stone. Sheep trade good. 6½d to 7½d per lb being realised.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There were on offer 105 cattle, 21 calves, 270 sheep, 2 lambs, and 236 pigs. The show of best cattle was very small, and customers were few, prices ranging from 7s 6d to 8s; rougher kinds, 6s to 7s per stone. Calves met with a very good demand at 7d and 8½d sheep, 7½d; ewes, 5d to 6d; tups, 4d to 5d per lb; lambs, 36s to 38s each.

Thame, Wednesday.—Trade all round showed a great improvement from last Tuesday, and with a short supply of stock and a full attendance of buyers, competition was keen and a clearance readily effected. Mr. Bond's sale comprised 49 fat beasts, 80 fat sheep, 44 fat and weaning calves, 156 fat and store pigs, and 2 horses. Prices: Fat bullocks made £16 to £21; fat heifers. £14 to £21 12s 6d; fat tegs, 46s to 60s 6d; fat ewes, 38s to 46s; fat lambs, 39s; fat calves, £3 to £4 15s; cow calves, 23s to 62s; bull calves, 14s to 45s; fat pigs, 10s per score. Stores a better trade.

Wakefield, Wednesday.—A better tone prevailed, although there were rather more beasts and sheep than last week. Best beef, 6¾d; other qualities from 5d to 6½d; young sheep, 7¾d; other animals from 5¾d to 7¼d. Number of sheep, 3,118; beasts, 1,252.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—A moderate supply and trade in beasts; sheep small supply and slow trade; calves in moderate supply and good demand. Beef, 5¾d to 6¾d per lb, a few at 7d per lb; mutton, 6d to 8¾d per lb; calves, 8d to 10d per lb; pigs, bacon 10s 6d per score, porkets 10s 6d to 11s per score, sows 8s 6d per score.

Worcester, Saturday.—Steady trade for beef at full rates. Mutton slow and unaltered. Fat calves were in request, and store pigs sold well. Beef, 6d to 7d; mutton, 7d to 8d, and veal 9d per lb. Pork pigs, 10s; bacons, 9d to 9s 6d per score.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Very good show of stock, and fair trade, late rates being fully maintained. Best beef, 7s 3d to 7s 9d; secondary, 6s 6d to 7s 3d; per stone: best wethers, both clipped and in the wool, 6½d to 7¼d: ewes, 5d to 6d per lb.

FOREIGN.

Deptford. Wednesday. — Beast supplies to-day amounted to 920 head, against nil on Wednesday last, and consisted of consignments from the United States. Trade ruled slow, at 4s 2d to 4s 4d; exceptionally, 4s 5d per 8lb, to sink the offal. 194 United States sheep left unsold from Monday last were offered, and elicited no attention.

Yorkhill. Monday.—The usual weekly sale of United States and Canadian cattle was held to-day, when there were penned in the sheds 54 cattle landed by the Sarmatian (s), from Boston, and 198 by the Alcides (s), from St. John, N.B. Taken all round, the animals were only a middling lot, though a few of the bullocks were of prime quality. There was the usual attendance of buyers, and trade for good cattle was brisk, the rates realised being fully up to those ruling last week. Secondary and heavier animals were much slower to sell, and the prices made were not so satisfactory. Bulls met a fair selling trade. The dead-weight quotations may be given as follows: States bullocks, best quality, medium weight, 58s. per cwt, and a few really choice made up to 60s; secondary and heavier animals, 54s to 56s; bulls, best class, to 49s; and secondary and heavier, 44s to 46s. Canadian bullocks, best class, to 56s per cwt, and a few choice and prime beasts made up to 58s; secondary and heavier, 52s to 54s; and bulls, 44s to 46s, all according to quality and finish.

Yorkhill. Tuesday.—A sale of American cattle was held to-day, the supply consisting of 14 animals held over from Monday and 309 landed by the Norwegian from Portland (Ore.). As regards quality, the animals were up to the average, and showed well. There was only a small attendance of buyers—a fact due to it being a half-holiday in the trade and a large number having their immediate wants wel supplied. Good, well-fed bullocks met a brisk demand, and fully made Monday's prices. Heavier and plainer were slow to cash. Bulls met a fair trade, and sold relatively dear. The deadweight quotations may be given as follows: States bullocks, best quality, medium weight, 58s to 60s per cwt; secondary and heavier 54s to 56s; bulls, best class, 46s to 48s; secondary and heavier, down to 44s. Canadian bullocks, best class, 56s to 58s per cwt; secondary and heavier, 52s to 54s; and bulls made similar prices to those ruling above.

HOPS.

Canterbury. Saturday.—Rather less doing during the week, supplies having been so much reduced. Recent advance firmly maintained, with a steady inquiry.

Worcester. Saturday.—There is very little trade doing in hops now, but the better sorts tempt buyers at the low prices now ruling. Many growers decline to sell, except at prices considerably above market value, believing that they will do better later on.—PIERCY AND CO.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Hull, Tuesday.—Linseed: The arrivals are 7,633qr. Buenos Ayres, 980qr Harlingen, 1,250qr Libau, 2,555qr Ramallo, 2,643qr Rosario, 14,246qr San Nicholas, 10,072qr Villa Constitution; total, 38,871qr. Linseed: The market, after a dull and lifeless week, firmed up yesterday, and 6d to 9d per qr advance was paid for Plate. Calcutta, 51s 6d paid for April-June. River Plate, spot 49s to 49s 3d, Feb. and Feb.-March 49s 6d. Cottonseed: After our last issue, there was a further decline in this article, and £6 6s 3d was accepted spot, £6 7s 6d Feb., and £6 8s 9d April-June, but the market has since improved, with business done at—up to £6 10s spot, £6 11s 3d passage, and £6 11s 3d to £6 12s 6d paid April-June. No sales reported in New Crop, which at one time offered at £6 Nov.-Jan., but £6 2s 6d now quoted. Market closed strong, £6 15s spot and passage, £6 13s 9d March, £6 15s April-June. Oils: Exports for the week ending 25th February, 1902:—Linseed oil: 26 America, 3 Germany, 10 Norway; total, 39 tons. Cotton oil: 203 Belgium, 2 Denmark, 1 France, 91 Germany, 297 Holland, 5 Sweden; total, 599 tons. Linseed oil: Steady, 29s 6d spot; 29s 3d March-April; 29s 3d May-Aug. Cotton oil: 22s 10½d spot; 22s 10½d March-April; 23s 3d May-August. Crude: 21s 6d spot; 21s 6d March-April; 21s 9d May-August. Rape oil: Jamba naked, 24s 3d spot. 1st quality naked, 25s 3d spot. —KEIGHLEY, MAXSTED, AND CO.

London, Thursday.—Linseed: Heavy shipments from the Plate, and Calcutta offering freely, have caused the market to decline the end of last week, but prices have again advanced. Spot Calcutta to London nominally 54s 9d, passage 54s 9d at 53s, March 52s 6d, April 52s 3d, April-June 52s. La Plata, near 51s 6d, passage 51s. Hull is steady. Calcutta April-June 52s 9d. La Plata, spot 49s 9d, February-March 50s 6d. To the Continent, Bombay, March-May 53s 9d. Calcutta, April-June 52s 6d. La Plata, just shipped 50s, February-March 50s 6d. Linseed oil was quiet during the early part of the week, but has again improved. We quote spot in pipes £31 5s, barrels £31 7s 6d, May-August £30 15s to £31, September-December £29 5s. Hull, spot naked £29 12s 6d, March-April £29 15s to £30, May-August £30, September-December £28 5s. Linseed cakes are firm. We to-day quote London made £8 5s to £8 10s, ex-mill, American Western £7 7s 6d to £7 10s, Russian £7 12s 6d to £8 2s 6d. Cotton cakes quiet, London made £4 6s 3d to £4 7s 6d. Rapeseed: Steady, but quiet. Brown Cawnpore, February-March 38s 4½d, March-May 38s 9d. To the Continent, we quote Yellow Cawnpore, March-May 42s 6d. Brown Cawnpore, February-March 38s 4½d, March-May 38s 9d. Brown Calcutta, February-March 38s, April-June 38s 6d. Ferozepore, February-March 39s. Jamba, March-May to Hull 31s 6d. Cottonseed: The Alexandria market becoming excited, owing to a marked advance in Hull, caused by anticipated short supplies, has improved prices considerably. Spot London £6 10s, February £6 10s, March £6 12 6d, April-May £6 13s 9d. Hull, spot £6 15s, February-March £6 15s, April-May £6 15s. Cargoes, March £6 16s 3d, April £6 17s 6d, May £6 18s 9d. Bombay to Hull—Importers ask £4 10s March-April.—THE PRODUCE BROKERS COMPANY, LIMITED.

Mark Lane, Monday.—There are practically no stocks of foreign in warehouse, and with only a limited quantity afloat, values are firmly held up, but a good business has been done in March-April shipments at a slight reduction on present quotations. Russians sell quietly at a slight reduction. Americans offer on slightly better terms for future deliveries. Calcutta-made, in bags, are obtainable at a small advance on last week's prices. London-made may be bought on rather better terms. Cotton cakes: The demand has been less active of late, and with a considerable quantity offering in second hands, values are weak, but not quotably lower. Egyptians move off slowly at a slight reduction, while English are unchanged in price. Decorticated remain dull and without change, as also is the case with meal. Maize germ meal: American continues scarce on spot, and needy buyers have to pay full prices of £6 to £6 2s 6d, while the price for March-April, despatched from the mills is unchanged. English is also unchanged. Rape cakes: Quiet. East India unchanged. Rice meal: Some steamer parcels of Rangoon, due the end of the month, may be bought at £4 15s, while shippers still ask last week's prices.—PINNOCK BROTHERS.

	Per ton. £ s. d.	Per ton. £ s. d.
LINSEED CAKES.		
London made ..... ex mill	8 2 6	to 8 5 0
American ..... ex dock	7 0 0	to 7 2 6
Russian, in mats ..... ex dock	7 11 3	to 7 12 6
Russian, in bags ..... ex dock	7 15 0	to 7 17 6
Calcutta	7 15 0	to 7 17 6
COTTONSEED CAKES.		
London made ..... ex mill	4 7 6	to 4 10 0
Egyptian ..... ex dock	4 5 0	to 4 7 6
Decorticated ..... ex dock	6 7 6	to 6 12 6
Meal ..... ex dock	6 5 0	—
RAPE CAKES.		
East India	4 5 0	—
MAIZE.		
English germ meal ..... ex mill	5 17 6	to 6 0 0
American ..... c.i.f.	5 7 6	to 5 10 0
RICE MEAL.		
Rangoon ..... in warehouse	—	5 5 0

—PINNOCK BROS., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

WATERLOO ROUN FEEDING CAKES, £6 12s 6d PER TON' WATERLOO ROUND 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES £9 12s 6d PER TON; WATERLOO ANGLO SHAPE 97 PER CENT' PURE LINSEED CAKES, £9 10s PER TON; WATERLOO 97 PER CENT. PURE EGYPTIAN COTTONSEED CAKES,' £4 15s 0d PER TON. ALL F.O.R. HULL.

MOLASSINE FEEDING MEAL, packed in bags, of 1½cwt, each. Price per ton, £6 15s., on rail at works, Silvertown, Essex, and F.O.R. Liverpool. A sample lot of 6cwt., in 4 bags of 1½cwt. each, delivered free to any station in England on receipt of remittance for £2 11s 0d

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—Vegetables in good supply, but demand slow. English grapes, 1s 6d to 3s; Belgian, 1s to 1s 9d per lb; Nova Scotian apples, 20s to 25s per barrel; Californian, 9s to 12s 6d per case; bananas, 7s to 12s per bunch; Denia oranges, 10s to 25s; Murcia, 7s to 10s; Jaffa, 12s to 14s per case; pineapples, 1s 9d to 4s 6d each; lemons, 8s to 20s per case; dates, 11s to 12s per cwt; cabbages, 4s to 5s; cauliflowers, 10s to 12s per tally; Brussels sprouts, 2s 3d to 2s 6d per bushel; parsnips, beetroots, 2s; spinach, 2s to 2s 6d per bushel; carrots, 2s to 3s to 3s 6d per bag; carrots, 2s to 2s 6d; turnips, 2s to 3s; parsley, 3s to 3s 6d per dozen bunches; horseradish, 1s 3d to 1s 6d per bundle; celery, 12s to 14s per dozen rolls; forced rhubarb, 1s 3d per dozen bundles; Valencia onions, 7s 6d to 8s per case; potatoes, 35s to 80s per ton; new, Teneriffe, 14s per cwt.

MANURES.

Liverpool, Friday.—Nitrate of soda maintains late rates, and rather more inquiry is experienced. Other fertilisers are more inquired for, and a fair amount of sales are transpiring in East India bone meal, kainit, and superphosphate of lime at unchanged values. Feeding stuffs are rather quiet, but are without change in prices. Nitrate of Soda, best quality, *i.e.*, guaranteed 95 per cent., pure, in bags, £10 10s per ton; East India Bone Meal, fair to prime, in bags, £4 1s 3d to £4 6s 3d per ton; Kainit, prime 23 per cent., in bags, £2 7s 6d to £2 10s per ton; Palm Nut Cake, prime, in bags, £5 15s per ton; Linseed Cake, American thin oblong, prime, in bags, £7 10s to £7 12s 6d per ton; Linseed Cake, English, prime, in bulk, £8 15s to £9 per ton; Cottonseed Cake, N.A. decorticated, prime, in bags, £7 to £7 5s per ton; Cottonseed Cake, English decorticated, prime, soft, in bags, £7 7s 6d to £7 10s per ton; Cottonseed Cake, English, undecorticated, prime, in bulk, £4 10s to £4 15s per ton; Cottonseed Cake (crushed), 20/25 per cent. oil, prime, i nbags, £7 3s 9d per ton; Maize Germ Meal, prime, in bags, £5 17s 6d to £6 per ton; Rice Meal, Rangoon, as imported, in bags, £5 7s 6d per ton; Indian Meal, coarse to fine grinding, prime, in bulk, 13s to 13s 6d per 240lb; Linseed, fine bold feeding, in bags, £3 1s to £3 4s per qr, 416lb; D.N.S. Brand Superphosphate of Lime, guaranteed, 25 to 27 sol., in bags, £2 5s to £2 7s per ton; D.N.S. Brand Superphosphate of Lime, guaranteed, 30 to 31 sol., in bags, £2 10s to £2 12s per ton; Superphosphate of Lime, guaranteed, 35 to 36 sol., in bags, £3 to £3 2s per ton at producing depot; Basic Slag, prime quality, guaranteed, 30 to 35 per cent. phos., in bags, nominal; Basic Slag, prime quality, guaranteed, 35 to 40 per cent. phos., in bags, nominal; Basic Slag, finest quality, guaranteed, 38 to 45 per cent. phos., in bags, nominal.

COLONIAL DAIRY PRODUCE.

London, Friday.—The demand for Australian butter is over, and the Ormuz, the last vessel for the season, has arrived. With New Zealand the case is different. Vessels from that colony will bring butter for the next two or three months. During the past week New Zealand butter has not been in such request as it was; but this is true of all butters. Retailers are naturally anxious not to follow the high prices prevailing, hoping for a fall in values, but it looks very much as if they would be disappointed, for, though there is a temporary dullness, there is not enough best quality butter outside of New Zealand to meet the consumptive demand. Denmark and the Continent will be unable to supply future requirements. "Choicest" New Zealand remains at 110s to 112s, although some weak holders have been offering at 108s. "Finest" grade maintains its late value of 104s to 108s. The scarcity of butter to meet the shilling retail demand continues, and prices of this class of butter keep firm at late rates. The Copenhagen official quotation has been reduced four kroner, and now stands at 96 kroner, the same price as last year at this date. There appears to have been a paniky feeling in the Northern markets of England this week, and this has caused the Danes to lower the quotation, thus bringing the value of Danish butter for the second time this season almost on a par with New Zealand. The fall in Danish will be only temporary, and will not affect New Zealand. Unless an early spring arrives, butter must remain dear. Cheese.—There is a better demand for "Choicest" quality Canadian, and prices have advanced a good shilling in the week to 53s, the present value. "Finest" brings 50s to 52s, and is in better request than "Choicest." New Zealands are scarce, and worth 51s to 52s.—W. WEDDEL AND CO.

EGGS.

Tuesday.—Bedale: 12 for 1s. Gainsborough: 12 for 1s. Settle: 13 or 14 for 1s. Spalding: 14 for 1s. Leeds: Yorkshire, 11s to 12s per 120. Stone: 12 and 13 for 1s.

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 9 and 10 for 1s. Boston: 14 for 1s. Colne: 2s 3d per score. Goole: 12 for 1s. Keighley: Wholesale, 10; retail, 9 for 1s. Kirbymoorside: 14 to 15 for 1s. Knaresborough: 12 or 13 for 1s. Louth: Wholesale, 16 for 1s. Market Weighton: 14 for 1s. Masham: 12 to 14 for 1s. Northallerton: 11 or 12 for 1s. Stockton: 9 or 10 for 1s. Worksop: 2s per score. Ipswich: 10 and 12 for 1s. Hereford: 12 for 1s; wholesale, 14. Uttoxeter: 1s 7d to 1s 8d per score. Dorchester: 11d to 1s per doz.

Thursday.—Devizes: 14 to 16 for 1s. Brigg: 13 or 14 for 1s. Driffield: 14 or 15 for 1s. Penistone: 10 for 1s. Ripon: 12 or 13 for 1s. Scarborough: 11 for 1s. Wetherby: 12 to 14 for 1s. Kidderminster: 12 for 1s. Wellington: 12 and 13 for 1s.

Friday.—Easingwold: 12 to 14 for 1s. Grimsby: Austrian, 5s 10d to 7s 1d per 120; Egyptian, 4s 10d to 5s; Danish, 8s to 8s 6d. Helmsley: 13 for 1s. Leyburn: 14 for 1s. Lincoln: 13 to 14 for 1s. Otley: 11 to 13 for 1s.

Saturday.—Appleby: 12 to 14 for 1s. Berwick: 10d to 1s per dozen. Carlisle: 12 to 13 for 1s. Doncaster: 11 to 12 for 1s. Grantham: 12 to 15 for 1s. Howden: 14 for 1s. Lancaster: 8 to 12 for 1s. Malton: 14 or 15 for 1s. Pontefract: 12 for 1s. Retford: 1s 8d to 1s 10d per score. Stokesley: 11 or 12 for 1s. Whitby: 11 and 12 for 1s. York: 12 for 1s.

CHEESE.

Dorchester, Wednesday.—Best Dorset blues made 50s to 64s per cwt; seconds, 30s to 46s.

Newport, Wednesday.—Quotations: Caerphillies, 65s to 70s; fancy dairies, 72s to 74s; inferior —s to —s; Derbys, 66s to 68s; truckles, 60s to 66s; and Cheddars, 60s to 65s. There was a short supply, an average attendance, and a good inquiry for best quality cheese.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There were a few fresh parcels of cheese forwarded to Glasgow market this week. The inquiry was moderate. Stocks are now rapidly diminishing; those left are mostly of secondary quality. Prices of Cheddar and Dunlops varied from 54s to 60s per cwt, but in some instances a shilling or two more was paid for anything really fine. Canadian and New Zealand cheese were in fair request at previous prices.

Nantwich, Thursday.—There was a pitch of about 20 tons of cheese. The market was sharp and an early clearance was effected, prices being slightly better than at last year's fair. Finest Cheshire made from 70s to 75s, and medium down to 60s.

HAY AND STRAW.

Manchester, Wednesday.—Hay, 6½d to 6¾d; clover, 7d to 7¾d; straw (oat), 5¼d to 5¾d per stone.

Whitechapel. Saturday.—Arrivals fair, but demand without increase, and business quiet at late prices. Best clover, 95s to 110s; inferior, 80s to 90s; specially picked hay, 115s; good, 108s; inferior, 80s to 90s; mixture and sainfoin, 90s to 100s; and straw, 28s to 40s per load.



STOCK AND SHOW NOTES.

By Herdsman.

At a meeting of the Committee of the Suffolk Agricultural Association held at Ipswich to consider matters relating to the show to be held in that town on June 5th and 6th it was announced that the Local Committee fully approved of the allocation of the £500 guaranteed by the Mayor, and it was agreed to vote £20 for dairy produce made by tenant farmers in Suffolk, as suggested by the Local Committee. The Secretary, Mr. Robert Bond, stated that the East Suffolk Technical Instruction Committee had written offering £50 towards the erection and equipment of a model co-operative dairy, to be managed by a person experienced in such dairying from Denmark or Ireland, whilst the Rev. C. J. Steward had also promised £10 towards the same object, and he (the Secretary) believed the cost of the dairy would almost be covered by these sums. The whole of the machinery of the dairy was to be worked by steam, and the appliances would include a weighing and receiving tank, Pasteuriser, separators, coolers, cleanser, and butter worker. The offers of the Technical Instruction Committee and Rev. C. J. Steward were accepted, and it was resolved that the cost to the Association in connection with the scheme should be limited to £15.

It has been decided to promote an annual agricultural show at Harrogate, and a public meeting of horse and stock breeders, landowners, etc., is to be called in order to organise the society on a sound basis. It is intended to make the society's operations cover a wide area.

Sir Walter Gilbey, who, it will be remembered, entertained to dinner the president and members of the Shire Horse Society, extended a like hospitality to the Hackney Horse Society on Tuesday. Amongst those present were Mr. Fred Wrench (President), Earl Spencer, Earl Carrington, Baron W. von Schroder, and Sir Gilbert Greenall.

The entire herd of red-polled cattle belonging to Mr. James E. Platt is to be sold at the Dairy Farm, Howbury Hall, near Bedford, on Wednesday, the 19th inst., by Messrs. J. Thornton and Co. It will be remembered that when the late Mr. J. J. Colman's celebrated herd of red-polls was dispersed, the choicest specimens were purchased by Mr. Platt, including the celebrated bull Champion 5370, for 320 guineas; he soon afterwards acquired Champion's stable companion Red Knight 5818. These two famous sires stood first and second on several occasions. The animals were first taken to Bruntwood, a large estate in Cheshire; when that property was given up a portion of the herd was sold at Ipswich, and the remainder with the thoroughbred stud brought down to Bedford, where it is found that the farm is insufficient to carry a large herd as well as a first-class stud, consequently the whole of it is now offered for unreserved sale.

Among the prize animals included in the sale are Brinhilda, Necklace, Red Lass, Dormouse, Sleeping Beauty, Meddlesome Mattie, also the first-class prize bulls, Champion, Red Knight, and Pistol, as well as other very fine animals and choice young stock, the produce of distinguished prize winners. A good number are by bulls that have also been celebrated, among which may be mentioned Able Risky 4722, a prize winner at the Royal Shows at Birmingham and Maidstone, and Champion 5370, one of the most celebrated prize bulls of modern days, and he was by Red Prince, who in his day was rarely if ever beaten, being a first and Champion Royal winner four years in succession. The great dairy properties of the breed have also been studied. The sale includes descendants of first-class dairy cows from the herds of Lord Rothschild, Mr. George Gooderham, and Mr. Garrett Taylor, of which a careful milk record has been kept for some years. Last season thirteen first prizes, eight seconds, one third, and four reserves, as well as one Champion and one reserve for Champion, were won at the principal shows, including first and Champion at the Royal Show at Cardiff.

Mr. J. G. Massey, President of the United States Sheep-breeders' Association, and a well-known breeder of Hampshire Down sheep, is now on a visit to this country for the purpose of making purchases with a view to introducing some of the blood of our best flocks into his own. Mr. Massey has been a breeder of Hampshire Downs for many years, and since 1895 has paid several visits to this country and made extensive purchases from English flocks. He has now the largest and probably the best flock of this particular breed of sheep in the United States, and he says they are admirably adapted to the climate and pasture of the States.

The Roscommon Sheep Breeders' Association have issued Volume V. of the Roscommon Long Wool Sheep Flock Book, which contains particulars of rams from No. 1,101 to 1,361, and a number of other useful items of interest to breeders of the particular sheep, whilst there are some illustrations of capital specimens of the breed. In the course of the preface it is stated that the past season has been so favourable that never, perhaps, have the Roscommon sheep looked so vigorous, in better constitution, or in such good condition—truly a remark which will not apply to many other breeds.

The twenty-third volume of the Shire Horse Stud Book, which has now come to hand, contains a total of 5,213 entries, these consisting of 1,028 stallions and 4,185 mares. The new entries in this volume are 920 stallions and 3,250 mares, while there are 108 re-entries of stallions and 935 of mares. The entries of stallions are 140 more than in the preceding volume, but the entries of mares are fewer by 658. This falling off may be explained, however, by the fact that with this volume more stringent conditions of entry come into force, and in anticipation of these an exceptional entry was made in the previous volume. Mares foaled since 1885 cannot now be registered unless they have registered sire and registered dam, or unless they have three crosses of registered blood, viz., sire, dam's sire, and grand-dam's sire. Stallions have been entered for the present volume in greater numbers than for any volume since the thirteenth, in which 1,110 were registered. The total number of registered stallions is now 20,195 and of mares 37,828. Particulars are given of the exports of Shires during 1901, and it is stated that the numbers are decidedly better than those for 1900, and it would seem that in some cases a better class of horse has been taken. In 1900 219 export certificates were issued, whilst in the past year the number was 291, the greatest majority of the horses going as heretofore to the United States.

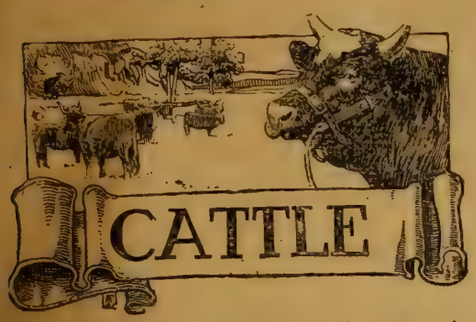
A fine sale of draft horses was held at Wichita, Kansas, U.S.A., on Feb. 13th, the animals disposed of being from the studs of Messrs. J. W. and J. C. Robinson and Snyder Bros. Best prices were made by the Percheron stallion, of which three made over £200. Top price was reached by Charlie, a black, foaled in 1898, which sold for £220, next price being £215, made by Va Vite. Messrs. Robinson's consignment consisted of 15 head, which made an average of over £98, while the other consignment of eight stallions realised an average price of £92.

A statement of some considerable importance to horse breeders was made by Mr. Brodrick in the course of a speech on the Army Remount Question in the House of Commons on Tuesday. He said: "We have already framed a scheme which will enable us to deal, I hope, much better with this question in the future than we have in the past. We propose to plant our buyers in districts both here and in Ireland, who will be able to get more in touch with the breeders and less with the dealers, and, I hope, with the assistance of the Board of Agriculture and the societies which give prizes for special classes of horses, with a view of making a speciality of a class of horse required for the army. For many years to come South Africa will be largely drawn upon for the horses needed there. Australia is largely drawn upon by India, but I trust that we shall have some support from the House if we endeavour to establish some permanent connection with Canada for the supply of horses. It will be necessary for us in the future to keep more in touch with Continental sources of supply. I cannot, of course, feel sure in anything connected with horses that we shall give satisfaction to everybody."



THE SHORTHORN BULL, "HAYLE SPECULATOR," shown above, was bred by Mr. W. J. Hoskens, and is a get of Royal Sovereign out of a Waterloo cow. In the £50 or Champion Class at Birmingham last week Hayle Speculator managed to win the coveted prize of £50 for the best bull over ten and not exceeding twenty-one months old. At the subsequent sale he realised 2 0 gs., passing into the ownership of Mr. Colman.

My attention has been drawn to an error which occurred in our account of the Shire Horse Sale last week. It will be remembered that Captain Heygate paid 270 guineas for a commended animal. This was not Scarcliffe Old Fashion by Old Warden Royal Harold, as we stated, but was Harold's Drayman18785, a get of Harold's, out of Bona 19,415, and bred by Mr. F. W. Park, Headon Manor, Retford.



Birmingham Shorthorn Show and Sale.

The thirty-fourth annual spring exhibition and sale of Shorthorn cattle, held under the auspices of the Birmingham Agricultural Exhibition Society, was opened in Bingley Hall on Wednesday, there being 611 entries. As is usual at these combined shows and sales, a goodly number of the animals were sent for sale only, and some of these would have done their owners more credit had they kept them at home. It may not show supreme wisdom on an owner's part to send a string of useful young bulls, and then send a three-quartered dam of one of them. The females are sold first, and the price is remembered when the same owner's bulls enter the ring. The judges of the females were Messrs. J. Beattie, Estate Office, Aston Hall, Oswestry, and Harry Butler, Badminton Farm, Chippenham. There was a big entry in Class I., for the best cow or heifer exceeding three years old. Here the judges went for beef instead of milk, and selected Mr. C. W. Brierley's Autumn Queen, a wide-backed, deep-set cow, fat enough for a Christmas show; second to her was placed a level-backed, rare-fronted cow, with excellent middlepiece, but a trifle weak at the rumps. Mr. G. H. Proctor's Fairy Ring, which might have been more even between the backbone and the tail, was reserved. Highly commended mentions were given to Mr. C. W. Brierley's Lavender Queen, Mr. J. A. Preece's Cream Custard, Colonel Sir Nigel Kingscote's Sabrina 47th, Mr. G. Gerrard's Captive Queen, Mr. Thomas Stokes's Countess of Sherlowe; whilst commendations were given to Mr. Thomas Diggle's Lady Lynn 8th, Mr. W. S. Dodwing's Motcombe Pansy, Mr. Sherrard's Queen Dowke, Mrs. L. H. Holland's Gipsy Queen, and Mr John Naylor's Lady Leighton 2nd.

Class II., for heifers exceeding two but not exceeding three years old, only drew sixteen competitors. Here Mr. C. W. Brierley was again placed to the fore with another well-filled out one, and with a capital frame to put it on. Royal Jewel was certainly a treasure to its owner. Mr. Brierley also secured second with Coquette 3rd, which was not so even behind as the other. Mr. L. H. Holland was reserved with Princess Nancy, that most certainly did not show at all well for milk. Mr. T. M. Crock's Stanley Duchess 3rd was highly commended, as was also Mr. Sidney Hill's Trilby 3rd. Two commendations only were given, one to Mr. D. Arkell's Frost 88th, and Mr. John Naylor's Lydia.

There were three dozen in the class for exceeding one and under two years old, and some of these showed a considerable amount of quality. Mrs. L. H. Holland was placed first with a level heifer, Moss Rose, that, besides having an excellent underline, had a good coat. Mr. C. W. Brierley again stepped in with Love Bird, heavily fleshed, and carrying quality. An extremely close reserve was Mr. Henry Wynne's Rose Moss, a deep blacky one. Highly commendeds were given to Mr. G. F. King's Countess 61st, Mr. H. Wynne's Lady Fashion, Lord Powis's Esmeralda 6th, and Mr. T. Mace's Daffodil.

The heifer class was an extremely weak one, as far as quality went, though there was a fair entry. Mr. C. W. Brierley's Queen Clarissa was placed first, the reserve ticket going to Mr. S. W. Greve's Corley Baroness 4th, highly commendeds going to Mr. C. A. Hewitt's Music 10th, Mr. G. Gerrard's Offerton Duke, and to Mr. S. Greve's Mercote Baroness 4th.

There was a big muster of bulls. The one-old and two-young bull classes were judged by Messrs. James Peter, Berkeley, Glos., and Mr. R. Wright, Nocton Heath, Lincoln, and exceptionally smart work they made in dealing with these animals. In Class V., for bulls exceeding thirty months old, there were just over thirty competitors. First prize went to Mr. John Handley's Lord James Douglas, a smart bull of good scale. The Earl of carry himself so well as he might. Mr. G. F. Manners' Ruddy Star, which was second, did not King's Chewton Victor, a very useful type of bull, was reserved. Highly commendeds were given to Mr. C. H. Joliffe's Handsome Boy, Mrs. Holland's Brilliant Beau, and Mr. Phil Mill's Invincible.

There was an entry of over seventy for Messrs. George Ashburne, Kirkby-in-Furness, and Mr. Alexander M Gordon, Insch, N.B., to select from and there was no mistaking the fact that their decisions could be by no means termed hurried; in fact, their classes were later judged than for years past. Mr. W. Parkin Moore's Major Sprightly was placed first. He showed himself well, but was rather thin in the coat; second prize went to the Hon. W. F. D. Smith, M.P., Lord Renvenham 10th, a deep-set bull; Mrs. Lewis' Lord Stanley was placed third, a capital forend bull, but needed a bit more quality behind; Mr. A. E. Marsh's Viscount Monarch, a big, heavy, long bull, was fourth; whilst fifth went to Mr. John Handley's useful bull, Master Douglas. The reserve was taken by Mr. Thomas Winter's Star of Hope, and highly commendeds passed to the same owner's Prince Palatine. Mr. W. J. Hoskens' Pioneer, Mr. C. W. Brierley's Royal Referee, Mr. C. M. Cameron's Prince Stellar, the Earl of Lathom's Wild Prince 52nd, and to Colonial Makin's Lord Frogmore 2nd.

The champion class for the best bull exceeding ten, but not exceeding 21, months old did not fill well, there being only 16 entries. First prize of £50 went to Mr. W. J. Hosken's Hayle Speculator, a very mellow, nice-handling bull; second was given to Mr. J. McWilliams' Stoneytown Archer; a big, strong bull of rare export colour was Mr. G. Freeman's Forerunner, which was placed third; the reserve ticket went to Lord Lovat's Highland Chief, a very hardy one. The highly commendeds were Mr. William Bell's White Flag, the Hon. W. F. D. Smith's H.R.H., and Mr. R. H. Dyke's Duke of Charmingland 96th. There was a good muster of bulls in the class for those exceeding 18, but not exceeding 21. Here Mr. John Handley had his opportunity with Lord Clarence, a well brought out one, with deep, heavily-fleshed thighs; second to him was placed Colonel Makin's Rotherfield Adonis, a rare deep one, though a bit inclined to stand slack; Mr. Joseph Harris' Prince Edward stood third, with a very even back. Mr. J. W. Barnes sent his Auditor to be fourth, a rare nice charactered one; Mr. John Gill's North Star shining a trifle uneven, though it had a good coat, for fifth position; the reserve went to Mr. J. W. Barnes' Sultan; the highly commendeds comprising the Earl of Manners' Matchless, Mr. John Handley's Sir Redvers, Mr. C. H. Jolliffe's Royal Favour, Mr. Joseph Beach's Good Lad, Mr. R. H. Dyke's Duke of Barrington 55th, Mr. James Lawson's Northern Prince, Mr. E. Simpson's Rosedale Beau 2nd, and the Hon. W. F. D. Smith's Bretwalda. The next class was for bulls between 15 and 18 months old, and a rare strong one it was, there being an entry of 93. Here Mr. W. J. Hosken again drew to the fore with Carwin Lad, possessing a rare shoulder, well-packed loin, and nice thighs; second prize went to Mr. W. Young's Shylock, that could have done with a bit more girth; third prize went to Messrs. Bewley's Baron Milverton 11th, a long, growing useful bull, that could have done with more bulk; Mr. Benjamin Read's Royal Beau was fourth, a level-backed, good middle-pieced one; Mr. J. A. Preece secured fifth with English Admiral, of a type that should sell; the reserve ticket went to Mr. R. H. Dyke's Squire Mutton; and highly commendeds to Messrs. S. E. Dean's Dowsly Oxford Royal, N. Benjafield's Gillingham Chief, William Bell's Banker, Colonel Makin's Epigram, E. Simpson's Baron Shelford, H. K. Colville's Bates Prince, W. Nevett's King Hal, Mrs. Mary Lewis' Count Beauty, Mr. T. Mace's Gay Knight, and Mr. A. Hiscock's Manor Golden Prince.

There was an entry of 117 in the class for bulls exceeding 12 and not exceeding 15 months old. Mrs. L. H. Holland drew to the fore with Last Century, a very deep, nicely-turned bull; Colonel Sir Nigel Kingscote was second with Baron Dursley 9th, a fine bull that had his tail set a bit too high; third position was given to Mrs. S. H. Allen's Master Stephen, a well-balanced bull; Lord Lovat's Baron; a trifle narrow on top, was placed fourth; and the same owner fifth with Baron Beaufort, a trifle cut up behind, and another, Conservative, from his lordship's herd, was reserved. Amongst the highly commendeds



THE SHORTHORN BULL shown above is "MAJOR SPRIGHTLY," a son of Granite City, and bred by Mr. Parkin-Moore. At the Birmingham Shorthorn Show and Sale last week Major Sprightly was placed at the head of the class for bulls over twenty-one and not exceeding thirty months old, and at the subsequent sale was purchased by Mr. Bourne for 30 gs.



THE SHORTHORN BULL, "LORD CLARENCE," which forms the subject of the above illustration, is a son of Cameo, being bred by Messrs. Harrison. At last week's show sale at Birmingham he was awarded first prize in the class for bulls exceeding eighteen and not exceeding twenty-one months old. At the sale his owner, Mr. John Handley, disposed of him to Mr. Downes for 65 gs.

were Mr. H. Dudding's Fair King, C. E. Morris' Royal Prince, John Pear's Byron's Captain, Mr. R. H. Dyke's Duke of Barrington 57th, Mr. S. Leon's Count George, Mr. John Little's Vain Lord 2nd, Mr. T. Potter's Red Jacket, L. de Rothschild's Ascott Justice, Mr. Nevett's Valentine. The final class was for young bull calves, and a smart lot they were, and keen was the contest between Colonel Sir Nigel Kingscote's Duke of Hazelcote 110th, which by its walk headed the class; and Mr. W. J. Hosken's Hayle Knight, with a splendid middle, but narrow ends; Mr. H. S. Leon's Royalist made a growing third; whilst Mr. L. de Rothschild's Ascott Leader and Ascott President were fourth and fifth respectively; the reserve going to Mr. T. Stokes' Oxford May Boy. The highly commendeds were Messrs. Charles Bathurst's Lydney Bouncing Lad, S. E. Dean's Lord Wild Eyes 12th, G. F. King's Chewton Favourite, Colonel Makin's Hall Garth Bramble, H. Landon's Bashful Boy, and Earl Manners' Chieftain. The extra prize for the best team of five bulls was won by the Earl of Powis, Mr. L. de Rothschild's team being reserved. Trade as a rule showed improvement, the females making better prices than for years past.

The Sales.

FIRST DAY.

A very satisfactory feature of the sale, which, as usual, was conducted by Messrs. Lythall and Walters, was the keen demand for animals for South Africa, and a number of young bulls were secured for exportation; but the home buyers, who, like the foreigners, were very strongly represented each day, seemed determined not to allow all the best bulls to leave the country, and they fought the foreigners very hard, and, fortunately, met with an unusual amount of success. As may be imagined, the result of this keen competition was that some high prices were realised, three-figure prices being comparatively common. One of the most successful sellers was Lord Lovat, of Beaufort Castle, Beauly, N.B., who sent four bulls, and for these received a total sum of 1,025gs., on the splendid average per head of £269 1s. 3d. The highest price paid was 335gs., and the others realised 280gs., 210gs., and 200gs. The bidding for them was of an exceptionally spirited character, but only one, the 280-guinea animal, was allowed to leave the country, the other three going to Lincolnshire, Bedfordshire, and Buckinghamshire. The cows and heifers also realised good prices, several of the latter selling at over 100gs. each, so that all round the sale was a most successful one. Below we give particulars of the sales in each of the numerous classes.

On the first day (Wednesday) the cows and heifers were brought under the hammer, the first class taken being that for the older cows. Mr. Brierley's first prize-winner, Autumn Queen, the winner of numerous prizes, evoked fair competition, and eventually fell to the bid of Mr. Jessop for 72gs., but the second winner, Lord Tredegar's Queen Mab, sold even better, Mr. Harris having to pay 90gs. for her. Other prices in this class were: 54gs. paid by Mr. Blackwell for the highly commended Countess of Sherlowe, exhibited by Mr. T. Stokes, of Dunole; 47gs. for Mr. J. A. Preece's Cream Custard (highly commended), Mr. H. Fell being the buyer; 46gs. for Colonel Sir Nigel Kingscote's Sabrina, paid by Captain Harrison; 28gs. paid by Mr. Britton for Mr. W. Bewley's Lizzy; and 30gs. by Mr. Wodehouse for Queen Dowke, the exhibit of Mr. G. Gerrard, of Worcester. Viscount Deerhurst paid 25gs. for Red Marigold, the property of Mr. T. Stokes; the Earl of Powis disposed of his red and white Cowslip to Mrs. Holland at a similar figure; while Captain E. M. Whitting, Weston-super-Mare, obtained 31gs. from Mr. Pallister for his Lady Somerset. For Mr. Arkell's Fuchsias Florentia Captain Whitting paid 38gs. Three-figure prices were obtained twice in the class for heifers between two and three years old, the top figure being 111gs., which sum was paid by Sir Thomas Gooch for Mr. C. W. Brierley's first prize-winner Royal Jewel and her nice-looking calf. The other three-figure price, 100gs., was also secured by Mr. Brierley, this time for Coquette, the purchaser being Mr. Horlick, who also bought Mrs. Holland's Princess Nancy, the winner of the reserve number, at 52gs. Another very numerous class was that devoted to heifers between one and two years of age. Mrs. Holland's Moss Rose, which headed the class, was purchased by Mr. Heywood-Thompson at 72gs., while her companion in honours—Love Bird—a splendid specimen from the old Brimfield herd, found a buyer in Mr. W. T. Garne at 100gs. Love Bird is a daughter of the famous Ingram's Queen, which in her prime secured no fewer than thirty prizes, including the Shorthorn Society's dairy prize. Mr. Fell paid 62gs. for Mr. H. Wynne's reserve animal, Rose Moss, while Mr. Lewis obtained Mr. G. F. King's Countess 61st at 42gs. The Earl of Powis' Esmeralda, which was highly commended, found a purchaser at 36gs. Mr. James Horlick's Cowley Empress, which also received a complimentary award, fetched 35gs., Mr. Butler being the purchaser. Of the fifteen heifer calves shown, the best animal belonged to Mr. C. W. Brierley, and was named Queen Clarrisa. The calf found a purchaser in the Duke of Northumberland at 25gs.

SECOND DAY.

The animals offered at Thursday's sale were the older bulls, and very few of them remained unsold. The proceedings began with the dispersal of those entered in the class for bulls exceeding 30 months old, in which the first prize-taker was Lord James Douglas, belonging to Mr. J. Handley, and bred in Scotland, the winner of many prizes at the summer shows. It was sold to Mr. Gordon, of Dublin, for 30gs.; whilst Earl Manvers's second prize-winner, Ruddy Star, was disposed of at three guineas less. The commended Prince Paul, nearly three weeks old, the property of Mr. Rowland Wood, realised a much higher price, namely 80gs., Mr. Smithson being the buyer. Mr. Robothan paid 30gs. for Mr. H. Baker's Plaudit; Mrs. Holland sold the highly commended Brilliant Bean to Mr. Botterill for 31gs.; and Mr. Davis gave 31gs. to Mr. C. H. Jolliffe for the highly commended Handsome Boy. One of the most interesting exhibits was Stephanus, the six-year-old son of Fairfax, bred by the late Queen Victoria, and shown for His Majesty the King. The bull took many prizes at the principal shows, his greatest achievement being at the Royal at York in 1900. In spite of his association with the Sandringham herd there was little competition for him, and he went for 30gs. to Mr. Robertson. Mr. Batho paid 31gs. to Mr. T. Cartwright for Captain of Rissington; Mr. J. W. Barnes sold the commended Prince Emanuel to Mr. Fellowes for 41gs.; Mr. W. Evans received 36gs. from Mr. Smithson for York's Certainty Duke 10th; Mr. Thorneycroft paid 32gs. for Mr. J. W. Barnes's Fusilier; the same exhibitor's British Flag went to Mr. Fellowes at 65gs.; at 50gs. Mr. Simpson secured the highly commended Invincible from Mr. P. L. Mills; and Sir T. Gooch paid 41gs. to Mr. G. F. King for the reserve Chewton Victor.

In the class for bulls between 21 and 30 months, Mr. W. Parkin-Moore's first prize, Major Sprightly, a red and white two years old, was secured by Mr. J. E. Bourne at 30gs., the second prize-winner, Lord Remenham, the property of the Hon. W. F. D. Smith, M.P., was secured by Mr. Webb, at 51gs., for exportation to South America. Mr. Taylor paid 43gs. to Mrs. Lewis for the third prize-winner, Lord Stanley, and Mr. A. E. Marsh sold the fifth winner, Viscount Monarch, to Mr. Cattell, for 58gs.; at 37gs. Mr. Fellowes secured Baron Deans from Mr. J. W. Barnes; Lord Howe paid 31gs. to Mr. W. J. Hosken for Pioneer; Lord Lathom sold Viscount Barrington 5th to Mr. Naylor for 57gs.; Mr. Baker paid 55gs. to Mr. L. de Rothschild for Lord Barrington; the commended Scottish Wrangler was sold by Mr. J. Hewson to Mr. Fellowes for 63gs.; Mr. Wodehouse gave 49gs. to Lord Lathom for the highly commended Wild Prince 52nd; Mr. J. Garne disposed of Dairy King to Mr. Cattell at 34gs.; Mr. Mullins paid 39gs. to Mr. J. Hindley for Master Douglas; Crœsus 4th, the property of Mr. R. H. Dyke, went at 34gs. to Mr. Webb, who was buying largely for South America. He paid 44gs. to Mr. H. Oakley for the commended Baron Bridekirk 30th, and also gave 47gs. to Mr. A. Hiscock, jun., for Manor Sir Gilbert. Mr. C. Morgan-Richardson sold Star of Freedom to Mr. Cattell for 51gs.; and the same buyer secured Mr. J. W Barnes's Jabez for 45gs. Mr. Fellowes paid 47gs. to Colonel Makins for his highly commended Lord Frogmore 2nd, and 71gs. to Mr. J. W. Barnes for the commended Wrangler; while Mr. J. Garne sold Daisy Prince to Mr. Trowbridge for 31gs., and Mr. Stratton gave 31gs. to Mrs. Faux for the highly commended Baronet.

The class for bulls between 10 and 21 months contained 16 entries, and under the conditions the exhibitors were permitted to place their own reserve upon their representatives. Several splendid youngsters were included in the sale, and the most promising stock bulls were eagerly sought by home and foreign breeders. The first prize-taker was Mr. W. J. Hosken's Hoyle Speculator, a red son of Royal Sovereign, 14 months old. The competition for him in the ring was very severe, but he will remain in this country, for, reserved at 100gs., he was knocked down to Mr. J. Colman, of Surrey, at 200gs. Mr. Webb, however, secured for South America, the second prize-winner, Stoneytown Archer, belonging to Mr. J. McWilliam, which realised 58gs. Mr. G. Freeman took the third award with Forerunner, which was reserved at 20gs., and sold at 100gs. to Mr. Clark. However, the highest price of the day was paid for the reserve bull, Highland Chief, a red son of Royal Star, 14 months old, and exhibited by Lord Lovat. Coming from a noted herd the foreigners tried hard to get this bull badly, but so did some of the home breeders, and the result was the youngster was run up from the reserve figure of 20gs. to 280gs., at which price he fell to the bid of Mr. McClellan for exportation to South America. Mr. Webb paid 42gs. for a useful bull, Cymbal, 16 months old, from the well-known herd of Mr. T. R. Hulbert.

The last class dealt with on Thursday was for bulls between eighteen and 21 months old. Mr. J. Handley took the first prize with Lord Clarence, which was sold to Mr. Downes for 65gs. Mr. Green bought the second winner, Rotherfield Adams, from Colonel Makins, for 53gs.; Mr. J. Harris received 50gs. from Mr. Heywood-Thompson for Prince Edward, the third winner; Mr. Cattell gave 53gs. to Mr. J. W. Barnes for the fourth winner, Auditor, and Mr. J. Gill sold the fifth prize taken, North Star, to Mr. Webb, for 38gs. The reserve bull, Sultan, belonging to Mr. J. W. Barnes, went to Mr. Hazell at 57gs. Mr. Webb was again a large purchaser. He secured Kingswood, from Mr. J. Naylor for 36gs., gave 40gs. to the Hon. W. F. D. Smith, M.P., for Superior, 45gs. to Earl Manvers for the highly commended Matchless, 42gs. to Mr. J. A. Preece for the commended Drayton Duke, bought Ascott Court from Mr. L. de Rothschild for 36gs., paid 39gs. to Mr. J. Harris for the commended Manifesto, 36gs. to Mr. A. Green for Loving Cup, 32gs. to the executors of the late Sir Joseph Pulley for Corsair 26th, 34gs. to Mr. J. Lawson for the highly commended Northern Prince, 44gs. to Mr. C. A. Scott Murray for the commended Pilgrim, 40gs. to the Hon. W. F. D. Smith, M.P., for the highly commended Bretwalda, and 31gs. to Mr. T. Stokes for Jolly Tar. Other animals in this class sold up to 62gs., this sum being given by Mr. J. Durno, for Lord Powis's Chance Shot.

THIRD DAY.

On the concluding day the sale opened with the bulls between fifteen and eighteen months old. The first animal led into the ring was the chief prize-taker in the class, Corwin Lad, from the well-known Cornish herd of Mr. W. J. Hosken. Well bred and in splendid form, at the age of seventeen months; the foreign representatives and the home breeders displayed much anxiety to secure him. The bidding was brisk, but Mr. J. A. Preece, of Thrapston, stayed the longest, and the red bull was knocked down to him at 210 guineas. Then there was a big drop to 43 guineas, which Mr. Davey gave for Shylock, the second prize taker, shown by Mr. W. Young. At 48 guineas Messrs. Bewley Brothers sold Baron Milverton XI., the third winner, to Mr. Bickley; the fourth prize taker, Royal Beau, exhibited by Mr. B. Read, went to Mr. Blackman for 45 guineas, and Mr. Clark paid 52 guineas for Mr. J. A. Preece's fifth prize winner, English Admiral. Good prices, in many instances above the average, were obtained for the majority of the other youngsters. Mr. Webb, as on the previous day, bought largely for South America. He paid 43 guineas for the highly commended Banker, belonging to Mr. W. Bell, gave 36 guineas to Mr. R. H. Dyke for the reserve bull, Squire Munton, 37 guineas to Mr. J. A. Preece for Scottish Admiral, 35 guineas to the representatives of the late Mr. W. Nevett for the highly commended King Hal, 38 guineas to Colonel Sir Nigel Kingscote for the commended Lord Sandgrove 48th, 35 guineas to Mr. A. Hewlett for King Lear, 35 guineas to Mrs. Mary Lewis for the highly commended Court Beauty, 40 guineas to the Hon W. F. D. Smith, M.P., for the commended Sunstroke, 35 guineas to Mr. L. de Rothschild for Ascot General, and 40 guineas to Mr. G. Freeman for Frontispiece. Mr. Clement paid 77 guineas to Mr. C. W. Brierley for the commended Silver Count, the other prices in the class ranging up to 45 guineas.

Exceptionally high prices were realised for some of the best bulls in the class for youngsters between twelve and fifteen months old. The first winner was Mrs. L. H. Holland's roan, Last Century, which was knocked down to Messrs. Green Brothers for 70 guineas; while Colonel Sir Nigel Kingscote's second prize taker, Baron Dursley 9th, a red bull, fell to Mr. Cameron at 50 guineas; and at 65 guineas Mr. Crawfoot, of Ireland, bought Mr. S. H. Alen's prize-taker, Master Stephen, a red and white bull. The fourth prize-taker, Baron, a red bull, 14 months old, a son of Royal Star, and bred by Lord Lovat, Beaufort Castle, Beauly, N.B. showed to great advantage in the ring. The competition for him between the foreigners, and the home buyers was very keen, but he will remain in this country, for Messrs. Dean, Bourne, Lincolnshire, secured him at 210 guineas. Lord Lovat also exhibited the fifth prize-winner, Baron Beaufort, a red and white son of Royal Star, just over a year old, and he was sold after smart bidding to Mr. L. de Rothschild, Leighton Buzzard, for 335 guineas, the highest price of the whole sale. The reserve bull, Conservative, a red son of Royal Star, from Lord Lovat's celebrated herd, was another great attraction, and he, too, will remain in this country, Mr. H. S. Leon, Bletchley, purchasing him at 200 guineas. Mr. J. Harrison sold his commended Silver Star to Mr. H. Woods for 47 guineas; and Mr. Vigar gave 48 guineas to Mr. C. E. Morris for the highly commended Royal Prince. Mr. Webb bought for exportation to South America Mr. J. Pears's Mere Captain, for 43 guineas; he gave 37 guineas to Mr. J. A. Preece for Captain Josephine; 41 guineas to Mr. J. Pears for the highly commended Byron's Captain; 37 guineas for Mr. T. Mace's commended Rose Knight, and

40 guineas to Mr. R. H. Dyke for the highly commended Duke of Barrington. Others sold up to 50 guineas.

The bull calves made a capital show, and the bidding for them was generally brisk, and excellent prices were obtained for the best lots. The first prize-taker was Colonel Sir Nigel Kingscote's Duke of Hazlecote 110th, a red youngster, nearly twelve months old, sired by Cader Idris, which was knocked down to Mr. Minton at 96 guineas. Hazle Knight, a red son of Monocrat, about a year old, from the herd of Mr. W. J. Hosken, took the second prize, and was sold to Messrs. Dean for 75 guineas. Mr. H. S. Leon took the third prize with the white Royalist, a son of Royal Victor, and this bull was sold for 50 guineas to Lord Calthorpe. His lordship then secured at the same price the fourth winner, Ascott Leader, a red and white, exhibited by Mr. L. de Rothschild; and the fifth prize-taker, Ascott President, also belonging to Mr. L. de Rothschild, was sold to Mr. Millican for 41 guineas. Mr. J. E. Casswell bought the highly commended Sydney Bouncing Lad from Mr. C. Bathurst for 55 guineas; Messrs. Dean sold the highly commended Lord Wild Eyes XII. to Mr. Woods for 35 guineas; and many other animals realised upwards of 30 guineas each.

Show and Sale of Galloway Bulls at Castle Douglas.

The annual show and sale of pedigree Galloway bulls, under the auspices of the Galloway Cattle Sales Association, was held at Castle Douglas on Thursday. There was a large and representative gathering of farmers, stock-breeders, and agents to participate in the sale. The show of young animals was excellent, and some youngsters of outstanding merit were included among the prize-winners. The entries showed a large increase over the numbers of those received last year, in fact, the large supplies forward tended somewhat to lower prices, which showed a falling off compared with former years. Mr. Brown (Stepford) carried away the champion prize with a very stylish bull, Campfollower III, of Stepford, which was purchased by Mr. Montgomery Neilson, of Queenshill, at 40 guineas. The top price of the day—54 guineas—was paid for Scottish Chief III., of Castlemilk, by Mr. Montgomery (Netherhall).

The following were the prize-winners and prices realised:—Two-year-olds: 1, Mrs. Clark (Auchenhal). Conquering Hero—Mr. James M'Gill (for Colonel Kennedy (Knocknalling), 29 guineas; 2, Thomas Graham (Marchfield), Guiding Hand, sire Lord Douglas of the Green—Mr. James Biggar, £27 15s.; 3, R. and J. Shennan (Balig), Deemster, sire Norseman, of Castlemilk—Mr. M'Taggart (Culnaightrie), £16 5s. 6d.; h.c., Mrs. and H. Fraser (Arkland), Gallant Scot III., sire Great Scot—Mr. Miller (Ernambrie), 14 guineas; c., Mrs. and H. Fraser (Arkland), Gartley Boy, sire Minotaur—Mr. Lusk (Airieland), 11 guineas; Robert Graham (Kirkconnell), Lecturer of Cavens, sire The Professor of Tarbreoch—Mr. Miller (Ernambrie), 14 guineas.

Bulls calved after December 1st, 1900, and previous to March 1st, 1901: 1, Sir Robert Jardine, Bart., of Castlemilk, Scottish Chief III. of Castlemilk, sire Black Douglas III. of Castlemilk—Mr. Montgomery, of Netherhall, £56 14s.; 2, David Brown (Stepford), Crusoe of Stepford, sire Alfred II. of Castlemilk—The Earl of Antrim, £37 16s.; 3, R. and J. Shennan (Balig), Dreadnought, sire Norseman and Castlemilk—Mr. Jefferson (Rotherayke, Cumberland), £55 13s.; 4, David Brown (Stepford), Chief II., of Stepford, sire Campfollower of Stepford—Colonel Dudgeon, of Cargen, £43 1s.; 5, Mrs. and H. Fraser (Arkland), Baron Scot, sire Great Scot—Mr. James Wallace (Claycrop, Kirkinner), £28 7s.; h.c., James Wilson (Tundergarth Mains), War Cry of Tundergarth Mains, sire Macdougall of Naworth—unsold; h.c., Robert Wilson (Kilquhanity), Macdonald II., of Kilquhanity, sire Lord William of Durhamhill—Mr. A. Montgomery, £27 16s. 6d.; c., R. and J. Shennan (Balig), Defiance, sire Norseman of Castlemilk—Mr. Fenwick, Forrester's Lodge, Durham), £31 10s.; James Pender (Morton Mains), Lander Rover), sire Earl of Lauder—Rev. Dr. Gillespie (Mouswald), £17 16s.; Thomas Graham (Marchfield), George Fordham, sire Shamrock—unsold.

Bulls calved on or after March 1st, 1901: 1, David Brown (Stepford), Campfollower III. of Stepford, sire Great Scot—Mr. Montgomerie Neilson, of Queenshill, £42; 2, T. Biggar and Sons (Chapelton), Foundationer, sire Mackenzie of Lochenkit—Countess of Carlisle, £37 16s.; 3, F. Fenwick (Forester's Lodge, Wolsingham, Durham), Jacobite, sire Grand Scot—Mr. Lawson (Chapeltown, Longtown), £28 7s.; 4, Duke of Buccleuch (Drumlanrig), Brucina III. of Drumlanrig, sire Earl of Annandale—Mr. Lane (Limavady), £25 4s.; 5, Robert T. Scott (Drumhumphry), Dresden of Drumhumphry, sire Contender IV. of Tarbreoch—Mr. Graham (Markcomb, Keswick), £14 3s. 6d.; h.c., C. Graham (Skipmyre), Geordie of Shipmyre, sire Greater Scot—Mr. R. Graham (Kirkconnell), 16 guineas; c., George Robb (Barscobe), Crown Prince of Barscobe, sire Skipper of Lochside—Mr. Mitchellson (Carlisle), £15 4s. 6d.; R. and J. Shennan (Balig), Dogberry, sire Norseman of Castlemilk—the Earl of Stair, £21; John M'Cormick (Lochenkit), Old Times of Lochenkit, sire Contender IV. of Tarbreoch—Mr. Montgomery, of Netherhall, 13 guineas; Mrs. and H. Fraser (Arkland), Macdougall of Arkland, sire Great Scot—Mr. Graham (Birchtimberhill), 15 guineas.

Particulars of Transactions in Store Stock.

Reported to the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland.

The fair at Killylea, co. Armagh, on the 28th ult. was an average-sized one, composed chiefly of second and third class cattle. The demand was brisker than in recent fairs, especially for any animals in fair condition, but thin cattle were hard to sell. Good springers were scarce and in fair demand. Prices:—Yearlings, 2nd class, £5 7s. 6d. to £7; 3rd class, £4 10s. to £5. Two-year-olds, 2nd class, £7 5s. to £9 5s.: 3rd class, £5 17s. 6d. to £7.; three-year-olds, 2nd class, £10 5s. to £13. Springers, 2nd class, £12 to £15; 3rd class, £9 10s. to £10 10s.

At the fair at Roscommon on the 1st inst. cattle in forward condition met a ready sale, but thin stores were much neglected and those sold paid very little for winter keep. Prices:—Calves, 1st class, £5 10s.; 2nd class, £4. Yearlings, 1st class, £7 10s. to £8; 2nd class, £6 10s. to £6 15s. Two-year-olds, 1st class, £10 to £12; 2nd class, £7 15s. to £9 4s. Three-year-olds, 1st class, £13 to £14; 2nd class, £10 7s. 6d. to £12 10s. Springers, 1st class, £17 13s. 4d. to £18 10s.; 2nd class, £13 6s. 8d. to £15.

The fair at Bandon, Co. Cork, held on Wednesday was an average-sized one, composed chiefly of second and third-class cattle, for which there was a fair demand. Prices:—Calves, 2nd class, £3 15s. to £4 5s.; 3rd class, £2 5s. to £3 5s.; yearlings, 1st class, £8 to £9; 2nd class, £6 to £7 10s.; 3rd class, £5 to £5 10s; two-year-olds, 1st class £10 10s. to £11 10s.; 2nd class, £8 to £9 15s.; 3rd class, £6 2s. 6d. to £7 7s. 6d.; springers, 1st class, £14 10s. to £15 10s. 2nd class, £11 10s. to £13; 3rd class, £9 to £10.

There was but a small supply of thin cattle at the fair at Killarney on Monday, and a fair demand was experienced. Prices:—Calves, 3rd class, £2 5s. to £3 5s.; yearlings, 2nd class, £5 5s. to £6; 3rd class, £3 15s. to £4 17s. 6d.; two year olds, 3rd class, £4 2s. 6d. to £6 12s 6d.; three year olds, 3rd class £4 17s. 6d. to £6 10s.; springers, 2nd class, £10 15s. to £12; 3rd class, £6 5s. to £9 15s.

Except for well-fed cattle, a very slow demand was experienced at the fair at Boyle, Co. Roscommon, on Thursday. Quotations:—Calves, 1st class, £5 5s.; 2nd class £4 2s. 6d.; yearlings, 1st class, £7 to £7 12s 6d.; 2nd class, £5 7s. 6d. to £6 5s.; two years old, 1st class, £10 to £11 15s.; 2nd class, £7 15s. to £9 5s.; three years old, 1st class, £14 to £15 17s. 6d.; 2nd class, £11 to £13; springers, 1st class, £17 to £20 6s 8d; 2nd class, £13 2s. 6d. to £15 5s.

The Death of Mr. George Garne, of Burford, removed a familiar figure from the shorthorn world. He had been in failing health for some time, and passed away on February 27th at the age of 79. Although it is now many years since he was a shorthorn breeder himself, he was well known as a keen and good judge, and until quite recently frequently officiated in that capacity at many of the leading shows. He was the second son of Mr. Thomas Garne, of Broadmoor. Farming first at Eastington, Northleach, he subsequently moved to Churchill Heath, near Chipping Norton, where he bred a first-rate herd of shorthorns. Mr. Garne was one of the few breeders during the seventies that refused to be led into the general fashion of "line-breeding." By carefully blending the Bates and Booth strains with the grand cows of the old Pye and other tribes, that had been so long in the family, he raised some fine animals that more than once were referred to by Mr. Strafford as "Garne's composites." The herd was finally dispersed in 1880 at an average of £34 10s. 11d. for 76 head. In 1874, thirty-six head averaged £66 12s.; in 1876 forty-four head averaged £44 12s., and in 1878 thirty-five made £44 10s. each. Some of the best herds of the present day have a number of representatives of the old Churchill Heath families, among which may be mentioned those of Mr. William Garne, of Aldsworth, and Mr. Henry Dudding, in Lincolnshire.

IMPORTANT TO FARMERS.—The best farm account books are WEBB'S PRACTICAL FARMER'S ACCOUNT BOOK, with preface by Clare Sewell Read, 70th edition, 6s. and 7s. 6d. post free. JARROLD'S IMPERIAL FARM ACCOUNT BOOK, 3s. 6d. JARROLD'S FARM LABOUR BOOKS, 2s., 2s. 6d., and 4s. 6d. List of Game and Dairy Account Books post free of JARROLD and SONS, 10 and 11, Warwick Lane, E.C.—[ADVT.]

SOCIETY NOTES.

The Wensleydale Agricultural Society suffered a loss of £41 4s. 2d. on last year's transactions, but as they had at the beginning a balance of £187 12s. 4d., they were able to wind up the year with £146 8s. 2d. to their credit. The income included £154 13s for subscriptions, £81 5s. for special prizes, and £98 17s. 6d. gate money. The expenditure included £210 18s. prize money, £12 12s., Judges' fees, £4 18s., refreshments, £6, the tent of show field, £24 erections, £46 13s. 4d. hurdles, which were sold for £42 14s. 6d.; hire of tents and poultry pens, £7 16s. 2d. At the annual meeting the Hon W. Algar Orde-Powlett was unanimously elected president for the ensuing year, whilst Mr. Thomas F. King was re-elected secretary. It was decided that the next show should take place on Saturday, August 16th.

The report presented at the annual meeting of the Leicester Sheep-breeders' Association stated that the widespread depression in the ram trade had one noteworthy effect. For the first time since the Flock Book was established, large numbers of Lincoln rams were sent across the Humber into Yorkshire, and this unexpected invasion cut down the prices of all classes of sheep. The Leicester is apparently increasing in popularity in France, where it holds an important place. The merino sheep there are decreasing very rapidly, following upon the fall in the value of wool; but the cross with the Leicester seems to be growing in favour. The Committee have not succeeded in their appeal to the Royal Agricultural Society for a reinstatement in the schedule of the class for two-shear rams. Lord Middleton was re-elected president of the association, and Messrs. L. Clarkson and E. F. Jordan vice-presidents.

At the last meeting of the Cumberland and Westmoreland Chamber of Agriculture the subject of rural depopulation was once more discussed, but still no definite decision was arrived at, and it was agreed to further consider the various proposals put forward at a meeting to be held on the 29th inst. One of the motions put forward—and which received fair support—was to the following effect:—"That this Chamber views with much dismay the depopulation of our rural districts, and the tendency of land being allowed to go out of proper cultivation, and pledges itself to do everything in its power to induce the Central Chamber and his Majesty's Government to further such measures as will lead to a discontinuance of such disastrous conditions by providing capital to suitable men for stocking small farms on a proper financial arrangement, and also by imposing a reasonable import duty on corn and manufactured flour, the proceeds of such duty to be applied to the relief of agricultural rates."

Several important matters were brought up for consideration at the last meeting of the Cheshire Chamber of Agriculture. "Our Food supply in the Time of War" was one of the subjects, and although several speeches were made, no resolution was passed, the matter being allowed to drop. The Rating of Machinery Bill was mentioned, but there was nothing said upon it. Mr. J. C. Medd, of Cirencester, gave an interesting address on "Agricultural Education," in the which he said he did not think the Board of Education qualified to deal with the farming matter. It would take years to create within the Board of Education what he called an agricultural atmosphere. They wanted an agricultural educational authority. They wanted the country divided into appropriate districts, with inspectors—men well qualified in the science, theory, and practice of agriculture—appointed to look after this class of education. They wanted to establish demonstration stations—not so much for purposes of research as for practical demonstrations in agriculture. They should be subsidized by a central authority, and supervised and controlled by the local authority, and all information should be freely distributed. They wanted more funds placed at the disposal of the Board of Agriculture for educational purposes. At present the Government only allowed £8,000 a year for agricultural education, which was quite inadequate. In France the Government allowed £153,000; in Denmark, £108,000; in Wurtemburg, £60,000; in Canada, £156,250; the State Department at Washington had £626,254 allowed; and the little country of Holland, a quarter the size of this country, had five times as much as we had—namely, £40,933. In conclusion, Mr. Medd suggested the following resolution, which was carried:—"That this Chamber is in full sympathy with the aims of the Agricultural Education Committee, and urges upon the Board of Agriculture the importance of organising and extending its educational work, for which purpose it is essential that much larger funds be placed at its disposal."

The balance-sheet presented at the annual meeting of the Stowmarket Farmers' Club showed that the receipts for last year, starting with a balance in hand of £11 19s. 7d., amounted to £384 14s. 1d., including:—subscriptions, £91; donations and prize fund, and special prizes, £141 2s.; gate money on show day, £65 10s.; grand stand, £16 4s. 6d.; and entry fees, £48 13s.; the expenditure including £223 17s. 0d. for prize money, was £362 16s. 0d., leaving a balance in hand of £21 18s. 1d. The club property was valued at £20 by the Hon. Sec, Major Marriott, so that the club ended their financial year £41 18s. 1d. on the right side. After some discussion it was decided to hold the next show on July 18th. It was announced that the Suffolk Sheep Society would increase the premium for Suffolk Ram Lambs to £10, and Mr. Walter Noble said that Mr. H. E. Smith, Walton Grange, would contribute two guineas to the prize fund, to be awarded in the sheep classes.

The North-East of Ireland Agricultural Association have issued their report for 1901. This report, which is in book form, gives full particulars of the constitution of the society and a list of members. The minutes are printed of the Council meetings held during the year, and lengthy accounts of the year's shows. Several illustrations are given of prominent prize-winning horse and cattle at the society's shows.

Shorthorn.

Meetings of the Committees and Council of the Shorthorn Society were held at the society's rooms, 12, Hanover Square, W., recently, Colonel Sir Nigel Kingscote, K.C.B. (president), in the chair.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed, and thirty-two new members elected.

Lord Moreton reported that the Editing Committee had examined and passed the list of pedigree exportation certificates issued by the secretary since the last meeting of the committee, viz., for Australia, two; South America, one; Canada, fifty-three. Total, fifty-six. Several new and other pedigrees were examined by the committee with certificates, catalogues, and other evidence in support of their correctness, and accepted for entry in the Herd Book. The committee had considered a number of applications for registered names, and they recommended that the following names be registered, and that the applicants be allowed the exclusive use of such registered name, either as a prefix or affix in the naming of their cattle.

Registered Name.	Owner.
Ardnaveigh	H. B. Murray.
Buscot	Alexander Henderson
Catthorpe	J. P. Cross.
Charfield	Lord Moreton.
Clody	R. W. Hall-Dare.
Cropwell	Henry Smith, jun.
Derryc	Maj. R. W. Cradock.
Eling	G. W. Palmer.
Farleigh	Herbert Leney.
Finnebrogue	Maj. R. Perceval-Maxwell.
Hambleden	C. A. Scott Murray.
Hayle	W. J. Hosken.
Hillsborough	Philip Jordan.
Hinderwell	George Welford.
Idsal	J. R. Howard-McLean.
Kingscote	Col. Sir Nigel Kingscote.
Leix	Viscount de Vesci.
Lyneham	Lord Moreton.
Melton	Jonas Webb.
Montrave	Sir John Gilmour, Bart.
Nevern	J. B. Bowen.
Norley	Charles Bell.
Riverside	J. I. Annett.
Sarsden	Lord Moreton.
Shilton	Capt. Oliver-Bellasis.
Slaney	D. H. Doyne.
Stratton	Viscount Baring.
Stroxton	John Langham.
Underley	Lord Henry Bentinck.
Wallstown	James Byrne.
Wayford	L. I. Baker.
Weston	Earl of Camperdown.
Woodboro'	Tom Potter.
Woodperry	John Thomson.

A number of applications for other names were considered, and the secretary instructed to communicate with the applicants suggesting the advisability of adopting other names, and which the committee recommended need not necessarily be geographical names, but that "made" names be allowed.

This report was adopted.

Mr. Darby reported that the accounts for the past two months had been examined by Messrs. Welton, Jones, and Co., and the committee, and were found to be correct; that the receipts for the same period had been £955 7s. 3d., the balance of the society's current account at the bankers' being £1,000 19s. 4d.; and that the committee recommended that cheques be drawn for various accounts amounting to £33 14s. 7d.

The following agricultural societies had acknowledged and accepted with thanks the society's offer of champion and district prizes for bulls for the current year:—Highland and Agricultural Society, Royal Dublin Society, Bath and West of England Society, Essex, Royal Cornwall, Derbyshire, Durham County, Gloucestershire, Isle of Man, Denbighshire, Leicestershire, Warwickshire, Appleby and Westmorland, Yorkshire, Northern Counties, Hollymount, County Cork, North-East of Ireland.

The following agricultural societies had also acknowledged and accepted with thanks the society's offer of prizes for pedigree Shorthorn cows in milk, for the present year:—Bath and West of England Society, Derbyshire, Gloucestershire, Durham County, Yorkshire, Warwickshire, Westmorland and Kendal, Strathearn, Royal Dublin Society, County Cork, Hollymount, North-West of Ireland.

Various applications for the society's district and milking prizes were also considered, and the secretary instructed thereon.

This report was adopted.

Death of Mr. Thomas Duckham.

We regret to announce the death of Mr. Thomas Duckham, of Holmer, Hereford, which took place on Sunday morning last after a week's illness. Mr. Duckham, who was in his eighty-sixth year, represented Herefordshire in Parliament from 1880 to 1885, and the Northern Division of the county from 1885-1886. He was a noted agriculturalist, and was chairman at the early meetings held in London for establishing the Central and Associated Chambers of Agriculture in 1886; was a member of their Council for twenty-two years, and president in 1883; was for twenty-six years member of the Council of the Bath and West of England Association, and was instrumental in bringing about the visits of the society to Hereford in 1865 and 1876. He was also chairman of the Farmers' Club in 1882, was repeatedly elected a member of the Council of the Smithfield Club, was twice elected a steward, serving in that office six years, and at the close of his duties, was elected a trustee. In 1876, at the invitation of the British Commission, he attended the Centennial Exhibition, held at Philadelphia, as judge of cattle, and frequently discharged that office at numerous exhibitions in England and Ireland. For several years he was secretary to the Herefordshire Agricultural Society. In 1857 he purchased the copyright of Eyton's herd book of Hereford cattle, which he edited until 1877. At that time failing health made it necessary for him to turn it over to the Hereford Herd Book Society, of the Council of which he has ever since been a useful member. Mr. Duckham's practical interest in Hereford cattle did much for the elevation of that breed, as he realised and insisted upon the importance of a pure and unbroken pedigree. The deceased was one of the first to realise the necessity for stringent regulations to prevent the importation and spread of contagious disease among our flocks and herds, and doubtless his efforts in this direction, which were by no means small, have done much to produce our present immunity from serious cattle diseases. The remains of the deceased were buried in Holmer Churchyard on Friday afternoon in the presence of a large and sympathetic gathering.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending March 4, 1902:—

Swine Fever.	Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.	No.	142	195	307	1,017	1,713	1,747	3,512	6,453
	Outbreaks.	No.	23	48	31	56	290	339	318	414
Rabies.	Cases Reported. Oth'r Anim'ls.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
	Dogs.	No.	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...
Pleuro-Pneumonia.	Cattle Sl'ghter'd. Exposed to Infection.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Diseased.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Outbreaks.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Glanders (incl. farcy).	Animals Attacked.	No.	29	48	22	18	409	426	326	206
	Outbreaks.	No.	21	30	14	13	194	225	172	117
Foot-and-Mouth Disease.	Animals Attacked.	No.	...	76	...	...	...	647	99	...
	Outbreaks.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	9	7	...
Anthrax.	Animals Attacked.	No.	23	24	9	12	250	164	138	160
	Outbreaks.	No.	17	14	7	9	162	111	90	93
Period.				Week ended Feb. 22, 1902	Corresponding week in (1901 / 1900 / 1899)		Total for 9 weeks, 1902	Corresponding period in (1901 / 1900 / 1899)		

NOTE.—The figures for the current Year are approximate only.



The Remount Question.

Sir,—I trust I may be allowed to say a few words on the remount question, and to state things as I found them from a humble individual's point of view.

The question, as I took it, was divisible into two headings—the breeding question, or the certainty of an annual supply of horses bred by Government; and the reserve question, or the necessity of a large batch of horses available for emergency in time of war. I tried hard to make both parts Imperial and to get the colonies brought together on the main question to meet the demands of the case. From what I ascertained from those representing the Colonies, I don't think there is any doubt but that they would come forward if they were asked, but that they must have a lead from the authorities at home. I went to the authorities at home, and found that Government breeding did not commend itself to the Remount Department, as there was an enormous and constant supply of foreign horses, and that a national stud would be a too expensive affair.

With regard to the reserve question, I approached Mr. Soares, the member for Barnstaple, during last month, and pointed out that the one successful movement in the whole war seemed to have been the arrangement with the London General Omnibus Company, in which a number of genuine horses in regular work were subsidised at ten shillings a head per annum in times of peace, on condition that they would be bought up by the Government at a certain price in time of war. It was shown that, if this scheme could be made Imperial and an Imperial Horse Reserve could be formed of a large batch of horses in various parts of the Empire, the security to the nation would be very great indeed.

Mr. Soares approved of this idea, and on Monday, February 10th, asked the following question in the House of Commons of the Secretary of State for War:—

"Whether, having regard to the necessities of Imperial Defence, he will communicate with the various horse-breeding Colonies, requesting them to subsidise owners of horses suitable for war-like purposes, in order that the Mother Country may have a right to claim such horses in time of war on payment of a reasonable price."

To which Mr. Brodrick replied, "Yes. The whole question of remounts is now being considered."

If this is to be taken as the case (there is, of course, a distinct if), and an Imperial Horse Reserve is to be formed, it is certainly a step in the right direction. It is the horses that people want to keep that you want to buy for the soldier, not the horses that people want to sell. The horses of the London General are bound to be genuine, as their trade and existence depend upon them. If, therefore, your horse force could be made up on the same lines, prepared and ready, they would be bound to be better than the collection of crocks and screws that are stuck into the Government contractor at the last minute, and shipped off without either judgment or knowledge as to their previous history. The resources of the Empire are unlimited, and there is no reason why a large and varied force of horses should not be arranged for with comparatively small cost to the country.—Yours faithfully,

W. Phillpotts Williams.

South Molton, Devon.

Waterglass for Preserving Eggs.

Sir,—I see in your issue March 3rd that you recommend "Waterglass" for preserving eggs. You say:—"The name waterglass is applied to both the silicate of potash and the silicate of soda." You do not say which is the one for eggs, or whether both are equally good. I should be much obliged if you would kindly let me know.

(Mrs.) S. Ives.

Moyns Park, Halstead, Essex,
March 7.

The Right Hon. Robert W. Hanbury, M.P., President of the Board of Agriculture, has appointed Mr. Richard Fynderne Harpur Crewe to be his assistant private secretary (unpaid).



London Hackney Show.

The eighteenth annual show of the Hackney Horse Society commenced in the Agricultural Hall on Tuesday last, the gay and lighter Hackneys occupying the stalls and boxes that had been prepared for their more weighty Shire occupants the previous week. As regards weather, the show took place rather under a cloud, as London was more or less enveloped in a thick yellow fog the whole of the time, occasionally so dense as to quite interfere with anything like a good view being obtained of the animals. Otherwise rain and snow, which have made matters very uncomfortable at some previous shows of the society, were absent.

Comparisons, it is an old saying, are odious, and when we compare the show of light horses of last week with the show of heavy ones the previous week it suffers terribly. Both as regards the company assembled in the hall and the amount of interest taken in the animals, as well as business transacted, the Hackney Show was but a very weak following of the Shire. The way the arrangements for carrying out the judging, too, were not favourable to business, as the judges appeared rather to have to kill time than to get their awards settled, so that parades could take place, and those who wished to do business could have an opportunity. We have complained of these arrangements in previous years, and it really does seem tedious that people who wish to see perhaps one section only should have to waste two or three days in order to do so, on account of the judging of the harness classes being so intermixed with that of the breeding classes.

Taking the numbers and quality of the hackneys shown into account, we have little to complain of, except in some of the younger male classes. The older male classes contained a lot of very good stallions, and of useful and pleasing type. The greatest fault in the female classes was the very small number of entries and the fact that all the best animals were the same that have occupied these positions for the past two or three years, there being very few new-comers of any great merit.

Hackney Stallions.

The judging of some five or six classes of stallions occupied the first day. These were generally a very sound lot, but the hind action of a great number was so deficient that in several classes the judges appeared to have considerable difficulty in finding animals meritorious enough to fill the prize positions.

Yearling stallions were, perhaps, the weakest class, and with but thirteen entries, these made rather a poor display. Mr. W. Richardson won the first prize with a son of the famous past champion, Rosador, out of a Connaught mare, a colt that we liked much, as he looks likely to make a stallion with power, size, and muscle about him, and he will no doubt be a good winner. Mr. A. Willis and Mr. C. V. Llawnth had also useful colts in the list.

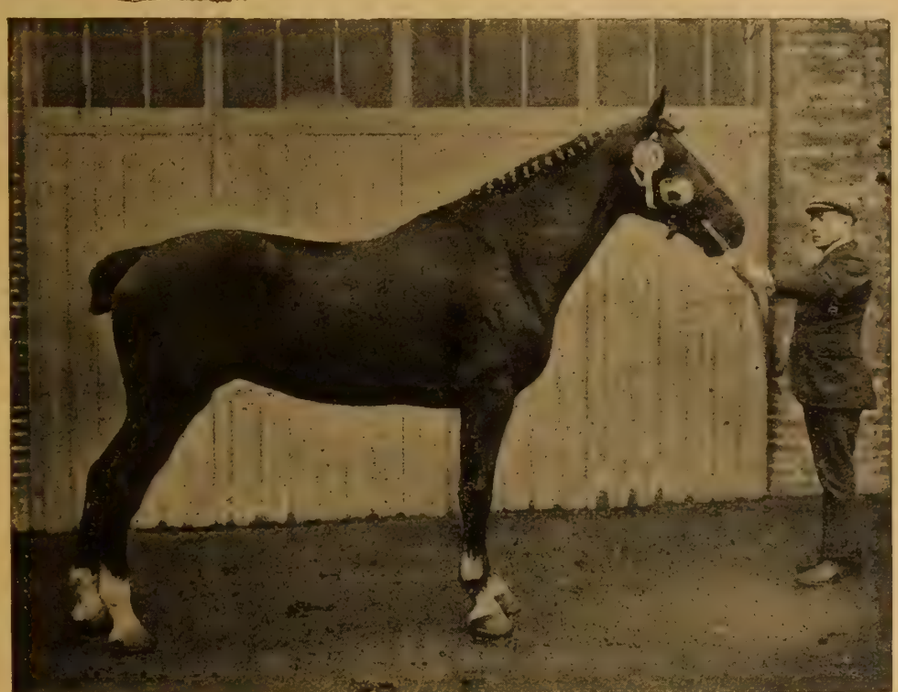
Two years old had a larger entry, 36 of these being catalogued, and the winner gave a most favourable impression. He was shown by Mr. Haley and bred by Mr. Eustace Smith near Newcastle-on-Tyne, and the get of Royal Danegelt. We look upon him as about one of the nicest style of colts we have seen for a long time. His build and general contour are very pleasing, whilst his withers and outlook, as well as quality, joints, and feet, are also most satisfactory. Mr. Galbraith's second also possessed a good deal of substance. Other very good colts were Mr. Livesey's Medway, by McKinley, and Mr. Collins's Squire John, by Gentleman John, a colt that struck us very much on account of his action, style, and beautiful flat bone.

Three years old not exceeding 15-1 high were represented by seventeen entries, and contained several very good colts. Sir Walter Gilbey's Merry Duke, by Royal Danegelt, took the lead in these. He made a very good show, flexing his hocks properly, and going with freedom. His shape and outlook, too, are good, and he stands on a good set of feet. Mr. Morton's Special Post, a well-bred colt, as much like a stallion and a getter as most, came next, and Mr. Thomas Hall's Prince Langton also gave a very good account of himself.

Three years old over 15-1 hands were a fair class, several of the last eight that remained in the ring having some size about them, though in movement perhaps they did not altogether excel. Mr. J. K. Ford sent a very good horse up to take the first place. This was Lord Kimberley, by Rosador, out of a Cadet mare. He has a lot of the carriage horse about him, with substance and quick, good action, and will doubtless prove a very useful stallion in the country. Mr. Wrench's Fitz Rose, by Royal Danegelt, also gave a very good account of himself, though he was not as successful as last year.

Four years old stallions over 14 hands came next, with 42 entries—rather a long bill—and in this class were some of the best horses, 11 of them remaining in the ring when the judges dealt the cards. The best of these was Sir Walter Gilbey's Bonny Danegelt, by Royal Danegelt, who did so well in the championships; he has developed very nice withers and shoulders, has capital feet, and parts, and moves freely, with even action. The Denmark blood in his dam has had good effect. Another very good horse in this class was Mr. Buttle's Garton Sirdar, with capital back and tops, some scope about him, and good legs and feet. Mr. Thomas Hall's St. Thomas, by Garton Duke of Connaught is also a first class style of stallion. Though he only succeeded in getting into the third position, his owner may depend upon it he has a horse that will be liked and make a mark.

Older stallions between 14 and 15 hands high were not liberally represented, only 12 being entered. There were, however, two or three very good horses here. Mr. Makeague's The Autocrat, by Garton Duke of Connaught, a good brown in colour, and a good mover of the right cast, was at the top, followed by Mr. W. Moreton's Extra Stamp and Mr. Chapman's well-known Manifred.



THE HACKNEY MARE, ROSARENE, shown above was the Champion mare at the Hackney Show last week. She was also awarded the special prize and silver medal for the best mare in the older classes. At the Hackney Show of 1901 Rosarene was awarded first prize in the three-year-old class, the special prize for the best mare in the young classes, and reserve for the female championship. Later on it was found that Rosadora, who had been awarded the championship, was not in foal at the time, so that the award fell to Rosarene. She was exhibited at both shows by Mr. Charles E. Galbraith, Terregles, Dumfries, but was bred by Mr. F. W. Buttle, Hackney Stud Farm, Rillington, York, being by Rosador, 4,964, out of 8,846 Elegance.

This age of stallions between 15 and 15-2 hands, of which 14 were entered, brought out the champion of the show in Sir Walter Gilbey's well-known Royal Danegelt, who was in very good form; strong style, with good movement and the right shape and quality. Mr. J. W. Hewitt's Umberto, by Garton Duke of Connaught, who came second, also looks like making his mark as a stallion. He is a grand class of horse, the Cadet and Connaught blood having mixed well. One or two other very good horses were shown in the class.

The bigger stallions, over 15-2, were again a strong class, 38 of them being catalogued. Sir Gilbert Greenall's Clifton III., by Clifton II., out of a Cadet mare, headed the class. Mr. Fewson's Cornfactor and Sir J. Greenall's Lord Drewton II. were next placed, followed by Sir R. D. Moncrieffe's Moncrieffe Statesman, by Garton Duke of Connaught, a stallion that will be as much liked and, depend upon it, as much used as most of them. He is certainly of the stamp required to get first-class carriage horses, with size and action, therefore of the highest value.

The champion stallions were, of the younger classes, Mr. Haly's Danegelt Royal, and Mr. Galbraith's Administrator.

Champions of the older classes in the show, Royal Danegelt and Bonny Danegelt.

Pony Stallions.

Pony stallions made a very good entry, and of those quick, active, useful, strong little beasts, there was quite a good display. Amongst the best of them were Sir J. Greenall's Tissington Horace, by Sir Horace, a sharp, good mare. Mr. W. Foster's Blend, were first and second in this class. Then in the older ones, Sir Gilbert Greenall's splendid pony, Sir Horace, made not only a first but also a champion. He moves like a wire, and his quality is of the very best. Messrs. Jones and Sons' Fireboy, who was reserve for the championship, though of different blood, is a very quick smart pony, likely to beget ponies of a valuable class. Mr. Baxter's Dandy Ribbon, another wonderfully good mover with style and beauty, was awarded third in his class. This class was very good.

Hackney Mares and Fillies,

The judging of these classes, which was proceeded with on the second day of the show, and concluded on the third day, was, in some cases, simply a repetition of last year's show, and the entries were very light in numbers; the quality of these classes, however, on the whole, must be considered very superior to that of some of the stallion classes.

The first class of this sex and section to be judged was that for yearling fillies, in which Mr. Buttle's Rosarette by Rosador, a big grown filly with good limbs, came to be first. Mr. Robert Whitworth had also a very good filly, Commodity by Ganymede, that came second, not covering quite as much ground as the winner, yet a well-built, powerfully made filly.

Two years old fillies had nineteen entries, Mr. F. J. Batchelor's Hopwood Bonnet by Hedon Swell, topping the lot. She carried herself in very nice form, and had a good back and loin, with a lot of muscle about her. May Hopwood, from the same stable, who appeared to have rather more scope about her, and with nice shoulders and quarters, came in second. The Garton Duke of Connaught blood has certainly produced a good filly here. Three years old, not exceeding 15 hands, made up rather a small class, 11 only being entered. Priority was here accorded to Sir Walter Gilbey's Merry Dorothy, by Royal Danegelt, who moved with style and speed, bending her hocks well and going evenly all round. Mr. W. Lawson's Litcham Daisy, who was placed second, a daughter of Bonfire from a cadet dam, also moved uncommonly well, and with the right kind of back and a capital was well worthy of her distinction.

Three years olds, over 15 hands, came next, 12 out of these coming forward, and Sir Walter Gilbey's Merry Sunlight by Royal Danegelt, a filly with very nice shoulders, and the best of flat bone, took the lead in them. Other very choice fillies being Mr. Jay's Knowle Halma by His Majesty, and Mr. Thornton's Middleton Bohemia. Four years olds, over 14 hands, in foal or with foal at foot, were good in quality, though numerically one of the shortest classes, as only nine were entered. Mr. Galbraith's famous mare, Rosarene, put one more jewel in Rosador's crown, and later added champion honours. She has great powers about her, and moves evenly and with force and style. Mr. Liddell-Grainger's Ayton Sweet Nancy by His Majesty, is one of those beautiful made

mares, fitted with good hock action that we have seen at the font times before, and that one always likes to see again. he came in second, Mr. C. J. Vaughan taking third with Mimbridge Baroness, new to our recollection. Mare foaled in or before 1897, over 14 and not exceeding 15 hands, in foal or with foal at foot, totalled up 7 entries. Sir Gilbert Greenall's good mare, Gold Flash by Goldfinder 6th, who ahs led the way many times, was worthily placed at the head of them. Mr. Inman's Vivandiere, another equally well known and worthy one, second, and Mr. Thornton's Princess May carried off the other honour.

Between 15 hands and 15.2 high but two prizes were given, as the class contained but four entries. The winners were Mr. Livesey's well-known and fresh-looking first-class mare, Queen of the South, and Mr. Ireland's Lady Connaught.

Over 15.2 hands, the class strengthened somewhat numerically, and Mr. C. E. Galbraith won a splendid victory with Rosadora, so many times previously head of the poll and a great winner. Mr. Astley's Panic by Garton Duke of Connaught, and Mr. Moore's Lobelia by Chocolate, Junior, were the other winners.

The champion mares were, of the younger classes, Sir Walter Gilbey's Merry Dorothy, sire Mr. Lawson's Litcham Daisy of the older classes, and of the show Mr. Galbraith's Rosarene and her stable companion, Rosadora.

Pony Mares.

Pony mares were a pretty smart lot all round. In the younger classes, Mr. Woodwin's Sedgemere Lady Horace by Sir Horace, and Mr. Ayres' Mickleover Daisy by Sir Berkeley, stood well at the first, Mr. Cole's Beeswax by Berkeley Model also making a good show and coming in third. In the next class Mr. Hollin's very sweet and fine goer, Berry Hill Sniff, occupied easily we thought, the place, Mr. Foster's Mell Valley Custard and Mr. A. S. Day's Peggy being second and third. The last class for breeding ponies contained eight entries, Sir G. Greenall's Greeta by Lord Cadet made a capital mark. There her action and quality being very good. Other fine ponies were Mr. Hollin's Berry Hill Sniff and Sir Gilbert Greenall's Dorothy Derby III., whose name is a guarantee of the highest quality.

The champion pony mare was Sir G. Greenall's Greeta; reserve, Mr. Hollin's Berry Hill Sniff.

Produce Groups,

This very interesting class was judged on Friday morning. The entries, however, were rather small, three groups competing for the male prizes, which was awarded to Royal Danegelt, but as his progeny had done so remarkably well, and Rosador's quality was reserved. Garton Duke of Connaught was also well represented.

Of the two groups of fillies, Rosador's were accounted the best, and Garton Duke of Connaught's the reserve.

Harness Classes,

There was rather a good entry of these classes, but the fog was so thick in the Hall at the time they were judging that it was quite difficult to give a correct opinion of them. The space is too limited for the animals to do the best for themselves.

The Sale.

The larger attendance and freer bidding at this sale from the commencement as compared with former years, led me to hope a good sale would result; such, however, cannot be said to have been the case, for out of offered only 18 head found purchasers. Here, as at the Shire Horse Show last week, the difference in value between the vendors' valuation and that of those who are intending purchasers was clearly marked by the fact that so large a proportion were

The best prices realised were as follow:—170 gns. for Mr. A. W. Hickling's four years old stallion, Master of Hilston, by the Champion Connaught, his new owner being Mr. Wing, of Marsh; Northern Star, a chestnut mare, of Mr. T. P. Willis, made 82 gns. to Mr. Meredith; the three year old pony stallion, r.n. in its class, from Mr. J. Smith's stud realised 80 gns. to Mr. Lee; 71 gns. was paid for Mr. R. Willis' Beeston Rosador, a five years old chestnut gelding, to Mr. J. Heap; a guinea less was paid for Messrs. Hartley's seven years old stallion, Lord Lindsey, sired by Connaught, apparently one of the cheapest bargains of the day; two other stallions made 60 gns. each, namely, Mr. C. Vince's seven-years old, Lord Berners, by Lord Donoghus, to Mr. Smith, and for Mr. W. Jackman's eight years old Master of Enfield, by Master of Lovat, to Messrs. Smith and Abbot respectively; 52 gns. was given for Miss Elevator, from Mr. R. Willis' stud, by Mr. Kellam; a guinea less secured the seven years old pony stallion, Confidence George, from Mr. W. Hollin's, from Mr. James Ford; and 49 gns. secured Mr. James Hargraves' yearling filly, Bowling Primrose, to the last-named purchaser; the average of the 18 sold being £57 13s. 5d. Last year's average for 20 was £68 19s., and that of 1900 £65 16s. 6d. for 18.

Judges.

HACKNEY SECTION.

C. Edward E. Cooke, Hinxton Grange, Saffron Walden.
Arthur E. Evans, Bronwylfa, near Wrexham.
J. D. Reed, Beeford Hall.

PONY SECTION.

A. W. Hickling, Adbolton, Nottingham.
James McMeeken, Kellybank, Dollar, N.B.

Champion and Special Prizes.

STALLIONS.

Champion Cup, value £30, for the best stallion in Classes 1 to 8: Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart., Elsenham Hall, Essex (Royal Danegelt), r. Sir Walter Gilbey Bart. (Bonny Danegelt).

Special Prize and Silver Medal, value £20, for the best stallion in Classes 1, 2, 3, 4.—Mr. Alfred A. Haley, Hackney Stud Farm, Eddlethorpe, Malton (Danegelt Royal), r., Mr. Charles E. Galbraith, Terregles, Dumfries (Administrator).

Special Prize and Silver Medal, value £20, for the best stallion in Classes 5, 6, 7, and 8.—Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart. (Royal Danegelt), r., Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart. (Bonny Danegelt).

Special Prize and Silver Medal, value £10, for the best stallion in Classes 24 and 25.—Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., Walton Hall, Warrington (Sir Horace), r., Messrs. John Jones and Sons, Dinarth Hall Pony Stud, Colwyn Bay (Fire Boy).

MARES, FILLIES, AND GELDINGS.

Champion Cup, value £25, for the best mare in Classes 9 to 16.—Mr. Charles E. Galbraith (Rosarene), r., Charles E. Galbraith (Rosadora).

Special Prize and Silver Medal, value £15, for the best mare in Classes 9, 10, 11, 12.—Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart. (Merry Dorothy), r., Mr. William Lawson, 20, Alexandra Road, South Shore, Blackpool (Mitcham Daisy).

Special Prize and Silver Medal, value £15, for the best mare in Classes 13, 14, 15, 16.—Mr. Charles E. Galbraith (Rosarene), r., Mr. Charles E. Galbraith (Rosadora).

Special Prize and Silver Medal, value £10, for the best mare in Classes 26, 27, 28.—Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart. (Greeta), r., Mr. William Hollins, Berry Hill, Mansfield, Notts (Berry Hill Sniff).

STALLIONS.

CLASS 1.—Yearling entire colts (foaled in 1901): 1, W. Richardson, High and Low Bonwick, Seaton, Hull (Bonwick Rosador); 2, A. Willis, Woodcut, Hollingbourne, Kent (Irvington); 3, C. V. Haworth, The Towers, Thornton, Poulton-le-Fylde (Thornton Royalty); r., Sir R. Moncreiffe, Bart., Moncreiffe House, Bridge of Earn, Perthshire (Moncreiffe Vengeance); h.c., J. Clappison, Ottringham Grange, Hull (Grange Roosevelt); c., J. Robinson, St. Augustine Gate, Hedon, Hull (Harbour Farm Squire).

CLASS 2.—Stallions, 2 years old (foaled in 1900): 1, A. A. Haley (Danegelt Royal); 2, C. E. Galbraith (Administrator); 3, A. Collen, Hackney Stud, Saffron Walden (Walden Squire John); 4, H. Livesey, Rotherfield, Sussex (Medway); 5, H. V. Sheringham, South Creake, Fakenham, Norfolk (Creake Matchless); r., G. Hall, East Farm, Langton, Malton (Fearless Footsteps); h.c., F. W. Buttle, Hackney Stud Farm, Rillington, York (Rosaroyd); c., A. Fewson, Hedon, Hull (Hedon Primo); Cockayne Bros., Hackney Stud Farm, Sheffield Lane Paddocks, Sheffield (Paddock Wildfire); R. Brigham, Tholla Hill Farm, Millington, Pocklington, Yorks (St. John).

CLASS 3.—Stallions, 3 years old (foaled in 1899), not exceeding 15.1 hands: 1, Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart. (Merry Duke); 2, N. Morton, Brookville, Ballymena, Antrim (Special Post); 3, T. Hall (Prince Langton); r., W. Scott, Gilfoot, Carluke, Lanarkshire, N.B. (Athill); h.c., J. L. Anthony, Sedgeford, King's Lynn (Sedgeford Gay Lad); c., C. S. Fletcher, The Grange, Angram, York (Angram Garton Duke); Craven Fort, Steeton, Keighley, Yorks (Steeton Sensation).

CLASS 4.—Stallions, 3 years old (foaled in 1899), over 15.1 hands: 1, J. K. Ford, Chellaston House, Chellaston, Derby (Lord Kimberley); 2, F. Wrench, Killacoona, Ballybrack, Ireland (Fitz Rose); 3, Dixon Nicholson, The Grange, Waton, Cranswick, Hull (Watton Baronet); 4, J. Morton, Stow, Downham Market, Norfolk (Gold Galore); r, Lees Knowles, M.P., Westwood, Pendlebury, Manchester (Dainty Duke); h.c., C. S. Fletcher (Angram Amazement); c., J. Barker, The Grange, Bishop's Stortford (Baden Powell); G. Wilson, Cedar House, Garton, Driffield, Yorks (Cedar King).

CLASS 5.—Stallions, 4 years old (foaled in 1898), over 14 hands: 1, Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart. (Bonny Danegelt); 2, F. W Buttle (Garton Sirdar); 3, T. Hall (St. Thomas); r., H. Livesey (Dissenter); h.c., T. D. John, Chaldeans Stud Farm, St. Fagans, near Cardiff (St. Donats); c., G. Mason Gale, Atwick Hall, Seaton, Hull (Atwick Junior); H. Moore, Burn Butts, Cranswick, Hull (B. B. Rumwood); A. W. Hickling, Adbolton, Nottingham (Master of Hilston); Cockayne Brothers (Paddock Rufus); W. H. Clark, Skeffling Stud Farm, Patrington, Hull (Skeffling B.P.); R. W. Jay, Hollybush, Southgate, N. (Towthorpe Performer).

CLASS 6.—Stallions (foaled in or before 1897), over 14 and not exceeding 15 hands: 1, J. Makeague, Golborne Park, Newton-le-Willows, Lancs. (The Autocrat); 2, N. Morton (Extra Stamp); 3, E. C. Chapman, Stud Farm, Alethorpe, Fakenham, Norfolk (Manifred); r., Cockayne Bros. (Paddock Polonius); h.c., W. Scott, Gilfoot, Carluke, Lanarkshire (Gold); c., R. Whitworth, Londesborough Stud, Market Weighton, Yorks (Christopher North).

CLASS 7.—Stallions (foaled in or before 1897), over 15 and not exceeding 15.2 hands: 1, Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart. (Royal Danegelt); 2, J. W. Hewitt, Massey Brook Stud, Thelwall, near Warrington (Umberto); 3, J. Yates, Bilton Hall, York (Acid Drop); 4, H. Liddell-Grainger, Ayton Castle, Ayton, N.B. (Nugget); r., J. and H. Moorhouse, Flanshaw Stud Farm, Wakefield (Duke Arthur); h.c., R. and P. Hartley, Stud Farm, Balderstone, Blackburn (Lord Lindsey).

CLASS 8.—Stallions (foaled in or before 1897), over 15.2 hands: 1, Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart. (Clifton); 2, A. Fewson (Cornfactor); 3, Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart. (Lord Drewton); 4, Sir Robert D. Moncreiffe, Bart. (Moncreiffe Statesman); r., Lees Knowles, M.P. (Dane Canute); h.c. J. Rowell (Rosellan); c., J. Morton (Current Coin); A. Collen (Denmark Excel); A. Lewis (Heacham Gabriel); A. Lewis (Leyswood Speculation); R. G. Heaton (Sir Tom); W. T. G. Young, Garton Grange, Driffield, Yorks (Young's Connaught).

MARES.

CLASS 9.—Yearling fillies (foaled in 1901): 1, F. W. Buttle (Rosarette); 2, R. Whitworth, Londesborough Stud, Market Weighton, Yorks (Commodity); 3, E. J. Vaughan, Mimbridge Stud, near Chobham, Woking, Surrey (Mimbridge Eloquence); r., H. Liddell-Grainger (Ayton Rosamond); h.c., F. J. Batchelor, Hopwood Stud Farm, Alvechurch, Worcs. (Hopwood Sybil); c., D. Mitchell, Millfield, Polmont, N.B. (Scotia's Queen).

CLASS 10.—Mares, 2 years old (foaled in 1900): 1, F. J. Batchelor (Hopwood Bounce); 2, F. J. Batchelor (May Hopwood); 3, W. Oppenheimer, Riversdale, Thames Ditton, Surrey (Knowle Belinda); 4, G. Wilson (Cedar Primrose); r., W. Scott (Bryony); h.c., A. D. Oates, Ryburn Stud, Halifax (Ryburn White Rose); c., R. Whitworth, Londesborough, Market Weighton, Yorks (Advertisement).

CLASS 11.—Mares, 3 years old (foaled in 1899), not exceeding 15 hands: 1, Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart. (Merry Dorothy); 2, W. Lawson (Litcham Daisy); 3, Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart. (Terrington Majestic); r., Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart. (Terrington Purity); h.c., F. J. Batchelor (Hopwood Iris).

CLASS 12.—Mares, 3 years old (foaled in 1899), over 15 hands: 1, Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart. (Merry Sunlight); 2, R. W. Jay, (Knowle Halma); 3, R. T. Thornton, Middleton Hall, Brentwood, Essex (Middleton Bohemian); r., F. J. Batchelor (Auchans Rosette); h.c., J. W. Astley, Brewery, Nelson, Lancs. (Nelson Queen); c., E. C. Chapman (Alethorpe Olive); Cockayne Bros. (Paddock Queen).

CLASS 13.—Mares, 4 years old (foaled in 1898), over 14 hands, in foal or with foal at foot; 1, C. E. Galbraith, Terregles, Dumfries (Rosarene); 2, H. Liddell-Grainger (Ayton Sweet Nancy); 3, E. J. Vaughan (Mimbridge Baroness); r., R. P. Evans, Woodhatch House, Reigate, Surrey (B.B. Iris); h.c., H. H. Smiley, Inver Stud, Larne, Antrim (Merry Mayflower).

CLASS 14.—Mares (foaled in or before 1897), over 14 and not exceeding 15 hands, in foal or with foal at foot: 1, Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart. (Gold Flash); 2, W. E. Inman, 1, Apsley Place, Huddersfield (Vivandiere); 3, R. T. Thornton (Princess May); r., W. R. Lysaght, Dennel Hill, Chepstow (Lady Florence); h.c., S. Brunton, Frogmore House, St. Albans, Herts (Snowstorm); c., W. W Hargrave, Alderbrook, Parbold, Southport (Lady Hannah).

CLASS 15 (foaled in or before 1897), over 15 and not exceeding 15.2 hands, in foal or with foal at foot: 1, H. Livesey (Queen of the South); 2, J. T. Ireland, Molescroft Grange, Beverley, Yorks (Lady Connaught); r., R. T. Thornton (Chloris); S. Cliff, Wortley, Leeds (Twinkle).

CLASS 16.—Mares (foaled in or before 1897), over 15.2 hands, in foal or with foal at foot): 1, C. E. Galbraith (Rosadora); 2, J. W. Astley (Panic); 3, H. Moore, Burn Butts, Cranswick, Hull (Lobelia); r., H. Liddell-Grainger (Princess Marsh); h.c., W Kerrison, Bridge Street, Fakenham, Norfolk (Fakenham Princess); c., J. Wreghitt, East Thorpe, Market Weighton, Yorks (Londesborough Duchess).

CLASS 17.—Mares (barren) or geldings not over 6 years old (foaled in or after 1896), over 14 and not exceeding 15 hands: 1, J. Heap, Outwood, Birkenhead (Orlando); 2, J. Makeague, Golborne Park, Newton-le-Willows, Lancs. (Miss Primrose); 3, T. C. McKibbin, The Heaning, Windermere (Milford Maid); r., J. J. Taylor, Deanery Stables, Godalming (Atwick Flirt); h.c., J. Makeague (Hermione); c., J. W. Astley (Liberty); Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart. (Terrington Frolic).

CLASS 18.—Mares (barren) or geldings not over 6 years old (foaled in or after 1896), over 15 and not exceeding 15.2 hands: 1, A. Fewson (Lady Venice); 2, A. D. Oates, Ryburn Stud, Halifax (Ryburn Belle); 3, J. Prentice, Carolside, Uddingston, N.B. (Bothwell Squire); r., Mrs. Frederick E. Colman, Nork Park, Epsom Downs (Nork Sensation); h.c., Col. The Earl of Albemarle, C.B., M.V.O., Quidenham Hall, Attleborough, Norfolk (Bombshell); c., R. Surfleet, Beckingham, Gainsboro' (Beckingham Gentleman); Mrs. Fred Holmes, Staveley Grange, Shipley, Yorks (Blucher); E. J. Vaughan (Mimbridge Willerby); E. J. Vaughan (Rodasor); J. W. Astley (Reckless); R. G Heaton (Rother Mimosa); A. Gemmell, Ayr, N.B. (Star of the North); Col. F. W. Tannett-Walker, Carr Manor, Meanwood, Leeds (Sweet Lavender); T. B. Fox, Wharfedale Grange, Ben Rhydding, Leeds (Wharfedale Squire).

CLASS 19.—Mares (barren) or geldings not over 6 years old (foaled in or after 1896), over 15.2 hands: 1, C. E. Galbraith (Manila); 2, C. Scorah, Long Sandall, Doncaster (Barmborough Prince Edward); 3, A. A. Haley (Roosevelt); r., W Revill, Conisbro', near Rotherham (Henzada); h.c., A. Fewson (Sweet Bouquet); c., J. Jebson, Yapham Grange, Pocklington, Yorks. (Amaze); G. Clark, 18, Scot Lane, Doncaster (Sandall Golden Gift); Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart. (Terrington Harpist); Mrs. F. E. Colman, Nork Park, Epsom Downs (The Young Man of Nork); R. P. Evans, Woodhatch House, Reigate, Surrey (Woodhatch Sirdar).

HACKNEYS IN HARNESS.

CLASS 20.—Mares (barren) or geldings, not over 6 years old (foaled in or after 1896), over 14 and not exceeding 15 hands: 1, J. Heap (Orlando); 2, J J. Taylor (Atwick Flirt); 3, H. H. Smiley, Inver Stud, Larne, Co. Antrim (Copley Flora); 4, Mrs. R. T. Thornton (Middleton Bonbon); r., G. E. Franklin, The Field, Derby (King Gobang); h.c., J. E. Anderton, Breeze Hill, Cadley, Preston, Lancs. (Mona Brunette).

CLASS 21.—To be shewn in harness.—Mares (barren) or geldings, not over 6 years old (foaled in or after 1896), over 15 and not exceeding 15.2 hands: 1, F. J. Batchelor (Enid); 2, J. Prentice (Bothwell Squire); 3, R. Surfleet (Beckingham Gentleman); r., Mrs. F. Holmes (Blucher); h.c., J. W. Pepper, Stamford, Lincs. (Filibuster); c., C. Scorah (Coronation); S. Atkinson-Jowett, Oldcotes, Rotherham (Oldcotes Star); Mrs. R. T. Thornton (Rougham Lady Kate).

CLASS 22.—To be shewn in harness.—Mares (barren) or geldings not over 6 years old (foaled in or after 1896), over 15.2 hands: 1, C. Scorah (Barmborough Prince Edward); 2, Mrs. R. T. Thornton (Duke of Cranbrooke); 3, A. Gemmell, Ayr, N.B. (Healthy); r., R. G. Heaton (Her Grace).

PRODUCE GROUPS.

CLASS 23.—Three Hackney stallions or geldings (not exceeding 6 years old) by the same sire (£15 equally divided between the produce, and £5 to the sire): Sir Walter Gilbey's Bonny Danegelt and Danegelt Royal, and Mr. Frederick Wrench's Fitz Rose, by Royal Danegelt; r., Mr. F. W. Battle's Garton Sirdar, Mr. John Lett's Rillington Grandee, and Mr. J. K. Ford's Lord Kimberley, by Rosador.

CLASS 23a.—Three Hackney mares or fillies (not exceeding 6 years old) by the same sire (£15 equally divided between the three, and £5 to the sire): Mr C. E. Galbraith's Rosarene and Rosadara, and Mr. F. W. Buttle's Rosarette, by Rosador; r., Mr. A. D. Oate's Ryburn Belle, Mr. J. W. Astley's Panic, and Mr. J. T. Ireland's Lady Connaught, by Garton Duke of Connaught.

PONY STALLIONS.

CLASS 24.—Pony stallions, 3 years old (foaled in 1899), not exceeding 13.3 hands; or 2 years old (foaled in 1900), not exceeding 13.2 hands: 1, Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart. (Tissington Horace); 2, W. Foster, Mel-Valley, Moseley, Worcestershire (Herod); 3, T. P. Robinson, Pinderfields House, Wakefield (Pinderfields Horace); 4, F. W. Blain, The Cottage, Bunbury, Tarporley, Cheshire (Sir Nigel); r., J. Smith, Whittingham House, Preston, Lancs. (Whittingham Model); h.c., G. S. Lysaght (Anatomy), c., J. L. Appleyard, Woodleigh, Armthorpe, Doncaster (Armthorpe Swell); J. Rowell (Bury Cassius).

CLASS 25.—Pony stallions (foaled in or before 1898), not exceeding 14 hands: 1, Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart. (Sir Horace); 2, J. Jones and Son (Fire-Boy); 3, E. Baxter, Hutton Stud, Brentwood, Essex (Dandy Ribbons); r., A. Wilson (Carleton Wonder); h.c., W. Hollins, Berry Hill, Mansfield, Notts. (Confident George); The Seaham Harbour Stud, Ltd., The Dene, Seaham Harbour (Monte Christo).

PONY MARES.

CLASS 26.—Pony mares, 3 years old (foaled in 1899), not exceeding 13.3 hands; or 2 years old (foaled in 1900), not exceeding 13.2 hands: 1, S Woodiwiss, Sedgemere

Stud, Great Waltham, Essex (Sedgemere Lady Horace); 2, H. E. Ayre, Mickleover, near Derby (Mickleover Daisy); 3, H. Stratton Coles, Guyer's House, Corsham, Wilts. (Beeswax); r., R. Willis (Beeston Princess); h.c., J. A. Mullens, Barrow Hills, Longcross, Surrey (Myra).

CLASS 27.—Pony mares (foaled in or before 1898), not exceeding 13 hands, in foal or with foal at foot: 1, W. Hollins (Berry Hill Sniff); 2, W. Foster, Mel-Valley, Moseley (Mel-Valley Custard); 3, A. S. Day, Berkeley Stud, near Crewe (Peggy Sure Four); r., D. Mitchell, Millfield, Polmont, N.B. (Marsline); h.c., J. Jones and Son (I Am Coming).

CLASS 28.—Pony mares (foaled in or before 1898), over 13 and not exceeding 14 hands, in foal or with foal at foot: 1, Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart. (Greeta); 2, W. Hollins (Berry Hill Snuff); 3, Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart. (Dorothy Derby 3rd); r., W. Hollins (Grovehill Midget); h.c., Capt. C. A. Madge, c.o. T. Radmore, Cheam, Surrey (Burton Bess); S. Woodiwiss (Sedgemere Princess).

PONIES IN HARNESS.

CLASS 29.—Pony mares (barren) or geldings not over 6 years old (foaled in or after 1896), not exceeding 14 hands: 1, G. E. Franklin, The Field, Derby (Queen Gobang); 2, W. Foster (Mel-Valley Flyer); 3, W. Foster (Lady Horace); r., Mrs. R. T. Thornton (Model Rosa); h.c., Miss E. K. Cunliffe, Tyrrels Wood, Leatherhead (Mel-Valley Champion).

Royal Northern.

The Royal Northern Agricultural Society's spring show was held at Killybrewster, Aberdeen, on Wednesday, and it proved to be one of the best of the series. The entries were much larger than usual, the total being 617, as against 634 last year; whilst, as to the quality, the display of horses was undoubtedly the best ever seen at these shows. There were also exhibits of seeds, roots, poultry, and farm implements, and all were very creditable. In the grain department the samples shown were very superior. The medal winners were:—For barley, Mr. John Reid, Balquharn, Alford; for oats, Mr. George Smith, Ordens, Banff, with a sample of potato oats; and for potatoes, Mr. James Mackintosh, Crathes. In the four-year-old class for draft stallions, the first place was taken by Mr. A. M'Robbie, Sunnyside, Aberdeen, with Canny Man, a six-year-old which has won several prizes, and on Wednesday stood far above the other competitors. The second was Royal Kyle, which belongs to Messrs. Cocker, Hill of Pettie, and one of Mr. Coates' premium horses at Dumfries last year. The third winner was one of the Sunnyside stallions, Lord Trayner, an animal which was first as a two-year-old at Aberdeen; second as a three-year-old, and at that age he was engaged by the Sutherlandshire Farmers Club. He was not exhibited last year. In the three-year-old class, Mr. J. P. Sleigh, Fyvie, had an outstanding winner in Holloway, a brown, bred by Mr. P. M'Culloch, Whitefield, Glenluce. He was followed by Royal Scot, the property of Mr. William Renwick, Corstorphine, a very good horse, but not strong in his pasterns as the leader. Right Time, the property of Mr. Charles Lawson, Mains of Cults, took third place. For two-year-olds, Messrs. Cocker had first ticket with Sir Walter, a brown animal bred by Mr. Weir, Bridgend, Islay, which had a very creditable victory. The second prize went to Mr. Durno's Golden Gleam, exhibited for the first time. The yearling colts were a good display, and the Messrs. Cocker were again to the front, with a brown horse, which has been sold to Mr. Clark, Nether Lee, Cathcart. The second award went to Mr. Fleming, Friock Mains, whilst Mr. Alexander Burr, Oldmeldrum, had the third ticket. For draught fillies foaled after January 1st, 1900, Mr. Merson, Craigwillie, Huntly, with Jess of Craigwillie, his third prize-winner last year, made a nice leader, the second prize going to Mr. Sleigh, Strichen, with his first-prize filly at Perth. For yearling fillies, Mr. Fleming, Friock Mains, had an easy win with a half-sister of the beautiful filly which he exhibited so successfully last summer. Montave Gleeful, the second prize-winner, which belonged to Mr. Harper, Insch, was rather undersized, and a little low in the back. In the sweepstakes for yearling Clydesdale colts, Messrs. Cocker had first place with their prize-winner in its class, followed by Mr. R. Copland, Ardlethen, Ellon; while in the sweepstake for yearling Clydesdale fillies Mr. Harper, with Montrave Gleeful, had the leading award, and was followed by Mr. D. Walker, Udny. For thoroughbred stallions, Mr. David Courage, Aberdeen, with Gold Seal, a chestnut rising three years, was awarded the premier place. For hackney stallions (there being only three entries), John Brown, Craigie Cottage, Hardgate, Aberdeen, had first place, with Denmark Junior, a stallion bred in England. In this class, the second prize went to Mr. Alexander Leslie, Keith, with St. Leger, a horse rising six years, bred by the late James Walker, of Limefield, West Calder. In Shetland pony stallions, the chief awards went to Mr. Mackenzie, Earlshall, Leuchars, with Flint and Dick, two very nice specimens of the breed.

Mr. Bernard N. Wale, Agricultural Instructor at Brewood Grammar School, has issued his annual report of the experiments carried out during 1901 on the agricultural side of Brewood Grammar School.

The Hunter Show.

The last of the trio of spring horse shows at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, for the present year, opens to-morrow (Tuesday), when the eighteenth annual show of the Hunters' Improvement Society, in conjunction with the Royal Commission on Horse-Breeding, and Polo Pony Society, will be commenced. The prize list is a most liberal one, the total amount offered being £5,931 5s. The Royal Commission on Horse-Breeding offer £4,200 in 28 King's Premiums of £150; the Hunters' Improvement Society £1,195; and the Polo Pony Society £536 5s. Seven groups will be catalogued, and are the representatives of Chibiabos (5), Four Poster (3), Pantomime (9), Swallowfield (4), Toscano (3), Withernam (3), and Yard Arm (10).

Entries.

As will be seen from the small table given below, the entries show a gratifying increase on those of last year, and are no fewer than 133 more than in 1900, whilst the total is nearly three times as great as in 1891, when there were, of course, no polo ponies exhibited. The following table shows the entries in the various sections for this and previous two years:—

	1902.	1901.	1900.
Thoroughbred stallions	119	113	115
Hunter sires and colts	37	28	40
Polo pony stallions and colts	49	40	31
Hunter mares and fillies	59	83	70
Polo pony mares and fillies	114	78	59
Hunter geldings	129	90	88
Polo pony geldings	35	19	12
Chargers	58	75	52
	600	526	477

The entries in the thoroughbred and hunter classes this year are as follows:—Thoroughbred stallions competing for King's Premiums, 119; thoroughbred colts, three years old, 3; hunter colts, 16; yearling hunter colts or geldings, 19; two-year-old hunter colts or geldings, 42; three-year-old hunter colts or geldings, 28; yearling hunter fillies, 16; two-year-old hunter mares, 19; three-year-old Hunter mares, 12; four-year-old hunter mares, 10; four-year-old hunter geldings, 18; five-year-old hunter mares or geldings, 48; mares, five years old and upwards, 11; young horses, likely to make chargers, 58.

Polo Pony Section.

There are fourteen classes set apart for polo ponies—four for stallions, three for brood mares, three for young stock, and four for riding classes—classes for army remounts (one), mountain and moorland ponies (two), and three competitions—bending, handiest pony, and boys' hunters to be tested over small jumps. The entries in each class are:—Stallions: Not exceeding 14.2, 11; not exceeding 13.2, 7; eastern sires, not exceeding 14.2, 10; polo-bred sires, three, four, or five years old, 4. Brood mares: Above 13.2 and not exceeding 14.2, with foal at foot, or to foal in 1902, 25; not exceeding 13.2, with foal at foot, or to foal in 1902, 9; Arab brood mares, 7. Young Stock: Yearling entire colts, geldings, or fillies, 16; two-year-old entire colts, geldings, or fillies, 21; three-year-old geldings, or fillies, 9. Riding Classes: Four years old, 6; five years old and upwards, 42; four years old and upwards, not exceeding 13.2, 7. Army Remounts: Five to nine years old, not to exceed 14.2, 6. Mountain and Moorland Ponies: Brood mares, in foal or with foal at foot; fillies, two or three years old (a) thirteen hands and over, 11; (b) under thirteen hands, 4.

Some novel features are to be introduced in the polo section this year. In addition to the ordinary class, an extra stock class has been opened, in which Professor Cossar Ewart will show an interesting exhibit in his Zebra-Hybrid Birgus. Lord Arthur Cecil is also sending groups of mountain and moorland ponies, stallions, and mares of the following old British breeds:—Connemara, Exmoor, Fell, Highland, New Forest, and Welsh ponies. In the eastern sire class there will be two ponies of note—Parahk, which carried the late Captain de Montmorency (killed in South Africa) when he won his V.C. in the Soudan; and Bashom (the Fox), which, though wounded at Omdurman, carried despatches fifty miles. De Wet (the Basuto Pony), exhibited in 1901 for the first time, is again shown.

Programme.

The official programme of arrangements for the week is as follows:—

TUESDAY.

Show opens at 9 a.m. Closes at 6 p.m.

9 a.m.—Judging of Thoroughbred Stallions entered for the King's Premiums.

12.30 p.m.—Seventeenth Annual General Meeting of Members of the Hunters' Improvement Society.

If time permits, a Parade of the Hunters and Chargers will take place in the afternoon upon the conclusion of the Judging.

WEDNESDAY.

Show opens at 9 a.m. Closes at 6 p.m.

9 a.m.—Judging of Hunter Young Stock (Classes 1 to 9), followed by Judging of Hunter Riding Classes (10 to 15). Parade of Premium Stallions, etc.

THURSDAY.

Show opens at 9 a.m. Closes at 6 p.m.

9 a.m.—Judging of remainder of Hunter Classes left over from Wednesday.

12 noon.—Judging of Chargers (Classes 16 to 19).

12.30 p.m.—Annual General Meeting of Members of the Polo Pony Society.

2.30 p.m.—Parade of Thoroughbreds, Hunters, and Chargers.

4 p.m.—Judging of Polo Riding Classes (30 to 33).

FRIDAY.

Show opens at 9 a.m. Closes at 5 p.m.

9 a.m.—Judging of Polo Breeding Classes (20 to 29). Award of the Gold and Silver Challenge Cups. Mountain and Moorland Ponies (Class 38).

2.30 p.m.—Remount Class (Class 34).

3 p.m.—Parade of the Pony Classes.

4 p.m.—Bending Race, Handiest Pony and Jumping Competitions.

English Jersey Cattle.

A council meeting of the English Jersey Cattle Society was held at 7, Princes Street, Hanover Square, London, W., on Monday, preceded by a meeting of the General Purposes Committee, Sir James Blyth presiding.

Twenty new members were elected.

A letter was read from Mr. J. J. Hemingway, secretary, enclosing the new bye-laws under which English Herd Book animals may be accepted for entry in the Herd Register of the American Jersey Cattle Club. The following extracts are from these bye-laws:—

"Animals imported from Great Britain, to be eligible, must have been entered in the English Jersey Herd Book, and must present an unbroken pedigree to ancestry recorded in the Island of Jersey Herd Book.

"Application for entry of an imported animal must be accompanied by a certificate signed by the authorised agent of this Club resident in the Island of Jersey, or resident in Great Britain (as the case may be), testifying to the identity of the animal and to the truth of the statements accompanying it, and also by a certificate of export, giving the breeding of the animal, signed by the secretary of the Jersey Herd Book, or by the secretary of the English Jersey Cattle Society. In the case of English-bred animals, the certificate signed by the agent of this Club shall include the complete pedigree of the animal carried to the Island of Jersey recorded ancestry, certified to by the secretary of the English Jersey Cattle Society, which pedigree shall be published in the Herd Register of this Club. The certificate of export shall be returned to the owner of the animal, upon his request, after examination and record.

"In order to prevent the possibility of the substitution of other animals for those to which the certificates refer, the authorised agent of this Club in the Island of Jersey, or in Great Britain, shall number each set of certificates, and shall attach to each animal, around the neck or the base of the horns, a chain, to be furnished by the secretary, fastened with a padlock, bearing the same number with the certificate, the keys of which, in duplicate, shall be in the possession of the agent of this Club in the Island of Jersey, or in Great Britain, and of the secretary. After arrival the chain and lock must remain attached to the animal until examined by the secretary of the Club or his deputy; provided that, in the case of accidental breaking of the chain, the animal may be admitted with the consent of the Board of Directors. The lock and chain may be left on the animal and retained by the owner, provided he reimburses the Club for the cost of them.

"The letters A. J. C. C. and the number shall be branded either on the horn or hoof, at the option of the importer.

"No application shall be considered until the fees are paid; nor shall any number be assigned by the secrttary until every requirement has been complied with.

"The fees on animals imported from the Island of Jersey and from Great Britain (excepting those imported in dam) shall be: Entries of males or females, 10 dollars each (£2 2s.)."

The secretary reported that birth sheets from 300 herds had been received for entry in the forthcoming Herd Book, Vol. XIII. Of these the greater portion had been revised, and the work was well forward.

Mr. Ernest Mathews, on behalf of the General Purposes Committee, reported that they had examined the statement of funds, and recommended the payment of accounts for printing and other expenses. Mr. Mathews further stated that the Council had found that most of the Jerseys now tested reached the present standard of merit, and that a higher degree of excellence should be fixed. The committee therefore recommended that in future certificates of merit should be granted for:—Cows under five years old obtaining 30 points; cows five years old and over obtaining 35 points. The report of the committee was adopted.

Letters accepting the offer of prizes for butter tests for 1902 were read from the secretaries of the following shows:—Royal Jersey Society.—Gold, silver, and bronze medals, and £1 butter

prize. Bath and West of England.—Gold, silver, and bronze medals, £30 for two classes of cows of any breed or cross, and £1 butter prize. Royal Counties.—Gold medal or £10, silver medal and £5, bronze medal and £3; also £1 prize for the best butter. Tunbridge Wells.—Gold medal or £10, silver medal and £5, bronze medal and £3; also £1 prize for the best butter. Tring.—Gold medal or £10 silver medal and £5, bronze medal and £3; also £1 prize for the best butter.

The General Purposes and Editing Committees were re-elected for the year 1902 with the exception of the Hon. A. E. Parker, who wrote stating he wished to retire. A list of judges proposed by members of the Society was revised and ordered to be forwarded to the secretaries of the various agricultural societies. The following new members of council were elected:—Viscount Enfield, Dancers Hill, South Myms, Middlesex; and Mr. J. Carson, Crystalbrook Park, Theydon Bois, Essex.

The next council meeting was fixed to take place in May.

IN PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Agricultural and Technical Instruction in Ireland.

On Monday the Attorney-General for Ireland presented a Bill to enable County Councils in Ireland to exclude congested districts from the area of charge for certain purposes relating to agricultural and technical instruction. The Bill was read a first time.

Light Railways.

Mr. Bryce asked the President of the Board of Trade on Monday whether he proposed to bring in a Bill this session to amend the Light Railways Act; and, if so, whether he could introduce it before Easter.

Mr. G. Balfour.—The Bill is in preparation, but I am unable to say when it will be introduced.

Remounts Purchased in England.

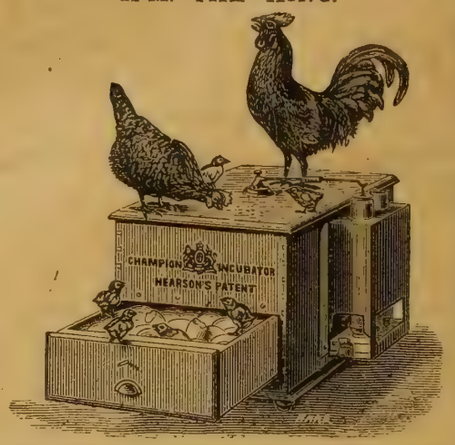
Mr. F. Wilson asked the Secretary for War on Thursday whether, having regard to Colonel Kitchener's Report on Remounts, stating that nothing had really come up to the English horse for cavalry and draught, the War Office intended in future to buy a larger proportion of English horses; and whether, to facilitate sale and purchase, he would give a return showing who were the authorised official buyers in each county, the class of animal required, and the price which would be paid for accepted horses, thereby encouraging farmers and breeders to sell direct to Government at full prices instead of getting a less rate through middlemen.

Lord Stanley—The success of English horses in South Africa, which horses, I should mention, include a considerable proportion of horses from America, was due in a considerable degree to their hard condition, they being corn-fed. In normal times the horses required for the Army at home have been, with very few exceptions, purchased in England or Ireland. Purchase is being briskly carried on in those countries, and will be continued as long as suitable animals are procurable and required. I will consider whether it is possible to advertise more widely than at present the channels through which horses are purchased and the conditions.

The second number of the "Nature-Study Journal," which has just come to hand, contains some useful suggestions and reports of lessons for the use of our rural school teachers. The publishers are the South-Eastern Agricultural College, Wye, Kent, and the secretary, to whom communications should be made, is Mr. Lance Rawes, Send School, Woking.

Bridport Cattle and Sheep Fair.—The spring sheep and cattle fair at Bridport, Dorset, held on Wednesday, was well supplied, but scarcely to the extent in some previous years. Buyers were largely represented from over the Somerset and Devon border, as well as from other parts, and a brisk trade resulted for all the better-class things, either in cattle or sheep, prices of which compared favourably with other recent years. Couples made 46s. to 54s. 6d.; wethers, 40s. to 48s. 6d.; ewes, 38s. to 48s.; horn wether hogs, 37s. to 46s.; cross-bred lambs, 30s. to 36s.; horn lambs, 28s. to 35s; store lambs, 27s. to 35s. Cattle: Milch beasts made £16 10s. to £21 for heifers, and £12 to £14 for cows; barreners, £18 to £26 per pair, with a brisk inquiry for the fresher condition grades. In-calvers were also much wanted, and made good prices. Calves, both for slaughter and for rearing purposes, sold well. Store pigs a good killing trade; medium weights in fat pigs 10s. 6d. to 11s. per score.

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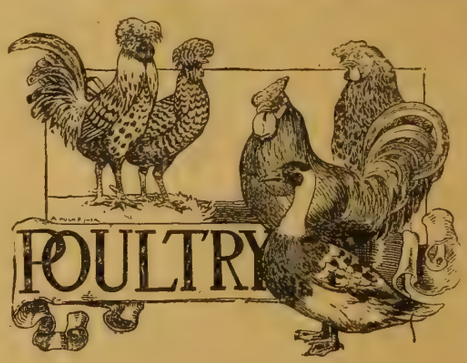
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Best Way to Feed Fowls.

In the Journal of the British Dairy Farmers' Association, Mr. J. P. W. Marx has something to say about the way to feed fowls. It seems the best method is to scatter the food over a wide space of ground, be that food soft or hard. This is subject to some exceptions, depending on the state of the ground and whether the fowls are kept in confinement or at liberty. If the ground be soft and dirty, such as would be the case in wet weather, so that dirt must adhere to the food, then the food is better given in long low wooden troughs, or large flower-pot saucers. Similarly, when fowls are penned up and the ground is likely to be soiled by their excrement, the food of all kinds should be fed from some kind of vessel.

The utensils used for food should be numerous, placed some distance apart, and each one filled as quickly as possible. The object in doing this and in widely scattering the food when thrown broadcast on the ground is to separate the fowls at feeding time, and give every one a chance of getting its fair share. To empty a bucket of corn out of the stable door means a grand opportunity for the strongest to get more than their share, and also to peck and bully the weak fowls, which do not get enough. Whenever the state of the ground and the weather permit, the food should be thrown wider about. If the feeding ground can be so arranged as to extend round two or three sides of a building or behind any odd corners, so much the better, for then any persecuted members of the flock have a better chance of getting a fair meal in peace. When three or four cocks are running together there is always a lot of bullying at feeding time. A couple of lengths of waddled hurdles placed here and there on the feeding ground make an admirable screen, and serve to break up the fowls when fed.

The feeding place should, when possible, be changed frequently. If the poultry have the run of a short grass meadow this can be done at any time. By throwing the food on the grass the fowls are kept scratching and hunting for a long time; the crop is slowly filled by the food they have to seek for, and this is much better than rapidly distending it by gobbling up corn from a heap. Moreover, the scratching which goes on for some time after the food is given is capital exercise, and keeps the fowls bright and active. Fowls hang about and draw to the place where they are fed; generally speaking, they are not wide foragers. Some breeders and varieties and some individuals are better than others in this respect. Hence, if the actual place of feeding be changed, say monthly, the fowls are induced to wander about more freely.

Present Care of Poultry.

The young pullets which have come on to lay and drop their eggs about the run, should have some nice nests prepared for them, and two or three dummy eggs placed in. If this does not tempt them to go in, they should be put in, and fastened in for a day. This teaches them to go in. If the eggs are dropped about the run the frost injures them, and makes them unfit for sitting purposes. On frosty days the eggs should be looked up two or three times a day. This is very important to those who have valuable fowls. Those who are thinking of going in for fresh cockerels, stock drakes, guinea fowls, ganders, and turkeys, should order them this month, if they have room for them; if not, there will be a possibility that the best birds will be gone by next month, or they have to pay a much longer price for them. This is important to those who require male birds more than those who only wish for hens and pullets, though it is well to buy the latter also, so that they may settle down comfortably in their new quarters.

New Agricultural Patents.

Specially compiled for *Mark Lane Express* by Mr. G. D. Howard (Hughes, Son, and Co.), Patent Agent, 38, Chancery Lane, London, of whom all information relating to Patents, Designs, and Trade Marks may be obtained free of charge.

3,959.—Henry Myers, of Burton-on-Trent, for "The manufacture of cattle meal, from millers' and brewers' by products."

4,112.—John Barlow, of Chancery Lane, London, for "Improvements in or relating to seed drills and the manner of their application to ploughs."

4,408.—Thomas Edmund Rowe, of Manchester, for "Improvements in Agricultural one-way ploughs."

Patents Sealed.

19,207.—J. Lowson, J. Money, and W. Price, all of Lincoln, for "Ploughs, agricultural."

19,628.—S. J. Symes, of Wicklow, for "Reaping, mowing, and harvesting machines."

The Cannock Agricultural Company's Catalogue for 1902 contains, in addition to full particulars of the firm's special bone manure's selected farm seeds, implements, etc., much information of general interest to agriculturalists. Grass and clover seeds, root seeds, etc., are described in detail, and particulars of their special characteristics and qualities given. The list is well arranged and illustrated. A copy of the Catalogue may be had post free on application to the company.

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One of the groups is being fed on New Milk and the other on Separated Milk and "Cream Equivalent."

We asked our readers to tell us which of these groups were fed on New Milk, and 707 Farmers, Farmers' wives, their sons and daughters competed for a small prize which we offered to those who guessed correctly.

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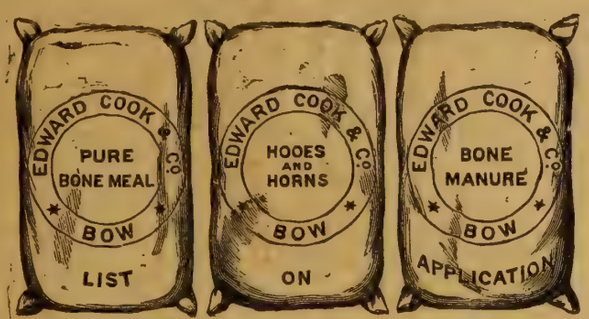
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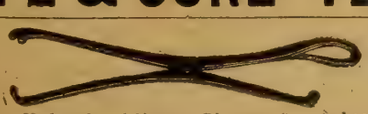
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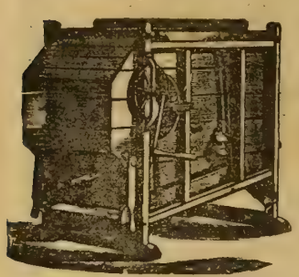
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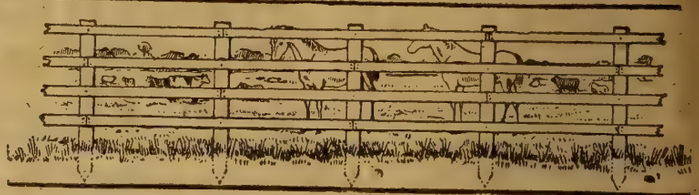
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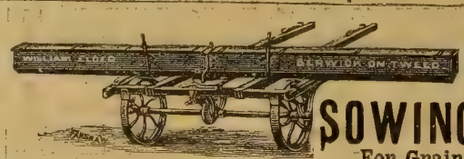


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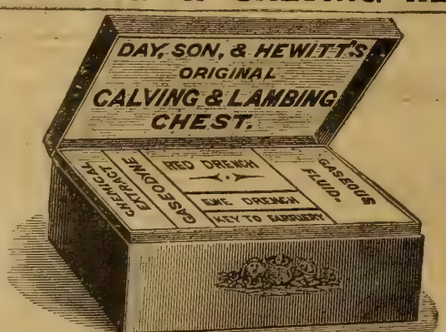
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VOL. LXXXVI. No. 3677. LONDON, MONDAY, MARCH 17, 1902. THIRTY-TWO PAGES. PRICE 3D.

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THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION of ENGLISH HOP GROWERS. (Founded June 1894.)

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Summary of the Report presented at the Fifty-third Annual Meeting, held on 6th March, 1902.

ORDINARY BRANCH.—The number of Policies issued during the year was **76,831**, assuring the sum of **£7,575,835**, and producing a New Annual Premium Income of **£389,776**.

The Premiums received during the year were **£3,489,955**, being an increase of **£167,613** over the year 1900.

The Claims of the year amounted to **£1,563,775**. The number of Deaths was **6,723**, and **6,105** Endowment Assurances matured.

The number of Policies in force at the end of the year was **651,558**.

INDUSTRIAL BRANCH.—The Premiums received during the year were **£5,529,461**, being an increase of **£31,764**.

The Claims of the year amounted to **£2,104,939**. The number of Deaths was **211,670**, and **2,227** Endowment Assurances matured.

The number of Free Policies granted during the year to those Policyholders of five years' standing who desired to discontinue their payments was **74,198**, the number in force being **771,279**. The number of Free Policies which became Claims during the year was **17,880**.

The total number of Policies in force at the end of the year was **14,334,820**: their average duration exceeds nine and a half years.

The Assets of the Company, in both branches, as shown in the Balance Sheet, are **£43,292,026**, being an increase of **£3,396,698** over those of 1900.

The Staff Provident Fund, which was founded in 1898 for the benefit of the outdoor staff, shows a satisfactory increase for the year, the total amount standing to the credit of the Fund being **£101,960**.

Messrs. Deloitte, Dever Griffiths & Co. have examined the Securities, and their certificate is appended to the Balance Sheets.

D. W. STABLE,
Secretary.

FREDK SCHOOLING,
Actuary,

THOS. C. DEWEY,
WILLIAM HUGHES, } Joint General Managers.

The full Report and Balance Sheet can be obtained upon application.

FARMS, ESTATES, MILLS, BUSINESSES, &c.

MESSRS. CRONK'S LIST of FARMS, containing particulars of numerous Farms in Kent, Surrey, Sussex, and elsewhere, to be obtained gratis at their offices or will be sent by post on receipt of a stamp. Properties inserted free.—12, Pall Mall, London, S.W., and Sevenoaks, Kent.

CANADA.—SMALL FARM FOR SALE.—House, stables, barn, 100 acres, about 25 cleared. 168 miles from Toronto, 8 from station. Situated on lake near English church and store. English settlement, more gentry desired, £130. Other farms in neighbourhood for sale.—W., Ilfracombe, Muskoka, Ontario.

FARMS, ESTATES, MILLS, BUSINESSES, &c.

FARMS.—Rents from 10s. Acre; prices £7 Acre. Monthly List 2 stamps. RUTTER, 10, Norfolk Street, Strand, London.

TO BE LET or SOLD.—BEDFORDSHIRE. — THE MANOR and WHITWICK GREEN FARMS, in a high state of cultivation, situate at THURLEIGH, within six miles of Bedford and three from Sharnbrook Station, on the main line of the Midland Railway, comprising 655 acres, of which about 330 are arable and 325 pasture, &c., together with excellent Farm Residence, Bailiff's House, Five Labourers' Cottages; also the commodious and conveniently arranged Homesteads, with large covered Yards, perfect Water Supply, and every facility for the use of Machinery.

For further particulars and orders to view, apply—STAFFORD & ROGERS, Ltd., Surveyors and Estate Agents, Bedford.

CAPITAL FLOCK FARM TO LET WITH IMMEDIATE POSSESSION.—To be Let with immediate possession, West Marden Farm, about three miles from Rowlands Castle, four from Emsworth, and seven from Chichester. Comprising about 465 acres, of which 268 acres are arable, 39 acres pasture, and 158 down and rough pasture, with comfortable farm house, farm buildings, and five cottages. The farm is admirably adapted as a flock farm, and is very kind land for roots, and the down ranks with the best in Sussex. To be let from Lady Day at a very low rent.—For further particulars apply to HOBGEN BROS., Estate Agents, Valuers, and Auctioneers, East Street, Chichester.

BAXTER, PAYNE, AND LEPPER,
LAND AGENTS,
FARM AND TIMBER VALUERS, SURVEYORS, HOUSE AGENTS, AND AUCTIONEERS,

PREPARATION of PLANS, Superintending the Erection or Repairs of Farm Buildings, and Laying-out of Estates for Building, Planting, Drainage, &c.

MORTGAGES arranged, also Railway and other Compensations, Dilapidations, Division and Apportionment of Tithe Rent Charges, &c.

A MONTHLY Register published of Country Houses and Estates to be Let or Sold (Furnished or Unfurnished) in the Home Counties and elsewhere, free on application; also a SEPARATE LIST OF FARMS.

Auction dates are fixed as may be required.
London office: 69, King William Street, E.C.
Country offices: Bromley, Kent; and at Beckenham.

TENDER.

CUMBERLAND MARKET TOLLS.

REGENTS PARK.

THE COMMISSIONER OF WOODS in charge of His Majesty's Land Revenue, in the County of Middlesex, is prepared to LET by TENDER for a term of Seven Years from the 5th APRIL, 1902, the two areas of Cumberland Market, Regent's Park (together with the Office or Weigh House and weighbridge attached), appropriated to the sale of hay, straw, grass, clover, and vetches, with all the rents, tolls, duties, authorised or appointed to be collected from persons using the same.

Tenders sealed and addressed to the Commissioners of Woods, 1, Whitehall Place, and endorsed "Tender for Cumberland Market Tolls," are to be delivered there before TWELVE o'clock on TUESDAY, the 25th MARCH, 1902.

For further particulars and conditions of letting, application may be made to the Office of Woods, 1, Whitehall Place, S.W.

AUCTION SALES.

IMPORTANT SALES OF PURE-BRED STOCK.

JOHN THORNTON & CO. will SELL by AUCTION as follows:—

WEDNESDAY next, MARCH 19.—Mr. J. E. Platt's RED POLLED CATTLE, at Howbury Hall, Bedford.

THURSDAY next, MARCH 20.—Lady De Rothschild's JERSEYS, at Aston Clinton, Tring.

THURSDAY, APRIL 3.—Sale of about 130 SHORTHORN BULLS and 30 COWS and HEIFERS, at York.

TUESDAY, APRIL 8.—Mrs. McIntosh's JERSEYS, at Havering Park, Romford.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9.—The late Lord Rookwood's JERSEYS, at Down Hall, Harlow, Essex.

FRIDAY, APRIL 11.—Capt. Duncombe's Herd of SHORTHORNS, at Waresley Park, Sandy.

Catalogues may be had of JOHN THORNTON AND CO., 7, Princes Street, Hanover Square, London, W., who will execute commissions.

THURSDAY NEXT, MARCH 20th.

COUND FARM, SHROPSHIRE, 2 miles from Cressage (Severn Valley Rly.), 7 miles Shrewsbury, and 9 from Wellington.

GREAT SALE OF FAT AND PEDIGREE STOCK, comprising 43 Pedigree HEREFORDS, 50 Grand Fat BULLOCKS, 11 Pure-bred Hereford BULLS, 336 Registered Shropshire SHEEP, including 200 very Ripe Yearlings, 12 Noble Cart HORSES and COLTS, IMPLEMENTS, &c., which Messrs. BARBER & SON will SELL by AUCTION, by order of Henry Instone, Esq., who is retiring, on THURSDAY NEXT, MARCH 20th, 1902.

Luncheon from 10 o'clock. Sale at 11 prompt. Keep on the Fat Stock until Tuesday, March 25th.

Brakes will meet all trains at Cressage Station. Brakes will also run from Wellington, 12 o'clock and 1.43, and a Brake will leave Shrewsbury Railway Station at 12 30.

Catalogues from the Auctioneer's Offices, Wellington, Shropshire.

SHREWSBURY BULL SHOW AND SALE
WILL BE HELD
On TUESDAY, MARCH 25th, 1902, when
120 SHORTHORN, HEREFORD, AND POLLED-ANGUS BULLS will be offered for Sale from the principal herds in the Midlands.

Prize Lists and Entry Forms on application to

ALFRED MANSELL & CO.,
Auctioneers and Secretaries,
College Hill, Shrewsbury.

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For Land-Owners, Land Agents, Surveyors, Agriculturists, intending Colonists, etc.
For Prospectus apply to the PRINCIPAL.

NEXT SESSION begins TUESDAY, MAY, 27th.

THE YORKSHIRE COLLEGE, LEEDS.

AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

SUMMER SESSION begins APRIL 15th.
The Course comprises Forestry, Practical Agricultural Chemical Analysis, Dairying, Practical Farming, Surveying and Levelling at Garforth, Poultry Keeping, and Horticulture. Inclusive fee £5. Prospectus may be had from the REGISTRAR.

LIVE STOCK.

HORSES.

HACKNEYS.

MOORE, HENRY, Burn Butts, Cranswick, Hull.—Pedigree Stud of HACKNEYS, including many prize-winners, yearlings, two years, and others.—Can be seen on application to Henry Moore.

LLOYD, WALTER, Heaselands, Hayward's Heath, Sussex.—Small but select Stud of PEDIGREE HACKNEYS, Mares, Fillies, and Colts of best blood, including stock by Champion Ganymede, Agility, Winnal Fireaway, Model II., and other noted Stallions at moderate prices. Appointments to view the stud (which is 1½ miles from Hayward's Heath station, L.B. and S.C. Railway), on application to the owner, as above.

LEES KNOWLES, M.P., Westwood, Pendlebury, Manchester. Breeder of Pedigree Hackneys, Stud Horses: Dane Canute, 5952, by Danegelt, 174; Dainty Duke, 7417, by Garton, Duke of Connaught, 3009; and Salford Felix, 7263, by Invincible, 1806. Stock on Sale by the above-named and other noted Sires.—For particulars apply to the STUD GROOM, Dam Head Farm, Mobberley, Cheshire, or to the Owner.

SHIRES.

MUNTZ, P. ALBERT, M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby.—SHIRE-BRED STALLIONS, COLTS, MARES, & FILLIES. About a hundred of all ages. Prize-winners London and other leading shows. Also high-class Shropshire SHEEP, winners first prize at Royal Agricultural, 1886, second in 1887, and first in 1888.—Apply, THOMAS EWART, Dunsmore Farm, Rugby.

CONCHAR, JOHN, Wylde Green, Birmingham.—Breeder of SHIRES and HACKNEYS. Some good Colts and Fillies for Sale. Five minutes from Station.

SHIRE STALLION.

FOR SALE. . . .

BUSCOT STATESMAN 17225,

BAY, FOALED 1897.

Sire MARKEATON ROYAL HAROLD 15225; Dam 16031 ASENATH II.

BUSCOT STATESMAN won:—1897: 2nd, R.S., Manchester. 1898: 1st, Gloucestershire; 1st, Moreton-in-the-Marsh. 1899: 3rd, Peterborough; 2nd Hatfield. 1900: 9th, London Shire Horse Show. He is own brother to Buscot Senator, sold to Lord Wantage for 700 guineas.

This grand young horse is perfectly sound, a safe getter, and his stock are very promising.

For further particulars apply ALFRED AXE, Manor House, Bonsall, Matlock Bath.

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THE SEAHAM STUD, Ltd., Seaham Harbour, county Durham. The largest stud of Pedigree Clydesdales in the United Kingdom. Stallions, mares, colts, fillies always on sale. Inspection solicited.—Apply, R. BRYDON, Seaham Harbour.

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MONTEFIORE, Rev. D. B., Mursley Hall, Winslow, Bucks.—Champion Arab Stallion "Mootrub," Polo Pony "Hurlingham," by Champion "Rosewater," and the thoroughbred Pony Stallion "Eheu," by "Despair." Particulars on application.

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CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS.

DALMENY SHORTHORN HERD, the property of the Earl of Rosebery, K.G. Bulls and Heifers of the choicest breeding always for sale at moderate prices.—Apply, MANAGER, Home Farm, Dalmeny Park, Edinburgh.

SWINBURNE, SIR JOHN, owns one of the Largest and Best Herds of PURE BATES SHORTHORNS in existence. The Herd being large, both Males and Females, of any age, can always be obtained.—Apply to JAMES HEPPLE, Bailiff, Capheaton, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

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CRIDLAN, J. J., Maisemore Park, Gloucester. Erica, Pride of Aberdeen, Lady Ida, and other noted tribes. Stock Bulls, Eimed 12459 and Elate 16513. Bull Calves by Elate, Champion and Gold Medal Winner, 1901. Station 2 miles.

CATTLE (*contd.*).

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ROWE, F. W., Trevego, Lostwithiel, Cornwall. Breeder of pure-bred South Devon Cattle of best and purest strains of blood. Bulls, Cows and Heifers for inspection and sale.

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ILMINSTER HERD PEDIGREE JERSEYS.—Choice about 100 finest quality Cows and Heifers, in profit and calving all seasons; prices moderate; inspection invited; shipper to all parts. — R. WHEADON, Ilminster.

TICHBORNE PARK GUERNSEYS, property of Sir H. D. Tichborne, Bart. Bulls, Cows and Heifers of very best breeding for sale.—D. Michie, Tichborne Park Office, Alresford, Hants.

LE BROCQ F. W., Maitland, Trinity Road, Jersey.—Breeder and Exporter of pedigree Jersey Cattle. Young Bulls and down-calving Heifers for Sale.

SHEEP.

LINCOLN LONGWOOL.

DUDDING, HENRY, Riby Grove, Gt. Grimsby, Lincolnshire, has always for inspection and sale a large flock of pure LINCOLN LONGWOOL SHEEP, including many prize-winners, having taken the leading prizes for many years at the Royal and other shows for both rams and ewes, including champion medals at both the Paris Exhibitions, Vienna, Amsterdam, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and all the leading prizes at Chicago; also the first for the best collection of Lincoln fleeces of wool at the Royal Windsor Show, which proves the character of this flock, which is most famous for their great size and 125 years' good breeding: Rams from this flock made the highest average on record last year. Riby Grove is seven miles from Great Grimsby, and three from Stallingboro' Station. Telegrams, "Dudding, Keelby."

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BROOKS, WM. JERMYN, Boughton Grange, Northampton (Flock Book No. 165), has for sale Rams and Ewes of the best blood. Great satisfaction given abroad, especially for their fine fleeces.—Telegrams, Chapel Brampton.

SHEEP (*contd.*).

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TREADWELL, JOHN, Upper Winchendon, Aylesbury. Oxford Down Sheep. Annual Ram Sale, first Wednesday in August. Prizes won at R.A.S.E, 24 years in succession. Ewes for sale.

FISHER, G. S., Broughton Lodge, Kettering. Annual Sale of Rams at Kettering, 2nd Friday in August. This Flock obtains many prizes. Inspection invited. Sheep generally for Sale.

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COLES, CARY, Manor House, Winterbourne, Stoke, Salisbury.—Registered HAMPSHIRE DOWNS, prize-winners Royal, Bath and West, and Royal Counties Shows; Salisbury Prize Sheep Fair, 1900 and 1901. Twenty-five guineas Challenge Cup best pen 8 Ram Lambs. Flock numbers 1,200. All ages for sale.

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DALMENY HERD of LARGE WHITE PEDIGREE PIGS, the property of the Earl of Rosebery, K.G. YOUNG BOARS and SOWS of the very best quality and choicest breeding for SALE at moderate prices.—Apply, MANAGER, Home Farm, Dalmeny Park, by Edinburgh.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, Stoke Farm Herd Large White Pigs, est. over 20 years. Boars and Gelts at moderate prices. Inspection invited.—A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

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PIGS (*contd.*)

MIDDLE WHITES (*cont.*).

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CATTLE FOR WINTERING.—J. A. will be glad to receive orders for the purchase of Cattle, which, owing to the shortness of straw in Scotland, can now be bought cheaply. A good profit should be the result either for feeding or wintering.

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Several lots of Shropshire and Clun ewes, Shropshire, Oxford and Lincoln rams, and cattle of various classes on sale, which can be seen by appointment.

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EGGS.—Buff and Black Orpingtons, Barred and Buff Rocks, Black Minorcas, White, Buff and Black Leghorns and Houdans, 5s. and 7s. 6d. sitting; unfertiles replaced; catalogue free.—G. DAY, Ash, Wrotham, Kent.

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MACDONALD'S (Pt. 16099[00]) PREMIER CABBAGE PLANTER. A man can plant 1,000 an hour. At one operation, dibbling, planting and closing are performed. Scores of unsolicited testimonials. Price, post free, 2·3.—JOHN MACDONALD, Implement Maker, Lenzie, Glasgow.

ASHWORTH'S NEW BREED WHITE SEED OATS. "Gigantic." Very prolific. Produced 71 bushels per acre last season. One of the finest oats ever offered for seed purposes. Price on application.—ASHWORTH'S Ltd., Seed Warehouse, Frodsham Bridge, via Warrington.

FOR SALE, Up-to-Date and British Queen SEED POTATOES, true to name, and grown from selected stocks. Price 10s. per ton.—Apply JOHN WRIGHT, Potato Grower, Sutton St. Edmunds, Wisbech.

SEED POTATOES FOR SALE. —The following sorts, true to name, seed size in lots of two tons or more, F.O.R. Up to Dates 32s. 6d., Gartons 32s. 6d., Langworthy 40s., British Queens 50s., British Lions 55s. Cash with order or bankers' reference. Bags charged 2d. each.—Apply HENRY WAY, Wisbech.

UP-TO-DATE POTATOES, 5s., in 10-stone bags. Bruce, 4s. 6d. Cash with order. —F. GARFORTH, Drighlington.

SEED POTATOES.—Heavy Croppers, fine quality. British Queen and Up-to-Date, of excellent quality and shape, and exceptionally heavy croppers, grown specially for seed from select stocks. Also two *new varieties*, Mid-season and Maincrop, offered for the first time, yielding up to the extraordinary rate of 24 tons per imperial acre, under ordinary field culture.—Illustrative descriptive catalogues and prices on application to Manager, Earl of Rosebery's Home Farm, Dalmeny Park, Edinburgh.

SEED POTATOES.—Duchess of Buccleuch, Suttons' Early Regent, Up-to-Date, Scottish Triumph, British Queen, Maincrop, Challenge, Motor, Langworthy, Myatt's Kidney, and other varieties, grown in Scotland and Lancashire.—Apply J. SYKES, Seedsman, Preston.

POTATOES.—British Queen, and Up-to-Date, good samples of seed and ware cheap.—Apply, E. A. WHITE, Limited, Beltring, Paddock Wood, Kent.

POTATOES, popular and profitable, to plant 1902; lists free.—T. KIME, Mareham-le-Fen, Boston, Lincs.

SEED POTATOES. "UP-TO-DATES," price 45s. a ton, bags included. Also a few tons of the best cropping early potato "CHALLENGE," price 60s. a ton, bags included, on rail.—THOMAS MAY, Chalk Pit Farm, St. Paul's Cray, Kent.

SEED POTATOES.—Beauty of Hebron, White Elephant, and Early Rose, 90s. per ton. British Queen and Up-to-Date Splendid Scotch Seed, 65s. per ton.—BRINKWORTH & SONS, Growers & Shippers, Southampton.

SEED POTATOES. —Findlay's British Queen, Up-to-Date, Challenge, Empire, and others, grown on the Lynn marshland, Norfolk. Prices on application to H. G. WELCHMAN, Terrington, King's Lynn.

SEED POTATOES. — Findlay's new and best varieties—Ambrose Colonist, Lord Roberts, Conquest, Empire, Jennie Deans, &c., all true to sort at low prices. SEED BARLEY.—Garton's Brewers' Favorite, 40s qr.; Standwell, 32s. qr. SEED OATS.—Garton's Goldfinder, 30s.; and Garton's Waverley, 25s. per 24 st.—ALFRED INSKIP, Hardwicke Farm, Shefford, Beds.

FARM SEEDS of tested growth, and saved from the finest stocks. The following selected Mangels have been saved from picked roots, and are the best of their respective kinds:—Selected Yellow Fleshed, Golden Tankard, Sutton's Prize-winner Yellow Globe, Selected Mammoth Long Red, Selected Yellow Intermediate all at 50s. per cwt., 6d. per lb. Good Stocks of Golden Tankard, Yellow Intermediate, Yellow Globe, Long Red, 40s. per cwt., 5d per lb. The best Tankard-shaped Swedes are Sutton's Crimson King, Carter's Elephant, and Hurst's Monarch. These I offer at 32s. per bushel, 9d. per lb. The Best Round Swedes are Tait's Best of All and Sutton's Champion Purple Top. These I offer at 28s. per bushel, 7d. per lb. Finest Green Globe Turnip, 21s. per bushel, 6d. per lb. English Red Clover, fine sample, 80s. per cwt., 9d. per lb. Superfine Red Clover, 70s. per cwt., 8d. per lb. Lucerne, finest sample, 80s. per cwt., 9d. per lb. Good Lucerne, 70s. per cwt., 8d. per lb. Sample and quotations for any other Seeds will be gladly sent. Inquiries solicited. Goods to the value of 20s. carriage paid for cash with order.—Z. COLEMAN, Seed Grower Sandwich, Kent.

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JOHN COOPER, Barley Merchant, Ipswich, has a few hundred quarters of the following Seed Barleys for sale: Wrinch's Premier, Archer's, Hallett's, Webbs' Kinver, Golden Grain, Page's, and Spratt's.

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SCOTCH GORE TARES.—Samples on application to THOMAS CARTER & SONS, Berwick-on-Tweed.

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FOR SALE — GARTON'S Brewers' Favourite Barley, 40s. per quarter, and Garton's Pioneer Black Oats, 30s. per quarter, both direct from Garton's last year. Also Archer's Barley, 32s. per quarter, and Webb's Black Oats, 26s. per quarter, all grown on chalk land.—H. TALLENT, Westacre, Swaffham, Norfolk.

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RAILWAY ANNOUNCEMENT.

LONDON AND NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY.
DOG SHOW, to be held at MANCHESTER, MARCH 25th, 26th, and 27th, 1902.

For the convenience of Exhibitors at the above Show, the London and North Western Railway Company will arrange the running of Special Through Vans for the conveyance of Dogs to Manchester, on Monday, March 24th. Consignments from the Branch Lines, and from Nottingham, Peterboro', Oxford, Cambridge, &c., will be placed in these Vans at the various Junctions, thus ensuring direct transit to the Exhibition.

All information can be obtained of Mr. ROBERT TURNBULL, Superintendent of the Line, Euston Station, London; or from the Company's District Superintendent, Mr. H. LINAKER, Exchange Station, Manchester.

FRED. HARRISON,
General Manager.

General Manager's Office,
Euston Station, London, N.W.,
February, 1902.

MISCELLANEOUS.

NITRATE OF SODA. — Our cargo per *Sierra Pedrosa* has arrived in the Millwall Docks, London, and buyers wanting prompt delivery on favourable terms should apply to the importers.—THE ANGLO-CONTINENTAL (late Ohlendorff's) GUANO WORKS, 15, Leadenhall St., E.C.

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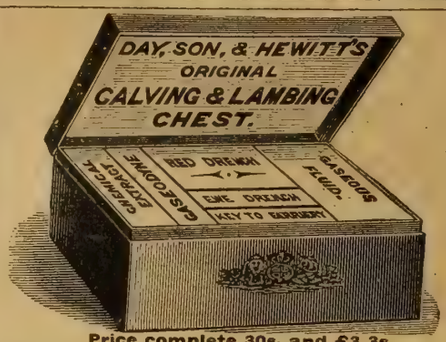
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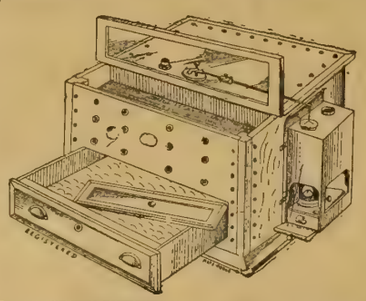
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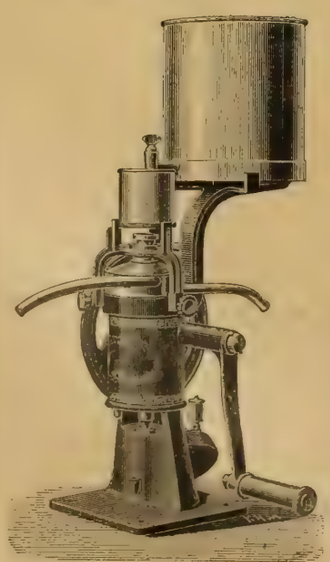
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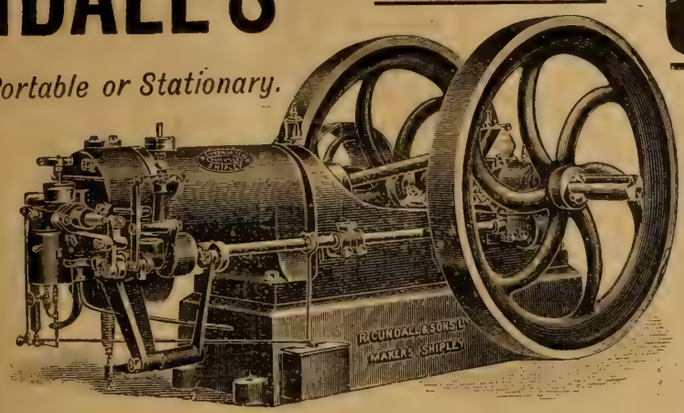
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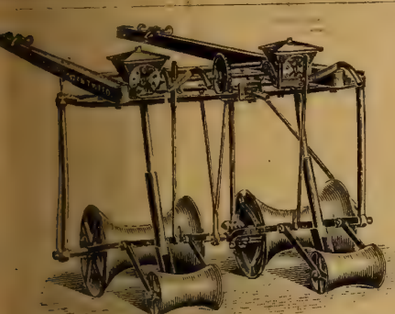
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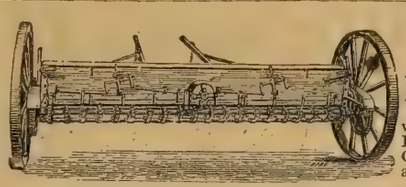
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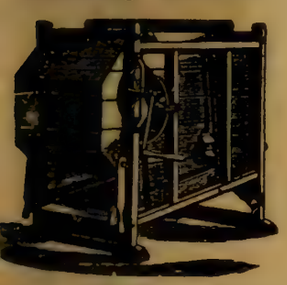
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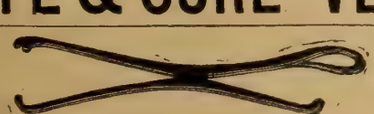
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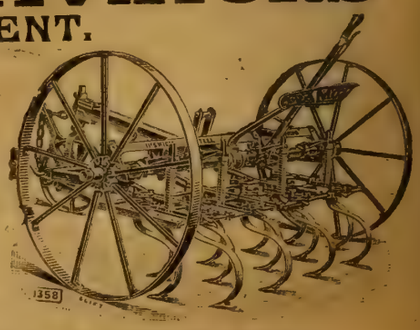
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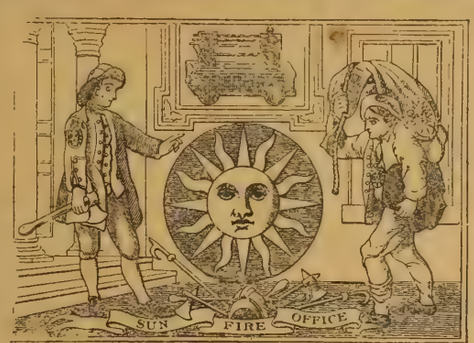
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OUR VARIETY HORSE SHOW AND THE REMOUNT QUESTION.

We term the great national exhibition of light horses held last week in the Royal Agricultural Hall the "variety" show because it comprehends so many kinds, and also owing to its copious embrace of races, topics of inquiry innumerable, and of great versatility, crop up about it. Thoroughbred Stallions, Hunters, Chargers, Polo Ponies, Army Remount, Mountain and Moorland Ponies, and sections extending even to classes for bending races and manœuvres appeared in view, in turn causing every one of the four days to unfold its own features of interest, and to impart to our third spring equine display at Islington a high national importance and value never previously attained to.

The show, moreover, was well calculated to draw towards it a larger amount of public attention this year than usual, owing to the present phase of the army remount question. All at the moment is uncertain what the Government intend to do to make the supply of army horses more efficient and satisfactory than it has been in the past. Mr. Brodrick not long since was understood to declare that "the whole question of remounts is now being considered." We have only to await patiently, therefore, the result of these deliberations, with the hope that there will be no trifling with the questions of momentous magnitude involved, and that if it be possible to make the issue conduce to the advantage of home breeding, the desirability of causing matters to evolve in that direction will not be lost sight of.

Previous to the war in South Africa our farmers were frequently told by the powers above that they did not attend to the breeding of half-bred horses to anything like the extent the service demanded. The reply to this was that it did not pay them to do so; that, owing to light horses requiring a much longer period to come to maturity than heavy horses before they were marketable, occupiers of all the best lands and those eligible for cart-horse breeding found it far more remunerative to breed and rear the latter than the former. To meet this difficulty proposals have from time to time been made that the Government should hold in hand large horse farms of its own, so that the Commissioners it sends out to buy horses might purchase and take them off farmers' hands younger than they do at present. No doubt, if such a scheme were deemed practical and could be carried out, there would be far greater inducements for farmers in general to take up the matter than now. But those who pretend to know declare

that there is not the slightest probability of the Government entertaining that scheme, because it would involve great expenditure and prove non-economical. The supply of foreign horses is, no doubt, large, and was drawn upon immensely in the past two years, but that it varies considerably in quality is unquestionable. Lord Stanley, on being questioned in the House of Commons the other day, admitted that in normal times army remounts have usually been purchased, with few exceptions, in England and Ireland, and that unquestionably they have been superior to foreign horses. Lord Kitchener's report has been quoted over and over again in declaring as much. But the fact appears to have been that when so many horses were captured or killed by the Boers the army contractors were glad to get anything available for military purposes they could lay hands on.

The experience of the South African campaigner has, however, led to a change in the opinions of some as to the best animals to rear for army purposes; smaller, stocky ones of less height than formerly being deemed best. There cannot be the slightest doubt of such being the case when warfare is conducted in hilly districts, because active, small horses are more manageable and expeditious in their movements than larger, heavier ones. But whether the old-fashioned cavalry horse would not offer the greater resistence and perform more havoc with infantry on the plain or an ordinary battlefield is not merely doubtful, but extremely probable. The experiences of South Africa have proved of an extraordinary character. The fastnesses of the mountain districts presented almost insurmountable difficulties for any kind of remounts to cope with, and for infantry and cavalry alike there were surprises and unlooked-for contingencies innumerable. We ought not, then, to make our future proceedings or determine future plans too much on the experience of a campaign of such an exceedingly extraordinary character.

Meantime we may heartily exchange congratulations that the eighteenth annual show of Thoroughbreds, Hunters, Chargers, etc., has proved pre-eminently a satisfactory one. The fact of the vast increase of entries from 477 in 1900 to 526 in 1901 and 600 in 1902 is, no doubt, attributable to the additions chiefly of the Polo and other pony sections, but no doubt these varieties required attention and improvement previously, and whether the character of our army remounts is destined to alter in the future or not, public interests will be largely promoted by the evolutions now taking place. Exceedingly desirable, for instance, does it seem that the hardy forest and mountain ponies should be sustained in their integrity, and be brought to still greater perfection, if possible, by being bred to the high quality Polo pony stallions. The stout-limbed, brawny, robust forms of these races are admirably well fitted to build upon for obtaining the ideal stamp of small military horse. Many theorists, will have to be the army remounts of the future. But it has been asserted that the most valuable type of some mountain kinds, and especially the Welsh, has been lost. A statement has appeared in one journal that Hackney stallions have spoiled Welsh ponies, but probably a great many stallions have been employed which, although termed Hackney, had very little of what would be considered pure Hackney blood.

There was, however, a most admirable exhibition of ponies, the groups of extra stock brought forward by Lord Arthur Cecil making full amends for any shortcomings in the ordinary classes; and both the Hunters' Improvement and Polo Pony Societies may be congratulated on the satisfactory character of the exhibits. Nor must the Thoroughbred stallions be omitted from mention. Those who remember what they were like when the Royal Commission on Horse-breeding was first appointed for the Royal premiums to be appropriated to the object of placing the best Thoroughbred stallions at the service of breeders, will admit that there was far greater difficulty in selecting the full complement of sound animals than now. There was practically no difficulty last week, and, so far as the service extends, the result cannot but be beneficial.



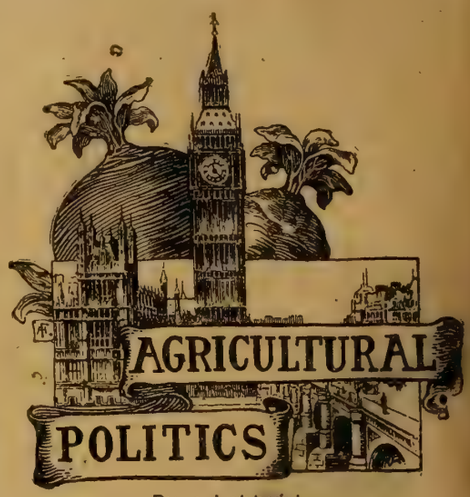
By a Man of Mark Lane.

The receipts on account of Revenue from April 1, 1901, when there was a balance of £5,596,918, to March 8, 1902, were £131,129,602, against £120,795,584 in the corresponding period of the preceding financial year, which began with a balance of £3,517,047. The net expenditure was £179,837,137, against £170,740,400 to the same date in the previous year. The Treasury balances on March 8, 1902, amounted to £12,564,223, and at the same date in 1901 to £7,694,682.

According to the report issued by the Bengal Department of Land Records and Agriculture, the normal area cultivated with oilseed crops in that province is estimated at 4,162,400 acres, but the area actually sown this year is returned at only 3,805,500 acres, against 3,872,700 acres last year. The decrease is due to the drought at the sowing season. Dinajpur is the only important oilseed-growing district in the province which anticipates a crop of 100 per cent. Rajshahi, Pabna, Mymensingh, and Saran estimate an out-turn varying from 90 to 99 per cent., while Rangpur and Purnea expect from 80 to 89 per cent. of a normal crop. Nadia, Dacca, and the Sonthal Parganas expect from 70 to 79 per cent., and Bogra, Gaya, and Hazaribagh from 60 to 69 per cent., but Champaran anticipates only 55 per cent., Ranchi 50 per cent., and Darbhanga 47 per cent. of a normal crop. The out-turn for the province, as a whole, will amount, according to the estimates of the District Officers, to 78 per cent. of a normal crop. If, however, general rain falls before the middle of March, it is probable that an 80 per cent. crop will be harvested.

The Beer Bill, of which Mr. Tomlinson has charge, and which is down for reading on April 23, has now been practically drafted, and will probably be issued this week. It is drawn on somewhat different lines from the Bills which have been previously before the House.

The area under rice cultivation in the 14 principal rice-growing districts of Lower Burma is, according to the District Officers' reports on January 31st, 6,498,120 acres, an increase of 189,087 acres or almost 3 per cent. over the area reported last year. Rain fell at the end of the first week in February, but the damage to the crop has been very slight. Some damage is anticipated in the neighbourhood of Ma-ubin, where over one inch of rain fell, and slight damage is reported from Thaton. The estimated surplus available for export is estimated at 2,260,000 tons cargo rice, equivalent to 38,300,000 cwts. cleaned rice. The increase of 60,000 tons is largely due to the anna estimate in Thongwa being raised. Of the estimated surplus about 80,000 tons may be exported to Upper Burma.



By a Lobbyist.

It is not without significance that the Warwickshire Chamber of Agriculture has decided—after hearing a paper read by that strenuous and practical reformer, Mr. Oscar Bowen, of Ladbrooke Park—upon the appointment of a committee with a view to formulating a practical reorganisation scheme dealing with the Board of Agriculture. This is a wise and judicious step. I am persuaded that Mr. Hanbury is too zealous a man to regard the resolve with jealousy or disapprobation. In pursuing the policy of reorganisation upon which he has decided he will naturally be anxious to become acquainted with the desire of the farmers themselves. The formulation of a scheme will mean that a disciplined and methodical attention has been devoted to the business, and that the advice proffered to the Minister for Agriculture is not the ill-regulated and ill-digested thought of a rhetorical moment. The world is now aware that Mr. Hanbury is anxious to in some way adapt the Irish example to British necessities. May I thus suggest to the Warwickshire Chamber and to all other bodies possessed by a similar anxiety that it would be wise to give a careful study to the constitution of the Irish Board and to the modifications and developments necessary to make its adaptation a beneficent organisation to British farmers. Mr. Hanbury is at this moment in an impressionable and assimilative mood. He will readily pay heed to practical advice.

I ought to congratulate my old friend Mr. Bowen upon what is really a notable achievement. The Warwickshire Chamber of Agriculture is the first body of its kind to give an organised attention to the constitution of the executive authority in agriculture, and this organised attention is due entirely to the vigorous advocacy of Mr. Bowen.

This Warwickshire example ought to be followed. Mr. Hanbury would, in fact, welcome it. This much, indeed, he made clear in his speech at York. If that speech meant anything at all—and I do not desire to dwell at any length upon it, for it would be only to laud my own efforts, the oration being practically a reproduction of the contentions which I have in and out of season pressed on the interest—it was an invitation to the farmers, both in their individual and organised capacity, to let him receive their own views upon the character which the re-organising policy should assume. The speech was even more than this—it was a rebuke to the characteristic apathy of the rural organisations. "You should," said the Minister, "not merely sign resolutions. You should let the Board know what are the necessities of the interest and what are the particular necessities of your own special districts." "Help me," he pleaded, "to make the Board something more than a doll dressed up in red tape." The non-recognition of this invitation would be an act of criminality. A Minister is asking for the help of the farmers themselves not merely in the establishment of a friendly department in the executive authority—not merely in the establishment of a department which shall protect their flocks and herds against disease and their milk and butter against the competition of fraudulent products, but in the establishment of a department which will be capable of checkmating the

sordidly-exorbitant demands of the railway companies and of a department which will perform the supreme duty of seeking out new and profitable markets. Everyone of these purposes was made clearly apparent in the York speech, and they were conveyed to Mr. Hanbury's hearers with an emphasis of phrase that sufficed to admirably illustrate his resolution.

The Warwickshire Chamber, by the way, is entitled to flatter itself with the recollection that Mr. Hanbury's generous ambitions were pre-suggested to them in Mr. Bowen's paper. Their enunciation by Mr. Bowen and their acceptance by the Chamber is an excellent evidence that both the author and his hearers possess the gift of prescience.

The movement in favour of encouraging the pursuit of horse-breeding by British farmers—in order to provide an assured source of supply for the army—proceeds apace. The Duke of Devonshire has promised the Earl of Dunraven that he will call the attention of the Members of the Royal Commission on Horse-breeding to the matter, with a view to seeing if it be possible to advise a practical policy. While this is so, in the House of Commons members are eternally badgering Ministers with questions which serve to illustrate how disjointed, haphazard and faulty is the present system, and how easy it would be in a quarrel with a great continental rival for the enemy to rob us of that source of supply. More important, however, is the fact that Mr. Hanbury has also in this connection adopted the platform of the MARK LANE EXPRESS, and has declared in unmistakable language that "if the War Office wants horses, the British farmer has the first claim to supply them"—in other words, that the British farmer has the first right to profit by the market which the necessities of the empire creates. Unfortunately, the farmers themselves and the farmers' organisations have not seen fit to move in the matter. It may be that they think the business is in such sufficiently good hands that no definite action on their part is necessary. A Minister, however well-advised and generously-inspired he may be, is all the better for a stimulant, and the Parliamentary agitator works all the better for applause, even though it be the applause of a clique. Agitation—to utter a third instructive platitude—is the only parent of reform.

It has been suggested to me by a well-known Member of Parliament that the relations of Mr. Hanbury and his fellow Ministers are not, to use my Parliamentary friend's own phrase, "quite cousinly." For the life of me I cannot see the justification for this suspicion. This M.P. finds it, however, in the fact that in his last speech the Minister for Agriculture did not fail to lament that during the present war there has been no co-operation between the Board of Agriculture and the War Office in connection with the purchase of horses for the army. It was a most justifiable criticism, but, at the same time, it might have been born of some other influence than Ministerial disagreement. I attribute this utterance of Mr. Hanbury's simply to the fact that he is desirous of pressing the wisdom of the policy of clothing the Board of Agriculture with effective powers upon his colleagues in the most direct manner possible. I can comprehend that in the Cabinet Councils the more pressing and lurid question associated with the conduct of the war and of the best way of securing peace command an absorbing attention. It would be simply impossible at these momentous conferences to secure a hearing for a scheme of comparative insignificance. However, Mr. Hanbury's colleagues would naturally like to know what Mr. Hanbury has to say; and they would, in their matutinal study of the newspaper, peruse his remarks. Mr. Hanbury is just the practical-minded man who would comprehend that he must not intrude his domestic purposes into a conference in which the tragic issues of the war must have first consideration. He, however, has adopted a method quite as effective. I am certain that when, in any future campaigning, the army needs horses, full advantage will be taken of the knowledge and experience of the officials of the Board of Agriculture.

At all events, one thing is clear and emphatic. Mr. Hanbury has the right to demand, and, indeed, to command the unswerving fidelity and loyalty of the British farmers and of the British rural organisations in his present purpose. He is the first Minister of Agriculture who has revealed the resolution to give the department a practical character—to make it, in Mr. Hanbury's own phrase, the personal friend of the farmer. In this connection, I am directing no raillery at either of Mr. Hanbury's predecessors. It may be that the experience which Mr. Hanbury now possesses was necessary to a full comprehension of the defects of the Board. Be that as it may, Mr. Hanbury is anxious to perform the good task, and I again urge that he be conceded an unswerving, diligent support. This will mean the abandonment of the sluggish apathy which usually possesses the farmer where his own affairs are concerned. Will he consent to the sacrifice?

PRACTICE WITH SCIENCE.

Manuring Experiments in Hampshire.

(*Continued from p. 267.*)

Professor Gilchrist also gave the results of some trials with regard to

Manuring Potato Crops,

which he carried out with Dr. Vipan at East Cams Farm — unmanured the weight, big and small, was 4 tons 13 cwt., with 20 tons to the acre of farmyard the crop was increased by one ton, and a complete dressing of artificials gave 12 tons as compared with 5½ tons on the unmanured plot. The dressing applied in this case was 20 tons of farmyard manure, 2 cwt. nitrate of soda, 3 cwt. superphosphate, and 1½ cwt. sulphate of potash. The same manures without the dung gave 11 tons 7 cwt., or an increase of about 6½ tons over the unmanured. In another case, instead of the 3 cwt. of superphosphate they used 4 cwt. of basic slag and the other manures, and the result was to get only 7 tons of potatoes instead of 11 tons. On a third plot they used no potash, and the result was no better than the unmanured crop—here, therefore, was a very decided result from the use of 1½ cwt. of sulphate of potash. Where no nitrogen was used the crop was 10 tons, as compared with 11 tons where 2 cwt. of nitrate of soda was used. To get a good result with dung it was advisable to apply it a month or two before putting in the root, or potato crop, because if it was used just at the time of planting potatoes, or sowing mangel, if they had a dry spring the dung kept the land more open, and the drought got in. Or take the case of a crop of barley; an acre of barley during the time it was growing would evaporate about 600 tons of water, and if they put on dung in the spring to plough in, so as to let drought into the land, there was not as much water left to the soil. If they could so treat the land during the winter and spring as to get a condition for preserving the moisture in the soil they should secure much better results from any manures that might be applied. If dung was applied in the winter and ploughed in, it became incorporated with the soil, and helped to hold moisture instead of letting it go. He also referred to some results for pasture. The trials were carried out on a field near Botley, on Mr. Gater's farm, and in this case the best results were got by a dressing of potash manure and basic slag combined. A dressing of this had a marvellous effect in making the pasture finer in the bottom, and the top grass of much greater extent, and in every way of improving the pasture.

Conclusions.

They saw, therefore, that in the manuring of land they had to manure in a very different way for different crops. If they wanted to improve pasture in that district, probably the best manure was basic slag, and, as a rule, it would be very well backed up by using a potash manure like kainit, or sulphate of potash, or muriate of potash. If potato crops, if they applied nitrate of soda they got a great decrease of haulm, but they did not obtain relatively the same increase of crop—it would increase the crop, but not to the extent indicated by the increase of haulm.

Many were apt to manure mangels just as they manured turnips and swedes, but they must be manured in a very different way. For turnips and swedes superphosphate was by far the most important, and, as a rule, potash manures, and even nitrogenous manure, sometimes increased the crop: in the case of mangel they, as a rule, wanted all the ingredients, nitrate of soda was of the first importance, phosphates second, potash was very often useful, and a judicious dressing of common salt was almost certain to give an increase of the crop.

In the manuring of crops throughout the rotation it was advisable in profitable farming not to spend money unless they were pretty sure it was coming back. It was no time for any expensive farming or for spending a great deal of money so as to get the very highest crops, but it was a time for judiciously making use of farmyard manure and supplementing it with judicious dressings of artificials—they might be small, but should be large enough to give a result. In this way many satisfactory crops would be grown. He hoped the use of expensive special manures would very soon be given up; when they had a manure which was called "special turnip manure," or "special potato manure," they had practically no guarantee as to what it was made up of. But if with the judicious use of farmyard manure they appreciably applied artificials such as he had mentioned to them, and which they could mix for themselves, he had no hesitation in saying that the results would be much more satisfactory, and at the same time much more economical.

In reply to the discussion which followed, Professor Gilchrist said he was quite open to conviction on the point as to the use of

Nitrate of Soda as a Top Dressing,

but he had seen many blanky plots in mangels which had been due to top dressing. By applying part at the time of sowing, it was mixed with the soil, and, as a rule, no water percolated through the soil at the time mangels were sown, or for some time afterwards, it being a dry season of the year, and as long as this was the case the nitrate was not lost out of the soil. It would not do to apply salt like kainit late in the winter. Kainit was nearly as soluble as salt, but did not get washed out of the soil. Salt did get washed out, and should not be applied too soon. Mr. Blundell had raised an interesting point as to the amount of dry matter from each of these plots. He was sorry to say they did not take specimens of the roots, and they had not been analysed. It also would mean a very considerable amount of research work, but that had been done in a very complete way at Rothamsted by the late Sir John Lawes and Sir Henry Gilbert, the latter of whom we also lost during the recent Christmas vacation. Their analyses proved there was less water in mangels from unmanured plots than from any of the other plots, but at the same time the material was not as good for feeding, because the small mangel from unmanured plots were more stringy, and there was more undigestible matter. Where nitrogenous manures only had been applied, the mangels had been more watery, but where phosphates and potash have been applied in addition the mangels had not been quite so watery, and the feeding power had been greater; and where sulphate of ammonia only had been applied to the mangels the leaves had come up well, but the roots had not matured. Some work of this kind was going on at Reading just now. Dr. Luxmoore was analysing several different kinds of mangels grown alongside of each other, and if they published the number of tons per acre, and then the number of tons of feeding material per acre, deducting the water, he was sure it would be interesting. He had often seen mangels more patchy where nitrate had been sown, and had thought it was due to its injudicious application as a top dressing.

OUR LIST OF SHOWS.

The Mark Lane Express

POCKET BOOK

AND

LIST OF AGRICULTURAL SHOWS.

Our list of Agricultural Shows is this year issued in the form of a pocket book, of a convenient size, which, in addition to containing the Show Fixtures for 1902, includes a considerable amount of useful information, consisting of Railway Rates for Stock, tables, etc. The Pocket Book consists of 72 pages and cover, and is of a size eminently suitable for the purpose for which it is intended. A vacant page for memoranda faces each page of the Show Fixtures, and this arrangement will be found of great use, enabling readers to easily and quickly make a note of any prospective engagements.

Copies of the "Mark Lane Express Pocket Book and List of Agricultural Shows" may be obtained free upon application to 1, Essex Street, Strand, London, W.C., the only stipulation being that ½d. stamp for each copy required is forwarded to cover the cost of postage.

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The Provision Trade and Blended Butter.

The following resolution has been unanimously adopted at a largely-attended meeting of members of the provision trade:—

"That in the opinion of this meeting of members of the Home and Foreign Produce Exchange, representative of importers and distributors of provisions, in general meeting assembled, the sale of so-called 'milk-blended butter' is to be condemned as opening the door to fraud, and as being in the highest degree prejudicial to the interests of consumers, and a serious menace to the production of butter both in this country and in the Colonies; and that, in the event of it being held to be legal to sell this mixture as butter, urgent representations be made to the Board of Agriculture to take immediate steps to promote such legislation as will prohibit the sale of butter containing more than 16 per cent. of moisture, thus protecting honest traders and dairying interests."

Siberian Butter.

The Russian Ministry of Finance has taken a series of measures for effecting the development and improvement of the butter industry in Siberia, and to increase its sale in the foreign markets. For that object the Ministry has decided to found three dairy schools in Kainsk, in Kurgan, and in Omsk; to increase the number of instructors and artisans in order to teach the local farmers how to prepare butter, and to hold, with the help of these instructors, special courses of lectures; to found laboratories in Siberia for scientific research in all matters concerning dairy produce; to establish the normal standard of milk and all products procured from it, and to expain the reasons of any defects, and also to found five experimental stations where milk and butter would be tested by experts; to furnish the butter factories, the harbours and steamers of the Siberian rivers and all the principal railway stations with refrigerating stores; to increase the number of quick trains for the conveyance of butter from Siberia to the Baltic harbours, and to add 465 new railway cars to the 570 that are already in use, with refrigerators for the summer season; also to establish a sever control so that the temperature of stores and cars shall not exceed 42deg.; to open up credit with the Russian Government Bank for the buttermen, not only for their working capital, but also as to loans upon their industrial implements, and upon the invoices of their butter consignments; to promulgate a law increasing the punishment for adulterating butter, similar to the one existing, relating to flax and hemp; to decrease the railway tariff for conveying implements for the butter industry.

Apart from the direct communication established during 1901, providing special quick trains for conveying butter and other products of a perishable nature from Siberia to Riga, and from Riga to London, to found another similar line going from Riga to Hull once a week. To communicate through a specially appointed expert in London to the British committee attached to the Board of Agriculture here, the result of the analysis made by the Russian Ministr yof Agriculture in St. Petersburg on the samples of butter produced in all parts of the Russian Empire of the normal compounds of butter in commerce. For all these above purposes credit is assigned, a permanent credit of £7,000 per annum and a sum of £20,000 as assistance granted at once. It is expected that with its help the quantity of butter produced in Siberia during the current year will be double that of last year, and that its quality will be greatly improved.

London's Milk Supply.

The conveyance of milk has long been a notable feature with several of our most important railways; indeed, so serious has the question of the daily milk supply become in our largest towns that there are certain trains known by the specific name of "milk trains." Of course, the bulk of this traffic is in connection with the bringing of milk into London, and whilst all the various railway lines running into the Metropolis do their share towards the solution of the problem, yet, perhaps, we shall not be far wrong (says a writer in the "Railway Magazine") if we say that the great bulk of the milk brought to London comes along either the London and North-Western, the Great Eastern, or the London and South-Western lines. Much of the milk traffic, however, is dealt with outside the main stations menitoned. Thus, the London and North-Western makes Willesden busy with it, whilst Vauxhall is the scene of the London and South-Western performances in the same direction. The "Milk Dock" at Euston deals with 5,000 "churns" daily, and the Vauxhall platforms with over 2,000, including "fulls" and "empties."

How much milk is thus brought into London each week? Exact figures from every company are not attainable, but from such as have been given, and fram other statistics of the Board of Trade, it would appear that London requires, roughly, about 2½ gallons weekly per family to supply its wants. As there are some 1,000,000 families in the London district and suburbs, we may take it that at least 2,500,000 gallons of milk are used every week by them, and practically the whole of this immense amount has to come on the rails from country places far and near. If we multiply our weekly total by fifty-two we shall soon discover that the railways carry no less than the incredible amount of 130,000,000 gallons of milk into the Metropolis each year.

It seems almost beyond our power to realise what that means. We have read of olden days, when the "streets ran with wine like water" after some notable event, but it has been left to our own day to make streets that could run with milk even more freely. Surely we must have lighted upon the days spoken of by the prophet when "the land shall flow with milk." We were told last summer that on a certain warm day the Thames passed over Teddington Weir at the rate of 55,000,000,000 gallons per hour; at this rate the yearly supply of milk bronght to London would just have kept the river running pure milk for two whole hours.

"Mark Lane Express" Diary.

March.

18, 19, and 20. Horse sales at Wrexham.
18. General Meeting of the Suffolk Horse Society.
19. Sale of the entire herd of Red Polled cattle belonging to J. E. Platt, Esq., at Howbury Hall, Bedford.
19. Sale of 55 Shire horses for Mr. Cole Ambrose, at Stuntney Hall, Ely.
19. Show and Sale of Hereford Herd Book Society, at Hereford Cattle Market.
20. Sale of Lady de Rothschild's Jerseys, at Aston Clinton, Tring.
19, 20, and 21. Sale of horsese at Crewe.
20 and 21. Sale of Shires at Peterborough.
20. Sale of Herefords, Shropshire sheep, etc., belonging to Mr. H. Instone, at Cound, near Shrewsbury.
21. Sale of Large Black pigs at Ipswich.
21. Show and sale of Shorthorn and Galloway bulls at Carlisle.
22. Norfolk Agricultural Society's Spring Horse Show, at Norwich.
22. Peterborough Agricultural Society's Spring Show of Stallions.
22. Sale of pedigree Hackney, Show, and Harness horses at Peterborough.
24. East Berks Horse Show Society's Spring Show, at Hawthorn Hill Racecourse.



By Hordeum.

The Next Barley Show.

The preliminary schedule of prizes offered at the next barley show at the Brewers' Exhibition is just issued. This is distinctly a step in the right direction, for many of the best supporters of this show are seedsmen and manure makers, whose active operations and real business are done in the early spring. If is good for barley growers also, as it keeps them abreast of the times, and they can learn what is going on in time to make the best advantage of it.

Hitherto this schedule has been published in full in the columns of the MARK LANE EXPRESS, but the expansion has this year been considerable and brought it beyond the limits of space available. Originally starting with two small quarto pages, it this year occupies twelve tall folio pages of closely-printed matter.

The original four classes have now grown into

Forty-four Classes,

in addition to three full pages of Champion and special prizes, many of which are of considerable value apart from the extra price all prize-winning samples secure.

The first object of this Exhibition was to bring buyers and sellers together, and to inform the latter of the true needs and necessities of the former—the users of the material produced. It is folly for growers to produce grain which is worse than useless to brewers. Some of the men best acquainted with the necessities of the case were secured by the directors of the Exhibition, and for many years now they have patiently toiled with a view to helping farmers learn what brewers need. It may frankly be claimed for them that their labour has already been productive of much good.

An instance may be cited to prove this. In all the earlier shows, noted barley counties sent up many samples unfit to be malted. This showed regrettable ignorance on the part of the farmers, but the fact that they took the trouble and risks of exhibiting also proved that they were willing to be helped and to learn.

Steady Improvement Followed.

Of late years nearly every sample has been of fine quality, and the general average has manifestly grown in favour of choice grain of superfine types.

The samples sent year by year have been accompanied by a mass of detail relating to growth, rotation, manuring, soils, and other matters. These have been carefully tabulated, every year, and the results have been published, furnishing much valuable information not available from any other source. Some of the results obtained have been striking, and in defence of the British farmer, who is often accused of stupidity, it may be urged that in this instance he has been swift to learn the lessons taught.

Take as an instance the

Rotation of Crops.

This subject has been treated by the judges as one of the integral factors in manuring, which has long been recognised as the crux of the position by all intelligent men wishing to know how to grow barley for malt of high quality. Much of the absurd rubbish that has been talked about "sun influences" is made impossible when recognised as being equally associated with this matter, for the coarse-skinned, six-rowed barleys imported from sunny climes follow no rotation (as we understand it), and they are not manured.

But all these things are open to everyone who cares to know and secures a copy of the schedule and of the report upon last year. The work already done is distinctly in favour of agriculture, and it is to be hoped it will ere long receive the recognition and able assistance of Mr. Hanbury, who, in his official capacity of Minister of Agriculture, is doing so much for so many of the points in our great national industry, where intelligent

and sympathetic treatment can be productive of much good.

One of the tokens of development shown in this year's schedule is the offer of

Prizes for Every County.

or comparatively restricted area of two or three contiguous counties placed under similar conditions. In every locality a man has several prizes offered under conditions where he has to compete only with his neighbours, who are all under similar weather influences to himself. He may win one of his own county prizes when he has no chance against Suffolk. The total number of prizes offered has risen to upwards of 300, and whilst exceptional samples may win several, all good samples stand a chance of gaining some distinction if they have been intelligently handled. Yorkshire, our premier barley county, may be fittingly taken as an instance. It has the offer of very handsome prizes in the East Riding through the generosity of Lord Wenlock. The West Riding is similarly handsomely treated by Messrs. Colchester and Co., Ipswich, and the North Riding by the British Barley Society. Cambridge has been provided for by Col. Harry McCalmont, Norfolk by Messrs. F. and G. Smith, Suffolk by Sir Cuthbert Quilter, The West Midlands by Messrs. S. N. Thompson and Sons, and many more. A notable advance has been made in the case of Ireland, where Messrs. Flinn and Son, Bishops Stortford, offer a challenge cup, whilst Scotland and Wales are amply provided for. But it cannot be too widely recognised that apart from all prize winning, it is of great value to every county growing good barley to send up a dozen or a score samples to this show, which is closely watched by large buyers. Copies of the schedules can be had (gratis) on application to the British Barley Society, 11, Queen Victoria Street, E.C. To barley growers who can exhibit, it may be useful to point out, that the entrance fees are reduced by one-half to all members of the British Barley Society.

Arsenic in Beer.

The Royal Commission on Arsenical Poisoning resumed its sittings at the Westminster Palace Hotel on the 7th inst., Lord Kelvin, the chairman, presiding.

Dr. E. S. Reynolds stated that a special lookout had been kept by himself and assistants at the Manchester Workhouse Infirmary, the Manchester Royal Infirmary, and in his private practice, for any symptoms which might have been caused by arsenic occurring in food or drink, but with few exceptions they had entirely disappeared. From his clinical observation during the last 20 years he was driven to the conclusion that the disappearance during the last seven months of so many symptoms which were formerly described as due to alcohol could only be explained by the elimination of arsenic from alcoholic beverages, and as a corollary that arsenic had for many years been present in alcoholic beverages to an extent dangerous to a few drinkers specially susceptible, and possibly from a source entirely independent of contaminated glucose.

Mr. Arthur Angell, public analyst, Southampton, gave evidence, and the commission adjourned.

Agricultural Instruction at Reading College.

A course of instruction, specially designed for farmers' sons and others between the ages of 16 and 25, who, having had practical experience of farm work, are desirous of devoting one winter to the study of agriculture, will be given at Reading College, commencing on October 2nd, 1902, and embracing ten weeks' work before and ten weeks' after Christmas. The following is the approximate number of lectures to be given:—Soils and manures, 30 lectures; crops and pasture, 30; live stock, 30; foods and feeding, 30; hygiene of farm animals, 30; insect pests and plant diseases, 20; book-keeping, 20; mensuration and surveying, 20; chemistry, 20; botany, 20.

Students must be familiar with the ordinary routine of a farm before entering on this course, and a written and oral examination, chiefly in agriculture, is held at the close, on the results of which the Certificate in Agriculture (Oxford and Reading) is awarded, provided the candidate is 19 years of age or over. The tuition fees for the course are £12, reduced to £9 in the case of students from contributing counties. The County Councils of Berks, Bucks, Hants, Dorset, and Oxfordshire award exhibitions in conection with this course. The fees and the cost of living in Reading need not exceed £30.

Holders of this certificate can remain at the college for a further ten weeks' course in dairying or in poultry keeping, and on passing the examination in connection with either, they may have their certificates endorsed to that effect. Further particulars can be had on application to Mr. Douglas A. Gilchrist, Director of the Agricultural Department, Reading College.



Home Notes.

The Borough.

The transactions of the past week provide me with very little material for comment. The current of trade has flowed along steadily, but quietly; probably the apparent diminution of its volume is caused by the clearance that must have been made of desirable parcels; and the necessary limitation of selection to such qualities, as consumers are not commonly disposed to buy. Prices may be quoted as very firm all round at recent currency, and for any coloury and well-conditioned samples more money can be secured. The difficulty of getting good English is creating a rather strong demand for Pacifics, but the advance in value on the other side hinders business at present on our market for this produce. It therefore appears probable that we shall have a quiet time until the Easter holidays have passed, but I see no reason why values should be weakened, being more inclined to expect advanced prices as soon as business is resumed.

A friend writes me to suggest that there must be

a Reason Why

"So many hops continue to be imported, when, at the same time, there are large quantities in growers' hands that cannot be sold, even at very low prices." He asks me to explain the anomaly, and his request opens up a somewhat complex question. There was a period in our history, not very remote, when the use in the manufacture of beer of any other preservative than hops was forbidden by law, which was enforced by heavy penalties. At the same period a duty was levied upon imported hops, therefore in those happy days neither hop substitutes nor foreign hops had any place in our breweries. "The world (from the beer consumer's point of view) went very well then," and it is a subject of regret that these conditions have undergone so many and such important alterations. But so it is. Brewers have been granted freedom to use almost any materials, and foreign hops are allowed to enter our markets free of duty. This latter circumstance has doubtless been the main cause of the development of hop raising in the United States of America, from which country our chief competition in modern days has emanated. At their first introduction the rank flavour of American hops was distasteful to our brewers, but finding that when kept for use as yearlings this peculiarity was considerably modified, and that the hops were so much richer in preservative quality, as well as lower in price than the average English produce, early prejudices were put aside, and Americans were gradually accepted. I am not aware that they are frequently used alone, but several of our extensive brewers have blended them with English hops for many years, and having thus established a customary flavour in their beers, they are compelled to continue the practice. The comparative price of English and American hops has therefore but small influence upon the consumption. The proportion of foreign to English hops used by English brewers seems to average about one in three, and taking one year with another, for some years past, it will not be found that changes of value of either product have materially affected the relative qualities. Continental hops, which formerly predominated in our imports, have receded as the American supplies have advanced, but last year when American shipments fell off, the Continentals came once more to the front, which circumstance appears to prove that our brewers having accustomed their consumers to a blended hop flavour, prefer to maintain it, even though in doing so they increase their outlay.

But alongside the facts to which I have briefly alluded there will be found another, which is an important element in the search after a "reason why." It may safely be accepted as an axiom that

the English Crop Regulates the English Market.

If we do not grow sufficient to provide the proportion of English hops required by our brewers the value of our product is enhanced, independent altogether of the foreign supply that may come forward in the same year. On the contrary, if our crop be larger than the due proportion, our prices go down, as surely as they did in old days, when foreign hops were unknown. Therefore, I must bring my correspondent back to the main and most essential points. These are:—(1) Only the best descriptions of hops should be grown in England. (2) They must be cultivated and cured in the most approved methods to attain fulness of condition and flavour. (3, and most important.) The annual quantity must be limited to the annual consumption. I think my friend will be with me in these conclusions, and if my anticipations be correct, he may safely dismiss his anxiety concerning foreign hops, and devote some of his energy to the task of assisting me in my efforts to enlighten our comrades at home as to the best means to promote and secure the permanent prosperity of our own industry.

Foreign Notes.

Nuremberg.

As is not unusual at this season, business has slackened off during the past few days, but as new supplies are much reduced, the stocks held by dealers are being gradually lowered, and consequently values are maintained at the same level at which they have been recently current. Buyers are ready enough to examine new arrivals, in the hope of finding lots of choice or even good quality, as the spot market has been denuded of such qualities for some time. The bulk of the present holdings, consisting of hops, which, under ordinary circumstances, would be graded as inferior, there is little opportunity to induce sales, consumers being rather disposed to work upon their reserves, and postpone further purchases until they are actually compelled to come to market; but, despite these hindrances, a steady trade is being done, and although the immediate tendency of affairs is towards continued calmness, it is confidently expected that business will be renewed with some strength with the opening of next month, and that higher values will then be firmly established.

Belgium.

Demand is rather slow, but prices, recently advanced to 50 francs, are firmly upheld. The holdings of growers are reduced to an insignificant quantity, and these are rather withheld, in view of the realisation of higher lgures.

America.

As anticipated in my last report, the value of choice hops has been advanced on the New York market to 20 cents, and probably quotations are still higher at this moment. Lower grades have also moved upwards in sympathy with the best, and even old hops are feeling the effect of the strong market. As this firmness is the natural result of shortness of supply, combined with healthy demand, there is little doubt that it will continue and will be considerably emphasised as the season progresses, and I anticipate that the establishment at an early date, and the maintenance throughout the summer, of a higher range of values than is now current will certainly be realised. The "American Agriculturist," discussing the position, finds reason therein for better prices, while there is cause for surprise that such low figures have hitherto been quoted. It is pointed out that the world's crop of 1r01 was only moderate, as a whole, and in Europe, outside of England, the yield was disappointing, particularly in Germany, where it was the lightest sinc e1893. It is consequently estimated that the world's consumption this year (if the brewers use the normal quantity of hops) must exceed the year's production, by at least 250,000cwt. The season opened in America with markets comparatively bare of old growths, the high prices of 1'00 and 1900 season having induced growers to sel all their produce, whether new or old. Stocks in dealers' hands were also low, and there was no indication that brewers held large reserves. It was therefore believed that high prices would rule from the start of the season, with such a moderate crop in sight. But brewers were wary, and kept off the market. They bought very lightly, and dealers were thus enabled to bring arguments to bear which induced growers who were in need of money to sell at prices much below their reasonable expectation. By the careful exercise of similar policy throughout the season, dealers have held the control of the market, and any advantages that are now arising from improved values are being reaped by them, while growers look upon their proceedings with envy.

In New York State the discouragement of growers during several years is causing a marked decrease in average, which promises to continue. On the Pacific coast, where the average of yield is heavier, and the cost of production lower, average prices have left a fair profit to growers, so that they will continue and perhaps enlarge the business, except in portions of California, where apple-growing is proving to be more remunerative.

All official reports and notices of the National Association of English Hop Growers will be printed in the MARK LANE EXPRESS, *which will also contain all current information likely to be of interes and benefit to the member of the society.*



Proposed Agricultural Conference.

Sir,—May I ask you for space in your valuable paper to lay the following suggestions before your readers.

The great growth of the past century indicates that co-operation and co-ordination is especially needed in things agricultural. Co-ordination is lacking not because of the inanate dislike of people to co-operate, not because of jealousy between societies and associations, but chiefly because of the lack of opportunities of learning what others are doing.

Taking the subject of village industries, for instance, it is most difficult to get definite information either as to what is being done in certain localities or where special industries flourish.

Again, there are many possibilities for the promotion and establishment both of the lighter branches of agriculture and of many of the rural industries in villages and districts, but the individuals who have the will to start them either have not the power, the training, or the knowledge to see the possibilities within their reach. This lack of training and knowledge, of course, reacts upon the rural population, and contributes to the rural depopulation.

Then again many local industries are cramped through not being more widely known, and many an individual started upon an independent career suffers through lack of a market; thus associations and individuals need the stimulus of friendly competition and mutual co-operation.

It is proposed to hold a conference at Warwick Castle on May 1st next, to provide an opportunity—

(1) For those directly engaged in any other lighter branches of agriculture or rural industries to make known their work.

(2) For those who are inetrested in the things pertaining to the welfare of our country districts to learn what is being done to stay the rural depopulation.

(3) For an interchange of ideas and sympathetic suggestions between those engaged in allied industries.

(4) For those who need teachers or trained workers to meet those who are fully trained and capable of teaching others.

(5) For the binding of all these in one strong organisation for co-operation and co-ordination.

It is therefore hoped any who are interested in the objects for which the conference is called, and who wish to learn fuller details of the programme of the discussion, as also of the hospitality to be offered for the occasion, will write for particulars to the Warden, Lady Warwick Hostel, Reading, or to myself.—Yours faithfully,

FRANCES EVELYN WARWICK.

Warwick Castle.

Bristol Wool Fair.—There was an average attendance at the half-yearly wool fair at Bristol, on Wednesday. There was little inquiry for fleeces, but some fairly good lots of matchings were disposed of at a farthing to a halfpenny per pound below the price of the last March fair. A better trade was done in skin wools, the stronger sorts being in good demand, but the finer descriptions were disposed of only with difficulty. Hogs and tags were a dragging trade, sales being effected at recent rates.

On Thursday, in a Divisional Court of the King's Bench, the Lord Chief Justice, Mr. Justice Darling, and Mr. Justice Channell heard arguments on a rule which had been obtained at the instance of an agricultural labourer named Saunby, calling upon the magistrates and the guardians of Boston, Lincolnshire, to show cause why an order made directing him to pay 1s. per week towards the support of his mother should not be quashed. For the appellant it was contended that the "sufficient ability" which had to be proved under the Statute of Elizabeth before an order was made was an ability to maintain and relieve a parent to the full extent, and that orders for so much a week were illegal. The Act was not, it was said, intended to apply to labourers. The Court discharged the rule, on the ground that there was evidence before the magistrates of ability to pay, on which they were entitled to act.

THE GARDEN.

We are now well into March, and the spring equinox within measurable distance. And yet, up to the present, at least, anything more unlike March weather could scarcely be imagined, except from the fast-lengthening days, one might reasonably take the season to be November or December, the prevailing features being damp, dull skies, heavy fogs, and an almost dead calm, day after day. If there is any truth in the old adage we shall have a cold spring yet, for does it not say—

"So many fogs in March, so many frosts in May."

Yet the atmosphere is mild, and though there has been a little rain, the soil is still fairly dry and in good working condition, as a rule, so that all outside work can be prosecuted with both ease and success.

Both rhubarb and seakale may be readily brought on in the open ground now, as they stand, covering the roots with pots, or in default of these, with any inverted boxes, baskets, or the like, with a little littery manure, or the like, over all, to exclude air and light. Already the "natural" or unforced rhubarb is beginning to come into the London and other markets, and seakale is also more plentiful and lower in price. This latter subject is frequeuntly forced in the open at this season by simply covering the crowns with some protective material, such as leaf mould, spent hops, or even burnt earth. In maritime localities seaweed is frequently employed for this purpose, and being left on the ground afterwards, acts as a manure to the roots.

Finish planting the root-cuttings of seakale at once, and if more stock is wanted sow a bed of seed, in drills about a foot apart.

Clean over established asparagus beds, remove the top dressing of manure put on in the autumn (if any)—though we do not approve of this practice as a rule—and give a good sprinkling of salt. Do not give any surface dressing of manure, leaf mould, or the like, with the object of blanching the young shoots.

Prepare the ground for fresh beds, trenching it deeply, and working in plenty of manure—rough below, and the finer portions on top. The upper 8in. or 10in. should be made very fine, light, and rich. Plant towards the end of next month, or in cold localities early in May. Sow a small bed of seed also.

Finish cleaning old strawberry beds in the open, and the annual top dressing of manure may be put on at any time now, though there is no hurry for a little while yet, except perhaps in very early districts. Get a bed ready for planting next month, that is, if any thrifty young plants are at hand, or can be had, trenching it quite two feet deep, and working in a good coat of manure, also some burnt earth or wood-ashes.

A bed of the new autumn-bearing strawberries, such as St. Joseph and Antoine de Padone, may be planted now. As the fruit is gathered from forced plants in pots remove them to a cold pit or frame, and in May plant them out in good, rich soil, and they will probably bear again towards the autumn.

B. C. R.

THE

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MONDAY (March 10th).—Dull and cloudy weather prevailed over our Islands, and fog or mist occurred in many places on our coasts. Rain was measured in the morning, as the result of the fall since the previous day, over nearly the entire Kingdom, but the amounts were generally small. The winds were mostly Westerly, and they were everywhere very light, except at a few exposed positions on our West coasts. The temperature was rather high for the time of year, and it was only in the North and East that the thermometer fell below 40deg. during Sunday night.

TUESDAY (March 11th).—The weather was again generally very cloudy, and fog or mist was prevalent over the Western and Southern portions of the Kingdom. Rain was measured in the morning in Ireland, as well as at some of the Western English stations, as the result of the fall in the preceding twenty-four hours, but the amounts were small. Winds were everywhere very light, and they were variable in direction, except in the West, where a South wind had set in under the influence of a cyclonic disturbance which was approaching from the Atlantic. There was a slight frost in parts of Scotland during Monday night, but at some of the Western stations the thermometer did not fall below 45deg. The mid-day temperatures exceeded 50deg. in the South and West.

WEDNESDAY (March 12th).—The weather was generally cloudy over our Islands, and ran fell at a few places in the North and West. Small amounts of ran were measured in the morning, as the result of the fall since the previous day, over the Western portion of the Kingdom. The winds were blowing from between South-East and South-West, and they continued very light, execept on our North-West coasts.—Temperature had risen briskly in Scotland, but elsewhere the changes were slight, and the thermometer is generally rather above the average. In the South and West the mid-day temperatures exceeded 50deg.

THURSDAY (March 13th).—The weather was dull in most parts of our Islands, and fog or mist was very prevalent on the English coasts. Rain was measured over the Northern and Western portions of the Kingdom in the morning, as the result of the fall in the preceding twenty-four hours, but the amounts were mostly small. No rain fell in any part of Great Britain during the day, but showers were again experienced in Ireland. A fresh cyclonic disturbance had appeared on our North-West coasts, and had apparently merged with the smaller disturbance which had arrived from the Atlantic on Wednesday, occasioning gales and strong South-West winds in the North of Ireland and on the North coast of Scotland. The temperatures were generally rather lower during Wednesday night than of late, but the mid-day readings exceeded 50deg. in most parts of the country.

FRIDAY (March 14th).—The weather was fine and bright during the early part of the day in the south-east of England; but in other parts of our islands the sky was either cloudy or overcast. Rain was measured in the morning, as the result of the fall since the previous day, in the north and west, but the amounts were mostly small. The wind was southerly over the entire country under the influence of a cyclonic disturbance which was moving towards us from the Atlantic. Slight frost occurred in the open during Thursday night in different parts of the country, but the temperature during the day was again rather above the average.

SATURDAY and SUNDAY (March 15th and 16th).—The cyclonic disturbance which traversed the south of England during Friday night, and occasioned strong westerly winds or gales, accompanied by heavy rains, over the southern portion of the kingdom, subsequently traversed the North Sea. On Sunday morning the central area of the storm was situated over Denmark, and the disturbance had increased in intensity. Rough weather was experienced over the North Sea on Saturday, and the winds were still strong on Sunday near the region of the storm centre, while over our islands the wind had moderated. Rain was measured over nearly the entire country on both days, and, in most places, the amounts are much heavier than for some time past. The temperature continued high, although rather less than on several recent days.



Berkshire.

Farm work made but little progress during the month of February. For the first three weeks there were sharp frosts, and the last week drizzling rains, so that there was very little ploughing and no planting done during the month; but since March came in everything is changed, for it has been mild and dry. The land works well, and there is a good seed bed for beans, peas, oats, and barley, and everyone is now very busy making the best of this fine time. The sharp frosts seem to have done very little damage, for the wheat looks a fair plant, but not very strong. The rye and winter oats promise well, and the vetches never looked better. The young grasses are not a particularly good plant, but look healthy. Cattle have done well, and there is a fair trade for beef, which keeps up the price of beasts. The mutton trade is bad, and sheep are very difficult to sell at lower prices. The lambing season has been a good one, for the lambs have fallen strong and the ewes are healthy, with a fair amount of twins. Pigs seem to sell well when you can find a customer, but the markets being stopped prevents much trade being done. Straw is scarce and dear, but there is not quite so much demand for hay. The wheat market continues dull, but firm. There is a little better demand for barley fit for seed, and oats still sell well. Labour is scarce, but sufficient for present requirements.—J. L. (March 13th).

Carmarthen.

Since my last report we have had some very rough weather. It was real winter, and no mistake. We did not have such a heavy fall of snow as in some parts, and it remained long on the ground, and it was freezing almost through the month of February, and was good weather for hauling out manure, etc., and the only weather for skating we have had for years, and was also suitable for splashing hedges, so the farm work is pretty forward in this county. The weather again in this month has been dry, with mist overcast, and mostly cloudy, except some few days have been warm. Very little rain has fallen, and the land is now in excellent working order for the plough or harrow. There is very little spring corn being set yet in this county. Should this dry weather continue we shall be able to set our spring corn in March dust, which we have always found beneficial. It is hoped that mild growing weather will soon set in, as fodder is scarce, and hay advancing in price, now £6 per ton. Fat beasts are selling at fair prices, but very little profit, owing to the high price at which feeding-stuff is sold. Fat sheep are scarce, and are selling at about 8½d. per lb. Fat pigs are also scarce and dear, from 10s. to 11s. per score.—D. P. (March 14th).

Cornwall (West).

To the end of February the weather was cold and the season backward. Since March has come in, however, the weather has been very mild, so mild that we seem to be in April rather than March. Crops are growing fast. Trees are commencing to assume their green foliage. Wheat is looking nice and strong. Not much oats or barley has been sown as yet, as we do not sow much before the middle of March and beginning of April. Prices: Good beef selling fairly well, at 56s. to 60s. cwt. Store bullocks, cows, and calves are cheap. Hay and straw are very scarce, consequently dear. The cauliflower trade has not by any means been good. The quality up to now has been bad and difficult to sell. Now the quality has improved, and we are hoping for better prices, providing we do not get a glut, owing to the mild weather. The early potato crop is about finished being planted. Old potatoes are cheap, 60s. to 70s. a ton.—F. C. (March 13).

Devon.

Seldom has this county at this time of the year shown vegetation more forward or labour on the farm so far advanced. Wheat, as a rule, looks well, and a fairly thick plant. Oats have also come up well, and barley, and some winter-sown barley looking splendid. This has only recently been given a trial, and seems likely to be successful. Meadows, pastures, and grasslands are lyooking promising for a good hay crop, whilst vetches, trifolium, rye, and catch crops promise early and abundant crops, which will save stocking grass intended for hay. Turnips nearly cleared, but a good supply of mangolds left, and there has not been such a run on the small haystacks as was feared, so keep prospects are bright, and the weather extraordinarily mild. It has also been a full average year for lambs, with very slight mortality, and store stock look well, whilst all stock is healthy, and prices seem improving; but we may get a dose of winter later. I hope not, but those who remember Hermit's Derby run in a snowstorm know that it is possible to have winter in May. Even the bud on the fruit-trees is very forward, so sharp frosts now may do harm.

North Notts.

The weather has been generally mild for the period of the year. Spring's early advent appears to be heralded by many signs in the fields. The wheat plant is now making some progress, after the nip of the keen frosts, it is beginning to tiller. Not much, if any, spring sowing has been done yet, and there is really little encouragement for the farmer to sow spring wheat, but, on the other hand, there will be a large r breadth of oats consigned to the soil this year. For the price realised being within a shilling a bushel of that of even wheat. The lambing season is now in full swing. Generally speaking, there is a good fall. There is the usual loud complaint of the great shortness of farm hands, more especially those that are competent to milk. Perhaps the early hours and Sunday labours are a great deterrent to either girls or young men acquiring the art of milking a cow nowadays. With high, drying winds the land will soon be in a fit state to receive the seed, barley, oats, and beans. But these later years very many farmers seem to prefer the winter beans, as to being more sure of a crop. Some efforts are going to be made to bring about a more vigorous enforcement of the Wild Birds' Protection Act, which in this district has remained a dead letter. There are many sales this spring, thus indicating many changes. The outlook is none too rosy on the near approach of the vernal equinox in North Notts.—"Agrestic" (March 13).

Somerset (North).

Farms in this district usually change hands on 25th inst. (Lady Day), so this is the season for auction sales of farm live stock and implements, and by attending these, and seeing the animals, and having the prices under the hammer, you can correct your judgment as to values very much better than you can at the fairs, where you often find the prices asked in the morning are no indication of what the same animal is worth as the day goes on, besides, if a seller, of having to endure the jostling and trickery of the low-class dealers. It is clear from the prices obtained at these farm sales that beef and store cattle are dearer than ever. This also may be said of milk cows, whereas sheep are a drag, whether fat or lean. Doubtless the foreign article and the low value of wool have much to do with it, while as to implements, unless they are of modern make and have been well looked after, the prices they fetch are very disappointing to sellers. All this makes it easy for some under-capitaled, would-be farmers to go in for an arable farm on the off chance of obtaining credit for their seeds and manures, also rent, with a resultant meeting of creditors next Christmas, when all has been sold off the farm, and the tenant is off to South Africa. With all these changes, I cannot learn that rents are any lower, but the new comers seem to demand and get the landlords to make outlays on premises and fences which had been refused to old tenants, damage done by over-preserving game being the cause of much of the trouble.—R. B. (March 14th).

Worcester.

Autumn-sown wheat and oats looking well. Land in a good state after the ong frost, and spring corn going in well. Peas planted before the frost are badly damaged, many fields having to be re-sown. Roots were a short crop, and are becoming scarce.

Farm work well forward. It has, as a whole, been a good lambing season. Feeding sheep have sold very badly, fat tegs making only 7d. per lb. If it were not for such low prices, prospects would be good, but with wheat, barley, mutton, and wool at the present prices farmers cannot hope to make a fair profit. R. B. (March 5th).

Foreign Prospects.

FRANCE.—The autumn-sown cereal crops are represented as being in excellent condition, and weather continues favourable for spring sowing, the prosecution of which keeps farmers from attending market.

BELGIUM.—The crop outlook is considered satisfactory.

HOLLAND.—Consequent upon milder weather, inland navigation is free from ice, and supplies of grain are coming forward more liberally.

GERMANY.—Weather this week was more inclement; a lower temperature with snow and rain alternating. Crop prospects remain satisfactory, but a seasonable change would be welcomed for spring sowing.

RUSSIA.—Weather continues mild, and favourable to crop prospects over most of the country. Around Odessa the condition of the azima and rye-fields is very promising.

HUNGARY.—Rain and light night frosts were experienced lately, but nothing has occurred to injure the appearance of the autumn-sown cereals.

ROUMANIA.—Weather continues favourable for agricultural operations.

ITALY.—Except for rain damage in some low-lying districts, the wheat crop is looking well. The wet state of the land interferes with spring work.

SPAIN.—Too much rain is complained of, causing inundations in the riverine districts to the detriment of the cereal crops.

ASIA MINOR—Weather around Smyrna has been rainy and beneficial to autumn-sown cereals, which present a fine appearance.

NORTH AFRICA.—In Tunis the crop situation is reported as excellent in Northern districts. Timely rains have relieved apprehensions respecting crops in the South.

UNITED STATES.—So far the month of March has been favourable to wheat, which is maintaining a fairly good promise. The plant has sufficient moisture for the present. Oats are being seeded under favourable conditions, and a large acreage is likely. Wheat crop prospects throughout California are satisfactory. Rainfall for season up to date equals 16½ inches, compared with 18 inches same time last year.—*Dornbusch.*

New Agricultural Patents.

Specially compiled for MARK LANE EXPRESS by Mr. G. D. Howard (Hughes, Son, and Co.), Patent Agent, 38, Chancery Lane, London, of whom all information relating to Patents, Designs, and Trade Marks may be obtained free of charge.

4,589.—John Stanley Tyzack, and Joseph Taylor, of Sheffield, for "Improvements in the manufacture of scythes."

4,795.—Robert Maynard, of Chancery Lane, London, for "Improvements in or relating to portable combined chaff cutters."

4,923.—George Lee Phelps and John Owen Morris, of Strand, London, for "Improvements in fly wheels for harvesting machinery."

Patents Sealed.

19,764.—C. T. Burgess and W. B. Burgess, of Brentwood, for "Reaping mowing machines."

19,796.—R. H. N. Sellar, and J. Cook, of Aberdeenshire, for "Ploughs, agricultural."

Agricultural Imports.

The following is an account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended March 8, 1902, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year:—

Animals living.	1901	1902.		1901.	1902.
	No.	No.		Cwt.	Cwt.
Cattle ...	8,260	6,121	Wheat ...	1,350,900	1,340,200
Sheep.....	10,578	3,564	Flour.....	49,500	196,400
Swine.....	—	—	Barley ...	357,100	498,400
*Horses...	—	798	Oats	354,100	138,100
			Peas	57,500	36,700
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Beans ...	15,200	5,100
Beef	77,588	65,859	Maize ...	1,226,700	709,400
Mutton...	44,040	60,081		Bunches	Bunches
Pork	23,404	12,971	Bananas	22,323	53,687
Bacon ...	119,811	70,758			
Beef, salt	2,090	1,890		Cwt.	Cwt.
Hams.....	33,681	21,461	Apples ...	26,604	39,268
Pork, salt	5,347	3,201	Apricots		
Meat, salt & Fresh	12,606	14,8 8	& Peaches	26	12
Do. pres.	12,405	12,415	Cherries	—	—
Butter ...	69,879	57,913	Currants	—	—
M'rg'rine	22,038	22,132	Gooseb'rs	—	—
Cheese ...	32,436	34,631	Grapes ...	271	331
Milk, Fresh, in cans or drums.	610	452	Lemons...	13,336	7,498
			Oranges	141,897	175,527
			Pears.....	884	226
			Plums ...	14	17
			Strawb'r's	—	—
			Oth'r Fr't	1,589	431
Milk ...				Tons.	Tons.
Cream.	123	124	Hay	3,214	6,359
			*Straw ...	—	1,415
Milk pr's'v'd, other				Bush.	Bush.
			Onions ...	105,098	121,015
kinds ...	310	188		Cwt.	Cwt.
Con. Milk	22,930	16,671	Hops	950	192
			* Locust Beans	—	58,550
	No.	No.	Potatoes	105,622	60,315
Eggs	232,987	324,239	Tom'to's	11,149	7,805
			Other Veg'bles	Value.	Value.
Poultry & Game	Value.	Value.		£9,591	£13,759
	£32,555	£22,725		Cwt.	Cwt.
			Dried ...	1,626	2,255
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Pres'v'd by canning ...	6,222	2,030
Rabbits	3 857	4,160			
Lard	50,874	12,161			

* Not shown in 1901.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Malt, the trade continues quiet. Barley declined about 3d per qr. Wheat rather dearer on the week. Oats firm. Maize, 9d to 1s. lower. Flour advanced 3d per sack.—NIXON, GOWER, AND CO.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—The attendance was small, and the market for wheat and flour ruled steady at about late rates, but quiet. Maize firm, and held for 3d to 6d advance, which checked business. Oats in fair demand at firmer rates. Barley quiet, but steady. Beans and peas quiet.

Mark Lane, Friday.—There was no improvement in the general departments, attendance only moderate, and what business followed since noon suggested a range favourable to buyers. English wheat continues scarce in London, and sellers are enabled to secure remunerative rates, but town millers exercise the same reluctance, and nearly everything is sent to local resorts, although supplies are not now so freely offered as of late. White ranges at 29s to 31s, and red at 28s to 30s per qr. delivered. Free on rail in country, 28s per qr. Foreign dull and easy, but unchanged. Flour was no worse, but the consumptive inquiry for American brands produced no better effects, quotations being nominally the same. Of ordinary first, Minnesota patents, Golden Lily, Pillsbury, etc., quoted at 22s. 9d., and of fancy patents, May Blossom, at 23s. 6d. Of bakers' grades, Iron Duke, 18s 6d ex store; Australian patents, 20s to 20s 6d, ex store 280lb. The price of town households was kept at 23s; and whites at 26s per sack, delivered. Top price, town made 28s net, No. 1 households, 21s 6d per sack cash at the mill door. Wholemeal, 172s per ton. Grinding barley steady, with only moderate supplies on spot, but sufficient to meet requirements, and there is a good deal coming along. Odessa, 19s ex quay; Danubian, 18s 6d ex ship. Malting unaltered, with medium types of English occasionally moving up to 32s. The bulk of the trade, however, is now confined to seed parcels at 27s upwards. Of foreign, Ouchaks and Californian meet with fair attention from time to time at generally steady rates. Oats steady, with a rather better tone this week, although slow. F.a.q. Libau ordinary, 18s 6d ex quay, 381b; 401b Libau, etc., 20s 6d upwards, ex quay. Good Konigsberg, 21s ex quay, 40lb. New Zealand, ordinary Bluff, 25s 5d to 26s 6d; and Canadian, 27s 6d to 28s 384lb ex store. English very firm. Black Winters, 42lb, 24s, and fancy sorts, 24s 6d. Grey ditto, 23s to 23s 6d 42lb; with choice at 24s. Flat maize unchanged. Mixed American nominal, being out of the market. Of round corn, Odessa firm at the opening, but last Wednesday's advance was fully supported throughout, and about 21s named ex ship, 21s 6d ex quay. Danubian in latter position, 22s 9d, and Galatz-Foxanian, 22s 6d. Plate is not offered. The market for imported beans and peas calls for nothing fresh.

COUNTRY.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, red (new), 28s to 30s per qr. Wheat quiet and firm, with small show.

Birmingham, Thursday.—A moderate attendance, and trade generally quiet, though a little more inquiry was reported for feeding stuffs. English wheats, 10s 6d to 11s per bag; foreign unchanged, at 5s 10½d per cental at Liverpool for Russian, and 5s 9d for soft red Calcuttas. Maize sold at a reduction of 3d to 6d per qr; prime Plate, 22s 6d to 23s in the Channel, and Odessa 21s 9d to 22s 3d at Sharpness, and 23s Liverpool. About 3d per qr more money was asked for grinding barley, prices ruling from 18s 3d to 18s 9d at Sharpness, and 19s to 19s 6d at Liverpool. English white oats, at a reduction of 3d, were quoted at 21s 6d to 22s 9d, and blacks 21s 6d to 22s 3d per 312lb (Birmingham). New English beans, 14s 3d to 14s 6d; old, 15s to 15s 6d per bag (Birmingham).

Boston, Wednesday.—Wheat, 27s 6d to 28s; grinding barley, 22s; oats, 21s to 21s 6d; peas, 60s to 65s; maize (new), 22s 6d to 23s 6d (old); beans, 33s 6d to 34s per qr; linseed cake, £8 15s; cotton cake, £5 per ton.

Braintree, Wednesday.—Firm trade; prices unchanged. Red wheat, from 27s 6d to 28s 6d; white, 29s to 30s per qr. Supply rather small.

Brighton, Thursday.—New white wheat, 28s to 29s; new red ditto, 27s 6d to 28s 6d; barley, 28s to 33s; grinding ditto, 21s to 22s; English oats, 21s to 24s; peas, 34s to 35s. Quiet trade at last week's prices. Small attendance.

Bristol, Thursday.—Trade has shown a little improvement since our last. English wheat in fair supply today, making late rates. Foreign, 3d to 6d dearer on spot. Grinding barley and oats without change. Round maize about 3d lower. Slow trade for flour at unaltered prices. —GRACE BROTHERS.

Bury, Wednesday.—Wheat: Very little on offer, the attendance being small; prices firm and unchanged on the week, at 27s to 28s per 504lb. Barley: Trade all but over for the season, most buyers having satisfied their requirements for this season, and prices are nominal. Oats, beans, peas, and other English feeding corns are scarce and firm. Maize unchanged, at 23s to 23s 6d per qr. Lentils and Indian peas rather lower. Linseed cakes firm, at £8 15s to £9 per ton. Bran firm, at £5 10s to £5 15s per ton.

Cambridge.—During the week trade has been without any material alteration. The weather is very favourable for field operations, and farmers, being busy, bring very few samples to market. At this market to-day there was a very moderate attendance of farmers, and a small show of wheat. Demand was slow, but prices were well maintained. Very few samples of spring corn, and all prices quite as high as last Saturday. Wheat, red, 27s to 28s, and white up to 29s per 504lb.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Wheat trade dull; prices weaker, but 30s 6d per quarter obtainable for the best white descriptions. Barley and oats wanted for seed. Ruling prices:—White wheat, 28s to 30s 6d; red, 27s to 29s; malting barley, 28s to 33s; grinding, 22s to 24s; white oats, 20s to 24s; black, 19s to 23s per quarter. Peas and beans rather slow.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Much larger supply of oats in our market to-day; good demand at fully last week's prices—22s to 23s 9d. No wheat or barley sold.—THOMAS ROBINSON.

Chester.—Business was rather dull; wheat, barley, and beans underwent no change in price, but oats were rather easier. Indian corn maintained its price, although demand hardly so good as a week ago. Wheat, white and red, 4s 5d to 4s 6d per 75lb; malting barley, 4s to 4s 1d per 60lb; grinding barley, 3s 4d to 3s 6d per 64lb; oats, new, 2s 10d to 3s; old, 3s 4d to 3s 6d per 46lb; Indian corn, 12s 6d to 13s 6d per 240lb.

Chichester, Wednesday.—Wheat was in moderate supply, but the tone of business was quiet, and the attendance very scanty. There was no quotable change in prices.

Chichester, Wednesday.—Wheat was in moderate supply, but the tone of business was quiet. There was no quotable change in prices.

Colchester, Saturday.—Wheat: Very little offering, and the extreme prices of last week readily obtainable. Scarcely any spring corn showing.—FRANCIS AND CO.

Croydon, Tuesday.—White wheat, 27s to 29s; red do., 27s to 28s; malting barley, 28s to 36s; grinding, 22s to 24s; oats, 18s to 22s; beans, 31s to 33s; peas, 29s to 31s. Trade for wheat quiet at last week's prices; barley and oats firm.

Devizes, Thursday.—Our market was fairly supplied with corn to-day. Wheat sold more freely, but was not quotably dearer, although in a few instances a slight advance was realised. Barley and oats unchanged in value. Quotations were as follow: Best wheat, 13s 6d to 14s 6d; secondary, 12s 6d to 13s; best malting barley, 29s to 34s; secondary, 25s to 28s; grinding barley, 20s to 24s; oats, 21s to 24s; beans, 16s to 20s; fine flour, 22s to 24s; extra fine, 25s to 30s; best bread, 9d.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There was a fair attendance at our market to-day. Wheat and flour are steady, but a very limited trade passing. Indian corn and round maize unchanged, with small trade. Grinding beans firm, at 3d per 280lb advance. Home and foreign oats steady, at late rates. Barley quiet. Bran and thirds steady. Oatmeal dull.—GIBSON AND CLARK.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Wheat, the attendance was small, and there was a considerable falling off in the supplies, farmers being busy at home. Prices were firm on the week, at 28s to 29s for reds, and 28s to 29s 6d for whites, per 504lb, at Ipswich. Barley: There are not many buyers left now, and the season is rapidly approaching its close. A retail trade only was done, at about last week's prices. Oats and beans firm. Peas unchanged. Lentils quiet, at 30s per qr. Indian peas 28s per 504lb. Maize: Unchanged, at 22s for small round. Feeding stuffs quiet, but steady.

Leeds, Tuesday.—Contrary to expectations, the American markets report a decline, which, strangely enough, is responded to by firmness in Liverpool, and millers, instead of being able to buy at less money, have actually to concede a slight advance on last week's rates for both English and foreign wheat. Malting barley without change. Feeding stuffs slow, but steady.—DUNNS.

Leeds, Friday.—Quiet demand for all kinds of wheat at Tuesday's prices for English, and a slight reduction for Americans the latter making from 28s to 31s, and the former 29s to 31s 6d; beans, peas, oats, barley, maize, and flour firm at Tuesday's value.

Leicester.—Good average attendance, with small supplies of home-grown wheats. Trade sluggish, at 27s to 31s per 36 stone. Barley a quiet trade. Beans steady. Oats firm.

Leith, Friday.—There is no important change to be noted, and the market conditions are as previously mentioned. Wheat, Scotch, quiet. Oats, Scotch, ready sale at last week's prices; foreign oats, 19s to 22s 6d. Barley, Scotch, little change; foreign feeding, 21s 6d. Hard white peas, 38s. Beans, 33s 6d to 34s. Maize, 23s 6d to 24s; parcels with veryslight heat, 21s to 22s 6d; damaged, 19s to 20s. Millet seed, 19s. Mill offals: Better demand. Broad bran, 120s to 125s; medium bran, 97s 6d to 102s 6d; sharps, 95s to 97s 6d; parings, 105s to 107s 6d; cummings, 82s 6d to 87s 6d; dried grains, brewers, 97s 6d; distillers, 102s 6d to 105s; oat husks, 45s; meal seeds, 67s 6d; all sacks included.—WILLIAM MACLAY.

Lewes, Tuesday.—New white wheat, 28s to 29s; new brown do., 27s to 28s; malting barley, 32s to 35s; grinding do., 20s to 24s; oats, 21s to 25s; beans, 35s to 39s; peas, 33s to 37s per qr.

Lincoln, Friday.—Small supply of English wheat. Slow trade at late rates. Reds, 28s 6d to 29s 6d; whites, 29s to 30s. Foreign quiet. Oats a dull sale at barely late rates. Beans, peas, and maize easier.

Lincoln, Friday.—A good attendance at the Corn Exchange, and a fair show of corn. There were not many samples of wheat offering, and trade was slow at the full prices of last week. The barley season being nearly closed, there was not much doing, only a little being sold for seed purposes. Oats were about unchanged. Peas, beans, and maize firm at late rates.

Liverpool, Friday.—The market had a fair attendance, but wheat is ½d to 1d lower, with a slow inquiry. Flour—Foreign and English are steady at unchanged quotations, with a small trade. Maize—Mixed American rules very quiet at ½d under last market day's quotations. There is a moderate business passing in European and Plate sorts at a shade under previous quotations, with the exception of Odessa, which shows a full ½d advance. Barley—Malting is unchanged, with an idle trade. Feeding moves slowly, but remains steady at unaltered prices. Beans are steady, but Egyptians and flat sorts are generally 3d lower to sell. Peas are steady, with a fair inquiry at late rates. Oats are firm, but quiet at quotations for English. Foreign sorts are quiet, but steady, without quotable change. Oatmeal firmly held, but only a small inquiry at last market day's prices. Oilcake—The demand has been limited, and prices are slightly in buyers' favour.—SEGAR AND TUNNICLIFFE.

Maidstone, Thursday.—Cannot give a good account of the market to-day. Wheat continues to be a slow sale: former terms about obtainable, but millers buy so charily. Barley is nearly over for malting, and as the best lots seem to be cleared off, the business in the article is very slow and restricted. Maize is cheaper, and oats are not such good form as recently. In other sorts of grain no alteration of any importance.

Manchester, Thursday.—Moderate attendance. English and foreign wheat met with a quiet consumptive trade at about last week's prices. Red wheat scarce and rather dearer. Maize 1d dearer. Oats, barley, peas, and beans unchanged. Flour quiet; a consumptive demand at unchanged prices.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—A quiet demand for wheat at our to-day's market, and to make sales lower prices would have been accepted for foreign. English scarce, and sold at late rates. Maize favoured buyers. Malting barley quiet, and not much offering. Feeding made last week's prices. No change in the quotation for oats. Beans and peas, through scarcity, made 6d per 504lb advance.—JOSEPH POLLARD AND CO.

Newport, Wednesday.—Wheat is steadily at an advance, but buyers hold off, and there is little business doing. Maize firmer, but not much doing. Oats firmly held dat last week's prices. Beans and barley, no change. Flour, fines, 22s 6d per sack. Offals scarce and dear.

Northampton.—Markets about the same as last week; no disposition to operate but at a little lower price. Business done nominal, and about same as last week. Supply and demand quiet.

Norwich, Saturday.—Wheat was in smaller supply at our market to-day, with a firm trade at late rates. Fine weather has principally prevailed during the past week, which has ended in rain and boisterous wind. Wheat, red, 28s to 28s 6d per qr., weight 63 per bushel imperial. Corn Inspector's return for the week ending March 10, 1902:—Wheat, 2,012, 26s 7½d.—J. ARTHUR MILLS.

Nottingham. Saturday.—Wheat, small supply and good trade at previous rates. Barley, none offering from grower, the few in hands of factors making good price for seed, etc. Grinding barley steady. Oats and beans, but few offering, and values well supported.—ROBERT HUBBLE.

Peterborough, Saturday.—There has been very little wheat showing to-day, demand not brisk, but last week's extreme prices were made. Scarcely anything doing in barley, and no change in value. Oats slow at late rates.—THOMAS HILL AND SON.

Ripon, Thursday.—Business is done at late prices. Inquiries for seed the chief feature. Wheat, English (new), 28s 6d to 29s 6d; ditto, foreign, 29s to 33s; barley, grinding, 22s 6d to 23s 6d ditto, malting, 26s to 31s; oats (new), 22s to 24s; round maize, 24s to 26s per qr; beans, 1s per stone.

Reading.—We had an excellent attendance in the Exchange to-day, and trade generally proved fairly brisk. Corn was plentiful in all departments, and wheat experienced a steady sale at recent currencies, changing hands at from 27s to 29s per qr. The barley on offer was principally for seed purposes, and it sold well at late rates, as did also oats.

Romford, Wednesday.—Wheat trade firm at last week's prices. Very short supply. Red wheat, 27s 6d to 28s 6d; white wheat, 28s 6d to 30s.

Rye, Wednesday.—White wheat, 26s to 30s; red do., 25s to 29s; white oats, 18s to 22s; black do., 18s to 24s.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—There was a better attendance, but both English and foreign wheats were in slow demand, and prices were the same as last week. Round maize, 6d per qr lower on the week, was in good demand. Business in beans and oats was slow, with prices unchanged. Quotations: Wheat, white, 29s 6d to 30s 6d; ditto, red, 29s 6d to 30s 6d per 60lb; barley, grinding, 22s to 23s; ditto, malting, 28s to 32s per 448lb; oats, new white, 21s 6d to 22s 6d; ditto, new black, 20s to 21s per 336lb; peas, grinding, 32s to 34s; ditto, blue, 53s to 80s per 504lb; beans, Egyptian, 35s 6d to 36s per 504lb; ditto, English, new, 37s to 37s 6d per 532lb; Indian corn, small, 23s to 23s 6d per 480lb; ditto, American mixed, 27s 6d to 28s per 480lb.

Spalding, Tuesday.—Wheat, 27s 6d to 28s per qr. A firm trade for oats at 21s to 22s per qr. Beans and peas made full prices. Small show of corn.

Stockton, Wednesday.—Few samples of English wheat showing, which made last week's prices. The foreign wheat trade keeps very quiet, and very little business was passing. Strong red wheats were very scarce, and commanded 3d to 6d more money. White wheats unchanged. Oats and maize unaltered. No malting barley showing.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Small show of wheat, which sold at about late rates. Little doing in spring corn. Arrivals, coastwise: Wheat, 430 qrs.; barley, 379 qrs; oats, 66. Foreign nil.—E. AND F. RICHARDSON.

Wakefield, Friday.—A fair business has been done in wheat during the past week, and fully late rates have been paid, but trade generally on to-day's market is slow. Malting barley is still offered for sale, with but few buyers. No alteration in feeding stuffs.—MICHAEL SANDERSON AND SON, LTD.

Wakefield, Friday.—The trade seems to recognise the uselessness of following the vagaries of the American markets, which appear to be based chiefly upon speculations by the professional crowd; hence values on this side remain practically unaffected, and wheat cannot be bought under last week's rates. Malting barley steady. Maize, beans, and oats quiet.—DUNNS AND CO.

Winchester, Saturday.—English wheat short supply; 28s to 29s per 65lbs. Maize 3d cheaper. Barley and oats slow trade; prices unaltered. Flour quiet trade late rates.—FEAR, COLEBROOK AND CO., LD.

Wisbech, Saturday.—A scanty supply of grain at market. Wheat rather dearer to buy, 28s to 29s. Oats firm, 22s to 24s. Barley, 27s to 30s. Beans, 33s to 38s.—JAMES FLETCHER.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—There was very little animation at this market. Quotations: Wheat (new), 12s to 13s per 216lb; oats (old), 15s 6d to 16s per 196lb; ditto (new), 12s to 13s per 196lb; beans (old), 15s 6d to 16s 6d per 196lb; ditto (new), 14s 3d to 14s 9d per 19lb; barley, 31s to 32s per 448lb; new maize, 25s to 26s per 480lb; ditto (old), 27s 6d per 480lb.

Worcester, Saturday.—Trade quiet, there being only a limited demand for wheats, which sold at barely late rates. Feeding stuffs easier, except barley, which remained firm. Wheat, white, 11s to 11s 6d; red, 10s 3d to 10s 9d per bag.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Small attendance, and poor show of grain. Firmer tendency for wheat. White wheat made 28s to 29s; red wheat, 27s to 28s per qr; best barley for seed, 28s to 32s; secondary qualities, 26s to 28s; grinding barley, 24s to 26s per qr; white oats, 23s to 25s.; black oats, 22s to 24s per qr; maize, 24s to 26s per qr; barley meal, £6 6s 8d to £7 per ton; fine sharps, £6 13s 4d to £7 10s per ton; bran, £5 10s to £6 10s per ton.

York, Saturday.—A fair attendance. Wheats are making, with less showing, 28s 6d to 29s. Barley is drawing to a finish, the only lots offering selling readily for seed purposes. Oats are a better trade, but only a small supply. Beans and other feeding stuffs firm. Barley, 29s to 31s; short white oats, 22s to 23s; black, 21s to 22s per qr.; beans, 11d; rye, 8d per stone.

FOREIGN.

There was but little animation in the home-grown wheat market; the attendance was restricted both of farmers and merchants, who were deterred by the prospect of an almost useless journey, in face of the apathy ruling in the trade. Offers of wheat, which had lately been on an ordinary scale, were a little more important to-day, but holders very firmly maintained the currencies of this day week. Supplies are almost exclusively in the hands of the large farmers, who, not being in any pecuniary need, can more easily await the advent of better prices, which they are confidently hoping for. Prices note a nominal advance of 6d. to 1s. per quarter on the week. Quotations are as follows:—Choice red, 37s 5d to 37s 10d; ordinary, 37s 5d to 37s 6d; and white, 37s 10½d to 38s 3d per 480lb. The flour market opened weak, but closed with a slight improvement at the following prices: —March, 26s 8d to 26s 10½d; April, 26s 10½d to 27s 1½d; May-June, 27s 8d to 27s 11d; May-Aug., 27s 11d to 28s 2d; July-Aug., 28s 2d; and Sept.-Dec., 27s 1½d to 27s 5d per 280lb. Trade is still quiet, and prices are with difficulty supported in spite of most restricted offers. Good descriptions are still worth 26s 1d, but buyers only at 25s 8d per 480lb. Although the oat season is advanced, some demand for seed has been experienced, and certainly contributed to maintain the firm position. However, higher prices are not generally believed in, as the weather is favourable to the progress of the crop, and it must not be overlooked that the sowings this year will be of more magnitude than usual, and that should be taken into account. A small trade is still passing in barley, but only in the best descriptions. Beauce still quotes at 24s 3d to 24s 8d, and Champagne asks 23s 11d to 23s 4d. Here the tendency was supported for grinding and feeding corn, and unaltered for malting sorts, prices being quoted as follows:—17f.50 (25s 4d) for choice, 17f.25 (25s) for good malting, grinding 16f.75 to 17f. (24s 3d to 24s 8d), and feeding 14f.75 to 15f.25 per 100 kilos (21s 5d to 22s 2d per 400lb). There is still a rather good demand for buck wheat, and prices remain well supported at 27s 10d per 480lb.—*Dornbusch.*

MONTHLY AVERAGES.
(196 Market Towns.)

	1901.			1902.		
	Wheat	Barley	Oats	Wheat	Barley	Oats
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
January	26 8	25 7	17 4	27 8	26 8	20 1
February	26 5	25 5	17 7	27 1	26 8	20 3
March	25 10	25 0	17 10			
April	26 3	25 7	18 3			
May	27 6	25 2	19 4			
June	27 7	23 11	19 10			
July	27 4	22 9	19 8			
August	27 4	24 0	18 10			
September	26 1	25 4	17 4			
October	25 10	25 7	17 6			
November	24 9	26 10	18 2			
December	27 4	26 8	19 5			

IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGES.

1901.	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
Mar. 9	63,714⅔	25	9	51,125⅔	25	4	19,410⅔	17	7
,, 16	55 073⅔	25	9	36,968⅔	25	1	14,010	17	7
,, 23	53,758⅓	25	8	27,840⅓	24	11	13,895⅓	17	9
,, 30	47,908⅔	26	0	20,179⅔	24	9	12,418⅔	18	0
Apr. 6	42,721⅔	26	3	14,647⅔	25	3	11,776⅔	18	0
,, 13	32,905	26	5	6,809⅓	26	0	5,936⅔	18	1
,, 20	35,737⅓	26	8	6,734⅔	25	7	8,346⅔	18	8
,, 27	46,572	26	8	6,985⅔	25	8	8,300⅔	18	1
May 4	46,616⅓	26	9	6,417⅔	26	4	6,869⅓	19	8
,, 11	47,118⅔	27	3	4,270⅓	26	2	7,049	19	1
,, 18	52,875⅓	27	7	2,508	24	2	7,345⅓	19	4
,, 25	49,822⅓	27	7	1,511⅔	24	1	4,665⅓	19	8
June 1	46,514	27	7	859⅓	23	8	4,938	19	9
,, 8	42,202	27	6	221⅓	22	9	4,023⅓	20	1
,, 15	46,764	27	8	1,404⅓	24	0	5,565⅓	19	7
,, 22	29,695	27	6	336⅔	23	2	3,552⅓	20	3
,, 29	28,191⅔	27	6	692⅔	25	4	2,803⅔	20	0
July 6	19,564⅓	27	8	140⅔	21	9	1,806⅔	19	10
,, 13	15,231⅔	27	2	49	23	10	1,675⅔	19	9
,, 20	17,462⅔	27	3	88⅓	23	4	2,040⅓	19	11
,, 27	18,297⅔	27	3	206⅔	22	1	2,385⅓	19	4
Aug. 3	18,666⅔	27	6	250⅔	23	1	3,219⅓	20	0
,, 10	19,156	27	7	141⅔	22	1	2,143⅓	19	4
,, 17	22,617⅓	27	4	220⅔	27	2	5,982⅓	18	9
,, 24	37,168⅔	27	3	976⅔	23	7	9,952⅔	18	
,, 31	61,603⅔	27	0	4,877⅔	24	3	14,654⅔	17	10
Sept. 7	66,623⅓	26	5	14,342⅔	25	1	19,075⅓	17	1
,, 14	77,949⅓	26	2	34,989⅔	24	11	19,909⅓	17	4
,, 21	80,279⅓	26	0	70,096⅔	25	5	26,476⅔	17	4
,, 28	80,488	25	10	109,783⅓	25	10	22,567⅓	17	2
Oct. 5	60,376⅔	25	8	126,592⅔	26	3	21,631⅓	17	7
,, 12	63,656⅓	25	9	172,175⅔	26	5	16,815⅓	17	6
,, 19	58,772⅓	25	10	203,591⅔	26	8	15,506⅓	17	8
,, 26	52,984⅓	26	11	208,471⅔	26	10	18,009⅓	17	5
Nov. 2	70,314⅔	26	2	134,277⅔	26	10	18,350⅔	17	7
,, 9	62,265⅓	26	6	202,577⅓	27	0	20,066⅓	17	8
,, 16	57,884⅓	26	9	201,723⅓	26	9	20,122⅔	18	3
,, 23	63,150⅔	27	1	185,268⅔	26	10	20,612	18	7
,, 30	60,323⅓	27	1	193,434⅔	26	9	22,419⅓	18	9
Dec. 7	67,925⅓	27	1	162,996⅔	26	7	23,990⅔	19	0
,, 14	48,045⅓	27	2	182,212⅔	25	10	17,125⅓	17	1
,, 21	60,562⅓	27	7	119,398⅓	26	8	26,260⅓	19	8
,, 28	43,718⅔	27	7	81,859⅓	26	8	16,901⅔	19	10
1902.									
Jan. 4	31,440⅔	27	7	34,777⅓	26	7	11,621⅔	19	10
,, 11	48,997⅔	27	8	69,120⅓	26	7	14,995	20	0
,, 18	74,239⅓	27	8	91,559⅔	26	11	19,733⅔	20	0
,, 25	74,753⅔	27	7	87,594	26	7	25,382⅓	20	3
Feb. 1	73,381⅔	27	4	81,468⅔	26	7	25,657⅓	20	2
,, 8	67,470⅓	27	2	69,291⅔	26	9	25,055⅔	20	3
,, 15	68,500	26	11	54,084⅓	27	5	21,824	20	3
,, 22	72,614⅔	27	1	53,201⅔	26	11	22,799	20	4
Mar. 1	79,453⅓	27	1	43,637⅔	26	7	22,322	20	5
,, 8	67,473⅔	27	0	28,847⅓	26	8	17,017	20	5
,, 15	60,643	27	1	24,536⅔	26	6	11,496⅔	20	6

LONDON AVERAGES.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, March 11th, 1902.

	Total Quantities. Imperial Measure. Quarters.	Bus.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.	Average Price per qr. Imperial Measure. £	s.	d.
Wheat	4,453	4	6,219	4	8	1	7	11
Barley	107	5	149	9	6	1	7	9
Oats	366	5	337	9	11	1	1	2

FLUCTUATIONS IN THE AVERAGE PRICE OF WHEAT.

Price.	Feb. 8	Feb. 15	Feb. 22.	Mar. 1.	Mar. 8	Mar. 15.
27s. 8d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 7d	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 6d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 5d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 4d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 3d	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 2d	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 1d	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 0d	...	...	...	...	...	...
26s. 11d	...	...	...	...	...	...

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF FINE HOUSEHOLD FLOUR IN PARIS.
(Converted into English money for sacks of 280 lb.)

	1902.	1901.	1900.	1899.	1898.	1897.	1896.	1895.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Jan.	27 9	24 9	25 2	29 0	38 7	30 6½	25 10	27 9½
Feb.	26 3	25 9	26 3	28 3	39 4	29 10½	26 2	27 10½
March	...	24 0	27 3	27 6	40 1	28 9	26 0	27 5½
April	...	24 6	26 9	27 6	42 3	28 5	26 6½	26 7
May	...	25 6	26 8	28 0	40 0	28 11½	25 11½	28 0
June	...	26 3	28 6	27 6	35 6	29 3	25 8	28 10
July	...	28 0	26 9	27 3	32 0	31 5½	24 6	27 1
August	...	27 6	26 4	27 0	31 6	36 11	25 1	26 11
Sept.	...	27 6	26 3	25 3	31 0	38 7	27 0	27 0½
Oct.	...	27 6	26 0	24 9	30 6	39 4	27 1½	27 9
Nov.	...	27 9	26 4	24 3	30 3	40 3	29 9	26 8½
Dec.	...	28 3	26 0	24 6	29 0	39 3	29 8	26 3
Yrly. Avrg.	...	27 3	26 6	26 9	35 0	33 5	26 5½	27 4½

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF LONDON TOWN HOUSEHOLDS FLOUR.
(Sacks of 280 lbs. ex-mill for cash.)

	1902.	1901	1900	1899.	1898.	1897.	1896.	1895.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Jan.	21 9	24 6	21 9	23 9	29 0	25 6	18 9	18 7½
Feb.	22 0	24 0	22 0	23 6	30 0	24 7½	19 4½	17 9
March	...	23 9	21 6	22 3	30 0	23 11	19 3	18 0
April	...	24 0	21 6	22 0	31 3	23 6	19 6	18 7½
May	...	23 6	21 3	22 3	39 7	23 7	19 0	20 4½
June	...	23 0	23 6	23 1½	35 0	22 7½	18 10	22 3
July	...	22 3	24 6	21 9	29 6	22 10½	18 6	20 0½
August	...	22 3	24 0	21 9	27 6	26 8½	18 8½	19 10½
Sept.	...	22 0	25 3	22 0	26 5	30 3	19 6	19 8
Oct.	...	21 6	24 9	23 3	26 1	29 0	23 7½	18 7½
Nov.	...	21 6	24 3	22 3	25 0	29 1	25 8½	18 4½
Dec.	...	21 9	24 0	21 9	24 3	29 0	25 7½	18 1
Yrly. Avrg.	...	22 10	23 2	22 4	29 6½	25 10½	20 8½	19 2

FOREIGN CORN TRADE.

The shipments of grain from the chief exporting countries last week were as follows :—

	Wheat. Qrs.	Flour. Sks.	Maize. Qrs.	Barley. Qrs.	Oats. Qrs.
United States	277,000	115,000	26,000	—	—
Russia	156,000	—	180,000	40,000	156,000
France	—	5,000	—	—	—
Austria-Hungary	—	10,000	—	—	—
Roumania	64,000	—	130,000	68,000	—
Argentina	141,000	—	—	—	—
India	11,000	—	—	—	—
Australasia	45,000	—	—	—	3,000
Miscellaneous	20,000	10,000	10,000	20,000	5,000
Total	714,000	140,000	346,000	128,000	164,000

CORN STATISTICS.

ARRIVALS INTO LONDON.
March 5 to 12, 1902, inclusive.

	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat qrs.	1,962	10,000	11,962
Barley	2,700	2,300	5,000
Malt	24,500	242	24,742
Oats	2,010	14,400	16,410
Beans	300	...	300
Peas	135	2,573	2,728
Maize	...	15,471	15,471
Tares	27	26	53
Rye	...	9 080	9,080
Millet	...	7,507	7,507
Farmseeds	1,200	3,697	4,897
Cottonseed	...	...	...
Flour, sacks	25,613	22,191	47,814

IMPERIAL AVERAGES.

Statement showing the Quantities sold and average price of British Corn, Imperial Measure, as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended March 15, 1902, conformably with the Act of the 45th and 46th Victoria, cap. 37.

Wheat	60,643 qrs.	27s.	1d.
Barley	24,536⅔ qrs.	26s.	6d.
Oats	11,496⅔ qrs.	20s.	6d.

SEEDS

London, Monday.—John Shaw and sons, seed merchants, of Great Maze Pond, Borough, London, S.E., report a continued absence of any great activity in the demand for farm seeds. The larger houses have already secured their early supplies, whilst the general run of country seedsmen have as yet hardly begun to operate. Meantime, the abundance in so many districts this season of home-grown red cloverseed limits both the number and size of the orders for this article, which usually come to London. As regards values generally, no important change can be noted; but scarcely any description can be written dearer, whilst the dullness which overshadows red naturally communicates itself to some extent to alsyke, white, and trefoil, and likewise to Italian and perennial ryegrass. Tares have also of late proved a disappointing business. Very little attention is just now given to either mustard or rapeseed; but linseed finds buyers at full prices. As regards canary seed, the tendency is upwards, but other kinds of bird seeds are neglected. Scarlet-runner beans are still obtainable at very low rates. Blue peas and haricot beans move off slowly.

HAY AND STRAW.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—Although supplies light, demand was quiet, and business slow. Prices unaltered. Best clover, 95s to 110s; inferior, 80s to 90s; specially picked hay, 115s; good, 108s; inferior 80s to 90s; mixture and sainfoin, 90s to 100s; straw, 28s to 40s per load.

POTATOES.

Borough, Saturday.—Good supply again received, but demand very quiet, and only small business put through. Scotch Maincrops (Dunbars), 80s to 85s; Reading Giants Blacklands, 40s; Blackland Up-to-Dates, 55s; Lincoln ditto (Silts), 55s; Kent Up-to-Dates, 50s per ton.

Goole, Wednesday.—Trade dull; plenty of potatoes offering. Prices: 5s 3d to 5s 6d per load; best quality, 52s 6d per ton.

Great Northern, Saturday.—A good supply, but slow demand. Scotch Maincrops, 90s; Imperators, 40s; Blacklands, 40s to 42s 6d; Lincoln Maincrops, 75s to 80s; Up-to-Dates, 60s to 65s per ton.

Spitalfields, Saturday.—Very good supplies to hand, but trade dull, at about late prices. Best Lincoln Up-to-Dates, 55s to 65s; Blackland, 40s to 45s; Wisbech ditto, 50s to 55s; Scotch, 50s to 60s; Scotch Maincrops (grey soil), 60s; Lincoln Maincrops, 75s to 85s; Reading Giants, 35s to 40s; Blackland Gartons, 35s to 40s per ton.

MANURES.

Liverpool, Friday.—Nitrate of soda is in increased request, and late rates are well maintained. Sulphate of ammonia is in seasonable demand, likewise East India bone meal and kainit, whilst of superphosphate of lime agriculturists are purchasing very freely, considering the early part of the season. Feeding stuffs, however, are only in quiet demand, and in some instances prices favour buyers. At auction and otherwise some 4,500 bags American decorticated cotton cake meal sold at £6 2s 6d per ton. Nitrate of Soda, best quality, *i.e.*, guaranteed 95 per cent., pure, in bags, £10 10s per ton; East India Bone Meal, fair to prime, in bags, £4 1s 3d to £4 6s 3d per ton; Kainit, prime 23 per cent., in bags, £2 7s 6d to £2 10s per ton; Palm Nut Cake, prime, in bags, £5 15s per ton; Linseed Cake, American thin oblong, prime, in bags, £7 7s 6d to £7 11s 3d per ton; Linseed Cake, English, prime, in bulk, £8 12s 6d to £8 18s 9d per ton; Linseed Cake, foreign, thin oblong, prime, soft and oily, in bags, £8 5s to £8 7s 6d per ton; Cottonseed Cake, N.A. decorticated, in bags, £7 to £7 5s per ton; Cottonseed Cake, English, decorticated, prime, soft, in bags, £7 10s per ton; Cottonseed Cake, English, undecorticated, prime, in bulk, £4 10s to £4 15s per ton; Cottonseed Cake (crushed), 20/25 per cent. oil, prime, in bags, £7 3s 9d per ton; Maize Germ Meal, prime, in bags, £5 17s 6d to £6 per ton; Rice Meal, Rangoon, as imported, in bags, £5 5s to £5 7s 6d per ton; Indian Meal, coarse to fine grinding, prime, in bulk, 12s 9d to 13s per 240lb; Linseed, fine bold feeding, in bags, £3 1s to £3s 4s per qr, 416lb; D.N.S. Brand Superphosphate of Lime, guaranteed, 25 to 27 sol., in bags, £2 5s to £2 7s per ton; D.N.S. Brand Superphosphate of Lime, guaranteed, 30 to 31 sol., in bags, £2 10s to £2 12s per ton; Superphosphate of Lime, guaranteed, 35 to 36 sol., in bags, £3 to £3 2s per ton at depot; Basic Slag, prime quality, guaranteed, 30 to 35 per cent. phos., in bags, nominal; Basic Slag, prime quality, guaranteed, 35 to 40 per cent. phos., in bags, nominal; Basic Slag, finest quality, guaranteed, 38 to 45 per cent. phos., in bags, nominal.—H. Jones Langar and Co.

BUTTER.

Tuesday.—Bedale: 1s 6d to 1s 7d per roll of 24oz. Gainsborough: 1s 3d per lb. Leeds: York lump, 15s to 15s 6d per stone; long rolls, 1½lb, 1s 10d to 2s; fresh, 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Settle: 1s 1½d to 1s 2½d per lb. Spalding: 1s per lb. Stone: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb.

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Boston: 1s to 1s 1d per lb. Colne: 1s 2½d per lb. Goole: 1s 2d per lb. Keighley: Wholesale, 1s 2d; retail, 1s 3d per lb. Kirbymoorside: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Knaresborough: Wholesale, 1s 9d; retail, 1s 10d to 1s 11d per roll of 24oz. Louth: 1s 1d per lb. Market Weighton: 1s per lb. Masham: 1s 8d to 1s 9d per roll of 24oz. Northallerton: 1s 7d to 1s 9d per roll of 24oz. Worksop: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Worcester: 1s to 1s 2d per lb. Market Drayton: Best, 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb; seconds, 1s to 1s 1d per lb. Ipswich: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb.

Thursday.—Brigg: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Penistone: 1s 2d per lb. Ripon: 1s 8d to 2s 1d per roll of 24oz. Scarborough: 1s 3d per lb. Wetherby: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb.

Friday.—Easingwold: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Leyburn: 1s 6d to 1s 7d per 24 oz roll. Helmsley: 1s to 1s 2d per lb. Lincoln: 1s 2d per lb. Otley: 1s 8d to 1s 10d per 24 oz roll. Leeds: York lump, 15s to 15s 6d per stone; long rolls, 1½ lb., 1s 10d to 2s; fresh, 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb.

Saturday.—Appleby: 1s to 1s 2d per lb. Berwick: 10d per lb. Carlisle: 1s 2d to 1s 3 per lb. Doncaster: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Grantham: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Howden: 1s 2d per lb. Lancaster: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Malton: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Pontefract: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Retford: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Richmond: 1s to 1s 2d per lb. Skipton: 1s 1d to 1s 3d per lb. Stokesley: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Whitby: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. York: 1s 3d per lb.

EGGS.

Tuesday.—Bedale: 14 for 1. Gainsborough: 12 for 1s. Leeds: Yorkshire, 10s to 11s per 120. Settle: 13 to 15 for 1s. Spalding: 15 for 1s. Stone: 14 to 15 for 1s.

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 11 and 12 for 1s. Boston: 16 for 1s. Colne: 2s per score. Goole: 14 for 1s. Keighley: Wholesale, 13; retail, 12 for 1s. Kirbymoorside: 14 and 15 for 1s. Knaresborough: 13 and 14 for 1s. Louth: 16 for 1s. Market Weighton: 1s per lb. Masham: 15 and 16 for 1s. Northallerton: 13 and 14 for 1s. Worksop: 1s 6d per score. Market Drayton: 15 to 16 for 1s. Dorchester: 8d to 11d per doz. Ipswich: 12 to 14 for 1s.

Thursday.—Brigg: 16 to 17 for 1s. Penistone: 10 for 1s. Ripon: 14 to 15 for 1s. Scarborough: 14 for 1s. Wetherby 13 to 15 for 1s

Friday.—Easingwold: 12 to 14 for 1s. Helmsley: 15 to 16 for 1s. Leyburn: 17 to 18 for 1s. Lincoln: 15 or 16 for 1s. Otley: 13 or 15 for 1s.

Saturday.—Appleby: 15 to 17 for 1s. Berwick: 8d to 9d per dozen. Carlisle: 14 to 15 for 1s. Doncaster: 14 to 15 for 1s. Grantham: 14 to 17 for 1s. Howden: 16 for 1s. Lancaster: 12 to 14 for 1s. Malton: 16 to 17 for 1s. Pontefract: 14 for 1s. Retford: 1s 8d to 1s 10d per score. Richmond: 14 to 16 for 1s. Skipton: 12 or 13 for 1s. Stokesley: 13 or 14 for 1s. Whitby: 12 and 13 for 1s. York: 14 for 1s.

CHEESE.

Dorchester, Wednesday.—Best, 50s to 60s; seconds, 30s to 46s.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Smaller arrivals this week. Cheese, both in town and country, is getting into small compass; values keep firm. Cheddars and Dunlops are quoted 56s to 62s per cwt. There is a fair turnover in New Zealand and Canadian parcels at previous prices.

Leeds, Friday.—Finest Cheshire, 58s, 60s, to 85s; lump, 60s to 65s; American finests, 51s to 56s; and medium, 40s to 44s per 112 lb.

GAME AND POULTRY.

Smithfield, Saturday.—Although supplies limited, demand very slow. Fowls: Yorkshire, 2s 6d to 3s; Essex, 2s 9d to 3s 6d; Boston, 2s 6d to 2s 9d; Surrey, 3s 9d to 4s 6d; Sussex, 3s 6d to 4s; Welsh, 2s to 2s 6d; Irish, 2s to 2s 4d; turkeys, cocks, 6s to 7s 6d; hens, 4s to 5s; country ducks, 3s 6d to 4s; goslings, 6s to 7s 6d; pigeons, 7d to 1s; quail, 9d to 1s; wild rabbits, 6d to 8d; tame, 9d to 1s each; Australian rabbits, 8s to 10s 6d per dozen; wild duck, 1s 6d to 2s; widgeon, 1s to 1s 2d; pintail, 1s 1d to 1s 4d; teal, 10d to 1s; golden plover, 2d; black, 6d to 7d; Russan game: Capercailzie, 10d to 1s; black, 6d to 7d; hen, 1s 6d to 1s 9d; blackgame, 1s; cock, 2s to 2s 6d; hen, 1s 6d to 1s 9d; ptarmigan, 10d to 1s; brown partridges, 1s to 1s 2d; partridges, 1s to 1s 2d each. hares, 1s 6d to 1s 8d; white, 1s to 1s 2d each.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The weather has been very mild and open. There have been frequent showers, but the total rainfall in the country is small. There has been little interruption to spring sowings, and we hear of a larger area than formerly being devoted to oats, both in Great Britain and in France. The snow is melting in Russia; prematurely as many think. Reports of the winter wheat in the United States are more encouraging, but from Australasia the cable advises a poor yield of barley and oats where grown. New Zealand has 700,000 qrs. less oats than last year, and can apparently ship but little in 1902. India expects a fair yield of peas and small cereals, but the wheat is put at 20 per cent. below the average in the three chief provinces, and as much as 40 per cent. short in parts of the Punjab.

The American Bureau report of the 11th inst. represents stocks in farmers' hands to be about as follows, in millions of bushels:—

	Wheat.	Oats.	Maize.
March 11, 1902	156	198	394
,, 1901	128	293	776
,, 1900	159	291	774
,, 1899	158	283	860
,, 1898	121	272	783
,, 1897	88	242	1164
,, 1896	123	212	1072

It will be seen that farmers' reserves of oats and maize are the smallest within the seven years, but that the reserves of wheat on the farm are rather good.

The Argentine wheat crop, reaped in January, proves smaller than looked for, and the visible supply, cabled on Saturday, was as follows:—

	Qrs.
March 15, 1902	375,000
March 15, 1901	470,000
March 15, 1900	850,000

The following are the average arrivals weekly into the Metropolis since January 1st, 1900:—

Weekly rate of London arrivals.

Qrs.	1902 First ten weeks.	1901 year.	1900 year.
Wheat	26,100	46,490	41,380
Barley	22,000	18,222	13,075
Malt	21,850	19,408	20,300
Oats	63,430	94,897	86,220
Beans	1,390	1,024	1,010
Peas	1,820	1,903	2,320
Maize	45,750	33,213	33,520
Tares	1,217	428	440
Linseed, no returns		11,843	11,210
Rapeseed, no returns		402	590
Cottonseed, no returns		8,000	6,000
Farmseeds	3,527	3,301	2,657
Sacks.			
Flour	74,700	63,995	57,180

Oilseed returns are received monthly, and the figures for March are, of course, not complete. The small imports of foreign wheat and the large imports of foreign flour are a feature of this year's trade thus far which millers cannot be expected to welcome. The maize imports, principally from Russia and Roumania, have been extremely large.

The quantities of grain, etc., on passage to the United Kingdom on March 15th thus compare with the mid-month last year.

	1902.	1901.
Wheat, qrs.	3,820,000	3,400 000
Flour, sacks	265,000	420,000
Barley, qrs.	480,000	325,000
Beans, qrs.	8,000	11,000
Linseed, qrs.	340,000	315,000
Rapeseed qrs.	28,000	3,000
Cottonseed, qrs.	88,000	61,000

Maize figures will receive special consideration a little later on.

The wheat total is thus made up:—

	Qrs.
Californian	2,400,000
American	250.000
Argentine	250,000
Russian	60,000
Indian	100 000
Australasian	700,000
Other countries	50,000
Total	3,820,000

Imports of the United Kingdom last week were as follows:—

Wheat, 313,000qrs; a large supply.
Flour, 78,200sks; a small supply.
Barley, 140,000qrs; a fair average.
Oats, 51,000qrs; a meagre arrival.
Maize, 166,000qrs; below requirements.
Beans, 1,181qrs; a most scanty supply.
Peas, 8,100qrs; a moderate supply.

The demand for wheat has been poor of late, but English has sold better than imported descriptions. Flour is depressed; the great American firms are extremely ready to sell whenever the least upward movement occurs here, and this naturally puts a drag on the market. Barley sells well for seeding purposes, but the bigger trades for malt and grinding are inert. Oats are offered at a reduction on 304lb. sorts, but heavy oats maintain value. The Government have recently bought 3,000qrs. of U.S.A. oats at 21s. per qr.

The usable supply of maize in the U.S.A. is much smaller than at this time in 1901 and 1900, actual quantities being as follows:—

	Qrs.
March 15, 1902	1,206,000
,, 1901	2,306,000
,, 1900	2,295,000

Shipments from January 1st to March 15th were as follows for this year and last:—

	1902 Qrs.	1901 Qrs.
America	237,000	4,450,000
Argentina	120,000	130,000
Russia	1,600,000	189,000
Roumania	1,400,000	400,000
Turkey	295,000	50,000
Total	3,652,000	5,219,000

These figures are usual, as dissipating the very prevalent idea that the extraordinary efforts of Russia, Roumania, and even Turkey, and have made up for America's failure to ship. The efforts of the Old World shippers have been really surprising, but they have not merely made up the deficiency. On eleven weeks' business we are a net 1,567,000 qrs to the bad, which is equivalent to a rate of 7,385,000 qrs. for the year. These returns should have consideration from holders who, having lost heart for the moment, are inclined to press maize on sale. The quantity of maize on passage is now 440,000 qrs., against 630,000 qrs. in 1901, and 735,000 qrs. in 1900. The present expectations include 390,000 qrs. of round corn.

The markets for some minor staples may be briefly glanced at. Sorghum, which is a variety of millet, is offered as low as 19s. per 416lb., and at that price is a very cheap and nutritious ingredient in any ration for animals or birds. Rari is also cheap at 22s. to 24s., for of this staple a quarter weighs 480lb. Some extremely fine white millet on Friday made 52s., but the ordinary prices are as given in our quotations.

Farmseeds go into use at 65s. to 115s. for fine white clover seed; 50s. to £0s. for red. Canadian red clover seed is offered at 46s. to 56s. per cwt. English giant sainfoin is now in request at 70s. to 32s; English late red trifolium, at 38s. to 39s., and French early trifolium at 18s. to 21s. per cwt. Fine Luderne from Province touched on Friday 65s. per cwt.

Some split lentils from Egypt have recently made 14s. to 14s. 6d. per cwt., and some fenugreek from Morocco has been placed at £7 10s. per ton. Chi-Chi peas are held for 34s per qr., and locust beans are sold at 90s. to 110s per ton, according to quality.

LONDON TERM MARKET.

This market is held twice a day, except on Saturday, when there is no afternoon call. The market is open to elected members only. No business except for future delivery is done, and the smallest quantity that can be purchased is 1,000 quarters, or 4,800 centals. The name of the month stands for guaranteed delivery (if required) on or before the last day of that month, and the following have been the prices per cental recently made:—

WHEAT.—Calls.	March. s. d.	June. s. d.	Aug't. s. d.
March 10 11 a.m.	6 1 ... 6	2 ... 6	2
4 p.m.	6 2 ... 6	3 . 6	3
March 11 11 a.m.	6 2 ... 6	3 ... 6	4
4 p.m.	6 2 ... 6	3 ... 6	4
March 12 11 a.m.	6 2 ... 6	2 ... 6	3
4 p.m.	6 2 ... 6	2 ... 6	3
March 13 11 a.m.	6 2 ... 6	1 ... 6	3
4 p.m.	6 2 ... 6	1 ... 6	2
March 14 11 a.m.	6 2 ... 6	2 ... 6	2
4 p.m.	6 2 ... 6	2 ... 6	2
March 15 11 a.m.	6 2 ... 6	2 ... 6	2
To-day noon	6 2 ... 6	1 ... 6	2

Maize was not on offer for delivery before April. From after Easter to the end of June, 4s 6d per cental was quoted.

The Term Market standard wheat is No. 1 Northern Spring American sold on the Duluth certificate. Other sorts of wheat can be bought at the above prices plus or minus agreed difference between the other sort and the standard quality. Quotations are by the "true hundredweight" or cental of 100 lb. We do not give fractions of a penny per cental. The maize quoted is fair average quality from the United States.

The deposit required from members of the Term Market has been fixed at £50 minimum and 1s. per quarter margin on any purchases above 1,000 quarters.

The Term Market (while the "Baltic" is rebuilding) is temporarily situated at the Great Eastern Hotel, No. 190, Bishopsgate Street, ground floor.

THIS DAY'S MARKETS

MARK LANE, MONDAY.

[FIRST REPORT.]

There were few changes in British produce at the market to-day; in fact, wheat, barley, and oats of all types may be quoted at the currencies of a week ago. Old tares (English Winter) were in request at a good price, and 78s to 82s per qr was paid for fine Scotch tares. Foreign wheat was a trifle lower for Canadian and Duluth, and also for Californian, but Australian sorts were a little firmer. Indian wheat was scarcely on offer, but some Indian white peas were in evidence at 35s to 37s per qr. Maize was 1s lower on the week for some samples of round corn, but the usual decline was 9d, being 3d recovery from the very depressed markets of the 12th and 14th. Oats were 6d lower for South Russian and Turkish, but for the Konigsberg and Swedish offerings full prices were current. Linseed was 1s cheaper on the week. Barley was steady for all imported descriptions, but the enquiry was not good, either for malting or for feeding purposes. Foreign beans and peas were without appreciable change.

QUOTATIONS OFF STANDS.

March 17, 1902.

BRITISH GRAIN.

	s.	s.
WHEAT, White (new) (per 504 lb.)	29	— 31
,, (old) ,,	30	— 32
Red (new) ,,	28	— 30
,, (old) ,,	29	— 30
Chicken or Feed (per 480 lb.)	26	— 28
BARLEY, Malting (per 448 lb.)	31	— 37
Brewing ,,	27	— 30
Feeding (per 400 lb.)	24	— 26
MALT, English (per 336 lb.)	35	— 41
Scotch ,,	37	— 39
Black ,,	30	— 32
Brown ,,	29	— 32
Crystallized ,,	33	— 35
OATS, English, Black Winter ,,	22	— 24
,, Black Tartary ,,	21	— 22
,, Grey Winter ,,	22	— 24
,, White Tartary ,,	21	— 22
Scotch ,,	22	— 24
Irish (per 304 lb.)	19	— 20
RYE, British (per 480 lb.)	23	— 25
BEANS, Pigeon ,,	36	— 40
Winter ,,	31	— 35
Mazagan ,,	30	— 32
PEAS, Best Marrowfat (per 504 lb.)	65	— 75
Blue (boiling) ,,	60	— 70
Dun ,,	31	— 32
Maple ,,	36	— 40
TARES, Scotch Gores ,,	78	— 82
Winter Old ,,	68	— 72
,, Ordinary ,,	54	— 60
Spring ,, ,,	44	— 45

FOREIGN GRAIN.

(Ex-Granary.)

	s.	s.
WHEAT, per 496 lb.		
Old Duluth	31/9	—32/
Manitoba No. 1	31 6	—32
American Spring	31	—31 6
Red Winter	30/3	—31
Hard ,,	30	—30/6
Kansas	30	—30/3
Californian	30/3	—30/9
Walla Walla	29/6	—30
Australian	31	—31/3
New Zealand	29	—30/6
Argentine	None	
Panzig	31	— 33
Saxonka	30	— 31
Azima	30	— 31
Ghirka	29	— 30
Indian	None	
MAIZE, per 480 lb.:		
Russian	21/6	—22
Roumanian	21/6	—22
Turkish	22	—22/6
American	26	—26/6
Argentine	22	— 23
OATS:		
N' Zeal'd (Best)	27	— 31
N. Zeal'd (Bluff)	25	— 27
N. Zeal'd (Dun)	23	— 25
Canadian (320 lb.)	20	— 21
American (320 lb.)	20	— 21
Prussian (320 lb.)	20	— 21
N. Russ'n (304 lb.)	19	— 20
South ,, (304 lb.)	18	— 19
Turkish (304 lb.)	17/9	— 18
BEANS, per 480 lb.:		
Egyptian	33	— 34
Smyrna	31	— 32
New Zealand	34	— 36
LOCUST BEANS, per ton:		
Italian	102	— 104
Cyprian	106	— 112
Portuguese	105	— 107
PEAS, per 504 lb.:		
Canadian, White	37	— 38
Australian, White	41	— 42
New Zeal'd Maple	39	— 41
Indian White	35	— 37
MILLET, per 416 lb.:		
White	33	— 45
Red	25	— 27
Yellow	20	— 24
Sorghum	19	— 20
DARI, per 480 lb.:		
Smyrna	24	— 25
Persian	21	— 23
RYE, per 480 lb.		
Russian	24	— 25
BUCKWHEAT, per 416 lb		
French	24	— 25
Russian	24	— 26
TARES, per 504 lb.:		
Konigsberg	44	— 43
BARLEY:		
Saale (448 lb.)	38	— 40
Hungarian (448 lb.)	32	— 40
New Zeal'd (448 lb.)	26	— 29
Chilian (448 lb.)	32	— 34
Californian (448 lb.)	26	— 33
Danish (448 lb.)	28	— 30
French (448 lb.)	27	— 29
Danubian (400 lb.)	19	— 20
Ouchak (400 lb.)	24	— 32
Yerli (400 lb.)	21	— 22
Russian (400 lb.)	19	— 21
MALT, per 336 lb:		
Californian	35	— 36
Smyrna	35	— 30

OIL SEEDS.

LINSEED, per 416 lb.	s.	s.
English	57	to 59
Dutch	56	to 58
Bombay	57	to 59
Calcutta	54	to 56
Russian	56	to 57
Argentine	49	to 51
SESAME, per 424 lb.		
Indian	50	to 52
COTTON SEED per ton.		
Egyptian	126	to 128

RAPESEED, per 416 lb	s.	s.
English	56	to 60
Calcutta	41	to 43
Guzerat	42	to 44
Ferozepore	37	to 39
Jamba	29	to 30
Ravison	28	to 29
POPPYSEED, per 377 lb.		
Indian	47	to 49
SUNFLOWERSEED, per 44 lb.		
Russian	46	to 50

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

THE MARKET CLOSED WITH A BETTER FEELING FOR SOUND MAIZE. THE CARGOES RECENTLY PUT ON SALE AT A SACRIFICE HAVING NOW BEEN WORKED OFF IN RETAIL. OTHER STAPLES WERE DULL, BUT THE FINAL FEELING OF THE DAY WAS LESS DESPONDENT THAN THE TONE AT THE OPENING.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE Monday

The market to-day was steady for the four London sorts, but the five principal country descriptions all favoured buyers. Recent arrivals from Norfolk and Suffolk have considerably exceeded the average. Foreign flour showed little change, but the tone was weak. Country bran is 4s. to 6s. per ton cheaper on the fortnight. Some decline must also be recorded on bisouit and other middlings. We are able now to give a closer quotation for maize germ meal, which in February was irregular. Oatmeal previously quoted 230s. to 290s. per ton may now be divided into Scotch at 260s. to 230s., and Canadian at 200s. to 260s. About 5s. per ton decline on rice meal has also to be chronicled. Whole meal and wheat germ meal are firm.

LONDON FLOUR.

		s.
Top Price	(per sack)	— 25
Town Whites	,,	— 28
,, Households	,,	— 22
No. 2	,,	— 20

COUNTRY FLOUR.

Best Patents	(per sack)	22/6 — 24
Fine Roller made	,,	20 6 — 22
Ordinary Roller made	,,	19/6 — 21
Best Stone made	,,	19/6 — 20
Ordinary Stone made	,,	19 —19 6

FOREIGN FLOUR.

Minnesota First Patents	(per sack)	23 — 24
,, Second Patents	,,	21 — 22
,, First Bakers'	,,	19 — 20
,, Second Bakers'	,,	17 — 18
Milwaukee Patents	,,	22 — 23
,, Bakers	,,	17 — 18
Kansas Patents	,,	23 — 24
,, Bakers'	,,	18 — 19
Cascadia	,,	22 — 23
Canadian	,,	22 — 23
Australian Patents	,,	20 — 21
,, Straight	,,	19 — 20
Hungarian	,,	30 — 33
Russian	,,	28 — 30
French	,,	20 — 22

MEAL, &c.

Whole Meal	(per ton	172—174
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	115—117
Bran, London Broad	,,	102—112
,, ,, Fine	,,	88— 92
,, Country Flake	,,	118—120
,, ,, Broad	,,	100—102
Pollard	,,	88—91
Biscuit Middlings	,,	115—117
Fine Middlings	,,	113—115
Coarse Middlings	,,	93—100
Feeding Flour (Red Dog)	,,	110—112
Barley Meal	,,	124—128
Rye Flour	,,	150—155
Canadian Oatmeal	,,	200—260
Scotch Oatmeal	,,	260—300
Oat Flour	,,	340—360
Maize Flour	,,	164—166
Maize Meal	,,	110—120
Maize Cones	,,	172—174
Maize Germ Meal	,,	117—119
Pea Meal	,,	130—150
Bean Meal	,,	145—165
Rice Meal	,,	95—100

LONDON FLOUR MILLERS' ASSOCIATION

OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1901.

		London Whites.		Town Households.	
		s.	d.		s. d.
September 2	(per sack)	26	0	(per sack) 23	0
,, 18	,,	25	6	,, 22	6
December 9	,,	26	6	,, 23	6
January 29	,,	26	0	,, 23	0

COMPARATIVE AVERAGES.

Comparative statement for the corresponding week to March 15th, in each of the years from 1897 to 1901.

	WHEAT. Qrs	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
1897	47,905¾	27	11	28,273	22	8	14,151⅛	16	2
1898	51,984¼	35	6	29,480⅝	28	0	15,775⅜	17	1 0
1899	67,262¼	25	10	34,456⅜	26	3	17,588⅛	16	1 0
1900	76,435⅜	25	10	45,0 3	24	6	20,104⅜	16	1 1
1901	55,073⅜	25	9	36,968	25	1	14,010	17	0

FOREIGN CORN.

Hamburg, Saturday.—Trade quiet, prices tending in buyers' favour. The imports during the week amounted to 6,550 tons wheat, 1,933 tons rye, 3,061 tons barley, 9,959 tons maize. There is but little demand for wheat, millers in the interior complaining of a slow sale of flour. Spot parcels, being scarce, are still held at last week's prices: 23s to 23s 3d per 480lb for Hard Winter 2, and River Plate. 39s 6d per 500lb for Walla Walla, while later deliveries are cheaper, Manitoba No. 2 April-May being offered at 27s 9d, No. 2 Northern Spring at 28s, Hard Winter 2 at 28s 9d per 480lb, Walla Walla April-June 29s 6d per 500.b. Rye unaltered. 9 15-20 South Russian March-April is held at 23s 3d per 480lb. Good Bohemian barley is taken by our brewers at 30s 6d to 33s; Pomeranian at 27s to 28s; Mecklenburg at 27s 6d to 28s 6d per 448lb f.o.b. Good Saale, to arrive per barge, is offering at 29s 3d to 31s; fine Saale at 32s to 34s 6d per 448lb f.o.b. Danubian and Russian feeding barley, 18s to 18s 6d per 400lb c.i.f. A steady trade is doing in European maize, Danubian and Odessa selling at 20s 9d to 21s 1d, Turkish at 21s 9d per 480lb c.i.f. Hamburg. River Plate April-May at 21s 6d, and Mixed American at 25s meet less attention.—JOHN TATLOCK.

HOPS.

London, Monday.—W. H. and H. Le May report:—A quiet tone prevails, caused chiefly by the scarceness of stocks. All descriptions are now in an exceedingly small compass.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORTS.

The wheat market is somewhat steadier in tone, prices remaining generally unaltered on the week. Maize is dearer, the quantity on passage having greatly decreased. Round descriptions have improved 9d. from last Monday.—WOOD AND CO.

Flour.—There has been a quiet trade to-day, at prices unaltered since this day week.—T. S. MEDILL AND SONS.

We have liberal arrivals of wheat and flour. Trade is firm and prices are unchanged. Maize has recovered from the late depreciation, and is 9d. and 1s. per qr. dearer. Barley is 3d. per qr. lower for grinding qualities. Oats are unchanged. —COVENTRY (Mark Lane).

The demand for milling offals is slow, at last Monday's prices.—JOHN BAWCOMB AND CO.

Offals.—There is no new feature to report in the bran trade. The demand continues much below what is usual at this season of the year.—GREENHILL BROTHERS (Belfast).

Flour.—The dulness of the past few weeks still continues. Quotations nominally the same; buyers, however, less eager to purchase than sellers to make sales. Values on spot are as follows:—First spring patents, 24s. 9d. to 25s. 3d.; second spring patents, 23s. 9d. to 24s. 3d.; American winter patents, 24s. 9d. to 25s. 3d.; extra fancies, 23s. to 23s. 6d.—GREENHILL BROTHERS (Belfast).

Flour.—The trade continues without change, buyers only purchasing from hand to mouth. Grain.—Flat corn meets a small demand at firm prices. Round corn is 3d. per boll lower. Beans are in few hands, and very firm. Canadian pease continue scarce, but Calcutta white pease fill the feeding demand. Mill Stuffs.—Bran for immediate delivery is scarce; thirds, however, are dull.—MCKINNON AND MCDONALD (Glasgow).

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Monday.—Linseed cake: Market dull, prices unchanged. Decorticated cottoncake and meal steady. Undecorticated are a poor sale at last prices. Linseed: Calcutta has fallen again 6d to 1s per qr.; other sorts unchanged.

English Linseed Cake	ex mill	8	5	0 to 8	7	6
American Calcutta Linseed Cake	ex quay					
American Western ,,	ex quay	7	2	6 to 7	10	0
,, ,, ,,	ex quay	7	0	0 to 7	2	6
Russian Oil Cake	ex quay	7	10	0 to 7	17	6
Decorticated Cotton Cake	ex quay	6	5	0 to 6	10	0
,, ,, Meal	ex quay	6	5	0 to 6	7	6
London-made ,, Cake (best)	ex mill	4	7	6 to 4	10	0
Egyptian ,, ,, ,, (in bags)	ex quay	4		0 to 4	7	6
Burton Desiccated Ale Grains (bags included)	on rail, Burton					
Dutch Linseed (in bags), per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse	2	18	0 to 3	0	0
Calcutta Linseed in bags, per 410 lbs.	ex warehouse	2	11	0		
La Plata do. per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse					
Russian Linseed in bulk, per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse	2	14	0 to 2	18	0

ROBERT AND JOHN HEWETSON.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—The arrivals from Ireland last week were 1,728 bales bacon, and from foreign ports 10,364 bales bacon. Bacon.—With a considerably improved demand for all descriptions of bacon the market was very firm all the week, and on Friday prices of Irish and Danish were advanced 2s all round. Canadian was unchanged. Current quotations were as follows:—Irish, 54s to 60s, up to 63s; Danish, 52s to 56s, up to 57s; Canadian, 48s to 52, up to 54s. Butter.—Butter was very quiet indeed, and prices were again lower for every description. Danish, 108s to 110s, exceptionally 112s; Colonial, 102 to 106s, up to 108s. Lard.—Lard quite unchanged. Market steady.

THE BALTIC, 1 p.m.

STATE OF TRADE.

The market for wheat cargoes is not brisk, and there are some weak holders willing to accept 3d. less money. Barley is steady for malting and feeding sorts alike, but there are not many offers. Oats are firmer for New Zealand cargoes, and also for Turkish, but Russian are flat. Maize is weak, and the offers of Argentine for May and June shipment tell upon the trade generally. Linseed is firmer for Indian cargoes, and the cottonseed trade is once more in holders' favour.

BUSINESS DONE.

WHEAT.—Californian, 29s 3d, April shipment; Walla Walla, 29s, April shipment; Victorian, 30s, April shipment; Argentine, 29s 6d, April shipment; No. 1 Northern, 29s 3d, on passage; No. 1 Northern, 29s, April shipment; No. 2 Hard Winter, 28s 6d, April shipment; Red Kurrachee, 29s, April shipment.

MAIZE.—Roumanian, 21s 6d, June shipment; Galatz, 22s, on passage; Galatz, 21s 9d, April shipment; Argentine, 21s 6d, May shipment; Argentine, 21s 3d, June shipment; American, 25s 6d, April shipment.

BARLEY.—Kustenje, 18s 3d, April shipment; Californian, f.a.q., 23s 9d, on passage.

OATS.—Odessa, 18s 6d, on passage; Vologda, 18s, June shipment.

LINSEED.—Argentine, 48s 9d, arrived; Bombay, 54s, April shipment; Calcutta, 51s 6d, May shipment.

COTTONSEED.—Egyptian, £6 13s 9d, arrived; Egyptian, £6 15s, on passage; Egyptian, £6 12s 6d, June shipment; Egyptian, £6 5s, November shipment (new crop).

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

Monday, March 17th, 1902.

	British.	Total. Mar. 18, 1901.
Beasts	1,110	900
Sheep and lambs	8,990	9,720
Calves	10	—
Pigs	20	—
Milch cows	40	60

Quotations per 8lb (sinking the offal).

	Inferior. s. d.	Second. s. d.	First. s. d.
ENGLISH.			
Beasts	2 6	3 10	4 8
Sheep	3 10	5 0	5 8
Lambs	6 0	7 2	8 0

Milch cows, per head, £15 to £22 10s.

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, 10; Eastern counties, 677; Midland, home and Western counties, 227; Devon, 20; Ireland, 176.

In the beast market to-day, compared with Monday last, showed a slight decrease, due to smaller arrivals from Scotland and Norfolk. Trade was of a weaker nature, both for prime and second quality, but the slight decline in value scarcely altered late rates; fat cows and bulls being in light supply met with a steadier trade. Amongst the Irish arrivals were 58 stores, which were quoted at from £11 10s to £13 10s per head.

The following are top quotations per 8 lbs. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day.	Monday, Mar. 18, 1901.
Scotch	4s. 7d to 4s 8d	..
Devons	4s 6d to 4s 8d	.. 4s 4d to 4s 6d
Lincolns	4s 4d to 4s 6d	.. 4s 0d to 4s 3d
Irish	4s 3d to 4s 4d	.. 4s 2d to 4s 3d
Fat cows	3s 10d to 4s 0d	.. 3s 6d to 3s 8d
Norfolks	4s 6d to 4s 8d	.. 4s 4d to 4s 6d

In the Sheep Market to-day, compared with Monday last, there was also a decrease, though the number penned showed a larger proportion of lambs, which were in steady request, the best making late rates; a slight decline for second quality, as also for ewes. Wether sheep were slow of sale, but steady in regard to value; the supply included 390 Scotch and 4,540 from the Eastern counties.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8lb (sinking the offal), and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day.	March 18, 1901
7½ to 8 st. Downs	5s 6d to 5s 8d	.. 5s 10d to 6s 0d
9 st. Downs	5s 4d to 5s 6d	.. 5s 8d to 5s 10d
10 st. half-breds	5s 0d to 5s 2d	.. 5s 4d to 5s 6d
12 st. Lincolns	4s 8d to 4s 10d	.. 5s 2d to 5s 4d
10 st. Down ewes	4s 4d to 4s 6d	.. 5s 0d to 5s 2d
11 st. half-bred do.	4s 0d to 4s 2d	.. 4s 10d to 5s 0d
5 st. Down lambs	7s 10d to 8s 0d	.. 7s 10d to 8s 0d
6 st. half-bred do.	7s 2d to 7s 4d	.. 7s 4d to 7s 6d

London (Central), Monday.—Large supplies; trade very slow. Beef carcases, 3s 10d to 3s 11d; hindquarters, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; roastings, 5s 4d to 5s 8d. Sheep: Ewe, 3s to 3s 4d; wether, 4s to 4s 4d; hindquarters, ewe, 4s to 4s 4d; wether, 5s to 5s 4d. Pigs: Large, 3s 8d to 4s; small, 4s to 4s 4d.

St. Ives, Monday.—Beasts, 502; sheep, 1,189; pigs, 285. Beef, 7s 6d to 8s 3d; mutton, 7s 7d to 9s 4d; pork, 6s 6d to 7s 6d; sows, 5s 6d to 6s 6d. Fat cattle sharp trade; stores fair. Fat and store sheep better trade. Fat and store pigs good demand; dearer. Milch cows fair trade; prices, £14 to £23.

FOREIGN CATTLE.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts, 509. To-day's supply compared with Monday last showed a decrease of 541, and consisted entirely of shipments from the United States, trade for which was of a rather slow nature, at a slight decline in value, a decrease being forced. The best on offer to dress about 680lbs. made 4s 4d per 8lbs, offal given in. Second quality were quoted at 4s 2d No sheep on the market. On Saturday 1,747 beasts from the United States and 303 sheep were on the market, both meeting with a slow trade, the former at from 4s 3d to 4s 5d per 8lbs., whilst best pens of sheep were quoted at 4s 4d. The following were the numbers on offer on the corresponding day last year, with the current top rates:—Beasts, 946, 4s 2d to 4s 3d per 8lbs. to dress about 720lbs. No sheep on the market.

Liverpool, Monday.—There was a smaller supply of cattle in market to-day. Demand fair and prices unchanged. Sheep supply larger; demand good, and prices again in favour of sellers; a good clearance effected. Beef, 6½d to 5d per lb.; mutton, 8½d to 6d per lb. At market 1,001 cattle and 4,831 sheep.

Irish Live Weight Quotations.

(Department of Agriculture and General Instruction for Ireland.)

The following returns are those of actual sales made in Robson's Cattle Mart, Belfast, the stock being weighed either before or after sale, for the week ending March 15th, 1902.

No. of Beasts.	Description and Quality.	Average price per head. £ s. d.	Average Live weight. c. qr. lb	Average price per cwt. £ s. d.
1	Bullocks (prime) ...	19 10 0	11 0 14	1 15 1
1	,, ,, ...	22 0 0	12 3 0	1 14 6
2	,, ,, ...	20 0 0	11 3 0	1 14 1
3	,, ,, ...	17 11 4	10 1 9	1 14 0
2	,, (very good) ...	18 0 0	10 2 21	1 13 8
1	,, ,, ...	14 5 0	8 2 14	1 13 1
2	,, ,, ...	13 0 0	7 3 24	1 12 8
2	,, (good) ...	13 10 0	8 2 3	1 11 8
1	,, ,, ...	15 0 0	9 2 0	1 11 7
1	,, ,, ...	14 0 0	9 0 7	1 10 11
1	,, (fair) ...	15 5 0	10 1 0	1 9 9
2	,, ,, ...	12 0 0	8 0 10	1 9 8
2	Heifer (prime) ...	12 5 0	7 1 0	1 13 10
1	,, (very good) ...	16 5 0	9 3 21	1 12 8
1	,, (good) ...	14 5 0	9 1 7	1 10 7
1	Cow (prime) ...	21 5 0	14 2 0	1 9 4
1	,, (very good) ...	15 15 0	11 2 0	1 7 5
1	,, ,, ...	17 5 0	12 2 21	1 7 4
1	,, ,, ...	17 10 0	13 0 0	1 6 11
1	,, (good) ...	14 0 0	10 2 14	1 6 4

* Indicates that the lot so marked was sold by live weigh at the price quoted.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW.

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS.")

Trade in London.

At the Islington Market during the week, with a rather larger supply, mostly consisting of consignments from Norfolk, Polled Aberdeens being conspicuous by their absence, trade on both days was again of a very dragging nature with, for both prime and second quality, a marked downward tendency in value, especially towards the close of Monday's business, a few beasts being turned out unsold; on the other hand, fat butchering cows and bulls were steady in price owing to a steady demand and a shorter supply, most of the former being bought by country buyers. Very few rough cattle were on offer, sales of which were most difficult to make, so many having lately been seized on account of tuberculosis. At Deptford trade on the three market days, viz., Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday, was fairly steady, both in regard to tone and value. The total number on offer at both markets was 5,087, as against 3,897 during the previous week; the supply consisted of 1,390 British (increase 230) and 3,697 foreign (increase 960); the latter comprised 3,475 from the United States and 222 from Canada. The following were the top rates paid per 8lb., sinking the offal:—90-stone Scotch 4s. 8d., 90-stone polled Norfolks 4s. 8d., 100-stone Shorthorn ditto 4s. 6d. to 4s. 7d., 100-stone Lincolns 4s. 6d., 95-stone Irish 4s. 4d., 85-stone States 4s. 5d., 90-stone Canadians 4s. 2d., 100-stone fat cows 3s. 10d. to 4s., 100-stone fat bulls 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d. The trade for sheep, both wethers and ewes, was of a firmer and steadier nature, even at an advance on Monday of 2d. per 8lb., but proved extremely dull on Thursday, on which day very few sales were recorded. For lambs there was a good inquiry, but Dorsets ruled lower in price on account of the larger number on sale; choice Downs, to weight from 36 to 40lb., sold readily at higher rates. At Deptford trade ruled slower, there being less competition. The total number penned at both markets was 12,587 (previous week 10,847), consisting of 10,600 British and 1,987 from the United States. Best pens made per 8lb. as follows, sinking the offal:—7½ to 8 stone Downs 5s. 8d., 9-stone ditto 5s. 4d., 10-stone ditto 5s. 2d., 8-stone Scotch 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d., 10-stone halfbreds 4s. 10d. to 5s., 12-stone Lincolns 4s. 8d. to 4s. 10d., 10-stone Down ewes 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d., 8½-stone States 4s. 4d., 5-stone fat Down lambs 8s., 5-stone Dorset ditto 6s. 6d. to 6s. 8d. Only 25 calves on the market; trade slow; best quoted at 6s. per 8lb. The pig trade, with a light supply (55), was very dull; top value, best small breeds, 4s. 6d. per 8lb.

Trade in the West.

With a continuance of exceptionally fine weather, which is highly favourable for late sowings, though rain is badly wanted, trade keeps unusually buoyant, especially for store things, for which there is a very brisk demand all through the country. Great difficulty is experienced in meeting the inquiry for milch beasts, especially heavy-milking heifers, which buyers are much bent on acquiring for town dairies, the high price demanded—from £18 to £22 each—seemingly having but little effect in checking sales. Other heifers of a useful class are equally sought after, at from £16 15s. to £17 15s., whilst cows are also very saleable at from £12 to £16 or £17. In-calf beasts, especially the earlier class, are also selling well; in fact, the trade is very dear for anything where milk is concerned. Barroners are likewise much wanted, for those speedily turning in, and, although prices keep fairly firm, ranging for the best from £21 to £27 10s. per pair. Fat bullocks keep up very well in value, the tendency being, if anything, rather towards higher prices than otherwise; good class heifers sell from £16 to £22, and steers £19 to £26 10s. (or 11s. 6d. to 12s. per score for the best, and 11s. for anything not too ripe or well finished; fat cows, £15 to £17 (or 10s. to 10s. 6d.); and bulls, £14 10s. to £19 15s. (or about 9s. to 9s. 6d.). The veal trade also keeps very firm, with every prospect of a good trade for Easter. The best may be quoted as making £4 10s. to £6 15s. (or over 8d. if well finished); seconds, 56s. to 83s. (or 7½d.); and rearers, 30s. to 45s. Mutton shows no sign of recovery in price, though evidence is not wanting of undoubted scarcity in the country; yet, in spite of this, wethers, which range from 48s. to 54s., rarely exceed 7½d. per lb., and plenty of the rougher grades sell for less money; and ewes from 40s. to 50s. (or 6½d. to 7d.). Lambs are meeting a trifle better sale, some of the best having this week touched 42s. a piece (or 9d. to 9½d. per lb), though a more average price is 32s. to 38s. (or 8½d. to 9d.). The inquiry for a better grade of fat pigs (baconers and porkers) keeps very active, good class porkers of the best weights selling at 10s. 6d. to 11s., and baconers about 10s.; heavier pigs are scarcely so saleable, but prices keep fairly steady, but very little is doing as yet in store sheep, a few couples finding buyers at local markets at from 48s. to 57s. 6d. Most of the other sheep now coming out are either fat or a very little way from it.

Trade in Scotland.

John Swan and Sons, Limited, give the following as their report on above for the current week:—The supplies of fat cattle on offer this week have been rather larger. The best class of bullocks met a good trade, and prices have been quite as high, and in some cases a little higher, than those currant last week. Fat cows and bulls have been a large show, and continue to make good prices. There have been also large supplies of fat sheep coming forward. With the better returns from the London markets, trade has been steady, and prices for sheep adapted for the South have been better to the extent of fully 2s. a head, while shop sheep have also met a good demand at rather higher prices. Fat lambs, if of good quality, are easily sold, but fat calves have been a small show, and met a dear trade, while pigs have made exceedingly high prices. In the store markets the number of sheep offered has been, although small for the time of year, considerably in excess of last week. There has been a fairly good demand, and prices have been better all over, an easy clearance being effected. Store cattle have been an average show, but the quality has generally been indifferent. There has been a fair demand for a few well-conditioned bullocks and nice stocks, but the general run of the cattle on offer met a stiff trade, and a considerable number have been left unsold. A large and good show of milch cows met a stiffer trade, at prices from 10s. to 20s. a head, in buyers' favour. Quotations: Top price of cattle per live cwt., 37s. to 39s.; current, 35s. to 37s.; mutton, from 7d. to 8d. per lb.

Trade in Ireland.

Last Thursday's Dublin Market was pretty nearly on a par with that of the previous week so far as supplies were concerned, there being 1,595, or an increase of 46 cattle; and 3,836 sheep, a decrease of 62. The attendance of buyers, too, was much the same, but there was a decided improvement in the tone of business for home requirements, and good second-class beeves moved off more readily at last week's rates. The shipping trade, however, was very slow, and it was very hard to get rid of coarse unfinished stock, which formed a big percentage of those on offer. The numbers of cattle and sheep penned were very much below those of the corresponding ones of 1901, there being 285 head of cattle and 388 sheep less, and yet a clearance could not be effected in either department, clearly proving that the arrivals of foreign beef and mutton must be largely on the increase. Best ox and heifer beef was worth from 54s. to 57s. 6d. per cwt., and a few extra choice lots made up to 60s., and one small lot touched 63s. per cwt.; good, second class, from 48s. to 52s. 6d.; and other descriptions from 42s. to 52s. 6d. per cwt. There was a slight revival in the sheep department, the inquiry being brisker, and last day's rates were well maintained; aged wethers, choice ewes, and mountain sheep going extremely well. Best wethers made from 6¾d. to 7¼d., and cheviots ¼d. per lb. more; ewes, from 5¼d. to 6½d.; and inferior sheep from 4½d. per lb. upwards. The shipping inquiry was still very limited, but a fair number of hoggets were shipped for Liverpool and Manchester markets. While there was no difficulty in placing choice sheep, the common descriptions were hard to dispose of at irregular prices, and a large proportion of the rougher sorts failed to clear. Lamb is coming in plentifully, but owing to the variability in size and condition it was hard to quote prices. The best home lambs sold for about 36s. each, and grass lambs made a little more, the extreme figure being about 40s. For small, thin lambs very up-and-down prices were paid. Best veal in brisk demand at from 8d to 9d. per lb., but coarse calves were very hard to dispose of at from 4½d. upwards. Milch cows in limited supply, and with not much demand; best springers made the reduced rates of last week, but middling and inferior sorts were very hard to turn into cash. The store cattle trade is showing a little more animation, and some very large sales were held during the week, when a fairly good business was done.

There was a full average supply of pigs, and the usual attendance of buyers, but trade ruled very tame, and after opening at last week's rates closed about from 1s. to 2s. per cwt. worse for the ordinary run. Choice small-weight hogs made from 46s. to 48s. per cwt., and coarse and inferior from 35s. upwards.

LONDON.

Islington, Thursday.—Beast supplies fair, the bulk consisting of fat bulls and rough cattle. The demand was of a quiet character, but prices were unchanged. Fat bulls, 3s 2d to 3s 4d. Supplies of sheep were good, but experienced very slow support, prices being generally easier. 7½-stone to 8-stone Down wethers, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; 9-stone ditto, 5s 2d; 10-stone half-breds, 4s 10d to 5s; 10-stone Down ewes, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; and 11-stone half-bred ditto, 4s to 4s 4d. Lambs dull and lower. 5-stone Downs, 6s 4d to 6s 8d. Calves firm and dearer, the best on offer, making 5s 8d to 6s per 8 lbs., to sink the offal. Pig trade and supply nominal. Total supplies: Beasts, 90; sheep, 1,260; calves, 20; cows, 5; and pigs, 10.

COUNTRY.

Basingstoke, Wednesday.—At Raynbird and Sons' Sale Yard there was a fair attendance of buyers to meet a supply of 34 fat beasts, 52 calves, 333 fat sheep and lambs, and 50 head of dairy and store cattle, for which the following prices were realised:—Prime Devon beasts, up to £23 10s; shorthorns, up to £22 10s; well-fed Welsh run up to £21 10s; heifers realised £17 10s; and bulls up to £19 10s. Prime quality fat sheep realised from 48s to 53s 6d; 13 months old ditto, 36s to 48s; fat sucking lambs, 33s 6d to 38s; fat ewes, 41s to 56s 6d; fat calves, 65s to £5 13s; small, 20s to 45s; dairy cows, up to £20 5s. A clearance made of the short supply of fat beasts at full prices. A short supply and a better show of fat sheep and lambs, with a good attendance of buyers, met a better trade all round. For the best class dairy cows and heifers, prices ruled higher than last week; secondary sorts met a slow trade. Fat calves are very dear, the supply being unequal to the demand. An easy clearance was made. Ruling values:—Prime Devon beasts, 7d to 7¼d; ditto shorthorn, 6½d to 6¾d; bulls, cows, and inferior beasts, 5d to 6d per lb.; best quality fat sheep, 7¼d to 8¼d; second ditto, 6d to 7d.; fat sucking lambs, 9d to 10d; old ewes, rams, and inferior sheep, 5d to 6d per lb.; fat calves, 7d to 8¾d per lb.

Boston, Wednesday.—Strong stores, £14 to £16; drapes, £12 to £14; in-calvers, £19 to £21 5s.; heifers, £17 to £19; calves, 55s to 60s; hogs, 36s to 41s each; best beef, 7s 6d; cow beef, 6s 6d to 7s per stone; fine wether mutton, 7d to 7½d; ewe, 5½d to 6d per lb.

Braintree, Wednesday.—A satisfactory improvement in trade at Messrs Ball's auction mart. Prices for fat stock well up to the average.

Bristol, Thursday.—Beef in large supply to-day, mostly secondary quality. Trade steady for best animals, at 60s. per cwt., 62s being paid in a few cases; secondary qualities, 56s. Mutton: Short supply; trade quiet. Light wethers, 7½d to 7¾d per lb; heavy wethers, 7d; ewes, 5½d. High prices asked for store cattle; restricted trade.

Bury, Wednesday.—There was about an average number of fat beasts. With a full attendance of buyers from distant counties and local purchasers, a good trade prevailed, at late rates. Rather more store cattle, including several lots of good quality, all of which found ready buyers. Very short supply of fat sheep. Trade in consequence ruled sharp, the supply being insufficient for the demand. Several lots of store sheep were penned, and these met a better trade, at more money for all descriptions. Fair average show of pigs, and a sharp trade prevailed, at fully late rates for both fat and store pigs.

Calne, Friday.—Present prices for prime pigs, in lots of not less than 10, on rail within 100 miles of Calne.

Prime Stores.	Thickness of fat in any part of the Back.	Price per Sc. s.	d.
6 sc. 10 lbs. to 9 sc. 10 lbs.	2½ in. and under ...	9	6
Under 10 sc.	Not exceeding 2½ in. ...	9	0
Under 11 sc. 10 lb.	... Not exceeding 2¾ in. ...	8	6
Under 12 sc.	... Not exceeding 3 in. ...		

—C. & T. Harris & Co., Ld.

Cambridge, Monday.—Beasts, 251; sheep, 506; horses, 5. Beef, 7s to 8s 6d; mutton, 4s 4d to 5s 4d. A few lots of store beasts, and trade slow. Fat beasts: A fair number to hand; prices better. Fat sheep: A better trade all round. Stores: Only a few lots shown, and trade fair. Market closed for pigs. Hay, straw, and roots: Short supplies.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Working tegs ranged from 22s 6d to 30s, and better-class lots from 30s to 36s; while the pick of some strong flocks made from 1s to 2s more money. Ewes and lambs made about 45s. Hardly any inquiry for horned stock.

Carlisle, Saturday.—The trade in Irish store cattle is again looking up, and for some weeks to come the market will be well filled. The number on offer to-day exceeded 600 stripping cows and heifers, the latter including a few black polled specimens. Buyers were present from all parts of the country, and a good trade was done at £8 10s to £11 10s for stripping cows, £5 10s to £8 for small and inferior heifers, £12 to £13 for black polled heifers, and £12 10s to £14 10s for heifers for grass.

Dorchester, Wednesday.—Large supplies of all kinds were again on offer at to-day's cattle market, sales at which were held by Messrs. Duke and Son and by Mr. Sampson, and there was a full attendance of buyers. On the whole a good trade was experienced, though the rates ruling for lamb scarcely came up to buyers' expectations. In other respects prices generally were of a very satisfactory character. Fat bullocks were a good trade, the best selling up to 11s 6d per score, and others 10s 6d to 11s, the tone of the trade being good. Mutton scarcely sold so well, comparatively speaking, as beef, though a few good wethers made 7½d per lb. and over, and ewes 6½d to 7d. Lambs ranged from about 28s to 38s (or 8½d to 9d). The veal trade was quite as good, if not better, than at previous markets, best calves selling from £4 to £6 10s, and seconds 50s to 78s (or 7½d to 8d for best and 6½d to 7d for seconds). Pigs ruled very firm, especially all the lighter weights, which sold at 10s to 11s per score; heavy pigs quieter of sale at 8s to 9s.

Dublin, Thursday.—Numbers in market: Beasts, 1,595, increase 49; sheep, 3,836, decrease, 62; calves, 45, increase, 10. Buyers were more cheerfully disposed, and prime finished cattle sold easily at low rates, other qualities being in better demand. More life in the sheep trade. Anything very choice made a shade more money; other sorts easier sold. Cattle, live weight (best) 32s to 35s per cwt; other sorts, 27s to 31s per cwt; mutton (dead weight), 6½d to 7¼d per lb.—GANLY, SONS, AND CO.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Bullocks and cows, 718; calves, 119; sheep and lambs, 768; pigs (fat and sows), 64; sucking pigs, 12; pigs (stores, not more than ten), 210; pigs (stores, not more than ten), 110; horses, 1. Prices in cattle market:—Best beef, 6d to 7d per lb.; wether sheep, 6½d to 8d per lb.; ewes, 5½d to 7d per lb.; veal, 5½d per lb.; pork, 5½d to 6d per lb.; bacon, 4d to 5d per lb.; lambs (not sold by the lb.), 30s to 35s each.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Messrs Robert Bond and Sons report a somewhat larger supply of fat cattle, which sold freely without alteration in value; buyers were present from Leicestershire, Warwickshire, Northampton, and Bournemouth. A good entry of fat sheep, for which

prices were firm. Prices ranged from 55s to 33s. Grazing hoggets were fairly represented from 33s 6d to 30s. Fat swine were not so numerous, and notwithstanding a large attendance of buyers, values were slightly lower. Stores in good demand. Forty cows and heifers were penned; those fresh-calved sold well. Secondary descriptions were dull. Prices ranged from £22 to £14. Several lots of grazing cattle were disposed of. Those forward in condition sold well. 155 horses were offered at the Drill Hall. A good trade was experienced for cart horses, but hacknevs were dull. Numbers at sales and market:—Cattle, 692; calves, 77; sheep, 2,041; swine, 1,225; horses, 155.

Leicester, Wednesday.—Full consignments of Lincolnshire and Norfolk fed bullocks. Buyers and dealers were well represented. Trade ruled brisker at a further advance of 10s each. Choice bullocks, 6¾d to 7d; secondary, 6¼d to 6½d; cows, 5 to 6d; heifers, 6d to 6¾d per lb. Sheep were a full delivery, and sold freely at firmer rates; choice qualities, 7¾d to 8d; large sheep, 6¾d to 7¼d; ewes, 5¾d to 6d per lb. Lambs in request at 1s per lb.; calves firm at 8½d to 9d per lb.

Newport, Wednesday.—There was a good supply of both cattle and sheep, and, the trade being brisk, there was a general advance of about ½d per lb. in cattle and sheep. Good attendance of buyers. The quotations were:—Beef, best, 6½d to 6¾d per lb.; secondary, 6d to 6¼d; cows, 5½d to 6d; mutton, best wether, 8d to 8½d; ewes, 6½ to 7d; veal, 8d to 9d; pigs, porkers, 10s 9d to 11s per score; bacon, 9s to 9s 6d.

Norwich, Saturday.—Store beasts were in rather short supply here to-day, but keep not being particularly plentiful, although some rain fell last evening, sales proceeded slowly, and a complete clearance was by no means effected. Fat beasts were the turn in favour of the buyer at 7s to 7s 6d and 8s per 14lb. Store sheep were in pretty good supply. Hoggets were in slow demand at from 30s to 45s per head. Fat sheep showed little change at 8s to 8s 6d and 9s per 14lb.

Romford, Wednesday.—About an average supply of fat beasts; trade slow. Best animals, 4s 3d to 4s 8d; middlings, 4s to 4s 2d per stone. Calves in short supply; trade dear, at 5s 6d to 5s 8d per stone. Sheep in average supply; trade a little better. Best sheep, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; and middlings, 5s to 5s 2d per stone. A few lambs on offer, at 7s 4d to 7s 8d per stone. Few store beasts on offer; fair demand. Pig market still closed.

Salford, Tuesday.—There was another decrease in the number of cattle on offer, with the result that a good trade was experienced, and late prices were fully maintained. The supply of sheep was larger, and included a good proportion of shorn sheep. There was a good demand for all kinds at late rates. The supply of calves was an average one. Nice fat calves were not so plentiful, and met with a good demand at prices in favour of the seller, other kinds changing hands at late rates. Quotations: Cattle, 4½d to 6½d; clipped sheep, 6d to 7½d; ditto (in wool), 7d to 8½d; calves, 5½d to 8½d per lb. At market: Cattle, 2,348; sheep, 9,763; calves, 184; pigs, 76.

Sheffield. Tuesday.—Small show of beasts and sheep, small, but the demand for best lots was fair, and such animals made £19 to £22; other sorts, £12 to £16.

Spalding, Tuesday.—Small show of beasts and sheep. Fat beef, 7s 6d per stone. Stores were a large show, with a fair trade. Cows were in demand, and made good prices. Sheep a short supply, and an improved trade. For hoggs there was a fair trade.

Stockton, Wednesday.—The stock offered numbered 145 cattle, 30 calves, 289 sheep, 2 lambs, and 243 pigs. Only a small show of best cattle, which made 7s 6d to 8s, rougher kinds, 6s 6d to 7s. Calves met a good trade at 7d to 8½d; young sheep, 7½d to 8d; ewes, 6d; tups, 5d per lb; lambs about £2 each.

Thame, Wednesday.—There was a much better supply of stock at market, and the quality was excellent, particularly the beef. Mutton showed a great improvement in trade, and the first consignment of fat lambs from Mr. Reynardson came in first rate condition, and averaging over 40s each, with a large attendance of buyers. Trade was brisk throughout, nearly every head changing hands. Mr. Bond's sale comprised 50 fat beasts, 165 fat sheep, 69 fat and weaning calves, 113 fat and store pigs, and 3 horses. Fat bullocks made £17 to £24 10s; fat heifers, £14 to £21; fat tegs, 43s to 60s 6d; fat ewes, 37s to 56s; fat lambs, 37s to 43s; store tegs, 26s to 34s 6d; fat calves, £3 to £4 13s; cow calves, 22s to 59s; bull calves, 17s to 53s; fat pigs, 10s per score. Stores a fair trade.

Wakefield. Wednesday.—There was a slight decrease in all departments, with the exception of sheep. A good number of buyers were present, and a steady trade was done. Fat beasts comprised Scotch, Irish, Lincolnshire, and home-fed beasts, and the quality was of an average character. A good demand was made for young heifers and bullocks, and dealers with some difficulty succeeded in obtaining 6¾d; first-class beef, 6½d, and this was the general price paid; secondary and inferior, 5d to 6¼d per lb. A large number of dairy cattle, but not many buyers, and trade was of a somewhat dragging character. First-class animals, £16 to £20; other sorts, £14 upwards; store cattle met a poor sale at £8 to £12; calving cows, £12 to £21. The few fat calves on offer were cleared out; best 8½d, others 6d to 8d per lb. A fairly good business was done in sheep, and last week's prices were fully maintained. Choice small young sheep were the best to sell, and 8d per lb. was readily paid; medium animals, 7d to 7¾d; heavy sheep, 6¾d to 6¾d; ewes and tups, 5½d to 6¼d. A number of clipped sheep were offered, but only a moderate business was done, prices quoted being 6¾d per lb. A fairly good number of lambs were on offer, small ones making 1s per lb., while big ones were sold at about 10½d. An average trade was done in pigs; stores, 25s to 55s; suckers, 15s to 21s each; porkers, 6s 6d to 7s 3d per stone of 14 lb.

Wolverhampton. Wednesday.—Beasts and sheep a moderate supply; fair trade. Calves small supply; fair demand. Beef, 5¾d to 7d per lb; mutton, 6¾d to 8¼d per lb; veal, 7¼d to 9d per lb; pigs, bacon, 10s per score; porkers, 10s to 10s 6d per score; sows, 8s per score.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Fair attendance, and good supply of stock; best qualities of beef made up to 7s 6d, and secondary qualities 6s 3d to 6s 9d per stone; best wether mutton, clipped and in the wool, 6¾d to 7¼d, and ewes and other sorts 5d to 6d per lb.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Wednesday.—Beast supplies denoted decrease of 420 head as compared with last Wednesday's figures, and consisted of shipments from United States. Trade firm, at 4s. 2d to 4s 5d per 8 lb., to sink the offal. 475 United States beasts not shown. No sheep to hand.

Yorkhill, Monday.—The usual weekly sale of United States and Canadian cattle was held to-day, when there were penned in the sheds 17 cattle, ex Norwegian, from Portland; 200 by the Tritonia, from Newport News; and 160 by the Concordia, from St. John, N.B. Taken all round, the animals were somewhat similar to those exposed last week, but, if anything, the bullocks were of finer quality, all being shown in good condition. There was the usual large attendance of buyers. Good-class cattle met a firmer demand, and were easier cashed. The number of bulls on offer was scarcely sufficient for the requirements of the market, and in consequence they met a good trade, selling dear. Cows and heifers met a fair selling trade. The deadweight quotations may be given as follow: States bullocks, best class, up to 58s, and for a few really choice up to 60s per cwt; secondary and heavier, 56s; heifers, best class, to 58s; secondary sorts, 54s to 56s; cows, 52s to 54s, according to quality and finish; bulls, best class, handy sorts, to 50s; and secondary and heavier, 46s to 48s. Canadian bullocks, best-class light-weights, 56s per cwt, and a few really choice up to 58s per cwt; secondary and heavier, 52s to 54s; and bulls made similar prices to those ruling above.

Yorkhill, Tuesday.—A sale of American cattle was held to-day, the animals offered numbering 250, landed by the Corean (s) from Boston. Bullocks formed the greater proportion of the total number, and many of them were prime beasts, and although they were only landed a few hours prior to the sale, they all showed well. The attendance of buyers was rather small, but trade was somewhat similar to that ruling at Monday's sale. The dead weight quotations may be given as follows:—Bullocks, best quality, medium weight, 56s per cwt., and for really choice up to 58s.; heavy prime, 54s; secondary and heavier, 52s; bulls, best class, to 50s; and secondary and heavier, 46s to 48s.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Hull, Tuesday.—Linseed: The arrivals are 1,077qrs Bombay, 7,761qrs Buenos Ayres, 13,869qrs Rosario, 5,289qrs San Nicholas, 3,820qrs San Pedro, 9,146qrs Villa Constitution; total, 40,962qrs. Quiet, but steady. Calcutta, April-June 52s 3d. River Plate, spot 49s 9d, February-March 50s 6d. Cottonseed: There was a slight set-back in values during last week, spot and passage selling at £6 12s 6d, whereat April-June also done, but the market has since firmed up again in near positions, owing to no steamer on passage to this port, and £6 13s 9d to £6 15s paid; March sold at £6 13s 9d, but offers to-day at £6 12s 6d; November-January has been dealt in to a small extent at £6 3s 9d. Oils: Exports for the week ending March 4, 1902:—Linseed oil: 3 Austria, 2 Denmark, 4 Holland, 5 Norway; total, 14 tons. Cotton oil: 179 Austria, 103 Belgium, 29 Denmark, 105 Germany, 177 Holland, 1 Norway, 12 Sweden; total, 606 tons. The market is quiet. Linseed oil: 29s 6d, spot; 29s 4½d, March-April; 29s 4½d, May-August. Cotton oil: 22s 7½d spot; 22s 9d March-April; 23s 1½d May-August. Crude: 21s 6d, spot; 21s 7½d, March-April; 21s 9d, May-August. Rape oil: Jamba naked, 24s 3d spot. First quality naked, 25s 3d spot.—KEIGHLEY, MAXSTED, AND CO.

London, Thursday.—Linseed: Free arrivals and weakness in Calcutta have caused prices to decline. Spot Calcutta to London nominally 54s, passage 54s to 53s, March 51s 3d, April 51s, April-June 51s. La Plata, near 51s 3d, passage 51s. Hull is also lower. Calcutta, April-June 51s 6d. La Plata, spot 48s 9d, March-April 50s. To the Continent, Bombay March-May 54s 6d, March-April 54s, June-July 54s 1½d. Calcutta, April-June 51s 6d. La Plata, February March 50s 3d. Linseed oil continues inactive, and prices are again easier. We quote spot in pipes £30 10s to £30 15s, barrels £30 15s, May-August £30 5s, September-December £23. Hull, spot, naked, £29 7s 6d, March-April £29 5s, May-August £29 5s. Linseed cakes are steady. We to-day quote London made £8 5s to £8 7s 6d ex mill, American Western £7 7s 6d to £7 10s, Russian £7 12s 6d to £8 2s 6d. Cotton cakes quiet; London made £4 6s 3d to £4 7s 6d. Rapeseed: Dull, little doing. Brown Cawnpore, March-May 38s. To the Continent, we quote Yellow Cawnpore March-May 41s 9d, Brown Cawnpore March-May 38s 3d, Brown Calcutta April-June 38s 3d. Ferozepore February-March 38s 6d. Jamba, March-May to Hull 31s 3d. Cottonseed: Alexandria has been very firm, but at present there is such a divergence in prices there and here that business has been much restricted. Spot, London £6 10s, February £6 8s 9d, March £6 11s 3d, April-May £6 12s 6d, Hull, spot £6 13s 9d, February-March £6 12s 6d, April-June £6 12s 6d.—THE PRODUCE BROKERS CO., LTD.

Mark Lane, Monday.—There has been a good business passing in foreign descriptions for near and forward positions, values having declined to a sufficiently low basis to attract buyers, while stocks continue exceedingly small. Russians find a more ready sale at last Monday's prices. Americans are in good request at £7 to £7 2s 6d per ton, ex ship to arrive. Calcutta made in bags offer at unchanged quotations, as is also the case with London made. Cotton Cakes:—The trade rules dull and inactive, and with a considerable quantity of foreign available in warehouse, quotations are again the turn against sellers. Egyptian are obtainable at unchanged prices on spot, and £4 2s 6d for equal monthly deliveries April to August next. English remain quiet and unchanged. Decorticated move off slowly at 2s 6d per ton less money, and meal at last week's prices. Rape Cakes: —Unchanged. Maize Germ Meal:—Some arrived parcels of American still offer at £5 18s 9d to £6, but for prompt despatch from the mills there are sellers at £5 7s 6d to £5 10s c.i.f. English is without change. Rice Meal:—A steamer cargo of Rangoon due the end of the month is quoted at £4 15s ex ship, while for later shipment £4 7s 6d ex ship would be accepted.

		Per ton. £ s. d.		Per ton. £ s. d.
LINSEED CAKES.				
London made	ex mill	8 2 6	to 8 5 0	
American	ex ship	7 0 0	to 7 2 6	
Russian, in mats	ex dock	7 11 3	to 7 12 6	
Russian, in bags	ex dock	7 15 0	to 7 17 6	
Calcutta		7 15 0	to 7 17 6	
COTTONSEED CAKES.				
London made	ex mill	4 7 6	to 4 10 0	
Egyptian	ex dock	4 3 9	to 4 7 6	
Decorticated	ex dock	6 7 6	to 6 10 0	
Meal	ex dock	6 5 0		—
RAPE CAKES.				
East India		4 5 0		—
MAIZE.				
English germ meal	ex mill	5 17 6	to 6 0 0	
American	c.i.f.	5 7 6	to 5 10 0	
RICE MEAL.				
Rangoon	in warehouse	—	5 5 0	

—PINNOCK BROS., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

WATERLOO ROUND FEEDING CAKES, £6 10s 0d PER TON. WATERLOO ANGLO SHAPE 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES, £9 7s 6d PER TON; WATERLOO 97 PER CENT. PURE EGYPTIAN COTTONSEED CAKES, £4 15s 0d PER TON. ALL F.O.R. HULL.

MOLASSINE FEEDING MEAL, packed in bags, of 1¼cwt. each. Price per cwt., 7s. 6d. Price per ton, £6 15s., on rail at works, Silvertown, Essex, and F.O.R. Liverpool. A sample lot of 6cwt., in 4 bags of 1½cwt. each, delivered free to any station in England on receipt of remittance for £2 11s 0d

COLONIAL DAIRY PRODUCE.

London, Friday.—The demand for New Zealand butter has improved during the last two or three days, and more business is passing. It looks as if the wholesale houses were rapidly exhausting their stocks and would have to come on the market immediately to replenish their supplies. Values have fallen about 2s. during the week, mainly owing to a few holders having become nervous. At the end, however, there is a better tone, and before the "Tokomaru's" butter is available there will be considerable scarcity. "Choicest" brands are now selling at 108s to 110s per cwt., and "Finest" remains unchanged at 104s to 108s. The demand for a shilling retail butter has not slackened in the least. The Copenhagen Committee has decided to leave the official quotation unchanged. The market in Copenhagen is reported firm, and it is evient that the struggle between the wholesale buyers in the North of England and the Danish committee has ended in favour of the Danes. The statistical position is so good at present that buyers will be wise not to attempt to force down prices until supplies come forward sufficient to meet current requirements. Russian butter in Siberia is dearer than it was last year, and recent telegrams from there speak of 98s, being the lowest figure for "Choicest" brands landed in London. There is a very strong demand, and more business is passing in Canadian cheese. "Choicest" goods are making 54s, with an occasional 55s, while "Finest" is bringing 51s to 53s. New Zealand cheese is selling at about 2s per cwt. under the above figures, and prices are expected to make a further advance before long. C.i.f. cables from Montreal quote 56s. for best goods, and 53s 6d for June make. New York is practically without stock, and c.i.f. quotations are equal to 61s for best goods.—W. WEDDEL AND CO.

WOOL

Canterbury, Saturday.—Most of the business is being done at 5½d for Kent fleeces and 4d for lamb wool, but a fractional advance is occasionally obtainable for well-known lots.

London, Wednesday.—The second series of London sales of Colonial wool commenced to-day, with catalogues comprising 10,206 bales out of an available total of 163,000 bales. There was a large attendance of both home and foreign buyers and animated competition. Prices, as compared with February closing rates, ruled for Australian merino wools at from par to 5 per cent. higher, and for crossbreds 5 to 7½ per cent. higher. The few Capes offered showed also some advance. As at present arranged, the sales will last until the 27th inst.—HELMUTH SCHWARTZE AND CO.

London, Friday.—English, per pk. of 240b: Fleeces, Southdown hoggs, £7 to £8 10s; half-bred hoggs, £6 to £7; half-bred wethers, £5 to £6; Kent fleeces, £5 to £6; Southdown ewes and wethers, £7 to £8 10s; Leicester wethers, £5 to £5 10s. Colonial, per lb: Victoria, fleece super, 1s 5d to 1s 7d; scoured, good, 1s 7½d to 1s 8½d; scoured, average, 1s 6d to 1s 7d; greasy, average to fair, 10½d to 11½d; New South Wales, scoured, average, 1s 3½d to 1s 4d; greasy, average, 8d to 9d; South Australia, greasy, average, 6½d to 7d; New Zealand, scoured, average, 1s 4d to 1s 5d; grease, average, 8d to 9d. Cape: Scoured, super, 1s 5d to 1s 6d; fleece, average, 7d to 7½d; greasy, average, 5½d to 6½d; Natal, scoured, 1s to 1s 1d; greasy, average, 6½d to 7d. Crossbreds, grs.: Victoria, good to superior, 10½d to 11½d; New Zealand, fine, 8d to 9d; ditto, medium, 4½d to 5½d; ditto, coarse, 4d to 4½d.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden. Saturday.—Fruit supplies fair and met with fair support; good supply of greenstuffs experienced better demand. Potato trade very slow. English grapes, 1s 6d to 3s; Belgian, 1s 3d to 1s 9d per lb; Nova Scotian apples, 20s to 26s per barrel; Californian, 8s 6d to 12s 6d per case; pineapples, 2s to 4s 6d each; bananas, 7s to 12s 6d per bunch; Denia oranges, 10s to 25s; Murcia, 7s 6d to 10s per case; dates, 11s to 12s per cwt; Messina lemons, 8s to 20s per case; savoys, 8s to 10s per tally; cauliflower, 2s to 2s 6d per dozen; Brussel sprout, 1s 6d to 2s 6d per half-sieve; parsnips, 2s 6d to 3s per bag; carrots, 2s to 2s 6d; turnips, 2s to 3s; leeks, 2s to 2s 6d per dozen bunches; celery, 12s to 14s per dozen rolls; horseradish, 1s 3d per bundle; forced rhubarb, 1s 3d to 1s 6d per dozen bundles; English onions, 7s to 8s per cwt; Valencia, 7s 6d to 9s per case; Dutch, 5s to 5s 6d per bag; potatoes, 35s to 80s per ton; New Canary, 16s; Teneriffe, 15s per cwt.

HOPS.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Quiet business in medium-class hops, at 30s to 40s per cwt. Stocks are shrinking rapidly, and the market looks like being cleared before the next crop arrives.

Worcester, Saturday.—Our market continues quiet, with only occasional sales taking place, principally of the best qualities left, and when holders are willing to accept current rates; low qualities are not enquired for.—PIERCY AND CO.

THE BALTIC.

Wheat cargoes are the turn in buyers' favour. Sales include Californian at 30s., Walla Walla at 29s. 6d., Blue Stem at 29s. 6d., Fine Oregon at 29s. 9d., Argentine at 29s. 3d., No. 1 Northern at 29s., No. 2 Hard Winter at 28s. 9d., Victorian at 29s., and Russian Azima at 31s. per qr. Blue Stem and Oregon are specially cheap just now.

Maize cargoes are neglected, but Galatz has been placed at 21s. 9d., Caucasian at 22s. 6d., Argentine at 21s. 6d., and Turkish at 21s. 9d. per qr.

Barley is steady. A cargo of Californian has made 25s. 6d., and two Roumanian cargoes have found purchasers at 18s. 6d. per qr.

Oats are held at 19s. 3d. for Canadian, 17s. 9d. for South Russian, 20s. for Konigsberg, 17s. 9d. for White Libau, and 27s. per 384lb. New Zealand.

A cargo of Egyptian beans for May shipment was sold on Friday for 29s. 6d. per qr.

Linseed makes 49s. for Argentine, and 51s. 9d. for Calcutta rapeseed, 37s. 9d. for Brown Cawnpore and poppyseed, 47s. 3d. for Bombay; all per qr.

The week's arrivals at ports of call were four wheat cargoes and one cargo of barley.

SUCREMA

No. 2

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STOCK AND SHOW NOTES.

By Herdsman.

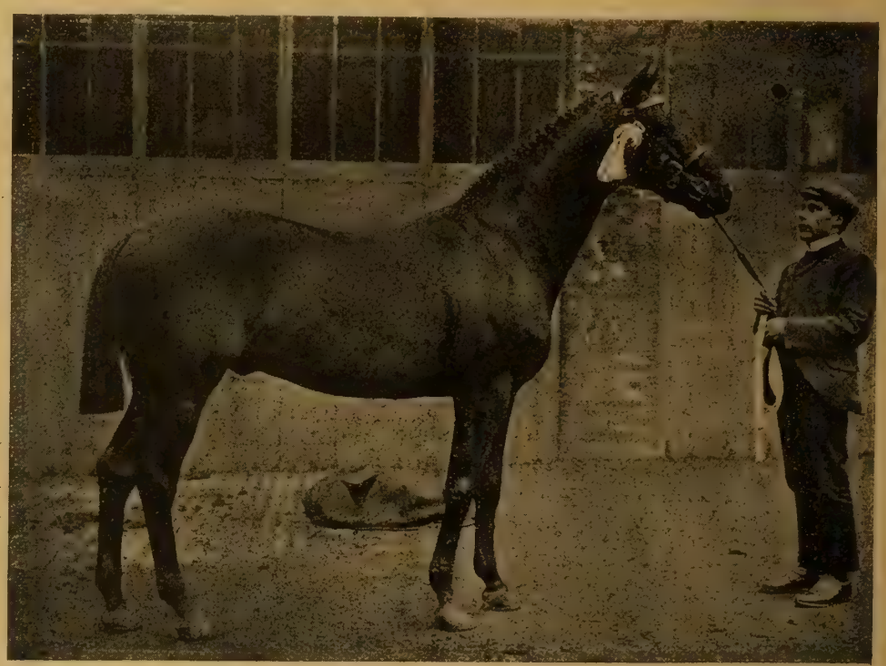
H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, who has for many years had a herd of Red Polled cattle at Sandringham, has graciously consented to be nominated patron of the Red Polled Society.

Sir Walter Gilbey entertained the President and Council of the Hunters' Improvement Society and the members of the Royal Commission on Horse Breeding at dinner, at Cambridge House, Regent's Park, on Tuesday evening. Amongst those present were Colonel Sir Nigel Kingscote (President), the Earl of Coventry, Lord Ribblesdale, Lord Middleton, Lord Wenlock, Captain H. Heywood-Lonsdale, Sir John Gilmour, Sir R. Green-Price, and Sir Jacob Wilson.

Dr. Louis Cobbett and Dr. E. S. St. Barbe Sladen have, says the "British Medical Journal," been appointed by the Royal Commission on Tuberculosis to assist in the experimental work of the Commission to be carried out at Stansted. They will reside at the farms, and devote the whole of their time to the investigations of the Commission.

On the first Thursday in April Messrs. John Thornton and Co., will hold their annual sale of shorthorns in the wool sheds adjoining the Cattle Market at York, at which they will offer a cup, named "The York Gold Challenge Cup," and valued 100 guineas, to be awarded to the exhibitor, being the breeder, of the best three pure-bred shorthorn bulls, eligible for entry in Coates' Herd Book, calved in the years 1900 or 1901; or for a bull of any age, which need not be bred by the exhibitor, and his two sons, calved in 1900 or 1901, bred by the exhibitor; the cup to be won three times, either successively or at intervals, before becoming the absolute property of the exhibitor. No entry fees are charged. The following gentlemen have agreed to act as judges:—Mr. George Harrison, Gainford, Darlington; Mr. W. J. Hosken, Pulsack, Hayle, Cornwall; and Mr. William Taylor, Lowfield, West House, Kirkby Lonsdale; whilst Mr. Henry Dudding, Riby Grove, Stallingboro', Lincs., will be the umpire.

The catalogue of the sale comprises 130 pure-bred bulls and 30 young cows and heifers, the animals being from the herds of various well-known breeders in the Northern counties. Included in the sale is the small select herd bred by the late Mr. Edward Tindall, of Knapton Hall, Ridlington, which is descended from those fine old strains so long bred by the late Mr. Samuel Wiley, Brandsby, and has latterly been crossed with bulls of Booth blood. The sales at York have hitherto been without reserve, sellers not adopting the mart practice of making one bid at their own option and it is still desired to retain the open and unreserved character of the sales. If, however, a breeder wishes to enter among his three bulls one that he desires to use in his own herd, or to exhibit at the summer shows, he may place the word "reserve" at the end of the pedigree, and name the reserve or withdraw it at the time of sale. The judging will commence at 10 a.m., and the sale at 11 o'clock.



THE THOROUGHBRED STALLION, RAMPION, which we show above, is the property of Capt. H. Hopkins, Marchington Hall, Marchington, Staffs and was bred by the late Duke of Devonshire. At the show of thoroughbreds last week, Rampion was winner of a King's Premium in District Class F, serving in Gloucestershire, Herefordshire, Monmouthshire, Shropshire, Staffordshire, Warwickshire, Worcestershire, and South Wales. He is a chestnut, foaled 1893, his sire being Amphion, dam Rydal by Bend Or.

Messrs. John Thornton and Co. have received instruction from Captain W. H. O. Duncombe to sell on April 11th a number of his well-known shorthorns at Waresley Park, Huntingdonshire. As is well known, Captain Duncombe's shorthorns, like his stud of Shire horses, have, during the last decade, taken a very high position at the principal shows throughout the kingdom. At the Royal Show at Manchester, 1897, the first and second prizes for heifers as well as the champion were awarded to the Waresley exhibits. These fine animals were sold with a large portion of the herd the following year at remarkable prices, Sea Gem, the first prize two-year-old, selling for 410gs., and Ruby Princess, the second prize yearling, for 210gs. At the Royal Show at Cardiff last year Warrior's Queen, lot 10, was placed at the head of the fine class of cows, and repeated her victory at the Yorkshire at Bradford, where Ruby Queen and her family were placed third in the family class, as at the same society's meeting at Doncaster the year previously. The Waresley Park herd contains several descendants of the Sea Gem family which have been bred on the estate since about the year 1846, and of the Rubys, tracing from the old Booth Farewell tribe, which were obtained from the late Mr. Pawlett. These tribes have been very prolific and good breeders, the best evidence of which has been the success that has distinguished the exhibits in the family class at the great Yorkshire shows. Many of these animals—in fact, all the show winners—are included in the sale, viz., Warrior Queen, Ruby Rose, Red Robe, War Queen, and Belle of Waresley, whilst many of the younger animals are well adapted for showing during the forthcoming season. They are mostly by Manor Victory 77189, bred by Mr. Hiscock, who keeps a large dairy herd in Dorsetshire. The sale will commence after half-past twelve luncheon. Catalogues, etc., can be had of the auctioneers or Mr. Paisley, Waresley, Sandy, Hunts.

A special sale of pedigree Hackneys and harness horses will be held at Peterborough Repository by Messrs. Sexton, Grimwade, and Beck on Saturday next, the 22nd inst. (the day of the Peterborough Stallion Show). The catalogue includes seven yearling fillies and three yearling colts from His Majesty the King's stud at Wolferton, eight animals from the well-known stud of Mr. J. T. C. Eadie, Barrow-on-Trent, and four from the Marquis of Winchester. All these are to be sold without reserve, whilst there are other entries from various breeders, which make the number to be sold total forty-five. The sale will commence at one o'clock.

At a meeting of the Council of the Durham County Agricultural Society held on Saturday it was reported that the prize-money for this year's show, to be held at Barnard Castle on August 8th, is £133 less than last year. The meeting granted £500 as prize-money for horses, cattle, sheep, and implements, and £100 for dogs and poultry.

Canadian Ham Sold as English.—At the Oxford Police Court on Friday, Edward Radbone, grocer, and an assistant named Souche were summoned for a breach of the Merchandise Marks Act by selling on November 6th a Canadian ham and representing it to be English, and were fined respectively £25 and 40s. and costs, or one month's imprisonment, this being Radbone's second conviction. The prosecution was directed by the Treasury.

The Sulphate of Ammonia Committee, of 4, Fenchurch Avenue, London, E.C., have issued in pamphlet form, a report upon experiments with sulphate of ammonia during the season 1900. There is also given a list of the winners of the numerous prizes offered by the committee in 1900, together with details of the crop grown, yield per acre, quality, amount of manures used per acre, and some remarks on the keeping properties, etc., of the crops.



The Hunter Show.

Royal Commission on Horse Breeding.

The annual show (18th) of this Society commenced in the Agricultural Hall, at Islington, on Tuesday morning last, the first day's business consisting of the selection, vetting, and awarding of King's Premiums to the Thoroughbred stallions. The entry of these year after year remains almost stationary, and the quality of the animals about on a par from time to time—indeed, the same animals often return to the hall for a number of years, some of them having received the same distinction for from seven to ten or more years. This is a matter for much congratulation, as proving the soundness of these sires to begin with, and also their ability to continue sound for so many years, a circumstance that must have a beneficial effect upon the light horse stock of this country, as, were it not for these stallions having to be submitted to a veterinary examination each year, breeders would probably continue using an unsound stallion for a long time. It is the more important at the present time that great attention should be paid to this question, as the remount business will for some time to come no doubt occupy the attention of many of our countrymen interested in horse-breeding; and whatever the kind of horse selected or desired to be bred, there can be little doubt thoroughbred blood will have to constitute the chief ingredient in the mixture, this both on account of the speed, good wind, and endurance of blood horses, and also from the fact that a horse with pretty much of this blood in his veins gives a much more comfortable seat to his rider than do those of a more mongrel breed. When long days or long journeys have to be performed on horseback this question is a most important one.

The general quality of the stallions shown this year did not present any greatly-altered features from past years; indeed, as already indicated, many—or perhaps we may say the majority—of the stallions competing had appeared in the hall upon previous occasions, and as they again succeeded in passing the veterinary ordeal, must be considered in this respect the right animals of this breed to scatter about the country. One thing may be here mentioned as a counteraction to the complaints we sometimes hear as to many of these horses not benefiting the horse-breeding business, namely, that at many of the summer shows in all parts of the country the prize-winners in the young stock have proved to be the progeny of Queen's Premium stallions, and another very important matter is that in the young hunter classes that followed the judging of these stallions at Islington presented a vast improvement upon past years. A great number of these horses possessed more bone than we often see, and were of a class and type that would either suit well under the saddle or make harness horses of a big and very valuable class. The number of premium stallions sent out is none too large, considering the extent of the districts in which they are located.

We may here mention a few of the stallions selected to serve in the various districts. Three stallions were allotted to the district Class A, comprising a very extensive one in the large centres of Bedford, Bucks, etc., as well as Norfolk and Suffolk. The animals to serve here are his Majesty the King's Adrian, Mr. Leopold de Rothschild's Chosen, and Mr. John Bell's Prince Charles II. Then for the extreme Northern counties are selected Mr. Relph's General Gordon, Dr. Haslewood's famous sire Imprever, and Mr. G. L. Abbot's Toboggan—horses that will make their mark.

The Central Midlands also have three very good horses, which is as it should be, for this rather important hunter-breeding district—(hunter-breeding to-day, bear in mind, means harness horses and chargers as well). These are Mr. Leigh Abbot's Abbot's Leigh, a rare good son of that fine getter Marioni; Mr. Jeffrey's Blakelaw, another capital horse; and Mr. Hawkes' Old Coin, who is also doing capital work.

Down in the West and South are to be sent four good stallions, comprising Mr. Shirley's Alvin; Mr. W. Wilson's Chibiabis, a fine-built beautiful mare; Mr. Grantham's Irish Wake, another very good one; and then General Jago-Trelawny's Springald. Yorkshire is allotted three—Mr. Westoby's Burgomaster, Mr. Ling's Cardonald, and Dr. Haslewood's Four Poster, who is getting some first-class stock.

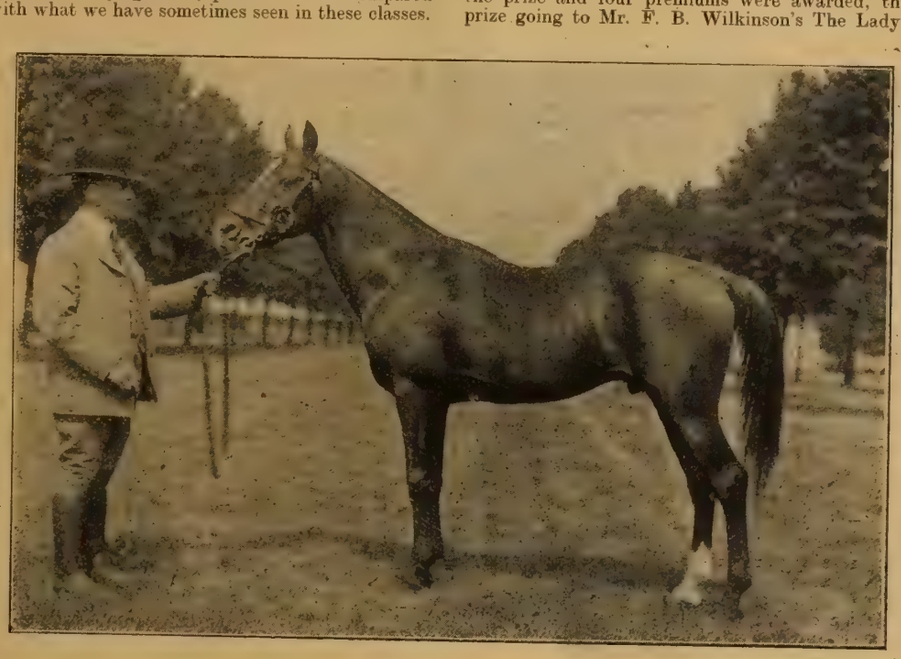
In the Central of England, over a rather large district, are to be located four horses, namely, Mr. Mumford's Faute de Mieux, by Torpedo; Mr. Brassy's Pontifex; Mr. Hopkins' Rampins; and Mr. A. C. Philipp's Sterling Bank.

North Wales, Lancashire, etc., also take three stallions. These are to be Mr. Ralph Rimmer's Active Hampton, Mr. Young's Curley, and Dr. Haslewood's Woodstock. To go into Scotland are selected Mr. Richmond's General Magerins, for Roxborough, etc.; Dr. Haslewood's Commint, for Fife district; Mr. Hutchinson's Swillington, for Ayrshire district; Mr. Danell's well-known and good horse Withernham for Moray, Nairn, and Banff; and Mr. Hutchinson's Whittlebury for Ross-shire.

This concluded the lrst day's judging.

Hunters Improvement Society.

The second day commenced with the judging of the young hunter stock, of which there was certainly a very good show. The majority of the classes were well filled, and the bulk of the animals showed more of what we want to see—good backs, and shoulders, with excellent legs, joints, and feet. In this latter respect, to the writer, there appeared very great improvement as compared with what we have sometimes seen in these classes.



THE POLO PONY, THE BEY shown above, is an Arab of the Tahowi breed and the property of Mr. G. Norris Midwood, The Hut, Tabley, Knutsford. At the Polo Pony Show last week The Bey was winner of the Silver Cup for the best Eastern Sire, also winning first prize in the class for Eastern Sires not exceeding 14.2. In the similar class at the previous year's show, The Bey only succeeded in winning a second prize.

The first class in this department to be adjudicated upon was that for colts (Thoroughbred) three years old, suitable to get hunters. As there were but three entries made in the class, only two out of the three premiums were awarded. These were allotted to the Hon. Miss Dillon's Afrasiab, by Zal, bred by exhibitor; and to Mr. John Barker's Bright Grey, got by Grey Leg, out of Fair Alice, by Cambuscan.

Class II., for colts, yearlings, two and three-year-olds, bred as follows:—Thoroughbred or registered hunter sire, dams sire, and g. dams sire; the dam a mare registered or entered for registration in the Hunter Stud Book. Being divided into three sections, this made rather a large class. Section (a) yearlings were awarded two premiums going to Mr. Hodgson's Royalty, by Xury, and Mr. F. J. Gibbs' Verax, by Veracity, a bay and brown, and very useful colts all round. In Section (b), two years old, two premiums were also awarded to Mr. J. A. Brown's Wexford, by Great Britain, and bred in Ireland; and to a big, powerful-looking colt of Mr. Drage's, by Bay Ronald, his dam in the Hunter Stud Book, a very good class of colt in many respects, yet lacking a little some of the points that go to make up a stallion. Of the three-year-olds (c) section Sir Walter Gilbey's Merry Matchmaker, by Matchmaker, carried off the only premium awarded, as there were but three entries.

Class III. commenced the hunter young stock proper, of which, in some of the classes, there was a very large entry. Nineteen yearling colts or geldings were catalogued, and amongst them were some very promising colts. The prize went to Mr. Hodgson's Kildare, bred by Major Burrowes in Ireland, and sired by Red Prince II., and premiums were awarded to two capital colts got by Pantomime that always show strength, and one by Foscamo.

Two-year-old colts or geldings ran up to forty-two entries, and were, we considered, a very good class of colts, especially when the drafts had been taken out. A good number of these displayed both size and quality, and looked likely to make very valuable horses. The prize was awarded to Mr. Hodgson's Coronation, a chesnut gelding by Hindly, a very good colt all round in bone, build, and quality. A fine outlook made him take the eye much. Some of the premium colts were also very satisfactory, including Mr. Pyke's Notts, by Rosens, Mr. Atkinson's by Active Hampton, Mr. John Letts' Woodcock, by Touchwood, a colt with very good back and plenty of substance about him, and Mr. Wilkinson's Havre, a stylish, nice-moving colt, named after his sire.

There were twenty-eight entries of three-year-olds, amongst which were several big, good, and practically matured-looking colts. The prize in this class was awarded to Mr. A. J. Brown's Hollymount, an Irish-bred colt, by Bottler, with fine top and fore-end, and a capital set of legs and feet. The whole of the five premiums were also awarded, shared by first-class colts, amongst which were Mr. Hodgson's Toreador, an Irish-bred colt, by Matador; Mr. Kelway-Bamber's Lord Marmion, by Curley; and a very good colt of Mr. John Reave's, by Yard Arm.

Yearling fillies totalled sixteen entries, to which the prize and four premiums were awarded, the prize going to Mr. F. B. Wilkinson's The Lady, by Havre, out of the great prize-winning mare Lady Grosvenor, a filly that won a great many prizes as a foal last year, and has continued to hold herself well together in quality and style. Other very good fillies were Mr. Nickisson's, by Yard Arm, and Mr. Wakely's Ballet Girl, by Pantomime.

Two years old fillies were also found in good strength; indeed, these must be written a class of great size and quality. Nineteen were entered, the prize being awarded to Mr. W. B. Swallow's Tugela, by Anklebiter, a filly with good lookout and hock, plenty before the saddle and plenty under it, and with a lot of power and muscle about her. Three premiums were awarded, which went to Mr. Nickisson's Arthur, by Pantomime, who has gone on well since last year; Major Jago Trelawny's Speranza, by Springold, and Mr. Clive's Birdie Bright, by Grand National.

There were but twelve entries of three years olds, a useful lot, though not perhaps strikingly outstanding. The first prize in these was awarded to Mr. John Lett's Waterglass, by Waterton, a very nice bay, and three premiums were awarded. The Produce Class was next in the catalogue, and several sires were represented in the entries, Chibrabos, Four Poster, Pantomime, Swallowfield, Toscano, Withernham, and Yard Arm, all having good families. Pantomime's lot were so good, however, that the prize was eventually awarded to them, with Yard Arm's group as reserve.

The riding classes were rather numerous and entries good, several very high-class horses being shown in them. As is often the case, the heavy-weight classes were not proportionately as good as the light-weight, and a great feature in the question of awards was the fact that a great many

of the best animals were very nearly full blood. The chief winners in these classes were Mr. Herbert B. Cory, Mr. J. H. Stokes, who exhibited the champion and reserve in the section, Mr. Topham, and Mr. John Drage, a good number of them including some of the West and Irish-bred horses.

Mr. Stokes's champions included Opal, winner of first in the five or six years old mares, of whose breeding nothing is said, but of whose quality, style and correct points no praise is too loud. She was best mare in classes 10 and 11, and in the Challenge Cup and Gold Medal of the Society was reserved to her stable companion Tennis Ball, first prize in the mare and gelding class between 13st. 7lb. and 15st., who was also awarded the championship of classes 12 to 15, and ultimately of the hunter riding classes. He was bred by Mr. David Farrell, Kells, Co. Meath, sired by Court Ball, out of Empress, by Delight, and both in style, movement, manners, and general contour, as well as muscle, is one of the best hunters out for a long time.

The classes for chargers followed the hunter riding classes, and owing to the greater interest taken in the remount business a much greater entry was catalogued than used to be the case. Many of the animals were entered in other classes as well. A great number of them were bred in Ireland, and were the get of thoroughbred sires. Amongst the chief winners were Mr. A. J. Brown's Tipperary, by Drumree, bred in Ireland and first in the class of three year olds up to 15st. 7lb. and over; Mr. Kelway Banter's Lord Marmion, first in three years olds lighter weights, and sired by Curley; Mr. G. L. Peasse's Boniface, by Capuchin, first in four or five years olds, 13st. 7lb. and upwards, and Mr. J. S. Darrell's Heygate, by Sherbrooke, and first prize winner in the four and five years olds under 15st. 7lbs. Altogether the amount of interest taken in these classes during this year's show gives very much brighter prospects to the breeders of light horses, many of which, especially in the hunter section, are either bred or grown by farmers.

Polo Pony Society.

On the afternoon of the third day the judging of the Polo Ponies was commenced, and perhaps during the whole time of the show it is safe to say no livelier aspect had been given to the proceedings. As the judging of these classes commenced (the riding classes being judged first) every one seemed to prick up their ears, for these ponies appear as though they know they are a source of attraction, and their playful ways their activity, and cat-like movements, as well as the ease with which they run about under heavy weights, are the wonder and delight of all, strangers telling you, "Yes, those Polo Ponies last evening were quite a display, a really enlivening equine entertainment," and so the interest in these classes continued until the bending competition concluded the programme of the show.

The catalogue of this portion of the show commences with the stallions, the first class being for stallions not exceeding 14.2 hands. Pride of place in these was once m ore accorded to the old favourite sire, Rosewater, who has wonderfully preserved his polish, and comes out remarkably fresh and as stylish as ever—a credit to Sir Walter Gilbey's stud. Next was placed the Keynsham Stud Company's Gownboy, by Montezuma, who has capital back and loin, but is, perhaps, a little short of the scope and fine shoulders that characterise Rosewater. The Basuto pony, De Wet, was placed next. He has improved wonderfully with a year's sojourn in England, and with capital shoulders and good movement, looks like making a first-rate sire. Several other very nice stallions were shown.

Stallions not exceeding 13.2 followed, with seven entries. Sir Walter Gilbey's stud again furnished the winner this time in the shape of Lord Polo, a son of Rosewater, but in the way of shoulders not by any means as good as his sire, though in body he is well-ribbed and stout. A very stylish pony in this class was Mr. Wilson's Hermit, just about as smart as they are made, and with forms, back and hind legs. Mr. Goodson's Polo King, by The Rey, and the Rev. D. B. Montefiore's Hurlingham, by Rosewater, were also very beautiful ponies.

Class 22 was in Eastern sires. Of that there were ten entries not exceeding 14.2. There were two or three certainly charming stallions in these, at the head of the class being placed Mr. G. Norris Midwood's The Bey, an Arab of the Tahowi breed, full of quality and with the most elastic movement. Next to him was placed Mr. L. W. Bailing's Parahk, a chest with power about him, and a good mover. The third place was filled by a fine Barb, shown by Captain Bridgeman, and bred by Mohammed Ben Mohammond, from Algeria, a pony with famous quarters and push, together with all-round strength in small compass, and not coarse. One or two other good ones were placed 4th in line.

The Polo Society's class came next for what may be termed society-bred or polo-bred ponies. There were but four entries of these, first and second prizes going to two full brothers, Birmingham Royal and Maidstone Royal, both the get of Mortrub, out of Sally, and shown by the Keynsham Stud Company. These colts possessed great power and fine limits. At present they scarcely seem as smart as a polo sire should be.

Brood mares came forward in rather considerable numbers, for breeders of this class appear to have come to the conclusion that the polo pony is to be the light horse par excellence in the future. There were 25 entries of mares between 13.2 and 14.2 hands, which were soon reduced to a much smaller lot, the winners eventually being Mr. Jon Barker's Lightning, a charming pony, with quality and the formation of a good brood mare, and a winner upon many previous occasions. The next was Mr. Iresham Gilbey's Early Dawn, by Rosewater, a good mare, a little bigger than the winner, and upon a capital set of legs and feet . Mr. Barker's Lady Polo, another of the Grange Stud, was also placed third.

Brood mares not exceeding 13.2 were but nine in number. Mr. Barker, Mr. Wilkinson, and the Rev. D. B. Montefiore were the chief winners, Rosewater being the sire of the first prize one.

Of Arab brood mares only seven were entered. These were a moderate class. The young stock classes were very well filled, yearlings (all sexes) having 16 entries not exceeding 13.2, and amongst them several of very puny form. Mr. Barker's stallion Sandway once more stood out very conspicuously, being the sire of the first prize one, and also of the first, second and fourth winners in the two years old class of 21 entries. These youngsters, so far, are growing up in very good form, having strength and yet displaying any amount of quality. There were nine entries of the three year olds, and again some very good Sandiways were entered.

In the riding classes, as previously intimated, some exceedingly smart performers came into the ring, and carried their riders, whether exhibitors or judges, in very good style. Amongst the best of them were Mr. Rawlinson's Seltzer, Mr. John Barker's Celia, a charming mare; Mr. James Farmer's Larky, Mr. Astor's Colonel Ashton, Compte Jean de Madres, Mademoiselle; Mr. Astor's Roulette, Mr. Williams's Shaving, Mr. Goldsmith's Schoolboy, and others. The Remount and Mountain Pony Classes were not of any especial quality.

Royal Commission on Horse Breeding.

Judges.

The Earl of Coventry, Croome Court, Severn Stoke, Worcester.
Mr. Percy La Touche, Newberry, Kilcullen, Ireland.
Mr. Anthony Marshall, Annstead, Chathill, Northumberland.

Premiums.

THOROUGHBRED STALLIONS.

DISTRICT CLASS A (Bedfordshire, Buckinghamshire, Cambridgeshire, Essex, Hertfordshire, Huntingdonshire, Middlesex, Norfolk, Oxfordshire, and Suffolk).—Three King's premiums of £150 each: P., His Majesty the King, Royal Mews, Buckingham Palace, London, S.W. (Adrian); Leopold de Rothschild, Southcort Stud, Leighton Buzzard, Buckinghamshire (Choson); John Bell, Upend, Newmarket, Cambridgeshire (Prince Charles II.).

DISTRICT CLASS B (Cumberland, Durham, Northumberland and Westmoreland).—Three King's premiums of £150 each. P., J. Relph, Stainton, Penrith, Cumberland (General Gordon); Albert Octavius Hasle-Wood, Fairfield Stud, Buxton, Derbyshire (Imprévu); Gilbert Leigh, Abbots Leigh, Somersetshire (Toboggan).

DISTRICT CLASS C (Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Lincolnshire, Northamptonshire, Nottinghamshire, and Rutlandshire).—Three King's premiums of £150 each: P., Gilbert Leigh Abbot (Abbots Leigh); Frederick Jeffery, Manor Hotel, Dousland, Yelverton, Devonshire (Blakelaw); Edwin Hawkes, Brampton, Huntingdon (Old Coin).

DISTRICT CLASS D (Berkshire, Cornwall, Devonshire, Dorsetshire, Hampshire, Kent, Somersetshire, Surrey, Sussex, and Wiltshire).—Four King's premiums of £150 each: P., Lewis Jas. Shirley, 51, Cathedral Road, Cardiff, Glamorganshire (Alvin); William Wilson, The Borough, Sanderstead, Croydon, Surrey (Chibiabos); Thomas Child Grantham, Cowfold, Sussex (Irish Wake); Major-General John Jago-Trelawny,- Coldrenic, Menheniot, Cornwall (Springald).

DISTRICT CLASS E (Yorkshire).—Three King's premiums of £150 each: P., Fred Westoby, Routh, Beverley, Yorkshire (Burgomaster); William Leng, The Paddocks, Copmanthorpe, Yorkshire (Cardonald); Albert Octavius Haslewood (Four Poster).

DISTRICT CLASS F (Gloucestershire, Herefordshire, Monmouthshire, Shropshire, Staffordshire, Warwickshire, Worcestershire, and South Wales.—Four King's premiums of £150 each: P., Stephen Mumford, Stud Farm, Moreton Morrel, Warwick (Faute-de-Mieux); Harold Ernest Brassey, Copse Hill, Bourton-on-the-Water, Gloucestershire (Pontifex); Captain Herbert Frederick Northey Hopkins, Marchington Hall, Marchington, Staffordshire (Rampion); Owen Cosby Phillips,- Amroth Castle, Begelly, R.S.O., Pembrokeshire (Sterling Bank).

DISTRICT CLASS G (Cheshire, Lancashire, and North Wales).—Three King's premiums of £150 each: P., Ralph Rimmer, 52, Stramongate, Kendal, Westmoreland (Active Hampton); Solomon Young, Roxwell, Chelmsford, Essex (Curley); Albert Octavius Haslewood (Woodstock); r., Edward Charles Winter, Jonesboro' Stud Farm, Limerick, Ireland (Narellan).

DISTRICT CLASS H (Roxburghshire, Berwickshire, and district).—One King's premium of £150: P., William Richmond (General Magenis); r., Eustace Barlow (Anklebiter).

premium of £150: Albert Octavius Haslewood (Cornmint).

DISTRICT CLASS I (Fifeshire and district).—One King's premium of £150.—P., Albert Octavius Haslewood (Cornmint).

DISTRICT CLASS J (Ayrshire and district).—One King's premium of £150; P., John Hutchison, Newarkill, Ayr (Swillington, late Willie Darling).

DISTRICT CLASS K (Moray, Nairn, and Banff-shire).—One King's premium of £150: P., James S. Darrell, West Ayton, York (Withernham).

DISTRICT CLASS L (Ross-shire).—One King's premium of £150: P., John Hutchison (Whittlebury); r., William Wilson (Middleham).

Hunters Improvement Society.

Judges of Young Stock.

(Classes 1 to 9.)

E. H. Barlow, Sigeworth, Pateley Bridge, Yorks.
Lieut.-Col. G. C. Ricardo, Donnington, Newbury.

Judges of Hunters.

(Classes 10 to 15.)

Hon. E. S. Douglas-Pennant, M.F.H., Sholebrooke Lodge, Towcester.
George Evans, M.F.H., Merton Grange, Sandy.

Judge of Chargers.

(Classes 16 to 19.)

Captain W. H. Fife, Langton Hall, Northallerton.

Champion and Special Prizes.

Challenge Cup, value £50, and gold medal, value £5, for the best filly, colt, or gelding in Classes 2 to 8.—Mr. John Lett, Cleveland Stud Farm, Rillington, Yorks (Watergiass); r., Mr. A. J. Brown, Marr Grange, Doncaster (Hollymount).

Challenge Cup, value 100gs., for the best mare or gelding exhibited in Classes 10 to 15.—Mr. J. H Stokes, Nether House, Great Bowden, Market Harborough (Tennis Ball); r., Mr. J. H. Stokes (Opal); r., Mr. H. B. Cory, Druidstone, Castleton, Cardiff (St. Yvonne).

Special Prize, value £10, for the best mare in Classes 10 and 11.—Mr. J. H. Stokes (Opal); r., Mr. H. B. Cory (St. Yvonne).

Special Prize, value £10, is offered for the best gelding in Classes 12 to 15.—Mr. J. H. Stokes (Tennis Ball); r., Mr. John Drage, Chapel Brampton, Northampton (Barrister).

Class Prizes.

THOROUGHBREDS.

CLASS 1.—Thoroughbred colts, three years old, suitable to get Hunters (foaled in 1899). (Undocked): P., Hon. Miss E. Dillon, Chalet Chamounix, Cannes, France (Afrasiab); John Barker, The Grange, Bishop's Stortford, Herts (Bright Grey).

CLASS 2.—Colts, yearling, two, and three years old, bred as follows—thoroughbred or registered Hunter sire, dam's sire and g. dam's sire; the dam a mare registered, or entered for registration, in the Hunter Stud Book. (Foaled in 1899, 1900, or1901.) (Undocked):—Yearlings: P., Edward Hodgson, The Hollows, Bridlington, Yorks (Royalty); F. J. Gibbs, The Haunch, King's Heath, Birmingham (Verax); r., John Cooper, Brook Hill House, East Haddon, Northampton (Messenger Boy). Two-year-olds: A. J. Brown, Marr Grange, Doncaster (Wexford); John Drage, Chapel Brampton, Northampton (Colt); r., George Marton, Muscoates, Kirkbymoorside, Yorks. (Merlin); Brightric G. Hutton Gee, Locks Mills House, Bristol (John Peel). Three-year-olds: P., Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart., Elsenham Hall, Essex (Merry Matchmaker).

CLASS 3.—Yearling colts or geldings (foaled in 1901). (Undocked): 1, Edward Hodgson (Kildare); p., Edward Hodgson (Royalty); W. V. Andrew, Oldbury, Southend, Essex (Gay Boy); Leonard H. Taylor, Elm Lodge, Biddestowe, Chippenham, Wilts (Ginger); C. E. de Trafford, Hothorpe, Theddingworth, Rugby (colt); r., J. Wynford Philipps, M.P. (Dragonfly); c., F. J. Gibbs (Verax); Major-General J. Jago-Trelawny, Coldrenick, Menheniot, Cornwall (Sesostris); Guy Fenwick, North Luffenham Hall, Stamford, Lincs. (colt).

CLASS 4.—Two-year-old colts or geldings (foaled in 1900). (Undocked): 1, Edward Hodgson (Coronation); p., John Cooper (Lord Cannock); J. S. Pyke-Nott, Perlock, Somerset (Box Hill); Thomas Atkinson, Woodhouse, Mainthorpe, Westmoreland (Brutus); Frank B. Wilkinson, Cavendish Lodge, Edwinstowe, Newark (Havoc); John Lett, Cleveland Stud Farm, Rillington, York (Woodcock); r., F. Curzon Newton, Bearwardcote, Etwall, Derby (King's Messenger); h.c., John Drage (colt); Leonard H. Taylor (South Africa).

CLASS 5.—Three-year-old geldings (foaled in 1899). (Undocked): 1, A. J. Brown (Hollymount); p., C. Kelway-Bamber, Priestlands, Horley, Surrey (Lord Marmion); E. St. John Greaves, White's Club, St. James Street, W. (Master Mariner); George Marton, Muscoates, Kirkymoorsides, Yorks. (Plunger); Edward Hodgson (Toreador); C. E. de Trafford (gelding); J. C. H. Lucy, Hildersley Ross, Herefordshire (Bon-Or); h.c., Leonard H. Taylor (Filbert).

CLASS 6.—Yearling fillies (foaled in 1901). (Undocked.) 1, Frank B. Williamson (The Lady); p., C. M. C. Wakely, Ruggs, Kilmington, Axminster, Devon (Ballet Girl); S. St. Barbe Emmott, Apsley Paddox, Oxford (Gossamer); J. A. Mullens, Narrow Mills, Longcross, Surrey (Irish Point); W. A. Hartland, The Weirend, Ross, Herefordshire (May Queen; Captain H. Heywood-Lonsdale (filly); J. L. Nickisson Bracknell, Berks (Witchcraft; h.c., Edward Hodgson (Marchioness); F. H. Sawtell, Langford, Lavant, Chichester (Stella); c., R. W. McKergow, Twineham Grange, Twineham, Sussex (Nell Gwynn).

CLASS 7.—Two-year-old fillies (foaled in 1900). (Undocked.): 1, W. B. Swallow, Woolton Lawn, Ulceby, Lincs (Tugela); p., J. L. Nickisson, Warfield, Bracknell, Berks (Actress); Joshua Clare, Tennis Court Farm, Hallatrow, Bristol (Birdie Bright); J. Wynford Philipps, M.P. (Mirth); Major-General J. Jago-Trelawny (Speranza); r., Earl Egerton of Tatton, Tatton Park, Knutsford (Tatton Dahlia); h.c., R. Needham, Enville House, Bowdon, Cheshire (Julia); Mrs. H. F. Perkins, Oakdene, Holmwood, Surrey (Lady Radnor).

CLASS 8.—Three-year-old fillies (foaled in 1899). (Undocked.): 1, John Lett (Waterglass); p., T. and H. Ward, Pinchinthorpe, Great Ayton, York (Carnation); J. Wynford Philipps, M.P. (Flyaway); Edwin Wardle (Lorna); r., P. Berridge, The Uplands, Banbury (Rustic Lass); h.c., Edward Hodgson (Primrose); James J. L. Irving, Beardwood Hall, Blackburn, Lancs. (Thomasina).

CLASS 9 (PR DUCE).—For the best group of three young animals (one, two, or three years old), by the same Thoroughbred or registered Hunter sire, selected from entries in Classes 2 to 8: p., W. V. Andrew, Oldbury, Southend, Essex (Gay Boy); C. M. C. Wakely, Ruggs, Kilmington, Axminster (Ballet Girl); J. L. Nickisson (Actress).

CLASS 10.—Four-year-old mares (foaled in 1898): 1, Herbert B Cory, Druidstone, Castleton, Cardiff (St Yvonne); 2, R. E. Dixon, Benninglholme Hall, Skirlaugh, Hull (Lady Meta); 3, Thomas Bradley, Uffington, Stamford, Lincs (Lady Stella); r., Mrs. J. J. Parker (Starlight); c., T. and H. Ward, Pinchingthorpe, Great Ayton, York (Mermaid).

CLASS 11.—Mares, five or six years old (foaled in 1896 or 1897): 1, J. H. Stokes, Nether House, Great Bowden,

Market Harborough (Opal); 2, Mason and Brown, Ravenscroft, Hendon, N.W. (Kitty Grey); 3, John Drage, Chapel Brampton, Northampton (Primrose); r., J. H. Stokes (Helen).

CLASS 12.—Four-year-old geldings (foaled in 1898): 1, John Drage (Barrister); 2, J. H. Stokes (Haddon); 3, Frank B. Wilkinson (The Sirdar; 4, Edwin Nichols, The Rosary, Ombersley Road, Worcester (Convict); r., J. H. Stokes (Frieston); h.c., A. J. Brown (Cork).

CLASS 13.—Five-year-old mares or geldings (foaled in 1897). Not exceeding 13 stone 7 lbs.: 1, J. H. Stokes (The Laird); 2, Edward Hodgson (Statesman); 3, J. H. Stokes (The Priest); 4, Richard Mollett, Northfield House, Birkin, Ferrybridge, Yorks (Gelding); r., P. Berridge (Banbury).

CLASS 14.—Five-year-old mares or geldings (foaled in 1897). Over 13 stone 7 lbs., and not exceeding 15 stone: 1, J. H. Stokes (Tennis Ball); 2, T. and H. Ward (Blackthorne); 3, John Drage (Brampton); r., Herbert B. Cory, Druidstone, Castleton, Cardiff (St. Raphael); h.c., John Drage, Chapel Brampton, Northampton (Primrose); c., J. H. Stokes (Carnival).

CLASS 15.—Five-year-old mares or geldings (foaled in 1897). Over 15 stone: 1, John Drage (Doctor); 2, Herbert B. Cory (St. Austell); 3, Joseph Hughill, Sockburn, Darlington (Big Game); 4, R. Sydney Pethick, St. Peter's Street, Devon (Pathfinder); r., Philip S. Danby, Church Farm, Offchurch, Leamington (Century).

CHARGERS.

CLASS 16.—Three-year-old mares or geldings, heavy weight (foaled in 1899), 13st. 7lb. and upwards (undocked): 1, A. J. Brown (Tipperary); p., M. B. Stabbins, Box Edge Farm, Coalpit Heath, Bristol (Scarcliffe); Colonel Swinfen-Broun, Swinfen Hall, Lichfield, Staffs (Swinfen Sunbeam); r., C. E. de Trafford (Gelding).

CLASS 17.—Three-year-old mares or geldings, light weight (foaled in 1899). Under 13 stone 7 lbs.: 1, C. Kelway-Bamber, Priestlands, Horley, Surrey (Lord Marmion); p., E. St. John Greaves (Master Mariner); C. E. de Trafford (Gelding); r., J. C. H. Lucy, Hildersley, Ross, Herefordshire (Bon-or); h.c., Edward Hoyle, Moorlands, Bacup (Rosebery); c., T. and H. Ward (Carnation); R. Nicholl-Byass, Wick Hill, Stow-on-the-Wold, Glos. (Sextus); Leonard Smith, Hasketon, Woodbridge, Suffolk (Student).

CLASS 18.—Four or five-year-old mares or geldings, heavy weight (foaled in 1897 or 1898), 13 stone 7 lbs. and upwards; p., J. H. Stokes (Frieston); Mason and Brown (Pioneer); r., Lionel Digby, Woodcroft Castle, Peterborough (Black Knight).

CLASS 19.—Four or five-year-old mares or geldings, light weight (foaled in 1897 or 1898). Under 13 stone 7 lbs.: 1, James S. Darrell (Huggate); p., J. H. Stokes (The Laird); Edward H. Brown (Gelding); r., T. and H. Ward, Pinchthorpe, Great Ayton, York (Whitesocks); c., A. J. Brown (Kitty); F. Wilson-Horsfall, Potto Grange, Northallerton (Queen Mary).



THE SHORTHORN COW, AUTUMN QUEEN, shown above, is by Joe Ingram, and was bred by Mr. C. W. Brierley. At the recent Show and Sale of Shorthorns at Birmingham, Autumn Queen was placed top of the class for cows and heifers over three years old, and was subsequently sold to Mr. Jessop for 72 guineas.

Polo Pony Society.

Judges.

Classes 20 to 29.—John Cooper, Brook Hill, East Haddon, Northampton; Sir R. D. Green-Price, Bart., The Grove, Presteign, Radnorshire.

Classes 30 to 33.—E. D. Miller, Spring Hill, Rugby; Earl of Shrewsbury and Talbot, Ingestre, Stafford.

Class 34.—Lieut.-Col. E. N. Henriques, R.A., Union Club, S.W.; Lieut.-General G. C. Russell, Brampton Hall, Ipswich.

Class 35.—John Hill, Marsh Brook House, Church Stretton, Salop; E. Mucklow, jun., Wood Hill, Bury, Lancashire; Sir R. D. Green-Price, Bart., The Grove, Presteign, Radnorshire.

Classes 36 to 38.—E. D. Miller, Spring Hill, Rugby.

POLO PONY SOCIETY.

Gold Challenge Cup, value £50, for the best stallion or entire colt in the show.—Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart., Elsenham Hall, Essex (Rosewater); r., Mr. John Barker, The Grange, Bishop's Stortford, Herts (Rosebud).

Gold Medal for the best stallion in Classes 20 to 23.—Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart. (Rosewater); r., Mr. G. Norris Midwood, The Hut, Tabley, Knutsford, Cheshire (The Bey).

Silver Cup, value 5gs., for best Eastern sire.—Mr. G. Norris Midwood (The Bey); r., Lieutenant-Colonel E. N. Henriques, R.A., Union Club, S.W. (Blucher).

Gold Challenge Cup, value £50, for the best brood mare or filly in Classes 24 to 29.—Mr. J. Barker (Summer Lightning); r., Mr. J. Barker (Lightning).

Gold Medal for the best brood mare in Classes 24, 25, and 26.—Mr. J. Barker (Lightning); r., Mr. Tresham Gilbey, Whitehall, Bishop's Stortford (Early Dawn).

Silver Cup, value 5gs., for best Arab mare in Class 26.—Lieutenant-Colonel E. N. Henriques, R.A. (Shakra).

Gold medal for the best entire colt in Classes 27 and 28.—Mr. J. Barker (Rose Bud); r., Mr. G. N. Midwood (Ashplant).

Gold medal for the best filly in Classes 27, 28, and 29.—Mr. J. Barker (Summer Lightning); r., Mr. J. Barker (Baby Girl).

Gold medal for the best gelding in Classes 27, 28, and 29.—Mr. G. Norris Midwood (Standard); r., Mr. J. Barker (Paul Pry).

Silver Challenge Cup, value £25, for the best polo pony mare in Classes 30 and 32.—Comte Jean de Madre, Upper Rokeby, Rugby (Madamoiselle); r., Mr. Waldorf Astor (Roulette).

Gold medal for the best mare or gelding in Classes 30, 31, 32, and 33.—Comte Jean de Madre (Madamoiselle); r., Mr. J. Farmer, Barton Farm, Siddington, Cirencester (Larky).

Cup, value 5gs., for the best mare in Section A. of Class 35.—Sir George Bullough, Kinloch Castle, Isle of Man, by Oban, N.B. (Fanny).

Cup, value 5gs., for the best mare in Section B. of Class 35.—Mr. S. M. Wilmot, The Chalet, Alveston, R.S.O., Glos. (Alveston Witch).

CLASS 20.—Stallions, not exceeding 14.2: 1, Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart. (Rosewater); 2, The Keynsham Stud Co., The Lodge Stud Farm, Keynsham, Somerset (Gownboy); 3, Captain C. G. G. Hutchison, Balmaghie, Castle Douglas, N.B. (De Wet); 4, John Bell, Upend, Newmarket (Helidon); r., G. Norris Midwood (Rudheath); c., Edward H. Brown (Chancery); G. Norris Midwood, The Hut, Tabley, Knutsford, Cheshire (Lo Ben).

CLASS 21.—Stallions, not exceeding 13.2. Three years old and upwards (foaled previous to 1900): 1, Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart. (Lord Polo); 2, John Wilkinson (Hermit); 3, A. L. Goodson, Heathfield, Knutsford, Cheshire (Polo King); r., Rev. D. B. Montifiore, Mursley Hall, Winslow, Bucks (Hurlingham); h.c., H. W. Nockolds, Broadway, Turnham Green, W. (Prince of Wales)

CLASS 22.—Eastern sires, not exceeding 14.2: 1, G. Norris Midwood (The Bey); 2, F. W. Barling, M.R.C.V.S., The New House, Ross, Herefordshire (Parahk); 3, Captain F. B. Bridgeman, Copgrove, via Leeds (Carnival); 4, Everard R. Calthrop, M. Inst. C.E., The Clock House, Snaresbrook, Essex (Roan); r., Hon. Mrs. Ives, Moyns Park, Halstead, Essex (Bashom).

CLASS 23.—Polo-bred stallions (by a registered polo pony sire, or out of a registered polo pony dam), three, four or five years old. Three-year-olds not to exceed 14.1. Four and five-year-olds not to exceed 14.2. (Foaled in 1897, 1898, or 1899: 1, The Keynsham Stud Co. (Maidstone Royal); 2, The Keynsham Stud Company (Birmingham Royal); 3, The Keynsham Stud Co. (White Mask); r., Lieut.-Colonel E. N. Henriques, R.A., Union Club, S.W. (Blucher).

CLASS 24.—Brood mares, above 13.2 h.h., and not exceeding 14.2. h.h., with foal at foot or to foal in 1902: 1, John Barker, The Grange, Bishop's Stortford, Herts (Lightning); 2, Tresham Gilbey, Whitehall, Bishop's Stortford (Early Dawn); 3, John Barker, The Grange, Bishop's Stortford, Herts (Lady Polo); r., Comte Jean de Madre, Upper Rokeby, Rugby (Hard to Find); John Barker, The Grange, Bishop's Stortford, Herts (Serf Belle); h.c., Lieut.-Colonel E. N. Henriques, R.A. (Shakra); Rev. D. B. Montifiore, Mursley Hall, Winslow, Bucks (Girton Girl); Rev. D. B. Montifiore (Sunflower); John Barker (Silvia); Reginald Gurney, Norton Haugh, Bury St. Edmunds (Starbright).

CLASS 25.—Brood mares, not exceeding 13.2 h.h., with foal at foot or to foal in 1902: 1, John Barker (Jeanie); 2, John Wilkinson (Marvel); 3, Rev. D. B. Montifiore (Zither); 4, William Mortimore, St. Thomas, Exeter (Lady Nimrod); r., G. Norris Miwood (Connemara Jane); h.c., Miss Standish, Marwell Manor, Eastleigh, Hants (Quince); c., Thomas Kinsman Bickell, St. John's Stud Farm, Lamerton, Tavistock (Dainty); Rev. D. B. Montifiore (Princess of Wales).

CLASS 26.—Arab brood mare by an Arab sire, out of an Arab dam, not exceeding 14.2, with foal at foot, or to foal in 1902: 1, Lieut.-Colonel E. N. Henriques, R.A. (Shakra).

CLASS 27.—Yearling entire colts, geldings, or fillies, not exceeding 13.2 h.h. (foaled in 1901): 1, John Barker (Queenie); 2, G. Norris Midwood (Ashplant); 3, The Keynsham Stud Co. (Royal Flight); 4, John Barker (Silver Queen); h.c., Tresham Gilbey, (Spinning Wheel); John Barker (Sybil).

CLASS 28.—Two-year-old entire colts, geldings, or fillies, not exceeding 14 h.h. (foaled in 1900): 1, John Barker (Rosebud); 2, John Barker (Paul Pry); 3, T. H. Ormston Pease, Skaigh, Okehampton, Devon (Barnaby); 4, Rev. A. E. Green-Price, Mordiford Rectory, Hereford (Jolly Sandboy); r., G. Norris Midwood (Doubtful); h.c., Rev. D. B. Montifiore (Combination); Miss Eurgain Lort, near Bangor, N. Wales (Becky); John Barker (Sheet Lightning); c., Tresham Gilbey (Sandbar).

CLASS 29.—Three-year-old geldings or fillies, not exceeding 14.1 h.h. (foaled in 1899): 1, John Barker (Summer Lightning); 2, John Barker (Baby Girl); 3, G. Norris Midwood (Standard); 4, Tresham Gilbey (Sandicat); r., John Barker (Silversand); h.c., Miss Standish (Rosemary); Rev. A. E. Green-Price (White Socks).

CLASS 30.—Mares or geldings, four years old. For ponies suitable for making polo ponies (foaled in 1898): 1, A. Rawlinson, 12, Queen's Gate Place, S.W. (Seltzer); 2, John Barker (Celia); 3, The Keynsham Stud Co. (Nondescript).

CLASS 31.—Ponies, five years old and upwards. For polo ponies and for ponies suitable for making polo ponies. Light weight (foaled previous to 1898): 1, James Farmer, Barton Farm, Siddington, Cirencester (Larky); 2, Waldorf Astor, Cliveden, Taplow (Colonel Ashton); 3, J. Gouldsmith (Silver Star); r., T. L. Walker, Knightwick Manor, Worcester (Advance); h.c., Captain F. B. Bridgeman, Copgrove, via Leeds (Iris); J. S. Mason, 1, Orme Court, Hyde Park, W. (Red Fire).

CLASS 32.—Ponies, five years old and upwards. For polo ponies, and for ponies suitable for making polo ponies. Heavy weight (foaled previous to 1898): 1, Comte Jean de Madre (Mademoiselle); 2, Waldorf Astor, Cliveden, Taplor (Roulette); 3, J. S. Mason (Red Letter); r., Messrs. Slocock, Carlow, Ireland (Bustle); h.c., Tre r., Messrs. Slocock, Carlow, Ireland (Bustle); h.c., Tresham Gilbey (The Count).

CLASS 33.—Ponies, four year olds and upwards not exceeding 13.2 (foaled previous to 1899): 1, Charles Williams, Manor House, Little Rollright, Chipping Norton, Oxon (Shaving); 2, Mrs. Gouldsmith (School Boy); 3, G. Norris Midwood (Shy Lass II.); r., Lord Arthur Cecil, Orchardmains, Tonbridge, Kent (Loch Aline).

CLASS 34.—Army remounts. Ponies suitable for mounted infantry, height not to exceed 14.2 (over four and not exceeding nine years old. To be ridden. (Foaled in the years 1893, 1894, 1895, 1896, or 1897.): 1, Captain H. E. Vallentin, R.H.A., 54, The Common, Woolwich (Jack); 2, Noel E. Price, Couchmore, Esher, Surrey (Juggins); 3, The Keynsham Stud Co., (St. Patrick); r., The Keynsham Stud Co. (Master Owen).

CLASS 35.—Mountain and moorland ponies (of the riding type). Brood mares, in foal or with foal at foot, and fillies, two or three years old. (Foaled previous to 1901): 1a, Sir George Bullough (Fanny); 2, Sir George Bullough, Kinloch Castle, Isle of Rum, by Oban, N.B. (Dolly); 3, Lord Arthur Cecil (Doll); r., Professor J. Cossar Ewart, The Bungalow, Penicuik, Midlothian, N.B. (Fanny); h.c., Miss H. Roberts, Llwynderw, Llanwrtyd, Breconshire (Orion); c., Lord Arthur Cecil (Bonnie Jean).

Under 13 hands.—1, S. M. Wilmot, The Chalet, Alveston, R.S.O., Glos. (Alveston Witch); 2, Rev. D. B. Montifiore (Princess of Wales); 3, T. H. Ormston Pease (Pixie); r., Miss H. Roberts (Estella); h.c., Thomas K. Bickell, St. John's Stud Farm, Lamerton, Tavistock, (Dainty).

CLASS 36.—Bending Competition: 1, Mr. A. Withers (Revolver); 2, Mr. A. Withers (Laura).

CLASS 37.—Hardiest Pony: 1, Messrs.; The Keynsham Stud Company's (Nondescript).

CLASS 38.—Best Boys' Hunter: 1, Mr. Tresham Gilbey's (The Count); 2, Captain H. E. Vallentin (Merry Legs); 3, Mr. J. W. Winan (The Rake).

Messrs. Henry Richardson and Co., of Skeldergate Bridge, York, agricultural merchants and manure manufacturers, have issued the 1902 edition of their annual circular, which, in addition to price, etc., contains some interesting items concerning the various manures.

Saffron Walden November Horse Fair.—Following the Saffron Walden Town Council's resolution to abandon the November horse and pleasure fair, one of the oldest in the country, and the subsequent petition to the Home Secretary not to consent to the same, a communication was read at the council meeting on Friday from the Home Secretary to the effect that "considering all circumstances, and the representations made to him, he considered that sufficient grounds had not been shown for the proposed abolition."

Bad Meat: Farmer Fined £80.—At the Guildhall Police Court, on Tuesday, Samuel Egar, a farmer, of Thorney, near Peterborough, appeared in answer to a summons charging him, as owner, with sending four quarters of diseased beef to the Central London Market, intending the same for sale as human food. Sanitary Inspector Leeson having given evidence as to the seizure of the meat, Dr. William Collingridge (Medical Officer of Health) informed the Court that the four quarters in question had formed the carcase of a large, well-nourished cow, which, however, was affected with tuberculosis, as shown by the most extensive tuberculous deposits over the whole of the chest walls on both sides. The nodules varied in size from a pea to about 1½in. in circumference, and these were in considerable masses. It was so far diseased as to be unfit for human food. The eating of such food would unquestionably be attended with serious results. In answer to the charge, the defendant said that he was a farmer in a large way of business, farming over 1,000 acres. He, however, did not give it any personal attention, leaving it all to his men and his agent. He had no wish to injure anyone by sending bad meat to London. Sir Horatio Davies, in giving judgment, said:—"I have made up my mind to put this kind of thing down. You farmers in the country—well, some of you—keep the best to sell to the neighbouring butchers, and send the bad to London. It is not right. This meat coming up to London is mostly distributed among the poor, who do not know what they are buying, and buy because it is cheap. I shall not be doing my duty unless I fine you the full penalty of £20 for each piece—£80—and 4 guineas costs, or two months' imprisonment. The money was paid.

SUCREMA

No. 1

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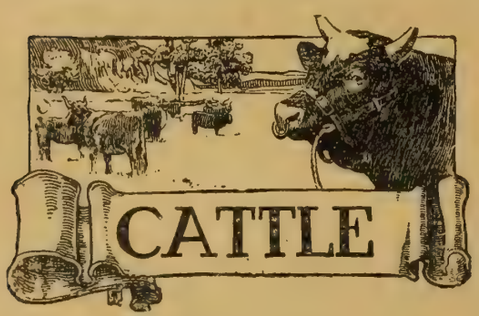
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Please mention this paper.



English Aberdeen-Angus Association's Show and Sale.

The second show and sale of Aberdeen-Angus cattle at Bingley Hall, Birmingham, under the auspices of the English Aberdeen-Angus Association, was held on Tuesday, when upwards of a hundred animals were forward, and they included some excellent specimens of the breed, which realised fair prices. The judge was Mr. G. J. Walker, of Portlethen, and Messrs. Lythall and Walters were the auctioneers. In the strong class for bulls calved after the date named Mr. J. H. Bridges's Millett was awarded the first prize, and sold to Messrs. Casswell for 52 gns., the highest sum paid during the sale. The next best price was the 38 gns. given by the Duke of Portland for Conquest of Malden, shown by Mr. G. F. Gush. Mr. Vaughan-Williams purchased Potiphar for 34 gns. from Mr. Bridges, whilst the reserve animal, Mr. Schroeter's Senekal, was bought by Mr. Sandford for 33 gns.; Mr. Bridges's Magendie passed into Mr. Faulkner's hands for 32 gns.; Mr. C. Bolden sold St. Martin of Preston to Mr. T. B. Grand; and for the same amount the Rev. C. Bolden sold St. Martin of Preston to Mr. Turner. Other animals in this class went at prices ranging from 28 gns. downwards. The first prize in the class for yearling bulls was won by Mr. T. H. Bainbridge with Elibendor, of which Mr. Ratcliffe became the owner for 33 gns.; Prince Ben, the second prize animal, belonging to the same exhibitor, sold for 26 gns., to Mr. W. Warner; whilst Mr. R. W. Hudson, who had taken the remaining prize with King of Danesfield, disposed of the bull for 28 gns. to Major Hargreave. Messrs. Casswell's Fluster of Skegby went to Mr. J. Hague for 26 gns., and at 25 gns. Mr. J. McIntyre's Theakston Duke passed into Messrs. Turnbull's hands.

Mr. Hudson's Danesfield Lass carried off the premier award in the class for heifers calved between December 1st, 1899, and December 1st, 1900, and sold for 25 gns. to Mr. Anderson; whilst thesecond prize winner, Messrs. Casswell's Queen Mona 5th of Skegby, made 29 gns., being purchased by Mr. Catley. Phyllis of Ranksborough, also exhibited by Messrs. Casswell, took the third prize, and passed into Mr. Warner's possession for 21 gns.; whilst Dingle 2nd of Skegby and Stumpie 13th of Skegby made 26 gns. and 21 gns. respectively, and left Messrs. Casswell for Mr. Bridges and Sir Edgar Vincent. Lady Ba Rae 7th of Skegby won for Messrs. Casswell the first prize in the class for heifers calved since December 1st, 1900, and was purchased by Mr. Schroeter for 23 gns.; whilst her rival, Alice 5th of Skegby, from the same herd, realised 24 gns., Mr. G. Stanford being the purchaser. The best price of the class, however, was made by the reserve animal, Water[illegible] of Skegby, being bought by Mr. Hudson for 36 gns.

The best averages obtained by individual breeders were as follow:—

BULLS.

	£	s.	d.
J. H. Bridges (5)	35	18	2
T. H. Bainbridge (4)	32	0	0
C. W. Schroeter (3)	29	15	0
Rev. C. Bolden (3)	28	7	0
G. Willder (1)	27	6	0
G. F. Gush (4)	26	15	6
R. W. Hudson (3)	24	3	0
Casswell Bros. (4)	23	2	0
J. McIntyre (5)	22	1	0
C. W. Sofer-Whitburn (2)	21	0	0
F. Vaughan-Williams (2)	20	9	6

HEIFERS.

	£	s.	d.
Caswell Bros. (13)	22	5	10
G. Willder (2)	21	10	6

SUMMARY.

	£	s.	d.
53 Bulls averaged	23	17	8
3 Cows averaged	23	12	6
10 Two-year-old heifers averaged	21	6	4
32 Yearling heifers averaged	17	3	6
98 head averaged	21	8	6

Birmingham Jersey and Dairy Cattle Show and Sale.

The show and sale of Jersey and other dairy cattle which takes place annually at Bingley Hall was held on Thursday last. The number of entries, most of which were Jerseys, totalled up to about 115. The quality of the stock generally was better than last year, thuogh there were still too many of a class not calculated to commend their breed or to do good to their purchasers. The island-bred classes as usual displayed most quality, and that for heifers, calved in or after January 1st, 1900, was very uniformly good. The chief exhibitors in the Channel Island-bred classes were Captain A. B. S. Fraser, Mr. A. C. McMullen, Mr. Edward Smith, and Messrs. Fowler and De la Perille, the two last-named exhibitors being first and second in the older class with very good heifers. In the younger class these same exhibitors changed places, and again the quality and milk appearance were very good. There was a somewhat strong entry in the older class of English-bred animals, and though several of them were very indifferent and coarse, as well as wanting in dairy appearance, there were several very good quality cows that looked as though they would do well at the pail. Lord Windsor and the Marquis of Winchester won the prizes in this class. In the younger class of English-bred heifers the Marquis of Winchester came in first with a strong, useful-looking one, bred by Mr. Tremaine in Cornwall, Mr. McMullen, Mr. Edward Smith, and Captain Fraser were the prize-winners as named. The bull classes were very moderately filled. A few very nice yearlings, however, were entered by Mr. McMullen, who carried off three prizes, Col. T. B. Rawkillies one first prize, and Messrs. Fowler and De la Perille, as well as Mr. W. J. M. Towneley.

Under the hammer there appeared to be a good inquiry for cows or heifers of quality, and with milk about them, but for the indifferent sort there was no demand. Prices for the former were from 20 to 26 guineas. Bulls of the best stand went from 15 or 16 up to 24 guineas.

Kerries and Dexters made a very poor display. The Model Dairy Company, from Sheffield, had one or two useful cows and heifers. Prices for these were not very high.

Birmingham Shorthorn Show and Sale.

Below we give a list of the leading averages obtained at the recent show and sale of Shorthorns at Bingley Hall, Birmingham. These averages include the value of the prizes won:—

Lovat, Lord (4)	271	11	0
Hosken, W. J. (5)	134	8	0
McWilliam, James	80	18	0
Marsh, A. E.	65	18	0
Kingscote, Colonel Sir N.	63	7	6
Hewson, J.	63	0	0
Freeman, George	55	5	0
Lathom, Earl of	52	10	0
Holland, Mrs.	51	9	6
Handley, J.	49	17	0
Makins, Colonel	49	4	0
Brierley, C. W.	48	16	6
Scott-Murray, C. A.	46	4	0
Harris, Jos.	45	14	0
Beach, Jos.	45	13	6
Bathurst, C.	45	3	0
Bewley Brothers	44	19	0
Allen, S. H.	44	10	0
Lewis, Mrs.	44	9	0
Hulbert, T. R.	44	2	0
Pears, J.	44	2	0
Young, W.	43	5	6
Rothschild, L. de	42	7	6
Harrison, John	42	0	0
Oakley, H.	42	0	0
Preece, J. A.	41	15	0
Barnes, J. W.	41	8	0
Mills, P. L.	40	19	0
Smith, The Hon. W. F. D., M.P.	40	7	0
Morgan-Richardson, C.	39	7	6
Little, J.	39	2	0
Joliffe, C. H.	38	3	0
Evans, W.	37	16	0
Hiscock, A., jun.	37	16	0
Singer, R.	37	16	0
Whitting, Captain	37	16	0
Colville, H. Ker	37	5	6
Gill, J.	37	3	6
Steward, F. J.	37	2	0
Parkin-Moore, W.	36	18	0
Hewlett, A.	36	16	0
Stokes, T.	36	11	0
Powis, Earl	35	0	0
Leon, H. S.	35	16	6
Lawson, J	35	14	0
Wood, R	35	5	6

Sale of the Crystalbrook Jerseys.

A choice selection from the Crystalbrook herd of pure-bred Jersey cattle belonging to Mr. J. Carson, comprising a few cows, the yearling heifers, and some young bulls, was sold by auction on Friday at Crystalbrook Farm, Theydon Bois, Essex, by Messrs. Thornton and Co. These beautiful cattle, bred from some of the finest strains in the island, brought a good company together, several of the best breeders being present, or represented at the sale. The herd was in capital condition, one nice young cow, Theydon Rose, going for 40 guineas to Mr. Clarke. Among the other purchasers may be mentioned the Duke of Marlborough, Lord Rothschild, Messrs. R. Barclay, G. Buxton, E. Cooper, and A. Miller Hallet. The average of nearly £20 was not considered unsatisfactory, considering that the herd had only been established about six years. We give a list of the prices realised by the principal lots, together with purchasers' names:—

COWS AND HEIFERS.

	Gs.
Fantee, whole colour, c April 30, 1894, s Golden Coast 4854 ..... C. W. Armitage	10½
Crystalbrook Madame, whole colour, c Oct 31, 1900, s Oompah's Tenda 6975 ..... R. Carr	16
Crystalbrook Frolicsome, whole colour, c July 19, 1900, s Cunning Lad 6185 ..... R Carr	22
Ellen III., whole colour, c June 3, 1900, s Golden Prince II 6572 ..... R. Carr	20
Crystalbrook Mary, whole colour, c Feb. 14, 1900, s Spring's Glory 6413 ..... G. Buxton	31
Crystalbrook Erica, broken colour, c Jan. 23, 1900, s Galtee More 6864 ..... J. S. Bowlby	26
Crystalbrook Clarissa, whole colour, c January, 22, 1900, s Clio (2626), P.S.H.C. ..... Stenstone	28
Crystalbrook Virginie, whole colour, c Jan. 21, 1900, s Lark (2599), P.S.H.C. ..... R. H. Burbidge	25
Crystalbrook Berengaria, whole colour, c Dec. 6, 1899, s Cunning Lad 6185 ..... R. Carr	20
Theydon Primrose, whole colour, c August 15, 1899, s Beauty's Hero 6130 ..... J. S. Bowlby	26
Nun Nicer II., whole colour, c June 28, 1899, s Cunning Lad 6185 ..... R. J. Streatfeild	26
Theydon Rose, whole colour, c Feb. 3, 1899, s Happy 6262 ..... W. R. Clarke	40
Theydon Violet, broken colour, c April 30, 1898, s Courtship 5841 ..... Duke of Marlborough	31
Starlight's Star, whole colour, c Jan. 19, 1898, s White Star 6753 ..... R. J. Streatfeild	27
Josephine, whole colour, c March 10, 1897, s Mandarin 5978 ..... Dudley Scott	23
Capelle's Bee, whole colour, c March 2, 1897, s Canter 6491 ..... E. Cooper	22
Penelope II., broken colour, c Dec. 2, 1896, s Geboo 5887 ..... R. H. Burbidge	20
Ellen II., whole colour, c May 7, 1896, s Milton 5287 ..... S. C. Marsh	12½
Oporto V., broken colour, c Feb. 11, 1896, s Pretender 6021 ..... E. Cooper	27

	Gs.
Crystalbrook Glory, broken colour, c Feb. 10, 1901, s Spring's Glory 6413 ..... Col. Lockwood	10
Crystalbrook Rose, whole colour, c March 17, 1901, s Gamboge's Prince 6560 ..... W. R. Clarke	13
Crystalbrook Profit, whole colour, c March 30, 1901, s Gamboge's Prince 6560 ..... Rev. E. M. Clements	11
Crystalbrook Victoria, whole colour, c March 30, 1901, s Baden-Powell 6767 ..... R. Barclay	12
Crystalbrook Maitland, whole colour, c April 2, 1901, s Gamboge's Prince 6560 ..... R. Carr	24
Crystalbrook Tiny, whole colour, c April 22, 1901, s Spring's Glory 6413 ..... Lord Rothschild	33
Crystalbrook Acquascutum, whole colour, c May 17, 1901, s Spring's Glory 6413 ..... A. Miller Hallett	12
Crystalbrook Daisy, broken colour, c June 30, 1901, s Baden Powell 6767 ..... A. Miller Hallett	12½

BULLS.

	Gs.
Blazer, whole colour, c Nov. 6, 1900, s Oxford Duke 5314 ..... R. Barclay	17
De Wet, whole colour, c Jan. 30, 1901, s Spring's Glory 6413 ..... W. H. Allen	10
Gamboge's Glory, broken colour, c March 3, 1901, s Spring's Glory 6413 ..... W. W. Hughes D'Aeth	16½
Crystalbrook Joshua, whole colour, c May 3, 1901, s Spring's Glory 6413 ..... R. Barclay	26
None Nicer, whole colour, c June 7, 1901, s Gamboge's Prince 6560 ..... Rev. E. M. Clements	20

SUMMARY.

	Average. £ s. d.	Total. £ s. d.
33 Cows and heifers	20 2 2	663 12 0
7 Bulls	14 9 6	101 6 6
40 head	19 2 6	764 18 6

Bull Show and Saleat Stirling.

Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser, and Co.'s annual show and sale of Shorthorn, Aberdeen-Angus, Ayrshire, and West Highland yearling bulls at Stirling was held on Friday, when there was one of the best and largest displays ever seen at Stirling. The Shorthorns numbered 48, Aberdeen-Angus 42, Ayrshire 13, and West Highland 3—making a total of 106. As to quality the display was a decided advance on former years. The prizes were awarded as follows:—Best Short

Bull—1, Mr. Ferguson, Dalcapon, sold at 30 guineas; 2, Mr. Dow, Ballinluig, sold at 25 guineas; 3, Mr. Ferguson, Dalcapon, sold at 22½ guineas; others made from 10 to 21 guineas. Aberdeen-Angus Bull—1, Mr. Murray, Munniestton, sold at 23 guineas; 2, Messrs. Meiklem, Begg, sold at 24 guineas; 3, Mr. Sharp, Bardrill, sold at 20 guineas; others made from 13 to 21 guineas. Ayshires—1, Mr. Macfarlane, Oxhill, sold at 16 guineas; 2, Mr. More, Gartahoil, sold at 12 guineas.

The Chesterton Aberdeen-Angus Herd.

Mr. T. Dick, of Lodge Farm, Chesterton, Leamington, having decided to give up farming, his entire herd of pedigree Aberdeen-Angus cattle, and 80 Aberdeen-Angus cross and Galloway cattle were disposed of by auction on Wednesday, Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser, and Co., Ltd., of Perth, being the auctioneers. The herd of pedigree Aberdeen-Angus cattle was founded in 1896 by purchases made at Preston Bisset sale and by subsequent purchases from several well-known herds in Scotland. The cattle were in healthy breeding condition, and had been reared on high, sound land. The stock bulls used in the herd were Lawyer II. (11,000), bred by the Rev. C. Bolden, and Primy (14,826), bred by Mr. Geddes, Blairmore, Huntly.

There was a large company present at the sale, and the bidding, being of a spirited character, the animals were sold in a remarkably short time. Twelve three-year-old Aberdeen-Angus bullocks made from 20 to 25 guineas, and Galloways made up to 16 guineas. Nineteen Angus and Aberdeen-Angus cross bullocks made up to £14 7s. 6d.; six heifers up to £14 5s.; 14 one-year-old bullocks up to £10, and 10 heifers up to £9 12s. 6d. each. The top price obtained for the pedigree Aberdeen-Angus cows was 21 guineas, realised twice. Several sold at 20 guineas, and others fetched prices ranging down to 14½ guineas.

Shrewsbury Store Stock Sale.

Messrs. Mansell's March sale of store cattle and sheep took place in the Shrewsbury Cattle Market on the 7th inst. No less than 1,147 cattle entered the ring, and, as usual, the sale opened with the sheep, for which there was an improved trade. At one o'clock Mr. Alfred Mansell mounted the rostrum, and although the company was not so large as on some occasions, nevertheless it was a very representative one, and included many of the best graziers in the Eastern, Southern, and Midland counties. The cattle comprised some splendid Hereford bullocks, for which there was spirited bidding, whilst the Irish contingent included some very useful Shorthorn heifers and Polled Angus crosses, and fetched good prices. Some of the prices realised are as follows:—

Hereford Bullocks—£17 17s. 6d., £16 5s., £15 15s., £15 5s., £14 7s. 6d., £13 15s., £13 12s. 6d., £11 17s. 6d. Hereford Heifers—£10 15s., £10 7s. 6d., £10 5s., £9 5s. Shorthorn Bullocks—£17 2s. 6d., £15 7s. 6d, £15 5s., £14 12s. 6d., £14 2s. 6d., £13 15s., £13 10s. Shorthorn Heifers—£11. £10 15s., £10 10s., £10, £9 10s., £8 15s. Polled Angus Bullocks—£14 10s., £14, £13 17s. 6d., £12 10s., £11 5s. Polled Angus Heifers—£12, £11 15s., £11 2s. 6d., £10 15s., £10. Cross-bred Bullocks—£14 10s., £14 2s. 6d., £13 10s., £13 2s. 6d., £10 15s., £10 10s., £9 12s. 6d. Cross-bred Heifers—£11 15s., £11 2s. 6d.; £10 12s. 6d., £10, £9 15s., £9 7s. 6d., £9 2s. 6d. Welsh Runts—£9 15s., £9 5s., £8 12s. 6d., £7 12s. 6d., £7 5s.

Anthrax Dangers: Farmer and His Man Infected.

A striking instance of the contagious character of anthrax has occurred at Kelbrook, near Skipton. Mr. W. A. Thursby, farmer, found one of his cows out of condition, and the animal subsequently became seriously ill. A veterinary surgeon was sent for, but in the meantime the cow appeared to be in such extreme pain that it was considered advisable to put an end to its misery. Mr. Thursby's man, Parker, according despatched it with the knife. When the veterinary surgeon arrived the animal was declared to have been suffering from anthrax, and subsequently this opinion was confirmed by Mr. W. Anderton, of Skipton, the police veterinary surgeon of the district. The usual precautions were taken, and no further outbreak has occurred among the farm stock.

Strange to say, however, both Mr. Thursby and his man have been attacked with the disease. The former was the first to develop symptoms, and the affected parts were cut out by Dr. Falconer, of Earby. The man Parker was stricken later, but far more seriously, and he has been removed to the hospital at Burnley, where he lies in a precarious condition. It appears that both men, being unaware of the contagious character of the disease, took no precautions during the slaying of the cow, and Parker was actually found holding the knife in his mouth on the arrival of the veterinary surgeon.

Particulars of Transactions in Store Stock.

Reported to the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland.

The fair at Tipperary on Monday was a small one, composed chiefly of young cattle, for which there was fair demand all round. There were very few springers, which met a moderate demand. Very small supply of sheep, the demand for which was slow, and only a few lots sold. Prices:—Calves, 1st class, £5 5s. to £6; 2nd class, £4 to £5; yearlings, 1st class, £9 to £9 10s.; 2nd class, £7 to £8 15s.; two-year-olds, 1st class, £12 5s. to £12 15s.; 2nd class, £10 to £11 10s.; springers, 1st class, £15 to £16; 2nd class, £11 10s. to £14. Sheep, over 12 and under 24 months old, 2nd class, £1 5s. to £1 10s.

Drogheda Fair (Co. Louth), held on Wednesday, was not by any means a large one, and was composed chiefly of first and second class one and two year old cattle in poor condition, for which demand was slow, and a lot were left unsold. There was a slow demand for springers, except choice animals. Prices:—Calves, 1st class, £5 to £5 10s.; 2nd class, £4 15s.; yearlings, 1st class, £7 15s. to £8 10s.; 2nd class, £6 10s. to £7 10s.; two-year-olds, 1st class, £11 5s. to £12 10s.; 2nd class, £9 to £10 10s.; three-year-olds, 2nd class, £11 10s. to £13; springers, 1st class, £15 15s. to £17 15s.; 2nd class, £11 to £13 10s.; young pigs, 8 to 10 weeks old, sold at from 18s. to 30s. each.

At the fair held at Longford on Wednesday there was a much improved demand for all classes of cattle, but a good many yearlings failed to find purchasers. Springers met a slow sale. Prices:—Calves, 1st class, £5 to £5 5s.; 2nd class, £4 to £4 10s.; yearlings, 1st class, £7 10s. to £8; 2nd class, £5 7s. 6d. to £6 5s.; two-year-olds, 1st class, £10 10s. to £11 10s.; 2nd class, £8 to £10; three-year-olds, 1st class, £13 15s. to £14 7s. 6d.; 2nd class, £11 to £13; springers, 1st class, £17 10s. to £19; 2nd class, £11 10s. to £14 8s.

There was an average-sized fair at Elphin, county Roscommon, on Wednesday, composed of second and third-class cattle, for which there was a local demand, springers not selling so well as in recent fairs. Prices:—Calves, second-class, £3 15s. to £4 10s. Yearlings, second-class, £6 to £7; third-class, £4 12s. 6d. to £5 10s. Two-year-olds, second class, £8 to £10; third-class, £6 to £7. Springers, second class, £13 5s. to £15 10s.; third-class, £9 10s. to £11.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending March 11, 1902:—

Swine Fever.	Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.	No.	99	295	556	17	1,812	2,032 3,868 6,970
	Outbreaks.	No.	28	62	26	46	315	401 344 400
Rabies.	Cases Reported. Oth'r Anim'ls.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	1 ... ...
	Dogs.	No.	2	...	...	...	5	... ...
Pleuro-Pneumonia.	Cattle Slghter'd. Exposed to Infection.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	... ...
	Diseased.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	... ...
	Outbreaks.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	... ...
Glanders (incl. farcy).	Animals Attacked.	No.	48	33	57	36	457	449 383 242
	Outbreaks.	No.	23	17	26	17	217	242 193 134
Foot-and-Mouth Disease.	Animals Attacked.	No.	...	5	...	...	...	652 99 ...
	Outbreaks.	No.	...	1	...	...	...	10 7 ...
Anthrax.	Animals Attacked.	No.	29	19	20	21	279	183 138 181
	Outbreaks.	No.	18	15	15	5	170	126 105 98

Period.				
Week ended Mar. 8, 1902				
Corresponding week in ...	1901	1900	1899	
Total for 10 weeks, 1902				
Corresponding period in ...	1901	1900	1899	

NOTE.—The figures for the current Year are approximate only.

SHEEP.

Sheep Breeding Experiments.

The experiments commenced in 1899 by the University College of North Wales in order to test the suitability of various crosses with large or medium-sized ewes for the production of fat lambs were repeated at Lledwigan in the autumn of 1900. Cross-bred ewes of the Leicester-Shropshire type, such as are commonly found in the district, were employed. In addition to the four varieties represented in the previous year a Wiltshire ram was used. The ewes were divided into lots as follows:—Lot I., consisting of 15 ewes, ran with a Border-Leicester ram. Lot II., consisting of 15 ewes, ran with a Shropshire ram. Lot III., consisting of 15 ewes, ran with an Oxford ram. Lot IV., consisting of 21 ewes, ran with a Suffolk ram. Lot V., consisting of 15 ewes, ran with a Wiltshire ram.

The rams were turned in on September 5th, and after their removal at the end of October the ewes were all grazed on the same pasture and received the same treatment until the lambs were sold. They commenced to drop their lambs during the second week in February, but the bulk of the lambs were dropped in March. There was very little difference in point of age between the lambs in the various lots.

Full particulars of the births and deaths are given in the following table:—

TABLE 1.

Lot.	Ewes at commencement.	Ewes Bar'n.	Ewes died.	Lambs dr'p'd.	Lambs rear'd.
1. (Border-Leicester cross)	15	2	1	21	20
2. (Shropshire cross)	15	—	—	28	25
3. (Oxford cross)	15	1	2	19	16
4. (Suffolk cross)	21	1	3	30	26
5. (Wiltshire cross)	15	2	—	20	18

In determining the suitability of these crosses for the purpose in view the results must be considered from various standpoints.

In this part of North Wales lambs of the best class from large or medium-sized ewes are usually sold for from 30s. to 35s. per head when ready for the butcher in the months of April and May, or in the beginning of June; from that time until September the prices range from 23s. to 28s. per head, 30s. per head being an exceptional price. In the early part of the season ripeness of condition is a more potent factor in fixing the price than size or weight, lambs in their first bloom and really fat being much more saleable than those which, though larger in size, are more backward. It is at this stage that natural aptitude for fattening counts for so much, great difficulty being experienced in bringing slow-fattening lambs to the required pitch of condition at this period of the year. Where it is desired to feed the ewes for the butcher it is of particular importance to get the lambs off early, in order to get the ewes ready for sale before the market is glutted.

In 1899-1900 the Suffolk and Border-Leicester crosses gave much the best results, the Suffolk in particular giving great satisfaction. About 80 per cent. of the lambs in each case were sold before the end of May, and those which remained after that date attained a good size—an important feature in late lambs. The Shropshire-cross was disappointing. The lambs did not fatten early, and those which were kept until the latter part of the season failed to reach the weights obtained in the other lots. The Oxford-cross were what may be termed growing lambs, more suitable for keeping over year than for slaughtering as lambs.

In 1900-01 the lambs were sold to a dealer as soon as they were ready for slaughter. Particulars of the sales are given below:—

TABLE 2.—EARLY SALES.

Description of lambs.	Percentage of lambs sold.	Date sale.	Hgst. live wt.	Lwst. live wt.	Av. live wt.
		On or before	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.
Border-Leicester cross	50	June 10.	86	57	67
Shropshire cross	40	,,	77	58	65
Oxford cross	50	,,	75	59	63
Suffolk cross	81	,,	83	49	68
Wiltshire cross	66	,,	80	51	67

TABLE 3.—LATE SALES.

Description of lambs.	Percentage of lambs sold.	Date sale.	Hgst. live wt.	Lwst. live wt.	Av. live wt.
		Between	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.
Border-Leicester cross	50	July 8-Sep. 4.	117	66	89
Shropshire cross	60	,,	90	68	76
Oxford cross	50	,,	83	67	76
Suffolk cross	19	,,	85	69	76
Wiltshire cross	34	,,	82	66	75

The tables show that the Suffolk-cross produced the best results. The lambs of this cross fattened quickly, four-fifths of them being sold by the beginning of June. They not only handled well, but had also the appearance which is so characteristic of fat lambs of the highest quality. In point of weight they compared favourably with the other lots. The Wiltshire-cross took second place, followed by the Border-Leicester cross, which was less successful than in the previous year. It will

be noted, however, that the lambs of this cross which were held over until the later sales, reached a much higher weight than those of any other cross. The positions occupied by the Oxford and Shropshire-crosses were much the same as last year. In a further series of experiments which are now in progress, the Oxford ram has been omitted, and Hampshire and Lincoln rams have been introduced.

Production and Consumption of Wool.

The total quantity of raw wool available for consumption in 1901 was 2,252 million lb., against 2,025 million lbs. in the preceding year, or calculated in clean wool about 1,236 million lb. against 1,125 million lb., thus showing an increase of 10 per cent. on the exceedingly small figure in 1900. The receipts from the Colonies and the River Plate comprised a considerable quantity of wool of the previous season as well as retarded shipments, and amounted for the calendar year to 1,725,000 bales Australasian, 214,000 bales Cape and 560,000 bales River Plate, while the actual clips were only 1,641,000, 167,000 and 487,000 bales respectively. The Engilsh production was slightly less, but the North American clip somewhat larger. The imports of "other sorts" were the smallest since 1885, and the decrease affected most descriptions, particularly Mediterannean, East India, and China; but also Peruvian, Alpaca, and Camels' hair, only Mohair and Punta Arenas showing an increase. This falling off was partly due to the delay in the shipment of China produce, but principally to the excessively low prices ruling for coarse wools. The average value, fine and coarse wools taken together, was the lowest on record.

It may be roughly stated that of the 1,236 million lb. clean wool available last year only one-third was merino wool, while about one-sixth was composed of qualities corresponding to what we may term fine and good medium crossbreds, more immediately competing with merino wools for clothing purposes. Probably one half of the supply consisted of various kinds of long and coarse wools. In our annual report we gave particulars showing the great falling off in the production of Colonial and River Plate merino wool since 1895; we may add that the quantity of fine and fairly fine crossbreds has in our opinion remained about the same as in 1895 if it has not slightly decreased, and that the whole increase in crossbreds is represented by medium and coarse qualities.

The quantity of clean wool at the disposal of the industry (not the quantity actually consumed in the form of manufactures) was on the average of periods as follows per head of population:—

	lb. & decimals.	Increse on previous period.
1861—70 ...	2.26	...
1871—80 ...	2.43	... plus 7½ per cent.
1881—90 ...	2.57	... ,, 6 ,,
1891—1900 ...	2.76	... ,, 7½ ,,

Last year's figure of 2.69 lb. per head is consequently 2½ per cent. below the average of the previous 10 years, but the actual consumption was larger, as considerable quantities were held over from the previous year, and stocks in European ports were reduced by about 56 million lb. raw wool, and those in bond in the United States by about 23 million lbs. The quantity available in the United Kingdom, including old stocks, was the largest on record, while that left at the disposal of the Continent was just a little more than the average of the six years 1895-1900. North America took about the same quantity as in the preceding year, but the actual quantity worked up in the States was very much larger.

The great development of production from 1885-95 had increased the supplies in 1895-97 to figures beyond the capacity of consumption; the speculative demand in the United States in 1895 and again in 1897 before the introduction of the tariff cleared the European markets of surplus stocks, but accumulated stocks of enormous magnitude in the States which have ever since been weighing on the market, particularly as the real consumption owing to high prices had fallen off. These stocks were considerably reduced last year and are now again nearly normal.

This year's supply for the calendar year will probably be somewhat less than last year's figure. No increase is expected on the production of the Colonies and the River Plate, and as last year's receipts exceeded the actual clips, this year's imports must necessarily be smaller. On the other hand there may be a fresh addition to the United States production, and it may reasonably be expected that the imports of "other sorts" will experience some increase, though much will depend on the course of prices of coarse wools.—HELMUTH SCHWARTZE AND CO.

On Tuesday an outbreak of anthrax was found to exist on the premises of Mr. G. Warburton, Middle Farm, West Burton, North Notts. Two pigs were dead, and one pig and a dog affected.



Sale of the London County Council's 'Bus Horses.

The London County Council having had to withdraw their omnibus service over the London bridges, they promptly decided to dispose of the horses, which numbered about 500, used in those 'buses, and also the vehicles, etc., and the sale took place last week at the Camberwell Depôt, the auctioneers being Messrs. Larkinson, of Wolverhampton. The sale, which extended over four days, was well attended, and fair prices were obtained, the average on the various days being as follows:—First day, 130 horses, £34 18s. per head; second day, 130, £35 7s.; third day, 130, £37 6s.; fourth day, the remainder averaged £33 per horse.

West Staffordshire Shire Horse Parade.

The West Staffordshire Shire Horse Society's fourth annual parade was held at Stafford on the 8th inst., at which two premier stallions to travel the West Staffordshire Parliamentary Division were chosen. The weather being favourable, there was a large company present, including Mr. Alexander Henderson, M.P. (President of the Society), the High Sheriff (Mr. R. P. Cooper), Capt. the Hon. G. A. Anson, Mr. W. C. T. Mynors (chairman of the general committee), Mr. T. Carrington Smith, and other prominent agriculturists. Two premiums of £75 each are offered by the society, of which Mr. Henderson gives £100 besides a sum to enable the society to return half the serving fee to those members whose mares do not prove to be in foal to the premium stallions. Local gentlemen were again chosen as the judges, the trio selected being the same as last year—viz., Messrs. S. Dodd, R. G. Patterson, and T. Wibberley. The latter, however, was at the last moment prevented from attending, and his place was filled by Mr. J. Brandon, of Aston. Mr. W. Carless, of Stafford, again kindly officiated as hon. veterinary surgeon, and he passed all the horses as sound.

Of the 11 premium horses, two failed to put in an appearance, leaving nine to go before the judges, which was one more than last year. The two premium stallions selected by the judges were Wood Eaton Hatherton and Watnall Merry Lad. The former was purchased by the Cannock Agricultural Company last year from Mr. C. E. Morris, by whom it was exhibited at last year's parade. He is a big, powerful horse, and, considering that he is nine years old, he looked remarkably well and in very different condition from last year. He is well known in the neighbourhood as a successful breeder, and seems capable of getting some good geldings. Mr. Muntz's Watnall Merry Lad is a good all-round horse, showing plenty of substance and Shire characteristics, and is an excellent walker and trotter. Both reserve rosettes were awarded to the Cannock Agricultural Company's horses, Bentley Jubilee being placed first reserve and King Carl second reserve. The draw for districts took place after the parade, Mr. Henderson officiating. The result of the ballot was that Watnall Merry Lad was allotted to the north of the division and Wood Eaton Hatherton to the south.

High Prices for Show Ponies.

Messrs. Frank Lloyd and Sons completed their first week's sale at Wrexham on Friday, when over 300 show cobs and ponies were offered, of which about 20 were purchased to go to North America. The following were a few of the many high prices realised: Mr. John Jones, a pair, 290 guineas, Mr. Woosnam, three, 180, 110, and 90 guineas; Mr. Evans, 170 guineas; Mr. Gibson, 160 guineas; Messrs. Jno. Jones and Sons, 100 guineas; Mr. Foster, 110 and 85 guineas; Mr. Taylor, 100 guineas; Mrs. Fletcher, 100 guineas; and Mr. Shaw, 90 guineas. The sales will be continued to-morrow (Tuesday).

SOCIETIES.

Royal Commission on Horse Breeding.

A meeting of the Royal Commission on Horse Breeding was held at the Royal Agricultural Hall, on Wednesday, when there were present: The Duke of Portland, K.G. (Master of the Horse) in the chair, the Earl of Coventry, Rt. Hon. Henry Chaplin, M.P., Sir John Gilmour, Bart., Sir Jacob Wilson, and Mr. J. Herbert Taylor (secretary). Regrets at being unable to attend the meeting were received from Lord Ribblesdale and Mr. J. Bowen-Jones.

The report of the judges upon the stallions they had recently adjudicated for King's Premiums was received as follows:—"The judges are of opinion that the stallions exhibited were of a good average quality, while several horses among them appeared to possess great merit, combining quality and strength, thus rendering them particularly suitable for begetting good general-purpose horses."

The locations of the premium-winning stallions were submitted and approved. After transacting other business the Commissioners adjourned.

Shorthorn.

Meetings of the Committees and Council of the Shorthorn Society were held at the Society's rooms, 12, Hanover Square, W., on the 4th inst, Colonel Sir Nigel Kingscote, K.C.B., President, in the chair.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

A communication was received from Mr. George Taylor acknowledging his election as a member of the Council, and thirteen new members were elected.

Lord Moreton reported that the Editing Committee had examined and passed the list of pedigree exportation certificates issued by the Secretary since the last meeting of the Committee, viz., fourteen, for South America, as follows:—Good Friday, Milroy 72777, Romance and Victor Chief, bred by Messrs. R. and W. Wright; Dowsby Czar 76514, bred by Messrs S. E. Dean and Sons; Dowsby Prince Royal 76517, bred by Mr. C. Munro; Woodland Prince 80295, bred by Mr. H. Verner; Gipsy King 76761, and Lord FitzHerbert 77058, bred by Mr. D. C. Bruce; Medallion, bred by Mr. J. Wilson; British Tar, bred by Mr. A. M. Gordon; Marengo's Mario 77201, and Scottish Thorndale Duke 77832, bred by Mr. P. L. Mills; and Strowan Butterfly 10th 80065, bred by Mr. C. H. Graham Stirling.

A number of new and other pedigrees had been submitted to the Committee with certificates and other information in support of their correctness, some of which the Committee had accepted, and referred others back for further inquiry.

The Committee had also considered a number of applications for registered names, and they recommended that the following names be registered, and that the applicants be allowed the exclusive use of such registered name either as a prefix or affix in the naming of their cattle.

Registered Name.	Owner.
Adcote	Alfred Darby.
Alnwick	Duke of Northumberland.
Bartlow	Rev. C. H. Brocklebank.
Collynie	W. Duthie.
Golden Grove	Earl Cawdor.
Grove	W. Graham.
Huntingtower	Messrs. Lumsden and Mackenzie.
Knapton	W. Snowball.
Langford	Sidney Hill.
Nordley	E. M. Wakeman.
Remenham	Hon. W. F. D. Smith.
Ringdale	J. Thorley.
Shankill	H. J. C. Toler-Aylward.
Soughton	J. E. Bankes.
Yewden	Hon. W. F. D. Smith.

This report was adopted.

Sir Jacob Wilson reported that the accounts for the past month had been examined by Messrs. Welton, Jones and Co., and the Committee, and were found to be correct, that the receipts for the same period had been £635 16s., the balance of the Society's current account at the bankers' being £802 3s. 7d., and that the Committee recommended that cheques be drawn for various accounts, prizes, and salaries amounting to £220 10s., and that a new plate for combined cheque and receipt be prepared.

The Committee also reported that the annual audit of the Society's accounts had been held, and the cash account and balance-sheet were laid on the table.

The following additional societies had acknowledged and accepted with thanks the Society's offer of district prizes for bulls, viz.:—Border Union Agricultural Society, Oxfordshire Agricultural Society, Stirlingshire Agricultural Society.

Applications from various agricultural societies for the Society's prizes, and communications respecting the conditions for the same, were considered, and the secretary instructed thereon.

This report was adopted.

The next meeting of the Council was fixed for Tuesday, May 6th.

Smithfield Club.

A meeting of the Council was held at the Royal Agricultural Hall on the 5th inst., the Right Hon. Earl Winterton, Vice-President, in the chair.

The minutes of the last meeting were approved and signed.

Mr. Clare Sewell Read, as Chairman, submitted the report of the Finance Committee, recommending the allocation of a sum not exceeding £3,600 for prizes at the ensuing show, and the payment of various accounts and bills; also that Mr. Arthur Chisholm Moore, of Messrs. Kingsford, Dorman, and Company, Essex Street, Strand, be appointed solicitor to the club for the current year, and that he be consulted on the question of closing the club's accounts for the purpose of a balance-sheet on December 31st, instead of October 31st, as at present. That the Committee had considered the list of arrears of subscriptions, and had given instructions thereon. That the Committee also recommended an alteration in the lettering of the obverse of the club's medal.

Mr. J. Cridlan thought it unwise to appoint as solicitor a gentleman connected with the firm which also acted for the Hall Company, and moved that it be reconsidered.

Sir Walter Gilbey said it had been stated at the club's meetings that the present arrangements between the Royal Agricultural Hall Company and the club were not to the advantage of the club. He could assure them that the Hall Company made little out of the club in these times, and that if they went into the question with the Hall Company they would, he felt sure, be quite satisfied with the existing arrangement.

Mr. J. Bowen-Jones supported the appointment of Mr. Moore as solicitor, and was of opinion that the present arrangement with the Hall Company was the best possible one for the club, which took no risk whatever.

After some further discussion the report of the Finance Committee was adopted.

The following report of the Stock Prize Committee, as amended, was adopted:—

That the special regulations A and B (certificate of health and veterinary examination), page 18 in Prize Sheet, be also in force for the coming show, with the addition of the special regulation C., as follows:—C.—"No pigs will be received from swine fever infected areas." The Finance Committee having reported that a sum not exceeding £3,600 might be offered in prizes, the Committee proceeded to consider the prize list for the ensuing show. It was resolved to recommended. That the cattle classes and prizes, with the exception of the two classes for small cross-bred cattle, which are abolished, remain as last year. That the classes and prizes for sheep, pigs, and table pureling remain as last year. That an exhibitor shall be allowed to make two entries of pigs in each class, and that the carcase competition classes and class prizes remain as last year, but that the champion prizes for the best carcase of beef and the best carcase of mutton be increased to £10 each.

Other suggestions were also considered, but the Committee could not recommend their adoption.

The Stock Prize Committee recommended the retention of the two classes for small cross-bred cattle, but as the abolition of these classes for the 1902 show had twice been decided upon by the Council, it was pointed out that these could not be reinstated without a motion to rescind the previous resolution, and consequently the Council's previous decision was upheld and the classes eliminated

Mr. R. Stratton moved that a class be instituted for South Devon cattle. It was a breed of cattle quite dissimilar from the North Devon breed, and was worthy of a place in the club's show, and an increasing breed of cattle much liked by the butchers.

Mr. W. Cooper thought the introduction of fresh breeds into the prize list should be very carefully considered, as it was a difficult matter to remove them afterwards.

Mr. J. J. Cridlan said the question of classes for these cattle was fully considered by the Committee, and he could not support the giving of separate classes, as these cattle could be shown in the Devon classes.

The motion, on being put to the meeting, was declared to be lost.

Mr. R. Stratton, in moving that the classes for sheep should be uniform with prizes of £10, £5, £3, in each class, pointed out that some breeds had prizes of £15, £10, £5, whereas others had only £10 and £5 in each class. He thought this should be remedied.

Mr. G. Adams seconded the motion.

The noble Chairman said this question had been considered from time to time by the Stock Prize Committee, and in those breeds where few entries had been made for some years they had reduced the prize money, and on the motion being put to the meeting, it was declared to be lost.

Mr. Sanders Spencer regretted that the Stock Prize Committee had not recommended the slaughter classes for pigs suggested. If it was a question of funds, he would move that a single pig classes be abolished, and the money devoted to a carcase competition for pigs, viz., three classes for pigs under 100lbs. for pigs above 100lbs., and under 200lbs., and for pigs above 200lbs. He thought these classes would be interesting and instructive.

Mr. J. Lindsey said the pig was an important animal in providing food for the people, and anything that would be done to improve the breeding of pigs was worthy of support. He would second Mr. Spencer's motion.

Sir Walter Gilbey, Mr. Cooper, Mr. Newton, and Mr. R. Stratton also supported the motion.

The voting on the motion being equal, the noble Chairman said he felt he must support the recommendation of the Committee, and the motion was, therefore, lost.

Mr. R. Stratton gave notice that at a future meeting he would bring forward a motion for the reinstitution of the small cross-bred classes at the 1903 show.

Sir Jacob Wilson reported that Sir Walter Gilbey had been elected Chairman of the Selection Committee, and that the Committee recommended that Mr. J. P. Case and Mr. A. C. Skinner be elected Stewards of Live Stock for their term of office on the Council, and that Mr. J. J. Cridlan be elected Steward of the Carcase Competition and Table Poultry for the same period.

This report was adopted.

Mr. Alfred Crosskill reported his election as Chairman of the Implement Committee, and that the consideration of various letters applying for space and positions was deferred until the entries for the forthcoming show had been received.

This report was adopted.

Mr. W. S. Ferguson reported that Mr. F. Redman had been elected Chairman of the Carcase Committee, and that the Committee recommended that the conditions and regulations for the Carcase Competition be the same as published in the prize sheet of last year, except that the sale by auction be held on the Wednesday at 2 p.m., and not on the Thursday, and that the breeder's certificate of the age of every animal (Scotch, Welsh, and mountain breeds of sheep alone excepted) must be furnished with the exhibitor's certificate.

That the conditions and regulations for the Table Poultry Show be the same as published in the prize sheet of last year, except that the sale by auction be held on the Wednesday at the conclusion of the carcase sale, and not on the Thursday.

This report was adopted.

The next meeting of the Council was fixed for Wednesday, July 30th.

British Dairy Farmers.

A meeting of the council of the British Dairy Farmers' Association was held at 12, Hanover Square, London, W., a few days ago, Mr. G. F. Roumieu, J.P., in the chair, when one new member was selected, viz., Mr. Philip Arthur Wilson, Great Henny, Essex.

Mr. Willcox, on behalf af the Finance and General Purposes Committee, reported having examined the accounts of the Association, the available balance at bank on February 28th being £274 18s. 4d., against which accounts amounting to £40 2s. were passed for payment.

A letter was read from the Gloucestershire County Council, asking for the appointment of an examiner of two candidates for elementary teachers' certificates at the County Dairy School. On the motion of Mr. Tisdall, seconded by Prof. Long, it was resolved to ask the candidates to attend the examination to be held at Reading in May next.

A statement showing the imports of milk and cream into the United Kingdom during February was presented, from which it appeared that in the four weeks ended March 1st the imports were 2,042cwt. of fresh milk, 226cwt. of preserved milk, and 776cwt. of cream, making a total of 3,044cwt. compared with 3,774cwt. in the corresponding period of 1901. Of condensed milk the imports totalled 76,125, against 88,851cwt. last year.

Professor Long read a letter which had been received from the Butter Association, dealing with the sale of "milk-blended" or "highly-watered" butter, and after a discussion, participated in by the chairman, Mr. Willcox, Mr. Stone, Lieut-Col. Curtis Hayward, and Mr. A. L. Alexander, it was resolved, on the motion of Prof. Long, seconded by Mr. Ernest Mathews, "that, in the event of a deputation being arranged by the Central Chamber of Agriculture to address the Minister of Agriculture, with regard to the recommendations of the Water-in-Butter Committee, it is desirable that this Association be represented." Col. Curtis Hayward, Mr. Ernest Mathews, and Mr. S. P. Page were appointed to represent the Association on the deputation.

A resolution passed by the Blackpool and District Dairy Farmers' Association, viz., "that, in the opinion of this Association, it is expedient that a general Act be passed by Parliament, dealing with tuberculosis in animals, and providing for payment of compensation for animals condemned, and that such compensation be paid by the local authorities condemning the same, and that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the President of the Board of Agriculture, the member for this Division, the Central Chamber of Agriculture, and the British Dairy Farmers' Association, asking for their support," was read and discussed.

The general meeting of members subsequently took place. Mr. G. F. Roumieu, who was voted to the chair, said that great gratification was felt by the council that his Majesty the King had been graciously pleased to accede to the request that he should continue his patronage to the Association. He then presented the lengthy report of the council, in which was reviewed the past year's work of the Association. As to membership, it was stated to consist of 843 annual and 87 life members, making a total of 930, compared with 933 of the same period of 1901. Two kindred Societies are affiliated to the Association.

Mr. F. J. Lloyd rose to move the adoption of the resolution passed by the council, "That this council is of opinion that the prohibition of the use of preservatives in milk would prove a serious drawback to dairy farmers, and that a minimum quantity of boric acid should be allowed."

Capt. Bellasis and Mr. Martin J. Sutton opposed the motion, as did also Mr. H. S. Daine, who asked where the adding of preservatives was likely to end, if farmers, the wholesale buyers, and the retail vendors were allowed to put preservatives in the milk?

In the opinion of Mr. J. T. Horner, the recommendations made by the Departmental Committee were contrary to the weight of evidence tendered by the witnesses. Mr. Grant thought that it would seriously injure the dairy farmers of England if the prohibition of the use of preservatives in milk become law. In Monmouthshire the scarcity of water was such as to prevent farmers from cooling milk properly during the summer months, and he supported the resolution of the council.

Letters opposing the resolution were received from the following:—The Aylesbury Dairy Company, Limited, Bayswater, W.; Capt. H. Durrell Terry, Ripley, Surrey; Mr. T. Firbank King, Leyburn R.S.O., Yorks; Col. Godman, Smeaton, Yorks; Lieut.-Col. Curtis Hayward, Quedgeley, Gloucester; Mrs. Edith Cornish, Orford House, Chiswick; and the Warwickshire Farmers' Association.

Mr. Leppard said the use of preservatives in milk was necessary to keep it sweet. Mr. Hattersley, of the Aylesbury Dairy Company, stated that during the whole time his Company had been established, now nearly forty years, they had never once used any preservatives in the milk supplied by them, notwithstanding that some of the supplies are drawn from districts 200 miles distant from London. If one firm could do without preservatives, so ought all.

Mr. G. T. Hill supported the views put forward by Mr. Hattersley.

Mr. Alexander said the resolution of the council was only passed by nine votes to six.

On the amendment moved by Capt. Bellasis, and seconded by Mr. Martin J. Sutton, being put to the meeting, it was defeated by 21 votes to 12.

Mr. Lloyd moved that the resolution of the council be adopted. This was seconded by Mr. A. Stapleton, and carried. Copies of the resolution were ordered to be sent to the Minister of Agriculture, the Central Chamber of Agriculture, and the Local Government Board.

The twenty-sixth annual report of the council was then carried, on the motion of Mr. Grant, seconded by Mr. Page.

Mr. Lloyd called attention to Clause 56 in the Bill now before Parliament in regard to milk-supply regulations. The clause referred to provided for the infliction of a penalty not exceeding £10 in respect of every day in which a cow suffering from tuberculosis or tuberculous disease is kept in any field, shed, or other premises along with other cows in milk, after the owner becomes aware of the disease.

On the suggestion of Capt. Smith Neill, it was decided to request the Council to watch the Bills in the interest of the dairy industry, and to take such steps as may be thought necessary.

A letter was read from Mr. T. H. Stretch, of Quaskirk, asking that dubbed and undubbed [illegible] fowl be allowed to be exhibited at the future [illegible] shows. This was referred to the Poultry and Pigeon Committee for consideration and report.

The proceedings then terminated.

Farmers' Club.

At the meeting of the Farmers' Club, held at the Salisbury Square Hotel, Fleet Street, E.C., on the 3rd inst., Mr. Rouse Orlebar read a somewhat lengthy paper entitled "How Can County and Local Agricultural Societies Best Assist Agriculture?" in the course of which he said that, at a time when the Royal Agricultural Society of

England had determined to discontinue its policy of holding its meetings in different parts of the country, it might be well to consider what opportunities were available for the development of those county and other societies which were the chief representatives of local agriculture. For some years past a feeling had undoubtedly been growing up that if British agriculture was to compete successfully with its rivals from abroad, or even to hold its own in this land, it must endeavour by every means in its power to perfect its organisation and to open paths in new directions.

To take the county society as the basis, the first matter of importance was the question of area. Probably all the county societies at present existing were founded before the days of County Councils, and, therefore, had no special reasons for making the areas covered by the two bodies coterminous; but nowadays, when the County Council had so many opportunities of assisting agriculture, it was almost a necessity, in order to secure perfect accord in the methods adopted and simplicity in organisation, that the society should be strictly limited to its own county. At the present time there was a temptation to some societies to overstep the boundaries of a county in order to obtain possible and perhaps valuable subscriptions; but however greatly the question of subscriptions might enter into the work of a society he could not but think that there were in almost every county sources that were either untapped or not fully developed. From every point of view a large number of small subscriptions were of greater practical value than a few large ones, for they carried with them a far wider-reaching interest in the work that was being done, and laid the foundation-stones of organisation in every village. A subscription of 5s. would ensure more universal representation.

Another essential point on which a good membership depended was that the programme of the society must be attractive and practically useful to each member. The chief features of that programme resolved themselves into three heads: the maintenance of a county show; the support of local shows and societies; the general organisation of agricultural interests. There could not be the slightest doubt of the great value of the county show to stockbreeders and exhibitors; but due prominence should also be given to features which made them attractive. In addition to spectacular competitions—such as jumping and driving competitions, parades of carthorses, sheep-dog trials—milking trials, butter making, horse-shoeing competitions, lectures on bees and hives, the cramming, killing, plucking, and trussing of poultry, the packing of eggs—all these would be interesting to the public. The advancing importance of fruit growing should secure it a place at agricultural shows. Such subjects as farriery, sheep-shearing, hedging, ploughing, thatching, etc., would be of value to labourers and artisans. Anything that tended to keep the labourer on the land and enabled his family to add their share to the weekly earnings was worthy of consideration.

After treating of agricultural education, cattle breeding, adulteration of food, and analyses of seed, cake, and manure, the lecturer referred to the connection between county societies and Government departments, and finally suggested that steps should be taken to federate all the agricultural societies and chambers of agriculture in the kingdom by creating, for separate groups of counties, provincial councils, which should be formed of elected representatives from those societies within its area. Each of those councils would then become representative of the particular branches of agriculture followed in its locality. From those provincial councils representatives could again be elected to form part of such a committee as Mr. Hanbury spoke of in his speech at the annual banquet of the Farmers' Club in December last, the other part being nominated by the President of the Board of Agriculture.

A discussion followed, and the lecturer was thanked for his paper.

Highland.

Sir Ralph Anstruther, Bart, presided at a meeting of the directors of the Highland and Ayr Society, held recently at Edinburgh.

A letter was read from Mr. J. H. M. Mackenzie intimating that the Polo Pony Society agreed to their prize of ten guineas for Highland ponies at this year's show at Aberdeen being offered as two prizes—the one for the best stallion and the other for the best mare. It was agreed that the showyard be open on the evenings of Wednesday and Thursday from five to eight o'clock, closing at nine o'clock, and that jumping competitions should be arranged for.

With reference to his prize for blackface wool, Sir Robert Menzies said he had been informed by a Glasgow salesman that the reason why blackface wool was so cheap was that it was much more hairy than the wool of other breeds, and there were a great many purposes for which it could not be used. He therefore proposed that his premiums should be for wool and not for hair.

The Secretary (Mr Macdonald) intimated that according to the usual arrangement the Dumfries Show of 1903 would fall to be held on 21st to 24th July, and this was agreed to. The secretary was instructed to communicate with Perth County Council with regard to the local show fund for 1904, and to ask Perth Town Council to grant the South Inch as formerly as the site for the show. A discussion took place on a letter from Mr. A. Barns Graham, jun., suggesting that at the shows of the society butter should be judged by points, and a detailed statement of the points given to each sample published for the information of exhibitors and others. Sir James Gibson Craig, Bart., moved the previous question, and mentioned that in the shoeing competition a judge was once incautious enough to give the points, and they would remember the results. Such a proposal, he considered, would only open the door to endless wrangling. The motion was defeated by 10 votes to 4.

The Secretary reported for the committee on plough trials that they were disappointed somewhat, and that the details afforded did not enable them to draw any reliable conclusions. In most of the cases there was practically no difference between the produce of the different lots. In one or two cases the differences were somewhat of an accidental character. The committee considered it was not desirable that a detailed report of the trials should be published in the "Transactions." Sir James Gibson Craig was of opinion that they must try for several years on the same ground to see what the real effect of the different ploughs was. Mr. John M. Martin, Edinburgh, said that looking to the infinitesimal expense to the society, and as the farmers who kindly undertook these trials in the past would almost to a man be able to do it again, it was well that the trials should be repeated for this year at least. The committee should also have powers, he thought, to take into account the draught of the ploughs. It was agreed to remit the whole question to the committee.

The report of the Science Committee was also submitted by the secretary, the most important feature of which was a record of the work being conducted by the Aberdeen University Agricultural Research Department, towards the expenses of which the society was a contributor. One of the investigations referred to the length of time after cows had been inoculated with tuberculin they should show whether or not they were tuberculus by the rise of temperature. It was thought that in this country they had not tested the rise in the temperature by a long enough interval, and the Aberdeen Committee undertook to make experiments, and the results would be published shortly. Another investigation had reference to the milk from cows that were tested with tuberculin with the object of finding whether any of the tubercules found their way into the milk. This investigation would not be completed for two months.

The other investigation was to test the soundness of Koch's statement as to the transmissibility of tubercular bacili from animals to man. They had been experimenting with a number of calves, and had obtained a number of results which were very suggestive. These experiments would be completed within a week or so, and a full report was promised.

National Pig Breeders.

A meeting of the council of the National Pig Breeders' Association was held in Bingley Hall, Birmingham, on the 5th inst., Mr. Barron in the chair. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed, and four new members elected.

The Finance Committee reported the balance in the bank to be £207 12s. 5d. Two members are still in arrear with their subscriptions for 1901, and one for 1900. The audited balance-sheet was examined and ordered to be printed.

The Editing Committee reported that they had granted Messrs. Broom's, Gilbert's, Knowle's, and Rippon's applications for prefixes. About 900 entries had been received for Vol. XVIII. They recommended that the conditions of entry for Vol. XIX. be the same as for Vol. XVIII. Both reports were adopted.

Arrangements were made for holding the annual general meeting at the R.A.S.E. Show at Carlisle, and also for drawing up the report of council.

Mr. Manners was nominated as the president, Mr. C. Howard Taylor, president elect, and Mr. Henry Smith auditor for the coming year. Ten names were selected for election to seats on the Council, in place of those retiring in rotation, and scrutineers were appointed.

Acceptances of silver medals had been received from the Leicestershire, Lincolnshire, Norfolk, and Warwickshire Societies.

The next meeting of the council was arranged to take place at the conclusion of the general meeting.

IMPORTANT TO FARMERS.—The best farm account books are WEBB'S PRACTICAL FARMER'S ACCOUNT BOOK, with preface by Clare Sewell Read, 70th edition, 6s. and 7s. 6d. post free. JARROLD'S IMPERIAL FARM ACCOUNT BOOK, 3s. 6d. JARROLD'S FARM LABOUR BOOKS, 2s., 2s. 6d., and 4s. 6d. List of Game and Dairy Account Books post free of JARROLD and SONS 10 and 11, Warwick Lane E.C.—[ADVT.]

IN PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

English Horse-Breeding and Army Remounts.

On Thursday the Earl of Dunraven called attention to the condition of the industry of horse-breeding in the United Kingdom, and moved: "That in view of the difficulty that has been experienced in finding horses suitable for military purposes, it is desirable that the Royal Commission on Horse Breeding should report on the steps which should be taken to encourage horse breeding in the United Kingdom; and, in particular, as to (a) the establishment of a register of stallions, and as to the desirability of licensing stallions; (b) encouragement to farmers to keep sound young mares to breed from; (c) the amount of money required for the purpose." In the course of the present war in South Africa horses had been brought from all parts of the world, but the English horse had been far superior to all comers. The very excellence of the English horse had been the undoing of the country, because the country had been searched times out of number by foreign buyers purchasing horses for breeding purposes. As a result there was likely to be a great deterioration of the home breed. In times of peace some 1,050 to 3,000 horses had been required, but the requirements of the future would be very much larger. Not less than 7,000 animals would be wanted annually, and he was convinced that great difficulties would be experienced in getting them. The country ought to have a large reserve of horses, but unfortunately with an increasing demand they had a decreasing supply. He thought the Government ought to take steps to look into the matter. He was not inclined to favour large breeding establishments, for he felt they had but to offer some encouragement to the farmers to supply all the demands which they could make. It was anticipated that the colonies might help in the matter, but he was convinced that in the end they would have to depend largely upon the home-bred animal. Money would be required, but not a particularly large sum. France spent £86,000 a year in this matter, Russia £192,000, and Austria-Hungary £303,000, whereas England spent only £5,100 in Great Britain, and £8,000 in Ireland, a ridiculously small sum. The country was waking up to its military dangers, and he thought would be prepared to sanction a much larger expenditure to provide a more adequate supply of horses.

Lord Lonsdale, as one deeply interested in the subject, said the Royal Commission in 1890 did make a number of suggestions to the Government, but nothing had been done by them. He hoped they would now take action. Foreign nations had deprived this country of much of its best stock. The Government should purchase the best stock to be obtained. Until some such step as that was taken little good would result from these discussions.

Lord Ribblesdale said the key of the situation was with the Chancellor of the Exchequer. It was useless to invite the Royal Commission to repeat advice which had been given over and over again unless the Government were prepared to vote a sum of money to give effect to their recommendations.

The Duke of Devonshire was afraid he could say very little beyond recognising the importance of the subject. It was alleged that there had been a deterioration in the breed of horses in consequence of the drain upon our best animals by the action of foreign Governments. He could not help thinking if this was an evil it had a tendency to work its own cure, because the demands of foreign Governments must necessarily tend to improving the breed of the general field of supply. He should think probably that it would be found the most effectual means of improving our horses to increase the prices paid for our remounts. He promised to consult those members of the Government most interested, the Secretary for War and the Chancellor of the Exchequer, with a view of considering whether it would be again expedient to call the attention once more of the Royal Commission to it, and whether any funds could be set aside for the purpose.

Lord Ribblesdale said that if the Government would guarantee the expenditure of a further sum of money the Royal Commission would probably have no objection to further considering the subject.

The motion was then withdrawn.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Milk-blended Butter.

Sir J. Kennaway asked the President of the Board of Agriculture on Tuesday whether his attention had been called to a recent judgment in the High Court on the subject of blended butter, by which it was decided that butter containing the utmost quantity of water which it could be made to hold could be still sold as a genuine article if an announce-

ment which might never catch his eye, was made to the purchaser of the percentage of water contained in it; whether he would consider the propriety of making a regulation, under Section 4 of the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, 1899, which should define the proportion of water in butter which should raise the presumption that the article was not genuine, and protect ignorant purchasers from an inferior article.

Mr. Hanbury: I do not think that the decision went quite so far as my right hon. friend's question supposes. But the decision appears to imply that, on due notice being given, almost any mixture of butter can be sold under that name. I shall fix a butter standard as soon as those most concerned have had an opportunity of seeing the evidence submitted to the Butter Committee, which evidence, I hope, will be issued in a few days.

On Thursday Sir E. Strachey said that the recommendations of a Government Departmental Committee had led to butter being blended with 30 and 40 per cent. of milk or water. He asked for a pledge from the Government that the matter would be dealt with by legislation.

Mr. Hanbury said he could not express an opinion on this subject until he had had an opportunity of reading the evidence given before the Committee. He admitted, however, that the Committee had gone beyond the terms of its reference in the recommendations it had made, and that, if carried out, those recommendations would have the effect of defeating the standard altogether. Prima facie he was very much in accord with what the hon. baronet had said.

Remount Purchases in the United Kingdom.

Mr. Thomas Bayley asked the Secretary for War on Thursday, if he could state the number of horses bought for military purposes in the United Kingdom and shipped to South Africa during the last two years; and had the horse sales and fairs in the United Kingdom been regularly attended by representatives of the Remount Department with a view of buying British horses.

Lord Stanley stated that the total number of horses purchased in the United Kingdom in 1900 and 1901 was 60,059, of which about 85 per cent. were shipped to South Africa. Remount officers had instructions to attend horse fairs and sales whenever it was considered desirable.

The Frosts in February.

The frost last month, as we are informed in the new number of "Symons's Meteorological Magazine," was the longest and severest, with the exception of that in 1895, which has been experienced for half a century. In the February of that year both the mean and the minimum temperature in London were seven or eight degrees below those recently registerd. Reckoning by the consecutive nights on which the thermometer went down below 32 deg., the frost lasted for about three weeks in the greater part of England, but its duration was shortened on the coast, especially, as might be expected, towards the south and west. Torquay escaped with nine days, Steyning with eleven, Lynmouth, Haverford West, and Eastbourne with twelve, while, for the other extreme, the frost held at some places in Suffolk, Yorkshire, and Peebles-shire for even 24 days.

The frost lasted for at least 20 days over two inland areas which between them cover the greater part of England and a good piece of Wales, but are separated by a kind of strait extending from the Wash to the estuaries of the Dee and Mersey, in which the number of cold nights became less than 15. The Lower Thames Valley ran like a gulf into the coldest area. This, on the Western side, thrust a long promontory through Central Devon, but receded from the Bristol Channel and the lower Severn Valley till it swept round the warm inlet near where that river and the Dee issue from Wales; once across it took possession of much of the southern part of the principality, though repelled from the western coasts. North of the warm "strait," a long enclosure with a rather undulating outline extends up and beyond the Pennine range to the middle part of the Southern Uplands of Scotland.

The central valley of that country experienced less than 15 frosty nights, and so did the North-West Highlands; the central Highlands having from that to 20. The same conditions prevailed in Ireland over an oval area lying from east of north to west of south; the most favoured parts, where the frost lasted under ten days, being on the western side from Donegal to Cork and a strip of coast about Wexford. The lowest temperature registered at Camden-square, in the Metropolis, was 15.8 deg., but readings between 5 deg. and 10 deg. were not very uncommon in various parts of the country, though by no means on the same night, the coldest times in most places being about the 13th day of the month. At Braemar, the thermometer touched zero, and at Lairg, in Sutherland, went 2 deg. below it, both being on the night of the 14th.

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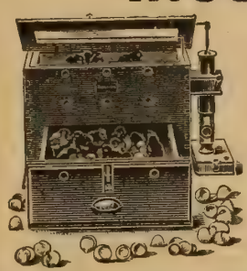


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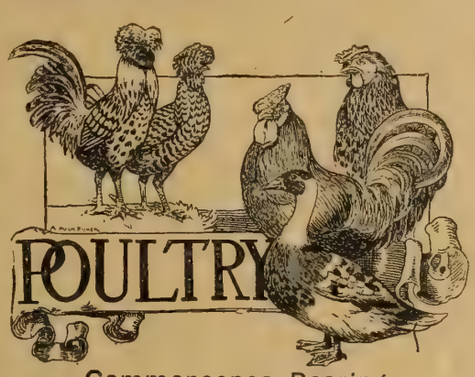
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On estates where large bags of pheasants are required it is absolutely necessary to supplement the stock of wild birds by hand rearing. Unfortunately, the keeper is often handicapped by his inability to obtain a suitable rearing field near his house, or by the restrictions placed upon him in respect to the purchase of food and additional eggs. Under any circumstances where rearing is carried out on a large scale the spring and summer months are an anxious time to the keeper who is responsible.

Where the supply of eggs is obtained from the wild birds on the estate it is probably advisable not to commence collecting them too early, but to wait until laying is in full swing. Outlying portions of the shoot should be first visited, and all nests in exposed places and near throughfares searched for and taken. As is well known, pheasants often seek for the most open and dangerous positions for their nests, and all fences ought to be visited constantly. In an open late spring, when the vegetation is scanty, considerable damage is done by rooks, whose destruction of game eggs is almost incredible, except to the close observer.

Despite the supposed advantages of incubators, most practical rearers pin their faith to the domestic fowl for hatching out the supply of eggs, and when choosing hens for the purpose pay great attention to the size, health, and general condition of those they purchase for this purpose. On a dry, sandy soil bottoms to the coops are not required, but in cold, wet situations they are necessary. Coops, of course, should be moved at least once a day, and where the acreage of the land at disposal is practically unlimited too many crops should not be put to the acre. The closer the coops are the easier the work for the feeder, but the ground too soon gets soiled, and the chicks get mixed, which often results in loss, as some hens will at once kill any strange chicks that come to feed with her own brood. There is no doubt that the Chinese or ring-necked variety are more hardy and more easily reared than the English or old black-necked birds, but the former have a decided propensity to stray away from the coverts, and an old cock not only wanders away into danger himself, but often takes some of the younger birds with him.

When sitting the hens every care should be taken to keep them in good health, and for this reason they ought to get a certain proportion of greenstuff with their ordinary corn. The nests are better if scooped roughly out of the soil, and a small piece of hay put in the cavity. The soil provides that amount of moisture which is necessary to the successful hatching of the eggs.

Probably the most anxious time for the rearer and the period when most of his losses occur is when the young chickens are from 10 to 20 days old, but at no time until they are once in the coverts is he safe from loss. What with cramp, gapes, spittle insect, croup, enteric, and the other diseases and accidents to which they are liable, it is a wonder that the average keeper succeeds so well as he usually does.

Prevention is better than cure, and it is often possible to avoid these annoying losses by the exercise of greater care in the selection of eggs. Where eggs are purchased from game farms the buyer should assure himself that they are the produce of healthy birds, kept under healthy conditions. Then, too, through the process of incubation and the after critical period, every attention should be paid towards the health and comfort of the foster-mother. Far better addled eggs than a clutch of weaklings that will never repay the trouble of rearing, that will die off at odd times, and that from their very weakness are so susceptible to contagious disease.

In the rearing field natural conditions ought to be observed as far as practicable. Regular feeding is most essential, cleanliness of utensils and in the preparation of the food should be observed, and water, often the source of infection, should be as pure as possible. Only sufficient food should be given at each meal, and, as a matter of fact, the birds should be hungry and ready for each feed when given. Sour food will invariably cause scour. Probably more birds are lost through not being kept warm enough than from any other cause. The nature of the soil must be studied, and where there is no grit or sand then this must be carried for the birds. Where there is any sign of scour or looseness then the use of binding food must be increased, peameal being generally added in increased quantities. Birds soon begin to find food for themselves, and each time the coops are moved to fresh ground the chicks get an additional supply of their natural food. When the nights are cold the coops ought to be covered over with old sacks, or failing that, spruce branches make an excellent substitute.

When first put into the rearing field each hen should have from 15 to 18 chicks to attend to. Shelters of spruce or larch branches, cone shaped, should be placed at frequent intervals about the field under which the birds can take refuge at the slightest signs of danger from hawks, etc., or in wet weather. If the rearing ground is surrounded with wire netting, about 6ft. to 8ft. high, it will effectually keep off intruders, whilst a retriever or two can have their kennels moved close up to the inside of the netting, where, by running one end of the chain through a loose wire securely pegged down, the dog is allowed plenty of exercise, without being able to move further into the field than the length of his chain. In a hunting country it is never safe to turn the poults into the coverts until they are able to fly into the trees to roost, but where there are no foxes the coops and hens with the young birds may with great advantage to the latter be removed much earlier into the rides.

Agricultural Co-operation.*

(Continued from page 24.)

Speaking of the tithe question he said the tithe was as much the property of the titheholder as the coats they had paid for, and wore. In some cases, however, the tithe on some land was such as not to make it worth while to cultivate the land, and consequently it went out of cultivation, as uncultivated land could not, by law, be subjected to tithe. The redemption of the tithe, however, was difficult, as by the Act of 1848 the amount required was at least 25 times the amount of the tithe, and the expenses were heavy. It was rather a question upon which he thought they might combine and ask the Legislature to deal with, as it was for the benefit of the whole nation that as much land as possible be cultivated, but they could not be expected to cultivate land at a loss. To remove the restrictions which prevented land from being cultivated would be, therefore, a good thing. In many cases the present state of things was a hardship on clergymen, many of whom were poor men, and were getting no tithe, as the land was allowed to go out of cultivation.

Alluding to the question of railway rates, he said if they asked Lord Stalbridge or any official who had extensive knowledge of the working of great lines they would find the reason why English agriculturists were charged a higher rate for their produce than the Americans were, because it was as much trouble to collect and carry half a truck-load of home produce from districts as it was to obtain a train of 20 or 30 trucks from the foreigner. The foreigner sent his merchandise from the ship at Liverpool to the London market by trainload, which could be run with profit by the railway company at a lower rate than it would be possible for them to carry the English produce in driblets. He did not see why the English farmers could not have a system of gathering their produce at one spot, and make up a trainload of merchandise, which could then be taken at a rate which would allow them to show a margin of profit where they now showed a loss. If the farmers combined and obtained a bulk which it would be worth a company's while to give a special rate for, he did not think the rate would be excessive as compared with that given to the foreign competitor. They must be able to send goods to the market in such quantities that the companies could cut the rates down to a size which would enable the sender to obtain a profit.

* A lecture delivered before the Farmers' Club by Mr. H. W. Chatterton.

Profit-Sharing.

As to the question of co-operation amongst the farmers and labourers with respect to private sharing, he was disappointed to learn where it had been tried in Essex it had not been a great success. It was not fair, however, to attribute the want of success to the system itself as owing to circumstances which farmers could appreciate, agriculture throughout the whole of that county was in such a condition that no system apparently could exist there in these times. There was no reason why it should not be applied with success in a more happily-constituted county. Profit-sharing had been tried with great success in Switzerland, and there were farms in the United States and France that had tried it. The Trade Unions set their faces against this system of profit-sharing, because directly a man found himself interested in the profit of the firm for which he worked he told the trade unionist to go about his business. A man who shared in the profits took care to see that his fellow-workman did the best he could in the common interest. Modern trades unionism, however, said their members must work only up to a certain limit, and the output was limited not to the most skilful, but to the most unskilful in the works.

Some of the rules of profit-sharing were (1) in addition to wages a cash payment is made in the form of a bonus; (2) in addition to wages there is a provident fund, out of the profits, for sickness or old age; (3) in addition to the wages a sum is set apart in favour of each workman, and represents his interest in the business in which he becomes partner; (4) in addition to wages a cash payment is made in proportion to the work done. The workman became a direct partner in the firm, and one of the advantages was that strikes were never heard of in the firms adopting the system; there was a reduction in the waste of material, superior work was done, and there was a diminution in the expenses for superintendence. There were other advantages, but these given showed how manifest were the advantages.

No doubt agriculture was the most difficult industry in connection with which the principle could be applied, and the task was, perhaps, hopeless to attempt until the agricultural labourer was educated up to the elementary condition of seeing that fairness and justice must be given on both sides. No doubt the labour of carrying out the system would be a gigantic one, and one which not one or fifty men could accomplish, but which the recognised heads of the industry might inaugurate. He believed, however, if it was carried out they would see a revival of agricultural prosperity in the country, although many said the agricultural industry and prosperity was a thing of the past, and could not be revived. In conclusion he asked them to combine to make their voting power felt so that the Legislature should feel bound to notice their legitimate interests; to educate their labourers to a state of mental efficiency to join in a genuine system of agricultural co-operation and profit-sharing, as by doing so they would be conferring such a benefit on themselves and on their country as it would be absolutely impossible to over-estimate.

The Milk Standard.—In the King's Bench Division, on Thursday, the Lord Chief Justice, Mr. Justice Darling, and Mr. Justice Channell heard the case of Morgan v. Auger. The appellant had been convicted and fined at Clerkenwell Police Court, under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, 1875, and asked the Court to quash the conviction. Morgan was charged by the respondent Auger, the Sanitary Inspector of the Borough of St. Pancras, with having abstracted from milk, to the prejudice of the purchaser, a proportion of its cream, the milk being below the standard in that respect laid down by the Board of Agriculture. The appellant was a cow-keeper, and kept eleven cows, the milk of three of which he reserved for infants and invalids. The milk of the other eight was mixed together, and it was from this bulk that the sample analysed was taken. The magistrate found that if the milk of the eleven cows had been mixed together it would have been up to standard, but that the milk of the eight cows was below it; therefore, as it appeared in the case, he convicted the appellant for abstracting the cream, because he had abstracted the milk of the three from that of the eleven cows, although he found as a fact that the milk supplied was in the same condition as when taken from the cows. The Lord Chief Justice thought there had been some misunderstanding in the matter, but said, as the case was stated, the Court had no alternative but to quash the conviction. The conviction was quashed accordingly.

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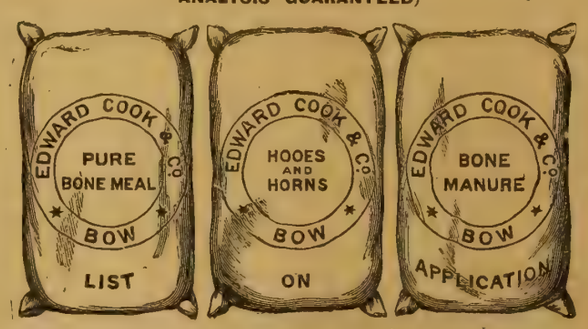
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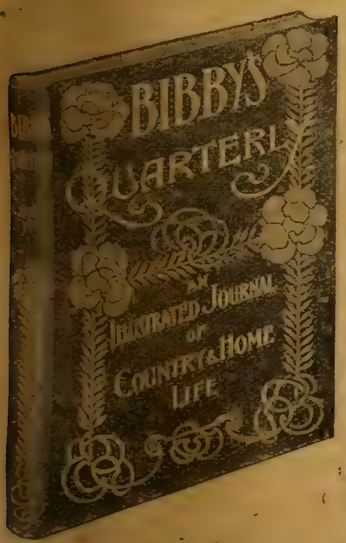
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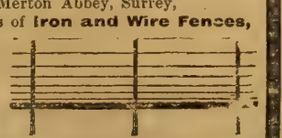
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THE LEADING BRITISH AUTHORITY ON THE PRACTICE AND SCIENCE OF THE

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(REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER AT THE GENERAL POST OFFICE.)

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SOCIETIES.

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION of ENGLISH HOP GROWERS.
(Founded June 1894.)
PRESIDENT.—COLONEL BROOKFIELD, M.P.
HON. TREASURER.—E. ALBERT WHITE, Esq., Beltring, Kent.
SECRETARY.—THOMAS IRONMONGER.
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Live Stock, Produce, Butter Making, Milking, Shoeing, Shearing, &c., April 7.
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PRESIDENT: J. FRANCIS MASON, ESQ.

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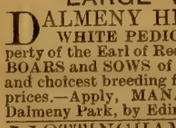
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PIGS (*contd.*)

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RAILWAY ANNOUNCEMENT.

LONDON AND NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY.

DOG SHOW, to be held at MANCHESTER, MARCH 25th, 26th, and 27th, 1902.

For the convenience of Exhibitors at the above Show, the London and North Western Railway Company will arrange the running of Special Through Vans for the conveyance of Dogs to Manchester, on Monday, March 24th.

Consignments from the Branch Lines, and from Nottingham, Peterboro', Oxford, Cambridge, &c., will be placed in these Vans at the various Junctions, thus ensuring direct transit to the Exhibition.

All information can be obtained of Mr. ROBERT TURNBULL, Superintendent of the Line, Euston Station, London; or from the Company's District Superintendent, Mr. H. LINAKER, Exchange Station, Manchester.

FRED. HARRISON, General Manager.

General Manager's Office, Euston Station, London, N.W., February, 1902.

LONDON AND NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY.

ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY'S SHOW, CARLISLE.

JULY 5th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, and 11th, 1902.

The London and North Western Company's route will afford the most expeditious service for the transit of Passengers, Goods, and Live Stock Traffic to and from the Royal Agricultural Show at Carlisle.

Any information as regards the through rates for railway conveyance and cartage, &c., to and from Carlisle Station and Showyard may be obtained from Mr. FRANK REE, Chief Goods Manager, Euston Station, London, or Mr. L. D. PRICE, District Traffic Superintendent, Lancaster.

Special Goods and Live Stock Trains will be arranged for the speedy and safe transit of Exhibits to and from the Show; and Exhibitors at the Bath and West of England Show at Plymouth, and the Royal Counties' Show at Reading, forwarding Exhibits from those places to the Royal Agricultural Show at Carlisle will find the London and North Western Company's services the best and most expeditious.

The London and North Western Company's Express Dining and Sleeping Car Train Services to Carlisle, which is on their Main Line, provide the shortest and most direct route from London, the Eastern Counties (*via* Cambridge, Peterboro' and Rugby), the Midland Counties, the West of England, Liverpool, Manchester, and all parts for Passengers intending to visit the Royal Agricultural Show.

Care should be taken to clearly consign all exhibits for the Show, "Per London and North Western Railway."

FRED. HARRISON, General Manager.

Euston Station, London, N.W., March, 1902.

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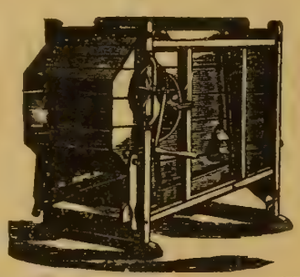
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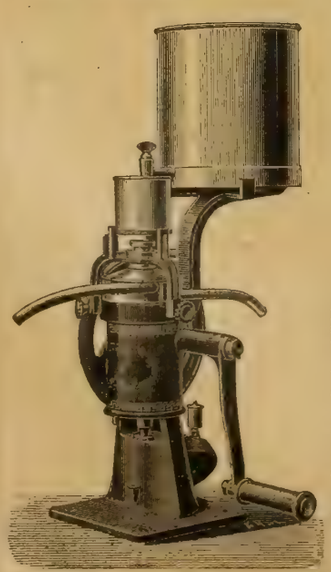
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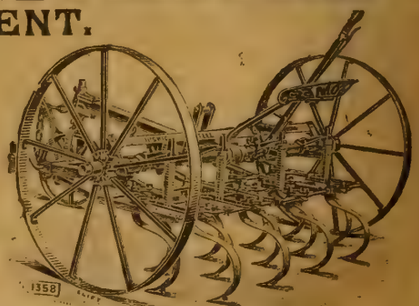




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MONDAY, MARCH 24, 1902.

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Advertisements, Subscriptions, and business communications should be addressed to THE PUBLISHER, "Mark Lane Express," 1, Essex Street, Strand, London, W.C.

LOCAL RATES.

"Even in this year, when the Treasury requires every penny it can put into its pocket, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, who means well to the farmer, has given an additional grant for educational purposes. With regard to local rates, too, I think the farmers have a great claim upon the Government. No doubt they have done something which will last for years, but since the Report of the Local Taxation Commission has come out, the duty is more than ever incumbent upon the Government to make the burden of local rates more equal."

The speaker is Mr. Hanbury, at the recent dinner of the Yorkshire Union of Agricultural Clubs at York.

"The only method which can secure fair play all round is consistent adherence to a principle which has often been put forward in discussion, but to which insufficient regard has frequently been paid in practice. That principle is the distinction between services which are preponderatingly national in character and generally onerous to the ratepayers, and services which are preponderatingly local in character, and confer upon ratepayers a direct and peculiar benefit, more or less, commensurate with the burden."

The words are taken from the final report of the Royal Commission on Local Taxation.

With a Chancellor of the Exchequer favourably disposed towards farmers, with a Minister of Agriculture bent upon making his department "not a mere doll dressed up in red tape," but a "living department that shall live and learn to do its duty by those it represents," and with a royal Commission emphasising the injustice of the burden of national and local services resting with undue weight on the shoulders of the class of ratepayers who are least able to bear it; it is surely not too much to hope that in the near future some attempt will at least be made to adjust that burden upon a more equitable footing.

But Longfellow bids us "Trust no futnre, how'er pleasant," and urges us rather to "act in the living present." And having regard to the fact that some time must necessarily elapse before the attainment of a consummation so devoutly to be wished, and withal to the mortality of Governments and the proverbial uncertainties of legislation, it may be wise to face the situation as we find it, and to direct our attention to the possibilities of easing the yoke which sits so heavily upon us.

Probably no subject is more disagreeably familiar than the payments of rates. The principles of assessment also are generally known. And yet, perhaps, it happens not unfrequently that farmers are assessed to heavily, either through an oversight in claiming proportionate relief from rates when they have obtained a reduction of their rent, or through the excess being so small that they have not troubled to appeal. But the poor rate assessment is so often taken as the basis of other assessments that it is all-important to see that it is not one penny more than the proper amount. Thus the assessment for income-tax under Schedule A. is never less (though it may be more) than the poor rate assessment, and it is obvious that a small annual overcharge paid year after year will amount in time to a serious item.

The poor rate is assessed upon the net annual value of the premises. To arrive at this value the overseers take the gross estimated rental, less certain deductions. The rent actually paid is generally a very fair test of the annual value—inasmuch as the gross estimated rental means the sum for which the premises might reasonably be expected to let from year to year, if the tenant paid all usual tenants' rates and taxes, and the tithe rent charge.

But the actual rent paid is by no means conclusive. If the tenant can convince the assessment committe that his place is too dear, they can fix a lower sum as the gross estimated rental; thus they ought to take into account any abatement or return of rent, which is allowed, as this shows that the full rent is too high. So also if he holds free of tithe rates and taxes, for his rent is correspondingly increased. On the other hand he may be liable to pay on more than his rent, as where for family or other reasons he has a remarkably cheap take, or where premiums have been paid or collateral bargains entered into.

When the gross estimated rental has been properly ascertained, there are deducted from it the average annual costs of repairs and insurance and any other expenses that may be necessary to maintain the property in a state to command a rent equal to the gross estimated rental. These deductions may vary in different districts, but generally a fixed deduction of one-sixth or one-eighth (according to the class of property) is allowed off the gross estimated rental, and the result is the net rateable value upon which the rates are paid. A ratepayer aggrieved by his assessment should appeal to the assessment committee. The procedure is simple. He has to give written notice to the committee and the overseers, stating the grounds of his objection. No particular form is required, an ordinary letter will do. He will then be informed of the day when his appeal will be heard. He will go before the Assessment Committee, state his case, and if he has a sympathetic audience of fellow farmers, he will generally get what he asks for in reason. But if he is dissatisfied with their decision, he can appeal to the local justices at the special Petty Sessions, appointed for hearing poor rate appeals; and from them he can take his case to the Quarter Sessions. But for these further appeals he will generally require professional assistance; and before he invokes the aid of Quarter Sessions he will do well to count the cost.



By a Man of Mark Lane.

The agricultural correspondent to the Labour Department of the Board of Trade reports in the March number of the "Labour Gazette" as follows:—Frost and snow hindered the preparation of the land for spring sowing during the greater part of the month, but farm labourers were regularly employed on most farms carting manure, hedging, cleaning ditches, threshing, and attending to live stock. In many districts, however, some casual labourers were thrown out of employment in consequence of the severe weather. The demand for extra men during the month was generally small, and in most of the districts covered by the reports received, the supply of labour was quite sufficient, and in some cases excessive.

The receipts on account of Revenue from April 1, 1901, when there was a balance of £5,596,918, to March 15, 1902, were £134,697,699, against £123,687,739 in the corresponding period of the preceding financial year, which began with a balance of £3,517,047. The net expenditure was £182,658,029, against £174,654,227 to the same date in the previous year. The Treasury balances on March 15, 1902, amounted to £13,204,668, and at the same date in 1901 to £7,853,010.

There is not the slightest prospect of Mr. Raymond-Greene's Aged Pensioners Bill, the second reading of which was agreed to without a division on Wednesday afternoon, becoming law, the refusal of the Government to afford the necessary financial assistance being an insurmountable obstacle to its ultimate enactment. The Bill will, however, on some early day probably get into Committee, and time may possibly be found for its futrher consideration later in the Session, but the Ministerial attitude with regard to it renders its chances of becoming law hopeless.

An official statement of the yield of grains in the North-West Territories of Canada has been received at the Statistician's Office. These returns show, says the Ottawa correspondent of the *Standard*, that, in the three territories of Assiniboia, Saskatchewan, and Albert, wheat threshed in 1901 amounted to 12,676,343 bushels, against 4,028,294 bushels in 1900. The acreage planted was 508,564, thus showing an average of 24.92 bushels per acre. This compares very well with the Manitoba average of 25.1 bushels per acre, and also with previous records of the North-West itself. Only in 1891, 1895, and 1901 did Manitoba exceed the North-West average per acre of last season. In 18 years, three seasons were higher and 15 lower than the North-West record. Ontario, in the eleven years, 1891-1901, has only beaten the yield of the North-West Territories twice—in 1891, when the average was 25.7 bushels, and in 1897, with its average of 25.2.

The highest average yield in the North-West Territories in 1901 was 34 bushels in West Saskatchewan. The highest average in Manitoba was in North-West Manitoba, with 30 bushels average yield. Saskatchewan Territory is North of 52nd degree of North latitude, and it has a population of 25,679 persons. Its crop of wheat, harvested from 37,000 acres, was, according to threshers' returns, 829,737 bushels, or 22½ bushels per acre. Northern Alberta, just South of the 55th degree, raised 737,344 bushels from 29,634 acres, an average of 25.55 bushels, somewhat over the average of all Manitoba. It is evident, therefore, that the wheat belt of the North-West must be considered as extending over a much larger area than was deemed probable by two Conservative experts a few years ago.

In oats, the returns give a total yield, in the three territories already named, of 11,113,066 bushels from 229,439 acres, an average of 48.43 bushels per acre, comparing well with 40.3 bushels, the average of Manitoba last season. North Alberta "beats the band," with an average, from 79,642 acres, of 61.42 bushels to each acre. In Manitoba the highest average reached was 48.4 bushels—in North-West Manitoba. In barley, the three territories yielded 736,749 bushels from 20,044 acres, or 36.75 bushels to the acre. The yield in Manitoba was 34.02 bushels to the acre, and in Ontario 26.5 bushels. Again the highest yield is in North Alberta—43.65 bushels.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

TO READERS AND ADVERTISERS.

In consequence of Monday next being a Bank Holiday, the MARK LANE EXPRESS will be published on THURSDAY AFTERNOON, MARCH 27.

All communications for that issue, whether for the Editor or Orders for Advertisements, should reach this Office as early as possible, and in any case not later than by first post on THURSDAY MORNING NEXT.

THE

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By a Lobbyist.

I am glad to be able to state that the members for rural constituencies are, generally speaking, much gratified at the declaration of Mr. Hanbury's heroic resolve to reorganise the Board of Agriculture. There has been a gradual growth of feeling that the Board as at present constituted is of little value to the individual farmer; and the natural dissatisfaction, with its innocuity, has been intensified by a comprehension of the possibilities of such an organisation. "We, however," said one legislator to me, "have not the agitative spirit within us. We did not intend to denounce the Board, and we even refrained from an active criticism. Our dissatisfaction was shown in the coldness of our attitude towards the Board. We had simply become apathetic—we had no interest in its work or purpose. We knew that it could not be seriously valuable, and we simply relapsed into indifference." This politician, however, like all with whom I have conversed on the point, is convinced that Mr. Hanbury will not lack the stimulating sympathy of both sides of the House in the work which he is about to undertake. As a fact, it is already being extended to him. Mr. Hanbury has been hitherto regarded as in some measure a pathetic figure on the Front Bench. A reformer by instinct, an administrator of undeniable capacity, he has been regarded as foredoomed to inactivity and uselessness. His present assertion is thus welcomed partially because it enables the man to play a part worthy his character.

Will it be possible to reorganise the personnel of the Board itself? This is a question which has been a good deal debated among the rural M.P.'s. The present personnel of the Board is not altogether calculated to induce confidence. It includes the Lord President of the Council, the principal Secretaries of State, the First Lord of the Treasury, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, and the Secretary for Scotland. It is the fact that the charter of the Board provides for the appointment of such other persons as his Majesty may approve; but how often has this power been utilised? As a fact, in the constitution of the Board itself we have no definite assurance that the destinies of the interest are being controlled by men having any specific knowledge of its necessities. The Board may be better than its constitution warrants us to expect. Would it be possible to reproduce the system adopted in connection with the Irish Board? The Irish Council of Agriculture consists of 104 members, two members being elected by each county, while each province is also represented by members appointed by the Department. From this body you have appointed a representative committee of twelve men. Thus, in the constitution of the Irish Board, you have a specific assurance not only that it is in touch with the requirements of the interest, but that a careful study is being maintained of local agrarian necessities. In this fact you have the real secret of the success of the Irish system.

True, the Irish system costs more than the English system. The English organisation costs—that is, in its machinery—about a hundred thousand a year. The Irish system costs nearly a hundred and seventy thousand a year; but it must not be forgotten that the machinery of the Irish system is much more extensive and practical, and that, unlike the English system, it is directly concerned with the practical side of the farmers' daily life—that it has experiments conducted for their behoof, that it illustrates the possibility of extending their operations, that well-equipped lecturers act as instructors in the modern developments of the agricultural science, that it conducts its own dairy farm for the provision of object-lessons, and that it even sends seeds to farmers for the purpose of testing. "The first person Mr. Hanbury has to consult in his purpose," said a well-known Midland M.P. to me, "is the Chancellor of the Exchequer. He must secure a seriously enlarged grant if he would make the Board of Agriculture a practical body. Of course, he may be able to save a little of the present grant by the reorganisation of the Board's machinery; but it will be very little. If the Agricultural Minister for Ireland has an income of a hundred and seventy thousand a year at his disposal the English Minister ought to have an income of three hundred thousand.

I myself am greatly inclined to the same view as the legislator. Mr. Hanbury will be able to accomplish very little unless he is conceded an increased grant. His establishment is already created, and he cannot decapitate the officials having executive control. Will Sir Michael Hicks-Beach consent to an enlarged grant? Sir Michael has, of course, a native sympathy with agriculture. He is generally regarded as the representative of the country squire element in politics. He is a good landlord, and in that capacity he has sought to encourage a reform in the methods of his tenantry. But it must not be forgotten that at this moment the Treasury has a sufficiency of demands made upon it. It will be urged that a matter of a hundred thousand pounds is a mere flea-bite in the Imperial necessities of the year. That is not the way in which Sir Michael will look at the business. He has had more demands made upon his exchequer than any other British Finance Minister. This has not, however, induced in him a loose hold on the purse-strings. As a fact, he exercises as rigorous a control as ever Sir William Harcourt did. I thus am compelled to look upon Sir Michael as providing the most serious barrier to the realisation of Mr. Hanbury's purpose. My chief hope is that his native sympathy with agriculture may act as an effective ally to Mr. Hanbury.

There be ominous rumours in the air concerning the forthcoming budget. One thing is generally accepted—Sir Michael must enlarge the basis of taxation. He cannot eternally go on increasing the income-tax, for that would mean the alienation of the class most loyal to Conservatism—the middle class. Is it possible for him to so enlarge the basis of taxation that the method adopted shall tighten the fidelity of at least a section of that class? The men who ask this question have in their mind's eye the possibility of some tax on corn. I will not myself say that Sir Michael meditates such a tax, for I have known full well the strength of his allegiance to Free Trade principles. Still, I cannot but chronicle the fact that the story that the fiscal restrictions in connection with the importation of corn are to be revised is in circulation in the lobby. I must admit that the authors of the story are Radicals. As a fact, they would rather welcome the tax, for it would provide them with an effective method of attack upon the Government. For my part, I dare not credit the assertion. Still, the stern fact is that the Chancellor of the Exchequer is practically compelled by the financial necessities bred of this war to enlarge the basis of taxation.

MEM.—I have to apologise for having misspelt the name of the excellent Unionist member for the Tavistock division. That useful politician will pardon the unintentional slip.

OUR LIST OF SHOWS.

The Mark Lane Express

POCKET BOOK

AND

LIST OF AGRICULTURAL SHOWS.

Our list of Agricultural Shows is this year issued in the form of a pocket book, of a convenient size, which, in addition to containing the Show Fixtures for 1902, includes a considerable amount of useful information, consisting of Railway Rates for Stock, tables, etc. The Pocket Book consists of 72 pages and cover, and is of a size eminently suitable for the purpose for which it is intended. A vacant page for memoranda faces each page of the Show Fixtures, and this arrangement will be found of great use, enabling readers to easily and quickly make a note of any prospective engagements.

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Rival Attractions of Town and Country Life.

The Blandford Farmers' Club, some time ago, offered a prize for the best essay on Rural Depopulation, and of the five essays sent in that considered by the judge to be the best was written by Mr. E. W. Drew (ex-chairman of the Club), and entitled "The Rival Attractions of Town and Country Life as they Affect Agriculture." This essay was subsequently read at a meeting of the Club. The author first considered the effect which the large migration of the working classes from the country to the towns has upon agriculture; and he asked why was it that the young men in the country, as soon as they were sixteen or seventeen years old, were so anxious to leave their homes, their parents, and the surroundings to which they had been accustomed, and amidst which they had reached the full vigour of youth with health unimpaired, to go into the towns to work longer hours, to live probably in crowded houses, and to give up, as a rule, most of the comforts which they had always had in their own country homes? The primary consideration with most of these men was what was called more life, which meant more variety, more change, and the hundred and one opportunities which the young man in a town had of seeing and hearing something fresh. This had a greater influence in drawing country people to the towns than even the prospect of higher wages, because amongst the working classes there was a certain restlessness, a desire for change, and a general wish to do something different to what they had been doing. Naturally, too, the prospect of higher wages did draw considerably. No matter how small the balanre in hand at the end of the week might be, the average Englishman would always go where he was able to handle the most cash, hoping and believing that he would manage it differently from other people, and effect a considerable saving where others were obliged to spend all. These two inducements—more life and higher wages—were undoubtedly the main attractions which the town held out to the country lad just verging on manhood; and when it was remembered that village life all the year round was certainly somewhat dull and monotonous, it could not be wondered at that these attractions were extremely powerful. That being so, it was necessary to consider whether this depopulation of the rural districts and the consequent crowding into the towns was for the better or for the worse. Was it for the future good of our country, or would the country in the end suffer on account of it? Undoubtedly, if the crowding into the towns went on at its present rate it would eventually fail-

most seriously on both the moral and physical welfare of the nation at large.

Dealing next with

The Attractions of Country Life,

Mr. Drew went on to say that, as agriculture was still the most important industry, it would be well first to take the work on a farm. The lads employed on farms were mostly either under carters, shepherds, or stockmen. As children they had, of course, been educated at the village school free of cost, and in this matter of education there was much room for improvement. For, whereas the instruction provided might be suitable to the after life of the town child, it could not be said to be at all adapted to the future requirements of those who lived in the country, nor calculated to make them proficient in the duties which they would be called upon to fulfil. The education of the day tended rather towards causing migration to the towns than inducing the young people to stay in the country.

Having passed the required standard, the boys left school, and, as a rule, were readily taken on by their father's employer to do light works on the farm. Should the father be a carter, the boy generally had a fondness for horses; but if the father was a shepherd the lad generally developed a fondness for sheep. In either case he was usually put to work with his father. His wages were not much to begin with, but if he showed ordinary sharpness he soon got a rise, and at 17 or 18 years of age he got full pay. The average hours of work were from 6 a.m. to 5 p.m., with intervals of at least two hours for meals. Either of the occupations mentioned entailed a certain amount of Sunday labour, although now-a-days this was rendered lighter than formerly by the employer having the work got forward on the Saturday. The lad probably lived with his parents, or in comfortable lodgings, and generally paid, as he got towards manhood and received full wages, from 6s. to 7s. a week for board, lodgings, etc.

After his daily work, what was there in the way of recreation? In the summer there was cricket, few villages being without a cricket club; and in winter there was the club or reading-room, where young men could read the papers, play games, and so on. Thanks to the generosity of a few private individuals, almost every parish of any importance had its attractions of that sort. The event of the bicycle had enabled a lad to easily get to the nearest town, to see anything special that might be going on there, so that, as regarded attractions of that sort, he was almost as well off as the lad in the town, and did not feel, like the country lads of former days, that he was out of the world. Most important of all, though this fact was little recognised, the country lad was less exposed to temptations than his brother in the town, and, moreover, he lived amidst the best surroundings as regarded health, freedom and fresh air being the most necessary factors in laying the foundations of a good constitution.

In courting time the attractions of the country were

Far Ahead of those in the Town,

and when marriage took place, when once a suitable cottage had been found, the question of rent was not by any means the serious matter that it was in the town. With a garden and an allotment, now everywhere obtainable, a man was able, not only to grow enough vegetables for his family, but had generally a considerable amount to spare, which he, of course, sold. Then, too, he could keep his pig practically by means of his garden and allotment, and could thus produce meat, which was a considerable source of help. His family, if he happened to have a quiverful of little ones, were naturally much more healthy from being brought up in the pure country air than it was possible for town-bred children to be.

Having spoken of the great need in the rural districts for more labourers' cottages of a suitable character, Mr. Drew next dealt with the man who left the country as a youth and migrated to the town. Generally the lad who left his native village for the town was about 15 or 16, and as he was healthy and strong, and perhaps able to do more work than town lads of his own age, he had not much difficulty in getting employment at higher wages than he had been receiving. If he was intelligent and persevering, he might soon rise to a position of trust, and although he found board and lodging expensive, yet, if he was careful and could resist the manifold temptations to spend money, he could probably put by a fair sum every week. When his day's work was over his evenings could be looked forward to with pleasure, as there was always something going on and plenty of friends to meet. This might satisfy him for a time, but when he wished to marry and settle down, he found rents high, and then he began to realise that, after all, the country had some advantages over the town. If he was blessed with a goodly number of children, the early struggle was sure to be a severe one, both for himself and his wife. The higher rent, and having to buy everything in the shape of food, drew seriously on the income, and it was doubtful whether at the end of the week he was any better off than his brother in the country.

The town undoubtedly possessed stronger attractions than the country, because once a man left the country and took up any kind of work in the town he was pretty sure not to go back again. Once thoroughly accustomed to living in a town few men were happy living out of it. This superior attractiveness of the town drew even the unskilled labourer away from the country, and thereby injuriously affected agriculture by denuding the rural districts of what might be called its elementary necessities. And if it drew away the unskilled workman, how much more did it draw away the better class of men. Considering next how

the Superior Attractiveness of the Town

first began to manifest itself, Mr. Drew said that first of all there was in the town, at any rate for the more intelligent workman, a certainty of always being able to get work. If he had a good character he could always get work, for if one employer did not require his services, he could easily find another. But this independence could not be said to exist even now to anything like so great an extent in the country. Once a man there lost a good situation, he could not, except at certain seasons, replace it at once. When it came to be considered how this was, they were bound to see that agricultural depression was at the root of the evil. Twenty years ago, when bad times first began to manifest themselves, the agriculturist paid off all the men he could possibly do without; and as demand for labour got less in the country, it got greater in the towns; and then began that steady flow to the towns which had been going on ever since.

The same remarks which had been applied to the exodus of the working men from the country applied to the women. In the case of the women the superior attractions of the town were very noticeable, for to a young woman the temptation to start life amid the exciting surroundings of a town generally proved irresistible. Much could be written about the migration of the middle classes to the town, but as such migration did Ynot directly affect agriculture, it was sufficient to say that it was unfortunate, inasmuch as it deprived the country of some of its most stalwart sons, who, as had been so well proved during the progress of the war, were willing to come forward to fight their country's battles. This class of lad, however, probably did not leave country life of his own free will, but was compelled by his parents to go and get a livelihood which in the country he had now-a-days so much difficulty in getting.

So the upper class the town was certainly most attractive. To the workers of this class there were opportunities in the town not to be heard of in the country, and as for the man who sought amusement the town was always studying how to satisfy his cravings. The absence of the upper classes in the towns had a prejudicial effect on agriculture, because the gentleman who resided principally in the town naturally obtained all his requirements there, and did not do as much as he might to increase the prosperity in the place which was his native home. It was, then, an undisputed fact that the town attracted to its midst large numbers of men from the country districts, and this was generally admitted to be a great evil.

Suggested Remedies.

When they came to discuss a remedy they were told on all sides that, in order to induce the working man to remain in the country, they must enable him to obtain a greater interest in the land, and it was generally supposed that a large increase in the number of small holdings would have the desired effect. Experience of small holdings did not bear out this view. A small farm to be worked with profit must be situated near a town, a small holding in an outlying district being practically useless. One of the first and best remedies—next, of course, to paying higher wages, which was impossible in the present depressed state of agriculture—would be the better housing of the working classes in the country, for more and better labourers' cottages would be an undoubted inducement for many young men to stay at home, and would probably draw others back who were born in the country, and had never quite lost their love for it.

For the future physical welfare of our people it was necessary that there should be a good country population; and as this might well be considered a law of Providence it would in the end assuredly prevail. But at the same time it was the duty of man to use every effort to bring about this result. Agriculturists and other employers of labour in the country would best be doing that duty if they did their best to make the lives of those around them brighter and happier, and did not consider their own prosperity alone, but studied the welfare of their servants. Servants should not aim to do as little work as possible for as high a wage as they could get, but rather to do their duty fairly by their employers, thereby gaining their confidence and respect, and so brightening every-day existence. Owners of property should not think entirely of their own pleasure. It rested with them more perhaps than with any other class to add to the attractions of ordinary country life. Anything that could be done to strengthen the good feeling between the three principal classes in the country would be a great help towards making agriculture a more attractive occupation, especially to the working man, and would go a long way towards keeping him on the land. The same remark applied to all classes of men in the town.



By Hordeum.

Composition of Barley.

In the recently-issued journal of the South-Eastern Agricultural College, Wye, Kent (No. 11, 1902) is a short article by Prof. A. D. Hall on the chemical composition of barleys shown at the last Brewers' Exhibition. In this Mr. Hall acknowledges the services of Mr. F. T. Holbrook and Prof. Percival, and the united services of these three gentlemen prove of signal use at the present moment.

Everyone acquainted with the determinations of the judges at this exhibition is acquainted with the fact that the decisions are reached by purely empirical methods. But the combined or united experiences of the competent jurors (allowing for any deficiency on the part of single jurors) enables them to reach to results that are purely scientific. They determined the order of merit of some 200 samples, and the prize order was most faithfully and carefully examined by the professors named, with the result that their decisions are found to agree with scientific lists of merit.

The professors give lists of great interest which confirm absolutely several of the conclusions inferred in former reports of the judges at the Brewers' Exhibition. This is an instance where

Science Confirms Practice,

and the results affect the whole cultivation of barley. For many years past the judges have thrown out suggestions as to the desirability of not folding sheep after roots as the previous step in rotation. As to this the article in question says, "The chemical analyses and mechanical examination of these barleys all confirm the conclusions that high quality in barley is linked with a high starch and a low proteid content, factors which are not readily attained when barley is grown after roots folded off." Quite so. Good malting barley is rarely grown on any soils when sheep are folded, and the barley is the next succeeding crop, no matter how close to the hurdles sowing may keep, and even if the soil be sandy.

In glancing at the admirable tables given, one is struck at the high moisture percentage throughout. This is a point which has not yet received much scientific attention. Do good, sound, dry malting barleys, as ordinarily received by maltsters, contain 15-to 18 per cent. of moisture?

The Degree of Wetness

of any barley is a point that affects all other percentages, whilst a number of the contents of any barley-grain can be absolutely relative the amount of wet affects the whole materially. It will be well for the same series of investigations to be followed at some future show, when the grain can be taken at an early day of the show, and the moisture contents determined promptly prior to exposure to the humid air of the Agricultural Hall in October.

This suggestion, however, does not affect in the slightest degree the results gained, nor does it throw the slightest slur on the accuracy of the tables given. It is merely a minor practical point, which has only to be understood to be followed in such a way that cavillers have nothing left to say.

The practical conclusions are eminently satisfactory.

The prize samples selected give singularly uniform results.

It is well known that the commercial value of barley is ruled by the four factors:—The amount of starch, water, proteids, and fibre contained. The interesting point is how far judgement by eye can determine these, and the result is singularly interesting for, in the tables given, the awards of the judges are confirmed in every detail.

Low Proteid Content

is shown to be inseparable from the outer indications of the grain which determine the opinion of the judges when giving the awards.

The mechanical determinations by Professor Percival are of much value on many of the points involved. It is much to be hoped that he will ere long favour us with a paper on this matter on the same, or even fuller, lines than the very admirable one he recently gave on hops in the Journal of the Royal Agricultural Society. A number of points of real commercial, as well as scientific interest remain to be determined about the physical characters of the grain and its composition as indicated by the outside aspects.

Then also there is another most interesting point which, as yet, has hardly been touched upon.

The Feeding Value

of barley. It is not likely that a really good choice malting barley is of the same feeding value, stone for stone, as a low-grade barley unfit for malt. Yet, what is the true relation? The day has come when the quantity of barley grown may prove of greater importance than its quality, and as quantity can always be ensured by taking the necessary steps, we ought to settle the question: will it best pay barley growers to secure bulk regardless of quality?

This is a question which the article referred to deals with only inferentially; but from the clear, lucid, and scientific handling of the subject, some light on this point even may be thrown, and in the near future the whole matter may be dealt with in a way that will help to settle several of the vexed questions at present little understood. All barley-growers and brewers are indebted to Professors Hall and Percival for the admirable paper they have contributed on this most interesting subject.

The Royal Commission on Arsenical Poisoning.

The Royal Commission investigating the sources of arsenic in food and drink, with especial reference to the arsenical poisoning epidemic in the midlands, have held several meetings recently, but the proceedings have been private. The proceedings at the recent meetings have been what may be described as of an administrative character—the sifting of that which has been accomplished, and the considering and providing for that which is to follow. The complete subsidence of the Manchester arsenical beer poisoning cases, together with the issuing of the interim report recommending the fixing of a standard for malt and hops by the Inland Revenue Department, has curtailed, though it has not closed, that part of the inquiry. It is understood that nothing has yet been done by the Inland Revnue to give effect to the recommendation of the Royal Commission in this respect.

Investigations are now being pursued into the occurrence of a number of arsenical poisoning cases at Halifax, to which allusion was made at the last public meeting of the inquiry, and evidence as to their causes will be given. It is generally conceded that, taking the country through, the beer now being brewed and sold to the public is arsenic free, but there are cases here and there where non-deleterious quantities of the poison are still traced, and elaborate scientific analyses are being conducted to trace even their origin, with a view to their elimination and the production by all of an absolutely pure beer. The purification of malt and hops is also still being carefully experimented upon, and although nothing in the character of further sensational incidents may be looked for, yet much valuable scientific information will be forthcoming. Shortly after Easter further meetings for the reception of evidence will be held.

The Beer Bill.

The Press Association is informed that the Beer Bill of which the second reading will shortly be moved by Mr. Tomlinson, M.P., differs materially from its predecessors. Sir Cuthbert Quilter and his friends have set themselves to evolve a scheme which, whilst securing in the main the object for which they have striven, should involve a minimum of interference with the brewing industry and of trouble to the Excise authorities. The Bill will provide:—

(1) That all beer must contain a fixed proportion of barley malt (put in the Bill at 85 per cent.);

(2) That all hop substitutes shall be prohibited; and

(3) That beer brewed abroad shall only be sold with a declaration to the purchaser that it is "imported" beer.

Previous Bills which have permitted the brewing of two classes of beer ("all malt" and "part malt") have been open to the criticism that even if passed their enforcement would be most difficult, owing to the impossibility of detecting by analysis the difference between the "pure" and the sophisticated liquor. The present Bill sets up a minimum standard to which all beer must conform. The Excise authorities will be charged with the duty of seeing that this standard is enforced, and as the check will be made before the beer goes into consumption, the administration will not be made difficult by any question of analysis. The declaration of materials which brewers are at present required to make in their Excise books will afford prima facie evidence as to whether the law is being complied with. The allowance of a percentage of other materials, the choice of which if left to the discretion of individual brewers, is designed to meet the reiterated contention that to enable certain classes of home-grown barley to be used an admixture of sugar or some other saccharine ingredient is essential.



Home Notes.

The Borough.

Holiday time being now so near, it is not surprising that our trade is feeling the effect of its approach. The volume of business has lessened during the past week, but in every transaction the recent firm tone has been supported. The value of any attractive samples steadily advances, and, owing to speculative buying of several parcels of the lower qualities, there is a perceptible hardening in this direction also. In a market which is at present so sensitive, the slightest falling off in demand exercises some influences, it is therefore evident that pressure to sell is inadvisable, as it would necessarily result in the lowering of bids. Holders will therefore best advance their interests by remaining quiescent, until business is resumed after the Easter recess. The trade in

Foreign Hops

is practically suspended. Imports are almost entirely limited to the shipments required for the completion of earlier contracts. Extremely little new business is passing, as both Continental and American hops can be sold in their respective local markets at prices much above the current value of English growths. Pacifics possessing any claim to quality are nominally quoted on this side at 85s., therefore, while our hops, of reasonably good colour and condition, can be bought quite 40s. lower, there is no inducement for our brewers to buy outside our produce, unless under very exceptional circumstances.

I am informed that meetings will be held during the next few days in various market towns in Herefordshire and Worcestershire, with the object of establishing a

Hop Growers' Association,

specially for these counties. I am very glad to know that my old friends in the Midlands are aroused to the necessity of combination for the protection of their interests. The reasons for their action are set forth in their programme, the first clause of which declares that their chief object is "to advance the sale and demand for hops grown locally," and it is proposed to accomplish this "by publishing and circulating among the brewers, the results of analyses and practical tests, showing that these hops are equal, if not superior, in brewing properties to those grown in any other district, by breaking down the unfair and improper prejudice, with regard to the keeping properties of these hops in comparison with Kents, and by inducing local growers to continue by every possible means to raise the standard of their hops." The first and last paragraphs seem to me to be somewhat inconsistent. I have not the slightest desire or intention to depreciate the excellence of Hereford and Worcester hops, when well grown and properly managed, as I have sufficient evidence that samples from these counties have not infrequently compared most favourably at the brewers' exhibitions and elsewhere, with some of the best specimens produced in the South. But if they are generally "equal, if not superior, to those grown in any other district," I fail to see the necessity of any inducement to "growers to raise their standard." On the other hand, if this latter exhortation be needful, I think it must be conceded that the claim of superexcellence is rather beyond the mark.

The prejudice as to the keeping properties of their hops has long been a grievance with Hereford and Worcester growers; they are well advised in making an effort to remove it, and I wish them success therein. Although many buyers still retain the opinion that yearling Worcesters are not so desirable as yearlings grown in the Southern districts, this objection is certainly not now so general as it was in former years. Improved methods of curing have already done much to raise the estimated value of Hereford and Worcester hops for keeping. I believe the entire banishment of old prejudices can and will be accomplished by the growers themselves, if they determine to concentrate their attention upon the quality of their growths, and give up the modern practice of sacrificing quality to quantity. Should the proposed association be formed, I trust its committee will recognise the necessity of

Limiting the Supply of Hops,

and follow the example of the National Association in insisting upon the adjustment of supply to demand. This is undoubtedly the crux of the whole matter. If we had not grown more hops than the annual consumption required, our growers would not now be groaning over losses, which have arisen only from this cause. While the Southern planters have been "grubbing," their brethren in the Midlands have been "lengthening their cords and strengthening their stakes." Had the reduction of acreage been proportionately equal in every English district, and if all the immature and discoloured hops of last season had been left to blow away, the remuneration of growers would have been quite satisfactory, and the dangers arising from cold storage, which threaten their future, would have been temporarily avoided. I think I may go further and express my conviction that had Midland growers taken due notice of the advice circulated by the Council of the U.A.E.H.G., there would be no need for any local or separate organisation for the defence of their industry. Let it be understood, however, that I write in no spirit of jealousy of, or opposition to, the movement which is being inaugurated. English growers should combine for their mutual protection, and I wish well to my friends who will act as chairmen of the several meetings, and trust they will be faithfully supported.

The New Beer Bill

is now drafted, and, subject to some final polishing up, is in the form in which it will be published and submitted to Parliament towards the end of next month. I was privileged to glance through a rough proof the other day, and am pleased to note that the Bill is not only more directly to the purpose, but less complicated than the proposal of last year. If it be accepted, it will practically accomplish all we desire, in securing that British beer shall be made only of barley-malt and hops, with such small proportion of sugar as experts have decided is actually necessary. The clause which provides that no substitutes for hops as preservatives shall be permitted, coupled with the returns of hops consumed, which all brewers are now compelled to keep account of, will bring us into a position of closer relationship with our ultimate buyers than we have yet occupied, and will materially assist in re-establishing our industry on a sound basis. Therefore I heartily wish success to Sir Cuthbert Quilter, Colonel Brookfield, and others who are engaged in the promotion of this truly patriotic measure.

All official reports and notices of the National Association of English Hop Growers will be printed in the MARK LANE EXPRESS, *which will also contain all current information likely to be of interest and benefit to the member of the society.*

Foreign Notes.

Nuremburg.

But very little, if any, alteration has taken place on this market during the past week. Demand is not very active, but values are well maintained. The scarcity of choice samples, and the general diminution of stocks of all descriptions, coupled with the small supplies coming forward, cause increased firmness to such an extent that holders are quite content to wait for the outlet they are looking for when the spring demand sets in.

Munich.

Similar conditions prevail here. Brewers are buying regularly, but not extensively. Prices are fully as high as heretofore, and further advances are expected by holders, as the necessary consequence of the small supplies available, either for present or future use.

Belgium.

Th markets, both in town and country, maintain the firmness which has marked the hop trade

for some time past. Considerable business would have been done in English hops, but dealers complain that they cannot buy them, because the qualities are generally too poor for the acceptance of their customers.

America.

The New York market continues to show advancing prices, although new business is only moderate. But brewers are desirous to get prompt delivery of all contracts, many of which must be executed at a loss to the contractors, who have been unable to cover their sales. Pacific Coast dealers are unusually active in bidding for the next crop, while growers are proportionately reticent in committing themselves to future engagements. The receipts of hops from September 1st to February 21st last were only 68,051 bales, against 126,694 in the same period of the previous season. Exports to Europe were 38,051 bales this season, compared with 55,650 bales in 1900 and 1901. Amongst recent imports were some fairly important lots brought back from London.

The American agriculturist makes the following statement with respect to the trade in hops between America and Australia.

The new tariff laws of Australia, which went into effect last October, will stop the export movement of hops from the Pacific coast, particularly Washington. The traiff has been raised to 12 cents per pound, which is practically prohibitive. Tasmania is the only province which raises hops, and these are of greatly inferior quality to Washington hops, which drove them largely out of the market, and compelled many farmers to give up raising them. Australian farmers have produced only about ten per cent. of the hops consumed in that country, and about 5,000 bales have been imported annually from the United States.

Proposed Tax on Margarine in America.

There is now a Bill before the American Senate which, if it passes in its present form, will have a revolutionary effect upon the sale of butter on the other side of the Atlantic, and will have an indirect effect here. The Bill proposes to put a tax of 5d. per lb. upon all coloured margarine sold in the States, and ¼d. per lb. on all uncoloured margarine. Such a tax as 5d. per lb. will annihilate the coloured margarine trade, and it looks as if the American consumer will have to eat butter instead of margarine, which must enhance the price of butter at home and restrict the export accordingly.

Agricultural Imports.

The following is an account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended March 15, 1902, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year:—

Animals Living.	1901	1902.		1901.	1902.
	No.	No.		Cwt.	Cwt.
Cattle ...	10,410	8,796	Wheat ...	1,44 ,800	1,382,100
Sheep	9,355	6,501	Flour	4-2,100	457,900
Swine	—	—	Barley ..	265,300	347,000
*Horses...	—	759	Oats	342,500	266,600
			Peas	51,100	47,500
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Beans ...	33,200	17,800
Beef	90,980	70,215	Maize ...	830,200	940,800
Mutton...	58,837	43,501		Bunches	Bunches
Pork	19, 11	12,555	Bananas	22,412	30,360
Bacon ...	197,746	108,916			
Beef, salt	5,483	1,675		Cwt.	Cwt.
Hams.....	41,795	34,965	Apples ...	32,863	29,348
Pork, salt	4,250	6,923	Apricots		
Meat, salt & Fresh	15,678	15,855	&Peaches	90	11
Do. pres.	14,050	14,498	Cherries	—	—
Butter ...	69,398	70,737	Currants	—	—
Marg'rine	16,210	24 582	Gooseb'r's	—	—
Cheese ...	32,952	25,897	Grapes ...	371	206
Milk, Fresh, in cans or			Lemons...	9,395	12,576
			Oranges	192 981	242,784
			Pears.....	174	5
			Plums ...	47	20
drums.	430	384	Strawb'r's	—	—
Milk			Oth'r Fr't	308	1,677
Cream.	56	90		Tons.	Tons.
			Hay	2,220	11,101
Milk			*Straw ...	—	1,703
pr's'v'd,				Bush.	Bush.
other			Onions ...	110,379	104,415
kinds ...	17	22		Cwt.	Cwt.
Con. Milk	23,937	18,151	Hops	1,648	583
			* Locust		
			Beans	—	26,350
	No.	No.	Potatoes	197,911	40,541
Eggs	191,937	496,897	Tom'to's	9,254	9,571
			Other	Value.	Value.
Poultry &	Value.	Value.	Veg'bles	£9,683	£15,126
Game	£19,068	£11,916		Cwt.	Cwt.
			Dried	1,286	3,450
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Pres'v'd		
Rabbits	7 692	4,928	by can-		
Lard	37,051	52,104	ning ...	4,595	2,376

* Not shown in 1901

The Chicago packers are said to have decided not to send any more meat to Germany. The leading firms say that Germany makes so many petty regulations that they prefer to withdraw entirely rather than endure them.

GARDEN.

Now is the time to get on with the sowing and planting of a great variety of vegetables and other crops, and the persevering gardener will be at work almost from dawn till dark. And the days, fortunately, are rapidly lengthening out now, enabling one to put in a good long day's work. We are now, in fact, close upon the spring, or vernal equinox, when the sun rises and sets at six o'clock—or rather is supposed to do, though, as a matter of fact, it rises several minutes after 6 a.m., and sets considerably after 6 p.m., on the 21st.

At the time of writing, the conditions, from a horticultural point of view, are almost ideal. The weather is mild and fine, if not ver7y bright, and the soil is dry, and in almost perfect condition for working. There would even be plenty of the proverbial "March dust," except that there is scarcely any wind to raise it. Such a calm March, so far, I can scarcely remember.

Continue planting potatoes; the sets will never go in better than now. All the warm borders and other sheltered spots available ought to have been planted with early varieties before this, and now the more open quarters should be dealt with. An excellent maincrop variety of recent introduction is Evergood; this can be strongly recommended, and has evidently "come to stay." Always avoid the use of too much animal manure in the drills or furrows, especially on naturally strong or rich land. Do not omit a good sprinkling of superphosphate or bone-meal, however, scattering this just before planting the sets, preferably, and remember that burnt material of any kind, wood-ashes, etc., is invaluable, while on damp or heavy soils soot usually has a very beneficial effect, but on naturally light and dry ones salt is better.

Sow more peas of sorts, including main-crop kinds as well as earlies. If there are any mice about, dress the seed well with red lead, made into a thin paste with water, before sowing—this is far better than paraffin.

Peas got in a few weeks since will now be coming through, and should be lightly moulded up, and have the sticks put to them as soon as possible, as these alone afford a good deal of protection. Even the dwarf kinds should have a little short spray stuck in on each side the rows, both to protect the plants and keep the haulm and pods off the ground.

The weather is very favourable for the growth of cauliflowers, so finish setting out all the autumn-sown plants, and those raised under glass early in the year ought also to be ready to plant out by this time, or nearly so.

A good batch of winter greens, in variety, ought to be sown without delay. The first lot of Brussels sprouts, sown last month, should be up and fit to pick out now, if not done already, but another batch must be sown at once for the main crop. Sow also a small bed of Savoys, one of cabbage (for late summer and autumn use), two or three kinds of broccoli (preferably of mid-season and late varieties), and a bit of kale, if likely to be required early.

Grafting should be done, now that the trees are beginning to push into growth, the scions having been cut beforehand and preserved in moist soil and a cool and shady position.

Vines on walls in the open air must be pruned at once, as the sap is already beginning to move, and the buds will soon be swelling. Any pruning done after this point will probably be followed by bleeding, which exhausts the vines sadly.

Fairly forward vines under glass are now in bloom, and until the berries are well set the atmosphere should be kept reasonably dry. Maintain a genial warmth, with fairly free ventilation, and rap the cones smartly with the hand daily, about noon, and preferably when the sun shines.

Except in really cold localities, or very exposed positions, when the first or second week in April will be better, roses may now be safely pruned. Thin out all weak or worn-out wood, and shorten back the strong young growths rather severely in the case of the weak or "moderate" growers, and less closely in those of a free or vigorous character. Except where a few large blossoms only are desired, as for show from poses, severe pruning should, however, be avoided, as a rule.

Tea roses should not be pruned before the early part of next month (April), and as the end of the present month, or the first week in the next one, is the best time for planting roses of this exquisite section, the bed or beds should be prepared at once.

Plant plenty of Gladioli, in variety, also Hyacinths, Candicans, Figridi, and others. Divide and re-plant the perennial Phloxes, also Pyrethrums, early-flowering Chrysanthemums, and Michaelmas Daisies. Hardy perennials of any kind may also be planted now, and the sooner the better as a rule.



Monday (March 17th).—Cloudy weather prevailed generally over our Islands, and rain again fell at several places in the north and west. Rain was measured in the morning, as the result of the fall since the previous day, over the northern and western portions of the kingdom, but the amounts were mostly small. The winds were generally westerly or south-westerly, and they were chiefly light. The mid-day temperatures were again above 50 degrees in most parts of the country.

Tuesday (March 18th).—The weather was generally overcast or cloudy, and rain again fell at a few places in the west. Small amounts of rain were measured in the morning, as the result of the fall since Monday, in the extreme north and west. The winds over the whole of our Islands were westerly and south-westerly, and they had freshened somewhat in force, while a moderate gale was blowing in the north of Ireland. The day was warmer than the average, although much cooler than on the previous day. The weather was very cloudy in London, and the highest temperature was 52 degrees, which is about nine degrees cooler than Monday.

Wednesday (March 19th).—Fine weather prevailed in most parts of our Islands, but rain fell at a few places in the midland and southern portions of England. Rain was again measured in the morning, as the result of the fall in the preceding 24 hours, in the west as well as in the extreme north, but the amounts were generally small. An area of low barometer readings was still situated to the north of Scotland, and under its influence the winds were westerly or south-westerly. Shallow subsidiary disturbances were traversing the south of England, and were occasioning a good deal of cloud, with passing showers. Temperature had fallen somewhat, but the thermometer was still above the average over England.

Thursday (March 20th).—Westerly gales occurred in many places on our north and west coasts, and strong and rather boisterous winds were experienced in other parts of the British Islands. Rain was measured in the morning, as the result of the fall in the preceding twenty-four hours, except in the south of England, but it was only in the north that the amounts were large. Temperature had fallen considerably in the north, but elsewhere the changes were irregular, and in the south and west readings were still above the average. Hail and rain shows occurred over a large part of the country during the day. Heavy rain fell in London during the morning, but the afternoon was fine, and the thermometer rose to fifty degrees.

Friday (March 21).—The weather was again generally unsettled over our Islands, but the conditions were somewhat less disturbed than on Thursday; rain and hail showers were, however, experienced in many parts of the country. Rain was measured in the morning, as the result of the fall in the preceding 24 hours, over nearly the entire kingdom, and the fall was fairly heavy in the west. A cyclonic disturbance still had its centre situated to the north of Scotland, and the winds over the whole of our Islands were under its influence, blowing rather strongly from the south-westward. The temperature had generally decreased, and it was only in the south of England that the midday readings touched 50 degrees.

Saturday and Sunday (March 22nd and 23rd.—The weather continued very unsettled over our islands during these two days, and rain fell very generally in all parts of the country. The amount of rain measured was not large, except in parts of Ireland, and on Sunday especially there were bright intervals in most parts of the kingdom. Temperature continued rather low for the time of year, and on Saturday night the sheltered thermometer indicated a slight frost over a large part of the country, while on the grass, in the open, the frost was rather sharp inland. Rain fell in London during the greater part of Saturday, but the succeeding night was very fine, and the exposed thermometer registered seven degrees of frost. Slight showers were experienced again during Sunday in the metropolis, but the day was mostly fine, and the thermometer rose to fifty-three degrees.



Bedfordshire.

The spring of 1902 has been ushered in by seasonable weather. The trees are budding, and the pasture is wearing a green appearance, which is gladdening the heart of the farmer who has abundance of cattle and no straw or hay left. Is this why the hay trade has gone wrong, or, is it because of our friend the foreigner, who is never so happy as when he is surfeiting us and our cattle with luxuries? All products of the vegetable world are a drug in the market, because the Briton is outbid by the foreigner, the latter having less expenses than the former; but anything connected with the animal world is easy to sell, and that farmer is a lucky man who has plenty of cattle and horses (all his own), and no wheat stacks.

The lambing season is over, and I don't think the majority of farmers have any reasons to lose their pleasant looks because of ill-luck in the lambing fold.

The young wheat is looking well, but will soon waste on our land unless we can get the Cambridge roll on quickly; the land being too wet at present.

Many of the Bedfordshire farmers have got their spring corn in; but I have not, and shall not for another fortnight, as I don't believe in early sowing on land which loves charlock.

Agricultural Apathy.

Will your readers, sir, take the hints of "A Lobbyist," when he says: "This will mean the abandonment of the sluggish apathy which usually possesses the farmer where his own affairs are concerned."

I have often expressed the opinion that agriculture is dying because of this apathy. A week or two ago, at a meeting of our chamber, the question of our food supply in time of war was under consideration, and in order to meet the cost of ensuring a proper supply, a resolution was proposed that, "One shilling duty should be placed upon foreign corn landed on our shores." With such a tempting subject before the Bedfordshire farmers, at the Bedford Town Hall, one would have thought the market, the hotels, and the streets would be deserted by them, and that they would tramp into the Town Hall like a vast army "ready for the battle," necessitating an adjournment to the open air because of the crush. But no, sir, with the large majority of the Bedfordshire farmers it is "Let us eat and drink, for to-morrow we die." I hate to write the result of our great meeting, which was to back up the Government with mighty force, so that we might "fear no foe."

My hand trembles with indignation as I hold the pen to tell your readers all over the world that when this momentous resolution was put to the meeting there were only 16 farmers present, and five of them voted against it. How can we expect any Government to help us when we are so apathetic and even divided among ourselves?

Sir, I throw down by pen in disguest. I don't think I shall ever take it up again—for it is no use—and I know this will please some of your readers who hate plain speaking.—Thomas Street (March 21st).

Cumberland.

As I write the hills in view are white as milk. To-day rain, hail, and snow followed one another; but this evening's glass and sky indicate "March" weather. St. Patrick's Day was what it should be—Irishly mild, and signs on. Some of our near neighbours began seed sowing. More were to follow yesterday (20th), but down came the three wetters, and so oats must bide a wee. Lambs are in evidence, and, strangely too, black-faced little specimens are arriving two months before usual time. Irish cattle sell dearly at Carlisle sands. Query. Why cannot Ireland keep their cows at home, and make beef of them? Talking of Carlisle reminds me of the "Royal." Canny Cumbrians mean to make money at it, and they will. Already houses are being let at £50 and so, for the week, and the occupiers are arranging to vacate, and go on visit to country relations. I mentioned in last report that Cumberland and Westmoreland Chamber of Agriculture is worrying itself on the subject of protection. There will be a wind-up debate thereon next time (29th inst.), and your correspondent means to press the points referred to in your previous issue.—H. M. K. (March 20th).

Leicester.

Farming prospects I never knew looking more unprofitable. I cannot see a bright side in anything that a farmer can put in the market. Corn nearly all gone through the machine, sold, and cash disposed of. And I have no doubt a great many will have to buy from the factors seed at a dear rate. We must have a late seed time. I have not seen a drill going 20th of March; some seasons nearly completed. Turnips nearly all consumed. I knew several lots of hogs bought in the autumn, at about 26s. per head, going out again at about 10s. per head profit. This is a very small profit to stand against losses, and labour. I always consider a turnip crop a very expensive one, getting and disposing of. Haystacks now very small. If this cold weather continues, it will advance in price.—W. C. (March 19th).

Staffordshire (Mid).

Very fortunately for the farmers of this district, whose business is principally the production of milk and the breeding and feeding of live stock, the weather is unusually favourable for an early growth of grass. The necessary expenses of wintering cattle have for some months past been much above the average because of the scanty supplies of hay, straw, and roots. Almost universally the farming year, which will end on March 25th next, will come out badly in the balance-sheet; but it will be a distinct relief to the situation if the succeeding year begins under favourable conditions. In case the coming season should turn out productive of keep for live stock, it is likely that the demand for cattle and sheep will become increasingly active as we further advance in the spring. The condition of all kinds of land is favourable for production, both with respect to its mechanical tilth and with respect to its manurial state. For several years in succession there has been no waste from excessive rainfall, and one may fairly anticipate that if we are favoured with a suitable amount of warmth and moisture the fertility both of grass and arable land will be satisfactory. Autumn-sown wheat is not forward, but its plant is generally healthy and almost all land is in good tilth which is intended for cereals and green crops.—F. C. S. (March 19th).

Salop.

After a delightful spring, very favourable season for ploughing and sowing, and the sprouting of the sown corn everywhere, last Friday we had a continuous rain for many hours; and although the drill has to wait a while, the drying winds of March have great force in drying the land. Barometers have fallen, and showers have followed them, but it is early yet, and we hope to get a good breadth of spring corn sown in proper time. The pastures are in a green growing state, but temperature too low for rapid growth. Ewes and lambs, with all stock, doing well. Good beef and calves in demand in the market. Horses called for South Africa still.—J. G.

Somerset (West).

The month to date has been all that could be desired for both the sowing and establishment of farm crops. The drill has been in full work, and barley sowing is nearly completed. The early sown is looking well, and the country generally has a remarkably fresh green appearance for the time of year. Some complaints are heard of wheat loosing plant, but this is not general, and autumn-sown crops, as a rule, look well. With a favourable spring, roots, hay, and straw may be sufficient, but there will be little surplus in either case. Live stock generally are healthy, and have done well; but prices do not, in what we have to sell, correspond to the necessities of the times, and have, as a rule, been disappointing.—S. K. (March 20th).

Wilts (North).

The winter, which now seems to have come to an end, has, on the whole, not been an unfavourable one for agricultural operations, although the severe weather in February was a considerable hindrance to the early coming of spring corn. Stock have done well, and the prices before now have been much less satisfactory, especially in those districts where the crops of hay have been so scanty. The increased price of purchased artificial food is also a serious drawback. The contracts for milk lately made are said to have been at a higher price, and is much wanted, if one may judge from the large number of advertisements in the local paers. The quantity of rain has been for a series of years less than the normal quantity, and it seems almost marvellous that the springs should have held out so well. It would not be surprising if, before long, there was a cycle of wet seasons, which have been, in living memory, quite a calamity.—W. F. P. (March 20th).

Yorkshire (East.)

The much-hoped for possibility of a forward spring seems likely to be disappointed, cold showers of rain and sleet keep the land wet and sodden, and little or no progress has yet been made with spring corn sowing. No doubt if the soil is allowed to get well dried before the harrows are put on to it a better tilth will be had than has been the case for several years past. The well-remembered dry summer of last year, and the deep frosts of February being responsible for this likely advantage. It is not, therefore, unreasonable to hope that corn sown in a more mellow soil and even seed bed after this will overtake and do better than that put in before. Sharp frosts at night are causing the flockmaster to be uneasy and anxious for the future. Clovers for grazing and other pastures are being put back by these frosts, and, as roots are all about gone, he has to fall back upon manufactured feeding stuffs, or throw his mutton into the already flat and congested markets. The sheep markets have been most discouraging for months past. Beef and pork have been the best. Few farmers, unfortunately, have been able to fatten many cattle this winter, the almost universal failure of roots and the shortage in straw being the principal reasons.

Lambing reports in this district are fairly good; the crop of lambs strong and healthy, up to the average in quality, and light mortality among the ewes.

Many farms are changing tenants, and the spring sales of the out-goers leave much to be desired, store cattle make little money, and work horses were never so chaep. This is considered about the beginning of the farming year in this neighbourhood, and I regret to say the prospects are not at all rosy, and the effects of the last disastrous year will not readily be forgotten.—T. D. R. (March 19th).

Foreign Prospects.

FRANCE.—The condition of the wheat crop is still most satisfactory, and farmers have made much progress in spring sowing.

BELGIUM.—Our reports say nothing about the grain crops, so it may be assumed that they are doing well.

HOLLAND.—No complaints are heard of the crop outlook. Supplies in Groningen are fairly liberal.

GERMANY.—Mild, moist weather has succeeded sharp frosts, to the great benefit of the wheat and rye crops, the condition of which is considered excellent. This hopeful outlook and freedom from crop-scares elsewhere have led to a weaker feeling and some shrinkage in value.

RUSSIA.—Weather in the South has become unsettled; heavy snowstorms and many degrees of frost were experienced in Azoff and parts of the Euxine. The rainfall was above the normal in Central, Southern, and Eastern Governments, but under the average in the North and South-west.

ROUMANIA.—The bright hopes of farmers as to crop prospects have been rudely dashed by the sudden experience of sharp frost and continued low temperature, which is likely to cause injury, especially to the rapeseed plants.

HUNGARY.—Cold and dry weather recently prevalent is not regarded as inimical to crop prospects.

ITALY.—All cereal crops are progressing favourably, and there is hope of an abundant yield of wheat and oats.

NORTH AFRICA.—Recent rains have greatly improved the prospects of the barley crop in Algeria, particularly in the Province of Oran.

ASIA MINOR.—Postal advices speak very well of crops around Smyrna, and accounts from the interior in general are satisfactory.

INDIA.—The latest telegram from the Viceroy states good rain has fallen in Assam and Bengal; none elsewhere.

UNITED STATES.—The condition of the wheat crop is still fairly good, but it is no better than heretofore, and possibly the position is moderately less favourable. The ground is good for spring ploughing and the seeding of oats. In California the general outlook for the wheat crop is favourable. No further rain seems to have fallen since last week, as the total to date remains at 16½ inches, against 18¾ inches same time last season.—*Dornbusch.*

Difficulties of the Milk Standard.—Three milk sellers were prosecuted by the Ramsgate Corporation on the 14th inst. for selling milk below the standard set down by the Board of Agriculture, and in contravention of the Sale of Food and Drugs Act. It was argued for the defence that as the milk was supplied to the purchaser in exactly the same state as the cow gave it no offence had been committed. The justices, while not refusing to accept the statement that the cows produced milk below the standard, fined each defendant £5 and costs. The Bench invited a case for an appeal to be stated.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Monday. — Malt, a limited demand. Barley unchanged. Wheat firm. Oats steady. Maize slow at about late rates. Flour about the same.—NIXON, GOWER AND CO.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—The attendance was small, and the market ruled dull for wheat and flour, and in absence of business values were nominally unchanged. Maize quiet, unchanged. Barley steady, but slow. Oats, slow trade at about late rates. Beans and peas quiet.

Mark Lane, Friday.—To-day's market finished the week in favour of consumers, and there was but little transacted in the general departments, while buyers were assembled in small numbers. With regard to English wheat, town millers continue poor purchasers, but remunerative prices are still being secured, as the supply here remains scanty. Whites range at 29s to 30s, and reds at 28s to 30s per qr delivered up; free on rail in country, well-conditioned reds, 28s to 29s 6d per qr. The quantity available lessened, American reds tended against sellers. No. 1 Northern Duluth certificate quoted at 30s 9d ex ship, 31s 3d landed; No. 1 hard Manitoba, 32s 3d ex ship; hard Kansas, 30s 9d ex granary; New Zealand Tuscan, 29s to 29s 6d ex store, 496lb. Flour remained without improvement all day long. American brands, in fact, showing occasional weakness. Of fancy patents, Mayblossom quoted at 23s; and of first, Pillsbury, Ceresota, etc., 22s 6d. Bakers' grades generally unaltered. Iron Duke, 18s ex store. English remains in sufficient supply for requirements. Town households, 23s; whites, 26s per sack, delivered to the baker. Top price town made, 28s net. Whole meal, 172s per ton. Grinding barley unaltered. Odessa, 19s, ex quay, with ex ship to come against sellers. Danubian, 18s 6d ex ship to arrive. The seed inquiry for English malting continue s satisfactory. Foreign types steady. Oats fairly maintained. F.a.q. Libau common, 17s 3d, and ordinary, 18s ex quay, 39lb, 40lb. Libau, etc., bold, 21s. English very firm. Black winters, 24s, 42lb. Maize maintained, and mixed American continues out of the market. Odessa, 21s ex ship, 21s 6d ex quay. Danubian, 22s 6d in latter position. Plate none. There is nothing fresh to report respecting beans and peas.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Wheat a little firmer, but no very great trade was done. Fair trade in other corn and a little inquiry for seed. Flour scaling 23s, seconds, 24s, household 27s, whites 28s per sack.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, 27s to 28s per qr.; barley, 27s to 30s per qr.; beans, 34s to 35s per qr.; oats (black), 19s to 21s per qr.; peas, 32s per qr.

Birmingham, Thursday.—The market was moderately attended, and a little more inquiry was reported for foreign wheats at late rates. English wheat unchanged at 10s 9d to 11s per bag. Maize unaltered to 3d lower; round, 21s 6d to 22s (Sharpness), and 22s to 22s 6d (Liverpool); Plate, 22s to 22s 9d (Sharpness), and 22s 3d (Liverpool); grinding barley, 18s 3d to 18s 9d (Sharpness), and 18s to 19s (Liverpool). English black oats, 21s 6d to 22s 3d; whites, 22s to 23s per qr. (Birmingham); new English beans, 13s 9d to 14s; old, 15s to 16s per bag.

Bristol, Thursday.—There has been only a moderate business passing since our last. There was a shorter supply of English wheat offering on our market to-day, which made fully late rates. Foreign firm on spot, though unaltered in price. Maize, grinding barley, and oats without change in values. Flour inactive, prices remaining unaltered.—GRACE BROTHERS.

Bury, Wednesday.—Wheat: Supply much shorter, with holders asking an advance, but without much success; trade very firm at fully last week's prices. Reds or Whites, 27s 6d to 28s 6d per 504lbs. Barley: Scarcely any business passing; prices nominal. Feeding corns all steady and without change. Linseed cakes firm at £8 15s to £9 per ton. Cotton cakes steady at £5 5s per ton. Bran quiet at £5 10s per ton.

Cambridge.—During the week the weather has been very favourable for Spring sowing, consequently farmers have been very busy and bring very little to market. At this market, to-day, there was a very short supply of all grain. Wheat, though slow of sale, was the turn dearer through scarcity. Red, 27s to 28s, and white up to 29s per 504lb. Barley trade is nearly over. Beans and oats were quite as dear.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Wheat a trifle firmer; other articles unchanged. Ruling prices: White wheat, 28s to 30s 6d; red, 27s to 29s; malting barley, 28s to 33s; grinding, 22s to 24s; white oats, 20s to 24s; black, 19s to 23s per quarter.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Larger show of oats in market to-day; good sale; prices much the same as last week. White oats, 22s 6d to 23s 6d per 336lb; black oats, 22s to 23s per 336lb; barley, 26s per 448lb.—THOMAS ROBINSON.

Chester, Saturday.—Wheat in small supply at late rates. Beans and barley steady. Oats were a slow trade, and inclined to be easier. Quotations: Wheat (white and red), 4s 5d to 4s 6d per 75lb. Malting barley, 4s to 4s 1d per 60lb; grinding barley, 3s 4d to 3s 6d per 64lb. Beans, 5s 6d to 5s 8d per 80lb. Oats, new, 2s 10d to 3s; old, 3s 4d to 3s 6d per 46lb. Indian corn, 12s 6d to 13s 3d. per 240lb.

Chichester, Wednesday.—There was an average attendance, but trade remained quiet, without change in quotation.

Colchester, Saturday.—Very little wheat offering; steady trade at fully last week's prices. Scarcely anything offering in spring corn.—FRANCIS AND CO.

Devizes, Thursday.—There was very little alteration in the price of any description of corn to-day. Wheat was a dull trade at late rates, but is firmly held. Oats continue to sell freely. Quotations:—Best wheat, 13s 6d to 14s 6d; secondary, 12s 6d to 13s; best malting barley, 29s to 34s; secondary, 25s to 28s; grinding barley, 20s to 24s; oats, 21s to 24s; beans, 16s to 20s; fine flour, 22s to 24s; extra fine, 23s to 30s; best bread, 9d.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There was the usual attendance at our market to-day. Wheat and flour are steady, but still a quiet trade. Indian corn steady, but slow. Round maize easier, owing to large arrivals. Grinding beans and Canadian pease scarce on spot, and the turn against buyers. Home and foreign oats steady, but quiet. Barley dull. Oatmeal steady, but slow. Bran and thirds unchanged; and quiet.—GIBSON AND CLARK.

Leeds, Tuesday.—We have a lifeless market here for wheat to-day, notwithstanding light shipment, and although holders show no inclination to force sales, 3d less money would be accepted, but millers for the moment cannot be tempted. Malting barley in small request at late rates. Maize, beans, and oats steady.

Leicester.—Fair attendance of buyers and dealers, with moderate supplies of home-grown wheats. Trade sluggish, at 27s to 31s per 36 stones. Barley a slow trade. Fine oats very firm.

Leith, Friday.—A fair amount of business has been transacted during the week at unchanged prices. Wheat, Scotch, small supply, at last week's prices. Oats, Scotch, fair trade; good demand for seed; foreign oats, 19s to 21s 6d. Barley, Scotch, quiet sale; foreign feeding, 21s 6d. Hard white pease, 38s; beans, 33s 6d to 34s; maize, 23s to 23s 6d. Parcels with very slight heat, 21s to 22s 6d; damaged, 19s to 20s; millet seed, 19s. Mill offals:—Broad bran, 120s to 125s; sharps, 95s; to 97s 6d; parings, 105s to 107s 6d; cummings, 82s 6d to 87s 6d; dried grains, brewers, 97s 6d; distillers, 102s 6d to 105s; oat husks, 45s; meal seeds, 67s 6d, all sacks included.—WILLIAM MACLAY.

Lewes, Tuesday.—New white wheat, 28s to 30s. New brown ditto, 27s to 29s. Malting barley, 32s to 36s. Grinding ditto, 20s to 24s. Oats, 21s to 25s. Beans, 36s to 39s. Peas, 32s to 36s per qr.

Lincoln, Friday.—A moderate attendance at the Corn Exchange, and a small show of grain. Trade for wheat was slow at the prices of last week. Not much demand for oats, for which recent rates were maintained. Beans, peas, and maize unaltered.

Liverpool, Friday.—The market has had a fair attendance, and wheat is in quiet demand, with prices unchanged to ½d lower than last Tuesday. Flour is badly neglected, whilst no change is made in prices; the tendency is distinctly in favour of buyers for both English and foreign. Maize—Mixed is firmly held at 3d advance over Tuesday, with a quiet trade. European experiences a slight improvement in demand at unchanged values. Plate is steady at quotations. Barley quiet for malting, prices unchanged. Feeding is in better demand, prices favouring sellers. Beans are quiet, and tend slightly in buyers' favour. Peas are steadily held, with a fair inquiry at late rates. Oats are firm, with a moderate inquiry at late rates for English. Foreign sorts are dull, but steady. Oatmeal has had a very small inquiry at last Tuesday's prices. Oilcake steadily held with a fair inquiry at about last market day's quotations.—SEGAR AND TUNNICLIFFE.

Manchester, Thursday.—Poor attendance. A small trade passed in wheat at ½d to 1d decline on the week. English unchanged to 3d lower. A poor demand for feeding stuffs. Indian corn, owing to scarcity, commands last week's prices. Oats, beans, and peas slow at late rates. Flour slow, with occasional drop of 6d per sack on English; Hungarian unchanged.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—At our to-day's market wheat ruled in buyers' favour; slow demand. Maize quiet, unchanged. Scotch oats firm, at late rates; foreign, slow sale, without any alteration in values. Beans 6d. dearer. Peas scarce and prices favouring sellers. No change in barleys.—JOSEPH POLLARD AND CO.

Newport, Wednesday.—There was only a poor attendance, and the little business that was done was at prices unchanged from last week.

Norwich, Saturday.—There is no appreciable alteration in the wheat trade, which remains in small supply, with a firm trade. Showery weather prevails, with cold winds. Wheat: Red, 28s to 28s 6d per qr; weight, 63lb per bushel, imperial. Corn inspector's return for the week ending March, 17th, 1902.—J. ARTHUR MILLS.

Northampton, Saturday.—Good attendance; supply and demand similar to the experience of the last few weeks; 26s to 28s about the price for good wheat. Other farm produce as heretofore. Flour a dull business, and difficult to sell, at a slight reduction from last week. White wheat, 28s to 29s; red, 27s to 28s; barley 26s to 32s.; grinding ditto, 22s to 25s; oats, 18s to 23s; old fine, 25s; beans, 32s to 40s; flour, 20s to 22s; old fine, 24s.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Wheat in small supply; the trade ruled slow at last week's rates. Barley: Malting, nil; grinding, moderate demand, at unaltered rates. Oats and beans: But few offering, and values well maintained.—ROBERT HUBBLE.

Peterborough, Saturday.—The supply of wheat has again been small, and from scarcity it made prices that were unobtainable last week. Barley—Supply and demand both about over. Very few oats offering; trade firm.—THOMAS HILL AND SON.

Plymouth, Thursday.—Average attendance at market to-day. Wheat steady. Maize 3d lower. Barley upward tendency. Oats quiet.

Reading, Saturday.—Despite an excellent attendance of corn-dealers and millers on the Exchange to-day, there was but very little business doing. Wheat came to hand in fair supply, but sold slowly, and the rates of recent markets were generally maintained. Barley did not undergo any variation in price, and oats were a slow trade at unaltered quotations.

Ripon, Thursday.—Business is being done at last week's prices. A few inquiries for barley for seed. An average attendance. Wheat, English, 28s 6d to 29s 6d; ditto, foreign, 29s to 33s; barley, grinding, 22s 6d to 23s 6d; ditto, malting, 26s to 31s; oats (new), 22s to 24s; round maize, 24s to 26s per qr; beans, 1s per stone.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—There was a moderate attendance. The inquiry for wheat was small, but the prices of last week remained firm. Round maize was in fair demand at late rates, and there was no change in beans, oats, or barley. Quotations: Wheat, white, 29s 6d to 30s 6d; ditto, red, 29s 6d to 30s 6d per 540lb.; barley, grinding, 22s to 23s; ditto, malting, 28s to 32s per 448lb.; oats, new, white, 21s 6d to 22s 6d; ditto, new black, 20s to 21s per 336lb.; peas, grinding, 32s to 34s; ditto, blue, 53s to 80s; beans, Egyptian, 35s 6d to 36s per 504lb.; ditto, English new, 37s to 37s 6d per 532lb.; Indian corn, small, 23s to 23s 6d; ditto, American mixed, 27s 6d to 28s per 480lb.

Spalding, Tuesday.—At the Corn Exchange all grain was firm at late prices. Wheat fully 28s; oats, 21s to 23s per qr.

Stamford, Friday.—There was a very small supply of wheat, the prices remaining about the same as last week. Very little barley shown, and what there was was principally for seed. Beans unchanged. Maize dear. Oats firm.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There were practically no samples showing of farmers' wheat. The foreign wheat trade keeps steady, and very little business was passing at about last week's prices. Oats and maize unchanged. No malting barley showing.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Little doing at this day's market. Wheat rather easier. Spring corn quiet. Arrivals coastwise:—Wheat, 640qrs; barley, 992qrs; oats, 418qrs; foreign nil.—E. AND F. RICHARDSON.

Wakefield, Friday.—We have a quiet but fairly steady market for wheat. Sellers are not disposed to make any further concessions, seeing that replacements are impossible. Foreign wheat is barely 3d lower on the week, English being unchanged. Little passing in malting barley. Feeding stuffs slow and unaltered.—DUNNS AND CO.

Wakefield, Friday.—English wheat, owing to scarcity, is quoted firm at late rates on our market to-day, and Foreign is rather easier, but the business passing is small, and we have only a poor attendance. Malting barley still offering, with but few buyers. No alteration in feeding stuffs.—MICHAEL SANDERSON AND SON, LIMITED.

Wisbech, Saturday.—Small attendance at market. Wheat firmly held, and needy buyers have to pay some advance. Red, 28s. to 29s. Oats very firm, 22s to 24s. Barley, 26s to 30s. Beans, 34s to 38s.—JAS. FLETCHER.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—There was a moderate attendance at this market, with no alteration in the prices. Quotations: Wheat, new, 12s to 13s per 216lbs.; oats, old, 15s 6d to 16s per 196lb.; new, 12s to 13s per 196lb.; beans, old, 15s 6d to 16s 6d per 196lb.; new, 14s 3d to 14s 9d per 196lb.; barley, 31s to 32s per 448lb.; maize, new, 25s to 26s per 480lb.; old, 27s 6d per 480lb.

Worcester, Saturday.—There is no change to note on our market this week. The trade continues quiet, and the only lots asked for are the better qualities; but good, clean sorts are scarce, and the prices continue firm.—PIERCY AND CO.

Worcester, Saturday.—Trade quiet. Very little English wheat on offer, and values remain at previous quotations Grinding barley steady on spot, but feeding corn generally was easier to buy.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Small attendance, and very little grain on offer. White wheat, 28s to 29s; red wheat, 27s to 28s; best seed barley, 28s to 32s; secondary, 26s to 28s; grinding barley, 24s to 26s; white oats, 23s to 25s; black oats, 22s to 24s; maize, 24s to 26s per qr.

York, Saturday.—Wheat sells quietly at last week's prices. Barley scarce; fine 29s to 31s; good, 27s to 29s per qr of 32 stones. Oats scarce and dear. White Garton 22s to 23s; black, 21s to 22s; common sorts, 20s to 21s per qr of 24 stones. Rye, 8d to 8½d. Beans, 11d per stone.

FOREIGN.

Hamburg, Saturday.—Weather mild and rainy. Trade quiet, and last week's prices barely supported. Anticipations of larger supplies during the next few months check speculative enterprises. The imports during the week amounted to 11,970 tons wheat, 5,486 tons rye, 3,126 tons barley, 4,719 tons maize. There is some demand for American red winter wheat, but offers of such are wanting. Hard winter No. 2 is held at 28s 9d, Northern spring No. 2 at 27s 9d, Manitoba No. 2 at 27s 6d per 480lb, Walla Walla, May-June delivery, 29s 9d per 500lb. Rye firmer; 9 20/25 Nicolajef, prompt, is held at 23s 9d; other ports, 23s 3d per 480lb c.i.f. Malting barley neglected; holders are ready to make concessions particularly for middling qualities, of which there is a good stock left. We quote good Saale, 29s to 30s 6d; fine Saale, 33s to 34s 6d; Bohemian, 30s 6d to 32s; Mecklenburg and Prussian, 26s 6d to 28s 6d per 448lb f.o.b. Russian and Danubian feeding barley meets a slow sale at 18s to 18s 6d per 400lb. There is but little demand for maize. Danubian and Odessa is offering at 20s 9d to 21s; Turkish at 21s 9d; River Plate, April-May, at 20s 9d to 21s per 480lb.—JOHN TATLOCK.

Paris, Wednesday.—The attendance at the weekly market was more important than of late, the forward state of the sowings having permitted farmers to be more numerously represented. Native wheat.—In spite of the variations of the regulating market, the weekly reunions continue to follow one another without any modification worthy of remark. Sellers attracted by the successive advances of the last few days in the "Marche de Paris," were evidently somewhat disposed to quit, but appeared loth to lower their pretensions, while on the contrary buyers on their part were disinclined to make any large provisions, and the extreme reserve of millers prevented an actual advance in prices. Consequently values may be quoted about the same as last week, but still with a rather supported tendency. Choice Red, 37s 5d to 37s 7d; Ordinary, 36s 6d to 36s 11d, and White, 37s 5d to 38s 3d per 480lbs. The flour market opened stronger, and closed with an improvement of 10c. to 15c. at the following prices:—March, 26 10½d to 27s 1½d; April, 27s 5d; May-June, 27s 11d; May-August, 27s 11d to 28s 2d; July-August, 28s 2d to 28s 5d; and September-December, 27s 2d to 27s 5d per 280lbs. There is still but little trade doing in consumption marks flour among dealers and bakers, demand being limited to their current requirements. Trade in rye is still very quiet, at barely supported rates. Offers of the last few days, although not numerous, appear to be more regular, farmers preferring to sell the remnant they hold than dispose of their wheat at lower prices. Good descriptions are still being sold at 25s 8d per 480lbs. The growing crop looks very well. Oats continue quiet but very firm. The delivery market sees the stock on the spot increasing more and more, but takes no heed thereof, on account of the large sales in blank for March and April. Holders of stock reckon upon storing 20,000 qrs. to 30,000 qrs. this month, but if these are absorbed, as it is said they will be, a reaction is naturally to be expected. Here the tendency was quiet, but prices supported. Quotations are as follows:—Grey Beauce, 25s 3d; Red, 24s 8d; Black, from the Central provinces, 25s 6d; small Picardy, 24s 8d. In foreign oats there is still some business doing. American is worth 24s 1d to 24s 4d; White Libau, 23s 6d to 23s 9d; Black, 24s 1d to 24s 4d; and Swedish, 25s 3d to 25s 6d per 320lb. The export barley trade appears to have been a little brisker, and a rather firm tendency has therefore ensued. Some choice lots are selling in Champagne at 25s 4d to 26s 1d, but ordinary stuff is still held at 24s 3d to 24s 8d. Here prices were quoted as follows:—Malting, 17f.25 to 17f.75 (25s to 25s 9d); grinding, 17f. (24s 8d); and feeding, 15f. to 15f50 per 100 kilos (21s 9d to 22s 6d per 400lbs.). There is still a rather good demand for buckwheat, and prices remain firmly supported at 28s per 480lbs.—*Dornbusch.*

SEEDS

London, Monday.—Messrs. John Shaw and Sons, seed merchants, of Great Maze, Pond, Borough, London, S.E., report an active demand for those kinds of farm seeds required for spring sowing. As regards cloverseeds, values generally show no change of importance, but stocks all round, with the exception of red cloverseed which is abundant, are being rapidly reduced to moderate limits. Alsyke, and more particularly white, have of late somewhat favoured buyers, but trefoil keep strong. Italian and perennial ryegrasses continue a disappointing market. Some suplies of the latter, which had been kept back, are now being brought forward. Spring tares are in meagre request. An unusually large trade has been transacted this season in Lucerne, and the available supply of same is now approaching exhaustion. Sanfoin is scarce and firm; Timothy steady; Cockfoot dearer. Mustard and rapeseed show no alteration. Canary seed, with some arrivals, is dull. Hempseed also tends downwards; but linseed keeps firm. Blue peas and haricot beans move off slowly on former terms. The Board of Trade returns give the imports into the United Kingdom of clover and grass seeds for the first two months of this year as 81,505 cwts., value £187,737, as against 82,248 cwts value £181,727 for the corresponding period of 1901.

MONTHLY AVERAGES.
(196 Market Towns.)

	1901.			1902.		
	Wheat	Barley	Oats	Wheat	Barley	Oats
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
January	26 8	25 7	17 4	27 8	26 8	20 1
February	26 5	25 5	17 7	27 1	26 8	20 3
March	25 10	25 0	17 10			
April	26 3	25 7	18 3			
May	27 6	25 2	19 4			
June	27 7	23 11	19 10			
July	27 4	22 9	19 8			
August	27 4	24 0	18 10			
September	26 1	25 4	17 4			
October	25 10	25 7	17 6			
November	24 9	26 10	18 2			
December	27 4	26 8	19 5			

IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGES.

1901.	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
Mar. 16	55,073⅜	25	9	36,968½	25	1	14,010	17	7
,, 23	54,758½	25	8	27,840½	24	11	13,895½	17	9
,, 30	47,908½	26	0	20,179½	24	9	12,418½	18	0
Apr. 6	42,721½	26	3	14,647⅜	25	3	11,776⅜	18	0
,, 13	32,905	26	5	6,809⅜	26	0	5,936½	18	1
,, 20	35,737½	26	8	6,734⅜	25	7	8,346⅜	18	8
,, 27	46,572	26	8	6,985⅜	25	8	8,300⅜	18	1
May 4	46,616½	26	9	6,417½	26	4	6,869⅜	19	8
,, 11	47,118⅜	27	3	4,279½	26	2	7,049	19	1
,, 18	52,875½	27	7	2,508	24	3	7,345½	19	4
,, 25	49,822½	27	7	1,511⅜	24	1	4,665½	19	8
June 1	46,514	27	7	859½	23	8	4,938	19	9
,, 8	42,202	27	6	221½	22	9	4,023½	20	1
,, 15	46,764	27	8	1,404½	24	0	5,565½	19	7
,, 22	29,695	27	6	336½	23	2	3,552½	20	3
,, 29	28,191⅞	27	6	692⅜	25	4	2,803⅜	20	0
July 6	19,564½	27	8	140⅜	21	9	1,800⅛	19	10
,, 13	15,231⅞	27	2	49	23	10	1,675⅜	19	9
,, 20	17,462⅜	27	3	88⅜	23	4	2,040⅜	19	11
,, 27	18,297⅜	27	3	206⅜	22	1	2,385½	19	4
Aug. 3	18,660½	27	6	250⅜	23	1	3,219½	20	0
,, 10	19,156	27	7	141⅜	22	1	2,143½	19	4
,, 17	22,617½	27	4	220⅞	27	2	5,982½	18	9
,, 24	37,168⅜	27	3	976⅜	23	7	9,952⅜	18	
,, 31	61,603⅜	27	0	4,877⅜	24	3	14,654½	17	10
Sept. 7	66,623½	26	5	14,342⅜	25	1	19,075½	17	1
,, 14	77,949½	26	2	34,989⅜	24	11	19,909½	17	4
,, 21	80,279½	26	0	70,096⅜	25	5	26,476⅜	17	4
,, 28	80,488	25	10	109,783½	25	10	22,567½	17	2
Oct. 5	60,376⅜	25	8	126,592½	26	3	21,631½	17	7
,, 12	63,656⅜	25	9	172,175½	26	5	16,815⅜	17	6
,, 19	58,772⅜	25	10	203,591½	26	8	15,506½	17	8
,, 26	52,984⅜	25	11	208,471⅜	26	10	18,009⅞	17	5
Nov. 2	70,314⅜	26	2	134,277½	26	10	18,350⅜	17	7
,, 9	62,265½	26	6	202,577½	27	0	20,066⅜	17	8
,, 16	57,884⅜	26	9	201,723½	26	9	20,122½	18	8
,, 23	63,150⅜	27	1	185,268½	26	10	20,612	18	7
,, 30	60,323½	27	1	193,434⅜	26	9	22,419⅛	18	9
Dec. 7	67,925½	27	1	162,996⅜	26	7	23,990⅞	19	0
,, 14	48,045½	27	2	182,219⅜	25	10	17,125½	17	1
,, 21	60,562⅜	27	7	119,393½	26	8	26,260½	19	8
,, 28	43,718⅜	27	7	81,859½	26	8	16,901⅞	19	10
1902.									
Jan. 4	31,440⅜	27	7	34,777½	26	7	11,621½	19	10
,, 11	48,997⅜	27	8	69,120½	26	7	14,995	20	0
,, 18	74,239½	27	8	91,559⅜	26	11	19,733⅜	20	0
,, 25	74,753⅜	27	7	87,594	26	7	25,382½	20	3
Feb. 1	73,381½	27	4	81,468⅜	26	7	25,657⅛	20	2
,, 8	67,470½	27	2	69,291⅜	26	9	25,055⅞	20	3
,, 15	68,500	26	11	54,084½	27	5	21,824	20	3
,, 22	72,614⅜	27	1	53,201½	26	11	22,799	20	4
Mar. 1	79,453⅜	27	1	43,637⅜	26	7	22,322	20	5
,, 8	67,473⅜	27	0	28,847⅜	26	8	17,017	20	5
,, 15	60,643	27	1	24,536⅜	26	6	11,496⅛	20	6
,, 22	56,394½	27	1	15,482⅜	26	4	12,192½	20	6

LONDON AVERAGES.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, March 18th, 1902.

	Total Quantities. Imperial Measure.	Total Amount.	Average Price per qr. Imperial Measure.
	Quarters. Bus.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Wheat	1,435 0	1,981 17 0	1 7 7
Barley	Nil	—	—
Oats	565 3	597 18 9	1 1 2

FLUCTUATIONS IN THE AVERAGE PRICE OF WHEAT.

Price.	Feb. 15.	Feb. 22.	Mar. 1.	Mar. 8.	Mar. 15.	Mar. 22.
27s. 8d	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 7d	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 6d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 5d	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 4d	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 3d	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 2d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 1d	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 0d	...	...	...	...	...	...
26s. 11d.	...	...	...	...	...	...

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF FINE HOUSEHOLD FLOUR IN PARIS.
(*Converted into English money for sacks of 280 lb.*)

	1902.	1901.	1900.	1899.	1898.	1897.	1896.	1895.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Jan. ...	27 9	24 9	25 2	29 0	38 7	30 5½	25 10	27 9½
Feb. ...	26 3	25 9	26 3	28 3	39 4	29 10½	26 2	27 10½
March	...	24 0	27 3	27 6	40 1	28 9	26 0	27 5½
April...	...	24 6	26 9	27 6	42 3	28 5	25 6½	26 7
May ...	...	25 6	26 8	28 0	40 0	28 11½	25 1½	28 0
June...	...	26 3	28 6	27 6	35 6	29 3	25 8	28 10
July ...	...	28 0	26 9	27 3	32 0	31 5½	24 6	27 1
August	...	27 6	26 4	27 0	31 6	36 11	25 1	26 11
Sept....	...	27 6	26 3	25 9	31 0	38 7	27 0	27 0½
Oct.....	...	27 6	26 0	24 9	30 6	39 4	27 1½	27 9
Nov. ...	...	27 9	26 4	24 3	30 3	40 3	29 9	26 8½
Dec. ..	...	28 3	26 0	24 6	29 0	39 3	29 8	26 3
Yrly. Avrg.	...	27 3	26 6	26 9	35 0	33 5	26 5½	27 4½

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF LONDON TOWN HOUSEHOLDS FLOUR.
(*Sacks of 280 lbs. ex-mill for cash.*)

	1902.	1901	1900	1899.	1898.	1897.	1896.	1895.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Jan. ...	21 9	24 6	21 9	23 9	29 0	25 6	18 9	18 7½
Feb. ...	22 0	24 0	22 0	23 6	30 0	24 7½	19 4½	17 9
March	...	23 9	21 6	22 3	30 0	23 11	19 3	18 0
April...	...	24 0	21 6	22 0	31 3	23 6	19 6	18 7½
May ...	...	23 6	21 3	22 3	39 7	23 7	19 0	20 4½
June ...	...	23 0	23 6	23 1½	35 0	22 7½	18 10	22 3
July ...	...	22 3	24 6	21 9	29 6	22 10½	18 6	20 0½
August	...	22 3	24 0	21 9	27 6	26 8½	18 8½	19 10½
Sept....	...	22 0	25 3	22 0	26 5	30 3	19 6	19 8
Oct. ...	...	21 6	24 9	23 3	26 1	29 0	23 7½	18 7½
Nov. ...	...	21 6	24 3	22 3	25 0	29 1	25 8½	18 4½
Dec. ...	...	21 9	24 6	21 9	24 3	29 0	25 7½	18 1
Yrly. Avrg.	...	22 10	23 2	22 4	29 6½	25 10½	20 8½	19 2

FOREIGN CORN TRADE.

The shipments of grain from the chief exporting countries last week were as follows :—

	Wheat. Qrs.	Flour. Sks.	Maize. Qrs.	Barley. Qrs.	Oats. Qrs.
United States	265,000	107,000	22,000	—	2,000
Russia	135,000	—	190,000	25,000	71,000
France	—	5,000	—	—	—
Austria-Hungary	—	5,000	—	—	—
Roumania	85,000	—	118,000	15,000	1,000
Argentina	83,000	—	—	—	—
India	20,000	—	—	—	—
Australasia	27,000	—	—	—	—
Miscellaneous	20,000	10,000	10,000	20,000	5,000
Total	635,000	127,000	340,000	60,000	79,000

CORN STATISTICS.

ARRIVALS INTO LONDON.
March 12 to 19, 1902, inclusive.

	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat qrs.	2,228	52,878	55,106
Barley	2,800	21,000	23,800
Malt	25,427	...	25,427
Oats	2,200	106,000	108,200
Beans	243	135	378
Peas	96	1,406	1,502
Maize	...	72,927	72,927
Tares	...	133	133
Lentils	...	186	186
Linseed	...	24,000	24,000
Rapeseed	...	3,000	3,000
Poppyseed	...	34	34
Sunflower seed	...	315	315
Farmseeds	1,800	1,500	3,300
Flour, sacks	26,500	64,000	90,500

IMPERIAL AVERAGES.

Statement showing the Quantities sold and average price of British Corn, Imperial Measure, as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended March 22, 1902, conformably with the Act of the 45th and 46th Victoria, cap. 37.

Wheat	56,394½ qrs.	27s. 1d.
Barley	15,482⅜ qrs.	26s. 4d.
Oats	12,192½ qrs.	20s. 6d.

OIL SEEDS.

Linseed. per 416 lb.	s. s.	Rapeseed. per 416 lb	s. s.
English	57 to 59	English	56 to 60
Dutch	56 to 58	Calcutta	41 to 43
Bombay	57 to 59	Guzerat	42 to 44
Calcutta	54 to 56	Ferozepore	37 to 39
Russian	56 to 57	Jamba	29 to 30
Argentine	49 to 51	Ravison	28 to 29
Sesame. per 424 lb.		Poppyseed. per 377 lb.	
Indian	51 to 53	Indian	47 to 49
Cotton Seed. per ton.		Sunflowerseed. per 448l	
Egyptian	130 to 132	Russian	46 to

WOOL

Canterbury, Saturday.—Trade for Kent wool continues very disappointing. Although prices for competing wools have advanced 20 per cent. at the London sales, 6d per lb is the extreme top price for Kent fleeces, and the more general figure is 5½d per lb.

MANURES.

Liverpool, Friday.—Nitrate of soda is without change in value and in fair seasonable request, as also sulphate of ammonia. East India bone meal in more request, and slightly dearer. A good demand is experienced for kain t and superphosphate of lime at unchanged values. The trade in feeding stuffs is inactive, and values tend rather in buyers' favour. Rice meal dull, and reduced rates accepted for landing parcels. Nitrate of soda, best quality, i.e., guaranteed 95 per cent, pure, in bags, £10 10s per ton; East India bone meal, fair to prime, in bags, £4 2s 6d to £4 7s 6d per ton; kainit, prime, 23 per cent., in bags, £2 7s 6d to £2 10s per ton; palm nut cake, prime, in bags, £5 15s per ton; linseed cake, American thin oblong, prime, in bags, £7 7s 6d to £7 10s per ton; do English, prime, in bulk, £8 12s 6d to £8 17s 6d per ton; cottonseed cake, N.A., decorticated, in bags, £7 to £7 5s; do English do, soft, in bags, £7 5s to £7 10s per ton; do English, undecorticated, do, in bulk, £4 10s to £4 15s per ton; do Egyptian, do, in bags, nil; do (crushed) 20 to 25 per cent oil, do, in bags, £7 3s 9d per ton; maize germ meal, in bags, £5 7s 6d to £6 per ton; rice meal, Rangoon, as imported, in bags, £5 to £5 5s per ton; Indian meal, coarse to find grinding, prime, in bulk, 12s 9d per 240lb; linseed, fine bold feeding, in bags, £3 1s to £3 3s per quarter, 416lb; N. A. Cloverseed, new red, fair to good, nil; D.N.S. Brand, superphosphate of lime, guaranteed, 25 to 27 sol, in bags, £2 5s to £2 7s per ton (at depot); do, 30 to 31 sol. in bags, £2 10s to £2 12s per ton; do, 35 to 36 sol., in bags, £3 to £3 2s per ton; basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed 30 to 35 per cent phos., in bags, nominal; do, 36 to 40 per cent phos, in bags nominal; finest quality guaranteed 38 to 45 per cent. phos, in bags, nominal.

COLONIAL DAIRY PRODUCE.

London, Friday.—Butter: The position of the New Zealand butter market at the present moment is incomprehensible. Notwithstanding the short supply of Colonial butter, and the rise of 2s to 3s per cwt. in Danish, New Zealand has fallen about 2s per cwt. on the week. It is no doubt true that some of the fall in New Zealand is due to a few timid holders, who are suffering from panicky nerves. "Choicest" New Zealand brings 108s, with an occasional 110s, while "Finest" realises 104s to 106s. What is peculiar about the market is this, "Choicest" brands are intrinsically worth 3d per lb. more than "milled," while the market price shows less than a penny difference. Owing to retailers insisting on a shilling retail price, the consumer is now paying for shilling butter fully 2d per lb. more than its intrinsic value, and this poor quality is restricting the consumption, and the retailer is suffering in consequence. The Copenhagen official quotation remains unchanged at 96 kroner, although the market is firmer in the Danish capital. The high prices prevailing in America at present are preventing any butter being exported to this country, except very low grade butter for the shilling retail trade here. Cheese: The demand for Canadian cheese continues good, and prices have advanced another shilling this week, "Choicest" goods being 55s, with an occasional 56s. New Zealand "Choicest" brands are making 53s to 54s, with an expected rise of another shilling.—W. Weddel and Co.

CHEESE.

Chester, Wednesday.—There were about 15 tons of cheese on offer. With an excellent attendance of dealers from the Midlands and North of England, trade was brisk, and the stock was cleared out within an hour. Best Cheshire made from 70s to 75s, while medium was down to 65s per cwt. Compared with the corresponding fair of last year, prices show an improvement.

Dorchester, Wednesday.—Good makes of cheese were in request at from 46s to 60s per cwt; secondary grades, 22s to 42s.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Home cheese are nearly exhausted. The demand is quiet. The scarcity causes holders to remain firm in their ideas. Cheddars and Dunlops range from 56s to 62s per cwt. There is a moderate inquiry for New Zealand and Canadian cheese; late prices rule.

Leeds, Friday.—Finest Cheshire, 58s to 60s and 85s; do. lump, 60s to 65s; American, finest, 51s to 56s, and medium, 40s to 44s per 112lb.

Newport, Wednesday.—A good supply of cheese was pitched, and trade was brisk. Prices: Caerphillies, 60s to 66s; fancy dairies, 68s to 70s; truckles, 60s to 65s; Cheddars, 63s to 68s; Derbys, 66s to 68s.

BUTTER.

Tuesday.—Bedale: 1s 7d to 1s 9 per roll of 24oz. Settle: 1s 1½d to 1s 2½d per lb. Spalding: 1s per lb. Leeds: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb.

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Colne: 1s 2½d per lb. Goole: 1s 1d per lb. Keighley: Wholesale, 1s 2d; retail, 1s 3d per lb. Kirbymoorside: 1s 2d per lb. Knaresborough: Wholesale, 1s 9d; retail, 1s 11d to 2s per roll of 24 oz. Louth: 1s per lb. Masham: 1s 7d to 1s 8d per 24oz. roll. Northallerton: 1s 6d to 1s 8d per roll of 24oz. Stockton: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Worksop: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Hereford: 1s 4d to 1s 5d per lb. Market Drayton: 1s to 1s 1d per lb. Uttoxeter: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Ipswich: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Dorchester: 10d to 1s 1d per lb.

Thursday.—Brigg: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Driffield: 1s per lb. Ripon: 1s 10d to 2s per roll of 24oz. Scarborough: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Wetherby: 1s 2d to 1s 4d per lb. Birmingham: 1s 3d to 1s 5d per lb. Kidderminster: 1s 2d per lb. Wellington: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb.

Friday.—Crewe: 1s 2d per lb. Sandbach: 1s 2d per lb. Stockport: 1s 2d per lb. Macclesfield: 1s 2d per lb. Easingwold: 1s to 1s 2d per lb. Helmsley: 1s 1d per lb. Leyburn: 1s 6d to 1s 7d per 24oz. roll. Lincoln: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Otley: 1s 8d to 1s 10d per 24oz. roll. Leeds: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb.

Saturday.—Appleby: 1s to 1s 2d per lb. Berwick: 9d to 10d per lb. Carlisle: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Doncaster: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Grantham: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Howden: 1s per lb. Lancaster: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Malton: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Pontefract: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Retford: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Richmond: 1s 4d to 1s 5d per lb. Stokesley: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Whitby: 1s 3d per lb. York: 1s 3d per lb.

EGGS.

Tuesday.—Bedale: 16 for 1s. Gainsborough: 17 or 18 for 1s. Settle: 16 or 17 for 1s. Spalding: 15 for 1s. Leeds: Yorkshire, 8s 9d to 9s 6d per 120.

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 12 to 13 for 1s. Colne: 1s 6d per score. Goole: 15 for 1s. Keighley: Wholesale, 14; retail, 13 for 1s. Kirbymoorside: 16 for 1s. Knaresborough: 13 to 15 for 1s. Louth: 16 for 1s. Masham: 17 for 1s. Northallerton: 15 or 16 for 1s. Stockton: 13 or 14 for 1s. Worksop: 1s 6d per score. Dorchester: 7d to 9d per doz. Ipswich: 14 for 1s. Hereford: 14 for 1s; wholesale, 16. Market Drayton: 17 and 18 for 1s. Uttoxeter: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per score.

Thursday.—Brigg: 17 or 18 for 1s. Driffield: 18 or 19 for 1s. Ripon: 16 or 17 for 1s. Scarborough: 14 or 15 for 1s. Wetherby: 15 or 16 for 1s. Birmingham: 13 to 15 for 1s. Kidderminster: 1s 2d per lb. Wellington: 16 to 18 for 1s.

Friday.—Stockport: 13 for 1s. Altrincham: 13 for 1s. Crewe: 15 and 16 for 1s. Sandbach: 15 and 16 for 1s. Nantwich: 15 and 16 for 1s. Easingwold: 15 to 16 for 1s. Helmsley: 16 for 1s. Leyburn: 15 or 16 for 1s. Lincoln: 16 to 18 for 1s. Otley: 14 or 15 for 1s. Leeds: Yorkshire, 8s 9d to 9s 6d per 120.

Saturday.—Appleby: 16 to 18 for 1s. Berwick: 10d per dozen. Carlisle: 15 or 16 for 1s. Doncaster: 14 and 15 for 1s. Grantham: 16 to 18 for 1s. Howden: 18 for 1s. Lancaster: 12 to 15 for 1s. Malton: 16 to 17 for 1s. Pontefract: 15 or 16 for 1s. Retford: 1s 6d to 1s 8d per score. Richmond: 14 and 15 for 1s. Stokesley: 14 or 15 for 1s. Whitby: 15 or 16 for 1s. York: 14 or 16 for 1s.

POULTRY AND GAME.

Smithfield, Saturday.—Supplies were on a good scale, and met a steady demand at late prices. Quotations:—Fowls: Yorkshire, 2s 9d to 3s 6d; Essex, 2s 6d to 3s; Boston, 2s 6d to 3s 3d; Surrey, 3s 9d to 4s 6d; Sussex, 3s 6d to 4s; Welsh, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; Irish, 2s to 2s 6d; turkeys (cocks), 6s to 7s; ditto (hens), 4s to 5s; goslings, 6s to 7s; country ducks, 3s 6d to 4s 6d; pigeons, 8d to 1s 2d; wild rabbits, 7d to 9d; tame ditto, 10d to 1s each; Australian ditto, 8s 9d to 11s per dozen; wild duck, 1s 6d to 2s; pintail, 1s 2d to 1s 6d; teal, 1s to 1s 3d; golden plover, 8d to 10d; black ditto, 5d to 7d each. Russian: Capercailzie (cock), 2s to 3s; ditto (hen), 1s 6d to 2s; ptarmigan, 10d to 11d; partridges, black game, 1s to 1s 2d; ptarmigan, 10d to 11d; partridges, black game, 1s to 1s 3d; brown hares, 1s 6d; white ditto, 1s each.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The rain that came pelting down on Thursday last was followed by two days of very frequent showers, and the March total of rainfall is not now likely to fall below the mean, though at the end of ieighteen days the probability seemed that we should have a third consecutive dry month to register. The progress made with spring sowings before the rains was gratifying and general; many farmers had actually completed their barley sowings by the 19th inst. The ground is not too wet or sticky for oats, if only the grain can be drilled in, so that, on the whole, the agricultural situation is hopeful so far as the fields go. Rye is being fed off to sheep; the mild temperature has helped the young clover growth, and winter oats have come on surprisingly in the last fortnight. Wheat is irregular, and not so thick a plant as it should be, but the promising fields exceed the others to a great extent, and it is, of course, not at all too late to decide upon a bold policy with reference to really poor fields, resowing them with good spring wheat. We do not expect, however, that much of this will actually be done.

On the Continent, crop prospects exceed an average. We hear of the winter wheat in America being of only mediocre promise, but in both France and the United States oats are being sown on a large and, we believe, extended area. The Argentine maize crop is semi-officially estimated at two million quarters less than last year. This should help the British markets for that staple, as no fresh crops of maize in the Northern Hemisphere will be available before October or ready to ship before December; the crop is not one that is fit to ship for nearly two months after the ingathering.

All the chief staples show a slight falling off in the week's shipments, the decline being 79,000 qrs. in wheat, 13,000 sacks in flour, 6,000 qrs. in maize, 68,000 qrs. in barley, and 85,000 qrs. in oats. The general abatement of exports should strengthen the hands of spot holders.

The supplies coming to hand include a good quantity of wheat from Atlantic ports, some small quantities from Southern Russia, a little from the Baltic, increasing quantities from Australasia, and some from Argentina, while very liberal arrivals of Californian are impending. On the other hand, India is scarcely represented in recent receipts, and very little has come to hand from Roumania, nothing from Chile, Egypt, or Persia.

Of maize arrivals have recently been almost solely of Russian, Roumanian, and Turkish. The prices quoted in market circulars often showed 2s. decline from 1st to 10th inst., and since the 20th have shown 1s. 6d. recovery. Our own price lists show no such changes, because we do not quote either damaged maize or rye, holding such articles to be dangerous, and not to be recommended as food at any price. The arrivals of maize in later February had included a large quantity of damaged and unfit corn.

The stocks of wheat in farmers' hands are now considerably less than at the beginning of the year, and even merchants' holdings show some reduction. There should consequently be a revival of demand at hand, and of this, indeed, we have a sign in the fact that an average inquiry has recently been maintained, notwithstanding the singularly high temperature. Actual quantities on 22nd inst. were as follows:—

	Qrs.
English wheat stocks	2,090,000
Foreign wheat stocks	2,687,000
Total	4,777,000

English wheat is now being brought to market at the average rate of about 150,000qrs. weekly, foreign at the rate of about 250,000qrs. weekly. This will leave a need of 200,000 sacks of foreign flour to keep the supplies up to wants, and as about 125,000 sacks looks like being the extent of April receipts, the market should be progressively improving for the whole month.

Prices for fair average quality wheat at leading markets at home and abroad admit of the following brief comparison:—

	Per qr.
London	27s. 11d.
Paris	37s. 0d.
Berlin	37s. 0d.
Buda Pesth	33s. 6d.
Antwerp	28s. 6d.
New York	28s. 3d.
Chicago	24s. 3d.

The high import duties into France and Germany make Great Britain the focus of the grain trade as a rule, but just now Antwerp is offering a slightly preferential price so as to have a choice of cargoes. As the French duty is 12s. 3d., the American sellers to Paris would only get 24s. 9d., and the German duty being 10s, they would get 27s. when selling to Berlin. But Berlin is more distant and a dearer freight by fully 1s. per quarter, so that the price would not be more than 26s. And London is practically 28s. or a florin better.

The quantity of wheat on passage to the United Kingdom shows very little change in the week's total, but there are interesting variations in the details:—

	This Week. Qrs.	Last Week. Qrs.
Californian	2,390,000	2,400,000
American	270,000	250,000
Argentine	225,000	250,000
Russian	45,000	60,000
Indian	145,000	100,000
Australasian	720,000	700,000
Other countries..	20,000	50,000
Total	3,815,000	3,820,000

Californian, Argentine, and Russian totals seem to have culminated, but Australasian figures are still upon the increase. Indian and American totals are the subject of weekly changes, which do not allow of any clear forecast.

The supply of flour on passage is thus made up:—

	Sacks.
American	280,000
Californian	50,000
Hungarian	21,000
Total	351,000
Total a year ago	430,000

Expectations of maize are just 400,000 qrs. Nearly all of it is sound corn. A year ago there were 565,000 qrs. on passage of barley; there are now the following quantities afloat:—

	Qrs.
Californian	350,000
Russian	60,000
Roumanian	40,000
Turkish	25,000
Total	475,000
A year ago	320,000

There are no supplies of barley now on passage from Chile, Persia, or Canada, all of them usual sources of supply. It is Californian brewing barley which alone inflates the total, and when this has arrived the total left afloat is likely to be less than half the average.

Our recent receipts of barley have included small consignments from France, Germany, and Sweden. Of oats our receipts have embraced, besides the Russian supply, 2,000 qrs. from France, 6,000 qrs. from Sweden, and 12,000 qrs. from Argentine, the latter quite a new source of supply. America is sending us nothing, and New Zealand's shipments are falling off.

Minor, but not uninteresting, arrivals of late have been of peas from Germany, of rice (40,000 cwt.) from Japan, of lentils from Morocco, of sunflowerseed from India, of poppyseed from Asia Minor, of bran from Argentina, and of other milling offals from Roumania. All these receipts point to possibilities of trade development. On the other hand, we get less peas from Canada than of yore, less beans from Egypt, less lentils from the same country, less poppyseed from India, and no longer any grain from Mexico, the West Indies, Brazil, or South Africa. The latter has become a rather considerable importer, not only to the extent of feeding 300,000 fighting men and camp followers, but to the further extent of a diminished home cultivation.

The London markets will be closed on the 28th and 31st (Mark Lane), from the 27th March to the 1st April (the Baltic and Term Markets), and from the 27th March to 2nd April (Subscription Rooms).

QUOTATIONS OFF STANDS.

March 24, 1902.

BRITISH GRAIN.

		s.	s.
WHEAT, White (new)	(per 504 lb.)	29	— 31
,, (old)	,,	30	— 32
Red (new)	,,	28	— 30
,, (old)	,,	29	— 30
Chicken or Feed	(per 480 lb.)	27	— 28
BARLEY, Malting	(per 448 lb.)	31	— 37
Brewing	,,	27	— 30
Feeding	(per 400 lb.)	24	— 26
MALT, English	(per 336 lb.)	35	— 41
Scotch	,,	37	— 39
Black	,,	30	— 32
Brown	,,	29	— 32
Crystallized	,,	33	— 35
OATS, English, Black Winter	,,	22	— 24
,, Black Tartary	,,	21	— 22
,, Grey Winter	,,	22	— 24
,, White Tartary	,,	21	— 22
Scotch	,,	22	— 24
Irish	(per 304 lb.)	19	— 20
RYE, British	(per 480 lb.)	23	— 25
BEANS, Pigeon	,,	38	— 40
Winter	,,	32	— 36
Mazagan	,,	31	— 33
PEAS, Best Marrowfat	(per 504 lb.)	65	— 75
Blue (boiling)	,,	60	— 70
Dun	,,	31	— 32
Maple	,,	36	— 40
TARES, Scotch Gores	,,	78	— 82
Winter Old	,,	68	— 72
,, Ordinary	,,	54	— 60
Spring ,,	,,	44	— 48

THIS DAY'S MARKETS

MARK LANE, MONDAY.

[FIRST REPORT.]

The market to-day was firm for English wheat, and the commoner sorts were rather dearer to buy. English beans were also in sellers' favour, but oats were simply steady, and barley, now the seeding inquiry is over, was neglected. Farm seeds, on the other hand, were in excellent request for spring sowing, and very fair prices were made. Foreign wheat was a little lower for Californian and New Zealand, but was firm for American red, whether of the spring type or the winter. Maize was 3d. dearer, with an improved sale. Oats were firm for heavy sorts, but dull for light grain from South-East Europe. For barley old prices were obtainable, but could not be exceeded, and the same remark will apply to imported pulse of every kind. In the oilseed market, linseed and rapeseed were a little cheaper; cottonseed and sesame a little dearer on the week. On the whole, good prices still rule current on this branch of business.

LONDON TERM MARKET.

This market is held twice a day, except on Saturday, when there is no afternoon call. The market is open to elected members only. No business except for future delivery is done, and the smallest quantity that can be purchased is 1,000 quarters, or 4,800 centals. The name of the month stands for guaranteed delivery (if required) on or before the last day of that month, and the following have been the prices per cental recently made:—

WHEAT.—Calls.		March. s. d.	June. s. d.	Aug't. s. d.
March 17	11 a.m.	6 2	6 1	6 2
	4 p.m.	6 2	6 1	6 2
March 18	11 a.m.	6 2	6 1	6 2
	4 p.m.	6 2	6 1	6 2
March 19	11 a.m.	6 2	6 1	6 2
	4 p.m.	6 1	6 1	6 2
March 20	11 a.m.	6 1	6 1	6 2
	4 p.m.	6 1	6 1	6 1
March 21	11 a.m.	6 1	6 1	6 1
	4 p.m.	6 1	6 1	6 1
March 22	11 a.m.	6 1	6 1	6 1
To-day	noon	6 0	6 0	6 0

Maize: Liberia is weaker; 4s 4d April, 4s 5d May and June, 4s 6d July and August delivery.

The Term Market standard wheat is No. 1 Northern Spring American sold on the Duluth certificate. Other sorts of wheat can be bought at the above prices plus or minus agreed difference between the other sort and the standard quality. Quotations are by the "true hundredweight" or cental of 100 lb. We do not give fractions of a penny per cental. The maize quoted is fair average quality from the United States.

The deposit required from members of the Term Market has been fixed at £50 minimum and 1s. per quarter margin on any purchases above 1,000 quarters.

The Term Market (while the "Baltic" is rebuilding) is temporarily situated at the Great Eastern Hotel, No. 190, Bishopsgate Street, ground floor.

FOREIGN GRAIN.

(Ex-Granary.)

	s.	s.
WHEAT, per 496 lb.		
Old Duluth	31/9	—32/
Manitoba No. 1	31/6	—32/
American Spring	31	—31.6
Red Winter	30/3	—31
Hard ,,	30	—30.6
Kansas	30	—30.3
Californian	30	—30/6
Walla Walla	29/6	—30
Australian	31	—31/3
New Zealand	29	— 30
Argentine	None	
Danzig	31	— 33
Saxonka	30	— 31
Azima	30	— 31
Ghirka	29	— 30
Indian	None	
MAIZE, per 480 lb.:		
Russian	22	—22/3
Roumanian	22	—22/3
Turkish	22	—22/6
American	27	—27/3
Argentine	22	— 23
OATS:		
N' Zeal'd (Best)	27	— 31
N. Zeal'd (Bluff)	25	— 27
N. Zeal'd (Dun)	23	— 25
Canadian (320 lb.)	20	— 21
American (320 lb.)	20	— 21
Prussian (320 lb.)	20	— 21
N. Russ'n (304 lb.)	19	— 20
South ,, (304 lb.)	18	— 19
Turkish (304 lb.)	17/9	— 18
BEANS, per 480 lb.:		
Egyptian	33	— 34
Smyrna	31	— 32
New Zealand	34	— 36
LOCUST BEANS, per ton:		
Italian	102	— 104
Cyprian	106	— 112
Portuguese	105	— 107
PEAS, per 504 lb.:		
Canadian, White	37	— 38
Australian, White.	41	— 42
New Zeal'd Maple	39	— 41
Indian White	35	— 37
MILLET, per 416 lb.:		
White	33	— 45
Red	25	— 27
Yellow	20	— 23
Sorghum	19	— 20
DARI, per 480 lb.:		
Smyrna	24	— 25
Persian	21	— 23
RYE, per 480 lb.		
Russian	24	— 25
BUCKWHEAT, per 416 lb.		
French	24	— 25
Russian	24	— 26
TARES, per 504 lb.:		
Konigsberg	44	— 48
BARLEY:		
Saale (448 lb.)	38	— 40
Hungarian (448 lb.)	32	— 40
New Zeal'd (448 lb.)	26	— 29
Chilian (448 lb.)	32	— 34
Californian (448 lb.)	26	— 33
Danish (448 lb.)	28	— 30
French (448 lb.)	27	— 29
Danubian (400 lb.)	19	— 20
Ouchak (400 lb.)	24	— 32
Yerli (400 lb.)	21	— 22
Russian (400 lb.)	19	— 20
MALT, per 336 lb:		
Californian	35	— 36
Smyrna	35	— 30

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

MAIZE LOST GROUND ON SPOT AS THE DAY PROCEEDED; THE TRADE IN FUTURES BEING REACTIONARY. WEAK AMERICAN ADVICES MADE AMERICAN WHEAT WORSE FROM THE OPENING.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE Monday

The tone of trade for London makes was not encouraging. Town Households must be quoted 3d to 6d lower to sell. Country flour, likewise, was weak, but prices were the same where business was done as on the 17th. Some sorts of secondary American flour were pressed on sale at 6d decline. Finest Minnesota made 23s 6d for "May Blossom," "Hiawatha," and "Tuberose" patents, while Kansas "Success" came at 22s 6d, "Royal Lily" at 22s 9d, and "Good as Gold" at 21s per sack. Some Corbeil flour (French) made 21s 3d for finest, and 20s 6d for next quality. Hungarian realised 32s 3d for "Six Anchors," and 29s for "Tisza C.M.C." The market for flour generally did not improve as the day wore on, but there was a fair amount of retail buying by bakers, as there will be no market on either Friday or Monday next.

LONDON FLOUR.

		s.
Top Price	(per sack)	— 25
Town Whites	,,	—27/9
,, Households	,,	—21/9
No. 2	,,	—19/9

COUNTRY FLOUR.

Best Patents	(per sack)	23 — 24
Fine Roller made	,,	21 — 22
Ordinary Roller made	,,	20 — 21
Best Stone made	,,	19 — 20

FOREIGN FLOUR.

Minnesota First Patents	(per sack)	23 — 24
,, Second Patents	,,	21 — 22
,, First Bakers'	,,	19 — 20
,, Second Bakers'	,,	17 — 18
Milwaukee Patents	,,	22 — 23
,, Bakers	,,	16 — 17
Kansas Patents	,,	23 — 24
,, Bakers'	,,	18 — 19
Cascadia	,,	22 — 23
Canadian	,,	22 — 23
Australian Patents	,,	20 — 21
,, Straight	,,	19 — 20
Hungarian	,,	30 — 33
Russian	,,	28 — 30
French	,,	20 — 22

MEAL, &c.

Whole Meal	(per ton	172—174
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	115—117
Bran, London Broad	,,	102—112
,, ,, Fine	,,	88— 92
,, Country Flake	,,	118—120
,, ,, Broad	,,	100—102
Pollard	,,	88—94
Biscuit Middlings	,,	115—117
Fine Middlings	,,	113—115
Coarse Middlings	,,	98—100
Feeding Flour (Red Dog)	,,	110—112
Barley Meal	,,	124—128
Rye Flour	,,	150—155
Canadian Oatmeal	,,	200—260
Scotch Oatmeal	,,	260—300
Oat Flour	,,	340—360
Maize Flour	,,	164—166
Maize Meal	,,	110—120
Maize Cones	,,	172—174
Maize Germ Meal	,,	117—119
Pea Meal	,,	130—150
Bean Meal	,,	145—165
Rice Meal	,,	95—100

LONDON TOP PRICE FLOUR.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1901.

		s.	d.
September 2	(per sack)	29	0
,, 28	,,	28	0

(No official change since last date given.)

TITHE RENT CHARGES.

	s.	d.
For 1902	67	3 9
,, 1901	66	10 9
,, 1900	66	15 10
,, 1899	68	2 4
,, 1898	68	14 11
,, 1897	69	17 11
,, 1896	71	9 7

The last time the Tithe was above par was £100 4s. 10d. for 1883.

ENGLISH WHEAT IN 1901.

Highest of Year	27s. 7d.
Lowest of Year	25s. 10d.
Gradient	1s. 9d.
Mean of Year	26s. 9d.

YEARLY AVERAGES (OFFICIAL.)

	Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.	
	s. d.		s. d.		s. d.	
1890	31 9	per qr.	28 8	per qr.	18 7	per qr.
1891	37 1	,,	28 2	,,	20 0	,,
1892	30 4	,,	26 2	,,	19 11	,,
1893	26 4	,,	25 6	,,	18 9	,,
1894	22 10	,,	24 6	,,	17 1	,,
1895	23 1	,,	21 11	,,	14 9	,,
1896	26 2	,,	22 11	,,	14 9	,,
1897	30 2	,,	23 6	,,	16 11	,,
1898	34 0	,,	27 2	,,	18 5	,,
1899	25 8	,,	25 7	,,	17 0	,,
1900	27 11	,,	25 9	,,	17 9	,,
1901	26 9	,,	25 3	,,	18 5	,,

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS' REPORTS.

The arrivals of wheat and flour are very small, but the trade is quiet, and prices of American wheat and flour are 3d. per quarter and sack lower. Maize dull, and prices are 3d. and 6d. per quarter lower. Barley and oats are unchanged in value.—COVENTRY AND CO.

Milling Offals.—Middlings are in seasonable demand, and 2s. 6d. per ton dearer on the week. Bran is in fair request. Pollard slow, but no cheaper. Supply small. Very little foreign stuff offering. American quotations come 20s. per ton too dear for this market. Offals look like holding their own for some time to come.—J. BAWCOMBE AND CO.

Flour.—Trade to-day has been very quiet, and prices must be written occasionally 3d. lower on the Week.—T. S. MEDILL AND SONS.

Offals.—The dullness in the bran trade still continues, and to effect business lower prices are being accepted.—GREENHILL BROTHERS (Belfast).

Flour.—There is rather more inquiry for spot flour; no improvement, however, in prices, and at the moment very little business being done. Values on spot are as follows:—1st spring patents 24s. 9d. to 25s. 3d., 2nd spring patents 23s. 9d. to 24s. 3d., American winter patents 24s. 9d. to 25s. 3d., extra fancies 23s. to 23s. 6d.—GREENHILL BROTHERS (Belfast).

Flour.—The demand is very slow, and to make sales some concession must be made. Grain.—Flat corn is in small supply, but 1½d. per boll lower. Round corn pressed for sale. Beans and Canadian peas continue very scarce. Barley, oats, oatmeal, etc., are quiet. Mill stuffs.—Bran and thirds are unchanged.—McKINNON AND McDONALD (Glasgow).

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Monday.—Linseed cake: Trade very quiet, prices unchanged. Decorticated cotton cake and meal steady, but little doing. Undecorticated are in better demand at 1s 3d advance. Linseed: Spot Calcutta has fallen 1s 6d to 2s, but April-June shipment has advanced 9d. Late Plata 1s lower. Russian scarce and unchanged.

SEEDS.

London, Monday.—We had a full attendance at to-day's market, and considerable retail buying took place, dealers operating with much caution. The show of English red clover and other English seeds displays a great falling off, and prices were firm for all farm seeds. By present appearances stocks will be closely used up this season. Haricots and blue peas are neglected.—JOHN PICARD AND CO.

English Linseed Cake	ex mill	8	5	0 to 8	7	6
American Calcutta Linseed Cake	ex quay					
American Western	,, ex quay	7	2	6 to 7	7	6
,, ,,	,, ex quay	7	2	6		
Russian Oil Cake	ex quay	7	10	0 to 7	17	6
Decorticated Cotton Cake	ex quay	6	5	0 to 6	10	0
,, ,, Meal	ex quay	6	3	9 to 6	7	6
London-made ,, Cake (best)	ex mill	4	10			
Egyptian ,, ,, ,, (in bags)	ex quay	4	6	3 to 4	7	6
Burton Desiccated Ale Grains (bags included)	on rail, Burton					
Dutch Linseed (in bags), per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse	2	17	0 to 2	19	0
Calcutta Linseed in bags, per 410 lbs.	ex warehouse	2	12	0		
La Plata do. per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse	2	11			
Clean Russian Linseed in bulk, per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse	2	18	0		

ROBERT AND JOHN HEWETSON.

THE BALTIC, 1 p.m.

STATE OF TRADE.

Weak American advices make wheat cargoes the turn in buyers' favour, and maize cargoes are 3d lower from Saturday. Barley, on the other hand, is held more firmly for futures, and so are oats. Cottonseed cargoes are quiet at the recent improvement, and linseed is better from Saturday for April and May shipment.

BUSINESS DONE.

WHEAT.—Californian, 29s, April shipment; Argentine, 28s 6d, April shipment; Australian, 29s 9d, April shipment; No. 1 Northern, 28s 9d, April shipment; No. 2 Hard Winter, 28s 6d, April shipment; Soft White Kurrachee, 29s 3d, April shipment.

MAIZE.—Roumanian, 21s, on passage; Odessa, 21s 3d, on passage; Galatz, 21s 6d, May shipment; Argentine, 20s 6d, May shipment; Turkish, 22s, May shipment; Caucasian, 22s 3d, prompt shipment.

BARLEY.—Azoff, 18s 9d, May shipment; Californian, 24s, on passage.

OATS.—Vologda, 18s, June shipment; Swedish, 22s 6d, prompt shipment.

LINSEED.—Calcutta, 51s 3d, May shipment; Argentine, 49s, April shipment.

RAPESEED.—Jamba, 31s 6d, April shipment.

COTTONSEED.—Egyptian, £6 18s 9d, May shipment; Bombay, £4 10s, on passage.

HOPS.

London, Monday.—W. H. and H. Le May report:—Whilst the market remains quiet prices continue very firm, and the smallness of the stock still left in seller's hands becomes more apparent day by day.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

Monday, March 24th, 1902.

	British.	Total.	March 25th, 1901.
Beasts	1,210	1,210	1,100
Sheep and lambs	11,960	11,960	7,780
Calves	5	5	—
Pigs	20	20	10
Milch cows	50	50	40

Quotations per 8lbs. (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.

	Inferior.	Second.	First.
Beasts	2s. 8d.	4s. 0d.	4s. 9d.
Sheep	3s. 10d.	5s. 2d.	6s. 10d.
Lambs	6s. 4d.	7s. 4d.	8s. 2d.
Calves	6s. 4d.	7s. 4d.	8s. 2d.
Pigs	6s. 4d.	7s. 4d.	8s. 2d.

Milch cows, per head, £16 to £23.

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, 8; Eastern Counties, 800; Midland, Home, and Western Counties, 225; Devon, 20; Ireland, 157.

In the beast market, compared with Monday last, there was an increase of 100 head. From Norfolk the consignments were stronger. For fat beasts trade was firmer, with a slight upward tendency in value. Fat bulls were short in number, and sold readily at an increase. Fat cows were slow, but made late rates. Amongst the Irish arrivals were included 61 stores, 2½ to 3 years old, which were quoted at from £10 to £12 10s. per head. These, however, met with little inquiry.

The following are top quotations per 8lb (sinking the offal):—

	To-day.	March 25, 1901.
Scotch	4s 8d to 4s 9d	—
Norfolks	4s 7d to 4s 8d	4s 5d to 4s 6d
Lincolns	4s 4d to 4s 6d	4s 0d to 4s 3d
Irish	4s 4d to 4s 6d	4s 2d to 4s 3d
Fat Cows	3s 10d to 4s 0d	3s 6d to 3s 8d

In the Sheep Market, compared with Monday last, there was an increase of 2,970 in the number penned. Amongst these, as is usual the Monday preceding Easter, there was a large proportion of lambs. These, being in greater request, made more money, best quality fully 2d per 8lb. For sheep, both wethers and ewes, trade was of a brisk nature, with an advance of from 1d to 2d per 8lb. The supply included 510 Scotch and 4,930 from the Eastern counties.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8lb (sinking the offal), and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day.	March 25, 1901.
7½ to 8-st. Downs	5s 8d to 5s 10d	6s 0d to 6s 2d
9-st. Downs	5s 7d to 5s 8d	5s 10d to 6s 0d
10-st. half-breds	5s 3d to 5s 4d	5s 7d to 5s 8d
12-st. Lincolns	4s 10d to 5s 0d	5s 4d to 5s 6d
10-st. Down ewes	4s 7d to 4s 8d	5s 0d to 5s 2d
11-st. half-bred do.	4s 4d to 4s 6d	4s 10d to 5s 0d
5-st. Down lambs	8s 0d to 8s 2d	8s 0d to 8s 2d
6-st. half-bred do.	7s 6d to 7s 8d	7s 6d to 7s 8d

The few pigs on offer not worth noting or quoting.

London (Central), Monday.—Moderate supplies; fair trade. Beef carcases, 3s 10d to 3s 11d; hindquarters, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; roastings, 5s 4d to 5s 8d. Sheep: Ewe, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; wether, 4s to 4s 4d; hindquarters, ewe, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; wether, 5s to 5s 4d. Pigs: Large, 3s 8d to 4s; small, 4s to 4s 4d.

St. Ives, Monday.—Beasts, 1,089; sheep and lambs, 642; pigs, 483. Beef, 7s 6d to 8s 3d; mutton, 8s 2d to 9s 11d; pork, 6s 6d to 7s 6d; veal, 11d; lamb, 1s 2d; fat cattle fair stores slow; fat and store sheep lambs and pigs good demand; milch cows, 13, £23; fat calves dear.

FOREIGN CATTLE.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts 298. To-day's supply compared with Monday last, showed a decrease of 211, and consisted entirely of shipments from the United States, trade for which, though of a slow nature, was rather firmer in regard to value, a clearance being made. The best on offer to dress about 720lbs. made 4s 6d per 8 lbs, offal given in. Seconds were quoted at 4s 3d. Sheep numbered 607, from the United States, trade for which was dull, owing to the higher rates demanded. Best pens made 5s, and occasionally 5s 2d per 8 lb. On Saturday the beast supply consisted of 1,346 from the United States, quoted at from 4s 3d to 4s 5d per 8 lbs, and 460 from Canada, these latter being above the average in point of quality, and were quoted at from 4s 2d to 4s 4d. 596 Canadian sheep were on the market, but the majority were slaughtered. The following were the numbers on offer on the corresponding day last year, with the current top rates:—Beasts, 218, 4s 4d to 4s 6d per 8 lbs, to dress about 720 lbs. No sheep on the market.

Liverpool, Monday.—There were a few more cattle in market to-day; demand slow, but last week's prices were fully maintained. Sheep supply larger; trade firmer and higher prices general for anything choice. Beef, 6½d to 5d per lb.; mutton, 9d to 6½d per lb. At market, 1,148 cattle and 5,182 sheep.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—The arrivals from Ireland last week were 2,351 bales bacon, and from foreign ports, 11,182 bales bacon. The demand for bacon last week continuing very good, prices were again advanced 2s all round on Danish. On Tuesday and on Friday Canadian quotations were 4s to 6s dearer. There was a good sale, and the market closed firm. Current quotations were as follows:—Irish, 54s to 60s, up to 63s; Danish, 54s to 58s, up to 59s; Canadian, 52s to 56s up to 58s. Butter.—There was a steady trade for butter generally and Danish was making a little more money. Danish, 110s to 112s, up to 114s; Colonials, 102s to 106s, up to 108s. Lard.—A steady market at unchanged prices. Irish, 54s to 60s. American pails and boxes, 48s 6d to 49s 6d.

CORK BUTTER.

	Ordinary.				Mild Cured Firkins.			Firkins in Market.
	Firsts.	Seconds.	Thirds.	Fourths.	Superfine.	Fine	Mild.	
	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.	
Monday	104	88	80	—	112	94	—	50
Tuesday	104	88	80	—	112	93	—	60
Wednesday	100	89	80	—	112	95	—	70
Thursday	104	90	80	—	115	96	—	40
Friday	104	94	81	—	115	91	—	50
Saturday	104	93	81	—	115	96	—	70

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW.

(Written Specially for the "Mark Lane Express.")

Trade in London.

With regard to the trade for fat beasts of both prime and second quality at Islington, no alteration in regard to value can be noted, though sales at late rates were rather forced. This remark does not, however, apply to the choicest Norfolks to dress from 680 to 720 lbs., these finding ready buyers. The majority of the fat beasts consisted of arrivals from that county, those arriving from Ireland numbering 176, amongst which were 58 stores, which were quoted as follows:—2½ years old, £11 10s. to £13 10s. per head; three years old, £13 10s. to £14. For butchering cows and bulls there was a better demand, and the number on offer being smaller, rates ruled firmer. At the foreign cattle market the supply was lighter, most of the cattle arriving from the United States, and being of rather better quality than during the last month or so. Here trade also ruled slow, but the best were no lower in price. The total number offered for sale on both markets was 4,105 (previous week, 5087), consisting of 1,160 British (decrease, 230) and 2,945 foreign (decrease, 752). These latter comprised 2,485 from the United States, and 460 from Canada. The following were the top rates paid per 8lbs. (sinking the offal):—95-stone polled Aberdeens, 4s. 8d. to 4s. 9d.; 90-stone polled Norfolks, 4s. 8d.; 100-stone shorthorn ditto, 4s. 6d.; 100-stone Lincolns, 4s. 6d.; 95-stone Irish, 4s. 4d.; 85 to 90-stone States, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 5d.; 90-stone fat cows, 3s. 10d. to 4s.; 100-stone fat bulls, 3s. 6d. The sheep trade was practically confined to the Islington market. Trade was of a slower nature, notwithstanding a lighter supply. Wethers were easier to buy, but not quotably lower, whilst ewes met with forced sales at a reduction of 2d. per 8 lbs. Lambs, especially the choicest Downs, of which very few were on the market, were in steady demand. The majority consisted of Dorsets. The total number penned was 10,206 (previous week, 12,587), consisting of 9,610 British (decrease, 990) and 596 from Canada. Best pens made, per 8 lbs., as follows (sinking the offal):—7½ to 8-stone Downs, 5s. 8d.; 8-stone Scotch, 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d.; 9-stone Downs, 5s. 6d.; 10-stone ditto, 5s. 2d. to 5s. 4d.; 10-stone half-breds, 5s.; 12-stone Lincolns, 4s. 10d.; 10-stone Down ewes, 4s. 6d.; 11-stone half-bred ditto, 4s. 2d.; 4½ to 5-stone fat Down lambs, 8s.; 5-stone Dorsets, 6s. 6d. to 6s. 8d. The calf trade, 35 on offer, was slow, but rates were firm. Best on offer were quoted at 6s. per 8 lbs. Pigs numbered 40, and sold slowly; top value, 4s. 6d.

Trade in the West.

Agriculture has benefited generally by the welcome rainfall of the past week, and this is amply borne out by the increased activity in stores of most kinds, both cattle and sheep. Barreners were beginning to drag a bit before the rain set in; now they sell with the greatest possible readiness, £26 to £30 being frequently realised for a good pair of young bullocks easy of conversion into beef; but a more general run is from £20 10s. to £25 for the ordinary grades. Dairy beasts have also benefited by the improved keep prospects. In fact, just at present everything is selling very well. Just at present, cattle much better relatively than sheep, the latter having been fetching only a poor price for some time. Good bullocks of medium weights now make 11s. to 12s. per score for all the better grades of Devons and Shorthorns (or from £17 to £23 or £24 apiece); and secondary grades may be quoted as making 10s. to 10s. 6d., and rougher qualities 9s. to 9s. 6d. Very little of what is now coming out fails to find a buyer. Fat sheep, on the other hand, meet a dragging sale, a good deal of this arising from the condition in which the sheep come to hand, many of those now on offer consisting of coarse old ewes, which only make about 6½d. per lb., though anything at all possessing quality in the way of tegs or wethers command more attention at 7½d. per lb. and over. Lambs are in much brisker demand than they have been of late, and will undoubtedly be more so during the next few days in preparation for the Easter trade. Some of the best lots in Downs and cross-breds have during the week sold from 38s. to 45s. apiece—quite 10d. to 10½d. per lb., if not over—though we must confess these, as a rule, were splendidly finished. The more ordinary grades are also meeting a steady sale at 8½d. to 9d., this being the range for indifferent qualities. The veal trade, too, promises well, the best calves realising 8d. to 8½d. per lb, and seconds 7d. to 7½d. Rearers also meet a free sale, values having a wide range—from 20s. up to 52s. Although pigs are scarcely as dear as they were, the neater weights find a good market at 10s. to 10s. 6d. per score, and baconers from 8s. 6d. to 9s. 6d. Coarse, heavy sows bring 7s. to 8s. Anything at all serviceable in the way of fat stock may be accurately described as selling very well, and on the whole prices are being well maintained. There is but little passing in store sheep, a few tegs changing hands at 31s. to 33s., and couples from 48s. to 58s. Another month or so will see far greater activity in the sheep trade all round.

Trade in Scotland.

John Swan and Sons, Limited, give the following as their report on above for the current week:—The number of fat cattle on offer this week has been rather larger, and the general quality satisfactory. A fair, steady trade has been experienced throughout, and prices are nearly as possible similar to the preceding week. A large supply of fat cows, the best of which made full prices. Sheep have been in larger supply, demand steady throughout, and all classes met quite as good a trade, with a good clearance effected. Ewes were rather scarcer, and they made a shade more money. Fat lambs continue to come to hand in small numbers, and, if good, quality, selling at from 38s. to 42s. Fat calves exceedingly dear, while pigs maintained previous values. Rather more store sheep on offer, for which a slightly better inquiry was experienced, and prices 1s. a-head dearer. A small number of store cattle, and generally of secondary inferior descriptions. Anything of a good class inquired after and easily sold at full prices, but all others are difficult to move, and part of the secondary descriptions left unsold. A good supply of milch cows, many of an inferior class; the best made nearly last week's prices, but secondary rather cheaper. Quotations:—Best beef, to 8s. 3d. per stone; mutton, to 8½d. per lb.

Trade in Ireland.

With a large falling-off in the supplies of cattle and sheep, and a full attendance of buyers at last Thursday's Dublin Market, business showed more animation and there was a marked advance in prices for anything that was up to the standard. For the nicer selection of beef and mutton, values were distinctly better—from 10s. to 20s. per head for the former, and about 1s. 4d. per pound for the latter. All the cattle and sheep of a useful class were bought up quickly, but a number of rough, unsuitable animals could not be sold, there being no purchasers to be found for such. The beef market opened with great spirit, and all the choice animals were picked up quickly. Choice ox and heifer beef made from 55s. to 58s. per cwt., some extra good lots commanding up to 60s. and 62s. per cwt., good second-class beef 50s. to 55s., and coarse from 44s. to 47s. per cwt. The short supply of sheep gave a good fillip to the mutton trade, and for choice sheep butchers had to pay more money. Wethers made from 7½d. to 7¾d., and small choice weights well up to 8d. per lb., and in some cases over that figure. Rough, common sheep, however, did not share in the advance, though it was easier to dispose of them than in late markets. Lambs were in very variable condition, and prices consequently very up and down. The best butchers' lots made from 30s. to 38s. each, and other sorts from 20s. upwards. Best veal still very scarce and dear, as much as 9½d. being paid per lb. for really choice milk-fed calves; rougher sorts from 5d. to 7d. per lb. Milch cattle plentiful, but the supply of choice cows limited. £21 was about the top price given, values generally being on the downward grade. Some large stock sales took place during the week, but the wintry change which has come over the weather made buying rather slack, except for good forward beasts, which did not require much to finish them off. There was a fair supply in the pig market, and, with a good trade, last day's prices were easily sustained, and a clearance effected. Choice small weights made from 46s. to 50s. per cwt., coarse from 36s. to 44s. per cwt.

In the South of Ireland the depression which has long hung over the store stock trade seems to be lifting, and prices have improved fully 5 per cent. Animals which would not have been looked at some weeks ago now sell freely, and it is expected when grass sets up a bit that buying will be very brisk.

Fat cattle in Cork market remain stationary in price, best quality making from 55s. to 58s. per cwt. Sheep at the same venue are dull enough, but the best mutton cannot be bought under from 7½d. to 8d. per lb., as it is scarce.

LONDON.

Islington, Thursday.—A moderate number of beasts, mainly comprising fat bulls and rough cattle. The demand was of a steady character, and late prices were upheld. Fat bulls, 3s 4d to 3s 8d. Sheep were in small supply, and met with rather better support at steady prices; 7½ to 8-stone Downs, 5s 2d to 5s 4d; 9-stone ditto, 5s to 5s 2d; 10-stone Down ewes, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; and 11-stone half-bred ditto, 3s 10d to 4s. Calves steady, the best on offer making 5s 6d to 5s 10d. Pigs quiet. Neat small porkers, 4s 4d to 4s 6d per 8lb, to sink the offal. Total supplies:—Beasts, 50; sheep, 620; calves, 25; cows, 5; and pigs, 20.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Best beef, 11s 6d a score. Mutton slightly dearer, from 4s 4d to 4s 8d per stone for prime Kent wethers; choice small Downs and half-breds, 5s to 5s 4d. Barrens fetched from 3s 6d to 4s a stone. Veal made up to 6s 2d and over. Pork unchanged.

Basingstoke, Wednesday.—At Raynbord and Son's sale-yard there was a good attendance of buyers to meet a supply of 36 fat beasts, 69 calves, 466 fat sheep and lambs, and 57 head of dairy and store cattle, for which the following prices were realised:—Prime shorthorn oxen made up to £25 10s; well-grazed Welsh runts made £20 10s; shorthorn heifers, £18 10s; and polled steers, £20 5s. Fat calves, 70s to £5 10s; smaller, 15s to 45s; dairy cows, from £9 to £18. Prime quality fat sheep realised from 48s to 52s 6d; 13 months old ditto, from 37s to 53s; fat sucking lambs up to 40s; fat ewes up to 54s 6d; fat Hants down lambs up to 38s 6d; Dorset lambs up to 40s; fat ewes made 54s 6d; and fat tegs up to 53s. The show of fat beasts included some prime shorthorns, Welsh runts, and polled beasts, which were cleared at the full prices of last week. Fat sheep—Lambs were shown in larger numbers, and a clearance effected, with the exception of a few half fat tegs and lambs, at fully last week's rates. With an average supply of dairy cattle on offer, for all best descriptions of milchers trade ruled slightly better. Store cattle showed more inquiry. Fat calves are scarce and dear. Ruling values: Best prime quality beasts, 7d to 7¼d; second ditto, 6¼d to 6¾d; bulls, cows, and inferior beasts, 5d to 6d per lb; best quality fat sheep, 7¾d to 8¼d; second ditto, 6d to 7d; fat sucking lambs, 10d to 12d; old ewes, rams, and inferior sheep, 5d to 6d per lb; fat calves, 7d to 8¾d per lb.

Bury, Wednesday.—At Messrs. Simpson and Sons' auction mart there was a good show of fat beasts of better quality than for some weeks. With a full average attendance of buyers, a good trade prevailed for all descriptions at fully late rates. Large supply of store cattle, which met a better trade, especially all the best bred lots. Larger supply of fat sheep, including several lots of very prime Suffolk hoggets. Trade was without much variation in price, reaching up to 63s per head for some Suffolk hoggets, and 48s for some Southdown hoggets. Fat ewes were in short numbers. Smaller supply of store hoggets, which sold at late rates. Good supply of fat pigs. Brisk trade at last week's rates for all descriptions.

Calne, Friday.—Present prices for prime pigs, in lots of not less than 10, on rail within 100 miles of Calne.

Prime Stores.	Thickness of fat in any part of the Back.	Price per Sc. s.	d.
6 sc. 10 lbs. to 9 sc. 10 lbs.	2½ in. and under ...	9	6
Under 10 sc.	Not exceeding 2½ in. ...	9	0
Under 11 sc. 10 lb.	... Not exceeding 2¾ in....	8	6
Under 12 sc.	Not exceeding 3 in. ...		

—C. & T. Harris & Co., Ltd.

Cambridge, Monday.—Beasts, 375. Beef, 7s to 8s. Sheep, 571. Mutton, 4s 2d to 5s 4d. Horses, 9. A few lots good store beasts but made slow. Fat beasts a good show; prices not so good as last week. Fat sheep, a good number shown; prices a little better. Stores, a few lots to hand, and all cleared. Market closed for pigs. Hay, straw, and roots short supply.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Prices were a trifle higher than last week, good class working tegs making from 30s to 36s, and occasionally 38s per head. Ewes and lambs sell at about 45s.

Chichester, Wednesday.—There was a good supply of fat stock, and a fair trade was experienced for both beef and mutton, prices being without material change. The supply of lambs was in excess of the demand, but prices were steady, a remark which also applies to veal. The store sheep trade was better than of late, and prices showed a hardening tendency. A disquieting feature in this department, however, was the discovery of several animals suffering, it is said, from scab. There was a good supply of pigs on offer, but business was not so active as of late, and prices were easier. The following figures show the number of head of stock in the market: Cattle, 732; sheep, 3,246; pigs, 526; calves, 124; horses, 34; total, 4,672. Tolls taken, £30 5s 5d.

Dorchester, Wednesday.—The mid-weekly market to-day was very heavily stocked, calves, lambs, and light-weight pigs forming a very extensive offer, to say nothing of an abundance of poultry and dairy produce of all kinds. Sales were held by Messrs. Ensor and Son and by Mr. Sampson. A brisk inquiry prevailed in almost every department without exception, and good prices ruled for anything at all serviceable. Calves met a very brisk trade, the best making 8d per lb. and over (or up to £6 10s each), seconds also selling well at 7d to 7½d, and poorer class grades at 6½d. Mutton ruled fairly steady, at 7d to 7½d per lb for best qualities; and lambs were in much more request, at 8½d to 9d per lb, and in some cases over. Light-weight porkers sold from 10s 6d to 11s 3d per score, and baconers, 10s to 10s 5d; heavy pigs, 8s to 9s. The beef trade keeps firm owing to the limited offers.

Dublin, Thursday.—Numbers in market: Beasts, 1,353—decrease, 242; sheep, 3,600—decrease, 236; calves, 34—decrease, 11. Finished cattle were scarce and dearer. Other sorts more easily sold. More life in the sheep trade at a slight advance all round. Cattle: Live weight (best), 33s to 36s per cwt; others, 28s to 32s 6d per cwt. Mutton: Dead weight, 6d to 7¾d per lb. Next auction of store cattle, Thursday, April 3. Entries close March 29. —Ganly, Sons, and Co.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Bullocks and cows, 771; calves, 178; sheep and lambs, 1,018; pigs (fat and sows), 41; sucking pigs, 17; pigs (stores, not more than ten), 275; pigs (stores, more than ten), 62; horses, 2. Prices in Cattle Market: Best beef, 6d to 7d per lb; wether sheep, 6½d to 8d per lb; ewes, 5½d to 7d per lb; veal, 8½d per lb; pork, 5½d to 6d per lb; bacon, 4d to 5d per lb; lambs (not sold by the lb), 30s to 35s each.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Messrs. Robert Bond and Son's report a shorter supply of fat beasts, which met a firm trade from 8s 6d to 8s per stone. An average number of fat sheep and a good attendance of buyers. Well-finished hoggets made rather more money; others sold without alteration. Grazing sheep changed hands at late rates. A large entry of calves; those for weaning by pure shorthorn bulls were in strong request. Fat calves dear. Fat swine met a sharp trade, prices ruling against buyers. Well-bred stores dear. About 30 cows were penned, but there was not much animation in the trade, prices remaining on the same level. A few lots of grazing cattle were penned. Trade was slow, and prices ruled low except for those with condition, which were wanted. Numbers at sales and market: Cattle, 561; calves, 63; sheep, 1,204; swine, 1,395.

Leicester, Wednesday.—Large consignments of Lincolnshire and Norfolk fed bullocks, and the bulk of the stock came to hand in excellent condition. Buyers and dealers were well represented, and trade ruled rather sluggish, while quotations were 15s to 20s per head lower all round. Choice bullocks, 6¼d to 6¾d; secondary, 6d to 6¼d; heifers, 6¼d to 6¾d; cows, 4¼d to 5¼d. per lb. Sheep were a fair supply, and sold steadily at 7¼d to

8d for choice light weights; large sheep, 6½d to 7½d; ewes, 5½d to 6d; lambs in active demand at 1s; calves, a brisk trade at 3½d to 10d per lb.

Newport, Wednesday.—There was a good supply of stock, sheep, and calves, a large attendance of buyers, and a brisk trade resulted. Quotations:—Best beef, 6½d to 6¾d; seconds, 6d to 6½d; cows, 5½d to 6d; best wether mutton, 8d to 8½d; ewes, 6½d to 7d; veal, 8d to 9½d; pigs, porkers, 10s 9d to 11s per score.

Salford, Tuesday.—The supply of cattle was smaller. Choice quality met with a good demand, and sellers obtained an advance on last week's prices. About the same number of sheep were penned as at last market. There was a good trade for all kinds at an advance of about 2s per head. A moderate show of calves, and a good demand for best quality at higher prices. Cattle, 5d to 6½d; sheep (in wool), 7d to 8¾d; ditto shorn, 6d to 7¾d; calves, 6d to 9d per lb. At market: Cattle, 2,146; sheep, 9,034; calves, 237.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—The show of milch beasts was small, and trade was slow. Best sorts, £18 to £21; secondary, £13 to £16. Rough beasts were bad to sell.

Spalding, Tuesday.—There was a larger show of beasts, and a fair trade. Best ox beef, 7s 6d to 7s 9d per stone. An improved trade for stores, and nearly all the lots were cleared at better prices. In the sheep market there was a small show; mutton, 7d to 8d per lb.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There were 131 cattle, 30 calves, 290 sheep, 12 lambs, and 221 pigs on offer. Best cattle were shown in small numbers, and prices ranged from 7s 9d to 8s per stone; rougher sorts, 6s 6d to 7s. A fair trade in calves at 6d to 9d per lb. A small show of young sheep, which met with a good demand at slightly higher prices, at 8d per lb; ewes, about 6d; tups, 4d and 5d; lambs, 35s to 40s each.

Thame, Tuesday.—There was a fair supply of stock at market, with an increased attendance of buyers. Trade was very brisk, particularly for beef and veal. Mutton continues to improve in price. Strong, weaning calves met with a good inquiry, all the stock changing hands readily. Mr. Bond's sale comprised 49 fat beasts, 145 fat sheep, 94 fat and weaning calves, and 60 pigs. Fat bullocks made £17 to £22 10s; fat heifers, £14 to £20 7s 6d; fat ewes, 44s to 63s; fat tegs, 41s to 54s 6d; fat lambs, 37s to 39s 6d; fat calves, £4 to £5 1s; cow calves, 23s to 57s; bull calves, 19s to 48s; fat pigs, 10s per score. Stores a better trade. The Easter market will be held on Tuesday next, when a large supply of specially fed stock is expected.

Wakefield, Wednesday.—Average trade at last week's prices. Beef, 5d to 6¾d per lb.; small sheep, 7¼d per lb; other animals, 5d to 7¼d. The numbers were—sheep, 4,125; beasts, 1,246.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—There was a fair supply of stock and a moderate trade was transacted. Quotations:—Herefords, 6½d to 6¾d per lb.; shorthorns, 6¼d to 6½d per lb; calves 7½d to 9d per lb; wether mutton, 7¾d to 8¼d per lb; ewes, 6¼d to 6¾d per lb; pigs, bacon 10s per score; ditto porkets 10s to 10s 6d per score; sows, 8s per score.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Fair supply of stock, and trade good. Best beef, 7s to 7s 8d; secondary, 6s to 6s 9d per stone; best wethers, clipped and in wool, 7d to 7½d; ewes, 5d to 6d per lb.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Tuesday.—Beasts supplied to-day amounted to 630 head, this being 130 more than available on Wednesday, and consisted of shipments from South America, while trade ruled slow at 4s 2d to 4s 5d per 8lb to sink the offal, despite quality being good. 475 ditto were not shown.

Yorkhill, Monday.—The usual weekly sale of United States and Canadian cattle was held to-day, when there were on offer 141 animals landed by the Siberian from Philadelphia: 281 by the Sardinian, from Portland (Me.); and 59 ex Corean, from Boston. Bullocks, as is generally the case, formed the greater proportion of the total number. Taken all round the animals, as regards quality, showed a marked improvement on those exposed last week. There was the usual large attendance of buyers. Trade at first was rather slow, but as it went on it steadily improved, and prices showed an improvement of 2s per cwt. on the rates ruling last week. Small, neat, well-fed beasts secured the best demand, and sold well Bulls met a good selling trade. The dead weight quotations may be given as follows:—States bullocks, best class, medium weights, 58s per cwt, and for really choice up to 60s, one or two even making more; seeondary and heavier, 56s: bulls, best quality, handy sorts, to 50s; secondary and heavier, 46s to 48s. Canadian bullocks, best quality, medium weight, 56s per cwt, and for really choice, 58s, and in one or two instances to 60s; secondary and heavier, 52s to 54s; heifers, 53s to 57s; cows, 46s to 50s, according to quality and finish. The bulls made similar prices to those ruling above.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—Fair supplies of fruit, steady sale; good supply of greenstuffs. Arrivals of potatoes short, and met with fair support. Nova Scotian apples, 20s to 26s per barrel; Californian, 8s 6d to 12s 6d per case; Almeria grapes, 4s to 8s per dozen lb; bananas, 7s 6d to 12s 6d per bunch; Denia oranges, 10s to 25s; Jaffa, 12s to 15s; Murcia, 7s to 10s 6d per case; pineapples, 1s 9d to 4s 6d each; lemons, 8s to 18s; Canary tomatoes, 3s 6d to 4s 6d per case; cauliflowers, 1s 9d to 2s 6d per dozen; beetroots, 2s per bushel; Brussels sprouts, 1s 6d to 2s per half-sieve; parsnips, 2s 6d to 3s per bag; carrots, 2s to 2s 6d; leeks, 2s to 3s per dozen bunches; horseradish, 1s 3d per bundle; celery, 9s to 12s per dozen rolls; field rhubarb, 2s 3d to 2s 6d; forced rhubarb, 1s to 1s 3d per dozen bundles; Valencia onions, 6s to 7s per case; Dutch, 4s 6d per bag; potatoes, 35s to 80s per ton; new Teneriffe, 14s; Canary, 15s per cwt.

POTATOES.

Borough, Saturday.—Arrivals heavy; no recovery in demand; business quiet at about late rates. Scotch maincrops (Dunbars), 80s; Reading Giants, Blacklands, 40s: Blacklands Up-to-Dates, 45s; Lincoln (Silts) ditto, 55s; Kent Up-to-Dates, 45s to 50s per ton.

Great Northern, Saturday.—Although supplies lighter, demand slow. Scotch maincrops, 85s to 90s; Reading Giants, 40s to 45s; Blacklands Dates, 40s to 50s; Lincoln maincrops, 80s to 85s; Lincoln Up-to-Dates, 50s to 65s per ton; Jersey, 4d per lb; Teneriffe, 16s; Maltese, 12s per cwt.

Spitalfields, Saturday.—Very slow; supplies still in excess of buyers' requirements. Best Lincoln Up-to-Dates, 55s to 65s; Blackland ditto, 35s to 40s; Wisbech, 50s to 55s; Scotch ditto, 60s; Scotch maincrops (grey soil), 65s; Lincoln maincrops, 75s to 85s; Reading Giants, 30s to 35s; Blackland Gartons, 30s per ton.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Hull, Tuesday.—Linseed.—The arrivals are 25,772 qrs. from Buenos Ayres; 30,987 qrs. Rosario; 6,374 qrs. San Nicholas, 9,836 qrs. San Pedro; total 72,969 qrs. The market during the week has been dull and inactive, with steadily decreasing prices. Calcutta opened with sellers of April-June at 52s 3d, but declined during the week, and closes sellers at 51s 3d April-June. River Plate—At the beginning of last week 49s 9d was made for seed on the spot, and Feb.-March was worth 50s 6d, but at the close there are sellers of spot at 48s 3d, while forward positions are quoted nominally 50s. Cottonseed.—The market at one time during the week turned quieter, and sellers on spot accepted £6 12s 6d. But there was a speedy recovery to firmness, and £6 13s 9d to £6 15s since paid, at which latter price still buyers. Business done thereat a few days afloat. March loading made £6 12s 6d to —6 15s, and up to £6 15s paid April-June. A few speculative lots Nov.-Jan. changed hands at £6 3s 9d to £6 5s. To-day £6 16s 3d paid spot and afloat. Oils.—Exports for the wee kending 11th March, 1902:—Linseed oil: 4 Belgium, 1 Denmark, 1 Germany, 18 India, 8 Norway; total, 32 tons. Cotton oil: 102 Belgium, 10 France, 215 Germany, 239 Holland, 15 Sweden; total, 581 tons. The market is quiet. Linseed oil, 28s 6d spot; 28s 4½d March-April; 28s 4½d May-August. Cotton oil, 23s spot; 23s 1½d March-April; 23s 6d May-August. Crude, 21s 9d spot; 21s 10½d March-April; 22s 3d May-August. Rape oil, Jamba naked, 24s spot; 1st quality naked, 24s 6d spot. Oil Seed Cakes—Linseed Cakes are 2s 6d to 5s per ton cheaper, with moderate demand. Cotton Cakes—A very fine market, with good deliveries.

London, Thursday.—Linseed: Heavy arrivals, both in Calcutta and the Plate, combined with large shipments, and the indisposition of manufacturers here to operate, have caused prices to decline further. Spot Calcutta to London, 51s; passage, 51s to 50s 6d; March, 50s 9d; April-June, 50s 6d. La Plata near and passage, 49s to 50s. Hull is also lower. Calcutta, April-June, 51s. La Plata, spot, 48s 6d; March-April, 50s. To the Continent, Bombay, Feb.-March, and April-June, 53s 9d; June-July, 54s. Calcutta, April-June, 51s. La Plata, afloat, 49s; March-April, 50s. Linseed oil early in the week declined in consequence of the heavy shipments of seed, but at the close higher prices are demanded. We quote spot in pipes £30 to £30 5s; barrels, £30 5s to £30 10s; May-August, £29 15s; Sep.-Dec., £28 15s. Hull spot naked, £28 10s; April, £28 10s; May-August, £28 10s. Linseed cakes are steady. We to-day quote London made £8 5s to £8 7s 6d ex mill; American Western, £7 7s 6d to £7 10s; Russian, £7 12s 6d to £8 2s 6d. Cotton cakes quiet, London made £4 5s 3d to £4 7s 6d. Rapeseed: In rather better demand with more doing. Brown Cawnpore, March-May, 37s 6d; Brown Calcutta, April-June, 36s 6d. To the Continent we quote Yellow Cawnpore, March-May, 40s 9d. Brown Cawnpore, March-May, 37s 6d; Brown Calcutta, April-June, 37s. Ferozepore, Feb.-March, 37s 9d. Jamba, March-May to Hull, 31s. Cottonseed: Alexandria has continued to advance, prices, however, still continue to be too far apart to admit of business. Spot London, £6 15s; March, £6 15s; April-May, £6 17s 6d; Hull spot, £6 17s 6d; April-June, £6 17s 6d; Nov.-Jan., £6 6s 3d. Cargoes are too dear to be quoted, importers point to £7 2s 6d. Bombay to Hull: Business continues to be done at £4 10s, March-April.—THE PRODUCE BROKERS' CO., LTD.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Pulse: In this branch of the market milletseed remains very cheap, 30s to 40s per qr., according to quality. Haricot beans: In consequence of the mild weather, demand is less active; prices, however, have not given way, because available lots on offer are so very small that, however slack the demand may continue, it cannot materially affect prices. I quote to-day: Best Hungarians, 42s to 43s; Danubians, 39s to 40s; Hungarian "Cocos," 48s to 50s; Dutch, 50s to 60s per qr. It is thought possible that we may experience a better demand for haricots next month owing to scarcity of green vegetables, and dealers will be well advised to look to their stocks. White Runners: Extra large, 10s to 10s 6d; ordinary, 7s 3d to 7s 6d; second quality, 6s to 6s 6d per bush. German lentils, 13s to 14s per cwt. Split peas: Pearls, No. 1, 52s 6d to 53s 6d; No. 2, 47s to 48s; Canadian F, 43s 6d to 44s per qr. Scarlet Runners, 6s 9d to 7s per bush. Painted Lady beans, 8s 6d to 9s per bush. Canadian Wonder beans, 14s to 14s per cwt.—E. MARCUSE.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed Cakes—Supplies of foreign are exceedingly small, and, with only limited stocks in warehouse, values are well maintained, while a considerable business has been done in forward positions at full prices of last week. Russians in mats are slightly easier, but unchanged in bags. Americans continue by far the best value on the market, and are in good demand at last Monday's prices. Calcutta-made in bags still offer at unchanged quotations. London-made remain quiet and without change. Cotton Cakes—The trade rules quiet, but, with dearer seed, there is a slight check to the downward tendency, and Egyptians are now firmly held at £4 5s to £4 7s 6d, while English sell steadily at unchanged prices. Decorticated move off slowly and without change, and meal at £6 5s. Rape Cakes—Unchanged. Maize Germ Meal—Some small lots of American just to hand find buyers at £5 17s 6d to £6, while English remain relatively cheap at 5s per ton less money. Rice Meal—A steamer parcel of Rangoon due the end of the month offers at £4 15s, but for March-April shipment there are sellers at £4 7s 6d to £4 10s per ton on the usual London ex ship terms.

	Per ton.	Per ton.
LINSEED CAKES.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
London made ..... ex mill	8 2 6	to 8 5 0
American ..... ex ship	7 0 0	to 7 2 6
Russian, in mats ..... ex dock	7 10 0	to 7 12 6
Russian, in bags ..... ex dock	7 15 0	to 7 17 6
Calcutta	7 15 0	to 7 17 6
COTTONSEED CAKES.		
London made ..... ex mill	4 7 6	to 4 10 0
Egyptian ..... ex dock	4 5 0	to 4 7 6
Decorticated ..... ex dock	6 7 6	to 6 10 0
Meal ..... ex dock	6 5 0	—
RAPE CAKES.		
East India	4 5 0	—
MAIZE.		
English germ meal ..... ex mill	5 12 6	to 5 15 0
American ..... c.i.f.	5 7 6	to 5 10 0
RICE MEAL.		
Rangoon ..... in warehouse	—	5 5 0

—PINNOCK BROS., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

WATERLOO ROUND FEEDING CAKES, £6 10s 0d PER TON. WATERLOO ANGLO SHAPE 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES, £9 7s 6d PER TON; WATERLOO 97 PER CENT. PURE EGYPTIAN COTTONSEED CAKES, £4 15s 0d PER TON. ALL F.O.R. HULL.

MOLASSINE FEEDING MEAL, packed in bags, of 1½cwt. each. Price per cwt., 7s. 6d. Price per ton, £6 15s., on rail at works, Silvertown, Essex, and F.O.R. Liverpool. A sample lot of 6cwt., in 4 bags of 1½cwt. each, delivered free to any station in England on receipt of remittance for £2 11s 0d

THE BALTIC.

The Term market being weaker, and America being weaker, the Baltic is not an easy market for cargoes arrived, on passage, or for future shipment. Red winter wheat is quoted at 28s. 6d. for No. 2 hard, 29s. 3d. for No. 2 red, while No. 1 northern spring is at 30s. 5d. per 500lb. for April, June, and August delivery and for shipment in the same months. The sales of cargoes have included fine Manitoba at 29s. 3d. on passage, and 28s. 9d. for April shipment; soft red Calcutta at 29s. for April, and 28s. 9d. for May shipment; common (No. 2 northern) Manitoba at 27s. for May, and 26s. 9d. for June shipment; South Australian at 27s. 9d. on passage; New South Wales at 29s. 3d. on passage; Argentine at 29s., April shipment; Californian at 30s. arrived, 30s. 3d. on passage, and 29s. 3d. for prompt shipment; and Oregon at 29s. 6d. for April shipment. These prices are, on the whole, not so good as those given a week ago.

Maize is offered at 22s. 6d. per 500lb. for April shipment from Russia, so that 22s. per 480lb. is no longer obtainable. Cargoes of sound maize are cheaper on the week, but the damaged stuff offered at low prices earlier in the month having disappeared, the mean level of value looks higher.

Barley cargoes fetch 25s. for good Californian, while common Roumanian come at 18s. 6d. per qr. Oats are quoted 19s. 3d. for white Gothenburg, 17s. 9d. for Roumanian, and 17s. 6d. for Turkish. Indian peas (green) are offered for April shipment at 23s. 6d. Other cargo sales include Argentine linseed at 48s. 6d., Calcutta linseed for June shipment at 51s., and Cawnpore brown rapeseed at 37s. 9d. per qr.

The arrivals of grain and seed laden vessels at ports of call since last review have been six, as will be seen by the following table:—

CARGO.	Total.	Calif. and Oregon.	Chili, Aust. & N.Z.	Sundries.	Total Last Week.	Total since January 1, 1902.	Total same time 1901.
Wheat	4	3	1	...	5	42	50
Maize	...	...	...	...	...	3	...
Barley	1	1	...	...	2	11	12
Beans	...	...	...	...	...	1	2
Valonea	1	...	...	1	...	3	3
Sundries	...	...	...	...	...	1	7
Total	6	4	1	1	7	61	74

HAY AND STRAW.

Manchester, Wednesday.—Hay, 6¾d to 7½d; clover, 7d to 8d; straw (oat), 5½d to 5¾d per stone.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—Supplies were on a good scale, but the demand proved slow, and only a small business resulted, but at steady prices. Best clover, 95s to 110s; inferior ditto, 80s to 90s; mixture and sanfoin, 90s to 100s; straw, 28s to 40s per load.

LONDON FLOUR MILLERS' ASSOCIATION

OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1901

		London Whites.	Town Households.
		s. d.	s. d.
September 2	(per sack)	26 0 ..... (per sack)	23 10
,, 18	,,	25 6 ..... ,,	22 6
December 9	,,	26 6 ..... ,,	23 6
January 29	,,	26 0 ..... ,,	23 0

COMPARATIVE AVERAGES.

Comparative statement for the corresponding week to March 22nd, in each of the years from 1897 to 1901.

	WHEAT.		BARLEY.		OATS.	
	Qrs	s. d.	Qrs.	s. d.	Qrs.	s. d.
1897	51,497¼ ...	27 9	24,908¼ ...	22 5	12,758¾ ...	16 3
1898	50,131¾ ...	35 4	22,983¾ ...	28 6	11,610¼ ...	17 8
1899	64,771¾ ...	25 4	32,349 ...	26 8	15,093¾ ...	17 0
1900	69,944¼ ...	25 11	38,147 ...	25 0	17,042¼ ...	17 1
1901	53,758¾ ...	25 8	27,840¼ ...	24 11	13,895¼ ...	17 9

Irish Live Weight Quotations.

(Department of Agriculture and General Instruction for Ireland.)

The following returns are those of actual sales made in Robson's Cattle Mart, Belfast, the stock being weighed either before or after sale, for the week ending March 22nd 1902.

No. of Beasts.	Description and Quality.	Average price per head.	Average Live weight.	Average price per cwt.
		£ s. d.	c. qr. lb.	£ s. d.
2	Bullocks (prime) ...	13 10 0	7 3 0	1 14 19
2	,, ,, ...	14 15 0	8 2 21	1 14 0
2	,, ,, ...	15 5 0	9 0 7	1 13 3
2	,, ,, ...	18 5 0	11 0 0	1 13 2
2	,, ,, ...	13 15 0	8 1 21	1 12 7
2	,, ,, ...	14 0 0	8 3 9	1 12 0
2	,, (very good) ...	16 0 0	10 0 7	1 11 10
1	,, ,, ...	14 5 0	9 0 0	1 11 8
1	,, ,, ...	13 0 0	8 1 14	1 11 1
2	,, ,, ...	12 5 0	8 0 0	1 10 7
2	,, (good) ...	15 5 0	8 3 0	1 14 10
1	Heifer (prime) ...	13 10 0	8 0 0	1 13 9
1	,, ,, ...	15 5 0	9 2 0	1 12 1
1	,, (very good) ...	13 5 0	8 1 0	1 12 1
1	,, ,, ...	21 0 0	14 0 0	1 10 0
1	Cow (prime) ...	15 5 0	11 1 0	1 7 1
1	,, (very good) ...			

* Indicates that the lot so marked was sold by live weight at the price quoted.



STOCK AND SHOW NOTES.

By Herdsman.

Messrs. John Thornton and Co. will conduct two important shorthorn sales in Gloucestershire on the last two days of April, the animals to be offered being the property of the Right Hon. Lord Sherborne, Sherborne, and Mr. James T. Hobbs, Maisey Hampton, Fairford, which is a pleasant drive of ten miles from Sherborne. The first sale will be held at the Home Farm, Sherborne Park, on April 29, the catalogue comprising 35 pure-bred cows and heifers, and 10 bulls. Sherborne, a beautiful and well wooded estate above the River Windrush, on the Cotswold Hills, has been the home of good Shorthorns since about the year 1840, when purchases were made from the great Wiseton and other herds in Nottinghamshire, bulls of Mr. Wilkinson's, of Lenton, and Earl Ducie's blood being used. This herd was dispersed in 1848 at an average of £30 9s. for 77 head, and laid the foundation of several first class stocks. In 1884 several animals were purchased by the Hon. R. H. Eden, then agent, at the Chipping Norton sale, where Miss Barnett's herd, removed from Costylost, Cornwall, was dispersed. Among these were descendants of Mr. Chas. Colling's Old Daisies and Mr. Maynard's Floras, which now comprise about a dozen head. This old Flora tribe bred many excellent animals, especially in the late Rev. T. Staniforth's and Mr. J. P. Foster's herds in Cumberland, and were good milkers and breeders.

When Mr. Gray became agent to the Sherborne estate these animals were carefully selected and improved by the use of first class bulls. Several of the best cows were sent to Mr. Geo. Freeman's prize bull Wiltshire Star 63565; to Mr. R. Singer's Chorister 76351, bred by Mr. Duthie, a son of that famous bull William of Orange, and to those celebrated sires selected at great cost by Mr. R. Garne in Aberdeenshire for the Aldsworth herd. Scottish Chief 67883, descended from an old herd in Lincolnshire, by Mr. Cruickshank's Royal James 54972, was purchased at Birmingham and used four seasons. He proved an excellent sire and was followed by his son Sherborne Duke, from Duchess of Sherborne IX., a very fine cow and great milker. Scottish Monarch 77828, bred by Mr. W. Duthie, is now in service; he is a remarkably even, deep red, thick, fleshed bull, and is the sire of some beautiful young stock, some of which have been shown with success at the Gloucestershire local shows.

Mr. J. T. Hobbs's extensive herd of pure-bred dairy Shorthorns at Maisey Hampton was established just half a century ago, and comprises about 180 head. At the sale to be held on April 30, it is proposed to offer about 30 young cows and heifers and 20 young bulls; the former are all just about in full profit, some having calved and others being nearly due. They have been selected for their state of breeding, and not with regard to pedigree or merit, but are a good representative lot of beautiful young animals from one of the most profitable herds in the country. They are mostly of those fine old tribes established by Mr. Hobbs's father from old Gloucestershire breeders, and are full of Bates blood.

The bulls, which are also for unreserved sale, range from about 12 to 17 months old. They are a particularly good and striking lot, by first class sires, many of them being by Councillor 72264, bred by her late Majesty the Queen at Windsor. The others are by New Year's Gift 77323, bred by Mr. W. J. Hosken in Cornwall. This famous bull won first prize at the B. W. E. Show at Bath, and a second at the R. A. S. E. at York, 1900; he was by Treforrest, the sire of most of Mr. Hosken's prize winners, from that beautiful cow Countess of Oxford XIV., who was also exhibited at the R. A. S. E. Show at York, where she was the first and champion prize cow. The cows and heifers are in calf to one or the other of these two excellent sires, or to Near Go 79473, a bull of great scale and rare quality bred by Messrs. Garne, of Aldsworth. Full particulars of this and Lord Sherborne's sale can be had on application to Messrs. J. Thornton and Co.

The death has been announced, at the age of 49, of Mr. Cadwallader John Bates, of Langley Castle, Northumberland, a well-known antiquary and the author, among other works, of histories of Northumberland and of the Mediæval Border Towns. He was a great-nephew of Mr. Thomas Bates, of Kirklevington, and early in 1897 produced an important work, which has taken a foremost place among Shorthorn literature, viz., "Thomas Bates and the Kirklevington Shorthorns, a Contribution to the History of Pure Durham Cattle." This publication alone was sufficient proof of the author's literary ability, and many agriculturists whose pleasure to-day is in the breeding of pure Shorthorns are indebted to him for this interesting history, setting forth the methods and showing the life work of one of the great pioneers in the breeding of the "Improved Shorthorn." As a breeder himself, Mr. Bates naturally inclined to those strains of blood made famous by his worthy ancestor. His herd, though not large, contains some good specimens of the Red Rose, Oxford, Waterloo, Wild Eyes, Barrington, and Darlington tribes, and most of these are sired by bulls of similar breeding. Recently, however, fresh blood has been introduced by the use of Count Waterloo 74310, a bull of Mr. Duthie's breeding, which, although tracing on th dam's side to the Waterloos, is a son of Count Arthur, who was by Mr. Willis' famous sire, Count Lavender.

The entries of cattle received for the Royal Dublin Society's spring show at Ball's Bridge on Thursday, April 15th, and three following days, number more than those of any previous years, the total, including the milking list, being 1,059, as compared with 919 in 1901. The entries of the favourite Shorthorn breed number no fewer than 552, as against 480 last year. The entries of the other breeds are as follows, the totals of last year being given in parenthesis:—Herefords, 123 (94); Aberdeen-Angus, 207 (176); Red Polled, 13 (11); Kerry, 42 (42); Dexter, 50 (42); Jersey and Guernsey, 42 (42); Ayrshire, 7 (11); dairy cattle, 11 (11); extra stock, 2 (5); milking test, 10 (5). It will be noticed that in only one section—that for extra stock—is there a falling off, whilst most others show an appreciable increase. In the eight classes for breeding swine, white and black breeds, there are 57 entries, against 48 last year, and the money prizes, which have lately been increased, are very considerable. It should be noted that in this section of the show all swine receiving a prize or commendation will be eligible for registration in the Royal Dublin Society's register for swine suitable for Ireland. Butter will make a fine show, there being in this section 265 entries, whilst of eggs there are 39 entries. The entries of horses not yet having finally closed, details of these must be deferred until another issue.

With the object of improving the horses of Felixstowe, a local Horse Parade Society has been formed, having for its president Lord Rendlesham, and for its vice-presidents Captain Pretyman, M.P., and a number of gentlemen resident in the locality. The committee is composed of Messrs. W. Temple (chairman), E. Durrant, S. L. Harlock, J. W. Everett, E. G. Everett (hon. treasurer), and G. H. Cocke (hon. secretary). It has been decided to hold a parade at Felixstowe on June 25th, open to horses, cobs, ponies, and donkeys owned within the Felixstowe and Walton Urban District, or within eight miles radius of Trimley St. Mary's Church. Upwards of £30 will be given in prizes amongst 16 classes.

Mr. Hanbury, President of the Board of Agriculture, speaking at Preston on Thursday, referred to the growing responsibilities of the nation and the competition we now had to encounter with other countries. We could not afford, he said, to have a single child uneducated. We wanted all the talent we could summon to our aid. We must pave the way for talent and merit. The day of patronage was past. He decried mere book knowledge, saying that our children must become, not mere second-hand clothes of other people's knowledge, but an inventive race, which could use to some purpose its own brains.



The SHIRE STALLION shown above is BIRDSALL MENESTREL, 19,337, a two year old bay by Menestrel, 14,180, out of Birdsall Darling, 22,925, bred by Lord Middleton, Birdsall House, York, and now the property of Lord Rothschild, Tring Park, Herts. At the Shire Horse Society's recent show Birdsall Menestrel won Frst Prize in his closs, the £20 cup for the best stallion in the younger classes, and was reserve for the Stallion Championship. At the same Society's show of 1901, he was third in the yearling stallion class, being then exhibited by Lord Middleton; whilst he was shown at the Royal Show at Cardiff by Lord Rothschild, and won a First Prize.



Peterboro' Spring Stallion Show.

The annual parade of shire, hackney, and thoroughbred stallions, under the auspices of the Peterboro' Agricultural Society, was held on Saturday last in the recreation ground adjoining the Cattle Market. The weather proved very favourable, and a good attendance of breeders and farmers were seen at the ring sides, the larger number being round the heavy horse ring, though there also appeared to be more than the usual number looking on whilst the light horses were being judged.

Thoroughbred stallions were first in the catalogue, and these were to have been judged by Mr. Bradley, of Uffington, who, however, was unable to officiate, and so Sir Gilbert Greenall, who was the appointed hackney judge, performed the duty in both these sections. Six thoroughbred stallions were catalogued, and Mr. Edward Hawke's well-known fifteen-years-old mare, Old Coin, who has been the recipient of several King's Premiums, was selected for the first place. He is by Hermit and Galopin Hood, and looks like getting weight-carriers or carriage horses. Mr. H. Martin's Upsieon, who has competed at Peterboro' for several years, was Sir Gilbert Greenall's second choice, and a good, useful horse he is, getting good stock, and he, too, is not a stranger at the Agricultural Hall. Mr. Thos. Constable's Bentinck, a ten-years-old by Donovan, and of Sterling Blood on dam's side, a good quality stallion, though not any too strong in substance, was recommended. Mr. Guy Fenwick's Prince Barcaldine from the Hermit dam St. Olave, and got by Barcaldine, a horse of superb quality, stylish, and with beautiful points, was also highly commended.

Hackneys.

Seven of these were down in the list, but one or two were absent, and of the contestants the judge's selections for premier position was Mr. P. J. Heaton's Society Swell by Pilot 2nd, a good quality stallion and level goer, covering a good deal of ground. The second horse, and that several would have preferred, was Mr. John Powell's well-known stallion, Rosellan by Rosador. He was in very good form and carrying himself well, with his build and substance, as well as action. He is altogether a very good class of hackney. The executors of the late Mr. Thos. Wing's Danegelt's Surprise, a horse with a good deal of substance about him, standing on good feet and moving well, was given the second card. Mr. W. J. Robb exhibited Active Forest King, a capital horse by Forest King, and carrying a lot of substance, a strong horse, fitted for getting some good moving harness horses, and was highly commended. One or two other useful stallions were shown, including Mr. Quadling's Mariner by Rufus, a big horse with good feet, and a good deal of bone that looks like getting horses of the saleable kind.

Shires.

These were judged by Mr. W. Hawkins and Mr. C. R. Chamberlain. The classes were scarcely as strong and good as usual, but several very good stallions were present. The older class (four-years-old and upwards) contained six entries, of which four or five were hardish nuts to crack. Messrs. Forshaw and Sons, King Holt, however, was a very difficult horse to get by; he is big and well built and also possesses immense bone of very good quality, and also moves with freedom. It was therefore impossible to place him anywhere but at the front. Another wonderfully good horse followed in Mr. P. A. Muntz's Watnall Merry Lad by Merry Lad, who, since he took a commended at Islington the other week, has taken the first premium for the West Staffordshire Society, and was at Peterboro' placed second. He moves in very good style, and his great substance and size a capital class of stallion. The third prize went to another very good horse, Mr. John Russell's Bury Premier Duke by Harold, who was looking very well, and is a well put together horse and good all round stallion. He could not, however, get before such strong opponents. Messrs. Forshaw and Sons' was highly commended, the Eastern Emperor, a very good horse, bred by Mr. Howell and got by Blythewood Conqueror. He stands in very good feet, and puts Mr. James Hay's Buscot Cedric by Lord Arthur, another horse standing well on his legs, and put together properly was also highly commended, and Mr. Russell's second entry Buy Blood Royal also looked remarkably well, so that the class, though weak numerically, was very strong as regards calibre.

The three-year-old class was stronger all round, and some half dozen very good colts were doing battle here. Mr. J. P. Cross's London winner and second for the junior championship, however, was easy winner. He seems to have developed a lot since London, and with his capital legs and quality, as well as substance, will take a great deal of beating. Next to him stood Mr. P. A. Muntz's Dunsmore Kipling, a big and good class black horse by Jeroboam out of the good mare Dunsmore Elegance, and Mr. W. Richardson procided a very good colt and promising as a sire in Normoor Statesman, bred by Sir James Blyth and got by Blythwood Conqueror, who was placed third. He is big, and has good back and limbs, as well as standing nicely in the field. Another famous colt from the same stud was sent by Prince Harold, was recommended, whilst Mr. Gee and Mr. A. Ransom were each highly commended for very useful colts indeed got by a very weighty good hunter horse, was

The two-year-old class was a very weak one every way, the first prize going to Commodore, shown by Mr. P. A. Muntz and bred by Mr. Parnell. He was a high priced purchase at Mr. Parnell's sale last autumn, and has stood well since. Mr J. P. Cross came second with another colt, well balanced, cut, and good in his quality got by Blythwood Emperor, Mr. Simpson's Extra Heirloom, a very weighty good hunter horse, was placed third, and Mr. Thos. Stokes was recommended for Danesfield Taxpayer, a nice quality colt by Traitor. The championship was then decided, the honour going to Mr. J. P. Cross's three-years-old Lockinge Forest King, and the second to Mr. P. A. Muntz's Commodore.

Judges.

Hunters': Mr. Thos. Bradley, Uffington, Stamford. Hackneys: Sir Gilbert Greenhall, Bart., Walton Hall, Warrington. Shires: Mr. C. R. Chamberlain, Riddings Farm, Alfreton: Mr. Wm. Howkins, Hilmorton Grounds, Rugby.

Prize List.

CLASS I. (given by the Society).—To the owner of the best thorough-bred stallion or stallion by a registered hunter sire, of any age, suitable for getting hunters, £10; second prize, £5.—1, E. Hawkes, Brampton, Huntingdon (Old Coin); 2, H. Martin, Sewstern, Buckminster, Grantham (Upsilon); h. c., Guy Fenwick, North Luffenham Hall, Stamford (Prince Barcaldine); r., Thos. Constable, Stud Company, Castle Bytham, Grantham (Bentinck).

HACKNEY STALLIONS.

CLASS II. (given by the Society).—To the owner of the best hackney stallion, of any age, £10; second prize, £5.—1, R. G. Heaton, The Ferry, Chatteris, Cambs (Scoreby Swell); 2, John Rowell, Bury, Huntingdon (Rosellan); h. c., W. J. Robb, Burnt Fen, Mildenhall, Suffolk (Active Forest King); r., the Exors. of the late Mr. Thos. Wing, March, Cambs (Danegelt's Surprise).

CLASS III. (given by the Society)—To the owner of the best shire stallion, four years old and upwards, £10; secon prize, £5; third prize, £3.—1, Messrs. J. Forshaw and Sons, Carlton-on-Trent, Newark, Notts (King Holt); 2, P. A. Muntz, M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby (Watnall Merry Lad); 3, John Rowell (Bury Premier Duke); h. c., Messrs. J. Forshaw and Sons, Carlton-on-Trent, Newark, Notts. (Eastern Emperor); James Heys, Yaxley, Peterborough (Buscot Cedric); r., John Rowell, Bury Huntingdon (Bury Blood Royal).

CLASS IV. (given by the Society).—To the owner of the best shire stallion, foaled in 1899, £10; second prize, £5; third prize, £3.—1, J. P. Cross, Catthorpe Towers, Rugby (Lockinge Forest King); 2, P. A. Muntz, M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby (Dunsmore Kipling); 3, Wm. Richardson (Normoor Statesman); h. c., Thos. Gee, Thorney, Peterborough (Wrydelands Surprise); A Ransom, Hitchin, Herts (Blythwood Convoy); r., Wm. Richardson, Doddington, Cambs (Normoor Victor).

CLASS V. (given by the Society).—To the owner of the best shire stallion, foaled in 1900, and eligible for the Stud Book, £8; second prize, £4; third prize, £2.—1, P. A. Muntz, M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby (Commodore); J. P. Cross, Catthorpe Towers, Rugby (Conqueror's Boy); 3, R. Simpson, Wilbarston, Market Harborough (Exton Heirloom); r., Thos. Stokes, Warmington, Oundle (Danesfield Taxpayer).

CHAMPION PRIZE.—To the best shire stallion, in any of the classes—The Society's Silver Medal, Mr. Cross's Lockinge Forest King; r., Mr. Muntz's Commodore.

The Shire Horse Society's Gold Medal.—Mr. Cross's Lockinge Forest ing; r., Mr. Muntz's Commodore.

To the breeder of the winner of the gold medal, £5 (given by the Shire Horse Society).—Lady Wantage.

Norwich Stallion Show.

The Norfolk Agricultural Society's Annual Spring Show of Shire and Hackney Stallions was held on Saturday at the Agricultural Hall, Norwich, when the number of entries of shires was the largest on record, viz., 23, the Hackneys being the same as last year—18. The attendance of spectators was very large and a decided improvement on that of last year, when, however, the weather was very rough, whereas on Saturday it was most favourable. This undoubtedly accounted in some measure for the increased attendance; still, the show is the first, and the most important on the list of exhibitions of its kind in the eastern counties. And it grows every year in the appreciation of those interested in the breeding and rearing of high-class animals. The judges were:—Shires: Mr. T. B. Freshney, South Somercotes, South Lincs.; and Mr. Joseph Paisley, Sandy Hants. Hackneys: Mr. Phil. M. Browne, Fornham, Bury St. Edmund's; and Mr. Alfred Craggy, Newbald, Brough, Yorks.

The first class in the catalogue was for Shire stallions four years old and over, and they numbered 12, three of the 15 entries failing to put in an appearance. They formed a grand collection, amongst them being some that held their own at the Shire Horse Society's Show. Mr. R. Walpole Palmer, Swafield House Stud Farm, North Walsham, carried off the premier honour with Burston Pride, 16574, a fine bay by Fear None, which was a prize-winner at the recent exhibition at the Agricultural Hall. The second prize went to Madresfield Thumper, 17463, a massive well-formed grey, exhibited by Mr. Richard Allen, St. Germans. Mr. E. S. Gowing, Great Melton, was awarded third for Watnell Prince Harold II., 16458, by Prince Harold, a well-made brown, while the fourth was awarded to Duncan III., son of Albert Edward, belonging to Mr. E. S. Stock, by no means a stranger to the prize ring, and he has brought a whole list of honours to the Stud Farm, Bradfield, Manningtree. He was rather unlucky on Saturday in being unable to appear in the ring in his old form, having met with an accident which made him limp somewhat. D'Arcy Royal Harold, 17920, a bay, shown by Mr. Henry Bultitoft, was reserved and highly commended. The next class was for three-year-old Shire stallions, and here again there was a fine array, eight grand animals coming into the ring. Blythwood Ray, 18535, a very handsome son of the celebrated Blythwood Conqueror, caught the eye of the judges, who placed him first. Blythwood Ray, a dark bay 17 h.h., was bred by Sir James Blyth, Bart., and was purchased for 300 guineas at this year's Shire Horse Show at Islington, by Mr. Trenham J. Cresswell, Aldeby Grange, Beccles. The second prize in the class went to Bodenham Sherlock, 18540, a dark bay sire Sheriff, exhibited by Mr. Horace Westrup, Heckingham Lodge; Mr. Alfred Lewis being awarded third for his Heacham Conqueror, by Pratt's Pirate King. Then came the tussle for the championship, which excited the greatest possible interest. The contest lay between Mr. R. W. Palmer's six-year-old Burston Pride, the winner in the first class, and Mr. Trenham J. Cresswell's Blythwood Ray, the winner in the three-year-old class. The judges were unable to agree, and Mr. Alfred Craggy, one of the Hackney judges, was called in as umpire. This gentleman decided in favour of the younger horse amidst a demonstration on the part of the lookers-on which showed that the awarding of the special, for the best Shire, to Blythwood Ray, was a popular verdict.

The Hackneys were without exception of a style and character worthy of the county, which has a world-wide reputation for its trotting cobs. In the first class, which was for stallions, four years old and over, above 15 hands high, there was a sharp fight between Leyswood Speculation, 7155, chestnut, foaled 1897, sire Speculation, exhibited by Mr. Alfred Lewis, Heacham, and Generosity, 5634, another chestnut, by Danegelt, shown by Mr. Garrett Taylor, Trowse House Norwich. The services of Mr. John Rolfe, Carleton Forehoe, had to be invoked, and this gentleman gave the premier honour to Leyswood Speculation, which was sixth at the Hackney Show at Islington this year in a class of 42. The third prize was awarded to Mr. R. W. Palmer's Brompton Hero, 7379, by Garton Hero. There was a corresponding class for stallions four years old and over 15 hands high and under, and here five good movers showed themselves off to advantage. Manifred, 5301, a chestnut, foaled 1893, by Connaught, exhibited by Mr. E. C. Chapman, Alethorpe Stud Farm, Fakenham, took the first place, a position assigned to him last year; whilst the second honours fell to Mr. F. Childerhouse's Sir Herbert, sire MSS., which took first at Dereham last year, as well as in 1900.

There was a grand lot of three-year-olds, and as one or two had come fresh from the London Show, and were pitted against each other, the greatest interest was manifested in the judging. The winner was eventually found in Mr. Joseph Morton's Gold Galore, 7460, by Goldfinder VI., an upstanding chestnut of the stamp likely to find favour in Norfolk. Chestnut, by the way, was rather the prominent colour in the ring, and the second prize was assigned to another, Sedgeford Gay Lad, by Rosador, exhibited by Mr. John N. Anthony, Sedgeford. This horse, too, showed the good points of a Hackney in style and character. Prince Langton, 7958, a very handsome dark brown, by Garton Duke of Connaught, attracted a good deal of notice as a new comer into the district. He was purchased by Mr. E. S. Stock, of Bradfield, of Mr. T. Hall, Langton, after the Islington Show, where he had secured third honours in a big class. He took a like position on Saturday, his action, symmetry, and style being much admired. Then followed the contest for the Hackney Society's silver medal for the best Hackney. It lay between Mr. Chapman's Manifred and Mr. Morton's Gold Galore. The choice fell upon the former, who also took the special prize offered by Colonel E. P. Mackenzie, as the best sire for producing high-stepping cobs, an honour that has been conferred upon him five years in succession. Mr. Garrett Taylor's Generosity was the reserved animal.

PIGS.

Sale of Large Blacks at Ipswich.

The third annual sale of Large Black pigs at Ipswich was held on Friday, the auctioneers being Messrs. Spurling and Sons, in conjunction with Mr. Ernest Prentice, the secretary of the Large Black Pig Society. The importance attached to the sale was evidenced by the very large attendance of breeders from all parts of the country. The catalogue contained about 100 lots, and the number would undoubtedly have been much larger but for the active demand which has sprung up for the Large Blacks, not only at home, but abroad. The list of consignors included gentlemen who have not only formed herds, but have been active members of the Large Black Pig Society, a prosperous organisation, which is evidently doing very much to popularise the breed. Mr. Godfrey Hempson, in opening the sale, said a very nice lot of swine had been penned. The numbers were rather short compared with previous years, due in a measure to the fact of there not being so many young pigs consigned. He thought they would agree with him that they had on that occasion some fine specimens of the breed of Large Blacks from the best herds in the district. It was satisfactory to know that there had been a great demand for this class of animal, not only in this country, but from abroad, purchases having also been made during the last six months for New South Wales, Tasmania, Austria, and Spain. He might mention that in connection with no other class of pigs had there been so many animals registered within the short time that the Large Black Pig Society had been established. As a matter of fact, there were owners of registered herds in no less than twenty-three counties at the present time. Mr. M. G. Hale (Claydon) sent four sows farrowed in April, 1901, which stood first in the catalogue; two, by Hinton Duke, made 6½gs. and 6½gs. respectively, to Mr. Silvester Sills (Warwickshire), while Mr. M. M. Mitchell (Ipswich) secured another by the same sire at 5gs.; but the pick of the bunch was Lot 4, which went to Mr. J. Aldam (Derbyshire) at 8½gs. A sow farrowed in July of the same year, sire Tunstall Black Boy, sent by Mr. John Goddard, of Tunstall, went to Mr. Mitchell for 5gs. There was a large collection of gilts. Eleven were sent by Mr. Thomas Goodchild, of Great Yeldham; three, farrowed in June, by Black Akenham, made £4 10s., £4 10s., and £4, to Mr. Sidney Traylen, Mr. Harper Dobson, and Mr. Ruffel; while the next four, farrowed a week or two later, ranged from £5 to £3, the purchasers being Mr. S. R. Sherwood, Mr. A. E. Hart (Saffrom Walden), and Mr. Jewers. Another was secured by Mr. W. Freeman at 4gs. Mr. John Goddard (Tunstall) had two gilts, farrowed in July, 1901, both of which were taken by Mr. Aldam at 5½gs. Mr. G. P. Watkins (Culpho) consigned a nice gilt, farrowed September, 1901, by Culpho Black Prince, which fetched 7½gs., others making 4¾gs., £3 5s., and £3, the buyers including Messrs. J. and H. Robinson (Sussex), and Mr. Dawson. Five belonging to Mr. A. H. Cobbald (Elder House, Bury), by Eldo Baron, realised £4 5s., £4, £3 15s., and £3, to Mr. Freeman, Mr. Brook, Mr. Ruffel, Mr. Robinson, and Mr. Jewers. The boars were next offered, Mr. Ernest Prentice wielding the hammer. Mr. C. W. Haward, of Wenham, sent a nice animal, farrowed in May, 1901, bred by Mr. A. H. Cobbald, of Eldo House, sire Offton Nablan, which was secured at 9gs. by Mr. S. R. Sherwood. Tunstall Black Joe, by Tunstall Black Boy, sent by Mr. John Goddard, sold for 6¾gs., to Mr. J. Thistleton Smith (for Mr. E. F. Quilter). Two boars sent by Mr. S. T. Traylon made 5gs. and 5½gs. These were the best prices. The other consignors included Mr. R. Eaton White, Messrs. W. Brooks and Sons, Mr. A. S. Mann, Mr. A. J. Burgess (Braham Hall), Mr. Percy Turner, and Mr. E. F. Quilter.

Malton Palmsun Entire Horse Show.—The annual show of entire horses intended to travel the district in the current season was held at Malton on Saturday. The best show of thoroughbreds was made from the Birdsall Stud—and, in fact, of Shires as well, for in both classes Lord Middleton had no fewer than a dozen good horses forward. Both Lord and Lady Middleton were present at the show. The blood horses from Birdsall were the ex-Queen's premium sire Hindley, Thurio's son Red Eagle, and a recent purchase of his lordship's, Wales, a light chestnut, with good quarters, standing 16 hands. Though named Wales, he is far better known on the Irish racecourses. Coachers and Cleveland sires were, as usual, few and select, but there were half-a-dozen useful ones. Mr. George Scoby, of the Beadlam Grange Stud, showed two taking youngsters in Beadlam Prior (a Cleveland) and King of Beadlam) a real Yorkshire coacher, by King Frederick), the latter well known in the prize ring. Mr. Kitching's (Pickering) raking brown horse was also present, and one or two others helped to make a better show of coachers than usual. Shires and agricultural stallions generally were the smallest show seen at Malton for some years.



Mr. Cole Ambrose's Shire.

On Wednesday Messrs. Sexton, Grimwade, and Beck disposed of between fifty and sixty Shire horses, the property of Mr. Cole, Stuntney Hall, Ely. The stud is very well known, as is also its owner, who is one of the largest horse breeders in the country, his stud of Shires and Hackneys consisting of over 300 animals. A very successful sale of animals from this stud was held several years ago. On that occasion the attendance of buyers was very large, and so it was again on Wednesday, when between 400 and 500 visitors partook of the excellent luncheon which preceded the sale. As to the animals offered, it may be said that they were nearly all bred by the owner, and were brought out in capital condition. The old Fen strains, for which the district is famous, were well represented, coupled with the best Derbyshire blood, several of those coming into the ring being out of mares by Derbyshire Lad. Mr. Arthur C. Beck, who wielded the hammer, in opening the sale, observed that every animal coming into the ring would be submitted without reserve. It was not often that there was a sale at which so many horses came into the ring which were all bred by one owner. It was, therefore, essentially a breeders' sale, and he (Mr. Beck) trusted that it would prove highly satisfactory. Some very good prices were realised, 100 guineas being exceeded on three occasions. The top figure of the sale was 150 guineas, which sum Mr. G. Cooper Chandler had to bid before he could get the four-year-old mare Stuntney Priscilla, a bay by Thicket Result. The next highest price was 130 guineas, and this was paid by Mr. Newton Jackson for the brood mare Stuntney Lady II., a black foaled in 1897, sire Ely Harold; whilst Mr. Crompton Roberts paid 110 guineas for Stuntney Griselda II., a chestnut brood mare, foaled in 1897, by Stuntney Marmion. A full list of the other animals sold, together with the prices realised, purchasers' names, etc., is appended:—

BROOD MARES.

	Gs.
Stuntney May 2nd, bay, f 1897, s Juvenal ... Mr. C. Kevil	44
Stuntney Charlotte, brown, f 1896, s Stuntney Spark ... Mr. J. Martin	82
Stuntney Gaiety, brown, f 1896, s Stuntney Spark ... Mr. Winterbottam	41
Stuntney Winifred, brown, f 1896, s Stuntney Spark ... Mr. Winterbottam	48
Stuntney Clytie, bay, f 1896, s Stuntney Spark ... Messrs. Moore and Son	54
Stuntney Theodora, bay, f 1896, s Salisbury ... Mr. Phillips	56
Stuntney Cecilia 2nd, bay, f 1897, s Juvenal ... Mr. Harris	37
Highfield Dart, bay, f 1895, s Bury Swell ... Marquis of Winchester	85
Stuntney Candacre 2nd, black, f 1897, s Juvenal ... Mr. Franklin	56
Stuntney Griselda 2nd, chestnut, f 1897, s Stuntney Marmion ... Mr. Crompton Roberts	110
Stuntney Lady 2nd, black, f 1897, s Ely Harold (a prize-winner) ... Mr. Newton Jackson	130
Stuntney Belinda, bay, f 1897, s Stuntney Marmion ... Colonel Chester Masters	68

FOUR-YEAR-OLD MARES.

Stuntney Jess, brown, s Thicket Result ... Mr. Winterbottam	43
Stuntney Ruth, brown, s Thicket Result ... Mr. Winterbottam	42
Stuntney Salome, black, s Thicket Result ... Mr. Whittome	47
Stuntney Mildred, bay, s Thicket Result ... Mr. Jewell	68
Stuntney Balsam, bay, s Juvenal ... Mr. G. Cooper Chandler	150
Stuntney Priscilla, bay, s Thicket Result ... Mr. Phillips	85
Stuntney Ursula, bay, s Juvenal ... Mr. Whittome	39
Stuntney Cord, brown, s Thicket Result ... Mr. F. Ward	55
Stuntney Judith, bay, s Juvenal ... Mr. Hobbs	35
Stuntney Phyllis, bay, s Thicket Result ... Mr. F. Beldham	90
Stuntney Allegra, bay, s Juvenal ... Mr. Gayford	37
Stuntney Zilla, black, s Juvenal ... Mr. Hobbs	51
Stuntney Dorcas, bay, s Thicket Result ... Mr. A. Beldham	48
Stuntney Janet, brown, s Juvenal ... Mr. Whittome	74
Stuntney Esther, bay, s Juvenal ... Mr. Flanders	60

STALLIONS.

Stuntney Victor, brown, f 1900, s Stuntney Theodore ... Mr. Bennett	36
Stuntney Hereward, brown, f 1900, s Stuntney Theodore ... Mr. F. Beldham	35

THREE-YEAR-OLD FILLIES.

Stuntney Alberta, bay, s Juvenal ... Mr. Hollington	64
Stuntney Alice, bay, s Stuntney Theodore ... Mr. Long	39
Stuntney Bergh, bay, s Stuntney Theodore ... Mr. Homer	31
Stuntney Briar Rose, bay, s Juvenal ... Mr. Homer	52
Stuntney Columbine, brown, s Markeaton Prime Minister ... Mr. Smalley	38
Stuntney Consuelo, bay, s Stuntney Theodore ... Mr. F. Beldham	48
Stuntney Doreen, brown, s Markeaton Prime Minister ... Mr. Long	38
Stuntney Hilda, brown, s Markeaton Prime Minister ... Mr. Hobbs	40
Stuntney Julia, bay, s Stuntney Theodore ... Mr. Ward	57
Stuntney Marguerite, bay, s Juvenal ... Mr. Smalley	42
Stuntney Marjorie, black, s Markeaton Prime Minister ... Mr. Chandler	39
Stuntney Mopsa, bay, s Juvenal ... Mr. J. E. Stockdale	33
Stuntney Myra, bay, s Juvenal ... Mr. Mawbey	60
Stuntney Myrtle, bay, s Stuntney Theodore ... Mr. Leonard	35
Stuntney Rosemary, bay, s Stuntney Theodore ... Mr. Homer	38
Stuntney Thais, black, s Markeaton Prime Minister ... Mr. Wright	44
Stuntney Eleanor, bay, s Stuntney Theodore ... Mr. Preece	54
Stuntney Bugloss, bay, s Stuntney Theodore ... Mr. Preece	86

TWO-YEAR-OLD FILLIES.

Stuntney Rosabelle, bay, s Somersham Hatherton ... Mr. C. T. Ambrose	66
Stuntney Taranar, bay, s Stuntney Theodore ... Mr. Taylor	24
Stuntney Deborah, brown, s Juvenal ... Mr. Jackson	31
Stuntney Melissa, bay, s Sopwell Dynamite ... Mr. Starling	46
Stuntney Rhoda, dark bay, s Stuntney Theodore ... Mr. Pratt	29
Stuntney Bona, bay, s Stuntney Theodore ... Mr. Sandifer	25
Stuntney Aldahella, brown, s Stuntney Theodore ... Mr. F. Beldham	24
Stuntney Gertrude, bay, s Juvenal ... Mr. Hollington	68
Stuntney Agneta, bay, s Juvenal ... Mr. Bennett	24
Stuntney Paulina, bay, s Stuntney Theodore ... Mr. Parsons	54
Stuntney Vashti, black s Sopwell Dynamite ... Mr. Jackson	45
Stuntney Rizpah, bay, s Sopwell Dynamite ... Mr. Harmer	33
Stuntney Rosina, black, s Sopwell Dynamite ... Mr. C. Ambrose	30
Stuntney Tabitha, black, s Sopwell Dynamite ... Mr. Smalley	32
Stuntney Bernice, chestnut, s Juvenal ... Mr. S. Taylor	50
Stuntney Michel, chestnut, s Juvenal ... Mr. S. Taylor	56
Stuntney Judith, bay, s Sopwell Dynamite ... Mr. Hobbs	62

Good Prices for Shires at Peterborough.

A three days' sale of pedigree Shire horses was held at Peterborough Repository last week, by Messrs. Secton, Grimwade, and Beck. The first day was Thursday, when about 100 stallions were offered. The animals were from well-known studs, among those sending consignments being his Majesty the King, the Earl of Ellesmere, Lord Bolton, Lord Middleton, Sir S. B. Crossley, M.P., Mr. Victor Cavendish, M.P., Mr. F. Griffin, Mr. John Rowell, Messrs. Freshney, Messrs. N. Lister and Sons (Doncaster), Mr. S. Proctor (Holbeach), Mr. J. Law (Doncaster), Mr. G. Sowersby (Rotherham), Mr. R. S. Hand (Wainfleet), Mr. W. Northing (Gainsborough), Mr. J. Todd (Kirby, Lincoln), etc. There was a good attendance of buyers, and some high prices were obtained. Mr. Victor Cavendish, M.P., sent Hendre Crown Prince, a magnificent bay, foaled in 1895, sire Prince Harold, and the winner of many whilst Mr. Park paid 160gs. for Mr. John Roowell's prizes. He was briskly bid for, and it was not till the figure had reached 210gs. that he was finally knocked down, the purchaser being Mr. Balderston. His Majesty the King was represented by Holdfast, a bay three years old, for which Mr. Tyzack gave 185gs. Ashby Victor, another three year old, sent by Mr. C. Faulkner, of Rugby, was bought by Mr. Fowler for 175gs., whilst Mr. Par kpaid 160gs. for Mr. John Rowell's Granford Chief, a bay foaled in 1897. Mr. F. W. Griffin's Boro' Tom, a bay two-year-old, went to Mr. Parnell for 155gs., and Mr. J. Bradley's Halstead Harold, a brown two-year-old, to Mr. Reed, for 145gs. Lord Middleton's four-year-old, Rokeby Brutus, produced 125gs., the purchaser being Mr. Hicks. A three-figure price was also attained in the case of Whaley Conqueror, a two-year-old, consigned by Mrs. M. R. Aldham, of Whaley Hall, Mansfield, Mr. Edwards being the buyer at 100gs. The other chief prices are given below.

On the second day the catalogue comprised eighty mares and fillies. There was again a good attendance of buyers, and a satisfactory trade, though no very high prices were realised. The highest price was 105gs., realised for a mare, the same sum also being got for a two-year-old filly by Menestrel, forward from Lord Middleton's stud.

Stallions.

TWO-YEAR-OLDS.

	Gs.
Whaley Conqueror, bay f. 1900 (Mrs. M. R. Aldham, Mansfield) ... Mr. Edwards	100
Whaley King Tom, black f. 1900 (ditto) Mr. Climover	52
Boro' William, black f. 1900 (Mr. F. W. Griffin) ... Mr. C. E. Ivatt	50
Boro' Tom, bay f. 1900 (ditto) ... Mr. J. Parnell	155
Fole Briton, bay f. 1900 (Mr. J. Bailey) ... Mr. W. Cross	51
Broughton Majestic, bay f. 1900 (Mr. J. How) ... Mr. R. Carter	70
Halstead Harold, brown f. 1900 (Mr. J. Bradley) ... Mr. P. C. Reed	145
Alston Victor, bay f. 1900 (Executors of the late Mr. J. Mercer) ... Mr. Cross	70

THREE-YEAR-OLDS.

Redlynch Stonewall, grey f. 1899 Mr. Hamer Towgood) ... Mr. C. Pryke	50

Norman Brown, f. 1899 (Mr. M. C. Johnson) ..... Mr. E. Wilson 90
Gores Craftsman, bay, f. 1899 (Mr. J. E. Morton) ..... Mr. Rush 50
Dunsmore Kelso, bay f. 1899 (Messrs. H. J. and H. G. Martin ..... Mr. Phillips 58
Ashby Victor, brown f. 1899 (Mr. C. Faulkner) ..... Mr. Fowler 175
Black Hero, black, f. 1899 (Mr. H. Spurrier) ..... Mr. Abbott 90

FOUR-YEAR-OLDS.

Rokeby Brutus, brown, f. 1898 (Lord Middleton) ..... Mr. Hicks 125
Morborne Prince, bay, f. 1898 (Messrs. Wallis and Cheney, Wryde, and Morborne) ..... Mr. Jones 70

FIVE YEARS OLD AND UPWARDS.

Hendre Crown Prince, bay, f. 1895 (Mr. V. C. W. Cavendish, M.P.) ..... Mr. Balderston 210
Rubicon Hothfield, bay, f. 1891 (Earl of Ellesmere) ..... Mr. Statter 66
Premier Salisbury, bay, f. 1896 (Messrs. Heading, Langley, and Hudson) ..... Mr. Johnson 72
Jacobite, black, f. 1897 (Mr. A. C. Norman) ..... Mr. Bryant 50
Merryman VIII., brown, f. 1895 (Mr. S. Mumford) ..... Mr. Neave 82

COLT.

Bay colt, f. 1900 (Messrs. Wakefield Bros.) .. Mr. Fowler 160

The Late Mr. Leonard Dodsworth's Shires.

The small stud of Shire horses established by the late Mr. Leonard Dodsworth, of Wheldrick, near York, and since in the hands of Mr. Sutton-Lowe, who is relinquishing it in consequence of being ordered to South Africa with the 3rd Lincolnshire Regiment, was disposed of by Messrs. Richardson and Pearce-Brown on Friday. A chestnut Shire brood mare by Mepal Wonder realised £54 12s.; a five-year-old bay Shire mare, Trimmer, by Thicket Hero, made £45 3s.; a four-year-old Shire mare by Lecke Pioneer reached £58 16s.; a two-year-old Shire colt by Thicket Wedger made £26 5s.; and a yearling colt by the same horse realised £17 17s.

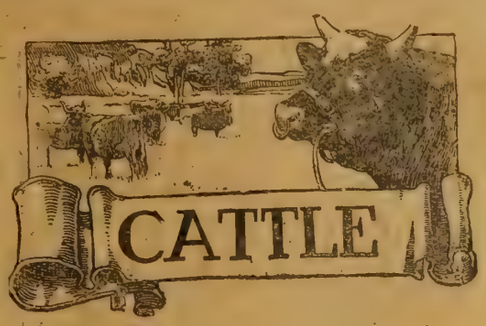
Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending March 18, 1902:—

Swine Fever	Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.	No.	97	425 421 304	1,909	2,457 4,259 7,274		
	Outbreaks.	No.	30	60 28 38	345	470 372 498		
Rabies.	Cases Reported. Oth'r Anim'ls.	No.	...	... ...	...	1		
	Cases Reported. Dogs.	No.	1	1	6	1		
Pleuro-Pneumonia.	Cattle Slghted. Exposed to Infection.	No.	...	... ...	...	... ...		
	Cattle Slghted. Diseased.	No.	...	... ...	...	... ...		
	Outbreaks.	No.	...	... ...	...	... ...		
Glanders (incl. farcy).	Animals Attacked.	No.	32	36 37 43	489	485 420 285		
	Outbreaks.	No.	22	22 22 21	239	264 220 155		
Foot-and-Mouth Disease.	Animals Attacked.	No.	...	... ...	...	652 99 ...		
	Outbreaks.	No.	...	... ...	...	10 7 ...		
Anthrax.	Animals Attacked.	No.	42	15 15 23	321	198 173 204		
	Outbreaks.	No.	13	13 11 11	181	139 116 109		
Period.				Week ended Mar. 15, 1902 ...	Corresponding week in (1901 / 1900 / 1899)	Total for 11 weeks, 1902 ...	Corresponding period in (1901 / 1900 / 1899)	

NOTE.—The figures for the current Year are approximate only.

Herefordshire Cider Merchant Hoaxed.—Ernest Longford, cider merchant, sued S. de Wett, a Birmingham commercial traveller, in the Hereford County Court, on Tuesday, for £1 11s. 6d. for cider supplied. The plaintiff last year had a stand at the Royal Agricultural Show at Cardiff. The defendant, with some friends, called upon him, drank some cider, and, as well as one of his friends, gave an order. The defendant now said this could hardly be so, inasmuch as he was a life-long teetotaller. The whole thing was a joke. One of his friends said: "You had better send this bounder some as well," and gave his address. Plaintiff said the defendant himself gave his address. A witness called for the defence said the whole thing was a joke. Plaintiff was nonsuited.



Northumberland Agricultural Society's Bull Show and Sale.

The annual show and sale of Shorthorn, Aberdeen Angus, and Galloway cattle, held under the auspices of the Northumberland Agricultural Society, at Berwick-on-Tweed, took place on the 15th inst., under most favourable climatic conditions. The arrangement of the classes was similar to that of last year, prizes being given for two ages of pedigree animals in each of the Shorthorn and Aberdeen Angus breeds, but Galloway bulls were also brought within the prize-list this year. The total number catalogued was 123, being half-a-dozen more than last year, but twelve of the animals were not forward, and one was withdrawn, leaving 110 to dispose of. The stock passed through the ring comprised 58 Shorthorn bulls, 5 Shorthorn heifers, 23 Aberdeen Augus bulls, 15 polled heifers, and 9 Galloway bulls. The largest consigner of Shorthorn bulls was Mr. Nichol (Belford), who had five, and Sir James Miller, of Manderston, Mr. Bell (Ratcheugh, Alnwick), and Mr. Hogg (Old Graden, Kelso), each sent four; while the principal exposers in the polled section were Messrs. Glaholme Brothers (Beal), who were represented by 17 Aberdeen Angus bulls and 14 heifers. The judging was carried on simultaneously in two rings, Mr. T. H. Hutchinson (Manor House, Catterick) dealing with the Shorthorns, and Mr. H. Lindsay (Home Farm, Glamis) adjudicating upon the Aberdeen Angus and Galloway cattle. While there was nothing of outstanding merit in any of the classes, there were some good, serviceable bulls of a useful type.

There was a large attendance at the sale, but trade was rather dull and slow, and prices were low, the top for Shorthorns being 32gs., as against 40gs., last year, and for Aberdeen-Angus bulls, 28gs., the same as last year. Prices for Shorthorns were from £2 to £4 less than last year; the black polls showed a decrease of a little over £1: and the general average over the whole sale was lower by £4 7s. 6d. Only sixteen of the Shorthorns and two of the Aberdeen Angus bulls reached 20gs., while none of the Galloways made that figure. Continuing their practice of providing a certain number of pedigree bulls for the use of members at almost nominal charges, the directors of the Society expended 73gs. in purchasing three Shorthorns, including the Manderston first-prize taker at the top price of the sale, and these will be located during the season in different parts of the county.

In the class for Shorthorn bulls under fourteen months old there were 26 entries, and here Sir James Miller was first for the third year in succession, the prizes being divided between the Manderston herd and that of Mr. A. E. Nichol (Bradford, Belford). The first-prize taker was Manderston Masher, a neat red, by the Legars bull, Aspirant, a bull of great length and depth, and very fine quality. He was purchased by Mr. Bain (Legars), for the Northumberland Society, at 32gs. The fourth-prize bull, also belonging to Sir James Miller, was Manderston Master, a big, strong red bull, by the same sire. He has a deal of substance for his age, and brought 29gs., his purchaser being Mr. Rutherford (Rumbleton Law). These two bulls were awarded the special prize as the best pair of the breed. The whole of Mr. Nichol's consignment of five were by Morning Star, a bull which was first at this show three years ago. The animal from this herd placed second was Wizard, a roan of nice quality, and he pressed the first bull very closely, and made such a good appearance in the ring that he realised the same price (32gs.) which was paid by Mr. Dobie (Enzieholm). Newminster, belonging to Mr. Nichol, was placed third, and was secured for the Northumberland Society at 21gs. These two bulls got the reserve ticket in the competition for the best pair. Others entered in the class realised from 29gs. to 20gs. Only four yearling bulls, between fourteen and eighteen months, were



THE PEN OF CHEVIOT SHEEP shown above was awarded the Silver Cup for the best pen of Cheviots at the London Smithfield Club's Show last December, and also won First Prize in the class for pens of three fat wether sheep of the Cheviot breed above twelve months old. At the time of the show these animals were nineteen months old, and were exhibited by their breeder, Mr. J. McDowall of Girdstingwood, Kirkcudbright, N.B.

A political friend of mine, who has been entered, and they were just a middling lot. Mr. Cruddas (Haughton Castle) was easily first with Rose Duke, a roan by Waterloo Cherry, a useful-looking bull, which was sold at 21gs. to Mr. George Moffat (Acklington). The second prize went to Mrs. Grey (Callaby Castle), for Carley, a small but neat roan, which was taken out by Mr. Grey (Woodholm) at 18gs.; while the third-prize bull, Autumn Tint, sold at 17gs. to Mr. George Armstrong (Newcastle). In the class for bulls over eighteen months old, for which no prizes were offered, there were five animals, and prices ranged from 15gs. to 21gs., the latter sum being paid by Mr. Neüendam (Newcastle) for a two-year-old belonging to Mr. Storey (Longhorsley). The non-pedigree Shorthorns numbered twenty-three, and the best prices were obtained for two roans belonging to Mr. Thompson (Cleughbrae, Otterburn), the first-prize taker, a lengthy, well-fleshed specimen—going at 25gs. to Mr. Adamson (Kirkhill), and the other, which was placed fifth, at 21gs., to Mr. Elliot (Beechfield). Messrs. C. Trotter and Son, Ltd. (Chirnside), were second and fourth; and Mr. R. W. Stobbs (Ontchester Manor, Belford) was third. Of the five pedigree Shorthorn heifers sold the highest price was made by Albemarle Princess III., a well-bred heifer, which only brought 14½gs., and the other prices ranged down to 10gs.

Aberdeen Angus bulls numbered 23, or ten fewer than last year, and in this section Messrs. Glaholme Brothers (Windmill Hill, Beal) made a

clean sweep of the prizes with a lot of thick, typical, well-bred young bulls. There were ten animals in the class for bulls not exceeding twelve months, and six of these belonged to Messrs. Glaholme, who repeated their victory of last year with the same class of stock. The first-prize calf was Beautifier of Beal, a sweet specimen, sired by Gentleman. He sold at 18gs. to Mr. Stowart (Kilham, Cornhill). Laureate, a strong bull, by President of Benton, was placed second, and he brought 17gs., his buyer being Mr. Adams (Thornton Mains). Masterman, another of the same sire's produce, was third, and sold at 17½gs. to Mr. Patten (Park Farm, Alnwick); the fourth bul was Lodger, by President of Beal, and he was bought by Mr. Foster at 17½gs.; while Lieutenant, the bull placed fifth, and which was sired by Gentleman, made more money than any of the others, being knocked down at 18½gs. to Mr. Porter (Doddington, Wooler). In the class for bulls between twelve and fifteen months there were thirteen forward, and the Beal herd provided nine of them, four being sired by Gentleman and four by President of Benton. As has been already indicated, Messrs. Glaholme secured all the honours. Their first-prize taker was Baronet, of the same strain as the first-prize bull calf, and clearly the best male of the breed on the ground. He made 28gs., the highest price for the breed, his purchaser being Mr. John Smyth (Birgham, Coldstream) who also bought Prior, the fourth bull, at 18gs. The second-prize bull, General, by President of Benton, was purchased at the sale by Mr. Nixon (Backworth) for 24gs. The third-prize bull only brought 16gs., but other two of the lot sold at 18½gs. each. The special prize for the best pair of bulls was awarded to the first and second-prize takers in the older class. A class was provided for bulls over fifteen months, but there were no entries. Of the fifteen Aberdeen Angus heifers sold a dozen were from Messrs. Glaholme's herd. They sold rather cheaply, the prices ranging from 11½gs. to 16gs.

Prizes were given for the first time for Galloway bulls with the view of extending this breed in the north-east of England. They made a fairly good appearance for a beginning, there being nine in the class, which was confined to bulls not over two years old. Mr. Thomas Graham (Marchfield, Dumfries) had easily the best pair, and he was awarded the two prizes for yearlings. His first was Gold Seeker, a typical bull, sold at 15gs to Mr. J. Davidson (Woodhall). The second bull was Grave Suspicion, bred by the Earl of Galloway, and he realised 16gs., his buyer being Mr. Black (Ford Westfield). The other consigners in this class were Earl Grey (Howick), Mr. Fenwick (Berryhill, Norham), and Mr. Marshall (Chatton Park, Belford), and their prices ranged from 10½gs. to 14gs.

The total proceeds of the sale amounted to £1,649 3s. 1d., for 110 animals, as compared with £1,957 14s. 6d., for 101 head of stock, last year. The general average of £14 10s. 10d. compares with H19 7s. 8d. obtained last year.

The Aston-Clinton Sale of Jerseys.

An important sale of Jersey cattle was held at Aston Clinton on Thursday by Mr. Thornton. It included all the prize winners recently exhibited by Lady de Rothschild, among which were many very beautiful specimens. During the year 1901, 16 first and 22 other prizes had been won by the herd, besides which the milk records printed in the catalogue were an additional attraction to buyers. The average of milk yielded by the 34 cows in the herd last season was 569 gallons, from which it will be seen that in this herd at least it has been found possible to combine the two great attributes of the Jersey—beauty and utility. Notwithstanding the inclement weather, a large number of breeders and fanciers were present, and the sale resulted in high prices, that must have been very encouraging to all concerned. The well-known cow, Carol, made the highest price realised at a public auction for many years. After an exciting competition she fell to the bid of Mr. Miller Hallett at 210 gns. Mrs. Ratcliff purchased Lady Rowena, the first-prize cow at the London Dairy Show, at 105 gns.; and also Coralie, a two-year-old heifer, that has not yet been exhibited, at 115 gns.; whilst Wild Rose, a first-prize winner at Tunbridge Wells, brought 110 gns. from Sir Thomas Gooch. As will be seen from the sale list given below, there were many other high figures, and the average of nearly £40 was reached for 56 head:—

COWS AND HEIFERS.

	Gns.
Ramsgate, whole colour, c July 11, 1893, s Skinner 5396 ... Mr. W. H. Allen	22
Nelly May, nearly whole colour, c Jan 18, 1895, s Woodville Pride 5446 ... Mr. Hugh Smith	26
Suspense, nearly whole colour, c March 28, 1896, s Spot's Lad 4389 ... Sir E. Lawson	58
Jolly Brown, whole colour, c June 25, 1896, s Golden Lad 5177 ... Lord Rothschild	97
Longueville Brownie, whole colour, c Jan. 30, 1896, s Houe 5221 ... Sir T. Gooch, Bart.	60
May Queen, whole colour, c May 20, 1896, s Snowball King 7031 ... Mr. C. R. Seymour	16
Mistletoe, broken colour, c March 24, 1897, s Lively 5968 ... Lord Hilton	28
Bellola, whole colour, c March 25, 1897, s Angler, 5454 ... Mr. Brock	25
Peace whole colour c May 24, 1897, s Isinglass 5599 ... Mr. Clark	45
Lisette, whole colour, c Oct. 28, 1897, s Devotion's Boy 6192 ... Mr. Allen	23
Deutzia, broken colour, c Nov. 22, 1897, s Jonathan 5609 ... Mr. Dickson Park	48
Carol, nearly whole colour c April 26 1898 s Chieftain 5829 ... Mr. Miller Hallett	210
Esther, whole colour, c Jan. 11, 1898, s North Pole 5672 ... Mr. H. Smith	35
Magnet, whole colour, c March 28, 1898, s Chestnut Boy 5828 ... Mr. Allen	22
irtue, whole colour, c Feb. 5, 1899, s Pontorson's Lad 6364 ... Sir F. Gooch, Bart.	40
Lady Rowena, whole colour, c March 28, 1899, s Regent 6689 ... Mrs. Ratcliff	105
Ruby, broken colour, c April 15, 1899, s Wigton's Cicero 5769 ... Mr. Allen	21
Wild Rose, whole colour, c May 12, 1899, s Rattler 6030 ... Sir T. Gooch, Bart.	110
Mystery, whole colour, c June 28, 1899, s Pontorson's Lad 6364 ... Lord Hilton	40
Grace Darling, whole colour, c July 16, 1899, s Alicante's Boy 5061 ... Mr. Cooper	27
Leaflet, whole colour, c July 23, 1899, s Pontorson's Lad 6364 ... Mr. Drummond	34
Texture, whole colour, c July 28, 1899, s Pontorson's Lad 6364 ... Mr. Fisher	56
Nesta, whole colour, c Sept. 1, 1899 s Pontorson's Lad 6364 ... Lord Hilton	28
Daisy Chain whole colour, c Nov. 13, 1899, s Pontorson's Lad 6364 ... Lord Hilton	24
Lady, whole colour, c Nov. 17, 1899 s Mon Plaisir 6340 ... Mr. Drummond	32
Catrina, whole colour, c January 18, 1900, s Pontorson's Lad 6364 ... Sir T. Gooch, Bart.	22
Damsel, whole colour, c Feb 11, 1900, s Rattler 6030 ... Sir. T. Gooch, Bart.	28
Young Agnes, whole colour, c March 11, 1900, s Leyland's Champion 6303 ... Mr. Allen	19
Dewberry, whole colour, c April 1, 1900, s Pontorson's Lad 6364 ... Mr. Gosden	19
Modesty, whole colour, c April 12, 1900, s Pontorson's Lad 6364 ... Lord Rothschild	40
Ramsgate II., whole colour, c April 22, 1900, s Pontorson's Lad 6364 ... Mr. Drummond	18
Coralie, whole colour, c April 26, 1900, s Rattler 6030 ... Mrs. Ratcliff	110
Daisy, whole colour, c May 19, 1900, s Bonny Boy II. 6793 ... Mr. R. H. Cobb	23
Clemence II., nearly whole colour, c June 10, 1900, s Geonnais Lad 6562 ... Mr. Bramley Firth	25
Cara, whole colour, c June 19, 1900, s Pontorson's Lad 6364 ... Lord Rothschild	30
Mistletoe II., whole colour, c July 4, 1900, s Pontorson's Lad 6364 ... Mr. Bramley Firth	22
Golden Ray, broken colour, c Sept. 23, 1900, s Bonny Boy II. 6793 ... Lord Rothschild	60
Leona, whole colour, c Oct. 28, 1900, s Pontorson's Lad 6364 ... Major Cooke	21
Dauntless, whole colour, c Jan. 22, 1901; s Pontorson's Lad 6364 ... Sir E. Lawson, Bart.	16
Rambler, whole colour, c Feb. 12, 1901, s Oxford Brigadier ... Mr. Allen	13
Ransom, whole colour, c March 21, 1901, s The Hero ... Lord Rothschild	18
Hopeful, whole colour, April 5, 1901, s Oxford Brigadier ... Duke of Marlborough	15
Pilgrim, whole colour, c April 16, 1901, s Pontorson's Lad 6364 ... Mr. Smith	16
Roselle, whole colour, c May 23, 1901, s Pontorson's Lad 6364 ... Mr. Seymour	10½
Balance, broken colour, c June 4, 1901, s Oxford Brigadier ... Mr. Miller Hallett	51
Monitress, nearly whole colour, c June 9, 1901, s Oxford Brigadier ... Sir E. Lawson, Bart.	18
Menestral, whole colour, c June 17, 1901, s Pontorson's Lad 6364 ... Duke of Marlborough	15
Lady Rotha, whole colour, c July 9, 1901, s Red Rover ... Marquis of Winchester	68
Guelder Rose, whole colour, c July 11, 1901, s Astrologer ... Sir E. Lawson, Bart.	21
Legacy, broken colour, c July 17, 1901, s Oxford Brigadier ... Lord Rothschild	25

BULLS.

Regulator, whole colour, c July 25, 1900, s Pontorson's Lad 6364 ... Sir T. Gooch, Bart.	23
Specialist, whole colour, c Feb 27, 1901, s Pontorson's Lad 6364 ... Mr. Park	34
Majestic, whole colour, c April 2, 1901, s Pontorson's Lad 6364 ... Sir W. Phillimore, Bart.	25
Magician, whole colour, May 22, 1901, s Oxford Brigadier ... Lord Braybrooke	27
Nameless, whole colour, c July 7, 1901, s Pontorson's Lad 6364 ... Mr. Wright	25

SUMMARY.

	Average. £ s. d.		Total. £ s. d.
25 Cows	51 13 2	..	1,291 10 0
13 Heifers	35 14 0	..	464 2 0
12 Calves	25 1 4	..	300 16 6
6 Bulls	25 4 0	..	151 4 0
56 head.	39 8 6	..	2,207 12 6

Sale of Mr. J. E. Platt's Red Polls.

This sale, which had long been spoken of by breeders of this fine old Eastern Counties' breed of cattle, took place on Wednesday last at Howbury Park, Bedford. Mr. Platt has always been a great admirer of these choice cattle, and when Mr. J. J. Colman's celebrated herd was dispersed some years ago he purchased several of the highest-priced lots, including the bull, Champion 5370, who was the winner of seven firsts and two champion prizes. They were first taken to Bruntwood, and afterwards to Howbury. The stock were in beautiful condition. Milk records had been kept for some years, and many of them had been successfully exhibited at the various shows. There was a large company round the farm all the morning, and the grand lot of cows and yearlings were greatly admired.

After the customary luncheon a move was made to the ring side, where many well-known faces were noticed. Lots 1 and 2 made respectively 41 gns. and 31 gns.; and lot 3, Brinhilda, 64 gns., was the first of several to be purchased for Mr. S. A. Converse, of U.S.A., as will be seen from the sale list. Good prices continued to be made for the cows, the principal purchasers being Lady Lonsdale, Lord Radnor, Lord Rothschild, Sir W. Corbet, Sir T. Gooch, Sir Oswald Mosley, Hon. W. F. Smith, and Mr. Garrett Taylor. For lot 30, Sleeping Beauty, a well-known show heifer, winner of five first prizes, Lady Lonsdale's representative gave 260 gns., as well as 80 gns. for the heifer calf, Sweet Rose, lot 41. The bulls also met with a ready demand, the same high price (260 gns.) being given by Sir Thomas Gooch for the two-lear-old bull, Pistol 8558, who was sired by Champion, and won first and reserve for the champion prize at Cardiff last year. An average of over £56 was obtained for 50 head. The auctioneers were Messrs. J. Thornton and Co. We give below a sale list:—

COWS AND HEIFERS.

	Gns.
Red Dolly (N 2) 8907, c Jan. 22, 1893; s Red Prince 2902 ... Lord Radnor	41
Miss Poppy (1 Norf.) 6575, c May 6, 1890; s Cromwell 647 ... Mr. Garrett Taylor	30
Brinhilda (P 3) 8377, c Feb. 12, 1893; s Jupiter 2380 ... Mr. S. A. Converse, U.S.A.	64
Delphine (N 2) 9260, c Feb. 7, 1894; s Jupiter 2380 ... Mr. G. Abraham	19
Girl (O 9) 9377, c Sept. 14, 1894; s Albion 2982 ... Lord Radnor	40
Dido (S 3) 10168, c July 17, 1895; s Sir Garnet 3713 ... Mr. J. Smith	18
Buttermaid (W 10) 11021, c Jan. 4, 1896; s Champion 3030 ... Lady Lonsdale	45
Necklace (I 21) 11610, c June 20, 1896; s Red Prince 2902 ... Lord Radnor	35
Delia (N 2) 12190, c Jan. 19, 1897; s Ruby Prince 4131 ... Mr. S. A. Converse, U.S.A	71
Dodo (N 2) 12200, c Feb. 5, 1897; s Ruby Prince 4131 ... Mr. Garrett Taylor	40
Bruna (P 3) 12080, c March 29, 1897; s Ruby Prince 4131 ... Mr. S. A. Converse	145
Elmham Rosebud 11th (A 1) 14871, c June 4, 1897; s Blue Beard 2nd 3008 ... Mr. R. F. Henderson	39
Red Lass (T 4) 14121, c Jan. 23, 1898; s Rosy Boy 4627 ... Lord Radnor	31
Dormouse (N 2) 13419, c April 22, 1898; s Redmond 5417 ... Sir Thos. Gooch	155
Atalanta (O 14) 13145, c Dec. 26, 1898; s Caistor Minotaur 4786 ... Lord Rothschild	42
Cherry 772 ... Sir W. Corbet	10
Comely Rose 2nd (V 1) 14707, c March 26, 1899; s Caistor Mincemeat 4289 ... Mr. H. E. Lewis	26
Brink (P 3) 14594, c April 22, 1899; s Able Risky 4722 ... Mr. S. A. Converse, U.S.A.	40
Comely Cowslip 3rd (V 2), c April 26, 1899; s Caistor Minotaur 4786 ... Mr. W. Barnett	31
Sweet Omelet (N 2) 15942, c April 30, 1899; s Able Risky 4722 ... Lady Lonsdale	70
Common Jane (Q 1), 14711, c May 22, 1899; s Able Risky 4722 ... Sir Oswald Mosley	35
Freda 4th (O 9) 16679, c June 7, 1899; s Pigeon Blood Ruby 5109 ... Mr. G. A. Miller	24
Queen D 6th (K 17) 15660, c July 7, 1899; s Caistor Minotaur 4786 ... Mr. A. James	35
Artificial (R 1) 14471, c July 27, 1899; s Marham Friar 5670 ... Sir Oswald Mosley	48
Desdemona (N 2) 14802, c July 30, 1899; s Champion 5370 ... Hon. W. F. Smith	51
Di 4th (S 3) 14808, c Aug. 10, 1899; s Able Risky 4722 ... Sir Oswald Mosley	45
Lady Madge (V 2) 15223, c Oct. 31, 1899; s Able Risky 4722 ... Mr. R. F. Henderson	41
Sunshine (V 1) 17711, c Jan. 10, 1900; s Caistor Minotaur 4786 ... Sir Oswald Mosley	22
Blarney (1 Suff.) 16228, c Jan. 13, 1900 ... Sir Oswald Mosley	33
Sleeping Beauty (O 9) 17674, c March 1, 1900; s Red Knight 5818 ... Lady Lonsdale	260
Sky Rose (V 1) 17673, c March 1, 1900; s Caistor Minotaur 4786 ... Lady Lonsdale	38
Sweet Dorena (N 2) 17723, c May 1, 1900; s Champion 5370 ... Mr. S. A. Converse, U.S.A.	41
Beeswing (A 11) 16173, c May 7, 1900; s Red Hussar 7532 ... Sir Oswald Mosley	30
Meddlesome Mattie (N 4) 17128, c May 11, 1900; s Champion 5370 ... Sir J. Gooch	50
Dolly Dimple (N 2) 16501, c July 5, 1900; s Champion 5370 ... Mr. Garrett Taylor	31
Madge (N 4) 17055, c July 25, 1900; s Champion 5370 ... Hon. A. Fellowes	41
Red Topsy (T 4), c Jan. 1, 1901; s Champion 5370 ... Sir J. Gooch	33
Butter Dish (W 10), c March 11, 1901; s Caistor Minotaur 4786 ... Lady Lonsdale	31
Poupée (N 2), c July 6, 1901; s Red Knight 5818 ... Mr. Garrett Taylor	50
Jewel Case (I 21), c July 9, 1901; s Red Knight 5818 ... Lord Radnor	30
Sweet Rose (P 3), c Aug. 3, 1901; s Red Knight 5818 ... Lady Lonsdale	80

BULLS.

Champion (T 1) 5370, c Jan. 1, 1897; s Red Prince 2902 ... Hon. A. Fellowes	42
Red Knight (O 9) 5818, c Feb. 9, 1897; s Ruby Prince 4131 ... Sir Walter Corbet	31
Pistol (P 3) 8558, c Jan. 19, 1900; s Champion 5370 ... Sir Thomas Gooch	260
Armlet (I 21) 7801, c April 22, 1900; s Champion 5370 ... Mr. H. Church	20
Excelsior (N 2) 8119, c June 30, 1900; s Champion 5370 ... Mr. Lewis	38
Admiral Popoff (1 Norf.), c Jan. 16, 1901; s Red Knight 5818 ... Mr. A. James	53
Victory (O 9), c Feb. 17, 1901; s Champion 5370 ... Lady Lonsdale	67
Wild Felix (V 1), c April 18, 1901; s Felix 7066 ... Mr. R. F. Henderson	41
Jupiter Tonans (P 3), c July 8, 1901; s Red Knight 5818 ... Hon. W. F. Smith	60

SUMMARY.

	Average. £ s. d.		Total. £ s. d.
26 cows averaged	51 12 8	..	1,342 8 6
14 heifers	57 15 0	..	808 10 0
10 bulls	65 6 2	..	653 2 0
50 head	56 1 7	..	£2,804 0 6

Bull Sale at Perth.

Messrs. MacDonald, Fraser, and Co., Ltd., held their special sale of pedigree and non-pedigree Shorthorn and Aberdeen-Angus bulls, cows, and heifers, at Perth, on Wednesday. The entries were larger than at the corresponding sale of last year, comprising 109 animals, and with a large attendance of buyers a capital demand was experienced for Shorthorns and for the best class of Aberdeen-Angus bulls. Small fleshless sorts

were, however, more difficult to sell than at the annual sale a month ago. Pedigree Shorthorn bulls were selling from 24 to 30 gns.; and from 16 to 23 gns.; pedigree Aberdeen-Angus bulls from 15 to 22½ gns.; non-pedigree Shorthorn bulls from 10½ to 21 gns.; non-pedigree Aberdeen-Angus bulls from 13 to 20½ gns.; pedigree Aberdeen-Angus heifers to 16 gns.

Hereford Herd Book Society's Bull Show and Sale.

The Hereford Herd Book Society's first show and sale for this year took place on Wednesday. The Society decided to offer better prizes this year, and the result was that a much lar-er entry was received, there being four or five times as many animals in the aged and two-year-old classes, whilst the quality was also an improvement. Fortunately, fine weather favoured the proceedings, and there was a very large company present. The judges were Mr. Francis Evans, of Weston, Bredwardine, and Mr. J. H. Yeomans, of Stretton, and their awards met with general approval.

Old bulls numbered twenty-five—more than at any previous sale—and some of them were very superior animals. The biggest and best of the lot was Sultan, a grand five-year-old son of Majestic, the property of Mr. Bennett, and he was awarded the first prize. On being weighed he scaled 22cwt., but as he had been putting on flesh lately his owner thought he would have gone even a little heavier. Mr. Bennett bought him at the 1899 sales, when he headed his class on that occasion. The second-prize bull was the heavy-fleshed six-year-old General, sire Buckton Thumper, bred by Mr. Nott (Buckton Park). There was also a third prize, which was awarded to Newdigate, a well-known prize-winner at the Royal and other shows. Highly-commended tickets were awarded to the Leen-bred Lysander, belonging to Mr. J. Bounds and to Lord Coventry's Primate; and a commended was given to Mr. J. P. Evans's Monitor, bred by Major Heygate. Thirty-eight very useful animals were forward in the class for two-year-olds. The quality was pretty even, but the best for scale and quality was undoubtedly Lord Coventry's Merman, whose sire Mercury was first at the Bath and West and second at the Royal last year. Second prize was awarded to Mr. J. R. Hill's Cadet, first at the Evesham Show but as he did not reach his reserve figure in the sale-ring he will not be entitled to the prize. Third prize was awarded to Vulcan, bred and exhibited by Mr. S. Robinson, the president of the Society, who was present at the sale when the bull was bought by Colonel Everard for his herd of Herefords at Randalstown mansion in county Meath. Mr. H. B. Evan's Pyon Dauphin was decorated with the reserve ticket. Commended's were given to Mr. H. W. Taylor's Zodiac and Mr. R. Green's Marmaduke. There were seventy-five yearlings, which varied so considerably that a recession of them was very quickly seen issuing from the judges' ring. Amongst half-a-dozen of the princes, Capt. Heygate's young bull, The Earl, took the eye readily as the best, and was awarded the prender prize of £10. He is a symmetricel deep, thick, good-coated grandson of the celebrated Champion Albion. There was eager bidding for him in the sale ring, and he realised the highest price of the sale, viz., 85 guineas. The second prize was awarded to Musketeer, a very nice young bull from the Leen herd, a son of Mortimer, who was a second Royal winner, and boasted Statesman as his grandsire. Mr. E. Caddick's symmetrical bull Kitchener, came in for the third prize, whilst Monteith, another of the Leen exhibits, took the fourth prize, and Mr. P. Coats's Paisley the fifth prize, Mr. R. W. Hall's Alexander receiving the reserved number. Mr. E. Caddick's King Edward was h.c., and commended tickets were distributed amongst Mr. H. R. Hall's Maximus, Lord Glanusk's Commandant, and Mr. E. W. Caddick's Caradoc Rouser, who was first at Lord Tredegar's show last year and has a lot of prize-winning blood in his veins.

The sale, which was conducted by Messrs. A. and D. Edwards and Messrs. H. F. Russell and son, commenced at 11.30, and though a somewhat early hour, there was a good gathering of buyers round the ring. The bidding was fairly brisk, and although orders from abroad did not very appreciably stimulate the demand, and a great many lots did not reach the high reserves placed upon them, yet there remains the gratifying fact that more animals were sold than at any previous sale. Altogether, eight animals were disposed of by the auctioneers for a total of £2,484, or an average of about £31 apiece, the account for the corresponding sale last year being fifty-four bulls sold at not quite so high an average. This is all the more satisfactory owing to there having been so many closing out sales by Hereford breeders during the last six months. It was thought that many of the usual customers at these gatherings would have supplied themselves at those out-sales and that the demand would be slow. It is evident, therefore, that more cattle-breeders are using Hereford bulls. As mentioned above, the top price of the sale was 85 guineas, paid by Mr. Edward Farr for Capt. Heygate's young bull, The Earl. This sum, it may be mentioned, has been considerably exceeded at previous sales. A list of the principal prices realised, and purchasers, on Wednesday, is given below, the name of the seller being given in parentheses after the particulars of the animal sold:—

	Gs.
AGED BULLS.	
Random (19668), c 1897, s Carlo (Mr. C. Nott) Mr. Russell	29
Dauntless (21316), c 1899, s Royalist IV. (Mr. T. Fenn) Mr. Hurley	25
John Bull (18414), c 1895, s Rupert (Mr. James Smith) Mr. J. Hope	41
General (19439), c 1896, s Buckton Thumper (Mr. R. W. Shirley) Mr. T. Nott	33
Gilderoy (20653), c 1899, s Pagan (Mr. A. P. Turner) Mr. J. P. Evans	40
Sultan (19760), c 1897, s Majestic (Mr. T. R. Bennett) Mr. H. J. Bishop	52
Lifebuoy (20786), c 1899, s Longfellow (Mr. A. J. Small) Mr. Clement Nott	28
Plunder (20250), c 1898, s Mars 24th (Mr. P. Coats) Mr. Hodgetts	27
Lictor (20783), c 1899, s Tip Top (Mr. S. H. Armitage) Mr. Will am Nicholls	28
Ireland (20716), c 1899, s Adrian (Mr. C. V. Llewelyn) Mr. Hodgetts	28
Newdigate (18488), c 1895, s Pearl Cross (Mr. W. T. Barneby) Mr. R. J. Wythes	50
Primate (20934), c 1899, s Viscount (the Earl of Coventry) Mr. L. L. Moore	40
TWO-YEAR-OLDS.	
Alvescot (21157), c 1900, s Sorcerer (Mr. H. W. Taylor) Mr. P. Davies	35
King Frost (21504), s Samson (do) Mr. T. Preece	25
Zodiac (21898), s Sorcerer (do) Mr G. F. Colebatch	30
Comrade (21297), s Britisher (Mr. E. Farr) Mr. E. Small, junr.	27
Marmaduke (21582), s Privateer (Mr. R. Green) Mr. L. L. Moore	32
Linden II., s Hopeful 18th (Mr. G. H. Green) Mr. W. S. Lane	31
Block Test (21131), s Cecil (Mr. W. J. Smith) Mr. Philip Bennett	30
Stanton Nobleman, s Lysander (Mr. J. Thomas) Mr. W. G. Reece	27
Vulcan (21861), s Pearl Cross (Mr. S. Robinson) Lieutenant-Colonel Everard	30
Salisbury, s Marquis (Mr. J. Edwards) Mr. Morgan	26
Merman (21594), s Mercury (Earl of Coventry) Mr. Joseph Rowlands	51
Miner (21602), s Royal Boy (ditto) Mr. Enoch George	29
Valour (21834), s Gaudy Prince (ditto) Mr. W. H. Davies	31
YEARLINGS.	
Commandant, s Ceylon (Lord Glanusk) Mr. H. Bishop	26
Caradoc Conquest, s Whitfield Snodhill (Mr. E. W. Caddick) Mr. J. Guest	26
Caradoc Rouser, s Whitfield Snodhill (ditto) Mr. Jones	45
Paisley, s Plunder (Mr. P. Coats) Mr. J. Colbatch Clark	42
King Edward, s King John (Mr. W. Thomas) Sir Watkin Williams Wynn	26
Kingcraft, s Adrian (Mr. E. Caddick) Mr. T. B. Prosser	28
King Edward, s Adrian (ditto) Mr. Walter Davies	34
Kitchener, s Colombo (ditto) Dr. Rutherford Harris	58
Curate, s Adonis (Mr. P. W. Taylor) Mr. Rees Keene	40
Rector, s Adonis (ditto) Mr. James Graham	37
Monteith, s Gilderov (ditto) Mr. T. R. Bennett	40
Musketeer, s Mortimer (ditto) Mr. H. J. Bailey	60
Statesman, s Monarch (Mr. J. Edwards) Mr. J. Williams	29
Sandboy, s Major Domo (Mr. R. Green) Mr. J. Lewis	33
Sandringham, s Major Domo (ditto) Mr. S. Robinson	52
Moonstone, s Pearl Cross (Mr. S. Robinson) Mr. T. P. Smith	40
The Earl, s Gulf Stream (Captain Heygate) Mr. E. Farr	85
Maximus, s Tumbler (Mr. H. R. Hall) Mr. John Harris	32
Alexander, s Wetmore Wilton IV. (Mr. R. W. Hall) Mr. T. Evans	39

Carlisle Bull Show and Sale

At Carlisle on Friday Messrs. Harrison and Son held a special sale of young Shorthorn and Galloway bulls, including a number of pedigreed animals. There were 250 forward. There was a large attendance, and business proved satisfactory, although prices were scarcely so high as those obtained at the first sale. The following were the chief awards and prices:—Pedigree Shorthorn bulls—1, Mr. Harris, Calthwaite Hall (sold for 32 gns.); 2, Messrs. Wood, Blencogo (31 gns.); 3, Mr. Harris, Calthwaite Hall (25 gns.). Shorthorn bulls, calved after Lammas, 1900—1, Mr. James, Manor House; 2, Mr. Mark, Kirkbampton (23 gns.); 3, Mr. Jefferson, Neal House. Shorthorn bulls, calved after Candlemas, 1901—1, Mr. Winter, Meaburn Hall; 2, Mr. Mattinson, Ireby; 3, Mr. Littleton, Arkleby Hall. Galloway bulls—1, Mr. Graham, Marchfield (20½ gns.); 2, Mr. Beattie, Mossknowe (13½ gns.); 3, Mr. Beattie (£11). White bulls, calved after Lammas—1, Mr. Adamson, Springs Farm Keswick (23½ gns.); 2, Mr. Hunter, Mosedale (23 gns.); 3, Mr. Smithson, Ireby (£22). Shorthorn bulls, calved after Candlemas, 1901—1, Mr. Hunter, Mosedale (34 gns.); 2, Mr. Mattinson, Whiecroft (34 gns.); 3, Mr. Littleton, Arkleby Hall.

Particulars of Transactions in Store Stock.

Reported to the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland.

At Stokestown, Co. Roscommon, on Monday, there was a small fair, and a good demand prevailing; a clearance was effected. Prices: Calves, first class, £4 15s. to £5 5s.; second class, £4 5s. to £4 10s. Yearlings, first class, £7 5s. to £8; second class, £5 14s. 3d. to £6 10s. Two-year-olds, first class, £10 to £11 10s.; second class, £8 to £9 10s. Three-year-olds, first class, £14 to £14 15s.; second class, £10 15s. to £13. Springers, first class, £17 13s. 4d to £19; second class, £13 10s. to £13 12s.

Castleblakeney Fair (Co. Galway) was held on Monday, when there was but a small supply, and only a few local buyers present. A moderate demand was experienced for cattle in choice condition, but middling and inferior young animals were hard to sell. Springers sold at prices slightly under recent fairs. There was an average supply of sheep, chiefly hoggets; the demand was slack except for animals in forward condition, which were scarce. Ewes sold much better than wethers. Quotations: Yearlings, second class, £5 15s to £6 10s. Two-year-olds, first class, £10 10s. to £11 2s. 6d.; second class, £7 10s. to £9 10s.; third class £5 12s. 6d. to £6 10s. Three-year-olds, second class, £10 15s. to £11 10s.; third class, £8 to £9. Springers, second class, £11 to £12 10s.; third class, £8 10s. to £10. Sheep: Over 12 and under 24 months old, first class, £1 7s. 6d. to £1 8s.; second class, £1 2s. 6d. to £1 5s.; third class, 18s. 6d. to £1 1s. Two-years-old and upwards, second class, £1 11s. to £1 15s.; third class, £1 2s. 6d. to £1 5s.

The fair at Baltinglass, Co. Wicklow, held on Thursday, was an averaged sized one, at which a rather brisk demand prevailed for nice one, and two-years-old cattle at improved prices. Quotations. Calves, second class, £3 15s. Yearlings, first class, £8 to £9 15s.; second class, £6 7s. 6d. to £7 15s. Two-year-olds, first class, £11 15s.; second class, £8 10s. to £10 10s. Three-year-olds; first class, £13 5s.; second class, £10 5s. to £12 10s.; third class, £8 10s. Springers, second class, £15.

Londonderry Fair, held on Wednesday, was a small one. A good demand prevailed, except for springers, which were hard to sell. Prices:—Calves, 1st class, £5 10s. to £6; 2nd class, £4 5s. to £4 12s. 6d.; yearlings, 1st class, £7 10s. to £8 10s.; 2nd class, £5 12s. 6d. to £6 13s. 4d.; 3rd class, £3 17s. 6d. to £5; two-year-olds, 1st class, £10 to £10 12s. 6d.; 2nd class, £8 to £9; 3rd class, £5 to £6 10s.; springers, 1st class, £15 5s. to £17 5s.; 2nd class, £10 10s. to £13 5s.; 3rd class, £7 15s. to £9.

There was an average-sized fair at Kinsale, Co. Cork, on Wednesday, the supply consisting chiefly of young cattle, and demand was fair for those in condition. Prices:—Calves, 1st class, £5 10s. to £5 16s. 8d.; 2nd class, £4 to £4 10s.; 3rd class, £3 10s. to £3 15s.; yearlings, 1st class, £7 10s. to £8; 2nd class, £6 to £7 2s. 10d.; 3rd class, £4 10s. to £5 15s.; two-year-olds, 2nd class, £9 10s. to £9 15s.; 3rd class, £6 5s. to £7 10s.; springers, 2nd class, £12 15s. to £13 5s.; 3rd class, £9 10s. to 10 15s.

At Balla, Co. Mayo, on Wednesday, there was a large fair, composed chiefly of three-years-old bullocks, for which there was very good demand. A large number of buyers attended, and an early clearance was effected. There were but few sheep, which sold at a very bad price. Prices:—Calves, 2nd class, £2 15s. to £3 10s. 10d.; yearlings, 2nd class, £4 17s. 6d. to £6: 3rd class, £3 to £4 12s. 6d.; two-year-olds, 2nd class, £7 10s to £9 5s.; 3rd class, £5 12s. to £7; three-year-olds, 1st class, £13 10s. to £15 10s.; 2nd class, £11 10s. to £13; 3rd class, £7 10s. to £9; springers, 2nd class, £12 to £15; 3rd class, £8 to £9 10s. Sheep, over 12 and under 24 months old, 2nd class £1 6s. to £1 10s.

High Prices for Irish Farms.—At Limerick on Saturday very high prices were paid for interests in farms. Six hundred and fifty pounds was paid for a 30-acre farm, held at a judicial rent of £49, and £1,110 for a 53-acre holding, at a rent of £85.

Diseased Pigs at the Central Market.—George Wade, farmer, of Little Waddingfield, Suffolk, was summoned at the Guildhall Police Court on Thursday for sending the carcasses of five diseased pigs and four plucks to the Central London Market, intending them for sale as human food. Mr. Vickery appeared on behalf of the Corporation, and said that defendant had eight pigs killed by the local butcher, who noticed that some of them were not quite right. He drew defendant's attention to them, but he said he thought they were all right, and had them sent to London. He (Mr. Vickery) did not suggest any criminal knowledge, but there was gross carelessness, inasmuch as after the butcher had drawn his attention to the carcasses the defendant did not make a more careful examination. Dr. W. Collingridge (Medical Officer of Health) gave evidence as to his examination of the meat, and said that the eating of such meat would have been attended with serious results. Defendant gave evidence on his own behalf, and swore that he thought the pigs were good, and he was very pleased with the look of them. Sir John Moore said although he acquitted defendant of guilty knowledge, he must convict him of gross carelessness, and having reference to the serious consequences to consumers of this class of meat he must impose a penalty of £20 and five guineas costs.

COMING SHOWS.

Royal Counties at Reading.

Below we give a list of the gentlemen who have agreed to act as judges at the Royal Counties Agricultural Society's Show at Reading on June 10th and three following days:—

SHEEP.—Hampshire Down: George Blake, Amesbury, Wilts; George Judd, Cocum, Micheldever. South Down: Edward Hobgen, Shripney, Bognor, Sussex; George Jonas, Duxford, Cambs. Shropshire: J. E. Farmer, Felton, Ludlow. Kent: A. Amos, Spring Grove, Wye. Oxford Down: J. Treadwell, Upper Winchendon, Aylesbury. Somerset and Dorset Horn: J. Chick, Compton Valence, Dorchester. Suffolk: J. W. Eagle, The Hall, Walton-on-Naze.

HORSES.—Agricultural: E. Green, The Moors, Welshpool; H. Smith, Cropwell Butler, Nottingham. Hunters: G. Evans, Merton Grange, Sandy; The Earl of Orkney, Wing Lodge, Leighton Buzzard. Harness Horses, Hacks and Ponies: R. T. Hermon-Hodge, M.P., Wyfold Court, Reading; W. Waterhouse, Starborough Castle, Edenbridge, Kent.

CATTLE.—Shorthorn: J. T. Hobbs, Maisey Hampton, Fairford, Glos.; W. T. Garne, Aldsworth, Northleach. Aberdeen Angus: Clement Stephenson, Sandyford Villa, Newcastle-on-Tyne. Sussex: D. Swaffer, Mumford, Kingsnorth, Kent; Devons: J. Chick, Compton Valence, Dorchester. Hereford: W. Price, The Vern, near Leominster. Jersey: Colonel F. Willan, Thornhill Park, Bitterne, Hants; J. R. Fisk, Brightstone, Newport, Isle of Wight. Guernsey: George Long, Ogbourne St. Andrew, Mariborough; C. J. Drewitt, Drayton, Chichester. Kerry and Dexter: F. A. Hordern, Buxted, Sussex. Dairy Herds and Dairy Class: James Stratton, Chilcombe, Winchester; H. J. Gibbs, Milford, Salisbury.

PIGS.—Berkshire: J. W. Kimber, Fyfield Wick, Abingdon. Other Breeds: J. Treadwell, Upper Winchendon, Aylesbury.

POULTRY.—T. Coke-Burnell, Winchester.

BUTTER.—Miles Benson, British Dairy Institute, Reading.

Suffolk, at Ipswich.

A meeting of the stewards appointed to make arrangements for the show of the Suffolk Agricultural Association at Ipswich, on June 5 and 6, took place in Ipswich Town Hall on the 14th inst. Mr. S. R. Sherwood presiding. Some tenders were first considered and accepted, and then a long discussion took place with reference to the butter prizes. Eventually it was decided that the first class for the best 2lbs. should be perfectly open, and that for the next class, Channel Islands and crosses, should be excluded.

Mr. W. E. Watkins, secretary to the East Suffolk Technical Instruction Committee, forwarded a copy of the resolution passed by that body—that they would grant £50 towards the erection and equipment of a Model Co-operative Dairy, to be exhibited in operation during the show.—Mr. C. C. Smith said this resolution was confirmed at the County Council meeting. He proposed that a sub-committee should be appointed to carry out the details of the enterprise, in conjunction with the sub-committee of the county authority, who were Rev. C. J. Steward, Mr. A. Harwood, and their secretary (Mr. Watkins). This proposal was carried, and the following were appointed a sub-committee:—The chairman, Mr. C. C. Smith, Mr. S. A. Flick, and Mr. G. Fiske, jun.

In reply to a communication from Mr. Griffiths Davies (the secretary to the Dog Show Committee), it was left to the chairman and Mr. Bond to arrange with them as to the arrangements necessary for enclosing the dog show ground, the cost of which was estimated at some £6 only.—It was also resolved that admission tickets should be granted to all dog show exhibitors who make application for the same at the time of entering their dogs, and that the officials of the agricultural show shall have free admission to the dog show.

The next business on the agenda was "to consider what arrangements shall be made for entertaining the public at the show during the evening of the first day."—The chairman said this was rather a large order, with regard to which many suggestions had been received, while any others would be carefully considered. The proposals thrown out included a jumping competition in the evening—which could be carried out, he thought—and sheep dog trials. Then they had received lots of letters with respect to illuminations, engagement of bands, and that sort of thing. The Ipswich Swimming Club talked of giving an exhibition of high diving and water polo in the Round Pond.

After discussion, it was understood that the drawing up of a programme for the evening should be left to the chairman and the secretary, who would probably be met on behalf of the town by Mr. F. G. Bond and Mr. W. Bantoft.

At the suggestion of the secretary, it was resolved that sixpence should be the charge for admission in the evening of the first day, from 6 o'clock until 10.

Cheshire.

A meeting of the Cheshire Agricultural Society was held at Crewe on Monday, to make arrangements for the society's next exhibition, which will take place on August 23rd, at Hyde. At the outset it was unanimously resolved that Mr. T. Carter-Beeley, Mayor of Hyde, be president of the society for the year, and that gentleman, in returning thanks for his election, promised to do all he could to promote the success of the show at Hyde. The various committees were then appointed.

As the Cheshire Dairy Farmers' Association were not offering a silver cup for the best four Cheshire cheese, it was agreed to suggest that one of Mrs. Hyde-Clark's cups should be offered in that class. The Mayor of Hyde said he should like to offer a silver cup for the best dairy cow in the show, the property of a tenant farmer in the society's district. His lordship also offered prizes for milksellers' cows within a certain radius of Hyde. The offers were accepted.

The secretary said that Mr. Alfred Day would offer a challenge cup for the best dairy cow or heifer in the show belonging to a tenant farmer in the society's district. Mr. S. S. Raingill, of Altrincham, having won Mr. Day's 30-guinea challenge cup for the best shire mare or filly three years in succession, it becomes his absolute property, and a letter was read from Mr. Day intimating that he would offer another cup for competition, and the society accepted the offer.—Mr. Beckett said that the Earl of Egerton would probably again give a cup for the best shire mare or filly, the property of a Cheshire tenant farmer. The chairman offered a silver cup for the best brood mare with a foal at foot, the property of a Cheshire tenant farmer.

The Hackney Horse Society offered a medal for hackneys. Prizes were offered by Mr. S. Schiff, of Newbold, for hunters the property of tenant farmers within the limits of the Cheshire and Wynnstay Hunts, who had no wire of a dangerous nature in their fences during the hunting season. Mr. A. Tyler offered a cup for two years for competition in the polo pony class, the entrants to be confined to farmers who have no barbed wire in their fences. It was announced that the Tarporley Hunt were not offering their prizes this year, but it was stated that these would probably be made up locally. It was decided to introduce a class for turn-outs driven by ladies, a Chester lady offering a prize.

The co-operation of the Chester Beekeepers' Association was invited, and the subject of devoting a section to dogs was left open for future discussion.

IN PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Old Age Pensions.

On Wednesday Mr. R. Greene moved the second reading of the Aged Pensioners Bill, the object of which was to give to the aged deserving poor who had reached the age of 65, through the existing machinery of the Poor Law, pensions of not less than five or more than seven shillings a week, the sum to be provided out of the rates and a Treasury contribution of six pounds per annum for every aged pensioner. The estimate of the amount required, should the Bill become law, was ten millions per annum, which, in 1911, would be increased to twelve millions. That sum was to be equally divided between the National Exchequer and the local authorities.

Mr. Channing moved as an amendment that the provision for old age pensions should be universal, and its application should be wholly independent of the Poor Law, but he subsequently withdrew it.

Mr. Cripps urged that no Bill was acceptable which threw a large proportion of the expense of the scheme on the local rates until the system of local taxation had been placed on a more equitable basis.

Mr. Long said all were agreed that some steps in the direction of old age pensions would be desirable; but the real crux lay in the cost. The contribution from local taxation would mean a rate of between 7d. and 8d. in the pound over the general ratable value of the country; the balance from Imperial taxation was more than the Exchequer could be burdened with. The Government believed in poor-law reform, but they could not hold out any hope, if this Bill were passed, of affording the financial assistance that would be needed to carry it into effect. They were likewise anxious that nothing should be done to weaken the spirit of self-reliance which had done so much to make the people of this country what they were.

The Bill was eventually read a second time without a division, amid cheers from both sides of the House.

IMPORTANT TO FARMERS.—The best farm account books are WEBB'S PRACTICAL FARMER'S ACCOUNT BOOK, with preface by Clare Sewell Read. 70th edition, 6s. and 7s. 6d. post free. JARROLD'S IMPERIAL FARM ACCOUNT BOOK, 3s. 6d. JARROLD'S FARM LABOUR BOOKS, 2s., 2s. 6d., and 4s. 6d. List of Game and Dairy Account Books post free of JARROLD and SONS 10 and 11, Warwick Lane E.C.—[ADVT.]

SOCIETIES.

Polo Pony.

Mr. John Barker (president) occupied the chair at a meeting of the Council of the Polo Pony Society held at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, on the 13th inst., at which 18 new members were elected.

The secretary presented the report of the Finance Committee, showing a balance at the bank of £619 9s. 6d.; receipts since last meeting, £111 10s. 6d.; arrears of subscriptions, £4 5s.; accounts for payment, £45 2s. 6d. Report adopted.

An interesting letter was submitted by Professor Cossar Ewart from Mr. Frederick Wrench, intimating that they were carrying out an experiment at Lough Glyrm. They had a stud of 15 Connemara pony mares and two Erris ponies. Nine of the Connemaras were in foal to an Arab, two to a Connemara stallion, and the two Erris ponies to a thoroughbred. This season 10 of the mares would be put to the Arab, and seven to a young and very promising Connemara pony; and all the results would be watched and carefully noted. Among the mares were some lovely ponies, and they were all (except the two Erris, which were a type of their own) quite the right stamp and pictures as brood mares.

Annual General Meeting.

The Council meeting having concluded, the annual general meeting was held under the chairmanship of Mr. John Barker.

The secretary (Mr. A. B. Charlton) read the annual report, in which it was stated that continuous and steady progress had favoured the society during the past 12 months. The membership has increased; improvement in numbers and quality marked with success the second spring show at Islington; the utility and attractive character of the riding pony has been recognised by the further provision of classes and of bending races at an increasing number of country shows. Everything bespeaks a healthy interest in the pony whose welfare the society specially safeguards, and to whose efforts much of this renewed interest is undoubtedly due. The members on the register on January 1st numbered 492, composed of three honorary members, 463 annual members, 26 life members; an increase of 116 since March, 1901. Thanks to the liberal response in donations, the society has, during 1901, been able to maintain and extend its contributions to the London Show, to the Polo pony classes at the Royal Show at Cardiff, and at the associated shows, while enabling the finance committee to bring forward a respectable balance on the working account, with an undiminished reserve fund. The Council, therefore, propose to put forward an extended programme for 1902, without an appeal for special contributions. They entertain the hope that the ordinary income of the society will be able to meet the requisite outlay, and if members will tender their support by each securing one new member during the coming year, their anticipations will be more than realised. A schedule comprising seven classes has been provided for polo ponies at the next Royal Show, the necessary funds being provided by the society and the Carlisle Local Committee, who, after consultation with the Council, arranged to also set apart three classes for Fell ponies, the mountain and moorland pony of the district. The society has drawn up three schemes for affiliated shows, offering £10, £15, or £20 respectively for polo ponies, the qualifying amount carrying a corresponding number of medals, so that a show giving the largest sum may claim three silver medals; prizes value £15 have two medals allotted, while one is available for class or classes with an aggregate of £10. Sir Patteson Nickalls will be the president during the forthcoming year, and the Council beg unanimously to propose Rev. D. B. Montefiore as vice-president (*i.e.*, president in 1903).

Mr. Barker, in presenting the report, said that it was a great pleasure to him to report the progress made, though in his opinion it should have been larger, and it would be so with the co-operation of the members. He attributed the great success of the society to two causes: one, the selection in 1898 of Mr. G. Norris Midwood as president. Owing to his interest and energy the society had largely increased its membership, and his example had stimulated each succeeding president. The second cause of their prosperity was the institution of a London Spring Show, the details of which had been put before them. Personally, he took a deep interest in the society, not only as president for the year, but in its welfare. It spoke well for their management and organisation that in a membership of over 500 they had an arrear list of four. Their schemes of gold and silver medals in the country were doing much good, but he must impress upon the members that they must assist the Council's efforts by getting people to join, and they would have full opportunity of doing this during that and the succeeding day at the ring-side. He did not pro-

pose to dwell upon the question of remounts, though he thought that they should have had more sympathy from the Government, who should give more than £30 for a five-year-old pony. Their society's work was for the good and benefit of the community in general.

Sir R. D. Green-Price, in seconding the report, hoped that members would take Mr. Barker's remarks to heart, as he thought they could do a lot for the society by bringing its work before all interested. Referring to the question of remounts, he believed the remarks of Lord Kitchener would be especially appreciated, as he in particular picked out for praise the English pony as having been found the best for the work in South Africa. He also noted with pleasure that the Secretary of State for War had spoken strongly in praise of the pony; in fact, it had suddenly dawned upon the authorities that the best horse for mounted infantry was the pony that the society was encouraging breeders to produce. They must not overlook the fact that though called the "Polo Pony Society," the efforts of the Council were directed to improving the breed of ponies generally; in fact, they were doing good work for the country in finding ponies suitable for the mounted infantry.

Mr. Tresham Gilbey said that it might assist breeders if their stewards were to ask the representative of the War Office in the hall what class of pony they were really looking for. He had himself made inquiries, and understood that it was a pony of 15 hands; and he would propose that in future the height limit for the remount class should be for ponies up to 15 hands.

The chairman, in putting the report to the meeting for adoption, thought that the best thanks of the society were due to Mrs. Montefiore and the gentlemen who had offered cups at the present show. He always found that when ladies took a matter up that it succeeded, and he hoped that members would follow the good example set by one or two members of the Council by proposing their wives.

The report was then adopted.

The secretary presented the report of the scrutineers showing that the following 10 gentlemen had been elected members of the Council in the place of that number retiring:—Major C. W. Campbell-Hyslop, Captain Dennis St. G. Daly, A. L. Goodson, Rev. A. E. Green-Price, Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., Colonel E. N. Henriques, Major E. D. Kennedy, Charles McNeill, Clervaux Morley Saunders, Rev. F. Furse Vidal.

On the motion of Mr. G. Norris Midwood, seconded by Mr. Tresham Gilbey, Messrs. James Harris and Sons were elected honorary auditors of the society.

A vote of thanks to the chairman, moved by Sir R. D. Green-Price, seconded by Viscount Ebrington, closed the proceedings.

Royal Lancashire.

The quarterly meeting of the Council of the Royal Lancashire Agricultural Society was held at the Guildhall, Preston, on Monday afternoon, Mr. J. White, Warrington, presiding, Lord Derby, president, being unable to attend.

The secretary's report stated that the local fund for the Preston show had now reached £1,200, and there was every probability of at least the £2,000 required being raised. In anticipation of this the Showyard and Prize List Committee had already drawn up a most generous prize list, and had introduced several new features.

The Local Prize List Committee recommended that at the forthcoming Guild show the classes for hunters and polo ponies be struck out, and Dr. Wingate-Saul suggested the society should offer prizes for horses likely to make cavalry chargers.

Mr. W. W. B. Hulton said he viewed with amazement and alarm the proposal to strike out the classes for hunters. In times of peace he had always looked upon a remount as a misfit, an animal which, bred for another purpose, had just missed its mark. On the other hand, there was no class of animal so useful as a hunter.

Mr. Webster explained that the committee found that, whereas there were 71 entries of hunters at the last Preston show, last year they only numbered 35, and as the prize money amounted to £130, they thought it wise to strike out the classes. However, the council wished to refer the matter back, the committee would be glad to give it further consideration.

Dr. Wingate Lane suggested that the society should offer prizes for horses likely to make good cavalry horses. There was a scarcity of remounts just now, and if they could do anything to encourage the breeding of such horses it was their bounden duty to do so.

Mr. Mercer called attention to the recommendation of the committee that in future no member of the council should act as judge in any section. It would be ridiculous to restrict themselves to outside judges. Members of the council had always acted in cases of emergency, and done so with credit to themselves and the society. After discussion, it was agreed to add the following words to the committee's recommendation:—"Except in case of emergency, such cases to be decided by a committee called together in accordance with Rule 23."

Mr. P. S. Park, of Preston, referred to the work of the dairy, and said the application for a grant for the Lancashire County Council as it stood might be misleading. They were not asking for a grant in order to erect a building similar to those they had had in past years, but in order that their dairy might be brought up to date, chiefly with regard to ventilation and the doing away with the trestle floor. He had had the pleasure of a consultation with the chairman of the Agriculture Committee of the Lancashire County Council, who had expressed to him the desire of that body to work hand in hand with the society. ("Hear, hear," and applause.)

The Earl of Derby and Messrs. W. E. Hale, G. Mather, P. S. Park, R. Woods, and Porter were re-elected to represent the board on the Joint Agricultural Sub-committee of the Lancashire County Council.

Thirty-one new vice-presidents and 33 new annual members were re-elected, and the secretary remarked that the former, including the Right Hon. A. J. Balfour, M.P., was the largest number ever elected at one meeting of the society. They represented an additional income to the society of £150 per annum.

Mr. G. H. Dyson said it was predicted that the removal of the society's headquarters to Preston would result in its downfall. Could the secretary inform the council what the increase had been since that event occurred.

Mr. Bohane replied that there had been a net increase of 49 vice-presidents, and the total membership to-day stood at 1,032, the largest in the history of the society.

The following gentlemen were appointed judges for the show at Preston on September 2, 3, 4, and 5:—

CATTLE.—Shorthorns: C. W. Priestley and Price Evans, Wellington. Dairy cattle: J. Howard, Gargrave, Yorkshire. Channel Islands: Rev. F. C. Wood.

HORSES.—Leapers, first and second days, Robert Mason; third and fourth days, J. Marshall Tyson. Hackneys, ponies, and harness classes: J. Morton, Norfolk, and Mr. Godlass, Yorkshire. Shires: J. Eadie, Derby, and E. Green, Welshpool.

SHEEP.—Shropshires, Mr. McQueen, Welshpool; Leicesters and Wensleydales, G. Harrison, Darlington; Herdwicks and Lonks, G. Dewhurst, Southport.

PIGS.—J. Barron, Barrowash.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Cheese: Mr. Sherrey, Bolton, and Mr. R. S. Simpson, Preston. Dogs: M. Marsden, Marple. Poultry: G. Furness, Abbott, Parbold, and Enoch Hutton, Leeds. Pigeons: A. M'Kenzie, Liverpool. Implements and carriages: G. Morton, Cheshire.

Suffolk Horse.

The annual meeting of the Suffolk Horse Society was held on Tuesday, at the Town Hall, Ipswich, Mr. Herman Biddell in the chair. The secretary, Mr. Fred. Smith, read a letter from the president, Sir Cuthbert Quilter, Bart., M.P., in which, after expressing his regret at his inability to be present, he said:—"I hope that the meeting will recognise what our financial position is, and that we have very little money to vote away for any purpose this year. We must husband our resources as much as possible, but I think we should do all we can to continue our connection with Richmond, which certainly proved a good market last year for first-rate geldings that were for sale. I should have liked also to call attention to the very low rate of subscription paid by the members, compared with those of other societies, and to have pointed out that £5 is hardly a sufficient composition for life-membership. It seems to me that it would only be reasonable to increase the amount to £10 in the latter case, and to £15 in the case of life-governors. The council and the Society work very hard to improve the local breed, and I think we are justly entitled to a large measure of support from the leading agriculturists of the county. It is a matter of great satisfacion that the membership of the Society keeps on increasing, and has now obtained a record, and that the export of Suffolk horses to various parts of the world continues to grow."

Letters of apology were also received from Mr. F. G. Cook and Mr. F. C. Starkie, the latter gentleman remarking that if the breeding scheme needed more help financially, he should, for one, be glad to lend a helping hand.

The chairman said he was sure that they would appreciate Mr. F. C. Starkie's kind offer to render pecuniary aid in the direction indicated in his letter if it were found to be necessary. As to the question of increasing the subscriptions, referred to in the president's letter, he (Mr. Biddell) should like to take the opinion of the members generally upon the subject.

Mr. C. P. Ogilvie urged the advisability of more attention being given to the question of adding to the regular income of the Society. He expressed concurrence in the suggestion that there should be, if possible, an increase in the contributions under the different heads indicated, and he said that unless they could awaken a greater interest and support in the financial affairs of the Society, they must find a greater difficulty in presenting a satisfactory balance-sheet year by year.

Mr. J. D. Hustler said he should be most happy to support the recommendation that there should be an increase in the contributions on the lines suggested. Of course, when the subscriptions were fixed upon the comparatively low rate at which they stood at the present time, it was not anticipated that it would be necessary to expend so much in the way of advertising the Suffolk horse. If they wished to push the breed, they must undoubtedly have more money at command with which to do it. The expenditure of £20 in connection with the London Horse Parade, for instance, was not probably contemplated when the membership subscription was originally fixed at the low figure of 10s. Those members of the Society who were breeders of Suffolks were probably getting an increased benefit from the operations of the Society, and if they paid a sovereign for membership they would really be getting more in return than they did in the old days, when they paid 10s., because of the greater enterprise of the council.

It was understood, as a result of the discussion, that the council recommended the advisability of a consideration of the propriety of an increase of the subscriptions.

The annual report, having been printed and circulated, was taken as read. The accounts showed a balance of £97 9s. 5d., as compared with £36 9s. It would be observed, nevertheless, that the balance of assets over liabilities had decreased £62 16s. 10d., viz., from £300 17s. to £238. The report went on to state:—"The breeding scheme adopted by the Society has now been in force three years, and has undoubtedly stimulated the breeding of Suffolk foals. Although only fifteen nominations were granted during the past year against nineteen in 1900, the diminution is probably more than accounted for by the fact that some of the original recipients of nomination, realising that the price of Suffolk foals has advanced, have considered it to their interest to reserve freedom of action with regard to the sale of their foals. The three Society mares on which money was advanced in 1899 each produced a foal, the three realising an average of £16 10s. each—the exact sum allowed by the Society." The membership of the Society was now the highest on record, several members having joined from outside the county; the total membership being 222, including 33 life and 165 annual members.

The report was unanimously adopted.

On the proposition of Mr. Horace Wolton, the hon. auditors, Mr. J. A. Hempson and Mr. Wm. Toller, were re-elected, with thanks to them for their services.

The chairman said he had much satisfaction in proposing the re-appointment of the secretary, Mr. Fred. Smith, who had carried on the affairs of the Society so entirely to their satisfaction. Mr. C. P. Ogilvie seconded the motion, which was carried *nem. con.* On the proposition of Mr. E H. Preston, Mr. R. Kerrison was re-appointed hon. treasurer.

The following gentlemen were elected members of the council in the place of the six gentlemen retiring by rotation:—Mr. A. T. Pratt, Mr. Eaton White, Mr. Robert Edgar, Mr. E. A. Cook, Mr. F. S. Lewin, and Mr. W. E. S. Wilson.

Darlington Chamber.

The Darlington Chamber of Agriculture met at Darlington on Monday, and discussed the subject of a duty on imports. The Earl of Ronaldshay was in the chair, and there was a fairly large attendance. The Right Hon. James Lowther, M.P., wrote:—"I am very glad that an effort is to be made to press the just claims of the agricultural interest, which, in common with all others, is suffering from the injustice with which foreign producers, who are exempt from any share in the heavy rates and taxes that are levied upon home-grown food and other British products, are so scandalously favoured in their competition with our national industry. I trust the Chamber will speak out strongly as so many other representative bodies have been recently doing, both in rural and urban centres, for it is no longer the agriculturists only who feel the present condition of affairs. Upon revenue grounds alone the Cobdenite system will have to go, as with the enormous increase in expenditure, independent of the South African, fresh sources of taxation must be found. Hence the desirability of letting the Government know our minds."

The following resolution was moved and seconded:—"That in the opinion of this meeting it is necessary that the home producer should be protected from unfair foreign competition, and that discriminating revenue duties should be placed on foreign imports," whilst a member moved an amendment in favour of the re-imposition of a registration duty of a shilling a quarter on imported wheat, which, he said, would bring in about £3,000,000 a year.

After some discussion the resolution was adopted, only two voting in favour of the amendment.

A resolution had been sent by the North Cotswold Farmers' Association in favour of the compulsory dipping of sheep as the best means of stamping out sheep scab, and this Chamber was

asked to support it. Mr. F. C. Gibson, of Croft, proposed a resolution supporting that view, and suggested that the dipping should take place twice a year. Mr. George Gibson, of Brettanby, while strongly in favour of dipping, was opposed to its being made compulsory, and moved as an amendment that the resolution of the North Cotswold Association should lie on the table. The amendment was carried by 11 votes to 9.

The question of the purchase of remounts was on the agenda, and the Secretary moved a resolution—based on the recent declaration of Mr. Hanbury at York—in favour of empowering the Board of Agriculture and the War Office to act in direct co-operation in the purchase of Army horses and remounts. Mr. Foster seconded the motion, which was agreed to without discussion.

Another subject brought forward related to the milk and butter regulations. Captain Fife proposed a resolution to the effect that the Chamber impress upon the Minister of Agriculture that British farmers should be protected from all cases of fraud in regard to milk and butter standards. Mr. George Gibson considered this resolution was too general, and submitted an amendment declaring that the percentage of moisture in butter should not in any case exceed 16 per cent., and that any compounds which contain moisture in excess of that extent ought not to be sold as butter. This amendment was seconded by Mr. Eade, Darlington, and adopted.

Monmouthshire Chamber.

A general meeting of the Monmouthshire Chamber of Agriculture will be held at the Beaufort Arms Hotel, Chepstow, to-morrow (Tuesday), commencing at 2.30 p.m. The agenda is as follow:—

1.—Election of new members and other general business, including minutes of meeting at Pontypool, on March 1st, and any matters arising therefrom.

2.—The budget (if introduced).

3.—Railway rates.

4.—To consider the advisability of approaching the Minister of War with a view to the provision of remounts for the Army.

5.—Circular from the Butter Association re "milk blended butter."

6.—Circular from the Warwickshire Farmers' Association asking the Chamber's support to two of their resolutions, as follow:—(a) "That the Warwickshire Farmers' Association disapproves of the use of any preservative in milk"; (b) "That the Warwickshire Farmers' Association is unanimously of the opinion that the importation of foreign flour and meal is injuriously affecting the farmers of this country; has been the means of stopping the milling industry; and strongly recommends a tax upon these manufactured articles."

The Chamber has a pamphlet containing a report of the annual meeting at Newport on January 22nd, and a paper read by Mr. J. Thomas Davies, entitled "Farming in Western Candada"; also a list of members, rules, etc., making it a most interesting pamphlet to the members of the Chamber.

Grantham Mid-Lent Fair.—This annual fair was held on Monday, when there was not a large supply of cattle, but there was a good attendance of buyers, and a brisk trade was experienced in beasts in good fresh condition. Strong bullocks, three years old, made £17 to £20, two years old £12 to £13, younger steers £8 to £12, milk cows £14 to £19, in-calvers £14 to £18, and heifers £15 each. Sheep were also somewhat scarce, only a few hogs being offered, and their price ranged from 35s. to 40s.

Wallingford Hay Sale.—Messrs. Franklin, Gale, and Newton conducted their annual sale of hay and straw at the Town Hall, Wallingford, on Friday last, the 14th inst., with very satisfactory results. To begin with, the catalogue was the heaviest ever remembered in this district, no less than 80 ricks being entered, representing some 1,800 tnos of clover, sainfoin, mixture and meadow hay, and wheat straw. The Town Hall was practicularly filled with buyers and others, which will give some idea of the importance which this sale has now attained. Despite the recent wavering in the trade owing to the mild weather, the greater proportion of the lots were cleared, in fact, a much more satisfactory sale resulted than was expected, the total amount realised being over £4,000. Some very large ricks were offered, and one belonging to Mr. J. Shrubb's executors made as much as £240. The following were the ricks realising upwards of £100:—Mr. G. H. Abbot, clover hay £190, meadow hay £120; Mr. A. D. Wells, clover and trifolium £100; Mr. R. C. Hatt, clover hay £123; Mr. J. Shrubb's executors, meadow hay £130, clover hay £191, meadow hay £240, meadow hay £161; Mr. T. Latham, meadow hay £124; Mr. N. Paxman, clover hay £140; Mr. T. E. Way, meadow hay, £135; Mr. Joseph Gale, mixture £146.

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Dairy Farming: Foreign Competition.

I propose to consider dairy farming athome and abroad, and how the two departments react on one another.* Lectures such as this are not infrequently loaded up with figures. Fortunately, the circumstances under which this lecture has been prepared preclude the possibility of your being burdened in that particular way. The one broad figure fact, so far as the Bhitish farmer is concerned, is that foreign countries and our own colonies are sending us an increasing volume of dairy produce every year, and that no matter how eager and active the authorities in this connection may be, the ingenuity of the gentlemen who blend the various classes of dairy produce get ahead of them, and behind all legislative enactments. What enables them to do so is the cheapness of foreign and colonial dairy produce and the low rates at which all kinds of it can be set down in the open ports of Great Britain. For many years we have been familiar with the imports of foreign butter and cheese, but it is clear, from recent trade returns, that the trade in fresh milk from the Continent, although not yet of great volume, is growing, and that this trade will by and by, should it go on extending, seriously compete with those who are supplying London with fresh milk. I take it that those whose market is the east-end of London will first feel the brunt of this competition.

To the average citizen of this country the spectacle of these growing foreign importations alongside square miles of derelict land in Essex and other counties in England, and the depopulation of the rural districts, is a standing puzzle. He cannot understand why the British farmer should not supply this great market himself, and least of all can he understand why there should be derelict land, or land going out of cultivation here when the British public are clamouring for food. But if the average citizen would do a little plain thinking he would see that the British farmer, not being primarily a fool, cannot farm land which it will not pay to farm. That is to say, he cannot make a living at present prices of produce out of land which lies idle. This is due to either of three causes, all of which may be summed up in the words,

Land is too Dear.

Some of it is of such a nature that it will not pay working expenses even if it were to be had for nothing. Another portion of it is worth more for other purposes than could be got for it under agriculture—that is to say, it is too highly rented to admit of its profitable cultivation, and yet another section is so heavily weighed with tithe rent charges that even with no landlord's rent the working expenses could not be paid.

The primary, but not the sole, reason why so much land is going out of cultivation in this country, while the consuming wants of the people are increasing, is that it pays farmers, and those who would be farmers, better to do something else than cultivate the soil, and produce milk, butter, and cheese. If Great Britain is to be the great commercial nation of the world—the great exchange—then her agriculture must be content to retire into the background, and her people must increasingly be fed by other lands. The history of the world shows that the continuance of an Empire subject to such conditions has hitherto been unknown. There are elements in the constitution of our national life not present in the national life of such nations as one has in view in that connection, and, therefore, what has been, may not be in our case; but the recollection of the decay of imperial Rome should give pause to those who believed they have solved all economical and social problems by the enunciation of the great principle, buy in the cheapest market, and sell in the dearest. I am not to travel farther in this line of Carlylean thought. But it is not inappropriate to travel so far in order to realise something of the weighty issues bound up in continued adherence to a fiscal policy which undoubtedly means the abandonment of agriculture, and a national devotion to commerce.

Dealing with the situation as it is at the moment and bids fair to continue to be for some time, certain

Features of Dairying Abroad.

may be commented on. The foreign and colonial manufacturer of dairy produce has (1) cheaper land than the British farmer; (2) he is either content to live on a lower social scale than the British farmer, or conducts his business on a wholesale principle of combination which enables him to produce his material at a cheaper rate than does the home producer; (3) he is unhampered by restrictive legislation in respect of sanitation and housing, and therefore can afford to work with less capital outlay; (4) his methods of manufacturing his produce remove him from the necessity of facing a labour problem; (5) he has the cordial support and even encouragement of his Government to produce the best possible article for the British market, and restrictive legislation is confined to what will induce him to send to this country only the genuine article; (6) and, finally, agriculture in the countries and colonies which compete most seriously with the British farmer in his own markets is the primary industry—the very existence of these states and colonies is meantime bound up in the prosperity of their agriculture—and hence all that the governing powers in these countries do is to foster the industry.

This statement of facts shows the ineptness of the line of argument so frequently followed by those who write on the subject of foreign imports of butter and cheese. There is no parallel between the small farms of Denmark and France, and small farms and allotments in Great Britain. The Danish farmer and his family are content to live as our great grandfathers lived, *plus* a knowledge of the technicalities of dairying, of which our great grandfathers were ignorant. His hours of labour are the hours which our ancestors wrought, and his remuneration and opportunities for social intercourse are those with which they were familiar. It cannot be otherwise with Denmark, nor yet with the present proprietors of France. If we be content to live as they do, and toil as they toil, and at the same time be as eager to learn as they are the technique of agriculture, then there may be a parallel between the two countries. But so long as our people can live easier lives, and enjoy greater social ease and fellowship, so long will analogies based on the condition of things abroad break down and be misleading. Denmark and our own Colonies are bound to foster agriculture. Their very existence is

Dependent on their Agricultural Prosperity,

hence all that their Governments do to bring about agricultural prosperity.

With the opening of the great Trans-Siberian railway a new competitor has entered the field. The area of competition has been widened, and there is reason to believe that last year large quantities of Danish butter, originally made in Siberia, have found their way to this country. It is alleged that the persons who manufacture butter in Siberia have an idea that Copenhagen is the nearest town in England to the Continent.

* A lecture by Mr. MacNeilage, delivered at a meeting of the Eastern Counties Dairy Association.

Hence they address their butter to that city. No doubt, by and by, they will learn the geography of Europe to better purpose, but meantime it is necessary that Siberian butter should be fitted for presentation in the English market by judicious manipulation on the western shores of the Baltic or thereabout.

The dairy farmer may learn from the foreigner to understand his market. The association now being addressed does not need so much enlightment on this point as many. Its very existence is due to a strenuous effort on the part of the farmers in Essex to understand their market, to get into immediate touch with it, and to supply it with the article, and under the conditions which the market demands. All dairy farmers are not so happily situated, or have not made so praiseworthy an effort. In the west of Scotland a beginning has been made, but progress is slow. The proverbial caution of the Scotchman is being demonstrated in the disposition to let some other one make the experiment. Still it is well to have a beginning. It is galling to be placed, as the home producer is, under all kinds of legislative restrictions in respect of sanitation, etc.; while his foreign competitor is free of all this, and reaps equal benefit. The remedy for this, however, is not the absence of these restrictions but compliance with them, and a determination to put produce on the market in the best possible condition to please the consumer. In this the foreigner can give the British farmer points. The result of the success of Danish, Canadian, and Australian produce in the British market is the efforts made by the foreign and colonial authorities to learn how the British public likes to receive its produce, and, if possible, to go beyond his desires and demands. This is second only to uniformity of quality, and in respect of it the dairy farmer has a good deal to learn.

In Glasgow the milk delivery cans are at the mercy of every boy and girl messenger. Fortunately the great majority of these are honest, and little complaint is made of the way in which they perform their duties. But in respect of other departments it is not so. The first-class buttermaker understands how to present her butter to please her customer, but a much greater number give this aspect of things no thought at all. It is the same with cheese, although Scots cheese is, as a rule, better in this respect than Scots butter. Scots cheese are much better made as regards their exterior than English cheese. It is, however, with the sweet milk trade we are chiefly concerned, and no effort should be spared to put whole milk on the market in the best possible condition. There is an unlimited market for milk, if the public can only be satisfied that it is produced and marketed under the most wholesome conditions. Great leeway has to be made up by the railway companies before this is in every respect as it ought to be. The mode in which milk is often carried from the country station to the city railway platform is admirably fitted to put a period to a milk trade altogether. The lesson which foreign and colonial competition teaches here plainly is that the dairy farmer should anticipate the demands of the authorities.

The dairy farmer should be quick to adopt whatever material science may bring before him for the effective prosecution of his business. I presume

the greatest wants at the present time

of this nature are a mechanical milking machine, a railway or distributing churn which will equalise the butter fat in its contents without doing injury to the keeping qualities of the milk, and a mechanical butter fat test which may be successfully manipulated by anyone of ordinary intelligence. The last has possibly been provided in the Gerber test, but the other two are not yet quite in sight. So far as a mechanical milking machine is concerned, enough has been accomplished to warrant the belief that such a machine is not a dream. The tentative efforts of mechanical geniuses have certainly proved that cows may be milked clean by such means without detriment to their teats or udders or their milk.

The last mechanical adjunct to which I need refer is the most necessary at the present moment. The new milk standard has taught farmers one lesson at least. Milk is a very variable quantity, and undergoes change so rapidly that a seller may be outside the scope of the law at one moment, and within its grasp half an hour afterwards. The butter fat rises very sharply to the surface, and the milk drawn from the ordinary churn, when that vessel is nearly empty, is of very different quality from that contained in the same vessel when full. If the milk be drawn by spigot from a long, deep dish, the woman who comes last will fare best; but if it be lifted from an open vessel on the milk-shop counter, those who come last will fare worst. The inspector argues, and from his standpoint soundly, that he is to protect the last comer as well as the first, and, therefore, he has nothing to do with the depth of milk in the vessel. The remedy is a vessel which may be so balanced that it will distribute its butter fat without churning the milk.

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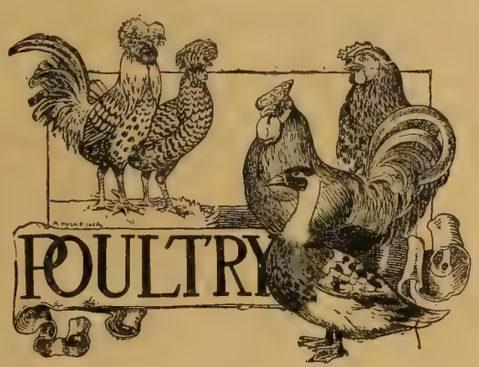
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Plymouth Rocks.

This breed are of American production, and there are three varieties, viz., the barred (first introduced), buff, and white.

All are exceptionally hardy, and, when bred from good-laying strains—that is to say, when bred *for laying*—and with careful management, they will lay all through the autumn, winter, and spring. They are rather inclined to get over-fat if well fed, and unless broken of their broodiness at once, keep to the nest some time between their laying periods, but when sitters and mothers are required, they are excellent for the purpose.

Their eggs have brown shells, and they are large birds on the table, but have *yellow skins*, which are not considered good on table fowls by English people, although the Americans delight in them, and do not like white-skinned fowls.

Though Plymouth Rocks have yellow legs, when they are crossed many of their offspring have white legs if they are crossed with white-legged birds. Surrey and Sussex fatteners like crossed Plymouth Rocks, as they do so well in the fattening coops.

If bred from selected stock, Plymouth Rocks grow very fine birds.

For very many years Plymouth Rocks were one of the most popular varieties in England, that is before the Orpington varieties were brought out, as they were so very hardy. They lay a tinted, or brown egg, varying in colour.

The pullets, as a rule, begin to lay about 7 or 7½ months old. When bred from big prize stock they are occasionally a month longer before they lay.

We are pleased to say that Plymouth Rocks made a larger price last year out of the show pen than ever before. Several birds changed hands at £30 to £40 each.

The chickens are not only hardy, but they grow fast, but the cockerels do not feather very quickly, and those who have never hatched Plymouth Rocks must remember they are likely to get birds of two or three shades, some light and some dark.

The characteristic stamp of the Rock has a stand-up appearance, and should be evenly barred. Beak yellow, and very strong; eyes bright, clear, and prominent, light brown or hazel; comb, single, well serrated, medium size, straight, and well set on head, free from side spikes; red face and earlobes. The body of the bird is deep and well formed, and the legs set well apart. Bright yellow legs, four toes on each foot.

The cockerels run from 7½lbs. to 10½lbs. in weight, and when fully developed in the second year, from 10lbs. to 12lbs.

The hen should have a straight comb, standing well up, single, and well serrated; red face and earlobes same as cock, only, of course, smaller in every way; neck hackles full; body large, deep, and square; legs much shorter than those of the cock, which gives the hen the appearance of a very deep-bodied bird.

Pullets of 6½lbs. to 8½lbs; hens, 8½lbs. to 10lbs.

The plumage of the barred Plymouth Rock cocks is very awkward to describe, although pretty to look at. It is cuckoo colour, finely and evenly barred with a bluish black. The two colours, although blending at first, are quite distinct, should be free from smut or rust, the hackles very fine, even, and distinct; barring to the skin. The neck hackles should correspond in shade with the saddle hackles, and be free from brown or rust; breast and thighs evenly barred distinct to the hocks. Shoulders and wing bars also evenly barred. Each wing feather should be distinct in the marking, and free from patches of white, but evenly marked with a dark blue black. The long tail or sickle feathers should have distinct even barring from the root to the tip of the tail.

The colour of the hens should be like the cock's breast all over, every feather being evenly marked with a bluish black, the markings being well defined, and looking bright, and free from dulness of colour. The barring should go right down to the stem of the feather, where it joins the hen's body.

"Mark Lane Express" Diary.

March.

18, 19, and 20. Horse sales at Wrexham.
18. General Meeting of the Suffolk Horse Society.
19. Sale of the entire herd of Red Polled cattle belonging to J. E. Platt, Esq., at Howbury Hall, Bedford.
19. Sale of 55 Shire horses for Mr. Cole Ambrose, at Stuntaey Hall, Ely.
19. Show and Sale of Hereford Herd Book Society, at Hereford Cattle Market.
20. Sale of Lady de Rothschild's Jerseys, at Aston Clinton, Tring.
19, 20, and 21. Sale of horsese at Crewe.
20 and 21. Sale of Shires at Peterborough.
20. Sale of Herefords, Shropshire sheep, etc., belonging to Mr. H. Instone, at Cound, near Shrewsbury.
21. Sale of Large Black pigs at Ipswich.
21. Show and sale of Shorthorn and Galloway bulls at Carlisle.
22. Norfolk Agricultural Society's Spring Horse Show, at Norwich.
22. Peterborough Agricultural Society's Spring Show of Stallions.
22. Sale of pedigree Hackney, Show, and Harness horses at Peterborough.
24. East Berks Horse Show Society's Spring Show at Hawthorn Hill Racecourse.



The Lady and the Water Finder.

In the King's Bench Division on Thursday, before the Lord Chief Justice, Mr. Justice Darling, and Mr. Justice Channell, the case of "Pritty v. Child" came on for argument. It was the defendant's appeal from a decision of Judge Eardley Wilmot given in the Ipswich County Court in favour of Miss Pritty. It appeared that the defendant was a miller and also a professional water finder, and had been so employed for 30 years. Some successful effort on the part of the defendant to find water caused some stir or excitement in the neighbourhood, and Miss Pritty put herself into communication with him as to his finding water upon her estate. The defendant said he would attend and find water for 25s. He came over and by means of a hazel twig pointed out a spot on the lawn where, according to the plaintiff's case, he said that water would be found from 25 to 30 feet down. A well was sunk for 40 feet, but no water was found, and a second well was also sunk not so deep, and again the search was unsuccessful.

The plaintiff sued the defendant for the return of the 25s. she had paid him, as she said the consideration had failed, and the money was paid into court by the defendant and taken out by the plaintiff. Then the plaintiff sued him to recover £62 odd, the expenses of sinking the wells, on the ground that he had not carried out his contract, and the learned County Court judge decided in plaintiff's favour as to the first well, and awarded her £42 6s. 8d. damages. As to the second well, he decided that there was no contract, and found in the defendant's favour. For the defence it was denied that there was any contract to find water, or that defendant made the definite statement alluded to, and said that as the defendant had not been reckless or negligent he was not liable. It was also said that the plaintiff, having succeeded in her first action, could not maintain the second.

It was mentioned that during the sinking of one of the wells one of the workmen, when down it, was overcome by gas, and as no one else would go down, Miss Pritty did so by means of a rope and bucket, and brought the man to the surface. He, however, died of suffocation, but plaintiff received the Royal Humane Society's medal and another medal for her bravery.

Mr. Rawlinson, K.C., and Mr. W. Rowley Ellis-ton appeared for the appellant, and Mr. A. H. Poyser and Mr. C. T. Packard for the respondent.

The Lord Chief Justice said if he had been sitting as a judge of first instance he should have hesitated a long time before he came to the conclusion that the defendant made any statement other than an expression of opinion, but they were bound by the findings of fact of the County Court judge, and those rendered it impossible for them to interfere.

The other learned judges concurred, and the appeal was dismissed with costs.

Cider as Part of Wages.

In the King's Bench Division on Tuesday, before the Lord Chief Justice, Mr Justice Darling, and Mr. Justice Channell, Mrs. Jones, a Worcestershire farmer, appealed against a decision of the local justices, who had convicted and fined her £5 and costs for an offence under the Truck Acts. It appeared from the case stated by the justices that for some time a man named Cooper worked for the appellant as a waggoner under different agreements which varied the rate of wages. There was some little dispute as to whether in his first agreement there was any provision as to the amount of cider he should receive, but appellant said there was not. In the later agreements, under which Cooper's wages were raised, there was, however, no mention made of his having any cider, although during the whole time he was with appellant he was supplied with some. Ultimately Cooper was dismissed by the appellant, and sued her before the Petty Sessional Court for some wages and 6s. 8d. for cider, his case being that the price of the cider was due to him under a verbal agreement. He obtained an order against Mrs. Jones for the wages he claimed, but the sum he claimed for cider was disallowed. Mrs. Jones was then proceeded against under the Truck Acts for supplying Cooper with cider in lieu of current coin as wages, and although she contended that the cider was a gift, in accordance with the practice of farmers in the country, the magistrates convicted her.

Mr. Rawlinson, K.C., and Mr. Corner appeared for the appellant, and Mr. Amphlett, K.C., for the respondent.

The Lord Chief Justice, without calling upon the latter, gave judgment. He said he doubted whether he should have come to the same conclusion as the magistrates, but they had found that the cider was in fact supplied in part payment of wages, under a verbal understanding which existed between the parties at the time of the existing agreement. It was impossible for the Court to say there was no evidence of that in view of the servant's statement, and, therefore, they must confirm the conviction. He was not going to suggest, however, that any gift given by an employer out of the kindness of his heart was part of a man's wages, but he regretted, on the finding before them, it was impossible to say the conviction was wrong.

Mr. Justice Darling and Mr. Justice Channell concurred, and the appeal was dismissed with costs.

New Agricultural Patents.

Specially compiled for *Mark Lane Express* by Mr. G. D. Howard (Hughes, Son, and Co.), patent agent, 38, Chancery Lane, London, of whom all information relating to patents, designs, and trade marks may be obtained free of charge.

5,406.—Frederick Cutlan, of Hatton Garden, London, for "A grinding or sharpening attachment for machines in which milling cutters or the like are employed."

4,924.—Harvey Laroy Hopkins, of Strand, for "Improvements in cutter caps for mowing machines, and the like."

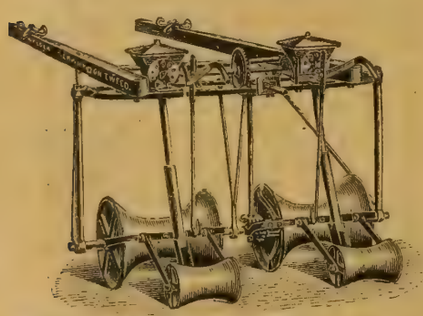
4,945.—John Chinnock, of Norwich, for "An improved can or vessel for sterilizing and preserving milk."

Patents Sealed.

20,416.—A. McGregor, of Lancashire, for "Reaping and mowing machines."

20,688.—E. Geneux, of Piccadilly, London, for "Paring potatoes, etc."

The London and North-Western Railway's list of the principal horse and cattle fairs for the coming year has now been issued. This handbook will be found serviceable to all concerned in the movement of horses and livestock by rail, as it contains not only a very complete list of fairs, but is replete with kindred information of a most useful character. This annual has so grown by new features being added from year to year with the increasing demand it has met with that, from a small beginning, it now extends to 191 pages, but is produced in so convenient a size and shape as to be quite easy of disposal in one's pocket. It is issued free of charge, and copies can be had, post free, on application to the Cattle Traffic Superintendent's Office, Crewe.



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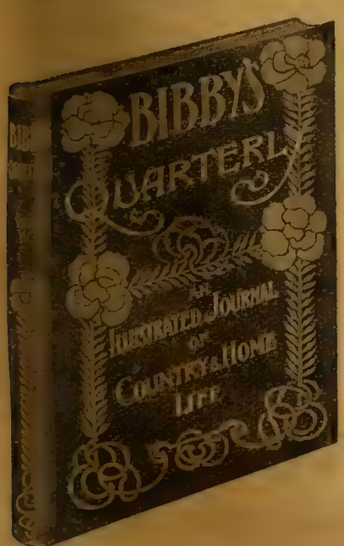
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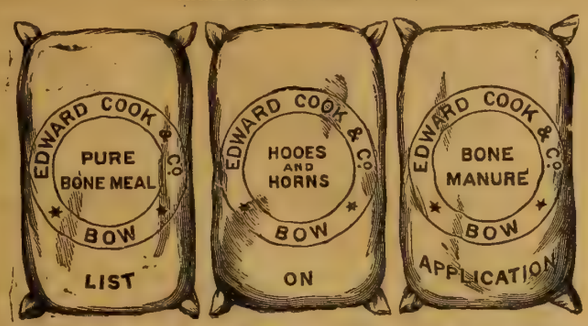
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Live Stock, Produce, Butter Making, Milking, Shoeing, Shearing, &c., April 7.
Poultry May 2; Jumping and Driving, May 10.

THOS. F. PLOWMAN,
4, Terrace Walk, Bath. Secretary.

SOMERSET COUNTY AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION.
THE 15TH ANNUAL EXHIBITION will be held at WIVELISCOMBE, on WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, and FRIDAY, 14th, 15th, and 16th MAY, 1902.

Prizes of over £1,000, Gold and Silver Medals, &c., for Competition for Horses, Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, Cheese, Butter, Butter-making; Cider, Wool, Horse-shoeing, Poultry, and Pigeons.

Entries close:—Stock and implements, 14th April; cheese, butter, wool, &c., 16th April; poultry and pigeons, 18th April. Post entries (double fees) 21st April.

Prize List and Entry Forms may be obtained of the Secretary.

WALTER R. J. GREENSLADE,
3, Hammet Street, Taunton.

SUFFOLK AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION.

President: CHARLES HUGH BERNERS, Esq.

IPSWICH SHOW, JUNE 5th and 6th.

Prizes, £1,460 Value.

Membership, £1 per annum. Privileges:—Compete for prizes; nominate candidate for labourers' premiums; free admission to show and grand stand; subject to election by April 7th.

Entries Close MAY 7th.

Prize List and Entry Forms on application.

ROBERT BOND,
Secretary.

Ipswich

SOCIETIES.

NORTH-EAST AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION, BELFAST.

THE SPRING SHOW

Will be held on the Association's Premises,
APRIL 30th, MAY 1st and 2nd,

Prizes, Premiums, Cups, and Special Prizes to the value of over £2,000.

Entries close April 5. Double fees, April 12

KENNETH MACRAE, Secretary.
37, Donegal Place, Belfast.

ROYAL COUNTIES' AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.
Patron—H.M. THE KING.
President, 1902, J. HERBERT BENYON, Esq.

GREAT SHOW AT READING, JUNE 10th, 11th, 12th, and 13th, 1902.
Over £2,000 in Prizes.

ENTRIES CLOSE as follows:—DAIRY HERDS and IMPLEMENTS, &c., April 5th; (post entries at extra fee, April 12th); LIVE STOCK, April 19th; (post entries at double fees, April 26th); POULTRY, BUTTER MAKING, and HORSE SHOEING, May 10th.

Schedules of Prizes and Forms of Entry may be obtained of the Secretary,
FRANKLIN SIMMONS,
BASINGSTOKE.

AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION.

ROYAL AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE,
CIRENCESTER.

PATRON.—H.M. KING EDWARD VII.

For Land-Owners, Land Agents, Surveyors, Agriculturists, intending Colonists, etc.
For Prospectus apply to the PRINCIPAL.

NEXT SESSION begins TUESDAY, MAY, 27th.

THE YORKSHIRE COLLEGE, LEEDS.

AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

SUMMER SESSION begins APRIL 15th. The Course comprises Forestry, Practical Agricultural Chemical Analysis, Dairying, Practical Farming, Surveying and Levelling at Garforth, Poultry Keeping, and Horticulture. Inclusive fee £5. Prospectus may be had from the REGISTRAR.

IMPORTANT TO AGRICULTURISTS.

THE COUNTESS OF WARWICK'S SECONDARY AND AGRICULTURAL SCHOOL, Bigods, Dunmow Essex. Secondary and Scientific Education. Workshops, Dairy, Poultry Runs, Gardens, Bees, Horticultural Plots, and Agricultural Experimental Plots. Boys and Girls between the ages of 12 and 18 are received. Board and Tuition, 30 guineas per annum. Principal: E. E. HENNESEY, B.A., S.Sc. Agricultural Master: THOS. HACKING, Gold Medallist, R.A.S.E. For Prospectus apply to the Sec.

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SPECIAL ADVANTAGES TO PRIVATE INSURERS.

THE IMPERIAL INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED. FIRE. Established 1803. 1, Old Broad Street, E.C., 22, Pall Mall, S.W., and 47, Chancery Lane, W.C. Subscribed Capital, £1,200,000. Paid up £300,000. Total Funds over £1,500,000.—E. COZENS SMITH, General Manager.

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R. W. JEANS, Manager.

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EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY,
ACCIDENT AND DISEASE
(Small Pox, Scarlet Fever, yphoid, Diphtheria, &c.
BURGLARY & FIDELITY INSURANCE.
RAILWAY PASSENGERS' ASSURANCE CO., Established 1849. Claims paid £4,450,000.
A. VIAN, *Secretary.*
64, Cornhill London.

NORWICH UNION FIRE INSURANCE SOCIETY.
Founded 1797.
Head Office—Norwich; Surrey Street.
London Offices:—
50, Fleet Street, E.C.; 71, 72, King William Street, E.C.; St. James' Branch, 26, Charles St.; 195, Piccadilly, W.; 81, Edgware Road, W.; 1, Victoria Street, S.W.; and 124, West End Lane, N.W.
Amount Insured..... £284,600,000
Claims Paid £15,500,000
Agents wanted in Metropolitan Districts. Applications to be made to either of the above London Offices.
Norwich, March 25th, 1902.

AUCTION SALES.

OGWELL, DEVON.
NEAR NEWTON ABBOT.

IMPORTANT TO AGRICULTURISTS, CART HORSE BREEDERS, AND OTHERS.

RENDELL & SYMONS have been instructed by the Executors of the late D. R. SCRATTON, Esq., to SELL by AUCTION at SHUTE DENBURY, 3 miles from Newton Abbot, on FRIDAY, APRIL 11, 1902, at 3 p.m., the following valuable Shires:—The very fine 3-year-old Stallion OGWELL CONQUEROR 18995, 17 hands, a sure foal getter, and a very valuable Stud Horse. Three splendid Brood Mares: WHITSTONE FORTUNE 21153, 8 years old. WHITSTONE MORELLA 22715, 7 years old. WHITSTONE SARAH 25122, 6 years old, in constant work.

These are all in foal by Ogwell Conqueror.

7 very fine Fillies: 5 3-year-old, Montford Kathleen 33166, Montford Keal 33167, Montford Kate 33155, Montford Kit 33168, and Ogwell Princess 33333; 2-year-olds: Girton Pride, by Marmion II. 0885 out of Girton Prudence 26053, and Ogwell. Famous by Buckingham Harold 16570, out of Whitstone Fortune 21153. Also by permission, the property of the Ogwell Shire Horse Association, the very fine brown Stallion WOOLSTON PRIMATE 17093, foaled in 1896, bred by Mr. G. W. Edwards, Woolston, Oswestry, by Regent II. 6316. This horse stands 17 h. 2 in.; has sired some good stock, and is a good worker.

Conveyances will leave Newton Abbot station at 1 o'clock. Return fares, 1s. 6d.

Catalogues, with description and pedigrees, can be obtained of the Auctioneers, at Newton Abbot, or Totnes, Devon.

AUCTION SALES.

IMPORTANT SALE OF PEDIGREE CLYDESDALES, the property of

THE SEAHAM HARBOUR STUD, LIMITED,

will be held at the STUD FARM, SEAHAM HARBOUR, near Sunderland, on FRIDAY, 4th APRIL, 1902, at TWELVE o'clock, when the following will be submitted by PUBLIC AUCTION and without reserve, viz.:—

11 Clydesdale Brood Mares; 7 ditto Fillies, 1, 2, and 3 years; 7 ditto Yearling Colts; 7 ditto 2-year-old Colts; 5 ditto Stallions; 12 ditto Geldings, 4 to 6 years; 6 Cobs and Ponies for Saddle and Harness; 3 Pony Mares in foal; 1 16-hand Harness Horse.

Catalogues on application to Auctioneers, Messrs. A. T. & E. A. CROW, Sunderland, and from R. BRYDON, The Dene, Seaham Harbour.

PEDIGREE YORKSHIRE PIGS.
LARGE AND MIDDLE BREED.

MR. E. C. STRETCH, of Ormskirk, will SELL by AUCTION at the FARM of MR. PHILIP ASCROFT, RUFFORD, on FRIDAY, April 4th, at TWO O'CLOCK,

58 Head of Pedigree Yorkshire White, Large, and Middle PIGS, of the most famous prize winning strains.

It can be safely said that no superior collection has ever been offered for Sale.

Catalogues can be obtained from MR. ASCROFT; the Auctioneer; or "The Guardian" Office, Preston.

FARMS, ESTATES, MILLS, BUSINESSES, &c.

MESSRS. CRONK'S LIST of FARMS, containing particulars of numerous Farms in Kent, Surrey, Sussex, and elsewhere, to be obtained gratis at their offices or will be sent by post on receipt of a stamp. Properties inserted free.—12, Pall Mall, London, S.W., and Sevenoaks, Kent.

FARMS.—Rents from 10s. Acre; prices £7 Acre. Monthly List 2 stamps. RUTTER, 10, Norfolk Street, Strand, London.

BAXTER, PAYNE, AND LEPPER,
LAND AGENTS,
FARM AND TIMBER VALUERS, SURVEYORS, HOUSE AGENTS, AND AUCTIONEERS,

PREPARATION of PLANS, Superintending the Erection or Repairs of Farm Buildings, and Laying-out of Estates for Building, Planting, Drainage, &c.

MORTGAGES arranged, also Railway and other Compensations, Dilapidations, Division and Apportionment of Tithe Rent Charges, &c.

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Special attention paid to the Management of LANDED ESTATES, including LETTINGS, Collections of Rents, Tithes, and Valuation of Tenant Right.

Undertake valuations of FREEHOLD and LEASEHOLD ESTATES, and all kinds of PROPERTY for SALE either by AUCTION or PRIVATE CONTRACT.

SEPARATE LIST OF FARMS.

Auction dates are fixed as may be required.
London office: 69, King William Street, E.C.
Country offices: Bromley, Kent; and at Beckenham.

LIVE STOCK.

HORSES.

HACKNEYS.

MOORE, HENRY, Burn Butts, Canswick, Hull.—Pedigree Stud of HACKNEYS, including many prize-winners, yearlings, two years, and others.—Can be seen on application to Henry Moore.

LLOYD, WALTER, Heaselands, Hayward's Heath, Sussex. Small but select Stud of PEDIGREE HACKNEYS, Mares, Fillies, and Colts of best blood, including stock by Champion Ganymede, Agility, Winnal Fireaway, Model II., and other noted Stallions at moderate prices. Appointments to view the stud (which is 1½ miles from Hayward's Heath station, L.B. and S.C. Railway), on application to the owner as above.

LEES KNOWLES, M.P., Westwood, Pendlebury, Manchester. Breeder of Pedigree Hackneys, Stud Horses; Dane Canute, 5952, by Danegelt, 174; Dainty Duke, 7417 by Garton, Duke of Connaught, 3009; and Salford Felix, 7263, by Invincible, 1806. Stock on Sale by the above-named and other noted Sires.—For particulars apply to the STUD GROOM, Dam Head Farm, Mobberley, Cheshire, or to the Owner.

SHIRES.

MUNTZ, P. ALBERT, M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby. — SHIRE-BRED STALLIONS, COLTS, MARES, & FILLIES. About a hundred of all ages. Prize-winners London and other leading shows. Also high-class Shropshire SHEEP, winners first prize at Royal Agricultural, 1886, second in 1887, and first in 1888.—Apply, THOMAS EWART, Dunsmore Farm, Rugby.

CONCHAR, JOHN, Wylde Green, Birmingham.—Breeder of SHIRES and HACKNEYS. Some good Colts and Fillies for Sale. Five minutes from Station.

SHIRE STALLION.

FOR SALE.—Buscot Statesman," 17225, Bay, foaled 1897. Sire Markeaton Royal Harold 15225; Dam 16031 Asenath II. Buscot Statesman won:—1897: 2nd, R.S., Manchester. 1898: 1st, Gloucestershire; 1st, Moreton-in-the-Marsh. 1899: 3rd, Peterborough; 2nd, Hatfield, 1900: 9th, London Shire Horse Show. He is own brother to Buscot Senator sold to Lord Wantage for 700 guineas. This grand young horse is perfectly sound, a safe getter, and his stock are very promising.—For further particulars apply ALFRED AXE, Manor House, Bonsall, Matlock Bath.

SALOMONS, LEOPOLD, Norbury Park Shire Stud, Dorking. Stud Horses: Hendre Champion 18,079, Norbury Harold 18,977, Norbury Dane 16,867. Mares and Fillies usually for Sale.—For Stud Fees and particulars, apply to J. BASTIN, Norbury Park Farm, Dorking.

CLYDESDALES.

THE SEAHAM STUD, Ltd., Seaham Harbour, county Durham. The largest stud of Pedigree Clydesdales in the United Kingdom. Stallions, mares, colts, fillies always on sale. Inspection solicited.—Apply, R. BRYDON, Seaham Harbour.

PONIES.

MONTEFIORE, Rev. D. B., Mursley Hall, Winslow, Bucks.—Champion Arab Stallion "Mootrub," Polo Pony "Hurlingham," by Champion "Rosewater," and the thoroughbred Pony Stallion "Eheu," by "Despair." Particulars on application.

SHETLAND PONIES.—Anderson, John & Sons, Hillswick, Shetland (established 54 years), supply pedigreed Shetland Mares and Stallions of excellent breeding and quality, 9 to 11 hands, all colours. Shipments arranged for abroad.—Telegrams, ANDERSON, Hillswick.

MILLER, W. S., Forest Lodge, Brecon, S. Wales, Extensive Breeder and Exporter of best class of Welsh Mountain Ponies and Cobs.

CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS.

DALMENY SHORTHORN HERD, the property of the Earl of Rosebery, K.G. Bulls and Heifers of the choicest breeding always for sale at moderate prices.—Apply, MANAGER, Home Farm, Dalmeny Park, Edinburgh.

SWINBURNE, SIR JOHN, owns one of the Largest and Best Herds of PURE BATES SHORTHORNS in existence. The Herd being large, both Males and Females, of any age, can always be obtained. —Apply to JAMES HEPPLE, Bailiff, Capheaton, Newcastle-on-Tync.

WORDSWORTH, REGINALD, Duffcarrig, Gorey Co. Wexford. Herd of rent-paying Dairy Shorthorns (Cruickshank and Scotch strains) Successful in Dairy and Showyard. Young Bulls and in-calf Heifers of good colours for Sale Exportation orders faithfully executed.

WOOD, ROWLAND, Clapton, Thrapston, has on sale pure-bred Shorthorns (pedigree, constitution, and milk considered). Shire Horses, Berkshire Pigs.—Thorpe Station, N.W.R.

CRIDLAN, J. J., Maisemore Park, Gloucester. Erica, Pride of Aberdeen, Lady Ida, and other noted tribes. Stock Bulls, Eimed 12459 and Elate 16513. Bull Calves by Elate, Champion and Gold Medal Winner, 1901. Station 2 miles.

CATTLE (contd.).

DEVONS.

ROWE, F. W., Trevego, Lostwithiel, Cornwall. Breeder of pure-bred South Devon Cattle of best and purest strains of blood. Bulls, Cows and Heifers for inspection and sale.

BOWERMAN, ALFRED, Capton, Williton, Taunton, Somerset. Breeder of Pedigree DEVON CATTLE, Royal prize winners, noted for size, symmetry, and robust constitutions.

ABERDEEN ANGUS.

DALMENY-ABERDEEN-ANGUS HERD, the property of the Earl of Rosebery, K.G. Bulls and Heifers of the choicest breeding always for sale at moderate prices.—Apply, MANAGER, Home Farm, Dalmeny Park, Edinburgh.

OSENTON, GEORGE, Mariners, Westerham. — Pedigree Aberdeen-Angus Cattle.

McINTYRE, JOHN, Theakston, Bedale, Yorkshire.—Aberdeen-Angus Herd. Established 1883. 150 Head. 25 Thick-fleshed Yearling Bulls on Sale. Also females of best tribes.

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GRANT, GEO. SMITH, Auchorachan, Ballindalloch, Scotland. Aberdeen-Angus Cattle. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers for sale.

HOYLES, GEORGE, Skidby Manor, near Hull. Prize-bred Angus Bulls and Heifers and Pure Lincoln Longwool Sheep. Registered Flock No. 136. Fine long, lustrous fleeces. Shire Horses for export. Inspection invited.

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GUSH, GERALD F., Motspur Park, Malden, Surrey.—Herd of Aberdeen-Angus Cattle, Roses of Westertoun, Trojan, Ericas, &c. Several Bulls and Heifers for sale. Euroclydon 13400 and Earl Ito 16489 bulls used in herd.

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ILMINSTER HERD PEDIGREE JERSEYS. — Choice about 100 finest quality Cows and Heifers, in profit and calving all seasons; prices moderate; inspection invited; shipper to all parts. — R. WHEADON, Ilminster.

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SHEEP.

LINCOLN LONGWOOL.

DUDDING, HENRY, Riby Grove, Gt. Grimsby, Lincolnshire, has always for inspection and sale a large flock of pure LINCOLN LONGWOOL SHEEP, including many prize-winners, having taken the leading prizes for many years at the Royal and other shows for both rams and ewes, including champion medals at both the Paris Exhibitions, Vienna, Amsterdam, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and all the leading prizes at Chicago; also the first for the best collection of Lincoln fleeces of wool at the Royal Windsor Show, which proves the character of this flock, which is most famous for their great size and 125 years' good breeding; Rams from this flock made the highest average on record last year. Riby Grove is seven miles from Great Grimsby, and three from Stallingboro' Station. Telegrams, "Dudding, Keelby."

CARTWRIGHT, JAMES, Dunston Pillar, Lincoln. Pure Bred Lincoln Rams and Ewes. Flock Book No. 53. The greater part of this flock has gone to Buenos Ayres for the last 15 or 20 years. Also Pure Bred Berkshire Pigs always on sale. Inspection invited.

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SHEEP (contd.).

OXFORD DOWNS.

TREADWELL, JOHN, Upper Winchendon, Aylesbury. Oxford Down Sheep. Annual Ram Sale, first Wednesday in August. Prizes won at R.A.S.E, 24 years in succession. Ewes for sale.

FISHER, G. S., Broughton Lodge, Kettering. Annual Sale of Rams at Kettering, 2nd Friday in August. This Flock obtains many prizes. Inspection invited. Sheep generally for Sale.

HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.

COLES, CARY, Manor House, Winterbourne, Stoke, Salisbury.—Registered HAMPSHIRE DOWNS, prize-winners Royal, Bath and West, and Royal Counties Shows; Salisbury Prize Sheep Fair, 1900 and 1901. Twenty-five guinea Challenge Cup best pen 8 Ram Lambs. Flock numbers 1,200. All ages for sale.

FLOWER, JAMES, Chilmark, Salisbury. Undoubtedly the leading flock of the day; in show yard records at all the largest shows, including the Challenge Cup at the Salisbury Great Prize Sheep Fair six years in succession; also highest average last eight years for 100 ram lambs at annual sale at Britford Fair, August 12, Ram Lambs and Ewes. The Flock is one of the oldest existing, combining fine quality, strength, constitution, and true character.

SHROPSHIRES.

COOPER, WILLIAM, AND NEPHEWS, "Cooper's Dip" Works, Berkhamsted, England. BREEDERS and EXPORTERS of PURE SHROPSHIRE SHEEP. First Prize for five Shearling Rams, Second for Shearling Ram, and Second for Shearling Ewes, at the Royal Show, Cardiff, 1901. First and Third for Ewes, Royal Show, 1898. 500 breeding Ewes. Largest export flock of Shropshires in England. Sires used this season include four First Prize Royal winners. The 310 Guinea Champion "Royal Record," "Ashlyns Knight" (winner of Six Firsts and two Champions), "Shenstone Cardiff," and "Royal Cardiff."—For particulars apply to FRANK WEBB, Estate Office, Shenstone, Lichfield, or J. P. MILNE, Ashlyns, Berkhamsted.

NOCK, EDWARD, Sutton Maddock, Shifnal, Salop.—Owner of the old Sutton Maddock Pedigree Shropshire Flock. Founded 1832. Purest strains of blood. Registered in Flock Book.

PIGS.

BERKSHIRES.

BURBIDGE, EDWARD, Wraxhall, Bradford-on-Avon. Pedigree Berkshire Pigs, bred from Royal and Bath and West Champion blood. Acknowledged one of largest type of Berkshires in England. Purchasers met by appointment.

PEDIGREE BERKSHIRE PIGS The Earl of Carnarvon's Prize-winning Herd. Boars and Gelts, eligible for Herd Book, always on offer. Prices Moderate.—Apply, W. T. HALL, Highclere Farm, Newbury.

PIGS BERKSHIRE. — Apply, C. BEVAN, Mapledurham, Reading. Pedigree Berkshire Pigs, pure-bred Boars, and Gilts of all ages, and at moderate prices.

STALL PITTS HERD OF PEDIGREE BERKSHIRES. One of the Oldest Herds Unsurpassed for true character, size, and quality. Choice selection of Boars and Sows on offer at moderate prices.—J. LAWRENCE, Stall Pitts, Shrivenham, Berks.

J. H. R. HORWOOD. Pedigree Berkshires, one of the best breeders in England. Several 1st and Champions again this year. Very choice Pigs exported all over the World, and for Sale, at very reasonable prices.—Manor Farm, Drayton Beauchamp, Tring.



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DALMENY HERD of LARGE WHITE PEDIGREE PIGS, the property of the Earl of Rosebery, K.G. YOUNG BOARS and SOWS of the very best quality and choicest breeding for SALE at moderate prices.—Apply, MANAGER, Home Farm, Dalmeny Park, by Edinburgh.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, Stoke Farm Herd Large White Pigs, est. over 20 years. Boars and Gelts at moderate prices. Inspection invited.—A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

LARGE AND MIDDLE WHITE YORKSHIRE PIGS.—HERD of Mr. Manners' (President National Pig Breeders' Association) choice Boars and Gelts of the best strains; winners of silver and bronze medals Paris International Exhibition.—Apply MANAGER, Fornham Pk., Bury St. Edmunds.

OWTRAM, HERBERT H., Newland Herd Pedigree Large White Yorkshires, all entered or eligible for Herd Book. Winners of many Prizes leading shows.—BAILIFF, Newland Hall, Bay Horse Station, Lancaster.

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DEWHIRST A., Ryecroft Farm, Dudley Hill, Bradford. — Pedigree LARGE and MIDDLE WHITE PIGS. Also few BERKSHIRES for sale. All bred on farm. 200 to select from. One champion, 28 firsts, 24 seconds, 16 thirds won this year.

PIGS (continued).

MIDDLE WHITES (cont.).

ASHFORTH JOSEPH, Dronfield, Sheffield, offers Large and Middle-white Breeding Pigs; herd established over quarter of a century; prices moderate.

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NEWNHAM HALL HERD of Improved Pedigree Yorkshire Pigs is one of the largest Herds of pure-bred Pigs in the United Kingdom. Boars and Gilts at moderate prices. — NEVILLE J. HINE, Newnham Hall, Baldock, Herts.

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CATTLE AND SHEEP FOR WINTERING. E. GOODWIN PREECE, Live Stock Agent and Exporter, Shrewsbury, will be glad to receive orders for the PURCHASE of CATTLE and SHEEP, which, owing to the shortness of winter keep in the West of England, can now be bought very cheaply. A good profit is assured either for feeding or wintering.

Several lots of Shropshire and Clun ewes, Shropshire, Oxford and Lincoln rams, and cattle of various classes on sale, which can be seen by appointment.

Address, Portland House, Shrewsbury.

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CEYLON'S WATERGLASS. The best egg preserver, 1½lb. tins 9d., sufficient for 100 eggs, postage 4d., 8lb. 3s., carr. paid.—C. LUNN, Chemical Works, Kirkburton.

EGGS.—Buff and Black Orpingtons, Barred and Buff Rocks, Black Minorcas, White, Buff and Black Leghorns and Houdans, 6s. and 7s. 6d. sitting; unfertiles replaced; catalogue free.—G. DAY, Ash, Wrotham, Kent.

WATERGLASS, the most perfect egg preserver known; sample bottle, with full directions, carriage free, for 1s.; quotations for any quantity, also for Shell Flint Grits, &c.—THE EXCAVATOR CO., Ltd., 18, Ironmonger Lane, London.

CALWAY'S Circular Hot-Air Chicken Rearer has the largest sale of any Foster-Mother in this country; 30 to 50-chick size, 12s 6d.; 50 to 100-chick size, 25s.

THE LATEST IMPROVEMENT IN CALWAY'S CHICKEN REARER is the new Lamp. Full particulars free.

POULTRY KEEPING IN THE 20th CENTURY; 1s. post free. Send for a copy; it will interest you.

MAKE your own Poultry Spice. Valuable receipt free. Send stamp for postage.—WILLIAM CALWAY, Gloucester.

POULTRY YARD.—The best money can buy. Reliable Eggs for sitting; and pure bred Cockerels and Pullets, from the following high-class birds with superior laying qualities. Guaranteed unequalled. Breeds—Anconas, Blue Andalusians, Black Minorcas, White, Brown, Buff, and Black Leghorns, Buff and Barred Rocks, Gold and Silver spangled and Black Hamburghs, Buff and Black Orpingtons, Houdans, Langshans, Campines, Dark and Silver Dorkings, Indian Game, Buff Cochins, Light Brahmas, Gold, Silver and Buff Wyandottes, and Aylesbury, Rouen, and Indian Runner Ducks. Eggs, all varitties, 4s. 6d. sitting; 50 Eggs, 16s.; 100 Eggs, £1 10s., all guaranteed fertile or replaced free. Ten Cockerels of above varieties, 7s. 6d. and 10s. 6d. each; Pullets 5s. and 6s. each.—Advice gratis. Vacancy for Pupil.—JOHN PARMINTER, Farmer, Southorpe, Stamford.

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Ball, Harry, Auctioneer, Valuer, and Estate Agent, Duke Street, (Monthly Register). Telephone No. 080.

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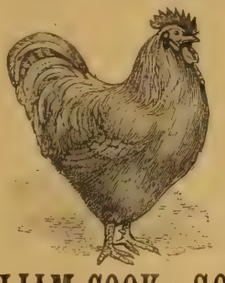
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KALE AND KOHL-RABI.

Arable sheep farmers are very generally sounding the praises of these two plants just now, for they have once more aided materially in saving their flocks from being destitute of green food this spring, the value of which to those who have ewes suckling young lambs can scarcely be appreciated too highly. As flockmasters and shepherds should generally be aware, kale sends out its sprouts far earlier than either swedes or turnips, which is of great importance to all who desire their ewes to lamb down as early in the year as possible. Lambs seldom thrive satisfactorily, and certainly not economically, without adequate pickings of green feed, either of grass or of some tillage crop that can be provided for them, and of the latter there is nothing that can possibly surpass the tender shoots of kale. There is ample proof just now that the most succulent shoots of turnip-greens are very inferior, for, although lambs are remarkably fond of them, scouring invariably ensues whenever they partake heartily of this diet. There were large breadths of late-sown common turnips raised last autumn; and, indeed, but for that many farmers would have had scarcely any. Owing to the recent mild weather, these are now running to tops rapidly, and in all cases of ewes and lambs having to feed them, the latter have scoured dreadfully; and nothing weakens a lamb so much, or tends to undermine constitutional vigour more, than when a tendency to scour lays hold of the system. On the other hand, kale, however succulent, can be partaken of with impunity, and will never cause the slightest scouring.

When the late Mr. Robert Russell delivered his famous lecture on the plant at the Farmers' Club, he laid great stress on the remarkably healthy property of kale. Nothing that could be grown would agree with the sheep's internal organic system better, he said. He grew it in preference to rape for his lambs in autumn, because of the serious loss rape-feeding is liable to cause by gases being engendered so rapidly in the intestines, that a dozen sheep have been known to drop down dead suddenly in a couple of minutes, before the shepherd was aware there was danger. But kale never causes this terrible gastrisis, or engenders the slightest internal disorder, yet Mr. Russell insisted on the point that it was quite as nutritive as rape, or, at least, that he had found it to be so. Another very intelligent argument adduced by him was based also on his own experience, to the effect that in-lamb ewes can be allowed to partake of kale freely all through the period of pregnancy without there being any risk of abortion or of still-born lambs coming; whereas the fact is generally known that shepherds do not dare to give their in-lamb ewes many turnips, lest flooding of the womb should lead to one or other of these disasters. Mr. Russell was often heard to declare that his losses from abortion and deaths in lambing, in his flock of about 330 ewes, scarcely would average one per cent., and that in more than one year the entire

twelve months had passed without a single ewe having been lost. As to scouring, we have never heard the declaration disputed that kale-fed sheep are entirely exempt from the affection.

Owing to the frequent recurrence of drought summers, it has proved a matter of great difficulty to secure good swede crops in recent years, and the good policy of growing kale, or kohl-rabi, instead has over and over again suggested itself. Even before this was the case, it became very customary to grow swedes and kale together as a twin crop, solely to obtain the advantage of the early sprouting of the kale in early spring for the suckling lambs, whose dams would have the swedes cut and given to them in troughs. There is, however, another great advantage in taking this course, in being able to make more sure of a crop, for should fly carry away the young swede plants, the kale would most likely succeed, and in the event of fresh sowings meeting a similar fate, there would be abundant young kale to transplant, and fill up all intervals. The disposition to attempt the growth of swedes with kale appears to be very much on the increase, the system being to drill the seed of kohl-rabi and kale at the same time, three rows of one and three of the other; and, according to the experience of some very large flock-masters, there is no crop for the winter-feeding of sheep that answers better. Mr. George Adams, the well-known Oxford Down sheep-breeder, is accustomed to keep his ewes and lambs on kale and kohl-rabi until April, after which, until May, he prefers kale and swedes. Mr. Robert W. Hobbs, another distinguished Oxford Down breeder is likewise fond of both dual crops.

Very questionable is it, however, whether Mr. Gorringe, on the Sussex hills, has not hit on the surest and most economical way of providing sheep with succulent food throughout the winter, because it saves so much manual labour. Kale, like rape, can be grown profitably, without the plants requiring to be singled out by hand. Mr. Gorringe, taking advantage of this, and having found in the past great difficulty in raising swedes and turnips, to get labourers to thin them out, has for several years grown little else for his big flock of a thousand lambing-down ewes but kale, that has had no hand-thinning or any other riddance of surplus plants than a set of light harrows drawn across the field at the proper time would take out.

Growing kale in this way would meet two common objections sometimes urged against its culture, besides conferring the desirable benefit of labour-saving. The unsightly, troublesome stalks which are left behind after a crop has been fed off would not be produced, because they are the result of the bush growth which develops so many thousand heads, causing a field to appear exceedingly beautiful, with its bulky, handsome shrubs, but taxing the resources of the soil somewhat to produce them. And this leads up to the other objection, which is, that kale requires a much larger quantity of manure than swedes. This possibly may be true, if the old way of imparting tree-growth be pursued, but most likely the woody fibre of the big stalks is what pulls the land. Growing kale after the system of Mr. Gorringe ought not to require more than 3cwt. superphosphate and 1cwt. nitrate soda, and when, as often is the case, a precious green crop is fed off previously, so as to leave a legacy in sheep-droppings, the nitrate might be dispensed with. Gardeners find that by ridding peas of their lengthy stalks they can produce more pods. Fruit-growers also get abundant crops of pears on their dwarf trees by curtailing the wood; and, on the like principle, the rationale of depriving kale of waste woody fibre, and growing alone what is valuable, may be vindicated.



By a Man of Mark Lane.

In the "Crop Reporter," the official organ of the United States Department of Agriculture, it is stated that the total exports of breadstuffs from the United States for the seven months ended January 31 of the fiscal year 1901-2 show a decrease in value, as compared with those of the corresponding months of the previous fiscal year, of 10,339,720dols. The decrease is due chiefly to a heavy decline in the exports of corn and oats. Exports of corn during the seven months under consideration amounted in value to only 12,947,980dols., against 52,969,826dols. in the corresponding period of the previous fiscal year, a decline, it will be noted, of over 40,000,000dols. Exports of oats, likewise, show a decrease of over 3,000,000dols., the exports of the first seven months of 1901-2 having been 3,199,730dols., against 6,387,998 dols. for the corresponding period of 1900-1.

This deficit of over 43,000,000dols. in the exports of corn and oats was, however, offset to a large extent by an increase of over 32,500,000dols. in the exports of wheat and wheat flour. Exports of wheat for the seven months ended January 31, 1902, amounted in value to 78,793,749dols., against 48,503,503 dols. for the like period in the preceding fiscal year, an increase of over 30,000,000dols., while exports of wheat flour for the same period in 1901-2 amounted to 41,853,518dols., against 39,165,338dols. for the corresponding months of 1900-1, an increase of over 2,500,000dols.

Thus it will be seen that of the 10,339,720dols. deficit in exports of breadstuffs in the first seven months of 1901-2 over those in the same months in 1900-1, all but about 1,000,000dols. is accounted for in the combined exports of wheat, wheat flour, corn and oats.

In the second general memorandum on the Indian wheat crop of the season 1901-2, issued by the Statistical Department of the Government of India, it is stated that the sowings of wheat were everywhere made under somewhat adverse conditions, owing to the early withdrawal of the monsoon. Moreover, the winter rains gave a very inadequate supply of moisture wherever they fell, and they were entirely absent from Western and Central India. It is anticipated, therefore, that the wheat crop generally will be substantially below the average. From the reports of the individual provinces, it would appear that the area under cultivation is very much below the normal.

The receipts on account of Revenue from April 1, 1901, when there was a balance of £5,596,918, to March 22, 1902, were £139,787,210, against £128,004,366, in the corresponding period of the preceding financial year, which began with a balance of £3,517,047. The net expenditure was £187,322,499, against £178,250,508 to the same date in the previous year. The Treasury balances on March 22, 1902, amounted to £13,590,874, and at the same date in 1901 to £9,263,356.

The Department of Land Records and Agriculture for the North-Western Provinces and Oudh on February 26 issued its second forecast of the linseed and rapeseed crops for 1901-2, in which it was stated that the season had been unusually dry and the growth of the plants had been retarded where the supply of moisture was insufficient. The light rainfall received towards the close of December and the beginning of January benefitted the rapeseed and linseed crops, which were badly in need of rain. The crops have generally escaped from fungoid diseases, but rapeseed is reported to have been somewhat injured from frost in places. Harvesting has now commenced. In the Meerut and Agra divisions, where rain was scanty from the beginning, but where oilseed crops are not largely grown, the out-turn is not expected to exceed 75 per cent. of the normal. In the other divisions the crops are comparatively better, being about 90 per cent. in Allahabad and 80 per cent. in the other divisions, taken as a whole.

According to the recently issued census returns, the United States cotton crop of 1899-1900 yielded to the farmers 4,566,000 tons of cottonseed, worth 10.28dols. per ton, or in the aggregate 46,951,000dols. It is not much more than thirty years since cottonseed was thrown away. In most cotton-growing districts its destruction was enforced by law, in order to avoid the poisoning of streams or the destruction of cattle. In 1870 practically all the cottonseed oil was exported, and its value was 15,000dols. The exports of cotton oil in 1900 were 49,357,000 gallons, worth 16,521,000dols. The seed crushed represented only half the available supply.

Of the by-products there were 900,000 tons of cake and meal of the value of 16,000,000dols. at the mill. Over one-half of this was exported to Europe for cattle feed. The remainder was consumed at home, chiefly as fertiliser in the South, mixed as follows: ¼ cotton meal, ¼ potash, etc., ½ phosphate rock. Another by-product are the hulls—in 1900 1,200,000 tons—which are used for cattle feed, hundreds of thousands of cattle being fattened with it, and new experiments have shown that excellent use can be made of them as paper stocks. The linters (short lint) recovered from the seed—over 57,000,000lb. in 1900—are used as filling for cheap cotton materials, carpets, wadding, etc.

I have received a copy of the second forecast of the wheat crop of the Punjab for the year 1901-2, issued by the local Department of Land Records and Agriculture, on February 25th. In it is stated that from the time of submission of the first forecast up to the middle of the current month (February) there has been no rain at all anywhere in the province, and no further sowings of wheat have been possible. The total area now estimated to be under wheat in the Punjab is 6,118,900 acres. This is 95,000 acres or 1.5 per cent., less than the area returned in the forecast of November last, and 1,735,000 acres, or 22.1 per cent., less than the area given in the last year's final report.

The falling off is due simply to early cessation of the monsoon of 1901 and to the failure of winter rains. No improvement can be expected, as the sowing time has long expired. On the other hand, it is probable that if existing weather conditions continue, the greater part of the unirrigated area—2,970,100 acres—will entirely fail. In many places it has already commenced to wither. The irrigated crop is in average condition.

At a meeting held at Washington on Wednesday, the final steps for the formation of a National Millers' Federation, representing a capital of four hundred million dollars, and a flour output of one hundred million barrels, were taken, and the officers of the federation elected. The president of the federation declared that it should endeavour to extend the flour market by diplomatic and commercial reciprocity or otherwise. Resolutions protesting against the high dockage rates in London were adopted.



By a Lobbyist.

Both the great measures introduced into the House of Commons during the present week are of direct interest to the rural classes, the first, perhaps of indirect interest, but the second of direct interest, as enunciating new principles applying to the land, which, though at this moment restricted to Ireland, may, in their contagious influence yet have a serious effect upon English agrarian politics. I will deal with both measures in their order. Frankly, I doubt whether the new Education Bill will pass in its present form. At first there were a section of Radicals, led by that rather lachrymose philosopher, Mr. Haldane, who were inclined to give it cordial greetings, but since that Radical antagonism has stiffened. The mere fact is that the Bill is, in itself, an anomoly and a paradox. It calls into existence a new educational authority—which, of course, is to take the place of the School Boards—and then this body is to possess no emphatic powers to do anything. The educational committees which are to be appointed by the Councils on the nomination of other bodies may, or may not, carry out the purpose for which they are to be called into existence. Then, even these committees are to have no representative character. They are to include "persons of experience in education"—an ambiguous sentence, which may mean the dominance of clericalism. Finally, the voluntary schools—whose work no man ought to deride—are apparently to be given unlimited use of the public rates, and that without any corresponding public control. I judge this from the fact that the public authority, such as it is, will only have the power of appointing one-third of the managers of these voluntary schools.

Permissive in its character, unrepresentative in the method which it would pursue, disloyal to the now accepted principle that where public moneys are spent there ought to be public control, the Bill is doomed not to settle the educational controversy, but to embitter it. Should it be carried, it would only be the precursor to a new propaganda by the advocate of popular sectarian education. I had anticipated that this measure would prove a great boon to the rural districts. I sadly fear that it will prove a great deterrent to their mental development. We cannot eliminate education from the villages—that is certain. What we, then, ought to do is to give it such a character as will better fit the pupils for their after-life. What does this Bill do? Well, it certainly does not pretend to do this. What it does do, however, is practically to penalise the villages resorting to it. The provision in the Bill that any capital expenditure for an elementary school will fall only on the parish or parishes served by the school imposes a fine on the well-disposed. Hitherto the idea has existed that the Government would see to it that the expenditure was spread over the county area. What body of village labourers, unless they are inspired by an idealistic care for the future of their lads, will deliberately mulct themselves in a serious expense? They will probably have only to look to the neighbouring villages to see their fellows jogging along comfortably, without indulging in any such heroic expense. Naturally, the idea will be suggested that it is a piece of Quixotic foolishness to mulct themselves.

I believe that the Bill is a bad thing for education, a bad thing for the influence which the priesthood still exerts upon our educational system, and a bad thing for voluntaryism. The re-dowering of the voluntary schools and the re-placing of the control in the hands of an ill-regulated body elected in an *ad captandum* manner will inspire revolt. It is thus, in my view, a very mistaken sop to clericalism—a sop which will have a boomerang character, and strike a return buffet at the obect it is intended to benefit.

Frankly, I do not see what the new educational authority can seriously accomplish. It is, in the first place, given a permissive capacity, and then the managers of any existing schools may join with ten ratepayers in petitioning the Board of Education against any school proposed by this authority. What, in the name of common-sense, does this mean but depriving these non-representative bodies of all power but that of doling out money to the voluntary schools? I have again and again lauded the work of the voluntary system; but this measure is, I repeat, calculated to provoke a feeling which may secure its ruin. It is a queer hodge-podge of fancy franchises, indecision, and unwise ungenerosity. In this last sentence I am repeating the language of one of the most resolute Conservatives in the House. This Bill is a bad thing, especially for the rural education of the villages, and it is calculated to breed a miserable crop of disputes between the Church and the Nonconformists educationists. It is no turgid democrat who writes this, as my readers know. Can it be that the Government is riding for a fall?

The fatal stamp of voluntaryism, or, rather, of permissivism, is over Mr. Wyndham's Irish Land Bill. I hope that I shall not be branded with inconsistency if I frankly declare that I think that in this instance this policy is wise. The purpose of Mr. George Wyndham is, apparently, to finally apply the principles of compulsory purchase to the whole of Ireland. This, however, is too great a revolution to be adopted, in the first instance, in anything but a tentative fashion. Of course, I am aware that in proceeding in this manner you may accidently intensify discontent. Supposing, for instance, that ten out of every hundred estates are sold—and it must not be forgotten that the one lesson of present-day experience in Ireland is that the farmer who is on his way to become a freeholder pays less for his land than the ordinary tenant—you cannot expect the tenants on the other ninety estates to be possessed by a holy satisfaction because of the lanlords' indisposition to sell. All this danger, great as it is in the present electrical state of the Irish atmosphere, has to be faced. We may have strikes against rent, as we have now on the DeFreyne Estate; but the question is if much more significant evils than this might not be bred of the too-hurried adoption of the compulsory principle of purchase. Expatriation of the Irish landlords may be a good policy; but I am convinced that if it be so, it is not wise to rush to it in a bull-headed fashion, simply at the dictate of that very emotional person, Mr. T. W. Russell.

I am whole-hearted in my sympathy with this Bill, both with the methods it adopts and the tentative fashion in which it proceeds. In applying the machinery of the Congested Districts Board to the whole of Ireland, it has adopted a machinery which has been proved to have been effective in character and practical in operation. In turning the Land Commission from the work of rent-fixing to that of a grand salesman of Irish land, the Government has shown a wise appreciation of a valuable body; and in allowing that Commission to become an actual landlord to the tune of a million's-worth at a time, it reveals an absence of niggardliness which should have an effect on the impressionable Irish tenants. What is more, in offering the landlord, in payment, definite cash instead of land-stock, and in rendering unnecessary the entire process of transfer, examination of title and the whole irritating procedure which attends sale in unhappy England, the Government holds out an inducement which in some districts will be as effective as compulsory powers. There is only one serious blot on the Bill from the tenant's point of view. Suppose that when he makes an application to have a fair rent fixed the landlord asks the Land Commission to fix terms of purchase. Should the tenant refuse to consent to those terms, he loses his right to have a fair rent fixed, and he reverts to the old rent. This is the one barrier to the acceptance of the Bill. It had better be dropped.

Is there any prospect of even an attempt being made to re-produce this Bill in England? I spoke to some of the most extreme land reformers in the House—land reform now is but a dulcet aspiration, and no longer an assertive ambition—in reference to this point, and they agreed that the Bill was only justified by the peculiar conditions which exist in Ireland. The land system there has been hopelessly broken down. Here in England it is accepted with only one or two mild expostulations against minor anomalies, which serve to throw into greater relief its very acceptability. This is a bold venture—at least, so far as the principle involved is concerned—to save a desperate situation.

OUR LIST OF SHOWS.

The Mark Lane Express

POCKET BOOK

AND

LIST OF AGRICULTURAL SHOWS.

Our list of Agricultural Shows is this year issued in the form of a pocket book, of a convenient size, which, in addition to containing the Show Fixtures for 1902, includes a considerable amount of useful information, consisting of Railway Rates for Stock, tables, etc. The Pocket Book consists of 72 pages and cover, and is of a size eminently suitable for the purpose for which it is intended. A vacant page for memoranda faces each page of the Show Fixtures, and this arrangement will be found of great use, enabling readers to easily and quickly make a note of any prospective engagements.

Copies of the "Mark Lane Express Pocket Book and List of Agricultural Shows" may be obtained free upon application to 1, Essex Street, Strand, London, W.C., the only stipulation being that ½d. stamp for each copy required is forwarded to cover the cost of postage.

Market Tolls.—In the Chancery Division on Monday Mr. Justice Farwell gave judgment in an action by the Duke of Newcastle for the purpose of asserting his rights to tolls exacted in respect of fairs within the town of Worksop. The duke's predecessors had acquired the right to hold markets and fairs and to collect tolls in respect of the same, the charters going back to Edward I. The duke had granted a lease of all the markets and rights to tax to the Worksop Urban District Council, but he wanted to prevent them collecting tolls on the ordinary market days coincident with fair days, on the ground that the fairs swallowed up the markets, and that only fair tolls were payable on these days. It did not appear that, as a matter of fact, any fair tolls as such had been collected by the duke or his predecessors for a great number of years when the fairs were duly proclaimed by the duke's public criers His lordship dissented from the contention that it was impossible for a market to be held on a fair's day, and came to the conclusion that the lease by the duke to the District Council of the markets' rights was executed on the assumption that no fair tolls would be collected. He accordingly gave judgment against the duke, and dismissed the action with costs as between solicifor and client.

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Western Agriculture.*

Much interesting information on the agriculture of Canada and the United States was gathered by Professor F. B. Smith, of the South-Eastern Agricultural College, in his recent visit to those countries. Professor Smith has embodied his experiences and the results of his investigations in a book under the head of "Agriculture in the New World." His first object in undertaking the tour was to visit the various agricultural colleges and experiment stations, and thus glean some idea of the systems of teaching agriculture in vogue in America, and also observe the results of these systems. Secondly, he wished to observe the aid rendered by the two great Governments to agriculturists and the organisation of state-aided agricultural education and research. Mr. Smith says that "the inhabitants of the New World are great believers in education and in the importance of developing the faculties of each individual to the full, and one of the facts which struck me most forcibly during my journey was the brightness and intelligence of the people. Recent as is the settlement of the North American continent when compared with our own civilisation, systematic agricultural education is of older growth there than here, and the provisions made for it exhibit wonderful forethought and sagacity. Indeed, the system of agricultural education and research in vogue in the United States at the present time is the most comprehensive, and, judged by results, the most practical of any nation in the world. Canada, though the resources at its command are not equal to those of the United States, is doing its best, and is pursuing a wise and enlightened policy.

"The desirability of some form of agricultural education was recognised in the United States as far back as the close of the eighteenth century; and the present development is the outcome of the agitations and experiments which have been conducted from that time onward. In the early days of the movement, several agricultural schools and colleges were founded, sometimes by state aid, but more frequently by private enterprise. For various reasons most of these institutions failed to realise the expectations of their promoters, and gradually ceased to exist, and it was not until about the middle of last century that the foundations of the present system were laid. The passing of the Morrill Act of 1862, and the consequent establishment of the Land Grant colleges, marked a new era, and placed matters upon an entirely different footing, and from that time onwards agricultural education has steadily progressed until, by a process of evolution, it has attained its present position.

"Thus, at the present time, there is in every state of the Union at least one agricultural college, and one experiment station; which, though closely associated and mutually helpful to each other, are distinct as far as organisation and revenue are concerned. Munificent as are these endowments, so useful have the colleges and stations proved, and so greatly have their efforts been appreciated, that in many instances the various states in which they are situated have largely supplemented their incomes by additional grants, and the amount of money spent upon them is enormous—for instance, in 1900 the total income of the 65 colleges then in existence amounted to no less than £1,286,209, and of the 57 experiment stations £234,171, or a grand total of £1,520,380. Though the Federal Government has endowed the colleges and stations so liberally, it has reserved to itself no share in the administration of the funds thus provided, and the various states are at liberty to lay out the money as they think fit, so long as it is not devoted to purposes other than those specified by donating acts.

"The Federal Government has so far confined itself to assisting the colleges and stations, leaving the various states to make such provision for elementary and secondary agricultural education as they may deem expedient. In this respect there is considerable variation; some states are doing nothing in the way of agricultural education beyond administering the funds obtained under the Morrill and Hatch Acts; whilst others are endeavouring to introduce agriculture or nature study into the curriculum of the rural schools, and in a few instances tentative attempts are being made to establish a system of secondary education in the shape of farm schools. In most states there is a well-organised system of extension teaching, usually consisting of popular lectures and addresses delivered at farmers' clubs and institutes, by members of the college staff and other selected speakers.

"In Canada matters are rather different; the Dominion Government maintains and controls a series of experimental farms, somewhat akin to the experiment stations in the States, but it undertakes no responsibility with regard to agricultural education, such instruction as is given being provided entirely by the various provinces. Through lack of time I had to confine my investigations in that country to the Province of Ontario; and there I found a thorough and complete system of agricultural education in vogue, commencing with classes in the elementary schools and culminating with the college at Guelph.

"The Agricultural Departments of the two countries and of the states and provinces within them differ considerably from the English Board of Agriculture in many ways. In the first place the offices are more liberally supported, they are larger and more completely organised than ours; and consequently they have greater opportunities of exercising their functions. The manner in which the different bureaus and offices of the Department at Washington, for example, are equipped and conducted, is greatly in advance of anything we have in this country. In many respects, as, for instance, in the collection of promising varieties of seeds and plants from all parts of the globe; in the raising of new varieties of plants; in the assistance and encouragement afforded to stock-breeders; in the improvement and cheapening of methods of transport; in the opening up of new markets, and in the steps taken to ensure that only reliable and suitable produce shall be exported, etc.; and in the general efforts made to organise the agricultural industry, they more closely resemble the bureaus of certain Continental nations than the English Board of Agriculture.

"This tendency for the state to associate itself more directly with the conduct of agricultural affairs appears to be growing and many undertakings, which were originally founded and maintained entirely by private enterprise, such as agricultural societies, live stock associations, farmers' clubs, etc., are now supported and managed, either wholly or in part, by the Government.

"The Departments maintain a very close connection with the industry committed to their charge, and one feels that they are administered by men thoroughly acquainted with the conditions of country life, and with the difficulties and perplexities which the farmers have to face.

"So far the system, as at present established, has worked uncommonly well, and, as a striking example of the influence which well-directed State effort can have in fostering and assisting a great industry, the Agricultural Departments of the two countries are deserving of careful consideration."

* "Agriculture in the New World" (London: The Press Printers, 2s.), Mr. F. B. Smith, Professor of Agriculture, South-Eastern Agricultural College, Wye, Kent.

Prevention of Potato Disease.

For more than ten years experiments have been carried out in different parts of the British Isles in order to test the effect of certain dressings in checking the ravages of potato disease (*Phytophthora infestans*). As in all other experiments, the results have varied to a considerable extent, but in the majority of cases they must be regarded as satisfactory. It might have been expected from the success which has attended the operation that it would have become the general practice throughout the country to spray potatoes in order to prevent, or, at any rate, check the disease. This, however, has not been the case, and in most districts of England and Wales preventive measures have never been tried. With the view of directing further attention to the matter in North Wales trials were made in 1901 at the Farm of the University College of North Wales, Lledwigan, and at three centres in Carnarvonshire. It has been found in previous experiments that the best results have been obtained where the dressings were applied before the disease made its appearance, as it spreads so rapidly under favourable conditions that in many cases it is impossible to arrest its progress after the plants have been attacked.

The preparation most frequently in use is known as the Bordeaux mixture, and consists of :—20lb. of sulphate of copper, 10lb. of lime, 100 gallons of water. The mixture is applied at the rate of 100 to 150 gallons per acre.

It will usually be found convenient to purchase the sulphate of copper and lime of guaranteed purity mixed together in the above proportions, so that it is then only necessary to dissolve them in the required quantity of water. There are several preparations in use similar in their main features to the Bordeaux mixture.

In all cases the liquid, which should be kept well stirred, is applied to the plants by spraying machines, care being taken to cover the surface of the leaves more particularly on the under side. The success of the treatment depends upon the time it is carried out, upon the weather, and upon the care with which the work is done. It should be repeated if the dressing is washed off by rain.

In the present experiment the dressing was applied by a twin-spray machine about the middle of July. There was then no trace of disease. It was intended to repeat the dressing after an interval of three weeks, but this was not done owing to the unfavourable state of the weather.

A noticeable feature of the experiment was the fact that the sprayed plots remained green for fully ten days after the unsprayed plots, a result probably due to the increased vigour imparted to the plants on the sprayed portion.

It was noticed that with one exception the total weight on the sprayed plots was considerably greater than on the unsprayed. As, however, this does not appear to be the most important feature of the experiment, smaller tables are inserted below, giving the averages at the four centres for the different qualities of potatoes.

MARKETABLE POTATOES.

	T.	C.	LB
Average weight per acre at four centres, sprayed	11	4	0
Average weight per acre at four centres, unsprayed	10	3	24
Average increase per acre on the sprayed over the unsprayed plots	1	0	88

The table shows that on the average there was an increase of marketable potatoes on the sprayed plots of over a ton per acre, and it is worthy of note that the increase occurred at all the centres. This would appear to indicate that one effect of the spraying was to produce a more vigorous growth—a result which is confirmed by the following table, which shows that there was a much larger quantity of small potatoes on the unsprayed than on the sprayed plots.

TABLE II.—SMALL POTATOES.

	T.	C	LB.
Average weight per acre at four centres, sprayed	1	7	58
Average weight per acre at four centres, unsprayed	1	11	79
Average increase per acre on the unsprayed over the sprayed plots	0	4	51

It was found that the average weight of diseased potatoes at the four centres shows that the dressing was not very effective in preventing disease. The figures, however, scarcely represent the facts, as the detailed results show that at two centres the quantity of diseased potatoes was about one-half less on the sprayed than the unsprayed plots. At another centre it was reduced by about 1¼ cwt. per acre, but at the other centre there was actually more disease on the sprayed plots.

Farmers' Plea For Fair Play.

There was a large attendance at a recent meeting of the Framlingham Farmers' Club to hear Mr. Albert Ranson speak upon "The Agriculturist's Plea for Fair Play."

Mr. Ranson, in his address, said the position of British agriculture was a matter of grave national concern. A great deal had been written of late in the "Times" on the subject of our

food supply in the time of war. There was a grave danger in seeing the wheat lands of this country becoming derelict or producing very poor pasture. Sir John Glover, speaking of the shipping tonnage of the last ten years, reminded his audience that four out of five loaves which came to their table were dependent upon sea carriage. We were defended by the Navy, but we were fed by the mercantile fleet, and any failure of the latter would develop a state of things which the most powerful Navy could not prevent. We had not merely to get the stuff abroad, but if we got involved in a foreign war, we had to guarantee that when we wanted to buy the stuff there would be ready sellers. What was the remedy? He was going to give them, in plain English, the remedy that lay close at hand.

Mr. J. Holland Rose, in an article in the "Monthly Review" upon "Our Food Supply in the Napoleonic War," referring to the more complex circumstances that now constituted the problem of food supply, indicated some pregnant questions which rendered an official inquiry desirable. Amongst these were, whether the teachings of history in regard to the Napoleonic war justified their reliance on the Navy alone to safeguard our food supply? Whether such reliance would not impose on the Navy an intolerable burden of responsibility? Whether trust could be placed in the plan of neutral ships bringing corn to a neutral port near these shores? Whether the effort to build an overpoweringly strong Navy, in order to safeguard our corn supply, did not defeat its own ends by inciting other powers to make the same increase? Whether a system of granting bounties on the growth of wheat would not also be beneficial to the country districts, and bring a feeling of added security to the nation at large, and whether the present wasteful use of the necessaries of life, the thriftlessness of our working classes, and the tendency of the sensation-mongering Press to magnify every incident, would not create an intolerable situation in time of a great naval war, unless some precautionary measures were taken beforehand? The "Statist" said that the agricultural decay was disquieting. To it was largely due the increased extent to which we were dependent upon other countries for our own existence.

There was no money in British agriculture, the speaker said. The labourer, farmer, and landlord were so bound up together that one could not prosper unless all did. He regretted that there was generally so little cohesion amongst the farmers and the men, brought about, he believed, by the feeling handed down from father to son that the labourer at one time was oppressed and badly paid. There must be money in agriculture if it was to prosper, and to that end he would suggest as a remedy that they should reimpose the shilling registration on all the grain that came into this country. They had that for 25 years after the repeal of the Corn Laws, and it never hurt anybody. The Chancellor of the Exchequer in 1901 estimated that this shilling would bring in £2,183,000; this he (Mr. Ranson) would not have applied towards the war expenditure, but to be given as a temporary small bounty per acre for wheat culture. Let the nation relieve the landed interest of the responsibility of tithe. Abolish the land-tax, a most iniquitous tax, specially imposed years ago when there was very little other property in the country which could bear taxation. They wanted the whole tax taken off, and they would be prepared to pay rates on the houses they lived in and the buildings they occupied.

He wanted both the expenses of education and the roads borne by the nation, and he thought the Government might have assisted them a little if they had encouraged them in horse-breeding instead of going to the other ends of the earth for animals which were not worth paying carriage on.

Produce of Crops in 1901.

There has been issued by the Board of Agriculture a yellow book showing the estimated total produce and average yield per acre of the principal crops. On the 3rd of December last the Board of Agriculture issued a preliminary statement showing the total produce and the yield per acre of wheat, barley, and oats as estimated for Great Britain and for England, Scotland, and Wales separately. The county details for these and other crops have in recent years been included only in the complete annual volume of the agricultural returns. That publication, which comprises a general report in which reference is made to the finally revised and complete figures of the returns generally, has necessarily to wait for the completion of returns relating to the agricultural imports and exports of the calendar year, and for certain colonial and foreign agricultural statistics. It has, therefore, been deemed desirable to make, in advance of the annual volume, a further issue of the tables containing the full results of the estimates of the produce of the crops in 1901.

To the total results of the several crops in Great Britain herein shown, it may be convenient to add the corresponding figures for Ireland which have been issued by the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction in that country. The aggregate for the United Kingdom, exclusive of the Isle of Man and Channel Islands, for which no produce returns are collected, can thus be shown as under for 1901:—

Crop.	Estimated Total Produce.			Estimated Yield per Acre.		
	Great Britain.	Ireland.	United Kingdom.	Great Britain.	Ireland.	United Kingdom.
WHEAT	Bushels. 62,467,602	Bushels. 1,470,127	Bushels. 53,927,729	Bushels. 30·84	Bushels. 34·24	Bushels. 30·93
BARLEY	61,107,623	6,535,563	67,643,186	30·98	40·42	31·70
OATS	110,105,530	51,069,002	161,174,532	36·74	46·45	39·35
BEANS	6,067,048	87,321	6,154,369	24·16	38·74	24·29
PEAS	4,006,672	10,155	4,016,727	25·96	27·66	25·97
POTATOES	Tons. 3,671,250	Tons. 3,372,214	Tons. 7,043,464	Tons. 6·36	Tons. 6·81	Tons. 5·81
TURNIPS AND SWEDES ...	20,414,181	4,884,301	25,298,482	12·36	16·86	12·95
MANGOLD	7,774,273	1,451,780	9,226,053	19·49	18·74	19·37
HAY FROM CLOVER, &c. ...	Cwts. 60,044,573	Cwts. 26,133,740	Cwts. 86,178,313	Cwts. 25·46	Cwts. 42·53	Cwts. 29·98
HAY FROM PERMANENT GRASS	72,321,402	68,661,100	140,982,502	16·63	43·98	23·85

Visit of Agriculturists to Hungary.

The Essex County Technical Committee evidently finding the continental tours formerly arranged by them so successful have determined to organise one of agriculturists to Hungary. In order to give agriculturists an opportunity of studying farming and agricultural organisations in Hungary, the following arrangements have been made for a visit of a party to that country. Leaving London (Holborn Viaduct Station) at 9.25 a.m. on Friday morning, May 16th, the party will travel direct to Vienna, via Queenborough, Flushing, Hanover, and Breslau. Sunday will be spent in Vienna, and the following fortnight will be devoted to excursions in Hungary as follows (subject to alteration):—

The Agricultural College, the experiment stations, and the Archduke Frederick's dairy farms at Magyar Ovar; Kuhne's implement factory at Moson, on Monday. M. Szell's pure-bred herd of Simmenthal cattle at Ratot, near Szombathely; electricity as applied to farming at Ikervar; Count Erdody's estate and farms at Gyepii Fuzes, on Tuesday. The State farms and studs at Babolna and Kisber; Hungarian, Simmenthal and Kuhland cattle, Hungarian, Arabian, and thorough-bred horses, Mongolian swine, Rambouillet-Merino sheep; agricultural school at Komarom, on Wednesday and Thursday Receptions by the Minister of Agriculture and the National Agricultural Society; conference with the various co-operative and agricultural credit societies; the markets; the flour mill and elevator; the seed control, entomological and agricultural analysis stations; the horticultural and veterinary colleges and the agricultural museum, in Buda Pesth; the pig-fattening farm at Kobanya; bee and poultry farms at Godollo, on Friday and Saturday.

On Sunday they will attend the English service at the Presbyterian Church at Buda Pesth; visit to Count Karolyi's estate at Foth. On Monday, through the Banat to Bazias, one of the corn ports on the Danube; thence by steamer through the Kazan Defile to the Iron Gates and the Baths of Hercules. On Tuesday visit the farms at Arad; cultivation of cereals; feeding of cattle in connection with the breweries. On Wednesday they will visit the State farm of 40,000 acres at Mezohegyes; cultivation of wheat, barley, maize, hemp, sugar beet, fodder crops, etc., pure-bred Hungarian cattle and pigs; stud of 3,500 horses; sugar, spirit, and hemp factories and breweries in connection with farm. On Thursday and Friday they will visit the agricultural college and peasant farms at Debreczin; the Hortobagy Puszta—an extensive tract of grazing land belonging to the municipality; Hungarian sheep; reconstruction of vineyards at Tokay. Excursion in the Tatra Mountains on Saturday, from Poprad Felka to the lake of Csorba; Hungarian forestry.

The return journey will be made by Berlin, where Sunday is spent, and London is reached on the Tuesday evening. (Gentlemen whose time is limited can, by travelling through Berlin without break of journey, reach London on the Monday morning). The party will travel 2nd class to and from Hungary (1st class on board the steamer). Compartments will be reserved, and greatly reduced rates have been secured. Sleeping cars will, it is believed, be placed at the disposal of the party when required for night travelling during the stay in Hungary. Owing to these facilities it is anticipated that the total expense of the tour will not exceed £15 15s. each. Luggage must be restricted to the compass of a Gladstone or other hand bag. Applications to join the party, which will be strictly limited to 40 persons, must be sent in not later than April 16th. A remittance of £10 10s., to defray cost of tickets and the earlier expenses of the tour, must be sent as soon as intimation of admission is received.

A detailed itinerary of the tour is being prepared by the Hungarian Minister of Agriculture acting in conjunction with the National Agricultural Society of Hungary, who, having offered the party a cordial welcome, are kindly undertaking the detailed arrangements. A copy of the itinerary will be supplied to each member of the party. All further particulars can be obtained from Mr. T. S. Dymond, County Technical Laboratories, Chelmsford, who will accompany the party, and to whom intention to join the party should be notified as soon as possible.

Sale of Shorthorns at Annan.—On Tuesday Messrs. Kirkpatrick held a special sale of yearling shorthorn bulls at Annan. About 100 were brought under the hammer, and good prices were obtained. One bull was sold at £17, and others made up £15 2s. 6d. All the animals were sold.

The Tasmanian Apple Trade.—Approximately over 230,000 cases of Tasmanian apples will during the next three months be shipped from Hobart for the English market. Last year the total shipments were 12,000 cases less. These shipments will be made in 16 large ocean-going steamers, and the magnitude of the trade thus indicated is but a foreshadowing of greater things to come. There is scarcely any limitation to the producing powers of Tasmania as regards apples, and, although seasons go with varying phases of luck as regards root and grain crops, orcharding shows a fairly equal yield. A few thousand cases less in one season will probably be countervailed by many thousands more in the next, and so the planting out of apple trees continues. The present season commences under fairly bright auspices. So far there is no indication of an excess of blight or other orchard pests; the task of extermination progresses by slow degrees, but steady persistence is beginning to tell.

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By Hordeum.

The Beer Bill.

The solemn secrecy, hitherto maintained by the important personages who have the drafting of this measure is at last broken, and the provisions of the Bill are given to the world for consideration.

It will come as a surprise to most people, as in its naked simplicity it is an utter abandonment of all that has hitherto been supposed to be the principle involved.

We have now, if we agree with this drafted measure, to shift our ground completely. All that has been contended and fought for must be thrown to the winds. Pure beer is an impossibility, and, apparently, for so we must assume, brewers are to be allowed to use anything they like in lieu of malt, the only restriction suggested being the amount of substitutes employed.

Prominence is given to the objection to hop substitutes, which are forbidden. We learn that a llthe terrors of foreign competition and rivalry are completely disposed of by a declaration by vendors that it is "imported beer."

It would be most interesting to know how this

Complete Change of Front

has been effected, and by whom? Have all those who have fought the battle for consumers and barley-growers been consulted? And, if so, do they agree that this step is a right or desirable one to take? For instance, the subject of pure beer has for many years past been frequently considered at the council meetings of the Central Chambers of Agriculture, and many resolutions have from time to time been agreed to, always unanimously, or with large majorities. There is also a permanent committee, known as the Beer Committee, and which was duly reappointed recently at the ordinary council meeting of the Central Chamber. Has this committee met? And, if so, did it approve of this draft? If not, why not?

The Principle Involved

is the first consideration, and it requires explanation. We ought to fully comprehend what is involved before any definite action is taken, and this is certainly a case where those responsible for the step should show just cause for the abandonment of a high and fixed principle. It must not be confused, for it is not merely a question of a glass of beer containing so much more or less of what it has been so ardently striven to secure as the right ingredient.

The true issue is a matter of right, or what should be common honesty in trading. Everyone who contended that margarine, if sold by itself, or mixed with butter, should be sold as margarine and not butter, knew that the principle involved was honest trading. The law was successfully appealed to, and, apart from mere moral honesty, it was enacted that the sale of margarine as butter was a fraud punishable by the Law.

The fact that margarine was as nutritious and harmless as butter did not influence the question in the least.

Honest Trading

was the end sought, and so far as such a matter can be secured by law, the end has been gained. In the matter of another article of food, quite as important in its way, many earnest workers have shown that just as we had a legal definition of butter we needed one for beer. It was contended that anything other than barley-malt employed by brewers was incapable of giving to the fluid produced the essential characteristics of beer, and that the substitution of malt left the product not of the nature and substance demanded when a glass of beer was called for.

So far, for the principles involved, the issues are very simple, and it rests with those responsible for the drafting of this measure to justify their action and to get all honest men to agree with them if they are right. It is a matter for argument, and there should be no difficulty.

If, on the other hand, it is a

Commonplace Compromise,

who are parties to the contract? And do brewers agree to the terms?

The sort of apology published through the Press Association, and given in the last issue (page 363), if accepted by Agriculturists, binds them in the agreement with, or acceptance of, reiterated falsities as facts. It has not been admitted yet, for, on the other hand, it has been emphatically and conclusively contradicted and shown to be false that any substitute for barley-malt is necessary in beer. Why, therefore, should we now be asked to go on our knees and humbly confess to all men that we have wilfully and knowingly tried to deceive them? If it is a question of expediency, surely then some good and substantial result should be squarely set before us, and in common decency and courtesy we ought to be allowed a little time for consideration and agreement, prior to the complete surrender of our position.

The Beer Bill.

We give below the full text of the Beer Bill prepared and brought into the House of Commons by Mr. Tomlinson, Sir Cuthbert Quilter, Colonel Kenyon-Slaney, Mr. Frederick Wilson, Mr. Purvis, Mr. Edwards, Colonel Brookfield, Mr. Griffith-Boscawen, Mr. Broadhurst, Mr. Round, Mr. Corrie Grant, and Mr. Stevenson.

MEMORANDUM.—By the Inland Revenue Act, 1880, referred to in clause 2, "beer" includes ale, porter, spruce beer, and black beer, and any other description of beer; and by the Customs and Inland Revenue Act, 1885, it is enacted that the term "beer" in the Inland Revenue Act, 1880, shall be construed to extend to any liquor which is made or sold as a description of beer or as a substitute for beer, and which, on analysis of a sample thereof, at any time shall be found to contain more than two per cent. of proof spirit.

A

BILL

TO

Amend the Law relating to the Manufacture and Sale of Beer.

BE it enacted by the King's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1. This Act may be cited as the Beer Act, 1902.

2. In this Act the term "beer" shall have the meaning assigned to it by the Inland Revenue Act, 1880, as extended by the Customs and Inland Revenue Act, 1885.

3.—(1.) It shall not be lawful in brewing or preparing beer for sale to use a less quantity of barley malt than eighty-five per cent. of the total saccharine yielding materials employed, the quantity of materials other than barley malt being calculated according to their respective equivalents in malt, as fixed for the time being for the purposes of the charge of duty on beer.

(2.) If any brewer for sale brews or prepares any beer in contravention of this section, or knowingly sells or offers for sale any beer brewed or prepared in contravention of this section, he shall be liable, on summary conviction, to a fine not exceeding for the first offence *one hundred pounds*, and for the second offence *two hundred pounds*, and for any subsequent offence *five hundred pounds*.

4.—(1.) It shall not be lawful to use in brewing or preparing beer for sale any substitute for hops.

(2.) If any brewer for sale uses in brewing or preparing beer or has in his brewery any substitute for hops he shall be liable, on summary conviction, to a fine not exceeding for the first offence *fifty pounds*, and for the second offence *one hundred pounds*, and for any subsequent offence *two hundred pounds*.

5. It shall be the duty of the officers of Inland Revenue, acting under the provisions of the Inland Revenue Act, 1880, Part II., to enforce the foregoing provisions of this Act.

6.—(1.) Beer not brewed in the United Kingdom (in this section referred to as "imported beer") shall not be sold otherwise than under some name which shall clearly distinguish it as being imported beer.

(2.) All casks, jars, or bottles containing imported beer, and all taps and engines from which the same shall be drawn, shall be distinctly marked or labelled with some name which shall clearly distinguish it as being imported beer.

(3.) All casks, jars, or bottles containing imported beer which are not distinctly marked or labelled in manner aforesaid are hereby prohibited to be imported into the United Kingdom, and shall be included among goods prohibited to be imported as if they were specified in section forty-two of the Customs Consolidation Act, 1876.

(4.) If any dealer in or retailer of beer knowingly sells or offers for sale any imported beer otherwise than under some name which shall clearly distinguish it as imported beer, or knowingly sells or offers for sale any imported beer in or from casks, jars, or bottles, taps, or engines which are not marked or labelled in accordance with the provisions of this section, he shall be liable, on summary conviction, to a fine not exceeding for the first offence *twenty-five pounds*, and for the second offence *fifty pounds*, and for any subsequent offence *one hundred pounds*.

7. This Act shall not apply to "spruce" or "black" beer.

8. This Act shall come into operation on the *first day of October, one thousand nine hundred and two.*



Scottish Sanitary Inspector's Views of the New Milk Standard.

Mr. John Frew, sanitary inspector for West Lothian, in his annual report, which has just been issued to the members of the County Council, comments adversely on the new milk standard. He states:—"It was thought that with the advent of the circular by the Board of Agriculture giving a standard for sweet milk, the difficulty of getting a conviction would be simplified. Experience has proved otherwise. What was formerly a difficult task is now rendered more so. Every sort of subterfuge is resorted to to prove that milk is genuine. New calved cows are trotted out, and bare pasture is also brought into evidence, notwithstanding the fact that the milk sold to customers is sometimes 25 per cent. poorer than that taken from the cows at the dairy. If they only come into court and swear that they milked the cows, never lost sight of the milk till they sold it on the street, and that they did nothing to it in the interval, the sheriff has no option but to dismiss the case. The circular, to my mind, is a grand protection to the dairyman, but so far as the public are concerned there is not much security.

"I am of opinion that before the Food and Drugs Act can be put upon a satisfactory basis the standard should be imperative—that is, the dairyman who sells milk under the given standard should be convicted of a contravention under the Act, and he ought to be compelled to keep and feed his cows so that they may give the required liquid. Acting on the advice of the sheriff, when we find a case of adulteration, we go to the byre early in the morning and get a sample direct from the cows milked in our presence. This is then sent to the public analyst and compared with the certificate of the adulterated sample. In every case we have got genuine samples of milk from the dairies, while that sold on the streets showed an abstraction of, in some cases, 19 per cent. of its natural fat, proving, I think, conclusively that some form of adulteration had been practised between the cow and the consumer. I may say that going to the byre is purely a voluntary procedure, and is not required by the statute."

Bristol Grocers and Milk-blended Butter.

At a meeting of Bristol and District Grocers' Association, held on Monday to consider the subject of "Milk-blended butter," a communication from the Bristol Provision Trade Association was read to the effect that in the opinion of that association the establishment of a standard of 16 per cent. of moisture in butter would be fair and equitable, and to the advantage of producers, traders, and consumers. The following motion was agreed to:—"That this association protests very strongly against the legalised sale of milk-blended butter as being opposed to the spirit of present food legislation, and asks the President of the Board of Agriculture to take steps to put

a stop to the sale of all butters, whether milk-blended or otherwise, which contains more than 16 per cent. of moisture."

Preston Cheese Fair.

Preston monthly cheese fair was held on Tuesday. The pitch consisted of 53 lots, comprising 675 cheeses, an increase of 19 lots and 212 cheeses compared with the corresponding fair of last year. There was a fairly good attendance, but all the cheeses being new, the demand was slow, and prices easier than last fair. Quotations:—Common, 55s. to 60s.; medium, 62s. 6d. to 65s. 6d.; best, 68s. to 70s.; one or two special lots realised 72s. 6d. to 74s.

IN PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Irish Land Bill.

On Tuesday Mr. Wyndham, the Chief Secretary for Ireland, introduced the Irish Land Bill. Explaining the scheme of his Bill, Mr. Wyndham put forth as its most important principle the fact that within certain limits and under certain conditions the Government is prepared, through the Land Commission, to take over the whole of a landlord's estate, or as much as he wishes to sell, and to conduct its re-sale. One of the conditions is that three-fourths of the tenants shall indicate their intention to purchase their hodings. The remaining fourth may, if they please, remain in their holdings as tenants of the Lond Commission. A working capital will be provided by the appropriation of a reserve of £247,000 accumulated under an earlier Act. Cash will be substituted for land stock in the advances made to landowners, a concession expected to enable many landlords to sell who now find it impossible to dispose of their estates. For the tenant the instalment of repayment will be lowered from £4 to £3 15s. He claimed for the Bill that it would bring the landlord and tenant together, and make an end of costly litigation.

In the course of the debate which followed Mr. J. Redmond congratulated the Irish Secretary on the lucidity of his explanation of the measure. The general tone of the Nationalist members was not unfavourable to the Bill, which was read a first time, amid cheers. However, notice to move the rejection of the Bill on the second reading has been given by Mr. Hutton and Sir Charles Dilke.

Railway Rates for Produce.

Major Rasch asked the President of the Board of Trade on Tuesday whether his attention had been called to the fact that, in the case of a railway which also owned a line of steamers running between the Continent and an English port, a fixed system of rates is imposed by law for the land journey, but no such control was exercised over the sea traffic; whether the Great Eastern Railway Company, for example, may charge the same rate for a given quantity of goods from Rotterdam (via Harwich) to London as from Harwich to London; and whether the Board of Trade could take any steps to require the same sea rates to be charged to all traders alike for the same class and quantity of goods.

Mr. G. Balfour: My hon. and gallant friend's question involves considerations of great legal nicety upon which I must decline to express an opinion. The jurisdiction to determine matters relating to undue preference rests with the Railway and Canal Commissioners, who would only decide on some specific case brought before them.

Major Rasch: May I ask the right hon. gentleman whether he thinks these differential rates are fair to the British home consumer.

No answer was given.

Practical Sympathy for an Old Farm Labourer.—The Malling (Kent) Guardians had before them on Wednesday the case of Edward Jeffrey, an octogenarian, who had worked as an agricultural labourer in one parish for nearly 60 years, and had been married 59 years, and who on Monday last was charged with attempted suicide owing to his inability to obtain work. The old man, who bore an excellent character, had become very despondent at his failure to obtain work, and found that the 3s. weekly poor relief allowed him was not sufficient to keep him and his wife out of the workhouse. The master of the workhouse yesterday reported to the guardians that, as a result of the newspaper reports of the case, a number of remittances had been received for the old man. A gentleman living in Cavendish Square, London, had offered to make an allowance of 10s. a week for life to Jeffrey and his wife, and also to provide a cottage for them on his estate near Brighton.—The Board directed certain inquiries to be made concerning Jeffrey, in order that the case might be dealt with at the next meeting.



Home Notes,

The Borough.

Although we are nominally at work, it is clear that, as regards the hop trade, the holidays have already commenced. During this week business is practically suspended, and as both factors and merchants close their offices from this (Thursday) evening until next Wednesday morning, we cannot expect any further movement of importance for several days to come. But there is some satisfaction in the knowledge that the traders leave the market in a healthy condition. So far as firmness can be spoken of in connection with so low a range of values, it is very evident. Not only are choice samples dearer, for they are sought for, and are difficult to find, but the lower and formerly despised qualities have been sold in large quantities at better prices, and the demand for them in abeyance for the moment, will probably be renewed as soon as the holidays are well over, with the results that quotations will be advanced, to which there is not much doubt that buyers will not be unwilling to respond. Depletion of stocks is not infrequently used as an argument to induce buyers to operate, and it is rather surprising to those who are not behind the scenes to find that such alarmist reports generally seem to have the power of drawing hops, and apparently from the uttermost parts of the earth, so that plenty again prevails. But I am assured by experts that the magnitude of recent business has been such as to reduce unsold supplies into a smaller compass than has been known, at this period of the season, for several years, and it is now anticipated that the large crop of last year and the whole of the reserves from previous seasons will be taken over, long before we approach the advent of the new crop. It must be borne in mind, however, that this extensive

Buying is mainly speculative,

It is impossible that the hops can have been acquired for consumption, either immediate or in the early future. Brewers have bought them because they are cheap, and are storing them to provide for possible contingencies. Those who have the gift of foresight cannot fail to realise that these circumstances suggest future complications, which can only be met by the counteracting influence of a limited yield in the present year, and I cannot too strongly endeavour to persuade my country friends not to allow themselves to speak or think of "peace, peace, when there is no peace," but rather to arouse themselves to consciousness of the real danger of the position, and to regulate their course accordingly. A parallel may be found in our national experience. The South African Republics, with whom we are now waging bitter and apparently interminable war, were permitted to accumulate military stores to an enormous extent. We looked on indifferently, until the insolent ultimatum was issued, and have since suffered grievously for our blindness. The stocks of hops now being stored will be used to the detriment of growers when the time comes, if we do not bestir ourselves in taking defensive measures. As with the struggle in South Africa, so with our own smaller fight, the issue will ultimately be favourable to us; but in the meantime, if we are not wise in time, we must pass through grievous trials and suffer serious losses. May the warning be taken to heart and acted upon.

I have had some correspondence with the organising secretary of the proposed

Hereford and Worcester Hop Growers' Association.

and also with several of my old friends, who are planters in these counties. They all deprecate any desire to act in opposition to the National Association, whose efforts for the promotion of the interests of the English hop industry they acknowledge. But they consider that local combination for local purposes is desirable, in order to remove certain prejudices concerning their produce. This attitude cannot be objected to, if by such means their object can be attained. But it appears to me that the industry is essentially one, as far as every English district is concerned, and that unity of aim and action is necessary for the prosperity of the whole. By whatever process the new association proposes to work, the Midland growers must not forget that on the London central market, from which the great bulk of our consumers obtain their supplies, the value of hops is estimated mainly by the brewing merits of the samples. The ancient preferences for the produce of certain districts, which existed when the difficulties of locomotion and transit necessarily limited comparisons, are being steadily but surely put aside. Year by year this fact becomes more evident. There is therefore, as a natural consequence, a better chance for Worcester and Hereford hops to assert their value now than heretofore, and the wisest course, in my humble opinion, for Midland growers to follow is to fall into line with the old-established customs of the borough with respect to sampling and selling, to raise their standard of quality by all possible means, to abandon their ambition for big crops, and boldly to enter the competitive arena, and there strive for the mastery. By such means they will achieve the desired results, and the remuneration they desire will be secured to them. Any local association cannot accomplish more, and it is possible that by narrowing their attention to merely local matters they may lose the substance while grasping at the more attractive shadow. But I cannot say more than wish my friends all the success within their reach.

All official reports and notices of the National Association of English Hop Growers will be printed in the MARK LANE EXPRESS, *which will also contain all current information likely to be of interes and benefit to the member of the society.*

Foreign Notes.

My comments on the foreign hop trade are necessarily brief. But three days have elapsed since I prepared my last report, and in that short space nothing of importance has occurred. At Nuremberg the market remains quite firm in tone, the prices of any good parcels being inclined to advance, and the values of the lower grades being fairly well maintained. The new supplies are diminishing, proving that the country holdings are almost exhausted; the question of meeting the requirements of consumers during the summer is becoming more difficult to answer, and is assuming a serious aspect.

In Belgium there has been a slight reaction from the recent display of strength. Values have receded by two to three points, but it is considered that this depression is only temporary, being caused by the approach of the Easter recess, and that when business is resumed prices will again harden up, and probably advance even further than the latest highest figures.

American advices continue to emphasise the strength of the markets both on the eastern and the western coasts. Values that appeared to be unattainable a few weeks ago are now ordinarily current. Choice parcels are especially firm, but medium and low grades have participated in the advanced movement, which still indicates life and energy. Brewers are buying with caution, lest their want of hops should be too clearly seen, but they are well aware of the actual position of supplies, and therefore are not passing favourable opportunities to replenish their stocks. Growers in all sections are now practically cleared out of hops. Dealers can control the market, but as many of them are committed to early contracts, which they can hardly cover with profit, it is doubtful if their power of control will help them much.

Experiments upon Hops.

In a report contained in the current number of the Journal of the South-Eastern College, it states that the manuring of the hops grown in the Experimental Garden of the Agricultural College at Wye, in 1901, was as folows:—A small coating of dung (about 12 loads per acre) was put on in the winter; 15cwt. per acre of fish guano were dug in during March. In April, 4 cwt. per acre of superphosphate was sown broadcast and nidgeted in.

The hops grew away rapidly after the end of April. Some fly was seen on June 2nd, but was never very abundant. Washing was done two or three times during June and July, and the hops were sulphured once at the end of August. Picking began on September 7th, and ended on the 24th, but after September 17th the hops went off rapidly with both blight and mould, and were only picked because of the necessity of obtaining a continuous record of the crop on each plot. As it is, the figures for this season are probably less trustworthy than usual, because the disease was irregular and some plots were more affected than others.

When picked, the crop was the heaviest we have recorded; the average of all the plots was 20.9cwt. per acre as against 20.1 in 1899. In the last four years the fluctuations of the crop on this garden have been extreme—11.9cwt. per acre in 1898, 20.1cwt. per acre in 1899, 10.4cwt. in 1900, and 20.9cwt. in 1901.

The quality of the 1901 crop was low; there were very marked differences to be seen in the hops as they lay in the baskets after picking. Some

were well grown out, firm, and full of condition; others were unripe, small, thin, and soft, and amongst these again many were diseased. It is particularly noticeable that the hop plant was very far from ripe at picking-time; even the lower leaves had not yellowed as usual, and for weeks after picking the bine and leaves were green and vigorous.

It will be remembered that during the early part of the season, through May, June, and early July, there was plenty of sun and temperatures were high. There had been abundant rain in March and April, so that the plant was well supplied with subsoil moisture, and made a good growth in consequence This period was followed by a considerable rainfall about the end of July, with the result that the plant started to grow again just at the time it should have been beginning to mature. Genial weather and occasional rain prolonged the growth, a second crop developed, and, in the end, hops were still growing and forming, at a time when the whole should have been ripening off.

Doubtless the ideal-state conditions for a fine hop crop would be found in plenty of warmth, sun, and moisture during the early season, causing a period of free growth. This should be followed by a gradual increase of temperature and dryness from the time the hops came into burr. In the growing period the plant should take all the manure it requires from the ground, and should spend the latter part of the season in elaborating the raw material it has already stored up, into the finished "hop."

In such a season as the last it is possible that an advantage would be obtained by ceasing to cultivate the ground after July, for this would tend to stay the formation of "nitrates" in the soil and the supply of nutriment which causes growth late in the season. Deep cultivation, again, late in August, by depriving the plant of many of its feeding-roots might also be of value.

Training Experiments.

The hop garden at Wye is divided into plots, each of approximately half an acre in extent, on each of which the hops are trained in a different fashion, so as to obtain a comparative test of the merits of the various systems in vogue of training hops upon wire and string. The results obtained during the seasons 1897-1901 are set out in the table on the following page. The systems of training represented in the garden consist of the Butcher in various forms, the Umbrella, and a modification of the Worcester system.

In the Butcher system three strings start from the hill, up each of which two bines are led. The strings rise vertically to a breast wire 4ft. 6in. from the ground. Then they are taken on the slope to the top wire, which is above the next row of hills at a height of 12ft. 6in In the Wye garden the upward slope is towards the north, so that the strong winds from the south and south-west strike on the face of the slope. Six of the plots in the Wye garden are planted in this fashion, but with varying distances between the hills and the alleys. The width of the alleys affects not only the number of hills to the acre, but also the ang'e of the sloping string, for as the height of the top wire is invariable, the broader the alley the flatter the slope of the string will become. The hop plant grows most freely as the slope of the string approaches the vertical; the bine climbs with difficulty when the angle is 45deg., and must be trained by hand for still lower angles. This means a considerable expense for labour when the alleys are wide and the slope flat. On the other hand, the flat slope induces a greater fruitfulness and causes the lower laterals to throw hops more freely, so that the smaller number of hills per acre is compensated for by the greater yield per hill. When the alleys are wider and the number of hills per acre are less, the cultivation is a little easier and not so expensive, because many of the operations of the hop garden are paid for per 100 hills rather than per acre.

Another advantage of the wider alleys and of wide spacing between the hills comes from the greater exposure of the growing bine and hops to sun and air. The result is that the hops become harder and more fully developed, and in consequence are better able to resist blight and mould. There are not so many of the soft, green, half-grown hops that are seen in a crowded garden.

As far as can be learnt from the plots at Wye, where the alleys vary from 10ft. to 6ft. in width, and the hills from 700 to 1,200 per acre, there is not much difference in yield, taking the mean of several years. On the whole, the more widely-planted plots have given the larger crop, except in very short seasons like 1900, when the more closely-planted plots had an advantage.

Our general impression is that the 8ft. square plant has given the best results, if we take into account the quality of the hops grown on this system and their freedom from disease, as well as the gross weight per acre. The plot with alleys 10ft. wide, through growing very fine hops, costs too much for training up the flat string.

As regards the comparative merits of the different systems—Butcher, Umbrella, and Worcester—the Umbrella has this year maintained the leading position it has had for the last two seasons, giving the heaviest crop of any of the plots. The disadvantage of this system lies in the difficulty of washing properly; the interlacing strings shield one another from the stream of wash, and when there is much bine it is almost impossible to get any spray on to the top. In the matter of washing, the Butcher system is the most easily cleansed, because all the bines are in one plane and the jets can be arranged to thoroughly cover this area as the washer moves along. The Umbrella system is also more liable to wind-bruise than the Butcher; the wind gets under the bines more easily, and the whole structure chafes and sways, because it is without the stiffening which the breast wire gives in the Butcher system. The Worcester system gave this year a crop rather above the general average of the garden, whereas for the two previous seasons the crop on this plot was lower. This effect is not so much due to the system itself as to the practice of cutting the bines at the stock when picking, which is usually followed when hops are grown on this system, because there is no convenient breast wire over which the bines can be thrown. The experiments which were reported in the last number of the Journal show that this practice of cutting the bine causes a diminution in the succeeding crop. Accordingly last season care was taken not to cut the bines on the Worcester system, with the result that the crop on this plot has returned to or even exceeded the average of the garden. The Worcester system is rather expensive to cultivate, because it is doubly planted and carries 1,700 hills to the acre. It has also the disadvantages of the Umbrella system in want of stiffness against wind, and difficulty of washing.

It is also noticeable that the Butcher system, with a pole and three strings which replaced the two-pole work in 1899, has this year cropped up to the average of the garden, whereas in 1900, and still more in 1899, it was below the general average. Previous to 1899 the bine had always been cut at the stock, and the weakening of the succeeding bine that resulted was very manifest in 1899, less so in 1900, and has now disappeared.

Effect of Stripping.

Two rows in the Butcher system were this season stripped of all the lower leaves and laterals to a height of 4ft. 6in. on June 24th, and compared with two rows adjacent which were left unstripped, the hills being merely kept free from brush.

The crop on the stripped and unstripped portions was identical, and this season the stripping process has had no injurious effect on the yield. This bears out the conclusions that had been drawn in 1899 and 1900, that in years of free growth the plant will recover from any check caused by stripping, but that injury may result from the process in years when the plant is not very strong. It was noticed that the crop is alike on stripped and unstripped plots in the two years of big crops—1899 and 1901—but in the two seasons of scanty crops, stripping has reduced the yield.

The remarks that were made in last year's report on this subject may be repeated:—"The stripping resulted in a great diminution of crop this year; in 1899 it caused no loss; in 1898 it caused a smaller, but considerable loss of crop. The reason for this discrepancy is to be found in the character of the seasons. The practice of stripping must give the plant a check at the time, but in a year of free and abundant growth like 1899 the plant recovers and shows no effect of the check in the crop; whereas in seasons like 1898 and 1900, when the growth of the hop is indifferent, the plant never recovers from the check it receives through the stripping. And as 1900 was with us a year of even poorer development than 1898, as shown by the smaller crop, the stripping had a worse effect in 1900 than in 1898.

"Stripping in some form or other is a necessary operation in a hop garden, otherwise it would be very difficult to keep the lower leaves and laterals free from vermin; attacks of mould also are nearly always first seen on the lower parts of the plant. At the same time this lower growth, if left, shades the ground and prevents the access of sun and air—conditions which favour the development of mould. Necessary as stripping may be, the experiments show that it may cause a serious and even a disastrous diminution of crop. It is desirable that growers should give the operation a little more consideration than it usually receives, and in seasons when the bine is slack and the plant is not growing freely it is necessary not to strip so far up the plant as usual, or to go over the garden twice, the first time stripping only for two or three feet, the operation being completed after a fortnight's interval."

Effect of Cutting the Bine at Picking Time.

In the last report evidence was given that the hop plant at the time of picking is still unripe. It was shown by analysis that the leaves and bine contain a considerable quantity of nutrient material which will return to the root and be available for the following season, if the bine, etc., be allowed to remain attached to the rootstock until it is completely ripe or "dead." It was further shown that cutting away the bine at the rootstock when the hops are picked, as must be done when the hops are grown upon poles, results in a weaker plant and a smaller crop in the following season. One plot in the college garden was grown upon piles in 1897 and 1898, with the result that the crop on this plot fell below the general average of the garden in the years succeeding the cutting of the bine at harvest, i.e., in 1898 and 1899. In 1899 the system was changed and the practice of cutting the bine discontinued, with the result that in 1900 the crop was beginning to recover and approximated to that on the rest of the garden. In 1901 the crop on this plot was practically equal to the general average crop of the whole garden, or the injurious effect of cutting the bine in 1897-98 has now been entirely eliminated.

Late Dressing of the Stocks.

An experiment was tried this year on the effect of late cutting of the stock. The general garden was cut over about the last week in March, but two rows were not cut until April 24th. These two rows grew 1,528lb. of green hops, the two adjoining rows grew 1,586lb.—practically the same. In this season, at least, the late cutting did not diminish the yield. It appeared, though, that the hops on the late-cut rows were rather more attacked by mould than on the adjoining rows.

Agricultural Imports.

The following is an account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended March 22, 1902, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year:—

Animals Living:	1901	1902.		1901.	1902.
	No.	No.		Cwt.	Cwt.
Cattle ...	7,685	9,019	Wheat ...	1,4 7,600	1,060,300
Sheep.....	5,822	5,045	Flour	446,000	272,700
Swine.....	—	—	Barley ...	263,000	231,800
*Horses...	—	857	Oats	299,900	218,900
			Peas	18,600	35,600
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Beans ...	79,500	10,300
Beef	76,881	75,326	Maize ...	933,500	724,000
Mutton...	105,795	85,990		Bunches	Bunches
Pork	22,164	15,581	Bananas	50,267	26,238
Bacon	105,811	109,212			
Beef, salt	1,611	3,762		Cwt.	Cwt.
Hams.....	24,835	31,359	Apples ...	41,963	24,044
Pork, salt	5,295	5,230	Apricots		
Meat, salt & Fresh	15,456	17,421	& Peaches	18	8
Do. pres.	23,050	18,991	Cherries	—	—
Butter ...	70,398	69,338	Currants	—	—
M'rg'rine	23,072	18,714	Goosebr's	—	—
Cheese ...	37,397	44,410	Grapes ...	363	224
Milk, Fresh, in cans or			Lemons...	25,273	24,581
			Oranges	222.046	269,507
			Pears.....	136	222
			Plums ...	36	13
drums.	643	434	Strawb'r's	—	—
Milk ...			Oth'r Fr't	176	1,379
Cream.	98	76		Tons.	Tons.
			Hay	1,988	12,178
Milk pr's'v'd, other			*Straw ...	—	2,496
				Bush.	Bush.
			Onions ...	143,167	100,506
kinds ...	30	77	Hops	Cwt.	Cwt.
Con. Milk	22,463	24,464		1,539	1,509
			* Locust Beans	—	3,505
	No.	No.	Potatoes	219,375	46,124
Eggs	228,613	575,806	Tom'to's	14,217	7,066
			Other	Value.	Value.
Poultry & Game	Value.	Value.	Veg'bles	£8,723	£16,211
	£20,491	£26,218		Cwt.	Cwt.
			Dried ...	2,604	908
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Pres'v'd		
Rabbits	2,398	4,791	by canning ...	2,981	6,675
Lard	43 216	50.880			

* Not shown in 1901.

We have received from Messrs. Thomas Kennedy and Co., seedsmen, nurserymen, and florists, High Street, Dumfries, a copy of a spring catalogue of select florist flowers, herbaceous, and bedding plants.

The various items in the April number of "The Smart Set," number no fewer than fifty, and they cover almost the whole field of literary excellence. The number opens with a novelette, entitled "The Ambition of the Baron," and written by Marian Dana. It is primarily a romantic love story, wherein a series of surprising events develops a happy issue. One of the best of the short stories is "A Glimpse of the Garden," by Mary L. Pendered—an idyllic study of human hearts, in which the author reveals both analytical skill and poetic vision. The other prose contributions are too numerous to enumerate, but mention may be made of "The Science of the Sea," an interesting article by Prince Albert of Monaco, who details briefly the merits of oceanography, a science to which he is devoted, and on which he is an authority. The number also contains many poems of real literary worth, by well known writers.

IMPORTANT TO FARMERS.—The best farm account books are WEBB'S PRACTICAL FARMER'S ACCOUNT BOOK, with preface by Clare Sewell Read, 70th edition, 6s. and 7s. 6d. post free. JARROLD'S IMPERIAL FARM ACCOUNT BOOK, 3s. 6d. JARROLD'S FARM LABOUR BOOKS, 2s., 2s. 6d., and 4s. 6d. List of Game and Dairy Account Books post free of JARROLD, and SONS. 10 and 11, Warwick Lane E.C.—[ADVT.]



Gloucester.

The spring up to now has been about all one can wish for getting in barley and oats. The lambing season, now about over, has been in most cases very good. There has been a very large amount of lambs in many places. Cattle of all kinds have done well, and the hay seems to hold out better than was expected. The mutton is selling badly and very disappointing. There will be very small profit (if any) for sheep farmers this year.—J. D. (Mar. 26th.)

Lancashire (North).

The winter, on the whole, has been mild, with not too much rain; indeed, unless the spring is showery, there will soon be heard murmuring as to the want of rain. For the present, however, land is getting into good form for spring sowing, and for the time of year is pretty well forward. We should say that stock has been generally fed from the produce of the farms since Christmas, judging by the small demand reported all over for feeding stuffs, and, granted an open spring, farmers may be able to congratulate themselves on getting over the usually expensive time at a much smaller cost than at one time looked probable. Fat stock is selling better now, and for anything really fit good prices are obtainable. Stores are held for very high prices, however, and there is the prospect, to which feeders must by this be getting used, of very little profit for grazing them. Potatoes which came off a big crop are selling badly. It is too early yet to say the probable acreage sown respectively with wheat, barley, and oats. The former is a very small item nowadays, and gets smaller year by year, oats and barley appearing to grow in favour. Lambs are offering to come a good crop and healthy.—R. S.

Worcester.

The weather of February put the land into beautiful order for the planted. Some farmers have finished the seeding, when land was ploughed in time; no labour required to put it in order; and the roots being a very poor lot, the ground was clear, though probably it is quite early enough for barley in this district. The stock seems healthy, and have got through the winter fairly well, and most of the straw has been cut, and there is more demand for straw than hay in this part. Beef is getting scarce rather, and making 7d. per lb., and sheep are more inquired for by local butchers. Some of the small hop growers are doing away with them, and more would, but no demand for poles, they letting them stand and planting roots between them. The price for potatoes keeps low, and will do probably throughout this season. The wheat is a good plant, and looks healthy when any is planted, but you scarcely see a field in a parish. We may hope for an early spring. Should it be cold and late it will mean a heavy outlay for feed, most of the stuff now having been consumed.—W. H. (Mar. 26th.)

Labouring Life in the Country,

Perhaps there never was a time when the agricultural labourer was the subject of so much comment as at the present. Everything points to the fact that he is getting to be a scarce commodity, and it is also suggested that the general quality is not up to the old standard. The last census returns were certainly not encouraging. In scores of country districts there was evidence of serious depopulation, and all manner of arguments are advanced as causes. Apart from figures, we have heard the complaints of farmers during the harvest times of the last few years that there has been a dearth of labourers, and the material available has been of a second-rate character. Over-education, the War in South Africa, inferior house accommodation in the country, lowness of wages, increase of trade elsewhere, and the excitement of town life are a few of the reasons put forward why the country lad will not stop on the land and follow in the footsteps of his father. Doubtless there is something in the arguments, but my office here is not to discuss the why and the wherefore so much as to point out a few of the drawbacks, as well as the advantages, that are part of the lot of the agricultural labourer.

One authority has said that the man has no prospect for his old age bevond that of rheumatism and the workhouse. There is something in it. The average labourer's pay, even in these days, is not sufficient for him to make much provision for old age, and he cannot look very hopefully to the future. If he gives the best part of his life to one employer, he may be allowed to potter about the place as long as his legs will carry him there, with perhaps a small pension to end his days on, but if circumstances force him to move about much when he is young and strong, no one wants him when he is old, and he is dependent on charity or the rates. The tendency of this age is to rise, and the agricultural labourer is no exception in this respect. Unfortunately there are not many opportunities for him in his own line, so he leaves the land for something offering better prospects. The land itself is outside his reach, because there are not half enough small holdings, and the inclination and capital do not seem to be forthcoming to establish them. Many a labourer would be willing enough to stop on the land if he could see a chance of becoming a small farmer some day in the future, and if there was more of this peasant proprietorship not only would the land produce more, but it would support a greater number of people than it does now.

Wages perhaps are the greatest bait that draws the sturdy young labourer from the land, and in this particular I do not see that there can be any location of blame. In the present state of agriculture it is quite obvious that the farmer cannot afford to pay more. Indeed, his resources are taxed to the utmost now, and in many cases the employer is worse off than the employed. But with the prospects that farm labour offer, can you blame the country lad for forsaking it in favour of railway service, the police force, and other callings where he is paid more, works fewer hours, and has a prospect of promotion? It has ben said that machinery has ruined hand labour. Perhaps it has in a sense, but the wonderful mechanical development of the past century has opened up immense fields of labour which the country has largely supplied. It is easy to try and persuade the country youth that he is no better off for the higher wages of the town when the expenses are considered, but the biggest sum on Saturday night has too great an attraction for him.

Again, the agricultural labourer is none too well housed. In many rural districts cottages are very scarce, and some that exist are unsanitary, badly ventilated, and hardly fit for human habitation. No one seems to accept the responsibility of building, and the labourer has to make the best of his shanty, for the simple reason that he cannot get another. But when the opportunity comes for him to improve his position and his habitation he is not slow to take advantage of it. There may be something in the contention that the standard of labour is deteriorating, and the reason does not seem hard to find. The best men are no longer satisfied with the conditions of agricultural labour. Other fields are opened up, the land holds no prospect for improvement, so they leave it, and the farmer has to make the best of the second-rate class of labour that remains.

But all the good labourers have not given up the old calling. Fortunately many yet remain, and are content to follow in the footsteps of their fathers. Such being the case, let me point to a few of the attractions that tend to keep good labourers on the farms. In the first place, there are the associations of the country. A man who is born and bred in a village looks on it as home. He may go away to a town, for the sake of its advantage, but the old place is home to him, and he likes to come back to it when opportunity permits. These home ties prevent many from leaving their native place, though they might improve their positions by making a change, but it is better for the rural districts that they should remain. We don't want them to migrate; we want country lads to follow their fathers in the place of their birth, according to the old order of things; but to induce them to do so there must be attractions held out.

I question whether any working-man is much better off than the country cottager who has a decent habitation to live in, a regular place of employment, fair wages and a good garden. It is surprising what an inducement the latter is if the man is encouraged to cultivate horticultural tastes. I have known men to refuse tempting offers elsewhere because they would not leave the old cottage and the garden. Call this sentiment if you like, but it is the kind of sentiment that is worth encouraging. One farmer I know takes a great interest in the labourers' gardens, or provides them with manure, and helps them generally. He sees that the comfort of the cottages is attended to, and gives as his reason that if the labourers were disposed to leave his service they would hesitate about leaving a good cottage and garden for fear that they might do worse. If to the house and garden could be added a piece of land where the man could keep his cow and poultry, the home ties would be still greater. There are other advantages attached to a country-labourer's life. He lives in pure air and amidst charming scenes, instead of being penned in by a forest of bricks and mortar around him and a gloomy canopy of smoke o'erhead. He fears neither strikes nor labour disputes; he goes to work in the morning and returns at night with no weighty responsibilities on his shoulders, and instead of being a unit in a mighty crowd, he holds a respectable position in the little world around him. This may not sound much, but to-day a good labourer is valuable, and the backbone of the country's labour lies in the rural workers.

A good labourer takes a pride in his work. He is fond of it, proud of his accomplishments, and this is a strong reason why he is loth to give it up. Farm work has many branches, and you find experts in each and all of them. This man is only a cowman, but he is as useful in his way as an army officer or a lawyer, if he is a good workman. Everything hinges on this, as farmers know full well. Stock is the forte of a good cowman. He loves his animals, take a pride in them, and never spares himself when their interest is concerned. The occupation of another labourer is that of shepherd, and, being proud of his sheep, he envies no man. His employer's flock is safe in his hands for he has a personal interest in it. He thinks nothing of the long hours during the shearing season, and considers that his personal reputation depends on the number of lambs he safely rears in the spring. You may tell by the very appearance of the team what sort of a waggoner any farmer has got, and I have known men to leave their employment because the master did not keep horses that would do them credit. I like to see an efficient ploughman surveying the furrow with a practised eye, and proud of its straightness and regularity. I like to see a number of such men pitting their powers against each other on a rough piece of ground at the local ploughing match. There is a spirit of friendly rivalry between them; each man considers that he holds his reputation in his hand, and one after another they show their workmanship in the furrows they draw.

Have you ever seen a length of hedging and ditching after a good labourer has done with it? There you will observe signs of workmanship that are as creditable to the farm hand as a beautiful oil painting is to an artist. On some farms the hedges and ditches are in a very much better condition than on others, which is proof that the farmer takes an interest in these important items, and has got a good man to do the work. It is the same with the hay and corn stacks. An untidy stack-yard is an abomination to a good farmer, but very much depends on the labourer. If he is a thorough workman, and takes a pride in his ricks, they will be upright, neatly thatched, and perfectly proportioned. Rick-building is an accomplishment, and if a man who possesses it turned out a badly-formed stack his reputation would be gone for ever.

These are the things that go to make a farm-labourer's life enjoyable: pride in his work, and the desire to do it well. In spite of what pessimists may say, we have a race of labourers of this stamp on the land to-day. We want more of them, and it is to the interests of agriculture that their children should follow in their steps. Skilled labour is wanted even on the farm, and everything possible should be done to encourage the labourer to take an interest in his home and his work.

Let him have a good house, a good garden, and reasonable wages. Those who have the time and means and interest can do much to improve labour by instituting gardening societies and competitions for ploughing, hedge-cutting, rick-building, and so forth. Above all things, the land itself should be available, so that the energetic labourer may have an opportunity to work on a bit of it for himself, as well as labouring all his life for someone else. With these facilities there is a chance for the standard of labour to improve; for a working man in the country, though attired in corduroys and dirty boots, if he has a comfortable cottage amid genial surroundings, with a well-kept garden and a bit of land in the rear, if he can farm it, is an individual to be envied. It is under such conditions, when reasonable comfort and contentment exists, that the labourer is satisfied with his lot, and can say truthfully, in the words of the well-known poem—

"'Mid pleasures and palaces though we may roam,
Be it ever so humble, there's no place like home."

RUSTICUS.

Carnations in pots must have all the air possible; auriculas also, with more water and weak liquid manure.

Cinerarias in bloom must be kept regularly moist, but shade from light, sun, and keep the syringe off the flowers. Any still in bud should have weak liquid manure once or twice a week until they begin to expand. Calceolarias (herbaceous) ought to be rooting out in the flowering pots now, and rather more water may be given, but still be careful. If they flag in hot sun, do not soak the soil, but shade lightly and sprinkle them frequently overhead. Sow a bit of primula seed (Chinese) for early or autumn flowering.

AGRICULTURAL SHOWS FOR 1902.

APRIL 2 and 3.—County Cork Agricultural Society, at Cork. Entries close, March 22. Secretary, E. Corrigan, 21, Cook Street, Cork.

APRIL 3.—Castle Douglas Agricultural Society, at Castle Douglas. Entries close, March 17. Secretary, Malcolm McL. Harper, British Linen Co. Bank, Castle Douglas.

APRIL 9.—Royal Jersey Agricultural and Horticultural Society's Bull Show. Entries close, March 22. Secretary, J. A. Perré, 8, Church Street, Jersey.

APRIL 10.—South Devon Herd Book Society, at Totnes. Secretary, Alfred Michelmore, Gate House, Totnes.

APRIL 12.—Kilmarnock Farmers' Society, at Kilmarnock. Entries close, March 29. Secretary, R. D. Tannahill, National Bank Buildings, Kilmarnock.

APRIL 15, 16, 17, and 18.—Royal Dublin Society's Spring Show, at Balls Bridge, Dublin. Entries close, March 15. Agricultural Superintendent, Robert Bruce, Leinster House, Dublin.

APRIL 16.—Hereford Herd Book Society's Bull Show and Sale, at Hereford Cattle Market. Entries close, March 26. Secretary, W. E. Britten, 20, East Street, Hereford.

APRIL 24.—Lincolnshire Red Shorthorn Association's Bull Sale, at Lincoln April Stock Fair Ground. Entries close, April 3. Secretary, S. Upton, St. Benedict's Square, Lincoln.

APRIL 29 and 30.—Ayrshire Agricultural Association's Show of Implements and Live Stock, at Ayr. Entries close: Implements, April 8; Live Stock, April 15. Secretary, J. Howie, 58, Alloway Street, Ayr.

APRIL 30 (probably).—New Forest Pony Association, at Cuffnell's Park, Lyndhurst. Secretary, H. St. Barbe, 72 High Street, Lymington, Hants.

APRIL 30, MAY 1 and 2.—North-East of Ireland Agricultural Association's Spring Show, at Belfast. Entries close, April 5. Secretary, Kenneth MacRae, 37, Donegall Place, Belfast.

MAY 2 and 3.—Wharfdale Agricultural Society, at Otley, Yorkshire. Entries close, April 12; extra fees, April 19. Secretary, W. Holmes, 34, Market Place, Otley.

MAY 3.—Dumbartonshire Agricultural Society, at Balloch (probably). Entries close, April 26. Secretary, W. Davie, 258, Main Street, Alexandria, N.B.

MAY 3.—Rawtenstall Agricultural Society, at Rawtenstall. Entries close, April 26. Secretaries, Mansfield and Wint, Thorn Hill, Rawtenstall.

MAY 3.—Rochdale Horse and Turn-out Show, at Rochdale. Entries close, April 26. Secretary, Robert Turner, Union Bank Chambers, Rochdale.

MAY 8.—Royal Jersey Agricultural Society's Show of Cows and Heifers. Entries close, April 19. Secretary, John A. Perré, 8, Church Street, Jersey.

MAY 10.—Darwen and District Agricultural Show, at Darwen. Entries close, April 29. Secretary, John Ainsworth, Post Office Chambers, Darwen.

MAY 13.—Rufford Agricultural Society, at Rufford. Entries close, May 8. Secretary, T. Mayson, Church Lane, Rufford, near Ormskirk.

MAY 13 and 14.—Oxfordshire Agricultural Society, at Whitney. Entries close: Implements, March 26; Stock, March 31; double fees, April 7. Secretary, A. F. Milton Druce, 16, Queen Street, Oxford.

MAY 14 and 15.—Newark Agricultural Society, at Newark. Entries close, May 1. Secretary, E. Brooks, Barnby Gate, Newark.

MAY 14, 15, and 16.—Somerset County Agricultural Association, at Wiveliscombe. Entries close:—Stock and implements, April 14; cheese, butter, wool, etc., April 16; poultry and pigeons, April 18. Post entries (double fees), April 21. Secretary, W. R. J. Greenslade, 3, Hammett Street, Taunton.

MAY 15.—Prescot and District Agricultural Society, at Knowsley Park, Prescot. Entries close, May 1. Secretary, F. W. Halsall, 12, Church Street, Prescot.

MAY 17.—Edgworth and District Agricultural Society, at Edgworth. Entries close, May 12. Secretary, James Whitehead, Greenacre, Edgworth, Bolton, Lancs.

MAY 19.—King's Heath Horse Show, at King's Heath. Secretaries, Messrs. Bailey and Poste, 93, High Street, King's Heath.

MAY 19.—London Cart Horse Parade Society, at Inner Circle, Regent's Park, London. Entries close, April 28; late entries, May 5. Secretary, F. F. Euren, 12 Hanover Square, London, W.

MAY 19.—Lydney and District Farmers' Club, at Lydney, Hon. Secretary, F. Montagu Lloyd, The Grange, Newnham-on-Severn.

MAY 19.—Ixworth Farmers' Club, at Bury St. Edmunds. Secretary, Chevell Lawrence, jun., Bury St. Edmunds.

MAY 19.—Clitheroe Agricultural Association, at Clitheroe. Secretary, T. Robinson, 3, Wesleyan Road, Clitheroe.

MAY 20 and 21.—Notts Agricultural Society, at Nottingham. Entries close, May 3. Secretary, W. H. Bradwell, Thurland Street, Nottingham.

MAY 21.—Ormskirk and Southport Agricultural Society, at Southport. Entries close, May 10. Secretary, E. C. Stretch, 15, Moor Street, Ormskirk.

MAY 21.—Reigate and Bedhill Horse and Hound Show, at Reigate. Secretary, Eustace Frith, Reigate.

MAY 24.—Accrington Agricultural Society. Entries close, May 14. Secretary, F. C. Riley, 3, Church Street, Accrington.

MAY 26.—Newchurch and District Society, at Newchurch, near Manchester. Entries close, May 20. Secretaries, Messrs. Mitchell and Burrows, Newchurch, near Manchester.

MAY 27, 28, 29, 30, and 31.—Bath and West and Southern Counties Society, at Plymouth. Entries close: Implements, March 18; Stock and Produce, April 7 (post entries and double fees, April 14); Poultry, May 2; Harness Horses and Jumping, May 10. Secretary, T. F. Plowman, 4, Terrace Walk, Bath.

MAY 28 (about).—Eastern District of Stirlingshire Agricultural Association, at Falkirk. Entries close, May 21. Secretary, W. Wright, Newmarket Street, Falkirk.

MAY 31.—Batley and District Agricultural Society, at Batley. Entries close, May 24. Secretary, T. Machell, 28, Beaumont Street, Batley, Yorks.

JUNE 3 and 4.—Wiltshire Agricultural Association, at Swindon. Entries close, May 6. Secretary, J. Welch, Market Lavington, Devizes.

JUNE 4.—Yealmpton Agricultural Society, at Yealmpton (seven miles from Plymouth). Secretary, John Pearse, 15, Princess Square, Plymouth.

JUNE 5.—Renfrewshire Agricultural Society, at Paisley. Entries close, May 23. Secretary, B. Lang, Solicitor, Paisley.

JUNE 5 and 6.—Shropshire and West Midland Agricultural Society, at Shrewsbury. Entries close:—Implements, April 21; stock, April 28. Secretary, T. Whitfield, junr., 11, Talbot Chambers, Shrewsbury.

JUNE 5 and 6.—Suffolk Agricultural Association, at Ipswich. Entries close, May 7. Secretary, Robert Bond, Old Bank House, 6, Butter Market, Ipswich.

JUNE 6.—Kintyre Agricultural Society, at Campbeltown. Entries close, May 23. Secretary, G. Erskine Inglis, Estate Offices, Campbeltown, Argyllshire.

JUNE 10.—Huntingdonsnire Agricultural Society, at St. Neots. Entries close, May 20. Secretary, A. G. Dilley, Market Hill, Huntingdon.

JUNE 10, 11, 12, and 13.—Royal Counties Agricultural Society at Reading. Entries close:—Implements, April 5; post entries, April 12; stock, April 19; late entries, April 26; poultry, May 10. Secretary, F. Simons, Basingstoke.

JUNE 11.—Edinburgh Agricultural Association, at Edinburgh. Entries close, May 19; post entries, May 24. Secretary, J. Wylie, J.P., Royal Bank, Leven Street, Edinburgh.

JUNE 11 and 12.—Northamptonshire Agricultural Society, at Daventry. Entries close, May 14. Secretary, A. E. Lovell, Harpole, Northampton.

JUNE 11 and 12.—Royal Cornwall Agricultural Association, at Camborne. Secretary, H. Tresawna, Lamellyn, Probus.

JUNE 12.—Waltham Cross and Three Counties (Essex, Herts, Middlesex) Horse and Foal Show Society, at Waltham Cross. Entries close, May 21. Secretary, J. Crawter, junr., Chesnunt.

JUNE 13.—Stirling Agricultural Society, at Stirling. Entries close, June 5; post entries, June 7. Secretary, Andrew C. Buchanan, 26, Port Street, Stirling.

JUNE 13 and 14.—Richmond (Surrey) Horse Show Society, at Richmond. Entries close, May 24; double fees, May 26. Secretary, C. Capel Smith, 1, The Little Green, Richmond, Surrey.

JUNE 14.—Ossett Agricultural Society. Entries close, June 7. Secretary, A. Shaw, Ossett.

JUNE 14.—Ramsbottom and District Agricultural Society, at Two Gates, Ramsbottom. Entries close, June 7. Secretary, M. Bortwistle, 8, Garden Street, Ramsbottom.

JUNE 17.—Murrow Foal Show, at Murrow. Secretary, A. Huddlestone, Murrow, Wisbech.

JUNE 17, 18, and 19.—Herefordshire and Worcestershire Agricultural Society, at Hereford. Secretaries, A. Edwards and T. H. Edwards, Corn Exchange Offices, Leominster.

JUNE 18.—Thorne Agricultural Society, at Thorne. Entries close, June 1. Secretaries, C. Haycroft and J. Servant, Thorne, Doncaster.

JUNE 18 and 19.—Norfolk Agricultural Association's Summer Show, at Norwich. Entries close, May 19. Secretary, Caleb Barker, East Harling, Thetford, Norfolk.

JUNE 18 and 19.—Glasgow Agricultural Society's Summer Show, at Scotstoun, Glasgow. Entries close: Implements, May 21; stock, May 28. Secretary, A. Russell, 54, West Nile Street, Glasgow.

JUNE 19 and 20.—Essex Agricultural Society, at Romford. Entries close: Stock, May 19; Implements and Dairy, May 26; Poultry, June 2. Secretary, F. Taylor, 17, Duke Street, Chelmsford.

JUNE 24 and 25.—North West of Ireland Agricultural Society, at Londonderry. Entries close, June 11. Secretary, Ashmur Bond, Castle Street, Londonderry.

JUNE 28.—Dalkeith Agricultural Society, at Woodburn Park, Dalkeith. Secretary, T. Watson Dods, Dalkeith, N.B.

JUNE 28.—Keighley Agricultural Society, at Keighley. Entries close, June 21. Secretary, F. S. Pearson, Old Bank Chambers, Keighley, Yorks.

JULY 1.—Bishop Auckland Agricultural Society, at Bishop Auckland. Entries close June 24. Secretary, W. Burkitt, Grange Hill, Bishop Auckland.

JULY 2.—Barnstaple Agricultural Society, at Pilton Park. Hon. Secretary, T. Yeo, Barnstaple.

JULY 2.—Mid-Kent Agricultural Association, at Maidstone. Entries close, June 11. Secretary, P. Champion, 3, Market Buildings, Maidstone.

JULY 2.—Scunthorpe Agricultural Society, at Scunthorpe. Entries close, June 25. Secretary, G. W. Johnson, 40, High Street, Scunthorpe.

JULY 2.—Mansfield and District Agricultural Society. Secretary, G. Cox, West Gate House, Mansfield.

JULY 2 and 3.—Leicestershire Agricultural Society, at Leicester. Secretary, H. C. Ardron, Syston, Leicester.

JULY 2 and 3.—Doncaster Agricultural Society, at Doncaster Race Common. Entries close, June 7. Secretary, F. H. Chafer, 9, Market Place, Doncaster.

JULY 2 and 3.—County Cork Agricultural Society's Summer Horse and Sheep Show, at Show Yard, Cork Park, Cork. Entries close, June 9. Secretary, E. Corrigan, 21, Cook Street, Cork.

JULY 3.—Brentwood and Mid-Essex Horse Show Society, at Middleton Hall, Brentwood. Entries close, June 21. Secretary, F. A. Thorne, Brentwood, Essex.

JULY 4.—Ripon and District Agricultural Society, at Ripon. Entries close, June 26. Secretary, B. North, 31, Market Place, Ripon.

JULY 4.—Malton Agricultural Society, at Malton. Entries close, June 14. Secretary, T. Mitchell, the Mount, Malton.

JULY 5.—West of Fife Agricultural Society, at Dunfermline. Entries close, June 21. Secretary, R. Husband, Solicitor, Dunfermline.

JULY 5.—United East Lothian Agricultural Society, at Amisfield Park, Haddington. Entries close, June 20. Secretary, J. Stirling, Haddington.

JULY 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, and 11.—Royal Agricultural Society of England, at Carlisle. Entries close: Implements, &c., March 15; post entries, at double fees, April 1. Live Stock (horses, cattle, sheep, pigs), April 15; at post entry fees, April 30; late fees (last day), May 15. Poultry and Farm Produce, April 30, at ordinary fees; at post entry fees (last day), May 15. Secretary, Sir Ernest Clarke, 13, Hanover Square, London, W.

JULY 8, 9, and 10.—Peterborough Agricultural Society, at Peterborough. Entries close, June 14. Secretary, J. E. Little, Cowgate, Peterborough.

JULY 9.—Southmolton Agricultural Association, at Southmolton. Entries close, June 27. Secretary, J. Blackford, F.A.I., Castle House, Southmolton, N. Devon.

JULY 9.—East Surrey Agricultural Association, at Addiscombe Farm, Croydon. Secretary, Harry Fuller, 83, High Street, Croydon.

JULY 9 and 10.—Mallow Agricultural and Show Society, at Mallow. Secretary, N. F. Davin, Mallow, Co. Cork.

JULY 15, 16, 17, and 18.—Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland, at Aberdeen. Entries close: Implements, May 12; Stock, June 9. Secretary, J. Macdonald, 3, George IV. Bridge, Edinburgh.

JULY 16 and 17.—East Kent Agricultural Society, at Ashford. Entries close, June 2; post entries, double fees, June 9. Secretary, P. M. Collard, Little Barton, Canterbury.

JULY 16, 17, and 18.—Lincolnshire Agricultural Society, at Boston. Entries close, June 10. Secretary, S. Upton, St. Benedict's Square, Lincoln.

JULY 17.—Halesworth Horse Show Society, at Halesworth. Hon. Sec., H. Brown, Halesworth.

JULY 17.—Great Chesterford Colt and Foal Society. Entries close, July 5. Secretaries, Messrs. C. Edward E. Cooke, Hinxton Grange, Saffron Walden, and W. C. Emson, Strethall Hall, Littlebury, Saffron Walden.

JULY 17.—Herts Agricultural Society, at Hatfield. Entries close, June 26. Secretary, W. A. Sherriff, Hatfield, Herts.

JULY 17.—Royal Isle of Wight Agricultural Society, at Newport, I.W. Entries close, June 17. Hon. Sec., H. J. Way, Newport, Isle of Wight.

JULY 17.—Thorney Shire Foal Society, at Thorney Park. Entries close, July 10. Secretary, H. Horrell, Thorney, Peterborough.

JULY 18.—Driffield and East Riding Agricultural Society, at Great Driffield. Entries close: Stock, July 3; dogs, July 8; poultry, etc., July 10. Secretary, T. Holtby, Exchange Street, Driffield, Yorks.

JULY 22, 23, and 24.—Gloucestershire Agricultural Society, at Tewkesbury. Entries close, June 16; post entries (double fees), June 23. Driving and Jumping, entries close, July 7. Secretary, F. J. Townsend, Cirencester.

JULY 23.—Bridlington Agricultural Society, at Bridlington. Entries close, July 12; post, July 14. Secretary, B. M. Townsend, Quay Road, Bridlington.

JULY 23.—Cambridgeshire and Isle of Ely Agricultural Society, at Chatteris. Entries close, Stock, June 30; post entries (double fees), July 5; Implements, July 5. Secretary, R. Peters, 7, Downing Street, Cambridge.

JULY 23.—Chesterfield and East Derbyshire Agricultural Society, at Chesterfield. Entries close, July 8. Secretary, T. Wardle, Auctioneer and Valuer, Chesterfield.

JULY 23.—Cleveland Agricultural Society, at Middlesbro'. Entries close, July 12. Secretary, T. S. Petch, Liverton Lodge, Loftus, R.S.O., Yorks.

JULY 23.—Wadebridge District Agricultural Association, at Wadebridge Hon. Secretary, T. Rickard, Cleveland House, Wadebridge.

JULY 23.—Chiltern Hills and Southern Bucks Agricultural Association, at Slough. Secretary, J. Bliss, 26, High Street, High Wycombe.

JULY 23.—Perry Barr and District Agricultural and Horticultural Society, at Perry Hall Park. Secretary, J. B. Ross, Perry Barr, Birmingham.

JULY 23.—Upholland Horse Show. Secretary, J. H. Wright, Sunny Bank, Orrell Port, near Wigan.

JULY 23, 24, and 25.—Northumberland Agricultural Society, at Newcastle-on-Tyne. Entries close, June 28. Secretary, W. J. Bolam, Berwick-upon-Tweed.

JULY 23, 24, and 25.—North-east of Ireland Agricultural Association's Horse and Sheep Show, at Belfast. Entries close, June 28. Secretary, K. MacRae, 37, Donegall Place, Belfast.

JULY 24.—Bedfordshire Agricultural Society, at Bedford. Entries close, June 21; post entries, double fees, June 28. Secretary, H. R. J. Swaffield, Ampthill.

JULY 24.—Maltby Horse and Foal Association, at Maltby. Secretary, J. R. Spear, 12, Carlton Avenue, Rotherham.

JULY 24 and 25.—Tunbridge Wells and South-Eastern Counties Agricultural Society, at Eridge Road, Tunbridge Wells. Entries close:—Live stock, June 18; post entries, June 23; implements, June 18; late entries, June 23. Secretary, W. Roper, 6, Kentish Buildings, Tunbridge Wells.

JULY 25.—Hutton Cranswick Horse, Foal, and Horticultural Society, at Hutton Cranswick. Entries close, July 21. Secretary, G. Rayner, Hutton Cranswick, Hull.

JULY 26.—Lauderdale Agricultural Society, at Lauder Entries close, July 11. Secretary, G. L. Broomfield, Lauder.

JULY 28.—Shirley Horse Show, at Shirley. Entries close, July 22. Secretary, J. Clews, Shirley, near Birmingham.

JULY 30.—Moray shire Farmers' Club, at Public Park, Elgin. Entries close, July 16. Secretary, W. Rose Black, Town and County Bank, Limited, Elgin.

JULY 30.—Burton-on-Trent and District Shire Horse Society, at Burton-on-Trent. Secretary, F. D. Winterton, Walton Warren, Burton-on-Trent.

JULY 30.—Long Sutton Agricultural Society, at Long Sutton. Entries close, July 23. Secretary, H. Garthwaite, Long Sutton.

JULY 30, 31, and August 1.—Yorkshire Agricultural Society, at Leeds. Entries close, June 21; late entries, June 28. Secretary, J. Maughan, Blake Street, York.

JULY 31.—Launceston Agricultural Society, at Launceston. Entries close, July 12. Secretary, J. Kittow, West Holm, Launceston.

JULY 31.—Lismore Farming Society, at Lismore. Entries close, July 16. Hon. Sec., E. W. Becher, South Mall, Lismore, Co. Waterford.

JULY 31.—Newport and District Agricultural Society, at Newport, Salop. Hon. Secretary, W. H. Burton, Newport, Salop.

JULY 31.—Wainfleet Foal Show Association, at Wainfleet. Entries close, July 28. Secs., C. Lucas and W. M. Epton, Wainfleet, Lincs.

JULY.—Inverness-shire Farmers' Society, at Inverness. Entries close, middle of July. Secretary, D. Gray, 36, Union Street, Inverness.

JULY.—Stranraer and Rhins of Galloway Agricultural Society, at Stranraer. Secretary, J. Bennoch, Solicitor, Stranraer.

AUGUST 2.—Crayen Agricultural Society and Farmers' Club, at Skipton, Yorkshire. Entries close, July 23. Secretary, R. Wilson, Bank Buildings, Skipton.

AUGUST 4.—Wisbech and District Horse Society, at Wisbech. Entries close, July 24. Secretary, W. J. Chamberlin, Cornhill, Wisbech.

AUGUST 4.—Chepstow Agricultural Society, at Preecefield Park. Entries close, July 25. Secretary, Louis C. Wrigley, Trellick Grange, Chepstow.

AUGUST 4.—Tyneside Agricultural Society, at Hexham. Secretary, R. Ord, Beaufront, Wood Head, Hexham.

AUGUST 4.—Lutterworth and District Agricultural Society, at Bitteswell Road, Lutterworth. Entries close, July 10. Secretary, T. C. Bodycote, Lutterworth.

AUGUST 4.—Ecclesfield Farmers' Club, at Hillsboro' Park, Sheffield. Entries close, July 23. Secretary, V. Siddall, Wadsley Bridge, Sheffield.

AUGUST 4.—Oxted and Godstone Agricultural Association, at Oxted. Entries close, July 12. Secretary, J. Stanley, Tandridge, Oxted.

AUGUST 4.—Herefordshire Horse Show Society, at Edgar Street, Hereford. Entries close, July 12. Secretary, W. T. Williams, 6, St. John Street, Hereford.

AUGUST 4.—Ludlow Agricultural Society, at Ludford, Ludlow. Entries close, July 21. Secretary, E. H. Wood, 30, Broad Street, Ludlow.

AUGUST 4 (probably).—South Brent and District Dartmoor Pony, Sheep, and Horse Society, at South Brent, Devon. Secretary, Wyndham Hull, South Brent, Devon.

AUGUST 4.—Whalley Agricultural Society, at Whalley. Entries close, July 23. Secretary, J. M. Rawcliffe, Regent Terrace, Whalley, near Blackburn.

AUGUST 4.—Brentnor and Lydford Pony Society, at Lydford Junction, Devon. Entries close, July 9th. Hon. Secretary, J. N. Jackman, Burnville, Tavistock.

AUGUST 4.—Gainsborough Agricultural Society, at Gainsborough. Entries close, July 29. Secretary, T. J. Dixon, 17, Morton Terrace, Gainsborough.

AUGUST 5.—Border Union Agricultural Society, at Kelso. Entries close, July 11. Secretary, A. Stevenson, Kelso.

AUGUST 5.—Welbeck Tenants' Agricultural Society, at Welbeck. Entries close, July 1. Secretary, H. W. Woods, Scotland Farm, Worksop.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Malt: The trade continues quiet. Barley steady. Wheat slow at about late rates. Oats quiet. Maize about the same. Flour firm.—NIXON, GOWER, AND CO.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—In view of the nearness to Easter the London Corn Exchange moved in quite a holiday mood, both attendance and business being of a very small order all along, and prices left off much about the same as those last current. The position of English wheat remains firm, both here and in the country, with supplies becoming scarcer, and millers pay good value without difficulty. Whites range at 29s 6d to 31s; reds, 28s per qr. delivered. American reds unchanged to-day, and rather easier since last Wednesday. No. 1 Northern Duluth inspection, 30s 3d ex ship; 30s 6d ex granary; hard Kansas in latter position, 30s 6d; and Californian, 30s. Russian continues nominal, being still quite above United Kingdom levels; and India, as of late, fails to export. Plate, none offering. There is nothing fresh to report in the flour market. American brands without improvement. Fancy patents, Mayblossom, etc., 23s 6d. Of first, Pillsbury, Ceresota, etc., 22s. 6d. Of bakers' grades, Iron Duke, 18s ex store; Cascadias, 22s 3d. English in excess of requirements, while unaltered. The London Millers' Association made no alteration at this afternoon's meeting. Town Households, 23s; whites, 26s per sack, delivered to the baker. Hungarian, 33s for best. Whole meal, 172s per ton. Grinding barley occasionally 3d easier since last Monday. Odessa, 18s 9d ex quay. Danubian, 18s ex quay. Fair Danubian poultry barley, 21s 5slb. English unaltered, being now stationary, as maltsters have now secured most requirements, and seed parcels are little mentioned. Oats supported. F.a.q. Libau, common, 17s 9d; and ordinary, 18s 6d 38lb. ex quay; 40lb. Libau, bold, 21s ex quay; Danubian, 17s 6d ex ship; and 18s 3d for fair, 38lb. ex quay. English oats continue to get more and more scarce. Black, 24s 42lb.; fancy qualities, 24s 6d. Maize again occasionally lower for round corn. Odessa, about 21s ex ship, 21s 3d ex quay being still in poor condition. Sound Galatz-Foxanian, 32s ex quay; and Danubian, same position, 23s. Plate none. The market for imported beans and peas points to nothing fresh. Arrivals of grain ths week:—English and Scotch barley, 2,390 qrs.; foreign wheat, 15,740 qrs.; barley, 40,350 qrs.; oats, 28,780 qrs.; beans, 110 qrs.; maize, 1,500 qrs.; flour, 27,210 sacks.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Trade quiet for all descriptions of corn. Wheat, white, 27s to 30s; ditto red, 27s to 29s. Flour unchanged.

Barnsley, Wednesday.—Business was steady, but there was rather more doing. Wheat was firm, and prices showed an advance of 3d per load. Oats were also firmer, but there was practically little doing.

Boston, Wednesday.—Small attendance. Slow trade. Wheat, 27s 6d; grinding barley, 22s; oats, 21s to 21s 6d; peas, 55s to 65s; beans, 33s to 33s 6d; maze (new), 22s; ditto (old), 23s 9d per qr; linseed cake, £8 15s; cotton cake, £5 5s per ton.

Gainsborough, Tuesday.—Again a small attendance of farmers at market, and few samples of grain on offer. Prices unaltered for the past few weeks. Wheat, 27s 6d to 29s; white oats, 21s to 22s; black oats, 18s to 20s; grinding barley, 23s; malting barley, 32s; English beans, 34s; peas, 27s; small maize, 26s; flat maize, 27s per qr.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Wheat slow, and about 1½d to 3d per 240lb cheaper on the week. Flour nominally unchanged, with small trade passing. Indian corn steady but quiet. Round maize 1½d to 3d per 280lb easier, with large arrivals. Grinding beans steady. Canadian peas sold out on the spot. Home and foreign oats unchanged. Barley quiet. Bran and thirds quiet. Oatmeal dull.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There was about the usual attendance at our market to-day. Wheat slow, and about 1½d to 3d per 240lbs. cheaper on the week. Flour nominally unchanged, with small trade passing. Indian corn steady, but quiet. Round maize, 1½d to 3d per 280lbs. easier, with large arrivals. Grinding beans steady. Canadian pease sold out on spot. Home and foreign oats unchanged. Barley quiet. Bran and thirds quiet and unchanged. Oatmeal dull.—GIBSON AND CLARK.

Hull, Tuesday.—The arrivals of wheat are 2,348 qr. from Buenos Ayres; 20,622 qr. Karachi; 310 qr. La Plata; 6,210 qr. New York; 5,825 qr. Odessa; 24,664 qr. Sydney; total, 60,050 qr. The market continues very dull, and to sell rather slower prices would have to be submitted to. Barley—For foreign malting there has again been a fair demand at full prices, and it is evident that importers' stocks will be low when the present malting season ends. Feeding is scarcely so high in price as it was a week ago. Oats are decidedly firmer, with a better country demand, and the stiffness in prices from abroad. The quotation for Egyptian beans, washed, is 32s 9d to 33s, to arrive; none on spot. Maize is inactive at unaltered prices. At to-day's market the wheat trade is quiet, with little or no change in prices. Beans, peas, and maize: There is little inquiry; prices about the same as last week.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Wheat: On a short supply holders were asking an advance, but failed to obtain it. There was, however, a healthy demand at last week's full prices. Reds, 29s; whites, 29s to 29s 6d per 504lbs., delivered at Ipswich. Oats remain scarce, and are a firm trade, at 21s to 24s 6d per qr. Foreign steady and unchanged. Maize slightly easier; round, 22s per quarter. Beans rm, at 32s to 36s per quarter. Lentils unchanged; Bombay, 23s 6d; Calcutta, 28s 6d per 504lbs. Grinding barley rather harder. Linseed cakes firm at £8 10s to £9 per ton. Bran steady at £5 5s to £5 10s per ton.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Small attendance and a limited supply of wheat. Trade quiet at unaltered quotations. Reds, 28s to 29s; white, 30s per 504lb. Grinding barley

Leeds, Tuesday.—America has fairly upset the apple cart, but we should not be surprised to see a reaction and the "Bulls" once again gaining the upper hand. Wheat, though slow, is remarkably steady, American descriptions alone being lower. White wheats and Russians scarcely show any decline, and English none. Feeding stuffs quiet at late rates.—DUNNS AND CO.

firm. Oats steady. Maize, beans, and peas no change.

Louth, Wednesday.—A very small supply of wheat, and a steady trade, with no alteration in prices. There was also a fair trade in barley, with a good inqury for seed, prices ranging from 27s to 32s; oats, 21s to 23s per qr. A very slow trade for beans. Peas quiet.

Market Drayton, Wednesday.—A largely attended market, with fair all-round trade. Malting barley slightly dearer. Quotations: Wheat, white, old, 13s to 13s 6d per 226lb; white, new, 13s to 13s 3d per 226lb; red, old, 13s to 13s 6d per 226lb; red, new, 13s to 13s 3d per 225lb; oats, white, old, 18s per 200lb; white, new, 14s to 15s per 200lb; barley, malting, 14s 6d to 15s per 210lb; grinding, 11s 6d to 12s per 210lb; Indian corn, new, 13s 9d to 14s per 240lb; old, 14s to 14s 3d per 240lb; beans, new, 14s to 15s per 240lb; old, 20s to 21s per 240lb; peas, white, 18s to 19s per 240lb.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Wheats of all descriptions in very limited demand at nominally Saturday's quotations. Maize tending in buyers' favour. Oats firmer. Beans and peas steady. Flour slow sale at last week's prices.

Newport, Wednesday.—Wheat was quiet at last week's prices, and there was no quotable change in other grains. Flour, fines, 22s 6d per sack. Offals in demand and very firm.

Penrith, Tuesday.—There was again a large show of oats. Vendors continued to ask increased prices, and trade was of a dragging character. Anything suitable for seed made 25s to 27s per qr.; provender oats, 24s to 25s; black oats, 24s to 25s 6d per qr. There were a few samples of rye, business being done at 10s to 11s per bushel.

Romford, Wednesday.—Wheat trade very firm at last week's full prices, owing to the small supply. Red wheat made 28s 6d to 29s, and white wheat 29s to 30s per qr.

Salisbury, Tuesday.—There was a fair supply of grain and a good attendance of buyers at the Corn Exchange, but trade was dull throughout. Wheat sold slowly at an advance of 6d, whilst barley scarcely maintained the decreased prices of a week ago. Beans and oats firm and unchanged. Quotations:—Wheat, 27s to 30s; barley, 26s to 30s; oats, 20s to 25s; beans, 34s to 41s.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Farmers were too busily occupied in their spring work to attend market in great numbers. English and foreign wheat were very quiet, and prices were unchanged. Oats scarce. Beans and barley in slack demand at last quoted prices. Round maize unchanged, but flat sorts were quotably lower. Prices:—Wheat, white, 29s 6d to 30s 6d; ditto red 29s 6d to 30s 6d per 501b.; oats, new white, 21s 6d to 22s 6d; ditto new black, 20s to 21s per 336lb; barley, grinding, 22s to 23s; ditto, malting, 28s to 32s per 448lb; peas, grinding, 32s to 34s; ditto blue, 53s to 80s; beans, Egyptian, 35s 6d to 36s per 504lb; ditto English, new, 37s to 37s 6d per 532lb; Indian corn, small, 23s to 23s 6d; ditto American mixed, 27s 6d to 28s per 480lb.

Spalding, Tuesday.—The wheat trade was firm at 28s per qr. Oats 3d to 6d dearer on the week, making 22s to 22s 6d per qr. Very few lots of beans and peas offering.

Stockton, Wednesday.—Very little English wheat showing, which made last week's prices. Foreign wheat trade quiet owing to weakness in America; prices were 3d to 6d dearer. Maize 3d per qr dearer. Oats unchanged. No malting barley showing.

Sudbury, Thursday.—There were very few samples of wheat at 28s to 29s 6d per qr. Maize 24s delivered.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Small attendance, and very little grain on offer. White wheat 28s to 29s, red wheat 27s to 28s per qr, best barley 28s to 32s, and very scarce; secondary 26s to 28s, grinding barley 24s to 26s per qr, white oats 23s to 25s, black oats 22s to 24s, maize 24s to 26s per qr.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Tuesday.—Good supplies of greenstuffs on offer met with fair support. Fruit was in fair supply, and evidenced a steady sale. Greenstuffs: Cauliflowers, 6s to 9s per tally; beetroots, 2s to 2s 6d per bushel; sprouts, 2s to 2s 6d per half-sieve; parsnips, 2s 6d to 3s 6d; turnip tops, 2s 6d to 3s per bag; carrots, 2s to 2s 6d; turnips, 2s 6d to 3s 6d; parsley, 4s to 5s per dozen bunches; horseradish, 1s 3d to 1s 6d per bundle; celery, 9s to 12s per dozen rolls; seakale, 8s to 12s per dozen punnets; field rhubarb, 1s 6d to 3s 6d; forced ditto, 10d to 1s 3d per dozen bundles; English onions, 4s to 4s 6d per bushel; Valencia, 7s to 9s per case; Dutch, 4s 6d to 5s 6d per bag. Potatoes, 35s to 85s per ton; New Canary, 13s to 15s per cwt. English apples, 6s to 10s 6d per bushel.

THE BALTIC.

The London Corn Trade Association inform us that the following standards have just been made up, viz.:—Plate wheat of the Province of Santa Fé, Nov.-Dec. shipment; Yellow La Plate maize, December shipment; White La Plata maize, December shipment and adopted. New South Wales wheat crop 1901-1902. The association also announce that the committee have adopted the standard wheat samples crop 1901-1902 received from the Sydney Chamber of Commerce. All these samples can be seen and sample packets bought at 2, Lime Street Square, Fenchurch Street, E.C.

Cargo sales on Tuesday and Wednesday were few in number, but there was a somewhat improved inquiry for maize at the slightly lower prices accepted on Monday. Transactions have been as follows:—Wheat: Californian, 29s., prompt shipment; Walla Walla, 28s. 9d.; fine Bahia Blanca (South American), 29s. 3d.; Rosario, 28s.; No. 1 Northern Manitoba, 28s. Maize: La Plata May shipment, 20s. 3d.; fine Galatz, 21s.; Caucasian, 22s. 3d; Turkish, 21s. 6d.; Roumanian, 20s. 6d.; and American May shipment, 24s. 6d. per quarter. Barley: Azoff May shipment, 18s. 9d.; Roumanian, 416lb., 21s. 3d. Oats: Libau, arrived, 18s. The Government took a cargo of Russian 320lb. oats at 21s. 3d. per quarter.

Prices asking for cargoes, but not obtained, were about as follows: Australian wheat, 30s. 3d.; Kansas winter wheat, 30s.; Californian standard barley, 24s.; Chilian brewing barley (for prompt shipment), 25s.; unscreened Yerli barley, 20s.; Konigsberg oats, 20s.; white Canadian peas, 35s. (best); 33s. 3d. (secondary); Chilian peas, 37s.; Turkish canary seed, 36s. 6d.; Smyrna millet, 30s.; La Plata linseed, 48s.; Calcutta linseed, 51s. 3d. Cottonseed, Egyptian, prompt shipment, £6 16s. 3d. and November (new crop), £6 3s. 9d. per ton.

MONTHLY AVERAGES.
(196 Market Towns.)

	1901.			1902.		
	Wheat	Barley	Oats	Wheat	Barley	Oats
January	26 6	25 7	17 4	27 8	26 8	20 1
February	26 5	25 5	17 7	27 1	26 8	20 3
March	25 10	25 0	17 10			
April	26 3	25 7	18 3			
May	27 6	25 2	19 4			
June	27 7	23 11	19 10			
July	27 4	22 9	19 8			
August	27 4	24 0	18 10			
September	26 1	25 4	17 4			
October	25 1	25 7	17 6			
November	26 9	26 10	18 2			
December	27 4	26 8	19 5			

IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGES.

	Wheat.			Barley.			Oats.		
1901.	Qrs.	s.	d.	Qrs.	s.	d.	Qrs.	s.	d.
Mar. 16	55 073⅜	25	9	36,968⅜	25	1	14,010	17	7
,, 23	53,758½	25	8	27,840¼	24	11	13,895½	17	9
,, 30	47,908½	26	0	20,179½	24	9	12,418½	18	0
Apr. 6	42,721⅞	26	3	14,647⅜	25	3	11,776⅜	18	0
,, 13	32,905	26	5	6,809⅜	26	0	5,936¼	18	1
,, 20	35,737½	26	8	6,734½	25	7	8,346¼	18	8
,, 27	46,572	26	8	6,985½	25	8	8,300⅜	18	1
May 4	46,616½	26	9	6,417⅝	26	4	6,869⅜	19	8
,, 11	47,118¾	27	3	4,279¼	26	2	7,049	19	1
,, 18	52,875½	27	7	2,508	24	2	7,345½	19	4
,, 25	49,822⅜	27	7	1,511⅜	24	1	4,665½	19	8
June 1	46,514	27	7	859½	23	8	4,938	19	9
,, 8	42,202	27	6	221½	22	9	4,023½	20	1
,, 15	46,764	27	8	1,404¼	24	0	5,565⅜	19	7
,, 22	29,695	27	6	336⅜	23	2	3,552½	20	3
,, 29	28,191⅞	27	6	692¼	25	4	2,803⅜	20	0
July 6	19,564½	27	8	140⅜	21	9	1,806¼	19	10
,, 13	15,231⅜	27	2	49	23	10	1,675⅛	19	9
,, 20	17,462⅜	27	3	88⅜	23	4	2,040⅛	19	11
,, 27	18,297⅜	27	3	206⅜	22	1	2,385¼	19	4
Aug. 3	18,666½	27	6	250⅜	23	1	3,219¼	20	0
,, 10	19,156	27	7	141⅜	22	1	2,143¼	19	4
,, 17	22,617½	27	4	220⅞	27	2	5,982	18	9
,, 24	37,168⅜	27	3	976⅜	23	7	9,952⅜	18	
,, 31	61,603⅜	27	0	4,877⅜	24	3	14,654⅞	17	10
Sept. 7	66,623½	26	5	14,342⅜	25	1	19,075⅞	17	1
,, 14	77,949⅜	26	2	34,989⅜	24	11	19,909½	17	4
,, 21	80,279½	26	0	70,096⅜	25	5	26,476⅜	17	4
,, 28	80,488	25	10	109,783½	25	10	22,567¼	17	2
Oct. 5	60,376⅜	25	8	126,592⅜	26	3	21,631¼	17	7
,, 12	63,656⅜	25	9	172,175⅜	26	5	16,815½	17	6
,, 19	58,772⅜	25	10	203,591½	26	8	15,506¼	17	8
,, 26	52,984⅜	25	11	208,471⅜	26	10	18,009½	17	5
Nov. 2	70,314⅜	26	2	134,277¼	26	10	18,350⅜	17	7
,, 9	62,265½	26	6	202,577¼	27	0	20,066½	17	8
,, 16	57,884⅜	26	9	201,723½	26	9	20,122½	18	3
,, 23	63,150⅞	27	1	185,268½	26	10	20,612	18	7
,, 30	60,323⅜	27	1	193,434⅜	26	9	22,419½	18	9
Dec. 7	67,925½	27	1	162,996⅜	26	7	23,090⅞	19	0
,, 14	48,045½	27	2	182,212½	25	10	17,125½	17	1
,, 21	60,562⅜	27	7	119,398½	26	8	26,260½	19	8
,, 28	43,718⅜	27	7	81,859½	26	8	16,901⅜	19	10
1902.									
Jan. 4	31,440⅜	27	7	34,777½	26	7	11,621⅜	19	19
,, 11	48,997⅜	27	8	69,120½	26	7	14,995	20	0
,, 18	74,239⅜	27	8	91,559⅜	26	11	19,733⅜	20	0
,, 25	74,753⅜	27	7	87,594	26	7	25,382½	20	3
Feb. 1	73,381½	27	4	81,468½	26	7	25,657	20	2
,, 8	67,470½	27	2	69,291⅜	26	9	25,055⅜	20	3
,, 15	68,500	26	11	54,084½	27	5	21,824	20	3
,, 22	72,614⅜	27	1	53,201½	26	11	22,799	20	4
Mar. 1	79,453⅜	27	1	43,637⅜	26	7	22,322	20	5
,, 8	67,473½	27	0	28,847½	26	8	17,017	20	5
,, 15	60,643	27	1	24,536½	26	6	11,496⅞	20	6
,, 22	56,394½	27	1	15,482⅜	26	4	12,192½	20	6

LONDON AVERAGES.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, March 25th, 1902.

	Total Quantities, Imperial Measure.	Total Amount.			Average Price per qr. Imperial Measure.		
	Quarters. Bus.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Wheat	3,256 2	4,580	11	10	1	8	2
Barley	417 0	630	2	0	1	10	3
Oats	187 3	139	11	9	1	1	4

FLUCTUATIONS IN THE AVERAGE PRICE OF WHEAT.

PRICE	Feb. 15.	Feb. 22.	Mar. 1.	Mar. 8	Mar. 15.	Mar. 22.
27s. 8d	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 7d	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 6d	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 5d	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 4d	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 3d	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 2d	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 1d	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 0d	...	...	...	...	...	...
26s. 11d	...	...	...	...	...	...

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF FINE HOUSEHOLD FLOUR IN PARIS.
(Converted into English money for sacks of 280 lb.)

	1902.	1901.	1900.	1899.	1898.	1897.	1896.	1895.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Jan.	27 9	24 9	25 2	29 0	38 7	30 5½	25 10	27 9½
Feb.	26 3	25 9	26 3	28 3	39 4	29 10½	26 2	27 10½
March	...	24 0	27 3	27 6	40 1	28 9	26 0	27 6½
April	...	24 6	26 9	27 6	42 3	28 5	25 6½	26 7
May	...	25 6	26 8	28 0	40 0	28 11½	25 1½	28 0
June	...	26 3	28 6	27 6	35 6	29 3	25 8	28 10
July	...	28 0	26 9	27 3	32 6	31 5½	24 6	27 1
August	...	27 6	26 4	27 0	31 6	36 11	25 1	26 11
Sept.	...	27 6	26 3	25 9	31 0	38 7	27 0	27 0½
Oct.	...	27 6	26 0	24 9	30 6	39 4	27 1½	27 9
Nov.	...	27 9	26 4	24 3	30 3	40 3	29 9	28 8½
Dec.	...	28 3	26 0	24 6	29 0	39 3	29 8	26 3
Yrly. Avrg.	...	27 3	26 6	26 9	35 0	33 5	26 5½	27 4½

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The wheat plant is not particularly thick on the ground or high above it for the time of year, but there are no reasons for fearing a short crop, provided April and May are reasonably showery and the summer of an average warmth. The late February sowings of barley are already up, a sign that the seed-bed was a good one, and that the rains of last week were timely. The land is not too sticky for oat sowing, which has been proceeding very briskly. Seed merchants have sold more oats than usual this season. Seed oats at Mark Lane have gone off at a good price, and all the signs point to an increased area of well-selected oats, which should yield well in the autumn. The increased sowings in France and the United States are, however, some menace to value. Winter tares have apparently found the open season in their favour, as they look decidedly healthy. But the cold February kept them from a too precocious growth, and, speaking generally, the season, though about up to date, is by no means beyond a Lady Day aspect. Deliveries of English wheat are falling off at last at the country markets, but they were maintained at a good figure for so long that the value of foreign wheat at the great ports, including London, has been most prejudicially affected, holders getting weary of waiting and stuff being pressed on sale day the last fortnight, with the usual result to the price.

The Government report on the 1901 crops in the different counties is presented to us several weeks earlier than usual this year. The report is not indeed quite complete, but it contains all the more vital figures, and the head of the statistical department at St. James's Square is cordially to be congratulated on his expedition. One cannot urge too often that in statistics, as in other things, he gives twice who gives quickly. The return itself requires more detailed examination than we can give it under this section.

The Government at present have nothing to say in their reports about the condition of the stored crops, but from what we can learn the winter has not been favourable to the stacks. There is a great plethora of rats and mice, the result, it may be, of the absence of anything like prolonged frost. The condition of English wheat at the later markets has not been up to the standard of a couple of months ago.

The present expectations of soft and medium soft white wheat from California are colossal, and threaten to affect the value of English wheat very prejudicially between now and mid-summer. After June is over, there should be a decided recovery. Strong red wheat is quite scarce in comparison with rather weak wheat of good light colour, and should pay to hold from now forward for a good price. The term market quotation of 30s. per 500lb. for fine American red is tempting, and may lead to millers doing a good forward purchasing for June, July, and August delivery.

The American markets just before Easter were decidedly weak, but it is not likely that there will be any pressure of reserves on sale before the new crop prospects have declared themselves. The American Bureau report is not due before May 11th, and even then no free sales are likely unless the promise of the crops is seen to be decidedly good. There is no excess of wheat on American merchants' hands, and shipments of American flour have recently shown a diminution which will relieve our market from some anxieties.

Supplies on passage at Lady Day were as follows:—

	1902.	1901.
Wheat, qrs.	3,860,000	3,340,000
Flour, sks.	250,000	420,000
Maize, qrs.	395,000	540,000
Barley, qrs.	470,000	310,000
Beans, qrs.	7,000	11,000
Linseed, qrs.	325,000	195,000
Rapeseed, qrs.	30,000	6,000
Cottonseed, qrs.	49,000	70,000

It will be seen that wheat has increased by one half a million quarters on the year. The increase is exclusively in the soft white wheat, of which we have already spoken. The supply of maize likely to arrive in April is below the average, besides being practically confined to round corn. The excess in the barley on passage is wholly of Californian brewing barley, which is in request to meet brewers' requirements, and does not depress either fine malting or common feeding kinds. The liberal expectation of the oilseed trade are not the cause of anything like a weak market, as all that is coming will be wanted. American supplies in the hands of merchants on Lady Day are thus cabled. There are no cables to hand for barley or rye; stocks presumably being trivial.

AMERICAN VISIBLE SUPPLY.

	Lady Day. 1902. Qrs.	Lady Day. 1901. Qrs.
Wheat	10,756,000	10,446,000
Maize	1,849,000	3,681,000
Oats	905,000	2,006,000

America is very poor in spring corn this year.

Imports of cereals into the United Kingdom from September 1 to March 25 are returned as follows:—

	This cereal year. Qrs.	Last cereal year. Qrs.
Wheat	8,242,000	8,395,000
Barley	4,725,000	3,528,000
Oats	3,667,000	4,087,000
Beans	218,000	215,000
Peas	281,000	346,000
Maize	5,964,000	7,311,000

The increased receipts of barley have gone a good way to balance the marked falling off in maize, but there is no increase in beans, balancing the deficiency of foreign peas. It was the partial failure of the Canadian crop which brought about the latter event. Of oats, the supply from abroad is 421,000 quarters deficient on a little more than the half year. Russia has shipped with spirit, both Roumania and Turkey have superseded our expectations, but their joint efforts have by no means made up for reduced exports from the United States, Canada, and New Zealand.

Maize shipments from November 1st to March 22nd were as follows:—America 671,000 quarters; Argentina 535,000 quarters, Russia 2,386,000 quarters, Roumania 2,908,000 quarters, Turkey 563,000 quarters. In the like period of last maize year—the maize year begins November 1st—the shipments were much smaller from all quarters save the two Americas; but North America then shipped 9,492,000 quarters and South 623,000 quarters. The total deficiencies largely exceed this season the total surpluses. Shipments this civil year, *i.e.*, since January 1st, have been as follows:—

	Qrs.
From America	280,000
Argentina	125,000
Russia	1,850,000
Roumania	1,675,000
Turkey	300,000
Total	4,330,000

Last year in the same period considerably over six million quarters were shipped.

The stocks of wheat in the United Kingdom on Lady Day are thus estimated:—

	Qrs.
Foreign wheat	2,746,000
English ,,	1,950,000
Total	4,696,000

This is a very moderate total, and we may hope that after Easter the fact will have due weight with the trade. At the present juncture the impatience of holders at postponed business, and the general idea that the Boer war is at last nearly at its end, are causes of a weaker feeling, but the total supply of breadstuffs for the cereal year now in progress shows no signs of being in excess of the requirements, and this being so the balance of supply and demand should assert itself before long, and remove the present exceptional depression.

We have left behind us the period of maximum supplies from English farmers and of maximum shipments from America, North and South. Yet we have not added appreciably to the stocks according to usual computation of requirements, and the returns of those in the port warehouses show no very great increase.

	Qrs.
25th March	2,746,000
1st September	2,415,000
Increase	331,000

Millers probably hold this amount less than usual of wheat in their mills, as they have been discouraged by the large importations of American flour from buying wheat for their own working.

The shipments of linseed last week were 71,000 quarters from Argentina and 60,000 quarters from India. Alexandria reports a stock of 96,000 tons of cottonseed, and last week's shipments were 4,500 tons.

CORN STATISTICS.

ARRIVALS INTO LONDON.

March 19 to 26, 1902, inclusive.

	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat ..... qrs.	1,900	24,038	25,938
Barley	2,715	23,000	25,715
Malt	23,750	...	23,750
Oats	2,575	57,000	59,575
Beans	431	36	477
Peas	85	4,400	4,485
Rye	...	712	712
Tares	30	920	950
Lentils	...	9,000	9,000
Millet	...	255	255
Maize	...	21,170	21,170
Linseed	1,265	3,000	4,265
Flour, sacks	27,414		42,977

LATEST MARKETS

MARK LANE, WEDNESDAY.

The Market was rather full for the mid-week, and a good retail trade was done. Speculation, however, was quite absent, and the leading operators will not be back before the 2nd April.

English wheat was steady, foreign weak. Malting barley was quite as dear on Monday, but feeding sorts were 3d. down. Oats were firm for English, Scotch, New Zealand, and Swedish, but weak for the North and South Russian kinds. Maize was rather against holders, but pulse was steady for all sorts, and firm for some, notably tares and dari. The market for oilseeds was quiet, but linseed was not pressed on sale, despite the big arrivals, and rapeseed was held for previous best rates.

QUOTATIONS OFF STANDS.

March 26, 1902.

BRITISH GRAIN.

		s.	s.
WHEAT, White (new)	(per 504 lb.)	29	— 31
,, (old)	,,	30	— 32
Red (new)	,,	28	— 30
,, (old)	,,	29	— 30
Chicken or Feed	(per 480 lb.)	27	— 28
BARLEY, Malting	(per 448 lb.)	31	— 37
Brewing	,,	27	— 30
Feeding	(per 400 lb.)	24	— 26
MALT, English	(per 336 lb.)	35	— 41
Scotch	,,	37	— 39
Black	,,	30	— 32
Brown	,,	29	— 32
Crystallized	,,	38	— 35
OATS, English, Black Winter	,,	22	— 24
,, Black Tartary	,,	21	— 22
,, Grey Winter	,,	22	— 24
,, White Tartary	,,	21	— 22
Scotch	,,	22	— 24
Irish	(per 304 lb.)	19	— 20
RYE, British	(per 480 lb.)	23	— 25
BEANS, Pigeon	,,	38	— 40
Winter	,,	32	— 36
Mazagan	,,	31	— 33
PEAS, Best Marrowfat	(per 504 lb.)	65	— 75
Blue (boiling)	,,	60	— 70
Dun	,,	31	— 32
Maple	,,	36	— 40
TARES, Scotch Gores	,,	78	— 82
Winter Old	,,	68	— 72
,, Ordinary	,,	54	— 60
Spring ,,	,,	44	— 48

FOREIGN GRAIN.

(Ex-Granary.)

	s.	s.
WHEAT, per 496 lb.		
Old Duluth	31/9	—32/
Manitoba No. 1	31/6	—32/
American Spring	31	—31 6
Red Winter	30/3	—31
Hard ,,	30	—30/6
Kansas	30	—30/8
Oregon	30/6	—31/
Californian	30	—30/6
Walla Walla	29/6	—30
Australian	31	—31/8
New Zealand	29	— 30
Argentine	None	
Danzig	31	— 33
Saxonka	30	— 31
Azima	30	— 31
Ghirka	29	— 30
Indian	None	
MAIZE, per 480 lb. :		
Russian	21/9	— 22
Roumanian	21/9	— 22
Turkish	21/6	— 22
American	27	—27/3
Argentine	None	
OATS :		
N' Zeal'd (Best)	27	— 31
N. Zeal'd (Bluff)	26	— 27
N. Zeal'd (Dun)	23	— 25
Canadian (320 lb.)	20	— 21
American (320 lb.)	20	— 21
Prussian (320 lb.)	20	— 21
N. Russ'n (304 lb.)	19	— 20
South ,, (304 lb.)	18	— 19
Turkish (304 lb.)	17/6	— 18
BEANS, per 480 lb. :		
Egyptian	32	— 33
Smyrna	31	— 32
New Zealand	34	— 36
LOCUST BEANS, per ton :		
Italian	102	— 104
Cyprian	106	— 112
Portuguese	105	— 107
PEAS, per 504 lb. :		
Canadian, White	37	— 38
Australian, White	41	— 42
New Zeal'd Maple	39	— 41
Indian White	35	— 37
MILLET, per 416 lb. :		
White	38	— 45
Red	25	— 27
Yellow	20	— 22
Sorghum	19	— 20
DARI, per 480 lb. :		
Smyrna	24	— 25
Persian	21	— 23
RYE, per 480 lb.		
Russian	24	— 25
BUCKWHEAT, per 416 lb		
French	24	— 25
Russian	24	— 26
TARES, per 504 lb. :		
Konigsberg	44	— 48
BARLEY :		
Saale (448 lb.)	38	— 40
Hungarian (448 lb.)	32	— 40
New Zeal'd (448 lb.)	26	— 29
Chilian (448 lb.)	32	— 34
Californian (448 lb.)	26	— 33
Danish (448 lb.)	28	— 30
French (448 lb.)	27	— 29
Danubian (400 lb.)	19	— 20
Ouchak (400 lb.)	24	— 32
Yerli (400 lb.)	21	— 22
Russian (400 lb.)	19	— 20
MALT, per 336 lb :		
Californian	35	— 36
Smyrna	35	— 30

OIL SEEDS.

	s.	s.
LINSEED. per 416 lb.		
English	57	to 59
Dutch	56	to 58
Bombay	57	to 59
Calcutta	53	to 55
Russian	56	to 57
Argentine	49	to 51
SESAME. per 424 lb.		
Indian	51	to 53
COTTON SEED per ton.		
Egyptian	130	to 132
RAPESEED. per 416 lb		
English	56	to 60
Calcutta	41	to 43
Guzerat	42	to 44
Ferozepore	37	to 39
Jamba	29	to 30
Ravison	28	to 29
POPPYSEED. per 377 lb.		
Indian	47	to 49
SUNFLOWERSEED. per 448lbs		
Russian	44	to 47

LONDON FLOUR MILLERS' ASSOCIATION

OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1901

		London Whites. s. d.		Town Households. s. d.
September 2	(per sack)	26 0	(per sack)	23 0
,, 18	,,	25 6	,,	22 6
December 9	,,	26 6	,,	23 6
January 29	,,	26 0	,,	23 0

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, WEDNESDAY.

The Millers' Association did not alter credit terms from 28s. for best, 26s. whites, and 23s. households; but for cash, the prices made did not exceed 24s. 6d. whites, and 21s. 6d. households.

Country flour was 6d. lower for the commoner kinds.

French flour favoured buyers, 21s. 3d. being accepted for Corbeil's very finest.

American flour made 22s. 6d. for the favourite Minnesota mark "May Blossom," while Kansas "Success" was offered at the like price, and "Manhattan" at 18s. 6d. per sack.

Hungarian flour was steady, at 32s. 3d. for "Victoria Empress." English flour made by Hungarian process commanded 26s. 6d. per sack.

LONDON FLOUR.

		s.
Top Price	(per sack)	— 28
Town Whites	,,	—24/6
,, Households	,,	—21 6
No. 2	,,	—19/6

COUNTRY FLOUR.

Best Patents	(per sack)	—23/6
Fine Roller made	,,	— 20
Ordinary Roller made	,,	— 20
Best Stone made	,,	— 11

FOREIGN FLOUR.

Minnesota First Patents	(per sack)	23 — 24
,, Second Patents	,,	21 — 22
,, First Bakers'	,,	19 — 20
,, Second Bakers'	,,	17 — 18
Milwaukee Patents	,,	22 — 23
,, Bakers	,,	16 — 17
Kansas Patents	,,	23 — 24
,, Bakers'	,,	18 — 19
Cascadia	,,	22 — 23
Canadian	,,	22 — 23
Australian Patents	,,	20 — 21
,, Straight	,,	19 — 20
Hungarian	,,	30 — 33
Russian	,,	28 — 30
French	,,	20 — 22

MEAL, &c.

Whole Meal	(per ton	172—174
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	115—117
Bran, London Broad	,,	102—112
,, ,, Fine	,,	88— 92
,, Country Flake	,,	118—120
,, ,, Broad	,,	100—102
Pollard	,,	88—94
Biscuit Middlings	,,	115—117
Fine Middlings	,,	113—115
Coarse Middlings	,,	98—100
Feeding Flour (Red Dog)	,,	110—112
Barley Meal	,,	124—128
Rye Flour	,,	150—155
Canadian Oatmeal	,,	200—260
Scotch Oatmeal	,,	260—300
Oat Flour	,,	340—360
Maize Flour	,,	164—166
Maize Meal	,,	110—120
Maize Cones	,,	172—174
Maize Germ Meal	,,	117—119
Pea Meal	,,	130—150
Bean Meal	,,	145—165
Rice Meal	,,	94—98

COMPARATIVE AVERAGES.

Comparative statement for the corresponding week to March 22nd, in each of the years from 1897 to 1901.

	WHEAT. Qrs	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
1897	51,497¼	27	9	24,908¾	22	5	12,758¾	16	3
1898	50,131½	35	4	22,983½	28	6	11,610¼	17	8
1899	64,771½	25	4	32,349	26	8	15,093¾	17	0
1900	69,944½	25	11	38,147	25	0	17,042½	17	1
1901	53,758½	25	8	27,840½	24	11	13,895½	17	9

LONDON TERM MARKET.

This market is held twice a day, except on Saturday, when there is no afternoon call. The market is open to elected members only. No business except for future delivery is done, and the smallest quantity that can be purchased is 1,000 quarters, or 4,800 centals. The name of the month stands for guaranteed delivery (if required) on or before the last day of that month, and the following have been the prices per cental recently made:—

WHEAT.—Calls.	March. s. d.	June. s. d.	Aug't. s. d.
March 24 11 a.m.	6 0	6 0	6 0
4 p.m.	6 0	6 0	6 0
March 25 11 a.m.	6 0	6 0	6 0
4 p.m.	6 0	6 0	6 0
March 26 11 a.m.	6 0	6 0	6 0
4 p.m.	6 0	6 0	6 0

The Term Market standard wheat is No. 1 Northern Spring American sold on the Duluth certificate. Other sorts of wheat can be bought at the above prices plus or minus agreed difference between the other sort and the standard quality. Quotations are by the "true hundredweight" or cental of 100 lb. We do not give fractions of a penny per cental. The maize quoted is fair average quality from the United States.

The deposit required from members of the Term Market has been fixed at £50 minimum and 1s. per quarter margin on any purchases above 1,000 quarters.

The Term Market (while the "Baltic" is rebuilding) is temporarily situated at the Great Eastern Hotel, No. 190, Bishopsgate Street, ground floor.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORTS.

Mark Lane, March 26. — The market for foreign wheat is in much the same position, there having been no animation. Buyers are still acting with great caution, and will only operate for their more pressing needs. Speculation is entirely absent at the present time. Shipments afloat continue heavy, and this is the main reason for the indifference of buyers. The statistical position seems to point to a steady level of prices for some little time, but the season of crop scares is now commencing in America, where it is stated the Kansas crop is likely to be a complete failure. This, however, is no doubt a very extreme view, but it is quite possible that a considerable amount of damage has been done. With such reports the market is likely to be unsettled for some little time to come. Offerings from the Argentine are extremely limited, and the quantity shipped during the present season to this country will be very far short of last year's shipments. As regards Australian wheat, shippers are holding above U.K. values, so that business is impracticable, buyers and sellers being fully 6d. per quarter apart. The weather throughout the United Kingdom and on the Continent has been very seasonable and in every way favourable for the spring sowings, and also for the growing wheat. Wheat, Australian.—Ex store: Supplies on spot are restricted, and these have met only a slow demand at about late rates. We quote: 31s. to 31s. 6d. per 496lb. Farmers are now busy in their fields, and the supply of English wheat on the market is therefore restricted, and prices are well maintained. Maize: There has been some improvement in the demand for this article during the past week, and values have recovered fully 6d. per quarter. Barley: This article meets with a slow demand at unchanged prices, and oats are also slow of sale at late rates.—WEDDEL AND CO. (16, St. Helen's Place, E.C.)

Mark Lane, March 26.—Trade for flour quiet. Spot prices unchanged; forward, 3d. to 6d. dearer. —W. M. READ AND CO.

Mark Lane, March 26.—Oatmeal: Midlothian, quiet at £14 15s.; Aberdeen, steady at £12 12s. 6d.; Canadian, firmer at £12 15s. for coarse, and £10 for fine. (Special.)

Mark Lane, March 26.—Meal: Some American maize germ meal just to hand went at once into sale at fully previous prices, but rice meal was only saleable at a slight decline. (Special.)

BUTTER.

Tuesday.—Bedale: In rolls of 24oz., 1s 9d to 1s 10d per roll. Gainsborough: 1s 4d per lb. Leeds: York lump, 14s 6d to 15s per stone; long rolls, 1½lb, 1s 9d to 1s 10d per roll; fresh in 1lb prints, 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Settle: 1s 1½d to 1s 2½d per lb. Spalding: 11d per lb. Stone: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb.

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 1s 2d and 1s 3d per lb. Boston: 11d per lb. Colne: 1s 2½d per lb. Keighley: 1s 2d per lb (wholesale); 1s 3d per lb (retail). Knaresborough: Wholesale, 1s 9d; retail, 1s 10d to 2s per roll of 24oz. Louth: Wholesale, 11d per lb. Market Weighton: 1s per lb. Masham: In rolls of 24oz, 1s 8d to 1s 9d per roll. Northallerton: 1s 8d to 1s 10d per roll of 24oz. Stockton: 1s 2d to 1s 4d per lb. Worksop: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb.

Wednesday.—Hereford: 1s 4d to 1s 5d per lb. Market Drayton: Best, 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb; seconds, 1s to 1s 1d per lb. Uttoxeter: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb.

Wednesday.—Hereford: 18 for 1s. Market Drayton: 17 to 18 for 1s. Uttoxeter: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per score.

CHEESE.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Market now pretty well cleared of home cheese; values favour sellers. Cheddars and Dunlops, 56s to 62s per cwt. Fodder cheese will be offered in a month. The reason that home cheese is now almost exhausted is that many of the farmers sent their milk to the creameries. There is a fair demand for Canadians and New Zealands at firm prices.

Highbridge, Tuesday.—Upwards of 12 tons of cheese pitched to-day. Best dairies realised 64s 0d per cwt., other dairies selling at 58s to 62s 6d. A few inferior lots failed to reach more than 40s.

Newport, Wednesday.—A fair attendance of buyers and an average supply of cheese. Quotations: Caerphillies, 60s to 65s; fancy dairies, 60s to 67s; Derbys, 66s to 68s; Cheddars, 63s to 65s; truckles, 65s to 70s.

EGGS.

Tuesday.—Bedale: 15 to 16 for 1s. Gainsborough: 17 for 1s. Leeds: Yorkshire, 8s 9d to 9s 6d per 120. Settle: 18 to 19 for 1s. Spalding: 18 for 1s. Stone: 16 to 17 for 1s.

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 13 or 14 for 1s. Boston: 18 or 19 for 1s. Colne: 1s 5d per score. Keighley: Wholesale 15, retail 14 for 1s. Knaresborough: 15 or 16 for 1s. Louth: Wholesale 18 to 20 for 1s. Market Weighton: 17 or 18 for 1s. Masham: 17 for 1s. Northallerton: 12 or 13 for 1s. Stockton: 12 to 14 for 1s. Worksop: 1s 6d per score.

ENGLISH WHEAT IN 1 01.

Highest of Year	27s. 7d.
Lowest of Year	25s. 10d.
Gradient	1s. 9d.
Mean of Year	26s. 9d.

CATTLE.

(Metropolitan Market, Islington.

Thursday, March 27th, 1902.

	British.	Total.	March 28, 1901.
Beasts	100	100	110
Sheep and lambs	1,790	1,790	1,180
Calves	75	75	60
Pigs	5	5	20
Milch cows	5	5	—

Quotations per 8lb (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.

	Inferior.	Second.	First.
Beasts	2s 8d ..	4s 0d ..	4s 8d
Sheep	3s 10d ..	5s 0d ..	5s 8d
Lambs	5s 10d ..	6s 2d ..	7s 10d
Calves	4s 2d ..	5s 10d ..	6s 8d

To-day's supply, as usual on a Thursday, was very limited, but included a fair proportion of fat beasts, which, however, met with but little demand. The best on offer made from 4s 6d to 4s 8d per 8lb (sinking the offal). Fat butchering cows and bulls met with forced sales at lower prices.

The supply in the sheep market numbered 1,170 more than on Thursday, chiefly due to larger arrivals of lambs, which being in excess of requirements, were much lower in value (2d to 4d per 8lb), at which reduction a clearance will not be made. Trade for wether sheep was slow, and rates 2d lower, but ewes made Monday's quotations.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8lb (sinking the offal) and are for the best of each class penned:—

7½ to 8-st Downs	5s 4d to 5s 8d
9-st Downs	5s 4d to 5s 8d
10-st half-breds	5s 0d to 5s 2d
12-st half-breds	4s 10d to 5s 0d
10-st Down ewes	4s 6d to 4s 8d
11-st half-bred ewes	4s 2d to 4s 4d
5-st Down lambs	7s 8d to 7s 10d
6-st half-breds	6s 0 to 6s 2d

With a moderate supply, the calf trade was brisk, prime quality making fully 6s 8d per 8lb (sinking the offal).

London Central, Wednesday.—Fair supplies offered met a good demand, prices being firm to occasionally dearer. Arrivals of beef included 60 tons of Scotch, 900 Liverpool sides, 1,850 hindquarters, and 800 forequarters American killed. Prices:—Beef: Scotch short sides, 4s 6d to 4s 10d; long, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; English, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; American, Deptford killed, 3s 11d to 4s; Liverpool, 3s 10d to 4s; American refrigerated, hindquarters, 4s to 4s 4d; forequarters, 2s 10d to 3s. Mutton: Scotch, 4s 6d to 4s 10d; English wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 10d; English lamb, 6s to 6s 8d. Veal: English and Dutch, 4s to 5s. Pork: English, 4s 8d to 5s; and Dutch, 4s 4d to 4s 6d per 8lb.

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF LONDON TOWN HOUSEHOLDS FLOUR.

(Sacks of 280 lbs. ex-mill for cash.)

	1902. s.	d.	1901 s.	d.	1900 s.	d.	1899. s.	d.	1898. s.	d.	1897. s.	d.	1896. s.	d.	1895. s.	d.
Jan.	21	9	24	6	21	9	23	9	29	0	25	6	18	9	18	7½
Feb.	22	0	24	0	22	0	23	6	30	0	24	7½	19	4½	17	9
March	...		23	9	21	6	22	3	30	0	23	11	19	3	18	0
April	...		24	0	21	6	22	0	31	3	23	6	19	6	18	7¾
May	...		23	6	21	3	22	3	39	7	23	7	19	0	20	4½
June	...		23	0	23	6	23	1½	35	0	22	7½	18	10	22	3
July	...		22	3	24	6	21	9	29	6	22	10½	18	6	20	0½
August	...		22	3	24	0	21	9	27	6	26	8½	18	8½	19	10½
Sept.	...		22	0	25	3	22	0	26	5	30	3	19	6	19	8
Oct.	...		21	6	24	9	23	3	26	1	29	0	23	7½	18	7½
Nov.	...		21	6	24	3	22	3	25	0	29	1	25	8½	18	4½
Dec.	...		21	9	24	0	21	9	24	3	29	0	25	7½	18	1
Yrly. Avrg.	...		22	10	23	2	22	4	29	6½	25	10½	20	8½	19	2

FOREIGN CORN TRADE.

The shipments of grain from the chief exporting countries last week were as follows:—

	Wheat. Qrs.	Flour. Sks.	Maize. Qrs.	Barley. Qrs.	Oats. Qrs.
United States	335,000	82,000	21,000	—	3,000
Russia	112,000	—	110,000	33,000	77,000
France	—	5,000	—	—	—
Austria-Hungary	—	5,000	—	—	—
Roumania	21,000	—	127,000	29,000	—
Argentina	148,000	—	—	—	—
India	—	—	—	—	—
Australasia	40,000	—	—	—	—
Miscellaneous	20,000	10,000	10,000	20,000	5,000
Total	676,000	102,000	268,000	82,000	85,000

IMPERIAL AVERAGES.

Statement showing the Quantities sold and average price of British Corn, Imperial Measure, as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended March 22, 1902, conformably with the Act of the 45th and 46th Victoria, cap. 37.

Wheat	56,3041 qrs.	27s. 1d.
Barley	15,482⅔ qrs.	26s. 4d.
Oats	12,192½ qrs.	20s. 6d.

YEARLY AVERAGES (OFFICIAL.)

	Wheat. s.	d.	Barley. s.	d.	Oats. s.	d.
1890	31	9 per qr.	28	8 per qr.	18	7 per qr.
1891	37	1 ,,	28	2 ,,	20	0 ,,
1892	30	4 ,,	26	2 ,,	19	11 ,,
1893	26	4 ,,	25	6 ,,	18	9 ,,
1894	22	10 ,,	24	6 ,,	17	1 ,,
1895	23	1 ,,	21	11 ,,	14	6 ,,
1896	26	2 ,,	22	11 ,,	14	9 ,,
1897	30	2 ,,	23	6 ,,	16	11 ,,
1898	34	0 ,,	27	2 ,,	18	5 ,,
1899	25	8 ,,	25	7 ,,	17	0 ,,
1900	28	11 ,,	25	9 ,,	17	9 ,,
1901	26	9 ,,	25	3 ,,	18	5 ,,

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW.

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS.")

Trade in London.

Owing to the earlier to-day to which we go to press, comparison of numbers of cattle shown cannot be compared with last week, as an important market day at Deptford (Saturday) cannot be included. At the Islington market, where the supply was rather larger, trade for fat beasts, especially of best quality, was of a somewhat firmer and steadier nature, but though the tendency was an upward one it was not sufficiently marked to warrant higher rates being quoted. A clearance on Monday was made, but a few were held back. On Thursday, fat butchering cows and bulls, with slower trades, were in fair request, but were bought on easier terms. At the foreign cattle market, on Monday, trade was rather slower, but at a slight advance in value, and on Wednesday, with a choicer lot on sale, higher rates were obtained. The total number on offer at both markets was 1832, consisting of 1,310 British (increase 150), and 582 foreign, these latter being from the United States. The following were the top rates paid per 8lb., sinking the offal:—90-stone polled Aberdeens, 4s. 9d.; 90-stone polled Norfolks, 4s. 8d.; 100-stone Shorthorn ditto, 4s. 6d.; 100-stone Lincolns, 4s. 6d.; 90-stone Irish, 4s. 6d.; 85 to 90 stone States, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; 100-stone fat cows, 4s.; 100-stone fat bulls, 3s. 6d. to 3s. 8d. At Islington, as usual the Monday preceding Easter, there was a much larger supply in the sheep market, amongst which was a large proportion of lambs, the best of which sold readily at 8s. per 8lb. Trade for sheep, both wethers and ewes, ruled firm at an advance of 2d. per 8lb., but on Thursday a reaction set in, rates having to be lowered 4d. for lambs and 2d. for wether sheep. At Deptford, rates were firmer, but trade very slow. The total number penned was 14,357, consisting of 13,750 British (increase 4,140) and 607 from the United States. Best pens made, per 8lb., as follows, on Monday:—7½ to 8 stone Downs, 5s. 10d.; 8-stone Scotch, 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d.; 9-stone Downs, 5s. 8d.; 10-stone ditto, 5s. 6d.; 10-stone Half-breds, 5s. 4d.; 11-stone Hampshires, 5s. 8d.; 12-stone Lincolns, 5s.; 10-stone Down ewes, 4s. 8d.; 4½ to 5 stone fat Down lambs, 8s. to 8s. 2d.; 6-t. Half-bred ditto, 7s. 6d. to 7s. 8d. Calves numbered eighty, the best, on Thursday, making fully 7s. 8d. per 8lb., sinking the offal.

Trade in the West.

With the near approach of Easter, which has come upon rather earlier than usual this year, interest naturally centres in the great sales of lamb and veal, which have been one of the chief features of the trade during the past week. Of course, the earliness of the season, coupled with the cold storms we have had, accompanied in many places by hail, and in others (in the North) even by snow, has not been without its effect on the trade, the inclemency of the weather affecting the lamb trade more prejudicially than that of veal. In spite of these adverse circumstances, however, lamb, probably from the fact of the supply at many centres being none too large, has met a fairly good demand for good, ripe, well-finished Downs or cross-breds, animals that have been carefully turned out of hand, which in some places have been selling from 35s. to 45s. apiece—quite 11d. to 1s. per lb., and in some cases more. Of course, these are exceptional values; but purveyors with a good connection have shown but little hesitation in giving this price, as many of them at this particular know where to place their purchases, and at the same time to do so on remunerative terms. The more ordinary runs of lamb have also been meeting with a good consumptive demand at from 9d. to 10d. per lb. (or from 32s. to 36s. each); and even the rougher grades of unfinished lambs have been in request, though at from ½d. to 1d. per lb. less money. The weather, no doubt, coupled with the earliness of Easter, made another ½d. to 1d. per lb. difference in the price; otherwise the season would have been a fairly satisfactory one, and, as it is, it is, on the whole, even now a trifle better than it has been in some former years, though hardly up to last year's values. Relatively speaking, as far as we can gauge, the veal trade compares favourably with the price of lamb. Really ripe, well-finished calves have met a brisk sale at most of the leading centres at 8d. to 8½d., and in some cases more where purveyors have taken a fancy to certain lots. This, as may be well understood, is an extreme quotation, and of course refers to specially picked lots. The great bulk of the veal has met a good season's trade at from 7d. to 8d. per lb.; and vendors have experienced but very little difficulty in finding purchasers where a disposition has been shown to accept anything like a reasonable price, such as would admit of the middle-man getting a trifle for his trouble. The great bulk of the offer—which, too, has been very heavy at most centres this year—has been cleared at, on the whole, by no means discouraging prices. The only other branch of the trade which has been characterised by anything like brightness has been in respect to the lighter weights of porkers, which have been in active request up to 11s. per score for choice qualities, those a little heavier, and verging on bacon weights, selling from 9s. 6d. to 10s. The coarser breeds have been a little more neglected, owing to the special demand for other classes. Beef, in spite of the other calls, has ruled fairly firm, especially for steers and heifers, which have manifested a healthy feeling, the great bulk of the offer being cleared at from 11s. to 11s. 6d. per score (or £17 to £23 each); fat cows making £14 to £16 10s. (or 10s. to 10s. 6d.). There are but very few wethers on offer just now, but those at market make 7½d. to 8d., coarse heavy ones being difficult to cash except at low rates—6½d. to 7d. The chief business passing in stores is in milch beasts and barreners, the trade for both of which is particularly buoyant, the former especially so in consequence of the extra demand on town dairies during the holiday season, good dairy cows commanding a ready sale at from £17 to £21 each, and plainer kinds (cows) £14 to £16 15s. Fresh-condition barreners, after the rain, are meeting a very free sale from £22 to £27 per ?, and others of a rougher class from £16 to £20. In other things business is none too fast, the holidays somewhat interrupting the trade.

LONDON.

London (Islington), Tuesday.—Fair supplies met a sustained demand, prices being firm. Beef supplies included a fair amount of English, 460 Liverpool sides, 1,500 hind-quarters, and 600 fore-quarters American killed. Prices: Beef, English, 4s 2d; American, Deptford killed, 3s 10d to 4s 1d; Liverpool, 3s 10d to 4s; American refrigerated, hind-quarters, 4s 1d to 4s 3d; fore-quarters, 2s 8d to 2s 10d. Mutton: Scotch, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; English wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; English lamb, 6s to 6s 4d. Veal: English and Dutch, 4s to 5s per 8lb.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Best beef ranged from 11s to 11s 6d per score, and mutton from 3s 6d per stone for Kent barrens to 5s 4d for half-bred and Down wethers of prime quality. Veal again very dear, making up to 6s 6d per 8lb. Lamb was in much request for the Easter trade, and 11d to 1s 3d per lb was easily made. The teg trade very good.

Basingstoke, Wednesday.—At Raynbord and Son's saleyard there was a good attendance of buyers to meet a supply consisting of 45 fat beasts, 60 calves, 602 fat sheep and lambs, and 50 head of dairy and store cattle, for which the following prices were realised:—Shorthorn fat beasts made up to £24 15s; polled steers, £20 10s; Welsh runts, £19 15s; and a Devon cow, £17 10s. Fat sheep, 40s to 54s 6d; fat ewes, 38s to 51s; fat lambs up to 43s 6d; fat calves, 80s to £6 7s 6d; small, 25s to 55s; dairy cows up to £20 10s. A good show of fat beasts met a brisk trade. A clearance made. Fat sheep and lambs were shown in large numbers, meeting a clearance with an advance on the prices quoted last week, prime quality fat sheep and fat ewes especially realising more money. Dairy cattle sold readily at last week's prices. Store cattle met with a better inquiry. Fat calves, with a brisk trade, were easily sold at high figures. Ruling values:—Best quality fat beasts, 7d to 7¼d; second ditto, 6¼d to 6¾d; bulls, cows, and inferior beasts, 5d to 6d per lb. Best quality fat sheep, 7¼d to 8¼d; fat ewes, 6d to 7d; fat sucking lambs, 10½d to 1s 2d per lb; fat calves, 8d to 9d per lb.

Boston, Wednesday.—A good show and a brisk trade. Best beef, 7s 6d to 7s 9d; cow beef, 6s to 6s 6d per stone; strong steers, £14 to £16; growing steers, £11 to £12; drapes, £11 to £13 10s; in-calvers, £19 to £21; heifers, £16 to £18; calves, 65s; hogs, 40s to 46s each; best wether mutton, 7d to 7½d; ewe ditto, 5d to 5½d per lb.

Bury, Wednesday.—At Messrs. Simpson and Sons' auction mart there was about an average supply of fat beasts. Trade was about on last week's rates, prices reaching up to £25 5s. Small supply of store cattle, for which there was a better inquiry. A few lots of yearlings also sold well. Very short supply of fat sheep for the time of year, there being insufficient for the large attendance of buyers. Suffolk hoggets went up to 63s per head. Half-bred hoggets reached up to 57s per head. Fat ewes also met a better trade. Several fat lambs were penned, and all the best met a good trade. Rather more store hoggets on offer, and an improved inquiry prevailed. Good lot of wether keeping hoggets made 38s 6d per head. Other lots from 35s to 30s per head. Half-bred hoggets fetched from 35s 6d to 32s 6d per head. About average suppl yof fat pigs, which realised a good trade at late rates. Shorter supply of store pigs and of London jointers.

Cambridge, Monday.—Beasts, 361; sheep, 886; lambs, 148; horses, 21. Beef, 6s 6d to 8s 6d; mutton, 4s 8d to 5s 6d; lamb, 11d to 1s 1d per lb. A few more store beasts, but trade slow. Fat beasts a good show; trade better. Fat sheep: A fair number to hand; trade better at more money. Lambs a good show, and sold well all round. Stores: A large number to hand; trade fair. Hay, straw, and roots short supply.

Derby, Tuesday.—The market was well attended, and anything of good quality found a ready sale. Mutton, 8½d; beef, 6d to 7d; veal, 9d to 9½d; mutton, 7d to 8½d; lamb, 36s to 45s.

Dumfries, Wednesday.—Large supplies. Fat cattle in good demand at the full rates of late markets. Horned bullocks to £18; ditto heifers to £15; polled bullocks to £16; ditto heifers to £14; Ayrshire cows to £14; shorthorn bulls to £23; Galloway heifers to £14; Galloway cows to £13.

Edinburgh, Wednesday.—There was a good supply of sheep, but inferior qualities met slow trade. Cheviot hogs sold to 28s; greyfaced to 36s; and half-bred to 37s. Poor show of cattle, and inferior qualities bad to sell. Bullocks to £14 5s; Ayrshire cows to £18, and shorthorns to £22.

Gainsborough, Tuesday.—Good show of superior calves at prices ranging from 35s to £2 each.

Gisburn, Wednesday.—An average number of cattle, chiefly English, but the attendance of farmers was not representative, and buying was limited. Calving beasts, £16 to £22 10s; geld beasts, £2 under; cross breds, £8 to £12; veal, 7d to 7¼d per lb.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—At market, 1,078 cattle and 5,545 sheep. Fair trade, prices firmer. Top Scotch cattle, 65s; secondary, 60s to 62s; top Irish, 60s per cwt. Top mutton, 8½d; secondary 7½d to 8d per lb. Values of dead meat fairly well maintained; best Scotch beef, 6d; best States, 5¾d; best Canadians, 5¼d to 5¾d; best cows, 5d per lb.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Bullocks and cows, 659; calves, 220; sheep and lambs, 1,445; pigs (fat and sows), 53; sucking pigs, 11; pigs (stores, not more than ten), 272; pigs (stores, more than ten), 154; horses, 3; colts, 1. Prices: Best beef, 6d to 7d per lb; wether sheep, 6½d to 8d per lb; ewes, 5½d to 7d per lb; veal, 8½ per lb; pork, 5½d to 6d per lb; bacon, 4d to 5d per lb; lambs, 1s to 1s 2d per lb.

Hull, Tuesday.—There was a good supply, consisting of about 1,000 sheep and 100 cattle. Dairy cows, £14 10s to £20; cows in calf, £14 to £17; store beasts, £10 to £14. Sheep consisted entirely of grazing hoggs, and business was done at 32s to 38s each.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons report a larger number of fat cattle were forwarded, and, with plenty of buyers present, a brisk trade was experienced at rather more money for ripe animals. The entry of fat lambs was larger than expected; all those of fair weight sold well. The fat sheep pens were full; trade was slow, without much alteration in values. A good entry of fat hogs and Londoners, and a strong attendance of buyers; prices advanced fully 6d per stone. A large number of calves were penned; those for killing were in strong request at more money. This being the nineteenth annual sale of shorthorn bulls, about 30 were catalogued, including a choice lot of Cumberland bulls; several distant buyers were present, and prices ranged from 27gs. to 14gs. Several cows and heifers were penned; trade was dull and prices somewhat lower. Numbers at sales and market—Cattle, 610; calves, 83; sheep, 2,225; swine, 1,358; horses, 108.

Leeds, Tuesday.—The Easter market to-day presented an animated appearance, the supplies were large, and the attendance of buyers was much above the average. All sections of the market, with the exception of cattle, show a large increase, compared with the previous week. This was most noticeable in sheep and calves, the former showing an increase of 560. The cattle comprised a very good selection from the North of England, Scotland, Ireland, and Norfolk. Business all through was of an active character for beef, buyers investing freely for the coming holidays. The primest English and Scotch cattle sold readily, the best heifers and bullocks in a few instances making 7d per lb, with the ruling quotation fully 6¾d, best Irish cattle, 6½d to 6¾d; good beef, 6d; cow and inferior ditto, 5½d. The increased supply of sheep caused business to proceed rather slowly, but at the close a good clearance had been effected. The quality all round was above the average, prices were firm, and in some cases a little higher than last week. Choice small shearlings in the wool made to 8d per lb; ditto hogs, 7½d to 7¾d; ewes, etc., 6d; nice small clipped sheep, 6½d to 7¼d. The feature of the market was the excellent supply of veal calves, numbering 130, the quality comparing very favourably with previous Easter markets. A good demand prevailed, and prices advanced, the best veal calves realising 9d to 9¼d, and second-class animals 7¾d to 8d per lb. Lambs were shown in increased numbers, and met with a good inquiry. Nice small fat lambs fetched up to 1s per lb, and larger sizes 10d. The demand for dairy cattle was quiet, and prices easier. Best milkers, £15 to £19. Numbers at market—Cattle, 589; sheep, 2,730; and calves, 130.

Leicester, Wednesday.—Good average consignments of Norfolk and Lincolnshire-fed bullocks. Buyers and dealers were well represented. Trad ruled brisker all round at an advance of 20s in choice qualities, and 10s per head on secondary. Heifers, 6¼d to 7d; choice bullocks, 6¾d to 7d; secondary, 6¼d to 6¾d; cows, 5d to 6d per lb. Sheep were a full supply, and sold freely at 7¼d to 8d for choice; large sheep, 6¾d to 7¼d; ewes, 5¾d to 6d per lb. Lambs in brisk demand at 1s; choice calves very firm at 10d; secondary flat, at 8d to 8½d per lb.

Lincoln, Tuesday.—An average supply of beasts, with a good trade. Best beef, 7s to 7s 9d; other sorts, 6s 6d to 7s per stone; veal, 6d to 9d per lb. A very fair show of sheep, for which there was a ready sale. Clipped ewes, 5½d; woolled ditto, 6d to 6¼d; wethers, 7d to 7¼d; clipped hoggs, 6¼d to 7¼d; woolled ditto, 7d to 8d; lamb, 11d to 1s per lb.

Malton, Tuesday.—Liberal offer of both beef and mutton. Trade for former finished even better than at the opening; choice heifers; 8s; others, 7s to 7s 6d per stone; Wold bullocks, £16 to £18 each; shorn mutton, 6d to 6½d; good woolled shearlings, to 8d per lb. Calves were very dear, in view of Eastertide.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Cattle rather slow, but steady. Prime heifers, 7s 3d to 8s; steers, 7s 9d to 8s; second class, 7s 3d to 7s 9d; coarse and inferior, 6s to 6s 6d. Pork steady, 5s 6d to 8s 3d. Sheep slower, 6d to 8d. Veal firm, 6d to 10d. Lambs a good trade, 30s to 34s. Numbers: Cattle, 1,871; sheep, 5,930; and calves, 60.

Preston, Wednesday.—Being the market prior to Easter, there was an exceptionally large attendance, and very full supplies of all classes of stock. Beef met with improved demand at slightly higher prices, but sheep sold slowly and made less money. Calves, except for the best quality, did not make the money expected. Beef, heifers and bullocks, 6¼d to 7d; cows and bulls, 5¼d to 6d; mutton, hoggs, 8¼d to 9d; tups, 5¼d to 6¼d; ewes, 7d to 7¼d; calves, 8¾d to 9¾d; lambs, 1s 3d per lb. At market—325 cattle; 3,197 sheep, and 253 calves.

Romford, Wednesday.—Small supply of fat beasts; trade better. Best animals made 4s 6d to 4s 8d, and middlings 4s to 4s 2d per stone. Calves in very short supply, and trade dear, at 5s 10d to 6s per stone. Sheep in average supply; trade a little better. Best sheep 5s 4d to 5s 6d, and middlings 5s to 5s 2d per stone. Lambs in average supply; trade dear, at 7s 8d to 8s per stone. Few store beasts on offer; slow demand.

Saffron Walden, Tuesday.—There was a steady trade for sheep. Fat ewes sold freely up to 55s 6d; Down hoggets, 59s 6d; choice South Downs, 42s 6d. Fat lambs were in short supply, but quality was excellent; the best made 40s to 50s. Beasts were an average supply, and trade was somewhat slow. Ripe shorthorns fetched £22 5s. Fat calves met with a ready sale up to £6 15s, and weanels 39s. There was a good trade for pigs. Hogs realised 23s, porkers 46s, stores 21s 6d, and fat sows 13ss.

Salford, Tuesday.—There was a slight increase in the number of cattle on offer, but a firm trade at last week's prices. The supply of sheep and lambs was considerably larger than last Tuesday. Notwithstanding this, trade ruled brisk for sheep, and sellers obtained more money. Lambs were in good demand. There was a large show of calves and a good demand, last week's advance being maintained. Quotations:—Cattle, 5d to 6¾d; sheep (in

wool), 7d to 9½d; ditto shorn, 6d to 8d; lambs, 1s to 1s 2d; calves, 6d to 9½d per lb. At market—Cattle, 2,254; sheep and lambs, 10,371; calves, 648.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Small show of milch beasts. Best lots were in fair demand at £18 to £21; secondary, £12 to £16.

Spalding, Tuesday.—Fat cattle in small supply, and trade brisk, at 7s 9d to 8s; cow beef, 7s 6d per stone. Milking cows in demand at good prices. Of stores there

Thame, Wednesday.—The Thame Easter market was supplied with an exceptionally good lot of stock-fed, especially for this sale, and b g prices were realised throughout, being the sharpest trade experienced this year. There was an unusually large attendance of buyers, and biddings were brisk, every head of fat stock changing hands with only few exceptions. Veal and lamb were in great demand, and was a record trade. Mr. Bond's sale comprised 59 fat beasts and a few stores, 200 fat and store sheep, 47 fat lambs, 15 fat calves, 76 weaning calves, 107 fat and store pigs, and 3 horses. Fat bullocks made £18 to £27; fat heifers, £15 to £27; fat tegs, 43s to 55s; fat ewes, 44s to 57s; fat lambs, 37s to 50s; fat calves, £3 10s to £6 1s; cow calves, 23s to 56s; bull calves, 18s to 51s; fat pigs, 10s per score. Stores a better trade Pork sold readily.

was a large show, and high prices were asked, trade being slow. In the sheep market the show was small; best wethers, 7d per lb. A fair number of lambs, and a brisk trade up to 36s each; veal, 8d per lb.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There were on offer 124 cattle, 54 calves, 288 sheep, 10 lambs, and 145 pigs. The supply of best cattle was very small, and trade was firm, at 7s 9d to 8s per stone; rougher kinds, 6s 6d to 7s. A good show of calves, which met with a good demand at 6d to 10d per lb. Sheep trade easier. Lambs, 30s to 40s; young sheep, 8d; ewes, 6d; tups, 4d to 5d per lb.

Trowbridge, Tuesday.—A full market. Beef, however, was scarce, but that on offer made 11s to 11s 6d for best, and 10s 6d to 11s for secondary sorts. A good demand for barreners, making up to £15. Milk showed no improvement on last market, and met a dragging trade. Moderate supply of mutton, best realising 8d; ewes, 6d to 6½d. Lamb, 11d to 1s. A large number of calves sold remarkably well, weaners making up to 74s, and veal over 10d per lb. Messrs. Foley, Son, and Mundy sold 50 beasts, 186 calves, etc., as follow:—Fat cows, £16 10s to £18 15s; fat heifers, £16 to £17 5s; meaty cows, £14 to £14 10s; barreners £12 to £14 15s; rough grazers, £8 12s 6d to £10 15s; in-calf cows and heifers, £10 to £15; cows and calves, £12 5s to £15 5s; fat calves, £3 10s to £6 2s 6d; store calves, 12s to 74s; fat ewes, 34s 6d; fat bull, £14 15s. Messrs. George Snailum and Sons' entries were:—Young calves, 16s to 62s; fat calves, 63s to 117s; cows and calves, £8 17s 6d to £14 5s; in-calvers, £12 to £14; three stirks, £24; barreners, £6 15s to £14; yearling bulls, £4 17s 6d to £7 5s; two-years-old bull, £12; poultry, a large entry—fowls, 1s 8d to 3s 7d each; ducks, 2s; geese, 5s.

Wakefield, Wednesday.—There was a lighter show in all departments, with the exception of calves. A large number of butchers and buyers were in attendance, and a slightly better trade was experienced. The fat beasts were of a fairly good quality, and comprised Scotch, Lincolnshire, East Riding, home-fed, and a few Irish. There was an excellent demand for young heifres and bullocks, which realised 6¾d; good beasts, 6½d; inferior, 5d to 6½d. A very slow trade was done in dairy cattle, the market being of a holiday character. Superior cows, £16 to £21 10s; inferior, £14 to £16. An average trade in store cattle, the prices obtained being from £8 to £12; calving cows, £13 to £21. A large number of fat calves, including some really first-class animals. The best made about 10½d; others, 6d per lb., and upwards. A better trade in sheep, and dealers nearly succeeded in clearing out their stocks. Nice small young sheep were anxiously inquired after, and 8d was paid; medium met with a fair sale at 7d to 7½d; strong sheep, 6¾d to 7d per lb. There was a large supply of clipped sheep, real s ing about 6½d per lb. A large number of lambs were on offer, and a fairly good trade was done, prices varying from 11d to 1s 1d per lb. A slow trade in the pig market; stores, 25s to 56s; suckers, 15s to 21s each; porkers, 6s 6d to 7s 3d per stone of 14lb. Numbers at market:—Beasts, 1,208, against 1,246; sheep, 3,375, compared with 4,125; calves, 170, against 9; and pigs, 329, against 478.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Very fair supply of stock, especially calves. Best beef, 7s to 7s 6d; secondary, 6s to 6s 9d per stone; best mutton, clipped and in the wool, 7d to 7½d; ewes, 5d to 6d per lb.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Wednesday.—Beast supplies to-day totalled 284 head, this being a decrease of 354 as compared with last Wednesday's arrivals, and again consisted of shipments from the United States. Quality being good, trade ruled firm, at 4s 6d to 4s 8d per 8lb, to sink the offal

Yorkhill, Tuesday.—A sale of United States and Canadian cattle was held yesterday, when there were in the lairages 101 cattle, landed by the Salacia (s.) from Newport News, which were held over from Thursday's sale, and 206 by the Pomeranian (s.), from Boston, which lost one overboard during the passage. Compared with last week, the number on offer shows a falling-off of 176 beasts. Another consignment was advertised, but did not arrive prior to yesterday's sale, and in consequence the supplies have been rather limited. Bullocks, as is generally the case, formed the majority of the total number, but there were also a number of bulls included in the different shipments. The attendance of buyers was scarcely so large as usual, but wholesale dealers were well represented. Trade during the sales was of a much better character than that ruling last week, the demand being brisker and the rates realised higher. Small, neat, well-fed beasts secured the best inquiry, and sold very dear. Bulls met a good demand, and made satisfactory prices. Messrs. Duff, Paul, and Ferguson had on offer 101 States cattle and 56 Canadians; Messrs. Edward Watson and Ritchie 60; Messrs. Oliver and Son (Limited) 71; and Mr. Roderick Scott 20 cattle. The dead-weight quotations may be given as follows:—States bullocks, best class medium weights, 60s per cwt, and for really choice, up to 62s; secondary and heavier animals made 58s per cwt; bulls, 48s to 50s, according to quality and finish. Canadian bullocks, best quality, to 58s, and for a few really choice, up to 60s per cwt; secondary and heavier, 55s; bulls, best class, to 50s; and secondary and heavier, 46s to 48s. The Pomeranian only arrived the day of sale, and in consequence the cattle scarcely looked their best, but all were presented in fairly good condition. The sale terminated at a late hour, when a number were held over.

SEEDS

Yorkhill, Tuesday.—A supplementary sale of Canadian cattle was held to-day, when there were penned in the sheds 71 cattle ex Pomeranian (s), from Boston. The majority of the cattle were bullocks, but there were also a number of bulls included. As regards quality, the cattle were the best that have been shown for some time. There was a fair attendance of buyers forward, and trade was of a very satisfactory character. The deadweight quotations may be given as follows: Bullocks, best quality, 60s per cwt, and a few really choice up to 61s; secondary and heavier, 56s to 58s; bulls, best class, to 50s; and secondary and heavier, 46s to 48s.

POULTRY AND GAME.

Tuesday.—Bedale: Chickens, 2s to 2s 6d; fowls, 1s to 1s 3d; ducks, 2s 6d to 2s 9d each. Guinsborough: Chickens, 3s to 4s per couple; turkeys, 8d to 1s per lb; guinea fowls, 5s 6d to 6s 6d per couple. Settle: Ducks, 5s to 6s 6d per couple; chickens, 5s to 5s 6d per couple; turkeys, 11d to 1s per lb. Stone: Ducks, 5s 3d per couple, dressed 5s 9d to 6s per couple; fowls, 2s 6d to 3s 6d per couple, young dressed 4s to 4s 6d per couple.

Smithfield, Wednesday.—Fair supplies, a fair business being passed at firm prices. Quotations:—Fowls: Yorkshire, 2s 9d to 3s 6d; Essex, 3s to 3s 3d; Boston, 2s 6d to 3s; Surrey, 3s 6d to 4s 6d; Sussex, 3s 6d to 4s 3d; Welsh, 2s 6d to 3s; Irish, 2s 6d to 2s 9d; turkeys, cocks, 6s to 7s; hens, 4s to 5s; goslings, 6s to 7s; country ducks, 3s 9d to 4s 3d; pigeons, 8d to 1s 3d; quail, 10d to 1s; wild rabbits, 7d to 9d; tame, 10d to 1s 2d each; Australian, 8s 3d to 10s 6d per dozen; wild duck, 2s to 2s 6d; pintail, 1s 2d to 1s 4d; teal, 1s to 1s 2d; widgeon, 1s to 1s 2d. Russian game: Blackgame, 1s to 1s 2d; capercailzie, cock, 2s to 2s 9d; hen, 1s 9d to 2s; partridges, 1s to 1s 3d; ptarmigan, 10d to 1s; brown hares, 1s 6d to 1s 9d; white, 1s to 1s 2d each.

HAY AND STRAW.

Bristol, Tuesday.—Clover hay, 105s to 110s; meadow hay, 100s to 105s; straw, 62s 6d to 67s 6d.

Cumberland, Tuesday.—Best-selected hay, 110s to 120s; good ditto, 95s to 110s; inferior ditto, 75s to 95s; prime clover, 100s to 110s; good ditto, 90s to 100s; inferior ditto, 70s to 90s; best mixture, 105s to 112s; good ditto, 95s to 105s; straw, 28s to 40s per load.

Manchester, Wednesday.—Hay, 6¾d to 7½d; clover, 7d to 8d; straw (wheat), 6d, straw (oat) 5½d to 6d per stone.

Whitechapel, Tuesday.—Supplies good, but with subdued demand; business very slow headway, prices, however, being steady. Best clover, 95s to 110s; inferior, 80s to 90s; specially picked hay, 115s; good, 108s; inferior, 80s to 90s; mixture and sainfoin, 90s to 100s; and straw, 28s to 40s per load.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Hull, Tuesday.—Linseed: The arrivals are 11,386qrs from Buenos Ayres, 35qrs Harlingen, 2,484qrs. Rosario, 1,076qrs San Nicholas, 5,095qrs San Pedro, 1,047qrs Villa Constitution; total, 21,123qrs. Linseed is dull and inactive. Calcutta opened with 52s the value April-June, but steadied a little during the week, and closed with sellers at 52s. River Plate: Spot opened at 48s 3d, declined during the week 3d per qr, and closes with sellers at the first quotation; afloat seed is worth 48s 6d, and March-April is nominally 49s 6d. Cottonseed: There has not been much business passing in the past week, but, with continued light supplies, values have been well maintained. £6 16s 3d paid spot and afloat; £6 15s March, and same still required April-June. An occasional sale reported November-January at £6 5s, whereat sellers. The market is very quiet to-day, without quotable change. Oils: Exports for the week ending 18th March, 1902:—Linseed Oil: 4 Germany, 10 Holland, 16 Norway; total, 30 tons. Cotton Oil: 81 Belgium, 1 Denmark, 10 France, 209 Germany, 147 Holland, 4 Norway, 17 Sweden; total, 469 tons. The market is quiet. Linseed Oil: 28s 9d spot; 28s 9d March-April; 28s 9d May-August. Cotton Oil: 22s 7½d spot; 22s 7½d March-April; 23s May-August. Crude: 21s 4½d spot; 21s 6d March-April; 21s 9d May-August. Rape Oil: Jamba naked, 24s spot; 1st quality naked, 24s 6d spot. Oil Seed Cakes.—Linseed Cakes: A quiet market and 2s 6d per ton cheaper on the week. Cotton Cakes: A steady market at previous rates.—KEIGHLEY MAXSTED AND CO.

WATERLOO ROUND FEEDING CAKES, £6 10s 0d PER TON WATERLOO ANGLO SHAPE 97 PER CENT PURE LINSEED CAKES, £9 7s 6d PER TON; WATERLOO 97 PER CENT. PURE EGYPTIAN COTTONSEED CAKES, £4 15s 0d PER TON. ALL F.O.R. HULL.

MOLASSINE FEEDING MEAL, packed in bags, of 1½cwt. each. Price per cwt., 7s. 6d. Price per ton, £6 5s., on rail at works, Silvertown, Essex, and F.O.R. Liverpool. A sample lot of 6cwt., in 4 bags of 1½cwt. each, delivered free to any station in England on receipt of remittance for £2 11s 0d

MANURES.

Liverpool, Wednesday.—Nitrate of soda is very firm, and there is a good demand on agricultural account. Kainit and bone meal in seasonable request at late rates, whilst the home demand for superphosphate of lime is brisk, at the following rates for the respective and guaranteed tests. The trade in feeding stuffs all round is quiet, and values favour buyers; and to-day's rates are as follows:—Nitrate of soda, best quality, i.e., guaranteed 95 per cent, pure, in bags, £10 10s per ton; East India bone meal, fair to prime, in bags, £4 2s 6d to £4 7s 6d per ton; kainit, prime, 23 per cent., in bags, £2 7s 6d to £2 10s per ton; palm nut cake, prime, in bags, £5 15s per ton; linseed cake, American thin oblong, prime, in bags, £7 1s 3d to £7 3s 9d per ton; do English, prime, in bulk, £8 10s to £8 15s per ton; do foreign, round, prime, soft and oily, in bags, £8 2s 6d to £8 5s per ton; cottonseed cake, N.A., decorticated, prime, new, in bags, £7 to £7 2s 6d per ton; do English do, prime, soft, in bags, £7 5s to £7 7s 6d per ton; do English, undecorticated, prime, in bulk, £4 10s to £4 12s 6d per ton; do Egyptian, do, prime, in bags, nil; do, crushed, 20 to 25 per cent oil, prime, in bags, £7 3s 9d per ton; maize germ meal, prime, in bags, £5 17s 6d per ton; rice meal, Rangoon, as imported, in bags, £5 to £5 2s 6d per ton; Indian meal, coarse to fine grinding, prime, in bulk, 12s 6d to 12s 9d per 240lb.; linseed, fine bold feeding, in bags, £3 2s to £3 3s 6d per quarter, 416lb.; N. A. cloverseed, new red, fair to good, nil; D.N.S. Brand, superphosphate of lime, guaranteed 25 to 27 sol, in bags, £2 5s to £2 7s per ton at depot; do, do, 30 to 31 sol, in bags, £2 10s to £2 12s per ton at depot; do, do, 35 to 35 sol., in bags, £3 to £3 2s per ton at depot; basic slag, prime quality, 30 to 35 per cent. phos., nominal; do, do, 35 to 40 per cent phos., nominal; finest quality, 38 to 45 per cent phos., nominal.

SEEDS.

London, Wednesday.—Messrs. John Shaw and Sons, seed merchants, of Great Maze Pond, Borough, London, S.E., report to-day's seed market thinly attended. There is, nevertheless, an active all-round demand for those kinds of seeds required for immediate sowing. Fine clean purple samples of English red cloverseed are getting scarce. Alsike and white meantime find buyers at about late quotations, but ryegrasses and tares favour buyers. Full prices are asked for sainfoin, timothy, and cocksfoot; whilst a further advance has to be noted in lucerne, of which the supply is proving very short. There is no alteration this week in either mustard or rapeseed; but linseed is dull. Bird seeds move in narrow limits. Very low rates now prevail for g ant scarlet runner beans. As regards blue peas and haricot beans, the sale continues small.

WOOL.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Trade quiet at the old rates of 5½d per lb for fleeces and 4d for lambs' wool.

Liverpool, Wednesday.—The second series of periodical auctions for this year began on the 18th instant. East Indias being catalogued on that and the two following days, sundry combing descriptions yesterday, and clothing kinds to-day. The arrivals of East Indias reached 12,700 bales, and importers still held over 1,650 bales out of the 2,670 bales they withdrew in January, so that with a few second-hand parcels, 14,552 bales were offered, and nearly 11,500 bales disposed of, the home trade getting 7,100 bales, the Continent 2,000 bales, and America 2,400 bales. There was a fair attendance of English buyers, supplemented by the usual few from the Continent, some American orders adding to the competition, which, though never animated, was pretty well sustained throughout White Vicanere and Joria showed no quotable change from January currency, and the best Kandahar whites often went a little dearer, while fair to good yellows suitable for France, were ¼ to ½d per lb cheaper. Bagdad Persians realised full figures, but Bussorah grease, Native skin, goat hair, etc., which were largely represented, did not meet with much attention, and to a great extent had to be withdrawn. The arrivals for March reach 2,261 bales, and 6,123 bales are afloat. It is yet too early to form anything like an accurate estimate of what is likely to be available, but we do not look for more than 17,000 or 18,000 bales.

The third public sale of River Plate wool for the present season was held on the 26th of February, when 3,534 bales were catalogued, and including a few sold immediately afterwards, 3,350 bales changed hands. The selection was a fair one, and a large attendance of buyers acounted for excellent competition, so that compared with the rates ruling at the January auction, we quote merino and fine crossbreds, ½d per lb, strong crossbreds ¼d to ½d per lb, lambs, bellies, and pieces ¼d per lb dearer. The fourth sale will be held on the 25th of April, when we expect nearly 3,000 bales to be available.—RONALD AND RODGER.

London, Tuesday.—The second series of London sales of Colonial wool, which commenced on the 12th inst, closed to-day. The net total available amounted to 163,000 bales. Of these, 152,000 have been sold, 73,000 bales for home consumption, 75,000 bales to the Continent, and 4,000 bales to America, leaving 11,000 bales to be carried forward to next series. The series opened for merino wool with prices at from par to 5 per cent. above the February closing rates, and on this basis the sales have proceeded amid uniformly brisk and general competition, with great steadiness to the end. Very fine wools were in special demand and showed the rise most, but with this exception no descriptions can be particularised as being more favoured or less favoured than the rest, the improvement applying to all alike. A rise of par to 5 per cent. marked the prices of fine, and of 5 to 7½ per cent. those of coarse cross-bred. The former, if anything, gained ground as the sales proceeded, but the latter became somewhat weaker at the close. Capes were in good demand and nearly the whole of the available supply was placed at an advance of 5 per cent. for grease and at slightly higher prices for snowwhites. The sales close with a firm tone, leaving the market practically clear of stocks. Although the total Colonial supply available this year must be appreciably smaller than in 1901, the quantity that has passed into the hands of the trade exceeds that of last year by about 130,000 bales. The opening of the next series has been postponed to Tuesday, the 6th May, with a limit of 400,000 bales, the list, however, not to be closed later than the 28th April. The net quantity available, deducting transit wools and adding old stocks, will probably amount to about 280,000 bales.—HELMUTH SCHWARTZE AND CO.

London, Wednesday.—English—per pk. of 240lb.—Fleeces, S. Dn. hoggs, £7 to £8 10s; half-bred hoggs, £6 to £7; ditto, wethers, £5 to £6; Kent fleeces, £5 to £6; Sth. Down ewes and wethers, £7 to £8 10s; Leicester ditto, £5 to £5 10s; Colonial—per lb.: Vic.—Fleece super, 1s 5d to 1s 7d; scoured, good, 1s 7½d to 1s 8½d; scoured, average, 1s 6½d to 1s 7½d; greasy, average to fair, 10½d to 11½d; N.S.W. scoured average, 1s 4d to 1s 4½d; greasy average, 8d to 9d; S. Aus., greasy average, 6½d to 7d; N.Z. scoured average, 1s 5d to 1s 6d; grease average, 5½d to 9½d; Cape Scred. sup., 1s 5d to 1s 6d; fleece average, 7d to 7½d; greasy average, 6½d to 7d; Natal, scoured, 1s to 1s 1d; greasy average, 6¾d to 7½d. Crossbreds—Grs.: Vic. good to super, 11d to 11½d; New Zealand fine, 8½d to 9½d; ditto, medium, 5½d to 6d; ditto, coarse, 4½d to 4¾d.

Leicester March Cattle Fair.—There was a very large show of home-bred bullocks at this fair on Friday, the bulk being in very good condition. Buyers and dealers attended in good numbers. The demand was principally for choice qualities, and very prime lots changed hands very freely at £1 per head higher. For secondary descriptions the demand was very dragging. Milch cows were only in moderate supply, and superior qualities met with a very ready sale at £22 to £24 per head. Medium and inferior lots were very difficult to sell at £1 per head decline. Good lots made £16 to £18, inferior £13 10s. to £15, and heifers £10 to £13 per head. Irish cattle changed hands readily at £17 to £18 for the best lots, while secondary sorts made £12 10s. to £15 10s. per head. Young stock of all kinds sold slowly at £8 to £10 per head. Calves flat at 15s. to 30s. per head. Sheep were only a moderate show, and good hogs sold at 27s. to 37s. per head. Agricultural horses were very scarce, and good animals sold readily at high prices.



STOCK AND SHOW NOTES.

By Herdsman.

The entire herd of pure-bred Jersey cattle bred by the late Right Hon. Lord Rookwood is to be sold by auction, without reserve, on Wednesday, April 9, at the Home Farm, Down Hall, five miles from Harlow, Essex.

Down Hall has long been the home of good stock. A herd of Black Polled cattle was kept for some years, and dispersed in 1896; also a small herd of Guernsey cattle, which were sold two years later. The late Lady Rookwood was fond of Jersey cattle, and three fine cows were retained for the dairy, but, unfortunately, particulars of their breedin have not yet been found. After the sale of the Polled cattle and the Guernseys, Lord Rookwood added to the Jersey herd, and purchased several well-descended animals of English strains from Captain Spicer's old-established herd at Spye Park, Wiltshire; from Mr. Hugh C. Smith, Roehampton, Surrey; and from Mrs. McIntosh, of Havering Park. The sires used have been Jim, bred by Captain Spicer, a son of Mr. R. J. Pope's Carolina's Lad 5108, from Favourite, descended from stock bred at Spye Park since 1864; Gay Lord Quex, lot 30, now in service and for sale, was bred by Colonel McCalmont from prize strains; his sire, Censor 6499, won first at the B.W.E. Show, Cardiff, 1898, and his dam, Faux Pas, was the winner of nine prizes; there are some very pretty calves by him, and most of the cows are again forward in calf. The sale will commence at one o'clock, and will be conducted by Messrs. John Thornton and Co.

On the day preceding the above sale, the same auctioneers will dispose of nearly the whole of Mrs. McIntosh's herd of pure-bred Jerseys at Havering Park, Romford, Essex. The catalogue comprises the whole of the two-year-old and yearling heifers and bulls and a number of young cows and calves, with three exceptions, of last season, only the older cows being retained for the establishment. Some of the choicest animals in the kingdom will therefore be offered for unreserved sale; among them may be mentioned Charlotte 6th, Pearl 4th, Little May, Zenobia 48th, Havering Glorissa 2nd, Butterman. There is also the produce of those beautiful prize-winning cows, Glorissa 3rd, Fairy, Clementine 4th, Havering Moon 3rd, Forget-me-not, Havering Carnatie, Linda, and Emmeline. The blood of those famous sires, Golden Lad 3324 and Golden Fern's Lad 6236, runs in the veins of a large number of the animals, and in many cases the dams have been winners in the inspection classes, as well as in the butter tests. The heifers are all in a very forward state, being due to calve in April and May, so that they will come in at an excellent time for the summer shows, the sale taking place in time for entries to be made at most of the forthcoming shows this season.

It may be mentioned that Jerseys have been kept at Havering Park since the year 1879. A few years ago the herd began to take a leading position in the showyards. Prizes were won at the principal shows in the South of England, and in 1900 the number of animals had so considerably increased that the whole of the yearlings and some of the cows were sold. The great merit of the herd was attested by the high prices then realised, the seventeen yearling bulls and heifers averaging £44 7s. Most of the calves born that year were heifers. These became greatly distinguished last season; numerous prizes were won, including the first prize for yearling bulls, with Butterman (who is included in the sale), at the Royal Agricultural Society's meeting at Cardiff. During the past five years animals from the Havering Park herd have won the Blythwood Bowl twice, five championship prizes, 54 first, 72 seconds, 48 thirds, and numerous other awards in inspection, whilst in butter test competitions they have secured one gold, one silver, and three bronze medals, and 13 certificates of merit.

I learn that Mr. Sanders Spinar, of Holywell Manor, near St. Ives, Hunts., shipped two especially good Large White boars on Wednesday last, by Messrs. Bailey and Leetham's s.s. Ess, from Hull. These pigs were to the order of Mr. Morgunoff, of Russia, whose grand herd is comprised mainly of Holywell Manor blood, purchases having been made from it for nearly twenty years. The two boars are particularly well bred, being by Holywell Emperor, a prize-winner, and the sire of winners, at the Royal Show at Cardiff, whilst the dams are Holywell Czarina, by Holywell Dublin (both prize-winners), and Holywell Czarina 2nd, by Holywell Elephant, the latter the sire or grand sire of many prize-winners. The season, thus far, in the Holywell Manor herd appears to have been a busy one, the sales of boars and yelts totalling 114 in less than three months.

The records of March stock sales in America to hand up to the present contain nothing very striking. A composite sale of Shorthorns was held at Chicago on March 6 and 7, which included a number of Scotch Shorthorns imported by the Forbes-Prather-Norton Company. Good prices were paid for these throughout, the average for 30 females sold being £124, and for five bulls, £117. The cow, Spicy Clara, was bought by Messrs. G. Harding and Son, Waukeoha, Wisconsin, for £300, the next highest price being £222, paid by Messrs. F. W. Diess and Son, Read, Iowa, for Minorca Maid; £181 was paid for Laura by Mr. H. A. Lathrop, while £161 was given for Rosemary 203rd by Mr. E. S. Donahey. The highest-priced bull was British Glory, which went to Messrs. S. E. Prather and Son, Springfield, Illinois, for £172. The next highest bull was Dorothy's Pride, which was sold for £121 to Mr. Glen Pierce, Anchor, Illinois.

The stock prize list in connection with the important meeting of the Royal Counties Agricultural Society, to be held at Reading on June 10 and three following days, under the presidency of the Lord-Lieutenant of Berkshire (Mr. J. Herbert Benyon), has now been issued, and we may once more congratulate the society on its extensive and liberal character, thanks in no small measure to the generous help accorded by the local committee and various donors of special prizes. All departments of live stock are, as in previous years, well provided for. The sheep section comprises classes for Hampshire Downs (with two champion prizes), South Downs (with a champion prize and two medals), Shropshire, Kent, Oxford Down, Somerset, Dorset, and Suffolk, the last-named breed being included for the first time in the history of the society.

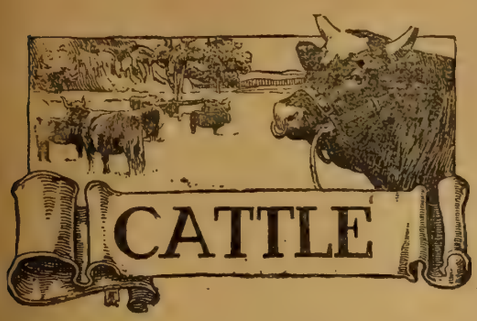
Agricultural horses have eight classes, with two champions and one silver medal, the principal champion prize being offered by his Majesty the King (patron of the society) for the best cart stallion. Hunters are given a similar number of classes, with one champion prize and three medals. Animals entered in these classes will be judged on the first day of the show, and will be allowed to leave the show at the end of the second day, when harness horses, hacks, and ponies will be admitted, remaining until the end of the show. This arrangement not only creates more interest by distributing the judging over two days of the show, but it should also be of great advantage to intending exhibitors in many ways. The special horse competitions, which include classes for open and local jumping, pair horses and tandems, will doubtless prove one of the chief attractions of the show.

The cattle section comprises classes for Shorthorns, Aberdeen-Angus, Sussex, Devons, Herefords, Jerseys, Guernseys, Kerries, and a Shorthorn and open dairy class, with various champion prizes, including an offer by his Majesty the King of a special champion prize for the best Shorthorn. Pigs are headed by the well-known Berkshire breed, for which there are no less than three champion prizes offered, and there are classes for Large or Middle White and other breeds.

An entirely new and unique feature of this year's prize list is the inclusion of a dairy herds competition, with two classes, one for herds of dairy cows (of any breed) over 50 in number, and the other over 20, but not exceeding 50, in number, the bona fide property of tenant farmers residing in the county of Berkshire, the cattle to be judged at the respective farms prior to the date of the show. Liberal prizes are offered by Mr. Martin John Sutton, and the competition ought to prove an attractive and successful one.



THE HACKNEY MARE, GOLD FLASH, shown above, is a chestnut seven-year-old, bred by Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., Walton Hall, Warrington; sire Goldfinder 6th, dam Flash, 2,752. At the recent London Shire Horse Show, Gold Flash was placed first in the class for Mares foaled in or before 1897, over 14 and not exceeding 15 hands, in foal or with foal at foot.



Fluke in Cattle.

When I came to Ireland, some twenty-three years ago, said Mr. J. Watson, M.R.C.V.S., in the course of a lecture to the Irish Central Veterinary Association, I found that the Roscommon sheep were dying by hundreds of so-called "rot." The subject at once engaged my attention, and I soon found that, not only the sheep, but the cattle—especially young stock—were very extensively the victime of the same disease Of all the diseases affecting the bovine tribe in the county named, there is not one approaching this in gravity, in slow but ruinous mischief, and in the continual legal wrangling it involves at Quarter Sessions. On the subject of sheep-rot a great deal has been said and written; but of liver fluke or "distomatosis" in cattle, and the symptoms it produces, you will find the literature extremely scarce. It is an insidious and intractable disease, and the complexity of the subject would almost frighten a man from entering on it. The people in Connaught, when I first knew them, called the disease in calves "big-gall," mistaking a symptom for the disease, and although they are wiser now, the appellation remains with them still. Let me, therefore, in dealing with the causes of the disease, try, with the help of Professor Thomas, to show you the main culprit.

And firstly, you must understand that the disease is

Due to a Parasite

known as a fluke, and that this parasite only becomes a perfect fluke in the bile ducts of ruminants or other vertebrate animals. It belongs to the group of flat worms, and multiplies by producing eggs in vast quantities. Each of the eggs gives rise to a creature which is never like its parent, never does become like it, and never lives where its parent lives. It—that is, the embryo from the egg—enters into the body of some snail or slug, and there grows and multiplies, not in the common way by producing eggs, but by giving rise to germs within itself. After describing in detail the life history of the fluke, Mr. Watson went on:—

"Allow me here again to summarise what I have already indicated of the life history. The adult fluke in the liver of the ruminant produces enormous numbers of gggs, which with the bile pass out into the intestines, and become distributed indiscriminately with the droppings. These eggs, meeting with moisture and a suitable degree of warmth, continue to live, and in each is formed an embryo. The embryo leaves the egg and swims about in pools of water in search of the particular snail, within which its future life and growth take place. Having met the snail, the embryo bores into it and there grows into the form called a sporoyst. This sporoyst gives rise within itslef to the second generation known as redia.

"These redia in turn produce the third generation, which has the form of a tadpole and is called a cercaria. The cercariæ quit the snail, and attaching themselves to blades of grass and other stems, they surround themselves with a gummy exudate, lose their tails, and become enclosed in an envelope of cyst. When the grass or plant to which the cyst adheres is swallowed by the ruminant, the young fluke becomes liberated, takes up its abode in the liver of its host, which it probably reaches through the *ductus choledicus*, and the fatal circle is completed. We thus see that distomatosis is a disease which alternates between a particular snail and the ruminant. A calf or sheep cannot take the infection from another calf or sheep, nor can one snail take it directly from another snail. The bullock or sheep, by spreading the ova of the fluke, gives the infection to the snail, and the snail in turn, by harbouring and distributing the cercariæ, conveys the mischief to the ruminant.

"We now come to ask ourselves the question, At what age, and at what time of the year, does the invasion of the cattle take place? In my experience, cattle at the ages of from six months to two years are the most frequent subjects of attack, and the most active months of infection or infestation are from July to October inclusive. At the same time I believe the ova of the fluke are being distributed in fæces of cattle at all times of the year, while the old pastures, undrained lands, and wet climate we have in the West of Ireland are specially favourable to fluke-production, so that, unless opposed, an almost constant immigration and emigration may be taking place. I have made post-mortem examinations at all seasons of the year, and have almost invariably found the fluke and its eggs in the bile ducts.

Symptoms.

"Let us next consider the symptoms to which distomatosis gives rise in cattle at different ages, and at different periods after invasion—and here let me say at once, that there is no disease in the ox tribe in which the symptoms are more obscure. In the early stages they are never positive, but almost always negative. You have to guess at the disease, not so much by the symptoms shown as by those which are absent. The beast is simply 'not thriving,' and there is nothing to indicate how or why. I have sometimes noticed that they take violent notions of licking themselves, and the country man may tell you that 'that is due to the grubs biting him.' One of the drawbacks to diagnosis is that the mischief is often far advanced before a deviation from health is noticed, and the first indication will be a failure of appetite, when the beast will wander about picking only the tops of the grass."

In cattle, as in sheep, the period of immigration of invasion generally passes unnoticed, although in calves of from eight to ten months I have occasionally met with acute symptoms which I have attributed to the first invasion of the fluke. The animal may be in good condition, but suddenly ceases to feed, and during defecation has a tendency to strain or press, and although the fæces may be soft, it is passed in small quantities, and is accompanied by clots of blood and mucus, and followed by frothy slime, while there is also congestion of all the mucous membranes. These cases are somewhat exceptional, but with injudicious treatment may prove rapidly fatal. I have found, however, that a dose of oil and turpentine with a little digitalis and bicarbonate of soda is then very beneficial.

The period of anæmia and wasting comes on as a rule very gradually, and is always accompanied by a scour. This wasting diarrhœa is one of the most prominent symptoms of distomatosis, and if not checked it will, within a month or two, transform a thriving, plump-looking yearling into a miserable, lean, dirty, and dejected specimen of a bovine. The tail, hind quarters and legs get covered with an offensive discharge, the flanks become hollow, the eyes sink in the head, the membranes are pale, and a watery bag may form under the chin. When this stage is reached the prognosis is not hopeful, and it will be difficult indeed to resuscitate such a life; but by treatment, and a careful dietary, I have not infrequently seen such cases rally. On the other hand, we are over and over again called upon to make post-mortem examinations of such animals which have died from exhaustion, and which we have never seen during life, so that I sometimes remark, we make more out of a dead beast than a live one, because there is a legal aspect to this question, of which we will say more anon.

Should the yearling be tided over its first troubles, and transferred to a sound pasture and better conditions, before structural changes have taken place in the liver, it may still develop a useful existence by living into the season, at which the emigration of the distomes is supposed to take place. But it is to be hoped that a great many—if they are ever quite free from fluke—become reinfested and drag out a miserable, scouring and dejected existence as two-year-olds, and later. Older animals seem better able to resist the inroads of the fluke; and heifers especially when once they have entered on the procreative stage of life may do wonderfully well for a season or two, even with a very badly disorganised liver.

One curious and well-known fact which I have already hinted at is this—that an in-calf cow having liver disease will frequently carry on a fairly natural and apparently healthy existence until the birth of her calf, when she will immediately begin to decline and die from inanition within from one to 15 days. I can only account for this by the fact that the liver of the fœtus is comparatively of enormous development, that it takes on its functions at a very early period, and that these functions to a great extent compensate for the defective hepatic secretions of the mother. It is at least a well-known fact in Connaught that a cow with what people call a "rotten liver" will succumb after calving. Hence it is that the smaller farmers and jobbers, when they go to market, will not purchase unless the seller gives a "warranty" soundness, or what they call an 'engagement.' And it is here that the legal aspect of distomatosis crops up in coming to a conclusion as to the length of time an animal may have been diseased.

Of course, a post-mortem examination is absolutely necessary. In old cows that have harboured the distomes for probably a number of years, we find some marvellous livers. I have met them weighing from 20 to 100 lb., and if you put your foot on them they would crunch like a bag of shells. The bile ducts had not only become greatly dilated, but their coats converted into bony ramifications. The natural weight of the liver of a fully grown shorthorn beast averages about 11 pounds, so that deviation from this standard, taken in conjunction with the extent of the structural changes in the bile ducts, will enable you to give an approximate idea of the length of time the disease has existed.

Prevention.

In dealing with this, as with many another disease, prevention is better than cure. The fluke, like the proverbial rabbit, on whose tail we would like to throw a little salt, is very remote in his *habitat*, and trying to reach him through the circulation is, to say the least, very uncertain. Tonics and good food certainly do a great deal to prolong the lives of fluke-infested animals, and for yearling cattle, I have seen much benefit from the daily administration of powders containing cinchona, digitalis, bicarbonate of soda, and aniseed, these to be dissolved in about a teacupful of warm water, and given with an equal quantity of linseed oil. The bicarbonate emulsifies the mixture; the cinchona is a model astringent; the digitalis acts as a heart tonic, and by its action on the kidneys carries off some of the superfluous water of the anæmic system; while the aniseed, besides being a flavouring ingredient, acts as a mild tonic and diuretic.

Several agents are supposed to have the power of killing the fluke, such as turpentine, paraffin oil, spirit of salt, sulphate of iron, common salt, etc., and these may certainly destroy any parasites in the digestive tract, but how they can reach the bile ducts is more than I can make out. Of course, the liver is said to have the power of arresting metallic poisons, and of neutralising poisons introduced into the blood by the intestines, and in this way such substances as I have mentioned may have a destructive influence on the life of a parasite. The fact, however, remains that animals recover after the administration of these agents. At whatever age cattle may suffer from distomatosis, the giving daily of small doses of common salt, with other tonics, will be beneficial, but by all means avoid giving Epsom salts. The pulse is small, and the system dropsical; the vital spark is low, and a dose of salts would extinguish it. In my experience, there is no specific remedy for the disease.

The Immunisation of Cattle against Tuberculosis.

Professor McFadyean (principal of the Royal Veterinary College), in the course of his report for 1901, to the Royal Agricultural Society, describes the results of some experiments that have been in progress at the College the last three years, the object of which was to ascertain whether a valuable degree of immunity against tuberculosis could be experimentally conferred on cattle. Tuberculosis, it may be observed, has generally been regarded as a disease against which no protection is ever acquired naturally. As a matter of fact, however, says Professor McFadyean, there does not appear to be in existence any reliable evidence to show whether an animal or a man that contracts this disease becomes more or less resistant to infection. Eminent authorities have cited in support of the view above stated instances in which human beings have suffered from two successive attacks of tuberculosis; and, indeed, cases of that kind have been brought forward to prove that a first attack of tuberculosis, so far from conferring any protection, actually leaves the individual more susceptible than before. However, few, if any, of these cases are entirely free from the doubt that the apparent recovery from the first attack may have been only a period of temporary improvement.

There is just as little trustworthy evidence with regard to tuberculosis of the lower animals. Until recently it was generally believed that an animal never made a complete recovery from this disease, but within the last few years the use of tuberculin has appeared to prove that such recovery is by no means rare in cattle. Recognition of this fact, however, still leaves the question open, for it is conceivable that recovery might leave the animal with just its original powers of resistance.

The experiments which have been made at the Royal Veterinary College have been carried on on three cattle. The plan of two of the experiments was to take an animal free from tuberculosis, as indicated by non-reaction to tuberculin, to infect it experimentally by injecting tubercle bacilli into its veins, to subsequently test or treat it with tuberculin at intervals, and, in the event of its ceasing to react after a considerable period of rest, to attempt re-infection by the intravenous injection of bacilli. In the other case the plan was of the same, save that the animals had contracted the disease naturally before the experiment was begun.

In each case the result indicated that it was thus possible to confer a very high degree of immunity on the animal.

In the first case the experiment was begun in September, 1898, and the subject of it was a Shorthorn heifer, then three years old. It was free from tuberculosis, according to the tuberculin test. Tubercle bacilli from the liver of a fowl were injected into one of its veins on September 29th,

1898, and on October 7th following it reacted to tuberculin. It reacted again on October 17th and November 18th, but on December 15th it failed to react, and none of the symptoms of illness which usually follow the injection of a large number of tubercle bacilli into the veins subsequently set in. On the contrary, the animal remained apparently healthy, and even improved in condition. Since the last-mentioned date tubercle bacilli have been injected into this animal's veins on seven occasions In all cases the bacilli used were proved by control experiments to be highly virulent, and on some of the occasions the number of them introduced into the veins was enormous. The animal is alive at the time of writing, and it has never developed any sign of ill-health.

The subject of Case 2 was a Hereford heifer, healthy, and a year old when the experiment was begun in May, 1899. In this case the first intravenous injection was made with bacilli from the liver of a tuberculous pheasant, and twenty-one days after injection the heifer reacted to tuberculin. During the next four months it was tested weekly, and it gradually ceased to react. Between November, 1899, and July, 1901, the intravenous injections of bacilli were repeated eight times, and on the later occasions the number of bacilli introduced was enormous. At the beginning of October last the animal appeared to be in good health, and it was resolved to submit it to severer tests than any previously employed. On the 5th of that month 10 c.c. of a liquid enormously rich in tubercle bacilli was injected into one of the veins, and the operation was repeated on the 24th of the same month. The result was that the heifer died on December 23rd, the immediate cause of death being tuberculous lesions in the membranes of the brain. The fact that the animal thus succumbed to tuberculosis was, in a sense, disappointing, but only those who erroneously believe that immunity against any disease can be made absolute will regard it as surprising, or as evidence that the heifer had not acquired a very high degree of immunity against tuberculosis, for the test that ultimately killed it was infinitely more severe than any to which an animal is ever exposed in natural circumstances.

The third case was very similar to the preceding one, but the animal, a yearling Ayrshire heifer, was already the subject of tuberculosis, naturally contracted, when the experiment was begun. The heifer was purchased on September 30th, 1899, and it reacted to tuberculin on October 9th. It also reacted to the test repeated on October 12th and November 27th, of the same year, and on January 8th, 1900. It received its first intravenous injection of bacilli on January 11th, 1900, and the operation was repeated on five occasions between that date and July 31st, 1901. During the whole period the heifer continued to grow, maintained fair condition, and showed no outward symptom of tuberculosis. As in the previous case, it was resolved to give a larger dose of bacilli than any previously employed, and on October 24th last 10 c.c. of a liquid very rich in tubercle bacilli was injected into one of the animal's veins. The heifer did not subsequently develop any pronounced symptoms until December 17th, when it died very suddenly. The post-mortem examination indicated that in this case also the immediate cause of death was tuberculosis of the membranes of the brain.

The foregoing experiments appear to prove, says Professor McFadyean, that a very high degree of immunity against tuberculosis can be conferred on cattle. The immunity, it is true, was not absolute, since two of the three animals were killed with tubercle bacilli; but, as previously indicated, it was scarcely to be expected that the most highly immunised animal could withstand the very severe test to which these two cattle succumbed. According to all previous experience, the earlier tests through which they had come successfully would have been rapidly fatal to any animal of the same species with only its natural powers of resistance to tuberculosis.

It is not pretended that the experiments foreshadow a practicable method of vaccinating cattle on a large scale against tuberculosis; but it is something to have established that animals of that species can have a very high degree of immunity against that disease conferred on them, and the experiments are being continued.

Sale of Mr. R. Sawkel's Farm Stock.

Mr. R. Sawkel, of West Marden Farm, near Emsworth (situate close to the borders of Sussex and Hampshire), having decided to relinquish business, his live and dead farming stock was recently disposed of by Messrs. Stride and Son, of Chichester. The catalogue comprised a hardy, well-bred Hampshire Down flock of about 250 ewes and rams, eighty ewe tegs, and four rams, eight young and particularly fine cart horses, two well-bred nag geldings, a bay pony, several dairy cows, pigs and poultry, in addition to the usual agricultural implements, machinery, and tools. Although the greater part of the day was very wet and boisterous, a large number of buyers were present, and all the stock, with the exception, perhaps, of the sheep—which were adversely affected by the weather conditions—realised excellent prices, the horses selling especially well. The ewes and lambs in the flock of sheep were sold together, the two-tooth ewes fetching from 31s. to 47s. 6d. apiece; four-tooths, 48s. to 53s.; six-tooths, 51s. 6d. to 54s. 6d.; ewe tegs, 35s. 6d. to 37s.; and the two-tooth rams 32s. 6d. each. The eight cart horses brought in a sum of 407½gs., the highest price paid being 73gs. and the lowest 20½gs. The average worked out at nearly 51gs. Two nag horses fetched 37gs. and 43gs. respectively, and a bay pony £14. There were not many cows brought under the hammer, and the best price paid in this department was £15. Altogether, the sale realised a total of about £1,600.

Sale of Shorthorn Bulls at Ipswich.

Their annual spring sale of Shorthorn bullocks, held by Messrs. R. Bond and Sons at Ipswich on Tuesday. About 30 animals were catalogued, including nearly a score choice bulls, from 10 to 15 months old, bred in Cumberland. Buyers were well represented, and there was good competition for all the best. The highest price realised was 27 guineas for a massive dark roan, 14 months old, which was secured by Mr. N. H. Bacon, of Raveningham, Norfolk. A promising roan calf, 10½ months old, was purchased at 24 guineas for Captain E. G. Pretyman, M.P. The following are some of the principal prices:—

	Gs.
Roan shorthorn bull, 14 months old	16
Roan shorthorn bull, 13½ months old	17½
Dark roan shorthorn bull, 13 months old	15
Dark roan shorthorn bull, 14 months old	27
Dark roan shorthorn bull, 14 months old	21
Roan shorthorn bull, 12 months old	14
Dark roan shorthorn bull, 12 months old	14
Roan shorthorn bull, 12 months old	18
Roan shorthorn bull, 12 months old	19½
Roan shorthorn bull, 11 months old	15½
Roan shorthorn bull, 10½ months old	24
Roan shorthorn bull, 10 months old	14½

Particulars of Transactions in Store Stock.

Reported to the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland.

There was an average-sized fair at Enniscorthy, county Wexford, on the 21st inst., at which a rather good demand was experienced for cattle with any condition. The moderate supply of sheep met a strong demand. Prices: Calves, first-class, £5 10s. Yearlings, first-class, £8 15s. to £8 17s. 6d.; second-class, £6 to £7 17s. 6d. Two-year-olds, first-class, £11 to £12 10s.; second-class, £9 to £9 10s. Three-year-olds, second-class, £11 5s. to £12 10s.; third-class, £9 15s. Sheep: Over twelve and under twenty-four months old, first-class, £1 16s.; second-class, £1 1s. 6d. to £1 10s. Two years old and upwards, second-class, £1 12s. Young pigs, eight to ten weeks old, sold at from 18s. to 24s. each.

At Kenmare, county Kerry, on the 21st inst., there was a very small fair, composed of third-class, and one and two year old cattle, for which there was slow demand. Prices: Yearlings, third-class, £3 2s. 6d. to £4 7s. 6d. Two-year-olds, third-class, £4 to £6. Springers, third-class, £6 to £8 10s. Young pigs, eight to ten weeks old, sold at from 18s. to 23s. each.

The fair at Westport, county Mayo, on the 21st inst., was a small one, and very few animals were sold. Prices: Calves, second-class, £3 to £4. Yearlings, second-class, £5 10s. to £6 10s.; third-class, £3 to £4 10s. Two-year-olds, second-class, £8 to £9 15s.; third-class, £6 to £7. springers, second-class, £11 5s. to £13. 5s.; third-class, £7 10s. to £9 5s.

Castlerea Fair, county Roscommon, was held on the 21st inst., at which there was a large supply of two-year-old cattle, and those in condition met a ready sale. Yearlings, calves, and springers sold badly. Prices: Calves, first-class, £5 to £5 10s. second-class, £3 10s. to £3 15s. Yearlings, first-class, £7 13s. 4d. to £8 5s.; second-class, £5 15s. to £6 12s. 6d. Two-year-olds, first-class, £10 5s. to £12; second-class, £7 10s. to £9 15s. Three-year-olds, second-class, £12 to £12 10s. Springers, first-class, £17 to £18 10s.; second-class, £12 5s to £13 10s.

Galway Fair, held on the 21st inst., was a very small one, composed chiefly of third-class cattle. The demand is slow, and prices showed a downward tendency except for animals in very forward condition. A good many rough and inferior animals remained unsold. There was a large supply of sheep, and an improved condition prevailed for conditioned aged wethers suitable for export, but hoggets met a slow sale at low prices, and a considerable number failed to find purchasers. Prices: Calves, second-class, £3 10s. to £4 5s Yearlings, second-class, £5 7s. 6d. to £6; third-class, £4 to £4 15s. Two-year-olds, second-class, £7 10s. to £9; third-class, £5 10s. to £6. Three-year-olds, first-class, £14; second-class, £10 5s. to £11 10s.; third-class, £7 10s. to £8 10s. Springers, third-class, £7 10s. to £9. Sheep: Over twelve and under twenty-four months old, first class, £1 8s. 6d. to £1 11s.; second-class, £1 3s. to £1 6s.; third-class, £1 to £1 2s. Two years old and upwards, first-class, £2 4s. to £2 2s. 6d.; second-class, £1 12s. 6d. to £2; third-class, £1 5s. to £1 10s.

The fair held at Fintona, county Tyrone, on the 22nd inst., was an average-sized one, and a good demand prevailed, especially for one and two year old cattle. Good springers were scarce, and in fair demand. Prices: Yearlings, first-class, £7 17s. 6d. to £8 5s.; second-class, £5 10s. to £7; third-class £3 13s. 4d. to £5. Two-year-olds, first-class, £10 15s.; second-class, £7 11?s. 6d. to £9 12s. 6d.; third-class, £6 3s. 4d. to £7. Springers, second-class, £11 5s. to £13 18s.; third-class, £8 12s. 6d. to £10 5s.

A large number of Northern buyers attended the fair at Collooney, county Sligo, on Monday, but owing to severe weather the usual supply of cattle was not on sale. Prices: Calves: first-class, £4 10s. to £5 17s. 6d.; second-class, £3 to £4. Yearlings, second-class, £5 10s. to £6 10s.; third-class, £3 10s. to £5 2s. 6d. Two-year-olds, second-class, £8 to £9 15s.; third-class, £6 to £7 10s. Springers, first-class, £15 to £16 10s.; second-class, £12 to £13 5s.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending March 25, 1902:—

Swine Fever.	Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.		No.	91	323	247	428	2,000	2,780
									4,536
									7,702
	Outbreaks.		No.	27	39	28	50	375	539
									400
									548
Rabies.	Cases Reported.	Oth'r Anim'ls.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	1
									...
									...
		Dogs.	No.	1	...	...	1	7	1
									...
									1
Pleuro-Pneumonia.	Cattle Slghter'd.	Exposed to Infection.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...
									...
									...
		Diseased.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...
									...
									...
	Outbreaks.		No.	...	...	...	...	...	...
									...
									...
Glanders(including Farcy).	Animals Attacked.		No.	43	34	30	24	532	519
									450
									309
	Outbreaks.		No.	28	19	15	8	267	288
									235
									163
Foot-and-Mouth Disease.	Animals Attacked.		No.	...	...	...	...	...	652
									90
									...
	Outbreaks.		No.	...	...	...	...	...	10
									7
									...
Anthrax.	Animals Attacked.		No.	13	13	17	19	339	211
									190
									228
	Outbreaks.		No.	9	12	10	14	190	151
									126
									123
Period.					Week ended Mar. 22, 1902			Total for 12 weeks, 1902	Corresponding (1901 / 1900 / 1899) period in ...
					Corresponding (1901 / 1900 / 1899) week in ...				

NOTE.—The figures for the current Year are approximate only.

Selling Margarine as Butter.—At Southwark Police Court on Wednesday, Roderick Jones, of 269, Tooley Street, stated to be trading as John Jones, was summoned by the Camberwell Borough Council in respect to offences under the Food and Drugs Acts. There were two summonses for selling margarine as butter, two for selling margarine without wrappers, and one for selling cheese containing 29.2 per cent. of fat other than butter fat. The samples were taken at a branch establishment, 829A, Old Kent Road. Mr. Marsden appeared for the Borough Council, and Mr. Cannot defended. It was contended for the defence that the defendant was not the proprietor of the business, and that John Jones was in existence. A witness, named Annie Williams, who served the samples, said that she had seen John Jones, who was an old man with a beard, and of whom a photograph was produced. Evidence was given that the defendant had represented himself as the owner of the Tooley Street business to Inspector Ashdown, of the Bermondsey Borough Council, and to Miss White, of the Butter Association.—The defendant swore that John Jones, who was his father, was the proprietor. Mr. Fordham said he had no hesitation in saying that the defendant was carrying on the business so as to make him responsible. The defence had been thoroughly lying and fraudulent, and the defendant would have to pay fines amounting to £30 and £6 6s. costs, or, in default of distress, six months' imprisonment.



The Remount Department from Within.

In the course of an article in the "Empire Review," Colonel St. Quintin says that when he landed at Capetown in April, 1900, he inspected 4,000 horses at Maitland Camp, of which between 1,500 and 2,000 were Hungarian, and he considered, as far as appearances went, they compared most favourably with the other horses. Everyone was pleased with their appearance, and those battalions in want of horses were most anxious to have Hungarians served out to them. As a large body of horses, the Hungarian horses were by far the most level lot he had ever seen put together, all running about 15 hands in height, and doing great credit to their buyers. It cannot be denied that horses in South Africa received very rough treatment, and although in many instances this could not be prevented, still in many cases horses fell into the hands of men who had little knowledge of their requirements, and looked upon them as machines. Colonel Quintin cites an instance of Hungarian horses being landed one day and taken over by a certain yeomanry battalion, and the next morning the writer, to his astonishment, finding them out at drill unshod and with feet as soft as pulp and muscles all unstrung for want of exercise. The commanding officer, who seemed to think that he had done very well in getting the saddles on, the men mounted, and the horses out so quick, said that very few of his men knew how to ride, and none knew anything about drill, and that he must get ready to take the field. A considerable number had already been lamed.

Colonel Quintin discusses at some length the formation and constitution of the Remount Department, and mentions that under the registration system, by which a number of owners have contracted to supply a certain number of horses to the Government at a moment's notice, the department can draw in a few hours to various centres the 14,000 registered horses considered sufficient for the First Army Corps. He refers to the problem of providing an adequate supply of horses for the urgent demand which must always occur in times of war, and regrets that it would appear possible that the supply from the omnibus companies may, with the advent of electric locomotion, be before long reduced. He considers that reserves of broken cavalry horses are impracticable, as they would speedily lose their training, and if only mature horses are to work in the ranks it obviously suggests the need of a fifth squadron to be horsed by remounts and old horses partially worn out, ridden, he suggests, by old soldiers and recruits, or the alternative presents itself of leaving the horses to mature at Government farms—a system general in France and Germany.

He points out that the buying of broken horses which is going on at the present moment from the farmers in England cannot be accepted as a guide to the future, as most of those now being bought are broken horses originally bought, not bred, by the farmers themselves. It must also be borne in mind that it does not pay, and no man tries to breed a trooper. He mentions that in Ireland he had all sorts of animals brought to him by farmers, who knew the Government price was £40, and who expected to get the full £40, and he had often been unable to obtain ten, and seldom more than 20 to 25 horses from lots of 150 submitted to him. At the Irish fairs farmers and breeders would sooner sell at a less price to a regular dealer than to the remount agent, who only wants a small number of horses. The writer says that the real solution of the questions of horse breeding and as to the Remount Department was touched by Lord Ribblesdale, when he said that the real key of the situation was in the pocket of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and from their experience of Chancellors of the Exchequer, seemed likely to stay there.

After dealing with incidents, showing how the want of proper means and direction combined in red tape militate against the success of Government enterprise, and citing an instance in which the Government took over two years in settling a small local matter which would have taken him ten days to accomplish, he says the present department has been called upon to buy broken horses in unprecedented numbers and in an impossible space of time, but had General Ravenhill's ideas been carried out the condition of affairs with regard to the department at the outbreak of the war would have been very different. Practically, we know what we want with regard to the horse, but the difficulty is to get him, and in the case of this war, under its very extraordinary conditions, it has been, and, given the same conditions, will always be impossible to obtain what we really want. The Remount Department, he concludes, was practically starved in its birth, and there came, about the same period, an age of extra economy and cutting down which prevented any broad views being advanced, and to-day probably the same thing will happen unless great care is taken that the work of the department is entrusted to men of experience who have studied the details thoroughly.

Sale of Royal Carriage Horses.

Included in the catalogue at Messrs. Tattersall's sale at Albert Gate on Monday were fourteen bay geldings from the Royal stable, Marlborough House, and they naturally attracted considerable attention from the large company of buyers present. All the animals had been driven in harness up to the date of sale, and were a sound clean-limbed lot. The first one submitted was started at 20 guineas, and by slow degrees reached 33 guineas, at which figure he was knocked down. The next one realised 31 guineas, but for a gelding which was more stylish in his paces than those already sold, there was some keen competition. Although started at 20 guineas, the bidding quickly reached 78 guineas, at which figure he found a purchaser. The remainder went to the stables of dealers and job-masters, at prices varying from 31 to 70 guineas, Mr. Percival being the leading buyer. The draft realised 648 guineas, or an average per head of 46 guineas.

Sale of Cart Horses at Ipswich.

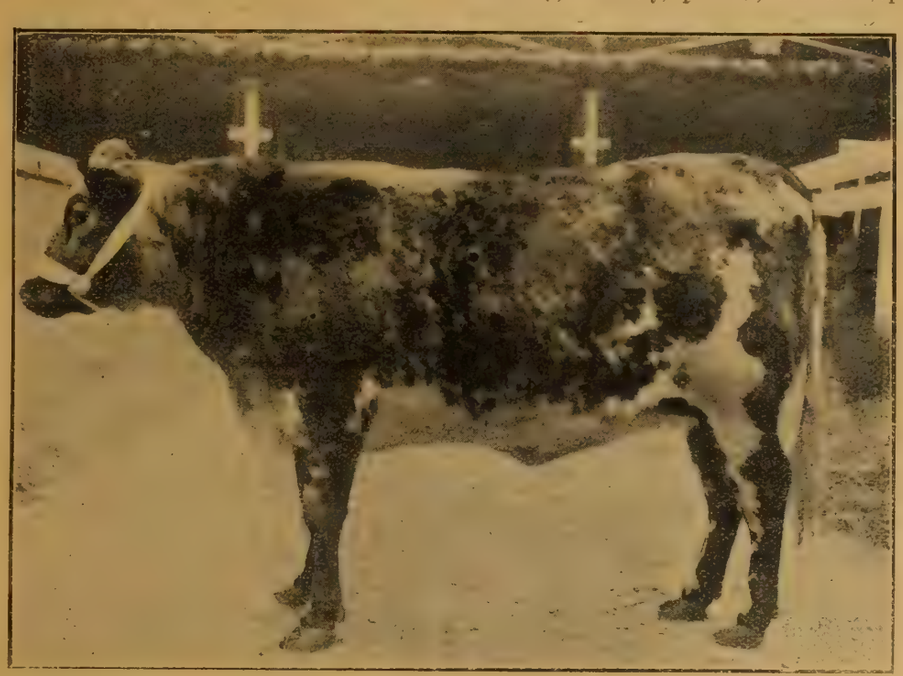
At Ipswich on Tuesday, Messrs. Spurling and Sons held their annual spring sale of cart horses and colts. There was a big entry of animals from a wide district, including 10 Suffolk and Shirebred stallions, sent by Mr. W. W. Estaugh, Mr. E. A. Cook, Mr. Geo. Pettit, Mr. Wm. Wilson, Mr. A. H. Moore, and Mr. H. Norman. There was a large attendance of buyers, and a good demand for animals of a good class. The following were amongst the prices realised:—

	Gs.
Chestnut gelding, 6 years old, the property of Mr. Jas. Toller, Blaxhall	30
Bay mare, 6 years old, sent by Mrs. Moore, Crows Hall, Debenham	29
Mr. H. O. Ranson's black gelding, 7 years old	30
Chestnut mare, 3 years old, consigned by Mr. P. P. Pratt, Grundisburgh	30½
Mr. J. A. Hempson's Suffolk mare, Merry, by Hayward's Champion	20
Ditto, chestnut mare	24
Dark bay mare, sent by Mr. W. D. Pratt, Witnesham, 3 years old	30
Bay filly, belonging to Mrs. Moore, Crows Hall, Debenham, 2 years old	24
Ditto, rising 2 years	27
Brown shire-bred filly, rising 3 years old, belonging to Mr. J. Western, Ferry Farm, Sudbourne	28
Black shire-bred colt, rising 2 years old, ditto	29½
Mr. W. W. Estaugh's Suffolk stallion Butley Star, by Estaugh's Sudbourne, f. 1895	25
Ditto, Butley Duke, Suffolk stallion, s. Estaugh's Butley Star, f. 1900	23
Ditto, Butley Conqueror, Suffolk stallion, f. 1900, s. Biddell's Valiant	38
Mr. A. E. Cook's Suffolk stallion Warrior II., f. 1894, s. Everitt's Warrior	20
Mr. W. W. Estaugh's shire-bred Vulcan of Worsley XVII., by Vulcan	35
Mr. W. Wilson's shire-bred stallion Raydon Butler, 3 years old, by Captain X.	41

Sale of Blythwood Shires.

Sir James Blyth, Bart., has, as is well known, placed his Blythwood stud farms at the disposal of the Government for experimental work by the Royal Commission on Tuberculosis, which, it is estimated, will extend over three years. As a result, Sir James has found it impossible to keep on his entire stud of horses, and on Wednesday Messrs. Sexton, Grimwade, and Beck disposed of all the shires, 32 in number, and 15 hunter and polo pony brood mares, with their produce by thoroughbred sires, all being sold without reserve. All the famous brood mares were catalogued, including Blythwood Bountiful, the dam of the celebrated Blythwood Conqueror, Mother Hubbard, the dam of Holker Conqueror, Birthright, by Albert Edward, Ercall Ruth, by Salisbury, Rokeby Rita, by Regent II., and others, and 15 very promising fillies by the best sires of the day. The sale took place at Parsonage Farm, Hockerill, Bishop Stortford, and naturally attracted a very large and representative company of breeders from all parts of the country. The sale was preceded by a luncheon, admirably served in the large barn, which was completely filled with guests. Captain Duncombe, Warlesby, presided, and was supported by the Marquis of Winchester and other noblemen, and a number of influential gentlemen. The chairman apologised for the absence of their host, Sir James Blyth, who, not being in very good health, had been ordered to a warmer climate in the South of France. A telegram had been received from Sir James, stating that his health was improving.

The loyal toasts having been drunk with the utmost cordiality, the chairman gave what he characterised as the toast of the day, "The Health of Sir James Blyth and Success to the Sale." It was quite unnecessary for him to draw attention to the great benefit Sir James Blyth had conferred upon breeders of shire horses, and other choice stock; he had been for many years a most successful breeder of shires, and not only that, but, as the catalogue would show, also of hunters and polo ponies. As most gentlemen present were already well aware, the present sale had been brought about because Sir James Blyth had generously given his stud farm over to the Government for the purpose of allowing full investigations to be made of the subject of tuberculosis. This was a most generous offer on the part of Sir James Blyth, who had thus conferred great benefit, not only upon breeders of stock, but upon the human race as well, as the investigations would, it was hoped, set at rest the question as to how far the disease was communicable to human beings. In concluding, the chairman said he was sure that they, one and all, hoped that in a short time Sir



THE CROSSBRED HEIFER which forms the subject of our above illustration is HEATHER MAID, bred by Mr. Robert Mattocks, The Green, Burlingham, and is by the Shorthorn "Bannockburn," out of the Red-polled "Fancy." At the Fat Stock Show at Norwich last November this Heifer was first in its class for cow or heifer of any breed bred and fed in Norfolk.

James Blyth might be back again to his country home in good health. Sir James was a gentleman who used his money, time, and influence for the good of others, and he (Captain Duncombe) would ask them to give Sir James a good sale on that occasion.

The toast was received with cheering and musical honours.

Mr. Herbert Blyth acknowledged the toast, observing that he should have been glad if his father could have been present to have acknowledged the cordiality of the reception given to the kind remarks which Captain Duncombe had been good enough to make.

The company then adjourned to the sale ring, where Mr. Beck wielded the hammer. In opening the sale, Mr. Beck remarked that the animals were brought up in a healthy, natural condition, and he suggested that it would undoubtedly do Sir James Blyth a great deal of good if he (the auctioneer) could send him a telegram saying that they had a rattling good sale that day. It was, indeed, a good sale, for no fewer than fifteen three-figure prices were realised for the shires, the top price of the day being 330 guineas, given by Sir Oswald Moseley for the three-year-old stallion Lockinge Favourite. The brood mares sold remarkably well. The splendid mare, Blythwood Bountiful, the dam of that capital stallion at Elsenham, Blythwood Conqueror, was knocked down to the bid of Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart., at 250 guineas. Another grand mare, Mother Hubbard, the dam of Mr. Victor Cavendish's Holker Conqueror, was bought by Mr. Victor Cavendish at 240 guineas. Laurel, a choice black, by Maxie, was secured by Mr. Garrett Taylor for Sir Humphrey de Trafford at 155 guineas; while Captain Duncombe gave 270 guineas for Rokeby Rita, a noted prize winner, by Regent II.. The brood mares made the satisfactory average of £139 16s. Prominent amongst the three-year-old fillies was Victorine, by Warlesby Triumph, which Mr. Garrett Taylor also bought for Sir Humphrey de Trafford at 150 guineas. Lord Hastings bought two, one at 60 guineas, and another at 100 guineas, the three-year-olds averaging £93 5s. The two-year-old fillies sold uncommonly well. There was a keen competition for Blythwood Laurel, and she eventually came into the possession of Sir Blundell Maple at 260 guineas. There was a like desire to possess Blythwood Bounteous, and Lord Iveagh was the fortunate possessor at 250 guineas. Blythwood Victorina was another one that caught the eye of the visitors, and Mr. Thompson, of Leicester, had to give 260 guineas before he could obtain her. The two-year-olds made the satisfactory average of £215 5s. A yearling made 165 guineas to the Marquis of Winchester, while Mr. G. Taylor gave 130 guineas for another, the yearlings averaging £84 3s. 6d. The hunters and polo ponies sold at moderate prices. A complete sale list is appended:—

Gns.

BROOD MARES.

After Glow, brown, f 1887, s Royal Spark, d Carol
Mr. A. Gold 30

Blythwood Bountiful, bay, f 1899, s Harold, d Bonny Lady ..... Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart 250

Birthright, brown, f 1890, s Albert Edward, d Queen of the Fairies ..... Mr. Garrett Taylor 75

Mother Hubbard, bay, f 1891, s Hitchin Conqueror d Moonstone ..... Mr. Victor Cavendish 240

Ercall Ruth, brown, f 1891, s Salisbury, d Ercall Diamond 2nd ..... Mr. James 56

Blythwood Whim, bay, f 1894, s Norman Conqueror d Mountain Fantastic ..... Mr. James 85

Laurel, black, f 1895, s Maxie, d Blossom
Sir Humphrey de Trafford 155

Rokeby Rita, bay, f 1895, s Regent 2nd, d Lady Wynn ..... Captain Duncombe 270

Stewton Flower Girl, bay, f 1896, s Golden King, d Stewton Wildflower ..... Mr. Garrett Taylor 60

Blythwood Aglow, brown, f 1886, s Blythwood Conqueror, d After Glow ..... Marquess of Winchester 110

Sopwell Morecambe, bay, f 1898, s Mormaer, d Sopwell Duchess of Cambridge ..... Mr. Part 120

FOUR-YEAR-OLD MARE.

Desford Bonny, bay, s Nailstone Rising Star, d Bonny ..... Mr. Johnson 57

THREE-YEAR-OLD FILLIES.

Victorine of Waresley, bay, s Waresley Triumph, d Boro' Quality ..... Sir Humphrey de Trafford 150

Fashion of Waresley, bay, s Duke of Worsley, d Nancy ..... Lord Hastings 60

Princess Bulbo, bay, s Bedwell Lad, d Stuntney Angelica ..... Hon. Ralph Neville 80

Hendre Mistress, brown, s Prince Harold 1st, d Derlis Mistress ..... Lord Hastings 100

Girton Duchess, brown, s Markeaton Royal, d Scropton Princess ..... Mr. Oakley 54

TWO-YEAR-OLD FILLIES.

Blythwood Laurel, bay, s Ercall Wynn, d Laurel
Sir Blundell Maple, Bart., M.P. 260

Blythwood Bounteous, bay, s Blaisdon Conqueror, d Blythwood Bountiful ..... Lord Iveagh 250

Blythwood Sparklet, bay, s Blythwood Conqueror, d Sparklike ..... Mr. Williams 50

Blythwood Victorina, bay, s Hendre Marksman, d Blythwood Victoria ..... Mr. Thompson, Leicester 260

YEARLING FILLIES.

Blythwood Nellie Bly, grey, s Blythwood Conqueror, d Hargate Nellie ..... Mr. Cross 105

Blythwood Beggar Maid, bay, s Blythwood Conqueror, d Princess ..... Lord Southampton 80

Blythwood Rachel, bay, s Dunsmore Combination, d Ercall Ruth ..... Mr. Williams 34

Blythwood Highest Possible, black, s Hendre Marksman, d Blythwood Whim .. Marquess of Winchester 165

Blythwood Queen's Prize, black, s Hendre Marksman, d Blythwood Victoria ..... Mr. Nicholson 37

Blythwood Forbidden Fruit, bay, s Hendre Marksman, d Holker Eye ..... Lord Southampton 60

YEARLING COLT.

Blythwood Red Pottage, bay, s Blythwood Conqueror, d Birthright ..... Mr. Garrett Taylor 130

THREE-YEAR-OLD STALLION.

Lockinge Favourite, brown, s Lockinge Albert, d Moonshine ..... Sir Oswald Moseley 330

SHIRE GELDINGS.

Bay gelding, 3 years, by Norman Conqueror
Mr. Hill 55

Brown geldng, 3 years, by Homer 2nd .... Mr. Hill 40

HUNTER BROOD MARES.

Palm Sunday, brown 6 years, s St. Serf, d Palmiste
Mr. Bishop 21

Queen Bee, brown, aged, by King John, d by Roman Bee ..... Mr. Pigg, jun. 18

POLO PONY BROOD MARES.

Fine Fleur, chestnut, aged, by Wildair, d by Boracus
Mr. Midwood 30

Mistletoe, brown, aged, winner of several races
Mr. J. Barker 30

YEARLING HUNTERS.

Hands Off, brown colt, by Senanus, d Palm Sunday
Mr. J. Thurgood 16

Templeton, brown colt, by Senanus, d Queen Bee
Mr. F. Stacey 19

Yearling Polo Pony, Perfection, chestnut colt, by Rosewater, d Fine Fleur ..... Mr. Paisley 16

Ditto, Rosy Lips, chestnut filly, by Rosewater, d Mistletoe ..... Mr. Midwood 12

HUNTER AND POLO PONIES

Ma Honey, brown filly, by Senanus, d Queen Bee, two-year-old hunter ..... Mr. G. Gold 27

Two-year-old Polo Pony, Hands Off, brown colt, by Senanus ..... Mr. J. Barker 12

Three-year-old Pony Stallion, Peau d'Espagne, brown by Rosewater ..... Mr. Clark 26

Four-year-old Hunter, Scattery, chestnut gelding, by Senanus ..... Mr. Spencer 27

Five-year-old Hunter, Beetle, bay gelding, by Limekiln ..... Mr. Lewin 18

Hackney, Royalty, bay gelding, 7 years, by King
Mr. Hill 54

Hackney, Prince, bay gelding, 5 years, by Hedon Squire ..... Mr. A. Golf 37



Lynn Horse Show,

The annual show of shire, hackney, and hunter stallions, promoted by the King's Lynn Horse and Foal Show Society, was held at Lynn, on Tuesday, in very cold, windy weather. Owing to the adverse climatic influences, attendance was rather short, but entries of stallions were very good.

His Majesty the King secured first prize in Class 2 for shire stallions foaled in 1899, and champion prize and silver medal, open to the shire stallion classes, with Premvictor, bay, sire Bury Victor Chief, dam Solace, bred by exhibitor; a fine animal, which was exhibited for the first time. His dam Solace when sold fetched 570 guineas.

In Class 1 for shire stallions foaled in or prior to 1898, Madresfield Thumper, grey, foaled 1896, sire Maxie, dam Lady Weston by Bar None, belonging to Mr. R. Allen, of St. Germans, Lynn, secured the prize of £5 5s. offered by the society. This finely proportioned stallion, which was bred by Samuel Curtis Weston, Newark, was also reserved for the championship. Mr. John Rowell's Bury Napoleon, brown, foaled 1895, sire Bury Victor King, dam Bury Hawthorn by Blyth Echo, bred by exhibitor, was reserved in this clases, and Mr. Hugh Kirkham, of Terrington, Lynn, was commended with Royal Prince VIII., bay, foaled 1896, sire Crown Prince VI., dam Moss Rose.

In Class 2 Blythwood Rag, belonging to Mr. T. J. Cresswell, of Aldeby, Beccles, which took the championship at Norwich, was beaten by His Majesty's Premvictor; but in Class 3 for shire stallions foaled in 1900, Mr. Cresswell was successful in securing the prize of £5 5s. with Redlynch Blue Blood, brown, sire Iron Chancellor, by Chancellor, dam D'Arcy Vesta, by Duncan III., by Albert Edward, bred by Mr. A. P. McMullen, Hertford, which has already won seven or eight premier honours at county shows. Nailstone Certainty, bay, sire Rocks Hydro, dam Mettle, belonging to Mr. Watson Failes, of Tilney, St. Lawrence, was reserve.

First at Norwich on Saturday, Mr. E. C. Chapman, of Alethorpe, Fakenham, gained a like distinction at this show in the class for hackney stallions foaled in or prior to 1898, by winning the prize of £5 5s. presented by the Mayor (Mr. T. E. Bagge), president of the society, with Manifred, chestnut, foaled 1893, sire Connaught, dam Minnie by Cadet, bred by Mr. G. Jackson, King's Heath, Worcestershire; a splendid type of hackney and a good goer, which also carried off the champion cup, presented by Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart., for the best stallion in the hackney stallion classes. Scoresby Swell, brown, sire Pilot II., dam Victoria by Denmark, belonging to Mr. R. G. Heaton, of Chatteris, a right type of animal for double harness, obtained a reserve, and was also reserved for the silver medal. Mr. A. Lewis, of Heacham, Lynn, was commended for Leyswood Speculation, chestnut, foaled 1897, sire Speculation IV., dam Miss Doncaster by Doncaster, a stallion with plenty of substance and the possessor of a fine action. Home Gabriel, belonging to Mr. Walter Warren, of Holme Park, Downham, a good Norfolk hackney type, was also commended in this class.

In the class for hackney stallions foaled in 1899, the society's prize of £5 5s. was won by Mr. J. Proctor's Nordelph Danegelt, and Creake Bardolph, belonging to Mr. Richard Allen, of St. Germans, Lynn, was reserved. Mr. H. V. Sheringham, of South Creake, Fakenham, obtained first prize in the class for hackney stallions foaled in 1900, with Creake Matchless, chestnut, sire Moncrieff Emperor, dam Maidie by Silvio, bred by exhibitor, which first won a prize in London as a yearling, and has since grown into a big strong horse, and goes well. Heacham Electric, belonging to Mr. Alfred Lewis, of Heacham, Lynn, an animal with good action, which this year took a champion prize in London, was placed as reserve.

In the hunter class for stallions, two-year-old and upwards, qualified and likely to get hunters, Mr. Robert Greenacre, jun., of North Runcton, carried off the five guinea prize with Crest Hampton, echestnut, foald 1889, sire Southampton (TB) by Hermit, dam Silvercoat by Silvester. Mr. G. J. Curtis' (Lynn) The Shaughraun was reserve. Judges: Shires, Mr. A. H. Clarke, Moulton, Eaugate; hackneys and hunters, Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart.

COMING SHOWS.

Ayrshire.

The gentlemen who will officiate as judges at the Ayrshire Agricultural Association Show at Ayr on April 29th and 30th are as follows:—

CATTLE.—Ayrshires, milk stock: A. Y. Allan, Croftjane, Thornhill; John Cochrane, Nethercraig, Kilmarnock; John Torrance, Deadwaters, Lesmahagow. Ayrshires, bulls and yeld stock: James Wallace, Auchenbrain, Mauchline; R. Young, Knockrioch, Campbeltown; William Murray, Borrowmoss, Wigtown.

MILKING COMPETITIONS.—Commercial points: Hugh Taylor, Seafield, Ayr; milk points, John Speir, Newton Farm, Newton, and Wm. Smith, jun., Dairy Supply Company, Limited, Belfast.

HORSES.—Clydesdales, females: William Clark, Netherlea, Cathcart; James Weir, Sandilands, Lanark; John M'Caig, Challoch, Stranraer. Clydesdales, males: John Kerr, Red Hall, Wigton, Cumberland; Alex. M'Intyre, Dunallan, Rothesay; James Crawford, Floshend, Gretna. Hackneys: Nathaniel Morton, Brookville, Ballymena. Driving and riding, etc., classes: Robert Wilson, jun., Burnhouse, Dunlop; Nathaniel Morton, Brookville, Ballymena; William Scott, Gilfoot, Carluke. Trotting class 22, and jumping competitions A, B, D, and E: William Imrie, Oakwood, Ayr; W. J. P. Beattie, Annan. Hunters and jumping competition C: William Forbes, Callendar, Falkirk; Charles W. Ralston, Garscube, Bearsden; William Taylor, Park Mains, Renfrew.

SHEEP.—Leicester and cross-bred sheep, also polled Angus cattle, fat stock, and pigs: Archibald Whyte, Inverquharity, Kirriemuir; Joseph Lee, Markle, Prestonkirk; Robert Wood, Carnoustie. Blackface sheep: Robert Buchanan, Lettre, Killearn; J. Anderson, Greenockdyke, Muirkirk; Wm. Murray, Auchenworth, Penicuik.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Pigs bacon curers' prizes: Andrew Mitchell, Ayr; David Whiteford, Stewarton. Old cheese: Andrew Mitchell, of Water Mitchell and Sons, Ayr; Andrew Cameron, High Street, Ayr. Implements: Quintin Dunlop, Morriston, Maybole; John Taylor, of Messrs. J. and A. Taylor, Ayr.

SHEEP.

Southdown Lambing Season.

The "Southern Weekly News" of Saturday published a special article on the Southdown lambing season in Sussex. "Lambing," it says, "which commenced, in a few cases, as early as the beginning of February, is not yet over. Up to and including Sunday last, the weather had been about the finest on record, the freedom from strong winds, frost, and cold rain being remarkable. Only one or two rough nights had given the shepherds any anxiety; and although Monday and Tuesday of the present week brought a very disagreeable change, which may somewhat increase the mortality returns, the season will on the whole stand out as an exceptionally fine one in every respect. The majority of the reports we have received speak of unusual productiveness, very few losses from death, a hardy and healthy lot of lambs, and encouraging prospects for feed. As the last few years have been marked by disastrous lambing seasons it is gratifying to be able to record so substantial an improvement."

SOCIETIES.

Bath and West and Southern Counties.

At a council meeting of the above-named society, held at the Grand Hotel, London, on Tuesday, there were present:—The Earl of Morley (president), Captain J. C. Best (vice-president), and Sir E. Strachey, Bart., M.P., with a number of other members. Several new members of the society were elected.

Mr. Hobhouse, M.P., as chairman of the Agricultural Education Committee, presented a report from the committee, which stated that arrangements had been made for the cheese school, carried on by the society for the Somerset County Council, to be opened for the season on April 5th, at a farm, in the occupation of Mr. J. Peters, at Mark, near Highbridge, and that Miss Emily Cannon had been re-engaged as teacher. The County Education Committee had undertaken to offer 20 studentships, enabling the holders to attend the school for a month's instruction, with board and residence, at half the fee payable by ordinary pupils. Applications to attend the School had been received from as many pupils as could be provided for at present.

The committee were continuing their investigations into the origin and cause of flavour in dairy produce undertaken by the society in conjunction with the Board of Agriculture and the Somerset County Council.

The report further stated that the committee had been in communication with the Board of Agriculture with respect to the continuance at the experimental station at Butleigh of the research work in cider-making, hitherto carried on by the society, with the pecuniary assistance of the Board of Agriculture. The committee, believing that important developments, in connection with the bacteriology of the subject especially, were in sight, viewed with much concern the possibility of the work being dropped owing to financial considerations. The committee therefore asked the council to allow them to make an offer to the Board of Agriculture that the society would find £50 a year for two years if the Board would supplement this with a grant sufficient to defray the balance of the cost for the period named.

Mr. Hobhouse moved the adoption of the report, which was seconded by Mr. Latham, and supported by Mr. Napier. Mr. Martin J. Sutton suggested that, before any further steps be taken, the finance committee be requested to consider that portion of the report relating to a grant being made by the society for cider research and report thereon to the council. This was accepted by the mover and seconder of the report, and the report with this alteration was then agreed to.

A communication was read from Mr. W. H. Fowler, notifying his resignation as steward of horticulture, and on the motion of Captain Best, seconded by Sir J. Shelley, the council expressed its thanks to Mr. Fowler for his past services and its regret that he felt unable to continue them. On the motion of Mr. Fowler, seconded by Colonel Best, it was resolved that the Rev. A. T. Boscawen be appointed steward of horticulture.

Sir E. Strachey, Bart., moved, and Mr. Hobhouse, M.P., seconded, "That this council, while willing to accept the 16 per cent. limit of water recommended by the Departmental Committee of the Board of Agriculture, regrets the suggestion of the committee that butter containing a higher percentage of water can be sold as butter if the amount is disclosed." This was supported by Messrs. T. Latham, G. E. Lloyd Baker and others and agreed to.

On the motion of Colonel Best, seconded by Mr. Latham, the following were appointed as a deputation to approach the Board of Agriculture upon the subject, should it be considered desirable, viz., the Marquess of Bath, Sir C. T. D. Acland, Bart., and Mr. Hobhouse, M.P.

East Sussex Farmers' Club.

A meeting (the last of the session) of the East Sussex Farmers' Club was held at the White Hart Hotel, Lewes, on Tuesday, when Mr. W. F. Ingram presided. The first matter discussed was introduced by Mr. Sandford, and was with reference to the desirability of supporting the action of the Warwickshire Association of Farmers in disapproving of the use of any preservative in milk. Mr. Sandford pointed out that the matter had been continually before the Chamber of Agriculture, and the general opinion was that the addition of preservatives to milk was a very grave danger to the health of the public, especially to children. He mentioned that the Tunbridge Wells Farmers' Club had supported the action of the Warwickshire Association in this matter. He suggested that it would be desirable for their own Club to adopt a similar course. It was eventually agreed, on the proposition of Mr. Killick, that the Club support the action of the Warwickshire Association, and that the latter body and the Central Chamber of Agriculture be notified accordingly. The next question on the agenda was that of railway rates. Mr. Sandford said he had received a letter from the Central Chamber, which stated that the points at which they wanted to arrive were:—(1) What railway companies had done to encourage traffic in small parcels? (2) Whether there was still cause for complaint as to excessive railway rates? (3) Whether rates had been reduced for short distances? (4) If there was any other information that might be given; or any other complaints. On the suggestion of the chairman, this matter was referred to the committee to deal with, in order that they might furnish the answers required by the Central Chamber of Agriculture.

Considerable discussion then took place with regard to the question of army remounts, concerning the supply of which, in time of war, the Government had asked for opinions from the Central Chamber as to how these might be obtained. The chairman said the principal matter which concerned them was the price of the animals, because if their members were going to supply army remounts the question really amounted to, What was the army going to pay them? From the report of a committee as to horses purchased in Austro-Hungary in 1901, he noticed that cobs up to 15 hands were purchased for the Yeomanry, and the number that was originally bought averaged £33 16s. 8d., but the price that was afterwards given was £26. The price at which the report stated they could have been bought was £8 to £12 per head. It seemed to him that the British farmer could never supply the requirements of the army. As far as one could tell, from what the Government bought in Hungary, they could purchase plenty of horses at £26, and from the committee's report, apparently, if they had had plenty of time, they could have bought them at considerably less—say, £20. Was the British farmer prepared to supply a quick, active cob, six years old, for £20? Unless the farmer was prepared to breed, from patriotic motives, he thought the Government would never get horses at that price.

He noticed that Mr. Lindsay Hogg, M.P., in his maiden speech, proposed that the Government should help the Agricultural Societies, and, personally, he thought the Government must encourage the breed of light horses if they wished to get army remounts in the county of Sussex. Mr. Alexander gave some interesting details of his own experience of cavalry work in South Africa, in the course of which he said the horses which best stood the work were those with "blood" in them, and with free, easy action. Mr. A. Wadman thought the matter should be dealt with on business lines, and on his proposition the following resolution was then passed:—"That this Club suggests to the Central Chamber that it would be advisable for the War Office to send agents down to certain centres, say four in Sussex, to purchase remounts, and in this way test the capabilities of the county. To prove this, it would be necessary to continue this arrangement for at least three years."

On the motion of Mr. E. J. Wadman, it was decided to support the Warwickshire Association of Farmers in the resolution which they passed, recommending that a tax be placed on imported flour and meal in view of the loss which was being occasioned to the milling industry in this country. An amendment by Mr. A. Wadman, that the object of the Warwickshire Association would be achieved equally as well by the institution of national granaries was defeated by a large majority.

Gloucestershire Chamber.

A meeting of the Gloucestershire Chamber of Agriculture was held at Gloucester on the 22nd inst., when a discussion took place on the notice of Mr. D. McIvor, M.P., of motion at the next Budget to reduce the income tax to one-half, and to put an ad valorem duty of 3 per cent. on raw material and 10 per cent. on manufactured goods, such as flour, from those countries which do not reciprocate our free trade, so as to drop a one-sided free trade, and to have a sliding scale for such as do admit our goods free.

The subject was introduced by Mr. J. G. Hawkins, who said his object in calling attention to this matter was not to get relief for the income-tax payer, but to urge the necessity of obtaining equality of opportunity for the British farmer with his foreign competitors. This want of equality was, in his opinion, the cause of all the troubles of which they heard so much in connection with agriculture. If they took the case of a Cheshire farmer, they found he had to pay 50s. a ton to send his meat to London, whereas the rate to the foreigner was only 25s.; and it was the same in other parts of England. He moved a resolution strongly approving of Mr. McIvor's motion.

Mr. C. E. Machen, in supporting, expressed the opinion that it was little short of a scandal that foreign meat should be carried at half the rate of British.

The chairman (Mr. J. D. Birchall) did not think the prospect of a protective duty on imported corn at all promising. Looked at from a historical point of view, they found that in the years when there was such a duty agriculture was more depressed even than at the present time. He did not think it had been shown that protective duties would help the farmers. So long as they were only for raising revenue there would be no objection to import duties, but before being imposed for the purpose of protecting home-grown produce he thought it must be proved more conclusively than it had been proved so far that farmers would benefit. He did not think any system of taxation which would increase the price of food would have any chance of becoming law. Other speakers followed, and the discussion was ultimately adjourned to the next meeting.

The subjects of railway rates, and "the advisability of approaching the Minister of War with a view to the provision of remounts for the Army," were also adjourned.

Dorchester.

The annual meeting of the Dorchester Agricultural Society was held at Dorchester on the 22nd inst., Lord Digby presiding.

The hon. secretary read the following gratifying letter which he had received from Mr. Franklin Simmons, secretary of the Royal Counties Agricultural Society: — "Basingstoke, November 29th, 1901. My dear Sir,—I have the honour to convey to you the following resolution which was unanimously passed at the annual general meeting of the society held here on Wednesday last, under the presidency of Lord Baring, namely, 'That the best thanks of the Royal Counties Agricultural Society be tendered to the Dorset Local Committee and their hon. secretary, Mr. H. A. Huxtable, for the admirable way in which they met all the requirements of the society, and for their generous contributions towards the expenses of the show.'"

The financial statement presented shows a balance of £58 1s. 4d. in favour of the society. A balance was brought forward from the last account of £24 12s. 10d. Members' subscriptions came to £119. The total of the receipts was £145 3s. 10d. The expenses amounted to £87 2s. 6d. The chief disbursements were £21 voted to the Royal Counties Agricultural Show at Weymouth last year and £50 given as local prizes to be awarded at the show. Colonel Williams observed that it was very satisfactory that, after giving £71 to the Royal Counties Show, there remained a balance to the society's credit of £58. The report and statement of accounts were unanimously adopted.

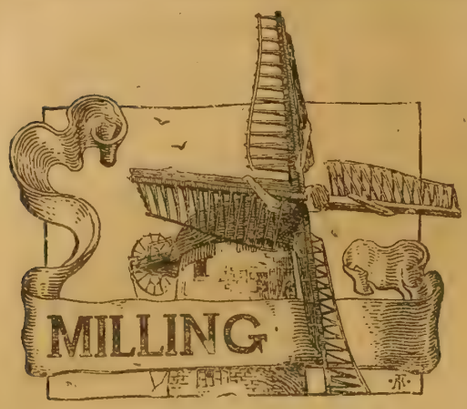
Mr. John Chick proposed the re-election of Lord Digby as president, and Mr. R. B. White seconded the motion, declaring that they could not have a better man as their president. The motion was carried unanimously.

All the vice-presidents were re-elected, with the addition of Lord Stavordale. Mr. Ensor proposed, and Mr. Combn seconded, the reappointment of Colonel Williams as hon. treasurer. This was carried unanimously, and acknowledged by Colonel Williams.

The noble chairman said he had much pleasure in proposing that Mr. Huxtable be re-appointed hon. secretary. They all knew how efficiently Mr. Huxtable did the work, and he did not know that they could very well get on without him. Mr. John Chick said he would second the motion with equal pleasure, as since Mr. Huxtable had been their secretary he had done his utmost for the good of the society, and given them valuable assistance in every possible way.

The motion having been carried unanimously, Mr. Huxtable thanked the members of the society for again re-electing him as their hon. secretary. It was quite true that it was always well to go to a busy man to fill appointments like this; but the busy man as a rule had many kind helpers, and that was what enabled him to do the work. He himself was particularly fortunate in that respect, for besides the large committee who helped him so ably, Mr. Miles and all the other gentlemen in his office took a great interest in the society. Indeed, they seemed to think it an integral part of the office, and it was quite a matter of *esprit de corps* with them that the show should be a success. And if it was not successful they felt it, he believed, almost more than the committee themselves. Therefore he himself had little work to do; but the work that he and the staff of his office did was done with hearty good will.

We are glad to be able to state that Mr. John Parnell, of Rugby, the well-known Shire horse breeder, is progressing satisfactorily, and on the high road to recovery, his recent accident in the hunting field, fortunately, having proved to be not anything like so serious as at first feared.



Grinding in Theory and Practice.

The trade during the past few weeks has been dull and lifeless, which, naturally, the holiday feeling at the present time has made worse, and in many cases 6d. less per sack has had to be taken to effect sales of flour. For a long time bakers have only been buying from hand to mouth, and complain, as well as millers, of bad trade. It seems as if the general public eats less bread than formerly, a fact which can, no doubt, to some extent be accounted for by the larger amount of cheap meat, bacon, rabbits, etc., which are now consumed, as well as by an abundance of potatoes and other vegetables, to say nothing of the large import of cheap tinned goods generally. At any rate, bakers complain of less consumption of bread, while millers, on the other hand, feel the pinch more than ever, as offals are in much less demand, while prices have, in most cases, fallen. This, however, is to be expected at this time of the year. While offals of all sorts were making so much money, millers did not mind the low prices of flour, because these bye-products generally kept the balance on the right side of the book. In fact, many millers ground more wheat than they need have done for the sake of the offals, and stocked the flour, which would improve by keeping.

In some parts, however, especially at the ports, broad bran, pollards, and sharps are still in good demand, and continue to go off at high prices, especially bran. There is still a good demand for this article on the Continent and abroad, one of the best markets being Holland. Some of the bran which goes from the north-eastern ports is sent in

Sacks Marked with Particular Brands.

thus showing the mill at which it was made. Some of these broad brans are well known on the Continent, just as millers' patent flour brands are known in this country. As much as £6, and even £6 10s. per ton, has been asked and obtained for the broadest brans which British millers manufacture. It will quite be understood that they are only made by making particular arrangements in the mill; otherwise the covering of the endosperm would be cut up, as are many brans on the markets. A general rule may be found in the fact that the same grinding which results in the best-shaped middlings for purification will also secure the broadest bran. These two conditions go together. Sometimes the bran will be found to bear the impressions of the corrugations on its surface.

This is either the result of setting the rolls too closely, or there is some other fault in the grinding. At any rate, a comparison of the bran with the corrugations on the different break rolls will soon find out the offending pair, and the evil can then be remedied. There is a point in the setting of rolls when better work can be done than at any other point, and this point affects the bran as well as the more desirable portion of the wheat berry. This point will vary for different kinds of stock, and it is for the intelligent roller-man to find out where it is in individual cases. In theory every portion of the broken wheat should be touched on each side by each roll; in other words there should be a feed of single particles only. The writer is quite aware that this result is never achieved, but the nearer the miller gets to the theory in practice the better will the products of the mill be.

Over-Grinding on Breaks and Reductions.

Again, the evils of over-grinding are bad, and they refer equally to the breaks and reductions. In cases where the rolls have too heavy a feed, the yield of middlings cannot be so large as under more favourable conditions—the deleterious portion will be mixed with the desirable portion. In other words, it is a conglomerate. The bran will be lumpy, and unevenly cleaned; a part will be cut up as fine as sawdust; another portion will be clean; while another part will be rich and unfinished. These are the evils of over-grinding as regards middlings and bran. The only way to obtain uniformly broad, clean bran is to make sure that the grinding surface is properly proportioned throughout the whole break system. The evils, too, are quite as bad in smooth roll reductions. The result will be a soft, spongy mass. In other words, the particles are mashed together instead of being separated by grinding. All previous work, including grading, dusting, and purification will have been performed in vain, and the middlings might just as well have been reduced on the lines of the old system.

One of the most deplorable things in connection with flour-milling at the present time is the closing of so many small mills even in cases where they are steam-driven. Most of the windmills disappeared some time ago, but those driven by steam and water power

Survived the Competition of the Large Mills.

and the altered conditions of milling and trading for a time. Now, however, it seems that many of them are doomed. Week by week one sees them advertised for sale in the trade press, or learns that they are to be dismantled of flour-milling machinery, and used for some other purpose than manufacturing "the staff of life." Most of the large establishments have either enlarged or are enlarging their output, with the view of cheapening the cost of manufacture, and this naturally results in a large amount of surplus flour, which is not wanted in the district in which the mill is situated, for which distant markets must be found somewhere, even if it be sold at a loss. Small millers cannot compete with this state of things, and the consequence is that every week sees mills shut down, never to be started again. It is a pity, but it appears to be inevitable.

The writer once more advises the occupiers of small mills to go more into the provender business and also become agents for some of the more popular flours manufactured by the large mills rather than fight against fate. It all depends, however, upon the location of the mill, and other circumstances. Some of the small mills flourish, it is true, and will continue to flourish; but they are mostly in the hands of millers who trade in other goods besides flour, such as oil-cake, feeding cake, and manures. There is a great demand for feeding cakes at the present time, and as about one-third of all the offals made in the mill, and the bulk of the refuse seeds, can be utilised in their manufacture, the trade is a very profitable one, while the cost of putting down a plant is quite reasonable. The reduction of the materials for the manufacture of feeding cakes would be performed on the millstone or on some sort of grinding or attrition mill. That the millstone nowadays is more useful to the small miller than the roller-mill is the opinion of

MILLER-FARMER.

Value of Land Required for Railway.—The result was announced on Wednesday, at Yarmouth, in an interesting railway arbitration. A new line is being constructed between Lowestoft and Yarmouth, and 4a. 0r. 18p. have been taken from an agricultural estate at Gorleston, belonging to Mr. George Wills. His valuers held he was entitled to from £10,756 to £15,211, but the experts for the Norfolk and Suffolk Joint Railway put it at from £1,400 to £1,650 only. A special jury, which viewed the site, found £800 was a fair price for the land, but awarded £3,800 for severance and consequential damage. The Norfolk Under Sheriff, before whom the arbitration was conducted, certified accordingly.

A Hertfordshire vicar, who has been fourteen years in a country parish, and therefore knows a good deal about the agricultural labourer, sends the following interesting communication on overcrowding in the villages:—"Much is being said about the worker in the fields. How many a household sighs for an assured combined income of over £100 a year? Yet that is what is being done in some villages. In a Cambridgeshire village, at the present moment, the father makes 13s. a week, one son 12s., another 9s., another 6s., another 5s. 6d. The rent of a five-room cottage and a barn is £3 per annum. This rent includes a garden with fruit-trees. Another labourer in the same village, living in a farmhouse for the same rent, makes 35s. a week. Extra money is made on piecework, and in the hay and wheat harvests. In the same village—so hard is it to change habits—a shepherd and his wife, living in a farmhouse with several bedrooms, allow a grown-up daughter to sleep in their bedroom. In a cottage with four rooms the husband and wife and a grown-up daughter use one bedroom, a grown-up son using another. What is needed in the village is some wholesome inspiring influence from without to cause people to take a higher view of life. There is something in what Mr. Justice Grantham said at Huntingdon, in January, when, on hearing a country publican say Sunday was his best day, he suggested the establishment of good, respectable reading rooms where drink was not allowed."



MONDAY (March 24th).—Rainy and unsettled weather prevailed in most parts of our Islands, and a large and important storm area was spreading over us from the Atlantic. Rain was measured in the morning, as the result of the fall in the preceding 24 hours, in the north and west, and in Ireland the amounts were large. The temperature remained low for the time of year. There was a slight frost again in London in the early morning, and the fore part of the day was very fine. The sky became cloudy in the Metropolis shortly before noon, and rain soon followed with an increasing south-west wind. The highest temperature in London was 46 degrees, and the thermomenter fell briskly in the afternoon.

TUESDAY (March 25th).—Strong north-westerly winds and gales were blowing at many places on the English coasts, and the weather was generally cold for the time of the year. The large cyclonic storm area which was over the western portion of our Islands on Monday morning, had travelled quickly across England, occasioning heavy winds and a high sea in the English Channel, and its centre in the morning was near the Dutch coast. Rain was measured in the morning, as the result of the fall since the previous day over nearly the entire kingdom, and rain, snow, or hail again fell during the day in the north. Frost occurred in Scotland during Monday night, and the thermometer was generally low over England.

WEDNESDAY (March 26th).—Fine weather was experienced in most parts of our Islands, bnt showers occurred again at several places in the West. Rain was measured in the morning, as the result of the fall in the preceding twenty-four hours, in the north and west, but the amounts were not large. The cyclonic disturbance which had occasioned rough weather over the United Kingdom had passed away to the eastward, and was too distant to influence our weather. The winds continued generally westerly, and they were still strong on our west coasts. Frost occurred in Scotland and over the central parts of England during Tuesday night, and temperatures during the day were generally rather low for the time of year. The day was mostly dull and cloudy in London, and the highest temperature was forty-nine degrees.

Ploughing Match for the Championship of Scotland.—A ploughing match for the championship of Scotland took place at Motherwell recently, in the presence of a very large company farmers and agriculturists from all parts of Scotland. The contest was the outcome of a challenge by William Waddell (Coatbridge) to plough any man in Scotland for any sum from £20 up to £50. Mr. Hugh Dunlop, of Kilwinning, Ayrshire, whmo took up the challenge for £20, and the arrangements were made to hold the match on Low Motherwell Farm, kindly lent by Mr. Robert Hamilton, farmer. The land was in fine condition for the contest. Both contestants are experienced and able ploughmen, and better work than that done on Saturday has seldom been seen in Lanarkshire. The judges were:—Messrs. Neil, of Torbanehall, Bathgate; Scott, of Langbank; Mackie, Drongan Mains, Ayrshire; Scott, South Threave, Girvan; whilst Mr. Alexander Crawford, of Bowmains, Bo'ness, was referee. The extent of ground ploughed was 1 rood 8 poles 25 yards by Waddell, who accomplished his task in 7½ hours; 1 rood 3 poles 15 yards by Dunlop, who took 7 hours. The match finished amidst considerable excitement, the merits of both being nearly equal. The judges were divided in their decision, and the final decision rested with the referee, who, it is understood, considered that in both start and finish Waddell was superior, and also his work was better pointed. Waddell was accordingly declared the champion.

Messrs. Alfred Mansell and Co., the well-known live stock exporters, Shrewsbury, have received advice from Mr. R. H. Gardner, of Tasmania, of the safe arrival, in good condition, of the choice selection of shearling ewes purchased at the famous dispersion sale of Mr. A. E. Mansell's Shropshires.



Final Report of Local Taxation Committee.

A paper on the above subject was read by the Rev. F. Salmon before the Blandford Farmers' Club.

Mr. Salmon, in the course of his paper, said the object professed to be sought from the labours of the Commission was a basis for a reasonable and just reform of taxation for local purposes. The Commissioners were first directed to inquire into the present system under which taxation is raised for local purposes; secondly, they were directed to state whether in their opinion all kinds of real and personal property contributed equitably to such taxation; and if not, what alterations in the law were desirable in order to secure that result. The final report of the Commission had been issued. The unjust manner in which the landed interest had been treated in respect of local taxation was recognised fully by the Commission; and now it was for that and kindred clubs to see that the ball was kept rolling until they scored. They did not want temporary doles, but they required the whole system of local taxation to be revised and put upon a fair and equitable basis. Then they would get justice, which was what they demanded. All impartial minds were, he believed, agreed; and Parliament, by the Agricultural Rating Act of 1896, recognised the truth that the occupier of the land was paying far more than his fair share of rates.

Owing to a powerful clerical agitation, the Commissioners were induced to issue an interim report in respect of tithe rent-charge, and what was thought in 1836 to be an impossibility became in 1899 a reality, and the clerical tithe owners were placed on the same footing as the occupiers of land. Not only did they want the Acts of 1896 and 1899 to become permanent, but they wanted a still further relief of realty at the expense of pedsonalty. The present system was an anachronism, and obsolete. Every circumstance in the problem to be solved had changed. They must look back to the past history of local taxation, otherwise they would fail to grasp their present position. The poor rate was created in the reign of Elizabeth, 1601, when, of course, the great bulk of property consisted of land. The properties mentioned in that Act as liable to pay poor rate were lands, houses, tithes, coal mines, and underwoods, to which more recent legislation had added other mines besides coal mines, woods and plantations, sporting rights, and land used for the exhibition of advertisements. Railways, gasworks, breweries, and so forth, fell under liability to rates as land or houses. Under the Act of Elizabeth it was for a long time a moot point whether personal property, or, at all events, certain forms of personal property, were or were not liable to assessment. It was the introduction of the word "inhabitants," as well as "occupiers" into that Act, coupled with the injunction that the rate was to be raised according to the ability of the parish, which gave rise to the controversy. The question of rating personal property was not finally settled until 1840, when an Act was passed which was to be in operation but one year, in order to give time for further consideration, but which had been kept in force ever since, without any consideration whatever, by the Expiring Laws Continuance Act. The effect of this Act was to relieve from liability to local rates all property other than immovable property. This was a most inequitable piece of legislation. But, inasmuch as the landed interest had then the advantage of protective duties on agricultural produts, the burden was not so keenly felt as in these days.

There was only one advantage that he was aware of in the present system of local taxation. It was beautifully simple. It was so easy to declare that all rates shall be raised on immovable property. But they must now consider the injustice of it; and first of all, a point of great importance to be remembered was that when the poor-rate was first imposed in 1601, it was a poor-rate only. Now it covered a multitude of charges, including such heavy items as lunatic asylums, education, roads, police, criminal prosecutions, vaccination, etc. Originally, there was only one public body which imposed the rates, but now the rural ratepayer might have to pay rates, for the imposition of which no less than five independent authorities might be responsible—viz., county councils, district councils, parish councils, boards of guardians, and school boards. Needless to say, that the burden at length became unbearable. Rates were heaped upon the land, Protection was abolished, and every encouragement was given to the foreigner to the destruction of British agriculture. In 1900, he believed, the land, including tithe rent-charge, was paying 82 per cent. of the rates.

Briefly stated, the position at Lady Day, 1899, was this. The gross estimated rental of immovable property assessed to the poor rate was 207 millions, and the rateable rental 172 millions. The total amount received in poor rate was 25¼ millions, or more than a seventh of the total net rental. At the same date 480 millions of non-rateable property was assessed to the income tax, the possessors of which were deriving an equal benefit from the expenditure of the 25¼ millions without contributing anything themselves directly. And yet many of the purposes were national, on which local authorities had to spend money; and as such should they not be paid for out of the Imperial Exchequer? He referred to such charges as poor relief, maintenance of lunatic asylums, education, main roads, police, and all matters connected with criminal procedure. Main roads were included in this list, because, with the increase and expected further development of bicycle and motor car traffic, roads were beginning to regain the national importance which they once possessed as the highways of traffic before the introduction of railways.

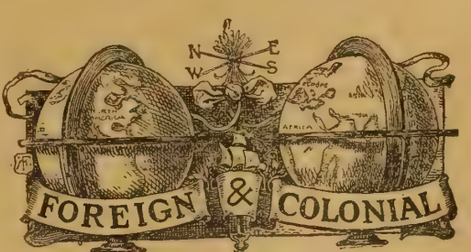
None of them objected to pay their fair proportion for benefits in which they shared; but here he would remind them that the population engaged in agriculture was not more than, if as much as, five per cent. of the whole. This small proportion lived almost entirely in rural districts, many on the farms they cultivated, detached from public sewers, water supplies, and other useful services possessed by inhabitants in towns and large villages. So far as these services were concerned, the owner of the farm had to provide them out of his private capital. Yet the farm was paying rates for improvements elsewhere which were not beneficial to it. The occupier might be assessed at a lower rate than the owners and occupiers of houses and business premises, yet the basis of his assessment was so much higher than theirs that the rate levied was out of all proportion to theirs when compared with any benefit that either he or his farm could possibly derive from the tax he had to pay.

This was the merest outline sketch of the injustice under which the land suffered with regard to local taxation. The method which Government had adopted to redress in some degree their wrongs was by means of subventions out of the general revenue of the country. But the Agricultural Rates Act of 1896, and the Tithe Rent Charge (Rates) Act of 1899 looked like gifts, or bribes, or doles on the part of the Government to their friends the landlords, the farmers, and the parsons, instead of looking like what they really were, simple acts of justice. What was the plan and policy advocated by the Royal Commission? In answering this question, they must answer another—viz., should not all these charges, which might be termed national, be paid for out of the national revenues? The Royal Commission decided against the transference of these heavy charges from the local rates to the Imperial Exchequer, as undesirable on the following grounds:—(a) the Government had already got plenty of work on their hands, and decentralisation, not centralisation, should be the keynote of their policy in these matters; (b) even if the Imperial Exchequer provided the whole of the money, management would still be to some extent local, and all inducements to economy would be removed if none of the money were raised locally; and there would be a violation of the wholesome maxim that those should pay the piper who called the tune.

Then the Commission had to answer the difficult question, "Why not rate personalty as well as realty?" Some of them perhaps were sanguine enough to hope that this question could have been answered satisfactorily, but that hope must now be abandoned finally. As Sir Edward Hamilton and Sir George Murray said in their report, the more the question was thought out the more obvious would it become that personalty could not be taxed by rating authorities, because it could not be localised. Besides the two above-mentioned remedies for the present inequitable state of things, other partial ones had been suggested in various quarters; but after being discussed they had been dismissed as impracticable and undesirable.

After enumerating these remedies in his paper, Mr. Salmon went on to say that the majority report was signed by 12 out of the 15 Commissioners. One of the three remaining members made a separate report, which need not be further described. The other two dissentients, Sir E. Hamilton and Sir George Murray, presented an extremely complicated and ingenious plan, which deserved to be described, and which seemed preferable to the majority report. Their report was a most valuable one, but must be passed by because its political importance was lessened by its only receiving two signatures. As practical men, they must deal with the report of the large majority. Their recommendations were these:—(1) The perpetuation and development of the present system of contributions from the Imperial Exchequer—an immediate increase of two millions was recommended; (2) the perpetuation of the Agricultural Rating Act of 1896 and the Tithe Rent Charge (Rates) Act of 1899; (3) the perpetuation of the differential rating of land at a quarter or one-third of its net annual value (a) for special sanitary expenses of rural district councils, (b) for water rates, (c) for lighting rates, (d) for public library and reading room rates.

These proposals were not ideally perfect, but they were as good terms as the landed interest was likely to get. In conclusion, Mr. Salmon said that he would once more enjoin them, not only as a matter of self-interest, but also as one of national importance, to wake up, and keep awake. It was a matter of national importance that the land of the British Isles should continue in cultivation. It could not so continue if the ever-increasing burden of local taxation was to be thrust out of all proportion upon one class of property, and that the least valuable. They could afford to be long-suffering once, when their industry was protected; but now it was madness. Lord Harris, speaking lately to the East Kent Chamber of Agriculture, blamed the agriculturists as a body for not protesting with sufficient clearness against the inequitable imposition of local taxation. He warned them to keep their eye upon the Bill which was shortly to be introduced for the improvement of secondary education, for he apprehended that provision will be made for the imposition of a rate for the purpose. Secondary education was a matter of national importance, and should be a national charge. The landed interest would benefit less than any other by improving secondary educating. He (Mr. Salmon) would also warn them to keep their eyes upon the Old-Age Pension question. The provision of the necessary funds was the main obstacle in the way of passing an Act having this object in view. It was a national question, and they should see to it that no solution of it was obtained at the expense of the rates.



The World's Flax Crop.

The flaxseed crop of the world for 1900, the latest year for which comprehensive figures are available, amounted to 64,466,500 bushels, against 61,726,600 bushels in 1899, and 72,938,500 bushels in 1898, says the American "Crop Reporter." Upward of 95 per cent. of the 1900 crop was produced in four countries, viz., the United States, Russia, India, and Argentina; less than 5 per cent. of the total crop being produced in all other countries of the world combined. In 1900 Russia produced 32.06 per cent. of the world's crop; the United States, 31.02 per cent.; India, 18.61 per cent.; Argentina, 13.75 per cent.; and all other countries combined, 4.56 per cent.

The world's commercial crop of flax fibre is practically all produced in Europe, none of the great flaxseed-producing countries outside of Europe being engaged in this phase of the industry. The flax fibre crop of the world in 1900 amounted to 1,312,709,000 pounds, against 1,139,077,000 pounds in 1899 and 1,780,693,000 pounds in 1898. Upward of 77 per cent. of the total in 1900 was the product of Russia, the remaining 23 per cent. being the combined production of the rest of Europe.

The prices made upon flaxseed in the United States in the crop year 1900-01 were the highest in twenty years, the highest Chicago quotation having been in July, 1901, when the price of seed reached 1.90 dols. per bushel. The exports of flaxseed in the fiscal year ended June 30, 1901, were 2,755,683 bushels, valued at 4,319,102 dols.; imports during the same year were 1,631,726 bushels, valued at 2,098,207 dols., leaving an excess of exports over imports of 1,123,957 bushels.

Under average conditions the quantity of oil that may be manufactured from a crop of seed like that of 1900 (20,000,000 bushels) is about 50,000,000 gallons; the quantity of oil cake or oil-cake meal from such a crop would be about 760,000,000 pounds. As is well-known, the linseed oil manufactured in the United States practically all enters into home consumption, the average annual exports not exceeding 100,000 gallons. The greater part of the oil cake and of the oil-cake meal, on the other hand, is exported,

the exports of this product in the fiscal year ended June 30, 1901, having been 455,154,866 pounds, which may be accepted as approximately representing the exports of the oil cake and meal made out of the 1900 crop. The principal customers for linseed-oil cake and meal are Germany and the United Kingdom, Germany in the fiscal year ended June 30, 1900, taking about 33 per cent. and the United Kingdom 28 per cent. of our total exports.

The growing importance of Denmark as a purchaser of this valuable cattle food is attracting great attention. From being a customer for less than 8 per cent. of our total exports in 1895, her takings have steadily increased until in the fiscal year ended June 30, 1900, almost 23 per cent. of the total United States exports were consigned to her. The increase in the use of oil cake by the Danish people is attributable to the remarkable development of the dairy industry of that country. From the foregoing it is apparent that in the fiscal year 1899-1900 about 84 per cent. of the exports of oil cake and meal from the United States were directed to three European countries —Germany, the United Kingdom, and Denmark. The only other European customers for this product were, in the order of their importance as purchasers, Holland, Belgium, and France, and these countries absorb almost the entire remainder of the United States shipments. Exports to other countries constitute a comparatively neglible quantity.

It is notable that of the four countries which produce annually 90 to 95 per cent. of the flaxseed crop of the world the United States is by far the most important as a manufacturer of oil and oil cake. The great bulk of the flaxseed produced in Russia and India appears upon the markets of the world as raw material and is converted into manufactured products in the oil mills of Europe. Argentina usually manufactures from 10 to 15 per cent. of her annual crop, chiefly for home consumption, and the surplus is consigned to Europe for manufacture in European mills. The Russian crop of flax fibre, also, which constitutes such a heavy proportion of the entire world's crop, is exported to France, Germany, England, and other European countries, to the extent of three-fourths of the entire quantity raised for textile uses. It should be noted, however, that the production of flax fibre in Russia, as given in the table published in this number of the "Crop Reporter," includes the entire production of flax fibre in the empire, of which a considerable portion is not adapted to manufacturing purposes, but is used for fuel in Russia or allowed to go to waste.

We have received from the South-Eastern Agricultural College, Wye, a copy of the February number of the journal of that institution. The number contains some interesting reports on experiments and investigations carried out on the college farm, several illustrations being given.

Alleged Starvation of Stock.—At Samford Petty Sessions, at Ipswich, on Tuesday, J. Welham, farmer of Brantham, was charged with ill-treating farm stock by withholding sufficient food. Inspector Brian, R.S.P.C.A., deposed to visiting defendant's premises and finding the stock in a very emaciated and ravenous condition, while several were suffering from severe injuries, much aggravated by neglect. Evidence having been taken on both sides, the Bench retired, and on their return the chairman said they convicted only with regard to a cow with the eye out. They imposed a fine of £5, with costs, £1 15s. 4d.

Ipswich Horse Parade.—Despite the piercing and blustering wind on Tuesday, half-a-dozen stud horses were paraded on Ipswich Cattle Market, the Suffolk breed preponderating in the ratio of two to one, and, without exception, looked in prime condition. The Bentley stud, owned by Mr. E. F. Quilter, was represented by Bentley Warrior, while Mr. C. H. Cordy, of Walton, showed another dark chestnut, Homocea. Mr. Willia mEveritt, of Levington, paraded Butley Marquis. The fourth Suffolk was Sunshine. Coming to the shire sires, Mr. H. W. Packard, of Shotley, exhibited Rokeby Peleus, while the sixth animal was paraded by Mr. W. W. Estaugh, of Butley Abbey, namely, Birdsall Moulder.

Birmingham Dairymen and the Price of Milk.—The dairymen who distribute Birmingham's milk supply have resolved not to follow their usual custom of reducing the price with the commencement of spring, but to maintain throughout the summer the usual winter charges. Their decision is attributable to the fact that the farmers are demanding more. During the past exceptionally severe winter the milk trade is said not to have been profitable to the farmers, owing to the limited supply and dearness of roots and other kinds of fodder, and the farmers are seeking to recoup themselves. They are the better able to do so because the increasing requirements of London cause larger demands to be made on this district, and the farmers have a greater market for their supplies.

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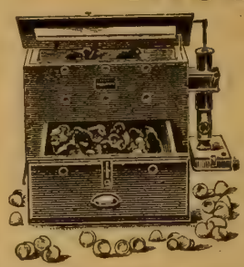


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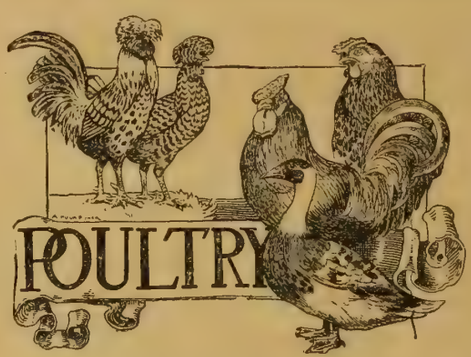
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Comb Disease.

We have found that this disease has been very prevalent in many parts of the country during the last month or two. There are usually outbreaks of it during the spring, as the birds get fighting and they do not receive attention, and the small pecks which they receive quickly fester and spread until the fowls look very unsightly. People are inclined to think that it is only the weak birds which fight, but this is not so; the hens frequently fight each other, and after a few days large spots are seen on the heads of some of the birds, and these spread over their heads and necks, and frequently extend to their bodies. The disease is called chicken pox in the South African and Australasian colonies, and it is unfortunately very contagious. It is advisable that they receive attention as soon as it is noticed.

If birds that have been fighting are carefully washed at once in water in which some Condy's fluid has been placed, and wiped quite dry, and they have a dose of Epsom salts given to them at once, an outbreak is generally avoided. If the birds are dark in the combs, or go off their appetite, give about one ounce of the salts to every fifteen birds. Should there be any little spots coming upon their combs, give one ounce to every ten birds; this will not hurt them, but do them good.

When the disease takes the birds, we find the blood is very dark and overheated. The fowls may look quite well, eat a proper supply of food, and even lay one day. The next morning there will be found small spots upon their face, comb, and wattles, and very often on their eyes. When the latter is the case, the eyes close at once. We should advise those poultry keepers who have unfortunately got the disease amongst their birds, and have any very bad cases, their eyes being closed, and the mouth full of a cheesey matter, and smelling very badly, unless they are very valuable birds, kill and bury them at once.

In cases where the spots are only just coming give the Epsom salts as described, and paint the spots with iodine. Give the affected birds roup powder, those which can eat, in their soft food. It should be given in quantities as follows:—One teaspoonful for every five birds.

When a sudden change in the weather comes on, it is always well to give the birds a little roup powder, as it will often prevent any disease coming on, besides causing them to be less liable to take a chill. When the birds are not really ill, a teaspoonful to every eight or nine birds will be sufficient.

We notice when birds have been fighting, and losing a lot of blood, they are the first to take the disease. It is not only at one certain place where the comb disease has broken out, but on farms where there are only a few kept, as well as where the fowls are kept in large numbers. It will sometimes break out where there are from fifteen to twenty-five fowls, and they have twenty acres of ground to roam over.

It is a very serious matter at this time of the year when a disease of this kind breaks out amongst fowls, especially where the pens of birds are mated up, as very often valuable birds are lost, and that means great expense. Turkeys are affected just in the same way in various parts of the country, many of which have just commenced laying. Unfortunately, a number of people do not notice the disease coming until it is too far advanced, and it is not very pleasant to lose a turkey hen worth from £2 to £3. This is what many of our breeders are having to put up with, however.

If birds mope about or do not look as sprightly as usual, no matter whether turkeys or fowls, the attendant should catch them at once and look in their mouths, as well as examine their heads. As the old saying goes, "Take a bull by the horns at once," so should the owner or attendant be on the look out for the first approach of this disease. By doing this many valuable birds may be saved, if they are seen to at once. Once again we would remind our readers that "A stitch in time saves nine."

Last season we knew several places where this disease broke out on farms, and the farmers took no notice of it. The consequence was they had not more than from six to eleven birds left out of one hundred. Then, again, when they are left to run about while they have this disease, they contaminate the ground, besides giving it to the other birds. As soon as ever the symptoms are noticed, isolate the birds at once; put them on peat moss, dust, or chaff, and when attending to them the attendant should take care to have a large apron on, which should be kept specially for the purpose and left in the place where the birds are doctored. The attendant should also have some warm water by him, and wash his hands after seeing to the birds; then the others are not likely to take the disease among the other birds which are all right.

Disinfectant powder should be spread about the fowl-house and round the door, and a little piece of camphor put in the water which the fowls drink. If this is done, it prevents the disease from spreading.

The Care of Chickens.

One very general, but sadly mistaken, idea leads many people to suppose that after the chickens leave the hen they are ready to take care of themselves, and so the little things are allowed to herd with the larger fowls, and in some cases go to roost with the hens, all of which is very bad for them, as growing chickens should never be allowed

to run with the older birds. We have often noticed that chickens have a tendency to crowd together in one place, so as to keep warm. Even if they are allowed two or three sleeping places for a large flock they will often all crowd together into one of them. This is one of the worst things for growing chickens, as it has a tendency to check the growth and undermine the constitution, causing colds, and, possibly, disease to break out, as a result of the extremes of temperatures to which the birds are exposed. Of course, the remedy for all this is obvious.

The chickens should be divided into flocks, and put out so that they run in separate pens, being separated from each other; and provision should also be made for keeping them away from the older birds, both by night and day. Farmers are terrible transgressors against the laws of prudence in connection with the maturing of the chickens. Another matter that should engage the attention of poultry keepers, especially those who rear for the markets, is the shape and size of the perches on which the chickens roost. Where round perches have been used the pressure caused by them upon the breast bones of the chickens has caused an indentation, which, by turning the breast bone, leaves this crooked, a deformation which grows up with the fowl and lessens its value as an adult bird. Great care should be taken to provide flat perches, not less than two inches wide, from which it will be well to strip off any bark which might remain upon the wood, as this only harbours vermin, which, in their turn, collect upon and irritate the fowl.

It is important in the case of persons who rear for the market that the chickens have straight breast bones, as when killed and exposed for sale at the poulterers, or when put upon the table, the crooked breast lessens the selling value of the fowl in the first instance, and causes great inconvenience to the carver in the other. As soon as chickens leave the hens, or are strong enough to do without heat in the foster-mothers, some out of every brood seem to take a start and grow right away from the others. These chickens are usually big-boned, big-bodied, and, what old fanciers call promising birds, and soon it becomes apparent to all those who observe their rapid development that these individual chickens are marked out for future excellence. When this is noticed in the case of chickens, all these finer specimens should be gathered into one flock and treated generously, so that full opportunity be given them for rapid growth and development. Attention to these little details constitutes the spring of all success in rearing chickens, and we warn poultry keepers of all classes against the direful effects of overcrowding and injudicious management.

The Royal Counties Show at Reading.

Entries for dairy herds close on Saturday, April 5, and in all other departments of live stock on April 19—excepting entries for butter, which may be made up till May 10, and special jumping, driving, and turn-out competitions, which may be made up till the time of the show. The society are again fortunate in anticipating a visit of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales to the show, who has graciously signified his intention of attending on the third day.

New Agricultural Patents.

Specially compiled for *Mark Lane Express* by Mr. G. D. Howard (Hughes, Son, and Co.), patent agent, 38, Chancery Lane, London, of whom all information relating to patents, designs, and trade marks may be obtained free of charge.

5,838.—Robert Teasdale and John Thomas Teasdale, of Stockton-on-Tees, for "An improvement in self-binding reapers, adapted to prevent the entanglement of sheaves with each other as they leave the knotter."

5,950.—William Shepard, of Sheffield, for "Improvements in grinding, crushing, pulverising, and the like machines."

6,011.—George Foster, of Chancery Lane, London, for "Improvements in agricultural Implements."

Patents Sealed.

20,965.—E. Hanburger and H. Kallmann, of Germany, for "Food for animals."

21,187.—R. J. Wyatt, of Merriott, for "Food for animals; chaff cutters, cutting, and slicing roots."

The annual report for 1901 of Professor J. McFadyean, principal of the Royal Veterinary College to the Council of the Royal Agricultural Society, has been issued in pamphlet form. In it the health of our live-stock during the past year is interestingly reviewed, and the results of some experiments given.

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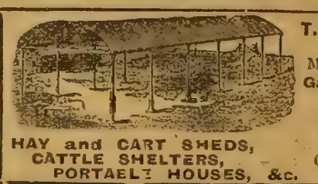


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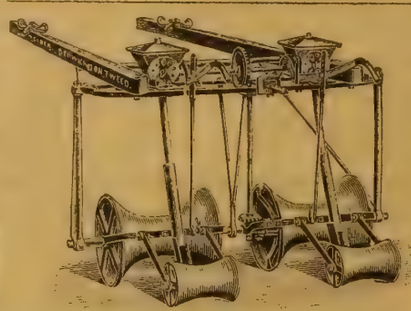


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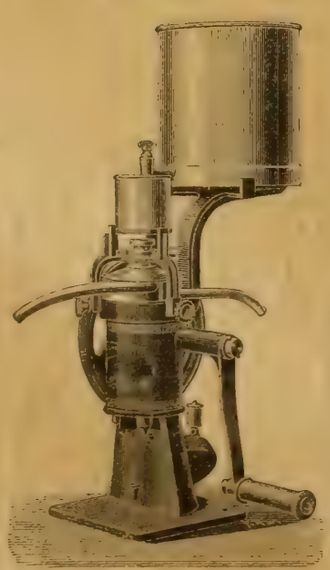
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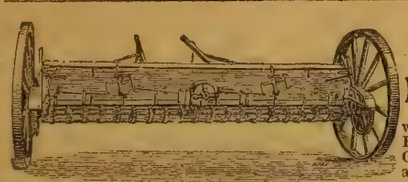


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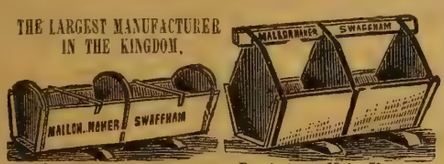
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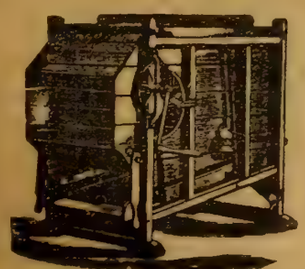
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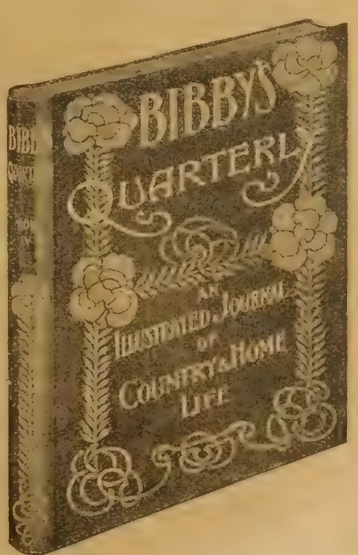
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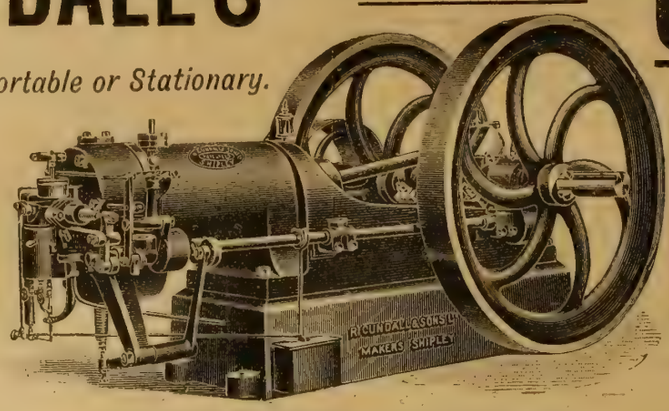
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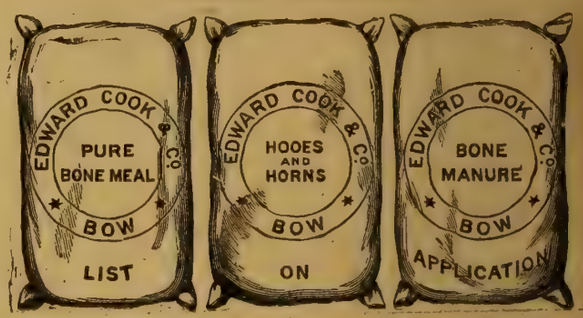
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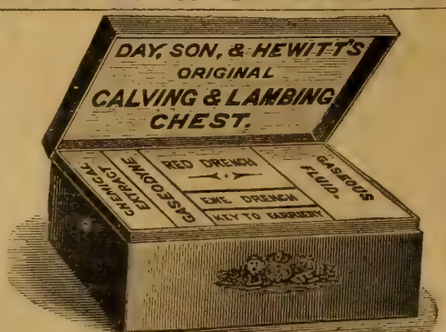
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VOL. LXXXVI. No. 3680. LONDON, MONDAY, APRIL 7, 1902. THIRTY-TWO PAGES. PRICE 3D.

SOCIETIES.

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION of ENGLISH HOP GROWERS.
(Founded June 1894.)
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HON. TREASURER.—E. ALBERT WHITE, Esq., Beltring, Kent.
SECRETARY.—THOMAS IRONMONGER.
CENTRAL OFFICE.—61, HOP EXCHANGE, BOROUGH, LONDON.

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To promote united action among English hop growers as a body for the improvement of the industry.

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To arrange for arbitrations in cases of dispute between sellers and buyers of hops, for the avoidance of litigation.

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GREAT SHOW of Horses, Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, Poultry, Dairy and Farm Produce.
Horse-Jumping, Horse-Shoeing, and Butter-Making Competitions.

LIVE STOCK ENTRIES at ordinary fees close on Tuesday, April 15th; at extra fees on Wednesday, April 30th; at double fees on Thursday, May 15th (final date).

POULTRY and PRODUCE ENTRIES at ordinary fees close on Wednesday, April 30th, at double fees on Thursday, May 15th (final date).

Prize Sheets, Conditions, and Entry Forms will be forwarded upon receipt of a specific request addressed to the undersigned.

ERNEST CLARKE,
Secretary.
13, Hanover Square, London, W.
April, 1902.

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Prizes of over £1,000, Gold and Silver Medals, &c., for Competition for Horses, Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, Cheese, Butter, Butter-making, Cider, Wool, Horse-shoeing, Poultry, and Pigeons.

Entries close:—Stock and implements, 14th April; cheese, butter, wool, &c., 16th April; poultry and pigeons, 18th April. Post entries (double fees) 21st April.

Prize List and Entry Forms may be obtained of the Secretary.

WALTER R. J. GREENSLADE,
3, Hammet Street, Taunton.

SOCIETIES.

CORN EXCHANGE BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that in the month of June next ensuing the Society will bestow certain Pension or Pensions annually renewable. The persons eligible as candidates for such benefactions are members of not less than three years' standing, who have been established, either as principals or clerks, for not less than five years, in the corn, seed, oilcake, hop, malt, or flour trades, within 12 miles of the General Post Office, London, and who have fallen into decay, their widows, fatherless children, and such other relatives as may have been actually dependent upon them at the time of their decease. Bakers and pastrycooks are not considered dealers in flour. Candidates must apply by letter only to the undersigned before April 27th, giving full particulars of their former and present circumstances, and referring to such respectable persons as can vouch for the accuracy of their statements. Members of the corn trade and its branches are earnestly requested to support the Society, which is in active operation under the management of leading firms in Mark Lane. Rules and all particulars may be obtained from the undersigned.—By order of the Board of Directors,

J. H. MITCHINER,
Secretary.
1, Seething Lane, E.C.,
April 2nd, 1902.

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President: CHARLES HUGH BERNERS, Esq.

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7,500	Quarters of	Oats.
2,000	,,	Beans.
3,500	,,	Maize.
750	Tons of	Hay—Upland Meadow.
750	,,	Hay—Broad leaf Clover and Rye Grass.
500	,,	Wheat Straw.
200	,,	Packing Straw—Oat, Wheat or Barley.
300	,,	Bran.

Forms of Tender (upon which alone Tenders will be received) may be obtained on application to the undersigned, by whom Tenders, marked outside "Tender for Provender," will be received on or befor Tuesday, the 15th April, 1902.

The Directors do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any Tender.

C. K. MILLS,
Secretary.
Paddington Station, London,
3rd April, 1902.

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On FRIDAY, APRIL 18th (Twelve o'clock)
70 SHORTHORNS
For MESSRS. EVANS.
"MILK WITH FLESH."
SHERLOWE, 4 miles from Wellington, and 7 Miles from Shrewsbury.

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Catalogues from ALFRED MANSELL & CO., Auctioneers and Exporters, Shrewsbury, WHO WILL EXECUTE COMMISSIONS.

(Auction Sales continued on page 419.)

LIVE STOCK.

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PIGS (cont.).

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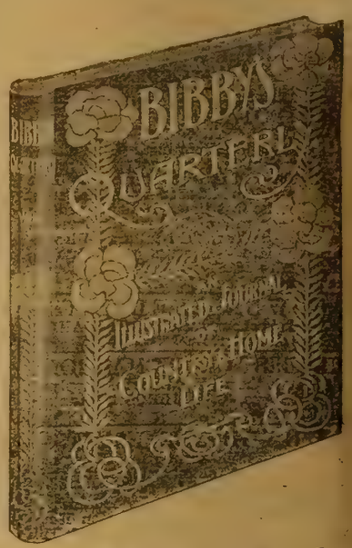
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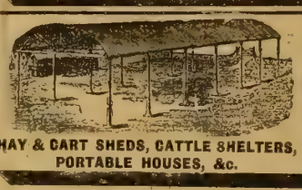
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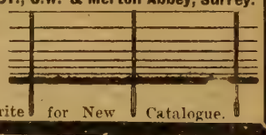
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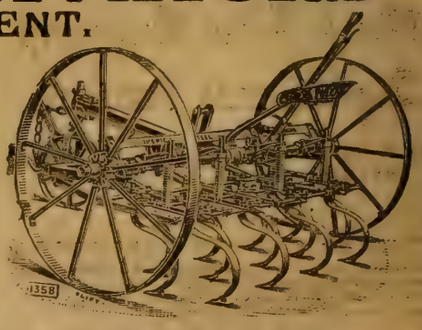
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THE TRUCK ACTS.

The object of these Acts is to prohibit the payment in certain trades of wages in goods or otherwise than in the current coin of the realm. The Acts only apply to artificers, workmen, labourers, and persons engaged in manual labour. Originally they did not extend to agricultural labourers, but the provisions have been extended to them in recent years, with this important proviso—that nothing in the Acts shall render illegal a contract with a farm servant in husbandry for giving him food, drink (not being intoxicating), a cottage, or other allowances or privileges, in addition to money wages, as remuneration for his services. But for this modification, the convenient practice of boarding and lodging the lads on a farm would have been knocked on the head. With this exception, wages must be paid in cash, without any stipulation as to the manner in which they shall be spent, and payment in produce or other goods is illegal.

The application of the Acts to agricultural labourers has just received a singular illustration in the Courts, under the following circumstances: In March, 1899, a man named William Cooper applied to a farmer for a situation, and was engaged as waggoner, at 14s. a week, with a cottage and garden rent free. Cooper alleged

that it was also arranged that he should have three quarts of cider a day, but this was denied by his employer. A written agreement had been entered into between the parties, but had been lost, and it was not very clear what it contained. The farmer said that the cider was not a term of the contract, and was not mentioned in the agreement, although, as a matter of fact, it had been supplied. Cooper, on the other hand, was not sure whether the allowance of cider was put into black and white or not, but he was sure that it ought to have been, inasmuch as there was a verbal arrangement concerning it, but for which he would not have taken the situation. Twice subsequently Cooper proposed to leave, but was induced to stay by an increase of wages. No fresh arrangement was made about the cider, but its supply seems to have been continued as a matter of course. In June, 1901, Cooper was dismissed, and thereupon he sued before the justices for wages alleged to be due to him, and for 6s. 8d. on account of cider. It is not clearly stated how the claim for cider arose, but presumably it was for so much cider in lieu of notice. He got an order for the wage, but the amount claimed for cider was disallowed, on the ground that the justices found as a fact that the written agreement had not included the cider, and they could not go outside it.

But the matter did not end there, for the justices went on to fine the farmer for a breach of the Truck Acts, through having supplied cider in part payment of the wages. It will be noticed that the provision allowing food and drink to be taken into account in remunerating farm servants only extends to non-intoxicants, and therefore payment in cider, beer, or other alcoholic beverage is prohibited. It appeared from the evidence in this case that most of the men employed on the farm were supplied with cider, but those who did not have it did not receive any additional wages in consequence, and the farmer contended that the supply could have been discontinued at any time. It was also proved that Cooper usually had three quarts of cider a day, but atht if he did not take his allowance he received no equivalent in money or otherwise. In these circumstances, the justices came to the conclusion that the cider supplied to Cooper was given in part payment of wages, under a verbal arrangement or understanding existing between the parties, and they convicted the employer of a breach of the law.

A question, however, was reserved for the opinion of the High Court, viz.: whether the justices were right in receiving and acting upon evidence of a verbal arrangement to supply cider in part payment of wages, and in allowing such evidence to prevail, in spite of the existence of a written agreement of hiring which was wholly silent on the subject of cider. But the High Court upheld the decision of the justices, declining to accept the contention that where there was a written contract as to wages to be paid, the Court ought not to look at a verbal arrangement made between the parties, even if it were found to be an undertaking to supply something other than money in payment of wages. The result would be to reduce to a nullity the following words of the Act, viz.: "Within "the meaning and for the purposes of this "Act any agreement, understanding, device, "contrivance, collusion, or arrangement what-"soever on the subject of wages, whether oral "or written, whether direct or indirect, to "which the employer and workmen are "parties, or are assenting, or by which they "are mutually bound to each other, or "whereby either of them shall have en-"deavoured to impose an obligation on the "other of them, shall be and be deemed a "'contract.'"

The importance of the decision to farmers can hardly be over-estimated, for it strikes a staggering blow at the very prevalent, and almost unavoidable, custom of giving casual labourers their "'lowance" at hay time and harvest. It will still be lawful for a master to stand his servant an occasional drink, for a genuine gift made by an employer out of kindness cannot be treated as payment of wages; but it will be almost impossible for a farmer to contend that the customary "'lowance" is not a part of the bargain. If he thinks he can do so, let him try it by stopping the beer, and see how long his "datal" men will stop with him. He will soon find that he must give them a drink or its equivalent if he expects them to work; and, as it is illegal to give them intoxicants in part payment, he will have to give an increase of wage corresponding with the value of the beer or cider which would otherwise have been allowed for each man. The only alternative is to become a disciple of total abstinence, and deprecate the value of his barley and apples by substituting teetotal beverages for the natural products of his grain and fruit.

Fortunately, the Acts do not apply to domestic or menial servants, so the charwoman may still quench the thirst of spring cleaning with a glass of beer.



By a Man of Mark Lane.

The annual Local Taxation Returns for Scotland for the year 1899-1900 were issued last week as a Blue-book. They show that, excluding loans, the revenue of the various local authorities during the year under review amounted to £11,082,392, of which £4,599,243 was derived from assessment (representing £1 0s. 9.3d. per head of the estimated population), £1,965,038 from imperial subventions and payments, £1,111,824 from tolls, dues, fees, and fines, and £3,404,282 from miscellaneous sources. The expenditure of local authorities not defrayed out of loans amounted to £11,102,682; the receipts from loans came to £4,072,118, and the expenditure out of loans £3,740,370. The loans outstanding at the close of the year amounted to £42,638,363, equivalent to £9 12s. 7d. per head of the estimated population.

I have received a copy of the second memorandum on the wheat crop of the Bombay Presidency for 1901-1902, issued by the Bombay Department of Land Records and Agriculture. The information given relates to the condition of the crop up to February 20, and it states that the wheat area in the Presidency, including Sind and Native States, is is 16.7 lákhs acres, or 13 and 37 per cent. respectively below last year and average. The decrease is general, and due generally to deficiency of late rainfall in Presidency and to low floods in Sind. Substitution of jowár and other crops also accounts for some decrease. The crop suffered from insufficiency of moisture everywhere, and particularly in Gujarát and eastern parts of Deccan and Karnátak. Rats have further done extensive damage to surviving crop throughout Gujarát and Khándesh. Here only a very low outturn is expected; elsewhere the crop will yield somewhat better.

According to the second general memorandum on the winter oilseed crop of India, issued by the Statistical Department of the Government of India, the reports concerning the crops are uniformly unfavourable, the failure of the winter rains having induced a condition of drought which restricted sowings and afterwards injuriously affected the growing crop. In the Punjab and the Frontier Province the crop of rapeseed on unirrigated land will perhaps hardly yield a harvest, and about four-fifths of the crop is grown on such land. In Sind, also, the crop is not good. In the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, and in Bengal and Madras, conditions are better, and a fairly good crop is anticipated. But in the Central Provinces, Bombay, Berar, and the Nizam's territory the drought, rats, and insects have combined to reduce the yield to a level very much below the average.

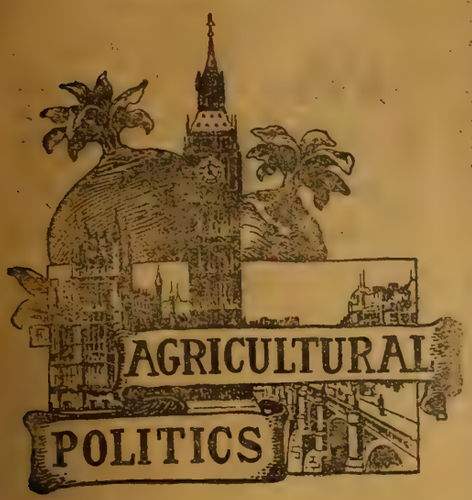
The Hull Corn Trade Association have decided, after experiments, that repeated handling, for testing the weight per bushel of wheat, adds to the natural weight, and they recommend that the first test shall be decisive.

The Revenue Returns for the financial year ending on Monday last have been issued. The amount of Revenue paid into the Exchequer was £142,997,999, being a net increase of £12,613,315, as compared with the financial year ending March 31, 1901. The Chancellor of the Exchequer, in his Budget speech, last April, estimated that the Revenue for the year would be £142,455,000, so that the Revenue exceeds the estimate by more than half a million. There was a decrease in receipts from Excise of £1,602,945; in Crown Lands of £45,000; in stamps of £25,000; in Land-tax of £30,000; and in miscellaneous of £252,243. The following increases for the year are shown: Customs, £4,713,893; Property and Income-tax, £7,880,000; estate duties, £1,309,720; Post Office, £500,000; house duty, £55,000; telegraph service, £40,000; and Suez Canal shares and loans, £39,558.

Revised estimates of the New South Wales Government statistician on the wheat yield have reduced the area under crop to 1,390,000 acres, with an actual yield of 14,705,000 bushels, equal to 10.6 bushels per acre.

James McMillan, a son of one of his Majesty's cattle minders at the Flemish Farm, Windsor Great Park, for rescuing from drowning a few weeks ago three boys, aged fourteen, eleven, and nine years respectively, was presented with the vellum testimonial of the Royal Humane Society by Prince Christian at Cumberland Lodge on Thursday. The children fell through the ice on a pond in Windsor Great Park during the skating season, and were gallantly rescued by McMillan.

Sale of Diseased Meat.—At Worship Street Police Court on Friday, Frederick Hardy, cattle dealer, Barnes Farm, Hillingdon, Middlesex, was summoned for having sold to Walter Bridger the carcase of a cow in such a condition as to be liable to be seized under the Public Health Act.—Mr. W. T. Ricketts, solicitor, prosecuting for the Borough Council of Finsbury, said that the case arose out of the prosecution of a retail butcher named Bridger, of Lever-street, St. Luke's, where some 200lb. weight of pieces of beef had been seized as diseased, suffering from kidney disease to such an extent that it had evidently been killed at the last stage. That was the medical evidence on which Bridger was convicted; but the Act under which the proceedings were taken made the person who sold the carcase to the retailer equally liable. The history of the carcase had been traced since the proceedings against Bridger, and it was found that it was the body of a cow which, in the possession of a milk dealer named Wakely, was found to be wasting, and in that condition was sold to a dealer and carcase knacker named Dance for £4. The cow was then down, and unable to rise, and Dance, having failed to get it to rise, killed it at Wakely's farm and removed the carcase in his cart to his place at Stanmore, where, apparently, it was dressed in the usual way for food. Dance, it appeared, then sent a telegram to Hardy, who was a carcase dealer in an extensive way of business, sending hundreds of sides of meat to Smithfield, and therefore a man with full knowledge of his trade. He, it seemed, inspected the carcase at Dance's; it was removed from there, and next found in the shop of Bridger.—The Magistrate said he was satisfied the meat had been sold by Hardy, and fined him £20, and five guineas costs.



By a Lobbyist.

The one talk in political circles is as to the character of the forthcoming Budget. Of course, Sir Michael Hicks-Beach is a Free Trader; of that there is no doubt. He might have been a direct descendant of Richard Cobden, so unswerving is his fidelity to the faith. Yet there is talk to-day of a tax upon imported corn. When the Devil drives need's must, and Sir Michael is confounded by the fact that he has exhausted most of the avenues of taxation. An added tax upon incomes, an added tax upon beer, an added tax upon estates, would mean an eternity of protests and a strong revulsion of feeling against Toryism. Hence it is that there is a strong belief that Sir Michael will proceed to delight the heart of Mr. James Lowther and to inflict a tax upon imported cereals. If this be so, it means infinitely more than appears on the surface. It means—if I may be grandiloquent—the first invasion of the domain of the Free Trade fetish.

Of course, Sir Michael has many antagonisms to battle. He has the antagonism of Toryism, first of all. This is more serious than the antagonism of Liberalism. A man loves to fight his enemies, but to be compelled to war with his friends is disconcerting. This is what Sir Michael will have—I am assuming that his reported intention is true—to do. This antagonism will not be the less rigorous or vehement because it is inspired by men who formerly worked with him in friendship. I suppose few comprehend how strenuous is the feeling in favour of Free Trade among a section of the Tories. These men may be said to be the lineal descendants of Sir Robert Peel and of the small throng of Conservatives who attached themselves to his fortunes. If Sir Michael has resolved to fight them he has resolved upon a deed of heroism.

I do not know how far the MARK LANE EXPRESS has influence with the advocates of pure beer, but if it has any, I strongly advise them to abandon their present measure. The Pure Beer Bill is simply conciliation, run to silliness. In the desire to reconcile opponents, its authors have robbed the original Bill of every element of determination and of every fibre. Of what will it avail if the Bill be passed? Whom will it hurt? For the life of me, I cannot say or perceive. True, the Bill does restrict the quantity of substitutes which may be used; but apart from that it does nothing. The Bill is thus foredoomed ere it has passed its first reading; it is foredoomed by reason of its insincerity, its lack of manliness, its endeavour to conciliate men who are inevitable enemies. This new Bill is a bad, weak, and insincere proposal.

For the life of me I cannot comprehend how the leaders in the agitation consented to this measure. No one doubts the sincerity of these men. Sir Cuthbert Quilter has made it the subject of his ambition, and—what is of quite as much value to him—his best quips and quirps. Mr. F. W. Wilson fought his first election on this issue, and he made the Norfolk electors writhe in anguish as he depicted the tragic possibilities of the tied house system. Mr. Purvis, the member for Peterborough, gave to the agitation all the advantage of his legal training, and all the wisdom of a singularly astute mind. What could be the intention of men of this character in presenting the tepid Bill that was sent out to legislators last week? I am in favour of the principle animating the pure beer agitation, but, frankly, I should vote against this measure, and that because, from my point of view, it would achieve nothing.

The last Bill was opposed with bitter vigour by the members for several Northern constituencies. I do not for a moment impugn their motives. That Bill, but for their vigilance, would have passed into law. Ill-drafted as it was, it was yet direct enough in its intention. It meant to have pure beer. It might have got it in an indirect and undecided fashion; but, still, there was the intention. If they are wise, the opponents of this principle will accept this Bill. There is an unwritten law of the House of Commons that once a Bill has been accepted, dealing with a specific question, it is "bad form"—I know no other phrase—to introduce within a given period another measure assailing the same grievance. This Bill can do them no harm and its acceptance would prevent another measure dealing with the same quetsion being introduced. I have described the Bill as tepid. It is worse. Tepidity has a certain element of strength associated with it; this has none.

Sir Wilfrid Lawson on Protection and the Discontented Farmer.

A meeting of the Cumberland and Westmoreland Chamber of Agriculture was held at Carlisle on the 29th ult, when the various resolutions and amendments on the subject of "Rural Depopulation," brought forward at the last two meetings, were voted upon, and the debate brought to a conclusion. Mr. Tinniswood, Rosebank, presided, and there was a good attendance including Sir Wilfrid Lawson, of Brayton. The chief motions included protection as one of the remedies.

Mr. Elliot, Clappers, who proposed the original motion, submitted that nothing contrary to the terms of his resolution had been advanced as to the cause of country people crowding into the towns, where they found rivers of whisky, hills of tobacco, and mountains of money.

Mr. Savage, Lingeycloseheed, said his argument was to attach the labourer to the land by providing a suitable home and granting certain perquisites.

Sir Wilfred Lawson: The amendment is protection.

Mr. Watt, Ravenglass (Lord Muncaster's agent): The motion is protection as well.

Sir W. Lawson: It is all protection. He said he must be very careful not to be led awayby metaphors, which were ruining the statesmen of this country (laughter). They were perfectly muddled in metaphors. They should endeavour to speak in a manner in which they could be understood. He had read a discussion on this subject by the Central Chamber of Agriculture, and found they did not talk any better sense than they did at Carlisle. Whatever was done, farmers always remained in a depressed and distressed condition (hear, hear). Yes, "Hear, hear." He never knew the time when it was not so. He did not expect if he lived to be a hundred that he would ever see the farmers contented. Three-fourths in that room wanted protection. (Hear, hear, and "No! No!") Mr. Watt (Knowefield) was the arch-apostle of protection. (Laughter.) He would tell Mr. Watt what it was. Protection was artificial scarcity. It was making a thing more difficult for the consumer, and that was not a proper thing for a Government to do. He knew he was looked upon as a territorial blackleg. He read the other day that his style of oratory was a mixture of Jeremiah and Joe Miller. He had never read anything better than that. (Laughter.) It gave him great pleasure. Jeremiah was a worthy man, and above all things he spoke the truth. As to Joe Miller—he would much rather be Joe Miller than Joe Chamberlain. (Laughter.) As regards protection, he did not know what the people of this country would do. He had come to the conclusion that there was no folly they would not commit. It was within the bounds of possibility that they might go back to Protection. Why should we return to the old system of fifty years ago? If they read history they would find that before the repeal of the Corn Laws there were as many commissions, committees, inquiries, complaints, groanings, moanings and jeremiads as there were now. (Laughter.) The wretched farmer was as ground down and miserable then as he is now.

Mr. Lamb, Cumrew, speaking in favour of a readjustment of taxation, instanced his own household, and said he found he had been paying 19s. indirect taxation on tea in the last twelve months. If that tax was taken off the tea, which we did not produce, and put on the 9 quarters of flour he had consumed in the same period, the British farmer would gain and the consumer would lose nothing.

Mr. James Watt, Knowefield, spoke strongly in favour of inter-colonial trade and protection against foreign countries, and said that though Britain had flourished greatly since the Corn Laws were abolished, other countries had done the same, and our prosperity could not be credited entirely to the abolition of those laws.

Mr. Watt, Ravenglass, replied on his amendment, and said he would like to see the old system of the labourer's cow revived; it was a stepping-stone to the small farm. The experience of other countries showed that assisted farming was not an illusion.

As a result of discussion, the subject was brought to a conclusion by the passing of the first part of Mr. Watt's amendment, affirming the necessity for such measures as will lead to a discontinuance of the present disastrous conditions affecting agriculture in this kingdom. The second part of the resolution concerning the grant of monetary assistance and the desirability of protective measures was abandoned.

OUR LIST OF SHOWS.

The Mark Lane Express

POCKET BOOK

AND

LIST OF AGRICULTURAL SHOWS

Our list of Agricultural Shows is this year issued in the form of a pocket book, of a convenient size, which, in addition to containing the Show Fixtures for 1902, includes a considerable amount of useful information, consisting of Railway Rates for Stock, tables, etc. The Pocket Book consists of 72 pages and cover, and is of a size eminently suitable for the purpose for which it is intended. A vacant page for memoranda faces each page of the Show Fixtures, and this arrangement will be found of great use, enabling readers to easily and quickly make a note of any prospective engagements.

Copies of the "Mark Lane Express Pocket Book and List of Agricultural Shows" may be obtained free upon application to 1, Essex Street, Strand, London, W.C., the only stipulation being that ½d. stamp for each copy required is forwarded to cover the cost of postage.

COMING SHOWS.

Bath and West at Plymouth.

The following is a list of the gentlemen who have agreed to act as judges at the Bath and West and Southern Counties Society's Show at Plymouth on May 27th and four following days:—

HORSES.—Agricultural: W. Crosland, Estate Office, Buscot Park, Farringdon. Hunters: Mr. Angas, Manor House, Whissindine, Oakham. Hackneys and Ponies: J. Griggs, South Creake, Norfolk. Harness Horses and Jumping: G. Gordon, Wincombe Park, Shaftesbury; and H. Lewis, Green Meadow, Cardiff.

CATTLE.—Devon: W. S. Perry, Crelake, Tavistock. South Devon: B. W. Coaker, Old Newnham, Plympton St. Mary Shorthorn: R. L. Angas, Blenheim, Woodstock; and J. Peter, Berkeley Castle Estate Office, Berkeley, Glos. Hereford: C. Williams, Glenthorne, Holmer, Hereford. Sussex: A. Heasman, Court Wick, Littlehampton, Sussex. Red Polled: A. D. Bruce, Estate Office, Elvetham Park, Winchfield, Hants. Abereen Angus: Rev. C. Bolden, Preston Bissett, Buckingham. Jersey: J. H. Shore, Whatley House, Frome; and E. Matthews, Chequer's Mead, Potters Bar. Guernsey: H. J. Gibbs, Milford, Salisbury. Kerry and Dexter: F. N. Webb, Babraham, Cambridge.

SHEEP.—Cotswold: W. T. Garne, Aldsworth, Northleach. Devon Long-woolled: W. Greenway, Manor Farm, Halse, Taunton. South Devon: B. Butland, Leigham, Plympton. Southdown: H. Senior, Tarrant Rushton, Blandford. Hampshire Down: E. Lyne, Hillus, Compton, Winchester. Shropshire: T. S. Minton, Montford, Shrewsbury. Oxford Down: C. Bryan, Southleigh, Witney. Exmoor: R. J. Stranger, Court House, North Molton. Dartmoor: R. S. Luscombe, Wisdone, Cornwood, Ivybridge. Somerset and Dorset Horned: J. Kidner, Nynehead, Wellington, Somerset.

PIGS.—Berkshire: E. Burbidge, South Wraxall, Bradford-on-Avon. Large Black: W. Orchard, Trethorne, St. Thomas, Launceston. Large, Middle, and Small White or Black, and Tamworth: J. Barron, Elvaston House, Borrowash, Derby.

POULTRY.—W. B. Tegetmeier, 16, Alexandra Grove, N. Finchley; and P. Percival, Somerset Court, Brent Knoll, Somerset.

PRODUCE.—Cider: J. H. Hill, New Take, Staverton, Totnes. Cheese: Francis Meade, Langport. Butter and Cream: Prof. Carroll, Royal Albert Farm, Glasnevin, Dublin.

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The Labelling of Margarine.

The Leeds Stipendiary Magistrate (Mr. C. M. Atkinson) delivered judgment on Thursday at the City Police Court in a case of considerable importance to a large class of traders. The case was one in which Henry Wales Walker, grocer, of Somerby Street, Leeds, was summoned for a breach of the Margarine Act in respect of the exposure for sale of certain margarine known to the trade as "Churno."

In the course of his judgment his Worship said it was alleged that the defendant neglected to conform to the statutory regulations as to the disposition and surroundings of margarine when exposed for sale by retail. Section 6 of the Margarine Act, 1887, provided that if margarine be so exposed, "there shall be attached to each parcel thereof, in such manner as to be clearly visible to the purchaser, a label marked in printed capital letters, not less than one and a half inches square, 'Margarine.'" In the case under consideration a special description of margarine known as "Churno" had been supplied to the defendant in a wooden box or package properly branded on the top, bottom, and sides as required by the Act. The box contained 24lb. of "Churno," in 1lb. and ½lb. packets ready for delivery to purchasers, each of them being enclosed in a paper wrapper on which the word "margarine" was printed in capital block letters of the prescribed size, unaccompanied by any other printed matter.

In all other respects it was conceded that there was a strict compliance with the statutory regulations. It was, however, charged against the defendant that there was a breach of the provision cited as to the attachment of a label. As the package lay on the shelf, or counter, the lid was open and fastened in a vertical position. To the inner surface of the lid, exposed to the gaze of the customer, was affixed a placard or label on which was printed in capital letters the word "Margarine." It might possibly have been contended that the label was not in strictness "attached" to the parcel; that there should have been a separate label attached to each packet, and that the letter "I" was not 1½in. "square." But Mr. Jolliffe, who represented the local authority—very properly, as he (Mr. Atkinson) thought—did not raise those issues, but rested his case solely on the one point of substance as to which a decision was sought, namely, that the label, in addition to the word "margarine" contained other printed matter—the word "Churno" in prominent capitals, followed in smaller type by the words "a new and perfect substitute for butter."

He failed to find any statutory prohibition against the introduction of the matter imported. The addition might be such as to obscure the label, or it might defeat the whole object of the label, as if the words were, "This is not margarine." However small might be the words "this is not," and however large the word "margarine," the addition would clearly constitute a violation of the Act. But he saw nothing in the Act to forbid the use on the "label" as distinguished from the "paper wrapper" of a laudatory adjective, or even, as in the case under consideration, the addition of a fancy name. He must confess that he was glad to be able to arrive at such a conclusion, as customers and the public generally had the fullest possible notice that the substance to be sold was not butter, and was, in fact, margarine. In his opinion, the legislation was intended to protect the public against imposition and fraud, not to expose traders who sell a perfectly wholesome and nutritious article of food, to harassing proceedings, undertaken at the instance or in the interest of rival traders who were concerned in the production or sale of butter.

His Worship then stated that he would simply dismiss the summons.

Prices of Foreign and Colonial Milk.

In reply to a question put in the House of Commons, Alderman Joyce, M.P., received from Mr. Hanbury, Minister for Agriculture, on Thursday, a communication giving details of the price paid for milk in Denmark, Canada, and Australia. In Denmark the average price paid to farmers by co-operative dairies ranged from 5d. to 5⅓d. per gallon. In Canada the price is about 4⅜d. for milk supplied to cheese factories. With regard to Australia the accounts of 13 co-operative dairies show that 3⅛d. to 4⅜d. per gallon was paid for milk delivered to dairies last year.

Gainsborough Cheese Fair.

The cheese fair in connection with the annual Easter Mart and Fair was held at Gainsborough on Tuesday. There was a fair trade all round. The general run of prices was as follows:—Choice dairies of Cheshires and Trentsiders, 6d. to 8d. per lb.; Cheddars (English), Leicesters, and Gorgonzolas, 7d. to 8d. per lb.; Derbys, 6d. to 7d.; Americans, 5d. to 6d.; English Stiltons, 9d. to 10d. per lb.

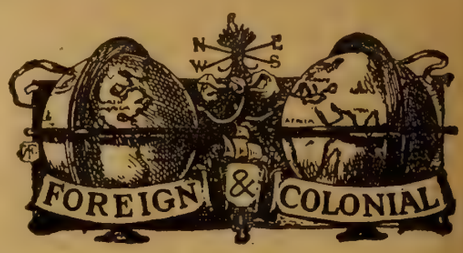
Nantwich Cheese Fair.

At the monthly cheese fair, held at Nantwich, on Thursday, there was a pitch of 22 tons of cheese. There was a large attendance of buyers from the principal centres, and the market was fairly brisk, though quotations were slightly lower than a month ago. Best Cheshire made from 68s. to 72s. 6d.; medium, 63s. to 66s.

The death has occurred, at his residence, Hacconby Manor, near Bourne, at the sixty-six, of Mr. James Measures, one of the best-known agriculturists in South Lincolnshire, and a member of the Kesteven County Council. In addition to occupying a large acreage, much of which was under the Earl of Ancaster, he was also an extensive landowner. The deceased gentleman was a member of the Kesteven County Council, and his services in public matters were frequently requisitioned, he holding many offices of trust and responsibility.

Huddersfield Cattle Fair.—This annual fair was held on Monday, and was very largely attended. Toll was taken for 537 horses, 385 beasts, and 95 pigs. Some good stallions were shown. Best draught horses sold fairly well at 65 to 70 guineas, while secondary qualities realised 30 to 40 guineas, better class Hackneys £30 to £45, and secondary animals £25 to £28. A good business was done in cattle, best milch cows selling at from £14 to £18, secondary £9 to £12, and fat cattle at 5d. to 6d. per pound. Among pigs things were less animated, prices ruling from 40s. to 50s. for strong stores, and 20s. to 30s. for small stores.

Sleaford Easter Monday Fair.—At this old-established fair there was a large attendance from all parts of the county. A large show of fat sheep met with a brisk sale at an advance of 2s. per head. Large numbers of hogs in wool were penned, and realised 37s. to 44s. per head. Good supply of beasts, fresh bullocks (yearlings) made £8 to £12, two-year-olds £13 to £16, and three-year-olds £16 to £18 each. Thirty-two pedigree shorthorn bulls from noted herds were sold by Messrs. Hincks, Shakespear, and Lawrence at £10 10s. to £26 10s. each. The first prize bull, the property of Mr. Atkinson, Weston St. Mary's, sold for 26 guineas, and the second prize winner, the property of Mr. Casswell, Laughton, made 20 guineas. Agricultural horses sold at 25 guineas to 35 guineas each.



A Year's Agriculture in Canada.

How The Government Aid in Profitable Farming.

The annual report of the Minister of Agriculture for the Dominion of Canada, for the year ended October 31st last is a budget of interesting matter, in which all the salient features of national agricultural and horticultural products are portrayed. How gratifying it is to be reminded that at the Pan-American Exhibition, at Buffalo, N.Y., in the competitions for live stock, Canada carried off an extraordinary number of prizes, much larger in proportion to the number of animals entered than the United States, which was the only other competitor, with the natural result of stimulating more than ever the trade in live stock between Canada and the United States.

In the section devoted to arts and agriculture there is an instructive review of Canada's agricultural requirements, coupled with a not altogether exhaustive description of how they are being met. Cold storage, and its developments, naturally present a bold front in this volume, for next in importance to the production of foods for export comes in natural sequence the necessity for their preservation while waiting, as well as while actually in transit. The most fastidious grumbler could not find a peg in this regard on which to hang even the flimsiest of complaints. The Minister of Agriculture has not wearied the reader with superfluous statistics; and with characteristic generosity he has not taken to himself all the credit for increased prosperity in his Department of State, liberally crediting the officers of the Department with the parts they have respectively taken in bringing about these excellent results.

The farmer views progress not only by enhanced production, but also by augmented profits, and under each of these headings he shows up well. The value of some Canadian farm products exported last year showed a phenomenal increase in volume when compared with 1896, such as peas, which had risen from $1,299,491 in the latter year to $2,674,712 in 1901; flour, which had risen from $718,433 in 1896 to $4,015,226 last year; and oats, which in 1896 amounted to $273,861, had risen in 1901 to $2,490,521.

In the butter trade the value of the exports in 1901 was $3,295,663, having increased from $1,052,089 in 1896, or over 200 per cent., while from the port of Montreal alone the number of packages carried in cold storage increased from 227,863 in 1900 to 410,893 in 1901. Canadian butter is certainly winning a better relative place in the markets of the United Kingdom than it has occupied at any previous period.

The bacon trade also manifested phenomenal progress. In 1896 the value of the exports of pork, bacon, hams, etc., was only $4,446,884, whereas at the close of the last fiscal year it had risen to $11,829,820.

In cheese, while in 1896 the exports valued $13,956,571, in 1900 they exceeded $19,800,000, and in 1901 reached $20,690,951. There has been a threatened falling off in the export of cheese this year, but it is expected that this will be more than counterbalanced during the current twelve months by the establishment of consolidated curing rooms.

It is satisfactory to learn that Canadian eggs are favourites in Great Britain; and, as importers have distinctly stated how they can be successfully put at best rates on the English markets, Mr. Fisher has taken this opportunity of instructing poultry-keepers how to prepare, pack, and despatch.

The special fattening of chickens for old-country markets has passed beyond the trial stage; and here, again, the spirited enterprise of the Minister has redounded to the profit of the poultry-keeper.

Work at the experimental farm has been phenomenally prolific of information profitable to the dairyman, to the horticulturist, to the agriculturist, and to the poultry-keeper; while researches in the entomological section have been of great service.

Some important chemical investigations are chronicled, and this division of the report is of special interest to Nova Scotia farmers residing on the borders of the Bay of Fundy.

The continued systematic testing of promising varieties of agricultural crops obtainable in different parts of the world has placed Canadian farmers in the van as to knowledge of the best and most productive sorts of agricultural products. They have learned to observe the characteristic

differences in varieties, and, their powers of observation thus awakened, they have been led to bring these faculties to bear on other problems in their business to their individual advantage and profit. Their neighbours, in time, have become interested in this work, and have benefited thereby, and the good influence has thus been rapidly extending through all sections of the farming community. The new feature in the annual distribution of seed, introduced under the instructions of the Minister of Agriculture three years ago, has made this work increasingly beneficial. Under the new arrangement larger samples than those hitherto sent have been forwarded, the seed sent out being sufficient for one-tenth of an acre. In this way the relative yield per acre of the varieties under trial has been ascertained and reported on by practical farmers in every agricultural constituency in the Dominion.

The Proposed Duty on Wheat.

The Cobden's Club View.

The annual report of the Cobden Club for the year 1901 has been issued as a pamphlet, in which is also given a list of members and other particulars relating to the society, which, as most of our readers are aware, was founded in 1866 with the object of encouraging the growth and diffusion of those economical and political principles with which Cobden's name is associated. Its principal work consists in the advocacy of free trade, and its funds are mainly devoted to the printing and circulating of books, pamphlets, and leaflets in support of free trade principles.

The Club has also issued a pamphlet entitled "How to Increase the Public Revenue," in the course of which some remarks are made concerning the proposed tax on wheat, and as they may be interesting as showing the free trader's point of view, we reproduce them:—

"A tax on imported wheat would necessarily increase the price not merely of the corn directly taxed, but of the corn indirectly protected, and so would impose on the taxpayer a burden greater than the benefit derived by the Exchequer. It is sometimes argued that such a tax would benefit one of the poorest classes in the community, namely, agricultural labourers, by increasing the profits of farming, and so increasing their wages. Even were this true, we see no reason why a poor man working in a town should be compelled to pay more for his food in order to put money in the pocket of another poor man in the country.

"It is, however, not true, and never has been true, that agricultural labourers have derived any benefit from the high price of corn. Nothing is more certain than that the rate of wages of agricultural labourers does not rise or fall with the rise and fall of the price of corn. Their wages are fixed, not by the profit that one particular employer can make out of their labour, but by the general operation of the law of supply and demand upon the whole labouring population. In counties such as Durham, where there is a brisk demand for labour outside agriculture, agricultural wages are high; in counties like Dorset, where no such alternative employment exists, agricultural wages are low. The agricultural labourer is, in fact, more interested than any other class in the community in the cheapness of bread, because relatively he spends a larger amount of his income upon bread than correspondingly poor persons living in towns.

"How greatly agricultural labourers, even in corn-growing districts, have profited by the cheapness of foreign wheat is shown by the following figures taken from the report of the Board of Trade on the wages and earnings of agricultural labourers in the United Kingdom. In the year 1850, on six farms in the eastern counties, the average cash wage per week for ordinary labourers was 8s. 11d. The average price of British wheat was then 40s. 3d. per quarter. In the year 1899, on the same farms, the wages were 12s. 7d. per week; and the average price of wheat had fallen to 25s. 8d. per quarter. Thus an eastern counties labourer in 1850 would have had to give four and a half weeks of his life to buy one quarter of wheat; in 1899 he could buy the same quantity of wheat with the wage earned in two weeks.

"The only class in the community that can permanently benefit by a rise in the price of agricultural produce is the class that owns agricultural land, and whenever in our history corn has risen over a series of years, rents have risen also. It is sufficient to quote an illustration taken from Porter's 'Progress of the Nation.'

"In the year 1790 farms in Essex were letting at 10s. an acre. Wheat then stood at 53s. 2d. a quarter.

"In the year 1818 the price of wheat had risen to 122s. 8d. a quarter, and the rent of Essex farms had risen to 45s. and 50s. an acre. Thus doubling the price of wheat had more than quadrupled the rent of land.

"Incidentally we may remark that both in 1790 and in 1812 England produced the bulk of the wheat she required for her own consumption, a fact which did not prevent a famine rise of price in time of war."

The pamphlet concludes as follows:—"We see no reason to doubt that the sources of taxation upon which previous Chancellors of the Exchequer have relied are still sufficient to meet the necessities of our public expenditure. We condemned last year the imposition of the coal tax and the sugar tax, and nothing has occurred to make us modify that condemnation. These taxes tend to restore a fiscal system which was deliberately abandoned by the nation after prolonged experience of its injurious effects; they reimpose upon our industries fetters which we hoped were for ever broken, an dthey tax the necessary food of the poor, while they spare the wealth of the rich. We hold that on political grounds it is desirable to broaden the basis of direct taxation by extending the Income Tax to all incomes over £100, or by extending the Inhabited House Duty to all houses above £10 in annual value, or by both these measures. Any further revenue required should be raised by increasing the rate of the Income Tax, or by increasing the Death Duties upon the larger estates, or by adding to the taxation of tobacco and intoxicants."

Staffordshire Agriculturists Discuss the Question.

At a meeting of the Staffordshire Chamber of Agriculture, held at Stafford, on the 29th ult., some considerable discussion took place on the question of the desirability of levying a tax on all imported manufactured goods. Mr. Morris, who introduced the subject, said he thought they would be sorry as farmers to see the raw material taxed, and what they had now principally to consider was the importation free of taxation of manufactured articles. In 1901 the wheat imported to this country through Liverpool was upwards of 5,000,000qrs., of 480lb. to the quarter, and of flour there were imported 1,896,886 sacks of 280lb. each. Where this flour was imported they were short of the offals for feeding purposes. If they could have a tax put on this flour they would again see the country mills running. What was now the position with regard to these mills, as compared with years ago, in their own immediate district? At Newport there was formerly a mill which turned out some thousands of sacks a week. At Stoke they had a mill which turned an immense lot of flour out, and at Stone there were two good going mills. At Newcastle one had been closed down in the last few years. At Stafford, too, a large mill had been closed down in the last few years, and this was simply on account of the manufactured flour that came from abroad, the local millers being unable to compete with the foreigners at present prices. If there was a tax put on imported flour, the country mills would again employ the labour of the country-side, and he did not think there would be much difference to the consumer, while the farmers would get the bran and sharps for feeding purposes, which would enable them to produce meat cheaper than they could at present. He moved:—"That, in the opinion of this Chamber, it is desirable to levy a tax on all manufactured foreign goods."

Mr. Leighton, in seconding the motion, said that, in his opinion, the principle of free trade had been shaken a good deal of recent years by the prosperity of protected countries. The Germans, French, and Americans seemed to think that they could always find a market for their goods in this little free-trading country of ours. In addition to flour, there was the importation of tinned goods on a large scale. Instead of the money being spent on good English beef, people bought these things with a concoction of jellies made from they did not know what, and it was, perhaps, as well that they did not know. He believed the physique of the country deteriorated through the consumption of these abominable tinned meats, and he thought they would all agree that the money would be much better spent on home-produced beef, farmers then receiving some benefit from money spent in the country. Of course, there was the argument that it was against the general interest to raise the price of any food; but what was the use of a cheap loaf if they had not the money to pay for it? His idea was that with plenty of money a small increase in the price of a loaf would make little difference. Now the poorer people were deriving all the benefit, and he did not see why they should not be called upon to pay their share of the cost of the war. So far, only the duty on sugar had touched them. Now was the time to consider whether a duty should not be imposed on manufactured foreign goods and all imported goods.

Mr. H. Toon (vice-chairman) thought the resolution went rather too far. He was of opinion that they should deal with the subject that interested them most closely. There was a trades union connected with almost every trade except farming, and as other trades were quite capable of looking after themselves he did not think it would be wise to go into these matters too widely. He had believed for many years that a tax on flour would be a great boon to the agricultural community of this country as well as to the millers, as it would lead to the employment of a great deal more labour, and would enable the farmer to produce fresh pork, beef, and mutton at a considerable reduction upon present prices. He would also get a better profit if he could get his offals cheaper. English wheat was now about £6 to £6 10s., and English bran and pollards were about the same price. That he thought, was entirely wrong, and he believed that if they had the wheat coming in instead of the flour they would be able to benefit greatly without doing any harm to the community at large. With regard to tinned meats, he did not know much about them except that they had become a wonderful institution in this country. An argument, to his mind, was that if they had cheaper cattle foods they could supply cheaper fresh meat, and so might avoid the tinned meats in that way. He proposed, as an amendment, that the resolution should relate only to imported flour, and should not take any other imported articles into consideration.

Mr. Tomlinson seconded the amendment.

Mr. Lamb said the present was, no doubt, a rather suitable time to consider this subject, as they would have one friend at Court in the Chancellor of the Exchequer, who seemed to be looking round everywhere to get a little more money. If they had a tax put on foreign manufactured articles, it would be only making the foreigner pay a small portion towards the advantages which he as well as ourselves might derive from the war in South Africa. Wherever British enterprise had opened out a country, the foreigner had the same chance as our own people. Mr. Morris had said that if flour had a duty put upon it, they would have again working those mills which had gone out of use. One thing which should not be lost sight of in this connection was that the more mills there were in the country the greater would be the stock of flour held in the country. He did not think the stocks at the ports would be as great as would be the case if the country mills were at work, and in that way we would be better supplied with foodstuffs in case of war. He was afraid we did not realise the danger in which the country might be placed in regard to its food supply. About 55 per cent of our wheat and flour at present came from America, and if we were at war with the United States the supply would be stopped, while if the war was with another country they might see American financiers buying up the market and greatly increasing the price. Other countries could see our danger in this respect. A French Minister, the other day, expressed his conviction that the English would yet bitterly rue the day in which they first neglected to cultivate their home-grown wheat. In America, too, the President, in his address, had strongly upheld the policy of Protection. In point of fact, everything pointed to the time when we should have to have Protection in this country, in the case of some articles at any rate. He did not say that our Colonies should not receive a certain amount of consideration, especially if they would allow us to send our goods to them either at reasonable rates or free. This question of Protection had been like the proverbial red rag, and people who mentioned it had been jumped on; but he did not think it should be so. One of the first laws of nature was the protection of ourselves, and in protecting our food supplies we should protect ourselves. The weak point in Free Trade was that we could not make other countries adopt it also. If the foreigners did not protect themselves he thought we should have the best end of the stick.

Several other members spoke, and Mr. Morris, in replying on the discussion, said he could wish the resolution to include all manufactured foreign articles. With regard to the Colonies, as they had rallied to us in the war, if there was any chance of helping them as against foreign countries he should be only too glad.

The amendment having been voted upon and declared lost, Mr. Lewis moved an addition to the resolution providing for the exemption of the Colonies in regard to import duties. Mr. Lamb seconded this, and the resolution was eventually passed with the addition of the words, "Except from our Colonies where reciprocity is recognised."

Bridport Fair.—This well-known Dorset fair was held on Wednesday, when between 2,000 and 3,000 sheep were penned, besides a large supply of horned stock. Buyers from over the Devon and Somerset border were well represented, and a good tone pervaded the sheep trade, and also for anything useful in horned stock, heavy milchers, and good fleshy barreners, for which there was a quick trade at full prices. We may quote couples, horns and Downs, as making 50s. to 60s.; ewes, 38s. to 46s.; wethers, 36s. to 44s. (these rates referring to animals soon coming into mutton); fat wethers, 42s. to 62s. (or about 8d per lb.); lambs, 25s. to 38s. Good dairy cows sold from £15 to £19 each, and barreners £18 to £26 per pair.



By Hordeum.

Produce Returns.

The Board of Agriculture has published as a separate volume the Returns showing the produce of the principal crops divided into counties. This plan permits much earlier publication, and is far in advance of the date it will appear in the Annual Volume. Everyone interested will gladly welcome its appearance in time to be of practical use to farmers. The information about produce is first given in two totals—one each for Great Britain and Ireland—but the acreage is omitted. In the later tables both acreage and amount yielded per acre, with total amount, are given for each separate county.

This plan adds much to the practical value of the large amount of work done in order to show the results recorded. The variations in yield between each country and more especially between various counies seem very remarkable, Dealing with barley only one Engl sh county

Yields Forty Bushels Per Acre,

whilst the average for the whole of Ireland is no less than 40.42 bushels per acre. How this astonishing average is divided out amongst the counties is not shown, nor is the average given for a series of years, as is done in the case of the English, Scotch, and Welsh counties. Omitting Ireland, this total average has stood at 33.1 bushels, and it is singular to find that the County of London exceeds this figure by 7 bushels. Six other English counties grew over the average last year, and the average of the whole for the year fell more than 2 bushels. Only seven counties exceeded the average, 37 falling below it.

The lowest of all is Bedford, at 24.7 bushe'ls, closely followed by Berks with 25.0. It is very evident the farmers in both counties are not working to the best advantage, and so deficient a yield is a very serious matter.

In Wales the whole average is 29.6 bushels, but here again we find that in Anglesey it is over 42.5, and Carmarthen shows only 23.8, and Montgomery 27.7 bushels.

In Scotland

the lowest average of all is found in the case of Sutherland at 22.4 bushels, closely followed by Inverness with 23.7 bushels; yet the whole average for Scotland is 36.3 bushels, and no less than fourteen counties produce more, the highest of all being Linlithgow with over 47.5 bushels. In this country there is therefore a difference of over 15 bushels per acre.

Taking the counties in the order of area of barley grown in 1901 we find they stand thus:—

Name.	Number of acres.	Yield per acre, 1901. Bushels.	Yield per acre 10 years. Bushels.
York	209,053	30.6	34.9
Lincoln	207,940	31.3	34.9
Norfolk	200,014	29.5	34.2
Suffolk	134,971	30.1	32.1
Essex	82,679	33.7	34.1
Cambridge	53,895	31.7	33.4
Shropshire	52,832	28.9	32.8
Devon	44,922	29.3	26.9
Northampton	42,164	27.6	32.0
Oxford	41,886	27.2	31.4
Hants	40,706	29.4	31.3
Wilts	39,606	32.0	30.9
Notts	36,735	26.9	32.9
Kent	36,165	33.3	36.8
Northumberland	34,848	37.4	36.1
Cornwall	32,347	33.5	29.6
Forfar	30,474	41.4	36.8
Dorset	29,521	31.9	32.9
Gloucester	28,919	26.7	29.3
Somerset	28,408	30.3	32.8
Hertford	27,749	29.7	31.0
Aberdeen	27,628	33.2	34.3
Berks	27,422	25.0	29.3
Fife	23,132	41.5	34.5
Berwick	20,885	37.3	35.2
Huntingdon	20,445	27.2	30.3

The above are all the counties cultivating over 20,000 acres of barley per annum. Of those growing under 20,000, but over 15,000 acres, there are only the following nine:—Bedford, Buckingham, Hereford, Durham, Stafford, Cardigan, Pembroke, Haddington, and Perth.

Of counties growing over 10,000 acres, but under 15,000, there were:—Leicester, Sussex, Warwick, Carmarthen, Denbigh, Elgin, Kincardine, Roxburgh, and Ross.

These details show very clearly how very urgently

More Skill is Needed.

We must have improved methods of cultivation in several particulars, as the above are eminently unsatisfactory. Soil and climate are stubborn factors to fight, but anyone acquainted with the physical geography and geology of Great Britain knows perfectly well that methods of farmers are the chief thing to cultivate.

Anyone using these tables must feel too grateful for the information given and the way it is arranged to wish to appear to find fault; but in the six rows of figures one is so much more distinct and legible than the other five it would be a boon to have all equally distinct, if it could be so arranged in the future; and also it would be of use in several ways if we could have the counties in Ireland shown separately. It will come as a surprise to many people to learn that that country grows better or larger crops than the rest of the Kingdom, not in barley only, but in wheat, oats, beans, peas, turnips, and hay, whilst it produces a smaller quantity of potatoes.

The New Beer Bill.

Mr. Ernest Flower, M.P., writing from 6, Upper Phillimore Gardens, Kensington, to the "Standard," on the subject of the New Beer Bill, says:—

"For many years a movement, supported in the House of Commons by several members who represent agricultural constituencies, has been on foot to secure legislation in favour of beer brewed from barley malt and hops only, as distinguished from beer in which a proportion of substitutes are used. That materials other than malt and hops have ever been used in brewing is due to Mr. Gladstone, who, in the year 1880, by the Finance Act, 42 and 43 Victoria, chapter 20, inaugurated what is known as the "Free Mash Tun" system, under which, for the consideration of an extra duty, amounting at that time to £400,000, he gave leave to the brewer to brew from what he pleased, having absolute choice of his materials and his methods. The system then established is that which still exists, and which, since 1885, has been assailed by those who profess to represent the interests of agriculture.

"In 1825 a Beer Adulteration Bill was introduced into the House of Commons, which provided that every person who sold any beer containing any ingredients other than hops and malt made from barley, should have conspicuously posted a legible notice that other ingredients were contained in that beer. But, beyond a general discussion raised on the Budget, the Bill went no further. Before and after the General Election of that year, however, a so-called "Pure" Beer agitation was fostered outside Parliament, aided to a large degree by a misconception, carefully engineered, that the use of substitutes was injurious to health, despite the most conclusive proofs to the contrary.

"In the year 1896 a new "Pure" Beer Bill was introduced which was a departure from that brought forward previously, and of a more drastic kind, in that it proposed to forbid the sale, under the name of beer, of ale, stout, or porter which was not made exclusively of barley malt, hops, water, and yeast, with the exception of a minimum of 3 per cent. of substitutes for priming purposes; the Bill also contained penal clauses as to distinctive labelling. The second reading of this Bill was moved on March 25th by Mr. (now Sir Cuthbert) Quilter, the two main points aimed at by the promoters of the measure being to secure "pure" beer for the consumer, and to raise the price of barley. No serious endeavour was made in this debate to prove noxious adulteration by substitutes, the real attack on the use of sugar and flaked malts being on account of their supposed detrimental effect on the demand for British barley. The Chancellor of the Exchequer, however, during the course of the debate, undertook to provide an expert inquiry into the necessity for any measure to prevent the use of deletrious substances in the manufacture of beer, and also to ascertain whether it were possible and desirable to define the materials of which beer is composed, without undue interference with the freedom of brewers to use any wholesome materials in its composition. The Bill was accordingly withdrawn, and a Beer Materials Committee was appointed with this object in view. The findings of this committee (from which Mr. Clare Sewell Read, representing agriculturists, alone dissented) on every point justified the opposition which had been offered to the so-called Pure Beer Bill. The Committee were of opinion that it could not be admitted that liquor made from malt, hops, yeast, and water only had an exclusive right to the name of beer, and considered that a person who demanded beer, and was supplied with beer brewed with a proportion of malt substitutes, was not thereby prejudiced. They also found that the latter beer was not distinguishable from, and was not inferior to, all-malt beer. The Committee were also satisfied that no deleterious materials were introduced into beer by way of substitutes.

"In November, 1900, what is now known to history as the 'Arsenic Scare" was developed, which was found, after most careful and independent examination, to be confined solely to some contaminated sugar which had been supplied by a firm of sugar manufacturers in the north, and which was due to the use in the manufacture of impure sulphuric acid. This gave a further fillip to the so-called "Pure Beer" agitation, and during last year another Bill, similar to the previous one, was introduced, and passed its second reading, and was referred to the Grand Committee on Law, until it was withdrawn But though the interim report of the Royal Commission, which was appointed in January last year to make investigations with reference to this epidemic, has clearly removed any suggestion that the brewing trade in the manufacture of the national beverage use any materials which are not, with ordinary precautions, as pure as, if not purer, than barley malt, another Beer Bill has been introduced into Parliament this Session, and comes on for second reading on the 23rd of this month. This is a totally different measure from any of its predecessors. There is no question of differentiating between beer brewed from barley malt or beer brewed from barley malt with a proportion of sugar, flaked maize, or flaked rice, but it proposes to limit the use of these materials to 15 per cent. If, as was so clearly proved before the Beer Materials Committee, these two forms of beer are chemically indistinguishable, the ordinary student will wonder why this change of front, and why, if 15 per cent., not 30 or 50 per cent? Surely, this seems to be but a childish way of infringing the privileges of the Free Mash Tun Act of 1880, hampering brewing operations, checking any further advance on the part of science, certainly not giving to the consumer a better or more wholesome beer, and benefiting no one, as far as I can see.

"It may be urged that the compulsory use of 85 per cent. of barley malt will tend to raise the price of British barley, but I venture to think that this will be found not to be the case, as the brewer, who, after all, has to provide an article which is palatable and acceptable to his customers, will, if we are to rely upon the expert evidence which has been given before the Beer Materials Committee and the Royal Commission of 1901, be compelled to use a far larger quantity of foreign barley malt, which has advantages over English barley malt which from time to time have been clearly demonstrated. The promoters of former Beer Bills had some chance of catching public opinion by demanding that a man should know when he was drinking his beer that it was brewed from barley malt and hops only, if he preferred it. By this Bill no such distinction will be established, but a limitation will be set up, tending not only to unfairly harass the brewing trade, but going a long way to destroy kindred interests, by placing a restriction on manufacture never before even suggested or proposed in the numerous inquiries on the subject.

New Agricultural Patents.

Specially compiled for *Mark Lane Express* by Mr. G. D. Howard (Hughes, Son, and Co.), patent agent, 38, Chancery Lane, London, of whom all information relating to patents, designs, and trade marks may be obtained free of charge.

6,757.—Nikolaus Kauten and Ignaz Bailony, of Hatton Garden, London, for "An improved method and apparatus for husking and grinding cereals and separating the husks or bran."

6,919.—William Wake, of Leeds, for "Improvements in or relating to machines for digging, sorting, and delivering potatoes."

6,963.—Edmund Ernest Bentall, of Chancery Lane, London, for "Improvements in chaff cutters."

Patents Sealed.

21,751.—A. Shuttleworth and R. Ganble, of Lincoln, for "Thrashing machines."

21,795.—N. Mayer, of Kingston-by-Sea, for "Food for poultry."

Darlington Easter Fair.—The Easter Monday Horse and Cattle Fair at Darlington was well supplied with horses, but the quality was somewhat higher than at the first Monday in March fair. There were a few very fine agricultural horses, but these were mostly kept in the hotel stables, and £60 or £70 were asked for some of them. The figure for the ordinary cart horses ranged from £35 to £40, and £20 to £25 for aged and inferior animals. Cobs were scarce, but were pretty readily picked up, making £25 to £35 each. Ponies of best quality sold at £15 to £18 each, and secondary £10 to £12. The supply of lean cattle was fairly good considering the season, but sold very slowly. Bullocks fairly forward in condition made up to £14 10s., geld cows £13 to £14, two to two and a half year olds £10 to £11 10s., and one to one and a half years £6 10s., to £7 10s. Irish cattle were in fair supply, smaller kinds making £6 to £7, and larger £10 to £12 each.



Home Notes.

The Borough.

The holidays, although nominally over, still continue to exercise their influence upon our trade. Business reopened on Wednesday, to the extent of the return of traders to their offices, but since they have arrived they have hardly commenced action. In a listless manner merchants have strolled round, and although their previous frequent visits have fully acquainted them with the hops on offer, they have again occasionally looked them over, and borrowed some samples in readiness for their travellers, who will be on the road this week. A few transactions are recorded at about the same rates as were current before the recess, but the general tone of the market is most uninteresting, and provides very little of a practical character for me to deal with.

Meetings of Growers.

have been held at Tewbury, Hereford, Ledbury, Leominster, Bromyard, and Worcester in connection with the formation of the association proposed for these counties. The various speakers emphasised the necessity for local combination and action for the protection of local interests, and thus far the object of the promoters is legitimate and sound. The weak point of the arguments advanced seems to me to be discoverable in the want of recognition of the identity of the interests of the whole of the English industry. However superior may the the soil of the Midland districts for the growth of hops, as alleged, when compared with that of some districts in the south, it must be remembered that the latter have enjoyed a reputation for many decades, which continues to give them preference with modern brewers. After all, it is the judgment of the practical consumer that must decide which district produces hops that are best suited for his use in the copper.

I do not for a moment object to the Midland growers making the best of their special claims; it is well they should persevere in doing so, and I trust their perseverance will be duly rewarded. But the greater power, based both upon the proportionate acreage and the yeld, as well as the old repute, is in the hands of the Southern men, and there is the possibility that if Hereford and Worcester competition is unduly pressed the Kent, Sussex, Hants, and Surrey may be aroused to assert themselves, and any such battle between the two sections is certai nto be detrimental to both, and especially, I fear, to that which has issued the challenge and thrown down the gauntlet.

The testimony of ale expert observers is unanimous in declaring that Worcester and Hereford growers have been their own foes, in producing too many hops, with too large a proportion of poor sorts, and that they have not acted wisely in marketing their crops. They seem to cling to the isolation which was necessary in olden days, but which is out of place now. Their latest movement tends to confirm them in the position they have held for many years, with reference to the great central market, which is found in London. To benefit their industry permanently they must recognise the facts which the altered times are teaching, and, as I have previously said, fall into line with their brethren in the South, competing with them as intelligently and actively as possible in the matter of quality and submitting their produce to buyers under the same conditions. This course will, in my humble opinion, advance their interests much more rapidly and surely than any independent action, such as is now proposed. I desire by any and all means to assist my friends in attaining their commendable objects, and trust my remarks will be accepted as from this point of view.

Foreign Notes.

Nuremberg.

The holiday season has affected this market in common with all others, but despite this unfavourable influence business has remained fairly active, and with the exception of the very poorest qualities, values are firmly upheld. It is estimated that stocks have not been so small at this period for many years, and the normal demand which usually accompanies the opening of spring must speedily absorb every bale held by dealers, whose reserves, not being replenished by arrivals, are already being seriously diminished. Hops have been taken to a small extent for export to America and England, and there are indications that this trade will be further developed. Should this prove to be the case, the tendency to higher prices will be accentuated, and the general outlook is distinctly in favour of the establishment of much improved value in the course of the next two months.

Bavarian Crop.

The figures recently published by the Statistical Bureau of the Bavarian Government show that although there has been a small increase in the hop area, the yield has fallen off considerably. Hops are grown in Bavaria in 819 communes, and the total area cultivated for hops therein was 22,623 hectares (about 56,500 acres) in 1901, compared with 22,280 hectares (about 55,600 acres) in the previous year. The most important district is Mid-Franconia, which includes nearly half of the whole. The yield for 1901 is put at 46,499 metric quintals (about 93,000cwt.), against 105,574 quintals (about 211,000cwt.) produced in 1900. The averages are therefore approximately only 1.65cwt. per acre in 1901, and 3.80cwt. per acre in the previous year. As less than half of the last crop was classed as "very good" and "good," the remainder being described as "medium" and "poor," the growers have not profited by the small crop. In Franconia especially the results have been comparatively disastrous prices having been kept at a lower level than was justified by the deficiency, in consequence of arrivals of hops from other countries.

The German Empire.

has also generally suffered from an exceptionally small yield, according to the official returns, from which I take the following details, showing the estimated crops in the years given:

1901—114,050 met. quintals, about 228,000cwt.
1900—198,695 ,, ,, ,, 397,000cwt.
1899—206,285 ,, ,, ,, 412,000cwt.

It is therefore not difficult to understand the reason of the firm position of the chief Continental markets during the past season, which would have been further strengthened had not the general depression of commerce and manufacture caused a reduced consumption of beer, with consequent smaller demand by brewers for hops.

Belgium,

There has been no practical change either in the Brusseis or the country markets. The holidays having temporarily suspended business, there is, perhaps, a slight indication of weakness in quotations, but this will doubtless disappear with the resumption of demand that will speedily be felt when warmer weather is experienced.

America.

The firmness of holders of 1901 growths has induced brewers to look after yearlings, of which such small quantities remain that their value has improved. Even old olds are being bought up at increased figures. In sympathy with this business, the lower grades of last year's crop are worth more money, and there is great strength evident when choice or prime hop are dealt with. Pacific Coast growers and dealers are agitating for the reduction of freights to the East Coast. The freight rate is at present 2 cents per ton, and a reduction to 1½cwt. is being sought for. This being equal to about 4s. per bale, will give the Oregon, Washington, and Californian traders important facilities in competing with the produce of New York State, but it must not be forgotten by English growers that every such advantage gained by our opponents on the other side may ultimately be detrimental to our interests, and when we know that these concessions are only accomplished by the pressu e arising from united action on the part of those who desire to be benefited it behoves us to take note of such proceedings and to follow their excellent example.

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Agricultural Imports.

The following is an account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended March 29, 1902, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year:—

Animals living.	1901	1902.		1901.	1902.
	No.	No.		Cwt.	Cwt.
Cattle ...	6,216	3,631	Wheat ...	1,378,800	745,300
Sheep.....	4,392	4,634	Flour.....	273,600	153,400
Swine.....	—	—	Barley ...	186,500	365,800
*Horses...	—	735	Oats	298,400	122,100
			Peas	40,500	73,800
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Beans ...	21,900	11,700
Beef	60,583	62,899	Maize ...	690,500	599,700
Mutton...	43,898	19,621		Bunches	Bunches
Pork	18,501	15,395	Bananas	31,783	47,508
Bacon ...	92,892	66,941			
Beef, salt	4,043	2,222		Cwt.	Cwt.
Hams.....	28,202	22,985	Apples ...	40,839	18,826
Pork, salt	5,480	3,714	Apricots & Peaches	12	9
Meat, salt & Fresh	14,860	15,437	Cherries	—	—
Do. pres.	17,952	14,015	Currants	—	—
Butter ...	65,043	68,399	Goosebr's	—	—
M'rg'rine	16,942	16 411	Grapes ...	335	154
Cheese ...	37,027	27,774	Lemons...	18,288	23,746
Milk, Fresh, in cans or drums.	493	475	Oranges	188,073	187,038
			Pears.....	613	264
			Plums ...	30	—
			Strawb'r's	3	1
			Oth'r Fr't	1,515	149
Milk ...				Tons.	Tons.
Cream.	110	71	Hay ...	2,379	6,802
			*Straw ...	—	1,051
Milk pr's'v'd, other kinds...	37	132	Onions ...	Bush. 149,676	Bush. 91,462
				Cwt.	Cwt.
Con. Milk	20,254	21,183	Hops	676	500
			* Locust Beans	—	25,004
	No.	No.	Potatoes	246,178	48,049
Eggs	302,646	348,334	Tom'to's	16,318	10,182
			Other	Value.	Value
Poultry & Game	Value. £4,621	Value. £29,844	Veg'bles	£8,127	£13,741
				Cwt.	Cwt.
			Dried ...	2,796	718
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Pres'v'd		
Rabbits	1 032	5,666	by canning ...	3,130	7,986
Lard	47,417	38,113			

* Not shown in 1901.

Show of English Sheep Dogs.—The annual show of the Old English Sheep Dog Club was held at the Royal Acquarium, Westminster, on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. When it is remembered that this variety of dog has not many exhibitors, the entry of 98 must be considered as very satisfactory, in fact it created a record for this show, and the quality of the dogs being somewhat above the average the judge, Dr. Macgill (chairman of the late Manchester Dog Show) had some difficulty in making his awards. The chief centre of attraction in the dog section was Mr. W. F. Clayton's champion Victor Cavendish, a very well-known winner, and he was very rightly awarded the championship of his sex, amongst the crack specimens of the breed which he defeated being Mr. Macbeth's Cupid's Dart and Mr. T. H. Shout's Telford Tatters, both of which have won many prizes. Another dog which did well was Mr. W. Rees' Welsh-bred youngster Baden Powell, a correctly made one, but far too big, both of which criticisms apply to Mr. H. Dickson's Rosebery. The best of the bitches was undoubtedly Mr. Macbeth's Bouncing Lass, and though she is quite big enough, she was justly entitled to the championship of her sex, her formation being perfect. She also defeated Victor Cavendish when the pair met to compete for the special prize offered for the best specimen of the old English sheep dog of either sex in the show.



THURSDAY (March 27th).—Cloudy weather prevailed over our Islands, and rain fell in many places. Rain was measured in the morning, as the result of the fall since the previous day, over the entire kingdom, and in the western districts the fall was very heavy, the measurement at Valencia exceeding an inch in the 24 hours. The winds were chiefly south-westerly, but they were shifting to the north-west in parts of Ireland in the rear of the disturbance which was passing over us. Temperature had generally increased, although the thermometer was still low in Scotland and in the north of England.

FRIDAY (March 28th).—Over the southern parts of the country the weather was most favourable for the first holiday of the year. In London the sky was occasionally cloudy, but in the intervals the sun shone with considerable vigour, the thermometer in the shade rising to a maximum of 56 degrees. Very similar conditions prevailed over our southern and eastern counties generally; but at some of the coast stations a thick sea fog prevailed during a portion of the day. In the western and northern parts of the kingdom the weather was affected to some extent by shallow cyclonic disturbances moving outside the Irish and Scotch coasts, and in most parts of these districts a little rain fell some time during the day.

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY (March 29th and 30th).—On Saturday, when a small cyclonic disturbance came down from the north-westward, rain fell in all districts, and in the course of the afternoon and evening stiff squalls from north-west swept over most parts of Great Britain. Over our midland and southern counties, however, the day, though wet, was fairly mild, the thermometer in the shade rising to a maximum of 55 degrees, or a trifle above it. Sunday's weather was more depressing than Saturday, and much colder. In London the sky was heavily overcast all day, with steady rain in the morning, and a slight occasional drizzle in the afternoon and evening. The highest temperature registered during the day was only 45 degrees, being 10 degrees lower than Saturday's maximum, and about eight degrees below the normal for the end of March. On some parts of our south and south-east coasts the weather was slightly colder even than in London, an entire absence of sunshine being reported in most places.

MONDAY (April 1st).—The early morning was dull and threatening, though much milder than on Sunday. Towards mid-day, however, the clouds gradually dispersed, the afternoon being fair and sunny, with a very agreeable temperature. In London the thermometer in the shade rose to a maximum of 60 degrees, the reading being about seven degrees above the average. A cyclonic area lay all day off the north of Scotland and occasioned very strong westerly winds on our north-west coasts.

TUESDAY (April 2nd).—The weather was generally fine over the southern and eastern portion of our Islands, but rain fell again in the north and west. The winds were westerly, and on our north-west coasts a moderate gale was blowing. Monday night was warm, except in the north; and in many parts of England the thermometer did not fall below 45 degrees. In London, the lowest temperature during Monday night was 47 degrees, which is 10 degrees above the average, and the mid-day reading was 56 degrees.

WEDNESDAY (April 2nd).—Fine weather prevailed in most parts of our Islands, and very little rain had fallen anywhere since Tuesday. The winds were chiefly light to moderate from the north-westward, except in the south of England, where a north-east wind was blowing. Temperature had fallen over the whole kingdom, and there was a slight frost in places during Tuesday night; but the mid-day readings touched 50 degrees in places. In London the thermometer in the shade fell to the freezing point early in the morning, and the exposed thermometer on the grass indicated eight degrees of frost, while the highest day temperature was 51 degrees.

THURSDAY (April 3rd).—Cloudy weather prevailed generally in our Islands, and rain fell at several places in the west. Rain was measured in the morning, as the result of the fall since the previous day, in Scotland and Ireland, but the weather had remained dry over England. The winds were chiefly between south-west and north-west under the influence of a cyclonic disturbance which had its centre to the north of the British Islands, and was travelling eastwards. The night temperatures were rather low in most parts of Great Britain, and the exposed thermometer indicated a frost early in the morning in several parts of the country. The mid-day temperatures exceeded 50 degrees in the south of England, but the weather was generally cool for the time of year.

FRIDAY (April 4th).—A strong and rather keen north-west wind was blowing over our islands, and a moderate to fresh gale was experienced at several places on our coasts. Showers of cold rain, sleet, or hail had fallen generally since Thursday, but the amounts measured in the morning were not large. Rain again fell at the western stations during the day, but the weather was mostly fine in the south and east of England. Slight frost was experienced during Thursday night in the north and east, and the day temperatures were generally low for the time of year. The day was fine and bright in London, and the sheltered thermometer registered fifty-three degrees.

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY (April 5th and 6th).—Changeable weather was experienced over our Islands during these two days, and the temperature was low for the time of year. On Saturday a cyclonic disturbance was approaching from the Atlantic, and it subsequently traversed the southern portion of England, the central area, being situated over the North Sea yesterday. As the disturbance was approaching rain was experienced over nearly the whole of our islands, and the fall was heavy in parts of England. As the storm area passed to eastward of our coasts, the barometer rose, and the wind became northerly. There was a slight frost in many places during Saturday night, and on both days the midday temperature in parts of the country did not rise much above forty degrees. In London the highest temperature on Sunday was forty-eight degrees, which is eight degrees below the average.

GARDEN.

March did not go out so boisterously after all, as it usually does when it comes in so softly as it did this year. Indeed, as a whole, the month was of a quite exceptionally mild and genial character, with very few of the strong gales and cold winds that usually mark its course, the chief feature of the month being the frequent and dense fogs that occurred during the first half.

The planting of potatoes ought to be pushed on vigorously now. Get the whole of the seed under ground, if possible, by the middle of the month, except, perhaps, in late or cold districts, where frosts in May and even June are often troublesome. On the Wealden claylands of Sussex I have seen the potatoes cut right down to the ground when June was nearly a week old, and often during the latter half of May, and under such circumstances early planting cannot be recommended, as nothing whatever is gained by it.

Early-planted sets in sheltered positions will be appearing through the soil very shortly, and should have a little soil drawn up on each side the rows as soon as these can be plainly seen, but do not bury the growing points unless the night threatens to be frosty, and even then a little dry litter or fern thrown over them will be better.

Look well after early-sown peas coming through the soil or already up, drawing up a little soil on each side the rows, dusting them occasionally with soot or dry lime to deter slugs, and putting the sticks to them as soon as possible. Even the dwarf kinds should have some small spray stuck in on each side to keep the haulm off the ground and the pods clean. Sow more seed of second-early and main-crop kinds, in deeply-worked and well-manured ground. I am still very partial to peas of the old Fillbasket type, certainly for home use, as the pods are so well filled and they consequently "shell out" much better than those of the Duke of Albany class. Gradus, fine though it is in other respects, has the same fault—the pods are seldom full until the peas are getting old, even if then.

Broad beans should be sown at once for the last time; on light soils it is probably too late for the plants to do any good even now. A few rows of French or dwarf beans may be sown next week on some very warm and sunny border, or, failing this, sow some seed in pots or boxes, to be transplanted outside presently.

IMPORTANT TO FARMERS.—The best farm account books are WEBB'S PRACTICAL FARMER'S ACCOUNT BOOK, with preface by Clare Sewell Read, 70th edition, 6s. and 7s. 6d. post free. JARROLD'S IMPERIAL FARM ACCOUNT BOOK, 3s. 6d. JARROLD'S FARM LABOUR BOOKS, 2s., 2s. 6d., and 4s. 6d. List of Game and Dairy Account Books post free of JARROLD AND SONS 10 and 11, Warwick Lane E.C.—[ADVT.]



Cornwall.

We are now nearly to the end of March, and never do I remember such a favourable one for agriculturists following a short supply of winter food, especially for stock-raising farms. At the present moment Mid-Cornwall is glowing in such radiance as May month can seldom boast of. The copious showers, interspersed with a fair amount of heat, has caused the grass to shoot up rapidly and sufficiently to fill the stomachs of the sheep and thereby setting their minds at rest and causing cattle to be disinclined to return to their sheds. Some people tell us that we shall of a certainty be paid out for the good time we have just had, but I for one shall be quite satisfied to make the best use possible of the present, and trust Providence for the future. The lambing season is now about finished, and I think the crop of lambs fairly prolific. The mortality in ewes has not been great, excepting in certain cases, where they have been allowed to gormandise themselves with roots a short time before lambing, and not having been accustomed to roots all through the season. Young fat sheep have sold very badly this season, 7d. per lb. as they have had to be sold has not remunerated the feeder. Beef has kept up to a fairly good price. Fat lambs are not very plentiful just yet, and are, as a consequence, selling well. Now we are beginning to think it is high time for the weather to clear again, in order that we may finish planting our cereals; very little has been done to it during the past three weeks. Oats were nearly all sown in good condition, and have come up well. Barley sowing will no doubt have to be deferred a while, as it is absolutely necessary to have a dry seed bed, and I have always found it better to withhold a while, if the land is not thoroughly dry, as it will invariably pay better (if it must be one of the two evils), to be a little out of season rather than out of condition. If we get a fairly wet season we shall not hear so much about the enemy wireworm.—M. D. (Mar. 29th).

Cumberland.

April 1 and 2, oats sowing, but 3 and 4, snow, hail and rain, some farmers therefore acting on the saying: "Corn is best in the sack yet a bit." Lambs are many and healthy, and green grass now gives suitable food for the ewes. Herdwick lambs not yet. Turnips are over and mangolds plentiful. Early potatoes are being planted on sandy soil in time to grow leases to shelter the ground from a too drying sun. The Board of Agriculture figures for 1901 show that Cumberland holds high place in average acre production, viz.: Oats, 33 bushels, i.e., 2 1-5 plus average; barley, 36, 5 7-10 over average; oats 39, 2 over average; highest of any county in peas, but the area small. Beans heavy; turnips are also above average; so are potatoes, but Wiltshire holds the palm. Since last report the C. and W. Chamber of Agriculture held its 3rd and final meeting in re Protection Mr. James Watt, called by Sir W. Lawson the Arch-Apostle of Protection led the assault and asserted that with Mr. Chamberlain in power the measure would be carried, and fair trade established with our colonies. The Vicar of Plumpton, however, in opposition, had his amendment carried by a small majority. Mr. Kennedy's contentions were that the colonies looked well after themselves, charging high for men and horses, and exacting tariff from England's exports; that Parliament's time was fully occupied already, and would be for years, and that only legislation of any value was such as landlords would never agree to. The Vicar suggested several means of self-help. A few are mentioned in the following extract from a letter of his, which appears in the "Daily News" of 4th inst.:—

1. Co-operation.
2. Cottages at the rate of one per 100 acres for farm labourers' dwellings.
3. Reform of railway rates.
4. Model villages of the Cadbury type.
5. County Council breweries, distilleries, and hotels.
6. Inquiry as to the methods of self-help prevailing in other countries.

On the sixth our representative in the Central Chamber informed us that they have asked for a Royal Commission to make full inquiry in Europe, and I hope also in America and the Colonies.

This gentleman (Mr. James Watt), who is prominent in Carlisle at all agricultural meetings, Royal shows, etc., is a most persistent advocate of Protection, and a great admirer of the Colonial Secretary. And yet, as I told the meeting on Saturday, the Colonies tax all we send them, and charge us for their unemployed seven and a half times more than we pay our own soldiers for fighting any foe in any climate. But "all's well that ends well." Cumberland and Westmoreland Chamber stands alone in vetoing "Protection."—H. M. Kennedy (April 3rd).

Devon.

The spring corn, which was tilled early in March, came up well, and is looking all that can be desired. Owing to the wet and stormy weather since there has been a stoppage of sowing, and it was only yesterday that it could be again proceeded with. The land now works well, and with dry, sunny weather arrears will soon be made up. Swedes are not yet finished, which is fortunate, as other keep is not very plentiful, although there is a fine lot of mangold left on most farms, which will greatly help to carry on the live stock.

Wheat looks well, both autumn-sown and that sown after root crops. Clovers vary a good deal; on some farms they are fairly good, and on others they are very thin, owing to the severe drought of the early part of last summer. Rye, and vetches for spring feed are very promising.

Grass will soon grow if we get some warmer weather; it is rather too cold just now. Owing to the partial failure of last season's hay and straw crop, pastures have been stocked too early.

The past lambing season has been a very good one, and stock of all kinds are healthy. In the markets, prices are improving.—L. B. G. (April 3rd).

Dorset.

In reply to your inquiry as to agricultural prospects as far as I can see, the growing crops are looking well. The wheat a short acreage. The spring-sown wheat is looking better than the autumn-sown—that is rather thin. The early-sown barley and oats are looking very well indeed. Barley-sowing is rather backward, as the early part of March it was frosty and at times very foggy; the latter part of the month, one day wet and one day fine; till the last few days, which has been very fine, with a slight frost nearly every morning. The young clovers and the autumn-sown vetches, where the land is farmed well, is looking extremely well. As far as I have heard, both the Horn and Down men have had good luck with their flocks, with a large number of twins, so there will be a good crop of lambs, except in a few cases, where there has been very bad luck indeed, but only a few. All kinds of dairy and store stock are doing well, and there has been plenty of keep, so that all stock have been making fair prices all round. Dairy produce is selling fairly well. Pigs, both fat and store, are selling well. I seem to hope that the tide has turned, and we as farmers will have a better year than we have had for some years. One thing is certain: I think we shall not have a dry summer this next summer. I am sorry to say the labour question is still the bugbear for farming, as they are still scarce in many parts—so much extra work going—so all the young men are off, so that they can have some amusement after the day's work is over. If the land-owners and the powers that are wish to keep the labourer on the land, first they must give them better cottages; not only that, they should take more interest in the working-man, not think he is not worth looking after. After all he cannot be done without. Get up different kinds of amusement, so they may have something to think about in their spare time.—H. S. (April 3rd).

Gloucester (North West).

Not much of the traditional dust this year. Most of the oats, beans, and peas left over from January were planted at the beginning of this month, since which (although the rainfall is below the average) frequent showers have kept the surface of the land too wet for barley to go in as we like to have it, and very little have been sown; but if we get a few fine days drills will be busy, as the land is all ready. Turning to growing crop, wheat look well on the clays, but have lost stock considerably on the light lands. Winter oats (especially the choice black variety) are weak and backward, but beans and vetches stronger than usual. Meadows look green, but nightly frost don't allow much growth. Live stock have wintered well. They are healthy, seeming to thrive on short rations, and come on better than they sometimes do when keep is abundant; but perhaps we were not hit so badly last summer in this district as some, most farmers having a little hay or straw to sell. The lambing season just over, with a fair crop of healthy lambs and ewes, with plenty of milk, but the price of mutton keep very disappointing, and the value of stores follow as a matter of course. Not much gold about the sheep's foot this year to pay for cake or corn.—J. H. W. (Mar. 28th).

Glamorganshire.

The first part of March was favourable for farming operations, and a considerable area of oats and barley was sown under favourable conditions. The latter half of the month has been showery, and rather hindered the completion of spring sowings. The early-sown is now showing in the drills. The hard frost of February has had the effect of somewhat thinning the wheat plant, more especially those fields sown later in the autumn, where a few blank patches are observable. The young clovers are also rather thin on the ground, which is not to be wondered at after the dry season of last year. There was a nice bite of grass in places, but the cold nights we have experienced lately have checked its growth, and keep is very scarce. Both hay and roots are disappearing fast, and have altogether vanished in some places. Still ewes and lambs are doing well, and a fair average of couples is the result. Farmers are now getting the ground ready for mangold sowing, and a larger area of this valuable root will probably be drilled this spring.— C. J. S. (April 4th).

Hampshire (East).

The sowing of Lent corn, though hindered by inclement weather on all but the lighter lands, is now proceeding rapidly.

Wheat, as a rule, looks well and promising, and there appears every present indication of an early season.

Lambing records have been generally above the average, and both ewes and lambs are thriving and healthy, though the approach of spring feed is being eagerly watched, and in many cases any set-back in its growth will mean short commons for the flocks.

The demand for mutton is better than was the case a few weeks back, but the large supply forced upon the market by the necessities of feed prevents much advance in prices.

There is little to record about beef, and the corn trade is in its usually disappointing state.—G. S. M. (April 4th).

Oxon (North).

Corn planting has been hindered somewhat by rain the last few days. Previous to that a good deal had been got in in good order on some farms, whilst others have hardly done more than make a start. Wheats and vetches have stood severe winter pretty well, but winter oats have considerably suffered, and look to want re-drilling or patching up mostly. The lambing season is about over, with luck of various degrees. Lambs are strong and fairly numerous, but some people have lost a good number through the milk, for some unknown cause, curdling in the lambs, and causing scour and death. Fat tegs are rising in price a bit now, after having been very low. Keep has all gone, and numbers will be short in the markets, probably now. Prices for corn have been at a low level, and for potatoes wretchedly bad, and no signs of improvement in either. Despite the few sharp nights lately, prospects seem to point to a forward spring, which will be a great blessing, as hay, straw, roots, etc., are all about vanishing point. Young clovers are in a good many cases dying off, an don some fields I know that have not been in clover for eight or ten years, so it can hardly be clover sickness; on digging round the dead roots I find at each several white maggots, about the size of a sheep maggot, but whiter. It is hard to say they are the cause, but it looks like it, as I can find none around the healthy, strong roots of clover, and it is equally difficult to find a remedy.—J. A. (Mar. 31st).

Somerset.

It seems likely at present to be a fairly early spring. The meadows and pastures are looking green, and there will be some good pieces of grass in the course of another fortnight. This will be very acceptable, as hay is scarce and roots will not last a great while longer. The wheat-plant is looking very healthy and strong, as also barley (the greater part of which has already been sown). This has been an exceptional season for getting in the spring crops. I suppose the land has never worked better, and the crops been put in at so little expense. Winter beans are also looking well, and bid fair to be good crop. Farmers are at present very busy planting potatoes; this will not be a very profitable crop if prices are not better next season than in the one now almost come to a close. Prices are very low at the present time, not more than from 5d. to 6d. per score, on rail.—J. B. (April 3rd).

Wilts (West).

There is every prospect for an early spring, which would be a relief to most dairy farmers, as hay is running short, some few having already had to buy. Last year's crop on the pastures on a great many farms was quite 50 per cent. below the average. Arable land farmers were much better off. Clover and sanfoin was a good crop, and made well, which enabled many to sell hay at satisfactory prices, a great help and very needful, with the low price of corn, mutton, and wool. The lambing season has been favourable, a good number of healthy lambs and less loss of ewes than usual. Autumn-sown crops are looking remarkably well, especially wheat, as may have been expected. There is a very small acreage sown, prices being out of all proportion to the cost of production. With both beef and store cattle selling well, and somewhat better prices for milk, makes the prospect for pasture farming more hopeful.—T. P. (April 4th).

Foreign Prospects.

FRANCE.—The appearance of the autumn-sown wheat and rye is still the theme of congratulatory comment. The early spring crops have come up well, and even in the late districts sowing is almost completed.

RUSSIA.—Latest advices from Odessa say that the condition of the crops in that district and in the neighbouring governments is good.

HOLLAND.—Nothing fresh to hand about crop prospects, therefore it may be assumed they are satisfactory.

HUNGARY.—Weather changeable, but not inimical to the development of the cereal crops.

GERMANY.—Lower temperature with alternations of rain and snow have not caused uneasiness as to the well-being of the crops.

ITALY.—Weather is favourable for Spring sowing and good progress has been made. Autumn-sown wheat looks well except in some parts of Venetia.

SPAIN.—Latest advices state that the cereal crops present a fine appearance and promise an abundant harvest.

ROUMANIA.—Recent rains have proved of great benefit to cereal crops which are in good condition.

ASIA MINOR.—Dull cold weather has checked the advance of the crops, but so far no injury is apparent.

UNITED STATES.—Wheat crop is fully maintaining its fairly good condition, and the weather is favourable. Oats are starting well and the spring is opening with the agricultural outlook of an encouraging character. In California the crop outlook is deemed satisfactory, the rainfall to date being 17 in. against 18¾ in. same time last year.—*Dornbusch.*

Concerning Apple and Pear Growing.

Mr. Goring, lecturer for the Technical Education Committee of the East Sussex County Council, gave an address on the cultivation of apples and pears at the last meeting of the Rye and District Farmers' Club. In opening, he said there was no excuse in saying that good fruit such as apples and pears would not fetch a good price. They went on in the old-fashioned lines, and that was where the foreigners had the advantage. They must start on sensible lines. Regarding the site, the man who chose that nearest a group of towns would stand the best chance. He suggested a ground not too low down on a slope, and not too fully exposed to the wind as the most suitable land that would grow good apples and the commoner kind of pears. Proper drainage was necessary, and they should cultivate at least 20 inches deep, the work to be done thoroughly.

No matter what the price, good fruit trees should be bought in the first instance, and these gave the best results. For these they should go to a firm of repute, for the odds and ends found their way to the auctioneers. The lecturer fully described the growth of the trees, and the various times at which attention to them was necessary, in the way of pruning, etc. He urged that a better system of packing was necessary to enhance the sale of good fruit, more on the lines adopted by foreign growers. He explained the treatment which should be adopted for the extermination of the various insects, etc., with which the trees were liable to be attacked, and he also compared fruit grown at Uckfield with that he had purchased at Rye, stating that the latter was a standing disgrace and no recommendation to the grower at all.

Suffolk Farmers are waging war on the sparrow on account of the damage done by that bird to their crops. At Wickham Market a club was recently formed to encourage, by the offer of prizes, the capture and killing of these birds, and already the secretary has returned a total of 8,583 sparrows destroyed in this way.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—A small attendance and the market for wheat ruled quiet; English unchanged; American 3d to 6d lower on the week. Flour slow, unchanged for all kinds. Maize quiet trade at late rates. Barley steadily held, but without change, and very little doing. Oats quiet trade at steady rates. Beans and peas quiet.

Mark Lane, Friday.—Although the Corn Exchange markets at present preserve a somewhat state of idleness—due ina measure to the time of year—there was no actual giving way in currencies, but in most directions buyers had the advantage. English wheat continues scanty and very steady, while town millers pay good prices when necessary, country resorts, on the other hand, being in small supply and well held. White range at 29s to 30s; reds at 28s to 29s per qr., delivered up according to sample. Foreign unchanged, while buyers contend that requirements to Europe during the remainder of the season will be met without obstacle. Russian and Indian remain above the views of buyers. Australian very scarce, and held for 31s 6d ex store, 496lb. New Zealand Tuscan is also wanted, 30s to 30s 6d being the general range. Flour was no worse, but the market still lacks confidence amongst consumers, despite granaries not being overstocked. Of fancy patents, Mayblossom quoted at 23s, and among firsts, Pillsbury 22s 6d. Bakers, 18s for Gilt Edge, with Iron Duke ruling at 18s 6d ex store; Cascadias, 22s 3d ex store. English generally unaltered. Top price town made 28s net; No. 1 households, 21s 3d cash, ex mill. At the London Millers' Association, town households, 23s, and whites 3s per sack extra delivered to the baker. Hungarian up to 33s for best. Whole meal, 170s per ton. Grinding barley rather more firmly held. Odessa, 18 9d ex quay; Danubian, 18s 3d ex ship to arrive, and 18s 6d ex quay. English malting unaltered, requirements being now well satisfied, while what small attention is now paid in the country continues chiefly for seeding. Oats maintained. English very firm and scarce, as of late. Black Winters, 24s 42lb; and choice, 24s 6d; grey ditto, 23s to 24s. Maize fairly maintained, flat remaining out of the market. Mixed American nominal. Of round corn, Odessa, 20s 9d ex ship, 21s 3d ex quay. The market for imported beans and peas denotes nothing fresh. Egyptian splits, 23s; Mazagans, 22s ex mill, 320lb; New Zealand, 37s to 38s ex store, 504lb. Canadian white peas remin out of supply. White Indian, 34s 6d to 35s ex store, 504lb.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Wheat: Trade quiet, with little variations in quotations. Barleys: Limited enquiry at low rates. Oats fully sustained recent prices. Beans and peas quite as dear. White wheat, 27s to 30s. Brown ditto, 27s to 29s. Malting barley, 26s to 32s. Grinding ditto, 22s to 25s. Black oats, 18s to 22s. White oats, 20s to 24s. Old beans, 33s to 37s. Grey peas, 35s to 36s.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, 27s to 28s per qr.; barley, 27s to 30s per qr.; beans, 34s to 35s per qr.; oats (black), 19s to 21s per qr.; peas, 32s per qr. Small show of wheat. Trade firm at full prices of last week.

Birmingham, Thursday.—The market had not recovered from the holidays, and business generally was quiet. In wheat, values were unaltered, and few English samples were offered, the prices ranging from 10s 6d to 11s per bag. Russians made 5s 8d, soft reds 5s 7d, and No. 2 Northern Manitobas, May-June, 5s 9d per cental (Liverpool). Maize unaltered; round, 21s 6d to 22s per qr., at Sharpness and Liverpool; and Plate, 4s 8½d per cental (Liverpool), and 22s to 22s 6d per 480lb., at Sharpness. No change in grinding barley, and values varied from 18s to 18s 6d at Sharpness, and 18s 9d to 19s at Liverpool; English oats, 3d per qr. dearer; blacks, 21s 6d to 22s 3d; and whites, 22s 6d to 23s 6d per qr. at Birmingham; English beans made 3d per bag more, at 14s to 14s 3d for new, and 15s 6d to 16s for old samples.

Boston, Wednesday.—Wheat, 27s 6d; grinding barley, 22s; oats, 21s to 22s; peas, 55s to 65s; beans, 33s; maize, new, 22s to 23s 9d (old); malting barley, 28s to 32s per qr; linseed cake, £8 15s; cotton-cake, £5 to £5 5s per ton.

Braintree, Wednesday.—A quiet trade at previous prices.

Brighton, Thursday.—New white wheat, 28s 6d to 29s 6d; new red ditto, 28s to 29s; barley, 28s to 33s; grinding ,ditto, 21s to 22s; English oats, 21s to 24s; peas, 35s to 36s; maize, 24s to 26s. Wheat, 6d per qr. dearer. Quiet trade and small attendance.

Bristol, Thursday.—The holidays having intervened, trade has been very small since our last. There was but a very small quantity of English wheat offering on market to-day, and values may be quoted as unchanged. Foreign the turn in buyers' favour. Maize and oats without alteration. Grinding barley firm. Flour trade very slow; bakers, still holding off from purchasing, are working out stocks.—GRACE BROTHERS.

Bury, Wednesday.—Wheat: Supply below average; trade firm, at last week's prices. Reds, 27s 6d to 28s 6d; whites, 27s 6d to 29s per 504lb. Oats, beans, peas, and other feeding corns, with small supplies, fully maintain their value. Maize the turn dearer, at 23s to 23s 6d per qr. Oil cakes quiet, but steady on the week. Bran scarce and very firm, at £5 15s per ton.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Rather better trade price firm, thus:—White wheat, 28s to 30s 6d; red, 27s to 29s; malting barley, 28s to 33s; grinding, 22s to 24s; white oats, 20s to 24s; black, 19s to 22s per quarter.

ambridge, Saturday.—During the week trade has been steady, and prices exhibit very little change. Supplies are not abundant, and millers can only supply their wants at the full rates of last week. At this market to-day there was a small supply of wheat, which sold readily at about 28s. on rails, and 28s. 6d. to 29s at mills. Barley trade about over. Oats and beans falling off in supply, and prices quite as dear.

Chester, Saturday.—Little trade passing in English grain. Wheat was unchanged. Oats and beans were steady at late rates, and full prices were made for barley. Quotations:—Wheat, white and red, 4s. 5d. to 4s. 6d. per 75 lb.; malting barley, 4s. to 4s. 1d. per 60 lb; grinding barley, 3s. 4d to 3s 6d. per lb; beans, 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d. per 80 lb.; oats, new, 2s. 10d. to 3s.; old, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d. per 46 lb.; Indian corn, 12s. 6d. to 13s. 6d. per 240 lb.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Small supply of oats in our market to-day; fair sale at unchanged prices, 22s to 23s 6d per 336lb.—THOMAS ROBINSON.

Chichester, Wednesday.—There was a fair attendance, but business generally was quiet. Wheat was in small supply, and showed no change in prices. In other directions, also, quotations remained about the same.

Colchester, Saturday.—Very little wheat offering. Prices firm, at fully last week's rates.—FRANCIS AND CO.

Devizes, Thursday.—There was a small supply. Wheat commanded fully last week's prices, the trade being very firm. There was no alteration in the price of other descriptions. The following were the quotations:—Best wheat, 13s to 14s 6d.; secondary, ditto, 12s 6d to 13s; grinding barley, 20s to 24s; malting ditto, 29s to 34s; rye, 23s to 25s; winter oats, 21s to 24s; beans, 16s to 20s; fine flour, 21s to 23s; extra fine, 24s to 30s; best bread, 8s 9d. Milk, butter, wholesale, 13d to 14d; ditto, retail, 14d to 15d. Eggs, 20 to 22 for 1s.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There was the usual attendance at our Corn Exchange to-day. Wheat 3d cheaper on the week. Flour quiet and unchanged. Flat corn nominally unaltered, and round corn 1½d. per 280 lbs. cheaper on the week. Other articles quiet and nominally unchanged.—GIBSON AND CLARK.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Wheat: Supply was rather below average, and trade was firm, with a fair demand, at fully last week's prices. Good reds or whites, 29s to 29s 6d per 504lb, delivered at Ipswich. Oats were a small trade, but, being scarce, made fully late prices, at 22s to 25s per qr; foreign a small but steady trade. Maize rather dearer, at 22s to 22s 3d per qr. Other feeding corns firm. Linseed cakes quiet, but steady, at £8 10s to £9 per ton. Cotton cakes unchanged, at £5 per ton. Bran steady, £5 5s per ton.

Leeds, Tuesday.—Quite a holiday feeling pervades the market, the attendance of buyers being limited, and their requirements evidently small. All kinds of foreign wheat are firmly held at last week's rates. English, from scarcity, is the turn dearer. Maize 3d lower. Beans steady. Oats firmer.—DANNS AND CO.

Leeds, Friday.—Very little demand for either English or foreign wheats at barely Tuesday's prices. Beans, peas, oats, maize, and flour without change.

Leicester, Saturday.—Good average attendance of Buyers and dealers. Small supplies of home-grown wheats, trade sluggish at 27s. to 31s. per 36 stones. Barley quiet. Fine oats very firm.

Lewes, Tuesday.—New white wheat, 28s to 30s. New brown ditto, 27s to 29s. Malting barley, 32s to 36s; grinding ditto, 20s to 24s. Oats, 21s to 24s. Beans, 35s to 38s. Peas, 32s to 35s per qr.

Leith, Friday.—A steady business has been transacted since last report, with little change in prices. Wheat, Scotch, steady sale. Oats, Scotch, 3d up; foreign oats, 19s to 21s 6d. Barley, Scotch, small supply; foreign feeding, 21s 6d. Hard white Calcutta peas, 35s 9d; hard white Canadian peas, 38s. Beans, 34s. Maize, 22s 6d to 23s 6d for guaranteed sound; parcels with very slight heat, 21s to 22s; damaged 19s. Millet seed, 19s. Urhur, 25s 6d per 520lb. Mill Offals.—Higher prices are still being paid for prompt delivery. Broad bran, 120s to 125s; medium bran, 100s to 102s 6d; sharps, 95s to 97s 6d; parings, 102 6d to 105s; cummings 80s to 85s; dried grains, brewers', 97s 6d; distillers', 102s 6d to 105s; oat husks, 45s; meal seeds, 67s 6d; all sacks included.—WILLIAM MACLAY.

Lincoln, Friday.—Small supply of English wheats. Trade slow, with no change in prices. Reds, 28s 6d to 29s 6d; whites, 29s to 30s; foreign quiet. Oats and beans remain a slow sale at late rates. No change in maize.

Liverpool, Friday.—The market has had a moderate attendance of millers, and wheat experiences a quietly steady trade at a general decline of ½d from last Tuesday. Pacific sorts are more plentiful and fully 1d lower. Flour—Liverpool millers make no change in prices, and there is an improved demand. Foreign sorts show no change, with a quiet trade. Maize—Mixed is very quiet, the turn lower for old, new unchanged. European sorts are occasionally ½d lower, with a quiet consumptive trade. Plate rules very steady, white sorts being the turn dearer, owing to scarcity, with a moderate trade doing. Barley—There is more inquiry for malting, but prices are unchanged. Feeding is in fair demand at ½d advance. Beans steady, but quiet at unchanged prices. Peas are firmly held, with a fair inquiry; Canadians ½d dearer. Oats are steadily held, with a fair inquiry at late rates for English. Foreign sorts are very steady, with a slight improvement in the inquiry. Oatmeal—Quiet trade at quotations. Oilcake steady, with a moderate inquiry at last Tuesday's prices. —SEGAR AND TUNNICLIFFE.

Manchester, Thursday.—Not much business, but decidedly more inquiry for wheat at this morning's market; prices about ½d to 1d. per cental lower than last Thursday. Maize, beans, peas, and oats unchanged, and met a quiet, consumptive demand. Barley firm, owing to scarcity. Flour unchanged to 6d lower.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—At our to-day's market wheat was in buyers' favour. Maize quiet, and, to induce business, a slight reduction in the price had to be accepted. No change in the price of barley. Beans and peas scarce and dear. Oats steady at late rates.—JOSEPH POLLARD AND CO.

Newport, Wednesday.—There was little business done, prices being rather in favour of buyers. Maize a slow trade, and rather cheaper. Other grain unchanged. Flour, fines, 22s 6d per sack.

Northampton, Saturday.—Usual attendance, with a moderate show of farm produce. Wheat was in limited request, and in most cases lower, about 26s being the general figure for good wheat, and at that figure buyers not anxious to operate. Oats scarce and dearer; flour trade dull, and difficult to sell. White wheat, 28s to 29s; red, 26s. to 27s.; grinding barley, 22s. to 24s.; oats, 19s. to 23s.; old fine, 25s.; beans, 33s. to 40s.; peas, 26s. to 40s. Flour, 20s to 22s.; fine, 25s.

Norwich, Saturday.—There was more wheat offering at our market to-day, with a firm trade and an occasional 6d per qr advance. Gloomy and showery weather prevails. Wheat, red, 28s to 28s 6d per qr, weight 63lb per bushel imperial. Corn inspector's return for the week ending 31st April, 1902:—Wheat, 1,360, 27s. —J. ARTHUR MILLS.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Wheat in small supply, and values well supported. Malting barley nil. Grinding steady demand at unaltered rates. Oats and beans scarce, and prices in sellers' favour.—ROBT. HUBBLE.

Peterborough, Saturday.—With a continued small supply, wheat to-day has been firm, and made about 3d per qr more money. Oats were in better demand than of late, and these also were rather dearer. Barley trade over.—THOMAS HILL AND SON.

Plymouth, Thursday.—Average attendance at our market here to-day. Barley turn dearer. Oats, 3d. cheaper. Wheat trifle easier. Maize quiet, late rates. —ORLANDO DAVIS AND CO.

Reading Saturday.—Business exhibited a most welcome improvement here to-day. The attendance was much larger than usual, and the inquiry for corn proved more brisk than for several weeks past. The quantity of wheat on offer was by no means large, and a firm trade prevailed at from 27s. to 29s. per qr. Very little doing in barley, but oats sold fairly well at recent quotations.

Ripon, Thursday.—A slow market. Business done at last week's rates. A thin attendance. Wheat, English, 28s 6d to 29s 6d; ditto, foreign, 28s 6d to 32s 6d; Barley, grinding, 22s 6d to 23s 6d; ditto, malting, 26s to 31s; oats (new), 22s to 24s; round maize, 23s 6d to 25s 6d per qr.; beans, 1s per stone; bran, £5 15s. to £6 5s per ton.

Romford, Wednesday. — Wheat trade firm at last week's prices. Very small supply. Red wheat, 28s to 29s; white wheat, 29s to 30s per quarter.

Shemeld, Tuesday.—Holiday market, very poor attendance. Prices are nominally the same as last week. Scarcely any trade to test business. Wheat, white, 23s 6d to 30s 6d; ditto red, 29s 6d to 30s 6d per 504lb; oats, new white, 21s 6d to 22s 6d; ditto new black, 20s to 21s per 336lb; barley, grinding, 22s to 23s; ditto malting, 28s to 32s per 448lb; peas, grinding, 32s to 34s; ditto blue, 53s to 80s per 504lb; beans, Egyptian, 35s 6d to 36s; ditto English, new, 37s to 37s 6d per 532lb; Indian corn, small, 23s to 23s 6d; ditto American mixed, 27s 6d to 28s per 480lb.

Spalding, Tuesday.—Holiday market, and a small quantity of corn offering. Wheat, 28s; oats, 22s 6d. Other grain at recent quotations.

Stamford, Friday.—Only a few samples of wheat showing, and prices showed a slight decline. No malting barley; seed barley at low rates. Oats 1s. dearer. No beans or maize on offer.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Limited show of grain at this day's market. Wheat quiet, and with a lower tendency. Barley dull. Oats firm. Arrivals coastwise:—Wheat, 101qrs; barley, 669qrs; foreign nil.—E. AND F. RICHARDSON.

Wakefield, Friday.—There is a very slow trade passing in wheats to-day, and prices are unchanged. Malting barley still offering, with but few buyers. No alteration in feeding stuffs.—MICHAEL SANDERSON AND SON, LIMITED.

Wakefield, Friday.—The market here to-day is extremely lifeless. Foreign wheat must be quoted rather lower, though by no means pressed by holders. English in small supply and fully as dear. Maize, beans, and oats quiet and unchanged.—DUNNS AND CO.

Wisbech, Saturday.—A short supply of grain. Wheat maintained late rates, 28s 6d to 29s. Oats, 22s to 24s. Beans, 34s to 38s.—JAMES FLETCHER.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—The market was of a holiday character. Quotations:—Wheat, new, 12s 6d to 13s per 216lb; oats, old, 15s 6d to 16s; new, 13s to 14s; beans, old, 15s 6d to 16s 6d; new, 14s per 196lb; barley, 31s to 32s per 448lb; maize, new, 25s to 26s; old, 27s 6d per 480lb.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Poor attendance. Very small show of grain. Malting barley trade practically over. White wheat, 28s to 29s; red ditto, 27s to 28s; grinding barley, 26s to 28s; white oats, 23s to 25s; black ditto, 22s to 24s; round maize, 24s to 25s per qr.

Worcester, Saturday.—Wheat trade very quiet, and the business done was at the rates of last week. There was no alteration in values of feeding corn, for which the demand was of a very limited character.

York, Saturday.—Small attendance of farmers, and a moderate supply of wheat, which sold slowly at rather under last week's prices. Fine white, 28s 6d to 29s 6d; red and mixed, 28s to 29s per quarter of 36 stones. Oats scarce and firm. Rye, 8d per stone; beans, 11d to 11½d per stone

FOREIGN.

Paris, Wednesday.—The attendance at the weekly market was not very numerous, as farmers are busily engaged in their field work, and, moreover, the provincial exchanges, deranged by the holidays, are at present sparingly supplied with wheat, and the elements of business were consequently wanting. Native wheat.—Trade was still tedious, holders displaying the same resistance as of late to abate their prices, while millers evinced much reserve in their purchases, owing to the difficulty in placing their products, the consumptive demand continuing limited to daily requirements. In the little business done, prices on an average were 5d. per quarter lower than last week's. Choice Reds, 36s 11d to 37s 5d; Ordinary, 36s 6d to 36s 8d; and White, 37s 5d to 37s 10d per 480lb. Rye is still quiet, and prices feebly supported at 25s 8d to 26s 1d, but no buyers over 25s 3d to 25s 8d per 480lb. In spite of the good accounts of the growing crop, prices of oats have not varied in the provincial centres being generally supported at their previous level, though with a weaker tendency. Here, transactions were difficult, holders reluctantly granting the concessions demanded. There is nothing passing in barley, but provincial advices report a firm tone. Beauce corn being worth 24s 3d to 25s per 400lb., according to quality. Here prices ranged from 21s 9d to 23s 3d for feeding, and 25s 4d to 25s 9d for malting sorts. The situation of buckwheat is rather satisfactory, there being a good run of trade at a slight improvement in values.—*Dornbusch*.

Hamburg, Saturday.—Weather wet and stormy, with chilly nights. There is some business doing in all descriptions of grain at prices tending slightly in the buyers' favour. The imports during the week amounted to 18,438 tons wheat, 2,474 tons rye, 1,794 tons barley, 8,250 tons maize. Wheat meets a limited demand. Several cargoes of Walla Walla arrived, undisposed portions of which are offering at 30s, later arrivals at 29s 3d per 500lb. hard winter 2 prompt is held at 28s 3d; Northern spring 3 at 27s 3d; Manitoba No. 2 May shipment has been sold at 27s per 480 lb. cif. Hamburg. Rye is selling at unaltered prices, 9⅛ South Russian Shipment, middle of April, at 22s 9d per 480 lb cif Hamburg. Nothing doing in malting barley, and the season may be considered as closed. A fair quantity of middling quality is left over. South Russian feeding barley on the spot is selling at 18s, April-June delivery at 17s 6d, August-October at 16s 9d per 400 lb. Maize in good demand. Danubian and Odessa on the spot 21s, August-December, 20s; Turkish prompt, 21s 6d, all per 480 lb; mixed American prompt is offering at 24s 6d - 24s 9d per 480 lb.—JOHN TATLOCK.

HOPS.

Canterbury, Saturday.—No material change in the market. Kent fleeces, 5½d; lamb wool, 4d; cross-breds 6d per lb.

Worcester, Saturday.—The trade on our market is steady, and a few lots change hands every week; the best qualities find the readiest sale, but some of the cheaper sorts are in fair demand, and prices cannot be quoted any easier.—PERCY AND CO.

SEEDS.

London, Monday.—Messrs. John Shaw and Sons, seed merchants, of Great Maze Pond, Borough, London, S.E., write that a steady sowing demand now prevails for grass and clover seeds, etc., under which stocks are rapidly diminishing. Meantime, values generally show no change of importance. Fine samples of red clover-seed are getting scarce, and command full prices; but ribby, foul, and inferior parcels remain difficult of sale. Alsyke and trefoil continue firm; white cloverseed, however, favours buyers. As regards perennials, the total decline from this season's top prices is now very considerable. Italian ryegrass is also sympathetically weaker. For cocksfoot, sainfoin, and especially lucerne, the market is very strong. Tares are in meagre request, whilst mustard and rape seed likewise attract but scant attention. Linseed is easier, and bird seeds of all descriptions move off slowly. Last week's rates are asked for blue peas and harlcot beans.

CORN STATISTICS.

MONTHLY AVERAGES.
(196 Market Towns.)

	1901.			1902.		
	Wheat	Barley	Oats	Wheat	Barley	Oats
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
January	26 6	25 7	17 4	27 8	26 8	20 1
February	26 5	25 5	17 7	27 1	26 8	20 3
March	25 10	25 0	17 10	27 1	26 8	20 6
April	26 3	25 7	18 3	–		
May	27 6	25 2	19 4			
June	27 7	23 11	19 10			
July	27 4	22 9	19 8			
August	27 4	24 0	18 10			
September	26 1	25 4	17 4			
October	25 10	25 7	17 6			
November	24 9	26 10	18 2			
December	27 4	26 8	19 5			

IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGES.

1901.	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
Apr. 6	42,721⅞	26	3	14,647⅜	25	3	11,776⅜	18	0
,, 13	32,905	26	5	6 809⅛	26	0	5,936⅛	18	1
,, 20	35,737⅛	26	8	6,734⅛	25	7	8,346⅜	18	8
,, 27	46,572	26	8	6,985⅛	25	8	8,300⅜	18	1
May 4	46,616⅛	26	9	6,417⅜	26	4	6,869⅜	19	8
,, 11	47,118⅜	27	3	4,279⅛	26	2	7,049	19	1
,, 18	52,875⅛	27	7	2,508	24	2	7 345½	19	4
,, 25	49,822⅛	27	7	1,511⅜	24	1	4,665½	19	8
June 1	46,514	27	7	859½	23	8	4,938	19	9
,, 8	42,202	27	6	221⅛	22	9	4,023⅛	20	1
,, 15	46,764	27	8	1,404⅛	24	0	5,565⅜	19	7
,, 22	29,695	27	6	336⅛	23	2	3,552⅛	20	3
,, 29	28,191⅞	27	6	692⅛	25	4	2,803⅛	20	0
July 6	19,564⅛	27	8	140⅜	21	9	1,800⅛	19	10
,, 13	15,231⅛	27	2	49	23	10	1,675⅜	19	9
,, 20	17,462⅛	27	3	88⅜	23	4	2,040⅜	19	11
,, 27	18,297⅜	27	3	206⅜	22	1	2,385⅜	19	4
Aug. 3	18,666½	27	6	250⅜	23	1	3,219½	20	0
,, 10	19,156	27	7	141⅜	22	1	2,143½	19	4
,, 17	22,617½	27	4	220⅜	27	2	5,982	18	9
,, 24	37,168⅜	27	3	976⅜	23	7	9,952⅛	18	
,, 31	61,603⅜	27	0	4,877⅜	24	3	14,654⅜	17	10
Sept. 7	66,623⅜	26	5	14,342⅜	25	1	19,075⅛	17	1
,, 14	77,949⅜	26	2	34,989⅛	24	11	19,909⅛	17	4
,, 21	80,279⅜	26	0	70,096⅛	25	5	26,476⅜	17	4
,, 28	80,488	25	10	100,783⅛	25	10	22,567⅛	17	2
Oct. 5	60,376⅜	25	8	126,592⅛	26	3	21,631⅛	17	7
,, 12	63,656⅜	25	9	172,175⅛	26	5	16,815⅛	17	6
,, 19	58,772⅜	25	10	203,591⅛	26	8	15,506⅛	17	8
,, 26	52,984⅛	25	11	208,471⅛	25	10	18,009⅛	17	5
Nov. 2	70,314⅜	26	2	134,277⅛	26	10	18,350⅛	17	7
,, 9	62,265⅛	26	6	202,577⅛	27	0	20,066⅛	17	8
,, 16	57,884⅜	26	9	201,723⅛	26	9	20,122⅛	18	3
,, 23	63,150⅜	27	1	185,268⅛	26	10	20,612	18	7
,, 30	60,323⅛	27	1	193,434⅛	26	9	22,419⅛	18	9
Dec. 7	67,925⅛	27	1	162,996⅛	26	7	23,930⅛	19	0
,, 14	48,045⅛	27	2	182,212⅛	25	10	17,125⅛	17	1
,, 21	60,562⅛	27	7	119,398⅛	26	8	26,260⅛	19	8
,, 28	43,718⅜	27	7	81,859⅛	26	8	16,901⅜	19	10
1902.									
Jan. 4	31,440⅜	27	7	34,777⅛	26	7	11,621⅜	19	10
,, 11	48,997⅜	27	8	69,120⅛	26	7	14,995	20	0
,, 18	74,239⅛	27	8	91,559⅜	26	11	19,733⅜	20	0
,, 25	74,753⅜	27	7	87,594	26	7	25,382⅛	20	3
Feb. 1	73,381⅛	27	4	81,468⅛	26	7	25,657	20	2
,, 8	67,470⅛	27	2	69,291⅜	26	9	25,055⅜	20	3
,, 15	68,500	26	11	54,084⅛	27	5	21,824	20	3
,, 22	72,614⅜	27	1	53,201⅜	26	11	22,799	20	4
Mar. 1	79,453⅛	27	1	43,637⅜	26	7	22,322	20	5
,, 8	67,473⅛	27	0	28,847⅛	26	8	17,017	20	5
,, 15	60,643	27	1	24,536⅛	26	6	11,496⅜	20	6
,, 22	56,394⅛	27	1	15,482⅛	26	4	12,192⅛	20	6
,, 29	50,703	27	2	15,729⅛	27	2	8,950⅜	20	7
Apr. 6	41,277⅛	27	3	7,008⅛	26	5	5,994½	20	6

LONDON AVERAGES.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, April 1st, 1902.

	Total Quantities. Imperial Measure	Total Amount.	Average Price per qr. Imperial Measure.
	Quarters. Bus.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Wheat ...	563 0 ...	738 7 9	... 1 8 4
Barley ...	20 0 ...	28 0 0	... 1 8 0
Oats ..	234 0 ...	247 12 6	... 1 1 2

FLUCTUATIONS IN THE AVERAGE PRICE OF WHEAT.

Price.	Mar. 1.	Mar. 8	Mar. 15.	Mar. 22	Mar. 29.	Apr. 5.
27s. 8d	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 7d	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 6d	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 5d	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 4d	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 3d	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 2d	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 1d	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 0d	...	...	...	...	...	...
26s. 11d	...	...	...	...	...	...

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF FINE HOUSEHOLD FLOUR IN PARIS.
(Converted into English money for sacks of 280 lb.)

	1902.	1901.	1900.	1899.	1898.	1897.	1896.	1895.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Jan. ...	27 9	24 9	25 2	29 0	38 7	30 5½	25 10	27 9½
Feb. ...	26 3	25 9	26 3	28 3	39 4	29 10½	26 2	27 10½
March	27 0	24 0	27 3	27 6	40 1	28 9	26 0	27 5½
April...	...	24 6	26 9	27 6	42 3	28 5	25 6½	26 7
May ...	...	25 6	26 8	28 0	40 0	28 11½	25 1½	28 0
June ...	...	26 3	28 6	27 6	35 6	29 3	25 8	28 10
July ...	...	28 0	26 9	27 3	32 0	31 5½	24 6	27 1
August	...	27 6	26 4	27 0	31 6	36 11	25 1	26 11
Sept....	...	27 6	26 3	25 9	31 0	38 7	27 0	27 0½
Oct.....	...	27 6	26 0	24 9	30 6	39 4	27 1½	27 9
Nov. ...	...	27 9	26 4	24 3	30 3	40 3	29 9	26 8½
Dec. ..	...	28 3	26 0	24 6	29 0	39 3	29 8	26 3
Yrly. Avrg.	...	27 3	26 2	9	35 0	33 5	26 5½	27 4½

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF LONDON TOWN HOUSEHOLDS FLOUR.
(Sacks of 280 lbs. ex-mill for cash.)

	1902.	1901	1900	1899.	1898.	1897.	1896.	1895.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Jan. ...	21 9	24 6	21 9	23 9	29 0	25 6	18 9	18 7½
Feb. ...	22 0	24 0	22 0	23 6	30 0	24 7½	19 4½	17 9
March	21 9	23 9	21 6	22 3	30 0	23 11	19 3	18 0
April...	...	24 0	21 6	22 0	31 3	23 6	19 6	18 7½
May ...	...	23 6	21 3	22 3	39 7	23 7	19 0	20 4½
June ...	...	23 0	23 6	23 1½	35 0	22 7½	18 10	22 3
July ...	...	22 3	24 6	21 9	29 6	22 10½	18 6	20 0½
August	...	22 3	24 0	21 9	27 6	26 8½	18 8½	19 10½
Sept....	...	22 0	25 3	22 0	26 5	30 3	19 6	19 8
Oct. ...	...	21 6	24 9	23 3	26 1	29 0	23 7½	18 7½
Nov. ...	...	21 6	24 3	22 3	25 0	29 1	25 8½	18 4½
Dec. ...	...	21 9	24 0	21 9	24 3	29 0	25 7½	18 1
Yrly. Avrg.	...	22 10	23 2	22 4	29 6½	25 10½	20 8½	19 2

ARRIVALS INTO LONDON.
March 26 to April 2, 1902, inclusive.

	British	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat .....qrs.	870	57,000	57,870
Barley	2,600	59,000	61,600
Oats	834	94,000	94,834
Malt	14,700	854	15,554
Rye	13	1,755	1,768
Maize	...	29,768	29,768
Linseed	...	6,660	6,660
Rape cake	...	48	48
Cottonseed	...	1,629	1,629
Buckwheat	25	...	25
Beans	312	655	967
Peas	134	920	1,054
Lentils	...	37	37
Tares	6	226	232
Flour, sacks	9,800	71,880	81,680

COMPARATIVE AVERAGES.

Comparative statement for the corresponding week to April 5th, in each of the years from 1897 to 1901.

	Wheat. Qrs	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
1897	41,278¾ ...	27	8	17,694 ...	22	7	8,747⅛...	16	6
1898	45,297⅜ ...	35	2	8,357⅛...	27	0	9,184½...	17	11
1899	51,318½ ...	24	7	12,821⅞...	25	1	10,397⅜...	16	11
1900	67,743¾ ...	25	10	20,402⅜...	24	10	13,757⅜...	17	2
1901	42,721⅜ ...	26	3	14,647⅞...	25	3	11,776⅜...	18	0

YEARLY AVERAGES (OFFICIAL.)

	Wheat. s.	d.		Barley. s.	d.		Oats. s.	d.	
1890 ...	31	9	per qr. ...	28	8	per qr. ...	18	7	per qr.
1891 ...	37	1	,, ...	28	2	,, ...	20	0	,,
1892 ...	30	4	,, ...	26	2	,, ...	19	11	,,
1893 ...	26	4	,, ...	25	6	,, ...	18	9	,,
1894 ...	22	10	,, ...	24	6	,, ...	17	1	,,
1895 ...	23	1	,, ...	21	11	,, ...	14	6	,,
1896 ...	26	2	,, ...	22	11	,, ...	14	9	,,
1897 ...	30	2	,, ...	23	6	,, ...	16	11	,,
1898 ...	34	0	,, ...	27	2	,, ...	18	5	,,
1899 ...	25	8	,, ...	25	7	,, ...	17	0	,,
1900 ...	26	11	,, ...	25	9	,, ...	17	9	,,
1901 ...	26	9	,, ...	25	3	,, ...	18	5	,,

IMPERIAL AVERAGES.

Statement showing the Quantities sold and average price of British Corn, Imperial Measure, as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended April 1, 1902, conformably with the Act of the 45th and 46th Victoria, cap. 37.

Wheat	31,277¾ qrs.	27s. 3d.
Barley	7,008½ qrs.	26s. 5d.
Oats	5,994½ qrs.	20s. 6d.

LONDON FLOUR MILLERS' ASSOCIATION.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1901

	London Whites. s. d.		Town Households. s. d.
September 2	(per sack) 26 0	..... (per sack)	23 0
,, 18	,, 25 6	..... ,,	22 6
December 9	,, 26 6	..... ,,	23 6
January 29	,, 26 0	..... ,,	23 0

ENGLISH WHEAT IN 1901.

Highest of Year	27s. 7d.
Lowest of Year	25s. 10d.
Gradient	1s. 9d.
Mean of Year	26s. 9d.

CORK BUTTER.

	Ordinary. Firsts.	Seconds.	Thirds.	Fourths.	Mild Cured Firkins. Superfine.	Fine.	Mild.	Firkins in Market.
	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.	
Monday	104	88	80	—	112	94	—	50
Tuesday	104	88	80	—	112	93	—	60
Wednesday	100	89	80	—	112	93	—	70
Thursday	104	90	80	—	115	96	—	40
Friday	104	94	81	—	115	91	—	50
Saturday	104	93	81	—	115	96	—	70

BUTTER.

Tuesday.—Bedale: 1s 7d to 1s 9d per 24oz. roll: Gainsborough: 1s 2d per lb. Leeds: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb.; 1s 9d to 1s 10d per 24oz. roll. Spalding: 11d per lb. Stone: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb.

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 1s 2d to 1s 3 l per lb. Boston: 1s to 1s 1d per lb. Colne: 1s 2½d per lb. Goole: 1s per lb. Keighley: Wholesale, 1s 2d; retail 1s 3d per lb. Kirbymoorside: 1s to 1s 2d per lb. Knaresborough: Wholesale, 1s 9d; retail, 1s 10d to 1s 11d per 24oz. roll. Louth: Wholesale, 10d per lb. Market Weighton: 1s per lb. Masham: 1s 7d per 24oz roll. Northallerton: 1s 8d to 1s 10d per roll of 24oz. Worksop: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Hereford: 1s 4d to 1s 5d per lb. Market Drayton: Best, 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb; seconds, 1s to 1s 1d per lb. Uttoxeter: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Ipswich: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Dorchester: 1s to 1s 3d per lb.

Thursday.—Brigg: 1s to 1s 1d per lb. Driffield: 11d per lb. Penistone: 1s 3d per lb. Ripon: 1s 10d to 2s per 24oz. roll. Scarborough: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Wetherby: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Kidderminster: 1s 2d per lb. Wellington: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb.

Friday.—Easingwold: 1s to 1s 1d per lb. Grimsby: Danish, 114s to 116s per 112 lb: Dutch, 106s to 112s. Helmsley, 1s 1d per lb. Leeds: Danish, 114 to 118s per 112 lb; Irish creameries, 104s to 112s; Colonial, 104s to 112s; York lump, 14s 6d to 15s per stone; ditto long rolls, 1½ lb., 1s 9d to 1s 10d; fresh butter in 1-lb. prints, 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Leyburn: 1s 6d to 1s 7d per roll of 24 oz. Lincoln: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Otley: 1s 8d to 1s 10d per roll of 24 oz.

Saturday.—Appleby: 1s to 1s 2d per lb. Berwick: 9d to 10 per lb. Carlisle: 1s 1d to 1s 3d per lb. Grantham: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Howden: 1s 1d per lb. Lancaster; 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Malton: 1s to 1s 1d per lb. Pontefract: 1s 3d per lb. Retford: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Richmond: 1s 6d to 1s 5d per lb. Skipton: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Stokesley: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Whitby: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. York: 1s 5d per lb.

EGGS.

Tuesday.—Bedale: 15 to 16 for 1s. Gainsborough: 17 for 1s. Leeds: 7s to 7s 6d per 120. Spalding: 18 for 1s. Stone: 16 per 1.

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 13 or 14 for 1s. Boston: 18 for 1s. Colne: 1s 3d per score. Goole: 17 for 1s. Keighley: Wholesale, 15, retail 14 for 1s. Kirbymoorside: 17 for 1s. Knaresborough: 15 or 16 for 1s. Louth: Wholesale, 20 for 1s. Market Weighton: 18 for 1s. Masham: 18 for 1s. Northallerton: 15 or 16 for 1s. Worksop: 1s 2d to 1s 4d per score. Hereford: 18 for 1s (wholesale, 20). Market Drayton: 17 to 18 for 1s. Uttoxeter: 1s 2d to 1s 4d per score. Ipswich: 16 per 1s. Dorchester: 7d to 8d per dozen.

Thursday.—Brigg: 17 to 18 for 1s. Driffield: 19 or 20 for 1s. Penistone: 16 or 17 for 1s. Scarborough: 16 for 1s. Wetherby: 15 or 16 for 1s. Kidderminster: 17 for 1s. Wellington: 18 or 19 for 1s.

Friday.—Easingwold: 14 to 16 for 1s. Grimsby: Austrian, 5s 5d to 5s 10d per 120; Egyptian, 4s 7d to 4s 10d; Danish, 6s 6d to 7s 8d. Helmsley: 16 to 18 for 1s Leeds: Yorkshire, 7s to 7s 6d per 120; Irish, 6s 6d to 6s 10d; Danish, 6s to 6s 9d; Austrian Blues, 5s 5d to 5s 8d; ditto. reds, 5s to 5s 4d. Leyburn: 17 to 18 for 1s. Lincoln: 16 or 17 for 1s 6d. Otley: 14 or 15 for 1s.

Saturday.—Appleby: 16 to 18 for 1s. Berwick: 8d to 9d per dozen. Carlisle: 15 to 17 for 1s. Grantham: 16 to 18 for 1s. Howden: 18 for 1s. Lancaster: 12 to 15 for 1s. Malton: 17 to 19 for 1s. Pontefract: 15 to 16 for 1s. Retford: 1s 3d to 1s 6d per score. Richmond: 15 to 16 for 1s. Stokesley: 14 or 16 for 1s. Whitby: 16 or 17 for 1s. York: 6 for 1s.

CHEESE.

Dorchester, Wednesday.—Good ripe blue cheese in request at from 46s up to 58s and over; secondary qualities from 20s to 40s.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—The market was somewhat of a holiday character this week. Good lots commanded extreme prices. Stocks are about finished for the season. Cheddars and Dunlops were quoted from 56s to 62s per cwt. New Zealands and Canadians were 2s up on the week; they were in fair demand.

Newport, Wednesday.—There was a fair attendance, and a good business was done. Quotations:—Caerphillies, 56s to 60s; fancy dairies, 62s to 64s; Derbys, 57s to 68s; Cheddars, 63s to 65s; truckles, 63s to 68s.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—Good supplies of greenstuffs on offer this morning experienced a better demand. A moderate quantity of potatoes sold slowly. Arrivals of fruit were on a fair scale, and met with a generally steady support. Greenstuffs:—Cauliflowers, 7s 6d to 12s per tally; Brussel sprouts, 1s 3d to 2s per half-sieve; parsnips, 2s 6d; turnip tops, 1s 6d to 2s 6d per bag; carrots, 3s to 4s; parsley, 5s to 6s; leeks, 2s to 2s 6d per dozen bunches; horseradish, 1s 3d to 1s 9d per bundle; forced rhubarb, 1s to 1s 3d; field, 2s per dozen bundles; Valencia onions, 4s 6d to 5s 6d per case. Potatoes:—Main crops, 70s; Reading Giants, 35s; Up-to-dates, 40s; Gartons, 35s per ton. New: Canary, 14s; Teneriffe, 15s per cwt. English apples, 7s to 10s per bushel.

GAME AND POULTRY.

Smithfield, Saturday.—Supplies fair, a quieter demand, business being rather slow. Quotations:—Fowls: Yorkshire, 3 to 3s 8d; Essex, 3s 3d to 3s 6d; Bostnn, 2s. 9d to 3s; Surrey, 3s 9d to 5s; Sussex, 3s 6d to 4s 6d: Welsh, 2s 0d to 3s; Irish, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; turkeys (cocks), 8s 6d to 10s; hens, 4s to 5s; goslings, 6s to 7s 6d; Aylesbury ducklings, 5s 6d to 7s; country ducks, 4s to 4s 6d; pigeons, 10d. to 1s 4d; wild rabbits, 6d to 8d; tame, 11d to 1s 3d each. Dutch: Wild ducks, 2s 6d; widgeon, 1s 2d; pintail, 1s 4d; teal, 1sr golden plover, 1s; black, 9d each; plover eggs, 2s 9d pe; dozen. Russian game:—Capercailzie, cocks, 2s 6d to 3s 6d; hens, 1s 9d to 2s; partridges, 1s 2d; blackgame, 1s to 1s 2d: ptarmigan, 10d to 11d; brown hares, 1s 3d. to 1s 6d; white, 1s 3d each.

FOREIGN CORN TRADE.

The shipments of grain from the chief exporting countrie last week were as follows:—

	Wheat. Qrs.	Flour. Sks.	Maize. Qrs.	Barley. Qrs.	Oats. Qrs.
United States	275,000	90,000	17,000	—	—
Russia	105,000	—	224,000	67,000	96,000
France	—	5,000	—	—	—
Austria-Hungary	—	5,000	—	—	—
Roumania	20,000	—	140,000	19,000	—
Argentina	121,000	—	—	—	—
India	—	—	—	—	—
Australasia	21,000	—	—	—	—
Miscellaneous	20,000	10,000	10,000	20,000	5,000
Total	562,000	110,000	391,000	106,000	101 000

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The rainfall of the first quarter of the year is decidedly below the average, and the deficiency in sunshine has been marked. This has possibly something to do with the fact that, despite an over average temperature for two out of the three months, the growth of vegetation shows no precocity, but is only about up to the mean for the time of year. Actual records are as follows:—

	Rainfall.		Sunshine.		Temperature.	
1902.	1902.	Avge.	1902.	Avge.	1902.	Avge.
Jan.	1.00	1.85	17h.	27h.	42.5	38.5
Feb.	0.90	1.22	21h.	47h.	39.5	39.5
March	1.62	2.08	40h.	94h.	44.5	41.7

The wheat plant promises a full average crop, but even the most ideal weather can scarcely make it a bumper yield, the plant, though healthy, being rather thin in the ground. Winter tares, oats, and beans are by no means unpromising, but they, like wheat, are not at all over-forward. Seed oats have been briskly inquired after at the markets immediately after Easter; the area sown is regarded as 5 per cent. over that of last season, which would raise an average yield of 20,000,000 quarters to twenty-one millions. Prices fully justify the increased sowings, though the deficiency of moisture in bth surface and subsoil must be admitted to tell rather seriously the other way.

During the last few days of March both the United States and Russia had waves of very cold weather pass over them. The cold in America was attended by a heavy downfall. Milder conditions once more prevail in both regions. Crop prospects do not appear to be unsatisfactory in either of these great producing-districts, and there has been some improvement in the promise, both in France and in Central Europe. The news of bad crop prospects in two American States, Kansas and Oklahama, is authenticated, but the marked improvement in California, which also is confirmed, may be taken as fully balancing matters.

The wheat trade in England since Easter has been dull on spot, but fairly active for the summer and autumn failures. American fine quality red wheat can be secured for delivery any month from June to October inclusive, at 30s. per quarter, and the possibility of making sure of a certain proportion of strong wheat for uniting is one that millers are likely to altogether disregard. The maize trade is a little weaker on the fortnight, but feeding barley is the turn dearer, and an excellent inquiry enables the holders of oats to get 22s. and upwards for the 336 lb. kind. There are buyers of pigeon beans and maple peas at the best prices ruling at the close of March.

Average prices of wheat for 1901 are only now the subject of a Government return which enables us to compare the relative market popularity of home and foreign produce. The following figures are extracted from different reports and ranged for comparative purposes for the first time:—

DEARER THAN ENGLISH.	
German	29.11
Australian	29.0
Californian	28.7
American	28.6
Canadian	28.4
Argentine	28.4
Russian	28.2
New Zealand	27.10
ENGLISH WHEAT.	
London	27.7
Country	26.9
Mean	27.2
CHEAPER THAN ENGLISH.	
Indian	26.7
Roumanian	26.7
Turkish	25.1

These figures on the whole bear out the contention of those British millers who succeeded in getting a committee appointed last autumn to see if the average value of English wheat could not be improved.

Sales of British wheat for the first quarter of 1902 thus compare with those for the same period of 1901:—

	Qrs.
1902	2,032,000
1901	1,860,000
Excess	172,000

The price thus compares, and it is somewhat remarkable that the rise has been obtained in the face of unduly heavy deliveries.

1902	27.3
1901	26.3
Advance	1.0

Evidently had farmers been content to hold only as firmly as in 1901 the present position of the market would have been much better than it is at present.

British barley prices show the following change on the first quarter of the two years:—

1902	26.8
1901	25.3
Advance	1.5

This is gratifying and was hardly to be expected seeing how much of the barley of 1901 was more or less discoloured.

Oats are advancing in value and the comparison with last year is exceedingly encouraging:—

1902	20.4
1901	17.6
Advance	2.10

The arrivals of flour into the chief ports since the beginning of the cereal year have been as follows:—

Sacks	Half year.	March.	7 Months.
Thames ports	2,376,000	290,000	2,666,000
Mersey ports	1,654,000	134,000	1,788,000
Severn ports	425,000	16,000	441,000
Clyde ports	1,193,000	164,000	1,357,000
Firth of Forth	288,000	62,000	350,000
The Humber	109,000	11,000	120,000

The Thames ports are London, Tilbury (mostly for London), Rochester, and Chatham. The American millers are very wrath at the dock charges on the Thames, and the protest signed on 26th ult. is understood to speak for three-quarters of the milling capacity of the United States. It is not easy, however, to see what action the U.S.A. millers can take, even if absolutely unanimous. The key to the situation is held by the London and South-Western Railway, and so long as flour costs more to bring from Southampton to London by rail than the extra dock charges on the Thames amount to, so long these charges would appear to be maintainable. With respect to the expediency of charges which cause London to appear on the foreign shippers' black list there can, we imagine, be but one opinion. The London and Kentish M.P.s might do worse than press for an inquiry into the costliness of Thames charges.

The following comparison of average prices in England and France respectively for the leading cereals during the first quarter of 1902 is not without features of interest:—

	England. s. d.		France. s. d.
Wheat	27 3	..	36 6
Barley	26 8	..	23 3
Oats	20 4	..	22 10

It is doubtful if France, without protection, could grow any of the chief cereals, and barley can hardly be paying its way even now. In fact, we hear that oats are gaining ground on barley in all districts of France, except Maine, Touraine, Poiton, and the Limonsin, which are districts producing fine quality barley.

The following is a comparison of leading staples reduced to "a common denominator," in this case the ton:—

Wheat	£6 6 6
Barley	7 7 6
Oats	7 7 2
Flat maize	6 5 1
Round ,,	5 7 0
Fine middlings	5 10 0
Mixed bran	4 15 0
Feeding rice	7 0 0
Whole meal	8 10 0
Feeding flour	5 12 0
Best hay	5 0 0

The following estimate shows the totals of leading staples on passage on the first of the month:—

Qrs.	Wheat.	Barley.	Maize.
North American	285,000	—	20,000
South American	240,000	—	20,000
Californian	2,500,000	310,000	—
Australasian	760,000	—	—
Indian	100,000	—	—
Russian	35,000	100,000	350,000
Various	10,000	50,000	150,000
Total	3,930,000	460,000	540,000
A year ago	3,370,000	260,000	485,000

The quantity of oats on passage is not known, but is recognised to be much below the average. Imports into the United Kingdom last week were —174,000 qrs. of wheat, 62,000 sacks of flour, 103,000 qrs. of barley, 146,000 qrs. of oats (American), 140,000 qrs. of maize, 1,500 qrs. of beans, and 4,750 qrs. of peas. The quantity of wheat believed to be in farmers' hands at the present moment is put at about 1,824,000 qrs., while stores of foreign wheat in merchants' hands are estimated at about 2,450,000 qrs. The quarterly returns of stocks are extremely behindhand in appearing. It is high time that the Board of Trade took over this important matter from the dilatory market authorities.

LONDON TOP PRICE FLOUR.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1901.

		s.	d.
September 2	(per sack)	29	0
,, 28	,,	28	0

(No official change since last date given.)

THIS DAY'S MARKETS

MARK LANE, MONDAY.

[FIRST REPORT.]

The price of English wheat to-day was fully 6d up and buyers had difficulty in getting what they required, even at this advance. Foreign wheat on the other hand was 6d. cheaper on the fortnight for American and 3d. for other kinds. Californian brewing barley was rather pressed on sale at 23s 6d. for ordinary, 24s. 6d for fine, and 27s. for best landed. Screened Onchak touched 30s., while the common unscreened averaged about 22s. 6d. per quarter. Some good Normanian, weighing 416 lb, made 21s. 6d. Turkish oats at 17s. to 18s. are the only sorts of oats at all cheap at the present time, even Libaus making 18s. 6d. per quarter, while 24s. is paid for fine 336 lb. English, and also for Scotch Potato Oats. Maize to-day was 6d. lower for American. Other sorts were irregular. Tares made 44s. for Konigsberg, and as much as 80s. for best Scotch. Ordinary English Winter Tares were scarcely obtainable. Oilseeds are steadier from the last markets before Easter.

QUOTATIONS OFF THE STANDS.

April 7, 1902.

BRITISH GRAIN.

		s.	s.
WHEAT, White (new)	(per 504 lb.)	29	— 31
,, (old)	,,	30	— 32
Red (new)	,,	28	— 30
,, (old)	,,	29	— 30
Chicken or Feed	(per 480 lb.)	27	— 28
BARLEY, Malting	(per 448 lb.)	31	— 37
Brewing	,,	27	— 30
Feeding	(per 400 lb.)	24	— 26
MALT, English	(per 336 lb.)	35	— 41
Scotch	,,	37	— 39
Black	,,	30	— 32
Brown	,,	29	— 32
Crystallized	,,	33	— 35
OATS, English, Black Winter	,,	22	— 24
Black Tartary	,,	21	— 22
Grey Winter	,,	22	— 24
White Tartary	,,	24	— 22
Scotch	,,	22	— 24
Irish	(per 304 lb.)	19	— 20
RYE, British	(per 480 lb.)	23	— 25
BEANS, Pigeon	,,	38	— 40
Winter	,,	32	— 36
Mazagan	,,	31	— 33
PEAS, Best Marrowfat	(per 504 lb.)	65	— 75
Blue (boiling)	,,	60	— 70
Dun	,,	34	— 82
Maple	,,	36	— 40
TARES, Scotch Gorcs	,,	78	— 82
Winter Old	,,	68	— 72
,, Ordinary	,,	54	— 60
Spring ,,	,,	44	— 48

FOREIGN GRAIN.

(Ex-Granary.)

	s.	s.
WHEAT, per 496 lb.		
Old Duluth	31	— 33
Manitoba No. 1	31	— 32
American Spring	30	— 31
Red Winter	30	— 31
Hard ,,	30	— 31
Californian	30	— 31
Walla Walla	29	— 30
Australian	30	— 31
New Zealand	29	— 30
Argentine	29	— 31
Danzig	31	— 33
Saxonka	30	— 31
Azima	30	— 31
Ghirka	29	— 30
Indian	29	— 30
RYE, per 480 lb.		
Russian	24	— 25
MAIZE, per 480 lb.:		
Russian	21	— 22
Roumanian	21	— 22
Turkish	21	— 22
American	26	— 27
Argentine	22	— 23
OATS:		
N' Zeal'd (Best)	27	— 31
N. Zeal'd (Bluff)	25	— 27
N. Zeal'd (Dun)	23	— 25
Canadian (320 lb.)	20	— 21
American (320 lb.)	20	— 21
Prussian (320 lb.)	20	— 21
N. Russ'n (304 lb.)	19	— 20
South ,, (304 lb.)	18	— 19
Turkish (304 lb.)	17	— 18
BEANS, per 480 lb.:		
Egyptian	32	— 33
Smyrna	31	— 32
New Zealand	34	— 36
LOCUST BEANS, per ton:		
Italian	102	— 104
Cyprian	106	— 112
Portuguese	106	— 107
PEAS, per 504 lb.:		
Canadian, White	37	— 38
Australian, White	41	— 42
New Zeal'd Maple	39	— 41
Indian White	35	— 37
MILLET, per 416 lb.:		
White	33	— 45
Red	25	— 27
Yellow	20	— 22
Sorghum	19	— 20
DARI, per 480 lb.:		
Smyrna	24	— 25
Persian	21	— 23
BUCKWHEAT, per 416 lb		
French	24	— 25
Russian	24	— 26
TARES, per 504 lb.:		
Konigsberg	44	— 48
BARLEY:		
Saale (448 lb.)	38	— 40
Hungarian (448 lb.)	32	— 40
New Zeal'd (448 lb.)	26	— 29
Chilian (448 lb.)	32	— 34
Californian (448 lb.)	26	— 33
Danish (448 lb.)	28	— 30
French (448 lb.)	27	— 29
Danubian (400 lb.)	19	— 20
Onchak (400 lb.)	24	— 32
Yerli (400 lb.)	21	— 22
Russian (400 lb.)	19	— 20
MALT, per 336 lb:		
Californian	35	— 36
Smyrna	35	— 30

OIL SEEDS.

LINSEED. per 416 lb.	s.	s.
English	57	to 59
Dutch	56	to 58
Bombay	57	to 59
Calcutta	53	to 55
Russian	56	to 57
Argentine	49	to 51
SESAME. per 424 lb.		
Indian	51	to 53
COTTON SEED per ton.		
Egyptian	132	to 134

RAPESEED. per 416 lb	s.	s.
English	56	to 60
Calcutta	41	to 43
Guzerat	42	to 44
Kerozepore	37	to 39
Jamba	29	to 30
Ravison	28	to 29
POPPYSEED. per 377 lb.		
Indian	47	to 49
SUNFLOWERSEED. per 448 lb		
Russian	45	to 50

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

THE MARKET CLOSED A LITTLE FIRMER THAN IT OPENED, BUT ABOVE PRICES WERE NOT VARIED, ON THE LATER TRANSACTIONS.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, MONDAY.

Easter has come and gone, but the leading London makes of flour remain quiet at currencies. There has been no change for nearly a month. Country flour has declined about 6d., but is now hardening. Australian flour having got into the hands of a few strong holders looks like appreciating in value, and Cascadia is also strongly held. The finest north-western patents are worth 24s. on spot, but being offered at 23s. for future shipment, spot value scarcely look like improving. Minnesota first patents outside the select list of the champion brands come at 21s. 3d to 22s. per sack, and make the corresponding price of London Town Households seem high. Kansas flour is not much in evidence here, and is accordingly well held. Low-grade flour makes 14s. to 14s. 6d. for Minneapolis and 12s. 9d. to 13s. 9d. for Red Day. These two sorts are for feeding to stock. There was an improved demand for meal, and the stock on ipot was about cleared at previous extreme rates. The flour market closed with a hopefuller feeling than has been manifest for quite a couple of month. Present prices are generally regarded as the lowest we shall see this month.

LONDON FLOUR.

		s.
Top Price	(per sack)	— 28
Town Whites	,,	24 — 25
,, Households	,,	21 — 22
No. 2	,,	19 — 20

COUNTRY FLOUR.

Best Patents	(per sack)	22 — 24
Fine Roller made	,,	21 — 22
Ordinary Roller made	,,	20 — 21
Best Stone made	,,	19 — 20

FOREIGN FLOUR.

Minnesota First Patents	(per sack)	23 — 24
,, Second Patents	,,	21 — 22
,, First Bakers'	,,	19 — 20
,, Second Bakers'	,,	17 — 18
Milwaukee Patents	,,	22 — 23
,, Bakers	,,	16 — 17
Kansas Patents	,,	23 — 24
,, Bakers'	,,	18 — 19
Cascadia	,,	22 — 23
Canadian	,,	22 — 23
Australian Patents	,,	20 — 21
,, Straight	,,	19 — 20
Hungarian	,,	30 — 33
Russian	,,	28 — 30
French	,,	20 — 22

MEAL, &c.

Whole Meal	(per ton	172–174
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	115–117
Bran, London Broad	,,	102–112
,, ,, Fine	,,	88— 92
,, Country Flake	,,	118–120
,, ,, Broad	,,	100–102
Pollard	,,	88–94
Biscuit Middlings	,,	115–117
Fine Middlings	,,	113–115
Coarse Middlings	,,	98–100
Feeding Flour (Red Dog)	,,	110–112
Barley Meal	,,	124–128
Rye Flour	,,	150–155
Canadian Oatmeal	,,	200–260
Scotch Oatmeal	,,	260–300
Oat Flour	,,	340–360
Maize Flour	,,	164–166
Maize Meal	,,	110–120
Maize Cones	,,	172–174
Maize Germ Meal	,,	117–119
Pea Meal	,,	130–150
Bean Meal	,,	145–165
Rice Meal	,,	94–98

LONDON TERM MARKET.

This market is held twice a day, except on Saturday, when there is no afternoon call. The market is open to elected members only. No business except for future delivery is done, and the smallest quantity that can be purchased is 1,000 quarters, or 4,800 centals. The name of the month stands for guaranteed delivery (if required) on or before the last day of that month, and the following have been the prices per cental recently made:—

WHEAT.—Calls.	June. s. d.	Aug't. s. d.	Oct. s. d.
April 1 noon.	5 11	6 0	6 0
4 p.m.	5 11	6 0	6 0
April 2 11 a.m.	5 11	6 0	6 0
4 p.m.	5 11	6 0	6 0
April 3 11 a.m.	5 11	6 0	6 0
4 p.m.	5 11	6 0	6 0
April 4 11 a.m.	5 11	6 0	6 0
4 p.m.	5 11	6 0	6 0
April 5 noon.	5 11	6 0	6 0
To-day noon.			

No wheat is obtainable on the forward market for April or May delivery, so that the current Mark Lane trade is not influenced.

Sales of wheat for March on the forward market were 430,000 qrs. only.

Maize is held at 4s. 3d. to 4s. 4d. for spring and 4s. 4d. to 4s 5d. for summer delivery.

The Term Market standard wheat is No. 1 Northern Spring American sold on the Duluth certificate. Other sorts of wheat can be bought at the above prices plus or minus agreed difference between the other sort and the standard quality. Quotations are by the "true hundredweight" or cental of 100 lb. We do not give fractions of a penny per cental. The maize quoted is fair average quality from the United States.

The deposit required from members of the Term Market has been fixed at £50 minimum and 1s. per quarter margin on any purchases above 1,000 quarters.

The Term Market (while the "Baltic" is rebuilding) is temporarily situated at the Great Eastern Hotel, No. 190, Bishopsgate Street, ground floor.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORTS.

Flour.—Trade continues dull, and buyers are still disinclined to purchase, except for immediate requirements. Values on spot are as follows:—1st spring patents, 24s. 3d. to 24s. 9d.; 2nd spring patents, 23s 3d. to 23s. 9d.; American Winter Patents, 24s. 3d. to 24s. 9d.; Extra Fancies, 22s. 6d. to 23s.

Offals.—No special feature in bran; the tendency generally is towards easier prices.—GREENHILL BROTHERS (Belfast).

Flour.—Continues dull, and values 3d. to 6d. per sack in buyers favour. Grain.—Flat corn is about unchanged, but round is slow at a further decline. Beans and Canadian pease are firm and in good demand. Barley and oats steady. Oatmeal 6d. per sack down. Mill Stuffs.—Bran very scarce, but thirds are a slow sale.—MCKINNON AND MCDONALD (Glasgow).

Flour.—Trade to-day has been firm, and a fair business has been done at last week's full prices. Flour on spot commands a premium of 3d. to 6d., owing to scarcity.—T. S. MEDILL & SONS.

Arrivals of wheat have been small, and the stock in London has been worked into small dimensions. The demand, however, is only moderate. Prices remain unaltered. Maize steadily held, but unchanged prices. Oats firmer, but tendency against buyers.—WOOD & Co.

Milling Offals are very firm and in good demand. Co-midds. are 5s. per ton dearer than a fortnight ago. Fine midds are at an advance of 2s. 6d. per ton. Bran and pollard very firm and against buyers. Mills keeping clear of everything.—JOHN BAWCOMB & Co.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Monday.—Linseed Cake.—There is no materia change since the holidays. Demand keeps very poor, but prices do not come down in America, so sellers here are firm. Cotton Cake and Meal.—Dull, unchanged. Linseed.—A fair demand for time of year; prices hardening.

English Linseed Cake	ex mill	8	0	0 to 8	5	6
American Calcutta Linseed Cake	ex quay					
American Western ,,	ex quay	7	0	0 to 7	2	0
,, ,, ,,	ex quay	7	0	0 to 7	2	6
Russian Oil Cake	ex quay	7	7	6 to 7	15	0
Decorticated Cotton Cake	ex quay	6	5	0 to 6	10	0
,, ,, Meal	ex quay	6	5	0 to 6	7	6
London-made ,, Cake (best)	ex mill	4	10			
Egyptian ,, ,, ,, (in bags)	ex quay	4	5	0 to 4	7	6
Burton Desiccated Ale Grains (bags included)	on rail, Burton					
Dutch Linseed (in bags), per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse	2	17	0 to 2	19	0
Calcutta Linseed in bags, per 410 lbs.	ex warehouse		11	6		
La Plata do. per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse	2	10	0 to 2	13	0
Clean Russian Linseed in bulk, per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse	2	17	0		

ROBERT AND JOHN HEWETSON.

POTATOES.

Borough, Saturday.—Moderate arrivals, but the tone of the market remained quiet. Quotations:—Scottish main crops (Dunbar), 80s; Reading Giant Blacklands, 40s to 45s; Blackland Up-to-dates, 45s; Lincoln Silts ditto, 55s; and Kentish Up-to-dates 45s to 50s per ton.

Goole, Wednesday.—Plentiful supply, and slow trade here to-day. Giants, 5s to 5s 3d per load. Top price for best, 52s 6d per ton. Retail price, 6d per stone.

Great Northern, Saturday.—Supplies were on a lighter scale, but experienced a better demand. Scotch main crops, 85s; ditto Bruce, 60s to 70s; Hebronseed, 110s; Blackland Reading Giants, 35s to 45s; Blackland Up-to-dates, 40s to 50s; Lincoln main crops, 80s to 90s; Lincoln Up-to-dates, 50s to 65s per ton New: Jersey kidneys 6d per lb: Teneriffe, 15s; Maltese 12s per cwt.

Spitalfields, Saturday.—Market not heavily supplied; trade, however, being of a slow character. Quotations:—Lincoln Up to-dates, 60s to 65s; Blackland ditto, 40s; Wisbech ditto, 50s to 55s; Scottish ditto, 60s; Scottish main crops (grey soil), 60s to 70s; Lincoln main crops, 80s to 85s; Reading Giants, 35s to 40s; and Blackland Gartons, 35s per ton.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—The arrivals from Ireland for the past fortnight were 3,376 bales bacon and from foreign ports, 20,855 bales bacon. The demand for bacon last week was rather quiet, trade not being very brisk after the holidays, and although the official rate of best Irish and Danish were unchanged, secondary Danish was 2s lower and Canadian 2s to 3s lower. The selling rates generally of all descriptions of bacon were somewhat easier. Current quotations were as follows: Irish 54s to 60s up to 63s; Danish 52s to 56s up to 58s; Canadian 50s to 54s up to 56s. Butter.—There was a fair demand for finest butter at unaltered rates, secondary descriptions of every sort were in good demand. Quotations—Danish, 112s to 114s. Colonials, 102s to 104s up to 106s. Lard.—A steady market at about 1s. better for American. Irish, 54s. to 60s. American pails and boxes, 49s 9d to 51s.

London, Monday.—We have small arrivals of wheat and flour, there is more firmness in the trade and prices are fully supported. Maize, barley and oats are steady in value.—COVENTRY.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

Monday, April 7, 1902

	British.	Total.	April 8, 1901.
Beasts	1,540	1,540	890
Sheep and lambs	11,110	11,110	6,510
Calves	10	10	10
Pigs	20	20	—
Milch cows	40	40	50

Quotations per 8 lbs. (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.

	Inferior.	Second.	First.
Beasts	2s. 10d. ...	4s. 0d. ...	4s. 9d.
Sheep	3s. 10d. ...	5s. 2d. ...	5s. 10d.
Lambs	6s. 0d. ...	6s. 10d. ...	7s. 8d.
Calves	—	—	—
Pigs	—	—	—

Milch cows, per head, £16 to £22

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, 13: Eastern Counties, 1,037; Midland, Home and Western Counties, 162; Devon, 40; Ireland, 288.

As usual on a Monday following a Bank Holiday the supply in the beast market showed a decided increase, 630 to day as against 910 on Monday last; the largest consignments were of sourse from Norfolk, both these and Lincoln Shorthorns met a slower trade, as also did Irish. Amongst the arrivals from that country were 191 stores (heifers and steers), which were quoted at from £10 to £13 10s. per head, rates for fat cattle were practically unaltered, but butchering cows and bulls were firmer in price.

The following are top quotations per 8 lbs. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day.	April, 8, 1901.
Scotch	4s 8d to 4s 9d	—
Devons	4s 6d to 4s 7d	4s 4d to 4s 6d
Herefords	—	—
Norfolks	4s 7d to 4s 8d	4s 4d to 4s 6d
Runts	—	—
Lincolns	4s 3d to 4s 5d	4s 0d to 4s 4d
Irish	4s 4d to 4s 6d	4s 0d to 4s 3d
Canadian	—	—
Fat Cows	4s 0d to 4s 2d	3s 8d to 3s 10d

The supply in the sheep market showed an increase of 5,520, owing to larger arrivals of wethers and lambs. Ewes being very short in number, and consequently being rather dearer. Wether sheep trade was dull and heavy at 2d. per 8 lbs. less money, especially after the chief buyers wants were met. The best Down lambs made last Monday's rates, but all other grades were lower in value by fully 4d. per 8 lbs., at wh ch reduction sales were forced. The supply includ-d 5,020 from the Eastern Counties, 330 from Yor shire, and 450 Scotch.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8 lbs. (sinking the Offal) and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day.	April 8, 1901.
7½ to 8- t. Downs	5s 6d to 5s 8d	5s 10d to 6s 0d
9-st. do.	5s 4d to 5s 6d	5s 8d to 5s 10d
10 st. half-breds	5s 2d to 5s 4d	5s 4d to 5s 6d
9-st. Yorkshires, clipped	4s 8d to 4s 10d	5s 2d to 5s 4d
12 st. Lincolns	4s 10d to 5s 0d	5s 2d to 5s 4d
10-st. Irish	—	—
10st. Down ewes	4s 7d to 4s 8d	4s 10d to 5s 0d
11st. half bred ditto	4s 4d to 4s 6d	4s 6d to 4s 8d
5-st. Down lambs	7s 6d to 7s 8d	8s 0d to 8s 2d
6-st. half-bred do.	6s 8d to 6s 10d	7s 4d to 7s 6d

Pig trade barely worth noting, nominal top value small breeds 4s 8d per 8 lbs, sinking the offal.

London (Central), Monday.—Good supplies. Trade slow. Beef carcases, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; hind quarters, 4s 8d to 4s 10d; roastings, 5s 6d to 6s; sheep ewe, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; wether, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; hind quarters ewe, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; wether, 5s 4d to 5s 8d; pigs (large), 3s 4d to 3s 10d; small 4s to 4s 6d.

St. Ives, Monday.—Beast, 902; sheep and lambs, 578; pigs, 463. Beef, 7s 6d to 8s; mutton 7s to 9s 11d; lamb, 11s; pork 6s to 7s 6d; sows, 5s 6s to 6s 6d; fat and store cattle fair trade; fat and store sheep, lambs, and pigs good demand; Milch cows £14 to £23

FOREIGN CATTLE

Deptford, Monday.—To-day's supply compared with Monday last showed an increase of 24 head and consisted of consignments from the United States, trade for which was of a firm and steady nature both in regard to tone and value, an early clearance being made at following quotations per 8 lbs., offal given in; best to dress, about 680 lbs., made 4s. 10d.; second quality quoted at 4s. 7d No sheep on the market. On Saturday, the supply consisted of 1,603 beasts and 595 sheep, both from the United States, and which met with firm trades at following rates: best beasts, 4s. 10d.; seconds, 4s 6d. to 4s. 7d.; sheep quoted at from 4s. 8d. to 5s. per 8 lbs. The following were the numbers on offer on the corresponding day last year with the current top rates: beasts, 526, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 5d. to dress about 720 lbs. No sheep on the market.

THE BALTIC, 1 p.m.

STATE OF TRADE.

In order to effect sales of Californian wheat, a further 3d. fall is allowed. Round maize is in improved request from Saturday. Barley is firm for feeding but weak for brewing. Oats are steady.

BUSINESS DONE.

WHEAT.—Californian, 29s, arrived; Walla Walla, 28s 6d, arrived; Argentine, 28s 9d, on passage; Australian, 29s 6d, on passage; No. 1 Northern, 28s, on passage; No. 2 Hard Winter, 27s 6d, arrived.

MAIZE.—Galatz, 21s, on passage; Roumanian, 20s 9d, on passage; Caucasian, 21s 9d, on passage; Argentine, 20s, May shipment.

BARLEY.—Roumanian, 19s, prompt shipment; Oregon brewing, 24s 6d, arrived.

OATS.—White Konigsberg, 19s 6d, prompt shipment; White Libau, 17s 9d, prompt shipment; White Canadian, 19s 6d, May shipment.

BEANS.—Egyptian, 23s 3d, May shipment.

COTTON SEED.—Bombay, £4 12s 6d, May shipment.

TITHE RENT CHARGES.

For 1902	67	3	9
,, 1901	66	10	9
,, 1900	66	15	10
,, 1899	68	2	4
,, 1898	68	14	11
,, 1897	69	17	11
,, 1896	71	9	7

The last time the Tithe was above par was £100 4s. 10d.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW.

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS.")

Trade in London.

Owing to the chief market day of the week at Islington falling on a Bank Holiday the trade for fat beasts with a lighter supply was naturally of a slower nature, there being fewer buyers present for both prime and second quality, rates ruling fully 1d. per 8lb. in favour of the buyer, a practical clearance being made. On the other hand, fat butchering cows and bulls were in steady request, and the supply very light, 2d. per 8lb. more money was both asked and obtained. On Thursday this advance was maintained, and more fat beasts changed hands than is usual. At the foreign cattle market there was a full supply, sales being readily effected on all three market days, Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday at an advance of 2d. per 8lb. The total number on offer at both markets was 3,618 (previous week 3,328), consisting of 1,010 British (decrease 300), and 2,608 from the United States (increase 590). The following were the top rates paid per 8lb., sinking the offal:—80-stone polled Aberdeens, 4s. 8d.; 90-stone polled Norfolks, 4s. 7d.; 100-stone Shorthorn ditto, 4s. 6d.; 100-stone Lincolns, 4s. 5d.; 90-stone Irish, 4s.; 90-stone fat cows, 4s. 2d.; 85-stone States, 4s. 9d. to 4s. 10d.; 100-stone fat bulls, 3s. 8d.

The sheep trade at Islington was of a firm, steady nature, the previous week's advance for both wethers and ewes being maintained on both market days, with an early clearance on Monday. The lamb trade ruled slower at less money, as sales were chiefly confined to carcass butchers, which naturally means lower rates. At Deptford trade was also firm. The total number penned was 7,916, of which 6,730 were British and 1,186 American. Best pens made per 8lb. as folows, sinking the offal:—7½ to 8 stone Downs, 5s. 10d.; 8-stone Scotch, 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d.; 9-stone Downs, 5s. 8d.; 10-stone ditto, 5s. 6d.; 10-stone halfbreds, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; 12-stone Lincolns, 5s. 2d.; 8½-stone American, 4s. 10d. to 5s.; 10-stone Down ewes, 5s.; 11-stone halfbred ditto, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; 5-stone fat Down lambs, 7s. 6d. to 7s. 8d.; 6-stone halfbred ditto, 6s. 10d. Only 45 calves and 10 pigs on the market, best of the former were quoted at 6s. per 8lb.

Trade in the West.

The dislocation in business, as the outcome of the Easter holidays, being now at an end, the closing days of the past week were marked by unwonted activity in early all departments of the stock markets, the most marked improvement being the trade in sheep, which have suddenly gone up in price almost beyond the most sanguine expectations, seeing what a depression there has been in mutton now for so long time past. The rise is not confined to any particular class of mutton, but may be fairly described as an all-round advance. For ourselves, we are not so much surprised, for, knowing the general scarcity of sheep in the country, we have been rather expecting a better trade, and, though somewhat tardy in coming, our predictions, we are glad to know, have not been falsified. Wether sheep of a good stamp—principally tegs—are once again touching the old figure, 8½d. per lb. (or from 46s. to 51s. 6d. each), which is a matter of some consequence to flockmasters after they have for so long been selling at 7d., and even a more unremunerative figure (or from 46s. to 56s. each). Even the plainer grades of wethers are making 8d. Ewes are correspondingly dear, a general run now for this class of sheep, at all well finished, being from 42s. to 51s. for ripe Downs. Lambs are likewise making 2s. to 3s. a head more than they were, the best cross-breds making 41s. a-piece at Dorchester on Wednesday (or from 10d. to 11d. per lb.); horns also meeting a good demand, though they cannot touch the daintier breeds by quite ½d. per lb. The transactions in stores are principally in couples, which bring from 43s. to 56s. The few wether lambs now on the market are in the main fit for the butcher, or nearly so. Chilver hogs continue very scarce, and are much wanted. The outlook for the coming spring sales is certainly highly encouraging, and, should the favourable prospect of plenty of keep, after the recent welcome rainfall, be realised, we anticipate a very dear time—that is, if present indications count for anything. That sheep are exceedingly scarce in the country is very well known, and it is also equally understood that in many of the more notable pasture districts sheep will have to be obtained, cost whatever in reason they may. Therefore it is a question whether flockmasters will not be wise in keeping on as long as they can as many of their lambs as is possible in view of eventualities. Going to store cattle, the trade for this class of stock is equally buoyant, milch beasts continuing more than to hold their own at almost every market, from £18 to £21 or £22 being a common quotation for all the better-class heifers or good-character cows; whilst sales are equally ready for the more ordinary runs at varying prices, according to character, some making as low as £11 or £12, and some of a younger age up to £17 and over. The barrener trade, too, has been favourably influenced by the better outlook as regards keep, and graziers are very keen in securing every likely bullock on which they can lay hands at prices in every way up to sellers' expectations—these in some cases being as high as £28, and even £30 per pair, though a more general range is from £18 to £26. With prices of grazing cattle going up it is only natural that fat bullocks should stiffen in value, too, and this they are doing almost everywhere, heifers making up to £21 10s. each and steers up to £24 10s., a prices realised at Wimborne on Tuesday (or from 11s. to 12s. per score for best qualities; fat cows making 10s. to 10s. 6d.). Veal continues exceedingly dear, despite the fact of the Easter demand now being over; and we think we are fully justified in quoting the best calves at 8½d. per lb.; if not over, and seconds 7d. to 8d., the result, it is thought, of the shortened offer at most markets. Pigs of the better type in quality and weight fully hold their own; the ordinary runs of medium weights make 9s. 6d. to 10s. 6d. per score, and anything very choice up to 11s. Coarse heavy pigs are not quite so saleable. On the whole, the business of the past week, bearing in mind the holiday season, has been considerably in advance of either buyers' or sellers' anticipations.

Trade in Scotland.

John Swan and Sons, Limited, give the following as their report on the above for the current week:—The number of fat cattle on offer this week has been large, but the general quality not quite so good. With a fair attendance of buyers, trade has been fairly steady throughout, but the prices on an average just the turn lower, although not to any quotable extent. Fat cows a large show, and they met a good market. A full supply of fat sheep, which as nearly as possible made previous quotations. Ewes coming to hand in small numbers, and selling dear. A large show of lambs, the best selling at from 37s. to 42s., secondary a moderate trade. Fat calves and pigs very dear. There was a large supply of store cattle. Anything of a good class met a moderately fair inquiry, and a good clearance of this kind was effected, but secondary cattle and stocks are bad to sell, and a portion of these descriptions left over. There was the largest supply of store sheep of the season. Owing to the continued barren weather, trade throughout has been quiet, and prices just the turn in favour of buyers. A few secondary left unsold. Milch cows met a quiet trade at slightly worse prices. Quotations:—Best beef, to 8s. 3d. per stone; best mutton, 7½d. to 8½d.

Trade in Ireland.

A big decrease of 520 cattle and 637 sheep in last Dublin Market, as compared with the previous Thursday, and a fair attendance of buyers gave some animation to business, though it cannot be said that there was much improvement in quotations beyond recovering the slight fall of last week. A very marked scarcity of really prime beef caused brisk competition amongst exporters, and home victuallers at the extreme rates of last day, which left shippers a hazardous working margin, when prices on the other side of the Channel are taken into consideration. Medium cattle, too, seemed to meet with a readier sale, and a good clearance was effected.

Prime ox and heifer beef made from 55s. to 57s. 6d., and for extra-finished as much as 62s. and 63s. per cwt. was given; good second-class, 50s. to 54s., and coarse and inferior from 42s. upwards. A nice lot of Wicklow-fed cattle were sold to a Belfast buyer at £23 each.

The trade in mutton was still dull, except for the best qualities of wethers and ewes, which were scarce, and made last week's rates freely. The export trade was very light, and disappointing. For the first time this year some shorn sheep were on offer, and nice hoggets sold well at 7½d. and 7¾d., which was practically the value of best wethers in wool. Best wethers made from 7½d. to 8d. per lb., the latter price being paid for Cheviots; ewes, 6½d. to 7½d.; coarse and inferior, 5½d. to 6d. Small to medium hoggets were worth from 27s. to 40s., and heavy from 42s. to 55s. each. Lambs altogether in excess of requirements, and many of them not fit for market. The consequence was that the range of prices varied from 15s. up to 38s. a head. It was considered that there was a fall of from 4s. to 8s. each on lambs, as compared with last week's prices. Prime veal scarce, and in demand at from 8d. to 9½d. per lb.; coarse calves from 4½d. per lb. upwards.

Good milch cows scarce, and wanted. Choice springers and new milch cows were worth from £18 to £22 each; other sorts from £8 10s. Messrs. Sanly had a large sale of about 800 store cattle, which were disposed of at reasonable rates. With a limited supply of pigs and a fair attendance of shippers the market opened actively, and late rates were well maintained, but as the day wore on buying slackened very perceptibly, and prices became irregular. Choice small hogs made from 48s. to 50s. per cwt.; heavy, 44s. to 46s.; coarse and inferior pigs, 36s. to 40s. per cwt.

Number of cattle in market, 1,193; sheep, 4,188.

LONDON.

Islington, Thursday.—A fair supply of beasts, consisting chiefly, however, of fat bulls and rough cattle. The demand proved somewhat quiet, but prices marked little or no change. Fat bulls, 3s 4d to 3s 8d. A fair supply of sheep was penned, and evidenced fairly good support at firm prices, 7½ to 8-stone Downs, 5s 4d to 5s 8d; 9-stone, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; 10-stone half-breds, 5s; 10-stone Down ewes, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; 11-stone half-breds, 4s 2d to 4s 4d. Lamb trade ruled firm; 4½ to 5-stone Downs, 7s 8d to 8s; 6-stone half-breds, 6s 10d to 7s 2d. Calves moved off quietly, the best on offer making 6s 4d to 6s 6d per 8lb. to sink the offal. Pig trade nominal. Total supplies: 100 beasts, 1,140 sheep, 40 calves, 5 cows, and 10 pigs.

COUNTRY.

Basingstoke, Wednesday.—At Raynbird and Sons' sale yard there was a good attendance of buyers to meet a supply of 35 fat beasts, 65 calves, 497 fat sheep and lambs, and 45 head of dairy and store cattle, which realised the following prices:—Fat shorthorn steers, up to £20; Kerry steers, to £18 15s; Polled steers, up to £20; shorthorn heifers, £22 10s; Devon steers, up to £19; fat calves, 70s to 97s 6d; small, 15s to 50s; dairy cows, up to £18. A short supply of fat beasts, with less demand, but in most cases last week's prices were maintained. A fair trade was experienced for all the best class milk cows and heifers; secondary sorts met a dull trade. Store cattle are inquired for, and make more money. Fat calves are scarce, and meet a firm trade. A full entry of fat sheep and lambs met a good trade, at an advance all round on last week's values, and a clearance effected. Prime quality fat sheep realised from 44s to 54s 6d; 13 months' old ditto, 34s 6d to 51s; fat sucking lambs, 30s to 42s 6d; fat ewes, 38s to 50s. Ruling values. Best quality fat beasts, 6¾d to 7¼d; second ditto, 6½d to 6¾d; bulls, cows, and inferior beasts, 5d to 6d per lb.; best quality fat sheep, 7¾d to 8¼d; second ditto, 6½d to 7¼d; fat sucking lambs, 10d to 12d; old ewes, rams, and inferior sheep, 6d to 7d per lb; fat calves, 7½d to 9d per lb.

Boston, Wednesday.—Strong stores, £12 to £14; young grazing steers, £10 to £12; drapes, £12 to £14; in-calvers, £19 to £21; heifers, £17 to £19; calves, 55s to 60s; hogs, 40s to 44s each; best mutton (wether), 8d; ditto (ewe), 5½d to 7d per lb.

Bury, Wednesday.—At Messrs. Simpson and Son's auction mart there were short supplies of stock all round, as is often the case on the market day following the holidays. Fat beasts met a sharp trade at more money, fresh buyers from the Midlands being unable to obtain sufficient for their requirements. Prices for fat sheep went up to £27. Store beasts also sold well at a trifle more money for all descriptions. Store sheep met with more enquiry. Good supply of pigs, and a brisk trade prevailed at fully late rates.

Calne, Friday.—Present prices for prime pigs, in lots of not less than 10, on rail within 100 miles of Calne.

Prime Stores.	Thickness of fat in any part of the Back.	Price per Sc. s.	d.
6 sc. 10 lbs. to 9 sc. 10 lbs.	2½ in. and under ...	9	6
Under 10 sc.	Not exceeding 2½ in. ...	9	0
Under 11 sc. 10 lb.	... Not exceeding 2¾ in....	8	6
Under 12 sc.	... Not exceeding 3 in. ..,		

—C. & T. Harris & Co., Ld.

Cambridge, Monday.—Beasts, 227; sheep, 415; horses, 2. Beef, 7s to 8s; mutton, 4s 8d to 5s 4d. Quite a holiday market. Very few store beasts shown. Fat beasts, a fair show; prices unchanged. Fat sheep, short supply, and trade fairly good. Stores, very few to hand. Hay, straw, and roots, short supply.

Canterbury, Saturday.—The market is closed owing to foot and mouth disease restrictions.

Carlisle, Saturday.—The show of Irish store cattle was about similar to that of a week ago, and consisted of over 700 heifers and stripping cows. A very large number of buyers attended from all parts of the North of England and South of Scotland, and business was brisk. The best heifers changed hands at £10 10s to £14 10s; small heifers £6 10s to £8 10s. There was an excellent show of stripping cows, which met a ready market at £8 10 to £13 10s.

Chichester, Wednesday.—There was about an average supply of fat stock, and trade for beef and mutton was steady, without change. Lambs were plentiful, and much cheaper than of late. Calves of the best quality were still scarce, and realised quite 7s per stone. The store sheep trade exhibited signs of more activity, and the majority of the pens on offer were disposed of at improved rates. There were more than enough store cattle to meet the demand, and trade in this department is not yet at its best. Pigs, however, sold briskly, and prices were higher than a fortnight ago, little porkers being especially dear. The following figures show the number of head of stock on sale and the tolls taken: Cattle, 580; sheep, 3,627; pigs, 601; calves, 123; horses, 79; total, 5,080. Tolls taken, £31 1s.

Dorchester, Wednesday.—Coming so soon after the great Easter sales of calves and pigs, and almost before the holidays are over, there was a considerable falling off in the supplies, compared with that day week; still, there were pretty good offers on the whole, and ample to meet the requirements of all buyers. Trade was steady for beef, but by no means so fast for calves, though lambs met a fairly good inquiry. Mutton, however, was still quiet. Sales were held by Messrs. Enser and Son, and also by Mr. Sampson. Good beef cannot be quoted under 11s per score, which is the general run at most markets, though the more ordinary run of cows may be quoted at about 10s to 10s 6d. Calves were a steadier trade, at a decline in value, 8d being an outside price to-day, whilst the plainer kinds sold from 6½d to 7½d. Best qualities of mutton may be quoted about 7¾d per lb, and coarser lots 6½d to 7d. Best lamb, 9d to 9½d; seconds, 8d to 8½d. Small weights in porkers met a fairly quick demand at 10s 6d per score and baconers 9s to 10s.

Dublin, Thursday.—Numbers in market: Beasts, 1,193, decrease 520; sheep, 4,188, decrease 637; calves, 20, decrease 20. Very choicely finished cattle in the market, and these were in good demand at somewhat higher prices. Other sorts easier sold. Sheep in better demand at a slight advance all round, and a fair clearance was effected. Cattle, live weight (best), 33s to 36s per cwt.;

secondary descriptions, 27s to 32s per cwt. Mutton, dead weight, 6½d to 8d per lb.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Bullocks and cows, 1,480; calves, 198; sheep and lambs, 1,996; pigs (fat and sows), 22; sucking pigs, 25; pigs (stores, not more than ten), 238; pigs (stores, more than ten), 70; horses, 128; colts, 36. Best beef, 6d to 7d per lb; wether sheep, 6½d to 8d per lb; ewes, 5½d to 7d per lb; veal, 8½d per lb; pork, 5½d to 6d per lb; bacon, 4½ to 5½ per lb; lambs, 1s to 1s 2d per lb.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons report shorter supplies of all descriptions of stock. Fat cattle came to hand in excellent condition; a sharp trade resulted at an advance of 6d per stone. Fat sheep were in request, and improved in value from 6d to 1s per stone. Fat lambs up to 37s. Grazing hoggets met with more enquiry; half-breds to 39s 6d; Blackfaced to 29s. Fat calves, with Easter over, were not so dear; the best weaning calves sold well. Fat swine fully maintained the high quotations noticed last week, and stores, which were more numerous, were well competed for. Fat sows dear. Grazing cattle with condition made rather more money. For cows and heifers there was a better demand, and prices ruled against buyers. Numbers at sales and market: Cattle, 429; calves, 29; sheep, 2,338; swine, 1,186; horses, 16.

Leicester, Wednesday.—Very full consignments of home-fed bullocks. Buyers and dealers were well represented. Trade rather sluggish, and prices 10s per head lower. Choice bullocks, 6½d to 6¾d; secondary, 6d to 6¼; cows, 5d to 6d; heifers, 6½d to 6¾d per lb. Sheep were a large supply, and sold slowly at 7¼d to 7¾d in the wool for choice lots; large sheep, 6½d to 7d; shorn sheep, 6d to 7d; ewes, 5d to 6d. Lambs firm at 1s. Calves sold very freely at 9d to 10d per lb.

LIVERPOOL, Monday.—Larger supply of cattle, demand fair, and prices rather better for all classes. Sheep supply also larger. Trade slow, and late rates difficult to maintain. Lambs, owing to old weather, only middling trade. Beef, 7d. to 5d. per lb.; mutton, 8¾d. to 6¼d. per lb.; lamb, 1s. At market—1,265 cattle and 5,223 sheep.

Newport, Wednesday.—A very brisk trade was done, although the supply of sheep and cattle was rather short. Quotations: Best beef, 6¾d; seconds, 6¼d to 6½d; cows, 5½d to 6d; best wether mutton, 8d to 8½d; ewes, 6½d to 7d; lambs, 1s; veal, 8d to 9½d; pigs, porkers, 10s to 11s per score.

Norwich, Saturday.—The supply of store beasts on offer here to-day showed some falling off, and the quality and condition of the lots on offer also left something to be desired. Prices remained at about their former level. There was a larger show of fat beasts and trade was dull, prices being the turn in favour of buyers in the transactions effected; quotations remained nominally unchanged, however, at 7s 6d to 8s. per 14 lb. Store sheep were in large supply and trade was dull at barely late rates; keeping hoggets were quoted at 35s to 42s per head. Fat sheep made 7s 6d to 8s and 8s 6d per 14 lb. Keen prospects are likely to be improved in Norfolk by heavy rains which have fallen to-day.

Romford, Wednesday.—Average supply of fat beasts, trade a little better. Best beasts, 4s 6d to 4s 8d, and middlings, 4s to 4s 2d per stone. Calves in very short supply. Trade about the same, at 5s 6d to 5s 8d per stone. Sheep in short supply; trade a little better. Best sheep, 5s 6d to 5s 8d, and middlings, 5s 2d to 5s 4d per stone. Lambs in short supply; trade fair, at 7s 4d to 7s 6d per stone. Few stores on offer; fair demand. Pig market still closed.

Salford, Tuesday.—The supply of cattle was smaller than last week. A brisk trade was experienced, and sellers obtained better prices. There was a large decrease in the number of sheep and lambs on offer. Trade ruled slow for sheep, but the tendency of prices was in favour of the seller. Lambs met a slow sale at less money. A large show of calves, but best quality rather scarce. These met with a ready sale, but other kinds sold slowly. Cattle, 5d to 7d; sheep in wool, 7d to 9½d; ditto clipped, 6d to 8d; calves, 6d to 8¾d per lb; lambs, 30s to 50s each. Cattle, 2,016; sheep and lambs, 9,243; calves, 186; pigs, 52.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—No quotable transactions in to-day's cattle market, which had a deserted appearance owing to holidays and farm operations.

Spalding, Tuesday.—Small show of beef, and keen demand; best to 8s; cow beef realised 7s 6d. Small show of store beasts, and an improved demand. Cows dear, especially the better sorts. In the sheep market there was a small number offering, and the price ranged from 6d to 7¼d per lb. Lambs sold well.

Thame, Tuesday.—There was a very short supply of stock, which was not equal to the demand, and prices ruled high, a clearance being readily effected. Mr. Bond's sale comprised 19 fat beasts, 119 fat sheep and lambs and couples, 55 weaning calves, and 141 pigs. Fat bullocks made £18 to £22 15s; fat heifers, £14 to £21 12s 6d; fat tegs, 46s to 50s 6d; fat ewes, 38s to 51s; fat lambs, 39s to 44s; couples up to 61s 6d; cow calves, 28s to 54s; bull calves, 14s to 43s; fat pigs, 9s 6d per score; stores, 14s to 32s.

Wakefield, Wednesday.—Good demand for beef and mutton. Beef made 5½d to 7d per lb; young sheep, 7¾d and 8d; others, 5d to 7½d; lambs, 11d to 1s. The good trade for beef and the increased prices were principally due to the smallness of the supply. Numbers: Sheep, 3,417; beasts, 1,164.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Beasts, moderate supply, fair trade. Sheep, fair supply and trade fair. Calves also a moderate supply and trade. Beef, 5½d to 7¼ per lb; a few best, 7½d. Mutton, 6½d to 8¾d per lb. Veal, 7¼d to 9d per lb. Pigs: Bacon, 10s per score; porkers, 10s to 10s 6d per score; sows, 8s per score.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Fair show of stock, and a good trade. Best beef, 7s to 7s 6d; secondary, 6s to 6s 9d per stone; best wethers, 7d to 7½d; ewes, 5d to 6d; veal, 10d to 11d; lamb, 10d to 1s per lb.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Wednesday.—Beast supplies, 680 head, being an increase of 336 as compared with last Wednesday's figures, and consisted of shipments from United States. Trade firm at 4s 7d to 4s 9d, exceptionally 4s 10d per 8lb. to sink the offal.

Yorkhill, Tuesday.—The usual weekly sale of American cattle was held to-day, when there were penned in the sheds 207 cattle, landed by the "Sarmatian" (s.), from Portland (Me.). The animals, as regards quality, were fully up to those exposed the previous week. There was a fairly good attendance of buyers, and trade was very brisk, values all round being fully up to the rates ruling the previous week, and, if anything, a little higher—a fact due to the small supply. Small, neat, well-fed beasts secured the best inquiry, and sold very dear. The dead weight quotations may be given as follows:—Bullocks, best quality, medium weight, 60s, and a few really choice up to 62s per cwt.; secondary and heavier, 56s to 58s; heifers, best class, 56s to 60s; secondary, down to 54s; cows, 50s to 54s; bulls, best class, to 54s; and secondary and heavier, 50s to 52s.

COLONIAL DAIRY PRODUCE.

London, Friday.—Butter: There has been more briskness in the New Zealand market this week, especially at its close and consequently prices are, if anything, firmer than they were before Easter. There is every indication that retailers have almost exhausted their stocks and are obliged to come on to the open market to replenish supplies. There is no quotable change in prices, but the tone of the market is decidedly better, and it looks very probable that next week a rise in values may occur. The Danish Committee has left the Copenhagen official quotation again unchanged at 96 kroner, being the same as last year. Cheese: The demand for Canadian and New Zealand cheese continues good. Canadian "Choicest" is selling at 56s, and New Zealand "First Government" grade at 54s, with a few lots at 55s. Stocks in the United Kingdom are very small, while it is reported that in Canada they are unprecedently light.—W. WEDDEL AND CO.

WOOL.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Not much business has been done since the holidays, but the tone of the market is very healthy.

Glasgow and Leith.—There is little or no change to note in the Scotch wool trade in March. There is still a good demand for fine-haired Cheviots, particularly hoggs, while the stronger variety has been neglected. Half-bred and Cross wools have been dealt in to a moderate extent. In Blackfaced there has not been much movement in the home market, but small lots, partly in completion of old orders, have been shipped to the States during the month. At the sales in Leith, on the 25th, and Glasgow, on the 26th, there was a small attendance of buyers, who operated very sparingly at the auctions, but a few lots were disposed of privately—mostly of Half-breds and Crosses. In all classes prices are fairly well maintained, and stocks are low.—J. AND W. GREIG.

MANURES.

Liverpool, Friday.—Fertilisers of all descriptions are in seasonable request, and values are firm, whilst for sulphate of ammonia advanced prices are demanded. Feeding stuffs are only a quiet market, and prices tend in favour of buyers. To-day's rates are as follows: Nitrate of soda, best quality, i.e., guaranteed 95 per cent., pure, in bags, £10 10s; East India bone meal, fair to prime, in bags, £4 2s 6d to £4 7s 6d per ton; kainit, prime 23 per cent., in bags, £2 7s 6d to £2 10s per ton; palm nut cake, prime, in bags, nominal; linseed cake, American thin oblong, prime, in bags, £7 1s 3d to £7 3 9d per ton; linseed cake, English, prime, in bulk, £8 10s to £8 15s per ton; linseed cake, foreign, round, prime, soft only, in bags, £8 2s 6d to £8 5s per ton; cotton-seed cake, N.A. decorticated, prime, in bags, £7 to £7 2s 6d per ton; cottonseed cake, English decorticated, prime, soft, in bags, £7 2s 6d to £7 7s 6d per ton; cotton-seed cake, English undecorticated, prime, in bulk, £4 10s to £4 15s per ton; cottonseed cake (crushed) 20 to 25 per cent. oil, prime, in bags, £7 3s 9d per ton; maize germ meal, prime, in bags, £5 16s 3d to £5 18s 9d per ton; rice meal, Rangoon, as imported, in bags, £5 to £5 2s 6d per ton; Indian meal, coarse to fine grinding, prime, in bulk, 12s 6d to 12s 9d per 240lb; linseed, fine bold feeding, in bags, £3 2s to £3 4s per qr, 416lb; D.N.S. brand superphosphate of lime, guaranteed, 25 to 27 sol., in bags, £2 5s to £2 7s per ton, at super depot; D.N.S. brand superphosphate of lime, guaranteed, 30 to 31, in bags, £2 10s to £2 12s per ton at super depot; superphosphate of lime, guaranteed, 35 to 36 sol., in bags, £3 to £3 2s per ton at super depot; basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed, 30 to 35 per cent. phos., in bags, nominal; basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed, 35 to 40 per cent. phos., in bags, nominal; basic slag, finest quality, guaranteed 38 to 45 per cent. phos., in bags, nominal.

HAY AND STRAW.

Manchester, Wednesday.—Hay, 6½d to 7d; clover, 6¾d to 7½d; ditto Welsh, 7¾d; ditto Lincoln, 8d; straw (oat), 5¾d to 6d per stone.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—The trade ruled quiet at unchanged values. Best clover, 95s. to 110s.; inferior ditto., 80s to 90s; specially picked hay, 115s; good ditto, 100s; inferior ditto. 80s to 90s; mixture and sainfoin, 90s to 100s

THE BALTIC.

The cargo arrivals from March 27th to April 5th were 38 in number, namely, 1 maize, 4 barley, and 33 wheat. The cargoes of the last-named staple represented nearly 400,000qrs., but only 174,000qrs. have as yet had time to unload. The trade at the Baltic has been, naturally, affected by these large supplies, and Californian wheat is pressed on sale at 29s. 6d. per quarter, Walla Walla at 29s. 3d., and Australian at prices varying from 29s. to 30s., according to sample.

Sales of articles unaffected by the heavy cargo arrivals include "parcels," that is, part cargoes, of No. 2 hard winter wheat at 27s. 9d., Calcutta soft red at 29s., and Kurrachee soft white at 28s. 9d. per qr. Spring corn cargoes have fetched 18s. 6d. for Azoff barley, 23s. 6d. for Roumanian rye, 28s. 9d. for Egyptian beans, 29s. for Calcutta white peas, 17s. 9d. for Roumanian oats, 46s. 6d. for Indian poppyseed, 49s. for Argentine linseed, and 37s. for Turkish canaryseed. Of staples sold by the ton Egyptian cottonseed has made £6 15s.; and Portuguese locust beans have realised £4 15s., both for prompt shipment.

The London Corn Trade Association inform us that the following standards have been made up, namely, Maize from Kustendje, January shipment. Maize: Odessa, Danube, Odessa, Varna, Poti, Bessarabian, Gal.-Fox., Danube, Dede Agatch, Novorossisk, Bourgas. Rye: Nicolaieff, 72/73 kilos.; Novorossisk, 72/73 kilos; Odessa, 73/74 kilos. Barley: Odessa, Novorossisk, Danube, Eupataria, Nicolaieff, Kustendje, Theodosia, Baltchick. All January shipment. Samples may be had during April at the Association's offices.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Hull, Tuesday.—Linseed: The arrivals are 2,194qrs. from Buenos Ayres, 50qrs. Harlingen, 8,793qrs. Rosario, 4,092qrs. Villa Constitution; total, 15,129qrs. Linseed: With further arrivals of Plate, and Easter Holidays intervening, the market has ruled dull, and prices have declined 1s 6d to 2s per qr. Calcutta has also been more pressed, chiefly by re-sellers, and prices show a fall of 2s per qr on the week, April-June shipment being now offered at 50s. River Plate, 46s 6d accepted for Seed arrived; forward positions quite nominal. Cottonseed: The market is without change in values since our last, and only a moderate business done, as present high prices are unremunerative to the crushers, who consequently buy sparingly. Spot sold at £6 16s 3d; also same paid per steamer near at hand. March and April-June remain at £6 15s, and sellers of new crop November-January at £6 5s. Oils:—Exports for the week ending March 25, 1902: Linseed oil—2 America, 2 Belgium, 2 Denmark, 2 Germany, 8 Holland, 2 Italy, 19 Norway, total 37 toas; cotton oil—192 Austria, 96 Belgium, 2 France, 264 Germany, 279 Holland, 2 Sweden, total 775 tons. The market for linseed oil is flat; for cotton-seed steadier. Linseed oil: 28s. spot, 27s 9d May-August. Cotton oil: 22s 10½d spot; 23s 3d May-August. Crude: 21s 9d spot; 22s May-August. Rape oil: The market is quiet, and there is no alteration in prices.—KEIGHLEY, MAXSTED, AND CO.

London, Thursday.—Linseed.—Continued heavy shipments from the East Indies and the Plate have caused rates to decline steadily, but at the close an improvement of fully 9d per quarter from the lowest point has taken place in forward positions. Spot Calcutta to London has been sold at 50s 6d, passage ranges at 50s 6d to 50s 9d; April-June, 49s 6d, but closing at 50s 9d. La Plata on passage, 48s. Hull has also been lower, but is now steadier. Calcutta, April-June, 51s 3d. La Plata, spot 47s, March-April 48s. To the Continent, Bombay, April-May, 53s 9d; June-July, 54s. Calcutta, April-June, 51s. La Plata afloat, 48s; March-April, 49s. Linseed oil has experienced considerable fluctuations in value, and the recent decline in values has again been followed by higher price. We quote spot in pipes, £29 15; barrels, £30; May-August, £29 10s; Sep-Dec. £28 5s. Hull naked spot, £28, which is also the quotation up to August. Linseed cakes are steady. We to-day quote London made, £8 5s to £8 7s 6d ex mill; American Western, £7 7s 6d to £7 10s; Russian, £7 12s 6d to £8 2s 6d. Cotton cakes quiet; London made, £4 6s 3d to £4 7s 6d. Rapeseed.—Quiet. Brown Cawnpore, April-May, 37s 6d; Brown, Calcutta, April-June, 36s 3d. To the Continent we quote Yellow Guzerat, 42s; Yellow Cawnpore, April-May, 40s; Brown Cawnpore, March-May, 37s 6d; Brown Calcutta, April-June, 36s 3d; Ferozepore, February-March, 37s 6d; Jamba, March-May, to Hull, 31s 6d. Cottonseed.—Alexandria has continued firm, and buyers here have at last come up to something like Egyptian parity. Spot London, £6 15s; passage, £6 17s 6d; April-May, £7. Hull spot to April-June, £6 18s 9d; November-January, £6 6s 3d. Cargoes are held for prices that are a little beyond buyers' views. Bombay to Hull: Business continues to be done at £4 5s for passage; April-May is quoted £4 15s sellers.—THE PRODUCE BROKERS CO., LTD.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed Cakes: The markets during the past week have been more or less of a holiday character, and buyers, beyond filling their immediate requirements are less inclined to operate ahead, at the same time there is certainly no depreciation in values. Russians offer rather more freely the price in mats being unchanged, but in bags about 2s 6d per ton more money. Americans are unchanged in price, both in spot and forward positions. Calcutta made in bags remain good value at at £7 15s per ton. London made are slightly easier, but there is not much response. Cotton Cakes: A fair quantity of Foreign is available in warehouse, and with a very poor demand prices are with difficulty held up. English meet a slow sale at unchanged prices, with Egyptian slightly easier. Decorticated are dull and un hanged, with Meal also unchanged. Rape Cakes: Quiet, and unchanged. Maize Germ Meal: A small quantity of American is obtainable at £5 15s ex ship, while there are sellers at £5 5s c.i.f. for prompt shipment. English is in fair request at 5s per ton less money. Rice Meal: A steamer parcel of Rangoon just arrived has sold at £4 15s ex ship, and some quantity to arrive in about three weeks has changed hands at £4 7s 6d.

	Per ton. £ s. d.			Per ton. £ s. d.		
LINSEED CAKES.						
London made ..... ex mill	8	0	0 to	8	5	0
American ..... ex ship	7	0	0 to	7	2	6
Russian, in mats ..... ex dock	7	10	0 to	7	12	6
Russian, in bags ..... ex dock	7	15	0 to	8	0	0
Calcutta	7	15	0 to	8	0	0
COTTONSEED CAKES.						
London made ..... ex mill	4	7	6 to	4	10	0
Egyptian ..... ex dock	4	3	9 to	4	7	6
Decorticated ..... ex dock	6	7	6 to	6	10	0
Meal ..... ex dock	6	5	0		—	
RAPE CAKES.						
East India	4	5	0		—	
MAIZE.						
English germ meal ..... ex mill	5	7	6 to	5	10	0
American ..... c.i.f.	5	7	6 to	5	10	0
RICE MEAL.						
Rangoon ..... ex ship		—		4	15	0

—PINNOCK BROS., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

HOPS.

London, Monday.—W. H. and H. Le May report:—Business opens after the holidays with a demand for Mid. and East Kent Golding hops, but stocks are exhausted. There is also a fair enquiry on this market for Worcester hops which are now offering at such price that make them the best value obtainable.

SEEDS.

London, Monday.—We had a moderate demand for all farm seeds at to day's markets. Buyers act cautiously, the season being well advanced, but it looks as if stocks left over will be lighter than usual, holders therefore are not pressing sellers, and prices are fairly well maintained.—JOHN PICARD & CO.

WATERLOO ROUND FEEDING CAKES, £6 10s 0d PER TON WATERLOO ANGLO SHAPE 97 PER CENT PURE LINSEED CAKES, £9 7s 6d PER TON; WATERLOO 97 PER CENT. PURE EGYPTIAN COTTONSEED CAKES, £4 15s 0d PER TON. ALL F.O.R. HULL.

MOLASSINE FEEDING MEAL, packed in bags, of 1½cwt., each. Price per cwt., 7s. 6d. Price per ton, £6 15s., on rail at works, Silvertown, Essex, and F.O.R. Liverpool. A sample lot of 6cwt., in 4 bags of 1½cwt. each, delivered free to any station in England on receipt of remittance for £2 11s 0d



STOCK AND SHOW NOTES.

By Herdsman.

I am requested to remind intending exhibitors of horses, cattle, sheep, and pigs at the Royal Agricultural Society's meeting, to be held at Carlisle in July next, that entries can only be received by the society at the lowest rates if they are in the hands of the secretary on or before Tuesday week, April 15. The rates for entries now current are: 10s. per entry to members of the Royal Agricultural Society, and £1 per entry to non-members. These rates will be increased after April 15 and up to April 30 to 15s. per entry to members and 30s. per entry to non-memebrs. From May 1 to May 15, when the entries will finally close, the fees will be: Members, £1, and non-members, £2. Entries of poultry and produce can be made up to April 30 at 2s. 6d. per entry to members, and 5s. to non-members, which rate will be increased after May 15 to 5s. and 10s. respectively. Copies of the prize-sheet and forms of entry for live stock, poultry, and produce, and also for the competitions of shoeing smiths, butter-makers, and horse-jumping, can be obtained on application to the secretary, at 13, Hanover Square, London, W.

In a recent issue I gave some details of the entries of the cattle and pigs received for the Royal Dublin Society's Spring Show, which opens on the 15th inst. I am now able to supplement that information with the entries of the horses, which closed late, the week before last. They are certainly disappointing, for, notwithstanding the fact that eight agricultural classes are included this year which were left out in 1901, the total entries of horses number but 164, as compared with 165 last year. The agricultural classes have met with but scanty support, no fewer than four failing to receive any entry, whilst in one class there is but one entry, and in the others the numbers are seven, six, six, and four, making a total for eight classes of 24. Hackneys number the same as last year, viz., 12; horses suitable for harness are three less than in 1901, when there were 14; horses in single harness number 13, as against 17; harness ponies, however, show an increase of five, they numbering 17; whilst the entries of made polo ponies total 36, and ponies suitable for, and likely to make, polo ponies number 43, as compared with 37 and 57 respectively in 1901. For the Champion Cup, value £10, open to first prize winners in harness at Royal Dublin Society's Horse Show, August, 1901, or any show in Great Britain during 1901, duly entered for this competition, and first prize winners in classes 78, 79, 80, and 81 of this prize list, if shown in harness, without further entry, no entries have been received, whereas last year there were two.

I have received an artistically-got-up catalogue of the horses for service during the present season in Lord Rothschild's famous Shire stud at Tring Park, Tring, Herts. The horses at stud are Anchorite, 16488, Birdsall Menestrel, 19337, Hertfordshire Lad, 18800, Blythwood Spark, 16532, Duke of Knighton, 17311, Carbonite, 11173, Harold's Heir, Vol. 24, and Chief Councillor, Vol. 24. The majority of the animals have won numerous prizes at the big shows during the past few years, and they are all well known. With the exception of Birdsall Menestrel, whose nominations have all been taken up, the whole of the animals named will stand at stud this season, at certain fees given in the catalogue. Fuller particulars can be had on application to Mr. Richardson Carr, Estate Office, Tring Park.

A catalogue has been forwarded to me of the Shire horses, Aberdeen-Angus cattle, and Berkshire pigs on the Danesfield Estate. The majority of these animals have been bred by Mr. R. W. Hudson, and are from some of the most noted prize-winning strains in the country. Breeders intending to make purchases during the coming season are invited to inspect the stud and farms, and should make application for appointments to Mr. Colin Campbell, Estate Office, Danesfield, Marlow. It is also announced that an unreserved sale of Shire horses will be held at Danesfield on October 8.

Three well-known, prize-winning Shire stallions will stand at the Stud Farm, Norbury Park, Dorking, during the present season, viz., Hendre Champion, Norbury Harold, and Norbury Dane. These are included in Mr. L. Salomon's famous stud, and will serve a limited number of mares at fees ranging from ten to three guineas, special terms being arranged for bona-fide tenant farmers, full particulars of which can be had on application to Mr. John Bastin, Norbury Park Farm, Dorking, Surrey.



THE SHIRE FILLY CHILDWALL CHANT was bred by Mr. W. Cunningham, Gorsey Cop, Cateacre, Liverpool, being a daughter of Harold out of Cephalonia, 17,966. At the Shire Horse Society's Show in February she won First Prize in the class for one year old fillies, being exhibited by Mr. W. Cunningham.

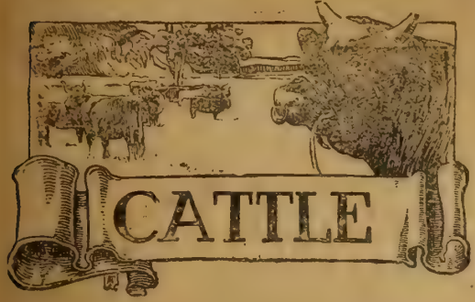
Mr. J. Crawter, Secretary of the Waltham Cross and Three Counties (Essex, Herts, and Middlesex) Horse and Foal Society, informs me that in certain quarters it is stated that his society's show is to be hld on June 19; but this is not so, the date being June 12, as given in a pocket book and list of shows.

Although the show of the Adlington and District Agricultural Society, at Macclesfield, last year, was a success, it was not so financially, it resulting in an adverse balance of £30. However, at the annual meeting of the society, last week, the President (Mr. A. M. R. Legh, of Adlington Hall) stated that he did not like the idea of beginning the arrangements of the show in the Coronation year with an adverse balance on any account, and, in order that they might start free from debt, he would send the treasurer a cheque for that amount. Of course, Mr. Legh's generosity was much appreciated, and it is to be honed that the show to be held at Alderley Edge this year, under that gentleman's presidency, will prove a success from every point of view.

The Council of the Darwen and District Agricultural Association has drawn up a liberal prize list for the show to be held at Darwen on Saturday, May 10, a sum of £500 and about a dozen cups, ranging in value from three to ten guineas, being offered. Several new open classes have been added this year, including one for Hackney colt or filly foaled in 1901, another for Hackney foals of 1902, a harness class under 13 hands, a tandem class, and one for Army horses, and a special class for leapers ridden by ladies only; whilst new classes are added for dairy cattle. Entries close May 3, with the secretary, Mr. J. Ainsworth, Post Office Chambers, Darwen.

Recent cattle sales in America do not call for any exhaustive notice. Good prices were, however, made at a composite sale of Shorthorns at South Omaha, Nebraska, on the 14th ult., although some of the consignments were not in proper condition. The well-bred and well-conditioned cattle sold well, but the thin and mediocre lots sold better. Mr. Ward's imported Rosewood Maid was sold to Mr. C. F. Farrand, Ireton, Iowa, for £20. Jessica, by Golden Star, an imported cow with calf, went to Walpole Bros., Rock Valley, Iowa, at £260. The bulls sold well; in fact, it was one of the very best bull sales of the season. Secret's Strathallan, the fifteen-months-old son of Secret Valentine, was bred and sold by Riley Bros., Albion, Nebraska. He is a massive, thick calf, and sold well, going to O. H. Blakesley, Marne, Iowa, at £160. No female sold under £27, and only two bulls sold under £20.

In the seventeenth annual report of the Secretary and Executive Committee of the Dominion Shorthorn Breeders' Association, dated Toronto, February 3, 1902, it is stated that Shorthorns have been in good demand during the last year at public sales, and especially so at private ones, more pure-bred cattle having left Canada than in any one year heretofore. Most of these have gone across the border to the United States, although a goodly number have gone to the North-West and British Columbia. High honours have been taken by Canadians at the Pan-American and other American shows, and high prices have been obtained by them at American sales; large prices have also been paid by aCnadians at those sales. It has, altogether, been the most successful year in Canada for Shorthorns that was ever known.



Outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease in Kent.

A rather serious outbreak of foot and mouth disease has occurred on a farm at Chislet, between Canterbury and Herne Bay, 19 lambs having died from the disease, and in consequence the Board of Agriculture have issued an order closing all the live-stock markets in the eastern division of Kent, and prohibiting the holding of sales of cattle and sheep within the infected area. The order not reach Canterbury until Saturday afternoon, and the lean-stock market, at which a large trade had been done in store sheep, was immediately closed. The effect of the order, coming into force just as the spring trade in sheep was opening, will be a serious loss to breeders. Sales had been advertised to take place last week in various parts of East Kent, the entries for which numbered many thousand head of sheep. None of these, however, could be held, and no cattle or sheep will be allowed to be removed from any of the farms in the district. The infected area includes the petty sessional divisions of Ramsgate, Cinque Ports, Liberties, Wingham, Elham, Howe division, and Faversham, with the parishes of Smelth, Wye, Boughton, Aluph, Eastwell, Charing, Ashford, and the boroughs of Sandwich, Deal, Hythe, Faversham, Queenborough, Margate, Ramsgate, Dover, Folkestone, and the city of Canterbury.

Shrewsbury Bull Show and Sale.

There was a very large company of buyers; both home and foreign, at Messrs. Alfred Mansell and Co.'s annual show and sale of bulls at Shrewsbury, and very satisfactory prices were realised. The catalogue comprised pedigree Shorthorns, Herefords, and Aberdeen-Angus from the herds of various breeders, whilst some non-pedigree Shorthorns were also entered. Messrs. John A. Preece, Drayton Home Farm, Thrapston; Mr. Alexander Bruce, South America; and Mr. Allen E. Hughes, Wintercott, Leominster, officiated as judges, and their awards were as follows:—

Best Shorthorn Heifer, not exceeding 2 years old.—1, Mrs L. H. Holland, Wharton Grange, Newport, Salop; 2, Mr. E. K. Bickley, Emstrey, Shrewsbury.

Best Shorthorn Cow.—1, Mr. C. Lea, Yorton; 2, Mr. J. Tetley-Nickels, Day House, Shrewsbury; h.c., Mr. E. K. Bickley.

Best Shorthorn Bull, not exceeding 16 months old.—1, Mr. A. Browne, White House, Leighton, Welshpool; 2, Mr. T. S. Minton, Montford, Montford Bridge: r., Mr. J. Naylor, Leighton Park Farm, Welshpool; h.c., Mr. T. S. Minton, Montford, Montford Bridge; Mrs. L. H. Holland, and Mr J. Tetley-Nickels.

Best Shorthorn Bull, over 16 months old.—1, Mr. J. Tetley-Nickels; 2, Mr. T. S. Minton.

Best Hereford Bull, not exceeding 16 months old.—1, Mr. T. S. Minton; 2, and r., Mr. A. Tanner, Shrawardine, Shrewsbury.

Best Hereford Bull, over 16 months old.—1, Mr. T. S. Minton; 2, Mr. Morgan, Preston-on-Severn, Shrewsbury; r., Mr. W. Groves, Burcot, Wellington; h.c., Mr T. S. Minton.

Best Aberdeen-Angus Bull.—Mr. W. Brocklehurst, London House, Salop; 2, Mr. J. Naylor, Leighton Park Farm, Welshpool.

Best Non-pedigree Shorthorn Bull.—1, Mr. J. Naylor; 2, Mr. E. K. Bickley; r., Mr. W. Howe, Shrewsbury.

The prices realised were as follow:—

SHORTHORN BULLS.—Mrs. L. H. Holland's roan, 19½gs.; Mr J. Naylor's roan (reserve number), 19½; Mr. J. Tetley-Nickels' red and white, 17; Mr. A. Browne's roan (1st prize), 37; Mr. T. S. Minton's red and white, 16; Mr. Watkin Jones' roan, 20; Mr. E. Powell's white, 15; Mr. J. Tetley-Nickels' white, 16½; Mr. J. Tetley-Nickels' white, 14½; Mr. T. S. Minton's red (2nd prize), 34; Mr. W. H. Foster's red, 20; Mr. J. Tetley-Nickels' white, 22; Mr. J. Tetley-Nickels' white, 19; Mr. T. S. Minton's white, 18; Mr. E. Powell's red and white, 13; Mr. J. Tetley-Nickels' red and white, 17; Mr. P. W. Thorniley's red, 15; Mr. J. Tetley-Nickels' roan, 20; Mr. T. S. Minton's red (highly commended), 19½; Mr. E. Powell's roan, 17½; Mr. T. S. Minton's roan (2nd prize), 27; Mr. Heighway Jones' red, 25; Mr J. Tetley-Nickels' roan (1st prize), 34; Mr. W. B. Ledger's roan, 25; Mr. W. Dickins' red and white, 24; Mrs. Ratcliffe's red and white, 24; The Earl of Powis' roan, 29; Mr. J. Lucas' red and white, 18½; Mr. J. Naylor's roan, 25; Mr. P. W. Thorniley's red and white, 22; Mr. A. Mansell's red and white, 18.

HEREFORD BULLS.—Mr. W. H. Foster's, 26gs.; Mr. T. S. Minton's (1st prize), 40; Mr. T. S. Minton's, 20; Mr. T. S. Minton's, 28; Mr. Alfred Tanner's (2nd prize), 30; Mr. Alfred Tanner's, 28; Mr. Alfred Tanner's, 30; Mr. W. Groves, 17; Mr. W. Groves, 18; Mr. W. Groves, 14½; Mr. Wm. Oakley's, 19; Mr. W. Groves', 15; Mr. G. Crane's, 17½; Mr. W. Oakley's, 18; Mr. G. Crane's, 25; Mr. T. Morgan's, 16; Mr. W. Oakley's, 15½; Mr. R. Preece's, 12½; Mr. Lawton Moore's, 23; Mr. R. Preece's, 12; Mr. T. Morgan's, 14½; Mr. Alfred Tanner's, 23; Mr. Alfred Tanner's, 22; Mr. Alfred Tanner's, 20; Mr. Alfred Tanner's, 18; Mr. Wm. Groves', 25; Mr. Morgan's (2nd prize), 26; Mr. T. S. Minton's (1st prize), 41; Mr. J. R. Jones', 23; Mr. T. S. Minton's, 28; Mr. George Crane's, 23; Mr. J. Naylor's, 17½; Mr. A. Tanner's, 22; Mr. W. H. Foster's, 22

ABERDEEN-ANGUS BULLS.—Mr. J. Naylor's, 13½gs.; Mr. W. Brocklehurst's, 20; Mr. W. Brocklehurst's, 15.

NON-PEDIGREE SHORTHORN BULLS.—Mr. E. K. Bickley's roan, 25gs.; Mr. E. Matthews' roan, 19; Mr. W. Howe's red, 17½; Mr. J. Naylor's roan, 17½; Mr. T. Davies', red and white, 17.

Messrs. E. Webb and Sons' Stock Sale.

This annual sale was held by Messrs. H. King and Son, auctioneers, Stourbridge, at Kinver Hall on the 24th ult., when the catalogue comprised 333 wethers and tegs and 49 head of cattle, viz., 34 Hereford bullocks and 15 heifers and cows, and 14 porkets. The stock throughout was of very high-class quality, and reflects great credit on the bailiff (Mr. Abel) for the finished manner in which the whole of the sheep and cattle were brought under the hammer. The highest price realised for Hereford bullocks was £23. The sheep were a very level lot of ripe wethers and tegs. Wethers made up to 64s., and tegs 63s. Prior to the sale the company of buyers from Birmingham, Wolverhampton, West Bromwich, Kidderminster, Halesowen, Old Hill, Dudley, Brierley Hill, Stourbridge, Cradley, and the Black Country sat down to a capital lunch provided in the Dutch barn. Mr. E. Davies very ably proposed the health of Messrs. W. and E. Webb, which was responded to by Mr. E. Webb, who said it gave him great pleasure to meet the company at Kinver Hill year after year, and that he hoped the buyers would be able to buy the stock at a fair market value, and in such a way as to enable them to come another year. Noticeable amongst purchasers of large amounts were Messrs. J. Green, E. Betterton, H. Pattison, H. Sharp, S. W. Richards, R. Wood, S. Arnold, W. Harrison, Rogers, and others. Owing to the stormy weather which prevailed all day the attendance was not so large as usual, but nevertheless it included many influential customers, who bought the stock at full market value.

Border Union Agricultural Society's Bull Show and Sale.

The Border Union Agricultural Society's annual show and sale of pedigree and non-pedigree shorthorn bulls was held at Kelso on the 28th ult. There was a total entry of 78 animals (a considerable increase on last year), pedigree yearlings numbering 23, and one-year-old non-ped grs bulls 5, the remainder of the stock consisting of aged bulls and heifers. Though cold, the weather was dry and seasonable, and there was a very large attendance. Buyers from the English side of the Border, however, were conspicuous by well-nigh total absence, this having its effect on the trade, which was exceedingly stiff throughout, and the hope was expressed that the gathering would not again be fixed on Good Friday. The judges were Messrs. John H. Laurie, Hardens, Duns; and Thomas Richardson, The Wreay, Wigton, the officiating auctioneers being Messrs. Penny and Kay (in whose premises the sale was held), Messrs. John Swan and Sons, Limited, and Messrs Oliver and Son, Hawick.

There was a choice class of pedigree yearlings, the quality generally being much better than for a number of years, and there were half a score in the first selection, four of these being eventually thrown. After careful consideration the judges gave the first and second premiums to Messrs. W. and T. Bain, Legars, well-known local breeders. Bashful Boy, the first prize bull, is only a June calf, but he promised exceedingly well, being by Lord Rosebery's Principal of Dalmeny, 73,324, from the famous Collynie-bred Alexandra III, by Lofty, 64,271. In the ring he elicited some competition, this being the only occasion on which there was stir in the bidding, and at 36 guineas he was purchased by Mr. Lee, Markle. Defiance, the second prize bull, was calved on April 4, 1901, being by the same sire from Agnes by Red Knight, 71,323. With good head and frame, he is also nice in the skin, and he was purchased at 22 guineas by Mr. Scott, Whitehillfoot, Kelso. Master, a nice little red and white May calf of good stamp, secured third premium for Mr. T. R. Barnewell Elliot, Morebattle Tofts. Mr. Inglis, Langtonlees, got him at 17½ guineas. Prince Softlaw, a big 14 months old roan by the Presson-bred Parish Councillor II., from Lady Presson, the second winner at Edinburgh and the Border Union last yearfi, was placed fourth. Bidding for him stopped at 18 guineas, and his owner, Mr. James Scott, Softlaw, East Mains, withdrew him. The sweet roan May calf Duke of Cornwall, shown by Mr. Richard Davidson, Swinnie, Jedburgh, got fifth place. He is by Clarence, 76,359, from Graceful Princess by Graceful's Chief, and at 17½ guineas he was acquired by Mr. Douglas, Spotsmains, Kelso. The commended ticket was carried by Favonius, a very handsome red and little white of good shorthorn character, and shown by an enthusiastic devotee of the breed, Mr. Anthony Fred Nichol, Bradford, Belford, Northumberland. He was purchased for Mr. Barnewal Elliot, Morebattle Tofts, at 21 guineas. Other animals entered in this class sold at prices ranging from 11 to 17 guineas. Altogether 18 bulls were sold, and averaged £16 10s. 2d., as against £19 odd for 15 bulls last year.

Non-pedigree yearlings were relatively the dearest. The leading place was taken by a son of Red Knight, a dark roan of grand substance, consigned by Mr. John Hunter, Lempitlaw. At 18gs. he was secured by Colonel Hope of Cowdenknowes. A useful red-and-white belonging to Mr. Andrew Rutherford, Rumbleton Law, Greenlaw, got the second premium, and he was bought by Mr. Shiell of Hassendean, at 17 guineas. At the same figure Mr. C. J. Cunningham, Kerchesters, got the third prize bull—a heavy roan from Lempitlaw. A dark roan sent forward from Hollybush by Mr. Walter Elliot got fourth place, and he was bought at 15½ guineas by Mr. A. Veitch, Jedburgh. The Rumbletonlaw highly commended bull went to Mr. Henderson, Bailliknowe, at 16 guineas., and the commended bull—a roan of great size, consigned by Mr. Young, Halkburn, Galashiels—was bought by Mr. Pearson, of Otterburn, at 18½ guineas, the best price in the class. Others in the class realised from 8 to 14½ guineas.

A list of the prices obtained for the pedigree bulls together with purchasers' names, etc., is appended.

Property of the Hon. A. J. Balfour, M.P.

	Gs.
Landsman, roan, c. Feb. 25, 1901, s. Prince Superior ... Messrs. Riddell and Sons	11
Property of Mr. James Nisbet.	
Strong Bow, roan, c. March 17, 1901, s. Principal of Dalmeny ... Mr. Thomson	13
The Boy, roan, c. April 6, 1901, s. Principal of Dalmeny ... Messrs. Clarke and Sons	12
The Rover, red, c. March 28, 1901, s. Principal of Dalmeny ... Mr. Rae	13
Property of Mr. T. R. Barnewall Elliot.	
Major, roan, c. April 23, 1901, s. Parish Councillor II. ... Messrs. Laing and Mather	17
Master, red and a little white, c. May 1, 1901, s. Parish Councillor II. ... Mr. Inglis	17½
Property of Mr. Richard Davidson.	
New Century, red, c. Jan. 1, 1901, s. Clarence ... Mr. G. O. M. Weir	14
Willie, red and white, c. March 2, 1901, s. Clarence ... Mr. William Davidson	10
Duke of Cornwall, roan, c. May 3, 1901, s. Clarence ... Mr. Douglas	17
Property of Mr. W. C. Hogg.	
Graden Knight, roan, c. April 15, 1901, s. Mountaineer ... Mr. Bruce	8½
Property of Messrs. A. Riddell and Sons.	
General, roan, c. Feb. 28, 1901, s. Parish Councillor II. ... Mr. Roberton	15
Captain, roan, c. March 5, 1901, s. Parish Councillor II. ... Mr. W. Balmer	11
Property of Mr. Anthony Fred. Nichol.	
Nunnykirk, roan, c. March 22, 1901, s. Morning Star ... Mr. James Cook	18
Favonius, red and little white, c. Feb. 26, 1901, s. Morning Star ... Mr. T. R. Barnewall Elliot	21
Property of Messrs. W. and T. Bain.	
Bashful Boy, red roan, c. June 16, 1901, s. Principal of Dalmeny ... Mr. Lee	35
Defiance, roan, c. April 4, 1901, s. Principal of Dalmeny ... Mr. Scott	22
Silver Star, white, c. April 28, 1901, s. Principal of Dalmeny ... Mr. T. Elliot	13
Enthusiast, roan, c. May 11, 1901, s. Principal of Dalmeny ... Mr. John Hunter	14
Charming Lad, roan, c. Sept. 22, 1900, s. Astrologer ... Mr. James Nisbet	14

Sale of Shorthorns at York.

A large number of shorthorn bulls and a few cows and heifers, from the herds of breeders in the North of England, were offered for sale by Messrs. Thornton and Co. at the Wool Sheds, York, on Thursday. Considerable interest was taken in this sale by many breeders, owing to a 100 guinea challenge cup being offered for the three best bulls, eligible for Coate's Herd Book, and calved in 1900 or 1901. Seventeen teams entered, and they were judged by Mr. George Harrison, Gainford, Darlington; Mr. W. J. Hosken, Hayle, Cornwall; and Mr. W. Taylor, Kirkby Lonsdale; Mr. H. Dudding, Stallingborough, acting as umpire. The judges took infinite pains with the animals, and finally awarded the cup to a bull and his two sons rather than to three young bulls. The cup was secured by Mr. Joseph Barnes, Baurgh Syke, Wigton, Cumberland with Stoneytown Pride and his progeny, Baron Bridekirk and Jessamine's Pride. The reserve went to three young bulls the property of Sir John Swinburne—Royal Emperor of Oxford, Emperor of Oxford 9th, and Emperor of Oxford 10th; the second reserve being awarded also to Sir John Swinburne for another trio of youngsters, also of the Oxford family.

Over 140 lots went through the ring, and some good prices were realised. Sir John Swinburn's Royal Emperor Oxford 13th made the top price, viz., 130gs., Mr. J. Harris, of Coatwaite, being the purchaser. Mr. Barnes' Stoneytown Pride, the winner of the cup was withdrawn at 100gs., whilst his progeny realised 50gs. and 27gs. A list of the prices realised, together with the sellers' and purchasers' names, is appended:—

COWS AND HEIFERS.

(The figures refer to "Coates' Herd Book.")

	Gs.
Lady Emmeline, v. 47, p. 820 (Mr. E. W. Tindall's) ... roan, c. June 14, 1893, s. King Ronald 62794 ... Mr. Cape	16

Princess May, v. 46, p. 861 (Mr. T. Winter's), red, c. March 1, 1893, s. Coming Star 57082
Mr. J. Strickland 16½
Fair Gift, v. 47, p. 820 (Mr. E. W. Tindall's), roan, c. Jan. 10, 1894, s. New Year's Gift 57796
Mr. J. Patten 26
Lady Jersey, v. 42, p. 399 (Mr. E. W. Stanyforth's), red roan, c. May 21, 1895, s. Lord Albert 62854
Mr. Milnthorpe 15
Wild Duchess of Geneva 144th, v. 47, p. 307 (Mr. Watson Armstrong's), roan, c. March 12, 1896 s. Oliver 67550 ..... Mr. Bell 30
Princess Bismarck 4th, v. 47, p. 542 (Mr. G. P. Hughes'), roan, c. April 1, 1896, s. Mohawk 64447
Mr. Harrison 22
Lady Primrose 5th, v. 47, p. 616 (Mr. J. Midgley's), red and white, c. June 2, 1896, s. Royal Albert 61670 ..... Mr. Milnthorpe 17
Saucy Ann 3rd, v. 46, p. 818 (Mr. T. Theakston's)) roan, c. April 29, 1897, s. Lord Powis 65845
Mr. Langbourne 16½
Trilby (Mr. J. H. Stephenson's), red, c. Sept. 2, 1897, s. Prince of Princes 71247 ... Mr. Milnthorpe 16
Queen Emma, v. 47, p. 821 (Mr. E. W. Tindall's), red and white, c. Jan. 16, 1898, s. King Dan 67256
Mr. Bell 15
Lady Florence, v. 47, p. 821 (Mr. E. W. Tindall's), roan, c. April 24, 1898, s. Bold Rover 68248
Mr. Lister Kaye 20
Queen Bella, v. 46, p. 826 (Mr. E. W. Tindall's), roan, c. July 6, 1899, s. King Dan 67256
Mr. Langdale 15
Violet, v. 46, p. 818 (Mr. T. Theakston's), red and little white, c. Oct. 1, 1899, s. Alexander 71930
Mr. Milnthorpe 16½
Kathleen (Mr. E. W. Tindall's), roan, c. Jan. 8, 1900, s. Sir John 77897 ..... Mr. J. P. Rayner 25
Wild Duchess of Geneva 179th, v. 47, p. 307 (Mr. Watson Armstrong's), red and white, c. May 25, 1900, s. Charmer 68347 ..... Mr. W. B. Richardson 18
Mountain View 2nd, v. 47, p. 779 (Mr. E. W. Stanyforth's), roan, c. June 25, 1900, s. Lord Silvester 72927 ..... Mr. W. Graham 16
Penelope (Mr. T. Leefe's), roan, c. Aug. 26, 1900, s. Michael's Brother 73074 ..... Mr. Lister Kaye 25
Birdsall Fern (Lord Middleton's), roan, c. Jan. 1, 1901, s. Scottish Archer 59893 .... Mr. Lister Kaye 28
White Rose (exors. of Mr. T. Stamper's), white, c. March 15, 1901. s. Heathercroft 72671
Mr. Langbourne 21
Birdsall Waterloo Lady 20th (Lord Middleton's), roan, c. April 8, 1901, s. Scottish Archer 59893
Mr. J. Patten 36

BULLS.

Sir Malcolm Studley 69607 (Duke of Northumberland's), roan, c. April 14, 1895, s. Sir Lucius Studley 64852 ..... Mr. Nesbit 44
Lord Silvester 72927 (Mr. E. W. Stanyforth's), roan, c. March 27, 1897, s. Sir Silvester Studley 66363.
Mr. W. Harrison 23
Moonstone 79456 (Admiral the Hon. W. C. Carpenter's), roan, c. Feb. 3, 1898, s. Lord Bute 68937
Mr. Harrison 27
Cymbeline (Mr. E. W. Stanyforth's), red and little white, c. July 24, 1898, s. Leonidas 59260
Mr. Harrison 23
Emperor of Waterloo 33rd 74490 (Mr. E. W. Tindall's), red and white, c. Dec. 11, 1898, s. Wild Emperor 2nd 71873 ..... Mr. Harrison 28
Duke of Westmorland 76566 (Mr. Victor Cavendish's), white, c. June 21, 1899, s. Nizam 73139 .. Mr. Mollett 25
Brandsby's Choice 76210 (Mr. R. Jefferson's), roan, c. July 18, 1899, s. Merryman 3rd 73067
Mr. Harrison 24
Holker Earl Burlington 5th 76868 (Mr. H. V. Machin's), red and little white, c. Aug. 17, 1899, s. Holker Golden Butterfly 70629 .... Mr. Harrison 24
Blithe Boy 78411 (Lord Middleton's), red, c. Aug. 28, 1899, s. Wamba 73848 ..... Mr. Harrison 28
Sir Michael 79938 (Mr. R. Booth's), roan, c. Nov. 26, 1899, s. Lord of Leix 67382 ..... Mr. Harrison 23
Baron Studley 78341 (the Duke of Northumberland's), roan, c. Jan. 25, 1900, s. Sir Malcolm Studley 69607 ..... Mr. Harrison 24
Birdsall Limelight 78399 (Lord Middleton's), roan, c. Feb. 10, 1900, s. Wamba 73848 ..... Mr. Mare 30
Scorton 79901 (Major Godman's), roan, c. April 27, 1900, s. Prince Consort 75275 ..... Mr. Harrison 20
Melton Victor 79403 (Mr. J. Webb's), red, c. May 28, 1900, s. Carlisle Prince 72169 .... Mr. F. Miller 55
Heather Lad (Mr. W. Vickers'), rich roan, c. May 30, 1900, s. White Stamp 78152 ..... Mr. Wood 17
Laureate (Mr. J. Webb's), red, c. June 4, 1900, s. Stroxton Prince 77983 ..... Mr. F. Miller 27
Nugget 79499 (Mr. C. H. Taylor's), red and little white, c. July 3, 1900, s. Bloodstone 72062
Mr. Harrison 20
American Chief 78234 (Mr. G. Welford's), red and little white, c. July 20, 1900, s. Mountain Chief 79468 ..... Mr. Harrison 19½
Rover (Admiral the Hon. W. C. Carpenter's), red, c. July 25, 1900, s. Moonstone 79456
Mr. T. Theakston 20
Emperor of Oxford 8th 78813 (Sir J. Swinburne's), roan, c. July 30, 1900, s. Southern Cross 75709
Mr. F. Miller 32
Barbarous 78293 (Mr. H. V. Machin's), red and little white, c. Aug. 19, 1900, s. Mohawk 75097
Mr. Harrison 19½
Weston King 80243 (Mr. W. Snowball's), roan, c. Oct. 18, 1900, s. Look Ahead 67327 .. Mr. Reynard 25
Rosy Monk (Mr. R. Booth's), roan, c. Oct. 19, 1900, s. Sir Anfred Riby 75638 ..... Mr. H. E. Donner 21
Bright Lucifer 78459 (Mr. R. Booth's), red and little white, c. Oct. 28, 1900, s. Sir Adrian Riby 75634
Mr. Powell 17
Lord Irwin 79262 (Mr. J. Midgley's), white, c. Nov. 15, 1900, s. Lord Stephen 74933 .. Admiral Carpenter 15
Freshman (Mr. J. Pears'), red and little white, c. Dec. 3, 1900, s. Royal Captain 77709 .. Mr. Harrison 19
Wild Duke of Geneva 219th 80270 (Mr. Watson Armstrong's), roan, c. Dec. 20, 1900 s. Emperor of Oxford 7th 74488 ..... Mr. A. J. Robarts 30
Commanding Officer 24th (Mr. J. Waind's), red and little white, c. Dec. 23, 1900, s. Lifeguard 68908
Mr. Laycock 18
Rival (Mr. W. Botterill's), roan c, Dec. 28, 1900, s. Africola 73950 ..... Mr. J. G. Crompton 27
Master Weston (Mr. W. Botterill's), roan, c. Dec. 28, 1900, s. Look Ahead 67327 ..... Mr. Martin 20
Favourite Captain (Mr. J. Pears), red and little white, c. Dec. 30, 1900, s. Royal Captain 77709
Mr. C. Jackson 19½
Lotherton Archer (Mr. T. Winter's), roan, c. Jan. 2, 1901, s. Master Archer 70962 ..... Mr. Wakefield 18½
Baron Bridekirk 31st (Mr. Joseph Barnes'), roan, c. Jan. 4, 1901, s. Stoneytown Pride 77922
Mr. A. J. Dorman 50
Gateford Zoophilist (Mr. H. V. Machin's), red and little white, c. Jan. 12, 1901, s. Zetland 75974
Mr. Sample 18½
Commandant (Mr. T. E. Yorke's), roan, c. Jan. 14, 1901, s. Commanding Officer 8th 76391
Mr. Mellish 26
Cowalip Duke (Mr. E. F. Jordan's), roan, c. Jan. 20, 1901, s. Holker Duke 2nd 74710 .... Mr. Robinson 20
Sweetheart's Archduke (Right Hon. F. J. S. Foljambe's), roan, c. Jan. 20, 1901, s. Archduke Leonidas 76034 ..... Mr. E. F. Jordan 53
Jessamine's Pride (Mr. Joseph Barnes'), roan, c. Jan. 22, 1901, s. Stoneytown Pride 77972
Hon. T. Willoughby 27
Wild Duke of Geneva 221st (Mr. Watson Armstrong's), red, c. Jan. 22, 1901, s. Emperor of Oxford 7th 74488 ..... Hon. G. Lascelles 28
Holywell Soll (Mr. Sanders Spencer's), red and little white, c. Jan. 27, 1901, s. Count Valiant 70200
Mr. Webster 19
York's Certainty Duke 12th (Mr. R. Blezard's), roan, c. Jan 28, 1901, s. Lord Lenton 72830 .. Mr. Handley 17
Potto Harry (Mr. F. W. Horsfall's), roan, c. Feb. 7, 1901; s. Harry ..... Mr. Sawray 16
Brodrick (Mr. R. Thompson's), roan, c. Feb. 21, 1901, s. Dromonby Glenlivet 78722 ..... Mr. Allison 20
Hartforth George (Mr. H. Straker's), red, c. Mar. 6, 1901, s. Crusader 78665 ..... Mr. R. Barran 27
Gilling Pride (Mr. R. Jefferson's), roan, c. Mar. 6, 1901, s. Commanding Officer 10th 78621
Mr. Robinson 24
Dromonby Roan Duke (Mr. F. E. C. Dobson's), roan, c. Mar. 13, 1901, s. Duke of Worcester 3rd 68543
Mr. Threlkeld 27
Keystone (Mr. J. W. Harrison's), red, c. Mar. 14, 1901, s. Morning Crown 77301 ..... Mr. Petch 23
Kirby Royal (Mr. T. C. Dobson's), roan, c. Mar. 14, 1901, s. Royal Emperor Oxford 6th 73504
Mr. Pulleine 20
York's Certainty Duke 13th (Mr. R. Blezard's), red, c. Mar. 26, 1901, s. Lord Lenton 72890
Mr. J. Dixon 21
Holker Earl Burlington 12th (Mr. Victor Cavendish's), roan, c. Mar. 28, 1901, s. King Oswald 74795
Mr. Smith 32
Raymond (Mr. M. Reed's), roan, c. April 1, 1901, s. Baron 73990 ..... Mr. Lee 18½
Royal Emperor Waterloo 7th (Sir J. Swinburne's), red, c. April 1, 1901, s. Royal Duke Waterloo 2nd 77718
Mr. Holdrick 23
Free Lance (Marquis of Londonderry's), roan, c. April 2, 1901, s. Fairy Knight 74518 .... Mr. G. Bingley 30
Moorland Prince (Mr. J. W. Harrison's), roan, c. April 2, 1901, s. Morning Crown 77301 .... Mr. Low 25
Silcroft (Mr. T. E. Yorke's), roan, c. April 6, 1901, s. Commanding Officer 8th 76391 ..... Mr. Sadler 19
Birdsall Sunray (Lord Middleton's), red, c. April 7, 1901, s. Birdsall Duke 76162 ..... Mr. Megginson 20
York's Certainty Duke 14th (Mr. R. Blezard's), red, c. April 8, 1901, s. Lord Lenton 72890
Mr. Murray Smith 32
Royal Emperor Oxford 13th (Sir J. Swinburne's), roan, c. April 13, 1901, s. Grand Earl of Waterloo 20th 70565 ..... Mr. J. Harris 130
Wild Duke of Geneva 230th (Mr. Watson Armstrong's), red and white, c. April 21, 1901, s. Emperor of Oxford 7th 74488 ..... Mr. Cass 21
Commanding Officer 25th (Mr. J. Waind's), roan, c. April 22, 1901, s. Lifeguard 68908 .... Capt. Stone 25
Earl of Stancliffe 3rd (Sir J. Swinburne's), red, c. April 22, 1901, s. Royal Duke Waterloo 2nd 77718
Capt. Duncombe 28
Royal Emperor Oxford 14th (Sir J. Swinburne's), roan, c. April 25, 1901, s. Southern Cross 75709
Mr. G. H. Procter 35
Dromonby Gimcrack (Mr. F. E. C. Dobson's), roan, c. May 8, 1901, s. Royal Emperor Oxford 6th 73504
Mr. A. Hiscock 21
Rostrevor (Right Hon. F. J. S. Foljambe's), roan, c. May 9 1901, s. Archduke Leonidas 73064 .. Mr. Innes 25
Merry Squire 4th (Mr. J. Waind's), red and little white, c. May 25, 1901, s. Sir George 77891
Mr. T. B. Smith 18
Holywell Jester (Mr. Sanders Spencer's), red roan, c. May 26, 1901, s. Count Valiant 70200
Colonel Scoby 20
Knight of Wynyard (the Marquis of Londonderry's), red, c. May 29, 1901, s. Fairy Knight 74518
Mr. H. Taylor 27
Hartforth Red Cross (Major S. Cradock's), red, c. May 31, 1901, s. Crusader 78665
Mr. W. H. A. Wharton 20
Emperor of Oxford 9th (Sir J. Swinburne's), red, c. June 18, 1901, s. Grand Earl of Waterloo 20th 70565
Capt. Duncombe 61
Hopeful Frederick 2nd (Mr. W. B. Richardson's), roan, c. June 19, 1901, s., Hopeful Frederick 76880
Mr. A. Hiscock 21
Emperor of Oxford 10th (Sir J. Swinburne's), red, c. June 20, 1901, s. Royal Duke Waterloo 2nd 77718
Mr. Winter 27
Birdsall Heirdom (Lord Middleton's), roan, c. June 29, 1901, s. Eustacius 78826 ..... Mr. Frank 29
Birdsall Jester (Lord Middleton's), red, c. June 30, 1901, s. Sirdar 75649 ..... Mr. W. Cooper 20
Lottery (Executors of Mr. T. Stamper's), red and white, c. July 1, 1901, s. Lifeguard 68908
Mr. Lofthouse 21
Birdsall Estimation (Lord Middleton's), roan, c. Aug. 5, 1901, s. Eustacius 78826 .... Earl of Zetland 22
Captain Jack (Mr. J. Pears'), red and little white, c. Jan. 18, 1901, s. Royal Captain 77709
Mr. Godfrey 20
British Hero 78476 (Mr. R. Booth's), roan, c. May 28, 1900, s. A.B.C. 73938 ..... Mr. Mollett 20

SUMMARY.

	Average. £ s. d.	Total. £ s. d.
26 Cows and heifers	20 13 6	.. 532 12 0
116 Bulls	23 6 0	.. 2,703 4 6
142 Head averaged	22 1 0	.. 3,235 16 6

Plague of Moles in South Lincolnshire.—South Lincolnshire agriculturists are suffering from the ravages of moles, and the plague is assuming serious proportions. They are said to abound in thousands, due to the fact that farmers in recent years have neglected to trap them as formerly, and a suggestion is put forward that each Parish Council should appoint a mole-catcher, the cost to be borne by the rates. The Fen Drainage Trustees continue the practice of employing professional mole-catchers, as otherwise the river banks would be undermined; but latteely the farmers have discontinued the practice, the reason given being that it was not sufficiently generally followed to enable them to derive the full benefit of their outlay. The payment now made for destroying moles, in cases where it is still resorted to, is about three-halfpence per head; but it is said that, under contract, the Parish Councils might be able to get the work done for an average of a few pence per acre.



Royal Commission on Horse Breeding.

Arrangements for the Premium Stallions.

The following are the arrangements with reference to the "King's Premium" stallions which will serve fifty half-bred mares (if required) in the various districts during the present season, at £2 each mare and 2s. 6d. to the groom. Applications for nominations, to be made on printed forms only, should be addressed to any member of the District Committees:

DISTRICT A.

ADRIAN.—Location: Travels Bicester and district. District Committee: Mr. James J. Godwin, Troy, Somerton, Banbury; Mr. R. D. Thomas, Red House, Bicester (Corresponding Member); Mr. Henry Tubb, Chesteron Lodge, Bicester.

CHOSON.—Location: Stands at Southcourt Stud, Leighton Buzzard, and travels the district. District Committee: Mr. Charles Py Hall, Park Farm Office, Woburn, R.S.O., Bedfordshire; Mr. Philip Hart, Moor Hills, Wing, Buckinghamshire (Corresponding Member); Mr. Henry G. Lepper, Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire.

PRINCE CHARLES II.—Location: Travels Newmarket, Bury St. Edmunds, and district. District Committee: Mr. Arthur Gayford, Estate Office, White House, East Harling Norfolk; Mr. F. Riley Smith, M.S.H., Barton Hall, Bury-St.-Edmunds; Mr. J. Maitland Wilson, Langham Hall, Bury-St.-Edmunds.

DISTRICT B.

GENERAL GORDON.—Location: Travels Penrith, Appleby, Kirkby Lonsdale, and Kendal. District Committee: Mr. James A. Hogg, Estate Offices, Appleby, Westmoreland (Corresponding Member); Mr. George Hoggarth, Westmoreland and Kendal Agricultural Society, Kendal; Mr. James Hudson, Lowther Estate Office, Friar Street, Penrith.

IMPREVU.—Location: Travels Alnwick, Belford, Wooler, and district. District Committee: Mr. F. W. Hall, Estate Office, Alnwick, Northumberland (Corresponding Member); Mr. Anthony Marshall, Annstead, Chathill, Northumberland; Mr. G. G. Rea, Middleton, Wooler, Northumberland.

TOBOGGAN.—Location: Travels Newcastle, Durham, and district. District Committee: Mr. R. Brydon, The Dene, Seaham Harbour, Co. Durham; Mr. G. Elphick, Newgate Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne (Corresponding Member); Mr. Clement Stephenson, Sandyford Villa, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

DISTRICT C.

ABBOTS LEIGH.—Location: Travels Lincoln, Grantham, and district. District Committee: Mr. Frank Godson, Temple Bruer, Lincoln; Mr. Charles Hartley, 43, Friar's Lane, Lincoln; Mr. James Hutchinson, Manthorpe Lodge, Grantham (Corresponding Member).

BLAKELAW.—Location: Travels Leicester, Melton Mowbray, and Loughboro'. District Committee: Mr. J. Frederic Cartmell, (the Manor House, Kirby Bellars, Melton Mowbray (Corresponding Member); Mr. R. C. Cooper, Waltham, Melton Mowbray; Mr. G. Tempest Wade, Birstall, near Leicester.

OLD COIN.—Location: Travels Peterboro', Stamford, and district. District Committee: Mr. John Crisp, Warmington, Oundle; Mr. H. Edwards, 9, Rutland Terrace, Stamford (Corresponding Member); Mr. L. Fortescue, Barnack Manor, Stamford.

DISTRICT D.

ALVIN.—Location: Travels Chippenham, Hilperton, Biddestone, Malmesbury, and district. District Committee: Mr. T. Henry Fair, Hilperton Grange, Trowbridge, Wilts (Corresponding Member); Colonel F. Henry, Elmestree, Tetbury; Mr. John E. Taylor, Elm Lodge Biddestone, Chippenham.

CHIDIABOS.—Location: Stands at Sanderstead, and travels to Cobham, Guildford, Ockley, Capel, Crawley, Reigate, Godstone, Oxted, and district. District Committee: Mr. Harry Fuller, 83, High Street, Croydon, Surrey (Corresponding Member); Mr. Uvedale Lambert, M.F.H., South Park Farm, Bletchingley, near Redhill; Mr. F. A. White, Oakleigh, East Grinstead, Sussex.

IRISH WAKE.—Location: Travels Cowfold, Horsham, Steyning, Cuckfield, Hayward's Heath, and district. District Committee: Mr. J. Mark Cazenove, Belmoredean, West Grinstead, Sussex (Corresponding Member); Mr. H. Ernest Courage, Bolney Place, Bolney, Sussex; Mr. Hugh Gorringe, Kingston-by-Sea, Sussex.

SPRINGALD.—Location: Stands at Menheniot, Cornwall, and travels the district. District Committee: Mr. A. R. Boucher, Trenean, St. Germans, Cornwall; Mr. E. L. Marsack Haye, Callington, Cornwall; Mr. W. W. C. Marshall, M.F.H., Treworgey, Liskeard, Cornwall.

DISTRICT E.

BURGOMASTER.—Location: Travels Routh, Beverley, Riston, Skirlaugh, and district. District Committee: Mr. Wilfred Harrison, Westwood Road, Beverley, Yorks; Mr. Philip Hodgson, Westwood Hall, Beverley, Yorks; Mr. Frederick Reynard, Sunderlandwick, Driffield, Yorks (Corresponding Member).

CARDONALD.—Location: Stands at Copmanthorpe, and travels Escrick, Easingwold, Rufforth, and district. District Committee: Mr. E. Lycett Green, M.F.H., Ashfield, York; Mr. Frank Green, Treasurer's House, York; Mr. H. E. Preston, Bishopthorpe, York.

FOUR POSTER.—Location: Travels Selby, Rotherham, and district. District Committee: Mr. J. Dymond, Burnt-wood Hall, near Barnsley; Mr. C. Howard Taylor, Middlewood Hall, near Barnsley (Corresponding Member); Dr. G. D. Tod, Selby, Yorks.

DISTRICT F.

FAUTE-DE-MIEUX.—Location: Travels Leamington, Stratford-on-Avon, Warwick, and district. District Committee: Mr. P. Berridge, The Uplands, Banbury; Mr. Philip S. Danby, Church Farm, Offchurch, Leamington (Corresponding Member); Mr. E. P. Wilson, Ilmington, Shipston-on-Stour.

POSTIFEX.—Location: Stands at Copse Hill, Bourton-on-the-Water, and travels the district. District Committee; Captain Daly, Over Norton, near Chipping Norton;

Mr. Edward C. Sewell, The Beeches, Cirencester (Corresponding Member); Mr. R. C. Verney, Stow-on-the-Wold.

RAMPION.—Location: Stands at Marchington, Uttoxeter, and travels to Burton, Stafford, Atherstone, and Tamworth. District Committee: Mr. Milne Barnsley, Field House, Marchington, Staffs. (Corresponding Member); Mr. Gerald H. Hardy, M.F.H., Merevale, Atherstone; Mr. Harry Oliver, Tiescoe, Tamworth.

STERLING BANK.—Location: Stands at Belgelley, R.S.O., Pembrokeshire, and travels the district. District Committee: Hon. Wiliam F. Coventry, Lydstep Haven, Penally, R.S.O., Pembrokeshire (Corresponding Member); Mr. W. Gibbs, Upper Portclew, Lamphey, R.S.O., Pembrokeshire; Mr. B. J. Rees, the Royal Lion Hotel, Tenby.

ACTIVE HAMPTON.—Location: Travels Lytham, Lancaster, Preston, and The Fylde. District Committee: Mr. C. Addison Birley, Bartle Hall, Preston, Lancashire; Mr. James S. Fair, Estate Office, Lytham, Lancashire; Mr. J. Marcus Rea, 8, Winckley Street, Preston.

DISTRICT G.

CURLEY.—Location: Travels Whitchurch, Wrexham, Ellesmere, and district. District Committee: Mr. John Jones, Mossfields, Whitchurch, Salop; Mr. W. R. O. Kynaston, Hardwick, Ellesmere, Salop; Hon. Alex. E. Parker, Deeside, Banger-on-Dee, Wrexham (Corresponding Member).

WOODSTOCK.—Location: Travels Bolton, Blackburn, and Clitheroe. District Committee: Mr. Henry Baxter, The Tower, Rainhill, Lancashire; Mr. Charles Garnett, Higher Dunscar, Egerton, near Bolton (Corresponding Member); Mr. Rowland Robinson, Estate Office, Gisburne, Clitheroe.

DISTRICT H.

GENERAL MAGENIS.—Location: Travels Roxburgh, Berwick, and district. District Committee: Mr. T. Calder, Swinton Hill, Coldstream, N.B. (Corresponding Member); Mr. James Elliott, Flex, Hawick, N.B.; Mr. E. Douglas Paton, Broomhill, Melrose, N.B.



THE POLO PONY MARE MADEMOISELLE shown above is by Loved One out of Madame Angot, and was bred in Ireland. At the London Polo Pony Show this spring Mademoiselle was exhibited by Comte Jean de Madre (winning First Prize in the riding class for ponies five years old and upwards). She was also winner of the Silver Challenge Cup for the best Polo Pony mare likely to breed a heavy-weight Polo Pony, and the Gold Medal offered by the Polo Pony Society for the best mare or gelding in the riding classes.

DISTRICT I.

CORNMINT.—Location: Travels in Fifeshire. District Committee: Mr. W. Blackie, The Stables, Montrave, Leven, Fife, N.B.; Mr. T. Webster, Nisbetfield, Collessie, Fife, N.B.; Mr. W. Weighton, Royal Hotel Stables, St. Andrews, N.B.

DISTRICT J.

SWILLINGTON (late Willie Darling).—Location: Stands at Kilmarnock and travels in Ayrshire. District Committee: Mr. David W. Shaw, County Buildings, Ayr; Mr. David Stevenson, Crossburn, Troon; Mr. J. Harling Turner, Portland Estate Office, Kilmarnock, N.B. (Corresponding Member).

DISTRICT K.

WITHERNAM.—Location: Travels in Moray, Nairn, and Banff Shires. District Committee: Mr. W. Rose Black, Town and County Bank, Elgin, N.B. (Corresponding Member); Mr. Alexander Clark, Blackpark, Nairn, N.B.; Mr. James McWilliam, Stoneytown, Banffshire.

DISTRICT L.

WHITTLEBURY.—Location: Travels in Ross-shire. District Committee: Mr. W. Murray, Kilcoy, Kilearnan, N.B.; Mr. C. J. Ness, Calrossie, Nigg, N.B. (Corresponding Member); Mr. W. Ross, Kinnahaird, Contin, N.B.

Horse Sales at Crewe.

Messrs. Henry Manley and Sons' March sales of horses at their Crewe Repository took place the week before last. About 700 animals were catalogued, and the trade experienced for them was much brisker than at the February sales, and compared favourably with the corresponding sales last year. The sales opened on the Wednesday with 175 single and double harness horses, including several well-matched pairs. The judges awarded the prize for the best harness horse to a bay gelding, the property of Mr. G. Rodgers, Manchester. Mr. Rodgers sold a pair of bays for 160gs.; Mr. E. Bailey's pair of browns fetched 156gs.; Mr. S. McMorran's pair of bays, 100gs; and his bay gelding, 51gs.; Mr. E. Burrows's bay gelding, 60s.; Mr. Button's brown gelding, 57gs.; Mr. T. P. Willis's bay gelding, 70gs.; and his roan mare, 60gs.; Mr. W. Threlkeld's pair of blacks, 105gs., and his brown gelding, 56gs.; and Mr. Sidebottom's brown gelding, 50gs.

Thursday's sale included 275 pedigree hackneys and show horses, small harness horses, and stepping cobs, and ponies. These were a fine selection, and included many well-known winners in the showyard last season. The judges (Mr. R. Hussey, Litchfield, and Mr. F. Bagguley, Moreton-in-Marsh) awarded the first prize in the class over 14-2 to the bay cob Peacock, the property of Mr. Tirrell, Kettering, which was also successful in winning the champion cup, and realised 165gs. in the sale ring afterwards. Mr. W. E. Greenwood won in the class over 13-2 with Lady Horace, and Captain Parker showed a grand pony under 13-2, bred by owner and not previously exhibited. This was an easy winner, and sold for 98gs. The exors. of Mr. Slater sold a pair of bay cobs for 112gs.; Mr. Parke's bay cob, Cassius, realized 65gs. Mr. G. Tyson's bay cob Lord Wiles, 71gs; Mr. Heap's hackney stallion, 67gs.; Mr. Lawson's hackney stallion, 160gs; Mr. Wilson's dun cob, 75gs.; Mr. W. E. Greenwood's Lady Horace, 77gs., and chestnut cob, 60gs.; Mr. Whitfield's bay cob, Lady Norah, 50gs.; Mr. Cockayne's hackney stallion 58gs.

On Friday nearly 300 heavy town mares and geldings, light lurry horses, and Shire stallions, colts and fillies were offered for sale. Trade was excellent, and it may be mentioned that two buyers (Messrs. Watney and Company, Limited, London, and Mr. A. Grindle, Bristol) were purchasers to the extent of over £1,000. The best ten geldings averaged over £82 each. The judging was undertaken by Mr. J. Hill, Smethwick Hall, Cheshire, and Mr. W. Hammond, Ware. They awarded the 15-guinea cup to Mr. E. W. Sankey's gelding, Lord Croft, which was sold to Mr. W. Lambeth, Cambridge, for 170gs., the reserve number being Messrs. W. and J. Thompson's bay gelding, Thorney Duke, which was withdrawn at 100gs. In the class for cart horses not exceeding 16-2 a bay gelding, the property of Miss Caulcott, Wem, won, and was sold for 76gs. Mr. L. Boswell's animal won in the light lurry class, and sold for 63gs. Mr. D. Hollond's animal won in the parcel van class, and sold for 53gs. Messrs. W. and J. Thompson's grand young three year old, Desford Emperor, won in the colt class and was sold for 72gs. Mr. T. Winterbottom's brown gelding realised 90gs., Mr. T. Hodgson's bay gelding 87gs., Mr. J. Humphreys' bay gelding 86gs., Mr. Hy. Lawson's pair of geldings 118gs., Mr. J. A. Preece's bay gelding 72gs., and pair of mares 102gs., Mr. Lea's bay gelding 63gs., many others realising from 40gs. to 70gs.

The Seaham Harbour Clydesdales

The sales of the Seaham Harbour Clydesdales always attract a large and representative gathering of breeders from all parts of the country, and having gained a widespread reputation both under the ownership of the Seaham Harbour Show, Ltd., and the previous possessor, Lord Londonderry, another of the periodical sales took place on Friday in a field near the stud farm, Seaham Harbour, and the usual large company of buyers were present. The animals, which were sold without reserve, numbered 10 brood mares, 4 three-year-old fillies, 1 two-year-old filly, 4 yearling fillies, 7 yearling colts, 7 two-year-old colts, 5 stallions, 12 geldings, 7 trained cobs, etc., and 4 registered pony mares, a total of 61 lots. For the most part the stock submitted was from well-known families, which have been associated with the Clydesdale stud for over a quarter of a century. The catalogue contained the pedigrees of the various animals so far as known to exposers. 3 fillies and 6 colts were by Lord Stewart, by Castlereagh, said to be one of the very best of the breed. In addition 5 of the brood mares were served last year by Lord Stewart. Several of the Clydesdales sired by this horse were from famous dams. High Tide, the dam of Flowing Tide, has a record of 20 prizes and 2 cups; Lady Fair, the dam of Lady Frances, filly, a good show mare; Night Shade, a winner of several prizes; and Garnet, of the Kier Bessie tribe, a remarkably good breeding mare. Nine of the 11 lots of brood mares were heavy in foal, the sires in addition to Lord Stewart being Springhill Baron, Yerburgh; Scottish Crown, and Johnnie's Style. All the brood mares gave promise of breeding good stock. The 5 lots of matured stallions offered possessed great ancestry. Sir Edgar a three-year-old brown, is by Gallant Prince—the Springhill Darnley mare, Blossom. His sire has produced some of the best horses seen during the last decade. St. Anthony, a beautiful black, is claimed to be one of the best big horses in the country. He began his premium career by winning 1st prize at the Northumberland show when a foal, and he has won a prize or premium every year since. His sire was the champion Holyrood, and his dam the beautiful mare Fenella. The trained horses and ponies were a useful lot, several being by the champion pony Little Wonder II. Lottie, a handsome Dales pony, was shown four times last year, and won 3 first prizes.

After a luncheon had been partaken of, the company adjourned to the sale ring, the hammer being wielded by Mr. A. Efrow, of the firm of Messrs. A. S. and E. A. Crow, Sunderland. The highest price of the sale was 250gs., which sum was paid by the Northern Stud Company, Elgin, for the stallion St. Anthony, a noted premium horse, by Holyrood—Fenella. This magnificent animal is at stud in the Bishop Auckland district, and a condition of the purchase was that the buyer must undertake to travel him in the district. Only one other three-figure price was reached, and this 150gs., paid by Mr. D. Riddle for a two-year-old colt, Flowing Tide, by Lord Stewart—High Tide. Details of each animal sold, prices realised, etc., are given below. The result of the sale was a total of £3,116 9s., the totals for the various sections being as follows:—10 brood mares, £559 13s.; 4 three-year-old fillies, £150 3s.; 1 two-year-old filly, £25 5s.; 4 yearling fillies, £129 3s.; 7 yearling colts, £264 12s.; 7 two-year-old colts, £433 13s.; 5 stallions, £480 18s.; 12 geldings, £754 19s.; 7 trained horses and ponies, £203 14s.; 4 registered pony mares, £114 9s.

BROOD MARES.

	Gs.
Lily Kyle, v. 24, dark brown f. 1888, s. Prince of Kyle 7155 ... Mr. G. Bean	55
Cynthia, by Sir Everard ... Mr. Gregory	72
Camilla 11435, v. 15, bay, f. 1887, s. Prince of Wales 673 ... Mr. Courage	70
Ballet Girl 14812, v. 24, bay, f. May 26, 1897, s. Holyrood 9546 ... Mr. Riddle	60
Cinderella 14394, v. 23, bay, f. May 17, 1893, s. Cawder 7568 ... Mr. Lumsden	40
Fenella 13129, v. 20, dark brown, f. 1890, s. Barrister 10312 ... Mr. Mackay	55
Brown Nose 11443, v. 15, bay, f. July, 1888, s. Young Duke of Hamilton 4122 ... Mr. Riddle	41
Quassia 9872, v. 13, bay, f. 1886 s. Springhill Darnley 2429 ... Messrs. Hedworth Bros.	43
Louisa 12538, v. 18, bay, f. April 29, 1891, s. Crusader 6650 ... Mr. H. Nicholson	40
Molly, bay, f. 1898, s. Prince Sturdy 10112 Mr. Pickersgill	47

THREE-YEAR-OLD FILLIES.

Gem, bay, f. 1899, s. Primate 10099 ... Mr. Gregory	50
Amy, bay, f. May 9, 1899, s. Lord Stewart 10084 ... Mr Nicholson	22
Chance, bay, f. 1899, s. Crusader 9178 ... Mr. Trotter	35
Blossom, bay, f. 1899, s. Johnnie's Style 6867 Mr. Lumsden	35

TWO-YEAR-OLD FILLIES.

Scottish Grace, bay, f. June 24, 1900, s. Montrave Sentinel 10094 ... Mr. Riddel	25

YEARLING FILLIES.

Grey, f. April 26, 1901, s. Pearl Oyster 10831 Mr. McKay	28
Bay, f. May, 1901, s. Lord Stewart 10084 Mr. Lumsden	25
Bay, f. June 12, 1901, s. Sir Hugo 10924 ... Mr. McKay	50
Bay, f. 1901 ... Mr. Bulswell	20

YEARLING COLTS.

Bay, f. 1901, s. Lord Stewart 10084 ... Mr. G. Bean	46
Bay, f. June 7, 1901, s. Lord Stewart 10084 Mr. J. Hayton	51
Grey, f. May 13, 1901, s. Pearl Oyster 10831 Mr. Marshall	40
Brown, f. May 8, 1901, s. Johnnie's Style 6867 Mr. Kennedy	18

Bay, f. 1901, s. Cannyman 10323 .....Mr. G. Bean 35
Bay, f. 1901, s. Lord Londonderry 10585 .....Mr. W. Sharp 35
Black, f. 1901, s. Scottish Crown 9851..Mr. Kennedy 26

TWO-YEAR-OLD COLTS.

Flowing Tide 11338, v. 24, bay, f. June 5, 1900, s. Lord Stewart 10084 .....Mr. D. Riddle 150
Pride of Priesterott, v. 23, p. 68, bay, f. April 9, 1900, s. Gay City 10194 .....Mr. H. Webster 75
Staithman 11549, v. 24, brown, f. April 15, 1900, s. Chastelard 10179 .....Mr. Kennedy 28
Confidence 11309, v. 24, bay, f. April 17, 1900, s. Lord Stewart 10084 .....Mr. Conlin 42
Fitz-Stewart 11336, v. 24, bay, f. April 13, 1900, s. Lord Stewart 10084 .....Mr. Meikeljohn 45
Border Knight, v. 23, p. 170, bay, f. May 25, 1900, s. Knight of Drumlanrig 9777.....Mr. J. Kerr 36
Guardian 11363, v. 24, bay, f. June 10, 1900, s. Lord Stewart 10084 .....Mr. Riddle 37

STALLIONS.

Sir Edgar 11191, v. 23, brown, f. 1899, s. Gallant Prince 10552 .....Mr. Marshall 50
St. Antony 10447, v. 20, black, f. May 17, 1896, s. Holyrood 9546 .....Northern Stud Co., Elgin 250
Holyrood's Prince 10571, v. 21, bay, f. May 19, 1896, s. Holyrood 9546.....Mr. Taylor 60
Sir Ernest 10916, v. 22, bay, f. July 2, 1898, s. Lord Stewart 10084 .....Mr. Taylor 58
Johnnie's Style 6867, v. 11, bay, f. 1887, s. Darnley 222 .....Mr. Steel 40

GELDINGS.

Charlie, bay, 5 yrs., 16.2 hands, by Jolly Boy .....Mr. Hunting 55
Dick, bay, 5 yrs., 16.3 hands, by Blue Blood .....Mr. Kennedy 36
Laddie, brown, 5 yrs., 16.2 hands, Corswell's grandson .....Mr. Hunting 70
Briton, bay, 5 yrs., 16.3 hands, by Holyrood .....Mr. Riddle 71
Champion, black, 5 yrs., 17.2 hands, by Young Hope .....Mr. Kennedy 76
Aycliffe, bay, 5 yrs., 17.0 hands, by Sir David .....Mr. Kennedy 45
Lofty, brown, 6 yrs., 17.0 hands, by Sir Thomas .....Mr. Corbett 85
Johnnie, bay, 6 yrs., 17.1 hands, by Lord Balgray .....Mr. Riddle 75
King, bay, 5 yrs., 16.3 hands.....Mr. Goodfellow 52
Dan, black, 4 yrs., 16.2 hands, by Go-ahead .....Mr. Kennedy 60
Jolly, brown, 7 yrs., 16.2 hands, by Jolly Boy .....Mr. Fairbairn 44
Prince, bay 6 yrs., 16.1 hands .....Mr. Wylie 50

TRAINED HORSES AND PONIES FOR SADDLE AND HARNESS.

Gregory, grey gelding, 5 yrs., 13.3 hands .....Mr. Murray 17
William, bay gelding, 7 yrs., 14 hands, s. Little Wonder II. 1610 .....Mr. Robertson 31
Lottie, grey mare, 4 yrs., 13.3 hands, s. Blooming Heather .....Mr. Riddle 36
Klondyke, grey mare, 7 yrs., 13.3 hands, s. Little Wonder II. 1610 .....Mr. Robertson 40
Missie, brown Shetland mare, 11 hands..Mr. Oliver 10
Sportsman, bay gelding, 4 yrs., 15.1 hands, s. the Hackney stallion Lambton Connaught .....Mr. Pickersgill 30
Caledonia, slate-coloured gelding 4 yrs., 16 hands, s. a hackney stallion .....Mr. Relton 30

REGISTERED PONY MARES IN FOAL.

Pride 1087, F.S. brown, f. 1888, 11.3 hands, s. Auchendenman 5495 .....Mr. Chapman 24
Lady's Maid, black, f. 1895, s. Little Wonder II. 1610 .....Mr. Gregory 30
Holly, bay mare, s. Little Wonder.....Mr. McKay 30
Prince, black gelding, s. Little Wonder II. .....Mr. Robertson 25

SHEEP.

East Harling Hogget Sale.

The twentieth annual hogget sale held at East Harling by Messrs. Salter, Simpson and Sons, took place on Thursday, and, as usual, was very largely attended. Close upon 6,000 hoggets were penned, this number being some 1,500 in advance of last year; and having regard to the trying character of the past season, which was exceptionally dry, and feed therefore not being over plentiful on light lands, the sheep were brought to the sale in a manner highly creditable to the considerable number of graziers whose names were included in the catalogue. The first lot offered was sixty half-breds consigned by Mr. W. H. Salter, Attleborough, and they were knocked down at 45s. One hundred sent by Mr. J. H. Palmer, Banham, offered in two lots, made 42s. and 37s.; and two lots of 100, belonging to Mr. G. Mortimer, Croxton, fetched 41s. 6d and 38s., while a small lot of black-faced belonging to the same gentleman sold at 38s. A hundred half-breds sent by Mr. T. Buckenham, South Lopham, were knocked down at 43s., and sixty at 38s. Miss Godfrey, Snetterton, sent 150 half-breds, which were bought in two lots at 43s. 6d. and 40s. Sixty black-faced ewes and wethers made 30s. 6d. Mr. J. Downes, Great Ellingham, had about 200 half-breds, the first hundred making 47s. 6d.; a similar pen of 100, belonging to Mr. R. Drane, Eccles, realised 45s., and fifty black-faced ewe hoggets from the same farm 38s. Mr. J. H. Palmer's black-faced made 42s., while fifty wethers went at 39s. 6d. Sixty black-faced, consigned by Mr. S. W. Smith, Larling, fetched 44s. Sir Hugh R. Beevor, Bart., Hargham, had some capital half-breds, which were purchased at 48s. 6d., the top price of the day, a smaller lot going at 44s. 6d. Mr. H. Rix, Eccles, also had some good ones, which made 45s. 6d., while some black-faced belonging to Mr. G. T. Porter, Shropham, went at 46s. 6d. Numerous other lots were sold at prices similar to those already given.

Lancashire Farmers on Sheep Worrying

At the last meeting of the Council of the Lancaster Farmers' Association several resolutions on the subject of sheep-worrying were adopted. One of these impressed on farmers and dog-owners the grave responsibility incurred by allowing dogs to be at large, especially at night, and reminded sheep-breeders that they may help to prevent losses by burying or removing dead lambs, etc., from pastures. It was also resolved to make representations to the Board of Agriculture, the Central Chamber of Agriculture, the Executive Cattle Plague Committee, and the Chief Constable of Lancashire, calling attention to the urgency and importance of more effectual measures for the protection of sheep-owners, especially just before and during lambing time, and urging "that the law in regard to dogs, not under the control of their owners, be much more stringent, and the lax mode of allowing exemption from licences altered or curtailed."

PIGS.

Sale at Bungay.

The triennial sale of Mr. John Wittrick's well-bred pigs was held on Thursday at the Manor Farm, Bungay, and was very largely attended. The auctioneers were, as hitherto, Messrs. George Durrant and Sons, and the good breeding and healthy condition of the 450 head of pigs which came under their hammer were productive of general encomium of the practical care and keen enterprise which Mr. Wittrick exhibits in getting such a fine lot of one description of stock together to disperse amongst the graziers of pigs. As regards the particular plan of breeding upon which Mr. Wittrick relies, it may be stated that the pigs are out of pure white sows crossed by a pure large black boar, and then going back to the white strain again. Several of the pens were pedigree large black, and were secured by Mr. J. B. Dimmock, of Shotford Hall, Harleston, himself a prominent breeder of this type of pig. The store pigs met with a most ready sale at good prices, and it looked as if the young in-pig sows were, if anything, cheaper in comparison. The first lot consisted of 10 store hog pigs, which made 23s. 6d., and three other half-scores, 20s., 17s., and 12s. 3d. respectively. Other lots sold as they grow ranged from 16s. to 7s. 3d., and included a lot of half-a-score pedigree large black, which were purchased by Mr J. B. Dimmick at 12s. 6d. a-piece. Two lots of half-a-score store sow pigs made respectively 25s. and 20s. 6d., and further lots 22s., 21s. 6d., 18s., and 17s., whilst mixed ranged from 14s. to as low as 6s. for very young things. The young sows with litters followed, nine lots totalling £43, the top figure being £5 17s. 6d. and the lowest £4 1s. 3d. Young in-pig sows in two cases realised £5 a piece, and another £4 7s. 6d., and other pens containing three each went at prices ranging from £10 8s. to £4 2s. 6d.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending April 2, 1902:—

Swine Fever.	Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.		No.	122	385	444	375	2,122	3,166	4,980	8,077
	Outbreaks.		No.	91	96	38	46	399	625	438	594
Rabies.	Cases Reported.	Oth'r Anim'ls.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
		Dogs.	No.	...	...	...	...	7	1	...	1
Pleuro-Pneumonia.	Cattle Slaughtered.	Exposed to Infection.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Diseased.	No.	...	...	...	...	-	...	...	...
	Outbreaks.		No.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Glanders (inc. farcy).	Animals Attacked.		No.	46	52	36	19	578	571	486	328
	Outbreaks.		No.	22	39	24	13	289	322	259	176
Foot-and-Mouth Disease.	Animals Attacked.		No.	15	...	...	...	15	652	99	...
	Outbreaks.		No.	1	...	...	...	1	10	7	...
Anthrax.	Animals Attacked.		No.	21	12	23	24	363	223	213	247
	Outbreaks.		No.	15	12	14	12	205	163	140	135
Period.					Week ended Mar. 29, 1902 ...	Corresponding week in { 1901 / 1900 / 1899 }		Total for 13 weeks, 1902 ...	Corresponding period in ... { 1901 / 1900 / 1899 }		

NOTE.—The figures for the current Year are approximate only.



Woodbridge Horse Show.

The annual show of horses at Woodbridge is one of the most important of the series in East Anglia coming second to the Norwich Show; in fact, it is to the county of Suffolk what the Norwich Spring Show is to Norfolk, but the two differ, in that at Woodbridge Suffolk horses predominate, whilst at Norwich Shires are the most important. The show on Monday fully maintained its reputation, for the display of Suffolks was excellent, and it is doubtful whether it will be excelled at any other show this year. The weather being favourable, and the day a Bank Holiday, there was a large attendance of visitors to the showyard, most of the well-known breeders of Suffolk being present. Altogether the show was a most successful one. As to the financial result, it may be mentioned that the takings amounted to £66 12s. 6d., as compared with the record total of £69 19s. 10d. obtained last year.

Mr. D. F. Smith (Easton) and Mr. Stanford (Landermere, Thorpe-le-Soken) acted as judges of the cart horses, which consisted exclusively of Suffolks. The first class was for aged mares, that is, foaled before 1899, and some veteran animals put in an appearance. The tussle lay between Mr. E. F. Quilter's Bentley Duchess and Mr. A. H. E. Wood's Sudbourn Trinket. Finally the first prize was given to the latter, who has taken a similar award many times in big contests. Though Bentley Duchess had to be content with second place, she won at the last Suffolk Show at Beccles, in her class, and carried off a special. Then came the three-year-old mares, and here again Mr. A. H. E. Wood scored with his beautiful Wedgewood daughter, who took first honours as a yearling, ditto as a two-year-old, and now again stepped into the foremost place, beating Mr. Alfred Smith's Rendlesham Matchless, a compact Prince Albert mare, Mr. E. F. Quilter's Bentley Humming, by the well-known Mars, having to be content with a reserve, though good enough to take first at the Essex show last year. Mr. Eaton R. White (Bougle Hall) beat several veteran exhibitors in the class for Suffolk Cart Mares foaled in 1900. Both honours went to the Boulge Hall Stud, the first to Boulge Hebe, by Golden Grain, and the second to Boulge Maid, by Prince Wedgewood, though opinion outside the ring seemed rather to favour a reversal of this order of things, on the ground that while the former was undoubtedly the heavier, it rather lacked the fashion and quality of the fair Boulge Maid. Mr. Alfred J. Smith's Rendlesham Lady B.P., by Captain B., was reserved, while Mr. E. F. Quilter's Bentley Christine, by Windsor Chieftain, had to be content with an h.c. ticket. That good Suffolk geldings are still very scarce is evident, for only three put in an appearance. Mr. E. F. Quilter's Cossack, by the Czar, took his old place, beating Prince, by Surprise, a recent purchase from the Bury country, by the President of the show, Sir Cuthbert Quilter, Bart., M.P. The contest for the group of three Suffolk yearlings, colt or filly, by the same sire, but not necessarily the property of the same owner, was a most interesting one. Here the strength of the Rendlesham Stud was manifested, for the first and second honours went to sires belonging to Mr. Alfred J. Smith—Saturn and Rendlesham Cupbearer; but the latter was sold for exportation to Australia last November. Three very nice youngsters by Golden Grain, exhibited by Mr. G. P. Watkins, Mr. W. H. Hewitt, and Mr. John Symonds were reserved.

The class for Suffolk cart stallions formed a grand collection, they including Saturn, who almost as a matter of course took the lead. He was the champion at Woodbridge last year—first at the Suffolk Show at Beccles, first at Richmond, besides taking other prizes during last show season. An animal from the Dennington Lodge Stud, a grand, well-made son of Border Minstrel, a beautiful bright chestnut, with good feet and legs was second in, thus adding to the creditable list of honours which his owner (Mr. E. A. Cook) has been awarded for him. Two prize-winners at Beccles last year, Sudbourn King of Trumps and Sudbourn Lord, both belonging to Mr. A. H. E. Wood, were r. and h.c. respectively. The three-year-old cart stallions also made a good appearance in the ring. Once more a representative of the Rendlesham Stud came to the front, a very promising son of Prince Wedgewood, Rendlesham Lord Grey, a Royal prize-winner, being first, and he was subsequently purchased for exportation to

Australia. Mr. A. H. E. Wood's Sudbourn Count, by the same sire, first last year, was second; and still another son of Prince Wedgewood—Mr. James Toller's Vanguard—a very promising three-year-old, was third. The Hon. W. F. D. Smith, M.P., was awarded a reserve honour for Acme, and Mr. Alfred Smith was highly comended for Rendlesham Prince Royal. There was a good display of two-year-olds, amongst them being several exhibits of great promise. Mr. E. F. Quilter's Bentley Valentine, by Prince Wedgewood, was one of them; he was first as a foal in 1899 at the Suffolk Show. He did not leave his stud last year, but now, at the commencement of another show season he came again into the first rank. Mr. A. H. E. Wood's Sudbourn Hailstone, bred by Mr. W. R. Hustler (Cockfield), by Sunshine, made a good second, while Mr. Alfred Smith's Rendlesham Alberta was third. There was a nice little lot of yearlings, a youngster by Mr. E. A. Cook's Border Minstrel beating the progeny of some of the most noted sires, the entries numbering ten. This was Harold, shown by Mr. James Rose (Laxfield) a very compact little colt. He was good enough to be placed in front of Mr. E. F. Quilter's Bentley Conjuror, a choice son of Rendlesham Cupbearer. Mr. C. H. Berners (Woolverstone Park) was reserved for Sunbeam by Sunshine, and Mr. A. H. E. Wood, highly commended for Sudbourn Shylock by Sudbourn Prince. Much interest was naturally manifested by the spectators in the contest for the championship and silver medal awarded by the Suffolk Horse Society. This went to Mr. Alfred Smith's Rendlesham Lord Grey, who is no wgoing to perpetuate the breed in the far-off land of Australia. The same gentleman's Saturn, the champion winner last year, was reserved.

The judges of the riding horses were Mr. Lionel J. Digby (Woodcroft Castle, Market Deeping), and Mr. Roland Taylor, M.R.C.V.S.L. (The Haye Farm, Fingringhoe, Colchester). There were but few thoroughbreds. As has often been the case, the contest lay between entries from the famed Bull stables at Woodbridge and the equally famous Hasketon Stud. This time the chief honour went to Mr. William Miles for his beautiful chestnut, Stowmarket, standing 16h.h., on short legs, with good bone, the winner of the 2,000-guinea Trial Plate at Newmarket, and many other good races. Stowmarket was reserved for the King's Premium at the recent Agricultural Hall Show. The second prize was awarded to Mr. Eustace Barlow's Privado, which, though only just out of hard training, was placed in front of the same gentleman's fine horse, Deeside, the winner in this class last year, and at the Suffolk Show.

There was but a small show of hackney stallions, owing to some entries not putting in an appearance. Mr. William Miles had entered Woodbridge Swell, a hackney worthy of the Bull stables, but sold him just previously to the show to go abroad, while Mr. E. S. Stock's London prize-winner, Prince Langton, did not turn up. The hackney belonging to Mr. E. F. Chapman (Alethorp Stud Farm, Fakenham, Manifred), by Connaught, had virtually a walk-over. The winner is a very fine animal and created as much attention in the ring on this occasion as he did at Norwich, where he took a first and special. Mr. R. T. Thornton (Middleton Hall, Brentwood) was second for Newington Connaught. Some real cross-country horses put in an appearance for the prizes presented by her Grace the Duchess of Hamilton and Mr. Forster. Mr. Charles Longe was first with Midnight, while Nigger, a mettlesome, lively hunter, belonging to Mr. S. T. G. Heatley, M.R.C.V.S. (Woodbridge) was second. The harness hackneys made a good show, though they were but few in number. There was no getting away from Daglesford King, driven by and belonging to Mr. George F. Johnson (Braiswick Stud, Colchester). He won a pace and action class at New York, and he has taken several prizes since. He is full of quality, with a combination of knee and hock action. Mr. William Miles's beautiful hackney, which has a good reputation, was second. The first prize in the competition for the best hackney mare or gelding shown in harness, the property of a bona fide tenant farmer, was limited to two entries, Mr. Thomas King (Hasketon) taking the special offered by Mr. George F. Johnson with his Pilot. The two jumping contests were watched with a good deal of interest, as were also the "trade turn-outs."

Bolton Horse.

The Bolton Horse Show Society's thirteenth annual Easter exhibition took place on the 19th ult. on the usual show ground at Great Lever. In previous years the shows have been held on Easter Monday, but on this occasion Saturday was tried as an experiment, in the expectation of a larger attendance consequent upon the holiday taking place on the latter day in lieu of Monday. The entries were not so numerous as last year, but this was no doubt due to the early date on which the show had to be held this year, but the animals were of higher average quality. About £160 was offered in prizes, and this drew an entry of 113. The attendance of visitors was very good, considering that the weather was too cold to be pleasant. The judges were Messrs. J. Gould, Lymm, J. Blundell, Kirkham, T. Bell, Carlisle, and S. W. Hackney, Leeds. The principal awards were as follows:—

Brood Mares (Agricultural).—1, R. A. Yerburgh, M.P., Blackburn; 2, T. Wild, Farnworth; 3, S. Hough, Middle Hulton. Ditto (Light Horses) under 15 hands.—1, H. T. Park, Withnell; 2, R. Hartley, Balderstone; 3, E. Tweesdale, Marland. Ditto 15 hands or over.—1, F. A. Boyes, Great Lever; 2, H. P. W. Grimshawe, Poulton; 3, N. Read, Pleasington.

Stallions (Roadster).—1, R. Hartley, Balderstone; 2, W. Lawson, Blackpool; 3, Lees Knowles, M.P., Pendlebury. Ditto (for agricultural or draught purposes).—1, J. Forshaw and Sons, Carlton-on-Trent; 2, R. A. Yerburgh; 3, Clifton and Kersley Coal Co.

Saddle Class for Mares.—1, R. Harrison, Chorley; 2, N. Read, Pleasington; 3, M. Burns, Brinscall.

Pairs (Turnouts).—1, F. A. Boyes; 2, J. Phethean, Great Lever; 3, J. Lomax, Heaton.

Turnouts (under 15 hands).—1, F. A. Boyes; 2, J. Urmston, Bolton. Ditto (over 15 hands).—1 and 2, F. A. Boyes; 3, J. Lomax. Ditto (open, under 14 hands).—1, R. Harrison, Chorley; 2, R. Draine, Blackburn; 3, T. Vickers, Miles Platting. Ditto (over 14 and under 15).—1, L. Fish, Barton, Preston; 2, R. Harrison; 3, F. A. Boyes. Ditto (15 hands and over).—1, W. Harris Thompson, Upholland; 2, H. P. W. Grimshawe; 3, E. Tweesdale.

Jumping.—1, J. T. Heap, Ramsbottom; 2, F. Whowell, Tottington.



THE PEN OF KENTISH SHEEP which forms the subject of the above illustration was bred by Mr. J. E. Quested, the Firs, Cheriton, Folkestone. These animals were exhibited by Mr. Quested at the London Smithfield Club's Show in December, and won First Prize in the class for pens of three fat wether sheep of the Kentish or Romney Marsh breed above twelve and under twenty-four months old. They also carried off the Silver Cup for the best pen of Kentish or Romney Marsh sheep in the show.

County Cork.

The County Cork Agricultural Society's Spring show, which last year was allowed to lapse, was revived last week, and, taken as a whole, it was perhaps the best spring show yet held, under the auspices of the society. Unfortunately, it did not receive the amount of support it deserved, and, financially, the show is hardly likely to prove a Success. The weather was not wholly the cause of the unsatisfactory state of affairs, for on the first day, Wednesday, it was beautifully fine, but the attendance of visitors was not by any means large; whilst on the second day the weather was anything but pleasant, so that a large attendance was not to be expected. Still, it might have been better than it was. As to the quality of the stock, it was not of the best, but the major portion of the awards were of first class quality. One shortcoming, however, is to be noted, and that is, that the dairy cattle did not come up to the expectations, when the dairying properties of the county is considered. In the shorthorn classes some very excellent animals were shown. More than one of these had already figured in the prize lists of the Birmingham and Scottish shows this year. Among the best specimens in this section were the animals sent down from County Tyrone by Mr. Comerford. These stood out well in merit, and figured most conspicuously in the prize list. As compared with the shorthorns, the Aberdeen Angus classes were poorly supported. Another disappointing section was that for Kerries—usually a commanding feature at the Cork shows, having regard to the nearness of the native home of the breed. The display in these classes was very disappointing. Mr Barter was, as usual, the chief upholder of the credit of the county in these classes. Herefords were few in number, but made amends in quality, which was excellent. Most successful in these classes were Colonel Everard, and Mr. Boylan, of Drogheda, each of whom sent down first-rate specimens. The classes for stores and dairy cattle brought out some particularly useful animals, and in pigs the muster was very large and the quality creditable, but not as good as at the previous show. As to the Horse Section, the one remarkable class was that for Thoroughbred Sires, in which the quality was exceptionally good. In this class there were thirty entries, and among these were to be found many of the best known horses in the South of Ireland. The competition for the six premiums of £50 offered by the Royal Dublin Society was very keen. The judge was Mr. Barlow, of Suffolk, and he had no easy task in hand in awarding the palm of merit. His selections, though it was stated they did not receive absolutely general endorsement, comprised a number of animals likely to be of good service to the horse-breeding industry in the South of Ireland, as they are to be let, under the terms of the premiums, at low fees, to tenant farmers and small breeders.

The principal awards were as follows:—

CATTLE.

Challenge Cup, for best Bull Calf, bred by a tenant farmer, born after 1st July, 1901—T. O'Sullivan Cloughduv, Crookstown (Inspector).

Maxwell Gambleton Challenge Cup, for the best Shorthorn in the Show, of any age or sex—Miss Staples, Dunmore, Durrow, Queen's County (Silvery Sparkle).

Challenge Cup, for Irish-bred Aberdeen-Angus Bulls, presented by the Irish Aberdeen-Angus Association—T. W. Gubbins, Annsgrove, Carrigtwohill (Flying Mail).

SHORTHORN.

Pure-bred Bull, calved between 1st September, 1900, and 1st May, 1901—1, W. R. Crawford, The Priory, Tullyhogue, County Tyrone (Master Stephen); 2, Miss Staples (Dunmore General); 3, R. G. Carden, Fishmoyne, Templemore (Stewart Jamieson); 4, Right Hon. Viscount Duncannon, C.B., Bessborough, Piltown (Bessborough Senator); v.h.c., Right Hon. A. H. Smith-Barry, Fota Island, Queenstown (Lord Valentia); h.c., Miss Staples (Dunmore Sentinel); c., R. P. Walshe, Moneyvroe, Cappoquin (Viscount Desmond); R. G. Carden (Count Rubric and Scottish Laird); r., Marquis of Waterford, Curraghmore Farm, Portlaw (Curraghmore Baldwin).

Pure-bred Bull, calved on or after May 1st, 1901—1, W. R. Crawford (Oxford May Boy); 2, Miss Staples (Dunmore Flash, twin); c., Timothy O'Sullivan, Cloughduv, Crookstown (Inspector); r. Right Hon. Viscount Duncannon, C.B. (Bessborough Sensation).

Pure Bred Bull, calved 1901, open to animals located in the Province of Munster, entered in Class 1 or 2.—1, Richard George Carden, Fishmoyne, Templemore (Steward Jamieson); v.h., Denis Healy, Templebryan, Clonakilty (Magnet); r., Marquis of Waterford, Curraghmore, Portlaw (Curraghmore, Baldwin).

Pure-bred Bull, calved in 1900.—1, W. R. Crawford (A1); 2, Ludlow Beamish, Ashgrove, Queenstown (Patrick's Day); Timothy O'Sullivan (Troubadour).

Pure-bred Bull, calved prior to 1900.—1, R. G. Carden, Fishmoyne, Templemore (Dandy); 2, R. G. C. (Drumsloe Prince); v. h. c., Marquis of Waterford (Sandammon); h. c., Marquis of Waterford (Royal Oak); c. William Perceval, Kilmore Hill, Tallow (Prince Forester); c., R. H. A. H. Smith-Barry, Fota Island, Queenstown (Lochinvar); r., Sidney P. C. Vesey, Dunleckney Manor, Bagnalstown (Margrave.)

Heifer, calved in 1901—1, Miss Staples (Silvery Sparkle); 2, R. Hon. A. H. Smith-Barry (Bellicose).

Heifer, calved in 1900—1, R. Hon. A. H. Smith-Barry (Militant III.).

Cow, or Heifer, of any age, in calf or milk—1, Rt. Hon. A. H. Smith-Barry, (Soldier V.); 2, S. T. Beamish, (Ringlet II.); v.h.c. R. P. Walshe, Moneyvroe, Cappoquin (Ely Desmond); Rt. Hon. A. H. Smith-Barry (Militant II.); r. Rt. Hon. A. H. Smith-Barry (Famosa).

Dairy Cow (in milk), any age, eligible for, and entered in Coates' Herd Book, or pedigree sent for such entry previous to show—1, Rt. Hon. A. H. Smith-Barry (Famosa); 2, same (Militant II.)

ABERDEEN ANGUS.

Pure-bred Bull, calved between 1st September, 1900, and 1st May, 1901—1, Marquis of Waterford (Curraghmore Alfred); 2, T. W. Gubbins, Anngrove, Carrigtwohill (Midleton); 3, H. Bland, Kilquade, Greystones (Just II.); v.h.c. T. W. Gubbins, Anngrove, Carrigtwohill (Fermoy); r., Lord Castletown (Sopwell Dasher).

Pure-bred Bull, calved on or after May 1st, 1901—1, H. Bland (Volksrust); 2, Rt. Hon Viscount Duncannon, C.B. (Kilcock).

Pure-bred Bull, calved in 1900—1, T. H. Gubbins Anngrove, Carrigtwohill (Bandar).

Pure-bred Bull, calved prior to 1900—1, T. W. Gubbins (Flying Mail); 2, Rev. Wm. Bell, Kilmeen Rectory, Ballineen, Co. Cork (Nailer); r, H. Bland (Fusilier of Killeaton).

Heifer, calved in 1901.—1, H. Bland (Queenly); 2, R. Hon. Viscount Duncannon, C.B. (Rosie of Bessborough) r. and 1 h.c., T. W. Gubbins (Ruth of Angrove).

Heifer, calved in 1900.—1, T. W. Gubbins (Pride of Anngrove II.); 2, Rev. William Bell (Elma of Kilmeen); 3, Rev. William Bell (Carbery Lass II.)

Cow or Calf, of any age, in calf or in milk (1st and 2nd); T. W. Gubbins (Pride 7th)and (Fenella 4th of Kippendavie).

HEREFORD.

Pure-bred Bull, calved in 1901—1, T. Boylan, Hilltown, House, Drogheda (Royal Duke); 2, Lieut.-Col. N. T. Everard, Randalstown, Navan (Gay Bird); h.c. ditto, (Adonis); r., T. Boylan (Prince Imperial).

Pure-bred Bull, calved prior to 1901—1, T. Boylan (Jolly Tar); 2, Lieut.-Col. N. N. T. Everard (Defence).

Heifer, calved in 1901—1, Lieut.-Col. Everard (Needless 25th); 2, T. Boylan (Winnie 4th).

AYRSHIRE.

Cow or Heifer, in calf or in milk—1, T. O'Sullivan, Cloughduv, Crookstown (Jeannie).

KERRIES.

Pure-bred Bull, any age—1 and 2, R. Barter, St. Ann's Hill, Cork (Aicme King) aw (Aicme Pretty).

Cow or Heifer, in calf or in milk.—1 and 2, R. Barter (Aicme Daisy), aw (Aicme 000).

JERSEY.

Bull, any age—1, A. F. Sharman-Crawford, Lota Lodge, Glanmire (Marcus).

PIGS.

LARGE WHITE BREED.

Boar, entered in Royal Dublin Society's Register of Pigs, farrowed between August 1st, 1900, and August 1st, 1901—1, C. A. Webb, Quartertown Mills, Mallow (Kruger); 2, R. Barter, r., D. Ross, Tweedmount, Blarney (Galway Prince).

Three Boar Pigs, entered in Royal Dublin Society's Register of Pigs, farrowed on or after August 1st, 1901, bred by exhibitor—1, R. G. Nash, Finnstown, Lucan (Lucan Earl); 2, r. and v. h. c., R. Barter.

Breeding Sow, farrowed on or before August 1st, 1901, in pig.—1, R. G. Nash (Lucan Empress); 2, R. Barter, v.h.c. D. Ross (Duchess Albert); r., C. A. Webb (Empress).

Breeding Sow, any age, with litter.—1, W. Roberts, Rigsdale, Ballinhassig (English Lady II.); 2, C. A. Webb (Princess A); 3, D. Ross (Albert Princess); r., Manager Cork Industrial School, Marble Hill, Cork (White Empress).

Three Breeding Sow Pigs, farrowed on or after August 1st, 1901, bred by exhibitor.—1 and 2, R. Rarter; r., D. Ross.

HORSES.

Thoroughbred Stallion.—Six premiums of £50 each offered by the Royal Dublin Society, and six silver medals by the Cork Society:—R. H. Hayes, Bayview, Carrigaline (Kentford); T. Magnier, Fermoy (Toronto); W. Pallin, Athgarvan Stud, Curragh Camp, Co. Kildare (Sir Reginald); D. Stack, Castle Hyde, Fermoy (Rocket); J. Sheehy, Square, Rathkeale, Co. Limerick (Glensterling); J. Bell, Abbey Street, Clonmel (Ballynoe).

R. F. Flannery, Churchtown, Buttevant (Xylophone); W. O'Brien, Ballyvoduck, Midleton (Beware); W. A. Harris, Victor Stud, Kilmallock (Ferdinand); R. Good, Aherlow, Aherla, Co. Cork (Master Bill); J. W. A. Harris, Victor Stud, Kilmallock (Maltravers); T. Love, Ballea, Carrigaline (Lorikett).

Agricultural Stallion, on Department's Register for 1902. Clydesdale or Shire—1, H. Delany, Ballinvinny, Riverstown (Sowerby Victor). 2, R. Hon. Viscount Duncannon, C.B. (Prince of Bessborough); v.h.c., R. Good, Aherlow, Aherla, co. Cork (Cannock Conqueror IV.); r., D. Hassett, Millfield, Cork (Chipping Harold).

Agricultural Brood Mare, from 3 to 6 years old, suitable for breeding purposes; payment of prizes to be withheld until certificate of service in 1902 by a stallion on Department's Register for 1902 is produced.—1, T. O'Sullivan (Gipsy Lass); 2, F. B. Furney, Sarsfield Court, Riverstown (Polly).

YOUNG AGRICULTURAL HORSES.

Three-year old Gelding or Filly—1, Rt. Hon. Viscount Duncannon, C.B. (Bessborough Jubilee); 2, J. Logan, Courtstown (Little Island); 3, J. Mahony, Kilmaney, Carrigaline (Empress).

Farmers' Supply Association of Scotland.—The report adopted at the seventeenth annual meeting of the Farmers' Supply Association of Scotland, Limited, recommended a dividend of 5 per cent. on £2,533 of share capital, after carrying forward a balance of £714 7s. 1d. In moving the adoption of the report, the Chairman said it showed the biggest turnover they had ever had, the sales amounting to over £40,000, and was the more satisfactory in that they had no bad debts. Manure had steadily kept at about £7,000 or £8,000, which left room for improvement. Feeding stuffs had been quite satisfactory, the sales having gone steadily up to £24,000; and the turnover in implements last year amounted to £4,000. Seeds had risen from £1,000 to £4,500, which was very satisfactory. Mr. Alexander Glendinning, Newmains, who seconded, said there were not a few of the large farmers who would benefit themselves if they placed at least a certain proportion of their orders with the Association; and with regard to other farmers who farmed a moderate area, the benefit would be altogether incalculable.

I notice that Mr. John Parr, the Secretary of the National Pig Breeders' Association, has changed his address to Ruddington, Nottinghamshire.

SOCIETIES.

Hackney Horse.—Scottish Committee.

A fairly well-attended meeting of the Scottish Committee of the Hackney Horse Society was held at Glasgow on the 26th ult., Mr. James Hamilton, Aldersyde, presiding.

The Secretary submitted the annual report as follows:—The executive, with the secretary, had a meeting with the Council and its Selection Committee in London in November. The official report of that conference and its results, so far as they affect the Scottish Committee, was submitted. The report stated that the Council of the Selection Committee had considered the present method of the election of members of the council, more especially concerning the representation of Scotland and Wales; and that Mr. MacNeilage had put forward the views of the Scottish Committee. The committee carefully considered these suggestions seriatim, and unanimously resolved to present the following report, recommending:—

(1) That a separate section for Scotland appear on the next voting paper.

(2) That the Council frame the voting paper to endeavour to ensure the election of two representatives from Scotland; but, in face of article 29, and the fact that the ultimate voting power rests with the general body of members, the Council have no power to definitely promise that two members will always be elected from the Scotch section.

(3) That the committee cannot at present endorse the suggested change in the method of the election of council in respect to voting for neither more nor less than ten members.

(4) The committee agree with Mr. MacNeilage that the recommendations of members should be carefully considered by the Selection Committee, but are not prepared to endorse his view that every name suggested by five members should be inserted on the voting paper without first being submitted to the Selection Committee.

The executive have reason to be satisfied so far with what the Council have done, but after deliberation it was agreed that an effort should be made to test the feeling of the members of the society at the annual general meeting on Wednesday, 5th March, on the subject of the rule which compels a member to vote for ten councilmen, neither more nor less, or his paper is disqualified. Mr. MacNeilage was authorised to move in this sense, and did so, with the result that the report of the Council, embodying its finding in November, was only carried by a majority of two votes. The committee are satisfied that the result would have been different were it not that many members did not care to vote for a motion which might be construed as a vote of no confidence in the Council.

Premiums.

During the year the committee expended £46 in subsidising hackney classes, or in paying the expenses of approved judges at the shows held at Glasgow in April, Edinburgh in June, Kilmarnock in April, and Ayr in April. It has been resolved not to do anything further by way of subsidising premiums at these shows, but to continue to defray the expenses of qualified judges for hackney classes if drawn from this committee's list. Such judges had been elected to act at Kilmarnock, Ayr, Edinburgh, and it is expected that a similar selection will be made at Glasgow. Provided sufficient funds are forthcoming, the committee would like to improve the classification for hackneys at county and district shows. A contribution from all the members of the Hackney Horse Society in Scotland should be made to this committee in order that it may be enabled to do its work efficiently. The committee commenced the year with a balance of £20 7s. 0½d.; the subscriptions received amounted to £55 16s.; subsidies and judges' expenses absorbed £46 of this; salaries amount to £20; secretary's expenses to London to £4 3s. 5d.; printing, postage, and commission, to 16s. 3½d,; the balance on hand at date being £5 3s. 4d.

Dr. Wilson, Carbeth, Killearn, moved that the matter of election of councilmen for Scotch presentation be taken up again on the first opportunity, which resolution was seconded and agreed to. ffice-bearers were elected, Mr. R. C. Marshall, of Bruntshields, being president, and Messrs. James Hamilton and John G. Kerr, of Harvieston, being vice-presidents.

Highland.

A meeting of the directors of the Highland and Agricultural Society was held at Edinburgh on Wednesday, Sir Ralph Anstruther, Bart., in the chair.

A letter was read from the Butter Association, London, directing attention to the interim report of the Board of Agriculture Committee on Butter Regulations, where it was recommended that the legal limit of moisture in butter be 16 per cent., but stated that any butter containing a larger percentage of water than 16 per cent. would escape the operation of the 16-per-cent. limit if disclosure were made of the fact to the purchaser before purchase.

The secretary suggested that the society should make a representation to the Board of Agriculture to have the present unsatisfactory state of matters altered. The effect of the report had been to lead to an extensive trade in what was known as watered butter.

The Rev. Dr. Gillespie, Mouswald, said this was a matter of very great importance. It was not simply a case of what was commonly termed milk-blended butter, which contained more than 16 per cent. of water, but of the great extension that had taken place in the trade. The practice, as they knew, was to have inferior butter made up with new milk, the result being that butter which contained from 12 to 13 per cent. of water would be found, in its milk-blended form, to contain 24 or 25 per cent. of water. That had led people to start manufactories or extend existing works for the manufacture of milk-blended butter, and unless a check was put upon that trade, in the interest alike of the consumer and producer, it might assume gigantic proportions. So far as they knew, Mr. Hanbury was willing to protect the interests of the community in the matter, and he moved that they make a representation to the Minister of Agriculture to use his powers under the Foods and Drugs Act to regulate the percentage of water in butter, as he had done with regard to solids in milk and cream.

Mr. John Speir, Newton, in seconding the motion, said if the Board of Agriculture Committee were within their rights in limiting the quantity of water in milk, they would be quite as much within their rights in doing the same as regards butter. It would, no doubt, cause a little hardship to those people who manufactured that extreme class of butter, but in the general interests of the community he thought they should adopt such a resolution as had been proposed, and which was similar to one adopted by the Royal Agricultural Society of England and the Bath and West of England Agricultural Society.

The motion was unanimously agreed to, and power was given to the chairman and Dr. Gillespie to arrange for a deputation to the Minister of Agriculture, if it should be considered desirable.

The secretary stated that he had received a letter from Dr. Macdougal, the society's entomologist, drawing attention to the increasing injury done by maggots to sheep. Dr. Macdougal wrote that he was satisfied that there were flies other than the green-bottle variety which were causing much loss, and only a fortnight ago he had received complaints of great loss in Clackmannanshire from maggots. He suggested that the society should send out a series of questions to sheep farmers with the view of eleciting information as to their experience of maggots among their flocks.

On the motion of Mr. Anderson, Kippenross, the matter was remitted to the Science Committee, the chairman of that committee and the secretary being authorised to issue the queries which Dr. Macdougal proposed.

Royal Scottish Agricultural Benevolent Institution.

The annual meeting and the election of pensioners of the Royal Scottish Agricultural Benevolent Institution took place on Wednesday, in the offices of the Highland and Agricultural Society, George IV. Bridge, Edinburgh, Sir Ralph Anstruther, Bart., presiding.

The annual report submitted by the secretary showed that the subscriptions had amounted to £694, and the donations to £217. Subscriptions, donations, and church collections showed an increase over the amount received during the previous year; £730 had been paid during the year in pensions. The total funds at 31st December amounted to £7,591, being £251 above the figure at the corresponding date in 1900.

Mr. Hutchison (Beechwood), in moving the adoption of the report, said it was satisfactory so far, but he did not think it was creditable to his fellow-farmers in Scotland nor to proprietors that the funds were still so low, and that they had had that day to refuse nineteen pensions. They were greatly indebted to Sir John Gilmour, who h promised to pay a portion of the expenses of representative to look after the interests of t institution at the markets and annual shows. He hoped that by this time next year they would be in such a flourishing state that, instead of having to vote on the various pensioners, they would b able to put them all up.

Mr. Thomas Elder (Bearford), who seconded said he did not think the scheme of having some to advocate the interests of the institution at the markets would have the success they desired. He had more faith in the other sex doing more for the fund. His suggestion was that either the farmer's wife or the farmer's daughter should collect in the parish to which they belonged. The report was adopted.

The chairman intimated, amid applause, that the King had consented to become a patron, up which they had reason to congratulate themselves. The Duke of Buccleuch was re-elected preside , and vacancies on the board of directors were fille up.

British Dairy Farmers.

A meeting of the council of the above society was held at 12, Hanover Square, London, W., on Wednesday. On behalf of the Finance and General Purposes Committee, Mr. S. P. Page reported that the society's accounts for the past month had been duly examined, the balance on current account being £387 8s., against which they recommended payments amounting to £85 7s. 8d. The report was adopted. Upon an application made from the Gloucester County Dairy School it was agreed to arrange an examination there, at an early date, for the society's elementary teacher's certificates. Mr. Carrick presented the report of the Conference Committee, embodying their proposals with regard to this year's Dairy Conference. It was agreed to commence proceedings at Reading, members assembling there on the evening of Monday, June 3rd. The first day's proceedings begin at nine o'clock, by an inspection of the British Dairy Institute, succeeded one hour later by a conference in the hall of Reading College (adjoining), the subjects of papers for reading and discussion being, (1) practical education in dairying, and work at the British Dairy Institute; and (2) theoretical instruction in dairying. The members will be entertained to luncheon by Mr. Martin J. Sutton, and the afternoon will be devoted to a brief visit to Messrs. Sutton and Sons' seed establishment, and an inspection of a farm outside Reading. In the evening a dinner is to be given in the Town Hall, on the invitation of Mr. W. Berkeley Monck, chairman of the Institute Joint Committee. The programme for the second day (Wednesday), now in course of arrangement, will consist of visits to farms between Reading and Oxford, the latter city being the association's headquarters for the nights of Wednesday and Thursday. On the morning of Thursday a conference is projected at Oxford, and on the Friday morning a special train will convey the members to Buckingham for the purpose of meeting local farmers in conference there. Later on the party will proceed to Lord Rothschild's Home Farm, Tring Park, where the four days' proceedings will terminate.

The chairman of the Show Committee (Professor Long) reported that they had commenced their revision of the schedule of prizes to be competed for at the Dairy Show on October 7th, 8th, 9th, and 10th, and hoped to complete it at the next sitting. The council considered a communication from the Reading College, and discussed it with a representative thereof, on the subject of an offer received from the Corporation of Reading for acquiring the present buildings of the British Dairy Institute, and the consequent project for erecting the Institute on another site. The Council decided to sanction the proposed transfer, subject to the necessary legal formalities and the approval of the Institute Joint Committee, confirmed by the Council, of the plans for the new buildings and details of the entire arrangements.

It was resolved to address the President of the Board of Agriculture and others on the subject of the London County Council General Powers Bill, pointing out that in the clauses relating to tuberculosis the wording does not follow that of the model milk clauses hitherto accepted by Parliament and inserted in all similar Bills. The words "tuberculosis of the udder or tuberculous disease" occur, whereas the last three words, "or tuberculous disease," were by agreement eliminated, with the consent of the then Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Long) and the President of the Local Government Board (Mr. Chaplin), from all such Bills. The council expressed a strong hope that the Minister of Agriculture will insist on maintaining the model milk clauses intact, and not allow the words "or tuberculous disease" to be inserted in the Bill.

"Mark Lane Express" Diary.

April.

8. Sale of Mr. McIntosh's Jerseys, at Havering Park, Romford.
8. Meeting of the Council of the Central and Associated Chambers of Agriculture.
9. Royal Jersey Agricultural Society's Bull Show.
9. Meeting of the Council of the Royal Agricultural Society.
9. Sale of the late Lord Rookwood's herd of Jerseys, at Down Hall, Harlow, Essex.
9. 10, and 11. Sale of horses, at Cheshire Repository, Crewe.
10. South Devon Herd Book Society's Show and Sale, at Totnes.
10. Sale of Mr. L. C. Merson's herd of Devon cattle and flocks of Devon sheep, at Bickham Farm, Timberscombe, Somerset.
11. Sale of Captain Duncombe's herd of Shorthorns, at Waresley Park, Hunts.
11. Store Stock Sale, at Shrewsbury.
11. Sale of pedigree Shorthorns, Shropshire sheep, etc., the property of Earl Beauchamp, at Penn Farm, Madresfield, Malvern.
12. Kilmarnock Farmers' Society's Show, at Kilmarnock.



Weeds and Their Eradication.

In the course of a paper read before the Farmers' Club to-day (Monday) by Professor Wrightson, he said that so far as pastures and meadows are concerned there are certain methods which may be relied upon to gradually exterminate weeds and develop the more valuable herbage, as, for example, drainage.

The following weeds and inferior grasses will be found in wet pastures:—Early flowering rush, flea rush, carnation grass, marsh plume thistle, common rush, silver weed, hair grass, floating foxtail grass, cuckoo flower or ladies' smock, marsh marigold, yellow iris, forget-me-not, or scorpion grass.

One of the first effects of drainage is to cause the disappearance of all these plants. If such boggy lands were drained they should be then well manured, and afterwards harrowed and sown with suitable grass seeds. Repeated mowing will destroy rushes. If thistles were mown before frost, they would, in their withered condition, perish after mowing. I know no better course than to persevere in mowing, as a means of preventing seeding. Much depends upon whether a plant is annual, biennial, or perennial in habit, for, assuredly, the first two classes, if kept mown and prevented from seeding, must succumb. Heavy stocking, shripping, and mowing are the best practical means of encouraging the true grasses and discouraging less desirable herbage. Where a large head of stock is maintained there must be manuring, for cake is sure to be fed on the pastures, and the weeds, which as a rule affect the poorer pastures, will gradually be exterminated.

The weeds which affect upland pastures are different from those already mentioned. Many of these weeds are so completely associated with the pastures that no attempt is made to eradicate them, and all that can be done is to stimulate the growth of good grasses, with a view to overpowering them. In some cases stubbing, as in the case of gorse or whin, may be practised, but it must not be forgotten that whin is not by any means useless in a poor pasture. In many cases the wiser plan is to accept the herbage as it is, and make the most of it without troubling about its precise composition. If, however, it is thought desirable to reduce the weedy herbage, the use of active manures will do so, not so much by destroying the weeds as by stimulating the growth of the grasses proper, and, so to speak, elbowing out the intruders.

I now come to a more promising field in which to wage war with weeds, namely, arable land. When land is brought into the proper tilth for receiving seed its surface speedily becomes covered with tiny dicotyledonous seedlings. As this often takes place after the crop has been sown, there is a race between the crop and the weeds as to which shall possess the land. Generally speaking, the crop surmounts the weeds, which continue to exist as an undergrowth, doing considerable damage to the crop by abstracting moisture and fertilising matter, and excluding the air. The difficulty consists in the enormous number of weed seeds in soils, which lie dormant until favourable conditions for germination arise.

One of the most approved methods of exterminating annual weeds is to bring land into tilth a little before the crop is sown, and to thus encourage the germination of all weed seeds which are capable of growing. The seedlings are then destroyed by harrowing, and the crop is then drilled and rendered comparatively clean. If this precaution could be taken, it would prove effective, but there are some serious difficulties, because too often the germination of the weeds is delayed, and the seedlings come up among the young corn. They are, however, still very easily eradicated by harrowing, and one of the best means of dealing with charlock and other weeds which thickly stud the ground after the barley and oats are up is to harrow the ground at the proper time, that is, as soon as the corn will stand the operation and before the weeds have passed beyond the earliest stage of growth. Harrowing stubbles after harvest is also a good means of producing a growth of weed seedlings, which will, in some cases, as in that of charlock, be destroyed by frost or by subsequent tillage operations. In the case of land intended for roots, tillage operations may be relied upon to destroy most of these weeds. Root crops are sown later than corn, and in the balmy days of April and May germination is rapid, and the countless weed seedlings succumb to the ordinary tillage operations.

Hoeing corn is undoubtedly one of the best methods of destroying weeds. It was at one time more generally practised than it is now, but the low price of corn and the scarcity of labour have both tended to diminish the area of corn hoed.

I have known many farmers who relied much upon smothering weeds by stifling them with luxuriant growth; by keeping land as clean as possible, and in the highest condition; by early sowing, and good cultivation, to encourage rapid growth and so choke the weeds. Vetches are a smothering crop, and are well suited for keeping down weeds, but so are heavy crops of almost any kind.

Clean Seed.

One of the most fruitful sources of weeds is foul seed, and of this I have no doubt whatever. From this point of view, farmers have often themselves to blame; but I would here observe that too often the bulk of seed delivered is not in accordance with the sample sold. Our great seed-growing firms possess machinery for cleaning seed, and it is not from them that dirty seed is obtained. They charge a little more than market price, perhaps, but they deliver according to sample. It is by the incautious buying of clovers, sainfoin, seed corn, etc., from men who have neither the botanical knowledge to detect weeds nor the machinery for removing them, that land becomes stocked with weeds. To many farmers cheapness is the first consideration, and they do not appear to mind a few weeds in their grass seeds and clovers. It is in this way that couch, docks, plantain, geranium, dodder, lop, and many other weeds are sown broadcast.

Charlock Spraying.

I believe one of the principal objects in asking for this paper was to ventilate the subject of spraying. I sincerely hope, however, that in the discussion which is to follow, too exclusive attention will not be given to this part of a wide subject. Spraying has now been before the public for four seasons, and the method of procedure is well known. It consists in applying some 40 gallons per acre of a weak solution of 3 per cent. strength of sulphate of copper. The present position of the spraying question as regards charlock appears to be that the process is successful. Success appears to depend largely upon the conditions prevailing at the time of application. These are, mainly, (a) the state of the weather, and (b) of the charlock. The weather should be dry and calm, and not wet or windy, or even frosty. If rain follows soon after application, respraying may be necessitated. All the experiments point to the conclusion that charlock ought to be sprayed in quite the early stages, and before the flower-heads appear.

If a field is addicted to charlock it is just as well down in sainfoin or old seeds. I suggest cropping such a field as follows. Sainfoin mown for four years. Fifth year to be broken up and put into mustard, to be followed with wheat for the sixth year. Seventh year, winter vetches to be fed, and followed with late roots. Eighth year, early roots. Ninth year, wheat. Tenth year, to be sown with clover and grass seeds. Eleventh year, ditto. Twelfth year, ditto. Thirteenth year, wheat. I do not think there would be much trouble with charlock during such a course as this.

The plough is the best eradicator of these deep-rooted weeds. Deep, sound ploughing and hand-pulling, stubbing, and chopping up are the means usually employed, and I know of no other method except what has been previously mentioned in connection with the treatment of such intruders upon grass land. It is, of course, important that they should not be allowed to run to seed, and it is equally important that they should not be introduced in mixtures of grass seeds or seed corn. Good farming—that is, liberal manuring, deep ploughing, vigorous persecution—are effective, and I think we may leave these enemies to be treated as they deserve by skilful farmers without prescribing any chemical specific."

Varieties of Potatoes.

In the spring of 1901 nineteen varieties of potatoes were planted in Cae Ty Newydd Ucha, under the supervision of Professor Winter, of the College of North Wales. The soil was a good medium loam resting on the limestone. The rows were 27 inches wide, and the plots were one-forty-fifth of an acre in size—one row right through the field. The manuring, which was the same in each case, was as follows:—15 tons of farmyard manure, 3 cwt. of superphosphate, 2 cwt. kainit per acre. The following varieties were grown:—British Queen (Findlay), a second early, of kidney shape, with a strong haulm. Cigarette (Kerr), a second early, round in shape, medium haulm. Sirdar (Hurst), a late round variety with a medium haulm. Motor (Webb), a late variety, producing large tubers of a kidney shape. Up-to-Date (Findlay), a strong-growing late variety, tubers

slightly oval in shape. Flourball (Sutton), round tubers of a red colour. Reliance (Sutton), tubers of a kidney shape, haulm rather short, late. Colossal (Fidler), kidney shape, haulm very strong, late. New Main Crop (Fidler), late, tubers of a kidney shape, haulm of medium strength. Farmer's Glory (Findlay), a late growing variety with a large haulm. Windsor Castle (Sutton), a round second early with short haulm. Lord Dundonald (Kerr), a late round with a strong haulm and coloured flower. Good Hope (Findlay), a late variety with very strong haulm. Fame (Fidler), flattish kidney. General Roberts (Kerr), strong-growing variety, tubers oval, late. Reliance (Dickson), haulm rather short, tubers of a kidney shape. Scottish Triumph (Gemmel), strong growing late variety, tubers oval in shape. Reading Giant (Fidler), tubers elongated oval in shape, medium haulm. Charles Fidler (Fidler), a late variety, very strong haulm, tubers round.

The potato crop in Anglesey and Carnarvonshire was probably a record one in point of weight in 1901, and that at Llediwgan was no exception to the general rule. Full particulars of the weights are given in the table below:—

Variety.	Yield of potatoes. Total weight.	Marketable.	Small.	Diseased.
	T. C. LB.	T. C. LB.	T. C. LB.	T. C. LB.
British Queen	16 12 11	13 19 91	2 4 13	0 8 19
Cigarette	19 5 65	17 6 90	1 7 41	0 11 46
Sirdar	8 0 105	7 11 61	0 5 80	0 3 76
Motor	10 16 10	9 10 85	0 17 109	0 7 40
Up-to-date	14 13 99	12 5 101	1 3 77	0 14 33
Flourball	13 8 42	11 13 73	1 8 21	0 6 60
Reliance (Sutton)	9 16 53	8 5 49	1 10 25	0 0 91
Colossal	8 12 42	6 18 99	1 11 50	0 2 5
New Maincrop	7 19 77	6 15 23	0 14 33	0 10 21
Farmer's Glory	16 18 71	14 4 80	2 13 103	None.
Windsor Castle	7 4 21	6 1 81	0 17 63	0 4 101
Lord Dundonald	9 9 56	8 16 52	0 9 86	0 3 30
Good Hope	16 3 12	13 18 65	2 0 95	0 3 76
Fame	9 4 70	8 4 23	0 16 38	0 4 9
General Roberts	10 6 31	9 7 55	0 14 33	0 4 55
Reliance (Dickson)	12 4 76	10 6 98	1 13 55	0 5 35
Scottish Triumph	15 7 106	13 17 40	1 0 2	0 10 64
Reading Giant	7 0 103	5 12 37	1 7 41	0 1 25
Charles Fidler	15 10 2	14 9 70	0 11 46	0 8 110

Miss E. E. Mann, of the Liverpool Training School of Cookery, tested the cooking properties of the different varieties, and furnished the following report:—British Queen, excellent, floury, white and well flavoured. Cigarette, not very satisfactory, dark and not easily boiled; better when baked. Sirdar, good bakers, but break before soft when boiled. Motor, good flavour when steamed, but bad colour; excellent when boiled, white and floury; good taste. Up-to-Date, dark colour and too sweet. Flourball, white and floury, but rather too sweet in flavour. Reliance (Sutton), inclined to break badly, but well coloured and flavoured. Colossal, when boiled have a rough flavour and bad colour; better flavour when steamed, but colour still bad. New Main Crop, yellow in colour; not floury, but well flavoured. Farmer's Glory, very black and rather too sweet in taste. Windsor Castle, white and good flavour, excellent. Lord Dundonald, very good; floury and good flavour. Good Hope, floury, white, and good flavour, excellent when steamed. Fame, very good, floury and dry; good flavour. General Roberts, difficult to boil soft, break badly before softening; very white and nice flavour; better when steamed. Reliance (Dickson), best when boiled, very earthy taste when steamed; do not bake at all well. Scottish Triumph, very white and floury; excellent flavour, good either boiled or steamed. Reading Giant, very good flavour, but difficult to dry, and dark coloured. Charles Fidler, boil well, inclined to turn black soon; well flavoured; steam and bake very well.

The Destruction of Agriculture.

"To kill agriculture is something worse even than the murder of a great industry," says Mr. Ernest Williams in an article on "Our National Peril," in the April "Windsor." "So intimately bound up with the well-being of a country is that country's agriculture that to kill it is to drain away the country's life-blood, and the nation which kills its agriculture commits suicide. Yet England has deliberately killed her agriculture. In a moment of madness, succeeded by years of thoughtless folly, the Parliament of this country signed the death-warrant of the queen of this country's industries. It committed this crime in the fancied interests of the manufacturing and commercial interests of the country, though these interests were progressing to a degree which was the world's marvel. I say that this act was performed in a moment of madness, and in support of this view that the country's politicians were suffering from a fit of aberration of mind. I may appeal to Gladstone's own words, uttered a year or tw obefore he plunged into the hysterical agitation against agriculture.

"In 1843 he declared: 'I am strictly correct in saying there would be no new labour set in motion by the manufacturers of this country if foreign corn were admitted free, but what would be more than counterbalanced by the displacement of the labour of the British peasantry.' Those were the words of the patriot and the economist in his time of soberness. With his mind as yet clear of the turgid rhetoric of the Repeal League, he saw clearly enough that the evils and losses attendant upon the ruin of agriculture must be greater than any advantage in the way of an increased export trade in manufactures which might possibly accrue from withdrawing the necessary support from agriculture. Yet Gladstone's flash of insight into the real bearings of the matter was soon lost amidst the growth of such doctrines as that tersely and cynically expressed in Thompson's 'Free Trade Catechism': 'It may be information to the home agriculturists to state that there would be no physical impossibility in living without them altogether.'

"And so the deed was accomplished. It was not all at once that agriculture began to die. Just as a man may, by some foolish course of living, sow in his system the seeds of death, and yet continue for some years afterwards in fair and apparent health, so it was with English agriculture. The 'natural protection' of distance, which Cobden promised to the English farmer, did shield agriculture for awhile. The prairies of North and South America were as yet but sparsely employed in arable cultivation, and, apart from the comparative smallness of the foreign wheat supply available, a lack of facilities for transportation, and the high charges for freight, did give the farmer protection against foreign competitors, even after the duties were removed. But all through the intervening years the foreign wheat lands have been developing, railways have made a mesh over them, and the seas are now so crowded with ships that they are carrying grain across the Atlantic for a penny a bushel, and in some cases actually as ballast."

LITERARY NOTICES.

All interested in matters relating to New South Wales would do well to obtain the year book of that Colony, which can be had of the Agent-General, 9, Victoria Street, S.W. Full particulars are here given of the geography, the history, the commerce, and modern life and business of the Colony.

The spring number of "Bibby's Quarterly" is a very creditable production. The articles on agricultural matters are very up-to-date and useful, while the contents of the literary supplement attain a very high standard. As usual, no expense has been spared to illustrate the number beautifully, the coloured plates being exceptionally excellent.

We have received a pamphlet from Messrs. J. Rands and Jeckell, of Ipswich, in which are reprinted extracts from articles showing the importance of, and the advantages to be derived from, providing efficient shelter for lambs and sheep.

The Royal Agricultural Society have issued new editions of two of their well-known pamphlets by Sir George Brown, C.B., viz., "Dentition as Indicative of the Age of the Animals of the Farm," and "The Structure of the horse's Foot and the Principles of Shoeing." The pamphlet on dentition is the fifth edition of a work that was originally written in 1882. It describes the dentition of the horse, the ox, the sheep, and the pig, and includes in a pamphlet of 64 pages, 60 wood engravings, illustrating the various phases in the dentition of the animals mentioned. The pamphlet on horse-shoeing, of which the new edition is the fourth since its original publication in 1888, has been to a large extent re-written, and is considerably enlarged. The new pamphlet consists of 24 pages, with 12 illustrations of horse's feet and horse-shoes, and is intended for the use of shoeing-smiths who are desirous of acquiring an intelligent knowledge of the anatomy of the horse's foot, and of the principles underlying their art of horse-shoeing. The work is divided into three parts, dealing with (1) the anatomy of the foot, (2) the functions of the foot, and (3) the principles and practice of shoeing. Both pamphlets are published by Mr. John Murray, that on dentition at 1s., and that on horse-shoeing at 6d. per copy.

Flowers for Eastertide.—Considerable consignments of flowers for Eastertide were despatched to the London and Provincial centres from the Fen Districts of Lincolnshire and Cambridgeshire, where the growing of bulbs has in recent years received great attention, a large acreage being now devoted to the growth of daffodil, narcissus, and other bloom. Eastertide falling a week earlier than last year, much of the bloom thus far gathered has been brought on under glass, but growers are now beginning to cut the early varieties grown out of doors, and shortly the work will provide employment for a large number of hands. The amount sent from the Fens this Easter is about on an average with last year.

PRACTICE WITH SCIENCE.

Experiments with Mangolds and Swedes.

This year 29 varieties of mangolds were tested at the Agricultural School, Holmes Chapel. The seed was sown on May 4th at the rate of 10lb. per acre. The objects in view have been:—1. To ascertain the yield of various varieties. 2. To see which varieties have a tendency to run to seed. 3. To test the amount of water, organic matter, and ash in each variety, with a view of ascertaining the yield of organic matter per acre. 4. To compare the relative values of each variety according to (*a*) the total yield per acre and (*b*) the yield of organic matter per acre. The soil upon which the experiments were carried out is a clay loam, upon which the rotation of crops has been:—1898, permanent pasture; 1899, oats; 1900, oats; 1901, roots.

Manures were applied in the drills at the rate per acre of 16 tons farmyard manure, 3 cwt. superphosphate (29 to 31 per cent. soluble), and ½ cwt. sulphate of ammonia (24 per cent. ammonia). The artificial manures were sown on the farmyard manure in the drills just before closing them. In addition to the above the crop was top-dressed after singling at the rate per acre of 1 cwt. nitrate of soda (95 per cent. purity) and 2 cwt. salt.

The drills were 27in. wide, and the plants were singled out to about 11in. apart, thus giving 21,120 plants per acre. The crop was pulled and stored on October 14th, 1901. The plots varied in size from 1-25th to 1-17th of an acre, but in each case the same area was weighed.

The yield varied very much in the different varieties, the lowest yield being 28 tons per acre, whilst the highest was 49¾ tons per acre. Some varieties have a greater tendency to run to seed than others. The results this year confirm those of the previous two seasons, as in all three years the same varieties have had the largest and the smallest number of shot plants respectively, while the relative positions of the remaining varieties are practically the same. The amount of ash in all the varieties is about 1 per cent., as was the case in 1900. The amount of organic matter and water varies to a very considerable extent, and thus the heaviest yield does not of necessity contain the greater amount of nutritious matter, and in the majority of cases the variety has given a very similar percentage of organic matter in each of the last three seasons. In analysing the different varieties, samples were only taken from roots that had not run to seed.

This year 24 varieties of swedes were tested. The seed was sown on May 17th at the rate of 4lb. to the acre. The objects in view have been to ascertain the yield of various varieties, to test the amount of water, organic matter, and ash in each variety, with a view of ascertaining the yield of organic matter per acre, to compare the relative value of each variety according to (*a*) the total yield per acre and (*b*) the yield of organic matter per acre. The crop was grown in the same field as the mangolds.

Manures were applied in the drills immediately before sowing at the rate per acre of 16 tons farmyard manure, 6 cwt. superphosphate (29 to 31 per cent. insoluble), ½ cwt. sulphate of ammonia (24 per cent. ammonia).

The drills were 27in. wide, and the plants singled out to about 12in. apart. The crop was pulled and stored on November 4th, 1901. The plots varied in size from 1-17th to 1-6th of an acre, but in each case the same area was weighed.

The yield varies very considerably, from 17 tons 13 cwt. to 3 tons 14 cwt., which produced a very indifferent braird, and never gave a vigorous growth at any time during the season. The land upon which the crop was grown is of a heavy nature, and owing to the dry, cold weather after the seed was sown, none of the varieties grew as well as they might have done under more favourable conditions. The amount of ash was constant, varying between ½ and ¾ per cent., the same as in 1900. The amount of organic matter and water varied to a certain extent, but not so much as in the case of the mangolds. The percentage of organic matter is lower this year than in 1900, probably due to the fact that there was more growth at the end of the season; in fact, the plants were still growing when the crop was lifted. The relative amounts of organic matter in the various varieties has been fairly constant for the past three seasons.

Mr. Martin John Sutton, head of the firm of Messrs. Sutton and Son, seedsmen, of Reading, recently offered to the Reading Town Council a statue of the King in his Coronation robes, as a permanent memorial in Reading of the approaching ceremony. The offer has now been accepted, and the statue will probably be erected in the market place.

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Can We Prevent Foreign Imports in Eggs and Poultry?

This is a question that is asked us on every hand. Those who have not given the subject of poultry-keeping any consideration whatever, and who have not even kept fowls, have been struck by the increased sum paid by this country to thrifty people in the Colonies and abroad; and they ask us whether it is not possible for English people to produce the eggs and fowls themselves, and thus keep this large sum of money at home.

We have heard it stated by prominent lecturers on poultry-keeping that the whole of this amount might easily be kept in England, and that every fowl and egg consumed by English people could be produced in the country, thus retaining the money for the betterment of our own people.

To the casual observer it may seem possible to do so, but after giving the subject very careful consideration for many years we have arrived at the conclusion that it would not be to the advantage of the poultry keeper or to the consumer for us to even endeavour to do so. There are many different qualities of meat consumed in this, as well as other countries, and there are purchasers for all grades of it, from the wealthy and middle classes, who pay the highest prices for meat of the best quality, and such prices that well repay the farmers for producing it, and the butchers for handling it, down to the poorest of the world's workers, who purchase meat that is so low in quality as to be almost considered uneatable, just because they have not the money to buy better. If there were only the best and second grades of meat, it is more than probable that these poor souls would never taste meat. The large imports of meat of all grades have made very little, if any, difference to the prices realised by that of the best quality, which still has a ready sale; and when people can afford to have the best, they very rarely go in for anything but that. They acquire a taste for meat of good quality—they can afford to pay for it, and they have it. When considering the question of eggs and table poultry in the same way, we find that thousands of the imported eggs are consumed by people who could not possibly afford to pay the prices which the English producer must charge in order that the cost of production may be covered. There are a good many grades in imported eggs—as every purchaser knows—and these all find customers amongst people who are glad enough to have them. The imports increase each year, just because the demand is on the increase. The same remarks apply to imported table poultry. Many people go in for a roast fowl now who some years ago had never tasted such a thing, just because these imported fowls come within their reach. They could not afford to buy an English-reared fowl, because its price is prohibitive. We contend that we should be doing the poorer classes a great injury if we aimed at taking away from them their cheap eggs and poultry, and as it is not possible for English poultry keepers to profitably produce eggs and fowls to compete against those imported, it behoves us to turn our attention to supplying the ever-increasing demand for eggs which can be relied on, and specially fattened fowls, that is found in every city and town in our country. Now that those who can well afford to pay prices which are remunerative to the producers have been able for some years to get eggs which are really new-laid, and table poultry which is found to be dependable, the demand is far in excess to the supply, and, taking everything into careful consideration, will continue to be so for many years to come. It is within the memory of us all that at one time there was a great degree of doubt as to the contents of the eggs which were called "new-laid," and for which a good price had been paid. Many good customers were thus lost, as they could not afford to risk the shock they so frequently got when opening their breakfast egg, and fowls which were bought at good prices for roasting were frequently found to be of uncertain age, and, consequently, very disappointing. The spread of information as to the proper management of fowls—careful collection of eggs from the nests, so that germination was prevented; the best methods of fattening the young birds, so that they would be palatable and profitable; and the most suitable breeds for both egg-production and table purposes—has at last had effect in every county. Poultry keepers—farmers on a large scale and cottagers who only keep a few fowls—have been some time grasping the subject in all its bearings, but it is now well known that the percentage of those who manage their fowls in a common-sense manner is very large compared with those who still adhere to the old methods. This spread of information on the subject has resulted in an entirely different class of produce being offered to the consumers, and this has been appreciated to such an extent that at the present time in nearly every city and town we find numbers who require new-laid eggs and good table poultry, and who are prepared to pay a good price for them, but are unable to get them. Now it is this class of trade that the poultry keeper should aim at supplying, and we welcome every scheme that is proposed and carried out for the purpose of collecting from producer and conveying to the consumer. There have been a good many enterprising poultry keepers who have advertised and been able to get a connection amongst consumers, and who have had a miniature direct supply association of their own, but in the majority of cases this is not practicable; therefore we are very glad to know that poultry keepers who have not a sale for all their produce can have it disposed of.

For many years the impression that there were large poultry farms abroad which produced the immense numbers of eggs imported by us was strongly held by a great many people in England, who could not see how the eggs were produced unless fowls were kept in great flocks to lay them. Investigation proved that this was entirely wrong—that the eggs were produced by cottagers and small farmers in small numbers, and by a system of collection they were brought to the port of shipment and graded and packed in bulk and forwarded to the different centres for sale. It has been the want of a properly organised system of collection that those in outlying districts have felt; but in time this will be overcome. Many steps in the right direction have been made during the last two years, and the poultry-keeping industry has received the recognition of some of our most influential landowners, who are beginning to realise that poultry-breeding is a branch of labour that is worthy the consideration of those who are on the land. We believe that the next ten years will see quite as much progress in poultry-keeping as the last ten have, and that by the end of that time we shall find the higher and middle classes well supplied with English-produced poultry and eggs, which will be greatly to the advantage of the consumer as well as to the producers. There are many acres of unused land in our country which could profitably be used for poultry, and we have every reason to believe that we shall see them so used when their occupiers find that they are able to dispose of their produce without any difficulty. We do not want to go to work with the object of entirely ousting the foreigner's eggs and birds from our markets, as they supply the requirements of a class which our own people could not touch; but we have need to learn the lesson that there is to be learnt from their systems of collection and distribution, and to aim at supplying the many thousands who have not the time or the inclination to breed their own fowls or produce the eggs for their own tables. Everything in connection with poultry-keeping is on the move, those who have been contented with mongrels are going in for better class birds, and the average egg production is certainly on the increase. Table poultry are of better class than formerly, and prices are well maintained, as, indeed, they will be, if we aim at supplying only good class produce which commands a paying price. We are so much above the average already, comparing the quality of our eggs and fowls with those which are imported, that we do not want to allow this to deteriorate, but rather to go on improving in every direction. Everyone who is breeding from good layers and improving their stock as utility birds year by year is helping to solve the question of competition with the foreigner. If we supply our customers with a superior article they will not care to buy one of inferior quality, so that eggs and birds of the lower grade will be left for those to whom but a small share of success in the battle of life has been given, and who cannot afford to pay more than the price which the foreigner is contented with.

W. C.

Newcastle Hirings.—The Easter hirings for married farm servants or hinds were held at Newcastle on Wednesday. There was a large attendance, but business was not very brisk. Hinds commanded 21s. to 25s. per week, 26s. being agreed upon in exceptional cases where there was a useful family. From 14s. to 16s. was promised wives who were good milk-women, and daughters capable of assisting, and also doing field work, were offered 8s. to 10s. per week.

Doncaster April Fair for the sale of horses, cattle, and sheep was held on Thursday. Of cattle there was a good supply, and the attendance was up to the average, but a slow trade took place, and prices were lower. Good bullocks made to £16; stirks, £6 to £8; young stores, £4 to £6 each. More sheep penned than for some time, and better prices were made. Hogs, 35s. to 45s. each. The supply of first-class horses was meagre, and trade slow except for the best; top prices being about £65 each; others, £30 to £45; hackneys and carriage horses, £25 to £40.

Mr. George Stephenson, instructor in elementary chemistry and mathematics in connection with the Agricultural Department of the Yorkshire College, has been appointed lecturer at the Albert Institute, Glasnevin, the Agricultural College at Dublin in connection with the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland. Mr. Stephenson, during his connection with the work of agricultural education in Yorkshire, as carried on by the Yorkshire College and the County Councils of the three Ridings, has shown unflagging interest in the work of his department, and will carry with him to the more important post to which he has been appointed the best wishes of all associated with him. Mr. E. M. Leaf, of York, who has recently passed through the full agricultural course of the College, has been appointed instructor and lecturer to the Armagh County Council, and will, in addition be responsible for the superintending of the experiments and demonstration plots authorised by the Irish Department of Agriculture.

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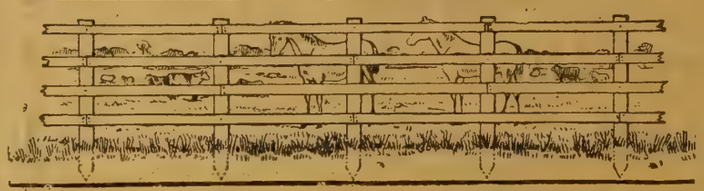
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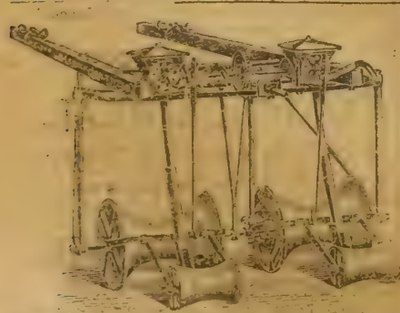
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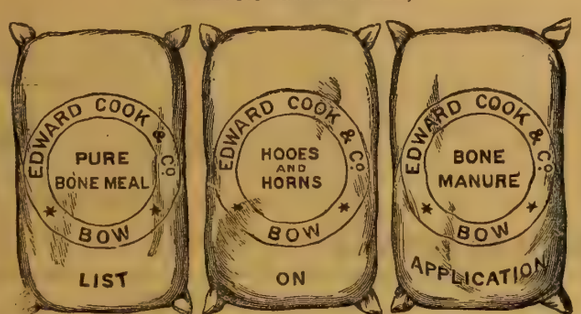


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70 HEAD of HIGHLY-DESCENDED SHORTHORNS, including a Grand Lot of DEEP-MILKING YOUNG COWS, Beautiful YOUNG HEIFERS of the Oxford, Waterloo, Barrington, Cambridge Rose, Winsome, Sweetheart, Craggs, Darlington, Fo.gathorpe, and other favourite families, including the entire rear of two and three-year-old Heifers (already prize winners) in Showyard form, and many others of great Showyard promise, closely allied to the beautiful R.A.S.E. 1st Prize Newcastle Heifer Lady Oxford Waterloo 5th, sold by the Messrs. Evans for 250 guineas. Also

13 MAGNIFICENT YOUNG BULLS.

Messrs. Evans' Shorthorns possess all the style and grandeur of highly-bred Bates' Cattle, with the depth of flesh, well-sprung ribs, and deep capacious udders that go to make a rent-paying animal.

A special feature of the Sale will be the grand Young Bulls (good colours), from deep milking Cows.

Luncheon by Ticket.

Conveyances will be in waiting at Shrewsbury, Wellington, and Crudgington Stations up to 12 noon on the day of Sale.

Catalogues from ALFRED MANSELL & CO., Auctioneers and Exporters, Shrewsbury, WHO WILL EXECUTE COMMISSIONS.

LEGAL NOTICES.

JOHN GINGELL, Deceased.

All persons having any CLAIMS or DEMANDS against the Estate of the late Mr. JOHN GINGELL, of Epping, who died on the 31st day of March last, are requested to send particulars of the same to us, the undersigned, as Solicitors for the Executors.

Dated this 9th day of April, 1902.

RICHARDSON, FOXWELL & HART,
Much Hadham, Herts.

FREDERICK BARNARD HASLAM (Deceased).

All persons having any CLAIMS against the Estate of FREDERICK BARNARD HASLAM, late of the London Corn Exchange, and of No. 42, Oseney Crescent, Camden Road, in the County of London, Flour Factor, deceased, (who died on the 30th day of November, 1901), are hereby required to send particulars thereof in writing to the undersigned, Solicitors for the Executor Francis Edward Haslam, of the Corn Exchange, London, on or before the 10th day of May next, after which day the assets of the deceased will be distributed, having regard only to the Claims of which notice shall then have been received.

Dated this 10th April, 1902.

DEACON, GIBSON, MEDCALF & MARRIOTT,
Solicitors for the Executor of the said deceased.
9, Great St. Helens,
London, E.C.

TENDER.

ARMY CONTRACTS.

BREAD, FLOUR, LIVE CATTLE AND DEAD MEAT.

SEALED TENDERS for the SUPPLY of BREAD, FLOUR, LIVE CATTLE and MEAT for Military Services during six months, from the 1st JUNE, 1902, will be received until 12 o'clock noon, on the following dates:—Meat and Live Cattle Tenders, on WEDNESDAY, 23rd APRIL, 1902; Bread and Flour Tenders, on FRIDAY, 25th APRIL, 1902, by the Officers in charge of the undermentioned Districts:—

Scottish District	Edinburgh.
North-Eastern District	York.
North-Western District	Chester.
Western District	Devonport.
Southern District	Portsmouth.
South-Eastern District	Dover.
Salisbury Plain District	Tidworth House, Andover.
Eastern District	Colchester.
Thames District	Chatham.
Woolwich District	Woolwich.
Home District	23, Carlton House Terrace, S.W.
Aldershot District	Aldershot.
Guernsey and Alderney	Guernsey.
Jersey	Jersey.
Belfast District	Belfast.
Dublin District	Dublin.
Cork District	Cork.
Curragh District	Curragh Camp.

Forms of Tender and Conditions of Contract may be obtained on application at the above-named District Head Quarter Offices, by letter addressed to the Assistant Adjutant-General, or in person between the hours of Ten and Four o'clock.

The Tenders must be properly filled up, signed and dated; and no Tenders will be noticed unless delivered upon the proper form, in time, at the above-named District Offices, under sealed envelope, marked "Tender" on the outside.

A. MAJOR,
Director of Army Contracts.
War Office, Pall Mall, S.W.,
April, 1902.

LIVE STOCK.

HORSES.

HACKNEYS, &c.

MOORE, HENRY, Burn Butts, Cranswick, Hull.—Pedigree Stud of HACKNEYS, including many prize-winners, yearlings, two years, and others.—Can be seen on application to Henry Moore.

LLOYD, WALTER, Heaselands, Hayward's Heath, Sussex. Small but select Stud of PEDIGREE HACKNEYS, Mares, Fillies, and Colts of best blood, including stock by Champion Ganymede, Agility, Winnal Fireaway, Model II., and other noted Stallions at moderate prices. Appointments to view the stud (which is 1¼ miles from Hayward's Heath station, L.B. and S.C. Railway), on application to the owner, as above.

LEES KNOWLES, M.P., Westwood, Pendlebury, Manchester. Breeder of Pedigree Hackneys, Stud Horses: Dane Canute, 5952, by Danegelt, 174; Dainty Duke, 7417, by Garton, Duke of Connaught, 3009; and Salford Felix, 7263, by Invincible, 1806. Stock on Sale by the above-named and other noted Sires.—For particulars apply to the STUD GROOM, Dam Head Farm, Mobberley, Cheshire, or to the Owner.

GEORGE SCOBY, Beadlam Grange Stud Farm, Nawton, Yorks. Breeder of CLEVELAND BAYS and YORKSHIRE COACH HORSES. Stallions and Mares, all ages, of purest blood for sale. This Stud won more prizes at Yorks. and Royal than any Stud in England. Prices reasonable. Telegrams: SCOBY, Nawton (free), A.B.C. code used. Farm 24 miles from York, and one mile from Helmsley, N.E.R.

SHIRES.

MUNTZ, P. ALBERT, M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby.—SHIRE-BRED STALLIONS, COLTS, MARES, & FILLIES. About a hundred of all ages. Prize-winners London and other leading shows. Also high-class Shropshire SHEEP, winners first prize at Royal Agricultural, 1886, second in 1887, and first in 1888.—Apply, THOMAS EWART, Dunsmore Farm, Rugby.

CONCHAR, JOHN, Wylde Green, Birmingham.—Breeder of SHIRES and HACKNEYS. Some good Colts and Fillies for Sale. Five minutes from Station

SALOMONS, LEOPOLD, Norbury Park Shire Stud, Dorking. Stud Horses: Hendre Champion 18,079, Norbury Harold 18,977, Norbury Dane 16,867. Mares and Fillies usually for Sale.—For Stud Fees and particulars, apply to J. BASTIN, Norbury Park Farm, Dorking.

CLYDESDALES.

THE SEAHAM STUD, Ltd., Seaham Harbour, county Durham. The largest stud of Pedigree Clydesdales in the United Kingdom. Stallions, mares, colts, fillies always on sale. Inspection solicited.—Apply, R. BRYDON, Seaham Harbour.

PONIES.

MONTEFIORE, Rev. D. B., Mursley Hall, Winslow, Bucks.—Champion Arab Stallion "Mootrub," Polo Pony "Hurlingham," by Champion "Rosewater," and the thoroughbred Pony Stallion "Eheu," by "Despair." Particulars on application.

SHETLAND PONIES.—Anderson, John & Sons, Hillswick, Shetland (established 54 years), supply pedigreed Shetland Mares and Stallions of excellent breeding and quality, 9 to 11 hands, all colours. Shipments arranged for abroad.—Telegrams, ANDERSON, Hillswick.

MILLER, W. S, Forest Lodge Brecon, S. Wales, Extensive Breeder and Exporter of best class of Welsh Mountain Ponies and Cobs.

CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS.

DALMENY SHORTHORN HERD, the property of the Earl of Rosebery, K.G. Bulls and Heifers of the choicest breeding always for sale at moderate prices.—Apply, MANAGER, Home Farm, Dalmeny Park, Edinburgh.

SWINBURNE, SIR JOHN, owns one of the Largest and Best Herds of PURE BATES SHORTHORNS in existence. The Herd being large, both Males and Females, of any age, can always be obtained. —Apply to JAMES HEPPLE, Bailiff, Capheaton, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WORDSWORTH, REGINALD, Duffcarrig, Gorey, Co. Wexford. Herd of rent-paying Dairy Shorthorns (Cruickshank and Scotch strains). Successful in Dairy and Showyard. Young Bulls and in-calf Heifers of good colours for Sale. Exportation orders faithfully executed.

WOOD, ROWLAND, Clapton, Thrapston, has on sale pure-bred Shorthorns (pedigree, constitution, and milk considered). Shire Horses, Berkshire Pigs.—Thorpe Station, N.W.R.

DEVONS & SOUTH DEVON.

BOWERMAN, ALFRED, Capton, Williton, Taunton, Somerset. Breeder of Pedigree DEVON CATTLE, Royal prize winners, noted for size, symmetry, and robust constitutions.

ROWE, F. W., Trevego, Lostwithiel, Cornwall. Breeder of pure-bred South Devon Cattle of best and purest strains of blood. Bulls, Cows and Heifers for inspection and sale.

CATTLE (*contd.*).

ABERDEEN ANGUS.

DALMENY-ABERDEEN-ANGUS HERD, the property of the Earl of Rosebery, K.G. Bulls and Heifers of the choicest breeding always for sale at moderate prices.—Apply, MANAGER, Home Farm, Dalmeny Park, Edinburgh.

CRIDLAN, J. J., Maisemore Park, Gloucester. Erica, Pride of Aberdeen, Lady Ida, and other noted tribes. Stock Bulls, Eimeo 12459 and Elate 16513. Bull Calves by Elate, Champion and Gold Medal Winner, 1901. Station 2 miles.

OSENTON, GEORGE, Mariners, Westerham. — Pedigree Aberdeen-Angus Cattle.

McINTYRE, JOHN, Theakston, Bedale, Yorkshire.—Aberdeen-Angus Herd. Established 1883. 150 Head. 25 Thick-fleshed Yearling Bulls on Sale. Also females of best tribes.

BLUNT, H. LAYTON, Orton Longueville, Peterborough.—Black Polled Bulls and Heifers for sale, also Grazing Steers.

GRANT, GEO. SMITH, Auchorachan, Ballindalloch, Scotland. Aberdeen-Angus Cattle. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers for sale.

HOYLES, GEORGE, Skidby Manor, near Hull. Prize-bred Angus Bulls and Heifers and Pure Lincoln Longwool Sheep. Registered Flock No. 136. Fine long, lustrous fleeces. Shire Horses for export. Inspection invited.

ABERLOUR HERD OF ABERDEEN-ANGUS CATTLE.—For pedigrees and particulars of animals for sale, apply to NAPIER LANDALE, Factor, Aberlour.

GUSH, GERALD F., Motspur Park, Malden, Surrey.—Herd of Aberdeen-Angus Cattle, Roses of Westertoun, Trojan, Ericas, &c. Several Bulls and Heifers for sale. Euroclydon 13400 and Earl Ito 16489 bulls used in herd.

AYRSHIRES.

PEDIGREE Prize-winning Ayrshire Cattle; good milkers; hardy, healthy; heifers and bulls for sale; exports to Sweden, Egypt, South Africa.—J. WALLACE, J.P., Auchenbrack, Thornhill, Scotland.

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TAYLOR, HENRY W., Showle Court, Ledbury, Herefordshire. Bulls and Heifers of first-class Pedigree for Sale at reasonable prices. This Herd has won hundreds of Prizes.

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HEASELANDS HERD of PEDIGREE JERSEYS, COWS and HEIFERS of the best blood at moderate prices.—Pedigrees, &c., on application to the owner, WALTER LLOYD, Heaselands, Hayward's Heath, Sussex.

ILMINSTER HERD PEDIGREE JERSEYS. — Choice about 100 finest quality Cows and Heifers, in profit and calving all seasons; prices moderate; inspection invited; shipper to all parts. — R. WHEADON, Ilminster.

TICHBORNE PARK GUERNSEYS, property of Sir H. D. Tichborne, Bart. Bulls, Cows and Heifers of very best breeding for sale.—D. Michie, Tichborne Park Office, Alresford, Hants.

LE BROCQ F. W., Maitland, Trinity Road, Jersey.—Breeder and Exporter of pedigree Jersey Cattle. Young Bulls and down-calving Heifers for Sale.

SHEEP.

LINCOLN LONGWOOL.

DUDDING, HENRY, Riby Grove, Gt. Grimsby, Lincolnshire, has always for inspection and sale a large flock of pure LINCOLN LONGWOOL SHEEP, including many prize-winners, having taken the leading prizes for many years at the Royal and other shows for both rams and ewes, including champion medals at both the Paris Exhibitions, Vienna, Amsterdam, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and all the leading prizes at Chicago; also the first for the best collection of Lincoln fleeces of wool at the Royal Windsor Show, which proves the character of this flock, which is most famous for their great size and 125 years' good breeding: Rams from this flock made the highest average on record last year. Riby Grove is seven miles from Great Grimsby, and three from Stallingboro' Station. Telegrams, "Dudding, Keelby."

CARTWRIGHT, JAMES, Dunston Pillar, Lincoln. Pure Bred Lincoln Rams and Ewes. Flock Book No. 53. The greater part of this flock has gone to Buenos Ayres for the last 15 or 20 years. Also Pure Bred Berkshire Pigs always on sale. Inspection invited.

BROOKS, WM. JERMYN, Boughton Grange, Northampton (Flock Book No. 165), has for sale Rams and Ewes of the best blood. Great satisfaction given abroad, especially for their fine fleeces.—Telegrams, Chapel Brampton.

SHEEP (*contd.*).

OXFORD DOWNS.

TREADWELL, JOHN, Upper Winchendon, Aylesbury. Oxford Down Sheep. Annual Ram Sale, first Wednesday in August. Prizes won at R.A.S.E, 24 years in succession. Ewes for sale.

FISHER, G. S., Broughton Lodge, Kettering. Annual Sale of Rams at Kettering, 2nd Friday in August. This Flock obtains many prizes. Inspection invited. Sheep generally for Sale.

HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.

COLES, CARY, Manor House, Winterbourne, Stoke, Salisbury.—Registered HAMPSHIRE DOWNS, prize-winners Royal, Bath and West, and Royal Counties Shows; Salisbury Prize Sheep Fair, 1900 and 1901. Twenty-five guineas Challenge Cup best pen 8 Ram Lambs. Flock numbers 1,200. All ages for sale.

FLOWER, JAMES, Chilmark, Salisbury. Undoubtedly the leading flock of the day; in show yard records at all the largest shows, including the Challenge Cup at the Salisbury Great Prize Sheep Fair six years in succession; also highest average last eight years for 100 ram lambs at annual sale at Britford Fair, August 12, Ram Lambs and Ewes. The Flock is one of the oldest existing, combining fine quality, strength, constitution, and true character.

SHROPSHIRES.

COOPER, WILLIAM, AND NEPHEWS, "Cooper's Dip" Works, Berkhamsted, England. BREEDERS and EXPORTERS of PURE SHROPSHIRE SHEEP. First Prize for five Shearling Rams, Second for Shearling Ram, and Second for Shearling Ewes, at the Royal Show, Cardiff, 1901. First and Third for Ewes, Royal Show, 1898. 500 breeding Ewes. Largest export flock of Shropshires in England. Sires used this season include four First Prize Royal winners. The 310 Guinea Champion "Royal Record," "Ashlyns Knight" (winner of Six Firsts and two Champions), "Shenstone Cardiff," and "Royal Cardiff."—For particulars apply to FRANK WEBB, Estate Office, Shenstone, Lichfield, or J. P. MILNE, Ashlyns, Berkhamsted.

NOCK, EDWARD, Sutton Maddock, Shifnal, Salop.—Owner of the old Sutton Maddock Pedigree Shropshire Flock. Founded 1832. Purest strains of blood. Registered in Flock Book.

PIGS.

BERKSHIRES.

BURBIDGE, EDWARD, Wraxhall, Bradford-on-Avon. Pedigree Berkshire Pigs, bred from Royal and Bath and West Champion blood. Acknowledged one of largest type of Berkshires in England. Purchasers met by appointment.

PEDIGREE BERKSHIRE PIGS The Earl of Carnarvon's Prize-winning Herd. Boars and Gelts, eligible for Herd Book, always on offer. Prices Moderate.—Apply, W. T. HALL, Highclere Farm, Newbury.

PIGS, BERKSHIRE. — Apply, C. BEVAN, Mapledurham, Reading. Pedigree Berkshire Pigs, pure-bred Boars, and Gilts of all ages, and at moderate prices.

STALL PITTS HERD OF PEDIGREE BERKSHIRES. One of the Oldest Herds Unsurpassed for true character, size, and quality. Choice selection of Boars and Sows on offer at moderate prices.—J. LAWRENCE, Stall Pitts, Shrivenham, Berks.

J. H. R. HORWOOD. Pedigree Berkshires, one of the best breeders in England. Several 1st and Champions again this year. Very choice Pigs exported all over the World, and for Sale, at very reasonable prices.—Manor Farm, Drayton Beauchamp, Tring.



LARGE WHITES.

DALMENY HERD of LARGE WHITE PEDIGREE PIGS, the property of the Earl of Rosebery, K.G. YOUNG BOARS and SOWS of the very best quality and choicest breeding for SALE at moderate prices.—Apply, MANAGER, Home Farm, Dalmeny Park, by Edinburgh.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, Stoke Farm Herd Large White Pigs, est. over 20 years. Boars and Gelts at moderate prices. Inspection invited.—A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

LARGE AND MIDDLE WHITE YORKSHIRE PIGS.—HERD of Mr. Manners' (President National Pig Breeders' Association) choice Boars and Gelts of the best strains; winners of silver and bronze medals Paris International Exhibition.—Apply MANAGER, Fornham Pk., Bury St. Edmunds.

OWTRAM, HERBERT H., Newland Herd Pedigree Large White Yorkshires, all entered or eligible for Herd Book. Winners of many Prizes leading shows.—BAILIFF, Newland Hall, Bay Horse Station, Lancaster.

MIDDLE WHITES.

DEWHIRST A., Ryecroft Farm, Dudley Hill, Bradford. — Pedigree LARGE and MIDDLE WHITE PIGS. Also few BERKSHIRES for sale. All bred on farm. 200 to select from. One champion, 28 firsts, 24 seconds, 15 thirds won this year.

PIGS (*cont.*).

MIDDLE WHITES (*cont.*).

ASHFORTH JOSEPH, Dronfield, Sheffield, offers Large and Middle-white Breeding Pigs; herd established over quarter of a century; prices moderate.

ILLINGWORTH, W. H., Honington, Bury St. Edmunds, Pure-bred Middle White Yorkshire Pigs. Quality and Pedigree of the finest. Inspection invited, or actual photos of Pigs sent. Trains met by appointment. Tel.: Ixworth.

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LARGE BLACK PIGS.—Pedigree young Boars and Gilts always for sale, of the best prize-winning strains; oldest established herd in Sussex.—ROBINSON, Iford, Lewes, Sussex.

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NEWNHAM HALL HERD of Improved Pedigree Yorkshire Pigs is one of the largest Herds of pure-bred Pigs in the United Kingdom. Boars and Gilts at moderate prices. — NEVILLE J. HINE, Newnham Hall, Baldock, Herts.

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INVERNESS, WEST HIGHLANDS.—JAMES ARNOTT, Scotch Live Stock Agent, Ellandonan, Inverness, established 1870, selects and supplies on commission all classes of SCOTCH STOCK. He attends all the leading markets to purchase Stock at lowest rates. References can be given if desired to customers who have been annually supplied. All orders are personally attended to. List of classes and approximate prices sent on application. Reference required; terms cash. Telegrams: "Arnott, Inverness." J.A. is now booking orders. N.B.—Polled Angus or West Highland Heifers and Black-faced Gimmers, Ewes, Wedders, and Lambs for crossing or feeding, in truck loads, at moderate prices. Fat Stock of all classes also purchased.

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CATTLE AND SHEEP FOR WINTERING. E. GOODWIN PREECE, Live Stock Agent and Exporter, Shrewsbury, will be glad to receive orders for the PURCHASE of CATTLE and SHEEP, which, owing to the shortness of winter keep in the West of England, can now be bought very cheaply. A good profit is assured either for feeding or wintering.

Several lots of Shropshire and Clun ewes, Shropshire, Oxford and Lincoln rams, and cattle of various classes on sale, which can be seen by appointment.

Address, Portland House, Shrewsbury.

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EGGS. — Challenge Cup Black Minorca Eggs; Winner Challenge Cup, 1900; Cups, Crystal Palace, 1897, 1898. Eggs, 6s. 6d. dozen; 10s. 6d. two dozen.—Mr. CROSSMAN, Shrubberies. Galphay, Ripon.

WATERGLASS, the most perfect egg preserver known; sample bottle, with full directions, carriage free, for 1s.; quotations for any quantity, also for Shell Flint Grits, &c.—THE EXCAVATOR CO., Ltd., 18, Ironmonger Lane, London

POULTRY YARD.—The best money can buy. Reliable Eggs for sitting, and pure bred Cockerels and Pullets, from the following high-class birds with superior laying qualities. Guaranteed unequalled. Breeds—Anconas, Blue Andalusians, Black Minorcas, White, Brown, Buff, and Black Leghorns, Buff and Barred Rocks, Gold and Silver spangled and Black Hamburghs, Buff and Black Orpingtons, Houdans, Langshans, Campines, Dark and Silver Dorkings, Indian Game, Buff Cochins, Light Brahmas. Gold, Silver and Buff Wyandottes, and Aylesbury, Rouen, and Indian Runner Ducks. Eggs, all varities, 4s. 6d. sitting; 50 Eggs, 16s.; 100 Eggs. £1 10s., all guaranteed fertile or replaced free. Ten Cockerels of above varieties, 7s. 6d. and 10s. 6d. each; Pullets 5s. and 6s. each.—Advice gratis. Vacancy for Pupil.—JOHN PARMINTER, Farmer, Southorpe, Stamford.

CALWAY'S Circular Hot-Air Chicken Rearer has the largest sale of any Foster-Mother in this country; 30 to 50-chick size, 12s. 6d.; 50 to 100-chick size, 25s.

THE LATEST IMPROVEMENT IN CALWAY'S CHICKEN REARER is the new Lamp. Full particulars free.

POULTRY KEEPING IN THE 20th CENTURY; 1s. post free. Send for a copy; it will interest you.

MAKE your own Poultry Spice. Valuable receipt free. Send stamp for postage.—WILLIAM CALWAY, Gloucester.

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SPECIAL OFFER.—Galvanised Wire Netting, 50 yards, 3ft. wide, 3in. mesh, 4s. 4d.; 2in., 5s. 3d.; 1½in., 7s. 2d.; 1in., 9s. 8d. Poultry Houses, Roofing Felt, Galvanised Corrugated Iron, Garden Seats, &c.; lists free.—JOHN ADAMS, Iron Merchant, Leicester.

TRACTION- ENGINES and WAGONS, Portable, Ploughing, and Fixed Engines, Thrashing Machines, &c., second-hand, for Sale, cheap, or to be Let on Hire-purchase. Full list free. Inquiries for all classes of Machinery solicited. Largest stock in England to be seen at our Works as below. We are also buyers of good modern Engines at all times, for cash. Large stock of Beltings, Oils, and Engineers' Requisites of all descriptions.—HENRY LEWIS & SONS, Thames Bank Iron Works, Reading.

ASHWORTH'S MANURES are the best and cheapest. All strengths of Superphosphates. Dissolved Bone Compound, Pure Dissolved Bones, Bone Meals and every other Fertilizer. Special terms to wholesale buyers on application. Agents wanted where not already represented. Also makers of the famous Ashworth's Cakes, Meals, Linseed and Cotton Cakes, Calf Meal and Condiment, &c., &c.—ASHWORTH'S, LIMITED, Manure and Oil Cake Works, Frodsham Bridge, via Warrington.

POWDER FOR DESTROYING LICE in CATTLE and HORSES, a sure remedy, simply sprinkled, and no washing required, and quite harmless, 1s. per lb., over 3lb. post free.—E. RUMSEY WILLIAMS & CO., Rhuddallt Fawr, Carnarvon.

CORRUGATED GALVANISED ROOFING Complete Roofs, Iron Fencing, Gates, Netting, Tubes, Felt, Troughs, Cisterns, and every Farm Requisite. Catalogues free.—J. A. REEVE, Stony Stratford.

BASIC SLAG, Kainit, Bones, Bone Meal, Superphosate, &c.—State quantities required and station, when prices, analysis, &c., will be sent by return of post.—CLEMENT SWAFFIELD, Derby.

VESICO SUDORIFIC.—No Blemish! No Rest! No Cradle! Vesico Sudorific is the quickest, safest, and most famous cure for Splint, Spavin, Ringbone, Sidebone, Capped Hock and Elbow, Curb, Windgall, Tumours, and for Strengthening the legs of Horses. Price 2s. 6d. or 5s., of Chemists, or post free, GREGORY & CO., Temple, Bristol.

SULPHATE OF AMMONIA.—Farmers and cultivators of the soil should give this valuable fertiliser a trial. It is the best artificial manure for grass, wheat, barley, roots, potatoes, &c. One ton of Sulphate of Ammonia contains as much nitrogen and will go as far as 25½ cwt. of nitrate of soda. It is not washed out of the ground by rain, and is not so readily exhausted from the soil as nitrate of soda. Pamphlets of instructions for its use will be forwarded, post free, on application. Present price (free on rail at Sheffield), 11s. 9d. per cwt.; larger quantities specially quoted for. Cheques and post office orders to be made payable to the Manager, THE SHEFFIELD UNITED GAS LIGHT CO., Sheffield.

BEST & CHEAPEST MANURE for all farm and garden crops, "NATIVE GUANO," a safe and reliable fertiliser, and an effectual remedy for fly, slug, wire-worm, &c.; price £3 10s. per ton in bags, 2 ton lots carriage paid, 1 cwt. paid to any station in England on receipt of P.O. for 5s. Extracts from 20th annual collection of reports: Native Guano for Grass, Grain, and Root Crops. G. Dickson, Selby: "Oats and barley did well Heavy crop of cattle cabbage. Highly satisfied." E. Stanford, Warnham: "Clover good. Stopped fly on turnips. A good manure." H. O. Habberfield, Forestfach: "Oats 60 bushels per acre. Mangolds, best crop I ever had. Very pleased." W. Price, Hardwick: "A cheap and good manure for clover and swedes." J. Knight, Wisbech St. Mary: "Very good crops of mangolds and potatoes. Biggest and finest potatoes I ever had." W. Allsopp, Bloxwich: "Mangolds the finest crop ever seen on the farm. Swedes excellent." O. W. Gilbert, Boultham: "Cannot speak too highly of it for wheat; answers well for grub and wire-worm." J. Powell, Lulsley: "Hops, very good crop." —Orders to the NATIVE GUANO CO., LIMITED, 29, New Bridge Street, London, E.C., where TESTIMONIALS FROM ALL PARTS AND FOR ALL CROPS MAY BE OBTAINED. AGENTS WANTED.

RATS CAN BE AT ONCE KILLED by laying down SANFORD'S POISON! They take it readily, and are found dead. "I found 42 rats dead with it in my wheat stack.—JOHN HALL, Morden." Cats and dogs won't touch it. Farmers who have used it say it is the best they ever tried. Also POISON FOR KILLING MICE in corn stacks, and POISON FOR KILLING MOLES on land. Post free 1s. 2d., 2s., and 3s., of SANFORD & SON, Sandy, Beds.—Sold by chemists.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WIRE NAILS, Mixed, 9s. per cwt.; 28 lbs., 2s. 6d.; Screws, Mixed, 34s. per cwt.; 28 lbs., 9s.; wire, cut, wrought and malleable nails, tacks, shoe nails, rivets, &c., wholesale prices.—MIDLAND NAIL WORKS, 25, Rea Street, Birmingham. (John Pyne, Proprietor.)

COW MILKER! COW MILKER! The Celebrated self-acting Cow Milker supersedes hand labour. Milk each cow in four minutes effectually. Price 6s. each delivered.—Circular, with testimonials, on application, N. BUCHANAN, 9, Sandon Place, Sheffield.

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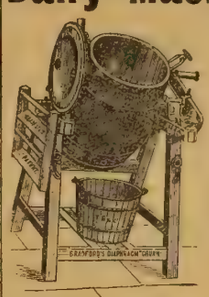
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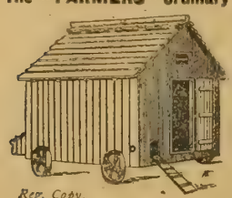
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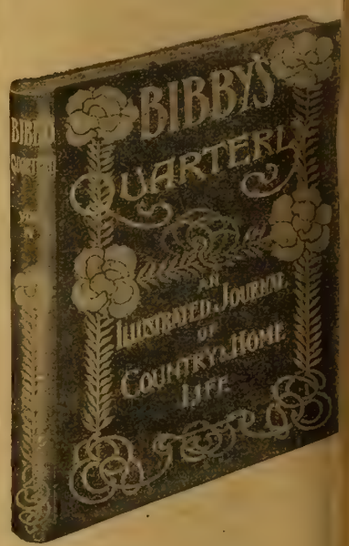
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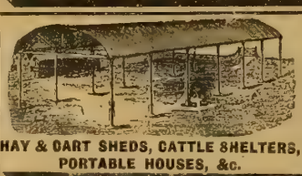
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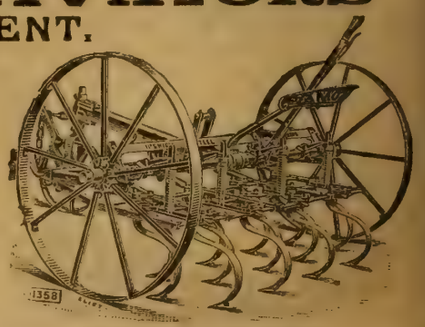
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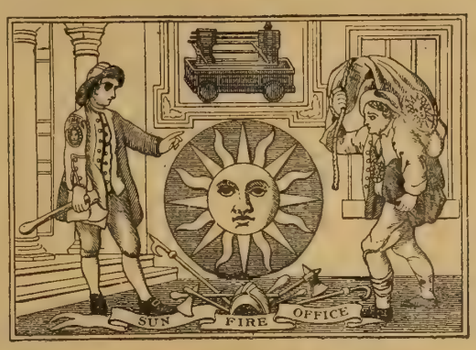
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HOW WEEDS ARE PROPAGATED.

The Farmers' Club could scarcely have selected a more fitting subject for discussion at their April meeting than the one chosen: "Weeds, and their eradication." The spring is the season when it forces itself naturally on the minds of farmers, because annuals spring up abundantly among the young corn, and either hoeing, harrowing, or spraying suggests itself. Moreover, it is the period when seed-mixtures of clovers and grasses are purchased or prepared for sowing, and the fact has been notorious that in the past a great many farmers have not been sufficiently scrupulous as to the cleanly character of these seed mixtures. If the truth must be told, there was, in old times, a prodigious propagation of weed-pests owing to the filthy mixtures which were sown by hand. For laying down new pastures or renewing old ones, the sweeping of hay-lofts were utiliesd; while for arable grass-layers "hop and ray" crops were chiefly depended on, which farmers either saved themselves or bought from one another. The seedings of this was often only about two-thirds seeds of plants that ought to be cultivated, and the other one-third seed of twitch and a miscellaneous variety of weeds.

According to Professor Wrightson, who read an instructive paper to the club on Monday last, "one of the most fruitful sources of weeds is foul seed," still. The old "hop and ray" may have largely gone out of fashion, but the mixtures are generally very far from being pure and clean. The following extract from the paper declares this, and, indeed, makes a grave charge of imprudence, amounting to sheer folly; but we fear there is some-truth in it.

"It is by the incautious buying of clovers, sainfoin, seed-corn, etc., from men who have neither the botanical knowledge to detect weeds nor the machinery to remove them, that land becomes stocked with weeds. To many farmers cheapness is the first consideration, and they do not appear to mind a few weeds in their grass seeds and clovers. It is in this way that couch, docks, plantain, geranium, dodder, lop, and many other weeds are so sown broadcast."

The evil result, as above stated, is so very serious, that it might be supposed the evidence thereof would be sufficiently apparent to make every one cautious in buying and scrupulously careful whether the seeds offered have been cleaned by machinery and tested for germinating capacity. Yet, according to the above, these things are little thought of by a great many farmers. Cheapness is declared to be chiefly cared for—how to get anything bearing the slightest resemblance to grass and clover seed at the lowest rate; and the professor even declares that there is a class of farmers who do not mind buying at a low rate stocks admitted to have a few weeds in them. But the few may turn out to be many, quite sufficient to cause fields previously clean to become choke-full of all manner of weed-pests. Yet the risk, nay, the absolute certainty, of running headlong on so gigantic a disaster may be altogether avoided by merely abandoning the desire to buy what is cheap and nasty, and going to one of the leading seedsmen to get served at a higher, but reasonable, price, the seedsman having both the botanical knowledge and machinery which Professor Wrightson points out as so necessary.

The professor pointed out several other ways by which, owing to the want of care, or by reason of slovenly, slip-shod farming, weeds are extensively propagated. Along with the chaff and cavings, winnowed or sifted from grain, the seeds of whatever weeds infested the crop are sure to have place. Prof. Wrightson truly remarks that the cavings of all weedy corn crops ought to be burned. But they are not, because they are good diet for cattle, and the owner thinks it would be wasteful to sacrifice them. But it would be far more economical to do so than to offer them as food for stock. If devoured and made to pass through the stomachs and intestines of animals, they often preserve vitality, and are disseminated far and near. But in most cases they are swept out of the bottoms of feeding troughs with dust, or fall out during the handling of the cavings.

Another fruitful source of mischief is the feeding of hay containing seeds of innumerable weeds. Meadow hay contains most, some idea of the enormous quantities of which may

be formed by noticing their lavish growth, imparting a deep green hue to the spots where sheep-cribs have been filled with hay in the fields. The hay of some meadows, especially those of impoverished, ill-managed farms, always contains a large percentage of weeds with matured seed-heads, and whether such fodder is given to sheep feeding off turnips on arable, or to horses or cattle in stable or stall, the result is the same—a truly disastrous dessemination of the objectionable seeds all over the farm. If the consumption takes place at the homestead the weeds find their way to the fields in the dung. If given to sheep or cattle in the fields, their eating the seed-heads becomes in most cases the propagating agency. Hence, it appears very certain that such wretched fodder should only be consumed in the bad land that produced it.

Of course, if such meadows were cut early, before the seed-heads were ripe, the evil result would not happen, but, in the generality of cases, such is its poverty that it is almost impossible to get even a slight skimming before a great many seeds have ripened; so that the true remedy is the application of manure, or feeding, instead of mowing, for a few years, with the object of promoting an earlier, more lavish growth. Either course being resorted to, the result would not only be that of enabling the grass to be cut earlier, but better grasses and clovers would spring up spontaneously, and crowd out the inferior ones. If then, by ample manuring and high feeding, weeds naturally disappear from grass lands, it is equally certain that arable weed-pests may be got rid of in the same way. The system of cropping has only to be adjusted properly, and sufficient manure applied, and the cultivator will find it natural and easy to realise bountiful produce from the good seed he sows into his fields, without having any difficulty with tares. Thus we perceive that poverty and inferior weed-growths are intimately associated, and in reality that the latter are a natural result of the former. No very attentive observation is necessary to arrive at the conviction that when plants are developed perpetually in vigorous growths weeds seldom do them the slightest injury. Hence, good and clean farming are almost always found associated together; but, on the other hand, if there is inability, through lack of means, to carry out a good system, foulness ensues in numerous ways, and the farmer is almost helpless to prevent it.

THE PRICE OF MEAT.

A prominent topic of conversation and in the newspapers has been the advance in the price of meat. The increase has generally been felt in the wholesale markets, and in a small number of our provincial towns and cities the retail values have been advanced by 1d. to 1½d. per lb. In the metropolis, however, no increase has taken place, and up to the present consumers have not been affected. The cause of the present advance in values has been assigned to the American Beef Trust, which, it appears, has succeeded in gaining control of the markets in the United States. The idea of combine being organised in this country appears to be hardly feasible, and it is stated that middlemen in this country do not fear anything of this nature.

We are inclined to look elsewhere for the true reason of the advance in prices. It will be remembered that for the past year or eighteen months attention has frequently been called to the shortage of beef cattle in the United States. We have no reason to look with suspicion on these reports, and if there is really a deficiency of the finished article in America, this would account for the decreased arrivals at Liverpool. The outbreaks of foot and mouth disease in this country and its alleged prevalence in the Argentine and consequent prohibition of stock from that country, have all had an appreciable effect upon our meat markets. Anyhow, the advance that has taken place in the price of meat in this country from whatever cause it arises, will be acceptable to the British feeder.



By a Man of Mark Lane.

Somewhat late in the day, the Liberals of the West Hampshire Division have decided to make recognition of the plucky fight made by Mr. George Judd at the bye-election at Andover, last September. It will be remembered that he opposed Mr. Beckett Faber, M.P., and although he did not get in, he considerably reduced the Conservative majority. A mass meeting of Liberals is to be held at Andover to-morrow (Tuesday), at which the Earl of Portsmouth will preside, and the presentation to Mr. Judd will then be made.

Mr. E. Flower, M.P. for West Bradford, has given notice of his intention to move, on the second reading of the Beer Bill, "That this House declines to proceed with the consideration of a Bill interfering with freedom in the manufacture of beer in this country, which, whilst it imposes upon the scientific development of British brewing industries arbitrary restrictions that cannot be enforced upon foreign competitors, in no way provides safeguards for the public health, or secures for consumers a guarantee as to the purity of the materials employed."

Major Rasch has given notice to move the rejection of the Education Bill, his motion being based upon his opposition, as an agricultural member, to any additional burdens being cast upon land. The hon. member states that thousands of acres of land in South-East Essex are already derelict, with little or no prospect of again being brought under tillage.

The Board of Trade returns issued last week show that the imports for last month were £40,897,861, against £46,426,056 in March, 1901, being a decrease of £5,528,195. The exports for March amounted to £22,217,238, against £25,021,293 in the corresponding month last year, a decrease of £2,804,055.

In the second forecast of the out-turn of the wheat crop of the Central Provinces of India, issued by the Department of Land Records and Agriculture for the Central Provinces, it is stated that, as far as the district estimates go, the total area reported to be sown with wheat this season is 2,319,027 acres, which, though 13 per cent. larger than the area cropped with wheat last year, is 23 per cent. below the average area placed under this crop during the past ten years.

The crop was generally sown under unfavourable circumstances, and germination in high-lying and poor soils was defective. In some districts the seed was also of bad quality, having been damaged by rain at the previous harvest. The young seedlings were, moreover, much tried by the normal heat of November and the singular absence of the usual dews. Some damage was also caused by frost in some of the northern districts and by insects generally, by white ants in Hoshangabad and Raipur, and by rate in Betul, Nimar, Wardha, and Chanda when the wheat was in ear.

In the rich tracts of Jubbulpore, Mandla, Seoni, and Narsinghpur, the estimated out-turn ranges between 100 and 105. In the other districts where wheat is of importance, the anticipated yield varies between 70 and 85. The prospects are least favourable in Betul and Raipur, where the out-turn is estimated to be 60 and 70 per cent., respectively. In the Bilaspur district the rich lands of the Mungeli tahsil promise a fair out-turn, but the less fertile soils of the Bilaspur and Janjgir tahsils will only yield a crop a little above half the normal. For the province as a whole, the out-turn works out to 84 per cent. of a normal crop.

The same Department has also issued its second forecast of the out-turn of the linseed crop of the Central Provinces, and, according to the estimates, the area sown is 548,625 acres, or 11 per cent. more than that sown last year, land in which earlier crops had failed being subsequently sown with linseed. The area, however, is still 44 per cent. below the average of the last ten years. In Mandla and Narsinghpur, where the rain in January benefited the crop, the out-turn is reported to be 120 and 100 respectively. In the remaining districts of the Jubbulpore and Nerbudda Divisions the yield varies between 50 and 75 per cent. of the normal. In the Nagpur country, where the crop is of importance, the out-turn ranges between 45 in Bhandara and 55 in Chanda. The prospects in the eastern districts are poor, particularly Raipur, where linseed is largely grown and where the out-turn is estimated at 35 per cent. only. The district figures, taken collectively, indicate a provincial out-turn of only 54 per cent. of the normal.

Anglo-Russian Trade.—A large and representative meeting of persons interested in Anglo-Russian trade, convened by the Imperial Russian Financial Agency, was held at the Mansion House on Friday, under the presidency of the Lord Mayor, to consider the most suitable measures necessary for the development of commercial intercourse between England and Russia. Prince Icherbaloff, President of the Imperial Moscow Agricultural Society, delivered an interesting address explaining the different directions in which such intercourse might be increased to the great advantage of both countries. The Prussian Government would favourably consider any suggestions coming from British manufacturers, and would not be indisposed to make the existing tariff more favourable if it were shown that trade relations might be increased. Speeches were delivered in appreciation of the overtures made through the Imperial Russian Financial Agency, and a resolution was unanimously adopted in furtherance of the object of the meeting.

Horse Breeder's Action for Slander.—At the Cardiff Assizes last week a case which excited considerable interest in horse-breeding circles came on for hearing before Mr. Justice Kennedy and a special jury.—The action was brought by Mr. T. D. John, of Cardiff, the well-known and successful exhibitor of horses, against Mr. James Howell, a well-known Cardiff draper, and also a breeder of horses, for slander, and £5,000 damages were claimed.—Mr. Rufus Isaacs, K.C., Mr. S. T. Evans, K.C., and Mr. Arthur Lewis appeared for the plaintiff; Mr. B. Francis Williams, K.C., Mr. Abel Thomas, K.C., and Mr. F. Howell were for the defendant, whilst Mr. St. John Williams and Mr. Ivor Bowan held watching briefs.—The plaintiff's case was that in September, 1899, he exhibited at the Cardiff show a black mare belonging to him named Princess, and was awarded second prize in the Champion Class. The show committee, on the representation of the defendant that the plaintiff was not the owner of the horse, withheld the prize for a long time, but afterwards handed it to him. It was alleged that subsequently the defendant said that the horse did not belong to the plaintiff, and that he could prove it. The defence was a denial of the use of the words, and, further, that if they were used, it was in such circumstances as to make them privileged.—After lasting three days, the case came to an end on Wednesday, when the jury found that the words alleged were not uttered, and judgment for defendant with costs was accordingly entered.

The Mark Lane Express
Seventieth Birthday Number.

The MARK LANE EXPRESS has recently entered upon its seventieth year of publication, and to celebrate its reaching the age of "three score years and ten" a special Birthday Number has been issued. This souvenir number consists of a hundred pages (of the same size as the ordinary number), bound in a very artistic and nicely printed coloured wrapper, on the front of which are a number of miniature views of field operations showing how the work was done in 1832, and the modern *modus operandi*. It is published at 1s. nett. From a short history of the MARK LANE EXPRESS given in the number we see that it has witnessed many changes, and has passed through many hands, but although it has reached the end of the allotted span of man's life it is by no means beginning to decay, but is, on the contrary, more virile than ever and still the leading authority on British agriculture. The journal was started just at the time when the country was in the midst of the agitation immediately precedent to the passing of the Reform Bill, but its foundation had no connection with that. It was started with the fixed idea of advocating the interests of tenant farmers and has continued consistently on that line ever since.

The MARK LANE EXPRESS was more of a trade organ than anything else at first, the object sought to be accomplished, which was a difficult one in those times, being that of supplying farmers throughout the country, or, rather, those who subscribed 7d. for a copy to be sent to them, with an accurate account of the state of trade at the Monday market in Mark Lane, together with a quotation of the prices of all descriptions of corn and seeds sold there, and also similar reports of the Smithfield and Newgate cattle and dead-meat markets. Such early information sent to all parts by the post of Monday afternoon must have been of incalculable value in those dark days, when news was slow a-coming, the only agencies being coaches and mail-carts drawn by horses. The new farmers' organ did not take long, however, to develop into a leading advocate in their just demands for a lightening of the heavy burdens they groaned under.

It was chiefly owing to the reclamation and improvement of barren and poor soil, and the adoption of better systems of farming being advocated in the new journal, and the prominence that it gave to the proceedings of new agricultural societies and farmers' clubs, the movement for the establishment of which commenced at this time, that it encountered opposition from those who taught that farmers should be subservient to their landlords in all things, doing nothing for themselves, and that combination and co-operation were mild forms of sedition. Such sentiments were common in those days, but progress was the aim of the new journal, to be carried out in every possible direction, and it found a worthy director of the advance movement in William Shaw, its first editor.

Solely owing to his persistent efforts in frequent intercourse with Earl Spencer and other public men were they induced to attempt the formation of a National Society in imitation of the Highland one. This fact has been omitted by all those who have hitherto written the history of the Royal Agricultural Society, but there is abundant proof of it. Mr. Shaw performed the duties of secretary for the first year, and at the first show dinner at Oxford in 1839 Earl Spencer, in proposing his health, said:—"We are well all aware of the obligations the Society lies under to its secretary, Mr. Shaw. (Loud cheers.) If the utmost exertions any man could possibly render were at any time required, whether they resulted in inconvenience or at whatever cost of time or work, Mr. Shaw had never scrupled in giving every assistance to the organisation and administration of the Society it was in his power to render."

The extension of the Lincolnshire system of compensation for tenants' unexhaused improvements, and for capital left behind in the soil on quitting, was one of the questions strenuously advocated after the measure of the Repeal of the Corn Laws had passed. The late Philip Pusey was induced by Mr. Shaw to move for the Agricultural Customs Committee, and the seed was sown which produced thirty years after an Agricultural Holdings Act. Tenant right was so strenuously advocated in the MARK LANE EXPRESS that when a vacancy in the representation of North Hants caused a bye-election in 1849 its editor, Mr. Shaw, was invited to come forward in the tenant farmer interest, his platform being security for tenant farmers' capital, repeal of the malt tax, and relief from local taxation. He was the first candidate for a seat in Parliament to represent the tenant farmer interest, and, although not returned, he excited great enthusiasm in the county for the principles he advocated, and at a public dinner at Winchester subsequently, numerously attended, he received an enthusiastic ovation.

As mentioned above, from the first prominence was given to market reports, a well-known man being appointed at the outset to take charge of the corn trade section of the paper. This was Mr. Ruston, a very familiar name on the Corn Exchange in Mark Lane, who was, we believe, succeeded by his son, and then followed by Mr. G. T. Turner. The paper always aspired to be an authority on markets and market intelligence, and in this it succeeded, for, speaking in the House of Commons in 1848, Lord John Russell, when advocating the official collection of statistics on corn and markets, said they had no way of dealing with them beyond going to sources like the MARK LANE EXPRESS.

That the MARK LANE EXPRESS is as virile as ever is evidenced by the number of communications from correspondents in every civilised country, showing the wideness of its reach and touch. The high reputation it holds in this country, too, is well displayed by the very wide extent that its weekly review of the corn trade is quoted, appearing as it does in the principal daily and weekly papers.

To revert to the Birthday Number, it may be stated that the specially-written articles in the number briefly set forth the changes—in some cases for better and in others for worse—that have occurred in the various branches of *the* industry. For instance, Mr. Joseph Darby describes Seventy Years of Farming; "Lobbyist" contributes a retrospect of Agricultural Politics which is accompanied by photos of the present and past Presidents of the Board of Agriculture; English Flour Milling and the Corn Trade are dealt with by other writers and the various agricultural implements produced since 1832 are described, the last article being accompanied by some interesting illustrations of old farm implements. Other branches of farming are similarly dealt with by well-known authorities. A brief history of the principal agricultural societies, together with portraits of their secretaries, and notes on the work of various agricultural colleges accompanied with views and photos of the principals, form two important features.

Our Colonies of late have been receiving much more attention than formerly, and it was a happy idea to include them in the review of agriculture during the past seventy years. Each of the important Colonies has made rapid progress so far as agriculture is concerned, and the strides they have made are described in as interesting a manner as statistics will allow.

The souvenir is veritably a picture gallery containing as it does a very large number of portraits which include some representative breeders of live stock (among them being his Majesty the King and H.R.H. the Prince of Wales) some well known producers of farming necessities, knights of the agricultural rostrum, representative agents of representative estates; and full-page illustrations of the various breeders of horses, cattle, and sheep.



By a Lobbyist.

The most remarkable event of the Parliamentary week has been what I must describe as the revival of Mr. Chaplin. The right hon. gentleman, who has somewhat receded of late, has shown himself once more to be a distinctive Parliamentary force. A piquancy has been lent his re-appearance by the fact that it has been due to a divergence of view from that of his erstwhile Conservative colleagues. I am bound to say, however, that Mr. Chaplin's criticisms have never been malicious or ungenerous. This Mr. Balfour has himself recognised. He has constituted himself one of the champions of the privilege of private members against what he evidently regards as a spirit of Ministerial aggrandisement. There has, however, been no tincture of personal disappointment, no bile of jealousy, in his pungent oratorical performances. The right honourable gentleman has enjoyed the unwonted luxury of Radical cheers—and cheers from the enemy have often induced a malcontent into playing their malevolent game; but Mr. Chaplin has refused the encouragement, and has never been persuaded from the line of courteous opposition. He has thus fortified his very antagonism, and has lent a responsibility to his attack which the House has regarded with some admiration.

Mr. Chaplin has somewhat discarded his old method of oratory. That, it will be recalled, was, in the current phrase, redolent with purple patches. To the modern ear, which has become attuned to the Mosaic-like method of the Chamberlain style, it was flamboyant in character. It was as stately as tse obselete three-decker, and it ploughed its way along with graceful conceptions and flowing sails. However, during this week Mr. Chaplin has abandoned his old love for fine-sounding passages and rhetorical concerts for the compact, epigramatic, direct method of attack, which nowadays is held to be the hall-mark of your real Parliamentarian. The younger men in the House who, in their arrogance, have too often scoffed at the type of Parliamentarian of whom Mr. Chaplin is the best representative, have been surprised into appreciation of his mental agility and Parliamentary adroitness. Of course, Mr. Chaplin's very presence, his suggestion of massiveness, lends in itself an emphasis to his oratory. It is as fine a gift as his voice. To these assistants must, indeed, be partially attributed the fact that this week he has cut a not ineffective figure even in doing battle with Mr. Balfour himself, and that men who once thought themselves equal swordsmen with him have found themselves hopelessly over-matched. The revival of Mr. Chaplin is, in the personal sense, one of the most delightful incidents of the session.

Probably you will be in the possession of the secret of the Budget ere these lines meet the eye. It has been amusing to note, however, the attitude of the various schools of politicians over the suggestion of a cereal duty. A number of Conservatives—not, however, a very large number—have regarded the idea with unqualified approval. The

Lowthers have, in particular, shown themselves ready to welcome such a tax, because it would contain the promise of a realisation of their financial ideals. A larger body of Conservatives have regarded the idea with a certain timorous apprehension. They might not be, economically, in antagonism towards such a tax, but they have feared the weapon which it might put into the hands of an astute Radicalism—they have feared the effect which the pictures of a starved, over-taxed, sorely-afflicted people might have on the minds of sensitive electors. The politicians who have been really enthusiastic over the suggestion are the Radicals. "Such a tax," said one M.P. to me, "acting in alliance with the Education Bill, would do more to unify Liberalism than all the concessions which the Roseberians and the Bannermanites could possibly make one to the other. It would act as a beacon on the political hill-side, and would call every warring section to an united antagonism to the common enemy." "It would," said another legislator, "do more to secure Liberal victories than all the hideous mismanagements of the war. The old cry of 'the big loaf and the little loaf' has not even yet lost its force with a large section of the electors." Having indicated the premonitory attitude of the House towards the suggestion, I am compelled to close this paragraph with a confession of my belief that the Chancellor of the Exchequer will not resort to the policy.

The debate on the Rating of Machinery Bill—a measure which I prefer to describe as the Exemption of Machinery Bill—was, in one sense, painful. I mean that it provided yet another evidence of the existence of the old divergence between ruralism and urbanism. The debate, in fact, was little more than a contest between the manufacturers and the agriculturists. The position which Mr. Walter Long, a typical agriculturist, adopted is the wise and sane one. To deal with the great subject of local taxation in a piece-meal fashion—and the adoption of this Bill would mean this—would be to perpetrate grave anomalies and to systematise serious inequalities. This is, indeed, of infinitely greater significance than the issue as to whether loose machinery in factories should be exempted and only that which is "fixed to a hereditament" be rated. The carrying of this Bill—and pray do not believe that because it has passed its second reading it is likely to pass into law—would, I firmly believe, postpone dealing with the general question of local taxation on a broad and statesmanlike basis. In discussing the Bill with legislators I have refused to consider whether the principle embodied in the measure is wise or not. I have had but one reply to all these contentions; and that is this—to deal with the question of local taxation in a piece-meal fashion is the height of unwisdom. Of course, I have been encouraged in this view by the fact that—as Mr. Walter Long pointed out—the Agricultural Rating Act has operated to modify the agricultural grievance. Naturally, the Bill has its advocates still among the agriculturists. Well, I urge them, in a matter of this kind, to be certain ere they exempt from taxation how the financial deficiency is to be made up.

I have received many remonstrances over my reflections upon the Pure Beer Bill. Well, perhaps in the first flush of my indignation I was rather profuse and emphatic in my adjectives. However, I cannot modify my strong opinion that the Bill is no improvement upon its predecessor, ill-drafted as that was; and that, in the desire to conciliate antagonisms, the Bill has been watered down almost to innocuity. There is, however, little chance of the measure passing this Session; and it is certain that in any revival of the purpose the policy outlined—not too clearly, I admit—in the original Bill will be more faithfully adhered to. One M.P. has accused me of having, in my criticisms, put a weapon into the hands of the Northern brewers. Of course, I have done nothing of the kind. I would remind this critic that if this Bill, which will practically achieves nothing, were passed, it would prevent the question being effectually dealt with. The House of Commons would not stand a second Pure Beer Bill until the next generation.

PRACTICE WITH SCIENCE.

The Utility of Alkaline Phosphatic Manures.

A paper with the above title was recently read by Mr. John Hughes, F.I.C., the well-known agricultural chemist, at a meeting of the Society of Arts. The paper dealt in a practical and comprehensive manner with the properties and values of various phosphatic manures, and the results of their application to different soils. The author pointed out the fact that the two best-known at present alkaline phosphatic manures, basic slag or Thomas phosphate and acid superphosphate were not applicable to all soils under all conditions, in spite of the need existing in such soils for an application of a phosphatic manure.

It occurred, therefore, to the author, after careful consideration in the autumn of 1900, that a new and useful manure could be produced by the careful admixture in suitable proportions of ordinary acid superphosphate with finely ground or slaked lime.

After making numerous trial mixtures the most suitable proportions were decided upon, and a manure was produced which possessed a distinctly alkaline or basic character, and at the same time supplied from 25 to 27 per cent. of phosphate of lime in a form readily soluble in the standard solution (1 in 1,000) of citric acid. The manure so produced was appropriately called

Basic Superphosphate.

because it combined the alkaline nature of slag with the well-known solubility of superphosphate.

The mechanical condition is superior both to that of basic slag and superphosphate. Compared with superphosphate the new material is very much drier, containing only 4 to 5 per cent. of moisture instead of the 14 to 18 per cent. usually found in commercial superphosphate.

Being in a finely-ground, dry powder of light weight and bulky nature, greater uniformity and more perfect distribution can be obtained than is possible with basic slag, which, when sown by hand, is apt to drop between the fingers before complete delivery can be effected.

The manure usually contains from 33 to 35 per cent. of total lime, so that in this respect basic superphosphate supplies fully 10 per cent. more lime than ordinary acid superphosphate.

Basic superphosphate can be applied, indeed has been applied in the season of 1901, with great advantage on soils deficient in lime, such as sand, gravel, granite, peat, and clay. Briefly, it may be stated that all soils containing less than 1 per cent. of lime will be greatly benefited by the application of basic superphosphate instead of slag or ordinary superphosphate.

It is of practical importance to state that, though originally invented to supplement the deficient solubility of slag, which is fully recognised by those interested in its sale (they therefore recommend its application during the winter months), it has been found by actual field results that the new manure is superior also to superphosphate on soils deficient in lime.

It is well known that soils subject to the disease known as finger and toe in turnips, are naturally deficient in lime, containing in fact considerably less than 1 per cent., and on such soils it is reasonable to suppose that an alkaline phosphate manure would naturally be a more suitable dressing than an acid phosphate manure, such as superphosphate.

During the season of 1901 numerous instances were recorded in which basic super has been used on such soils with very marked advantage, the virulence of the disease being materially reduced, and in some remarkable cases in Scotland its application has completely prevented any attack, while other parts of the field manured with ordinary superphosphate had suffered very much from the disease.

A strong argument in favour of the utility of alkaline phosphatic manures is afforded by the fact that all the natural manures hitherto used in agriculture are distinctly alkaline. Thus, farmyard manure, in the efficacy of which farmers thoroughly believe, is alkaline, and its agricultural value depends upon the extent to which the nitrogen compounds are converted by proper fermentation into ammonia salts. Guano, especially the good old Chincha Peruvian quality, is strongly ammoniacal.

Bone dust, dried blood, woollen waste and shoddy, also soot, and, lastly, lime, are all more or less alkaline in their nature, and certainly not acid.

Moreover it is hardly necessary to repeat that basic slag is itself a striking instance of the utility of alkaline phosphate of lime as a manure for certain soils. Indeed it is not natural that manures should be acid, and the reason why the ordinary acid superphosphate has been beneficial to crops grown on good arable land is that the acidity of the manure has been absorbed or neutralised by the abundance of lime usually present in such soils.

Obviously, where the soil is deficient in lime the acidity of superphosphate cannot be immediately absorbed, and harm may be done to the young rootlets of the plant.

It would require a heavy dressing of lime to saturate the soil so completely that every square inch of surface should always contain the necessary quantity of lime requisite to absorb the acid from every particle of manure that may be brought in contact with it. In other words, it is much more economical to add lime in small quantity to the manure for the purpose of immediate and complete neutralisation, than to add lime in large quantities and at long intervals to the soil in order to provide a wasteful excess of alkali for the absorption of a minute quantity of acid.

The necessity of relying upon a sufficiency of lime in the soil is entirely removed when using basic superphosphate, as by the careful admixture of an excess of lime in its manufacture all acidity is removed, and the manure may be applied, mixed directly with the seed without any danger of destroying the vitality of the same.

In conclusion, it should be mentioned that basic superphosphate is not intended to supersede ordinary acid superphosphate upon soils containing plenty of lime nor is it intended to take the place of well-ground slag for application to damp sour land; but it is rather intended to take an intermediate position between these two well-known and most useful manures, and to be employed as a quick-acting alkaline phosphate manure specially useful as a spring dressing for crops grown upon soils that contain less than 1 per cent. of lime, the united acreage of which represent such a large area of the cultivated land in the United Kingdom.

The utility of alkaline phosphate manures when applied to certain soils has already been practically demonstrated by the great success that has attended the use of basic slag, notwithstanding its slow solubility, its frequent defective grinding, and, recently, its reduced percentage of phosphate.

If therefore a material of similar alkalinity, but of greatly superior solubility, can be obtained in an unlimited quantity, and of uniform quality it is reasonable to anticipate that basic superphosphate will prove to be a really useful and most valuable additional fertiliser.

The time has come when manures should be adapted to the soil, rather than that the soil should adapt itself to the manure. Obviously, soils differing so much in their chemical composition and physical character, as chalk and clay, peat and sand, granite and gravel, require different manures, in the same way as they require different cultivation and different kinds of crops.

It is not scientific, it is not economical, and it cannot be to the advantage of the farmer, that one kind of manure should be sold for application to all kinds of soils. Acid manures may with advantage be applied where there is plenty of lime, and alkaline manures may be more profitably applied where lime is deficient.

Downton College of Agriculture.

The winter session of the Downton College of Agriculture ended on Thursday, when the following awards were made:—The certificate of proficiency in practical agriculture to Howard Alexander, of Upavon, Wilts. The prize for valuation of farm stock, N. D. Stewart, Bryn Tirion, Vaynol Park, Port Dinorwic, North Wales; for knowledge of live stock, H. Alexander; for knowledge of farm machinery, T. R. B. Seigne, Grename House, Thomastown, Co. Kilkenny, Ireland; for milking, E. McConnel, Cressbrook, South Queensland, Australia; for butter making, W. A. Stuart, Rosehill, Cheltenham; for wagon driving, T. R. B. Seigne; for practical chemistry, Class 3, H. C. Crowley, Banghurst Rectory, Basingstoke; Class 2, Wilson Strangman, Kinoith, Shanagarry, Co. Cork, Ireland; Class 1, F. G. Bateman, Woodcote, Somerset-road, Ealing, W.; for theoretical chemistry, H. C. Crowley, W. Strangman, and F. G. Bateman; and for book-keeping, F. G. Bateman and D. Garnett, The Grange, Bromley Cross, Lancashire. Prizes were also given for estate management, forestry, building construction, physics, and veterinary science.

"Mark Lane Express" Diary.

April.

15, 16, 17, and 18. Royal Dublin Society's Spring Show, at Ball's Bridge.

15. Sale of the Chapel House stud of Hackneys, the property of the executors of the late Mr. E. Ostlere, at Chapel House, near Kirkcaldy, Fifeshire.

15. Sale of pedigree Red Polled cattle at Ipswich.

16. Hereford Herd Book Society's Bull Show and Sale.

16. Sale of the late Mr. T. Chick's herd of pure-bred Berkshire pigs, at Dorchester.

16, 17, and 18. Sale of horses, at Crewe Horse Repository.

17. Sale of Shorthorns belonging to Messrs. P. A. and G. T. Evans, at Sherlowe.

22. Sale of Mrs. Perkin's Jerseys, at Oakdene, Holmwood, Surrey.

24. Lincolnshire Red Shorthorn Association's Bull Sale, at Lincoln April Fair.



Imported Flour.

Sir,—Four hundred pounds of wheat will produce one sack or 280 lbs. of flour and 112 lbs. of offals, there being a loss by waste during milling of 8 lbs.

During the past twenty years we have imported over 125,000,000 sacks of flour, that is, we have left over 125,000,000 cwts of wheat offals abroad, worth at 4s. per cwt., £25,000,000.

During the past twenty years we have paid £10,000,000 more for the flour imported than the equivalent in wheat would have cost. Thus during the past twenty years we have lost over £35,000,000 by importing flour instead of the equivalent in wheat.

Besides losing over £35,000,000, our large importations of flour have allowed such countries as the United States to obtain an abundant and cheap supply of wheat-offals for stock feeding, while wheat-offals in this country have been at a high price.

Thus we have not kept as much live stock as we otherwise should have, and so much home-made manure has not been produced as should have been, with the result that such large crops are not produced in this country as well might be.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer requires money to help pay for the war in South Africa, and it appears no import duty can be proposed that would do more good than an import duty on flour. Besides helping British agriculture, it would cause many mills that are working half time, and many that have ceased running, to again give employment to our workers.

Almost all imported flour is roller milled.

My experimnts during recent years have shown that roller flour is a fruitful cause of decay of the teeth and of indigestion, as I have discovered that with bread made from roller flour there is an increase of about 40 per cent. in the acidity during mastication, whereas, in the case of bread composed of stone-made flour, the increase in acidity is very slight during the process of mastication, not more than can be accounted for by the acidity of the mouth.

Thus, were we to produce more of our flour the health of the nation would be improved, as the majority of our mills that are idle are stone-mills.

During 1901 we imported 22,575,230 cwts., or 9,030,092 sacks, of flour.

That is, last year we left 9,030,092 cwts. of wheat-offals abroad.

An import duty of 4s. per sack on flour on the quantity we imported last year would have produced £1,806,018 of revenue.

Were wheat still imported duty free there would be no increase in the price of bread.—Faithfully yours,

THOMAS G. READ.

8, Holles Street,
Cavendish Square,
London, W.
April 7th, 1902.

Destruction of Charlock in Corn Crops, 1901.

Sir,—In the place of issuing a third annual report on the Charlock spraying for 1901, it may prove more serviceable if I give a short account of the work done last year, with practical deductions drawn from it.

During the last spring I took every opportunity of observing and inquiring into the operations being then carried on, and in addition to this I gave several public demonstrations in England and Scotland. The results fully confirm the main conclusions arrived at in my second annual report, which are repeated below.

The most important difference I noted was in the age of the Charlock when sprayed, and I am fully convinced that quite 75 per cent. of the operations were late, 50 per cent. were much too late, and probably 25 per cent. were so late that not more than half the advantages to be derived from spraying, were realised. The importance of spraying early cannot be too strongly urged. Arrangements should be made to spray the Charlock soon after the rough leaf appears and whilst the plant is in a soft and tender state.

Under these conditions I do not think a single plant of Charlock can escape destruction, providing it receives its proper proportion of fine spray resulting from 15lb. of pure copper sulphate, dissolved in 50 gallons of water per acre.

In the South the season was cold and late last year and not favourable to the growth of Charlock, but in Scotland the plant was luxuriant.

The suggested use of nitrate of soda in place of copper sulphate has not proved successful on extended trials. Copper sulphate has proved to be altogether best, and is at present the only material worth using. I have added a fifth paragraph to the conclusions previously arrived at which now stand as follows:—

(1) That Charlock can be destroyed in growing corn crops, without injury to the latter, by spraying with 50 gallons of three per cent. solution of pure sulphate of copper per acre.

(2) That generally the corn crops are much improved and give a better yield where Charlock is destroyed.

(3) That spraying early, when the weed is young and in soft fibre, is most successful.

(4) That the large sprayers are more successful than the smaller.

(5) The success of the operation is diminished in proportion to the delay which occurs after the Charlock is in the most suitable condition for being destroyed.

The value of this new and successful agricultural process cannot be made too widely known in Charlock infested districts.

G. F. STRAWSON.

(City Bank Buildings),
71A, Queen Victoria Street,
London, E.C.,
April 2, 1902.



Rhodesian Agricultural Prospects.

There would seem to be signs and tokens about, says "An African Settler" in the "Pall Mall Gazette," indicative of the probability that agriculture and the peaceful pursuits of Hodge may loom largely in the future developments of the Rhodesian provinces. This is as it should be, and none too soon. Climatically speaking, Rhodesia is a country it is possible to "colonise," by which is meant possible to live in, and it would therefore be well that those who prefer a freer life, greater scope for money-making, and more actual "elbow-room," should, in the future, turn their attention to the soil, and away from the cheap vulgarity of the corrugated iron townships, with their dull and tawdry apeing of the worst sides of "Home" civilisation.

Hitherto, as everyone knows, gold-mining has been the first, and, for that matter, the last and only, item on the Chartered Company's programme. So entirely, in fact, had all other possibilities been excluded that there is (or, up to very recent date, was) in the country no legislative security whatever of land tenure or grant of title. There are here and there a few men who have been farming in Matabeleland for many years past; men who traded in the land in old Lo Ben's time, before the coming of the Company. Such men, for instance, as Mr. James Dawson and Mr. "Matabele" Wilson; but what different type of men are these to the average Rhodesian!

It must, however, be borne in mind that the intending farmer or stock-raiser who at the present day comes into the country does so at a disadvantage. At a time when the policy of the moment deemed it expedient "by hook or by crook" to get capital into the land town lots (called "stands" out there) territory was parcelled out with a lavish hand, with the result that the best land of the country is to-day locked up in large holdings, and the new-comer bent on pastoral pursuits must either content himself with the "leavings" or rent his farm at an often ridiculously high rental for virgin soil. This, however, is all by the way, and it is of the soil itself—nf the land and its still almost dormant possibilities—I would say a few words.

There is a very general, but in the main mistaken, idea as to the water supply up country. A rapid current and downward course leave the river-beds often dry for many a month at a time; yet Matabeleland is in reality better off for water than many portions of Cape Colony. Subterranean streams abound in most parts. Irrigation, if systematically carried out, would, there is little doubt, soon advance the agriculturist's prospects materiallly and change the aspect of many a barren acre, even as artificial means have transformed certain portions of Texas and South America. Dams have already to a certain extent been introduced, as witness the fine one on Mr. Rhodes's farm at Westacre, in the Matoppos; and, given water, what is not possible? Even under the primitive methods in vogue with the natives there is proof of the soil's actual worth. In the "Kaffir gardens" (which generally extend over some three acres) the ground will give a poor return for the first year. Then, however, the quality and quantity increase with every future crop until a turning-point is reached, after which, if allowed to lie fallow for a year, the soil will be as good as ever again. This is probably in part due to the very crude mode of cultivation, the land being "picked" over by hand, and only "turned" to the depth of about six inches. In such cases there is no irrigation, yet the Basutos in the Gwanda district cultivate a surprising amount of land after this fashion, while the alluvial soil in the river valleys yields abundant crops under similar treatment. Two of the greatest drawbacks to agriculture in the country are at present the locusts and the white-ants. In the Transvaal the blasting operations on the mines have done much to disturb the latter termites; the locusts in Rhodesia are, however, a terrible source of ruin to the crops, although since 1898 the toxine introduced has been used with very beneficial results.

Some of the finest soil a farmer can possibly wish for is to be found in Matabeleland. There is the heavy, dark loam so adaptable for the growing of grass fodder, while, on the other hand, light sandy soil is not wanting, in which the alfalfa thrives so exceedingly. Cereals can be grown with the utmost success, and while wheat may, for its greater perfection, require a colder climate, mealies, oats, rye, and barley may become, par excellence, the products of the country. There are portions of the country where, given the necessary irrigation, cotton-growing should yield a fine return, and, as has been proven, tobacco, not only of the Transvaal, but Virginian variety, has taken kindly to Rhodesian soil, Mr. Ash, a Port Elizabeth seedsman, having grown some splendid specimens in the immediate vicinity of Bulawayo. This is a plant the white-ant leaves severely alone.

Coming to the more domestic requisites, the homely "kitchen garden" crop, it is almost safe to say that anything will grow, and grow well—in fact, a man once remarked to the writer down at Fontesvilla, "You can see the things grow out here," and that would often seem so, although the above-mentioned spot (over the Mashonaland border and in Portuguese territory, by the way) is hardly as salubrious a place as one would choose, for it is in the high-lying tablelands of South Central Africa that the homesteads of white men and women should be built—homes in the right sense of the word, not mere transitory abodes.

I would fain have added a few remarks on Rhodesia as a stock-raising country, but have already overstepped, I fear, my allotted space. It only remains, however, to say that, given the right class of immigrants, and a less dog-in-the-manger attitude on the part of the present landowners, there is no reason why this territorial Frankenstein evolved by the British South Africa Company should not be developed into something worthy of the name of an "Imperial asset."

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By Hordeum.

The Beer Bill.

It is necessary to refer to this matter again. In less than a fortnight it will be before the House and its fate may be sealed. As soon as the text of the Bill was printed it was published in full (see page 394, *ante*), preceded by some very moderate and patient criticism. This was done as the only available step to secure that some at least of the country members attending the next meeting of the Central and Associated Chambers might have some inkling of its contents, and that there might be a little or adequate discussion of so grave a question.

The true gravity of the position was pointed out. It is the complete reversal of all previous action, and the abandonment of the principle for a paltry compromise. The backers of the measure were asked to show that their new position could be supported by fair argument.

It is a matter in which agriculturists should form their opinion without expert guidance other than to guard them from pitfalls of which they cannot be expected to have

special technical knowledge.

Any commonsense and honest farmer can settle a matter of principle of right and wrong, as well or better than a highly skilled scientific expert. Now is it right to fling aside all previous action and start, not only on a new tack, but to act on principles utterly repugnant to fair trading? Put into plain words, all it means is that if the Bill is sent out to the world as the accepted and accredited wish of the farmers of this country; then they ask that all brewers shall be compelled hereafter in no circumstances to use less than 85 per cent. of barley malt in beer. The producer of raw material admits the defects of his goods, and insists that the consumer must in all cases use 85 per cent. of it. With reference to the balance of 15 parts per hundred, he may use any nostrum he likes.

The Beer Committee

met, and as the result of their deliberation issued a brief report, which has at all events saved the face (as our Chinese friends say) of barley-growers. At the Central meeting the next day this report received much needed emphasis from Mr. Lowther, who, with his usual keenness, noted all absence of reference to the barley-growers' true grievances, and hoped that it will not be thought that the report had been altogether endorsed by the Chamber.

Some points in this report are not very clear, for it was only accepted conditionally that 15 per cent. of substitutes for malt was the extreme maximum permissible. What will happen if the bill goes through and the 15 gets altered to 50, or even 70, no one knows.

Then the report goes on to regret the absence from the Bill of all reference to noxious and deleterious matters, such as sulphuric and salicylic acids, formalin, etc., and especially that again no attempt even is made to bring beer under the provisions of

the Food and Drugs Acts,

as recommended by the Minority Report of the Beer Materials Committee.

After this it is to be hoped the argument will not be used that the Bill is approved by the farmers of the country until there has been time for its discussion. How this can take place usefully between now and the 23rd inst., when it is down as the first order of the day, it is difficult to see. The vital change in principle was practically agreed upon by the backers of the Bill weeks ago, and this ought to have been thrown open to discussion.

An exceedingly important position gained and held, after much labour and hard fighting, is suddenly surrendered with no compensating advantage secured. It would be as fair for all sheep breeders to try and bring in a Bill to compel makers of flannel to use 85 per cent. of wool. to try and bring in a Bill to compel makers of flannel to use 85 per cent. of wool.

It has been incontestably proved over and over again that

substitutes for malt

are quite unnecessary, and that, through the admission of even small percentages of other materials, many things have been added to beer that have made it harmful and dangerous. The consumer would prefer to have beer pure and free from such risks, and nothing has arisen of late to make it so. That the only defender of the drinker should leave him to his fate, and try to snatch an advantage by preventing the use of large proportions of sugar or other substitutes, with a view to making brewers use more barley, is not very commendable.

That brewers should be allowed to use salicylic acid and formalin in beer because farmers are commencing to use it in milk is the best illustration of where we shall drift to when the principles are thrown over for expediency. Much more ought to be said, but it is a farmers' question; let them decide.

The Budget: Will it Provide for a Tax on Imported Corn?

The Budget was to have been introduced on Thursday, but unfortunately Sir Michael Hicks Beach was taken ill on Wednesday, and it was deemed advisable to postpone the introduction of this all-important statement. The Chancellor of the Exchequer expects to be able to be present at the House to-day (Monday), and if so he will bring in his Budget, which has been awaited with keen interest. A large sum has to be raised and new taxes made, and as the Chancellor has kept his secret so well, nothing definite is known as to what they will be. Consequently many guesses have been made, and, naturally enough, some of the prophets have come to the conclusion there is to be a small tax on imported wheat and flour. A correspondent of the "Daily Chronicle" is the most decisive of the lot, for he states that he has reliable grounds for stating that a duty on imported corn and flour will be the main feature of the Budget. Continuing, he says:—"The cost of gathering the new duty is estimated at only ½ per cent. The tax will be worked on lines similar to those followed in collecting the coal duty. On the arrival of a vessel from foreign ports with grain in bulk, security will be required from the importer to a sufficient extent to cover the duty involved as shown by bills of lading before she is permitted to commence discharge. The revenue supervision exercised during the landing of the cargo will be nominal."

In the interest of the importer, grain invariably passes through the scale during the process of discharge. On completion the meters' accounts, with dock or railway companies' receipts, will be demanded by the officials, and on the basis of these documents the revenue account will be raised.

Meal and other goods of a farinaceous nature affected by the duty are usually imported in packages of regular and uniform size. Merchants will thus be in a position to make a declaration of quantity on which duty will be accepted, subject to an occasional revenue challenge of weight as a check.

In the case of grain carried coastwise, production of independent documentary evidence as to the amount of cargo will be required at the port of shipment, official advice being forwarded by the revenue officers to the port of intended discharge.

Grain warehouses will thus be relieved from the inconvenience that would be caused from placing them under Crown locks, as all goods affected by the duty must pay on arrival.

This system will, however, render impracticable payment of rebate on goods shipped as stores or re-exported, as it would be impossible to distinguish between the foreign and the home-grown article.

Hull Spring Fair was held on Tuesday. So far as the show of horses is concerned, it has shrunk to such insignificant proportions that if this spring fair were dropped nobody would notice the omission. Cattle and sheep were penned in the market at Edward's Place, while the horses were ordered off to the fair ground in Walton Street, on the outskirts of the city. The stock on the Walton Street ground was entirely second-rate, with the exception of a few useful agricultural horses. Mr. Charles Reynolds, of London, who bought nine remounts in the neighbourhood for the Government on Monday, was present during the day, and bought some "troopers" at prices ranging from £35 to £43 each. There was a good show of cattle and sheep at Edward's Place, and a fair amount of business was done. Dairy cows sold at £15 to £20, store steers and heifers £9 to £10 10s. per head. The bulk of the sheep consisted of grazing hoggs, for which from 36s. to 40s. each was asked; lambs to 48s. per pair.



Home Notes,

The Borough.

As was generally anticipated, the renewal of business is marked by activity. Inquiries for good hops are frequent and constant, and as choice lots are increasingly difficult to find, lower grades are being taken up, at prices which show some improvement upon those current before the holidays. A fairly considerable trade is also being done in hops at 30s. to 40s., the general tone of the market being extremely firm. Several parcels of "old olds" have been moved from warehouses, where they have been stored for several years, to breweries for consumption. I cannot understand that any practical value can be found in such brown, dried up, flavourless stuff, nor can I conceive any useful purpose to which it can be applied, beyond its return to the soil to act as manure for a following crop. But the fact remains that an outlet for these antiquated hops is found at a price, with the result that a certain quantity of more modern growths is displaced from our beer, to the detriment of the market; and I should suppose also that there is considerable risk of danger to the public health when a decoction, made of such damaged materials, is issued. It appears as if there is good reason for scientific inquiry into this section of the trade. I know of no other supply of food into which decayed substances are allowed to enter, and cannot see the reasonableness of an exception being made with regard to our national beverage.

Our Imports and Exports

for last month are officially returned as follows:—Imports from the United States of America 1,212 cwts., and from other countries 1,547 cwts.; the total, 2,759 cwts., being 1,803 cwts. less than in the corresponding month of last year, and 4,738 cwts. less than we received in March, 1900. The exports of English hops were 1,592 cwts., and of foreign hops only 53 cwts. Deducting the total, 1,645 cwts., from the imports for the month, we find that the net balance against our market is reduced to the insignificant figure of 1,114 cwts., which confirms previous statements of the unimportantinfluence exercised this season by foreign competition, and further establishes the fact that the miserable range of values from which our growers have suffered is entirely attributable to our excessive crops, coupled with our poor average of quality.

Worcester Hops.

A paragraph in a circular issued last week by one of our chief firms of factors seems to throw some light upon my recent remarks concerning the system of selling favoured by midland growers. Usually, at this period of the season, it is difficult to find buyers for Worcester, but we are now told that the prices at which they are being offered has stimulated inquiry for them, and that they are considered to be the best value obtainable. I have always contended that my friends in the midlands can hold their own in the national competition if they will submit their produce to consumers on similar conditions to those on which the business of the southern planters is calculated. So long as they adhere to their ancient customs, they will be in a disadvantageous position. The result is evident to-day. There are considerable quantities of good, sound, coloury Hereford and Worcester hops hanging on hand, and now being pushed forward at prices much below what could have been realised earlier in the season. Had they been dealt with on the same footing as the Kent and Sussex Growths, for which London is the principal central market, they would doubtless have been sold long ago, to the great advantage of their present holders.

All official reports and notices of the National Association of English Hop Growers will be printed in the MARK LANE EXPRESS, *which will also contain all current information likely to be of interes and benefit to the member of the society.*

Foreign Notes.

Nuremberg.

The holidays and the weather have together exercised an unfavourable influence upon the hop trade. Buyers have absented themselves, and transactions are consequently infrequent. On the other hand, the recent reduction of stocks and the paucity of new supplies impart firmness to holders, who evince no anxiety to create business by making any concessions in their quotations. They have complete confidence in the ultimate absorption of the whole of their reserves, and anticipate that, with the resumption of inevitable demand, higher prices than those now current will be realised. The scrupulous care with which German brewers select their hops, necessarily keeps them off the market when it is denuded of the best qualities, and so long as their supplies last, they will not be persuaded to accept the inferior lots, which constitute the bulk of those now waiting for sale. But eventually they will be compelled, by the necessities of the situation, to handle samples, hitherto distasteful, and the deficiency of the yield in 1901, will certainly bring about a clearance concerning which, however, some writers appear to be dubious.

Belgium,

I ventured to express an opinion that, as soon as the holidays had passed, the recent weakness of the market would pass away, and renewal of strength would be evident. This is now the case. Values have definitely recovered, and although the actual business in native hops is not extensive, owing to the limited supply, the tone of the trade is very firm, with a tendency towards further advancement of prices. Work has commenced in the plantations, and it is generally reported that the early signs of growth are favourable.

Imports of hops into Belgium during the first two months of this year were 253,884 kilos (about 5,000 cwts.). This, though a little below the returns of the same months of 1901, is about the normal average for the period. The great bulk is, as usual, received from Germany, but I note that the quantity supplied by England was quadrupled, when compared with last year's supply for the same months. Belgian exports for these months were about 3,000 cwts, the bulk going to France, and about 340 cwts. coming over to us.

Storage of Hops,

is frequently effected in Germany by compressing them in hermetically closed metal cases, and keeping them in an ordinary temperature. But hops cannot be preserved for an indefinite period under these conditions, and attention is being given by Continental consumers to the cold storage system, as practised here and in America. The main objection is the cost of the installation of the necessary plant, and a German inventor, Kleinke, has brought forward a suggestion to meet the difficulty. He has experimented on the preservation of hops by immersion in water, basing his proceedings upon the fact that the aroma of the hops is perfectly maintained in beer. He, therefore, compresses the hops as firmly as possible in receptacles containing a sufficient quantity of water to cover them. Having heated the vessel and its contents to a point that will expel the contained air, he allows them to return to a normal temperature, with the result, as he claims, of perfect preservation of flavour and quality for any reasonable period. Without expressing any opinion upon the value of this system, I would remark that it may safely be accepted as an indication of the tendency which is characteristic of our times. Brewers are seeking to make themselves safe against the fluctuations of prices, caused by climatic uncertainties, and are proportionately creating control of hop values, which must be ultimately detrimental to planters.

America.

Business in New York is by no means brisk, owing to the wariness of brewers, who are fighting their hardest against the inevitable upward movement of the hop market. But the statistical position is too strong for them to contend with, and week by week values advance by half a cent. or so, and the demands of holders are continually becoming bolder. The few growers who have not sold all their hops are especially firm in their insistance upon full prices. Dealers have no choice but to give them what they ask, and the outlook for the summer favours the idea of famine prices as the result of exhausted stocks. This estimate is confirmed by reports from the Pacific Coast that the plant in many old yards are badly winter killed. But whether there is any truth in these reports or not, there can be no doubt that some considerable difficulty will be found by brewers in getting through the next six months. It is therefore not improbable that part of the English surplus may be heard of on the other side, before the new crop arrives.

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Competition and Underselling in the Trade.

There is some improvement in the trade in flour, and prices are very firm, with an upward tendency. The anticipated duty is evidently bringing buyers into the market, and if a rush is made to do business, and the expected does not take not place, a depressing effect will be the result.

Offals still continue to go off well, especially bran and sharps, the latter product in some parts, especially in the pig-feeding districts, where it is much in demand, making as much as £6 10s. per ton. But £6 is a common price for both bran and sharps.

English wheat has become very scarce, and country millers are beginning to feel the pinch. It is quite 6d. dearer, too, and in some places more, 29s. per quarter of 504lbs. being quoted in country districts. What has been coming to the mills has been in very good condition for grinding, and makes good, lively flour.

There is still a great deal of competition and underselling on the part of the large port and other millers, and there seems to be

no way out of the difficulty,

as so many have gone to the expense of increasing their output in order to cheapen the cost of manufacture. The consequence of this is that markets must be found for the surplus flour, even if it be sold at a loss. This new, and growing, movement is causing quite a revolution in the trade, and is resulting in the constant closing of small country mills. It does seem strange that flour manufactured in South Wales should be sent to the extreme north of England and that the millers of Newcastle and other large towns in the north should return the compliment, the transactions in both cases being carried on at a loss. This, however, is only one example; instances might be very much multiplied. With such a system of trading it is not to be wondered at that there is plenty of cutting.

Surely some arrangement could be made by which this crossing of mill products could be stopped. Some of the guilty ones feel that it would be well to end such an unprofitable way of doing business. But how? It seems that a change can only be brought about by the whole-country, with the object of becoming affiliated. If this could be brought about in every part of the country

there could be an understanding as to prices,

and every member of the trade in the combination would benefit. But the great drawback to such a scheme is to be found in the fact that many millers, both large and small, prefer to trade on their own lines, and so fight shy of associations. It is a mistake, as will be found out in certain eventualities, which are quite possible. What is there to prevent a combination of American millers fighting the trade in this country? It is being done in the case of tobacco. For this reason alone, if for no other, British millers should be strongly associated. It is true there are several associations, both in this country and in Scotland, which are very useful, and help to mend matters, but they are few and far between, the individual members do not always agree. But it is not only prices which require regulation. There should be fixed rules as to rebates, discounts, cartages, etc., as there is quite as much mischief done in regard to these as there is in cutting the prices of flour and offals. The

Millers' Annual Conference

will shortly again take place, and it will be interesting to see whether any further steps will be taken to amalgamate millers and put matters on more business lines. Anything which would bring about a change of the present state of affairs would be particularly welcome at the present time. According to the trade press, Mr. A. Hutchison, a well-known Scotch miller, is to be the new president in succession to Mr. W. Vernon, and as it seems to be well understood that he is in favour of the association of millers, some movement in the desired direction may be commenced during his year of office. The choice was made at a recent meeting of the Council of the Millers' National Association, and there is no doubt the nomination will be confirmed at the general meeting, which always takes place in April. The place and date of the annual conference will then be fixed. So many important functions are shortly to come off, including the Coronation and the Royal Show, that it may be necessary to hold the conference either a little earlier or later than usual this year.

MILLER-FARMER.

Report of the Crofter's Commission.

The Report of the Crofters' Commission for the year ending December 31, 1901, which has been presented to the Secretary for Scotland (Lord Balfour) was on Tuesday issued as a Parliamentary Blue-Book. In the course of the year the Commissioners have dealt with applications from Argyll, Inverness, Sutherland, Orkney, and Shetland, and have paid visits to each of these counties. In the ordinary discharge of their duties throughout the crofting area, the cases brought under the notice of the Commissioners had reference to fair rents and re-valuations of holdings, enlargement of holdings, resumption, grazing regulations, compensation for improvements, and other matters. These did not, as a rule, present features of unusual interest.

The number of crofting parishes remains the same as at the corresponding date in the previous year. There are 163 civil parishes in the seven counties mentioned in the Act. Of these the Commissioners have determined that 151 are crofting parishes; while, as regards the remaining twelve, the information hitherto brought under notice has not been sufficient to enable them to determine whether they come within the scope of the Act or not. With reference to their labours in the crofting area, the Commissioners have received 10,186 applications to fix fair rents, 3,257 applications for enlargement of holdings, 345 miscellaneous cases, and 1,193 appeals. They have disposed 20,186 applications to fix fair rents, 3,257 applica- of 20,005 fair rent applications, 3,054 enlargement applications, 322 miscellaneous cases, and 1,189 appeals under the Delegation of Powers Act; or, in all, 24,570.

The number of inspections made before disposal of these various cases was 18,328. They have dealt with 92 applications to sist proceedings for removal in respect of non-payment of rent, 706 applications to prohibit the sale of effects on the holding also in respect of non-payment of rent, and 213 applications under the Crofters' Common Grazings Regulation Act. The extent of land dealt with in Fair Rent applications was 196,570 acres in individual occupancy, and 1,308,184 acres in common occupancy. They have assigned 47,235 acres in enlargement of crofters' holdings. The old rents with which they dealt in fair rent applications and applications for re-valuation of holdings amounted to £82,428, and they fixed the fair rents at £60,889, or an annual reduction of £21,539. The arrears with which they dealt amounted to £184,655. Of these, they cancelled £124,007, and ordered the balance of £60,648 to be paid.



MONDAY (April 7th).—A cold easterly and north-easterly wind was blowing in most parts of our islands, but in Scotland the wind was chiefly from the westward. Scarcely any rain had fallen anywhere since Sunday morning, and the weather continued dry during the day. The temperature was everywhere low for the time of year, except in the south-western districts, and frost occurred in many places during Sunday night. The midday temperatures scarcely anywhere touched fifty degrees. The sheltered thermometer indicated a slight frost in London during Sunday night, while the exposed thermometer fell eight degrees below the freezing point. The highest temperature in the metropolis during the day was forty-five degrees, which is eleven degrees below the average.

TUESDAY (April 8th).—The weather was again cold over the greater part of our islands, and frost was experienced during Monday night at several places in the Eastern and Midland districts. Rain was measured in the morning, as the result of the fall in the preceding twenty-four hours, at a few of the western stations, but elsewhere the weather had continued dry. The winds were for the most part easterly or south-easterly in England and Ireland, but they were from the westward in Scotland, and they were chiefly light. The midday temperatures were low for the time of year over the whole country.

WEDNESDAY (April 9th).—Fine and dry weather prevailed over our Islands, and the temperature was everywhere low for the time of year. The winds were easterly in England and Ireland, but light airs and calms were experienced in Scotland. No rain had fallen since Tuesday morning, except at a few places in Ireland and at Stornoway. Frost had occurred during Tuesday night over the northern and eastern portions of the country, and on the north-east coast of Scotland the sheltered thermometer fell seven degrees below the freezing point. The mid-day temperatures rose to about 50 degrees in Ireland, but in England they were generally below 50 degrees. The day was mostly dull in London, and the highest temperature was 47 degrees.

THURSDAY (April 10th).—The cold north-easterly wind was still continuing over our Islands, and it had freshened considerably over the southern portion of the Kingdom. The barometer had fallen generally, but readings were still high, and the conditions remained anticyclonic. There was a slight frost again during Wednesday night at a few of the northern and eastern stations, and both the day and night temperatures remained low for the time of the year. It was only in a few places during the day that the mid-day temperatures touched 50 degrees. The day was, for the most part, dull in London, and the thermometer did not exceed 47 degrees.

FRIDAY (April 11th).—Rain fell in parts of England during the day, and sleet was reported in the Hebrides. The sky was generally cloudy, and the weather was becoming more unsettled than of late, under the influence of a shallow area of low barometer readings which had arrived on our South-West coasts from the Atlantic, and had occasioned the mercury to fall in all parts of our islands, but more especially in the South. Temperature was generally low during Thursday night, and there was a slight frost in many places. The mid-day temperatures were again low for the time of year. In London there was a cold North-East wind, and the weather was dull and rainy; the highest temperature during the day was 49deg.

SATURDAY and SUNDAY (April 12th and 13th).—The weather varied considerably during these two days in different parts of our islands. On Saturday the weather was generally dull and unsettled, and rain fell in many places. On Sunday there was a considerable improvement over the southern portion of the kingdom, where the sun shone brightly for several hours, and the temperature rose higher than on any previous day during the present month. In the northern and western districts the weather continued unsettled, and rain was again experienced, whilst at some of the coast stations the wind was strong from the westward. Saturday was dull in London, and slight rain occurred in the afternoon, but the following night was clear, and the exposed thermometer fell six degrees below the freezing point. Sunday was very fine and bright in the Metropolis, and the thermometer in the shade touched sixty degrees.

This Year's Sunshine.

From an agricultural and also other points of view, it is hardly satisfactory that the year's sunshine in nearly all districts of the British Isles is still much in arrear. Since January 1 the deficiency in Scotland, east and west, is now ten hours and thirty hours. England, north-east, east, and south, are behind by thirteen hours, twenty-one hours, and twenty hours; while England, south-west and north-west, are short by fifty-one hours and five hours. The Midlands are in arrears by sixteen hours. In Ireland, north and south, the defect is thirty-nine hours and thirty-six hours; and in the Channel Isles eighty hours. The only district ahead of the average is Scotland North, which has a balance of eight sunny hours.

GARDEN.

Dull, cheerless skies, bitterly cold winds, with some chilly rain at times, these are the prevailing conditions at present. Just as vegetation was beginning to burst into leaf and blossom once more we seem to have jumped back into winter again, and now all is at a standstill again. If March was unusually mild and genial, April, so far, bids fair to prove just the reverse—a month of winter rather than spring.

We are now close to the middle of April, and by this time seeds of all the hardier vegetables, such as onions, parsnips, carrots, spinach, etc., as well as of peas and beans of the "broad" varieties, should have been sown. Unless very large roots are wanted, little is gained by sowing the main crop of carrots much before the present time. A bed of either salsafy or scorzonera may be safely sown next week, but of these the former is decidedly the better, and both are hardly wanted.

Plant out plenty of lettuces from the sowing made early in the year, and sow more seed of both the cos and cabbage kinds. The former appear to be chiefly in demand at present, and as much as a shilling apiece, and even more, has been the price (wholesale) in Covent Garden for good heads recently. For my own part I greatly prefer the finer, small-growing cabbage varieties; when grown quickly and well they are far more tender and delicious than the comparatively coarse cos, as well as more easily grown. It is too soon to sow any endive yet.

A good sowing of winter greens in variety should be made at once. The early-sown Brussels sprouts ought to be up, and getting strong by this time; and, if not already done, should be pricked out in a bed of good soil, in a sheltered position, at 4in. to 6in. apart. Sow a little more seed for a late or spring supply, also a good batch of savoys of both the large, or curled, and small, or Tom Thumb, kinds. Broccoli, in three or four varieties, early, medium, and late, should also be sown, and a bit of kale, if this is likely to be required at all early; but for spring use the end of the month is soon enough to sow, as a rule.

Established asparagus beds should be cleaned over, if necessary, before the young shoots begin to come through, and if not already done give a good sprinkling of salt. Nitrate of soda is a good stimulant for asparagus, and should be used occasionally for a change, but it must not be applied nearly so thickly as salt. Protect the young "grass" when it appears by placing inverted flower pots over the shoots on cold nights. Young asparagus roots should be planted very shortly now; so get the beds all ready.

Tomato plants for out-door culture ought to be getting strong now, and if sown and treated as advised previously, should be ready for a shift into 5in. pots. If this is done at once they will have a full month in which to make strong stuff and come into bloom before being planted outside. I noticed quite recently someone advising his readers to sow the seed for out-door work now—the middle of April! Unless rushed on in a strong heat, which is very bad practice, they would be about 3in. high when planting time came and the best of the summer be over before they even began to fruit. And this was in a leading gardening paper, too!

Strawberry beds must be mulched with long or littery manure at once, if this has not been already done, but do not disturb the surface at all at this season. Prepare the ground for any new beds at once, and get the plants in as soon as possible.

The raspberry quarter should also have a liberal top-dressing of half-decayed manure; if the old (fruited) canes have not yet been cut away this should be done at once.

IMPORTANT TO FARMERS.—The best farm account books are WEBB'S PRACTICAL FARMER'S ACCOUNT BOOK, with preface by Clare Sewell Read, 70th edition, 6s. and 7s. 6d. post free. JARROLD'S IMPERIAL FARM ACCOUNT BOOK, 3s. 6d. JARROLD'S FARM LABOUR BOOKS, 2s., 2s. 6d., and 4s. 6d. List of Game and Dairy Account Books post free of JARROLD, and SONS 10 and 11, Warwick Lane E.C.—[ADVT.]



Aberdeenshire.

Owing to unsettled weather sowing has been progressing slowly. Throughout the country the half of the seeds of cereals is deposited in the soil. The ground is nice to harrow, and a good tilth is generally being obtained, even on the stiffer soils. Ploughing being well advanced, the work of sowing would nearly be over by the end of this week in all the earlier districts. Of course, in the later districts, the weather has not been sufficiently good to put the land in condition for the harrow until a few days ago. Stackyards are now getting into remarkably small compass; indeed, on the majority of farms, the bulk is small enough for the 1st of May instead of at the end of the first week in April. Great care will require to be exercised to get the time tided over till grass approaches, which will be a great relief to many sirable. It is well that roots have been plentiful, but they are also disappearing faster than is desirable It is well that roots have been plentiful, as flockmasters have been very dependent on them. In the month of January last year the trade in store sheep began for England, whereas at the present time it is only just commencing, hence a greater amount of roots has been required for sheep. Mutton has been a miserable price during the greater portion of the season. Of late a little sprint in the trade fails to be recorded, but even at the increased price now current feeding sheep is still an unprofitable business, especially if much artificial food has been used. Beef is also firmer in price, and appears now to be getting scarce, locally at least. Store cattle are selling well, too dear, indeed, to be remunerative to finish with beef at present prices.—J. B. (April 8th).

Gloucester.

The spring, so far, has been favourable for all farming operations, the corn has been well planted, and in many instances, where early sown, the young plant is forward and looking well. Mangold planting is also well in hand, the seed bed being perfect, and, with favourable conditions during the present and ensuing months, this valuable crop should be a good one. In many places the whaet plant is considerably thinned by wireworm and other pests, notwithstanding the roller was early on the land. Winter beans looking healthy and vigorous. Again, there are signs of abundant bloom in the pear orchards; it is early yet for the apple, although on some of the early varieties a fair sprinkling of bloom buds are showing. The mild weather during March tended much to favour the small hay stocks, but with the sharp frosts we are now getting much hay is needed for the well-being of the cattle, which are generally healthy and in fair condition. The yeaning season is now practically over; the crop of lambs about an average one, with about 5 per cent. of losses with the ewes. Once again the dreaded foot-and-mouth disease has made its appearance amongst our herds. It is hoped the President of the Board of Agriculture will take the most stringent measures to prevent its further spreading. The, in many cases, unfair and unjust competition the agriculturist has now to contend with is such that no margin of profit is left him to make the least provision to meet the ruinous consequences an outbreak of this disease on his holding would entail.—B. R. (April 9th).

Salop.

Weather keeps cold, but dry. Spring corn is put in well; oats come up very nicely; wheat is looking well; most of the barley is waiting warmer weather. Now is the time farmers have to exercise great care in the selection of seed; while the same principle holds good in reference to all kinds of farm stock—to cattle, sheep, and horses. The present high prices for pedigreed stock show that the best breeders get by far the greatest profits.—J. G. (April 10th.)

Ulster.

Spring.

The time of sowing is with us again, and all Nature appears as if just awaking from a dreamless sleep. The buds bursting into colour, the pastures and meadows taking on their robes of emerald green, the birds twittering and choosing their mates—all outside the farmers' homestead seems filled with joyous anticipations and lusty life.

Inside the Homestead.

But inside the farmers' little circle things appear so different. The stack-yard is empty—how forlorn an empty stack-yard in early spring—the cattle are thin, as if their winter rest sad only been leisure and little food or a troubled dream which had set their hair on end, and it has not yet laid down again. The poultry, no doubt, are making their usual noise, but even the manure heap on which they cackle, crow, and scrape is more poverty-stricken than in past years. The group of busy workers, with their innocent jest and joyous laughter, is not only reduced in number, but as the burden of labour is increased by the reduced number of workers so increase, even in youth, the wrinkles of care, and the heads of the household—father and mother—sigh instead of laugh in response to the youthful joyousness of sons and daughters.

Effects of the Farmers' Struggle.

Yet spring is here, and the necessary efforts to meet its duties dismiss, for a time, at least, thoughts associated with accumulated debts, arising from poor harvests and low prices. There is hope with spring—the lambs have come, and they are abundant and healthy, and the young grass put on an appetising appearance. Eggs are more plentiful, but 6d. a dozen (the price in local markets) requires a large increase to bulk heavily in the purse. Store cattle are lean, and already in large numbers upon the immature pastures; the farmer knows that this early drive upon the young grass will greatly lessen his summer crop. But what can be done? Hay and turnips are eaten, and in many cases purses too low to purchase substitutes.

Climatic Difference in the Same Locality.

Well, success or failure in 1902, farmers in the North of Ireland are all busy, doing their best under the different circumstances in which they find themselves, and deserve success, whether it come or not. In the valleys the spring labour, sowing, and planting, is nearing a close, but on the hill sides and higher ground there is very much yet to be done, and heavy clay soil are, by their wet condition, exciting more than the usual patience. The weather is now bright, and the barometer is steadily high, the whistle and song of the ploughman is heard, so there is music in the field as well as in the hedgerows. Thus is sorrow flung to the winds, and the joy of industry fills the labourer's soul.—W. W. D. (April 10th).

Pembroke.

Cold and wet. Pigs, both fat and store, are selling well. Both hay and roots are disappearing fast. Farmers are at present very busy planting potatoes. Prices are very low at present time, not more than from 2s. 6d. to 3s. per cwt. The lambing season has been favourable; a good number of healthy lambs.—W. G. (April 9th).

Worcester.

We are now having what would be nice March weather, vegetation mostly at a standstill, that had freely started growth after the genial March, but good weather for rolling and harrowing wheat and getting land ready for roots. Cattle in many cases roaming the fields in search of grass, hay having got into very short compass, the trade for store stock being dull in consequence. Beef and mutton a better trade for those few who have been enabled to keep their stock. Agriculturists, anxiously looking forward to the Budget, they trust the Chancellor of the Exchequer will not lose the opportunity of again re-instating the registration duty on all corn, especially flour; in fact, an ad valorem duty on all manufactured articles.—T. R. H.

Foreign Prospects.

FRANCE.—Spring work in the fields is completed. The seed was sown under favourable conditions, and the earlier districts already promise well. Winter wheat came through the winter in fine style, consequently there was hardly any occasion to re-sow. The area under wheat is said to have increased and a large breadth has been devoted to oats, while the cultivation of beets is reduced.

BELGIUM.—Weather unsettled, but not detrimental to autumn crop prospects, although there in some delay in spring growings.

HOLLAND.—Weather dry and cool, after a spell of rain. Spring work is rather behindhand.

GERMANY.—Weather has been cold, wet, and stormy, but no crop complaints are heard.

RUSSIA.—Milder weather and rain in Central, Southern, and Eastern districts has proved beneficial to the spring crops, and somewhat improved the backward state of the winter wheat and rye. A large part of the country in the North and near the Baltic is still under snow.

HUNGARY.—Weather fair and mild, and autumn-sown crops progress satisfactorily.

ROUMANIA.—Fine and mild weather is bringing on the crops in fine condition, but rain would be acceptable for spring-sown fields.

UNITED STATES.—Prospects have not essentially changed for wheat, and the condition is fairly good. There are dry portions of the Western sections, but the crop does not show much suffering. Oats are starting well. No more rain has fallen in California, but the total to date is 17in. against 18¾in. in 1901. The wheat crop condition on April 1st is returned at 93, compared with 100 last season, and 90 in 1900.—*Dornbusch.*

Farmers' Club.

A meeting of the members of the Farmers' Club was held at the Salisbury Hotel, Salisbury Square, Fleet Street, on Monday, Mr. George Street presiding. Professor Wrightson, Principal of the College of Agriculture, Downton, near Salisbury, read a paper on "Weeds and their Eradication," a summary of which, it will be remembered, appeared in our last issue. The paper was listened to with a considerable amount of interest, and Professor Wrightson was accorded a vote of thanks.

Agricultural Imports.

The following is an account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended April 5, 1902, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year:—

Animals Living.	1901	1902.		1901	1902.
	No.	No.		Cwt.	Cwt.
Cattle ...	10,276	5,976	Wheat ...	1,245,800	1,947,600
Sheep.....	10,285	6,238	Flour.....	427,900	295,100
Swine.....	—	—	Barley ...	193,100	313,500
*Horses...	—	416	Oats	219,500	271,400
			Peas	45,900	32,300
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Beans ...	13,000	50,300
Beef	93,169	45,663	Maize ...	951,900	792,100
Mutton...	29,896	45,374		Bunches	Bunches
Pork	17,789	11,581	Bananas	40,829	52,733
Bacon ...	105,132	128,740			
Beef, salt	5,229	3,984		Cwt.	Cwt.
Hams.....	33,788	34,427	Apples ...	24,143	19,798
Pork, salt	4,643	3,998	Apricots & Peaches	--	18
Meat, salt & Fresh	12,824	14,214	Cherries	—	—
Do. pres.	16,350	17,670	Currants	—	—
Butter ...	59,785	61,365	Goosebr's	—	—
M'rg'rine	19,048	15,048	Grapes ...	244	497
Cheese ...	24,646	22,224	Lemons...	32,094	28,652
Milk, Fresh, in cans or drums.	310	144	Oranges	177,101	174,659
			Pears.....	442	88
			Plums ...	—	12
			Strawb'r's	2	2
			Oth'r Fr't	1,489	1,519
Milk ...				Tons.	Tons.
Cream.	82	45	Hay ...	2,319	8,637
			*Straw ...	—	1,085
Milk pr's'v'd, other				Bush.	Bush.
			Onions ...	285,137	156,743
kinds ...	316	19		Cwt.	Cwt.
Con. Milk	22,790	18,252	Hops	1,071	554
			* Locust Beans	—	17,495
	No.	No.	Potatoes	212,458	46,660
Eggs	324,374	263,892	Tom'to's	16,502	6,940
			Other	Value.	Value.
Poultry & Game	Value.	Value.	Veg'bles	£10,251	£15,319
	£27,125	£22,308		Cwt.	Cwt.
			Dried ...	836	2,502
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Pres'v'd by canning ...	3,205	2,027
Rabbits	1 829	2 775			
Lard	53,212	66 924			

* Not shown in 1901

Farmer Killed on the Railway.—Mr. Gregory, a farmer, of Bickleigh, near Plymouth, on the Launceston branch of the Great Western Railway, was killed on the line on Saturday afternoon. His sister, Miss Gregory, who is advanced in years and very deaf, was crossing the line when a down train to Plymouth approached. Mr. Gregory ran to warn his sister of her danger, and was knocked down, sustaining injuries from which he died. Miss Gregory escaped with slight injuries.

A farm servant, named Amos Hayton, was shot in the back and killed at Wragmire Bank Farm, near Carlisle, on Saturday afternoon. A fellow servant, named John Park, was removing the charge from a gun when it went off and caught Hayton, who was standing about ten feet away. Although the charge caused a gaping wound, the deceased did not immediately fall, but walked out of the house and died in the open air.

The Outbreak of Foot-and-Mouth Disease.—The Board of Agriculture has issued an order, which is published in the current issue of the "Gazette," modifying the present regulations with regard to foot-and-mouth disease in Kent. The order provides for the issue of licenses for the movement of animals between different parts of a farm, or between farms in the same occupation; and also for the movement of cattle from premises in the scheduled district to a slaughter-house also within the scheduled district.

JUDGES FOR ROYAL SHOW AT CARLISLE.

At the Council meeting of the Royal Agricultural Society, held on Wednesday, the names of the gentlemen who will officiate as judges at the Society's forthcoming show at Carlisle were announced, and we give the list below:—

HORSES.

HUNTERS (Heavy Weight).—Captain R. Ker, Montalto, Ballynahinch, Co. Down; Owen C. Wallis, West Haddon Hall, Rugby. HUNTERS (Light Weight and Riding Cobs). Arthur Brocklehurst, Vauxhall House, Nantwich, Cheshire; Hon. Alex. E. Parker, Deeside, Bangor-on-Dee, Wrexham. CLEVELAND BAYS AND COACH HORSES.—F. E. C. Dobson, Dromonby House, Stokesley, R.S.O., Yorks; Colonel A. F. Godman, The East House, Great Smeaton, Northallerton. HACKNEYS.—John Atkinson, Highfield, Garton, Driffield; C. Edward E. Cooke, Hinxton Grange, Saffron Walden. PONIES, SHETLAND, MOUNTAIN AND MOORLAND, AND FELL PONIES, HARNESS HORSES AND PONIES.—Robert Brydon, The Dene, Seaham Harbour, Co. Durham; E. Jones, Manoravon, Llandilo, South Wales. POLO PONIES.—Edward Mucklow, jun., Wood Hill, Bury, Lancashire. (A second judge to be appointed.) SHIRES.—Captain Heaton, Worsley, near Manchester; William Richardson, Eastmoor House, Doddington, Cambs. CLYDESDALES.—John McCaig, Challoch, Leswalt, Stranraer, N.B.; John M. Martin; 5, Drummond Place, Edinburgh. SUFFOLKS.—F. G. Cook, Saxted Lodge, Framlingham; Frank Sugden, Chestall Estate Office, Rugeley, Staffs. AGRICULTURAL AND DRAUGHT HORSES.—(To be settled after closing up entries.)

CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS.—George John Bell, Standingstone, Wigton, Carlisle; Robert Wright, Nocton Heath, Lincoln. LINCOLNSHIRE RED SHORTHORNS.—Peter Dunn, Pasture House Sigglesthorne, Hull; John W. Rowland, Fishtoft, Boston, Lincolnshire. HEREFORDS.—J. W. Smith, Thing, Hill Court, Hereford; William Thomas, The Hayes, Sully, Barry, Glamorganshire. DEVONS AND SUSSEX.—Samuel Kidner, Bickley, Milverton, Somerset; Alfred Stanford, Eatons, Steyning, Sussex. WELSH.—Thomas Jones, Brynmelyn, Llandderfel, Corwen, N. Wales; Owen Price, Nantyrharn, Cray, Brecon, S. Wales. RED POLLED.—D. Abbott Green, Fingringhoe Hall, Coclcehster; F. S. Lewin, Holbrook, Ipswich. ABERDEEN ANGUS.—Arthur Eggington, South Ella, Hull; Robert Walker, Altyre, Forres, N.B. GALLOWAYS.—John Cunningham, Tarbreoch, Dalbeattie, N.B.; Samuel Thomson, Buxley, Duns, N.B. HIGHLAND.—Duncan McDiarmid, Camusericht, Rannoch Station, N.B.; John McGillivray, Ballachrcan, by Kingussie, N.B. AYRESHIRES.—John Murray, jun., Carston, Ochiltree, N.B.; Robert Paton, Trees, Ayr, N.B. JERSEYS.—Herbert Padwick, The Manor House, West Thorney, Emsworth; T. H. Weetman, Rose Hill, Atherstone, Warwickshire. GUERNSEYS.—Andrew Rintoul, jun., 6, Royal Parade, Cheltenham; W. Herbert Fowler, Claremont, Taunton. KERRY AND DEXTER.—R. Tait, Robertson, Church Farm, Babraham, Cambs.; George F. Roumieu, Willey Park, Farnham, Surrey. DAIRY.—William Garforth, Swinton Grange, Malton, oYrks.; Thomas Firbank King, Edgley, Leyburn, R.S.O., Yorks. WHITE SHORTHORN BULLS.—George John Bell, Standingstone, Wigton, Carlisle; Robert Wright, Nocton Heath, Lincoln. POLLED (BLUE GREY) CATTLE.—John Cunningham, Tarbreoch, Dalbeattie, N.B.; Samuel Thomson, Buxley, Duns, N.B.

SHEEP.

OXFORD DOWNS.—John Bryan, Southleigh, Witney, Oxon; W. D. Little, Middleton Stoney, Bicester, Oxon. SHROPSHIRES.—A. S. Berry, Pheasey Farm, Great Barr, Birmingham; Harry Williams, Newton-on-the-Hill, Shrewsbury. SOUTHDOWNS.—E. H. Jennings, Cockfield Hall, Bury St. Edmunds; Richard Relfe Verrall, Falmer, Lewes, Sussex. HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.—Joseph Carpenter, The Manor House, Stratford-sub-Castle, Salisbury; John Pain, Borough, Micheldever, Hants. SUFFOLKS.—D. Abbott Green, Fingringhoe Hall, Colchester; F. S. Lewin, Holbroook, Ipswich. LINCOLNS.—James Cartwright, Pillar Farm, Nocton, Lincoln; Richard Davy, Melton High Wood, Barnetby, Lincoln. LEICESTERS.—George England, Rise Grange, Hull; James Stamper, Highfield House, Nunnington, York. COTSWOLDS.—Robert Jacobs, Eynsham, Oxon; Thomas Thornton, Cavenham House, Wareham, Stoke Ferry. BORDER LEICESTERS.—John J. Bowman, Manor House, Helmsley, R.S.O., Yorks; William Pringle, Branton, Glanton, R.S.O., Northumberland. KENTISH OR ROMNEY MARSH.—Thomas Powell, 120, Victoria Street, Westminster, S.W. WENSLEYDALES.—Thomas Jackson, Netherbeck, Carnforth; Thomas Firbank King, Edgley, Leyburn, R.S.O., Yorks. CHEVIOTS.—G. G. Rea, Middleton, Woolner, Northumberland; John Scott, Borthaugh, Hawick, N.B. BLACK-FACED MOUNTAIN.—Henry Walton, How Burn, Alston, Carlisle; Robert Watson, Culterallers, Biggar, N.B.. LONKS AND HERDWICKS.—William Abbott, Beckstones, Thornthwaite, Keswick; Thomas Jackson, Netherbeck, Carnforth. WELSH MOUNTAIN.—Thomas Jones, Brynmelyn, Llandderfel, Corwen, N. Wales; Owen Price, Nantyrharn, Cray, Brecon, S. Wales. CROSS-BRED.—G. G. Rea, Middleton, Wooler, Northumberland; H. H. Shepherd, Wheelbarrow Hall, Scotby, Carlisle.

PIGS.

WHITES.—John Angus, Whitefield, Morpeth; John Parr, Ruddington, Nottingham. BERKSHIRES.—William Garforth, Swinton Grange, Malton, Yorks; J. Watts, Fairgreen, Chipping Norton, Oxon. TAMWORTHS AND BLACKS. Arthur S. Gibson, Estate Office, Buddington, Nottingham; John Norman, Cliff House, Tamworth.

POULTRY.

Arthur C. Major, Park Farm, Ditton, Langley, Bucks; J. P. W. Marx, Basford, Nottingham; (a third judge to be appointed).

PRODUCE.

BUTTER.—John Benson, Dale Road, Buxton; John Gilchrist, 81, Hope Street, Glasgow. CHEESE.—William McFadzein, Wedgewood, Charles Street, Kilmarnock; George W. Oubridge, 5, Town Hall Buildings, Newcastle-on-Tyne. CIDER AND PERRY.—Thomas B. Richards, Huxham, Shepton Mallet, Somerset. HIVES AND HONEY.—W. Broughton Carr, 17, King William Street, Strand, W.C.; Rev. R Errington, Warden Vicarage, Hexham, Northumberland.

IMPLEMENTS.

MISCELLANEOUS IMPLEMENTS ENTERED FOR SILVER MEDALS.—Walter L. Bourke, The Old Hall, Worsley, Manchester; J. G. Mair-Rumley, The Hammonds, Udimore, Sussex.

COMPETITIONS.

HORSE-SHOEING.—John Malcolm, F.R.C.V.S., Holliday Street Wharf, Birmingham; J. M. Parker, M.R.C.V.S., Moor Street, Birmingham. BUTTER-MAKING.—John Benson, Dale Road, Buxton; John Gilchrist, 81, Hope Street, Glasgow.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Malt: We have no improvement to notice in the trade. Barley unchanged. Wheat firm at fully late rates. Oats steady. Maize dull. Flour continues firm.—NIXON, GOWER, AND CO.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—The attendance was limited. Wheat and flour held for Monday's full rates, but buyers did not respond. Maize firmly held, but inactive. Barley held for 3d advance, which checked business. Oats, steady trade at about Monday's prices. Beans and peas quiet, unchanged.

Mark Lane, Friday.—There was only a small attendance and very little stirring. English wheat is now out of supply here, or at least may be considered so, while country resorts become more and more bare. Quotations nominal. Good reds, 30s 3d to 30s 6d per qr. delivered up. American reds 3d to 6d firmer, and generally 6d to 9d higher since last Friday, with no pressure to sell, and all landed parcels sharing great scarcity at present. No. 1 Northern Duluth, inspection, quoted at 30s 6d ex ship, 31s 6d landed. No. 1 Northern Manitoba, 31s 3d ex granary. Hard Kansas Winters, 30s 3d ex ship; 30s 9d ex granary. White wheats also continue in short supply. Australian, 31s 6d ex granary. Russian, although offering at rather less of late, remains above United Kingdom parity, and Indian quite nominal for want of exports. Flour 3d to 6d firmer since last Friday for most American brands, fancy patents being almost unobtainable, and up to 23s 6d to 24s. Of first patents, Pillsbury and Ceresota, 23s. Bakers, Iron Duke, 18s 6d. Country flour and town still upheld in sympathy with the strong position of English wheat. Town made, 28s net; and No. 1 households quoted at 21s 6d per sack cash delivered at the mill door. Australian patents, 20s 6d to 21s, 280lb. ex store. Grinding barley unaltered, and Odessa in anything but large supply on spot, at 19s ex quay, with Danubian in same position, at 18s 9d. English malting nominal, and foreign generally supported in value. English malting stationary. Foreign steady. Oats a turn better, and Libaus scarce, more especially 40lb. since late Government purchases. F.a.q., Libau, ordinary, 18s 6d to 18s 9d ex quay 38lb., and 18s ex ship; 40lb Libau, etc., bold, 21s to 21s 3d ex quay; extra ditto, 21s 6d to 21s 9d; good Konigsberg, 21s ex quay 40lb. New Zealand—ordinary bluff, 25s 6d to 26s 6d ex store, 280lb. English very firm and scarce. Black winters, 24s., 42lb; and fancy, 24s 6d; with grey ditto, weighing the same, 23s to 23s 6d, and choice, 24s. Maize unchanged, mixed American remaining out of supply. Market for imported beans and peas denoted nothing fresh.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Wheat, supply short; trade firm at full quotations. Barleys, small business at nominal prices. Oats maintain high figures. Beans and peas quite as dear. White wheat, 28s to 30s. Brown ditto, 27s to 29s. Malting barley, 26s to 32s. Grinding ditto, 22s to 25s. Black oats, 18s to 22s; white oats, 20s to 25s. Old beans 33s to 36s. Grey peas, 35s to 36s.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, 27s to 28s per qr.; barley, 27s to 30s per qr.; beans, 34s to 35s per qr.; oats (black), 19s to 21s per qr.; peas, 32s per qr. No show of wheat. Market decidedly dearer for the small quantity on offer.

Birmingham, Thursday.—The market had a quiet tone, but higher prices were asked in most departments. English wheats were offered in limited quantities at 10s 6d to 11s 3d per bag, and foreign 6d to 9d per quarter dearer. No. 2 Northern Manitobas, 5s 10½d; red Calcuttas, 5s 6½d; and Northern Duluths, April-May, 6s per cental, Liverpool. Maize was unchanged to 3d dearer, Plate offering at 21s to 21s 6d at Sharpness, and round at 21s to 23s at Liverpool, and 21s to 22s per quarter, at Sharpness. Grinding barley, 3d higher, making 18s 6d to 18s 9d at Sharpness, and 18s 6d to 19s 3d at Liverpool. For English oats a similar rise was reported; blacks were quoted at 19s 6d to 21s 6d, according to quality; and whites, 21s 6d to 24s per quarter. English beans were up 3d per bag, new samples being 14s to 14s 3d, and old 15s 6d to 16s at Birmingham.

Boston, Wednesday.—Wheat, 28s to 28s 6d; grinding barley, 22s; oats, 20s to 22s; peas, 55s to 65s; beans, 33s; maize (old), 23s 9d; ditto (new), 21s 6d; malting barley, 28s to 32s per qr.

Braintree, Wednesday.—Better supply of wheat and steady trade. Prices: Reds 28s 6d to 29s, and whites 29s to 30s per qr.

Brighton, Thursday.—New white wheat, 28s 6d to 29s; new red ditto, 28s to 29s; barley, 28s to 33s; grinding ditto, 21s to 22s; English oats, 21s to 23s; peas, 35s to 36s. Oats, 6d dearer. Barley firm. Wheat in small supply. Small attendance, and very little business doing.

Bristol, Thursday.—There has been a moderate trade passing since our last. At to-day's market there has been rather more English wheat offering, which makes 3d to 6d more money. Foreign firm and unchanged. Grinding barley, maize, and oats quiet, and without alteration in values. Flour trade continues dull, and without change in price.—GRACE BROTHERS.

Bury, Wednesday.—Wheat, with a small supply, was a strong trade, at 6d to 1s per qr more money; reds or whites, 28s 6d to 29s 6d per 504lb. Oats were also scarce, and very firm at 22s to 24s per qr. Other feeding corns unchanged, with maize at 23s per qr, delivered. Linseed cakes in fair demand, at £8 10s to £9 per ton. Cotton cakes steady, at £5 5s per ton. All milling offals in small supply, with bran especially scarce and firm, at £5 15s to £6 per ton.

Cambridge, Saturday.—During the week the wheat trade has been more active. Farmers hold their wheat for very full prices, and offer very sparingly. At this market to-day there was a very thin attendance, and farmers asked 1s advance, which needy buyers had to pay, but a good many samples went home again. Red, 28s 6d to 30s; mills white, up to 30s per 504lb. Barley trade over. Very few beans and oats offering; prices the turn against the buyer.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Wheat scarce and 1s per quarter and upwards dearer. English oats a little more money. White wheat, 31s to 32s; red, 30s to 31s; malting barley, 28s to 33s; grinding, 22s to 24s; white oats, 24s to 26s; black, 19s to 23s; grey peas, 33s to 35s; tick beans, 36s to 38s; Mazagans, 33s to 34s; round maize, 23s to 26s; flat, 22s per quarter; spring tares, 7s to 8s; giants, 8s to 9s per bushel.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Small supply of oats in our market to-day. Fair sale at late rates: 22s to 23s 6d per 336lb.—THOMAS ROBINSON.

Chester, Saturday.—Market was of a quiet character, there being but small attendance. Oats and beans steady at last week's quotations. Wheat and Indian corn held for a little more money. Wheat, white and red, 4s 5d to 4s 6d per 75lb; malting barley, 4s to 4s 1d per 60lb; grinding barley, 3s 4d to 3s 6d per 64lb; beans, 5s 6d to 5s 8d per 80lb; oats, new, 2s 10d to 3s; old, 3s 4d to 3s 6d per 46lb; Indian corn, 12s 6d to 13s 6d per 240lb.

Chichester, Wednesday.—Wheat was in small supply, and trade was firm at 6d. per quarter advance. Other prices showed no material change. Attendance meagre.

Colchester, Saturday.—Very little wheat offering, an advance of fully 7s. per qr was established. Practically no spring clover offering.—FRANCIS AND CO.

Croydon, Thursday.—White wheat, 29s to 31s; red ditto, 27s to 29s. Malting barley, 28s to 36s; grinding, 22s to 24s. Oats, 18s to 22s. Beans, 31s to 33s. Peas, 29s to 31s. A better trade for wheat, 6d per qr. dearer. Oats firm. Beans and peas no alteration.

Devizes, Thursday.—There was a small supply. Wheat a very firm trade, and prices must be quoted 6d. higher. There was no alteration in the price of other descriptions of corn. The following were the quotations:—Best wheat, 13s 6d to 15s; secondary ditto, 12s 6d to 13s; grinding barley, 20s to 24s; malting ditto, 29s to 34s; rye, 23s to 25s; winter oats, 21s to 24s; beans, 16s to 20s; fine flour, 21s to 23s; extra fine, 24s to 30s; best bread, 8s 9d. Milk butter: Wholesale, 13d to 14d; ditto retail, 14d to 15d. Eggs, 20 to 22 for 1s.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There was the usual attendance at our market to-day. Wheat and flour steady, with small trade passing. Indian corn and round maize quiet at late rates. Grinding beans and Canadian pease firm. Home and foreign oats steady, but quiet. Barley unchanged. Bran and thirds: Quiet trade, with prices about unchanged. Oatmeal slow.—GIBSON AND CLARK.

Leeds, Tuesday.—We cannot report any tendency to improvement in the wheat trade; the consumptive demand continues disappointing, and, with liberal imports and generally favourable crop reports, buyers prefer to reduce, rather than increase, their holdings. Prices are slightly lower on the week. Maize and oats held for 3d advance. Beans unchanged.—DUNNS AND CO.

Leeds, Friday.—Quiet demand for both English and foreign wheats, with a firmer tendency in prices. English make from 29s to 31s, and foreign 27s to 31s. Flour, beans, peas, maize, and all other articles are very firmly held.

Leicester, Saturday.—Good average attendance. Small supplies of wheat and good samples. Better trade at 27s to 31s per 36 stones. Barley steady. Beans firm. Oats sold very freely.

Leith, Friday.—A fair trade has been done in feeding stuffs during the week. Wheat, Scotch, good demand at late rates. Oats, Scotch, good demand, in sellers' favour; foreign oats, 19s to 21s 6d. Barley, Scotch, fair trade at last week's prices; foreign feeding, 21s 6d. Hard white Canadian peas, 38s; white Calcutta peas, 35s 6d. Beans, 34s. Maize, 21s 6d to 22s 6d for guaranteed sound; parcels with very slight heat, 20s to 21s; damaged, 18s to 19s; Urhur, 25s 6d per 520lb. Mill offals:—Top prices still being paid for prompt delivery. Broad bran, 100s to 102s 6d; sharps, 95s to 97s 6d; parings, 102s 6d to 105s; cummings, 80s to 85s; dried grains, brewers', 97s 6d; distillers', 102s 6d to 105s; oat husks, 45s; meal seeds, 67s 6d; all sacks included.—WILLIAM MACLAY.

Lewes, Tuesday.—New white wheat, 28s to 30s. New brown ditto, 27s to 29s. Malting barley, 32s to 36s. Grinding ditto, 20s to 24s. Oats, 21s to 24s. Beans, 35s to 38s. Peas, 32s to 35s per qr.

Lincoln, Friday.—Small supply of English wheats. Trade slow at 6d more money. Reds, 29s to 29s 6d; whites, 29s to 30s. Oats were 6d dearer. Maize has gone up during the week. Beans and peas quiet.

Liverpool, Friday.—The market has had a very fair attendance, and wheat rules firm at ½d to 1½d advance over last Tuesday, with a good demand for Manitobas, Kansas, and white sorts. Flour: Foreign sorts are firm and meet a decidedly better demand, prices being generally a full 6d advance over Tuesday. Local millers have a fair trade, and prices have been advanced 6d per sack. Maize: Mixed is steadily held at ¼d to ½d advance, with a better demand. European is generally ¼d lower, owing to large arrivals, but meets a fair inquiry at the decline. Plate rules steady at unchanged prices, with a fair business passing. Barley: Malting is very quiet, nominally unchanged. Feeding sorts continue firm, with a quiet demand. Beans are steady for round sorts, but flats are firm owing to extreme scarcity. Peas are firm, with a moderate inquiry at Tuesday's prices. Oats are steadily held, with a fair inquiry at late rates for English. Foreign sorts are quiet, but steady. Oatmeal firm, but quiet at quotations. Oilcake steady, with a moderate inquiry at about late rates.—SEGAR AND TUNNICLIFFE.

Maidstone, Thursday.—Steady tone in the wheat trade to-day, the supply quite equal to the inquiry for it, and we note the cost to be just about the same as last week. The barley trade is quiet, and oats are not so active as of late. Beans and peas show no change. Maize not a big trade; tendency to decline. In other articles of grain, seed, etc., no alteration of importance.

Manchester, Thursday.—Decidedly better trade done in English and foreign wheat at fully last Thursday's prices, and a full 1d. per cental dearer than in the interval. American offered at 4½d to 6d per quarter higher than on Tuesday. Maize firm, with a fair demand at last week's prices. Oats, beans, and peas unchanged. Barley, ½d to 1d per bushel dearer. Flour met a moderate trade at unchanged prices.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—At our market to-day wheat was held for last week's prices. The demand, however, was limited. Maize slow sale, without any change in values. Holders of oats asked 6d advance. Buyers, however, refused to comply, consequently only a few transactions took place. Beans and peas scarce and 6d per 504lbs. dearer on the week. No demand for barley.

Newport, Wednesday.—Little business in wheat, and prices rather firmer. Maize quiet and unaltered. Oats firmly held. Barley and beans unchanged on the week. Flour, 22s 6d per sack.

Norwich, Saturday.—There was a moderate wheat on offer at our market to-day, with a dull trade, but where business was effected an advance of 1s per qr. was made. The weather of the past week has been dull and cold, with easterly winds, but is now somewhat milder. Wheat, red, 29s to 30s per qr., weight 63lbs. per bushel Imperial Corn Inspector's return for the week ending 7th April, 1902.—J. ARTHUR MILLS.

Northampton, Saturday.—Not a large market; not much wheat, etc., on offer. Prices a little better than last week. No other alteration worth noting. White wheat, 29s to 30s; red wheat, 27s to 28s; barley, grinding, 22s to 24s; oats, 19s to 25s; beans, 33s to 40s; flour, 21s to 22s; fine, 25s.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Wheat: But little offering, and prices advanced 1s per qr. Grinding barley steady, at full rates. Oats scarce, and 6d to 1s higher. Beans firm.—ROBT. HUBBLE.

Peterborough, Saturday.—There were not many sellers of wheat at to-day's market; the few transactions that took place were at 6d to 1s per qr more money. Oats, also, were held very stiffly, and a similar advance was made.—THOMAS HILL AND SON.

Plymouth, Thursday.—Average attendance at our market to-day. Quiet trade generally. Maize quiet unaltered. Oats and barley 3d dearer. Wheat rather better.—ORLANDO DAVIS AND CO.

Reading, Saturday.—At to-day's market there was considerable more life in the trade, and, with a full attendance, business proved much better. There was only a limited quantity of wheat on offer, and sales were effected with an upward movement to the extent, in some cases, of 1s per qr. more money, rates varying from 27s to 30s per qr. The barley trade is over, but other sorts of corn sold steadily, at unaltered values.

Ripon, Thursday.—Only a few samples of local wheat on offer. Oats firm at late rates. Business slow. Wheat, English, new, 28s 6d to 29s 6d; ditto foreign, 28s 6d to 32s 6d; barley, grinding, 22s 6d to 23s 6d; ditto malting, 26s to 31s; oats (new), 22s to 24s; round maize, 23s 6d to 25s 6d per qr.; beans, 1s per stone.

Rye, Wednesday.—White wheat, 28s to 31s 6d. Red ditto, 27s 6d to 31s. White oats, 22s 6d to 25s. Black ditto, 22s to 24s. Grey peas, 33s to 35s; blue ditto, 50s to 60s. Tick beans, 36s to 38s. Mazagan ditto, 35s to 36s.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—The market was moderately attended. The trade in foreign wheat was slow at last week's rates, while English wheat was rather scarce, and the price advanced 6d. Beans were 6d per qr cheaper. Small corn was unchanged, but English oats were scarce, and sold at 6d more. Quotations:—Wheat, white, 29s 6d to 30s 6d; ditto, red, 29s 6d to 30s 6d per 504lb; barley, grinding, 22s to 23s; ditto, malting, 28s to 32s per 448lb; oats, new white, 22s to 24s; ditto, new black, 20s to 21s per 336lb; peas, grinding, 32s to 34s; ditto, blue, 53s to 80s per 504lb; beans, Egyptian, 35s 6d to 36s per 504lb; ditto, English, new, 37s to 37s 6d per 532lb; Indian corn, small, 22s 6d to 23s 6d; ditto, American mixed, 27s 6d to 28s per 480lb.

Spalding, Tuesday.—A firm trade for wheats at 28s 6d per qr, being an advance on the week. Oats made more money at 22s 6d to 23s.

Stamford, Friday.—Very little corn showing. Wheat, 28s to 28s 6d per qr. Short supply of oats, which were still dear. No barley on sale. Small show of beans at about 24s.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There was no English wheat showing. Trade in foreign wheat was very dull, owing to larger supplies, and to do business 3d to 6d per qr less money had to be accepted. Maize, 3d and beans 6d dearer; oats unaltered. No malting barley showing.

Sunderland, Saturday. Wheat in small supply, and rather dearer. Little doing in spring corn. Arrivals, coastwise: Wheat, 735qrs; foreign, nil.—E. AND F. RICHARDSON.

Wakefield, Friday.—A marked change has come over the wheat trade since Tuesday, caused by stronger American advices, anticipation of a possible import duty, and, lastly, by the unfavourable American Bureau report. Both English and foreign wheats are firmly held for 6d to 9d over last week's rates. Feeding stuffs held for 6d advance all round, with more business doing.—DUNNS AND CO.

Wakefield, Friday.—We have a very thinly attended market to-day, and only a nominal business has been done. Both English and foreign wheats are quoted 6d per qr dearer, and malting barley is in small supply, with few buyers. All feeding stuffs 6d per qr dearer.—MICHAEL SANDERSON AND SON, LIMITED.

Wakefield, Friday.—Small attendance and quiet trade all round. In some cases English wheat made 3d per qr. more money, but foreign wheat unaltered. Business in malting barley at late prices, and no change in feeding stuffs.

Wisbech, Saturday.—A small supply of grain. Wheat held for 1s advance; prices, 29s 6d to 30s. Oats, 23s to 25s. Beans, 34s to 38s.—JAMES FLETCHER.

Worcester, Saturday.—Small supply of English wheat, with a better inquiry at last week's full rates. Foreign more firmly held. Barley favoured sellers. Oats, beans, and maize dull at late rates. Wheat, white, 29s to 29s 6d; red, 26s to 28s per qr.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Large attendance of farmers, but very little grain on offer. White wheat, 28s to 29s; red wheat 27s to 28s; grinding barley, 26s to 28s; white oats, 23s to 25s; black oats, 22s to 24s; round maize, 24s to 25s per qr.

York, Saturday.—Farmers hold wheat firmly, expecting a duty, and generally are able to obtain 6d per quarter advance. The following are the quotations: Fine white, 29s to 30s; red and mixed, 28s to 29s per quarter of 36 stones. Oats rather dearer.

FOREIGN.

Paris, Wednesday.—The tendency of native wheat was still firm in the provincial exchanges; farmers are offering very little for sale, and instances of higher prices are rather frequent. Here offers were equally restricted, and the feeling very firm, with trade almost as quit, as millers, finding a poor outlet for their products, do not evince much eagerness to purchase. The weaker tone abroad and the return of relatively favourable crop-weather contributed to render buyers very reserved; nevertheless, sellers continued to show themselves just as tenacious, and consequently prices were maintained at about last week's rates, despite the rather weaker tendency of the "Marche de Paris." Transactions were, therefore, inactive at the following rates:—Choice Red, 37s 10d to 38s 3d; Ordinary, 37s 6d to 37s 10d; and White, 37s 10d to 38s 3d 480lbs. The flour market opened dull at a slight reduction, but closed a little better at the following prices:—April, 26s 10½d to 27s 1½d; May-May, 27s 1½d to 27s 5d; May-June, 27s 5d to 27s 8d; May-August, 27s 5d to 27s 8d; July-August, 27s 8d to 27s 11d; and September-December, 26s 7½d to 26s 10½d per 280lbs. The appearance of the growing rye crop continues excellent, but for all that prices are well supported, even in face of a slack demand at 24s 4½d to 25s 3d per 480lb. Much more of oats appears to have been sown than of late years, and the young crop looks in good condition. Here trade has again been very difficult, owing to a tedious sale, and prices show no quotable change on the week. Grey Beauce, 25s 3d; White, 23s 2d to 23s 6d; Red, 24s 11d; Black, from the Central provinces, 25s 6d; small Picardy, 24s 4d. In foreign oats there has been a slight depreciation in rates. American is worth 24s 1d to 24s 4d; White Libau, 23s 6d to 23s 9d; Black, 24s 1d to 24s 4d; and Swedish, 25s 3d to 25s 6d per 320lb. There is no change to note in barley values, and trade is wanting in animation, and prices are quoted nominally as follows:—Malting, 17f.25 to 17f.75 (25s to 25s 9d); grinding, 17f. (24s 8d); and feeding, 15f. to 15f.50 per 100 kilos (21s 9d to 22s 6d per 400lbs.). Owing to scarcity of offers and a regular demand, buckwheat is firm at 28s 3d per 480lbs.—*Dornbusch.*

HAY AND STRAW.

Manchester, Wednesday.—Hay, 7d to 7½d; clover, 7½d to 8½d; straw (wheat), 6½d; straw (oat), 6d to 6½d per stone.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—Arrivals experienced an improved demand, values remaining steady. Best clover, 95s to 110s; inferior ditto, 80s to 90s; specially picked hay, 115s; good ditto, 108s; inferior ditto, 80s to 90s; mixture and sainfoin, 90s to 100s; and straw, 28s to 40s per load.

CORN STATISTICS.

MONTHLY AVERAGES.

(196 Market Towns.)

	1901.			1902.		
	Wheat	Barley	Oats	Wheat	Barley	Oats
January	26 8	25 7	17 4	27 8	26 8	20 1
February	26 5	25 5	17 7	27 1	26 8	20 3
March	25 10	25 0	17 10	27 1	26 8	20 6
April	26 3	25 7	18 3			
May	27 6	25 2	19 4			
June	27 7	23 11	19 10			
July	27 4	22 9	19 8			
August	27 4	24 0	18 10			
September	26 1	25 4	17 4			
October	25 10	25 7	17 6			
November	24 9	26 10	18 2			
December	27 4	26 8	19 5			

IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGES.

1901.	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
Apr. 13	32,905	26	5	6 809⅛	26	0	5,936⅞	18	1
,, 20	35,737½	26	8	6,734⅛	25	7	8,346⅝	18	8
,, 27	46,572	26	8	6,985½	25	8	8,300⅜	18	1
May 4	46,616½	26	9	6,417¼	26	4	6,869⅜	19	8
,, 11	47,118⅜	27	3	4 279¼	26	2	7,049	19	1
,, 18	52,875½	27	7	2,508	24	2	7 345½	19	4
,, 25	49,822⅛	27	7	1,511⅜	24	1	4,665⅛	19	8
June 1	46,514	27	7	859⅛	23	8	4,938	19	9
,, 8	42,202	27	6	221½	22	9	4,023⅛	20	1
,, 15	46,764	27	8	1,404¼	24	0	5,665⅜	19	7
,, 22	29,695	27	6	336⅜	23	2	3,552⅜	20	3
,, 29	28,191⅜	27	6	692⅛	25	4	2,803⅜	20	0
July 6	19,564½	27	8	140⅜	21	9	1,800⅛	19	10
,, 13	15,231⅜	27	2	49	23	10	1,675⅜	19	9
,, 20	17,462¼	27	3	88⅜	23	4	2,040⅛	19	11
,, 27	18,297⅜	27	3	206⅜	22	1	2,385⅜	19	4
Aug. 3	18,666½	27	6	250⅜	23	1	3,219⅛	20	0
,, 10	19,156	27	7	141⅜	22	1	2,143⅛	19	4
,, 17	22,617½	27	4	220¼	27	2	5,982⅛	18	9
,, 24	37,168⅜	27	3	976⅜	23	7	9,952⅜	18	
,, 31	61,603⅜	27	0	4,877⅜	24	3	14,654½	17	10
Sept. 7	60,623½	26	5	14,342⅜	25	1	19,075⅛	17	1
,, 14	77,949⅜	26	2	34,989⅛	24	11	19,909½	17	4
,, 21	80,279½	26	0	70,096⅛	25	5	26,476⅜	17	4
,, 28	80,488	25	10	109,783½	25	10	22,567⅛	17	2
Oct. 5	60,376⅜	25	8	126,592½	26	3	21,631½	17	7
,, 12	63,656⅜	25	9	172,175⅜	26	5	16,815½	17	6
,, 19	58,772⅜	25	10	203,591½	26	8	15,506½	17	8
,, 26	52,984⅜	25	11	203,471⅞	26	10	18,009⅛	17	5
Nov. 2	70,314⅜	26	2	134,277⅛	26	10	18,350⅜	17	7
,, 9	62,265½	26	6	202,577½	27	0	20,066½	17	8
,, 16	57,884⅜	26	9	201,723⅞	26	9	20,122½	18	3
,, 23	63,150⅜	27	1	185,268½	26	10	20,612	18	7
,, 30	60,323⅜	27	1	193,434⅛	26	9	22,419½	18	9
Dec. 7	67,925½	27	1	162,996⅞	26	7	23,990⅜	19	0
,, 14	48,045½	27	2	182,212⅝	25	10	17,125½	17	1
,, 21	60,562⅜	27	7	119,393½	26	8	26,260½	19	8
,, 28	43,718⅜	27	7	81,859⅜	26	8	16,901⅜	19	10
1902.									
Jan. 4	31,440⅜	27	7	34,777½	26	7	11,621½	19	10
,, 11	48,997⅜	27	8	69,120½	26	7	14,995	20	0
,, 18	74,239½	27	8	91,559⅜	26	11	19,733⅝	20	0
,, 25	74,753⅜	27	7	87,594	26	7	25,382½	20	3
Feb. 1	73,381½	27	4	81,468⅜	26	7	25,657½	20	2
,, 8	67,470½	27	2	69,291⅜	26	9	25,055⅞	20	3
,, 15	68,500	26	11	54,084½	27	5	21,824	20	3
,, 22	72,614⅜	27	1	53,201½	26	11	22,799	20	4
Mar. 1	79,453⅜	27	1	43,637⅝	26	7	22,322	20	5
,, 8	67,473⅜	27	0	28,847½	26	8	17,017	20	5
,, 15	60,643	27	1	24,536⅞	26	6	11,496⅞	20	6
,, 22	56,394½	27	1	15,482⅜	26	4	12,192½	20	6
,, 29	50 703	27	2	15,729½	27	2	8,950⅛	20	7
Apr. 5	31,277¼	27	3	7,009⅛	26	5	5,994½	20	6
,, 12	37,931½	27	5	5,298½	26	7	6,855½	21	0

LONDON AVERAGES.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, April 8th. 1902.

	Total Quantities. Imperial Measure.		Total Amount.			Average Price per qr. Imperial Measure.		
	Quarters.	Bus.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Wheat	1,613	6	2,271	3	6	1	8	1
Barley	63	0	84	17	9	1	5	0
Oats	1,164	1	1,253	5	2	1	1	7

FLUCTUATIONS IN THE AVERAGE PRICE OF WHEAT.

Price.	Mar. 8.	Mar. 15.	Mar. 22.	Mar. 29.	Apr. 5.	Apr. 12.
27s. 8d	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 7d	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 6d	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 5d	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 4d	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 3d	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 2d	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 1d	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 0d	...	...	...	...	...	...
26s. 11d	...	...	...	...	...	...

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF FINE HOUSEHOLD FLOUR IN PARIS.

(*Converted into English money for sacks of* 280 *lb.*)

	1902.	1901.	1900.	1899.	1898.	1897.	1896.	1895.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Jan.	27 9	24 9	25 2	29 0	38 7	30 5½	25 10	27 0½
Feb.	26 3	25 9	26 3	28 3	39 4	29 10½	26 2	27 10½
March	27 0	24 0	27 3	27 6	40 1	28 9	26 0	27 5½
April	...	24 6	26 9	27 6	42 3	28 5	25 6½	26 7
May	...	25 6	26 8	28 0	40 0	28 11½	25 1½	28 0
June	...	26 3	28 6	27 6	35 6	29 3	25 8	28 10
July	...	28 0	26 0	27 3	32 0	31 5½	24 6	27 1
August	...	27 6	26 4	27 0	31 6	36 11	25 1	26 11
Sept.	...	27 6	26 3	25 9	31 0	38 7	27 0	27 0½
Oct.	...	27 6	26 0	24 9	30 6	39 4	27 1½	27 9
Nov.	...	27 9	26 4	24 3	30 3	40 3	29 9	26 8½
Dec.	...	28 8	26 0	24 6	29 0	39 3	29 8	26 3
Yrly. Avrg.	...	27 3	26 2	9	35 0	33 5	26 5½	27 4½

ARRIVALS INTO LONDON.

April 2 to April 9, 1902, inclusive.

	British	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat qrs.	1,660	27,493	29,153
Barley	447	8,107	8,554
Malt	24,279	...	24,279
Oats	864	64,723	65,587
Beans	349	117	466
Peas	1,775	2,000	3,775
Maize	...	16,720	16,720
Tares	5	421	426
Farmseeds	800	2,600	3,400
Lentils	...	1,350	1,350
Linseed	...	4,000	4,000
Rape cake	...	170	170
Cottonseed	...	2,500	2,500
Flour, sacks	20,156	44,040	64,196

STOCK OF GRAIN IN LONDON.

Official returns published 8th inst.

	Wheat. qrs.	Flour. sacks	brls.	Barley. qrs.
Apl. 1, 1902	111,780	294,456	5,816	92,863
Jan. 1, 1902	248,988	397,965	2,648	133,203
Apl. 1, 1901	232,897	418,182	3,981	99,454
	Oats. qrs.	Maize. qrs.	Beans. qrs.	Peas. qrs.
Apl. 1, 1902	560,565	106,748	5,114	11,216
Jan. 1, 1902	592,401	46,345	8,815	8,831
Apl. 1, 1901	421,793	45,482	7,493	10,473
	Malt. qrs.	Oil Cakes. tons.	Tares. qrs.	Linseed. qrs.
Apl. 1, 1902	1,659	9,615	1,245	4,984
Jan. 1, 1902	1,433	5,053	1,048	4,471
Apl. 1, 1901	1,797	7,723	1,816	6,440

GRANARY STOCKS ON APRIL 1, 1902.

(Specially compiled.)

	Wheat. qrs.	Maize. qrs.	Barley. qrs.	Oats. qrs.
London	111,780	106,748	92,863	560,565
Liverpool	219,000	152,000	47,124	10,695
Manchester	14.412	5,221	...	...
Hull	93,835	79,105	83,085	29,738
Hartlepool	147	...	12,147	2,064
Stockton	...	...	224	3,070
Gloucester	20,879	35,027	61,212	30,630
Glasgow	10,751	16,039	15,380	36,174
Dublin	23,500	31,000	...	...
Londonderry	4,600	24,000	...	...
Newcastle	50,308	23,461	8,671	22,292
	Beans. qrs.	Peas. qrs.	Flour. sacks	
London	5,114	11,216	294,456	
Liverpool	3,128	2,001	40,000	
Manchester	...	...	2,200	
Hull	3,867	8,914	5,642	
Hartlepool	...	...	...	
Stockton	...	...	...	
Gloucester	1,650	485	...	
Glasgow	2,306	835	107,237	
Dublin	...	...	66,500	
Londonderry	...	...	27,500	
Newcastle	479	203	1,723	

COMPARATIVE AVERAGES.

Comparative statement for the corresponding week to April 12th, in each of the years from 1897 to 1901.

	WHEAT. Qrs	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
1897	41,923½	27	0	10,481½	23	0	6,240⅜	16	3
1898	35,518½	35	3	4,889⅜	28	0	6,220⅜	18	2
1899	62,879⅜	24	6	12,628½	25	7	12,685½	16	10
1900	66,412⅛	25	11	19,519⅜	24	5	9,672⅜	17	8
1901	32,905	26	5	6,809⅜	26	0	5,936⅜	18	1

IMPERIAL AVERAGES.

Statement showing the Quantities sold and average price of British Corn, Imperial Measure, as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended April 12, 1902, conformably with the Act of the 45th and 46th Victoria, cap. 37.

Wheat	37,931¼ qrs.	27s.	5d.
Barley	8,298½ qrs.	26s.	7d.
Oats	6,855½ qrs.	21s.	0d.

LONDON FLOUR MILLERS' ASSOCIATION

OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1901

	London Whites.			Town Households.		
		s.	d.		s.	d.
September 2	(per sack)	26	0	(per sack)	23	0
,, 18	,,	25	6	,,	22	6
December 9	,,	26	6	,,	23	6
January 29	,,	26	0	,,	23	0

ENGLISH WHEAT IN 1 01.

Highest of Year	27s. 7d.
Lowest of Year	25s. 10d.
Gradient	1s. 9d.
Mean of Year	26s. 9d.

FOREIGN CORN TRADE.

The shipments of grain from the chief exporting countrie last week were as follows :—

	Wheat. Qrs.	Flour. Sks.	Maize. Qrs.	Barley. Qrs.	Oats. Qrs.
United States	320,000	101,000	24,000	—	10,000
Russia	130,000	—	140,000	41,000	95,000
France	—	5,000	—	—	—
Austria-Hungary	—	5,000	—	—	—
Roumania	99,000	—	112,000	16,000	5,000
Argentina	105,000	—	2,000	—	—
India	—	—	—	—	—
Australasia	15,000	—	—	—	—
Miscellaneous	20,000	10,000	10,000	20,000	5,000
Total	686,000	121,000	288,000	77,000	115 000

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF LONDON TOWN HOUSEHOLDS FLOUR.

(*Sacks of* 280 *lbs. ex-mill for cash.*)

	1902.	1901	1900	1899.	1898.	1897.	1896.	1895.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Jan.	21 9	24 6	21 9	23 9	29 0	25 6	18 9	18 7½
Feb.	22 0	24 0	22 0	23 6	30 0	24 7½	19 4½	17 9
March	21 9	23 9	21 6	22 3	30 0	23 11	19 3	18 0
April	...	24 0	21 6	22 0	31 3	23 6	19 6	18 7½
May	...	23 6	21 3	22 3	39 7	23 7	19 0	20 4½
June	...	23 0	23 6	23 1½	35 0	22 7½	18 10	22 8
July	...	22 3	24 6	21 9	29 6	22 10½	18 6	20 0½
August	...	22 3	24 0	21 9	27 6	26 8½	18 8½	19 10½
Sept.	...	22 0	25 3	22 0	26 5	30 3	19 6	19 8
Oct.	...	21 6	24 9	23 3	26 1	29 0	23 7½	18 7½
Nov.	...	21 6	24 3	22 3	25 0	29 1	25 8½	18 4½
Dec.	...	21 9	24 0	21 9	24 3	29 0	25 7½	18 1
Yrly. Avrg.	...	22 10	23 2	22 4	29 6½	25 10½	20 8½	19 2

YEARLY AVERAGES (OFFICIAL.)

	Wheat. s. d.		Barley. s. d.		Oats. s. d.	
1890	31 9	per qr.	28 8	per qr.	18 7	per qr.
1891	37 1	,,	28 2	,,	20 0	,,
1892	30 4	,,	26 2	,,	19 11	,,
1893	26 4	,,	25 6	,,	18 9	,,
1894	22 10	,,	24 6	,,	17 1	,,
1895	23 1	,,	21 11	,,	14 6	,,
1896	26 2	,,	22 11	,,	14 9	,,
1897	30 2	,,	23 6	,,	16 11	,,
1898	34 0	,,	27 2	,,	18 5	,,
1899	25 8	,,	25 7	,,	17 0	,,
1900	26 11	,,	25 9	,,	17 9	,,
1901	26 9	,,	25 3	,,	18 5	,,

Irish Live Weight Quotations.

(*Department of Agriculture and General Instruction for Ireland.*)

The following returns are those of actual sales made in Robson's Cattle Mart, Belfast, the stock being weighed either before or after sale, for the week ending April 12th, 1902.

No. of Beasts.	Description and Quality.	Average price per head.	Average Live weight.	Average price per cwt.
		£ s. d.	c. qr. lb.	£ s. d.
2	Bullocks (prime) ...	16 10 0	9 0 0	1 16 8
2	,, (very good) ...	17 2 6	9 3 14	1 14 8
1	,, ,, ...	15 5 0	9 0 7	1 13 8
1	,, ,, ...	16 5 0	9 2 21	1 13 7
4	,, ,, ...	15 15 0	9 2 3	1 13 1
2	,, ,, ...	17 0 0	10 1 7	1 13 0
2	,, good ...	16 0 0	9 3 14	1 12 5
1	,, ,, ...	17 0 0	10 2 0	1 12 5
1	,, ,, ...	15 0 0	9 1 0	1 12 5
1	,, ,, ...	18 0 0	11 0 14	1 12 4
1	,, fair ...	15 5 0	9 2 14	1 11 8
8	,, ,, ...	13 0 0	8 2 0	1 10 7
1	,, ,, ...	15 0 0	9 3 21	1 10 2

* Indicates that the lot so marked was sold by live weig at the price quoted.

THE BALTIC.

The London Corn Trade Association notify us that the following standards, soft White Kurrachee wheat(December shipment), choice White Kurrachee wheat (December shipment), soft Red Kurrachee wheat (December shipment), Calcutta Urhweseed (December shipment), Kurrachee Jowaree (December shipment), are now made up, and may be obtained, in sample, at 2, Lime Street Square, E.C. The association also announce that nominations for the committee must be sent in by April 30. The retiring members are Messrs. S. W. Keene, M. B. Manuel, J. Mendl, and R. A. Patterson.

Wheat cargoes are held with confidence at 29s. for Californian, 28s. 9d. Walla Wa'la, 28s. 9d. Duluth, 28s. 6d. No. 1 Northern, 29s. 3d. Victorian, 28s. 6d. Argentine, and 28s. 9d. soft White Kurrachee.

Maize commands 20s. 6d. for South Russian cargoes, and 21s. 6d. for Caucasian. The Argentine new crop is offered for May shipment at 20s. 3d., and for July at 20s. per qr. American is held for 26s. 9d. on passage, but buyers offer no more than 26s. Barley cargoes fetch 18s. 6d. for Azoff, and 24s. for Californian. Other prices for cargoes are: 17s. 9d. for Volagda oats, 32s. for Saffi beans, 30s. 6d. for White Calcutta peas, 50s. 6d. for Calcutta linseed, and 45s. 3d. for Bombay poppyseed.

The arrivals of grain and seed-laden vessels at ports of call for the week were: 8 wheat (1 Melbourne, 2 Portland, O., 4 San Francisco, 1 Tacoma); 1 barley (San Francisco); 1 linseed (Rosario); 1 canaryseed (Larache); total, 12.

The sailing of grain and seed-laden vessels from ports of call for the week were: 18 wheat (1 Antwerp, 4 Birkenhead, 1 Bristol, 1 Cardiff, 1 Fleetwood, 3 Hamburg, 1 Havre, 3 Hull, 1 Plymouth, 1 Sunderland, 1 Tyne Dock); 3 barley and wheat (1 Dublin, 1 Grimsby, 1 Sharpness); 1 linseed (Hull); 1 canaryseed (London); total, 23.

Since January 1, 1902, the total arrivals have been: 83 wheat, 1 flour, 13 barley and wheat, 3 maize, 7 barley, 1 beans, 2 linseed, 2 canaryseed; total, 112.

Last year, during the same time, the arrivals were: 60 wheat, 2 flour, 5 barley and wheat, 11 barley, 3 beans, 4 pease, 2 locust beans, 3 canaryseed, 2 valonea; total, 112.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The weather of the past week has been highly favourable to the completion of spring sowings, as the drying winds have enabled farmers to get on the land, even in districts where surface moisture and stickiness is apt to be most troublesome. A full area of barley, a slight increase in beans and peas, and from 5 to 7½ per cent. increase in the area under oats is the general anticipation of the spring sowings. While this side of matters is satisfactory, the promise of the growing wheat has been reduced, and the plant has undoubtedly suffered from the bitter nights and sunless days.

The American winter wheat, according to the Bureau Report published on Saturday, promises but 787 of a full standard or fifteen-bushel field. On the other hand, the area is 32,000,000 acres, against 28,000,000 last year. The promise at present appears on these figures to be of a yield of 377,600,000 bushels, against 435,000,000 bushels last season, but 330,884,000 bushels only in 1900. The average yield in America may be put at 13 bushels of winter wheat on 30,0000,000 acres, or 390,000,000 bushels; so that the present outlook is for a little under an average result.

Last week's imports into the United Kingdom were large of wheat and fair of maize, but small of all other articles, the comparison being with the past ten years' average. The figures of the first week of April last year thus compare:—

Qrs.	1902.	1901.
Wheat	454,000	291,600
Barley	87,780	54,068
Oats	100,000	80,868
Beans	7,070	3,033
Peas	7,178	10,200
Maize	184,850	222,110
Sacks		
Flour	118,040	171,160

Wheat prices at the chief markets of the international trade thus compare with the opening of the year:—

	12th April.	1st. Jan.	Net Change.
London	28s 1d	28s 3d	2d decline.
New York	28s 0d	28s 3d	3d decline.
San Francisco	23s 0d	21s 6d	1s 6d advance.
Paris	38s 3d	38s 0d	3d advance.
Berlin	36s 0d	37s 6d	1s 6d decline.
Buda-Pesth	34s 6d	33s 6d	1s 0d advance.
Antwerp	29s 6d	29s 6d	No change.

The rise at San Francisco is due to exhaustion of old crop surplus, that in Austria-Hungary to apparent scarcity of grain. The Berlin decline in prices is curious. Probably 37s. 6d. attracted an excess of imports.

London monthly arrivals for the first quarter of 1902 have been as follows:—

	Jan.	Feb.	March.	Total.
Wheat, qrs.	140,000	109,000	111,000	360,000
Barley, qrs.	150,000	66,000	64,000	280,000
Oats, qrs.	411,000	210,000	179,000	800,000
Maize, qrs.	251,000	151,000	118,000	520,000
Flour, sks.	323,000	376,000	230,000	£89,000

Apparently, London supplies are falling off of all staples except wheat. Should the tendency shown by the above figures continue during the next few weeks Mark Lane is bound to be a strong market before May is over.

The markets of the past week have advanced 6d. per quarter for English wheat and 6d. per sack for Norfol kflour, while an upward tendency is manifested in bran, pollard and middlings, in linseed and cotton-seed, in seed oils, in oatmeal and in straw. On the other hand an extensive area of the total trade remains without improvement. One has in this connection to name beans and peas, rapeseed, rice, London makes of flour, and most sorts of foreign wheat. On the 11th the rumour that a duty of 1s. to 1s. 6d. per quarter would be put on imported cereals, and of 2s. to 2s. 6d. per sack on imported flour and meal, was very much in evidence at Mark Lane and until the Budget has been printed, and, indeed, passed, there will now be a certain number of holders not anxious to part with grain not actually in hand. The duty, however, even if imposed, would probably exempt cargoes on the high seas before the day of legalisation.

There are now on passage to the United Kingdom the following quantities of wheat:—

	Qrs.
American	325,000
Californian	2,225,000
Argentine	265,000
Russian	20,000
Indian	70,000
Australasian	800,000
Various	15,000
Total	3,720,000
A week ago	3,£83,000

The total at one time threatened to reach four millions, but the past week has witnessed a decided ebb, and it is not now probable that the record of 3,930,000 quarters at the end of March will be rivalled in the present cereal year.

Of flour the quantity on passage thus compares with a year ago.

Sacks.	1902.	1901.
American	180,000	276,000
Californian	84,000	78,000
Hungarian	30,000	40,000
Various	6,000	8,000
Total	300,000	402,000

Of barley, there are now 360,000 qrs. on passage against 290,000 qrs. a year ago. Present expectations include 260,000 qrs. of Californian and 100,000 qrs. of Russian and Roumanian. Of some small Asia Minor shipments we have no quantitative estimates.

Foreign barley is now rather difficult to quote, owing to the extremely wide range of some of the kinds. Thus there is extra fine landed Californian Chevalier barley, saleable at 31s. new and 26s. old, while there is common brewing barley from California offering at 23s. per qr. Between these values we have good to fine brewing at 24s. 6d. to 25s., and extra fine, landed at 26s. 6d. to 27s. new. The London Chilian barley is hardly in evidence, but at Liverpool 29s. to 33s. is paid for Chevalier, and 25s to 27s. for brewing qualities. Danish in London makes 27s to 29s., Saale 40s. for best, while ordinary malting from New Zealand is at 26s. to 28s. With respect to the 400lb. sorts of foreign barley unscreened Ouchek, which is an Asia Minor type, mostly shipped from Smyrna, is quoted about 23s., with common at a guinea. Yerli is another Anatolian variety, and comes at a guinea to 21s. 6d. Roumania is represented by some excellent 416lb. samples at 21s. to 22s., while common Danubian 400lb. barley is obtainable for 19s. per qr. Russian 400lb. barley is held for 19s. 6d. by some firms, who expect a rise soon in the prices at Odessa and Taganrog. The buyers of crushed barley at 16s. per 304lb. are in fair evidence just now.

A remarkable change in our maize supply is evidenced in the Liverpool stock returns, which in dividing the germ into kinds are far superior to the London publications.

Liverpool	1902. Qrs.	1901. Qrs.
Flat Cone	27,400	77,033
Round Cone	103,215	10,552
Yellow Cone	21,214	23,948
Total	151,£23	111,533

The changes will be seen at a glance. The quantity changes will be seen at a glance. The quantity of maize now on passage to the United Kingdom is 370,000qrs., against 560,000qrs. a year ago. The present expectations include 290,000qrs. of flat, 50,000qrs. of yellow, and 30,000qrs. of flat corn. Maize shipments from November 1st to April 12th were 757,000qrs. from America, 2,872,000qrs. from Russia, 2,941,000qrs. from Roumania, Bulgaria, and Turkey, 561,000qrs. from Argentina, and 5,000qrs. from India. In the same period of last season shipments had totalled 10,615,000qrs. from America, 360,000qrs. from Russia, 810,000qrs. from Roumania, and 680,000qrs. from Argentina. The deficiency in exports from the two Americas has evoked remarkable supplies from South-Eastern Europe. America on the 12th cabled a visible supply of 1,080,000qrs., against 2,850,000qrs. a year ago.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Monday.—Linseed cake.—There is no change of note; very little doing. Decorticated cotton cake and meal as before. Undecorticated is distinctly firmer, 1s 3d to 2s 6d per ton. Linseed is a fluctuating market, the tendency now being upwards.

English Linseed Cake	ex mill	8	0	0		
American Calcutta Linseed Cake	ex quay					
American Western	ex quay	7	2	6 to 7	5	0
,, ,,	ex quay	7	0	0 to 7	2	6
Russian Oil Cake	ex quay	7	10	0 to 7	15	0
Decorticated Cotton Cake	ex quay	6	5	0 to 6	10	0
,, Meal	ex quay	6	8	9 to 6	7	6
London-made ,, Cake (best)	ex mill	4	10			
Egyptian ,, ,, ,, (in bags)	ex quay	4	5	0 to 4	7	6
Burton Desiecated Ale Grains (bags included)	on rail, Burton					
Dutch Linseed (in bags), per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse	2	17	0 to 3	0	0
Calcutta Linseed in bags, per 410 lbs.	ex warehouse		11	6		
a Plata do. per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse	2	11	6		
Clean Russian Linseed in bulk, per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse	2	16	6		

ROBERT AND JOHN HEWETSON.

SEEDS.

London, Monday.—We had a fair attendance at to-day's market, and a fair retail demand for all farm seeds at late rates. Stocks are getting very light. Spring tares are nearly cleared, and are 1s. to 2s. dearer. English sainfoin are finished, and French is now inquired for. Birdseeds are dull, and blue peas and haricots more slowly. —JOHN PICARD AND CO.

THIS DAY'S MARKETS

MARK LANE, MONDAY.

[FIRST REPORT.]

The market to-day was more remarkable for conversation than business, and the currencies ruling can scarcely be accepted as "values" for any large quantities of grain. The duty on corn, of which there are such general rumours, is not expected to exceed a "registration" amount; in other words, it is not likely to stop any shipments. At the same time, as surmise will have given place to certainty in a few hours, the general disposition is to wait. The market strongly favours the principle of "the manufactured article," that is flour, meal, and so forth, being charged more heavily than the raw material, such as wheat or barley.

So far as quotations are useful at all in the Budget pause, wheat, oats, and oilseeds may be said to be intrinsically firmer and definitely tending towards a higher level. Barley is firmer for feeding sorts than for brewing, while farm seeds and brewers' grains are offered in retail at some slight reduction. Maize is steady but inquiry is poor.

QUOTATIONS OFF STANDS.

April 14, 1902.

BRITISH GRAIN.

		s.	s.
WHEAT, White (new)	(per 504 lb.)	30	— 32
,, (old)	,,	31	— 32
Red (new)	,,	28	— 30
,, (old)	,,	29	— 30
Chicken or Feed	(per 480 lb.)	26	— 27
BARLEY, Malting	(per 448 lb.)	31	— 37
Brewing	,,	27	— 30
Feeding	(per 400 lb.)	24	— 26
MALT, English	(per 336 lb.)	35	— 41
Scotch	,,	37	— 39
Black	,,	30	— 32
Brown	,,	29	— 32
Crystallized	,,	33	— 35
OATS, English, Black Winter	,,	33	— 34
,, Black Tartary	,,	21	— 22
,, Grey Winter	,,	22	— 24
,, White Tartary	,,	21	— 22
Scotch	,,	22	— 24
Irish	(per 304 lb.)	19	— 20
RYE, British	(per 480 lb.)	23	— 25
BEANS, Pigeon	,,	38	— 40
Winter	,,	32	— 36
Mazagan	,,	31	— 33
PEAS, Best Marrowfat	(per 504 lb.)	65	— 75
Blue (boiling)	,,	60	— 70
Dun	,,	31	— 32
Maple	,,	36	— 40
TARES, Scotch Gores	,,	78	— 82
Winter Old	,,	68	— 72
,, Ordinary	,,	56	— 64
Spring ,,	,,	50	— 52

FOREIGN GRAIN.

(Ex-Granary.)

	s.	s.
WHEAT, per 496 lb.		
Old Duluth	31	— 33
Manitoba No. 1	31	— 32
American Spring	30	— 31
Red Winter	30	— 31
Hard ,,	30	— 31
Californian	30	— 31
Walla Walla	29	— 30
Australian	30	— 31
New Zealand	29	— 30
Argentine	29	— 31
Danzig	31	— 33
Saxonka	30	— 31
Azima	30	— 31
Ghirka	29	— 30
Indian	29	— 30
RYE, per 480 lb.		
Russian	24	— 25
MAIZE, per 480 lb.:		
Russian	21	— 22
Roumanian	21	— 22
Turkish	21	— 22
American	26	— 27
Argentine	22	— 23
OATS:		
N' Zeal'd (Best)	27	— 31
N. Zeal'd (Bluff)	25	— 27
N. Zeal'd (Dun)	23	— 25
Canadian (320 lb.)	20	— 21
American (320 lb.)	20	— 21
Prussian (320 lb.)	20	— 21
N. Russ'n (304 lb.)	19	— 20
South ,, (304 lb.)	18	— 19
Turkish (304 lb.)	17	— 18
BEANS, per 480 lb.:		
Egyptian	32	— 33
Smyrna	31	— 32
New Zealand	34	— 36
LOCUST BEANS, per ton:		
Italian	102	— 104
Cyprian	106	— 112
Portuguese	105	— 107
PEAS, per 504 lb.:		
Canadian, White	36	— 37
Australian, White	40	— 41
New Zeal'd Maple	38	— 40
Indian White	33	— 34
MILLET, per 416 lb.:		
White	33	— 45
Red	25	— 27
Yellow	20	— 22
Sorghum	19	— 20
DARI, per 480 lb.:		
Smyrna	25	— 26
Persian	22	— 24
BUCKWHEAT, per 416 lb		
French	25	— 26
Russian	26	— 27
TARES, per 504 lb.:		
Konigsberg	44	— 48
BARLEY:		
Saale (448 lb.)	38	— 40
Hungarian (448 lb.)	32	— 40
New Zeal'd (448 lb.)	26	— 29
Chilian (448 lb.)	32	— 34
Californian (448 lb.)	23	— 30
Danish (448 lb.)	28	— 30
French (448 lb.)	27	— 29
Danubian (400 lb.)	19	— 21
Ouchak (400 lb.)	24	— 32
Yerli (400 lb.)	21	— 22
Russian (400 lb.)	19	— 20
MALT, per 336 lb:		
Californian	35	— 36
Smyrna	35	— 30

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

THE MARKET CLOSED WITH A NOMINAL ADVANCE OF 1s. ON WHEAT AND 6d. ON BARLEY, OATS, MAIZE. OFFALS WERE DECIDEDLY DEARER, PARTLY IN CONNECTION WITH THE RISE IN THE PRICE OF BEEF AND CONSEQUENT ACTION OF FARMERS IN BUYING FATTENING FOOD FOR STOCK. OILSEEDS FROM THE SAME CAUSE WERE VERY FIRM.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, MONDAY.

Prices as given below represent values obtainable, and not what is in many cases being asked; for the Budget will have been discussed before another market day, and perhaps half the trade is willing to wait and hear the result before selling at all. It will be noticed that we quote all milling offals as 2s. per ton up, and there are many holders who ask 5s. more money from the prices before Easter. Low grade Minneapolis to-day made 15s., but 13s. 3d. was accepted for Red Dog. Country flour is fully 6d. dearer, without any references to Budget influences. There is also a genuine spot scarcity of best Minnesota flour.

LONDON FLOUR.

		s.
Top Price	(per sack)	— 28
Town Whites	,,	— 25
,, Households	,,	— 22
No. 2	,,	— 20

COUNTRY FLOUR.

Best Patents	(per sack)	23 — 25
Fine Roller made	,,	22 — 23
Ordinary Roller made	,,	21 — 22
Best Stone made	,,	20 — 21

FOREIGN FLOUR.

Minnesota First Patents	(per sack)	23/6 — 24
,, Second Patents	,,	21/6 — 22
,, First Bakers'	,,	19/6 — 20
,, Second Bakers'	,,	17/6 — 18
Milwaukee Patents	,,	22/6 — 23
,, Bakers	,,	16/6 — 17
Kansas Patents	,,	23/6 — 24
,, Bakers'	,,	18/6 — 19
Cascadia	,,	22/6 — 23
Canadian	,,	22/6 — 23
Australian Patents	,,	20/6 — 21
,, Straight	,,	19/6 — 20
Hungarian	,,	30 — 33
Russian	,,	28 — 30
French	,,	20 — 22

MEAL, &c.

Whole Meal	(per ton	174—176
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	117—119
Bran, London Broad	,,	104—114
,, ,, Fine	,,	90— 94
,, Country Flake	,,	120—122
,, ,, Broad	,,	102—104
Pollard	,,	90—96
Biscuit Middlings	,,	117—119
Fine Middlings	,,	115—117
Coarse Middlings	,,	100—102
Feeding Flour (Red Dog)	,,	112—114
Barley Meal	,,	124—128
Rye Flour	,,	150—155
Canadian Oatmeal	,,	200—26
Scotch Oatmeal	,,	260—300
Oat Flour	,,	340—360
Maize Flour	,,	164—166
Maize Meal	,,	110—120
Maize Cones	,,	172—174
Maize Germ Meal	,,	117—119
Pea Meal	,,	130—150
Bean Meal	,,	145—165
Rice Meal	,,	95—100

LONDON TERM MARKET.

This market is held twice a day, except on Saturday, when there is no afternoon call. The market is open to elected members only. No business except for future delivery is done, and the smallest quantity that can be purchased is 1,000 quarters, or 4,800 centals. The name of the month stands for guaranteed delivery (if required) on or before the last day of that month, and the following have been the prices per cental recently made:—

WHEAT.—Calls.	June. s. d.	Aug't. s. d.	Oct. s. d.
April 7 noon.	5 11	6 0	6 0
4 p.m.	5 11	6 0	6 0
April 8 11 a.m.	5 11	6 0	6 0
4 p.m.	5 11	6 0	6 0
April 9 11 a.m.	5 11	6 0	6 0
4 p.m.	5 11	6 0	6 0
April 10 11 a.m.	5 11	6 0	6 0
4 p.m.	5 11	6 0	6 0
April 11 11 a.m.	6 0	6 0	6 1
4 p.m.	6 0	6 0	6 1
April 12 noon.	6 0	6 1	6 2
To-day noon.	6 0	6 1	6 1

Maize opened to-day at 4s. 3d. per cental for April and May, 4s. 4d. for June and July, and 4s. 5d. for August and September delivery.

The Term Market standard wheat is No. 1 Northern Spring American sold on the Duluth certificate. Other sorts of wheat can be bought at the above prices plus or minus agreed difference between the other sort and the standard quality. Quotations are by the "true hundredweight" or cental of 100 lb. We do not give fractions of a penny per cental. The maize quoted is fair average quality from the United States.

The deposit required from members of the Term Market has been fixed at £50 minimum and 1s. per quarter margin on any purchases above 1,000 quarters.

The Term Market (while the "Baltic" is rebuilding) is temporarily situated at the Great Eastern Hotel, No. 190, Bishopsgate Street, ground floor.

HOPS.

The market must be described as strong. Golding hops are now almost unobtainable, and Sussex and Worcester are the best value offering.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORTS.

There was a fair inquiry for both malting and grinding barleys to-day, but stocks of both are small, and most holders are keeping back until result of Budget is known. There is no Californian brewing in London, but there are sellers at East Coast ports at 26s., 26s. 6d.; Chevalier, 30s. to 32s.; London Onchales, 23s., 29s. 6d.—all per 448lb.—WOODLEY, WATNEY, AND RICHARDSON (Mark Lane).

There has been quite a boom in middlings during the past week, and prices have advanecd another 2s. 6d. per ton, making a rise of 7s. 6d. per ton during the past fortnight. Pollard and bran are also dearer, but the demand for these is not so keen as for middlings. Mills are quite clear of all offal.—JOHN BAWCOMB AND CO.

The uncertainty existing as to the Chancellor's Budget intentions hinders business; but in sympathy with the American markets wheat has risen 6d. to 9d. since last Monday. Maize has recovered 3d. to 6d. from the recent depression. Oats, 3d. to 6d. dearer. Barley making 3d. advance.—W. P. WOOD AND CO. (Mark Lane).

Arrivals of wheat and flour are again small. Trade is firm, and wheat is fully 6d. per quarter and flour 6d. per sack higher. Maize 6d., barley 3d., and oats 6d. per quarter dearer.—COVENTRY (Mark Lane).

Trade during the past week has shown a gradually improving tendency. A good business has been done to-day at an advance of 6d. to 1s., both on spot and to arrive.—T. S. MEDILL AND SONS (Mark Lane).

Flour.—Buyers are taking up spot lots freely, anticipating a possible duty. Business for shipment for the same reason is being restricted. Grain.—Flat corn is unchanged; round is again 1½d. to 3d. per boll lower. Beans in brisk demand at 6d. per boll advance. Peas are extremely scarce. Barley unchanged. Lower qualities of Scotch oats in short supply. Oatmeal quiet. Mill Stuffs.—Bran firm; thirds are in better demand.—MCKINNON AND MCDONALD (Glasgow).

Offals.—The demand for bran has rather improved; prices, however, continue in favour of buyers.—GREENHILL BROS. (Belfast).

Flour.—There has been rather more inquiry and prices are firmer; trade, however, is somewhat irregular and unsettled in view of Budget proposals. Values on spot are as follows:—1st spring patents, 24s. 3d. to 24s. 9d.; 2nd spring patents, 23s. 3d. to 23s. 9d.; American winter patents, 24s. 3d. to 24s. 9d.; extra fancies, 22s. 6d. to 23s.—GREENHILL BROS. (Belfast).

BUTTER.

Thursday.—Devizes: 1s 1d to 1s 2d wholesale; 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. retail. Brigg: 1s to 1s 1d per lb. Driffield: 11d per lb. Penistone: 1s 3d per lb. Ripon: 1s 7d to 1s 10d per 24 oz. roll. Scarborough: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Wetherby: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Birmingham: 1s 3d to 1s 5d per lb. Kidderminster: 1s 3d per lb. Wellington: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb.

Friday.—Easingwold: 11d to 1s per lb. Grimsby: Danish, 112s to 115s per 112lb; Dutch, 106s to 110s. Helmsley: 1s per lb. Leeds: Danish, 114s to 118s per 112lb; Irish creameries, 108s to 114s; Colonial, 108s to 114s; York lump, 15s to 15s 6d per stone; ditto long rolls, 1½lb, 1s 10d to 2s; fresh butter, in 1lb prints, 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Leyburn: 1s 6d to 1s 7d per roll of 24ozs. Lincoln: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Otley: 1s 7d to 1s 8d per roll of 24ozs.

Saturday.—Appleby: 11d to 1s 1d per lb. Carlisle: 1s 2d per lb. Doncaster: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Grantham: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Howden: 1s to 1s 1d per lb. Lancaster: 1s 2½d to 1s 3d per lb. Malton: 1s to 1s 2d per lb. Pontefract: 1s 2d per lb. Retford: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Richmond: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Skipton: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Stokesley: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Whitby: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. York: 1s 2d per lb.

CHEESE.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Cheddar and Dunlops, 56s to 62s per cwt. A few lots of new fodder cheese have arrived. The quality is fair for the season. The trade are turning their attention to Canadians and New Zealands, which realise late figures.

Newport, Wednesday.—Quotations: Caerphillies, 52s to 58s; fancy dairies, 60s to 62s; inferior, —s to —s; Derbys, 63s to 68s; truckles, 68s to —s; and Cheddars, 65s to 68s. There was a good supply, a fair attendance, and a moderate demand.

EGGS.

Thursday.—Devizes: 20 to 22 for 1s. Brigg: 17 or 18 for 1s. Driffield: 19 or 20 for 1s. Penistone: 14 for 1s. Ripon: 16 to 18 for 1s. Scarborough: 16 for 1s. Netherby: 14 to 15 for 1s. Birmingham: 14 to 16 for 1s. Kidderminster: 1s 3d. per lb. Wellington: 17 to 18 for 1s.

Friday.—Easingwold: 17 to 18 for 1s. Grimsby: Austrian, 5s 1d to 5s 5d per 120; Egyptian, 4s 3d to 4s 7d; Danish, 6s 1d to 7s 4d. Helmsley: 18 for 1s. Leeds: 7s to 8s per 120; Irish, 6s 6d to 6s 10d; Danish, 6s to 6s 9d; Austrian blues, 5s 5d to 5s 7d; ditto reds, 4s 1d to 5s 3d. Leyburn: 17 to 18 for 1s. Lincoln: 16 to 17 for 1s. Otley: 15 or 16 for 1s.

Saturday.—Appleby: 16 or 17 for 1s. Carlisle: 16 for 1s. Doncaster: 16 and 17 for 1s. Grantham: 16 and 17 for 1s. Howden: 17 and 18 for 1s. Lancaster: 11 to 15 for 1s. Malton: 17 and 18 for 1s. Pontefract: 15 for 1s. Retford: 1s 4d to 1s 5d per score. Richmond: 16 and 17 for 1s. Skipton: 14 and 16 for 1s. Whitby: 16 or 17 for 1s. York: 16 for 1s.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

Monday, April 14, 1902.

	British.	Total.	April 15, 1901.
Beasts	1,440	1,440	1,040
Sheep and lambs	9,660	9,660	9,690
Calves	5	5	10
Pigs	10	10	25
Milch cows	30	30	80

Quotations per 8lbs (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.

	Inferior.	Second.	First.
Beasts	3s 0d	4s 0d .. 5s 0d	
Sheep	3s 10d	5s 0d .. 5s 8d	
Lambs	5s 8d	6s 0d .. 7s 4d	

Milch cows, per head, £15 to £22 10s.

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, 6; Eastern Counties, 1,100; Midland, Home and Western Counties, 139; Devon, 30; Ireland, 165.

In the beast market to-day, compared with last Monday, there was a decrease of 100 head, though the arrivals from Norfolk were stronger, trade, owing to a light supply at Deptford, was of a brisk nature at an advance of from 2d. to 3d. per 8lb., with an early clearance for fat beasts of both prime and second quality; fat cows and bulls also sold readily at an increase in value. Amongst the Irish arrivals were included 95 stores, for which there was little demand. These were quoted at: three-year-old steers, £12 10s. to £13 per head; heifers, two and a half years, £10 to £11 per head. The following are top quotations per 8lb. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day.	April 15, 1901.
Norfolks	4s 10d to 5s 0d	4s 5d to 4s 6d
Lincolns	4s 6d to 4s 8d	4s 3d to 4s 5d
Irish	4s 8d to 4s 9d	4s 2d to 4s 3d
Fat cows	4s 2d to 4s 4d	3s 10d to 4s 0d
MAG 3		

In the sheep market there was a decrease of 1,450 in the number penned. For lambs, of which there was a large proportion, trade was slow, at a reduction of from 4d per 8lb for best quality and 6d to 8d for seconds, even at which decline a clearance is doubtful. For wether sheep there was less inquiry, at less money; on the other hand, ewes sold readily at a slight advance. The supply included 320 Scotch, 3,450 from the Eastern Counties, and 830 from Yorkshire. Undermentioned quotations are at per 8lb (sinking the offal), and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day.	April 15, 1901.
7½ to 8-st. Downs	5s 6d to 5s 8d	5s 8d to 5s 10d
9-st. do.	5s 4d to 5s 6d	5s 6d to 5s 8d
10-st. half-breds	4s 11d to 5s 0d	5s 0d to 5s 2d
9-st. Yorks. clipped	4s 6d to 4s 8d	4s 10d to 5s 0d
12-st. Lincolns	4s 10d to 5s 0d	4s 10d to 5s 0d
10-st. Down ewes	4s 8d to 4s 10d	4s 10d to 5s 0d
11-st. half-bred do.	4s 6d to 4s 8d	4s 8d to 4s 10d
8st. Down lambs	7s 2d to 7s 4d	7s 6d to 7s 8d
6-st. Half-bred do.	6s 6d to 6s 8d	7s 2d to 7s 4d

London (Central), Monday.—Large supplies; trade very slow. Beef carcasses, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; hind-quarters, 4s 8d to 5s; roastings, 5s 6d to 6s. Sheep: Ewe, 3s 2d to 3s 6d; wether, 4s to 4s 2d; hind-quarters, ewe, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; wether, 5s 2d to 5s 6d. Pigs: Large, 3s 4d to 3s 10d; small 4s to 4s 6d.

FOREIGN CATTLE

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts, 424. To-day's supply, compared with Monday last, showed an increase of 75 head, and consisted entirely of consignments from the United States, trade for which was of a firm and steady nature, both in regard to tone and value, an early clearance being made. The best on offer to dress from 680 to 720lbs. made from 5s to 5s 1d per 8lbs, offal given in. A few beasts were quoted at 4s 11d. No sheep on the market. On Saturday 1,002 States beasts and 655 sheep were on offer, and met with steady trades at the following quotations per 8lbs.: Beasts, 4s 8d to 4s 11d; sheep, 4s 10d to 5s. The following were the number on offer on the corresponding day last year, with the current top rates: Beasts 1,,055, 4s 5d to 4s 6d per 8lbs, to dress from 640lbs. to 720lbs.; sheep, 1,589, 4s 10d to 5s per 8lbs.

Liverpool, Monday.—Demand fair for good quality cattle, at last week's top quotations; middling and inferior also unchanged. Sheep trade slow, but firm, and top quotation more general for handy weights. Lambs also better to sell. Beef 7d. to 5d. per lb; mutton, 8¾d to 6½d per lb; lambs, 42s to 28s. At market, 1208 cattle, and 4,716 sheep.

THE BALTIC, 1 p.m.

STATE OF TRADE.

Wheat cargoes are held for more money, but maize is not a strong trade. Cargoes of oats are appreciating in value, but there is no improvement in barley. Both beans and peas are out of favour.

BUSINESS DONE.

WHEAT.—Californian, 29s 3d, arrived; Californian, 29s, on passage; Californian, 28s 6d, prompt shipment; Walla Walla, 28s, prompt shipment; Australian, 29s 6d, on passage; Canadian, 27s, prompt shipment; Manitoba, 28s, prompt shipment; Bombay, No. 1, 30s, May shipment; Calcutta, No. 2, 30s, May shipment; Russian winter, 30s 6d, prompt shipment.

BARLEY.—Azoff, 18s 6d, May shipment; Odessa, 18s, July shipment; Californian, 23s 9d, on passage.

OATS.—White Konigsberg, 20s, prompt shipment; white Libau, 18s, prompt shipment; white Canadian, 19s 9d, prompt shipment.

MAIZE.—Caucasian, 21s, prompt shipment; Odessa, 20s 9d, prompt shipment; Roumanian, 20s 3d, prompt shipment.

LINSEED.—Calcutta, 50s 6d, May shipment.

RAPESEED.—Brown Cawnpore, 36s 6d, May shipment.

POPPYSEED.—Bombay, 45s 3d, May shipment.

COTTONSEED.—Bombay, £4 12s 6d, arrived.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—Good supplies of greenstuffs were available, and experienced an improved demand. A liberal quantity of potatoes sold to a moderate extent. A fair supply of fruit was on offer, and met a generally steady inquiry. Greenstuffs — Cauliflowers, 7s 6d to 10s per tally; broccoli, 4s; parsnips, 2s 6d to 3s; turnip-tops, 1s. 6d. to 2s 6d per bag; carrots, 2s to 4s; turnips, 3s to 4s; parsley, 4s to 5s; leeks, 2s 6d to 3s per dozen bunches; horseradish, 1s 3d to 1s 6d per bundle; forced rhubarb, 1s; field ditto, 2s per dozen bundles; Valencia onions, 5s 6d to 6s 6d per case; Egyptian, 5s 9d per bag; potatoes, 35s to 80s per ton; New Teneriffe, 12s; canary, 14s per cwt. English apples, 6s to 10s per bushel; Californian, 8s to 12s; Australian and Tasmanian, 9s to 16s per case; English grapes, 2s 6d to 4s; French, 2s to 3s per lb.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW.

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS.")

Trade in London.

At the Islington Cattle Market trade for fat beast on Monday was of a very slow nature, at a slight decline in value during the morning, but towards midday, and at the finish, was somewhat firmer, a few buyers from Deptford having arrived, enabling a clearance being made. Fat butchering cows and bulls meeting with more inquiry, sold to rather better advantage. On Thursday more sales than usual were made, at a slight advance in value. The Irish arrivals included 191 stores, which were quoted as follows:—Steers, three years old £12 10s. to £13 10s. per head; heifers, £10 to £12. At the Foreign Cattle Market the supply was the shortest noted for very many months; trade, in consequence, was especially firm, at an advance of fully 2d. per 8lb., the best making from 2d. to 3d. per 8lb. more than the choicest quality at Islington. From all reports, consignments from the United States for several months are expected to be very short, with probably a further rise in price. The total number on offer at both markets was 3,571, as against 3,618 during the previous week. The supply consisted of 1,720 British (increase 710) and 1,851 American (decrease 757). The following were the top rates paid per 8lb. (sinking the offal):—80-stone polled Scotch, 4s. 8d.; 90-stone polled Norfolks, 4s. 8d.; 100-stone Shorthorn ditto, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 7d.; 100-stone Lincolns, 4s. 6d.; 95-stone Irish, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 85-stone American, 4s. 10d. to 4s. 11d.; 90-stone fat cows, 4s. to 4s. 2d.; 100-stone fat bulls, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.

The sheep trade was practically confined to the Islington Market, and was of a decidedly slower nature, rates ruling 2d. per 8lb. in favour of the buyer. Ewes on Monday were dearer, but on Thursday showed a decline of 4d. per 8lb. Of lambs there was a full supply with a very unsteady trade, particularly so was this the case on Thursday. The total number penned was 13,655 (previous week 7,916), consisting of 13,000 British (increase 6,270) and 655 American (decrease 531). Best pens made per 8lb. as follows:—7½ to 8-stone Downs, 5s. 8d.; 8-stone Scotch, 5s. 8d.; 9-stone Downs, 5s. 6d.; 10-stone ditto, 5s. 4d.; 10-stone half-breds, 5s. 2d. to 5s. 4d.; 12-stone Lincolns, 5s.; 9-stone clipped Yorkshires, 4s. 8d. to 5s. 4d.; 12-stone Lincolns, 5s.; 9-stone clipped Yorkshires, 4s. 8d. to 4s. 10d.; 10-stone Down ewes, 4s. 8d.; 11-stone half-bred ditto, 4s. 4d.; 5-stone fat Down lambs, 7s. 4d. to 7s. 8d.; 6-stone half-bred ditto, 6s. 2d. to 6s. 6d.

Only 60 calves on offer; trade slow; top value, 6s. per 8lb.

Trade in the West.

The bitterly cold nights we are having, coupled with a piercing wind by day, is, in the absence of rain, greatly retarding vegetation of all kinds, and stock-owners are already becoming apprehensive as to keep prospects for the spring, especially on the uplands. Several times rain has threatened, but there it has ended, much as a good day's downpour would be welcomed, now that the sowings are practically at an end. Should the rain hold off much longer its absence is bound to very materially affect not only the trade in store cattle but likewise the great many sheep sales looming in the future. So far trade all round is exceptionally buoyant, and not only for fat things, but equally so for stores. Prices of milch beasts, owing to the keeness in the demand, continue very firm, and wherever milchers are brought out there are the buyers ready to secure them, and that, too, at good prices, ranging from £17 to £21 10s. for the more useful classes of young heifers, and from £16 10s. down to £11 or £12 for older bullocks, that will soon be "weeded out" from the dairy. Barriners, too, are equally inquired for, graziers with plenty of grass on hand being eager, with the firmness evinced in the fat bullock trade, to buy at what many consider a "stiff" price; though in scarcity of beasts making 12s. per score, there is a good margin for profit on most bullocks, dispite the fact that many are paying £20 up to £27 or £28 per pair; the more ordinary runs being an equally saleable commodity at £15 to £19. Future prices, however, will largely depend on the weather of the next week or fortnight. Young stock is also meeting a good inquiry, and at prices on the whole that farmers have little reason to complain of, whilst the demand keeps good. Store things are equally brisk for fat stock, bullocks especially; well-finished heifers and steers, of which a few more are now coming out, selling up to 12s. per score (or from £20 to £24 each); fat cows also quoted at from £14 10s. to £18 each (or 10s. 6d. to 11s). Fat calves, as much from scarcity as anything, have once again taken up their old position of firmness, from £3 10s. to £6 10s. being the ordinary runs for most of those now on sale (or quite 8d. to 8½d. per lb. for the best), and seconds 7d. to 7½d. Rearers are also dear just now compared with the prices that sometimes rule; the best make up to 40s., ranging down to 20s. or 30s. Porkers, too, found a ready sale from 3os. to 58s. (or 10s. to 10s. 6d. per score). Sows sell from £5 to £8 each. The foregoing will afford some indication of the present pulse of the stock market, and, as there is scarce anything left over at any of the sales in this district, we may take it that stock-owners are able to realise at a price that will at present admit of a decent living profit, and enable many to do what they are sometimes unable to do, namely, pay their way.

Trade in Scotland.

John Swan and Sons, Ltd., give the following as their report on above for the current week:—The number of fat cattle on offer this week has been large, and the quality improved with a very full attendance of buyers. An active trade has been experienced, and prices, on an average, about 15s. higher. Fat cows, a very large and good show, and they also participated in the advance. A very large supply of sheep, which met a slightly worse trade, at an average fall of nearly 2s. Lambs have been shown in large numbers, and many of very indifferent quality, the best selling at from 37s. to 40s., but one secondary descriptions down as low as 26s. Fat calves and pigs continue to sell at high rates. There was a large number of store sheep on offer, with the scarcity of turnips, and the barren weather. Trade has been slow throughout, and prices just in buyers' favour, with a portion of secondary sheep left unsold. There was a large number of store cattle. Anything of a good class met an active inquiry, and prices continue high, but secondary descriptions and stirks are difficult to sell, at very moderate rates. Milch cows, an average show, and the best class made an advance of quite a pound ahead, while the secondary descriptions made about the same money as last week. Quotations:—Extreme top price of cattle per live cwt., from 38s. to 40s. 6d.; current from 36s. to 38s. Mutton, from 7½d. to 8¼d. per lb.

Trade in Ireland.

The improvement noted in the previous market was fully maintained on Thursday last, even in fact of a large increase in the numbers of both cattle and sheep. Buyers, both local and cross-channel, were in good attendance, and in the early morning the competition for best quality beef was very spirited at a shade over last week's rates; for good second-class beef there was also a brisk trade, but coarse and lean descriptions failed to participate in the healthier tone of the market. Prime ox and heifer beef made from 56s. to 57s. 6d., and extra finished lots up to 60s. to 64s. per cwt.; second quality beef from 50s. to 55s., and inferior form 44s. to 50s. per cwt. The increase of nearly 800 sheep had a bad effect on the mutton trade, especially as there was a very limited attendance of exporters. For the best qualities of aged wethers and mountain sheep, however, there was a good demand, and no decline has to be noted, but inferior sorts were very hard to turn to cash, and a large number had to be returned unsold. Shorn hoggets were very much in evidence for so early in the season, but in the absence of shippers not much trade was done in them. Sellers sticking fast by last day's prices, prevented any noticeable depreciation in values. Prime wethers made from 7¼d. to 7½d., and cheviots about ½d. more per lb.; ewe mutton 6½d. to 7d., and inferior from 5d. to 6d. per lb. Light and medium hoggets from 27s. to 33s. each, and heavy do. from 42s. to 55s. Lambs were a bad trade, and in the absence of export buying, the number put forward was much in excess of local wants, and prices weaker all round. Small, thin lambs could be bought at from 16s. upward, and large fat do. from 26s. to 34s. each. Choice veal scarce and dear, at from 8d. to 9½d. per lb.; other sorts from 4½d. up. Not many choice cows on market, but large supply of other sorts. Best springers made from £17 to £21; inferior cows could be bought at from £9 up. Only a small number of stores in the market, chiefly yearlings, which met with a slow inquiry at unaltered rates. Country fairs appear to be on the look-up, and, with fine weather, they are sure to improve. Over 1,200 head of store cattle were sold by Mr. Gavin Low at his paddock, North Circular Road. For aged stock in good condition buying was brisk, but young cattle did not go so well. Some Scotch buyers took most of the polled cattle. In the pig market there was an average supply, and buyers were fair attendance. Business was pretty good in the morning, but got very sluggish afterwards, values, however, remaining unchanged. Best light weights from 47s. 6d. to 50s. per cwt, heavy 44s. to 46s., coarse and inferior from 36s. up.

LONDON.

Islington, Thursday.—Fair supply of beasts, and, as usual, the bulk comprised fat bulls and rough descriptions. Demand ruled quiet; prices unchanged. Fat bulls, 3s 6d to 3s 10d. Sheep in fair supply evidenced a slow demand at easy prices; 7½ to 8-stone Down wethers, 5s 6d; 9-stone, 5s 4d; 10-stone half-breds, 5s to 5s 2d; 10-stone Down ewes, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; 11-stone half-breds, 4s 2d to 4s 4d. Lamb trade dull, and prices lower; 4½ to 5-stone Downs, 7s to 7s 4d; 6-stone half-breds, 6s 4d to 6s 8d. Calves quiet, the best on offer making 6s to 6s 2d per 8lb. to sink the offal. Pig trade nominal. Total supplies:—180 beasts, 1890 sheep, 5 cows, 50 calves, and 10 pigs.

COUNTRY.

Basingstoke, Wednesday.—At Raynbird and Sons' sale yard there was a good attendance of buyers to meet a supply of 33 fat beasts, 61 calves, 777 fat sheep and lambs, and 52 head of dairy and store cattle, for which the following prices were realised:—Fat shorthorn steers made up to £19; heifers, £21 5s; and cows, £21; bulls, £16 5s; Welsh runts, £16 15s; polled heifers up to £23; fat Hampshire Down wethers made from 40s to 55s; fat ewes, 41s to 56s; fat sucking lambs up to 40s 6d; fat calves, 65s to £5 2s 6d; small, 20s to 50s; dairy cows, £8 to £17 5s. Biddings brisk, and a clearance made of the short supply of fat beasts, and full prices realised. A good show of fat sheep and fat lambs met the attention of a large number of buyers both from the locality and from a distance; best quality wether sheep maintained late rates; ewes were dearer; the trade for fat lambs was adversely affected by the cold weather, and prices lower. Dairy cattle met a slightly better demand. Store cattle of good quality met with more inquiry. Fat calves are scarce, and very dear. Buling values:—Best quality fat beasts 7d to 7¼d; second ditto, 6¼d to 6¾d; bulls, cows and inferior beasts, 5½d to 6d per lb; best quality fat sheep, 7¼d to 8¼d; second ditto, 6¾d to 7¼d; old ewes, rams, and infirm sheep, 6d to 6½d; three-month-old fat sucking lambs, 9½d to 10¼d per lb; fat calves, 7½d to 9¼ per lb.

Boston, Wednesday.—Store beasts, £15 to £16 10s; young grazing steers, £9 to £11; drapes, £12 to £14; in-calf cows, £19 to £21; heifers, £17 to £19; calves, 55s to 60s each; best beef, 7s 6d to 7s 9d; cow ditto, 6s to 6s 6d per stone; hoggs, 40s to 46s each; wethers, 7d to 7½d; ewes, 6d to 6½d per lb.

Braintree, Wednesday.—Messrs. Balls' had a full market, trade in cattle being brisk, sheep good, and hogs excellent. The pens comprised 57 bullocks, 123 fat sheep, 60 hogs, 400 Londoners, 30 store cattle, and 50 store sheep.

Bristol, Thursday.—There was a fair supply of fat cattle at the market, and trade ruled firm for best qualities at 64s per cwt; secondary animals sold more slowly at 57s. A moderate number of sheep were penned, and there was a fair demand for light wethers at 7¼d to 7¾d per lb; heavy wethers made 7d, and ewes 5¾d. English-fed lambs realised 10d to 11d per lb. Pigs were in average supply, and there was a good inquiry at 9s 6d per score for bacon pigs and 10s 9d for porkers. About 600 store cattle were in the market, but the cold weather and high prices resulted in a dragging trade, and a clearance was not made.

Bury, Wednesday.—At Messrs. Simpson and Sons' auction mart there was a very good supply of fat beasts, mostly of excellent quality. With a full attendance of buyers, a brisk trade prevailed for all descriptions, at a trifle over last week's prices. Large supply of store cattle. Good trade, at slightly higher prices. Ten capital steers, three years old, forward in condition, consigned by Mr. E. Terry, of Tostock, averaged £16 2s. 6d. per head. Ten polled steers, very fresh in condition, consigned by Messrs. J. J. and G. B. Marsh, of Hawstead, went up to £11 5s. Other lots fetched from £10 15s. to £8 7s. per head. Some well-bred Buckinghamshire calves sold at from £7 2s. 6d. to £5 per head. Fair average supply of fat sheep. Good trade for all the ripest hoggets. Medium weight fetched about late rates. Short supply of fat ewes, which were dearer. Rather more store hoggets penned. Black-faced ewe hoggets 41s. 6d. Half-bred keeping hoggets 39s. 6d. per head. Rather smaller supply of fat pigs, which met a sharp trade, at fully late rates.

Calne, Friday.—Present prices for prime pigs, in lots of not less than 10, on rail within 100 miles of Calne.

Prime Stores.	Thickness of fat in any part of the Back.	Price per Sc. s.	d.
6 sc. 10 lbs. to 9 sc. 10 lbs.	2½ in. and under ...	9	6
Under 10 sc.	Not exceeding 2½ in. ...	9	0
Under 11 sc. 10 lb. ...	Not exceeding 2¾ in. ...	8	6
Under 12 sc.	Not exceeding 3 in. ..		

—C. & T. Harris & Co., Ld.

Cambridge, Monday.—Beasts, 420; sheep, 1,102; horses, 6. Beef, 7s to 8s; mutton, 4s 4d to 5s 6d; lamb, 10½d to 1s per lb. A few good lots store beasts, all sold. Fat beasts: A fair show; trade better at late rates. Fat sheep: brisk trade at more money. Stores: A large number to hand; trade fair; all sold. Lambs: Fair trade. Straw and roots: Short supply.

Canterbury, Saturday.—The market here is not yet permitted to be opened. Movement of stock is now permitted by licence, but the flock of sheep said to be affected has not yet been slaughtered, as graziers strongly urge should be done

Carlisle, Saturday.—There was an exceptionally large show of Irish store cattle, over 900 being offered, but most of them were small heifers, the number of stripping cows and good heifers being smaller than usual. Owing to the cold weather, which has retarded the growth of grass, fewer buyers attended, and trade was quieter. Small heifers made from £6 10s. to £10 10s.; best heifers, to £14 10s.; stripping cows, £8 10s. to £11 10s.

Dorchester, Wednesday.—Good average deliveries came to hand. A full attendance, and, with a quick demand, a steady clearance was soon effected, trade generally ruling firm, with a tendency to higher rates for most things. Good beef made 11s per score; choicest, 11s 6d and over; and contract bullocks, 10s to 10s 6d. The best quality wether mutton made 8d per lb. if not over, and ewes 7d to 7½d. Best lambs sold at 9d to 10d per lb. Good calves sold at 8d per lb; seconds, 7d to 7½d. Light weight porkers, 9s 6d to 10s 6d per score; and heavier pigs, 8s to 9s.

Dublin, Thursday.—Brisk demand for choicely-finished heifers and bullocks at prices in favour of sellers. Other descriptions (easier) sold until local requirements were filled, after which demand slackened off. The very choicest qualities of sheep for home requirements made late rates. Other sorts lower, with a bad finish. Cattle: Live weight, best, 34s to 37s per cwt; other sorts, 30s to 33s 6d per cwt. Mutton: Dead weight, 6¾d to 8d per lb.—GANLY, SONS AND CO.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Bullocks and cows, 593; calves, 261; sheep and lambs, 1,701; pigs (fat and sows), 33; sucking pigs, 11; pigs (stores, not more than ten), 261; pigs (stores, more than ten), 69; horses, 9. Best beef, 6d to 7d per lb; wether sheep, 6½d to 8d per lb; ewes, 5½d to 7d per lb; veal, 8½d per lb; pork, 5½d to 6d per lb; bacon, 4d to 5d per lb; lambs, 1s to 1s 2d per lb.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons

report that the high prices of last week brought out a considerable increase in the number of fat cattle, but all were wanted, and the supply was by no means beyond the demand. The quality of the cattle was excellent. Trade was brisk, and prices very firm, ranging from 8s to 8s 9d per stone. Fat lambs were in better demand, and made up to 47s. The sheep pens were well filled, and included a good proportion of well-finished hoggets; a good demand was experienced. Grazing hoggets were rather more in request. Fat calves dearer. A large entry of fat swine, which again sold well, maintaining recent high prices. Several lots of well-bred stores met sharp competition, and realised excellent prices. Grazing cattle came to hand rather more freely, and there were more buyers. Cows were of indifferent quality. At the Drill Hall, 126 horses were catalogued, and met a good trade. Cart horses, to 48gs; Shire fillies, to 47gs. Numbers at sales and market: cattle, 697; calves, 34; sheep, 2,309; swine, 1,800; horses, 150.

Leicester, Wednesday.—Very good consignments of Lincolnshire and Norfolk bullocks. Buyers and dealers were well represented. Trade ruled brisker at an advance of 10s per head on all choice lots. Choice bullocks, 6¾d to 7d; secondary, 6¼d to 6¾d; heifers, 6¼d to 7d; cows, 5¼d to 6d per lb. Large deliveries of sheep, which met a steady sale at 7¼d to 8d for best; large sheep, 6¼d to 7¼d; ewes, 5¼ to 6d; shorn sheep, 6¼d to 7d; lambs very firm at 1s to 1s 1d; calves, best, 9d to 9½d; secondary, 8d to 8½d per lb.

Newport, Wednesday.—Quotations were: Best beef, 6¾d to 7d per lb.; secondary sorts, 6d to 6¼d; cows, 5¾d to 6¼d; best wether mutton, 8d to 8½d; ewes, 6½d to 7d; lamb, 1s; veal, 8d to 9d. Porker pigs, 10s 3d to 10s 9d per score. A good supply and a brisk trade.

Norwich, Saturday.—The show of store cattle was rather larger here to-day. The demand exhibited some improvement, but prices remained at about their former level. Fat beasts showed considerable firmness at 7s. 6d to 8s. and 3s. 6d. per 14lb. The supply of store sheep was good, but the demand was inactive, keep prospects being indifferent in Norfolk. Keeping hoggets were quoted at 32s. to 45s. per head. Fat sheep made 8s. to 8s. 6d. and 9s. per 14lb. It will be seen that the stir in the meat trade affected the market to some extent.

Rye, Wednesday.—Number of entries: Sheep and lambs, 400; store beasts, 6; fat beasts, 31; calves, 26; pigs, 24. Heifers and steers fetched 4s 8d to 5s; second ditto, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; maids and wethers, 5s 6d; barrens, 4s 8d to 5s; calves, 5s.

Salford, Tuesday.—There was a larger supply of cattle, and a fair trade, and last week's prices were well maintained. The display of sheep and lambs was also larger than last Tuesday. There was a good demand for sheep, and sellers obtained the prices ruling last week. Trade for lambs rather dull, and prices in favour of the buyer, last market day's top figure being obtained only in a few cases. Calf trade dull, and prices lower. Quotations:—Cattle, 5d to 7d; sheep in wool, 7d to 9d; ditto, clipped, 6d to 8d; calves, 5½d to 8¾d per lb; lambs, 30s to 50s each. At market:—Cattle, 2,489; sheep and lambs, 10,673; calves, 207.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—The supply was larger, and the demand was slightly better, especially for the best lots, which had a ready sale at £18 to £22; secondary lots made £14 to £18.

Spalding, Tuesday.—Beef, best, fully 8s per stone; cow beef, 7s 6d. A large show of stores. Trade was slow, some lots not being sold. Cows were in demand, and realised high prices. Sheep a small show, and late rates were well maintained.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There were on offer 128 cattle, 46 calves, 415 sheep, 8 lambs, and 181 pigs. A fair average show of the best cattle, but few customers, the prices realised being 8s to 8s 3d, rougher kinds 6s to 7s 6d per stone; calves 6d to 9d per lb. Big show of sheep, but prices were down; young sheep 8d, ewes 6½d, tups 5d, lambs 32s to 38s each.

Thame, Tuesday.—There was an increased supply of stock at market. Beef met with a very sharp trade, but mutton and lamb was easier, as compared with the last few weeks. Veal continues scarce and dear, and weaning calves sold readily. Bacon pigs met with a good enquiry, but store sheep and couples were in favour of buyers. Mr. Bond's sale comprised 42 fat beasts, 529 fat and store sheep and lambs, 70 fat and weaning calves, and 188 pigs. Fat bullocks made £17 to £24 5s; fat heifers, £16 to £20; fat tegs, 43s to 58s; fat theaves, 44s to 63s; fat lambs, 35s to 40s; double couples, 63s to 70s; store tegs, 32s to 39s; fat calves, £3 10s to £4 2s; cow calves, 23s to 60s; bull calves, 18s to 50s; fat pigs, 9s 6d per score.

Wakefield, Wednesday.—Although there was a bigger number of sheep and beasts, a good trade was done at last market prices. Choice young sheep realised 7¾d and 8d per lb, and other qualities from 5d to 7¼d per lb; inferior sorts from 5½d to 6¾d. Number in market: Sheep, 5,135; beasts, 1,334.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Beasts a fair supply; good trade. Sheep moderate supply; fair trade. Calves moderate trade. Beef, 5½d to 7¼d per lb; mutton, 6½d to 8¾d per lb; veal, 6¾d to 9d per lb; pigs, bacon 10s to 10s 3d per score, porkers 10s to 10s 6d per score, sows 8s per score.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Wednesday.—Beast supplies totalled 500 head, which is 180 less than on Wednesday last, and again consisted of shipments from the United States. Trade ruled firm, a sharp clearance being effected at 4s 8d to 4s 10d, exceptionally 4s 11d per 8lb, to sink the offal.

POTATOES.

Borough, Saturday.—With moderate supplies, the tone of the market ruled steady. Quotations: Scottish maincrops, Dunbars, 80s to 90s; Blacklands Up-to-dates, 45s to 50s; Lincoln Silts ditto, 55s to 60s; Kentish Up-to-dates, 50s per ton.

Goole, Wednesday.—Good attendance, with a plentiful supply on offer here to-day. There was rather a better demand for best Warps, but prices remained same as last week, from 45s to 52s 6d per ton for best samples. Retail price, 6d per stone.

Great Northern, Saturday.—Good supplies were to hand, and met a moderate demand. Scotch maincrops, 90s; Imperators, 30s to 40s; Hebrons, 80s; Reading Giants, 50s; Blacklands, 40s to 45s; Lincoln Up-to-dates, 60s to 65s; maincrops, 70s to 80s per ton.

Spitalfields, Saturday.—Arrivals were heavier, and the demand, although quiet, proved fairly steady, while rates continued at about recent level. Quotations: Best Lincoln Up-to-dates, 60s to 65s; Blackland ditto, 45s; Wisbech, ditto, 50s to 60s; Scotch, 60s to 65s; Scotch maincrops (grey soil), 70s; Lincoln maincrops, 80s to 85s; Reading Giants, 40s; and Blackland Gartons, 35s per ton.

COLONIAL DAIRY PRODUCE.

London, Friday.—Butter—There is more business doing in New Zealand butter this week, but prices have not improved as was expected. It is reported that this is due to some houses who are selling New Zealand butter on the "spot" at low values with a view of causing c.i.f. buyers to be dissatisfied with their purchases. They have not succeeded in breaking the market as they intended, values having remained firm. "Choicest" brands are making 105s to 106s; "finest," 104s. The Copenhagen official quotation remains unchanged, and is now 3 kroner higher than it was 12 months ago. The prices in British markets for "choicest" Danish are 110s to 114s London, 110s to 116s Manchester and other Northern markets. The arrival of Russian butter last week was 8,947 cwts., of which about 6,000 were Siberian, which is selling at 100s to 102s, and in exceptional cases at 104s. Cheese—There is a good consumptive demand for both Canadian and New Zealand cheese, although buyers carefully refrain from purchasing more than will meet their immediate requirements. The shortage of cheese is now undoubted, and the season will finish up with clean floors, and for old cheese high prices. These facts are already operating on makers who are producing fodder cheese for shipment from Canada in a fortnight or three weeks' time. There is no change in values from last week.—W. WEDDEL AND CO.

WOOL.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Kent fleece continue to be quoted at 5½d, and lamb wool at 4d per lb. It is doubtful whether any change will come about before the arrival of the new clip

London, Friday.—English—per pk. of 240lb:—Fleeces, Southdown hoggs, £7 to £8 10s; half-bred hoggs, £6 to £7; half-bred wethers, £5 to £6; Kent fleeces, £5 to £6; Southdown ewes and wethers, £7 to £8 10s; Leicester ewes and wethers, £5 to £5 10s. Colonial—per lb: Victoria, fleece, superior, 1s 7d to 1s 9d; scoured, good, 1s 7½d to 1s 8½d; scoured average, 1s 6½d to 1s 7½d; greasy, average to fair, 10½d to 11½d; New South Wales, scoured, average, 1s 4d to 1s 4½d; greasy, average, 8d to 9d; South Australia, greasy, average, 6½d to 7d; New Zealand, scoured, average, 1s 5d to 1s 6d; greasy, average, 5½d to 9½d; Cape, scoured, superior, 1s 5d to 1s 6d; fleece, average, 7d to 7½d; greasy, average, 6½d to 7d; Natal, scoured, 1s to 1s 1d; greasy, average, 6¾d to 7¼d. Cross-breds—Grs: Victoria, good to superior, 11d to 11½d; New Zealand, fine, 8½d to 9½d; medium, 5½d to 6d; coarse, 4¼ to 4¾d.

MANURES.

Liverpool, Friday.—There is a decided improvement in the demand for nitrate of soda on agricultural account, and spot prices are very firm, at an advance of about 5s per ton in anticipation of small supplies this month. Some inquiry is experienced for sulphate of ammonia, and at present rates of £12 2s 6d to £12 5s per ton for guarantee 24 per cent. the latter is considered by many users of ammoniacal manures the cheaper. The season for basic slag has practically terminated, and the more soluble phosphate, superphosphate of lime, is now in brisk demand at the following rates for the respective and guaranteed qualities. A fair seasonable demand is experienced for East India bone meal and kainit at unchanged values. Feeding stuffs are quiet all round, and in some instances values have declined. Prices as annexed. At auction, 1,120 bags American decorticated cotton-cake meal sold at £5 5s to £6 6s 3d, ex quay:—Nitrate of Soda, best quality, *i.e.*, guaranteed 95 per cent., pure, in bags, £10 15s per ton; East India Bone Meal, fair to prime, in bags, £4 2s 6d to £4 7s 6d per ton; Kainit, prime 23 per cent., in bags, £2 7s 6d to £2 10s per ton; Palm Nut Cake, prime, in bags, nominal; Linseed Cake, American thin oblong, prime, in bags, £7 1s 3d to £7 3s 9d per ton; Linseed Cake, English, prime, in bulk, £8 5s to £8 10s per ton; Linseed Cake, foreign, round, prime, soft and oily, in bags, £8 2s 6d per ton; Cottonseed Cake, N.A., decorticated, prime, new, in bags, £7 1s 3d to £7 5s per ton; Cottonseed Cake, English, decorticated, prime, soft, in bags, £7 2s 6d to £7 7s 6d per ton; Cottonseed Cake, English, undecorticated, prime, in bulk, £4 7s 6d to £4 12s 6d per ton; Cottonseed Cake (crushed), 20.25 per cent. oil, prime, in bags, £7 2s 6d per ton; Maize Germ Meal, prime, in bags, £5 17s 6d per ton; Rice Meal, Rangoon, as imported, in bags, £4 17s 6d to £5 per ton; Indian Meal, coarse to fine grinding, prime, in bulk, 12s to 12s 3d per 240lb; Linseed, fine bold feeding, in bags, £3 2s to £3 4s per qr, 416lb; D.N.S. Brand Superphosphate of Lime, guaranteed, 25 to 27 sol., in bags, £2 5s to £2 7s; D.N.S. Brand Superphosphate of Lime, guaranteed, 30 to 31 sol., in bags, £2 10s to £2 12s; Superphosphate of Lime, guaranteed 35 to 36 sol., in bags, £3 to £3 2s per ton at depot inland; Basic Slag, prime quality, 30 to 35 per cent. phos., in bags, nominal; Basic Slag, prime quality, 35 to 40 per cent. phos., in bags, nominal.—H. JONES LANGAR AND CO.

SEEDS

London, Monday.—Messrs. John Shaw and Sons, seed merchants, of Great Maze Pond, Borough, London, S.E., report a steady seasonable sale for those kinds of farm seeds required for immediate sowing. Fine English red cloverseed having become scarce, holds well its own; low qualities, however, meet with but little favour. There is no quotable change in either alsyke or trefoil, but white, which now shows a considerable drop from top values still tends downwards. As regards both timothy and lucerne, stocks have dwindled to quite narrow limits, and substantially higher prices are consequently demanded. Meantime, last week's rates are quoted for sainfoin and cocksfoot. Rapeseed exhibits no movement in value, as has been the case for many months now. Low quotations prevail for mustard seed. With respect to haricot beans, there is a better business doing; but blue peas continue dull.

GAME AND POULTRY.

Smithfield, Saturday.—Large supplies, dull demand, and business ruled slow. Quotations:—Fowls: Yorkshire, 3s to 3s 6d; Boston, 2s 6d to 3s; Essex, 3s to 3s 3d; Surrey, 3s 6d to 4s 6d; Sussex, 3s 6d to 4s; Welsh, 2s 6d to 3s; Irish, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; turkeys (cocks), 6s 6d to 8s 6d; (hens), 4s to 5s; goslings, 6s 6d to 8s; Aylesbury ducklings, 5s to 6s; country, 4s to 4s 6d; pigeons, 8d to 1s 2d; quail, 10d to 1s; wild rabbits, 6d to 9d; tame, 1s to 1s 4d each; Australian, 8s 9d to 11s per dozen. Dutch wild fowl: Wild ducks, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; widgeon, 1s to 1s 4d; pintail, 1s 3d to 1s 6d; teal, 1s to 1s 2d; black plover, 8d to 9d; plover eggs, 2s 6d to 2s 9d per dozen. Russian game: Capercailzie, cock, 3s; hen, 2s; partridges 1s to 1s 3d; ptarmigan, 8d to 10d; black game, 1s to 1s 1d; brown hares 1s 6d to 1s 9d; white, 1s 2d to 1s 4d each.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Hull, Tuesday.—Linseed: The arrivals are 185qrs from Bahia Blanca, 296qrs Bombay, 14,439qrs Buenos Ayres, 15qrs Catania, 25qrs Harlingen, 14,688qrs Rosario, 5,006qrs San Pedro, 2,015qrs San Nicholas, 15,451qrs Villa Constitution; total, 52,120qrs. The week opened quiet, but with small shipments of Plate took a firmer tone, and prices recovered 1s 6d to 2s per qr; but with the heavy Calcutta shipments the improvement has been lost, and the market closes dull and inactive. Calcutta, April-June, closes with sellers at 51s 3d. River Plate, 48s, sellers spot; 48s to 48s 6d afloat, according to position. Cottonseed: There has been more trade in this article since our last, and Old Crop sold at up to £7 spot; £6 18s 9d passage and April-June, which are still the values; and market firm to-day. A little New Crop, November-January, changed hands at £6 6s 3d, but buyers generally not to be found over £6 5s. Oils.—Exports for the week ending April 1, 1902:—Linseed oil: 2 Denmark, 3 Germany, 8 India, 15 Norway; total, 28 tons. Cotton oil: 160 Belgium, 24 Denmark, 30 France, 105 Germany, 142 Holland, 13 India, 2 Norway, 32 Sweden; total, 508 tons. The market is quiet. Linseed oil: 28s 3d spot; 28s 3d May-August. Cotton oil: 23s 6d spot; 23s 6d May-August. Crude: 22s 3d spot; 22s 4½d May-August. Rape oil: Jamba, naked, 24s spot; first quality, 24s 9d spot. Oil seed cakes:—Linseed cakes: Steady, and 2s 6d per ton cheaper on the week; demand rather better. Cotton cakes: Firm, at 2s 6d advance, with steady demand.—KEIGHLEY, MAXSTED, AND CO.

London, Thursday.—There was a considerable decrease in the shipments from the Plate last week, but those from India were heavy, particularly from Bombay. Shippers now appear to be more anxious to realise, consequently prices have declined. Spot Calcutta to London, 50s.; passage, 50s; April-June business done at 50s. La Plata on passage, 48s. Hull has advanced, and since receded about 6d per quarter. Calcutta, April-June, 50s 6d. La Plata, spot, 47s; March-April, 48s. To the Continent, Bombay, April-May, 53s 6d; June-July, 53s 9d; Calcutta, April-June, 50s 9d. La Plata afloat, 47s 6d; March-April, 48s 6d. Linseed oil has not fluctuated so violently as during the past few weeks, and closes at about unchanged rates. We quote spot in pipes, £29 15s to £30; barrels, £30; May-August, £29 5s; September-December, £28 5s. Hull naked spot, £28 7s. 6d., which is also the quotation up to August. Linseed cakes are steady. We to-day quote London made £8 5s to £8 7s 6d ex mill; American Western, £7 7s 6d to £7 10s; Russian, £7 12s 6d to £8 2s 6d. Cotton cakes quiet, London made £4 6s 3d to £4 7s 6d. Rapeseed is firmer, with more demand. Brown Cawnpore, April-May, 37s; Brown Calcutta, April-June, 36s. To the Continent we quote Yellow Guzerat, 41s 6d; Yellow Cawnpore, April-May, 39s 4½d; Brown Cawnpore, March-May, 37s 3d; Brown Calcutta, April-June, 36s 3d. Ferozepore, February-March, 37s 3d; Jamba, March-May, to Hull, 31s 6d. Cottonseed.—Alexandria has continued to advance, and buyers here have been obliged to follow, at the same time the high rates now demanded is restricting business. Passage London, £7; April-May, £7 3s 9d. Hull spot to April-June, £6 12s 9d buyers' November-January, £6 7s 6d sellers. Cargoes, May is held for £7 6s 3d. Bombay to Hull—A large business has been done for April-May at £4 15s, and May-June at £4 16s 3d; sellers now are holding for £4 17s 6d.—THE PRODUCE BROKERS COMPANY, LTD.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed cakes: Supplies of foreign continue light, and with only small stocks in warehouse, the general tone of the market is firm, with a good enquiry for forward shipments. Russians offer sparingly at 2s 6d per ton less money. Americans are in good request, being relatively cheap at unchanged prices. Calcutta, made in bags, may be bought at £7 15s, to arrive. English do not find an active demand, while crushers ask 2s 6d to 5s per ton under last week's quotations. Cotton cakes: In the absence of any fresh arrivals, values remain steady, and with a slightly improved demand, coupled with the high price of seed, there is an inclination on the part of holders to advance prices. Egyptians offer at 2s 6d per ton more money, which is the same in the case of English. Decorticated move off slowly, on slightly easier terms; and meal unchanged. Rape cakes unchanged. Maize germ meal: Very little American offers, and needy buyers are compelled to pay full prices of 5s per ton more money, while English is obtainable at 2s 6d per ton advance. Rice meal: Landed lots of Rangoon make £4 15s to £5, but a steamer parcel due the end of the month is procurable at £4 6s 3d to £4 7s 6d ex ship.

	Per ton. £ s. d.	Per ton. £ s. d.
LINSEED CAKES.		
London made ..... ex mill	7 17 6	to 8 0 0
American ..... ex ship	7 0 0	to 7 2 6
Russian, in mats ..... ex dock	7 7 6	to 7 10 0
Russian, in bags ..... ex dock	7 15 0	to 7 17 6
Calcutta	7 15 0	—
COTTONSEED CAKES.		
London made ..... ex mill	4 10 0	to 4 12 6
Egyptian ..... ex dock	4 7 6	to 4 10 0
Decorticated ..... ex dock	6 7 6	to 6 10 0
Meal ..... ex dock	6 5 0	—
RAPE CAKES.		
East India	4 5 0	—
MAIZE.		
English germ meal ..... ex mill	5 10 0	to 5 12 6
American ..... c.i.f.	5 12 6	to 5 15 0
RICE MEAL.		
Rangoon ..... ex ship	4 6 3	to 4 7 6
" ..... ex dock	4 15 0	to 5 0 0

—PINNOCK BROS., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

WATERLOO ROUND FEEDING CAKES, £6 10s 0d PER TON; WATERLOO ROUND 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES, £8 12s 6d PER TON. WATERLOO ANGLO SHAPE 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES, £8 10s 0d PER TON; WATERLOO 97 PER CENT. PURE EGYPTIAN COTTONSEED CAKES, £4 15s 0d PER TON. ALL F.O.R. HULL.

MOLASSINE FEEDING MEAL, packed in bags, of 1½cwt. each. Price per cwt., 7s. 6d. Price per ton, £6 15s., on rail at works, Silvertown, Essex, and F.O.R. Liverpool. A sample lot of 6cwt., in 4 bags of 1½cwt. each, delivered free to any station in England on receipt of remittance for £2 11s 0d

HOPS.

Canterbury, Saturday.—A fair amount of business has been done. Values of the few hops of choice quality remaining have advanced from 20s. to 30s per cwt. from bottom prices, and other better class produce is sharing in the improvement. Selected East Kent goldings are quoted up to 34s per cwt.

Worcester, Saturday.—Hops are firmer on our market this week, and for the better sorts more money is being asked. There is a scarcity of really good, useful qualities, and for these better prices are being asked.—PIERCY AND CO.



STOCK AND SHOW NOTES.

By Herdsman.

H.R.H. the Prince of Wales has intimated his intention if visiting the Royal Counties Agricultural Society's Show at Reading, on June 13. His Royal Highness will be received in Reading by the Mayor and Corporation, presented with an address, and then proceed to the show yard, where he will be welcomed by the reception committee which has been appointed. H.R.H. Prince Christian of Schleswig-Holstein has also promised to visit the show.

The Corporation of Southampton has, in response to a request from the Royal Counties Agricultural Society, decided to invite the Society to hold its annual show on Southampton Common next year.

The rumour that the Beef Trust, which was stated some days ago to have been formed in America, is likely to be followed by the establishment of a similar monopoly in this country appears to be entirely discredited in Smithfield. In the course of a conversation, a manager of one of the largest firms of meat importers has informed a "Daily Chronicle" representative that, not only is the idea of a meat trust in this country absolutely scouted, but it is not believed that one exists in America. "It is true," he added, "that the shipments of dead meat from the United States has been smaller of late, causing a shortage in the London market, together with a rise in price, but that is mainly due to the high price of American corn. This has caused the American farmers to sell corn rather than feed cattle, which take about three years to properly fatten in that country, although a much shorter time in this. Such a state of things is especially felt at this particular time of the year, when we are mainly dependent on America for our supplies of beef. At the end of the London season British meat will be coming in again, and prices will probably be lowered."

The American Meat Trust has, it is alleged, already caused prices to advance considerably. A year ago prime loin roast beef sold for 14c. a pound, while now it sells for 20c.; porterhouse steaks sold for 15c., and now sell for 24c.; bacon sold for 14c., and now it sells for 18c.; veal has increased from 14c. to 17c., and mutton from 9c. to 13c. These are said to be the highest prices on record in the United States. Undoubtedly part of the present advance is attributable to oats and corn shortages and to consequent rise in the price of cattle, but this by no means accounts for the almost prohibitive figures at which fresh meat is now selling. So violent is the outcry from all parts of the United States against the present scale of prices that it seems to be probable that the trust will abandon its intention to maintain high quotations. A legislative inquiry into the case is being demanded on all hands. That Congress can do anything is questionable, but action is looked for by the State Legislatures.

There is every prospect of the 1903 show of the Devon County Agricultural Association being held at Crediton. Mr. E. C. Norrish, a member of the Council of the Association, attended a recent meeting of the Crediton Urban District, by request, to give any information that members might require, with a view to their inviting the Association to hold the 1903 show at Crediton. It was stated that there was a feeling in both the urban and rural district of Crediton that an invitation should be sent to the Association, and an excellent site could be obtained for the show. It was pointed out that there was a sum of about £175 at the bank ready to be used, this being the balance of money, with the interest which had accumulated, that was not spent on the occasion of the last visit of the Association to Crediton. Eventually it was decided to call a public meeting, to be held on April 26—Great Market Day—for the question to be discussed.

A statement of interest to breeders of Highland ponies was made at a meeting of the Inverness Farmers' Society, last week, by Mr. Fraser Tytler, of Aldourie, who was out in South Africa with the first contingent of Lovat's Scouts. He said that the Government was about to take a practical interest in the rearing of the old breed of Higland pony. Professor Ewart has received a free hand from the Government in the matter, and the probable course to be adopted was that the military would purchase their three-year-old unbroken ponies, and thereafter train them at Government establishments. He had seen the Highland pony tried in Africa, and nothing could beat it. While other animals died like flies, the pony he knew refused to succumb till it was shot.

At Kansas City, on March 18, the herd of Colonel Nelson, a well-known Shorthorn breeder on the other side, was put up to auction in its entirety. The average obtained was very satisfactory, while some splendid individual prices were realised. As usual, imported cattle were favoured with most attention. The list was topped by Lavender Lily, an imported cow by Augustin. She was knocked down to Mr. D. R. Hanna for £320. Close on her heels came Miranda, another imported cow, that went for £300 to the same purchaser. Mr. Hanna also purchased the next highly-priced animal, which was Village Belle, a daughter of Prince Victor. The Belle cost Mr. Hanna £216, and was cheap at the price. The highest-priced bull was the imported Bapton Arrow, which was bought by Mr. S. Shelby at £150. The average for 47 females was a trifle over £72, while nine bulls obtained an average of £47. Another large sale of Shorthorns was held at Ireton, Iowa, on March 20 and 21. The only imported animal was Gladys of Dalmeny, and she fetched £240, a very easy price, considering her merits and the fact that her cow calf went in the bargain.

A very satisfactory report was presented at the annual meeting of the members of the Eye Colt Show Society last week. The year commenced with a balance in hand of £31 17s. 4d., whereas at the finish it had increased to £43 4s. 3d., so that the year's working resulted in a profit of £11 6s. 11d. Subscriptions, donations, and entrance fees totalled £129 8s. 6d.; gate money at the show amounted to £20 11s. 6d., and miscellaneous to £7 13s.; whilst all expenses amount to £146 6s. 1d. The date of this year's show was fixed for July 7, and it is to be hoped that it will prove as successful as last year, for it is deserving of success.

Colonel McCalmont, M.P., has offered the Wickhambrook and South Suffolk Colt Show Society the same ground at Newmarket as the County Show was held on a few years back, for their show this year, and, in addition, has given £25 towards the prize fund. As may be imagined, both offers have been gratefully accepted and the donor heartily thanked for his generosity. The date chosen for the show is July 11.

I have received Vol. XXVI. of the Polled Cattle Herd Book. This contains bulls 18682-20037 and cows 31231-33042. In all, there are included the pedigrees of 3,168 animals, of which 1,356 are bulls and 1,812 cows and heifers.

The herd of pure-bred Shorthorns founded by Mr. Raven at The Hydes, near Thanted, Essex, in 1889, is to be disposed of by auction on May 16, Messrs. Thornton being the auctioneers. The herd has, since its commencement, been carried on as a practical dairy, and not exhibited, the young bulls dispersed in the neighbourhood having already begun to improve the general stock of the district. Every animal has been bred on the farm. The stock brought down by Mr. Raven from Cumberland when he first came to Essex were typical animals of the Cumberland Shorthorn, being of large frame, hairy, and of good constitution, with excellent udders and great milking properties, some of the cows giving upwards of a thousand gallons a year. They were started on sound foundations from the stock of Mr. John Hunter, of Moresby Hall, and Mr. J. Bowman, of Sandwith, his famous bull, Borough Member 33186, being one of the earliest sires. Many other well-known sires have assisted in bringing the herd to its present excellence.

Another important sale of Shorthorns to be held in May is the dispersal of the herd belonging to Sir Walter Thorburn, at Orchardmains, Inverleithen, Peebles-shire, Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser, and Co., Limited, conducting the sale. The herd was first founded by the purchase at the Hon. Baillie Hamil-



THE SHORTHORN BULL which forms the subject of the above illustration is "Lord James Douglas," and was bred by Mr. J. Handley. At the Show and Sale of Shorthorns at Birmingham on March 16, "Lord James Douglas" was exhibited by Mr. Handley in the class for bulls over thirty months old, and succeeded in carrying off the premier award.

ton's (of Langton) dispersion sale of good breeding cow, Red Rose of Langton 2nd, in the year 1889; the purchase of a select draft of cows and heifers from the old-established herd of Mr. Muir's (Deyhope, Selkirk)) and from the herd of Mr. James Ingram (of Troup, Banffshire), four extra good cows; also a purchase of four selected heifers from the herd of his Grace the Duke of Buccleuch, Dalkeith Park. With the exception of four of the oldest cows, they have all been bred on the farm.

On Friday next Messrs. Mansell and Co. will dispose of a number of Shorthorns belonging to Messrs. P. A. and G. T. Evans, at Sherlowe, Wellington, Salop. The catalogue comprises 70 highly-descended Shorthorns, including a fine lot of deep-milking young cows and beautiful heifers bred in 1900, also 13 young bulls from 12 to 18 months old. The Sherlowe herd was established upwards of 60 years ago by the present proprietor's father (the late Mr. John Evans), who was recognised as a breeder possessed of exceptionally sound judgment. The herd contains many of the choicest families of Bates and Knightley blood, embracing the Oxford, Cambridge Rose, Waterloo, Barrington, Winsome, Sweetheart, Darlington, Craggs, and Foggathorpe tribes, and included in the sale will be the entire rear of two and three-year-old heifers (already prize winners), in showyard form, some of which are closely allied to the R.A.S.E. first prize Newcastle heifer, Lady Oxford Waterloo 5th, sold by the Messrs. Evans for 250 guineas. As is well known, Shorthorns from the Sherlowe herd have taken high honours in all the leading showyards, and it may be remembered that since the last sale—in 1898—no fewer than 19 first and 12 second prizes have been won by the herd. The animals are short-legged, deep-fleshed cattle, principally good reds or roans, in a nice, healthy, breeding state. The sale will commence after 12 o'clock luncheon, and for the convenience of buyers attending, conveyances will be in attendance at Shrewsbury, Wellington, and Crudgington Stations on the day of the sale.

The Edinburgh Show.

The premium list of the show of the Edinburgh Agricultural Association, which is to be held in the Hawkhill Recreation Grounds, on Wednesday, 11th June, has been issued by the secretary, Mr. James Wylie, Royal Bank, Leven Street, Edinburgh. The total premiums offered amount to £661 15s., of which £432 5s. is allocated for horses, turnsout, and jumping; £114 for cattle, £74 for sheep, £6 10s. for dairy produce, and £35 for naval and mounted sports. There are besides two challenge cups, special prizes in kind, silver and bronze medals, etc.

The classes for horses are practically the same as last year, except that two new classes for army remounts have been added, with liberal premiums. A champion prize of £10 is given for the best male Clydesdale, and anthoer of equal value for the best female Clydesdale at the show. The hunter classes are, as usual, liberally provided for. The premiums for hackneys are exactly the same as last year. The special prizes for hackneys are:—Challenge cup and silver medal for best stallion, and silver medal for best hackney mare. The premiums offered for roadsters, ponies, Shetland ponies, turnsout, and jumping are the same as last show, and the premiums offered are liberal. This year, for the first time, a champion prize of £5 is offered for the best Shetland pony at the show.

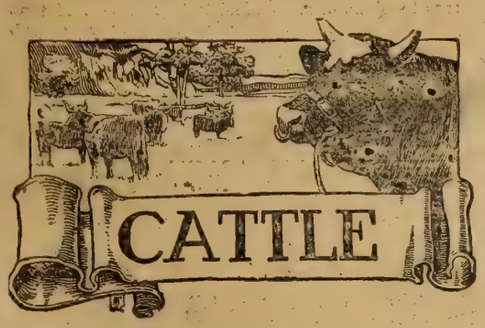
The usual classes for shorthorns, Aberdeen-Angus, and Jerseys are included, and no alteration has been made in the classes or the prizes offered. In the Jersey section a handsome challenge bowl is offered for the best Jersey. In the sheep section a slight alteration has been made in the classes for Border, Leicesters, that for aged rams having been deleted, otherwise the classes and prizes offered remain as before.

The following gentlemen will be the judges:—

HORSES.—Clydesdale stallions, geldings, and van horses: James Crawford, Floshend, Gretna; James Allison, Claylands, Ratho. Clydesdale mares: James Weir, Sandilands, Lanark; Matthew Marshall, Stranraer. Hunter brood mares and young stock: James Hope, East Barns, Dunbar. Made hunters, remounts, and jumping: William Forbes, of Callendar, Falkirk; J. W. J. Paterson, Terrona, Langholm. Hackneys and turnout: Frank Brough, 1, Margaret Street, Regent Street, London. Roadsters, ponies, and turnsout: R. H. Walker, of Hartwood, West Calder. Shetland ponies: James Duncan, Fern Villa, Inverness.

CATTLE.—Shorthorns: Alexander Robertson, Ballechin, Ballinluig. Aberdeen-Angus: George Bruce, Tochineal, Culen. Jerseys: W. G. M. Townley, Hard Cragg, Grange-over-Sands.

SHEEP.—Border Leicesters: Andrew Smith, Longniddry, East Lothian. Black-faced: James Duncan, Mains, Port Bannatyne, Bute. Half-breds: John Mark, Sunnyside, Prestonkirk.



The Waresley Park Shorthorns.

A sale at Waresley Park, whether it be of Shires or Shorthorns, is sure to attract a large and distinguished company. The sale of the larger part of the herd on Friday proved no exception, for breeders and buyers assembled from all parts of the country. Many of the animals offered are already well known in the prize ring, and others are promising for this season's shows. The first cow to make a good price was Red Robe, a first-prize winner at the Dairy Show, and one of Captain Duncombe's prize family at the Yorkshire shows; she was bought for 75 gns. to join Mr. Greenwell's herd in Kent, her sister, Ruby Rose, going to Lord Barnard at 100 gns. Riby Maritana 2nd, of Mr. Dudding's breeding, brought 62 gns., and goes to the Royal Farm at Windsor. The grand roan cow Warrior Queen, first prize at Cardiff (Royal Show), made, as was expected, the highest price of the day. She met keen competition, and subsequently fell to the bid of 180 gns. from Lord Calthorpe's agent. Acomb Scottish Bride, a beautiful roan heifer, of Bates and Scotch blood, quickly ran up to 150 gns., and was bought as were several of the other best animals, by Mr. Walpole Greenwell. Among the bulls, Manor Victory was considered the pick, and although now in his fourth year, he reached 110 gns., and joins the famous Warlaby herd. Messrs. Thornton and Co. were the auctioneers. The following is a list of the buyers and prices:—

COWS AND HEIFERS.

	Gs.
Lady Marjorie, red roan, c. March 15, 1889, s. Commander 54116 ..... Mr. Abrahem	22
Queen Regent, red, c. June 1, 1890, s. Grandee 60915 ..... Mr. Abraham	21
Bloom of Ryedale 16th, roan, c. Nov. 29, 1894, s. New Year's Gift 57796 ..... Mr. Kitchener	25
War Queen, roan, c. March 12, 1895, s. Liberator 64260 ..... Lord Calthorpe	45
Red Robe, red, c. March 26, 1895, s. Liberator 64260 ..... Mr. Walpole Greenwell	75
Her red heifer calf, c. March 31 ..... H. Lambert	22
Favourite Lady 9th, red roan, c. May 28, 1895, s. Lambert 64250 ..... Mr. E. T. Hooley	23
Her red bull calf, by Manor Victory 77189 ..... Mr. E. Hooley	11
Deodara 6th, red, c. July 15, 1895, s. Lambert 64250 ..... Mr. Kitchener	22
Tiara, red roan, c. April 14, 1896, s. Drum Major 66923 ..... Mr. Heley	25
Riby Maritana 2nd, roan, c. April 28, 1897, s. Penman 69237 ..... H.M. the King, Windsor	62
Warrior Queen, rich roan, c. June 13, 1897, s. Liberator 64260 ..... Lord Calthorpe	180
Sylph, red and little white, c. Aug. 2, 1897, s Liberator 64260 ..... Sir O. Mosley, Bart.	35
Gazelle, roan, c. Aug. 22, 1897, s. Liberator 64260 ..... Mr. W. Greenwell	91
Her roan C.C., by Manor Victory 77189 .... Mr. Tait	32
Belle of Waresley, roan, c. Oct. 14, 1897, s. Scorpion 69546 ..... Lord Baring	57
Wild Lady of Geneva 4th, red, c. April 28, 1898, s. Scorpion 69546 ..... Mr. Cooper	28
Daisy's Bangle, roan, c. June 14, 1898, s. British Type 68297 ..... Mr. Pledger	25
Imperial Rose, light roan, c. Aug. 7, 1898, s. Imperial Prince 70645 ..... Mr. Heley	35
Sophora 11th, red, c. Jan. 6, 1899, s. Sea Lord 12th 71572 ..... Sir O. Mosley, Bart.	38
Her nearly red B.C., c. Jan. 10, 1902, by Manor Victory 77189 ..... Mr. G. Harrison	15½
Bloom of Waresley, red and white roan, c. Jan. 14, 1899, s. Freeman 74583 ..... Mr. Greenwell	25
Melody, red, c. Jan. 17, 1899, s. Cato 66793 ..... Mr. Seward	27
Kiluran Belle, white, c. Feb. 16, 1899, s. Stephen Fitz-Lavender 73732 ..... Lord Barnard	33
Quickstart 3rd, red, c. Feb. 19, 1899, s. Basset 74040 ..... Mr. Tupholme	40
Sweet Duchess 2nd, red, c. Feb. 20, 1899, s. Count Barrington 72266 ..... Mr. R. P. Cooper	35
Lady Day, roan, c. March 25, 1899, s. Stanley George 73724 ..... Mr. Greenwell	35
Her red B.C., c. Feb. 10, 1902, by Manor Victory 77189 ..... Mr. J. Gill	15
Isabella Fitz-Lavender (twin to a heifer), roan, c. April 28, 1899, s. Stephen Fitz-Lavender 73732 ..... Mr. R. P. Cooper	20
Rhodora, red, c. June 29, 1899, s. Carlyle 65226 ..... Capt. Harrison	40
Complex, roan, c. Sept. 30, 1899, s. Scottish Beau 69552 ..... Sir O. Mosley, Bart.	50
Ruby Rose, red, c. Oct. 17, 1899, s. Lord Victor 77118 ..... Lord Barnard	100
Crystal, nearly red, c. Nov. 29, 1899, s. Pearl Diver 75203 ..... Mr. Raven	18
Victoria, red, c. Dec. 2, 1899, s. Lord Victor 77118 ..... Mr. J. Kelly	29
Acomb Scottish Bride, roan, c. Jan. 16, 1900, s. Scottish Beau 69552 ..... Mr. Greenwell	150
Satin, red, c. August 20, 1900, s. Warrior 78110 ..... Mr. R. P. Cooper	30
Wild Lady of Geneva 5th, red, c. August 23, 1900, s. Storm Signal 77973 ..... Capt. Harrison	47
Waresley Gazelle, white, c. Oct. 27, 1900, s. Storm Signal 77973 ..... Mr. Scott Murray	57
Queen Mab, nearly red, c. Jan. 1, 1901, s. Storm Signal 77973 ..... Mr. L. C. Paget	20
Lady Hild, red, c. March 12, 1901, s. Manor Victory 77189 ..... Sir O. Mosley, Bart.	50
Golden Spray, red, c. March 12, 1901, s. Manor Victory 77189 ..... Mr. J. Handley	24
Moss Rose, roan, c. May 3, 1901, s. Manor Victory 77189 ..... Mr. J. Kelly	50
Rhodora 2nd, nearly red, c. August 16, 1901, s. Manor Victory 77189 ..... Capt. Harrison	21
Waresley Maritana, red, c. Oct. 3, 1901, s. Manor Victory 77189 ..... Mr. J. A. Preece	26
BULLS.	
Sea Lord 15th 77834, roan, c. April 5, 1898, s. Liberator 64260 ..... Lord Baring	34
Manor Victory 77189, red, c. Jan. 3, 1899, s. Sebastopol 64808 ..... Mr. R. Booth	110
Crown Prince, roan, c. August 15, 1900, s. Magnetic 77167 ..... Mr. A. H. Hoton	19
Baron Geneva 6th, roan, c. Oct. 6, 1900, s. Magnetic 77167 ..... Mr. W. Shannon	17
Sea Lord 18th, light roan, c. Oct. 24, 1900, s. Storm Signal 77973 ..... Mr. W. Glover	21
Sea Power, roan, c. Jan. 16, 1901, s. Sea Lord 15th 77834 ..... Mr. Robotham	26
Victor Duke, red, c. June 4, 1901, s. Manor Victory 77189 ..... Mr. R. P. Cooper	35
Lord Oxford 6th, red, c. August 14, 1901, s. Manor Victory 77189 ..... Mr. G. D. Newton	30
Waresley Chieftain, roan, c. August 22, 1901, s. Manor Victory 77189 ..... Mr. E. Robotham	24
Baron Geneva 7th, red, c. Nov. 15, 1901, s. Manor Victory 77189 ..... Capt. Harrison	30
Steer, roan, c. April 13, 1900, s. Lord Victor 77118 ..... Mr. Greenaway	30

SUMMARY.

	Average. £ s. d.	Total. £ s. d.
40 cows and heifers	48 16 3	1,952 9 6
11 bulls	34 8 3	378 10 6
51 head	45 14 0	2,331 0 0

The Late Lord Rookwood's Jerseys.

The entire herd of Jerseys bred by the late Lord Rookwood was sold on Wednesday by Messrs. Thornton and Co. Unfortunately the pedigrees of some of the animals has been lost, and these, although pure bred, had to be sold without any record of their breeding. The sale included some good milking cattle descended from some of the best English-bred strains, and although no high prices were reached, they met with a ready sale, and the useful average of just over £16 was realised. The following were the best prices, with buyers' names:—

COWS AND HEIFERS.

	Gns.
Dusky 3rd, fawn Jersey cow, c Feb 19, 1902 ..... Mr. Hilliard	28
St. Ronans, fawn Jersey cow, c Jan 19, 1902 ..... Bishop of Colchester	19
Lady Salisbury, whole colour, c July 4, 1892 ..... Colonel Shaw Heller	16
Fancy, fawn, c Jan 9, 1895 ..... Mr. Kinderdine	26
Fussy, whole colour, c October 13, 1895 ..... Mr. Hervey Bathurst	30
Lucy Glitter, whole colour, c April 10, 1898 ..... The Ladies Hope	21
Useful, whole colour, c September 16, 1898 ..... Mr. Hilliard	27
Twilight, grey, c Feb 11, 1899 ..... Mr. Hilliard	19
Lady Cecil, whole colour, c in 1899 ..... Mr. Hilliard	24
Dawn, fawn, c May 3, 1899 ..... Mr. C. J. Hegan	20
Tiny, broken colour, c in 1899 ..... Mr. Hilliard	13½
Arum, whole colour, c May 13, 1899 ..... Mr. Kenderdine	24
Miss Fidget, fawn Jersey cow, c in 1899 ..... Mr. Hilliard	22
Fabric, whole colour, c Jan. 30, 1900 .. Mr. Hilliard	25
Lady Sheba, whole colour, c August 11, 1900 ..... Miss Jones	11
Fatima, whole colour, c September 26, 1900 ..... Mr. Hilliard	22
Down Hall Buttercup, whole colour, c Nov. 12, 1900 ..... Mr. Hilliard	13
BULL.	
Kay Lord Quex, whole colour, c April 11, 1899 ..... Mr. H. Dance	11½

Show and Sale of Shorthorn Bulls at Gloucester.

Messrs. Bruton Knowles and Co.'s annual bull sale at Gloucester April Fair, held on the 5th inst. in Gloucester Cattle Market, was, as usual, well attended, and good business was done. The entries were not quite so large as last year, but the collection of bulls was generally acknowledged to be one of the best seen at this fair. The catalogue consisted of 66 Shorthorn bulls, chiefly pure-bred, and from some of the most eminent local breeders. Messrs. James Peter, Berkeley, and Richard Stratton, The Duffryn, Newport (Mon.), were the judges, but in the championship the competition was so keen and the relative merit of the animals so nearly equal, that a third gentleman, Mr. Pybus, had to be called into the ring to aid the judges in making final decision.

In the first class a prize of five guineas was offered for the best Shorthorn bull exceeding 21 months old. This was won by Baron Peggles-worth, a roan bull, the property of Mr. D. G. Bingham, Shipton Sollars, Andoversford, which was eventually sold for 48 guineas to Mr. H. Van Beuningen, to go to Holland. This price constitutes a record for Messrs. Bruton, Knowles, and Co.'s bull sales. Ewerby Sirdar, shown by Mr. R. H. Norman, Box Farm, Newnham, was reserve and highly recommended, and was sold to Mr. Prosser, Cardiff, for 28 guineas. Mr. F. C. Ebborn, Northington, Awre, got a highly-commended ticket for Duke of Gloucester II., sold to Mr. John Fowler, Tirley, for 24 guineas, whilst Mr. C. A. Hewitt's Sea King, which was commended, was sold to Mr. Willis for 23 guineas.

The second class was for Shorthorn bulls exceeding 15 and not exceeding 21 months old, and three prizes were given. The first was taken by Weston Lad 2nd, bred by and the property of Mr. John A. Bloss, Burton-on-the-Water. This bull, a roan, calved in September, 1900, took all before it in the championship and special prizes. It gained the prize of £10 10s. given by the Gloucester Traders' Association for the best bull exceeding nine and not exceeding 30 months old, the property of a landowner or tenant farmer farming within the county of Gloucester, or within a radius of 15 miles of Gloucester Cross; the prize of £5 5s. given by Sir John Dorington, Bart., M.P., for the best bull exceeding nine and not exceeding 30 months old, the property of a tenant farmer farming within the county of Gloucestershire; and champion prize of £10 10s. given by the auctioneers for the best bull in any class. Still it did not realise such a high price as the first prize bull in the first class, being sold to Mr. Cullimore, of Mobley, erkeley, for 42 guineas. Other prizes and prices in the class were as follows:—2, Substance, shown by Mr. Charles Bathurst, Lydney Park, and sold to Mr. W. Archer, Morton Court Farm, for 30 guineas; 3, Mobley Prince, shown by Mr. G. F. Cullimore, Mobley, Berkeley, purchased by Mrs. Ind, Matson, for 25 guineas; r. and h.c., Mr. W. S. Dowding's (Longney) Red Robin, sold to Mr. H. Beck, Elmore, for 24 guineas; Mr. B. Read's (Enedgeley) highly-commended Beau Victor realised 30 guineas, Mr. Griffith being the purchaser; whilst the commended Lord Pearl, exhibited by Mr. D. G. Bingham, brought 23 guineas from Mr. W. P. Hill, Slimbridge.

The best Shorthorn bull over 12 and under 15 months old was Standish Beau, exhibited by Mr. H. G. Bush, Keynsham, Bristol, Lionel, shown by Mr. Andrew Knowles, Newent, being second, Mr. Knowles's Lord Rufus was third, a roan bull shown by Mr. Peter Stubs fourth. First Consul, Mr. G. Freeman, Sherborne, Northleach, reserve and highly commend, Angelus, Mr. J. N. Attwater, Cirencester, highly commended, and a roan bull shown by Mr. Peter Stubs, commended. The prices realised by these animals were as follows:—Mr. Bush's Standish Beau sold to Mr. P. Jenkins, Magon Grange, for 33 guineas; Mr. Knowles's Lionel to Mr. Wood, Arle, Cheltenham, for 23 guineas; Mr. Knowles's Lord Rufus to Mr. Dee, Pershore, for 26 guineas; Mr. Stubs fourth prize roan bull to Mr. Heanley, Wychwood, Oxford, for 25 guineas; Mr. Freeman's First Consul to Mr. W. H. Tremaine, Sherborne, for 23 guineas; Mr. Attwater's Angelus to Mr. E. Cullimore for 31 guineas; and Mr. Stubs' commended bull to Mr. W. Paul, Twigworth, for 22 guineas.

Four prizes were also given in the class for bulls over nine and under twelve months old, and they were as follows:—1, Mr. G. Freeman (Fascination); 2, Mr. W. T. Stevens, Ranbury, Fairford (Yeoman) 3, Mr. G. F. King, Chewton, Bristol (Chewton Cornelius VIII.); 4, Mr. Peter Stubs (roan bull); h.c., Mr. A. J. Ponting, Painswick (Phantom's Prince); h.c., Mr. W. S. Dowding, Longney Rufus); h.c., Mr. Wm. Archer, Norton Court Farm (Carlo); c., Mr. W. Archer (Hero); c., Messrs. D. and C. Savage, Wottonunder-Edge (Duke of Gloucester XII.); c., Mr. W. Archer (Red Lord); c., Mr. J. N. Attwater (Edwin). Mr. Freeman's Fascination found a purchaser in Mr. Rheam (on behalf of the committee of Barnwood House) at 29 guineas; Mr. Stevens' Yeoman went to Mr. A. Rymer, Chepstow, for 26 guineas; Mr. King's Chewton Cornelius VIII. to Mr. Pitman, Hill Ash, Dymock, for 20 guineas; Mr. Stubs' fourth prize bull to Mr. Crompton Roberts, Trelleck Grange, for 24 guineas; Mr. Ponting's Phantom Prince, withdrawn at 29 guineas; Mr. Archer's Carlo to Mr. A. L. Critchley, Hunt Court, Cheltenham, for 21 guineas; Mr. Archer's Red Lord to Mr. G. Long, Barnwood, for 20 guineas. The sale was a most satisfactory one throughout, the average price of bulls sold being £21 6s., as against £17 12s., last year and £16 4s. in 1900.

Sale of the Havering Park Jerseys

A large and distinguished company attended the sale of Mrs. Macintosh's herd of Jersey cattle, held on Tuesday at Havering Park, near Romford, Essex, the auctioneers being Messrs. J. Thornton and Co. The cattle had been most successful at last season's show, and were admirably brought out, the fine lot of cows and yearling heifers being much admired. The sale was held under canvas, and everything was nicely arranged for the comfort of the visitors. The older cows met with ready bidders, several of them making up to 40 guineas each. Havering Glarissa 2nd, the first prize heifer at the Royal Counties Show at Weymouth, sold for 87 guineas to Mr. J. Joicey, and the same price was also paid by Lord Winchester for Dusky Jane, who was by a son of Golden Lad. There was a good trade for the bulls, Butterman, first prize at the R.A.S.E. Show at Cardiff, making 66 guineas, to Sir Thomas Gooch, and Camaties Gem 70 guineas, to T. Fisher. Unfortunately several of the younger bulls were a trifle lame, and were passed. An average of £36 14s. was obtained for 43 lots. We append a sale list:—

COWS AND HEIFERS.

	Gs.
La Croix Primrose, nearly whole colour, April 26, 1892, s Golden Pink 4130.....W. Allen	31
Charlotte 6th, broken colour, c March 27, 1896, s Sir Visto 5728.....Lady de Rothschild	40
Pearl 4th, whole colour, c January 12, 1898, s Golden Fern's Lad 6235.....Lord Winchester	40
Silver Crown 8th, whole colour, c February 15, 1898, s Sion's King 5387.....W. Allen	21
Havering Carnatie 2nd, whole colour, c April 15, 1898, s Montpelier 5294.....Duke of Marlborough	38
Havering Buttercup 2nd, whole colour, c April 22, 1898, s Montpelier 5294.....W. Allen	40
Maitland Countess 5th, whole colour, c April 10, 1899, s Lord Nob 6311.....Lady Warwick	25
Little May, whole colour, c May 13, 1899, s Eminent 2nd 6546.....Lord Winchester	67
Ida's Lassie, whole colour, c May 22, 1899, s Bessie's Knight 6781.....Lady Warwick	22
Hamley's Primrose, whole colour, c July 18, 1899, s Hamley 6585.....Duke of Marlborough	24
Marianne 3rd, whole colour, c December 23, 1899, s Slip 6712.....Lady de Rothschild	25
Corisande, whole colour, c February 2, 1900, s Pierrot 6673.....J. Kimber	22
Fairfield, whole colour, c February 7, 1900, s Manager 6641.....Lady Smythe	50
Graphic 2nd, whole colour, c February 22, 1900, s Hamley 6585.....Lady de Rothschild	20
Ideal, whole colour, c February 26, 1900, s Advancer 6758.....Col. Shaw Hellier	20
Zenobia 48th, whole colour, c April 1, 1900, s Havering Glory 6888.....Sir T. Gooch	44
Havering Glorissa 2nd, whole colour, c April 14, 1900, s Havering Pride 6265.....J. Joicey	87
Damage, whole colour, c April 17, 1900, s Spring Jack 6412.....C. Tower	14
Firefly 2nd, whole colour, c April 20, 1900, s Advancer 6758.....Mrs. Murray-Smith	42
Havering Fairy, whole colour, c April 22, 1900, s Adonis 6456.....Lady Warwick	38
Rupee, whole colour, c April 27, 1900, s Orlando 6664.....T. Butt Miller	46
Havering Crown, whole colour, c April 30, 1900, s Nobb 6001.....E. S. Bowlby	21
Havering Carnatie 4th, broken colour, c May 1, 1900, s Adonis 6456.....W. Allen	11
Havering Pearl, whole colour, c May 4, 1900, s Mr. J. A. Perree's Flying Fox 6859.....A. Miller-Hallett	56
Theory 2nd, whole colour, c May 13, 1900, s Rush 2nd 7016.....Mrs. Murray-Smith	25
Havering Clementine 4th, whole colour, c May 27, 1900, s Senator 7022.....Col. Shaw Hellier	26
Havering Carnatie 5th, whole colour, c June 2, 1900, s Havering Glory 6888.....W. Allen	20
Havering Moon 4th, whole colour, c June 17, 1900, s Havering Glory 6888.....W. Gosden	25
Tiger Lily 3rd, broken colour, c June 19, 1900, s Bessie's Knight 6781.....C. W. Armitage	33
Louisiana Loo, whole colour, c June 20, 1900, s Bessie's Knight 6781.....Lady Smythe	57
Morning, whole colour, c June 29, 1900, s Advancer 6758.....W. Gosden	34
Dusky Jane, whole colour, c July 15, 1900, s Bessie's Knight 6781.....Lord Winchester	87
Havering Starlight 3rd, whole colour, c February 28, 1901, s Why Not.....W. Allen	11
Havering Carnatie 6th, whole colour, c May 6, 1901, s Why Not.....Sir T. Gooch	14
Havering Moon 5th, whole colour, c June 3, 1901, s Why Not.....R. B. Ward	30
Havering Forget-Me-Not, whole colour, c June 6, 1901, s Halburton's Prince.....Sir T. Gooch	25
Havering Primrose 2nd, whole colour, c June 10, 1901, s Why Not.....T. Butt-Miller	25
Havering Lassie, whole colour, c July 28, 1901, s Western Duke.....W. Allen	15
Havering Good Sister 2nd, whole colour, c September 10, 1901, s Halburton Prince.....T. Fisher	12

BULLS.

Butterman, whole colour, c June 9, 1900, s Adonis 6456.....Sir T. Gooch	66
Carnatie's Gem, whole colour, c September 15, 1900, s Adonis 6456.....T. Fisher	70
Zulu, whole colour, c May 24, 1901, s Why Not.....Candler	31
Hamley's Pride, whole colour, c June 18, 1901, s Halburton's Prince.....R. J. Streatfeild	33

SUMMARY.

	Average.	Total.
39 Cows	£35 1 7	£1,368 3 0
4 Bulls	52 10 0	210 0 0
43	£36 14 0	£1,578 3 0

White Scour and Lung Disease in Calves.

Strong evidence of the usefulness of the Irish Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland is provided in the report of an inquiry conducted under the auspices of the Board by Professor Nocard, the well-known French veterinarian, into the causes of the excessive mortality amongst calves in Munster. It is stated that the experiments were the practical outcome of a conference held in Limerick in December, 1900, in co-operation with the Limerick County Council, relative to the cause of the high annual death rate among young calves in the South-West of Ireland.

We reprint here for the benefit of our readers the net outcome of Professor Nocard's researches as given in the report. He has established the following important results:—

1. That "white scour" and "lung disease"—the cause of the excessive mortality—in calves, in spite of the difference in the seat and symptoms of these maladies, are one and the same disease.

2. That this disease is caused by a specific microbe or "Pasteurella," which Professor Nocard identifies with the microbe which in the horse produces pseudo-farcinous ulcerative lymphangitis, and in the sheep adenitis and caseous broncho-pneumonia.

3. That it is by the umbilicus or navel cord, and at the moment of parturition that the germs of the malady enter.

4. That a prophylactic treatment of the umbilical infection will succeed in stamping out lung disease as well as white scour.

These results, it is needless to say, are of immense importance. They place in the hands of the farmers of Munster the means, by the careful employment of simple preventive measures, of stamping out a disease which has long caused an enormous annual loss amongst their herds. Professor Nocard, in the opinion of the Department, has placed the agriculturists not of Ireland only, but of the entire world, under obligations by the most successful issue of his admirably conceived series of experiments and investigations.

The Department has decided to carry out the preventive methods recommended by Professor Nocard, and the results will be reported on at the end of the season 1902.

A Veterinary Surgeon on Tuberculosis.

In the first number of the "Provincial Veterinary Quarterly," which has recently made its appearance, there is a striking editorial article dealing with the subject of tuberculosis. The writer (Mr. John Howard, M.R.C.V.S., L.H.A.S.S., etc.), hold the same view as Dr. Hock, and, as will be seen from the extracts given below, he gives some strong facts in support of his opinion. After having pointed out that tuberculosis of cattle has been considered highly infectious, and that phthisis in mankind was said to be solely due to the consumption of the flesh and milk of cattle, Mr. Howard says he has been

We have in Hindostan 200,000,000 of Hindus, who by their religion are forbidden the use of beef entirely. No milk can be used from any animal, unless properly cooked. These millions strictly adhere to this rule of their caste, and would rather perish than break it. For thousands of years, even before the days of the Pharaohs, their ancestors rigidly stuck to these religious rules; the Zebu, or Indian ox, being, like the Apis of the Egyptians, a sacred animal, and much reverenced. Notwithstanding this total abstinence from beef and raw milk, we find that the great Hindu nation suffered as much from phthisis as any other under the sun, and in this we must include the Brahmins, or priests, who are not allowed to eat anything that has breathed the breath of life.

The Mohammedans of India, their neighbours, are large consumers of beef and milk. They are the most athletic race of the two; the Mussulman of India being far and away stronger, of greater courage, weight, and stamina; yet, notwithstanding their bovine diet, phthisis is much less frequent among them; thus showing that beef-eating is rather a preventive than a cause of phthisis.

The Jewish nation dwelling with us have in all ages been careful to eat sound beef only, every ox being carefully examined before and after slaughter, and the slightest abnormality condemns the whole animal. When passed sound, the forequarters only are eaten, the joints for consumption being first macerated in salt and water, then thoroughly cooked to juicelessness. Milk is little used, and when used must be cooked. The internal organs are forbidden as food. All mammals that do not divide the hoof and chew the cud are forbidden—tame or wild—and notwithstanding this unfailing supervision we find that the Jews are everywhere suffering from phthisis quite as much as their neighbours the Gentiles, and quite recently a big sum of money, left by a Hebrew merchant for charities, was devoted to the building of a large Jewish hospital for consumptives. Then why blame the ox and his products for phthisis when it is evident that, whether they are used or unused, whether they are absent or present, tuberculosis is always there, on the usual scale, with this never-failing result: that the beef-eaters and milk-drinkers always enjoy the best of it, in strength, stamina, and longevity.

It is certain that human phthisis has been a factor to be reckoned with throughout the ages, even before horned cattle were domesticated as we know them. It is the avenger of outraged structural and functional organisms, perpetuated by artificial conditions, which include all the grades of vice, riches, and plenitude, as well as the miseries of poverty, mal-procreation, and insanitation. Among the lower animals it chiefly prevails where anæmia, mal-nutrition, excessive lactation, exhaustion, insanitation, confinement, and unnatural conditions prevail, and these are general throughout the dairying districts. In cattle-raising districts, where milking for sale is

unknown, the animals live in large open crew-yards, and but little of this disease is seen, and when seen is imported from the fairs in dairy counties. The calves suck until they wean themselves, and are as big at one year old, as the half-starved calves from the dairying counties are at two years.

In concluding, Mr. Howard says:—If mankind has been infected from cattle, how comes it that the disease is rife among hundreds of millions, as I have seen it, who have never eaten of them nor their raw products, for even the butter is cooked and sold as ghee.

Particulars of Transactions in Store Stock.

Reported to the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland.

The fair at Mullingar, Co. Westmeath, on Monday, was a large one, composed almost entirely of first and second class cattle. The demand was very active for aged bullocks in forward condition, and they were all brought up early; in fact, a good all-round clearance was effected at prices favouring sellers. There was but a small supply of sheep, but enough for the demand, which was slow throughout, except for animals suitable for export. A good many hoggets remained unsold. Prices:—Calves, 1st class, £5 to £5 10s.; 2nd class, £4 to £4 10s. Yearlings, 1st class, £7 15s. to £8 10s.; 2nd class, £6 5s. to £7. Two-year-olds, 1st class, £10 7s. 6d. to £11 15s.; 2nd class, £8 to £9 15s.; 3rd class, £6 5s. to £6 15s. Three-year-olds, 1st class, £14 to £17 5s.; 2nd class, £11 to £13. Springers, 1st class, £15 15s. to £16 10s.; 2nd class, £11 5s. to £12 10s.; 3rd class, £9 10s. to £10. Sheep: Over 12 and under 24 months old, 1st class, £1 12s. to £1 17s. 6d.; 2nd class, £1 7s. 6d. to £1 10s. Two years old and upwards, 1st class, £2 8s. to £2 16s.; 2nd class, £1 16s. to £2 2s.

At Kilmarnock, Co. Limerick, on Tuesday, there was a moderate-sized fair, composed chiefly of young cattle. A good demand prevailed all round, and a satisfactory clearance was effected. Prices:—Calves, 1st class, £5 10s. to £6 7s. 6d.; 2nd class, £3 to £5; yearlings, 1st class, £6 10s. to £8; 2nd class, £5 5s. to £6 5s.; two-year-olds, 1st class, £10 to £12 10s.; 2nd class, £7 10s. to £9 7s. 6d.; three-year-olds, 1st class, £13 to £14; 2nd class, £9 12s. 6d. to £11 10s.; springers, 1st class, £15 to £17; 2nd class, £11 10s. to £14. Young pigs, 8 to 10 weeks old, sold at from 20s. to 25s. each.

There was a large fair at Enniskillen, Co. Fermanagh, on Thursday, at which a good demand prevailed for all classes of cattle in fair condition, especially for yearling bullocks and nice two-year-old heifers. There was dull trade for springers. Prices: Yearlings, first class, £7 12s. 6d. to £8 12s. 6d.; second class, £5 16s. 3d. to £7 3s. 9d.; third class, £4 10s. to £5 5s. Two-year-olds, first class, £11 to £11 10s.; second class, £7 15s. to £10 10s.; third class, £6 10s. to £7 5s. Three-year-olds, first class, £13 to £13 15s.; second class, £10 15s. to £12; third class, £8 10s. to £9 10s. Springers, first class, £16 5s. to £18 10s.; second class, £12 15s. to £15 5s.; third class, £8 10s. to £10.



Sale at Ipswich.

Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons' second spring sale of horses took place at the Drill Hall, Ipswich, on Tuesday, the catalogue comprising 124 animals from the studs of various breeders. They included several cart horses, and nine pedigree Shire fillies foaled in 1899 and 1900, which received a great amount of attention from the buyers, who were forward in large numbers. A brisk trade was experienced for the best animals, and a capital clearance was effected. The nine Shire fillies met a keen demand, and sold at prices ranging from 37 guineas to 45 guineas. The best price of the sale, however, was made by a cart horse sent by Mr. G. S. Clarke, Offton. She was a six-year-old black mare named Brandy, and she realised 48 guineas. Some of the other principal prices were as follows:—

CART HORSES.

From Mr. R. Cubitt, Haughley.

	Gns
Bay gelding, 7 years	25
Bay mare, 6 years	25

From Mr. G. S. Clarke, Offton.

Brandy, black mare, 6 years	48

From Mr. T. Bond, Framsden.

Chestnut gelding, 7 years	20

From Mr. Hy. Hart, Gosbeck

Chestnut mare, 7 years	25
Black mare, 7 years	30

From Mr. E. Johnson, Barham.

Smiler, bay gelding, 6 years	32
Smart, bay mare, 6 years	27

From Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons, Bramford.

Chestnut gelding, 4 years	23½

From Mr. F. S. Lewin, Holbrook.

Chestnut mare	18½

From Mr. G. Blake, Lexden.

Smart, bay mare, 6 years	23

SHIRE FILLIES.

From Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons, Bramford.

Bay, f. 1899, s. Calwich Guardian	42
Greyleg, dark grey, f. 1899, s. Prince of Worsley	45
Emley Depper, dark grey, f. 1899, s. Thornton Fashion	37
Upminster Scylla, chestnut, f. 1899, s. Monroy	45
Flower (32125), bay, f. 1899, s. Farsfield Head Waggoner	39
Roan, eligible for Stud Book, f. 1899, s. Sopwell Lube	45
Bay, f. 1899, s. Markeaton Le Bon	37½
Redlynch Marigold, chestnut, f. 1900, s. Nailstone Royal Highness	45
Brown, f. 1900, s. Marmion Harold	30

CART HORSES.

From Mr. W. Carr, Barham.

Bay gelding, 9 years	25
Bay mare, 5 years	30

From Mr. F. Brook, Henley.

Bay mare, 5 years	30
Bay mare, 5 years	30

From Mr. A. Hutley, Wigborough.

Brock, bay Shire mare, rising 5 years	23

From Mr. T. Grubb, Fingringhoe.

Bowler, bay gelding	16

From Mr. T. Woodward's Exors., Stonham.

Duchess, chestnut Shire mare, 6 years	40
Doughty, chestnut Shire mare, 6 years	42

From Mr. W. Cross, Ixworth.

Bay mare, 5 years	34½
Bay mare, 7 years	39



THE PEN OF LINCOLN SHEEP shown above were bred by Mr. H. Dudding, Riby Grove Stallinboro', Great Grimsby. At the London Smithfield Club's Show last December these sheep won first prize in the class for pens of three fat wether sheep of the Lincoln breed above 12 and under 24 months old. They were also placed reserve for the Silver Cup for the best pen of Lincolns.

SHEEP.

The Lambing Season at the Colonial College.

The weather has continued favourable for lambing, and heavy falls of lambs are commonly met with, a very useful fact, as, owing to shortness of keep, some flocks have been reduced in numbers. The flock at the Colonial College, Hollerby Bay, continues to make a good fall; from the 280 ewes lambed there have been 537 lambs dropped, or nearly 1.9 lamb per ewe. The loss of ewes during lambing has been under 2 per cent, and considering that well over 100 lambs came as triplets, the loss of lambs has been satisfactorily few.—W. J. Malden, Colonial College, Hollerby Bay.

Board of Agriculture Criticised by Warwickshire Farmers.

At a meeting of the Warwickshire Chamber of Agriculture, held at Warwick, on the 5th inst., Mr. Oscar Bowen's recent paper on the "The Board of Agriculture—as it is, and as it might be," was discussed, and the report of the committee appointed to consider the paper was presented. The report was as follows:—"(1) We (the committee), whilst regarding fully the valuable services which have been rendered by the Board of Agriculture, agree with Mr. Oscar W. Bowen that the *personnel* of the Board, as at present constructed, is not sufficiently representative or effective in action.

"(2) As a result of this faulty construction, we consider that the Board of Agriculture does not adequately understand or appreciate the practical difficulties of farmers in carrying out its orders.

"(3) We welcome the desire of the Right Hon. R. W. Hanbury, M.P. (President of the Board of Agriculture)—as expressed by him at a meeting of the Taunton Farmers' Club, and at the annual agricultural dinner of the Central and Associated Chambers of Agriculture, and the Farmers' Club (held on the 10th of December last)—to obtain all the information he can with respect to the practical wants of agriculturists; but it must be obvious to everyone that the present construction of the Board does not materially assist him in obtaining that knowledge.

"(4) We are of opinion that a properly-constituted Board of Agriculture would take a far more active part in organising agricultural experiments, which are at present carried out all over England by isolated experimenters, and which have not the same value to agriculturists that they would have if organised and classified.

"(5) We regard it as necessary that the Board should be a supreme court of appeal for, and national supervisor of, the agricultural community, and that it should be entrusted by the Government with full powers to promote such legislation as might be necessary to enable the Board to achieve the above objects.

"(6) We cordially endorse Mr. Bowen's contention that the Board of Agriculture would be brought into closer touch with the agricultural community, and rendered more effective for good, if the representative element were admitted into the constitution of the Board.

"(7) We are further of opinion that the Rural District Councils might be entrusted with the duty of nominating proper persons connected with agriculture in their districts to sit upon the Board of Agriculture; but we observe that even if each Rural District Council only nominated one representative, the persons so nominated would be far too numerous for any practical purpose. We, therefore, respectfully and earnestly suggest that each County Council should select from such nominated representatives of the Rural District Councils one member only.

"(8) We also consider that the selected nominees of the District Councils would form a very useful body through whom the Board of Agriculture might obtain direct information or thoroughly instructive and reliable advice in regard to any particular locality."

After some discussion it was decided to have the report printed and to send copies, together with Mr. Bowen's paper, to the Central Chamber, to be placed on their agenda.

Lynn Hogget Fair was held on Tuesday, when over 19,000 hoggets were penned, this number exceeding last year's total by some 4,000. The hoggets were uniformly of good quality, but were backward in condition, owing to the lack of feed. The attendance of buyers and dealers was not so large as in previous years, and throughout the day trade ruled very slow. The bulk of the sheep sold were disposed of at rates ranging from 30s. to 40s. a head, prices running up to as high as 53s. in other cases.

SOCIETIES.

Royal Agricultural Society of England.

At the Monthly Council on Wednesday, April 9th, H.R.H. Prince Christian, K.G. (President), was in the chair. The minutes of the last meeting of the Council, held on March 5th, 1902, having been taken as read and approved, the election of the following Governor and thirty members was proceeded with:—

GOVERNOR.

Radnor, Earl of, Longford Castle, Salisbury.

MEMBERS.

Barlow, Frederick, White House, Rothwell, Kettering.
Bickham, Harry S. H., Underdown, Ledbury, Herefordshire.
Cassel, Sir Ernest, K.C.M.G., Moulton Paddocks, Newmarket.
Chirnside, George Thomas, Werribee Park, Victoria, Australia.
Fowler, George H., Basford Hall, Nottingham.
Frost, George Harwood, 63, Queen Victoria Street, E.C.
Gaddum, Arthur, Bowden, Cheshire.
Hargreaves, John, Thorncliffe, Wilpshire, near Blackburn.
Harvey, Harry, Stretton-on-Dunsmore, Rugby.
Haywood, William Matthews, Westfield House, near Hereford.
Holt, Philip Henry, Crofton, Aigburth, Liverpool.
Horton, Henry Anson, Catton Hall, Burton-on-Trent.
Infield, H. J., Sylvan Lodge, Brighton.
Kouleschoff, Professor Paul Nicholaievitch, Smolensky Boulevard, Moscow.
Lloyd, H. C., Mobberley Hall, Knutsford.
Lloyd, Thomas Owen, Budbrooke House, near Warwick.
Lund, Wilhelm, Cromlix, Chislehurst, Kent.
Mackenzie, Kenneth J. J., S.E. Agricultural College, Wye, Kent.
McMullen, Norman, Bengeo, Herts.
Maling, C. T., 14, Ellison Place, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
Norman, Mrs. Nora, Oakley, Bromley Common, Kent.
Page, Herbert, Hertford.
Pulley, Charles T., Lower Eaton, Hereford.
Rickerby, Joseph, 37, Botchergate, Carlisle.
Sanday, Samuel, Knolle Park, Woolton, Liverpool.
Siddle, John H., Crown Hotel, Penrith.
Stanning, John, Broadfield, Leyland, Preston.
Sykes, Captain Harold Platt, Cringle House, Cheadle, Cheshire.
Thatcher, Charles F., Lady's Well Brewery, Cork.
Thompson, William, Inglewood, Penrith.

The reports of the various standing committees were then presented and adopted as below:—

Finance.

Sir Nigel Kingscote (Chairman) reported that the accounts for the month of March, 1902, as certified by the Society's Accountants, showed total receipts amounting to £4,044 2s. 2d., and expenditure to £2,608 4s. 6d. Accounts amounting in all to £1,807 18s. 10d. had been passed, and were recommended for payment. The Committee laid upon the table the balance-sheet for the year 1901, as finally audited by the Society's Accountants, Messrs. Welton, Jones, and Co., and the three auditors appointed by the members, Messrs. Jonas M. Webb, Hubert J. Greenwood, and Newell P. Squarey. This balance-sheet, with the appended statements of ordinary and show receipts and expenditure, would be printed and circulated amongst the members of the Society, with the report of the Council to be presented at the anniversary general meeting to be held on the 22nd May next.

The quarterly statement of subscriptions, arrears, and property on March 31st, 1902, was also laid upon the table. The Committee had made further progress in removing from the registers the names of those members of the Society who had resigned or had from various causes ceased to pay their subscriptions, or who were deceased. The Committee regretted to report the death of Major William Sparks, of Crewkerne, who had been associated with the Society before the granting of its charter in 1840, and was in fact its senior member, having been elected a member of the English Agricultural Society on June 6th, 1838. Major Sparks died at Crewkerne on the 20th March, 1902, having nearly completed his ninety-first year.

House.

The Committee recommended that the thanks of the Society be sent to Miss Emily Dew for her presentation to the Society of an oil-painting of her great-uncle, the late Mr. John Monkhouse, a well-known breeder of Hereford cattle.

Journal.

Sir John Thorold (Chairman) reported the publication of the fifth edition of Sir George Brown's pamphlet on "Dentition as Indicative of the Age of the Animals of the Farm," and of a fourth and enlarged edition of the same author's pamphlet on "The Structure of the Horse's Foot and Principles of Shoeing."

Chemical and Woburn.

Mr. Bowen-Jones (Chairman) reported the Committee's recommendations on the conduct of the Society's field and feeding experiments at Woburn, and stated that both himself and the Society's consulting chemist had given evidence before the Poisons Committee of the Privy Council on March 12th, 1902, with regard to the sale of agricultural and horticultural preparations containing poisonous substances.

The Committee, in calling attention to an important decision by manufacturers of linseed cake, reminded the Council that for many years past the Society had endeavoured to impress upon its members the necessity of buying linseed cake under the simple guarantee of its being "pure and in good condition." The Council had repeatedly pointed out that guarantees such as "95 per cent. pure," "made of linseed of 95 per cent. purity," etc., afforded no security whatever to the purchaser, as they left out of account what the other 5 per cent. might be, and did not prevent the subsequent admixture of other ingredients.

Difficulties arising from this state of matters had been felt, not only by direct purchasers of linseed cake for use on their own farms, but by the numerous merchants and vendors of cake, not themselves manufacturers, throughout the country. This had resulted in a communication recently addressed to the British Oil and Cake Mills, Ltd. (an organisation comprising and controlling about one half of the principal firms of cake manufacturers in different parts of the country), which set out the difficulties under which merchants laboured, and asked whether the "95 per cent. purity" standard might not be done away with, and one of "pure" substituted for it.

From the correspondence it would appear that in some quarters it was by no means uncommon to find that after seed had been purchased on the "95 per cent. pure" basis, rape or other seed was mixed with it before the cake was made, and that, if seed bought on the "95 per cent." basis proved to be of 98 per cent. or 99 per cent. purity, it was not infrequently the custom with certain crushers to mix rape, etc., with it in order to bring it down to the "95 per cent." standard. Hence, those whose business it was to distribute cake were placed in a very uncertain position. The difficulty, they maintained, would be removed if the "95 per cent." standard were given up, and a standard of "pure" substituted for it.

The British Oil and Cake Mills, Ltd., had now decided that, so far as the branches under their control were concerned, they would give up the use of the "95 per cent." guarantee, and conform to the recommendations given by the Royal Agricultural Society of England, which were to the effect that linseed cake should be sold as "pure and in good condition."

The following were the requirements which a linseed cake should satisfy in order to be fairly termed a pure one, as mentioned in the Annual Report for 1887 of the Society's Consulting Chemist (Journal, Vol. for 1888, p. 301):—

1. That it be made from sound seed of not less than 95 per cent. purity, subsequently well screened.
2. That it contain no ingredients of a poisonous or deleterious nature.
3. That it be entirely free from admixture of any kind.
4. That it contain not more than 2 per cent of sand.
5. That it be sold in good merchantable condition.

The Committee regarded it as satisfactory that the Society's recommendations with regard to guarantee of purity would in future be accepted by the trade, for it had been pointed out over and over again that such a description as "95 per cent. pure" afforded no real security to the purchaser, and in no way served to discriminate between the honest and the "doubtful" manufacturer.

If, however, the manufacturers would agree to sell under the name "Linseed Cake," such cake only as could be reasonably guaranteed "pure and in good condition," a great point would be gained alike for the purchaser and the honest manufacturer; and, moreover, experience of several years past had shown clearly that the requirements of the Royal Agricultural Society of England could be readily complied with.

The consulting chemist had presented a report on various cases of adulteration, which the Committee recommended for publication with the proceedings.

Botanical and zoological.

Mr. Wheeler (Chairman) presented reports by the Society's Consulting Botanist (Mr. W. Carruthers, F.R.S.) and by the Zoologist (Mr. Cecil Warburton).

Testing Farm Seeds.

The committee had given careful consideration to a letter from the Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland, as to the testing of farm seeds, and were of opinion that it would be desirable for a conference of representatives of both societies to be held with the view of ascertaining whether it would be possible for the two societies to agree upon a common line of action with reference to this matter, and upon uniform methods of testing the seeds and reporting the results.

The committee recommended that a letter of thanks be addressed to the United States Department of Agriculture for their courtesy in forwarding samples of American clover seed for the purpose of the society's proposed experiments at Woburn on the comparative value of English and American clover seed. They also recommended the purchase of a set of Professor Percival's specimens of the varieties of the chief European cereals.

SWINE FEVER.—The recent returns indicate a considerable decline in the prevalence of this disease. The total outbreaks reported during the last four weeks were 109, as against 286 in the same period of last year.

FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE.—It is greatly to be regretted that this disease has again appeared, an outbreak having been discovered in the county of Kent, near Canterbury, in the last week in March. The animals first attacked were sheep, but since then the only two cattle on the farm have also contracted the disease. So far as is known, the source of the infection has not been traced.

RESEARCH LABORATORY.—During the month of March fifty-four morbid specimens were forwarded to the Royal Veterinary College for examination. These included the usual variety of diseased conditions, and one very rare case, viz., of tuberculosis in a sheep. Reports which have reached the laboratory show that in some parts of Wales rather serious losses from the disease caused by the Oestrus ovis have recently occurred amongst sheep.

Copies were laid upon the table of the annual report for 1901 of the Principal of the Royal Veterinary College, which had been printed and circulated in accordance with the directions given at the last meeting of the Council.

Stock Prizes and Judges' Selection Committees.

Mr. Sanday (chairman), in presenting reports from these committees, stated that the necessary instructions had been given for the completion of judges of live stock, poultry, and produce for the Carlisle meeting. A list of the gentlemen appointed will be found in another column.

Implement.

Mr. Sanday reported the receipt of 53 entries of "new implements" for the Carlisle meeting, and stated that the Allotment Committee had met on Easter Monday, the 31st March, and had allotted space in the showyard as follows, the number of separate stands being 338:—

Ordinary shedding	6,319 feet
Machinery	2,079 ,,
Special shedding	2,304 ,,
Total	10,702 ,,

General Carlisle.

The Earl of Derby (chairman) reported progress in the settlement of details connected with the programme for the society's meeting, to be held at Carlisle from July 5th to 11th next. The local committee had kindly undertaken to expedite the construction of the bridge across the River Caldew.

Showyard Works.

Sir Jacob Wilson (chairman) reported that a considerable portion of the implement shedding had been erected, the framework of the dairy was being constructed, and the pavilions were in a forward state. The local committee had laid the water main into the show-yard, and the sleeper roads were in progress. The committee recommended that Messrs. Harrison and Son, of Carlisle, be appointed auctioneers for the sale of timber after the Carlisle meeting, and that the sales be held on July 31st, August 1st, 14th, 15th, 28th, and 29th, 1902.

Selection.

Sir John Thorold (chairman) reported that a preliminary impression of the design for the society's new medal had been submitted, and that directions had been given for a number of the medals to be struck in silver. Copies of the new design for the diploma of honorary membership of the society being now ready, the committee recommended that the society's seal be affixed to the diplomas of the five new honorary members who were elected in 1901.

On the motion of Sir John Thorold, seconded by Sir Nigel Kingscote, it was then formally resolved that the society's seal be affixed to the diplomas of honorary membership of Prof. B. Bang, Mr. A. C. Cope, Prof. Cossar Ewart, Prof. McFadyean, and Dr. D. E. Salmon.

Education.

Lord Moreton (chairman) reported that sixty-nine entries has been received for the forthcoming examination for the National Diploma in Agriculture, to be held by the National Agricultural Examination Board at the Yorkshire College, Leeds, from May 5th to 8th, 1902. Fifty-two entries had been made for Part I. of the Examination, and seventeen for Part II., the latter having previously passed Part I.

Dairy.

The Earl of Derby reported the committee's arangements for the dairy at the Carlisle meeting, including the supply of cream and ice for the butter-making competitions, and for the trial (if necessary) of new dairy implements entered for the Society's silver medals.

Site Committee.

Mr. Crutchley (chairman) said that although the Site Committee had no formal report to make on that occasion, he might mention that good progress was being made with the work of fencing, draining, and levelling the Society's new permanent showyard in the Metropolis, and that with the co-operation of the railway and other authorities there was every reason to hope that the show of 1903 would be held on the new site at the usual time for holding the show, viz., the week after Ascot.

Presentation of Reports of Committes.

Mr. Stanyforth, pursuant to notice, moved, "That in future the minutes of the several committees be read by the secretary to the Council." He ventured to make this motion because he thought it would be of benefit, not only to the

chairmen of the several committees, but also to the general body of the Council. It was the universal practice in all other assemblies for the secretary to read the minutes, and he did not know why an agricultural community should adopt any other course. He would not for one moment desire to suggest that if the reports were read in future by the secretary, the chairmen of the committees themselves should be absent. What he suggested was that the chairmen should still sign and move their reports, and that they should add any explanations which were thought necessary, as usual. If his motion were adopted, he believed it would prove to be conducive to the better carrying out of the work of the Society.

Mr. Victor Cavendish, M.P., having formally seconded the motion,

Sir Nigel Kingscote expressed himself as in favour of Mr. Stanyforth's proposition, but was of opinion that it was very important that the interest of the chairmen in the work of their committees should be strictly safeguarded, and that the chairmen should themselves move the adoption of the various reports.

Sir Jacob Wilson thought that a great deal might be said both for and against the proposal, but he felt strongly that it would be a convenience to the chairman of committees, and of benefit to the Council, if the reports were read by their secretary. He fully agreed, however, with Sir Nigel Kingscote that the chairmen of committees should not give up any of their other functions in connection with the presentation of reports.

H.R.H. the President then put the motion, and it was carried unanimously.

Miscellaneous.

The secretary said he had received a letter from the Hungarian Agricultural Commissioner in this country, giving particulars of an excursion which was being organised under the auspices of the Hungarian Ministry of Agriculture to visit the great horse-breeding establishments at Mezoheyges, Kisber, and Babolna, and other breeding studs and herds, during the second half of May next. Full particulars of this excursion might be obtained from Herr Endre György, 22, Laurence Pountney Lane, E.C.

Date of Next Meeting.

The Council adjourned until Wednesday, May 7th, 1902, at 12 noon.

Royal Counties.

A council meetin gof the Royal Counties' Agricultural Society was held at the Town Hall, Basingstoke, on the 4th inst, Mr. J. Herbert Benyon, president, in the chair. The minutes of the last meeting having been confirmed and signed, the letters of apology for non-attendance were announced.

The list of judges who had accepted office in connection with the Reading Show was finally completed with the exception of those in the horse shoeing, butter-making, jumping, and sheep-shearing competitions, which were left for the stewards in those departments for selection.

Stewards were appointed for the various departments of the show, and Mr. Albert Wheatley, of Reading, was appointed hon. veterinary surgeon.



THE HUNTER GELDING, "HOLLYMOUNT," shown above, was bred by Mr. Carby, Hollymount, Wenford, and is by Bottler, out of a daughter of Fitz Henry. At the Hunter Show last month "Hollymount" was exhibited by Mr. A. J. Brown, Marr Grange, Doncaster, and won first prize in the class for three-year-old geldings. It was also placed reserve for the Society's Challenge Cup for the best animal under three years old.

Retiring Members of the Council.

The following list was prepared of the members of Council who retire by rotation, and are eligible for re-election, showing the number of attendances at Council and committee meetings of each of such members during the past two years, in accordance with Bye-law No. 23:—

Attendances at Meetings of Council and Commitcees from April, 1900, to March, 1902, inclusive.	Council Meetings, Total No., 17.	Committees. No. of Mtgs.	Attendances.
Blake, George	6	—	—
Brougham and Vaux, Lord	9	58	27
Cavendish, Victor C. W., M.P.	11	25	6
Cecil, Lord Arthur	8	42	14
Curtis-Hayward, Lieut.-Col.	16	50	40
Foster, S. P.	10	26	15
Frankish, William	13	130	80
Granby, Marquis of	8	—	—
Grenville, R. Neville	6	52	13
Hornsby, James	14	32	15
Howard, John Howard	11	24	12
(Elected June 20th, 1900.)			
Lovett, Captain W. S. B.	13	78	54
Marshall, Henry D.	13	26	13
Muntz, P. A., M.P.	9	—	—
Ransome, J. E.	16	60	31
Rogers, Charles Coltman	7	58	23
Ryland, H. P.	14	74	59
Sanday, G. H.	15	103	80
Scoby, William	2	4	2
(Elected June 5th, 1901.)			
Smith, Henry	11	26	13
Stratton, Richard	9	18	3
Sutton, Martin J.	11	46	32
Warren, R. A.	9	16	7
Wheeler, E. V. V.	12	104	63
Williams, J. C.	8	32	11

The recommendations of the stewards of the yard as to the acceptance of the various tenders were approved, and also as to the arrangement of the classes in the butter-making, horse-shoeing, sheep-shearing, and poultry trussing sections.

Miss Elsie Harris was appointed dairy demonstrator, and it was announced that a member of the staff of the Reading College would undertake the demonstrations in milk testing.

It was unanimously decided that harness horses, hacks, and ponies exhibited at Reading and also entered for the Richmond show should be allowed to leave the Reading show yard after 5 p.m. on Thursday, June 12, thus enabling them to compete at Richmond on the following day.

The secretary announced that H.R.H. the Prince of Wales had graciously intimated his intention of visiting the show on June 13, and that His Royal Highness would be received at Reading by the Mayor and Corporation, presented with an address, and then proceed to the show yard. H.R.H. Prince Christian of Schleswig-Holstein had also promised to visit the show. A reception committee was appointed.

The prices of admission and hours of opening and closing the Reading show were fixed subject to final arrangement by the chairman, vice-chairman, and secretary.

The secretary read a letter from the Town Clerk of Southampton conveying an invitation from the Town Council of that borough to the Royal Counties' Society to hold its 1903 meeting at Southampton, subject to the approval of the inhabitants of that town at a meeting to be held on Monday, April 7th.

The Mayor of Southampton, who was present at the meeting, assured the society of a very hearty welcome should they visit that borough in 1903.

Fifty-seven new members were then elected.

A vote of thanks to the chairman concluded the meeting, after which the Mayor of Basingstoke, Lieut.-Colonel J. May, entertained the president and council and a number of others to luncheon at the Town Hall.

The Central Chamber.

A Council meeting of the Central and Associated Chambers of Agriculture was held on Tuesday at the Society of Arts, Adelphi, London, Sir Edward Strachey, Bart., M.P., presiding over a large attendance.

The Blackpool and District Dairy Farmers' Association was admitted as a new Chamber, and Mr. E. Beckett Faber, M.P., was elected a member.

Resolutions were received from the Yorkshire Union, the Darlington, Staffordshire, and Berks and Oxon Chambers, advocating discriminating Revenue duties on foreign imports, and from the Lancashire Farmers' Association with regard to strengthening the law in respect to sheep-worrying dogs. The West Riding Chamber forwarded its annual report.

The Beer Bill.

The report of the Beer Materials Committee was presented to the meeting. It stated that:—

> Your Committee approves generally the Beer Bill introduced by Mr. Tomlinson.
>
> The Committee regard 15 per cent. of barley malt substitutes as the maximum proportion that should in any case be legalised.
>
> They also consider that more distinct provisions should be inserted in the Bill, to prohibit the use of all such deleterious substances as sulphuric acid, salicylic acid, sulphites and bisulphites of lime, and formalin.
>
> The Committee further consider that beer should be brought under the provisions of the Food and Drugs Acts, as recommended by the minority report of the Beer Materials Committee.
>
> CLARE SEWELL READ.

Mr. Bowen-Jones, in bringing forward the report, said there was no doubt the new Bill was a departure, both in principle and methods, from the Bill introduced last year. The Committee were of opinion, considering the fate of that Bill, that a change of front was necessary. There was no doubt a very high ideal was aimed at in last year's Bill, and that was to obtain beer of the highest degree of purity, and absolutely free from ingredients other than barley, malt, hops, yeast, and water. In order to have any chance of obtaining a Bill on these lines it was found necessary to provide for a second quality of beer, to enable them to meet the interests of those who required a cheaper beverage, and also to prevent opposition from the trade. The whole question was complicated by the introduction of these two qualities of beer, and it being found impracticable to pass a Bill through the Legislature on those lines, the present Bill, which was of the simplest character, was brought forward. Although the ideal aimed at in last year's Bill was abandoned, still they hoped by the present Bill to secure a fair standard of purity. Brewers would be allowed to use up to 15 per cent. of sugar materials. This provision would not affect the Burton brewers, who had brewed beer nearly up to the standard it was desired to establish last year.

Mr. Latham (Oxford) seconded the motion.

The Hon. James Lowther said no mention was made of the grievances of the barley grower, who suffered from foreign competition and the use of barley substitutes.

Mr. S. Kidner thought some further explanation was necessary as to why the Committee advocated the abandonment of the standard agreed to last year.

Mr. Bowen-Jones pointed out that the brewing of the beer would be carried on under the supervision of the Inland Revenue Authorities, who would take care that the materials were innocuous and good. Replying to Mr. Kidner's observation, he observed that unless they approved of the Bill, which was simpler than last year, they would get nothing at all. The Bill would prevent the unlimited use of barley malt substitutes, and whereas as much as 66 per cent. had been used, it was now proposed that no more than 15 per cent. should be allowed. The provisions of the Bill also limited the use of the free mash tun.

Cost of National Education.

Mr. St. John Ackers moved: "That in the opinion of the Council the cost of National Education should be borne by the Imperial Exchequer, and not out of the Local Rates." He said National Education was a National obligation, and as such the cost should be met out of national and not local funds. That proposition had been confirmed over and over again by that Chamber. They did not object to Voluntary Schools as such receiving money from the rates, but they objected to any school, voluntary, board, or any other, receiving money from the rates for a national ob-

ject. At the present moment the rateable value of this country was something like 180 million pounds, whereas the non-rateable value was about 500 millions. These figures widened the injustice of the Government's proposal, and it was the duty of the Chamber, while they passed no opinion on the Bill, to raise a strong protest against the cost of National Education being placed on only a fraction of the property of this country (hear, hear). This was one matter on which they could inform the Government agriculturists were quite united.

Mr. Herman Biddell said he desired the addition to the resolution of a rider, to the effect that all members of the House of Commons who were members of that Chamber should strenuously oppose the addition to the local rates which would undoubtedly follow the passing of the Education Bill now before Parliament.

Mr. Biddell said it appeared that County Councils were empowered to spend a sum not exceeding 2d. in the £ on the present assessment, while they might even spend more if they obtained the consent of the Local Government Board. Having been an Alderman of the East Suffolk County Council since that useful body was instituted, he could describe it as a most able machine for spending the ratepayers' money (laughter) Did they ever know a County Council that did not take advantage of spending, or did they ever hear of the Local Government Board refusing money to be spent by anybody when it was taken out of the ratepayers' pockets? If education was to raise the status of the nation, then let the nation pay for it (hear, hear). He pointed out there was no one to represent the ratepayer or protect him from additional burdens, but if they attempted to touch the National Exchequer, there was a man on the watch who took care they did not draw money from that quarter (laughter and applause).

Mr. Biddell, drawing attention to the fact that a solemn declaration was once made in Parliament that the education rate should never exceed 3d., asked what had become of that solemn declaration ? (laughter). He thought most of them were fully aware of what those solemn declarations were worth (hear hear). What with the present school rates, School Board rates, and the prospect of an additional 2d. there was every prospect of there having some heavy burdens to bear. Mr. Biddell demarking that years ago the clergy were relieved of a certain portion of their rates, said both Lord Salisbury and the late Earl of Kimberley stated the money for this relief would come from the National Exchequer. It had not, however, but out of a sum already allocated to the relief of the poor rates. It was curious that no stand had been made against this. This time he felt they should raise strong opposition, and not only ought they to request all members of Parliament associated with the Chamber of Agriculture to join in this protest, but all members of Parliament interested in Agriculture. Mr. Biddell afterwards stated that agricultural land had been relieved of a certain portion of the rates, but said he would guarantee that no one could turn to their rate receipts and find that there was a decrease in their rates, for the reason that any relief they obtained had been swallowed up by the additional burdens put upon them by the County Council and Boards of Guardians.

Mr. Latham seconded the adoption of the rider, and Mr. Sandford (Sussex), instancing the necessity for adopting this course, said it often happened that children boarded out from various populous unions were sent into the country districts, the ratepayers in which had to bear the cost of the education of these children. That was not right nor fair.

The motion was carried, with the addition of the rider proposed by Mr. Herman Biddell.

Breeding of Remount Horses.

Colonel Cotton-Jodrell (Cheshire) moved:—"That it is desirable that remount officers should visit various districts of the country periodically for the purpose of purchasing horses from the resident owners, and that further information should be given throughout the country when any remount officer is about to visit a district for such a purpose." They wished the War Office and the owners of horses to be brought into closer touch, and also to assist in the developing of the breeding of horses suitable for remount purposes. Some 218,000 horses were bought for South Africa, and only 60,000 were bought in the United Kingdom. Evidence showed that the best horses came from this country for use in South Africa, and it was a service to the State, as well as to the farmer, to develop the trade. They wished to get rid of the middleman, and bring the tenant farmer into communication with the agent of the War Office.

Mr. Davies (Birkenhead) seconded the motion.

Professor Long moved, as an amendment, the addition, "and in order to promote these objects it is also desirable that the Minister for War should be asked to receive a deputation." He said that he had been a breeder of horses, and he found that when he dealt with the dealers he was successful, but he always failed when he dealt direct with the remount officers. He did not believe that the remount officers were up to their work, and that there was some strong reason for their getting horses from abroad.

Mr. Beecroft (Cheshire) seconded the amendment.

Mr. Middleton (Cleveland) said that it would not pay farmers to breed remount animals. The class at present used were misfit animals, unsuitable for anything else.

Mr. Williams (Monmouth) agreed that it would be a mistake to urge farmers to breed army horses when they could breed a better paying class. It was notorious that out of 14,000 horses registered in this country only 6,000 were taken, and yet much worse animals were bought abroad. Until the War Office made arrangements to take the horses younger he could not see how the farmer would be paid for his trouble.

Mr. Herman Biddell said as a breeder of horses with fifty years' experience he had never yet been able to hit upon a plan of breeding horses for a price the War Office would give. The remount officer visiting a district required a farmer to bring him horses five years old without a blemish, and for these he would pay the sum of £34. It was impossible to breed such a horse for that money, and unless the Government were prepared to give a better price it was not likely the farmer would be disposed to breed horses of the character required for that amount. He suggested that the Government should give a sum of money for the purpose of providing the best animals calculated to breed the cavalry horse. Having urged the point that the Government did not give enough money for a good English-bred horse, Mr. Biddell said the English horse was found to be the best animal for the purposes of war. But if the Government required the English farmer to breed them they must give more than £34. He thought the subject was of a too technical character to be discussed there (hear, hear).

The amendment was lost, but Colonel Cotton-Jodrell's motion was adopted.

Railway Rates.

Mr. Oscar Bowen moved, "That, in the opinion of the Chamber, the Board of Agriculture should insist upon equal facilities and rates for carriage of agricultural produce being provided for the home producer as are now given to the foreigner." He urged that the farmer in this country was handicapped by the bounty offered the foreign producer in the shape of cheaper rates.

Mr. Muntz seconded the resolution, which was carried.

Next Meeting.

The Council adjourned until the 6th of May.

Scottish Chamber.

A meeting of the directors of the Scottish Chamber of Agriculture was held at Edinburgh on Wednesday. Mr. Thomas Elder, Stevenson Mains, presided, and reported that his committee, to whom had been remitted back the question of creameries in Scotland, had called on one or two gentlemen who they thought would be of assistance, and after discussing the matter it was thought the best way would be to give all affiliated societies an opportunity of discussing the question at the autumn conference of the Chamber.

Mr. Spier, Newton, said he thought the Chairman's Committee had come to a pretty wise finding. He did not think it devolved on them to initiate any creameries; all that could probably be expected of them was to scatter information as to the advantages of the system. He had in a business connection come in contact with four or five hundred creameries in Ireland which were conducted on the co-operative system, and he thought that if the secretary communicated with the Irish Organisation Society in Dublin, who had started these creameries, they would give him all the necessary information as to the cost of buildings, machinery, etc. While the progress of these creameries was for some years slow, they had lately been going up by leaps and bounds, and the consequence was that in a country like Ireland, where the large number of farmers were small ones, they were in the way of retailing their milk practically on an equality with the man having 50 or 150 cows, so far as getting a certain sum in produce out of each of them. He had not the least doubt that co-operative creameries alone were doing more for the peace of Ireland than all the other organisations put together. In Scotland it would be a little more difficult, because the tenant-farmers' tenure of the land was not so permanent as in Ireland, and it would be necessary for the principal landlords to take at least the major share in providing the permanent buildings.

Replying to some discussion, Mr. Spier said these Irish creameries were under no Government survey other than as ordinary factories. Taking the price of milk at 4½d. a gallon or 1d. a gallon for skim milk, it was more than thousands of farmers got who would during the next two or three months be sending milk to Glasgow, and who would not get more than 6d. or 6½d., and would have to pay 1d. per gallon for delivery.

Mr. John Drysdale, Port of Menteith, thought, unless they had a demand in certain districts for the creation of creameries, the discussion was futile. It was agreed to have a discussion on the subject at the autumn conference.

Mr. Spier drew attention to two butter prosecutions in Airdrie and Kilmarnock, where, on analysis, the butter was found to be up to the requisite standard, and no expenses were allowed the respondent. He thought it was a distinct hardship that a man should be thrown into a great deal of expense through the carelessness or blundering of Crown officials. He had communicated with the Board of Agriculture, who had replied to the effect that such cases were of very rare occurrence; but the Board would be glad if he would during the next few months call their attention to the reports of any cases of the nature described which came under his notice. It was agreed to take note of any future cases, and advise Mr. Hanbury.

A communication was read from the Butter Association regarding the interim report of the Butter Regulations Committee permitting on declaration watered butter. A resolution was, after discussion, adopted condemnatory of the report.

Suffolk Horse.

A meeting of the Council of the Suffolk Horse Society was held at Ipswich on the 5th inst., Mr. Herman Biddell, vice-president, in the chair.

The first business on the agenda being the election of a president, Mr. E. A. Cook said he had much satisfaction in proposing the re-election of Sir Cuthbert Quilter, Bart., M.P., who had done so much for the Society and the Suffolk horse in the past.

Mr. Robt. Edgar seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously the Chairman remarking that they would desire, he was sure, to couple with the resolution an expression of thanks to Sir Cuthbert Quilter for the valuable services he had rendered to the Society.

On the proposition of Mr. F. C. Starkie, seconded by Mr. James Toller, Mr. Herman Biddell was unanimously reappointed vice-president.

The Council then considered the recommendation of the general meeting as to raising members' subscriptions. The Chairman observed that when the matter was discussed there was no doubt a general feeling in favour of a £1 subscription instead of 10s. This was, perhaps, a proposal which was outside the Council, to whom was entrusted the mangement of the affairs of the Society. When it was proposed to double members' subscriptions, he thought steps should be taken to elicit the opinion of the members themselves, though he had little doubt that the majority of them would consent to the addition, especially having regard to the fact that the Council would thus be enabled to accord more generous support to the local agricultural societies, whose exhibitions were valuable as bringing the Suffolk breed of horses more prominently before the public.

On the motion of Mr. Robt. Edgar, seconded by Mr. Horace Wolton, it was resolved that steps should be taken to ascertain the views of the members on the subject, the further consideration of the question being accordingly adjourned to the next meeting of the Council.

In the course of the discussion on the above subject, Mr. A. T. Pratt raised the question of the advisability of increasing some of the entry fees as one legitimate source of adding to the income of the Society. He would not go into details, but he thought it might probably be done in the case of stallions and yearlings.

The Secretary, on being appealed to for his opinion on the subject, said this was a very effective means of adding to the funds of the Society, and if breeders did not object to the suggested increase he apprehended that other members would not do so.

The Chairman pointed out that this was not a matter on the agenda for that day, but it could be brought forward at the next meeting, and the Secretary would perhaps furnish them with particulars as to the heads—if any, under which there might with advantage be an increase.

The Sale Committee presented a report, in which they recommended that a public sale of Suffolks should be held as usual at Ipswich under the auspices of the Society, and it was agreed to.

Reference having been made to the usual exhibition of Suffolks at the forthcoming exhibition of the Royal Horse Society at Richmond, Mr. F. C. Starkie said he should much like to see a challenge cup offered in connection with the Suffolk classes at the great horse show in question. He doubted whether Suffolk breeders fully realised the extent of the interest taken in the Suffolks at the Richmond Show, and he thought that every inducement should be offered to secure as many entries as possible. He should therefore like to see a challenge cup provided. He himself should be pleased to give 10 guineas towards a cup of the kind, and he doubted not that there would be others who would readily subscribe towards such an object. In answer to a question, Mr. Starkie said he should like to see a cup of the value of 50 guineas, accompanied by a gold medal for the winner.

On the motion of Mr. W. Everitt, seconded by Mr. Jas. Toller, it was resolved to accept Mr. Starkie's generous offer with thanks, and to request the Secretary to apply to other gentlemen to add to the fund, Mr. Fred Smith having expressed the opinion that a cup of the kind would be appreciated, and add to the interest of the Suffolk classes at the Richmond Show. Subsequently Mr. Smith announced that he had received £5 from Mr. E. A. Cook, who was heartily thanked for his liberal contribution.

Hackney Horse.

Meetings of the Council and Committees of this society were held on Wednesday, at 12, Hanover Square, London, W., Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart., occupying the chair, when 14 new members were elected.

Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart., was, in accordance with the Articles of Association, formally elected President for the ensuing year, and Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., was similarly elected as President-elect for the same period.

The seat rendered vacant by the election of Sir Gilbert Greenall was filled by the nomination of Mr. G. M. Gale, Atwick, Hull.

The circular letter issued by the Devon County Council asking the co-operation of the society in urging the introduction of legislation empowering county councils to prohibit the use for hire within their districts of stallions suffering from hereditary disease was discussed, and it was agreed that a reply should be forwarded that the Council were entirely in sympathy with that object, and by means of veterinary examination of all horses at its London show, its gold medal winners at country shows, etc., were endeavouring to promote it to the best of their ability, but they were of opinion that the suggested remedy for the evil by legislation was not at present practicable.

Measurement of Harness Horses.

As arranged at the general meeting of members at the show, the Council received a deputation representative of exhibitors of harness horses, who desired to submit suggestions that the society should officially measure and record the exact height of horses at the London show, and at various centres in the country, subsequently issuing a printed register of such information which should be accepted by affiliated societies.

Mr. William Foster, of Mel Valley, attended to submit the views of exhibitors before the Council, which may be summarised as follows:—

(1) That all horses sent for exhibition at the next March Show be carefully measured by a qualified veterinary surgeon specially appointed to do this; that a register be kept of all the heights thus recorded.

That the horses' feet and shoes shall, in the opinion of the appointed veterinary surgeon, be fairly trimmed and shod with a shoe half an inch thick. If the horses' hoofs and shoes are not considered to come within this rule the horse will not be measured, and shall be sent back and brought properly shod.

(2) That all affiliated societies be asked to take the Hackney Society's certificate of height—for that season—and if the horse or pony is five years old, or over, that such certificate shall represent its height henceforth, without any re-measurement.

(3) The question of measuring horses in different parts of the country and giving certificates must, to a large extent, be left to the judgment of the Hackney Society, but we think the following would work well:—The Veterinary Professor to the Hackney Society, for the time being, would suggest the names of veterinary surgeons in different parts of the country in whom he could place confidence, and the society could select and appoint them to do this, and send a copy of the certificate to the society's secretary, to be added to the register. Where possible, it might be best to appoint the veterinary surgeon of the affiliated society.

(4) A small charge to cover the expenses of this certificate might be made.

A register of the heights of all horses measured at the March Show, and all other certificates sent in by the end of April, could be issued on May 1st.

The Council endorsed Mr. Foster's contention that improvement was necessary in the systematic measurement of horses, especially those exhibited in harness, and agreed to hold a special meeting of the Show Committee to thoroughly consider the practical working of the suggestions. Meanwhile the secretary was desired to inquire of all affiliated societies whether, in the event of the Hackney Society formulating a scheme for the more accurate measurement of horses under identical circumstances, and the subsequent issue of a formal certificate, they would, in the event of a protest or other unusual circumstances, be disposed to accept and acknowledge the height given on the certificate as the exact height of the animal during the period for which the certificate was valid.

It was resolved to affix the official seal of the Society to the agreement arrived at with the Agricultural Hall Company for the hire of the hall for a period of three years.

The Editing Committee received proofs of the photographs of prize-winning horses at the last show, and transacted other business of a routine nature. To supply the vacancies on the committee due to the retirement of members in rotation, the names of Mr. Arthur Fewson, Mr. J. K. Ford, and Mr. Alfred Rowell were added to the committee. The exclusive right to the following prefixes were granted to the applicants:—Hawsker: Robert Middleton, Russell Hall, Stainsacre, Whitby, York. Cheriton: Frank Leigh, F.R.C.VS., Cheriton, Westbury-on-Trym.

The report of the Show Committee dealt in a large measure with the results of the last London show, which were considered to be satisfactory, notwithstanding the heavy fog, which considerably affected the attendance of the general public on the third day. The names of Mr. R. G. Heaton, Mr. Evan Jones, Mr. Tom Mitchell, and Mr. C. W. Wilson were added to the committee to supply vacancies.

The chairman of the Finance Committee (Mr. Hickling) reported that the balance in the bank on the current account was £2,333 14s. 10d., and cheques for payment of prizes and various accounts arising out of the show amounting to £2,266 6s. 1d. were passed for payment. Three members of the Council having retired, the Council added the names of Mr. W. S. Forster, Major Mead, and Mr. Forrester Addie.

The Council filled two vacancies on the Council Selection Committee by nominating Mr. Evan Jones and Mr. G. M. Gale to act thereon, whilst the name of Mr. W. Stewart Foster was added to the Judges Selection Committee.

The period of three years for which Mr. Crompton was elected as steward of the London show having expired, Mr. A. L. Goodson, of Knutsford, was elected to take his place and to be ex-officio a member of the Council during his term of office. Mr. T. A. Jackson, of Bridlington, was elected as first reserve.

Mr. Frederick Wrench, who was unavoidably prevented from attending the meeting, forwarded a most interesting letter relative to the steps which the society should take to attract a larger portion of the profitable trade for carriage horses, concerning which correspondence has recently appeared in the agricultural press. Whilst admitting the great advance made in the development of the show Hackney of to-day, the letter advocated the further introduction of thoroughbred blood of the right type on the side of the mares. Mr. Wrench presented the outlines of a scheme providing for the admission to the Stud Book by examination for a limited period of mares 15h. 2in. and upwards, bay or brown, with good all-round action, of ascertained breeding for at least two generations, and either the produce of a thoroughbred sire or from a dam sired by a thoroughbred. All such mares to be passed by two of six judges to be nominated by the society, and that the examinations shall be made in public at certain selected shows at which prizes shall be given to encourage the stamp of mare required.

The Council fully discussed Mr. Wrench's scheme, but came to no determination on the matter, and it was pointed out that the present conditions admit mares to the Stud Book which are by a thoroughbred sire or out of a thoroughbred dam, in addition to those mares which have one thoroughbred cross on the dam's side.

It was resolved not to hold a Council meeting at the Royal Show at Carlisle, and the Council adjourned until November, meetings of the various committees being held in the meantime.

Shire Horse

Lord Llangattock (president) occupied the chair at a meeting of the Council of the Shire Horse Society, held at the Society's house, 12, Hanover Square, London, W., on Tuesday, at which seventy-one candidates were elected members of the Society.

After the election of members, Sir Walter Gilbey informed the Council that his Majesty the King had been graciously pleased to permit the Society to use the Royal Crown, in place of the plume of feathers which had been previously used.

Mr. R. W. Hudson presented the report of the Finance Committee, showing a balance of £1,593 0s. 3d. in the current account at the bankers; arrears of subscription, £44 2s.; accounts for payment, £823 10s. 7d. This report having been received and adopted, Mr. C. W. Tindall was elected a member of the committee, while the Council referred to them the suggestion made by Mr. John Williams at the annual general meeting of members as to increasing the income from the Society's investments.

Captain Heaton reported that applications had been received for twenty-three prefixes and two affixes, which they had approved:—

Prefix.	Applicant.
Bagborough	J. H. White.
Baston	John Thurlby.
Belpatrick (and affix)	Arthur E. Moore.
Catterall	John Hutchence.
Curf	R. R. Childs.
Hemington	S. Crawley.
Horninghold	T. Hardcastle.
Irby	W. H. Smith.
Johnson (and affix)	W. Moat.
Lilleshall	Duke of Sutherland.
Locks	John. G. Chilvers.
Penmark	E. Williams.
Pomfret	Ernest C. Watson.
Reynald	Sir Walter Corbet, Bt.
Sharpcliffe	Arthur S. Boucher.
Sibthorpe	A. Stretton.
Talybont	H. Yorath.
Tardebigge	Hugh W. Dixon.
Tilton	Allan Holm.
Wainfleet	C. W. Tindall.
Wansdyke	R. Cook.
Wesson	J. F. Hollingworth.
Yew Tree	James Montgomery.

This report having been adopted, Mr. John Rowell and Mr. J. W. Kenworthy were added to the committee.

Sir Walter Gilbey (chairman of the Horse Show Committee) presented the approximate financial statement of the recent show, indicating a cost of £905 8s. 9d., as compared with £276 and £331 in 1900 and 1901 respectively. Sir Walter pointed out that this increased cost was due to two causes:—(1) The very large increase in prizes granted by the Council to the 1902 show, and (2) the heavy cost arising from the additional accommodation, and fittings required for their enormous entry of 860 horses. The statement was considered by the Horse Show Committee to be most satisfactory.

The attention of the committee had been drawn to the misuse of attendants' tickets, and they propose to deal with this matter at a future meeting, with a view to stopping this abuse. They had, up to that day, received applications for the following gold and silver medals from associated shows, viz., nineteen gold offered at sixteen shows, seventy-six silver at seventy shows.

The committee further proposed to apply the respective grants of £50 for the London Cart horse Parade and of £75 for provincial parades, as follows:—By offering in Regent's Park on Whit Monday: 25 medals or premiums of £1 for single horses, 10 medals or premiums of £1 for pairs of horses, 5 medals and premiums of £1 for teams of horses; by distributing similar awards at sixteen provincial parades.

This report having been adopted, Mr. J. P. Cross and Mr. F. W. Griffin were added to the committee.

Mr. Hebor G. Martin, of Littleport, Ely, was appointed a Steward of the London Show for the next three years, this appointment carrying with it a seat on the Council and Horse Show Committee.

A letter was read from Mr. R. S. Reynolds, suggesting action on the part of the Society to secure the exhibition of representative Shire horses at the Winnipeg and Toronto Shows during the coming summer, and a letter was also submitted from Mr. J. H. Truman suggesting the offer of a cup or medal at the Horse Show at Chicago.

These letters were considered together by the Council, and fully discussed. It was decided that it was not possible for the Society to act upon the lines put forward by Mr. Reynolds, but that if the secretary was satisfied that classes were provided at Winnipeg, Toronto, and Chicago for Shire horses, he should be authorised to offer at each show two gold medals, one for the best Shire stallion, and the second for the best Shire mare, registered in the Shire Horse Society's Stud Book, exhibited at same.

The Council decided that they would not this year hold their meeting in the Royal Show-yard at Carlisle, but that it should take place in the Society's House, at 12, Hanover Square, on Tuesday, June 3rd, at 12 noon.

Hereford Herd Book.

There was a meeting of the Council of this Society at the Secretary's offices on Wednesday, Mr. S. Robinson presiding. The report of the finance, editing, and general purposes committee, also the report of the special committee for drawing up the rules and regulations of the autumn show and sale, were received and adopted. The autumn sale is to be held on the first day of October fair, and to consist of three classes, viz., cow calved before 1900, in-calf heifer calved in 1900, and heifer calf of 1901. Mr. C. T. Pulley (Lower Eaton) was elected a life member.

After the Council meeting, the annual general gathering took place. The annual report of the Council for 1901 was presented and read by Mr. Britten. In the course of this it was stated that the revenue account shows a surplus of income over expenditure on the year's working of £825 7s. 10d. It is satisfactory to note that this is the first account submitted since the formation of the Society in which the cash assets represent a sum which exceeds the amount received from the whole of the life members as their life composition fees. The surplus, however, includes the sum of £285 8s. 5d. received from the liquidator of the Hereford Cattle Breeders' Association, also £199 10s. paid as composition fees by life members. The subscriptions from annual members have increased by £122 17s., which is chiefly due to the union of the two societies.

Notwithstanding the closing of the South American ports to live stock during the greater part of 1901, the number of Herefords exported was in excess of that in the previous year, 314 exportation certificates having been issued as compared with 239 in 1900; these represent 264 cattle shipped to the United States, 36 to South America, 3 to Australia, 2 to New Zealand, 1 to Canada, 3 to South Africa, and 3 to France. The year 1901 marked a new era in the matter of the tuberculin tests, as applied to cattle shipped abroad, the Governments of the United States and of Canada having decided to have cattle pur-

chased for their respective countries tested on this side by their own officials. The Department of Agriculture at Washington sent their expert, Dr. T. A. Geddes, over for that purpose, and in reply to a communication the Council addressed to Dr. D. E. Salmon, the chief of the Bureau of Animal Industry at Washington, he wrote that the Hereford cattle tested by Dr. Geddes in 1901 are amongst the breeds making the best record, the certificates received showing that only three and one-third per cent. of the Hereford cattle tested failed to pass. The Council think it most important that this comparative freedom from tuberculosis in Hereford cattle should be as widely known as possible; they have, therefore, appointed a sub-committee to deal with the question.

Yorkshire Union.

A general meeting of the Yorkshire Union of Agricultural Clubs and Chambers of Agriculture will be held at the Agricultural Club House, Pavement, York, on Thursday next, at 2.30 p.m., the agenda for which is as follows:—

1. General business.
2. Communications.
3. Reports of Committees (if any).
4. The reply of the Chancellor of the Exchequer to the resolution of the Union on duties on foreign imports.
5. The proposals of the Budget affecting agriculture (if any).
6. The interim report of the Butter Regulations Committee.
7. Contracts of hiring between master and servant.
8. Sheep scab and the dipping of sheep.

COMING SHOWS.

Royal Dublin.

Below we give a copy of the official programme of arrangements for the Royal Dublin Society's Spring show at Ball's Bridge, Dublin, which opens to-morrow (Tuesday), and extends until Friday. His Excellency the Lord Lieutenant, their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Connaught, and Her Excellency the Countess Cadogan have intimated their intention of visiting the show. As to the prices of admission, they are as follows:—First day, from 10 a.m. till 2 p.m., 3s.; after 2 o'clock, 2s. 6d. Second day, 2s. 6d. Third day, 2s. Fourth day, 1s.

Programme.

TUESDAY.

9 a.m.—Judges and Stewards breakfast in the Judges' and Stewards' Room.
10 a.m.—Show opens.
„ Adjudications commence as follows:—
Shorthorns, in Rings 3 and 4.
Herefords, in Ring 2.
Aberdeen-Angus, in Ring 1.
Red Polled, in Ring 2.
Ayrshires, Dairy Cattle, and Extra Stock, in Ring 2.
Kerries and Dexters, in Ring 5.
Jerseys, in Ring 5.
Agricultural Horses and Hackneys, in Jumping Enclosure.
Swine, in the Paddock Hall.
Dairy Produce, Butter, etc., and Hives and Bee Appliances, in Room off the Galleries of the Central Hall.
6 p.m.—The Show Yard closes for the day.

WEDNESDAY.

9 a.m.—Show Yard opens.
10 a.m.—Adjudication of Harness Horses (Classes 78 to 87), in Jumping Enclosure.
„ —Dog Show opens—Adjudication commences.
11 a.m. and 3.30 p.m.—Parade of Hackney Stallions in Ring 4.
12 noon and 4 p.m.—Parade of Agricultural Stallions, in Ring 4.
„ —Meeting of the Committee of Agriculture for the consideration of such objections as may have been lodged, and other business.
2 p.m.—Adjudication of Polo Ponies (Classes 88 and 89), in the Jumping Enclosure.
2.30 p.m.—Parade of Prize Cattle in the Rings.
Demonstrations in Potato Spraying in the Veterinary Paddock during the day.
6 p.m.—The Show Yard closes for the day.

THURSDAY.

9 a.m.—Show Yard opens.
10 a.m.—Adjudication of the Draught Horses and Vehicles, in the Jumping Enclosure.
10 a.m. to 12 noon.—Polo Ponies may exercise in Ring 1.
11 a.m.—Parade of Hackney Stallions, in Ring 4.
„ —Meeting of the Committee of Agriculture.
12 noon.—Parade of Agricultural Stallions, in Ring 4.
1 p.m.—The entire Jumping Enclosure will be cleared, to prepare for the Grand Parade and Jumping and Bending Competitions.
2 p.m.—Parade of Prize Draught Horses and Vehicles.
Grand Parade of Prize Cattle, Horses, and Polo Ponies.
Jumping and Bending Competitions.
4 p.m.—Parade of Harness Horses, in the Jumping Enclosure.
Demonstrations in Potato Spraying during the day.
6 p.m.—The Show Yard closes for the day.

FRIDAY.

9 a.m.—Show Yard opens.
1 p.m.—The Butter Show closes.
Dog Show closes.
2.30 p.m.—Parade of Harness Horses, in the Jumping Enclosure.
Demonstrations in Potato Spraying during the day.
4 p.m.—Show closes.



The Butter Standard.

The report recently issued by a Departmental Committee regarding a proposed standard for butter, which the agricultural public is up in arms against, quite as much concerns those living in towns at it does those living in the country. But the consumer may not be aware of the evidence on which this precious report is alleged to be based. We say "alleged," because it is certainly not based upon a proper regard for the evidence given before the Committee. The agricultural public have been waiting for this evidence, and as it has just made its appearance, although the report itself has been out for some weeks, a reference to the whole subject is both opportune and very desirable.

The case stands as follows:—In the summer of last year Mr. Hanbury, for the British Board of Agriculture, and Mr. Plunkett, for the Irish Board of Agriculture, appointed a committee to inquire as to what regulations should be made under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, 1899, for determining what efficiency (if any) of the normal constituents of butter, or what addition of extraneous matter or proportion of water in butter, should raise a presumption until the contrary is proved that the butter is not genuine. In due course the Committee reported as follows:—(1) "That there should be adopted a limit of 16 per cent. for the proportion of water in butter;" and they added (2) "We make this recommendation on the assumption that butter containing a larger percentage of water than 16 per cent. will escape the operation of this limit, provided that a sufficient disclosure is made to the purchaser."

It is difficult to conceive a report of more serious omen to farmers, if we except that of about a twelvemonth ago relating to the standard for milk, and which report Mr. Hanbury had the courage to overthrow—much to his credit—and with fairness both to the evidence on which it was based, and to the various interests involved. We say, without fear of contradiction by any reasonable man in this country, that if the recommendation now before Mr. Hanbury for his consideration is adopted by him he will cause widespread disappointment, will lose much of his reputation among agriculturists, and will legalise a rank fraud upon all classes of His Majesty's subjects. These are strong assertions, but they are not a whit too strong.

Let us look into the matter. The best and by far the largest number of our dairying authorities, as well as the best and widest scientific evidence in this country, are agreed that butter ought not to contain and does not contain more than 10 to 15 per cent., or at most 16 per cent., of moisture. It is asserted, and was asserted before the Committee, that 16 per cent. is quite an outside figure. We agree in this view of the matter. Imported butter also contains less than the outside limit of moisture in question It so happens, however, that lately there has sprung up a trade in what is called milk-blended butter, which consists, not of butter pure and simple, but of a certain proportion of milk and a certain proportion of butter. In other words, the artisan, when he buys his pound of milk-blended butter, buys some 14 ounces of natural butter (containing the usual quantity of moisture), plus two ounces of water. It is proposed to legalise this fraud if it is labelled all right. Now, this butter is being sold in large quantities every week in all parts of the country, especially since the report in question was issued, and the announcements which accompany its sale are so skilfully worded as to make it actually appear that milk-blended butter is better than the genuine article, whereas, intrinsically, it is much inferior.

The case is really very serious, and we shall all await with anxiety what the decision of Mr. Hanbury may be. It is a comfort to us to be able to say that the Royal Agricultural Society has passed a resolution in very plain terms condemnatory of the report, while the next largest agricultural society has just followed suit—namely, the Bath and West of England Society. The British Dairy Farmers' Society is also against it; and the chambers of agriculture everywhere are taking similar action. It is to be hoped that townspeople—who are seldom nowadays to be found in any great sympathy with their agricultural friends—will support them in their crusade against the insidious form of fraud to which we have referred; and which is all the more to be deplored because it is a fraud actually (of all people in the world!) supported, or suggested, by a Departmental Committee. It is useless to suppose that any label will protect a purchaser from fraud; whilst the very idea of a label is tantamount is admitting that the article is in itself fraudulent. Why, therefore, seek to legalise it?

Now, will Mr. Hanbury pay no heed to the last part of the recommendation we have quoted, and so earn the gratitude still further of the agricultural community and of the public at large; or will he give way to a Committee which really in this matter represents nobody, except what we cannot help calling the fraudulent interest to which we have called attention, and the makers of an indifferent class of butter coming from Ireland? The best of the Irish butter comes well within the limit of 16 per cent., as Mr. Hanbury and Mr. Plunkett must by this time be well aware, while the heavily-salted Irish firkin butter in its best form does not exceed it. Before the report was issued, the purveyors of milk-blended butter were being prosecuted in numerous directions, but this has now stopped; and, of course, it is difficult to see how a local authority could secure a conviction while the defendants, among other arguments, could produce such an unfortunate report as that to which we have referred. It need only further be said that if this report is adopted by Mr. Hanbury, it is quite impossible for butter-making farmers to stand against the competition to which they will be subjected. The competition against margarine will be as nothing to it.—"Pall Mall Gazette."

Lancaster Cheese Fair.

At this fair, held on Tuesday, there was a large attendance, and the demand exceeded the supply, a quick clearance being effected. The pitch comprised 20 dairies, or 483 cheese, against 20 dairies and 540 cheese at the corresponding fair last year. For extra prime cheese there was quick demand. Prices:—Prime Septembers, 82s.; Octobers and Novembers, 70s. to 75s.; spring cheese, 65s. to 70s.; spring cheese of medium quality, 55s. to 60s. per cwt.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending April 8, 1902:—

Swine Fever.	Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.		No.	104	341	308	696	2,226	3,506	5,288	8,773
	Outbreaks.		No.	32	96	45	50	431	721	483	644
Rabies.	Cases Reported.	Oth'r Anim'ls.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
		Dogs.	No.	2	...	...	...	6	1	...	1
Pleuro-Pneumonia.	Cattle Slaughter'd.	Exposed to Infection.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Diseased.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Outbreaks.		No.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Glanders (Incl. farcy).	Animals Attacked.		No.	55	20	41	20	653	601	597	343
	Outbreaks.		No.	26	15	23	9	315	337	287	185
Foot-and-Mouth Disease.	Animals Attacked.		No.	47	...	...	...	62	652	99	...
	Outbreaks.		No.	...	...	...	...	1	10	7	...
Anthrax.	Animals Attacked.		No.	26	44	40	35	389	267	253	282
	Outbreaks.		No.	19	15	17	11	224	178	157	146

Period.		
Week ended Apr. 5, 1902		
Corresponding week in ...	1901	
	1900	
	1899	
Total for 14 weeks, 1902		
Corresponding period in ...	1901	
	1900	
	1899	

NOTE.—The figures for the current Year are approximate only.

Dearer Meat.—At a meeting of the Leeds Butchers' Association on Friday, it was resolved that meat should be a penny to three halfpence per pound dearer.

LITERARY NOTICES.

"The Provincial Veterinary Quarterly" is the title of a new quarterly journal of animal medicine, therapeutics, toxicology, and clinique. It is edited by Mr. John Howard, M.R.C.V.S., L.H.A.S.S., etc., and it is issued, it is stated, in the interests of provincial veterinary surgeons, also on behalf of those "young students who are spending their precious time and money on a difficult profession, which, when attained, practically (through Government indifference) refuses them the bread so easily obtained by the common artisan." The first number contains numerous interesting articles for the veterinary profession, the majority of which were written by the editor; whilst the meetings of various veterinary societies are annotated and reviewed in brief. One of the editorial articles is headed "The Tuberculosis Bogey and its Exorcism," and in it are set forth some very striking facts. An interesting extract from it appears on another page of this issue, under the heading of "A Veterinary Surgeon on Tuberculosis." The dates of publication of this promising quarterly are fixed as follows:—March 31, June 30, September 30, and December 31, whilst the price is 5s. per annum, or a single copy 1s. 3d. by post.

The title of Mr. H. Clement's Brochure on Weather Prediction recalls strongly to mind the old books on astrology. Mr. Clement claims to lay before the public a discovery by which any intelligent person may calculate the daily height of the barometer and actually predict the weather for any part of the world for years in advance by the phases of the moon. Mr. Clement's system, which is somewhat complex, is set out fully in the pamphlet under notice. The price of this pamphlet is four shillings, but one is inclined to think the price too moderate when the greatness of the discovery is taken into consideration. The publishers are Simpkins, Marshall, and Co., London.

The issue of the "Journal of the Board of Agriculture" for March, in addition to the usual reports and papers, contains articles on "The Crops of 1901"; "The Seeding of Grain," by Mr. J. Speir; "The Cultivation of Maize for Fodder." Among others, Mr. J. Nisbet also continues his article on English Coppices and Copsewoods.

Messrs. Blackie and Son contemplate a re-issue of Kerner's "Natural History of Plants," a work which in its English form is identified with the name of Professor F. W. Oliver. The new edition, which will be issued at a considerably reduced price, will be substantially a reprint of the original English edition, with a few necessary alterations and corrections.

The Lydney and District Farmers' Club have issued their eighth annual report, which is conveniently bound in with a report of the Show, the rules of the Club, and a number of Board of Agriculture leaflets and other useful pamphlets issued by various public bodies.

A report has now been issued of the useful investigations and experiments on the Black Currant Gall Mite which have been carried out at the South-Eastern Agricultural College, Wye, Kent. The report, which is from the pen of Mr. E. J. Lewis, F.E.S., F.L.S., runs to 26 pages, and contains several illustrations.

Evicted Farms in Ireland.—A Parliamentary return has been published showing "how farms from which tenants were evicted on certain dates since the 1st day of May, 1879, were occupied (1) at the time of the inquiry of the Evicted Tenants' Commission, and (2) on the 1st day of February, 1902." The estates specified are seventeen in number and include the Clanricarde, the Ponsonby, Lansdowne, Masereen, and Olphert estates. The important fact disclosed is that out of a total number of 1,448 evicted farms referred to in the return only eighteen were "lying derelict" on the 1st of February last. On the Clanricarde estate, where the total number of evicted farms was 252, sixteen are still lying derelict, and the other two derelicts are on the estate of Mrs. H. Lewis. One-half of the evicted farms on the Clanricarde estate have been let to new tenants, and ninety-six have been re-let to old tenants. On the Olphert estate, out of a total of 326 farms, 305 have been re-let to old tenants. Out of the total of 1,448 farms enumerated in the return 675 have been re-let to old tenants, while 339 have been let to new tenants, and 323 have been purchased by old tenants.

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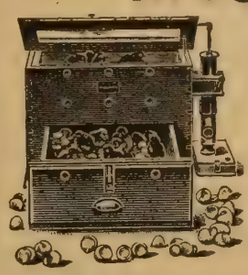


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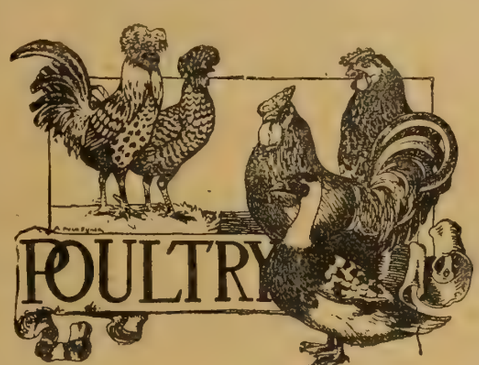
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Poultry Management on a Farm.

Considerable attention has recently been directed to the desirability and possibility of the extension of poultry-keeping as an adjunct to the ordinary operations of the farm. The Board have received at various times reports and circulars issued by the National Poultry Organisation Society, which was established in 1899, and has now assumed considerable importance, with a membership of over 2,000, and with 27 branches and centres, and 18 collecting depots. Started with the main object of developing the commercial side of the poultry industry by systematising the collection and distribution of eggs, the Society, without itself engaging in trade, appears already to have made some progress in stimulating the local organisation of producers, and in advocating improved methods of poultry management.

In this connection the Board have received a copy of a small book entitled "Poultry Management on a Farm," in which Mr. Walter Palmer, M.P., gives a detailed account of the system of poultry-keeping adopted on two of his farms at Winkfield, Berkshire, comprising altogether about 220 acres. The soil throughout is a fairly stiff clay, and the land is mostly in grass, but with arable fields conveniently near the homestead. As new buildings have been erected for the cattle and horses, the old wooden buildings (more than 200 years old) have been utilised for the various purposes connected with poultry.

"Poultry, like cattle," says Mr. Palmer, "must be more or less selected in accordance with soil," and consequently he experimented with about twenty varieties before he was satisfied which was best suited to his circumstances. Eventually he selected for table birds Indian Game crossed with Buff Orpington, and, for general purposes and egg-production, Brown Leghorn crossed with Buff Orpington. Each of these breeds has consequently to be maintained pure for stock, and in order to meet demands for sittings of eggs a certain number of pure-bred Plymouth Rocks, Faverolles, Minorcas, Golden Wyandottes, and Anconas are also kept.

The question of labour is obviously important, and Mr. Palmer refers to the difficulty experienced in finding capable men—a difficulty which he thinks will be partly overcome by the efforts of County Councils to teach poultry management. In his case the poultryman is assisted by another man, who devotes the whole of his time to feeding and to general work, and a boy also assists on Sundays and after school hours. The plucking is done by the poultryman's wife. The maximum number of fowls is reached in July, after which, until November, the stock is diminished as table birds are killed. In July, 1901, the total number was 2,700, the attendance on which, with the making of houses, coops, and appliances, fully occupied the present staff.

After a description of the houses and appliances used, the general arrangement of the poultry is detailed. Hatching commences at the end of October, so as to provide spring chickens for March and April. Incubators and foster-mothers are used during the winter, but in the spring and summer hens are preferred. Hens are sold off in August and September at two-and-a-half years old, and realise about 1s. 6d. each. Chickens hatched in the autumn and early spring are placed in the chicken-rearing shed, and when two to three months old are removed to some warm house in a dry, sheltered spot facing south, to which is attached a covered run. When young chickens are thus moved a foster-mother is placed inside the house; but for older chickens a lantern suspended in the house provides any additional warmth that may be necessary. In March the chickens, when ratched, are placed direct in the fields, in either foster-mother's or coops. When two to three months old they are taken from the coops and placed in lots of about twenty in movable houses on the pastures, where for the first few days a wire run is attached to each house. Two or three acres of meadow are reserved each year for the foster-mothers and coops. They must be kept near the farm-buildings, so that someone is continually at hand to keep away the rooks, which are apparently a dreaded foe. Rats and weasels also, however, give the most trouble, and have to be kept down by continual ferreting. Foxes, although the farm is situated in a hunting country, are more easily managed, and not a dozen birds have been taken by them in four years. All fowls are securely locked up at night, and the light from the foster-mothers in the fields partly serves to frighten away foxes. The best device, however, is that of running a wire across the fields, along which a good watch-dog can slide his chain, and thus give the appearance of freedom. The portable houses occupy during the spring and summer about 35 acres. Each one is shifted a few yards in position every week, partly to prevent any tainting of the ground around it, and partly to prevent killing the grass underneath it. In the winter-time it is more convenient to collect the houses somewhat nearer together, in proximity to the homestead, which lessens the labour and enables the birds to shelter under the ricks; moreover, during this time of the year the birds derive little benefit from being scattered. Cattle and horses graze on the land with the poultry. After harvest, for a month or two, most of the fowls are placed on the stubbles.

(To be continued.)

IN PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Rating of Machinery Bill.

On Wednesday the Bill for exempting tenants' machinery from rating came on for consideration, the second reading being moved in a maiden speech by Mr. E. Chapman. The practice of rating such machinery varies widely in different parts of the country, and the object of the Bill was to define the law with the view of securing uniformity of practice by providing that, in estimating the gross rental value, the rating authority should exclude any increased value arising from machines, tools, or appliances which are not fixed, or are only so fixed that they can be removed from their places without necessitating the removal of any part of the hereditament. The system of rating which the Bill seeks to legalise prevails in the textile districts of Lancashire and the West Riding of Yorkshire, but is not followed in Northumberland and many other places.

Sir J. Joicey moved the rejection of the Bill.

Mr. Long said that the Government were not prepared to take any action on this occasion different from that they had adopted on previous discussions on this measure. It had always been left to the House to decide the question, and he did not propose to advise the House what that decision should be. It was natural to suppose that if the Bill were passed, and relief were granted to those who now paid rates on the machinery, the money which they paid would have to be found by somebody else. It was not alleged that the machinery now rated did not form an important part of the premises in which it was placed. The direction to the assessment committees was that they should make a fair assessment, and the committees took the property as they found it. If the House chose to adopt the Bill, it must do so realising that a large amount of rates now produced would cease to be received; that the money would have to be found, and that it would not be found out of the Imperial Exchequer. The question would have to be dealt with on the general principles of taxation. Appeals had been made to the Government to take up that question, but he would remind the House that they had enough legislation before them for this session. The Government would deal with the matter of taxation as a whole, and he regarded with some apprehension proposals to deal with local taxation in a somewhat novel way. He was afraid that the hopes of certain hon. members with regard to the lessening of litigation if the Bill were passed would not be realised. If there was a national question involved it was of a limited character, and, in his opinion, it was essentially a local question, which should be dealt with by local authorities, and that the Government should not be asked to take it up. It was in the power of the districts to elect their own assessment committees, and if they were dissatisfied with the decisions of the committees they could turn them out at the next election. He admitted that there was a great deal to be said in favour of and against the Bill. If the House were in favour of the Bill, the Government would accept the decision, but they could hold out no hope of assistance to pass it this session.

Sir J. Joicey's amendment was defeated by 182 to 143, and the second reading was carried by 170 to 135.

Supply of Army Horses.

Mr. Mansfield asked the Secretary for War, on Friday, if he could say what horses had been purchased during March, and from what countries they had been drawn.

Lord Stanley: During March 1,245 horses were purchased in Great Britain, and 183 in Ireland. It is not possible to state the exact number of horses purchased abroad, as the accounts for March are not yet to hand, but 6,546 were shipped from Fiume, 3,565 from the United States of America, and 731 from Canada.

Locusts and Grasshoppers.

An interesting paper on locusts and grasshoppers was read by the Rev. Dr. Walker, at the Victoria Institute, on Monday afternoon. Locusts and grasshoppers, he said, belonged to the great order known as Orthoptera, from the fact that the wings were of one uniform width, without angles, sinuosities, or scalloped edging. They were the only members of the order referred to in Holy Writ, and the passages in which they were mentioned were probably far more numerous than all those wherein the other orders of insects are alluded to. The great green grasshopper was our largest native species, and locusts were but occasional visitors in very hot summers. Putting aside structural differences, the discrepancy in size might be instanced as a criterion between these two groups. It was probable that the largest grasshopper only equals the smallest locust in size.

That several species of locusts and grasshoppers were known to the Jews was evident from the various names used in the Hebrew and Greek versions. It was impossible to identify the majority of these. Probably the immature stages of these insects received distinct names; and three of these are translated in Joel i., 4, as "palmerworm," "cankerworm," and caterpillar. Reference was made to the ravages caused by the incursions of locusts, not only in Palestine and the adjoining countries, but in other parts of the world, and a description of the general habits and appearance of the locusts was quoted, with approval, from the late J. G. Wood's "Bible Animals."

Dr. Walker believed that two species of locusts mentioned in the Bible might be identified. One was the locust of the plague of Egypt, the species known to entomologists as Acridium peregrina, still exceedingly common in the East; the other was "the bald locust," mentioned in Leviticus (xi., 22), which was, in all probability, Truxalis nasuta, specimens of which he had taken in countries bordering the Mediterranean. These, with some others, were used as food by the Israelites. Herodotus mentioned that certain Libyan tribes ate locusts, and some modern travellers, including Dr. Livingstone, had compared their flavour to that of shrimps.

Death of a Well-known Sheep Breeder.—Mr. George S. Fisher, of Broughton Lodge, Kettering, one of the most successful sheep breeders in the Midlands, died suddenly on Monday evening from pneumonia, brought on by a severe cold contracted about three weeks ago. The deceased, who was 40 years of age, was born in Cheshire, being the second son of Mr. G. F. Fisher, who recently passed away at a ripe old age at Broughton Lodge. Early in life the deceased emigrated to New Zealand, and took up the profession of sheep farming. Returning to England 13 years ago, Mr. Fisher took up his residence at Pytchley, but three years later he removed to a large farm at Great Addington, where his successful breeding of stock quickly brought him to the forefront amongst the best exhibitors of the fen districts. After a residence of eight years at Addington, Mr. Fisher moved to the large farm known as Broughton Lodge, near Kettering, where he continued his successful experiments in sheep and Shire horse breeding. In addition to personally managing his own extensive business, Mr. Fisher had devoted a good deal of time to public work. He represented the parish of Great Addington on the Thrapston Board of Guardians and the Rural Council, and was prominently identified with the Northants Agricultural Society, the Thrapston Fat Stock Society, and the Thrapston Shire Horse Society. He was one of the promoters of the newly-formed Kettering and District Shire Horse Society and a steward and member of the committee of the Kettering Fat Stock Society.

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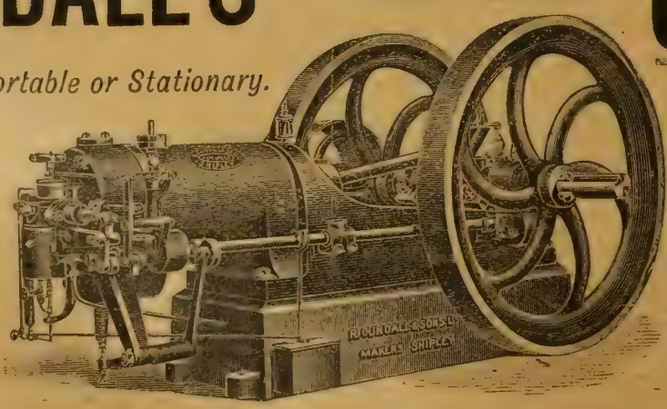
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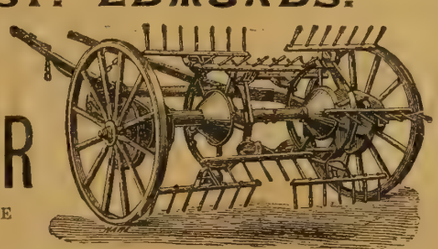
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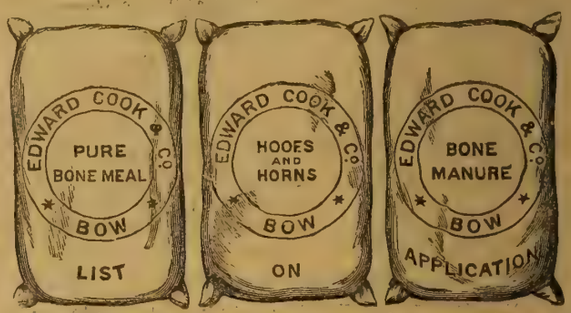
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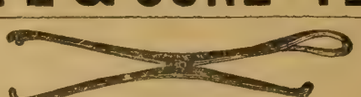
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VOL. LXXXVI. No. 3682. LONDON, MONDAY, APRIL 21, 1902. THIRTY-TWO PAGES. PRICE 3D.

SOCIETIES.

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION of ENGLISH HOP GROWERS.
(Founded June 1894.)
PRESIDENT.—COLONEL BROOKFIELD, M.P.
HON. TREASURER.—E. ALBERT WHITE, Esq., Beltring, Kent.
SECRETARY.—THOMAS IRONMONGER.
CENTRAL OFFICE.—61, HOP EXCHANGE, BOROUGH, LONDON.

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To promote united action among English hop growers as a body for the improvement of the industry.

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To collect and publish, for the benefit of members, special statistical and other useful information relating to English and foreign hop-culture.

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Entries close MAY 14th. Post entries at Double Fees, MAY 19th, 1902.

Further particulars may be obtained of
A. E. LOVELL, Secretary.
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LEGAL NOTICES.

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All persons having any CLAIMS or DEMANDS against the Estate of the late Mr. JOHN GINGELL, of Epping, who died on the 31st day of March last, are requested to send particulars of the same to us, the undersigned, as Solicitors for the Executors.
Dated this 9th day of April, 1902.
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Much Hadham, Herts.

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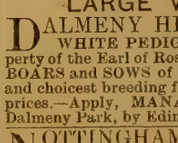
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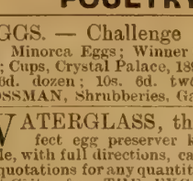
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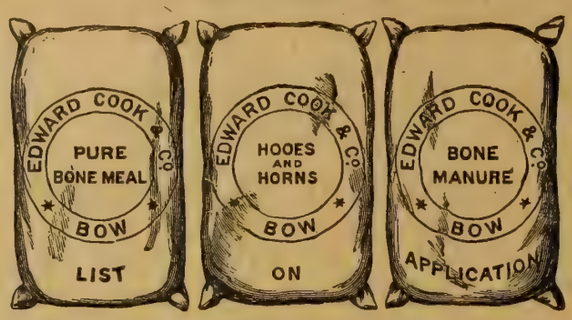
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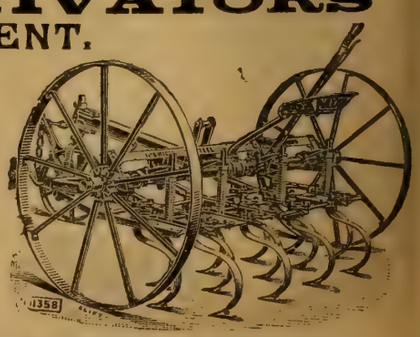
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THE BUDGET.—REGISTRATION DUTY ON CORN.

"The price of wheat is regulated by factors infinitely more potent than that of a threepenny duty on the hundredweight." This observation, made by the Chancellor of the Exchequer in his epoch-making Budget speech, was something more than a casual remark. It was a challenge, and until it has been answered the opponents of the registration duty must be regarded as out of court. The daily press takes, one is more sorry than surprised to see, a purely party view of the matter, whereas party has, in reality, nothing whatever to do with it. The effect of the threepence per hundredweight duty in 1846 was regarded as so slight that such undoubted Free Traders as Gladstone, Bright, and Cobden, not to mention Sir Robert Peel himself, made no objection to it. Sir Robert's own words, in 1846, in retaining the registration only were, "It will not in any way affect the price of bread." In 1869, when Robert Lowe removed the registration duty, he did so in conjunction with a reduction of a penny in the income tax. Sir Michael Hicks-Beach has put it on again in conjunction with a rise of a penny in the income tax. The latter falls wholly on the well-to-do, and even if we were to concede that the threepence per hundredweight will fall on the poor, what, let us ask, is the situation so far as logical taxation is concerned? Let us take the case of a respectable working-man earning thirty shillings a week and eating a quartern loaf daily. The duty now imposed would cost him 3s. 10d. a year. But income tax on earnings of £78, at the present rate of 1s. 3d. would be £4 17s. 6d. a year. Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, then, in his new Budget, has favoured the poor man against the rich to the extent of £4 13s. 8d. net.

This is a view which has been neglected in Parliament, but it cannot be ignored in financial circles. If the poorer classes did not pay their quota in the form of indirect taxation, the present merciful but quite illogical exemption of the poorer citizens from income tax would have to be abandoned, and each Englishman would have to "pay up" for national expenses in proportion to what he earned.

The "friends of the working-man," therefore, woul dbe well-advised to let sleeping dogs lie; the more so, too, as there is no evidence that the registration duty will fall on the English consumer at all. In 1869 the duty was taken off, but wheat did not fall threepence per hundredweight. Why, then, should it now rise threepence per hundredweight? The consumer who wants to make quite sure that he is not mulcted of the threepence has only to insist on an English loaf. If pro-Boers do not wish to contribute to a "war tax," let them buy English flour of the miller. We shall be delighted at this encouragement of home industries and preference for home produce. The rise in prices now quoted is, of course, a market move, pure and simple. A very few weeks will probably suffice to restore quotations to their legitimate level.

Who will pay the threepence? Probably the American, who is too keen a man to lose control of the English corn trade over a matter of less than a month's warehouse charges. Will bread go up? At first an attempt may be made to get a halfpenny per loaf more money, but as the duty equals only a penny on eight quartern loaves, the bakers asking this handsome extra profit for themselves will probably find themselves stranded.

Wheat at 30s. per quarter is equivalent to 4¼d. for the quartern loaf, allowing for millers' and bakers' profits, but not for credit or delivery. The latter item meaning carts and horses, men's and boys' labour, costs a halfpenny on the quartern loaf, and it is probable that four millions sterling are yearly wasted by consumers too lazy to fetch their own bread. The baker is not here to blame. He does not care to have to deliver, for probably he loses more customers over uncivil men and forgetful boys who deliver the bread than he does over either quality or price in the bread itself. Reckoning, however, a halfpenny for delivery and a farthing for credit, the ordinary householder ought to be able to get his bread at fivepence the four-pound loaf when ever wheat is averaging no more than 30s. Let him keep an eye on the weekly averages, and decline to pay more than the fivepence whilst wheat is at the present average prices; and most particularly let him see, if it rises for a few weeks above 30s., that when wheat comes down bread comes down too. It is

simple fairness to add that a margin must be allowed for price changes at headquarters to filter down. Thus, if wheat rose to 32s. on May 1st, and bread was put up the resultant farthing till the 15th, it would obviously be unreasonable to expect the loaf to be reduced in price before June 15th, even if on June 1st wheat went back to the lower side of 30s.

The re-imposition of the registration duty is, in our opinion a wise and statesmanlike measure, raising a substantial sum with a minimum of friction, and, in the exemption of home produce, establishing a sound and patriotic principle. With respect to the slight preference shown to the raw material over the manufactured, we wish it had been not slight. The unprosperous state of our home mills, and the drifting away of skilled hands into other forms of mechanical employment are serious matters, for which both political parties are to be censured. A registration duty on wheat might well have been coupled with a substantial duty on wheat imported in the form of flour—a form which makes offals scarce and dear to stock-breeders, besides robbing a great and useful industry of its fair manufacturing profit.

THE FERTILISERS AND FEEDING-STUFFS ACT, 1893.

The Board of Agriculture have just issued a leaflet dealing with the purchase of artificial manures. It gives much useful information on the relative values of nitrogen, phosphates, and potash. We do not, however, propose to digest the decimals and vulgar fractions with which it abounds, and by the application of which the practical farmer will be able to estimate the approximate merits of the manure he selects for the particular object he has in view. Our thoughts are diverted into another channel, and we venture to supplement the information given with a reminder of the provisions of the Fertilizers Act, a measure which seems to be so conscientiously observed that a breach of its provisions is hardly ever brought to the notice of the Courts.

The Royal Commissioners on Agriculture who reported in 1882, whilst acknowledging that the Royal and Highland Societies and other local societies had done much to protect their members from the adulteration or falsification of artificial manures, feeding-stuffs, and seeds, recommended that protection should be given to farmers by including the analysis of such articles in the duties of county analysts. A decade later the Act was put into the Statute Book to carry this recommendation into effect.

Every person who sells a fertiliser (in greater quantity than half a hundredweight) is required to give to the purchaser an invoice stating the name of the article and whether it is artificially compounded or not, and what is, at least, the percentage of nitrogen, soluble and insoluble phosphates, and potash, if any, contained in the article, and this invoice has effecf as a warranty of the statements contained therein. There is a corresponding provision for a descriptive invoice to be given on the sale of artificial feeding-stuffs. Penalties of £20 for a first offence, and £50 for a second (in addition to any civil liability), are imposed for failure to give the notice required, or for giving a false invoice, or for selling deleterious ingredients in cattle food, or worthless ingredients not disclosed at the time of sale.

The machinery for working the Act consists of a chief agricultural analyst appointed by the Board of Agriculture, and district analysts appointed by the County Councils and County Boroughs. Every purchaser of a fertilizer or feeding-stuff is entitled, on payment of the authorised fee within ten days after delivery of the article, to have it analysed by the district analyst. Samples for analysis have to be taken to the buyer in accordance with the regulations of the Board of Agriculture, but on payment of a further fee the samples may be taken by the analyst or his deputy. Prosecutions may be instituted by the person aggrieved, by the County or Borough Council, or by any association authorised in that behalf by the Board of Agriculture. Elaborate regulations have been issued by the Board for the taking of samples, but we have not space to detail them. A copy may be obtained from the Board, post free, on application.

It will be noticed that the payment of a prescribed fee is a condition precedent to the right to an analysis by the district analyst. Obviously, the amount of such fee is an important factor, affecing the success of the Act. We believe the scales of fees authorised by the County Councils are generally moderate in amount. There is, however, a lack of uniformity amongst them, and sometimes the fee varies considerably with the article to be analysed. A distinction is also drawn between a single determination and a full analysis.

But analysts, like doctors, sometimes disagree. A remarkable instance of this came to our notice the other day. Some pigs which had been fed on fine sharps were attacked by illness, and died after exhibiting symptoms strongly resembling swine fever. The sharps were analysed by the district analyst, who pronounced them unadulterated. Another sample of the same sharps was analysed by an independent analyst, who declared that they were slightly impregnated with castor beans—a deadly poison. It was not suggested that the castor beans had been intentionally introduced—as a matter of fact, they are too expensive to offer any temptation as adulterants—but it was supposed that a few stray beans on the floor of the mill had got amongst the sweepings, and so been ground with the sharps. The incident, at any rate, lends colour to the possibility, recently suggested by Mr. Hanbury, that there is not only an actual swine fever proper, which is propagated only by the microbe and which does not spring up spontaneously, but also a disease simulating swine fever, which does spring up spontaneously, largely owing to the manner in which the animals are fed. What if half the so-called fever is really only the effect of poisonous ingredients lurking unsuspected in the feeding-stuffs employed?

Let it be remembered that it is an offence against the Act to sell deleterious ingredients in feeding-stuffs, and that knowledge on the part of the seller is immaterial; and let the farmers avail themselves more largely of the advantages of the Act. Perhaps one reason why we hear so seldom of analyses under the Act is the competition of the local agricultural clubs, which in many districts—especially in the North of England—procure analyses for their members free of charge.

Howden Horse Fair.—At this fair, held on Tuesday, there was a very small attendance and only a limited number of horses were on offer. For cart horses there was a good demand at £40 to £65. The top price for the lighter class was £20 to £30 each.

Mr. John Lamb, of Fern Bank, Penrith, died on Monday afternoon, at the age of 62, after less than a week's illness. Thirty years ago he owned the Shorthorn herd at Burrell Green, Great Salkeld, one of the best collectnons of cattle in the north of England. His successes at the Royal and other important exhibitions were very numerous, and at the time when high prices were paid for the best class of stock he was among the most successful. His most noteworthy Royal winner was a grand young bull, Bold Ignoramus, which he sold for 500 guineas to Sir Tatton Sykes. Mr. Lamb's only son is a captain in the Manchester Regiment, now at the front.



By a Man of Mark Lane.

The receipts on account of Revenue from April 1, 1902, when there was a balance of £8,566,947, to April 12, 1902, were £7,831,960, against £6,543,325 in the corresponding period of the preceding financial year, which began with a balance of £5,596,918. The net expenditure was £13,038,848, against £13,416,838 to the same date in the previous year. The Treasury balances on April 12, 1902, amounted to £3,799,394, and at the same date in 1901 to £3,711,905.

Sir Cuthbert Quilter, M.P., who visited Egypt recently for the benefit of his health, and returned on Tuesday to prepare for the debate on Pure Beer Bill No. 3, claims to have established beyond dispute that ale, as mentioned by Herodotus, was brewed in Egypt 2,000 years ago. At Luxor, Sir Cuthbert came upon a monolith with a bas-relief indicating a tankard, and he found inscriptions establishing the existence of beer in the early days of Egyptian civilisation.

Mr. F. B. Smith, Professor of Agriculture and Vice-principal of the South-Eastern Agricultural College, Wye, Kent, has been appointed by the Colonial Office as agricultural adviser to Lord Milner. He will sail in the "Saxon" on the 26th of this month.

Irish Ploughshares for China.—It is stated that a large order is at present being fulfilled by an Irish firm of ironfounders, which is supplying no fewer than 15,000 plaughshares for use in China. Already about 3,000 of these are on the way to their destination, having been shipped from Dublin by way of Liverpool. It is the first order of the kind ever placed in Ireland.

Ayr Spring Hiring Fair.—This fair took place at Ayr on Tuesday, was very largely attended by servants, and there was a great demand for them. Cotmen got from 19s. to 21s. a week, with benefits, 20s. being the more regular wage; single ploughmen, from £16 to £17 in the half-year; byre men, milkers, £16; dairymaids, £12 to £14; and kitchen and byre girls, £10 to £11.

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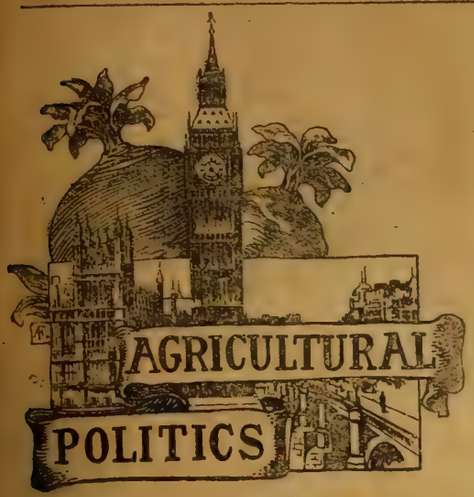
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By a Lobbyist.

One purpose of the Radicals in regard to the new Budget has been made luminously apparent: it is to represent the registration duty on corn and flour as an infliction designed purely in favour of the rural and landlord interest. It is to be represented, not merely as a Protectionist infliction, but as a Protectionist infliction of the worst character Not merely is a tax being put on the imported food-stuffs, but the Radicals point out that there are exemptions from the list of to-be-taxed articles which could only have been designed for the special behoof of the agriculturists. For instance, the list of grains to be subjected to the duty does not include linseed or cotton-seed—an evidence that the Government intends, as far as possible, to relieve agricultural feeding-stuffs from the impost. "Why," the Radicals are asking, "should this differentiation be permitted? Surely the farmers should be the last to be allowed to escape a national tax which can only tend to operate in their favour?" It cannot be said that the revenue yielded by linseed or cotton-seed is unimportant. Last year the imports of cotton-seed amounted to £2,600,000, and of linseed to £1,100,000. Yes, this is Protection—so the Radicals declaim—of the most unblushing, flagrant, and bare-faced character.

I am doubtful myself that the Budget will confer any serious direct benefit upon agriculturists. The tax is too small to permit of this. Even if the price of bread be immediately raised, we shall soon find that the matter will re-adjust itself. Public competition will be a grave factor in equalising and minimising the effect of the impost. The importance of the Budget—and I am in this repeating the opinion of some of the saner and clearer-eyed of the agrarian Members—lies in the fact that it gives a nemphasis to the encouraging and friendly attitude of the Government towards the interest. It is a continuation, in a word, of what the Radicals contemptuously dub "the policy of doles." It is, in fact, an extension of the principle embodied in the Rating Act. I am not going to copy Sir Michael Hicks-Beach and assert that the Budget is not out of harmony with the policy of Gladstone and Peel. It was an ill-advised assertion, which has little of sympathy with that manly outspokenness which we always associate with Sir Michael Hicks-Beach. Gladstone at least always regarded the registration duty which it is intended to re-impose as Protectionist in character, and Mr. Lowe regarded its abolition as, in a measure, the completion of the policy of Free Trade. The value of the present policy is that it is antagonistic to the economic purpose of Gladstone towards agriculture. If it were otherwise, it would be hardly worthy a cordial greeting.

This financial policy, or, rather, the character which its opponents will give it, will have at least one painful effect: it will inevitably tend to widen the antagonistic sentiment which is dividing the rural and the urban communities. But, for the matter of that, I believe that this would be the inevitable result of any specific measure in favour of the farmers. Any protective measure in favour of the urbanites—such, for instance, as an imperative eight-hours day—is represented not merely as justifiable and wise, but as consecrated by the first instincts of our humanity. To do aught in the same direction for agriculture is held to be a sacrilegious attack upon its own heaven-sent privilege of going unhindered to ruin. Still, this antagonistic sentiment is deeply regrettable, and that not because it has had any immediate ill-effect, but because it may engender a spirit of retaliatory attack. "This sentiment," said a Conservative M.P. to me on Thursday night, "is not really due to the legislation which has been recently adopted for the special behoof of agriculture. It is, I agree with you, due to the character given it by its opponents." The mere fact is that the bitterness bred of the Cobden and Bright agitations has never died out. It has been for years non-apparent, but never non-existent, and it is always susceptible of a blooming revival. Those agitations were agitations against landlordism in favour of urban industrialism, and at this moment the Budget appears to be to the Cobdenites an organised attempt on the part of organised Toryism to revive the economic conditions against which industrialism warred half-a-century ago.

In a sense, the Budget comes at an inopportune moment. Why, readers who believe in the Protectionist principle—the men who follow the lead of Mr. Chaplin, Mr. James Lowther, and Sir Howard Vincent—will declare that it can never be inopportune to do the right thing. In politics, however, it is the Opportunist who succeeds. The resolve to revive an impost on food-stuffs—which, I repeat, is of too small a character to have any serious effect upon prices, and certainly upon the price which the farmer will get for his cereals—has synchronised with an educational reform which the Radicals represent as another endowment for the benefit of the parsons. The Radicals denounce both purposes; and their skilled organisers actually gloat—I can use no other description than this—over the value of the old heroic cry of "Down with the Corn Laws and Church rates!" The whole policy of the Government will, in fact, be held to be retrogressive, and to be intended to return to those economic conditions whose first fruits were a starved and miserable people. I can understand men laughing at my assertions. I am, however, speaking with knowledge. In a few weeks every township in the country will resound with the asserftion that the sacred right of a cheapened food is in danger, and that the public funds are to be pillaged in the interest of one religious sect. The union of the two cries is a valuable electoral asset. It will lend to the denunciation of landlordism a certain sacrosanct character. It will inspire militant Nonconformity with the belief that in warring against the principle of the Budget it is performing a religious duty.

It may thus be that the economic departure which Sir Michael Hicks-Beach has initiated will not realise its promise. I have hailed it as a portent; butit may be that it will only remain a portent. I say this, not so much with the object of moderating the transports with which it has been received, as with the object of preventing a subsequent disappointment. "Much depends on the extent of the influence of what I may describe as Brightism among those who have hitherto acted with us." This remark by a Conservative politician of calm observation indicates one of the more serious elements in the situation. The significance of the Liberal spit in 1886 was due to the fact that the seceding section was led by Mr. Bright. In many senses Mr. Bright was a Conservative. I believe that had he lived he would have been proud to be entirely out of harmony with the present trend of industrial legislation; but upon this question of untaxed cereals and open ports he never swerved or faltered; nay, in his retrospect of the fight he fought he conveyed to you the idea that, in his belief, he was during the combat supernaturally inspired. Has the influence of Brightism among the Unionists receded? The Radicals, of course, will fight this new policy to a man. How many adherents will they secure from among the Liberal Unionists? Upon the answer to this depends, in a grave sense, the real value of the new policy which the Chancellor of the Exchequer has adopted. In its present initial stage that policy cannot accomplish much for the farmers.

I received, on Friday night, a piquant illustration of the manner in which the representatives of the towns will utilise the Budget. I found the antagonists of the Pure Beer Bill canvassing for support for their opposition on the ground that the Bill is simply another result of the Protectionist spirit which has been revived in the interest of the farmers. I heard one M.P., who is, I believe, himself a teetotaller, call upon two or three of his fellows to resist "this outrageous attempt" to put still another tax on the beer-drinking working-man for the benefit of agriculturists. Of course, I do not attribute the very strenuous antagonism which the Bill has provoked to this fact alone; I can only quote it as an example of the fertility of the Anti-Protectionists. Will this strenuous antagonism be sufficient to secure the defeat of the Bill on Wednesday? Well, judging by the result of the division last year, I should say it will not. But of what will success avail? We shall probably hear little more of the Bill; and even if it should prfoceed through all its stages—a most unlikely result—it will not much matter: the Bill is an innocuous production.

THE DAIRY.

Chester Cheese Fair.

The April Cheese Fair at Chester was held on Wednesday, when there was a pitch of about 32 tons. Buyers were in good attendance from all the principal centres of the trade. The market opened with a good inquiry for fine lots, and especially matured coloured, which sold at from 65s. to 70s. per cwt.; medium made 58s. to 63s. A good clearance was effected. The pitch and prices were about the same as at the corresponding fair last year.

Tax on Margarine in America.

Some weeks ago we reported that there was a Bill before the American Senate which, if passed, would have a revolutionary effect upon the sale of butter on the other side of the Atlantic, and an indirect effect here. This Bill has now been passed by the Senate, and it imposes 5d. per lb. on coloured margarine, and on adulterated butter, as well as ½d. per lb. on uncoloured margarine, and on process butter. As alterations have been made by the Senate, the Bill will go back to the House of representatives for confirmation. It is considered that the tax of 5d. per lb. will annihilate the coloured margarine trade, and it looks as if the American consumer will have to eat butter instead of margarine which must enhance the price of butter at home and restrict the export accordingly.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending April 15, 1902:—

Swine Fever.	Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.		No.	97	317	666	2,323	3,823
						559		5,964
								9,323
	Outbreaks.		No.	27	97	30	458	818
						53		513
								607
Rabies.	Cases Reported.	Oth'r Anim'ls.	No.	...	...	...	...	1
								...
								...
		Dogs.	No.	...	...	...	9	1
								...
								1
Pleuro-Pneumonia.	Cattle Slghterd.	Exposed to Infection.	No.	...	...	...	...	...
								...
								...
		Diseased.	No.	...	...	...	...	...
								...
								...
	Outbreaks.		No.	...	...	...	...	...
								...
								...
Glanders (incl. farcy).	Animals Attacked.		No.	37	28	44	670	619
						29		571
								377
	Outbreaks.		No.	21	21	21	336	358
						19		303
								204
Foot-and-Mouth Disease.	Animals Attacked.		No.	47	8	...	100	660
					...	...		99
					...	...		...
	Outbreaks.		No.	...	2	...	1	12
					...	...		7
					...	...		...
Anthrax.	Animals Attacked.		No.	14	36	15	403	303
					15	11		265
					32	13		314
	Outbreaks.		No.	12	20	11	236	196
					11	13		168
					13			159
Period.	Week ended Apr. 12, 1902							
	Corresponding week in	1901						
		1900						
		(1899)						
	Total for 15 weeks, 1902							
	Corresponding period in	1901						
		1900						
		(1899)						

NOTE.—The figures for the current Year are approximate only.

THE BUDGET.

Registration Duty on Corn and Flour.

OPINIONS AND CRITICISMS.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, having recovered from his recent illness, was able to make his Budget statement on Monday. The earlier passages of Sir Michael Hicks-Beach's statement were devoted to a review of the financial year of 1901. He said that the ebb in our commercial and industrial activity which had begun in 1900, although not augmented, had not yet ceased, but that, although the year showed nothing to elate us, it showed nothing to depress us. While a falling-off was shown in some items, there had been nothing to show any considerable drop in the consuming power of the people. The receipts from tobacco, spirits, and beer exhibited a diminution, but so far as the first two were concerned that arose from the forestalling of duty in the previous year. As against the fall in beer, there was a countervailing increase in the consumption of tea and cocoa. The total Exchequer issue last year, as compared with his estimate, had been £195,522,000. Deducting from this the Exchequer revenue, a deficit appeared of £52,524,000, and as £56,553,000 had been provided for out of Consols loans, a balance to the good of the Exchequer was left of £4,029,000. After remarking upon the erroneous and alarmist forecasts which had been heard from Radical quarters, the right hon. gentleman placed at £69,830,000 the special military and civil expenditure incurred during the year for the South African war. The total expenditure provided by the State in the year was £212,783,000. His estimate of receipts from the Customs had been exceeded by £993,000, sugar producing £6,390,000, as compared with his estimate of £5,100,000, and the export duty on coal producing, similarly, a slight increase over his anticipation. Even if the results of the current year should exhibit no increase in the export of coal, or actually a decrease, he should not regard that fact, observed the right hon. gentleman, amid cheers, as a proof that the export coal duty ought to be repealed. An explanation of his reasons for not considering wine and tobacco as promising objects for taxation this year was followed by a reference to the yield from the income-tax, and to the cost of the war.

Cost of the War.

A rough estimate of the cost of the wars in South Africa and China during the three years ending on March 31st last placed it at £165,034,000, but we had, as assets coming near, the repayments from the wealth of the Transvaal, and our share in the Chinese indemnity, the latter figure being in our own case £6,000,000. The total expenditure for the year he estimated at £174,609,000. On the present basis of taxation the revenue should amount to £147,785,000; so that a deficit was left of £26,824,000. But an addition must be made of from sixteen to seventeen millions in respect of the war expenditure to be incurred this year. He could not be influenced by mere hopes as to the outcome of the present peace conferences. Those who were most anxious for peace knew that nothing was more likely to conduce to that end than a firm and determined attitude on the part of the House of Commons and of the country. There would be likewise grants to both sides in the war, for the sake of restocking and resettling farms. Altogether he had a deficit of 45½ millions, but he reduced this to 41 millions by suspending the Sinking Fund.

New Taxes.

Coming to the new taxation proposals, Sir M. Hicks-Beach announced as the first of them a penny on the income-tax. This would yield £2,000,000 this year and half a million more next year; but he promised it should be viewed as the first item for reduction after the war. The stamp duty on bills at sight would be raised from a penny to twopence; and this would yield half a million. "Our old favourites," said the right hon. gentleman, "beer, spirits, and wine, are even less promising for increased taxation than they were a year ago." Tobacco was even in a worse position, whilst sugar could not be disturbed at the present juncture. Sir Michael pointed out that his primary object was to look for revenue, and his ideal of a tax was that which would yield most revenue with least inconvenience to the people. "Some people," he said, "have thought that they have discovered such a tax in what used to be called the old registration duty on corn and flour. (Hear, hear.) I should like to say something to the Committee on the history of that tax."

History of the Registration Duty on Corn.

"When Sir R. Peel in 1846 proposed the gradual abolition of the protective duties on corn, which according to the tariff of 1842 might have amounted to as much as £1 a quarter, he deliberately retained the duty of 1s. a quarter on corn and 4½d. a cwt. on flour and meal. That tax was remodelled in 1864, and went on for no less than 23 years, paying a part of the cost of the Crimean War, until Mr. Lowe, not quite knowing what to do with his surplus—I wish I was in that position—(hear, hear, and laughter)—abolished it in the year 1869. At the least it even then amounted to £900,000 a year. Why did Mr. Lowe abolish that tax? He gave two reasons. The first was that he believed, though it was a very small duty, it had the effect of preventing this country from becoming the commercial *entrepôt* for the corn trade of the world, and that being abolished, this country, being situated between America on the one side and the corn-growing countries of the East of Europe on the other, would become such a commercial *entrepôt* for the corn trade and a great benefit to our merchants. That was a very plausible reason, but Mr. Lowe's expectations had been entirely disappointed. Out of the enormous imports of corn, flour, and meal into this country year by year the most trifling proportion is ever re-exported. But Mr. Lowe gave a more important reason for abolishing the tax. He said this was a tax on one-third only of our total consumption of corn and flour. At that time only one-third of that consumption was imported from abroad, while at the present time two-thirds is imported from abroad. (Hear, hear.) He said that if to levy a tax on one-third of the total consumption of an article is wrong it is wrong in two ways: in the first place it raises the price of all the articles consumed—that which is produced in this country as well as that which is imported from abroad. It therefore takes more out of the pocket of the consumer than it yields to the Exchequer, and acts as protection to the home producer at the cost of the public at large. That, I think, is a fair statement of Mr. Lowe's argument. It was a beautiful theory, but it was only a theory—(hear, hear)—and it had never occurred to anybody before Mr. Lowe."

Price of Food was not Affected.

"When Sir Robert Peel alluded in 1846 to this registration duty, as it was then called, he evidently felt that its effect on the price of the article was absolutely nothing. (Hear, hear.) When he announced that after three years from that date, 1846, protective duties on corn and flour would entirely terminate, and foreign corn would be permitted to be imported duty free, almost with the very next breath he interpreted 'duty free' to mean that it would be subject only to what he called the nominal duty of a shilling; and in later years, when Budget after Budget saw more and more articles removed from our tariff, these articles still remained in it through times which may be called the heyday of Free Trade doctrine, without anyone ever objecting to the duty on the ground of its being protective. (Hear, hear.) And this was not because the attention of Parliament was never called to it. In the year 1864 Mr. Gladstone deliberately remodelled the duty. It had been a shilling a quarter on all corn; he altered it to threepence per cwt. instead, with the result of increasing the duty on some kinds of corn and decreasing it on others. He even proposed to include in the duty certain grain which had previously been free from it. Did anyone then suggest it was Protection? No (Ministerial cheers.)

Was there ever a greater Free Trader than Mr. Gladstone in 1864? Never! And yet what did he say of the tax? He did not desire it to be a permanent tax, but even while he was in that very year reducing the duties on tea and sugar he said with regard to this tax that it was a tax which produced considerable revenue, and which it would not be convenient then to part with. Now I come to the present day. I heard a cheer from the hon. member for Poplar (Mr. Buxton). He has given some study to financial questions, and I think his words may be listened to, at any rate, with deference on the Opposition side of the House. He has written a book on this subject, in which he refers to the abolition of this duty by Mr. Lowe. He states the opinion—which, no doubt, he still holds—that the registration duty on corn and flour violated in theory the principles of Free Trade, but he goes on to show that he did not violate them in practice, for he says: 'There was something to be said against the permanent relinquishment of a branch of revenue, profitable in itself, collected with very little trouble, expense, or hindrance to trade, and practically not affecting the price of food—(Ministerial cheers)—and it is pretty certain that if the duty were now in existence it would be retained; but the period was one of a somewhat reckless relinquishment of indirect taxation.' I agree with the words of the hon. member; it was a reckless act to relinquish this duty, and it was proved to be so by the result, for—as I think I can proceed to show—the abolition of the duty, as he states, practically did not at all affect the price of food, not even of the corn like wheat, barley, and oats, so largely produced in this country.

"Now I refer to the wheat prices of 1869. The duty was abolished on June 1st, 1869. The monthly average price for January that year was 51s. 7d.; from that time it fell until in the last week of May it came down to 45s. 2d., that being also the last week of the duty. On June 1st the duty was abolished. The price of wheat remained the same for the first week. It then rose steadily till August, when it amounted to 52s. 1d., and it was not until the following December that the price of wheat was again as low as it was in the previous May with the duty on. Now, what does that prove? Why, of course, it proves that

the Price of Wheat is Regulated by Factors

infinitely more potent than that of a threepenny duty; it is regulated by questions of demand and supply, by the question of a plentiful or bad harvest, by the question of cost of transport, and the effect of the threepenny duty per cwt. on the price of wheat could be nothing more at the most than that of the dock dues which are charged at the port when a vessel lands her cargo—nothing nearly so much as the protection now given to foreign wheat by the difference between the freights for that wheat and the freights on our railways. (Ministerial cheers.) But did the duty check the imports of corn into this country? Did its repeal increase imports? From 1849, when protective duties were abolished, until 1859 there was not much change in our total imports of corn. In 1862 they rose to 74,000,000 cwt., double what they were in 1859. Then they fell; then they rose again to 80,000,000 cwt. in 1869, which was the year of the repeal of the duty; but in the following year, when anybody would have supposed, if the duty had anything to do with the matter, that they would have largely risen, they fell again to 74,000,000 cwt., 6,000,000 cwt. less than in 1869.

"Was there any effect on the price of flour from the repeal of the duty? I find that the price of flour in the Mark Lane returns for the eleven weeks before the repeal of the duty was 39s., precisely the same as it was for the thirteen weeks after the repeal. Did it make any difference in the price of bread? All who have studied these subjects know that the price of bread does not vary with small changes in the price of corn. (Hear, hear.) The retail price of bread, like the retail price of all articles, is established by averages over a wide range of quantities and qualities and over a considerable period of time. I have no doubt that our bakers are extremely ready to seize any excuse for increasing the price of bread, and I am afraid that the bakers and dealers together have made proportionately very much more profit out of the low prices of foodstuffs in this country than ever has come to the retail consumer. (Cheers.) But 3d. a cwt. on corn would amount to a very small fraction of a farthing on a 2lb. loaf, and there is sufficient competition among bakers to make it quite certain that if anybody attempted to raise the price of bread on such a ground as that he would very soon find it was to his advantage to return to his former price. The records of the price of bread in 1869 are very imperfect, but I find this, that the fall of wheat between January and May in that year was, as I have said, 6s. 7d. per quarter, and the fall in the price of the quartern loaf in the east of London was rather less than a halfpenny; but when the duty was abolished of course it had no perceptible effect whatever on the price of bread in that year. I think the committee will not be astonished if after all the arguments I have placed before them, I say that in my judgment the repeal of this duty by Mr. Lowe in 1869 was a great mistake." (Ministerial cheers.)

The New Tax on Corn and Grain.

"At a time when it is essential, in my judgment, for the country to increase the yield of indirect taxation it is a time also when that tax ought to be reimposed. (Ministerial cheers.) The duty

will be leviable as before at the time of importation, when passing the customs entry, on the documentary evidence of weight, unless the grain should be at once entered for re-exportation, in which case bonds will be taken for duty until it is re-exported. With this exception no bonding or drawback will be allowed—it was not allowed before—as the duty is so low. The duty will be threepence per cwt. on all corn and grain." (Ministerial cheers.)

Sir H. Vincent: "Well done." (Laughter.)

The Chancellor of the Exchequer: "The question is, assuming that to be the duty on corn and grain, what should be the correlative duty on flour and meal. In the years to which I have referred that correlative duty was 4½d. per cwt., or 50 per cent. more. It was based, of course, on the calculation of the average quantity of corn which it took to make a certain amount of flour. But since that time the circumstances of the milling industry have undergone a considerable change. In those days the amount of flour produced from 100 cwt. of wheat was calculated to be 80 cwt. It was produced by grinding with millstones—a process which is now practically extinct, at any rate, in the countries from which our flour comes. The flour is now ground by roller mills, with the result that 100 cwt. of wheat would only yield 72 cwt. instead of 80 cwt. of flour. But that flour would be of much finer quality, because it would not include the offal formerly included in our old flour. Therefore, in order to equalise the duty as between flour and corn, we must put th eduty on flour somewhat higher than it was before, and I pro-flour and corn, we must put the duty on flour and meal. The total yield of these duties in the current year I estimate at £2,650,000, making a total estimated receipt from new taxation of £5,150,000."

With a deficit still confronting him of £35,500,000, he proposed to borrow £32,000,000 and to find the rest by a draft on the Exchequer balances. A continuance of war expenditure throughout the year might render it necessary for him to be invested with temporary borrowing powers, and if that were so, he would propose that it should be by Treasury bills, or by some short loan to the extent of 10 or 12 millions.

'Taxing the Food of the People" an Absurd Cry.

In conclusion, the Chancellor of the Exchequer said: "It is not an agreeable task to me to feel that this year again I am to some extent undoing the good work which my predecessors have done, and which I, in more prosperous times, imitated, in the reduction of the National Debt. It is even more unpleasant to be obliged to ask a limited class of the community, those who pay Income-tax, to bear an additional burden, and to restore to our tariff an article of universal consumption which has been free from taxation for a generation. But I remember something which Mr. Gladstone said when, in the early days of the Crimean War, after a series of Budgets in which article after article had been freed from taxation, he had to propose new taxation for war expenditure. I remember then that he warned the Committee whom he was addressing, that in the vista of expenditure which was opening before them, it was impossible to say how long a permanent continuance of exemption from taxation could be accorded to the articles which he had himself freed from it, among which the Committee will remember corn and flour were not included. Sir, the position to-night, to my mind, is much the same as it was in Mr. Gladstone's mind at that time. The crux of the situation is the necessity for increased indirect taxation (Ministerial cheers).

"I have to propose an increase. I know very well that the very name of a duty on corn may arouse prejudices, strong and deep, born in the days when such a duty meant a duty intended to make corn dear, and sometimes, at any rate, too successful in its object. That, Sir, is not the duty I propose to-night (Ministerial cheers). I know that attempts may be made to fan those prejudices into flame by a renewal of the cry which has always seemed to me to be somewhat absurd (Ministerial cheers), considering that some kinds of wholesome food have always been taxed on our tariff, and I cannot myself see why it is more wrong to tax an article that is consumed by a man as food than to tax the means by which he purchases that article. I remember that this cry was attempted to be raised last year when I proposed a duty on sugar; but I remember also that the good sense of the people at large rejected it, and I believe that they will reject it again (cheers), because I am convinced that they know and feel that, with the high wages of the present day, and with bread so cheap that even in comparatively poor households, I fear, it is sometimes wasted, the tax I am proposing could at the very worst be but a very trifling contribution on their part to the cost of a war of which the great bulk of them approves (cheers), and to the ever-increasing charge of the Navy, one of whose primary duties it is to protect the food supply of the country (cheers). Of this I am quite certain, that by no other indirect tax could, by any possibility, so much money be found for the Exchequer with so little effect upon the price of the article on which it is imposed, with so little injury to any manufacturing industry, or with less general disturbance to the trade and commerce of the country. I beg to move the resolutions." (Cheers.)

The chairman (Mr. Jeffreys) then put the resolution imposing a duty on corn and flour.

The Discussion.

Sir W. Harcourt said that the duties on imported corn and flour would meet with the most decided hostility on that side of the House. (Opposition cheers.) Sugar is a comfort, but corn is a thing of the first necessity. Therefore, the tax upon corn falls upon the very poorest of the poor. What is the argument upon which the right hon. gentleman relies? The argument is this—that it is so small a tax that it will not affect the consumption of that commodity. That is an old fallacy of the old Protectionists. I think it is the most formidable proposal of taxation that has been made for many a long year, and by far the most objectionable. If I had to select one tax which was the worst which could have been chosen, I should say it was a tax upon corn (hear, hear). The right hon. gentleman says it is a prejudice to say it is a tax upon the food of the people. It is a tax on the food of the people, and you cannot alter that. It is a tax upon the very commodity which is the most extreme necessity of the poorest of the poor; and it is a tax which of all taxes ought to be avoided. Everybody will feel that this means a great deal more than is implied.

Mr. Chaplin said that the Chancellor of the Exchequer had pretty well exhausted already all ordinary sources for obtaining great additions to Revenue, and was obliged to try others, and he was going to try a revival of the old shilling duty upon grain. As a tax he (Mr. Chaplin) defied anyone to prove that it would injure any human being, and he had always regarded its repeal as an act of financial unwisdom if not of great financial folly. The burden of that duty would be infinitesimal; the price of bread to the workers of this country would not be raised even by a fraction of a farthing; no other tax could be named that would produce an equal amount of Revenue, and no argument could be used against it except on the ground of sentiment, and sentiment in the present financial position of the country was too expensive a luxury. Further, as a protective measure, the effect of the tax would be nil, while, on the other hand, the amount of Revenue produced would be considerable. Where could another tax be found to produce an equivalent Revenue with so many recommendations in its favour? His right hon. friend had taken a wise and courageous course in proposing such a tax, which was supported by reason and justice, and by experience and expediency. He ventured to say that the tax would meet with a far wider and a far more general acceptance and approval in the country than, perhaps, hon. gentlemen opposite anticipated. He believed that multitudes of people would thank God that, in connection with the financial policy of this country, a little common sense had at last been brought to bear. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Buxton said the Chancellor of the Exchequer had pointedly referred to him, but he declined to admit that his remarks on the registration duty on corn bore the full meaning the right hon. gentleman had lent them. He condemned the tax as a tax, and said it should have been applied, if levied at all, to the reduction of the debt. To impose a tax was very different, moreover, to continuing it. He regretted that the right hon. gentleman had not raised all that he was seeking by taxation from income tax.

Mr. Lowther said the reimposed duty was no protection, but it broadened the basis of taxation which had been unduly narrowed. On purely revenue grounds the tax on imported corn and flour was a proper one, and had nothing to do with the protection of home industries. It was at the same time unjust that, while the food of the people was now to bear additional taxation, articles of foreign manufacture, which directly competed with the products of our own countrymen, were admitted free of charge.

Mr. Broadhurst warned the Chancellor of the Exchequer that the tax on corn would be fought by the Opposition with all the strength of which they were capable. It was monstrous that for the pleasure of assisting the millionaires in South Africa after the war the bread of the widows and orphans in this country should be taxed. (Oh, oh, and laughter.)

Mr. T. G. Bowles thought the addition to the income tax was indefensible, particularly in view of the fact that so many incomes escaped. On the other hand, he knew of no means by which so large a sum could be raised with so little injury to the people as the proposed corn duty.

Sir H. Campbell-Bannerman at this stage suggested that some indication should be given as to how the House would be asked to proceed with the further stages of the Budget. He thought some longer time for considering the general financial scheme of the Government should be given than would be afforded by having the general debate on the Budget the following day. (Hear, hear.)

The Chancellor of the Exchequer expressed his desire to meet the appeal of the leader of the Opposition. He suggested passing the corn duty resolution that evening and taking the loan resolution the following day confining the debate strictly to the subject of the loan. The general discussion on the financial proposals of the Budget could then be taken on Thursday, and another day at a later date given for a full discussion of the corn duty. (Hear, hear.) He wished to know whether this course would be in order.

The Deputy-Chairman said the course proposed would be in order.

Mr. Holland wished that the Chancellor of the Exchequer could have seen his way to make certain proposals for taxation marked to the expenses of the war, which in the event of peace being restored might have been dropped very easily without interfering in any way with the general scheme of the Budget. He condemned both the extra stamp on cheques and the duty on corn.

Mr. Robson looked on the proposed tax on corn not as the dawn of a new day, but as a reversion to a long past night. The convenience of such a tax was its greatest danger, and would constitute the temptation of every other Chancellor of the Exchequer. (Hear, hear.) The tax would not remain at 1s. a quarter, and it would ultimately be extended to manufactured articles. It was unquestionable that it would be paid, not by the foreigner, but by the consumer, and it would fall with the greatest severity on the poor.

Sir H. Vincent approved of the corn tax, and said that hon. members opposite should look at facts as they were to-day, and not as they were thirty or forty years ago.

Mr. Churchill thought the new taxes which the Chancellor of the Exchequer had brought forward would give to the revenue a power of expansion that hitherto it had lacked. The imposition of a one shilling and threepenny income tax was a matter of grave concern, but nevertheless he thought the proposals of the Chancellors as a whole were the best that could have been conceived in the circumstances.

Mr. C. Seely expressed his intention of opposing the tax on corn at every stage, and remarked that the impost would press most heavily on those who were least able to bear it.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, in replying on the debate, said the main features of the Budget were the proposed new duties on corn and flour. These had been objected to, not on practical grounds, but on theory. The objectors assumed that the old duties increased the prices of corn and flour, but he defied them to prove it. (Hear, hear.) When that could be shown there would be something to be said for the Opposition. Our old friend the thin end of the wedge had been mentioned, because these taxes were approved by the right hon. member for Thanet.

Mr. J. Lowther: I beg pardon. I approved them as a means of raising revenue, but I said they would not be of the slightest use as measures of Protection. (Laughter.)

The Chancellor of the Exchequer said there was thus less reason than ever for comparing the proposed imposts to the thin end of the wedge. (Hear, hear.)

The Committee then divided on the Corn and Flour Resolution, with the following result:—

For the resolution	254
Against	135
Majority for	—119

The announcement of the figures was received with Ministerial cheers.

Questions in Parliament.

Scope of the Duty.

On Tuesday Mr. Lough inquired what goods were included under the heading of "grain, flour, and meal"; whether it included all cereals, such as peas, haricots, lentils, and rice, and also manufactured goods, such as macaroni, semolina, starch, tapioca, sago, and arrowroot.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer: I only received notice of this question when I came into the House. I think that longer notice should be given of a detailed question of this kind. Subject to that, I think I may safely answer "Yes."

Mr. A. S. Wilson asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer whether it was intended to treat the existing grain contracts of bona-fide traders in the same way that he treated similar coal contracts last year.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer: No, Sir, certainly not. The case of the grain contracts is precisely the same as that of the sugar contracts last year, and the persons who have made them have their remedy under the provisions of Section 10 of the Finance Act of last year.

Mr. Kearley asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer if he was quite clear that rice should bear the new grain tax.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer: Yes; rice is grain. (Ministerial cheers.)

On Thursday Mr. Bayley asked if the proposals of the Government to tax all kinds of imported

grain and flour included linseed and cotton seed cakes.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer: No, Sir, these seeds are exempted.

Mr. S. Young inquired whether imported corn used in the United Kingdom for distillation purposes would be exempted from the new customs duties in the same way as molasses were exempted from the sugar duties when used in distillation.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer: No, Sir.

Mr. Warr asked whether locust beans, which were low-priced articles chiefly used in the manufacture of cake for fattening cattle, fell within the terms of the resolution.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer: Yes, Sir.

Mr. C. M'Arthur asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer whether grain used for distillation should pay customs as well as excise duty.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer: It did when the tax formerly existed.

Sir C. Dilke asked why it was proposed to include rice when it was not included before the corn tax was in operation.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer: Because we propose to tax rice, and rice is a grain. It was not included in the schedule before.

On Friday Sir C. Dilke asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer whether his attention had been called to the fact that the duty on rice was repealed together with that on dates, nuts, and many other articles in 1860; and was not a protion of the grain duty amended in form in 1864 and repealed in 1869; and whether on any previous occasion so-called locust beans, being the fruit of the carob tree, had been included as grain in taxation.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer: The duty on rice in grain was abolished in 1860. But rice dust and meal were included in the Budgets of 1860 and 1864 at the rate of 4½d. per cwt. This latter duty was abolished in 1869. Locust beans were until a few years ago included under the heading beans, and as such were taxed under the old Registration Duties of 1860 and 1864.

Mr. C. M'Arthur asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer whether, in the case of wheat which was imported for milling and re-exported as flour, a drawback would be allowed on the export of the flour equal to the duty incurred on the import of the wheat.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer: It is not in contemplation to allow a drawback upon the export of flour milled from imported wheat. It was not allowed when the duty existed before. I do not see how such flour could be distinguished from flour made from wheat which has not paid the duty.

Press Opinions.

Times: On the whole, Sir Michael Hicks-Beach has so far acted on sound principles in the selection of the import of corn and flour as the subject of new, or rather renewed, indirect taxation. The tax will be levied on an article of universal consumption, and at so low a rate that it will neither be practically felt by individuals nor can substantially operate for the protection of British corn-growers against foreign competition.

Standard: By leciding to impose a Custom Duty of threepence per hundredweight on corn and grain, and a correlative duty on flour and meal, Sir Michael has only reverted to a practice which the strongest Free Traders of the most orthodox age never dreamt of regarding as at all inconsistent with their cardinal doctrine. What Mr. Gladstone accepted and elaborated might surely be good enough for Sir-William Harcourt. Yet, apparently with the approval, if not at the prompting of the Front Opposition Bench, that antiquated, but still energetic, advocate of what he assumes to be the undefiled truth of Fiscal hilosophy, declared war against the projected impost. It appears in their estimation an irrelevant trifle that when the Corn Laws were abolished, and the victory of Free Trade may be absolute, the Registration Duty on corn was not touched. . . . We suppose that we are in for the old claptrap about the Big and Little Loaf. It is enough to say that the removal of the duty did not make bread an atom cheaper. It is certainly no objection to the policy of re-imposition that it encourages the farming class, whose present fortunes and whose usefulness as a factor in a wholesomely-ordered community should entitle them to sympathy and respect. But no one can seriously pretend that a tax so trifling can ever be felt by the consumer. Bakers, we know, are quick to clutch at any pretext for raising their charges or adhering to them when too high. But, after all, they compete keenly with one another, and the utmost ingenuity of "trade rings" cannot succeed in making the infinitesimal addition to the cost of a hundredweight of wheat, or a corresponding amount of flour, appreciable in the price of a household loaf. Nor should it be forgotten that it is this welcome and just extension of indirect taxation which makes the payers of Income-tax willing to submit to the latest addition to their burdens.

Daily Telegraph: In face of the urgent necessity which has long been felt for renewing the elasticity of our financial methods for permanent purposes, and providing for the cost of Empire by a revenue system the most equitable in its distribution and easy in its effect, we are convinced that the reimposition of the shilling a quarter upon imported grain will be welcomed by the country at large as a valuable step in the indispensable work of broadening the basis of taxation in order to mitigate its pressure. But, in any event, the attempt to represent Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, as laying wicke dhands upon the sacred ark of Cobdenism will prove as futile as it is inevitable. . . . Mr. Lowe threw away a peculiarly useful aid in the halcyon years when Chancellors of the Exchequer did not know what to do with their surpluses, and thought, like the grasshopper, that the summer would last for ever. The masses had been utterly unconscious of the existence of the tax, and gained absolutely nothing from its abolition as respects the price of bread. With the fall that has occurred in grain values since 1869, the incidence of the restored registration duty, equivalent to less than a farthing upon the quartern loaf, will be imperceptible, and a measure yielding nearly two and a half millions to the Treasury will involve not the slightest possibility of hardship to the democracy, which is as resolute to bear its part both in the cost and in the privileges of the fight for Empire as any class in the community at home or in the Colonies over-sea.

Morning Post: The Chancellor of the Exchequer has been unable to tear himself away from his old love, the income tax, but, on the other hand, in the reimposition of a small corn duty he has shown some leaning at least towards a more equitable and a wiser apportionment of taxation among all classes of the community. . . . Long and often has a duty on corn, such as the Chancellor of the Exchequer proposes, been advocated in these columns, and we have nothing but praise for his boldness in disregarding those prejudices, strong and deep, which his sane proposal may arouse. . . . We welcome the new corn duty not only for itself, but because it does something to put taxation on a broader basis, because it is a step toward the abolition of glaring inequalities, because it makes for a more equitable distribution of the finacial burden among all classes of the community.

Daily Chronicle: The new tax is thoroughly bad. It presses hardest on those least able to bear it, and it is a return to protection. Sir Michael Hicks-Beach sought to rebut the second objection by saying that it was a long time before Mr. Gladstone took off the "registration duty" on corn. But it is one thing to take time before removing the last trace of a protective tax. It is another thing to reimpose such a tax. More significant than the Chancellor's very inconclusive references to the past was the chorus of delight with which his announcement was greeted by the Protectionists in the House of Commons last night. They at any rate believed that the new tax was going to protect the British farmer. . . . . Somebody will have to pay the tax. Who will it be? In the long run there can be no doubt that it will be the consumer. And the run may not be so very long either. Already the trade concerned is beginning to talk of the price of bread being "necessarily" raised a halfpenny per quartern loaf. The "necessity" of a rise on that scale, we may say at once, is only the desire of the dealers to shift the burden on to the consumer, and to secure a little bit extra for themselves on the way. The very smallness of the duty may play into their hands. It is to be 5d. per cwt. on flour. If that, and no more, were to be placed on to bread, it would work out at five-sevenths of a farthing on the quartern loaf. But the trade in all its stages will try, we may be sure, to get the better of those whom it supplies. . . . . We can only hope that competition among merchants and bakers will avail to redress this possible evil, and that any actual increase in the price of bread may be prevented by other factors, as has largely been the case with the sugar tax. But the Government in such a case are entitled to no credit. So far as they and their tax are concerned, they propose, as even a Ministerialist speaker said, "to take from the food of the people and give to the agriculturists and the landlords."

Daily News: It is useless for Sir Michael Hicks-Beach to plead that the tax is only a small one, that it ought never to have been repealed, and that its effects on the price of food will scarcely be noticed. It is not a question of how far this tax raises the price of the loaf to-day. Its tremendous importance lies in the fact that the staff of life, the elemental food of the British people, is once more exposed to the raids of every financier in search of a surplus, of every War Minister in search of glory, of every interest in search of endowment.

Morning Advertiser: We are inclined to welcome, on general grounds, the new departure he has made. He has had the courage to reimpose the registration duty on imported corn, flour, and meal which Mr. Lowe gave up in 1869. It never was regarded or treated as a protective duty. Although it must slightly raise the price of home-grown as well as of the foreign grain on which it is levied, it is so small that it will neither greatly benefit the farmer nor impose any appreciabe burden on the consumer. It is nonsense to speak of it as a tax on the food of the poorest. As a tax on foodstuffs it is negligible. The only person whom it will much affect is the manufacturer, and among manufacturers particularly the brewer, who, first having had the duty on beer raised, and then had a heavy duty put upon a very important ingredient of beer, now by this new duty has the price of his main ingredient raised. He cannot be expected to be very well content with this new burden; for he cannot raise the price of beer to the consumer, and, at a time when the consumption of beer has been decreasing, will for the most part have to pay it out of his own pocket. Apart, however, from this special effect of its incidence, we are, as we have said, inclined to welcome the revival of this almost perfectly harmless tax, which, while scarcely affecting the consumer at all, brings in to the revenue more than a penny on the income tax.

Globe: The Chancellor of the Exchequer reimposes that registration duty of 3d. per cwt. on imported corn and grain and 5d. per cwt. on foreign flour and meal which Mr. Lowe flung away in a moment of mad pedantry thirty-three years ago. It is a step for which we have nothing but praise, and it is one we have long advocated. . . . . As far as one can be certain of anything, it is clear that the price of the loaf cannot be touched by this infinitesimal impost."

Daily Mail: On the whole, a small duty on corn is more desirable than a duty on timber. The threepence a hundredweight on wheat will make no appreciable difference to the price of the loaf, though it will slightly curtail the profits which the middleman and the baker make. To call it a tax on bread as did some of the speakers in the House of Commons is absurd. It will be felt by none. It is perhaps a pity that the duty on imported flour was not placed at a higher figure than fivepence, as the decline in the physique of our population is largely attributed by good authorities to foreign-ground floor, while the loss of the corn offal is a serious matter, preventing our stock-raisers from remuneratively fattening beasts for the cattle market, and so playing into the hands of beef trusts and the like.

Morning Leader: We are to throw our policy of Free Trade to the winds for a beggarly couple of millions and a-half. If ever a nation sold its birthright for a mess of pottage, it is here. But, of course, the landlords, who, with the help of the parsons, control this Government, know what they are about. They are beginning cautiously, and on a small scale. They know very well that it is the first step in the wrong direction which counts. Make that determining step a slight one, and you can the more easily persuade another to take it.

Star: The poor man has already been bled for Tory extravagance in the shape of increased taxes on tea and beer, and a new tax on sugar. But tea, beer, and sugar are comforts; bread is a terrible necessity for the poorest of the poor. There is the abominable character of this tax. If the working men do not rise and say they will not permit Free Trade to be destroyed, in a few years Protection will fill the land with famine, and the innocent will feel the pangs of hunger.

Westminster Gazette: It is scarcely possible that even two millions and a-half can be raised on corn without increasing the price of bread to the poor. And the duty, when once introduced, promises such abundant and easy revenue to a Chancellor, that the temptation to increase it must be a formidable one. We shall need at once a corresponding energy among Liberals whose duty it is, above all else, to defend the food of the poor. The old argument must be re-learnt, and the public taught what protection has meant and must always mean to the mass of the people.

St. James's Gazette: We could wish that Sir Michael had seen his way to impose more than fivepence per hundredweight on flour and meal, so that we could have had our bread stone-ground at home, and have obtained the advantage of the offal. But we recognise his plea that his first duty as Chancellor of the Exchequer is to get money, not to prohibit or restrict importation.

Pall Mall: The impost means an almost infinitesimal fraction of a farthing on the quartern loaf, and even the baker, with all his anxiety to put up the price of bread on the slightest provocation, can hardly have the impudence to raise it on the strength of this small duty. And the most ardent Cobdenite of them all has little ground for objection to the re-imposition of a registration fee which Mr. Gladstone adopted. For our own part we should have regarded with equanimity a more serious attempt on the part of the Chancellor of the Exchequer to make the lower classes pay something of their fair share towards the cost of a war for which they clamoured quite as loudly as anybody else in the country.

The Statist: Surely any new tax, supposing one to be immediately required, ought to be such that it will yield a large revenue in the present,

and will be capable of being increased without much injury to trade in the future. Does the registration duty on corn satisfy either of these two conditions? The Chancellor of the Exchequer tells us that he does not mean the duty to be protective. Obviously, in its present form it is too small to be protective. But putting that aside, if the Chancellor of the Exchequer means that it is not to be protective, he must intend us further to understand that it is not to be augmented in the future. Is it worth while because of a muddled conflict with two petty States to disturb so great a trade as the one we are considering, and to risk adding to the cost of the poor man's food?

Economist: The proposed revival of the corn duties constitutes the corner stone of, and is the great blot upon, his financial scheme. In dealing with that, he was inconclusive and self-contradictory to a degree. He began by declaring that the payers of indirect as well as direct taxes should be made to bear their share of the war burden, and that it was as the best means of touching the pockets of the masses that the new duties were sought to be imposed, but he ended by affirming that the tax is so small that it will not reach the consumer at all, thus effectually stultifying himself. By whom he expected the new duties would really be paid he did not venture to say, though, of course, if the Exchequer is to gain £2,650,000, the money must come out of some peoples' pockets. The very convenient theory that the foreigner will pay, which some of the apologists for Sir Michael Hicks-Beach have put forward, has been promptly negatived by the advances in the prices of wheat and flour that have taken place since the Budget was introduced, and the intermediaries in the trade are certain to take care that the additional burden does not remain on their shoulders, but is passed on, in some form or other, to the ultimate consumers.

Manchester Guardian: The duty of threepence per hundredweight on unground foreign corn and fivepence per hundredweight on flour is precisely such a duty as the Anti-Corn Law League existed to abolish. The fact is thinly disguised by the meaningless name of "Registration Duty," formerly applied to this particular corn duty and revived yesterday by the Chancellor of the Exchequer. It is perfectly easy to "register" the advent of foreign corn without taxing it. "It is no more difficult," Mr. Lowe said when abolishing this sham apparatus for registration, "to register the arrival of corn without levying a duty of one shilling per quarter upon it than it is to roast a pig without burning down a house." The tax is a tax upon raw material, if ever there was one; it is protective, for the article taxed is grown and is not to be taxed in England; it opens the way at once to other protective taxes, for it gives to a particular English industry an advantage to which other other industries will naturally expect equivalents. It is merely a minor objection that it involves complicated and expensively-collected duties on about forty other articles, such as arrowroot ,tapioca, sago, macaroni, and starch, which might be used as vehicles for the smuggling of corn if they were left untaxed. The great objection to the tax is that it gives way, for a very poor mess of pottage, our English policy of Free Trade. Henceforward, if the tax be imposed, the question will be not whether we shall have protective duties on foreign corn, but how large the duties shall be—threepence per hundredweight, or sixpence, or one shilling, or any other sum that the agricultural interest now befriended in high places may consider sufficient.

Manchester Courier: The cry has already been raised that the Budget is an attack upon the sacred Ark of Free-Trade, and it may be expected to resound from all the platforms of the Opposition during the next few weeks. Like other similar cries, it may be left to exhaust itself on the ears of an indifferent people. By no other means could the Chancellor of the Exchequer have hoped to raise the money required by the Government at this period, beyond the amount available from sources already tapped, with such an imperceptible amount of inconvenience to the entire body of the community.

Western Daily Press (Bristol): It is far from certain that it will really cause any addition to the cost of bread, but it does interpose an artificial barrier, although a small one, between the grower of wheat and the consumer, and it is hailed with delight by those persons who are avowed Protectionists. To be sure in its present form it is so small an impost that it is not really Protectionist, but the thin end of the wedge has been inserted, and if this principle is accepted, some future Chancellor of the Exchequer will be ready to double and treble the rate. It may be true that if the registration duty had never been withdrawn no one would think of remitting it now, but Sir Michael has chosen an unfortunate moment for raising a question of principle upon an issue in which popular sentiment—perhaps we may say popular prejudice—will be strongly against him. The Budget will not strengthen the Government, and, what is more important, it will not benefit the country.

Yorkshire Post: Note must be taken that the corn duty is imposed, not merely on wheat, but, as Sir Michael said, "on all corn and grain." The new duty in this case is 3d. per cwt.; and flour and meal will be charged 5d. per cwt. — the different rate being, as Sir Michael explained—precisely in line, allowing for changed conditions, with the Registration duty which Robert Lowe abolished in 1869. Converting cwts. into qrs., at 62lb. to the bushel—and this is said to be the weight of foreign grain—it may be seen that 3d. per cwt. is equal to about 1s. 0½d. per qr. Looking to flour, the sack of 280lbs. will pay 12½d. If consumers are charged more than 13d. as the result of the duty being imposed, they may know that the difference is going into the pocket of somebody else; for that is all that the Exchequer takes. To allow an extra halfpenny for interest and expenses is not unreasonable. When we get down to the two-pound and four-pound loaf the addition is so small as to be imperceptible. There are far greater variations in the price of wheat and flour without any alteration resulting in the cost of the loaf. That, in our opinion, would be a complete answer to the cry threatened by the Opposition that the food of the masses is being taxed to pay for the war. . . . . According to the Royal Commission on Agriculture, in the years 1893-5, we grew an average of 6,869,000 qrs. of wheat, 9,194,000 qrs. of barley, and 22,072,000 qrs. of oats. Were the prices of these raised by the amount of the duty, this would give British agriculture a bounty of £1,906,750 for every shilling per qr. imposed. That is all, and therefore we cannot look upon this new taxation as even approaching an effective encouragement of agriculture.

Birmingham Daily Post: Sir M. Hicks-Beach is certainly entitled to the credit of adhering to the principles of orthodox finance and resisting the temptations which have assailed him from various quarters to try an excursion into the domain of Protection in search of the revenue he requires; but his proposed corn duty is, neverthless, a reactionary measure, because it is not only a tax upon food, but one that will impose a burden upon consumers out of all proportion to the gain to the Exchequer. In other words, the middleman will share with the Government in the proceeds of the new impost, and his portion will assuredly not be the smaller one.

Liverpool Post: If it is shown that a duty of 3d. a cwt. on corn and 5d. a cwt. on flour can be made to minister substantially to the money needs without any invasion upon our Free Trade practice, that will be a success of statesmanship. But Liberals in Parliament, and enlightened economists throughout the country, may not be convinced that either of these results will be achieved. The corn change remains to be made in Parliament, and will probably be made. All the same, its results may be looked forward to by many with serious apprehensions lest it should rather prove to be our old friend, or enemy, the "thin end of the wedge." Popular opinion at the present moment is so languid that it is difficult to imagine a serious agitation arising on such a point, and it must be admitted that Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, in a very terse and able argument, went far to prove that the abolition of the registration duty on corn and flour by Mr. Lowe was little more than a gratuitous counsel of perfection; that it never have been affected; and that the tax may be reimposed without any perceptible economic result and with a perfectly harmless addition to the money resources of the Government.

Liverpool Courier: In regard to the reimposition, many words are wasted over a very small step towards the scientific. We may go much further without encroaching on the doctrine of revenue needs, and if at the same time discrimination be exercised between raw material and manufactured products, much-needed impulse will be given to home production, which is the source of all wealth. Having regard to the approaching conference in this country of Colonial Premiers, and other events arranged or in contemplation, we should say that this may prove a good Imperial and Coronation Budget.

Glasgow Herald: This fee of 1s. per quarter yielded £900,000 in 1869, when Mr. Robert Lowe repealed it. Sir Michael Hicks-Beach reimposes the old duty, but in the form of threepence per cwt. on grain and fivepence per cwt. on flour. In the old days the equivalent in flour was about fourpence, but improved systems of milling have made the difference greater than it was in 1869 These imposts will produce £2,650,000 in the current year, according to the Chancellor's estimates, but in the meantime there are no data to show how much of that will actually fall upon bread, and how much upon other grains. In any case it will have little appreciable effect on the price of the quartern loaf, and whatever effect it may have will fall upon the whole community in equitable proportions. There is, therefore, every reason to approve of an impost which is not protective, because it is too small to affect the price of wheat and grain in this country. This proposal is the one redeeming feature of the Chancellor's new programme.

Scotsman: If we are asked to approve of the new corn duty because the taxes on sugar and coal have yielded a good return, and have as yet done no perceptible injury, we must demur to the argument. The historical argument in favour of the new tax is stronger, and might be accepted as convincing if it could be coupled with a guarantee that the tax will be continued as a simple registration duty, and never increased. The most orthodox Free-traders generally admit that the abolition of the duty by Mr. Lowe was a mistake. . . . . A tax which produces ecstasies of delight in Sir Howard Vincent and Mr. James Lowther cannot but be received with some suspicion by Free-traders. To the former it is the thin end of the wedge of Protection, and therefore to Free traders it is a touching of the unclean thing. As it stands, it may be both profitable and practically harmless; but it will be a great encouragement and a lever of agitation to the Protectionists. There will be a continual clamour for its increase, and we cannot be sure that we shall always have a Government strong enough and wise enough to resist the pressure.

President of the Birmingham Millers' Association's Opinions.

Mr. Frank Ludlow, president of the Birmingham Millers' Association has stated that the duties on corn and flour will, probably, not lead to any immediate rise in the price of bread. Mr. Ludlow is of the opinion that the miller will benefit by twopence a sack—the difference between the duty on wheat and flour—whilst the farmer will benefit a shilling a quarter.

Agricultural Societies and the Tax.

At the annual meeting of the Holderness Agricultural Club, held on Tuesday, one of the vice-presidents (Mr. W. M. Stickney) said that perhaps no agricultural club in the country had taken a more prominent part than the Holderness Club in bringing practical suggestion upon the subject of taxation under the notice of Government, and they might congratulate themselves that their advocacy of a duty on imported cereals and flour had had some effect. The duty, it was true, was very small; but all the same, the principle had been adopted. By imposing indirect taxation they had enlarged the area upon which Imperial taxation was raised; and a most gratifying feature of the previous night's proceedings in Parliament was the Government majority of 119. He would have been a bold man indeed, who, a few years ago, predicted that such a proposal on the part of a Government would have been carried by such a majority.

At a meeting of the Totnes Union Chamber of Agriculture, held on Tuesday, the Chairman, commenting on the Budget, said it would not be of the slightest practical benefit to agriculturists. The duty on corn was not sufficient to increase the price, and the consumer would not suffer in the least degree. He thought foreigners should pay a small registration duty for the privilege of using our markets. For politicians to make capital out of it and say agriculturists were benefited was a gross misrepresentation.

National Association of Bakers Protest Against the Duty.

At the annual conference of the National Association of Bakers, held at Hastings on Wednesday, a resolution was passed declaring that English millers should not charge the new duty on flour from contracts made previously to the introduction of the Budget as they had threatened to do. It was further resolved to send a protest to the Chancellor of the Exchequer against the duty on flour.

Price of Flour Raised.

At a meeting of the London Flour Millers' Association, held on Wednesday, it was resolved:—"That a notice, signed by the members of the Association, be sent to the trade notifying a duty at the rate of 1s. per sack will be charged upon all unfulfilled contracts made previously to the 15th April, 1902, and also 5s. per ton upon all offals."

A largely-attended meeting of millers of the North-Western Association was held at the Liverpool Corn Exchange on Tuesday, when it was decided to advance the price of flour one shilling per sack.

Views of the President of the Corn Trade Association.

Speaking in a private capacity as a member of the Corn Exchange, and in no way officially representing the views of his fellow members, Mr. Wood, president of the Corn Trade Association, mentioned some interesting points in connection with the proposed new duties, in the course of an interview with a "Daily Chronicle" representative.

"The proposal to tax corn," he said, "without taxing manufactured articles like bacon, lard, etc., will be a protection to the American breeder and feeder of pigs, as against the English consumer. In Chicago, for instance, a man opens his book and tells you that such and such is the price of corn, or maize, as they call it, and that price, whatever it is, means the price for pork. These prices always move up and down on the Chicago Exchange in ratio. So many cents. on the price

of maize means so many cents. on pork. To admit what we call 'hog products' free would be to handicap very seriously our pig-breeders at home. That is one criticism that suggests itself at once."

"How about your own trade, Mr. Wood, the corn factors?"

"In our trade," was the reply, "we have very many open contracts, and it seems to me, in the absence of any protective clause, a very serious loss will fall on the trade in the various exchanges in Liverpool perhaps, more than in London. In all cases, however, we have heavy commitments ahead, and the price is cut very closely indeed. If the duty falls on us we have absolutely no chance of recovering ourselves. The new duty will, I think, affect the price of bread very little. It amounts roughly to about 10d. per sack of flour of 280lb. You get about ninety four-pound loaves out of a sack of flour, which would only give about one-ninth of a penny per 4lb. loaf. To return, however, to the injustice to the pig-feeder at home, that is a question that will largely affect Irishmen, and the Irish members will probably have something to say about it. What we object to is not so much levying a tax on corn as admitting bacon free. A great deal of maize from America goes to Ireland, and a great deal of barley from Russia and Roumania to the West of England for the purpose of feeding pigs."

"So that you advocate a duty on imported bacon, and other 'hog products,' as a protection to the feeder of pigs at home?"

"That is my personal view."

"How will the duty affect home-grown corn?"

"It will certainly benefit home-grown corn. The growth of wheat during the past thirty years has been reduced by more than one-half. In the fifties we had an acreage of about four millions; now we have considerably under two millions. If you levy a duty on imported wheat the foreigner must, in order to compete with the English farmer, base his prices so much below the English price. Every shilling by which you handicap the foreigner would enable the English farmer to put more land under wheat. Under favourable circumstances we might have an acreage of four millions again. A decrease in the value of wheat puts so much land out of cultivation, so far as wheat is concerned, and gradually the land goes out to permanent pasturage. It is a slow operation to break up the pasturage and make it arable, but as every stage downward in the price of wheat puts so much land out of cultivation, so every rise in value would help the process of bringing the land back from pasturage."

Effect of the Tax on the Price of Bread.—Views of a Well-known Baker.

A representative of the "Westminster Gazette" has had an interview with Mr. William Hill, managing director of W. Hill and Son, Limited, the well-known bakers and confectioners, in order to get a competent opinion as to whether the corn tax would raise the price of bread. Mr. Hill did not think the poorer classes need worry themselves in the slightest, for the price of bread to them would remain the same. As regards better-classed customers, the new tax would probably mean a rise of a farthing per quartern, which would scarcely be felt by anybody.

"All Governments," continued Mr. Hill, "are frightened at the idea of an import duty on wheat and flour, and yet they are really frightened at a shadow. If the farmer could get 35s. for his wheat he would make the modest profit of 5s. per quarter. The price of wheat now is, roughly, 30s. per quarter; with a duty of 4s. per quarter on all foreign wheat and flour, the English farmer could live, the landlord and the labourer could live, and one hundred industries, now dying of inanition, would flourish and thrive. I know nothing more deplorable than to see a village decaying as one which I have been living in for the last three years in Bedfordshire is doing. All the young men have left, all the village trades are dying or dead, there is no one left in the village but old people of both sexes. The remedy for this would be an import duty of 4s. per quarter (double the tax now levied) on the foreign wheat and flour imported into England.

"As to the effect such a tax will have on the British public, I find the average consumption for the families I supply is eight quarterns of bread per week. A duty of 4s. per quarter would mean an increase of one half-penny per quartern in the price of bread; this, of course, at eight quarterns per week is 4d. per week, or 16s. to 17s. per annum per family, averaging five persons; and this increased payment will bring in a great measure prosperity back to England. It is well known that the chief cause of British agricultural distress is the extremely low price of produce, notably wheat. English wheat has peculiar and unequalled qualities. It is the sweetest in the world, and produces the finest flavoured bread in the world—bread both sweet and moist. Unfortunately, it is too weak to use alone. But with the addition of 50 to 60 per cent. of stronger wheats it makes a bread impossible to surpass. If heads of families would insist upon their bread containing a definite proportion of English wheats, the demand would be stimulated, and prices enhanced to such a degree as to enable the farmer to gain a living, and this at a very trifling charge upon the consumer's purse.

"I cannot conceive," said Mr. Hill finally, "how intelligent people should have such a mania about Free Trade. They know the States, France, Germany, or our own Colonies will not have it at any price; they cannot suppose all these people are fools. I find the Americans or the Germans anything but fools in business. Surely they can see how it would pay us to keep some of the millions we spend annually on imported wheat and flour in this country. If it is kept at home it must circulate through the country from hand to hand; whereas if sent abroad it is absolutely lost to the country."

Feeding Stuffs Importers' Views of the Tax.

A meeting of the principal London and Liverpool importers of grain, feeding stuffs, meal, and milling offals, was held in London on Wednesday, in reference to the new duty on flour and grain, and to consider the fact that wheat offals, other grain offals, and feeding meals were assessed at the same rate as flour, namely, fivepence per hundredweight. The following resolutions were adopted—

"That wheat offals should be admitted free of duty; that feeding meals and offals, other than wheat offals, should be admitted at the same rate as grain, namely, 3d. per cwt. We cannot help thinking that in classifying flour and meal whether it was the intention merely to tax at the higher rate the finished and manufactured article, and not the offal which remains; this intention is borne out by the fact that the duty on flour at 5d. is so proportioned to the duty on wheat as to cover the whole cost of duty to the miller, so that 26 per cent., which is represented by offal, is, as explained by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, practically admitted duty free. The effect of the duty falling upon these offals and feed meals, as well as upon grain, would entail a very much increased cost, to the farmer and stock-keeper, for all these imported foodstuffs which he buys very largely for the production of meat and dairy produce, although these latter articles are at the same time admitted from abroad free of duty.

"Stock-keeping being at the present time of far more importance to the farming industry than grain-growing, the loss entailed by the extra cost of food stuffs would be far greater to the farmer than any possible compensation he might derive from the enhanced price of the grain which he produces. We may point out that the 3d. per cwt. on wheat at an average price of 30s. per quarter equals 3¾ per cent., on flour at an average price of 22s. per 280lb. equals 4¾ per cent., whereas on offals and feeding meals at an average price of, say, £4 10s. per ton, the duty of 5d. per cwt. equals over 9 per cent. We have ascertained that the imports of these articles amounted in 1900 to upwards of 9,000,000 cwts., but we are convinced that if subjected to the proposed duty of 5d. per cwt. the volume of these imports will be very materially decreased, and the anticipation of the Chancellor of the Exchequer as to the amount of the revenue to be raised will not be realised.

"We desire to draw your serious attention to the fact that Ireland being purely a stock raising country, and having so few flour mills, is almost dependent upon the supply of imported offals and feeding meals, and consequently the cost of meat and dairy produce will be very considerably enhanced by the proposed duty of fivepence per cwt. on these articles. We would further call your attention to the fact that continental countries, while taxing wheat and flour to a very high greater extent than the duty imposed in this country, yet admit offals and feeding meals free of all duty. If the proposed duty on these articles be maintained, the certain consequence must be that large quantities of offals and feeding meals at present imported into this country will be diverted to the Continent, which will, we consider, give a very decided and unfair advantage to the foreign producer of meat and dairy produce.

"In conclusion, we beg to submit the following figures, which will show the importance of stock-raising over that of grain growing:—

	1872.		1900.
Grass area	12,574,570	...	16,729,035
Grain area	9,573,551	...	7,335,408
Cattle	5,624,994	...	6,805,170

Liverpool Corn Trade Association's Protest.

At a general meeting of the Liverpool Corn Trade Association yesterday the following resolution was adopted by a substantial majority:—"That this meeting strongly protests against the imposition of duty upon grain and flour, as being injurious to the best interests of the country, and a serious disturbance of an important trade, and that the chairman be authorised to send a copy of this resolution to the Prime Minister, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the members of Parliament for the city, and the Corn Trade Associations throughout the kingdom."

National Association of Millers' Resolution.

The Council of the National Association of British and Irish Millers, which is the parent Association of six other miller organisations distributed throughout the United Kingdom, and is responsible for 70 per cent. of the flour output of the country, held a meeting at 64, Mark Lane, on Friday, at which the following resolution was passed:—"That difficulties having arisen as to putting into operation Section 10 of the Finance Act, 1901, resolved—that the Chancellor of the Exchequer be asked to receive a deputation which would be prepared to explain these difficulties and to make suggestions to him for obviating them. Also, to draw his attention to the fact that the export trade in English milled flour and offals will be severely prejudiced by his present Budget proposals." It was also decided that all contracts for flour made prior to April 15th, and which were not completed before that date, will be charged duty on the undelivered portion as and when delivered, by adding an amount for same as a separate item on the invoice, which would be calculated at the rate of 5d. per 112lb.

Opinion in Canada.

According to a telegram from Montreal on Tuesday, regret is expressed at the Canadian Board of Trade, and particularly among the section advocating preferential trade, that Sir Michael Hicks-Beach has not given some concessions to the Colonies in making his fiscal changes. Grain dealers say that the new duty will injure the Canadian export trade much more than that of the United States, since Great Britain is the only country to which Canada can export her surplus crop of wheat, while the United States has a great market of its own, besides the trade with Germany. The grain trade is divided in opinion as to whether the consumer or the grower will suffer most by the new duties, but all agree that Canada is liable to suffer considerably. The Canadian Manufacturers' Association to-day adopted a resolution expressing great disappointment at the action of the British Government in not giving preference to the Colonies in the new duties on breadstuffs, and hoping that representations would be made to the Dominion Government on the subject.

In the Dominion House of Commons on Tuesday Sir Wilfrid Laurier, the Premier, said, "England's new policy is Protection; but not a large measure of Protection, and I do not complain, but rather rejoice in it, for now the field is clear for arranging in June, a system of larger trade between all parts of the British Empire, which will meet the views of the great majority of the people of Canada."

A meeting of the members of the Yorkshire Union of Agricultural Clubs and Chambers of Agriculture was held at York, on Thursday, for the purpose of discussing the Budget proposals. Mr. John Allen (Pocklington) presided, and, in calling upon Mr. Liversidge to move a resolution, said that the new tax on grain and flour would be a great advantage to the revenue, and the farmers would get some benefit. He hoped the proposals would be carried, as they formed the thin end of the wedge, and they hoped that they would soon have duties on other things as well. He personally believed in reciprocity and fair trade, free trade being a one-sided policy.

Mr. Henry Liversidge, jun., moved: "That the proposed duty on flour and corn has given great satisfaction to the Yorkshire Union of Agricultural Clubs and Chambers of Agriculture." He said he had never proposed a resolution which gave him greater pleasure. They admired the Government for having had the pluck and the common-sense to go against what was supposed to be a popular sentiment. It marked a departure from a principle, which they welcomed, and he had not the slightest doubt that ultimately all classes in the country would benefit from it. They regretted that the tax was not heavier, but they were thankful for small mercies, and they hoped to see the principle extended.

Mr. John Newton said he remembered one argument which Mr. Lowe advanced at the time the registration duty was taken off, and to which the Chancellor of the Exchequer had not referred so far as he could see, and that was that it was an expensive tax to collect, and that the cost of collection was out of proportion to the revenue gained. That might have been true in 1869, but even then it produced a substantial sum, and it certainly was not true now. While the fee would help the finances of the country, he questioned if it would do the farmers any good, because it was more than probable that the small additional amount which the corn-growing farmer would be able to obtain for his corn would be exceeded by the higher price he would have to pay for feeding stuffs. He was of opinion that the threatened attempt of the Americans to add the duty to the price of corn would be frustrated by the fact that we received supplies from other countries.

The resolution was carried, and copies ordered to be sent to the Government and the local Members of Parliament.



Dorset (West).

We have just experienced a most welcome day's rain. The farmers' hopes were getting again blighted, and another short crop of hay stared us in the face. We now hope to be put on better terms, not that we are at all sanguine of more than an ordinary start in growth, if anything better, than the last three years. The hay ricks on well-stocked farms are practically diminished so much that a scarcity between this and May 14th is likely to prevail in many instances, and happy are they who have well-watered meadows to graze their dairy cattle in, or the pockets would have to be searched deeply into.

None of the dairy farmers are likely to save any old hay, and those fortunate enough to have any are likely to get a good price for it. In many places straw is closely fed up and getting scarce. Although this county has been favoured as regards deep snow, yet it has been a very consuming winter by cattle and sheep.

Cereals of all kinds are looking fairly well, and the promise is quite as good as of late years. Cattle of all kinds of good quality are selling well, but mutton is not so, whilst horn lambs make about 9d. a lb. on an average. Calves and pigs are the greatest friends the dairy farmer has, and those who look well after breeding good animals get well paid at present prices.

The Budget.

A nice Budget for the clamour of Radicals—the system of payment which has so much helped all traders, and so ably assisted many small traders to do their business in good form, is to be knocked on the head by the extra penny stamp duty. If I think rightly, the Post Office people will find a great diminution in the number of letters, and the penny post stamp will be saved as well as the cheque stamp. A tax on cycles, which run down everybody, would have helped the war tax to some extent at 2s. 6d. each, and assisted us in getting out of debt. Whilst the paltry sum gained by an additional penny on cheques will be lost through the disuse of postage stamps, bicycles and motors have already checked the breeding of useful trap horses, to the bitter cost of the country. A half-penny tax on all railway and pleasure tickets would have assisted the revenue to some purpose.—E. S. (April 17th).

Gloucestershire.

The genial sunshine after the rain on the 15th, 1·20in., has set all things on the go, and the prospects of fair crops all round are far before last year's. The tilth of spring sown crops has been very good, which is a great factor in future success, telling its tale, not only next harvest, but in the hay crops of probably two or three years to come. This will be a fine year for all small seeds to germinate. The meat harvest of the Cotswolds is just being cashed. Beef sells, as everywhere, at good and improving prices, but mutton, the chief product, most disappointingly, especially so when Gloucestershire was probably the only county in England with a fair root crop, and so might expect a good return, which, indeed, has been most disappointing. In some cases the return per head looked fair, but that was only where the sheep had done exceptionally well. I saw a teg last week, weighing 110lbs., and not over fat either; they usually weigh well this year, and so take some selling. The duty on corn may be a step in the right direction, but a three-fold tax on the manufactured article and corn free would have been far better for all.—April 17th, 1902.

Lincolnshire (North).

When the lambing time is over, we naturally look round, and tot up the result. In the immediate neighbourhood I fear there have been more losses of ewes, and, I think, a less result in lambs. Many of the latter also suffered when out from the strong winds, which blocked their eyes up, and gave them a generally unthrifty appearance. Luckily, Nature, with a view to repairing all this, has sent a splendid rain, and this morning I was astonished to see the shoot the seeds have made. You can sit and watch them grow, and the warmth is so genial, that those seedy lambs will soon gallop and gambol, an outward sign of progress and thrift. The spring sheep fairs have been very low, and well they may, with wool so cheap. Beef is a little better, and they prophesy a scarcity, which I hope is true.

Spring corn has been sown in a splendid bed; even the strong low lands here are as easily worked as the sands; the disintegrating frosts worked for us while we slept. Potatoes, too, are nearly all planted; I think a larger area, not perhaps because they have paid, for they are so cheap, but other things are so certainly unremunerative, and the tuber might turn up trumps; it does sometimes, and wheat never does. The great usefulness of our wurzels at this season is a reminded to get the seed and put it in as soon as possible. The early-sown are the largest, although a few have run to seed.—North Lindsey (April 17th).

Munster.

We have had a long spell of wet weather, which has left tillage operations in a backward condition. Just within the last week oats have been got in, quite three weeks late. Only now is the main crop of potatoes being sown, and if the summer does not come dry and warm we have but a poor chance. March was none of the old-style ones, and "A bushel of Marsh dust is worth a king's ransom," could not apply this year.

The lambing season is now over with a very small return of lambs; the scarcity of couples being quite apparent this year. The soft, open March was very lucky for stock-owners, as, owing to the shortness of keep, many farmers would have to dispose of their cattle at ruinous prices. As it is, all cattle are selling well, with the exception of springing cows and dry cows for fattening purposes. The latter ought to pay this year, as they can be bought for £2 a head less money than last season.

Fruit trees are looking well, and apples, if spared by frosts, promise a plentiful crop, as they are full of buds.

With the advent of dry, warm weather, with southerly breezes, we may expect a good season for grass, as the large amount of moisture in the ground requires but sun to force a heavy growth.—P. F. (April 14th.)

Somerset (Cheddar).

Previous to Tuesday of this week, when a deal of rain fell, the weather had been dry for a considerable time, east winds, with frost at night, having prevailed, checking all vegetation considerably. Very little grass in many instances yet to be seen on the pastures, and the cattle in many instances roaming about on them find but little to browse on; but having consumed all the hay, the stacks having been small at the beginning of winter, their owners in such instances have been obliged to buy hay for some time past at five pounds per ton, I hear, which cannot well be afforded in these depressed times.

I hear in some instances at the Down calving dairy herds of several calves dying from diarrhœa when but a few days old, which I think must be due to their dams partaking of some food, thereby affecting the milk, which disagrees with the digestive organs of their offspring. The lambing season was a favourable one, twins being numerous, and are now generally doing well.

Price of Poultry.

I read your correspondent's interesting articles on poultry, and I notice he wrote last week of the prohibitive prices of fowls to many, before the time that steam power both on land and sea influenced the great quantities of poultry that are now being imported from all parts to this kingdom, but I presume he was alluding to the prohibitive prices that occur in large towns, as I have heard ol dfolks say that back in those days in the country districts good, plump fowls were regularly sold at from a shilling to eighteen pence each, at which price they can now be bought at any season in this and many other country districts, but at such a price they must return but little profit to those who rear them.—A. L. O. (April 18th).

Foreign Prospects.

FRANCE.—The condition of the cereal crops continues to give full satisfaction, both autumn and spring sown cereals present a fine appearance.

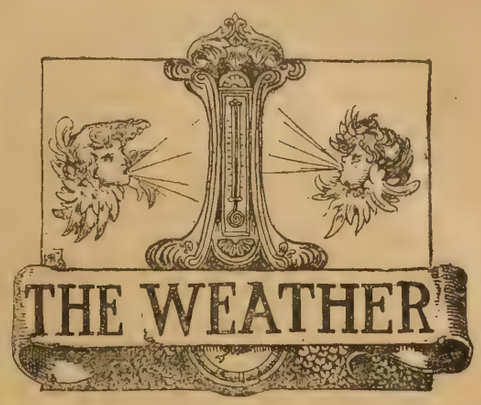
HOLLAND.—Wet weather is unfavourable to the conclusion of sowings, but no harm has happened to autumn cereals.

GERMANY.—Our Berlin corerspondent says crop prospects remain favourable and autumn sown fields have a luxuriant and healthy appearance; weather very mild and wet.

RUSSIA.—Higher temperature and rainfall above the normal in North-West, Central, and South-Western governments, also in black soil districts, proving beneficial to autumn crops, although in some instances interfering with the completion of spring sowings.

HUNGARY. — There is steady improvement in the appearance of autumn sown crops, and spring sowings have come up well.

UNITED STATES.—The cool weather is retarding wheat growth, and, to some extent, it is regarded as prejudicial, but the general position continues fairly good. Moisture is deficient, and the weather unfavourable for oats, but the condition is fair. The ground is breaking well for maize. From California we learn that the crop outlook remains fairly satisfactory, although no rain fell during the last fortnight; the total to date is 1 inches, compared with 18¾ inches same time last season.—*Dornbusch.*



MONDAY (April 14th).—The weather was still generally fine over England, and in many places there was a fair amount of bright sunshine. In Scotland and Ireland the weather was mostly cloudy. Rain was measured in the Morning in the Northern and Western portions of the Kingdom, as the result of the fall in the preceding twenty-four hours. A cyclonic disturbance was passing to the Northward along our North-West coasts, and under its influence a moderate South-West gale was blowing on our extreme North-West coasts, while the wind was Southerly over nearly the entire country. There was a slight frost over the inland parts of England on Sunday night, but the temperature was again fairly high during the day.

TUESDAY (April 15th).—The weather was, for the most part, fine in our islands, but the conditions were far from settled, and rain fell in the morning at a few of the southern stations. Mist or fog was prevalent on our English coasts, and there was generally a good deal of cloud. The winds were very variable in direction, and they were mostly light. There was no frost during Monday night, and the mid-day temperatures were in fair agreement with the average, the sheltered thermometer registering sixty degrees in the South of England. The day was dull in London, and the air was close, the thermometer in the afternoon rising to sixty-one degrees.

WEDNESDAY (April 16th).—Fine weather prevailed over the British Islands, but there was still a good deal of mist or fog over the eastern portion of the Kingdom. Rain had fallen in many places since Tuesday morning, and the amounts measured in the midland, southern, and eastern districts were rather large. The winds were generally westerly, and they were everywhere light. The temperature during the day was for the most part above the average, except in the west, where readings had decreased. In the south of England the mid-day temperatures rose to 60 degrees. The day was fine in London, and the shade temperature registered 59 degrees.

THURSDAY (April 17th).—The weather was generally fine over our Islands, but mist or fog was very prevalent over the Eastern portion of the Kingdom, and slight rain fell at a few places in the west. The winds were exceedingly light, and they were for the most part from a westerly direction. Wednesday night was mostly warm, although there was a slight ground frost at places inland. The mid-day temperatures were high in the south of England, where the readings exceeded 60 degrees, but in the northern districts the thermometer rose little above 50 degrees.

FRIDAY (April 18th).—Fine weather prevailed over the British Islands, but the conditions had become less settled than of late over the western portion of the kingdom. A cyclonic disturbance was approaching our west coasts from the Atlantic, and under its influence the wind had become southerly, and had freshened considerably in Ireland. Slight rain was measured in the morning, as the result of the fall in the preceding 24 hours, at a few of the northern and western stations, but elsewhere the weather had remained dry. Thursday night was rather cold in the midland and eastern portions of England, but the temperatures during the day were generally in fair agreement with the average.

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY (April 19th and 20th).—Fine weather prevailed in many parts of our Islands during these two days, although rain fell in places. Saturday was generally very fine in England, and the thermometer touched a higher reading than on any previous day this year. Cyclonic disturbances continued to arrive on our coasts from the Atlantic, and as they approach us they occasion an increasing Southerly wind and rain.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Malt: The trade remains quiet. Barley advanced 6d per qr. Wheat made 6d to 1s per qr. more money. Oats improved 6d per qr. Maize about 6d per qr. dearer. Flour advanced 6d. per sack on the week.—NIXON, GOWER, AND Co.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—English wheat continues in almost exhausted supply, being again firmer Foreign advanced 1s to 1s 6d (inclusive of 1s duty). No. 1 Northern, Duluth inspection, new, quoted at 32s 3d ex granary, and 31s 9d ex ship, to arrive. The spot market is extremely bare at present. No. 1 hard Manitoba, 32s 6d landed. Hard Kansas winters, none on offer. American brands of flour 1s to 2s dearer, and patents remain exceptionally scarce Mayblossom, 25s 3d nominally asked, and Gold Medal 25s, with 24s 9d named for Pillsbury best and Golden Lily. Second patents in small supply, and wanted. Of baker's grades, Iron Duke 20s ex store. Gilt Edge, 19s 9d; Cascadias, 23s 6d ex store. English advanced 1s. London Millers' Association advanced the price of Town households to 24s 6d, and whites 27s 6d. Top price Town-made quoted at 28s 6d net; No. 1 household 22 6d cash at the mill door. Grinding barley fully 1s firmer. Odessa 20s 6d ex quay, Danubian 19s ex ship, to come up, and 20s ex quay. Malting nominal. Oats command 6d more money, and sellers are less disposed to entertain buyers' views. Common Libau 19s 6d to 20s 3Slb, ex quay. Danubian 19s 6d ex quay 38lb; 40lb Libau, &c, bold, 22s. Good Konigsberg 21 6d ex quay, 40lb, fine and choice ruling at 22s to 23s in same position. Maize, 1s to 1s 6d dearer since last Monday. Odessa 21s ex ship, and 22s ex quay; Danubian 23s 6d ex quay. Mixed American nominal, being still out of supply. Beans and peas generally raised 1s to 1s 3d. Egyptian splits, held for 24s, and Mazagans 23s ex mill, 320lb. White Canadian peas unquotable.

Mark Lane, Friday.—The attendance was fairly good on the London Corn Exchange to-day, and quotations remain at much the same legitimate level as those recorded at last Wednesday's meeting, and matters are gradually becoming within proper equanimity since Budget proposals. Farmers of English wheat are so busy on the land that the supply becomes more and more backward. What little is secured in the country commands enhanced rates. Whites range up to 33s., and reds at 31s. and 32s. per qr. delivered. Locally, good reds, 32s 3d to 32s 6d. Foreign sorts again rather firmer, and generally 1s 6d higher since Friday last. No. 1 Northern Duluth inspection, quoted at 32s to 32s 3d landed, and 31s 9d ex ship to arrive No. 1 hard Manitoba, 33s 6d landed. Hard Kansas Winters, 32s ex ship to arrive, and none on offer ex granary American brands of flour 1s 6d to 2s firmer since Friday last, with fine patents remaining exceptionally scarce. Mayblossom quoted at 25s; Pillsbury best, etc., 24s 6d. Of bakers', Iron Duke, about 20s ex store; and Gilt Edge, 19s 6d. Grinding barley fully 1s firmer since last Monday, and only in moderate supply on spot, with none named ex ship. Odessa, 20s 6d ex quay; Danubian in same position, 20s and 19s ex ship, to come up. Oats rather against sellers to-day, but 6d better on the week. Common Libau, 19s 6d ex quay, 38lb.; 40lb. bold, 22s; and good to fine Konigsberg, 22s to 23s ex quay, 40lb. Danubian, 19s 6d. ex quay, 38lb. Mixed American maize remains out of the market, being nominal at 28s ex granary. Round corn further advanced slightly, being 1s to 1s 6d dearer since Monday last. The market for beans and peas denotes nothing fresh, being firm at the last advance established.

COUNTRY.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, 27s to 28s per qr.; barley, 27s to 30s per qr.; beans, 34s to 35s per qr; oats (black), 19s to 21s per qr; peas, 32s per qr. Trade very restricted on account of the duty, neither seller or buyer being anxious to do business. Prices better to the extent of 1s to 2s per qr.

Birmingham, Thursday.—The Budget proposals were the subject of much discussion on 'Change to-day, and the immediate result was the increase of prices to the extent of the new duty charge, representing about 1s. per qr. all round. This had the effect of checking business, and of generally unsettling the work of the day. Very little English wheat was offered, farmers preferring to hold back pending a more settled feeling and the settling down of prices. Beyond the extra duty charge on imported goods no special upward movement in price is anticipated. It is, indeed, the general feeling that the ultimate effect will be quite infinitesimal. English wheats offered in very limited quantities at prices ranging up to 11s 3d per bag. In foreign sorts soft reds were 5s 9d, and No. 2 Manitobas (May-June) 6s per cental (Liverpool). Plate maize was 4s. 8d per cental, and 21s 6d to 22s per qr. (at Sharpness), white round made 21s 6d to 22s (at Sharpness). Grinding barley changed hands at 19s 6d to 20s 6d (Sharpness and Liverpool). English black oats were very scarce, and values were reported to be from 22s to 22s 6d, while whites were from 23s to 24s per qr (Birmingham). English beans at 3d per bag dearer made 14s to 14s 3d for new sorts, and 15s 6d to 15s 9d for old.

Brighton, Thursday.—New white wheat, 31s 6d to 32s 6d; new red ditto, 31s to 32s; barley, 29s to 32s; grinding ditto, 21s to 22s; English oats, 22s to 25s; beans, 34s to 35s. Wheat in short supply, and 2s per quarter more asked. Oats 1s dearer; barley 1s., and maize 1s 3d dearer, owing to the new corn duty. Small attendance.

Bristol, Thursday.—Since our last report there has been a general disorganisation of trade due to the Budget. English wheat was very scarce on our to-day's market, and made 1s more money. Foreign very firm, with an advance of 1s 6d. Grinding barley about 1s 6d dearer. Maize also 1s 3d to 1s 6d dearer. Oats 1s advance. The general firmness and advance of wheats, together with the added duties, has caused a rise of about 1s 6d per sack on flour, and there has been considerable inquiry from bakers, resulting in a good business passing during the week.—GRACE BROTHERS.

Bury, Wednesday.—Wheat—There was but little offering, and holders were very strong in their demands. 30s to 31s per 504lb was demanded and made, but millers were reluctant to buy anything more than their immediate requirements. Oats remained scarce, and were 6d to 1s dearer on the week. Beans and peas were firm. Other feeding corns were, as a rule, 1s per qr dearer. Maize made 24s per qr delivered. Lentils fully last week's prices, and millet 6d per qr more money. Milling offals were all rather dearer in sympathy with the import duty of 8s 4d per ton imposed on foreign germs and meals. Linseed cakes were firm at £8 10s to £9, and cotton cakes were 2s 6d per ton dearer.

Cambridge, Saturday.—During the week trade has been irregular; farmers have asked extravagant prices, consequently not many samples have changed hands. At this market to-day there was a little more wheat on offer. Sellers began by asking too high prices, and eventually a small business passed at 1s more money. Wheat —Red, 30s to 31s; white up to 32s per 504lb. A sample or two of oats showing, but prices too high for business.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Wheat has again advanced over 1s per quarter, and selected descriptions are quoted up to 34s. Oats steady.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Small supply of oats in our market to-day; good demand at late rates, 22s 6d to 23s 6d per 336lb.—THOMAS ROBINSON.

Chester, Saturday.—Owing to the corn duty imposed by the Budget, the values of all grain have advanced. Wheat was 2d and oats 2d to 3d per bushel higher. Quotations:—Wheat, white and red, 4s 7d to 4s 8d per 75lb; malting barley, 4s 2d to 4s 4d per 60lb; grinding barley, 3s 6d to 3s 8d per 64lb; beans, 5s 8d to 5s 10d per 80lb. Oats, new 3s 2d to 3s 4d; old, 3s 4d to 3s 6d per 46lb. Indian corn, 13s to 14s per 240lb.

Chichester, Wednesday.—There was a large attendance, and a fair amount of business was transacted. Wheat, which has recently been advancing in price, was in rather small supply, and, consequent on the Budget proposals, quotations, though somewhat irregular, underwent a sharp rise. The closing figures were 2s to 3s per qr higher than last week. Flour moved up in sympathy, and in oats and maize there was an advance of fully 9d per qr.

Colchester, Saturday.—Wheat—Very little offering; fully 2s per qr dearer. Feeding corns 1s per qr advance.—FRANCIS AND Co.

Devizes, Thursday.—We had a very small supply again, and this, coupled with the Budget influence, caused a further rise of 6d per sack in the price of wheat, the best now realising 16s. The price of flour has been put up to 25s 6d, a rise of 1s 6d. Feeding stuffs are 1s per qr. dearer. Best wheat, 15s 6d to 16s; secondary, 13s 6d to 15s; best malting barley, 29s to 34s; secondary, 25s to 28s; grinding barley, 20s to 24s; oats, 21s to 24s; beans, 16s to 20s; fine flour, 23s 6d to 24s 6d; extra fine, 25s to 30s; best bread, 9d.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—The trade during the week has been dull, and, owing to the anticipations of the Budget, there has only been a limited business doing. Prices up tilll yesterday remained nominally unaltered, but sellers have since advanced their prices equal to the amount of the new tax, but with hardly any business resulting. There was a good attendance at our market to-day. Prices are all advanced in accordance with the new tax. Wheat and flour are quiet. Round maize firm. Mixed corn quiet. Grinding beans and Canadian pease firm, and scarce on spot. Home and foreign oats: Quiet trade, with 6d to 9d per 264lb advance on the former. Barley quiet. Bran and thirds unchanged. Oatmeal 6d to 1s per sack dearer. —GIBSON AND CLARK.

Leeds, Tuesday.—The Budget has rather upset the trade. Holders of wheat are insisting upon 6d to 9d per qr advance, in addition to the duty imposed, which seems to stagger buyers, and business in all articles is limited in consequence, but the tendency of values is certainly upward.—DUNNS AND Co.

Leeds, Friday.—There is still a very limited demand for both English and foreign wheat, which fully maintains yesterday's advanced prices, English reaching 32s and best foreign a trifle over. Oats, beans, peas, maize, flour, and all other feeding stuffs firmly held at the general advance, which followed the Budget statement.

Leicester, Saturday.—Good attendance. Small supplies of home-grown wheats. Trade brisker at higher rates, sales being at 28s to 32s per 36 stones.

Lincoln, Friday.—Small supply of English, for which 2s advance was asked, and scarcely any business was transacted. Foreign wheats were also up. More money was asked for oats, beans, peas, and maize, but trade was next to blank.

Liverpool, Friday.—The market has had a good attendance, and holders of Manitobas and white wheat have experienced a fair trade, but generally the tone is quiet, but firm prices being unchanged to a full ½d advance. Flour on spot is firm, but buyers hesitate at the advance of 6d to 1s asked for foreign sorts. There is a moderate business doing in local milled, and the Liverpool Millers' Association have again advanced the minimum price of bakers 6d per sack. Maize: Maize is quiet but steady at ½d advance over Tuesday. European is generally ½d lower with a slow trade. Plate unchanged with a quiet consumptive trade. Barley: Malting is quiet at unchanged prices, although there is a better inquiry for California. Feeding is very slow but firm at quotations. Beans rule firm at unchanged prices and are getting into very small compass. Peas are firm with a moderate inquiry at Tuesday's full prices. Oats are firmly held, with a better demand for English at late rates. Foreign sorts are firm, but there are larger arrivals of Canadians. Oatmeal firm, but quiet at quotations. Oilcake very steadily held with a fairly good inquiry at Tuesday's prices.—SEGAR AND TUNNICLIFFE.

Maidstone, Thursday.—Market to-day well attended, and the price of wheat nominally 1s per qr. up, which is about four times less than the advance sought by some sanguine natures. The budget levies on grain, meal, &c., provided us little mental confusion, so that business suspended for "further enquiries." A very small number of transactions the feature of the day.

Manchester, Thursday.—Market still unsettled, and a small business done in English wheat at 1s to 1s 6d per qr. higher than last week. Foreign about 2½d per cental dearer. Maize 3d to 4d per cental higher, with a quiet consumptive trade. Beans, peas, oats and other grain at about last week's prices, plus the duty. Flour slow and 1s per sack dearer.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—At our to-day's market a better demand prevailed for wheat of all descriptions, holders making 1s 6d per 504lb over last week's prices. This advance includes the duty. Maize also firm, and favouring sellers. Scotch oats advanced 1s per 336lb; foreign 3d dearer, exclusive of the duty. Beans and peas firm. A slow demand for barley.—JOSEPH POLLARD AND Co.

Newport, Wednesday.—Wheat strong, and the markets show a full 6d per qr advance in addition to the new tax. Maize, oats, barley, etc., all firmly held at an advance. Flour, 24s per sack. Meal and mill offals 5s per ton dearer. Business unsettled, with a firm undertone.

Northampton, Saturday.—Not a large market. Red wheat was from 29s to 32s; farm produce had an upward tendency. Flour, 22s to 23s; fine 26s; white wheat, 32s to 33s; red, 29s to 31s. Grinding barley, 23s to 26s; oats, 22s to23s; old, 27s; beans, 33s to 40s; flour, 22s to 23s; fine, 27s.

Norwich, Saturday.—There is no particular alteration in the wheat trade to-day, which remains firm at late rates. Fine and bright weather has prevailed during the past week, with keen easterly winds. Wheat (red), 29s to 30s per qr, weight 63lb per bushel imperial.—J. ARTHUR MILLS.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Wheat small supply, holders asking 2s advance, which checks trade, but little passing. Grinding barley steady at slightly enhanced prices. Oats and beans—But few offering, and 1s advance established.—ROBT. HUBBLE.

Peterborough, Saturday.—At to-day's market, our first after the Budget statement, there has been rather more wheat offering than last week, and it made 1s to 1s 6d more money. Oats were 6d to 1s dearer. No barley showing.—THOMAS HILL AND SON.

Plymouth, Thursday.—There was a good attendance at our market here to-day. Maize 9d to 1s dearer; barley 1s dearer; oats 1s 6d dearer; wheat 1s to 1s 3d dearer.—ORLANDO DAVIS AND Co.

Ripon, Thursday.—A poor attendance, and light show of samples. Owing to the new duty everything shows an advance of 1s. Feeding stuffs dearer. Wheat English (new), 29s 6d to 30s 6d; ditto foreign, 29s 6d to 33s 6d; barley, grinding, 23s 6d to 24s 6d; ditto malting, 27s to 32s; oats (new), 23s to 25s; round maize, 23s 6d to 25s 6d per qr; beans, 1s per stone.

Reading, Saturday.—The wheat supply here to-day proved smaller than usual, and, influenced by the new duty, business lacked animation, only a few sales taking place. In these cases there was an advance from 1s 6d to 2s per quarter on recent rates for wheat, while barley, oats, beans, and peas were 1s per quarter dearer on the week.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—To-day's market was fairly attended, but the effect of the Chancellor's statement was apparent in the volume of trade passing. Quotations were, of course, higher: 1s per qr on wheat, barley, maize, and peas, and 9d on oats. Wheat, white, 30s 6d to 31s; ditto, red, 30s 6d to 31s per 504lb; oats, new white, 22s to 24s; ditto, new black, 20s to 21s per 336lb; barley, grinding, 22s to 23s; ditto, malting, 28s to 32s per 448lb; peas, grinding, 32s to 34s; ditto, blue, 53s to 80s per 504lb; beans, Egyptian, 35s 6d to 36s per 504lb; ditto, English new, 37s to 37s 6d per 532lb; Indian corn, small, 23s to 24s; ditto, American mixed, 27s 6d to 28s per 480lb.

Spalding, Tuesday.—Small supply of corn. Wheat, 29s to 30s; oats, 23s to 24s. There was much discussion about the proposed new corn duty, the general opinion being favourable.

Stamford, Saturday.—Very little wheat showing. Prices about 30s. per qr. No barley. Oats from 22s to 26s; beans, 34s to 36s, and maize 34s per qr.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There were very few samples of farmers' wheat showing, for which 2s advance was asked. Owing to the new duties the trade in foreign wheat was in a state of suspense, buyers preferring to await developments. Spot wheat was held for 1s 6d advance on the week, but for grain to arrive a rather less increase in price had to be taken. Maize, oats, and all kinds of feeding stuffs were held for 1s advance per qr, owing to the new duty.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Little grain offering and prices irregular on account of the new import duty. Arrivals coastwise: Wheat, 2,219qrs; barley, 561qrs; foreign nil.—E. AND F. RICHARDSON.

Wakefield, Friday.—In the small business passing in wheat to-day 1s to 2s per qr advance is obtained, but we have only a small attendance and few buyers. Malting barley a small show, but a dragging trade. All feeding stuffs fully 1s per qr dearer.—MICHAEL SANDERSON AND SON, LIMITED.

Wakefield, Friday.—The trade is gradually getting accustomed to altered conditions, millers being compelled to replenish stocks and to concede 1s 9d to 2s advance over the rates of this day week for all descriptions of foreign wheat; English has advanced 1s per qr. Feeding stuffs have improved to the extent of the duty, but scarcely beyond this.—DUNNS AND Co.

Wisbech, Saturday.—At market to-day farmers offered wheat sparingly; sales were made at 30s to 31s. Oats, 24s to 25s. Other articles also dearer to buy.—JAMES FLETCHER.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Good attendance, and quotations very firm. Wheat (new), 12s 6d to 13s per 216lb; oats (old), 16s to 17s; ditto (new), 15s to 14s per 216lb; beans (old), 16s to 17s; ditto (new), 14s 6d per 196lb; barley, 32s to 33s per 448lb; new maize, 26s to 27s per 480lb; ditto (old), 28s 6d to 29s 6d per 480lb.

Worcester, Saturday.—Owing to the newly-imposed duties the market was in an unsettled state, and business was quite of a retail character. For English wheat 1s 6d to 2s per quarter advance was asked, which buyers refuse to pay, but grain generally was 1s per quarter dearer on the week. Wheat: Whites, 29s to 31s; red, 28s to 29s per quarter.

Worksop, Wednesday.—A small attendance of farmers and factors. The duty on corn seems to have unsettled the trade, but was looked upon very favourably by farmers. All wheat and feeding stuffs were 1s per qr dearer, and flour was up about ½d per stone only. White wheat, 29s to 30s; red ditto, 28s to 29s; grinding barley, 26s to 27s; white oats, 22s 6d to 24s; black ditto, 21s to 23s; round maize, 24s 6d to 26s per qr.

York, Saturday.—The supply of wheat was only small, and trade was slow, holders asking 1s per quarter advance in consequence of the registration duty. Oats were scarce, and this fact, combined with the tax proposals, led to an advance of 6d to 1s per quarter.

FOREIGN.

Paris, Wednesday.—The mid-week markets preserve their same monotonous features, engendered particularly by the penury of trade which for most articles continues to drag along in a deplorable manner, without any hope for a change in the situation and a speedy return of activity. Transactions in native wheat were still difficult in the provinces as well as in the metropolis; in the last provincial markets, which were sparingly supplied by reason of agricultural work keeping farmers afield, prices remained generally supported; in some localities higher rates have even made some progress. A slight improvement on the week. Choice red wheat being quoted 38s 3d to 38s 9d, and white 38s 9d to 39s 2d per 480lb. The flour market opened firm at 10c to 25c improvement, but closed unchanged at the following prices:—April 27s 5d to 27s 8d, May 27s 8d to 27s 11d, May-June 27s 11d to 28s 2d, May-Aug. 28s 2d to 28s 5d, July-Aug. 28s 5d to 28s 8d, and Sept-Dec. 26s 10½d to 27s 1½d per 280lb. There is no change to note in the situation of rye, prices having undergone but little fluctuation for several months. Here trade has been languid with a weaker tendency. Good-conditioned lots are held at 25s 3d to 26s 8d per 480lb. Oats: not much change. Offers are on a very ordinary scale, but as the demand was trifling stuff on the spot was rather difficult to place. Here prices showed no quotable change on the week. Grey Beauce 25s 3d, white 23s 2d to 23s 6d, red 24s 11d, black from the Central provinces 25s 6d, small Picardy 24s 4d. Foreign oats have submitted to a slight depreciation in rates. American is worth 24s 1d to 24s 4d, white Libau 23s 6d to 23s 9d, black 24s 1d to 24s 4d, and Swedish 25s 3d to 25s 6d per 320lb. There is not much animation in the barley trade, but prices remain unaltered. Beauce asks 24s 8d to 25s. Here the following rates were quoted:—Malting 17f 50c to 17f 75c (25s 4d to 25s 9d), grinding 17f to 17f 25c (24s 8d to 25s), and feeding 15f to 15f 50c per 100 kilos (21s 9d to 22s 6d per 400lb). Buckwheat is firm at 28s 7d per 480lb—*Dornbusch.*

Hamburg, Saturday.—Market animated, there being a good demand for all descriptions of grain. Spot wheat is taken by our millers and for export to northern countries at full prices. Hard Winter No. 2 is selling at 29s, Azima at 28s to 28s 6d per 480lb, Walla Walla at 29s 6d to 29s 9d per 500lb. Northern Spring No. 2 Duluth, April-May shipment, is held at 28s 6d, North Manitoba No. 2 at 28s 3d per 480lb. So far, the heavy arrivals from America have met with quick disposal. Rye in better demand 9 15-20. South Russian April-May shipment is selling at 22s 9d to 23s per 480lb. Malting barley meets no attention. There is still a good stock in the growing district of Pomerania and Eastern Russia, fair middling quality being offered at 25s to 27s per 448lb. Bohemian and Saale is held at 28s 6d to 32s per 448lb. Feeding barley in demand at rather higher prices. South Russian and Danubian prompt shipment, 18s to 18s 6d; Sept.-Oct.-Nov. shipment, 16s 9d to 17s per 400lb. c.i.f. Hamburg. Maize firm. Danubian and Odessa prompt, 20s 9d to 21s; May-June shipment, 20s 3d; mixed prompt, 24s 9d to 25s per 480lb.—JOHN TATLOCK.

CORN STATISTICS.

MONTHLY AVERAGES.
(196 Market Towns.)

	1901.			1902.		
	Wheat	Barley	Oats	Wheat	Barley	Oats
January	26 8	25 7	17 4	27 8	26 8	20 1
February	26 5	25 5	17 7	27 1	26 8	20 3
March	25 10	25 0	17 10	27 1	26 8	20 6
April	26 3	25 7	18 3			
May	27 6	25 2	19 4			
June	27 7	23 11	19 10			
July	27 4	22 9	19 8			
August	27 4	24 0	18 10			
September	26 1	25 4	17 4			
October	25 10	25 7	17 6			
November	24 9	26 10	18 2			
December	27 4	26 8	19 5			

IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGES.

1901.	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
Apr. 20	35,737⅛	26	8	6,734⅝	25	7	8,346⅝	18	8
,, 27	46,672	26	8	6,935½	25	8	8,300⅜	18	1
May 4	46,616¼	26	9	6,417½	26	4	6,869⅜	19	8
,, 11	47,118½	27	3	4 279¼	26	2	7,049	19	1
,, 18	52,875⅛	27	7	2,508	24	2	7 345¼	19	4
,, 25	49,822¾	27	7	1,511⅜	24	1	4,665½	19	8
June 1	46,514	27	7	859½	23	8	4,938	19	9
,, 8	42,202	27	6	221½	22	9	4,023¼	20	1
,, 15	46,764	27	8	1,404¼	24	0	5,565⅜	19	7
,, 22	29,695	27	6	336⅜	23	2	3,552½	20	3
,, 29	28,191⅞	27	6	692½	25	4	2,803½	20	0
July 6	19,564⅜	27	8	140⅜	21	9	1,800⅛	19	10
,, 13	15,231⅛	27	2	49	23	10	1,675⅛	19	9
,, 20	17,462⅛	27	3	88⅜	23	4	2,040⅛	19	11
,, 27	18,297⅛	27	3	206⅜	22	1	2,385⅛	19	4
Aug. 3	18,666½	27	6	250⅜	23	1	3,219½	20	0
,, 10	19,156	27	7	141⅜	22	1	2,143½	19	4
,, 17	22,617½	27	4	220½	27	2	5,982¼	18	9
,, 24	37,168⅜	27	3	976⅜	23	7	9,952⅛	18	
,, 31	61,603⅜	27	0	4,877⅜	24	3	14,654⅛	17	10
Sept. 7	66,623¼	26	5	14,342⅜	25	1	19,075⅛	17	1
,, 14	77,949¼	26	2	34,989⅛	24	11	19,909½	17	4
,, 21	80,279½	26	0	70,096⅛	25	5	26,476⅜	17	4
,, 28	80,488	25	10	109,783½	25	10	22,567½	17	2
Oct. 5	60,376⅜	25	8	126,592½	26	3	21,631½	17	7
,, 12	63,656⅜	25	9	172,176⅜	26	5	16,815⅛	17	6
,, 19	58,772¼	25	10	203,591½	26	8	15,506½	17	8
,, 26	52,984⅛	25	11	208,471⅜	26	10	18,009⅛	17	5
Nov. 2	70,314⅜	26	2	134,277⅛	26	10	18,350⅜	17	7
,, 9	62,265½	26	6	202,577½	27	0	20,066½	17	8
,, 16	57,884⅜	26	9	201,725⅜	26	9	20,122½	18	3
,, 23	63,150⅛	27	1	185,268⅜	26	10	20,612	18	7
,, 30	60,323⅜	27	1	193,434⅜	26	9	22,419⅛	18	9
Dec. 7	67,925⅛	27	1	162,996⅜	26	7	23,990⅞	19	0
,, 14	48,045⅛	27	2	182,212⅜	25	10	17,125⅛	17	1
,, 21	60,562⅜	27	7	119,398⅛	26	8	26,260⅛	19	8
,, 28	43,718⅜	27	7	81,859½	26	8	16,901⅜	19	10
1902.									
Jan. 4	31,440⅜	27	7	34,777⅛	26	7	11,621⅛	19	10
,, 11	48,997⅜	27	8	69,120⅛	26	7	14,995	20	0
,, 18	74,239⅛	27	8	91,559⅜	26	11	19,733⅜	20	0
,, 25	74,758⅜	27	7	87,594	26	7	25,382⅛	20	3
Feb. 1	73,381⅛	27	4	81,463⅜	26	7	25,657⅛	20	2
,, 8	67,470½	27	2	69,291⅜	26	9	25,055⅜	20	3
,, 15	68,500	26	11	54,084⅛	27	5	21,824	20	3
,, 22	72,614⅜	27	1	53,201⅜	26	11	22,799	20	4
Mar. 1	79,453⅜	27	1	43,637⅜	26	7	22,322	20	5
,, 8	67,473⅜	27	0	28,847⅜	26	8	17,017	20	5
,, 15	60,643	27	1	24,536⅛	26	6	11,496⅜	20	6
,, 22	56,394⅛	27	1	15,482¼	26	4	12,192⅛	20	6
,, 29	50 703	27	2	15,729½	27	2	8,950⅛	20	7
Apr 5	31,277⅛	27	3	7,003⅛	26	5	5,994½	20	6
,, 12	37,931½	27	5	8,293⅛	26	7	6,855½	21	0
,, 19	38,037	27	7	7 237¼	27	1	11,093¼	21	1

LONDON AVERAGES.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, April 15th, 1902.

	Total Quantities. Imperial Measure. Quarters.	Bus.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.	Average Price per qr. Imperial Measure. £	s.	d.
Wheat ...	754	0	1,082	16	1	1	8	9
Barley ...	393	4	606	10	0	1	10	10
Oats ...	667	5	722	2	6	1	1	8

IMPERIAL AVERAGES.

Statement showing the Quantities sold and average price of British Corn, Imperial Measure, as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended April 19, 1902, conformably with the Act of the 45th and 46th Victoria, cap. 37.

Wheat	38,037 qrs.	27s.	7d.
Barley	7,237⅛ qrs.	27s.	1d.
Oats	11,099¼ qrs.	21s.	1d.

LONDON FLOUR MILLERS' ASSOCIATION.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1901

	London Whites. s. d.	Town Households. s. d.
September 2 .....(per sack)	26 0	..... (per sack) 23 0
,, 18 ..... ,,	25 6	..... ,, 22 6
December 9 ..... ,,	26 6	..... ,, 23 6
January 29 ..... ,,	26 0	..... ,, 23 0
April 16 ..... ,,	27 6	..... ,, 24 6

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF LONDON TOWN HOUSEHOLDS FLOUR.

(Sacks of 280 lbs. ex-mill for cash.)

	1902. s.	d.	1901 s.	d.	1900 s.	d.	1899. s.	d.	1898. s.	d.	1897. s.	d.	1896. s.	d.	1895. s.	d.
Jan. ...	21	9	24	6	21	9	23	9	29	0	25	6	18	9	18	7½
Feb. ...	22	0	24	0	22	0	23	6	30	0	24	7½	19	4½	17	9
March	21	9	23	9	21	6	22	3	30	0	23	11	19	3	18	0
April...	...		24	0	21	6	22	0	31	3	23	6	19	6	18	7½
May ...	...		23	6	21	3	22	3	39	7	23	7	19	0	20	4½
June ...	...		23	0	23	6	23	1½	35	0	22	7½	18	10	22	3
July ...	...		22	3	24	6	21	9	29	6	22	10½	18	6	20	0½
August	...		22	3	24	0	21	9	27	6	26	8½	18	8½	19	10½
Sept....	...		22	0	25	3	22	0	26	5	30	3	19	6	19	8
Oct. ...	...		21	6	24	9	23	3	26	1	29	0	23	7½	18	7½
Nov. ...	...		21	6	24	3	22	3	25	0	29	1	25	8½	18	4½
Dec. ...	...		21	9	24	0	21	9	24	3	29	0	25	7½	18	1
Yrly. Avrg.	....		22	10	23	2	22	4	29	6½	25	10½	20	8½	19	2

YEARLY AVERAGES (OFFICIAL.)

	Wheat. s.	d.	Barley. s.	d.	Oats. s.	d.
1890 ...	31	9 per qr.	28	8 per qr.	18	7 per qr.
1891 ...	37	1 ,,	28	2 ,,	20	0 ,,
1892 ...	30	4 ,,	26	2 ,,	19	11 ,,
1893 ...	26	4 ,,	25	6 ,,	18	9 ,,
1894 ...	22	10 ,,	24	6 ,,	17	1 ,,
1895 ...	28	1 ,,	21	11 ,,	14	6 ,,
1896 ...	26	2 ,,	22	11 ,,	14	9 ,,
1897 ...	30	2 ,,	23	6 ,,	16	11 ,,
1898 ...	34	0 ,,	27	2 ,,	18	5 ,,
1899 ...	25	8 ,,	25	7 ,,	17	0 ,,
1900 ...	26	11 ,,	25	9 ,,	17	9 ,,
1901 ...	26	9 ,,	25	3 ,,	18	5 ,,

ARRIVALS INTO LONDON.
April 9 to April 16, 1902, inclusive.

	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat .....qrs.	690	23,496	24,186
Barley	1,900	4 000	5,900
Malt	28,500	...	28,500
Oats	610	75,500	76,140
Beans	391	393	784
Peas	85	1,350	1,435
Maize	...	11,748	11,748
Tares	...	43	43
Rye	...	7,870	7,870
Cottonseed	...	1,700	1,700
Farmseeds	940	2,000	2,940
Linseed	...	...	...
Rape seed	...	...	...
Flour, sacks	21,250	37,791	59,041

STOCK OF GRAIN IN LONDON.

	Wheat. qrs.	Flour. sacks	Flour. brls.	Barley. qrs.
Apl. 1, 1902 ...	111,780	294,456	5,816	92,863
Jan. 1, 1902 ...	248,988	397,965	2,648	133,203
Apl. 1, 1901 ...	232,897	448,182	3,981	99,454
	Oats. qrs.	Maize. qrs.	Beans. qrs.	Peas. qrs.
Apl. 1, 1902 ...	560,565	106,748	5,114	11,216
Jan. 1, 1902 ...	592,401	46,345	8,815	8,831
Apl. 1, 1901 ...	421,793	45,482	7,493	10,473
	Malt. qrs.	Oil Cakes. tons.	Tares. qrs.	Linseed. qrs.
Apl. 1, 1902 ...	1,659	9,615	1,245	4,984
Jan. 1, 1902 ...	1,433	5,053	1,048	4,471
Apl. 1, 1901 ...	1,797	7,723	1,816	6,440

COMPARATIVE AVERAGES.

Comparative statement for the corresponding week to April 19th, in each of the years from 1897 to 1901.

	Wheat. Qrs	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
1897.....34,601⅛ ...		26	6	5,770½...		20	7	6,304⅝...	16	7
1898.....41,801⅓ ...		36	1	5,819½...		28	3	9,613⅛...	18	4
1899..... 89,875¼ ...		24	8	13,125⅓...		25	2	14,542⅓...	17	1
1900.....54,977⅔ ...		26	0	11,673⅓...		24	9	7,400⅔...	17	3
1901.....35,737⅜ ...		26	8	6,734⅜...		25	7	8,346⅝...	18	8

FLUCTUATIONS IN THE AVERAGE PRICE OF WHEAT.

PRICE.	Mar. 15.	Mar. 22	Mar. 29	Apr. 5.	Apr. 12.	Apr. 19.
27s. 8d	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 7d	...	...	...	...	...	
27s. 6d	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 5d	...	...	...	...		...
27s. 4d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 3d.	...	...	...		...	...
27s. 2d.	...	...		...	...	...
27s. 1d		...	...	...	...	...
27s. 0d	...	...	...	...	...	...
26s. 11d.	...	...	...	...	...	...

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF FINE HOUSEHOLD FLOUR IN PARIS.

(Converted into English money for sacks of 280 lb.)

	1902. s.	d.	1901. s.	d.	1900. s.	d.	1899. s.	d.	1898. s.	d.	1897. s.	d.	1896. s.	d.	1895. s.	d.
Jan. ...	27	9	24	9	25	2	29	0	38	7	30	5½	25	10	27	9½
Feb. ...	26	3	25	9	26	3	28	3	39	4	29	10½	26	2	27	10½
March	27	0	24	0	27	3	27	6	40	1	28	9	26	0	27	5½
April...	...		24	6	26	9	27	6	42	3	28	5	25	6½	26	7
May ...	...		25	6	26	8	28	0	40	0	28	11½	25	1½	28	0
June...	...		26	3	28	6	27	6	35	6	29	3	25	8	28	10
July ...	...		28	0	26	9	27	3	32	0	31	5½	24	6	27	1
August	...		27	6	26	4	27	0	31	6	36	11	25	1	26	11
Sept....	...		27	6	26	3	25	9	31	0	33	7	27	0	27	0½
Oct.....	...		27	6	26	0	24	9	30	6	39	4	27	1½	27	9
Nov....	...		27	9	26	4	24	3	30	3	40	3	29	9	26	8½
Dec. ..	...		28	3	26	0	24	6	29	0	39	3	29	8	26	3
Yrly. Avrg.	...		27	3	26	2	9	35	0	33	5	26	5½	27	4½	

TITHE RENT CHARGES.

For 1902	67	3	9
,, 1901	66	10	9
,, 1900	66	15	10
,, 1899	68	2	4
,, 1898	68	14	11
,, 1897	69	17	11
1896	71	9	7

The last time the Tithe was above par was £100 4s. 10d.

LONDON TOP PRICE FLOUR.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1901.

	s.	d.
September 2 .....(per sack)	29	0
,, 28 ..... ,,	28	0
April 16 ..... ,,	29	0

(No official change since last date given.)

ENGLISH WHEAT IN 1901.

Highest of Year	27s. 7d.
Lowest of Year	25s. 10d.
Gradient	1s. 9d.
Mean of Year	26s. 9d.

Irish Live Weight Quotations.

(Department of Agriculture and General Instruction for Ireland.)

The following returns are those of actual sales made in Robson's Cattle Mart, Belfast, the stock being weighed either before or after sale, for the week ending April 19th, 1902.

No. of Beasts.	Description and Quality.	Average price per head. £	s.	d.	Average Live weight. c. qr. lb	Average price per cwt. £	s.	d.
2	Bullocks (prime) ...	22	12	6	11 3 7	1	18	4
1	,, (very good) ...	20	10	0	11 0 14	1	16	10
1	,, good ...	13	15	0	8 1 0	1	13	4
2	,, (very good) ...	17	12	6	9 3 24	1	15	4
1	,, ,, ...	16	10	0	9 1 14	1	15	2
2	,, ,, ...	16	10	0	9 2 7	1	14	6

* Indicates that the lot so marked was sold by live weigh at the price quoted.

COLONIAL DAIRY PRODUCE.

London, Friday.—Butter—There is a good consumptive demand for New Zealand butter, and prices have advanced 2s on the week. Choicest brands are now making 106s to 108s, while finest realise 102s to 104s. Stocks are practically exhausted, and current arrivals are quickly bought up. Milled butter is arriving in an unsatisfactory condition; a good deal of it has felt the heat, and but for the very great shortage of secondary butters it would sell at a low price. The better qualities are selling from 96s to 98s. The intrinsic value is 30s per cwt. below choicest, and yet 10s to 12s is all the market value difference. The Copenhagen official quotation remains unchanged at 96 kroner, and is higher at this date than it has been for the last 18 years. All varieties of butter, Colonial and foreign, are making higher prices than they have done since 1885. This extraordinary state of things is due to the greatly diminished Australian supplies during February and their total absence in March. Russian is arriving in increased quantities, the import last week reaching 16,368 cwts., while that of the present week is very large. This great increase has not been sufficient to meet the demand. Notwithstanding the increase in Russian, prices have risen 2s on the week, and choicest brands are making 102s to 104s. Increasing quantities of Irish and augmenting supplies of Dutch are indications that the present high values will not be maintained for more than two or three weeks. Cheese—There is a good steady consumptive demand for Canadian and New Zealand cheese, and prices may be quoted both for coloured and white at a shilling advance on the week. The stocks in Commercial Road depot, London, were reduced last week by 12,000 boxes, and then stood at only 41,000 boxes. Stocks are running parallel to those of the year before last, but prices are four shillings per cwt. below that period.—W. WEDDEL AND CO.

THE BALTIC.

Prices for cargoes include cost freight and insurance, but not duty, except where specially stated. The duty, of course, only becomes chargeable when the grain is taken for actual delivery. The buyer will find it troublesome to allow for the duty, as the cargo trade never deals by the cwt., but by the quarter of varying weight, and by the cental (100, not 112lb.). The cargo trade, however, deals by the ton, which is 20 cwt., and on which the duty will be 5s. Sales of the week include—Californian wheat at 30s.; Australian at 29s. 9d.; No 1 Northern at 29s., and Argentine at 28s. 9d.; also Odessa maize at 21s. 3d.; Californian brewing barley at 23s. 6d.; white Konisgsberg oats at 20s. 9d., and Saida at 29s.. per quarter.

The arrivals of grain and seed-laden vessels at ports-of-call for the week were 10 wheat (1 Adelaide, 3 Portland, O., 4 San Francisco, 2 Tacoma); 4 barley and wheat (San Francisco); 1 flour (Portland, O.); 1 beans (Saffi); 1 canaryseed (Larache); total, 17.

The sailings of grain and seed-laden vessels from ports-of-call for the week were 9 wheat (3 Antwerp, 1 Cardiff, 1 Dublin, 2 Hamburg, 1 London, 1 Tyne Dock); 2 barley and wheat (1 Grimsby, 1 Ipswich); 1 flour (London); 1 Barley (Ipswich); total, 13.

Since 1st January, 1902, the total arrivals have been 93 wheat, 2 flour, 17 barley and wheat, 3 maize, 7 barley, 2 beans, 2 linseed, 3 canaryseed; total, 129.

Last year during the same time the arrivals were 83 wheat, 2 flour, 6 barley and wheat, 11 barley, 3 beans, 4 pease, 1 pease and beans, 2 locust beans, 3 canaryseed, 2 Valonea; total, 117.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The colour of the wheat fields is not at all promising, and the growth of the pastures is backward. There is now decidedly below an average promise on the wheat in both the United Kingdom and the United States, but advices from France, Germany, Austria-Hungary, Roumania, Russia, Italy, and Spain are favourable, and along the North African Coast from Morocco to Tripoli inclusive an over-average yield of cereals is expected next month. The Indian harvest is now over in all the chief regions except the Punjab, where it is in progress. The yield is put by good judges at 20 per cent. under average, and there is a deficiency of oilseeds and pulse, as well as of wheat.

The markets of the past week have advanced 1s. 6d. per qr. for both English and foreign wheat. The rise in English has been mainly due to scarcity, but foreign would not have advanced more than 6d. in the absence of the new duty, which was approved by the House of Commons on the night of the 14th. It is not known if it will be charged from the date of the vote passing report, or from that of the whole Budget receiving the Royal Assent.

The imports of the past week thus compare with the corresponding week of last season:—

	1902.	1901.
Wheat, qrs.	456,113 ..	299,300
Flour, sks.	106,000 ..	140,000
Maize, qrs.	134,000 ..	184,000
Barley, qrs.	135,000 ..	54,180
Oats, qrs.	80,880 ..	125,605
Beans, qrs.	1,727 ..	4,060
Peas, qrs	5,290 ..	9,000

The prices which we give in this review and elsewhere in the journal will from the present date (that is from the 21st April) include the payment of duty where leviable. The clauses of two Acts which govern the charging of the duty may usefully be given here:—Section 20 of the Customs Consolidation Act, 1876 (39 and 40 Vic., cap. 36), runs as follows: "In the event of any increase of duties or customs chargeable upon any goods or commodities after the making of any contract or agreement for the sale or delivery of such goods duty paid, it shall be lawful for the seller in case such increase shall accrue before the clearance and delivery from the warehouse of such goods at such increased duty and after payment thereof to add so much money to the contract price as will be equivalent to such increase of duty, and he shall be entitled to be paid and to sue for and recover the same; and Section 8 of the Finance Act, 1900, provides: "Section 20 of the Consolidation Act, 1876 (which has reference to the effect of changes of duty on existing contracts), shall apply to the imposition of new duties as well as increases, decreases or repeals, and as so amended shall apply to duties of excise as well as to duties of customs."

No duties will be levied on oil seeds, seed oils, or oil cake. These useful fatteners for live stock may therefore be expected to increase in demand. Unfortunately there is but a poor new crop of oil seeds in India, and Egyptian cotton seed is also in decreased supply.

The Custom House authorities have supplied us with the following list of articles on which the registration duty will fall:—

Class 1.—3d. per cwt.—Corn or grain not milled or ground, including wheat, barley, oats, rye, maize, buckwheat, bere or bigg, peas and Dholl (other than green whether fresh or preserved), beans (not kidney or French), haricot beans, locust beans, lentils, rice, millet, dari.

Class 2.—5d. per cwt.—Flour, malt, groats, barleymeal, pearled barley, oatmeal, ryemeal and flour, pea meal, bean meal, maize or Indian cornmeal, buckwheat meal, ricemeal, ricedust, bread and biscuits, shredded wheat, semolina, macaroni and macaroni paste, vermicelli (including Feddini), starch, farina and dextrine, arrowroot, cassava powder, manna croup, Mandicca flour, potato flour, tapioca, sago, and sago meal; preparations containing any of the above-mentioned articles, bran, pollard.

Sorghum is not mentioned, but as it is botanically a species of millet, the Chancellor will probably charge it with the 3d. duty.

The prevailing opinion at Mark Lane at the crowded market of Friday was that while 1s 6d. rise will be maintained so long as crop influences are small, the paramount importance of the latter will assert itself by July. In the flour trade grave questions arise on the mixture of English and foreign flour in the "patents" now sold by various leading firms.

The one serious argument for the repeal of the Registration Duty in 1869 was that in the words of Robert Lowe, "it will result in England becoming the centre of a vast entrepôt trade" (Hansard, April 8th, 1869). England was to receive the grain of the New World and distribute it to the Old. This has not resulted. The French, Belgian, and Dutch ports have more than held their own. Easier navigation, lower dues at docks, prompter service of lightermen, and lower wages generally have robbed us of the opportunity then afforded. To-day, we return to the Registration Duty and return with it to the old 112lb. weight. Threepence per cwt. means 1s. 1½d. per quarter on the full, or 504lb. "quarter" of wheat. Barley will pay an exact 1s per quarter on malting kinds, but a fraction less on grinding. Oats will pay 9d. per quarter on Swedish and other heavy sorts; rather less on Russian, American, and Canadian. On maize the duty will be 1s. 0½d. per quarter, and this will be the duty on the lighter sorts of wheat, beans, and peas, weighing, like maize, only 480lb. to the quarter. A uniform threepence per cental or true hundredweight of 100lb. would have been more convenient to the trade and given the Chancellor an extra £300,000. But in following the exact precedent of 1869 political considerations and a wish not to break with the great Free Trade Settlement of 1846 doubtless had overwhelming weight.

The Chancellor puts the new duty at £2,665,000, but a good market authority has estimated that it will bring in as much as £3,038,000. If meat keep dear, more bread will be eaten this year, and we should in such an event be prepared to find the duty run up to £3,250,000. The American flour firms do not anticipate any falling off in flour receipts from abroad, but seeing there is some preferential duty (though slight), this view may prove to be somewhat mistaken. English millers with 2d. per cwt. in their favour will have a chance of improving their position.

The effect of the repeal of the duty (now re-imposed) in 1869 was as follows, the prices being the wheat averages for that year:—

1869, April, 46s. 4d.; registration duty repealed from the end of April, 1869.

1869.		
April	46s 4d	Registration duty repealed from the end of April, 1869.
May	44s 9d	1s 1½d repeal. 1s 7d fall.
June	45s 11d	1s 2d recovery.
July	49s 10d	Poor harvest prospects.

It will be seen that the fall was at first exaggerated by 5½d. on the quarter, but that within a month value had returned to within 5d. of its old level. When a consideration of harvest prospects became permanent the whole question of the duty faded out of sight.

The quantity of grain on passage to the United Kingdom thus compares with a year ago:—

	1902.	1901.
Wheat, qrs.	3,900,000 ..	3,560,000
Flour, sks.	320,000 ..	485,000
Maize, qrs.	405,000 ..	560,000
Barley, qrs.	340,000 ..	410,000
Beans, qrs.	8,000 ..	16,000
Linseed, qrs.	240,000 ..	95,000
Rapeseed, qrs.	16,000 ..	7,000
Cottonseed, qrs.	49,000 ..	45,000

The American visible supplies are cabled at 9,364,000qrs. of wheat, 1,447,000qrs. of maize, and 808,000qrs. of oats, against 9,450,000qrs. of wheat, 3,347,000qrs. of maize, and 1,987,000qrs. of oats on April 19th last year. The cable makes for higher prices in oats and maize in England, apart from the new duty, and the supplies on passage keep the upward tendency in barley, maize, and beans. Spring corn is irregular at the present moment, but an advance of 1s. per quarter may be quoted on barley, oats, maize, and pulse, whilst meal is held for a rise of at least 5s. on the ton.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Monday.—Linseed Cake:—The Budget resolutions have favourably affected this article, and Americans, both spot and forward, are slightly dearer. London cake is unchanged. Decorticated cotton cake and meal as before; undecorticated strong; 5s dearer. Linseed, no change.

English Linseed Cake	ex mill	8 0 0	
American Calcutta Linseed Cake	ex quay		
American Western ,,	ex quay	7 0 0	to 7 2 6
,, ,,	ex quay	7 0 0	to 7 2 6
Russian Oil Cake	ex quay	7 10 0	to 7 17 6
Decorticated Cotton Cake	ex quay	6 5 0	to 6 10 0
,, ,, Meal	ex quay	6 5 0	to 6 7 6
London-made ,, Cake (best)	ex mill	4 15 0	to 4 17 6
Egyptian ,, ,, ,, (in bags)	ex quay	4 5 0	to 4 7 6
Burton Desiccated Ale Grains (bags included)	on rail, Burton		
Dutch Linseed (in bags), per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse	2 17 0	to 3 0 0
Calcutta Linseed in bags, per 410 lbs.	ex warehouse	2 11 6	
La Plata do. per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse	2 12 0	
Clean Russian Linseed in bulk, per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse	2 17 0	

ROBERT AND JOHN HEWETSON.

SEEDS.

London, Monday.—We have a moderate retail demand for all farm seeds at to-day's market at full prices. It is becoming increasingly evident that very light stocks will remain over this season. Spring tares are nearly exhausted. Bird seeds are dull. Haricots are more inquired for in consequence of the new import duty.—JOHN PICARD AND CO.

THIS DAY'S MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY.

[FIRST REPORT.]

English wheat was scarce to-day, and 32s. 6d. was paid for 504lb. samples. The price of foreign wheat is affected 1s. 3d. by the duty, and about 9d. by the firmer advices from America, and the news of serious crop deficiency in India. On the whole value averages 2s. above the prices of this day week. Maize continues dear for flat corn, but on yellow and round kinds the bare duty rise is all that can be made. Barley is dearer by 1s. 1d. to 1s. 6d. per qr. Californian on spot made 26s. to 26s. 6d. Split Egyptian beans were in fair request at 24s. per 320lb., but the demand for feeding stuffs generally lagged behind what might have been expected, seeing the backward state of the pastures. Oats were a dull trade; 1s. more money was asked, 9d. of which was the duty rise. Peas and rye at 1s. advance were not easy to sell.

QUOTATIONS OFF STANDS.

April 21, 1902.

BRITISH GRAIN.

		s.	s.
WHEAT, White (new)	(per 504 lb.)	32	— 33
,, (old)	,,	32	— 33
Red (new)	,,	30	— 31
,, (old)	,,	30	— 31
Chicken or Feed	(per 480 lb.)	27	— 29
BARLEY, Malting	(per 448 lb.)	32	— 38
Brewing	,,	28	— 31
Feeding	(per 400 lb.)	25	— 27
MALT, English	(per 336 lb.)	36	— 42
Scotch	,,	38	— 40
Black	,,	31	— 33
Brown	,,	30	— 33
Crystallized	,,	34	— 36
OATS, English, Black Winter	,,	23	— 25
,, Black Tartary	,,	22	— 23
,, Grey Winter	,,	23	— 25
,, White Tartary	,,	22	— 23
Scotch	,,	23	— 25
Irish	(per 304 lb.)	20	— 21
RYE, British	(per 480 lb.)	24	— 26
BEANS, Pigeon	,,	39	— 41
Winter	,,	33	— 37
Mazagan	,,	32	— 34
PEAS, Best Marrowfat	(per 504 lb.)	66	— 76
Blue (boiling)	,,	61	— 71
Dun	,,	32	— 33
Maple	,,	37	— 41
TARES, Scotch Gores	,,	79	— 83
Winter Old	,,	69	— 73
,, Ordinary	,,	57	— 65
Spring ,,	,,	51	— 53

FOREIGN GRAIN.

(Ex-Granary.)

	s.	s.
WHEAT, per 496 lb.		
Old Duluth	32	— 34
Manitoba No. 1	32	— 33
American Spring	31	— 32
Red Winter	31	— 32
Hard ,,	31	— 32
Californian	31	— 32
Walla Walla	30	— 31
Australian	31	— 32
New Zealand	30	— 31
Argentine	30	— 32
Danzig	32	— 34
Saxonka	31	— 32
Azima	31	— 32
Ghirka	30	— 31
Indian	30	— 31
RYE, per 480 lb.		
Russian	25	— 26
MAIZE, per 480 lb.:		
Russian	22	— 23
Roumanian	22	— 23
Turkish	22	— 23
American	27	— 28
Argentine	23	— 24
OATS:		
N' Zeal'd (Best)	28	— 32
N. Zeal'd (Bluff)	26	— 28
N. Zeal'd (Dun)	24	— 26
Canadian (320 lb.)	21	— 22
American (320 lb.)	21	— 22
Prussian (320 lb.)	21	— 22
N. Russ'n (304 lb.)	20	— 21
South ,, (304 lb.)	19	— 20
Turkish (304 lb.)	18	— 19
BEANS, per 480 lb.:		
Egyptian	33	— 34
Smyrna	32	— 33
New Zealand	35	— 37
LOCUST BEANS, per ton:		
Italian	104	— 108
Cyprian	112	— 118
Portuguese	107	— 110
PEAS, per 504 lb.:		
Canadian, White	37	— 38
Australian, White	41	— 42
New Zeal'd Maple	39	— 41
Indian White	34	— 35
MILLET, per 416 lb.:		
White	34	— 46
Red	26	— 28
Yellow	21	— 23
Sorghum	20	— 21
DARI, per 480 lb.:		
Smyrna	26	— 27
Persian	23	— 25
BUCKWHEAT, per 416 lb		
French	26	— 27
Russian	27	— 28
TARES, per 504 lb.:		
Konigsberg	46	— 50
BARLEY:		
Saale (448 lb.)	39	— 41
Hungarian (448 lb.)	33	— 41
New Zeal'd (448 lb.)	27	— 30
Chilian (448 lb.)	33	— 35
Californian (448 lb.)	26	— 31
Danish (448 lb.)	29	— 31
French (448 lb.)	28	— 30
Danubian (400 lb.)	20	— 22
Ouchak (400 lb.)	25	— 33
Yerli (400 lb.)	22	— 23
Russian (400 lb.)	20	— 21
MALT, per 336 lb:		
Californian	36	— 37
Smyrna	36	— 37

OIL SEEDS.

LINSEED. per 416 lb.	s.	s.
English	59	to 61
Dutch	58	to 60
Bombay	58	to 60
Calcutta	54	to 56
Russian	57	to 58
Argentine	50	to 52
SESAME. per 424 lb.		
Indian	53	to 55
COTTON SEED per ton.		
Egyptian	144	to 146

RAPESEED. per 416 lb	s.	s.
English	56	to 60
Calcutta	41	to 43
Guzerat	42	to 44
Ferozepore	37	to 39
Jamba	29	to 30
Ravison	28	to 29
POPPYSEED. per 377 lb.		
Indian	47	to 49
SUNFLOWERSEED. per 448lb		
Russian	48	to 52

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

THE MARKET CLOSED WITHOUT VERY MUCH DOING. THE DUTY IS PAID WITH CHEERFULNESS ON THE WHOLE, BUT BUYERS DECLINE TO PAY MORE THAN THE EXACT DUTY RISE IN SO MANY CASES THAT THE VOLUME OF BUSINESS WAS SENSIBLY REDU-

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, MONDAY.

The top price of flour is up one shilling, but London town whites and also households are held for eighteenpence more money. As they are supposed to contain about a moiety of British wheat flour, sixpence would satisfy the new duty, and bakers are indignant. However, the reduced holdings and the real spot scarcity of finest American and Hungarian give millers the best of the situation, and the advanced price has to be paid. On American flour the full extent of the duty, 1s. 0½d. per sack is naturally admitted. Country flour is 1s. up, owing to the scarcity of English wheat. Mixtures of English and foreign flour, owned as "patents" by various firms, are very irregular; a shilling rise is generally obtainable, but 1s. 6d. to 2s. more money is often asked, and this is resisted. Bakers bought a fair quantity of American and a fair quantity of country flour; an increasing number will probably find it pay to do their own "mixing."

LONDON FLOUR.		s.
Top Price	(per sack)	— 29
Town Whites	,,	26 — 27
,, Households	,,	23 — 24
No. 2	,,	21 — 22
COUNTRY FLOUR.		
Best Patents	(per sack)	24 — 26
Fine Roller made	,,	23 — 24
Ordinary Roller made	,,	22 — 23
Best Stone made	,,	21 — 22
FOREIGN FLOUR.		
Minnesota First Patents	(per sack)	24/6 — 25
,, Second Patents	,,	22/6 — 23
,, First Bakers'	,,	20/6 — 21
,, Second Bakers'	,,	18/6 — 19
Milwaukee Patents	,,	20/6 — 24
,, Bakers	,,	17/6 — 18
Kansas Patents	,,	24/6 — 25
,, Bakers'	,,	19/6 — 20
Cascadia	,,	23/6 — 24
Canadian	,,	23/6 — 24
Australian Patents	,,	21/6 — 22
,, Straight	,,	20/6 — 21
Hungarian	,,	30 — 33
Russian	,,	28 — 30
French	,,	21 — 23
MEAL, &c.		
Whole Meal	(per ton	180—184
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	120—126
Bran, London Broad	,,	108—116
,, ,, Fine	,,	92— 96
,, Country Flake	,,	122—128
,, ,, Broad	,,	104—108
Pollard	,,	96—100
Biscuit Middlings	,,	122—124
Fine Middlings	,,	120—122
Coarse Middlings	,,	105—107
Feeding Flour (Red Dog)	,,	117—119
Barley Meal	,,	129—133
Rye Flour	,,	155—160
Canadian Oatmeal	,,	210—220
Scotch Oatmeal	,,	265—305
Oat Flour	,,	345—365
Maize Flour	,,	169—171
Maize Meal	,,	115—125
Maize Cones	,,	177—179
Maize Germ Meal	,,	122—124
Pea Meal	,,	135—155
Bean Meal	,,	150—170
Rice Meal	,,	100—105

LONDON TERM MARKET.

This market is held twice a day, except on Saturday, when there is no afternoon call. The market is open to elected members only. No business except for future delivery is done, and the smallest quantity that can be purchased is 1,000 quarters, or 4,800 centals. The name of the month stands for guaranteed delivery (if required) on or before the last day of that month, and the following have been the prices per cental recently made:—

WHEAT.—Calls.	A. June. s. d.	A. Aug't. s. d.	B Oct. s. d.
April 14 noon.	6 0 ... 6 1	... 6 1	
,, 4 p.m.	6 0 ... 6 1	... 6 1	
April 15 11 a.m.	6 0 ... 6 1	... 6 2	
,, 4 p.m.	6 0 ... 6 1	... 6 2	
April 16 11 a.m.	6 0 ... 6 1	... 6 2	
,, 4 p.m.	6 0 ... 6 1	... 6 2	
April 17 11 a.m.	6 0 ... 6 1	... 6 3	
,, 4 p.m.	6 0 ... 6 1	... 6 3	
April 18 11 a.m.	6 0 ... 6 1	... 6 3	
,, 4 p.m.	6 0 ... 6 1	... 6 3	
April 19 noon.	6 0 ... 6 1	... 6 3	
To-day noon.	6 1 ... 6 1	... 6 4	

Maize was offered at 4s. 5d (A) and 4s. 8d. (B) terms. The former were for May-Aug., the latter for Sept.-Nov. delivery.

A signifies duty to be paid by *buyer*, B the duty to be paid by *seller*. On the 18th the members of the Term Market unanimously agreed to adopt the new duty as a sellers' obligation from the new cereal year (September 1). Up to that date it will fall on the buyer.

The Term Market standard wheat is No. 1 Northern Spring American sold on the Duluth certificate. Other sorts of wheat can be bought at the above prices plus or minus agreed difference between the other sort and the standard quality. Quotations are by the "true hundredweight" or cental of 100 lb. We do not give fractions of a penny per cental. The maize quoted is fair average quality from the United States.

The deposit required from members of the Term Market has been fixed at £50 minimum and 1s. per quarter margin on any purchases above 1,000 quarters.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORT.

Flour.—Since the announcement in the Budget of 5d. per cwt. duty, all classes of flour have been advanced 1s. per sack. Trade generally quiet; buyers not disposed to operate except for immediate requirements. Values on spot are as follows: — 1st Spring Patents, 25s. to 26s.; 2nd Spring Patents, 24s. to 24s. 6d.; American Winter Patents, 24s. 6d. to 25s.; Extra Fancies, 23s. to 23s. 6d.

Offals.—An advance of 5s. per ton on bran and pollards in virtue of the Budget is being quoted by sellers; so far, however, it has not met with much response on the part of buyers.—GREENHILL BROTHERS (Belfast).

Flour.—We have to report an advance of 1s. 6d. to 2s. per sack on flour this week, which, of course, includes the Registration Duty imposed.

Grain.—Flat corn is 6d. dearer. Round maize is 10½d. to 1s. up. Beans and pease practically exhausted on the spot. Barley 9d. higher. Oats in good demand at 6d. to 9d. per boll advance. Oatmeal held for 1s. per sack more money.

Mill Stuffs.—Bran in brisk demand. Thirds also firm.

The duty on grain has naturally been the whole topic of conversation this week, and many difficulties between buyer and seller remain to be settled. —MCKINNON AND MCDONALD (Glasgow).

Small arrivals of wheat and flour. A moderate demand. Wheat, 1s. 6d. per quarter, and flour 1s. 6d. to 2s. per sack dearer. Maize 1s. 3d., barley 1s. and 1s. 3d., and oats 9d. per quarter dearer.—COVENTRY AND CO.

Milling Offals.—After a week of excitement milling offals must be written 7s. 6d. per ton up all round.—J. BAWCOMB AND CO. (16, Mark Lane, E.C.).

Flour.—A fair trade at an advance of 1s. 6d. to 2s. on the week.—T. S. MEDILL AND SONS.

POTATOES.

Borough, Saturday.—Supplies good, and met with fair request; moderate business being passed. Scotch Maincrops, 80s to 90s; Blackland Up-to-Dates, 45s; Lincoln Siltlands, 55s to 60s; Kentish Up-to-Dates, 50s per ton.

Great Northern, Saturday.—Lighter supplies met subdued demand. Scotch Maincrops, 80s to 90s; Imperators, 40s; Reading Giants, 40s to 45s; Blacklands Dates, 45s to 50s; Lincoln Maincrops, 80s to 85s; Lincoln Up-to-Dates, 50s to 60s; New Jersey, 4½d per lb; Teneriffe, 14s; Maltese, 10s per cwt.

Spitalfields, Saturday.—Large supplies met with dull demand. Best Lincoln Up-to-Dates, 60s to 65s; Blackland ditto, 40s to 45s; Wisbech ditto, 50s to 55s; Scotch ditto, 60s to 65s; Scotch Maincrops (grey soil), 60s to 70s; Lincoln Maincrops, 75s to 85s; Reading Giants, 40s; Blackland Cartons, 30s to 35s per ton; New, Kidney, Algeria, 12s 6d to 13s; Canary and Teneriffe, No. 2, 15s; and Maltese Rounds, No. 3, 13s per cwt.

MANURES.

Liverpool, Friday.—Brilliant sunshine, accompanied by a warmer temperature, has been experienced the last few days, and has assisted farming operations upon the land. Nitrate of soda is in seasonable demand, and best quality on the spot commands £10 15s per ton owing to the limited offerings, but for ex shipments due in May there are sellers at lower prices. Sulphate of ammonia of 24 per cent. test realises £12 2s 6d to £12 5s per ton. Kainit and superphosphate of lime unchanged in value and in seasonable request, whilst bone meal commands an advance of fully 5s per ton. The trade all round in feeding stuffs is a quiet one, and English makes of linseed cake are 2s 6d per ton easier, but on meal and corn affected by the new Budget taxes an equivalent advance is demanded. At auction 143 bags Peruvian cotton cake sold ex quay at £6 15s per ton. Nitrate of Soda, best quality, *i.e.*, guaranteed 95 per cent., pure, in bags, £10 15s per ton; East India Bone Meal, fair to prime, in bags, £4 10s to £4 15s per ton; Kainit, prime 23 per cent., in bags, £2 7s 6d to £2 10s per ton; Palm Nut Cake, prime, in bags, nominal; Linseed Cake, American thin oblong, prime, in bags, £7 to £7 3s 9d per ton; Linseed Cake, English, prime, in bulk, £8 2s 6d to £8 10s per ton; Linseed Cake, foreign, round, prime, soft and oily, in bags, £8 2s 6d per ton; Cottonseed Cake, N.A., decorticated, prime, new, in bags, £7 1s 3d to £7 5s per ton; Cottonseed Cake, English, decorticated, prime, soft, £7 2s 6d to £7 7s 6d per ton; Cottonseed Cake, English, undecorticated, prime, in bulk, £4 5s to £4 15s per ton; Cottonseed Cake (crushed), 20/25 per cent. oil, prime, in bags, £7 2s 6d per ton; Maize Germ Meal, prime, in bags, £5 12s 6d to £5 17s 6d per ton; Rice Meal, Rangoon, as imported, in bags, nominal; Indian Meal, coarse to fine grinding, prime, in bulk, 13s to 13s 6d per 240lb.; Linseed, fine bold feeding, in bags, £3 2s to £3 5s per qr., 416lb; D.N.S. Brand Superphosphate of Lime, guaranteed, 25 to 27 sol., in bags, £2 5s to £2 7s; D.N.S. Brand Superphosphate of Lime, guaranteed, 30 to 31 sol., in bags, £2 10s to £2 12s; Superphosphate of Lime, guaranteed, 35 to 36 sol., in bags, £3 to £3 2s per ton—at super. depot; Basic Slag, prime quality, guaranteed, 30 to 35 per cent. phos., in bags, nominal; Basic Slag, prime quality, guaranteed, 35 to 40 per cent. phos., in bags, nominal.—H. JONES LANGAR AND CO.

HOPS.

London, Monday.—W. H. and H. Le May report:—There has been some business passing in the best hops during the past week, prices for which continue very firm indeed. Medium and low qualities are in demand at current rates.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

Monday, April 21st, 1902.

	British.	Total.	April 22, 1901.
Beasts	1,230	1,230	1,020
Sheep and Lambs	8,760	8,760	9,330
Calves	10	10	30
Pigs	5	5	20
Milch Cows	40	40	50

Quotations per 8lbs. (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.	Inferior. s. d.	Second. s. d.	First. s. d.
Beasts	3 0 ..	4 2 ..	4 10
Sheep	3 10 ..	5 0 ..	5 8
Lambs	5 8 ..	5 4 ..	7 0

Milch cows, per head, £15 to £22.

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, 7; Eastern Counties, 919; Midland, Home and Western Counties, 221; Devon, 20; Ireland, 63.

In the beast market to-day, compared with Monday last, there was a decrease of 210 head, arrivals both from Ireland and the Eastern counties being shorter. Trade was, however, extremely dull, rates having to be lowered fully 2d to 3d per 8lb. Even at this decline a clearance is doubtful unless there is more demand later by carcase butchers. Fat bulls and cows were also easier in price.

The following are top quotations per 8lb (sinking the offal):—

	To-day.	April 22, 1901.
Devons	4s 6d to 4s 8d	4s 4d to 4s 5d
Norfolks	4s 8d to 4s 9d	4s 3d to 4s 5d
Lincolns	4s 4d to 4s 6d	4s 0d to 4s 2d
Irish	4s 6d to 4s 8d	4s 0d to 4s 2d
Fat cows	4s 0d to 4s 2d	3s 8d to 3s 8d

In the sheep market, compared with Monday last, there was a decrease in the number penned. For wether sheep trade was firm at late rates. Ewes were slower of sale, a reduction of 2d per 8lb having to be made. For lambs there was less demand even for choice small Downs, a reduction of 4d per 8lb having to be accepted. The supply included 290 Scotch, 2,970 from the Eastern counties, and 500 from Yorkshire.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8lb. (sinking the offal) and are for the best of each class penned.

7½ to 8-st Downs	5s 7d to 5s 8d	5s 6d to 5s 8d	
9-st Downs	5s 4d to 5s 6d	5s 4d to 5s 6d	
10-st half-breds	4s 11d to 5s 0d	5s 0d to 5s 2d	
9-st Yorkshires (clipped)	4s 6d to 4s 8d	4s 6d to 4s 8d	
12-st Lincolns	4s 8d to 4s 10d	4s 8d to 4s 10d	
10-st Down ewes	4s 6d to 4s 8d	4s 6d to 4s 8d	
11-st half-bred do	4s 4d to 4s 6d	4s 4d to 4s 6d	
5-st Down lambs	6s 10d to 7s 0d	6s 10d to 7s 0d	
6-st half-bred do	6s 4d to 6s 6d	6s 6d to 6s 8d	

Calf and pig trade not worth noting.

London (Central), Monday.—Good supplies; trade slow. Beef carcases, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; hind quarters, 4s 8d to 5s; roastings, 5s 8d to 6s. Sheep: Ewe, 3s 2d to 3s 6d; wether, 4s to 4s 2d; hind quarters, ewe 4s 4d to 4s 8d; wether, 5s to 5s 4d. Pigs: Large, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; small, 4s to 4s 6d.

FOREIGN CATTLE.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts, 751. To-day's supply, compared with Monday last, showed an increase of 327, and consisted of 711 from the United States and 40 from Canada, these latter having been held back from Saturday. Trade was of a very slow nature, at a slight decline in value, with a difficulty in clearing; the best on offer 4s 9d, and occasionally 4s 10d per 8lb, offal given in, to dress about 680lbs; seconds were quoted at 4s 7d; Canadians, 4s 6d to 4s 7d. Sheep, 794, consisting of shipments from the United States, trade for which was very slow, so few buyers being present. Best pens of sheep in the wool to dress about 56lbs made from 4s 10d to 5s per 8lb; clipped ditto, 4s 6d to 4s 8d. On Saturday 1,092 States' beasts and 222 from Canada were on sale, trade for which was steady; the best of the former made 4s 10d per 8lbs, the latter being quoted at from 4s 6d to 4s 8d. The following were the numbers on offer on the corresponding day last year, with the current top rates:—

THE BALTIC, 1 p.m.

STATE OF TRADE.

Wheat is rising; 3d. more money from Saturday is made. Maize, barley, oats, and beans are a slow trade.

BUSINESS DONE.

WHEAT.—Californian, 30s 3d, prompt shipment; Walla Walla, 29s 9d, prompt shipment; Argentine, 23s 3d, on passage; No. 1 Northern, 28s 9d, on passage.

BARLEY.—Odessa, 19s, prompt shipment; Roumanian, 18s 6d, prompt shipment.

OATS.—White Libau, 18s, prompt shipment; Canadian, 19s 9d, prompt shipment.

BEANS.—Egyptian, 28s 9d, May shipment.

MAIZE.—Argentine, 20s 6d, May shipment; Caucasian, 21s 3d, May shipment; Galatz, 21s 3d, May shipment; Cinquantina, 22s 9d, May shipment.

LINSEED.—Calcutta, 50s 9d, May shipment; Argentine, 49s 6d, May shipment.

COTTONSEED.—Egyptian, £7 6s 3d, arrived; Bombay, £4 17s 6d, May shipment.

WOOL.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Business still very dull, but some trade is now doing in locks at 2d per lb.

London, Friday.—English—per pk. of 240 lb:—Fleeces S.Dn. Hggs, £7 to £8 10s; half-bred hoggs, £6 to £7; half-bred wethers, £5 to £6; Kent fleeces, £5 to £6 South Down ewes and wethers, £7 to £8 10s; Leicester ditto, £5 to £5 10s. Colonial, per lb.—Vic.—Fleece, super, 1s 7d to 1s 9d; scoured good, 1s 7½d to 1s 8½d; scoured average, 1s 6½d to 1s 7½d; greasy, average to fair, 10½d to 11½d; N.S.W. scoured average, 1s 4d to s1 4½d; greasy average, 8½d to 9½d; S. Aus., greasy average, 6½d to 7d; N.Z.—Scoured average, 1s 5d to 1s 6d; grease average, 8½d to 9½d; Cape scred .sup., 1s 5d to 1s 6d; fleece average, 7d to 7½d; greasy average, 6½d to 7d; Natal—scoured; 1s to 1s 1d; greasy average, 6½d to 7½d; cross-breds—grs.—Vic. to good supr., 11d to 11½d; New Zealand fine, 8½d to 9½d; New Zealand medium, 5½d to 6d; New Zealand coarse, 4½d to 4½d.

HAY AND STRAW.

London, Monday.—Hay is 5s per ton dearer on the week. Straw is 1s per ton dearer. Moss litter is 4s dearer on four-ton lots, which are quoted at 32s per ton nett. (Special).

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW.

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS.")

Trade in London.

The trade for fat beasts at Islington, both as regards prime and second quality, has recovered from the stagnation so noticeable during the past few months. The supply was a fair average one both in regard to number and quality, higher rates by fully 2d. per 8lb. being both asked and obtained; this being due to the firm tone of the dead meat market at the start of the week, and secondly the attendance of several carcass butchers, there being so few arrivals at Deptford, especially on Monday, when only 424 beasts were on sale. For fat butchering cows and bulls there was a steady inquiry and a ready sale, at a similar advance, with an early clearance. Included in Monday's numbers were 95 Irish stores, which were quoted as follows:—Three-year-old steers, £12 10s. to £13 per head; two-and-a-half-year-old heifers, £10 to £11. At the foreign cattle market, Deptford, with a shorter supply than last week, trade was brisk at an advance of from 2d. to 3d. on Monday, but ruled rather slower on Saturday; no market being held on Wednesday. The total number offered for sale on both markets was 3,278, as against 3,571 last week. The supply consisted of 1,540 British and 1,738 foreign, these latter comprising 1,516 from the United States (decrease 335) and 222 from Canada. The following were the top rates paid per 8lb., sinking the offal:—85-stone Scotch, 5s. 1d.; 90-stone polled Norfolks, 5s.; 100-stone Shorthorn ditto, 4s. 10d.; 100-stone Lincolns, 4s. 8d. to 4s. 9d.; 90-stone Irish, 4s. 8d. to 4s. 9d.; 85-stone States, 5s., and occasionally 5s. 1d.; 90-stone fat cows, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 100-stone fat bulls, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.

The sheep trade, which was practically confined to the Islington Market, was of a slower nature so far as wethers were concerned, a tendency in regard to value in favour of buyer; ewes being short in number, maintained late rates; there being too many lambs on offer, trade not only proved dull and dragging, but lower rates by from 4d. to 6d. per 8lb. had to be accepted; best pens made per 8lb. as follows, sinking the offal:—7½ to 8-stone Downs, 5s. 8d.; 8-stone Scotch, 5s. 8d.; 9-stone Downs, 5s. 6d.; 10-stone Downs, 5s. 4d.; 10-stone half-breds, 5s.; 11-stone Hampshires, 5s. 6d.; 12-stone Lincolns, 4s. 10d. to 5s.; 9-stone Yorkshires (clipped), 4s. 8d.; 10-stone ewes, 4s. 10d.; 5-stone fat Down lambs, 7s. 2d. to 7s. 4d.; 6-stone half-bred ditto, 6s. 8d. Total number penned was 10,870, as against 13,655 during the previous week.

The few calves on offer met a slow sale at less money; the best were quoted at 5s. 8d. per 8lb.

Trade in the West.

The phenomenally cold weather experienced for some weeks past has been succeeded by a nice genial rain, under the influence of which the temperature has gone up considerably, and the pastures are already beginning to assume a very altered appearance, under the more seasonable meteorological conditions now prevailing grass being very plentiful in those districts, where, happily, there has been no lack of moisture, as in the case of less favoured localities. The effect of this, in conjunction with the shortened supplies of foreign beef coming to hand, has been to give a very marked stimulus to the grazing industry, some of the more forward consignments of grazing bullocks now being marketed, selling up to as high as £40 per pair for exceptionally heavily-fleshed beasts, the more ordinary runs selling from £24 to £36, and plainer £20 to £22, only the very roughest class of aged barreners selling below these quotations. With beef still going up, barreners are bound to be very dear, especially as there seems, from what we can gather, only to be very moderate quantities of beasts for delivery at the leading provincial centres. Beef is quite 1s. to 1s. 6d. dearer than it was, ripe steers of medium weights now bringing up to £24 or £25 apiece (or 11s. 6d. to 12s. 6d. per score), and heifers from £17 to £22 or £23 (or about the same price); whilst cows make 11s. per score (or £18 to £22). There is also a quick sale for decent quality bulls at 9s. 6d. to 10s. 6d. Dairy beasts continue to meet a phenomenally brisk sale, the range now for good milches being £17 to £22 each. The transactions in sheep are principally restricted to those for butchering purposes, though should keep prove to be plentiful later on, it cannot fail influencing prices very materially at the great spring sales next month in most sheep-breeding districts, the more especially as there is known to be a shortage in the numbers now kept in the country. The best types or well finished sell from 28s. to 34s. or 35s. apiece (or about 8½d. per lb.), ewes being correspondingly dear, some of the best making 50s. (or 7½d. per lb.). Lambs are likewise going much stronger for slaughter, some of the ripest in Downs touching 42s. at the Dorset markets (or 10d. to 11d. per lb.); whilst those not so choice or well furnished sell from 28s. to 34s., or 35s. each, and there is but very little difficulty now in clearing stocks, so eager being the demand to buy, rising markets having but little effect in checking the demand. Calves, dear as they have been for some time, are undoubtedly becoming even dearer, some of the best now realising over 8½d., whilst very little worthy of the name of the veal can be bought under 8d., anything very plain, indeed, making 7d. to 7½d. All the better-most grades of calves make from about £5 up to £7 apiece, and there is an equally good inquiry for all at all suitable for rearing purposes. The pig trade is equally fast, light weight porkers making 10s. 6d. to 11s. per score (or 46s. to 60s. each), and baconers 10s. (or about 67s. to 90s.). Sows bring from £5 to £8, and stores have a wide range according to size, 22s. up to 40s. There is a distinct improvement in the trade all round—both fat and store—and should the falling off in the deliveries continue in foreign supplies, there is undoubtedly the prospect of things becoming all round even dearer than they are now quoted.

Trade in Scotland.

John Swan and Sons, Ltd., give the following as their report on above for the current week:—The number of fat cattle on offer this week has been rather under an average, and with a large attendance of buyers an active trade has been experienced, and the highest prices of the season realised. Fat cows have also participated in the advance. The supply of sheep has been fairly good with the exceedingly bad returns from London. The worst has to be reported, and prices have suffered a decline of 2s. a head on an average. Fat lambs, if of good quality, selling dear, but some too early drawn have made disappointing prices. Fat calves and pigs just the turn cheaper. There was a very large supply of store sheep; anything of a good class met a fair inquiry at prices the turn lower, but second-class sheep have been very difficult to sell, and prices 2s. down, with a considerable number left unsold. There was a large supply of store cattle, principally Irish. The high cost price in Ireland causes trade to be very slow, and while those sold made a fair price a large number were left over. Milch cows met a good demand, at rather more money than last week.

Quotations:—Top-price best beef, 8s. 6d. per stone; mutton from 7½d. to 8d. per lb.

Trade in Ireland.

A shorter supply of cattle and an improved attendance of buyers gave considerable firmness to trade at last Thursday's Dublin market, with the consequence that there was a sharp rise of about 20s. per head all round, and more than that in the case of best beef. A good clearance of everything useful was easily effected. Trade opened actively in the morning early, but sellers were stiff, and buyers had to raise their terms before any business could be done. Even cows, and rough coarse cattle which have been a perfect drug of late, came in for a good share of attention, and were taken at prices which quite cheered up the hearts of the despondent ones, who had almost given up hope of being able to part with them. Best beef sold at from 60s. to 65s. per cwt.; good second at from 57s. 6d to 59s., and inferior from 46s. to 50s. There was a slight increase in the number of sheep in market, and business ran in a somewhat quiet and discouraging groove; but, on the whole, no perceptible difference was to be noted in prices as compared with the previous Thursday. There was some slight improvement in the shipping inquiry, but not enough to affect values. Altogether, trade in the mutton department was slow, and a considerable number of sheep were left over unsold. Best wether mutton was worth (in wool), 7½d. to 7¾d. per lb; and 8d. for light-weight Cheviots; ewe, 6d. to 7d.; small to medium hoggets, from 27s. to 35s. each; heavy from 42s. to 55s. Lambs met with a poor trade at from 18s. to 25s. for the smaller ones, and 27s. to 35s. for large fat. Veal was scarce, and best calves tending to a rise in price, making from 8d. to 9½d. readily; coarse calves from 4½d. up. Moderate show of milch cattle; first-class springers rated from £18 to £23 each, other sorts from £9 upwards. Store cattle in more demand, some graziers being on the look out for forward stockers in view of a rise in the price of beef. Average supply of pigs, and buyers in good attendance, but trade very quiet, and business tedious at prices from 1s. to 2s. under last week's rates. Choice light-weight pigs from 46s. 6d. to 48s. per cwt., coarse from 40s. to 44s., inferior from 38s. to 40s. At the fairs in the South of Ireland have been very active during the past week, at improved prices for all young stock.

LONDON.

Islington, Thursday.—A fair supply of beasts available for a Thursday's market, and, as customary on this day, the bulk consisted of fat bulls and rough cattle. The demand proved generally quiet, but prices showed little or no alteration. Fat bulls quoted 3s 6d to 3s 8d. A fairly good supply of sheep was penned, but with very quiet support at about late rates; 7½ to 8-stone Down wethers, 5s 4d to 5s 8d; 9-stone, 5s 2d to 5s 4d; 10-stone half-breds, 5s; 10-stone Down ewes, 4s 6d to 4s 8d; 11-stone half-breds, 4s 4d to 4s 6d. Lambs met a rather better demand at steady rates; 4½ to 5-stone Downs, 7s 2d to 7s 4d; 6-stone half-bred ditto, 6s 8d. Calves in fair supply met a moderate demand, but prices ruled easier, the best on offer making 5s 8d to 5s 10d per 8lb. to sink the offal. Pig trade nominal. Total supplies, 100 beasts, 1,210 sheep, 60 calves, 5 cows, and 5 pigs.

COUNTRY.

Basingstoke, Wednesday.—At Raynbird and Son's sale yard there was a fair attendance of buyers to meet a supply of 47 fat beasts, 41 calves, 722 fat sheep and lambs, and 72 head of dairy and store cattle, which realised the following prices:—Shorthorn steers up to £23 5s; shorthorn heifers, £17 5s; cows up to £19 5s; polled Aberdeen heifers, from Steventon, £19; cows up to £13 10s; young Devon steers reached £33 10s the pair; prime wethers and young ewes made from 42s to 53s 6d; old ewes, 34s to 36s; three-months-old sucking lambs, 32s to 40s; fat calves, 60s to £6 7s 6d; small, 20s to 50s; dairy cows, £9 to £18 5s. The larger supply of fat beasts met an active trade, with all-round higher prices. A clearance made, with the exception of a few inferior lots held beyond the ideas of the buyers. Fat sheep and fat lambs were in good supply; the choice fat lambs sold readily, and a clearance made at an advance on last week. Prime sheep of handy weights were sold without much change in value, but to sell heavy sheep less money had to be taken, and a clearance could not be made. Dairy cows realised higher prices, with a better demand. Store cattle met with more inquiry, prices showing a marked improvement upon late markets. Fat calves were in short supply and very dear. Ruling values:—Best quality fat beasts, 7¼d to 7¾d; second ditto, 6¼d to 7d; bulls, cows, and inferior beasts, 5½d to 6d per lb; best quality fat sheep, 7½d to 8d; second ditto, 6¾d to 7d; old ewes, rams, and inferior, 5½d to 6d; choice fat lambs, 10d to 11d per lb; fat calves, 7½d to 9½d per lb.

Bristol, Thursday.—Fair supply of fat cattle. Steady demand for best qualities at 64s per cwt.; secondary animals, 58s. Moderate numbers of sheep in the market. Light wethers made 7½d to 7¾d per lb.; heavy wethers, 7d; ewes, 5½d; best lambs, 10d to 11d. Four hundred store cattle offered, and, notwithstanding high prices, most lots were cleared.

Bury, Wednesday.—At Messrs. Simpson and Sons' auction mart there was a rather short supply of fat cattle for the time of year, and the quality was hardly up to the average. A sharp trade prevailed for all descriptions of fat beasts, at rather more money. Fat cows and bulls were also dearer. Good supply of store beasts, which also met a capital demand at more money. Short number of fat sheep for the time of year, the supply being insufficient for the demand, and prices consequently ruled dearer. Suffolk hoggets made up to 64s 6d per head. Half-bred hoggets went up to 60s per head. Fat ewes were also dearer. Better trade for store sheep. About an average supply of fat pigs, for which there was a sharp trade at a trifle higher rates for all descriptions.

Calne, Friday.—Present prices for prime pigs, in lots of not less than 10, on rail within 100 miles of Calne.

Prime Stores.	Thickness of fat in any part of the Back.	Price per Sc. s. d.
6 sc. 10 lbs. to 9 sc. 10 lbs.	2½ in. and under ...	10 0
Under 10 sc.	Not exceeding 2¾ n. ...	9 6
Under 11 sc. 10 lb. ...	Not exceeding 2¾ in. ...	9 0
Under 12 sc.	Not exceeding 3 in. ...	

—C. & T. Harris & Co., Ltd.

Cambridge, Monday.—Beef, 7s 3d to 8s 3d; mutton, 4s 8d to 5s 8d; lamb, 10d to 11½d. Some good lots store beasts to hand, and nearly all cleared. Fat beasts again show but very little alteration in prices. Fat sheep a good, brisk trade at more money. Lambs a fair number shown, but trade not quite so good. Stores not quite so many to hand, and all cleared. Hay, straw and roots, short supplies.

Canterbury, Saturday.—There has been a further modification of the foot-and-mouth disease restrictions, and movement of stock is now possible by licence outside the immediate neighbourhood of the affected parish. The market at Canterbury remains closed.

ADD WOOL

Carlisle, Saturday.—There was again a large show of Irish store cattle, about 900 beasts being offered. The bulk of the animals were heifers, of which there were some grand specimens, the number of stripping cows being on the decline. In spite of the backwardness of grass owing to the night frosts, the demand was fairly strong. Young and small heifers realised £6 10s to £8 10s; best sorts up to £16; stripping cows, £8 10s to £11 10s.

Dorchester, Wednesday.—There was again a very full market, both as to supply and attendance, at Messrs. Enson's and Mr Sampson's sales, and trade generally compared very favourably with that of previous markets. Fat bullocks maintain their firmness, especially the better grades, which meet a steady sale at 11s to 11s 6d per score, and secondary qualities 10s to 10s 6d. Calves also meet a quick sale at prices ranging from £4 to about £6 5s for the best (or 8d to 8½d per lb); seconds, 48s to 72s (or 7½d); and rearers, 23s to 35s. Mutton also sold well, both ewes and wethers meeting a good sale, the latter at 40s to 52s, and wethers 45s to 55s (or 7½d to 8d); lambs, 30s to 38s 6d (or 9d to 9½d). Pigs also found a ready sale at 40s to 58s for porkers (or 10s 6d per score); baconers, 68s to 96s (or 10s); stores, 20s to 38s.

Dublin, Thursday.—Numbers in market:—Beasts, 1,254; decrease, 195; sheep, 5,083; increase, 113; calves, 37; decrease, 2. Choice cattle scarce and dear. Rough sorts and dairy cows made higher prices. Some choicely-finished Aberdeen Angus bullocks, the property of the Countess of Kingston, purchased by Mr. Nolan, of Terenure, brought top quotation. Sheep in better demand at last week's prices. Cattle, live-weight (best), 35s to 38s 6d per cwt. Others, 30s to 34s per cwt. Mutton, dead weight, 6¾d to 8d per lb.—GANLY, SONS AND CO.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Bullocks and cows, 707; calves, 193; sheep and lambs, 1,695; pigs (fat and sows), 22; sucking pigs, 47; pigs (stores, not more than ten), 222; pigs (stores, more than ten), 26; horses, 6. Prices:—Best beef, 6d to 7d per lb; wether sheep, 6½d to 8d per lb; ewes, 5½d to 7d per lb; veal, 8½d per lb; pork, 5½d to 6d per lb; bacon, 4d to 5d per lb; lambs, 11d to 1s per lb.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons report a heavy supply of fat cattle of excellent quality and a large attendance of distant and local buyers. Trade was sharp, and prices ranged from 8s to 8s 9d per stone. Fat sheep met a firm trade on the lines of last week, not being quite so numerous. Suffolk hoggets from 62s 6d to 44s. Fat lambs scarce, and not first quality. There was a fair inquiry for grazing hoggets, and a better tone in the trade. Several weaning calves were penned, and the best were dear. Fat calves sold well at from £5 downwards. A good entry of fat and store swine; prices

firm for all descriptions, well-bred stores being particularly in request. This being the annual sale of pedigree red-poll cattle, about 50 animals were catalogued, including an exceptionally nice lot of young heifers, several of which were purchased for America. A good entry of grazing cattle, including some nice lots of North Country steers. Prices for the best were rather high. Good cows sold well, but ordinary animals were not much wanted. Numbers at sales and market:—Cattle, 963; calves, 47; sheep, 2,369; swine, 1,630; horses, 30.

Leicester, Wednesday.—Very large deliveries of Norfolk and Lincolnshire fed bullocks. Buyers and dealers were well represented, and trade ruled active at 10s. to 20s. per head advance. Choice bullocks 7d to 7¼d; secondary, 6¼d to 6¾d; cows, 5¾d to 6¼d; heifers, 6¾d to 7¼d per lb. There were large consignments of sheep, which sold freely at 7¾d to 8d for choice qualities; large sheep, 6¼d to 7d, ewes, 5¼d to 6d; shorn sheep, 6d to 7¼d; lambs in request at 11d; calves, best, 9d; secondary, 8d per lb.

Newport, Wednesday.—Yesterday there was a good supply of stock and a large attendance of buyers. Trade was brisk for best quality stock. The quotations were:—Beef, best, 7d to 7½d per lb; secondary, 6½d to 6¾d; cows, 6d to 6¾d; mutton, best wether, 8d to 8½d; show wether, 8d; ewes, 7d to 7½d; lamb, 1s; veal, 8d to 9d; porker pigs, 10s 3d to 10s 9d per score.

Norwich, Saturday.—There was some increase in the number of store beasts on offer here to-day; the best lots sold readily, but the demand was dull for secondary descriptions. Fat beasts, which were in reduced supply, were firm at 8s to 8s 6d per 14lb. Store sheep were not offered very freely, but the demand was inactive in consequence of indifferent keep prospects; hoggets were quoted at 32s to 44s per head. Fat sheep made 8s to 8s 6d and 9s per 14lb. The higher prices current for fat beasts and sheep have improved grazing prospects in Norfolk, but more rain is required to increase the keep.

Salford, Tuesday.—The supply of cattle was smaller. There was a better trade than last Tuesday, and sellers obtained an advance. There was a decrease in the number of sheep and lambs penned. A better trade was experienced for sheep, and prices were in favour of the seller. The lamb trade was rather dull, and prices lower. A large show of calves, and a slow sale at lower prices. Quotations:—Cattle, 5¼d to 7d; sheep in wool, 7d to 9¼d; ditto clipped, 6d to 8d; calves, 5d to 8¼d per lb; lambs, 25s to 48s each. At market:—Cattle, 2,365; sheep and lambs, 9,381; calves, 223.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Cattle were in scant supply owing to heavy downpour of rain. Best milch beasts, £18 to £20; secondary sorts were almost untouched at £12 to £15.

Spalding, Tuesday.—Good show of cattle. Beef made 8s to 8s 6d per stone for prime quality. Large number of store cattle, which found a ready sale. The show of sheep and lambs was small, and full prices were realised, mutton making 8d per lb.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There were on offer 132 cattle, 20 calves, 370 sheep, 25 lambs, and 184 pigs. The show of best cattle was small, and quotations ranged from 8s to 8s 6d; rougher kinds, 6s 6d to 7s 6d per stone. Calves met with a quiet demand at 6d to 8d per lb. A slow trade in sheep; young ones, 8¼; ewes, 7d; tups, 5d per lb; lambs, 30s to 40s each.

Thame, Tuesday.—A heavy downpour of rain prevented stock coming into the market, consequently the small supply was not equal to the demand. Beef made extreme prices, ruling as high as 5s 6d per stone. Good mutton was scarce and dear. Mr. Bond's sale comprised 41 fat beasts, 252 fat and store sheep, 47 fat and weaning calves, and 50 pigs. Fat bullocks made £18 to £23 10s; fat heifers, £17 to £23 5s; fat ewes, 50s to 65s; fat tegs, 53s to 63s; fat lambs, 34s to 36s; fat calves, £4 to £4 18s; weaning cow calves, 30s to 45s; bull calves, 17s to 43s; fat pigs, 10s per score; stores dearer.

Wakefield, Wednesday.—Good show all round, and plenty of buyers. Choice young sheep made ½d a pound less all round; best quality beef, 7d per lb; inferior sorts from 5½d to 6¾d. Number of sheep, 4,926; beasts, 1,274.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Beasts a moderate supply; fair trade. Sheep fair supply, moderate trade. Calves moderate supply; fair demand. Beef, 6d to 7½d per lb; mutton, 6½d to 8¾d per lb; veal, 7½d to 9d per lb; pigs, bacon, 10s to 10s 3d per score; porkets, 10s to 10s per score; sows, 8s per score.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Fair supply and good trade. Best beef, 7s to 7s 6d; secondary, 6s to 7s per stone; best wethers, clipped and in wool, 7d to 7½d; ewes and other sorts, 5d to 6d; lamb, 10d to 11d; veal, 10d per lb.

FOREIGN.

Yorkhill, Monday. — At the weekly sale of United States and Canadian cattle, there were in the lairages 110 cattle landed by the Norwegian (s.), from Portland (Me.), 115 by the Indrani (s.), from St. John, N.B., and 136 by the Corean (s.), from Philadelphia, or a total offering of 359 cattle. All the cattle were up to the average in quality, and many of the bullocks and heifers prime beasts very suitable for the trade. There was a good attendance of buyers. Small, neat, well-fed beasts secured the best inquiry, and sold dear; secondary and heavier animals met a good trade, and changed hands smartly at the currencies ruling. Bulls and heifers met a good trade and sold very dear. Cows met a fair trade. The deadweight quotations may be given as follow:—States bullocks, best class, 60s to 62s per cwt., and for really choice up to 64s; secondary and heavier, 58s to 60s; bulls, 54s to 56s, according to quality and finish. Canadian bullocks, best quality, medium weight, to 60s per cwt., and really choice up to 62s; secondary and heavier animals, 56s to 58s; heifers, 60s to 62s; cows, 47s to 56s; bulls, best class, 52s to 54s; and in one or two instances up to 56s; and secondary and heavier, down to 50s per cwt.

Yorkhill, Monday.—A sale of American sheep was held in the morning, 906 animals being offered, but were not all sold. They consisted principally of young sheep and ewes, but there were also a number of lambs and tups. Taken all round, the sheep, as regards quality, were of a very good class, and were very suitable for the requirements of the market, all being shown in good condition. The majority of the sheep were clipped, and in consequence scarcely made so much money as the rough. There was a good attendance of buyers, and trade was fairly good throughout, lambs and hoggets securing the best inquiry. Other lots met a fair price. The deadweight quotations were as follow:—Young sheep (clipped), best class, to 7¾d per lb.; secondary and heavier, 7½d; and rough to 8d. Lambs realised 7¾d per lb.; ewes, best class, to 6d.; secondary and heavier, 5½d; tups, best class, light weights, to 5d; and fat and heavy, 4d to 4½d.

HAY AND STRAW.

Manchester, Wednesday.—Hay, 7d to 7¾d; clover, 7¾d to 8d; clover (Canadian), 7d; straw (wheat), 6½d; straw (oat), 6d to 6½ per stone.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—Supplies short; sustained demand; fair business at steady rates. Best clover, 95s to 110s; inferior, 80s to 90s; specially picked hay, 115s; good, 108s; inferior, 80s to 90s; mixture and sainfoin, 90s to 100s; straw, 28s to 40s per load.

EGGS.

Tuesday.—Bedale: 18 for 1s. Gainsborough: 16 and 17 for 1s. Leeds: 7s to 8s per 120. Settle: 18 or 19 for 1s. Spalding: 18 for 1s.

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 13 or 14 for 1s. Colne: 1s 3d per score. Goole: 16 for 1s. Keighley: Wholesale, 15; retail, 14 for 1s. Kirbymoorside: 19 or 20 for 1s. Knaresborough: 16 or 17 for 1s. Louth: 18 for 1s. Masham: 18 or 19 for 1s. Northallerton: 17 for 1s. Stockton: 14 or 15 for 1s. Worksop: 1s 4d to 1s 6d per score. Hereford: 18 for 1s; wholesale, 20. Market Drayton: 16 to 17 for 1s. Uttoxeter: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per score.

Thursday.—Brigg: 17 or 18 for 1s. Penistone: 16 for 1s. Ripon: 17 or 18 for 1s. Scarborough: 14 for 1s. Wetherby: 15 or 16 for 1s. Kidderminster: 17 for 1s.

Friday.—Easingwold: 18 to 20 for 1s. Grimsby: Austrian, 5s 2d to 5s 5d per 120; Egyptian, 4s 6d to 4s 8d; Danish, 6s 6d to 7s 6d. Helmsley: 18 or 19 for 1s. Leeds: Yorkshire, 7s 3d to 8s 3d per 120; Irish, 6s 8d to 7s; Danish, 6s to 6s 9d; Austrian blues, 5s 1d to 5s 4d; ditto reds, 4s 7d to 4s 10d. Leyburn: 18, 19 for 1s. Lincoln: 16 to 17 for 1s. Otley: 16 to 17 for 1s.

Saturday.—Appleby: 16 to 18 for 1s. Berwick: 8d. to 9d per doz. Carlisle: 16 or 17 for 1s. Doncaster: 14 or 15 for 1s. Grantham: 16 or 17 for 1s. Howden: 18 for 1s. Lancaster: 11 to 16 for 1s. Malton: 18 to 20 for 1s. Pontefract: 15 and 16 for 1s. Retford: 1s 4d to 1s 5d per score. Richmond: 17 for 1s. Skipton: 16 or 17 for 1s. Stokesley: 15 or 16 for 1s. Whitby: 16 and 17 for 1s. York: 16 for 1s.

BUTTER.

Tuesday.—Bedale: 1s to 1s 2d per 24oz roll. Gainsborough: 1s 2d per lb. Leeds: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Settle: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Spalding: 10d per lb.

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Colne: 1s 2d per lb. Goole: 1s per lb. Keighley: Wholesale, 1s 1d; retail, 1s 2d per lb. Kirbymoorside: 12s to 13s per stone; 1s per lb, Knaresborough: Wholesale, 1s 6d; retail, 1s 7d to 1s 8d per 24oz roll. Louth: Wholesale, 10d per lb. Masham: 1s 2d to 1s 4d per roll, 24oz. Northallerton: 1s 7d to 1s 9d per 24oz. Stockton: 1s to 1s 3d per lb. Worksop: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Hereford: 1s 4d to 1s 5d per lb. Market Drayton: Best 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb, seconds 1s to 1s 1d per lb. Uttoxeter: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb.

ABD FEEDING STUFFS

Thursday.—Brigg: 1s to 1s 1d per lb. Penistone: 1s 3d per lb. Ripon: 1s 4d to 1s 8d per 24 oz. roll. Scarborough: 1s 3d per lb. Wetherby: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Kidderminster: 1s 3d per lb.

Friday.—Easingwold: 10d to 1s per lb. Grimsby: 114s to 116s per 112lb; Dutch, 106s to 110s; Colonial, 110s to 112s. Helmsley: 10d to 1s per lb. Leeds: Danish, 114s to 118s per 112lb; Irish creameries, 108s to 114s; Colonial, 108s to 114; York lump, 15s to 15s 6d per st; ditto, long rolls, 1½lb 1s 10d to 2s; fresh butter, in 1lb prints, 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Leyburn: 1s to 1s 2d per roll of 24oz. Lincoln: 1s to 1s 2d per lb. Otley: 1s 5d to 1s 7d per roll of 24oz.

Saturday.—Appleby: 9½d to 1s per lb. Berwick: 8d to 9d per dozen. Carlisle: 1s to 1s 1d per lb. Doncaster: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Grantham: 1s 1d to 1s 3d per lb. Howden: 1s 1d per lb. Lancaster: 1s 3d to 1s 3½d per lb. Malton: 11d to 1s per lb. Pontefract: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Retford: 1s 2d to 1s 4d per lb. Richmond: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Skipton: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Stokesley: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Whitby: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. York: 1s 1d per lb.

CHEESE.

Chester, Wednesday.—There was a large attendance of buyers from the Midlands and Northern counties. Farmers brought in 30 tons of cheese, and, with an active demand, a speedy clearance was made. Specially fine cheese realised 65s to 70s, and medium 58s to 63s per cwt. These quotations are about the same as those of the corresponding market last year.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—The market is in rather a listless state. Old cheese practically over for the season. Quotations for those remaining are nominally from 56s to 62s per cwt. There have been one or two lots of new Dunlops forward. They were somewhat green, and were met with a quiet demand. The new cheese is on the market a fortnight earlier this year. The trade are turning their attention to New Zealands and Canadians, which fetch late values.

Newport, Wednesday.—Good supply and a fair attendance of buyers. Prices: Caerphillies, 52s to 56s; fancy dairies, 58s to 60s; Cheddars, 63s to 65s; truckles, 68s to 70.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—Supplies fair; a good supply of vegetables in fair request. English apples, 6s to 10s 6d per bushel; Tasmanian, 8s to 16s per case; English grapes, 3s 6d to 4s; French, 2s 6d to 3s 6d per lb; Almeria, 5s to 9s per dozen lb; Valencia oranges, 8s to 14s; Murcia, 7s to 10s per case; pineapples, 1s 6d to 4s 6d each; Canary tomatoes, 4s to 4s 6d per case; bananas, 7s 6d to 12s 6d per bunch; lemons, 6s 6d to 18s per case; cauliflowers, 10s to 12s per tally; parsnips, 3s; turnips, 3s per bag; parsley, 4s per dozen bunches; horseradish, 1s 3d to 1s 6d per bundle; forced rhubarb, 10d to 1s; field, 2s per dozen bundles; English onions, 7s; Valencia, 6s per case; potatoes, 35s to 80s per ton.

GAME AND POULTRY.

Smithfield. Saturday.—Larger supplies met better sale. Fowls: Yorkshire, 3s to 3s 6d; Essex, 3s 3d to 3s 9d; Boston, 2s 9d to 3s; Surrey, 4s to 5s 6d; Sussex, 3s to 3s 3d; Welsh, 2s 6d to 2s 9d; Irish, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; turkeys, cocks, 8s to 11s; hen, 4s to 5s; country ducklings, 4s to 4s 6d; Aylesbury, 4s 6d to 6s; quail, 8d to 1s; wild rabbits, 6d to 8d; tame, 10d to 1s each; Australian, 8s 6d to 9s 6d per dozen; Russian game, partridges, 1s to 1s 2d; ptarmigan, 9d to 11d; blackgame, 10d to 11d; brown hares, 1s 6d to 1s 8d; white, 1s to 1s 3d each.

HOPS.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Prices continue very firm, with a tendency to advance in the case of really fine samples. There is not, however, a great deal of trade doing.

Worcester, Saturday.—There is no change to note on our market this week, prices continue firm for all good samples, and in some instances more money has been paid, but for low qualities there is very little demand.—PERCY AND CO.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Hull, Tuesday.—Linseed: The arrivals are 6,963qrs from Buenos Ayres, 130qrs Harlingen, 12,580qrs Rosario, 8,860qrs San Nicholas, 1,679qrs Villa Constitution; total, 30,112qrs. Linseed: The market since our last has been dull and inactive, though prices asked show a small advance. Calcutta: Re-sellers ask 51s 6d, but there are no buyers at over 51s 3d. River Plate: There are buyers of spot seed at the close at 47s 6d, while sellers ask 47s 9d; for April shipment, 49s is asked, but the price to sell would be nearer 48s. Cottonseed: With continued light arrivals and moderate shipments, the market has further improved. Up to close of last week Old Crop was selling at £7 spot and passage, but yesterday £7 1s 3d paid, and to-day business done at £7 5s. April-June sold at £6 18s 9d to £7, but to-day, in speculative orders to cover, up to £7 6s 3d has been made. A little November-January found buyers at £6 6s 3d to £6 7s 6d. Oils.—Exports for the week ending April 8, 1902—Linseed oil: 7 Germany, 2 Holland, 12 Norway, 11 Russia, 3 Turkey; total, 35 tons. Cotton oil: 151 Belgium, 6 France, 150 Germany, 183 Holland, 12 Sweden; total, 482 tons. Linseed oil: 28s 9d, spot; 28s 10½d, May-August. Cotton oil: 23s 7½d, spot; 23s 10½d, May-August. Crude: 22s 4½d, spot; 22s 6d, May-August. Rape oil: Jamba naked, 24s, spot; first quality, 24s 6d, spot. Oil seed sakes: A steady market, without material change in prices.—KEIGHLEY, MAXSTED, AND CO.

London, Thursday.—Linseed—Owing to more moderate shipments from the Plate and India, prices have improved. Calcutta to London spot passage 50s 9d, and April-June 50s 6d. La Plata on passage none Hull rather steadier. Calcutta, April-June, 51s 3d. La Plata, spot 48s, March-April 49s. To the Continent, Bombay April-May 53s 3d, June-July 53s 6d. Calcutta, April-June 51s 3d. La Plata afloat 48s, March-April 49s. Linseed oil—Firm for near positions, and quiet forward. We quote spot in pipes £30 5s to £30 10s, barrels £30 10s, May-August £29 15s, September-December, £28 15s. Hull naked spot £28 15s, which is also the quotation up to August. Linseed cakes are steady. We to-day quote London made £8 5s to £8 7s 6d ex mill, American Western £7 7s 6d to £7 10s, Russian £7 12s 6d to £8 2s 6d. Cotton cakes quiet, London made £4 6s 3d to £4 7s 6d. Rapeseed is steady, but not very active. Brown Cawnpore, April-May 37s; brown Calcutta, April-June 36s. To the Continent we quote yellow Guzerat 41s 6d, yellow Cawnpore April-May 39s 4½d, brown Cawnpore March-May 37s 3d, brown Calcutta April-June 36s 3d. Ferozepore February-March 37s 3d. Jamba, March-May to Hull 31s 6d. Cottonseed has been very excited, and prices have advanced considerably. Passage London £7 8s 9d, April-May £7 8s 9d. Hull spot £7 10s paid, April-June £7 8s 9d, November-January £6 8s 9d. Cargoes, May is held for £7 11s 3d. A November cargo has been sold at £6 11s 3d. Bombay to Hull—Considerable business continues to be done in April-May at £4 16s 3d, May-June £4 18s.—THE PRODUCE BROKERS COMPANY, LIMITED.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed cakes.—The new impost on feeding stuffs has caused an increased demand for cakes, which remain exempt from duty, and while the market is almost bare of stocks, more particularly of foreign, values are firm, and shippers continue to ask a slight advance. Russians in mats may still be bought at last week's prices, but are 2s 6d per ton more money in bags. Americans to arrive in a few days offer at slightly firmer prices. Calcutta made in bags nearly due are obtainable at last Monday's quotations. London made do not find a ready sale, but are fully as dear as last week's quotations. Cotton cakes.—In sympathy with the higher price of seed, values have considerably hardened since last week, and best Egyptian in bags to-day make 2s 6d per ton more money, while English are firmly held at the same advance in price. Decorticated remain dull and without change, with meal the same price as last Monday. Rape cakes quiet; East India, £4 to £4 5s. Maize germ meal.—Arrived parcels of American are now held for £6, including the 8s 4d per ton duty, and English is also quoted at the same figure. Rice meal.—Landed lots of Rangoon find a ready sale at £5 per ton ex warehouse, while in forward positions £4 1s 3d to £4 2s 6d ex ship would be accepted.

	Per ton. £ s. d.		Per ton. £ s. d.
LINSEED CAKES.			
London made ex mill	7 17 6	to 8 0 0	
American ex ship	7 1 3	to 7 2 6	
Russian, in mats ex dock	7 7 6	to 7 10 0	
Russian, in bags ex dock	7 17 6	to 8 0 0	
Calcutta	7 15 0	to —	
COTTONSEED CAKES.			
London made ex mill	4 12 6	to 4 15 0	
Egyptian ex dock	4 10 0	to 4 12 6	
Decorticated ex dock	6 5 0	to 6 10 0	
Meal ex dock	6 5 0	to —	
RAPE CAKES.			
East India	4 0 0	to 4 5 0	
MAIZE.			
English germ meal ex mill	6 0 0	to —	
American c.i.f.	6 0 0	to —	
RICE MEAL.			
Rangoon ex ship	4 1 3	to 4 2 6	
,, ex dock	5 0 0	to —	

—PINNOCK BROS., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

WATERLOO ROUND FEEDING CAKES, £7 0s 0d PER TON; WATERLOO ROUND 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES, £8 15s 0d PER TON. WATERLOO ANGLO SHAPE 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES, £8 10s 0d PER TON; WATERLOO 97 PER CENT. PURE EGYPTIAN COTTONSEED CAKES, £5 0s 0d PER TON. ALL F.O.R. HULL.

MOLASSINE FEEDING MEAL, packed in bags, of 1½cwt. each. Price per cwt., 7s. 6d. Price per ton, £6 15s., on rail at works, Silvertown, Essex, and F.O.R. Liverpool. A sample lot of 6cwt., in 4 bags of 1½cwt. each, delivered free to any station in England on receipt of remittance for £2 11s 0d

SEEDS

London, Monday.—Messrs. John Shaw and Sons, Seed Merchants, of Great Maze, Pond, Borough, London, S.E., report a steady although now a naturally diminishing inquiry for field seeds generally. The stocks of clover seeds, &c., which will have to be carried over until next season will without doubt prove much lighter than usual. Meantime, as regards values, no change of importance can be noted. The scarcest and dearest articles at present are Lucerne and Timothy seeds. Koenigsberg tares seem likewise about used up. For Sanfoin late rates are realised. Meantime, mustard and rape-seed move off slowly; but there is a good inquiry for furze seed. With respect to canary seed, quotations owing to some arrivals favour buyers, whilst other kinds of bird-seeds are also in meagre request. Blue peas and haricot beans, although in moderate demand, exhibit, owing to the Budget, a strong undertone. Last month's imports into the United Kingdom of clover and grass-seeds were 39,331cwt, value £86,390, as against 45,516cwt, value £103,416, for March, 1901.



STOCK AND SHOW NOTES.

By Herdsman.

The London Cart Horse Parade Society are now arranging the details of the Seventeenth Annual Parade of London Cart Horses, which is to take place, as usual, in Regent's Park on Whit Monday next, May 19th. At last year's function 650 prizes were awarded, amounting to £320, the whole of the money being devoted to the encouragement of deserving drivers. Prizes are awarded for singles, pairs, and teams, the latter having this year been considerably augmented, whilst corporations, borough councils, etc., compete in a section by themselves. Additional premiums and medals are to be given by the Shire and Suffolk Horse Societies, and brasses and dilpomas by the R.S.P.C.A. The excellent competition for long service with the same employer will also be continued. Full particulars and forms can be obtained at the offices of the Society, at 12, Hanover Square, W.

The West Cumberland Agricultural Society have decided to dispense with their annual cattle show at Whitehaven this year, and to make a grant of £20 to the Royal Show at Carlisle.

I have received a copy of an artistic catalogue of the Beadlam Grange stud, the property of Mr. George Scoby, Beadlam Grange, Nawton, Yorkshire. As is generally known, Mr. Scoby breeds Cleveland Bays, Yorkshire coach horses, Shorthorns, Lincoln and Hampshire sheep, and Berkshire pigs; but the catalogue mentioned deals almost exclusively with the horses. Cleveland Bays and Yorkshire coach horses have been bred and worked at Beadlam Grange since, 1874, and Mr. Scoby first showed and won with a two-year-old filly at the Royal Show at Newcastle, in 1886, since which year the stud has been represented annually at both the Royal and Yorkshire Shows, and has nearly always been included in the prize list. In 1897, it may be mentioned, the stud won fifty prizes at the Royal, Great Yorkshire, Durham County, Crystal Palace, etc. All the animals in the stud are offered for private sale, full particulars of which can be had from Mr. Scoby.

The Country Gentlemen's Association has received instructions to sell Lord Hillingdon's well-known flock of Shropshire Sheep at the Wildernesse, Seal, Sevenoaks, on August 20th. Messrs. Mansell and Co., of Shrewsbury, will be the auctioneers.

The Prescot and District Agricultural Society has issued the schedule of prizes for the eighteenth annual show, which will take place on Thursday, May 15, in Knowsley Park, under the presidency of the Right Hon. the Earl of Derby. Various classes (a number of which are open to all-comers) are provided for cattle, horses, pigs, dogs, poultry, pigeons, rabbits, butter and eggs, etc., and in each first, second, and third prizes are offered, whilst there are several special awards, including the Shire and Hackney Horse Societies' silver medals. Entries close May 3, with the secretary, Mr. F. W. Halsall, 12, Church Street, Prescot.

Mr. R. Harvey Mason, of Necton Hall, Swaffham, Norfolk, having let his Sparham Hall farm from Michaelmas next, the entire herd of Red Polled cattle kept there is, together with a number of young bulls and heifers from the Necton Hall herd, to be sold by auction on Thursday, May 15, Messrs. J. Thornton and Co. being the auctioneers. It may be mentioned here that no public sale of the Necton Hall herd has taken place since the present owner succeeded to the estate, in 1879. Red Polled cattle have been reared on the Necton Estate for many generations, the Home Farm having been always kept in hand by the owners. As far back as 1849 the late Colonel Mason, who bred Red Polls here from 1835 to 1865, took a prize at the Royal Show at Norwich, and since that date animals from the herd have won a large number of prizes. The present herd have gained many honours in the show yards, bulls having principally been exhibited. Magician 5021, now in service at Necton, won first and Champion prize at the R.A.S.E. Show at Maidstone, 1899. Many animals have been sold to go abroad. The Ensign 3096, exported to Captain V. T. Hills, U.S.A., and subsequently sold by him at a large sum to Mr. H. Lee Borden, Illinois, won many first prizes in the United States of America. As to the sires, it may be mentioned that at the late Mr. J. J. Colman's sale, in 1899, the handsome bull, Crown Diamond 6104, a son of Red Prince 2902 (the champion bull at the R.A.S.E., Chester, in 1893), was purchased for 210gs., and has proved a successful sire. Milk records were commenced in 1884, and have been carefully kept. The milk is tested at regular intervals by means of the Babcock tester; the results show that the 21 cows included in the catalogue averaged the large percentage of 4.09 butter fat in 1901. In addition to this, a record is kept of the actual weight of butter sold from the herd, and this is found at the end of the year to come very near the result as given by the test.

A prize schedule has come to hand for the twenty-seventh annual show of the Shropshire and Westmoreland Agricultural Society, which will be held at Shrewsbury on Thursday, June 5, and following day. Classes, with liberal prizes have been provided for Shire horses, hunters, hackneys, polo, and Welsh ponies, Shorthorn and dairy cattle, Herefords, Jerseys, Shropshire, and Welsh sheep, pigs, dairy produce, whilst there will be leaping and turn-out competitions. The special and champion awards in the live stock section number close on thirty, and range in value up to £25. They include medals, presented by the Shire, Hunters' Improvement, Polo Pony, and Hackney Horse Societies, and the Shorthorn Societies' district prize of £10, whilst there are two challenge cups of the value of £25 each—one for the best hunter mare or gelding and the other for the best shire mare or filly. Altogether the prize list is a most liberal one, and should attract a very large entry. Entries close as follows:—Implements and miscellaneous stands, April 21st; horses, cattle, sheep pigs, butter, and cheese, Monday, April 28th. (Post entries, at double fees, close May 10th.) Leaping, Monday, June 2nd at 10 a.m. The secretary is Mr. Thomas Whitfield, Talbot Chambers, Shrewsbury.



THE SHORTHORN BULL "LORD BRUCE" shown above is a Roan calved April 17, 1900, sire Chewton Oxford Cornelius 74,223, dam Evelyn, and was bred by Mr. G. F. King, Chewton Keynsham, Bristol. At the Royal Dublin Society's Show last week "Lord Bruce" won First Prize in the class for Shorthorn Bulls calved in 1900, on or before August 31, and was also winner of the Champion Silver Medal for the best Shorthorn Bull calved in 1900. In addition to these he won the Chaloner Plate for the best Shorthorn Bull calved in or prior to 1900.

The Royal Dublin Show.

The Spring Show of the Royal Dublin Society is always of great interest to English and Scotch breeders and exhibitors. The exhibition, which opened at Balls Bridge, Dublin, on Tuesday, and continued over the three following days, fully maintained the high average of merit reached in previous shows. The attendance during the show was of a satisfactory character, among the visitors being the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, T.R.H. the Duke and Duchess of Connaught, and H.E. the Countess Cadogan.

The stock classes were well filled; Shorthorns especially were an excellent show, the number of yearling bulls being especially large. There was also a capital collection of Herefords, and the competition in nearly all the classes was strong. The headway made by the Aberdeen-Angus breed in Ireland of late years is very noticeable. This breed was well represented as regards numbers, but in the younger classes there was more than the usual proportion of second-rate animals. Hackney and agricultural horses were not extremely important sections. It seems pretty evident that the hackney is waning in popularity in the Green Isle, for the number of exhibitors seems to be fewer every year.

Shorthorns.

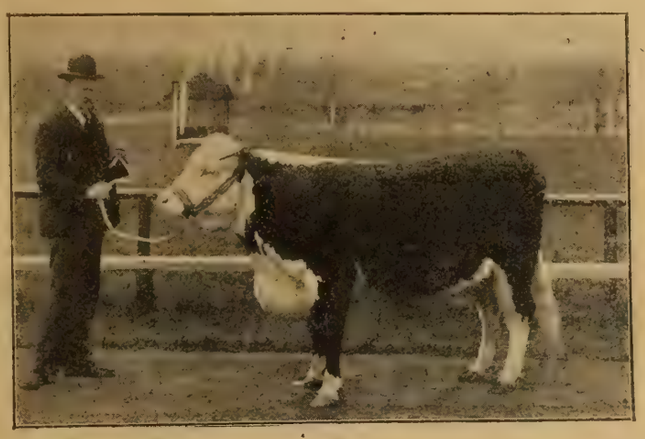
The yearling classes of Shorthorns were a decided improvement on those at the corresponding show last year, for not only were the entries larger, but the quality was much better, there being fewer of the weeds. Out of the big muster of 138 entries, a decided first was found in the Scotch bull, Viceroy, by Sovereign Star, bred by Lord Lovat, and shown by Mr. M. Marshall, of Stranraer. He is a grandly-substanced youngster, with plenty of depth, his only weakness being a bareness down the thighs. The next two were by English exhibitors, viz., Mr. Harrison's second winner, Star of Roses, an Uppermill bull, and Mr. Handley's third winner, named Ingram's Style. These were both well-substanced animals, though their positions were not so secure as that of the first. In the next class first honour was taken by Mr. Harrison's roan M.P., a Scotch-bred bull, sired by Halliday. He was a level, stylish enough looking youngster, but he did not finish so well over the tail-head, nor had the requisite substance that such a class of 143 animals could have furnished. Mr. Doyne had a nice, deep, level white for second winner in Prince Victor, which afterwards won for him the £20 Challenge Prize, and £70 Phœnix Cup. So pleased were the judges with the quality of the animals in this class that they awarded a very large number of highly-commended tickets.

The older class of two-year-olds made up an exceptionally fine one of 66 entries. There were a few weeds amongst thm, but the honour-bearers were an imposing group, and contained some of the plums of the showyard. Easily at the top were Lord Bruce, belonging to Mr. King, of Bristol, and Pearl King, shown by Mr. Handly, of Milnthorpe. The former, which, besides heading his class, afterwards bore off the championship of the breed in the Chaloner Plate, is a veteran English first prize winner. The second winner is a bull with a fine mossy coat that handles well, and is much more even than the other. Major Harman's third winner, Sovereign Star, which was first in his class here last year, was no mean rival. He was not in such good show condition, but he is a bull of exceptionally strong points that will likely wear his age well. Another well-known bull, about which a good deal was said last year, was Mr. M'Clure's Baron of Cluny. He was first in his class at the last Ball's Bridge Show, and entirely displaced at Belfast. On the present occasion he made a strong fourth winner in a strong class. The younger two-year-olds made up the poorest lot of bulls in this section, the first honour going to Mr. Crawford for an English-bred bull, named Master Stephen. An English competitor got the second prize, namely, Mr. C. F. King, of Bristol, with Chewton Brave Archer.

There was a very large muster of aged bulls, and, as last year, they were headed by Mr. Harrison's Inspector, a Scotch-bred bull, sired by Granite City. Inspector has a very imposing frontage, with great depth of shoulders and strength through the heart. He had to be content with reserve honours for the championship to Mr. King's two-year-old first-prize winner, Lord Bruce. The heifers are always a sweet lot at Ball's Bridge, and the plum of the two classes was Mr. Swann's Lady Flora, an exceptionally well-furnished heifer.

Herefords.

The prime English grazers are beginning—as they ought to do—to take a prominent place amongst the breeds of Ireland. During the past few years they have increased largely, both as regards numbers and quality. There was a specially fine lot of yearlings, the older class numbering 41 entries, but the first three prizes and reserve ticket come to this side of the Channel. Both the Earl of Coventry's first and Mr. Green's second and third winners were all fine, deep, level animals, with particularly good quarters for the breed, which is apt to be weak in that respect. Colonel Everard was the only Irish winner, and he got fourth prize for a bull named Admiral. The next class of yearlings, though mustering 34 entries, did not bring out such an array of merit as the former. Mr. Waller's Champion was placed first, but many thought the position should have been given to Major Hillas' second winner, Vandal. In the two-year-old class Mr. Purdon, of Killucan, succeeded in beating, with his Herefordshire-bred bull Gordon, the Earl of Coventry's Methodist. They are both remarkably fine level bulls, with great quarters, and good rib; but Mr. Purdon's winner had more ease and style, and showed his parts to better advantage. The class for aged bulls was much smaller, but contained very good winners shown by Messrs. Waller, Dann, and Boylan. There was a sweet-looking lot of yearling heifers, the first prize going to a pretty, symmetrical English exhibit in Ivy Lass, shown by Mr. Richard Green, Mrs. Madden and Colonel Everard carrying off the remaining honours. The next class, with only six entries, furnished the champion in Mrs. Madden's two-year-old heifer, Camellia; but it must be remembered that the English exhibits were debarred from this competition. She is, however, English bred, and on her merits would have stood a fair chance, even if her compatriots had entered the lists, for she handles beautifully.

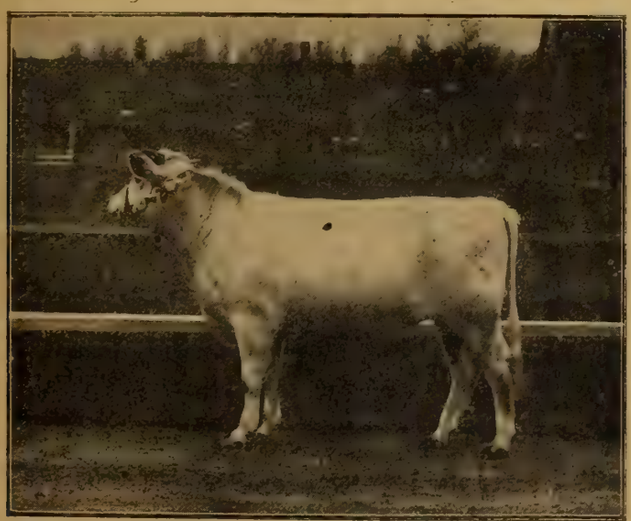


THE HEREFORD HEIFER "CAMELLIA" shown above was bred by Mr. H. Russell, Westonbury, Pembridge, being by Peer 18,006 out of Charity 2nd. "Camellia" is the property of Mrs. Madden, Nutley, Booterstown, and at the Dublin Society's show last week was awarded the Hereford Challenge Cup for the best animal in the Hereford classes belonging to an Irish resident. "Camellia" also won First Prize in the class for heifers calved in 1900.

Aberdeen Angus.

The doddies were in some respects not up to the standard of former years; taken comparatively they did not compare in average merit with the Shorthorns, the younger classes containing a few more weeds than has been the case in former shows, but still the winners were well up to the usual standard. May Empress again came back amongst the aged females to add additional laurels to the long list of honours she won for her late owner, Mrs. Cambridge Grubb, and again appeared in capital bloom and won for Mr. Coey the red ticket in her class, with a strong bid for female championship. She is a female with a great deal of style and character, a grand rib and shoulders, though a trifle weak on the quarters. Amongst the heifers Mr. Coey got second and third in the yearling class with a pretty neat pair of youngsters by his famous sire, Baron Inca, running Mr. Bland's Queenly very close for first honours with Sunshine, a very compact gay little youngster. Mr. Owen's Melia Murdher appeared at the head of her class; she is a two-year-old, and won the female championship, as well as being reserved for the gold medal. This heifer won the first in her class as a yearling last year and championship at the Winter Show at Ball's Bridge, when she excited great admiration as one of the most symmetrical figures that has been seen at Ball's Bridge. The great feature in this section was the magnificent troop of aged bulls headed by the Scotch sire Ben Gloe, shown by Mr. M'Laren, of Perthshire. He is a bull with a grand broadside, fine level deep shoulders, good top and underline, and a dashing appearance, and was considered to be one of the most impressive looking Aberdeen-Angus sires that have been seen at Ball's Bridge for many years. He easily carried off the gold medal as the champion of the breed. The second and third winners were both Scotch bred. Mr. Turtle's Aghalee, bred by Mr. Wilken, was a fine compact little bull, but he was fairly beaten by Mr. M'Laren's more level and better substanced winner. Major Alexander's third winner was hardly so good over the thighs and quarters as the other two, and was a trifle plain about the head, but he possessed the best rib of the group; while as an instance of the close competition in this class, Lord Crofton's Jolly Benton, which was placed in the reserve, would have made a creditable first winner in former years.

In the younger two-year-old class there were several animals of very poor quality, but the Mar-



THE SHORTHORN BULL "PRINCE VICTOR" which forms the subject of the above illustration, is by Gipsey Prince out of Princess Victoria, and was exhibited by its breeder, Mr. C. M. Doyne, Wells, Gorey, at the Royal Dublin Society's Show last week. "Prince Victor" was winner of the Champion Prize of £20 presented by the Shorthorn Society for the best Yearling Shorthorn Bull bred in Ireland and eligible for entry in Coates' Herd Book; he also won the Phœnix Challenge Cup for the best Shorthorn Bull calved in 1901; the Special District Prize of £10 for the best Yearling Shorthorn Bull located in Leinster; and Second Prize in Class 2 for animals calved on or after April 1, 1901.

quis of Waterford had a very good first winner in Curraghmore Albert II., which afterwards won for him the Owen Cup, as the best male bred in Ireland. He is a lengthy, level bull, with strong points, showing nice shoulders and quarters and plenty of substance. The older two-year-old bulls formed a much better class, the first place being taken by Mr. Coey with Monitor, a son of Baron Inca's, a gay-looking bull, which shows much of the dash of his sire. Lord Dunleath took the second prize with a very taking bull, with a good deal of quality that improves with closer acquaintance.

Both classes of yearlings were hardly up to the standard of some former years, although the winners were all of very good type. In the younger class a Scotch exhibit carried off the first honour in Mr. M'Laren's Witanure, a prettily placed youngster, with a good deal of quality. In the older class many preferred Mr. M'Laren's second winner to Mr. Bland's Evasit, which was placed first. Mr. Bland's winner, which is English-bred, is a compact, well-substanced bull with plenty of depth, but a trifle nobby about the tail-head, and not so well furnished through the heart as might be. Mr. M'Laren's Annal has also a suspicion of the last fault, but he is better over the quarters than the first winner. The Queen's cup went to Mr. Ham Bland for a fine lot of three bulls, including his first and second prize yearlings, while the Leinster Cup was won by Mr. Owen with a group of four, including his third prize yearling bull, reserve yearling heifer, his reserve cow, and that handsome champion, Melia Murdher.

As in former years, a number of Government premiums for pure-bred bulls were offered, and were numerously competed for.

Agricultural Horses.

There was a fairly good muster of agricultural horses, Mr. O'Malley getting first place in both the stallion classes for Clydesdales. In the forage cass his old prize-winning stallion, Model, a massive, typical bay, excellently set on short flat bone, was beaten by his younger horse, Masterpiece, bred at Seaham Harbour. He does not look so compact or well-set as the other, but he is younger and will fill out a bit. He is, however, a better mover, the older horse not going so well with his hocks. The first honour for Shire stallions went to Messrs. W. and P. O'Neill for a very stylish, dashing-looking black, set on very strong bone. Major Lambart had the first honour for Clydesdale brood mares with a nice clean-boned dark bay named Jenny Geddes, Mr. O'Malley getting second with one of stronger type. For fillies there was only Mr. O'Malley's entry, and a second prize was awarded.

Hackneys.

The Hackneys do not seem destined to flourish in Ireland, for the number seem to be gradually decreasing, but although the classes were small, the exhibits were all very creditable. Amongst stallions, Mr. Wrench had the first prize and gold medal for Fitzrose, a tall, strong-boned three-year-old chestnut, with plenty of power over his hocks. He was followed by Mr. Martin's neat cobby, stylish-looking chestnut, Special Post. Mr. Wrench again had the first prize for mares with Bright Gartin Duchess, a five-year-old chestnut by Chocolate Junior, which afterwards won for him the Challenge cup and gold medal. This mare occupied the same position at Ball's last year. She is capitally set on the best of short strong bone, has nice deep well-laid shoulders, and plenty of strength over the knees and hocks. Mr. Morton's second winner, Smart Dunham, is also an old winner. She was bred by Sir Walter Gilbey, and stands on very good bone, but is not so well furnished over the hocks as the other. There were only three fillies present, Mr. Morton getting first place with a stylish well-filled youngster named Rosa Dear, own bred, and sired by Rosador. Mr. Wrench had the second and Mr. Smiley the third honour.

Harness Horses.

The harness horses formed one of the most attractive portions of the show, the adjudication in the different classes being keenly followed for the large company present. In the class for young horses, bred in Ireland, not over 4 years, 15 hands and up, the premier award went to Mr. Frederick Wrench's handsome chestnut gelding of taking appearance and splendid action. Mr. Morton, of Ballymena, came second with Brown Minnie, a very taking mare just gone three years, possessing plenty of quality and full of manners, whilst Mr. Wrench secured the third prize with Bay Derwent, a bay gelding, 4 years old, bred by himself. The first prize in the class for horses under 15 hands was awarded to Mr. H. H. Smiley, Larne, for Inver Prince, a really handsome chestnut gelding, with grand action and taking appearance. The judges had no hesitation in awarding second prize to Mr. Howard Waterhouse's Killiney Toff. In the next class, which was for horses 15 hands and upwards, there was a considerable entry, the premier honour going to Mr. William M'Bride's Sunshine, a cream gelding that has already won rosettes. Mr. Morton's Bonnie Madeline was placed next, the same owner's Gloria being placed third, whilst reserve was given to Mr. D. Byrne's Prospect, a dark bay gelding, with plenty of nice movement. The best of the animals in the class for horses and cobs under 15 hands, shown in single harness, was Mr. Morton's Black Jack, Mr. Smiley's Miss Doncaster obtaining the blue badge. The champion cup, value £10, for first prize winners, went to Mr. M'Bride's Sunshine, while Mr. Morton's Black Jack was reserved.

There were but few entries in the harness pony class under 14.3 hands, Mr. Miley's Doncaster taking first prize, the same exhibitor's Copely Flora taking second. In the succeeding class, however, that for ponies not exceeding 13.3 hands, there was considerable competition, but the judges had little difficulty in awarding first prize to Mr. Alfred G. Waller's Wager, a well-proportioned and beautifully-moving grey, a very handsome pony. Messrs. Evans's Majestic came second and the same firm's Oh! May third. In the double harness class there were few entries, but the quality was decidedly taking, and it was after no little pains on the part of the judges that Mr. M'Bride's pair, Sunbeam and Sunshine, were given first prize. They are a lovely moving pair, and admirably matched. In the tandem class Mr. N. Morton added to his list of successes by scoring with Bonnie Madeline and Gloria. They looked all over winners, and, admirably driven, behaved beautifully. The prize in the pony tandem class went to Messrs. Evan's Oh! May and Majestic.

Polo Ponies.

The importance of the polo pony was very clearly demonstrated by the marked interest that attended him. The number of the entries was large, and class was not wanting. In the class for "made" polo ponies there were 38 entries, but Mr. T. I. Roark, Park View, Carlow, fairly swept the boards, securing not only first and second prizes by the aid of Mayfly and Playtoy respectively, but also the gold medal presented by the Polo Pony Society for the best animal in the class. Mr. Roark's two handsome animals were certainly entitled to the honours awarded them by the judges. The third prize went to Granite, a grey gelding, owned by Captain Loftus, Moyle, Co. Carlow. Mr. Roark's Beetle came in for an highly-commended ticket, as did also Mr. R. B. Houston's Nellie, a commend falling to the lot of Mr. A. T. H. Hardy's Elastic and to Mr. Gill Eccles, Moneygold, Sligo, for Little Shot.

Judges.

CATTLE.—Shorthorns.—Mr. T. H. Hutchinson, the Manor House, Catterick, Yorkshire; Mr. J. L Deane Willis, Bapton Manor, Codford, St. Mary, Bath. Herefords: Mr. Francis Evans, Bredwardine, Hereford. Aberdeen Angus: Mr. George J. Walker, Portlethan, Aberdeen, N.B.; Mr. George Bruce, Tochineal Cullen N.B. Norfolk and Suffolk Red-Polled Ayrshire and Dairy Cattle and Extra Stock: Mr. Garrett Taylor, Trowse House, Norwich. Kerry and Dexter: Mr. R. Tait Robertson, Church Farm, Babraham, Combs. Channel Islands: Mr. Ernest Mathews, Chequers Mead, Potters Bar.

HORSES.—Agricultural: Mr. John Marr, Cairnrogie Old Meldrum; Mr. Garrett Taylor. Hackneys and Harness: Mr. C. Edward E. Cooke, Hinxton Grange, Saffron Walden. Polo Ponies and Bending Competition: Mr. Anthony F. Maude, Drumdravey, Irvinestown. Draught Horses and Vehicles, Mules, and Asses: Mr. John Marr; Mr. Garrett Taylor.

PIGS.—Breeding Swine: Mr. J. Henebery, Grace Dieu Cottage, Waterford.

Challenge Plates, Cups, Etc.

CATTLE.

Champion Silver Medal for best bull in classes 1 and 2: Mr. Mathew Marshall (Viceroy); r, Mr. George Harrison (M.P.).

Champion Silver Medal for the best bull in classes 3 and 4: Mr. G. F. King (Lord Bruce.

The Chaloner Plate, value £155, for the best shorthorn bull in classes 3, 4, and 5: Mr. G. F. King (Lord Bruce).

Champion Prize, value £20, awarded by the Shorthorn Society of Great Britain and Ireland, for the best yearling shorthorn bull bred in Ireland, and entered or eligible for entry in Coate's Herd Book: Mr. C. M. Doyne (Prince Victor).

Challenge Cup, value 70 guineas, for the best animal in the Shorthorn classes 1 and 2: Mr. C. M. Doyne (Prince Victor).

Shorthorn Society's Special District Prize of £10 for the best shorthorn bull entered in classes 1 or 2 (open to animals located in the province of Leinster): Mr. C. M. Doyne (Prince Victor).

Hereford Challenge Cup, presented by the Hereford Herd Book Society, value 20 guineas, for the best animal in the Hereford classes: Mrs. Madden (Camellia).

The Queen Victoria Cup, value £100, for the best group of three Aberdeen Angus bulls, and gold medal: Hum Bland; r and h c, Mr. A. J. Owen.

The Leinster Cup, value, £150, for the best group of Aberdeen Angus cattle, Mr. A. J. Owen; r and h c, Right Hon. Lord Crofton.

The Owen Aberdeen Angus Challenge Cup, value £50: Marquis of Waterford (Curraghmore Albert 2nd); r and h c, Mr. A. J Owen (Mellibus 5th).

Irish Aberdeen Angus Challenge Cup, value £50: Mr. A. J. Owen (Melia Murdher; r and h c, Hum Bland (Lincrusta).

Polled Cattle Society Aberdeen Angus Gold Medal: Mr. A. McLaren (Ben Gloe); r and h c, Mr. A. J. Owen (Melia Murdher).

Challenge Cup, value 70 guineas, for the best animal in the Kerry and Dexter classes: Earl of Shaftesbury (Ormeau Daisy); r and h c, Mr. R. Barter (Aicme Cuffe).

The "Blythswood" Challenge Bowl, for the best Kerry or Dexter cow or heifer in the Show: Earl of Shaftesbury (Ormeau Daisy); r and h c, Duke of Leinster (Orchid 2nd of Carton).

The Cedar Challenge Cup, value 20 guineas, for the best yearling Jersey bull: Mr. M. O'Neill (Jolly Rover); r and h c, Mr. W. Milward-Jones (Duke of Maloney 2nd).

HORSES.

Hackney Horse Society's Gold Medal, for the best hackney stallion or colt: Mr. F. Wrench (Fitz Rose); r and h c, Mr. N. Morton (Special Post).

Hackney Mare Challenge Cup, value 30 guineas, for the best hackney mare: Mr. F. Wrench (Bright Garton Duchess); r, Mr. N. Morton (Smart Dunham).

Hackney Horse Society's Gold Medal, for the best hackney mare or filly: Mr. F. Wrench (Bright Garton Duchess); r, Mr. N. Morton (Smart Dunham).

Irish Harness Horse Society's Challenge Cup, value 70 guineas, and silver medal, for the best young gelding or mare suitable for harness: Mr. F. Wrench (Bally Clovis); r, Mr. N. Morton (Brown Minnie).

Challenge Cup, value 25 guineas, for the best animal shown in hand in classes 78 and 79: Mr. R. Morton (Brown Minnie); r, Mr. F. Wrench (Derwent).

Challenge Cup, value 25 guineas, for the best animal shown in harness in classes 80, 81, and 82: Mr. R. Morton (Bonnie Madeline); r, Mr. N. Morton (Gloria).

Champion Cup, value £10, for the best harness horse in classes 78, 79, 80, 81: Mr. M.Bride (Sunshine); r, Mr. Morton (Black Jack).

POLO PONIES.

Polo Society's Gold Medal, for the best polo pony in class 88: Mr. T. J. Roark (Mayfly).

Add Dublin Show—Add Champion Awards Mach One

Polo Pony Society Gold Medal for best Pony in Class 89: Mr. T. I. Roark (Corner Lot).

Made Polo Ponies, under 14.2 hands high, to be shown in saddle: 1, T. I. Roark (Mayfly), chestnut mare; 2, T. I. Roark (Playtoy), chestnut gelding; 3, Captain S. J. Loftus (Granite), grey gelding; 4, W. E. Grogan (Pom-Pom), chestnut gelding, br. Mr. Cardwell, Enniscorthy; h.c., R. B. Houston, Charlesfort, Kells (Nellie 321), bay mare; T. I. Roark (Beetle), black mare; c., H. T. H. Hardy (Elastic), bay gelding; Thomas Anderson (Orphan 513), brown mare; G. M. Eccles (Little Shot 0848), brown mare, br. Colonel Kirkwood, Woodbrook, Boyle.

Ponies suitable for and likely to make polo ponies, under 14.2 hands, to be shown in saddle: 1, T. I. Roark (Corner Lot), brown gelding; 2, R. B. Houston (Free Wheel), brown mare; 3, Captain J. Gough, Salisbury House, Clonmel (Silverloil), bay roan gelding, br. ditto; 4, T. I. Roark (Sweets), bay mare; r., W. E. Grogan (Petrol), chestnut mare, br. H. Wilson, Castleknock Stud Farm; v.h.c., A. M. Caldecott-Smith (Lady Lena), brown mare; the Keynsham Stud Company (Game Chicken), chestnut gelding, br. J. H. Clifton, The Uplands, Keynsham, near Bristol; h.c., J. W. Nolans, V.S. (Queen), grey mare; Messrs. Slocock (Why Not), chestnut mare.

SHORTHORNS.

Shorthorn Bull, calved in 1901, on or before March 31st: 1, Matthew Marshall Budgebank, Stranraer (Viceroy), roan, br. the Right Hon. Lord Lovat, Beaufort; 2, George Harrison, Gainford Hall, Darlington (Star of Roses), roan, br. Mr. W. S. Marr, Uppermill, Tarves, N.B.; 3, John Handly, Green Head, Milnthorpe, Westmorland (Ingram's Style), roan, br. Wm. Forster, Bull's Hill, Allendale, Northumberland; 4, Mrs. E. Walsh, Island View, Cootehill, Co. Cavan (Master Stephen), roan, br. ditto; 5, John Handly (Pretender), roan, br. ditto; 6, Walter R. Crawford, The Priory, Tullyhogue, Co. Tyrone (Washington), roan, br. Mr. Merson, Craigwillie, Huntly, N.B.; r. and h.c., H. H. Smiley, Ardmore, Larne (Gallant Gordon), red, little white, br. ditto: h.c., Thomas L. Hodgins, Junr., Brookvale, Maryborough (Anno's Star), red, br. Thomas L Hodgins, Brookvale, Maryborough; George N. Jessop, Bank Place, Maryborough (Borris King), red, br. ditto; George N. Jessop (Borris Duke), white, br. ditto; Major R. W. Cradock, Derrycalaghan, Roscrea (Ben Duff), roan, br. ditto; R. N. Wilson, Broughadoey House, Moy, Co. Tyrone (Prince Dolly), red, and a little white, br. exhibitor; William Stoddart, Farmhill, Clones (Star of Promise), roan, br. ditto; Richard George Carden, Fishmoyne, Templemore (Stewart Jamieson), roan, br. Mr. Fergussen, Dalcapin, Ballinluig; A. M. Kirker, Craigavad House, Co. Down (Baliol) (twin), roan, br. Exhibitor; W. P. Cross, Dartan, Killylea, Co. Armagh (Golden Duke), roan, br. ditto; Major John Alexander, Milford, Carlow (Golden Prince), roan, br. ditto; Miss Staples, Dunmore, Durrow (Dunmore General), white, br. ditto; John Handly (Overthwaite Chief), roan, br. Wm. Atkinson, Overthwaite, Milnthorpe; The Countess of Caledon (Montrose), red, br. ditto; Lord Rathdonnell, Drumcar, Dunleer, Co. Louth (Royal Buck), roan, br. ditto; Lord Rathdonnell (Lamplighter), roan, br. ditto; Michael Quirke, Clonmel (Cedric of Cluny), red, br. Lady Cathcart, Cluny Castle, Aberdeen; c., Thomas L. Hodgins, Junr., Brookvale, Maryborough (Cropwell Kettleby Gwynne), dark roan, br. Henry Smith, Junr., The Cottage, near Nottingham; Thomas L. Hodgins, Junr. (Sheelah's Star), white, br. ditto; Rev. James Wilson, Tyholland Rectory, Monaghan (Lord William), roan, br. The Keythorpe Grange Stud Company, East Norton, Leicestershire; Major R. W. Cradock (Chesterfield), red and white, br. ditto; The Right Hon. Lord Carew, Castle Boro', Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford (Glossy Plush), red and white, br. Sir William Paul, Ballyglen, Waterford; John Loftus Bland, Blandsfort, Abbeyleix (Boyndie Chief), red, br. William Murray, Old Manse, Bayndie, Banff; Mrs. A. E. Moffat, Ballyhyland, Enniscorthy (Prince Puck), red and a little white, br. ditto; Henry Pringle, Annagh House, Aughnacloy (Cæsar), white, br. ditto; A. M. Kirker (Rizzio) (twin), roan, br. ditto; John A. Horn, Brangan, Portsoy, N.B. (Move On), red, br. ditto; John Hill, Ballydaniel, Camolin (Lord Salisbury), roan, br. R. G. Wordsworth, Duffcarrig, Gorey; Right Hon. A. H. Smith-Barry, Fota Island, Queenstown (Lord Velantia), red and white, br. ditto; H. J. C. Toler-Aylward, Shankill Castle, Kilkenny (Master Hector), white, br. ditto; Earl Fitzwilliam, Coollattin Park, Shillelagh (Dr. Lilias), red, br. ditto; W. R. Crawford (Morning Star), br. Alex. Crombie, Woodend, Aberdeenshire, N.B.; Walter R. Crawford (Prince of Roses), red roan, br. John Young, Tilbouries, Marycalter, N.B.; The Earl of Dartrey, Dartrey, Co. Monaghan (Imperialist), roan, br. Exhibitor; The Earl of Dartrey (What's Wanted), roan, br. ditto; Major John Alexander (Gondolier), red, br. ditto; John Loftus Bland (Royal Demise), red roan, br. Messrs. Lumsden and Mackenzie, Huntingtowerfield; Richard Wright, Prumplestown House, Castledermot (Pitlivie Ensign), roan, br. Mr. Taylor, Pitlivie Farm, Carnoustie; Bertram F. Barton, Straffan House, Straffan Station (Straffan Ranger), red, br. ditto; Bertram F. Barton (Straffan Yeoman), red and little white, br. ditto; Bertram F. Barton (Straffan Admiral), roan, br. ditto; Bertram F. Barton (Pompon), roan, br. ditto; The Countess of Caledon (Gay Lad), red, br. Mr. Stewart, Millhill, Crieff, N.B.; Major G. F. W. Lambart, Beau Parc, Co. Meath (Sir Edgar), roan, br. ditto; H. H. Smiley (Guardian of Ardmore), roan, br. ditto; Geoffrey G. Guinness, Carmanhall, Stillorgan, Co. Dublin (Warner), red, br. Mr. Merson, Craigwillie, Huntly, Scotland.

Shorthorn Bull, calved 1901, on or after April 1st: 1, George Harrison (M.P.), roan, br. Alex. Crombie, Woodend, New Machar, N.B.; 2, C. M. Doyne (Prince Victor), white, br. ditto; 3, Walter R. Crawford (Oxford May Boy), roan, br. T. Stokes, Warmington, Oundle; 4, James Mullany (Carte Blanche), dark roan, br. ditto; 5, Miss Staples (Dunmore Flash) (twin), red, and little white, br. ditto; r. and h.c., R. N. Wilson (Circassian), roan, br. D. C. Bruce, Byres Farm, Fochabers, N.B.; h.c., Rev. James Wilson (Lord Roberts), red, br. A. Henderson, M.P., Bus-

tot Park, Faringdon, Berks; William Simpson, Burnside of Dipple, Fochabers N.B. (Windfall), red, br. John Robertson, Tocherford Wartle, Aberdeenshire; William Webster (Roan Robin), roan, br, ditto; Robert Swann, Swann's Cross, Co. Monaghan (Greek Boy), roan, br. ditto; Major R. T. G. Lowry, Pomeroy House, Pomeroy (Sir Bedivere), rich roan, br. ditto; Richard Wright (Feather King), red, br. ditto; Bertram F. Barton (Adrian), roan, br. ditto; The Countess of Caledon (Lord Lieutenant), red, br. John Marr, Cairnbrogie, N.B., James Welsh (Redgauntlet), red, br. ditto; c., Thomas L. Hodgins, Junr., Beadman's Star, red, br. ditto; Thomas L. Hodgins, Junr. (Brookvale), white, br. Thomas L. Hodgins, Brookvale, Maryborough; Rev. James Wilson (Bachelor) roan, br. A. Henderson, M.P., Buscot Park, Faringdon, Berks; Mrs. A. E. Moffatt (Royal Salute), roan, br. ditto; William Armstrong (Cameronian), red, br. ditto; William Armstrong (Boatswain), red roan, br. ditto; D. H. Doyne (Slaney Bullrush), red, and little white, br. ditto; Lieut.-Col. Villiers Stuart, Castletown, Carrick-on-Suir (Siegfried), red and two white spots, br. ditto; Mrs. E. Walsh, Island View, Cootehill, Co. Cavan (Buscot Favourite), dark roan, br. A. Henderson, M.P., Buscot Park, Faringdon, Berkshire; Mrs E. Walsh (Prince Robin), red, and little white, br. ditto; Major Fortescue, Stephenstown, Dundalk (Marquis), red, br. ditto; The Right Hon. Lord Carew (Stamp of Lilias), roan, br. ditto; Henry Pringle (Master Primrose), red, br. George Inglis, Newmore, Invergordon; William Webster, Ballyvadden, Kilmuckridge, Gorey Co. Wexford (Vinegar Hill), dark roan, br. ditto; William Webster (Dunmore Prince), roan, br. ditto; William Webster (Lord Dunmore), dark roan, br. ditto; Nicholas Day, Garryhack, Ballycogley, Co. Wexford (Great Britain), red roan, br. ditto; Nicholas Day (Victor), red, with a little white; br. ditto; Captain W. J. Hamilton, Castlehamilton, Killeshandra (Gladiator), red, br. ditto; Captain W. J. Hamilton (Illuminator), red, br. ditto; Thomas Leslie, Annamore, Legakelly P.O. (Chieftain), roan, br. ditto; Representatives of the late Rev. J. S. Smith, Oaklands, Boyle (Norman Fame), roan, br. ditto; Representatives of the late Rev. J. S. Smith (Golden Fame), white, br. ditto; Major R. T. G. Lowry (Ravenshoe), roan, br. ditto; Wm Nolans, Ballycanew (Zulu), red, br. ditto; The Earl of Dartrey (Dandie Duke), red, br. Mr. Davidson, Swinnie, Jedburgh, Scotland; The Earl of Dartrey (Imperial), white, br. ditto; roan, bred by H. Toler-Aylward, Shankill Castle, Kilkenny; 4, Thomas A. M'Clure, Rose Lodge, Killylea, Armagh (Baron of Cluny), red, bred by Lady Cathcart, Cluny Castle, Aberdeen; r. and h.c., Bertram F. Barton, Straffan House, Straffan Station (Grand Victor's Hope), roan, bred by exhibitor; h.c., Reginald G. Wordsworth, Duffcarrig, Gorey (Dr. Rainy), red roan, bred by Lord Lovat, Beaufort Castle, Beauly, Inverness; the Trustees of the late J. Buckby Atkinson, Portadown (Bobs), red, bred by Major Cradock, Derrycallaghan, Roscrea; c., John H. Wilson (Senator 2nd), roan, bred by exhibitor; Walter R. Crawford (A 1), roan, bred by exhibitor; H. H. Smiley (Franz Joseph), roan, bred by J. Wilson, Pirriesmill.

Shorthorn bull, calved in 1900, on or after September 1: 1, Walter R. Crawford (Master Stephen), red and little white; br., S. H. Allen, Eastover, Andover, Hampshire; 2, G. F. King (Chewton Brave Archer), white, br., exhibitor; 3, Right Hon. Viscount Duncannon, C.B. (Bessborough Senator), roan, br., exhibitor; 4, Robert Swann (Earl), roan, br., exhibitor; r. and h.c., John Hundly (Royal Fife 12th), roan, br., W. G. Atkinson, Rains Hall, Kendal; h.c., the Right Hon. Viscount de Vesci, Abbeyleix House, Abbeyleix (Hope of Leinster 79090), white, br., exhibitor; Joseph Bowden, Cortober House, Cootehill (Prince Mark), roan, br. exhibitor; Wm. Armstrong (Rupert of Hentzau), roan, br., R. G. Wordsworth, Duffcarrig House, Gorey; H. J. C. Toler-Aylward, Shankill Castle, Kilkenny (Bobs 78422), red and white, br., exhibitor; c., H. H. Smiley (Napier, vol. xlviii.), red, br., exhibitor.

Shorthorn bull, calved prior to 1900: 1, George Harrison (Inspector 72715), roan, c. April 23, 1897, br. A. Crombie, Woodend, Newmacher, N.B.; 2, Richard George Carden, Fishmoyne, Templemore (Dandy 74339), red, c. December 25, 1898, br. Major Alexander, Milford, Carlow; 3, Richard George Carden (Drumsloe Prince), roan, c. January 1, 1899, br. Francis Armstrong, Drumsloe, Clones; r. and h.c., William Armstrong (Stamp of Riches 77952), roan, c. May 22, 1899, br. Rev. J. Wilson, Tyholland Rectory, Monaghan; h.c., William Webster (Dunmore Merchant Swell), roan, c. March 3, 1899, br. Miss Staples, Dunmore, Durrow, Queen's County; c., Cecil Roche-Borrowes, Gilltown, Newbridge (Colonial), roan, c. March 5, 1899, br. Bertram F. Barton, Straffan House, Straffan Station; Sidney P. C. Vesey, Dunleckney Manor, Bagnalstown (Margrave), roan, c. April 12, 1899; br. J. H. Goodbrand, Culnaha, Nigg, N.B.

Shorthorn heifer, calved in 1901, on or before March 31: 1, Robert Swann (Lady Flora), roan, br.; exhibitor; 2, George Harrison (Gainford Beauty), roan, br. exhibitor; 3, Miss Staples (Silvery Sparkle), white, br. exhibitor; r. and h.c., the Earl of Dartrey (Dunmore Empress), roan, br. Miss Staples, Dunmore, Durrow; c., Earl Fitzwilliam (Venus 58th), roan, br. exhibitor; Geoffrey G. Guinness, Carmanhall, Stillorgan, Co. Dublin (Active), roan, br. Mr. Granger, Pitcur, Coupar-Angus, Scotland.

Shorthorn heifer, calved in 1901, on or after April 1: 1, Wentworth Taylor, Tinahely, Co. Wicklow (Lady Augusta 2nd), roan, br. exhibitor; 2, Lord Rathdonnell (Vain Lady), roan, br. exhibitor; 3, H. H. Smiley (Bounty 2nd), roan, br. exhibitor; r. and h.c., Richard Wright (Beautiful Belle), roan, br. exhibitor; h.c., the Right Hon. Lord Carew (Argo), roan, br. exhibitor; Thomas William West (Perfume), rich roan, br. exhibitor; c., J. A. Gibson, Ballyrobert, Craigavad, Co. Down (Miss Cecil), red, little white, br. exhibitor.

Shorthorn heifer, calved in 1900: 1, George Harrison (Flora 6th), roan, br. John Naylor; 2, A. M. Kirker, Craigavad House, Co. Down (Granuaile 25th), red roan, br. exhibitor; 3, H. H. Smiley (Myosotis), red, br. exhibitor; r. and h.c., A. M. Kirker (Lilian), roan, br. George F. Graham, Clones; c., Right Hon. A. H. Smith-Barry (Militant 3rd), red and white, br. exhibitor.

Shorthorn cow of any age, having had a living calf within twelve months preceding the date of the show: 1, Joseph Bowden (Alice Gwynne 2nd), roan, br. exhibitor; 2, Lord Rathdonnell (Begonia Blossom), white, br. exhibitor; 3, H. H. Smiley (Lady 17th), roan, br. C. M. Cameron, Balnakyle; r. and h.c., Miss Staples (Goodbye), red and little white, br. Duke of Marlborough; h.c., John Matthews (Merry Lass 6th), roan, br. Dr. Norman Thompson, Delgany, Co. Wicklow; c., Right Hon. A. H. Smith-Barry (Soldier 5th), roan, br. Viscount de Vesci, Abbeyleix; William Newman (Snowreath 2nd), red, br. Lord Headfort, Headford House, Kells, Co. Meath.

Pedigree Shorthorn dairy cow (in milk), any age, eligible for, and entered in, Coates's Herd Book, or pedigree sent for such entry previous to the show: 1, Lord Rathdonnell (Begonia Blossom); 2, Miss Staples, Dunmore, Durrow (Goodbye); 3, Lord Rathdonnell (Ocean Elf).

HEREFORDS.

Hereford bull, calved in 1901, on or before March 31: 1, Earl of Coventry, Croome Court, Worcester, br. exhibitor; 2, Richard Green, The Whittern, Kington, Herefordshire (Matterhorn), br. exhibitor; 3, Richard Green (Soudan), br. exhibitor; 4, Lieut.-Colonel N. T. Everard, Randlestown, Navan (Admiral), br. exhibitor; r. and h.c., Earl of Coventry (Hero), br. exhibitor; h.c., E. Dames Longworth, Glynwood, Athlone (Gracious), br. exhibitor; c., Colonel Kemmis, C.M.G., Killeen, Mountmellick (Sirdar), br. A. Tanner, Shrawerdine, near Shrewsbury; George N. Purdon, Lisnabin, Killucan (Miner), br. exhibitor; Lieut.-Colonel N. T. Everard (Hero), br. exhibitor; Lieut.-Col. N. T. Everard (Pompom), br. exhibitor; E. Dames Longworth (Beau Nash), br. exhibitor.

Hereford bull, calved in 1901, on or after April 1: 1, William N. Waller, Allenstown, Kells, Co. Meath (Champion), br. exhibitor; 2, Major R. W. Hillas (Vandal), br. exhibitor; 3, Lieut.-Col. Everard (All Ireland 3rd), br. exhibitor; 4, John Hynes (Lucky Jim), br. exhibitor; r. and h.c., Thomas Boylan (Prince of Meath), br. exhibitor; h.c., Mrs. E. F. Nugent, Rosemount, Moate (Secretary), br. exhibitor; Lieut.-Colonel N. T. Everard (Nabob), br. exhibitor; c., Captain W. J. Hamilton, Castlehamilton,. Killeshandra (Pom-Pom), br. exhibitor; Major R. W. Hillas, Doonecoy, Templeboy, Co. Sligo (Gay Lad), br. exhibitor; Lieut.-Colonel N. T. Everard (Easter Gift), br. exhibitor; Thomas Boylan, Hilltown House, Drogheda (First Principal), br. exhibitor.

Hereford Bull, calved in 1900: 1, George N. Purdon, Lisnabin, Killucan (Gordon), br. John Price, the Courthouse, Penbridge, Herefordshire; 2, Earl of Coventry (Methodist 21597), br. ditto; 3, William N. Waller (Silver Prince), br. Lieut.-Colonel Kemmis, Killeen, Mountmellick; r. and h.c., Major R. W. Hillas (Vimbos 21849), br. ditto; h.c., Captain W. J. Hamilton (Ireland's Defender 21465), br. ditto; Lieut.-Col. N. T. Everard (All Ireland 2nd), br. ditto; c., Richard M. Minchin, Busherstown, Dunkerrin, Roscrea (Rupert 21742), br. W. T. Trench, Redwood, Birr; B. C. Williams (Acorn), br. Lieut-Colonel Everard, Randlestown, Navan; Earl of Clonmell (Nero), br. Major R. W. Hillas, Doonecoy, Templeboy, Co. Sligo.

Hereford Bull, calved prior to 1900: 1, William N. Waller (Duke of York 18342), br. Capt. W. Hamilton, Castlehamilton, Killeshandra; 2, Robert Dann (Ruelstone 20979), br. W. T. Trench, Redwood, Birr; 3, Thomas Boylan (Jolly Tar 20728), br. William Judge, Leinthall, Ludlow, Shropshire; r. and h.c., Lieut.-Col. N. T. Everard (Defence 20566), br. W. H. Davies, Liversoile, Hereford.

Hereford Heifer, calved in 1901: 1, Richard Green (Ivy Lass), br. ditto; 2, Mrs. Madden (Manilla), br. ditto; 3, Lieut.-Col. N. T. Everard (Needless 25th), br. ditto; r. and h.c., Major R. W. Hillas (Beatrice), br. ditto; h.c., Captain Longworth Dames, Greenhill, Edenderry, King's County (Divertissement), br. ditto; Major R. W. Hillas (Nannie), br. ditto; Thomas Boylan (Winnie 4th), br. ditto; c., J. H. Taylor (Miss Dorothy), br. Mrs. Boyd Rochford, Middleton Park, Westmeath.

Hereford Heifer, calved in 1900: 1, Mrs. Madden (Camellia), br. H. Russell, Westonbury, Pembridge; 2, Richard Green (Ideal), br. ditto; 3, Lieut.-Col. N. T. Everard (Needless 17th), br. ditto; r. and h.c., Captain Longworth Dames (Marcella), br. ditto; c., Colonel Kemmis, C.M.G., Killeen, Mountmellick (Hester), br. ditto; Lieut.-Col. N. T. Everard (Winifred 30th), br. ditto.

Hereford Cow, of any age, either in calf, or having had a living calf, within the twelve months preceding the date of the show: 1, Thomas Boylan (Winnie 2nd), br. ditto; 2, Mrs. Madden (Ann Althea Still), br. T. W. Dent, Leighton Court, Hereford; 3, Col. Kemmis, C.M.G. (Waif), br. ditto; r. and h.c., Captain Longworth Dames (Mardi), br. ditto; c., William Newman (Filagree 31st), red, and white face, br. Lieut.-Colonel N. T. Everard, Randlestown, Navan.

ABERDEEN ANGUS.

Aberdeen Angus Bull, calved in 1901, on or before March 31st: 1, Hum Bland, Kilquade, Greystones (Evasit), black, br. Arthur Egginton, South Ella, Hull; 2, Alexander M'Laren (Volodyovski), br. Arthur Egginton, South Ella, Hull; 3, Arthur J. Owen (Mellibus 5th, 19481), br. ditto; 4, Right Hon. Lord Crofton (Royal Hope of Mote), br. ditto; 5, Colonel R. Claude Cane (Prince 2nd of Kildare), br. ditto; r. and h.c., Lord Castletown, of Upper Ossory, Granston Manor, Abbeyleix, Queen's County (Sopwell Dasher), br. the Hon. C. G. Trench, Sopwell Hall, Cloughjordan; h.c., E. J. Beaumont Nesbitt (Peter of Tubberdaly), br. ditto; the Right Hon. the Earl of Longford, K.P., Pakenham Hall, Castlepollard (King of Tullynally), br. ditto; Thomas Anderson (Lord of the Harem 19385), br. ditto; Edward Coey, Droagh, Larne (Harvestman), br. ditto; c., Lieut.-Col. Thos. J. de Burgh, D.L., Oldtown, Naas, Co. Kildare (Buffer 18855), br. ditto; E. J. Beaumont Nesbitt, Tubberdaly, Edenderry (Dan of Tubberdaly), br. ditto; Colonel R. Claude Cane, St. Wolstan's, Celbridge, Co. Kildare (Prince of St. Wolstan's), br. ditto, Robert D. Jameson, Delvin Lodge, Balbriggan (Maurice), br. J. H. Bridges, Langshott, Harley; Robert D. Jameson (Elibendor), br. T. H. Bainbridge, Eshott Hall, Felton, Northumberland; Colonel R. Claude Cane (Calumet of St. Wolstan's), br. ditto; William N. Waller (Bianca Rover), br. ditto; Thomas Anderson, Levitstown, Mageney, Co. Kildare (Bagheera 18740), br. ditto; the Right Hon. Lord Crofton (Boaz 2nd of Mote), br. ditto; the Right Hon. Lord Crofton (Esteffette 3rd of Mote), br. ditto; Patrick Field, jun., St. Columba's, Ballybrack, Co Dublin (Fashion of Shanganagh), br. ditto; John Loftus Bland (Mahmoud el Pir), br. ditto.

Aberdeen Angus Bull, calved 1901, on or after April 1st: 1, Alexander McLaren (Witamere), br. ditto; 2, Hum Bland (Just 2nd 19293), br. ditto; 3, Sir Josslyn Gore-Booth, Bart., Lissadell, Sligo (Patsey), black, br. ditto; 4, William Hodgins, Coolfinn, Rathdowney (Prince of Coolfinn), br. ditto; r. and h.c., Thomas H. B. Ruttledge, Erindale, Carlow (Star of Erin 19922), br. ditto; c., R. G. Nash (Prince Charlie 2nd of Lucan), br. ditto; the Right Hon. Lord Crofton (Master of Mote), black, br. ditto.

Aberdeen Angus Bull, calved in 1900, on or before August 31st: 1, Edward Coey (Monitor), br. ditto; 2, Lord Dunleath, Ballywalter Park, Ballywalter, Down (Juniper of Dunmore 17992), br. Marquis of Ormonde, Dunmore Park, Kilkenny; 3, the Right Hon. the Earl of Longford, K.P. (Layman of Tullynally 18040), br. ditto; r. and h.c., John James Adams, Crossmoyle House, Clones (Fisherman of St. Wolstan's), br. Major R. Claude Cane, St. Wolstan's, Celbridge, Co. Kildare; h.c., Wm. Hodgins (Sultan of Sopwell), br. the Hon. C. G. Trench, Sopwell Hall, Cloughjordan; Right Hon. Lord Crofton (Water Melon 18665), br. Mr. Adamson, Careston Castle, Brechin, N.B.; the Right Hon. Earl of Longford (Laureate of Tullynally), br. ditto; c., William N. Waller (Black Prince of Allenstown), br. ditto.

Aberdeen Angus Bull, calved in 1900, on or after September 1st: 1, Marquis of Waterford (Curraghmore Albert 2nd), br. ditto; 2, Hum Bland (Rust 2nd 19851), br. ditto; 3, Arthur J. Owen (Massa 19458), br. ditto; h.c., H. D'E. Strevens (Guy Fawkes of Coote), br. ditto; Arthur J. Owen (Buzzer 4th 18863), br. ditto; c., Major John Alexander (Huntsman of Milford 19229), br. ditto; Arthur J. Owen (Amyas 18715), br. ditto.

Aberdeen Angus Bull, calved prior to 1900: 1, Alexander McLaren (Ben Gloe), br. ditto; 2, F. Locke Turtle, The Villa, Aghalee, Lurgan (Aghalee 16210), black, br. George Wilken, Waterside of Forbes, Alford; 3, Major John Alexander (Prince Arthur of Cortachy 14829), br. Earl of Airlie, Cortachy



THE SHORTHORN BULL "INSPECTOR," shown above is the property of Mr. George Harrison, Gainford Hall, Darlington, and was bred by Mr. A. Crombie, Woodend, Newmachar, N.B., being by Granite City out of Roan Lady. At last week's Dublin show "Inspector" was placed reserve for the Chaloner Plate which it held last year. It was also awarded Second Prize in the class for bulls calved prior to 1900.

Castle, Kirriemuir; r. and h.c., Right Hon. Lord Crofton (Jolly Benton 16713), black, br. Clement Stephenson, Newcastle-on-Tyne; h.c., Col. R. Claude Cane (Caliph of St. Wolstan's 14187), br. ditto; Major Eustace Loder, Eyrefield Lodge, Curragh Camp (Satisfaction), br. Sir James Duke, Bart., Laughton, Sussex; Col. R. Claude Cane (Elphenor of St. Wolstan's 16522), br. ditto; c., the Marquis of Downshire, Hillsborough Park, Hillsborough (Mamilius 15701), br. Mr. Chalmers, Aldbar, Erechin; Right Hon. Lord Crofton (Gay Boaz 13459), black, br. S. Anketell Jones, Springfield, Waterford; William James Cotton, Humphreystown, Blessington (Lord Esmond 16606), br. Clement Stephenson, Balliol College Farm, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Mrs. Charles Barton (Percy of Pittendreich), br. A. Petrie, Easter Pittendreich, Elgin, Scotland.

Aberdeen Angus Heifer, calved in 1901, on or before March 31: 1, Hum Bland (Queenly), br. Arthur Egginton, South Ella, Hull; 2, Edward Coey (Sunshine), br. ditto; 3, Edward Coey (Rita of Droagh), br. ditto; r. and h.c., Fletcher Moore, Manor Kilbride, via Dublin (Lonicera 32420), br. ditto; c., Colonel R. Claude Cane (Ermine of St. Wolstan's), br. ditto; Robert D. Jameson (Miller's Maid 2nd), br. ditto; Fletcher Moore, Manor Kilbride, via Dublin (Lassie of Kilbride 32417), br. ditto; Arthur J. Owen (Shanvaghey Nan 3rd 32486), br. ditto.

Aberdeen Angus Heifer, calved in 1901, on or after April 1: 1, Hum Bland (Lincrusta), br. ditto; 2, Thomas Anderson (Serenade 31305), br. ditto; 3, Edward Coey (Valentine 14th), br. ditto; r. and h.c., Arthur J. Owen (Rona 9th 32483), br. ditto; c., Lieut.-Colonel Thomas J. de Burgh (Vennor 31653), br. ditto; Right Hon. Lord Crofton (Maggie 5th of Mote), br. ditto; Right Hon. Lord Crofton (Ella 2nd of Mote), br. ditto; Right Hon. Viscount Duncannon, C.B. (Rosie of Bessborough), br. ditto.

Aberdeen Angus Heifer, calved in 1900: 1, Mrs. Chas. Barton (Vineyard Girl 31132), br. William Whyte, of Spott, Forfarshire, Scotland; Arthur J. Owen (Melia Murdher 30659), br. ditto; 2, Right Hon. Lord Crofton (Gladys 2nd of Mote 29840), br. ditto; 3, Colonel R. Claude Cane (Callista of St. Wolstan's 29724), br. ditto; r. and h.c., Lord Dunleath (Ida 8th of Lednock 29796), br John Craig, Innergeldie, Comrie, N.B.

Aberdeen Angus Cow, of any age, either in calf, or having had a living calf within the twelve months preceding the date of the show: 1, Edward Coey (May Empress), br. A. R. Stuart, Inverfiddich, Craigellachie; 2, F. Locke Turtle (Fair Charmer 29420), black, br Archibald Whyte, Inverquharity, Kirriemuir; 3, Right Hon. Lord Crofton (Witch of Benton 27583), br. Clement Stephenson, Newcastle-on-Tyne; r. and h.c., A. J. Owen (Rona 8th 29004), br. ditto; h.c., Col. R. Claude Cane (Cassandra 25157), br. ditto; c., Ian Cameron, Slane Castle, Slane, co. Meath (Negress 5th of Humphreystown 23893), br. W. J. Cotton, Humphreystown, Blessington, co. Dublin.

RED POLLS.

Norfolk and Suffolk Red Polled Bull, calved in 1900 or 1901: 1, Sir John F. Dillon, Bart. (Charley), br. ditto; 2, Hon. C. G. Trench (Prince Charlie of Sopwell), br. ditto; r. and h.c., Hon. C. G. Trench (Crusader of Sopwell), br. ditto; h.c., De Burgh and Gibson, Dromkeen House, Dromkeen (Coot), br. Sir John F. Dillon, Bart., Lismullen, Navan, co. Meath; c., James L. Hodgins (Privateer of Sopwell), br. Captain Hon. C. G. Trench, Sopwell Hall, Cloughjordan.

Norfolk and Suffolk Red Polled Heifer, calved in 1899 or 1900: 1, Sir John F. Dillon, Bart. (Regal), br. ditto; 2, the Right Hon. Lord Greville, Clonhugh, Multyfarnham (Caroline 2nd), br. ditto.

Norfolk and Suffolk Red Polled Cow, calved prior to 1899, either in calf, or having had a living calf within the twelve months preceding the date of the show: 1, the Right Hon. Lord Greville (Happy Eliza), br. the Marquis of Conyngham, Slane Castle, co. Meath; r., Sir John F. Dillon, Bart. (Cinderella), br. ditto.

KERRIES.

Kerry Bull, calved in 1901: 1, C. Brinsley Marlay, Belvedere House, Mullingar (Lord Haddon), black, br. ditto; 2, Earl of Shaftesbury (Ormeau King Cup 2nd), black, br. ditto; r. and h.c., Richard Barter (Aicme King 494), black, br. Right Hon. Earl of Kenmare, Killarney; h.c., C. Brinsley Marlay (St. Patrick), black, br. ditto; Herbert Loftus Tottenham, Castleblayney (Black), br. ditto; the Right Hon. Viscount de Vesci, Abbeyleix House, Abbeyleix (Loarn), black, br. ditto; Duke of Leinster (Earl 4th of Carton), black, br. ditto; Duke of Leinster (Earl 3rd of Carton), black, br. ditto; c., Richard Williams (Ballyhegadon Jack 497), black; the Right Hon. Viscount de Vesci (Conall), black, br. ditto.

Kerry Bull, calved in 1900: 1, George Gun Mahony Gort Sheen), black, br. ditto; 2, Earl of Shfatesbury (Ormeau Dandelion, formerly Earl, 472), black, br. C. Brinsley Marlay, Belvidere House, Mullingar; r. and h.c., C. Brinsley Marlay (Marquis 2nd), black, br. ditto.

Kerry Bull, calved prior to 1900: 1, the Right Hon. Viscount de Vesci (Coomdhuv), black, br. ditto; r. and h.c., George Gun Mahony (Pride of Bishop's Court), black, br. Earl of Clonmell, Bishop's Court, Straffan.

Kerry Heifer, calved in 1900 or 1901: 1, Richard Barter (Aicme Part 2892), black; 2, Duke of Leinster (Ivy 7th of Carton), black, br. ditto; 3, Duke of Leinster (Flora 3rd of Carton), black, br. ditto; r. and h.c., C. Brinsley Marlay (Belvedere Saba 3rd), black, br. ditto; h.c., Duke of Leinster (Ivy 8th of Carton), black, br. ditto; Richard Barter (Aicme Casey 872), black; c., Marchioness Conyngham, Slane Castle, Slane, co. Meath (Jet of Slane 2923), black.

Kerry Heifer, calved in 1899: 1, Duke of Leinster (Daisy of Carton 2970), black; 2, Duke of Leinster (Cowslip of Carton 2968), black; 3, Richard Barter (Aicme Show 2898), black; r. and h.c., Richard Barter (Aicme Crack 2878), black.

Kerry Cow, calved prior to 1899: 1, Earl of Shaftesbury (Ormeau Daisy 2575), black; 2, Duke of Leinster (Orchid 2nd of Carton 2377), black, br. ditto; 3, Duke of Leinster (Daffodil of Carton 2969), black; r. and h.c., Richard Williams (Kenmare Bella 2476), black, br. Geo. Courtenay, Kenmare; h.c., Richard Barter (Aicme 0 0 0 2760), black; c., Duke of Leinster (Waterville Aster 2317), black; Richard Barter (Aicme Daisy 2697), black.

DEXTERS.

Dexter Bull, calved in 1901: 1, Dr. Henry J. Boyd (Little Dan Darling), black, br. ditto; 2, Howard Guinness (Lord Bobby), black, br. ditto: r. and h.c., Richard Williams (Ballyhegadon Bob 443), black.

Dexter Bull, calved in 1900: 1, the Duke of Abercorn, K.G. (Romeo), black, br. ditto; r. and h.c., M O'Neill (Aicme Caran), black, br. Richard Barter, St. Ann's Hill, Cork.

Dexter Bull, calved prior to 1900: 1, R. G. Nash (Lucan Rover 2nd 353), black, br. ditto; 2, Richard Barter (Aicme Negro 428), black; r. and h.c., Richard Williams (Ranger 430), black, br. John Gaine, Carhumeengar, Kenmare.

Dexter Heifer, calved in 1900 or 1901: 1, Richard Barter (Aicme Sheans 1806); 2, Richard O'Malley (Woodlawn Lady Roberts 1647), black, br. ditto; 3, Right Hon. the Earl of Kingston (Waterville Kitty), black, br. J. E. Butler, Waterville; r. and h.c., Richard O'Malley (Woodlawn Pretoria 1649), black, br. ditto; h.c., Marchioness Conyngham (Slane Kathleen 1738), red; Marchioness Conyngham (Slane Tee-Wee 1761), black; Marchioness Conyngham (Slane Briarbush 1715), black; c., Marchioness Conyngham (Slane Dotty 1726), red; Dr. Henry J. Boyd (Little Fairy 1694), red; Richard Barter (Aicme Many 1689), red.

Dexter Heifer, calved in 1899: 1, Richard Barter (Aicme Cuffe 1687), black; 2, Frank Robertson (Sprucefield Little Beauty), black, br. H. J. Scott, Ashfield House, Belfast; 3, Richard Barter (Aicme Big 1686), black; r. and h.c., Dr. Henry J. Boyd (Direen Maud 1617), black; h.c., Geo. J. Smith (Dark Damsel), black, br. Mrs. Briscoe, Bellinter, Navan.

Dexter Cow, calved prior to 1899: 1, Richard Barter (Aicme Spot 1448), black; 2, Richard Williams (Direen Aggie 1610), black; 3, Richard Williams (Woodlawn Honey Suckle 1506), black; r. and h.c., R. G. Nash (Lucan Beauty 1497), black, with little white; h.c., R. Williams (Kenmare Darling 1576), black; R. Williams (Woodlawn Acacia 1499), black.

JERSEYS.

Jersey Bull, calved in 1901: 1, M. O'Neill (Neminas Willow), dark grey, br. James Lebrocq, Jersey; M. O'Neill (Flora's Reminder), black, br. ditto; 2, M. O'Neill (Carlo), dark brown, br. Edward Le Ferriane, Jersey; r. and h.c., M. O'Neill (Vindicator), brown, br. ditto.

Jersey Bull, calved in 1900: 1, M. O'Neill (Jolly Rover), dark brown, br. Mrs. Madden, Nutley, Booterstown; 2, M. O'Neill (Surprise), black, br. Mrs. F. A. Perrie, St. Mary's, Jersey; r. and h.c., William Milward-Jones (Duke of Malony 2nd), dark fawn, br. late W. Hewat, Blackrock; c., Vere Ward Brown (North Pole), dark fawn, br. P. Le Brocy, Jersey.

Jersey Bull, calved prior to 1900: 1, M. O'Neill (Melvian's Reminder), dark brown, br. J. P. Falle, Ph. Lebury, Jersey; 2, W. R. Creswell (Brahmin 6796), fawn, br. J. Richard, St. Lawrence, Jersey.

Jersey Heifer, calved in 1901: 1, Vere Ward Brown (Daisy 2nd), fawn, br. C. D. Spinks, Highfield Road, Rathgar; 2, Vere Ward Brown (Lady of the Valley), fawn, br. ditto; 3, Vere Ward Brown (Belle Cherie), fawn, br. ditto; r. and h.c., M. O'Neill (Star of Antrim), fawn, br. Mrs. Hewat, The Elms, Blackrock; c., Vere Ward Brown (Lady of the Rhine), fawn, br. ditto; M. O'Neill (Hazleton Lass), fawn, br. ditto; M. O'Neill (Goldcharm), black, br. ditto; M. O'Neill (Fancey), fawn, br. ditto.

Jersey Heifer, calved in 1900: 1, Vere Ward Brown (Beauty of the Valley), fawn, br. ditto; 2, M. O'Neill (Victoria), fawn, little white, br. J. D. Tottenham, Ashfield, Rathfarnham; 3, M. O'Neill (Les Restless Rose 2nd), fawn, br. George Hoequard, Jersey; r. and h.c., W. R. Creswell (Etna Goldie), fawn, br. F. Le Leivre, Jersey; c., Mrs. Gerald Guinness (Starlet), brown, br. ditto; John L. Smallman (Polly), dark fawn, br. Mrs. Henshaw, Milltown.

Jersey Cow, calved prior to 1900: 1, Vere Ward Brown (Rhine 2nd), fawn, br. C. F. Renouf, Jersey; 2, M. O'Neill (Floro), fawn, br. ditto; 3, D. Collen (Angela), whole colour, fawn and dark shading, br. P. Godfrey, St. Peter's; r. and h.c., W. R. Creswell (Young Lady), fawn, br. J. F. Journeaux, St. Savour, Jersey.

AYRSHIRES.

Ayrshire Bull, of any age: 1, Mrs. R. Williams Barrington (Drommartin), white, dark brown marking on shoulder, br. ditto; 2, R. G. Nash (Lucan Chief), white and red, br. ditto; r. and h.c., R. G. Nash (Lucan Laddie 2nd), red and white, br. ditto.

Ayrshire Heifer, calved in 1899 or 1900: 2, R. G. Nash (Lucan Queen 3rd), red and white, br. ditto.

Ayrshire Cow, calved prior to 1899: 1, R. G. Nash (White Legs of Monkland 9603), red and white, br. T. Barn, Monkland, Kilmarnock; 2, W. R. Creswell (Highland Maid), red and white, br. ditto; r. and h.c., R. G. Nash (Beauty of Balnagowan), red and white, br. Vere Ward Brown.

DAIRY CATTLE.

Cow (in milk), any breed not included in any of the foregoing classes, suitable for dairy purposes. The judges to take the dairy qualities into consideration, irrespective of size or breeding: 1, William Newman, Curragh Farm, Kells, co. Meath (Queeney), roan; 2, James Tutty (Evening Dew), brown and brindled, br. ditto; 3, M. O'Neill (Lady May), red, br. ditto; r. and h.c., Edward Keegan (Doreen), red and white, br. ditto; c., James Tutty (Pride of the Dairy 2nd), roan, br. ditto; N. H. F. Verschoyle (Creamery), fawn, br. Tooke Luscombe, Dundrum.

EXTRA STOCK.

Bull of any other breed not in foregoing classes, full particulars of the breeding to be given in the entry form: 1, Bertram F. Barton (Punch), Dexter Shorthorn, red and white, br. ditto.

Cow or Heifer, of any other breed not in foregoing classes: 1, Bertram F. Barton (Little Pet), Dexter shorthorn, red and white, br. Major H. L. Barton, Straffan House, Straffan Station.

BREEDING SWINE.

WHITE BREED.

Boar, farrowed on or before Aug. 1, 1901: 1, W. Wilson, Ashfield, Lisbellaw (Hard Rocks 253), br. Miss Staples; 2, Lord Clonbrock, Clonbrock, Ahascragh (Benefactor 2nd of Clonbrock), br. ditto; 3, Lord Clonbrock, br. R. G. Nash, Finnstown House, Lucan; r. and h.c., R. G. Nash (Lucan Prince 291), br. Earl of Rosebery, Dalmeny Park; h.c., Lord Clonbrock (Curraghtown Benefactor 29), br. George J. Smith, Curraghtown, Navan; c., Richard Barter, br. ditto.

Three Boar Pigs of the same litter, bred by exhibitor, farrowed on or after August 1, 1901: 1, Hum Bland, br. ditto; 2, P. and G. Richardson, Mullacrew, Mount Bolus, Tullamore, King's County, br. ditto; 3, Right Hon. Viscount Duncannon, C.B., br. ditto; r. and h.c., A. S. Gresson, Roebuck Hall, Dundrum, br. ditto; h.c., A. S. Gresson, br. ditto.

Breeding Sow, farrowed on or before January 1, 1901: 1, R. G. Nash (Lucan Lady 166), br. Earl of Rosebery; 2, Richard Barter (Mrs. Firmstone 10th 124), br. ditto; 3, R. G. Nash (Lucan Wonder), br. Albert Model Farm, Glasnevin; r. and h.c., George J. Smith, br. ditto; h.c., Mrs. H. D'Esterre Strevens, Castle Coote, Roscommon (Prunus of Kilquade 516), br. Hum Bland.

Breeding Sow, farrowed after January 1, 1901: 1, Thomas Boylan, Hilltown House, Drogheda, br. ditto; 2, Richard Barter, br. ditto; 3, J. Willington, St. Kieran's, Rathcabbin, co. Tipperary, br. ditto; r. and h.c., Richard Barter, br. ditto.

Three Breeding Sow Pigs, of the same litter: bred by exhibitor; farrowed on or after August 1, 1901: 1, R. Barter, br. ditto; 2, Richard Barter, br. ditto; 3, Hum Bland, br. ditto; r. and h.c., P. and G. Richardson, br. ditto; h.c., Mrs. Cambridge Grubb, Suir Island House, Clonmel, br. ditto.

AGRICULTURAL HORSES.

Clydesdale Stallion, foaled in 1900: 1, Thomas O'Malley (Colt), brown, br. John Adam, Corskellie, Rothimay; 2, Thomas Boothman (Lord Edward), dark bay colt, br. ditto; r. and h.c., Major G. F. W. Lambart, Beau Parc, co. Meath (Provost of Ayr), bay, br. ditto; h.c., Wm. N. Waller, Allenstown, Kells, co. Meath (Lord Bobs), bay, white blaze, br. ditto.

Clydesdale Stallion, foaled prior to 1900: 1, Thomas O'Malley (Masterpiece), bay, br. Marquis of Londonderry, K.G., at Seaham Harbour; 2, Thomas O'Malley (Model), bay, br. Mr. Lane, Limavady, Ireland; 3, W. and P. O'Neill, Kinsealy House, Malahide (Fortune Teller), brown; r. and h.c., W. and P. O'Neill (Royal Lad 10435), brown, br. John Telfer, Kilmalcolm, Scotland.

Shire Stallion, foaled prior to 1900: 1, W. and P. O'Neill (Democrat 2nd 17930), black face and white legs, br. ditto; 2, Richard Good, Aherlow, Aherla, co. Cork Cannock Conqueror 4th 17231), dark brown, br. Cannock Agricultural Co., Limited; 3, Messrs. Slocock, Carlow (Walter, known in Shire Book as Ereclaud Walter), brown, br. unknown; r., Thos. Wilson, Drumagoland, Virginia, co. Cavan (Storm King 16991), chestnut, br. J. Shaw, The Island, Winmarleigh, Lancashire.

Clydesdale Brood Mare, in foal, or having produced a foal in 1901 or 1902: 1, Major G. F. W. Lambart (Jenny Geddes), dark bay, br. Countess of Carlisle, Castle Howard, Yorkshire; 2, Thomas O'Malley, bay, br. Jas. Picken, Torrs Farm, Kircudbright; 3, Right Hon. Viscount Duncannon C.B. (Susie of Bessborough 14200), bay, br. John M'Taggart, Culnaightry, Castle Douglas; h.c., Thomas O'Malley (Border Fancy 13662), bay, br. Lord Polworth.

Shire Brood Mare, in foal, or having produced a foal in 1901 or 1902: 2, Thomas O'Malley, filly, bay, br. Seaham Harbour Stud, Limited.

HACKNEYS.

Hackney Stallion, registered, 15 hands high and upwards, foaled prior to 1901: 1, Frederick Wrench, Killacoona, Ballybrack (FitzRose 7444), chestnut, br. ditto; 2, Nathaniel Morton, Brookville, Ballymena (Special Post 7627), chestnut, br. ditto; 3, Nathaniel Morton (Extra Stamp 5999), brown, br. ditto; 4, H. H. Smiley, Inver Stud, Larne (Inver British Ensign), bay, br. ditto.

Hackney Mare, registered, in foal, or with foal at foot: 1, Frederick Wrench (Bright Garton Duchess 11663), chestnut; 2, Nathaniel Morton (Smart Dunham 11477), chestnut, br. Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart., Elsenham Hall, Essex; 3, H. H. Smiley (Merry Mayflower), bay, br. ditto; r. and h.c., Thomas Talbot Power, Mount Merrion, Blackrock, co. Dublin (Moonlight 5890), black, br. W. S. Forster, Gore Court, Maidstone, Kent.

Hackney Filly, registered or eligible for registry in Hackney Stud Book, foaled in 1899 or 1900: 1, Nathaniel Morton (Rosa Dear), bay, with white feet, br. ditto; 2, Frederick Wrench (Colleen Rose), brown, br. ditto; r. and h.c., H. H. Smiley (Lady Betty), chestnut, br. ditto.

HARNESS PONIES.

To be driven in suitable carriages.

Ponies not exceeding 14.3 hands. Shown in single harness: 1, H. H. Smiley (Miss Doncaster); 2, H. H. Smiley (Copley Flora); 3, R. Anketell-Jones (Carabineer).

Ponies not exceeding 13.3 hands. Shown in single harness: 1, Alfred G. Waller (Wager), grey, pony gelding; 2, Evans and Co. (Majestic); 3, Evans and Co. (Oh May); r., Hampden Shaw (Torus), chestnut gelding; h.c., Howard Waterhouse (Killiney Toff).

DOUBLE HARNESS.

Pair of Horses, not less than 14.2 hands: 1, William M'Bride (Sunbeam), black mare, and (Sunshine), cream gelding; 2, N. Morton, bay mare, br. ditto, and (Black Jack), black gelding.

Ponies, driven tandem. Leader to be under 14.2 hands: 1, Evans and Co., Oh, May, dark brown mare, and Majestic, skewbald mare.

TANDEM.

Horses, driven tandem. Leader to be 14.2 hands or over: 1, N. Morton, Gloria and Bonnie Madeline, bay mare, br. ditto; r., William M'Bride, Sunbeam and Sunshine.

CATTLE.

Hereford Herd Book Society's Bull Sale.

A capital entry of 128 was received for the Hereford Herd Book Society's April show and sale of bulls, which was held at Hereford on Wednesday. Quality, however, was not up to the level attained at the previous month's sale, and the attendance was not quite so good. The judging was carried out by Messrs. William Price and Wm. Terdge.

In the class for bulls, exceeding two years old on January 1, 1902, there were nine exhibits. Mr. T. S. Minton's Montford Kale, a three-year-old son of Statesman, was awarded the first prize, but failed to retain it through not getting sold. Mr. W. H. Davies's five-year-old Admiral, who was placed second, is one of the big old type so favoured in Breconshire. Mr. T. Nott bought him for the Buckton Park herd. Mr. J. B. Dowding's Touchstone, bred by Mr. Arkwright, was reserved number; Lord Coventry's Home Office, another bull bred by Mr. Arkwright, was placed fourth, and has now gone to the Showle Court herd. Mr. S. H. Armitage's Lyddite was fifth.

There were not quite a couple of dozen two-year-olds present, and, taking them as a class, they were a middling lot. Lord Coventry's Fatalist, bred by Mr. Olver, of Cornwall, took premier honours, and there was not much to choose between him and Mr. J. R. Hill's Cadet. Fatalist, being purchased by Mr. Pryce Hughes, will probably go abroad, while Cadet, who realised within £2 of Fatalist's price, will go to Abcredw. Mr. J. R. Hill also exhibited the reserved number in Outlaw, but he was not sold. Mr. T. Morris's Unionist and Lord Coventry's Medallist were commended.

Yearlings numbered close upon a hundred, but except for those of a very promising character there was not much demand. Mr. E. Caddick's Khedive, a symmetrical yearling, was awarded the first prize of £10, but he did not get beyond 41gs. in the bidding, and that was not the reserved figure. Second prize of £5 was awarded to Mr. A. P. Turner's Luminary, one of two grandsons of Statesman that came from the Leen, and he realised 41gs. to go to Salop. Sir John Cotterell's Prism came in for the third prize, and goes to Mr. Minton's herd at Montford. Fourth prize fell to Mr. Allen Hughes's Parton, a splendidly-bred son of Perilla, and he ran up to 53gs., for which he goes to Birley Court. Mr. G. Butters exhibited several very handsome yearlings, one of whom,

named Rokeby, came in for fifth prize. Druid, bred at the Court House, was the reserved number. Mr. A. P. Turner's Acrobat, half-brother to the second prize bull, was h.c. Mr. Allan Hughes's Benson, a grandson of Albion, Mr. J. C. Jones's Lawyer, Mr. J. R. Hill's Greenhorn, were decorated with commended tickets. The average price obtained was £25 19s. for fifty-nine bulls.

Following is a list of the chief prices realised at the sale, the names in parentheses being those of the vendors:—

AGED BULLS.

	Gs.
Touchstone 21058 (Mr. J. B. Dowding, Fairfield Place, Leominster) ..... Mr. Isaac Morgan	30
Lyddite 20821 (Mr. S. H. Armitage) ..... Mr. Poulter	25
Home Office 20073 (Earl of Coventry, Croome Court, Worcester) ..... Mr. H. W. Taylor	28
Admiral 19183 (Mr. W. H. Davies) ..... Mr. T. Nott	30

TWO-YEAR-OLDS.

Blondin 21193 (executors of the late Mr. W. J. Smith, Gattertop) ..... Mr. Pryce E. Hughes	30
Meteor 21586 (Mr. S. H. Armitage) .... Mr. J. Edwards	21
Chairman 21275 (Mr. J. B. Parker, Stretford Court) Mr. Hodgetts	20
Fatalist 21383 (Earl of Coventry) Mr. Pryce E. Hughes	50
Medallist 21592 (Earl of Coventry) ..... Mr. Cooke	45
Redcap 21698 (Sir James Rankin, M.P.) .. Mr. Rosser	23
Contraband 21302 (Mr. H. W. Taylor, Showle Court) Mr. Edmonds	29
Cadet 21261 (Mr. J. R. Hill, Orleton) ..... Mr. Davies	48
Mystifier 21624 (Mr. N. F. Moore, Sutton) Mr. Venables-Llewelyn	21
Plumpton 21658 (executors of the late Mr. H. Haywood) ..... Edwards Bros.	25
Walton Prince (Mr. J. Harris, The Sheriffs, Kington) Mr. Arthur Dent	30
Alfred 21153 (Mr. T. Morris, Weston Court, Pembridge) Mr. Pryce E. Hughes	25
Jacob 9th 21470 (Mr. G. H. Green, Wigmore Grange) Mr. I. J. Fletcher	24

YEARLINGS.

Hero (Mr. W. H. B. Cave) ..... Mr. Williams	20
Acrobat (Mr. A. P. Turner, The Leen) .... Mr. Gwillim	31
Darius (Mr. A. P. Turner) ..... Mr. Lewis	21
Luminary (Mr. A. P. Turner) ..... Mr. Whitaker	41
Royal (Mr. A. P. Turner) ..... Mr. Owens	24
Prism (Sir John Cotterell, Garnons) ..... Mr. Minton	25
Gold Drop (Mr. G. Butter) ..... Mr. Thomas	25
Rokeby (Mr. Butters) ..... Mr. Powell	25
Marconi (Mr. R. Green, The Whittern) .... Mr. Oliver	26
Sinbad (Mr. R. Green) ..... Mr. Miller	21
D.S.O. (Capt. E. L. Heygate) .... Mr. A. T. Williams	21
Hope On (Mr. H. J. Bailey, Rowden Abbey) Mr. Edward Dawes	25
Hope Ever (Mr. H. J. Bailey) ..... Mr. Ridgeway	21
Longhope (Mr. H. J. Bailey) ..... Mr. Jones	20
Detective (Mr. J. R. Hill, Orleton) ..... Mr. Cooke	20
Greenhorn (Mr. J. R. Hill) ..... Mr. Young	20
Pioneer (Mr. J. R. Hill) ..... Mr. J. Young	21
Yeoman (Mr. E. Ockey, Thruxton) ..... Mr. Hemus	24
Druid (Mr. S. Robinson, Lynhales) ..... Mr. Thomas	25
King Henry (Mr. E. Caddick) ..... Mr. Taylor	20
Stars and Stripes (executors of the late Mr. H. Haywood) ..... Mr. J. T. Davies	20
Archduke (executors of the late Mr. H. Haywood) Mr. T. Price	20
Socrates (executors of the late Mr. H. Haywood) Mr. W. Brown	20
Bonanza (executors of the late Mr. W. J. Smith, Gattertop) ..... Mr. L. Lawton Moore	75
Dauphin (executors of the late Mr. W. J. Smith) Mr. F. H. Russell	25
Parton (Mr. A. E. Hughes) ..... Mr. Speakman	53

The Tuberculin Test.

It will be remembered by our readers that early in 1900 the agricultural department of the Aberdeen University undertook an investigation with regard to the value of tuberculin as a test of the presence of tuberculosis in cattle. This was undertaken in order to clear up the doubts remaining after a previous investigation, the results of which were very unsatisfactory and inconclusive. In this second experiment certain alterations on the first were introduced, some of these having been suggested by Professor Nocard in the MARK LANE EXPRESS.

The following is the substance of the report which has been issued. It is the work of Mr. J. M. Lauchlan Young, F.R.C.V.S., F.R.S.E., who had charge of the experiment. He says: In all 42 cows have been tested and carefully examined post-mortem, and inoculation was performed in the same manner and with the same precautions as in the previous investigation, but it is to be noted that in cow No. 15 and onwards a stronger tuberculin was used, namely, that prepared at the Jenner Institute, London, with a difference in the dose. In a few cases I gave beyond the recognised dose, and am inclined to the opinion that in some of these, notably Nos. 9, 12, and 29, a reaction was obtained which might otherwise not have been produced. Of the 42 cows tested, 21 were found on slaughter to be tuberculous, and of these 17 had reacted to the test. Thus four of the tuberculous cows failed to react, namely, Nos. 17, 25, 32, and 37. The only lesion found in No. 17 was one of old standing, which had become caseated and encysted, so that there was no longer active disease. It may be questioned whether an animal thus affected should be classed as tuberculous. Nos. 25, 32, and 37 were characterised by a graudal rise and fall of temperature which was suspicious. Possibly in this instance a larger dose of tuberculin would have produced reaction.

It may be noted that the proportion of the cows dealt with that were found to be tuberculous is 50 per cent., as compared with 54.5 per cent. in the former investigation (1899). The proportion of tuberculous udders is the same in both investigations, namely, almost 10 per cent.

In explanation of the tables which accompany this report, I may say that the age assigned to each animal is the best estimate I could form in the circumstances; that "previous temperature" means the temperature immediately before inoculation; and that in the column "Pharyngeal glands" are included affections of the tonsils. I may state further that the term "characteristic reaction" is used here, as in the Report of Investigation, 1899, in the generally accepted sense, as meaning a gradual rise of temperature to the extent of at least two degrees above the normal temperature of the animal.

From this investigation and previous experience, I am of opinion that, in using tuberculin as a diagnostic of the presence of tuberculosis in cattle, it is advisable to take the temperature four times after inoculation, namely, at 9, 12 ,15, and 18 hours after injection. In the event of the temperature gradually rising till the eighteenth hour, but not being sufficiently high to be deemed a reaction, I consider it advisable to take the temperature a fifth time, namely, at the twenty-first hour after inoculation.

Upon the whole, I arrive at the conclusion that, under ordinary circumstances, a characteristic reaction takes place between the ninth and eighteenth hours after inoculation with tuberculin.

RESULTS.

No.	Description.	Age.	Previous Temperature.	Dose.	Temperature Hours after Inoculation. 12	15	18	24	Post-Mortem Condition.
1	Red cross, small ...	9	101·8	50 m.	103·9	104·0	103 5	102 1	Tuberculous
2	White polled	8	102·0	,,	102·6	102 0	102 2	102 1	Sound
3	White cross	6	101·8	55 m.	104·6	104·0	102 8	102·0	Tuberculous
4	Red ,, ...	8	101·8	60 m,	101·4	101·8	101·8	101 6	Sound
5	,, ,, ...	12	101·0	55 m.	101·8	101·9	101 0	101·4	Sound
6	,, polled	10	101·5	60 m.	102·0	101·6	101 6	101 7	Sound
7	Cross	9	101·9	65 m.	102·1	102 0	101·8	102 0	Sound
8	White cross	12	101·0	70 m.	101·7	101·4	101·5	101 6	Sound
9	Red horned, small ...	12	101·8	60 m.	102·0	104·5	104·4	102 1	Tuberculous
10	Cross	7	101·3	65 m.	101·7	102·0	102·0	101 8	Sound
11	Brindled cross ...	7	101·5	70 m.	101·0	101·2	101·1	101·3	Sound
12	Red cross	10	101·4	,,	104·8	104·5	104 9	102·9	Tuberculous
13	Black heifer	2	101·2	45 m.	103·1	103·1	102·7	102·0	Tuberculous
14	Roan cross	8	101·2	60 m.	102 6	103·0	104 4	103 8	Tuberculous
15	Red Irish	15	101·8	16 m.	101·4	101·1	101 0	101·2	Sound
16	,, Cross	12	100·4	20 m.	103·6	103·9	104·3	103·0	Tuberculous
17	Black polled	10	101·0	17 m.	101·6	101·7	101·5	101·4	Tuberculous
18	Roan cross	10	101·4	20 m.	101 0	101·1	101·2	101 0	Sound
19	White shorthorn ...	11	102·0	18 m.	101 8	101·8	101 7	101·6	Sound
20	Black Orkney... ...	8	101·0	16 m.	101·0	101·1	101 0	101.0	Sound
21	Red Irish	6	100·7	17 m.	102 8	103·4	104·9	104·5	Tuberculous
22	Shorthorn	16	101·5	20 m	102 6	103·5	102 9	102·5	Tuberculous
23	Black polled	10	100·9	18 m.	103·8	104·0	105·7	102·1	Tuberculous
24	Irish	10	101·3	,,	104·2	104·1	103·5	102 8	Tuberculous
25	Blue polled	9	101·0	,,	101·7	102·0	101·8	101·5	Tuberculous
26	Roan cross	8	100·5	,,	101 0	101 2	101·0	101·1	Sound
27	Black and white cross	6	101·2	20 m.	101 6	101·5	101·5	101·2	Sound
28	Red cross	10	101·0	18 m.	102 1	101 3	101·8	101·5	Sound
29	Black Orkney ...	15	102·1	20 m.	102·4	102·9	104·0	103 2	Tuberculous
30	Red cross	5	101·4	17 m.	101 5	101·9	102·0	101·5	Sound
31	Shorthorn cross ...	7	101·9	20 m.	102 0	101·7	101·8	101·8	Sound
32	Red cross	12	100·8	18 m.	101·0	101 6	102 2	101 9	Tuberculous
33	Small cross	7	102·0	16 m.	103 7	103 9	104·1	102·5	Tuberculous
34	White shorthorn ...	10	101·0	20 m.	101·9	101·7	101·8	101·8	Sound
35	Black polled	6	102·1	18 m.	104·0	104·6	104·9	103·5	Tuberculous
36	White horned... ...	8	100·7	20 m.	102 3	103 0	104 2	103·5	Tuberculous
37	Red cross	4	101·4	18 m.	101·3	101·5	101·1	101·1	Tuberculous
38	Black polled	11	101·0	20 m.	100 7	100·6	101·1	101·2	Sound
39	Small Orkney... ...	10	102·1	17 m.	102·0	102·1	101·9	101·8	Sound
40	Blue polled	12	101·2	18 m.	104 3	105·1	103·9	102.5	Tuberculous
41	Black cross	10	100·9	20 m.	101·1	101·2	100·9	101.0	Sound
42	Red horned	7	101·8	18 m.	102·9	103 6	104 9	104.2	Tuberculous

Particulars of Transactions in Store Stock.

Reported to the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland.

At the fair, held at Stokestown, Co. Roscommon, on Monday, a slow demand was experienced for cattle, and a good many remained unsold. The sheep supply consisted entirely of hoggets, of which first-class animals were saleable, unless a few small transactions; second class remained unsold. Prices: Calves, first class, £4 15s. to £5; second class, £3 15s. to £4 3s. 4d. Yearlings, first class, £7 10s. to £8; second class, £5 10s. to £6 5s. Two-year-olds, first class, £10 to £11 15s.; second class, £8 to £9 10s. Three-year-olds, first class, £14 to £15 2s. 6d.; second class, £11 to £12 17s. 6d. Springers, first class, £16 to £19; second class, £12 10s. to £14 10s. Lambs, first class, 10s.; second class, 8s. Over 12 and under 24 months' old, first class, £1 11s. to £1 16s. 6d.; second class, £1 5s. to £1 7s. Young pigs, 8 to 10 weeks old, sold at from 20s. to 26s. each.

The Fair at Coleraine, Co. Londonderry, on Tuesday was a small one. A good demand for cattle in forward condition. Prices:—Calves, 1st class, £4 13s. 4d. to £5 3s. 4d.; 2nd class, £3; 3rd class, £2 17s. 6d.; yearlings, 1st class, £7 12s. 6d. to £8; 2nd class £5 8s. to £6 15s.; 3rd class, £3 10s.; two-year-olds, 2nd class, £8 to £9 5s.; 3rd class, £6 7s. 6d.; springers, 2nd class, £11 10s. to £13; 3rd class, £7 to £8 15s.

Ennis Sheep Fair (Co. Clare) was held on Wednesday. There was an average supply of sheep, but a small attendance of buyers and demand quiet, especially for light hoggets, a large number of this class remaining unsold. Prices:—Over 12 and under 24 months old, 1st class, £1 14s. to £1 19s.; 2nd class, £1 7s. to £1 13s.

The Fair held at Lisnaskea (Co. Fermanagh) on Wednesday was a very large one, and was composed chiefly of one and two year-old cattle. Demand was good for any in fair condition, but a large number of thin yearlings failed to find purchasers. Prices: — Yearlings, 1st class, £7 7s. 6d. to £8 12s. 6d.; 2nd class, £5 5s. to £7 5s.; 3rd class, £4 5s. to £5; two-year-olds, 1st class, £10 10s. to £12 10s.; 2nd class, £7 15s. to £10; 3rd class, £6 5s. to £7 4s.; springers, 2nd class, £12 10s. to £13 10s.; 3rd class, £9 16s. 8d. to £10 5s.

Ennis Fair (Co. Clare) was held on Tuesday, when the supply of cattle was smaller than usual, a large number having been sold previous to the fair. A smart demand was experienced all round, and a good clearance was effected. There was a fair supply of springers, for which there was good demand. Prices:—Yearlings, 1st class, £6 to £6 17s. 6d.; 2nd class, £4 10s. to £5 10s.; two-year-olds, 1st class, £10 to £12; 2nd class, £7 10s. to £9 15s.; 3rd class, £6 7s. 6d. to £7; three-year-olds, 1st class, £14 15s. to £18 7s. 6d.; 2nd class, £11 10s. to £14; 3rd class, £7 10s. to £10 10s.; springers, 1st class, £14 10s. to £16; 2nd class, £11 10s. to £14.

At the Fair at Skibbereen (Co. Cork) on Tuesday there was an average supply of cattle, and a good demand prevailed for those in condition. Prices:—Calves, 2nd class, £3 5s. to £4; yearlings, 2nd class, £5 5s. to £6 15s.; 3rd class, £4 to £5; two-year-olds, 1st class, £10 to £10 5s.; 2nd class, £7 2s. 6d. to £9; 3rd class, £4 15s. to £7; springers, 2nd class, £11 to £11 10s.; 3rd class, £9 10s. to £10 5s.

"Mark Lane Express" Diary.

April.
22. Sale of Mrs. Perkin's Jerseys, at Oakdene, Holmwood, Surrey.
24. Lincolnshire Red Shorthorn Association's Bull Sale, at Lincoln April Fair.
24. Sale of Hackneys and Harness Horses, at York Horse Repository.
29. Sale of the Right Hon. Lord Sherborne's Shorthorns, at Sherborne, Glos.
29 and 30. Ayrshire Agricultural Association's Show of live stock and implements, at Ayr.
30. Sale of Mr. J. T. Hobb's Shorthorns, at Maiseyhampton, Fairford, Gloucestershire.
30, and May 1 and 2. North-East of Ireland Agricultural Association's Spring Show, at Belfast.
30, May 1 and 2. Sale of Horses, at North Wales Repository, Wrexham.

May.
1. Sale of Hackneys, Harness Horses, Cobs, and Ponies, the property of Mr. W. W. Rycroft, at Drake Hill, Bingley, Yorks.
1. Sale of Horses from the Gowanbank Stud, the property of Mr. Alex. Morton, at Gowanbank, Darvel, Ayrshire.
2 and 3. Wharfdale Agricultural Society's Show, at Otley, Yorks.
3. Dumbartonshire Agricultural Society's Show.
3. Rawtenstall Agricultural Society's Show.
3. Rochdale Horse and Turnout Show.
3. Sale of Jerseys, belonging to Mr. H. O. Smith and Mr. Cobb, at Mount Clare, Roehampton.

HORSES

The Chapel House Stud of Hackneys.

The late Mr. Edward Ostlere's Chapel House stud of pedigree Hackneys, show harness horses, ponies, etc., were disposed of at Chapel House, near Kirkcaldy, on Tuesday, and as it was one of the best studs of Hackneys ever sold in Scotland, the attendance of buyers was naturally very large. The stud was formed on the best of old-line breeding in the mares, and with a son of the well-known Agility and Brunette (both London winners) at their head—a horse of great size, good colour—beautiful harness stock has been produced. The harness, show gigs, and carriages were offered for sale first, and all realised good prices. The horses sold fairly well, the best price being 150 guineas, at which sum Mrs. Ostlere took out Starlight, a brown gelding foaled in 1893, sire Cadet, 1251. The next highest price was 130 guineas, and this was realised for the stallion Sportsman III., a 16 h. bay, foaled in 1897, and winner of second prize at the Highland Show last year. His purchaser was Mr. Johnstone, St. Andrews. A list of the other principal prices, purchasers, names, etc., is given below. The total sum obtained for the horses was £1,044 15s., or an average per head of £41 15s. 9d.:—

YEARLING COLTS.

		Gs.
Chestnut, s. Sportsman 3rd	Mr. Barry	25
Chestnut, s. Sportsman 3rd	Mr. Johnstone	23

YEARLING FILLIES.

Bay, s. Sportsman 3rd	Provost Hutchison	24
Black, s Sportsman 3rd	Mr. Johnstone	15

TWO-YEAR-OLD FILLIES.

Ombre, s. Glengolan	Mr. Hay	28
Orelia, s. Denby Cadet	Mr. Nairn	35
Orvia, s. Merry Sunshine	Mr. Murray	33

THREE-YEAR-OLD FILLIES.

Onaway, s. Clevedon	Mr. Bell	62
May Sunshine, s. Merry Sunshine	Mr. Durkie	19

HARNESS MARE.

Brenda, s. Denmark, Junior	Mr. A. Sanderson	61

GELDINGS.

Chapel Swell, chestnut, s. Galvanic	Mr. Penman	40
Springheel Jack, chestnut, s. Galvanic	Mr. Tait	74
Starlight, brown, s. Cadet	Mrs. Ostlere	150

BROOD MARES.

Bury Folly, s. Danegelt	Mr. Clark	36
Worcester Cadette, s. Cadet	Mr. Watson	54
Angelica, s. Grand Fashion	Mr. Bell	51
Limefield Rose, s. Lord Rickell	Mr. Scott	34

STALLION.

Sportsman 3rd, 6908	Mr. Johnstone	130

Agricultural Imports.

The following is an account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended April 12, 1902, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year:—

Animals Living.	1901	1902.		1901	1902.
	No.	No.		Cwt.	Cwt.
Cattle ...	6,249	6,520	Wheat ...	1,282,800	1,954,900
Sheep.....	5,139	5,881	Flour	348,700	257,700
Swine.....	—	—	Barley ...	193,500	480,200
*Horses...	—	716	Oats	339,300	219,500
			Peas	40,500	23,300
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Beans ...	17,400	7,400
Beef	62,231	86,316	Maize ...	788,600	556,800
Mutton...	127,552	68,724		Bunches	Bunches
Pork	10,331	9,576	Bananas	32,622	30,660
Bacon ...	99,528	111,236			
Beef, salt	6,251	4,484		Cwt.	Cwt.
Hams.....	36,790	26,313	Apples ...	31,907	27,007
Pork, salt	3,014	3,098	Apricots		
Meat, salt & Fresh	13,330	19,769	& Peaches	—	—
Do. pres.	15,114	20,485	Cherries	—	—
Butter ...	72,690	81,978	Currants	—	—
M'rg'rine	19,757	26,908	Goosebr's	—	—
Cheese ...	38,495	23,208	Grapes ...	340	270
Milk, Fresh, in cans or drums.	—	160	Lemons...	15,991	27,804
			Oranges	127,361	160,004
			Pears.....	803	101
			Plums ...	12	—
			Strawb'r's	2	3
			Oth'r Fr't	88	1,033
Milk ...				Tons.	Tons.
Cream.	62	71	Hay	1,825	8,554
			*Straw ...	—	1,772
Milk pr's'v'd, other kinds ...	14	20		Bush.	Bush.
			Onions ...	129,525	135,559
				Cwt.	Cwt.
Con. Milk	23,362	21,561	Hops	1,069	594
			* Locust Beans	—	10,443
	No.	No.	Potatoes	240,195	69,461
Eggs	301,306	311,855	Tom'to's	14,587	14,895
			Other Veg'bles	Value.	Value.
Poultry & Game	Value.	Value.		£10,169	£17,815
	£9,141	£10,853		Cwt.	Cwt.
			Dried ...	1,566	2,431
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Pres'v'd by canning ...	2,050	2,873
Rabbits	5,117	1,986			
Lard	43,085	41,033			

* Not shown in 1901

IMPORTANT TO FARMERS.—The best farm account books are WEBB'S PRACTICAL FARMER'S ACCOUNT BOOK, with preface by Clare Sewell Read, 70th edition, 6s. and 7s. 6d. post free. JARROLD'S IMPERIAL FARM ACCOUNT BOOK, 3s. 6d. JARROLD'S FARM LABOUR BOOKS, 2s., 2s. 6d., and 4s. 6d. List of Game and Dairy Account Books post free of JARROLD, and SONS 10 and 11, Warwick Lane E.C.—[ADVT.]

SOCIETIES.

Hunters' Improvement.

The April meeting of the Hunters' Improvement Society, held on Thursday, 10th inst., at 12, Hanover Square, London, W., marked the termination of Sir Nigel Kingscote's second term of office as President of the Society. He previously filled this position in 1887, and it will be remembered that Mr. Dunn, in moving the hearty vote of thanks accorded to him at the annual general meeting at the Agricultural Hall, recalled the many obligations under which the Society rested to Sir Nigel. From the Council's report it could be seen how the Society had increased in numbers and influence during the fourteen years since he was last President, and it could not be otherwise than gratifying to him to see the growth of the Society that he had taken so active a part in establishing.

In accordance with the articles of association, Sir Nigel Kingscote, as retiring President, occupied the chair.

The minutes of the Council meeting held at the Agricultural Hall having been read and confirmed, the Chairman moved that Captain H. Heywood-Lonsdale be President of the Society for the ensuing year. This resolution was unanimously carried; thereupon Sir Nigel Kingscote vacated the chair, which was then occupied by Captain H. Heywood-Lonsdale, who conducted the business of the meeting to its close.

On the motion of the President, seconded by Mr. J. B. Kingscote, Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart., was unanimously elected Vice-President of the Society for the ensuing year.

Mr. W. H. Dunn was elected Steward of the London Show for the next three years in the place of Captain G. Phipps Hornby, retiring by rotation.

Twenty-nine new members were then elected.

Finance Committee.

Lieut.-Col. Hon. W. H. Allsopp (Chairman), in presenting the report of the Finance Committee, stated that the balance on the current account at the bank was £1,705 15s. 3d.; receipts since the last meeting, £981 12s. 11d.; arrears of subscriptions (1901), one member; accounts, for payment, discharging the prize-money awarded at the recent show and other show accounts, £1,580 18s. 11d. This report having been adopted, Mr. E. T. Mashiter and Mr. J. L. Nickisson were added to the Committee.

Editing Committee.

The Hon. Alexander Parker (Chairman) reported that the Committee had that morning considered the photographs of the champion hunters at the recent show, and submitted their choice. Entry forms for the new volume of the Hunter Stud Book had been drawn up in accordance with the rules and conditions laid down by the annual general meeting, and they would be shortly issued to each member of the Society.

The entry of a hunter colt, John Peel, owned by Mr. B. G. H. Gee, having the necessary pedigree, and having been inspected and passed in accordance with the new rules, had been submitted and accepted. The Committee also had before them the specimen page for the proposed index to Volumes I. to IX. of the Record. This index would contain three sections:—(1) Stud Book, Stallions; (2) Stud Book, Mares; (3) Supplement, Mares.

The entries in the previous nine volumes of the Record would be analysed and distributed over these three sections under the new conditions of registration, so that a mare in the Stud Book portion would have two crosses of registered blood—sire and dam's sire, etc.—while prize-winners and inspected mares would be placed in the Supplement portion. The chief advantages claimed for this index was that an owner would be able to tell at a glance the section—Stud Book or Supplement—in which his mare entered in previous volumes of the Record had been placed under the new rules. The Secretary had been instructed to at once proceed with this index, which would entail long and careful preparation, but it was hoped to issue the volume during the summer months, and if purchased before the date of issue the price would be:—Members, 10s. 6d.; non-members, £1 1s. This report having been adopted, Mr. J. L. Nickisson and Mr. C. W. Tindall were added to the Committee.

Horse Show Committee.

The Hon. Alexander Parker (Vice-Chairman) submitted the approximate financial statement of the recent show, indicating a cost of £391, as compared with £396 and £395 in 1900 and 1901 respectively. The Committee considered that this statement was most satisfactory.

From the report of the Veterinary Surgeons 205 horses were examined, of which 185 were passed sound, twenty rejected for the following diseases:—Whistling, eight; ringbone, one; spavin, three; curbs, one; cataract and lame, one; sidebone, one; stringhalt, one; enlarged fetlock, one; contracted foot, one; brittle foot, one; lame, one.

The judges of the three sections—young stock, hunters, and chargers—had presented reports. The former were of opinion that it was an excellent show of young stock, while the riding classes, with one exception, were considered exceedingly good. The charger judges thought that these had greatly improved since first included in the show, as both the first prize winners in the three-year-old classes were exactly the right stamp of an officer's charger. The four classes were good, and if any fault was to be found, it was that the hunter element was rather too pronounced.

The report from the Stewards upon several matters arising out of the show was referred to the next meeting of the Committee when fully constituted, but the Committee recommended that in future the riding judges shoul dbe instructed to put aside in the ring any horses entered wrongly in the weight classes, telling the riders the reason, while the restriction as to weight shall be clearly inserted under each class, both in the prize-list and in the catalogue. The Secretary reported that he had received applications for twenty-nine gold medals for hunter brood mares, thirty-four silver medals for hunter fillies, twelve silver medals for hunter geldings and fillies at shows providing distinct classes for each sex. Forty-two applications for medals for hunter mares or geldings had also been made, while for the Society's new scheme for hunter colts fifteen applications had been received. This report having been adopted, Mr. J. P. Cross, Mr. J. P. Heywood-Lonsdale, Mr. O. N. Holt-Needham, and Mr. C. W. Tindall were added to the Committee, and the Society's seal was authorised to be affixed to the new agreement with the Agricultural Hall Company for the shows in 1903-1905.

Registration of Stallions Committee.

Mr. J. P. Cross (Chairman) reported that the Committee had granted the Society's certificates of soundness to the following stallions, accepted after proper inspection and examination:—Bird of Freedom, owned by Major-General Jago Trelawny; Highflyer, owned by Mr. Wharram Clarkson; Upwind, owned by Dr. W. J. Jolliffe. The Register will be sent out with the names of those stallions accepted for registration.

This report having been adopted, Mr. W. H. Dunn, Mr. C. W. Tindall, and Mr. Henry Withers were added to the Committee; and Mr. Trench desired to point out that the remarks that he had offered at the last meeting referred only to stallions and colts to be received for registration under the new rules in the Stud Book, and they did not apply to the thoroughbred stallions to which the Society was issuing its certificates of soundness under the scheme drafted by the Committee. What he desired to impress upon the Editing Committee was that horses admitted as registered hunter sires should comply with the description of a weight-carrier.

The Council then adjourned till the Monday in Derby week.

Polo Pony.

Sir Patteson Nickalls (President) occupied the chair at a meeting of the Council of this Society, held at 12, Hanover Square, W., on the 11th inst., when twenty-three new members were elected.

On the motion of Mr. G. Norris Midwood, Captain C. G. G. Hutchinson was elected a member of the Council, in the place of the Rev. D. B. Montefiore, elected Vice-President; and Captain E. D. Miller was elected a member of the Council, in the place of Mr. T. F. Dale, elected Steward of the London Show.

Finance Committee.

Mr. Tresham Gilbey (Chairman) presented the report of the Committee, showing a balance of £721 1s. 5d. on the current account at the bank; receipts since the last meeting £211 14s. 6d.; arrears of subscriptions (1902), £76; accounts for payment, £627 15s. 6d. No additions were proposed to the Committee. The report was adopted.

Editing Committee.

Rev. D. B. Montefiore reported that the Committee had that day chosen from the photographs submitted by Mr. Charles Reid portraits of Rose Bud, reserve for the challenge cup for the best stallion or colt, and Summer Lightning, the champion filly at the recent show. The Committee had also dealt with several entries submitted for the Stud Book, one of which they referred back for further consideration, and the second they had to refuse, as the pedigree was not in accordance with the conditions of the Stud Book. This report having been adopted, Captain Hutchinson was elected a member of the Committee.

Horse Show Committee.

Mr. G. Norris Midwood presented the report of this Committee, including the financial statement of the recent show, indicating an outlay of £268, as compared with £386 in 1901 and £306 in 1900. The report of the veterinary surgeons indicated that sixty-three ponies had been examined, of which fifty-seven had passed sound

and six had been rejected for the following diseases:—Cataract, five; stringhalt, one.

Reports had been handed in from the judges of each division. Those of the breeding classes (Sir Richard Green-Price and Mr. E. H. Barlow) were eulogistic, the excellence and quality in each class specially appealing to them. Mr. Barlow's report, as a hunter judge seeing the Polo breeding classes for the first time, was of special significance, as dealing exclusively with the stallions, mares, and young stock, he was struck by the extraordinary impression on the latter, showing what judgment, knowledge, and perseverance could do in making practically a new race of horse. The winners in the young class were animals of exceedingly beautiful type, length, quality, uniformity of character, with correct action, good joints and feet being invariably apparent. He congratulated the Society in bringing together such an exhibition of breeding and young stock, and the show might be described as a great and promising one. Captain Miller in his report offered some valuable suggestions for improving the riding classes, whereby the younger ponies had a better chance of success than that afforded by the present classes when brought into competition with the older ponies. Mr. Mucklow, in his report upon the group class organised by Lord Arthur Cecil, said that it was most interesting, the ponies being exhibited in natural breeding condition, direct from the moor and the forest, the different groups representing British breeds from which our hunters and riding ponies derived some of their best qualifications, namely, intelligence, soundness, and constitutional hardiness, and he recommended that the society's silver medal should be awarded to this group class.

The Committee recommended that these reports should be printed *in extenso*, after revision by their authors, and distributed in pamphlet form to the members of the Society. Various suggestions had also been submitted for improving the show, and the Council appointed the President, Lord Arthur Cecil, Mr. Tresham Gilbey, and the Rev. D. B. Montefiore as a sub-committee to wait upon the Hunters' Improvement Society and the Royal Agricultural Hall Company with a view to carrying out some of the propositions submitted to them.

In presenting the report, Mr. Midwood said that the Council would agree with him that the financial result of the show was extremely satisfactory, and it once more indicated the unqualified success they had scored with their 1902 show. He had heard nothing but satisfaction with their arrangements, and it was equally pleasing to be able to report that with an increased offer of £75 in prizes the show had cost the Society £120 less than last year.

Mr. A. L. Goodson, Mr. T. F. Dale, and Mr. Noel E. Price were appointed Stewards of the next London Show, and Mr. John Barker, Rev. A. E. Green-Price, Captain C. G. G. Hutchinson, Captain E. D. Miller, and Mr. J. Wilkinson were added to the Committee.

Medals at Associated Shows.

The Secretary reported that in addition to the prizes (amounting to £100 and two gold medals) for Polo ponies which the Society was offering at the Royal Agricultural Society's Show at Carlisle, and the two gold medals for Polo ponies at the Royal Dublin Spring Show, applications had been received from the following associated shows for silver medals under the schemes authorised by the Council:—

SCHEME A. (ONE MEDAL).—Bath Horse Show (September 3rd and 4th); Cardiff Horse Show (September 10th and 11th); East Kent (July 16th and 17th); Newchurch and District (May 26th); North-East Somerset (August 27th); Shropshire and West Midland (June 5th and 6th); Tavistock and District (May 19th).

SCHEME B. (TWO MEDALS).—Cheshire Agricultural Society (August 23rd); Holsworthy and District Agricultural Society (June 5th); Peterborough Agricultural Society (July 8th, 9th, and 10th).

SCHEME C. (THREE MEDALS).—Knowle Horse Show (July 14th); North-East of Ireland (July 23rd, 24th, and 25th); Radnorshire (August 29th); Tring (August 7th).

The Society's bronze medal, offered for the winner in bending competitions to be held under the Society's rules, had been claimed by the following associated shows:—Bath Horse Show, Cardiff Horse Show, Leicester Agricultural Society, North-East Somerset Farmers' Club, Radnorshire Agricultural Society, Shropshire and West Midland Agricultural Society, Tavistock and District Agricultural Society, Tring Agricultural Society.

The Society's medals offered for Mountain and Moorland Ponies recognised in their Stud Book had been claimed in the following instances:—

Breed.	Show.
Dartmoor	Brentor and Lydford.
Do.	Okehampton.
Do.	South Brent.
Fell	Royal Agricultural Society of England, Carlisle.
Highland	Highland and Agricultural.
Do.	Mull and Merven Agricultural Society.
New Forest	Association for the Improvement of New Forest Ponies.
Welsh	Llanfyllin.
Do.	Oswestry.
Do.	Shropshire.
Mountain and Moorland Ponies	Royal Agricultural Society, Carlisle.

Title of Society.

The consideration of this question, deferred from the February meeting of the Council, gave rise to a long discussion, which was eventually adjourned till May 9th, on which day a meeting of the Council would be summoned to specially consider and settle the whole subject. The proposals put forward during the initial discussion would be printed and distributed to each member of the Council.



Home Notes.

The Borough.

Considering the time of year, the market is fairly active, with increased firmness of prices. There is still constant inquiry for hops of good quality, and buyers would willingly pay more money for them. But dealers have very few on hand, and are not anxious to sell them, especially as it is now apparently impossible to obtain any further supplies from growers, who have long ago cleared out of all their best lots. In default of Kent Goldings and Fuggles, Sussex and Worcester hops are coming to the front, as at current rates they are most excellent value. There is good reason for improvement in the selling prices of these growths, if holders were determined to take advantage of their opportunity. Strength is the main feature of the market as a whole, being assisted in an upward tendency by the high quotations prevalent in all foreign centres, which make their movements quite independent of ours.

I wish I could congratulate our growers upon improved prospects, created by the recognition of their claims to protection. But

The Chancellor of the Exchequer.

declines to listen to us, chiefly, I think, for the reason that other sections of agriculture would attack him if he yielded to our wishes. His recent Budget gives us, however, some hope that the day is not far distant when the special circumstances of our position may be deemed worthy of his attention. A tax upon the staff of life, however small it may be, invades much more important prejudices and principles than an import duty on hops. The first having been conceded, the second may be reasonably anticipated. The Chancellor wants revenue; our proposal would provide it. He wishes to get his funds without undue expense, friction, or pressure upon the people. An import duty on hops would be collected in considerable sums, at little cost, and with the greatest simplicity. Not a single consumer of beer would be conscious of the payment, for the cost of the beverage would not be even fractionally advanced. The wealthy brewery companies would naturally object to the increased outlay, but they can well afford it, and should be prepared to make some little sacrifice for the sake of the prosperity of an industry, on which the quality and wholesomeness of their products so largely depend. If we contrast the advantages of the legalisation of such a duty with the annoyance and small yield of the irritating extra penny on cheques, we must be convinced that the Chancellor would have been well advised if he had adopted the proposal made to him by our Association. Hops would have given him the half-million or so which he hopes to raise, and I cannot believe that a hop duty would have met with nearly so much general opposition as appears to be directed against the two-penny cheque clause of his Budget. Let us hope that his eyes may be opened by the experience he is now passing through.

Foreign Notes.

Nuremberg.

With the advent of warmer weather, the consumption of beer is perceptibly increasing, and the demand for hops is gradually becoming more active. Actual business is, however, not very large at present in consequence of the limitation of stocks, and the average poor quality of available supplies. Values are generally well maintained, and the tendency with respect to the best samples is distinctly in favour of advancement. Dealers who are fortunate enough to be holders of hops having any claim to colour and super quality, being confident that higher prices will be obtainable as the season progresses, are very firm in their quotations, and seem to be indifferent to present business. They have complete control of the market, as there are no longer any important supplies to come forward from the country districts. But I regret to hear that an

Increase in the Hop Area

is not improbable. German planters, reckoning upon the imposition of higher import duties, which will especially affect the value of Bohemian growths, are making arrangements in many places for more extended production. Although brewers will be thereby benefited, the growers will doubtless regret the course they are taking, as with no increase of consumption, excessive supply will certainly be accompanied by unremunerative sales. It is reported that the plantations throughout the Continent have wintered satisfactorily, with but few exceptions, and the preliminary work is being actively proceeded with, being assisted by the favourable climatic conditions.

Belgium.

The firmness of quotations established since the holidays has been strongly upheld during the past week. Alost eight-mark hops have advanced in value by three to four francs, the active demand from the breweries, coupled with the diminution of stocks of native growth, making further improvement in values extremely probable. Speculative business in the 1902 crop is not very lively, but quotations are nominally as high as 58 to 60 francs, showing an advance upon recent figures.

Belgian growers are very desirous that an import duty should be imposed upon hops, and considering the large proportion of foreign growths consumed by the breweries of Belgium, the demand of planters for protection is not unreasonable, especially in view of the possibility of a tax of 60 marks being levied upon Belgian hops on their entry into Germany. It can easily be understood that such a proposition is not palatable to the brewers, and at a recent meeting of their Central Association, at Brussels, it was strongly opposed. M. Delbruyère, in the course of his address, predicted the collapse of the brewing industry if the proposed duties upon malt, barley, and hops were legalised.

America.

There is but little to be said about the hop markets either at New York or San Francisco beyond the fact that the recent firmness is not only maintained, but is daily increasing in strength. Buyers hold off as much as possible, but as holders of the small stocks are very conservative, there is no possibility of any change in quotations, except in an upward direction.

National Association of English Hop-growers.

A Council meeting, held at the Central Office, Hop Exchange, on Tuesday last, was attended by representative planters from Kent, Sussex, and Worcestershire. Herbert Leney, Esq., occupied the chair, in the absence of the President, Colonel Brookfield, M.P., who was engaged at the House of Commons on a Private Bill Committee. Captain A. G. Boscawen, M.P., was present, and apologies for absence were read from A. Baldwin, Esq., M.P., Mr. C. L. Liddell, Mr. J. Knight, Mr. G. Arnold, Mr. F. W. C. Shrivell, and others.

Proposed Import Duty.

The minutes of the last Council having been confirmed, the secretary read a letter from the Chancellor of the Exchequer, replying to a suggestion from the Council that an import duty of 40s. per cwt. should be imposed on foreign hops. The right hon. gentleman said that "he feared he could not hold out any hope of compliance with the request, and he desired to point out that the arguments urged in support of an import duty on hops might be urged with at least equal force in favour of similar protection to other industries." While admitting that the Chancellor's remark was true to a limited extent, the Council was of opinion that the hop industry occupied a peculiar position in that regard, and was especially worthy of attention, for the reasons that the cultivation of hops engaged more capital and labour per acre than any other section of agriculture, that the planters and labourers would be benefited by an import duty from which the general public would not suffer to the slightest extent, that a substantiol addition to the national revenue would be secured at small cost of collection, and that it would probably result in improvement in the quality of the national beverage. The secretary was instructed to lay these points before the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and to request his attention thereto

All official reports and notices of the National Association of English Hop Growers will be printed in the MARK LANE EXPRESS, *which will also contain all current information likely to be of interest and benefit to the member of the society.*

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Factors, Commissions and Charges.

The secretary read a circular, issued in December last by the Borough hop factors, giving notice of revision of their system of commission, and of an increase in their charges for warehousing. The matter was fully discussed, the general consensus of opinion being distinctly in favour of further revision, on the basis of the payment of commission calculated by percentage on the actual business, to include all ordinary charges for handling hops consigned for sale. Mr. Partridge, of Tenbury, believed that such a system would be approved by all growers in his district, and that if it were established the consignment of hops from the midland counties for sale on the London market would be rapidly and materially increased. It was eventually resolved that Mr. Partridge be requested to ascertain the feeling of the growers in his locality, and to formulate a scheme for consideration at the next Council meeting.

The Beer Bill.

was discussed in detail, and unanimous satisfaction was expressed that the Bill definitely provided for the prohibition of the use of hop substitutes. Mr. Boscawen was of opinion that the definition of beer, which had been so long desired, was practically secured by the Bill, as it declared clearly that all beer brewed and offered for sale must derive at least 85 per cent. of its saccharine materials from barley-malt, and must be preserved and flavoured by the use of hops only. Brewers were permitted to use 15 per cent. of sugar, if they found it necessary to supplement the deficiencies of British-grown barley, as if sugar were prohibited they would be compelled to consume a larger proportion of foreign grain, to the detriment of the English farmer. On the whole, he was well satisfied with the Bill and trusted they would succeed in getting it placed upon the Statute Book.

A question arose as to the sufficiency of the hop substitutes prohibition clause to prevent the use of such chemicals as salicylic acid, the bisulphites, and other substances used as preservatives, and which therefore proportionately displaced hops. It was ultimately resolved: "That this association, while generally approving of the Bill to amend the law relating to the manufacture and sale of beer, is earnestly desirous that all chemical or other substances supplemental to hops, now used in brewing beer, as preservatives, anti-acids, or antiseptics, should be classed as substitutes for hops, and prohibited accordingly."

The secretary was instructed to forward copies of the resolution to all Members of Parliament representing hop-growing districts, and to request their support.

The Use of "Old Old" Hops.

Attention was called to the large quantities of these ancient growths which were annually sold to brewers, many of which were only fit to be returned to the soil for manure. As the use of such perished stuff might possibly be detrimental to health and had a certain influence upon the market values of newer hops, the secretary was instructed to obtain further information as to the extent of the business and the actual condition of the "old olds" thus consumed.

Cold Storage.

A conversation ensued concerning the probable influence of the increasing capacity of cold storage upon future hop markets. Several members, including the chairman, were inclined to think that the secretary had somewhat exaggerated the gravity of the position created by the introduction and expansion of this system, arguing from statements made by brewers that cold-stored hops did not retain their virtues beyond a very limited period, and that the practice would not be continued, especially as it was costly and to some extent inconvenient to brewers. The secretary, however, emphasised his previous remarks on the subject, warning the Council that in cold storage they had an element of great danger to the hop industry, inasmuch as brewers thereby would ultimately obtain absolute control of the market, and, replying to the suggestion that cold-stored hops were comparatively ineffective in the copper, referred to the experience of one of the largest merchant firms in the Borough, who experimented some years ago with storage for 250 pockets, and had gradually increased their premises until they were now storing 11,000 pockets for their customers, who thus clearly expressed their satisfaction with the process. Eventually it was considered advisable for the secretary to obtain exact details concerning the matter, and to report same at the next meeting.

Hereford and Worcester Hop Growers' Association.

The secretary reported correspondence which had passed between Mr. Sydney Myer, Hereford (organising secretary), Mr. J. W. Smith, Thinghill, Hereford, and himself, concerning the movement. Mr. Partridge gave some details of the objects of the organisation, stating that the local planters recognised the good work done by the National Association and desired to co-operate therewith. In his district they were combining to protect and promote their local interests, such combination having been found necessary in consequence of their comparative isolation from the other and greater hop-growing counties. But no antagonism was proposed or intended, and they trusted that the movement they were engaged in would assist the industry as a whole. After further discussion, it was resolved: "That the Council of the N.A.E.H.G. note with satisfaction the energy displayed by the Hereford and Worcester growers, in establishing a local association, and trust that their efforts, in co-operation with the National Association, will conduce to the general prosperity of the English industry."

A cordial vote of thanks to the chairman concluded the proceedings.

Howden April Cattle Fair was held on Tuesday, but there was a very limited supply of stock. There was a good demand for grazing stock, but not much trade done owing to the scarcity of grass. Store cattle made £8 to £12 10s.; heifers, in calf, £12; cows, in calf, £16; cows, in milk, £14.

Bad Meat: Butcher Sent to Prison.—At the Thames Police Court on Wednesday Daniel Benedict, butcher, of 159, White Horse Street Stepney, was charged, on a warrant, before Mr. Mead, for having in his possession meat which was bad and unfit for the food of man. Mr. Phelps, who prosecuted on behalf of the Stepney Borough Council, said that on the 31st January, 1901, Dr. D. L. Thomas, medical officer, in company with Mr. Pavitt, sanitary inspector, went to the prisoner's shop, and found in a storeroom at the back of the premises a fore-quarter of beef, four pieces of beef, and a head, all of which showed signs of advanced tuberculosis and dropsy, and was in an emaciated condition. The meat was seized, brought to that court, and condemned. A summons was granted against the prisoner, but he failed to answer, and a warrant was then granted for his apprehension. On Tuesday night the accused surrendered. Dr. Thomas, having given evidence bearing out the above, exhibited the chest of the carcass, which had been preserved in spirit, and on which were masses of tuberculosis. The effect of eating such meat would be most injurious. Its being dropsical would most likely cause ptomaine poisoning. He should say the cow died a natural death, and that would render the food unwholesome. The prisoner admitted that he had been fined £5 and £12 for a previous offence. He said he bought the carcass from Mr. Bull, of Woodhouse Street, Leytonstone, and should say it had been slaughtered. He paid at the rate of 4d. a pound, and that was a fair price. Afterwards finding that it was not sound he placed it at the back of his premises. He afterwards left London, and believed that Bull had since refunded the money to his wife. Mr Mead said he believed the prisoner intended to use the meat for purposes of food. The matter was an extremely serious one, and he would be sentenced to two months' hard labour.



By Hordeum.

The Budget.

The farming industry, as a whole, are much indebted to Sir Michael Hicks-Beach for his wise reimposition of the old registration duty on grain and flour. It seems difficult to understand how any thoughtful man can possibly object to this step, especially as the amount is so trifling. To make it the excuse for raising the price of bread is both absurd and wrong. Its effect is no more than any ordinary market fluctuation of like amount.

It is interesting to follow out the effects on barley, which will be directly influenced by both the 3d per cwt. on grain and 5d on flour and meal. It is not certain it will enhance the price of British grain, owing to the smallness of the amount, but assuming it may, it will certainly not put up prices more than a shilling per quarter for grain.

The Price of Meal.

may rise a little more, but excepting to stock-feeders who do not grow grain, no harm arises to anyone. It is not so generally known as it ought to be that a vast quantity of Indian corn or maize-grits is imported nominally for stock food, but in reality it is used by brewers for making beer.

As a fact, the competition of this material has of late done more to keep down the price of good malting barleys than almost anything else. An additional eighteenpence on the recent low quotations is a desirable thing, for it will still leave the brewers who use it power to get it at a very low price.

If also it adds to the cost of feeding stuffs it is not an undesirable thing. The essence of the whole position is we have reached a point where it is imperatively needed to broaden the base of taxation. A lot of nonsense is talked about this tax being paid by the foreigner. Nothing of the sort takes place. It is only a very convenient and equitable way of distributing the burden over the whole community. It is certainly unwise to have too few sources of indirect taxation, whilst it is as certainly

More Equitable

to tax corn than wine. We raise preposterous amounts from grain indirectly when it is distilled or brewed, and such burden falls upon a portion of the community only who elect to pay it when they drink beer or whiskey. But the new duty will be more equitably distributed, and if it has any effect in raising prices, the improvement will be felt by our own corn-growers, whose lives will certainly be none the worse for a little encouragement.

It is curious to note how few people seem to know that such a duty is not protection. Look at the excessive duties on wines. Whoever dreams of calling them protective? It is true we do not produce wines; yet the heavy protective duties have never bolstered up a native industry in British wines.

Duty-Free Cider

again makes but very slow headway against heavily taxed beer, and it is a home product we can turn out in full perfection, and is a pure natural drink that many people prefer. The supposed influences of taxes are often grossly exaggerated and misunderstood.

With regard to the grain tax, the brewer has an advantage over the baker in being able to recoup himself. A few more gallons of beer per quarter can speedily return the extra shilling the duty costs, and, as in the present state of the law, a brewer may dilute to any extent without let or hindrance, there should be no objection raised by brewers. Brewers' customers deliberately elect to have no voice in the matter. So long as they get beer, they are quite indifferent to the proportion of water in it.

But leaving minor details, we can look at this question broadly.

Is the Principle Right?

Taxation must be raised, and it is right to try to make it fall with equal justice upon all. Very

few can be found that can be distributed over all classes with absolute equality, but whilst so many things are taxed that are confined to relatively few, and in reality those who pay nearly the whole of the direct taxation, this is one which can reach many who escape all the others. It is a pity there are not more things of the kind to charge. The hard-working classes do not object. They admit the justice of their sharing in the legitimate burdens of the country, and, as many of them often say, they would rather pay a fair price for food and know that others can live. This tax is a clear proof of the return to sound views by our legislators, and it leaves hope in the no distant future that we may see our whole fiscal system put upon a sound commonsense basis, free from the malign influence and short-sighted views of generations long since buried.

Arsenic in Beer.

The Royal Commission on Arsenical Poisoning sat at the Westminster Palace Hotel, London, on the 11th and 17th inst. At the former sitting the evidence was confined to Halifax witnesses. Mr. Thomson, manager of Whittaker's Brewery, said that before the Manchester scare they had not had an analysis of their beer taken, but after that epidemic and before the Halifax outbreak, they had analyses made practically every week. Analyses were made by three analysts of the same beer, and the results of the reports as to the amount of arsenic present were very different. In one or two cases faint traces of arsenic were found —a faint trace in the malt, and a faint trace in the beer. The three analysts all differed with regard to the samples of finished beer. He believed it was on the lowest floor where the maximum of the arsenic got into the malt. In reply to a question by Sir W. Hart Dyke, as to whether he did not think it an important point that there should be one standard of analysis applied to all these cases, witness said that that was a very important point. The brewers are very dissatisfied with the present system. The results have rather shaken their faith.

Dr. Neech, Medical Officer of Health for Halifax, supplied further details concerning the thirteen cases of alleged arsenical poisoning there. He had no doubt whatever as to a number of them being arsenical cases.

Sir W. Hart Dyke asked him what he would define as a dangerous quantity of arsenic on analysis, either in malt or in the finished material, and in reply witness said he thought the amount ought not certainly to be more than one-fiftieth of a grain: when we come to that there would be danger. He was of opinion that no more than one-hundreth of a grain ought to be present.

Mr. Worsick, a maltster, of Elland, said since he had taken to the use of anthracite as fuel his malt had been practically clear of arsenic.

At Thursday's sitting Mr. Thompson, analytical chemist, of Manchester, gave evidence in reference to the analysis of beer, malt, etc., which he had forwarded to the Commission. It was of a highly technical nature. Mr. Fairley, public analyst, etc. of Leeds, gave evidence in reference to arsenic in Yorkshire malts, as to quantities of arsenic found by him in the various malt samples which were examined during 1901 and in the previous year, as to the relation of particular varieties of fuel and of particular kiln conditions, to the quantity of arsenic in malt, and facts as to the arsenic content of beer manufactured with malt contaminated in known degree with arsenic. Mr. Fairley said he had tested a large number of samples of malt and found arsenic in many of them, the largest proportions amounting to one-one-sixth grain per gallon of arsenic trioxide. He had also tested a large number of samples of beer, the largest amount of arsenic found being one-sixth grain per gallon of arsenic trnoxide. The arsenic in malt was generally due to the fuel used in the malt kilns, especially to gas coke made from the common gas coals in Yorkshire. In the dust deposited on the floors and walls of malt kilns he had found arsenic up to one per cent. of the weight of the dust. It was, therefore, necessary not only to use pure fuel, but to see that all dust, etc., charged with arsenic was removed. It was difficult to obtain ordinary glass free from arsenic so that acid liquids kept in bottles made of such glass might escape contamination. He had analysed a number of samples of glass for arsenic, and, so far, had not found any arsenic-free glass. The black dust deposited in large towns always contained more or less soot, and therefore a certain proportion of arsenic. During 1901 he obtained from farmers samples of phosphate manures used by them, also samples of the soils to which those manures were supplied, and of the grain crops grown on these soils. He was able to detect and estimate the arsenic in the manures and in the soils, but, so far, he had not found arsenic in the crops.

The inquiry was adjourned.

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Poultry Management on a Farm.

(*Continued from page 477*)

The subject of feeding is dealt with at considerable length, and the details are given under the respective heads of "Laying Hens," "Chickens," and "Table Birds." The following extracts from this section of the book may be quoted:—

"Feeding of Laying Hens.—Commencing with the autumn, the following is the routine generally followed. In the morning, when the hens are first of all liberated from their house, they are given warm, soft food, consisting of vegetables, corn, meat, and meals. The following is the exact quantity of food given to 70 hens in pens on one day during the last winter:—

	d.
1lb. Pea meal	1
3lb. Biscuit meal	2½
1lb. Maize, cracked	½
2lb. Swedes	½
1lb. Potatoes	½
1lb. Meat	½
Total	5

"In the afternoon they receive 10lb. of wheat (costing about 8d.), which is distributed on the grass, but during hard frosts or snow it is scattered on their straw and in any available suitable manure, the purpose of which is to warm the birds in their endeavour to find food.

"Our method of cooking is to put, first of all, the vegetables—that is, the potatoes and swedes —into the cooker; the potatoes are put in whole, but the swedes are cut into slices. When these are partly cooked, the joints of meat are added, and the whole is left to cook from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., the day before it is required for use. At 3 p.m. the maize, which is found to answer best when cracked, is then added. We find that if the maize is placed in the cooker at the same time as the vegetables it adheres to them and prevents their becoming sufficiently cooked. The supply of meat is obtained from a horse knacker, but care is taken to see that no meat from a diseased animal of any kind is brought on to the premises.

"The price paid per carcase, which is delivered in joints, varies from 10s. to £1, and works out at about ½d. per lb. The bones can be parted from the meat when cooked, and the hard bones are placed in the fire for the purpose of charring, and are then broken by an iron bar, and, when cold, are given to the hens, who rapidly devour them. Softer bones, ground into small pieces, are fed to the younger birds. The pea and biscuit meal is mixed with the other cooked food just before feeding, which brings the mixture into a somewhat dry, crumbly condition. Warm food and a supply of meat are considered most essential, in order to keep up the supply of winter eggs. During the spring the pea and maize meal is lessened, and brewers' wet grains are used as a substitute, and in the place of swedes, mangels cut in half are given in a raw conditions.

"During the summer months the morning soft food is given cold, and the pea and maize meal altogether discontinued. The quantity of brewer's wet grains is increased, for we find that this is very suitable during the summer time, when a bulky food satisfies the birds, without, at the same time, making them too fat. Short, plump, white oats are occasionally given in the afternoon as a change from wheat, and in very hot weather the wheat is steeped—a change which satisfies the birds at a time when they are not able to find worms, and has also the further purpose of checking them from drinking too much water. During the last two very hot summers, when the birds have been unable to find worms, granulated meat has been given. For birds in pens a supply of sharp flint grit is given *ad libitum*, as only those birds which can wander round the homestead usually find sufficient from the constant wear and tear of the roads. Chalk, bone meal, or old mortar are provided in such a way that birds have always free access to shell-forming material, which is especially necessary at the time of the year when most eggs are laid.

"The soft food is served in wooden troughs, which have a bar across the top to prevent the hens from standing on the food.

"The rations of soft food and corn which we have given work out at about one penny farthing per bird per week, and adding to this another farthing for the grit and shell-forming materials, the cost per bird per week during the winter time amounts to about three-half-pence. The amount for summer foods works out at a rather less sum, as the hens during that time of the year require a smaller proportion of concentrated foods, and the worms which they find take the place of the meat diet. After the corn has been cut, the birds are placed upon the stubbles, and no food is given, as they entirely find their own.

"For birds in pens green food has, of course, to be supplied, but those at liberty naturally find sufficient for themselves."

In the section devoted to "Financial Results" full particulars are given of the expenditure and receipts, supplemented by complete balance-sheets for the three years. Incidentally, the manurial value of poultry manure is discussed, and it is considered that, in any case, it is a reasonable set-off for the rent of the 35 acres over which the poultry actually run. The amount of the valuation and the profit realised were as follow:—

	Valuation. £ s. d.	Profit. £ s. d.
1898-1899	236 2 10	33 17 6
1899-1900	399 12 10	68 5 6
1900-1901	647 1 0	83 12 9

The profit represents, it is pointed out, 14, 17, and 13 per cent. respectively on the capital employed.

In conclusion, Mr. Palmer discusses "the problem of marketing," and refers to the attempt which is now being made by the National Poultry Organisation Society to facilitate its solution.—"Journal of the Board of Agriculture."

LITERARY NOTICES.

There has now come to hand the twelfth volume of the Journal of the Bath and West of England Society and Southern Counties' Association. The contents of this number are of great and varied interest, the articles contained therein ranging over all branches of farm work, and being contributed by authorities in their various departments. First place is given to an excellent review of "Agricultural Progress in the 19th Century," in which Dr. Somerville has collected much information from contemporary sources of great economical and incidentally of historical interest. Mr. Primrose McConnell embodies the result of wide observation, combined with the knowledge of a specialist, in his able article on "American Farm Implements." Mr. Alfred Michelmore practises an unusual virtue in keeping his article on South Devon cattle within readable limits. This is done without any curtailment of interest, as the article deals fully with the history, characteristics, and the claims to the wider recognition of this breed. A long account of the proceedings of the British Congress on Tuberculosis is furnished by Professor Sir George T. Brown, C.B., including an admirable report of Professor Koch's memorable speech. Mr. J. Cooke Hurle gives "Some Lessons of the Weigh-Bridge," which could be studied with advantage to farmers. "English Wheats, 1875-1901," by Mr. W. R. Mallett, reviews some of the changes that have occurred in the types of English wheat during the past quarter of a century. Mr. W. R. Mallett says that the cause and decline in the price of English wheats is due to a variety of causes. One is the demand of the public for a larger, lighter, and, what is known, as a stronger loaf, and, furthermore, to a deterioration of the milling value of native wheats. Ten years or so ago, when the decline in the value of wheat was becoming serious, the attention of seed growers was directed to the production of a wheat that would give a larger yield with more valuable straw, and thus compensate for the loss in price. They succeeded in this, but unfortunately they lost sight of the fact that the wheat so produced, whilst productive and large-berried, was starchy and weak, resulting in the advantages gained on the one hand being almost lost on the other, and this is the primary cause of the situation to-day. Mr. J. Hughes has a contribution on basic superphosphate, while Mr. Eldred G. F. Walker provides an account of the prospects and condition of the small farmer at the opening of the century. Notes on the drying and evaporating of fruit and vegetables are provided by Messrs. F. G. Farwell, J. Harper, and T. Plowman. The rest of the book is filled with useful reports of the doings of the society, including accounts of the experiments conducted during the past year, the Croydon Show, and other more or less domestic matters. These are written by the Editor, Mr. T. F. Plowman; his assistant, Mr. F. C. Lloyd; Messrs. Farwell and Ashcroft, stewards; Mr. F. Rowbotham, botanist; Dr. J. Voelcker, chemist; and Mr. W. Carruthers, F.R.S., botanist.

One of the most prominent features in the new volume of "The Transactions of the Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland," is the continuation of Professor J. Cossar Ewart's "Experimental Contributions to the Theory of Hereditary." The present instalment deals with telegony in the equidæ. With respect to telegony, Professor Ewart is slightly sceptical. With the reserve of a scientific man, he refuses to believe in telegony until it can be proved how it is brought about. One of the most tenable theories advanced is that of Mr. H. Spencer, who believes that germ-plasm passes from the developing embryo into the tissues of the parent, to be after incorporated in at least some of the germ cells as they reach maturity. On the other hand, Weisman suggests that some of the unused germ-plasm of the first mate penetrates the immature ova as well as the mature one, and, of course, ultimately has an effect on the offspring introduced from such infected ova by subsequent mates. However, none of the theories at present advanced can be proved, and we can only await the result of further experiments. In this issue of the Transactions is printed Mr. Baird's article on the overdressing of barley, while among other articles may be mentioned "Half a Century as a Border Farmer," by John Wilson; "On Lucern," by Bernard Dyer; "Effects of Soluble and Insoluble Phosphate on the Turnip Crop," by John Milne; and "Boning Seed Potatoes," by John Speir. Many other interesting and authoritative contributions are included, and also the usual reports and figures dealing with the Society's work during the year.

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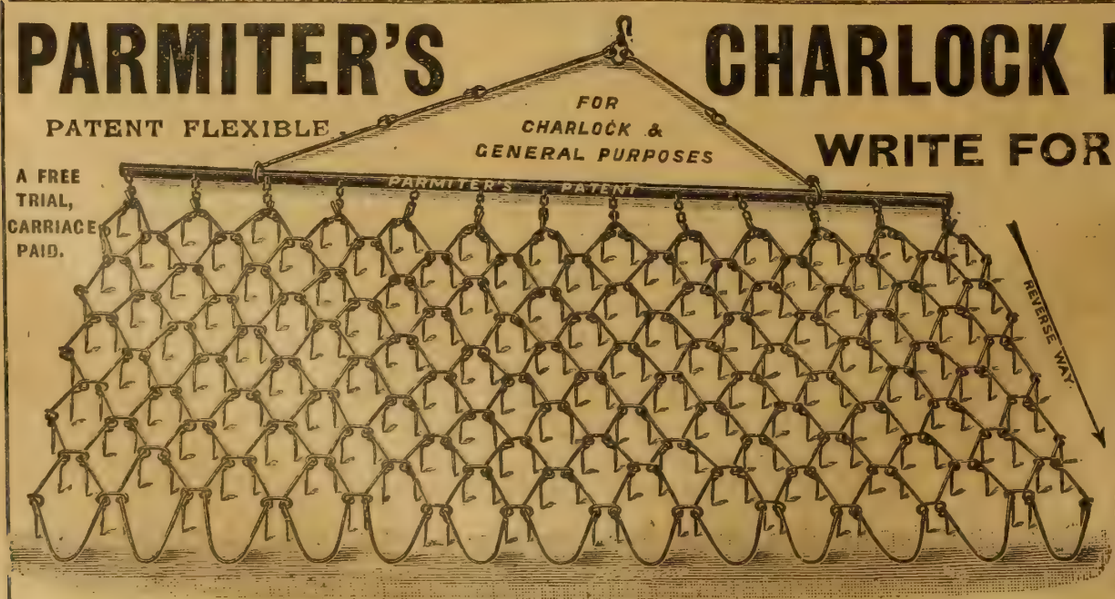
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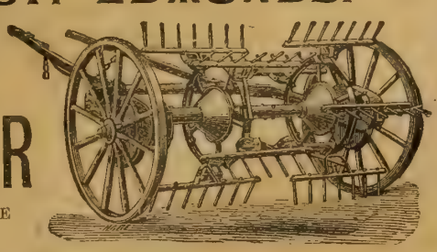
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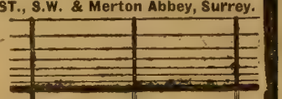


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Entries close MAY 14th. Post entries at Double Fees, MAY 19th, 1902.

Further particulars may be obtained of
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Forms of entry for Implements and Stock, prize schedules, &c., are now ready, and can be had on application to the Secretary.

For further particulars of Poultry Show, apply to Mr. ELLIOTT, Broomy Hill, Hereford.

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For Schedules and Entry Forms apply to the Secretary, H. HORRELL, THORNEY.

AUCTION SALES.

HEDON, NEAR HULL.
IMPORTANT SALE OF PEDIGREE HACKNEYS.

ROBT. R. LEONARD & SON are instructed by Mr. John Foster, late of the Limes, Saltend, Hedon, Hull (now of Hendon), to SELL by AUCTION, on THURSDAY, MAY 8th, 1902, his Stud of valuable Hackneys by the renowned sires Danegelt, Garton Duke of Connaught, Ganymede, Field Marshall, Matchless of Londesborough, Acid Drop, Gentleman John, &c. The sale is in consequence of Mr. Foster's ill health and giving up the Limes establishment. Catalogues, end of April, of the Auctioneers, Field House, Preston, Hull.

SPECIAL SALES AT IPSWICH.

ROBERT BOND & SONS will SELL by AUCTION, on TUESDAY, MAY 6, at ST. GEORGE'S FAIR:—

500 Superior SHORTHORN, POLLED, and RED POLL Steers and Heifers from various owners.

100 SUFFOLK, SHIRE, and HACKNEY Horses.

HANDFORD FAIR, TUESDAY, MAY 22nd.

260 Excellent SHORTHORN and POLLED Grazing Steers and Heifers from various owners.

Offices, Old Bank House, Ipswich (one hour and thirty-five minutes from London). Commissions executed.

AT THE AUCTION MART.

EDWIN FOX & BOUSFIELD. On WEDNESDAY, MAY 7th, at TWO o'clock, in lots. Samuel Kidd & Co., Ltd., Isleworth Mills, and 37, Mark Lane, E.C.—300 £5 ORDINARY SHARES (fully paid). Last year's dividend 5 per cent. The Company carries on the old-established businesses of Millers and Corn and Flour Merchants; is in a most prosperous condition, as the net profit for 1901 was nearly equivalent to paying a dividend on the Ordinary Shares of 9 per cent., and the Shares offer to investors a thoroughly sound investment, with every prospect of increased dividends in the near future.

Particulars at Messrs. EDWIN FOX AND BOUSFIELD's Office, 99, Gresham Street, Bank, E.C.

AUCTION SALES.

BEDFORDSHIRE.
THURLEIGH, RISELEY, AND BLETSOE, six miles from Bedford, whence London is reached in sixty minutes, and in the centre of the Oakley Hunt.

FREEHOLD ESTATE, almost entirely free from Land Tax and Tithe, with excellent FARM RESIDENCES, commodious HOMESTEADS, 5 LABOURERS' COTTAGES, together with the useful Arable and Pasture Land, the whole comprising **654 Acres,** intersected and bounded by good roads, and excellent supplies of capital water, in a particularly high state of cultivation.

Messrs. STAFFORD & ROGERS, Ltd., have received instructions from the Owner to offer for SALE by AUCTION, at the Lion Hotel, Bedford, on SATURDAY, MAY 17th, 1902, at FOUR o'clock in the afternoon punctually, the above Estate in one Lot, at an UPSET PRICE of **£10,000** (to include the Timber).

Further particulars of Messrs. Clarke, Son and Whittington, Solicitors, 3, Bank Street, Leeds, and of the Auctioneers, 83, High Street, Bedford.

One of the oldest Statute Fairs in England, granted by Royal Charter.
BRIDGNORTH, 1st MAY, 1902.—MAY FAIR.

GREAT ANNUAL STORE STOCK SALE ON LIVE WEIGHT BASIS.—About

700 Head of CATTLE of all classes, including grand lots of 2 and 3-year-old Bullocks and Heifers, in lots, as usual, direct from the Breeders. Also about

20 Pedigree Bulls,

1,000 Head of SHEEP, including several good lots of Wethers, Ewes and Lambs and Fat Lambs, PIGS and CALVES.

All cattle weighed on a 5-ton Automatic Dial Weighbridge adjoining the Ring, in full view of the company.

Pigs at 10.30; Cows and Calves and In-calvers at the same time: Cattle about 12.

NOCK, DEIGHTON & KIRKBY, Auctioneers and Live Stock Salesmen, Bridgnorth (Salop).

Fat Stock will be sold as usual.

BANKS, INSURANCES.

Insure In-Foal Mares and Foals with The IMPERIAL ACCIDENT, LIVE STOCK, & GENERAL INSURANCE CO., Ltd. Established 1878.

Head Offices—
17, PALL MALL EAST, LONDON, S.W.

The "Imperial" offers greatest benefits.
Full Market Value Insured.
All Foals insured until 31st December.
Double amount paid for Foals after Three months.
Foals paid for if cast.
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CLAIMS PAID ..... £200,000.

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THE IMPERIAL INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED. FIRE. Established 1803. 1, Old Broad Street, E.C., 22, Pall Mall, S.W., and 47, Chancery Lane, W.C. Subscribed Capital, £1,200,000. Paid up £300,000. Total Funds over £1,500,000.—E. COZENS SMITH, General Manager.

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EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY,
ACCIDENT AND DISEASE
(Small Pox, Scarlet Fever, Typhoid, Diphtheria, &c.

BURGLARY & FIDELITY INSURANCE.

RAILWAY PASSENGERS' ASSURANCE CO., Established 1849. Claims paid £4,450,000.
A. VIAN, *Secretary.*
64, Cornhill London.

BANKS continued on page 515.

LIVE STOCK.

HORSES.

HACKNEYS, &c.

MOORE, HENRY, Burn Butts, Cranswick, Hull.—Pedigree Stud of HACKNEYS, including many prize-winners, yearlings, two years, and others.—Can be seen on application to Henry Moore.

LLOYD, WALTER, Heaselands, Hayward's Heath, Sussex. Small but select Stud of PEDIGREE HACKNEYS, Mares, Fillies, and Colts of best blood, including stock by Champion Ganymede, Agility, Winnal Fireaway, Model II., and other noted Stallions at moderate prices. Appointments to view the stud (which is 1½ miles from Hayward's Heath station, L.B. and S.C. Railway), on application to the owner, as above

LEES KNOWLES, M.P., Westwood, Pendlebury, Manchester. Breeder of Pedigree Hackneys, Stud Horses; Dane Canute, 5952, by Danegelt, 174; Dainty Duke, 7417, by Garton, Duke of Connaught, 3009; and Salford Felix, 7263, by Invincible, 1806. Stock on Sale by the above-named and other noted Sires.—For particulars apply to the STUD GROOM, Dam Head Farm, Mobberley, Cheshire, or to the Owner.

GEORGE SCOBY, Beadlam Grange Stud Farm, Nawton, Yorks. Breeder of CLEVELAND BAYS and YORKSHIRE COACH HORSES. Stallions and Mares, all ages, of purest blood for sale. This Stud won more prizes at Yorks. and Royal than any Stud in England. Prices reasonable. Telegrams: SCOBY, Nawton (free), A.B.C. code used. Farm 24 miles from York, and one mile from Helmsley, N.E.R.

SHIRES.

MUNTZ, P. ALBERT, M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby. — SHIRE-BRED STALLIONS, COLTS, MARES, & FILLIES. About a hundred of all ages. Prize-winners London and other leading shows. Also high-class Shropshire SHEEP, winners first prize at Royal Agricultural, 1886, second in 1887, and first in 1888.—Apply, THOMAS EWART, Dunsmore Farm, Rugby.

CONCHAR, JOHN, Wylde Green, Birmingham.—Breeder of SHIRES and HACKNEYS. Some good Colts and Fillies for Sale. Five minutes from Station

SALOMONS, LEOPOLD, Norbury Park Shire Stud, Docking. Stud Horses: Hendre Champion 18,079, Norbury Harold 18,977, Norbury Dane 16,867. Mares and Fillies usually for Sale.—For Stud Fees and particulars, apply to J. BASTIN, Norbury Park Farm, Dorking.

FOR SALE. — Two powerful staunch PLOUGH HORSES, quiet in all work, £25 the pair.—L. L., Locksheath House, Sarisbury, Southampton.

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THE SEAHAM STUD, Ltd., Seaham Harbour, county Durham. The largest stud of Pedigree Clydesdales in the United Kingdom. Stallions, mares, colts, fillies always on sale. Inspection solicited.—Apply, R. BRYDON, Seaham Harbour.

PONIES.

MONTEFIORE, Rev. D. B., Mursley Hall, Winslow, Bucks.—Champion Arab Stallion "Mootrub," Polo Pony "Hurlingham," by Champion "Roseater," and the thoroughbred Pony Stallion "Eheu," by "Despair." Particulars on application.

SHETLAND PONIES.—Anderson, John & Sons, Hillswick, Shetland (established 54 years), supply pedigreed Shetland Mares and Stallions of excellent breeding and quality, 9 to 11 hands, all colours. Shipments arranged for abroad.—Telegrams, ANDERSON, Hillswick.

MILLER, W. S., Forest Lodge Brecon, S. Wales, Extensive Breeder and Exporter of best class of Welsh Mountain Ponies and Cobs.

CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS.

DALMENY SHORTHORN HERD, the property of the Earl of Rosebery, K.G. Bulls and Heifers of the choicest breeding always for sale at moderate prices.—Apply, MANAGER, Home Farm, Dalmeny Park, Edinburgh.

SWINBURNE, SIR JOHN, owns one of the Largest and Best Herds of PURE BATES SHORTHORNS in existence. The Herd being large, both Males and Females, of any age, can always be obtained.—Apply to JAMES HEPPLE, Bailiff, Capheaton, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

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PEDIGREE Prize-winning Ayrshire Cattle; good milkers; hardy, healthy; heifers and bulls for sale; exports to Sweden, Egypt, South Africa.—J. WALLACE, J.P., Auchenbiack, Thornhill, Scotland.

CATTLE (*contd.*).

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DALMENY-ABERDEEN-ANGUS HERD, the property of the Earl of Rosebery, K.G. Bulls and Heifers of the choicest breeding always for sale at moderate prices.—Apply, MANAGER, Home Farm, Dalmeny Park, Edinburgh.

CRIDLAN, J. J., Maisemore Park, Gloucester. Erica, Pride of Aberdeen, Lady Ida, and other noted tribes. Stock Bulls, Eimeo 12450 and Elate 16513. Bull Calves by Elate, Champion and Gold Medal Winner, 1901. Station 2 miles.

OSENTON, GEORGE, Mariners, Westerham. — Pedigree Aberdeen-Angus Cattle.

MCINTYRE, JOHN, Theakston, Bedale, Yorkshire.—Aberdeen-Angus Herd. Established 1883. 150 Head. 25 Thick-fleshed Yearling Bulls on Sale. Also females of best tribes.

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GRANT, GEO. SMITH, Auchorachan, Ballindalloch, Scotland. Aberdeen-Angus Cattle. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers for sale.

HOYLES, GEORGE, Skidby Manor, near Hull. Prize-bred Angus Bulls and Heifers and Pure Lincoln Longwool Sheep. Registered Flock No. 136. Fine long, lustrous fleeces. Shire Horses for export. Inspection invited.

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GUSH, GERALD F., Motspur Park, Malden, Surrey.—Herd of Aberdeen-Angus Cattle, Roses of Westertoun, Trojan, Ericas, &c. Several Bulls and Heifers for sale. Euroclydon 13400 and Earl Ito 16489 bulls used in herd.

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SHEEP.

LINCOLN LONGWOOL.

DUDDING, HENRY, Riby Grove, Gt. Grimsby, Lincolnshire, has always for inspection and sale a large flock of pure LINCOLN LONGWOOL SHEEP, including many prize-winners, having taken the leading prizes for many years at the Royal and other shows for both rams and ewes, including champion medals at both the Paris Exhibitions, Vienna, Amsterdam, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and all the leading prizes at Chicago; also the first for the best collection of Lincoln fleeces of wool at the Royal Windsor Show, which proves the character of this flock, which is most famous for their great size and 125 years' good breeding: Rams from this flock made the highest average on record last year. Riby Grove is seven miles from Great Grimsby, and three from Stallingboro' Station. Telegrams, "Dudding, Keelby."

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BROOKS, WM. JERMYN, Boughton Grange, Northampton (Flock Book No. 165), has for sale Rams and Ewes of the best blood. Great satisfaction given abroad, especially for their fine fleeces.—Telegrams, Chapel Brampton.

SHEEP (*contd.*).

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TREADWELL, JOHN, Upper Winchendon, Aylesbury. Oxford Down Sheep. Annual Ram Sale, first Wednesday in August. Prizes won at R.A.S.E, 24 years in succession. Ewes for sale.

FISHER, G. S., Broughton Lodge, Kettering. Annual Sale of Rams at Kettering, 2nd Friday in August. This Flock obtains many prizes. Inspection invited. Sheep generally for Sale.

HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.

COLES, CARY, Manor House, Winterbourne, Stoke, Salisbury.—Registered HAMPSHIRE DOWNS, prize-winners Royal, Bath and West, and Royal Counties Shows; Salisbury Prize Sheep Fair, 1900 and 1901. Twenty-five guineas Challenge Cup best pen 3 Ram Lambs. Flock numbers 1,200. All ages for sale.

FLOWER, JAMES, Chilmark, Salisbury. Undoubtedly the leading flock of the day; in show yard records at all the largest shows, including the Challenge Cup at the Salisbury Great Prize Sheep Fair six years in succession; also highest average last eight years for 100 ram lambs at annual sale at Britford Fair, August 12, Ram Lambs and Ewes. The Flock is one of the oldest existing, combining fine quality, strength, constitution, and true character.

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COOPER, WILLIAM, AND NEPHEWS, "Cooper's Dip" Works, Berkhamsted, England. BREEDERS and EXPORTERS of PURE SHROPSHIRE SHEEP. First Prize for five Shearling Rams, Second for Shearling Ram, and Second for Shearling Ewes, at the Royal Show, Cardiff, 1901. First and Third for Ewes, Royal Show, 1898. 500 breeding Ewes. Largest export flock of Shropshires in England. Sires used this season include four First Prize Royal winners, The 310 Guinea Champion "Royal Record," "Ashlyns Knight" (winner of Six Firsts and two Champions), "Shenstone Cardiff," and "Royal Cardiff."—For particulars apply to FRANK WEBB, Estate Office, Shenstone, Lichfield, or J. P. MILNE, Ashlyns, Berkhamsted.

NOCK, EDWARD, Sutton Maddock, Shifnal, Salop.—Owner of the old Sutton Maddock Pedigree Shropshire Flock. Founded 1832. Purest strains of blood. Registered in Flock Book.

PIGS.

BERKSHIRES.

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PEDIGREE BERKSHIRE PIGS The Earl of Carnarvon's Prize-winning Herd. Boars and Gelts, eligible for Herd Book, always on offer. Prices Moderate.—Apply, W. T. HALL, Highclere Farm, Newbury.

PIGS, BERKSHIRE. — Apply, C. BEVAN, Mapledurham, Reading. Pedigree Berkshire Pigs, pure-bred Boars, and Gilts of all ages, and at moderate prices.

STALL PITTS HERD OF PEDIGREE BERKSHIRES. One of the Oldest Herds. Unsurpassed for true character, size, and quality. Choice selection of Boars and Sows on offer at moderate prices.—J. LAWRENCE, Stall Pitts, Shrivenham, Berks.

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DALMENY HERD of LARGE WHITE PEDIGREE PIGS, the property of the Earl of Rosebery, K.G. YOUNG BOARS and SOWS of the very best quality and choicest breeding for SALE at moderate prices.—Apply, MANAGER, Home Farm, Dalmeny Park, by Edinburgh.

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PIGS (*cont.*).

LARGE WHITES (*cont.*).

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LARGE BLACK PIGS.—Pedigree young Boars and Gilts always for sale, of the best prize-winning strains; oldest established herd in Sussex. — ROBINSON, Iford, Lewes, Sussex.

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MAKE your own Poultry Spice. Valuable receipt free. Send stamp for postage.—WILLIAM CALWAY, Gloucester.

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SULPHATE OF AMMONIA.—Farmers and cultivators of the soil should give this valuable fertiliser a trial. It is the best artificial manure for grass, wheat, barley, roots, potatoes, &c. One ton of Sulphate of Ammonia contains as much nitrogen and will go as far as 25½ cwt. of nitrate of soda. It is not washed out of the ground by rain, and is not so readily exhausted from the soil as nitrate of soda. Pamphlets of instructions for its use will be forwarded, post free, on application. Present price (free on rail at Sheffield), 11s. 9d. per cwt.; larger quantities specially quoted for. Cheques and post office orders to be made payable to the Manager, THE SHEFFIELD UNITED GAS LIGHT CO., Sheffield.

BEST & CHEAPEST MANURE for all farm and garden crops, "NATIVE GUANO," a safe and reliable fertiliser, and an effectual remedy for fly, slug, wire-worm, &c.; price 8s 10s. per ton in bags, 2 ton lots carriage paid, 1 cwt. paid to any station in England on receipt of P.O. for 5s. Extracts from 20th annual collection of reports: Native Guano for Grass, Grain, and Root Crops. G. Dickson, Selby: "Oats and barley did well. Heavy crop of cattle cabbage. Highly satisfied." E. Stanford, Warnham: "Clover good. Stopped fly on turnips. A good manure." H. O. Habberfield, Forestfach: "Oats 60 bushels per acre. Mangolds, best crop I ever had. Very pleased." W. Price, Hardwick: "A cheap and good manure for clover and swedes." J. Knight, Wisbech St. Mary: "Very good crops of mangolds and potatoes. Biggest and finest potatoes I ever had." W. Allsopp, Bloxwich: "Mangolds the finest crop ever seen on the farm. Swedes excellent." G. W. Gilbert, Boultham: "Cannot speak too highly of it for wheat; answers well for grub and wire-worm." J. Powell, Ludsley: "Hops, very good crop." —Orders to the NATIVE GUANO CO., LIMITED, 29, New Bridge Street, London, E.C., where TESTIMONIALS FROM ALL PARTS AND FOR ALL CROPS MAY BE OBTAINED. AGENTS WANTED.

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WIRE NAILS, Mixed, 9s. per cwt.; 28 lbs., 2s. 6d.; Screws, Mixed, 3s. per cwt.; 28 lbs., 9s.; wire, cut, wrought and malleable nails, tacks, shoe nails, rivets, &c., wholesale prices.—MIDLAND NAIL WORKS, 25, Rea Street, Birmingham. (John Pyrc, Proprietor.)

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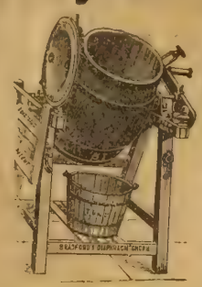
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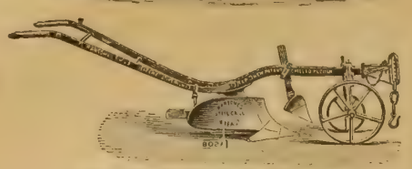
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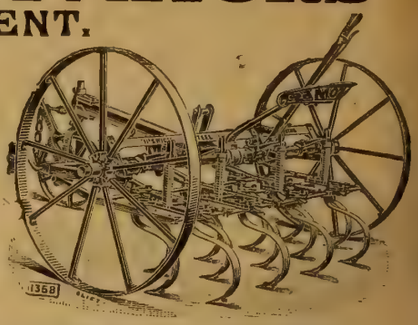
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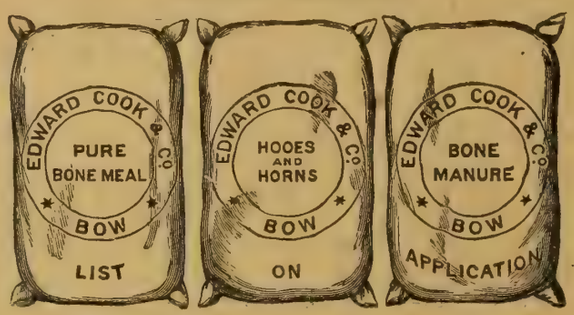
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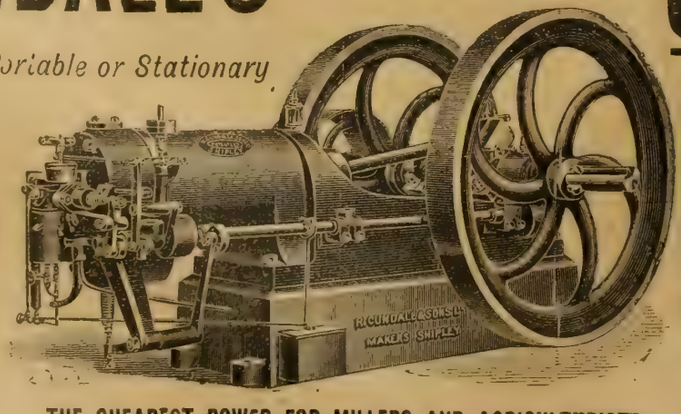
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MORE ABOUT THE CORN DUTY.

It has been an interesting week. The registration duty is not a large item in itself, but it has broken a spell. The farmer, whether at Mark Lane or in the country, is appreciably the happier for the Budget of 1902. It is not that a shilling per quarter will solve his difficulties, even if he gets the shilling, and that he knows only too well he probably will never handle. But he can probably remember that his father was called by smart men a fossil, because he believed in a duty, and he can possibly remember also hearing that his grandfather was burnt in effigy for voting—people did not hide their votes then—against the holy cause of Free Trade. And now the change has come. The Chancellor of the Exchequer has laid profane hands on the sacred ark, but no avenging stroke has fallen. On the contrary, the Government majority was maintained within three votes on the Budget, though it dropped by over fifty over a question of martial law in Cape Colony. The discovery that Free Trade was only a fetish after all, a mummy, and no living issue; that it is which pleases the farmer, not because he is a farmer, but because he is pre-eminently a sensible man.

The opinion of the Budget in milling circles is naturally favourable. Liverpool has protested against the preference shown to the home mills, and Glasgow, which also depends to a great extent on American flour, is more or less in the same predicament. But the general effect of the twopence per cwt. preference will undoubtedly be to encourage milling at home, and this will not only bring into full employment much machinery hitherto running half-time, but will retain at home the milling offals which stock-breeders need.

Bakers have occasionally put up the price of bread, but for the most part they have not taken this course. It is not the custom of the baking trade to advance prices to customers, except where wholesale prices rise two shilling per quarter on wheat, which is tantamount to a farthing on the loaf. Equally, of course, it is not the custom to reduce the price a farthing until the total ebb in wheat values equals two shillings per quarter. The baking trade is just now excited, not so much over the price of bread, as over the London Flour Millers' Association resolving to charge one shilling per sack for duty on all contracts made before April 15th, but unfilfilled at that date. Counsel's opinion has been taken, and the Law Courts apparently will have to decide the case. As the duty is not yet (28th inst.) in force, the Millers' Association are not in a very easy position, and they certainly have taken an unpopular step, calculated to increase bakers' dealings with the suave and tactful representatives of the American milling firms.

Corn chandlers are much worried over the mere retail sales under the new duty, but this, though in a merely technical sense of the last word, is also a question of "old men and new measures." The duty is 3d. per cwt., but then the cwt. is not a real hundredweight, but an arbitrary 112lb. We have already been asked questions which would puzzle a senior wrangler, and the small local grain factor can hardly be expected to keep a mathematical expert in the shop parlour. A fair rise is a farthing on 9lb. of barley, maize, or oats. What is the proper duty on a peck? The duty varies with every staple in the most perplexing way. A peck of English oats will generally weigh 10lb.; a peck of the best wheat as much as 16lb. But common Russian oats weigh only 9½lb. to the peck, and chicken wheat, as sold by chandlers, weighs only 15lb. or even a trifle less. None of these weights, 9½lb., 10lb., 15lb., 16lb., divide easily into the Government 112lb. Evidently, the new duty means a new Weights and Measures Bill, or else the old corn chandler will have to be replaced by a patent calculating machine.

What the week has shown is that old views of the Corn Duty are as dead as Queen Anne. Nobody really believes in the Protectionist bogey, which is not substantial enough to hide the somewhat massive proportions of Sir William Harcourt and Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman. If bread ever becomes dear, it will not be because of the duty, because no Government will ever impose a high duty. But it will be because of war or other special emergency, and then the Government will meet that emergency by means of new measures. If bread went up during an European contest to 2d. per lb., the Government would raise thirty millions, and pay the extra penny, rather than have the rational issue disturbed by hungry crowds. The Twentieth Century means to "paddle its own canoe." Protection and Free Trade were the shibboleths of a dead era; they served their purpose, but are now recognised as matters of temporary expediency, not of eternal principle. Budgets in the future will be more commonsense and "tiding-over" arrangements than they were in the past; for the next few years we may expect to see a fairly close adhesion to the doctrine that the national taxation should be fifty per cent. direct and fifty per cent. indirect. But with the registration duty's return we have happily got rid of the ridiculous figment that the working man ate nothing but an unlimited succession of quartern loaves.

THE FUTURE OF AGRICULTURAL SHOWS.

In the present week we shall hail May Day, and although Maypole festivals have gone out of fashion, rural rambles in search of wayside flowers, pic-nics, cricket and football matches, and many other field sports and pastimes, offer themselves to afford rational pleasure.

The advent of May brings the fact to our remembrance that the agricultural show season is about to commence. To-morrow fortnight the Oxfordshire exhibition will open at Witney; on the following day, Wiveliscombe, on the borders of the Western Hill country, will welcome the Somerset show. Afterwards there will be an important agricultural exhibition held every week, and in some cases two or three shows a week, all through the season, which is all the more notable, as it will be the last of the Royal Agricultural Society's migratory visits to different parts of the kingdom.

To those who speculate on probabilities, the very fact of the Royal Agricultural Society's tents having no longer to be pitched here and there, as formerly, all over the country, will cause the great district societies to expand and flourish more. The Bath and West, Royal Counties, Royal Lancashire, Yorkshire, Lincolnshire, and those of the societies next to the Royal in magnitude, will be welcomed with greater ardour, and be supported all the better by the big towns and cities within their respective spheres, no doubt, now that it will be impossible for them to invite the great National Society, when they desire to hold agricultural festival. Another coming change which presents itself to view as highly probable is that other large district societies will be created, to represent those parts of the kingdom that at present have only small or moderate-size societies and exhibitions. An all-convincing incident proving that such will be the case has just occurred. At the annual meeting of the Cumberland Agricultural Society, the subject was seriously taken into consideration, whether there ought not to be a large North of England Society established, to cover the entire four northernmost English counties, and perhaps the Border ones of Scotland. The chief object in forming such a society was held to be that an annual show, corresponding in magnitude to the grand exhibitions of the societies above named, might be held every year, only on the migratory system, visiting Newcastle, Carlisle, Durham, Kendal, and other important towns in turn.

This subject was introduced and discussed solely on the ground that after this year, when the Royal will bid final adieu to the country, a gigantic North of England Show will become a want of the times. Mr. Jas. Watt, Mr. J. J. Bell, Mr. Tinniswood, and the Chairman, Col. Irwinall, spoke favourably of the object aimed at, expressing every desire to promote it, and a decision was come to that the other agricultural societies in the four counties of Northumberland, Durham, Westmoreland, and Cumberland should be communicated with, and that if sufficient support or sympathy with the object were elicited, a meeting should be held on the Royal Show ground at Carlisle, to further discuss and take steps in the matter.

If the existing leading agricultural societies of the four Northern counties can be induced to amalgamate they will not only be able to get up a grand exhibition every year, but they would find union to be strength for the promotion of other desirable objects. But, unfortunately, when the union of county societies in times past, has been sought to be accomplished, some difficulty or other has cropped up to defeat the scheme. Thus a proposition was made a few years since to amalgamate the three county show societies of Norfolk, Suffolk, and Essex into a gigantic East Anglian organisation. Matters, indeed, went so far that His Gracious Majesty, King Edward VII., when Prince of Wales, and presiding at the Essex Society's Show luncheon, eloquently advocated the scheme. Yet it was found to be an impossibility to accomplish the object. And not only do the three societies still keep apart, but this year, two of them are holding their shows at the same time, presumably to the injury of each other. Mr. Watt, in mooting the matter at the Cumberland Society's meeting, was reported as saying that "the local shows might be allowed to continue as at present," by which we should scarcely think he could mean that the largest county ones could be supported as well as the larger North of England one he is so anxious to have established. The belief that we at present have too many shows is widespread, and the argument has often been adduced that it would be much better if two or three of the smaller county societies would combine and organise a larger show between them. Even now, we believe, negotiations are on foot, either for amalgamating the Devon and Somerset County Agricultural Societies into one body, or so to arrange matters that the two societies shall hold one show between them every year, in Somerset and in Devon alternately. But it is just possible that the final negotiations may be as difficult to bring to a successful issue as they were in the Eastern Counties, when the Essex, Norfolk, and Suffolk shows were sought to be merged into an East Anglian one.

Agricultural shows are probably just now in a state of transition. The smaller ones have long been kept running by the leaping competitions, which usually form so prominent feature of their afternoon proceedings. These have proved so successful as an attraction to increase gate-money, that some of the larger societies have been only too glad to make use of the same agency. Seemingly, it is a great pity that the success of agricultural shows should so much depend on this and other attractions; but it is so, and we must combine amusement largely with utility in future to make any agricultural show, large or small, prosper.

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By a Man of Mark Lane.

I am indebted to a valued correspondent for the following interesting announcement: "It is fully expected that the popular member for the Tiverton Division (Sir W. Walrond) will receive some recognition of his long services, at the Coronation of King Edward VII., and the farmers of the division have largely signed a requistion to E. H. Dunning, Esq., of Woodleigh Court, to allow himself to be nominated in case there is a vacancy. Mr. Dunning is an enthusiastic agriculturist, and has the means, as well as the inclination, to help farmers. He founded and is Chairman of and a large subscriber to the Tiverton Agricultural Association, one of the most successful in the county. He purchased a bull for the use of farmers in the district to improve their breed, and also formed a Shire Horse Society, providing the horses, and paying all the losses—which are considerable. He is a good sportsman, and his extensive coverts are well supplied with the wild red deer. His vast property and splendid mansion is beautifully situated, and the carriage drive through the grounds, over two miles in length, is one of the best in the county. He is a good landlord and a Devonshire man, who spent some time in South Africa which he made good use of. The farmers are practically unanimous in favour of him, and if elected, of which there is not the slightest doubt, the County of even, we think, would be able to boast of having the three best agricultural M.P.s in England, in Messrs. Spear, George Lambert, and E. H. Dunning. We heartily wish them success."

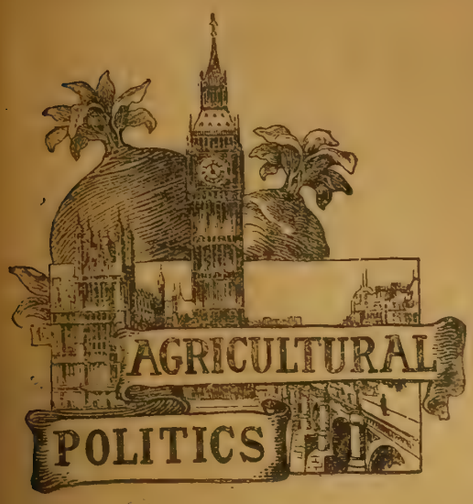
The receipts on account of revenue from April 1st, 1902, when there was a balance of £8,566,947, to April 19th, 1902, were —11,262,960, against £10,004,258 in the corresponding period of the preceding financial year, which began with a balance of £5,596,918. The net expenditure was £16,185,848, against £16,411,838 to the same date in the previous year. The Treasury balances on April 19th, 1902, amounted to £5,603,394, and at the same date in 1901 to £4,037,838.

A Kentish correspondent, writing to us re the corn tax, says:—"The duty on wheat and other feed material has stimulated the men of humour to more than a slight extent. Numerous comic journals inform us it will be 'against the grain!' The description of the impost on flour is to be desiribed as 'taxation of ground values,' as soon as arrangements can be made for publishing that gem of wit."

Russian Corn Mills Destroyed by Fire. — One of the largest mills at Graudenz, in West Russia, in which were stored 2,500cwt. of flour and 1,500 cwt. of corn, was completely destroyed by fire on Thursday, the damage done being estimated at the least £10,000.

Sad Death of a Somerset Farmer. — Mr. Keen, a farmer, was found dead in one of his cow sheds at Aldwick, Blagdon, on the evening of the 17th inst. Deceased had got up as usual and had gone about his work, but, not coming home, search was made, and his dead body discovered hanging to a beam, about about six in the evening. Deceased, who had only taken possession of the farm on Lady Day, was 35 years old.

Buried in Locust Beans.—On Thursday an extraordinary accident happened to Mr. Cundall, manager for Messrs. Paul, corn merchants, Ipswich. While he was on the top floor of the public warehouse standing on a heap of locust beans a trap door was opened, and he was carried down and completely buried beneath tons of beans. A rescue party went to work, but an hour and a half elapsed before Mr. Cundall could be got out. No one expected him to be rescued alive, but, after remaining unconscious for a time, he recovered sufficiently to be conveyed home.



By a Lobbyist.

Of course, the Radicals are making the best of the opportunities provided by the Budget. There is the one supreme fact in their favour—the price of bread has gone up. This has enabled a score of pretty defamations to be sounded with resounding force in the ear of the people. "The meanest of taxes," has said one. "The poor are taxed in order that the rich landlords may secure the advantage provided them under the Rating Act," quotes another. "Bread is the staple food of the people, and if taxed at all, it should be taxed last of all," has demanded a third. "You are broadening the basis of taxation," has averred a fourth; "but you are broadening it so that the taxable community only includes the working population." "The basis of taxation," has a little saponaciously reiterated a fifth, "should be equality of sacrifice. But how does this proposal place an equal tax upon the necessities of the rich?" These are the accusations, the assertions, the perfervour with which an attempt is being made to rouse passion, to creat venom, and to persuade people that the tax is an outrage against the common people. The fact that Lord Charles Beresford was returned unopposed as Conservative Member for Woolwich does not altogether bear out the contention that the people have been seriously affected by the tax. However, it must not be forgotten that Lord Charles Beresford is a breezy politician, whose very personality raises him beyond the ordinary issues of political rivalry. How the Tory candidate fares at Bury will provide a better indication of the extent to which the community has been moved by these appeals to old battle-cries. Bury has an historic association with the Free Trade controversy. It is in the very centre of that district through which the purpose of Cobden and of Bright ran like a quickening spirit. If Bury remain faithful to its Tory allegiance, then we may be certain that the revived Radical objurgations have failed of their purpose.

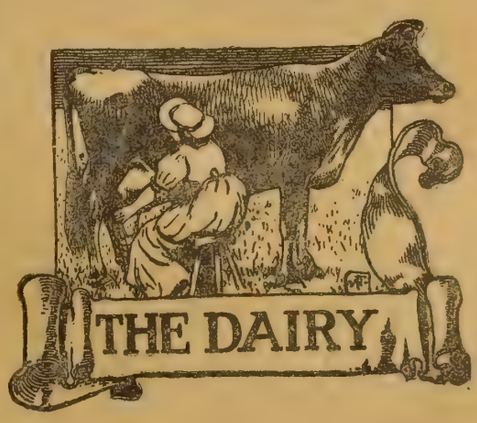
The chief significance of the debates, or, rather, of the discussions in the lobbies—for they have been the more important of the two—lies in the fact that it is being conceded that the tax will not have any immediately important economic value. If it is intended to preface a Tory return to the old historic Tory policy of Protection, then it is too mild a suggestion; and it has had associated with it too many Tory deprecations and half-apologies — even Sir Michael Hicks-Beach himself has been compelled to indulge in them—to have a practical or a valuable sequel. If it is simply intended as an encouragement to agriculture—as a sequel, in fact, to the policy of friendliness initiated by the Rating Act—then the antagonisms which have been aroused by the many appeals to old party memories will frustrate the excellent object. Finally, I heard not a few capable agrarian M.P.'s venture to predict that the increase in the price of foodstuffs will go into the hands of the bakers and the wholesale dealers, rather than into that of the farmers. It may be contended, for the purposes of argument, though only for the purposes of argument, that the enhanced price of Cereals in the Corn Law days went into the pockets of the landlords and the farmers. But in those days the traders of the country had no organised character. Now, they are among the most significant forces in the commercial world, and Ministers have often to heed their behests. They are not going to allow an opportunity of increased profit to lightly escape them.

One of the younger men in the House—and this week may be said to have seen the apotheosis of the younger debaters—told me on Tuesday night that he believed that eventually the significance of the tax would be found to lie in the warning which it conveys to the foreigner that our ports are not eternally to be opened free and unrestricted to the products of the foreigner, whilst their ports still retain the heavy barrier of an extravagant duty. Well, if this proves to be the case, the Bill will undoubtedly be an encouragement to agriculture. As a fact, I believe that consciously or unconsciously the desire to benefit the rural interest has ever been present in Sir Michael Hicks-Beach's mind. An evidence of this is provided, first of all, in the exceptions deliberately made in the imposition of the tax, and, next, in the definite inclusion, after careful consideration, of feeding offals in the 3d. rate rather than in the 5d. Of course, it may be urged that it would be well if all feeding offals were exempt from all duty. But the fact that Sir Michael, at once on its being pointed out that a 5d. tax would wreak an unnecessary injury upon the farmer, sought to moderate the danger is in itself an evidence that he at least does not desire to embarass the farmers when pointing out the way in which economic redemption lies. If Sir Edward Strachey be correct in his assertion that unless the farmers get their feeding-offals free they will be unduly handicapped in the race with the foreigner, then we have a renewed argument in favour of the entire removal of the taxes upon offals. But this assertion of Sir Edward's does not affect what I believe to have been the purpose of Sir Michael—the benefit of the rural interest. How far this desire will be realised is another matter.

I repeat that the Budget will not have the direct influence upon the economic fortunes of agriculturists which both its enemies and friends have anticipated. Indeed, it may be, after all, that with the increased price of feeding-offals and the manipulations of the middle-men—who, in these days of corners and trusts, never lose an opportunity for maintaining prices—the effect may be so inappreciable as to be unfelt. At all events, this matter will have to be most carefully watched. However, I am persuaded that the intention animating the Budget was a good and sympathetic one. It is in this light that it would be best to regard it. It is because of this, too, we may be persuaded that Mr. Chaplin so warmly welcomed it. I am a little inclined to quarrel with the right hon. gentleman's assertion that "this is no Protection." At least, the right honourable gentleman will confess that the Budget embodies a protective spirit. Its final value will be in the application and extension of that spirit. We must not anticipate an early development of it; and we must be careful as to how far the town traders, the men who really regulate the markets, will turn it to their sole advantage.

I declare that I do not know a Bill whose death has been so universally unregretted as the Pure Beer Bill. I doubt that even its advocates could have wished it to pass into law. Beyond the mere affirmation of a principle, it would really have accomplished nothing. As a fact, it was calculated to do more harm than good, inasmuch that, though it would have accomplished nothing, it would have prevented a more practical measure being passed into law. I hope the fate of the Bill will be a warning. It conveys the salutary lesson that in weakening your purpose in the hope of conciliating your enemies, you not only secure the scorn and contempt of those gentlemen, but you alienate your friends. My readers know that I am not surprised at the defeat of the Bill. What I am surprised at is the overwhelming character of that defeat. Here was a principle, which a year ago was accepted with enthusiasm, which now could secure no more than 140 friends to oppose to its 212 antagonists. I wonder who was really responsible for depriving the Bill of all that was most valuable in its original provisions.

I regard the association of Mr. Hanbury and Mr. Plunkett at the initiation of the Bishop's Stortford Agricultural and Poultry Association as a portent. I believe it means the harmonious co-operation of the English and the Irish Boards of Agriculture, and I also believe it means that Mr. Hanbury is seeking the sage advice of Mr. Plunkett in the reorganisation of the English Board. The conjunction of these two men is an admirable thing. In Mr. Hanbury we have a statesman of wise ideals and wisely-ambitious purpose. In Mr. Plunkett we have an excellent administrator, who has a clear grasp of the necessities of the interest he is called upon to administer, and who, in pursuing his task, is not afraid to depart from the ruts of conventionality. More than that, Mr. Plunkett is not afraid of applying the principle of co-operation—which, I believe, may yet provide a solution of many of the economic ills of agriculture—to the interest. It is, in all sooth, a promising association. The result should be the establishment of as practical a Board of Agriculture in England as there is in Ireland.



Water in Butter: Standard Fixed.

The following Order appeared in Tuesday's "London Gazette":—

"The Board of Agriculture, in exercise of the powers conferred on them by Section 4 of the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, 1899, do hereby make the following Regulations:—

"1. Where the proportion of water in a sample of butter exceeds 16 per cent. it shall be presumed for the purposes of the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts, 1875 to 1899, until the contrary is proved, that the butter is not genuine by reason of the excessive amount of water therein.

"2. These Regulations extend to Great Britain.

"3 These Regulations shall come into operation on the fifteenth day of May, one thousand nine hundred and two.

"4. These Regulations may be cited as the Sale of Butter Regulations, 1902."

Milk-Blended Butter.

Statement by Mr. Hanbury.

In the House of Commons, on Tuesday, Mr. Hanbury, in reply to a question by Mr. O'Shaughnessy, said, "The question whether the sale of the article called milk-blended butter is not contrary to the provision of the Margarine Act is now before the Law Courts, on appeal, and I cannot anticipate their decision. In any case, the practice of adding water to butter appears to me at least as objectionable as that of adding animal fat; and should the existing law be insufficient to deal with the practice, I shall, no doubt, have to consider whether fresh legislation is necessary."

More Appeals.

In the King's Bench, on Tuesday, a Divisional Court heard an appeal by an inspector under the Food and Drugs Act, against a decision of the Redditch justices, who dismissed two summonses against Pearks, Gunston, and Tee, Ltd., charging them with supplying to the appellant butter which was not of the nature and substance of the article demanded. The magistrates held that as a label was given with the article describing it as milk-blended butter and stating the percentage of water, respondents were not guilty under the Act. On Tuesday their Lordships held that the respondents

were protected by the label, and dismissed the appeal with costs.

On Wednesday, in the same court, there was a further appeal in regard to the sale of milk-blended butter, and this time an important and altogether different question to those previously dealt with was raised. It was an appeal by Messrs. Pearks, Gunston, and Tee, Ltd., against convictions under the Sale of Foods and Drugs Act, by the justices of Richmond, on three informations preferred by an agent of the Butter Association, charging them with having sold to the prejudice of the purchaser butter which was not of the nature, substance, and quality of the article demanded. The justices fined the appellants £25 in each case. It was stated that the case arose before the appellants had begun to put up notices in their shops to the effect that they supplied only "Pearks's Milk-Blended Butter," or to use their present label. The justices found as a fact that the purchaser did not know that the butter asked for contained such an excessive amount of moisture as was shown by analysis, that the purchaser received something different from that asked for, viz., butter plus something the nature of which was not disclosed at the time a sale. They were satisfied, therefore, that there was a sale to the prejudice of the purchaser within the meaning of Section 6 of the Sale of Foods and Drugs Act. The important question raised was whether the word "person" in Section 6 of the Act included any incorporated company so as to make the appellants liable to the penalty imposed upon a person offending against the Section. The Appellant Company contended that the Act did not apply to a company, and that, therefore, they could not be subject to penalties. For the respondent, however, it was contended that a company were liable to penalties under the Statute.

In giving judgment the Lord Chief Justice said that, as to whether or not this information or proceeding could be taken against a limited company, he could not see anything in the Act which prevented such a course being taken. He thought the point was really covered in principle by the decision, although it had never been raised in such a case as this, and although there had been many proceedings under this particular Act. The effective object of the Section and the necessary ingredients of the offence all seemed to point to putting a company or corporation in the same position as an individual, provided the sale was made on their behalf. There was nothing in the Act or the interpretation clause which pointed in a contrary direction. He was glad to come to this conclusion, as it appeared to him that very great difficulties would arise if the opposite view were taken. As he could see no reason for distinguishing a company from an individual in this regard, the appeal would be dismissed. The other judges concurred, and the appeal was dismissed, with costs.

Adulterated Margarine.

On Thursday, the Lord Chief Justice, Mr. Justice Darling, and Mr. Justice Channell, heard a case which raised the question whether margarine could be held to be adulterated because it contained an excessive quantity of water. It came before the Court on an appeal by Messrs. Burton and Son, of Rushden, against a conviction of the justices of the county sitting at Wellingborough, who had fined him £1 and costs.

The Lord Chief Justice, in giving judgment, said the magistrates had found that the water in the margarine was excessive, and that, therefore, the article sold was not of the nature, substance, and quality demanded, as it was adulterated with water. As he understood it, that meant that it was margarine and water and not margarine. They had been pressed to say that there could be no finding of that fact because there was no evidence on which the magistrates could find it. It was, in fact, contended that because it was prepared in imitation of butter and was called margarine, there could be practically no inquiry as to what its composition was. In his judgment, however, there was evidence on which the justices could come to the conclusion that it was not margarine, but margarine and water, or margarine adulterated with water. It seemed to them impossible to say that the magistrates were not justified in acting on the analyst's certificate, supplemented by the evidence of the analyst. He thought, therefore, the appeal should be dismissed. The other judges concurred, and the appeal was dismissed, with costs.

Clean Milk Cans.

"At the majority of factories and creameries visited since my appointment as Dairy Supervisor, I found a large percentage of cans in use totally unfit for dairy purposes," says Mr. P. J. Carroll, in the Victorian Journal of Agriculture. "In the interests of the suppliers as well as the industry, it would be a distinct gain if strict measures were adopted to prevent the use of those rusty, dented, and worn-out utensils.

"It must now be patent to every dairyman that milk is a most delicate and changeable article of food, and when exposed to such infective or contaminating influences the commercial value of such food, as well as its wholesomeness, is unmistakably reduced. Rusty cans are a constant menace to the industry and sonrce of daily anxiety to the factory and creamery manager, as it also ought to be to the supplier. Unfortunately the latter will not always recognise this. An examination of a rusty patch in a milk can discloses an unsavoury condition of affairs. Rust creates a spongelike or honecombed state in the texture of the iron. In the numerous interstices are lodged casein, which provides food for the growth of various families of objectionable and putrefactice organisms. From these emanate an infective or putrifying series of ferments, which are distributed throughout the milk or cream stored in the can. This rusty condition further provides a peculiar chalybeate or rusty-iron flavour in dairy products, whether it be milk, cream, cheese, or butter. The lactic acid generated in the milk attacks the iron, combines and dissolves it, thence the permanent flavour referred to.

"Here we have a double action: false flavours imparted by micro-organisms and the ferments resulting from their action, as well as the flavour imparted by a solution of the iron rust. It naturally follows that where the use of rusty cans is permitted, not only is the supply in the cans themselves affected adversely, but also the whole supply each morning in the general receiving vat. Again the question of detached particles of rust has to be considered, and whilst this does not occur frequently, yet we occasionally have evidence of such in the butter. It is a matter of urgency that all cans showing rust in the bottoms be sent to the tinsmith to have them renewed. Where the body of the can is also affected it is better to reject the can and provide a new one. The useful age of a can might be largely prolonged if ordinary precautions are adopted to prevent rust. No more effective means can be recommended than the use of a ½ per cent. of boiling solution of ordinary washing soda (1lb. of soda to 20 gallons of boiling water). Care must be observed to see that the solution is boiling. The use of this is beneficial in two ways: first by acting as a wholesome and innocuous germicide or microbe-killer, and next as a preventive of rust.

"Another objectionable and dirty practice that comes under our notice is the daily use of rags and cloths to secure the lids of the cans firmly. In a well-made can with sound lid there is no need for them.

"Further, should the lids become ill-fitting through careless use and other causes, the tinsmith would, at a very small cost, remodel the rims and render them serviceable. I am led to believe that such conditions could be remedied if a better system were permitted on the receiving platform, and the manager of either factory or creamery empowered by his board of directors or employers to reject milk brought in rusty cans, or where the lids are stuffed with ill-smelling rags. It may happen that the first supplier to be brought under the lash of such a regulation would be the chairman or a director, but it should be honestly remembered that the existence of co-operative effort depends on the wholesome principle that all must be treated alike, and the first to applaud the manager should be one who is placed under such circumstances and justly recognises the endeavours of the manager to apply this excellent principle. Delicate, doubtless, the duty is to the manager, but a tactful concern for the success of his company must pervade his actions throughout.

"When the cans return to the farm and the skim milk has been unloaded, the first duty of the dairyman is to promptly attend to the cleansing of these vessels. Milk contains a proportion of albumen (white of egg), and to throw in a bucket of hot water into the can, as it often happens, means attaching the albumen to the sides, there to remain and become a menace to the next can of milk. Cold water should be used first to rinse out the milk slops, followed by boiling water, or a boiling solution of washing soda made the strength recommended before. Great care should be observed in finally rinsing the cans with water that has been recently boiled. The water supplies at many farms are highly impregnated with hostile bacteria or organisms, and boiling destroys their vitality. Where steam is available, it is unquestionably a most valuable cleansing agent. The cans should be inverted on a raised platform, exposed to sunlight, away from smells, and where there is no floating dust.

"The interiors should be frequently examined to detect any flaws in the seams; these, with dents, are a constant source of false invasions in milk, and are equally as dangerous to the sound-keeping qualities of milk as rust or dirty rags around the lids. In cleansing a can, the objectionable practice of using cloths or rags ought to be avoided; only a sound good brush ought to be used in scrubbing a can, and with a liberal allwance of 'elbow grease.'"

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Compensation for Manurial Vales of Feeding Stuffs and Corn.

At a recent meeting of the Provincial Committee of the Surveyors' Institution for Bedfordshire, Essex, Herts, and Middlesex, Mr. H. Trustam Eve, F.S.I. (who is the secretary of the Beds Chamber of Agriculture and Farmers' Club), read a peper on the "Method of Valuing Manurial Residue of Feeding Stuffs and Corn." This has now been issued in pamphlet form, and in this shape will doubtless have the wide circulation it deserves. As it may prove of general interest, we reproduce the summary of Mr. Eve's paper, showing suggested scale of compensation for manurial values of feeding stuffs and corn.

The improvement by the consumption of feeding stuffs and corn on a holding shall, in the absence of any agreed substituted compensation, be on the basis of what the improvement is worth to an incoming tenant, as laid down in Section 1 of the Agricultural Holdings Act, 1900.

The amount shall be arrived at as nearly as possible by adopting as a basis the relative original manure values of feeding stuffs and corn as published by Lawes and Gilbert in the R. A. S. E. Journals of December, 1897, and March, 1898.

Seeing that in these original manure values no allowance is made for waste of nitrogen, phosphoric acid, and potash between the time of consumption, and when these constituents act upon the crop, it is advisable to make some deduction from these figures before arriving at the true compensation values.

It is considered that the suggested deduction of one-half, by Lawes and Gilbert, is too much (no reasons being assigned for the adoption of this figure), especially in the cases where feeding stuffs are fed directly on to the land.

It is recognised that nitrogen, phosphates, and potash act upon crops for some years, but it is not easy or advisable in practice to base compensation values upon more than the consumption during the last two years of the tenancy.

It is submitted that a large difference should be made in compensation values where feeding stuffs and corn have been regularly used, as against the sudden use during the last year or two of the tenancy.

Bearing in mind that the original manure value of a ton of linseed cake is, according to Lawes and Gilbert, £2 11s. 11d., and assuming the best conditions, and that feeding stuffs and corn have been regularly and well used on the holding, it may be fair to take £2 10s. per ton on the last year's consumption and two-thirds of that amount

£1 13s.) on the consumption of the previous year, as compensation for all the manurial residues left by the outgoer for the incomer by the use of linseed cake.

Where the conditions are bad and foods have only been used during the last two years, and little of it fed direct on to the land, £1 10s. might be taken for the last year, and £1 for the last year but one.

Average cases would be between £2 10s. and £1 10s., and between £1 10s. and £1, representing from 40s. to 42s. for the last year, and 25s. to 28s. for the previous year.

That the compensation for foods and corn other than linseed cake shall be as follows, in accordance with Lawes' and Gilbert's relative manure value tables:—Class I.: Decorticated cotton cake or meal, one and a-half times linseed cake. Class II.: Rape cake, malt culms, and undecorticated cotton cake, the same as linseed cake. Class III.: Beans, bran, coarse pollard, peas, and fine pollard at three-fourths of linseed cake. Class IV.: Clover hay at one-half of linseed cake. Class V.: Oats, wheat, meadow hay, barley, and Indian corn at one-third of linseed cake.

In fixing the rate per ton for linseed cake the circumstances of each case to be considered.

used the up-to-date methods they must fall behind their competitors, who were keenly alive to the advantages of science as applied to agriculture.

One matter which was causing the farmers anxiety was the drifting of the rural population into the towns. The difficulty of finding sufficient agricultural labour was very acute, and he was afraid that the monotonous and mechanical life of hedging, ditching, and ploughing had lost its attractions for those who possessed a certain amount of education and intelligence, and who thought they could do better in the towns. No doubt further attractions were necessary in the country and he thought it would be well if something could be done which would make life more interesting and endurable in the rural districts, and which would keep the people on the land. Apart from the question of pounds, shillings, and pence, no nation could afford to let its agricultural industry dwindle until it eventually became extinct; and, in his opinion, it was the duty of the Government to help agriculture as much as possible. He did not believe in indiscriminate legislation, and the question at issue ought not to be made a party question, for all classes ought to co-operate in improving the agricultural industry. The Agricultural Rating or cause any injustice to the working-man. (Applause.)

Sir James Rankin, M.P., said the raising of prices was all very well for the seller, but they could hardly expect the purchaser to look at the matter in the same light. There were not more than 200,000 persons in this country who grew wheat, but there was a population of 40 millions to be fed, and it was absurd, in the face of that to talk about protection with the view of raising the price of wheat. The tax ought not to be regarded as a measure of protection at all. The Government wanted the money, and, thrown over 40 millions of people, the burden would be very small. (Hear, hear.)

Two or three other members spoke on the subject, and it was then allowed to drop.

Cheese Prospects.

In an article dealing with the outlook of the trade in cheese for the coming year, "The Grocer" states that it is now recognised by the trade that supplies are now more in proportion with the demand, and that the "glut" that prevailed during the greater part of 1901 is now practically at an



The picture we show above represents the manner of using a very primitive implement. The breast plough, as it is called on the Cotswolds, resembles an immense shovel with a share turned up on one edge, and is worked in three successive movements; first, a thrust in from the breast; next, the cross-bar is dropped down to the thighs, which are protected by wooden guards called "bitters" or "betters" (*i.e.*, probably "beaters"), from which a further push is given; finally, the clod gathered on the blade is turned over with a quick movement to the right. The owner of the plough, now over eighty years of age, remembers as a familiar sight in his boyhood twenty men ploughing abreast in one field. Hardly anyone at work to-day can remember to have seen, much less knows how to use, one. There is no doubt that the labour necessary is very severe.

Agricultural Depression.

At the annual meeting of the Midland Union of Conservative Associations, held at Melton Mowbray, on Wednesday, a discussion took place upon the subject of agricultural depression. Lord Cecil Manners, M.P., who opened the discussion, said he did not believe the substitution of protection for free trade would bring about the necessary relief, although he agreed that a certain measure of protection was desirable. He was in favour of a moderate duty being placed on various imports, not only feeding-stuffs, but importations of all kinds. Among the reasons which had brought about depression in agriculture he mentioned unrestricted foreign competition and an enormous increase in the world's production. There were millions of acres more under cultivation now than twenty years ago, and when they considered in addition the enormously increased facilities of transport for bringing foreign productions into the British market they could see why the unprotected British farmer was unable to obtain a fair price for his produce, which would enable him to gain a living. Then they had to reckon with the scientific methods of agriculture, and unless the farmers kept abreast of the times and Act, the Animals Diseases Act, and the Light Railways Act had been very beneficial, and he thought the imposition of a duty on imported corn would be of considerable benefit. He did not regard that in any sense as a protective duty, but as a source of revenue he thought foreign corn was a commodity which might very fairly be taxed. He believed the burden would fall almost entirely on the foreigner, and that the advantage, if any—and he trusted there would be an advantage—would be realised by the British agriculturists—the landlord, the farmer, and the labourer. (Applause.)

Mr. Rouse Orlebar expressed the opinion that unless better prices were forthcoming for agricultural produce in this country, they could never expect to see a return to agricultural prosperity. They might do what they liked in the direction of cheapening transit and improving the markets, but better prices was the one thing necessary to restore prosperity to agriculture. With regard to the registration duty on corn, he could not conceive how anybody could seriously argue that a duty of a shilling a sack on flour could possibly raise the price of the last quartern loaf, when they remembered that 96 loaves were made from a sack of flour. A cheap loaf was essential to the prosperity of the country, and he did not think the registration duty would raise the price of the loaf end. As might reasonably be supposed, larger and constant purchases were soon followed by higher prices, and cheese which at the commencement of January realised 48s. to 50s. has recently been bought at 54s. to 56s. per cwt. on the spot. Meanwhile, so rapidly have the quantities of cheese in reserve or cold store, that were at first so excessive, been worked off, that it is said by some authorities that there are at present only about 20,000 boxes remaining uncleared at the Commercial Road depot, in London.

In April last the quotations for Canadian and American cheese of primest quality were 48s. to 50s. It will thus be seen that the value now, is 6s. per cwt. above what it was then, or almost back to the point where cheese ceases to be a popular article of food with the masses. By them anything above 6d. per lb. retail is considered too dear for common or everyday use, when animal food, more desirable and appetising in cold weather, can be bought at less money. Such being the case, premature engagements on an extensive scale at the moment are rather to be avoided than encouraged, until it is seen how far the increased demand that has latterly arisen for cheese is sustained and founded upon the actual needs of buyers for home consumption, who are, after all, the final arbitrators.

PRACTICE WITH SCIENCE.

Aspatria Agricultural College.

The annual distribution of prizes to the students of the Aspatria Agricultural College took place on the 15th inst., at Brayton Hall, kindly lent for the purpose by Sir Wilfrid and Lady Lawson. Sir Wilfrid Lawson, president of the college, presided, whilst the prizes were distributed by Mr. A. Hutcheson, of Beechwood, Perth, Vice-Convener of Perth County, Vice-president of the Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland, and ex-President of the Scottish Chamber of Agriculture. The Principal of the College (Mr. J. Smith Hill, J.P.), presented a most satisfactory report.

The awards were as follows:—

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL EXAMINATION BOARD.—Diploma Examination—Part I.: P. Fowlie, Bogfold Farm, New Pitsligo, Aberdeenshire. P. W. Goodwin, Heath Farm, Ansley, Atherstone. D. A. Lees, Slade House, Gravelly Hill, Birmingham (partly prepared).

EXAMINATIONS OF THE SURVEYORS' INSTITUTION.—Professional Associateship (Land Agency): A. Lindsay Watt, Muncaster Estate Office, Ravenglass.

SCIENCE EXAMINATIONS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION SECONDARY BRANCH (Science and Art Department).—E. H. Dodgson, Cockermouth.—Advanced Certificate in Agriculture; Certificate in Geology. J. N. Lyall, Auchtermuchty.—Advanced Certificate in Agriculture; Certificate in Theoretical Chemistry. H. N. Logan, Kelso, N.B.—First Class Certificate in Agriculture. J. H. Roberts, Liverpool.—First Class Certificate in Agriculture; Certificates in Theoretical Chemistry and Practical Chemistry. W. Adamson.—First Class Certificate in Agriculture; Certificates in Theoretical Chemistry and Practical Chemistry. C. W Oldroyd.—First Class Certificate in Agriculture. L. Carpenter, London.—Advanced Certificate in Agriculture. T. M. Glasson, Penrith.—First Class Certificate in Agriculture. H. J. Richardson, Newcastle-on-Tyne.—Advanced Certificate in Agriculture. H H. Stephenson, Uppingham.—Advanced Certificate in Agriculture; Certificate in Theoretical Chemistry. W. M. Dean, High Barnet.—Advanced First Class in Agriculture. T. Rule, Southport.—Advanced Certificate in Agriculture; Certificate in Geology; First Class in Botany. E. N M. Vernon, Shrewsbury.—Advanced Certificate in Agriculture; Certificate in Geology.

DIPLOMAS OF THE ASPATRIA AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.—Lawrence Carpenter, care of Messrs. Curtis and Henson, 5, Mount Street, London, W. Eustace E. M. Vernon, Shawbury Vicarage, Shrewsbury. Edward H. Dodgson Derwent House, Cockermouth. Cecil W. Oldroyd, Haswell Vicarage, Sunderland.

CERTIFICATES OF THE ASPATRIA AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.—W. Markham Dean, Arkley House, High Barnet. Heathfield H. Stephenson, Uppingham.

COLLEGE PRIZES AND CERTIFICATES.

(For second year students only): Agriculture and Agricultural Chemistry.—First, T. Glasson, Penrith; second, E. H. Dodgson, Cockermouth. Agricultural Botany.—J. H. Roberts, Liverpool. Theoretical and Practical Chemistry. — T. Rule, Southport. Land Surveying.—N L. Sparke, Deal. Engineering and Construction of Farm Buildings.—T. Glasson, Farm Book-keeping.—H. Linklater, Brechin, N.B. Forestry and Land Drainage.—E. H. Dodgson, Cockermouth. Agricultural Law (including Landlord and Tenant).—A. Park, Ulverston.

For first year students: Agriculture and Agricultural Chemistry.—First, J. T. Maxwell, Screel, N.B.; second, W. A. Metcalf, Whitehaven. Agricultural Botany.—H Ostlere, Kirkcaldy. Theoretical and Practical Chemistry.—H. Ostlere. Land Surveying.—J. T. Maxwell. Engineering and Building Construction.—J. H. Hughes, Manchester. Book-keeping.—J. T. Maxwell.

General Prizes.—Agricultural Entomology.—T. Rule. Geology.—N. L. Sparke, Deal. Best Plan.—A Park, Ulverston. Best Collection of Grasses.—T. Rule. Best Collection of Plants.—E. N. M. Vernon, Shrewsbury.

Aggregate Prizes (for second year students).—J. H. Roberts and T. Rule "Scholars of the College." For first year students.—J. T. Maxwell. For winter session students.—H. Ostlere.

Royal Agricultural College, Cirencester.

The spring term of this college closed on the 16th inst., when the Principal, the Rev. J. B. McClellan, M.A., conferred the diplomas, scholarships, and other awards on the successful students. A feature of the work of the term was the excellence of the essays sent in in competition for the Brown Scholarship, the subject being "Tuberculosis in Animals," Farwell getting the prize, and the good work done in connection with the recently established bacteriological department, under the charge of the veterinary professor. The chief awards of the class list follow:—

Honour Diploma of Membership (maximum marks 2,100, qualifying marks 1,400).—William Thompson, Inglewood, Penrith, 1,565; Francis Henry George Osmund-Smith, The Lawn, Westbourne, Emsworth, Sussex, 1,462.

Scholarships (maximum marks 3,300, qualifying marks 2,750).—First and Second Scholarship, £25 and £10.—Wilfrid Horsley Parker, Kynaston Lodge, Harrow Weald, Middlesex, 3,194; William Whyte Bell, Auchtertyre, Newtyle, Forfarshire, N.B., 3,176. Third Scholarship, £10.—Sheikh Makbul Husain, B.A., Gudia, District Bara Banki, Oudh, India, 3,118. Honourable Mention. — Highway, Browne, Brigstocke, Lambert, Sparrow, Morrison, Iredale, G. A. Smith, Farwell, Worsey.

The Middleton-in-Teesdale Spring Fair was held on the 18th inst., and was largely attended. There was a good show of horses, and the best classes of draught animals and strong ponies were inquired after, although sales were slow. Store cattle were very plentiful, and prices show a slight decline. Mountain sheep had also a downward tendency.

IMPORTANT TO FARMERS.—The best farm account books are WEBB'S PRACTICAL FARMER'S ACCOUNT BOOK, with preface by Clare Sewell Read, 70th edition 6s. and 7s. 6d. post free. JARROLD'S IMPERIAL FARM ACCOUNT BOOK, 3s. 6d. JARROLD'S FARM LABOUR BOOKS, 2s., 2s. 6d., and 4s. 6d. List of Game and Dairy Account Books post free of JARROLD, and SONS 10 and 11, Warwick Lane E.C.—[ADVT.]

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Price of Poultry.

Sir,—"Good plump fowls at from a shilling to eighteenpence each." I am reading now from a letter which is in your last week's paper from Cheddar, in my own county of Somerset. All I can say is that he must take his poultry to a very bad market, for we have no difficulty in getting double these prices for all we have to sell; in fact, we had on offer from a person (who buys chickens for the fatting pens) to take hundreds under four months old at ninepence per pound live weight, but we did not accept, as we thought we could do better by killing them at home, and taking from 2s. 6d. to 3s. 6d. each, according to size and quality. We were lately favoured, through the local Technical Education Committee, with a free course of lectures on poultry-keeping, and there was discovered the great difference between the rights and wrongs of the subject. Therefore I would say to those grumblers who complain that there is no good in it, ask yourselves if your poultry get half the attention they deserve! Would you entrust your horses and cattle to the care of a boy or other person who has had no training in the matter, and who possibly feeds them when he can, and on what he can lay his hands on, or, more often, let them have nothing more than the grubs and seeds they can forage for themselves, while you either allow them to find their own roost on the nearest tree, or keep them in a draughty shed, which may be cleaned out once a year. Give fowls a healthy grass run and house and feed them properly, and they will pay more for the time and money invested in them than any other stock on the farm. This is our experience after keeping a hundred and more head, and keeping a correct account of income and expenditure. R. B.

April 25th.

Shire Horses in America.

Sir,—I notice in your issue of March 3rd, under the head of "Foreign and Colonial," some very sensible comments which are particularly interesting to me, as they touch on facts that I have been endeavouring to impress on breeders in England and America for over twenty-five years.

In 1874 I commenced the importation of Shire horses. I fixed upon them, after satisfying myself in a practical way that they were the best draft horses in the world, and just the sort to cross on our small native mares; knowing that the market for high-class draft horses in this country, if properly managed, would be practically unlimited.

At that time French and Belgian draft horses had gained a considerable footing, and their promoters naturally fought desperately against the introduction of Shires, well knowing the result would be another "Waterloo" if not checked, and their fears would surely have been realised had not the general depression in business during the nineties put a quietus on horse-breeding for nearly ten years.

During the years of prosperity the Shire had another and more dangerous enemy than the French and Belgian importer, viz., a set of unscrupulous men who, taking advantage of the low price at which unsound Shires could be bought, brought them here, and after fitting them up—concealing their blemishes as far as possible—sold them to unsuspecting, inexperienced patrons as typical high-class Shires. Of course, the defects were soon discovered, and the breed suffered as a consequence. Comparatively few of our farmers having had any experience with "side bones," "soarers," or "shiverers," they were easily imposed upon.

Our agricultural societies have not as strict rules as English and Scotch societies. No veterinary examination required. The judges are not always competent nor impartial, and as a result great injustice is often done in the awarding of valuable prizes.

It is impossible to estimate the injury resulting to American horse-breeding interests by the importation of unsound Shire stallions, and this loss has been shared also by English breeders, for, as your correspondent has correctly intimated, it has helped the French importers immensely, and proportionately retarded the sale of Shires.

Your correspondent suggests remedies that I have strongly urged, viz., the united efforts of reputable breeders to put an effectual bar to the exportation of animals for breeding purposes that are of inferior quality or having hereditary blemishes; this can be accomplished through the consular department.

The other suggestion is a good one that I have also proposed to several prominent breeders—that they combine and send over a consignment of desirable stallions and mares, and exhibit them at our leading shows.

It need not be done in a very expensive manner, and if borne by several public spirited breeders of means it would not be felt, and, if rightly managed, would result in big returns to them individually, and to English breeding interests generally.

It would not be necessary to bring what are recognised as the highest class in England. In fact, the greatest champions there would not be appreciated here, for they are not the best-suited to our needs.

There is a strong aversion in this country to the profuse "feather" that is so popular in England and Scotland; the main cause for this objection is found in the fact that in our best agricultural districts the soil is a rich black loam, which, when wet, is very sticky, adheres to the long hair, and is very difficult to remove. There being no gravel or stone procurable for road-makinfi purposes, the highways in those districts are liable to be very muddy several months in the year. In the far western ranch country, another pest exists in the form of a weed with an ugly burr, which, when ripe, easily detaches, and they collect in the long hair in perfect mats—of course, a great nuisance, which cannot be overcome while the long hair remains.

It is useless to explain to the farmers in those districts that the long hair is an indication of high breeding, for they answer at once, "We would rather have less breeding and less hair," and that preference accounts for so many patronising the Percherons and Belgians with their small, round, soft, meaty legs.

Successful merchants and manufacturers find that it pays to cater to the wishes or whims of their patrons, and to place their goods before the public in a way to force attention; the same course will pay in the world's horse markets.

If English breeders had been aware of the immense demand for draft stallions in America, and seen fit to cater to our needs at the start, they could have shut out all competition, for our people will have what they think the best for their purpose, regardless of cost.

Comparatively few American farmers have had the opportunity to study by observation the matter of horse-breeding that has been enjoyed by Englishmen for a century. It is only about thirty years since breeding of large horses began to attract much attention in the United States, shrewd men, with an eye only to their own profit, commenced importing heavy stallions from France and Belgium on a large scale. By subsidising the Press and rushing the business, they soon attracted general attention, and commenced the education of our farmers in horse-breeding on a *beef* basis.

Weight was made the chief consideration, and 2,000lbs. the standard, and as a consequence ninety per cent. of the inquiries for stallions commence, "I want one weighing a ton."

The Shire stallion that is most popular in the States is the smooth, round, compact sort, 16 to 16¾ hands, weighing 1,850 to 2,000lbs., with clean, flat, heavy bone, and as little feather as possible; bay, brown, or black colours, with little white; must be active, straight goers, and strictly sound. If a consignment of this stamp could be sent over, properly fitted, and shown at our leading agricultural exhibitions, it would result in great advancement of Shire interests on both sides of the water.

A mixed lot as to age and sex of, say, thirty to fifty head, would be a great attraction, and, if judiciously advertised, could be readily sold at remunerative prices at the close of the show season. Our show season commences about September 1st, and closes with the "International" at Chicago about December 1st.

GEO. E. BROWN.

Aurora, Illinois, April 12th, 1902.

"Prevention of White Scour in Calves."

Sir,—The Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland has issued and supplied me with a leaflet (No. 11) on the Prevention of White Scour in Calves, a copy of which I enclose.

Darwin, "Origin of Species," ch. 111, "Struggle for Existence" . . . "but in several parts of the world insects determine the existence of cattle. Perhaps Paraguay offers the most curious instance of this; for here neither cattle, horses, nor dogs

have ever run wild, though they swarm southward and northward in a feral state. And Agara and Renager have shown that this is caused by the greater number in Paraguay of a certain fly which lays its eggs in the navels of these animals when first born."

Professor Nocard in this leaflet (1) "That the disease is caused by a microbe which is discovered in diseased calves." (5) "The navel of nearly all the calves were affected by, or which have died of 'white scour' in County Limerick was found to be diseased." (8) "This supposition is completely confirmed by the fact that nearly all the calves that suffered from, or died of, 'White Scour' were, so far as they were examined found to have diseased navels. There remains no doubt therefore that the navel is the chief, if not the sole, seat of entry of the disease into the young calf." (9) "Professor Nocard states that the Lung Disease is associated with, and is but a sequel to 'White Scour.' Calves that have been affected with and have survived 'White Scour' are very likely to fall a prey to Lung Disease." While all will agree with Professor Nocard that Lung Disease would be a sequel to White Scour (provided that the animals live long enough), I cannot for one moment agree with Professor Nocard that diseased navel would be a precursor to White Scour. It is stated in the pamphlet that nineteen calves lived, although not treated according to the Professor's directions. If we interpret the pamphlet correctly, the writer knew not how, or by what process, the nineteen calves survived. The whole pamphlet, in fact, leads one to the conclusion that the treatment recommended in the pamphlet is in an inchoate state. It has been stated that there is no safer place for a cow to calve than in the grazing field. Darwin, "Voyage round the World," said he never saw a dead calf. I hold, however, there ought to be a separate house for cows to be placed in for calving, and also, if I might be allowed, cows ought to be milked in a separate house, and not in the stable, where the air is so polluted as to partially contaminate the milk.

From the disclosures in the leaflet one is inclined to ask how are we to be certain about sound lymph for vaccination purposes?

Recently my attention was arrested by the high rate of mortality in infants. After considerable thought and research, I came to the conclusion that the "retention of the Meconium" is the cause of much infantile mortality, and probably the parent of much consumption in the human family, and tuberculosis in cattle. In the year 1900 I proceeded to put my theory into practice, as follows: Practising on a newly-born calf, it was plain that if the Meconium was to be expelled from within, force was necessary which would be highly injurious to the life of the young animal, particularly as it appeared to me that the anus was, according to some law in the economy of nature, a sealed book. I therefore directed the byreman to put a greased finger into the rectum. The withdrawal of the finger was followed by the expulsion of the offending excrement. This was followed by his expressed surprise and my satisfaction. Thinking I had succeeded very well for a first attempt, I allowed the calf to exist on its own resources without any further interference from me. This calf did very well in rearing. The owner told me that when selling his young stock this heifer was the first animal picked on in his herd.

In 1901 I first heard of White Scour in calves in Munster. I advertised for a diseased calf, and exercised all the ingenuity possible to obtain one, without success. I have, however, a settled opinion that the retention of the Meconium is the origin of White Scour in calves, and without the removal of the meconium soon after birth and a separate existence obtained, in my opinion this is the cause and first step in the cure of White Scour in a nut-shell, and that it is futile to attempt to cure until my scheme as indicated is followed. The cheapest, most expeditious, and safest method of treating all young animals, and one which will recommend itself to the humblest individual in the cattle trade. The more fastidious might form a cane of tallow or soap dipped in a little hot water previous to insertion. Hoping you will find room for this letter in your influential paper, and thanking you in anticipation, yours truly.

JAMES WALLACE.

Mount Clifton, Belfast,
15th April, 1902.

P.S.—At the beginning of the present season a city dairyman, at my instigation, adopted my Hygenic Treatment with the greatest success. The calves that he sent to market were bright and lively, and he was thus enabled to effect a quicker and better sale. And while writing he has just called with the most favourable report, and he informs me that a Mr. B., a stock farmer, had purchased calves from him for several years, volunteered to state that this dairyman's calves had done better this year than any he had got from him before, or from any other person.—J. W.

Agriculture in Herts and Essex.

Speech by Mr. Hanbury.

For some time past there has been in existence at Bishop's Stortford a poultry, pigeon, rabbit, and cage bird society, founded primarily for the development of the poultry industry in Herts and Essex, but lately this has, at the request of several influential residents in those counties, changed its name to the Bishop's Stortford Farmers' Agricultural and Poultry Association, and will henceforth take an active part in the wide spreading movement for the amelioration of all branches of agriculture. Sir James Blyth, Bart., is president of the society, and Mr. Abel H. Smith, M.P., vice-president.

For the public inauguration of the association, and also to consider remedial measures in connection with the depressed condition of agriculture in the counties of Herts and Essex, an influential meeting was held at the Great Hall, Bishop's Stortford, on Thursday. The Countess of Warwick presided, and among others present were the Right Hon. R. W. Hanbury, M.P., President of the Board of Agriculture, Mrs. Hanbury, the Right Hon. Horace C. Plunket, President, of the Irish Board of Agriculture; Mr. Abel Henry Smith, M.P., Mr. G. B. Hudson, M.P., and Colonel G. B. Archer-Houblon, on Lady Warwick's right; and the Earl of Warwick, Sir James Blyth, Bart, Miss Blyth, Mr. J. A. Pease, M.P., Mr. C. T. Part, Mr. G. A. Lowndes, Mr. E. Pigg, Mr. and Mrs. E. B. Barnard, the Rev. H. M. Oswald, Admiral Vander Meulen, and others, on Lady Warwick's left. The Urban Council of Bishop's Stortford embraced the opportunity of presenting Mr. Hanbury with an address of welcome.

Mr. C. T. Park, chairman of the Agriculture Committee of the Herts County Council, explained their scheme of technical instruction in agricultural knowledge, which was to help farmers in experiments on their own farms, with scholarships at Cambridge for farmers and their sons, competitions for labourers, etc. Last year four farmers went through the course.

The Countess of Warwick, who presided, said she yielded to no one in her love for the land we lived upon. She was glad Bishop's Stortford was leading the way in a useful direction. Success went to those who had knowledge, and she hoped Mr. Hanbury would encourage their efforts. The motto of the Royal Agricultural Society was "Practice with Science," and in no other profession was science more hand in hand with practice than in agriculture. It was the fashion to run down the heavy lands of the eastern counties, but there was no land more fruitful if dealt with in the right way. She urged farmers not to set their faces against more knowledge.

Mr. E. B. Barnard, J.P., then presented the address of welcome to Mr. Hanbury. In the course of the address the Council said: "We appreciate the sympathetic tone of your public utterances and admire the feeling with which you approach the practical agriculturist in endeavouring to secure his confidence, without which no progress can be made." The address, which was artistically prepared, was signed by Mr. Herbert Sworder, the chairman of the Council.

Mr. Hanbury expressed his acknowledgments and said he welcomed the invitation to Bishop's Stortford, for the town not merely occupied an important position in the agricultural world, but had also given birth to the greatest Empire-builder that England had ever known. (Cheers.) He could not help remembering the marvellous generosity of Mr. Rhodes, whose wealth was going to many a land. In disposing of his English estate by his will, Mr. Rhodes provided that under no circumstances was that property to go to a mere loafer, and this showed that Mr. Rhodes considered that the country had still got a great part to play in English rural life. There was evidently an idea running in Mr. Rhodes's mind that it would be well if country gentlemen spent less time in London and the Riviera and more time among their tenants in the country rural districts. Another proof that this was one of Mr. Rhodes's ideas was shown by the fact that he insisted in the examinations for the scholarships which he had founded that consideration should be given, not to mere book learning alone, but also to athletic exercises and the building up of physique as well as brain. Mr. Rhodes was, in short, convinced that we must have men possessing the courage and self-reliance which were associated with a healthy, vigorous life.

He (Mr. Hanbury) had attended the present meeting because he felt that Government Departments were, after all, made for the people rather than that the people were made for them, and that it was accordingly desirable that Government officials should be brought into contact with the people. In agricultural matters, personal contact and personal communications were of vital importance. It was impossible for the President of the Board of Agriculture to administer that Board properly if he merely sat in his armchair in London, and he was accordingly going about the country and bringing himself into contact with those whose interests he felt it his duty to support. The styles of farming which prevailed in England were very varied, and it was impossible, therefore, to indulge in mere generalities. The Minister of Agriculture must go into each district, and ascertain the local needs in each particular district, and must not argue from the wants of one locality as to the wants of another.

He should like to see the land in more hands than it was at present. (Hear, hear.) The system of land transfer in this country was also too costly. The legal expenses attending the transfer of a small parcel of land were sometimes greater than the cost of the land itself, and this was a matter in which a change should be made. But he confessed that he had been disappointed with some of the remedies which had been proposed as universal panaceas for agricultural depression. For instance, the repeal of the malt tax had been strongly urged as a great panacea some years since, but it had not been attended with all the advantages which had been anticipated from it. Bimetallism was another nostrum which had been proposed, but we did not hear much of it now, and when the great gold fields of South Africa were fully reopened we should probably hear still less.

The Chambers of Agriculture had again been asking of late that the registration duty on corn should be restored. This had been done, but merely for revenue purposes, and he did not believe that it would raise the price of grain even in an infinitesimal degree. If a registration duty on grain did raise prices, the rise would probably do certain classes of farmers more harm than good, as they had to import feeding stuffs, but he believed that a mere revenue tax such as that which had been proposed by the Chancellor of the Exchequer would not affect prices. Cheap carriage by sea had been for many years the greatest enemy of agriculture, but farmers had also suffered from cheap competition by land. It was to be regretted that the railway companies did not study the interests of the British farmer more than they did. But the farmer was at a great disadvantage, in that he only forwarded small quantities of his produce at a time, and was charged accordingly. Where railway companies owned steamers in connection with their lines, they could charge pretty much as they pleased, as their steam shipping rates were under no control.

It was to be regretted that we were so much at the mercy of rings in a Protectionist country like the United States, which now regarded England as a dumping-ground for their cheaper agricultural produce. It was important that our food supplies should be placed upon a regular and stable basis. But 80 per cent. of the beef imported, and 50 per cent. of the grain imported came from the United States, and as the meat trade of America was in the hands of three or four great firms, the present position of affairs could not be regarded as satisfactory. We should produce more meat at home, then our food supplies would not only be cheap, but more continuous. Home-produced meat always commanded the best price, and there was certain to be a good demand for it, not only among the upper classes, but among the working classes of the country. Perhaps the automobile would yet bring the farmer into closer and readier touch with the consumer. With regard to education, it should be sensible, and be based upon the common-sense principle of retaining young people in the rural districts, rather than driving them into towns. The depopulation of the rural districts might also be arrested by removing some industries, and even some Government establishments from London to the country, where they could be carried on with better economic results. (Applause.)

Sir James Blyth, speaking as President, pointed out that between 1896 and 1901, the value of agricultural produce from abroad had increased twelve millions; poultry had decreased two millions, and he saw no reason why, with proper management, this two millions might not come into Herts and Essex.

Mr. Plunket said the success of English farmers would be a great encouragement to those across the Irish Channel.

Sir Thomas Fowell Buxton proposed a vote of thanks to the speakers, which was supported by Mr. Frank Ellis and Mr. Pease, M.P. After other votes of thanks had been passed the meeting closed.

Before attending the meeting, Mr. Hanbury paid a visit to Sir James Blyth's farms at Blythwood, Stansted, and inspected the Royal Commission Farms. Mr. Hanbury, who was met by Sir James Blyth and a number of distinguished visitors, including medical and other scientists, was greatly interested in all he heard and saw about the farms which, by Sir James Blyth's thoughtfulness and generosity, are being devoted to experiments, in the hope of finding out preventive and curative measures for tuberculosis. The party took luncheon at Blythwood, Sir James's residence.

THE WEATHER

MONDAY (April 21st).—Cloudy weather prevailed in most parts of the British Islands, and rain again fell at several places in the North and West. Rain was measured in the morning over nearly the entire country, as the result of the fall in the preceding twenty-four hours, but the amounts were mostly small. The winds were everywhere Southerly, and they were not generally as strong as on Sunday. Temperature was high during Sunday night, but the readings during the day were not generally much in excess of the average.

TUESDAY (April 22nd).—A large cyclonic disturbance had its centre in close proximity to our West coasts, and under its influence the wind had become Southerly or South-Easterly over the entire Kingdom, and had considerably increased in strength. Rain had fallen generally, and the amount measured in the morning for the preceding twenty-four hours was decidedly large in the South-West, the fall in the South of Ireland exceeding an inch. The temperature during the day was generally low for the time of year, especially in the North-East of England, where the highest readings were below 50deg. The morning was rainy in London, but the afternoon was fine, and the highest temperature was only 57deg.

WEDNESDAY (April 23rd).—Fine weather prevailed in most parts of our Islands, but the conditions were far from settled, and there was generally a good deal of cloud. The centre of a large cyclonic disturbance was still situated near our north-west coasts, and the winds continued strong from between south and south-west. Rain had fallen since Tuesday morning over the entire country, but the amounts measured were mostly small. The shade temperature nowhere fell below 40 degrees during Tuesday night, and in the south-west the lowest readings were about 50 degrees. The mid-day temperatures were not generally very different from the average, but they were higher than on the previous day in the south of England.

THURSDAY (April 24th).—The weather was fine over the greater portion of our Islands, but it was generally less settled in the North and West than in other districts. The winds continued Southerly over the entire Kingdom, although the force had decreased in most places. Rain was measured in the morning, as the result of the fall in the preceding twenty-four hours, in the West and North-West, and the amounts were mostly small. Wednesday night was again warm, and it was only in the North of Scotland that the temperature fell below 40deg., while in many places the lowest readings were between 45deg. and 50deg. The mid-day temperatures exceeded 60deg. in many parts of England. The day was very fine in London, and in the afternoon the thermometer in the shade registered 64deg.

FRIDAY (April 25th).—The weather was fine over the whole of the British islands, but there was a good deal of cloud and mist in places on our Welsh coasts. The winds were mostly light, but they had become easterly in the south and west, and easterly winds were spreading over the whole country. Slight rain was measured in the morning as the result of the fall since the previous day at a few stations in the west. Thursday night was rather cold in the Midland and eastern districts, but the midday temperatures were fairly high.

SATURDAY and SUNDAY (April 26th and 27th).—Strong easterly winds were experienced over our islands during these two days, and on Sunday an easterly gale was blowing in the south of England and in the English Channel. The barometer continued high over the northern portion of the kingdom, and a region of relatively low barometer was situated to the south of us. Heavy rain was measured on Sunday morning in the south-west of England as the result of the fall in the preceding twenty-four hours, and rain again fell during the day on our south-west coasts. The temperature remained in fair agreement with the average, but there was a slight frost in parts of Scotland on Saturday night. The weather continued fine in London, and the wind was very strong from the east on Sunday, blowing with the full force of a gale at times in the gusts.

The Late Mr. George Ashburner.

It is with regret we have to announce the death after a very brief illness, of Mr. George Ashburner, of Low Hall, Kirkby-in-Furness, one of the most prominent and successful agriculturists in the North of England. He and his father farmed the Low Hall estate, which consists of 450 acres, under the late Duke of Devonshire, and Mr. Victor Cavendish, M.P., for the past fifty-one years. The deceased gentleman was a very successful breeder of shorthorns, and his stock had reached such a high standard of excellence that animals bred by him brought fancy prices from American and other buyers. He was also a successful breeder of Shire and Clydesdale horses,



THE LATE MR. GEORGE ASHBURNER.

while he also owned an excellent stock of sheep, which frequently won premier awards at leading shows. He was an ardent and enthusiastic member of local agricultural societies, and very frequently he acted as judge of shorthorns at the Royal and other shows, being regarded as one of the best experts in this department of agriculture. The cause of his fatal illness is attributed to a chill he contracted quite recently when travelling to Ireland to officiate as a judge at some show. He took a great interest in public affairs, an dhis demise is deeply regretted.

The Late Mr. David Buttar.

The loss of Mr. David Buttar will be keenly felt by agriculturists in the North. His death was not unexpected, as for some time past Mr. Buttar had been suffering from a weakness of the heart's action, ensuing on a heavy attack of pleurisy, to which was added symptoms of pneumonia. Mr. Buttar has for years been a most familiar figure in Strathmore and district, and his friendly advice and kindliness of manner will be much missed. It is as a breeder of Shropshire sheep that Mr. Buttar was most known. The formation of his famous herd was the deceased gentleman's chief interest in life for the past thirty-five years. At the beginning of that period he was a keeper of halfbreds, then, realising the great



THE LATE MR. DAVID BUTTAR.

qualities of the Shropshire, he purchased a ram of that breed to cross with his halfbred ewes. The excellence of the sheep thus produced being fully demonstrated, and having taken several prizes with them, Mr. Buttar turned his attention to breeding pure Shropshires. His success with these, owing to judicious selection and careful rearing, is well known. As an arable farmer Mr. Buttar also had great success. This was in no small measure due to the enlightened interest he took in scientific advances in the manner of working the soil. As a Director of the Highland and Agricultural Society, Mr. Buttar gave his talents freely to the service of the Society, and in devoting his attention to the practical part of the administration proved of great assistance. His specific position was that of steward to the forage department, and in this his energy was untiring.

FARM PROSPECTS

Bucks (Central).

We have had some nice showers, but generally a slight frost in the morning. Still, things have come on fairly well. Corn crops are mostly looking well, but pastures are rather bare where sheep have been in them. Beef has been scarce, and making a little more money, but this week is much lower. Trade for mutton is very slack; where it all comes from seems a puzzle, as roots have been scarce all through, and we thought there would be scarcely any mutton left by this time.

Wheat is making a little more, but there is very little left in the farmers' hands. It is simply ridiculous to think this shilling duty makes the difference. I don't know why the farmer is simply thought by the Radicals to be above their sympathy. If they look at the list of candidates for the Agricultural Benevolent Institution, I fancy they would see that farming is a not very profitable game; in fact, I know that very few farmers get any interest for the capital they employ, even if they can farm without losing capital, which I think not many can.—J. T. (April 25th).

Cornwall.

The season cannot be called at all forward. We had an extremely mild time in March, but through April it has been cold and dry, and the country is not looking nearly as fresh as it was four or five weeks since. The wheat is turning a poor colour, and in some cases the wire-worms are doing a lot of damage. It has been a good time for getting in the oats and barley; nearly all sown. A few more fine days, and all except those who are generally behind will have finished. In some cases, on the heavy soil, the land has only just got fit for working on.

Prices for cattle are very good. Good, fresh Devon steers and ripe, fat cattle are selling extremely well, but, unfortunately, very few in this part will benefit by the rise for some time to come. Winter provision has been so scarce that the cattle are in anything but good condition, and, as for fat ones, it is out of the question. If we are favoured with some mild showers shortly, things will look a bit more hopeful than they have done for some time past; it will be very welcome, and much needed.

Cumberland.

"Black" rain on 22nd nearly cleared our mountains of snow, and to-day real sun warmeth, makes grass, etc., etc., grow. Oats and seeds being down, potato planting is now well on. Grass "lettings" are over, and at increase of about 10 per cent. an acre on previous years. "Stints" do not come till middle of May. The Budget has caused here no increase in corn, but flour has gone up. Cumbrians are all good bakers, and every house, nearly, has an oven; so 4lb. loaf multiplication of the Hicks-Beach fraction of 1d. does not affect us. Let town and factory stupids, if they can screw up any courage, look after themselves. Agriculturists, however, are in the same boat, because feeding stuff for pigs and cattle is now dearer. The Vicar of Plumpton, under the heading, "Budget as Schoolmaster," is on the warpath in various British and Irish papers, and in the "Daily News" of 25th inst., suggests a source of revenue in a letter of which this is copy:—

"A TAX ON AMUSEMENTS?

"Sir,—Everyone must eat, but no one need buy a ticket for in or out door amusement places. My suggestion, made last week, is that a stamp duty commencing with a penny should be charged on all such tickets, including excursion tickets by land or sea.—Yours, etc.,

"H. M. Kennedy, Vicar of Plumpton.

"Cumberland, April 23."

—(April 25th.)

Derbyshire (West).

The weather up to last Tuesday was very cold and winterly, with very sharp night frosts, but on that day we had a good fall of rain.

Since that time quite a change into springlike weather, with just slight night frosts. The fields are now showing like spring; the wheat is looking fairly well, and spring corn is now coming up. Stock generally healthy, but stackyards are nearly all empty, and hay and straw is very short, but we hope to soon get a full bit of grass for the cattle and sheep. All feed prices kept up. There

seems a good promise of another good fruit year. The blossoms have been kept back, and now the leaves are getting ready to protect them.—C. M. (April 18th).

Devon.

The season has been favourable. Wheats look well, but are thin in the ground in some districts. Barley and oats have come up quickly, and have a healthy appearance. The catch fodder crops of rye trifolinm, and vetches are forward and abundant. Grass, both from rotation and permanent, is growing fast, and a moist May will secure good hay crops, which are wanted after such a season as last. All work well forward. Many mangolds tilled, and preparation for cabbage, kale, and swedes going on. Fat stock have risen £2 per head, and good stores selling well, and prospects at present decidedly promising. The blossom on the fruit-trees looks like a good season for that crop, but frosts may alter that. The welcome rain of the last few days has caused rapid vegetation, and the outlook is more cheering than for some years past at this date.—G. H. (April 24th).

East Suffolk.

Spring corn has come up well, and wheats look well and a good colour, but some pieces which went off in the winter recover slowly. Feed is beginning to grow now, and is badly wanted. There has been but little profit in the fattening of stock this winter, although prices—for pork especially—have been better, and now the higher prices for feeding stuffs make matters worse.

Looking at

The Tax on Corn,

from a national point of view, it is unsound in principle. It would be wrong to tax anything that affects trade. No matter what the thing is, where it can be produced or manufactured cheapest and best, there let it be done, and let free and fair competition all the world over rule it. Looking at the tax in an agricultural light, it is a tax on the producer of meat, milk, eggs, etc., and it comes at a time when the farmer has turned his attention considerably away from corn-production and adapted himself and farm more to the production of other things.—H. P. Y. (April 25th).

Leicester.

The prospects of a good season are at present perfect—grass, grain and fruit. But we are not out of the wood yet as to weather. Cattle that have laid out all winter without sheds look well, and have practically required no hay. A good crop of lambs. T. P. C. (April 25th).

Staffordshire (Mid).

Although vegetation, notwithstanding the favourable weather of the last few days, is still rather backward, the condition of the land, both arable and grass, is satisfactory. The surface soil is almost everywhere in good tilth on plough land, and to-day I notice that the mangolds are beginning to make an appearance above ground. Our pastures and meadows, although rather bare of grass, have a healthy sward, and live stock are doing well.

The Proposals in the Budget

of duties of 3d. per cwt. on corn and 5d. on flour and meal, if persisted in, will be looked upon as a tax on each head of live stock, from the hen to the horse. The milk-selling farmers of the Midlands have, during the past winter, as also during the drought of the preceding autumn and summer, bought very largely of corn and meal now made dutiable. Of course, the duties on corn and meal will have a corresponding effect on oil-cakes of all kinds, which will consequently be made dearer by the duties. It would be difficult to give a satisfactory reason for putting an import duty on corn and meal used for live stock and letting cakes come in free of duty. The effect on farmers is absolutely a discouragement in the use of foreign feeding-stuffs, inasmuch as the duties are an indirect tax on home-made meat and milk. Surely, if imposed at all, these duties will last only one year.—T. C. S. (April 25th).

Nottinghamshire.

The weather has been more genial during the past week, and some nice-growing showers have fallen, which has caused the crops and vegetation to make a manifest show in growth, more especially the pastures. The wheat plant has recovered from the severe check which it sustained by the late sharp frosts; many pieces are now beginning to tiller nicely. But as a rule, the plant is not too thick on the land. With regard to the acreage under wheat, there is about the same number as last year hereabouts; perhaps little more breadth under spring wheat. There is, however, only about 10 per cent. of the old stock of wheat left on the farmers' hands, and perhaps not that, for old stocks are remarkably scarce; the same remark applies to hay stocks, hence keep is very scarce and dear. At the late fairs held, beasts, although fetching good prices, dragged a little, for the pastures are bare. There is a deal of discussion anent the corn tax, and wheat has risen in price; but all right-thinking people have not much to say against it, and the stir will end in a fiasco. In many towns the butchers have risen the price of beef 1d. lb., owing to the scarcity of the article. The cereals have come out of ground well. Many farmers have begun to set potatoes, and prepare the land for mangels, etc.; this work being well forward. The store stock are generally healthy, but not in very high condition; the same may be said of the flocks. Taking all round the outlook at present in North Notts is not very roseate, but a little better than last spring, if anything, but there is room for improvement yet.—"Agrestic." (April 25th.)

Somerset (West.)

The season at this time of the year is pretty well all that could be desired for agricultural purposes. We have rubbed through the winter with our live stock almost better than was expected; the last ten days of showery weather has caused a great growth in vegetation. If straw and hay are nearly exhausted, we are able to turn our cattle in the pastures by night, which is better than keeping them in a dirty lair. We are not free from little frosts by night, tending to keep, no doubt, vegetation in health from making too rapid growth. I think we may say that Springtime is in good season, and altogether looks fruitful. We have had a good time for spring sowing and seeding, and that class of work is pretty well completed, and the corn visible above ground. Field work generally is forward.

The bulk of grass for hay will now be unfed. But although corn and grass now look and promise well, nothing can be advanced as to the results of crop. Live stock generally are in a healthy state, and, fortunate for the man who is well stocked, for both cattle and sheep grazing or fat are selling at an advanced price to what they were a month ago, and I trust that the year may finish up as well as the start gives hope.—A. B. (April 25th.)

Westmoreland.

Spring sowing, that is of grain, is now completed, and a most favourable season it has been all round; it is scarcely possible to conceive one more favourable; the land has been in the pink of condition, and its appearance when the labour is completed is more like a neatly finished garden than that of ordinary team-work, and the showery, genial weather since sowing was completed is pushing it rapidly forward. Many fields are already green when seen in the early morning, and as every seed can scarcely fail to vegetate there is an all-round favourable prospect for a bountiful harvest. With our capricious climate we can have many cheques and drawbacks; still, a good start is always important. The preparation of the land for roots was proceeding rapidly, and the land was in fine order, and here and there the planting of that most capricious crop (potato) had already commenced; but the appearance of the drills are somewhat rough and harmonise badly with the beautiful finish on the adjoining fields of corn; as the results of last year's crop (with the exception of those who were fortunate enough to dispose of them soon after lifting), they have in many cases proved of less value than even the short corn crop, as the latter has generally yielded better than it was expected, and the demand has been, and still continues, good, and the prices higher than for several years past.

We had a copious rain on Tuesday, which suspended team labour for two days on strong soils, but the ploughs are again at work, preparing for mangel and early turnips; the former proved a good crop, and they are coming out of the pits in splendid condition, and are proving a most valuable auxiliary to the deficient turnip crop. A much greater breadth of mangel is likely to be sown this year than in the past, as up to the present there has been no appearance of disease similar to what root crops of other descriptions are subject. Beef and store stock have sold well ever since the commencement of the year, and the former continues to rise; and Autumn-bought cattle have paid well for their keep. Sheep and mutton have, on the contrary, been very disappointing, and in the early winter left little or nothing for their expensive keep. The lambing season, both early and late, has been all that could be desired, and the crop of lambs abundant and the losses small.—T. B. (April 25th.)

Foreign Prospects.

FRANCE.—Putting aside some local complaints as to too much moisture, the wheat crop presents a fine appearance, and the latter remark is applicable to rye, barley, and oats.

HOLLAND.—The condition of the cereal crops is regarded as generally satisfactory, and weather favours the spring sowings.

GERMANY.—The condition of the crops in Prussia in mid-April compare very favourably with the returns at this time last year. Wheat and rye standing as "good" against "average" in 1901. Our Berlin correspondent says that this report, in conjunction with favourable weather, caused a weaker feeling in the market.

ITALY.—In the Northern districts weather favours wheat, but in the Centre and South more rain is desired.

SPAIN.—Owing to copious rains in most parts of the Peninsula, the outlook for the cereals harvest is very promising. In many provinces an abundant wheat yield is expected.

RUSSIA.—Mild rainy weather now prevalent over a large portion of the south and south-west is proving highly beneficial to cereal crops. Snow has not disappeared from Central and Eastern districts, and it is believed that the crops have escaped frost damage.

HUNGARY.—An official report states that cereal crops have wintered satisfactorily and plants are in fine form. Recent rains have benefited the spring sowings.

AUSTRIA.—Autumn sowings have come well through the winter, and the outlook is hopeful. Spring sowings are almost completed under fair conditions.

UNITED STATES.—The weather has been unfavourable for wheat, and there is a moderate decline in prospects, but the general average condition is fair. Oats have made a rather poor start. Maize is starting well in the South, and conditions are favourable for planting in the principal sections. There is an increased acreage in the North-West.—*Dornbusch.*

Agricultural Imports.

The following is an account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended April 19, 1902, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year:—

Animals Living.	1901	1902.		1901	1902.
	No.	No.		Cwt.	Cwt.
Cattle ...	14,020	4,498	Wheat ...	2,064,200	834,446
Sheep.....	20,038	3,836	Flour.....	522,700	193,560
Swine.....	—	—	Barley ...	324,500	105,604
*Horses...	—	834	Oats	368,800	258,400
			Peas	17,600	33,384
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Beans ...	20,200	14,041
Beef	114,503	68,749	Maize ...	839,300	618,977
Mutton...	104,214	66,854		Bunches	Bunches
Pork	22,273	13,457	Bananas	47,497	64,423
Bacon ...	137,046	114,948			
Beef, salt	5,530	2,868		Cwt.	Cwt.
Hams.....	32,178	20,620	Apples ...	23,379	34,482
Pork, salt	3,692	3,720	Apricots & Peaches	17	—
Meat, salt & Fresh	15,960	16,314	Cherries	—	—
Do. pres.	15,864	7,824	Currants	—	—
Butter ...	64,615	71,914	Goosebr's	—	—
M'rg'rine	18,173	18,737	Grapes ...	441	336
Cheese ...	31,802	34,475	Lemons...	11,773	18,585
Milk, Fresh, in cans or drums.	60	228	Oranges	80,872	174,100
			Pears.....	146	368
			Plums ...	--	10
			Strawb'r's	—	3
			Oth'r Fr't	1,904	2,049
Milk ...				Tons.	Tons.
Cream.	107	60	Hay	3,293	8,536
			*Straw ...	—	1,661
Milk pr's'v'd, other				Bush.	Bush.
			Onions ...	143,676	160,211
kinds ...	44	47		Cwt.	Cwt.
Con. Milk	22,044	12,654	Hops	357	1,080
			* Locust Beans	—	24,910
	No.	No.	Potatoes	248,682	49,282
Eggs	294,045	294,241	Tom'to's	9,.56	13,429
			Other	Value.	Value.
Poultry & Game	Value.	Value	Veg'bles	£10,833	£16,599
	£13,838	£15,110		Cwt.	Cwt.
			Dried ...	568	332
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Pres'v'd		
Rabbits	4,647	5,690	by canning ...	4,326	4,226
Lard	65,387	48,095			

* Not shown in 1901

Damages for the Poisoning of Agisted Bullocks.—At the Leyburn County Court recently before, his Honour Judge Templer, Francis Plews, farmer, Leyburn, claimed £24 from James Ake, Poal Park Farm, Constable Burton, for the loss of three bullocks which had been poisoned whilst under defendant's care for agistment. The claim was reduced by £4 16s. due for agistment. The case for the plaintiff was that he placed 11 bullocks with the defendant, and the three in question were poisoned by eating of a yew tree in a grotto adjoining the farm, which was not adequeately fenced. The plaintiff alleged that defendant had said he knew the grotto fencing was dangerous and bad, and that he had been at Mr. Rodwell, the estate agent, all the summer to have it repaired. James Ake, the defendant, said he saw the beasts every day they were with him. The fence, in his opinion, was a good one on the morning when the cattle were found dead, and he denied in toto the alleged conversation respecting his having asked Mr. Rodwell to repair it. His Honour held there was practically no defence, and gave judgment for the amount claimed, less 12s. received for the hides, with costs on scale A.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Malt.—We continue to have a limited enquiry at about late rates. Barley 9d to 1s per qr. dearer. Wheat advanced 1s 6d to 2s per qr. Oats and maize made 1s per qr. more money. Flour improved 1s 6d per sack.—NIXON, GOWER AND Co.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—Although to-day's attendance was small, sustaining influences were again prominent in the general departments, but buying was off down in most cases since noon. With the supply of English wheat now exhausted here, and exceptionally scarce in the country districts, there is nothing to test the range of price, enhanced figures being, however, given when occasion arises. Foreign sorts of all descriptions are at a premium. There was no pressure whatever evinced in the flour market, with patents for immediate delivery very scarce, and American fancy brands almost unobtainable, as of late. Mayblossom, 25s 6d; of second patents, Guinea Gold, 23s 6d. Bakers' grades continue unrelieved in supply. Iron Duke, 20s to 20s 6d ex store, Cascadians, 23s. Country flour is still influenced by excessive scarcity of English wheat. Town households, 24s 6d, and whites, 3s per sack more. Town-made, No. 1 households, 22s 6d cash ex mill. Grinding barley remains in moderate supply on spot, and Odessa again rather dearer, ex quay at 20s 3d to 20s 6d, with 20s ex ship. Oats were again assisted by consumptive inquiries, although not to any extent, with sellers resisting lower offers in most cases. Maize unchanged.

Mark Lane, Friday.—Everything worked smoothly on the London Corn Exchange to-day. Wheat generally 6d firmer, and maize 3d to 6d dearer since last Friday. On the other hand, there was only a limited attendance, with buying of small dimensions. The English wheat trade may be considered now over, with farmers refusing to sell except at further enhanced prices, while busy on the land. Whites, 32s to 34s, and reds at 31s 6d to 33s per quarter, according to sample, showing a still higher range. In the country, 30s 6d to 31s, free on rail, would be the general figures named. With scarcity on spot, sellers of foreign descriptions find no difficulty in establishing late enhanced rates; but buyers abide events while working on present holdings. No. 1 Northern Duluth inspection quoted at 32s 3d landed, and 32s ex ship to arrive. No. 1 hard Manitoba, 33s 9d, in former position. Hard Kansas Winters, 32s ex ship to come up, and none on offer ex granary. Australian goes into consumption firmly up to 32s 6d and rather over, ex ship, 496lb. New Zealand Tuscan (duty free) ranges at 31s 6d to 32s 6d ex store. Both Russian and Indian remain above United Kingdom parity. River Plate nominal in absence of offers. There was nothing fresh in the flour market. Millers were asking high prices, and actual shortage becomes more felt respecting fancy patents. Mayblossom, 25s 6d; or second patents, Guinea Gold, 23s 6d; and bakers, Iron Duke, 20s to 20s 6d ex store; Cascadias, 23s ex store; town made, No. 1 household, cash, ex mill, 22s 6d. Grinding barley unaltered, and in moderate supply. Odessa, 20s 3d ex quay, with Danubian in same position at 20s. Fair poultry, 521b Danubian, 22s. Malting nominal for English, and the season for malt being over renders nothing fresh. Foreign steady. Oats were again selling at late rates, with no falling off in consumptive attention. Mixed Canadian maize continues out of the market, and nominal.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Wheat again dearer, but rather on account of the scarcity than through the duty. Other sorts of corn were also up in sympathy. White wheat, 31s to 33s; red ditto, 30s to 32s; black oats, 21s to 24s; white ditto, 23s to 26s; round maize 24s to 25s.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, 27s to 28s per qr; do red, 30s 6d to 31s 6d per qr.; barley, 27s to 30s per qr.; beans, 34s to 35s per qr.; oats (black), 19s to 21s per qr.; peas, 32s per qr. Market 1s to 2s advance for wheat. Oats and other corn 6d to 1s.

Birmingham, Wednesday.—Trade was quiet, but prices generally continue to advance. Foreign wheats were 3d to 6d per qr. dearer. English wheats 11s to 11s 6d per bag; 6d per quarter more money was asked for grinding barley, quotations ranging from £1 3s to £1 6s per qr. Liverpool maize 3d per qr. higher, both Plate and round making 23s to 23s 3d sharpness.

Boston, Wednesday.—Wheat, 31s and 31s 6d; grinding barley, 23s 6d; beans, 35s and 37s; maize, 23s to 23s 6d

Braintree, Wednesday.—Wheat in small supply, and prices advanced from 1s to 2s per quarter. The trade was good. Red wheat made up to 32s per quarter, and white 33s.

Brighton, Thursday.—Old white wheat, 33s to 34s; old red ditto, 32s to 33s; barley, 29s to 34s; grinding ditto, 22s to 23s; English oats, 22s to 25s; beans, 35s to 36s. Oats 6d to 9d dearer; barley, 9d. dearer; American flour 1s dearer. Wheat in small supply, and 2s dearer on the week. Quiet trade and small attendance.

Bristol, Thursday.—There has been a good business since our last. To-day English wheat was very scarce, making a shilling advance. Foreign 6d dearer; grinding barley 3d dearer; maize 1s more money; oats very firm. Flour sales have again been fairly numerous, and a further advance of 6d to 1s has taken place.—GRACE BROTHERS.

Bury, Wednesday.—Wheat: Farmers seemed indisposed to part with their samples, although the actual advance in values considerably exceeds the about 1s per quarter import duty on foreign wheat. Rather extreme prices prices were asked at the opening of the market, but although the supply was only small, business could not be done at anything over 30s 6d to 31s 6d per 504lbs. Flour was a strong trade, at 2s per sack advance. Oats, beans, peas, lentils, and grinding barley fully maintained their last week's advance. Maize was firm at the recent advance, as also was maize germ. Linseed cakes: English were offered rather lower, at £8 15s to £9, but foreign were firm, at £8 5s to £8 10s per ton. Cotton cakes firm Milling offals remain very scarce, and are helped by the duty on imported meals.

Cambridge, Saturday.—The local markets have been scantily supplied during the week. Wheat is now in few hands, and holders demand high prices. Farmers report well of the growing crops. At this market to-day farmers sold rather more readily at the advanced prices. Supplies were not large, and millers were forced to give 1s to 1s 6d more money; red wheat making 32s to 32s mills, 31s 6d to 32s 6d near stations, and white 33s. Oats are scarce, and command high rates, 11½d to 1s 1d per stone. Beans 6d dearer.

Canterbury, Saturday. — Wheat again a shilling dearer, but not much business doing. Ruling prices: White wheat, 33s to 35s; red, 32s to 34s; grinding barley, 22s to 24s; white oats, 24s to 26s; black oats, 21s to 24s; grey peas, 33s to 35s; tick beans, 36s to 38s; mazagans, 33s to 34s; round maize, 24s to 26s; flat, 29s to 30s per quarter; spring tares, 7s to 8s; giants, 8s to 9s per bushel.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Very small supply of oats in our market to-day. Good demand at 1s quarter dearer; 23s 3d to 24s 6d per quarter 33lbs.—THOMAS ROBINSON.

Chester, Saturday.—No change in prices of English grain, which maintained full rates of last week. Indian corn has had sharp advance, 9d per sack more being asked for prime old American maize. Wheat, white and red, 4s 7d to 4s 8d per 75lb; malting barley, 4s 2d to 4s 4d per 60lb; grinding dull, 3s 6d to 3s 8d per 64lb; beans, 5s 8d to 5s 10d per 80lb; oats, new, 3s 2d to 3s 4d; old, 3s 4d to 3s 6d per 46lb; Indian corn, 13s to 14s per 240lb.

Chichester, Wednesday.—Small attendance and quiet trade. Wheat was steady at last week's advance. Barley was 3d per quarter higher, and flour on the week marked a rise of from 6d to 1s per sack.

Croydon, Thursday.—White wheat, 32s to 33s; red ditto, 29s to 31s. Malting barley, none; grinding, 23s to 25s. Oats, 19s to 22s. Beans, 31s to 35s. Peas, 29s to 31s. A small supply of wheat on offer, trade very firm; all spring corn dearer.

Colchester, Saturday.—Very little wheat offering, and, to supply their wants, needy millers had to pay 1s per qr advance upon last week's prices. Practically nothing offering in spring corn.—FRANCIS AND Co.

Devizes, Thursday.—There was an exceedingly small supply of corn, and to-day there was a further rise of 6d per sack in the price of wheat. Oats were also very scarce and dear. The following were the quotations:—Best wheat, 16s to 17s; secondary ditto, 14s to 15s; new wheat, not quoted; secondary, not quoted; grinding barley, 20s to 24s; malting ditto, 29s to 34s; rye, 23s to 25s; winter oats, 22s to 24s; beans, 16s to 20s; fine flour, 24s to 24s 6d; extra fine, 25s to 30s; best bread, 6s 10d.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Wheat and flour are quiet, with prices rather against buyers. Indian corn and round maize steady, with quiet trade. Foreign oats firm, with little doing. Home oats about 3d per 264lbs. dearer. Grinding beans and Canadian pease, none on spot; price merely nominal. Bran and thirds firm at full prices. Oatmeal 6d per sack dearer.—GIBSON AND CLARK.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—The wheat supply was moderate, and farmers were asking higher prices, and seemed inclined to hold for more money than millers can afford. The market was from 1s to 1s 6d per qr. dearer on the week, and reds closed at from 31s to 31s 6d, with whites 31s 6d to 32s per quarter. All meals and feeding stuffs were quoted at fully 5s per ton more money, millers' offals particularly being sparingly offered. Fine middlings £6 15s to £7, coarse ditto £6, and bran £5 15s to £6 per ton. Maize 1s to 1s 6d dearer on the week, at 25s to 26s 6d per qr. Flour, in sympathy with wheat, advanced a further 1s per sack on the week, making a rise of 2s per sack. Linseed cake firm at £9 5s.

Leeds, Tuesday.—The market rules exceedingly firm to-day, and millers show more disposition for business at fully 6d per qr. advance since last Tuesday on both English and foreign wheat. Forward business in oats is checked by the higher prices asked from abroad; spot values firm; beans 6d dearer. Maize rather better.—DUNNS AND Co.

Maidstone, Thursday.—There was an average market, with all corns dearer in consequence of the war tax. Quotations:—White wheat, 29s to 31s; red ditto, 28s to 30s. Grinding barley, 21s to 23s. Oats, 21s to 25s. Peas, 36s to 37s; white ditto, 37s. Maize, 24s to 28s. Beans, 36s to 40s. Tares, 7s to 10s. English linseed cake, £8 10s to £9; foreign ditto, £7 15s to £8 10s. Cotton cake, £5 to £5 5s.

Leeds, Friday.—American wheats the turn lower. There is no further advance upon any descriptions of wheat since Tuesday, all of which, however, are very firmly held, especially English flour. Beans, peas, maize, barley, and other articles at full late values, with a hardening tendency.

Leicester, Saturday.—Good attendance, with better supplies of home-grown wheats, for which extreme rates were demanded. Prices, 30s to 33s 6d per 36 stones. Barley quiet. Beans and oats very firm.

Lincoln, Friday.—Small supply of English wheat. Trade slow at 1s advance. Foreign wheats 6d to 9d up on week. More money asked for oats, but no trade. Maize and beans may be quoted dearer.

Liverpool, Friday.—The market has had a poor attendance, and wheat is in small demand, but prices are ½d to 1½d advance on previous market quotations. Flour.—No further change has been made in the quotations for English milled flour, but foreign brands are generally again advanced in values. The demand is, however, slow. Maize.—Mixed is firmly held at 1d advance, but meets a very slow consumptive inquiry. European is also 1d. dearer, with a quiet trade passing. Plate is in moderate demand, at about ½d over last Tuesday's prices. Barley.—Malting is idle, nothing doing, Chilian being 6d to 1s lower to sell. Feeding, however, is firmly held at quotations, but quiet. Beans firm, owing to scarcity, with a moderate inquiry. Peas are firmly held at late rates for No. 2 White Canadian; other sorts in quiet demand. Oats have been in fair request. English sorts sold at full prices, and for foreign qualities ½d per bushel advance has been paid. Oatmeal in slow demand, but is held at the extreme prices of last market day. Oilcake is slow for spot lots, but quotations forward are hardening.—SEGAR AND TUNNICLIFFE.

Maidstone, Thursday.—Very little variation from the position of the wheat trade. Firm at the advance of last week is about the proper record, though some owners of choice samples obtained an advance of 6d to 1s per qr. Barley is slow, though keeps the price fairly well. Oats are not any dearer on the week, but the cost of them is comparatively high against other provender. Maize, beans, and peas no change, nor any alteration in tares, rye, hemp, brak, sergo, millet.

Manchester, Wednesday.—English wheat is quoted at slightly higher rates than last Thursday, and sellers on the whole are firm thereat. Flour continues in quiet demand; but millers want rather higher rates for anything done. Indian corn also is firm, with a hardening tendency in view of small supplies. Oats, peaso, beans, and barley move quietly at full rates.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—A fair demand for wheat on spot and near at hand, prices favouring sellers. Maize steady at last week's prices. Oats firm, sellers asking 6d advance, which, however, checks sales. No change in barley. Peas and beans scarce and dear.—JOSEPH POLLARD AND Co.

Newport, Wednesday.—Wheat was in better demand, at an advance of 1s 6d to 2s on the week, including the new tax. Maize 1s to 2s advance. Barley slow, and about 1s dearer. Oats very firm, at an advance of 1s to 1s 6d. Flour 2s 6d per sack for fines.

Norwich, Saturday.—There was a fair supply of wheat at our market to-day, with a further advance since last Saturday of 1s per qr. No improvement in the weather, which remains very cold, with biting east winds. Wheat, red, 32s to 33s per qr. weight 63lb per bushel imperial. Corn inspector's return for the week ending 21st April, 1902: Wheat, 1,179, 27s 6d.—J. ARTHUR MILLS.

Nottingnam, Saturday.—Wheat but very little offering, and values advanced 1s per qr., but trade ruled slow. Grinding barley made full rates. Oats and beans in small supply, and fully 6d higher.—R. HUBBLE.

Peterborough, Saturday.—Wheat trade a full sixpence dearer on the week; supply quite moderate, but rather more than of late. Oats firmly held for full prices, but demand slow.—THOMAS HILL AND SON.

Plymouth, Thursday.—Very fair attendance; good trade; advance prices. Maize, 3d dearer; barley, 6d dearer; wheat 1s to 1s 6d dearer; oats very firm.—ORLANDO DAVIS AND Co.

Reading, Saturday.—An unsettled feeling pervaded the trade here to-day, and as a result sales were scarce. The quantity of corn on sale was unusually small, especially home-grown wheat, and chiefly for this reason higher prices were asked, quotations ranging from 30s to 33s per qr. Other descriptions of corn changed hands steadily at rates fully equal to those which have recently prevailed.

Ripon, Thursday.—A fair attendance and a firm tone prevails. Wheat, oats, and maize rather more money. Wheat, English, new, 30s 6d to 31s 6d; ditto foreign, 31s to 34s 6d; barley, grinding, 23s 6d to 24s 6d; ditto malting, 27s to 32s; oats (new), 24s to 26s; round maize, 24s to 26s per qr; beans, 1s per stone; bran, £5 15s to £6 5s per ton.

Romford, Wednesday.—English wheats very dear, owing to scarcity. A small quantity changed hands at 31s to 32s 6d per qr., according to the sample.

Rye, Wednesday.—White wheat, 30s to 33s; red ditto, 30s to 32s. White oats, 22s to 25s; black ditto, 21s to 25s. Barley, 29s. Tick beans, 35s to 38s; Mazagan ditto, 33s to 35s. Grey peas, 33s to 35s.

Stamford, Friday.—Wheat advanced 1s to 2s per qr. Oats and beans were quoted at fully 1s dearer. Maize very dear. Short supply of every description of corn.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—The attendance was poor. There was very little English wheat on offer, and prices fully maintained last week's advance. English oats were scarce, and quotations advanced 6d and 1s per qr. Beans and maize were firm at last week's prices, while barley was 1s dearer. Quotations:—Wheat, white, 31s to 32s, ditto, red, 31s 6d to 32s 6d per 504lb; barley, grinding, 23s 6d to 24s; ditto, malting, 30s to 32s per 448lb; oats, new, white, 23s to 25s; ditto, new black, 21s 6d to 23s per 336lb; peas, grinding, 36s to 37s; ditto blue, 53s to 80s; beans, Egyptian, 35s to 35s 6d per 504lb; ditto English, new 37s 6d to 38s per 532lb; Indian corn small, 24s to 25s; ditto American mixed, 28s 6d to 29s per 480lb.

Spalding, Tuesday.—English wheat scarce, and advanced 1s 6d to 2s on the week, selling at 31s 6d, at which price there was a good demand. Oats, 24s, a rise of 2s on the fortnight; beans, 36s, farmers being reluctant to sell at this figure. Everything in small supply, and a limited amount of business doing.

St. Neots, Thursday.—Only a few samples of wheat on offer, and these were mostly held at prices above the views of buyers. Some sales took place at 32s per quarter 504lbs. Oats were scarce and dearer.—ELGOOD AND SON.

Stockton, Wednesday.—No samples of English wheat showing. The foreign wheat trade keeps firm, owing to the continued rise in America, but prices show no change from last week when they were from 1s to 1s 6d per qr. up. Oats and maize firm, and 3d dearer. No malting barley showing.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Farmers offering very little wheat, and prices are 1s to 2s per qr higher. Barley and oats 1s dearer. Arrivals coastwise: Wheat, 689 qrs; oats, 175 qrs. Foreign: Wheat, 8,480 qrs.—E. AND F. RICHARDSON.

Wakefield, Friday.—The wheat market remains exceedingly firm, but does not follow the speculative movements of the American exchanges. Millers observe great caution in their operations, and do not readily pay the further advance of 6d per qr. Maize and oats 3d dearer. Beans unchanged.—DUNNS AND Co

Wakefield, Friday.—A very quiet market to-day, with a small attendance, and but a nominal business passing in wheat, which is quoted 6d per quarter dearer on the week. English malting barley now in very small supply. In feeding stuffs 3d per quarter advance is obtained with the exception of beans.—MICHAEL SANDERSON AND SON, LIMITED.

Wisbech, Saturday.—A moderate supply of grain. Wheat advanced 1s per qr. on the week: prices, 31s to 32s. Oats, 23s to 25s. Beans 35s to 39s.—JAMES FLETCHER.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—There was a good attendance, but the market was in a disturbed state, owing to advances in prices elsewhere Quotations: Wheat, new, 32s 6d to 33s per 210lb; oats, old, 16s to 17s, new, 13s to 14s; beans, old, 16s to 17s; new, 14s 6d per 196lb, barley, 32s to 33s per 448lb; new maize, 25 to 27s; old, 28s 6d to 29s 6d per 480lb.

Worcester, Saturday.—Wheat scarce and fully 6d per quarter dearer. Barley 6d to 1s higher. Oats at full rates. Wheaf, white, 29s 6d to 31s 6d; red, 28s to 29s 6d per quarter.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Fair attendance of farmers and factors; very little grain on offer, and trade still unsettled, last week's advance on wheat and feeding stuffs of 1s. per stone being maintained. White wheat, 29s to 30s; red wheat, 29s to 30s; grinding barley, 26s to 27s; white oats, 22s 6d to 24s; black oats, 21s to 23s; round maize, 24s 6d to 26s per qr.

York, Saturday. — Farmers are offering very little wheat. They say they have not much to thrash, and ask an advance of a shilling per quarter, which they cannot obtain. Quotations: Fine white, 30s to 31s; red and mixed, 29s to 30s per quarter of 35 stones; feeding barley, 24s to 26s per quarter of 32 stones. Oats very scarce and dear; white Tartary, 21s to 22s; black, 22s to 24s; white Garton, 23s to 25s per quarter of 24 stones. Rye, 8l. Beans, 11d to 1s per stone.

FOREIGN.

Hamburg, Saturday.—Stimulated by reports from foreign markets, there was an increasing demand for all descriptions of grain, and prices took a turn in sellers' favour; however, towards the end of the week the demand abated, and our market closes quiet. The imports during the week amounted to 22,196 tons wheat, 5,388 tons rye, 2,956 tons barley, 22,196 tons maize. Hard winter wheat No. 2 is selling at 29s. No. 2 Northern Duluth is held at 28s 6d, Manitoba No. 2 at 28s 6d per 480lb, Walla Walla at 29s 9d to 30s 3d per 500lb. Rye firm. Offers are scarce. 9 15-20 Odessa-Nicolaieff April-May shipment is held at 23s to 23s 3d per 480lb c.i.f. Malting barley quiet. Mecklenburg, Pomeranian, and Prussian is offering at 25s to 27s. Bohemian and Saale at 28s to 32s per 448lb f.o.b. Feeding barley in demand, 60 to 61 kroner Russian, and Danubian prompt shipment is selling at 18s to 18s 6d; autumn shipment at 16s 9d to 17s per 400lb c.i.f. Maize in fair demand. Odessa and Danubian April-May shipment is selling at 20s to 20s 3d per 480lb c.i.f.. Mixed is held at 25s, but meets no attention.—JOHN TATLOCK.

Paris, Wednesday.—Although the native wheat market to-day was more important from an attendance point of view than of late, it did not give place to any brisker movement so far as trading was concerned. Farmers' offers were still very moderate in the provincial centres, and some instances of higher prices were reported. Still the tendency ruled quiet throughout with a little more active demand, if not on the part of the millers, at least on the side of traders, who appeared much more disposed to treat in view of the reiterated assertions of some agricultural journals representing that stocks in growers' hands are, so to say, exhausted, and consequently insufficient to tide over wants till the next campaign. In short, though still tedious, transactions were somewhat more lively, but prices showed no appreciable change on the week, choice red wheat being quoted 37s 10d to 38s 3d and white 38s 9d to 39s 2d per 480lb. Flour.—Fleur-de-Paris.—The market opened dull at a slight decline, and closed at a further reduction of 10c. to 20c at the following prices:—April, 27s 1½d to 27s 5d; May, 27s 1½d to 27s 5d; May-June, 27s 1½d to 27s 5d; May-August, 27s 5d to 27s 8d; July-August, 27s 5d to 27s 8d, and September-December, 27s 5d to 27s 8d per 280lbs. Offers of rye are still very limited, so in spite of a rather slow trade, prices were with difficulty supported. The growing crop for the present is full of promise. Here values are quotably unchanged. Good-conditioned lots are held at 25s 3d to 25s 8d per 480lbs. Oats are cheaper in all directions, and it could not be otherwise in face of the good appearance of the growing crop and the increased offers in the market. Here prices are quoted as follows:—Grey Beauce, 23s 9d; White, 22s 7d; Red, 23s 6d; Black, from the Central Provinces 24s 1d to 24s 4d; White Libau is quoted 22s 7d to 23s 11d; Black, 23s 1d, and Swedish, 25s 6d per 320lb. Business in barley is wanting in activity, and prices are merely nominal. Beauce still asks 24s 8d to 25s. Here the following rates were quoted:—Malting, 17f.50 to 17f.75 (25s 4d to 25s 9d); grinding, 17f. to 17.25 (24s 8d to 25s); and feeding, 15f. to 15f.50 per 100 kilos (21s 9d to 22s 6d per 400lbs.). Offers of Buckwheat are getting more and more scarce, but still in regular demand, at 28s 9d per 480lbs.—DORNBUSCH

CORN STATISTICS.

IMPERIAL AVERAGES.

Statement showing the Quantities sold and average price of British Corn, Imperial Measure, as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended April 26, 1902, conformably with the Act of the 45th and 46th Victoria, cap. 37.

Wheat	31,257½ qrs.	28s. 9d.
Barley	6,263¾ qrs.	26s. 5d.
Oats	8,897⅝ qrs.	21s. 6d.

IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGES.

	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
1901.									
Apr. 27	46,572	26	8	6,986¾	25	8	8,300⅜	18	1
May 4	46,616½	26	9	6,417½	26	4	6,869½	19	8
,, 11	47,118¾	27	3	4 279½	26	2	7,049	19	1
,, 18	52,875½	27	7	2,508	24	2	7 345½	19	4
,, 25	49,822¾	27	7	1,511½	24	1	4,665½	19	8
June 1	46,514	27	7	859½	23	8	4,938	19	9
,, 8	42,202	27	6	221½	22	9	4,023½	20	1
,, 15	46,764	27	8	1,404½	24	0	5,565½	19	7
,, 22	29,695	27	6	336½	23	2	3,552½	20	3
,, 29	28,191⅞	27	6	692½	25	4	2,803½	20	0
July 6	19,564½	27	8	140⅜	21	9	1,800⅛	19	10
,, 13	15,231⅞	27	2	49	23	10	1,675⅜	19	9
,, 20	17,462¾	27	3	88⅜	23	4	2,040½	19	11
,, 27	18,297⅜	27	3	206¾	22	1	2,385⅜	19	4
Aug. 3	18,666½	27	6	250⅜	23	1	3,219½	20	0
,, 10	19,156	27	7	141⅜	22	1	2,143½	19	4
,, 17	22,617½	27	4	220⅜	27	2	5,982⅛	18	9
,, 24	37,168⅜	27	3	976⅜	23	7	9,952⅜	18	
,, 31	61,603⅜	27	0	4,877⅜	24	3	14,654½	17	10
Sept. 7	66,623½	26	5	14,342⅜	25	1	19,075½	17	1
,, 14	77,949¼	26	2	34,989⅜	24	11	19,909½	17	4
,, 21	80,279½	26	0	70,096½	25	5	26,476⅜	17	4
,, 28	80,488	25	10	109,733½	25	10	22,567½	17	2
Oct. 5	60,376⅜	26	8	126,592½	26	3	21,631½	17	7
,, 12	63,656⅜	25	9	172,175⅜	26	5	16,815½	17	6
,, 19	58,772½	25	10	203,591½	26	8	15,506½	17	8
,, 26	52,984⅜	25	11	208,471½	26	10	18,009⅝	17	5
Nov. 2	70,314⅜	26	2	134,277½	26	10	18,350⅜	17	7
,, 9	62,265½	26	6	202,577¼	27	0	20,066¼	17	8
,, 16	57,884½	26	9	201,723½	26	9	20,122½	18	3
,, 23	63,150⅞	27	1	185,268½	26	10	20,612	18	7
,, 30	60,323½	27	1	193,434½	26	9	22,419¼	18	9
Dec. 7	67,925¼	27	1	162,996½	26	7	23,990¾	19	0
,, 14	48,045¼	27	2	182,212½	25	10	17,125¼	17	1
,, 21	60,502⅜	27	7	119,398¼	26	8	26,260¼	19	8
,, 28	43,718⅜	27	7	81,859⅛	26	8	16,901⅛	19	10
1902.									
Jan. 4	31,440⅜	27	7	34,777⅛	26	7	11,621⅛	19	10
,, 11	48,997⅞	27	8	69,120½	26	7	14,995	20	0
,, 18	74,239½	27	8	91,559⅜	26	11	19,733⅜	20	0
,, 25	74,753⅜	27	7	87,594	26	7	25,382½	20	3
Feb. 1	73,381⅛	27	4	81,468⅜	26	7	25,657½	20	2
,, 8	67,470½	27	2	69,291⅜	26	9	25,055⅞	20	3
,, 15	63,500	26	11	54,084⅛	27	5	21,824	20	3
,, 22	72,614⅜	27	1	53,201⅞	26	11	22,799	20	4
Mar. 1	79,453⅜	27	1	43,687⅝	26	7	22,322	20	5
,, 8	67,473½	27	0	28,847⅜	26	8	17,017	20	5
,, 15	60,643	27	1	24,536⅜	26	6	11,496⅞	20	6
,, 22	56,394⅛	27	1	15,482⅜	26	4	12,192½	20	6
,, 29	50,703	27	2	15,729½	27	2	8,950⅝	20	7
Apr. 5	81,277⅜	27	3	7,003⅛	26	5	5,994½	20	6
,, 12	37,931⅜	27	5	2,298⅛	26	7	6,855½	21	0
,, 19	38,037	27	7	7,237⅜	27	1	11,093⅜	21	1
,, 26	31,257½	28	9	6,263¾	26	5	8,897⅝	21	6

FLUCTUATIONS IN THE AVERAGE PRICE OF WHEAT.

PRICE.	Mar. 22.	Mar. 29.	Apr. 5.	Apr. 12.	Apr. 19.	Apr. 26.
28s. 9d.	...	...	...	...	...	
28s. 8d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
28s. 7d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
28s. 6d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
28s. 5d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
28s. 4d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
28s. 3d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
28s. 2d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
28s. 1d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
28s. 0d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 11d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 10d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 9d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 8d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 7d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 6d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 5d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 4d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 3d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 2d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 1d.	...	...	...	...	...	...

COMPARATIVE AVERAGES.

Comparative statement for the corresponding week to April 26th, in each of the years from 1897 to 1901.

	WHEAT. Qrs	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
1897	38,241⅝	27	9	5,233½	20	5	6,825½	17	3
1898	51,347	38	4	3,530	27	10	9,323⅜	18	11
1899	74,060½	25	0	11,904½	25	10	12,454	17	5
1900	70,066⅞	26	0	7,785	25	2	11,101⅝	17	11
1901	46,572	26	8	6,986¾	25	8	8,300⅜	18	8

ENGLISH WHEAT IN 1 01.

Highest of Year	27s. 7d.
Lowest of Year	25s. 10d.
Gradient	1s. 9d.
Mean of Year	26s. 9d.

MONTHLY AVERAGES.

(196 Market Towns.)

	1901. Wheat	Barley	Oats	1902. Wheat	Barley	Oats
January	26 5	25 7	17 4	27 8	26 8	20 1
February	26 5	25 5	17 7	27 1	26 8	20 3
March	25 10	25 0	17 10	27 1	26 8	20 6
April	26 3	25 7	18 3			
May	27 6	25 2	19 4			
June	27 7	23 11	19 10			
July	27 4	22 9	19 8			
August	27 4	24 0	18 10			
September	26 1	25 4	17 4			
October	25 10	25 7	17 6			
November	24 9	26 10	18 2			
December	27 4	26 8	19 5			

YEARLY AVERAGES (OFFICIAL.)

	Wheat. s. d.	Barley. s. d.	Oats. s. d.
1890	31 9 per qr.	28 8 per qr.	18 7 per qr.
1891	37 1 ,,	28 2 ,,	20 0 ,,
1892	30 4 ,,	26 2 ,,	19 11 ,,
1893	26 4 ,,	25 6 ,,	18 9 ,,
1894	22 10 ,,	24 6 ,,	17 1 ,,
1895	23 1 ,,	24 11 ,,	14 6 ,,
1896	26 2 ,,	22 11 ,,	14 9 ,,
1897	30 2 ,,	23 6 ,,	16 11 ,,
1898	34 0 ,,	27 2 ,,	18 5 ,,
1899	25 8 ,,	25 7 ,,	17 0 ,,
1900	26 11 ,,	25 9 ,,	17 9 ,,
1901	26 9 ,,	25 3 ,,	18 5 ,,

TITHE RENT CHARGES.

For 1902	67	3	9
,, 1901	66	10	9
,, 1900	66	15	10
,, 1899	68	2	4
,, 1898	68	14	11
,, 1897	69	17	11
1896	71	9	7

LONDON AVERAGES.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within fiv miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, April 22nd, 1902.

	Total Quantities. Imperial Measure. Quarters.	Bus.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.	Average Price per qr. Imperial Measure. £	s.	d.
Wheat	1,445	5	2,196	16	5	1	10	5
Barley	91	4	111	8	0	1	4	4
Oats	1,565	6	1,693	7	8	1	1	8

STOCK OF GRAIN IN LONDON.

	Wheat. qrs.	Flour. sacks	Flour. brls.	Barley. qrs.
Apl. 1, 1902	111,780	294,456	5,816	92,863
Jan. 1, 1902	248,988	397,965	2,648	133,203
Apl. 1, 1901	232,807	448,182	3,981	99,454

	Oats. qrs.	Maize. qrs.	Beans. qrs.	Peas. qrs.
Apl. 1, 1902	560,565	106,748	5,114	11,216
Jan. 1, 1902	592,401	46,345	8,815	8,831
Apl. 1, 1901	421,793	45,482	7,493	10,473

	Malt. qrs.	Oil Cakes. tons.	Tares. qrs.	Linseed. qrs.
Apl. 1, 1902	1,659	9,615	1,245	4,984
Jan. 1, 1902	1,433	6,053	1,048	4,471
Apl. 1, 1901	1,797	7,723	1,816	6,440

LONDON FLOUR MILLERS' ASSOCIATION.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1901

	London Whites. s.	d.	Town Households. s.	d.
September 2	(per sack) 26	0	(per sack) 23	0
,, 18	,, 25	6	,, 22	6
December 9	,, 26	6	,, 23	6
January 29	,, 26	0	,, 23	0
April 16	,, 27	6	,, 24	6

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF LONDON TOWN HOUSEHOLDS FLOUR.

(Sacks of 280 lbs. ex-mill for cash.)

	1902. s.	d.	1901 s.	d.	1900 s.	d.	1899. s.	d.	1898. s.	d.	1897. s.	d	1896. s.	d	1895. s.	d.
Jan.	21	9	24	6	21	9	23	9	29	0	25	6	18	9	18	7½
Feb.	22	0	24	0	22	0	23	6	30	0	24	7½	19	4½	17	9
March	21	9	23	9	21	6	22	3	30	0	23	11½	19	3	18	0
April			24	0	21	6	22	0	31	3	23	6	19	6	18	7¾
May			23	6	21	3	22	3	39	7	23	7	19	0	20	4½
June			23	0	23	6	23	1½	36	0	22	7½	18	10	22	3
July			22	3	24	6	21	9	29	6	22	10½	18	6	20	0½
August			22	3	24	0	21	9	27	6	26	8½	18	8½	19	10½
Sept.			22	0	25	3	22	0	26	5	30	3	19	6	19	8
Oct.			21	6	24	9	23	3	26	1	29	0	23	7½	18	7½
Nov.			21	6	24	3	22	3	25	0	29	1	25	8½	18	4½
Dec.			21	9	24	0	21	9	24	3	29	0	25	7½	18	1
Yrly. Avrg.			22	10	23	2	22	4	29	6½	25	10½	20	8½	19	2

LONDON TOP PRICE FLOUR.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1901.

		s.	d.
September 2	(per sack)	29	0
,, 28	,,	28	0
April 16	,,	29	0
April 23	,,	30	0

(No official change since last date given.)

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF FINE HOUSEHOLD FLOUR IN PARIS.

(Converted into English money for sacks of 280 lb.)

	1902. s.	d.	1901. s.	d.	1900. s.	d.	1899. s.	d.	1898. s.	d.	1897. s.	d.	1896. s.	d.	1895. s.	d.
Jan.	27	0	24	9	25	2	29	0	38	7	30	5½	25	10	27	9½
Feb.	26	3	25	9	26	3	28	3	39	4	29	10½	26	2	27	10½
March	27	0	24	0	27	3	27	6	40	1	28	9	26	0	27	5½
April			24	6	26	9	27	6	42	3	28	5	25	6½	26	7
May			25	6	26	8	28	0	40	0	28	11½	25	1½	28	0
June			26	3	28	6	27	6	35	6	29	3	25	8	28	10
July			28	0	26	9	27	3	32	0	31	5½	24	6	27	1
August			27	6	26	4	27	0	31	6	36	11	25	1	26	11
Sept.			27	6	26	3	25	3	31	0	38	7	27	0	27	0½
Oct.			27	6	26	0	24	9	30	6	39	4	27	1½	27	9
Nov.			27	9	26	4	24	3	30	3	40	3	29	9	26	8½
Dec.			28	3	26	0	24	6	29	0	39	3	29	8	26	3
Yrly. Avrg.			27	3	26	2	9	35	0	33	5	26	5½	27	4½	

ARRIVALS INTO LONDON.

April 9 to April 16, 1902, inclusive.

	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat qrs.	1,115	20,764	21,879
Barley	2,300	8,261	10,561
Malt	26,835	...	26,835
Oats	643	71,584	72,227
Rye	50	1,200	1,250
Beans	200	74	274
Peas	50	2,310	2,360
Linseed	...	10,158	10,158
Rape Seed	...	3,000	3,000
Cottonseed	...	34,500	34,500
Farmseeds	900	6,000	6,900
Flour, sacks	24,283	36,965	61,248

FOREIGN CORN TRADE.

The shipments of grain from the chief exporting countries last week were as follows:—

	Wheat. Qrs.	Flour. Sks.	Maize. Qrs.	Barley. Qrs.	Oats. Qrs.
United States	318,000	152,000	34,000	—	9,000
Russia	216,000	—	70,000	132,000	60,000
France	—	5,000	—	—	—
Austria-Hungary	—	5,000	—	—	—
Roumania	80,000	—	177,000	34,000	1,000
Argentina	135,000	—	48,000	—	—
India	—	—	—	—	—
Australasia	11,000	—	—	—	—
Miscellaneous	20,000	10,000	10,000	20,000	5,000
Total	780,000	172,000	339,000	186,000	75,000

THE BALTIC.

The flag which denotes that the maximum of building height has been reached will soon be floating over the handsome new building in St. Mary Axe. The façade, in the classical style, is to be seen to some extent behind the boarding, and the whole structure promises to be worthy of the two great trades which are to inhabit it.

The Liverpool Corn Trade Association held its annual meeting on Wednesday, and the following gentlemen were elected directors:—Messrs. Griffiths, G. A. Moore, Wilson, Dobell, J. A. Shone, and Richard Cornelius.

The wheat cargo trade is great, and 1s. per quarter rise is the utmost made in the majority of instances. As the duty is 1s. 1d. per quarter, the position is not satisfactory. Californian on passage has been sold for 29s. 6d., Oregon for 29s. 9d., Walla Walla for 29s., Bahia Blanca (very fine Argentine) for 29s. 6d., South Australian for 29s. 6d., New South Wales for 29s. 9d., and Victorian for 29s. 7½d. There is not much of the dear loaf about these prices.

Maize cargoes are firmer, 21s. 6d. made for Odessa, 22s. for Galatz on passage; but Argentina is sapping the position with offers of July shipment at 20s. 6d. per quarter. Other cargoe sales include White Libau oats at 18s., Paida beans at 29s., and Danubian oats at 18s. 9d.; all per quarter.

An Australian wheat standard sample may now be obtained at the offices of the Corn Trade Association.

Arrivals at ports of call last week were 10 wheat cargoes and a cargo of Canary seed from Larache. Total amounts from January 1st to April 26th were:—103 wheat, 3 maize, 7 barley, 2 beans, 2 linseed, and 4 Canary seed; also 17 mixed cargoes, partly wheat and partly barley.

HOPS.

Canterbury, Saturday.—There has been a steady trade passing during the week, and stocks are much smaller than usual. Prices tend to harden.

Worcester, Saturday.—The trade in hops on this market is quiet; a few pockets pass over the public scales every week, buyers picking out the best samples, for which prices keep very firm. Lower sorts are neglected, even at the very low prices asked for them.—PIERCY AND Co.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

Bright and sunny days have latterly been the rule rather than the exception, and the April record in this respect will be a great improvement on the exceptionally dismal March. But rainfall has been much below the average, and the pastures are not growing either fast or well. Wheat is irregular, but its deep roots serve it in good stead in a season like the present, and in favoured situations it is fifteen or sixteen inches high. Winter oats are healthy, and certainly appear to have done better on a scanty rainfall than in theory we could have expected them to have done. Rye is being fed off to sheep; the farmers are uncommonly glad that they sowed a larger area than usual last autumn. In America an extraordinary heat wave has forced plant growth probably far too fast. The May Bureau report will be awaited with interest. Continental news of growing crops is, for the most part, very favourable.

The registration duty has met with a remarkable measure of approval, only three supporters of the Government being opposed to it, and the Opposition having but half-hearted support from their county members, some 96 in number. The duty on milling offals has now been modified, and stands at 3d. per cwt. only, and it is said that the poorest sort of offals, such as rice husks and the like, will receive a still further reduction.

The advance in the top price of flour by another shilling per sack is a matter which concerns the top price millers and their customers only, but it is in some ways to be regretted, seeing that the flour in question is supposed to represent the best blend of English and foreign wheat which London milling skill can produce. The success of millers in getting 2s. more money on the fortnight now will probably induce a corresponding reaction later on. With respect to wheat, the idea that the duty will fall on the English consumer is confronted by figures very difficult to get over.

The wheat average for 1894 was 22s. 11d., which is 7s. 6d. below the last London average. Was this cheapness in 1894 due to a large crop surplus at home or abroad?

Bushels.	1894.		1901.
U. K.	61,000,000	..	57,000,000
U. S. A.	409,000,000	..	640,000,000
France	355,000,000	..	396,000,000
Russia	364,000,000	..	408,000,000
India	259,000,000	..	192,000,000
Australasia	43,000,000	..	48,000,000
Argentina	117,000,000	..	72,000,000
Total	1,608,000,000	..	1,813,000,000

These figures, answering the above question in the negative, are of great importance to the trade at the present juncture, for they prove that the American, Russian, Indian, Australasian, and Argentine wheat growers can sell at 7s. 6d. under currencies, and still make a profit. It is therefore presumable that they will not lose the British market for the value of a shilling per quarter. The price of 22s. 11d. in 1894 was not, it may be added, followed by a decline in the wheat area in the producing countries; indeed, it is not seriously maintained that the foreign wheat producers cannot pay their way at a 22s. 11d. level. The trade fluctuations in wheat of recent years have been of a character demonstrating that value is fixed by causes "vastly more potent" than a shilling duty. Let us give a few instances.

1876 to 1877: 10s. 7d. nett advance.
1877 to 1878: 10s. 4d. nett decline.
1883 to 1884: 5s. 10d. nett decline.
1890 to 1891: 5s. 4d. nett advance.
1892 to 1823: 4s. 0d. nett decline.

Taking more recent dates still, wheat advanced 6s. 1d. per quarter from July to September, 1897, and 10s. 5d. per quarter from April to May, 1898. Wheat fell 11s. 1d. per quarter from July to September, 1898, and though latest gradients have been slight, it fell 1s. 10d. from October to December, 1900.

Of the direct contest exercised by foreign movements, one need only recall that in August, 1897, America put up her terms 9s. per quarter, that in April, 1898, Russia put up hers 7s. per quarter, and that in June, 1900, wheat at New York rose 4s. 9d. per quarter. In April, 1898, Paris rose 5s. 3d. per quarter, while from July to September of that year Bastin fell as much as 11s. per quarter!

It is a somewhat remarkable fact that from 1869 to 1902 the machinery for collecting a duty on corn was never abandoned, and an importer had to go to the Custom House and clear his entry of corn just as if it had been tobacco or other duty-laden commodity. Thus the new duty entails no new burdens on the Customs, though the staff will doubtless have longer hours, and need strengthening in the performance of the old "clearance" duties. The chief firms are already opening accounts. By the current Acts the burden of paying the duty on any imported staple falls on the buyer, unless otherwise agreed in writing. The new duty may do good in leading to better and more frequent returns of stocks in our warehouses.

These stock returns are miserably inadequate; they only appear once a quarter, and then they lump together all sorts of wheat, barley, maize, and so forth. Thus we were indebted only the other week to the courtesy of Messrs. Watney, Woodley, and Richardson for the intelligence that the stocks of barley in London, 93,000 quarters, did not include any Californian, a most important variety. Of course, the would-be purchaser would have experienced no greater difficulty than a few days delay in delivery, and if he did not ask for very prompt supply would not even need to know anything about the scarcity for the moment on the spot. At the same time, the trade ought not to have to depend on chance or private information. When the Customs' staff is augmented, as it is bound to be, we hope that provision will be made for monthly returns of London grain stocks, and that these returns will separate home from foreign produce, malting from feeding barley, round from flat and flat from yellow maize. This is already done at Liverpool.

The week's imports into the United Kingdom have been small of wheat, flour, and barley, and mediocre of maize and oats. They thus compare with the like week of last year.

	1902.		1901.
Wheat, qrs.	195,000	..	481,000
Flour, sks.	76,000	..	210,000
Maize, qrs.	145,000	..	196,000
Barley, qrs.	23,500	..	91,000
Oats, qrs.	85,200	..	135,800
Beans, qrs.	3,275	..	4,715
Peas, qrs.	7,410	..	5,910

American visible supplies weer cabled on the 26th at 5,535,000 qrs. of wheat, 900,000 qrs. of maize, 390,000 qrs. of oats, 231,000 qrs. of rye, and 171,000 qrs. of barley. It should be observed that the term American is used in a high conventional sense in this dispatch, as it includes Canada and Manitoba, which are English colonies, but does not take in Oregon, Washington, and California, which are States of the American Republic. From a separate cable we learn that California holds 550,000 qrs. of wheat in granary against 635,000 a year ago.

Supplies on passage on the 26th inst. were good of wheat, small of flour, maize, barley, and beans, very heavy of linseed, good of rapeseed, and about an average of cottonseed. They thus compare with a year ago.

	1902.		1901.
Wheat, qrs.	3,965 000	..	3,545,000
Flour, sks.	321 000	..	430,000
Maize, qrs.	435,000	..	495,000
Barley, qrs.	320,000	..	420,000
Beans, qrs.	7,000	..	10,000
Linseed, qrs.	245,000	..	90,000
Rapeseed, qrs.	14,000	..	4,000
Cottonseed, qrs.	42,000	..	44,000

The market for feeding stuffs is now fairly active, the articles chiefly favoured being milling offals, Russian grinding barley, round maize, and the minor articles, such as dari, dholl, sorghum, millet, and buckwheat. Oats, however, are not easy to move, and flat maize is held above buyers' ideas. There is a fairly good sale of barley meal at 7s. per cwt. Trade in malting barley is not active, but values are firmly maintained. The London official average of 24s. 4d. is very misleading; in fact, little English barley, even of feeding grade only, is to be had at this very low price.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Monday.—Linseed cake: Very little spot trade; no change in prices, but more money is asked for forward positions. Decorticated cotton-cake and meal as before. Undecorticated still very firm. Linseed has jumped up 1s 6d since this day sen'night, owing to American purchases of Calcutta seed.

English Linseed Cake	ex mill	£8 0 0	
American Calcutta Linseed Cake	ex quay		
American Western ,,	ex quay	7 0 0	to 7 5 0
,, ,,	ex quay		
Russian Oil Cake	ex quay	7 7 6	to 7 17 6
Decorticated Cotton Cake	ex quay	6 5 0	to 6 10 0
,, ,, Meal	ex quay	6 5 0	to 6 10 0
London-made ,, Cake (best)	ex mill	4 15 0	to 4 17 6
Egyptian ,, ,, ,, (in bags)	ex quay	4 12 6	
Burton Desiccated Ale Grains (bags included)	on rail, Burton		
Dutch Linseed (in bags), per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse	2 17 0	to 3 1 0
Calcutta Linseed in bags, per 410 lbs.	ex warehouse	2 13 0	
La Plata do. per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse	2 12 0	
Clean Russian Linseed in bulk, per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse	2 17 0	

ROBERT AND JOHN HEWETSON.

HOPS.

London, Monday.—W. H. and H. Le May report:—The general trade has been quiet during the past week. There is still an inquiry for the best qualities, prces for which continue to harden.

THIS DAY'S MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY.

[FIRST REPORT.]

The finest English wheat to-day made 34s. It was of fine weight, 512lb., fine condition, and fine quality, so that the price was not excessive. Ordinary samples made 32s. per 504lb. There was a scarcity of chicken wheat weighing 480lb., and for this type 29s. was paid. Foreign wheat maintained, but did not exceed the advance of 1s. 6d. established last week. Barley was firm, but dull for English. Californian made 31s. to 32s. 6d. for Chevalier and 26s. to 28s. 6d. for brewing, but prompt delivery could not always be guaranteed, stocks being mostly at Liverpool. The prices include duty. American maize, owing to great scarcity, was again dearer on the week, and round oats were also tending to appreciate in value. Yellow corn in increased prospective supply rather favoured buyers. Oilseeds were unsettled, linseed favouring buyers, while with respect to cottonseed the reverse was the case. Oats were not an easy trade, as the price was decidedly high before the new duty, and the extra 9d. per quarter is resisted. The forward offers of this staple work as if there might be some reaction soon, but the total shipments are so small that holders have intrinsically the best of the position.

QUOTATIONS OFF STANDS.

April 28, 1902.

BRITISH GRAIN.

		s.	s.
WHEAT, White (new)	(per 504 lb.)	33	— 34
,, (old)	,,	33	— 34
,, Red (new)	,,	30	— 32
,, (old)	,,	30	— 32
Chicken or Feed	(per 480 lb.)	28	— 30
BARLEY, Malting	(per 448 lb.)	33	— 29
Brewing	,,	29	— 32
Feeding	(per 400 lb.)	25	— 27
MALT, English	(per 336 lb.)	36	— 42
Scotch	,,	38	— 40
Black	,,	31	— 33
Brown	,,	30	— 33
Crystallized	,,	34	— 36
OATS, English, Black Winter	,,	23	— 25
,, Black Tartary	,,	22	— 23
,, Grey Winter	,,	23	— 25
,, White Tartary	,,	22	— 23
Scotch	,,	23	— 25
Irish	(per 304 lb.)	20	— 21
RYE, British	(per 480 lb.)	24	— 26
BEANS, Pigeon	,,	39	— 41
Winter	,,	33	— 37
Mazagan	,,	32	— 34
PEAS, Best Marrowfat	(per 504 lb.)	66	— 76
Blue (boiling)	,,	61	— 71
Dun	,,	32	— 33
Maple	,,	37	— 41
TARES, Scotch Gores	,,	79	— 83
Winter Old	,,	69	— 73
,, Ordinary	,,	57	— 65
Spring	,,	51	— 53

FOREIGN GRAIN.

(Ex-Granary.)

WHEAT, per 496 lb.	s.	s.	
Old Duluth	32	— 34	
Manitoba No. 1	32	— 33	
American Spring	31	— 32	
Red Winter	31	— 32	
Hard ,,	31	— 32	
Californian	31	— 32	
Walla Walla	30	— 31	
Australian	31	— 32	
New Zealand	30	— 31	
Argentine	30	— 32	
Danzig	32	— 34	
Saxonka	31	— 32	
Azima	31	— 32	
Ghirka	30	— 31	
Indian	30	— 31	
RYE, per 480 lb.			
Russian	25	— 26	
MAIZE, per 480 lb.:			
Russian	22/6	— 23	
Roumanian	22/6	— 23	
Turkish	22/6	— 23	
American	28	— 29	
Argentine	23	— 23/6	
OATS:			
N' Zeal'd (Best)	28	— 32	
N. Zeal'd (Bluff)	26	— 28	
N. Zeal'd (Dun)	24	— 26	
Canadian (320 lb.)	21	— 22	
American (320 lb.)	21	— 22	
Prussian (320 lb.)	21	— 22	
N. Russ'n (304 lb.)	20	— 21	
South ,, (304 lb.)	19	— 20	
Turkish (304 lb.)	18	— 19	
BEANS, per 480 lb.:			
Egyptian	33	— 34	
Smyrna	32	— 33	
New Zealand	35	— 37	

LOCUST BEANS, per ton:		
Italian	104	— 108
Cyprian	112	— 118
Portuguese	107	— 110
PEAS, per 504 lb.:		
Canadian, White	37	— 38
Australian, White	41	— 42
New Zeal'd Maple	39	— 41
Indian White	34	— 35
MILLET, per 416 lb.:		
White	34	—'46
Red	26	— 23
Yellow	21	— 23
Sorghum	20	— 21
DARI, per 480 lb.:		
Smyrna	26	— 27
Persian	23	— 25
BUCKWHEAT, per 416 lb		
French	26	— 27
Russian	27	— 18
TARES, per 504 lb.:		
Konigsberg	46	— 50
BARLEY:		
Saale (448 lb.)	39	— 41
New Zeal'd (448 lb.)	27	— 30
Chilian (448 lb.)	33	— 35
Californian (448 lb.)		
Chevalier	30	— 34
Brewing	26	— 28
Danish (448 lb.)	29	— 31
French (448 lb.)	28	— 30
Danubian (400 lb.)	20	— 22
Ouchak (400 lb.)	25	— 33
Yerli (400 lb.)	21	— 22
Russian (400 lb.)	20	— 21
MALT, per 336 lb.:		
Californian	36	— 37
Smyrna	36	— 37

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

THE NEWS FROM FRANCE AND RUSSIA MADE THE SPECULATIVE MARKET IN FUTURES IN BUYERS' FAVOUR, AND THIS REACTED ON MARK LANE. THE HOME TROUBLES OF RUSSIA ARE REGARDED AS GUARANTEEING PEACE IN THE NEAR EAST, WHILE THE FRENCH GENERAL ELECTION HAS RESULTED IN THE RETURN TO POWER OF THE LIBERAL OR PACIFIC PARTY, THOUGH BY A SOMEWHAT REDUCED MAJORITY. IF PEACE BE ALSO SECURED IN SOUTH AFRICA, IT IS GENERALLY THOUGHT THAT THE CHANCELLOR WILL GET HIS THREE MILLIONS ON GRAIN AND FLOUR WITHOUT ANY PERMANENT MARKET RISE WHATSOEVER. CROP PROSPECTS ARE REGARDED AS IN THE MAIN FAVOURABLE.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, MONDAY.

The top price of London flour to-day was 30s. per sack, while whites are stiffly held for 27s., and households for 24s. per sack. The result of this all-round rise of 2s. was that bakers held off, and it is to be feared that Americans, who are content with the duty rise of 1s. to 1s. 3d., secured the bulk of the business done. Country flour, at 1s. 6d. advance on the fortnight, had a fair, but not a fast, sale. The trade in meal was quite irregular, as some of the material advances made last week proved maintainable, while others had to be modified. Wheat germ meal comes under the latter heading, being now obtainable for 117s. per ton. On the other hand, whole meal has gone to 185s. per ton, rye flour to 180s. per ton, and homing feed to 118s. 9d. per ton. Rice meal flour and cones were not much dearer on the fortnight, despite the 5d. per cwt. new duty. Left to itself, this branch of the market would probably have declined 3d. per cwt., in order to clear stocks. Mincing Lane reports heavy holdings of cleaned rice, but less than usual on passage.

LONDON FLOUR.

		s.
Top Price	(per sack)	— 30
Town Whites	,,	— 27
,, Households	,,	— 24
No. 2	,,	— 22

COUNTRY FLOUR.

Best Patents	(per sack)	24 — 26
Fine Roller made	,,	23 — 24
Ordinary Roller made	,,	22 — 23
Best Stone made	,,	21 — 22

FOREIGN FLOUR.

Minnesota First Patents	(per sack)	24 — 25
,, Second Patents	,,	22 — 23
,, First Bakers'	,,	20 — 21
,, Second Bakers'	,,	18 — 19
Milwaukee Patents	,,	20 — 24
,, Bakers	,,	17 — 18
Kansas Patents	,,	24 — 25
,, Bakers'	,,	19 — 20
Cascadia	,,	23 — 24
Canadian	,,	23 — 24
Australian Patents	,,	21 — 22
,, Straight	,,	20 — 21
Hungarian	,,	30 — 33
French	,,	22 — 23

MEAL, &c.

Whole Meal	(per ton	184—186
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	116—118
Bran, London Broad	,,	108—116
,, ,, Fine	,,	92— 96
,, Country Flake	,,	122—128
,, ,, Broad	,,	104—108
Pollard	,,	96—100
Biscuit Middlings	,,	124—128
Fine Middlings	,,	120—122
Coarse Middlings	,,	108—110
Feeding Flour (Red Dog)	,,	117—119
Barley Meal	,,	129—133
Rye Flour	,,	176—186
Canadian Oatmeal	,,	210—220
Scotch Oatmeal	,,	265—305
Oat Flour	,,	345—365
Maize Flour	,,	169—171
Maize Meal	,,	118—120
Maize Cones	,,	177—179
Maize Germ Meal	,,	116—120
Pea Meal	,,	135—155
Bean Meal	,,	150—170
Rice Meal	,,	95—100

LONDON TERM MARKET.

This market is held twice a day, except on Saturday, when there is no afternoon call. The market is open to elected members only. No business except for future delivery is done, and the smallest quantity that can be purchased is 1,000 quarters, or 4,800 centals. The name of the month stands for guaranteed delivery (if required) on or before the last day of that month, and the following have been the prices per cental recently made:—

WHEAT.—Calls	A. June. s. d.	A. Aug't. s. d.	B. Oct. s. d.
April 21 noon	6 1	6 1	6 4
4 p.m.	6 1	6 1	6 4
April 22 11 a.m.	6 1	6 1	6 4
4 p.m.	6 1	6 1	6 4
April 23 11 a.m.	6 1	6 1	6 4
4 p.m.	6 1	6 1	6 4
April 24 11 a.m.	6 1	6 1	6 4
4 p.m.	6 1	6 2	6 4
April 25 11 a.m.	6 1	6 2	6 5
4 p.m.	6 2	6 2	6 5
April 26 noon.	6 2	6 2	6 5
To-day noon.	6 1	6 2	6 5

The value of maize is maintained at 4s. 5d. per cental for June to any delivery; 4s. 9d. new cereal year bins, which include the duty.

By the letter A is signified duty to be paid by *buyer*, by B duty to be paid by *seller*. On the 18th inst. the members of the Term Market unanimously agreed to adopt the new duty as a sellers' obligation from the new cereal year (September 1). Up to that date it will fall on the buyer. In default of agreement the Acts of 1876 and 1901 throw the burden on the buyer.

The Term Market standard wheat is No. 1 Northern Spring American sold on the Duluth certificate. Other sorts of wheat can be bought at the above prices plus or minus agreed difference between the other sort and the standard quality. Quotations are by the "true hundredweight" or cental of 100 lb. We do not give fractions of a penny per cental. The maize quoted is fair average quality from the United States.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORT.

Flour.—There is rather more inquiry this week, and greater firmness in prices. Values on sport are as follows:—First spring patents, 25s. to 26s; second spring patents, 24s. to 24s. 6d.; American winter patents, 24s. 6d. to 25s.; extra fancies, 23s. to 23s. 6d.—GREENHILL BROTHERS (Belfast).

Offals.—There is a fair demand for bran; the better qualities, however, are obtainable at 2s. 6d. to 5s. per ton below last week.—GREENHILL BROTHERS (Belfast).

Flour.—The market has been firm, with more business doing at late full prices. Grain.—Flat and round maize, 3d. to 4½d. per boll up. Beans and pease now fetch extreme prices. Barley 3d. higher. Oats continue in good demand at prices in sellers' favour. Oatmeal firm. Oilcake, 5s. cheaper on spot. Mill Stuffs.—Bran and thirds remain scarce.—MCKINNON AND MCDONALD (Glasgow).

Wheat and flour have been in larger supply. Trade is firm, and prices of wheat 6d. per quarter, and of flour 6d. per sack higher. Maize, barley, and oats are unchanged in value.—COVENTRY (Mark Lane).

There has been a fair demand for middlings during the past week, and prices are fully maintained. Bran and pollard rather dull, but no cheaper. Mills are keeping clear of all offals, and prices are against buyers.—JOHN BAWCOMB AND CO.

Flour.—A firm trade at 3d. and 6d. over last Monday.—T. S. MEDILL AND SONS.

Owing partly to the shorter supplies of English wheat at the country markets there is an improved demand for foreign descriptions, which are 3d. to 6d. dearer on the week. Maize shows a slight improvement, but demand is slow.—W. J. WOOD AND CO. (Mark Lane).

MANURES.

Liverpool, Friday.—The weather during the past week has been generally favourable for tillage operations, and all fertilisers are in active request. Nitrate of soda is sparingly offered on the spot, and for immediate delivery the quotation for best quality is £10 12s 6d; but there are sellers below this price ex ship now due. Other fertilisers are unchanged in values. Feeding stuffs move off only slowly at late rates to a slight decline for oil cakes. At auction, 1,200 bags American decorticated cotton cake meal sold at £6 7s 6d to £6 8s 9d per ton ex quay. Nitrate of soda, best quality, i.e., guaranteed 95 per cent pure, in bags, £10 12s 6d per ton; East India bone meal, fair to prime, in bags, £4 10s to £4 13s 9d per ton; kainit, prime, 23 per cent, in bags, £2 7s 6d to £2 10s per ton; palm nut cake, prime, in bags, nominal; linseed cake, American thin oblong, prime, in bags, £7 to £7 3s 9d per ton; linseed cake, English prime, in bulk, £8 2s 6d to £8 10s per ton; linseed cake, foreign, round, prime, soft and oily, in bags, £8 2s 6d per ton; cottonseed cake, N.A., decorticated, prime, new, in bags, £7 to £7 5s per ton; cottonseed cake, English, do, prime, soft, in bags, £7 2s 6d to £7 7s 6d per ton; cottonseed cake, English, undecorticated, prime, in bulk, £4 to £4 12s 6d per ton; cottonseed cake, Egyptian, do, prime, in bags, nil; cottonseed (crushed), 20 to 25 per cent. oil, meal, prime, in bags, £5 17s 6d per ton; rice meal, Rangoon, as imported, in bags, nominal; Indian meal, coarse to fine grinding, prime, in bulk, 13s 6d to 13s 9d per 240lb.; linseed, fine bold feeding, in bags, £3 2s 6d to £3 5s per quarter, 416lb.; N. A. cleveraseed, new red, fair to good, in bags, nil; D.N.S. Brand, superphosphate of lime, guaranteed, 25 to 27 sol, in bags, £2 5s to £2 7s per ton at depot; do, do, 30 to 31 sol, in bags, £2 10s to £2 12s per ton at depot; do, do, 35 to 36 sol, in bags, £3 to £3 2s per ton at depot; basic slag, prime quality, do, 30 to 35 per cent phos, in bags, nominal; do, do, 35 to 40 per cent phos, in bags, nominal; finest do, 38 to 45 per cent phos., in bags, nominal.—H. JONES LANGAR AND CO.

WOOL.

Canterbury, Saturday.—The advance on the Liverpool market has improved the demand locally, but values of Kent fleeces do not go higher than 5½d per lb; lamb wool, 4d; locks, 2d per lb.

London, Saturday.—English—per pk of 240lb.—Fleeces S. Dn. Hggs., £7 to £8 10s; half-bred hoggs, £6 to £7; half-bred wethers, £5 to £6; Kent fleeces, £5 to £6; South Down ewes and wethers, £7 to £8 10s; Leicester do, £5 to £5 10s. Colonial—per lb.—Vic.—Fleece, super, 1s 7d to 1s 9d; scoured good, 1s 7½d to 1s 8½d; scoured average, 1s 6½d to 1s 7½d; greasy average to fair, 10½d to 11½d; N. S. W., scoured average, 1s 4d to 1s 4½d; greasy average, 8d to 9d; S. Australian, greasy average, 6½d to 7d; N.Z., scoured average, 1s 5d to 1s 6d; grease average, 8½d to 9½d; Cape scoured super, 1s 5d to 1s 6d; fleece average, 7d to 7½d; greasy average, 6½d to 7d; Natal scoured, 1s to 1s 1d; greasy average, 6½d to 7½d. Cross-breds.—Grs.—Vic. good super, 11d to 11½d; New Zealand fine, 8½d to 9½d; medium, 5½d to 6d; coarse, 4½d to 4¾d.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—The arrivals from Ireland last week were 1,690 bales bacon, and from foreign ports 12,216 bales bacon. There was a steady demand for bacon last week, although with heavy supplies of Danish, the latter was rather quieter, and prices in some cases 1s to 2s easier, quotations ranging Irish 58s to 63s up to 67s; Danish, 56s to 60s up to 64s; Canadian, 54s to 57s up to 60s. The butter market was quiet, and prices easier, Danish, however, selling better at reduced rates. Danish was ranging 108s to 110s, Colonial 96s to 102s, Russian 96s to 104s. The lard market was firm: Irish 48s to 53s, Danish 57s to 58s, American 50s to 51s 6d.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

Monday, April 28th, 1902.

	British.	Total.	April 29, 1901.
Beasts	1,080	1,080	950
Sheep and lambs	7,630	7,630	10,250
Calves	5	5	5
Pigs	—	—	20
Milch cows	35	35	40

Quotations per 8lb. (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.

	Inferior. s. d.	Second. s. d.	First. s. d.
Beasts	3 4 ..	4 4 ..	5 0
Sheep	3 10 ..	5 4 ..	6 4
Lambs	6 0 ..	6 10 ..	7 4

Milch cows, per head, £15 to £23.

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, nil; Eastern Counties, 743; Midland, Home, and Western Counties, 306; Devon, 20; Ireland, 11.

In the beast market to-day the supply was the smallest voted for many weeks (Easter Monday excepted), there being no arrivals from Scotland, and from Ireland only a few two-and-a-half years old stores, which were quoted at £11 10s to £12 10s per head. Trade for fat beasts was slow, though firm, in regard to value, higher rates by 2d per 8lb being obtained. Fat cows and bulls were also dearer.

The following are top quotations per 8 lb (sinking the offal):—

	To-day.	April 29th, 1901.
Devons	4s 8d to 4s 10d	4s 2d to 4s 4d
Norfolks	4s 10d to 5s 0d	4s 4d to 4s 5d
Lincoln	4s 4d to 4s 8d	4s 0d to 4s 3d
Irish	—	4s 2d to 4s 3d
Fat cows	4s 2d to 4s 4d	3s 8d to 3s 10d

In the sheep market there was a decrease of 1,130 in the number penned, compared with Monday last. Lambs, which were in greater proportion, and slow to vend, made last Thursday's advanced prices; wether sheep were exceptionally short in number, and sold readily at an advance of 4d to 6d per 8lb. Ewes also made 2d per 8lb more money; the supply included 510 Scotch, 2,810 from the Eastern Counties, and 740 from Yorkshire.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8 b (sinking the offal), and are for the best of each class penned.

	To-Day.	April 23, 1901.
7½ to 8-st Downs	5s 2d to 5s 4d	5s 6d to 5s 8d
9-st Downs	5s 10d to 6s 0d	5s 4d to 5s 6d
10-st half-breds	5s 6d to 5s 8d	5s 2d to 5s 4d
10-st Yorkshires	4s 10d to 5s 0d	4s 8d to 4s 10d
12-st Lincolns	5s 0d to 5s 2d	4s 10d to 5s 0d
10-st Down ewes	4s 10d to 5s 0d	4s 8d to 4s 10d
11-st half-bred do.	4s 6d to 4s 8d	4s 4d to 4s 6d
8-st Down lambs	7s 2d to 7s 4d	7s 10d to 8s 0d
6-st half-bred do.	6s 6d to 6s 8d	7s 4d to 7s 6d

London (Central), Monday.—Moderate supplies; good trade. Beef carcases, 4s 1d to 4s 2d; hind-quarters, 4s 6d to 4s 8d; roastings, 5s 4d to 5s 8d. Sheep.—Ewe, 3s 6d to 3s 10d; wether, 4s 6d to 4s 10d; hind-quarters ewe, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; wether, 5s 4d to 5s 8d. Pigs, large, 3s 8d to 4s; small, 4s 4d to 4s 8d.

St. Ives, Monday.—Beasts, 1,045; sheep and lambs, 575; pigs, 668. Beef, 8s to 9s; mutton, 7s 7d to 9s 11d; lamb 1s; pork, 6s 9d to 7s 6d. Fat beasts sharp trade, dearer; stores fair; fat and store sheep fair; fat and store pigs good demand. Milch cows fair; trade prices £15 to £23.

FOREIGN CATTLE.

Liverpool, Monday.—Fewer cattle in market. Demand slow, and prices in favour of buyers. Sheep supply smaller. A good demand, particularly for handy weights, at higher prices. Lambs, excepting fat ones, no better to sell. Beef 7½d to 8½d per lb. Mutton 9d to 9½d per lb.; lambs 11d to 9d per lb. At market 853 cattle and 4,654 sheep.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts, 289. To-day's supply, compared with Monday last, showed a decrease of 452, and consisted of consignments from the United States, trade for which was of a firm and steady nature at an advance of 2d per 8lb, with an early clearance. The best on offer, to dress about 640.b, made 4s 11d and occasionally 5s per 8lb, offal given in; second quality made 4s 9d. Sheep numbered 803 from the United States, and found ready buyers. The best made 5s per 8lb out of the wool. On Saturday 1,040 States beasts and 300 from Canada were on sale, and met a firm trade, the former being quoted at from 4s 8d to 4s 10d per 8lb. Canadians made 4s 4d to 4s 8d. The following were the numbers on offer on the corresponding day last year, with the current top rates:—Beasts, 685, 4s 1d to 4s 2d per 8lb, to dress about 720.b; sheep, 1,450, 4s to 4s 2d per 8lb, to dress about 68lb.

THE BALTIC, 1 p.m.

STATE OF TRADE.

Wheat cargoes are irregular; arrived Californian are dearer; Argentine are 6d. up. On the other hand, American futures favour buyers. Barley is steady. Oats are well held, but with few purchasers. Maize is firm for yellow, but firmer for round.

BUSINESS DONE.

WHEAT.—Californian, 32s 6d, arrived; No. 1 Northern, 29s 6d, prompt shipment; soft red Calcutta, 29s 9d, prompt shipment; Australian, 30s, on passage; hard Manitoba, 30s 6d, May shipment; hard Manitoba, 30s, June shipment; No. 2 Manitoba, 29s 3d, May shipment; No. 2 Manitoba, 28s 9d, June shipment.

BARLEY.—Californian brewing (superior), 25s, on passage; Californian brewing (standard), 24s, on passage; Azoff, 19s 3d, on passage; Azoff, 17s 9d, September shipment.

OATS.—Black Libau, 18s 6d, prompt shipment; Danubian, 18s, prompt shipment; Danubian, 16s, October shipment; No. 2 Canadian, 19s 3d, May shipment.

MAIZE.—Roumanian, 21s 6d, May shipment; Galatz, 22s, on passage.

LINSEED.—Calcutta, 52s 3d, on passage; Bombay, 54s 6d, July shipment.

RAPESEED.—Yellow Cawnpore, 39s 3d, May shipment; brown Calcutta, 36s, June shipment.

COTTONSEED.—Bombay, £5, prompt shipment.

HAY AND STRAW.

Manchester, Wednesday.—Hay, 7d to 7¾d. Clover, 7d to 8d. Straw, oat, 5½d to 6½d per stone.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW.

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS.")

Trade in London.

Following on the rise noticed last week in all descriptions of beasts, we have this week to note a sudden drop of from 2d. to 3d. per 8lb. Even at this reduction trade was entirely void of life. This is accounted for by the larger consignments of beef to the dead-meat market attracted by the higher rates obtained. A clearance at Islington on Monday could not be made, beasts having been bought too dear in the country. It was generally reported that on the previous Saturday on Norwich Market the best made 5s. per 8lb.; fat butchering cows and bulls met with less inquiry, and consequently were bought on easier terms. At the foreign cattle market holders of stock had a similar experience, rates for both prime and second quality being lower by from 2d. to 3d. per 8lb., this fall being particularly noticeable on Wednesday, some 400 head being held back. The total number on offer at both markets was , as against 3,278 during the previous week. The supply consisted of 1,290 British (decrease 250) and 2,791 foreign (increase 1,053); these latter consisted of 2,451 from the United States and 340 from Canada. The following were the top rates paid per 8lb., sinking the offal:—80 to 85 stone polled Aberdeens, 4s. 11d.; 90-stone polled Norfolks, 4s. 9d.; 100-stone Shorthorn ditto, 4s. 8d.; 100-stone Lincolns, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; 90-stone Irish, 4s. 3d. to 4s. 6d; 85-stone States, 4s. 8d. to 4s. 9d.; 90-stone Canadians, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 7d.; 90-stone fat cows, 4s. to 4s. 2d.; 100-stone fat bulls, 3s. 6d.

The trade for sheep, which was chiefly confined to the Islington Market, was of a firm and steady nature, at the previous week's quotations, except for ewes, on Monday, which ruled 2d. per 8lb. in favour of the buyer. On the same day lambs, with a slower sale, declined 4d., but for these on Thursday there was more demand, sales being readily effected at an advance of 6d. The total number penned was 11.514 (previous week 10,870), consisting of 10,624 British and 894 American. Best pens made per 8lb. as follows, sinking the offal:—7½ to 8 stone Downs, 5s. 8d.; 8-stone Scotch, 5s. 8d.; 9-stone Downs, 5s. 6d.; 10-stone ditto, 5s. 2d. to 5s. 4d.; 10-stone halfbreds, 5s. to 5s. 2d.; 12-stone Lincolns, 4s. 10d. to 5s.; 9-stone Yorkshires (clipped), 4s. 8d.; 7½-stone Americans (in the wool), 4s. 10d. to 5s.; ditto clipped, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; 10-stone Down ewes, 4s. 8d.; 11-stone halfbred ditto, 4s. 4d.; 5-stone fat Down lambs, 7s. to 7s. 6d.; 6-stone halfbred ditto, 6s. 8d. to 6s. 10d.

Calves numbered 80, and met a slow trade; best quoted at 6s. per 8lb.

Trade in the West.

With moderately good deliveries of both fat and store stock at the leading markets of the district, a fairly active demand has prevailed, though the tone of the trade has been scarcely so buoyant, except for the bettermost grades of store cattle and calves, as it was a few days since. We incline to the opinion that both dairy beasts and also barreners are likely to keep very dear throughout the coming season, for even now the greatest difficulty is experienced in meeting the wants of milk purveyor, despite the fact that the ordinary runs of milch beasts now range from £16 10s. to £21 10s., and even beef at such a price—11s. 6d. to 12s. 6d. per score for good steers or heifers (or from £18 to £24 10s. each)—barreners are not very likely to be much a drug on the market for some time, seeing that graziers are now paying £25 up to £40 a pair for those easiest of conversion into beef. And the plainer kinds also market well, these making £18 to £22 or £23 a-piece; in fact, everything is snatched up almost before it is on the market. Young stock, too, is making a capital price, barren heifers bringing £26 to £30 per pair, and yearlings £16 to £24. As regards the beef trade, although prices are being well maintained, buyers are evincing a little less eagerness in making their purchases to what was the case a week or a fortnight since; but still the tone of the trade is strong throughout, and present indications point to a dear season, more especially if the shortage in American deliveries continues. Mutton, although selling much better than it did, still admits of an improvement in value, some classes f sheep making disappointing prices, which is a matter of some surprise, beaoring in mind the price of other classes of meat and also of the generally recognised shortage of sheep in the country; and the same may be said of lamb. Only in very exceptional cases is 8½d. made for mutton, a more general range being from 7½d. to 8d., whilst plenty of ewes only make 7d., if they do as much. A few of the very ripest of lambs—dainty little cross-breds—sell from 10d. to 11d. per lb.; but against this must be placed the 8½d. to 9½d. realised for ordinary runs; and in some cases even less is made for poor, badly finished lambs. Calves continue to make old rates; prime picked lots 8½d. to 9d. per lb. (or up to £6 each); seconds ranging from 7d. to 8d. The pig trade continues firm, light-weight porkers comanding 10s. 6d. to 11s. 6d. per score, and baconers 9s. 6d. to 10s. Stores are also in active request at widely varying prices—25s. up to 51s. Sows also make a good price—£5 to £9 5s. each. But very few store sheep are changing hands just now; but from what we have seen sold, we rather fancy that stores, of the two, sell relatively better than those for death.

Trade in Ireland.

There was a small decrease of nearly 100 cattle, and a big one of nearly 900 sheep at last Thursday's Dublin Market. A fair attendance of local buyers, but many of the large shippers were conspicuous by their absence. Trade was brisk for all kinds of good cattle, but coarse, wasty beasts and rough cows were neglected. There were very few really choice beef cattle on sale, and smart prices were paid for these, last day's prices being more than confirmed, and for good second-grade beef values showed a distinct hardening. Prime ox and heifer beef made from 57s. 6d. to 63s., and extra choice up as high as 67s. 6d. per cwt.; second quality, from 54s. to 56s. 6d.; and inferior sorts, 47s. 6d. to 52s. 6d. per cwt. In one instance, for a small lot of particularly good beasts, as high as 71s. 9d. was realised. In the mutton department supplies were of more reasonable dimensions, and trade was of a more healthy tone. Home butchers operated on a more liberal basis than during the past few weeks, while the buying for Liverpool, Manchester, etc., was also a good deal improved. Prices for the best classes of sheep were decidedly in favour of sellers, and there was a general advance of from 1s. to 2s. per head. Coarse, common descriptions of sheep, however, did not seem to profit by the rise. In sympathy with mutton, lambs also met with a brisker sale at slightly improved rates for nice fat, but small thin lambs were hard to dispose of. There was a decided preference showed for sheep out of the wool, the right stamp of shorn hogget realising from 8d. to 8½d. per lb. Prime wether mutton made from 7½d. to 8½d. per lb; ewe, 7d. to 7½d.; medium and inferior from 6d. to 6½d. Hoggets sold all the way from 28s. each for small, up to 56s. for heavy. Lambs also showed a great range in price, small thin lambs selling at from 16s., while for exceptionally good ones as high as 40s. and 42s. was paid. Best veal in small supply, and sold readily at from 8d. to 9½d. per lb.; rough ditto from 4½d. up. There was a fairly active demand for good cows, prime new milchers making from £17 to £19, and springers from £18 to £20; common cows from £9 upwards. Some large auctions of store cattle took place, and there was keen competition for animals in good condition. In the pig department trade was dull, and, towards the close of business, sellers had to give way from 1s. to 2s. per cwt. to effect sales. Small choice pigs, from 46s. 6d. to 48s. per cwt.; heavy, from 44s. to 46s.; and coarse, from 36s. to 40s.

LONDON.

Islington, Thursday.—A limited number of beasts, mainly consisting of fat bulls and rough cattle. The demand was of a generally quiet nature, but prices ruled steady. Fat bulls, 3s 6d to 3s 10d. Fair supplies of sheep met with fair support for both wethers and ewes, prices as a rule being firmer: 7½ to 8-stone Down wethers (clipped), 5s 2d; extreme, 5s 4d; 9-stone ditto, 4s 10d to 5s; 10-stone half-breds, 4s 8d; 10-stone Down ewes (unclipped), 4s 6d to 4s 8d; exceptionally, 4s 10d; and 11-stone half-bred ditto, 4s 4d to 4s 6d. Lambs also firm and dearer; 4½ to 5-stone Downs, 7s to7s 4d; 6-stone half-bred ditto, 6s 8d to 6s 10d. Calves steady, the best on offer making 5s 8d. Pigs, firm. Neat small porkers, 4s 10d per 8lb to sink the offal.

London (Central), Wednesday. — Fair supplies, which met a better demand, while a fair business transpired. Arrivals of beef included 60 tons Scotch, 450 Liverpool sides, 1,000 hindquarters and 600 forequarters American killed. Prices: Beef, Scotch short sides, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; long, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; English, 4s 2d; American, Deptford killed, 4s to 4s 2d; Liverpool, 3s 11d to 4s; American, refrigerated, hind-quarters, 4s to 4s 1d; fore-quarters, 2s 10d to 3s. Mutton: Scotch, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; English wethers, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; ewes, 3s to 3s 8d; English lamb, 5s 4d to 6s. Veal: English and Dutch, 3s 8d to 4s 8d. Pork: English, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; and Dutch, 4s to 4s 4d per 8lb.

London (Central), Friday.—Supplies were good, and the demand as a rule was fair, prices being firm. A fair amount of English, moderate of Deptford-killed American, 120 tons of Scotch, 300 sides from Liverpool, 3,700 hind-quarters and 180 forequarters American-killed, and 100 Dutch sides constituted the arrivals of beef to-day. Quotations:—Beef: Scotch short sides, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; long, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; English, 4s to 4s 4d; American, Deptford-killed 4s 1d to 4s 3d; Liverpool, 4s to 4s 2d; American, refrigerated, hindqurarers, 4s to 4s 3d; forequarters, 3s to 3s 3d; Dutch sides, 3s 8d to 3s 10d. Mutton: Scotch, 4s 8d to 4s 10d; English wethers, 4s 6d to 4s 8d; ewes, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; Canterbury, 2s 9d to 3s; Wellington, 2s 5d to 2s 8d; Sydney and River Plate, 2s 4d to 2s 6d. Veal: English and Dutch, 4s to 5s. Pork: English, 4s 8d to 5s; and Dutch, 4s 2d to 4s 8d per 8lb.

COUNTRY.

Ashbourne, Thursday.—There was a good show of horned stock and a good attendance of farmers, dealers, and butchers. Trade all round showed a decided improvement, higher prices being obtained. Quotations: Useful calving cows up to 20 guineas; best calving heifers, £16 to £17; calving stirks, £10 to £13; barren stock dearer, making up to £15 and £16 for best young fresh barren cows or heifers; stirks, £9 to £17. Small supply of beef, best heifers making 7d to 7½d per lb; young calves, 6d to 6½d per lb. A good number of head of horned stock were disposed of under the hammer, and taking the market all round, the prices were satisfactory to the sellers.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Best beef dearer, making up to 12s 6d per score; secondary, 10s to 11s. Mutton a good trade at full rates. Veal a little cheaper. Pork sold well, making up to 10s 6d for the best.

Basingstoke, Wednesday.—At Raynbird Son's Sale Yard there was a good attendance of buyers to meet a supply of 46 fat beasts, 85 calves, 772 fat sheep, lambs, and 119 head of dairy and store cattle, for which the following prices were realised. Fat shorthorn steers, up to £22 5s; heifers, £18; a shorthorn cow, £19 10s; and Kerry steers, up to £18 5s. Fat wether sheep and young ewes, 38s to 53s. Fat ewes, 34s 6d to 50s. Fat sucking lambs, 27s to 38s. Fat calves, 80s to £5 10s; smaller, 20s to 45s. Dairy cows, £8 10s to £21 5s. Fat beasts were in fair supply, and met a good demand, but there was less animation in the biddings. A good show of fat sheep and lambs met a dull enquiry. Choice young sheep of handy weight were cleared atlast week's figures. Heavy and interior fat ewes were much lower. Fat lambs in good demand, but at lower figures. Dairy cattle met a better demand, and prices showed an advance. Store cattle trade was brisk, with a good enquiry for all best class stock. Fat calves continue a good trade at high prices. Ruling values: Best quality fat beasts, 7d to 7¼d; second ditto, 6½d to 6¾d; bull cows and inferior beasts, 5¾d to 6d per lb. Best quality fat sheep, 7½d to 8d; second ditto, 6½d to 7d; old ewes, rams, and inferior sheep, 5d to 6d; choice fat 3 months old sucking lambs, 9d to 10 per lb. Fat calves, 7d to 8½d per lb.

Braintree, Wednesday.—At Messrs. Balls' auction mart the trade in sheep and pigs maintained recent rates, but cattle were not so keenly demanded, probably owing to the drop in London prices. Store hoggets met with a good trade. Bullocks went up to £24 15s. Numbers penned: Beasts, 50; fat sheep, 140, hogs, 56; store pigs, 476; store cattle 16; calves 19; store sheep, 105; horses, 2.

Bristol, Thursday.—Fat cattle in moderate supply today. Trade firm. Best qualities, 65s to 66s per cwt; secondary, 58s to 60s. Sheep in limited number; demand firm. Shorn light wethers, 6¾d to 7¼ per lb; heavy weights, 6½d; ewes, 5d to 5½d; lambs, 10d to 10½d.

Bury, Wednesday.—At Messrs. Simpson and Sons' auction mart there was a short supply of fat beasts for the time of year, and the quality was not up to the average. Full attendance of buyers. Trade ruled sharp, at a trifle more money. Good supply of store cattle, including several lots of cattle adapted for marsh land. All met a good enquiry, and full rates were obtained. Several lots of two-year-old steers fetched from £11 7s 6d to £10 11s 6d. Other lots from £10 to £8 15s. Several lots of well-bred yearlings made from £8 15s downwards. The supply of fat sheep was the best this season, both in numbers and quality. Trade was hardly up to last week's high rates. Clipped Suffolk wethers went up to 60s. The supply also included several lots of very choice Southdowns. Several lots of clipped half-breds fetched from 56s to 48s per head. Short supply of store sheep. Good demand for all forward lots. Some black-faced couples fetched 52s. Good supply of pigs, which met a sharp trade at the late high rates.

Calne Friday.—Present prices for prime pigs, in lots of not less than 10, on rail within 100 miles of Calne.

Prime Stores.	Thickness of fat in any part of the Back.	Price per Sc. s. d.
6 sc. 10 lbs. to 9 sc. 10 lbs.	2½ in. and under ...	10 0
Under 10 sc.	Not exceeding 2½ n. ...	9 6
Under 11 sc. 10 lb.	... Not exceeding 2¾ in....	9 0
Under 12 sc.	... Not exceeding 3 in. ...	

—C. & T. Harris & Co., Ld.

Cambridge, Monday.—Beasts, 452; sheep, 785; pigs, 487; horses, 20. Beef, 7s to 8s 3d. Mutton, 4s 4d to 5s 4d. Lamb, 9d to 10d per lb. Pork, 6s to 7s. A larger show store beasts, and all cleared. Fat beasts, a good number to hand. Price about as last week. Fat sheep, a large supply; trade not so good, at less money. Stores trade slow all round. Fat pigs market now open, and trade brisk, at good prices. Stores a good trade all round. Hay, straw, and roots, short supply.

Canterbury, Saturday.—The first market since the removal of the restrictions was held to-day, an immense number of store tegs being offered. Best animals ranged from 35s to 38s, useful classes from 30s to 33s. A few fat pens made as much as 44s per head. Useful heifers were selling at £11, yearlings at from £7 to £8. Trade not quite so good for cows and calves.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Between 700 and 800 Irish store cattle were offered, the show being slightly less than last week's. There was a large attendance of buyers, and the demand was good, many animals readily changing hands. A few stripping cows were sold at £8 10s. to £11 10s.; small heifers realised £6 10s. to £8 10s.; and the best descriptions of useful heifers made from £12 10s to £15 10s. A few young pigs sold dear, making 23s 6d each.

Dorchester, Wednesday.—Supplies came well to hand in all departments to-day. Both Messrs. Duke's and also Messrs. Sampson's sale, and buyers were also fully represented. With a brisk inquiry throughout, prices ruled exceedingly firm, and business was generally to the advantage of sellers to-day. Fat bullocks are keeping very dear, and with prices steadily hardening throughout the country, sellers are selling out for extreme values, which are now 11s to 12s for anything at all ripe, whilst ordinary grades bring 10s 6d to 10s 9d. Veal is correspondingly dear, best calves now making up to 8½d, and ordinary runs 7d to 7½d to-day. Mutton is equally buoyant both for ewes and wethers, the former making 7d to 7½d, and wethers fully 8d to 8½d (or from 42s up to 55s each). Lamb is now in much more general request than it has been as yet this season, and good crossbreds realise 34s to 40s, or 9½d to 10d, and seconds 8½d to 9d.

Dublin, Thursday. — Numbers in market: Beasts, 1,161 (decrease 93); sheep, 4,209 (decrease 874); calves, 58 (increase 21). Finished cattle scarce and dear. Last week's prices fully maintained for all sorts, and an early clearance effected. The large reduction in the number of sheep caused a brisker trade. Anything choice made a shade more, and a good clearance effected. Cattle—Live weight, best, 35s to 38s 6d per cwt; other sorts, 30s to 34s per cwt. Mutton: Dead weight, 6½d to 8½ per lb; extreme, 8¾d per lb.—GANLY, SONS, AND CO.

Hereford, Wednesday. — Bullocks and cows, 902; calves, 218; sheep and lambs, 2,021; pigs (fat and sows), 14; sucking pigs, 105; pigs (stores, not more than 10), 269; pigs (stores, more than 10), 15. Best beef, 6d to 7d per lb; wether sheep, 6½d to 8d per lb; ewes, 5½d to 7d per lb; veal, 8½d per lb; pork, 5½d to 6d per lb; bacon, 4d to 5d per lb; lambs, 11d to 1s per lb.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons

report, compared with the abnormal supply of last week, fat cattle were not so numerous; trade was firm throughout at last week's quotations, viz., 8s to 8s 9d per stone. Fat sheep pens were well filled, and a good trade was experienced, some of the best lots of hoggets making more money. Only the best fat lambs were in demand. The trade for sheep was dull. The best weaning calves sold well, and fat calves were considerably dearer. Fat swine were in good supply, and sold freely, at somewhat easier prices. Well-bred stores were also rather lower. Several cows were penned; the best were wanted, and values advanced from £1 to £2 per head. A good entry of grazing cattle, including some excellent qualities; these, and all animals with condition, were in demand, but the descriptions were dull, and not much wanted. Numbers at sales and market: Cattle, 793; calves, 60; sheep, 2,715; swine, 1,100.

Leicester, Wednesday.—Lincolnshire and Norfolk fed bullocks were a large supply. Buyers and dealers were well represented, and trade ruled brisk all round, the demand being more animated than for a long period, and prices advanced £1 per head all round. Heifers, 6½d to 7½d; choice bullocks, 7¼d to 7½d; secondary, 6¾d to 7d; cows, 5d to 6¼d per lb. Sheep were a very good delivery, and changed hands readily at 7¾d to 8d for choice; large sheep 6¾d to 7¼d; ewes, 5½d to 6d; shorn sheep, 6½d to 7½d; lambs, 11d; calves, best, 8½d to 9d; secondary, 7d to 8d per lb.

Newport, Wednesday.—Quotations were:—Best beef, 7d to 7½d per lb; secondary sorts, 6½d to 6¾d; cows, 6d to 6¼d; best wether mutton, 8d to 8¼d; ewes, 7d to 7½d; lamb, 11d to 1s; veal, 7d to 8½d; porker pigs, 10s 3d to 10s 9d per score. A large supply, and an exceptionally brisk trade. Prices generally firm. Messrs. Newland, Davis and Hunt conducted a most successful sale of cattle, sheep, etc. About 20 store cattle, the property of Colonel Herbert and Mr. Henry Oakley sold remarkably well, averaging £20 15s to £31 15s per pair.

Norwich, Saturday.—The supply of store beasts on offer here to-day showed some falling off. Prices experienced scarcely any change. The show of fat beasts was moderate; trade was dull at 8s to 8s 6d per 14lb. The supply of store sheep showed some reduction; trade was dull, except for lots in a more or less forward condition. Keeping hoggets were quoted at 32s to 44s per head. Fat sheep out of their wool made 8s to 8s 6d and 9s per 14lb. Marshlands for grazing purposes have been let at unusually high rents this spring.

Romford, Wednesday.—Short supply of fat beasts; trade lower. Best animals, 4s 8d to 4s 10d; middlings, 4s 3d to 4s 8d per stone. Calves in very short supply; trade not quite as dear, at 5s to 5s 4d per stone. Sheep in average supply; trade about the same; best sheep, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; middlings, 5s to 5s 2d per stone. A short supply of lambs sold slowly at 6s 8d to 7s per stone. A few store beasts on offer; fair demand. Pig market still closed.

Salford, Tuesday.—There was a smaller supply of cattle, and a slow but firm trade at better prices. The supply of sheep and lambs was also smaller. There was a good demand for sheep, and sellers obtained an advance on last week's prices. Trade for lambs ruled dull, and prices were lower. A large show of calves, and a slow sale at less money. Quotations:—Cattle, 5½d to 7½d; sheep (in wool), 7d to 9½d; ditto (shorn), 6d to 9½d; calves, 5d to 8d per lb; lambs, 25s to 46s each. At market:—Cattle, 2,045; sheep and lambs, 9,765; calves, 247.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Very small show of milch beasts, and little business done. Best lots, £19 to £22; secondary sorts, £15 to £16.

Spalding, Tuesday.—A fair show of fat beasts, and very good demand; best, to 8s 6d per stone; cow beef, 7s 9d. There was a ready sale for cows, which fetched high prices. Stores a large show, but a dragging trade, and several lots unsold. Mutton was in small supply; choicest, to 9d per lb.

Stockton, Wednesday. There were on offer 137 cattle, 11 calves, 304 sheep, and 40 lambs. A very small show of fat cattle, but trade was slow and prices firm at 8s 6d to 8s 9d per stone; rougher kinds 6s 6d to 7s 6d; calves, 5d to 6d per lb. A quiet trade was done in sheep; young ones, 8½d; clipped sheep, 8d; ewes, 7d, tups, 5d per lb; lambs, 25s to 40s each.

Thame, Tuesday.—There was a short supply of beef, but mutton, lamb, veal, and fat pigs showed an increase. Beef ruled at extreme rates, and can be quoted at 5s 6d per stone. Prime mutton, to 5s 4d. The late Mr. Bond's sale comprised 51 fat beasts, 242 fat and store sheep and lambs, 152 fat and store pigs, and 66 fat and weaning calves. Fat bullocks made from £19 to £26 7s 6d. Fat heifers, £20 to £25 12s. Fat ewes, 45s to 57s 6d. Fat lambs, 48s to 51s. Fat lambs, 28s to 34s.—Couples up to 56s. Fat calves, £3.10 to £4 16. Weaning cow calves, 22s to 55s. Bull calves, 16s to 50s. Bacon hogs, 9s 6d per score. Store pigs in demand.

Wakefield, Wednesday.—Business rather slow this week for beef, and prices realised were the same as last week. Choice young sheep made ¼d per lb. more money; secondary quality, 6d to 6½d per lb; good demand, and all sold up. Numbers: Beasts, 1,352; sheep, 4,417.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Beasts, a moderate supply, fair demand for best. Sheep, fair supply; trade slow. Calves, moderate supply; fair demand. Beef, 6d to 7¼d per lb; mutton, 6¾d to 8¼d per lb; veal, 7¼d to 9d per lb. Only a few pigs on offer, and they realised good prices.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Fair show of all kinds of stock; good trade, with best decidedly dearer. Mutton fetched a trifle more money. Lamb trade bad. Best beef, 7s 6d to 8s per stone, a few extra quality making up to 8s 6d; secondary, 6s 6d to 7s per stone; Southdown shearlings and long wools, 7d to 8d; ewes, 6d to 7d; veal, 10d; lamb, 10d to 11d per lb.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Wednesday.—Beast supplies to-day amounted to 760 head, against nil on Wednesday last, and consisted of shipments from the United States. Trade ruled slow, at 4s 6d to 4s 9d per 8 lb, offal given in. 400 cattle were not shown. 160 United States were offered, no quotation, however, being given.

Yorkhill, Monday.—A sale of American cattle was held in the afternoon, but only 57 animals were offered, all of which were bullocks. As regards quality, they were up to the average, and the trade for them was brisk, consequent upon the small supply. The dead-weight quotations were as follow:—Bullocks, best quality, medium weight, 64s per cwt secondary, 62s; and bulls, 52s to 54s, according to quality and finish.

Yorkhill, Thursday.—A sale of United States sheep was held in the morning, there being penned in the sheds 755 sheep landed by the Livonian (s), from Philadelphia. The consignment consisted for the most part of wedders, which, as well as the lambs, were far above the average quality, the shipment being the best landed here for a long time past. There was a fair turnout of purchasers, and the demand keen, values all round showing an increase on those ruling last week. The dead-weight quotations may be given as follows:—Wedders, 7½d per lb; lambs, 7¾d.

BUTTER.

Tuesday.—Bedale: 1s to 1s 1d per 24oz roll. Gainsborough: 1s 4d per lb. Leeds: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Settle: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Spalding: 9d to 10d per lb. Stone: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb.

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Boston: 9d to 10d per lb. Colne: 1s 2d per lb. Goole: 11d per lb. Keighley: Wholesale, 1s 1d; retail, 1s 2d per lb. Kirbymoorside: 10d to 11d per lb. Knaresborough: Wholesale, 1s 6d; retail, 1s 8d per 24oz roll. Louth: 10d per lb. Northallerton: 1s 4d to 1s 7d per 21oz roll. Worksop: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Hereford: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Market Drayton: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb; seconds, 1s to 1s 1d per lb.

Thursday.—Brigg: 10d to 1s per lb. Driffield: 11d per lb. Penistone: 1s 3d per lb. Ripon: 1s 3d to 1s 5d per 24oz roll. Scarborough: 1s 3d per lb. Wetherby: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Wellington: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Kidderminster: 1s 2d per lb.

Friday.—Easingwold: 11d to 1s per lb. Helmsley: 9d to 11d per lb. Leyburn: 1s 1d to 1s 3d per 24oz. roll. Lincoln: 1s to 1s 1d per lb. Otley: 1s 4d to 1s 6d per 24oz. roll.

Saturday.—Appleby: 9d to 1s per lb. Berwick: 8d to 9d per lb. Carlisle: 1s to 1s 3d per lb. Doncaster: 1s to 1s 2d per lb. Grantham: 1s to 1s 2d per lb. Howden: 11d and 1s per lb. Lancaster: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Malton: 10d to 1s per lb. Pontefract: 1s 3d per lb. Retford: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Richmond: 11d and 1s per lb. Skipton: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Stokesley: 1s to 1s 1d per lb. Whitby: 1s to 1s 1d per lb. York: 1s per lb.

EGGS.

Tuesday.—Bedale: 17 or 18 for 1s. Gainsborough: 15 for 1s. Leeds: 7s 3d to 8s 3d per 120. Settle: 18 or 19 for 1s. Spalding: 17 or 18 for 1s. Stone: 16 or 17 for 1s.

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 13 or 14 for 1s. Boston: 17 or 18 for 1s. Colne: 1s 3d per score. Goole: 16 for 1s. Keighley: Wholesale 15, retail 14, for 1s. Kirbymoorside: 19 or 20 for 1s. Knaresborough: 16 or 17 for 1s. Louth: 18 for 1s. Northallerton: 17 for 1s. Stockton: 14 or 15 for 1s; duck, 10 for 1s. Worksop: 1s 4d to 1s 6d per score. Hereford: 17 and 18 per 1s (wholesale 19 and 20). Market Drayton: 16 to 18 for 1s.

Thursday.—Brigg: 16 or 17 for 1s. Driffield: 19 or 20 for 1s. Penistone: 16 for 1s. Ripon: 15 or 16 for 1s. Scarborough: 16 for 1s. Wetherby: 15 or 16 for 1s. Wellington: 16 and 17 for 1s. Kidderminster: 17 for 1s.

Friday.—Easingwold: 18 to 20 for 1s. Helmsley: 18 to 20 for 1s. Leyburn: 17 to 18 for 1s. Lincoln: 16 or 17 for 1s. Otley: 15 or 16 for 1s.

Saturday.—Appleby: 16 to 18 for 1s. Berwick: 8d to 9d per doz. Carlisle: 15 to 17 for 1s. Doncaster: 14 or 15 for 1s. Grantham: 16 or 17 for 1s. Howden: 18 for 1s. Lancaster: 12 to 15 for 1s. Malton: 18 and 19 for 1s. Pontefract: 13 or 14 for 1s. Retford: 1s 4d to 1s 5d per score. Richmond: 16 and 17 for 1s. Skipton: 15 or 16 for 1s. Stokesley: 15 or 16 for 1s. Whitby: 18 for 1s.

CHEESE.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There is little doing in the Glasgow cheese trade, old cheese being particularly over for the season. Those left are quoted from 56s to 62s per cwt. There were a few lots of new fodder cheese forward, which met a quiet sale. Any trade that was doing was in New Zealands and Canadians, which realised late prices.

Newport, Wednesday. — Quotations:—Caerphillies, 40s to 54s; tancy dairies, 55s to 56s; Derbys, 63s to 65s; truckles, 68s to 70s; and Cheddars, 65s. There was a good supply, and a moderate demand.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—Arrivals of both fruit and vegetables fair; fair demand. English apples, 6s to 12s per bushel; Tasmanian and Australian, 10s to 16s; Californian, 9s to 12s per case; pineapples, 1s 6d to 4s 6d each; Denia oranges, 10s to 25s; Valencia, 10s to 16s; Murcia, 7s to 10s per case; bananas, 7s 6d to 12s per bunch; lemons, 8s to 18s per case; Canary tomatoes, 4s to 4s 6d per case; cauliflowers, 9s to 10s per tally; broccoli, 3s to 3s 6d per bag; parsley, 3s to 4s; mint, 4s to 5s; leeks, 2s to 2s 6d per dozen bunches; seakale, 8s to 12s per dozen punnets; horseradish, 1s 3d to 1s 9d per bundle; rhubarb, 1s 6d to 2s 6d per dozen bundles; Valencia onions, 5s to 7s per case; spring onions, 2s to 2s 6d per dozen bunches; potatoes, 35s to 85s per ton; new, Canary, 14s to 15s; Malta, 12s to 13s per cwt.

COLONIAL DAIRY PRODUCE.

London, Friday.—Butter.—The supplies of New Zealand butter are getting smaller week by week, and as about only 9,000 boxes more will arrive this season, buyers are turning their attention to fresh sources of supply for the coming summer. Prices are slightly easier than last week, and may be quoted at 104s. to 105s for "Choicest" brands, and 100s to 102s for "Finest." The Copenhagen official quotation, after remaining at 95 kroner for seven weeks, has been lowered to 92, which is 4 kroner higher than it was last year. The market in Manchester last Tuesday was affected by sentiment rather than large supplies, and, owing to retailers abstaining as much as possible from buying, values fell 2s. to 3s. per cwt. Russian butter is very short this week, as the steamer from Riga—the first vessel this season from that port—will not arrive before early next week. Supplies of all kinds of Continental butter will now increase week by week, and early shipments of Canadian are coming along. In America butter continues excessively dear; "Choicest" quality making 150s per cwt.; even process butter there is selling at 120s to 133s. Cheese.—The demand for Canadian and New Zealand cheese continues steady and prices have advanced another shilling per cwt. this week, the top quotation for Canadian being 58s, while New Zealand is only a shilling less. It looks as if 60s would be reached shortly.—W. WEDDEL AND CO.

GAME AND POULTRY

Smithfield, Saturday.—Supplies limited, and met good demand. Yorkshire fowls, 3s 3d to 3s 9d; Boston, 2s 6d to 3s 6d; Essex, 3s to 3s 6d; Surrey, 3s 6d to 5s; Sussex, 3s 3d to 4s 6d; Welsh, 2s 6d to 2s 9d; Irish, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; cock turkeys, 6s 6d to 8s 6d; hens, 4s to 5s; goslings, 6s to 7s 6d; Aylesbury ducklings, 4s 6d to 5s; country ditto, 3s 9d to 4s 6d; Bordeaux pigeons, 10d to 1s; feathered, 8d to 10d; quail, 9d to 11d; wild rabbits, 6d to 8d; tame, 10d to 1s 4d each; Australian, 8s 6d to 10s 6d per dozen; Russian game: Partridges, 1s to 1s 2d; ptarmigan, 10d to 1s; black game, 11d to 1s 2d; brown hares, 1s 6d to 1s 8d; white, 1s to 1s 2d each.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Hull, Tuesday.—Linseed.—The arrivals are 1,220 qrs. from Buenos Ayres, 23 qrs. from Harlingen, 14,102 qrs. Rosario, 3,975 qrs. San Nicholas, 5,980 qrs. San Pedro, 1,093 qrs. Villa Constitution; total 26,393 qrs. The market opened firmer, and a slight advance was paid; the close is steady, but not much business passing. Calcutta, April-June, 51s 3d. River Plate: There are sellers of spot and near seed at 48s 3d; afloat, 48s 6d; April-May, 49s 6d wanted. Cottonseed.—The market further improved after our last issue, spot, passage and April loading making up to £7 10s, but there was a sudden reaction, value declining to £7 6s 3d, whereat some business done by near steamers, and £7 5s accepted later. Yesterday, however, there was a better tone again, and several lots changed hands at £7 6s 3d to £7 7s 6d passage and April B/L, also up to latter price paid April-June. New crop has been sparingly dealt in at £6 7s 6d November-January. To-day the market is again dearer at £7 10s spot to June, and £6 8s 9d bidding November-January. Oils.—Exports for the week end ng 15th April, 1902:—Linseed oil, 1 Denmark, 1 France, 9 Germany, 20 Norway, 2 Russia; total, 33 tons. Cotton Oil: 102 Austria, 157 Belgium, 30 Denmark, 54 France, 172 Germany, 100 Holland, 1 Norway, 3 Sweden, total 619 tons. Linseed oil steady; 28s 10½d spot; 28s 6d May-August. Cotton oil firm. Rape Oil, Jamba naked, 23s 9d spot; 1st quality, 24s 3d spot.—KEIGHLEY

London, Thursday.—Linseed.—There has been a better consumptive demand this week, and although supplies have been on a large scale, prices at the close have improved. Calcutta to London spot, passage, 51s 9d, and April-June 52s; June-July 52s 3d buyers. La Plata on passage, 50s. Hull has improved a little. Calcutta April-June 52s 3d. La Plata, spot 48s 9d; April-May, 49s 6d; May-June, 50s. To the Continent, Bombay April-May, 53s 9d; June-July, 54s. Calcutta, April-June, 52s 6d. La Plata April-May, 49s 6d. Linseed oil has shown considerable firmness, and prices have fully recovered the recent decline. We quote spot in pipes £30 5s to £30 10s; barrels, £30 10s; May-August, £30 10s; September-December, £29. Hull naked spot £29 5s; May-August, £29. Linseed cakes are steady. We to-day quote London made £8 5s to £8 7s 6d ex mill. American Western £7 7s 6d to £7 10s; Russian, £7 12s 6d to £8 2s 6d. Cotton cakes firmer; London made, £4 10s to £4 12s 6d. Rapeseed continues steady, with a moderate demand. Brown Cawnpore, April-May, 35s; Brown Calcutta, April-June, 35s. To the Continent we quote yellow Guzerat 40s; yellow Cawnpore, April-May 38s 6d; Brown Cawnpore, March-May, 36s; Brown Calcutta, April-June, 35s. Ferozepore, February-March, 36s 3d; Jamba, March-May, to Hull, 33s. Cottonseed.—The excitement has continued, and prices have further advanced. Spot London, £7 12s 6d; April-May, £7 11s 3d. Hull spot £7 10s paid; April-June, £7 10s; November-January, £6 8s 9d buyers. Cargoes, May is held for £7 11s 3d; November, £6 12s 6d; December, £6 11s 3d. Bombay to Hull April-May, is held at £5; May-June, £5.—THE PRODUCE BROKERS' COMPANY, LIMITED.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed Cakes: The demand continues extremely small, but, with limited stocks and short supplies of foreign, values are fully as dear, while in future positions shippers ask rather more money. Americans off the coast offer at slightly easier terms. Russians are the turn dearer. Calcutta-made in bags make £7 15s to £7 17s 6d. London-made remain unchanged on spot, and £7 12s 6d is asked for June to September delivery. Cotton Cakes: In the absence of any fresh arrivals of foreign, the market is firm at the recent advance, and best Egyptian in bags are held at unchanged prices, which is also the case with English. Decorticated are a slow sale at last Monday's prices, while meal is again dearer, having advanced 5s per ton on account of scarcity. Rape Cakes: Quiet; East India, £4. Maize Germ Meal: A parcel of American now due offers at £5 7s 6d c.i.f., with landed lots making £5 17s 6d, duty paid. English is in fair request at £5 15s to £6. Rice Meal: Parcels of Rangoon in warehouse are quite as dear at £4 17s 6d to £5, but a steamer lot due early May is obtainable at £4 5s per ton on the usual London ex ship terms.

		Per ton. £ s. d.		Per ton £ s. d.
LINSEED CAKES.				
London made	ex mill	7 17 6	to 8 0 0	
American	ex ship	7 1 3	to 7 2 6	
Russian, in mats	ex dock	7 8 9	to 7 10 0	
Russian, in bags	ex dock	7 17 6	to 8 0 0	
Calcutta		7 15 0	to 7 17 6	
COTTONSEED CAKES.				
London made	ex mill	4 12 6	to 4 15 0	
Egyptian	ex dock	4 10 0	to 4 12 6	
Decorticated	ex dock	6 5 0	to 6 10 0	
Meal	ex dock	6 10 0	to —	
RAPE CAKES.				
East India		4 0 0	to —	
MAIZE.				
English germ meal	ex mill	5 15 0	to 6 0 0	
American	c.i.f.	5 7 6	to —	
RICE MEAL.				
Rangoon	ex dock	4 17 6	to 5 0 0	

—PINNOCK BROS., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

WATERLOO ROUND FEEDING CAKES, £7 0s 0d PER TON; WATERLOO ROUND 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES, £8 15s 0d PER TON: WATERLOO ANGLO SHAPE 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES, £8 10s 0d PER TON; WATERLOO 97 PER CENT. PURE EGYPTIAN COTTONSEED CAKES, £5 2s 6d PER TON. ALL NET CASH AND F.O.R. IN HULL.

MOLASSINE FEEDING MEAL, packed in bags, of 1½cwt. each. Price per cwt., 7s. 6d. Price per ton, £6 15s., on rail at works, Silvertown, Essex, and F.O.R. Liverpool. A sample lot of 6cwt., in 4 bags of 1½cwt. each, delivered free to any station in England on receipt of remittance for £2 11s 0d

POTATOES.

Borough, Saturday.—Supplies again good, but business quiet at unchanged values. Scotch maincrops (Dunbars), 80s to 90s; Blackland Up-to-dates, 45s; Lincoln (Silkland), 50s to 60s; Kent and Surrey Up-to-dates, 45s to 50s per ton. New: Teneriffe, 14s to 15s per cwt.

Great Northern, Saturday.—Good supplies, but slow sale. Scotch maincrops, 85s to 90s; Imperators, 40s; Hebrons, 85s to 90s; Reading Giants, 45s; Blacklands, 40s to 45s; Lincoln maincrops, 65s to 70s; Up-to-dates, 60s to 65s per ton.

Spitalfields, Saturday.—A light supply, and demand showed slight improvement, while prices all round maintained steady level. Best Lincoln Up-to-dates, 60s to 70s; Wisbech do, 55s to 60s; Blackland, 45s; Scotch, 65s to 70s; Scotch maincrop (grey soil), 70s; Lincoln, 75s to 85s; Reading Giants, 40s; Blackland Gartons, 35s per ton. New: Teneriffe and Canary No. 2, 14s to 15s; No. 3, 13s to 14s; Maltese rounds, 8s to 9s; Algerian kidneys, 14s to 15s per cwt.



STOCK AND SHOW NOTES.

By Herdsman.

The annual Spring Show of the North-East of Ireland Agricultural Association will open on Wednesday next, and continue over Thursday and Friday. Like the Royal Dublin Society, the North-East has a splendidly-fitted and convenient show-yard of its own at Balmoral, Belfast, and this week's show will, of course, be held there. The Secretary of the Association, Mr. Kenneth Macdonald, informs me that the total number of entries, including implements, &c., stands, is 1,590, or an increase of considerably over 1,000 when compared with the total at last year's spring show. The entries in the various sections are as follows: — Thorough-bred stallions, 14; draught stallions, 11; draught horses, 34; draught horses (in gear), 87; polo ponies, 18; harness horses, 51; hackney cart-horses, 10; cattle, 406; milking trial, 12; swine, 44; poultry, 515; butter, 260; eggs, 30; butter-making contests, 19; implement, &c., stands, 80. Total, 1,590. Total entry at last year's Spring Show, 1,416. An attractive programme has been drawn up, and given fine weather the show should be a most successful one.

The entries for the Witney Meeting of the Oxfordshire Agricultural Society, to be held on Tuesday and Wednesday, May 13th and 14th next, are some 100 in excess of those obtained when last visiting that town—ten years since—and if the exhibition of pigs had not been obliged to be cancelled, there could have been added another 60 to that number. The implement department is well ahead of the 1892 meeting by some 20 stands, which include many labour-saving machines and novelties. The cattle and sheep are more than last year, but in the horse section the numbers fall off by some 20 from the Thame meeting, when that part of the show was pronounced by all competent judges in the autumn to be one—if not the best—of the best county shows ever held. Mr. Will Brown is again engaged to demonstrate on the best way of cramming, dressing, and trussing poultry, which is an industry still requiring to be better understood.

The luncheon in connection with the show will be held on the first day of the show, at 1.30, under the presidency of Mr. J. Francis Mason, who, we understand, intends to follow the excellent example set by last year's President, of a very short list of toasts. The Special Railway Committee have been in communication with the Great Western Railway Company, and have arranged several early and late trains to and from Oxford and neighbourhood each day. The Witney Local Committee have engaged at considerable expense the band of H.M. Grenadier Guards, and have also done everything else in their power for furthering the success of the show, which with fine weather should prove a most enjoyable and profitable gathering.

The present advance in the price of meat which has received so much attention in all quarters has evoked an expression of opinion from the *Meat Trades Journal*, which fully bears out the opinion I have consistently advanced in these columns. "We believe," says the authority referred to, "we have been successful in showing that the supplies of cattle and fresh beef from foreign and Colonial sources, upon which we are so dependent, are so much shorter this year as to warrant the advance already made in the price of meat, and also to justify our traders in assuming that unless relief is afforded the probabilities are that a further rise will be necessary. With respect to the recent articles dealing with the alleged squeezing operations of certain American cattle and meat exporters, even in the light of the most recent news respecting the so-called Trust, we are not disposed to believe that the present situation is entirely due thereto. This, in brief, is the position of affairs as it presents itself to us from a purely economic or commercial view, unbiassed by any feeling one way or the other regarding 'Trusts' or 'Combines.'"

The schedule and list of prizes has been issued for the Show of the Peterborough Agricultural Society, which will be held on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, April 8th, 9th, and 10th. Horses, of course, receive the most attention, having 53 classes allotted to them, cattle have 14, sheep 9, and pigs 11. There is a very generous list of specials and championships offered, the total value of the prizes to be awarded being £1,400. The fox-hound show will be held on the second day, and harriers and beagles on the third day. Entries in all sections close on June 14th, late entries at double fees up to June 23rd. Schedules can be obtained of the Secretary, Mr. J. E. Little, Cowgate, Peterborough.

Altogether the list is an attractive one, and will no doubt draw, as it has done in the past, a large entry, and thus maintain the thoroughly representative and national character of the Scottish National Show.

Recent cattle sales in the United States show that the public demand for well-bred stock is still maintained, values ruling high for animals possessing quality combined with pedigree. Highest prices were realised at Mr. Woody's sale of shorthorns, at Newton, Iowa, on April 8th. The imported cow, "Lily of the Valley," made £350; next highest price being made by "Dalmeny Regina," which was sold for £158. Several cows brought over the century. Another successful sale of shorthorns was held by Mr. H. D. Parsons, at the same place, on the 2nd inst. Fifty head were disposed of, at an average of over £58 apiece. Highest price was made by "Princess II.," who realised £180; two other cows, viz., "Princess Mysie" and "Queen Mysie," making £160 each. Another sale on the same day was that of Mr. J. Gerlaugh's shorthorns, at Dayton, Ohio, where 29 head were sold, at an average price of over £52. One steer was offered and sold at 10½ cents per lb, and brought a little over £21.



THE SHIRE MARE "ALSTON ROSE," 21218, which forms the subject of the above illustration, is a seven-year-old bay, the property of Mr. R. W. Hudson, Danesfield, Marlow, and was bred by the executors of Mr. J. Mercer, Alston Hall, Preston, her sire being Vulcan VII., 1440, dam Fanny, 14724, by Northern King, 2635. "Alston Rose" was the Champion Female at the Shire Horse Society's Show at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, last February. She won the First Prize in the class for Mares five years old and upwards, the £10 cup for the best of the older Mares, the £25 Champion Cup, and the Society's Gold Challenge Cup, value 50 guineas, for the best Mare or Filly in the Show. She was exhibited at the same Society's 1901 Show by Lord Rothschild, and was also on that occasion the Champion Female.

Entries for the Annual Whit Monday Parade of Cart Horses in Regent's Park close on Monday, April 28th, but late entries at extra fees will be received until May 6th. All information and forms can be obtained at the Society's Offices, 12, Hanover Square, London, W.

The Scottish National Fat Stock Club has issued the prize schedule for the club's sixth annual show, which is to be held in the Waverley Market, Edinburgh, on Wednesday, December 3rd, and following day. The total amount offered, including numerous special awards, is £1,403, as compared with £1,393 last year, and £1,343 in 1900. The sum is apportioned as follows: — Cattle, £996; sheep, £162; pigs, £33; roots, grain, &c., £185; and buttermaking, £27. The prize-list is much on the some lines as last year, especially in the live stock sections, but there are some important alterations in the grain and potato section. In the root classes the prizes offered are on a liberal scale. The Council have again decided to offer a framed diploma with a suitable inscription to the herdsman, shepherd, or pig-feeder who has fed and attended the stock gaining the first prize in each class of cattle, sheep, and pigs.

The prize schedule has been issued for the Maidstone Show of the Mid Kent Agricultural Association, to be held on July 2nd. Entries close June 11th, post entries being received up to June 18th, at double fees. Mr. Philip Champion, 3, Market Buildings, Maidstone, is the Secretary, and from whom full particulars can be obtained. There are four open classes for Sussex cattle, with special prize for the best female. Shorthorns have two open classes, and a class is set apart for dairy cows, any breed or cross-breed. Horses have nine open classes, divided into agricultural, with prizes up to £10, and hunters, with prizes up to £5. There are also classes for agricultural horses, harness, and jumping, confined to tenant famers and residents in Kent. Kent sheep have three, and Southdown two, open classes. Open classes for butter, home-made bread, agricultural implements, and motors are also included.

The Board of Agriculture has issued an order prohibiting the importation into this country of animals from the Channel Islands. The order appeared in Tuesday's *London Gazette*, and is to the following effect:—"Unless and until the Board otherwise order, it shall not be lawful to land any animal

brought from the Channel Islands, and the First Schedule (Prohibited Countries and Parts of Countries) to the Foreign Animals Order of 1896, shall be read and have effect as if those Islands were included in the list of prohibited countries and parts of countries mentioned in that Schedule." This Order came into force on Tuesday last.

The Large Black Pig Society has just issued volume three of the Large Black Pig Herd Book, which contains particulars of boars number 359 to 533, and sows 1,386 to 2,086. The entries of boars thus number 88 and those of sows 352, both of which totals are below those received for the second volume, but an increase on those in the first volume. The number of boars entered in the first volume was 82, and sows 316, the figures for the second volume being 97 and 376 respectively. The slight falling away in entries does not signify, however, that this particular breed of swine is decreasing in numbers, for, on the contrary, it is more popular than ever, and herds of large blacks are to be found all over the country now, whereas but a few years ago the breeding of these pigs was confined almost exclusively to the Eastern Counties.

The extensive herd of pure-bred shorthorn cattle belonging to Mr. P. H. Chesters, J.P., of Nantwich, is to be disposed of on May 9th, at The Laurels, Coole Lane, Audlem, Nantwich, the auctioneers being Messrs. John Thornton and Co. For upwards of a quarter-of-a-century Mr. Chesters has kept a large herd of shorthorn cattle, for the especial object of improving the breed of dairy cattle in the County of Cheshire, and particularly for developing their great milking properties. With this object in view, he visited many of the most distinguished herds in various parts of England, selecting specimens calculated to be beneficial to the farmers of the county. The remarkably fine herd of dairy cows will show the good judgment exercised in their selection. Many of the animals are of well-known families, chiefly of the old Bates blood, and of strains that have been retained for their good udders and large milk yields. A number of the cows for sale have yielded from 16 to 20 quarts daily during the summer months, and a large quantity of milk has been sold at the Audlem Creamery. They have either good calves at foot or are near calving, whilst others will come in for winter dairying.

The sires used have been from high-class herds, and of strains that have been very successful in the show yards. Mr. W. Taylor's Pride of Freedom 73,241 (now being used in the Duke of Northumberland's herd at Alnwick Castle), is the sire of several lots, his stock being much in demand at the Wharton Hall sale last year, where they realised very high prices. There are some beautiful heifers in the herd by him. The unreserved dispersion of this fine stock will afford a good opportunity to lay the foundation of first-class shorthorn dairy herds. As some evidence of this, it may be mentioned that four cows from his herd have taken the prize given by the Shorthorn Society, and two sold at the sale in 1899 took first and second for this prize at the Shropshire and West Midland Show at Shrewsbury, 1901. Several animals in the sale are well adapted for showing in the dairy classes this season.

Butter Containing 21 per cent. of Water.—Messrs. C. and E. Walker, butter merchants, of Wellington, Somerset, were fined £30 and costs at Fareham, Hampshire, yesterday, for issuing a false warranty with butter supplied to local tradesmen, stated to be pure and unadulterated, but which on analysis was found to contain 21 per cent. of water. A member of the defendant firm said that they received the butter from about 200 farmers, and blended it into butter of one colour and texture, during which process a spray of water was played on and occasionally worked in. The magistrates held that the invoice sent with the consignment was a warranty, but they acceded to the application of Mr. Ricard, K.C., for the defence, to state a case for the higher court.



Lincoln Bull Sale.

The seventh annual sale of Lincoln red shorthorn bulls, held under the auspices of the Lincoln Red Shorthorn Association, took place on Thursday last at Lincoln, on the usual place, the racecourse, just outside the city. The auctioneers who were engaged in conducting the sales were Messrs. Calthorpe and Briggs, Dickinson and Riggall, T. B. Richardson and Son, Saul, B. Simons, J. E. Walter, and E. A. Young and Son.

The number catered for the present sale was 187, as against 200 last year, when 168 were sold at the average of £25 5s. Of this year's entry no less than 170 were sold at the average of £25 2s. 9d., a result that cannot be deemed other than most satisfactory, for, compared with last year, although the average is fractionalyl lower, the far larger proportion sold more than compensates for this small difference in average.

There were no less than sixty-five different members who consigned stock for sale, of whom sixty-one are included in the sale list, whose average range from £49 7s. to £16 5s. 6d. It is manifest with so large a number of consigners that space will not permit of full details of the whole being given. We have, therefore, been reluctantly compelled to limit our notice to some of the higher averaged lots. Before referring, however, to any details of the sale, it will be of interest to note that the continued increase in the popularity breed was still further emphasised at this year's sale by the wide area over which the purchases were distributed, this including Ireland, whose representative, Mr. Gordon, was one of the largest buyers at the sale. He took no less than seven animals, of about fifteen months of age, at the handsome average of £39 15s. per head.

Last year 85 guineas was the top figure realised, Mr. G. E. Sanders being the purchaser. This year it was this breeder who, with Mr. J. W. Farrow, shared the honour of selling the top price bull in the sale for the firm. Each of these two consignments made 60 guineas, the top figure of the day. Mr. Sanders's average being £41 7s. 5d. for four, and Mr. J. W. Farrow's £37 2s. for three. The best average of the sale, however, was made by Mr. T. Bett's, whose herd has a very high reputation; his four animals averaged £45 8s. 3d., the top price being 50 guineas, three of this lot being included in Mr. Gordon's Irish lot. The Messrs. R. and R. Chatterton and J. C. Mountain each were represented by a single entry. These realised 47 and 45 guineas respectively, their purchasers being Mr. Colman and Mr. Thurlby. Mr. J. E. Davy's sole entry was keenly competed for, Mr. John Sharp securing him at 42 guineas. Mr. G. J. Brown with a single entry disposed of it at 36 guineas to Mr. R. Skelton. Messrs. T. and W. Dickinson were represented by an excellent lot of bulls, whose average for four was £37 10s., Mr. Gordon, for Ireland, taking the top priced one at 47 guineas, and another at 38 guineas, the other two making 30 and 28 guineas. Mr. E. H. Cartwright's single entry went at 36 guineas to Mr. C. Tinley. Three fine bulls from the executors of Mr. J. Abraham met with a good demand, and realised £35 14s. per head; top price, 40 guineas, to Mr. F. Ward, Messrs. Atkinson taking another at 34 guineas, the other making 28 guineas, to Mr. R. Walker. Mr. J. Mason's two made 36 and 27 guineas respectively, Mr. J. Crawley's single entry, 31 guineas, to Mr. H. Stokes, whilst 28 guineas was the figure realised by Mr. J. Ruston's entry, to Mr. C. Fieldsend, from Derby, who was an important purchaser. Mr. J. W. Measures sold all five of his entry, at the captial average of £28 7s., Mr. J. Evens, of Burton, taking a couple of very capital calves, for they were barely a year old, at 40 guineas and 21 guineas respectively, whilst Mr. Fountain gave 26 guineas for another. Mr. G. Walker's entry made 27 guineas, to Mr. Waddington. The Messrs. Freshney had eight entered, all being sold, their average being £28 4s. 4d. with the top price of 37 guineas, which went to Mr. Wells. Mr. C. W. Tindall taking two others at 36 and 32 guineas respectively. One from Mr. J. B. Nelson's herd went at 26 guineas, to Mr. J. C. Morton. Two of Mr. H. Olding's averaged £26 15s. 6d., their buyers being Mr. Webster, at 30 guineas, and Mr. J. Hendy, at 21 guineas. The Rev. P. C. Swan had a couple entered; these averaged £26 15s. 6d., one making 30 guineas, to Mr. B. Botherill, and the other 21 guineas, to Mr. Farrow. Messrs. S. E. Dean and Son had but three present out of their entry of four; these averaged £26 12s., top price, 30 guineas, to Mr. Gordon, for Ireland, the same buyer taking a second one at 27 guineas. One of Mr. E. King's made 26 guineas. Ten of Mr. Rueben Roberts's realised the satisfactory average of £25 18s. 8d., 30 guineas being the top figure, three times the respective purchasers being Messrs. Williams, Hall, and Mayfield. Mr. W. B. Swallow's capital consignment of six found purchasers at the average of £21 15s. 9d.; Messrs. J. Brocklebank and S. Turnor averaged each £24 3s.; Mr. S. Crawley, £23 19s. 6d., for three; Messrs. Holm, £23 12s. 6d. for two; Mr. J. Searby, £23 9s., for three; Mr. T. Wells, £23 9s., for three; Mr. G. Langton, £23 2s., for the same number. Messrs. J. Laverock, J. M. Richardson, and R. Searby the same figure for one each; whilst Mr. G. Morris made £22 17s. 9d. for four; Mr. W. Dukes, £21 17s. 10d., for ten; Mr. B. Simons, £21 17s. 6d. for six; Mr. J. Langham, £20 17s. 4d. for five; Captain E. M. Grantham, £20 14s. 9d. for six; Mr. W. C. Tory, £20 for ten, etc.

Cattle and Cattle Breeding.

At the annual general meeting of the members of the Albert Agricultural Students' Association, which was held at Dublin during the spring show last week, Mr. James Byrne, J.P., Wallstown Castle, Co. Cork, delivered a lecture upon "Cattle and Cattle Breeding." The lecture was illustrated by lantern views of representatives of the leading breeds, and was followed with much interest by the members present. Mr. Byrne began by calling attention to the importance of the cattle breeding industry of the country, and as evidence of this he mentioned the fact that the money invested in this industry amounts to £40,000,000 sterling. After pointing out how much room there is for improvement in the types of cattle kept in many parts of the country, Mr. Byrne went on to show that if farmers and stock-owners, by devoting more attention to the cattle kept by them, could improve the values of the animals by £1 or £2 per head, the result would mean the addition of several millions to the annual revenue of the country. He next proceeded to trace the origin of the leading breeds as we know them at the present day, first commencing with the wild white cattle, of which he showed illustrations, as kept at Cadzow and Hamilton Park. Among these wild white cattle there was always to be found a great similarity in appearance, and a wonderful uniformity in the matter of type and conformation. When they came to be domesticated, however, variations at once began to assert themselves, and it was owing to the operation of this tendency to variation that so many breeds of cattle have now arisen in various parts of the Kingdom.

From the wild white cattle Mr. Byrne next proceeded to the Shorthorns, whose early history in the hands of the Collings and other old-time improvers he traced in much interesting and instructive detail. The Collings, said Mr. Byrne, had begun with the use of a bull for which they had paid £8, and before their life work had been completed they were able to sell some of the animals bred by them at 1,000 guineas. This, he said, showed how much could be accomplished by the exercise of skill and good judgment in improving and establishing a breed of cattle even in the comparatively short period of a single generation. The various influences bearing upon the work of the stock breeder were next reviewed by Mr. Byrne, special mention being made of atavism, and the very conflicting results of which it was frequently productive in causing animals bred from certain types of cattle to throw back to progenitors several generations removed.

In dealing with the different breeds Mr. Byrne gave special prominence to the Shorthorn, of which he gave some very fine lantern views, specially notable being the reproductions of such bygone celebrities as Commander in Chief, Lady Fragrant, etc., etc. Mr. Byrne traced in detail the work done by the Collings in the improvement of this breed, and went on to say that, as we know it at the present day, the Shorthorn has proved itself to be the breed best adapted for Ireland. In addition to being a good beef producer, this breed also is capable of creditably acquitting itself at the pail, and in this way it contrived as it were a double debt to pay, for after being done with at the dairy the cows admitted of being rapidly and economically fattened off for the butcher.

There was no country in the world, said Mr. Byrne, better adapted for cattle breeding than Ireland, and no breed of cattle was so well adapted for Ireland as the Shorthorn. In no other country, said the lecturer, was the soil more fruitful than in Ireland, and in few other countries was the Irish climate surpassed from the point of view of the cattle breeder. Ireland is specially fortunate in its water supply, for while its rivers never run dry in the summer, they seldom over-

flow in the winter. There is at all times a constant supply of water, and owing to this circumstance stock-owners are able to carry on their breeding operations under much more favourable conditions than are to be met with in almost any other country in the world. After tracing the rise of the Shorthorn, and discussing the rivalry that at one time existed between admirers of the Bates and Booth cattle, and the unfortunate result of the extremes to which the views held by them were carried out by the opposing factions, Mr. Byrne dealt at length with the question of the feeding of stock for show purposes, and had nothing but condemnation for the existing condition of affairs under which animals in order to qualify for recognition in the show-ring had to be fed to such a pitch that their procreative and breeding powers were materially marred.

From the Shorthorns the lecturer went on to the Lincoln Reds, and then in turn he dealt with the Aberdeen-Angus, the Galloway, the Hereford, the Devon, the Sussex, the Longhorn, the Red Poll, the Ayrshire, the Jersey, the Guernsey, the Kerry and the Dexter, the West Highlander, and the Welsh, winding up with a reference to the small and hardy but unattractive-looking cattle which eke out a livelihood amid the barren uplands of the Shetland Islands. Of each of the breeds referred to Mr. Byrne had splendidly-executed slides thrown upon the screen, and as he went along he not only dealt with the points of the various animals, so far as shape and make were concerned, but also briefly touched upon their qualifications as milkers and general purpose stock.

After reviewing the various breeds, the lecturer next proceeded to discuss the question of feeding and breeding. In this connection he advised the greater use of home-grown crops, the value of which he said was not properly appreciated by a great many farmers. He also laid stress upon the necessity for providing the animals with a variety in their food, and while he was not in favour—in the case of breeding cattle—of the very high condition usually met with in the showyard, he strongly advocated the principle of keeping ordinary farm animals at all times improving. With a view to avoiding the risk of purchasing highly-fed bulls at shows, Mr. Byrne recommended as a good plan that farmers and others requiring bulls for breeding purposes should pay visits to herds at certain seasons of the year, and purchase therefrom the young calves at an early stage of their growth. These calves they could then feed up as they thought best, taking care not to overdo them at any time by over-loading the animals with too much flesh. The lecture which was followed with much interest and attention was spoken to by Mr. Gallagher, Professor Carroll, Mr. Simpson, Mr. O'Mullrenin, and others, and at the close a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Byrne, who suitably replied.

Sale of the Sherlowe Shorthorns.

This well-known herd of shorthorns belonging to Messrs. Evans was disposed of by auction on Friday at Sherlowe, near Wellington; Messrs. Alfred Mansell and Co. conducting the sale. The herd was founded sixty years ago by Mr. John Evans, and owing to judicious selection and mating a high level of excellence was attained. The herd was founded on practical lines with a view to produce animals combining "flesh with milk."

The sale was very well attended by breeders and their agents, while buyers for export were represented. The average obtained for forty-two cows and heifers was £37 1s., while eight bulls realised an average of £24 8s. 3d. Following is a list of the principal prices made:—

COWS AND HEIFERS.

	Gs.
Lady Duthie, red, c. June 20, 1895, s. Golden Baron 65581 ..... Mr. Miller	36
Her bull calf Northern Star, red, c. Sept. 1, 1901, s. Vain Count 78047 ..... Mr. G Harrison	50
Dorothy Burnell 3rd, roan, c. June 19, 1894, s. Careless Mercer 63761 ..... Mr. Goucher	25
Her roan heifer calf ..... Mr. Goucher	9
Painted Pansy, roan, c. Feb. 10, 1896, s. Great Western 70571 ..... Mr. R. H. Aldred	20
Her heifer calf, roan, c. Feb. 5, 1902, s. Vain Count 78047 ..... Mr. Aldred	12
Magnolia, red and little white, c. Aug. 17, 1896, s. Fairy King 65479 ..... Mr. F. Havhurst	40
Her heifer calf Eglantine, roan, c. Sept. 20, 1901, s. Vain Count 78047 ..... Mr. J. Day	40
Vine, roan, c. Nov. 19, 1896, s. Fairy King 65479 ..... Mr. Halsall	24
Her heifer calf Victoress, c. Dec. 14, 1901, s. Vain Count 78047 ..... Mr. Ward	10
Lavender Violet, red and white, c. Jan. 20, 1897, s. Baron Darlington 5th 56875 ..... Mr. Naylor	23
Her heifer calf, red, c. March 9, 1902 ..... Mr. Naylor	9
Lavender Primrose, red, c. Feb. 8, 1898, s. Golden King 70529 ..... Mr. J. A. Preece	33
Her heifer calf, red, c. March 25, 1902, s. Commander-in-Chief ..... Mr. J. A. Preece	13
Princess Duthie, red and little white, c. April 5, 1898, s. Golden King 70529 ..... Mr. Bulkeley	25
Her heifer calf Sunshine, red and little white, c. Oct. 12, 1901, s. Vain Count 78047 .. Mr. Ker Colville	36
Crocea 24th, red, c May 10, 1898, s Barrington Surmise 2nd 60343 ..... Mr. Humphreys	23
Roseleaf, roan, c. May 20, 1898, s. Marston Hero 70957 ..... Sir O. Mosley, Bart.	40
Daisy, red, c. Dec. 29, 1898, s. Prince William 67676 Mr. Bellpole	18
Her heifer calf, red and little white, c. March 5, 1902, s. Commander-in-Chief 78620 ..... Mr. Bellpole	6½
Sherlowe Oxford Belle, red and white, c. Feb. 23, 1899, s. Marston Hero 70957 ..... Mr. Humphreys	31
Her heifer calf, red, c. Feb. 8, 1902, s. Benedict Mr. Bell	11
Bonny Burnell, roan, c April 23, 1899, s. Brookside 74140 ..... Mr. Darling	21
Her bull calf Reformation, red, c. Aug. 12, 1901, s. Vain Count 78047 ..... Mr. Humphreys	17
Queen of Pearls, red, c. June 3, 1899, s. King of Pearls 70713 ..... Mr. H. Dudding	26
Her heifer calf, red, c. March 13, 1902, s. Commander-in-Chief 78620 ..... Mr. Bell	6
Spicey Nancy, red, c. July 20, 1899, s. Captain Blair 70094 ..... Capt. Mytton	20
Her heifer calf, red, c. Feb. 9, 1902, s. Benedict Capt. Mytton	11
Barrington Lassie 3rd, roan, c. Sept 11, 1899, s. Refiner 73387 ..... Mr. Allcock	18
Queen of Song, red, c. Oct. 5, 1899, s. King of Pearls 70713 ..... Lord Barnard	52
Japonica, roan, c. Dec. 5, 1899, s. Baron Freeford 2nd 74007 ..... Mr. R. P. Cooper	31
Lass of Sherlowe, red, c. Dec. 15, 1899, s. King of Pearls 70713 ..... Mr. Thornton	41
Bonnie Marjory, roan, c. Jan. 4, 1900, s. King of Pearls 70713 ..... Lord Barnard	57
String of Pearls, roan, c. March 9, 1900, s. King of Pearls 70713 ..... Mr. H. Ker Colville	70
Her red heifer calf ..... Mr. Hayhurst	11
Priceless Pearl, red and little white, c. March 27, 1900, s. King of Pearls 70713 ..... Mr. Halsall	16
Fuchsia's Favourite, red, c April 2, 1900, s. King of Pearls 70713 ..... Mr. J. T. Hobbs	26
Pansy, red and little white, c. April 5, 1900, s King of Pearls 70713 ..... Mr. Howard	25
Her red bull calf ..... Mr. J. Q. Nickels	17
Pearl Queen, red, c. May 2, 1900, s. King of Pearls 70713 ..... Mr. R. P. Cooper	40
Her bull calf ..... Mr. Powell	10½
Darling Lass, red, c. May 24, 1900, s. King of Pearls 70713 ..... Mr. Reynolds	22½
Lady Clara, red and little white, c. Sept. 29, 1900, s. Signalman 73615 ..... Mr. J. Billington	23
Senora, roan, c. Oct. 16, 1900, s. Signalman 73615 Mr. Raingill	23
Rosy Morn, roan, c. Oct. 17, 1900, s. Signalman 73615 Mr. Dudding	40
Vanity, roan, c. Nov. 20, 1900, s. Baron Hobbs 66672 Mr. Dudding	23
Village Rose, roan, c. Feb. 7, 1901, s. Signalman 77851 ..... Mr. R. Wood	42
Sherlowe Cowslip, roan, c. Feb. 8, 1901, s. Mosshawk 79464 ..... Mr. Hayhurst	17
Oxford Rose, c. Feb. 9, 1901, s. Signalman 77851 ..... Mr. Y. Cavendish	45
Water Lily, red, c. March 15, 1901, s. Squire 77951 ..... Mr. Bellpole	14
Countess Thorndale, roan, c. March 25, 1901, s. Mosshawk 79464 ..... Mr. Hayhurst	16
Sherlowe Maid, red, c. April 14, 1901, s. Squire 77951 Mr. Nevett	20
Primrose Dame, red, c April 21, 1901 Mosshawk 79464 ..... Mr. R. Wood	32
Queen of Sherlowe, red, c. April 24, 1901, Mr. Grey	22
Waterloo Rosebud, roan, c. April 26, 1901, s. Mosshawk 78467 ..... Mr. R. P. Cooper	33
Water Nymph, roan, c. April 27, 1901, s. Squire 77951 Mr. Grey	26
Darling Lassie, red, c. May 1st, 1901, s Squire 77951 Mr. Hayhurst	16
Mabel Morrison, white, c. May 12, 1901, s. Signalman 77861 ..... Mr. Harrison	17½

BULLS.

Bandmaster, red, c. May 16, 1900, s. Red Lord 73373 Mr. Lloyd	21
Pilot, roan, c. Oct. 20, 1900, s. Signalman 73615 Mr. Hobson	30
Signal Star, roan, c. Nov. 2, 1900, s. Signalman 73515 Mr. Siddall	25
Duke of Sherlowe, roan, c. Feb. 17, 1901, s. Squire 77951 ..... Mr. Gardener	33
Kestrel, red, c. March 12, 1901, s. Mosshawk 79464 Mr. Davies	15
Factor, roan, c. March 14, 1901, s. Squire, 77951 Mr. Siddall	16½
Planet, red, c. March 26, 1901, s. Squire 77951 Mr. Darling	31
Matchmaker, red, c April 12, 1901, s. Squire 77951 Mr. Morgan	14½

SUMMARY.

	Average. £ s. d.	Total. £ s. d.
30 Cows and heifers....	32 18 4 ..	987 10 6
12 Yearling heifers.....	25 5 10 ..	315 10 6
14 Calves	18 1 6 ..	253 1 0
8 Bulls	24 8 3 ..	195 6 0
64 Head	£27 7 4	£1,751 8 0

Sale of Mrs. Perkins' Jerseys.

A draft sale of Jerseys from Mrs. Perkins' herd was held at Oakdene, Holmwood, near Dorking, on Tuesday, Messrs. J. Thornton and Co. being the auctioneers. Owing to the inclement weather there was not a large attendance, but the best animals made good prices. A number of the heifers were bred in Jersey, several of them showing fine breeding and quality. As will be seen by the sale list, the 37 animals sold brought an average of just over £19.

COWS AND HEIFERS.

	Gs.
Reef 2nd, whole colour, c. May 3, 1892, s. Old Port 3600 ..... W. H. Allen	19
Beaucoin, whole colour, c. June, 1895, s. Hura 4589 R. S. Gray	18
Golden Tosca, whole colour, c. July 1, 1896, s. Clairfield Hero 5171 ..... Mr. Willcock	12
Mrs. Bouncer, whole colour, c. April 7, 1897, s. Fame's Duke 5161 ..... Mr. Burgess	15
Bat, whole colour, c. March 19, 1900 ..... Mr. Charrington	27
Geisha, nearly whole colour, c. Oct. 15, 1897, s. Kruger 5950 ..... Miss Moore	14
Tristesse, whole colour, c. July 23, 1898, s. Grey Duke 5576 ..... Mr. E. Cooper	25
Tomato, whole colour, c. June 12, 1900 Capt. Smith Neill	29
Claudine, broken colour, c. March 8, 1899, s. Visto 6746 ..... Mr. Charrington	16
Rocket, whole colour, c. March 25, 1899, s. Grey Duke 5576 ..... Mr. Dennis	28
Bromidia, whole colour, c. April 6, 1899, s. Grey Duke 5576 ..... Mr. W. H. Allen	12
Norma, whole colour, c. Nov. 16, 1899, s. Dopper 6529 Mr. E. Burgess	17
Twaddle, whole colour, c. Nov. 22, 1899, s. Tyrant 6738 ..... Mr. C. T. Lucas	11
Nellie Smith, whole colour, c. Dec. 30, 1899, s. Beaver Mr. Murphy	16½
Guarantee, broken colour, c. Jan. 10, 1900, s. White Star 6753 ..... Miss Moore	31
Pretty Rose 4th, whole colour, c. Jan. 12, 1900, s. Lord Brookhill 6928 ..... Col. Shaw Hellier	22
Mayflower 4th, whole colour, c. Feb. 2, 1900, s. Dandy 6515 ..... Mr. W. H. Allen	35
Malorey's Bessie, whole colour, c. Feb. 12, 1900, s. Badier's Risk 6770 ..... Mr. H. Gorringe	15
Chance, whole colour, c. Feb. 20, 1900, s. Dublin 6531 Mr. H. J. Robinson	15
Aloysia, whole colour, c. March 25, 1900, s. Orsay 6976 ..... Mr. E. Cooper	23
Opal, whole colour, c. April 6, 1900, s. Sultan 6415 Mr. H. J. Robinson	20
Ripple, whole colour, c. May 4, 1900, s. Grey Duke 5576 ..... Lady de Bathe	13
Torrent, whole colour, c. May 13, 1900, s. Grey Duke 5576 ..... Major Morris	13
Toque, whole colour, c. June 22, 1900, s. Grey Duke 5576 ..... Mr. J. Cazenove	14
Duchess of Burgundy, whole colour, c. Aug. 9, 1900, s. Spot Stroke 7038 ..... Lady de Bathe	12
Gerda, broken colour, c. Oct. 4, 1900, s. Darius 6189 Lord Rothschild	14½
Lady Media, whole colour, c. Oct. 18, 1900, s. Darius 6189 ..... Mrs. Charrington	13½
Deceit, broken colour, c. March 13, 1901, s. Artful Dodger ..... Mr. T. Fisher	21

BULLS.

Astronomer, whole colour, c. March 5, 1900, s. Picton 3rd 6986 ..... Mr. E. Cooper	35
Mabon, whole colour, c. Nov. 26, 1900, s. Spot Stroke 7038 ..... Mr. G. Tyser	24
Beacon 6774, whole colour, c. Jan. 3, 1899, s. Carnation's Pride 6162 ..... Mr. Atkinson	13
Meadow King, whole colour, c. June 20, 1901, s. Tzar 7061 ..... Mr. Langdon	30

SUMMARY.

	Average. £ s. d.	Total. £ s. d.
32 cows and heifers	18 10 0 ..	592 4 0
5 bulls	22 9 2 ..	112 7 0
37 head	19 0 10 ..	704 11 0

Canterbury Farmers and Foot and Mouth Disease.

At a meeting of the Canterbury Farmers' Club, held at Canterbury on the 19th inst., the following suggestions, with a view to obtaining the speediest possible termination of an outbreak of foot and mouth disease, with the least possible unnecessary interference with the sale and movement of fat and store stock, were considered and agreed to:—

(1) The immediate slaughter of all the stock in the fields or enclosure in which the outbreak occurs—with full compensation. It is recognised, however, that there may be cases of pedigree stock in which the need of saving the animals may outweigh the need of immediate slaughter.

(2) The proclaiming of a first area within a comparatively short radius of the spot, out of, into, and within which nothing alive shall be moved.

(3) The proclaiming of a second area, outside the first, into and within which stock may be moved by licence and markets and sales held by licence with the killing of fat stock within a fixed period if considered necessary; and out of which are a lean stock should not be moved unless in exceptional cases with the sanction of a competent inspector.

(4) The giving of discretionary powers to competent inspectors of the Board of Agriculture to modify rules within the areas where this is absolutely necessary for the well-being of the animals and no risk is entailed.

It was also considered that, if the Board would, in these matters, confer with practical local men and with the Diseases of Animals' Committee of the County Council, and give due weight to their opinions, the attainment of the objects in view would be greatly facilitated. It was resolved to write to Mr. Akers-Douglas, asking him to arrange for an interview by the deputation with Mr. Hanbury, and to send copies to the members of Parliament for East Kent and to ask their support.

Store Stock Sale at Shrewsbury.

Messrs. Mansell and Co.'s April sale of store cattle and sheep was held in Shrewsbury Cattle Market on the 11th inst., and conducted by Mr. Alfred Mansell. The attendance was much larger than usual, and it was evident, by seeing the intending purchasers so early in the market, and the critical manner in which the various lots were examined, a brisk trade would ensue, and this proved to be the case. The rise in price of beef was noticeably felt, inasmuch as any animal half or three-quarter fat was in great demand. The sale opened with the sheep, for which good market prices were obtained. An adjournment to the sale ring was made at one o'clock, and before 4.30 o'clock 1,104 cattle had been weighed and sold. The Irish consignments were the finest ever seen in Shrewsbury Cattle Market, and comprised no fewer than 115 shorthorn bullocks from Mr. Persse, which realised from £19 10s. to £16 7s. 6d. A grand lot of shorthorn bullocks were also sold from some of the best breeders in Ireland at prices ranging from £16 15s. to £13.

Other prices were as follows:—English-bred shorthorn bullocks, £14 2s. 6d. to £11 15s.; shorthorn heifers, £12 15s. to £12 5s.; shorthorn yearlings, £10 10s. to £8 7s. 6d.; shorthorn barrens, £11 15s. to £10 12s. 6d.; Hereford bullocks, £18

to £13 2s. 6d.; Hereford heifers, £13 5s. to £12 2s. 6d.; Hereford yearlings, £11 7s. 6d. to £10; Hereford barrens, £10 17s. 6d. to £9 15s.; polled Angus cross-bred bullocks, £15 10s. to £12 10s.; polled Angus cross-bred heifers, £13 12s. 6d. to £11 17s. 6d.; polled Angus calves, £7 5s and £7 2s. 6d.; cross-bred bullocks and heifers, £13 to £10 7s. 6d.; Welsh runts, £10 to £7 15s.

Imports of Live Stock and Meat in 1900-1901.

At the present moment the imports of live and dead meat into the United Kingdom have a special interest, not only to traders, but also to the general public, because of the extraordinary attention now centred upon the question of our food supply, says the Editor of the "Meat Trades Journal." With respect to the imports in 1900, it is noticeable that, while the number of cattle was actually less by 8,370 head, the value was greater by £440,080, thus clearly showing that a considerable advance had been obtained. The fact also that shipments from Argentina ceased in May, 1900, no doubt assisted in securing this rise. The number of sheep received in this year (1900) was the smallest for many years, although had the prohibition from South American stock not been enforced, the indications were that the total of previous year (607,755) would have been largely exceeded. In fresh meat, the principal increase was in beef and pork from the United States, mutton being less from all countries except Holland. Last year (1901) although the imports of live stock were only 909 cattle and 2,341 sheep less than previous year, the total value was less by £222,286, proving that the enhanced prices of 1900 had not been maintained. The weight of fresh meat was substantially increased in each class, representing an extra payment of £1,498,159 (after deducting the decrease on live animals).

Comparing the proportions of meat supplied by the various countries, we note that, while in 1899, the United States contributed 63.80 per cent. of the live cattle, this had increased to 70.71 per cent. in 1900, and last year it was 81.75 per cent. On the other hand, Canada, which in 1899 was credited with 18.80 per cent. of the live cattle, only increased its proportion in 1900 to 21.10 per cent., falling off in 1900 to 17.91 per cent. This decline, however, may be attributable to the fact that a number of Canadian cattle are shipped in the winter time from U.S. ports and consequently returned as American.

With all the elaborate figures before us for the past two years we are able to sum up very accurately the position of affairs to-day. Putting the facts as briefly as we can, we note that the weekly imports of cattle for first three months of present year, compared with 1901, are, on the average, 2,240 head less, while we have been receiving 318 more sheep weekly. In fresh meat the weekly imports are 16,77 7cwts less beef, 7,621 cw.ts. less mutton, and 3,896 cwts. less pork, the aggregate (live stock and fresh meat) being equal to a shortage in our weekly supplies of 4,821 cattle, 14,924 sheep, and 2,597 pigs. In the face of these figures—abstracted from official sources—it is hardly conceivable that any one — least of all a Cabinet Minister—should affect ignorance of the fact that the supply of meat is appreciably diminishing.

Particulars of Transactions in Store Stock.

Reported to the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland.

There was an average supply of cattle at the fair held at Cahirween, co. Kerry, on Tuesday, but a good many thin animals remained unsold. Prices:—Yearlings, second class, £6 10s.; third class, £3 5s. to £4 10s.; two-year-olds, second class, £8 15s.; third class, £3 10s. to £6 7s. 6d. Young pigs, eight to ten weeks old, sold at from 14s. to 18s. each.

At Roscommon sheep fair, held on Tuesday, there was but a small supply, and a good demand prevailed. Prices:—Lambs, first class, 9s. to 11s.; over twelve and under twenty-four months old, first class, £1 12s. to £1 19s.; second class, £1 4s. to £1 10s.; two years old and upwards, first class, £2 5s. Young pigs, eight to ten weeks old, sold at from £1 to £1 7s. each.

Roscommon Cattle Fair, held on Wednesday, was composed chiefly of first and second class two and three year old cattle. Those in good condition met a ready sale, but a large number of thin animals were not sold. Prices:—Calves, first class, £5 to £5 5s., second class, £3 5s. to £4 5s.; third class, £2 10s. to £2 15s.; yearlings, first class, £7 10s. to £8 5s.; second class, £5 16s. to £6 5s.; third class, £3 15s. to £4; two-year-olds, first class, £10 10s. to £11 15s.; second class, £7 10s. to £9 5s.; third class, £5 to £6 10s.; three-year-olds, first cass, £14 to £17; second class, £11 10s. to £13; third class, £8 7s. 6d. to £9 5s.; springers, first class, £17 to £18 13s. 4d.; second class, £13 to £15.



THE SHORTHORN BULL shown above is "STONEYTOWN ARCHER," 80053, sire Sittyton Archer, 73659, dam Gem of Aberdour by Minjekahun, 53319. This Bull was bred and exhibited at the Birmingham Spring Shorthorn Show and Sale this year, by Mr. J. McWilliam, Stoneytown, Keith, N.B. "Stoneytown Archer" won a First Prize at several Scottish Shows last year, and at Birmingham in March last was awarded the Second Prize in the class for Bulls over ten and not exceeding twenty-one months old. At the subsequent sale he was sold for 58 guineas to go to South America.

SHEEP.

Lincoln April Sheep Fair.

This fair was held on Thursday, when about 12,000 grazing sheep were penned, a very small number for the April Fair. The sheep were in good condition. In the early part of the day trade was very slow, dealers being unwilling to concede the advance asked by the farmers. There was a slight improvement as the morning advanced, but trade throughout was slow. Messrs. Smith, Ellison, and Co. again offered a silver cup for the best pen of 50 wether ewes shown in the fair, the prize being given under the auspices of the Lincolnshire Agricultural Society. Two pens were entered, and the cup was awarded to Mr. Maltby, of Dunston. There were offers of 63s. 6d. per head for the prize hogs, but 65s. was asked. Mr. Headland, of Potterhamworth, the other exhibitor, sold his pen, together with another pen of 50, at 58s. per head, which was the highest price of the day, the prize hogs excepted.

HORSES.

Sale of Hackneys at York,

A special sale of hackneys and harness horses was held on Thursday by Messrs. Walker and Sons in the paddock adjoining their repository at York, the catalogue consisting of 100 horses. There was a good attendance of buyers, and trade for useful harness horses and cobs was very keen, a marked improvement being noticed on recent sales. The following were the chief sales:—

	Gs.
Bay horse, 7 years, 16 h.h.	36
Strawberry roan mare, rising 6 years, 15 2 h.h.	35
Black gelding, rising 8 years, 15.3 h.h.	39
Bay mare, 5 years, 15 h.h.	36
Grey mare, 5 years off, 15.3 h.h.	47
Bay mare, 7 years, 15.2½ h.h.	43
Bay mare, foaled May, 1898, 14.2 h.h.	40
Dark chestnut gelding, 6 years, 15.2 h.h.	40
Bay gelding, rising 8 years, 15.3 h.h.	38
Bay gelding, 6 years, 15.2 h.h.	46
Bay mare, 6 years, 15 h.h.	37
Chestnut mare, 7 years, 15 h.h.	46
Bay gelding, 5 years, 16 h.h.	66
Bay gelding, aged, 16 h.h.	37
Chestnut mare, 8 years, 15.3 h.h.	37
Chestnut mare, 5 years, 15.3 h.h.	46
Chestnut mare, foaled 1894, 14 1½ h.h.	35
Chestnut horse, 5 years, about 15.3 h.h.	43

Lincoln April Fair,

This old-established fair opened at Lincoln on Monday, but, as is usually the case, most of the more important business had been transacted before the opening of the fair proper. The show of horses was not so large this year as it has been on former occasions. Trade was fairly brisk, Irish horses particularly meeting a good sale. Many of these were sold to go on the Continent, while extensive purchases were made for Army purposes. Three splendid Irish jumpers were sold by Mr. Quinn, of Dublin, to Mr. Gallina for £375. Cart horses made up to £75, the vanners selling at £40 to £45, and a lighter stamp of animal, suitable for 'bus work, about £32 apiece. Best price for cart horses was made in the yard of Messrs. Skillington and Sharpe, a five-year-old bay out of this yard going to Mr. Robb, of Glasgow, for £110. Mr. Stokes, of Market Harborough, bought a blue roan hunter from Mr. Grimoldby for £150. On his side Mr. Stokes disposed of about 23 horses, making up to £100 for the best. Hunters and harness horses made anything from £40 to £80, although £100 was several times secured for animals of outstanding merit. Of carriage horses, Mr. Greenwood sold a fine pair of greys for 164 guineas. Other good prices were £210 each, secured for three horses by Mr. F. Bedlam, the same dealer selling two to go to Brussels at £230. Trade in draught horses was fairly good. The best animals for town work made up to £80 each, and a great many were sold at £60 to £70 each. There was also business for horses of less quality at £40 to £50. Many local breeders disposed of agricultural horses at this fair, and all the well-known dealers were present with long strings, among them being Mr. George Meakins and Mr. John Meakins.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending April 12, 1902:—

Swine Fever.	Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.	No.	100	712 620 726		2,423	4,535 6,574 10,049	
	Outbreaks.	No.	22	117 50 74		480	935 663 771	
Rabies.	Cases Reported. Oth'r Anim'ls.	No.	...	... ...		...	1	
	Cases Reported. Dogs.	No.	...	... ...		9	1 ... 1	
Pleuro-Pneumonia.	Cattle Slghter'd. Exposed to Infection.	No.	...	... ...		...	... ...	
	Cattle Slghter'd. Diseased.	No.	...	... ...		...	... ...	
	Outbreaks.	No.	...	... ...		...	... ...	
Glanders (incl. Farcy).	Animals Attacked.	No.	51	39 38 24		791	658 609 401	
	Outbreaks.	No.	31	29 29 16		387	387 337 230	
Foot-and-Mouth Disease.	Animals Attacked.	No.	8	5 21 ...		117	665 120 ...	
	Outbreaks.	No.	...	... 1 ...		1	12 8 ...	
Anthrax.	Animals Attacked.	No.	20	38 15 15		423	341 253 339	
	Outbreaks.	No.	13	26 11 10		249	224 170 161	
Period.				Week ended Apr. 19, 1902 ...	Corresponding week in (1901 1900 1899)	Total for 16 weeks, 1902 ...	Corresponding period in (1901 1900 1899)	

NOTE.—The figures for the current Year are approximate only.



Kilmarnock.

The annual show of the Kilmarnock Farmers' Society was held at Kilmarnock on the 12th inst., in dull and smewhat cold wether. The show of stock was a fine one as regards quality, although the numbers had decreased by 75. Attendance was exceptionally large, this being in some measure due to the fact that this show opens the season in Scotland.

Cattle.

About the average number of Ayrshires were forward, and this section was, as usual, one of outstanding strength, and competition was keen. Out of seven competitors in the aged dairy cow class (in milk), Mr. William Howie, Burnhouses, was first, while Mr. John M'Alister, Ardyne, was second with a cow bred by Mr. Steel, Newton. Mr. James Kilpatrick, Craigie Mains, was third with a short-legged, good type of a cow. A heavy class of aged cows in calf came before the judges. Mr. William Howie was again first with his well-known White Rose, which also took the red ribbon of the female section. Second prize in the class went to Mr. T. C. Lindsay, Aitkenbrae, for a big cow, and Mr. Hugh Todd, Harperland, was placed third with a beautiful brown and white. There was some good quality in the Derby for three-year-old queys. Mr. William Howie won with Gipsy of Burnhouses, a half-sister to the winning four-year-old cow. Messrs. M. and A. Hunter, Adamhill, were second with Silver Moon, while Mr. A. Harvey, Trees Farm, secured third with a big commercial quey. Mr. Howie's Derby winner also led in the class for three-year-old cows in milk, while a newcomer, belonging to Mr. John M'Alister, Ardyne, was second. Mr. James M'Alister secured first in the three-year-old calving quey class, and Mr. John M'Alister followed with a daughter of Prince of Avondale. The competition in the section for bulls and yeld stock was specially keen. The quality as a whole was good, and in the case of the leaders it was very high. There was a strong class of two-year-old queys, the winner being found in Eileen Aroon, belonging to Mr. James Howie, Hillhouse. A quey of Messrs. R. and P. Wardrop, Garlaff, was placed second. Mr. R. Osborne, Wynholme, was placed third. Quey stirks made hardly so good a class. Messrs. Wardrop were placed first with a daughter of Strongbow, after a hard contest with a quey of Mr. Osborne's typical daughter of Gigantic Stunner. Five aged bulls were entered. Mr. James Howie had an easy win with Not Likely, which again secured the championship of the section. Mr. Osborne was second with Still Another, Mr. R. M. Reid, Bonshaw, being third. Nine two-year-old bulls were catalogued. Mr. James Robb, Hindsward, had a fairly easy victory with Great Bloom, while Colonel Fergusson-Buchanan, of Auchentorlie, was second with The M'Kinlay. The bull stirks formed an unusually strong lot. The winner was found in a home-bred son of Cornelius, belonging to Messrs. Wardrop. Mr. James Howie followed with a good, stylish son of Prince Imperial.

Horses.

The Clydesdale horse section formed a good average display. Mr. J. Ernest Kerr, Harviestoun, led the way in the brood mare class with Lady Garnet, while Mr. John Weir, Townhead Farm, was second with Clarinda. Only three yeld mares were forward, but they were of good quality. Three-year-old fillies comprised a meritorious lot. Mr. John M'Kay, Crossmill Farm, was preferred for first place with Miss Taylor, second prize going to Mr. William Dunlop, Dunure Mains, for Nancy Young. In the two-year-old filly class Mr. William Park, Brunstane, was a clear winner with Florodora, Mr. Frame, Greenfield, being awarded second place, after a close contest with the filly by Hiawatha. Mr. David A. Hood, Balgreddan, led the way in a large class of yearlings, a daughter of Gartly's Heir, the property of Mr. Wood, Townhead, being placed second. The stallion classes were of considerable interest. In the three-year-old class, Mr. William Park led the way with his well-known Marmion, Messrs. Montgomery, Netherhall, securing a second ticket for Baron's Peer.

The two-year-old class formed probably the best in the show. Messrs. Montgomery won first prize with a well-grown son of Baron's Pride. He was closely run for the position by Mr. James Kilpatrick's Pearl Stone. Messrs. Montgomery topped the yearling colt class with a very good son of Baron's Pride.

Light horses, as a whole, made a very creditable display. In the hackney section the leaders were of exceptional merit. There was a nice class of aged mares or geldings over 15 hands. Mr. Alexander Gemmell, Ayr, was placed first, Mr. A. Rennie, Paisley, coming second with Morning Glory. The class for mares or geldings under 15 hands was led by Mr. Gemmell; Mr. Thomas Neill, Kilmarnock, was second, and Mr. William S. Miller, Dumberck, was third. Messrs. J. and W. Sword were first in the brood mare class with Mascotte, which was reserve for the medal. Messrs. Sword also won in the three-year-old class with Lady of Quality; Mr. G. R. Watson was second with Happy Thought. In the two-year-old class Clyde Beauty, belonging to Mr. Mirrlees, Chassels, Bothwell, was the winner. Mr. Charles E. Galbraith, Terregles, secured first in the yearling class with Princess Mercedes. The male classes hardly came up to the standard of the females. The judges were unanimous in giving the award to David Harem, a horse belonging to Mr. Thomas Neill, Kilmarnock, Mr. Alexander Gemmell's Cossack being placed second. Mr. Galbraith won in the two-year-old class with Administrator, the same breeder winning in the yearling class with Roosevelt.

Hunters made a fairly satisfactory section. The first and second in the class for hunting horses or mares were both heavy-weights. The next two were as good in quality, but not up to the same weight. Mr. J. Harling, Turner, Cessnock, won in the yearling class. Cessnock, a meritorious three-year-old belonging to Mr. Harling Turner, secured the red ticket in his class. Ponies made a better show than usual.

Sheep.

The sheep exhibits did not bulk largely in the show. There was a fairly good turn-out of the blackfaced breed. Mr. John Millar, Lambhill, won the medal for the best sheep in the section with his aged tup Royal Sovereign, a thick sheep with a good skin. Amongst the Leicesters, Mr. John Pollock, Springside, won the medal with his winning aged tup Midland Stamp, a sheep with a splendid skin and great substance and quality.

Poulton-le-Fylde Horse Show.

The Poulton-le-Fylde and District Entire Horse Society's second annual show was held at Poulton on the 12th inst., and was favoured with beautiful weather, and was visited by a large number of people. Although the society has only been in existence two seasons it has more than fulfilled the expectations of the committee. Mr. H. W. Worsley Taylor, K.C., M.P. for the Blackpool Division, is patron of the show, and Mr. Arthur H. Ballantyne is the president. There were six classes—three for Shire entires, two for hackney entires, and one for thoroughbred entires, and, with the exception of the latter class competition, was keen in each instance.

In the class of Shire entries, three-years-old and upwards, 16.2 hands high and over, the first prize was carried off by Mr. Jas. Forshaw and Sons, Carleton-on-Trent, Newark, Burgeon, which won first honours in the London Shire Horse Show three years ago. Mr. T. A. Cook, of Inskip, near Kilham, came second with Crosmoor Carbon, a well-known local winner. Mr. Yerburgh, M.P., of Woodfold Park, Mellor, took first in the class of shire entries, three-years-old and upwards, under 16.2 hands high, with Woodfold Royal Harold, Mr. T. Hull, Thornton, being second with Harold William. There was a good entry in the class for shire entires foaled in 1900 and 1901, and the judge had a difficult task to decide upon the merits of the respective animals. Eventually they awarded the first prize to Mr. T. A. Crook, Insqip, for a bay yearling of a very promising appearance, and the second to Mr. John Melling, of Treabs, for a bay two-year-old. Sir George White, an upstanding colt of good class and character.

Mr. T. B. Sykes, Breck House, Poulton, easily carried off first honours in the class for hackney entries, any age, over 15 hands high, with Rodosto, a splendid chestnut, with precise movements, and boasting a very good sire. Mr. Alfred Crossley, Brierley Hall, Wakefield, came second with a fine chestnut, Jubilee King IV. The best class in the whole show was undoubtedly that of the hackney entries, any age, 15 hands high and under, and here Mr. Wm. Lawson, Blackpool, took the first with Blackpool Gentleman, a very handsome horse with a capital movement, the second prize going to Mr. J. Howarth, Thornton, whose Hisberto moved equally as well, but was shorter in substance. There were only three entries in the class for thoroughbred entires, and of these two were thoroughbred polos. The first prize went to Messrs. John Lucas and Co.'s Black Rover, a ten-year-old. The judges were: Shires, Mr. Thos. Churnock Hall, Liverpool; hackneys, Mr. T. M. Bentley, Driffield; thoroughbreds, Mr. Anthony Orr, Lancaster.

THE BUDGET.

Debate in the House of Commons.

On Tuesday there was a long discussion on the tax in the House of Commons, the subject being raised on the motion of Mr. A. Chamberlain to consider the report of the Committee of Ways and Means of April 14, which embodied the Budget Resolution in regard to the proposed Corn, Grain, and Meal Duty.

Sir E. Strachey said that after thirty-two years the question of the corn law was again raised. He thought that no member on the Opposition side would give his vote in favour of this iniquitous proposal, and many Unionists also would be against it. Bakers could not raise the price of the loaf by ½d. or d., and they would consequently put the price up, as already seen, 1d., ½d., and, in some cases reported, 1d. per loaf. The effect of the duty on feeding stuffs would be to increase the cost of production of meat, bacon, cheese, and butter, thereby handicapping the English farmer, and closing markets against him. As a confirmed Free Trader, he strongly opposed the tax, which undoubtedly in its incidence must fall on the working classes, and which would seriously hamper the dairy industry. (Opposition cheers.)

Mr. Law urged that if it were admitted that indirect taxation was necessary, the wisdom or unwisdom of the proposed tax must be judged, not as a question of principle, but as a matter of expediency. On whom would the proposed tax fall? No one, unless blinded by party prejudice, would say for a moment that the whole of this proposed tax must fall on the consumer, and that none would be paid by the producer. Even if it fell on the consumer it would only amount to one-fourth of a farthing on the two-pound loaf, and no one could say that tax was an unfair one. If hon. gentlemen opposite imagined they were going to arouse the country on this question by means of agitation and sending out pictures of big and little loaves, they would show that they had learned nothing and forgotten nothing. Such an agitation now was utterly impossible. It would not be a real agitation, and would neither deceive nor excite anyone. (Ministerial cheers.)

Sir H. Fowler challenged the statement that the Chancellor of the Exchequer was following in the footsteps of Sir R. Peel and Mr. Gladstone. If Sir Robert Peel had ever conceived the possibility that a time would arise when a proposal would be made in that House to put a tax upon corn, which, even at the rate of a shilling a quarter, would produce two or three millions sterling, could anyone doubt that he would have regarded it with the strongest opposition? Mr. Gladstone, according to his speeches, did not regard registration duty on corn as a permanent imposition upon the "greatest article of human subsistence among us." They were calling upon the consumer to pay upon all corn, wheat, and flour, whether it be foreign corn directly taxed, or the homegrown and indirectly protected. Homegrown would not pay, and foreign-grown would pay, and that was a protective duty for all purposes. (Mr. J. Lowther: The home grower of corn has to pay rates and taxes.)

Sir H. Fowler said that was no satisfaction to the consumer. It was a taxation of all for the benefit of a class. Did anyone think the Government would stop at that proposal? (Opposition cheers.) It was Protection begun, and the appetite, once gratified, would very soon want more. Why not extend it to ham, cheese, and other articles of consumption? Admitting that indirect taxation was necessary; the last thing they ought to tax was the food of the people. A bread-tax should be left to the very last. It was about the meanest tax which a nation of the boundless wealth of Great Britain could propose. If the choice was between bread and tobacco, he would say tax tobacco; if it was between bread and beer, then tax beer; if between bread and the income-tax, increase the income-tax. (Loud Opposition cheers.)

Sir Michael Hicks-Beach then rose and replied to Sir H. Fowler, and gave his reasons for not further taxing the articles mentioned by the latter. He said his reason for proposing the grain duty was because he believed it to be one which can fairly be borne by the country, without any such interference with trade as the right hon. gentleman suggested. Corn, flour, and meal, with rare exceptions, are not raw materials of manufacture. The tax does not directly interfere, as a tax on raw material would do, with the manufactures of this country, or with the growth of trade. Continuing, Sir Michael said: The right hon. gentleman has three objections to my proposal. The first is the rooted belief that this tax is protective—(Opposition cheers)—and the second is that if this Budget passes the policy of England will be the policy of Protection in the future. For a convinced Free Trader, who has inherited the traditions of the party opposite with regard to economic questions, the amount of timidity with regard to the future of Free Trade which is shown by the right hon. gentleman is

to me absolutely astounding. Do gentlemen opposite believe that the country is convinced of that principle or not? The right hon. gentleman has stated that neither we nor any other party could lead the country into Protection. Then why all this timidity about Free Trade? I agree with him. I do not believe that the country would accept Protection for a moment, and that being so I cannot understand the extraordinary alarm which is manifested by hon. members opposite.

The question with regard to this duty on corn and flour really is, is it of such an amount as to make it really in practice a protective duty? I say it is not. (Ministerial cheers.) Sir Robert Peel instituted and maintained this as a nominal duty, and the mere fact that it produced a small amount then has nothing whatever to do with the great question of principle. (Ministerial cheers.) When Mr. Gladstone wanted a revenue himself he was perfectly willing to overlook the theoretical violation of Free Trade. But he had in his mind a day when possibly somebody else might want a revenue, and the theoretical violation of Free Trade might seem to him more important then than it did at that time. ("Hear, hear," and laughter.) But I will come back from what Mr. Gladstone said to what he did. In the eight or nine years during which he was Chancellor of the Exchequer he maintained this duty in all his Budgets, and it was not objected to by the great Free-Trade politicians of that day. (Ministerial cheers.) We see now a strong manifesto by the Cobden Club against this proposal. Can hon. gentlemen quote a single word from Mr. Cobden or Mr. Bright against the registration duty on corn and flour? I will venture to say they can quote nothing of the kind. (Ministerial cheers.) Throughout all those twenty-three years until Mr. Lowe abolished it you will find no one of any authority who saw anything protective in this tax. Sir H. Fowler argued that while a duty may not be protective while it lasts, if you reimpose it, it may raise prices. That is precisely what I had in my mind when introducing the Budget. I said that in my belief this duty would have no practical effect on prices. I said also that it might be a trifling contribution towards the expenditure of the country from the working classes. I have been twitted since with having made two absolutely inconsistent statements. Those statements are perfectly consistent. When this duty was imposed, as I anticipated, dealers in corn and those who have to sell corn or flour raised the price by the amount of the duty, and in some cases—though by no means in many cases—there has also been a rise in the price of bread. It is very natural that these things should happen when a duty is first imposed. But directly the conditions of the trade —say a new harvest or some general variation in the price of the article—have time to assert themselves, then this duty will cease to bear anything more than that proportion to the price of the article to which it is properly entitled.

I have had an opportunity of looking at the bakery trade journals, and I find the general opinion of the trade to be that the duty was not sufficient to justify an immediate advance in the price of bread, that there was no real excuse for a halfpenny advance, and that the whole rise that would be justified would be an eighth of a penny on the 4lb. loaf. The explanation of the rise in the price of bread that has occurred in some cases appears to me to be very natural. It is said that the low-price bakers, who are actually selling bread at threepence per quartern loaf in parts of South Essex, will probably have to raise their prices because of the continuous rise in the cost of other ingredients used in bread-making, and that they will take advantage of this opportunity of doing so. It is also stated that this would mean a serious loss to many of them, especially large firms dependent for the majority of their custom on being able to sell at ½d. or 1d. lower than the district price, showing that the rise is temporary. Sir H. Fowler has made a great deal of this tax as a burden upon the working classes. Let it be remembered that when it existed before the price of wheat was something like half as much again as it is now. The price is now 31s. per quarter, which is so small that even with the addition of this tax the working classes would still have an extremely cheap loaf as compared with former years. The right hon. gentleman referred to persons earning from 18s. to 25s. per week. Take a man earning 24s. a week, with his wife and three children. Does the right hon. gentleman think that the man consumes nothing but bread? I can take him to cottages of agricultural labourers in my own neighbourhood, earning perhaps 13s. a week themselves and a few more shillings among their families, where you will find not only bread, but butter—everything a man can want, including meat every day upon the table at dinner. I venture to say that there has been an increase in the comfort and means of that class greater in proportion than has been the case in the class above. (Hear, hear.)

At this juncture Sir Michael gave some statistics concerning the relative burden of direct and indirect taxation at the present time and what it was forty years ago. He pointed out that during that period there has been an increase of 2s. 8d. per head of the population on indirect taxation. In 1861, indirect taxation altogether amounted to 27s. 3d. per head, and 13s. 6d. came from alcoholic drinks, and 13s. 9d. per head from all the rest of the indirect taxation. Last year, of 29s. 11d. per head indirect taxation, 18s. 6d. per head came from taxes on alcoholic drinks, and 11s. 2d. only from all the rest of the indirect taxation. That has been due to two causes. The rate of taxation of alcohol in its various forms has been increased—on spirits by 10 per cent., on beer by 24 per cent. But if you allow for the increase of that higher taxation, and for the same amount of drink as was consumed per head in 1861-2, the revenue that alcohol ought to produce now would be £29,697,000. The actual yield from these two articles was last year £36,990,000. In other words, there has been an increase in the revenue from alcoholic drinks of no less than £7,293,000, due solely to the increase in the drinking habits of the people. Well, I am bound to say that, if our working classes can afford to expend so much on drink, is it not a little exaggeration to talk about the tax I now propose as being likely to produce, as I have seen it argued, a future of poverty, a pauper community, and the creation of all sorts of social disorders? If our people only consume as much alcohol now as they did forty years ago, the result would be that they would pay 26s. 3d. per head indirect taxation, as against 27s. 3d. now. (Ministerial cheers.)

I hope I have said something to show the House that there is a vast increase in the working classes as well as in the class who pay the whole of the direct taxation. I hope I have showed the House that in making that small proposal to increase the indirect taxation of this country I am not imposing upon any particular class that enormous burden. Of this I am certain, while it existed this duty was never considered in practice by those who had to deal with the finances of this country as a protective duty, or as weighing heavily upon the people until 1869. When it was abolished not a soul was benefited. (Ministerial cheers.) There was, in fact, serious loss. Now we have the necessity for it, and to my mind, it is absolutely essential that we should extend the area of our indirect taxation. I believe we can do so by this tax with less strain upon the people, with less injury to the manufacturing industry, and with less hardship to anyone than by any other tax which will produce as much revenue. (Ministerial cheers.)

Sir C. Dilke wished to know how the tax was to apply to farmers' feeding stuffs, as it was infinitely heavier on these than upon bread.

Sir M. Hicks-Beach: I had forgotten to say what I intended with regard to feeding stuff. Of course, this tax is practically a revival of the old tax. In the time of the old tax the amount of offal imported into this country was very small. Now it is considerable, and certainly it was not my intention that offal should be included among the higher-taxed meal. I therefore propose to place offal in the first tax, under which it will bear a charge of 3d.

Sir C. Dilke continuing, pointed out that among other things to be taxed were locust beans, but locust beans were just as much beans as a Scotch woodcock was a woodcock, a Welsh rabbit a rabbit, and an angel on horseback an angel. (Laughter.) The tax was a crude duty on the feeding stuffs of the farmer and on the food of the poor, and the political dangers of imposing it were very great.

Mr. Kearley said the Chancellor of the Exchequer had not taken the pains to investigate what the effect of the taxes was going to be.

Mr. Lloyd Morgan: Only the protectionists now viewed with rapturous applause the proposal to tax corn, and they would take care that this thin end of the wedge shall be driven in a great many pegs before they had finished with the question. He welcomed the concession that the Chancellor was willing to make in favour of feeding stuffs, but as representing an agricultural constituency he hoped he would withdraw the tax upon these stuffs altogether. In the three countries abroad against whom the farmer had to compete there was no tax at all upon these stuffs.

Mr. Cripps approached this question as an uncompromising free trader, and he maintained that the duty on corn proposed by the Chancellor of the Exchequer was not protective in its object. The tax did not offend against free trade principles —it did not unduly interfere with trade restrictions or industrial conditions, and it did not interfere with the area of production. To his mind no tax could be obtained with less friction or less industrial dislocation. As a subject of revenue only he should support the tax.

Mr. Chaplin said it was yet to be proved that the enhanced price of bread which had been talked about had been obtained up to the present time. It was certain that unless there was some failure in the wheat crop of the world, or some other cause entirely apart from the imposition of this duty, there would be no permanent rise in the price of bread.

Sir W. Harcourt said they had been wanting an answer all the evening as to who was going to pay this tax. Here they were in the position that £4,000,000 was going to be raised, and all they were told was who was not going to pay it. (Laughter.) Taxes of this kind must ultimately fall on the consumer, and if that was denied the Government should tell them on whom they would fall. It was said that the tax was paid by the foreigner. The Chancellor of the Exchequer on the night of the Budget was quite confident that there could not be a rise in price. He was not so confident now that he had had time to consider the question, and it was evident that the price of bread would increase as corn rose. All this was said to be done to broaden the basis of taxation; that meant multiplying taxes. The tax was an act of injustice to people who were living on the margin of starvation, and if any person believed that there were not thousands of such people in this country he knew nothing of his country. (Opposition cheers.) The Opposition had a most profound conviction of what was right in this matter, and they would offer to it a most resolute and persistent resistence. (Opposition cheers.)

Mr. Balfour said they had to judge the tax on its merits, and he asked the House to consider for a moment on what ground it could be supposed that this tax was going to make any important difference in the price of bread. Did any human being suppose that the imposition of 1s. duty on corn would bring into cultivation a single acre of ground which was not in cereal cultivation at the present time Was there a single acre in the United States of America, in Canada, in Russia, in India, or in any country from which we drew our corn supplies, which would go out of cultivation, or a single quarter which would be diverted from this country by the tax of 1s. on corn? He did not believe there was one gentleman in the House, whatever his prejudices might be in this matter, who would for a moment answer those questions except in the negative. He did not believe any economist would venture dogmatically to say how a tax of this kind was to be divided, but every economist would say it was wholly absurd to suppose it was to be entirely paid by the consumer. In this case only a fraction would be paid by the consumer. The doctrine of free trade or protection was wholly outside the purview of this tax. Since 1894 the price of wheat had varied between 23s. and 34s.—a difference of 11s. The price of wheat was only one of the elements that went to make up the price of bread. There were many other elements. In the year 1897, when the price of wheat was 30s. —5s. less than its present price—they were told that a large proportion of our population were living on the margin of starvation. The price of wheat at the time had no effect on the consumption. He suggested the Opposition was acting rather the part of demagogues than of statesmen. (Ministerial cheers.) That was a part acted by all parties and in a free country. (Opposition cheers.) Within the limits of the Constitution— (Ministerial cheers)—no man would take exception to it. But what he meant was the part of men who went down into the country and used old arguments and raked up old controversies, in order to rouse old passions—that was the part of a demagogue which deserved the condemnation of every honest man. (Ministerial Cheers.) He believed even if those practices were indulged in, the working men of the country would object to a tax, which even to them might amount to nothing. (Opposition cheers and laughter.) He did not believe that, be even the whole tax on the working men, they would object. They had the ultimate control of parties; they had endorsed by immense majorities the course of policy that had made this tax necessary, and that being so he did not think so ill of them as to suppose they would object to bear their share of the burden. (Ministerial cheers.)

Several members on the Opposition side of the House rose to continue the debate, when

Mr. Balfour moved the closure.

On a division the closure was carried by 285 votes to 195.

The Committee then divided on the resolution affirming the duty on corn and flour—

For the resolution	283
Against	197
Majority	86

The announcement of the numbers was received with Opposition cheers and counter cheers.

Questions in Parliament.

On Monday, Mr. C. M'Arthur asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer whether, under Clause 10 of the Finance Act, 1901, buyers of flour from corn-millers under contract would pay the duty on the corn from which the flour had been milled, in addition to the contract price; and, if so, whether it was intended to take power to remit the amount of such duty to the buyer on flour exported by him to foreign receivers in pursuance of a contract made prior to the imposition of the duty.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer: I am afraid I can give no general answer to such a question as this. The answer in each case would depend upon the circumstances of the contract. As to the second part of the question, my answer is in the negative. There is no such remission in the case of sugar.

Mr. C. M'Arthur said his question had reference to a simple contract.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer: It is not for me to interpret the law. The tenth section of the Finance Act govern cases of this kind. It is impossible for me to say whether any particular case or cases generally come under it. It is for those interested to consult their legal advisers.

Mr. C. M'Arthur gave notice, as the question was an important one, that he would put it to the Attorney-General.

Mr. J. Ellis, on Tuesday, asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer whether he would lay upon the table a statement giving the names of all articles on which the Customs import duties of threepence and fivepence respectively would be charged, with the quantities of each imported during the financial year ended March 31st, 1902, and the respective amounts which each article would have contributed had the proposed duty been then in operation.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer: If the hon. member will place on the Paper a Motion for such Return as he desires, I will see what can be given.

On the same day, Mr. S. Ormsby-Gore asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer if, in view of Section 10 of the Finance Act, 1901, not covering the existing contracts between maltsters and brewers in the United Kingdom, he would exempt such contracts for barley imported for malting purposes from the operation of the proposed duty on corn.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer: I cannot say whether the Section covers or does not cover the particular class of contracts referred to, but in any case I could not propose to Parliament the exemption of such contracts from the corn duty.

Manifesto by the Cobden Club.

A manifesto, signed by Lord Welby, was issued by the Cobden Club on Tuesday evening. It set forth that the Government were undoing the great work of Peel and Gladstone. They were proposing a tax which would hamper and interfere with trade; for example, the trade in feeding-stuffs, which was none so important to all British farmers. But they were also inaugurating a policy of protection, and the Protectionists, by their cordial acceptance of the bread tax, showed that they at least so interpreted it. The interest of the consumer was sacrificed to the supposed interest of the home producer, and a tax was ti be imposed on the first necessity of life—on the loaf of the poor man. The Chancellor of the Exchequer expected to get £2,650,000 from the tax, but the increased price of home grain would add half as much again to the charge on the pockets of the people, and the total would probably amount to £4,000,000, which would come out of the pocket of the consumer.

Meeting of Members of the London Chamber of Commerce.

A special meeting of members of the London Chamber of Commerce and others interested in the corn, grain, flour, and meal, etc., tax, was held on Tuesday at the offices of the Chamber, Eastcheap. Mr. Kearley, M.P., who presided, said the object of the gathering was to afford the trades affected an opportunity of ventilating the anomalies which naturally cropped up in connection with a tax of this kind, and so that the meeting should not be confined merely to the grain trade, the invitations embraced members of the flour, corn, grain, grocery, and other kindred trades.

Mr. Pillman said he had been requested by the members of the Flour Trade Association to represent them at the meeting. The importations of flour into the Port of London were as large, if not larger, than those of wheat. He moved:—"That this meeting of members of the Chamber of Commerce and others interested in the corn, grain, flour, and meal trade views with dismay the unfairness of the tax imposed, in that the incidence of the duties of 3d. per cwt. on wheat and 5d. per cwt. on flour and offals would inflict serious injury on th emillers in the Colonies and abroad, and that the true ratio should be—on wheat, 3d. per cwt.; flour, 4d. per cwt.; and on bran and offals, 2d. per cwt." He argued that the incidence of the proposed taxation was altogether out of accord with what had gone before from the year 1830 onwards. Had this been considered, the duty upon flour would have been reduced from 4½d. to 4d.; and with regard to offals the true incidence would be that as offal had only about half the market of flour it should only pay 2d. per cwt.

The motion was carried with two dissentients, and it was agreed that a Special Committee should be appointed to give effect to it.

Mr. F. C. Frye, as the President of the Grocers' Association, proposed "That this meeting protests against the difficulties thrown upon the retail grocery trade by the inclusion in the proposed new duty upon corn, rice, arrowroot, sago, farinaceous food, and other similar articles which form a substantial portion of their business. The revenue that will be derived from this source can be trifling, and the irritation and difficulty thrown upon the trade great They therefore appeal to the Chancellor of the Exchequer to omit these articles altogether from his tariff." He said the tax was so small that it would be impossible to raise the price of the various articles. It would, therefore, fall upon the importer or the retailer.

Mr. Cushen seconded the motion.

Mr. Palmer Bryan, as a member of the Metropolitan Grocers' Association, urged that these things were manufactured articles. Everything was sold by grocers at the smallest possible profit, and the retailers could not bear any additional burdens.

Mr. Mitchell said the Chancellor of the Exchequer had practically dared the retailer to raise his prices. The duties should be so fixed that the consumer should pay his fair quota.

The resolution was adopted.

Finally Mr. Lough, M.P., moved:—"That, in the opinion of this meeting, it is impossible to arrange one standard for the large series of great articles of consumption included under the proposed new corn duty, and requests the Chancellor of the Exchequer to make further inquiries before proceeding with his plan, so as to arrange a just tariff for the various articles which it is intended to tax, and the meeting refers it to the committee which has been already appointed to suggest the due relation of one item to the other." (Applause.)

The resolution was unanimously adopted, and it was resolved to send a copy to the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

Chancellor of the Exchequer Receives a Deputation.

On Thursday the Chancellor of the Exchequer received, at the Treasury, a deputation from London, Liverpool, Southampton, and elsewhere, of corn millers, exporters of flour and clean rice, and importers of offals and feeding meals, in regard to the new tax. With the Chancellor were Mr. Austen Chamberlain, M.P. (Financial Secretary to the Treasury), Mr. Dudley Ryder, C.B., and other departmental officials. Mr. C. M'Arthur, M.P., introduced the deputation, which included Sir John Willox, M.P., Mr. A. F. Warr, M.P., Mr. W. F. Lawrence, M.P., Mr. R. P. Houston, M.P., the Secretary of the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce, and others.

Mr. M'Arthur said the deputation desired to submit various reasons why, in their opinion, they apprehended that the new tax on corn and other grains as applied to these particular trades, if not modified to suit the circumstances of those trades, would have a detrimental effect. They asked that there might be a drawback on the duty in respect of articles which were not imported to be consumed within the country, but for re-exportation.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer said that he had already received several memorials from the deputation, and he would ask them to combine in making a joint statement on the subject in writing. The arrangements already announced would allow rice to be re-exported free of duty. Interrupting one of the speakers who was dealing with the question of feeding stuffs, Sir Michael said, "Don't go on arguing like this. If you have anything to say about your particular trade I will hear it, but I cannot listen to this kind of argument from a person who does not understand it. I know something about farming myself."

After various members of the deputation had spoken, the Chancellor of the Exchequer said that as to the question of the drawback, he had hoped that the arrangements that had been suggested originally would have been sufficient to meet the case. He admitted that they had made out a strong case in regard to the rice milled in this country and re-exported. He considered, therefore, that it would be necessary to reconsider the matter. As to the question of wheat, when they came to a drawback on an article produced in this country there was considerable risk of fraud. He could not that day say absolutely that it would be possible to grant a drawback in this case, but he was inclined to do so if he could. As to the offals, there might be other kinds upon which even a duty of 3d. would be too high. The question was how to distinguish the offals, and impose such a rate of duty as would really be fair to the original article in the shape of grain and corn.

The deputation then withdrew.

Views of Agricultural Societies.

At a largely attended meeting of the Stockton Chamber of Agriculture on Wednesday it was unanimously agreed to send a resolution to the Chancelor of the Exchequer accepting the Government's proposals respecting the tax upon corn, but suggesting that the tax upon imported flour should be doubled.

The corn tax was considered at a meeting of the East Suffolk Chamber of Agriculture, held on Tuesday, at Ipswich, but here the opinion differed. One member moved that:—"This Chamber, believing that the future of British agriculture lies rather with the production of meat, milk, poultry, and live stock, than of corn, regrets the proposal in the Budget to put a tax on imported corn, and believes it will be hurtful to our agricultural industry." This resolution met with practically no support, and another member proposed the following amendment, which was eventually carried:—"That this Chamber, while offering no opinion on the policy of taxing food stuff, and recognising the necessity of increasing the revenue by increased import duties, considers that if such extra duty is partly to be raised by a duty on corn, it should be on flour and meal, and not on the raw material."

At a meeting of the Cleveland Chamber of Agriculture, held at Guisborough on Tuesday, on the motion of the chairman (Mr. J. W. Clarke, J.P.), the following resolution was passed:—"Resolved: That this Chamber heartily approves the re-imposition of the registration duties on imported grain and flour, and further thinks that as the Government relies upon a strong navy to safeguard our food supplies in time of war, part of the cost of upholding the navy might well be borne by an even larger duty, and that manufactured products should bear a larger proportion than raw material."

The members of the Monmouthshire Chamber of Agriculture met at Usk on Monday and passed, with one dissentient, a resolution approving the action of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, but regretting that he had not placed a higher duty on foreign flour, thus reviving the decayed home milling trade, giving employment to many men, and not appreciably increasing the price of bread."

The Tax as it Affects Existing Contracts.

The question of the duty on grain and flour, particularly as it affects existing contracts, was under the consideration of the National Association of British and Irish Millers, at a meeting held at Birmingham on Thursday, under the presidency of Mr. William Vernon, of Liverpool. A communication was read from Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, in response to representations by trade organisations that the duty would bear unduly on many if exacted on goods already contracted for when the Budget was introduced. Sir Michael replied that he feared he could hold out no hope of exemption.

West Bristol Women's Liberal Association's Resolution.

At a very well-attended public meeting, under the auspices of the West Bristol Women's Liberal Association, the following resolution was passed unanimously:—"That this meeting enters its earnest protest against the proposed tax on bread, which involves a return to protection, insidiously re-introduces the old corn law, and falls most heavily on those least able to bear it. The meeting, therefore, urges all Liberal electors to insist on its withdrawal."

The Land Law Reform Association's annual meeting was held on Thursday evening at the rooms of the National Liberal Club, Whitehall Place. Mr. Charles Trevelyan, M.P., occupied the chair in the absence through indisposition of the President, Sir Walter Foster, M.P. The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the annual report of the Executive Committee, which referred to the Urban Sites Value Rating Bill, introduced by him in the present session, and rejected by 229 votes against 158, said the majority of 71 did not represent the feeling in England with regard to land taxation in the country. The movement was not opposed by a single municipality, while it was being supported more and more by municipal Progressives, as well as by large numbers of Conservatives who were beginning to understand local government, and to feel the oppression of the existing rates. The report was agreed to. Mr. Channing submitted a resolution expressing the regret of the meeting that, in spite of the recommendations in the report of the Royal Commission on Local Taxation, the Government had not taken steps to initiate legislation for the taxation of land values, but, on the contrary, had resisted the moderate proposal of Mr. Trevelyan's Bill. The resolution also repeated the demand made by the National Housing Conference for the immediate extension of the period for which loans were granted for housing schemes to 100 years for sites and 75 years for buildings, and expressed regret that the Government, instead of acceding to this request, had appointed a Select Committee of Inquiry, thereby involving delay. The resolution, seconded by Mr. Howard Evans, and supported by other speakers, was agreed to unanimously. Sir Walter Foster was re-elected president of the Association.



By Hordeum.

The Beer Bill.

As this measure was so completely defeated last Wednesday, it may be looked upon as one of the *has beens*. From the nature of the defeat, and the causes that led to the inevitable fiasco, it need not be treated as if it is likely to come on again. It does not retain a spark of vitality.

The complete removal from the stage of this ill-conceived and badly-considered measure, leaves us free to look at several things from a new standpoint. There has been a long period of ineffectual struggling to secure the attainable. It is now time to settle down and see if there be anything of a perfectly practicable type that can be usefully secured to the advantage of barley-growers. Consumers are so utterly supine a set that they may perhaps be left to themselves.

The chief burden of complaint of all speakers in the House in the discussion on the Beer Bill seemed to be

Bad British Barley.

"However much brewers may wish to use home-grown grain, they cannot, for it has too many defects." It is lamentable that the perverted views of a few interested men are taken and echoed by a called leaders of science, and assume a potency for evil altogether out of proportion to their merits. British grain does not deserve the almost universal condemnation it far too often receives, and its growers will act wisely to stand up in self-defence. It is nearly useless for others to controvert lies if growers themselves do nothing. But before going more fully into this aspect of the question, there are a few arrears left over from the Beer Bill that call for a settlement. One of the most important is the actual attitude of the agricultural community with regard to the principles of the Bill. Does it really and truly represent the opinions of *any* section of the farming interest? If so, which?

This is a matter of more importance than it may appear at first sight. In what way have the farmers of this country been consulted, and how have they affirmed

The Strange Doctrines

of this crude and impracticable scheme?

Ever since the repeal of the Malt Tax there has been a steadily growing desire to see beer placed in the list of articles of food that fall under the scope of the Food and Drugs Act. As this found no mention in the precious Bill, are we now to be told we have put ourselves out of court on this point?

Then there has been a constant struggle against the free use by brewers of a diversity of nostrums of a deleterious type, or which undesirably substitute the normal and healthful ingredients in beer. Has this now to be brought to an end, as the Bill contained no reference to any such things? Is it to be supposed that the farmers have ceased to care for these things, as, so far, they have proved silent? Still more urgently do we need to know if the farmers of Great Britain admit the necessity of the use by brewers of

Fifteen per cent. of adjuncts

to enable our own defective barleys to be used? Surely such a momentous decision could be acted upon only after great care had been taken to ascertain its truth. How were farmers consulted? Has the matter been put before the Central and Associated Chambers, and, after suitable notice, been discussed and voted upon? If not, what are the Central Chambers for? It may now be merely an idle discussion of the character of thrashing dead horses, but if the matter is to be prevented from becoming a very lamentable one indeed to the farmers of this country, it ought to be discussed in a free and open way, and by men who are competent, by freedom of bias, to form opinions that can be relied upon and based upon sufficient knowledge of the subject.

It is monstrous that such a complete

Change of Front

should go out to the world unchallenged as the latest attitude of the agriculturists of this country, when not one in ten thousand of them heard a single word about it prior to their committal to such a suicidal policy.

To have the brewers left free to twit and gird the farmers at every turn hereafter, as they most certainly will, as the result of their ultimatum, will be intolerable, and the only way to stop it is to be quite clear and definite now. The Central Chamber *must* look to it

IN PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

The Beer Bill Rejected.

On Wednesday the second reading of the Beer ill was moved by Mr. Tomlinson, who said that the real question underlying the measure was whether it was desirable, and, if so, practicable, to secure to the consumers of this English beverage that the beer sold to them should contain, in large measure, those ingredients of which it was supposed to be composed. Beer entered so largely into the consumption of the people that it was a matter of national importance to see that due care was taken that the materials from which it was brewed were not only wholesome, but the very best. It was provided that the term "beer" should have the meaning assigned to it by the Inland Revenue Act of 1880, as extended by the Customs and Inland Revenue Act of 1885, and the principle of the Bill might be said to be contained in its third Clause, which prohibited the use of a less quantity of barley malt than 85 per cent. in brewing beer. Clause 4 absolutely prohibited the use of any substitute for hops; and it was also provided that imported beer should be sold under a name which should clearly distinguish it as being imported beer. Even if the Bill would entail a little additional work upon the Inland Revenue officials in enforcing its provisions, he thought the public were entitled to that extra attention. The main objection to the Bill embodied in an amendment appeared to be that it interfered with freedom in the manufacture of beer in this country, and imposed upon the scientific development of British brewing industries arbitrary restrictions that could not be enforced upon foreign competitors. Did the scientific development referred to mean the substitution of other ingredients for barley, malt, and hops? If it did, then the opinion of the best brewers was on their side, and had been declared to the effect that barley, malt, and hops were the proper ingredients. He said, therefore, that, in the interest of the consumer, they had a right to ask the House to affirm the principle that the British consumer was entitled to have his beer composed of those ingredients. The Bill was brought in, in a spirit of conciliation, with a view, as far as possible, of combining all interests connected with beer, so that only good and wholesome beer should be placed upon the tables of rich and poor alike. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. E. Flower said the Bill was an entirely fresh measure, and enshrined proposals not previously the subject of debate. One essential point of difference between this and previous Bills was that the proposal to ear-mark beer by labelling part malt beer as an inferior article had been dropped. The Bill would entail a large increase in the numbers of Excise officers, and he calculated that it would mean a loss of from £156,000 to £160,000 to the revenue. He moved an amendment to the effect that the House declined to proceed with the consideration of a Bill which interfered with freedom in the manufacture of beer while it imposed upon the scientific development of British brewing industries aribitrary restrictions that cannot be enforced upon foreign competitors, in no way provided safeguards for the public health, and secured for consumers no guarantee as to the purity of the materials used.

Mr. Gretton, in seconding the amendment, expressed his opposition to the Bill on the ground that it would in no way help agriculturists in their difficulties, and that it would not safeguard the public health. The only result of it would be that brewers would be compelled to purchase more foreign barley than they did at present, as English barley was deficient for brewing purposes without the addition of certain ingredients of a saccharine nature.

Sir J. Dorington supported the Bill. He thought it a strange thing that English chemists should so much favour the use of substitutes, when in parts of Germany, where such good beer was produced, the use of substitutes was absolutely prohibited. Fifteen per cent. was an ample margin to allow for beer substitutes.

Dr. Farquharson opposed the Bill, and failed to see what public advantage would be met if it were passed. It gave protection to the farmer, or to the consumer of beer which might by accident contain arsenic.

Colonel Brookfield said he had no reason to conceal the fact that the supporters of the Bill had a more or less protective object; that was, they were anxious to preserve for their constituents and friends an industry which gave exceptional and remunerative employment, not only to those immediately engaged in it, but to thousands of men, women, and children who came from the poorest parts of London for the hop-picking. The brewers sometimes asked why they were not content with introducing a Hop Substitutes Bill. For many years they had introduced a Bill called Hop Substitutes, but they were extremely unfortunate in the ballot, and for some mysterious reason it was always blocked when it came into the House. Therefore they had determined to throw in their lot with their more powerful friends, the barley brewers. In these days of the rapid consumption of beer—barrels full in the morning and empty in the evening—he should like to know why it had become more and more necessary to use preservatives of different kinds. At the beginning of last century, when beer was heavily hopped, it used to be kept for a long time, and, to the best of his knowledge, without any preservative chemicals being employed. It was a question which scientific critics of the Bill ought to answer, whether hops were not one of the most effectual and certainly one of the most wholesome preservatives that could be employed. One of the functions of the hop was purely that of a preservative, its object being, not only to impart a bitter flavour to the finished product, but to clarify and also preserve it. He should like to consider at some future stage of the Bill whether the clause prohibiting the use of hop substitutes should not also prohibit the use of any preservatives whatsoever. He might call in evidence on this point the Central Chamber of Agriculture, and say that they were strongly in favour of excluding all these preservatives. They claimed that hops were all-sufficient and most wholesome for the preservation of beer. He warmly advocated this measure, and hoped that the second reading would be passed by a large majority. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Price favoured the Bill because it sought to carry into effect the wishes of the public to have pure beer, and, while admitting that it might indirectly benefit the barley-growing industries, denied that it could fairly be characterised as a Protectionist measure.

Mr. Griffith Boscawen also supported the Bill, against which he contended that no adequate argument had been advanced. He insisted on the need for legislation against the use of deleterious hop substitutes, which were much more freely used, he declared, than was generally believed by the public, or even by a portion of the trade itself.

Sir Edward Sassoon objected to the Bill as an attempt to interfere with the freedom of the brewing industry. He was of opinion that the inevitable consequence of the passing of the Bill, so far from encouraging the consumption of British barley, would greatly lessen it, while stimulating the importation of barley from abroad.

Mr. G. Whiteley declared that the Bill had been founded upon the fallacy and misconception that beer brewed from hops and malt alone was the best. Brewers used sugar because it produced a better article, and the effect of this Bill would be to force the brewers to place before the public inferior articles.

Mr. Purvis supported the Bill, which, he said would be a great boon to the consumer, for even in regard to the lighter beers there was a growing opinion that the Bavarian beers, which were made exclusively from malt and hops, were the best.

Sir C. Quilter said that if the arguments in favour of beer made with substitutes were sound, how was it that the majority of brewers used no substitutes. He went out recently to Egypt, because the right hon. gentleman the member for West Monmouth threw some doubts on the veracity of some authorities whom he had quoted in a former debate. He thought that the right hon. gentleman took exception to the veracity of Herodotus. He (Sir C. Quilter) had with him now a certain number of inscriptions which went conclusively to prove that beer was made from barley, not only two thousand years ago, but nearly five thousand years ago. (Cries of "Read," and laughter.) It was quite clear that if they went on as they were going on now beer would no longer be made from barley, or from very little of it. He thought that the difficulties of enforcing the provisions of the Bill had been very much exaggerated. Those who promoted the Bill were advised that, without any additional staff, the Excise officers would be able to determine within very narrow limits whether more than 15 per cent. of other materials than barley malt had been used.

Mr. Chaplin also supported the Bill and denied that it had been drawn up in ignorance of what was required for good brewing. On the contrary, it carried out the practice of the best brewers in the country. From an agricultural point of view also, he thought it should be adopted. The great justification for the Bill was the very fact of the use of these sugars, treated with acids, which, as

they had seen, had caused so much suffering and so many deaths in different parts of the country. The position of the Government with regard to this question was that they had to deal with this question themselves nor allow anybody else to do so. He regretted that they should pursue a course which he considered unwise, and which was calculated to alienate many of their supporters. (Hear, hear.)

Sir M. Hicks-Beach said the Bill introduced last year was very different from that now before the House, and the complaint of Mr. Chaplin that no facilities had been given for last year's Bill was groundless, having regard to the fact that it was a Bill which he had not ventured to introduce. He would make a few observations on the effect of the Bill on the Exchequer and the officials of the Inland Revenue. The main object of the Bill was to limit the quantity of sugar used in brewing. In imposing the sugar duties last year he did so on sugar used in brewing, so that brewerm used a material which had become more costly. The complaint that brewers continued to use sugar to a large extent proved the correctness of the argument that the use of sugar was in many cases essential, in order to produce that peculiar class of light beer which was such an enormous improvement on the beer they used to drink. He could not form any estimate of the extent to which the Revenue would be affected, but he had no doubt that it would amount to a considerable sum. The authorities of the Inland Revenue had examined the matter very carefully, and though he did not wish to throw any obstacle in the way of the Bill from their point of view, they reported that there would be very great practical difficulty in carrying out the Bill. If it was essential to the public interest that beet should essential to the public inteerst that beer should be a penal offence to manufacture beer in any other way than that set out in the Bill, the Revenue must lose, and the Inland Revenue staff must be increased. For what object were they asked to say that beer should always be made of barley malt and other materials in the proportions suggested? Was it in the interest of the public health? Mr. Chaplin trotted out the argument used in last year's debate, but if a brewer was to be allowed to put 15 or 20 per cent of ingredients bevond barley malt into his beer, was there no room in that quantity for a good deal of injury to public health? If it was merely that hon. members desired that, as they were taught in their youth that beer meant a composition of barley malt and hops, the law should state that that was what beer was, he ventured to suggest that it would be an interference with a most important industry which would be most detrimental to the State. (Hear, hear.) The change from the heavy beer they were used to in their childhood to the light beer which was now consumed had been of enormous benefit, and he should be extremely sorry if anything should be sanctioned by Parliament which would interfere with the proper development of the industry. He was expressing his own individual opinions; some of his colleagues in the Government held different views; but in addressing himself to the Bill he was bound to have regard to his position as Chancellor of the Exchequer, and in that position he trusted the House would not give the Bill a second reading. (Cheers.)

The House afterwards divided on Mr. Flower's amendment, when there voted:

For the amendment	212
Against	140
Majority for	72

The Bill was therefore rejected.

The Price of Meat.

On Monday, Mr. Crombie asked the President of the Board of Agriculture whether his attention had been called to a resolution, passed on Thursday by a large majority of the London Butchers' Trade Society, that in order to relieve the short supply of meat and prevent a considerable rise in price, the restrictions on the importation of store cattle should be removed; and whether his Majesty's Government would take into consideration the hardship on meat consumers of increased price of meat, and repeal the Diseases of Animals Act, 1896.

Mr. Hanbury: This statement made with regard to the short supply of meat is apparently based on the fact that the imports of cattle and of fresh beef have been somewhat less during the first three months of the present year than in the corresponding period of 1901; but I know of no reason why it should be assumed that this shortage of supply is of a permanent character, or that a considerable rise in price is likely to ensue. In any case, however, the repeal of the Diseases of Animals Act, 1896, and the admission of store cattle from Canada, would afford no remedy. Since that Act was passed, the imports of fat cattle imported from Canada for immediate slaughter have been practically as large as the imports of both fat and store cattle prior to 1896, and there has been no decline during the past three months in Canadian imports.



The Rejected Beer Bill

Being present during the debate, I was struck by the lack of real interest manifested by the people's representatives, in a measure promoted for national benefit. When Mr. Tomlinson rose in response to the Speaker's call to move the second reading, only eighteen hon. members were in their places, two languidly lolled on the Opposition benches, and sixteen appeared on the Government side of the House. Up to the adjournment for luncheon, the total numbers did not exceed between thirty and forty, and until the eloquent speech of Mr. Fletcher Moulton in the afternoon attracted a larger attendance, the House generally presented a desolate appearance. The only member of the Government who sat through the debate was Mr. Jesse Collings. The Chancellor of the Exchequer appeared about 4 o'clock, and almost immediately arose. Soon after the conclusion of his remarks, the division bells brought in a crowd, and not till that moment could the House be described as well filled. Subsequently 352 members passed through the lobbies, adopting Mr. Flower's amendment, and rejecting the Bill by the substantial majority of 72.

To say that I am disappointed at this result, is to say but little of what I feel about it, and my mind has been deeply exercised in endeavouring to explain the causes which have led the House to reverse its pronouncement of last year. But I am bound to admit that if the merits and necessity of the measure from the barley malt point of view, were guaged by the arguments and speeches of its supporters as presented on Wednesday, it must have fallen to pieces from sheer weakness. The barley-growers were so feebly represented that they may well cry aloud to be "saved from their friends." Upon the chief link of the third section the Bill depended, and I did not hear a single good reason advanced why the proportion of 85 per cent. of barley malt, and 15 per cent. of other substances should be arbitrarily fixed, as was proposed by the Bill.

The compromise thus put forward as a sop to the brewers was certainly an obstacle to success, and to the failure of this section the loss of the Bill is, in my opinion, mainly attributable. It was otherwise with respect to section 4, which boldly prohibited the use of any substitutes for hops, it being understood that this section should be made even more drastic and comprehensive if the Bill had gone into Committee. Hop-growers have no reason to complain of the energy with which the claims of their product were advanced, nor of the sound arguments by which they were upheld by Colonel Brookfield and Captain Boscawen. Indeed, only once in the course of the debate was any question suggested as to the use of any other preservatives than hops, which appeared to be accepted by every speaker as the natural, the most efficacious, and the entirely sufficient materials for the purposes to which they are applied.

The strength of the attack upon the Bill was concentrated upon the barley malt-section, and when the amendment was moved by Mr. Flower and seconded by Mr. Gretton, two eminent brewers, whose beers are noted for purity, whose methods of manufacture are universally sanctioned and whose impartiality is therefore unquestionable, I felt that the death knell of the Bill had been sounded. Judgment was practically pronounced upon it by Mr. Fletcher Moulton, in a speech bristling with scientific technicalities, and adorned by fluent eloquence, that was listened to with the closest attention. Against such telling arguments, the trivialities of the ever-genial Sir Cuthbert Quilter and the stilted conventionalities of Mr. Chaplin, could avail but little, and it only needed the official declaration of Sir Michael Hicks-Beach that the adoption of such a measure would entail a large increase in the supervising staff, and consequently in the cost of the department, to drive the last nail into the coffin of the Bill from which we had anticipated so much public advantage.

I think it must now be admitted that the effort of trying to sit on two stools must be abandoned. Compromise has been tested in various forms, and has at last miserably failed. The House of Commons, under the influence of the "arsenic scare," said, last year, that legislation to regulate the brewing of beer was necessary. But this enthusiasm has evaporated as the alarm has passed away. So that we are now brought back to our original position; and being still convinced that the expression "pure beer" means nothing else than beer brewed in the most scientific and advanced fashion from barley-malt and hops only, we must cease from troubling about compromises, and recommence the battle for purity on the old field and under the old standard.

I join issue with the learned Mr. Moulton when he asserts that a return to the exclusive use of these well-proved materials will necessarily check the advance of science in the brewing industry. The great breweries of Munich are models of scientific knowledge and procedure. The materials used are simple, but the methods by which they are converted into wholesome, refreshing, and harmless beer are most exact. The standard of quality is never disturbed; it is established by State authority, and always adhered to, with the result that the excellence of Bavarian beers was frequently referred to during the debate as an example for our brewers to follow. None of us desire to return to "rule of thumb" methods with which we were taunted on Wednesday. We approve science, its research, and its attainments, but we object to its abuse in the introduction into our national beverage of any substances or compounds other than those that Nature has so bountifully provided.

For the present we must accept the inevitable. The Bill is consigned to the limbo of many other well-intentioned but forgotten proposals. Our hands are tied for some time to come, but we can still use our tongues and our pens, and I trust that the advocates of the legislation of "pure beer" will not be discouraged, but will continue to urge the justice and reasonableness of their cause, and will occupy the interval in getting such evidence together as shall ensure their ultimate triumph over the great interests opposed to them.

All official reports and notices of the National Association of English Hop Growers will be printed in the MARK LANE EXPRESS, *which will also contain all current information likely to be of interest and benefit to the member of the society.*

Home Notes.

The Borough.

Trade has been jogging along quietly this week, but sufficient business is being done to maintain general values. Inquiry for good qualities is still active, but as growers' holdings of such hops are practically exhausted, buyers have no choice, and are driven to seek for them elsewhere. I hear that good profits have been made by merchants who bought earlier in the season, in sales made on the open market, and some excellent parcels are now held for figures which will arouse envy in the minds of planters, whose early realisation did not cover cost of production. Concerning the lower grades, a fair demand exists for them, and previous rates are being obtained. But the market for these kindshas been somewhat checked by the pressure of sellers from the Midland districts, who, despite their recent movement for local defence, seem just now to be affected by panic, that has induced them to offer in London some very good lots of Worcesters at absurdly low prices. London buyers are ready enough to take advantage of this ill-advised action, and have freely operated, securing profit for themselves, as they will have good opportunities to sell these hops at their legitimate market value, which is much higher than the prices they have paid. Although I am not altogether in accord with the

System of Business

which is established in the Borough, I cannot forget the fact that it is based upon the experience of many years, from which it claims a certain amount of respect, and which creates considerable difficulty when reformation is suggested. While waiting for the changes that may be desirable, and may yet be accomplished, I consider that my Hereford and Worcester friends would be wise if they more generally fell into line with the methods accepted by their Southern brethren, who, with but few exceptions, consign their produce to the care of trusted and trustworthy factors for sale to the merchants. The average results are doubtless satisfactory to growers, as they know that their hops will be fairly displayed upon the boards, the samples being drawn by men of experience, and therefore presented to buyers under the best possible conditions. The factor is aware of the views of his clients with respect to value, and by his own extensive knowledge is enabled to advise him if his ideas are correct. Handling, as he does, a great variety of growths, the factor can safely estimate their comparative worth, and, while he endeavours to get the highest figures for the grower, he does not readily allow business to pass if a reasonable concession will secure it. Factors occupy the position of impartial agents, but as their chief interests are identical with those of their clients, they naturally endeavour to

protect growers as far as possible from the adverse influence exercised by the other side. The regulation of their commission on a percentage basis would, I submit, create further inducement in this direction, and I yet hope to see this system of remuneration of factors accepted. But it must be remembered that they have much reason to claim a voice in the settlement of the terms of trade, as their contract with their clients includes guarantee of payment for all hops that pass through their hands. Double security is thus given to growers. If the merchant to whom the hops are sold fails to pay, the factor bears the loss, while if the factor should become a defaulter, the ultimate buyer is still responsible, and from him the grower can recover his money. Recent legal decisions have settled the latter claim, as in these transactions the law defines the position of factors to be that of agents only. There is decided contrast between this and

The Worcester Custom of Trading.

In the Midlands average samples are submitted. A large growth of hops is generally represented by a few samples, and as there may be much variation in the groups of pockets, there is much greater probability of dispute as to the regularity of quality than if, as in London, a sample is drawn from each pocket. The samples brought to Worcester market by the growers in hand-bags or parcels are usually drawn at the farms, and can hardly present the hops in such favourable light as if manipulated by skilled operators. The market opens at Worcester in September. A few London buyers attend for a few weeks, and after their retirement the practical control of the trade reverts to the local dealers. Should the brewery demand be inactive, growers are left with their hops on hand, and their isolation from the great centre of the trade hinders them from realising their produce at the right time. If the Midland growers followed the example of the Kent and Sussex men, and gave their hops a fair chance on the Borough boards, they would be classified and compared impartially, according to their merits, and would, in the majority of cases, be disposed of earlier and at better prices than are possible under the present system. Several Worcester and Hereford planters have tested the comparison for some seasons, and are satisfied with the average results. I believe that Midland growers, generally, object to the Borough system, because they fear that their hops would pass beyond their control. They need have no such fear. Until they have consented to a sale, the hops are still their own. They give their instructions to the factors, who are bound to abide by them, and to take no other step without consultation with and consent of their clients. My purpose in putting these points forward is to advance the interests of the English industry, and especially those of Herefordshire and Worcestershire. I therefore commend them to the consideration of my friends in the Midland hop counties.

Foreign Notes.

Nuremberg.

A slight reaction appears to be passing over this market. The favouarble weather incites the few country holders of hops to unburden themselves, as they now wish to give attention to their work in the plantations. Arrivals have therefore increased somewhat, and although buyers are moving about, their transactions are hardly sufficient to support the previous strength of the trade. Export business is also very slow, and these various influences, coupled with the low average of quality of hops on offer, combine to impart a quiet tone to the trade. It is not expected that this calmness will long continue, as with the development of warmer weather the brewery output must be enlarged, and the consumption of hops proportionately increased. We may therefore reasonably look for greater activity in demand, with higher prices for hops in the course of next month.

Belgium.

No practical change in the value of locally grown hops is reported. The advanced prices recently quoted seem to be fairly maintained, but the demand is of a normal character, the political disturbances having disorganised general trade to some extent, the consequent strikes having also interfered with the consumption of beer.

America.

The stocks held in the country are reported to be very light, and but few sales are being made, as holders are asking advanced prices. Dealers in their turn are rather inclined to withhold offers to sell, as they are waiting for demand from brewers, which they say must come as soon as the warmer weather increases consumption.

It is a singular circumstance that the English market is virtually denuded of American hops. The few that remain are held firmly at extreme rates, and will doubtless be re-shipped, and it is not improbable that they may be followed across the Atlantic by some of the English surplusage, American dealers being only convinced recently of the shortage of the last German crop.

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Poultry Rearing in Monmouthshire.

Dr. Rutherfoor Harris, of Llangibby Castle, has arranged, through his head poultryman, Mr. S. Cook, for a series of lectures on up-to-date poultry keeping, to be given by the Monmouthshire County Council's expert, Mr. H. Bromley. A preliminary meeting was held at the Llangibby Club Room, the Rev. H. A. Williams, rector of Llangibby (in the chair), Mr. Honton, A. Williams, the Rev. C. T. Salusbury, of Tredunnock, and about twenty farmers and other sinterested in poultry being present.

Dr. Harris has placed at the disposal of Mr. H. Bromley the use of the poultry yard and appliances at Llangibby Castle for practical demonstrations, and it is hoped that the lead will be followed by other gentlemen who are interested in poultry rearing.

Feeding Fowls on Meat.

Mons. Emile Thierry, writing in the "Journal d'Agriculture Pratique," upon the method of feeding poultry upon meal, states that although it increases the number—also gives heavier eggs—he does not advocate this practice.

The animal food is richer in nitrogen and phosphoric acid, and excites the ovarian functions. He considers that the eggs are not eatable; indeed, have an objectiinable taste.

Mons. Thierry mad e an experiment upon some fowls which had been fed upon offal. He shut them up and fed them upon grains, and in about ten or twelve days the eggs were excellent.

When the fowls begin to leave off laying, it might be advantageous to add some animal matter to their rations; but it should not be continued.

The more natural the conditions under which fowls are kept, the better the flavour of the eggs and meat.

Profit in Poultry Keeping.

For many years the possibility of making poultry pay was ridiculed, but scattered over our country have been many who, on a small scale, have kept fowls and made them pay well; and others, observing the operations of their neighbours, have started on a similar plant, and have also proved the truth of the statement made by us twenty years ago that fowls, properly managed, would pay well.

The utility side of poultry-keeping has been a gradual lesson to many, for in the old days there were those who held the opinion that fowls could not be made to pay unless they were sold at large prices for the show pen; that to keep birds for the eggs they laid was sheer madness. They had some ground for their theory when we remember that 20 years ago it was a very rare thing to get an egg from the fowls from September to March. The hens were moulting, and their management during that trying period was not understood, so that they were not in active service for at least five, and frequently six, months during the year. The pullets were hatched late on account of the hens not laying until March or April, and being bred from birds which had never had any consideration bestowed upon them as to their capabilities as layers; they did not develop as our pullets do nowadays, and usually commenced to lay at from 10 to 12 months old; and laid during the summer; then moulted, and went out of action for several months.

Those who had, by careful study of their fowls, bred some birds which laid during the winter months, were regarded with surprise. And the statement then went forth that it was bad for the fowls to lay during the winter months, that it was against nature, as spring was the time for the laying of eggs for the purposes of reproduction. Latter-day poultry-keepers who had no experience of the early times in poultry keeping can have no idea as to the ridicule cast on the advocates of poultry keeping for profit by the breeders of the old school.

There were one or two isolated cases of writers during the seventies who sought to show that poultry might be made a source of profit to many; but the reception of their theories was so disheartening that they did not follow them up. We are always glad to meet those who started poultry-keeping in the days when their friends told them it could not be made to pay, as there is something very interesting in the relation of their experiences then. Amongst the greater number poultry-keeping is believed to be profitable now, and it is the possibility of making it pay on a large scale which is taxing the minds of many. First of all, it would be well for us to consider the points which led up to the successful management of fowls on a small scale. Years ago there was no selection amongst the poultry. A number of cocks of all ages and mixtures were allowed to run about with a number of hens of different age and conditions. When the eggs were laid, and this was invariably late in the season, they were set, and the young birds hatched out. They received no special treatment, frequently feeding with and roosting in the same houses as the old birds as son as they were old enough to leave the hens.

"Mark Lane Express" Diary.

April.
29. Sale of the Right Hon. Lord Sherborne's Shorthorns, at Sherborne, Glos.
29 and 30. Ayrshire Agricultural Association's Show of live stock and implements, at Ayr.
30. Sale of Mr. J. T. Hobb's Shorthorns, at Maiseyhampton, Fairford, Gloucestershire.
30, and May 1 and 2, North-East of Ireland Agricultural Association's Spring Show, at Belfast.
30, May 1 and 2. Sale of Horses, at North Wales Repository, Wrexham.

May.
1. Sale of Hackneys, Harness Horses, Cobs, and Ponies, the property of Mr. W. W. Rycroft, at Drake Hill, Bingley, Yorks.
1. Sale of Horses from the Gowanbank Stud, the property of Mr. Alex. Morton, at Gowanbank, Darvel, Ayrshire.



Hiring of Farm Servants: Important Point of Law.

An important case in connection with the hiring of farm servants was heard at Chester Castle by the county magistrates recently, when Mr. John Minshull, of Saighton, one of the largest farmers on the Duke of Westminster's estate, brought an action against a woman farm-servant to recover £5 for leaving his service without permission. Defendant was engaged about a fortnight before Christmas for the year, commencing at Christmas, at a salary of £17. She left on March 6th without giving any reason for her departure, and was now in the employment of another farmer. The money due to her up to date had been paid.

For the defence the technical objection was taken that the contract was invalid. A verbal arrangement was made a fortnight before Christmas for a hiring which was to extend to Christmas this year. Under the Statute of Frauds, a contract to serve for more than a year, or for a year commencing at a future day, must be in writing, and signed by the parties. That, it was claimed, was fatal to the case.

Colonel Evans Lloyd: The point invalidates 99 per cent. of the hiring contracts made in Cheshire.

Mr. Brassey: Yes, or anywhere else.

The Magistrates' Clerk (Mr. Churton) advised the Bench that they had no alternative but to dismiss the case.

The Chairman (Mr. H. D. Trelawny) advised Mr. Minshull in future to engage his servants after Christmas, or, if not, to engage them in writing.

The Sale of Cattle by Auction: Liability of Auctioneers.

In the King's Bench Division, on the 15th inst., the case of Holtom v. Bentley, Hobbs, and Mytton, came before the Lord Chief Justice and Justices Darling and Channell, sitting as a Divisional Court, on appeal from a decision of the County Court judge of Worcestershire (Sir R. Harington, Bart.), sitting at Worcester, who decided in favour of the defendants, a firm of auctioneers, carrying on business at Worcester, Pershore, and Bromyard. Mr. A. T. Lawrence, K.C., and Mr. Corner appeared for the plaintiff, in support of the appeal; and Mr. J. B. Matthews for the defendants.

Mr. Lawrence said the facts of the case were that the defendants held an auction sale of cattle at Bromyard in October last. Among the conditions of sale was one that the cattle should be paid for and taken away with all faults and errors of every description, and to be absolutely at the risk of the purchaser after the fall of the hammer. Another condition ran: "On payment of the purchase money the purchaser shall be entitled to a delivery order for the lot or lots purchased, but no lot can be delivered until the sale is ended, and then only by the production of the delivery order." The learned County Court judge seemed to think that the defendants were protected by these conditions of sale, but he (Mr. Lawrence) submitted that, under the last-cited condition, the defendants were bound to deliver the cattle on the production of the delivery order, which they had not done.

What occurred was this:—The plaintiff purchased four animals for £48 10s., paid the money, and got the delivery order, which he handed to a drover, to whom he gave instructions to take the animals away. The sale was not over till three o'clock, and about four o'clock the drover presented the delivery order, but plaintiff's animals were not then in the "sold ring," in which animals were placed when sold. One of them was subsequently found in the possession of another purchaser, to whom it must have been wrongly delivered, but the other three had never been traced. He submitted that the plaintiff was entitled to the return of the money which he paid for the cattle, and that was what he had sued for.

Mr Matthews submitted that the County Court judge was right, and the property in the cattle had been delivered to the plaintiff when he was given the delivery note, and the defendants had no further responsibility in the matter

The Lord Chief Justice said the learned County Court judge, it appeared, had delivered a very careful judgment in this case, but having carefully found the facts, he appeared to have overlooked the true effect of the contract. He seemed to have thought that because the property passed on the giving to the purchaser of the delivery order, there was no further obligation upon the defendants, unless they actually interfered to prevent the delivery of the cattle to the plaintiff. He (the Lord Chief Justice) could not take that view of the contract. The common-sense view of the condition relative to the delivery of the cattle on the production of the delivery order was that the beasts were bound to be kept safely in the custody of the defendants till they were delivered on the production of the delivery order, and further there was the implication that the cattle would not be delivered to any person who did not present a delivery order. Therefore he thought the County Court judge ought to have found that there was a breach of contract on the part of the defendants and that the plaintiff was entitled to recover. As to sending the case back to the County Court judge on the point of the presentation of the delivery order within reasonable time, that was not necessary. Justices Darling and Channell concurred. Judgment was accordingly entered for the plaintiff for £48 10s. and costs.

New Agricultural Patents.

Specially compiled for the "Mark Lane Express" by Mr. G. D. Howard (Hughes, Son and Co.), patent agent, 38, Chancery Lane, London, of whom all information relating to patents, designs, and trade marks may be obtained free of charge.

7,310.—Herbert Hailey, of Hitchin, for "Wire brush harrow and rake."

7,485.—James Scarlett, of New Bond Street, London, for "Improvements in agricultural appliances."

7,540.—James Edward Ransome, of Chancery Lane, London, for "Improvements in land rollers and mowing machines."

7602.—James Walker, of Chancery Lane, London, for "Improved apparatus for cutting turnips and the like."

7,656.—Robert Andrake, of East Dulwich, for "Improvements in wind engines or motors for agricultural and other purposes, and in gearing and apparatus to be used therewith."

7,825.—William Groves, of Swanage, for "Improvements in machines or apparatus for collecting and loading hay and corn."

7,941.—Edwin Nichol, of Chancery Lane, London, for "A new or improved agricultural machine for weeding, cleaning, or cultivating the soil."

8026.—Gilbert Beale and William Thomas Rounsivell, of London, for "An improved machine for distributing seed, soil, fertiliser, or the like."

Patents Sealed.

22,187.—R. W. Hussey, of Indiana, U.S.A., for "Mowing machines."

22,247.—E. T. Mellor, of Southampton, for "Treating grain and other vegetable products."

22,761.—I. A. Timmis, of Westminster, for "Food preparations."

23139.—A. Eade, of Buxted, for "Turnip-thinning machines."

23341.—W. N. Whitely, of Springfield, Ohio, for "Sheafing or binding apparatus; harvesting machines."

The Home Secretary gives notice that he will make an order under the Factory and Workshop Act, varying the beginning and end of the period of employment of women and young persons in creameries in Ireland during the months of May to October inclusive, and permitting employment during the same months from six to nine o'clock in the morning on Sundays and holidays.

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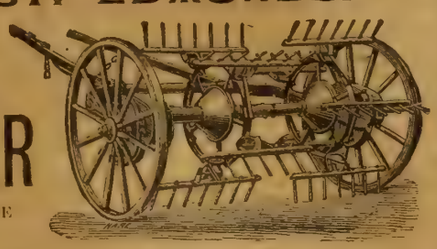
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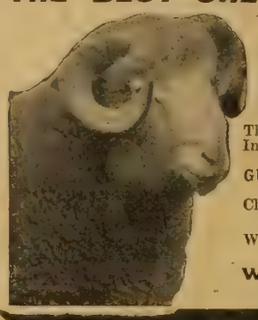
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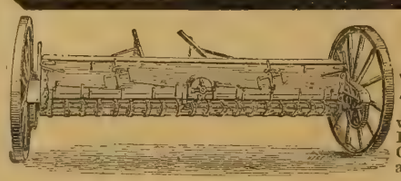
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Schedules and all information of the Secretary, FRED TAYLOR, Auctioneer, Chelmsford.

NEWCHURCH & DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.
PRESIDENT.—R. J. C. MITCHELL, Esq., J.P.
CHAIRMAN.—ED. HOYLE, Esq.
The old-established ANNUAL SHOW of LIGHT and HEAVY HORSES, STALLIONS, HUNTERS, JUMPERS, POLO PONIES, SINGLE HARNESS and TANDEM TURN-OUTS, HORNED CATTLE, PIGS, etc., will be held at NEWCHURCH (Waterfoot Station, L. and Y. Ry.) on MONDAY, MAY 26th.
Seven Silver Cups, numerous Gold Medals, and £400 in Cash Prizes.
Entries close May 20th. Schedules and any other information may be had on application to
MITCHELL & BURROUGHS, Secretaries.
Newchurch, near Manchester.

HEREFORDSHIRE AND WORCESTERSHIRE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY'S SHOW AT HEREFORD.
On JUNE 17th, 18th, 19th, 1902.

ENTRIES CLOSE:
For Hereford, Shorthorn, Jersey, and Dairy Cattle; Agricultural Horses, Hunters, Hacks, Ponies; Shropshire, Ryeland, Cross-bred Sheep; Pigs; Cider, Perry, Wool, Butter, Cream, Cheese, and Implements, Machinery, &c., on SATURDAY, MAY 10th
Entries close for Ring Competitions (Jumping, Driving, and Polo Pony Competitions) on JUNE 7th.
Entries close for Poultry on MAY 26th.
Over £1,300 OFFERED IN PRIZES.
Prize schedules, particulars of Implement space, and entry forms, can be had on application. Please state number and description required.
ALFRED EDWARDS, T. H. EDWARDS, } Secretaries.
Corn Exchange Offices, Leominster.

SOCIETIES.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The ANNUAL SHOW OF BEASTS, HORSES, SHEEP, PIGS, POULTRY, Butter and Buttermaking, Implements, the Distribution of Prizes, Awards to Shepherds, Industrious and Deserving Labourers. Prizes for Jumping, Driving, and Horse Shoeing Competition, amounting to about £1,000, will be held at DAVENTRY on WEDNESDAY and THURSDAY, June 11th and 12th, 1902.
Entries close MAY 14th. Post entries at Double Fees, MAY 19th, 1902.
Further particulars may be obtained of
A. E. LOVELL, Secretary.
Harpole, Northampton.

WALTHAM CROSS AND THREE COUNTIES
(Essex, Herts, and Middlesex)
HORSE AND FOAL SOCIETY.

THE ANNUAL SHOW
Will be held in a FIELD near the STATION at WALTHAM CROSS,
On THURSDAY, JUNE 12th, 1902,
When Prizes and Cups to about the value of £400 will be offered for competition.
ENTRIES CLOSE MAY 21st.
For Schedules and Entry Forms apply,
The Secretary,
J. CRAWTER, Cheshunt.

WILTSHIRE AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION.
THE 18th ANNUAL SHOW
will be held at
SWINDON, JUNE 3rd and 4th, 1902,
of Horses, Sheep, Cattle, Pigs, Butter, Cheese, Dead Poultry, Implements, &c. Butter-making and Horse-shoeing Competitions.
Entries close May 6th. Prize Lists and all particulars on application to JAMES WELCH, Secretary, Market Lavington, Devizes.

WARRINGTON & DISTRICT AGRICULTRAL SOCIETY.
13th ANNUAL SHOW,
At WALTON PARK NEAR WARRINGTON,
On THURSDAY, 7th AUGUST, 1902.
For Prize Schedule and other information, apply the Secretary,
H. BERESFORD MELVILLE.
Estate Offices, Warrington.

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NEXT SESSION begins TUESDAY, MAY, 27th.

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(University of London).

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The Governors of this College are prepared to receive applications for the post of Principal, who shall be "a person duly qualified for the office by attainments in science as applied to agriculture." The salary offered will be £500 a year, board, and a residence (rent, rates and taxes free), at the College, and a capitation fee of £2 a head for every student resident in the college, for whom there is accommodation for about 50. Candidates, preferably between the ages of 28 and 45, must produce evidence of their experience of teaching and other qualifications for the post. The Principal will be expected to take up his duties in September next.
Applications, giving full details of experience and qualifications, stating age and whether married or single, with twenty-five copies of not more than three recent testimonials, are to be sent to the Clerk to the Governors by Saturday, 24th May next.
Any attempt at personal canvassing will immediately disqualify. A copy of the Charity Commissioners' Scheme for the administration of the College can be obtained (price 6d.) of the undersigned.
By order of the Governors,
J. TURNER WELLDON, Clerk.
11, Bank Street,
Ashford, Kent,
April 28th, 1902.

LIVE STOCK.

HORSES.

HACKNEYS, &c.

MOORE, HENRY, Burn Butts, Cranswick, Hull.—Pedigree Stud of HACKNEYS, including many prize-winners, yearlings, two years, and others.—Can be seen on application to Henry Moore.

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MUNTZ, P. ALBERT, M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby.—SHIRE-BRED STALLIONS, COLTS, MARES, & FILLIES. About a hundred of all ages. Prize-winners London and other leading shows. Also high-class Shropshire SHEEP, winners first prize at Royal Agricultural, 1886, second in 1887, and first in 1888.—Apply, THOMAS EWART, Dunsmore Farm, Rugby.

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CATTLE.

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CATTLE (*continued*).

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SHEEP (*contd.*).

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CARTWRIGHT, JAMES, Dunston Pillar, Lincoln. Pure Bred Lincoln Rams and Ewes. Flock Book No. 53. The greater part of this flock has gone to Buenos Ayres for the last 15 or 20 years. Also Pure Bred Berkshire Pigs always on sale. Inspection invited.

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PIGS (*cont.*).

LARGE WHITES (*cont.*).

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MESSRS.
KING AND CHASEMORE
Have Received Instructions from
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SELL BY AUCTION (Without Reserve), at THE HOME FARM, BUCHAN HILL, CRAWLEY, SUSSEX.
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ROBT. R. LEONARD & SON are instructed by Mr. John Foster, late of the Limes, Saltend, Hedon, Hull (now of Hendon), to SELL by AUCTION, on THURSDAY, MAY 8th, 1902, his Stud of valuable Hackneys by the renowned sires Danegelt, Garton Duke of Connaught, Ganymede, Field Marshall, Matchless of Londesborough, Acid Drop, Gentleman John, &c. The sale is in consequence of Mr. Foster's ill health and giving up the Limes establishment. Catalogues, end of April, of the Auctioneers, Field House, Preston, Hull.

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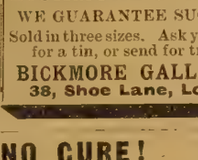
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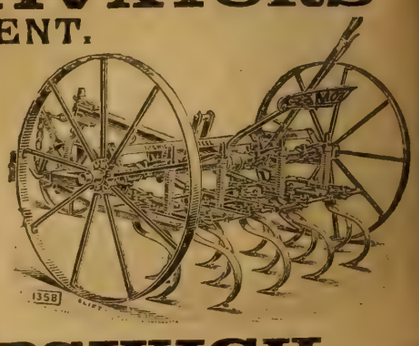
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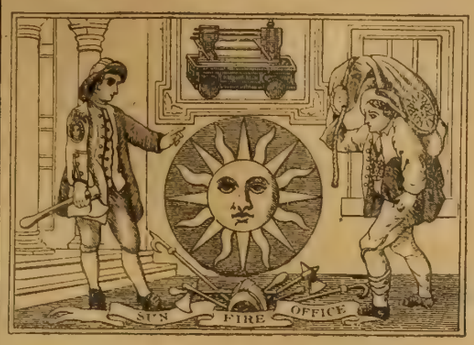
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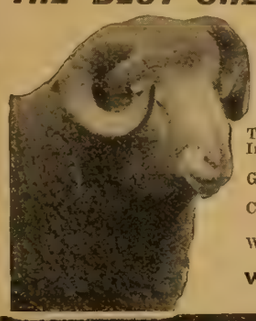

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GATHERING FLINTS.

In stony districts great quantities of flints and boulders are periodically turned up by the plough. In the ordinary course of good husbandry some, at least, of these stones must be removed from the land. The minerals on a farm are almost invariably reserved to the landlord. Does such a reservation extend to surface flints? If so, how is it affected by a general custom for the tenants to pick the flints and dispose of them for their own benefit?

These questions have recently given rise to much discussion, under the following circumstances. On an estate where the usual reservation of minerals is in force, the tenants have been accustomed to gather the limestone boulders with which much of the land abounds, and sell thm to the District Council for the repair of the roads. This arrangement has been of mutual advantage; for, whilst it is necessary from the tenant's point of view to remove the stones from the land, it is a convenience to the Council to have material for repair of the roads close at hand, instead of having to lead it a considerable distance at a serious expense. The Council have paid the farmer a certain price for each load of stones delivered on the roadside.

One would have thought that so reasonable a practice, calculated to benefit the land and the farmer alike, would have been fostered by the landlord. It happened, however, that his interests were watched by an agent whose zeal was so extreme that he feared his master was losing more in minerals than he was gaining in good husbandry. Stones are minerals, he argued; the minerals are reserved to the landlord; therefore the proceeds of the sale of the stones belong, not to the tenant, but to the landlord. The argument was plausible enough on the face of it, but it lost sight of the fact that a detached stone ceases to be part of the freehold, and becomes a mere chattel, rather than a mineral which can be worked. Moreover, it ignored the possibility of a valid custom giving such perquisites to the tenant, and the statutory rights of highway authorities to take such stones in certain circumstances without paying for them at all. However, these considerations did not shake the agent's faith in his opinion that the tenants were selling part of the inheritance, and we are credibly informed that not only did he attempt to stop the future exercise of the practice, but actually compelled one tenant to take back to the farm some sixty loads of stone which he had carted on to the roads.

We fear the agent had overlooked the fact that the very question which he appears to have raised had already been thrashed out in the House of Lords, and had been decided against him. In 1883 their Lordships held that a custom for farm tenants to collect flints turned up in ploughing, and properly removed in the course of good husbandry, and to sell them for their own benefit, is reasonable, and further that in a district where such a custom prevails, it is not inconsistent with, nor excluded by, a reservation to the landlord of "all mines and minerals."

Lord Fitzgerald, in giving judgment, said that in the course of cultivation the plough brought up to the surface flints of various sizes, and it was absolutely necessary that some of them should be picked and removed. What was to be done with them? Were they to be left lying on the farm? If so, they would be doing further mischief by encumbering the ground, and occupying a space which could otherwise be used for cultivation. It was obvious, then, that for the proper use of the farm the flints so picked should be removed from it. When once they were taken off the farm, they ceased to be a portion of the inheritance, and became mere chattels. At one time, such flints were of very little value, and probably the origin of this custom was that the tenant acquired the privilege of selling them to recoup himself the expense of removing them.

Perhaps the fact that the surface stones were regarded as weeds, rather than as a remunerative crop, explains the somewhat arbitratory provisions of the Highways Act, 1835, under which the highway authority may gather stones off any man's land for repair of highways, after one month's notice, paying compensation for damage done by leading, but without making any payment for the stones. If the owner of the land refuse his consent, a licence may be obtained from two justices, who, after hearing the objections of the owner, may over-rule them, and may give the necessary authority. Gradually, these provisions of the Highway Act have fallen into desuetude. But they still exist, and as they fix the value of the stones at nil, it may be argued that the price paid to the farmers in question really represents the cost of labour and cartage, and does not include anything for the stones themselves. If so, clearly the landlord has no claim to any part of the proceeds, although but for the custom he might conceivably have been able to restrain the removal of the stones.

It is interesting to notice the changes which have gradually developed the value of flints. When the Highways Act was passed, it was the custom to gather the flints and pile them up in rows along the hedges, where they were often a positive nuisance. There was no market for them, but they were utilised as opportunity offered in repairing the farm roads and

buildings; and when the highway surveyor wanted any flints he fetched them, the farmer generally being glad to be rid of them. The Highways Act empowered the surveyor to get an order from the justices to take the stones if permission were refused, but instead of resorting to compulsion he probably arranged with the farmers to give them a small price for the flints delivered, rather than be at the trouble of collecting and carting them himself. Afterwards, principally owing to railways, the flints acquired a mercantile value, and there arose quite a new state of things. The surveyor had to compete with flint jobbers, and could no longer get the stones for little or nothing (except through the intervention of justices, who, perhaps, were not over anxious to help him). Even if he had the stones given him, he had to collect them and cart them, and it paid him better to give the farmers a fair price and have them delivered. So it came to pass that the flints were in fact sold, and the Highway Boards were the best customers.



By a Man of Mark Lane.

At a recent meeting of the Tunbridge Wells Farmers' Club, an important suggestion was made by one of the members (Mr. George Arnold), who formulated the idea that during June, when many Colonial Premiers would be in this country, an effort should be made by the combined Farmers' Clubs and Agricultural Associations of Kent and Sussex, to obtain a visit from one or other of the Premiers, to speak on the colonial aspect of agriculture and the possibility of a federation of home and colonial agriculturists. The suggestion was cordially endorsed, and it was decided to immediately take steps to ascertain the views of neighbouring clubs on the matter. This is an idea worthy of being copied by agricultural societies in other parts of the kingdom.

The receipts on account of Revenue from April 1st, 1902, when there was a balance of £8,566,947, to April 26th, 1902, were £13,632,023, against £11,818,320 in the corresponding period of the preceding financial year, which began with a balance of £5,596,918. The net expenditure was £18,185,348, against £19,162,532 to the same date in the previous year. The Treasury balances on April 26th, 1902, amounted to £6,722,457, and at the same date in 1901 to £6,376,666.

The quality of Canadian flour is much lauded in a leaflet issued by the Canadian Department of Agriculture. It is stated that for sweetness, whiteness, and strength, Canadian flour is unsurpassed. To meet the increased demand in England for hard wheats to mix with the home-grown and softer wheats, Mr. F. T. Shutt, M.A., of the Central Experimental Farm at Ottawa, made a comparative examination between Canadian best patents and the best grades of Hungarian flours. The foreign samples had been procured by the Hon. the Minister of Agriculture. The result of these experiments proved the superiority of the Canadian flour for bread-making purposes. The percentages of albuminoids or protein, the most important part from a nutritive standpoint, were:—Canadian best patents, 12.59 per cent.; Hungarian best grade, 11.27 per cent. The determination of gluten, both wet and dry, was also in favour of Canadian flour, namely:—Canadian best patents, wet gluten, 34.22; dry gluten, 12.33 —Hungarian best grade, wet gluten, 26.17; dry gluten, 9.79.

My readers, no doubt, clearly remember that stage in Mr. Gladstone's agrarian policy when he advised agriculturists to "make jam." The great statesman owed this advice to Mr. T. W. Beach, the father of the jam trade, who has just died. Mr. Beach revolutionised jam-making by his discovery of how to make whole-fruit jam, and the better to exhibit his skill hit upon the idea of putting his wares into glass bottles, so that the public could see the most delicate fruit made into jam without appearing bruised or altered in appearance. The success was instantaneous; no grocer's shop-window was regarded as complete without a show of the wonderful whole-fruit jam, and the demand upon the glass-bottle trade became so enormous that for long the makers could not cope with it. Mr. Beach was seventy-three years of age, and when twenty-two, won the Banksian medal for fruit-growing.

It will be remembered that last week I printed a communication from one of our correspondents, announcing that the farmers of the Tiverton Division had asked Mr. E. H. Dunning, of Woodleigh Court, to become a candidate for the division, should Sir W. Walrond receive a peerage at the Coronation. Mr. Dunning has now expressed his willingness to stand, and on Tuesday addressed a very large meeting at Tiverton. After declaring that he would never oppose Sir William Walrond, the present member, he declared himself an Imperialist and a supporter of the present Government. He was a Free Trader in principle, but he recognised that something must be done without oppressing the working-man to save agriculture from ruin. A resolution of confidence in Mr. Dunning was carried by a large majority.

Speaking at a meeting of the Staffordshire Chamber of Agriculture, Mr. Hanbury, President of the Board of Agriculture, expressed the belief that the corn duties would not have any considerable effect one way or the other. He looked upon the tax on flour as of much greater value to farmers than the tax on corn, and he wished it had been higher, because, after all, a tax on flour was not a tax on food. There was no earthly necessity why corn should be ground in America which could be as well ground in this country, yet, owing to the great importation of flour during the last twenty years, they had lost something like 25 million pounds' worth of offal, and the Americans had received, which our millers might have got in this country, something like ten millions for grinding corn into flour. He hoped that what had been undoubtedly a great source of evil to British farmers, who depended upon bran and other offals, would, to some extent at any rate, be removed.

In concluding, Mr. Hanbury said there was one word of warning which he should like to give. Under the old system, and even at the present moment, a great proportion of the offals produced in this country was sent off to Denmark and other rivals of our own. So much of the milling being done at the ports, the offal cost less to send it by sea from Liverpool or Hull to Denmark than it did to bring it to the consumer at home. This was a serious matter, and he could not understand why it was the railway companies were so blind to their own interests in this respect.

The Margarine Law in the United States, which, as previously mentioned, levies a tax of 5d. per lb. on all coloured margarine, and heavy licence fees on all sellers of same, has now been passed and will shortly come into operation. Its effect will be to restrict the export of American butter, and probably it may also draw more butter from Canada than before, thus limiting the Canadian butter sent to British markets.

Northallerton May Fair.—On Thursday this annual horse and cattle fair took place, the entries being unusually large. The buyers present included Captain W. H. Fife, of the Army Remount Department. Coach-horses were a nice lot, and made £50 to £70 each; cart-horses were a splendid class, and realised £40 to £60; Hackneys were also strongly represented, making £50 to £75; some useful foals were shown, £20 to £30 being paid for them. Cattle sold well, English calvers pricing £20 to £24; good heifers, £16 to £20; young bullocks, £10 to £13; stirks, £6 to £8; and Irish graziers, £8 to £10 each.



I find that the House of Commons, and even the most Tory section of it, now accepts my estimate of the Budget. It will not confer any great benefit on the agricultural interest, but it is valuable as emphasising the new policy of at least one section of our Parliamentarians towards the interest. As a fact, too, it is perceived that the Budget will probably operate more decisively to the advantage of milling, than to that of agriculture pure and simple. "I think you are right," said a South of England M.P. to me; "it is a natural sequel to the Rating Act. It is not greatly valuable in itself, but it emphasises the wise attitude of mind which has come over us. This particular phase of the Budget was designed in the interest of agriculture. It is a practical illustration that it is perceived that the ruin which has so long menaced us cannot be warded off by generous phrases and a closely-shut purse. I look upon this Budget as the inception of the new policy, rather than its completion. It is a suggestion of the real intention—that is all." I have given this observation because it reflects the general attitude of the Conservative members for rural districts. The Budget is not going to usher in a new heaven and a new earth; and it is as well that we should not anticipate the dawn of either.

I have, however, to chronicle two incidents in connection with the Budget which are significant as revealing at once the temper of the community and the temper of the Opposition. The first is satisfactory; the other—which, by the way, I have already hinted at—is lamentable. The agitation against the corn and flour duties has fallen absolutely flat. In the House itself the proposal had an infinitely less moment than the proposal to put an extra penny on cheques. Outside, in the commercial community, the latter proposal has been regarded as an infamous interference with commercial activity, and as likely to paralyse all enterprise and originality. Of course, this is bathos; but, at least, the authors of these assertions have appeared to believe in them. This same community has, on the other hand, regarded the corn and flour duties as a pardonable infliction of little significance. The general body of the people has apparently shared this view. At all events, though they have had to pay a halfpenny and a penny more for their loaf—a passing affliction, which will re-adjust itself—they have been quiescent, or, at least, unprotesting. There has been none of that throbbing excitement, that quickening sentiment, which we might have suffered had a Bright or a Gladstone been still with us. The moral of this is that, left to themselves and untutored by agitators, the people no longer look upon a tax on cereals as in some mysterious way concealing the gaunt spectre of starvation. It has now little ominousness. Will this fact be an encouragement to those politicians who think that revived agricultural prosperity can only be born of an economic revolution?

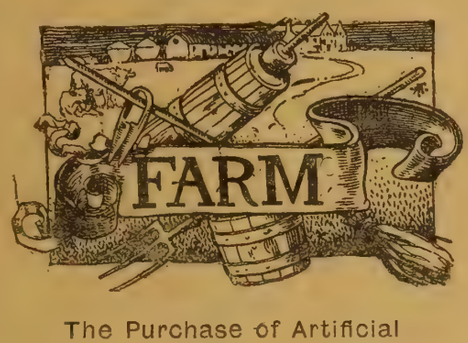
And now I come to my second point, which indicates that the people are not to be allowed to remain in a state of untutored calm. The thunders of agitation have already been prepared. They are a little less resonant than they used to be; the stage-mechanism is a little more apparent. Still, they will soon rumble menacingly in our ear. The old flam-

boyant periods and taunts are being rescued from the armour of obsolete assault. The old stores of hunger and misery which did duty in the wild and hustling Bright-and-Cobden days are being given a garb of up-to-date piquancy. However, the real point of the attack will lie in the assertion that the new tax will be part of a conspiracy on behalf of the landlords. A Hyde Park demonstration — which usually places the coping-stone on every feather-headed ambition—will register the fact that this tax is only designed in order to place money directly into the pockets of the landlords. The Rating Act, it will be asserted, meant two millions for the landlords; these corn and flour duties mean two-and-a-half millions. Sir Michael Hicks-Beach had only to abandon what is, of course, described as "the dole to the landlords" to have secured as much as these duties will produce. Hence—the argument is a delightful *non sequitur*—the bread tax has been imposed in order to put money into the purses of the landlords. You will ask if it be possible that this contention can be credited. It is assuredly possible. However, its worse effects will be indirect rather than direct. It will tend to give an accentuated force to the antagonism between the town and the country. That antagonism has received a deepened character in the last few years. It is not a feud yet. It may become one.

We now know the real obstacle—we have it on the authority of Mr. Hanbury himself—to the development of the usefulness of the Board of Agriculture. Mr. Hanbury has an excellent programme; he has, we can well be persuaded, worked at it diligently and with that calm-eyed prescience which is his chief characteristic. But he cannot get the money. The demands which the war has made upon him have hardened the heart of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and induced him to button up the nation's breeches' pocket. Now, the confession of this fact by Sir Michael Hicks-Beach should be an inspiration. Imagine if some desirable and wise extension of the Board of Trade, designed in the interest of the urban workers, were rendered impossible by the niggardliness of the Treasury—a niggardliness due to whatever cause, and then, having imagined this, conceive what a cry of rage and indignation would go up from the towns and the trades' unions. They are careless of any national and imperial necessities when these conflict with their own interests; and, selfish as this attitude may seem to be to the more altruist, I have come to the deliberate opinion that it is the only wise one. It is only thus that you can secure sympathetic treatment. It is no use Mr. Hanbury registering heroic resolves, if he is to be baulked by an economic Treasury. It is an imperative necessity that the Board of Agriculture should be reformed, or, rather, should be re-organised and extended on the lines indicated by the Minister for Agriculture. The fact that it has Mr. Hanbury's imprimatur indicates in itself that this anxiety is not of a very revolutionary character. It is an even more imperative duty to demand the necessary money from the Treasury, however harassed the Chancellor may be. We must be inconsiderate like the rest.

One phase of the agitation against the Education Bill will directly concern the villagers. This is the movement now being got up against the Bill by the Evangelical section of the Church of England. The assertion of these ladies and gentlemen is that the opportunities created under the new Act—for it is assumed that the Bill will pass into law—will be taken advantage of in the villages to propagate sacerdotalism, and even Popery, at the public expense. It is not assumed that it will be done in the towns. The espionage maintained by the Protestant bodies there will, it is urged, be too keen and exacting. However, this espionage cannot be extended to the villages; and hence it is that we have the rhetorical assertion that our lovely Auburns will be, as one orator has phrased it, "hot-beds of treachery towards Protestantism." Personally, I think the idea far-fetched; but I record it in order to warn my readers of the affliction which is in store for them. We shall have the House of Commons being assured in a few weeks that every village contains a Catesby or a Guy Fawkes, who will willingly blow up the whole system of national education, if it would advantage their sectarian and proselytising purpose.

Mr. Hanbury has certainly shown a most wholesome persistence in his dealing with the War Office in regard to the remount question. The success of his efforts—the fact that the War Office is working harmoniously with the Board of Agriculture in the hope that British farmers will take advantage of the field of enterprise and profit opened out to them by the cavalry necessities of the army—should be an encouragement to agitation. Mr. Hanbury adopted his wise attitude in response to pressure. I will not say that this pressure was imposed by the farmers' organisations. It was rather imposed by the MARK LANE EXPRESS and its sympathisers. But the Minister for Agriculture is a receptive man, and he—with an alacrity that was esteemable—accepted the idea. However, there are other sources of possible profit associated with the army beyond the supply of horses. How about instituting some system by which the British farmers will be provided with equal opportunities for supplying the necessary stores? You will reply that they can tender now, if they like. They can, and be killed by railway rates. Besides, hundreds of farmers are absolutely unaware of this privilege. Could not some method be adopted for conveying the knowledge direct to the farmers? More important still, could not the Government insist on more generous preferential railway rates in the carriage of stores from the farmer to the Government depots? This is not a matter for Parliamentary pressure as much as for pressure upon Mr. Hanbury personally. We have never had a more approachable Minister.



The Purchase of Artificial Manures.

While certain artificial or, as they are sometimes called, chemical, or light manures are to some extent applied in autumn, it is in spring that farmers lay in the bulk of their supplies, and therefore it seems appropriate that a few suggestions should be offered at this season in regard to their use and economical purchase.

There are three substances, and only three, that are valued in artificial manures, namely, nitrogen, phosphates, and potash. According, therefore, to the greater or less quantity of one or other of these substances the value of the manure will rise or fall. Some manures contain only one of these substances—for instance, nitrate of soda and sulphate of ammonia contain only nitrogen; superphosphate, precipitated phosphate, and basic slag contain only phosphate; and kainit, sulphate of potash, and muriate of potash contain only potash—while other manures hold two substances of value, as in the case of bones, which furnish both nitrogen and phosphates, or saltpetre (very seldom used, however, as a manure), which supplies both nitrogen and potash. Only one class of so-called artificial manure, namely, Peruvian or other similar guano, contains an important amount of all three substances.

In price-lists, *nitrogen* is often expressed as ammonia. The relationship between the two substances is, however, a very simple one, and need occasion no difficulty or uncertainty. Seventeen pounds of ammonia always contain exactly 14lb. of nitrogen, or, what is the same thing from the farmer's point of view, 14lb. of nitrogen are the equivalent of 17lb. of ammonia. If, therefore, a sample of, say "corn manure," is offered as containing 4.5 per cent. of ammonia, this is the same as saying that it contains 3.7 per cent. of nitrogen. Sometimes, though not often, the figure is made to look more attractive by being stated as sulphate of ammonia, but this also need cause no difficulty, if it be remembered that 66lb. of this substance are equivalent to no more than 14lb. of nitrogen or 17lb. of ammonia. If, therefore, we take the above example, the figures mean one and the same thing, whether they are stated 3.7 per cent. of nitrogen, or 4.5 per cent. of ammonia, or 17.4 per cent. of sulphate of ammonia. But a manure merchant, who failed to effect many sales for a fertilizer, of ever so high-sounding a name, on a statement of 1 per cent. of nitrogen or 1.2 per cent. of ammonia, might be more successful with a certain class of buyer if he entered the nitrogen as equal to 4.7 per cent. of sulphate of ammonia, and yet the three figures all represent the same fact. Under the Fertilizers and Feeding Stuffs Act, 1893, the invoice must contain the minimum guarantee of nitrogen, stated as such.

Phosphates or *phosphates of lime* may also be entered in an analysis or price list in several ways, but as a rule this ingredient is either stated as above or as phosphoric acid. In an invoice, however, the statement must be made as soluble or insoluble phosphates, as the case may be.

The relationship between phosphates or phosphate of lime, whether soluble or insoluble, and phosphoric acid, is quite as simple as that between nitrogen and ammonia. 142lb. of phosphoric acid always form 310 lb. of phosphate of lime; so that to convert the former into the latter one may multiply by 2.2, which, though giving an answer slightly above the truth, is quite accurate enough for all ordinary purposes.

If therefore the analysis of a manure is returned as 12 per cent. of phosphoric acid, it is equivalent to saying that it contains fully 26 per cent. of phosphates. Similarly 30 per cent. of phosphates is equal to nearly 14 per cent. of phosphoric acid.

Potash usually exists in manure in the two forms of sulphate of potash and muriate or chloride of potash. It takes 94.2lb. of pure potash to form 174.2lb. of sulphate of potash, whereas the same amount of potash will form only 149.2lb. of the muriate or chloride. In the former case, therefore, to convert potash into terms of sulphate of potash, we multiply by 1.85, whereas in the latter case we multiply by 1.58. If therefore an analysis of, say, kainit is stated as 12.5 per cent. of potash, this is equivalent to saying that it holds over 23 per cent. of sulphate of potash; while muriate of potash guaranteed to contain 56.8 per cent. of potash is of about 90 per cent. purity.

Just as a buyer may sometimes be led into purchasing a manure through its nitrogens being expressed as sulphate of ammonia, so may the contents of potash be made to look more attractive by being stated as sulphate of potash. In an invoice, however, the potash must be stated as such.

The rules for approximately converting the various terms into their equivalents may be thus summarised:—

To convert nitrogen into terms of ammonia multiply by 1·2.
To convert nitrogen into terms of sulphate of ammonia multiply by 4·7.
To convert phosphoric acid into terms of phosphates multiply by 2·2.
To convert potash into terms of sulphate of potash multiply by 1·85.
To convert potrsh into terms of muriate of potash multiply by 1·58.

Nitrogen and phosphates, and, to a less extent, potash, vary in effectiveness, and therefore in value, according to their source or origin. Nitrogen is never so effective as when in the form of nitrate of soda. It is not quite so active, and for some purposes not so valuable, when in the form of sulphate of ammonia, though under certain circumstances this somewhat slower action may be regarded as an advantage. Nitrogen in, what is called, the organic form is in its least active condition, though here again the rapidity and effectiveness of action vary greatly. Nitrogen is in the organic form in blood meal, fish meal, bones, shoddy, etc., and yet as a source of plant food blood meal is more active than these other substances. It is claimed as an advantage for slow-acting manures that they last longer, which is true; but one applies manures not to last but to act. It is only where it is convenient to apply manure at somewhat long intervals, as in the treatment of orchards, that the more inert manures are worthy of much consideration.

As regards phosphatic manures, it may be said that while soluble phosphates are all alike active, there is considerable difference in the value of insoluble phosphates. The insoluble phosphate of bone meal, for instance, is less effective, and for most purposes less valuable, than the insoluble phosphate of basic slag, precipitated phosphate, or even dissolved bones. Some of the insoluble phosphate of the last manure has once been soluble and has "reverted," and such phosphate is not much less effective than soluble phosphate. But raw bones as a manure have been longer known to British farmers than other forms of phosphate, and for this reason their price has kept relatively high.

The More Important of Manures.

The purely nitrogenous manures.—The most important are nitrate of soda and sulphate of ammonia, others in less general use being rape dust, blood meal, shoddy, etc. Other things being equal, nitrate of soda is specially suitable:—(a) For use in spring and early summer, as in the manuring of hay, cereals, potatoes, and mangolds. (b) For use on heavy land. (c) For use as a top dressing. (d) For use in a dry district. (e) For use where immediate effect is desired.

Speaking generally, sulphate of ammonia suits better:—(a) For use on crops that make their growth late in the season, for example, turnips. (b) For use on light land. (c) For use on soil holding abundance of mild lime. (d) For use

where it can be mixed with the soil (in contrast to top-dressing). (e) For use in a wet district.

It is, however, often difficult to say for which of these two manures the conditions are most suitable; and then the question should be decided either by the relative cost of the substances, or by using a certain amount of both.

If one of the organic manures can be bought at a cheap rate it may be used to some extent as an ingredient of a mixture.

Nitrogenous manures cannot be profitably employed on leguminous crops (peas, beans, clover, etc.); and on a mixed crop of say clover and grass, if the clover is to be preserved against suppression, they must be used sparingly, if at all. They must also be used with caution on barley, and especially so where a fine sample, rather than large yield, is looked for. Other crops, however, generally respond freely to the use of this class of manure.

Nitrate of soda and sulphate of ammonia are apt to be lumpy, therefore the buyer should look carefully to the mechanical condition. Nothing should be applied that will not pass a ½-inch riddle. Lumps larger than this will often kill plants with which they may come into contact.

Nitrate of soda is generally offered on the basis of 95 per cent. of purity (= 15.6 per cent. nitrogen or 19 per cent. ammonia), while commercial sulphate of ammonia usually contains 97 per cent. of the pure article (= 20.6 per cent. nitrogen or 25 per cent. ammonia). Sulphate of ammonia is thus the more highly concentrated manure.

The purely phosphatic manures.—Of these superphosphatic and basic slag are the most important. The former is, speaking generally, more suitable for use under the following circumstances:—(a) Where rapid effect is wanted. (b) In spring. (c) For arable land. (d) For admixture with sulphate of ammonia.

Basic slag is specially suitable:—(a) For use in autumn. (b) For use on grass land. (c) For use on land holding much peat or other vegetable matter. (d) For use on land addicted to finger and toe. (e) For use in orchards. (f) For admixture with nitrate of soda.

Basic slag generally leaves little to be desired as regards mechanical condition, provided the grinding be fine enough (80 per cent. through a No. 100 sieve—that is, 100 wires per linear inch, or 10,000 apertures per square inch—should be the minimum requirement). Superphosphate is sometimes almost as dry and mealy as slag, but in other cases it is lumpy and sticky. Samples of the latter character are of reduced value, and should be avoided.

Superphospate is of varying degrees of quality, the usual contents being 28 to 30 per cent. of soluble phosphate. Basic slag also varies in quality, the usual contents being 35—40 per cent. of insoluble phosphate.

Phosphatic manures are of special value in the manuring of turnips, leguminous crops, hay, and pasture. They are of less importance for potatoes and mangolds, and least of all for cereals. In the case of the last class of crops it usually happens that the plants are able to satisfy their requirements, as regards phosphates, from the natural supplies of the soil, or from residues of former applications. Whether, on any particular farm, it will pay to apply a direct phosphatic dressing to a corn crop can only be determined with certainty by means of a simple field of experiment.

The nitrogenous-phosphatic manures.—The most important of these is dissolved bones, though bone meal, fish meal, etc., have their value for certain purposes.

Dissolved bones lose in value through being damp and lumpy; they can, however, be bought as dry and almost as fine as superphosphate. They usually contain 32-34 per cent. of total phosphates (of which more than half should be soluble) and fully 3 per cent. of nitrogen.

Bone meal should be very fine and free from grease. Any particles 1-10 of an inch or upwards in size become available very slowly. It should hold about 50 per cent. of phosphates, and 4 of nitrogen.

Potash manures.—Genuine kainit contains about 12¼ per cent. potash, besides which it holds over 30 per cent. of common salt. Where, therefore, a farmer wants to use the latter substance he may find it to his advantage to employ this manure.

Sulphate of potash is offered in various degrees of strength, containing from 25 to over 40 per cent. of potash. Muriate or chloride of potash often holds over 50 per cent. of potash.

All potash manures are apt to be lumpy, and if they are stored long they may become so hard as to be almost unmanageable. Poor mechanical condition is here quite as undesirable as in the case of other manures.

Potash manures are most important for root and leguminous crops, less so for grass and cereals. There are many well-authenticated instances of potash manures doing positive harm to meadows, though in other cases they have been used effectively. Whether they are wanted on any particular farm or not can only be determined by experiment.

Valuation of Artificial Manures.

There are various methods of valuing artificial manures, of which that known as valuation by units is most employed by farmers and dealers. The general trend of prices is determined by market influences, and is largely beyond the farmer's control, but a reliable method of valuation enables him quickly and accurately to conclude which of several samples of the same class of manure is the cheapest. The following figures must be regarded merely as examples, prices fluctuating considerably from year to year, and in different parts of the country, owing to a variety of causes.

For the purposes of the valuation of artificial manures a unit may be taken as synonymous with one per cent. of the valuable substance in a manure. To find the value of a unit we divide the price of a ton by the percentage composition of the manure. Thus *sulphate of ammonia* containing 20 per cent. nitrogen, and costing £11 =11s. per unit. Or as 20 per cent. of nitrogen per ton, carriage paid, offers nitrogen at £11-20 is equivalent to about 24¼ per cent. of ammonia the cost of a unit of ammonia is 9s. 1d. We can use one or other of these unit-values to enable us to determine which of several samples of sulphate of ammonia is the cheapest. Suppose that we are offered other two samples, the one guaranteed 18½ per cent. and the other 16 per cent. of nitrogen. The price per ton of the former, on the same basis, should be 18½ × 11s. = £10 3s. 6d., while that of the latter should be 16 × 11s. = £8 16s. Comparing these figures with the price actually demanded we are able at once to determine which of the three lots of manure is the cheapest.

It may be mentioned that it would be rather exceptional to have the opportunity of obtaining sulphate of ammonia so poor in nitrogen as 16-18 per cent., but dirty samples do sometimes occur, and if the quotation of a price, to include carriage, can be obtained, one can sometimes secure good value in a low-class manure, provided the impurities are of a perfectly harmless character.

The value of a unit of nitrogen in nitrate of soda is generally rather higher than it is in sulphate of ammonia, which means that farmers regard the former source of nitrogen as rather the more valuable.

When sulphate of ammonia is selling at about £11 per ton carriage paid, *nitrate of soda* will usually be costing about £9. On a basis of 15½ per cent. of nitrogen, the value of a unit in the latter case works out at $\frac{£9}{15{\cdot}4}$ =11s. 9d., that is 9d. higher than in the case of sulphate of ammonia. If we use this unit to value sulphate of ammonia, we should get a value of a ton as 20 × 11s. 9d. = £11 15s., which is 15s. higher than this manure can usually be bought for when nitrate of soda is at £9 per ton. Now, it lies in the power of many farmers to secure this 15s. by depending on sulphate of ammonia rather than nitrate of soda where the conditions are specially suitable for the use of the former substance. When sulphate of ammonia costs more, per unit of nitrogen, than nitrate of soda, as occasionally happens, the latter manure is almost invariably to be preferred.

As a rule, organic nitrogenous manures are priced in the market at a much higher rate per unit than is the case with the two manures just looked at. The results of their use do not justify this position, for organic nitrogen will not produce so much increase as nitrogen from nitrate of soda or sulphate of ammonia. If we employ 11s. 9d. as the value of a unit of nitrogen in its most effective form, and apply it to the valuation of some organic manures, we should get some such results as these:—

= £4 14s., together with an allowance of about £1 for phosphates, giving a total value of £5 14s. per ton. Some samples of fish meal hold more and some less than 8 per cent. of nitrogen, in which case the value would rise or fall, though not quite proportionately, on account of the phosphates.

Blood meal, say 12 per cent. nitrogen × 11s. 9d. =£7 1s., together with about 5s. on account of a little phosphate.

Rape meal, say 5 per cent. nitrogen × 11s. 9d. = £2 18s. 9d. per ton.

The values per ton for these three manures are considerably higher than the merits of the manures would warrant. These manures, in fact, are only worthy of a farmer's attention, under ordinary circumstances, when they can be bought at a rate per unit of nitrogen that is considerably less than that which applies to nitrate of soda or sulphate of ammonia.

Phosphatic manures are also valued in the same way. At the present time the insoluble phosphates in *basic slag* are valued at about 1s. 3d. per unit, and at this rate a sample containing 40 per cent. may be put at 40 × 1s. 3d. = £2 10s. per ton, carriage paid, while a 30 per cent. sample is no better value at 37s. 6d. As a rule, the lower grades cost more per unit than the higher qualities, so that the latter are usually the better value.

The soluble phosphate of *superphosphate* may, at present, be valued at about 1s. 9d. per unit. At this rate a 28 per cent. sample would cost £2 9s. per ton, carriage paid, while a 34 per cent. sample would be as good value at £2 19s. 6d.

In *bone meal*—which should only be bought when very finely ground, really dust—the nitrogen is usually valued at about the same rate as that in sulphate of ammonia, while the phosphate may be put at the same rate as that which prevails for basic slag. On this basis, a sample containing 4 per cent. nitrogen and 50 per cent. insoluble phosphates, would work out as follows, though it can often be bought for less:—

		s.	d.	£	s.	d.
4	×	11	0 =	2	4	0
50	×	1	3 =	3	2	6
			Total	£5	6	0 per ton, carriage paid.

In *dissolved bones* the market rate for nitrogen may be put at that which prevails for nitrate of soda, while the rate for the insoluble phosphate is usually the same as that in bone meal. The soluble phosphate in this manure is exactly the same substance, chemically, as that in superphosphate, and yet it is generally valued about 1s. per unit higher. The only justification for this would appear to lie in the fact that the insoluble phosphate, being partly reverted, should be valued somewhat higher than that in raw bone, and raising the rate for the soluble phosphate makes some allowance for this.

Taking these figures, and assuming a good sample of dissolved bones, we come to the following result:—

		s.	d.	£	s.	d.
20 % soluble phosphates	×	2	9 =	2	15	0
16 % insol phosphates	×	1	3 =	1	0	0
3 % nitrogen	×	11	9 =	1	15	3
			Total	£5	10	3 per ton, carriage paid.

Although this is about the market rate for dissolved bones, it would appear to be higher than their intrinsic merit warrants.

Kainit can usually be bought at the rate of 4s. per unit of potash, so that on an analysis of 12¼ per cent. of potash the price of a ton, carriage paid, would be 12¼ × 4s. = £2 9s.

Sulphate of potash, containing 25 per cent. of potash (corresponding to a purity of about 46 per cent.), would at the same rate be worth 25 × 4s. = £5; while high-class manure, containing, say, 40 per cent. of potash (corresponding to a purity of about 74 per cent.) would be worth 40 × 4s. = £8.

The potash is somewhat higher than in kainit, so that, with kainit at £2 9s. per ton, the market value of potash is somewhat higher than that in kainit, so that, with kainit at £2 9s. per ton, the market value of sulphate of potash of a purity of 74 per cent. is likely to be about 40 × 4s. 3d. = £8 10s.

With a light haulage, and especially if the manure can be applied in autumn or early spring, so as to admit of certain undesirable magnesia salts being washed out, kainit is usually the preferable manure; but, for use at seed-time, and especially when mixed with other manures, sulphate of potash has advantages.

Muriate of potash is usually placed on the market of a purity of 80-90 per cent., corresponding to 50-57 per cent. of potash. Taking the former quality, and adopting the unit-value of potash in kainit, the price of a ton would work out at 50 × = £10. Generally a unit of potash in muriate is valued at a lower rate than that in kainit or sulphate of potash, so that the market quotation per ton is likely to be about 50 × 3s. 9d. = £9 7s. 6d.

Muriate of potash, in fact, usually offers the cheapest supply of potash, and for most crops it is probably as effective as any potash manure, while for potatoes it would seem to be superior.

The most important example of a manure holding nitrogen, phosphates, and potash is *Peruvian and similar guano*. The composition varies with in wide limits, but the following may be taken as an example:—

			s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Nitrogen	12	×	11	9 =	7	1	0
Sol. phosphates	5	×	1	9 =	0	8	9
Insol. phosphates	15	×	1	3 =	0	18	6
Potash	2	×	4	0 =	0	8	0
				Total	£8	16	6

Such a manure, however, would probably be priced at a much higher rate, so that guano, like bones, would appear to be still under the influence of past traditions.

It may be pointed out that the purchase of manures at a certain rate per unit, subject to analysis by an approved chemist, makes a farmer largely independent of variations in quality. If, for instance, he agrees to pay 1s. 3d. per unit, including carriage, for phosphates in basic slag, it is a matter of comparative indifference to him whether the consignment proves to be of 35 or 40 per cent. quality. In the former case the price per ton would be 35 × 1s. 3d. = £2 3s. 9d., while in the latter case, it would be 40 × 1s. 3d. = £2 10s., and the value would be as satisfactory in the one case as in the other. Needless to say, he would not apply the manure to his land till he was in possession of the analysis, and then he would regulate the dressing with some regard to the quality of the material.—*Leaflet issued by the Board of Agriculture.*

Prevention of Potato Disease.

For more than ten years experiments have been carried out in different parts of the British Isles in order to test the effect of certain dressings in checking the ravages of potato disease (Phytophthora infestans). As in all other experiments, the results have varied to a considerable extent, but in the majority of cases they must be regarded as satisfactory. It might have been expected from the success which has attended the operation that it would have become the general practice throughout the country to spray potatoes in order to prevent or, at any rate, check the disease. This, however, has not been the case, and in most districts of England and Wales preventive measures have never been tried. With the view of directing further attention to the matter in North Wales, trials were made in 1901 at the North Wales College Farm, Lledwigan, and at three centres in Carnarvonshire: Barrach, Llangian; Bryn, Llanfair, Portdinorwic; and Rorsedd Fawr, Chwilog. It has been found in previous experiments that the best results have been obtained where the dressings were applied before the disease made its appearance, as it spreads so rapidly under favourable conditions that in many cases it is impossible to arrest its progress after the plants have been attacked.

The preparation most frequently in use is known as the Bordeaux mixture, and consists of 20lb. of sulphate of copper, 10lb. of lime, 100 gallons of water. The mixture is applied at the rate of 100 to 150 gallons per acre.

It will usually be found convenient to purchase the sulphate of copper and lime of guaranteed purity mixed together in the above proportions, so that it is then only necessary to dissolve them in the required quantity of water. There are several preparations in use similar in their main features to the Bordeaux mixture, and one of these "Strawsonite" was used in this experiment.

In all cases the liquid, which should be kept well stirred, is applied to the plants by spraying machines, care being taken to cover the surface of the leaves more particularly on the under side. The success of the treatment depends upon the time it is carried out, upon the weather, and upon the care with which the work is done. It should be repeated if the dressing is washed off by rain.

In the present experiment the dressing was applied by a twin-spray machine about the middle of July. There was then no trace of disease. It was intended to repeat the dressing after an interval of three weeks, but this was not done owing to the unfavourable state of the weather.

A noticeable feature of the experiment was the fact that the sprayed plots remained green for fully ten days after the unsprayed plots, a result probably due to the increased vigour imparted to the plants on the sprayed portion.

The yields at the different centres are given in the following table:—

TABLE I.—YIELD OF POTATOES.

YIELD OF POTATOES.

Centre.	Marketable. T. C. LB.	Small. T. C. LB.	Disease. T. C. LB.	Total weights. T. C. LB.
Barrach, sprayed	10 6 28	1 18 94	0 13 44	12 18 54
Barrach, unsprayed	8 19 52	2 3 59	0 14 82	11 17 81
Rorsedd Fawr, sprayed	7 1 8	1 1 98	1 5 0	9 7 106
Rorsedd Fawr, unsprayed	6 6 8	1 9 52	1 0 10	8 16 38
Bryn, sprayed	14 6 4	0 11 36	0 5 16	15 2 56
Bryn, unsprayed	14 1 103	0 15 48	0 11 93	15 9 20
Lledwigan, sprayed	13 2 72	1 16 108	0 8 72	15 8 28
Lledwigan, unsprayed	11 4 80	1 18 46	0 14 93	13 8 1

It will be noticed that, with one exception, the total weight on the sprayed plots was considerably greater than on the unsprayed. As, however, this does not appear to be the most important feature of the experiment, smaller tables are inserted below, giving the averages at the four centres for the different qualities of potatoes.

MARKETABLE POTATOES.

	T. C. LB.
Average weight per acre at four centres, sprayed	11 4 0
Average weight per acre at four centres, unsprayed	10 3 24
Average increase per acre on the sprayed over the unsprayed plots	1 0 68

The table shows that on the average there was an increase of marketable potatoes on the sprayed plots of over a ton per acre, and it is worthy of note that the increase occurred at all the centres. This would appear to indicate that one effect of the spraying was to produce a more vigorous growth—a result which is confirmed by the following table, which shows that there was a much larger quantity of small potatoes on the unsprayed than on the sprayed plots.

SMALL POTATOES.

	T. C. LB.
Average weight per acre at four centres, sprayed	1 7 28
Average weight per acre at four centres, unsprayed	1 11 79
Average increase per acre on the unsprayed over the sprayed plots	0 4 51

The final table, which gives the average weight of diseased potatoes at the four centres, shows that the dressing was not very effective in preventing disease. The figures in this table, however, scarcely represent the facts, as a reference to Table I. shows that at Bryn and Lledwigan half less on the sprayed than the unsprayed plots. the quantity of diseased potatoes was about one-acre, but at the other centre there was actually At Barrach it was reduced by about 1½ cwt. per more disease on the sprayed plots.

DISEASED POTATOES.

	T. C. LB.
Average weight per acre at four centres, sprayed	0 13 5
Average weight per acre at four centres, unsprayed	0 15 43
Average increase per acre on the unsprayed over the sprayed plots	0 2 38

A New Potato Disease.

For several years, says a correspondent in the "Journal d'Agriculture Pratique," the potato crop in France has been decreasing, last year especially the yield was very low. The departments in the centre and west suffered the most. At the end of July, entire fields were attacked by disease, and in a few days presented a deplorable appearance. The leaves were faded, stalks withered, and when the crops were dug the tubers were only the size of nuts.

This disease has been carefully studied by Mons. Delacroix, and he says it is of a bacterian nature. It generally appears about the middle of July upon early varieties, and a little later upon later sorts. The former suffer the most from disease. Lands which have been devoted to potato crops for years are most affected, but the disease is also found in ground in which the vine has been grown, and also in land upon which a potato has not been produced within the memory of man. Although the disease is worst in calcareous soils, it is to be found in clayey and sandy ground.

The bacteria which causes the disease is infectious, and Mons. Delacroix has given it the name of "Bacillus Solanincola."

Mons. Delacroix has come to the following conclusions:—

(1) The disease is infectious, and produced by a bacteria, "Bacillus Solanincola."

(2) The soil is an intermediary, and the bacteria is conveyed to the plant by wounds caused by insects, etc.

(3) Tubers used as seed, which have been taken from an infected crop, will produce the disease without any new infection from the soil.

(4) The tubres should be disinfected by an immersion of an hour and a half in a solution of formol, provided they are perfectly sound and not bruised. This will prevent infection even when the ground is contaminated.

(5) Sections of potatoes used as seed facilitate the disease and should be avoided.

The last three years—1899, 1900, and 1901—have been characterised by a cold and damp winter and spring, and a dry, hot summer; thus the bacteria has found very favourable conditions. The early potato under ordinary conditions of temperature grows very quickly, but cold weather retards the growth, the shoots develop slowly, and the young plant is ill-protected against outside agents which menace it. If the plant should be bruised the bacteria penetrates at once, and if the weather is damp it favours the growth and multiplication of the disease.

It appears that the later varieties of potato are less liable to disease, and Mons. Delacroix thinks that the "Quarantaine de la Halle" and the "Jaune longue de Holland" are less resistant than any other.

The treatment is exclusively preventative. He advises that sound and whole tubers should be used as seed. In order to annul the action of bacteria in infected soil, potatoes should not be planted in the same plot for at least four years, and when dug, all the stalks, leaves, etc., should be gathered together and burnt in the field, and all rotten tubers should be buried deeply.

All tubers which are to be employed as seed, even if they are sound, may carry particles of earth upon them which contains bacteria, and Mons. Delacroix advises the immersion of the seeds in a solution of formol, a practice which should be continued for some years.

In a few words, Mons. Delacroix advises:—

(1) Careful selection of sound seed potatoes.

(2) Varied selection of crops every four years.

(3) Using whole tubers as seed.

(4) Immersion for 1½ hours of the seed in a solution at the time of sowing. The solution should only be used once.

(5) Delay planting as late as possible, but not to compromise the crop.

seed and to a cleaning of the ground by rotation crops.



Shire Horses for Canada and the United States.

FROM A CORRESPONDENT.

It is to be hoped that the suggestion made that the wealthy patrons of shire horse breeding in this country should take steps to have representative selections of shires shown at the province of Ontario Agricultural Exposition the first week in September and at the Chicago Horse Show in December next.

This would materially help th edeserving British tenant farmer to take advantage of the best market in the world for such of his stallions which do not come up to English show yard requirements as regards feather and other points, and also to assist the shire breeders in Canada and the States.

Those countries can take hundreds of such sires every year at prices ranging from £150 to £300 a head, or double the price the farmer would receive if he castrated such a colt.

The shire men should send out something to beat any Percheron, or other breed of draught horse exhibited, and those who are conversant with the subject affirm that they could easily do it. There is also a demand for the best specimens of the breed at the highest prices paid in this or any other country.

Your readers must have been surprised at the prices realised last year at the Toronto and Chicago Shows for British-bred stallions, bulls, rams, and pigs, one Yorkshire boar fetching two hundred pounds or 1,000 dollars by auction. The reason is not far to seek. Most of the wealthy breeders of pedigree stock do not care to cross the Atlantic, or they usually have too many other irons in the fire to spare the time. They, however, know good stock when they see it, and will pay extravagant prices for animals of exceptional merit when brought to their door. Such purchasers would, however, demand the highest English show yard standard points. The period has now arrived, owing to the general demand throughout the American continent for superior heavy draught stallions for the Shiremen to compete with the Percheron syndicates, who have held the field too long with their admittedly inferior stock.

The writer was at Havre, France, in the summer of 1883, when a steamer of the National line left that port for New York with upwards of 400 Percheron horses on board.

Whilst the total number of Percherons exported from France in 1875 was only 104, these numbers were increased to over 500, mostly stallions, in 1883. Practically, the whole of these went to the United States, and the trade has continued ever since.

The average value set down in the U.S. Consular returns was £80 per head, but as breeding stock enters the Unitd States and Canada free of duty this was evidently for sale purposes.

This wealthy American company could not have secured that number of draught sires, Clydes, Shires, or Suffolks in this or any other country but France, where so few horses are castrated.

English shire horse breeders could, however, now easily meet such requirements with infinitely better animals.

A statement was made at the time that the origin of the grey mare, which took all the leading American show yard prizes at that time, and upon whose successes such large numbers of Percherons were sold, was traced to Cambridgeshire. She was a magnificent specimen of the old English cart or shire horse, exported to France. It was not, however, this report so much as their general inferiority to the Clydes and Shires, together with doubtful pedigrees, which has prevented their ever obtaining a footing in Canada. As regards soundness, the Shire Horse Society could withhold export certificates, unless the applications be accompanied by a V.S. examination paper.

Other horse breeders' societies might follow suit in the interests of the export trade, which is yet in its infancy, not only to North and South America, but to Northern Germany, Denmark, Southern Sweden, and Russian fields, which only require to be intelligently exploited in order to secure a market for nearly all kinds of British pedigree stock.

In Canada the numbers of draught horses are increasing, as also the demand for them, both in the Great North West, Manitoba, and the States.

Last year there were in the province of Ontario alone, where all horses are stabled in winter, no less than 621,885 horses, or nearly one-third the

number of those in the United Kingdom. More than half of these are draught horses, and require improvement. The demand for high class sires in Ontario, Manitoba, British Columbia, New Brunswick, present. In the latter provinces the Government and Nova Scotia was never so great as at have just voted sums of money for the importation of stallions from Great Britain.

Horse societies have, and are, being formed throughout Canada, and the following prices have just been paid:—For the Clydesdale stallion, Burnbrae, six thousand dollars, or £1,200, to the County of Waterloo Horse Society; Harmony, £300. Other sales at good prices have been reported.

The new settlers in Manitoba and Western Canada will take the surplus draught horses from Ontario for many years to come. Last year between five and six thousand were sent there, and the shipment of stock has this spring been on an unprecedented extensive scale.

The Horse Trade of America.

Exports from the United States.

The present activity which prevails in the foreign trade of the United States in horses and mules dates back to the panic of 1893. The low prices, largely the result of the panic, at which good horses might then be had in this country doubtless had much to do with attracting the attention of foreign buyers to the exceptional advantages of the United States as a source of horse supplies. The result was immediately reflected in the export trade. Exports of horses and mules combined, which in 1893 had amounted to only 4,601 head, valued at less than a million dollars, increased by leaps and bounds until in 1898 they reached the total of 59,248 head, worth $6,841,358. In the following year the outbreak of the war in South Africa gave an additional impetus to this trade in all exporting countries, especially in the United States, Mexico, Argentina, and Australasia; exports from the United States quickly responded to the increased demand, and in the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1900, they amounted to a total of 108,091 head, horses and mules combined, valued at $11,532,094. In the succeeding fiscal year they increased further to the high-record mark of 116,655 head, with a value of $12,089,112.

A comprehensive idea of the recent development of the United States export trade in horses may probably be obtained from the following statement, which gives separately the exports to Europe, to North American countries and outlying islands, to South Africa, and to all other countries combined from 1894 to 1901:—

EXPORTS OF HORSES FROM THE UNITED STATES.

Year ending June 30—	To Europe.	To North America.	To South Africa.	To all other countries.
	No.	No.	No.	No.
1894..	1,452	3,653	0	141
1895..	7,972	5,850	1	161
1896..	17,243	7,690	1	192
1897..	28,488	10,508	1	535
1898..	37,673	12,989	117	371
1899..	31,949	12,890	127	812
1900..	37,377	14,045	10,220	3,080
1901..	24,488	14,842	37,465	5,455

It is thus seen that the extraordinarily heavy exports of horses from the United States in 1901, amounting as they did to 82,250 head, were due primarily to shipments of 37,465 head to South Africa—a larger number of horses, with one exception, than had ever been consigned up to that time to any single destination in the history of our country. If this factor, however, be entirely eliminated from the trade, there is still apparent a remarkable and almost steadily increasing demand in both North American and European countries for horses bred and reared in the United States.

Exports from Canada.

The Canadian export trade in horses, which reached the high-record mark of almost 22,000 head in 1896, has since undergone a steady and rapid decline, having reached a lower level—7,609 head in 1901 than at any time within the past twenty-five years. Canadian foreign trade in these animals, which up to 1898 had been characterised by a heavy excess of exports over imports, has been completely reversed, more horses having been imported during the past three years than were shipped abroad.

Up to 1900, when the war in South Africa created an extraordinary demand for horses, the two almost exclusive customers for Canadian horses were the United States and Great Britain, shipments to the other countries constituting comparatively a negligible factor. The United States, however, has within the past fifteen years become gradually a less and less important customer for foreign horses, and this has apparently had a decidedly reflex effect in late years upon the entire Canadian export trade. Moreover, the Canadian export trade to Great Britain, which had increased from a little over a thousand head in 1891 to over 17,000 head in 1896, has since rapidly fallen off, and in 1901 it amounted to only 2,143 head. A part of the decline in exports, however, both to the United States and Great Britain, in the last two years, has doubtless been due to the heavy shipments of Canadian horses to South Africa. The following statement, from Canadian official sources, will show the distribution of the exports of horses from Canada for the past eleven years:—

EXPORTS OF HORSES FROM CANADA.

Year ending June 30—	To United States.	To Great Britain.	To South Africa.	To all other countries.
1891..	9,957	1,222	—	479
1892..	9,261	1,369	—	433
1893..	10,606	1,946	—	667
1894..	4,490	3,510	—	734
1895..	6,604	7,430	—	710
1896..	4,021	17,179	—	652
1897..	3,606	13,720	—	2,577
1898..	2,457	11,479	—	413
1899..	6,284	5,810	—	290
1900..	1,527	5,044	3,287	195
1901..	2,088	2,143	3,063	315

With reference to the shipments to South Africa, it may be noted that within the past two fiscal years there has been shipped to that destination from the two North American countries, the United States and Canada, a total of 54,035 head of horses—a number almost equal to the aggregate exports from the United States to all countries in 1894. To this may be added shipments of mules from the United States to the same destination probably aggregating an approximately equal number.

Western Canada's Great Agricultural Show.

From the "Manitoba Free Press," just to hand, we learn that this show will be held at Winnipeg, July the 21st to 26th. The citizens of Winipeg have subscribed £1,200 for races to be held on the 22nd July, the Manitoba Derby, Steeplechases, and Hurdle Races, on occasion of the Coronation year. The prize list now amounts to over £8,000.

A cablegram announcing that the Shire Horse Society of England is offering gold medals at tsis show for registered Shire stallions and mares has caused great satisfaction.



Prevention of "White Scour" in Calves.

Sir,—The long letter from Mr. James Wallace, which appears under this heading, on page 522, is calculated to make the up-to-date farmer possessed of some knowledge of veterinary science rub his eyes and wonder whether this is really the twentieth century, and if microbes are a myth and bacteriology a dream.

We, of course, appreciate Mr. Wallace's motives, which are, no doubt, intended to benefit the farmer and dairyman, and instruct him in the practice of his profession as cattle breeder; but a little knowledge is a dangerous thing, and such a tirade against the conclusions of an unprejudiced, practical, and scientific expert as M. Nocard, and the measures adopted by the Department of Agriculture and Technical Education, for the instruction of the farmer, is calculated to do a good deal of harm, and prevent those it is intended to benefit from carrying out the recommendations that have been demonstrated to be an efficient preventive of the fatal disorder that has caused such loss, not only in parts of Ireland, but on many English farms as well. A good deal might be said about the bold expression of disagreement with a savant of international repute like M. Nocard, and the excellence of the proverb, "Ne sutor ultra crepidam," occurs to mind; but there is really no need to go through Mr. Wallace's letter in detail, or to point out the irrelevance of the quotations from Darwin, for it should be obvious to the meanest intelligence that the whole thing is founded on a misapprehension or a lack of knowledge that several very different and distinct diseases of calves are popularly lumped together under the designation "white scour."

"White," of course, has reference solely to the colour of the material passed, just as farmers used to differentiate between different forms of diarrhœa in young animals by the use of such terms as "white skit" and "green skit." "Scour" is merely a popular name for diarrhœa, and diarrhœa is not in itself a disease, but merely a symptom. Unfortunately, calf-owners very commonly regard the passing of an acrid irritating white discharge as a disease pure and simple, and treat the symptoms instead of attacking causes. Professor Nocard, or the authorities responsible for the dissemination of the most useful leaflet, have never suggested that all forms of 'white scour" in calves are due to the entry of a specific micro-organism at the open navel at birth, but only that in certain districts and on certain farms the calves die early of an infectious disorder, of which "white scour" is a prominent symptom. Professor Nocard and the officials of the Department of Agriculture deal in their pamphlet with quite a different disease to what Mr. Wallace has in mind, and the infectious dysentery of new-born animals has nothing whatever to do with "scour" arising from retention of the meconium. Authorities on the diseases and abnormalities of young animals differentiate between "scours" associated with indigestion, with gastro-intestinal catarrh, with retention of the meconium, or constipation, and what used to be recognised long before the Irish investigation is dysentria neonatorum or dysentery of new-born animals.

Because people ignorantly attribute any case in which there is "white scour" to one cause, or confound a symptom with a disease, it does not make it so, and it is a great pity that Mr. Wallace, before throwing cold water on leaflet No. 11, discrediting Nocard's conclusions, and upsetting farmers in their faith in the recommendations contained in the leaflet, did not take the trouble to inform himself concerning the several distinct diseases of calves of which "white scour" is a symptom, instead of confounding retention of the meconium with a dysentery due to a specific micro-organism. This infectious dysentery, concerning which the Irish authorities deal as it affects calves, is by no means confined to this animal. In order of frequency the calf stands first, then the lamb, the foal, the dog, and the cat; and once it makes its appearance on a place it may linger for years. In the second edition of Fleming's "Veterinary Obstetrics," published in 1895, there occurs this passage:—"It (gastro-enteritis) has been confounded with the dysentery of young animals, and in the first edition of this work this error was committed; indeed, for more than a century the two diseases have been, and are even now, described as one. But a distinction must be made, and they should be separately dealt with."

For many years before the Irish investigation, and long before this form of "white scour" became of national importance, we described cases occurring on different farms that were recognised as totally different to the several other forms of disease, of which "white scour" was a symptom; and what Nocard has done is not to discover a new disease of calves, but to demonstrate its infectious character and the point of entry of the infecting element. It would not be difficult to point out essential differences between this infectious dysentery and retention of the meconium; indeed, it might be useful to describe in detail the several diseases of calves of which "white scour" is a symptom; but perhaps when this variation is pointed out to Mr. Wallace he will at once recognise that he is talking about one disease while pamphlet No. 11 deals with another.

M.R.C.V.S.

April 29th, 1902.

Gun License.

Sir,—Will you kindly inform me if I can let my foreman kill rabbits without a gun license? I always take out a full game license myself.

INQUIRER.

[*** It would appear that your foreman could do so, but we would suggest that you refer to the Excise officer for your district, and also refer to the Act of Parliament, 43 and 44 Victoria, Chapter 47.—ED.]

Price of Wheat in the Seventies.

Sir,—If I am not mistaken, up to the "seventies" wheat was thought abnormally cheap when it was down to 40s. a quarter. So much so, that at that price people not in the corn trade considered it safe to buy as an investment. But was not the relative price of bread materially less, say, the 4lb. loaf at 5d., when wheat was at 40s.? A list of the prices of wheat and bread for the past 40 years would be of interest; but perhaps you can oblige by saying if I am right about 40s., and a 5d. loaf.—I am, yours, etc.,

J. MARSHALL STURGE.

Charlbury, May 2, 1902.

IMPORTANT TO FARMERS.—The best farm account books are WEBB'S PRACTICAL FARMER'S ACCOUNT BOOK, with preface by Clare Sewell Read, 70th edition, 6s. and 7s. 6d. post free. JARROLD'S IMPERIAL FARM ACCOUNT BOOK, 3s. 6d. JARROLD'S FARM LABOUR BOOKS, 2s., 2s. 6d., and 4s. 6d., List of Game and Dairy Account Books post free of JARROLD and SONS 10 and 11, Warwick Lane E.C.—[ADVT.]

LITERARY NOTICES.

Three pamphlets of a useful character have been issued by the Board of Agriculture dealing with the three following subjects: The Colorado Beetle, Cultivation of Maize for Fodder, The Purchase of Artificial Manures. This last article, it will be remembered, appears in the current issue of the Journal of the Board, and is of a very useful character. In purchasing artificials, great discrimination and some knowledge of chemistry is necessary in order to buy a useful article. This article will do much to prevent farmers being misled by enticing advertisements or specious analyses. Copies of these leaflets may be obtained free of charge and post free on application to the Secretary, Board of Agriculture, 4, Whitehall Place, London, S.W. Letters of application so addressed need not be stamped.

The article on "Prices of Live Stock in 1901," as returned under the Markets and Fairs (Weighing of Cattle) Act, 1891, which appeared in the March issue of the Journal of the Board of Agriculture, has been issued in pamphlet form, with all the original tables and figures given in the Journal.

A very useful article on "Overdressing of Barley," which appeared in the last number of the "Transactions of the Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland," is being issued in pamphlet form. It is from the pen of Mr. Hugh Baird, of the Glasgow firm of maltsters, who is able to speak on the matter, as one having an intimate and personal acquaintance of the evils produced by the practice of overdressing, which is unfortunately so prevalent as to be very fatal to the interests of British barley growers.

The Country Gentlemen's Estate Book for 1902, which is the tenth year book of the Country Gentlemen's Association, Ltd., is graced with the title of a Coronation edition. As in previous years, it is edited and compiled by Wm. Broomhall, and is a highly useful publication. In addition to a number of articles of subjects, a knowledge of which is necessary to the estate owner, a complete catalogue of every imaginable necessity for country houses, estates, or farms is included. The address of the Association is 16, Cockspur Street, Pall Mall, London, S.W.

A useful pamphlet on "Lucerne, with notes on Some Other Leguminous Crops," by Mr. Bernard Dyer, D.Sc., F.I.C., has been issued in pamphlet form from the Laboratory, 17, Great Tower Street, London, E.C. The article, it will be remembered, formed an interesting contribution to the 1902 volume of the "Transactions of the Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland."

We have received a copy of the Year Book of the German Distillery trade. Among the interesting topics dealt with in this year's issue may be mentioned an article on the applicability of spirit for lighting purposes, and as a motive power.

We have received from the Secretary, a copy of the annual report of the British Chamber of Commerce, 25, Boulevard des Italiens, Paris. The report was presented at the twenty-eighth ar printed with it comparative statistics of Anglo-ar printed with it comparative statistics of Anglo-French trade for 1900-1901, with a compendium of French Legislation in 1901.

We have received a copy of the report of the Technical Education Committee of the Berks County Council. This shows the work done during the year by the committee, number of classes held, and subjects dealt with, also prizes and scholarships gained by successful scholars.

Messrs. Bamfords, the well-known manufacturers of farming implements, have published a new edition of their catalogue of harvesting machines for the coming season.

Messrs. Toogood and Sons, Southampton, have issued a pocket list of their farm seeds for 1902. It gives particulars and prices of the principal farm seeds, accompanied by several illustrations. It can be had gratis by farmers.

Spalding April Cattle Fair was held on Tuesday. There was a large supply of horned stock, especially store beasts, but very few sheep. There was an improved demand for stores, and the high prices asked were obtained for the better-class lots. Young beasts realised £6 to £8, two-year-olds £12 to £15, and fresh stores up to £17 a head. For milking cows and in-calvers there was an improved demand. The best quality beef fetched 8s. 6d. to 9s. per stone, and cow beef 7s. 6d. Mutton maintained late rates. Good agricultural horses were in demand, but inferior animals were a drug in the market.

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The trade has not yet settled down to a normal state since the Budget was introduced, the principal difficulty, as far as millers are concerned, being in regard to the undelivered portions of contracts made before April 15th. Some millers had sold very large quantities ahead, and, as a consequence, have been charging 1s. per sack duty to the contract price of flour; that is to say, in cases where buyers have not objected to it. Other members of the trade, chiefly the inland millers, not having been placed in this position, have not been charging the duty. In the former case millers have only themselves to blame, because the tax was expected, and the remedy was in their own hands. They could either have covered their sales of flour with wheat, or they could have inserted a clause in their contracts with bakers to the effect that they would charge the duty in case it were imposed.

There is no doubt some of them have been very short-sighted in the matter; hence the trouble and disputes with buyers. In some parts of the country millers actually did insert a clause in their contracts, and in these cases it has saved a great deal of trouble, because the buyers of their flour knew what to expect. As matters stand just at present, very nearly every man is a law unto himself, and even the members of local associations have

not been able to agree upon a definite policy

with regard to charging the duty. The bakers are very much in the same position as to raising the price of bread. In many parts the latter has risen in price, more, however, on account of the advance in wheat than on account of the duty, although in some cases the latter has been taken into account. In this case they have a great advantage, because flour should rise 4s. per sack before one halfpenny should be put upon the 4lb. loaf, allowing .96 of the latter to the sack of 280lb.

Wheat, especially English, has had a strong rise, and still farmers who have stocks are not eager to sell, believing that it will still advance in price. In this they are probably right, because in the beginning of April, English wheat only made from 28s. to 29s. per 504lb., whereas now it is selling for 33s., and even 34s., a rise of 5s. per quarter. In certain districts farmers find no difficulty whatever in getting 34s. for samples. This wheat is dearer after the rate than most foreign sorts, but millers are perfectly willing to pay these prices for it when they can get it, and possibly the price will reach 35s. or 36s. before long, as stocks are evidently low.

At the present time, No. 1 Hard Manitoba is making no more than an equivalent of about 33s. per 504lb., and this is about the strongest and dearest wheat offered at the ports; while Cali, which most large millers put into their grist for colour, is selling at an equivalent of 32s. per quarter. These are

two of the standard wheats in the blends

of merchant millers.

Flour, of course, has risen in sympathy with wheat, the advance being from 1s. 6d. per 280lb. to 3s. Not much business, however, has been done at the rise. Offals of all sorts still sell well, at much higher prices than are paid in the beginning of May.

The principal drawback so far as country millers are concerned is the shortness of English wheat, and it is feared that many of them will have to shut down shortly for lack of the raw material, while from some parts come reports of lack of water for purposes of power. The samples of home-grown wheat which have been ground during the past fortnight have come to the mills in very good condition, which has enabled millers to dress their flours a little finer. This is an improvement, because the tendency nowadays is to dress through higher numbers. In the large merchant mills it is no uncommon thing to see patent flours dressed through No. 15, 16, and even 17 silk. Of course, to enable millers to do this, they must have plenty of roller surface, and the wheat mixture must be in the very best condition.

In this country it is frequently the custom to dress the patent flours finest, but in the opinion of the writer the lower grades should be dressed the finest. The finer flours are dressed the whiter they will look, because if they are comparatively fine it is

only a question of casting shadows,

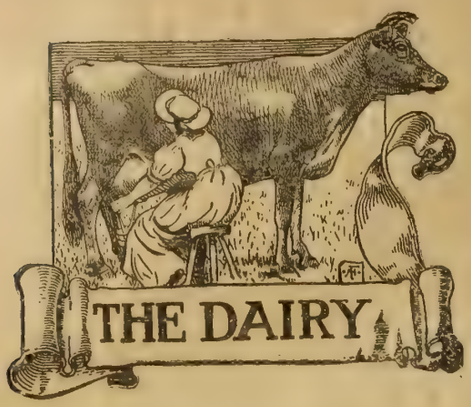
and the smaller the granules the less the shadows and the apparent—only apparent, however—whiteness of the flours. The tendency all over the country is to increase the roller surface, both on breaks and reductions, and this is an improvement in which the small millers should imitate the larger members of the trade.

There is no doubt, however, that finer dressing means more flaking, and this has led to the re-introduction of the detacher into mills—in some cases on a very large scale. No matter how fine the flour is dressed it must be distinctly granular, and when this is not case, when the particles of flour have been jammed into each other, the detacher of all machines is the one to bring into use to restore the stock which has been "killed." In some mills at the present time detachers are used to follow most of the smooth-roll reductions for the purpose of granulating the flour. But there is no reason why the reductions should be so close as to make so much flaky stock. Theoretically, smooth rolls should be used for breaking or sizing, and not for close grinding or mashing. The flour cannot be clean and bright where the stock is squeezed and the impurities pulverised. It is true there was a time in the history of milling when reduction meant little more than pulverising. But that time has gone by, and smooth rolls are now looked upon as purifying machines, and not as aids to making a conglomeration of flour and impurities.

MILLER-FARMER.

At Stockton May Hirings, held on Wednesday, there was a good supply of servants. The wages for men were considerably lower than last year, but for females there was very little change. Good men were engaged at £22 to £26 per year; good plough youths, £14 to £16; and boys in their first year out, £6 to £6 10s. Strong women got £15 to £17, and girls £8 to £10.

Louth April Fair.—The April fair at Louth took place last week, the sheep fair being held on Tuesday and the beast fair being held on the following day. The sheep penned numbered about 5,000, or no fewer than 3,000 less than last year; but notwithstanding the shortness of supply trade was anything but brisk. The best prices were 55s. each for a pen of 90 he and she hogs, and 56s. per head for a pen of 30; but the price which usually prevailed for good grazing hogs was 45s. to 48s. per head. On Wednesday there was a large show of cattle, but very few horses. Young beasts did not sell well, but two to three-year-old bullocks made up to £17 10s. each; two-year-olds, £13 10s. to £15 10s.; yearlings, £8 to £10 10s.; drape cows, £12 to £17 10s. Several Lincoln red bulls were offered by auction, and they made up to 31½ guineas.



The Purity of Milk: Important Case.

In the King's Bench Division on Friday, the Lord Chief Justice and Justices Darling and Channell heard the case of Smithers v. Bridge, an appeal which raised a somewhat delicate question under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act. It came before the court upon a case stated by the Chelmsford Quarter Sessions, from which it appeared that the appellant, Smithers, was a milk dealer of Clacton, and obtained a supply of milk from a farmer named Lilley upon a guarantee of purity. The respondent purchased from Smithers a pint of new milk, and had it analysed in accordance with the Act. From the certificate of the analyst it appeared that the milk contained only 2.09 per cent. of fat, an abnormally small amount. Under a regulation of the Board of Agriculture it had, since the prosecution, been laid down that the least percentage of fat should be 3 per cent. That regulation, however, was not in force when the proceedings were taken. The appellant proved that he sold the milk in the same condition as he received it, and just as it came from the cows. It appeared, however, that the farmer milked his cows at four o'clock in the morning, and not having milked the cows for sixteen hours previously, the effect was that though the quantity of the morning milk was increased, a portion of the fat in the milk was absorbed by the cows, and went to the sustenance of the calves, which, in consequence, were abnormally large. The Clacton magistrates, before whom the proceedings were taken in the first instance, held that there had been, under Section 6 of the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, upon which they were founded, a sale to the prejudice of the purchaser, because the appellant had supplied milk not of the nature, substance, and quality demanded. They, therefor, fined the appellant £20, but, on his appealing to the Justices of Quarter Sessions at Chelmsford, they, while affirming the conviction, reduced the penalty to £1.

Mr. Warburton appeared for the appellant, and Mr. C. E. Jones, represented the respondent.

The Court being divided in opinion,

Mr. Justice Channell, as the junior Judge, delivered judgment first in favour of dismissing the appeal. He said it was material to recollect that Section 6 of the Sale of Food and Drugs Act differed materially from some of the other sections, because it had been clearly decided that in cases coming under it, no question of guilty knowledge could arise. The question was whether or not the seller had sold something different and inferior to the article demanded by the purchaser; in other words, not of the nature, substance, and quality demanded. In this case, the purchaser asked for new milk, and he got something which was different from that which he would expect, and which lacked a portion of the proper constituents of new milk. Take the case of a cow being ill, it would not produce milk of the proper character, and it would lack, probably, some of the essential characteristics of milk. The seller would in that case sell the direct produce of the cow, but it would be of inferior constitution, and in such a state of things he ought to be convicted, although, perhaps, the fine might be nominal. The magistrates had come to the conclusion, as a matter of fact, that the cows did not, in consequence of the way in which they were treated, produce what was properly called milk. That was a conclusion of fact which they could come to, and, therefore, the Court could not interfere with their decision.

Mr. Justice Darling was of opinion that the appeal should be allowed. The purchaser in this case asked for new milk, and got it exactly as it came from the cow. Therefore, it seemed to him that he got what he asked for. He feared that to hold otherwise would be to run the risk of having the decision applied to natural products, such as apples, and a man might be found guilty of supplying an article which was not of the nature, substance, and quality demanded, because the apples he sold were, in the opinion of an analyst, deficient in malic acid or some other ingredient which should be present in the fruit.

The Lord Chief Justice concurred in the opinion expressed by Mr. Justice Channell that it was open to the Justices to come to their decision, as a matter of fact, though he did not say he should have come to the same conclusion. It was, no doubt, a hard case on appellant, but he could have protected himself by setting up the warranty he had received, which would have been a good defence.

In accordance with the opinion of the majority of the Court, the appeal was dismissed.

Mr. Jones asked that the appeal should be dismissed with costs.

The Lord Chief Justice: We do not think it a case for costs.

Preston Cheese Fair.

The monthly Cheese Fair at Preston was held on Tuesday, when there was a pitch of 60 lots, comprising 836 cheeses, a decrease of 9 lots and 56 cheeses compared with the corresponding fair last year. Most of the cheese being hay cheese, buyers bought for immediate needs only, grass cheese being expected shortly. There was a reduction of 5s. to 7s. 6d. on the prices realised last fair. Quotations:—Best, 60s. to 66s.; medium, 55s. to 60s.; common, 50s. to 55s. per cwt.

GARDEN.

Something like a blizzard on a small scale has prevailed for nearly a week past now, a strong and bitterly cold north to east wind blowing almost continuously. This has quite checked all growth in the open air for the time, and it is to be feared that serious damage to fruit trees in bloom and setting will be found to have resulted, especially in the more exposed positions. Even the chestnuts, which were just unfolding their delicate leaves "into the perfect fan," are in many cases blasted and blackened on the windward side, as if scorched by fire. There are, fortunately, some indications of a change to-day, but it is still unusually cold for the time of year.

In the vegetable department beds of onions, parsnips, carrots, etc., that were sown fairly early will need attention in the matter of thinning or "singling" the plants, especially if the seed were sown at all thickly, and the little plants are consequently crowded, this work should be commenced in good time, not making a great clearance all at once, but thinning tentatively, as it were, at first, or reducing the seed'ings to little clumps of five or six at short distances apart, to be presently thinned down again to a single plant. This dry, cold weather is, however, as unfavourable for such work as could be imagined, and unless really imperative, the operation had better be deferred until the conditions are more favourable. A mild, showery time is the best. In default of this, water the rows well both before and after thinning, using a fine rose.

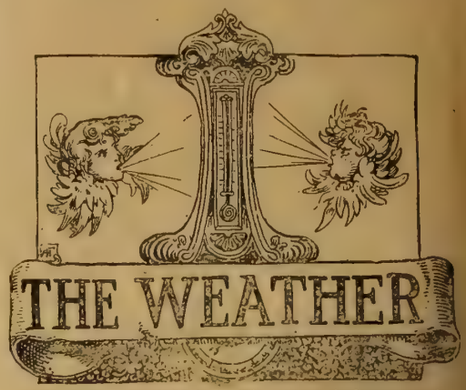
Onions may be thinned down to 4in. to 6in. apart, but only if a comparatively few large roots or bulbs are wanted—to obtain a maximum yield of medium to small bulbs, thin only lightly, or merely by drawing for use, as salad, as required. Thin parsnips to 9in., to 12in. distance, or rather more if for exhibition; carrots of the "long" kinds, 8in. to 10in., and beet, salsify, etc., about 9in., with rather less for the early Egyptian or turnip-rooted varieties. Spinach may be thinned to 4in. or 6in., according to the variety, strength, etc; and parsley and others also should not be allowed to stand too thickly in the rows.

The early-sown beet (Egyptian or turnip-rooted—the "Globe" is the best type) ought to be up and growing now, and will need thinning; the thinnings may be transplanted if necessary.

Leeks also will need attention now. Where an early sowing was made get a few rows of the most forward plants out as soon as possible. The ground must be deeply dug and well manured, and certainly the most convenient method of planting is in V-shaped furrows, cut with a spade, placing the plants 6in. to 8in., or even 9in., apart, if very large sticks are wanted. The furrows may be 6in. or so in depth.

Bedale Hirings.—The first of the Bedale May Day Hirings was held on Tuesday, when there was a fair attendance, but few servants found fresh masters and mistresses. Farm foremen asked £24 to £25, strong youth £16 to £18, young lads £8 to £10, women £12 to £20, and girls £5 to £14.

Agrarian Offences in Ireland.—An official return was issued on Tuesday of the agrarian offences throughout Ireland reported to the Inspector-General of Constabulary during last year. The total number reported was 245, of which 126 were cases of intimidation, 55 were incendiary fires, 24 killing, cutting, or maiming cattle, and 17 injury to property. More than half of the total offences occurred in Munster. Convictions only took place in 14 cases, of which three were in Munster. The number of cases in which offenders were neither convicted nor made amenable was 219.



Monday (April 28th).—The east wind was again strong over the south of England and in the English Channel as well as over the southern portion of Ireland. In Scotland and the more northern parts of England the winds were light and variable. Rain was measured in the morning, as the result of the fall in the preceding 24 hours, in the south-west of England, but the amounts were not large. Temperatures were rather lower than on the preceding day, and the mid-day readings were not generally much above 50 degrees.

Tuesday (April 29th).—Fine and dry weather prevailed over the British Islands, and the temperature was generally low for the time of year. No appreciable rain was measured in the morning in any part of the kingdom, the weather having everywhere continued dry since Monday. The winds were north-easterly in England, as well as over the greater part of Ireland, but the wind was westerly in Scotland, under the influence of shallow disturbances which were travelling north-eastwards from the Atlantic. There was a slight frost over the inland parts of England during Monday night, and the mid-day temperatures were below the average. In London the exposed thermometer fell three degrees below the freezing point early in the morning, and the highest temperature during the day was 52 degrees.

Wednesday (April 30th).—A mild westerly wind was experienced over the whole of our Islands, and a general rise of temperature had set in. Small amounts of rain were measured in the morning, as the result of the fall since the previous day, at most places in the north and west, and rain again fell during the day at many of the western stations. A cyclonic disturbance had arrived from the Atlantic, and was passing eastwards to the north of Scotland, while the barometer, under the influence of this disturbance, had everywhere fallen briskly. Temperature was rather higher than of late during Tuesday night, and the mid-day temperatures were in fair agreement with the average.

Thursday (May 1st).—The weather was very changeable during the day, and showers occurred in most parts of the country. Rain was measured in the morning, as the result of the fall in the preceding twenty-four hours, over nearly the entire kingdom, but the amounts were not large. The cyclonic disturbance which was passing to the north of Scotland on Wednesday had its centre during the day over Denmark, and the wind had become north-westerly over our Islands. Temperature had not changed very materially, and it was in fair agreement with the average. Wednesday night was cold in Scotland, the thermometer in the screen falling nearly to the freezing point, and the mid-day readings were generally below 50 degrees in the north and east.

Friday (May 2nd).—The weather continues showery in most parts of our Islands, and the general condition had become thoroughly unsettled. Rain was measured in the morning over the entire kingdom, as the result of the fall in the preceding 24 hours, but the amounts were nowhere large. The wind was generally westerly, and it was increasing in strength on our west coasts, a moderate gale being reported in the north of Ireland. Thursday night was cold over the eastern portion of the kingdom, and although a brisk rise of temperature had occurred, the readings were nowhere high for the time of year.

Saturday and Sunday (May 3rd and 4th).—During these two days, cold, cheerless weather prevailed over the whole of the United Kingdom. On Saturday, when a cyclonic disturbance moved South-Eastwards across the North Sea, rain fell generally, and thunderstorms occurred in many parts of England, the thermometer failing to reach 55deg. in any but the most Southern districts. On Sunday the disturbance passed away over Germany, cold Northerly winds being experienced in its rear, with further showers in most places. In London the early part of Saturday was fair, but shortly after noon a thunderstorm, with hail, passed over, and for some five or six hours afterwards rain fell at frequent intervals, the total fall at Brixton for the day being practically equal to the aggregate amount recorded during the whole of last month.



Berkshire.

The weather during the month of April was good for farm work, and the planting of spring corn is practically finished, and the early-sown has come up and looks well, and the wireworm pest has not been quite so busy as usual. The wheat is rather backward, but, generally speaking, there is a fair plant. Rye came on well, and has been a most useful crop, as the cold weather has kept it from running away, and with a few mangolds the sheep have done well. Vetches are good, but will not be ready to feed for nearly another month. The young grasses are a good plant, but as there is a frost nearly every night, with cold winds in the daytime, they do not make much progress yet.

The meadows are green, and there is rather more grass than usual for the 1st of May. Cattle are being turned out from the yards in good condition, and there is a good trade at fair prices. Sheep have doen well, and there was a better breed of lambs than usuel; but as there was rather a scarcity of roots, flockmasters hve had a little difficulty in providing food, but the useful mangolds have been of great serivce.

Mutton is dearer, and there is a good trade for fat sheep, but stores are still dull of sale. Hay is cheaper, but straw sells well, for it is nearly all used up, and many farmers will not have sufficient left to thatch their hay-ricks. Corn markets have taken a decided turn, and no doubt the duty has caused a little excitement; but what effect can the small duty of about 1s. per quarter have on the price of bread? and it seems ridiculous to hear the cry about raising the pric eof the poor man's loaf, when they have been living on the farmer's loss of production for many years.—J. L. (May 1st).

Cornwall (West).

April was, upon the whole, a cold, rough month, with lots of rain, but also a lot of easterly wind, which soon dried the soil again.

May has come in with a bitterly cold north wind. Notwithstanding, the country looks very well. Grass is growing fine. Dry fodder, however, is scarce, and most cattle are now out.

Wheat looks well and strong. Most of the oats and barley are up, but where the growers have been waiting for the clearing out of the late broccoli there is still some to be sown. Farmers are now busy getting their mangolds in.

Beef is at a fair price—60s. to 63s. per cwt. Store cattle are also selling very well, but cows and calves, however, are rather slow.

The early potato crop looks promising indeed, and providing we get some warmer weather there is every appearance of there being an early one. Fruit-trees look like having big crops, but that has yet to depend largely upon how much blossom gets blown off with the hard wind we are having. Gooseberry-picking will commence next week, and the crop is excellent.

The broccoli season is about over; it has been, upon the whole, a very fair one.

The agricultural prospects now are certainly better for the time of the year than they have been for a long time. We all hope these prospects will develope, and farmers will have a better year than they have had for some time. All want it badly.—F. C. (May 1st).

Herefordshire (North).

Things are looking fairly well. The frosts of February put the land in such order for the drill that very little labour was required for oats, barley, mangels, and the swede land will soon be fit. The lambing season on the whole has been satisfactory; amongst the Shropshire flocks would be over one and a-half lambs to the ewe, with little tegs amongst the latter, and look healthy where amount of care and feeding has been attended to, though many sheep will not pay for their food this winter. Beef has been selling better, but few have been fed in this part. Hay and roots being scarce, very few were put into the stalls, there being no prospect of pay for the purchased food in cake or any fresh stock. Both cattle and sheep are now being sold at a good price. Wool trade, being so bad, is much against the sheep trade. All the strong bullocks were cleared out of the district in the autumn, I suppose, for none have come to the spring sales as usual at this time of year, nearly all being yearlings. The breeders work them out younger, and probably it pays better. We were in hopes cycles would have come under the notice of the Chancellor of the Exchequer; they swarm the roads, and want them kept in good order. The tax on corn is so small that it will affect no one very much. It was said when the duty was taken off the corn that the cost of bringing it over would be two shillings per quarter, but this has turned out to amount to about a penny half-penny.—W. H. (May 2nd).

Huntingdonshire.

The appearance of the growing crops now and on last May Day is totally dissimilar. A year since, wheat was very thick in plant and far too promising; this season much of it is thin in plant and of doubtful promise. The barley had been muddled in and presented a wretched appearance; now it looks as well as could be wished, after a splendid start. Last year oats were only about a crop; this season the plant is fine, although a little rain would now benefit them. In this neighbourhood we had very little of that rain which appeared to have been general last week; still, we are busy side-hoeing the kohl rabi and mangolds, which are a splendid plant, and have been visible from end to end of row for at least ten days. At this period last year very few roots were drilled, and none were showing above ground. Altogether, the outlook, so far as the crops are concerned, is as good this season as it was bad twelve months since. Grass is fairly plentiful on the low meadows, whilst beef and pork are at more remunerative prices than for several years. The plant of small seeds leaves much to be desired by hay-makers and cheap owners. Work of all kinds is well forward, and labour plentiful.—(May 1st).

North Devon.

Wheat good, plenty and healthy. Barley and oat seed put in fine condition. The land worked well after the early frost. Potatoes nearly all planted, with fairly healthy seed and the land in fine trim. Grass and clover backward from the cold. Hay and general food scarce and dear. All farm stock healthy. The lambing season good; doubles plenty in most flocks. Cattle, sheep, pigs, and horses sell freely at good prices. Our great complaint is the very low price of wool, also labour trouble, both indoors and out in both sexes.—J. H. (May 3rd).

Mid Somerset.

We are now well advanced into spring, but the pastures and country generally up to the present do not indicate it. March weather being postponed apparently until April, the east winds and nightly frosts are seriously affecting the meadows, seeds, and fruit blossoms, and gardens, The stock of hay left is very limited, many having none, and great care has been exercised, and almost miracles performed to make the stores of hay, straw, and roots last out till now, when green crops are naturally expected, and cattle generally looking bare. Corn crops all requiring some real genial April weather. Sheep have wintered well.

All stock advanced in price materially during the past three weeks, which is to be hoped will continue, and give an impetus to grazing (which the last five years, with one exception, has been almost unremunerative), also to the rearing of young stock, and raise the price of dairy products, butter, cheese, and milk. With seasons we have become accustomed to of late years our pastures, yielding about one-half of what they are expected to through droughts, and the increase in labour bill, many farms have been worked at a loss. The patient farmer (proverbially grumbling) is waiting hopefully for a good season, as we have only heard our forefathers talk of, and old books tell us of.—T. S. T. (May 3rd).

Salop.

Weather mild, but still cool. All crops are growing fairly well. Green crops sown early are cut and carried for cattle and sheep. Potatoes are nearly all put in in very fine order. The few showers that fell kept the land in a moist state, but did not hinder the work.—J. G. (May 2nd).

Somerset.

Wheat is a fair plant, but somewhat patchy. Barley and oats have come up well. Clovers are good, and mangolds have been sown under favourable conditions. The cold winds and frosty nights have thrown back all vegetation, turning the corn from green to yellow. Hay ricks have become scarce, and on many farms have disappeared for some time, while cattle as yet can hardly find a living on the pastures. The great need just now on the farm is some warm growing weather. Mutton and beef are selling freely, especially the latter, while for store stock there is a good demand at fair prices. Milk is more plentiful, and not so easy to sell. Live stock appears to be generally healthy, but on many farms, owing to the short hay crop, is in somewhat poor condition. Farmers in this grazing and dairy district will not thank the Government for adding 5s. per ton to the price of their feeding-stuffs. The duty on grain and meal intended for consumption by animals is a serious tax on the meat and milk producing industries of this country, and should be either withdrawn, or a corresponding duty imposed on imported meat and dairy produce.—C. D. (May 2nd).

Foreign Prospects.

FRANCE.—Our neighbours complain of too much rain, and fears are entertained that on heavy soils wheat and rye crops will suffer. So far, apparently no harm has been done, and the return of dry bright days will prevent a falling-off in the fine appearance of the wheat fields.

BELGIUM.—With the cessation of labour troubles, trade has improved, and lately Antwerp has done a good business in wheat at well maintained prices.

HOLLAND.—With the exception of oats, supplies of native grain are small, and there is nothing in the crop outlook to cause uneasiness.

ITALY.—In the upper provinces wheat-crop conditions are considered to be favourable.

SPAIN.—With the exception of heavy rain in some of the provinces, the general crop outlook continues satisfactory.

SERVIA.—Cereal crops have wintered well and spring sowings were concluded under favourable conditions, so that present prospects are for a good harvest.

HUNGARY.—Abundant snow-showers and nocturnal frosts have been prevalent, and are anything but acceptable in the interests of the autumn and spring crops.

GERMANY.—Strong east winds and night frosts have been lately experienced, but the appearance of the crops is luxuriant, and warm weather, with rain, would soon repair any damage that may have accrued from low temperature.

RUSSIA.—The Neva at St. Petersburg is full of drift-ice. Navigation is expected to be open in about a fortnight. Weather recently has been too cold and dry for the crops, and general conditions are much less favourable than they were a month ago.

UNITED STATES.—Excepting in Kansas and Nebraska, wheat has benefited by rains and milder temperatures, and it is now doing fairly well. The average condition is as good as was the case a month ago. Maize had a good stand in the south, and it is going favourably into the ground in the north, and the acreage is large. The weather is more favourable for oats, and the condition is fair.—*Dornbusch.*

IN PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Purchase of Remounts.

On Friday, Mr. Markham asked the Secretary for War, having regard to the fact that shortly after the commencement of the War Captain Wynne Griffith was asked by the War Office to purchase remounts for its account in the Midlands at the Leicester, Crewe, and York repositories, and that he thus obtained the horses at cost price; whether he could explain why this practice of purchasing horses at the hammer was discontinued; and whether he was aware that agents of the German Government, both before and during the War, had regularly attended those sales, making purchases for the German Army; and whether in future he would follow the same practice as adopted by the German Government.

Lord Stanley: This officer purchased horses, as stated, at Leicester, Crewe, and York; but they proved unsatisfactory, and such purchases were discontinued at the two former places. I have no information as to the latter part of the question.

New Agricultural Patents.

Specially compiled for MARK LANE EXPRESS by Mr. G. D. Howard (Hughes, Son, and Co.), Patent Agent, 38, Chancery Lane, London, of whom all information relating to patents, designs, and trade marks may be obtained free of charge.

8,662.—Charles Healy Burlingame, of Strand, for "Improvements in mowing machines."

8,907.—Thomas Gibson, of Glasgow, for "Improvements in harrows."

Patents Sealed.

24.—J. Gordon, of North Britain, for "Seeds, sowing."

335.—R. Battersby, of Lancashire, for "Potato diggers."

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Malt: We have no change to notice in the trade since our last. Barley: Steady at fully late rates. Wheat was 6d to 1s per qr. dearer. Oats advanced 3d per qr. Maize firm. Flour improved 6d per sack on the week.—NIXON, GOWER AND CO.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—The attendance was of average proportions, and recent influences again created distinct firmness in the general range of prices, while business was steadily carried on without interruption until closing hours. English wheat may now be considered out of supply here, but what little remains goes to provincial millers, who are not backward in paying the high limits imposed. Foreign sorts held for last week's advance, with American in exceptionally small supply, and No. 1 Northern Duluth, about the only grade in granary, at 32s 9d demanded, and 32s 3d ex ship to arrive. American flour on spot and near remains very scarce, and more especially fancy grades and bakers. Town households, 24s 6d; and whites, 3s more per sack, delivered to the baker. Top price Town made 30s net; No. 1 households, 23s. cash at the mill door (extras 1s over). Cascadias, 23s 3d ex store. Hungarians, 33s for best, while still very scarce. Belgian supported. Australian patents 22s 6d to 23s 6d 280lb. ex store. Grinding barley maintained, and only inspected in a fortnight. Malting unaltered. Oats steady, and heavy sorts well maintained. English held for fully the recent advances. Mixed American maize remains exhausted, ex. granary and fresh arrivals are still awaited. Round corn steady. Egyptian split beans held for 23s 9d; Mazagans, 22s 9d ex. mill, 320lb. New Zealand, 38s to 39s 504lb. ex store. Canadian white peas still in no supply worth naming at 37s ex granary, and White Indian, 36s 6d. American maize germ meal finds buyers at £5 7s 6d on spot.

Mark Lane, Friday.—To-day's meeting was limited, but no doubtful mood existed in the general departments, and the full rates last established were again current in all sections of cereals. English wheat still appreciates in value, while scarcity becomes more and more felt. As a matter of fact, there seems next to nothing now left here, and provincial millers take up what offers at fully last figures. Good reds, 34s per qr delivered, and in the country up to 32s. Stock of chicken continues small. Foreign sorts again held for last week's advance, and American in very scanty supply. American flour remains very scarce on spot for both patents and bakers', fancy brands being almost unobtainable. May Blossom, 25s 6d ex granary. First patents (Pillsbury, etc.) quoted at 25s 3d; second ditto (Guinea Gold), 23s 9d. Of bakers', Iron Duke held for 21s ex store. The London Millers' Association name households at 24s 6d, and whites 3s per sack more. Top price town made 30s net; No. 1 households 23s, cash at the mill door, and extras 1s more. Cascadias, 23s 3d ex store. Hungarian up to 33s for best. Australian patents,, 22s 6d to 23s 6d 280lb, ex store. Grinding barley maintained, with a firmer tendency. Odessa, 20s 6d, ex quay, and 20s, ex ship to arrive. Danubian in latter position, 19s 9d. Fair to bold poultry (52lb Danubian), 22s to 22s 6d. Oats generally steadier since last Friday, with attention mostly paid to heavy sorts. Common Libau, 19s 3d to 19s 6d, ex quay, 38lb; Riga, 19s 6d; 40lb Libau, etc., bold, 23s to 23s 6d; ordinary to fine Konigsberg, Dantzic, and Stettin, 22s 6d to 23s 6d; Danubian, 19s ex ship, 19s 3d ex quay, 38lb; Turkish in latter position, 19s. English fully supported on continued scarcity. Maize unchanged. Mixed American remains exhausted, and there is not much round corn on hand at present. Odessa, 22s 3d ex ship to come up, and 22s 6d to 23s, according to quay. Galatz-Foxanian in former position, 22s 3d. Cinquantina, 24s 6d, ex quay. Egyptian split beans held for 23s 9d; and Mazagans, 22s 9d, ex mill, 320lb. Konigsberg, 35s 6d. White Indian peas, 36s 6d, ex store, 504lb. Canadian white nominal, being still out of supply.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Both red and white samples of wheat were sold at 32s to 34s 6d per quarter. Feeding corn of all descriptions firm at late rates. Flour unchanged, and bakers in the district have not raised the price of bread.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, 27s to 28s per qr; wheat (red), 31s 6d to 32s per qr; barley, 27s to 30s per qr; beans, 34s to 35s per qr; oats (red), 23s to 24s per qr; peas, 32s per qr. Wheat a quiet trade at late advanced rates.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Market opened quietly. English wheat 9d to 1s dearer, at 12s 3d to 12s 6d per bag; and foreign wheat 6d to 9d per qr higher; grinding barley 3d dearer, commanding 20s to 20s 6d per qr Sharpness; maize unchanged to 3d higher; flat, 27s 6d to 28s Liverpool; and round, 23s 6d to 24s per qr Sharpness.

Boston, Wednesday.—Wheat, 32s to 32s 6d; grinding barley, 23s 9d; oats, 24s; beans, 35s to 37s 6d; maize, 23s to 24s.

Braintree, Wednesday.—The price of red wheat went up 1s per quarter on the week, the quotations ranging from 32s to 33s. White wheat about the same. The trade was quiet.

Bristol, Thursday.—There has been a small trade since our last; English wheat is very scarce at our market to-day, at last week's prices. Foreign also unchanged. Maize and barley unaltered. Oats 3d. dearer. Flour trade slow, without change in values.—GRACE BROTHERS.

Cambridge, Saturday.—During the week trade has been very firm, the advance in prices has tempted farmers to offer more wheat, and values show very little change on the week. At this market to-day, with a somewhat better supply, millers were able to obtain their requirements more easily, but prices were quite as dear as last week. No spring corn offering. Red, 32s to 33s; white, up to 33s per 504lb.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Wheat again dearer, other articles firm. Ruling prices:—White wheat, 33s to 36s; red, 32s to 34s 6d; grinding barley, 22s to 24s; white oats, 24s to 26s; black oats, 21s to 24s.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Very small supply of oats in our market to-day; mostly in the hands of dealers; brisk trade at fully last week's prices, 23s 6d to 24s 6d per 336lb. No barley or wheat offered for sale. Feeding stuffs much dearer this week.—THOMAS ROBINSON.

Chichester, Wednesday.—The market was well attended, but the tone of business was quiet. Scarcity of supplies was responsible for another rise of 1s per quarter in wheat, and flour was also rather dearer, at 24s 6d per sack. The only other change in prices was a rise of 6d to 1s per quarter in oats.

Chester, Saturday.—English grain in small supply; wheat and oats firm at last week's rates; and beans, barley, and Indian corn unchanged. Quotations:—Wheat, white and red, 4s 7d to 4s 8d per 75lb.; malting barley, 4s 2d to 4s 4d per 60lb.; grinding barley, 3s 6d to 3s 8d per 64lb.; beans, 5s 8d to 5s 10d per 80lb.; oats, new, 3s 2d to 3s 4d, old, 3s 4d to 3s 6d per 46lb.; Indian corn, 13s to 14s 9d per 340lb.

Colchester, Saturday.—Very little wheat offering; 1s per qr dearer. Spring corn nil.—FRANCIS AND CO.

Croydon, Thursday.—White wheat, 32s to 34s; red ditto, 31s to 33s. Malting barley, none; grinding, 23s to 25s. Oats, 20s to 23s. Beans, 32s to 34s. Peas, 31s to 33s. Wheat trade firm, very little offering, 1s per qr dearer. Beans and peas—Prices firm; trade quiet.

Devizes, Thursday.—There was a very small supply of corn to-day, and there was a further rise of 6d per sack in the price of wheat. Other corn unaltered in value on the week. The following were the quotations:—Best wheat, 16s to 17s; secondary ditto, 14s to 15s; new wheat, not quoted; secondary, ditto, not quoted; grinding barley, 20s to 24s; malting ditto, 29s to 34s; rye, 23s 6d to 25s; winter oats, 22s to 24s; beans, 16s to 20s; fine flour, 24s to 24s 6d; extra fine, 25s to 30s.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There was the usual attendance at our market to-day. Wheat and flour steady, with quiet trade. Indian corn scarce on spot, and 3d. dearer. Round maize 1½d. dearer, but quiet. Home and foreign oats firm, but little doing. Grinding beans easier owing to arrivals. Barley steady. Bran and Thirds unchanged. Oatmeal firm.—GIBSON AND CLARK.

Leeds, Tuesday.—The trade is sadly puzzled by the constant variations in the American markets, which, naturally, tend to restrict forward business. Spot wheat is firmly held at last week's full prices, except English. Wheat is quite 6d. dearer. The demand, however, is inactive. Maize and beans a slow sale at late rates. Oats firm.—DUNNS AND CO.

Leeds, Friday.—With much firmer prices for foreign wheat, Americans have a tendency to rise, and English fully maintain Tuesday's advance. All other articles, especially flour, which is 3s per sack of 20 stones dearer since the Budget tax, are very firmly held.

Leicester, Saturday. — Good attendance of buyers, with small supplies of home-grown wheats, which sold most freely at 32s to 34s per 35 stones. Beans, firm. Barley quiet. Oats very firm.

Lincoln, Friday.—Small supply of English wheats, which were 6d to 1s higher since last Friday. Foreign wheat 1s up; oats were 6d dearer. Maize and beans very firm.

Liverpool, Friday.—The market has had a good attendance, and wheat is very firmly held, with few descriptions for sale. The advance of ½d to 1d was paid reluctantly, but a fair business was done. Flour—English milled flour is quiet, unchanged from last market day, but foreign sorts are firm, with sellers holding at 6d to 1s per sack advance, which checks the demand. Maize—Mixed moves steadily at recent prices, and is very firm owing to extreme scarcity. European is in fair request, with prices ½d lower to ½d dearer. Plate is scarce, and firmly held for full prices. Barley—The new Californian is firmly held, and meets a fair sale at quotations. Feeding is in good demand, and 1d per bushel dearer. Beans are steady at 3d to 6d loss, but have a moderate inquiry. Peas—There is rather more offering in Canadian, the top price of which is rather lower, but sellers are firm at the quotations. Oats—English are quiet, unchanged, but foreign sorts have, in most cases, improved ½d per bushel in price, although the demand has not been very active.—SEGAR AND TUNNICLIFFE.

Maidstone, Thursday.—Attendance at the market to-day fairly good, and the supply of wheat moderate, the firm tone for which continues, with a slight occasional advance of 6d per qr. Barley—Trade quiet; also maize. Oats are decidedly against buyers, and high prices for good quality obtained. Not any alteration in maize, rye, hemp, brank, or millet.

Manchester, Thursday.—Salesmen generally are steady at the higher rates now quoted, but, compared with last Thursday, there is little change in any section. Foreign wheat is quoted slightly higher, but purchasers operate sparingly. English is steady and unchanged. Flour continues in slow demand, the higher rates preventing free buying. Indian corn is rather worse to buy, but a fair inquiry is about. Oats, beans, peas, and barley are quietly steady.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—At our to-day's market wheat ruled firm at last Saturday's quotations. Maize unchanged. Peas scarce, and firmly held at advanced prices. Beans—A fair demand at late rates. Oats advanced another 6d per 336lb, which, however, checked sales. Barley—A quiet demand; prices, however, were in sellers' favour.—JOSEPH POLLARD AND CO.

Newport, Wednesday. There was only a small attendance, and prices were unchanged from last week's rates.

Northampton, Saturday.—Good attendance, but a limited quantity of samples of farm produce on offer. Wheat very firm at last week's quotations. In some cases a little more money was paid. White wheat, 32s to 34s; red wheat, 30s to 32s; grinding barley, 22s to 24s; oats, 20s to 23s; old, fine, 26s; beans, 34s to 40s; flour, 22s to 26s.

Norwich, Saturday.—Wheat came to hand less freely at our market to-day, with a rise of 6d per qr on the week. The weather of the past week has been fickle and cold, with night frosts, and has ended to-day with a thunderstorm and hail. Wheat, red, 33s to 33s 6d per qr, weight 63lb per bushel imperial. Corn inspector's return for the week ending 28th April, 1902:—Wheat, 2,662, 29s 2d.—J. ARTHUR MILLS.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Wheat only a poor show; values well maintained. Grinding barley in moderate request at previous rates. Oats—But few offering, and prices advanced 6d to 1s per qr. Beans sparsely represented, and full rates supported.—ROBT. HUBBLE.

Peterborough, Saturday.—The supply of wheat to-day was small, and buyers had to pay a further advance of 6d per qr. Oats held very stiffly for full prices, but the demand was restricted.—THOMAS HILL AND SON.

Plymouth, Thursday.—Wheat is dearer, owing to scarcity. Maize, barley, oats, firm at last week's prices.—ORLANDO DAVIS AND CO.

Reading, Saturday.—Business was very firm to-day for all descriptions of corn. The quantity of wheat on offer proved again to be small, and, with a firm trade, prices showed an upward tendency on the week, and the sales negotiated were at figures varying from 30s to 34s per qr. Barley was in fair supply, and sold steadily at recent quotations, as did also oats. The attendance was good.

Ripon, Thursday.—An average attendance. Light show of samples, and only a moderate business. Farmers' wheat firmer. Wheat, English, new, 31s to 32s; ditto foreign, 31s to 34s 6d; barley, grinding, 23s 6d to 24s 6d; oats, 24s to 26s; round maize, 24s to 26s per qr.; beans, 1s per stone.

Romford, Wednesday.—Wheat trade was firm at fully last week's prices, with an occasional advance of 6d per qr. White wheat made 33s to 34s, and red wheat 32s to 33 per qr. There was only a small supply.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—There was very little English wheat on offer, and sellers were asking 6d and 1s per qr. more money. English oats scarce, and prices again went up from 1s to 2s. Trade in beans, corn, and barley was moderate at recent rates. Flour 1s per sack dearer on the week. Quotations:—Wheat, white, 32s to 34s; ditto red, 32s 6d to 34s per 504lb; oats, new white, 26s to 27s; ditto black, 23s to 24s per 336lb; barley, grinding, 23s 6d to 24s; ditto malting, 30s to 32s per 448lb; peas, grinding, 36s to 37s; ditto blue, 53s to 60s; beans, Egyptian, 35s to 35s 6d per 504lb; ditto English (new), 37s 6d to 38s per 532lb; Indian corn, small, 24s to 25s; ditto American mixed, 28s 6d to 29s per 480lb.

Spalding, Tuesday.—Further advance in wheat, the price being 32s per qr., an increase of 6d on the week. Oats dearer, making 24s per qr. Beans and peas very firm, and dearer.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There was no farmers' wheat showing. Very little business was done in foreign wheat, and to effect sales a little less money had to be accepted. Oats about 6d per qr. dearer. Maize unchanged. No malting barley showing.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Moderate supply of grain. Wheat firm at late rates. Spring corn unchanged. Arrivals:—Coastwise: Barley, 355qr; oats, 200qr. Foreign: Nil.—E. AND F. RICHARDSON.

Wakefield, Friday.—A small attendance, and but little business passing on to-day's market. English wheat is held for fully 3d and foreign 3d to 6d per qr advance on the week. No alteration in feeding stuffs.—MICHAEL SANDERSON AND SON, LIMITED.

Wakefield, Friday.—English wheat, from scarcity, commands 6d to 9d per qr advance on the week. Foreign meets a fair consumptive demand at 3d to 6d more money. Offers for shipment are mostly limited at impossible prices. Feeding stuffs very firm, but unchanged.—DUNNS AND CO.

Wisbech, Saturday.—A small attendance at market. Very little wheat offering, and 1s advance paid; prices, 32s 6d to 33s 6d. Spring corn maintain fully late rates.—JAMES FLETCHER.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—A small attendance and quiet market. Quotations: Wheat, white, 12s 6d to 13s per 216lb; oats, 15s 6d to 16s; beans, old, 16s to 17s per 196lb; barley, 35s to 40s per 448lb; maize, new, 26s to 27s; old, 28s 6d to 29s 6d per 480lb.

Worcester, Saturday.—Only a retail business was done. English wheat scarce, and held for more money, and foreign quotations come dearer. Barley and oats firm. English wheat (White, 30s to 31s 6d; red, 28s to 30s per qr.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Moderate attendance, and small show of grain. Wheat was up again about 1s per qr., and the advance on other feeding stuffs was fully maintained. White wheat made 30s 6d to 31s 6d; red, 28s 6d to 30s; grinding barley, 26s to 27s; white oats, 23s to 24s 6d; black, 21s to 23s; round maize, 24s 6d to 26s per qr; fine sharps, £6 to £6 10s; barley meal, £6 10s to £7; bran, £5 15s to £6 10s per ton.

York, Saturday.—Farmers ask 6d. to 1s. per quarter advance on wheat, which buyers do not see their way to give. Fine white wheat, 31s to 32s; red and mixed, 30s to 31s per quarter of 36 stones. Feeding barley, 24s to 28s per quarter of 32 stones. Oats very scarce and dear; white Tartary, 21s to 22s; black, 22s to 23s; white Garton, 23s to 25s per quarter of 24 stones.

FOREIGN.

Paris, Wednesday.—The weekly market was held with rather fine weather, though cloudy and presaging further showers. Farmers were rather thinly represented, but those who put in an appearance were unanimous in deploring the prolongation of rain, which inspires daily increasing anxiety for the future of the growing crops, particularly the rye and wheat in the heavy soils, where "lodging" is more and more to be dreaded. Native Wheat.—The attendance was a very ordinary one, with trade wanting in activity. Farmers' pretensions were just as elevated as of late, but millers were indisposed to accept their conditions, and would only treat at an average decline of 6d, though now and again at 1s per quarter on the week. In short, transactions were difficult, and prices in the aggregate were appreciably unchanged on the week, choice red wheat being quoted 37s 10d to 38s 3d and white 38s 3d to 38s 9d per 480lb. Flour.—Fleur-de-Paris.—The market opened quiet, but closed at a recovery of 5c. to 10c., at the following prices—April, 27s 1½d to 27s 5d; May, 27s 1½d to 27s 5d; May-June, 27s 5d to 27s 8d; May-August, 27s 5d to 27s 8d; July-August, 27s 5d to 27s 8d, and September-December, 26s 7½d to 26s 10½d per 280lbs. Consumption Marks Flour.—Trade is very quiet, and prices unaltered. It seems that millers will have some difficulty in maintaining values if the flour market does not soon manifest more firmness. Quotations are as follows:—Choice Marks, 31f. to 32f. (31s 5d to 32s 5d); First Marks, 30f. 50 to 31f (30s 11d to 31s 5d); good makes, 29f.75 to 30f.50 (30s 2d to 30s 11d), Ordinary Marks, 28f50 to 29f.75 per 100 kilos (28s 11d to 30s 2d per 280lb.). Rye keeps very quiet. Distillers appear amply stocked until the end of the campaign, and the special milling trade finds a poor sale for its product; sellers ask 25s 3d to 25s 8d per 480lbs. Oats have receded a little in all directions, but it is in consequence of the movement in the metropolis. Here business was most restricted at about last week's values. Grey Beauce, 23s 2d to 23s 6d; white, 22s to 22s 4d: Red, 22s 11d to 23s 2d; black, from the central provinces, 24s 1d; white Libau is quoted 22s 7d to 22s 11d; black, 22s 11d to 23s 2d, and Swedish, 24s 4d per 320lb. Barley looks well, but warmer weather is now desirable. Business is not very brisk, and prices practically unchanged. Beauce still asks 24s 8d to 25s. Here the following rates were quoted:—Malting, 17f.50 to 17f.75 (25s 4d to 25s 9d); grinding, 17f. to 17f.25 (24s 8d to 25s), and feeding, 15f. to 15f.50 per 100 kilos (21s 9d to 22s 6d per 400lbs. Buckwheat is still firm, with scarcer offers at 28s 9d per 480lb.—DORNBUSCH.

Hamburg, Saturday.—There is not much life in the trade, but the demand is adequate to the supplies, and prices remain firm. The imports during the week amounted to 14,761 tons wheat, 7,338 tons rye, 6,502 tons barley, 8,361 tons maize. Hard winter No. 2 wheat near at hand is held at 29s. to 29s. 3d.; Northern spring No. 2 Duluth, at 28s. 9d. to 29s: fine River Plate, on the spot, 29s. per 480lb.; Walla Walla, 30s. 3d. per 500lb. Demand slow. Rye firm. Offers from Russia are scarce; 9 15.20 floating is held at 23s. 6d., May-June shipment at 23s. 3d. per 480lb. Some good Pomeranian malting barley has been taken at 25s., Mecklenburg at 24s. to 25s. per 448lb. Stocks of good Mecklenburg and Holstein are getting much reduced. Bohemian and Saale we quote nominally, 28s. to 30s. per 448lb. f.o.b. Feeding barley firm. South Russian and Danubian prompt, 17s. 9d. to 18s. 3d.: autumn shipments, 16s. 9d. to 17s. per 400lb. c.i.f. Maize is selling at unaltered prices, though the damand is not brisk. Odessa and Danubian fetches 20s. 3d. to 20s. 9d. per 480lb. Mixed American is held at 25s. 3d., but meets no attention. From Hungary, fine yellow and white corn, similar in form to North American, is selling at 22s. 6d. to 23s. 6d. per 480lb.—JOHN TATLOCK.

CORN STATISTICS.

IMPERIAL AVERAGES.

Statement showing the Quantities sold and average price of British Corn, Imperial Measure, as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended May 3, 1902, conformably with the Act of the 45th and 46th Victoria, cap. 37.

Wheat	46,238½ qrs.	29s.	9d.
Barley	4,226⅜ qrs.	27s.	5d.
Oats	9,685 qrs.	21s.	10d.

IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGES.

1901.	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
May 4	46,616½	26	9	6,417⅞	26	4	6,869⅜	19	8
,, 11	47,118¾	27	3	4 279½	26	2	7,049	19	1
,, 18	52,875¼	27	7	2,508	24	2	7 345½	19	4
,, 25	49,822¾	27	7	1,511⅜	24	1	4,665½	19	8
June 1	46,514	27	7	859½	23	8	4,938	19	9
,, 8	42,202	27	6	221½	22	9	4,023½	20	1
,, 15	46,764	27	8	1,404½	24	0	5,565⅜	19	7
,, 22	29,695	27	6	336⅜	23	2	3,552½	20	3
,, 29	28,191⅞	27	6	692⅜	25	4	2,803⅜	20	0
July 6	19,564½	27	8	140⅜	21	9	1,80[illegible]	19	10
,, 13	15,231⅛	27	2	49	23	10	1,675⅜	19	9
,, 20	17,462⅜	27	3	88⅜	23	4	2,040⅛	19	11
,, 27	18,297⅜	27	3	206⅜	22	1	2,385⅜	19	4
Aug. 3	18,666½	27	6	250⅜	23	1	3,219⅛	20	0
,, 10	19,156	27	7	141⅜	22	1	2,143½	19	4
,, 17	22,617½	27	4	220⅞	27	2	5,982⅛	18	9
,, 24	37,168¾	27	3	976⅜	23	7	9,952⅛	18	
,, 31	61,603⅜	27	0	4,877⅜	24	3	14,654⅞	17	10
Sept. 7	66,623½	26	5	14,342⅜	25	1	19,075⅞	17	1
,, 14	77,949¼	26	2	34,989⅜	24	11	19,909½	17	4
,, 21	80,279½	26	0	70,096⅜	25	5	26,476⅜	17	4
,, 28	80,488	25	10	109,783½	25	10	22,567½	17	2
Oct. 5	60,376⅜	25	8	126,592½	26	3	21,631½	17	7
,, 12	63,656⅜	25	9	172,175⅜	26	5	16,815⅜	17	6
,, 19	58,772⅞	25	10	203,591½	26	8	15,506¼	17	3
,, 26	52,984⅜	25	11	208,471½	26	10	18,009½	17	5
Nov. 2	70,314⅜	26	2	134,277½	26	10	18,350⅜	17	7
,, 9	62,265½	26	6	202,577½	27	0	20,066½	17	8
,, 16	57,884¼	26	9	201,723⅜	26	9	20,122½	18	3
,, 23	63,150⅞	27	1	185,268½	26	10	20,612	18	7
,, 30	60,323½	27	1	193,434⅜	26	9	22,419½	18	9
Dec. 7	67,925½	27	1	162,996⅜	26	7	23,990⅞	19	0
,, 14	48,045½	27	2	182,212⅝	25	10	17,125½	17	1
,, 21	60,562⅜	27	7	119,398¼	26	8	26,260½	19	8
,, 28	43,718⅜	27	7	81,859⅛	26	8	16,901⅞	19	10
1902.									
Jan. 4	31,440⅝	27	7	34,777½	26	7	11,621⅝	19	10
,, 11	48,997¾	27	8	69,120½	26	7	14,995	20	0
,, 18	74,239½	27	8	91,559⅜	26	11	19,733⅝	20	0
,, 25	74,753⅜	27	7	87,594	26	7	25,382½	20	3
Feb. 1	73,381¼	27	4	81,468⅜	26	7	25,657⅛	20	2
,, 8	67,470½	27	2	69,291⅝	26	9	25,055⅜	20	3
,, 15	68,500	26	11	54,084½	27	5	21,824	20	3
,, 22	72,614⅜	27	1	53,201⅜	26	11	22,799	20	4
Mar. 1	79,453⅜	27	1	43,637⅜	26	7	22,322	20	5
,, 8	67,473⅜	27	0	28,847½	26	8	17,017	20	5
,, 15	60,643	27	1	24,536⅞	26	6	11,496⅜	20	6
,, 22	56,394½	27	1	15,482¼	26	4	12,192½	20	6
,, 29	50,703	27	9	15,729½	27	2	8,950⅝	20	7
Apr. 5	31,277¼	27	3	7,008½	26	5	5,994½	20	6
,, 12	37,931¼	27	5	8,293⅛	26	7	6,855½	21	0
,, 19	38,037	27	7	7,237⅝	27	1	11,099⅛	21	1
,, 26	31,257½	28	9	6,263½	26	5	8,897⅛	21	6
May 3	46,238½	29	9	4,226⅜	27	5	9,685	21	10

FLUCTUATIONS IN THE AVERAGE PRICE OF WHEAT.

Price.	Mar. 29.	Apr. 5.	Apr. 12.	Apr. 19.	Apr. 26.	May 3.
29s. 9d	...	...	...	...	...	
29s. 8d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
29s. 7d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
29s. 6d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
29s. 5d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
29s. 4d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
29s. 3d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
29s. 2d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
29s. 1d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
29s. 0d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
28s. 11d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
28s. 10d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
28s. 9d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
28s. 8d	...	...	...	...	...	...
28s. 7d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
28s. 6d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
28s. 5d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
28s. 4d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
28s. 3d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
28s. 2d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
28s. 1d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
28s. 0d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 11d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 10d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 9d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 8d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 7d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 6d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 5d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 4d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 3d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 2d.	...	...	...	...	...	...

COMPARATIVE AVERAGES.

Comparative statement for the corresponding week to May 3rd, in each of the years from 1897 to 1901.

	Wheat. Qrs	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
1897	67,083¾ ...	28	4	6,930¾ ...	21	5	6,897½ ...	16	11
1898	50,902¾ ...	42	4	3,215½ ...	27	8	9,027⅝ ...	20	4
1899	88,991½ ...	25	3	4,980⅔ ...	24	5	14,907½ ...	17	6
1900	75,410⅝ ...	25	11	8,159½ ...	25	3	8,658¾ ...	18	0
1901	46,616¼ ...	26	9	6,417⅞ ...	26	4	6,869⅜ ...	19	1

ENGLISH WHEAT IN 1 01.

Highest of Year	...	27s. 7d.
Lowest of Year	...	25s. 10d.
Gradient	...	1s. 9d.
Mean of Year	...	26s. 9d.

LONDON TOP PRICE FLOUR.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1901.

		s.	d.
September 2	(per sack)	29	0
April 23	,,	28	0
,, 16	,,	29	0
,, 23	,,	30	0

(No official change since last date given.)

MONTHLY AVERAGES.

(196 Market Towns.)

	1901. Wheat	Barley	Oats	1902. Wheat	Barley	Oats
January	26 8	25 7	17 4	27 8	26 8	20 1
February	26 5	25 5	17 7	27 1	26 8	20 3
March	25 10	25 0	17 10	27 1	26 8	20 6
April	26 3	25 7	18 3			
May	27 6	25 2	19 4			
June	27 7	23 11	19 10			
July	27 4	22 9	19 8			
August	27 4	24 0	18 10			
September	26 1	25 4	17 4			
October	25 10	25 7	17 6			
November	24 9	26 10	18 2			
December	27 4	26 8	19 5			

YEARLY AVERAGES (OFFICIAL.)

	Wheat. s.	d.	Barley. s.	d.	Oats. s.	d.
1890	31 9 per qr.		28 8 per qr.		18 7 per qr.	
1891	37 1 ,,		28 2 ,,		20 0 ,,	
1892	30 4 ,,		26 2 ,,		19 11 ,,	
1893	26 4 ,,		25 6 ,,		18 9 ,,	
1894	22 10 ,,		24 6 ,,		17 1 ,,	
1895	21 1 ,,		21 11 ,,		14 6 ,,	
1896	26 2 ,,		22 11 ,,		14 9 ,,	
1897	30 2 ,,		23 6 ,,		16 11 ,,	
1898	34 0 ,,		27 2 ,,		18 5 ,,	
1899	25 8 ,,		25 7 ,,		17 0 ,,	
1900	26 11 ,,		25 9 ,,		17 9 ,,	
1901	26 9 ,,		25 3 ,,		18 5 ,,	

TITHE RENT CHARGES.

For 1902	67	3	9
,, 1901	66	10	9
,, 1900	66	15	10
,, 1899	68	2	4
,, 1898	68	14	11
,, 1897	69	17	11
1896	71	9	7

LONDON AVERAGES.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, April 29th, 1902.

	Total Quantities. Imperial Measure. Quarters.	Bus.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.	Average Price per qr. Imperial Measure. £	s.	d.
Wheat ...	1,508	5 ...	2,330	16	8	... 1	10	11
Barley ...	13	0 ...	15	15	7	... 1	4	3
Oats ..	787	2 ...	859	7	6	... 1	1	10

STOCK OF GRAIN IN LONDON.

	Wheat. qrs.	Flour. sacks	brls.	Barley. qrs.
Apl. 1, 1902 ...	111,780	294,456	5,816	92,863
Jan. 1, 1902 ...	248,988	397,965	2,648	133,203
Apl. 1, 1901 ...	232,897	418,182	3,981	99,454

	Oats. qrs.	Maize. qrs.	Beans. qrs.	Peas. qrs.
Apl. 1, 1902 ...	560,565	106,748	5,114	11,216
Jan. 1, 1902 ...	592,401	46,345	8,815	8,831
Apl. 1, 1901 ...	421,793	45,482	7,493	10,473

	Malt. qrs.	Oil Cakes. tons.	Tares. qrs.	Linseed. qrs.
Apl. 1, 1902 ...	1,659	9,615	1,245	4,984
Jan. 1, 1902 ...	1,433	5,053	1,048	4,471
Apl. 1, 1901 ...	1,797	7,723	1,816	6,440

LONDON FLOUR MILLERS' ASSOCIATION.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1901

		London Whites. s.	d.		Town Households. s.	d.
September 2	(per sack)	26	0	(per sack)	23	0
,, 18	,,	25	6	,,	22	6
December 9	,,	26	6	,,	23	6
January 29	,,	26	0	,,	23	0
April 16	,,	27	6	,,	24	6

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF LONDON TOWN HOUSEHOLDS FLOUR.

(Sacks of 280 lbs. ex-mill for cash.)

	1902. s.	d.	1901 s.	d.	1900 s.	d.	1899. s.	d.	1898. s.	d.	1897. s.	d.	1896. s.	d.	1895. s.	d.
Jan. ...	21	9	24	6	21	9	23	9	29	0	25	6	18	9	18	7½
Feb. ...	22	0	24	0	22	0	23	6	30	0	24	7½	19	4½	17	9
March	21	9	23	9	21	6	22	3	30	0	23	11	19	3	18	0
April...	23	0	24	0	21	6	22	0	31	3	23	6	19	6	18	7½
May ...	...		23	6	21	3	22	3	39	7	23	7	19	0	20	4½
June ...	...		23	0	23	6	23	1½	35	0	22	7½	18	10	22	3
July ...	...		22	3	24	6	21	9	29	6	22	10½	18	6	20	0½
August	...		22	3	24	0	21	9	27	6	26	8½	18	8½	19	10½
Sept....	...		22	0	25	3	22	0	26	5	30	3	19	6	19	8
Oct. ...	...		21	6	24	9	23	3	26	1	29	0	23	7½	18	7½
Nov. ...	...		21	6	24	3	22	3	25	0	29	1	25	8½	18	4½
Dec. ...	...		21	9	24	0	21	9	24	3	29	0	25	7½	18	1
Yrly. Avrg.	...		22	10	25	2	22	4	29	6½	25	10½	20	8½	19	2

ARRIVALS INTO LONDON.

April 23 to April 30, 1902, inclusive.

	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat ... qrs.	1,769	44,769	46,538
Barley	2,600	7 000	9,600
Malt	22,725	...	22,725
Oats	949	97,158	98,107
Rye	...	2,571	2,571
Beans	84	483	567
Peas	34	2,495	2,529
Tares	20	206	226
Maize	...	34,402	34 402
Linseed	...	15,000	15,000
Rapeseed	...	3,000	3,000
Cottonseed	...	44	44
Sunflowerseed	...	80	80
Farmseeds	1,200	6,000	2,700
Flour, sacks	28,634	98,408	127,042

THE BALTIC.

Wheat cargoes have been firmly held and prices are 1½d. to 3d. dearer on the week. The upward movement of April, however, may be said to have spent itself within the month. Prices made since May came in have included 30s. 6d. for Californian on passage and 29s. 7½d. for prompt shipment, 29s. 9d. for Walla Walla on passage, 29s. 9d. for Australian on passage, 29s. 4½d. for No. 1 Northern (May), 29s. 4½d. for No. 2 Hard Winter (May), 30s. 6d. for finest 1901 Manitoba (June), 30s. 3d. for soft red Calcutta (June), and 29s. for new white Kurrachee (July). Neither New Zealand or Russian cargoes are offered for sale, and Argentine is held above the ideas of buyers.

Maize cargoes are quiet. For Danubian 21s. 3d. has been paid, and 20s. 10½d. has been accepted for La Plata. There are no buyers of American at the 26s. demanded.

Oats are not in speculative demand for the summer months, and there is nothing offered near at hand. Barley on Friday made 19s. 3d. for a large cargo of Taganrog (South Russian).

The arrivals of grain and seed-laden vessels at ports of call for the week were 7 wheat (1 Geelong, 1 Portland (O.), 4 San Francisco, 1 Tacoma); 1 barley and wheat (San Francisco); 1 barley (Portland (O.); total 9.

The sailings of grain and seed-laden vessels from ports of call for the week were:—10 wheat (1 Birkenhead, 3 Hamburg, 2 Hull, 1 Limerick, 3 London); total 10.

Since January 1st, 1902, the total arrivals have been:—110 wheat, 2 flour, 18 barley and wheat, 3 maize, 8 barley, 2 beans, 2 linseed, 4 carnary-seed; total 149.

Last year during the same time the arrivals were:—89 wheat, 2 flour, 6 barley and wheat, 11 barley, 3 beans, 4 peas, 1 peas and beans, 2 locust beans, 3 carnaryseed, 3 valonea; total 124.

POTATOES.

Borough, Saturday.—A good supply, and the demand showed a slight improvement, while prices ruled steady. The following were the quotations:—Scottish maincrops (Dunbars), 80s to 90s; Lincoln Up-to-dates, 55s to 60s; Blackland ditto, 45s to 50s; Lincoln maincrops, 80s to 70s per ton; new Canary kidneys, 13s to 14s per cwt; Lisbons, 5s 6d and 6s per cwt.

Great Northern, Saturday.—Supplies were of lighter extent this morning, and experienced a moderate inquiry. Scotch maincrops, 80s to 90s; Reading giants, 40s to 45s; Blackland up-to-dates, 45s to 50s; Lincoln maincrops, 75s to 85s; Lincoln up-to-dates, 50s to 60s per ton. New: Jersey, 3½d per lb; Teneriffe, 14s; Maltese, 12s per cwt.; Lisbons, 6s per case.

Spitalfields, Saturday.—Arrivals not so heavy; trade remained in a slow state. Best Lincoln Up-to-dates, 60s to 65s; Blackland ditto, 45s; Wisbech ditto, 55s to 60s; Scotch ditto, 60s to 70s; Scotch maincrops (grey soil), 65s to 75s; Lincoln maincrops, 70s to 80s; Reading Giants, 40s; Blackland Gartons, 35s per ton; new Teneriffe and Canary (No. 2), 14s; No. 3, 13s; Maltese rounds, 10s; Algeria kidneys, 14s per cwt.

Southwark, Monday.—During the past week the arrivals have been moderate, for which trade has been slow, and prices for all samples, except the best, in buyer's favour. The following are this day's quotations:—Essex and Kent, F. Challenge, 50s per ton; Essex and Kent, Up-to-Dates, 45s to 55s per ton; Lincoln, Up-to-Dates, 50s to 60s per ton; Lincoln, F. Challenge, 50s to 60s per ton; Blackland, B. Queens, 45s to 50s per ton; Blackland, Up-to-Dates, 45s to 50s per ton; Forfar and Fife, Up-to-Dates, 50s to 60s per ton.—R. G. BROWN.

Goole, Wednesday.—Plenty of potatoes on offer here to-day, with a slow trade at last week's prices. Giants, 40s; Up-to-Dates, 50s per ton. Retail price, 5d per stone.

COLONIAL DAIRY PRODUCE.

London. Friday.—Butter.—There has been no arrival of New Zealand butter since the 17th April, and consequently stocks are getting very short, and as the Gothic with the next cargo is not due before 7th instant holders of New Zealand butters are firm in their prices, although values are slightly declining in sympathy with the large fall in all other kinds of butter, which always occurs at this time of the year. May and June are, as a rule, the two cheapest months of the year for butter. New Zealand is 2s. per cwt. cheaper on the week, while Russian and Danish are from 4s. to 6s. lower. There is practically no Canadian butter on the market. The Copenhagen Official Quotation has been lowered by 2 kroner this week, and stands at 90 kroner against 88 kroner at the corresponding period last year, where it remained for 13 weeks, and was the lowest quotation of the year. We thus appear to be about the bottom of Danish prices, unless they fall below last year's figures, which at present does not appear very likely. Cheese.—The present week has witnessed a rise of 2s. to 3s. in the cheese market, and the high prices now prevailing are restricting business, but as the stocks of cheese are exceptionally small, holders are very firm in their demands. "Choicest" Canadian, last season's make, realises 60s to 61s, while new season's fodder cheese for arrival next week is bringing 55s. New Zealand "Choicest" brands are making 58s to 59s.—W. WEDDEL AND CO.

HOPS.

Canterbury, Saturday.—A good demand continues, and a fair amount of business has been done during the week at hardening prices. The principal demand is for good copper hops, at from 35s to 45s per cwt., but some choice bramlings have, within the past few days, been sold at 70s.

Worcester, Saturday.—A fair quantity of hops have been sold at our market during the past week, but prices have been low, considering the qualities sold. One or two choice lots have made good figures, but such hops are rare, and low qualities are unsaleable.—PIERCY AND CO.

HAY AND STRAW.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—Fair supplies, and demand was experienced at steady prices. Best clover, 95s to 110s; inferior ditto, 80s to 90s; specially picked hay, 117s 6d; good ditto, 110s; inferior ditto, 80s to 90s; mixture and sainfoin, 95s to 105s; and straw, 28s to 44s per load.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The wealth of white blossom in the orchards shows that plums and pears have come on well, and the season is favourable to most deeply-rooted plants from wheat to trees. It is, however, most trying to the lighter-rooted forms of vegetation, and the following record for a now completed third of an agricultural year seems scarcely compatible with hopes of a full yield of either oats or barley hay or clover. The position may possibly be relieved by a wet, warm May, but that is as sanguine a view as it seems possible to take.

1902	Rainfall. Inches.	Sunshine. Hours.	Temperature. Degrees
January	1.00	17	42.5
February	0.90	21	39.5
March	1.62	40	44.5
April	0.50	135	48.0
Total, 1902	4.02	213	43.6
Average	6.38	305	41.8

The deficiency of rainfall, therefore, is now 2.36 inches. April was not lacking in sunshine, but did not, of course, succeed in wiping out the previous heavy arrears. The high temperature of January is the cause of the year thus far being 1.8 warmer than the mean. April had 18 frosts on the grass.

The course of the wheat markets during the first week has been marked by quietude and firmness. No speculative energy has made itself manifest, but a good sale for actual consumption has to be reported. The large supplies of foreign white wheat which were a feature all through April seem to have gone into use without much delay, and the feeling is not one of depression in either Californian or Australian kinds. Strong red wheat, whether English American, or Russian may be quoted sixpence dearer on the week, and demand for English and Russian is still ahead of the supply. The average price of household flour for April was 23s., being 1s. 3d. rise on the month. But for April, 1901, the average was 24s., and to-day though 23s. 9d. is paid at Mark Lane we are still a trifle lower on the year, despite the new duty. The top price of flour, 30s., is a trifle high, but 6s. is usually allowed as the mean difference between household and top price. Hungarian flour at 33s. is decidedly dear, for 8s. above household grade is the usual allowance, and this would only bring it to 31s. 9d. per sack. Country flour, despite a good supply into London, is a good trade at the late advance. The average price of British wheat for April is 28s., as compared with 27s. 1d. in March. The advance of 1s. 6d. from the 15th to the 30th is reduced in result by the weak markets from the 1st to the 9th. On the 10th, 11th, and 12th the markets were already rising. English barley is quoted at 26s. 5d. for April, against 26s. 8d. for March. The feeding sorts have been more in evidence than in March, and this is the sole cause of the average showing a decline. Oats attained for April an average of 21s. 1d., being 1s. total rise from January 1st, and 7d. advance on the March average. This rise had been almost all effected before the 14th April. The sales of English wheat for April were moderate, only 360,000 quarters changing hands. The average sales of April are about half a million quarters.

Stocks of wheat on the 1st of each month have been as follows:—

1902	British Qrs.	Foreign Qrs.
1st January	3,856,000	2,953,000
1st February	3,287,000	3,000,000
1st March	2,606,000	2,762,000
1st April	1,824,000	2,450,000
1st May	1,464,000	2,375,000

These figures are strongly in favour of wheat holders, and in English wheat, at least, must have, by this date, have brought about a price advance even if there had been no duty mooted on foreign wheat.

The influence of the returns of stocks is, however, to a great extent counterbalanced by that of the wheat supplies on passage, which, owing to an unexpectedly good quantity of La Plata and Californian shipped in April, now stand at close upon four million quarters.

	Qrs.
Californian	2,240,000
American	330,000
Russian	30,000
Argentine	446,000
Indian	75,000
Australasian	825,000
Other Countries	12,000
Total—1 May	3,956,000
1 April	3,930,000
1 March	3,575,000
1 Feb.	2,820,000
1 Jan.	2,350,000

Last week's imports into the United Kingdom were good of wheat, fairly good of flour, small of barley, moderate of oats and peas, fairly good of beans, and about 20 per cent. below the average of maize. The figures thus compare with the like week of last year:—

	1902.	1901.
Wheat, qrs.	342,000	402,000
Flour, sks.	182,000	282,000
Maize, qrs.	160,000	207,000
Barley, qrs.	68,000	121,000
Oats, qrs.	118,000	157,000
Beans, qrs.	18,000	1,000
Peas, qrs.	7,000	9,000

The quantity of flour on passage to the United Kingdom is only 310,000 sacks against 430,000 a year ago, a fact which does something to discount the large total of wheat on passage.

Of barley the quantity afloat is 325,000 qrs, against 350,000 a year ago. Present expectations consist mostly of Californian and Russian.

Of maize the quantity on passage on May 1st was about the same as at the same period of the two preceding years. Figures are as follows:—

	Qrs.
1902	515,000
1901	505,000
1900	503,000

Present expectations include an unusually large quantity of round and much less than usual of flat corn. There are 8,000qrs. of beans on passage; also 220,000qrs. of linseed.

The markets for feeding stuffs have been decidedly firm, and oats are held for such very high prices that horse owners are gravely troubled. The supply on passage is only about 100,000qrs., against an average of a quarter of a million, and the home crop of 1901 was not reputed by market judges to be up to the Government estimate. Feeding barley makes 20s. 6d. to 21s. at Bristol, and in London has the somewhat wider range from 19s. 6d. to 22s., as some very good barley is to hand from both Roumanian and South Russian ports. Maize is rather dearer at Hull, and in Scotland, but neither London nor Liverpool move forward as yet. The visible supply in American is cabled at only 804,000qrs., against 2,938,000qrs. for a year ago. The shipments of maize from January 1st to April 30th were as follows:—

	Qrs.
From America	410,000
Argentina	284,000
Russia	2,410,000
Roumania	2,700,000
Turkey, etc.	600,000
Total	6,404,000
Last season	8,680,000

This genuine deficiency of 2,276,000 quarters on a third of the year standing for a presumed deficit of 6,828,000 quarters on the year is so very large that we are lucky to get maize at anything under 3s. per bushel. Beans and peas are firm, but without much doing.

Linseed has advanced 1s. 6d. on the month, but is not subject to duty. The rise is due to a good inquiry and to the Indian new crop being short. Imports of linseed for the last fortnight of April were 25,000 quarters into London and 80,000 quarters into Hull. Rapeseed is steady, the recent imports (April 15th to 30th) have been 3,000 quarters into London and 18,000 quarters into Hull. Cottonseed is 2s. 6d. per ton dearer on the week, but Alexandria holds 81,000 tons against 52,000 tons a year ago, so that buyers would do well to hold off in hopes of a collapse in the attempt to keep back the big Egyptian reserve.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Monday.—Linseed Cake.—Market firm owing to dearness of seed and high prices wanted in America. Decorticated cotton cake, no change; meal in short supply; prices as before. London cotton cake, 2s 6d dearer. Egyptian firm, unchanged. Linseed very strong; 9d. dearer on the week. Cable reports probable very short Indian crop.

English Linseed Cake	ex mill	7 17 6	to 8 0 0
American Calcutta Linseed Cake	ex quay		
American Western ,,	ex quay	7 0 0	to 7 5 0
,, ,, ,,	ex quay		
Russian Oil Cake	ex quay	7 7 6	to 7 17 6
Decorticated Cotton Cake	ex quay	6 2 6	to 6 10 0
,, ,, Meal	ex quay	6 7 6	to 6 10 0
London-made ,, Cake (best)	ex mill	4 17 6	to 5 0 0
Egyptian ,, ,, ,, (in bags)	ex quay	4 10 0	to 4 13 9
Burton Desiccated Ale Grains (bags included)	on rail, Burton	4 12 6	
Dutch Linseed (in bags), per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse	2 17 6	to 3 1 0
Calcutta Linseed in bags, per 410 lbs.	ex warehouse	2 13 0	
La Plata do. per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse	2 11 0	to 2 12 6
Clean Russian Linseed in bulk, per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse	2 17 0	

ROBERT AND JOHN HEWETSON.

HOPS.

London, Monday.—W. H. and H. Le May report: There has been a fair trade passing on this market for the time of year; the business done has been principally for consumption.

THIS DAY'S MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY.

[FIRST REPORT.]

Good English wheat to-day was scarce in the the natural form, though a very fair supply was obtainable in the ground state, as country flour made from British grain. The question is, rather: Where will country millers get their supplies from during the next four months? To-day the milling trade paid 33s. to 34s. for English, and all that was offered went promptly into sale. Foreign wheat was dull at the recent advance. The supply in prospect exceeds an average, and deadens enquiry. Maize was firm at currencies. For barley, previous full prices were likewise made. Heavy oats remained at a premium. Haricots made 42s. to 44s. for Italian. Some split Egyptian lentils had buyers at 14s. 6d. to 15s. per cwt., while butter beans fetched 28s. to 29s. per cwt.

QUOTATIONS OFF STANDS.

May 5, 1902.

BRITISH GRAIN.

		s.	s.
WHEAT, White	(per 504 lb.)	32	— 34
Red	,,	31	— 33
Chicken or Feed	(per 480 lb.)	28	— 30
BARLEY, Malting	(per 448 lb.)	33	— 39
Brewing	,,	29	— 32
Feeding	(per 416 lb.)	25	— 27
MALT, English	(per 336 lb.)	36	— 42
Scotch	,,	28	— 40
Black	,,	31	— 33
Brown	,,	30	— 33
Crystallized	,,	34	— 36
OATS, English, Black Winter	,,	23	— 25
,, Black Tartary	,,	22	— 23
,, Grey Winter	,,	23	— 25
,, White Tartary	,,	22	— 23
Scotch	,,	23	— 25
Irish	(per 304 lb.)	20	— 21
RYE, British	(per 480 lb.)	24	— 26
BEANS, Pigeon	,,	39	— 41
Winter	,,	33	— 37
Mazagan	,,	32	— 34
PEAS, Best Marrowfat	(per 504 lb.)	66	— 76
Blue (boiling)	,,	61	— 71
Dun	,,	32	— 33
Maple	,,	37	— 41
TARES, Scotch Gores	,,	79	— 83
Winter Old	,,	69	— 73
,, Ordinary	,,	57	— 65
Spring ,,	,,	51	— 53

FOREIGN GRAIN.

(Ex-Granary.)

	s.	s.
WHEAT, per 496 lb.		
Old Duluth	32	— 34
Manitoba No. 1	32	— 33
American Spring	31	— 32
Red Winter	31	— 32
Hard ,,	31	— 32
Californian	31	— 32
Walla Walla	30	— 31
Australian	31	— 32
New Zealand	30	— 31
Argentine	30	— 32
Danzig	32	— 34
Saxonka	31	— 32
Azima	31	— 32
Ghirka	30	— 31
Indian	30	— 31
RYE, per 480 lb.		
Russian	25	— 26
MAIZE, per 480 lb.:		
Cinquantina	25	— 26
Russian	22	— 23
Roumanian	22	— 23
Turkish	22	— 23
American	28	— 29
Argentine	23	— 24
OATS:		
N' Zeal'd (Best)	28	— 32
N. Zeal'd (Bluff)	26	— 28
N. Zeal'd (Dun)	24	— 26
Canadian (320 lb.)	21	— 22
American (320 lb.)	21	— 22
Prussian (320 lb.)	21	— 22
N. Russ'n (304 lb.)	20	— 21
South ,, (304 lb.)	19	— 20
Turkish (304 lb.)	18	— 19
BEANS, per 480 lb.:		
Egyptian	33	— 34
Smyrna	32	— 33
New Zealand	35	— 37
LOCUST BEANS, per ton:		
Italian	104	— 108
Cyprian	112	— 118
Portuguese	107	— 110
PEAS, per 504 lb.:		
Canadian, White	37	— 38
Australian, White	41	— 42
New Zeal'd Maple	39	— 41
Indian White	34	— 35
MILLET, per 416 lb.:		
White	34	— 46
Red	26	— 28
Yellow	21	— 23
Sorghum	20	— 21
DARI, per 480 lb.:		
Smyrna	26	— 27
Persian	23	— 25
BUCKWHEAT, per 416 lb		
French	26	— 27
Russian	27	— 28
TARES, per 504 lb.:		
Konigsberg	44	— 48
BARLEY:		
Saale (448 lb.)	36	— 40
Chilian (448 lb.)		
Chevalier	33	— 40
Brewing	non	e.
Californian (448 lb.)		
Chevalier	29	— 32
Brewing	26	— 28
Danish (448 lb.)	29	— 34
French (448 lb.)		
Danubian (400 lb.)	19 6	— 22 6
Ouchak (400 lb.)	21 6	— 27
Yerli (400 lb.)	21	— 24
Russian (400 lb.)	19 6	— 22
MALT, per 336 lb:		
Californian	36	— 37
Smyrna	36	— 37

OIL SEEDS.

LINSEED. per 416 lb.	s.	s.	RAPESEED. per 416 lb	s.	s.
English	59	to 61	English	55	to 60
Dutch	53	to 60	Calcutta	41	to 43
Bombay	55	to 57	Guzerat	42	to 44
Calcutta	51	to 53	Ferozepore	37	to 39
Russian	55	to 57	Jamba	29	to 30
Argentine	48	to 50	Ravison	28	to 29
SESAME. per 424 lb.			POPPYSEED. per 377 lb.		
Indian	53	to 55	Indian	47	to 49
COTTON SEED per ton.			SUNFLOWERSEED. pe 448 lb		
Egyptian	148	to 150	Russian	48	to 52

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

THE MARKET CLOSED WITHOUT CHANGE. BUSINESS WAS NOT BRISK.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, MONDAY.

There was a fair demand for London makes at 3d. to 6d. decline from the highest prices of April. Value for to- households pushed up to 24s. on the 28th ult. was now not above 23s. 9d. Country whites touched 27s. 6d. for the very finest, but ordinary prices were as given in our quotation list. Some Red Dog or feeding flour from Hungary was a feature of the market; 14s. 6d. was paid. Of American sorts the popular "Iron Duke" made 21s., "Gilt Edge" made 20s. 3d., "Star" 26s., and "Ceresota" 25s. 9d. per sack.

LONDON FLOUR.

		s.
Top Price	(per sack)	— 30
Town Whites	,,	26/6
,, Households	,,	23/6
No. 2	,,	21/6

COUNTRY FLOUR.

Best Patents	(per sack)	24 — 26
Fine Roller made	,,	23 — 24
Ordinary Roller made	,,	22 — 23
Best Stone made	,,	21 — 22

FOREIGN FLOUR.

Minnesota First Patents	(per sack)	24 — 25
,, Second Patents	,,	22 — 23
,, First Bakers'	,,	20 — 21
,, Second Bakers'	,,	18 — 19
Milwaukee Patents	,,	20 — 24
,, Bakers	,,	17 — 18
Kansas Patents	,,	24 — 25
,, Bakers'	,,	19 — 20
Cascadia	,,	23 — 24
Canadian	,,	23 — 24
Australian Patents	,,	21 — 22
,, Straight	,,	20 — 21
Hungarian	,,	30 — 33
French	,,	22 — 23

MEAL, &c.

Whole Meal	(per ton	184—186
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	116—118
Bran, London Broad	,,	108—116
,, ,, Fine	,,	92— 96
,, Country Flake	,,	122—128
,, ,, Broad	,,	104—108
Pollard	,,	94— 96
Biscuit Middlings	,,	126—129
Fine Middlings	,,	120—122
Coarse Middlings	,,	108—110
Feeding Flour (Red Dog)	,,	117—119
Barley Meal	,,	129—133
Rye Flour	,,	176—186
Canadian Oatmeal	,,	210—220
Scotch Oatmeal	,,	265—305
Oat Flour	,,	345—365
Maize Flour	,,	169—171
Maize Meal	,,	118—120
Maize Cones	,,	177—179
Maize Germ Meal	,,	116—120
Pea Meal	,,	135—155
Bean Meal	,,	150—170
Rice Meal	,,	95—100

LONDON TERM MARKET.

This market is held twice a day, except on Saturday, when there is no afternoon call. The market is open to elected members only. No business except for future delivery is done, and the smallest quantity that can be purchased is 1,000 quarters, or 4,800 centals. The name of the month stands for guaranteed delivery (if required) on or before the last day of that month, and the following have been the prices per cental recently made:—

WHEAT.—Calls	A. June. s. d.	A. Aug't. s. d.	B. Oct. s. d.
April 28 noon.	6 1	6 2	6 5
4 p.m.	6 1	6 2	6 5
April 29 11 a.m.	6 1	6 2	6 5
4 p.m.	6 2	6 2	6 5
April 30 11 a.m.	6 2	6 2	6 5
4 p.m.	6 2	6 2	6 5
May 1 11 a.m.	6 2	6 2	6 5
4 p.m.	6 2	6 2	6 5
May 2 11 a.m.	6 2	6 2	6 5
4 p.m.	6 2	6 2	6 5
May 3 noon.	6 2	6 2	6 5
To-day noon.	6 2	6 2	6 5

Maize to-day makes 4s. 5d. per cental for June to Aug., and 4s. 8d. from September to November delivery. Wheat sales for April were 2,630,000 centals, say 526,000 qrs.

By the letter A is signified duty to be paid by *buyer*, by B duty to be paid by *seller*. On the 18th inst. the members of the Term Market unanimously agreed to adopt the new duty as a sellers' obligation from the new cereal year (September 1). Up to that date it will fall on the buyer. In default of agreement the Acts of 1876 and 1901 throw the burden on the buyer.

The Term Market standard wheat is No. 1 Northern Spring American sold on the Duluth certificate. Other sorts of wheat can be bought at the above prices plus or minus agreed difference between the other sort and the standard quality. Quotations are by the "true hundredweight" or cental of 100 lb. We do not give fractions of a penny per cental. The maize quoted is fair average quality from the United States.

POULTRY AND PROVISIONS.

Smithfield, Saturday.—Supplies moderate, with improved demand at firm prices. Quotations:—Fowls: Yorkshire, 3s 3d to 3s 9d; Essex, 3s to 3s 6d; Boston, 2s 9d to 3s 3d; Surrey, 4s 6d to 6s; Sussex, 4s to 5s; Welsh, 2s 6d to 3s; Irish, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; turkeys (cock), 6s to 8s; (hen), 4s to 5s; goslings, 6st o 6s 6d; Aylesbury ducklings, 4s to 5s; country, 3s 3d to 3s 9d; pigeons, 7d to 1s; quail, 9d to 1s; wild rabbits, 6d to 8d; tame, 10d to 1s 3d each; Australian, 8s to 11s per dozen; Dutch plover eggs, 4s per dozen. Russian game: Partridges, 1s to 1s 2d; ptarmigan, 10½d; black game, 1s; brown hares, 1s 3d to 1s 8d; white, 1s to 1s 2d each.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORT.

Flour.—The demand for spot flour has further improved, and stocks being extremely dull, business at present is more favourable for home-made than for imported flours. Quotations are now advanced fully 1s. per sack, and are very firm. Values on spot are as follows:—1st spring patents, 25s. 6d. to 26s. 6d.; 2nd spring patents, 24s. 9d. to 25s. 9d.; American winter patents, 25s. to 25s. 6d.; extra fancies, 23s. 6d. to 24s. Offals—Bran continues in fair demand; no further change to report in prices.—GREENHILL BROTHERS (Belfast).

Flour.—During the week the market has been very firm, and winter wheat patents especially were in good demand. Grain.—Maize is 3d. per boll dearer. Beans, owing to arrivals, are 9d. per boll cheaper, with a good demand. Barley 3d. higher. Pease unchanged. Canadian corn in sellers' favour. Oatmeal 1s. per sack dearer. Mill stuffs.—Bran and thirds unchanged.—MCKINNON and MCDONALD.

The wheat market shows little alteration on the week, but white descriptions, owing to liberal arrivals, tend in favour of buyers. Maize scarcely maintains last quotations, although supplies are only moderate. Oats 3d. to 6d. dearer.

Milling Offals.—While middlings remain firm at last Monday's prices, bran and pollard are dull and occasionally 2s. 6d. per ton cheaper.—JOHN BAWCOMB AND CO.

Arrivals of wheat are small and liberal of flour. The trade is firm and prices are fully supported. Maize unchanged. Barley and oats 3d. per quarter dearer.—COVENTRY.

Flour met a fair consumptive demand to-day, at the full prices of this day week.—T. S. WEDILL AND SONS.

EGGS.

Wednesday.—Dorchester: 8d. to 9d. per doz. Barnsley: 14 for 1s. Boston: 17 for 1s. Colne: 1s 4d per score. Keighley: Wholesale, 15; retail, 14 for 1s. Kirbymoorside: 18 or 19 for 1s. Knaresborough: 16 or 17 for 1s. Louth: Wholesale, 18 for 1s. Market Weighton, 18 for 1s. Northallerton: 15 or 16 for 1s. Stockton: 14 and 15 for 1s. Worksop: 1s 5d to 1s 6d per score. Hereford: 17 to 19 per 1s; wholesale, 20 per 1s. Market Drayton: 16 to 17 for 1s. Uttoxeter: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per score.

Thursday.—Brigg: 16 or 17 for 1s. Driffield: 19 or 20 for 1s. Penistone: 16 for 1s. Ripon: 15 or 16 for 1s. Scarborough: 17 for 1s. Wetherby: 15 or 16 for 1s. Birmingham: 14 and 15 for 1s. Kidderminster: 16 for 1s. Wellington: 15 or 16 for 1s.

Friday.—Easingwold: 18 to 20 for 1s. Helmsley: 17 or 18 for 1s. Leyburn: 17 to 19 for 1s. Lincoln: 16 for 1s. Otley: 15 or 16 for 1s.

Saturday.—Appleby: 16 to 17 for 1s. Berwick: 8d to 9d per doz. Carlisle: 16 to 18 for 1s. Doncaster: 15 to 17 for 1s. Grantham: 15 to 17 for 1s. Howden: 18 for 1s. Lancaster: 14 or 15 for 1s. Malton: 18 to 19 for 1s. Retford: 1s 2d to 1s 4d per score. Richmond: 17 for 1s. Skipton: 15 or 16 for 1s. Stokesley: 16 or 17 for 1s. Whitby: 17 or 18 for 1s. York: 16 for 1s.

BUTTER.

Wednesday. — Dorchester: 11d to 1s 2d per lb. Barnsley: 1s 1d to 1s 3d per lb. Boston, 9d per lb. Colne: 1s 2d per lb. Keighley: Wholesale, 1s; retail, 1s 1d per lb. Kirbymoorside: 10d to 11d per lb. Knaresborough: Wholesale, 1s 3d; retail, 1s 4d to 1s 5d per 24 oz. roll. Louth: 10d. per lb. Market Weighton: 10d per lb. Northallerton: 1s 5d to 1s 7d per 24 oz. roll. Stockton: 11d to 1s 2d per lb. Worksop: 1s to 1s 3d per lb. Hereford: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Market Drayton: Best, 1s to 1s 1d per lb.; seconds, 11d to 1s per lb. Uttoxeter: 1s to 1s 2d per lb.

Thursday.—Brigg: 9d to 10d per lb.; Driffield: 10d per lb. Penistone: 1s 3d per lb. Ripon, 1s 3d to 1s 5d per 24 oz. roll. Scarborough: 1s 2d per lb. Wetherby, 1s to 1s 2d per lb. Birmingham: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb Kidderminster: 1s 2d per lb. Wellington: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb.

Friday.—Easingwold: 11d to 1s per lb. Helmsley: 9d to 10d per lb. Leyburn: 1s 1d to 1s 3d per 24oz. roll. Lincoln: 1s per lb. Otley: 1s 4d to 1s 6d per 24oz. roll.

Saturday.—Appleby: 8d to 11d per lb. Berwick: 8d to 9d per lb. Carlisle: 1s to 1s 1d per lb. Doncaster: 1s 1d to 1s 3d per lb. Grantham: 11d to 1s 1d per lb. Howden: 10d per lb. Lancaster: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Malton: 9d to 11d per lb. Retford: 9d to 1s per lb. Richmond: 11d per lb. Skipton: 1s to 1s 1d per lb. Stokesley: 11d to 1s per lb. Whitby: 1s to 1s 1d per lb. York: 1s per lb.

CHEESE.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Several lots of new cheese forward, quality improving with each arrival. Inquiry limited, as the quantity is too small yet to test the market. Only a few lots of old Cheddars left. In the absence of business former quotations for Cheddars and Dunlops have to be given, viz., from 56s to 62s per cwt. Moderate trade passing in Canadians and New Zealands at late figures.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—A good supply of greenstuffs was available this morning, but the demand was of a slow character. Good arrivals of potatoes experienced an improved demand. Fair supplies of fruit were received, and met a fair demand. Greenstuffs—Cabbages, 5s; cauliflowers, 5s to 10s per tally; broccoli, 2s to 3s per bag; spinach, 2s; beetroots, 3s per bushel; parsley, 3s to 4s; mint, 3s to 4s; leeks, 2s 6d to 3s; radishes, 6d to 9d per dozen bunches; horseradish, 1s 3d to 1s 6d per bundle; seakale, 8s to 10s per dozen punnets; rhubarb, 1s 6d to 2s per dozen bundles; Egyptian onions, 6d 6d to 7s 6d per bag; spring ditto, 2s to 3s per dozen bunches. Potatoes—Maincrops, 70s to 80s; Reading Giants, 40s to 50s per ton; new Canary, 12s; Teneriffe, 14s; Maltese, 12s; Algerian kidneys, 14s per cwt; Lisbons, 6s per case.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

Monday, May 5th, 1902.

	British.	Total. May 6th, 1901.
Beasts	1,120	1,120 1,200
Sheep and lambs	9,920	9,920 9,870
Calves	10	10 15
Milch cows	30	30 50

Quotations per 8lb. (sinking the offal).

	ENGLISH. Inferior. s. d.	Second. s. d.	First. s. d.
Beasts	3 4 ..	4 8 ..	5 1
Sheep	3 10 ..	5 0 ..	6 2
Lambs	5 8 ..	6 2 ..	6 3

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, 3; Eastern Counties, 842; Midland, Home, and Western Counties, Devon, 20; Ireland, 30.

We note to-day a fair average supply in the beast market, Norfolks numbering about 100 less. Trade for both prime and second quality was firmer, both in regard to tone and value, the best polled beasts making 1d per 8lb more money with a clearance. Trade for butchering cows and bulls was also firm, the latter making more money. The Irish arrivals consisted of consignments from Dublin.

The following are top quotations per 8lb (sinking the offal):—

Scotch	5s 1d to 5s 2d	..		
Devons	4s 10d to 5s 0d	..	4s 4d to 4s 5d	
Norfolks	5s 0d to 5s 1d	..	4s 4d to 4s 5d	
Lincolns	4s 8d to 4s 10d	..	4s 0d to 4s 2d	
Irish	4s 8d to 4s 10d	..		
Fat cows	4s 3d to 4s 4d	..	3s 6d to 3s 8d	

There was an increase of 2,230 in the number of sheep and lambs on offer, the supply including 490 Scotch, 3,230 from the Eastern Counties, and 850 from Yorkshire. Trade for wether sheep was rather dull, rates being 2d. per 8lb. in favour of the buyer; ewes met a dragging trade at a decline of 4d.; too many lambs on offer, sales consequently being forced with the usual consequence, the choicest were bought at 6d. per 8lb. less money, whilst heavy lambs were most difficult to cash at any price.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8lb. (sinking the offal), and are for the best of each class penned, all clipped, except small Downs and ewes:—

	To-day.		Monday, May 6, 1901.
7½ to 8 st. Downs	6s 0d to 6s 2d	..	5s 10d to 6s 0d
9-st. Downs	5s 6d to 5s 8d	..	5s 2d to 5s 4d
10-st. Halfbreds	5s 2d to 5s 4d	..	4s 10d to 5s 0d
10-st. Yorkshires	4s 8d to 4s 10d	..	4s 10d to 5s 0d
12-st. Lincolns	4s 8d to 4s 10d	..	4s 4d to 4s 6d
10-st. Down Ewes	4s 6d to 4s 8d	..	4s 2d to 4s 4d
11-st. Halfbred ditto	4s 2d to 4s 4d	..	3s 10d to 4s 0d
5st. Down lambs	6s 6d to 6s 8d	..	7s 6d to 7s 8d
6st. Halfbred ditto	5s 10 to 6s 0d	..	6s 10d to 7s 0d

Calf trade nominal. No pigs on the market.

London (Central), Monday.—Moderate supplies; fair trade. Beef carcases, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; hind-quarters, 4s 8d to 5s; roastings, 5s 4d to 5s 8d. Sheep.—Ewe, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; wether, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; hind-quarters, ewe, 4s 8d to 5s; wether, 5s 8d to 6s. Pigs.—Large, 3s 8d to 4s; small, 4s 4d to 4s 8d.

St. Ives, Monday.—Beasts, 925; sheep and lambs, 843; pigs, 584; horses, 3. Beef, 8s to 9s; mutton, 7s 7d to 9s 11d; lamb, 1s; pork, 6s 9d to 7s 6d. Fat beasts sharp trade; dearer; stores fair; fat and store sheep fair; fat and store pigs good demand; milch cows fair trade; prices, £15 to £23.

FOREIGN CATTLE.

Deptford, Monday.—To-day's supply, compared with Monday last, showed an increase of 224 head, and consisted of consignments from the United States, quality being well up to the late average, trade for which was of a firm and steady nature, at fully last week's quotations. The best on offer to dress from 680 to 720lb., made 5s per 8lbs, offal given in. A few found buyers at 4s. Sheep, 653, consisting of consignments from America, trade for which was fairly steady, at from 4s 11d to 5s per 8lbs. On Saturday 1,362 beasts from the United States were on offer, and a firm trade at from 4s 10d to 5s per 8lbs, offal given in. The following were the numbers on offer on Monday, May 6th, 1901, with the current top rates per 8lbs:—Beasts, 806, 4s 2d to 4s 3d; sheep, 1648, 4s 6d to 4s 8d.

Liverpool, Monday.—Smaller supply of cattle in market; good trade at higher prices. Sheep supply considerably larger; demand good for mutton at higher rates, a good clearance being effected. Lambs no easier to sell. Beef, 7½d to 8½d per lb; mutton, 9d to 9½d per lb; lambs, 11d to 10d per lb. At market—636 cattle and 6,236 sheep.

THE BALTIC, 1 p.m.

STATE OF TRADE.

Wheat and maize cargoes are steady, while barley is firm for near, but weak for distant, futures. Oats are in poor request for summer shipment. Cottonseed for November shipment is already in speculative offer, £6 11s. 3d. being asked.

BUSINESS DONE.

WHEAT.—Californian, 29s 9d, May shipment; Walla Walla, 29s 3d, May shipment; Australian, 29s 9d, May shipment; No. 1 spring, 29s, May shipment; No. 1 Manitoba, 30s 6d, May shipment; Argentine, 29s 6d, on passage; Russian winter, 31s, June shipment; Calcutta Club, 30s 9d, May shipment; white Kurrachee, 29s 3d, June shipment; white Bombay, 30s 9d, prompt shipment.

MAIZE.—Argentine, 21s, on passage; Odessa, 22s, on passage.

BARLEY.—Danubian, 19s 3d, on passage; Azoff, 17s 6d, October shipment.

OATS.—Libau, 320lb, 20s 6d, May shipment; Riga, 304lb, 18s, May shipment.

LOCUST BEANS.—Portuguese, 90s, May shipment.

LINSEED.—Russian, 95 per cent., 53s 6d. May shipment.

CANARYSEED.—Turkish, 38s, prompt shipment.

MILLET.—Smyrna, 21s, prompt shipment.

SEEDS.

London, Monday.—Messrs. John Shaw and Sons, seed merchants, of Great Maze Pond, Borough, S.E., write that the present spring season seems now nearly over. However, a few small sowing orders continue to drop in, which are executed at the moderate rates current. Meantime, stocks of cloverseeds all round leave off, as previously noted, in unusually small compass. Sanfoin, timothy, and especially lucerne are still in very short supply, whilst spring tares appear nearly used up. More business has been doing in mustard seed, and at hardening rates; but rapeseed is slow of sale. As regards canary seed, the Liverpool market shows some improvement. Other bird seeds are, however, dull, and call for no comment. Blue peas have moved in favour of holders, and full prices are asked for haricot beans.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW.

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS.")

Trade in London.

With a rather shorter supply of fat beasts at Islington, trade, though entirely void of life, was, in regard to value, of a firmer and steadier nature, higher rates by about 2d. per 8lb. being both asked and obtained, a practical clearance being made on Monday, a few more than usual being sold on Thursday, amongst which were a few Scotch, whilst on Monday none from that country or Ireland arrived, consignments from the latter consisting of stores two years old, which were quoted at from £11 10s. to £12 per head. Trade for butchering cows and bulls also ruled firmer at a similar advance, all on offer finding early buyers. At the foreign cattle market, where the supply was rather lighter, trade on all three market days was firm at an advance similar to that experienced at Islington, the supply consisting entirely of shipments from the United States. The total number of beasts offered for sale at both markets was 3,234, consisting of 1,230 British (decrease 60) and 2,004 foreign (decrease 787). The following were the top rates obtained per 8lb., sinking the offal:—90-stone Norfolk, 5s.; 100-stone Shorthorns, 4s. 8d.; 110-stone ditto, 4s. 4d.; 85 to 90-stone States, 4s. 10d. to 5s.; 90-stone fat cows, 4s. 4d.; 100-stone fat bulls, 3s. 10d. to 4s. The trade for sheep, as usual of late, was chiefly confined to the Islington market, and was of a firm nature, rates ruling 4d. per 8lb. in favour of the seller, an early clearance being made. Ewes also sold to better advantage, lambs being in full supply, were steady in value, last week's advanced rates being well maintained. At Deptford trade also ruled firm, the total number offered for sale on both markets was 11,723 (previous week, 11,514), consisting of 10,920 British (increase 300) and 803 Americans (decrease 91). Best pens made, per 8lb., as follows, sinking the offal:—7½ to 8-stone Downs, 6s. 2d. to 6s. 4d.; 8-stone Scotch, 6s. 2d.; 9-stone Downs, 6s.; 10-stone Yorkshires (clipped), 5s.; 10-stone Downs, 5s. 10d.; 10-stone half-breds, 5s. 8d.; 12-stone Lincolns, 5s. 2d.; 8½-stone Americans, 4s. 10d. to 5s.; 10-stone ewes, 5s.; 5-stone fat Down lambs, 7s 4d.; 6-stone half-bred ditto, 6s. 8d. Calves numbered 75, and the trade was restricted to Thursday, and was of a rather slow nature at a decline of 4d. per 8lb., the best being quoted at 5s. 8d. per 8lb., sinking the offal. The few pigs on offer sold readily at an advance of 4d.; best small breeds were quoted at 5s. 2d. per 8lb.

Trade in the West.

The bitterly cold weather experienced for some days past, not only at night, but by day as well, coupled with the serious deficiency in the rainfall last winter, and also during the early spring so far—amounting for the past twelvemonth to some seven inches, if not more—cannot fail to cause apprehension in the minds of agriculturists generally throughout the country, tending, as it does, in the absence of the usual supply of nitrogen, to greatly lessen crops, not only on grass, but also of grain, owing to the want of reproductive power on food plants of all kinds. Of course, this is a very serious matter, not only for stock owners, but also for the agricultural interest generally, and unless we have a copious rainfall during the next few weeks the drought, which will inevitably follow later on, must undoubtedly be attended with most disastrous consequences, and, as it is, many districts are already experiencing considerable inconvenience from a scarcity of water, even for domestic purposes. Therefore, with such a prospect it is some little encouragement to find the markets for store cattle as firm as they are, especially for grazing beasts, which are making £30 to £40 per pair for bullocks carrying anything like a supply of flesh; but this cannot continue if the drought lasts much longer, and we can hardly expect a continuance of such rates unless the present scarcity of beef becomes more accentuated even than is the case at present. The more ordinary grades are, of course, procurable on lower terms—from £18 to £27 or £28—but still there is a good inquiry for the rougher grades of graziers. Store sheep, of which the great spring sales are about to begin in the principal sheed-breeding districts, are also likely to be affected by the dry weather to a serious extent, which will be a still further heavy loss to flock masters, seeing that even at present sheep are selling by no means any too well, the trend of the market for fat sheep during the past week being decidedly against buyers, prices having once more gone back quite another halfpenny per pound. Very little of the mutton sold during the past week has realised 8d. for the best wethers, a more average figure being 6½d. to 7½d for ewes and wether. Lamb, however, is meeting a trifle better sale, though the cold weather is naturally against prices, the best Downs and cross-breds sell from 34s. to 39s. (or about 10d.), and the more ordinary runs at about 9d. As far as we can state from transactions that have come under our own notice, the general at present for store sheep is for horn and Down couples, 46s to 57s. 6d.; horn wethers, 36s. to 38s.; Downs, 35s. to 39s.; Down ewe hogs, 36s. 6d. to 39s.; Down ewe hogs, 41s. to 44s.; cross-bred hogs, 39s. to 40s.; off-going horn ewes, 41s. to 43s.; off-going Down ewes, 38s. to 43s. 6d.; Down Chilver lambs, 23s. to 27s.; wether lambs, 22s. to 25s. Veal maintains the firmness which has been such a characteristic of the trade for some weeks past. Best calves range in values from £4 10s. to £6 each (or 8½d. to 9d. per lb.); seconds, £3 to £4 (or 7d. to 7½d.); and rearers from 30s. to 45s. each. Everything, however, brought out is quickly cleared, the result of the high prices ruling, and, with the exception of the very small proportion of rearers reserved, indiscriminate slaughter seems to be the order of the day, and, whilst this continues to be the case, there is very little likelihood of our dairies being furnished to the extent that could be hoped for, and a more abundant supply of good milchers ready at hand to be drafted into dairies, especially in towns, to replace older bullocks which have had their day. Pigs have undergone but little change, since our last report; in fact, values, if there has been any alteration, have rather been against buyers, especially in all the neater weights, both of porkers and baconers, which make phenomenally high rates—10s. 6d. to 11s. 6d. for picked lots, which meet the special requirements of buyers. For the time there is undoubtedly a very strong trade in everything, the milder weather, which set in on Thursday, proving very helpful to trade.

Trade in Scotland.

The supplies of fat cattle on offer this week have been very large all over, and, with a very good demand on the part of the English buyers, trade has been again very dear, although in some markets the exceptionally high prices of last week were barely maintained; taken throughout, no falling off can be quoted. Fat cows and bulls have been offered in very large numbers, and met the dearest trade of the season. The supply of fat sheep was considerably in excess of that of last week. With a much improved trade in the London market and better prospects all over, there has been the best demand for fat sheep that has been experienced for some time, the rising price being from 2s. to 3s. per head. Fat lambs, if of good quality, can be easily sold at high prices, but secondary descriptions are hard to cash. The usual number of fat calves and pigs at a very dear trade. In the store market there has been the largest number of sheep offered for sale that has been exposed for a very long time. Best class of cross and half-bred hogs have met a good demand, and have been all sold at satisfactory prices. Sheep of secondary class, however, have met a dull trade, some of the latter remaining unsold. There was a large show of store cattle, which met an exceedingly slow market, a considerable number of those offered not finding purchasers. A great many more milch cows have been exposed, for which there has been a very good trade, at greatly advanced prices. Extreme top price of best cattle per live cwt., from 39s. to 41s.; current, from 37s. 6d. to 39s. 6d.; secondary, 36s. to 37s.; mutton, from 7¾d. to 8¾d. per lb.—JOHN SWAN AND SONS, LTD.

Trade in Ireland.

The recent rise in price was instrumental in bringing in increased supplies of both cattle and sheep to last Thursday's Dublin market, there being 234 more of the former and 1,892 of the latter, as compared with the previous market. This, of course, had a very perceptible effect on the tone of business, and though really tip-top beasts repeated last day's prices with some difficulty, the common rough cattle depreciated in value from 10s. to 15s. per head, and a large number were left over unsold. Indeed, the boom of last week was quite discounted. Choice ox and heifer beef made from 65s. to 67s., and in a few cases up to 70s. per cwt.; second class from 55s. to 64s., and inferior from 45s. per cwt. With such a big increase of nearly 2,000 sheep, it might naturally have been supposed that the mutton market would get more of a set back than the beef, but such was not the case. Really prime aged wethers were scarce, and in wool made fully 8½d. to 8¾d. per lb. Shorn sheep were also in good demand, making from 7¾d. to 8d. per lb. There was more stir in the shipping trade than there has been for some time past, but common rough sheep were very much in evidence, and receded somewhat in price. A large number of thin inferior lambs helped to swell the sheep statistics, but they were simply unsaleable, or any that were disposed of sold at from 15s. upwards; second-class made from 24s. to 32s., and prime lambs from 34s. to 40s. each. The trade for shipping lambs exhibited a slight improvement, but business in that line has not yet rightly opened. The demand for veal was not so good, but really prime calves made from 8d. to 9d. per lb.; inferior do. from 4½d. upwards.

There was a large market of milkers, but they were chiefly rough and inferior cows; the best springers and new milch cows made from £18 to £20, but in the other classes, which could be bought from £8 10s. up, nothing like a clearance was effected. There was a good supply of pigs, and in consequence of the Dublin buyers being busy, trade showed more animation than on the previous week, and prices were a shade firmer, and a clearance effected. Nice light-weight pigs made from 47s. to 49s. per cwt.; and coarse bacon pigs from 32s. to 40s. per cwt. Mr. Gavin Low held a very important sale of store stock at his paddocks in Prussia Street, when over 1,250 cattle were offered for sale. A number of English and Scotch buyers were present, and the bidding was animated. Some fine lots of Aberdeen-Angus crosses, Herefords, etc., were sold at remunerative figures. One lot of heifers made £16 15s. each, and 20 two-and-a-half-year-old polled bullocks belonging to Mr. Cobbe brought from £15 to £16 12s. 6d. each. The demand for store stock in forward condition is very brisk, and the country fairs all show rising prices.

LONDON.

Deptford, Wednesday. — Only 343 United States beasts were shown to-day, this being 357 head less than on Wednesday last, and sold slowly, but at firm rates, viz., 4s 10d to 5s per 8lb to sink the offal.

Islington, Thursday.—Supplies fair, the bulk consisting of fat bulls and rough cattle; a good demand prevailed, prices being steady. Fat bulls, 3s 6d to 3s 10d. Sheep were in good supply, but met with quieter request, prices for both wethers and ewes marking a general decline of 2d; 7½ to 8-stone Down wethers (clipped), 5s 2d to 5s 4d; 9-stone ditto, 5s; 10-stone half-breds, 4s 10d; 10-stone Down ewes (unclipped), 4s 8d to 4s 10d; and 9-stone ditto, 4s 4d to 4s 6d. Lamb trade dull, and prices weaker; 4½ to 5-stone Downs, 7s to 7s 4d; 11-stone half-bred ditto, 6s 6d to 6s 10d. Calves steady, the best on offer making 5s 6d to 5s 8d. Pigs steady. Neat small porkers, 4s 8d to 4s 10d per 8lb to sink the offal. Total supplies—150 beasts, 3,290 sheep, 70 calves, and 20 pigs.

London (Central), Wednesday.—Fair supplies met with a good request at firm prices. Beef arrivals included 60 tons Scotch, 650 sides from Liverpool, 1,400 hindquarters and 600 fore-quarters American killed. Quotations:—Beef, Scotch short sides, 4s 6d to 4s 8d; long, 4s 4d English, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; American, Deptford killed, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; Liverpool, 4s 1d to 4s 3d; American, refrigerated, 3s 5d to 3s 6d; Argentine, hindquarters, 3s 7d to 3s 11d; forequarters, 2s 11d to 3s 1d. Mutton: Scotch, 4s 10d to 5s; English wethers, 4s 6d to 5s; ewes, 3s 10d to 4s; English lamb, 5s 8d to 6s 4d. Veal: English and Dutch, 4s to 5s. Pork: English, 4s 8d to 5s; and Dutch, 4s 2d to 4s 8d per 8lb.

London (Central), Friday.—Good supplies were offered, but trade ruled rather quiet, excepting for beef, which was firmer. A fair quantity of English, moderate of Deptford-killed American, 100 tons Scotch, 600 Liverpool sides, 2,700 hindquarters and 1,500 forequarters American refrigerated, and 100 Dutch sides comprised the arrivals of beef this morning. Quotations:—Beef, Scotch short sides, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; long, 4s 4d; English, 4s to 4s 6d; American, Deptford-killed, 4s 3d to 4s 5d; Liverpool, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; American, refrigerated, hindquarters, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; forequarters, 3s 6d to 3s 8d. Mutton: Scotch, 4s 6d to 4s 10d; English wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; ewes, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; Canterbury, 2s 8d to 3s; Wellington, 2s 4d to 2s 8d; Sydney and River Plate, 2s 2d to 2s 4d; English lamb, 5s 8d to 6s 4d. Veal: English and Dutch, 4s to 4s 8d. Pork: English, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; and Dutch, 4s to 4s 4d per 8lb.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Beef trade very good, best beasts making 12s 6d to 13s per score. Mutton better trade, 5s 6d being the top price per stone for Down and half-bred wethers. Lamb sold more readily at 1s to 1s 2d per lb. Veal dearer Pork a little better, roasters making 10s a score. Store sheep trade quiet.

Basingstoke, Wednesday.—At Raynbird and Son's Sale Yard there was a very good attendance of buyers to meet a supply of 31 fat beasts, 93 calves, 723 fat sheep and lambs, and 106 head of dairy and store cattle, for which the following prices were realised. Fat shorthorn steers, up to £23 10s; year old heifers, £16 15s; cows, £19; bulls, £19 5s; polled steers up to £21; 2 years old fat Welsh runts, £29 10s the pair. Fat wethers and young ewes made up to 54s 6d; fat ewes, 38s to 54s; fat sucking lambs, 29s 6d to 39s. Fat calves, 70s to £5 12s 6d; smaller, 20s to 45s; dairy cows, from £8 to £18 10s. A short supply of fat beasts was cleared at an all round advance on prices. A good show of fat sheep and lambs met with a brisk demand, and a clearance made with an advance on prices all round. An easy clearance was made of the milch cattle at satisfactory prices. Store cattle met a slightly less demand, and last week's prices could not be maintained. Fat calves continue a brisk business at late quotations. Ruling values:—Fat beasts, best quality, 7½d to 8d; second quality, 6½d to 7d; bulls, cows, and inferior beasts, 5½d to 6½d per lb. Best quality sheep, 8d to 8½d; second ditto, 7d to 7½d; old ewes, rams, and inferior, 6d to 6½d; choice 3 months old sucking lambs, 10d to 11d per lb. Fat calves, 7d to 9½d per lb.

Boston, Wednesday.—Very little business done, and few cattle on offer. Sheep a scanty supply. Store beasts, £18 to £18 10s; in-calf cows, £22 to £22; heifers, £16 to £18; hogs, 48s to 52s; best wethers, 8d to 8½d; ewes, 7d to 7½d per lb.

Braintree, Wednesday.—At Messrs. Balls' auction mart the trade was generally brisk. Prime beasts were in strong demand, and made up to £23 15s; store cattle, £8 10s; hoggets, 35s. A good company of buyers. Stock penned:—Beasts, 56; fat sheep, 136; hogs, 47; store pigs, 376; store cattle, 30; calves, 16; store sheep, 78; horses, 2.

Bristol, Thursday.—There was a moderate supply of fat cattle to-day, for which there was a firm trade. Best animals fetched 66s per cwt, and secondary 60s. A moderate show of sheep. Best light shorn wethers ranged from 7½d to 7¾d per lb; heavy wethers, 7½d; and ewes, 6d to 6½d. Lambs, 10d to 10½d. About 800 pigs were in the market, and baconers sold at 9s 9d to 10s per score, and porkers 10s 9d to 11s. About 1,000 store cattle on offer, and trade was very dull, but at reduced prices several were unsold.

Calne, Friday.—Present prices for prime pigs, in lots of not less than 10, on rail within 100 miles of Calne.

Prime Stores.	Thickness of fat in any part of the Back.	Price per Sc. s. d.
6 sc. 10 lbs. to 9 sc. 10 lbs.	2½ in. and under	10 0
Under 10 sc.	Not exceeding 2½ n.	9 6
Under 11 sc. 10 lb.	Not exceeding 2¾ in.	9 6
Under 12 sc.	Not exceeding 3 in.	

—C. & T. Harris & Co., Ltd.

Cambridge, Monday.—Beasts 707, sheep 940, pigs 722, horses, 10. Beef, 7s 3d, 8s 6d; mutton, 4s 4d, 5s 6d; lamb, 9½d, 11d lb; pork, 5s 6d, 6s 6d. A larger show store beasts, nearly all cleared. Fat beasts, a fair number to hand. Trade rather slow. Fat pigs, a large supply; trade trade, at a little more money. Stores, some good lots to hand trade rather slow. Fat pigs, a large supply; trade not quite so good as last week. Stores, a good show, and trade slower than last week. Hay, straw, and roots, full supply, and fair trade.

Canterbury, Saturday.—There was a much smaller supply of sheep, prices for best tegs ranging from 36s to 38s; second class, 29s 6d to 33s per head; yearlings ranged from £8 10s to £9 15s. Some useful Sussex stock were also offered. Cows made from 16 to 17 guineas; yearling steers and heifers from £15 to £16.

Carlisle, Saturday.—The supply of Irish store stock was below the average of recent weeks, and consisted of about 600 beasts, mostly heifers. The attendance also was smaller, and trade, in sympathy with the home grazing cattle, was easier on account of the backwardness of the season and the scarcity of grass. The prices for small heifers were from £6 10s to £8 10s, and for the best sorts up to £14 10s. A few stripping cows realised £8 10s to £11 10s. Young pigs were a small show, and met a slow sale at 30s a head.

Chichester, Wednesday.—There were again full supplies in all departments, and the market was largely attended. A good demand was experienced for best fat beef and mutton, and the price for fat ewes showed an upward tendency. A fair trade was passing in store cattle but business in the store sheep department was extremely sluggish, and the supply, though smaller than at the previous market, was much in excess of the demand. Calves and pigs, on the other hand, met a brisk trade, and prices in each case were well maintained. During the morning, Mr. C. Stride, of the firm of Messrs. Stride and Son, held a successful sale of cows, heifers, etc., which found ready puchasers at good prices. Particulars as to the number of head of stock in market are appended:—Cattle, 922; sheep, 5,245; pigs, 793; calves, 121; horses, 23; total 7,04. Tolls taken, £42 17s.

Dorchester, Wednesday.—The mid-weekly cattle market to-day, both Messrs. Ensor's and Mr. Sampson's, proved a very full one in every respect, both in regard to attendance and supply, and, with a quick sale for all classes of stock of a suitable stamp, as well as dairy produce, a clear once was very soon effected at good prices throughout. Beef keeps relatively much dearer than mutton, and we must still quote good bullocks as worth 11s to 12s per score, and seconds 10s to 10s 6d. Fat sheep met a steady but by no means brisk, sale, and only in very exceptional cases do prices exceed 8d per lb., though there is a fair demand now for mutton—better than was the case some time since. Lambs make 9d to 9½d for the best runs, the trade having declined since Easter. Calves keep outs of the dearest things on the market, really ripe calves making over 8½d, and ordinary runs 7½d to 8½d. Pigs are very dear again all round, best light-weight porkers making 10s 6d to 11s per score, baconers 9s 6d to 10s, and heavy pigs 8s to 9s. Chickens meet a brisk sale at 5s to 6s 6d per couple, and fowls at 3s to 4s 3d. Cheese is also very dear for good makes, 48s up to 62s per cwt; seconds, 22s to 42s. Butter, 11d to 1s 2d per lb. Eggs, 8d to 9d, as a general run, the latter only in exceptional cases.

Dublin, Thursday.—Numbers in market: Beasts, 1,335 (increase 234); sheep, 6,101 (increase 1,892); calves, 39 (decrease), 19. Choice qualities making higher quotations. Secondary and inferior sorts not in such good demand, and prices show a reduction on last week's rates. Brisker trade for sheep, and a better clearance effected. Prices favouring sellers. Cattle (live weight): Best, 36s to 40s per cwt; other sorts, 28s to 35s per cwt. Mutton (dead weight), 7d to 8½d per lb.—Ganly Sons and Co.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons report a good average supply of fat cattle of excellent quality; buyers were numerous, and a sharp trade was experienced for all the best descriptions at higher prices, which ranged from 8s 3d to 9s per stone. Fat sheep were not so numerous, and the best hoggets may again be quoted dearer. Lambs in fair request up to 38s. A good entry of grazing and breeding sheep; couples and poor hoggets met a dull trade, but the latter with condition sold well. Good weaning calves in request, and fat calves dear. Fat swine met a brisk sale at an advance, which was specially marked in the case of medium weights. Stores were penned in larger numbers. This being the third spring sale of grazing cattle, a large number were forwarded. There was a large company of buyers, and strong cattle suitable for grass were wanted, and higher prices were paid. Several cows and heifers were offered; the best sold well, but the high rates of last week were not maintained. Numbers at sales and market: Cattle, 822; calves, 55; sheep, 2,245; swine, 1,597; horses, 26.

Leicester, Wednesday.—The deliveries of Lincolnshire and Norfolk fed bullocks were very extensive, and of excellent quality, and rather in excess of the demand. Buyers and dealers were well represented, but trade was rather unsettled, and prices showed a decline of 20s per head on choice lots, and 10s on inferior. Heifers, 6½d to 7d per lb; choice bullocks, 7d per lb; secondary, 6½d to 6¾d; cows, 6d to 6½d per lb. Sheep were a large delivery, and sold very freely at 3s to 5s per head advance; choice lots, 7¾d to 8d; large sheep, 7d to 7½d; ewes, 6d to 6½d; lambs in demand at 11d; calves firm at 8½d to 9d per lb.

Newport, Wednesday.—There was a good all-round supply and brisk inquiry, especially for the best qualities of stock. Quotations:—Best beef, 7d to 7½d; seconds, 6½d to 6¾d cows, 6d to 6½d. Best wether mutton, 8½d to 9d; shorn wethers, 8d; lamb, 10d to 11d. Veal, 7½d to 8¼d. Porker pigs, 10s 6d to 11s per score.

Norwich, Saturday.—Store cattle were in good supply here to-day; trade was dull except for the best descriptions, and previous rates were barely maintained. Fat beasts, which were offered to a fair extent, were firm at 8s to 8s 6d and 9s per 14lb. Store sheep were not freely offered; trade was quiet except for lots in a forward condition. Keeping hoggets were quoted at 35s to 43s a head. Fat sheep, of which there were no great number on offer, moved off readily at 8s to 8s 6d and 9s per 14lb. Keep prospects in Norfolk have been improved to-day by heavy rains.

Romford, Wednesday.—There was a short supply of fat beasts, and trade was a little better. Best animals made from 4s 8d to 4s 10d per stone, and middlings 4s 2d to 4s 4d. Very short supply of calves, at 5s 4d to 5s 6d per stone. Sheep in short supply, and trade much better. Best clipped sheep, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; middlings, 5s to 5s 2d per stone. Short supply of lambs, and trade a little better, at 7s to 7s 4d per stone. A few stores were on offer. The pig market is still closed.

Salford, Tuesday.—The supply of cattle was again smaller. Trade ruled firmer in consequence, and sellers easily maintained last week's advanced prices. The supply of sheep and lambs was about the same as at last market, but a larger proportion were lambs. There was a brisk demand for sheep, and prices were 2s to 3s per head more than last Tuesday. Lamb trade dull and prices in favour of buyers. There were so few wooled sheep in market that our quotations refer to shorn sheep only. Fewer calves on offer, but a slack demand, and prices about the same as last week. Quotations:—Cattle, 5½d to 7½d; sheep, 6½d to 9d per lb; lambs, 25s to 45s each; calves, 5d to 8½d per lb. At market:—Cattle, 1,819; sheep and lambs, 9,564; calves, 195; pigs, 63.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Better show of milch beasts, and brisk demand for animals of good quality, which made £18 to £21; secondary, £15 to £17; heifers, £10 to £13. Business altogether better than last week. No sheep offered.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday.—Store pigs and best stock generally made high prices, with a good clearance. Demand brisk. Quotations:—Lamb, 9d to 10½d; beef, 6d to 7½d; mutton, 8d to 9d; and veal, 8d to 9d per lb; porket pigs, 10s to 11s 6d; and bacons, 9s 6d to 10s 6d per score; cows, with calves, up to £19 15s; hay up to £5 10s; and straw up to £4 10s per ton; sows, with pigs, up to £14 12s 6d. Number offered:—Lambs, 423; cattle, 1,088; cows, with calves, 68; sheep, 737; calves, 181; fat pigs, 60; porket pigs, 107; and store pigs, 614.—B. R. Croxt.n, Markets Inspector.

Spalding, Tuesday.—Small supply of beasts Trade brisk at fully 9s per stone for best quality; cow beef, 7s 6d to 8s. Stores sold at full prices. In the sheep market a small supply, and prices high, fully 8d per lb being obtained for mutton. Lambs sold readily.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There were on offer 127 cattle, 4 calves, 210 sheep, and 58 lambs. A small show of best cattle, and trade was firm at 8s 6d to 9s per stone; rougher kinds, 6s 6d to 7s 6d. A small show of sheep; clips, 8½d; wool sheep, 9d; ewes, 7½d; tups, 5d per lb; lambs, 25s to 38s each.

Thame, Tuesday.—Beef supply continues very short, and again made extreme rates. Mutton and lamb were well represented, together with veal, bacon hogs, and pork, all sharing in the recent advance in prices. There was a good supply of store stock, but the cold winds have checked demand. The late Mr. Bond's sale comprised 55 fat beasts, 212 fat and store sheep and lambs, 180 fat and store pigs, and 67 fat and weaning calves. Fat bullocks made from £19 to £24; fat heifers, £20 to £23 10s; fat ewes, 54s to 61s 6d; fat tegs, 48s to 52s; fat lambs, 29s to 35s 6d; couples up to 63s; fat calves, £3 10s to £6 2s; weaning cow calves, 20s to 63s; bull calves, 14s to 58s; bacon hogs, 9s 6d per score. Stores dearer.

Wakefield, Wednesday.—A better market all round, and fair attendance of buyers. Best quality beef, ¼d per lb more money at 7½d; choice young sheep made 8¾d per lb, and secondary sorts down to 6d, but nothing sold under that price. Number of beasts, 1,314; sheep, 4,316.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—A fair supply of beasts, and trade fair. Sheep: A fair supply and trade. Moderate supply of calves, and fair demand. Beef, 6d to 7½d per lb. Mutton, 6d to 8½d per lb. Veal, 7½d to 8½d per lb. Only a few pigs offered, good prices being realised.

Worcester, Saturday.—Trade in cattle brisk at full prices. Fair entry of sheep, but quiet trade. Beef, 6½d to 7½d; mutton, 7d to 8½d; and veal, 9d per lb. Pork pigs, 10s; bacons, 9s 6d per score.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Fair attendance, and moderate supply of stock. The high rates of last week were maintained, but there was not so firm a tendency. Best beef made 7s 6d to 8s 4d, and secondary qualities 6s 6d to 7s per stone. Best South Down wethers and long wools, 7d to 8d; ewes and other sorts, 6d to 7d; veal, 10d; lamb, 10d to 1s per lb.

FOREIGN.

Yorkhill, Monday.—The usual weekly sale of American cattle was held to-day, when there were penned in the sheds 128 cattle landed by the Livonian (s), from Philadelphia, and 145 cattle, ex Sardinian, from Boston. Bullocks, as is generally the case, formed the greater proportion of the total number. All the cattle were of superior quality, all corn-fed beasts, and very suitable for the requirements of the trade. There was the usual attendance of customers. The demand for the bullocks was keen, and very high rates were obtainable—in fact, they realised more money than a week ago. The number of bulls on offer was not sufficient for the requirements of the trade, and in consequence they met a keen inquiry, and sold dear. The dead weight quotations may be given as follows:—States bullocks, best quality, medium weight, 63s to 65s per cwt; secondary and heavier, 60s to 62s; bulls, 54s to 56s, according to quality and finish. Canadian bullocks, best class, handy sorts, 63s to 64s; and in one or two instances up to 65s per cwt; secondary and heavier, 60s; bulls, 54s to 56s for best class; secondary, down to 52s.

WOOL.

London, Saturday.—English—per pk. of 240lb.—Fleeces, South Down Hoggs, £7 to £8 10s; half-bred hoggs, £6 to £7; half-bred wethers, £5 to £6; Kent fleeces, £5 to £6; South Down ewes and wethers, £7 to £8 10s; Leicesters do., £5 to £5 10s. Colonial—per lb.—Vic.—Fleece super, 1s 7d to 1s 9d; scoured good, 1s 7½d to 1s 8½d; scoured average, 1s 6½d to 1s 7½d; greasy average to fair, 10½d to 11½d; N.S.W., scoured average, 1s 4d to 1s 4½d; greasy average, 8d to 9d; S. Australian, greasy average, 6½d to 7d; N.Z., scoured average, 1s 5d to 1s 6d; grease average, 8¼d to 9¼d; Cape, scoured super, 1s 5d to 1s 6d; fleece average, 7d to 7½d; greasy average, 6½d to 7d; Natal, scoured, 1s to 1s 1d; greasy average, 6¾d to 7½d; crossbreds—Grs., Vic., good to super, 11d to 11½d; New Zealand, fine, 8½d to 9½d; do medium, 5½d to 6d; do coarse, 4½d to 4¾d.

Canterbury, Saturday.—An improved demand, and although prices have not advanced, full rates are being made. Kent fleeces are quoted at 5½d; lamb wool at 4d; and locks at 2d per lb.

HAY AND STRAW h ise5a

Glasgow and Leith.—The market for Scotch wools has not undergone any material change in April. There have been no public sales, but a moderate business has been done privately in cheviots and half-breds. The finest lots of hoggs in these classes being all but cleared out, users have turned their attention more to wedders, of which rather fuller stocks are available. Prices of good lots are well upheld, and in half-breds may be quoted the turn against buyers, while, on the other hand, sales of low and medium cheviots have been made at minimum rates. There has not been much doing in black-faced for the home trade, and shipments to the United States have been also on a small scale. Stocks are very small, especially of hoggs, which command a slight premium. Prices are firm, and it is felt that an American order would sweep off the entire stock.—J. and W. Greig.

MANURES.

Liverpool, Friday.—With arrivals, nitrate of soda is decidedly easier, and there are sellers of best quality, ex steamer, just arrived at £10 2s. 6d. to £10 5s. per ton, and a good trade is recorded. Sulphate of ammonia continues firm, and likewise East India bone meal at the recent advance. Kainit is in brisk seasonable request, as also superphosphate of lime at unchanged values. Feeding stuffs generally keep idle, but values are steady and as per subscribed. American decorticated cotton cake meal is scarce and has advanced about 7s 6d per ton during the week. Nitrate of soda, best quality, i.e., guaranteed 95 per cent. pure, in bags, £10 2s 6d to £10 5s per ton; East India Bone Meal, scarce, in bags, £4 10s to £4 15s per ton; Kainit, prime, 23 per cent., in bags, £2 7s 6d to £2 10s per ton; Palm Nut Cake, prime, in bags, £5 15s per ton; Linseed Cake, American thin oblong prime, in bags, £7 2s. 6d to £7 5s per ton; Linseed Cake, English, prime, in bulk, £8 2s 6d to £8 5s per ton; Linseed cake, foreign round, prime, soft, and oily, in bags, £8 2s 6d per ton; Cottonseed Cake, N.A. decorticated, prime, new, in bags, £7 1s 3d to £7 5s per ton; Cottonseed Cake, English decorticated, prime, soft, in bags, £7 5s to £7 10s per ton; Cottonseed Cake, English, undecorticated, prime, in bulk, £4 7s 6d to £4 15s per ton; Cottonseed Cake (crushed), 20-25 per cent. oil, prime, in bags, £7 2s 6d per ton; Maize Germ Meal, prime, in bags, £5 17s 6d per ton; Corn Oil Cake, 10-13. per cent. oil, prime, in bags, £6 5s to £6 7s 6d per ton; Rice Meal, Rangoon, as imported, in bags, £4 18s 9d to £5 per ton; Indian Meal, coarse to fine grinding, prime, in bulk, 13s to 13s 6d per 240lb.; Linseed, fine bold feeding, in bags, £3 2s 6d to £3 5s per qr., 416lb; D.N.S. Brand Superphosphate of Lime, guaranteed, 25 to 27 sol., in bags, £2 5s to £2 7s per ton; D.N.S. Brand Superphosphate of Lime, guaranteed 30 to 31, in bags, £2 10s to £2 12s per ton; Superphosphate of Lime, guaranteed 35 to 36 sol., in bags, £3 to £3 2s. per ton—at depot; Basic Slag, prime quality, guaranteed 30 to 35 per cent. phos., in bags, nominal; Basic Slag, prime quality, guaranteed 35 to 40 per cent. phos., in bags, nominal; Basic slag, finest quality, guaranteed 38 to 45 per cent. phos., in bags, nominal.—H. Jones Langar and Co.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Hull, Tuesday.—Oils: Exports for the week ending 22nd April, 1902:—Linseed oil: 1 Denmark, 1 Germany, 1 Holland, 43 Norway, 4 Turkey; total, 50 tons. Cotton oil: 162 Belgium, 8 Denmark, 5 France, 125 Germany, 224 Holland, 42 Sweden; total, 566 tons. Linseed oil: 29s 6d spot, 29s 6d May-August. Cotton oil: 24s 6d spot, 24s 9d May-August. Crude: 23s 6d spot, 23s 6d May-August. Rape oil: Jamba naked, 23s 9d spot; 1st quality, 24s 6d spot. Linseed: The arrivals are 13,984qrs from Buenos Ayres, 26,500qrs Rosario, 3,125qrs San Nicholas, 4,807qrs San Pedro, 3,447qrs Villa Constitution; total, 51,863qrs. The market during the week has ruled firm, and advances of from 6d to 1s 3d per qr have been paid. Calcutta strong market. The value early last week was 51s 6d April-June, but on Monday as high as 52s 3d was paid. The close is a shade quieter, and 52s has been accepted. River Plate has also shared in the advance, and spot, which was sold last week at 48s 3d, made yesterday 49s 6d. There are, however, seliers over at the price. For May-June 50s has been paid. Cottonseed: The market showed little change up to end of last week, and business continued to be doing at £7 10s spot to June, and £6 8s 9d November-January, but since yesterday there has been a strong tone, with sales made at 3s 9d per ton advance on these rates, closing firm thereat. Oilseed cakes: Linseed cakes—A firm market spot and forward. The demand for future deliveries seems likely to be mainly upon the English mills on account of the prospective deficiency in Russian linseed. Cotton cakes: The consumpfive demand is lessening somewhat, but, as the seed supplies are lessening in greater ratio, prices are stiffening. The largely increased prices of stock will greatly help the cake trade.—Keighley, Maxsted and Co.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed Cakes.—Owing to a further advance in the Seed Market, coupled with a strong Continental inquiry for cakes, values are again the turn dearer, while shippers ask fully 5s. per ton more money in forward positions. Russians meet a better demand at slightly easier terms in mats, and 2s 6d per ton less money in bags. Americans continue relatively the best value, and a good business has been done during the past week at £7 to £7 2s 6d per ton ex. ship. Calcutta made in bags still offer at £7 15s per ton ex. warehouse. London made selling quietly at 2s 6d per ton less money, but 7s 6d per ton less money has been accepted in quantity for delivery during the summer months. Cotton Cakes.—The trade is not large, but with a seed at a higher price than has been known for a considerable time, values are firmly held up, and English crushers now ask 5s. per ton more money, with Egyptian selling at last Monday's prices. Decorticated move off slowly at unchanged prices, and meal is also unchanged. Rape Cakes.—Neglected, although cheaply offered at £3 17s 6d to £4, at which they are worth attention. Maize Germ Meal.—Arrived parcels of American are quoted at £5 17s 6d to £6, with English obtainable at £5 15s., but the amount of business passing is small. Rice Meal.—The tone of the market is distinctly better, and £4 5s. ex. ship has been paid for June-July shipments of Rangoon, and £4 7s 6d for Sep.-Dec.

	Per ton. £ s. d.	Per ton £ s. d.
Linseed Cakes.		
London made ....ex mill	7 15 0	to 7 17 6
American ....ex ship	7 0 0	to 7 2 6
Russian, in mats ....ex dock	7 7 6	to 7 10 0
Russian, in bags ....ex dock	7 15 0	to 7 17 6
Calcutta	7 15 0	to —
Cottonseed Cakes.		
London made ....ex mill	4 17 6	to 5 0 0
Egyptian ....ex dock	4 10 0	to 4 12 6
Decorticated ....ex dock	6 5 0	to 6 10 0
Meal ....ex dock	6 10 0	to —
Rape Cakes.		
East India	3 17 6	to 4 0 0
Maize.		
English germ meal....ex mill	5 15 0	to —
American .... ex dock	5 17 6	to 6 0 0
Rice Meal.		
Rangoon ....ex dock	4 17 6	to 5 0 0

—Pinnock Bros., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

Waterloo Round Feeding Cakes, £7 0s 0d per ton Waterloo Round 97 per cent. Pure Linseed Cakes, £8 15s 0d per ton. Waterloo Anglo Shape 97 per cent. Pure Linseed Cakes, £8 10s 0d per ton; Waterloo 97 per cent. Pure Egyptian Cottonseed Cakes, £5 2s 6d per ton. All net Cash and F.O.R. in Hull.

Molassine Feeding Meal, packed in bags, of 1¼cwt. each. Price per cwt., 7s. 6d. Price per ton, £6 15s., on rail at works, Silvertown, Essex, and F.O.R. Liverpool. A sample lot of 6cwt., in 4 bags of 1½cwt. each, delivered free to any station in England on receipt of remittance for £2 11s 0d



STOCK AND SHOW NOTES.

By Herdsman.

I have received a copy of the list of ordinary and special prizes to be given at the July Show of the United East Lothian Agricultural Society. The show will be held in Amisfield Park, Haddington, on July 5th, and entries must all be made on or before June 20th. Particulars may be obtained of Mr. J. Stirling, Haddington.

The prize schedule of the annual show of the Newchurch and District Agricultural Society, to be held on Monday, the 26th inst., has been issued. Classes are provided for horses, turnouts, hunters, polo ponies, horned cattle, sheep, pigs, dogs, poultry, pigeons, rabbits, cats, cavies, butter, eggs, and bread. There will also be held jumping competitions. Entries close on May 20th, and applications for schedules and entry forms should be addressed to the Secretaries, Messrs. Mitchell and Burrows, Newchurch, near Manchester.

At a meeting of the Cheshire Milk Producers' Association, at Crewe, on Monday, the question of the advisability of approaching municipal authorities with a view to endeavouring to arrange for the payment of compensation for animals condemned for tuberculosis was discussed, and also Bills which are being introduced into Parliament by municipal authorities to deal with the milk supply. It was resolved to approach the Board of Agriculture, and present the views of the association on the subject.

In a consular report on the trade of Lombardy, written by Mr. Consul Armstrong, it is stated that Signor Baccelli, the present Italian Minister for Agriculture, announced in the autumn of last year that he had discovered a cure for foot and mouth disease, which has been previously described in these columns. Experiments were at once begun all over Italy, and also in Germany and Switzerland. I do not think, continues the report, that the Baccelli prescription can, at least as yet, be described as effective. The results obtained are very contradictory, and if, on the one hand, cures are reported, many cases of death from poisoning have occurred, especially in North Italy. Far be it from me to deny all value to the new treatment, which has many stout supporters among persons well qualified to form an opinion, but certainly its efficacy requires further proof. I shall not fail to follow the experiments, which are still going on, and I will make a special report, if it should be necessary.

An outbreak of disease amongst cattle recently occurred in some parts of Rhodesia, and at the outset it was thought to be rinderpest, but last week the British South Africa Company informed a press agency that they had received official information that the disease was not rinderpest, but a form of redwater. The veterinary advisers of the Administration say that the approaching cold weather will probably stop the spread of the disease. It is not considered that the panic views expressed in Bulawayo are justified. The services of an expert from the Cape Colony have been secured, who was to arrive in Rhodesia near the end of the week.

The Board of Agriculture has revoked the Kent Foot and Mouth Disease Orders, issued on March 29th and April 8th and 19th last.

The recently-completed census taken by the United States Government contains some interesting figures respecting the numbers of cattle contained in the various States of the Union. By grouping the various States and Territories into divisions, according to the conditions under which cattle are usually kept, says an American contemporary, we have practically four different cuts of the country—the corn-belt, where most of the feeding for market is done; the range country, where the cattle run out all the year round; the South, and the far East, north of Maryland. Taking the census figures and arranging the holdings according to numbers in these divisions, we get the following figures:—The corn-belt (ten States), 28,417,179; the range (sixteen States and Territories), 23,278,981; the South (thirteen States and District of Columbia, 9,592,921; the East (ten States), 6,393,863. Few would have believed that the corn-belt holds such a great lead over the ranges, but there are the census figures for purposes of comparison. Texas is far and away the greatest owner of cattle, but the unexpectedly small totals for the States in which the North-Western range lands lie tell eloquently why it is that the men from the North must annually journey to the Lone Star State to buy steers wherewith to turn their grass into money.



The Herdwick Ram "Young Snowdon," shown above is a two-shear bred by Mr. W. Leathes, Wern Fawr, Ruthin. At the 1901 Show of the Royal Agricultural Society at Cardiff, this ram won First Prize in the class.

During the past week has been issued volume twenty-five of Davy's Devon Herd Book, which gives particulars of bulls number 4,520 to 4,695, and cows numbers 18,064 to 18,567. This volume is a little more than a herd book, and is really a brief history of the breed for the past year, containing, as it does, particulars of the sales by auction of Devon cattle during 1901; details of prizes won by the breed at various agricultural shows last year, and several other items of interest to breeders of Devons. It is published at 3s., by the Devon Cattle Breeders' Society, and can be had of the Secretary, Wiveliscombe, Somerset.

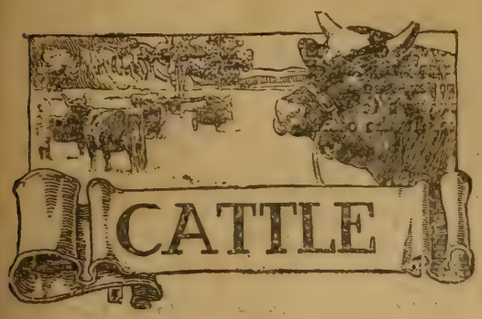
In our last issue, in my notice of the Large Black Pig Book, I was guilty of an unfortunate slip of the pen in stating that this breed was formerly confined to the Eastern Counties. It is true that at the present time there are more members, breeders, and herds of Large Black pigs in the Eastern Counties than in any other district, but as the Secretary (Mr. Ernest Prentice) points out, from the beginning of the Society there were a large number of old-established herds—some of from thirty to fifty years standing—located in the South-Western Counties.

On April 26th, fifteen grand Hampshire Down Tegs, selected from Mr. James Flower's noted prize-winning flock, were shipped on board the S.S. "Winnahaha," consigned to the Macy Estate, at Chilmark, U.S.A. This is not the first selection for the same destination, and evidently it is the intention of the purchaser to have one of the best flocks of Hampshire Downs in the States.

According to a telegram from Salisbury, dated Friday last, the epidemic of redwater is spreading with unabated virulence, and only the stock of a few farmers and transport riders has escaped the infection. At Umtali not a single span of oxen is available for transport the animals sicken and die is only equalled by the animals siegen and die is only equalled by the extraordinary infectiousness of the disease, which attacks a whole herd of cattle simultaneously. The native cattle have been so far immune; but it is feared the contagion will be introduced among them by the natives themselves, who are carrying the diseased flesh of the dead animals all over the country.

In consequence of the lamented death of Mr. Mullins, the Banwell and Weston-super-Mare Agricultural Association was left without a chairman, so that a meeting was held on Wednesday to select a gentleman to occupy the position. It was unanimously resolved that Mr. A. S. Hardwick be elected chairman, and that Mr. Thomas Castle, of Banwell, be elected vice-chairman for this year, it being decided that the position of vice-chairman should be filled annually. Mr. Hardwick, in returning thanks, spoke feelingly of the loss sustained by the society by the death of their late chairman, Mr. Mullins having always taken a leading part in anything relating to agriculture in the district. The committee considered it advisable that the office of president to the society should be filled annually, and it was proposed, and carried unanimously, that Sir W. H. Wills be asked to undertake the office of president for 1902. A sub-committee was appointed for the revision of the schedule of prizes, and the secretary informed the meeting that he had very substantial promises of support towards the prize list.

A council meeting of the Bristol District Property Protection Society was held on Thursday, at which 32 new members were elected. The secretary reported that since October last 139 special letters had been set out for members, which had resulted in many private settlements, and the discontinuance of various kinds of trespass; and that during the same period 27 prosecutions against 44 defendants had taken place, only one of which had been unsuccessful. Several local matters having been discussed the following resolution was passed:—"That, in consequence of the damage done through the trespassing of stray dogs, the Council of this society are of the unanimous opinion that the law in regard to dogs not under proper control should be made more stringent.



The Maiseyhampton Shorthorn Sale.

The sale of a portion of Mr. James Hobbs' well-known herd of dairy Shorthorns, on Wednesday, by Messrs. Thornton and Co., attracted a very large company, breeders being present from all parts of the country. Several of the South American agents attended, but they were not buyers. Three of the best heifers, however, were secured by Mr. Chirnside to join his herd near Melbourne, Australia. Altogether, it was a remarkable sale; the best lots were fairly "scrambled for," biddings coming from all parts of the ring, and considering the highest price of the sale was 75 guineas, the average of nearly £50 was extraordinary. The calves, however, were lotted with their dams, which helped considerably towards this figure. Lot 1, a grand type of Shorthorn, but eleven years old, quickly ran up to 70 guineas, at which price she went to Lord Calthorpe. The ten-years-old Rose of Oxford 31st, of Mr. Edmond's breeding, was also much admired, add went to the Buscot Park herd at 68 guineas. Ruby 15th, a sweet type of cow, bred by Mr. Greenwell, but from Maiseyhampton stock, went to Mr. Horlick, of Cowley, for 67 guineas. Among the heifers, Chorus 51st was fancied, and keenly bid for. Mr. Chirnside would not be denied, and at 75 guineas she goes to Australia. The bulls were an excellent lot brought out in first-rate condition, but not too fat. They sold well, as will be seen from the sale list given below:—

COWS AND HEIFERS.

	Gs.
Fanny 54th, roan, c. March 17, 1891, s. Royal Nottingham 59834 ..... Lord Calthorpe	70
Concord 5th, red, c. March 3, 1891, s. Hindlip 69th 59102 ..... Mr. J. Treadwell	17
Her red B.C., by Councillor 72264 ..... Mr. F. W. P. Matthews	10
Rose of Oxford 31st, red roan, c. Jan. 1, 1892, s. Parrington Surmise 2nd 60343 ..... Mr. A. Henderson	68
Fanny 65th, nearly red, c. Feb. 27, 1893, s. Devonshire 47686 ..... Col. Turner	37
Her red C.C., by Councillor 72264 ..... Col. Turner	20
Forest Queen 14th, red, c. April 2, 1893, s. Umpire 13th 64934 ..... Mr. Houndsfield	38
Her red B.C., by Jocelyn's Victor 76920 ..... Mr. Mattinson	14
Chorus 42nd, roan, c. Aug. 1, 1895, s. Hindlip 105th 65654 ..... Mr. J. F. Neal	21
Fanny 79th, nearly red, c. Oct. 15, 1895, s. Hindlip 106th 65654 ..... Mr. S. Dennis	45
Maria of Rissington, white, c. Jan. 5, 1895, s. Scottish Monarch 67886 ..... Mr. A. Hiscock	20
Her white C.C., by New Year's Gift 77323 ..... Mr. W. Greenwell	16
Ruby 15th, roan, c. June 7, 1896, s. Patriot 68226 ..... Mr. J. Horlick	67
Orange Blossom 17th, roan, c. Oct. 29, 1896, s. Royal Nottingham 50th 67819 ..... Mr. Caza'et	40
Her red C.C., by Councillor 72264 ..... Mr. Greenwell	14
Chewton Lily, white, c. Nov. 15, 1896, s. Oxford Marquis 69216 ..... Lord Carnarvon	36
Musical 98th, red, c. March 26, 1897, s. Royal Albert 2nd 69439 ..... Sir O. Mosley, Bart.	57
Fuchsia's Florentia 26th, nearly red, c. Dec. 17, 1897, s. Fitzwilliam 15th 70450 ..... Mr. Blackwell	27
Her roan C.C., by Becket Duke 4th 78372 ..... Mr. Greenwell	14
Musical 104th, red, c. March 4, 1898, s. Barrington Surmise 2nd 60343 ..... Mr. G. W. Tyser	45
Her roan B.C., by Councillor 72264 ..... Miss de Rothschild	20
Chorus 48th, nearly red, c. March 15, 1898, s. Jasper 2nd 70570 ..... Sir O. Mosley, Bart.	51
Her roan B.C. ..... Mr. Reading	12½
Cornelia 5th (twin to a heifer), red, c. August 21, 1898, s. Harold 68759 ..... Mr. J. Colby	30
Chorus 49th, nearly red, c. Nov. 6, 1898, s. Royal Nottingham 59834 ..... Mr. Colby	50
Orange Blossom 25th, red roan, c. Nov. 21, 1898, s. King of Stroxton 13th 64223 ..... Mr. W. Cooper	35
Fanny 91st, red, c. Feb. 23, 1899, s. King of Stroxton 13th 64223 ..... Mr. H. C. Martin	20
Lyford Rose 2nd, red, c. March 11, 1899, s. Red Lord 73373 ..... Col. Turner	53
Musical 108th, red, c. March 25, 1899, s. Red Lord 73373 ..... Mr. F. Cripps	42
Chorus 50th, red, c. March 27, 1899, s. Red Lord 73373 ..... Miss de Rothschild	43
Her red C.C., by New Year's Gift 77323 ..... Miss de Rothschild	18
Orange Blossom 28th, white, c. Aug. 4, 1899, s. King of Stroxton 13th 64223 ..... Mr. Chirnside, Australia	31
Her roan C.C., by Councillor 72264 ..... Lord Calthorpe	12
Matchless 54th, red roan, c. Sept. 12, 1899, s. King of Stroxton 13th 64223 ..... Mr. Chirnside	55
Chorus 51st, red roan, c. Oct. 5, 1899, s. King of Stroxton 13th 64223 ..... Mr. Chirnside	75
Her red B.C., by Councillor 72264 ..... Mr. Foster Harter	15
Quicksilver 88th, red roan, c. Oct. 31, 1899, s. Red Lord 73373 ..... Mr. G. W. Tyser	45
Musical 115th, red, c. Feb. 4, 1900, s. Red Lord 73373 ..... Sir A. Stepney, Bart.	45
Lyford Rose 4th, roan, c. June 14, 1901, s. New Year's Gift 77323 ..... Mr. S. Dennis	33

BULLS.

	Gs.
Red Lord 32nd 79718, red, c. Sept. 23, 1900, s. Red Lord 73373 ..... Mr. C. E. Wodehouse	50
Royal Windsor 4th 79864, red, c. Sept. 22, 1900, s. Councillor 72264 ..... Mr. A. Collier	37
Royal Windsor 5th 79855, red, c. Oct. 5, 1900, s. Councillor 72264 ..... Messrs. Searight, Bell, and Co.	48
Earl Stirton 20th 78788, rich roan, c. Oct. 21, 1900, s. King of Stroxton 13th 64223 ..... Mr. J. W. Lowe	43
Red Lord 34th 79720, rich roan, c. Nov. 10, 1900, s. Red Lord 73373 ..... Mr. H. B. Chandler	31
Red Lord 35th 79721, red, c. Nov. 18, 1900, s. Red Lord 73373 ..... Mr. Wykeham	26
Royal Windsor 8th 79857, red, c. Dec. 16, 1900, s. Councillor 72264 ..... Mr. Bromley	30
Royal Windsor 9th, roan, c. Feb. 23, 1901, s. Councillor 72264 ..... Mr. G. Palmer	50
March King, red, c. March 1, 1901, s. Patriot 69226 ..... Mr. Greenaway	20
Royal Windsor 11th, nearly red, c. March 7, 1901, s. Councillor 72264 ..... Messrs. Gowling and Sons	31
Royal Windsor 13th, roan, c. March 22, 1901, s. Councillor 72264 ..... Mr. Robinson	25
Royal Cornwall, rich roan, c. April 12, 1901, s. New Year's Gift 77323 ..... Mr. A. E. Marsh	70
Royal Windsor 14th, rich roan, c. April 14, 1901, s. Councillor 72264 ..... Mr. G. W. Tyser	50
Royal Windsor 15th, red roan, c. April 26, 1901, s. Councillor 72264 ..... Mr. J. F. Neal	26
Royal Cornwall 2nd, rich roan, c. April 23, 1901, s. New Year's Gift 77323 ..... Col. Turner	56
Henry, red, c. May 2, 1901, s. Spartan 2nd 80029 ..... Mr. W. J. Buckley	42
Royal Cornwall 3rd, roan, c. May 6, 1901, s. New Year's Gift 77323 ..... Mr. Richards	36
Royal Cornwall 4th, light roan, c. May 23, 1901, s. New Year's Gift 77323 ..... Mr. Wykeham-Musgrave	29
Royal Windsor 16th (twin to a bull), nearly red, c. June 9, 1901, s. Councillor 72264 ..... Mr. Hicks	24
Jeweller, rich roan, c. June 9, 1901, s. Millionaire 73078 ..... Mr. Williams	25

SUMMARY.

	Average. £ s. d.	Total. £ s. d.
28 Cows and heifers	52 5 10 ..	1,464 4 6
20 Bulls	40 18 0 ..	817 19 0
48 Head	47 11 0 ..	2,282 3 6

Sale of Lord Sherborne's Shorthorns.

This fine old Gloucestershire herd, which has been bred in the county for over sixty years, was sold by auction on Tuesday by Messrs. Thorton and Co., at Sherborne Park. There was a capital lot of cattle to be offered, many of the younger stock being especially good, and among them was the beautiful pair of young heifers, which were commended at the Tredegar Show last season. For these two 70 and 80 guineas were given, and the latter price was also paid for Sherborne Lass, a nice two-year-old roan. Several of the animals were purchased for exportation. We give below a sale list:—

COWS AND HEIFERS.

	Gs.
Fanny 55th, roan, c. April 28, 1891; s. Cambridge Waterloo 57013 ..... Captain Duncombe	18
Wiltshire Flora, red, c. March 1, 1893; s. Wiltshire Star 63565 ..... J. Corsen	21
Duchess of Sherborne 9th, red roan, c. Dec. 18, 1893; s. Royal Nottingham 3rd 63274 ..... J. H. Blamey	30
Her bull calf, red, s. Scottish Monarch ..... Bee	5½
Her bull calf, roan, s. Scottish Monarch 77828 ..... J. H. Blamey	4½
Countess of Clarence 24th, roan, c. March 1, 1894; s. Royal Nottingham 3rd 63274 ..... Lord Baring	57
Her bull calf, red, s. Scottish Monarch 77828 ..... Captain Case	21
Orange Blossom 12th, roan, c. Sep. 26, 1894; s. Royal Nottingham 59834 ..... J. T. Hobbs	20
Her bull calf, red, s. Scottish Monarch ..... W. Rail	7½
Rendcomb Quicksilver 4th, roan, c. Sep. 29, 1894; s. Hindlip 80th 60973 ..... S. Walker	31
Lady Flora 30th, red, c. March 11, 1895; s. Wiltshire Star 63565 ..... E. Hart	23
Daisy Marie 4th, nearly red, c. May 7th, 1895; s. Wiltshire Star 63565 ..... J. H. Blamey	30
Diana, red roan, c. July 9, 1895; s. Royal Fame 52035 ..... J. Horlick	41
Lady Flora 31st, white, c. May 15, 1896; s. Wrestler 66582 ..... W. Hicks	20
Fair Promise, roan, c. March 14, 1897; s. Fairy Prince 65480 ..... A. Hiscock	35
Her roan C.C., by Scottish Monarch 77828 ..... Captain Duncombe	11½
Scottish Countess, red, c. June 2, 1897; s. Scottish Chief 67883 ..... Lord Baring	20
Her red C.C., by Scottish Monarch 77828 ..... Captain Duncombe	6½
Scottish Lassie, roan, c. July 19, 1897; s. sire Scottish Chief 67883 ..... F. Scott	24
Her roan, C.C, by Scottish Monarch 77828 ..... Captain Duncombe	15½
Petunia, red, c. Sep. 5, 1897; s. Now or Never 67544 ..... G. Anderson	32
Her roan, C.C., by Farmer's Boy ..... G. Anderson	12½
Western Rose 10th, rich roan, c. May 18, 1898; s. Prince 71193 ..... E. Hicks	21
Her roan B.C., by Scottish Monarch 77828 ..... J. Stokes	5½
Fashionable Beauty, red, c. Sep. 11, 1898; s. Scottish Chief 67883 ..... Captain Duncombe	30
Her red C.C., by Chief of Sanquhar, 78587 ..... Captain Duncombe	19
Florentine 2nd, red, c. Nov. 9, 1898; s. Scottish Chief 67883 ..... J. D. Birchall	24
Lizzie, rich roan, c. March 13, 1899; s. Scottish Chief 67883 ..... J. B. Footman	21
Her white C.C., by Sam Weller lot 37 ..... J. B. Footman	5½
Chief Marchioness 2nd, nearly red, c. July 16, 1899; s. Scottish Chief 67883 ..... W. H. Hicks	28
Her red C.C., by Scottish Monarch 77828 ..... W. H. Hicks	7
Scottish Countess 2nd, c. Sep. 15, 1899; s. Scottish Chief 67883 ..... F. C. Davis	31
Her roan B.C., by Scottish Monarch 77828 ..... W. S. Dowding	10
Pansy, red, c. Feb. 4, 1900; s. Pluto 73219 ..... G. Campbell	26
Pretty Maid, roan, c. March 27, 1900; s. Pluto 73219 ..... G. Campbell	25
Songstress, rich roan, c. April 2, 1900; s. Chorister 76351 ..... J. H. Blamey	31
Sherborne Lass, roan, c. May 31, 1900; s. Now or Never 67544 ..... D. Maclennan	80
Highland Mary, red, c. July 13, 1900; s. Scottish Chief 67883 ..... Lord Southampton	26
Daisy Marie 7th, roan, c. Aug. 21, 1900; s. Sherborne Duke 77851 ..... D. Marshall	32
Sherborne Duchess, roan, c. Aug. 24, 1900; s. Sherborne Duke 77851 ..... D. Marshall	33
Sherborne Flora, red roan, c. Sep. 12, 1900; s. Sherborne Duke 77851 ..... A. Smith	24
Sherborne Ruth, roan, c. Feb. 2, 1901; s. Scottish Monarch 77828 ..... J. Horlick	70
Sherborne Marchioness, red, c. Dec. 24, 1900; s. Chorister 76351 ..... A. Henderson	80
Scottish Pansy, red, c. March 8, 1901; s. Scottish Monarch 77828 ..... G. Campbell	24
Quicksilver, red, c. March 9, 1901; s. Scottish Monarch 77828 ..... C. Jeffries	30
Pretty Maid 2nd, red, c. March 20, 1901; s. Scottish Monarch 77828 ..... P. A. Evans	31
Orange Blossom, roan, c. March 29, 1901; s. Scottish Monarch 77828 ..... C. Jeffries	41
Jenny Dennison, rich roan, c. Oct. 5, 1901; s. Scottish Monarch 77828 ..... Captain Duncombe	35

BULLS.

	Gs.
Chieftain, nearly red, c. March, 8, 1901; s. Scottish Chief 67883 ..... A. Green	28
Sam Weller, rich roan, c. April 15, 1900; s. Chorister 76351 ..... R. H. Norman	24
Western Monarch, rich roan, c. March 5, 1901; s. Scottish Monarch 77828 ..... D. Marshall	47
Pretender, roan, c. March 14, 1901; s. Scottish Monarch 77828 ..... D. Marshall	33
French, nearly red, c. May 8, 1901; s. Scottish Monarch, 77828 ..... C. F. Bartlett	20
Prince Charmer, red, c. May 20, 1901; s. Now or Never 67544 ..... M. H. Holman	38
Great Mogul, light roan, c. July 10, 1901; s. Majestic 74978 ..... R. Stratton	18
Magnum, nearly red, c. Aug. 15, 1901; s. Majestic 74978 ..... C. F. Bartlett	10
Sherborne Monarch, rich roan, c. Aug. 24, 1901; s. Scottish Monarch 77828 ..... J. H. Kelley	52
Sherborne Count, rich roan, c. Sep. 4, 1901; s. Scottish Monarch 77828 ..... T. F. Roskruge	37

SUMMARY.

	Average. £ s. d.	Total. £ s. d.
35 Cows	38 17 7 ..	1,351 6 6
10 Bulls	32 4 8 ..	322 7 0
45 Head	37 8 0 ..	1,683 13 6

Mr. Hanbury and Foot and Mouth Disease.

On Wednesday afternoon Mr. Hanbury received at the House of Commons a deputation from the Canterbury Farmers' Club and East Kent Chamber of Agriculture, whose object was to make to the Board of Agriculture suggestions with a view to obtaining the speediest possible termination of foot and mouth disease outbreaks with the least possible unnecessary interference with the sale and movement of fat and store stock

Mr. Hanbury, in reply, said the board was always ready to receive criticisms, but it was entirely due to its action that this country was not as badly ravaged as France. The inconvenience suffered would be greater than it actually was if the mistake were made of drawing too restricted an area. In this instance the action of the department had been rewarded with success. There was a difference of opinion between the department and the farmers as to the slaughter of infected animals. There had been instances in which disease had been spread by the men engaged in slaughtering or burying, and the board found isolation preferable. He sympathised with what had been urged as to officials on the spot being given powers to modify local conditions where it was thought advisable, and with those officials the board were in close touch, always ready to receive suggestions. Officials of the board then explained what was done in the way of disinfecting sheep and pasture land, and after thanking the Minister the deputation withdrew.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending April 29, 1902:—

Swine Fever.	Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.	No.	238	687	630	915	2,661	5,222	7,104	10,964
	Outbreaks.	No.	42	152	54	73	522	1,087	617	844
Rabies.	Cases Reported. Oth'r Anim'ls.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
	Cases Reported. Dogs.	No.	...	...	...	...	9	1	...	1
Pleuro-Pneumonia.	Cattle Slaughtered. Exposed to Infection.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Cattle Slaughtered. Diseased.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Outbreaks.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Glanders (including farcy).	Animals Attacked.	No.	35	48	29	15	756	706	638	416
	Outbreaks.	No.	19	26	52	10	380	413	259	280
Foot-and-Mouth Disease	Animals Attacked.	No.	1	4	...	...	118	969	120	...
	Outbreaks.	No.	...	...	...	...	1	12	8	...
Anthrax.	Animals Attacked.	No.	18	22	30	29	441	503	313	258
	Outbreaks.	No.	13	16	17	10	262	240	156	170
Period.			Week ended April 26, 1902 ...	Corresponding (1901 / 1900 / 1899) week in ...			Total for 17 weeks 1902 ...	Corresponding (1901 / 1900 / 1899) period in ...		

NOTE.—The figures for the current Year are approximate only.



Gowanbank Hackney Sale.

The annual sale of carriage horses, cobs, and ponies belonging to Mr. A. Morton, Gowanbank, Darvel, N.B., took place at Gowanbank on Thursday, there being a good attendance of buyers. Mr. D. Stevenson conducted the sale, some 61 animals were catalogued, but of these a number were withdrawn. A total of 41 animals were sold. In the pony section competition was anything but brisk, but prices on the whole were fairly high. The highest price realised amongst the ponies was 85 guineas for a beautiful little mare, which went to Mr. Gemmell, Ayr. In all, 16 ponies were sold, bringing a total of 578 guineas, the average being 38 guineas each. Bidding for the hackneys proper was slow, although in one or two instances it was decidedly spirited. Mr. Hoggan, Busbie, who secured a beautiful bay gelding at 205 guineas, had the credit of topping the prices. The total realised in this section was 1,762 guineas, giving an average of 74 guineas each. Following is a list of principal prices and purchasers.—

PONIES BROKEN TO SADDLE AND HARNESS.

	Gs.
Snip, mare, 5 yrs., 13.1½ .....Mr. J. Dunlop	25
Glee, mare, 6 yrs., 13 hands .....Mr. C. Morrice	25
Rolf, gelding, 4 yrs., 13.3½ .....Mr. Dippie	28
Kim, gelding, 4 yrs., under 13 hands....Mr. Andrews	49
Little Woman, mare, 5 yrs., 13.2 ....Mr. A. Gemmell	85
Gambol, gelding, 4 yrs., 13.3 Messrs. Thelkeed Bros.	70
Rupert, gelding, 4 yrs., 14.1½ .....Mr. W. Bain	34
Cooldie, mare, 6 yrs., under 14 hands ....Mr. Kean	61
Hilda, mare, 5 yrs. .....Mr. Freeman	33
Lady Lydia, mare, 4 yrs., 14.2 .....Mr. Kaye	55

HORSES BROKEN TO SADDLE AND HARNESS.

Lady Green, mare, 6 yrs., 15.2½ hands ....Mr. Green	68
Brown Maid, mare, 6 yrs., 15 hands ....Mrs. Vernon	41
Glide, mare, 5 yrs., 15 hands .....Mr. Kaye	47
Ethereal mare, 6 yrs., 15 hands .....Mr. Kaye	94
Major, gelding, bay, 4 yrs., 15.3½ hands Mr. T. Renfrew	58
Lieutenant, gelding, 5 yrs., 15.3½ hands, Mr. T. Renfrew	88
Prosper, gelding, 4 yrs., 15.1½ hands ..Mr. Anderson	56½
Harmony, mare, 6 yrs., 15 hands .....Mr. Fife	57
Glamour, mare, 6 yrs., 15 hands .....Mr. J. Hill	70
Rudolf, gelding, 4 yrs., 16 hands .....Mr. White	61
Rufus, gelding, 5 yrs., 16 hands .....Mr. White	59
Ariel, mare, 5 yrs., 14.3 hands .....Mr. Lazenby	40
Gallant, gelding, 5 yrs., 15 hands .....Mr. Sheddon	28½
Grandee, gelding, 5 yrs., 15.1 hands ..Mr. G. Hoggins	205
Kingcup, gelding, 4 yrs., 15.3 ....Lord Elphinstone	60
Marigold, mare, 5 yrs., 15.2 .....Mr. W. Bain	60
Valdemar, gelding, 4 yrs., 16 hands ..Mr. D. Morton	56
Rosemary, mare, 5 yrs., 14.3 .....Mr. Kaye	40
Bright Rose, mare, 6 yrs., 15.3 .....Mr. Thomson	60
Clean Slate, gelding, 5 yrs., 16 hands ....Mr. Nairn	108
Surveyor, 5 yrs., 16 hands .....Mr. Allan	150
Norseman, gelding, 4 yrs., 15.2 .....Mr. W. Bain	75
Argo gelding, 5 yrs., 16 hands .....Mr. A. Morton	38

SUMMARY.

	Average. £ s. d.		Total. £ s. d.
16 Ponies	38 1 11	...	609 10 6
25 Horses	74 0 0	...	1,850 2 0
41 Head	59 10 10	...	2,459 12 6

Sale of Hackneys at Bingley.

On Thursday last some useful animals from the stud of Mr. W. Rycroft, of Drake Hill, Bingley, were disposed of by Mr. W. Bainbridge. The stock on offer consisted of hackney and show harness horses and ponies. There was a good attendance, many well-known breeders and exhibitors being round the ring. The sale realised 1,959 guineas in the aggregate. A few brood mares which were first put up did not realise much money, but some nice prices were realised for harness mares, the principal being as follows:—

	Gs.
Lady Newbald .....Mr. Leeming	60
Danseuse of Drake Hill .....Mr. T. Mitchell	60
Poppy of Drake Hill .....Privately	110
Maymead .....Mr. Lord	150
Scholebrook Emmaline .....Mr. Hopkinson	175
Broxton Heiress .....Mr. Thornton	60
Humph H., pony mare .....Mr. Fraser	130
Drake Hill Star, bay harness gelding..Mr. T. Mitchell	80
Mr. Winkle (full brother to Sam Weller)....Mr Mills	60
Entire bl. ch.	50
Gantry, stallion .....Mr. Naylor	73

Carlisle Horse Sales.

The May sale of the Hetherington Auction Co of high-class hunting, harness, and agricultural horses was held by Hetherington's Auction Co. on Thursday. There was a slight decrease in the number of animals offered, 132, as compared with previous years. Some of the best Hunters were bid to 60gs. and 65gs., but did not reach the reserves placed on them. The following were some of the principal prices: Five-year-old gelding, from Mr. Marshall, Cornhill, 47gs.; Hackney gelding, to 35gs., from Mr. Oram, Wetheral; others to 36½gs., from Messrs. Lloyd, Boustead Hill. At Harrison's Auction Mart the following prices were realised: Best harness horse: 1, Mr. Threlkeld, Kirkoswald; 2, Mr. Graham, Great Salkeld. Cobs and ponies under 15 hands: 1, Mr. Threlkeld, Kirkoswald, 38gs., for a black horse, 5 years old, to Messrs. Bertram and Son, Whitley-on-Tyne; 2, Mr. Johnstone, Kirkbride, 27gs., for a black cob, 3 years old, to Mr. Topping, Bowness-on-Solway. Cart horse (any age): 1, Mr. Dalton, Cummersdale, 50gs., for a bay horse, 6 years old, to Mr. Richards, London; 2, Mr. Longstaffe, Hawes, 45gs., for a bay mare, 5 years old, to Mr. Richards. Cart horse, 3 years old: 1, Mr. Westwarth, Morton; 2, Mr. W. C. Miller, Birklands.

SHEEP.

The Government and the Prevention of Sheep Scab.

At a meeting of the Stockton Chamber of Agriculture held last week, Captain Spencer, of the Board of Agriculture, appeared to convey the Board' reply to a resolution passed by the Chamber on the question of sheep scab. The answer, he said, was that the discussion of compulsory dipping was premature. They had already got an order called "The Sheep Scab Order," which gave power to the local authorities to protect themselves, and the Board therefore thought it would be premature to ask for further powers. They also thought that at the present time it would be impossible to carry out the compulsory dipping of sheep.

Mr. J. T. Wilson (who was in the chair) said it was very good of the Board of Agriculture to send down Captain Spencer to make that statement, but he did not consider it a very satisfactory one.

Mr. J. Furness expressed the opinion that they would never be thoroughly rid of sheep scab until it was compulsory to dip sheep twice a year.

The chairman said that in Scotland, England, and Wales there were fifty-five counties where there was sheep scap, and forty-one counties where there had been fresh outbreaks this year, so that sheep scab was pretty general.

After further discussion it was agreed to thank the Board of Agriculture for sending down Captain Spencer, and to again express the opinion that there is no effectual measure against sheep scab but the compulsory dipping of sheep throughout the country.

PIGS.

American Annual Pig Production.

There were more pigs slaughtered in the west in the past year, that period ending with March 1st, than ever before. The total number, according to the "Price Current," of Cincinnati, was 25,411,000, a gain of 1,811,000, or 7.6 per cent., over the preceding year. Of this, 10,340,000 hogs were slaughtered in what is known as the winter packing and 15,071,000 in the summer packing. Despite the large gain in number slaughtered, the gain in weight of meat was slight, owing to the lighter weight of the hogs. The summer-slaughtered hogs were nine pounds, or 4 per cent., lighter, while the winter-packed hogs were 24 pounds, or 10 per cent. lighter. While the hogs were lighter in weight they cost more. Reasons for the higher cost of pigs are not far to seek, these being the higher cost of all feed stuff and the expansion in demand, caused by the diversion of consumption from beef to pork, caused by the high price of the former. It is interesting to learn that the average cost of hogs in the west the past year was considerably higher than for several years previously. The general average indicated by the returns is $5.94 per 100 pounds, compared with $5.07 the preceding year, and an annual average of $3.96 for five years prior to the past year.

There are, of course, many hogs packed in the east, these being given separately. They numbered 4,976,000 in 1901-02, as against 5,389,000 in the preceding year. Adding the eastern and western packs together, a total aggregate of 30,393,000 hogs is reached, which compares with preceding years as follows:—

1901-1902	30,393,000
1900-1901	28,980,000
1899-1900	28,172,000
1898-1899	29,793,000
1897-1898	26,134,000
1896-1897	22,670,000
1895-1896	20,480,000

The total output of the country is shown to be about 30,000,000, and, taking the total number of swine in the country at about 64,000,000, the total pack at the leading centres east and west is shown to be nearly half of this. This takes no account of the millions of hogs slaughtered on farms without ever entering the packing house proper, and it shows that easily one-half of the country's total stock of hogs is slaughtered each year in the country's packing houses.

Birmingham Agricultural Exhibition.

The thirty-first annual meeting of the Birmingham Agricultural Exhibition Society was held at Birmingham on Thursday, Mr. Alderman Edwards in the chair. The Council announced that His Majesty the King, in response to their request, had been graciously pleased to favour the society by continuing his patronage. In their annual report they stated that the transactions of the society during the year 1901 had in every way been most satisfactory. The thirty-third annual Shorthorn Show, held in March, was well supported by exhibitors, but the demand at the auction was not so keen as usual, the South American ports being closed against British cattle, in consequence of the prevalence of foot-and-mouth disease in this country. As Bingley Hall was let for a Polytechnic Exhibition, promoted on behalf of the Birmingham University, the autumnal show of Shorthorns was held at Cave's Repository. The accommodation there not being so extensive as at the hall, the class for old bulls was omitted from the prize list. The entries were consequently less in number. Trade was satisfactory, although the South American buyers were still unable to make purchases.

The fifty-third annual Christmas Cattle Show took place on November 30th and December 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th. The number of entries received was the largest for several years, and the merit of the various exhibits was pronounced to be above the average. Special regulations were again issued by the Board of Agriculture, which enabled swine to be exhibited, and their numbers showed a gratifying increase as compared with the previous year. The Champion Prize, the Maisemore Cup, and the three 100-guinea Challenge Cups were won by the Earl of Strathmore, a former president and an old supporter of the society. Favoured by good weather, the admissions continued to show an increase. The sub-lettings during the year had amounted to the largest sum ever received. As shown by the statement of accounts, the assets of the society, in addition to fixtures, amounted to £9,945 15s., as compared with £9,019 8s. 8d. last year. The number of life members was 251, and the number of annual subscribers 620. The number of shares in the Bingley Exhibition Hall Company (Limited) held by the society remains at 63.

The chairman moved the adoption of the report and statement of accounts. Mr. Henry A. Wiggin seconded the motion, which was adopted.

Agricultural Imports.

The following is an account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended April 26, 1902, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year:—

Animals Living.	1901.	1902.		1901.	1902.
	No.	No.		Cwt.	Cwt.
Cattle ...	9,496	7,100	Wheat ...	1725,700	1,465,938
Sheep.....	7,889	5,465	Flour	707,100	453,378
Swine.....	—	—	Barley ...	430,700	243,405
*Horses...	—	506	Oats	427,400	321,117
			Peas	40,500	31,687
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Beans ...	900	77,681
Beef	109,848	78,404	Maize ...	886,900	687,083
Mutton...	101,361	100,524		Bunches	Bunches
Pork	13,833	7,851	Bananas	43,645	51,628
Bacon ...	108,275	99,295			
Beef, salt	2,654	2,381		Cwt.	Cwt.
Hams.....	26 935	35,047	Apples ...	21,018	21,146
Pork, salt	4,191	5,378	Apricots & Peaches	—	—
Meat, salt & Fresh	19,388	13,563	Cherries	—	—
Do. pres.	21,587	58 832	Currants	—	—
Butter ...	68,285	80,902	Gooseb'rs	—	—
M'rg'rine	19,928	18,255	Grapes ...	325	369
Cheese ...	26,452	13,670	Lemons...	37,720	25,617
Milk, Fresh, in cans or drums.	270	—	Oranges	119 283	207,076
			Pears.....	41	19
			Plums ...	—	—
			Strawb'r's	13	4
			Oth'r Fr't	1,406	235
Milk ...				Tons.	Tons.
Cream.	90	43	Hay	3,080	9,137
			*Straw ...	—	1,063
Milk pr's'v'd, other kinds ...	23	16	Onions ...	200,113 Cwt.	169,445 Cwt.
Con. Milk	17,854	21,813	Hops	418	853
			* Locust Beans	—	35,450
	No.	No.	Potatoes	350,984	46,475
Eggs	320,528	382,290	Tom'to's	10,562	15,121
			Other	Value.	Value.
Poultry & Game	Value. £8,167	Value. £9,210	Vegbles	£17,403	£21,080
				Cwt.	Cwt.
			Dried ...	2,430	1 16
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Pres'v'd		
Rabbits	4 909	1,650	by can-		
Lard ...	50,869	32,865	ning ...	2,230	2,115

* Not shown in 1901



North-East Ireland Show.

The annual Spring Show of the North-East Agricultural Association was held in the society's beautiful and convenient showyard at Balmoral, Belfast, on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday last. It was altogether a capital show, and demonstrated in a striking manner the remarkable progress the Association has made of late years. We gave some particulars as to the entries in our last issue, under "Stock and Show Notes," but it will not be out of place to repeat them here. The total entry received for last week's show, including implement, etc., stands, was 1,590, as compared with 1,416, or a remarkable increase of over a thousand; whilst it may be mentioned that when the association first held its show at Balmoral—in 1896—the total was under a thousand. Almost all the sections of the show were numerically stronger than last year—a gratifying feature—while merit was conspicuous in every department. The entries in the various sections were as follows:—Thorough-bred stallions, 14; draught stallions, 11; draught horses, 34; draught horses (in gear), 87; polo ponies, 18; harness horses, 51; hackney carthorses, 10; cattle, 406; milking trial, 12; swine, 44; poultry, 515; butter, 260; eggs, 30; butter-making contests, 19; implement, etc., stands, 80. The history of the association is one of steadily-growing prosperity, the number of entries having grown in a most satisfactory manner. The members are enthusiastic and anxious to promote the society's welfare in every possible way, and if they cannot equal the record of the Royal Dublin Society they can at least lay claim to an equal desire to promote the welfare of those having an interest in horse-breeding and farming generally.

The show of cattle was undoubtedly one of the best held by the association as regards all-round quality. The Shorthorn again held pride of place, and indeed each year seems firmer seated in the favour of Irish breeders. At the Dublin Spring Show, of the ten hundred cattle exhibited nearly half were Shorthorns. The proportion at the Belfast show was not so great, but still of the three hundred and fifty cattle stalled a hundred and fifty are Shorthorns. To this breed, too, went the majority of the prizes offered by the County Councils of Antrim and Down for competition among farmers whose poor-law valuation does not exceed £150. Thus the amateur and the farmer are both given a deeper interest in Shorthorns than in any other breed as far as the show is concerned. The Aberdeen-Angus is nominally second favourite with Irish breeders, but each year the still hardier Galloway is coming more and more into favour. Last week there were five classes, in most of which competition was keen, except in that for aged bulls. Herefords were never a popular breed in the North of Ireland, and consequently the south captured most of the honours. Channel Island stock, Kerries, and Dexters, were very well represented. The horse section was an interesting one. Most of the classes for thoroughbred and agricultural sires, harness and draught horses, and polo ponies were very well filled, especially that for thoroughbred hunter sires, which numbered fourteen. Doubtless competition in this latter class received an incentive from the fact that four Government premiums of £50 each were offered. This is one of the modest favours that the association has received from the Government through the Royal Dublin Society. It may be hoped and fairly expected that direct Government assistance will be extended to the association in the future. Ulster has usually had to work out its own salvation, while the south and west have been largely benefited by Government aid, especially in agriculture. Pigs did not make a particularly strong section, though in some of the classes there was capital competition, the principal Dublin breeders, such as Messrs. Nash, of Lucan, and Smith, of Navan, being well represented. Poultry made a remarkably fine show—one of the finest indeed ever held in Ireland, whilst the dairy section was perhaps one of the features of the show. A huge marquee was devoted to it, and, in addition to the exhibits of butter—the product of the best creameries and dairies of the country—interest was attracted by the working dairies and the butter-making competitions which were set going from time to time As usual, the upper slopes of the showyard are allotted to machinery and implements, and these constituted an attractive feature of the exhibition.

Taken as a whole, the cattle made one of the best displays seen at this society's spring show, the shorthorns being especially good; in fact, many thought they were the best lot ever seen here. The premiums offered by the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction doubtless had something to do with the increase in numbers. There was an entry of 24 in the class for shorthorn bulls calved prior to 1900, and the best of these was Candahar, a Scotch bred animal of exceptional merit, shown by Mr. H. H. Smiley, of Larne. Messrs. Wm. and J. Ekin, Moneymore, were second with Golden Crown, bred locally, and third honours went to Mr. Walter R. Crawford, Tullyhogue, County Tyrone, for Superior, bred by exhibitor. Of the 21 entries for shorthorn bulls, calved in 1900, Mr. W. R. Crawford was first with Master Stephen, Mr. Robert M'Clure, Randalstown, being second with Barrister, bred by the Earl of Erne. The best of the 17 entries of shorthorn bulls, calved in 1901, on or before 31st March, was a Scotch animal, shown by Mr. Wm. Marshall, Stranraer, Mr. John M'Elderry, Ballymoney, took the second, and the third went to Mr. W. R. Crawford, Tullyhogue. Shorthorn bulls, calved in 1901, on or after 1st April, numbered 18, and the prize-winners in the order of precedence were Mr. W. R. Crawford, Mr. Thomas A. M'Clure, Killylea, and Mr. J. Wilson, Fleming, Cookstown. For the winners in the other shorthorn classes, we must refer our readers to the prize list given below. The Musgrave Challenge Cup, for the best shorthorn bull in the show not exceeding four years of age, was won by Viceroy, the property of Mr. Matthew Marshall, of Stranraer; whilst the Queen Victoria Challenge Cup, for the best yearling shorthorn bull bred in Ireland and the property of an Irish exhibitor, went to Mr. John M'Elderry's Silver Mist, bred by Mr. Crawford, Tullyhogue. The cup presented by Mr. Henry B. Murray, Antrim, for the best shorthorn dairy cow in milk, in the breeding section of the show, was won by Mr. James Bowden, of Cootehill, with Alice Gwynne, bred by winner, the same animal also capturing the "Robson" Challenge Cup for the third time in succession, and thus the cup is now the property of Mr. Bowden.

There were 44 entries of Aberdeen Angus cattle, and as at the Royal Dublin Society's Show, they formed one of the features of the exhibition. The twenty-five guinea Challenge Cup, for the best bull in the section, was won by Norman Baron, a splendid animal shown by Mr. C. Dunbar-Buller, Roburn, Donaghadee, Lord Crofton, beng reserve with Royal Hope of Mote. Mr. Dunbar-Buller's Norman Baron was also awarded the Polled Cattle Society's gold medal for the best Aberdeen Angus cattle, the reserve animal being May Empress, the property of Mr. E. Coey, Droagh, Larne, and winner of first prize in the class for cows or heifers of the breed, in calf or in milk, calved in or prior to 1899. Norman Baron was the first prize in the class for bulls calved prior to 1900, the second prize going to Aghalee, shown by Mr. F. L. Turtle, The Villa, Aghalee, who also secured a similar award in May Empress's class. As will be seen from the prize list, all the prize-winning animals in the Aberdeen section were shown by Irish breeders.

The feature of the Galloway classes, which numbered five, was the remarkable success of Mr. R. J. Calwell, Belfast, who secured the Galloway Cattle Society's special prize of five guineas for the best bull, a similar award for the best cow or heifer, and no fewer than four firsts, three seconds, and the same number of third prizes. The other successful Galloway exhibitor was Mr. B. H. Lane, of Limavady, who won first in the class for Galloway bulls calved in 1901, and second for Galloway heifers calved last year, whilst the bull was reserve for the Galloway Cattle Society's specia.

There were three classes for Herefords—one for bulls calved in 1901, and three for cows or heifers, in calf or in milk, and the other for heifers calved in 1901. In the first there were six entries, and the best of these was Admiral, shown by Lieut.-Colonel Everard, Randalstown, Navan, the same owner's Hero securing the second award. Pamellia, shown by Miss Madden, Nutley, was judged to be the best cow or heifer in calf or in milk, and later on she was awarded the Hereford Herd Book Society's Challenge Cup, value 10 guineas, for the best animal in the Hereford classes, the bona-fide property of a resident in Ireland. The reserve ticket went to Mr. Thomas Boylan, Drogheda, for Winnie II., the second prize winning in Camellia's class. Mrs. Madden also won the first prize in the heifer class, with Manilla, Lieut.-Colonel Everard getting the second with Needless 25th.

The five classes for Channel Island cattle were well filled with animals of good quality. The best Jersey heifer, two years old or under at date of show, calved in Ireland, was Hazelton Lass, shown by Mr. M. O'Neill, Milltown, County Dublin, and it secured the Rathmore Challenge Cup, value 12 guineas. The same owner's Gold Charm, was reserve for this special. Mr. O'Neill was also a successful exhibitor of bulls calved in 1901, he winning all three prizes in that class, whilst in that for bulls calver prior to 1901 he won the second prize.

There were 37 entries in the four classes for Kerries, and they made a very good display. The Duke of Leinster was first in the class for bulls one year old or upwards, the Earl of Shaftesbury being second, and the Duke of Leinster third. The Earl of Shaftesbury was first and second in the section devoted to Kerry cows or heifers, the Duke of Leinster being third. In the class for heifers calved in 1899 the Duke of Leinster secured first prize, the Earl of Shaftesbury taking second and third honours; whilst in the next class, that for heifers calved in 1900 or 1901, these two noble exhibitors divided the honours. Dr. H. J. Boyd, Hillsborough, was first in the class for Dexter bulls one year old or upwards, Mr. W. R. Cresswell being third. Other winners in the Dexter classes were Mr. Samuel Gibson, Dunmurry, and Mr. Frank Robertson, Lisburn. The Earl of Shaftesbury was awarded the champion cup for Kerrys, and Dr. H. J. Boyd the champion cup for Dexters. In dairy cattle, honours were awarded to Mr. Thos. Smyth, Carnmoney; Mr. John Russell, Carnmoney; and Mr. David M'Henry, Dunmurry.

The display of horses was perhaps the finest seen at the shows of the society. In the first class—that devoted to thoroughbred stallions to get weight-carrying hunters or high class harness horses—there were 14 entries, the largest in the history of the association. The quality, too, was excellent, and the record is perhaps accounted for by the fact that four premiums of £50 each are offered. The draught classes were the finest seen for many years, and it would appear that much more interest in being taken in this class of stock than in the past. This is as it should be, as this breed is particularly useful in this part of the country. The action of the Department of Agriculture in subsidising Clydesdales and shire horses is having a good effect. The results are perhaps not very apparent yet, but good is sure to come in the immediate future. Brood mares were a good class, and draught gelding or mares, too, show excellent quality. The farmers' class was disappointing, as only one entry was catalogued. Having regard to the fact that this section was specially placed on the show programme it was disappointing that better advantage was not taken of it. Farmers should certainly show more interest in it than they have done, as it is calculated to create a demand for cart horses whose breeding should prove remunerative. In the section for thoroughbred stallions Mr. H. H. Smiley took first honours with Mascarille a beautiful chestnut horse, 16 hands high, with great quality, fine well laid in shoulders, short back, powerful quarters, and plenty of bone. Mr. Edward Mitchell, Enniskillen, was second with Coylton; and another Northern owner, Mr. Francis Russell, V.S., Ballynahinch, was third, with Nasr-ed-Din. Draught stallions were a good class, the winners in the order of merit being Mr. Thomas O'Malley, Raheny; Mr. Thomas Lindsay, Crossgar; and Mr. W. L. Lamont, Cookstown. The class devoted to draught geldings or mares, any age, to have been in regular use on the streets of any town or city for at least two months prior to the show, brought out seven entries, and after very keen competition Messrs. Hugh Craig and Co. took first prize with Arley King, a fine bay gelding. Third honours also went to this firm for Jewel Princess, Messrs. Wordie and Co. being second with Lord Londonderry, a fine year old brown gelding.

The polo ponies were a high class lot, which, if not quite in the aggregate to other shows, yet singly displayed real merit. Indeed, Northern exhibitors hold their own still, and Mr. Houston, of Orangefield, a winner at Dublin, was again successful. Milady, a bay mare, sired by Son of York, won the silver medal presented by the Polo Pony Society for the best polo pony brood mare, and the silver medal for the best pony polo stallion went to the Keynsham Stud Company for White Mask. Milady was also first in the class for ponies not exceeding 14.2 hands, there being 10 entries, the same owners' Shula being third. Mr. G. F. Richardson's Pirate was second. The last-named owner's Cobweb was first for ponies suitable for and likely to make polo ponies. Mr. E. M. Stewart, Belfast, was second with Vengeance, and Mr. H. Rainey's Lady Clare was third.

A couple of jumping contests were decided on the second day, over a first-rate course. In the first competition, which was an open one, 23 horses competed. The test was a most exhaustive one before the judges (Messrs. T. H. Hutchinson and Alfred West) gave their award. Accountant, Mr. Baillie's well-bred, good-looking, but erratic hunter, was eventually placed first, and he certainly deserved his victory. A powerful and clever chestnut gelding belonging to Mr. Morton, of Ballymena, was placed second, while old Defiance, who did not display his customary finish, was third, and Mr. W. M'Bride's Shooting Star fourth. In the second event, which was for young horses up to four years old and maidens, Miss Persse's Folly, who had performed very well in the open contest, won from Mr. Morton's Lord Ashton and Mr. F. Barbour's Lady Doubtful.

There was about the average number of pigs, and, the quality being very good, competition was somewhat keen. The entry in the poultry department was the best that has ever been recorded in connection with the North-East Show, all the principal breeders being well represented. This is

doubtless owing to the exertions that are now being made to bring up the poultry industry of Ireland to the level of that of other countries which have found a ready and remunerative market for their produce in the United Kingdom. The majority of the prizes were won by competitors on this side of the Channel, but the proportion retained on the other side was sufficient to prove highly encouraging to home exhibitors. There was a capital display of butter and eggs, whilst implements were more numerous than ever.

Judges.

HORSES.—Thoroughbred Stallions: T. H. Hutchinson, The Manor House, Catterick, Yorkshire. County Livestock Committee's Classes: T. H. Hutchinson. Draught Stallions and Draught Horses: Thomas Macafee, Currysiskin House, Ballymoney. Polo Ponies: T. H. Hutchinson. Harness Horses and Hackney Car Horses: T. H. Hutchinson. Draught Horses in Gear: Thomas Macafee. Van Horses in Gear and Trotting Horess: T. H. Hutchinson.

CATTLE.—Shorthorns: George Harrison, Gainford Hall, Darlington. Aberdeen Angus: Colonel George S. Grant, Aucharachan, Glenlivet, N.B. Dairy Cattle: Joseph Taylor, Highfield Farm, Chorley. Galloways: James Biggar, Grange Farm, Dalbeattie, N.B. Herefords: William Tudge, Leinthall, Ludlow; T. H. Hutchinson. Channel Islands: G. P. Mead, The Woodlands, Bicton, Shrewsbury. Kerries and Dexters: R. Tait Robertson, Church Farm, Babraham, Cambridge.

PIGS.—Joseph Taylor, Highfield Farm, Chorley.

JUMPING COMPETITIONS.—T. H. Hutchinson; Alfred West, Kilcroney, Bray.

TROTTING HANDICAP.—P. T. Flanagan, Dublin; John Ballantine, Belfast.

Champion and Special Prizes.

CATTLE.

The Musgrave Challenge Cup (value 25 guineas) for the best shorthorn bull in the show, not exceeding four years of age: Mr. Matthew Marshall, Stranraer (Viceroy).

The Queen Victoria Challenge Cup (value 50 sovereigns), and the association's gold medal, for the best yearling shorthorn bull, bred in Ireland, the property of an Irish exhibitor: Mr. John M'Elderry, Ballymoney (Silver Mist); r., Mr. H. H. Smiley, Ardmore, Larne (Myosotis).

The Antrim Challenge Cup (value 25 guineas), for the best shorthorn dairy cow in milk, in the breeding section of the show, entered in Coates's Herd Book: Mr. Joseph Bowden, Cortober House, Cootehill (Alice Gwynne II.).

The Robson Challenge Cup (value 25 guineas), for the best shorthorn cow or heifer in the breeding section of the show, the bona-fide property of and exhibited by a resident in Ireland, and must be entered, or eligible for entry, in Coates's Herd Book: Mr. Bowden (Alice Gwynne); r., Mr. Smiley (Myosotis).

Challenge cup (value 25 guineas), for the best bull in the Aberdeen-Angus classes: Mr. C. Dunbar-Buller, Woburn, Donaghadee (Norman Baron); r., Lord Crofton, Mote Park, Roscommon (Royal Hope of Mote).

Gold medal, for the best Aberdeen-Angus animal in the breeding section of the show: Mr. Dunbar-Buller (Norman Baron); r., Mr. E. Coey, Droagh, Larne (May Empress).

Special prize (5 guineas), for the best Galloway bull owned in Ireland: Mr. R. I. Calwell, 21, Arthur Street, Belfast (The Orphan of Ballyboley); r., Mr. H. B. Lane, Rush Hall, Limavady (Brucina III. of Drumlanrig).

Special prize (5 guineas), for the best Galloway cow or heifer owned in Ireland: Mr. Calwell (Maggie II. of Tarbreoch); r., Mr. Calwell (Missil IV. of Ballyboley).

Challenge cup (value 10 guineas), for the best animal in the Hereford classes, the bona-fide property of a resident in Ireland: Mrs. Madden, Nutley, Booterstown, County Dublin (Ann Althea Still); r., Mr. Thomas Boylan, Hilltown House, Drogheda (Winnie II.).

The Rathmore Challenge Cup (value 12 guineas), for the best Jersey heifer, two-years-old or under at date of show, calved in Ireland: Mr. Matthew O'Neill, Milltown Hill, County Dublin (Hazleton Lass); r., Mr. O'Neill (Gold Charm).

Champion cup, for the best Kerry animal in the show: The Earl of Shaftesbury, Belfast Castle, Belfast (Ormeau Violet); r., the Earl of Shaftesbury (Ormeau Daisy).

Champion cup, for the best Dexter animal in the show: Henry J. Boyd, Hillsborough (Little Dan Darling); r., Mr. Frank Robertson, Sprucefield House, Sprucefield (Little Fan).

PIGS.

The Ulster Challenge Cup (value 10 sovereigns), for the best boar in the show: Thomas Lindsay, Crossgar.

The Ulster Challenge Cup (value 10 sovereigns), for the best sow in the show: Lord Dunleath.

Silver medal, for the best boar in the show: James Miskelly, Newtownards.

Silver medal, for the best sow in the show: Lord Dunleath.

HORSES.

Silver medal, for the best polo pony stallion: The Keynsham Stud Company, The Lodge Stud Farm, Keynsham, near Bristol (White Mask).

Silver medal, for the best polo pony brood mare: Mr. E. Blakiston-Houston, Orangefield, Belfast (Milady).

Class Prizes.

CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS.

Shorthorn bull, calved prior to 1900: 1, H. H. Smiley (Candahar); 2, W. and J. Ekin, Ballymoil, Coagh, Monevmore (Golden Crown); 3, Walter R. Crawford, The Priory, Tullyhogue, County Tyrone (Tirowen).

Shorthorn bull, calved in 1900: 1, Walter R. Crawford, The Priory (Master Stephen); 2, Robert M'Clure, Gortgarn, Randalstown (Barrister); 3, J. Wilson Fleming, Loughry Manor, Cookstown (Sir Thomas).

Shorthorn bull, calved in 1901, on or before 31st March: 1, Matthew Marshall, Stranraer (Viceroy); 2, John M'Elderry, Ballymoney (Silver Mist); 3, W. R. Crawford, The Priory (Washington).

Shorthorn bull, calved in 1901, on or before 1st April: 1, Walter R. Crawford (Oxford May Boy); 2, Thomas A. M'Clure (British Prince); 3, J. Wilson Fleming, Loughry Manor, Cookstown (Pilate).

Shorthorn bull, open to animals located in the province of Ulster, entered in classes 13 or 14; special district prize, £10: 1, John M'Elderry, Ballymoney (Silver Mist); r., Walter E. Crawford (Oxford May Boy).

Shorthorn cow, in calf or in milk, calved in or prior to 1898: 1, Joseph Bowden, Cortober House, Cootehill (Alice Gwynne II.); 2, H. H. Smiley, Ardmore, Larne (Lady XVII.); 3, Henry B. Murray, Ardnaveigh, Antrim (Antrim Maid).

Shorthorn heifer, calved in 1899: 1, Hugh M'Cracken, Cunninghurn, Newtownards (Beautiful II.); 2, W. H. D. Moore, Westfield, Lurgan (Rosabella IV.); r., Henry B. Murray, Ardnaveigh, Antrim (Maid of Honour).

Shorthorn heifer, calved in 1900: 1, H. H. Smiley, Ardmore, Larne (Myosotis); 2, A. M. Kirker, Craigavad House, County Down (Granuaile XXV.); 3, H. H. Smiley (Lady Muriel).

Shorthorn heifer, calved in 1901: 1, Robert Swann, Swann's Cross, County Monaghan (Lady Flora); 2, the Countess of Caledon, Caledon (Caledon Rose); 3, H. H. Smiley (Bounty II.).

Shorthorn bull, calved in 1901, competition confined to Ulster farmers: 1, Walter R. Crawford (Oxford May Boy); 2, Walter R. Crawford (Washington); 3, Thomas A. M'Clure (British Prince).

Shorthorn cow, in calf or in milk, calved in or prior to 1899; competition confined to Ulster farmers: 1, Joseph Bowden, Cortober House, Cootehill (Alice Gynne II.); 2, Hugh M'Cracken, Cunningburn, Newtownards (Beautiful II.); 3, Charles Blackwood, Cumber House, Ballynahinch (Echo).

Shorthorn heifer, calved in 1901; competition confined to Ulster farmers: 1, J. A. Gibson, Ballyrobert, Craigavad (Miss Cecil); 2, John M'Elderry, Ballymoney (Isabella Fitzlavender); 3, Thomas A. M'Clure, Rose Lodge, Killylea, County Armagh (New Year Gift).

ABERDEEN-ANGUS.

Aberdeen-Angus bull, calved prior to 1900: 1, C. Dunbar-Buller, Woburn, Donaghadee (Norman Baron); 2, F. L. Turtle, The Villa (Aghalee); 3, Thomas Carson, Streamvale Dairy, Rathfriland (Sylvanus of Dalmeny).

Aberdeen-Angus bull, calved in 1900: 1, Frederick J. Robb, Lisnabreeny House, Castlereagh (Rascal of Beau Parc); 2, Edward Coey, Droagh, Larne (Monitor); 3, Lord Dunleath (Juniper of Dunmore).

Aberdeen-Angus bull, calved in 1901: 1, Lord Crofton, Mote Park, Roscommon (Royal Hope of Mote); 2, Hum Bland, Kilquade, Greystones (Evasit); 3, Edward Coey (Donald of Glencregagh).

Aberdeen-Angus cow or heifer, in calf or in milk, calved in or prior to 1899: 1, Edward Coey (May Empress); 2, F. L. Turtle, The Villa, Aghalee (Fair Charmer); 3, Lord Crofton, Mote Park, Roscommon (Witch of Benton).

Aberdeen-Angus heifer, calved in 1900: 1, Lord Crofton (Gladys II. of Mote); 2, Edward Coey (Gay Queenie); 3, Lord Dunleath (Ida VIII. of Lednock).

Aberdeen-Angus heifer, calved in 1901: 1, Edward Coey (Sunshine); 2, Hum Bland, Kilquade, Greystones (Queenly); 3, Edward Coey (Rita of Droagh).

GALLOWAYS.

Galloway bull, calved prior to 1901: 1, R. I. Calwell, 21, Arthur Street, Belfast (Bondsman).

Galloway bull, calved in 1901: 1, B. H. Lane, Rush Hall, Limavady (Brucina III. of Drumlanrig); 2, R. I. Calwell (Lord William of Ballyboley); 3, R. I. Calwell, Belfast (The Orphan of Ballyboley).

Galloway cow or heifer, in calf or in milk, calved in or prior to 1899: 1, R. I. Calwell (Maggie XI. of Tarbreoch); 2, R. I. Calwell (Dainty III. of Castlemilk); 3, R. I. Calwell (Minx of Castlemilk).

Galloway heifer, calved in 1900: 1, R. I. Calwell (Missie IV. of Ballyboley); 2, B. H. Lane (Scottish Sally); 3, R. I. Calwell (Marigold of Ballyboley).

HEREFORDS.

Hereford bull, calved in 1901: 1, Lieut.-Colonel Everard, Randlestown, Navan (Admiral); 2, Lieut.-Colonel Everard, Randlestown, Navan (Hero); 3, Mrs. Madden, Nutley, Booterstown, County Dublin (Solon).

Hereford cow or heifer, in calf or in milk: 1, Mrs. Madden, Nutley (Camellia); 2, Thomas Boylan, Hilltown House, Drogheda (Winnie II.); 3, Lieut.-Colonel Everard (Needless XVII.).

Hereford heifer, calved in 1901: 1, Mrs. Madden (Manilla); 2, Lieut.-Colonel Everard (Needless XXV.); 3, Thomas Boylan, Hilltown House, Drogheda (Duchess).

CHANNEL ISLANDS.

Channel Islands bull, calved prior to 1901: 1, W. R. Creswell, Stag Hall, Belfast (Lord March); 2, Matthew O'Neill, Milltown Hill, County Dublin (Reminder's Surprise); 3, Vere Ward Brown, Balnagowan, Rathmines, Dublin (North Pole).

Channel Islands bull, calved in 1901: 1, Matthew O'Neill (Flora's Reminder); 2, Matther O'Neill (Hennea's Willow); 3, Matthew O'Neill (Carlo).

Channel Islands cow or heifer, in calf or milk, calved in or prior to 1899: 1, Vere Ward Brown, Balnagowan, Rathmines, Dublin (Rhine II.); 2, Thomas Smyth, Dunanney, Carnmoney (Duchess of Orleans II.); 3, W. R. Creswell (La Mepriere).

Channel Islands heifer, calved in 1900: 1, W. R Creswell (Etna's Goldie); 2, Vere Ward Brown (Beauty of the Valley); 3, Matthew O'Neill (Les Restles Rose II.).

Channel Islands heifer, calved in 1901: 1, Matthew O'Neill (Hazelton Lass); 2, Matthew O'Neill (Gold Charm); 3, Vere Ward Brown (Daisy II.).

KERRIES.

Kerry bull, one year old or upwards: 1, the Duke of Leinster (Duke V. of Carter); 2, the Earl of Shaftesbury (Ormeau King Cup II.); 3, th Duke of Leinster (Earl III. of Carton).

Kerry cow or heifer, in calf or in milk, calved prior to 1899: 1, the Earl of Shaftesbury (Ormeau Violet); 2, the Earl of Shaftesbury (Ormeau Daisy); 3, the Duke of Leinster (Orchid II. of Carton).

Kerry heifer, calved in 1899: 1, the Earl of Shaftesbury (Ormeau Poppy); 2, the Earl of Shaftesbury (Ormeau Primula); 3, the Earl of Shaftesbury (Ormeau Clematis).

Kerry heifer, calved in 1900 or 1901: 1, the Duke of Leinster (Orchid IV. of Carton); 2, the Duke of Leinster (Flora III. of Carton); 3, the Earl of Shaftesbury (Ormeau Daisy II.).

DEXTERS.

Dexter bull, one year old or upwards: 1, Dr. Henry J. Boyd, Hillsborough (Little Dan Darling); 2, R. G. Nash (Lucan Rover II.); 3, W. R. Creswell (Aieme Negro).

Dexter cow or heifer, in calf or in milk, calved prior to 1899: 1, Samuel Gibson, Summerhill, Dunmurry (Topsy); 2, Dr. Henry J. Boyd (Direen Doris); 3, R. G. Nash (Lucan Beauty).

Dexter heifer, calved in 1899: 1, Dr. Henry J. Boyd (Direen Clara); 2, Frank Robertson, Sprucefield House, Lisburn (Sprucefield Little Beauty); 3, Dr. Henry J. Boyd (Direen Leonora).

Dexter heifer, calved in 1900 or 1901: 1, Frank Robertson, Sprucefield House, Lisburn (Sprucefield Little Fan); 2, Dr. Henry J. Boyd (Little Fancy); 3, Dr. Henry J. Boyd (Little Favourite).

DAIRY CATTLE.

Dairy cow: 1, Thomas Smyth, Dunanney, Carnmoney (May Queen); 2, John Russell, Hightown, Carnmoney (Silver Queen); 3, David M'Henry, Mosside, Dunmurry (Nora).

HORSES.

THOROUGHBRED STALLIONS.

Thoroughbred stallions, to get weight-carrying hunters or high-class harness horses: 1, H. H. Smiley, Inver Stud, Larne (Mascarille); 2, Edward Mitchell, Derryvullen, Enniskillen (Covilton); 3, Francis Russell, V.S., Ballynahinch, County Down (Nasr-ed-Din).

DRAUGHT STALLIONS.

Draught stallion, foaled prior to 1st January, 1900: 1, T. O'Malley, Woodlands, Raheny, Dublin (Model); 2, T. Lindsay, Derryboy House, Crossgar (Prince of Brunstane); 3, W. S. Lamont, M.R.C.V.S., Oldtown Street, Cookstown (Silver Lord).

DRAUGHT MARES.

Draught brood mare, in foal or with foal at foot: 1, Major G. F. W. Lambart, Beau Parc, County Meath (Jenny Geddes); 2, the Marquis of Downshire, Hillsborough (Binneid Jewel); 3, William John M'Cormick, Willowbank, Newtownbreda (Blackberry).

Draught colt, gelding, or filly, foaled in 1901: 1, Thomas O'Malley, Woodlands, Raheny, County Dublin (Clydesdale); 2, George H. Brown, The Crook's Pool, Yorkshire (Maid of the Vale); 3, Hugh Rainey, Rainsford, Ballymena (Short Sea).

Draught colt, gelding, or filly, foaled in 1900: 1, Major G. F. W. Lambart, Beau Parc, County Meath (Provost of Ayr); 2, Thomas O'Malley, Woodlands, Raheny, Dublin (brown colt); 3, the Marquis of Downshire (Hillsborough Bonny II.).

Draught gelding or filly, foaled in 1899: 1, the Marquis of Downshire (Hillsborough Bonny); 2, Adam Graham, Rose Lodge, Andersonstown (Tom); 3, the Marquis of Downshire (grey mare).

Draught gelding or filly, four years old and upwards, confined to animals owned by Irish exhibitors, which have been worked on a farm in Ireland for at least two months prior to date of show: 1, Lord Dunleath, Ballywalter Park, County Down (Royal Lady).

Draught gelding or mare, any age, to have been in regular use on the streets of any town or city for at least two months prior to date of show: 1, Hugh Craig and Co., 6, Royal Avenue, Belfast (Arley King); 2, Wordie and Co., Belfast (Lord Londonderry); 3, Hugh Craig and Co. (Jewel Princess).

HARNESS HORSES.

Double harness horses, any height: 1, Robert M'Bride, North Street, Belfast (Sunshine and Electric Flash); 2, H. H. Smiley, Inver Stud, Larne (Miss Doncaster and Copley Flora); 3, Nathaniel Morton, Brookville, Ballymena (Black Jack and Gloria).

Tandems, any height: 1, H. H. Smiley, Inver Stud, Larne (Miss Doncaster and Copley Flora); 2, Robert M'Bride, North Street, Belfast (Sunshine and Electric Flash); 3, Nathaniel Morton, Brookville, Ballymena (Gloria and Bannie Madeline).

Horses, over 15 hands, shown in single harness, competition confined to Ireland: first prize winners shown in single harness at the North-East Agricultural Association's 1901 Horse Show were not eligible to compete: 1, John M'Watters, Cromac Street, Belfast (Gratian); 2, Robert M'Bride, North Street, Belfast (Sunshine).

Cobs, 14.2, and not exceeding 15 hands, shown in single harness; competition confined to Ireland; first prize winners shown in single harness at the North-East Agricultural Association's 1901 Horse Show were not eligible to compete: 1, Robert M'Bride, North Street, Belfast (Grand Fashion); 2, H. H. Smiley, Inver Stud, Larne (Miss Doncaster); 3, H. H. Smiley, Inver Stud, Larne (Copley Flora).

Ponies, under 14.2 hands, shown in single harness; competition confined to Ireland; first prize winners shown in single harness at the North-East Agricultural Association's 1901 Horse Show were not eligible to compete: 1, Stevenson Gregg, Belfast (Cockie); 2, Robert M'Bride, North Street, Belfast (New Fashion); 3, Mrs. S. J. Howard, Annaginny Lodge, Dungannon (Queenie).

HACKNEY CAR HORSES.

Horse and hackney car, the property of a licensed car proprietor for at least two months prior to the date of the show, and during that time regularly driven on the "hazard"; to be driven in the show by a licensed car driver in a well-turned-out hackney car, with its number; the horse to count 60 per cent.; car and appointments, 30 per cent.; harness, 10 per cent.: 1, Archibald Houston, 104, Crumlin Road, Belfast (Miss Millar); 2, George Smith, 19, Christopher Street, Belfast (Miss Mac); 3, E. W. Smyth, 16, Fitzwilliam Street, Belfast (Duchess).

POLO PONIES.

Made polo pony, not exceeding 14.2 hands; to be shown under saddle: 1, Edward Blakistown-Houston, Orangefield, Belfast (Milady); 2, George F. Richardson, Glenburn, Dunmurry (Pirate); 3, R. Blakiston-Houston, Orangefield, Belfast (Shula).

Ponies, suitable for and likely to make polo ponies, stallion, gelding, or mare, three years and not exceeding five years old; three years old not exceeding 14.1 hands, four years old and upwards not to exceed 14.2 hands; to be shown in hand: 1, George F. Richardson, Glenburn, Dunmurry (Cobweb); 2, Edward M. Stewart, Knockbreda, Belfast (Vengeance); 3, Hugh Rainey, Rainsford, Ballymena (Lady Clare).

PIGS.

WHITE YORKSHIRE BREED.

Boar, twelve months old or over on 30th April: 1, William Wilson, Ashfield House, Lisbellaw (Hard Rocks); 2, R. G. Nash (Lucan Prince); 3, George Gibson, Newforge, Malone (General Buller).

Boar, not exceeding twelve months old on 30th April: 1, James Miskelly, Commons Hall, Newtownards (Royal George); 2, Frank Robertson, Sprucefield House, Lisburn (Sampson); 3, Thomas Lindsay, Derryboy House, Crossgar (The Medel).

Boar, not exceeding six months old on 30th April: 1, James Miskelly, Commons Hall, Newtownards (Lord Strangford); 2, Wm. G. Chartres, Drumeramph, Lisbellaw (Bachelor); 3, Frank Robertson, Sprucefield House, Lisburn.

Breeding sow, twelve months old or over on 30th April, in pig, or having had a litter within the six months preceding the show: 1, Lord Dunleath (large Yorkshire); 2, R. G. Nash, Finnstown House, Lucan, County Dublin (Lucan Wonder); 3, George J. Smith, Curraghtown, Navan (Shannon Lass).

Breeding sow, not exceeding twelve months old on 30th April, in pig, or having had a litter within the six months preceding the show: 1, James Miskelly, Commons Hall, Newtownards (Lady Ansley); 2, Frank Robertson, Sprucefield House, Lisburn (Sprucefield Queen); 3, Frank Robertson, Sprucefield House, Lisburn (s. Kilquade).

Breeding sow, not exceeding six months old on 30th April: 1, George J. Smith, Curraghtown, Navan (Only One); 2, Frank Robertson, Sprucefield House, Lisburn (s. Prize of Erin); 3, Frank Robertson (s. Pride of Erin).

Wharfedale Show at Otley.

The Wharfedale Agricultural Society's 104th annual show was held at Otley on Friday and Saturday, and was quite up to the average in quality, though the number of entries were fewer than last year, the total being 625, as compared with 715 in 1901. The decrease, unfortunately, occurred in the chief sections, viz., those for cattle and horses, but the falling off was somewhat slight, and was not of any importance. One of the most noteworthy features of the show of Hackneys was the quality of the youngsters. The class devoted to entire colts foaled in 1900, for instance, was worthy of a county show. There were 14 competitors, all of them well set up and promising, and if the winner, a chestnut owned by Mr. R. Brigham, of Millington, does not make its mark this year, some of the most com-

petent judges round the ring on Friday will be disappointed. The youngster has plenty of style and dash, and it was mainly on this account that it was placed before Mr. Hall's Fearless Footsteps, another excellent young horse, of which more ought to be heard. There were also two very fine yearling entries, Mr. Nessfield's exhibit having the advantage of Mr. Sugden's youngster only in point of size; while Mr. Whitworth's chestnut filly, which won in her class, was described by one of the judges as being "as fine a goer as ever entered a ring." In the older class for geldings and fillies, a black gelding owned by Mr. W. J. Fawcett, of Bradford, scored over Mr. Richardson's (Malton) filly principally by reason of the latter's lack of condition. The best Hackney stallion proved to be St. Thomas, owned by Mr. Hall, Malton, a horse with plenty of bone, and moving remarkably well. The second, Lord Loch, owned by Mr. Gawne, is a very promising young horse, and only requires time to further develop. The Hunters made a good show, and there was close competition for the Hunter Improvement Society's silver medal between Messrs. Ward's Blackthorn and Mr. Rickaby's bay gelding, Ripley. The balance rested with the former, and the decision of the judges was generally approved. The cattle included a number of animals of excellent quality, Mr. George Harrison's exhibits from Darlington especially attracting attention. His bull, which was awarded the Society's gold medal, was a big prize-winner last year, and took a first card at Dublin a fortnight ago. In the sheep classes one of the outstanding animals was a Wensleydale tup bred and owned by Mr. Thomas Leake, of Swillington. It has a splendid back and coat, and if further shown ought to win more first cards.



THE NEW FOREST PONY shown above is the property of Mr. Domoney, Bramshaw, near Lyndhurst, Hants, and was the winner of a Challenge Cup presented by Lord Arthur Cecil for the best pony, three years or over, at the Show of the New Forest Ponies Improvement Association at Lyndhurst on the 23rd ult

Prize List.

CATTLE (Open Classes).

Bull Calf, under 12 months.—1, E. Eckroyd, Armathwaite, R.S.O., Cumberland; 2, J. Handley, Barrow-on-Soar, Leicestershire; 3, Lord Middleton, York. Bull, 1 year and not exceeding 2 years old—1, J. Handley, Milnthorpe; 2, T. M. Crook, Hoghton, Preston; 3, J. P. Rayner, Whixley. Bull, 2 years old or upwards—1 and gold medal, G. Harrison, Darlington; 2, J. Handley; 3, H. Ker Colville, Market Drayton. Heifer Calf, under 12 months old—1, E. Eckroyd; 2, C. A. Hirst, Pickering; 3, Whitworth, Son, and Nephew (Ltd.), Wath-upon-Dearne. Heifer, 1 year old and not exceeding 2 years old—1, H. Dudding, Stallingborough, Great Grimsby; 2, Colonel Makins, Henley-on-Thames; 3, V. C. W. Cavendish, M.P. Heifer, 2 years and not exceeding 3 years old—1, G. Harrison; 2, V. C. W. Cavendish. Cow or Heifer, exceeding three years old—1, H. Dudding; 2, C. A. Hirst; 3, H. Ker Colville.

FARMERS' CATTLE.

Bull Calf, 12 months old—1, W. Walsh, Gilstead, Bingley; 2, W. H. Frank, Marton-le-Moor, Ripon; 3, C. Rollinson, Allwoodley. Bull, 1 year and not exceeding 2 years old—1, J. Pickard, Harewood; 2, J. P. Rayner; 3, Mrs. Cass, Ribston, Wetherby. Bull, 2 years old or upwards—1 and medal, W. H. Frank; 2, W. Walsh, Gilstead, Bingley; 3, J. Jackson, Husingore. Heifer calf, under 12 months old—1, Crosland Brothers, South Stainley; 2, Mrs. Cass. Heifer, over 1 year and not exceeding 2 years old—1 and gold medal, Mrs. Cass; 2 and gold medal, W. Walsh; 3, E. Roscoe, Norwood. Heifer, 2 years and not exceeding 3 years old—1, R. Stubbs; 2, Mrs. Cass; 3, Crosland Brothers. Cow or Heifer, exceeding 3 years old—1, 2, and 3, W. Walsh. Jersey, or other Channel Islands, Cow or Heifer (Open)—1, H. Dacre, Hawthornden; 2, F. H. Fawkes, Farnley Hall, Otley; 3, H. Dacre.

DAIRY CATTLE (Open).

Cow, in milk, for dairy purposes—1, E. Farrow, Rochdale; 2, F. Wood, Wakefield; 3, S. W. Hackney, Leeds. Cow, in milk, for dairy purposes, under 10cwt.—1, W. Turner, Menston; 2, J. Greenwood, Clifton; 3, M. Dunwell, Yeadon. Cow, in calf, for dairy purposes, any age or weight—1 and gold medal, F. Wood; 2, H. Mellor, Honley; 3, M. Rayner, Seacroft. Heifer, for dairy purposes, in calf or milk—1, J. Crabtree, Harrogate; 2, J. P. Rayner.

HORSES.

DRAUGHT AND AGRICULTURAL.

Yearling Colt, Gelding, or Filly, or Two-year-old Gelding or Filly, bred within a radius of 20 miles round Otley—1, G. Carver, Clifton; 2, W. H. Dawson, Otley; 3, A. A. Jagger, Hampsthwaite. Yearling Colt, Gelding, or Filly, or Two-Year-Old Gelding or Filly, bred by a tenant farmer residing within a radius of 10 miles round Otley—1, G. Carver; 2, C. Hodson, Harrowgate; 3, A. A. Jagger. Open Classes: Entire Colt, foaled in 1901—1, A. Grandage, Bramhope; 2, Lord Middleton; 3, W. Webster, York. Gelding or Filly, foaled in 1901—1, Lord Middleton; 2, J. H. Bryars, Lady's Bridge, Sheffield; 3, W. Webster. Entire Colt, foaled in 1900—1, A. Lindley, Sandal; 2, H. Mackereth, Kirkby Lonsdale; 3, W. Jackson, Knottingley. Gelding or Filly, foaled in 1900—1, W. Jackson; 2, J. Theakston, Little Ouseburn; 3, G. Carver. Gelding or Filly, foaled in 1899—1, W. Jackson; 2 and 3, A. Grandage. Gelding or Mare, any age, over 16 hands—1, A. Grandage; 2, W. Jackson; 3, T. H. Sowden, Clifton, York. Gelding or Mare, any age, 16 hands and under—1, W. Jackson; 2, R. A. Yerburgh, M.P., Blackburn; 3, W. H. Dawson. Stallion, any age—1 and medal, A. Grandage; 2, A. Lindley; 3, W. Jackson.

HACKNEYS (Open).

Yearling Colt, Gelding, or Filly, or Two-Year-Old Gelding or Filly, bred within a radius of 20 miles round Otley—1, W. Mathieson, Glenburn, Horsforth; 2, A. D. Oates, Lightcliffe; 3, J. Scott, East Brierley. Entire Colt, foaled in 1901—1, R. Nessfield, Langton, Malton; 2, W. Sugden, Cullingworth; 3, Colonel F. W. Tannett-Walker, Leeds. Gelding or Filly, foaled in 1901—1, R. Whitworth, Londesborough; 2, W. Mathieson, Horsforth; 3, A. D. Oates, Lightcliffe. Entire Colt, foaled in 1900—1 and gold medal, R. Brigham, Millington, Pocklington; 2, —, Hall; 3, A. A. Haley. Gelding or Filly, foaled in 1900—1, R. Whitworth; 2, J. F. Richardson; 3, St. Cliff, Leeds. Gelding or Filly, foaled in 1899—1, C. Robinson, Batley; 2, A. A. Haley; 3, Colonel F. W. Tannett-Walker. Hackney Stallion, any age—1, T. Hall; 2, E. H. Gawne, Ballaby, Scarborough; 3, J. Yates, Bilton Hall, York.

CARRIAGE OR COACHING (Open).

Gelding or Mare, any age—1, M. Pearson, Harrogate; 2, F. J. Lund, Harrogate; 3, G. Burton, Thorpe Willoughby.

HACKNEYS IN SADDLE.

Hackney, Gelding or Mare, exceeding 14 and not exceeding 15 hands—1 and silver medal, J. H. Jones, Knotty Ash, Liverpool; 2, W. Boulton; 3, J. A. Coulson, Beverley. Hackney, Gelding or Mare, exceeding 15 hands—1 and 2, Mrs. J. Robinson, Harrogate; 3, Mrs. Fred Holmes, Shipley. Lady's Hack, Gelding or Mare—1, F. A. Rickaby, Essingwold; 2, E. Hoyle, Bacup; 3, F. J. and H. Grainger, Boston Spa.

HACKNEYS IN HARNESS.

Gelding or Mare, exceeding 14 hands and not exceeding 15 hands—1, J. E. Dennis, Halwood, Liverpool; 2, J. H. Jones, Liverpool; 3, J. A. Coulson, Beverley. Gelding or Mare, exceeding 15 hands—1, T. Mitchell, Eccleshill; 2, Mrs. Fred Holmes; 3, Miss Ella S. Ross, Sale.

HUNTERS (Open).

Colt, Gelding, or Filly, foaled in 1901—1, J. Ingledew, Fencote; 2, Rev. C. Handcock, Kirkby Overblow. Gelding or Filly, foaled in 1900—1 and 3, E. Hodgson, Bridlington; 2 and silver medal, T. T. Scott, Carlisle. Gelding or Filly, foaled in 1899—1 and gold medal, E. Hodgson; 2, T. and H. Ward, Pinchingthorpe; 3, E. Welborn, Beverley.

HUNTERS IN SADDLE.

Gelding or Mare, 4 years old—1, F. A. Rickaby; 2, J. Smith, Helperby; 3, J. Beach, Foggy Furze. Gelding or Mare, 5 years old—1 and silver medal, T. and H. Ward; 2, W. Hardwick, Wrelton, Pickering; 3, C. Hodson, Harrogate.

LEAPERS

Leaper, any age or height—1, J. Laird, Huddersfield; 2, W. H. Wellburn, South Milford; 3, J. C. Waddington, Southowram.

SHEEP (Open).

Leicester or Lincoln Shearling or Aged Ram.—1 and 2, J. M. Strickland, Easingwold; 3, T. Stamper's Exors., Nunnington. Leicester or Lincoln Tup Hog—1 and 3, J. M. Strickland; 2, T. Stamper's Exors. Wensleydale Shearling or Aged Ram—1 and 2, J. Jackson, Hunsingore; 3, R. Mallinson, Rawdon. Wensleydale Tup Hog—1, T. Leake, Swillington; 2 and 3, J. Jackson. Three Gimmer Hogs, Leicester or Lincoln—1 and 3, J. M. Strickland; 2, T. Stamper's Exors. Three Gimmer Hoggs, Wensleydale—1 and 2, J. Jackson. Ewe, with lamb or lambs, Leicester, Lincoln, or Wensleydale—1 and 3, J. M. Strickland; 2, J. Jackson. Down Ram, any age or breed—1, J. W. Yeadon, Otley; 2, R. Stubbs, Baldersby. Single ewe, with Lamb or Lambs, any breed or cross, except Leicester, Lincoln, or Wensleydale—1 and 2, R. Stubbs; 3, W. Walsh, Bingley. Three Half-bred Sheep, any age—1, R. Stubbs; 2, W. Walsh; 3, J. P. Francis, Skipton-on-Swale. Three Scotch Sheep, any age—1, T. J. Liddle and Sons, Leeds; 2, W. Robinson, Kettlewell; 3, W. Robinson, Storiths, Bolton Abbey. Fat Gimmer Lamb—1, 2, and 3, R. Stubbs. Fat Tup Lamb—1, 2, and 3, R. Stubbs.

PIGS (Open).

Boar, large breed—1 and 2, A. Dewhirst, Dudley Hill; 3, Crosland Bros., South Stainley. Boar, middle breed—1, A. Dewhirst; 2, Smith Freeman. Boar, large breed, under 12 months—1, Smith Freeman; 2, A. Dewhirst; 3, T. Feather, Keighley. Boar, middle breed, under 12 months—1 and 2, A. Dewhirst. Boar, small breed, under 12 months—1, A. Dewhirst; 2, Rev. S. H. Mills, Rawdon. Gilt, large breed, under 12 months — 1, C. Hodgson, Saltaire; 2 and 3, A. Dewhirst. Gilt, middle breed, under 12 months—1 and 2, A. Dewhirst; 3, C. Hodgson. Gilt, small breed, under 12 months—1, A. Dewhirst; 2, P. Thompson, Otley. Berkshire Boar—1, A. Dewhirst; 2, W. Fawcett, Old Bramhope; 3, R. Stubbs. Berkshire Sow or Gilt—1, A. Dewhirst; 2 and 3, W. Fawcett. Three Gilts, any breed, farrowed in 1901—1 and 2, A. Dewhirst. Confined to Tenant Farmers and Cottagers whose rent does not exceed £15.—Pig, any age, or breed—1 and 2, C. Hodgson; 3, G. E. Dixon, Silsden. Sow and Litter—1, P. Thompson, Otley; 2, W. Wood, Rawdon.

New Forest Ponies.

The eleventh annual show of the Association for the Improvement of the Breed of New Forest Ponies took place on the 23rd ult., at Lyndhurst, and was well attended by the public, as well as those interested in the breed. The entries numbered 101, as against 89 last year, and only nine failed to put in an appearance. Taken as a whole the ponies were a more even lot than before, the four years old and upwards in particular. These certainly made the best class, and gave the judges (Mr. Robert J. Bradford and Mr. F. Carleton Tuck) a great deal of trouble in arriving at their decision. The winter has been mild, which has been much in favour of the ponies who have had to remain out in the Forest, and it was quite evident that many of those shown had been well cared for by their owners. Lord Arthur Cecil was again a large exhibitor, sending no fewer than 17 of four years old and over, five in the three years old class, and five two years old, but his lordship was not represented in the yearling class, in which seven animals were shown for the ten premiums offered by the association.

The cup given by Messrs. Walter Perkins, W. F. Rawnsley, and Badcock was won outright last year by Lord Arthur Cecil, and his lordship then promised a cup for the best pony of three years old or over, to be the property of the owner of a pony winning it three years in succession. Lord Arthur has duly provided the cup, a handsome one, and it was on view in the committee tent, with a ribbon attached, denoting that it is the "Cecil" New Forest pony challenge cup. Nine animals were left in to compete for this, but they were speedily reduced to Mr. J. Bramble's (Avon, Christchurch) grey and his roan (8 years), Mr. Domoney's (Bramshaw) bay, and Mr. Wort's (North Ripley, Winkton, Christchurch) The Sirdar, while the final contest was between Mr. Bramble's grey and Mr. Domoney's bay, a horse which last year had no chance at all, but to-day came forward a wonderfully improved animal, and in remarkably good condition. These two gave the judges a lot of trouble. Ultimately Mr. Domoney's pony was declared the winner, and a white and blue rosette was fastened to the halter by Lady Manners, amidst much applause. Afterwards her ladyship presented the cup to Mr. C. L. Hall (the representative of Mr. Domoney, who was unable to be present), remarking that it was very kind of Lord Arthur Cecil to present the cup, and also to refrain from competing for it. The judges (Lady Manners said) had taken a great deal of pains in awarding the cup, and she heartily congratulated Mr. Domoney on winning it. Mr. Hall returned thanks on behalf of Mr. Domoney, who, he said, would do his best to win the trophy another year. The Polo Society gave two silver medals, and these were taken, one by Mr. A. H. Clough (Burley) with a two years old bay, bred at Burley, and the other by Miss Burden, of Beaulieu, with a bay yearling, by Lord Arthur Cecil's Lord Ebrington, and bred by the exhibitor.

Messrs. F. F. Lovell, J. Jeffreys, and H. F. Compton, three of the New Forest Verderers, were present to pass the stallions, which are to be allowed to run in the Forest, being assisted in this duty by Mr. G. F. W. Mortimer (their clerk), and Mr. Goodall, M.R.C.V.S. All the animals, with two exceptions, presented were passed. The judges were Messrs. R. J. Bradford, of Brockenhurst, and F. Carlton Tuck, of Lymington, and

their awards were as follow:—

FOUR YEARS OLD AND OVER.—Twenty-five premiums of £2 each: Mr. S. Barrow, Lymington; Mr. E. Pramble, Ripley, Ringwood; Mr. J. Bramble, Avon, Christchurch (four premiums); Mr. J. T. Burden, M.R.C.V.S., Beaulieu; Lord Arthur Cecil, The Mount, Sway (ten); Mr. A. H. Clough, Burley; Mr. W. Domoney, Bramshaw; Messrs. C. and E. E. Lander, Christchurch; Mr. G. G. Lander, Christchurch (two); Mr. T. Stovold, Winkton, Christchurch (three). Three consolation prizes of £1 each and ten additional premiums of £1 each were awarded thus: Mr. E. Bramble (two); Mr. J. T. Burden (one); Lord Arthur Cecil (seven); Messrs. C. and E. E. Lander (one); Mr. W. J. C. Moens, Tweed, Boldre (one); Mr. W. F. Rawnsley, Park Hill, Lyndhurst (one).

THREE YEARS OLD.—Fourteen premiums of £1 each: Lord Arthur Cecil (three); Mr. W. King, Bramshaw; Mr. G. G. Lander (four); Mr. W. J. C. Moens; Lord Montagu of Beaulieu (two) Mrs. A. Parnell, Fritham; Mr. H. Worth, North Ripley, Winkton, Christchurch (two). Two consolation prizes of £1 each, given by the Hon. John Scott Montagu, M.P.: Mr. Samuel Barrow and Mr. E. Bramble.

TWO YEARS OLD.—Fifteen premiums of £1 10s. each: Mr. C. Absalom, Christchurch; Mr. E. Bramble, Ripley, Ringwood (two); Mr. R. Brown, Sopley; Mr. A. H. Clough, Burley (two); Messrs. C. and E. E. Lander (three); Mr. G. G. Lander; Mr. G. Marchant, Burley; Lieut.-Colonel William Martin Powell, Brooklands, Lyndhurst; Mr. J. Strange, Lyndhurst; Mr. H. F. Compton, Minstead Manor; Mr. J. Thompson, Somerley Grange. Two consolation prizes of £1 each; Mr. J. Strange and Mr. S. Stride, Bartley.

YEARLINGS.—Premiums of £1 each, payable on their being shown as two-years-old: Mr. C. Absalom, Stanpit, Christchurch; Mr. J. Bramble, Avon, Christchurch; Miss Burden, Beaulieu; Mr. J. Evans, Eling; Mr. G. G. Lander; Mr. F. Payne, Emery Down, Lyndhurst; Mr. T. Stovold, Winkton.

SPECIAL PRIZES.—A challenge cup, presented by Lord Arthur Cecil, for the best pony in the show of three years or over, to be the property of the owner of a pany winning three years in succession: Mr. W. Domoney, Bramshaw. Two silver medals, given by the Polo Pony Society: Mr. A. H. Clough and Miss Burden.

Ayrshire.

The Ayrshire Agricultural Association's sixty-seventh annual show was held at Ayr, on Tuesday and Wednesday, under favourable climatic conditions. This fixture has long been recognised as a most important one in the North, and last week's show fully maintained its high reputation for the quality of the stock. Besides being in the heart of an immense agricultural district, Ayr includes a considerable industrial population, and the Society wisely includes in its programme various events that appeal to those other than agriculturists. The total value of the prizes offered was £1,866, and thos was apportioned as follows:—Cattle, £622; Clydesdale horses, £167 10s.; hunters, £103; hackneys and riding classes, each, £24; jumping competitions, £52; sheep, £85 15s.; pigs, £27; dogs, £310; poultry, nearly £100, and numerous other amounts for the minor sections. It must be added that, in addition to the sums given for dogs and poultry, about £200 was divided between the two sections in special awards. It will thus be seen that the departments were very varied, and that in each liberal prizes were awarded. As regards the number of entries, the show was well up to the average, although not so high as those of the last two years. In all, 2,654 exhibits were on view, as compared with 2,833 last year and 2,861 in 1900. It is satisfactory to note, however, that, with the exception of cattle, the decrease was mainly in other than the purely agricultural sections. Cattle were down from 346 to 293, a very considerable ard disappointing falling off. But the number last year was unusually high, and the last week's entry, though under the normal figure, was relatively not so bad as it seems by the simple contrast between this year and last year. Horses numbered 550, as against 545 a year ago, a modest increase of five, and there was an increase of two in sheep, which numbered 238, as compared with 236. There was a big increase in pigs, the number being 56, as compared with but 3 last year. Dogs numbered 769, as against 741, and poultry showed a large falling off at 661, as compared with 863. Other entries included 19 exhibits of cheese, as compared with 25, and there were 68 implement stands, against 74. As regards the quality of the stock, it has never, taken as a whole, been surpassed.

First Day's Judging.

The judging was spread over the two days, that of the first day being to the hackney and other light horses, dogs, and poultry, the principal sections thus being left to the second day. Hackneys and other light horses were more numerous than last year, and the quality was quite up to the average. In the class for brood mares, 15 hands and upwards, there was but one entry —Mr. Liddell-Grainger's well-known prize-winner, Ayton Sweet Nancy—and she was awarded the first prize. In the next class, that for brood mares under 15 hands, competition was confined to Mr. James Lindsay's and Mr. A. L. Simpson's exhibits, and eventually the latter's Moville was placed first. Fillies foaled in 1899 were headed by a good upstanding animal belonging to Messrs. W. C. Harvie and Co. (Glasgow), and sired by Lord Seaham. Mr. James Jardine (Glasgow) was second with Phyllis. There was better quality in the two-year-old class, Mr. Mirlees Chassels (Bothwell) coming out first with Clyde Beauty, the Kilmarnock winner. She is a filly of nice quality, and was well brought out. Mr. James Prentice was second with Bothwell Star, which last year was first at Ayr, second at Kilmarnock, and third at Glasgow. Yearling fillies made probably the best female class in the section. First prize went to Mr. J. S. Cuthbertson's Dora, which was only fourth at Kilmarnock, the winner there, Mr. Galbraith's Mercedes, not getting a place. The leading filly was not shown in such bloom as some of the others; but she has good action and promises well. Mr. Robert Forrest (Knockinlaw) was second with the third prize-winner at Kilmarnock. In a splendid class of three-year-old entire colts Mr. A. Gemmell, of Ayr, was first and third. The leader was Cossack, a particularly good goer, which was second at Kilmarnock; and the third ticket fell to Forest Fireaway, by Forest King. Dr. MacGill was second with Norbury Lightning, another fine goer, though rather slightly built. Probably the best stallion shown was Administrator, owned by Mr. C. E. Galbraith, and got by Garton Duke of Connaught. This colt headed the two-year-olds, as at Kilmarnock, and at London was second in his class as well as reserve for the junior championship. Mr. Liddell-Grainger was second with a daughter of Gentleman John, out of his well-known prize-winning mare, Lady Marsh. Among the yearling colts another of the Terregles stud came to the front. This was the Kilmarnock winner, Roosevelt, by Mackinley, who was again followed by Mr. Prentice's Bothwell Gent, Mr. James Lindsay coming third with a get of Danebury. For the Hackney Society's silver medal for the best female, a number of mares entered in the driving classes competed, and one of these, Zoba, by Garton Duke of Connaught, was the winner, Mr. Liddell-Grainger's Ayton Sweet Nancy being reserve.

The various driving and jumping classes were well filled with animals, the superior quality of which was generally acknowledged. Both the driving and jumping was witnessed on each day by large crowds, and afforded general interest. As to the dog and poultry sections, it may here be mentioned that both attracted considerable attention and formed interesting features of the show.

Second Day's Judging.

On the second day the judging was commenced with the cattle. There were classes for Ayrshire, Polled Angus, and fat cattle; but, naturally, the first-named predominated. They numbered fewer than last year, but the quality was up to the average, and competition, especially for the Derby, was as keen as ever. The Ayr Derby, for three-year-old cows, is unique in competitions of the kind, and the interest manifested in the event was as strong as in former years. The entries, however, showed a considerable falling off from last year, there being a total of 53 as against 75. Of the 53 entered, 32 were brought under the notice of the judges. These included representatives from the stocks of the best breeders of Ayrshires, and judges had a very hard task on awarding the prizes. By the unfortunate death of the fine quey, Gipsy II., belonging to Mr. Howie (Burnhouses), which was placed first in the Derby at Kilmarnock, the opportunity was lost of testing her merits against those of the front rank on Wednesday. The first prize was eventually awarded to Punch, of Hillhouse, a beautifully-coloured, thick quey, with a good vessel and well-placed teats, got by Prince Alexander, and shown by Mr. John Drennan (Hillhouse), whose exhibits were remarkably successful throughout the day. The second prize fell to Gay Lass III., a substantial brow quey, by Flora's Chief of Adamhill, and owned by Mr. Robert Woodburn. Mr. Alexander Cross, of Knockdon, was third with Fern II., an excellent, all-round animal of his own breeding, got by Yellow Squire, out of Flecky II., whilst the fourth ticket was awarded to Mr. Robert Paton for a handsome quey, Flora Macdonald V. of Trees, by Red Prince of Kyle, which later in the day was purchased by Mr. Andrew Mitchell (Barcheskie). Aged cows in milk were a superior lot, but Mr. John Drennan's Queen of Hillhouse, by Prince Alexander, was again without a peer. This is the third time she has won in this class, and on Wednesday she appeared to as great advantage as ever. Subsequently she was awarded the champion cup and special prize of the Herd Book Society as the best female of the breed. Queen of Hillhouse was closely followed in her class by Lady Finlay, the property of Mr. John M'Alister. A nice specimen, Mana, owned by Mr. John Murray, jun., was third, and Mr. Hugh Todd's home-bred cow, which was the third in calf at Kilmarnock, came fourth. Aged cows in calf were also a good lot. Mr. William Howie (Burnhouses) won easily with his well-known White Rose. The second prize went to Mr. James M'Alister (Kilmory) for a short-legged, beautiful type of an Ayrshire cow, which was first last year at Glasgow as a cow in calf, whilst third palce was assigned to Messrs. A. and W. Kerr (Old Graitney) for a typical representative of their herd, which was first last year in milk at Castle-Douglas. The leading cows in the Derby appeared again in the three-year-old milk class. Groups of three cows gave the judges some trouble, but a strong trio belonging to Mr. Alexander Cross were finally selected for the first position. In the sweepstake competition Mr. John Drennan's first-prize aged cow in milk was again first, followed by the second-prize animal in the same class. Third prize went to White Rose, the winning aged cow in cali. Mr. Drennan had an easy victory in the parish competition for a group of five cows.

There was an exceptionally level lot of bulls and yeld stock, and several of the animals were of outstanding merit. Four aged bulls were forward, the winner being found in Not Likely, belonging to Mr. James Howie (Hillhouse), which was first at Kilmarnock, and which on Wednesday was awarded the champion cup and the special Herd Book prize. There was a good second from the Crichton Royal Institution, Dumfries, in General White. He was first at Ayr as a three-year-old, and was bred by Messrs. Scott (Netherhall), being sired by Mr. Howie's bull, Prince Imperial of Netherhall. The third prize went to Messrs. J. and W. Ferguson (Auchenbeg) for a big, substantial bull. There was a much larger class of two-year-old bulls, which were of very equal merit. Mr. James Robb (Hindsward) was first with Full Bloom, which was looking as well as at Kilmarnock, where he also won. Lieutenant-Colonel G. J. Fergusson-Buchanan came next, with The M'Kinley, the winning yearling of last year, and the third place fell to Mr. James Howie for Gentleman Alexander of Hillhouse, a thick, well-made bull.

The bull stirk class formed one of the best collections of this age that has been seen at Ayr for a number of years; still, Mr. James Howie was an unquestioned winner, with Imperialist of Hillhouse, another son of Prince Imperial, bred by Mr. Scott (Netherhall). He was purchased in the showyard by Sir Mark J. M'Taggart Stewart, M.P., and goes to join the Southwick herd. Messrs. Wardrop (Garlaff) were second with Valentine, a stylish, well-proportioned bull of their own breeding. A very sweet bull, belonging to Messrs. Lindsay (Carsegowan) was third, fourth prize going to Mr. James Howie for Encore of Hillhouse, a stylish son of Koh-i-Noor. The two-year-old queys were placed as at Kilmarnock, Mr. Howie being first with Aileen Aroon. Messrs. Wardrop second with Vesta Tilley, the Highland Show winner last year, and Mr. Howie third with Queen of the Isles. Both Mr. Howie's queys were sold in the course of the day to Mr. Mitchell (Barcheskie). Quey stirks formed a big class, and the competition was very close. Sir Mark M'Taggart Stewart secured the first two tickets, the winner being bred by Mr. Lindsay (Carsegowan). The second quey was close up, and is a thicker and more substantial animal. The third prize was given to a stylish heifer belonging to Mr. James Howie, who also won in the two-year-old pairs class with Aileen Aroon and Queen of the Isles.

Although there were two classes for Aberdeen Angus cattle, the black polls do not seem to make much headway in the district, which is essentially one for dairy stock. There were only two exhibitors, Mr. Hamilton, of Sundrum, showing six animals, and Mr. Kennedy, of Doonholm, four all very meritorious specimens of the breed. The three bulls entered were yearlings, and they included two of the prize-takers at the recent Perth sale. Mr. Hamilton was first with Margrave of Ballindalloch, a stylish Eblito bull, which was purchased at Perth for 160 guineas. Mr. Kennedy's second bull, Prileno, which was also by a Ballindalloch sire, was similarly placed at Perth. He was bred by Mr. M'Laren (Auchnaguie) and was bought at Perth for sixty guineas. The third prize-taker from Doonholm was Inceptor, a bull of Mr. Kennedy's own breeding. Mr. Kennedy had the best of the heifers in a nice pair of two-year-olds, both sired by Mailbag, Mr. Hamilton being awarded the third ticket for May II. of Sundrum. Fat stock made a good display, but do not call for special mention.

There was a splendid display of Clydesdales, both in number and quality in fact it was generally considered that a better display of the breed has not been seen at Ayr. Most of the best-known breeders and exhibitors were represented, and the judges had no easy task in making their awards. Brood mares were first judged, and of the eight forward the best was undoubtedly Mr. Thomas Smith's (Blacon Point) Beauty's Queen, a daughter of that singularly successful sire, Baron's Pride, and out of the same mare as Royal Garthly. Mr. William Kerr, Houdston, was second with the Royal Gartly mare, Elsie Macdonald, which took the same position at this show a year ago. The third ticket went to Princess Shapely, belonging to Mr. John Lamont, Toward, and Mr. Thomas C. Lindsay was fourth with Lady Maggie, another of the progeny of Baron's Pride. Yeld mares were another good group. Mr. Alex. Guild, Aberlady, came to the front with Lady Margaret, a mare which has taken leading honours at the principal shows for the past two seasons, including reserve for the championship at the High-

land at Inverness. She was followed by Mr. David Riddell's Scottish Peeress, a Baron's Pride mare which was champion at the last Dumfries Union show. Mr. James F. Mudroch, East Hillside, was third with Lady Robert, and the fourth ticket went to Mr. St. Clair Cunningham for Minnie of Walkinshaw, a mare that has appeared in most of the leading Scottish prize lists for several years. There was an excellent class of thirteen three-year-old mares, and Mr. St Clair Cunningham had a popular winner in his beautiful Baron's Pride filly, White Heather, a well-known prize-taker at shows in the east of Scotland during the last two years. Mr. James F. Murdoch was second with Scottish Jess, the cup winner at the West of Scotland Union show in October; and Mr. Thomas Smith was third with Lady Primrose, which was first at Castle Douglas a few weeks ago. Two-year-old fillies also numbered thirteen, and the judges had no difficulty in selecting for the premier honour Mr. Thomas Smith's Baron's Pride filly, Royal Ruby, out of Royal Rose. She was afterwards awarded Sir John Gilmour's cup as the best female of the breed, as well as the Clydesdale Horse Society's medal for the first yearling or two-year old filly. Another of Baron Pride's produce from the same stud was placed second in the class. This was Jenny Lind, which was first here last year; while Mr. Park, Brunstane, was only fourth with his Kilmarnock winner, Florodora.

Mr. St. Clair Cunningham achieved a notable victory in the yearling filly class, where he carried off the two principal prizes with a pair of highly promising youngsters by Baron's Pride, and recently purchased from Messrs. A. and W. Montgomery. Both were bred in the Stewartry of Kirkcudbright, the first by Mr. Barré Cunninghame, of Hensol, and the second by Mr. John Henry, Chapel, Ringford. They were afterwards similarly placed in the Derby class. As has been stated, the female championship was awarded to Mr. Smith's Royal Ruby, the Blacon Point brood mare, Beauty's Queen, being reserve, and Mr. Guild's Lady Margaret third.

In the class for aged geldings, the first prize was gained by Mr. William Clark,—Messrs. Caulfield Brothers being second. These positions were reversed in the case of the three-year-old geldings, and in the class for two-year-olds the leading position was taken by Messrs. Hastie and Sons, Blantyre. There was a fair competition in the class for three-year-old colts. The first three prizes were taken by sons of Baron's Pride. Messrs. Montgomery were first with Royal Baron, bred by Mr. Bean, Ballochy, Montrose; the Seaham Harbour Stud (Limited) were second with Silver Cup; and Mr. Wiliam Dunlop was third with a colt out of a Lord Lothian dam, and bearing a striking resemblance to his sire. In the class for two-year-old colts, the Kilmarnock awards were confirmed. Messrs. Montgomery were first with Royal Edward, which subsequently carried off the championship. Mr. James Kilpatrick was second with Pearl Stone, bred by Professor M'Call, and a get of Cawdor Cup, whilst Mr. William M'Keich was third with Baron of Bucklyvie, which was first at Glasgow last year, and third this year at Kilmarnock. Messrs. Montgomery also won in the class for yearling colts, the winner being the colt which was first recently at Castle Douglas. He was, on the present occasion, reserve for the championship. Mr. James Gray was second with Gartly Again, a colt of his own breeding, and sired by Royal Favourite, whilst Messrs. Montgomery were third with a Baron's Pride colt, bred by Mr. Stirling, Balhearty, Tillicoultry. The Derby brought out no feature of fresh interest.

The display of hunters was rather above the average, and the show of young blood stock was specially good. There was an excellent class of farmers' three-year-olds, Mr. John Hutcheson, Newarkhill, being first with a get of The Mate. Mr. Hutcheson was also first and second for brood mares. The winner was Panoria, by The Baron, out of Panama. This mare was bought a year ago at Lord Lonsdale's sale at Tattersall's, and has won many steeplechases. She was also awarded the Hunter Improvement Society's gold medal as the best mare in the class. Her stable companion, Maid of Doon, which was reserve for the medal and second in her class, was by The Primate, of Grand National fame, and out of the same dam as the first-prize three-year-old. The hunt classes provided interesting competitions. The yearlings were led by Mr. J. A. Campbells' Top Ronald, which was second at Kilmarnock, the winner on that occasion, Mr. J. Harling Turner's get of Xury being second. Mr. Campbell also took first place among the two-year-olds with Ballylough, and Mr. David Muir was second with the animal got by Honfleur, which was third at Kilmarnock. Among the three-year-olds, Mr. J. Harling Turner's "Cessnock" showed the way. This animal, which was also first at Kilmarnock recently, was bred at Clipstone, and was got by Kilmarnock, out of Lady Grosvenor. Mr. Hutcheson's winner in the farmer's class was second. Among the four-year-olds, Mr. G. M'Cubbins's Dunree, by General Macinnes, was first. Mr. Hutcheson again came to the front in the class for brood mares with a half-brother of his first prize three-year-old. In the large open class for weight-carrying hunters, Mrs. Herbert Dixon, Cressbrook Hall, was first with Champion Royal Flush, and Mr. James Kennedy, of Doonholm, was second with Patrician. Mr. Weir, Kinloch House, topped the light-weight class with Sailor, out of Little Wonder, and Mr. Hugh Neilson, Stewarton, was second with Wait Now.

There was a capital display of sheep, especially of Blackfaces, of which there was a numerous entry. Mr. Howatson, of Glenbuck, took the chief sheer ram. Border Leicesters compared with some well-bred and admirably-brought-out sheep. The New Century Cup, which Mr. Howatson gave for the best Blackface shearling ram was gained by Mr. Mitchell, Hazelside; and the prize for the best-woolled tup went to Mr. M'Rae, Stenhouse, Dumfries-shire, for his second prize two-shear ram. Border Leicestershires compared favourably, both as regards numbers and quality, with previous years, and the special prize for the best wool was awarded to Mr. Pollock, Springside. Mr. Picken, Langside, and Mr. Dulop, Morriston, were the other most successful exhibitors in this section.

Pigs have generally been but few and unimportant at previous shows of this association; but last week there was quite a good display, a result due, no doubt, to the offering of special prizes by bacon-curers and tanners. This stimulus has evidently put new life into quite an important department of the show. There was close competition for the Bacon Curers' handsome prizes, and a good many of the awards went out of the county. The judges expressed themselves as highly satisfied with the size and quality of the exhibits, and their entire suitableness for the trade. They must also have been very gratifying to the donors of the special prizes, and it is to be hoped that farmers will strive to meet the wants of the trade in this respect. Pretty much the same remarks apply to the Tanners' special prizes. For their purpose a larger sort of pigs are required. Most of the exhibits were bought up before leaving the ground.

Mr. Hanbury on Agricultural Organisation.

The annual meeting of the Agricultural Organisation Society was held on Tuesday, at the Westminster Palace Hotel, amongst those present being Mr. Hanbury, President of the Board of Agriculture, the Earl of Stamford, and several M.P.'s. The chair was taken by the vice-president, Mr. W. Lancelot Charleton, the president, Mr. R. A. Yerburgh, M.P., being unable to attend through illness.

Among the letters read expressing regret at inability to attend was one from Mr. Horace Plunkett, in which the writer stated that, "As the new Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction in Ireland proceeds with the work of agricultural development, it becomes daily more evident that State aid to agriculture must be preceded, or at least accompanied by the voluntary association of those to whom the aid is to be given if its administration is to be economical and efficient. You have yourself studied the whole question of agricultural combination well enough to know that the only kind of organisation which fulfils the condition precedent to State aid is that which your society is striving to introduce into England . . . . . Having had long experience in agricultural organisation, and being now responsible for the administration of State aid to agriculture, I have no hesitation in saying that at this stage in the development of the industry every pound expended by your society in the furtherance of its special work will do more good than £10 spent by any Government department for the assistance of agriculturists."

The chairman, in opening the proceedings, said that the question had been asked as to whether the Agricultural Organisation Society had justified its existence. He, at any rate, was perfectly confident that it had. Its sole object was to bring about an effective organisation of agriculturists of all classes, and thereby of their industry, without which Englishmen could in no wise hope to compete with foreigners in the home markets. They had now 36 affiliated societies, and seven others are being formed.

On the motion of Mr. Round, M.P., seconded by Mr. A. Williams, a resolution urging that the society was worthy of the support of all interested in the welfare of agriculture, was agreed to.

Mr Hanbury, speaking to the resolution, said he was pleased to support a society of that kind, because it was engaged in an attempt to train and equip men who were engaged in a real war—an industrial war — which on one side was being carried on against the greatest industry of the country. The war against the farmer had been going on longer than any other against industry in this country. This society had grasped the main issue in seeing that training and organisation were required to repel the invader. This war was not to gain fresh territories, but was in defence of our home market, to save our home trade, and to enable our farmers to live in their own country. It was a war, not against one foreign invader, but against a concentration of forces—a regular European league. Our opponents had a tremendous advantage, because this country was practically the only country in the world which allowed imports to compete so freely with its own products. He was sorry to say that the British farmer had not only enemies abroad, but some in his own country. (Hear, hear.) He had sometimes to fight against opponents who would take away the fair name of his produce, and sell under the name of his choicest productions articles which were calculated to throw discredit on him. (Hear, hear.)

He did not believe for one moment that when Mr. Cobden, with a very right purpose, as he (Mr. Hanbury) thought (although the wind was now turning round in the opposite direction), carried Free Trade he foresaw that the farmer would have to fight all these enemies. He did not believe that it was the farmer who would first cry out for Protection. If Protection came, he thought it would come to their large industries. The farmer was perhaps more fitted to fight than our large industries, because he had been longer in competition, and had had a greater opportunity of adapting himself to the times. How was it that the farmer in foreign countries managed to invade this country as he did? It was to a great extent because the British farmer was lacking in organisation and combination where his opponent was organised. Farmers in England, as a rule, were small men with comparatively small holdings, living isolated lives. Attacked as they were, both in front and on the flank, they were as yet without system, without mutual support, without the weapons that their opponents had found so invaluable. Unfortunately, they fought singly, and fell singly. It was only by being brought into touch with one another, and working together under societies like the Agricultural Organisation Society, that the battle could be carried on successfully. (Hear, hear.) He admitted the pre-eminence of the huge farmers of this country. There were, he supposed, no farmers in the world so advanced as the big farmers in this country. But what was needed was to try and level up the small farmer into the same position of advantage. They had to consider the industry as a whole, the industry which was not only the greatest in the country, but was of the most vital consequence to the nation in providing strong men and strong women as the recruiting ground for our army and navy. Even our largest farmers were small men in comparison with some of the great firms in other industries.

The big feature of industry in our day was producing and marketing on a large scale, and there the large producer had an enormous advantage. It was only by co-operation, by joining forces, that the weakness of the many could be turned into strength. There existed a latent force among small farmers which had to be brought into active life, and this could only be done by the small farmers becoming one body, and obtaining that knowledge, wealth, and greater security which could not belong to the small men unless they did so combine. He did not want to be told that this idea of co-operation was some foreign fad. Co-operation had its first origin in this country. It had been applied to nearly every other industry except agriculture. Co-operation abroad had been the secret of the success of agriculturists. It had also been successful in our Colonies, and in Ireland it had caught on under Mr. Plunkett, and was now flourishing in practically every part of Ireland. In England also co-operation had caught on to a considerable extent. It had been a great success in Wales amongst the small farmers. This was a very hopeful feature. It had caught on in Worcestershire and in Yorkshire.

There was another feature. These were days, not only of large transactions, but of open markets. It was impossible for the small farmer to retain his local market. In these days of transit facilities he had to compete with the whole world. Again, science to-day was being applied to no other industry with so much success. One reason for the slow progress of co-operation in this country was that this society was not sufficiently known. They must take new means to ensure that the leaflets published by his own department reached farmers in outlying districts. It was no good to sit in London preparing admirable reports unless these reports got into the hands of the farmers. He would be happy to assist the society in issuing their leaflets side by side with those of his department. (Cheers.) He believed the society was being worked on practical lines. They must have nothing to do with faddists, of whom the farmer was more afraid than any other class.

The most useful purpose for which the farmers could combine was that of purchasing. The society could see that he got a guarantee with the materials he purchased, and thus prevent him from being imposed upon. Moreover, by combination big farming implements out of the reach of the individual might be obtained, and farm stock would be thereby improved. Then in the matter of dairying, the future tended towards creameries and factories, where produce of a uniform character would be turned out. This uniformity was of the utmost importance.



By Hordeum.

Brewers' Returns.

We are once more favoured with the Returns relating to Brewers' Licences, at an earlier date than hitherto. We are also given much fuller information than we have yet had at any previous time. Further columns have been added that at last permit of a better understanding of many of the facts. On one of the most important points of all we are no longer misled with official myths as to the amount of beer a common brewer is supposed to brew or credited with brewing. We are clearly told the number of "bulk" barrels he actually brews.

As we are also told the amount and quality of materials employed and beer-duty paid, we are at last able to be sure of many of the facts relating to the dilution of beer by brewers, and the loss of revenue this very reprehensible practice causes the State.

The "Bulk" Barrels Brewed.

Are given for the first time, so we have no means of deciding the actual amount of dilution resorted to in the past twelve months, as compared with the previous or any other year. But from the way the information is given, it does not need much experience or skill to see that very great efforts have been made by the vast majority of brewers to drown the extra war-duty of a shilling per barrel with water pure and simple. From a given quantity of materials more duty has been drawn, but much more beer has been brewed, so that not only has the whole of the extra duty been recovered, but a substantial profit into the bargain.

In 1901 (to September 30th) the amount of beer-duty paid by brewers was £14,052,843. This exceeded the payment of the year before by upwards of half-a-million sterling, but it was a great disappointment to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, as he had expected a much more substantial sum. He was too wary to expect an extra shilling per barrel duty imposed would yield a shilling or any thing like it on each barrel made. Minor increases of duty have always

Led to Dilution,

and with the existing absurd mode of charging the beer-duty they always will. The sheer simplicity of the thing makes its adoption by average brewers almost inevitable. But for the probity and honourable action of a few eminent firms, it would doubtless be pleaded, even in high places, that it was for the benefit of science, and to the advantage of consumers, that the light, bright, delicate beers now demanded should be made, and dilution should be sanctified.

Fortunately, we are able to meet this contention with a few facts that no sensible man who knows anything about the business will attempt to contradict.

The actual volumes of materials used in the two years 1900 and 1901 tell their own story, and it is a very regrettable circumstance that the additional column given in the latter year does not appear in the former. It has been demanded by the Central Chamber for some years past.

It is most desirable that this further information be promptly published.

Clear Comparison

of the actual amount of beer made before the new increased duty started and what is produced to-day would lead to some very surprising results of great interest to all beer-drinkers, and of some moment to the Revenue. It is absurd to allow brewers to continue the practice of defrauding consumers with a view to evading the payment of duty.

Yet that is the true position to-day, as clearly shown by the Returns now under comment.

The amount of malt used in 1901 was 56,577,059 bushels, against 57,113,112 bushels the year before.

This proves that the use of 536,000 bushels of malt was dispensed with. Raw grain suffered relatively a much greater loss, as 187,000 bushels in 1900 fell to 165,000 last year, and sugar also diminished by 120,000cwts., as 2,979,000cwts. in 1901 dwindled down to 2,858,900cwts. This was very nearly balanced by an

Increased Use of Rice

of nearly 124,000cwts., which material is seemingly fast growing in brewers' favour. Over 1,201,000cwts. were used in 1900, and this large amount rose in the following year to no less than 1,325,000cwts. The net result of all this means that, on the whole, there is a very slight decrease indeed in the total amount of substitutes for malt brewed, but the very substantial loss of malt of 536,000 bushels.

It is difficult for many who do not know the relative values of malt substitutes to quite comprehend what is the real displacement of malt by sugar, rice, maize, grits, raw grain, and the many other things now brewed. The total displacement of malt last year by all these nostrums was

16,085,000 bushels,

or upwards of 2,000,000 quarters of barley. But this is not the most serious aspect. Not only does this material adulterate our beer, but it seems to exert some malign influence upon the official minds of Excise officers. The Chancellor of the Exchequer spoke in the House of Commons when the ill-starred Beer Bill was the subject of debate, and stated that the prevention of the use of substitutes would be a serious source of loss of Revenue. He did not show how, and in the face of the last returns he would not come very well out of it if he tried.

The brewers who use malt solely are this year kept separate from their comrades who use any kind of substitute. In number they are very nearly one-half—2,905 all-malt brewers, against 3,063 adulterators. In the first slightly smaller half the one largest firm of all happens to be placed. This firm alone uses no less than 4,233,000 bushels of malt, from which they brewed over 1,800,000 barrels of beer, upon which they paid no less than

nine shillings and five pence

(9s. 5d.) beer duty upon every barrel.

All the pure-beer brewers, with few exceptions, paid more than the official duty of 7s. 9d., so that the average on the whole amount of 3,337,000 barrels so brewed reached 8s. 9d. per barrel, or a shilling over the official limit. If we turn to the users of substitutes we find the three classes of brewers who make from 1,000 to 20,000 barrels each per year paid on over 10,000,000 barrels they made an average of 7s .1d. per barrel, whilst the whole class of substitute users averaged only 7s. 5d. per barrel, although the amount paid by one firm on over 1,400,000 barrels was no less than 8s. 7d., and the next smaller firm (brewing 970,000 barrels) was 8s. 4d. per barrel.

The loss of Revenue

on the 33,800,000 barrels of beer brewed by the substitute users, as compared with the duty actually paid on all pure-beer brewers, amounts to the large sum of £2,250,000, whilst had all brewers paid the same rate as Messrs. Guinness the Chancellor of the Exchequer would have received last year no less than £3,350,000 more than he actually took.

If it costs more to collect duty from this firm than any other Sir Michael Hicks-Beach may justify his assertion, but unless he can show this to be the case he has once more misapprehended the facts, or he has been misled by officials who ought to know better. Dilution of beer by brewers leads directly and absolutely to loss of Revenue. It is not tolerated if attempted by publicans or poor retailers, and brewers can be prevented more readily and certainly than their underlings, the vendors. It is, further a

distinct fraud

upon consumers, who ought to be properly protected by the action of the officers of Excise. The position now reached may be very clearly summed up:—It is obvious the existing mode of charging duty incites a very large number of brewers to escape payment as far as possible, by reducing the amount of materials used. This disproportionately dilutes the beer which continues to be sold to consumers at former prices. The use of cheaper substitutes for malt is clearly a direct source of loss of Revenue to the State. It is equally certain (but not so clearly proveable) it most unfairly reduces the food value of beer. The use of substitutes also leads to disproportionate use of preservatives, not one of which should be allowed without clear intimation to the consumer. From the farmers' standpoint the use of substitutes deprives stock-keepers of a cheap and useful food, and, looked at practically, there is very little difference if two million quarters of malt be displaced by sugar and other like substances, or by 8,000,000 barrels of water. If we could get the actual

bulk barrels brewed

in 1879 it would be found that the unlimited and unfettered use of water by brewers has had more to do with the price of barley than anything else.

The returns disclose several very curious facts. Stourbridge has been for some years the pet spot of substitute use. Last year it showed a displacement of malt of 75 per cent. This year it disappears from the list, and has apparently been added to Burton-on-Trent, with the result that Burton now uses a larger proportion of substitutes. Warrington now stands at the bottom of the list with a displacement of malt by 55.3 per cent. of substitutes. This is closely followed by North London with 54.5 per cent.

Notable changes in the use of substitutes occur in West London of 30 per cent. to 36.7 per cent., and in Liverpool from 37.7 per cent. to 31 per cent.



Home Notes.

The Borough.

My record this week presents very few points of interest, and certainly cannot claim the attraction of any novelty. The trade keeps moving at about the same pace as we have experienced for the past few weeks. Occasionally a crop of inquiries is developed, and for a day or two a semblance of activity prevails. But when buyers find that there is but little opening for business in the best qualities they are looking after, their interest ceases, and dullness is resumed. I hear that a few transactions of a moderately important character have been carried through, but as the demand for the lower grades has apparently subsided, there is hardly sufficient general movement to keep values at the firm figures we have recently heard of. Worcester growers must be held responsible to a considerable extent for this regrettable reaction. They have continued to press their hops upon the London market, as they are now finding so small an outlet locally; and so long as their creditable hops are offered here at prices which are below the currency of the most inferior southern produce, the results must be disappointing to all concerned. It is very difficult to understand the obstinacy with which the planters in the Midland districts cling to their former customs, which the history of many seasons proves to be out of date and detrimental to their interests. While the London trade is active in the early part of each season, the majority of the Worcester men limit their operations to their own locality, and when their opportunity has passed they seem for the first time to remember that the most important centre of business is the Borough, and they then turn their attention to London. Being annoyed by their failure to find remunerative customers at such a time, they conclude that the whole thing is delusive, and relapse into their old habits. But the fault is their own; there is no one to blame but themselves, and I am confident that if they would but admit the reality of the facts which are constantly being forced home to them, and bring their methods of business into closer accord with those of their southern competitors, the isolation from which they now suffer would cease to attract them, and their satisfaction would be much more generally secured.

The New Growth

appears to be progressing slowly but favourably. The soil being in a condition that permits complete freedom for all the preliminary operations, the plantations are generally well forward. Poling and stringing are almost completed, and although the early shoots are somewhat held in suspense by the cold winds and occasional nocturnal frosts, they are strong and promising. Many experts are of opinion that another full growth is in front of us, but others are not so sanguine and predict an unfavourable summer, and only a moderate crop. But as all such forecasts must necessarily be speculative and unreliable, I am content to rest in hope that under any circumstances we shall only produce a very limited yield. We do not want many hops this year, and quantity beyond 200,000cwts. will be excessive. Although I am aware that the greater part of the last great crop has been sold, and that stocks of all kinds in the hands of factors or growers are reduced to an exceptionally low point, I am too clearly convinced that there has been an accumulation of vast reserves under the control of consumers, to desire that planters should be burdened with a heavy growth, by which their past and present troubles will be intensified, and their anticipations of better remuneration will be dissipated. It is perhaps ungrateful to wish for limitation of the earth's products, but considering the exceptional character and position of our industry, I think we are quite justified in taking measures to achieve

the desired end, which is, that those who till the land should be able to live by the land, for we have it upon the very highest authority that "the labourer is worthy of his hire."

Conference with Colonials.

Mr. George Arnold, of Frant, who is an advanced and very skilful hop-grower, has made an excellent suggestion to the Tunbridge Wells Farmers' Club. Taking advantage of the probable presence in this country of many visitors from our Colonies during the Coronation festivities, Mr. Arnold proposes that the farmers' clubs of Kent and Sussex should amalgamate for the special purpose of inviting colonial agriculturists to meet their English brethren in conference, and with them to discuss various points of common interest. A committee has been formed to give practical effect to the proposal, and as I believe that such intimate contact with our fellow-workers from the far-away parts of the Empire would be, not only enjoyable, but beneficial, I earnestly wish success to the movement, and shall be pleased to lend a hand in making the necessary arrangements.

Foreign Notes.

Nuremberg.

The position of the market remains unchanged. General business has been very quiet during the past fortnight, brewers being unwilling to entertain the poor samples, of which the bulk of the unsold stock seems to consist. They would gladly buy hops of good, sound quality, but as these are practically unobtainable, they will not operate to any extent, nor are they likely to do so until they are driven into the market by absolute necessity. Nevertheless, quotations are not reduced, as holders still have full confidence in the summer trade, which they expect will effect an entire clearance of their reserves of every quality. In the meantime, the news from the plantations is generally good. The young shoots are, with few exceptions, showing vigorous growth, though they are not advancing rapidly, being checked by the dry, cold weather. The tendency of present opinion is distinctly in favour of a full crop, especially as the enlargement of plantations in many German districts is confirmed.

Belgium.

With only a moderate demand, values are fairly well maintained, as practically the whole of the last crop has been passed out of first hands. The outlook for the new growth is sufficiently satisfactory, and good progress has been made in cultivation, the planters being assisted by favourable weather.

America.

The only notable change that has taken place in business at New York is the further development of firmness. Prices of best qualities have strongly hardened, and the value of medium and inferior grades are following up very closely.

False Milk Warranty.—At Worship Street Police Court on Tuesday, Thomas Henry Williamson and John Roberts, of the Heath Farm, Somersal, Doveridge, Derby, were summoned for having sold, under a warranty, of purity, milk which was adulterated contrary to such warranty. The evidence showed that the defendants supplied milk by wholesale to a dealer trading as Whitlock and Co., and the latter supplied small retailers in the district, among them one Elliott. A sample was bought from the latter, and found to be adulterated. Elliott asked that a sample be taken of the milk Whitlock delivered. That was done, and found to be adulterated, and Whitlock then requested that a sample be taken of the churns as they reached St. Pancras from the defendants. There again the milk was found to be adulterated. Defendant was said to have admitted watering the milk because it was of such good quality, and the solicitor admitted he could not go behind that. —The defendant firm was ordered to pay a fine of £20 and £5 5s. costs.

Iron Acton Fair.—This fair, which is held twice a year, took place on the 25th inst., and was very largely attended. There was a capital supply of store stock (for which the April fair is principally noted), and for prime quality animals a keen competition was experienced. his brisk trade was not, however, extended to the secondary and inferior beasts, which realised poor figures. Stirks changed hands at from £20 to £28 per pair, two-year-old steers fetched from £20 to £36 per pair, grazers from £12 to £18 each, yearlings from £10 to £17 per pair, cows and calves from £13 to £18, and springers realised up to £17 10s. each. The sheep pens were well supplied, and business in this department was good also. Two-tooths fetched 41s. per head, tegs, selling up to 44s. per head, whilst couples ranged from 55s. to 74s. The supply of horses, though not a large one, was evidently ample for the demand. The larger number of horses brought to the fair were of an inferior kind, and consequently but little trade was transacted, only a few animals changing hands at anything over £30.

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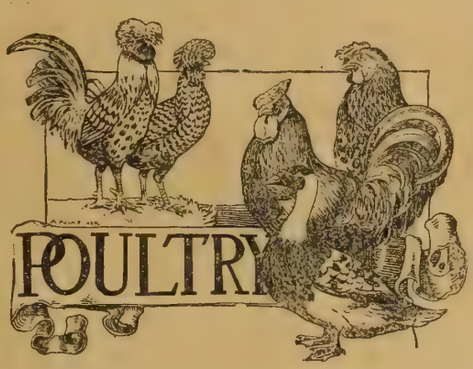
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Rearing Turkeys.

The breeding of turkeys is on the increase, as the demand for fine English-reared birds is very large at Christmas time in all the large cities, as well as in country places. Those who do not indulge in the luxury of poultry to any extent during the year invest in a good turkey when the festive season to which all English people look forward comes round. To supply this demand there are quite a number of farmers' wives and daughters who make quite a special feature of turkey-rearing. It is believed by many that it is an extremely difficult matter to rear turkeys, and for this reason some of those who have very suitable accommodation for them are afraid to venture. In the first place it is no use for anyone who has many engagements away from the farm during the spring to attempt to rear turkeys, unless they have someone whom they can trust to look after them in their absence, as they require constant attention for the first two months. Those who live on farms where there is plenty of pasture land, or a wood or two, would do well to go in for turkey rearing, as when these young birds are hatched on a large scale they require ground to roam about over, and on farms there are good outbuildings which answer well for the young birds to sleep in at nights after they have left the hens, so that in two respects farmers have a distinct advantage over others in the matter of turkey-rearing for market.

There are two classes of turkey-rearers, those who bring up a good many broods for the purpose of selling the young birds for Christmas, and those who just rear a brood of birds, frequently on very limited space, for their own consumption, with the addition of one or two for friends who buy them at market price, and thus provide the amount expended on the food for the young birds. It has been said that it was impossible to rear turkeys in a back yard, but this statement has been disproved many times during the last two or three years, as quite a number of poultry keepers have gone in for a brood of turkeys. It is with the former class that we have to deal principally, those who rear turkeys on a large scale for market purposes. The trouble in rearing is much lessened when the young birds are bred from healthy unrelated parents. The habit of breeding from one's own mate bird—the best out of the flock reared the previous year—mated with related hens and pullets, is, fortunately, on the decrease.

Importance of Well-bred Stock.

Much of the difficulty experienced in rearing young birds might have been prevented had turkey rearers realised before that in order to be successful it is absolutely necessary to have an entirely unrelated male bird mated with their stock hens. Turkeys need to have all the stamina it is possible for them to have in order that they may thrive and grow to that large size which is so essential in order that they may be really profitable. Young birds hatched from healthy unrelated parents do not require nearly as much attention or cause the same anxiety to their owner as do those hatched from related birds, and which are soon found to have no strength or stamina to battle against the ailments which sooner or later they have to contend with. Young turkeys which are hatched from hardy parents thrive wonderfully if they receive the proper care and treatment, and they well repay the trouble taken with them; whereas those which have no constitution, owing to in-breeding, are very difficult to rear at all, and as a matter of fact, quite a large percentage of these die, and thus give colour to the theory that turkeys are delicate, whereas their loss is due to the neglect of the theory we have so long advocated, that poultry of all kinds to be really profitable, hardy, and easy to rear, should be bred from unrelated stock. The best layers in fowls, and the finest birds in turkeys, and the largest, quickest growers in ducks and geese are invariably those which have been bred from entirely unrelated stock—the fresh blood thus introduced means increased energy in the young stock.

Another mistake which was made by turkey rearers in the past was that of breeding from birds which, instead of being kept in store condition, had been fattened to get size and weight. Those who have been unfortunate enough to rear turkeys from this class of stock bird have had several serious features to deal with. First of all, the pullets and hens which have been thus fattened are invariably late in commencing to lay, due to the egg organs being embedded in fat, and thus prevented from becoming active, as they would otherwise be. In addition to late eggs, many shell-less or thin-shelled eggs are produced, as stock birds that are over-fat are generally deficient in shell-forming material, and not infrequently there are several deaths amongst the pullets owing to inflammation of the egg organs, due to the skins of several broken eggs, which could not be laid owing to the passage being so clogged with fat. All these casualties can be avoided by care being taken to select stock birds with large frames in preference to those which are heavy, and whose weight has been gained by fattening foods. All stock birds should be in breeding, not killing, form.

(To be continued.)

Death of Mr. Shepherd.—A well-known breeder of Shorthorns has passed away in Mr. Shepherd, of Shethin, Sarves, Aberdeenshire, whose death last week will be greatly deplored by northern agriculturists. Mr. Shepherd had reached his sixty-second year, and is survived by Mrs. Shepherd and a large family.

The Corn and Flour Tax.

Deputation to the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

On Wednesday afternoon the Chancellor of the Exchequer received at the Treasury a deputation of flour importers, including delegates from London, Glasgow, Liverpool, Belfast, Bristol, Dublin, Leith, and Hull, who desired to state reasons against the proposed tax on flour. Mr. Alban Gibbs, M.P., introduced the deputation, which included Mr. Lawrence, M.P., and Mr. Hunter Craig, M.P.

Mr. Klein (London Flour Trades' Association) said they wished to represent the injury that would be done to a large and important section of importers in the British Isles if the present tax on flour should be maintained. They recognised that the revenue was a necessity, but it would be impossible for them as importers to carry on the flour trade to the same extent as they had been doing if such a high differential rate as 5d. per cwt. were charged upon flour and only 3d. per cwt. on wheat. Taking the Chancellor's own figures, there was a preference against flour of 14 per cent.

Mr. Law (Glasgow), Mr. Clow (Belfast), Mr. Mahony (Dublin), and Mr. M'Ilroy (Bristol) having spoken

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, in reply, said the deputation related solely to wheat flour and wheat, and it was impossible for him to consider the grain and meal duties entirely from that point of view. It was absolutely impracticable, in imposing a duty on grain generally, to make any difference between one kind of grain and another. The duty on meal under the old registration duty was, of course, not a duty on fine flour only, but on all the products of grain. It was not a question between importers and millers merely, so much as between wheat and flour. The imports of flour compared with the imports of wheat had been enormously growing in recent years. He could only say that he would consider the arguments which had been addressed to him, together with the memorial with which he had been supplied, but he was bound to add that even accepting their estimate of 72 per cent. of flour out of 1cwt. of grain, leaving 28 per cent. offal, it seemed to him that now the duty on offals had been reduced it was absolutely on the same footing as the original duty, which lasted from 1864 to 1869, and about which no one from a flour point of view complained at the time. They altogether ignored the fact that under the old duty offal paid 4½d., which was as much as the finest flour, and now he was reducing the duty on offals. That affected the case very materially. They simply dealt with the question from the point of view of flour; he had to deal with the whole question; and he did not think it was for the benefit of the people of this country that imports of flour should be substituted for imports of grain. He could only add that, by their own showing, they were better off than they were under Mr. Gladstone's tax, but he was not satisfied that they ought to be better off still.

Farmers and the Budget.

The Warwickshire Chamber of Agriculture considered the Budget proposals affecting agriculture on Thursday. It was resolved that the corn and flour duties were an honest attempt to place the burden of taxation equally upon every section of the community.

The Worcester Chamber of Agriculture have carried a resolution congratulating the Chancellor of the Exchequer on his courage in reviving the "registration duty" on corn; but the increase of the price of bread and food stuffs which had not paid duty was condemned.

On Monday the Tadcaster and District Chamber of Agriculture passed unanimously the following resolution: "That this meeting of Yorkshire farmers thank the Government for the effort to restore some measure of prosperity to agriculturists, but that they are strongly of opinion that the duty on flour should be increased to 1s. 3d. per cwt."

Opinion of Mr. Beckett Faber, M.P.

Mr. E. Beckett Faber, M.P., addressed a large gathering of Conservatives of the West Hants Division at Grateley on the 26th ult., and in the course of his address referred to the corn duty. He said the duty was a very small one, and would not, he was afraid, help the farmers much, but it was put on to raise necessary revenue. He had been a Free Trader all his life, and had spent most of his time in the large towns. But he knew that at present things were far more prosperous there than in the country, and it was only fair that the more prosperous portion of the community should come to the help of those living in the country, and bear its fair share of the taxation. This was the more urgent responsibility because the large towns were recruited from the country districts, which in that way had become depopulated. So that if this small duty, besides raising the revenue which was needed, should be of any assistance to the country districts, the people of the towns should not regret that fact. (Cheers.)

Horse-Owners on the Grain Duty.

In the House of Commons on Thursday Mr. F. Wilson asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer if his attention had been called to a statement issued by the London Road Car Company, showing that the tax on corn would cost the company £83 15s. per week, equal to a tax of £9 11s. per annum on each of the 456 omnibuses run by the company; and whether, seeing the additional cost the tax would impose on horse owners, and the effect it would have on horse breeding in England, he could see his way to let in maize and oats free.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer in reply said: My attention has been called to the statement in the question, but it is clear from a letter I received from the company that their alarm is due to the recent exceptionally high price of maize, as compared with the price three or four years ago, and fear that this may continue, rather than the effect of the duty. I do not think the duty will have the effect on horse owners and horse breeding generally which the hon. member seems to anticipate; but, in any case, I cannot exempt maize and oats from the duty.

Lord Fitzhardinge's Views.

Speaking at his Ladyday rent audit, at Berkeley, on Wednesday, Lord Fitzhardinge said some people had got it into their heads that the tax on corn was going to make the fortunes of the farmers. Other people thought the landlord would immediately raise the rent, so that the farmers would be no better off, but if landlords tried this on they would not have such large gatherings of tenants as that which he was addressing. He thought the duty on corn would eventually do some good—it would slightly raise the price for those who grew corn in the country.

Trades Union Congress to hold a Conference.

The Parliamentary Committee of the Trades Union Congress, at a special meeting on Wednesday, after a long discussion on the corn tax, unanimously resolved to summon a conference in London for Tuesday, the 27th May. The committee were unanimous in their strong expressions of disapproval of the imposition of this tax as being destructive to the good sound fiscal policy of this country, contrary to the wholesome principles of free trade, and a determined attempt to drive in the thin end of the wedge of the old protective laws which deprive the working classes of cheap bread.

Liverpool Chamber of Commerce and the Duty.

At a meeting of the council of the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce, held on Tuesday, Mr. G. H. Cox brought forward a resolution condemning the proposal of the Chancellor of the Exchequer to impose a duty upon grain, on the ground of its injurious effects and that it was opposed to the free trade policy hitherto pursued. An objection was made to the resolution on the ground that it was political. It was resolved to refer it to the General Purposes Committee, by whom it will be discussed in private.

Milk-Blended Butter.—In the King's Bench Division on Wednesday, the Lord Chief Justice and Justices Darling and Channell heard a new point raised in regard to the "blended butter" of Messrs. Pearks, Gunston, and Tee, by an appeal from the dismissal by the justices of Aldershot of an information charging them with selling gargarine, the fat of which contained more than 10 per cent. of butter fat. The substance before them contained 73.5 of butter-fat and no other fat, and their worships came to the conclusion that it was not margarine as defined by the Act of 1887. Mr. Danckwerts, K.C., in supporting the appeal said the Act of 1887 described margarine as a substance prepared in imitation of butter. Justices Wills and Kennedy had held that Pearks' "blended butter" was not butter. It so became, he argued, something prepared in imitation of butter, and not being butter itself, it must be margarine within the meaning of the Act of Parliament. It could be nothing else. Mr. Asquith, for the respondents, ridiculed the argument advanced by the other side, which came to this, that whatever notice was given to the purchaser, and however much the purchaser might desire to get the mixture and consume it, and however wholesome the substance might be, yet it must not be sold. The Lord Chief Justice said that in his opinion the substance which was being sold was butter and milk, and he held that there was nothing in the Act of 1899 which forced him to say that butter and milk mixed together must be sold as margarine, or must contain less than 10 per cent. of butter fat. He considered that the magistrates had come to a right conclusion, and that the appeal must be dismissed, with costs. Justices Darling and Channell concurred.

Cumberland Agricultural Society.

The annual meeting of the Cumberland Agricultural Society was held at Carlisle, on the 19th ult. Colonel Irwin, of Lynehow presided, and there was a good attendance. The statement of accounts, which showed an increased balance in favour of the Society, was passed on the motion of the chairman. The council were re elected. Captain Standish was appointed president, and the Mayor of Carlisle vice-president, for the year.

The chairman announced that the Carlisle city surveyor had condemned the Society's grand stands on the showfield, and the Society would not be able to use them again. He did not know whether the condemnation of the grand stands was the result of the lamentable accident on the Ibrox Park, Glasgow. The Society are not holding a show this year, and have voted 150 guineas to the Royal, of which they have so far raised about £70. They made a profit of about £80 on the last show.

Suggested Northern Successor to the Royal Show.

Mr. Watt, of Knowfield, asked the Society to consider seriously whether it would not be desirable to move towards getting up a large exhibition—a rotating show covering the four Northern counties on the English Border and the three Border counties on the other side. Carlisle was this year to see the last of the peripatetic shows of the Royal, the prestige of which, so far as country exhibitions were concerned, had gone. In the Northern counties, where so much stock was produced, a large exhibition like the Yorkshire Show, or the Bath and West of England, or the Lancashire, would be an excellent arrangement. It could be held one year at Carlisle, the next at Durham, the next at Newcastle, and then at Kendal, and so on, on the other side of the Border, the local shows continuing as they are, except that on an ocasion like the visit to Carlisle the Cumberland Agricultural Society's Show would merge in it.

Mr. Bell thought they could get a show on the Border equal to the shows Mr. Watt had named. They had the material, and only energy on the part of those interested in agriculture was wanted to make it a great success.

The chairman said he would be very pleased to further the proposal, which had been in his mind a considerable time, but he thought the time was hardly ripe for ventilating the subject thoroughly. They should get the co-operation of other Societies, and he would go into the matter, and hoped to report what the council had done.

Mr. Tinniswood (Rosebank) said he had been approached by farmers with the same proposal. A conference on the subject in the Royal Show week would be opportune, but a great deal of work would be necessary before that.

Mr. Watt suggested that the secretaries of the various shows be written to and asked to bring the subject before their committees. He would like to see the Highland and Agricultural Society cross the Border and take in the old part of Scotland; but he feared some jealousy would arise, and whether the Highland would care to cross the Border or not he did not know. The matter was then allowed to drop.

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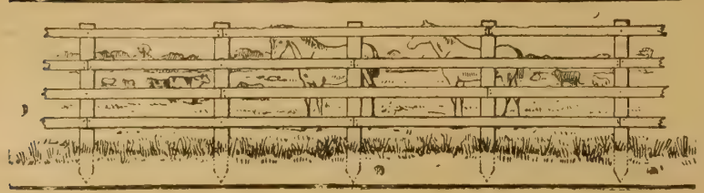
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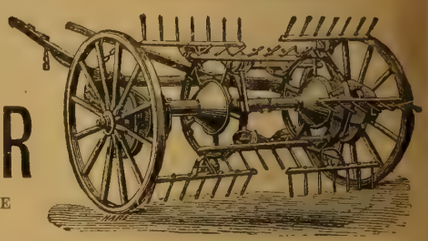
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(Registered as a Newspaper at the General Post Office.)

Vol. LXXXVI. No. 3685. LONDON, MONDAY, MAY 12, 1902. THIRTY-TWO PAGES. PRICE 3D.

SOCIETIES.

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION of ENGLISH HOP GROWERS.
(Founded June 1894.)
President.—Colonel Brookfield, M.P.
Hon. Treasurer.—E. Albert White, Esq., Beltring, Kent.
Secretary.—Thomas Ironmonger.
Central Office.—61, HOP EXCHANGE, BOROUGH, LONDON.

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To promote united action among English hop growers as a body for the improvement of the industry.

To promote, support, or oppose such legislative and other measures as may affect the industry.

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Splendid Prizes and Specials.
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Entry forms from
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£1,600 IN PRIZES.

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Secretary and Manager.
1, The Little Green, Richmond, Surrey.

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J. CRAWTER, Cheshunt.

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Secretaries.
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THE THIRTEENTH ANNUAL
OF THE
THORNEY SHIRE FOAL SOCIETY,
JULY 17th, 1902,
IN THORNEY PARK.

Entries Close July 7th.

For Schedules and Entry Forms apply to the Secretary, H. HORRELL, Thorney.

GREAT HARWOOD AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.
THE 45TH ANNUAL SHOW
will be held on
TUESDAY, MAY 20TH, 1902,
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Present entries include 13 Jersey Bulls, 37 Cows, 48 Heifers, and 1 Yearling Guernsey Bull, and 11 Heifers from well-known herds.
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Two minutes' walk from the Electric Trams running between Ramsgate and Margate.

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Forms of Tender and full particulars may be obtained of Mr. G. EEDES EACHUS, Engineer to the Council, Town Hall, Edmonton.
It will be a condition of contract that the firm whose tender is accepted shall pay to all workmen in their employ not less than the Trade Union rate of wages in force within the district.
Tenders endorsed "Tender for Oats" (with samples) to be delivered at my office not later than 12 o'clock noon on Wednesday, the 21st day of May instant.
The Council do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender, and any person whose tender is accepted will be required to enter into a proper contract with bond and to supply sureties to be approved by the Council, such contract and bond to be prepared executed and completed in every respect at the expense of the Contractor.
By Order,
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Clerk of the Council.
Town Hall, Edmonton,
8th May, 1902.

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CATTLE (*continued*).

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SHEEP (*contd.*).

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DALMENY HERD OF LARGE WHITE PEDIGREE PIGS, the property of the Earl of Rosebery, K.G. YOUNG BOARS and SOWS of the very best quality and choicest breeding for SALE at moderate prices.—Apply, MANAGER, Home Farm, Dalmeny Park, by Edinburgh.

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PIGS (*cont.*).

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LEGAL NOTICE.

MARIA DAY, Deceased.

Pursuant to the Act of Parliament, 22 and 23 Vict., cap. 35, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that all persons having any CLAIMS or DEMANDS upon or affecting the ESTATE of MARIA DAY, of No. 176, High Holborn, in the County of Middlesex, Widow, Deceased (who died on the 5th day of January, 1902, and whose will, with a codicil, was proved by George Henry Shipton and George Gregson, the executors therein named, on the 16th day of April, 1902, in the Principal Probate Registry), are hereby required to send in the particulars of their claims in writing to the undersigned on or before the 5th day of June next, after which date the executors will proceed to distribute the assets of the deceased among the parties entitled thereto, having regard only to the claims of which they shall then have notice. And Notice is Further Given, that the Executors will not be liable for such assets or any part thereof to any person of whose claim or demand they shall not then have had notice.

Dated this 7th day of May, 1902.

A. F. & R. W. TWEEDIE,
Solicitors for the said Executors.
5, Lincoln's Inn Fields,
London, W.C.

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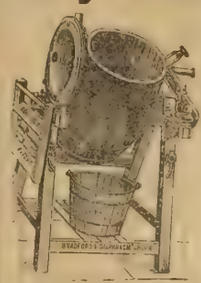
Mr. R. Hilton, Wellingore, Lincoln.
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May, 1902.

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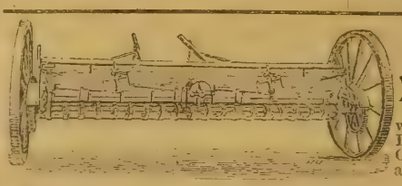
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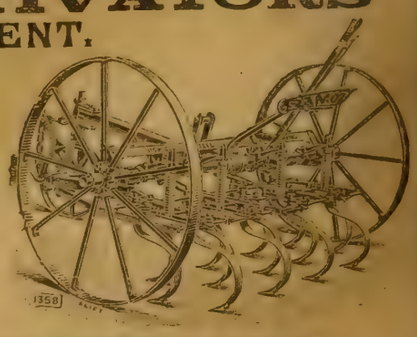
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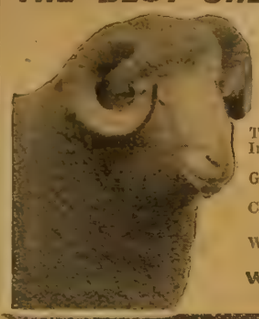


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Mark Lane Express
Agricultural Journal.
The Only English Journal devoted exclusively to Agriculture.
MAY 12, 1902.

Correspondents are requested to address all communications for the Editorial Department to THE EDITOR, "Mark Lane Express," 1, Essex Street, Strand, London, W.C.

Advertisements, Subscriptions, and business communications should be addressed to THE PUBLISHER, "Mark Lane Express," 1, Essex Street, Strand, London, W.C.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

TO CONTRIBUTORS & ADVERTISERS.

In consequence of Monday next being a Bank Holiday, the MARK LANE EXPRESS will be published on SATURDAY, MAY 17.

All communications for that issue, whether for the Editor or Orders for Advertisements, must reach this Office not later than the first post on FRIDAY MORNING NEXT.

LAND-AGENTS: GOOD, BAD, AND INDIFFERENT.

Our leading article of last week touched the fringe of a very big question—one replete of problems as yet unsolved by the legislature—involving the conflicting rights of landlords and tenants; the privileges inherited by the former from the not yet obsolete Feudal System; and the principles of moral right, class interests, and the social well-being of the community. All these influences weigh on the land-agent continually in the fulfillment of his duties, and it depends very much what he is in himself as to whether he be a blessing or a curse to the tenantry of the estate he has the management of. He is the landlord's *alter ego*, often, it is true, a mere machine hired to carry out the unseen will and purpose of the owner; but in a great many other cases the real arbiter of the tenant farmer's destiny. We are bound to assert also that there are cases, perhaps not a few, in which he reveals himself an officious meddler, as the agent alluded to last week was, who objected to a farmer selling flints which had to be picked off from the surface of the land by him, to prevent crops being injured.

There are land-agents, good, bad, and indifferent. His Grace the Duke of Portland revealed to the world a noble specimen of the good when, at the Welbeck Tenants' Show Luncheon, he presented a testimonial to his old, experienced steward, Mr. Turner, and made declaration before the large assembly that filled the Riding School, that the whole of the benefit his tenants has derived from valuable stud animals being placed at their service, together with every other practical means to aid them in their industrial pursuits, which had been adopted and had proved beneficent, he credited to the wise counsels of his old and esteemed friend, who had long been managing the estate when he, the Duke, came into possession, a young, inexperienced novice. Mr. Turner had suggested the tenants' show, and, indeed, everything else that had proved an advantage to the tenants of the Welbeck estate.

Alas! that there should be any reverse side to such a pleasant picture of social life, of which we are quite sure there are numerous *fac similies*, although none perhaps so marked and striking. The principle of "live and let live" is not only studied, and made to regulate the management of a great many estates, but the owners and land-agents of many of them have the well-being of the occupying tenantry entirely at heart. There are too many other cases, however, of agents entirely unfitted to have the management of agricultural tenancies entrusted to them, being over-officious to meddle with the business concerns of the farm-occupiers, when they think by so doing they can serve the interests of their employers in any way, and when the farmers are under such a one, and neither he nor the owner have any knowledge of practical agriculture, and only regard tenants as debtors who have stipulated to pay so much rent, and must be made to conform to customs of country or certain antiquated conditions, those who cultivate the land are often totally unable to make the best of it, and cases of cruel hardship and wanton injustice have sometimes been suffered.

An instance of this nature came to our knowledge not long since, of one of the best farmers of a very wide district being thus treated. He had entered early in the eighties on a very neglected farm, filthy and sadly impoverished, but he perceived that money was to be made by bringing it back to the state of high fertility the farm had been in before being subjected to bad management. He went to work regardless of expense, steam-cultivating the foul fields, and treating them in every respect as if the property was his own. When asked if he was not a little injudicious to enter on an enterprise of such magnitude, without a lease or the security of a tenant-right agreement, his reply was:—"I have one of the best landlords in the kingdom, one who has never been known to treat his tenants otherwise than well. Both my landlord and his intelligent, honourable agent have a long-standing reputation for assisting improving tenants by every means in their power, and I want no other security." So this enterprising man very soon transformed the wilderness into something like market-garden fertility, getting prizes for root crops in competition with those of three or four counties, and many premiums for live-stock as well. All went well for a dozen years or more, but then the property changed hands, and the new landlord placed the management of his estate into the hands of an agent of the worst kind—one who fanceid that a land-agent's duty was that of closely watching the tenants, to see that they consumed on the land the whole of their hay, straw, and roots, and made sale of none of it. He interfered with our improver in a most singular way. In a year of general turnip failure, the latter had a small field of young, sweet white turnips, that were worth ten times as much for human food as for stock-feeding. He therefore made sale of some of them to the market men who came long distances to obtain such an article of scarcity. This was sheer robbery of the landlord in the eyes of this over-scrupulous agent, the offence being magnified in his opinion into one of great magnitude. He even went so far as to order some of the costermongers to take the roots back. He was probably unaware that a few cwts. of artificial manure would restore to the soil a great deal more fertility than twenty or forty tons of such young turnips could have taken out of it; and, as the offending farmer was in the regular habit of employing large quantities of chemical fertilisers, as well as oilcakes and other feed-

ing stuffs, raising a storm in a teapot of such a paltry nature was, of course, one which no sensible agent, having a knowledge of the true nature of things, should have made. Indeed, most agents would be heartily ashamed to do so.

Does not this show, however, how careful landlords should be in the selection of agents? A great many of them in the old days were accustomed to entrust the gathering of their rents, and almost everything relating to the management of their estates, to the family lawyers, men who would insist on the old form of agreement, handed down from the times of the Tudors, being signed by tenants. Those who wanted farms did not object to attach their signatures to them, as they could not get possession of the holdings without doing so, but in nine cases out of ten they never fulfilled them to the letter. In present times there is by no means so general a delegation of land agencies into the hands of lawyers. Many of our old nobility and country gentry are excellent agriculturists themselves, and would not think of losing a good, improving tenant because of his demand to crop as he liked, and to sell whatever he deemed best. Indeed, the straw of a wheat crop is often of far more value to dispose of than the grain, and some farmers entirely reverse the ancient order of procedure by selling straw, and placing grain into the mouths of stock. If it is pre-eminently necessary that farmers should adapt themselves to the times, it is no less so that those who have the management of estates should follow their example.



By a Man of Mark Lane.

Some idea of the great grain crops of Canada is given by a telegram from Ottawa, on Monday, which stated that, according to official estimates, there are still 18,000,00 bushels of wheat in Manitoba and the North-Western Provinces available for market. The Canadian Pacific and Canadian Northern Railway will require from May to September 176 cars a day more to bring this quantity to Lake Superior. Last autumn 224,305 acres of new land were broken, equal at a low estimate to a million bushels increase over last year's harvest.

The New York correspondent of the "Standard" states that American millers reckon the English duty gives British millers an advantage of nine cents per barrel over American-ground flour, which has been exported upon a margin of three cents profit. Unless the British trade is to be abandoned, one of three alternatives is necessary. Firstly, freight must be cheapened. The Millers' Federation is promoting an effort to have flour carried as ocean ballast, instead of wheat, and without discrimination in favour of wheat, according to the custom of the American railways. On Tuesday the St. Paul Railway quoted an identical rate, 20½ cents, on the export of either flour or wheat, being a reduction of 2½ cents upon flour.

Secondly, flour should be regarded as an object of reciprocal tariff concessions. This promotes the pending reciprocity Treaties. Thirdly, the milling trade, which exceeds the iron trade in amount, might form a trust analogous to the Steel Trust. Then export prices could be reduced, and the domestic price maintained. This rather shocks American observers, who thought the new British duties would burden English industries rather than American, but find the tax being divided between American carriers and producers, with the prospect of American food becoming cheaper abroad than here.

In the second forecast of the wheat crop of the North-West Frontier Province of India, dated February 22, and issued by the Revenue Commissioner of the Province, it is stated that there has been no rain since the issue of the previous forecast, and further sowings could not therefore be made. The area under wheat is now estimated to be 833,600 acres, or 19,600 acres less than the previous estimate. The crop is suffering from the prolonged drought, and unless rain falls shortly there will be a general failure on dry lands, and on irrigated lands the outturn will be considerably reduced.

The receipts on account of revenue from April 1, 1902, when there was a balance of £8,566,947, to May 3, 1902, were £15,680,067, against £13,515,925 in the corresponding period of the preceding financial year, which began with a balance of £5,596,918. The net expenditure was £22,771,739, against £22,883,279 to the same date in the previous year. The Treasury balances on May 3, 1902, amounted to £4,045,775, and at the same date in 1901 to £3,967,445.

"Mark Lane Express" Diary.

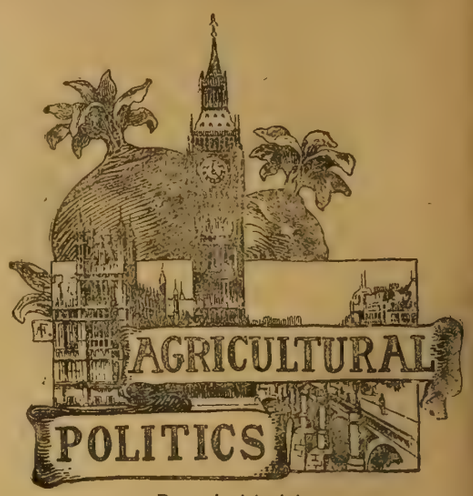
May.
13 and 14. Oxfordsire Agricultural Society's Show at Whitney.
14. Newark Agricultural Society's Show.
14, 15, and 16. Somerset Agricultural Association's Show at Wiveliscombe.
14. Sale of the entire stud of Hackneys belonging to Mr Haworth, at Thornton Towers, Poulton-le-Fylde.
14. Sale of Shorthorn bulls at Newark Show Ground.
15. Prescot and District Agricultural Society's Show at Knowsley Park, Prescot.
15. Sale of Mr. Harvey Mason's Red Polled cattle, at Neston Hall, Norfolk.
15. Dorset Horn and Down sheep sale at Dorchester.
16. Sale of Mr. J. H. Raven's Shorthorns, at Thaxted, Essex.
17. Edgworth and District Agricultural Society's Show at Edgworth.
19. King's Heath Horse Show.
19. London Cart Horse Parade.
19. Lydney and District Farmers' Club's Show at Lydney.
19. Ixworth Farmers' Club's Show at Bury St. Edmund's.
19. Clitheroe Agricultural Association's Show.

Agricultural Imports.

The following is an account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended May 3, 1902, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year:—

Animals Living.	1901.	1902.		1901.	1902.
	No.	No.		Cwt.	Cwt.
Cattle ...	11,250	7,295	Wheat ...	850,200	1,048,820
Sheep.....	12,620	7,178	Flour.....	594,400	241,285
Swine.....	—	—	Barley ...	215,600	269,036
*Horses...	—	794	Oats	449,400	335,191
			Peas	10,400	24,127
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Beans ...	16,500	47,432
Beef	104,261	75,850	Maize ...	640,100	841,892
Mutton...	123,237	80,833		Bunches	Bunches
Pork	7,383	8,434	Bananas	58,045	54,214
Bacon ...	100,414	94,049			
Beef, salt	4,987	5,590		Cwt.	Cwt.
Hams.....	35,910	34,050	Apples ...	12,461	24,484
Pork, salt	4,694	4,041	Apricots & Peaches	—	—
Meat, salt & Fresh	13,266	14,087	Cherries	—	83
Do. pres.	11,904	14,180	Currants	—	—
Butter ...	63,720	73,324	Goosebr's	—	5
M'g'rine	19,164	18,250	Grapes ...	202	426
Cheese ...	41,965	12,965	Lemons...	20,964	11,123
Milk, Fresh, in cans or drums.	176	6	Oranges	134,650	182,075
			Pears.....	28	81
			Plums ...	—	—
			Strawb'r's	—	2
Milk ...			Oth'r Fr't	450	1,684
Cream.	108	65		Tons.	Tons.
			Hay	2,502	8,671
			*Straw ...	—	2,930
Milk pr's'v'd, other kinds ...	31	49		Bush.	Bush.
			Onions ...	153,764	184,562
				Cwt.	Cwt.
			Hops	600	548
Con. Milk	16,585	15,443	* Locust Beans	—	8,469
	No.	No.	Potatoes	307,503	55,138
Eggs	276,176	340,962	Tom'to's	11,644	9,931
			Other	Value.	Value.
Poultry & Game	Value. £10,636	Value. £8,427	Veg'bles	£12,696	£17,889
				Cwt.	Cwt.
			Dried ...	503	1,468
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Pres'v'd		
Rabbits	798	4,463	by canning ...	1,440	3,148
Lard	42,819	40,234			

* Not shown in 1901.



By a Lobbyist.

Sir Edward Strachey has reason to congratulate himself on his legislative achievement of this week. The young baronet has not yet secured a complete Parliamentary acceptance of his Outdoor Relief (Friendly Societies') Bill, but at least he has secured a renewed declaration in favour of the humanisation of our poor law system. Of course, Sir Edward was in his effort mostly moved by the experience of the rural districts; and I must confess that I, with him, have always thought it a grave anomaly that in giving relief guardians should take into consideration the amount a man may have received from his friendly society as sick pay. All Sir Edward asks is that, in spite of the fact that a man receives five shillings a week as sick pay, he should not be excluded in a time of distress from also receiving poor law relief. If he receive more than five shillings, then the sum should be taken into consideration. What is the value of the argument that to allow a man to enjoy five shillings a week beyond the relief from the public funds would create an inequality of treatment. Surely there ought to be inequality of treatment between the thrifty and the thriftless? To withhold outdoor relief in a time of stress from a poor fellow who may, by his own providence, have secured himself a pittance of five shillings a week, is simply to penalise thrift.

The fact that only nineteen Members could be found to support this penalsing policy is, in its way, a portent. I do not regard it so much as an indication of resentment against the Poor Laws, or their present administration, as I perceive in it a resolve to do naught to discourage, more particularly in the rural districts, association with friendly societies. I would go further, and say that I also perceive in it an anxious desire that any scheme of old age pensions should be carried out in alliance with these organisations. I must confess that I do not altogether sympathise with Mr. Long's assertion that the Bill does not propose to give preference to members of friendly societies as such. Of course, no legislator would give preferential treatment to a man simply because he belongs to any special organisation. What, however, the sane legislator should do is to encourage rather than penalise the man who, low as his wages may be, has not permitted himself to forget that there must come a time of trial and travail. Mr. Long justified my contention by his own emphatic declaration that "he would make the life of the man, who, by his own fault, made himself and his wife and children paupers, not an easy one in the workhouse." This may not please the prophets of maudlinism, but it should delight all who have any regard for the rates, and who desire to foster providence. Sir Edward Strachey's Bill was conceived in the interest of both.

I am persuaded that what has been described in the discussion on the Education Bill as the anti-rates party in the House of Commons is stronger than is generally comprehended. I do not believe that it is strong enough, as some critics have prophesied, to destroy the Bill, but I do believe it is strong enough—provided the Liberals and the Irish act in alliance with the dissentient Conservatives—to imperil the mea-

sure. I have myself thought, from the moment of the inception of the Bill, that a rate-impost would place a most ungenerous financial burden upon the counties—a burden, in fact, that may induce bitterness against the entire educational system. The purpose of the wise financier should be to moderate the burden of taxation. Let the burden exist, if you will, but let it be so borne as to press indirectly, and with no unnecessary heaviness. To impose the taxation by means of a county rate will, in my view, simply intensify the burden. I believe it would be wise policy to make the entire cost of education an imperial charge, and I am persuaded that if you did so you would go a great way towards popularising it in the eyes of the ratepayer. Major Rasch, who has as yet been the chief spokesman of the section advocating what I may describe as the Imperial Exchequer principle—I believe, by the way, that this section will be finally led by Mr. Chaplin—may not go so far as I do. At least, however, the gallant member will welcome the emphatic assertion that any further increase on the county rate will tend to the unpopularity of the educational system.

I hope these Conservative dissentients will not be chloroformed into acquiescence to the county-rates' proposal by Mr. Balfour's assurance that the Government is in favour of a reform of rating, and that any proposal dealing with such a question must include educational charges. We have been long a-waiting for this reform— so long that we are weried of our own anticipations. We shall have, I am fain to prophesy, longer still to wait before we secure any satisfactory redress. Apart, however, from this, I would remind these M.P.'s that precedents are a cheap influence in the House of Commons. If you can prove a precedent you can almost justify anything. The acceptance by the House of the county-rate proposal in the Education Bill will be regarded not as an encouragement to relieve the county ratepayer, but rather as a justification for placing more on his unfortunate shoulders. The eternal argument of Parliament is what has been done can be repeated. Hence this proposal should be resisted to the utmost. I would urge Major Rasch not to be turned aside from his purpose even by the assurance that it will imperil the prospects of the Bill.

We have now had a sufficient opportunity of gauging the depth of the agitation against the bread tax. It is confined almost entirely to the House of Commons, and even there it is but tepid and weak. The country has refused to be moved. It has gone on placidly indifferent to all the heroic apostrophies to the memories of Peel and Cobden and Bright. It has refused to believe in the lurid pictures which have been limned of a sure and certain misery should this tax be accepted. It has refused to follow the political sextons into the charnel-house of out-of-date anti-Protection orations. It has gone on its way unheeding, unconvinced, careless of the ranters of the House of Commons and the ravers of Hyde Park. The whole business has fallen flat and the first pass of an increase in the price of food has been followed by an assurance that that very price will readjust itself. The tax will be imposed, and in the end I doubt that anybody will be a penny the better or a penny the worse.

At all events, there is a growing conviction in the House of Commons—which it will be remembered I recorded last week—that the tax will not operate to the serious and immediate advantage of the rural community. I doubt more than ever now that it can be regarded even as a herald. The present tax has provoked no feeling but to emphasise it or to extend it would give colour to the feeble wishy-wash that a conspiracy is meditated against the cheapened food of the people. I repeat my view that the chief value of the tax lies in the fact that it indicates that a more sympathetic attitude wih the agricultural interest has been born. It is, in all sooth, an excellent broth. We may well rejoice in its advent if a friendly measure reforming the system and incidence of rating makes an early appearance. I wonder, though, if Mr. Balfour believes in his own promise. When I have put this question to M.P.'s they have shaken a doubting head.

PRACTICE WITH SCIENCE.

National Diploma in Agriculture.

As the result of the examination held this week at the Yorkshire College, Leeds, by the National Agricultural Examination Board (consisting of representatives of the Royal Agricultural Society of England and the Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland), the following ten candidates, placed in order of merit, have become entitled to receive the National Diploma in Agriculture:—

1. Patrick Fowlie, The Agricultural College, Aspatria.
2. Thomas Milburn, Harris Institute, Preston.
3. William Maitland Findlay, Agricultural Department, The University, Aberdeen.
4. John Percival, Harris Institute, Preston.
5. Edward Porter, West of Scotland Agricultural College, Glasgow.
6. John Edwin Rigg, Harris Institute, Preston.
7. Abel Edwin Jones, University College of Wales, Aberystwyth.
8. James Bradshaw, West of Scotland Agricultural College, Glasgow.
9. John Forrest, Harris Institute, Preston.
10. Geoffrey Steele Henderson, West of Scotland Agricultural College, Glasgow.

The following twenty-six candidates, placed alphabetically, have passed Part I. of the examination, and are thus entitled to sit for Part II. of the examination within the two following years (1903 or 1904):—

Robert Charles Andrew, Harper-Adams Agricultural College, Newport, Salop.
John Bateson, Harris Institute, Preston.
Herbert Bowman Beddall, Kempston Manor, Bedford.
Francis Howard Billington, Cheshire Agricultural School, Holmes Chapel.



Mr. A. D. Hall, M.A.,

Principal of the South-Eastern Agricultural College, Wye, Kent, who has been appointed by the Lawes Agricultural Trust Committee to succed the late Sir Henry Gilbert, F.R.S., as director of the Rothamsted Experimental Station.

John Edward Bridges, Deighton Lane, Batley, Yorkshire.
William Frank Craske, South-Eastern Agricultural College, Wye, Kent.
John Ellis, Pantybarwn, Llangwyryfon, Aberystwyth.
Benjamin Leslie Emslie, Greenfield, Rothes, Morayshire.
Henry Brougham Hutchinson, Harris Institute, Preston.
Samuel Gilbert Isitt, Harper-Adams Agricultural College, Newport, Salop.
Percy Hutchinson Lamb, Clapham Vicarage, Yorkshire.
Alexander B. Lamont, West of Scotland Agricultural College, Glasgow.
John Miller Lonsdale, Harris Institute, Preston.
Hubert Martin, Cheshire Agricultural School, Holmes Chapel.
William James Mcgaw, 142, Clifton Park Road, Belfast.
Edward B. Osborne, 9, Cavendish Park, Barrow-in-Furness.
John Porter, West of Scotland Agricultural College, Glasgow.
Roger Prosser, Gerefordd, Talgarth.
Charles E. Randolph, Grove House, Helifie'd, Yorkshire.
Thomas Rule, Agricultural College, Aspatria.
Ferdinand P. Schweikher, University College of Wales, Aberystwyth.
Robert E. Severs, Scotton Fields, Richmond, Yorks.
Andrew Steedman, Royal College of Science, St. Stephen's Green, Dublin.
James G. Stewart, Nether Blairock, Dalkeith, Cullen, N.B.
William T. Stockley, Harris Institute, Preston.
James Wood Thompson, Harris Institute, Preston.

Mr. Andrew Scott, laird of Newton, Hawick, and the holder of several large pastoral farms, died on Tuesday at the ripe age of 80 years. He formerly transacted a great amount of business in Newcastle Cattle Market, being the tenant of Langshawburn and Dalgleish, two of the largest pastoral holdings in the South of Scotland, besides other farms. Latterly he resided at Borthaugh, of which one of his sons is the tenant. Other sons are farmers in Newton and Drinktone respectively.

CORN WEEVILS.

Their Life-History, and How they are Influenced by Heat and Moisture.

(By Fred V. Theobald, M.A., F.E.S., Etc.)

In the mediæval ages one could imagine people believing in special creations, in spontaneous generation, and other such-like weird theories, but that such people can be found in this twentieth century seems ludicrous to state. Yet it is a fact that there are men living who think that every grain of wheat has the germ (whatever they mean by that) of a weevil in it and that, however long it is kept, given proper conditions, heigh presto! the weevil will appear. I have even heard people say that heat and moisture will generate these insects. I should not like to take up any more of your space by referring to such antiquated and insane ideas. What I wish to bring before people connected with the marine transit of corn, granary-keepers and others, is the life-history of the two weevils that do the damage, and the causes which tend to check or facilitate their increase during transport and in the granary, in order that certain very erroneous impressions may be dispelled. This article deals with scientific facts which crush the practical man's erroneous theories held by a minority of people connected with the wheat trade. Science is fact, and unless the practical man's theory agrees with a scientific fact, who can deny but that his theory is wrong? One will find, however, that in nearly all cases the practical man's theory is correct, agreeing with the scientific facts of the case.

Two Kinds of Weevils in Corn.

There are two species of weevils found attacking corn, one the granary weevil (Calandra granaria), the other the rice weevil (Calandra oryzae). The former is a temperate-climate insect, its home being originally the Mediterranean area; the latter is tropical, its native country, seemingly, India. The corn-weevil is dark brown to rusty brown in colour, the part of the body called the thorax with oblong punctures, and it is devoid of wings; its head is prolonged into a beak or rostrum; in size it varies from 1-12th to 1-7th of an inch in length. The rice-weevil is very like the preceding, but it has an ample pair of wings, and is sometimes pale in colour, often having four rusty-red spots on the body (elytra); in length, it varies from $\frac{1}{8}$th to 1-12th of an inch. The former is by far the commonest in this country, and the only one I have succeeded in breeding in any numbers. I have only been albe to breed C. oryzae in a Hearson's incubator at 70deg. F. (no moisture that one could detect). It will be seen that there are differences of great economic importance in the two wheat-weevils.

Life-history of the Weevils.

The changes through which these two beetles pass are practically the same. The period of development is so elastic that one can only give approximate dates. Heat greatly increases their reproductive powers and hastens development; cold, on the other hand, retards growth and checks reproduction. The female weevils lay their eggs in a small hole, bored by means of the proboscis, the hole being subsequently closed by saliva. A single egg only is laid in a wheat grain, but several may be placed in a maise cob. The egg gives rise to a small white magot, fleshy and footless, which feeds on the endospermal (flour) part of the grain, never touching the germ or sprout of the seed. In this position it changes to a dormant stage—the pupal stage—in which the outline of the legs, wings, feelers, etc., may be seen. In this stage the maggot is changed to the beetle. The pupal skin bursts, the bettle emerges, and then eats its way out of the grain. The time taken by these stages varies according to climate and season. In England, I have found the development takes from 32 to 47 days in a room of ordinary temperature. In some cases development has been retarded to 13 weeks. In warm, dry grain, I have hatched C. granaria in 20 days, at a temperature of 70deg. F. Other observers have found three weeks the period of development, and I feel confident that in warm climates it may even take less. Thus, the warmer the climate the greater the increase of these pests; and thus, the longer the time taken by a vessel coming through the tropics the greater the damage to the cargo, especially when the rice-weevil is the enemy. From the way I have seen the weevils work during observations extending over 12 years I should say, given favourable conditions, i.e., plenty of

warm air and dry grain, that a cargo of wheat unless stored in bulk, would be completely ruined in eight months, standing in a tropical climate, if infested with weevils. Many samples I have kept in the warmth at my laboratory at the Wye College have been reduced to dust in a year.

Number of Broods.

In Great Britain the corn weevil may pass through two broods or generations a year in warm mills and granaries. The rice weevil I have never seen breeding. In warm climates the number of brood varies from four up to six or eight in the year.

Other Food Attacked by Weevils.

Practically all grain, rice, buckwheat, chick peas, beans are damaged by these two species, both maggots and beetles do the damage. The beetles themselves also cause harm to groceries, flour, meal, bread, cakes, and various other stored commodities, and they have also been known to attack ripe and ripening fruit.

Some Important Differences Between Corn and Rice Weevils.

The great differences between these two beetles is, first, that the rice weevil, being tropical in origin, will not breed to any extent except in a warm climate, but the grain weevil, coming from the temperate zone, not only breeds normally in that zone, but much more rapidly when in a tropical or sub-tropical climate; secondly, the rice weevil, being winged, can more freely invade masses of corn than the corn weevil. In the latter species the grain must be put near the beetle, or the beetles must be carried to the grain; in the former, quite clean grain may become invaded by the beetles flying to it, either when in the field, in stores, or when the vessel puts into some tropical part. No doubt some cargoes become infested in that way, but the majority are invaded in some extent before leaving the port of shipment.

The Rate and Conditions Favouring Increase of Weevils.

The former of these two subjects depends, as pointed out before, on temperature and season. Curtis estimated that in the South of France one pregnant weevil would account for an annual increase of 6,045. My observations on these beetles kept in a warm room tend to show a much greater increase. We can at once see how a few imported into a mill may cause great damage; we can thus understand how urgent it is that wheat in transit should be sent through tropical and sub-tropical belts with all haste. The longer the voyage, either through a slow boat or by checks from misadventures, the more the cargo suffers if the corn is well ventilated with hot tropical air, and the grain keeps fairly dry.

As to the conditions favouring weevils, there is no doubt warm air and dry grain are the most favourable factors. Ventilation of cold air, of course, checks the weevils, hence is good in this country. Weevils will not copulate in a temperature below 45 deg. Fahr.; they breed most freely between 60 deg. and 70 deg. Fahr. Absence of air is detrimental to them; in fact, they can soon be killed by putting weevily grain in an air-tight bin and a lighted candle inside on the top of the grain, a common Colonial plan for cleaning grain from such pests. The Indian ryot keeps his grain in pits, to keep it free from weevil; weevils are known to work most on the outer layers of corn, hence wheat shipped in gunny bags is more damaged than when shipped in bulk. Why, then is grain shipped in bags? Because, as a cargo, it is not so liable to shift, and so lessens the danger to the ship in heavy weather.

Excess of moisture is most detrimental to weevil increase. This fact a few people seem to take exception to; they need not claim any consideration, however, as their practical knowledge is evidently as chaotic as their scientific. They seem to think that, because you find a certain amount of moisture where weevils occur, the moisture created them. Of course, weevils create moisture by their excrements, and so we are sure to find some moisture where they occur. But between the small amount of moisture generated by weevils, or an excess of moisture due to ingress of sea or rain water, or to excessive precipitation of moisture from damp air is very great. If wheat get wet, mouldy, and black, one finds that weevils will not breed in it—i.e., excess of moisture means scarcity of the pests. Are cargoes of Calcutta wheat only weevily when wet? I scarcely think so. How much wet grain do you find in granaries and mills? Not much, I fancy, from those I have seen, but weevils I have seen working in them galore.

There may be a division of opinion on these points; but let those who believe that the more moisture and less air the more weevils increase try some simple experiments for themselves, and let them try to remember that weevils are like other animals, and create moisture, and not moisture animals.

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Nantwich Cheese Fair.

Mr. R. Challenor, secretary of the Cheshire Dairy Farmers' Association, reports as follows on the cheese fair held at Nantwich on the 1st inst:—"The pitch was about 40 tons. There was a good attendance of buyers. The market opened with a fair inquiry for fine lots, buyers preferring matured dairies. Best lots sold at prices from 58s. to 63s., and medium down to 50s. Prices and pitch about the same as last year's fair." It was officially announced that during the months of May, June, July, and August, which are the principal cheese-making months, two fairs will be held monthly.

Is Irregular Milking the Cause of of Poor Milk?

At Sunderland, on Thursday, several milk-sellers were summoned on charges of selling milk deficient of fat, and an important suggestion was made by the Town Clerk (Mr. F. M. Bowey), who prosecuted.

He said it was the local practice for farmers to milk in the morning, after an interval of 16 or 17 hours after the previous milking, and in the afternoons after a lapse of but seven or eight hours. He suggested that if the farmers would resort to a practice of milking at equal intervals of about twelve hours each the result would be that the public would get the article to which the law entitled them. It was a well-known fact that the milk obtained from a cow after a long interval such as 16 or 17 hours was, though more plentiful, much inferior in quality to that yielded when only a short interval, such as seven or eight hours, had elapsed since the preceding milking.

Mr. John Pattinson, analyst, who was called as a witness, cited a case in which milk taken after an interval of seven hours showed a percentage of 4.3 of fat, while that taken after an interval of 17 hours showed a percentage of only 2.7. If cows were milked at regular intervals there would be no difference between morning and evening milk.

The Town Clerk offered to adjourn the case if the trade would undertake to consider the question of altering their present system of a long and a short interval to a system of equal, or nearly equal, periods.

Mr. K. Storey, who appeared for the defendant whose case was under consideration, agreed to this course, as also did Mr. W. H. Bell, who represented the Northumberland and Durham Dairy Farmers and Milk Producers' Association, in other cases on the list.

Mr. Bell said it must not be taken that he admitted that regular milkings would yield the same quality; on the contrary, he was quite prepared to prove by statistics that the contrary was the case. In one instance cows that were milked four times a day at intervals of six hours gave milk at midnight and at six o'clock in the morning that was 1 per cent. less in fat than that yielded during the day; and in another instance it was found that the milk yielded by a herd of 22 cows at 7 a.m. contained 2.69 of fat, while that yielded at 5 p.m. contained 4.09.

It was agreed to adjourn the cases for a month, Mr. Bell intimating that in the meantime his Association would discuss the Town Clerk's proposal.

IN PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Water in Butter.

On Monday, Sir E. Strachey asked the President of the Board of Agriculture, whether he was aware that by a recent decision of the High Court butter may be sold to the public which had been adulterated with a large percentage of moisture without infringement of the Margarine Act; and whether he would introduce a Bill to put a stop to the sale of an article which was prejudicial in the interests of the dairy industry of Great Britain and of the retailers and consumers throughout the country.

Mr. Hanbury: I am aware of the prejudice done to the makers of genuine butter, both in this country and the Colonies, by the sale as milk-blended butter, of an article artificially loaded with 25 per cent. of water. The recent introduction of an authorised standard of butter will, it is to be hoped, if standards in such cases are to be of any real value, have the effect of preventing such an article being so sold, but should that not prove to be the case, further steps ought, I think, to be taken without delay to remedy the injustice done to both British and Colonial farmers.

Later in the day, Mr. Joyce asked Mr. Hanbury if Irish salt butter containing over 16 per cent. of water could legally be sold in England provided the amount of water were declared to the purchaser?

Mr. Hanbury: In fixing the standard I gave no effect to the portion of the report bearing upon this question, and I cannot possibly say what the legal decision may be on the point. I cannot suppose that Parliament intended to set up a standard which could be so easily evaded as the hon. gentleman suggests.

The Short Supply of Cattle.

Captain Norton asked the President of the Board of Agriculture, on Monday, whether, in view of the present and prospective short supplies of beef, and the desirability of augmenting the food supply of the country, he would consider the advisability of allowing South American cattle to be landed in this country under the same conditions as those from the United States, and also of removing the existing restrictions on Canadian store cattle.

Mr. Hanbury: In the case of Canadian store cattle the answer is in the negative. With regard to the Argentine cattle, I am bound by Statute to consider not only the existence or absence of disease in the exporting country, but also how far the laws regulating the importation of cattle in that country, and the administration of such laws, secure it against the introduction of disease from outside. With regard to the latter points, I have made representations to the Argentine Government, and I am now awaiting their reply.

Out-door Relief.

On Friday Sir E. Strachey moved the second reading of the Out-door Relief (Friendly Societies) Bill, which, he explained, was introduced at the request of the conference of friendly societies with the object of amending and extending the Bill carried in 1894. It was intended to provide assistance for those who had been thrifty, and to show that it was an advantage to become a member of a friendly society, and, at the same time, to prevent members being penalised by the guardians because they had themselves provided against sickness and accident. Last session the measure passed all the stages to the last without opposition, and the only objection to it from any organised body came from the Charity Organisation Society.

Mr. Gibbs, in moving the rejection of the Bill, said that he objected to it as an independent mem-

ber, regarding his position as a trust and not as the spokesman of any society.

Sir J. Dorington seconded the motion for the rejection.

Sir W. Foster said it would be a poor reason for voting against the Bill that it did not recognise all forms of thrift. He should be glad to see it extended so that any form of thrift brought before boards of guardians and tested, up to 5s. a week, should be recognised by them in granting out-door relief.

Sir T. Hoare, Captain Norton, and Sir A. Rollit supported the Bill.

Mr. W. F. Lawrence agreed that the Bill would encourage thrift up to 5s. a week, but it would encourage applications to the poor law with a view of turning that 5s. into 10s.

Mr. Long said he gave his support to the Bill, both as a private member and as the Minister for the time being responsible for the administration of the Poor Laws. He was justified in asking the House to look at the Bill as it really was. It proposed a very small change in the law. The real question before the House was, not whether they were going to make an exception in favour of a particular class of applicants for poor law relief, but whether they would give to such applicant, who, in his days of prosperity, had made an effort to save for himself, but had been overtaken by ill-health and old age, a statutory right to better treatment than that accorded to his neighbour, who had made no such effort. (Hear, hear.) This Bill was an amendment to the Act of 1894, which recognised that especial thrift was deserving of especial treatment at the hands of Parliament. It would be a mistake to offer a negative to this Bill simply because it did not deal with the larger view of the matter. The measure did not propose to give special advantages to members of friendly societies as such, and, in fact, no one could take any advantage under it unless he had put aside from his earnings sufficient to justify the rendering to him of assistance when he became sick or broken down by age. This Bill took the form of a savings bank, the purchase of property, or of any other kind of thrift. If he thought that the proposals were likely to undermine the foundations of the poor law system he would be the last man to support it, but because he took an entirely different view of the case he would vote for the second reading. He would treat a pauper who, owing to his own degraded habits, made his life a burden to himself and those dependent upon him, in a manner that would cause him to realise that if they were bound to keep him in the workhouse it would be only with a certain amount of discomfort. There was nothing in the Bill which could tend to weaken the administration of the poor law, but, on the contrary, he believed that it would strengthen that administration and the position of the boards of guardians. This Bill was undoubtedly a step in the right direction, and as such deserved the support of the House.

The House divided.

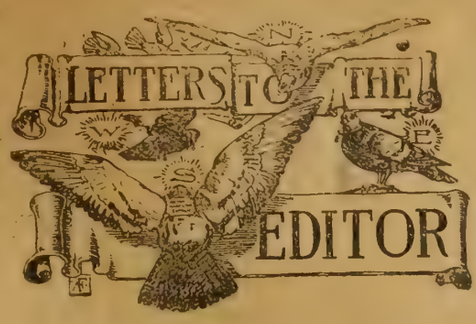
For the second reading	262
Against	19
Majority for	243

The Bill was then read a second time.

Dameges to Crops by Noxious Fumes.—The Hon. Cecil Parker, agent to the Duke of Westminster, and the referee appointed by the High Court of Chancery to assess the damages sustained by two tenants of the Dean and Chapter of Chester by the injurious effect on crops and stock of noxious fumes emitted from the works of the Smelting Corporation, Limited, Ellesmere Port, near Chester, has now given his award. The tenants have been awarded sums of £1,951 and £1,534 respectively, and the Dean and Chapter, as landlords, £405.

The Late Mr. Richard Moody.—A very large number of Somersetshire agriculturists attended the funeral of Mr. Richard Moody, of Shepton Mallet, secretary of the Mid-Somerset Agricultural Society. The deceased had been actively associated with that society for over a quarter of a century, being treasurer from 1877 till 1881, and from that as secretary up to the time of his death. He was consequently widely known, and his genial manner endeared him to all with whom he was brought into contact. He was also for thirteen years surveyor of highways to the Rural District Council of Shepton Mallet.

Thirsk May Hirings.—The first of the May term statutes at Thirsk took place on Monday in the Market Square at Thirsk. There was an average attendance of both male and female servants. Farmers were not anxious to make engagements. Good managing farm men, able to do any kind of work and take entire charge, obtained £25 to £26 a year, and cottage found; first hands for farm service £20 to £21, second hands, or good strong plough boys, £15 to £16; and farm boys got £1 for every year of their age. Head farmhouse female servants received £20 for the twelve months, and second girls £19 to £16; cooks and town's places, £18 to £20; general servants, £13 to £15.



Some Recollections of Wiltshire

Sir,—I am extremely obliged to you for the admirable "Seventieth Birthday Number," which reflects the greatest credit on yourself, your staff, and all who were concerned in its production. As my memory—being in my eighty-sixth year—extends far earlier than the birth of the MARK LANE EXPRESS, I will trouble you with some of my reminiscences, and the information I have acquired. Of course, I do not remember the disastrous seasons which came immediately after the close of the war, when rents were so high; but I have copied from the original some interesting particulars of the weather kept by a neighbour, from 1803 until 1821. From it I find that in the year 1816 it rained da yor night from the 6th July until the 20th August, and no hay was made in that time. For the next year, 1817, the weather was nearly as bad, as it rained either in the day or night from the 27th June until the 31st July—31 days; on the 4th July there was very heavy rain, thunder and lightning, and a deep flood. In the next year, 1818, it is recorded that there was no rain from May 24th to September 5th—15 weeks. Hay was £9 per ton. The autumn was splendid.

During the next two years the summers were ungenial, and the war rents, with swarms of unemployed labourers, many of whom then received pay from the poor rates, must have made farming a poor pursuit, and the trials were further aggravated by the "terrible depression" in the end of 1821, all 1822, and part of 1823, from the alteration in the currency. This I can remember; but my earliest recollection is the most fearful storm of thunder and lightning ever known in these parts, on the 30th July, 1819. It occurred about 1 p.m., just at the very time when a man of Wootton Bassett, Robert Watkins, was being hanged for murder and highway robbery by the side of the road where it was committed, between Paiton and Cricklade, a few miles from Swindon. Except for the smash among the country banks about 1825, when many collapsed and a hundred millions of money was lost to the country, the times for farmers, but for the excessive pauperism, were tolerably good until 1828, when a very wet summer and autumn occurred. This was also the case in 1829 and 1830, and except on very dry soils, most of the sheep were more or less affected with fluke in the liver, and the losses to farmers were enormous. To this was added the distress among the labourers from non-employment, which culminated in the agricultural riots in November, 1830, when 300 poor fellows were tried at Salisbury, and about the same number in Hants and Dorset. This disaffection extended nearly all over the country, commencing in Kent..

Times for farmers continued bad until 1836, when the new Poor Law somewhat lessened the rates, which in this parish in the year ending Lady Day, 1832, reached 9s. 9d. in the £1. Until the panic from Peel's Bill, in 1842, the times were pretty good, when a reaction occurred, which was aggravated by the remarkable drought of 1844, although the crop of wheat was probably the heaviest ever known in this country. Times were then very good until 1848. The summer of 1846 was a magnificent one, but the rains in the latter end of July destroyed the potato crop, which first appeared about the 23rd or 24th of July in the previous year. After 1848 the distress was very acute, and there was a great agitation for a return to Protection among the farmers; but the Crimean War soon put matters to rights, and for no less than 25 years the occupiers of pasture farms had "halcyon" days, with but few bad seasons, but the arable farmers for several years less, until the unexampled wet season of 1879, with low prices also prevailed. This immediately led to a revision and great lowering of rents, and as the times continued bad, in many cases, about 1886, a still further reduction took place. Since this time matters have gone on tolerably smooth in this district; the seasons have lately been better, and the times for farmers at present will not compare unfavourably with some of those which occurred formerly.

Several years ago, I wrote to the Board of Trade pointing out that it would be better to substitute in the census of cattle, "cows and heifers in milk or in calf," for "milking cows," which was done, and the other day I wrote to the Chancellor of the Exchequer informing him that 50 years ago stamps were affixed to cheques, as to letters, and suggesting that the same could be done now. I have two vols. of "Bell's Weekly Messenger" for 1804 and 1805, and find beef was at exactly the same price as now; rents were higher. P.

May 5, 1902.

Charlock Destroying.

Sir,—At the present time I have numerous inquiries as to what height the charlock is most easily killed by spraying with sulphate of copper.

You will confer a considerable boon to farmers if you will make known the following observations in your valuable paper:—

The height of the charlock is not a safe guide as to the best time to spray it. In many districts both in England and Scotland last season, I saw charlock only about 2 or 3 inches high, but that was old and tough as wire, and just coming into flower. Owing to the cold and unfavourable season it has grown slowly, and should have been sprayed weeks earlier.

When the weather is favourable and the plant grows away quickly, it may be successfully destroyed up to 6 or 8 inches high.

The only safe guide that I know of at present as to the best time to kill the charlock is when the plant is young and soft in fibre, after it has put out a few rough leaves. Under such conditions every plant that receives its proportionate share of 50 gallons of 3 per cent. solution of copper sulphate per acre will be destroyed, i.e., 15lb. in 50 gallons of water.

I have just had an opportunity of superintending some field spraying under these conditions, and am now informed that 95 per cent. of the charlock is already dead.

I have adopted a practice which I would recommend to all who spray charlock. Have two or three old manure bags and lay them down over the charlock in the track of the spraying machine. The plants covered by the bags will have been protected from the spray. These plots will show a sharply-defined contrast between the sprayed and unsprayed charlock, and give a clear decided lesson as to the value received from spraying.

Thanking you in anticipation for giving space to this.—I remain, Sir, yours faithfully,

G. F. STRAWSON.

71a, Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C.
May 8th, 1902.

Leather-Jackets in Clover.

Sir,—Can you, through the medium of your valuable paper account for the condition of my red clover of last year's sowing which is now dying in patches? Specimens of affected plants are enclosed. The grub (also enclosed) was found at the root of one of the plants. Would it be the cause? If so, is there any method of destroying the larva without injury to the plants? AGRI.

[*** The grub is the larva of the crane fly, or Daddy Longlegs, and these larvæ are usually known as "leather-jackets." They are very destructive to vegetation, although perhaps less commonly so to clover than to other crops, and as they are extremely tenacious of life they are difficult to deal with when attacking a growing crop. From the appearance of the grub, I should think yours is a dark soil and inclined to peat, and if this be so, it may in some measure account for the attack, as these pests are rather prone to affect damp, loose land. The usual remedy for an attack is the free use of the Cambridge roller and the application of forcing manures; but it is now getting too late to use the roller on clover, and I should advise you to graze the herbage as closely as possible (if it be pastured), and treading by sheep will tend to kep down the ravages of the pests. Nitrate of soda and soot might be of some service, but if the and is intended for grazing this summer these applications will be untimely. The best thing to do is to graze as closely as possible, and to gaslime in the autumn and to plough up fairly early. Of course, if gaslime is applied, wheat must not be sown in the autumn, but oats or barley might be sown next spring. The condition of the clover is not entirely due to the leather-jackets: I found a young wireworm (dead) amongst the plants, and there are signs of clover-sickness or of the presence of stem-eelworms. Nothing can now be done to ward off the clover-sickness.—M. Y.]

Profit from Poultry.

Sir,—That the industry of the poultry farm is of very great concern, not only to the individual, but to the nation, cannot be denied when our revenue returns show the many millions sterling we send to foreign countries to import to us their eggs and poultry, which, on good authority, it is maintained, could be raised on British farms. In your journal of the 28th ult., "R. B." writes very confidently, "Give fowls a healthy grass run, and house and feed them properly, and they will pay more for the time and money invested

in them than any other stock on the farm. This is our experience after keeping a hundred and more head, and keeping a correct account of income and expenditure."

Would that "R. B." had set the balance sheet seal to his statement, it would have very greatly promoted an important national industry. It is to be hoped that he will do the country this service. "R. B.'s" experiences may be said to be "limited," but eminent authorities on poultry farming agree that there is comparatively a far better result to be obtained in keeping a far larger stock of fowls.—Yours truly,

ALFRED WELCH.

Southall.
May 5, 1902.



Forestry: Board of Agriculture Committee.

The Departmental Committee appointed by the President of the Board of Agriculture to inquire into and report as to the present position and future prospects of forestry in Great Britain, and to consider whether any measures might be taken, either by the provision of further educational facilities or otherwise, for its promotion and encouragement, held sittings at St. Stephen's House, Westminster, on the 6th and 7th May, 1902. Mr. R. C. Munro-Ferguson, M.P., was in the chair; and the other members of the committee were also present, viz., Sir John Rolleston, M.P., Mr. E. Stafford Howard, C.B., Dr. W. Schlich, C.I.E., F.R.S., Lt.-Col. F. Bailey, Professor J. R. Campbell, Mr. J. Herbert Lewis, M.P., Mr. George Marshall, and Dr. W. Somerville.

The following witnesses gave evidence:—

On the 6th.—Lt.-Colonel F. Bailey, Lecturer in Forestry at Edinburgh University; Mr. J. T. Maxwell, of the Local Government Board for Scotland; Major P. G. Craigie, Assistant Secretary to the Board of Agriculture; Dr. W. Somerville, Assistant Secretary to the Board of Agriculture; Mr. C. O. Minchin, of the Board of Inland Revenue, and Mr. A. D. Webster, representing the Royal Horticultural Society.

On the 7th.—Mr. James Michie, representing the Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland; Dr. H. Marshall Ward, F.R.S., Professor of Botany in the University of Cambridge; Mr. Joseph Parry, M.I.C.E., Water Engineer to the Liverpool Corporation; and Mr. M. F. Roberts, Assistant Engineer to the General Post Office.

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Trial of the "Ohio" Hay-loader

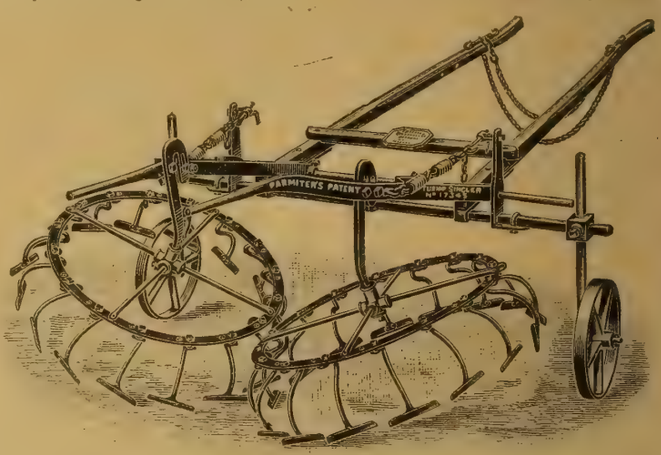
An interesting, and very successful, trial of the "Ohio" hay-loader with some important and patented improvements took place near Shaftesbury on Friday last on the farm of Mr. Arthur Hiscock, jun., Motcombe, and was witnessed by a number of the leading agriculturists of the district with expressions of hearty approval and satisfaction. A large load of last year's hay provided by Mr. Hiscock was spread in a grass field adjoining the road to Motcombe, and after being turned, first by the "Bamford" and then by the "Jarmain" swathe-turners, to show the excellent capabilities of these machines, part of it was gathered into good-sized windrows, and the "Ohio" hay-loader was then attached to a waggon drawn by one horse, and with one man leading the horse and another in the waggon, a large load was elevated and formed on the waggon in a few minutes, without a hitch of any kind, the ground in the 7ft. track of the loader being raked clean. After the company present had partaken of light refreshments in the field (provided by Mr. John Farris, agricultural engineer, of Shaftesbury, the local agent of Messrs. F. C. Southwell and Co., 75, Southwark Street, London, S.E., who are the sole importers), the load of hay was again spread on the ground, some as it would be left by a tedder and the rest in windrows, and, to test the loader severely, Mr. Hiscock, with his usual thoroughness, got into the waggon alone, and, taking the reins (without anyone leading the horse), drove over the hay, and before he stopped the loader had, by itself, picked up clean and elevated into the waggon over 10cwt. of hay, without a hitch, in about five minutes, including the time taken to turn once at the end of the field; and then, with the assistance of a man to lead, Mr. Hiscock built the front of the load, and in five or six more minutes a load of over 20cwt. was well loaded, the hay on the waggon being from 2ft. to 3ft. higher than the top or delivery end of the loader. All present said nothing of the kind had been ever before witnessed, and was a most marvellous performance for any machine. It was thus demonstrated that, with two men, only one being on the load, hay could be loaded with less effort to the man on the load and in half the time required with manual pitching, as well as dispensing with at least two men; but the saving of time is perhaps even more important in unsettled weather than the evident great economy in labour. After the trial many of Mr. Hiscock's friends stayed to make a tour of inspection of his splendidly-arranged farm buildings, which house ten of his famous Shorthorn bulls and over 130 cows, besides young stock and calves, and about 300 of his world-renowned Berkshire, and Large, Middle, and Small White pigs, for all of which he has, in about the last ten years only, won over 1,113 champion first prizes and breed cups. We do not think that anyone will wish to dispute Mr. Hiscock's statement that "that is more than any other exhibitor can say." It was a great treat to witness such up-to-date methods of rearing and feeding such a large herd of cattle and pigs and to see such a fine collection of champion animals, as well as the young ones coming on in such fine form, evidently destined to bring to their genial and hospitable owner further numerous honours. We saw a fine lot of eight Middle White pigs, going next week to Odessa, and others ordered for Argentina, the Cape, and elsewhere, and were not surprised to hear that for both Shorthorns and pigs the demand greatly exceeds the supply.

We were also extremely interested in going over Mr. Hiscock's noted dairy of Cheddar cheese, from which over 15 tons had just been sent away in large and small consignments to various parts of the country, and after testing several samples we can quite understand the secret of his success in this department, viz., all that comes from the cow is put into the cheese-making apparatus, and the most perfect appliances, together with Mr. Hiscock's thoroughness, do the rest.

If these lines should lead to the desire on the part of anyone interested to see Mr. Hiscock's herds and dairy, we are assured they will always be welcomed.

Parmiter Patent Turnip Singler or Thinner.

From time to time many attempts have been made to produce an effective machine for gapping or thinning roots, but the work is more difficult than at first appears, and nothing as has yet come into general use for the purpose. Mr. P. J. Parmiter, of Tisbury, has now invented a machine which, from the reports we have seen, promises well. It will be seen from the illustration that the implement is very simple, and consists of two discs with hoes carried on a frame, each disc cutting one rank of roots. As from the angle of the disc and set of the hoes, it is made to revolve simply by contact with the ground without gearing of any sort, the hoes being drawn by this means through the rank of roots. This gives a steady clean cut, as with a hand or horse hoe, and not a chop or scuff, as with many of the geared machines tried, which is very liable to disturb the space left for the plant, and work very unevenly in stony land. The hoes are adjustable, and in a strong plant on a firm soil, can be set very close, and on loose soil with a weak plant can be set as open as necessary.



PARMITER PATENT TURNIP SINGLER OR THINNER.

The discs are carried on a spring that regulates the penetration, and lifts them over thin patches. As the disc stops at once when lifted clear of the soil, there is no danger in bruising the plants left.

Mr. Parmiter calls his machine a singler, because, in an average crop, he has found, it will single at least 50 per cent. of the plants, but it is not to be supposed that it can equal hand singling, but as it makes clean, regular gaps, cutting 85 per cent. of the soil, it will do all the heavy work of the hoeing, and is good enough for rape or kale, turnips to be fed off, or the first time in swedes or a thick mangol plant; and if, as the inventor says, six acres a day can be well gapped or cut out by one man, it is certainly worth the careful attention of farmers.

Bridgnorth Store Stock Sale.—Messrs Nock, Deighton, and Kirby's annual stock sale at Bridgnorth May Fair took place on the 1 t inst. in Bridgnorth Smithfield, the catalogue comprising upwards of 600 fat and store cattle, 30 fat and store bulls, 700 sheep, and a quantity of pigs and calves. There was a very large attendance of butchers and dealers present from all parts of England, and the trade throughout was brisk especially for fat cattle, which made exceptional prices and realised up to £24. There were several grand bulls offered, and one from Mrs. Mapp (Old Park) made 28gs. Cows and calves numbered nearly 50, and made up to £18 15s. In-calvers made up to £15 5s. Ewes and lambs made up to 57s.; store sheep, 40s.; fat sheep, 50s.; fat lambs, 32s.; fat calves, 60s.; fat pigs, £8: stores, 40s.; small stores, 25s. The prices were as follows: Beef, 6½d. to 7d. per lb.; mutton, 7½d. to 8d. per lb.; veal, 8d. to 9d. per lb.

Mr. Hanbury at Norwich.

On Saturday the President of the Board of Agriculture addressed a special meeting held at Norwich under the auspices of the Norfolk Chamber of Agriculture. There was a very large attendance, and Mr. Hanbury had a most enthusiastic reception. Mr. George Cobon (president of the Chamber), who presided, expressed the pleasure which they all felt at the honour of a visit from the Minister of Agriculture, and said he desired to move the following address of welcome:—"That this meeting, held under the auspices of the Norfolk Chamber of Agriculture, heartily welcomes the Right Hon. R. W. Hanbury, M.P., on the occasion of this his first visit of a Minister ofAgriculture to Norfolk. (Applause.)

Mr. Clare Sewell Read, in seconding the motion, said the one especial want they had in the county of Norfolk was, he thought, a better quality of store stock. (Applause.) They remembered some ten years ago the thousands of Canadian store cattle that were grazed in this county. He himself had over 200, and he could truly say that there was not a single instance of any contagious disease among those cattle. The worst of it was that in consequence of increase in the milk trade the quality of the store cattle that they had in this county certainly deteriorated. As far as Ireland was concerned, it was a trifle better, but if they took the English store stock of the present day, he said that it was worse than it was twenty years ago, and, therefore, although they contended as strongly as anyone that it would be dangerous to admit any live stock from the Continent, and even from Argentina, they did not know very much about the internal regulations with regard to the healthy cattle in the United States, yet they did know that Canadian cattle were among the healthiest in the world. (Hear, hear.) Norfolk was the greatest producer of malt and barley of any county in England, and most of them were in favour of pure beer. (Applause.) It was grateful, therefore, to the present Minister of Agriculture for voting in support of those two measures, which had recently been before Parliament. Passing on to speak of the Education Bill, Mr. Read said he believed they were as a rule in favour of the main principles of that measure. He expressed the opinion that if this country insisted upon education being free and at the same time compulsory, then it was the duty of the State to pay for that education, and the cost of it ought not to be levied on local rates. (Loud applause.)

Education.

Mr. Hanbury, who was loudly cheered on coming forward, thanked the meeting for the cordial reception they had given him. He appreciated, he said, the resolution all the more because it had been moved by their Chairman and seconded by his old friend and colleague in the House of Commons—Mr. Clare Sewell Read. (Applause.) There were certain questions which did not require local special knowledge; they were questions of great national policy, and so far as farmers as a class were concerned, the questions that interested them most were these. In the first place—and after all, it was a question of pounds, shillings, and pence—it was in regard to their rates and taxes. He ventured to say the farmers wanted a much clearer line drawn between the burdens that the locality ought to bear and the burdens the nation ought to bear. They wanted a fairer distribution between real and personal property. It might be said that the Education Bill was throwing upon them a fresh charge. That he perfectly admitted, and until the whole system of local taxation was properly dealt with, as it must be dealt with soon, there is no possibility of separating the rates of the Board Schools from those of the Voluntary Schools. But he ventured to say that when the time came for distribution between local taxation and Imperial taxation, then there were at any rate two subjects which in the country districts there would be a great demand for having them put more than now on the Imperial Exchequer. Three-fourths of the money for education was at present falling upon the Imperial Exchequer, and when this great division takes place there would be a great demand for the other fourth to fall upon the Imperial Exchequer also. The Imperial Exchequer was at present loaded with the burdens of this great war. When it was over they might depend upon it this cry would arise, especially in the country districts, because it was the undoubted fact in their country villages they were educating the children to a large extent out of local pockets, and was not utilised in the country villages, but in the towns, which got the benefit of the education. (Applause.) The same remark might perhaps apply to the main roads. The main roads in this country were far behind the main roads of France, whose internal prosperity had been in a way due to the main roads through the length and breadth of that land. As the means of locomotion increased, so they would find the main roads would become more and more unfit for them in the country districts, and they would demand the State should do more for them in this respect than at the present moment.

Farmers' Grievances Against Railways,

Passing from the local and Imperial burdens to the question between owner and occupier, Mr. Hanbury warned them that it would not be a good thing either for the landlord or for the tenant in England if we went far in the direction that had unfortunately been followed in Ireland. But, after all, what was the real national question that remained? It was the question between the home producer and the foreigner; it was the question of competition; it was the question of prices. That question was not a matter of legislation, because the policy of the country had been settled for the last fifty years. The policy of the last fifty years had brought great wealth to this country, but it had not brought wealth to the agricultural interest. He was afraid tin this matter the agricultural interest would not be considered. If any change happened in the commercial policy of the country it would emanate from those great industries in whose favour it was inaugurated; if any change were made it would be the result of the demand of the towns, and not of the country districts. But in any case, all that was possible ought to be done to modify foreign competition. Cheap sea transit brought the foreigners' produce very near to our markets, and they ought not to be further assisted by special railway rates. He was asked in the House of Commons the other day by one of the agricultural members as to what might be done with railway rates. He was sorry to say the Board of Agriculture in England, unlike the Board of Agriculture in Ireland, had practically no voice in the question of railway rates, even for agricultural produce—a power he would like to get. (Applause.) But at any rate he could express his opinion upon the matter, and when he was questioned in the House of Commons he said distinctly that an inquiry might very well be held into at least three points. In the first place, there was the enormous difference in the rate charged for small consignments, and that charged for large consignments. The English farmer, as a rule, sent small consignments, while the foreigner sent large consignments, and this was very much in favour of the foreigner and against the English farmer.

Then, again, the English farmer suffered from

Terrible Delays in the Goods Traffic

in this country. That was a matter that ought to be looked into. There was no control over the goods traffic of our great railways. We knew when passenger trains ran, but nobody knew when he would receive a consignment sent by goods trains. There was a fixed tariff for traffic by goods trains, but none for the steamships owned by the great railway companies, and it was quite possible for an English railway company to bring goods from a foreign port to London—from Rotterdam to Harwich, and from Harwich to London—for exactly the same price as they would charge for taking the same goods from an English port to London, because while they must render an account of their charges by rail, they were under no such obligation with regard to their steamships, and could charge practically nothing for bringing goods from Rotterdam.

This was a thing that ought to be inquired into. Another drawback was the irregular charges of railway companies. He could not go into the question at length, but he had had some figures worked out for him by the Board of Agriculture. The Great Eastern Railway Company, he noticed—and he said it to their honour—carried dairy produce at a rate which was very much below that charged by five other great companies: that was to say, where the Great Eastern Raiway Company charged 6d., four other companies charged 9d., while one charged 1s. Such a difference ought not to be allowed.

He had dealt with what were the main questions of policy, and, after all, as he had said, it resolved itself principally into that

Great Question of Competition

—the great question between the home producer and the foreigner. Apart from these large questions, he was struck by the smallness of the charges which their Chambers of Agriculture and agricultural representatives in the House of Commons evidently thought it possible to bring about by legislation. He was struck by the smallness of the Bills that were introduced. They were good bills as far as the ywent, but they only touched the agricultural question to a very small degree indeed. Mr. Hanbury named some of these small measures, and proceeded to point out that the great difficulty they as farmers experienced was in getting a fair price for the articles they produced. After all, that was business, and they would agree, therefore, that self-help was the first thing to be considered. They had got to do everything as men of business, and help themselves as all business men had.

They had a fair right to demand that, having a Government Department all their own—the Board of Agriculture—that Department should be a practical one, and that it should do everything it possibly could to help them. He was sorry to say that there had been an adhering to the old idea that came in with the doctrine of Free Trade, but which had no necessary connection with them at all, that the Departments might let things slide—that it was not their business to do anything very active in matters that came before them. But the Government Departments had got to be more active in the future than they had been in the past. They had got to study the needs of those whom they represented. (Applause.) The Government Departments of other countries were doing it. Those of America, Germany, France, and our colonies were doing it, and those of this country ought to follow suit. (Applause.)

How Farmers Change with the Times

He was struck by the wonderful way in which the farmers all through the country had adapted themselves to the necessities of changing times. But, after all, they had to ask themselves, "Do we each do all that we might to help under the circumstances in which we have to continue this fight?" What was the battle? It was a competition with new countries brought very close to our doors. As he had said, it was a question of prices, and very low prices, in competition with these other countries. Now, after all, were there any advantages which we still had in spite of this vigorous competition with new and distant countries? Proximity to great markets, and to the richest markets in the world, must count for something; and therefore it was their duty to give their attention more and more to those products which could not be transported so readily from these distant lands—and especially they ought to aim at producing the best. He believed this was the only way to get anything like success in these days—not to deal in rubbish, and not to produce rubbish, but to produce the very best that the English farm could. (Applause.) In that respect they had an unlimited market, and a market in which others could not compete. But for second and third-grade things they had the foreigner to compete with, and he could compete with them at a considerable advantage. Mr. Hanbury mentioned certain advantages that an old country had over a new one. They had all the accumulated experience that good farming had taught the English farmer. Another advantage lay in the cheap bread, of which the labouring classes had the benefit, and the higher wages that they received owing to the prosperity of the industries in our large towns, the result being that the demand for meat had increased to an unparalleled extent. The demand for meat on the part of the working classes was growing by leaps and bounds, and the farmer had, therefore, an increased market at his very doors. Again, they had cheap feeding stuffs, which, of course, was a considerable advantage.

He was glad to hear that remark which had fallen from one of the previous speakers in regard to the question of the duty on flour. There was often a good deal of nonsense talked about taxes on food. We already taxed food, for sugar and tea were necessaries of life, almost as much as bread. But this tax on flour was not a tax on food. We allowed wheat to come in just as it did before. And, while the tax was not a tax on food, it would have this effect—it would revive the milling trade of this country. (Applause.) A tax on flour had a double advantage, and to call it a tax on food was perfectly preposterous. (Applause.)

He wanted to be perfectly frank. It was not

The Business of a Minister of Agriculture

to come and speak smooth things. If he did so he was a humbug, and he was not an honest man. (Laughter.) And, therefore, he wanted to speak to the farmers straight. He wanted to examine how far farming in England, even under the conditions mentioned, had still great opportunities of improvement. Were they using these advantages fully? Well, they had got to arrive at a settled policy as to whom their customers were to be, and for whom they were going to produce. Were they going to produce the best things only, or were they going to compete with the third grades of the Argentine, or Canada, or the serf labour of Russia? They must produce the best, or their farming would not pay. No Minister ought to induce the production of rubbish. That was one of the reasons why he was carrying on a fight at the present moment against a new production in our dairy produce this blended butter. They could not afford to have encouragement held out for the production of a bad class of butter. (Hear, hear.) It would only pay the farmer to produce the very best. And he maintained, also, that in these days we had to go further than we had yet done in the matter of adulteration. There was a time when adulteration was regarded as a legitimate form of competition. There was a time when only the customer had to be considered, and he had to be protected against adulteration on the part of the vendor. They ought to go further, and protect the ordinary producer of a good article against the man who took the name of that article in vain. (Applause.) He had a right to his trade name. He had a right, if he was the manufacturer of genuine butter, to have the name confined to genuine butter. (Applause.)

As regards pedigree stock, undoubtedly this country stood foremost in the world. It was the nursery of fine stock, and, he was glad to say, we had a good market open to us in the Argentine. But, taking the average statistics of this country as showing what was the fair work done by the average farmer, he ventured to say there was still

Opportunity for more self-help and improvement.

—and especially in the newer branches. But he would take the older branches first. In regard to corn, he found, on looking over the statistics of ten years, that in England—from which he excluded Wales, because it was a poor country—the production of wheat per acre had been 30 bushels only, whereas in Scotland it had been 37, and in Ireland 32. In regard to barley, there had been produced in England 33 bushels, in Scotland 36, in Ireland 38; and in regard to oats, England 40 bushels, Scotland 36, Ireland 44. Going to Denmark, he found that the produce of wheat there had been 39 bushels. Belgium had produced 40 bushels of barley and 47 bushels of oats. But he was glad to acknowledge our debt of obligation to some of our scientific men, who were bringing the methods of science to bear upon agriculture. There were large firms in England which were working in that direction, and were producing fertilisers for corn, and especially of oats, which were destined, he hoped, to give us much larger crops than we had ever yet been able to gather.

Suggested Improvements

Our dairy cows, too, only averaged 420 gallons of milk, as compared with 590 in Denmark, and our store cattle were not so good as they were twenty years ago. No doubt a great deal of good butter was made, but it varied from farm to farm, and often from week to week, and where the foreigners beat them in this respect was in the matter of uniformity. That could only be got by combination among the farmers themselves; and he strongly advocated it, pointing out that as one result it had had the effect of raising the price of milk in his own county of Staffordshire. He also recommended the establishment of commercial banks as in Ireland, and then went on to inquire whether the Board of Agriculture had not something to learn. It might be of some use in bringing before, for instance, the farmers of Norfolk, not only the results of experiments in their own country, but of those conducted at the cost of the nation in other countries. Government departments were at present not sufficiently in touch with each other, and he had therefore, in the matter of education, endeavoured by a Joint Committee to see whether they could not supply a more practical education in rural districts in place of that which disqualified the children for country life. (Applause.) But it was not sufficient for the Board of Agriculture and the Board of Education to make this possible; it rested with those who managed these village schools. (Hear, hear.) He did not want to make his Department a political machine. What he rather desired was to make it a business machine, and he had no desire that they should come to him as party men with political nostrums or schemes for catching votes. He wanted them to come to him explaining their local wants, and as business men with practical remedies for existing evils. (Hear, hear.)

Speaking of trusts, Mr. Hanbury said he did not know how much longer this country was going to stand these American trusts. At the present time our meat supply, as far as America was concerned, was in the hands of four men, so that at any moment prices might go up and down in a remarkable manner, and he did not think the country would put up with such variations much longer. (Applause.)

Referring to the question of the

Importation of Canadian Store Cattle,

he said there seemed to be a general idea that Canadian farmers were longing to revive the old trade, and send store cattle to this country. But the opposite was the fact. Since the importation was prohibited in 1893 a new trade had sprung up between Canada and the States, and it was found more profitable to send the cattle away fat than as stores. It would only be from the West that stores could be obtained, and there only for a short time, because the supply of fat cattle in the United States was falling off, and the States would take any quantity that Canada could send. The question of the importation of Canadian stores was talked of as if it were a large one, whereas it was but a small matter, and the number was but two per cent. of the store cattle in this country. Since 1893 the importation of stores from Ireland had increased so largely as to represent a great deal more than the falling-off in Canadians, and the gap was thus filled up. He asked them to take these arguments, and they would see that he could not do what they required.

Mr. H. Evans Lamb moved a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Hanbury for his excellent address. Mr. George White, M.P., seconded the proposition, which was carried amidst applause, and briefly acknowledged by Mr. Hanbury.



Darwen.

The twelfth annual exhibition of the Darwen Agricultural Society was held on Saturday, in a most convenient field, on the outskirts of the town. It was a most successful show, the entries being more numerous than ever, and the quality quite up to the average, a most commendable one. The most successful exhibitor of Shorthorn bulls was Mr. John Handley, of Milnthorpe, who carried off three prizes with his bulls, which included the magnificent Maréchal Neil and the younger Pearl King, and the three as a group won easily the premium for the best three animals in the cattle class. Dairy cows were an exceptionally nice lot, and the Messrs. Harrison, of Hoole and Much Hoole, were chief prize winners among the heifer classes. Local cattle exhibits, too, were noteworthy, particularly among milkers.

The display of horses was a good one. Mr. Yerburgh, M.P., was one of the leading exhibitors of heavy horses. His Woodford Royal Harold, a winner at Poulton and also at Bolton this year, was shown in the class for stallions for draught purposes, and was beaten by Messrs. J. Forshaw and Sons' noted Woodhall Pioneer. Mr. Yerburgh, however, won the first prize in the class for mares most likely to breed a foal, with Lilly of the Valley, who thus made her first appearance at a Lancashire show, although she has previously been seen among the Shires in London. In this instance she beat Mr. R. Lancaster's six year old chestnut, a descendant of Mr. Forshaw's noted Horbling Squire. A fine roan gelding, Red Lynch Duke, belonging to Mr. Thomas Edwards, of Litherland, was the winner among heavy mares and geldings. He is a massive animal, has won in several showyards already this season, taking the Coronation Cup at Liverpool a week ago, and fairly out-distanced a handsome mare Lily, belonging to Mr. Yerburgh. In the colt or filly class the hon. member for Chester was deservedly first with a foal by Combination, a youngster full of promise. Draught horses generally were a very useful lot, without containing extraordinary merit. They were for the most part well set-up animals with plenty of bone, and of a size suitable for horses having to work in a hilly country. Light horses were largely made up of competitors which have been going from show to show for a couple of seasons or more. There was, however, an interesting new class in the section. Last year's president of the society, Mr. J. C. Potter, offered £10 10s. as a prize for the best mare or gelding for mounted infantry and Imperial Yeomanry purposes. The qualifications for the guidance of the judges were precise and somewhat numerous. Half a dozen animals which seemed to answer the desired object were taken into the ring, and the prize went to Mr. J. E. Anderton, of Cadley, for a well-built chestnut gelding bred at Adlington, near Chorley, and two others obtained distinctions of reserve and highly commended. Mr. Potter's prize will be repeated at the shows of 1903 and 1904, and increasingly interesting competitions may be looked forward to.

Other sections which helped to make an altogether interesting show, included a capital display of dogs, particularly of collies, and a number of classes for poultry, pigeons, rabbits, cavies, etc., which were well filled. The awards in the horse, cattle, and pig classes are appended:—

HORSES.

OPEN CLASSES.

Heavy Horses.—Stallion for draught purposes: 1, Jas. Forshaw and Sons, Carlton-on-Trent; 2, R. A. Yerburgh M.P., Blackburn. Mare likely to breed a foal: 1, R. A. Yerburgh; 2, Robert Lancaster, Church. Mare or gelding, for draught or agricultural purposes: 1, T. Edwards, Litherland; 2, R. A. Yerburgh. Colt or filly ditto: 1, R. A. Yerburgh; 2, James Holden, Hurst Green.

SOCIETY'S DISTRICT ONLY.

Mare to breed a foal for draught or agricultural purposes: 1, R. A. Yerburgh; 2, William Lindsay, Bury. Mare or gelding, for draught or agricultural purposes: 1 and 2, Robert Lancaster. Ditto foaled in 1899: 1, Wm. Lindsay, Bury; 2, Richard Blackburn, Lostock Hall. Ditto foaled in 1900: 1, W. O. Smethurst, Elton; 2, John Smith, Darwen. Colt or filly ditto: 1, R. A. Yerburgh; 2, Richard Tomlinson, Langho.

LOCAL DISTRICT CLASSES.

Mare or gelding: 1 and 2, Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Company, Blackburn. Mare or gelding, in working gears: 1, Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Company; 2, H. Baldwin and Co., Darwen; 3, G. B. Leach and Sons, Darwen.

HACKNEYS (OPEN).

Stallion: 1, R. and P. Hartley, Balderstone; 2, James Worsley, Darwen. Likely mare to breed a foal: 1, Levi Fish, Barton; 2, Thomas Bailey Sykes, Poulton-le-Fylde. Foal of 1902: 1, William Cotton, Belmont; 2, W. Stothert, Blackburn. Colt or filly, 1901: 1, Alfred A. Haley, Malton; 2, James Mayoh, Darwen. Mare or gelding, exceeding 15 hands: 1, Thomas Bailey Sykes; 2, Joseph H. Jones, Liverpool. Cob not exceeding 15 hands: 1, Jos. H. Jones; 2, J. W. Astley, Nelson. Cob not exceeding 14 hands: 1, William Foster, Moseley; 2, A. D. Oates, Halifax. Pony: 1, R. Harrison, Chorley; 2, William Foster. Girl or boy rider on pony: 1, A. D. Oates; 2, Edward Holmes, Bootle.

SOCIETY'S DISTRICT ONLY.

Most likely mare to breed a foal: 1, Herbert T. Parke, Withnell; 2, Dr. Andrew Baxter, Darwen. Mare or gelding, to be ridden: 1, Richard Smith; 2, Alfred Nuttall, Billington. Mare or gelding, 1899: 1, R. and P. Hartley, Balderstone; 2, Thomas Smith, Hoghton. Ditto, 1900: 1, Alfred Nuttall; 2, H. Rayton, Blackburn. Cob not exceeding 15 hands, used for farm or trade purposes: 1, Robert Draine, Blackburn; 2, D. Greenwood and Son, Blackburn.

HUNTERS (OPEN).

1, Edward Hoyle, Bacup; 2, Arthur Sowler, Manchester. Army horses: 1, J. E. Anderton, Cadley; reserve, Henry Rayton, Blackburn.

CATTLE.

OPEN COMPETITION.

Bull, two years and over: 1, John Handley, Milnthorpe; 2, James Barnes, Lower Darwen. Under two years: 1 and 2, John Handley. Under one year: 1, R. and T. Harrison, Much Hoole; 2, Executors of T. Horsfall, Clitheroe. Cow: 1, Esaias Cowell, Blackburn; 2, J. and W. Lord, Healey. Dairy cow: 1, Edmund Farrow, Rochdale; 2, Wallpaper Manufacturers, Limited. Dairy cow, in calf: 1, James Eddleston Pleasington; 2, Henry Fielding. Heifer, under three years: 1, John Harrison, Hoole; 2, R. A. Yerburgh. Under two years: 1, R. and T. Harrison; 2, Thomas Adamson, Radcliffe. Under one year: 1, R. and T. Harrison; 2, Thomas Adamson, Radcliffe. Three animals: 1, John Handley. Holcombe Hunt District.—Pair of cows: 1, H. Horsfield, Tockholes; 2, John Smith.

LOCAL CLASSES.

Bull: 1, Knowles Brothers, Edgworth; 2, James Eddleston. Dairy cow: 1, Esaias Cowell; 2, Wallpaper Manufacturers; 3, H. Horsfield. Heifer: 1, John Smith; 2, William Haworth, Entwistle. Calf: 1, Robert Fish, Turton; 2, Joseph Tripper, Blackburn. Three animals: 1, H. Horsfield; 2, Wallpaper Manufacturers. Special prizes (District only).—Dairy cow: 1, H. Horsfield; 2, James Eddleston. Fat cow: 1, Wallpaper Manufacturers; 2, John Smith.

PIGS.

Breeding sow: 1, Thomas Veevers, Briercfield; 2, James Haydock, Tockholes. Store pig: 1 and 2, John Blackburn, Bacup. Boar: 1 and 2, Thomas Veevers.

GARDEN.

My forecast for a cold May has, so far, proved only too correct. If the weather last week was wintry, it is positively arctic this, and in the north it has been still worse than here, in the metropolitan area. Within the last few days we have had thunder and lightning, heavy and cold rains, hail and snow, with a bitterly cold north to east wind blowing the greater part of the time. For gardening anything worse could hardly be imagined; nothing grows, and most people are glad to sit by a good fire rather than turn out into the January weather outside.

Forward potatoes, already through the soil, should be kept earthed up as closely as possible, to protect them from the cold, and where the haulm has attained to a height of a few inches it would be very advisable to throw some dry litter or fern (bracken) all over the bed, or scatter it along the rows, until the conditions improve. Keep those now coming through well covered with soil. Breadths of potatoes that were planted late will probably succeed the best this season, certainly where the position is at all open or exposed.

Draw up a good ridge of soil on each side of rows of peas just through the soil, or beginning to grow, as this will protect them to a considerable extent. The sticks should also be put to them in good time, and where much exposed to the wind a row of twigs of some evergreen tree or shrub, such as yew or box, should also be stuck in on the windward, if not on both sides. Even the dwarf kinds will be the better for something of the kind.

I have seen no peas in bloom yet, but those who are fortunate enough to have any may obtain gatherings a little earlier by pinching out just the points of the plants as soon as they are well in flower. Broad beans may also be forwarded slightly by the same means, and should the black or dolphin fly appear in the points of these plants, pinch them out at once.

No dwarf or French beans will be through yet, even on the warmest of borders, probably, but should any that were raised under glass have been planted out they should be covered with spare frame-lights or something of the kind. Some light wooden frames covered with oiled calico are very useful in the garden for such purposes as this. Little or nothing will be gained by sowing more seed of either the dwarf or runner beans until the temperature of both the soil and the air increases.

Vegetable marrows, outdoor cucumbers, gourds, etc., must also be carefully protected for the present. If any more seed is to be sown, get it in at once, over a slight hotbed, and cover it closely; or sow the seeds singly in small pots and get the plants up in a warm house or pit. A batch of runner beans may be raised in the same way. Continue to thin out onions, parsnips, carrots, and other root crops. Leeks may be planted out now, as they are very hardy, but forward celery had better be kept inside until the conditions improve.

Indoor cucumbers and melons must have enough artificial heat to maintain a minimum temperature of 60deg. to 65deg. Give no air, but keep the atmosphere regularly moist.



Essex.

Everything, of course, backward, but I don't think the late cold winds have done any harm, and the rains have been very welcome, and should ensure at least fair crops. Stock healthy.

The action of the Government in placing the small tax on grain and flour is very much appreciated. Many would have liked a further 5s. per sack on foreign flour, which might have enabled some of the small country mills to re-start, and so have given the labourers an opportunity of getting more wholesome bread, and so lessened their craving for beer. The bread made by country bakers from foreign roller flour is very white, and pretty to look at, but does not satisfy or give strength, and cannot be got down without copious draughts, and water does not go well with it.—E. R. C. (May 8th.)

Gloucester.

Farm prospects for this neighbourhood are not of the brightest, for, although we are well into May, there is very little bite for the cattle, and they all want a little hay, although in many cases they don't get it, and the reason, there is none on the farm for them without buying. We have had some very cold winds of late, and altogether a very ungenial season for anything like luxuriant vegetation. Stock seems to have been fairly healthy this winter, but quite a lot have abhorted, and many have gone to the fields (to use a provincialism). "Low in flesh and high in bone," and the late cold season has not been good for them. Wheats are looking strong and healthy. Spring corn late. The apple trees are promising well. Beef and good young graziers are now sought by butchers and grazing men. Pigs are plentiful and selling fairly well.—J. W. (May 8th.)

Leicester.

Farming and grazing prospects I cannot see a very bright side at present; wheats are looking fairly well, spring-sown corn come up well. We have these spring prospects before, but at the finish very disappointing. In a many instances the soil is poverty-stricken. How is this to be remedied? A good dressing of lime would improve it; three years' lay down would assist it to bring it back to its former fertility. We have had a fairly successful lambing season. We have a great many very poor cattle. The bulk of the hay is most part consumed; prices of that commodity, £6 to £7 per ton, looks very tempting. Several have sold through this cold weather, and pastures very bare. It would be better consumed at home. At our weekly markets we have a good many screw beasts. If we get a rapid-growing time, a great many will die. My opinion, both farmers and graziers do not make any calculation of what produce they have got to consume in the autumn, and the number of stock it will take to consume it; a little surplus then should be left over.—W. C. (May 8th.)

Salop.

With a rainfall yesterday evening, followed by a catch of frost this morning, barley, oats, and clovers get a good seed bed. The potato crop, which is regaining its old position, is nicely got up, and cleared off to meet the demand. Cold winds check the growth of the grasses, but the warm sunshine is daily gaining ground.—J. G. (May 9th.)

Warwick.

In the Atherstone district farmers have got through all their fodder, and, being a late spring, live stock have been a great expense, as farmers have had to lay out more money in artificial food than they otherwise would have done. Wheat looks well, and the spring corn has come up very satisfactorily, but wire worm is somewhat prevalent. Lambs have done well, and meat is selling better. W. H. S. (May 8th.)

West of England.

Ordinarily there is a great deal of special importance in the reports of farming experts as to the position of agriculture in the West of England; but on the present occasion, owing to exceptional circumstances, the agriculturists who have again favoured us with their experiences of the past season, and their opinions as to the outlook for the future, deal also with the rise in the price of beef and the corn tax, in regard to both of which the townsman has, for obvious reasons, more than a passing interest. It is worthy of notice that, even in regard to these topics, there are divergencies of opinion, both in regard to beef and bread. Some think, for example, that the duty on corn is calculated to benefit the home producer; others regard the alteration as not sufficiently complete for the purpose, for, as one writer remarks, "when the Chancellor of the Exchequer decided to tax imported food stuffs, he did not take into consideration the fact that a tax of 3d. per cwt. on feeding stuffs means practically 2s. per cwt. extra expense in the production of beef and mutton." It would, he adds, "have been only just to put a registration duty, equivalent to 3d. per cwt. on corn, on imported beef, mutton, pork, and dairy produce." . . . . With regard to the reports as to the state of the crops, although in such a case absolute unanimity cannot be expected, it must be admitted that the general tenor of our correspondents' remarks shows that the past season, taken altogether, has not, at any rate, been worse than that of the corresponding period of last year. The cold weather has naturally had the effect of throwing back crops and impoverishing fruit trees, and the spell of dry weather has affected, to some extent, the prospects of the season's crop.—"Western Daily Press."

Worcester (South).

All crops are suffering from the cold winds and frosty nights we have had during the last fortnight. At that time grass and corn looked very growing, but now both seem at a standstill, and on cold land wheat is losing colour, and early planted barley looks badly. Beef sells well, and mutton is a better trade than the last two months. Work on the land is fairly forward, and a good breadth of mangolds planted well.—(May 8th.)

Foreign Prospects.

FRANCE.—The crop outlook has been marred by continuous and excessive rain over most of the wheat-growing country. Nights, too, have been cold and occasionally frosty. In some districts the wheat and rye fields are laid by the heavy downpour, but warm, dry weather would speedily put matters right.

GERMANY.—Wet weather and a low temperature cannot be regarded as conducive to the welfare of the crops, and some injury is reported in the eastern districts, where frost was most severe.

BELGIUM.—Weather unsettled, but not deleterious to autumn crops.

SPAIN.—In most parts of the Peninsula the condition of the grain crops is satisfactory. Locusts have appeared in some provinces, and damage therefrom is feared.

ROUMANIA.—At the end of the last month rain fell, to the benefit of the crops, which in general present a fine appearance.

HUNGARY.—Cold, frosty, and unsettled weather has done autumn wheat no harm, but complaints are heard of injury to spring corn, rye, and rapeseed.

RUSSIA.—Odessa advices state that weather continues cool and wet, sharp frost in the south-east is reported to have injured the earlier-sown spring crops, particularly linseed. Autumn crops of wheat and rye appear on the whole to be doing fairly well.

UNITED STATES.—Winter wheat is maintaining a fairly good promise, and weather conditions are favourable. Oats have improved and have now fair prospects. Maize is starting auspiciously. In California the rainfall to date is barely 18 inches, compared with over 20 inches same time last season.—*Dornbusch.*

New Agricultural Patents.

Specially compiled for MARK LANE EXPRESS by Mr. G. D. Howard (Hughes, Son, and Co.), Patent Agent, 38, Chancery Lane, London, of whom all information relating to patents, designs, and trade marks may be obtained free of charge.

9572.—Frederick William Follows, of Manchester, for "Improvements in lawn-mowing machines."

9637.—Philip Joseph Parmiter, of Finsbury, for "Improvements in implements or machines for turning hay and like crops."

Patents Sealed.

734.—H. Brockschmidt, of Prussia, Germany, for "Thrashing machines."

749.—H. H. Lake, of Chancery Lane, London, for "Harvesting machines."



MONDAY (May 5th).—Cool showery weather continued to prevail over the whole of the United Kingdom. The wind was everywhere moderate to fresh from the northward or north-westward, and it was only in the Scilly and Channel Islands that the thermometer managed to rise even to a maximum of 55 degrees. At most places in the northern and eastern parts of the country the mid-day temperatures were below 50 degrees, and in some localities the thermometer did not get above 45 degrees.

TUESDAY (May 6th).—A cold northerly wind was blowing over our Islands, and it was rather strong at several places on our coasts. Showers of cold rain, sleet, or hail had fallen over a large part of the country since Monday, but the amounts measured in the morning as the result of the fall in the preceding 24 hours were not large. Showers of rain and sleet were experienced again during the day. Monday night was cold in the northern and eastern districts, and at some of the eastern stations the highest temperatures during the day only slightly exceeded 40 degrees.

WEDNESDAY (May 7).—The weather was again very cold for the time of year, and the conditions continued decidedly unsettled. Rain, hail, sleet, or snow had fallen generally since Tuesday morning, but the amounts measured were not large, and there was very little rain during the day, except over the Eastern portion of the kingdom. The winds continued northerly over the entire country, but there was a tendency for north-east winds to set in, and in the Hebrides a moderate north-east gale was blowing. The highest temperatures during the day were not generally above fifty degrees.

THURSDAY (May 8th).—A cold northerly wind was still blowing over the whole of our islands, and the weather continued very unsettled. The type ow weather was anticyclonic, and a region of high barometer readings embraced our entire area, the mercury being highest in the west. Regions of low barometer were situated over the Baltic and in the Mediterranean, and these occasioned a continuance of northerly winds in the United Kingdom and over the north sea. Rain had fallen since Wednesday in most parts of England and Scotland, but the amounts measured in the morning were not large, and there was not much rain during the day. The temperature was everywhere low, and the highest readings were only about 50 degrees.

FRIDAY (May 9th).—The weather was again very cold over our islands, and temperatures were unusually low over the whole of Western Europe. The winds were north-easterly over Great Britain, but they were chiefly north-westerly in Ireland, and they were, for the most part, light. Small amounts of rain were measured in the morning, as the result of the fall in the preceding twenty-four hours, in different parts of the kingdom; and rain again fell at many places during the day. The mid-day temperatures failed to touch fifty degrees in the north and east, and they were very slightly above that reading in the south and west.

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY (May 10th and 11th).—Fine weather prevailed on both days in most parts of England, but the temperature remained unusually low. Rain fell in Scotland and Ireland, but the amounts measured were not large. The winds had become chiefly westerly, and they were everywhere very light. The highest temperatures reported on Saturday were very slightly in excess of 50 degrees, and the weather on Sunday was very little warmer, the thermometer readings in the west being slightly higher than over the eastern portion of the kingdom. In London the weather remained dry, but the air continued cold, the highest temperature on each of the two days being 52 degrees, which is 11 degrees below the average.

Mr. James Wagstaff, of Derby, a prominent member of the Derbyshire Agricultural Society, and a successful exhibitor at shows in different parts of the country, died on Saturday. Before residing in Derbyshire he resided at Penrith, and was famous throughout Cumberland as a breeder of Shorthorns.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Monday.—We beg to hand you the following report of to-day's market:—Malt.—We continue to have a quiet trade. Barley was rather dearer. Wheat advanced 3d to 6d per qr on the week. Oats improved 3d per qr. Maize remains firm. Flour made 6d per sack more money.—NIXON, GOWER AND CO.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—At Mark Lane to-day the attendance was very limited, and the market for wheat and flour ruled firm at late rates, but very quiet. Maize steady, but slow. Oats firm, with a fair inquiry for common kinds at late rates. Barley, grinding sorts scarce, and held firmly. Beans and peas quiet.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—At to-day's market sellers once more had no difficulty in dictating terms, both respecting bread and feeding stuffs, despite the attendance being of only moderate extent. English wheat is almost exclusively confined to the country, where the milling trade still willingly pay late enhanced rates, with scarcity becoming more and more felt. Good reds, 63lb on rail, 32s 6d to 33s 6d per qr., according to sample. American reds occasionally 3d easier. White wheats upheld, with a rather firmer tendency. South Russian is held for a premium. Flour still moves in sympathy with wheat, but immediate requirements are filled for the present. What comes up at the same time goes quickly into consumption, and sellers have no difficulty in securing late enhanced rates. Meanwhile American patents and bakers' grades remain very scarce, fancy brands being almost unobtainable. First patents quoted at 25s 6d to 26s 6d, and fancy brands up to 27s; second ditto, 23s to 24s. Of bakers', Iron Duke, 21s 6d ex store. Top price Town made 30s net; and No. 1 households 23s 3d per sack. The London Millers' Association quotations remain at 24s 6d per sack for households and 3s more for whites. Cascadias, 23s 3d ex store. Australian patents, 23s to 24s ex store, 280lb. Grinding barley 3d firmer since last Friday, with not much on hand, and only a reasonable quantity coming forward just now. English malting nominal, with the season now finished. Oats continue in small available supply, and with little being shipped at present, prices still move up, being 3d to 6d firmer on the week. English fully supported on persistent scarcity. Black winters, 25s 6d to 26s, 42lb; grey ditto, weighing the same, 24s to 24s 6d; and very fine Scotch potato, 27s. Maize unchanged. Egyptian split beans neglected at 23s 6d, and Mazagans, at 22s 9d, ex mill, 320lb; New Zealands, 38s to 39s ex store, per 504lb, being still nominal. White Canadian peas stationary. Indian white, fair to good, 35s 6d to 38s ex store. American maize germ meal can be bought on rather easier terms at £5 12s 6d to £5 15s, while English remains steady at £5 15s to £5 17s 6d.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Trade very firm all round, and wheat 6d per quarter higher on the week, best white samples reaching 35s, and reds 34s 6d. Oats also rose 6d, making the heaviest samples of whites 25s 6d. Flour was also raised 1s per sack; scaling 25s, seconds 26s; households, 29s; whites, 30s. All other corn was firm and fully as dear.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, 27s to 28s; red ditto, 31s 6d to 32s; barley, 27s to 30s; beans, 34s to 35s; oats (red), 23s to 24s; peas, 32s per qr. Wheat a quiet trade at full prices of last week.

Boston, Wednesday.—Wheat, 33s; grinding barley, 24s; maize (old), 24s and 25s 6d; beans, 34s and 35s.

Bristol, Thursday.—There has been a moderate trade since our last. To-day English wheat was exceedingly scarce, and last week's full prices were maintained. Foreign, firm and unaltered. Maize, 3d lower. Barley and oats, unchanged. Flour trade has been dull during the past week, and prices are unaltered.—GRACE BROTHERS.

Cambridge, Saturday.—During the week our markets have been scantily supplied with wheat, farmers holding for higher prices than millers are willing to pay. At this market to-day there wa sa little better supply of wheat offered and sellers made last week's extreme rates. Not enough spring corn offered to test values. Wheat: red, 32s to 33s; white, up to 33s 6d per 504lb.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Wheat steady at the recent advance; other articles unchanged. White wheat, 33s to 36s; red, 32s to 34s.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Small supply of oats in our market to-day; good demand at full prices—23s 6d to 24s 6d per 336lbs.—THOMAS ROBINSON.

Chester, Saturday.—There was a small supply of English grain, and wheat and oats were firmer; beans and barley were quiet, without change. Quotations:—Wheat, white and red, 4s 7d to 4s 8d per 75lb; malting barley, 4s 2d to 4s 4d per 75lb; grinding barley, 3s 6d to 3s 8d per 64lb; beans, 5s 8d to 5s 10d per 80lb; oats, new, 3s 2d to 3s 4d; old 3s 4d to 3s 6d per 46lb; Indian corn, 13s to 14s 9d per 240lb.

Colchester, Saturday.—Small supply wheat, which sold steadily at the full prices of last week.—Beans, oats, and peas scarce, and good prices were obtained.—FRANCIS AND CO.

Croydon, Thursday.—White wheat, 33s to 35s; red ditto, 31s to 33s. Malting barley, none; grinding, 23s to 25s. Oats, 20s to 24s. Beans, 32s to 34s. Peas, 30s to 32s. Wheat very firm, only a few samples offering. Oats and barley, 6d to 1s qr dearer.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There was the usual attendance at our market. Wheat and flour steady, with quiet trade passing. Mixed corn scarce on spot, and price nominal. Round corn firm at 1½d per boll dearer. Grinding beans, steady trade at 1½d to 3d per boll advance. Canadian pease firm at 1½d per boll dearer. Home and foreign oats, a quiet trade, with prices down. Barley steady. Bran and thirds, good demand at last week's prices. Oatmeal 6d per sack dearer, but slow sale.—GIBSON AND CLARK.

Leeds, Tuesday.—The weather continues cold and ungenial, and vegetation is making slow progress. The wheat market rules firm, and practically ignores the recent American decline. English is scarce, and held for stiff prices. Foreign meets a good consumptive demand at fully last week's rates. Maize quiet; beans 3d lower; oats firmly held.—DUNNS AND CO.

Maidstone, Thursday.—Sellers of wheat at market to-day did better than of late, and we note 1s per quarter advance from last week's prices, and in some instances a trifle more. No doubt the stock of English being small is quite as much the reason as the recent Budget decree. Barley a quiet business. Maize, no improvement. Oats continue at a high figure, only those persons who require for immediate use caring to buy. In other descriptions of grain, seeds, etc., no alteration.

Leicester, Saturday.—Good average attendance, but home-grown wheats were scarce. Trade steady, at 31s to 34s per 36 stones. Barley steady. Fine oats in good demand at firm prices.

Liverpool, Friday.—The market has had a fair attendance of millers, but the demand for wheat has been very moderate, but prices are well maintained at about last market day's currencies. Flour.—The demand has been very small, but holders of foreign brands are firm at previous prices, owing to the small stocks. No change is made in the limit for the home-milled bakers' grade. Maize.—Mixed is quiet and occasionally the turn lower to sell. European kinds have a steady inquiry, and a moderate business has been put through at prices the turn lower than Tuesday. Plate quiet, new crop being 3d below previous market quotations. Barley is steady, but quiet for malting. Feeding is quiet, but unchanged in price. Beans are again 6d lower for Saidis, owing to fresh arrivals, but meet a moderate inquiry at the decline. Peas steady, unchanged in prices; the demand is, however, inactive. Oats.—English are steady at about late rates, and foreign, although meeting with only a limited demand, are firmly held at about ½d per bushel advance on reduced holdings. Oatmeal is steadily held at late rates, but the demand is quiet. Oilcake quietly steady at last Tuesday's prices.—SEGAR AND TUNNICLIFFE.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—A fair demand for wheat at our to-day's market at last Saturday's prices. Maize, steady values unchanged. Beans, 3d per 504lbs cheaper for foreign. English, however, was held for last week's prices. No peas offering. Sellers asking more money for oats, which, however, prevents business. No change in the price of barley.—JOSEPH POLLARD AND CO.

Newport, Wednesday.—Wheat was very firm, sellers asking more money. Maize strong, at last week's prices. Barley and oats unchanged. Flour: Fines, 24s per sack.

Northampton, Saturday.—Usual attendance; limited number of samples of wheat, very firm in price, and dearer than last week. Limited business at the rise. Business rather dull, and buyers not inclined to meet the advanced rates. Flour dearer. White wheat, 30s. to 34s. red, 32s to 33s; grinding barley, 22s to 26s; oats, 20s to 24s; old fine, 26s; beans, 34s to 40s; flour, 23s to 24s; old fine, 28s.

Norwich, Saturday.—Wheat was only in limited supply at our market to-day, at 6d per quarter more money since last Saturday. Cold and wet weather still prevails, with north-west winds. Wheat, red, 32s 6d to 33s 6d per qr, weight 63lbs per bushel imperial. Corn inspector's return for the week ending 5th May, 1902: Wheat, 1,547, 29s 9d.—J. ARTHUR MILLS.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Wheat: Small supply; fair trade at late rates. Grinding barley in request at full prices. Oats scarce, and fully 6d. dearer. Beans: Small supply; full prices supported.—ROBERT HUBBLE.

Peterborough, Saturday.—Wheat to-day was quiet, but steady at last week's prices; supply keeps small. Oats still stiffer in value, and made 3d to 6d per quarter more money. Weather cold and ungenial.—THOMAS HILL AND SON.

Plymouth, Thursday.—English wheat, none offering. Barley, maize, oats, firm, unchanged.—ORLANDO DAVIS AND CO.

Reading, Saturday.—We had an excellent attendance to-day, but trade, on the whole, ruled quiet. There was only a small quantity of wheat on offer, inquiry for which did not prove by any means brisk. Despite this fact, prices remained firm, and where sales took place the recently advanced prices were well maintained, and in one or two instances higher figures were asked. Barley and oats were also scarce, and sold fairly well.

Ripon, Thursday.—A larger attendance, but no quotable alteration in prices. Only a light show. Wheat, English (new), 31s to 32s; ditto foreign, 31s to 34s 6d; barley, grinding, 23s 6d to 24s 6d; oats, 24s to 26s; round maize, 24s to 26s per qr; beans, 1s per stone.

Rye, Wednesday.—White wheat, 27s to 29s; red ditto, 27s to 28s. White oats, 21s to 24s; black ditto, 21s to 25s. Tick beans, 35s to 36s; Mazagan ditto, 31s to 32s.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—The attendance was moderate. The supply of English wheat was very small, and sellers asked for 6d advance. Oats scarce and firm. There was a moderate demand for beans and corn at last week's rates. Quotations:—Wheat, white, 32s to 34s; ditto red, 32s 6d to 34s per 504lb; barley, grinding, 23s 6d to 24s; ditto malting, 30s to 32s per 448lb; oats, new white, 26s to 27s; ditto new black, 23s to 24s per 336lb; peas, grinding, 36s to 37s; ditto blue, 53s to 80s; beans, Egyptian, 34s to 35s per 504lb; ditto English, new, 37s 6d to 38s per 532lb; Indian corn, small, 23s 6d to 24s 6d; ditto American mixed, 28s 6d to 29s per 480lb.

Spalding, Tuesday.—Wheats made 32s 6d per qr, an advance of 6d on the week. Oats firm, at 24s to 25s per qr. Beans firm, making up to 36s 6d per qr. A small market.

Stockton, Wednesday.—No farmers' wheat showing. Trade in foreign was firm, but with only a moderate inquiry from millers at last week's prices. Oats 3d dearer, and maize unaltered, with a slow sale. No malting barley showing.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Better supply of wheat, which sold at an advance of about 1s per quarter. Barley and oats firm. Arrivals, nil.—E. and F. RICHARDSON.

Wakefield, Friday.—There is no improvement in the weather; rain and warmth are urgently needed. Wheat remains in steady consumptive request, stiff limits from shippers alone preventing a more active business. Last week's prices are well maintained. Oats and maize held for 3d advance. Baltic limits for the former article are quite out of reach.—DUNNS AND CO.

Wakefield, Friday.—There is a poor attendance on to-day's market, and in the small business passing in wheats fully late rates are maintained. A few small lots of English malting barley still on offer, but maltsters are now fully stocked. Oats and maize 3d per quarter dearer. Other feeding stuffs unaltered.—MICHAEL SANDERSON AND SON, LIMITED.

Worcester, Saturday.—Wheat prices continued to exhibit a firm tone, although the demand was of a retail character. English oats rather dearer, and all feeding stuffs kept firm.

Wisbech, Saturday.—A very small supply of wheab at market; trade slow at late rates; prices, 32s to 33s. Oats, 24s. to 25s. Other articles unchanged.—JAMES FLETCHER.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Very small attendance. Wheat 6d to 1s per qr more money, and oats scarce and dear. White wheat, 31s 6d to 32s 6d; red wheat, 31s to 32s; grinding barley, 27s to 29s; white oats, 24s to 26s; black oats, 23s to 25s; round maize, 24s 6d to 26s per qr.

York, Saturday.—Farmers are offering very little wheat, and trade remains firm. Fine white, 31s to 32s; red and mixed, 30s to 31s per quarter of 36 stones. Oats scarce and very dear.

FOREIGN.

Paris, Wednesday.—Native wheat: The position remains about the same as last week; offers are just as limited, and there is no great activity in the market, for buyers consider that the crops are by no means compromised, and that with the return of fine weather offers will assume more importance. Millers on their part are still embarrassed by the poor sale of flour, and content themselves with purchasing for their immediate requirements. Transactions were, therefore, almost nil and confined to merely small lots, and prices may be quoted as almost nominal. Choice red wheat 37s 10d to 38s 3d, and white 37s 10d to 38s 9d per 480lb. Flour: Fleur-de-Paris—The market opened quiet, but closed with a decline of 10c. to 15c. at the following prices:—May, 26s 10½d to 27s 1½d; May, 27s 2d to 27s 5d; July-August, 27s 5d to 27s 8d; and September-December, 26s 4½d to 26s 7½d per 280lb. Consumption Marks Flour: Trade is still quiet and prices unaltered. Quotations are as follows:—Choice marks, 31f. to 32f. (31s 6d to 32s 5d); first marks, 30f.50 to 31f. (30s 11d to 31s 5d); good marks, 29f.75 to 30f.50 (30s 2d to 30s 11d); ordinary marks, 28f.50 to 29f.75 per 100 kilos (28s 11d to 30s 2d per 280lb). Rye: The tendency is quiet in sympathy with the decline in wheat, and, with a slack demand, the little on offer was readily absorbed. Under these conditions, prices remained unchanged, with a rather firm tendency at 25s 8d per 480lb. Oats: Advices respecting the growing crops are satisfactory, but warmer weather is required for the development of the plants. The feeling for this cereal is very quiet in the provinces. Here trade ruled exceedingly dull, with no appreciable change in values. Grey beauce, 23s 2d to 23s 6d; white, 22s to 22s 4d; red, 22s 11d to 23s 2d; black from the Central provinces, 24s 1d; white Libau is quoted 22s 7d to 22s 11d; black, 22s 11d to 23s 2d; and Swedish, 24s 4d per 320lb. Barley: Beauce still asks 24s 8d to 25s. Some business in Sarthe and Mayenne barley for forward delivery was done at 17f.25 (25s). Here rates were merely nominally quoted:—Malting, 17f.50 to 17f.75 (25s 4d to 25s 9d); grinding, 17f. to 17f.25 (24s 8d to 25s); and feeding, 15f. to 15f.50 per 100 kilos (21s 9d to 22s 6d per 400lb). Buckwheat: This article, with scarcer offers, is still firmly held at previous rates viz., 28s 9d per 480lb.—*Dornbusch*.

Hamburg, Saturday.—In spite of heavy supplies of American wheat, our market remains firm, all that arrived being needed in this country and the North. Hard winter No. 2 is selling at 29s; Northern spring No. 1 is held at 28s 3d; Duluth at 28s 9d; red winter No. 2, July-August, at 29s 6d, 80 kr.; River Plate, prompt, at 28s 9d per 80lb. Walla Walla is selling at 29s 9d to 30s per 500lb. Rye firm; 9 15-20 South Russian prompt has been sold at 23s 3d; No. 2 American Western is offering at 23s 9d per 480lb. Malting barley quiet. We quote Pomeranian and Mecklenburg 24s to 26s; Saale and Bohemian 28s to 30s per 448lb f.o.b. Feeding barley firm, 60 to 61 kr. Russian prompt is held at 18s to 18s 6d; August-October shipments at 16s 9d to 17s per 400lb c.i.f. Maize is very firm; supplies are decreasing. Danubian, Turkish, and Odessa prompt and June July is held at 16s 9d to 17s 3d; mixed American at 24s 6d per 480lb c.i.f.—JOHN TATLOCK.

CORN STATISTICS.

LONDON TOP PRICE FLOUR.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1901.

			s.	d.
September	2	(per sack)	29	0
"	23	"	28	0
Apr "	16	"	29	0
	23	"	30	0

(No official change since last date given.)

ARRIVALS INTO LONDON.

May 1 to May 8, 1902, inclusive.

	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat ..... qrs	2,180	28,000	30,180
Barley	2,528	16,677	19,205
Malt	25,935	...	25,935
Oats	810	87,700	88,510
Rye	10	...	10
Beans	150	2,000	2,150
Peas	47	7	54
Maize	...	33,404	33,404
Linseed	...	12,000	12,000
Rape seed	...	2,728	2,728
Cottonseed	...	2,800	2,800
Tares	...	91	91
Lentils	...	4,040	4,040
Farmseeds	...	...	...
Flour, sacks	22,843	57,854	80,697

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF FINE HOUSEHOLD FLOUR IN PARIS.

(Converted into English money for sacks of 280 lb.)

	1902.	1901.	1900.	1899.	1898.	1897.	1896.	1895.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Jan. ...	27 9	24 9	25 2	29 0	38 7	30 5½	25 10	27 9½
Feb. ...	26 3	25 9	26 3	28 3	39 4	29 10½	26 2	27 10½
March	27 0	24 0	27 3	27 6	40 1	28 9	26 0	27 5½
April...	...	24 6	26 9	27 6	42 3	28 5	25 6½	26 7
May ...	...	25 6	26 8	28 0	40 0	28 11½	25 1½	28 0
June...	...	26 3	28 6	27 6	35 6	29 3	25 8	28 10
July ...	...	28 0	26 9	27 3	32 0	31 5½	24 6	27 1
August	...	27 6	26 4	27 0	31 6	36 11	25 1	26 11
Sept....	...	27 6	26 3	25 9	31 0	38 7	27 0	27 0½
Oct.....	...	27 6	26 0	24 9	30 6	39 4	27 1½	27 9
Nov. ...	...	27 9	26 4	24 3	30 3	40 3	29 9	26 8½
Dec. ..	...	28 3	26 0	24 6	29 0	39 3	29 8	26 3
Yrly. } Avrg. }	...	27 3	26 2	9	35 0	33 5	26 5½	27 4½

STOCK OF GRAIN IN LONDON.

	Wheat.	Flour.	Barley.
	qrs.	sacks	qrs.
Apl. 1, 1902 ...	111,780	294,456	92,863
Jan. 1, 1902 ...	248,988	397,965	132,203
Apl. 1, 1901 ...	232,997	418,182	99,454
	Oats.	Maize.	Beans. Peas.
	qrs.	qrs.	qrs.
Apl. 1, 1902 ...	560,565	106,748	5,114 11,216
Jan. 1, 1902 ...	592,401	46,345	8,815 8,831
Apl. 1, 1901 ...	421,793	45,482	7,493 10,473
	Malt.	Oil Cakes.	Tares. Linseed.
	qrs.	tons.	qrs. qrs.
Apl. 1, 1902 ...	1,659	9,615	1,245 4,984
Jan. 1, 1902 ...	1,433	5,053	1,048 4,471
Apl. 1, 1901 ...	1,797	7,723	1,816 6,440

IMPERIAL AVERAGES.

Statement showing the Quantities sold and average price of British Corn, Imperial Measure, as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended May 10, 1902, conformably with the Act of the 45th and 46th Victoria, cap. 37.

Wheat	42,534½ qrs.	30s. 9d.
Barley	3,345½ qrs.	26s. 10d.
Oats	8,653½ qrs.	22s. 6d.

IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGES.

	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
1901.									
May 11	47,118⅝	27	3	4 279½	26	2	7,049	19	1
,, 18	52,875¼	27	7	2,508	24	2	7 345½	19	4
,, 25	49,322¼	27	7	1,511½	24	1	4,665½	19	8
June 1	46,514	27	7	859½	23	8	4,938	19	9
,, 8	42,202	27	6	221½	22	9	4,023½	20	1
,, 15	46,764	27	8	1,404½	24	0	5,565½	19	7
,, 22	29,695	27	6	336⅜	23	2	3,552½	20	3
,, 29	28,191⅞	27	6	692⅜	25	4	2,803⅜	20	0
July 6	19,564¼	27	8	140⅜	21	9	1,800⅛	19	10
,, 13	15,231⅜	27	2	49	23	10	1,675⅝	19	9
,, 20	17,462⅜	27	3	88⅞	23	4	2,040½	19	11
,, 27	18,297⅜	27	3	206⅜	22	1	2,385⅜	19	4
Aug. 3	18,666½	27	6	250⅜	23	1	3,219½	20	0
,, 10	19,156	27	7	141⅜	22	1	2,143½	19	4
,, 17	22,617½	27	4	220½	27	2	5,982½	18	9
,, 24	37,168⅜	27	3	976⅜	23	7	9,952⅜	18	
,, 31	61,603⅜	27	0	4,877⅜	24	3	14,654½	17	10
Sept. 7	66,623½	26	5	14,342⅜	25	1	19,075½	17	1
,, 14	77,949⅜	26	2	34,989½	24	11	19,909½	17	4
,, 21	80,279⅛	26	0	70,096⅛	25	5	26,476⅜	17	4
,, 28	80,488	25	10	109,783½	25	10	22,567½	17	2
Oct. 5	60,376⅜	25	8	126,592½	26	3	21,631½	17	7
,, 12	63,656⅜	25	9	172,175⅜	26	5	16,815½	17	6
,, 19	58,772½	25	10	203,591½	26	8	15,506½	17	8
,, 26	52,984⅝	25	11	208,471⅞	26	10	18,009½	17	5
Nov. 2	70,314⅝	26	2	134,277½	26	10	18,350⅜	17	7
,, 9	62,265½	26	6	202,577½	27	0	20,066½	17	8
,, 16	57,884⅜	26	9	201,723½	26	9	20,122½	18	3
,, 23	63,150⅜	27	1	185,268⅜	26	10	20,612	18	7
,, 30	60,323½	27	1	193,434⅜	26	9	22,419½	18	9
Dec. 7	67,925½	27	1	162,996⅜	26	7	23,990⅜	19	0
,, 14	48,045½	27	2	182,212½	25	10	17,125½	17	1
,, 21	60,562¾	27	7	119,398½	26	8	26,260½	19	8
,, 28	43,718⅜	27	7	81,859½	26	8	16,901½	19	10
1902.									
Jan. 4	31,440⅝	27	7	34,777½	26	7	11,621⅝	19	10
,, 11	48,997¼	27	8	69,120½	26	7	14,995	20	0
,, 18	74,230½	27	8	91,559⅝	26	11	19,733⅝	20	0
,, 25	74,753⅜	27	7	87,594	26	7	25,382½	20	3
Feb. 1	73,381½	27	4	81,463⅜	26	7	25,657½	20	2
,, 8	67,470¼	27	2	69,291⅝	26	9	25,055⅞	20	3
,, 15	68,500	26	11	54,084½	27	5	21,824	20	3
,, 22	72,614⅝	27	1	53,201½	26	11	22,799	20	4
Mar. 1	79,453⅜	27	1	43,637⅝	26	7	22,322	20	5
,, 8	67,473½	27	0	28,847½	26	8	17,017	20	5
,, 15	60,643	27	1	24,536½	26	6	11,496⅜	20	6
,, 22	56,394½	27	1	15,482¾	26	4	12,192½	20	6
,, 29	50,703	27	2	15,729½	27	2	8,950⅞	20	7
Apr. 5	31,277⅜	27	3	7,008¼	26	5	5,994½	20	6
,, 12	37,931½	27	5	8,208¼	26	7	6,855½	21	0
,, 19	38,037	27	7	7,237⅝	27	1	11,099½	21	1
,, 26	31,257½	28	9	6,263½	26	5	8,897⅝	21	6
May 3	46,238¼	29	9	4,226⅜	27	5	9,685	21	10
,, 10	42,534½	30	9	3,345½	26	10	8,653½	22	6

FLUCTUATIONS IN THE AVERAGE PRICE OF WHEAT.

Price.	Apr. 5.	Apr. 12.	Apr. 19.	Apr. 26.	May 3	May 10.
30s. 9d.	...	...	...	...	...	
30s. 8d.	...	...	...	..	...	...
30s. 7d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
30s. 6d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
30s. 5d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
30s. 4d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
30s. 3d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
30s. 2d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
30s. 1d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
30s. 0d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
29s. 11d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
29s. 10d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
29s. 9d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
29s. 8d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
29s. 7d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
29s. 6d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
29s 5d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
29s. 4d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
29s. 3d.	...	...	...	..	...	...
29s. 2d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
29s. 1d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
29s. 0d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
28s. 11d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
28s. 10d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
28s. 9d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
28s. 8d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
28s. 7d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
28s. 6d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
28s. 5d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
28s. 4d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
28s. 3d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
28s. 2d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
28s. 1d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
28s. 0d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 11d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 10d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 9d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 8d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 7d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 6d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 5d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 4d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 3d.	...	...	...	...	...	...

COMPARATIVE AVERAGES.

Comparative statement for the corresponding week to May 10, in each of the years from 1897 to 1901.

	Wheat. Qrs	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
1897	74,672⅔	27	11	3,374⅔	20	2	9,088⅓	17	7
1898	84,476⅓	45	11	3,553⅓	27	1	10,003⅓	21	1
1899	76,892	25	4	3,236⅓	23	11	12,087⅓	17	9
1900	82,190⅓	25	11	10,417⅓	24	10	12,245⅓	17	11
1901	47,118⅓	27	3	4,279½	26	2	7,049	19	1

ENGLISH WHEAT IN 1901.

Highest of Year	27s. 7d.
Lowest of Year	25s. 10d.
Gradient	1s. 9d.
n of Year	26s. 9d.

MONTHLY AVERAGES.

(196 Market Towns.)

	1901. Wheat	Barley	Oats	1902. Wheat	Barley	Oats
January	26 8	25 7	17 4	27 8	26 8	20 1
February	26 5	25 5	17 7	27 1	26 8	20 3
March	25 10	25 0	17 10	27 4	26 8	20 6
April	26 3	25 7	18 3	28 0	26 5	21 1
May	27 6	25 2	19 4			
June	27 7	23 11	19 10			
July	27 4	22 9	19 8			
August	27 4	24 0	18 10			
September	26 1	25 4	17 4			
October	25 10	25 7	17 6			
November	28 9	26 10	18 2			
December	27 4	26 8	19 5			

YEARLY AVERAGES (OFFICIAL.)

	Wheat. s. d.	Barley. s. d.	Oats. s. d.
1890	31 9 per qr.	28 8 per qr.	18 7 per qr.
1891	37 1 ,,	28 2 ,,	20 0 ,,
1892	30 4 ,,	26 2 ,,	19 11 ,,
1893	26 4 ,,	25 6 ,,	18 9 ,,
1894	22 10 ,,	24 6 ,,	17 1 ,,
1895	23 1 ,,	21 11 ,,	14 6 ,,
1896	26 2 ,,	22 11 ,,	14 9 ,,
1897	30 2 ,,	23 6 ,,	16 11 ,,
1898	34 0 ,,	27 2 ,,	18 5 ,,
1899	25 8 ,,	25 7 ,,	17 0 ,,
1900	26 11 ,,	25 9 ,,	17 9 ,,
1901	26 9 ,,	25 3 ,,	18 5 ,,

TITHE RENT CHARGES.

For 1902	67	3	9
,, 1901	66	10	9
,, 1900	66	15	10
,, 1899	68	2	4
,, 1898	63	14	11
,, 1897	69	17	11
1896	71	9	7

LONDON AVERAGES.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, May 6th, 1902.

	Total Quantities. Imperial Measure. Quarters.	Bus.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.	Average Price per qr. Imperial Measure. £	s.	d.
Wheat	617	2	968	10	3	1	11	5
Barley	41	4	53	0	0	1	5	7
Oats	1,256	6	1,445	7	6	1	3	0

LONDON FLOUR MILLERS' ASSOCIATION

OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1901

		London Whites. s. d.		Town Households. s. d.	
September	2	(per sack)	26 0	(per sack)	23 0
,,	18	,,	25 6	,,	22 6
December	9	,,	26 6	,,	23 6
January	29	,,	26 0	,,	23 0
April	16	,,	27 6	,,	24 6

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF LONDON TOWN HOUSEHOLDS FLOUR.

(Sacks of 280 lbs. ex-mill for cash.)

	1902. s.	d.	1901 s.	d.	1900 s.	d.	1899. s.	d.	1898. s.	d.	1897. s.	d.	1896. s.	d.	1895. s.	d.
Jan.	21	9	24	6	21	9	23	9	29	0	25	6	18	9	18	7½
Feb.	22	0	24	0	22	0	23	6	30	0	24	7½	19	4½	17	9
March	21	9	23	9	21	6	22	3	30	0	23	11	19	3	18	0
April	23	0	24	0	21	6	22	0	31	3	23	6	19	6	18	7½
May	...		23	6	21	3	22	3	39	7	23	7	19	0	20	4½
June	...		23	0	23	6	23	1½	35	0	22	7½	18	10	22	3
July	...		22	3	24	6	21	9	29	6	22	10½	18	6	20	0½
August	...		22	3	24	0	21	9	27	6	26	8½	18	8½	19	10½
Sept.	...		22	0	25	3	22	0	26	5	30	3	19	6	19	8
Oct.	...		21	6	24	9	23	3	26	1	29	0	23	7½	18	7½
Nov.	...		21	6	24	3	22	3	25	0	29	1	25	8½	18	4½
Dec.	...		21	9	24	0	21	9	24	3	29	0	25	7½	18	1
Yrly. Avrg.	...		22	10	23	2	22	4	29	6½	25	10½	20	8½	19	2

THE BALTIC.

New York cables wheat at 29s. 3d. winter, and 27s. 3d. spring. Maize is at 22s. 5d., barley nominal, oats 16s. per qr., and flour 14s. per barrel. Freights are 1s. 3d. to 1s. 6d. per qr. for corn, and 7s. 6d. per ton for flour. This news is in favour of buyers of spring wheat, of oats, and of flour for future shipment, but is opposed to trade in winter wheat and in maize. Reckoning 2s. 6d. on to New York prices for freight insurance, landing, and other charges, we get 31s. 9d. for winter wheat, 29s. 9d. for spring, 25s. for maize, and 18s. 6d. for oats, as the lowest prices showing profit here.

Actual values of the week have concluded cargoes of American spring wheat at 29s., and of oats at 20s., but no sales of winter wheat or maize. Sales of other than American cargoes include South Australian wheat, at 29s. 9d., Argentine maize at 21s. 3d., White Libau oats at 18s. 3d., and Roumanian rye at 23s. per qr.

The London Corn Trade Association notify us that the following standards of February shipments are now available for inspection:—Barley: Danube, Odessa, Novorossisk, Nicolaieff, Kustendj, Eupataria. Maize: Odessa, Gal.-Fox, Bessarabian, Danube Cinq., Yellow Odessa Cinq., Red Odessa Cinq., Varna, Bourgas, Dedeagatch. Rye: Danube, Nicolaieff, 72-73 kl.; Novorossisk, 72-73 kl.; Odessa, 73-74 kl.; Theodosia, 72-73 kl. And Salonica maize, January-February shipment.

HAY AND STRAW.

Leeds, Tuesday.—Hay and straw in the warehouses is in good consumptive demand, recent prices being firmly maintained. Quotations:—Meadow hay, 8d to 8½d; clover hay, 8d to 8½d; wheat straw, 6d to 6½d; oat straw, 6d to 6½d; rye straw (retail), 8d to 8½d per stone.

Lincoln, Friday.—Hay, 85s to 90s; and clover, 75s to 80s per ton at the stack; straw, 50s to 55s per ton on rail.

Manchester, Wednesday.—Hay, 6½d to 7½d; clover, 6½d to 7½d; oat straw, 5½d to 6d per stone.

Manchester, Friday.—Hay, 6d to 6½d; clover, 6½d to 7½d; straw oat, 5½d to 5¾d per stone.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—The supply of hay and straw was again small, and trade continued very quiet. Choice seeds £5 15s to £6; meadow hay, £5 5s to £5 10s; straw, £3 15s to £4.

Stockton, Wednesday.—Old land and new land hay £5 to £5 5s per ton.

POTATOES.

Borough, Saturday.—A good quantity available, with a moderate demand at about previous prices. Scotch maincrops (Dunbars), 80s to 90s; Blackland Up-to-Dates, 45s; Lincoln, 50s to 60s; Kent and Surrey, 50s per ton; New Canary, 15s to 14s per cwt; Lisbon, 5s per box.

Great Northern, Saturday.—Good supply, but trade very slow. Scotch maincrops, 90s; Blacklands, 40s to 45s; Lincoln Up-to-Dates, 60s to 65s; maincrops, 65s to 70s per ton; New Jersey, 24s per cwt.

Spitalfields, Saturday.—A much heavier supply, but demand not so good, although prices only varied slightly. Best Lincoln Up-to-Dates, 60s to 65s; Blackland, 45s to 50s; Wisbech, 55s to 60s; Scotch, 65s; Scotch maincrops (grey soil), 65s to 70s: Lincoln maincrops, 70s to 80s; Reading Giants, 40s; Blackland Gartons, 30s to 35s per ton; New Jersey (out grown), 3d per lb; Teneriffe and Canary, No. 2, 12s to 13s; No. 3, 10s to 11s; Maltese rounds, 10s; Algerian kidneys, 14s to 15s per cwt.

Southwark Waterside, Monday.—During the past week the arrivals have been moderate, the demand steady, and prices well maintained. The following are this day's quotations:—Essex, E. Kent, F. Challenge, 50s per ton; Essex, E. Kent, Up-to-dates, 45s to 55s per ton; Lincoln Up-to-dates, 50s to 60s per ton; Lincoln F. Challenge, 50s to 60s per ton; Blackland, B Queens, 45s to 50s per ton; Blackland, Up-to-dates, 45s to 50s per ton; Forfar and Fife, Up-to-dates, 50s to 60s per ton.

POULTRY AND GAME.

Smithfield, Saturday.—Supplies were on a light scale, and met a steady sale. Quotations:—Fowls, Yorkshire, 3s to 3s 6d; Essex, 3s to 3s 6d; Boston, 2s 9d to 3s 3d; Surrey, 4s 6d to 6s; Sussex, 4s to 5s; Welsh, 2s 9d to 3s; Irish, 2s 6d to 3s; turkeys (cocks), 6s to 7s 6d, (hen) 4s to 5s; goslings, 6s to 6s 6d; Aylesbury ducklings, 4s to 4s 9d; country, 3s 6d to 4s; Bordeaux pigeons, 10d to 1s; feathered, 8d to 10d; quail, 1s to 1s 3d; wild rabbits, 6d to 8d; tame, 10d to 1s 3d each; Australian, 8s 6d to 10s 6d per dozen; Dutch plover eggs, 3s per dozen; Russian game: Partridges, 1s to 1s 3d; ptarmigan, 10d to 11d; black game, 1s to 1s 2d; brown hares, 1s 2d to 1s 8d; white, 1s to 1s 3d each.

COLONIAL DAIRY PRODUCE

London Friday.—Butter.—The stocks of New Zealand butter on the market have been exhausted at last week's prices. The Gothic arrived yesterday with about 6,800 boxes of butter, which are meeting a ready sale at 102s to 104s for "Choicest" brands, and 96s to 100s for "Finest." The Copenhagen official quotation remains unchanged at 90 kroner, although the prices of Danish in the North of England are about 2s per cwt. below those of last week. Cheese.—There is a fair demand for Canadian cheese, and values have advanced 1s per cwt. on the week. "Choicest" white is making 61s per cwt., and coloured 62s. "Finest" quality makes 58s to 60s, but there is very little of this grade to be had. New Zealand cheese has shared in the advance, and "choicest" quality now makes 59s to 60s; "Finest" realises 56s to 57s.—W. Weddel and Co.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—Fair supplies of fruit, with a generally steady sale. Vegetables in fair supply, but demand slow. Tasmanian and Australian apples, 9s to 16s per case; English grapes, 2s to 4s; Belgian, 1s 6d to 3s per lb; Denia oranges, 12s to 24s; Valencia, 9s to 15s; Murcia, 7s to 10s per case; bananas, 8s to 12s per bunch; lemons, 7s to 18s per case; pineapples, 1s 6d to 5s each; Canary tomatoes, 3s to 4s per case; cabbages, 5s to 7s 6d per tally; spinach, 2s 6d to 3s per sieve; parsley, 2s to 4s; mint, 4s to 5s; leeks, 3s to 4s 6d; radishes, 8d to 1s per dozen bunches; horseradish, 1s 6d to 1s 9d per bundle. Egyptian onions, 9s to 10s per bag; spring ditto, 2s to 2s 6d per dozen bunches. Potatoes:—Maincrops, 80s to 90s; Reading Giants, 60s to 65s; Blackland Gartons, 45s to 50s per ton; New Canary, 12s to 14s; Teneriffe, 14s to 16s; Maltese, 10s to 12s per cwt; Lisbon, 4s 9d to 5s per case; Jersey, 2½d per lb.

SEEDS.

London, Monday.—Messrs. John Shaw and Sons, Seed Merchants, of Great Maze Pond, Borough, London, S.E., state that as usual at this period of the year a quiet feeling has begun to characterise the trade for field-seeds. The consumptive demand is naturally about over, whilst no speculation worth mentioning has yet sprung up. All kinds of grass and clover seeds, consequently, show this week no alteration in value. Some attention is being given to new French Trifolium for forward delivery. A few occasional orders still drop in for tares. Some business has been doing in mustard seed at the moderate rates now current; but rape seed remains dull and neglected. Lucerne has got into narrow compass. Bird seeds move off slowly on former terms. Blue peas have been in improved request at higher prices, whilst haricot beans are firmly held.

HOPS.

Canterbury, Saturday.—A fair amount of business has been done during the week; and prices of all the best hops continue to advance. Choice East Kent Goldings are now quoted up to 95s per cwt. In the plantations the hops do not grow away strong, owing to the ungenial temperature, which is also affecting the colour.

Worcester, Saturday.—Trade has been quieter during this week, with only an occasional inquiry for useful hops, for which prices are still very low. Choice sorts are about cleared off this market.—Piercy and Co.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

A more inclement week has seldom been experienced in England than that which on Saturday at midnight took its very welcome departure. The temperature at noon was as much as six degrees below the mean, and there were five night frosts on the grass. The rainfall exceeded the average, which is the one redeeming feature of an otherwise wholly untoward time. The rain was needed, and if we have an ordinary May geniality in the temperature, barley and oats, hay and clover, should come on apace. The wheat does not look very well anywhere, but May can yet do a good deal to bring it into a healthy state.

France, the centre of Europe, and Russia from the Baltic to the Black Sea, all report an evil combination of wet and cold weather; heavy rains for the most part, with a temperature at night which borders on the freezing point. American reports are rather better from a week ago. Official news of the Indian wheat crop is late in appearing, but it is known in trade circles that the yield is much below an average; Persia likewise has poor crops.

The arrivals of grain into London during April were small of wheat and barley, large of malt and oats, small of maize, and heavy of flour. The receipts of pulse were about an average.

LONDON ARRIVALS FOR APRIL.

	Qrs.
Wheat	151,000.
Barley	53,000.
Malt	129,000.
Oats	401,000.
Beans	4,161.
Peas	8,200.
Maize	116,500.
	Sacks.
Flour	393,000.

Sales of British wheat thus far into 1902 compare as follows with some preceding years:—

Qrs.	Jan.	Feb.	March.	April.
1902	569,000	681,000	782,000	360,000
1901	455,000	568,000	631,000	371,000
1900	582,000	712,000	825,000	586,000
1899	657,000	787,000	725,000	765,000
1898	602,000	593,000	516,000	570,000
1897	525,000	480,000	485,000	310,000
1896	270,000	514,000	340,000	280,000

Thus the sales of this last April have been much below the average, although not quite unprecedentedly so.

Shipments of wheat for the first third of 1902, i.e., January 1st to April 30th, are estimated as follows, and the returns being fairly full, there is little doubt that the truth is very closely approached. Of course, some of the minor items are always a trifle uncertain:—

	Qrs.
From Russia	2,743,000
Roumania	1,225,000
Bulgaria	250,000
Turkey	125,000
U.S.A.	5,330,000
Canada	400,000
Argentina	1,397,000
Australasia	905 000
India	350,000
Wheat: Total	12,635,000
All countries: Flour	2,000,000
Total	14,625,000

This is at the rate of 44,085,000 quarters yearly, a figure which affords an interesting line of comparison with previous years, for which total shipments of bread stuffs, wheat, and flour, were:—

	Qrs.
1901	47,793,000
1900	42,525,000
1899	47,110,000
1898	53,145,000
1897	40,550,000
1896	43,150,000

The American corn visible supply is returned as follows for the 10th of May:—

	1902.	1901.
Wheat, qrs.	7,898,000	8,553,000
Maize, qrs.	1,261,000	3,077,000
Oats, qrs.	695,000	2,080,000

This news is, of course, strongly in favour of those of our merchants who actually hold supplies of these staples, and it is clear that no cheap maize or oats can be expected from the United States this month, or probably for some months ahead.

Imports of bread stuffs this cereal year have been as follows:—

	Qrs.
Sept. 1 to April 30	14,376,000.
May 1 to 3	325,000.
Imports: Total	14,701,000.
Farmers' Deliveries	4,700,000.
Bread stuffs: Total	19,401,000.
Estimated requirements	19,845,000.

As the town line, that of the requirements, exceeds the higher, that of aggregate supply, we may assume that stocks are somewhat worse than they were at the beginning of the cereal year. The current estimate of bread stuffs in merchants' hands is now 2,379,000 quarters, and farmers are estimated to hold 1,363,000 quarters.

There are now on passage to the United Kingdom the following quantities of wheat:—

	Qrs.
Californian	2,250,000.
American	340,000.
Argentine	466,000.
Indian	73,000.
Russian	30,000.
Australasian	795,000.
Various	20,000.
Total	3,974,000.
A week ago	3,956,000.

These large expectations are the great obstacle to advancing markets, and it is naturally very difficult to place either Californian or Australasian wheat at the present moment. On the other hand, Russian and Indian sorts are very difficult to procure, and even American and Argentine sorts are rather bullish than weak. The quantity of flour on passage is 294,000 sacks only, against 450,000 sacks a year ago and 402,000 sacks two years since.

Linseed shipments from January 1st to April 30th were above the average, having been:—

	Qrs.
1902	2,010,000.
1901	1,732,000.
1900	1,427,000.

Since May 1st, shipments cabled include 60,000qrs. from India, 14,000qrs. from Argentina, and 5,000qrs. from Russia. The price of Calcutta linseed, which rose to 57s. 9d. in February, fell to 51s. at the end of April; but cottonseed, which on January 1st was at £6 7s. 9d. per ton, closed at £7 2s. a week ago, and to-day is held for seven and a half guineas. Linseed oil averages £30 6s. 6d., brown rape oil £25 11s. 3d., and cottonseed oil £23 11s. 3d. per ton.

Maize imports since September have been as follows:—

	Qrs.
1901-2	7,141,000.
1900-1	8,646,000.

We are, therefore, at the present moment just one-and-a-half million quarters short of Indian corn, and this in spite of the unexpectedly vigorous shipments of Russia and South-Eastern Europe.

The deficiency has been largely met by importations of feeding barley. The barley returns do not separate malting from feeding, which is a great drawback; but on the basis of the following figures we may perhaps assume an extra million quarters of feeding barley imported:—

	Qrs.
1901-2	5,259,000.
1900-1	4,135,000.

These returns "lump together" all barley imported.

The quantity of maize on passage is 580,000qrs., against 555,000qrs. on May 10th, 1901, and 560,000qrs. at the same date in 1900. The present expectations include 80 per cent. of round corn. Of barley, 310,000qrs. are now afloat, against 260,000qrs. last year. The present expectations are about equally divided between Californian and Russian. There is nothing coming from Persia, and only 8,000qrs. from Chilé.

In addition to breadstuffs imports already recorded, last week received 75,000qrs. of barley, 134,000qrs. of oats, 5,360qrs. of peas, 11,000qrs. of beans, 9,500qrs. of linseed, and 196,000qrs. of maize. The requirements were almost certainly in excess of these receipts, and feedingstuffs appear to be on the up-grade. Russian and American oats are held for 6d. advance, at most markets, and both beans and peans have gained in firmness on the week. Rye, dari, and buckwheat are minor articles, also tending to advance in value.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Monday.—Linseed cake: Demand is moderate, and prices are a little easier on the week, especially for English made. Decorticated cotton cake strong, and 2s 6d dearer. Meal firm at last prices. Undecorticated are not quite so strong, and are 1s 3d lower. Linseed still tends dearer; the market has got up a further 1s 6d.

English Linseed Cake	ex mill	7 15 0 to 7 17 6
American Calcutta Linseed Cake	ex quay	
American Western ,,	ex quay	7 0 0 to 7 5 0
,, ,,	ex quay	
Russian Oil Cake	ex quay	7 7 6 to 7 17 6
Decorticated Cotton Cake	ex quay	6 5 0 to 6 15 0
,, Meal	ex quay	6 10 0
London-made ,, Cake (best)	ex mill	4 17 6
Egyptian ,, ,, ,, (in bags)	ex quay	4 10 0 to 4 12 6
Burton Desiccated Ale Grains (bags included)	on rail, Burton	4 12 6
Dutch Linseed (in bags), per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse	2 18 6 to 3 2 0
Calcutta Linseed in bags, per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse	2 14 0
La Plata do. per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse	2 11 0 to 2 13 6
Clean Russian Linseed in bulk, per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse	2 17 6

ROBERT AND JOHN HEWETSON.

THIS DAY'S MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY.

[FIRST REPORT.]

English wheat to-day was scarce and dear, while British barley was hardly on offer at all, and even oats were decidedly hard to obtain in any quantity. The home crops, if we could judge from London alone, are exhausted extremely early in the season, but a good deal has to be allowed for good prices paid locally, and the high railway charges making it out of the question to send to London, where the margin of profit is not substantial. For foreign wheat last week's prices were not very readily made, but the amount of home competition helps merchants to maintain values. Maize was a little dearer for round corn, and oats were fully 3d up for Baltic sorts. Barley was firm, both for Californian brewing and for Russian feeding descriptions. Buyers complain of the dearness of oilseed, and particularly of cotton seed, in which a successful corner appears to have been effected. Some firms were said to be asking £8 per ton; £7 15s. was actually paid.

QUOTATIONS OFF STANDS.

May 12, 1902.

BRITISH GRAIN.

		s.	s.
WHEAT, White	(per 504 lb.)	32	— 34
Red	,,	31	— 33
Chicken or Feed	(per 480 lb.)	28	— 30
BARLEY, Malting	(per 448 lb.)	32	— 36
Brewing	,,	29	— 32
Feeding	(per 416 lb.)	25	— 27
MALT, English	(per 336 lb.)	36	— 42
Scotch	,,	38	— 40
Black	,,	31	— 33
Brown	,,	30	— 33
Crystallized	,,	34	— 36
OATS, English, Black Winter	,,	23	— 25
,, Black Tartary	,,	22	— 23
,, Grey Winter	,,	23	— 25
,, White Tartary	,,	22	— 23
Scotch	,,	23	— 25
Irish	(per 304 lb.)	20	— 21
RYE, British	(per 480 lb.)	25	— 26
BEANS, Pigeon	,,	39	— 41
Winter	,,	33	— 37
Mazagan	,,	32	— 34
PEAS, Best Marrowfat	(per 504 lb.)	66	— 76
Blue (boiling)	,,	61	— 71
Dun	,,	32	— 33
Maple	,,	37	— 41
TARES, Scotch Gores	,,	79	— 83
Winter Old	,,	69	— 73
,, Ordinary	,,	57	— 65
Spring ,,	,,	51	— 53

FOREIGN GRAIN.

(Ex-Granary.)

	s.	s.
WHEAT, per 496 lb.		
Old Duluth	32	— 34
Manitoba No. 1	32	— 33
American Spring	31	— 32
Red Winter	31	— 32
Hard ,,	31	— 32
Californian	31	— 32
Walla Walla	30	— 31
Australian	31	— 32
New Zealand	30	— 31
Argentine	30	— 32
Danzig	32	— 34
Saxonka	31	— 32
Azima	31	— 32
Ghirka	30	— 31
Indian	30	— 31
RYE, per 480 lb.		
Russian	25	— 26
MAIZE, per 480 lb.:		
Cinquantina	25	— 26
Russian	22	— 23
Roumanian	22	— 23
Turkish	22	— 23
American	27	— 28
Argentine	23	— 24
OATS:		
N' Zeal'd (Best)	28	— 32
N. Zeal'd (Bluff)	26	— 28
N. Zeal'd (Dun)	24	— 26
Canadian (320 lb.)	21	— 22
American (320 lb.)	21	— 22
Prussian (320 lb.)	21	— 22
N. Russ'n (304 lb.)	20	— 21
South ,, (304 lb.)	19	— 20
Turkish (304 lb.)	18	— 19
BEANS, per 480 lb.:		
Egyptian	33	— 34
Smyrna	32	— 33

	s.	s.
LOCUST BEANS, per ton:		
Italian	104	— 108
Cyprian	112	— 118
Portuguese	107	— 110
PEAS, per 504 lb.:		
Canadian, White	36	— 37
Australian, White	41	— 42
New Zeal'd Maple	39	— 41
Indian White	34	— 35
MILLET, per 416 lb.:		
White	34	— 46
Red	26	— 28
Yellow	21	— 23
Sorghum	20	— 21
DARI, per 480 lb.:		
Smyrna	26	— 27
Persian	none.	
BUCKWHEAT, per 416 lb.		
French	26	— 27
Russian	27	— 28
TARES, per 504 lb.:		
Konigsberg	45	— 47
BARLEY:		
Saale (448 lb.)	36	— 40
Chilian (448 lb.)		
Chevalier	33	— 40
Brewing	none.	
Californian (448 lb.)		
Chevalier	29	— 32
Brewing	26	— 28
Danish (448 lb.)	29	— 31
Danubian (400 lb.)	19 6	— 22 6
Ouchak (400 lb.)	21 6	— 27
Yerli (400 lb.)	21	— 24
Russian (400 lb.)	19 6	— 22
MALT, per 336 lb:		
Californian	36	— 37
Smyrna	36	— 37

OIL SEEDS.

LINSEED, per 416 lb.	s.	s.
English	59 to 61	
Dutch	58 to 60	
Bombay	55 to 57	
Calcutta	51 to 53	
Russian	55 to 57	
Argentine	48 to 50	
SESAME, per 424 lb.		
Indian	53 to 55	
COTTON SEED per ton.		
Egyptian	154 to 156	

RAPESEED, per 416 lb	s.	s.
English	56 to 60	
Calcutta	41 to 43	
Guzerat	42 to 44	
Ferozepore	37 to 39	
Jamba	29 to 30	
Ravison	28 to 29	
POPPYSEED, per 377 lb.		
Indian	47 to 49	
SUNFLOWERSEED, per 448 lb		
Russian	50 to 54	

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

LARGE SUPPLIES OF CALIFORNIAN AND AUSTRALIAN WHEAT ARRIVED IN THE THAMES ON SATURDAY MADE HOLDERS OF FOREIGN WHITE WHEAT ACCOMMODATING. MAIZE WAS A BIT DEARER FOR ROUND. YELLOW FOR JUNE DELIVERY WAS IN BUYERS' FAVOUR. THE MARKET FOR OATS AND FEEDING BARLEY CLOSED VERY FIRMLY.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, MONDAY.

The dispute between bakers and millers over the new duty was satisfactorily settled, the bakers paying half of it, i.e., 6d. per sack, from May 1st. There was a fair trade done in American sorts, on which 3d. decline was allowed in order to effect sales. As less than usual is on passage, the buyers seem to have acted wisely. London household flour sales were prejudiced by this, but millers would not give way. A supply of Cascada flour is welcome; prices as under. Country flour was stiffly held. Culley, of Norwich, asked 23s. 6d. to 24s. for supers; Clarke, of Yarmouth, 24s. to 24s. 6d. for whites; and Cramphorn, of Braintree, 22s. 6d. to 23s. for roller whites. All English "straight" flour comes at 23s. to 23s. 6d., and this is about the price paid for Australian. Low-grade feeding flour was in request at 15s. per sack.

LONDON FLOUR.

		s.
Top Price	(per sack)	— 30
Town Whites	,,	26 6
,, Households	,,	23 6
No. 2	,,	21 6

COUNTRY FLOUR.

Best Patents	(per sack)	24 — 26
Fine Roller made	,,	23 — 24
Ordinary Roller made	,,	22 — 23
Best Stone made	,,	21 — 22

FOREIGN FLOUR.

Minnesota First Patents	(per sack)	25 — 26
,, Second Patents	,,	23 — 24
,, First Bakers'	,,	21 — 22
,, Second Bakers'	,,	19 — 20
Milwaukee Patents	,,	23 — 24
,, Bakers	,,	18 — 19
Kansas Patents	,,	24 — 25
,, Bakers'	,,	19 — 20
Cascadia	,,	23 — 24
Canadian	,,	23 — 24
Australian Patents	,,	21 — 22
,, Straight	,,	20 — 21
Hungarian	,,	32 — 34
French	,,	22 — 23

MEAL, &c.

Whole Meal	(per ton	184—186
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	116—117
Bran, London Broad	,,	110—112
,, ,, Fine	,,	92— 96
,, Country Flake	,,	122—128
,, ,, Broad	,,	104—108
Pollard	,,	94 — 96
Biscuit Middlings	,,	126—129
Fine Middlings	,,	120—122
Coarse Middlings	,,	108—110
Feeding Flour (Red Dog)	,,	117—119
Barley Meal	,,	129—133
Rye Flour	,,	176—186
Canadian Oatmeal	,,	210—220
Scotch Oatmeal	,,	265—305
Oat Flour	,,	345—365
Maize Flour	,,	169—171
Maize Meal	,,	118—120
Maize Cones	,,	177—179
Maize Germ Meal	,,	116—120
Pea Meal	,,	135—155
Bean Meal	,,	150—170
Rice Meal	,,	95—100

LONDON TERM MARKET.

This market is held twice a day, except on Saturday, when there is no afternoon call. The market is open to elected members only. No business except for future delivery is done, and the smallest quantity that can be purchased is 1,000 quarters, or 4,800 centals. The name of the month stands for guaranteed delivery (if required) on or before the last day of that month, and the following have been the prices per cental recently made:—

WHEAT.—Calls		A. June. s. d.	A. Aug't. s. d.	B. Oct. s. d.
May 5	noon.	6 2	6 2	6 5
	4 p.m.	6 2	6 2	6 5
May 6	11 a.m.	6 2	6 2	6 5
	4 p.m.	6 2	6 2	6 5
May 7	11 a.m.	6 2	6 2	6 4
	4 p.m.	6 2	6 2	6 4
May 8	11 a.m.	6 2	6 2	6 4
	4 p.m.	6 2	6 2	6 4
May 9	11 a.m.	6 1	6 2	6 4
	4 p.m.	6 1	6 2	6 4
May 10	noon.	6 1	6 2	6 4
To-day	noon.	6 2	6 2	6 5

Maize makes 4s. 5d. per cental for June and July, 4s. 8d. for September and October delivery. The market is a little firmer from last week.

By the letter A is signified duty to be paid by *buyer*, by B duty to be paid by *seller*. On the 18th inst. the members of the Term Market unanimously agreed to adopt the new duty as a sellers' obligation from the new cereal year (September 1). Up to that date it will fall on the buyer. In default of agreement the Acts of 1876 and 1901 throw the burden on the buyer.

The Term Market standard wheat is No. 1 Northern Spring American sold on the Duluth certificate. Other sorts of wheat can be bought at the above prices plus or minus agreed difference between the other sort and the standard quality. Quotations are by the "true hundredweight" or cental of 100 lb. We do not give fractions of a penny per cental. The maize quoted is fair average quality from the United States.

The deposit required from members of the Term Market has been fixed at £50 minimum and 1s. per quarter margin on any purchases above 1,000 quarters.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORT.

Flour.—The market is steady; prices unchanged. Grain.—Maize is scarce on spot, and 1½d. dearer. American corn is practically exhausted. Beans are 3d. dearer. Barley and oats steady. Pease unchanged. Mill Stuffs.—Bran and thirds continue scarce.—McKINNON AND McDONALD (Glasgow).

Offals.—Owing to the continuance of cold weather and backward condition of the grass crop, the demand for bran has been fully maintained at late rates.—GREENHILL BROTHERS (Belfast).

Flour.—There is no further change to report in prices recent advances are fully maintained. Values on spot are as follows:—First spring patents, 25s. 6d. to 26s. 6d.; second spring patents, 24s. 9d. to 25s. 9d.; American winter patents, 25s. to 25s. 6d.; extra fancies, 23s. 6d. to 24s.—GREENHILL BROTHERS (Belfast).

Flour has met a fair demand to-day at the full prices of last Monday.—T. S. MEDILL AND SONS.

Wheat and flour arrivals the past week have been large. Demand is steady, and prices are fully supported. Barley scarce, and prices are 3d. per qr. higher. Maize prices supported. Oats, 3d. to 6d. per qr. dearer.—COVENTRY, Mark Lane.

The wheat market to-day is firmer, and the depression of the closing days of last week is well nigh removed. Prices are, generally, 3d. lower than last Monday, Americans; unchanged for other descriptions. Oats steady, and 3d. to 6d. higher. Maize tends in sellers' favour, and barley is 6d. dearer.—W. WOOD AND CO.

Middlings are firm and unchanged. Millers keeping quite clear, bran and pollard rather weak, and prices in buyers' favour.—JOHN BAWCOMB AND CO.

SEEDS.

London, Monday.—The seed trade has subsided into its usual summer quietude, though the demand has not entirely ceased. Stocks left over are exceptionally light. Rape and mustard seed meet an increasing inquiry, and spring tares are still selling. Bird seeds are neglected. Haricots and blue peas are firm.—JOHN PICARD AND CO.

HOPS.

London, Monday.—W. H. and H. Le May report:—The trade continues to be of a purely consumptive character. Stocks of the better qualities are in a very small compass.

CHEESE.

Berkeley, Wednesday.—There was an average quantity of cheese on offer, and prices realised were weaker, viz., 40s to 45s per cwt.

EGGS.

Tuesday.—Bedale: 14 to 16 for 1s. Gainsborough: 16 for 1s. Settle: 18 or 19 for 1s. Spalding: 16 or 17 for 1s.

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 13 or 14 for 1s. Boston: 16 to 17 for 1s. Colne 1s 4d per score. Goole: 17 for 1s. Kirbymoorside: 18 to 19 for 1s. Knaresborough: 14 to 15 for 1s. Louth: 18 for 1s. Market Weighton: 18 for 1s. Masham: 13 or 14 for 1s. Northallerton: 15 or 16 for 1s. Stockton: 14 or 15 for 1s. Worksop: 1s 3d to 1s 6d per score.

Thursday.—Brigg: 17 to 18 for 1s. Driffield: 18 or 19 for 1s. Kidderminster: 16 for 1s. Scarborough: 17 for 1s. Ripon: 15 or 16 for 1s. Wetherby: 15 or 16 for 1s. Wellington: 15 or 16 for 1s.

Friday.—Easingwold: 18 to 20 for 1s. Grimsby: Austrian, 4s 11d to 5s 6d; Egyptian, 4s 5d to 4s 8d; Danish, 7s to 7s 9d per 120. Heimsley: 16 to 18 for 1s. Leeds: Yorkshire, 7s 6d to 8s per 120; Irish, 6s 6d to 7s 6d; Danish, 7s to 7s 6d; Austrian blues, 5s to 5s 3d; ditto reds, 4s 7d to 4s 10d. Leyburn: 16 to 18 for 1s. Lincoln: 16 or 17 for 1s. Otley: 15 or 16 for 1s

Saturday.—Appleby: 16 to 17 for 1s. Berwick: 8d to 9d per doz. Carlisle: 16 to 18 for 1s. Doncaster: 15 to 17 for 1s. Grantham: 16 and 17 for 1s. Howden: 18 for 1s. Lancaster: 12 to 15 for 1s. Malton: 16 or 17 for 1s. Pontefract: 15 for 1s. Retford: 1s to 1s 4d per score. Richmond: 15 and 16 for 1s. Skipton: 14 or 15 for 1s. Stokesley: 16 or 17 for 1s. Whitby: 17 for 1s. York: 16 for 1s.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—The arrivals from Ireland last week were 2,593 bales bacon, and from foreign ports 11,031 bales bacon. The bacon market was steady last week, and although supplies were very heavy prices were again some 2s to 3s higher for certain selections, Irish ranging from 58s, 66s up to 67s, 69s; Danish, ranging from 54s, 63s, up to 65s, 68s; Canadian, ranging from 54s, 58s up to 60s, 63s. The butter market was quiet; French, 98s to 104s; Danish, 104s to 107s; Russian, 90s to 96s; New Zealand, 96s to 104s. Lard, steady: Irish, 50s to 64s; Danish, 56s to 59s; American, 51s to 52s 9d.—COURTNEY AND CO.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

METROPOLITAN CATTLE MARKET, Islington. Machine NINE. Monday, May 12th, 1902.

	British.	Total.	May 13, 1901.
Beasts	1,190	1,190	930
Sheep and lambs	8,740	8,740	9,010
Calves	10	10	30
Milch cows	40	40	60

Quotations per 8lb. (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.	Interior. s. d.	Second. s. d.	First. s. d.
Beasts	3 4 .. 4 8	5 2	
Sheep	3 10 .. 5 0	6 2	
Lambs	5 8 .. 6 0	6 10	

Milch cows, per head, £16 to £23.

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, 6; Eastern Counties, 832; Midland, Home, and Western Counties, 295; Devon, 30; Ireland, 27.

There was an increase of 70 in the number on offer in the beast market, owing to larger arrivals from the midland, home, and western counties. Trade, taken as a whole, was of a slow nature, but rates were firm at an advance of fully 1d. per 8lb., a clearance being made. Trade for butchering cows and bulls was also firmer, both in regard to tone and value.

The following are top quotations per 8lb. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day.	May 13th, 1901.
Scotch	5s 3d to 5s 4d	4s 7d to 4s 8d
Devons	5s 0d to 5s 1d	4s 6d to 4s 8d
Norfolks	5s 1d to 5s 2d	4s 4d to 4s 5d
Lincolns	4s 8d to 4s 10d	4s 0d to 4s 3d
Irish	4s 8d to 4s 10d	
Fat cows	4s 4d to 4s 6d	3s 10d to 4s 0d

We note a decrease of 1,180 in the supply in the sheep market consignments from Norfolk and Yorkshire, both being shorter. Trade for wether sheep was firm, no alteation in value being noticeable, but ewes must be written fully 2d. lower. Choice quality lambs were a shade dearer, but heavy descriptions ruled in favour of the buyer. The total supply included 550 from Yorkshire, 3,090 from the Eastern Counties, and 440 Scotch. Undermentioned quotations are at per 8lb. (sinking the offal), and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day	May 13, 1901.
7½ to 8 st. Downs	6s 0d to 6s 2d	5s 8d to 5s 10d
9 st Downs	5s 6d to 5s 8d	5s 6d to 5s 8d
10 st Halfbreds	5s 2d to 5s 4d	4s 10d to 5s 0d
10 st. Yorkshires	4s 8d to 4s 10d	4s 8d to 4s 10d
12 st Lincolns	4s 8d to 4s 10d	4s 4d to 4s 6d
10 st Down ewes	4s 4d to 4s 6d	4s 2d to 4s 4d
11 st Halfbred ditto	4s 0d to 4s 2d	3s 10d to 4s 0d
5 st Down lambs	6s 8d to 6s 10d	7s 8d to 7s 10d
6 st Halfbred ditto	5s 10d to 6s 0d	7s 0d to 7s 2d

Calf trade nominal. No pigs on the market. Milch cow trade firmer.

London, Monday.—Moderate supplies; trade very slow. Beef carcases, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; hind quarters, 4s 8d to 5s. Roastings, 5s 6d to 5s 10d. Sheep: ewe, 3s 4d to 3s 8d wether, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; hindquarters, ewe, 4s 6d to 4s 10d; wether, 5s 4d to 5s 8d. Pigs, large, 3s 8d to 4s; small, 4s 4d to 4s 8d.

St. Ives, Monday.—Beasts, 793; sheep and lambs, 1,033; pigs, 617. Beef, 8s 6d to 9s 6d; mutton, 8s 2d to 9s 11d; lamb, 9s to 11s; pork, 6s 9d to 7s 9d; fat beasts sharp trade; stores fair; fat sheep, good demand; stores fair; fat and store pigs good demand; milch cows fair trade; prices £15 to £23.

FOREIGN CATTLE.

Liverpool, Monday.—Larger supply of cattle in market. Demand slow, and prices generally lower. Sheep shown in larger numbers. Trade slow for mutton, only handy weights maintaining late rates. Lambs also a slow trade. Beef, 5½d to 7½d per lb. Mutton, 6½d to 9d per lb; and lambs, 9d to 10d per lb. At market: 798 cattle and 8,767 sheep.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts, 483. To-day's supply, compared with Monday last, showed a decrease of 110 head, and consisted of 366 from the United States and 117 from Canada, trade for which was of a firm and steady nature, both in regard to tone and value, an early clearance being made at following quotations per 8lb (offal given in):—Best States, to dress, about 680lb. 5s; Canadians, quoted at from 4s 9d to 4s 10d. No sheep on the market. On Saturday the supply consisted of 798 beasts from the United States, which sold freely at from 4s 10d to 5s per 8lb. On Monday, May 13th, last year, the following were the numbers on offer, with the current top rates per 8lb:—Beasts, 655, 4s 3d; sheep, 1,450, 4s 6d to 4s 8d.

THE BALTIC, 1 p.m.

STATE OF TRADE.

Wheat is rather lower both for prompt and future shipment. Maize and barley are quiet at Saturday's terms. Linseed and cottonseed are held for a slight advance. Cargoes of peas and of rapeseed favour buyers. Beans and oats are very firm, but buyers are few.

BUSINESS DONE.

WHEAT.—Australian, 30s, on passage; Argentine, 29s, on passage; Russian Azma, 30s 6d, prompt shipment; Russian Ghirka, 29s 9d, prompt shipment; Californian, 29s 3d, prompt shipment; No. 1 Manitoba, 30s, prompt shipment; fine Duluth, 29s 9d, prompt shipment; fine Duluth, 29s, June shipment.

MAIZE.—Roumanian, 20s 9d, June shipment.

BARLEY.—Azoff, 19s 3d, June shipment; (old crop), Californian, 24s 3d, on passage; (new crop), Californian, 23s, September shipment.

OATS.—Roumanian, 15s 3d, October shipment.

PEAS.—Canadian, 33s 6d, prompt shipment.

LINSEED.—Bombay, 56s 3d, June shipment.

RAPESEED.—Brown Cawnpore, 38s 3d, June shipment.

COTTONSEED.—Egyptian, £7. 15s, prompt shipment; Bombay, £5 1s 3d, June shipment.

The Chief Statute Hirings for the May term at Barnard Castle were held on Wednesday, but the engagements were not numerous. Agriculturists experienced great difficulty in securing female servants for farm work. Managing farmhouse women were difficult to engage at £19 to £22; first-class ploughmen received £17 to £23; good managing men, £25 to £27; and strong plough boys, £9 to £12 10s. per annum.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW.

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS.")

Trade in London.

The trade for fat beasts at Islington, with a moderate supply, consisting chiefly of Norfolks, was of a firmer and steadier nature at a slight advance in value, there being on the chief market day of the week (Monday) a rather better demand, owing to the firmer tone of the dead meat market, a practical clearance being made. Fat butchering cows and bulls met with more inquiry by country buyers, both selling freely at an advance of from 1d. to 2d. per 8lb. The arrivals consisted of 3 from Scotland, 30 Ireland, 20 Devonshire, 882 from Norfolk, Suffolk, and Essex, and 335 from the midland, home, and western counties. At the foreign cattle market, owing to the larger supply, rates were a shade easier, the arrivals consisting chiefly of consignments from the United States, amongst which were some very good beasts of the polled Scotch and Hereford breeds. The total number offered for sale on both markets was 4,548, as against 3,234 during the previous week. The supply consisted of 1,270 British (increase 40) and 3,278 foreign (increase 1,274). These latter comprised 2,766 from the United States and 512 from Canada. The following were the top rates paid per 8lbs., sinking the offal: 80-stone Scotch, 5s. 2d.; 90-stone polled Norfolks, 5s. 1d.; 80-stone Devons, 5s.; 95-stone Shorthorn Norfolks, 5s.; 100-stone Lincolns, 4s. 10d.; 95-stone Irish, 4s. 10d.; 85-stone States, 4s. 11d. to 5s.; 90-stone Canadians, 4s. 9d. to 4s. 10d.; 100-stone fat cows, 4s. 4d.; 100-stone fat bulls, 4s. The sheep trade was practically confined to the Islington market, and so far as wethers were concerned was for holders of a disappointing nature, lower rates by 2d. per 8lbs. having to be accepted for all descriptions, ewes on Monday being in excess of requirements, met with forced sales at a decline of fully 4d. per 8lbs., but other Thursday somewhat recovered themselves. Of lambs there was a large number on sale, especially considering the cold weather. Trade consequently was of a very dull nature, even the very choicest being lower in price, whilst heavy descriptions were extremely low and difficult to cash. The total number penned was 12,653 (previous week, 11,723), consisting of 12,000 British (increase 1,080) and 653 American. Best pens made per 8lb. as follows (sinking the offal): 7½ to 8-stone Downs, unclipped, 6s. 2d.; 8-stone Scotch, clipped, 5s. 8d.; 9-stone Downs, 5s. 8d.; 10-stone ditto, 5s. 6d.; 10-stone Half-breds, 5s. 2d. to 5s. 4d.; 12-stone Lincolns, 4s. 10d.; 10-stone Down ewes, unclipped, 4s. 8d.; 4½ to 5-stone Down lambs, 6s. 8d. to 6s. 10d.; 6-stone half-bred ditto, 5s. 10d. to 6s. Calves numbered 115, and met a dull trade at less money. The best on offer to dress from 144 to 160lbs. were quoted at 5s. 8d. per 8lbs. No pigs whatever on sale.

Trade in the West.

In spite of adverse circumstances, the stock markets continue very firm, this being especially the case with grazing bullocks, and also for milch beasts, of which there is undoubtedly a great scarcity in the country. The boom in the beef trade is no doubt in some measure responsible for the present dearness of grazing beasts, which are eagerly sought after at all the local fairs and markets, at prices ranging from £24 up to £36 and £38 per pair for good fream condition beasts, and from £16 to £22 for older and poorer condition animals. Milch beasts also make high prices, young heifers with good udders selling up to £21 15s. each, and cows and calves from £15 to £17 10s. for the best, and in some cases more, as milk is as badly needed now as at any period of the season. Another thing, good bullocks are very scarce, and consequently those who happen to possess a really good cow can make their price anywhere. Prices are equally high for young stock, for which there is also a very ready sale. The fat beef trade, according to the opinion of many, is scarcely so strong as it was, except for the very best grades, which, in the way of neat weights in heifers, as well as steers, keep very scarce, and consequently fully maintain their value—11s. to 12s. per score. Fat cows, with fair deliveries, on offer at most markets, rather favour buyers, though we cannot quote the ordinary runs as making over 16s. 6d., some lots; whilst the rougher grades of contract bullocks meet a rather sluggish sale, at from 9s. to 10s. Mutton is by no means a fast trade, either for wethers or ewes, the recent briskness having again fallen off, to the extent of ½d. to 1d. per lb., leaving prices about as they were a month or six weeks since—6½d. to 7½d. per lb., only the very best light weights in Downs or Sussex wethers touching a higher figure. The weather, too, is against the lamb trade; from 34s. to 38s. is the very best price at sales this week, except in a few cases where there had been special preparation, this being about 9d. to 10d. per lb., whilst less choice breeds sell at 8½d. to 8¾d. The veal trade is still exceptionally good, especially for ripe, well-finished calves, which bring in round figures from £4 up to £6 a piece (or quite 8½d. per lb., if not over); whilst the plainer grades sell very freely at 7d. to 7½d., very little below this quotation. Rearers are in good demand still, and prices keep up to their old figure—27s. to 43s. for the best and likeliest-looking animals. Pigs market very well, though, on the whole, we hardly think they are quite as dear as they were, best porkers ranging in value from 65s. to 85s. (or 10s. 6d. to 11s. per score), and baconers up to 95s. (or 9s. to 10s.). The demand for most classes of stock continues. Store sheep, despite the "drop" in mutton, sell at fairly good prices, though these are from 3s. to 4s. under last year's rates. The shortage in numbers, however, will no doubt prevent prices declining below a certain value.

Trade in Ireland.

Business opened rather sluggishly in the beef department of the Dublin market last Thursday, though the supply of cattle was nearly 200 under that of previous market. The reason of this dullness was the absence of cross-Channel buyers, and the North of Ireland was also badly represented, so the local victuallers held off during the early hours, considering themselves masters of the situation. Sellers, however, held out firmly, and obliged purchasers to give the extreme rates of last day for anything really good, prime beef being scarce. Second class beef and half-meated dairy cows met with a very sluggish inquiry. Sales for such cattle were very slow at irregular rates, and a clearance could not be effected. Lord Drogheda had a lot of very fine bullocks, which sold at 42s. per cwt. live weight. Mr. Fox, of Tallaght, had a pair of exceptionally fine bullocks, which were taken by a local butcher at £30 each. Best ox and heifer beef made from 61s. to 66s. 6d. per cwt., and a few extra choice lots up to 71s. per cwt.; good second quality 56s. to 60s. 6d.; and other descriptions from 47s. 6d. to 54s. per cwt. In spite of an increase of 369 sheep on the week, trade was of a healthy tone, as shippers seemed more anxious to purchase than for some time. The demand was chiefly for shorn sheep of good finish, and as these were scarce, last day's extreme rates were well maintained. For common and coarse sheep the market was slow, and a number remained over unsold. Lambs were in very large supply, but, as usual, a great many were poor little thin things that were practically unsaleable. Choice lambs met with a fair inquiry, but as only home butchers were buying, the number taken was limited. Prime wether mutton (shorn) was worth from 7½d. to 8d., and about ½d. per lb. more in the wool; ewe, 6½d. to 7¼d.; and inferior sheep, from 6d. upwards. Small to medium hoggets sold at from 28s. to 38s. each, and heavy do. from 44s. to 56s. Lambs all the way from 18s. for small to 40s. for large fat. Best veal in good request at from 8d. to 9d., and rough at from 4½d. per lb. upwards. Prime milch cows scarce, and made from £17 to £20; common sorts from £9 up. In the pig department there was a good supply, but in the absence of shippers trade was very quiet, but though buyers tried hard to lower rates, prices were well maintained till just the close of the day. Nice lightweight pigs made from 47s. to 49s. per cwt.; coarse pigs from 34s. Number of cattle in market, 1,204; sheep and lambs, 6,470. Country fairs throughout Ireland show a general improvement, store cattle being sought for at a good rise in price.

LONDON.

London Central, Wednesday.—Fair supplies met with a rather quieter sale. Arrivals of beef included 80 tons of Scotch, 450 Liverpool sides, 1,600 hind-quarters, and 600 fore-quarters American killed. Quotations: —Beef, Scotch, short sides, 4s 8d to 5s; long, 4s 6d; English, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; American, Deptford-killed, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; Liverpool, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; American, refrigerated, hind-quarters, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; fore-quarters, 3s 5d to 3s 6d; Dutch sides, 4s to 4s 3d. Mutton: Scotch, 4s 8d to 5s; English, 4s 6d to 4s 8d; ewes 3s 8d to 3s 10d; English lamb, 5s 8d to 6s 4d. Veal: English and Dutch, 4s to 5s. Pork: English, 4s 4d to 4s 10d; Dutch, 4s 2d to 4s 6d per 8lb.

London Central, Friday.—Fair supplies but trade quiet, and prices had a downward tendency. A fair amount of English and also Deptford killed American, 130 tons Scotch, 1,200 Liverpool sides, 300 hind-quarters and 1,200 fore-quarters American killed comprised the arrivals. Beef, Scotch, short sides, 4s 6d to 4s 10d; long, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; English, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; American, Deptford-killed, 4s 3d to 4s 5d; Liverpool, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; American, refrigerated, hind-quarters, 4s 4d to 4s 9d; fore-quarters, 3s 5d to 3s 8d; Argentine hind-quarters, 3s 10d to 4s; fore-quarters, 2s 10d to 3s. Mutton: Scotch, 4s 6d to 5s; English wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; ewes, 3s 6d to 3s 10d; Canterbury, 2s 10d to 3s; Wellington, 2s 6d to 2s 8d; Sydney and River Plate, 2s 2d to 2s 6d. English lamb, 5s 4d to 6s. Veal: English and Dutch, 3s 8d to 4s 8d. Pork: English, 4s 4d to 4s 10d; and Dutch, 4s 2d to 4s 6d per 8lb.

Islington, Thursday.—Supplies of beasts fairly good, and met steady inquiry at about previous prices. Fat bulls quoted 3s 8d to 3s 10d per 8.b. Sheep in fair supply, evidenced quiet support, but prices for both wethers and ewes ruled steady, salesmen showing no desire to force trade. 7½ to 8-stone Down wethers (clipped), 5s 4d to 5s 6d; 9-stone ditto, 5s 2d to 5s 4d; 10-stone half-breds, 4s 10d to 5s; 10-stone Down ewes (unclipped), 4s 8d; 11-stone ditto, 4s 4d to 4s 6d. Lamb trade steady, a moderate trade prevailing. 4½ to 5 stone Downs, 6s 10d to 7s; 6-stone half-bred ditto, 6s 2d to 6s 4d. Calf trade unaltered, the best on offer making 5s 6d to 5s 8d per 8lb to sink the offal. No pigs were on offer.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Beef trade quiet, but firm, the top price being 12s 6d per score. Mutton met a very fair demand at late rates. Lamb was quoted at 1s to 1s 2d per lb. and veal at 5s 8d to 6s per stone. Pork dearer, small roasters making 10s to 11s per score, and large hogs up to 10s.

Basingstoke, Wednesday.—At Raynbird and Sons' sale yard there was a good attendance of buyers to meet a supply of 30 fat beasts, 102 calves, 1,002 fat and store sheep and lambs, and 138 head of dairy and store cattle, which realised the following prices: Fat Devon steers made up to £25 5s; two year old steers, £19 5s; Kerry steers to £35 15s the pair; shorthorn steers, £19 15s; heifers, £17 15s; Jersey bull, £18 5s; Hampshire Down wethers and young ewes from 42s to 57s; old Down ewes, 34s to 40s; rams, 45s to 54s; Dorset ewes, 38s; choice three months old Hampshire Down lambs, 32s to 42s; Exmors, 26s to 29s; Dorsets, 29s to 32s; fat calves, 85s to 87s 6d; smlaelr, 25s to 60s; dairy cows, £8 to £21. Fat beasts in good demand, and extreme prices realised for all sorts. There was a good show of fat sheep and lambs, both as regards numbers and quality; a clearance very nearly made, and prices well maintained, with an advance for prime quality ewes and small wether sheep. A good demand for all best class milch cows and heifers. Store cattle, owing, no doubt, to the cold weather, met with little attention from the buyers, several lots passing out of the ring unsold. Fat calves continue very dear, and sell readily. There were about 50 horses on offer, which met with a fair demand. Ruling values:—Best quality fat beasts, 7½d to 8d; 2nd ditto, 6½d to 7d; bulls, cows, and inferior beasts, 5½d to 6½d per lb; best quality fat sheep, 8d to 8½d, 2nd ditto, 7d to 7½d; old ewes, rams, and inferior sheep, 6d to 6½d; choice three months old fat sucking lambs, 9½d to 11d per lb. Fat calves, 7d to 9½d per lb.

Boston, Wednesday. — Small show; only 30 steers penned. Best beef fully 9s per stone; best wethers, 8½d; ewes, 6½d and 7d.

Cambridge, Monday.—Beasts, 534; beef, 7s 6d to 8s 9d; sheep, 1,001; mutton, 4s 8d to 5s 10d; lamb, 9½d to 11d per lb; pigs, 433; pork, 5s 9d to 6s 9d; horses, 1. Not quite so many store beasts, and all cleared. Fat beasts, short supply and prices higher. Fat sheep, a good brisk trade all round. Stores, some good lots to hand, and trade better. Stores not so good as last week. hand. Trade better. Stores not so good as last week. Hay, none to hand. Straw, good trade. Roots slow.

Calne, Friday.—Present prices for prime pigs, in l ots o not less than 10, on rail within 100 miles of Calne.

Prime Stores.	Thickness of fat in any part of the Back.	Price per Sc. s. d.
6 sc. 10 lbs. to 9 sc. 10 lbs.	2½ in. and under ...	10 0
Under 10 sc.	Not exceeding 2½ in. ...	9 6
Under 11 sc. 10 lb.	... Not exceeding 2¾ in....	9 0
Under 12 sc.	Not exceeding 3 in. ...	

—C. & T. Harris & Co., Ld.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Increased supply of store cattle. Yearling beasts from £7 to £10 5s; two-year-old cows, £9 to £13 10s; a few good Sussex realising rather higher prices; working tegs, 25s to 30s; and better class at from 32s to 37s. Old sheep and lambs, 32s to 37s; good teeth ewes with lambs, 40s to 47s; useful two-year-old sheep, 38s to 41s.

Carlisle, Saturday.—The state of the weather, characterised by cold, wintry nights, shows little improvement, and trade in Irish store cattle has quieted down in consequence. The supply was smaller than usual, comprising barely 400 heifers and a few stripping cows. The attendance was below the average, and operations were restricted. Medium sized heifers realised £8 10s to £10 10s; best specimens, £14 10s. Stripping cows, £10 10s. A few young pigs met a slow sale at 30s each.

Dorchester, Wednesday.—Supplies all round came extensively to hand, both at Messrs. Ensor's and Mr. Sampson's sales, and with a full average attendance of buyers a spirited trade resulted in a good clearance in all the more important sections of the market. Prices were well maintained for beef, veal, and pork; but rates were considered hardly so strong for some classes of mutton. Fat bullocks, of the best class, made from £19 to £22 5s each (or 11s 6d per score); seconds, £15 to £18 (or 10s 6d to 11s). Calves brought high rates, some of the best selling from £5 10s to £6 10s each (or 8d to 8½d per lb); seconds, £3 to £4 10s (or 7½d); rearers making 20s to 35s. Fat wethers made up to 55s each (or 7½d per lb); fat ewes, 36s to 49s; and lambs, 28s to 38s (or 9d to 9½d). Porkers were a very dear trade, making up to 75s each (or 10s 6d to 11s 6d per score); baconers, up to 96s (or 10s to 10s 6d); and stores, 26s to 40s; sows, £5 10s to £8.

Dublin, Thursday.—Numbers in market: Beasts, 1,204 (decrease 190); sheep, 6,470 (increase 369); calves, 44 (increase 5). The choicer qualities of beef alone sustained last week's rates. Other descriptions were more difficult to dispose of, fat cows in particular being much neglected and prices in favour of buyers. A choice lot of Aberdeen Angus bullocks, fed by Mr. Ruttledge, of Carlow, and purchased by Messrs. McDonagh, Chatam Street, made about top quotation. Mutton in better request; best qualities a shade dearer. Lambs, except the very best, owing to cold weather, more difficult to place. Cattle.—Live weight, best, 37s to 41s per cwt. Other descriptions, 30s to 36s per cwt. Mutton.—Dead weight, 7d to 8¾d per lb.—GANLY, SONS, AND CO.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Bullocks and Cows, 1,090; calves, 262; sheep and lambs, 2,502; pigs (fat and sows), 6; sucking pigs, 31; pigs (stores, not more than ten), 182; pigs (stores, more than ten), 116; horses, 192; colts, 24; donkeys, 2. Prices of stock:—Beef, 6d to 7½d; mutton, 7d to 7½d; lamb, 10d; veal, 9½d; pork, 6½d to 8d, and bacon, 5d to 6d per lb.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons report there were not quite so many fat cattle penned. The majority of these were of excellent quality. Buyers were in strong force, and higher prices were obtained—from 8s 6d to 9s 3d per stone. Fat sheep were not so numerous, and prices again ruled against buyers, advancing fully 6d per stone. Several fat lambs, which sold without alteration. Grazing heggets with condition realized more money. Trade was fair for fat swine, and dearer; well-bred stores, of which there were several, were in request. Fat calves scarce and dearer. A large entry of grazing cattle, as many as 406 being penned. Buyers were well represented, and good, strong cattle were in fair demand. Young cattle, unless well-bred, were not much wanted, and sold slowly. Prices, as compared with those of the corresponding sale of last year, were about 10s per head lower. Cows and heifers were short, and sold without alteration. At the Drill Hall 125 horses were catalogued. A good trade was experienced all round, 80 per cent. of the horses changing hands at satisfactory prices. Numbers at sales and market: Cattle, 1,239; calves, 40; sheep, 1,913; swine, 1,492; horses, 271.

Leicester. Wednesday.—The supplies of home fed bullocks showed a considerable decline, but the bulk of the stock came to hand in very good condition. A good attendance, and trade ruled exceptionally brisk at an advance of 10s to 20s per head all round. Choice bullocks made 7¾d per lb; secondary qualities, 7d to 7¼d; cows, 6d to 6¾d; heifers, 7d to 7½d. Sheep were a fair delivery, and met with a very brisk trade at higher prices, choice weights making 8d to 8¼d; large sheep, 7d to 7¼d; ewes, 6d to 6¾d. Lambs firm at 11d to 11½d. Calves in request at 8d to 8½d.

Newport. Wednesday.—The supply of cattle was very short, especially best quality bullocks, which were nothing like equal to the demand. Bullocks were worth quite 30s per head more than last week. A clearance was effected of all cattle. There was, however, a large supply of sheep, lambs, and calves, which met with a brisk trade, owing to the scarcity of beef. Prices showed a distinctly upward tendency. Quotations: Best beef, 7¼d to 7¾d per lb; secondary quality, 6¾d to 7d; cows, 6d to 6½d; best wether mutton, 8¼d to 9d; ewes, 7½d to 8d; shorn wethers, 8d to 8¼d; veal, 7d to 8¼d; lamb, 10d to 11d; porker pigs, 11s to 11s 6d per score. Good attendance of buyers.

Norwich. Saturday.—There was a fair supply of store cattle here to-day; but although keep prospects have been improved by rains, farmers showed no great disposition to purchase, continued cold weather apparently checking business. Fat beasts ruled firm at 8s to 8s 6d and 9s per 14lb. Store sheep were offered to a moderate extent; trade was dull at barely late rates; keeping hoggetts were quoted at 30s to 44s per head. Fat sheep were in quiet demand at 8s to 8s 6d and 9s per 14lb.

Salford. Tuesday.—There was a smaller supply of cattle, and a better trade, and sellers obtained an advance on last week's prices. There was a large increase in the number of sheep and lambs penned, the increase being principally in lambs. Trade for sheep was brisk at from 1s to 2s per head more than last Tuesday. Lamb trade dull, and prices in favour of buyers. A large show of calves, and a slow sale at about late rates. Cattle, 6d to 7½d; sheep, 7d to 9½d; calves, 5½ to 6½ per lb; lambs, 25s to 46s each. At market: Cattle, 1,753; sheep and lambs, 10,241; calves, 193.

Sheffield. Tuesday.—Though the number of milch beasts was below that of last week, there was a good inquiry for best qualities, which soon changed hands at £18 to £22; secondary, £13 to £16; young heifers, £9 to £12.

Shrewsbury. Tuesday.—Store cattle slow at late rates. Store pigs slightly lower, with large supplies. Other stock firm at late rates. Quotations:—Lamb, 11d to 1s; beef, 6¾d to 7¾d; mutton, 7½d to 8¼d; and veal, 8½d to 9d per lb. Porker pigs, 10s to 10s 6d, and bacons, 9s to 10s per score. Cows, with calves, up to £22. Hay up to £6 15s and straw up to £4 per ton. Number offered:—531 lambs, 1,005 cattle, 72 cows with calves, 719 sheep, 135 calves; 29 fat, 118 porket, and 599 store pigs.—B. R. Croxton, Markets Inspector.

Spalding. Tuesday. Small show of beasts and sheep. Excellent prices were realised: best beef to 9s per stone; secondary, 8s. Stores continued dear. Mutton to 8½d per lb.

Stockton. Wednesday.—There were on offer 181 cattle, 10 calves, 317 sheep, and 50 lambs. Trade was rather brisker for beef at 9s per stone. Rougher kinds sold at 6s 6d to 7s. Calves fetched 6d to 9d per lb. Sheep were dearer.

Thame. Tuesday.—There was a short supply of beef, but mutton came to hand freely. With a good attendance of buyers, trade ruled very firm, at late high prices. The late Mr. Bond's sale comprised 41 fat beasts, 230 fat and store sheep, 53 fat and weaning calves, and 213 fat and store pigs. Fat bullocks made from £19 10s to £26 15s; fat heifers, £18 10s to £23 5s; strong tegs, 55s to 60s; fat ewes, 40s to 50s; fat lambs, 35s to 41s; fat calves, £3 to £4 15s; weaning cow calves, 20s to 65s; bull calves, 19s to 55s; fat hogs, 10s per score. Stores dear.

Wakefield. Wednesday.—The supplies of fat beasts and sheep were rather better than last week. Quotations: Best young heifers and bullocks, 7¼d to 7½d; secondary sorts, 6¾d to 6¾d; choice young sheep, 7¾d to 8d per lb; inferior sorts, 5½d to 6½d per lb; slightly less price than last week. Numbers at market: Beasts, 1,284; sheep, 5,033.

Whitechapel. Saturday.—Supplies again plentiful, but trade quiet at unchanged prices. Best clover, £5s to £10s; inferior, 80s to 90s; specially-picked hay, 117s 6d; good, 112s; inferior, 80s to 95s; mixture and sainfoin, £5s to £6 5s; straw, 30s to 45s per load.

Wolverhampton. Wednesday.—There was a fair supply of all kinds of animals, but the demand was only of a moderate character. Quotations: Beasts, 7¼d to 8d; cows, 5½d to 7d; calves, 7d to 9d; wether mutton, 7¾d to 8d; ewes, 6¾d to 7d per lb. There were only about a score of pigs on offer.

Worcester. Saturday. — Very moderate supplies of cattle, sheep, and pigs, and trade brisk. Best quality beef and mutton sold at full rates. More in pairy for perk. ADD HAY AND STRAW

Worksop. Wednesday. Fair attendance. Short supply of beef, and good supply of mutton. Best beef, 7s 6d to 8s 6d; secondary, 6s 6d to 7s per stone; best Southdown wether and long wools, 7d to 8d; ewes and other sorts, 5½d to 7d; fat lambs, 9½d to 11d; veal, 10d to 11d per lb.

FOREIGN.

Deptford. Wednesday.—Beast supplies were on a more extensive scale to-day, amounting to 1,887 head, which is an increase of 1,544 as compared with last Wednesday's figures, and consisted of 1,375 United States and 512 Canadian. Trade ruled slower at 4s 9d to 4s 11d, exceptionally 5s and 4s 6d, to 4s 10d per 8 lb, sinking the offal respectively. No sheep were to hand.

Yorkhill. Monday.—At the usual weekly sale of American cattle there were in the lairages 232 cattle landed by the Pomeranian (s.), from Boston. The animals as regards quality were fully up to those that have been exposed of late. There was the usual attendance of buyers, and trade was of a very satisfactory character, the values for all classes ruling high. The dead weight quotations were higher than those ruling last week, and may be given as follows: Bullocks, best quality, 64s. to 66s. per cwt; secondary and heavier, 62s to 64s; young cows, 60s to 62s; heifers, 62s to 64s, all are ruling to quality and finish. Bulls, best class, 56s per cwt, and in one or two instances up to 58s; secondary and heavier, down to 54s.

MANURES.

Liverpool. Friday.—The past week's temperature has been decidedly low, and with the cold weather and occasional frost at this period of the year, crops have generally made slow progress. With further imports of nitrate of soda, the market is erratic and again easier, and the nearest spot value of best quality is £9 15s per ton, and a good consumptive demand is experienced. Superphosphate of lime is in active request, whilst a few orders occasionally come in for basic slag. Kainit and Fast India bone meal unchanged in value, and are in seasonable request. The trade all round in feeding stuffs is quiet. The following are current rates:—Nitrate of soda, best quality, i.e., guaranteed 95 per cent. pure, in bags, £9 15s per ton; East India bone meal, fair to prime, in bags, £4 10s to £4 15s per ton; kainit, prime 25 per cent. in bags, £2 7s 6d to £2 10s per ton; palm nut cake, prime £5 15s per ton; linseed cake, American thin oblong, prime, in bags, £7 1s 3d to £7 3s 9d per ton; linseed cake, English, in bulk, £8 2s 6d to £8 10s per ton; linseed cake, foreign, round, soft and oily, in bags, £6 2s 6d per ton; cotton seed cake, N.A. decorticated, prime, new, in bags, £7 2s 6d to £7 5s per ton; cottonseed cake, English do, prime, soft, in bags, £7 7s 6d to £7 10s per ton; cottonseed cake, English, undecorticated, prime, in bulk £4 10s to £4 15s per ton; cottonseed cake, Egyptian do, prime, in bags, nil; cottonseed cake (crushed) 20 to 25 per cent oil, prime, in bags; £7 2s 6d to £7 5s per ton; maize germ meal, prime, in bags, £5 17s 6d per ton; corn oil cake, 10 to 13 per cent oil, prime, in bags, £6 2s 6d to £6 5s per ton; rice meal, Rangoon, as imported, in bags, £5 to £5 2s 6d per ton; Indian meal, coarse to fine grinding, prime, in bulk, 13s to 13s 6d per 240lb; linseed, fine bold feeding, in bags, £3 2s 6d to £3 5s per quarter, 416lb; N.A. Cloverseed, new red, fair to good, in bags, nil; D.N.S. Brand superphosphate of lime guaranteed 23 to 27 sol., in bags, £2 5s to £2 7s at depot do, do, 30 to 31 sol., in bags, £2 10s to £2 12s at depot; do, do, 35 to 36 sol., in bags, £3 to £3 2s at depot; basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed, 30 to 35 per cent. phos., in bags, nominal; do, do, guaranteed, 35 to 40 per cent. phos., in bags, nominal; finest do, guaranteed, 38 to 45 per cent phos., in bags, nominal.

BUTTER.

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Boston: 7d to 8d per lb. Colne: 1s 2d per lb. Goole: 11d per lb. Keighley: 1s wholesale; retail, 1s 1d per lb. Kirbymoorside: 8d to 9d per lb. Knaresborough: 1s 3d wholesale; retail, 1s 4d to 1s 5d per roll of 24oz. Louth: (wholesale), 9d per lb. Market Weighton: 9d per lb. Masham: 1s to 1s 2d per roll of 24oz. Northallerton: 1s 3d to 1s 6d per roll of 24oz. Stockton: 11d to 1s 2d per lb. Worksop: 1s 1d to 1s 3d per lb.

Thursday.—Brigg. 9d to 10d per lb. Driffield: 9d per lb. Kidderminster: 1s 3d per lb. Scarborough: 17 for 1s. Wellington: 1s to 1s 2d per lb. Wetherby 9d to 1s 2d per lb.

Friday.—Easingwold: 1s to 1s 2d per lb. Grimsby: Danish, 107s to 108s per 112lb; Dutch, 96s to 100s; Siberian, 96s to 98s. Helmsley: 6d to 9d per lb. Leeds: Danish, 102s to 110s per 112lb; Irish creameries, 98s to 106s; Colonial, 102s to 108s; York lump, 13s to 14s per stone; ditto long rolls, 1½lb, 1s 5d to 1s 7d; fresh butter in 1lb prints, 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Leyburn: 1s 1d to 1s 3d per roll of 24oz. Lincoln: 10d to 1s per lb. Otley: 1s 3d to 1s 5d per roll of 24oz.

Saturday.—Appleby: 9d to 10½d per lb. Berwick: 8d to 9d per lb. Carlisle: 10d to 1s per lb. Doncaster: 10d to 1s per lb. Grantham: 1s to 1s 1d per lb. Howden: 10½ per lb. Lancaster: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Malton: 10½ to 11d per lb. Pontefract: 1s 1d per lb. Retford: 11d to 1s per lb. Richmond: 11d to 1s per lb. Skipton: 1s to 1s 1½d per lb. Stokesley: 11d to 1s per lb. Whitby: 1s per lb. York: 10d to 1s per lb.

CHEESE.

Glasgow. Wednesday.—There were several lots of new Dunlops laid down at the Glasgow market this week, but buyers did not seem desirous to buy them. The price was off and on about 52s per cwt. New Zealands and Canadians being still reckoned good value, a fair trade was passing in them at late rates. Old home cheeses are over for the season.

Highbridge Caerphilly. Tuesday.—Upwards of 18 tons of cheese pitched to-day. Best dairies realised 50s per cwt., other dairies selling at 44s 6d to 48s 6d. A few inferior lots failed to reach more than 40s. A good attendance.

Newport. Wednesday.—A good attendance of buyers and an excellent pitch of cheese resulted in a capital market. Quotations:—Caerphillies, 38s to 44s; fancy dairies, 45s to 46s; Derbies, 61s to 63s; Cheddars, 61s to 65s.

WOOL.

London. Tuesday.—The third series of London sales of Colonial wool commenced to-day. There was a large attendance of both home and foreign buyers, and very spirited competition. Prices, as compared with last sales' closing rates, ruled for Australian Merinos and for Capes on the average 7½ per cent. and for Australian crossbreds 10 per cent. higher.—Helmuth Schwartzé and Co.

London, Saturday.—English, per pk. of 240lb: Fleeces S. Dn. hoggs, £7 to £8 10s; half-bred hoggs, £6 to £7; half-bred wethers, £5 to £6; Kent fleeces, £5 to £6; South Down ewes and wethers, £7 to £8 10s; Leicester ditto, £5 to £5 10s. Colonial, per lb: Vic., fleece super., 1s 7d to 1s 9d; scoured good 1s 7½d to 1s 8½d; scoured average, 1s 6½d to 1s 7½d; greasy average to fair, 10½d to 11½d: N.SW. Scd. average 1s 4d to 1s 4½d; greasy average 8d to 9d; S. Australia, greasy average, 6½d to 7d; N.Z. scoured average 1s 5d to 1s 6d; grease average 8½d to 9½d. Cape Scred. sup. 1s 5d to 1s 6d; fleece average, 7d to 7½d; greasy average, 6½d to 7d; Natal, scoured, 1s to 1s 1d; greasy average, 6¾d to 7½d. Crossbreds, Grs: Vic., good to superior, 11d to 11½d; New Zealand, fine, 8½d to 9½; medium, 5½d to 6d; coarse, 4½d to 4¾d.

Canterbury, Saturday. — There is a little more activity at recent prices.

COLONIAL WOOL SALES.

London, Friday.—At public sale this evening two catalogues, jointly totalling 14,376 bales, were offered, and consisted of 3,049 New South Wales and Queensland, 4,189 Victorian, 161 Tasmanian, 2,689 South Australian, 3,580 New Zealand, and 707 Cape. To-day's catalogue included some very superior Victorian grease. Good competition was forthcoming for these wools, which realised current rates. Very full prices were paid for washed Victorians, which were taken on home account. Several strings of speculators' wools were offered, and sold at current rates, only a few lots being withdrawn. Crossbreds unchanged. The following include some of the principal marks sold:—New South Wales, scoured—Bover Wallangra, merino, bellies, 1s 0½d to 1s 2d; pieces, 1s 3½d to 1s 5d; locks, 10d; greasy of the same mark—merino combing, 11d to 11½d; clothing, 11d to 11½d; broken, 9½d. Victorian, greasy—S. Wilson over Mount Bute, merino combing, 1s to 1s 2½d; lambs, 6¾d to 1s 3½d; clothing, 1s to 1s 1d; bellies, 8½d; pieces, 9½d to 11½d. S. Wilson over Ercildoune—merino combing, 1s to 1s 1d; lambs, 6d to 1s; broken, 11½d; bellies, 8½d to 8½d; pieces, 10½d; Dunrobin over A.S.M.—Merino combing, 11d to 1s 1d; clothing, 11½d; lambs, 10½d to 11d; bellies, 7d; pieces, 8½d; A.M. merino combing, 9d to 11d; bellies, 7d; pieces, 8½; A.M. merino combings, 1s 1d to 1s 1½d; clothing, 1s to 1s 0½d; pieces, 11d. South Australian, greasy—L.O. over K. over Marracoorte, merino combing, 9d to 1s 0½d; lambs, 8d; bellies, 8d to 9d; pieces, 9d to 9½d; locks, 4d; North Booborowie, merino combing, 9d to 9½d lambs, 4½d to 6½d; bellies, 6½d; and pieces, 6½d to 8d per lb.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Thursday.—Linseed: Prices have continued to advance owing, to a good demand and an active oil market. Calcutta to London spot, passage and April-June 53s 9d, June-July 54. La Plata on passage, 51s 3d. Hull has also improved. Calcutta, April-June 53s 9d buyers. La Plata, spot 50s 9d, May-June, 51s 10½d. To the Continent, Bompay May-June 56s. 9d, June-July 56s 7½d paid. Calcutta, April-June 54s. La Plata, May-June 52s. Linseed oil: After a further rapid advance, the market closes quiet, but oil is very firmly held, and there are no signs of a decline. We quote spot in pipes £31 15s, barrels £31 15s to £32, June-August £31 10s, September-December £30 2s 6d. Hull naked spot £30 15s, June-August £30 12s 6d, September-December £29. Linseed cakes are firm. We to-day quote London made £7 17s 6d to £8 ex mill. American Western £7 7s 6d to £7 10s, Russian £7 12s 6d to £7 17s 6d. Cotton cakes firmer, London made £4 10s to £4 15s. Rapeseed quieter. Brown Cawnpore, May-June 36s 6d; brown Calcutta, spot 35s, April-June 35s 6d. To the Continent we quote yellow Guzerat 41s 6d; yellow Cawnpore, May-June 39s 6d; brown Cawnpore, May-June 36s 9d; brown Calcutta, April-June, 36s 3d; Ferozepore, May-June 37s 9d; Jamba, May-June to Hull 31s 6d. Cottonseed is firm, but slow. Spot London £7 13s 9d, April-May, £7 13s 9d, sellers. Hull spot £7 12s 6d, April-June £7 12s 6d, November-January, £6 11s 3d, a considerable business done. Cargoes: May is held for £7 16s 3d, November-December and January £6 13s 9d. Bombay to Hull, May-June is held for £5, June-July £5 1s 3d.—The Produce Brokers Company, Ltd.

Hull, Tuesday.—Linseed.—The arrivals are 20 qrs. from Harlingen, 8,673 qrs. San Nicholas, 5,980 qrs. Villa Constitution; total, 14,673 qrs. The market opened slightly weaker, but quickly firmed up again, and shows at the close an advance of from 1s 3d to 1s 6d per qr. on the week. Calcutta, April-June, was done early last week at 52s, but closes firm with buyers at 53s, while re-sellers ask 53s 3d, and shippers want 53s 9d. River Plate is also a strong market, and while 49s was accepted early last week for seed ex store, sellers are now asking 50s 6d for this position; 58s 6d is now the value of May-June. Cottonseed.—After our last issue there was a further improvement to £7 15s spot, and £7 13s 9d paid May, but the market has been much quieter the past few days, especially for old crop, which now offers at £7 12s 6d spot, and £7 11s 3d May-June. A few hundred tons monthly, Nov.-Jan., changed hands at £6 12s 6d, but £6 10s subsequently accepted. Yesterday, however, £6 11s 3d was paid, and this to-day's value. Oils.—Exports for the week ending 28th April, 1902.—Linseed oil: 1 Belgium, 2 Germany, 4 Holland, 29 Norway; total, 36 tons. Cotton oil: 118 Belgium, 5 Denmark, 22 France, 126 Germany, 149 Holland, 1 Norway, 10 Sweden; total, 431 tons. The market is firm. Linseed oil: 30s 9d spot; 30s 9d May-August. Cotton oil: 25s 1½d spot; 25s 3d May-August. Crude: 24s spot; 24s May-August. Rape oil: Jamba naked, 24s spot; 1st quality, 24s 9d spot.—Keighley Maxsted and Co.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed cakes: Business has been fairly active during the past week, there being a good inquiry, especially for forward positions, country dealers anticipating that values have about reached bottom prices. Russians sell steadily at unchanged prices. Americans are in good request, and, with higher c.i.f. quotations, tend upwards, present value being 2s 6d per ton more money. Calcutta-made, in bags, move off quietly at £7 10s to £7 15s. London-made continue to offer at last Monday's quotations. Cotton cakes: The demand has considerably fallen off of late, and consequently the tone of the market is not quite so strong. Egyptians may now be bought on slightly easier terms, while a parcel of more or less heated cakes offers at £4. English meet a slow sale at 2s 6d per ton less money. Decorticated are the turn dearer from scarcity, while the demand is quite of a retail description, best brand making 2s 6d per ton more money, and meal unchanged. Rape cakes: Quiet. East India, £3 15s to £4. Maize germ meal: Arrived parcels of American sell slowly at 5s per ton cheaper, with shippers asking even more money. English is in good demand at £5 15s to £5 17s 6d. Rice meal: Shippers having withdrawn from the market holders ask a slight advance at £4 7s 6d to £4 10s ex ship for near at hand parcels, while landed lots are firmly held at £4 15s.

	Per ton. £ s. d.		Per ton £ s. d.
Linseed Cakes.			
London made ....ex mill	7 15 0	to	7 17 6
American ....ex ship	7 2 6	to	7 5 6
Russian, in mats ....ex dock	7 7 6	to	7 10 0
Russian, in bags ....ex dock	7 15 0	to	7 17 6
Calcutta	7 10 0	to	7 15 0
Cottonseed Cakes.			
London made ....ex mill	4 15 0	to	4 17 6
Egyptian ....ex dock	4 10 0	to	4 11 3
Decorticated ....ex dock	6 7 6	to	6 12 6
Meal ....ex dock	6 10 0	to	—
Rape Cakes.			
East India	3 15 0	to	4 0 0
Maize.			
English germ meal....ex mill	5 15 0	to	5 17 6
American .... ex dock	5 12 6	to	5 15 0
Rice Meal.			
Rangoon ....ex dock	4 15 0	to	

—Pinnock Bros., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

Waterloo Round Feeding Cakes, £7 0s 0d per ton Waterloo Round 97 per cent. Pure Linseed Cakes £8 15s 0d per ton. Waterloo Anglo Shape 97 per cent. Pure Linseed Cakes, £8 10s 0d per ton; Waterloo 97 per cent. Pure Egyptian Cottonseed Cakes £5 2s 6d per ton. All net Cash and F.O.R. in Hull

Molassine Feeding Meal, packed in bags, of 1¼cwt. each. Price per cwt., 7s. 6d. Price per ton, £6 15s., on rail at works, Silvertown, Essex, and F.O.R. Liverpool. A sample lot of 6cwt., in 4 bags of 1½cwt. each, delivered free to any station in England on receipt of remittance for £2 11s 0d

CORK BUTTER.

	Ordinary.				Mild Cured Firkins.			Firkins in Market.
	Firsts.	Seconds.	Thirds.	Fourths.	Superfine.	Fine.	Mild.	
	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.	
Monday	104	88	80	—	112	94	—	50
Tuesday	104	88	80	—	112	93	—	60
Wednesday .	100	89	80	—	112	95	—	70
Thursday ...	104	90	80	—	115	96	—	40
Friday.....	104	94	81	—	115	91	—	50
Saturday ...	104	93	81	—	115	96	—	70



STOCK AND SHOW NOTES.

By Herdsman.

The entries of live-stock for the Royal Counties Agricultural Society's Show at Reading, on June 10th, 11th, 12th, and 13th next, have now closed, and as will be seen from the table given below, they are considerably in obtained on the last occasion on which the excess of those of last year, and also on those Society visited Reading, but a comparison between the Reading Show of the same Society in 1887 and the present year shows the total entries to be almost identical. An especial point of congratulation is the increase in the horses department, and this is no doubt largely accounted for by the fact that the Society has made special arrangements so as not to clash with the Richmond Show, which takes place in the same week. The entry of hunters and harness horses is quite an exceptional one.

In consequence of the prevalence of swine fever in the County of Berks, and the fact that the show-yard is in itself an infected area, a case having recently occurred within 200 yards of the entrance, the Council have decided to abandon the show of pigs at Reading, which, although unavoidable, is much to be regretted, on account of the excellent entry received. The entries of butter, poultry, etc., closed on Saturday, and no doubt will go to make up what may be regarded as a record total. The promised visit of T.R.H. the Prince and Princess of Wales, on June 12th, is being looked forward to with great pleasure, and should materially help the success of the show.

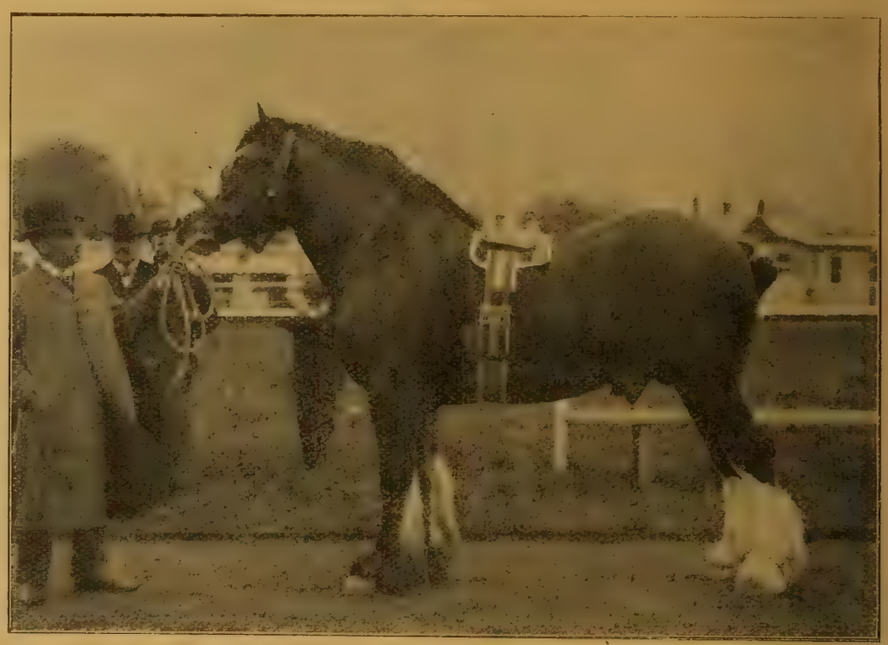
The following table shows at a glance how the entries for this year's show compare with those of last year, and also the two other years in which Reading was visited by the Society :—

	Reading 1887.	Reading 1897.	Weymouth 1901.	Reading 1902.
Sheep	292	242	238	251
Horses	190	180	152	242
Cattle	605	507	388	600
Pigs	100	84	78	93
	1187	1013	856	1186

The Warwickshire Agricultural Society have now issued the prize list for their Show at Warwick, on August 27th and 28th next. I see that the cash prizes amount to over £1,200, including the handsome list of the Warwick Local Committee, which is £381, and mainly confined to tenant farmers occupying land in the County of Warwick. The sum of £223 16s. is allotted to agricultural horses, the special prizes including the "Roberts" challenge bowl with £5 added prize, a silver cup, and two of the Shire Horse Society's silver medals. A new feature this year is the cart horse parade, which is arranged to take place on the second day of the Show. For hunters, hacks, and ponies the prizes amount to £245 10s., and there are numerous special prizes, including the gold and silver medals of the Hunters' Improvement Society. The driving and jumping classes, as usual, are very attractive, the sum of £68 being devoted to driving, whilst there will be jumping classes each day, with £91 5s. in prizes.

In the cattle classes the sum of £236 is provided, including the Shorthorn Society's District prizes for the best bull in Warwickshire, calved in 1901, and for encouragement of pure-bred milking Shorthorns, also for Longhorns, Herefords, Channel Island cattle, and cattle best adapted to dairy purposes, special prizes being given by the Longhorn Breeders and others. The sum of £127 10s. is allotted to sheep classes, and £54 for pigs, and two silver medals of the National Pig Breeders' Association. £20 is provided for award in the implement department, with five of the Society's silver medals, including a special class for implements patented or invented after Jan. 1st, 1901. For dairy produce, eggs, and dressed poultry the prizes amount to £40 10s. There will be weight estimating competitions each day, with £12 in prizes. The schedule also contains classes with prizes amounting to £47 for the encouragement of labourers in their service, and for rearing of lambs by shepherds, together with a cottagers' class for the best kept cottage and garden in the Warwick and Kenilworth Petty Sessional Divisions, given by Lord Leigh. Also field competitions for ploughing, hedging, draining, and thatching, to which £41 is devoted, including special prizes. Schedules and entry forms may be had on application to the Secretary, Mr F. H. Moore, Warwick.

In the course of an interesting article in the current number of the "Leisure Hour," Mr. W. J. Gordon says :—"If the European Powers decided to mount all the men in their armies, they would not be able to find two horses apiece for them, while Russia could find eight horses for every man. This predominance of Russia in the horse world is a significant fact that has not received the attention it deserves. For some years now the importation of Russian horses into this country has been increasing, and at the present time, in the ordinary way of business, Russia sends us about a sixth of our foreign horse supply, and is only exceeded in numbers by the United States. The horse it sends us is not a taking animal to look at, as may be judged from its average import value, being only £11, but it is as good a thing to get about on as any of its more advertised relatives."



THE DRAUGHT STALLION "MODEL," which forms the subject of the above illustration, was exhibited by Mr T. O'Malley, Woodlands, Raheny, Dublin, at the North-East of Ireland Agricultural Society's Show at Belfast on the 1st and 2nd inst., when it was awarded First Prize in the class for Draught Stallions foaled prior to January 1, 1900.

On Friday evening a meeting of horse-owners—representing altogether an ownership—was held at Aldridge's Repository, for the purpose of opposing the proposal to tax imported corn. The Chairman (Mr. C. W. French) said they did not desire to be offensive, but defensive. The effect of the new tax would be to increase the cost in horse keep by about £1 per horse per year. Colonel Colvile (Director of the London Road Car Company) moved :—"That this mass meeting of London and Provincial horse-owners views with dismay the proposal of the Chancellor of the Exchequer to impose a tax on imported corn and other feeding stuffs, and pledges itself by every legitimate means to oppose and defeat this new impost, which is partial, and obviously unjust in its incidence, and will most disastrously affect the horse-owning interests." He said the proposed tax would be very hard on omnibus proprietors. The Omnibus Companies in London carried yearly 400,000,000 persons. He felt, therefore, that the omnibus trade ought to be considered, and not unduly and harshly legislated for. They had been having a bad time, and just as their hopes were being raised with the approach of the Coronation, down came this proposed tax. The proposal was carried unanimously, and it was resolved to send copies of the resolution to Members of the House of Commons and the Chancellor of the Exchequer, with a request that he would receive a deputation.

An outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease having occurred in Guernsey, an Order (by the Board of Agriculture) has been issued, prohibiting the landing in Great Britain of animals from all the Channel Islands.

The Reigate and Redhill Horse and Hound Show will take place at Reigate on Wednesday, the 21st inst. I understand that the various classes have filled well, and everything points to another success, especially as many very well known exhibitors have signified their intention of competing in the open classes. No fewer than 20 different packs of hounds have been entered, so that the show in this department will be a very good one. A plan of the seats in the pavilion can be seen, and tickets obtained therefor, upon application to Mr. C. Allingham, Reigate, or Mr. T. K. Pearce, Redhill.

The action of the Board of Agriculture in continuing to prohibit the importation of cattle from Argentine was recently brought before the City of London Court of Common Council by Mr. William Cooper, who moved a resolution, which was adopted, instructing the Cattle Markets Committee to interview the President of the Board in order to obtain a relaxation of the restrictions.

Messrs. Alfred Mansell and Co., of Shrewsbury, recently shipped, per SS. "Highland Scot," from Liverpool, for Senor Ricardo S. Zimborain, of Buenos Ayres, 32 Shropshire ewes and two rams, selected at the Harrington Dispersion Sale by Senor Lisandro Sanchez Llovares. This grand lot of young ewes, which included an own sister to the famous stud ram, Rose Bush 10,104 (sire of Lord Cardiff, sold for 400 guineas), were sired by the best rams of the day, such as Ulster Rose 9,734 (sire of Rosarium, winner second R.A.S.E., and sold to Australia at 60 guineas),

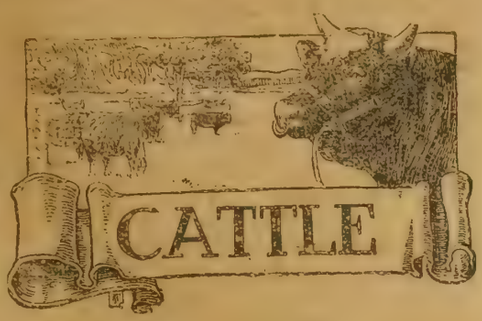
Fortification 9,498 (a royal winner, and the sire of the royal winner in 1900, sold for 240 guineas, also of the 180 guineas ram lamb at the Harrington Dispersion Sale), Montford Kaiser 10,806 (a most successful sire, bred by Mr. T. S. Minton), Bright Eye 10,643 (from the Sherlowe flock), and True Treasure 10,930, by Fortification. The two high-class sires which accompanied these ewes were a son of Fortification, from a ewe by Old Harry, and a son of Bright Eye, from a Dream Star ewe. Altogether Senor Zamborain has a most valuable nucleus for the foundation of a high-class Shropshire flock, and it is to be hoped his efforts to push the breed in South America will meet with success.

The above firm also shipped to the Argentine, on the 26th ult., on behalf of Mr. H. T. Harding, three high-class Herefords and the same number of Shorthorn bulls, from leading breeders, and a choice selection of Shropshire and Hampshire sheep, including a valuable Shropshire ram from Mr. J. Harding, by the 150 guineas P.D.Q., and another equally good sire by Maidstone Juvenal, second R.A.S.E., Maidstone. Mr. Harding had also been fortunate enough to secure from Mr. A. E. Mansell's famous flock four well grown rams, got by Strong Bone and Bright Eye, which can be characterised as equal to anything exported to the Argentine.

At public auction 28 Russian Orloff horses were sold in New York, on Thursday, April 10th. These horses were imported to the United States by the firm of Bergh and Co., and the average price obtained was 1243 dols. for the entire offering, the bidding being at all times spirited. Comment, says the "Chicago Breeders' Gazette," on these imported Orloffs is universally favourable, and most of the best known fanciers of high-class carriage and coach horses were on hand at the ringside. Their heads and necks were clean-cut and full of quality, top lines "well-nigh perfect," and the substance and general contour admirable. Some little fault is found with the action displayed, as well as the speed. There was not the high, folding, circular sweep of the Hackney, nor yet the lengthy, speed-suggesting stride of the standard-bred trotter in front, while only one or two could be said to have an all brilliant hock action. Nevertheless, as a whole, they please the critics, which fact is well enough set forth by the average price reached. Judge William H. Moore was the buyer of the highest-priced pair, at £1,280—a very high price for any pair of carriage horses. The same purchaser also took Saltan at £350, the last being so like the other two that any pair of the three were excellently matched. A black four-in-hand was taken, wheelers at £540, leaders at £525, and from these figures prices ranged down to £100.

The Kerry and Dexter Cattle Society have issued Vol. 10 of their Herd Book. The entries comprise 171 Kerries (134 cows and heifers, and 37 bulls), making in all 321 animals. The Herd Book numbers of Kerry cows and heifers are carried on from 2871 to 3004, Kerry bulls from 493 to 529, Dexter cows and heifers from 1684 to 1819, and Dexter bulls from 443 to 456.

Recent cattle sales in the United States seem to have been devoted exclusively to Shorthorns. Animals of this breed have certainly been attracting buyers, and making good prices during April. At a sale at Chicago on April 14th, the animals were offered by Mr. Bothwell, and consisted of American-bred Shorthorns, crossed with imported Scotch. One or two imported animals were offered, and gained some of the best prices. Top price was made by Nonpareil of Clover Blossom—out of Nonpareil Victor—a home-bred bull, which went to Messrs. G. Harding and Son for £342. Another son of the same sire was bought by Mr. H. Hagenfeldt at £320. From the females top price was made by the imported cow Collynie Wimple, which was sold for £221, while the home-bred Queen of Beauty sold for £200. A large number of the animals sold realised £100 and over. Another sale of Shorthorns held by G. W. Brown, at Indianola, Indiana, on April 17th, was eminently successful. Top price realised was £700, made by Victoria of Village Park, while the imported cow Gazelle realised £421. The average obtained for 42 females was £127, while seven bulls made an average of £52.



Sale of Jerseys at Roehampton.

A selection from the choice herds of Jersey cattle bred by Mr. H. C. Smith, of Mount Clare, and Mr. R. H. Cobb, of Esher, was offered for sale by auction on the 3rd inst., at Mount Clare, Roehampton, by Messrs. Thornton and Co. There was a heavy thunderstorm during the morning, consequently there was only a small attendance of purchasers, and some good cattle went very cheaply. Merrie Lassie, a bonny three-year-old cow that was very highly commended at the Guildford Show, realised 51 guineas (Sir J. Gooch, Bart.). Owing to the inclement weather several lots were passed through the ring.

We give below a few of the principal lots, with purchasers' names and prices:—

COWS AND HEIFERS.

	Gs.
Curiosity, whole colour, c. Sept. 5, 1895, s. Don Carlo 3rd 4528 ..... Lord Polwarth	15½
Fair Lady, whole colour, c. April 4, 1896, s. Regulus 5710 ..... Duke of Marlborough	25
Woolly, whole colour, c. April 14, 1896, s. Golden Pride 4860 ..... Lord Polwarth	12½
Luciola, whole colour, c. March 26, 1897, s. Vandal 5431 ..... Howard	12½
Glorioie, whole colour, c. May 9, 1897, s. Chestnut Boy 5828 ..... Lady de Rothschild	34
Forget-Me-Not, whole colour, c. May 26, 1897, s. Minstrel 5991 ..... Lord Polwarth	12
Tiara, whole colour, c. Dec. 9, 1897, s. Chestnut Boy 5828 ..... Lord Home	19
Belinda, whole colour, c. Sept. 9, 1898, s. Lucas 6937 ..... Rhodes	15½
Merrie Lassie, whole colour, c. Mar. 2, 1899, s. Grey Duke 6580 ..... Sir T. Gooch, Bart.	51
Summit, whole colour, c. July 5, 1899, s. Empereur 5538 ..... Col. Shaw Hellier	27
Lucida, whole colour, c. Oct. 16, 1899, s. Chestnut Boy 5828 ..... Dr. Luscombe	13
Hammeria, whole colour, c. Nov. 20, 1899, s. Chestnut Boy 5828 ..... Lord Home	14½
Jess, whole colour, c. Nov. 22, 1899, s. Barker 6463 ..... Dr. Luscombe	17½
Silver Bell, whole colour, c. Nov. 29, 1899, s. Rigondaine 7009 ..... C. A. Scott Murray	20
Relief 2nd, whole colour, c. Feb. 19, 1900, s. Barker 6463 ..... Lady de Rothschild	24
Monopoly, whole colour, c. April 21, 1900, s. Mammon 6945 ..... Lord Home	15
Violet, whole colour, c. April 22, 1900, s. Perry Farm Laddie 6013 ..... W. Cleaver	23
Rita, whole colour, c. April 23, 1900, s. Competitor 6821 ..... Rhodes	13
Minette, whole colour, c. June 8, 1900, s. Think of Me 6725 ..... Burgess	15
Glowworm, whole colour, c. July 25, 1900, s. Barker 6463 ..... Lord Rothschild	19
Aigrette, whole colour, c. Aug. 7, 1900, s. Father Damien 6853 ..... Lord Rothschild	20
Ella, whole colour, c. Aug. 30, 1900, s. Think of Me 6725 ..... C. A. Scott Murray	14½
Peri, whole colour, c. Sept. 2, 1900, s. Wanderer 6749 ..... Lady de Rothschild	14
Phyllis 11th, whole colour, c. Sept. 10 1900 s. Cyrano 6828 ..... Col. Shaw Hellier	15½
Princess of Orange, whole colour, c. Mar. 3, 1901, s. Brushwood Boy 6802 ..... Lady de Rothschild	15
Columbine, broken colour, c. May 14, 1901, s. President Steyn 6992 ..... Lady de Rothschild	29

BULL.

Guinea Gold, whole colour, c. May 21, 1900, s. Dairy Boy 6512 ..... W. R. G. Farmer	27

SUMMARY.

	Average. £ s. d.	Total. £ s. d.
20 Mr. Smith's	18 19 7 ..	369 12 0
12 Mr. Cobb's	21 7 7 ..	256 4 0
32 Head	19 11 1 ..	625 16 0

Sale of the Orchardmains Shorthorns.

The Orchardmains herd of shorthorns, the property of Sir Walter Thorburn, M.P., was disposed of on Wednesday, owing to the lease of the farm having terminated. The herd was founded in 1899 by the purchase at the Hon. Baillie Hamilton's sale of the cow Red Rose of Langton II., which proved an excellent breeder, and further additions were made from the herds of the Duke of Buccleuch, Mr. Muir, Dryhope, Selkirk; and Mr. Ingram, Troup, Banffshire. The bulls, which were at the head of the herd last year, and which were sold yesterday, were the Balnakyle-bred bull, March On, which was bought for 80 guineas at the Perth spring sale last year, and Banker, which was bred by Mr. Chalmers, Aberdour, Fraserburgh. Sir Walter Thorburn has never been much of an exhibitor at shows, preferring to keep his animals for breeding purposes rather than feed them up to showyard condition. The stock was therefore offered in natural condition. The cows have been good breeders and milkers, there being not a single yeld animal in the herd this year.

The sale (which took place at Orchardmains, Inverleithen, Peebleshire, and was conducted by Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser, and Co.), was well attended, and a large company sat down to the luncheon which preceded it. The bidding was not particularly brisk, but the prices generally were good, considering the condition of the stock, and the sale was, on the whole, very satisfactory. An average of close upon £31 for cows, and £21 for heifers, and nearly £28 10s. for young bulls was, in the circumstances, quite as much as could have been expected, although in most cases the animals were good value for the money paid for them. Mr. Maxtone Graham, of Redgorton, bought two of the best cows. One was Lady Maud, a six-year-old by Bell-the-Cat, with a bull calf by March-On, which sold at 48 guineas; and the other was Lily VII., a three-year-old by the Craigwillie-bred bull, Magistrate, which realised 52 guineas, the top price of the sale. She is a handsome cow, and had at foot a very young roan bull calf by the stock bull March-On. Another cow by Magistrate, out of an Edgar dam, was the three-year-old roan Fannie, and she and her bull calf, by Banker, sold at 50 guineas to Sir John Gilmour. The highest price for bulls was realised by March On, bred at Balnakyle, and sired by Fortune, an animal with good quarters. He was started at 30 guineas, and was bought for the Duke of Buccleuch's herd at 46 guineas, or a little more than half his cost at Perth a year ago. The other stock bull, Banker, a well-built roan, bred by Mr. Chalmers, Aberdour, and sired by Cornelius, was bought at 40 guineas by Mr. Taylor, Pitlivie. Billy Punch, a neat little roan by Bell-the-Cat, was, after a spirited competition, sold at 40 guineas to the Duke of Buccleuch; but his twin brother only brought 14½ guineas.

Below we give a list of the principal prices realised, purchasers' names, etc.:—

COWS.

	Gs.
Last Rose, red and little white, c. April 17, 1897, s. Edgar 67002 ..... Duke of Buccleuch	32
Dewy Rose, roan, c. March 2, 1899, s. Magistrate 74971 ..... Messrs. A. and W. Law	29
Roseblossom 3rd, red, c. March 12, 1899, s. Magistrate 74971 ..... Mr. Mitchell	24
Roseblossom, red, c. March 16, 1896, s. Edgar 67002 ..... Mr. White	20
White Rose, white, c. June 2, 1894, c. County Councillor 62339 ..... Sir John Gilmour	34
Roseleaf, red, c. April 19, 1897, s. Edgar 67002 ..... Mr. Robertson	26
Orphan, roan, c. July 3, 1895, s. Edgar 67002 ..... Mr. Hume	44
White Socks, red and little white, c. April 10, 1899, s. Magistrate 74971 ..... Mr. J. Lee	27
Lady Ingram, red and little white, c. April 12, 1896, s. Bell-the-Cat 60354 ..... Mr. J. Lee	28
Lady Dorothy 2nd, red, c. April 12, 1899, s. Magistrate 74971 ..... Mr. J. Lee	23
Lady Dorothy, roan, c. March 21, 1896, s. Bell-the-Cat 60354 ..... Mr. Barnes	27
Lady Maud 3rd, roan, c. April 5, 1899, s. Magistrate 74971 ..... Mr. Fair	27
Lady Maud 2nd, red and little white, c. May 20, 1898, s. Sir Horace 73939 ..... Mr. Lee	29
Lady Maud, red with white socks, c. March 10, 1896, s. Bell-the-Cat 60354 ..... Mr. Maxtone Graham	48
Fannie, roan, c. May 1st, 1899, s. Magistrate 74971 ..... Sir John Gilmour	50
Primula 4th, red, c. April 24th, 1897, s. Edgar 67002 ..... Mr. Fair	26
Blooming Heather, roan, c. April 10, 1899, s. Magistrate 74971 ..... Mr. Elliot	40
Ringlets, red, c. May 1, 1893, s. Softlaw Duke 64874 ..... Mr. Elliot	24
Ringlets 2nd, roan, c. April 7, 1897, s. Edgar 67002 ..... Sir Thomas Gooch	38
Duchess 3rd, white, c. March 21, 1897, s. Edgar 67002 ..... Mr. White	27
Lily 7th, roan, c. March 19, 1899, s. Magistrate 74971 ..... Mr Maxtone Graham	52
Nancy Lee 3rd, roan, c. April 9, 1899, s. Magistrate 74971 ..... Mr. Fergusson	37
Lady Bertrade, roan, c. Jan. 29, 1899, s. Magistrate 74971 ..... Captain Graham Stirling	41
Nancy Lee, roan, c. April 26, 1896, s. Edgar 67002 ..... Colonel Murray	34

YEARLING HEIFERS.

Lady Elison, roan, c. Jan 2, 1901, s. Sweet Briar 77992 ..... Mr. Lee	32
Rose Blossom 4th, roan, c. Feb. 13, 1901, s. Sweet Briar 77992 ..... Duke of Buccleuch	33
Lady Dorothy 3rd, roan, c. Feb. 22, 1901, s. Sweet Briar 77992 ..... Sir John Gilmour	35
Bell Heather, roan, c. April 7, 1901, s. Sweet Briar 77992 ..... Sir John Gilmour	37
Dewy Rose 2nd, roan, c. April 28, 1901, s. Sweet Briar 77992 ..... Duke of Buccleuch	22

BULLS.

March On, red, c. Jan. 16, 1900, s. Fortune 70457 ..... Duke of Buccleugh	46
Banker, roan, c. May 12, 1900, s. Cornelius 66864 ..... Mr. Taylor	40
Billy Punch, roan, c. March 12, 1901, s. Bell-the-Cat 60354 ..... Duke of Buccleugh	40
Silver Coin, white, c. March 18th, 1901, s. Bell-the-Cat 60354 ..... Sir Thomas Gooch	20
Recruit, roan, c. June 3, 1901, s. Sweet Briar 77932 ..... Mr. Tweedie	21

SUMMARY

	Average. £ s. d.	Total. £ s. d.
31 cows	30 18 6 ..	958 13 0
4 two-year-old heifers	19 8 6 ..	77 14 0
14 yearling heifers	21 0 9 ..	294 10 6
8 bulls	28 9 8 ..	227 17 0
57 head	27 7 0	1558 14 6

Sale of Mr. P. H. Chester's Shorthorns.

The entire herd of pure-bred Shorthorns belonging to Mr. P. H. Chesters, of Coole Lane, Nantwich, was dispersed on Friday, by Messrs. Thornton and Co. The well-known dairy properties of the herd attracted a very large company, and it is seldom that such a grand lot of cows are offered for public auction. Most of the animals had been selected from first-rate herds in the North of England, great care having been exercised in securing only those with large frames and capacious udders. Some of the two-year-old heifers were especially promising, and realised good prices, the biddings both for these and the cows being brisk and often exciting. The local farmers, knowing the value of the stock, bid well, but the prices were generally beyond them, and not many of the animals remain in the county. The highest prices were 91 guineas for French Rose 3rd, and 72 guineas for Czarina 31st, both of which were purchased by Mr. Chirnside, of Australia. The agents of the Duke of Northumberland, Mr. J. W. Larnach, Mr. J. T. Hobbs, Mr. Portridge, and Mr. Riddock all secured good specimens. Altogether seventy-nine animals were sold for £2,247, or an average per head of £28 8s. 10. The folowing is a list of prices and buyers:—

COWS, HEIFERS, AND CALVES.

	Gs.
Princess, red and white, c. April 8, 1891, s. Major 52420 ..... Mr. J. Siddall	26
Serena 7th, roan, c. June 17, 1892, s. Lord Rosebery Waterloo 59376 ..... Mr. Moore	21
Lily Lowther, roan, c. Dec. 11, 1892, s. Master of Tees dale 59458 ..... Mr. J. Ward	26
Bull Calf, red and white roan, c. Jan. 22, 1902, sire Rent Day 77632 ..... Mr. A. M. Champion	11½
Red Rose 65th, red and little white, c. Dec. 9, 1893 s. Charmer 63777 ..... Mr. P. Mead	18½
Royal Princess, roan, c. Jan. 3, 1894, s. Royal Duke 7th, 54960 ..... Earl of Feversham	35
Bull Calf, red roan, c. Mar. 12, 1902, s. Radiant Laureate 79681 ..... Harper Agricultural College	12
Wild Duchess 7th, red and white, c. June 10, 1894, s. Dairyman's Glory 65323 ..... Mr. T. P. Wilkins	20
Beauty 5th A, roan, c. Feb. 25, 1895, s. Brilliant Prince 66742 ..... Mr. J. W. Larnack	50
Her roan bull calf ..... Mr. G. G. Marsh	13½
Valentine 9th, roan, c. April 23, 1895, s. Aldersceugh 66252 ..... Mr. W. M. Cazalet	29
Newton 32nd, red, c. May 13, 1895, s. Minstrel 65936 Mr. Jones	18½
Dorothy Luham 4th, light roan, c. Feb. 18, 1896, s. Scawfell 61758 ..... Mr. Cazalet	42
Lucy, red, c. Mar. 9, 1896, s. Donovan 62383 Mr. W. B. Partridge	21
Venus 31st, rich roan, c. Mar. 10, 1896, s. Barrington Surmise 2nd, 60343 ..... Mr. J. T. Hobbs	46
Rose of Albion, red, c. Nov. 5, 1896, s. Albion 66614 Mr. F. W. Webb	21
Duchess Wetherby 10th, red, c. Dec. 8, 1896, s. Donovan 62383 ..... Mr. Moore	26
Kathleen, roan, c. Feb. 1, 1897, s. Prince Imperial 2nd 71234 ..... Mr. J. Hewson	21
Czarina 31st, roan, c. Mar. 17, 1897, s. Rosedrop 67770 Mr. A. S. Chirnside, Australia	72
Heifer Calf, roan, c. April 3, 1902, s. Peony Maximus 79541 ..... Mr. J. T. Hobbs	18
Violet Foggathorpe 3rd roan, c. Mar. 30, 1897, s. Earl of Barrington 10th 65416 ..... Mr. J. T. Hobbs	30
Eliza Briton, red roan, c. May 14, 1897, s. Brave Briton 70019 ..... Mr. W. M. Cazalet	24
Minnie West, red, c. Sept. 21, 1897, s. Bright Archer 68275 ..... Mr. C. W. Kellock	24
Hope 4th, red, c. Oct. 7, 1897, s. Linton Gwynne 67317 Duke of Northumberland	45
Heifer Calf, red roan, c. Jan. 1, 1902, s. Rent Day 77632 ..... Duke of Northumberland	13
Rosebud 16th, roan, c. Nov. 8, 1897, s. Penwarden 66012 ..... Mr. Montgomery	25
Lady Edgar 10th, roan, c. Feb. 6, 1898, s. White Duke 65093 ..... Mr. Moore	35
Bull Calf, roan, c. Mar. 20, 1902, s. Radiant Laureate 79681 ..... Mr. E. Snelson	26
Fidget 17th, red roan, c. Feb. 7, 1898, s. Conishead Lord Mayor 72249 ..... Mr. Powell	32
Czarina 32nd, roan, c. Mar. 7, 1898, s. Majority 70922 Mr. W. M. Cazalet	39
Scottish Lily, red and little white, c. April 12, 1898, s. Scotch Laddie 68549 ..... Mr. J. W. Philips	41
Bull calf, roan, c. April 8, 1902, s. Radiant Laureate 79681 ..... Mr. T. Bate	18
Scottish Lily 2nd, roan, c. May 3, 1898, s. Scotch Laddie 68549 ..... Mr. J. W. Larnack	44
Heifer Calf, roan, c. March 20, 1902, s. Radiant Laureate 79681 ..... Mr. Hobbs	15
Julia Carlyle, roan, c. June 16, 1898, s. Carlyle 65226 ..... Mr. Partridge	51
French Rose 3rd, red, c. August 22, 1898, S. Hopeful Beau 68782 ..... Mr. Chirnside, Australia	91
Bull Calf, red, c. January 1, 1902, s. Royal Jewel 77739 ..... Mr. Merril	14
Ringlet 6th, red roan, c. December 10, 1898, s. Pride of Freedom 73241 ..... Mr. Ward	27
Katie, red, c. April 3, 1899, s. Recorder 75372 Mr. Wilkins	35
Jennie 2nd, red and white roan, c. April 12, 1899, s. Pride of Freedom 73241 ..... Mr. Riddock	30
Alwen Kate, red and white roan, c. April 15, 1899, s Fawsley Baron 78863 ..... Mr. Peacock	27
Hope 6th, roan, c. November 20, 1899, s. Czarowitch 3rd 72317 ..... Montgomery	25
Lady Whitesocks 4th, roan, c. December 4, 1899, s. Bouncing Magic 70013 ..... Mr. Cazalet	21
Shy Alice, roan, c. January 24, 1900, s. Pride of Freedom 73241 ..... Mr. Riddock	50
Shard Lily, roan, c. March 4, 1900, s. Sweet William 71715 ..... Mr. T. Bate	41
Sweet Rose, roan, c March 30, 1900, s. New Year's Promise, 73137 ..... Mr. Murray Smith	46
Heather Belle 3rd, red, c. April 18, 1900, s. Red Prince 67707 ..... Mr. Riddock	35
Countess Cressida, roan, c. May 12, 1900, s. Underley Count 78041 ..... Mr. Partridge	51
Shy May, roan, c. September 4, 1900, s. Pride of Freedom 73241 ..... Duke of Northumberland	50
Millie West, red roan, c. November 12, 1900, s. Pride of Freedom 73241 ..... Mr. T. Bate	29
Shy Beauty, roan, c. December 14, 1900, s. Pride of Freedom 73241 ..... Mr. Murray Smith	34
Hale Queen, red, c. January 27, 1901, s Hale Duke 74679 ..... Mr. T. Bate	22
Ringlet 9th, red roan, c. January 31, 1901, s. Pride of Freedom 73241 ..... Mr. Evans	21
Dainty Daisy 2nd, red, calved March 1, 1901, s. Red Prince 77607 ..... Mr. Evans	22
Lady Edgar 11th, white, c. March 1, 1901, s. Lostock Brilliance 72940 ..... Mr. Hill	22
Gipsy Lass, roan, c May 1, 1901, s. Romulus 75467 Mr. Hill	21
Princess May, light roan, c. June 25, 1901, s. Double Benedict 70276 ..... Mr. Cazalet	37
Jennie 4th, red roan, c. November 9, 1901, s. Pioneer 2nd 79556 ..... Duke of Northumberland	40
Pride of Cheshire, roan cow, c. in November, 1897, bred by Mr. John Gill, near Carlisle Mr. J. Haslam	40

BULLS.

Radiant Laureate 79681, rich roan, c. October 10, 1899, s. Radiant Boy 71295 ..... Mr. Montgomery	35
Hopeful Lad, roan, c. November 3, 1900, s. Goldfinder 76802 ..... Mr. J. Hobson	61

Particulars of Transactions in Store Stock.

(Reported to the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland)

At the fair held at Thurles, co. Tipperary, on Tuesday, there was but a small supply of cattle and sheep. A good demand for cattle with quality and condition, but thin animals sold slowly, and a good many of this class failed to find purchasers. Springers met a fair demand. Sheep consisted chiefly of hoggets, which were in moderate demand, but all were not sold. Prices:—Calves: First class, £2 2s. 6d. to £2 10s.; second class, £1 10s. to £2; yearlings, first class, £7 10s. to £9; second class, £5 to £7 third class, £4 10s. to £4 17s. 6d.; two-year-olds, first class, £10 to £12 10s.; second class, £8 to £9 15s. 8d.; third class, £5 to £7; three-year-olds, second class, £9 15s. to £12 5s.; springers, first class, £15 to £16 10s.; second class, £10 to £14 10s. Sheep: Over 12 and under 24 months old, first class, £1 15s. to £1 17s.; second class, £1 8s. to £1 12s. There was a large supply of young pigs, which were in good demand, animals from 8 to 10 weeks old selling at from 20s. to 25s. each.

The sheep fair at Ballinaslo, co. Galway, on Tuesday, was smaller than usual, and demand was slow, especially for two-year-old wethers and aged ewes with lambs at foot, a good many of which remained unsold. A fair demand was experienced for first and second class hoggets, a good clearance of which was effected. Prices:—Over 12 and under 24 months old, first class, £1 8s. to £1 15s.; second class, £1 2s. 6d. to £1 7s.; third class, 18s. 6d to £1 1s.; two years old and upwards, first-class, £2 1s. to £2 3s.; second class, £1 11s. to £1 15s.; third class, £1 3s. 6d. to £1 7s.; young pigs, eight to ten weeks old, sold at from 23s. to 28s. each.

Ballinasloe Cattle Fair was held on Wednesday. The supply was smaller than usual, and composed to a great extent of first and second-class three-year-old cattle. An animals short of condition met a slow sale, and a large number of cattle failed to find purchasers. Prices:—Calves, first class, £4 7s. 6d. to £5; second class, £3 10s. to £4; yearlings, first class, £7 to £7 10s.; second class, £5 10s. to £6 5s.; two-year-olds, first class, £10 5s. to £11 12s. 6d.; second class, £7 10s. to £9 10s.; third class, £6 5s. to £7; three-year-olds, first class, £13 10s. to £17 10s.; second class, £10 10s. to £13; third class, £8 to £9; springers, first class, £15 5s. to £16; second class, £11 to £12 10s.

There was a large supply of stock at Bandon Fair (Co. Cork), held on Wednesday, and good prices were obtained for cattle in condition, but thin animals were hard to sell. An average supply of sheep met a slow demand. Prices:—Calves, first class, £4 10s. to £5; second class, £3 12s. 6d. to £4 2s. 6d.; third class, £2 10s. to £3 5s.; yearlings, first class, £7 10s. to £8 10s.; second class, £5 15s. to £7 2s. 6d.; third class, £4 15s. to £5 7s. 6d.; two-year-olds, first class, £10 to £11 12s. 6d.; second class, £7 10s. to £9 5s.; third class, £6 to £7; springers, first class, £15 5s. to £16; second class, £13 to £13 10s.; third class, £10 to £10 10s.; sheep, over 12 and under 24 months old, first class, £1 10s. to £1 12s.; second class, £1 5s. to £1 7s. 6d.

At Belfast Fair, held on Wednesday, demand was slow. Prices:—Calves, second class, £3 17s. 6d. to £4 5s.; yearlings, first class, £7 15s. to £8; second class, £5 5s. to £7; third class, £4 12s. 6d.; two-year-olds, first class, £10 16s. 3d. to £12; second class, £8 10s. to £9 10s.; third class, £6 10s.; springers, first class, £16 10s. to £19 10s.; second class, £12 to £14 2s. 6d.; third class, £9 2s. 6d. to £9 5s.; young pigs, eight to ten weeks old, sold at from 22s. to 28s. each.

A spark from a passing motor van set fire to a farmhouse at Five Bridges, near Tiverton. The house, which was five hundred years old and contained some fine black oak was burned to the ground.



Horse Sales at Ipswich.

Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons held a sale of cart horses, colts, and hackneys, at the Drill Hall, Ipswich, on Tuesday, the catalogue consisting of one hundred and twenty-five animals. There was a large attendance of buyers, and a good trade was experienced all round, 80 per cent. of the horses changing hands at satisfactory prices. A number of shearling colts from the Bramford Farm of Messrs R. Bond and Sons were offered, and attracted a good deal of attention. The top price realised for one of them was 28 guineas, the others selling at prices ranging from 24 guineas to 16½ guineas. The best price obtained for a cart horse was 48 guineas, given for Mr. T. Dedman's (Somersham) Boxer, a five-year-old chestnut gelding. Others sold from 42½ guineas downwards, whilst the harness horses realised from 40 guineas.

On the same day Messrs. Spearling and Sons held their annual May fair horse sale, which attracted a good company of buyers, and for which some really good animals were entered. The auctioneers, as a new departure, and to encourage the entry of better class horses, offered prizes to be awarded to those animals making the highest prices under the hammer, as follows: Three guineas for the first and two guineas for the second highest priced cart mare or gelding of any age, and two guineas and one guinea for the best hackney under the same conditions. Mr. Wm. Long (Winston) and Mr. E. Ford (Crowfield) took the former, the selling price being 50 guineas in each case, other good prices being 44½ guineas for Mr. J. V. Francis' five-year-old, 40½ guineas for Mr. Rush's four-year-old, and 40 guineas for a good black mare, from Mr. C. W. Haward, Wenham. Others sold at prices ranging down to as low as 10½ guineas.

Sales at Wrexham.

Messrs. Frank Lloyd and Sons held a three-day's sale of horses at their North Wales Repository, Wrexham, commencing on April 30th, which close on a thousand animals were offered and a good clearance effected. Over 170 horses were bought for London, six firms alone paying over £5,000. The following were the prize winners and some of the best prices:—Mare orgelding over 15-2, 1 and reserve, Mr. A. E. Evans, Bronwylfa, sold as a pair at 215gs., the same buyer securing a fine team of well-matched bay geldings, the property of Mr. J. Jones, Whitegate Stud, at 470gs.; mare or gelding under 15-2, Mr. J. T. Oliver, Carnarvon, 76gs.; mare or gelding over 14-3, Mr. A. E. Evans, Bronwylfa, with his grey cob Sensation, which afterwards won the cup for the finest goer and realised 120gs.; reserve, Mr. Darlington, Malvern, 75gs.; cob over 14 hands, Mr. F. Hermon, Chester, 60gs.; cob over 13-1, Mr. W. Conwy Bell, Rhuddlan, 80gs.; reserve, Mr. George Ledson, Bromborough, 74gs.; pony under 12-2, Mr. F. Hayes, Bebbington, 75gs. The North Wales Challenge Cup for the best horse for town work was won by Mr. J. Williams, Bryn Cariwch, Colwyn Bay, who sold for 120gs.; mare or gelding under 16 hands, Mr. D. Evans, Gwernybiellead, Llandysilio, with a grey gelding under 15-2, and sold for 80gs.; clean-legged lurry horse, Mr. J. Owen, Llanrwst, 72gs.; parcel-carter, Mr. A. Read, Northop Hall, 65gs.

Other high prices were:—Mr. R. Jay, Middlesex, pair of cobs, 275gs.; Mr. F. Baguley, pair of cobs, 160gs.; Mr. D. Robinson, pair of browns, 152gs.; the Hon. Mrs. Ward, pair, 140gs.; Mr. J. T. Oliver, two pairs, 238gs.; Mr. J. Jones, two chestnuts, 86gs. and 75gs.; Miss Baxter, pony, 115gs.; Mr. Edgar Baxter, cob, 95gs.; Mr. W. Parker, roan gelding, 70gs.; Mr. A. Read, four geldings, 272gs.; Mr. Hy. Lea, two geldings, 120gs.

Sale of Mr. Foster's Hackneys.

The small stud of pedigree hackneys belonging to Mr. John Foster was dispersed at the Limes, Saltend, Hedon, near Hull, on Thursday, in consequence of Mr. Foster having given up breeding, owing to ill-heath. Mr. Foster has been a breeder of hackneys many years at his former resi-

dence, the Grange, Sheffield, and latterly at the Limes, Saltend, Hedon. His small but select stud represented some of the best blood of Yorkshire, and as each season came round substantial prizes have been awarded to these animals. The following prize-winners from this stable will be fresh in the minds of many who are interested in the hackney breed:—Comrade II., Seabreeze, Golden Pippin, Golden Bells, Lady Amazement, and Golden Blossom. The catalogue also included a few horses belonging to other gentlemen of the district, making a total of just over twenty. There was a large company of buyers present, and some satisfactory prices were made. A two-year-old, Dorothy Vernon, a bright chestnut, sire Garton Duke of Connaught, dam Dark Polyanthus, made the top price of the sale, namely, 210 guineas. The bidding commenced at 80 guineas, and made rapid strides to the above figure, Mr. Cockayne becoming the purchaser. This animal has a long pedigree, and has won several prizes. The well-known stud horse Comrade II. was sold to Mr. Troope, of Hedon, for 126 guineas, whilst the black brood mare, Golden Bells, brought 115 guineas, the purchaser being Mr. Rowntree, of Hessle Common, Hull. A list of the principal prices realised is appended. The auction was in the hands of Messrs. Robert R. Leonard and Son:—

BROOD MARES.

	Gs.
Burnby Belle, brown, s. Matchless of Londesborough ..... Mr. J. Robinson	23
Golden Pippin II., s. Ganymede .....Mr. Cockayne	40
Water Cress, s. Danegelt .....Mr. Wood	20
Miss Craig, s. Garton Duke of Connaught ..... Mr. H. Oxtoby	35

THREE TO FIVE YEAR OLD MARES.

Sutton Lass, s. Gentleman John.....Mr. J. Smith	50
Cartacarna, s. Diviner .....Mr. Kinnier	41
Golden Bells, s. Comrade II. .....Mr. M. Rowntree	115
Chiming Bells, s. Lord Montebegon ..... Mr. E. Cautley	38
Golden Blossom, s. Comrade II.....T. Morrell	50
Brown filly, s. Comrade II. .....Mr. Rudd	10

ONE AND TWO YEAR OLDS.

Queen Alexandra, chestnut, s. Field Marshal ..... Mr. Clappison	30
Dorothy Vernon, s. Garton Duke of Connaught ..... Mr. Cockayne	210
Chestnut yearling filly, s. Master of Hilston ..... Mr. Rowntree	17
Bay gelding, s. Comrade II. .....Mr. Nettleton	32
Chestnut gelding, s. Garton Duke of Connaught ..... Mr. Rowntree	34

STALLIONS.

Gay Comrade, s. Comrade II. .....Mr. Fewson	51
Cecil Rhodes, s. Acid Drop .....Mr. C. Cornell	59
Comrade II., s. Canvasser .....Mr. Troop	120



Wilton Fair.

The annual spring fair at Wilton—one of the most important of the early Hampshire Down sheep fairs—was held at the Fair Ground, Wilton, on Monday, when about 15,000 sheep were penned, a number considerably in excess of recent years. The supply of cattle and horses, too, was greater, and the fair, as a whole, was larger than usual at this time of the year. Trade was not anything so good as was anticipated; in fact, at the opening of the market it was decidedly bad. After the successful lambing season the outlook was good for the sheep breeder, but during the past few weeks cold rains, cold nights, and frosts have seriously affected keep prospects. It was not surprising, therefore, that the prices obtained on Monday fell far short of those recorded at this fair for some two or three years past. Not only did the prospect of shortness of keep interfere with the trade, but the number penned was in excess of the demand, and it was generally estimated that the sales were quite 3s. to 4s. per head less than last year, although last year's prices were slightly above the average for this fair. The majority of the sheep, as usual, were in the hands of the auctioneers, the number in the open fair being about the same as last year, though in the latter trade was very bad.

The Corporation of Wilton, as is their custom, gave a silver challenge cup, valued at £5 5s., for the best pen of 100 ewe tegs penned for sale, and a cup of a similar value to the best 100 wether tegs penned under like conditions. In the ewe teg class there were two competitors, Mr. J. Thatcher, of Wishford, and Mr. Hitchings, of Broadchalke, while in the second class there was only one entry, that of Mr. F. Rawlins, of Fighledean. The sheep penned were quite up to the average standard. Mr. Thatcher's pen well merited the first prize, and Mr. Hitchings' pen thoroughly deserved the h.c. card awarded to it. Although Mr. Rawlins was the only competitor in the wether teg class, the judges considered the entry worthy of the prize. The judges were Messrs. T. K. Harding, C. V. Read, and J. Futcher. It was generally considered that fat tegs averaged 46s. to 53s., the latter price being offered at public auction for the highly commended pen of Mr. Hitchings, of Broadchalke, which were bought in. Store tegs fetched from 35s. to 45s., while couples realised up to 53s. to 54s. Cattle met with a fair demand, and sold at times prices. Prices were also good for the better class of horses. At midday the prizes were distributed in the Fair Cottage by the Mayor (Councillor H. Street).

Messrs. Waters and Rawlence held their accustomed sale by auction, the entry comprising 4,620 head of sheep, 250 head of horn stock, and 15 cart and nag horses. Although trade ruled slow throughout in common with the fair generally, only six lots of sheep out of a total of 72 and 12 lots of cattle out of a total of 66 remained unsold, a much better clearance than the trade seem to warrant being effected. Ewe tegs made from 34s. to 51s., Mr. J. Carpenter making 51s. and 49s. 6d. respectively of his two hundreds; Mr. E. L. Melsome, 47s. 6d. for 110; Mr. W. J. K. Waters, 46s. 6d. for 40; several other lots making 42s. 6d., 42s., 41s. 6d., and 40s. 6d.; store wether tegs made from 34s. 6d. to 42s. 6d.; fat ditto, 44s. 6d. to 49s. 6d.; fat wether sheep, 44s. to 46s.; meaty ditto, 40s. 6d.; mixed tegs, 29s. to 38s.; ewe couples, 45s. to 59s.; teg ditto, 35s. 6d. to 42s. Of the cattle, barreners made from £10 10s. to £13 5s.; meaty ditto, £15 to £20 10s.; coming three-year-old steers, £12 15s. to £15 5s.; coming two-year-old ditto, £8 15s. to £11 10s.; yearling ditto, £8 10s. to £9; coming three-year-old heifers, £13 5s. to £19; coming two-year-old ditto, £8 15s. to £11 15s.; yearling heifers, £6 to £9. Cart horses made 42 guineas, 40 guineas, 38 guineas, 31 guineas, 28 guineas, 27 guineas, etc.

Keighley Spring Fair.—There was a large supply of stock at this fair, held on Thursday, and good business was done. Calvers made £16 to £20; laying-off cattle, £12 to £17; geld ditto, £9 to £14; heifer, £7 to £10; stirks, £4 10s. to £6 10s. Lonk ewe, with two half-bred lambs, £2 to £2 2s.; half-bred hoggs, £1 5s. to £1 15s. each. Pigs: Small stores, 21s to 24s.; medium, £1 5s. to £1 10s.; stronger, £1 11s. to £2; pork, 6d. to 6¼d. per lb.

Windmill Destroyed by Lightning.—An extraordinary effect of the storm was reported on Thursday from Walsham-le-Willows, in Suffolk, where a windmill was struck by lightning and completely wrecked. The sails were smashed to fragments, and the machinery inside was distorted out of shape, beams dislodged, and the premises strewn with débris. The house of the owner, Mr. T. O. Clover, 70 yards from the mill, had all its windows shattered and walls and ceilings cracked.

Death of Captain Machell.—A well-known sportsman and landowner has passed away in the person of Captain Machell, who died at Hastings on Sunday night after a long illness. Captain James Octavius Machell was the son of a clergyman, and grandson of Lieut.-Colonel Machell, of Crackenthorpe Hall, Westmoreland, but spent his young days in Yorkshire. He was born in 1838. He felt a keen desire to regain possession of the famous estate, and visitors to his place at Newmarket will remember a painting of Crackenthorpe Hall, "rebuilt by Hugh Machell in 1629, sold by Launcelot Machell in 1786, repurchased by James Octavius Machell in 1877." He entered the Army at the age of 18, and with the 14th Foot went to Malta. The regiment returning to Ireland, Lieutenant Machell enjoyed seven years of racing in that country, and there gained sufficient knowledge of the Turf to enable him to acquire a fortune by subsequently dealing in and running thoroughbreds.

Farmers and the Truck Act.—At a meeting of the business committee of the Worcestershire Farmers' Association, at Worcester, on the 3rd inst., Mr. A. J. Davies presiding, the decision in the recent appeal by Messrs. Jones Bros., of Northingtown, near Worcester, against a conviction under the Truck Act came up for discussion. The chairman congratulated farmers upon the resulting dictum of the Lord Chief Justice that cider could be given as a gift, though the appeal was in itself unsuccessful. He failed to conceive any higher indictment which might be brought against the local magistrates who inflicted the maximum penalty. He hoped this would be the last of these vexatious prosecutions, and that the authorities would devote their attentions to detecting real offences against the law, and not imaginary ones. It was decided to start a voluntary fund to assist Messrs. Jones to defray the costs of the appeal, which had secured so valuable a definition of the position of agriculturists.



Re-opening of the South Lincolnshire Pig Market.

The Board of Agriculture have issued an order withdrawing the swine fever restrictions in the Holland Division of Lincolnshire from to-day (Monday). The effect of the order is that the markets at Spalding, Boston, Holbeach, Long Sutton, and Donington will be re-opened this week for the sale of both fat and store pigs, which may now be moved without restriction within the Parts of Holland. The markets have been closed since the beginning of August last, while restrictions on movements have been in force since June.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending May 6, 1902:—

Swine Fever.	Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.	No.	93	661	457	902	2,754	5,878 / 7,561 / 11,866
	Outbreaks.	No.	30	133	58	76	552	1,220 / 675 / 920
Rabies.	Cases Reported. Oth'r Anim'ls.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	1 / ... / ...
	Dogs.	No.	...	...	...	...	9	1 / ... / 1
Pleuro-Pneumonia.	Cattle Slaughtered. Exposed to Infection.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	... / ... / ...
	Diseased.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	... / ... / ...
	Outbreaks.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	... / ... / ...
Glanders (incl. farcy).	Animals Attacked.	No.	35	46	31	24	791	752 / 668 / 440
	Outbreaks.	No.	16	31	25	16	402	444 / 384 / 246
Foot-and-Mouth Disease.	Animals Attacked.	No.	...	...	...	...	113	669 / 120 / ...
	Outbreaks.	No.	...	...	...	...	1	12 / 3 / ...
Anthrax.	Animals Attacked.	No.	13	11	20	46	454	374 / 333 / 404
	Outbreaks.	No.	11	10	11	21	273	290 / 207 / 200
Period.	Week ended May 3, 1902 ...			1901	1900	1899		
	Corresponding week in ...			1901	1900	1899		
	Total for 18 weeks, 1902 ...			...	...	...		
	Corresponding period in ...			1901	1900	1899		

NOTE.—The figures for the current Year are approximate only.

Spalding May Hirings took place on Wednesday, at which plough boys were hired at £5 to £8, horsemen £14 to £18, head waggoners £17 to £22. There was a scarcity of domestic servants, and wages showed an upward tendency. Young general servants obtained £10, experienced generals £12 to £14, plain cooks £16 to £18, young housemaids £8 to £10, and experienced housemaids £14 to £16. These wages were for local service, and when servants were hired for London and large towns from £2 to £4 a year more was obtained.

Flour and Corn Tax Demonstration.—A demonstration, organised by the National Democratic League, took place on Sunday in Hyde Park, to protest against the proposed taxes to be imposed upon flour and corn. Speakers on all the platforms followed each other in rapid succession, and were unanimous in condemning the taxes, scouting the idea that they were merely a registration duty. In some cases the hope was expressed that the Boers would, in the result, be successful in the present war, and the English working men were urged to take the inhabitants of the Transvaal and Orange Free State as an example in resisting oppression. At 5.30 the a resolution, condemning the tax, was put from all the platforms. The resolution was in every case carried unanimously. Throughout the proceedings were of the most orderly character, and it was evident that a large proportion of those present had merely come out of curiosity.

SOCIETIES.

Royal Agricultural Society of England.

Prince of Wales accepts the Presidency.

A monthly Council was held on Wednesday, H.R.H. Prince Christian, K.G. (President), in the chair. The minutes of the last monthly meeting of the Council, held on April 9th, 1902, having been taken as read and approved, the election of the following thirty-seven members was proceeded with:—

Aitchison, George, Brieryhill, Hawick, N.B.
Allen, Henry, Firwood, Bolton-le-Moors, Lancs.
Bell, Charles, Norley Hall, Norley, Cheshire.
Blake, Lieut.-Colonel Malachi Locke, Bridge, South Petherton.
Brettell, Henry Gordon, The Grange, Chertsey, Surrey.
Brouncker, Francis, Boveridge, Cranborne, Salisbury.
Brown, J. W. H., Beeleigh, Cecil Road, Wealdstone.
Buttar, Thomas Alexander, Corston, Cupar Angus, N.B.
Davis, Herbert I., Hurlingpot, Shepton Mallet.
Duncan, Alexander Lawson, Trevallyn, Rossett, Denbighshire.
Elliot, T. R. B., Holme Park, Rotherfield, Sussex.
Ellis, Frederick George, Ystrad Dairy Farm, Denbigh.
Fleming, S. H.—le, Rydal Hall, Ambleside, Westmoreland.
Fletcher, Bernard, Rydal Farm, Ambleside.
Glover, Isaac Caton, Warrenhurst, Blundellsands, Liverpool.
Goodman, William Lawton, 35, Hardman Street, Liverpool.
Graham, George P., Ashington Colliery Farms, Morpeth.
Graham, Robert, Auchengashel, Twynholm, Kirkcudbright.
Grinling, Gibbons, Fairfield, Harrow Weald.
Johnstone, Robert, The Auction Mart, Penrith.
McKibbin, Thomas C., The Heaning, Windermere.
Marriner, C. F., Thorpe Hall, Hasketon, Woodbridge, Suffolk.
Marshall, George, Broadwater, Godalming, Surrey.
Marshall, George, Hardres Court, Canterbury.
Neill, Robert M., Norton House, Fallowfield, near Manchester.
Parr, Roger Charlton, Grappenhall Heyes, Warrington.
Ridgway, Charles Arthur, 180, East Town Street, Columbus, Ohio.
Ratcliff, R. H., Stanford Hall, Loughborough.
Robertson, George Hunter Finlay, Gladwyn, Gresford.
Robertson, Leonard, 5, Castlegate, Penrithshire.
Shepherd, Robert, Parkside, Aston, near Warrington.
Summers, James W., Cam-yr-Alyn, Rossett, Denbigh.
Sykes, John Thorley, Croes Howell, Rossett, Denbighshire.
Villar, Alfred Edwin, Mayshiel, Duns, N.B.
Ward, R. Bruce, Westwood Park Droitwich.
Wilkinson, Thomas, Cold Harbour, Easingwold.
Wilson, George Murray, Dale End Grasmere.

The reports of the various Standing Committees were then presented, and adopted as below:—

Finance.

Mr. Percy Crutchley reported that the accounts for the month of April, 1902, as certified by the Society's Accountants, showed total receipts amounting to £2,583 3s. 8d., and expenditure to £1,808 12s. 5d. Accounts amounting in all to £3,150 12s. 1d. had been passed, and were recommended for payment.

Journal.

The Earl of Jersey reported the receipt of numerous tenders from leading firms for the printing, paper, and binding of the Society's Journal, and stated that the tenders sent in would be further considered by the Committee at their next meeting. Various suggestions for articles in the next volume of the Journal had been discussed. Applications for permission to reproduce illustrations from the last volume of the Journal had been acceeded to, subject to the usual conditions as to acknowledgment.

Chemical and Woburn.

Mr. Reynard reported that the experiments at the Woburn Farm were proceeding satisfactorily, and various matters connected with the farm and with the chemical work of the Society generally had ben discussed and instructions gven thereon.

Botanical and Zoological.

Mr. Wheeler (Chairman) reported that two acres at the Woburn Farm had been sown in twelve plots with British and American clover seeds, for the purpose of determining the relative value of the different kinds as to the amount of yield and hold on the ground. The Committee were engaged in the consideration of the issue as one of the Society's publications of a pamphlet prepared by the Society's Zoologist, on "Orchard and Bush Fruit Pests, and How to Combat Them," for which they asked for authority to incur the expense necessary to prepare proper woodcuts for the pamphlet. The Committee had arranged for a conference, on the 5th June next, with representatives of the Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland, for the purpose of ascertaining whether it would be possible for the two national Societies to agree upon a common line of action with reference to the general question of testing farm seeds, and upon a uniform method of testing seeds and reporting results. The Committee had considered a letter from the Departmental Committee on Forestry, appointed by the Board of Agriculture, inviting the Society to nominate a representative to give evidence before them on the subject of their inquiry, with more particular reference to the possibility of improvement of forestry by education or other means; and had decided to reply that whilst the fungal diseases of trees and the insect pests that injure them received the constant attention of the Society's Botanist and Zoologist, and papers on the subjects connected with forestry had appeared from time to time in the Society's Journal, the Society had no special information or views on the question of the improvement of forestry by education or other means that it desired to bring under the notice of the Departmental Committee.

Veterinary.

Sir Nigel Kingscote presented a report which had been submitted to the Veterinary Committee by the sub-committee appointed in July last to supervise the experiments conducted at the Royal Veterinary College as to the possibility of infecting bovine animals with tuberculous material from the human subject. These experiments were carried out on a cow, two young calves, and two yearlings. In the case of the cow the tuberculous material was injected into the udder, in the calves it was given by the mouth, and in the yearlings it was injected into the veins. The experiments proved the possibility of infecting cattle with human tubercle bacilli, for at least in the case of the cow the human bacilli had multiplied in the body, and had induced a manifestly diseased condition. In other cases also reactions to tuberculin after the attempt to infect with human bacilli would appear to indicate that infection had actually taken place. On the other hand, the absence of distinct evidence of tuberculous disease when the animals were killed would indicate that infection was of a temporary nature. It ought to be noted, however, that in the case of the cow the recovery was not complete six months after infection. Taking all the facts into account, the experiments indicated that the risk of cattle becoming infected naturally from consumptive human beings must be very slight. The sub-committee did not feel justified in drawing from the results of the experiments any conclusion as to the risk of infection in the opposite direction—viz., from cattle to man.

Pig Regulations at Carlisle.

As the existing swine-fever regulations of the city of Carlisle and county of Cumberland would have precluded the holding of an exhibition of pigs at the Carlisle Meeting, the executive committee of the local authority had so modified their regulations as to provide that for the purpose of exhibition at the society's show swine not from an "infected area" would be permitted to be moved from any district into the show-yard, provided that such animals were free from disease, and were accompanied by the "official admission order" of the society.

Stock Prizes.

Mr. Sanday (chairman) reported that various matters in connection with the entries for the Carlisle Meeting had been discussed, and instructions given thereon.

The committee had considered the terms of regulation 58 of the Carlisle Prize Sheet with reference to the date by which it would be necessary for cows or heifers entered as in-milk to calve; and having regard to the fact that the show will this year be considerably later than usual, they recommended that in the case of cows due to calve before the show the entries should be accepted in the ordinary way, provided that the calving took place at least ten days before the show. The papers entitling the animals to admission to the show-yard would be retained by the secretary until the certificate of calving had been received.

Judges Selection.

Mr. Sanday (chairman) reported that the list of judges had been completed and published in the agricultural and other papers.

Implement.

Mr. Frankish (chairman) presented the recommendations of the committee with regard to the various appliances entered "New Implements," at the Carlisle Meeting, and announced that the committee had had under consideration the question of competitive trials next year of wind engines for prizes to be offered by the society.

General Carlisle.

The Earl of Feversham reported that the committee had discussed the question of the provision of early trains from the surrounding district of Carlisle, to enable the judges to reach the show-yard in time to commence the judging at nine o'clock on the morning of Monday, the 7th July; and the local committee had kindly undertaken to approach the railway companies with a view to the required facilities being provided.

The committee recommended that the time for the closing of the entries for the butter-making competitions should be extended until the end of the present month, under the ordinary conditions of the payment of a deposit of 10s., returnable to a candidate who attends the competition. An application made by the Mayor of Carlisle for permission for the Cumberland County Council travelling dairy van to be placed in the show-yard was granted, on the understanding that no practical demonstrations or operations would be carried out in the van.

Showyard Works.

Sir Jacob Wilson (chairman) reported that the erection of the show-yard was now in a forward state, and that the new bridge across the river would in all probability be completed by the end of the month. An application from the Catering Syndicate for permission to provide a special luncheon and tea room for the County Club had been granted. The committee had accepted, with thanks, an offer from Messrs. Robinson Bros., of Carlisle, to decorate and furnish the Royal pavilion in the Carlisle show-yard.

Prince of Wales President Next Year.

In presenting the recommendations of the Committee of Selection, Sir Nigel Kingscote said that the time had now arrived when it was necessary to consider the question of the nomination of a President for the ensuing year. The Committee of Selection had arrived at a unanimous recommendation on this point, which it was now his privilege to read and to submit for the confirmation of the Council by a formal vote:—

"That his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales be respectfully approached with an expression of the unanimous desire and earnest hope of the Council of the Society that his Royal Highness will be graciously pleased to accept the office of President of the Society for the ensuing year."

His Royal Highness the President said he was sure Earl Egerton of Tatton having cordially seconded the resolution,

His Royal Highness the President said he was sure the Council would be quite unanimous in adopting the resolution. They all knew the great interest which his Royal Highness took in every matter connected with agriculture, and with their shows, at which he had been a successful exhibitor. He felt that it would not be possible to have for their meeting of the ensuing year a better President than his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales. (Applause.)

The resolution was then carried by acclamation.

The following letter has been received from H.R.H. the Prince of Wales in response to the above resolution:—

York House,
St. James's Palace, S.W.,
7th May, 1902.

GENTLEMEN,—I have received with much gratification the Resolution which you have unanimously passed at your Meeting held today, requesting me to accept the Presidency of the Royal Agricultural Society for the ensuing year; a request to which I feel it both my duty and pleasure to at once accede.

During my previous Presidency of the Society, I received from the Council and from the general body of Governors and Members so much valuable assistance and so many marks of cordial good-will, that I feel confident I may rely, in accepting the office of President for a second time, upon a continuance of that suport.

In thanking the Council for their Resolution, I desire to express the hope that the first Exhibition of the Society to be held in June of next year on our new Permanent Showyard in London, may be as successful in every respect as the Manchester Meeting of 1897, over which I had the pleasure of presiding.

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) GEORGE P.

The Council of the Royal Agricultural Society of England.

Dairy.

In view of the resolution which was passed by the Council at the instance of the Dairy Committee on March 5 last, the Committee regarded with satisfaction the action of the Board of Agriculture in this matter.

Site.

Mr. Crutchley (chairman) announced that arrangements were in progress with the local authorities with regard to the question of roads and sewers at the Society's new permanent showyard, and the Committee recommended that the seal of the Society be affixed to a lease (with option of purchase) of certain extra land to the the north-west and west sides of the site, which had been arranged with the owners.

Queen Victoria Gifts.

Sir Ernest Clarke announced that the annual meeting of the Trustees of the Queen Victoria Gifts Fund had been held, and that the Trustees had decided that the grant to the Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution for 1902 should be of the same amount (£250) as in the four previous years, to be distributed as twenty-five grants of £10 each to the unsuccessful candidates at the next election of that institution, in the following proportions: Five grants to male candidates, five to married couples, and fifteen to female candidates.

Miscellaneous.

The Secretary reported that the third examination for the National Diploma in Agriculture was now proceeding at Leeds. He submitted a letter

from the German Agricultural Society, inviting the Royal Agricultural Society to send delegates to the show to be held at Mannheim from June 5 to June 10 next; and H.R.H. the President was requested to thank the German Society for their invitation, and to say that, whilst the Council were unable to accept an invitation to send delegates this year, they hoped that it would be possible on a future occasion for representives of the Society to pay a visit to the show of the German Agricultural Society in reciprocation of the compliment paid to the Royal Agricultural Society by representatives of the German Agricultural Society attending the show held at Maidstone in 1899. An invitation was also tendered to delegates from the Deutsche Landwirtschafts-Gesellschaft to honour the Society with a visit to its exhibition of 1903, which will be held in June of next year on the Society's new permanent showyard in London.

Date of Next Meeting.

The report of the Council to the anniversary general meeting to be held at twelve noon on Thursday, the 22nd inst., having been prepared, and other business transacted, the Council adjourned until 10.30 a.m. on Wednesday, June 4.

Bath and West.

A council meeting of the Bath and West and Southern Counties Society was held at the Grand Hotel, London, on Tuesday. The president (the Earl of Motley) was in the chair, and, in opening the proceedings, alluded to the loss which the Society had sustained by the death of Earl Temple, and moved the following resolution, which was seconded by Captain Best, and agreed to:—"That this council desires to place on record its sense of the loss which the Society has sustained by the death of one of its vice-presidents, Earl Temple, who had also filled the office of president with much advantage to the Society, and begs to tender to the Countess Temple and the other members of the family its deep sympathy with them in their bereavement."

Elections.

The following new members were elected:—

Mr. W. Lethbridge Wood, Okehampton, was elected a Governor, and four ordinary members were also elected.

Mr. Collins, as chairman of the Finance Committee, brought up the audited quarterly statement of accounts, and moved its adoption, which was seconded by Col. Best, ad agreed to. Mr. Collins further reported that the committee, to whom the matter had been referred by the council, acquiesced in a recommendation of the Agricultural Education Committee that the Society should make a contribution of £50 a year for two years for research work in cider-making, if the Board of Agriculture would supplement this by a sufficient grant to defray the remainder of the cost which the work would involve.

The adoption of the report was moved by Mr. Collins, seconded by Lord Heytesbury, and agreed to.

Plymouth Meeting.

On the motion of the president, seconded by Sir E. Strachey, M.P., it was resolved that the Mayors of Plymouth and Devonport and the chairman of the Stonehouse District Council be requested to kindly inaugurate the Society's Plymouth meeting by visiting the show in state on the opening day.

The secretary submitted the programme of daily proceedings proposed for the Plymouth meeting, commencing on May 27th and terminating on May 31st. The charges for admission to the show will be 5s. for the first day, when the judging will take place, 2s. 6d. for the second and third days, and 1s. for the last two days. Season tickets for the week will be issued at 7s. 6d. each. In addition to all the usual features of an Agricultural Show there will be jumping, driving, shoeing, shearing, milking, and butter-making competitions, an Art Manufacturers Exhibition, Science and Art Collections, a Flower Show, a Poultry Show, and a working dairy on an unusually large scale. The band of the Royal Marines (Plymouth Division) will perform on each day.

On the motion of Col. Llewellyn, M.P., seconded by Col. Napier, the programme was approved.

The secretary reported that there was a very large entry of implements, machinery and live stock; but that as the entries for the driving, trotting, and jumping competitions do not close until May 10th, the number of entries in these classes was not yet ascertainable.

Journal.

Sir C. T. Acland, as chairman of the Journal Committee, reported the publication of the Society's Annual Journal and its issue to all members of the Society not in arrear with their subscriptions, and expressed his belief that the current volume well maintained the standard of its many predecessors.

Monmouth Agricultural School.

On the motion of the Rev. F. F. Buckingham, seconded by Col. Skrine, Mr. C. D. Phillips was re-appointed as a representative of the Society upon the governing body of the above-named school, the term for which he had been previously elected having expired.

The Central Chamber.

The monthly Council meeting of the Central and Associated Chambers of Agriculture was held on Tuesday at the Society of Arts, Adelphi, London. Sir Edward Strachey, M.P., the chairman, presiding. There were also present Lord Lichfield, Mr. Jas. Lowther, M.P., Lord Harris, Mr. F. A. Channing, M.P., Mr. M. D'Arcy Wyvill, M.P., Mr. W. H. Wilson-Todd, M.P., Mr. A. F. Jeffreys, M.P., Mr. Lawrence Hardy, M.P., Mr. Jasper More, M.P., Mr. R. L. Pearce (Darlington), Mr. R. S. Balden (West Riding), Mr. C. Middleton (Cleveland), and Mr. W. Lipscomb.

Education and Local Taxation.

Sir John E. Dorington presented the report of the Local Taxation Committee. The report stated that the assumption on which the great change contained in the Education Bill is proposed is that it is impossible to carry on the present system of Voluntary education in competition with the Board schools, whilst it is equally deserving of national support. The most important portion of the report on this subject deals with the question of the probable effect of the bill on the county rates. It says:—

"The assumption on which this great change is proposed is that it is impossible to carry on the present system of Voluntary education in competition with the Board Schools, whilst it is equally deserving of national support, the school population under the two systems being approximately 2,525,968 in the Voluntary schools, and 2,132,201 in the Board schools, for the year ending August 31st, 1899."

"Having sketched the general scope of the Bill, the report stated that the aggregate sum represented by all existing School Board rates other than interest on building debt, and by the amount now raised by subscriptions for the maintenance of Voluntary schools other than the cost of provision of buildings, will be transferred to the county rate, and this aggregate sum amounts to £3,522,392, of which £2,581,445 is already raised by School Board rates, and so far, therefore, there will be no additional charge. The difference between these two sums, £940,847, represents the voluntary subscriptions and other sums, at present raised locally, which the county rate will now have to replace. Shortly, then, the effect of this charge, if it was evenly spread over the whole of England, would be to create a 5d. county and borough rate, which, if equally spread, would be about 3½d., and a voluntary subscription equal to about a 1½d. rate.

"Your Committee as a general rule have always objected to any new charge being imposed on local rates; but we have to look at the present position as it now stands, and to judge what is best for the payer of local rates. If the scheme contained in the bill which is now before us is not carried out, it is to be apprehended that before long, under the existing law, we shall have established everywhere School Boards levying School Board rates far exceeding—if we may judge from past experience—this 5d. rate.

"This figure of 5d. would not, of course, be the same in all counties. In some counties which were largely under School Boards it would probably be higher, but there it would simply mean the transfer of a rate which was already levied by School Boards to the county rate, with some possibilities of economy, whilst to counties where there were few School Boards the rate on the county would represent the transfer from private resources to the public, and would probably be materially lower. It was impossible to say with certainty what increase might take place beyond the present expenditure when this rate had come into operation. The committee opposed the proposal to levy an additional 1d. rate for technical education, and in conclusion, urged that education authorities to be constituted should have powers sufficiently ample to enable them to control the expenditure and management of elementary schools."

Sir John Dorington, M.P., chairman of the committee, moved that the report be received.

Mr. Kidner (Taunton), on the consideration of the report, regretted that the report departed from the great principle which they had always held of resisting any additional charge on the local rates for purely national purposes. The local rates were not the proper source to supply the expenses of education, which was a national question. It should be paid for by national funds. (Hear, hear.) He moved that the report should be referred back to the committee for their reconsideration. (Applause.)

Mr. Hope seconded the amendment.

Mr. Williams (Monmouth) expressed his approval of the report of the committee. He felt, in the present state of public opinion, that if the scheme were not carried out there would be School Boards in every parish at a far larger cost than that proposed.

Lord Harris said that for the Council to attempt, notwithstanding the report of the Royal Committee on the subject of local taxation, to throw off the burden which they for a long time had had upon their shoulders in the shape of a rate for elementary education, and as regarded the 1d. rate imposed in 1889 for technical education, would be beating the air, inasmuch as it would be highly improbable that they would be successful in anything they attempted to do in Parliament. But the proposed additional burden of 1d. for the purposes of secondary education was quite a novel burden, and it afforded them the best possible ground for opposing the Bill (hear, hear).

Mr. Latham suggested that if they deferred the discussion until June it would be too late.

Mr. St. John Ackers said the action of the Council had always been opposed to the recommendations of the report. It had always considered that national education should be paid for from national funds. If they adopted the report they would stultify all their previous policy.

Mr. James Lowther said the County Councils were the culprits in the matter in with-holding from the ratepapers the moiety of the Excise duties which it was always intended should go to the relief of local taxation. He could remember Mr. Forster in proposing his Bill spoke of a maximum rate of 3d. Where were they now? (Applause.)

Sir John Dorington, in reply, said they had to regard things as they were, and it was impossible to free themselves from local taxation. At present two-thirds of the funds were provided from national and one-third from local funds. The rate proposed was not a new rate, only a new form of rate. (Laughter, and a voice: "A distinction and not a difference.") There was a difference. In future the County Council would only find the money found at present by benevolent landowners and the benevolent farmers. The voluntary contribution would cease, and all would pay alike. It was doubtful whether the cost would be higher, for under the stronger financial control of the County Councils they would sweep away many of the establishment expenses of the School Boards.

A member suggested that, as to endowments, it would be very hard if the parishes had to hand over the endowments to the County Councils and pay a sixpenny rate.

Sir John Dorington said he agreed that the endowment question would have to be cleared up.

On a division the report was referred back to the committee by 24 to 22 votes.

Cattle Diseases.

Mr. B. St. John Ackers introduced the report of the Cattle Diseases Committee. An outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease had been discovered on the farm of Mr. Swinford, of Chislet, near Canterbury. It was not known how the outbreak originated, but the Board of Agriculture issued an order on March 29th prohibiting the movement of cattle, sheep, goats, or swine into or out of a scheduled district, which covered nearly one-half of the county of Kent. A further order was issued on April 8th modifying the boundaries of the scheduled district, and allowing the movement of animals—within the boundary—under certain conditions, and under carefully-considered regulations. All the restrictions were now removed, except those applying to the farm on which the disease occurred. From local information it appears this outbreak, which occurred only a mile and a-half from the seaboard, was a considerable one; three hundred and thirty-six ewes, with their lambs, had the disease, and about one hundred and two lambs died. Two heifers were affected. Although there are many ways by which the disease may be spread or imported, the committee wished to emphasise their previous condemnation of the course adopted by the Board of Agriculture, in throwing the carcases of diseased animals from the Argentine overboard, and the recurrence at intervals of foot-and-mouth disease, adjacent to or near the coast, that would be endangered by this action.

As regards sheep scab, a suggestion had been made that local chambers be asked to consider the best means to be adopted for the eradication of sheep scab. The committee had now to report that, although the suggestion was not carried out, resolutions from eleven chambers had been received, and they unanimously advocated the compulsory dipping of all sheep at least once a year, with the single exception of the North Cotswold Farmers' Association, who recommended that it should be compulsory to dip at least twice a year.

Professor Lloyd seconded the resolution.

Mr. T. Latham moved to add to the report a recommendation that a statement concerning the outbreaks of sheep scab be sent to the Chamber during the year.

The proposal having been approved, the report was adopted.

The Duty on Corn and Flour.

Mr. James Lowther, M.P., proposed:—"That this Council approves of the tax on corn and flour, but regrets that a higher duty was not put upon flour." Mr. Lowther said he had, with some reluctance, consented to propose the resolution, having taken such a strong course on the fiscal

question. He would have welcomed a protective duty, but the proposals of the Budget fell far short of anything of the kind, and must be considered from a revenue standpoint. There was no doubt that alarm had been felt that the new duties would tend to increase the cost of feeding cattle in this country. The temptation offered by our fiscal system to the producers of grain abroad to grind their corn where it was produced would deprive the English cattle feeder of a very large quantity of offal, which would form a great loss to the feeders of stock. He hoped before long the matter would be remedied, and that they would allow a decaying industry to have a chance. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. C. Middleton said, as one who had always dissociated himself from the opinions of Mr. Lowther on fiscal matters, he had much pleasure in seconding the resolution, as the new tax was in no sense a protective measure. He believed in many parts of the country, as in his own case, the duty would cost the farmers more than they would obtain. They all thought a higher duty should have been put upon flour. They should look upon these duties, not as a war tax, but as a duty to be continued in the future as broadening the basis on which taxation was raised.

Mr. F. A. Channing, M.P., deprecated any alteration, and drew attention to the fact that corn offal, now free to farmers in Denmark, Germany, and other countries, had been taxed to the extent of 5d. per cwt. in this country. He would strenuously oppose the imposition of the new duties.

Colonel Harben, in a vigorous and emphatic speech, said the cry of raising the price of bread was a political cry, got up to damage the Government.

Mr. Lipscomb, in supporting the resolution, said he knew from his own experience that more than half of the country mills in his district had been closed. The new duty would practically have no effect, and they had the right to ask that new taxation should not cripple their trade.

Mr. Claré Sewell Read agreed that the new duty would not raise the price of corn, or benefit in any way the home grower. The American farmer would pay the tax, and not the British consumer.

The resolution was then carried unanimously

Milk-Blended Butter.

On the motion of the chairman, it was resolved that the Dairy Products Committee should arrange for a deputation to wait upon the President of the Board of Agriculture on the subject of water in butter.

The chairman said he had seen Mr. Hanbury, who had expressed his readiness to receive such a deputation.

Agricultural Seeds.

Professor Long moved a resolution in favour of the establishment in this country of a seed testing station. He pointed to the fact that many of the agriculturists of this country were compelled to send to other countries to get their seeds officially examined.

The motion was agreed to, but, on the suggestion of the chairman, the resolution proposed by Mr. Horne to send a deputation to the Board of Agriculture on the question was abandoned.

The meeting then adjourned until June 3.

Shorthorn.

Meetings of the Committees and Council of the Shorthorn Socety were held at the Society's Rooms, 12, Hanover Square, W., on Tuesday, Colonel Sir Nigel Kingscote, K.C.B. (president) in the chair.

Editing Committee.

Lord Brougham and Vaux reported that the Committee had examined the list of pedigree exportation certificates issued by the secretary since the last meetng of the Council, viz.:—For Canada 43, South America, 104; Russia, 75; South Africa, 2; United States of America, 4; total, 228.

A large number of new and other pedigrees had been examined by the Committee, with the certificates in support of their correctness, some of which had been accepted for entr in the forthcoming volume of the Herd Book, and others referred back for further inquiry.

The Committee had also considered a number of applications for registered names, and they recommended that the following names be registered, and that the applicants be allowed the exclusive use of such registered name either as a prefix or affix in the naming of their cattle:—

Registered Name.	Owner.
Craigavad	A. M. Kirker.
Cranford	George Taylor.
Ruddington	Philo L. Mills.
Shethin	George Shepherd
Sibthorpe	A. Stretton.
Waresley	W. H. O. Duncombe
Whitehall	W. Parkin-Moore.

This report was adopted.

General Purposes Committee.

Sir Jacob Wison reported that the accounts for the past twelve months had been examined by Messrs. Welton, Jones and Co. and the Committee, and were found to be correct; that the receipts for the same period had been £264 2s. 10d., the balance of the Society's current account at the banker's being £278 7s. 6d., and the Committee recommended that cheques be drawn in payment of prizes and various accounts amounting to £109 5s. 10d.

The Committee recommended that the votes paced at the disposal of this Society by the Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution on account of the Strafford Memorial fund be given to Mr. William Clayworth, of Langford, Newark, No. 18 on the list of candidates, who was unfortunately unsuccessful at the last election.

This report was adopted.

It was resolved to make application to the Royal Agricultural Society for permission to hold the annual general meeting of members of the Shorthorn Society in the show-yard at Carlisle, on Tuesday, July 8th, at 2.30 p.m.

In accordance with the 22nd Article of Association, the Council proceeded to prepare a form of voting paper, containing the names of fourteen life members or annual members of the Society who for seven years previously have been members, from whom the members of the Society shall select seven members of the Council to fill the vacancies caused by the retirement of the seven members who are not eligible or election until after the expiration of one year.

The following are the fourteen names for submission to the members:—

Ashworth, Alfred, Horsley Hall, Gresford.
Baring, Viscount, Stratton Park, Micheldever, Hampshire.
Buckley, Abel, Mountain Lodge, Mitchelstown, co. Cork.
Fitzwilliam, Hon. H. W., Wigganthorpe, York.
Fletcher, J. Douglas, Rosehaugh, Avoch, Ross-shire.
Foster, S. P., Killhow, Carlisle.
Gordon, A. M., Newton Insch, Aberdeenshire.
Greenwell, Walpole, Marden Park, Woldingham, Surrey.
Morgan-Richardson, C., Noyadd Wilym, Cardigan.
Murray, C. A. Scott, The Manor House, Hambleden, Henley-on-Thames.
Potter, Edmund, Lowfields, Kirkby, Lonsdale.
Potter, Tom, Daybrook House, Nottingham.
Stanyforth, E. W., Kirk Hammerton Hall, York.
Stuart, Lieut.-Colonel Villiers, Castletown, Carrick-on-Suir, Ireland.

Scrutineers were appointed to examine and report upon the voting papers for the election of the Council when sent in.

The next meeting of the Council was fixed for Tuesday, June 3rd, 1902.



THE SHORTHORN BULL "SILVER MIST," shown above, is a yearling belonging to Mr. John McElderry, Ballymoney. At the recent Show of the North-East of Ireland Agricultural Association's Show at Belfast, "Silver Mist" won the Queen Victoria Challenge Cup and the Association's Gold Medal for the best yearling Shorthorn Bull bred in Ireland, and exhibited by an Irish resident. "Silver Mist" was also awarded Second Prize in the class for Bulls calved in 1901.

British Dairy Farmers.

A meeting of the council of the British Dairy Farmers' Association was held at Hanover Square, London, W., on Wednesday, Mr. George Barham, J.P. (vice-president), in the chair.

On behalf of the Finance and General Purposes Committee, Mr. Page reported that the customary examination of the society's accounts had been made, the balance at bank being £350 17s. 8d., against which they recommended payments amounting to £40 5s. 2d. The committee presented a return, showing that the imports of milk and cream into the United Kingdom for the four weeks ended March 29th, and the five weeks ended May 3rd, were respectively 78,155 and 90,698 cwts, compared with 92,636 and 104,328 cwts. in the corresponding periods of last year. These imports included 2,283 cwts. of fresh milk and 645 cwts. of cream in the nine weeks, the remainder consisting of preserved and condensed milk.

Mr. George Barham, chairman of the Conference Committee, presented the following completed programme of the ensuing dairy conference, which, after discussion, was adopted:—

Members desiring to take part in the proceedings will assemble at Reading on the evening of Monday, June 2nd. Reception by the Mayor and Mayoress at the Town Hall, from 8.30 to 10.30 p.m. During the evening there will be addresses of welcome by the Mayor on behalf of the town, and Mr. W. Berkeley Monck, on behalf of the British Dairy Institute.

Next morning there will be an inspection of the British Dairy Institute, followed by a conference in the hall of Reading College, when papers will be read and discussed on (1) Practical Education in Dairying, and Work at the British Dairy Institute, by Mr. Miles Benson, Chief Instructor at the Institute; (2), Theoretical Instruction in Dairying, by Mr. Douglas A. Gilchrist, B.Sc., Director of the Agricultural Department Reading College. After luncheon, on the invitation of Mr. Martin J. Sutton, J.P., the members will take special train to Ascot, driving thence to Winkfield, to inspect the dairy and poultry farm belonging to Mr. Walter Palmer, M.P. Tea, on the invitation of Mr. Palmer. Subsequently the members return by special train to Reading. In the evening there will be a dinner at the Town Hall, on the invitation of Mr. W. Berkeley Monck, J.P., chairman of the Committee of the British Dairy Institute.

On Wednesday morning it is proposed to take a steamer from Caversham Lock to Pangbourne or Goring, thence drive to Buckhold, Pangbourne, to inspect Dr. Watney's farm and herd of Jerseys. Luncheon will be given on the invitation of Dr. Watney. In the afternoon the party will proceed to Oxford, partly by rail and partly by water.

On Thursday the proceedings start with a conference, at which a paper by the Countess of Warwick on the Marketing of Dairy Produce, will be read and discussed. In the afternoon a visit is to be paid to Blenheim farms and Park.

On Friday the members proceed by train to Claydon, drive to Hillesden, to see the farm and stock of Mr. N. Coates, jun. (60 cows) Thence to Buckingham for a conference in the Town Hall, when Professor Long is to read a paper on Some Facts in Relation to Modern Dairying. A special train will afterwards convey the party to Tring, in time for luncheon at the Home Farm, Tring Park, on the invitation of the Right Hon. Lord Rothschild. Afterwards the herd and farm will be inspected, this concluding the programme.

As chairman of the Show Committee, Professor Long reported that the revision of the schedule of prizes had been completed, and that it would be put into type for consideration by members of the council. He also reported upon a proposal to establish a class or classes for Colonial butter, and after a conversation the Council agreed to provide

two such classes, one for salt and one for fresh butter, in boxes containing not less than 56lbs., with two prizes in each class—viz., a first prize of £5 and a silvere medal, and a second prize of £3 and a bronze medal.

A brief report was also received from the Poultry and Pigeon Committee. Upon the report of examiners of candidates for certificates at the Gloucester County Dairy School, on April 26th, it was resolved to award elementary teachers' certificates to Mrs. Ada Jones and Miss Flora L. Turner. It was resolved to make an addition to the members' chemical privileges by providing for an estimation of water in butter at a fee of 2s. 6d.

The next meeting of the Council was fixed to be held on Wednesday, June 11th.

Highland.

A meeting of the directors of the Highland and Agricultural Society was held on Wednesday, in the society's hall, George IV. Bridge, Edinburgh, Mr. A. M. Gordon, of Newton, presiding. The chairman referred to the death of Mr. David Buttar, Corston. There was no man, he said, who took a deeper interest in the welfare of the society, or who worked harder for its benefit than did Mr. Buttar. He moved that the condolence of the society be sent to the relatives. This was seconded by the Rev. Dr. Gillespie, and agreed to.

Donations were intimated to the Aberdeen Show Local Fund of £5 5s., by Colonel M'Inroy, of The Burn, and £5 by General Sir Peter Lumsden, of Buchromb, and the thanks of the society were awarded to the donors.

A letter was intimated from the Town Clerk of Perth that the Town Council had resolved to grant the use of the South Inch for the show of the society in 1904 free of charge, and also to give a free supply of water for the show. It was further stated that the Town Council had no funds out of which to make a contribution in aid of the funds of the show. Dr. Gillespie remarked that though there was no Common Good it was to be hoped the Perth gentlemen would subscribe to the local show fund. Mr. Andrew Hutcheson, Perth, said the taxes in Perth were already prodigiously high. Dr. Gillespie said the last time the society went to Dumfries the Town Council raised £100 by subscriptions, and he was only seeking to preach to Perth what they had practised in Dumfries. (Laughter.)

An application for an additional grant was made by the committee of Aberdeen University, who are at present conducting investigations as to the communicability of tuberculous bacilli between man and animals and animals and man. Mr. Macdonald (the secretary) said that the results already obtained by Professor Hamilton and his colleagues had been very striking indeed, and certain fresh lines of inquiry had been suggested by these investigations. Professor Hamilton wanted a repetition of the experiments, which would involve an expenditure of £100, half of which was promised by the University Committee. It was agreed to give an additional grant of £50.

It was reported that 63 replies had been received from farmers with reference to the inquiry as to the damage caused to sheep from maggots, all containing valuable suggestions, and it was proposed that an investigation should be carried out in the coming season with the object of discovering means to combat the plague.

In connection with the minutes of the Publication Committee, Dr. Gillespie complimented Mr. Macdonald on the very excellent character of the last volume of the "Transactions." He questioned whether there ever was so much varied and original matter in the annual publication as was contained in the latest volume, and most of the credit was due to the excellent initiative and management of the secretary. (Applause.) It was resolved to hold the annual general meeting on June 4.

Chard May Fair.—This annual fair was held on Wednesday, under most favourable circumstances. There was an unusually large attendance of buyers, and the stock made good high prices. Over one hundred head of cattle, twenty calves, and between 1,500 and 1,600 sheep came under the hammer of Messrs. Jeffrey and Simmons. Prime beef made from 11s. 6d. to 12s. per stone, veal sold well at 8d. per lb., and mutton at 7d. Fat heifers made from £10 10s. to £22; cows and calves, from £13 5s. to £18 10s.; heifers and calves from £10 10s. to £15 5s.; barreners, £10 10s. to £15 2s. 6d.; yearling steers, £9 15s.; yearling heifers, £6 to £8 2s. 6d.; calves, from a guinea to £3 5s. In sheep the prices were also well up. Single couples fetched 50s. to 53s. 6d.; double couples, 50s. to 56s. 6d.; fat wethers, 52s. to 63s.; fat ewes, 45s. 6d. to 49s.; fat lambs, 25s. to 29s.; hogs, 41s. 6d. to 43s. 6d.; rams, 42s. to 45s.; store ewes, 42s. to 44s.; store wethers, 39s. 6d. to 41s.; chilver hogs, 37s.

LITERARY NOTICES.

Another issue has just been made of the Corn Trade Year Book, by G. J. S. Broomhall, F.R.S.S. (Liverpool: Northern Publishing Company, 17, Gorce Piazzas). The author, in his introduction, says that "after a lapse of five years, since the last publication of the Corn Trade Year Book, of 1896, the demand for a further volume, bringing the statistics of the trade up to date, has become so strong as to prove irresistible. In this volume the history of the grain trade is brought up, either to the end of the calendar year 1901, or when that has not been found practicable, to the end of the last cereal year, viz., July 31st, 1901. Speaking generally, the period covered is the ten years from 1892 to 1901, but in some special cases the inquiry is carried back for thirty or forty years, and, moreover, in a few instances the leading statistical data of the seed and provision trades have been added, as it is thought that they will serve to throw a valuable side light upon certain of the problems that concern members of the grain trade. As it was found that the tabular statements covered so much space, it was resoved to cut down the text to the smallest possible dimensions, more especially as in a book of this description it is not so much opinions as facts which are wanted, and these can be presented most conveniently and effectively in a tabular form. At the outset we set down a brief summary of the history of the past five seasons, since the last Year Book was issued." Numerous charts and diagrams are provided, and illustrate the statistical matter which forms such a large feature of the book. The period covered by the review is ten years, but in some special cases the inquiry is carried back for thirty or forty years. The book is divided, broadly, into two sections, the first recording the statistics of each country separately, and the second consisting principally of tabulated statements, showing the general movements of grain and flour.

A revised and enlarged second edition of "India and Imperial Federation" has been issued by Messrs. Sampson, Low, Marston, and Co. To the previous edition are added many press comments and public speeches dealing with the good work done by Mr. David MacLaren Morrison, who compiles the additions, in the cause of India and her place in the Imperial Federation.

We have received from Mr. Henry Frowde, of the Oxford University Press, a copy of the form and order of service commanded by the King for use at the Coronation ceremony in Westminster Abbey.

In "The South African War and the Bear Operator" (London: P. S. King and Son, 4s.), we find Mr. Charles W. Smith still on the trail of the gamblers in the exchanges and bourses of the world. After many years of consistent agitation, Mr. Smith finds the same old evils of artificial agitation for the purposes of speculation springing up, they being discovered this time in connection with the war in South Africa. We are afraid that any amount of agitation will fail to kill the hydra-headed monster of artificial speculation in futures and other gambling systems, until a more healthy state of public opinion has come about. However, Mr. Smith is to be admired for his efforts to bring about this healthier state of public opinion.

We have received from Messrs. J. Thornton and Co. a copy of their circular containing a record of shorthorn transactions for the period from January 1st to March 31st last.

Leyburn Cattle Fair.—This annual charter fair was held on Friday. Notwithstanding that Penhill and Coverdale were covered with snow, there was almost a record show of cattle. Good calving cows fetched £19 to £24, calving heifers £15 to £18, young beasts £14 to £17, young bulls £11 to £14, stirks £5 to £8, and calves 50s. to 60s. each. Sheep was also a good trade, half-bred hoggs being priced at 25s. to 30s. each.

Leicester May Fair.—This spring fair for the sale of cattle, sheep, and horses was held on Friday, and was well attended by buyers and dealers from all parts of the kingdom. Trade ruled active for choice lots, which changed hands freely at high rates. Superior milch cows made £20 to £24; secondary, £15 to £18 10s.; heifers, £10 10s. to £14; Shorthorn cattle, best, £16 to £18; secondary, £12 10s. to £15 each. The best Irish stock made £18 to £19; secondary, £14 to £16 10s. per head. Welsh cattle were a very heavy delivery; runts, £14 to £15; rough cattle, £10 to £12 10s. each. Poor trade in young stock at £8 to £10 10s. Calves in fair request and made 20s. to 40s. Good hog sheep, 36s. to 42s.; secondary, 28s. to 34s.; ewes with one lamb, 40s. to 52s.; ewes with two lambs, 57s. to 63s. Agricultural horses made high prices, but the supply was very limited.



Home Notes.

The Borough.

Contemporary reports of our trade make it appear that a good demand exists, and that a steady business is constantly proceeding. Judging from my own observation and inquiries, I am rather inclined to describe the trade as fitful and uncertain. The factors appear to have much unoccupied time on their hands, and are only occasionally disturbed from their enforced leisure by inquiries from merchants for choice samples, which they are unable to produce. There are still plenty of hops of a sort for sale, but as their quality and colour do not meet the present requirements of buyers, actual business is rather conspicuous by its absence. Doubtless, if the stocks now on hand could be replaced by others possessing the necessary good points, an active trade would promptly result, but under present circumstances the necessities of brewers must be more forcibly indicated before we can hope to see the market strengthened to any material extent. In the meantime, there is just sufficient movement to keep the trade from collapse, and to maintain values at about their recent level. Those who speculated in the early part of the season in coloury parcels are enabled, if they are so disposed, to make a decent profit on their purchases. But such cases are exceptional; therefore, while I am always desirous to use the brightest colours in my weekly picture, I am reluctantly compelled by the force of facts to limit myself to a monochrome sketch to-day.

I sometimes wonder why our Borough men are satisfied to drift along in the monotonous course that custom has marked out. It appears that only when buyers seek for hops are the sellers busy, and when the demand falls off they too contentedly sit still and wait for business to revive. Contrast with this routine

German enterprise and energy.

I have evidence before me which gives point to my thoughts. Being aware, some time ago, that the scarcity and high price of German hops would probably create an opening in Belgium for English growths, I urged some friends in the Borough to take advantage of the opportunity, and to attend the Brussels market with samples of our products. But my suggestions were unheeded; they limited their proceedings to correspondence, apparently expecting that Belgian buyers would come over here, and thus no direct business resulted. English hops are being sold in Belgium to-day it is true, but the sales are made through German hands. Every week on the Brussels Bourse several representatives of Nuremberg houses are to be found, selling German hops if they can; but, if these are not available, turning their attention to English. An English trader can leave London on Tuesday evening, attend the Brussels market on Wednesday, and return to his office in the Borough on Thursday morning without any more expenditure of time and money than is incurred by the Nuremberg traveller. Why cannot our people take up this business? I am pretty certain it would be remunerative, and would undoubtedly provide an additional outlet for our surplus, and thus assist our own market.

Our Imports and Exports

during last month are thus officially reported:—America has sent us 1,030 cwt., and from other countries we have received 2,455 cwt., giving a total of 3,485 cwt. But our exports have been comparatively large. We have shipped 1,167 cwt. of English hops and 231 cwt. of foreign. This total of 1,398 cwt. deducted from the imports, shows that our market has been supplied with no larger addition than 2,087 cwt., an unimportant quantity, not sufficient to exercise any appreciable effect upon values. But it must be further remembered that these supplies are sent, not on consignment, but in execution of orders previously given by brewers, who are paying for them much higher figures than the currency of our own hops. They can only be induced to do this, even to a limited extent, by the reason that they find in these goods some points of quality or flavour of which our hops are deficient. This fact further

All official reports and notices of the National Association of English Hop Growers will be printed in the MARK LANE EXPRESS, *which will also contain all current information likely to be of interest and benefit to the member of the society.*

emphasises my regret, that our growers continue to be so blind to their own interests as to permit their competitors to surpass them in any respect, and I still trust that the painfully forcible lessons taught by their present experience, will persuade them to make amends in future for their past neglect of these essentials.

In connection with these matters, the official returns furnish a striking illustration of the change in

the Value of English Hops.

During the four months ending April 30th last we exported 5,962 cwt. of our own growth, the value of which was declared to be £19.390. These figures provide an average of about 65s. per cwt. Comparing them with the returns of the same months in the previous year, I find that we then shipped 3,688 cwt., with a declared value of £21,675, giving an average of 117s. 6d. per cwt. So that, although the volume of our foreign trade has increased by upwards of 50 per cent. the remuneration to our growers has decreased in nearly the same proportion, the reduction being over 44 per cent. The folly of overproduction, which is the main cause of this serious depreciation in value, is thus again brought home to us. May I hope that some day English hop growing will be regulated by the strict rules of commerce and commonsense, and that our planters will shake themselves free from the fetters of prejudice and obsolete custom, which now too commonly hinder their progress and prosperity.

Foreign Notes.

Nuremberg.

The continued influences of cold weather, checking the consumption of beer, and the scarcity of attractive qualities of hops, are keeping the market quiet, the brewers' demand having fallen off considerably during the past month. Consequently, although quotations have not been nominally reduced, holders manifest some desire to promote business by making slight concessions. The tone of the trade is therefore the turn weaker, and as most of the lots now available are of inferior colour and quality, the present tendency indicates that values of such hops will be lowered still further before buyers can be induced to operate in them. The future of the business depends mainly upon the climatic conditions of the coming summer. Should the consumption of beer be encouraged by warm weather, brewers will doubtless be compelled to purchase hops that are now considered unworthy of attention. Under these circumstances values will improve. But if the low temperature now prevailing should continue, and the summer heat be below the normal, inferior hops will be left in the hands of dealers, and diminuation of prices must result.

Reports from the Plant tions.

of Germany and Bohemia are generally favourable. Although the growth of the young shoots is very slow, their soundness and health are evident, and the soil being in good form for cultivation, the preparatory work has made satisfactory progress, and planters are encouraged to expect a full yield, assuming that the present outlook is supported by suitable weather as the growing season develops. It is now evident that a substantial extension of the hop area will be made in many parts of Germany.

The Official Statistics,

recently issued by the German imperial authorities show that the imports from September 1st, 1901, to January 31st, 1902, have considerably increased over those of the corresponding months of the previous season. From Austria-Hungary the imports amounted to about 113,000 cwts., and from Russia about 7,000 cwts.; these yield a total of 120,000 cwts., whereas in 1900-1 the quantity from these sources hardly reached 40,000 cwts. On the contrary, German exports this season have only been rather more than half of those of the previous corresponding period, amounting to about 73,000 cwts. in 1901-2, and 133,000 cwts. in 1900-1. These figures demonstrate the deficiency of the German growth of 1901, and the details also prove the enterprise of German traders. For I find that German hops are not only sent into every European country, but also are shipped to Africa, Japan, the Argentine, Brazil, Chili, Mexico, the United States, and Australia. Belgium appears to be the most important buyer; next in order comes England, followed closely by France, and approached by the U.S.A. Holland, Sweden, Switzerland, and Denmark also take substantial quantities of the German exports.

Belgium.

The hop market continues quiet, and quotations have receded somewhat from recent advanced figures. Holders are, however, still demanding 50 to 52 francs for good Alosts, but find difficulty in obtaining these prices, except for small lots. Quotations for the 1902 growth vary from 57 to 60 francs, according to the conditions of sale and delivery. Hops were imported during the four months ending March 31st last to the extent of rather under 8,000 cwts., only about 600 cwts. arriving from England. The exports during same period were about 5,300 cwts., of which about 400 cwts. were shipped to England. France is Belgium's most important customer.



By Hordeum.

Malt Substitutes.

The following tables show in a more striking manner than verbal description possibly can do the rapid transitions occurring in brewing. For the first time, most valuable and important information is given concerning the actual quantities of beer produced, and the table we have been accustomed to for so many years is most obligingly and conveniently split into three, so that we can get much information concerning the numbers and action of those brewers who still elect to use malt solely.

Materials Committee. It was usually considered that the largest proportion of beer brewed is sophisticated, and it is hard to see what brewers gain when they secure this admission.

One of the saddest features shown in the table is the fact that one large brewery which made 427,000 barrels of beer last year only used 57,700 quarters of malt, with the enormous proportion of substitutes of 50,100 quarters. Taking the classes shown, it is noteworthy that the percentages of substitute use is steadily rising. This arises about equally from

decreased malt use

and the larger employment of rice. Happily, the use of sugar for a time became less profitable to brewers, so its use for scientific improvement of beer is not so important as was claimed for it two years ago. Still, it is deplorable that four large classes of brewers use upwards of 40 per cent. of sugar and other things, and very nearly two-thirds of the total beer brewed contained 30 per cent. and upwards of sugar. The average of substitutes used in the whole of the beer brewed is over 28 per cent.

How anyone could reasonably have expected brewers to accept the restriction to 15 per cent. is simply absurd, and the end of such a proposal was manifest from the first. It is interesting to note that just half the classes of brewers used two bushels or upwards of materials in their brew, and most of them paid 7s. 9d. or more per barrel duty, whilst some of the large users of substitutes paid as little as 7s. per barrel. The range between the highest and lowest is 2s. 5d. per barrel. This works out at

TABLE I.—Return showing number of Brewers, amount of Materials Used and Duty Paid, 1883.

Number of reputed barrels of beer brewed. Standard (not actual) barrels.	Number of Brewers.	Amount of Duty paid by all common brewers.	Duty paid per quarter of materials used.	Total malt and substitutes used by all common brewers.	Total malt used by each class of common brewer.	Total substitutes used by each class of common brewer.	Total materials used by each class of common brewer. Average.	Malt used by each class of common brewer. Average.	Substitutes used by each class of common brewer. Average.	Percentage of all substitutes to malt used by each class.
Barrels.	No.	£	£ s. d.	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters	Quarters	Quarters.	p.c.
1,100,000	1	340,238	1 3 3	270,936	270,936	—	270,936	270,936	—	—
1,000,000	1	301,689	1 3 6	238,059	233,750	4 309	288,059	233,750	4,309	1·8
850,000	1	254,243	1 2 9	206,848	205,672	1,176	206 848	205,672	1,176	·6
500,000	2	297,397	1 3 0	239,090	222,462	16,628	119,545	111,231	8,314	7·4
450,000	1	127,179	1 3 9	102,579	—	—	102 579	102,579	—	—
400,000	2	246,514	1 3 1	197,773	170,373	27,400	98,886	85,186	13,700	16·1
350,000	1	97,208	1 2 11	78,626	70,827	7,799	78,626	70,827	7,799	11·0
300,000	2	177,952	1 3 6	140,443	130,527	9 916	70,222	65.263	4 958	7·6
250,000	2	127,732	1 3 2	102,296	94,850	7,446	51,148	47,425	3,723	7·8
200,000	6	311,194	1 3 3	248,573	230,531	18,042	41,428	38,421	3,007	7·8
150,000	11	421,425	1 2 8	344,807	310,828	33,979	31 346	28,257	3,089	10·9
100,000	40	786,385	1 2 8	643,313	565,833	77,480	16,083	14,146	1,937	13·6
50,000	58	685,425	1 2 8	561,128	505,332	55,796	9,674	8,712	962	11·0
30,000	79	605,286	1 2 7	497,062	453,217	43,845	6,292	5,737	555	9·7
20,000	274	1,182,551	1 2 6	914,838	890 994	83,844	3,557	3,251	306	9·4
10,000	1,592	1,746,724	1 2 3	1,455,665	1,336,651	118,014	913	839	74	8·8
1,000	13,864	740,571	1 1 7	636,697	621,069	15,628	46	45	1	2·5
Totals	15,937	8,449,721	1 2 8	6,937,732	6,416.431	521,301	435	403	32	8·1

TABLE II.—Return showing Numbers of Brewers, Materials Used, Beer Made, and Duty Paid, 1901.

Number of barrels of beer brewed "Bulk" (actual) barrels.	Number of brewers.	Amount of duty paid.	Duty paid per quarter of materials used.	Total materials used by all common brewers.	Total malt used by each class of common brewers.	Total substitutes used by each class of common brewers.	Total material used by each class of common brewer (average).	Malt used by each class of common brewer (average).	Substitutes used by each class of common brewer (average).	Percentage of substitutes to malt used by each class of common brewer.	Bushels per barrel brewed.	Beer duty paid per bulk barrel.
Barrels.	No.	£	£ s. d.	Qrs.	Qrs.	Qrs.	Qrs.	Qrs.	Qrs.	p.c.	Bush.	s. d.
1,877,014	1	885,175	1 13 5	529,170	529,170	—	529,170	529,170	*nil.*	*nil.*	2·26	9 5
1,414,486	1	607,669	1 12 3	377,595	369,830	7,765	377,595	369,830	7,765	2·1	2·14	8 7
974,795	1	405,130	1 11 0	261,720	216,790	44,930	261,720	216,790	44,930	20·7	2·15	8 4
724,614	1	286 393	1 10 9	186,175	158,000	28,175	186,175	158,000	28,175	17·8	2·05	7 11
1,187,473	2	176 131	1 10 11	308,180	252,720	55,460	154,090	126,360	27,730	21·9	2·08	8 0
1,683 563	3	632,224	1 10 9	410,550	275,050	135,500	136,850	91,680	45,170	49·2	1·91	7 6
450,674	1	182,178	1 12 0	113,760	94,340	19,420	113,760	94,340	19,420	20·6	2 02	8 1
426,922	1	165,886	1 10 9	107,880	57,740	50,140	107,880	57,740	50,140	86·9	2·05	7 9
751,097	2	284 172	1 11 1	182,608	141,308	41,300	91,300	70,650	20,650	29·2	1·94	7 7
959 329	3	362,459	1 10 10	234,620	192,050	42,570	78,210	64,020	14,190	22·1	1·95	7 7
265,678	1	101 075	1 10 3	66,695	50,170	16,525	66,695	50,170	16,525	32·9	2·01	7 7
691,838	3	253,016	1 10 4	166,540	115,220	51,325	55,500	38,490	17,110	44·5	1·91	7 4
1,610,175	9	606,177	1 11 3	387,980	302,040	85,940	43,110	33,560	9,550	28·4	1·97	7 6
2,780,802	22	1 041,533	1 10 9	678,410	472,510	205,900	36,830	21,470	9,360	43·6	1·95	7 0
5 459,922	78	2,018,645	1 10 8	1,316,930	968,530	348,400	16,880	12,420	4,460	36·0	1·92	7 5
3,711 281	90	1 354 647	1 10 8	883,990	642,505	241,460	9,820	7,140	2,680	37·6	1·99	7 4
3,429,878	127	1,217,928	1 11 1	784,010	581,725	202,280	6,170	4,580	1,590	34·7	1·85	7 1
4 145,901	263	1,471,141	1 10 7	962,215	724,530	237,685	3,655	2,755	903	32 8	1 77	7 1
3,532 722	911	1 261,176	1 10 4	831,690	646,690	184,800	913	710	203	28·6	1 87	7 1
1,140,016	4,448	440,080	1 9 5	299,430	283,300	18,130	67	63	1	1·6	2·05	7 8
37,217,880	5,968	14,052,843	1 10 10	9,102,230	7,072,120	2,030,110	1,525	1,185	340	28·7	1·94	7 6

Unhappily, their numbers have fallen just below the half of the total, so that we can no longer say they exceed the number of men who use substitutes. The difference is only 58 in 5,968. Still it is always best to be exact when dealing with facts, especially when you meet opponents who are not very scrupulous.

The Largest Brewers

are in the minority still, and it is sincerely to be hoped they may long head the class. As the second largest brewers have very heavily decreased the total amount of sugar they use, it may be hoped they will shortly join the minority. It will be the best day's work they have done for many years when they do this in their own and many other interests.

As it is the first time we have been told the actual quantities of beer made, there are no means of comparing with anything, excepting the not very lucid statements of Mr. Bannister to the Beer

four shillings per quarter

duty paid, but it is obvious the method of charging the duty requires revision, especially in the detail of undue or excessive dilution by brewers.

The steady and persistent falling away in the number of brewers is a matter for regret. Few businesses are ultimately benefited by growing into monopolies in the hands of a limited number of men. Brewing is distinctly one business that is best kept from such a condition. Last year 322 brewers gave up business, of whom 11 only brewed 20,000 barrels or more of beer, and of the whole number was probably an undue proportion used malt only.

Disregarding the number of brewers, it is useful to compare the use of materials by the different classes in 1883 (the first year available) and last year. The percentage has altered more than the numbers of quarters, owing to other changes in the trade.

In the lowest class (i.e., the smallest brewers) the amount of materials has fallen to less than one half. In the next class the loss is nearly as large, but in the next highest men brewing over 10,000 barrels (but under 20,000) there is an actual increase, which continues in nearly all the other larger classes. In the time the largest brewers

have doubled their trade,

and it would be very interesting to know the present position in the list of the firm that stood third in 1883. In what class are they to-day?

Owing to the restricted use of malt last year the total amount brewed was in reality less than 19 years ago, but the quantity returned as used is nearly 560,000 quarters more. In any case, notwithstanding the enormous expansion of the brewing trade and the increase in beer drinking generally, the gain to barley growers is very trifling.

What the Revenue throws away and consumers lose are interesting problems, but what the nation loses by so large and utterly unnecessary an amount of adulteration of beer, is a very serious matter of grave import to the future of this country.

The Royal Commission on Arsenical Poisoning.

A meeting of the Royal Commission on Arsenical Poisoning was held on Friday at the Westminster Palace Hotel, Sir W. Hart-Dyke, M.P., presiding. There was only a small attendance.

Mr. Fletcher Moulton, K.C., M.P., examined by Sir W. Hart-Dyke, said he had taken an active part throughout the investigations into the Manchester arsenical scare. He was a member of the expert committee, with Mr. Sullivan and Mr. Groves, which went to Manchester to investigate the outbreak on the spot. It became perfectly clear that the mischief was very widely spread. The Manchester brewers were for the most part incredulous as to the possibility of there being any serious arsenical poisoning, the thing being so utterly without precedent. The committee came to the conclusion that the mischief was substantially due to the use of Bostock's sugar, but that there was another source of contamination, that existing in the preparation of the malt. The latter was obviously so serious a question that the committee determined upon a searching inquiry, and this had been carried out. The evidence that the presence of arsenic in some measure was due to that source was abundant. The committee also found in the cases of arsenical poisoning that the more poorly-fed people suffered much greater than those better fed, who were even more addicted to alcoholism; his impression being that constitutional peculiarities played an important part in the susceptibility to arsenical poisoning in small quantities. He should not be surprised if the fact that the attention of the brewing public had been called to the importance of preventing the contamination of malt, did not make a great difference to the occurrence of alcoholic neuritis.

The chairman inquired whether the recommendations of the report of the expert committee on this matter had been adopted by brewers?

Mr. Moulton: Not beyond the fact that the general recommendations might have promoted greater care. The brewers were largely awaiting the result of the present commission. They were exceedingly anxious to have guidance in the matter. He was satisfied that now there was absolutely no danger existing on the side of the glucose sugars, and that the scare would prevent the possibility of further blunders. Malting would be rendered safe by better methods and tests, and the selection of fuel.

The chairman inquired whether the obtaining of a warranty by the brewer from the maltster and manufacturer would entitle the brewer to indemnification.

Mr. Moulton said the only good of the warranty was that it introduced the word "arsenic," and kept it constantly before those concerned in selling the goods. That would be a real guarantee to the people.

The Chairman: Do you think that guarantee would be strengthened if official tests were framed by the Board of Inland Revenue for the guidance of the brewers?

Mr. Moulton: Yes, because the brewers would then have a definite standard of tests, especially if those tests were made easy of application. He thought that would ensure almost certainty of purity. He also thought that beer should be brought under the Food and Drugs Act. He did not think, however, that it should be made a statutory duty to require a warranty. The greatest kindness the commission could show the public and the trade would be to state what they thought was the duty of the persons concerned, and what they, in their opinion, considered an adequate discharge of that duty. The tests should be reasonable and easy of application, not only by analysts, but by the unpractical mind. He considered such tests could be formulated.

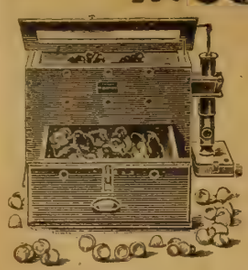
Mr. Gordon Salamon, expert chemist, and one of the Manchester Expert Committee, was also examined as to the tests and experiments carried out by himself and others.

The commission again adjourned.

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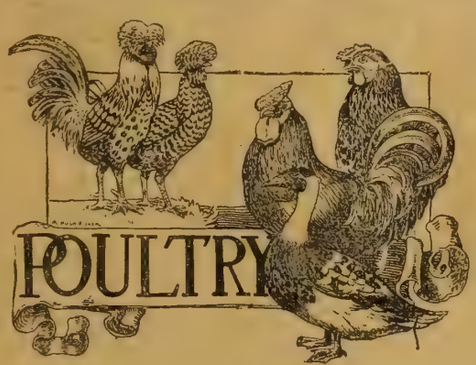
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Rearing Turkeys.

Housing.

(*Continued from page* 573)

Having selected the stock birds of large frame, they should be housed in a good-sized shed, with plenty of ventilation. Many people keep their stock turkeys very successfully in wooden houses, with wire-netting fronts, just boarded up two feet along the bottom. These houses have moss peat on their floors, and a perch 18in. from same, about 2in. in width. Stock turkeys do well in these houses if there are ventilation holes bored at the back, so that there is a free current of air through the house over the birds' heads. Large nest boxes are required for stock turkeys. These should be 24in. square, in order that they may not rub their tails, as if they do this they are disfigured. The nest boxes can be inside the house, or out in the run under a tree, or under a small heap of brushwood. Turkeys kept on a farm frequently lay away, and having selected a suitable place for their nest, they lay their eggs there, and as soon as the batch is laid they leave the other birds, and go and hatch their eggs, bringing their young brood home a month later. It is really a waste of time to allow the hen turkeys to hatch the young birds, as when they do this they rarely lay a second batch of eggs that season, whereas if they have their eggs taken away every day, and these are set under ordinary hens, the turkeys usually lay a second batch, and with only a short interval from the first, so that a much larger number of birds can be reared by managing in this way. Turkey eggs take twenty-eight days to hatch; now and then, if set when very fresh, they will hatch out in twenty-seven days, but not infrequently go on until the 29th, and sometimes even the 30th day. We consider it a good plan to test them on the ninth day, sothat if there are any clear eggs they can be removed, and then if several hens have been set at the same time the eggs can be divided amongst a less number of hens, and the remainder set with fresh eggs. There are several good egg-testers on the market, but where one does not possess one of these the egg can be tested by holding the large end of the egg between the thumb and finger before a small, clear light in an otherwise dark room. If a shade is placed round the light so that it is all concentrated on the egg so much the better. When the eggs are fertile they will appear very cloudy, and a dark speck will be seen rather nearer the large end, but if unfertile they will be quite clear. Eggs under examination should always be very carefully handled, as it would be fatal to give them a sharp jerk.

We prefer to test on the ninth day, as it is so much safer to do it on this day than earlier, as turkey eggs are generally spotted and not so claer as white-shelled fowls' eggs. If any eggs remain unhatched on the twenty-ninth day an incision should be made in the end just at the top, and if the skin is found to be white it will be known that the turkey is alive, but if dark, it is a sign of death. If alive, the egg should be gently tapped to ascertain the position of the beak. Then the young bird can be liberated by moving a piece of shell broken away over the beak, where it will very soon break the shell round and be free.

THE YOUNG BIRDS.

The young birds, when hatched, are very small when compared with the size of the stock birds. This is undoubtedly due to the small size of the egg laid by turkey hens in comparison to the size of the birds, for it will be noticed that turkeys produce the smallest egg in proportion to their size of any class of poultry. They are not as sturdy as chickens when first hatched. They seem to be cold little things, without that life and heat noticeable in newly-hatched chickens, but with careful and regular feeding they soon begin to get strength. When about twelve hours old, they should have a feed of finely-chopped egg and grated breadcrumbs just moistened with milk. A sprinkling of mustard and ground ginger on this will warm the young birds. Three hours afterwards they should be fed on fine biscuit-meal scalded with boiling water and made quite crumbly. The birds should be fed on a piece of board in the run just outside the coop, and the food should only just be sprinkled on this board, a few pieces at the time, so that as the birds eat them, a few more are sprinkled on. If the food is put down in a mass, as we have seen some inexperienced people do, the birds will not eat nearly as well. The object of everyone who feeds young turkeys should be to get them to eat as much as possible, and to accomplish this pains require to be taken. After they are on their feet they should be fed every two hours during the day. There is not any better food for them than scalded biscuit-meal or specially prepared chicken and pheasant meal, which is a mixture of fine biscuit flour, ground oats, buckwheat, meal, and several other nourishing meals. Do not on any account give the young birds anything which is wet or sloppy. They are very clean in their ways, and like crumbly food, but not anything which adheres to their beaks. Soaked bread should be avoided unless the birds are constipated, when a feed of this may be safely given as it is relaxing. Those who have the care of young turkeys should always be careful to notice the excrements of the birds, for they are apt to have constipation, and where the back passage becomes clogged there is very little hope of recovery, as the birds are so frail they must have a constant supply of nourishing food, and there must be an outlet for the waste material. Quite a number of young turkeys die every year from a stoppage at the vent, which could easily be prevented.

(*To be continued.*)

SOCIETY NOTES.

A meeting of the Warwickshire Chamber of Agriculture was held at Birmingham on the 1st inst., and naturally the chief subject of discussion was the tax on corn and flour. Mr. J. Brierley, who presided, said that agriculture would be affected prejudicially by all the three new sources of income proposed. First of all, agriculturists would have to pay their proportion of the income tax, then their proportion of the new tax on cheques, and, lastly, the duty on all corn that was bought for feeding purposes. So far as home-grown corn was concerned, they would be affected advantageously. The tax was very small indeed, threepence per hundredweight, and half of it would be paid by the foreigner. There was a relative duty between home-grown and foreign corn, which arose from the latter being either better or worse than English corn. Supposing that on the day before the new duty was put on foreign corn was worth 32s. and English corn 30s., there would be a relative difference of 2s. per quarter. It might be supposed that the effect of the tax would be to make foreign corn 33s. and English 31s., but the miller divided the tax between the British consumer and the foreigner, so that English corn went up 6d., and foreign corn came down 6d.. Eventually the following resolution was carried:—"That this Chamber regards the Budget proposals as to corn and flour as an honest attempt to place the burden of taxation equally on all sections of the community."

The Chamber was unanimous in its approval of the new Board of Agriculture regulations fixing 16 per cent. of water as the maximum for butter, and a resolution was passed expressing the opinion that "butter blended with milk or water should be called by a name clearly indicating its character." The report of a committee appointed last June to inquire into the conditions under which agricultural seeds are sold was presented, and a resolution urging the desirability of a seed-testing station being established, which should also include departments for dealing with feeding stuffs and manure was carried unanimously.

The Budget was also the first thing considered at a meeting of the West Riding Chamber of Agriculture, held on the 2nd inst. One member condemned the proposed duties on corn and feeding stuffs, which, combined with the shipping trust, would, in his opinion, be calculated to affect the agricultural industry injuriously; whilst another member was of opinion that the corn duty would be beneficial to the ordinary farmer, although he was doubtful as to the case o grass farms. Eventually the Chamber agreed to a resolution supporting the Government in imposing a tax on imported wheat, barley, oats, and flour, but disapproving the tax on other feeding stuffs. The report of the Departmental Committee, appointed by the Board of Agriculture to inquire into the conditions under which agricultural seeds are at present sold, was submitted, and the establishment of a central seed testing station having been urged by the Chamber twelve months ago, the members now decided to support the present report. A resolution was adopted, to be submitted to the Central Chamber, recommending that feeding stuffs should be scheduled under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act.

The report of the Council presented at the annual meeting of the members of the Craven Agricultural Society and Farmers' Club, held on Monday, at the Skipton Town Hall, was unfortunately not a satisfactory one, but this was through no fault of the Society. Last year's show was one of the worst-attended of recent years, and was the cause of the Society losing, not only the good balance there was made in 1900, but incurring a debt of £75 13s. 10d. as well. The curse of this state of affairs was undoubtedly the wretched weather which prevailed on the day of the show and also that preceding it, for the display of stock was excellent in every department. The show has experienced such bad weather in recent years that it has been decided to alter the date, and this year it will be held on the first Saturday in August instead of the last Friday, as hitherto. It is to be hoped that both members and the public will give this alteration their best support, and help to put this old and useful show and Society in as prosperous a condition as it used to be.

The annual report of the Council of the Bedfordshire Chamber of Agriculture and Farmers Club presented at the annual meeting stated that the Chamber had had a satisfactory year. Seventeen new members have been elected, but ten losses have occurred through death and other causes. The balance-sheet for the year ending February 28th last showed a balance in hand of £52 14s. 2d., but there was a very large number of subscriptions in arrears, the total amount being £22 10s. The report also gave details of the work done by the Chamber during the past year, and particulars of the resolutions passed, whilst in the course of a few general remarks the Council stated they hoped "that the Board of Agriculture may become in time the Board *for* Agriculture. It recognises that in the the present President, Mr. Hanbury, M.P., we have a sympathetic Minister who wishes to hear our just grievances and who is open to be approached either individually or collectively if good is likely to result."

The statement of accounts presented at the annual meeting of the Maidstone Farmers' Club was very satisfactory. The receipts totalled £91 11s. 5d., including balance brought forward from last year of £64 1s. 5d., and the expenditure amounted to £28 10s. 5d., leaving a balance of £61 1s.; but on December 31st there were some outstanding liabilities which reduced the balance to £39 14s. It was decided that in future the chairman should be elected annually, and on retiring should not be eligible for re-election for the ensuing year. Mr. H. Leney, who had occupied the chair for nine years, was heartily thanked for his services, and Mr. F. Smith elected to succeed him.

At the eighth annual meeting of the Lincolnshire Red Shorthorn Association the Committee reported that there were now 247 members, as compared with 258 at the end of the previous year. The financial statement showed that the year commenced with a credit balance of £915 12s., and closed with one of £899 1s. 7d. It was decided to hold two sales this year, as last, the second in October, and it was resolved that all bulls sold at sales of the Association shall be entered for registry free of charge to the purchaser, by the seller, and that this shall be a condition of the sale. It was further resolved that breeders be allowed to register for their sole use a prefix or an affix to names of animals entered or bred by them at a charge of 5s.

At a recent meeting of the Dorset Horn Sheep Breereds' Association, the President, Mr. S. Kidner, reported the continued growth of the Association both in members and in influence, 38 members having joined during the year. The date of the annual general meeting was fixed for Friday, May 23rd, at Yeovil, commencing at twelve noon.

The eleventh annual meeting of the members of the Lincoln Longwool Sheep Breeders' Association was held recently at Lincoln. The statement of accounts for the year ending December 31st, read by the secretary, showed that the income, including a balance of £206 15s. 7d., brought forward, amounted to £699 18s. 9d., the chief items being £220, annual subscriptions; £63 15s. 6d., fees for the ear-marking of lambs; and £121 12s. 6d., half commissions on sales. The principal items of expenditure were printing and stationery, £22 8s.; postages and parcels, £20 11s. 9d.; advertising, £36 17s.; printing 10th Flock Book, £53 14s. 6d.; ear-marking of lambs, £101 14s. 2d.; expenses connected with the ram sales, £118 15s.; prizes awarded, £110 10s.; salary and percentage, £66 16s. 2d. The credit balance at the end of the year was £146 3s. 8d. The expenditure for the year exceeded the income by £60 11s. 11d., and this was largely accounted for by the loss of income from the issue of exportation certificates. Only 229 exportation certificates were issued, whereas in 1900 no fewer than 1,553 were issued. The membership of the Association numbers 277, as compared with 307 last year. The report was adopted, and a discussion took place afterwards on Mr. E. J. Bullen's suggestion that all rams sold at the Lincoln ram sales, under the auspices of the Association, should be sold by the breeders as registered sires after being entered, and not merely as eligible for entry. Subsequently Mr. Dean proposed that the breeder shall give a certificate if required, but that the resolution should not take effect at this year's sales, and this resolution was carried with but one dissentient.

At the last meeting of the Cheshire Chamber of Agriculture a long discussion took place on the Budget, as it affects agriculture. The secretary read a letter sent by Mr. W. E. Nuttall, secretary of the Bolton District Farmers' Association, to Mr. J. Sadler, secretary of the Cheshire Milk Producers' Association, on the subject of the Budget as it affects agriculture. A resolution passed by the Bolton association, and sent also to the Chamber, was as follows:—"That this meeting of dairy farmers, representing the whole of the Bolton district, whilst not objecting to pay their fair share of the increased price of flour consequent on the tax on wheat and flour, considers it most unjust and inequitable to be compelled to pay, in addition, an increased price for their purchase of feeding stuffs for their cattle owing to the tax on the whole of the grain coming into this country — a tax which will compel the dairy farmers to contribute an utterly disproportionate sum to the increased taxation required, and respectfully requests that the Chancellor of the Exchequer shall abolish, or at least modify, the tax on all imported grain, with the exception of wheat."

The following two resolutions were sent as having been passed by the Leicestershire Chamber of Agriculture:—(1) "That, in the opinion of this Chamber, the best method to restore prosperity to the agriculture of this country, to bring back the labour to the land, and relieve the congested state of the population in towns, is to impose an effective discriminating duty on imported agricultural produce, and encourage good cultivation by giving the utmost security to tenants." (2) "This Chamber welcomes that part of the Budget which re-imposes the small registration fee on imported flour, meal, corn, and grain, by which the revenue of the country will be considerably increased."

One of the members of the Cheshire Chamber moved the following resolution:—"That this Chamber protests most strongly against that part of the Budget which imposes a tax on corn imported into this country that is used principally for cattle-feeding, as it places on dairy farmers a proportion of the national burden of taxation greaty in excess of their fair share." This, however, did not meet with much approval, and an amendment "That the Chamber approves of the principle o the registration duty on corn, and regrets that the Chancellor of the Exchequer has not seen fit to put a tax upon such imported agricultural produce as beef, bacon, cheese, etc.," was carried by ten votes to seven. On the subject of water in butter the Chamber unanimously agreed that 16 per cent. should be the limit.

We have received from Messrs. Gartons particulars of a new breed of wheat they purpose introducing this autumn. The following is their description: "Early; grain medium large; colour, amber translucent; straw, long, strong, and of fine texture; ear, very long, compact, and bearded. The introduction of this new breed of wheat is a forerunner to a remarkably distinct series of other new breeds, to be introduced at a later period, and marks the turning point, when the British farmer will be able to produce a wheat superior in quality to the majority of foreign wheats now so largely used by our millers. The quantity and quality of gluten produced by the 'New Era,' when grown in suitable wheat-growing soils, is remarkable, and is quite equal to that of the best imported varieties. As a miller's wheat it has no equal, and will realise shillings per quarter more than any other wheat. Considering its many excellent qualifications, we predict for the 'New Era' a great future."

As usual, the enterprising management of the Great Northern Railway are well to the fore with an attractive and comprehensive programme of excursions. Doubtless thousands of holiday-makers will yield to the potent charms of bonny and beautiful Scotland, and these will be wise to avail themselves of the five or eight days' excursions to run from King's Cross by the East Coast route on Friday evening, May 16, to Edinburgh, Glasgow, Stirling, Dundee, Oban, Inverness, etc., at remarkably reasonable return fares. For instance, a holiday-maker may go to Edinburgh or Glasgow and back by this excursion for 26s., or as far north as Inverness for 39s. 6d. The same excursion is available for intending visitors to Durham, Newcastle, Berwick, and other places in the North-East. Tickets will also be issued by this excursion available for 16 days. On the same night, leaving King's Cross at midnight, cheap three, six, or eight days' excursions will run to Peterborough, Nottingham, Sheffield, Manchester, Liverpool, Doncaster, Leeds, Bradford, Halifax, etc., and on the Saturday cheap express three, six, or eight days' excursions will run to numerous stations in Norfolk, Lincolnshire, Nottinghamshire, Staffordshire, Lancashire, Yorkshire, and the North-Eastern district. Amongst the principal seaside resorts attainable by this excursion are Scarborough, Whitby, Bridlington, Redcar, Saltburn, and Cromer; whilst on the same day an express excursion, for one, three, or four days, will run to those charming and invigorating Lincolnshire resorts, Skegness, Sutton-on-Sea, and Mablethorpe. The Great Northern route to Cromer is worthy of attention, the time occupied in the journey being more than compensated for by the truly lovely scenery passed through between Peterborough and Cromer. On Whit-Monday the company will run a cheap one, two, or three days' excursion to Grantham and Nottingham, and day excursions to St. Albans, Hertford, Wheathampstead, Harpenden, Luton, Cambridge, Huntingdon, Peterborough, Skegness, Sutton-on-Sea, Mablethorpe, etc. Excursions are also announced for four days, on Tuesday, May 20, and two days, on Thursday, May 22, to Grantham, Nottingham, Retford, Worksop, Sheffield, and Manchester. For full particulars of above excursions, see the "Whitsuntide Holiday Programme," to be obtained from the town offices, or of the Superintendent of the Line, King's Cross.

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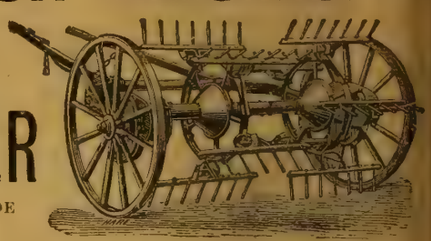
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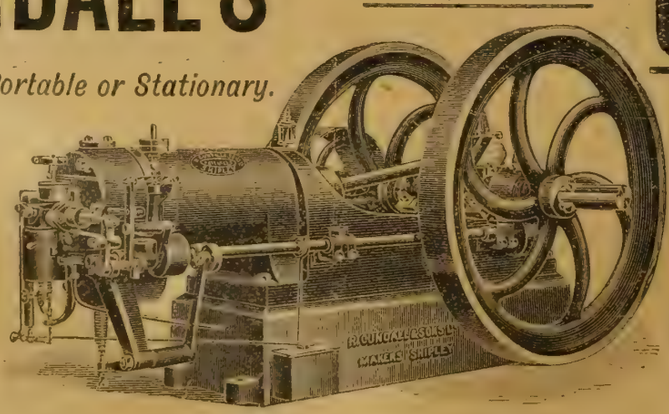
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(REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER AT THE GENERAL POST OFFICE.)

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SOCIETIES.

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(Founded June 1894.)

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SECRETARY.—THOMAS IRONMONGER.
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ROYAL AGRICUTURAL SOCIETY OF ENGLAND.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that in accordance with Clause 6 of the Charter of the Society, the 63rd ANNIVERSARY MEETING of the Governors and Members will be held at the Society's House, 13, Hanover Square, London, W., on THURSDAY, MAY 22nd, 1902, at TWELVE o'clock noon, when the Half-Yearly Report of the Council will be read, and the election of the President, Trustees, and Vice-Presidents, and of twenty-five Members of Council will take place.

ERNEST CLARKE, Secretary.

13, Hanover Square, London, W.
May, 1902.

THE THIRTEENTH ANNUAL OF THE THORNEY SHIRE FOAL SOCIETY
JULY 17th, 1902,
IN THORNEY PARK.

ENTRIES CLOSE JULY 7TH.

For Schedules and Entry Forms apply to the Secretary, H. HORRELL, THORNEY.

MID-KENT AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION.
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GROUND SPACES, JUNE 21ST.

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Bread and Butter ... ... 2nd July.
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LEGAL NOTICE.

IN the Matter of GILLMAN & SPENCER, LIMITED, in voluntary liquidation.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the creditors of the above-named Company are required on or before the 30th day of June, 1902 to send their names and addresses and the particulars of their debts and claims, and the names and addresses of their Solicitors (if any) to the undersigned James Ford, the Liquidator of the said Company, at his Office, No. 81, Cannon Street, in the City of London; and, if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidator, are either personally or by their Solicitors to come in and prove their said debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved.

Dated this 13th day of May, 1902.

(Signed) JAMES FORD,
Liquidator of the Company.

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SHEEP (contd.).

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PIGS (cont.).

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MAY 19, 1902.

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THE FINANCIAL ASPECT OF THE EDUCATION BILL.

THE fact that the Education Bill has passed its second reading by the enormous majority of 237 indicates that the general principle of the Bill is generally accepted—at all events in the House of Commons. The questions to which practical ratepayers and taxpayers will now turn their attention are—Who will provide the sinews of war? To what extent will they be required?

As is well known to all who have devoted any attention to this important measure, the main scheme of the Bill is to form one Education Authority to control two allied, but distinct, subjects viz., Primary Education and Secondary Education. Dealing with the latter first, the Bill repeals the Technical Instruction Acts and substitutes discretionary powers for County Councils and boroughs to supply or aid education other than elementary, and for that purpose to spend such sums as they think fit out of the rates and out of the available balance of the Local Taxation Grants (popularly known as the "whisky money"), subject to a limitation of the rate for this purpose to a maximum of twopence in the pound. In addition to this, the Councils of boroughs (not being county boroughs) of more than 10,000 inhabitants, and of urban districts of more than 20,000 inhabitants, have a concurrent power of raising a further rate for this purpose of one penny in the pound. Presumably this concurrent power is conferred in the belief that there will be greater demand for secondary education in the larger towns than in country districts, and consequently greater expense will be incurred in making adequate provision to meet the very varied requirements of the rising generation. From the financial point of view, the result will be that the present power of Local Authorities to levy a rate for Technical Instruction will be increased to twopence, and in such of the populous districts as do not receive a specific grant on account of Local Taxation there may be a total rate of threepence in the pound.

This, of course, is merely for Technical Instruction, or Secondary Education. The new Education Authorities will also be required to take over the provision and control of elementary education. School Boards will be swept away, and with them will go the School Board Rate—or, rather, it will change its name, and will merge its identity in County, Borough, or General District Rates. By spreading the whole cost of education over the county it is likely that small parishes which have had a heavy School Board Rate will be somewhat relieved at the expense of neighbouring parishes which have hitherto escaped the imposition. But the relief will not be so great as it might appear at first sight. For the existing liabilities (including loans) must be borne exclusively by the district of the School Board by whom they were incurred, and each district will have the satisfaction of compensating their own officers whose offices are abolished under the Act, and for whom new posts are not provided. Moreover, capital expenditure to be incurred in the provision or enlargement of schools is to be borne by the parish or parishes to be benefited thereby.

The local Education Authority are required to maintain and keep efficient all necessary Public Elementary Schools within their area. But Voluntary Schools will still have to find funds for repairs of their buildings, and to make alterations and improvements as may reasonably be required by the Education Authority. Some people regard this as a hardship on the managers, as they will undoubtedly find it difficult to collect voluntary subscriptions after their supporters have been called upon to pay a compulsory rate. We think, however, that the advantages which Voluntary Schools will reap under the Act are so great as to far outweigh any objections which can be raised on this question of repairs. If the managers find the difficulty too great for them, they can hand over the school to the Education Authority, as has already been done in many country villages where Voluntary Schools have been taken over by School Boards. If they decline to make the necessary repairs they will lose their grant; and if they decline either to carry on the school or hand it over, fresh schools will have to be built by the Education Authority at the sole expense of the parish. There will, therefore, still be every inducement to large ratepayers to find a little money for the upkeep of the schools, as otherwise their last state will be worse than their first.

The Aid Grant under the Act of 1897, instead of being distributed by the Board of Education amongst the associations of Voluntary Schools, will in future be paid to the County Authorities in aid of the expenses incurred by them in connection with elementary education.

The expenses to be incurred under the Act "so far as not otherwise provided for" are to be paid out of the County or Borough Funds, or out of the General District Rate where an Urban District Council is the Education Authority. Hitherto the School Board Rate has been collected as part of the Poor Rate, for which agricultural land within an urban district is assessed on one-half its rateable value. But such land is only assessed at one-fourth for General District Rates, and the result will be that in future certain land contiguous to towns will be relieved of half its contribution to elementary education. It is gratifying to find that even a small proportion of agricultural ratepayers will benefit under the Bill.

It is obvious that if the Act is to be efficiently administered considerable additional expense must be incurred. Greater efficiency can only be attained at increased cost. It is said that the first step will be to increase the salaries of country teachers. They are undoubtedly underpaid in many places, but their salaries are not likely to be raised to the average earnings of teachers in towns, who have larger schools and greater responsibilities. Probably the expense of the staff of

new officers required, the compensation of discarded officers, and the cost of working the new Education Committees will be only partially covered by the saving of elections, salaries, and administration of the abolished Boards. But, of course, the main item will be the shifting of about a million pounds from the shoulders of voluntary subscribers to those of the ratepayers. Strictly speaking, this is not a new expense; it is only the method of meeting it that is new.

We do not begrudge the money which will be required to administer the Act; and if the sublime theory that the incidence of the rates should rest upon ability to pay were a realised ideal, the proposal to draw on the rates for the money would be unexceptionable. Unfortunately, agriculturists know too well that in practice rateability according to inability is rather the rule. We cannot regard the time as opportune to urge that the whole cost of education should come out of the national funds. These funds already bear about two-thirds of the cost, the remaining third being borne by the rates. In the present state of our national exchequer it is too much to ask that the rates should be relieved altogether.

But we are heartily in accord with those who contend that, inasmuch as education is a national object, the large additional charges which will probably be thrown upon County Authorities under the Act should be met by a corresponding increase in the Local Taxation Grants instead of falling upon the rates, which are levied on one class of property only. This appears to be the view of the Association of County Councils (who are most intimately affected by the Bill), of agricultural organisations generally, and of many supporters of the Bill, both in and out of Parliament. Indeed, the Government themselves do not controvert its merits; they only question its expediency. Mr. Balfour's reply to the demand for an increased grant from the Imperial funds is that the whole system of local taxation urgently requires revision, and that in that revision the charge for education will be included. With this distinct pledge before them, we counsel agriculturists to lose no opportunity of insisting that the first legislative business of next Session shall be a Bill to adjust the incidence of Local Taxation.

Bad Meat at the Central Market. — At Guildhall Police Court on Thursday, Herbert Downey, a cattle dealer, of Great Baddow, near Chelmsford, was summoned for sending five pigs to the Central London Market, intending them for sale as human food, the same being diseased and unwholesome. The defendant was fined £5 in respect of each carcase, with costs—in all, £27 2s. Henry Broad, a dealer, of Mitcham Road, Croydon, was summoned for sending seven pieces of diseased pork to the market, intending it for sale as human food, and was fined £5 and £1 1s. costs.

Agriculture for Women.—The annual meeting of the Women's Agricultural and Horticultural Association was held on Monday afternoon, at 61, Eaton Place, Mrs. Wilton Alhusen presiding. Miss T. W. Powell, the hon. secretary, read a report, which gave an account of the work done throughout the country by the union. Grants had been obtained during the year for eleven women gardeners, one floral decorator, three dairy workers, and one poultry woman. Advice had been given in twenty-five cases on various subjects. Sir J. Cockburn, late Agent-General for South Australia, remarked that in Australia vine growing was a great industry very suitable for women, and many women were engaged in it, and also in flower farming. There was an occult sympathy between women and flowers, and some women gardeners could make anything grow. Mr. A. E. Robertson described the American method of sending milk to large towns, purifying it by oxygen on the farms, and so rendering the use of drugs absolutely unnecessary. In the course of a discussion which followed, the difficulty of country people getting fresh milk was commented upon; this being a consequence of so much milk being sent to the large towns. In one district given over to dairy farms, it was stated, the children of the residents had to be fed on condensed milk.



By a Man of Mark Lane.

The following synopsis of the May crop report has been issued by the statistician of the United States Department of Agriculture:—The area of winter wheat under cultivation on May 1 is estimated at 27,103,000 acres. This is 4,868,000 acres, or 15.2 per cent., less than the area sown last fall. Kansas reports 1,835,000 acres, Texas and Tennessee each 270,000 acres, Indiana 205,000 acres, California 402,000, Oklahama 325,000, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Kentucky, Nebraska, and Washington each between 100,000 and 200,000 acres. For the area remaining the average condition is returned at 76.4, against 78.7 in April, and 94.1 last May, the mean of the May averages of the last ten years being 83.2. The average condition of the winter rye on May 1 is 83.4, against 85.4 last month, and 94.6 last year, while the 10-year average amounts to 89. The condition of the States of New York and Pennsylvania, with two-fifths of the total winter rye acreage of the country, is 91 and 83 respectively, against 94 last year. Kansas reports an average condition of 72, against 101 last year. The average condition of meadow and mowing lands on May 1 was 86.6, against 92.8 last year, and 90.6 mean of the last ten years. The average condition of spring pasture on the 1st of this month is given as 84.9, against 91.5 last year, and 91.3 two years ago. In the spring wheat States the preparation of the ground for seeding has been delayed by unfavourable weather, North Dakota in particular reporting so late a season as to make a reduction of its spring wheat acreage highly probable.

The receipts on account of Revenue from April 1, 1902, when there was a balance of £8,566,947, to May 10, 1902, were £17,715,067, against £15,090,925 in the corresponding period of the preceding financial year, which began with a balance of £5,596,918. The net expenditure was £25,905,959, against £25,251.265 to the same date in the previous year. The Treasury balances on May 10, 1902, amounted to £6,136,795, and at the same date in 1901 to £3,484,459.

In the Committee on the Finance Bill, Mr. Channing will propose to limit the duration of the Corn Duty to the 1st of August, 1903. Several members have given notice that they will move the exemption of different kinds of grain from the new Tax, amongst the proposed exemptions being rice, arrowroot, locu t beans, maize, and starch.

The pressure on the Government to transfer the extra cost of the Voluntary Schools from the rates to the Exchequer is increasing, and it is understood that the strong representations made by certain Unionist County members are being considered by Ministers. Roughly, the cost would be two million pounds per annum.

The correspondent who recently referred to the humorous statement in the satirical Press that the Corn Duty is "against the grain," and who described the "taxation of ground values," to contest in the charge on flour and meal, is much gratified with the promise of early consideration. The assertion that albeit bread may be rather dearer, it must continue at a loaf figure, will (if approved) be published shortly after the Bank Holiday. Quite a stimulus of agricultural epistoldam, by recent legislation, has been achieved, especially in the case of one farmer who states he shall never send a letter on feeding stuffs without appending an oaty beany.

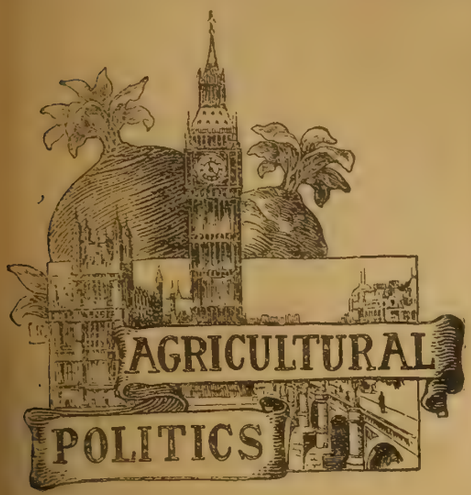
On Thursday Lord Rosebery opened the New Town Hall at Colchester, and was presented with the freedom of the City. In the course of a speech, he said the English boroughs had in the past made the history of the country, but they had more to do. If the Education Bill passed, they would have the most important work of supervising the education of the children, and on the whole he rejoiced at that provision. Referring to the subject of rural depopulation, His Lordship said:—"You hear much, and perhaps you hear more in Essex than anywhere, of the devastation of our rural districts, of their desolation, of the great immigration of the peasantry into the towns. You have all sorts of reasons given to explain to you why that is so; you have all sorts of remedies suggested, but whatever the causes may be and whatever the remedies for that state of things may be, in the meantime the fact exists, and you are absorbing within your boundaries—within the borough boundaries of England—the great mass of its rural population.

"Well, that seems to me to impose upon the boroughs of England a new and a great responsibility. You have to take care of these young peasants — the blood of the country—who come up to recruit your inhabitants and to swell your labour rolls. Take care that they do not swell the roll of the neglected part of the population, of the derelict part of the population, of the wastrel part of the population. If you take them, take great care of them; take care that they are properly housed under sanitary conditions; that no means of equality of opportunity that may properly be offered to them be wanting in your midst, and then it seems to me you will, as far as is possible, have done your duty by them. Never forget that aspect of the rural depopulation question — that though it seems to involve some responsibility, at any rate on the landlords and farmers whose estates these peasants are leaving, it involves a greater and a more immediate responsibility on those urban authorities who take them in. The towns of England have absorbed the people; let them raise the people."

An idea of what amount the corn and flour tax would have yielded if it had been in operation last year is given in a Parliamentary return issued during the week. It will be remembered that the threepenny tax is applicable to wheat, barley, oats, rye, maize, buckwheat, peas, beans, locust beans, lentils, rice, and the offals of all these, whilst fivepence per cwt. will be paid on flour and the meal of all the above-mentioned agricultural products, as well as on starch, arrowroot, Cassara powder, tapioca, potato flour, pearled barley, sago, malt, and rice. The total return last year would have been £2,724.970, with the chief contributions as follows:—Wheat, £852,967; barley, £285,000; oats, £261,000; maize, £620,05; offals, £38.125; flour and meal, £470,380; starch, £27,515; and rice, £41,437.

Some information concerning the New Baltic, now in course of construction, was given at the annual meeting of the Baltic Mercantile and Shipping Exchange (Limited), held on Wednesday. Major Webb, who presided, stated that good progress was being made with the new building, which he expected would be opened in November next. It had been decided to equip the building with an electrical installation for lighting and power purposes. A well had been sunk on the property, giving good drinkable water. The new exchange would occupy an area of 16,000ft. Great attention had been paid to the decoration of the interior. The freehold had cost £30,000, but the directors asked for power to borrow another £100,00, if necessary, in addition to the £400,000 which the directors had been authorised to borrow. The report and accounts were adopted.

Mr. Arthur Wellesley Anstruther has been appointed to be an Assistant Secretary to the Board of Agriculture, in the place of Major J. T. Tennant, C.B., who retires from the public service as from the 1st proximo.



By a Lobbyist.

There can, of course, be no objection to Mr. Hanbury re-stating his resolve to make the Board of Agriculture an effective organisation. Indeed, good may come of it, inasmuch as the rival Ministers—I use the descriptive "rival Ministers" advisedly—may thus be advised of his unquenchable resolution. However, something more than the reiteration of the resolve is necessary. Has not the time arrived, in fact, when we should be enabled to give a welcome to the first instalment of the new policy? Perhaps Mr. Hanbury may deem his invitation to farmers to send him notice of all cases of excessive railway charges and his negotiations with the War Office, with the object of securing for British farmers the supply of horses for the British cavalry to be this first instalment. I would respectfully assure Mr. Hanbury that something more definite would be warmly greeted. Both the invitation and the negotiations are personal to himself, and are not in any way the result of the routine operation of his department. What we require is that the Board shall, of direct method and discipline, be a factor in the daily life of the agriculturist. Mr. Hanbury will, I know, forgive this statement, and pardon any remonstrant note it may appear to possess. No Minister was ever possessed by a more sympathetic anxiety. We desire that that anxiety may have wise expression.

I have always lamented that the allotment question should be made a partisan issue. What the concession of allotments and small holdings has to do with Home Rule it must pass the wit of man to discover; but it is the fact that the moment Home Rule became a question of practical politics, we began to snarl over the business, as though some vital issue of party principles were involved. Even to-day we still snarl. At the annual meeting of the Rural Labourers' League—and, assuredly, I am glad that it has been the means of obtaining 14,518 allotments—Unionists and Conservatives chortled as though the securing of an allotment is as Conservative a principle as the divine right of kings. It may be urged that out of this partisanism has come good. It may be so, but I cannot perceive it. The whole body politic is now loyal to the principle; and that being so, I cannot see the wisdom of making it unnecessarily a cause of squabbling. Much more may be obtained, even in the House of Commons, by harmonious alliance than by discordant jealousy. Let the two allotments' organisations work on parallel lines, and refuse to cultivate political spleen.

By the way, I find that the suggestion of the Rural Labourers' League that the trustees of rural charities should be empowered to advance the one-fifth of the purchase-money necessary to enable labourers to acquire small holdings, is regarded with a good deal of favour by M.P.'s for rural constituencies on both sides of the House. Of course, it would be easily possible to fashion a sufficient security for the advance, and to provide for the regular payment of a moderate interest. As a fact, the holding itself would, of course, be the security. Many a rural charity is lying fallow. By this means it would be productive of good to itself and of undeniable good to the community. We are now given over to so many heroic things in the legislative world that the mere unpretentiously-useful has little chance of commanding attention. However, I am persuaded that a short Bill of two or three clauses would meet with little or no opposition. By way of expediting matters, the Bill might be first passed through the House of Lords. The Duke of Bedford had shown that he has the political gift. Here is an opportunity of his making an excellent first appearance as the sponsor of a Bill.

I am glad Mr. Chaplin raised the significant questions he did in reference to the obstacles which local authorities persistently raise to the making of tramways. There is the fact that an excellent method of communication—one which might be of direct value to the rural community in every county in the country—has been neglected simply because of the conditions which these authorities impose. Of course, Mr. Chaplin never intended to convey, as certain of his subsequent critics insinuated, that the local authorities should be entirely disregarded. All he contended for was that they should be prevented carrying their antagonism into the region of unreason. I know of more than one case where the desire to construct a tramway has been frustrated simply because of the fact—no other reason, at all events, was apparent—that the proposed line did not altogether satisfy the personal convenience of a few individual members of the local authority. The only reply made to Mr. Chaplin, so far as I could appreciate—of course, the statement that the Right Honourable gentleman had raised the issue at an inconvenient moment was no reply—was that his proposal would cause needless competition. This is the reply that has baulked many a wisely-devised scheme, and, strangely enough, it has not unseldom come from the mouth of a Radical. The author on this occasion was that sturdy iconoclast, John Burns.

I have already referred to the fact that Mr. Chaplin has more than regained his old place in the esteem of the House. This, by the way, is a somewhat unhappy phrase. I do not know that the right honourable gentleman had ever lost that esteem. What, however, happened was that the responsibilities of office crib'd and cabin'd his great abilities. During the present session he has shown a real capacity of leadership, and an excellent knowledge of Parlamentary procedure. His commendation of his latest purpose was admirably conceived. There were sentences in it as terse and compact as even Mr. Chamberlain could have uttered. He has not by any means abandoned his old rotundity of phrase. This much his speech on the corn and flour duties sufficiently revealed. He has, however, associated with it a dialectical force which will stand him in excellent stead in rapier cut and thrust debate. Mr. Chaplin has again become the dominant personality among the rural M.P.'s, and he has assuredly within the last three months revealed capacity of statecraft. I pray that he will never more accept the uniform of office. He is much more useful to agriculture in the role of an unattached Privy Councillor.

There is naught more to be said in connection with the corn and flour duties. The debate has gone just on the lines I expected. This week has witnessed the apotheosis of sham emotion. The old cries against landlordism have been unctuously revived. The old pictures of a despoiled people have been relimned. The whole business, however, has lacked sincerity. While declamation has been perfervidly declaimed, one retaliatory, disconcerting fact has been evolved. The price of bread has been slowly readjusting itself. This is the one great reply to the assertion that this Budget is part of a conspiracy against the cheap food of the people. I am more and more convinced of my original opinion of the Budget. It is valuable, not because of any direct interest it will confer on agriculture, but because it gives an emphasis to the more generous policy towards the interest which has been initiated in the last few years. I am glad to know that so sane-eyed a friend of the interest as Major Rasch sympathises with this view.



Experiment on Manuring Mangels

An experiment on the manuring of mangels was carried out by the College of North Wales in Cae Ty Newydd Ucha in 1901. The plan of the experiment, which was the same as in 1899 and 1900, and other particulars are given in Table I. The farmyard manure, superphosphate and kainit were as usual applied in the drills, the nitrate of soda, except a part of the dressing to plot IX., was applied after the plants were thinned. The plots were one-twentieth of an acre in size, and the variety of mangel sown was the Yellow Globe.

TABLE I.

Plot.	Manure per Acre.	Cost of Artificial Manure per Acre.	Weight of Roots per Acre, 1901.	Increase over Unmanured Plot, 1901.
		£ s. d.	T. C. LB.	T. C. LB.
I.	No manure	—	32 6 8	—
II.	12 tons farmyard manure	—	44 15 80	12 9 72
III.	20 tons farmyard manure	—	51 17 16	19 11 8
IV.	20 tons farmyard manure 1 cwt. nitrate of soda ...	0 15 6	43 7 96	11 1 88
V.	20 tons farmyard manure 3 cwt. superphosphate...	0 8 3	43 14 32	11 8 24
VI.	20 tons farmyard manure 3 cwt. superphosphate... 1 cwt. nitrate of soda ...	0 18 9	44 0 80	11 14 72
VII.	20 tons farmyard manure 3 cwt. superphosphate... 3 cwt. kainit ... ... 1 cwt. nitrate of soda ...	1 8 1	50 2 96	17 16 88
VIII.	20 tons farmyard manure 3 cwt. kainit ... ... 1 cwt. nitrate of soda ...	0 19 10	46 18 64	14 12 56
IX.	20 tons farmyard manure 3 cwt. superphosphate... 3 cwt. kainit ... ... 1 cwt. nitrate of soda (applied in the drills) 1 cwt. nitrate of soda (applied after the plants were thinned)	1 18 7	45 15 0	13 8 104
X.	30 tons farmyard manure	—	45 2 16	12 16 8
XI.	30 tons farmyard manure 3 cwt. superphosphate... 3 cwt. kainit ... ... 1 cwt. nitrate of soda ...	1 8 1	46 1 48	13 15 40

In 1900 it was in oats, manured with farmyard manure; for the three previous years it was in hay, for which it was dressed in 1898 with farmyard manure, and in 1899 with mixed artificials. The field in which the experiment was carried out in 1901 was in a good state of cultivation, as may be gathered from the heavy weight of the produce on the manured plot.

The most marked feature of the experiment was the result due to the application of farmyard manure. The twelve tons applied to plot II. increased the yield by over twelve tons per acre, and a further addition of eight tons on plot III. produced an additional increase of nearly eight tons per acre. The heavy dressing of thirty tons per acre applied to plot X. failed in 1901 to produce as good a result as the twenty tons on plot III. The success attending such a large application of farmyard manure doubtless depends greatly on the season. The weather in 1901 was very dry for a long time after the seed was sown, and the plants on plots I. to IX. had made considerable progress before those on plots X. and XI. appeared.

These rows suffered more from the drying winds than the remainder, owing to the fact that the soil was kept loose and open by the large quantity of bulky manure placed between the drills, which were only 25in. in width. Under such circumstances, particularly on land near the rock, as in Cae Ty Newydd Ucha, it is somewhat difficult to get sufficient soil to cover the farmyard manure. Where such a large quantity is applied it is usually advisable either to make the rows wider, or to apply part of the manure in the autumn.

Table III. contains the average figures for the past three years. The experiment has been carried out in different fields, but on land similar in quality, though varying in condition. The farmyard manure employed has invariably been of high quality. The composition of the other manures has been as follows: Nitrate of soda, 95 per cent. pure; superphosphate of lime, 25 per cent. soluble; kainit, containing 12 per cent. of potash.

TABLE II.

Plot.	Manure per acre.	Average weights for the three years 1899, 1900 and 1901.	Average increase over unmanured plot for the three years.
		T. C. LB.	T. C. LB.
I.	No manure	18 3 51	——
II.	12 tons farmyard manure	31 15 13	13 11 74
III.	20 tons farmyard manure	38 19 19	29 15 80
IV.	20 tons farmyard manure 1 cwt. nitrate of soda	33 18 84	15 15 33
V.	20 tons farmyard manure 3 cwt. superphosphate	32 2 3	13 18 64
VI.	20 tons farmyard manure 3 cwt. superphosphate 1 cwt. nitrate of soda	37 8 77	19 5 26
VII.	20 tons farmyard manure 3 cwt. superphosphate 3 cwt. kainit ... ... 1 cwt. nitrate of soda	41 9 85	23 6 34
VIII.	20 tons farmyard manure 3 cwt. kainit ... ... 1 cwt. nitrate of soda	37 7 109	19 4 59
IX.	20 tons farmyard manure 3 cwt. superphosphate 3 cwt. kainit ... ... 1 cwt. nitrate of soda (applied in the drills) 1 cwt. nitrate of soda (applied after the plants were thinned)	40 8 77	22 5 26
X.	30 tons farmyard manure	39 17 96	21 14 45
XI.	30 tons farmyard manure 3 cwt. superphosphate 3 cwt. kainit ... ... 1 cwt. nitrate of soda	42 7 56	24 4 5

The table clearly indicates the importance of farmyard manure for the mangel crop, and shows that where a good dressing of this was given the only mixtures of artificials which produced any result were the complete dressings applied to plots VII., IX., and XI.

TABLE III.

Plot.	Manure per acre.	Average weights for the three years 1899, 1900 and 1901.	Average increase over unmanured plot for the three years.
		T. C. LB.	T. C. LB.
I.	No manure	18 3 51	——
II.	12 tons farmyard manure	31 15 13	13 11 74
III.	20 tons farmyard manure	38 19 19	20 15 80
X.	30 tons farmyard manure	39 17 96	21 14 45

EFFECT OF FARMYARD MANURE.

Table III. shows that as much as 20 tons of farmyard manure per acre has been profitably employed, but that it did not pay to apply more than this quantity as the average yield produced by the additional 10 tons applied to plot X. was rather less than a ton.

TABLE IV.

Plot.	Manure per acre.	Cost of artificial manure per acre.	Average weights for the 3 years, 1899, 1900 and 1901.	Average increase due to mixed artificials.
		£ s. d	T. C. LB.	T. C. LB.
III.	20 tons farmyard manure	——	38 19 19	——
VII.	20 tons farmyard manure 3 cwt. superphosphate 3 cwt. kainit ... ... 1 cwt. nitrate of soda	1 8 1	41 9 85	2 10 66
IX.	20 tons farmyard manure 3 cwt. superphosphate 3 cwt. kainit ... ... 1 cwt. nitrate of soda (applied in the drills) 1 cwt. nitrate of soda (applied after the plants were thinned)	1 18 7	40 8 77	1 9 53

EFFECT OF A COMPLETE DRESSING OF ARTIFICIALS IN ADDITION TO FARMYARD MANURE.

It will be noted that although the mixed artificials produced a considerable addition to the yield that the increase cost, even in the case of plot VII., over 11s. per ton, a price which is probably rarely realised when mangels are fed to stock. A comparison of the results on plots VII. and IX. shows that no advantage was gained by applying nitrate of soda to the drills.

IN PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Corn and Flour Tax.

On Monday Sir Michael Hicks-Beach moved the second reading of the Finance Bill, and in doing so announced that he had abandoned the additional duty on cheques.

Sir William Harcourt then moved:—"That this House declines to impose Customs' duties upon grain, flour, and other articles of the first necessity for the food of the people." He said: I am sure the House will have been glad to hear the announcement which has just been made by Sir M. Hicks-Beach, and I only wish he had gone further and relieved us of another tax—the Corn tax—also. (Opposition cheers.) He took issue upon this particular proposal as the blackest spot in the Budget—it was its most glaring vice. It was a tax bad in principle and still worse in its application. Upon it centred every possible objection which could be urged to any other tax. Mr. Gladstone had told them that such a tax could not be defended on principle. If the price of bread was raised it must be paid by somebody. Even a statistician or professor of political economy could not confuse the proposition. It was said quite truly that the main element as to the price was the question of supply and demand, which determined the market price. There must be a substantial rise in the price of corn and flour, and consequently in the bread supplied by the baker. But what was the use of arguing whether the charge did or did not result in the rise of the price of bread? It had risen, and generally risen. (Opposition cheers.) It had mostly risen on the low-priced loaf, which was bought by the very poorest. He affirmed that in London and many other parts of the country the charge had caused a rise in the price of bread. This was a bad tax from every point of view. The worst kind of tax was one which imposed the burdens of which the fruits did not go to the Exchequer. (Opposition cheers.) That was the vice of all protective taxes. It was said that the Government did not impose it for the purposes of protection, but he cared very little what their intentions were. They had got to see what were the consequences of the Government action in this respect. The view of the public at large was that this tax reached the form of protection; and he felt that at the bottom of this tax lay the question of free trade or protection. (Hear, hear.) It was just like the dams in Holland to keep out inundations, and they took very good care that the rats should not undermine them. (Opposition cheers and laughter.) Everybody believed, until the Government brought in this tax, that the question of a tax upon corn had been settled, and that we should never hear of it again. He had not been a hostile critic of the financial policy of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, but he could not understand why a man of his bright intelligence, his firm mind, and his sound sense, should ever have meddled with corn at all. This tax was to be condemned, not only on its financial aspects, but a great deal more on its social and political aspects. He challenged the policy of this tax as against sound finance, and the fundamental principle of sound finance was that it should not cast a burden on those who were least able to bear it. Sound finance was not a matter of dry figures. It demanded the statesmanship of the heart. It demanded sympathy for the class upon whom taxation was burdensome and intolerable, and who had no means to endure it. (Hear, hear.) They ought to so distribute taxation that it should not be beyond the capacities of the poorest people to bear it. In concluding, Sir William said: Is this a sample of your social programme? You promised old-age pensions. This is the sort of pension you offer to the old age of people who can no longer work. They ask you for bread, and you give them a corn tax. (Opposition cheers.) Is this the war gift you are going to bestow on the widows and children who have little enough means to live upon? Whatever happens on this division, the country will, at all events, know who are for and who are against the tax upon the bread of the people. (Opposition cheers.) The tax was hailed on its introduction with a vociferous shout of "Well done!" There has come back a strange and unexpected echo from Tory Lancashire, and I believe that cry will swell when this matter is more thoroughly understood throughout the country. (Opposition cheers.)

Sir Michael Hicks-Beach replied at some length to Sir William Harcourt, whom he accused of wanting to "run the Empire on the cheap." After comparing the taxation of the present and that of the Crimean War, and having shown that it was practically impossible to have further taxed beer or tobacco, Sir Michael came to the point which chiefly concerns our readers—viz., the corn and flour tax. He said: The right hon. gentleman (Sir W. Harcourt) says who will pay the tax, and has referred to rises within the last few weeks in the prices of corn and bread. Of course, there have been rises, but there always are rises when stocks are low in the spring of the year, and I suppose that if it had been possible for me to impose that duty after the harvest or during the harvest when stocks were large and anticipations favourable, there probably would have been no rise at all. (Hear, hear.) But corn has been rising irrespective of duty for weeks past. It has risen in America, where the duty could have no effect whatever. It has risen because stocks are low. People have complained to me of the high price of maize in particular, but the market records show that the American crop of maize last year was hardly half of what it was in the previous year. At present wheat is exactly the same price as it was in March, 1901, and the price of flour on the 5th inst was the same as it was a year ago. The right hon. gentleman says it is a bread tax, and refers to the rise in the price of bread by bakers. He refers to it as a universal rise, but there is nothing of the kind. I have obtained information on this point from the 30 largest cities in this country, including the metropolis. There has been no general rise in the price of bread in London. There has been a rise by many bakers in London, but not a general rise. Out of the other 29 cities I find that in 19 there has been no rise at all—(hear, hear)—in nine there has been a rise of a halfpenny on the quartern loaf, and in one there has been a decrease in price since March 1st. (Cheers and laughter.) The price of bread varies in a most extraordinary way in different towns and villages, and even in different streets of the same town, and therefore I have obtained what I think is more reliable than the statistics of bakers, and that is statistics from co-operative societies all over Great Britain. Even a co-operative society, I am told, is sometimes influenced in fixing the price of bread by—well, political considerations. (Laughter.) But I think generally it may be assumed that co-operative societies will not raise the price before it was necessary. Of 284 societies in Great Britain, 32 have raised the price of bread by a halfpenny on the quartern loaf. I find that in the North, East, North Midlands, West Midlands, and South-eastern districts of England there has been no rise at all, nor has there been in Scotland. In London, Lancashire, Cheshire, the South Midlands, and the South-western districts of England there has been an average rise in co-operative prices of a farthing per quartern loaf. Out of all these societies the mean co-operative price of bread is no more than 5d. per quartern loaf. I do not think that is exactly a starvation price. It is certain that the supply of corn will exceed the demand in future, and, if so, what becomes of the suggestion that this duty can by any means be a protective duty to the farmers or raise the price of corn in this country? All that the right hon. gentleman has said on this subject really amounts to a kind of superstition which has grown up about the principles of Free Trade. This has been called a cowardly duty. (Opposition cheers.) Is it a cowardly thing for a Government to face the outcry of the big loaf and the little loaf and the tax on the food of the people which, with so little cause, has been so promptly raised by hon. gentlemen opposite. (Ministerial cheers.) I think it might be cowardly if we had imposed fresh taxation on a few of the wealthy who could not resist it at the polls. We have faced this danger, and, according to Sir W. Harcourt, we have suffered already. (Opposition cheers.) Manchester may be placarded with invitations to the people to rise in their thousands against the bread tax; appeals may be made—and a few hundred electors of Bury may be deluded by them—(ironical Opposition laughter)—to the memory of the great Sir Robert Peel against the imposition of the very duty which he himself devised and imposed. But the common sense of the mass of the people of this country will recognise the absurdity of arguments of that character. In a short time, when this duty, if it has any effect at all, will have found its proper level, I am convinced that it will be felt generally throughout the country, and the exaggerated and absurd anticipations of its result will never be realised, and that a duty which, when it existed, nobody felt, for the removal of which nobody was grateful, because nobody desired it, will no more in the future than in the past have—to use the words of Mr. S. Buxton—"any practical effect upon the food of the people." (Ministerial cheers.)

Mr Robson said the introduction of this tax was a step in the retrograde policy which the Chancellor of the Exchequer had had in view ever since he held his present office. The Government had now hit the three great mainstays of popular nutrition, namely, meat, sugar, and bread, and they had taken care that the consumer should suffer much more than the Exchequer should gain. (Opposition cheers.)

Earl Percy believed this tax would have no serious effect on the price of bread. Free trade in corn products was absolutely necessary in this country, and there was no probability of returning to protection.

Mr. M'Crae said the tax was economically wrong, because it imposed artificial restrictions upon the trade. In several large towns the price of second quality bread, upon which the poor chiefly subsisted, had risen 1d. per loaf. It was more

than a bread tax, it was a blood tax, because it robbed the people of bread and thus robbed them of vitality.

Mr. Bartley believed that the working man was prepared to pay his share towards the cost of the war. So far from this proposal being a cowardly one, he thought it was one of the few bold things which the present Government had done. (Ironical Opposition cheers and laughter.) He congratulated the Chancellor of the Exchequer on being bold enough to broaden the basis of taxation. He believed that long before the general election arrived the public would realise that the Chancellor of the Exchequer had adopted a sound fiscal system.

Sir H. Fowler said public opinion had already killed the cheque tax, and he believed that when submitted to the constituencies a similar fate awaited this corn duty, which was a most unfair application of the principle of indirect taxation, combining, as it did, taxation in its worst form with Protection, not only to the farmer in the case of wheat, but still more to the miller in the case of flour. As political economists and impartial legislators we should adopt the principle that the burden of taxation should be fixed on the shoulders best able to bear it. This Bill was a change of policy, it might be a little change, but it was an admission of the principle of taxation of necessaries and of Protection. Once that principle was adopted we could not stop at corn. What should we do with the Colonies, which, like Canada, had given us preferential rates, and to which we had always said that we could not alter our Free Trade policy? He believed that the House was in the rapids on this question, rapids on which the Government had not meant to enter, and on which the country would not enter. (Opposition cheers.)

Major Rasch said hon. members opposite contended that the farmer would not benefit, yet declared that the agricultural labourer would be crushed by his burden. Hon. members could not have it both ways. Of course, the agricultural districts were not satisfied; they rarely were. They would have preferred the tax on flour rather than corn so as to keep the offal. They considered this a pious opinion on the part of the Government —(Opposition laughter)—widening the basis of taxation.

Mr. Ashton argued that the price of a commodity could not be raised from 4 to 8 per cent. without somebody feeling the increase, and he believed that the consumer would have to pay. The tax was, in his opinion, wasteful.

Lord Willoughby de Eresby thought there was not the slightest ground for people grumbling at this tax on the score of Protection. So far from it being a Protective duty, it was an excise duty, and a matter of justice to the farmer.

Mr. Broadhurst said he prophesied that the Chancellor of the Exchequer would be compelled to withdraw the cheque duty, and if the right hon. gentleman would take his advice he would withdraw this bread tax also. He could not imagine why the right hon. gentleman should have returned to the quixotic path of Protection.

Mr. Kearley, Sir E. Vincent, and Mr. Fletcher Moulton spoke against the tax.

Mr. Churchill admitted that the whole of the tax would fall upon the consumer, but he denied that it was a protective tax except in economic theory. Was it a good tax? Did it give the results demanded from it? He ventured to answer both questions in the affirmative. This was not a new tax, but was the revival of an old one. Every argument which could be used against the corn tax could be equally applied to a tea tax. Sentimental emotions and prejudices ought not to be allowed to prevent any Government from taking a wise financial course. The tendency during the last sixty years had been to increase direct and to decrease indirect taxation, and he would never vote for any Government which proposed to reverse that process. It had been asserted by hon. members opposite that this Government shifted the burden of taxation from the shoulders of the rich to those of the poor. That was a very dishonest charge. (Ministerial cheers.) What would have been thought of the Government if they had not proposed a tax which they honestly thought to be necessary to meet a deficiency? They did not endeavour for the sake of a vulgar party advantage to neglect their duty. (Cheers.) He should support this tax, because it was the best financial expedient that could be found, being efficient, economical, and highly productive. (Ministerial cheers.)

Mr. G. M. Brown opposed, and Mr. Renwick supported the tax, and the debate was then adjourned.

The debate was resumed on Thursday by Mr. Buxton, who declared that as the tax had caused a universal rise on flour of 1s. per sack, bakers' profits were so much reduced that in many cases it was necessary for them to raise the price of bread. It could not be denied that this was a Protective tax any more than that "a sort of war" was real war. (Opposition cheers.) According to a recent report of Sir M. Hicks-Beach's views, he was using the arguments of the old Protectionists and desiring the import of grain instead of flour.

Sir M. Hicks-Beach: My reason for desiring the import of grain instead of flour was because we get the whole grain—the offal as well as the flour. If we merely have the flour only imported the offal remains in the United States. Their stock are fed with it, and we do not get the benefit of it in this country. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Buxton, continuing, opposed the tax, because it violated the principle of Free Trade, was a pure gratuitous raising of the question of protection, and would fall with the greatest severity on the working classes.

Mr. A. Chamberlain thought it must have required some courage on the part of Mr. Buxton to oppose the tax after the views he had expressed in a pamphlet on the abolition of the duty by Mr. Lowe. Mr. Buxton had said that the tax was one profitable in itself, was collected with little trouble and expense, was of little interference to trade, and had no effect on the price of bread.

Mr. Buxton: At that time.

Mr. A. Chamberlain: And the laws of political economy are apparently quite different in 1902 to what they were in 1869! The hon. gentleman shed a tear over the abandonment of this tax.

Mr. Buxton objected to certain extracts being taken from his pamphlet without the context being given. On every principle he condemned the tax.

Mr. A. Chamberlain did not wish to press the point too hard, because he did not pretend that the Government could justify the tax merely on what the hon. gentleman had written, or because his opinion at one time was not exactly what it was at another. The sources of national expenditure were matters in which all had an interest, even the poor, and it was just that they should contribute their share. Was it so certain, as they said, that this tax would be borne by the consumer? The duty imposed in France was only greater by about half the amount of that duty. (Ministerial cheers.) If the supply was greater than the demand the duty would tend to be borne by the producer, and if the demand was greater than the supply it would tend to fall on the consumer. Already the American exporters were considering how they could maintain their trade in view of this duty, and at least one great railway company had reduced their rate on flour in order to be able to put that article into this country at the same price as formerly. (Ministerial cheers.) In any case, he did not believe that those who had approved of the policy of the Government, and had seconded them in all their efforts to pursue it to a successful conclusion, would grudge their contribution to the expenditure involved, or expect to have all the advantages of Empire without bearing any portion of its cost. (Ministerial cheers.)

Mr. J. Redmond said that after careful consideration the Irish members had decided to support the amendment, because they believed such taxation would be injurious to Ireland, and because, further, it was imposed for the purposes of a war of which they disapproved. This tax was a mean and contemptible expedient in a Budget of 200 millions. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Russell declared that to vote for this tax was to vote for a tax upon Irish agriculture, which it could not bear. He assured the House that he would be no party to taxing the food of the people, and would oppose the imposition through and through. (Opposition cheers.)

Mr. Logan believed that a more extravagant tax was never devised.

Sir J. Reid objected to the proposed duty on corn, not only because he believed that its effect would be most serious in itself, but because he was afraid that it was intended to be at the beginning of a series of taxes which would be extended from one of the first necessities of life to other articles of food and manufacture.

Mr. T. G. Bowles said that the registration tax was abolished in the name of "abstract science and speculation," as Mr. Lowe said, and not in the name of the free food of the people. He would admit that the tax was appreciable, and to some extent protective in character, but political economists said you might impose any tax so long as the motive was pure—(laughter)—and here the motive was pure—it was revenue. Was there, however, necessity now for this tax, was there emergency? They were hoping for the dawn of peace, and if that hope was realised where was the emergency? Moreover, why the demand for over seventeen millions "for contingencies"? That was a constitutional innovation of a serious character, and if those "contingencies" were left out of account there was no need for this tax or for the increase of the income tax.

Mr. Fenwick protested against the allegations of Mr. Balfour that the crisis which had compelled the Chancellor of the Exchequer to seek new sources of revenue was one created by the working classes, and for which they ought to pay.

Mr. Balfour: I never suggested that the working classes were more responsible than any other class of the community. All I meant was that the nation at large, including the working classes, were responsible for and supported the war policy. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Fenwick contended that the crisis was the Government's own creation.

Mr. J. W. Wilson was reluctantly compelled to believe that the tax would be felt by the consumer, and he could not give his vote for it. The principle involved was above party loyalty. (Opposition cheers.)

Mr. G. Whiteley said the imposition of the bread tax was a colossal step for the Government to take. Speaking for the Opposition, he said they had been called a pro-Boer party throughout the country, but he thought they should now have to be designated a pro-bread party. The Liberal party were upon safe grounds at the present juncture, and they could very well adopt the motto, "The loaf, the whole loaf, and nothing but the loaf, so help the people of the country." (Laughter.)

Mr. Holland denounced the proposal of the Government as contrary to the policy of the country for the last half century, and believed if they went to the country on the subject they would suffer a crushing defeat.

Mr. Lees Knowles, as a friend in need of the Government, said he was bound to support the proposed tax. It would be paid by the foreigner, and would be so infinitessimal that nobody would feel it.

Mr. Channing agreed that the working men should bear their share of taxation for the war if they had received any benefit from it. But the wages of the men had not been increased. The expenditure for the war had benefited the classes, but not the masses of the country. (Opposition cheers.) The tax was a dole of £1,350,000 to the agricultural landlords.

Mr. Chaplin denied that the imposition of the tax justified the rise in the price of bread. Where bread had risen it was entirely due to the action of the bakers. The price of wheat was constantly fluctuating, and it was generally accepted that only a variation of 5s. a quarter would affect the price of bread. In the majority of cases wheat could only be grown in this country at a loss to the farmer. This tax might possibly reduce that loss. (Ironical Opposition cheers.) When wheat commanded a fair price in this country the lot of the agricultural labourer was comfortable, but with the fall in the price the labourers were out of work, and receiving no wages at all. The cry raised by the Opposition was an unreal cry, and their agitation was an unreal agitation.

Mr. C. Allen contended that the sufferers by this would be the wives and children of the flotsam and jetsam of the working classes.

Mr. Bell also opposed the imposition of the tax.

Mr. Runciman warmly supported the amendment.

Sir H. Campbell-Bannerman said it was very remarkable that one phase of opinion which had really more to do with the subject matter of the discussion than any other had been almost unrepresented. They had not had the Protectionist view of the question. (Opposition cheers.) It was evident that the word had gone out on the other side of the House that the dangerous love of Protection and the ardent expectation of Protectionist results from the action of the Government must be suppressed. (Opposition cheers.) If the Government wished to muzzle the Protectionists they should have begun early and stopped the exultant shrieks of the hon. member for Sheffield, and they should have prevented Mr. Hanbury saying what he did at Norwich last Saturday. He believed that this tax was harsh, cruel, ill-placed, and injurious to the community, and contrary to the sound policy of Free Trade.

Mr. Balfour said the main stress of the right hon. gentleman's arguments in proposing this tax the Government had inserted the thin end of the wedge of Protection. The right hon. gentleman had a theologian's acumen in discovering a suspicion of heresy. Unless they could show that as a result of this tax fewer quarters of corn would come from abroad into this country than came in now, and that more quarters of corn were grown in this country than hitherto, then this was not a protective tax. It might oppress the widow, it might starve the orphan, but it was not a protective tax, and the insinuation that the Government were introducing a fundamental change into our Free Trade system was exquisitely ludicrous. The tax was the invention of a free trader, and supported by a Free Trade Parliament. The tax was put on for fiscal reasons. It was put on because it was necessary that a greatly increased revenue should be raised in the course of the present year, and because, in the opinion of the Government, this was a fair tax. (Ministerial cheers.) Mr. Gladstone was not indifferent to the widows and orphans, neither was the House of Commons in the present day. Every tax considered by itself and in isolation must appear an unjust tax, but this tax had to be judged as part of a very complex and elaborate system. It was more favourable to the working classes and the poor, to the widows and the orphans now, than it was at the time when it was first imposed. Some hon. members thought this tax was a kind of punishment to those who had applauded the war and had supported the general policy of the Government. That was not the view entertained on that side of the House.

All they desired was a general system of taxation, and that the burden should be distributed over the whole community. They had been told that it was a mean and cowardly tax. (Opposition cheers.) In his opinion no course would have been so cowardly, so mean, so utterly unworthy in carrying out a policy of which the people had approved as that they should endeavour to do it at the cost of a small and relatively hopeless minority in the country, whose interests ought to be as dear to that House as those of any class. (Ministerial cheers.) This tax had the greatest merit of not interfering with trade, of not being difficult to collect, of not losing or wasting any important portion of that taken from the people on its way to the Exchequer, and while it raised the large sum of two and a half millions, it would not bear with undue severity on any portion of the population of the kingdom. (Loud Ministerial cheers.)

The House then divided on Sir William Harcourt's amendment, with the following result:—

For the amendment	188
Against	296
Majority against	108

The House then adjourned. After some further discussion on Wednesday, the Finance Bill passed the second reading by a majority of 90, 224 voting for the second reading and 134 against.

Gambling in Grain Futures.

On Wednesday Mr. Field asked the President of the Board of Trade whether his Department was aware of the legislative measures now enforced in Germany to discourage gambling in futures in grain and options in other products; and whether the Government would consider the question of introducing similar legislation to safeguard the producers and consumers of the three kingdoms.

Mr. G. Balfour: I am aware of the German legislation regulating produce exchanges. There is no intention of introducing similar legislation in this country.

Irish Butter and the Butter Standard.

On Monday, in reply to a question by Mr. O'Shaughnessy, Mr. Hanbury said: I am not aware that salt butter will in any way be injuriously affected by the new standard, nor was any evidence, I believe, given to that effect before the Departmental Committee. The brine butter, to which hot brine is added instead of salt, with the result of largely increasing the percentage of water, will no doubt be affected, but the practice has for some time been dying out, and at a meeting of the South of Ireland Butter Merchants' Association, held in Limerick a day or two ago, it was, I understand, resolved to recommend the use of dry salt instead. I believe such a course will do much to add to the price of the butter, and in any case the Irish Department agree with me in fixing the standard of water in butter, which is the same in both countries.

Agricultural Imports.

The following is an account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended May 10, 1902, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year:—

Animals Living:	1901.	1902.		1901.	1902.
	No.	No.		Cwt.	Cwt.
Cattle ...	8,943	7,181	Wheat ...	1119,900	2,186,656
Sheep.....	11,537	2,051	Flour.....	429,500	345,433
Swine.....	—	—	Barley ...	98,800	169,112
*Horses...	—	645	Oats	401,200	310,258
			Peas	41,700	48,293
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Beans ...	16,700	58,936
Beef	82,270	74,602	Maize ...	855,500	481,263
Mutton...	103,323	76,723		Bunches	Bunches
Pork	11,606	8,545	Bananas	29,281	33,450
Bacon ...	94,138	114,279			
Beef, salt	3,686	3,275		Cwt.	Cwt.
Hams.....	27,856	34,774	Apples ...	16,773	13,430
Pork, salt	3,013	3,485	Apricots & Peaches	—	97
Meat, salt & Fresh	21,062	14,603	Cherries	10	589
Do. pres.	9,856	15,096	Currants	—	—
Butter ...	67,202	74,831	Gooseb'r's	5	122
Margarine	18,497	31,913	Grapes ...	149	192
Cheese ...	40,785	31,430	Lemons...	34,712	41,810
Milk, Fresh, in cans or drums.	—	5	Oranges	129,397	166,697
			Pears.....	9	74
			Plums ...	—	—
			Strawb'r's	—	1
Milk ...			Oth'r Fr't	1,436	544
Cream	93	46		Tons.	Tons.
			Hay	1,018	9,879
			Straw ...	—	1,621
Milk preserved, other kinds ...	397	20	Onions ...	Bush. 116,434	Bush. 92,107
				Cwt.	Cwt.
			Hops	861	629
Condensed Milk	18,095	18,011	* Locust Beans	—	44,880
	No.	No.	Potatoes	212,721	112,606
Eggs	200,523	335,354	Tom'to's	8,857	15,838
			Other Veg'bles	Value. £13,710	Value. £14,811
Poultry & Game	Value. £22,900	Value. £16,328		Cwt.	Cwt.
			Dried ...	435	1,219
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Pres'v'd by canning ...	3,537	3,522
Rabbits ...	317	3,056			
Lard	30,611	33,576			

* Not shown in 1901.

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The Preparation of the Raw Material for Grinding.

There is very little new to record in the tra e since these notes last appeared. A deputation of millers has waited upon the Chancellor of the Exchequer with reference to the new duties on wheat and flour, but the interview was strictly private. It is generally understood, however, that the reception was satisfactory, and that a drawback will be allowed on exported flour which is manufactured from wheat on which duty has been paid. There may be some difficulty in cases where the flour is made from a mixture of foreign and home-grown wheat, but this should be easily surmounted. No doubt some effective arrangements will be made by the Customs authorities, perhaps on the lines of the French *acquits*, that is to say, millers will be allowed to export a certain percentage of the wheat, upon which duty has been paid in the shape of flour. As a good deal of the latter is only low grade, they will be able to take a large percentage from the wheat.

Millers certainly have the advantage in the discrimination (3d. and 5d. per cwt. respectively), between wheat and flour, and when matters have arranged themselves, and everyone has become used to the tax, they will find the new departure as

Beneficial to them as to British Farmers.

Therefore, on the whole, Sir Michael is to be congratulated upon giving some little assistance to two of the most important industries in the country. American millers are up in arms with regard to the tax, and it certainly will not do their export trade any good, unless they receive some assistance from the great carrying companies of America, who very naturally discriminate in the freights between wheat and flour, as the former is handled at so much less expense than the latter. But in this country, after all, the duty will be little more than a "nine days' wonder," and no one will be any the worse for it.

English wheat has been very short on our markets of late, but what has been on offer has been soon bought up at good prices. Whether the stock in farmers' hands is nearly exhausted or whether they are holding out for more money it is impossible to say; many people think the latter is the case. Trade in flour has been very dull, but offals still continue to go off well at good prices, considering we are so far advanced in May. The cold north and east winds, which have been so prevalent, have kept all vegetation back, and this, without doubt, has kept up the price of offals.

Cleaning and Conditioning the Wheat Mixture.

Turning from trade news to the theory and practice of milling, a debateable point often crops up as to which is the most important step in order to secure the best results. The writer would say that every step is equally important, but at the same time there is always a tendency to believe that at one point in the mill the greatest care should be taken. At one time it was purification, in its higher forms; at another, it was flour-dressing and re-dressing; at another, the break system, that is to say, the breaking down of the wheat and the grading and dusting of the middlings, was thought to be mainly responsible for the production of high class flours. Even to-day there are millers who pay particular attention to one portion of the system, perhaps to the neglect of others; but, if there be a point where the greatest care should be practised, it is in the preparation of the raw material for grinding. The cleanliness and condition of the wheat is of the very first importance, because, without these qualities in the wheat, it is useless to try and make pure flours. This is now recognised by most members of the trade, and there never was a time when it was so necessary to clean the wheat.

Reducing the Wheat on Three Breaks.

It may not be known to country millers, who are readers of this column, that some of the largest and most important mills in this country are only using three breaks at the present time, which practically amounts to two breaks and a bran roll. Now, this would be quite impossible unless the wheat were in the pink of condition, both as regards the endosperm and its coverings. The latter must be made so tough that there can be no possibility of making bran powder, that product which is so difficult to remove in purification. Let any one try to grind wheat which has not been conditioned on three breaks, and see what the result would be. It would simply be lamentable, and no pure flour would be possible. Of course, irrespective of condition, the wheat mixture must be quite clean, but it is condition which mainly controls the purity of the manufactured products out of the clean wheat.

If there are any country millers who are only using three breaks—or even if they are using four breaaks—they need not be afraid of grinding their wheat a little on the wet side. Of course

Extract of Flour from the Wheat depends upon the trade done,

but some of the most successful millers in the country take a low extract from the wheat and class the bulk of the flour as patent. The preparation, the miller must not imagine that less care ance, but, having put his mixture into the first break hopper as near perfection as regards condition, the miller must not imagine that less care may be taken in succeeding operations. Dull rolls, as well as rolls which are not properly adjusted, will make middlings which are difficult of purification; bad grading and dusting also prevent successful work on purifiers, and faulty reduction of the middlings, even if they are well made on the breaks, results in indifferent dressing. There is no point in the mill which it is safe to neglect. The preparation of the wheat is only the *beginning well*; there must also be the *ending well*.

MILLER FARMER.

THE DAIRY.

Lancaster Cheese Fair.

Lancaster May cheese fair was held in the covered market, Lancaster, on Tuesday, and was well attended by buyers from Preston, Ulverston, Kendal, and the district. The pitch was the largest at a May fair for the past three years, comprising 31 dairies and 452 cheese, against 17 dairies and 247 cheese at the corresponding fair last year. The lots offered were entirely new grass cheese, and there was a brisk demand, the market being cleared in 20 minutes. The best dairies realised up to 65s.; medium cheese made 57s. to 60s., and common 55s.

Nantwich Cheese Fair.

The first Nantwich bi-monthly cheese fair was held on Thursday, the pitch being about 12 tons. Buyers were present from Manchester, Rochdale, Warrington, Bradford, Huddersfield, Crewe, and other centres. Best lots found a ready sale at prices ranging from 55s. per cwt. to 60s. Medium qualities made from 48s. to 54s. Most of the lots were cleared by eleven o'clock.



BARLEY & MALT

By Hordeum.

Malt Use in Beer.

Some of the facts disclosed in the lately-issued Returns relating to Brewers' Licences show the necessity of there being a clearer understanding about the use of malt by brewers. For the first time it is now provable that a very large firm of brewers have carried the science of substitute use to the point of displacement of nearly one half of the total amount of materials they brew. Half the malt is displaced with sugar.

If this were an isolated case, it would be sufficiently alarming, but there are many others nearly as bad. Taking the whole of the beer made the displacement of malt amounts to nearly 30 per cent., which implies, after the deduction of the amount of beer brewed from malt solely, that in the whole of the substitute beer the ratio of sugar to malt has grown to nearly

40 per 100.

Where 100 quarters of malt are used there is now, as a rule, the equivalent of 40 quarters of other material that is not malt, and which does not adequately take its place in any sense whatever, excepting that it does earn a greater profit than the exclusive use of malt permits. There ought to be no misunderstanding about this point. It is claimed that the exigencies of scientific brewing make the use of sugar or of some similar substitute an absolute necessity. But this is utterly untrue. Brewers would not use such substances if their use were not the direct or indirect source of greater profits. Now the use of malt is a necessity, and this is very clearly proved by every-day practice. There are many brewers who would give much if they could only turn out a satisfactory article without the aid of any malt; but they cannot do it. They would do anything if their ultra-scientific friends could only show them how to brew successfully from sugar or rice or maize, or any combination of these things.

But they cannot do it. The mashing and fermenting processes

must have malt

to work upon, but it is not yet known in what proportion. The diastatic activity of nearly all well-made malt suffices to exercise its subtle and little-understood influences upon a considerable proportion of so-called malts that are altogether devoid of any similar energy, and the operation of malt upon yeast can stand considerable dilution. Hence we find the use of substitutes persistently increasing.

The check given to sugar use last year is purely fiscal in its origin and working. A duty of three to four pounds per ton to a material costing only three times the amount is quite sufficient to set back its use to a much greater extent than we have yet noticed with sugar. This seems to point to the fact that sugar is still as cheap as malt, and if this is true then it has paid brewers well for some years past to employ sugar instead of malt.

The question of sugar use is very largely affected by locality. In some districts it is almost unknown, and in others its use is excessive.

Irish Purity,

or freedom from substitute use, is proverbial. Galway is the only collection where beer is made in the United Kingdom in which not an ounce of sugar is brewed. Dublin stands next, where to the equivalent of each bushel of sugar over 1,050 bushels of malt are mashed; and for the whole of Ireland the proportion stands of nearly 100 to 1—i.e., to every 100 bushels of malt brewed only 1 bushel of sugar is added. The bushel of sugar being, of course, what is regarded by the Excise as the equivalent of a bushel of malt. It may be a widely-varying number of pounds of glucose or syrup or dry sugar, of maize, rice, and the host of things that are classed as sugar, but for the purposes of true comparison they are all reduced to

one uniform standard.

Few people can follow clearly statements of cwts. of rice or sugar, but when they are turned into their corresponding number of bushels of malt all difficulties vanish.

The use of substitutes in Scotland is twenty times greater than in Ireland, as to every five bushels of malt a bushel of sugar is added. Yet there are only two collections in England and Wales where so little is used, and the average is under three bushels.

Of the 74 collections in Great Britain and Ireland, no less than 42 use 30 per cent. and upwards of substitutes for malt. The two worst offenders are London and Warrington, closely followed by Cardiff and Birmingham; and in all these places which collectively represent a very great quantity of beer, under two bushels of malt have a bushel of sugar added in every instance.

Yet the fact remains that malt is a necessity in all beer, and its use cannot be dispensed with.

Animal Parasites.

The chain of animal existence possesses many curious and interesting links. One of these is constituted by creatures which are incapable of perpetuating their existence without the active intervention and direct support of other beings in the links that build up the great chain. Each creature plays its own special part, and it has been ordained in an inscrutable way that these forms low down in the scale of existence shall become conspicuous actors in the great drama of life. Human intellect is stunned at the marvellous ways instinct guides these creatures through their wanderings in their various stages of development to achieve their salvation. As soon as born each knows the part it has to play, and the marvel is how it guides itself successfully through the intricate metamorphoses of its life. Nature, "a mother kind alike to all," has prepared beforehand the food that each living thing is to consume, and instinct again prompts each individual to seek out and devour what suits his requirements best. In the domain of nature it has been preordained that "the stronger shall the weak devour," and the greater proportion of all creatures live on the booty of their own depredations. By the side of those that earn their own food by their independent efforts, there are other creatures that do not prey on their own account, but feed unop the booty gathered in by others. These dependent creatures that do not prey on their own account establish themselves as parasites in the organs of those that do earn their own living. These creatures then that are dependent for their entity on the nourishment supplied by the tissues of others are called parasites. Some require merely a resting place in their host, some require part of the booty of the chase, some consume only the detritus, some feed at the expense of their host, either establishing themselves in his organs or by making periodical marauding excursions to his body. A great number of creatures that are really dependent for their subsistence on the exertions of others are not true parasites. Nature has ordained that many animals shall live in harmony and render each other mutual assistance (mutualists), while others again feed only on the excess food ingested by the host (messmates). The boundary line between commensalism and parasitism is very hard to be drawn, and so far as it concerns our object it is perhaps not necessary for us to split straws over the question. The true parasite, however, is that creature which lives at the expense of another, devouring that which belongs to him and which should go to build up his tissues and repair his tissue waste. Some parasites (cestodes and trematodes) are free at the commencement of existence, and end it in some organ or cavity of the body. Some are imprisoned at the commencement and have a free existence at the close of life (gadflies).

Parasites may be either of animal or vegetable nature. The vegetable parasites may consist of microscopic plants—bacteria, moulds, smuts, rusts, etc.—or of microscopic plants like the dodder, broom-rape, mistletoe, etc. The distinction between an animal and a vegetable form is narrowed to this, that animal forms must have ready formed protoplasm for their food, but vegetable forms can build up their tissues out of elementary chemical substances. Parasites play some great part in the economy of nature, and, at one time, they were thought to arise spontaneously. The mystery surrounding their origin has been dispelled, and it is interesting to study their life-history, as it is only from an accurate knowledge of the life-histories of these pests that any control is capable of being exercised to arrest their development, thereby protecting ourselves and our flocks and herds from invasion. Animal parasites are found widely distributed in nature. Mammals, birds, reptiles, and fishes and many organisms lower in the scales of existence are greatly infested. They may be found dwelling on the skin or inhabiting the tissues and cavities of the organs of their hosts. All animals harbor parasitical worms, and all these worms invade the organs and tissues from without. Speaking generally, they are introduced mainly by food and drink. It is part of the plan of nature that their means of reaching maturity shall be extremely difficult of accomplishment, for if it were ordained otherwise they would completely crush out of existence all other living things. Again, since the means afforded of attaining maturity are so difficult, it has been ordained that there shall be prolific births, for, in the struggle for their precarious existence, few forms indeed succeed in reaching adult age. There are definite laws governing the development of parasites. They are quite incapable of prolonging their existence unless they reach the organs and tissues of the animals upon which nature has destined them to exist. Some, indeed, will not thrive, but absolutely perish, unless they reach particular creatures. Again, not only must they reach particular creatures, but they must also reach particular organs and tissues before existence can be supported. The complexity of their development is a continual round of danger to the maintenance of their existence. Unless this were so, they would become so numerous as to threaten the balance of the scales of existence of all highly-organised animals. A single female may give birth to ova that are capable of developing into millions of adult forms, but circumstances are always so adverse to their development that but few ever succeed in reaching maturity. Nature, taking into account the complexity of the development, has ordained prolific births, full well knowing that only a comparatively few individuals will, in the course of their adventurous careers, overcome the obstacles presented, and reach maturity to prolong their kind. If, indeed, these creatures threaten the flocks and herds of the pastoralist, we have at our command a knowledge of their development, and by the exercise of reasoning intelligence and the application of suitable remedies, we can repel with considerable force destructive invasion. All other forms of animal existence, as before remarked, live upon the results of their own labours. They build up their tissues from booty of their own depredations. Parasites live upon the juices of the bodies of the animals they infest. They, in the main, disturb the health of their host, and tend to bring its existence to an end. For this reason, wherever present, they should be compelled to relinquish the dwelling into which they entered uninvited, and it is by an intelligent application of therapeutical agents and prophylactic measures that we are able to come to the assistance of animals, and rid them of enemies that depreciate their market value, or end their existence. The division of animal parasites infesting our flocks and herds, of which we shall first treat in subsequent numbers, is the cestodes, or ribbon or tapeworms. This season they have been particularly prolific, and our lamb trade has been markedly injured by their appearance in excess. How they maintain their adult existence, how they perpetuate their species, how they pass one generation in an immature form in a creature altogether distinct from the one in which their adult existence is supported, and how they reach these creatures to consummate their marvellous life-history, and what means we should adopt to frustrate their career, are studies of the utmost economic importance to all engaged in the industry of raising flocks and herds. By well-directed efforts producers can lessen mortality, and can secure increased profits from additional attention to the wants and requirements of their stock.—A. A. Brown, M.B.B.S., in the "Victoria Journal of Agriculture."

New Agricultural Patents.

Specially compiled for MARK LANE EXPRESS by Mr. G. D. Howard (Hughes, Son, and Co.), Patent Agent, 38, Chancery Lane, London, of whom all information relating to patents, designs, and trade marks may be obtained free of charge.

9,916.—Henry Senior Wortley, of Huddersfield, for "Improvement in or relating to machines for crushing oats and like grain."

10,103.—Charles William Jones and Frank Arthur Goldsmith, of Flintz, for "Improvements in harvesting or hand drag rakes."

10,162.—Everard Kitton, of Chancery Lane London, for "Improvements in or connected with horse-drawn field or land rollers."

10,164.—Francis Adrian Miles, of Finsbury, for "Improvements in horse hoes, cultivators, and like implements."

10,202.—Walter James, McBain, of Glasgow, for "Manure distributing machine."

Louth Statute Fair was held on Wednesday. There was a large attendance, but very little hiring was done. First waggoners obtained £23; second waggoners, £18; lads able to plough, £14; grooms, £20; cooks, from £17 to £21; housemaids, £13 to £16; kitchenmaids, £12 to 18; nursemaids, £9 to £11; and useful girls first time out from £7 to £8 per annum.



GARDEN.

Cold, north-easterly winds, dull skies, though with occasional gleams of a wintry sun, and varied by frequent showers of equally cold rain, are still the prevailing conditions. Out of doors nothing grows, and even under glass the nights are so cold that unless artificial heat is used freely the progress made is very slow. The season can scarcely fail now, of being an exceptionally late one, even if not a bad one also. In years like this the grower of fruit, vegetables, or flowers for sale, becomes disheartened, and no wonder, when he sees all his efforts, forethought, and expense nullified by unfavourable and unnatural conditions; sees the more fortunate foreigner pouring his produce into the country by thousands of tons weekly, unhindered and even encouraged in doing so; sees the money that ought to go into his own pocket sent abroad, etc.; and knows that when at length—if ever his tardy crops do mature, the best of the season will be gone and only "bottom" prices will be obtainable.

But what can be done? There is nothing for it but to "grin and bear it," and live on the loss, somehow. The capitalist can cover his land with glass, and so ensure a more favourable atmosphere or climate, but this is too often beyond the means of the small or poor grower, and while glass and fuel are dear (comparatively), freight and transport are cheap—especially those from abroad—and consequently it pays the foreign growers better to send his produce five hundred or a thousand miles than it does the market gardener to grow it at home, and dispose of it almost at his own door.

Very little progress is being made at present, but when the warmer weather does come, as it probably will, in time, something may be done to hasten and improve early-planted potatoes that, having already pushed up through the soil, have been badly nipped or cut down by the recent frost, etc. When this occurs, the plants usually send up several shoots—often ten or a dozen—instead of the two or three produced at first, and if these can be thinned out to some extent, leaving only about three of the strongest, when the growth re-commences, the tubers will be improved in both size and quality. Of course, such work takes time, and on anything like a large scale would be impossible, but if it can be managed it will prove very beneficial. The surplus shoots may either be cut away, just below the surface, or preferably pulled up, giving a smart jerk, but taking care not to disturb the main root. Then a light sprinkling of nitrate of soda, ammonium sulphate, or good guano (such as Allendorff's Fertility), given between the rows just before the principal moulding, will promote a rapid and vigorous growth in the haulm, thus helping to make up some of the time lost, and augmenting the crop.

Until the weather improves, seed of either the dwarf bean or scarlet runners will be almost, if not quite, as well out of the cold soil as in it, although it is now high time for the main crops to be in now. If an early supply is needed, the best plan, where practicable, will be to sow under glass, in boxes, or (preferably) singly in small pots, raising the plants in a gentle warmth, and planting them out when a few inches high.

Directly the weather improves, begin planting out strong, well-hardened tomatoes against sunny walls and fences, or in any sheltered spot. If in a single row, place them 18in. apart, but in the open 2ft. is better, with a space of 2½ft. or 3ft. between the rows. Plant very firmly, and do not make the soil too rich. Continue thinning out root crops, plant out early leeks and celery, and prepare the ground for celeriac. Plant out plenty of cauliflowers and cabbages, and sow more lettuce and endive.

Fruit Garden.

The apple blossom weevil (Anthonomus pomorum) appears to be unusually prevalent and destructive this season, and fresh reports of bad attacks reach me almost daily. The best and almost only means of dealing with this pest are to place sheets of some kind beneath the trees, and then shake them well, throwing the dead and fallen blossoms, etc., into a hot fire at once.

Flower Garden

It is now getting high time to begin planting out the summer bedders, but as long as the cold spell holds the majority will be better under glass. If any beds have to be planted, as sometimes happens, a rough screen had better be rigged up on the windward side, using some stakes and any old mats or sacks, etc.

As the hyacinths, tulips, narcissus, and other bulbs are lifted from the beds do not dry them off at once, but re-plant them closely and rather deeply in any spare bed of light, rich soil, watering in well, and take them up again when the foliage has quite matured. Gladioli that were started in pots should be planted out, giving them deep and mellow soil, and an open, sunny position.

B. C. R.

The Education Bill.

Mr. Henry Chaplin, M.P., has sent the following communication to "The Times":—"I shall be grateful if you will allow me space for a few words upon one aspect of the education question which has hardly received from the Government the attention it deserves.

"I ask this of your courtesy for two reasons. First, because, like some other members who were desirous, I know, of speaking on this branch of the subject, I was unable to obtain the opportunity of doing so in the House last night; and, secondly, because I think that the debate and the division may convey a false impression as to the attitude of many members of the party on the subject.

"I refer to the financial and the rating clauses of the Bill, to which some of us are much opposed, and on which I find myself in the rare position of cordial agreement with Sir W. Harcourt.

"Speaking of the rates, he said: 'It is the one subject in country districts on which people fell more acutely than anything else,' . . . and 'that in those districts a very small addition to the rates is more sensibly felt than in the big towns.'

"My experience concurs with his, and I strongly suspect that he is also right in thinking that 'the fear of rates' in the cases which he speaks of 'is greater than the love of education.'

"Nor can we wonder if it is so. The condition of some of these districts is deplorable. In the corn-growing counties they have passed, and some of them are passing still, through times of the greatest trial and distress, and in truth they are not in a position to bear any further addition to their burdens.

"This has been fully recognised by the Government already. Since 1895 their policy has been, or it was until quite recently, to give to agricultural districts such relief as was found to be possible in respect of rates, and it is just at this moment when they urgently need whatever encouragement and aid is possible that the Government elect to impose upon them this added burden in the form of a new education rate.

"What the people in those districts say themselves, I understand, is this: We raise no objection to the improved education which you propose; on the contrary, we agree with you that it is a matter of great national importance. But if that is so, then it should be met, not by local but by national funds. It is true that we shall not derive the same advantages from your scheme as others will, and for this reason. Our great want at the present time is to keep the people on the land; our object, to induce them, if possible, to stay there. But it is also our misfortune that the better and more highly you educate these people the more certain it is that they want to leave the land at once. And while we are ready and prepared to bear our share of a national burden for a great national purpose, we are neither willing nor prepared, nor will we submit, if we can help it, to bear a heavy addition to our local burdens for a purpose which in that respect will be an injury rather than a benefit to us.

"It is impossible to deny the force of their contention, and this proposal is the more to be regretted because it is not only a complete reversal of the general policy which found expression in the Rating Act of 1896, but it is directly opposed to the recommendations of the Royal Commission which was appointed at that time, and which reported barely a year ago.

"A more able or powerful Commission has seldom conducted an inquiry, and they recommend that education, including technical and secondary as well as elementary education, shall be regarded as a national service and treated accordingly.

"And now, without a word of explanation, in reply to the remonstrances which were raised in the debate, the Government, reversing all their later policy and over-riding their own Commission, prepare to throw the added cost of their education scheme entirely on the rates, and to inflict upon the most impoverished country districts this new and heavy burden.

"What it will amount to no one probably can say; but I heard and I have not forgotten Mr. Forster's Statement on his own Education Bill in 1870. Here is what he said: 'After all it is a very small matter as regards the rate. . . . But should it exceed 3d. in the pound, and I do not believe it will amount to anything like that sum in the vast majority of cases,' etc.

"Would five or even ten times 3d. equal the education rate in some localities at present, and what assurance have we that history may not repeat itself again in this case? If it does so, even partlally, I can imagine nothing more grievous and unfortunate or more ill-timed in the case of some of our country districts.

"This proposal, in my judgment, is the great blot on a Bill with regard to which, in other respects, I should join with you in wishing it success.

"With that exception I should cordially support it, but it is a grave exception, and if it is persisted in it will be, of course, opposed with whatever forces we can muster for the purpose.

"But I venture most respectfully to express the earnest hope that it is not yet too late to reconsider the proposal to throw the additional burdens of this scheme, whatever they amount to, entirely upon the rates."

"Stafford House, St. James's, May 9."



Burning Bricks.

Sir,—At what distance from a publicly repaired and used road may a clamp to burn bricks be set up? For instance, could it be set up, say, within 20 to 25 feet of the centre of such road? Also the same query with regard to house property and the cartilage of same? Your answer, in due course, in your paper, will greatly oblige.

CIVIS.

[*** My opinion is that such proceedings could not be adopted in either of the queries submitted; but it is impossible to answer your questions fully without knowing the bye-laws in force in your district. As to offensive trades, Section 112 of the Public Health Act, 1875, is the one to look at but this section is too long to set out here. I am sorry that I cannot give you a definite reply, but you must see the Clerk to the Council for your district, and he will be able to show you the bye-laws and give you every information. As a ratepayer you are entitled to adopt this course and ask for any information you require.—ED.]

Poultry for Profit

Sir,—Mr. Welch, in his letter to you of 5th inst., desires that I should give some account of the income from my poultry.

I have pleasure in so doing, in the hope that it may induce some others to give this subject the attention it deserves. I may as well explain that during last year we put aside two bins or boxes with two compartments in each, and as either a sack of corn or meal was tipped in it was booked against the poultry, and they were fed entirely from these bins; and in like manner, when eggs were collected or chickens killed they were booked to credit; and by reference to this book I could supply quantities and sorts of food as well as the prices, also quantities of eggs and chicken. But probably the chief interest will be taken in the totals, and they work out as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Eggs and chickens sold, and increase of stock, for the year 1901	98	0	0
Less cost of food and eggs for setting	45	15	0
Profit	£52	5	0

In this account, be it observed, there is nothing charged for labour or rent, that being more difficult to obtain, because the 100 hens and three ducks, to begin with, are attended to along with the other stock on a 50-acre dairy farm, and no attempt has been made to separate the time devoted to the poultry. The rent, also, cannot be easily got at, as they are partly mixed with the pigs and young stock, and do not exclusively occupy any portion of the land; but when I state that there was upwards of 450 chickens and 30 ducks reared in the year it may be possible for those acquainted with such work to apportion the time needful to be charged; and to those who have had no experience I may say the result to us is highly satisfactory. ROBERT BROWN.

Court Farm, Failand, near Bristol.

May 15th, 1902.



Bedfordshire.

When I finished writing to your readers last time I threw away my pen in disgust and despair, never dreaming that my oft-repeated ambitions would so soon be realised. The fact that the English people are "waking up" at last, and are determined that agriculture shall not die, has put fresh life into my soul, and I am at the old game, with a brand new pen. I don't care a tinker's cuss what are the party politics of the present Government. I know that we have a Government full of sympathy for depressed agriculture, and that is good enough for me. I am intensely sorry that the Opposition are making this corn tax a party question, for, by so doing, they are compelling thousands of Liberal agriculturists either to vote against their political principles, or to show themselves traitors to their own, which is England's greatest industry. I need not say much about the weather, for it is in everybody's mouth. Shivering and grumbling are the order of the day; in fact, I am inclined to grumble a bit myself. It is blasting weather. We had an awful frost last night, and my horsekeeper told me this morning that when he fetched the horses in the grass nearly carried him on the top of it. The corn, naturally, looks bad, but warmer weather would alter all that. Beef is selling well, but the demands for store cattle is not keen, because of the shortness of keep.

Corn Tax and the Price of Bread.

Will you allow me, Sir, to give your many readers a personal illustration of the absurdity of the cuckoo cry (used at the Bury election and elsewhere), that this small corn tax — equal to a quarter of a farthing on a 2lb. loaf—must inevitably raise the price of bread, the profits of the millers and bakers being so small? I farm four miles from Bedford. About a year ago I took a little house in Bedford for my family during the school terms. When I examined my Bedford baker's book I found he was charging me 5½d. per quartern loaf. I at once went to him and protested, saying I was not prepared to pay 5½d. for four pounds of bread, when I had to sell 36 stones of the wheat, which made the bread, for 28s. I further told him that I was only paying 4½d. per quartern loaf at my village home. The baker at once answered, "Yes, but our expenses are so much heavier in the towns than they are in the country." Then I said, "Would you believe it, but one of your Bedford bakers brings the bread from Bedford, and sells it in my own village for 4½d. per quartern loaf." He then told me that as I was a farmer and grew the raw material he would only charge me 5d. for my bread at Bedford. The profits of the miller and baker are so small that they can only just manage to go to the extra expense of taking the bread nearly five miles and then sell it for one penny less than they sell it in their town shop, where the bread is made. This one penny alone means ten shillings per quarter on the wheat, and yet the Bury electors have been so gulled as to believe that the small registration duty of one shilling per quarter on wheat justifies their bakers, who raise their bread one halfpenny per quartern. Never did absurdity go to greater lengths than in this hollow agitation, led by Sir William Harcourt.—Thomas Street (May 14th.)

Carmarthen.

For the last three weeks we have had nothing but cold, piercing blasts from the north-east, with frequent night frosts, with rain and sleet, and on Thursday last the hills in the parishes of Breckfa, and Llanarthney were covered with snow. The wind blew quite a storm, and doing irreparable injury to the blossom of the apple, pear, plum, and cherry trees, where there were great prospects of an abundant crop; the trees were white with blossom. We have had heavy showers of hail and sleet, accompanied by some thunder and lightning. Few kinds of apple blossom were not sufficiently expanded to be readily injured, and it is hoped they have been saved. Vegetation is exceedingly backward now in the middle of May. The oak and ash have shown very little of their foliage, and everything else is very backward. Most farmers in this county have sent their cattle to grass, but they have only half a bait, and are consequently mostly in poor condition. Fat beasts are scarce, and are in request at from 6d. to 7d. per lb. Store cattle are in demand and prices improving, and, when we have grass, will be in greater request. Fat sheep sell at about 8d. per lb., and fat lambs at 10d. per lb.—D. P. (May 14th.)

Lancashire (North).

We can only say that after the mild and damp winter, we are perhaps later now in growth than for very many years, and the prospects of an average hay crop are very doubtful. With night frosts, pastures show no signs of growth, and corn has gone off considerably in colour. The few cold showers we have had have prevented that absolute ruin caused to oats by last year's drought; at the same time the outlook is not too promising.

Lambs are reported a very good crop, and losses among ewes not in any way unusual. Prices of fat cattle and sheep keep up well. Store stock are also correspondingly dear, and unless beef and mutton maintain the present level (which is hardly likely when grass is plentiful) there will be little or no margin for grazing.

Judged by the bloom, orchards should be overloaded, but it remains to be seen what harm the cold winds and night frosts have done, and we think it will be great.—(May 15.)

Somerset (West).

The weather for some weeks has been cold and dry, and the season is backward. The barley and other corn crops, however, look better than could be expected under the conditions. Rain has now fallen, and looks like more. This is bad for our County Show, but I hope it will bring warmer weather and an improvement generally. Grass is by no means plentiful, although sheep have now been on trefoil for some time, and hay crops can hardly be other than light. Mangels are now under favourable conditions, but they have made little progress as yet, and the work on the farm is generally forward. Beef is higher than for some years, whilst mutton has greatly improved. The supply of the former, however, is in few hands.—S. K. (May 15).

Wilts (North).

The prospects for the summer season have of late been by no means encouraging, but it is hoped that the change in the weather which has now apparently taken place may be permanent and beneficial. On the whole, the past winter cannot be said to have been a very unfavourable one, as there was but little snow. This district was rather better provided with provender for the stock than many, and has, consequently, been quite "a happy hunting ground" for the purchasers of hay, who have now pretty nearly denuded it of that article, which, if the next crop should be light, of which there are more unlikely prospects, must command a very high figure. Buyers from very long distances have come into this neighbourhood. Beef is scarce, and, as everywhere besides, is selling well. Veal and fat pigs are also at good prices. It is hoped that the potatoes and mangolds out of the ground may not suffer from the frost of yesterday morning.—W. F. P. (May 15).

Worcestershire.

Agriculturists generally are looking with some anxiety for a change in the weather, this "winter ling'ring in the lap of May," offering anything but a pleasant prospect. Cold easterly winds have been unusually prevalent throughout the month, retarding growth and causing farmers to fear a visit of King Frost, which just now would prove truly disastrous. The favourable conditions under which tillage and seeding operations were carried out are clearly "en evidence" in the forward state of the growths, despite the drawbacks which have since been experienced. Corn crops, on the whole, are looking promising. Here and there, it is true, autumn-sown wheat is thin on the ground, and the cold winds have caused it to take on an unhealthy yellowish tinge instead of the "port wine colour" which is so welcome to the grower at this season of the year. A few days of warm sunshine would quickly rectify matters in this direction. Satisfactory progress is being made by such crops as vetches, winter barley, rye grass, and clover, but complaints are rife of the ravages of the wireworm in oats.

Graziers and dairy farmers are looking anxiously for more rain and plenty of warm sunshine for the early growth of herbage, the cold windshaving checked the young growth and yellowed the older growth. The large number of young cattle coming into the markets is doubtless due to this shortness of keep rather than to any overstocking, for the rickyards are mostly empty of hay and straw as the result of last year's shortage, one of the worst on record. A whole rick of hay or corn is daily becoming a greater curiosity. Most farmers, too, are becoming reconciled to the fact that the registration duty on corn included in the Budget will mean a considerable burden rather than a relief. Assuming they benefit by the price of corn, the extra cost of purchased goods will be very heavily in excess.

The fruit prospects are distinctly good, though it is yet full early to say with any certainty how far the cold winds have affected them. There is everywhere a profusion of plum, pear, cherry, and apple blossom, making the country for the most part a veritable flower garden. Fortunately, the nights have been free from frost, and generally early precautions have been taken to fight the insect pests. There was an unusually large quantity of winter moths, but the grease banding, which is now very generally adopted, should do much to combat the resulting profusion of caterpillars, which are now hatching out. The sawfly has commenced its destructive attacks upon the gooseberry and currant bushes, and aphides are too much in evidence to be pleasant. Should there be no serious damage by frost, the yield of fruit should be large, and farmers will do well to study carefully the methods of their Continental neighbours in marketing their produce. — "Birmingham Daily Post" (May 12th.)



Monday (May 12th).—Rainy and unsettled weather prevailed over the greater portion of our islands, and the temperature continued very low for the time of year. Rain was measured in the morning, as the result of the fall in the preceding twenty-four hours, over nearly the entire kingdom, but the amounts were mostly small. The wind had again become northerly over the entire country, and in Ireland it had increased considerably in strength. The mid-day temperatures were slightly above fifty degrees in the South and West, but at places in the North they were not much above forty degrees.

Tuesday (May 13th).—The weather was very unsettled over the Northern portion of our islands, and snow and hail were reported in places. Rain was measured in the morning, as the result of the fall since the previous day, in the Northern and Eastern districts, but the amounts were everywhere small. A northerly wind was still blowing over the entire country. In the morning, at Aberdeen, the temperature was lower than in any other part of Western Europe, being seven degrees cold than at Bodö, within the Arctic Circle. In London the highest temperature was forty-eight degrees, which is fourteen degrees below the average.

Wednesday (May 14th).—The weather still continued very cold over the whole of Western Europe. Frost occurred during Tuesday night in the Northern, central, and Eastern portions of our islands, and, open to the sky, the exposed thermometer fell several degrees below the freezing-point. The mid-day temperatures were generally ten degrees and more below the average, the thermometer, where highest, only slightly exceeding fifty degrees. A northerly wind was still blowing in most parts of our islands. Small amounts of rain were measured in the morning in most places, as the result of the fall since the previous day, and slight showers were again experienced, whilst at Yarmouth sleet was reported. Frost occurred in London during Tuesday night, and the exposed thermometer fell eight degrees below freezing-point. The highest temperature in the Metropolis during the day was fifty-four degrees.

Thursday (May 15).—Rainy and unsettled weather prevailed in most parts of our islands, and the wind generally had become south westerly. Rain was measured in the morning, as the result of the fall in the preceding twenty-four hours, over nearly the entire kingdom, and at the Western stations the amounts were fairly large. Temperature had risen generally, but the thermometer was still many degrees below the average. There was more cloud than of late during Wednesday night, and consequently the temperature did not fall so low as on several previous nights, and there was nearly an absence of frost.

AGRICULTURAL SHOWS

FOR

1902.

MAY 19.—King's Heath Horse Show, at King's Heath. Secretaries, Messrs. Bailey and Poste, 93, High Street, King's Heath.

MAY 19.—London Cart Horse Parade Society, at Inner Circle, Regent's Park, London. Entries close, April 28; late entries, May 5. Secretary, F. F. Euren, 12 Hanover Square, London, W.

MAY 19.—Lydney and District Farmers' Club, at Lydney, Hon. Secretary, F. Montagu Lloyd, The Grange, Newnham-on-Severn.

MAY 19.—Ixworth Farmers' Club, at Bury St. Edmunds. Secretary, Chevell Lawrence, jun., Bury St. Edmunds.

MAY 19.—Clitheroe Agricultural Association, at Clitheroe. Secretary, T. Robinson, 3, Wesleyan Road, Clitheroe.

MAY 20 and 21.—Notts Agricultural Society, at Nottingham. Entries close, May 3. Secretary, W. H. Bradwell, Thurland Street, Nottingham.

MAY 21.—Ormskirk and Southport Agricultural Society, at Southport. Entries close, May 10. Secretary, E. C. Stretch, 15, Moor Street, Ormskirk.

MAY 21.—Reigate and Redhill Horse and Hound Show, at Reigate. Secretary, Eustace Frith, Reigate.

MAY 24.—Accrington Agricultural Society. Entries close, May 14. Secretary, F. C. Riley, 3, Church Street, Accrington.

MAY 26.—Newchurch and District Society, at Newchurch, near Manchester. Entries close, May 20. Secretaries, Messrs. Mitchell and Burrows, Newchurch, near Manchester.

MAY 27, 28, 29, 30, and 31.—Bath and West and Southern Counties Society, at Plymouth. Entries close: Implements, March 18; Stock and Produce, April 7 (post entries and double fees, April 14); Poultry, May 2; Harness Horses and Jumping, May 10. Secretary, T. F. Plowman, 4, Terrace Walk, Bath.

MAY 28 (about).—Eastern District of Stirlingshire Agricultural Association, at Falkirk. Entries close, May 21. Secretary, W. Wright, Newmarket Street, Falkirk.

MAY 23.—Eastern District of Stirlingshire Agricultural Association, at Falkirk. Entries close, May 22. Secretary, W. Wright, Newmarket Street, Falkirk.

MAY 31.—Batley and District Agricultural Society, at Batley. Entries close, May 24. Secretary, T. Machell, 28, Beaumont Street, Batley, Yorks.

JUNE 3 and 4.—Wiltshire Agricultural Association, at Swindon. Entries close, May 6. Secretary, J. Welch, Market Lavington, Devizes.

JUNE 4.—Yealmpton Agricultural Society, at Yealmpton (seven miles from Plymouth). Secretary, John Pearse, 15, Princess Square, Plymouth.

JUNE 5.—Renfrewshire Agricultural Society, at Paisley. Entries close, May 29. Secretary, B. Lang, Solicitor, Paisley.

JUNE 5 and 6.—Shropshire and West Midland Agricultural Society, at Shrewsbury. Entries close:—Implements, April 21; stock, April 28. Secretary, T. Whitfield, junr., 11, Talbot Chambers, Shrewsbury.

JUNE 5 and 6.—Suffolk Agricultural Association, at Ipswich. Entries close, May 7. Secretary, Robert Bond, Old Bank House, 6, Butter Market, Ipswich.

JUNE 6.—Kintyre Agricultural Society, at Campbeltown. Entries close, May 23. Secretary, G. Erskine Inglis, Estate Offices, Campbeltown, Argyllshire.

JUNE 7.—Ashton-under-Lyne and District Agricultural Society, at Hurst. Entries close, May 31. Secretary, T. E. Hewitt, 97, Katherine Street, Ashton-under-Lyne.

JUNE 10.—Huntingdonshire Agricultural Society, at St. Neots. Entries close, May 20. Secretary, A. G. Dilley, Market Hill, Huntingdon.

JUNE 10, 11, 12, and 13.—Royal Counties Agricultural Society at Reading. Entries close:—Implements, April 5; post entries, April 12; stock, April 19; late entries, April 26; poultry, May 10. Secretary, F. Simons, Basingstoke.

JUNE 11.—Edinburgh Agricultural Association, at Edinburgh. Entries close, May 19; post entries, May 24. Secretary, J. Wylie, J.P., Royal Bank, Leven Street, Edinburgh.

JUNE 11 and 12.—Northamptonshire Agricultural Society, at Daventry. Entries close, May 14. Secretary, A. E. Lovell, Harnole, Northampton.

JUNE 11 and 12.—Royal Cornwall Agricultural Association, at Camborne. Secretary, H. Tresawna, Lamellyn, Probus.

JUNE 12.—Waltham Cross and Three Counties (Essex, Herts, Middlesex) Horse and Foal Show Society, at Waltham Cross. Entries close, May 21. Secretary, J. Crawter, junr., Cheshunt.

JUNE 13.—Stirling Agricultural Society, at Stirling. Entries close, June 5; post entries, June 7. Secretary, Andrew C. Buchanan, 26, Port Street, Stirling.

JUNE 13 and 14.—Richmond (Surrey) Horse Show Society, at Richmond. Entries close, May 24; double fees, May 26. Secretary, C. Capel Smith, 1, The Little Green, Richmond, Surrey.

JUNE 14.—Ossett Agricultural Society. Entries close, June 7. Secretary, A. Shaw, Ossett.

JUNE 14.—Ramsbottom and District Agricultural Society, at Two Gates, Ramsbottom. Entries close, June 7. Secretary, M. Bortwistle, 8, Garden Street, Ramsbottom.

JUNE 17.—Murrow Foal Show, at Murrow. Secretary, A. Huddlestone, Murrow, Wisbech.

JUNE 17, 18, and 19.—Herefordshire and Worcestershire Agricultural Society, at Hereford. Secretaries, A. Edwards and T. H. Edwards, Corn Exchange Offices, Leominster.

JUNE 18.—Thorne Agricultural Society, at Thorne. Entries close, June 1. Secretaries, C. Haycroft and J. Servant, Thorne, Doncaster.

JUNE 18 and 19.—Norfolk Agricultural Association's Summer Show, at Norwich. Entries close, May 19. Secretary, Caleb Barker, East Harling, Thetford, Norfolk.

JUNE 18 and 19.—Glasgow Agricultural Society's Summer Show, at Scotstoun, Glasgow. Entries close: Implements, May 21; stock, May 28. Secretary, A. Russell, 54, West Nile Street, Glasgow.

JUNE 19 and 20.—Essex Agricultural Society, at Romford. Entries close: Stock, May 19: Implements and Dairy, May 26; Poultry, June 2. Secretary, F. Taylor, 17, Duke Street, Chelmsford.

JUNE 24 and 25.—North West of Ireland Agricultural Society, at Londonderry. Entries close, June 11. Secretary, Ashmur Bond, Castle Street, Londonderry.

JUNE 28.—Dalkeith Agricultural Society, at Woodburn Park, Dalkeith. Secretary, T. Watson Dods, Dalkeith, N.B.

JUNE 28.—Keighley Agricultural Society, at Keighley. Entries close, June 21. Secretary, F. S. Pearson, Old Bank Chambers, Keighley, Yorks.

JULY 1.—Bishop Auckland Agricultural Society, at Bishop Auckland. Entries close June 24. Secretary, W. Burkitt, Grange Hill, Bishop Auckland.

JULY 2.—Barnstaple Agricultural Society, at Pilton Park. Hon. Secretary, T. Yeo, Barnstaple.

JULY 2.—Mid-Kent Agricultural Association, at Maidstone. Entries close, June 11. Secretary, P. Champion, 3, Market Buildings, Maidstone.

JULY 2.—Scunthorpe Agricultural Society, at Scunthorpe. Entries close, June 25. Secretary, G. W. Johnson, 40, High Street, Scunthorpe.

JULY 2.—Mansfield and District Agricultural Society. Secretary, G. Cox, West Gate House, Mansfield.

JULY 2 and 3.—Leicestershire Agricultural Society, at Leicester. Secretary, H. C. Ardron, Syston, Leicester.

JULY 2 and 3.—Doncaster Agricultural Society, at Doncaster Race Common. Entries close, June 7. Secretary, F. H. Chafer, 9, Market Place, Doncaster.

JULY 2 and 3.—County Cork Agricultural Society's Summer Horse and Sheep Show, at Show Yard, Cork Park, Cork. Entries close, June 9. Secretary, E. Corrigan, 21, Cook Street, Cork.

JULY 3.—Brentwood and Mid-Essex Horse Show Society, at Middleton Hall, Brentwood. Entries close, June 21. Secretary, F. A. Thorne, Brentwood, Essex.

JULY 4.—Ripon and District Agricultural Society, at Ripon. Entries close, June 26. Secretary, B. North, 31, Market Place, Ripon.

JULY 4.—Malton Agricultural Society, at Malton. Entries close, June 14. Secretary, T. Mitchell, the Mount, Malton.

JULY 5.—West of Fife Agricultural Society, at Dunfermline. Entries close, June 21. Secretary, R. Husband, Solicitor, Dunfermline.

JULY 5.—United East Lothian Agricultural Society, at Amisfield Park, Haddington. Entries close, June 20. Secretary, J. Stirling, Haddington.

JULY 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, and 11.—Royal Agricultural Society of England, at Carlisle. Entries close: Implements, &c., March 15; post entries, at double fees, April 1. Live Stock (horses, cattle, sheep, pigs), April 15; at post entry fees, April 30; late fees (last day), May 15. Poultry and Farm Produce, April 30, at ordinary fees; at post entry fees (last day), May 15. Secretary, Sir Ernest Clarke, 13, Hanover Square, London, W.

JULY 8, 9, and 10.—Peterborough Agricultural Society, at Peterborough. Entries close, June 14. Secretary, J. E. Little, Cowgate, Peterborough.

JULY 9.—Southmolton Agricultural Association, at Southmolton. Entries close, June 27. Secretary, J. Blackford, F.A.I., Castle House, Southmolton, N. Devon.

JULY 9.—East Surrey Agricultural Association, at Addiscombe Farm, Croydon. Secretary, Harry Fuller, 83, High Street, Croydon.

JULY 9 and 10.—Mallow Agricultural and Show Society, at Mallow. Secretary, N. F. Davin, Mallow, Co. Cork.

JULY 15, 16, 17, and 18.—Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland, at Aberdeen. Entries close: Implements, May 12; Stock, June 9. Secretary, J. Macdonald, 3, George IV. Bridge, Edinburgh.

JULY 16 and 17.—East Kent Agricultural Society, at Ashford. Entries close, June 2; post entries, double fees, June 9. Secretary, P. M. Collard, Little Barton, Canterbury.

JULY 16, 17, and 18.—Lincolnshire Agricultural Society, at Boston. Entries close, June 10. Secretary, S. Upton, St. Benedict's Square, Lincoln.

JULY 17.—Halesworth Horse Show Society, at Halesworth. Hon. Sec., H. Brown, Halesworth.

JULY 17.—Great Chesterford Colt and Foal Society. Entries close, July 5. Secretaries, Messrs. C. Edward E. Cooke, Hinxton Grange, Saffron Walden, and W. C. Emson, Strethall Hall, Littlebury, Saffron Walden.

JULY 17.—Herts Agricultural Society, at Hatfield. Entries close, June 26. Secretary, W. A. Sherriff, Hatfield, Herts.

JULY 17.—Royal Isle of Wight Agricultural Society, at Newport, I.W. Entries close, June 17. Hon. Sec., H. J. Way, Newport, Isle of Wight.

JULY 17.—Stratton and Holesworthy Agricultural Society, at Bude. Secretary, H. J. Mackenzie, Granville Estate Office, Bude, North Cornwall.

JULY 17.—Thorney Shire Foal Society, at Thorney Park. Entries close, July 10. Secretary, H. Horrell, Thorney, Peterborough.

JULY 18.—Driffield and East Riding Agricultural Society, at Great Driffield. Entries close: Stock, July 3; dogs, July 8; poultry, etc., July 10. Secretary, T. Holtby, Exchange Street, Driffield, Yorks.

JULY 22, 23, and 24.—Gloucestershire Agricultural Society, at Tewkesbury. Entries close, June 16; post entries (double fees), June 23. Driving and Jumping, entries close, July 7. Secretary, F. J. Townsend, Cirencester.

JULY 23.—Bridlington Agricultural Society, at Bridlington. Entries close, July 12; post, July 14. Secretary, B. M. Townsend, Quay Road, Bridlington.

JULY 23.—Cambridgeshire and Isle of Ely Agricultural Society, at Chatteris. Entries close, Stock, June 30; post entries (double fees), July 5; Implements, July 5. Secretary, R. Peters, 7, Downing Street, Cambridge.

JULY 23.—Chesterfield and East Derbyshire Agricultural Society, at Chesterfield. Entries close, July 8. Secretary, T. Wardle, Auctioneer and Valuer, Chesterfield.

JULY 23.—Cleveland Agricultural Society, at Middlesbro'. Entries close, July 12. Secretary, T. S. Petch, Liverton Lodge, Loftus, R.S.O., Yorks.

JULY 23.—Wadebridge District Agricultural Association, at Wadebridge Hon. Secretary, T. Rickard, Cleveland House, Wadebridge.

JULY 23.—Chiltern Hills and Southern Bucks Agricultural Association, at Slough. Secretary, J. Bliss, 26, High Street, High Wycombe.

JULY 23.—Perry Barr and District Agricultural and Horticultural Society, at Perry Hall Park. Secretary, J. B. Ross, Perry Barr, Birmingham.

JULY 23.—Upholland Horse Show. Secretary, J. H. Wright, Sunny Bank, Orrell Port, near Wigan.

JULY 23, 24, and 25.—Northumberland Agricultural Society, at Newcastle-on-Tyne. Entries close, June 28. Secretary, W. J. Bolam, Berwick-upon-Tweed.

JULY 23, 24, and 25.—North-east of Ireland Agricultural Association's Horse and Sheep Show, at Belfast. Entries close, June 28. Secretary, K. MacRae, 37, Donegall Place, Belfast.

JULY 24.—Bedfordshire Agricultural Society, at Bedford. Entries close, June 21; post entries, double fees, June 28. Secretary, H. R. J. Swaffield, Ampthill.

JULY 24.—Maltby Horse and Foal Association, at Maltby. Secretary, J. R. Spear, 12, Carlton Avenue, Rotherham.

JULY 24 and 25.—Tunbridge Wells and South-Eastern Counties Agricultural Society, at Eridge Road, Tunbridge Wells. Entries close:—Live stock, June 18; post entries, June 23; implements, June 18; late entries, June 23. Secretary, W. Roper, 6, Kentish Buildings, Tunbridge Wells.

JULY 25.—Hutton Cranswick Horse, Foal, and Horticultural Society, at Hutton Cranswick. Entries close, July 21. Secretary, G. Rayner, Hutton Cranswick, Hull.

JULY 26.—Lauderdale Agricultural Society, at Lauder Entries close, July 11. Secretary, G. L. Broomfield, Lauder.

JULY 28.—Shirley Horse Show, at Shirley. Entries close, July 22. Secretary, J. Clews, Shirley, near Birmingham.

JULY 29 and 30.—Devon and Exeter Horse Show, at County Ground, Exeter. Hon. Secretaries, C. J. Ross and P. Whitton, 24, Gandy Street, Exeter.

JULY 30.—Morayshire Farmers' Club, at Public Park, Elgin. Entries close, July 16. Secretary, W. Rose Black, Town and County Bank, Limited, Elgin.

JULY 30.—Burton-on-Trent and District Shire Horse Society, at Burton-on-Trent. Secretary, F. D. Winterton, Walton Warren, Burton-on-Trent.

JULY 30.—Long Sutton Agricultural Society, at Long Sutton. Entries close, July 23. Secretary, H. Garthwaite, Long Sutton.

JULY 30, 31, and August 1.—Yorkshire Agricultural Society, at Leeds. Entries close, June 21; late entries, June 28. Secretary, J. Maughan, Blake Street, York.

JULY 31.—Launceston Agricultural Society, at Launceston. Entries close, July 12. Secretary, J. Kittow, West Holm, Launceston.

JULY 31.—Lismore Farming Society, at Lismore. Entries close, July 16. Hon. Sec., E. W. Becher, South Mall, Lismore, Co. Waterford.

JULY 31.—Newport and District Agricultural Society, at Newport, Salop. Hon. Secretary, W. H. Burton, Newport, Salop.

JULY 31.—Wainfleet Foal Show Association, at Wainfleet. Entries close, July 28. Secs., C. Lucas and W. M. Epton, Wainfleet, Lincs.

JULY.—Inverness-shire Farmers' Society, at Inverness. Entries close, middle of July. Secretary, D. Gray, 36, Union Street, Inverness.

JULY.—Stranraer and Rhins of Galloway Agricultural Society, at Stranraer. Secretary, J. Bennoch, Solicitor, Stranraer.

AUGUST 2.—Craven Agricultural Society and Farmers' Club, at Skipton, Yorkshire. Entries close, July 23. Secretary, R. Wilson, Bank Buildings, Skipton.

AUGUST 4.—Wisbech and District Horse Society, at Wisbech. Entries close, July 24. Secretary, W. J. Chamberlin, Cornhill, Wisbech.

AUGUST 4.—Chepstow Agricultural Society, at Preecefield Park. Entries close, July 25. Secretary, Louis C. Wrigley, Trellick Grange, Chepstow.

AUGUST 4.—Tyneside Agricultural Society, at Hexham. Secretary, R. Ord, Beaufront, Wood Head, Hexham.

AUGUST 4.—Lutterworth and District Agricultural Society, at Bitteswell Road, Lutterworth. Entries close, July 10. Secretary, T. C. Bodycote, Lutterworth.

AUGUST 4.—Ecclesfield Farmers' Club, at Hillsboro' Park, Sheffield. Entries close, July 23. Secretary, V. Siddall, Wadsley Bridge, Sheffield.

AUGUST 4.—Oxted and Godstone Agricultural Association, at Oxted. Entries close, July 12. Secretary, J. Stanley, Tandridge, Oxted.

AUGUST 4.—Herefordshire Horse Show Society, at Edgar Street, Hereford. Entries close, July 12. Secretary, W. T. Williams, 6, St. John Street, Hereford.

AUGUST 4.—Ludlow Agricultural Society, at Ludford, Ludlow. Entries close, July 21. Secretary, E. H. Wood, 36, Broad Street, Ludlow.

AUGUST 4 (probably).—South Brent and District Dartmoor Pony, Sheep, and Horse Society, at South Brent, Devon. Secretary, Wyndham Hull, South Brent, Devon.

AUGUST 4.—Whalley Agricultural Society, at Whalley. Entries close, July 23. Secretary, J. M. Rawcliffe, Regent Terrace, Whalley, near Blackburn.

AUGUST 4.—Brentnor and Lydford Pony Society, at Lydford Junction, Devon. Entries close, July 9th. Hon Secretary, J. N. Jackman, Burnville, Tavistock.

AUGUST 4.—Gainsborough Agricultural Society, at Gainsborough. Entries close, July 29. Secretary, T. J. Dixon, 17, Morton Terrace, Gainsborough.

AUGUST 5.—Border Union Agricultural Society, at Kelso. Entries close, July 11. Secretary, A. Stevenson, Kelso.

AUGUST 5.—Welbeck Tenants' Agricultural Society, at Welbeck. Entries close, July 1. Secretary, H. W. Woods, Scotland Farm, Worksop.

AUGUST 5.—Waterford Agricultural Society at Waterford. Entries close, July 19. Secretary, M. J. Murphy, Tranmore, co. Waterford.

AUGUST 6.—Adlington and District Agricultural Society, at Alderley Edge. Secretary, W. J. Trotter, 4, Church Street West, Macclesfield.

AUGUST 6.—Badminton Farmers' Club, at Badminton, Glos. Entries close, July 7. Secretary, Ward Soames, Badminton, S.O., Glos.

AUGUST 6.—Mid-Sussex Horse Show, at Oat Hall, Haywards Heath. Entries close, July 24. Secretary, J. Wood, Broad Street, Cuckfield, Sussex.

AUGUST 7.—Alford and District Horse and Foal Show. Secretary, S. B. Carnley, Alford, Lincs.

AUGUST 7.—Madresfield Agricultural Club, at Madresfield Court. Entries close, July 10. Secretary, A. D. Melvin, Madresfield, Malvern.

AUGUST 7 (probably).—Market Bosworth Agricultural and Horticultural Society, at Bosworth Park. Entries close, July 26 (probably). Secretary, J. Thorpe, Nailstone, Nuneaton.

AUGUST 7.—Keele Agricultural Society, at Keele Park, Keele, Staffs. Entries close, July 21. Secretary, W. A. Benson, Parkfields, Silverdale, Staffs.

AUGUST 7.—Tring Agricultural Society, at Tring Park, Tring. Entries close, July 4; post entries, July 11 Secretary, F. J. Brown, 41, High Street, Tring.

AUGUST 7.—Warrington and District Agricultural Society, at Walton Park, near Warrington. Entries close, July 16. Secretary, H. Beresford Melville, Estate Offices, Warrington.

AUGUST 8.—Radnorshire Agricultural Society, at Penybont. Entries close, July 26. Secretary, J. Hamer, Greenfield, Penybont, Radnorshire.

AUGUST 16.—Chorley and District Agricultural Society, at Chorley. Entries close, August 9. Secretary, Peter Hodgkinson, Town Hall Sale Rooms, Chorley, Lancashire.

AUGUST 26.—Cartmel Agricultural Society, at The Parks, Cartmel. Entries close, August 14. Secretary, W. Cragg, Cartmel, via Carnforth.

AUGUST 27.—Guildford Summer Show. Entries close, August 9. Secretary, E. H. Ellis, 30, High Street, Guildford, Surrey.

SEPTEMBER 17.—Middlewich and District Agricultural Society, at Middlewich. Entries close, September 3. Secretary, F. W. Brown, Wheelock House, Middlewich.

SEPTEMBER 18.—Market Harboro' Horse Show, at Market Harboro'. Entries close, August 30; double fees, September 6. Secretary, F. Berry, Auctioneer, Market Harboro'.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Malt: There has been a little better inquiry during the past week. Barley was about 3d to 6d per qr dearer. Wheat advanced 6d to 1s per qr on the week. Oats improved 6d to 9d per qr. Maize steady. Flour made 6d per sack more money.—NIXON, GOWER, AND CO.

Mark Lane. Wednesday.—This was quite the usual mid-weekly market on the Corn Exchange, but although little desire was evinced for fresh engagements of any magnitude, buyers were again willing to entertain the recent high limits imposed respecting bread and feeding stuffs. Home grown wheat continues all but exhausted here, and, locally, millers still take what little remains without hesitation. Whites range at 33s to 35s, and reds at 32s 6d to 34s 6d per qr, delivered up. Free on rail country, the general range of red is 32s 6d to 33s 6d. Foreign generally unchanged. American descriptions have recovered last Monday's depression. No. 1 Northern Duluth, inspection, 32s 6d ex granary. 32s ex ship. Hard Kansas in latter position. 32s 6d. Northern Manitoba, on passage, 32s 6d and 31s 6d for No. 1 and No. 2 respectively. Of white wheats, Californian held for 32s 6d; Victorian, 32s 9d, ex ship; with New Zealand remaining exhausted. Scarcity of American patents and bakers' grades is still severely felt in the flour market on spot at present, while buyers seem inclined to go out of stock before entering into fresh engagements at a higher range. Mayblossom fancy patents, 25s 6d, ex granary; Minnesota firsts (Ceresota, Golden Lily, Pillsbury Best), 25s to 25s 6d. Second patents quoted at 23s to 24s. Of bakers' grades there are practically none on spot. Iron Duke, 21s to 21s 6d, ex store, and ordinary qualities held for 20s 9d. Princess Royal being nominal at 21s 3d per sack. Australian patents, 23s to 24s, ex store, 280lb. Top price Town made 30s net; No. 1 households quoted at 23s cash at the mill door; extras, 1s more. Town households, 24s 6d whites, 27s 6d per sack, delivered to the baker. Cascadias, 23s 3d, ex store. Hungarian flour remains extremely scarce. Whole meal, 18s per ton. Grinding barley rather firmer, and in small compass. Odessa held for 20s 6d, ex ship now due, and 21s 3d ex quay. Danubian in the former position, 20s. Foreign malting fairly maintained. Chillian Chevalier ruling at 33s to 34s. Oats again the turn better to-day for Baltic sorts, which continue in short supply, with other classes commanding full rates. Common Libau, 20s 3d ex quay, 35lb; 40lb Libau, etc., bold, 23s 6d; and good 46lb Danubian held for 23s. Fine Konigsberg, 25s, ex quay, 40lb. New Zealand ordinary bluff, 27s to 28s, 384lb, ex store. English and Scotch remain at enhanced rates locally. Maize unchanged. Odessa, 22s 3d, ex ship; 22s 9d to 23s, ex quay. Mixed American, as of late, is out of supply ex granary, and not named ex ship. Imported beans and peas unaltered. Egyptian splits, 22s 6d; and Mazagans, 23s 9d, ex mill, 320lb; New Zealands, 36s to 38s, ex store, 504lb.

COUNTRY.

Barnsley, Wednesday.—The market was still slow, but prices remained firm. Wheat made up to 12s per load, white oats 26s; black oats, 24s per qr.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat (red), 32s to 33s per qr; beans (new), 37s to 38s per qr; oats (black), 23s to 24s per qr. No wheat on offer, and prices very firm.

Braintree. Wednesday.—There was a slight fall in prices. Red wheat in the mill made from 30s to 33s 6d per quarter, white 30s to 34s.

Birmingham, Thursday.—The market was very quiet before the holidays, and attendance was limited. English wheat was scarce, and prices were unchanged at 32s 6d to 33 per qr. In the foreign department No. 2 Northern Manitobas were 6s 5½d, and No. 2 6s 4d; No. 1 Northern Duluth, April-May, 6s 5½d per cental, Liverpool. An increase of 3d to 6d was asked for maize, round offering at 23s to 23s 6d (Sharpness), 23s to 24s (Liverpool), and Plate at 23s (Sharpness), and 22s 6d (Liverpool), and Galatz-Foxanian 22s 6d to 23s (Bristol). Grinding barley made 19s 3d to 20s 3d at Sharpness, and 20s 6d at Liverpool. English white oats were 6d dearer, and passed at 23s 6d to 25s 6d per qr Birmingham. Beans were unchanged at 14s 6d to 14s 9d per bag for new, and 16s for old, at Birmingham.

Bury St. Edmunds.—We had a dull market on Wednesday, and business was very slack. Wheat, however, being in short supply, made last week's prices, but no more. Reds, 32s 6d to 33s per 504lb, and up to 34s per 8 imperial bushels for heavy samples. Oats scarce and dear, with a strong demand at 24s to 26s per qr. Beans and peas also scarce and very firm, at fully last week's prices. Maize rather easier, at 23s to 23s 6d per qr. Maize germ steady, £6 5s per ton. Other feeding stuffs and corns in quiet demand, but steady.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Very little business transacted at market. English wheat scarce and selling at 33s per qr. Foreign wheats unchanged. Grinding barley, 19s 3d to 20s 3d per qr sharpness. Maize 3d to 6d per qr dearer, roll round realising 23s to 23s 6d; and Plate 23s per qr Sharpness. English white oats 6d per qr higher, commanding 23s 6d to 25s 6d.

Bristol. Thursday.—Scarcely enough English wheat offering to-day to test values. Foreign very firm. White descriptions rather dearer. Barley firm. Maize unaltered. Oats, turn in sellers' favour. English wheat, 31s to 31s 6d; American, 32s 6d to 34s. Grinding barley, 19s 9d to 20s 3d. Oats, Irish black, 21s 3d to 21s 6d. Maize, round, 22s 6d to 22s 9d.

Bristol, Thursday.—Trade has been moderate since our last. A very scanty supply of English wheat on market to-day, with value unchanged. Foreign wheat very firm. Grinding barley 3d. lower, owing to numerous arrivals. Maize unaltered. Oats also without change. Flour trade inactive, with values same as last week. GRACE BROS.

Chichester, Wednesday.—There was a good attendance, and a fair amount of business was transacted. Wheat and flour showed no quotable change. Feeding stuffs firm at late rates.

Driffield, Thursday.—Very little doing in grain. Wheat maintains the full price of last week of 31s per qr; oats, 23s to 24s per qr.

Glasgow. Wednesday.—There was the usual attendance at our market to-day. Wheat 1½d to 3d per boll dearer. Flour held for full prices, with fair trade passing. Indian corn sold out on spot. Round maize firm, with steady trade. Home and foreign oats strong, with fair business doing. Grinding beans and Canadian pease steady. Barley quiet. Bran and thirds steady. Oatmeal firm.—GIBSON AND CLARK.

Goole, Wednesday.—Moderate attendance, and an average supply of grain. Wheat firm at last week's prices, but not quotably dearer. Oats are very firm, and sellers ask very high prices, which checks business. Beans steady and quiet.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Very small attendance. Foreign wheats were slightly easier since last week; English wheats maintained their prices. There was nothing doing in barleys. Maize was firm, and oats steady at recent advances. Quotations:—Wheat, white 3s 10d to 4s per bushel; red, 3s 9d to 3s 10d; barley, 3s to 4s; oats, 2s 9d to 3s 6d; beans, 4s 3d to 4s 6d; maize, 3s to 3s 3d; vetches, 6s 6d to 7s 6d.

Leeds, Tuesday.—There is still no improvement in the weather, temperature keeping exceedingly low. The unfavourable Bureau Report, smaller shipments, and continued steady Continental demand all combined impart a very strong tone to the trade. English wheat is scarce, and held for high prices, and holders of foreign insist upon 3d to 6d per qr advance on last week's rates. Maize 3d dearer. Beans and oats steady.—DUNNS AND CO.

Manchester, Thursday.—Market strong. English wheat: Hardly anything offered, and prices nominal; foreign very firm; a good demand at 1d to 1½d per cental dearer. Maize met a quiet trade at unchanged rates. Barley in good demand, and 1d per bushel dearer. Oats very scarce, and 1d dearer. Beans quiet and unchanged. Peas quiet and unchanged. Flour met a better trade at extreme prices, though not quotably dearer.

Manchester, Thursday.—Quotations of wheat have shown little irregularity during the week, but to-day the market, both in English and foreign descriptions is found to be pretty much as seven days ago. Flour has continued quiet, but steady rates are maintained by millers. Indian corn is firm, at late rates, with a steady demand. Oats and barley are well held. Peas and beans tend on easy side.

Maidstone, Thursday.—The firm tone in the wheat trade continues, with a slight tendency to further advance, though we do not note a rise of more than 6d on recent high cost in comparison with a month or two ago. Barley sells fairly well, and rather more this week paid for it. Oats are remarkably strong now; no sign of relapse. Maize is unmoved. Beans and peas are dear, being very scarce, especially English. Not any alteration in rye, hemp, brank, lerfe, or millet.

Newport, Wednesday.—There was an average attendance, and business showed improvement, wheat being much firmer and 3d to 6d dearer on the week. Maize, barley, and oats were very firm and in demand. Flour, fines, 23s 6d per sack.

Plymouth. Thursday.—Very fair attendance. Maize and oats firm, but unchanged. Wheat firm and in scarce supplies. Barley 3d dearer. Great deal of rain in district lately.—ORLANDO DAVIS AND CO.

Ripon, Thursday.—A small attendance, with a light show of samples. English wheat and maize 6d dearer. Wheat, English, new, 31s 6d to 32s 6d; ditto foreign, 31s to 34s 6d; barley, grinding, 23s 6d to 24s 6d; oats, 24s to 26s; round maize, 24s 6d to 26s 6d per qr; beans, 1s per stone.

Romford. Wednesday.—English wheat was unchanged at last week's full prices. Small supply. Red wheat 33s 6d, white wheat 34s to 34s 6d. per qr.

Sheffield. Tuesday.—English wheat was in very small supply, and was held firmly for last week's rates. Late rates also prevailed for foreign wheat, which was in fair demand. Beans and maize commanded slightly higher prices. English oats were a blank. Quotations:—Wheat, white, 32s to 34s; ditto red, 32s 6d to 34s per 504lb; oats, new white, 26s to 27s; ditto, new black, 23s to 24s per 336lb; barley, grinding, 23s 6d to 24s; ditto, malting, 30s to 32s per 448lb; peas grinding, 35s to 37s; ditto, blue, 53s to 80s; beans, Egyptian, 34s to 36s per 504lb; barley, English, new, 37s 6d to 38s per 532lb; Indian corn, ditto, English, new, 37s 6d to 38s per 532lb; Indian corn, small, 23s 6d to 24s 6d; ditto, American mixed, 26s 6d to 29s per 480lb.

Spalding, Tuesday.—Not much wheat offering. The price remained 32s 6d per qr. Oats, 24s 6d per qr. Beans, peas, and barley unchanged.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There was no farmers' wheat showing. Owing to the firmness of the American markets, holders of foreign wheat made 6d advance on the week, there being a better demand. Oats and maize strong.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—There was a quiet market, with scarcely any alterations in quotations:—Wheat, new, 12s 6d to 13s per 216lb; oats, 16s to 17s; beans, old, 16s to 17s 6d; new, 15s to 16s per 196lb; barley, 35s to 48s per 484lb; new maize, 27s to 28s; old, 29s 6d to 30s 6d per 480lb.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Small attendance, and very little grain on offer. Last week's increased rates fully maintained. White wheat, 31s 6d to 32s 6d; red wheat, 31s to 32s; grinding barley, 27s to 29s; white oats, 24s to 26s; black oats, 23s to 25s; round maize, 24s 6d to 26s per qr.

FOREIGN.

Paris, Wednesday.—The weather seems likely to become more settled; the temperature, although still fresh last night, rose perceptibly this afternoon, and it is hoped that farmers' wishes for a warm and dry period are at last to be realised. The native wheat market again did not present much animation; to-day the attendance, moreover, was rather scanty, farmers not being any better represented than of late. They find it easier to dispose of some lots of wheat in their own markets to the small millers, who, still finding a poor sale for their flour, are in no hurry to engage in operations of any importance. Trade still continues just as quiet. The weaker position of the foreign markets and the favourable outlook for the growing wheat contribute to render buyers very reserved; nevertheless, sellers are still somewhat tenacious, and consequently prices are maintained at about the previous level, despite the rather dull feeling in the "Marche de Paris." In short, values may be quoted the same as last week. Choice Red Wheat 37s 10d to 38s 3d, and White 37s 10d to 38s 9d per 480lbs. Flour.—Fleur-de-Paris.—The market opened sustained but closed quiet at the following prices:—May, 26s 10½d to 27s 1½d; May, 27s 1½d to 27s 5d; July-August, 27s 5d to 27s 8d; and Sept.-Dec., 26s 7½d to 26s 10½d per 280lbs. Consumption Marks Flour. — Although dealers and bakers continue only to purchase for their immediate requirements rates are fully sustained. Quotations are as follows:—Choice Marks 31f. to 32f. (31s 5d to 32s 5d). First Marks 30f.50 to 31f. (30s 11d. to 31s 5d), Good Marks 29f.75 to 30f.50 (30s 2d to 30s 11d), Ordinary Marks 28f.50 to 29f.75 per 100 kilos (28s 11d to 30s 2d per 280lb.). Rye.—Owing to the fears entertained of the crop, the demand has improved, and prices are firmly held in all directions, good conditioned corn being held at 26s 1d, with buyers at 25s 8d per 480lbs. Oats.—The continuance of cold weather is prejudicial to the young crop, and if the frosts continue the plants will lose strength and become deteriorated. Here the situation remains unchanged, with prices fully supported and less ample offers. Grey Beauce, 23s 2d to 23s 6d; White, 22s to 22s 4d; Red, 22s 11d to 23s 2d; Black from the Central Provinces, 24s 1d. White Libau is quoted at 22s 7d to 22s 11d; Black 22s 11d to 23s 2d; and Swedish, 24s 4d per 320lb. Barley.—The same as for oats, the present weather is considered most unfavourable to the young barley plants, which are begining to lose colour. Prices are therefore well supported, the best runs only giving place to a little business for export to England and Belgium. Quotations are merely nominal:—Malting 17f.50 to 17f.75 (25s 4d to 25s 9d), Grinding 17f. to 17f.25 (24s 8d to 25s), and Feeding 15f. to 15f.50 per 100 kilos (21s 9d to 22s 6d per 400lb.). Buckwheat.—This article is still sparingly offered, and very firmly held at previous rates, viz., 28s 9d per 480lbs.

CORN STATISTICS.

LONDON TOP PRICE FLOUR.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1901.

		s. d.
September 2	(per sack)	29 0
" 28	"	28 0
Apr " 16	"	29 0
23	"	30 0

(No official change since last date given.)

ARRIVALS INTO LONDON.

May 8 to May 15, 1902, inclusive.

	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat ..... qrs.	695	110,745	111,440
Barley	1,759	1,152	2,911
Malt	24,276	...	24,276
Oats	921	57,000	57,921
Rye	...	625	625
Beans	148	1,321	1,469
Peas	59	2,612	2,671
Maize	...	535	535
Linseed	...	14,875	14 875
Rapeseed	...	7,220	7,220
Cottonseed	...	470	470
Tares	...	...	...
Lentils	...	...	...
Farmseeds	450	1,600	2,050
Flour, sacks	24,116	64,453	88,569

IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGES.

1901.	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
May 11	47,118⅜	27	3	4 279¼	26	2	7,049	19	1
" 18	52,875⅞	27	7	2,508	24	2	7 345½	19	4
" 25	49,822¾	27	7	1,511⅜	24	1	4,665½	19	8
June 1	46,514	27	7	859½	23	8	4,938	19	9
" 8	42,202	27	6	221½	22	9	4,023¼	20	1
" 15	46,764	27	8	1,404¼	24	0	5,565⅜	19	7
" 22	29,695	27	6	336⅜	23	2	3,552½	20	3
" 29	28,191⅞	27	6	692⅜	25	4	2,803½	20	0
July 6	19,564½	27	8	140⅜	21	9	1,800⅛	19	10
" 13	15,231⅜	27	2	49	23	10	1,675⅜	19	9
" 20	17,462¾	27	3	88⅜	23	4	2,040⅜	19	11
" 27	18,297⅜	27	3	206⅜	22	1	2,385⅜	19	4
Aug. 3	18,666⅛	27	6	250⅜	23	1	3,219⅛	20	0
" 10	19,156	27	7	141⅜	22	1	2,143¼	19	4
" 17	22,617¼	27	4	220⅜	27	2	5,982⅛	18	9
" 24	37,168⅜	27	3	976⅜	23	7	9,952⅜	18	
" 31	61,603⅞	27	0	4,877⅜	24	3	14,654½	17	10
Sept. 7	66,623½	26	5	14,342⅜	25	1	19,075½	17	1
" 14	77,949⅛	26	2	34,980⅜	24	11	19,909½	17	4
" 21	80,279⅛	26	0	70,096⅛	25	5	26,476⅜	17	4
" 28	80,488	25	10	109,783½	25	10	22,567½	17	2
Oct. 5	60,376⅜	25	8	126,592½	26	3	21,631½	17	7
" 12	63,656⅜	25	9	172,175⅜	26	5	16,815⅛	17	6
" 19	58,772⅛	25	10	203,591⅛	26	8	15,506½	17	8
" 26	52,984⅛	25	11	208,471⅛	23	10	18,009½	17	5
Nov. 2	70,314⅜	26	2	134,277½	26	10	18,350⅜	17	7
" 9	62,265⅛	26	6	202,577½	27	0	20,066½	17	8
" 16	57,884⅜	26	9	201,725⅜	26	9	20,122½	18	3
" 23	63,150⅞	27	1	185,268⅜	26	10	20,612	18	7
" 30	60,323⅜	27	1	193,434⅜	26	9	22,419½	18	9
Dec. 7	67,925½	27	1	162,996⅜	26	7	23,990½	19	0
" 14	48,045½	27	2	182,212½	25	10	17,125½	17	1
" 21	60,562⅜	27	7	119,308⅛	26	8	26,260½	19	
" 28	43,718⅛	27	7	81,859⅛	26	8	16,901⅞	19	10
1902.									
Jan. 4	31,440⅝	27	7	31,777½	26	7	11,621⅜	19	10
" 11	48,997⅛	27	8	69,120½	26	7	14,995	20	0
" 18	74,239½	27	8	91,559⅜	26	11	19,733⅝	20	0
" 25	74,753⅜	27	7	87,594	26	7	25,382½	20	3
Feb. 1	73,381½	27	4	81,468⅝	26	7	25,657⅜	20	2
" 8	67,470½	27	2	69,291⅝	26	9	25,055⅞	20	3
" 15	68,500	26	11	54,084½	27	5	21,824	20	3
" 22	72,614⅜	27	1	53,201⅜	23	11	22,799	20	4
Mar. 1	79,453⅜	27	1	43,637⅜	26	7	22,322	20	5
" 8	67,473⅜	27	0	28,847⅞	26	8	17,017	20	5
" 15	60,643	27	1	24,536⅜	26	6	11,496⅞	20	
" 22	56,394½	27	1	15,482⅜	26	4	12,192½	20	
" 29	50 703	27	2	15,729⅜	27	2	8,950½	20	
Apr. 5	31,277⅜	27	3	7,003⅛	26	5	5,994½	20	
" 12	37,931½	27	5	8,298⅜	26	7	6,855½	21	
" 19	38,037	27	7	7,237⅜	27	1	11,099⅜	21	
" 26	31,257½	28	9	6,263⅛	26	5	8,897⅜	21	
May 3	46,238½	29	9	4,226⅜	27	5	9,685	21	
" 10	42,534½	30	9	3,345½	26	10	8,653½	22	

IMPERIAL AVERAGES.

Statement showing the Quantities sold and average price of British Corn, Imperial Measure, as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended May 10, 1902, conformably with the Act of the 45th and 46th Victoria, cap. 37.

Wheat	42,534½ qrs.	30s. 9d.
Barley	3,345½ qrs.	26s. 10d.
Oats	8,653½ qrs.	22s. 6d.

London Arrivals (special).—The following supplies received up to noon to-day (Friday) are not given in the usual weekly returns: — Wheat, 44,040 qrs.; barley, 9,550 qrs.; oats, 55,550 qrs.; maize, 17,900 qrs.; flour, 40,000 sacks. Of minor articles arrivals yesterday and to-day include 280 qrs. of lentils, 1,401 tons of cottonseed, 1,887 tons of linseed cake (from Russia), 250 tons of potato flour (American), and 13 tons of cloverseed (French).

St. Petersburg, Friday.—The official report on crop prospects is highly favourable to the growing winter wheat, but extremely discouraging with respect to the growth of pastures and spring sowings. (By telegraph.)

Strasburg, Friday.—A violent snow storm and blizzard swept over Alsace-Lorraine on Wednesday night, and continued all Thursday. Immense damage has been done. (By telegraph.)

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The persistency of the north-easterly current this May has been extremely remarkable, and it has reduced the average temperature by six degrees for 16 days. How far temperature deficits really accumulate is a matter on which botanists and men of science have not yet completed any assured theory, but that the effect of 16 very cold days in the growing period of the year must be serious is a fact which is obvious without going to men of science. The one advantage is that a cold and showery May is exceedingly fatal to insect life, and we may therefore look for a summer comparatively immune from grub and fly.

The American Bureau report appeared this month two days late, so that it was just in time to influence the London market on the Monday and Liverpool on the Tuesday. But on Wednesday and Thursday its effect was marked, and despite large wheat arrivals the trade just before Whitsuntide closed with an exceedingly stiff feeling.

The area of winter wheat which has been uninjured by the last four months' weather is not given, but as no less than 4,868,000 acres have had to be ploughed up the season must have been exceptionally trying. Perhaps half of this loss will be replaced by spring wheat and a quantity of maize, but the total crop of winter wheat will be that raised on 27,103,000 acres, or considerably under the mean of 30,000,000 acres. On this acreage the present promise is 11½ bushels to the acre, or 1½ bushels below the average.

Spring wheat sowings made rapid progress during the hot weather wave in April, and with Minnesota, Iowa, Wisconsin, and Michigan all forward, the promise of the spring wheat is little over the average. There is, however, a very grave drawback in the fact that the fine April weather did not reach the Dakotas and Nebraska, which remained under winter influences. These influences have now returned to America in general, the weather there being as untoward as it is here.

The yield of wheat in America this year is therefore seen to be a most uncertain quantity, and as fas as it is possible to guess at present a total crop of the two sorts might come out at 60,000,000 quarters, but hardly at a greater total. The yield of last year was 81,000,000 quarters, and that of 1900 was 63,000,000 quarters. An average crop in America is nowadays perhaps 70,000,000 quarters, but as the Eastern areas of wheat land are steadily shrinking and the Western areas growing the striking of an average is very difficult.

Second only in importance to the very backward state of the winter wheat in the United Kingdom, the United States, and France is the very unpromising outlook for oats, barley, and pulse. In America rye is 5.6 per cent. below an average, while the promise of the hay is 4 to 7 per cent. below the mean according to the State. Apparently no State attains an average promise. In Russia "the starving peasantry" of the political papers are happily a fiction. Russia had excellent wheat crops last autumn, and has been a steady exporter ever since. But the live stock of the Russian peasantry and small farmers is really in a starving state in more than one province. The grass has not begun to grow, and feed is about exhausted. Straw is said to hold out, but, of course, is not much in the way of diet. The oat crop in Russia was small, and there are over 22,000,000 horses to feed. The deplorable state of the Russian pastures also affects 29,000,000 cattle and 48,000,000 sheep, so that we must not be surprised at an ukase forbidding exports of feeding stuffs. Last week, in addition to 140,000 quarters of wheat, 124,000 quarters of feeding barley, 58,000 quarters of oats, and 88,000 quarters of Indian corn were shipped from a country which has a grave home problem to keep its own live stock fed.

The market for feeding stuffs at Mark Lane on Wednesday and Friday was extremely strong, and even if the weather changes to mild and summer-like conditions after Whitsuntide the meadows will take time to recover from the sold spell. The American shipments of oats last week were only 9,000 quarters, and nothing was shipped by Sweden or Roumania, maizes being shipped by Roumania at the liberal rate of 205,000 quarters weekly; but if a good sale to S.-W. Russia were to set in, the saving of the 2s. per quarter on freights would deflect the whole of this supply from our ports.

The great barrier to advance in wheat is still the supply on passage, which is 1,494,000 quarters above the average. To-day's figures are:—

	Qrs
Californian	2,200,000
American	370,000
Argentine	476,000
Russian	30,000
Indian	113,000
Australasian	795,000
Various	20,000
Total	3,994,000

The expectations of other staples thus compare with a year ago:—

	1902.	1901.
Flour (sacks)	292,000	423,000
Maize (qrs.)	660,000	520,000
Barley ,,	330,000	270,000

The imports of the week were good of wheat, and with fair sales of foreign flour and of English wheat, the total business done was decidedly above the average:—

	Qrs.
Foreign Wheat	510,000
,, Flour	115,000
English Wheat	106,000
Breadstuffs	731,000

The imports of feeding stuffs last week were much below the requirements:—

	Qrs.
Maize	112,000
Barley	47,000
Oats	114,000

Here we have a deficiency of 88,000 quarters on maize, 73,000 quarters on barley, and about 36,000 quarters on oats, as compared with average receipts.

Imports this cereal year (September 1st to May 15th) thus compare with the same period last season:—

	Qrs.	
	1901-2.	1900-1.
Wheat	10,706,000	11,488,000
Flour	4,470,000	5,428,000
Breadstuffs	15,206,000	16,916,000
Barley	5,291,000	4,242,000
Oats	4,450,000	5,183,000
Maize	7,254,000	90,310,000

Total imports of feeding stuffs since September 1st have been about 10 per cent. smaller than last cereal year.

American visible supplies are cabled on 16th inst. as follows:—

	Bushels.	
	1902.	1901.
Wheat	50,475,000	58,481,000
Maize	8,492,000	22,781,000
Oats	4,911,000	15,589,000

All these figures point to a brisk resumption after Whitsuntide, and to markets running steadily in holders' favour. Wheat and flour will scarcely become a really good trade before the middle of July, by which date the bulk of present large supplies on passage will have been landed. But from mid-July to mid-September holders should have a decided opportunity, and the backwardness of the season is such that they may well have the best of it right up to the very end of September.

New York prices cabled at the close of Thursday were 30s. for spot wheat, 27s. 6d. for June, 27s. 6d. for July, 27s. 6d. for August, 26s. 9d. for September, 26s. 9d. for October, and 27s. 3d. for November and December. The prices for August and September delivery are tempting, and those who can store grain while waiting for the first rush of new crop deliveries to pass should have their reward.

Among minor, but not unimportant, articles which have made a forward movement are linseed, rapeseed, cottonseed, rye, beans, peas, and dari. The few articles which are rather weak include maize, germ meal, and rye meal, but this is only in contrast with the somewhat too rapid advance in April.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Hull, Tuesday.—Linseed: The arrivals are 23 qrs from Harlingen, 18,913 qrs Rosario, 5 qrs Rotterdam, 3,535 qrs Villa Constitution total 22,477 qrs. Linseed has been a strong market since our last, and closes firmly steady. Calcutta, April-June, was done at 53s 6d at the beginning of last week, but 54s was paid yesterday for this position. 54s 6d now asking, 55s paid to London. River Plate has had an advance of 6d to 1s per qr. Spot which was done early last week at 50s 6d made 51s yesterday, and it is reported that 51s 3d has been paid this morning for this position. May-June at the beginning of last week 51s 6d was paid, and at the close there were sellers at 52s 6d. Cottonseed: There has again been more firmness in this article, and business done spot and passage at up to £7 15s, whereat still buyers. May sold at £7 11s 3d to £7 15s, which latter also value June. A fair quantity New crop, Nov.-Jan. done at £6 11s 3d to £6 12s 6d, but sellers to-day talk of £6 15s, with an occasional buyer at £6 13s 9d. Oils: Exports for the week ending May 6th, 1902:—Linseed oil, 1 Denmark, 2 Germany, 30 India, 1 Italy, 44 Norway, 1 Russia, 3 Turkey, total 82 tons. Cotton oil, 125 Belgium, 10 Denmark, 161 Germany, 186 Holland, 4 Norway, 17 Sweden, total 504 tons. The market is steady. Linseed oil, 31s spot; 31st May-Aug. Cotton oil, 25s 6d spot; 25s 7½d May-Aug. Crude, 24s 4½d spot; 24s 4½d May-Aug. Rape oil, Jamba naked, 24s 3d spot; first quality, 24s 9d spot.—KEIGHLEY MAXTED AND CO.

LATEST MARKETS.

MARK LANE, FRIDAY, 3 p.m.

Wheat was duller from Monday, but at the same time dearer, that is to say, holders stood out for 6d. more money, while buyers decided to wait in most cases until after Whitsuntide. The holders were, however, so far the stronger that when business actually passed it was at the improvement demanded. There was an admitted advance of 3d. from Monday in both barley and maize. Oats were very firm at previous high prices. Very little Indian Argentine and Russian wheat was actually obtainable on spot, but some good strong wheat from the Baltic ports made 32s. 6d. No Persian or Chilian wheat seems offering this season. In beans, peas, and Dari, there were no quotable changes, but linseed, rapeseed, cottonseed, rye, and buckwheat were all held above Monday's terms. Small grilse, such as Dholl, Muttor, millet, and so forth, continue to be obtainable at a reasonable price, and has excellent nutritive value.

QUOTATIONS OFF STANDS.

May 16, 1902.

BRITISH GRAIN.

		s.	s.
WHEAT, White	(per 504 lb.)	32	— 34
Red	,,	31	— 33
Chicken or Feed	(per 480 lb.)	28	— 30
BARLEY, Malting	(per 448 lb.)	32	— 36
Brewing	,,	29	— 32
Feeding	(per 416 lb.)	25	— 27
MALT, English	(per 336 lb.)	36	— 42
Scotch	,,	38	— 40
Black	,,	31	— 33
Brown	,,	30	— 33
Crystallized	,,	34	— 36
OATS, English, Black Winter	,,	23	— 25
,, Black Tartary	,,	22	— 23
,, Grey Winter	,,	23	— 25
,, White Tartary	,,	22	— 23
Scotch	,,	23	— 25
Irish	(per 304 lb.)	20	— 21
RYE, British	(per 480 lb.)	26	— 27
BEANS, Pigeon	,,	39	— 41
Winter	,,	33	— 37
Mazagan	,,	32	— 34
PEAS, Best Marrowfat	(per 504 lb.)	66	— 76
Blue (boiling)	,,	61	— 71
Dun	,,	33	— 34
Maple	,,	38	— 42
TARES, Scotch Grey	,,	79	— 83
Winter Old	,,	69	— 73
,, Ordinary	,,	57	— 65
Spring ,,	,,	51	— 53

FOREIGN GRAIN.

(Ex-Granary.)

	s.	s.
WHEAT, per 496 lb.		
Old Duluth	32	— 34
Manitoba No. 1	32	— 33
American Spring	31/6	— 32
Red Winter	31/6	— 32
Hard ,,	31/6	— 32
Californian	31	— 32
Walla Walla	30/6	— 31
Australian	31/6	— 32
New Zealand	30	— 31
Argentine	30	— 32
Danzig	32	— 34
Saxonka	31	— 32
Azima	31	— 32
Ghirka	30	— 31
Indian	30	— 31
RYE, per 480 lb.		
Russian	26	— 27
MAIZE, per 480 lb.:		
Cinquantina	25	— 26
Russian	22/6	— 23
Roumanian	22/6	— 23
Turkish	22/6	— 23
American	28	— 29
Argentine	23/6	— 24
OATS:		
N' Zeal'd (Best)	28	— 32
N. Zeal'd (Bluff)	26	— 28
N. Zeal'd (Dun)	24	— 26
Canadian (320 lb.)	21	— 22
American (320 lb.)	21	— 22
Prussian (320 lb.)	21	— 22
N. Russ'n (304 lb.)	20	— 21
South ,, (304 lb.)	19/6	— 20
Turkish (304 lb.)	18/0	— 19
BEANS, per 480 lb.:		
Egyptian	33	— 34
Smyrna	32	— 33
Konisberg	35	— 37
LOCUST BEANS, per ton:		
Italian	104	— 108
Cyprian	112	— 118
Portuguese	107	— 110
PEAS, per 504 lb.:		
Canadian, White	36	— 37
Australian, White	41	— 42
New Zeal'd Maple	39	— 41
Indian White	35	— 36
,, Green	31	— 32
MILLET, per 416 lb.:		
White	34	— 46
Red	26	— 28
Yellow	21	— 23
Sorghum	20	— 21
DARI, per 480 lb.:		
Smyrna	26	— 27
BUCKWHEAT, per 416 lb		
French	26	— 27
Russian	27	— 28
TARES, per 504 lb.:		
Konigsberg	45	— 47
BARLEY:		
Saale (448 lb.)	36	— 40
Chilian (448 lb.)		
Chevalier	33	— 40
Brewing	none.	
Californian (448 lb.)		
Chevalier	29	— 32
Brewing	26	— 28
Danish (448 lb.)	29	31
Danubian (400 lb.)	20	— 23
Ouchak (400 lb.)	22	— 25
Yerli (400 lb.)	21	— 24
Russian (400 lb.)	20	— 22
MALT, per 336 lb:		
Californian	36	— 37
Smyrna	36	— 37

OIL SEEDS.

LINSEED. per 416 lb.	s.	s.
English	59	to 61
Dutch	58	to 60
Bombay	55	to 57
Calcutta	51	to 53
Russian	55	to 57
Argentine	48	to 50
SESAME. per 424 lb.		
Indian	53	to 55
COTTON SEED per ton.		
Egyptian	156	to 158

RAPESEED. per 416 lb	s.	s.
English	57	to 59
Calcutta	37	to 40
Guzerat	42	to 44
Ferozepore	37	to 39
Jamba	30	to 31
Ravison	29	to 30
POPPYSEED. per 377 lb.		
Indian	47	to 49
SUNFLOWERSEED. per 448 lb		
Russian	50	to 51

LONDON AVERAGES.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, May 13th, 1902.

	Total Quantities. Imperial Measure. Quarters.	Bus.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.	Average Price per qr. Imperial Measure. £	s.	d.
Wheat	408	4	662	0	3	1	12	5
Barley	23	6	38	5	5	1	6	7
Oats	401	7	458	9	0	1	2	8

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, FRIDAY.

There was more doing than usual for a market just on the verge of a public holiday. London makes of flour were not dearer, but there was greater readiness to purchase at the best prices of Monday. Country flour was in unusually good supply for the time of year, the recent rise having attracted good supplies from Essex and East Anglia. American flour was a most irregular supply, but, on the whole, below demand. Values accordingly were put up 6d. per sack from Monday. Offals tended in sellers' favour, and £5 per ton was asked for pollard.

LONDON FLOUR.

		s. d.
Top Price	(per sack)	— 30
Town Whites	,,	26/6
,, Households	,,	23/6
No. 2	,,	21/6

COUNTRY FLOUR.

Best Patents	(per sack)	24 — 26
Fine Roller made	,,	23 — 24
Ordinary Roller made	,,	22 — 23
Best Stone made	,,	21 — 22

FOREIGN FLOUR.

Minnesota First Patents	(per sack)	25/6— 26
,, Second Patents	,,	23/6— 24
,, First Bakers'	,,	21/6— 22
,, Second Bakers'	,,	19/6— 20
Milwaukee Patents	,,	23/6— 24
,, Bakers	,,	18/6— 19
Kansas Patents	,,	24/6— 25
,, Bakers'	,,	19/6— 20
Cascadia	,,	23 — 24
Canadian	,,	23 — 24
Australian Patents	,,	21 — 22
,, Straight	,,	20 — 21
Hungarian	,,	32 — 34
French	,,	22 — 23

MEAL, &c.

Whole Meal	(per ton	184—186
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	115—117
Bran, London Broad	,,	110—112
,, ,, Fine	,,	92— 96
,, Country Flake	,,	122—128
,, ,, Broad	,,	104—108
Pollard	,,	94— 96
Biscuit Middlings	,,	126—129
Fine Middlings	,,	120—122
Coarse Middlings	,,	108—110
Feeding Flour (Red Dog)	,,	117—119
Barley Meal	,,	129—133
Rye Flour	,,	176—186
Canadian Oatmeal	,,	210—220
Scotch Oatmeal	,,	265—305
Oat Flour	,,	345—365
Maize Flour	,,	169—171
Maize Meal	,,	118—120
Maize Cones	,,	177—179
Maize Germ Meal	,,	113—118
Pea Meal	,,	135—155
Bean Meal	,,	150—170
Rice Meal	,,	90— 95

LONDON TERM MARKET.

This market is held twice a day, except on Saturday, when there is no afternoon call. The market is open to elected members only. No business except for future delivery is done, and the smallest quantity that can be purchased is 1,000 quarters, or 4,800 centals. The name of the month stands for guaranteed delivery (if required) on or before the last day of that month, and the following have been the prices per cental recently made:—

WHEAT.—Calls	A. June. s. d.	A. Aug't. s. d.	B. Oct. s. d.
May 12 noon	6 2 ... 6	2 ... 6	5
4 p.m.	6 2 ... 6	2 ... 6	5
May 13 11 a.m.	6 2 ... 6	2 ... 6	5
4 p.m.	6 2 ... 6	2 ... 6	5
May 14 11 a.m.	6 2 ... 6	2 ... 6	5
4 p.m.	6 2 ... 6	2 ... 6	5
May 15 11 a.m.	6 2 ... 6	2 ... 6	5
4 p.m.	6 2 ... 6	2 ... 6	5
May 16 11 a.m.	6 2 ... 6	2 ... 6	5
4 p.m.	6 2 ... 6	2 ... 6	5

Maize makes 4s. 5d. per cental for June and July, 4s. 8d. for September and October delivery.

By the letter A is signified duty to be paid by *buyer*, by B duty to be paid by *seller*. On the 18th inst. the members of the Term Market unanimously agreed to adopt the new duty as a sellers' obligation from the new cereal year (September 1). Up to that date it will fall on the buyer. In default of agreement the Acts of 1876 and 1901 throw the burden on the buyer.

The Term Market standard wheat is No. 1 Northern Spring American sold on the Duluth certificate. Other sorts of wheat can be bought at the above prices plus or minus agreed difference between the other sort and the standard quality. Quotations are by the "true hundredweight" or cental of 100 lb. We do not give fractions of a penny per cental. The maize quoted is fair average quality from the United States.

The deposit required from members of the Term Market has been fixed at £50 minimum and 1s. per quarter margin on any purchases above 1,000 quarters.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORT.

Mark Lane, May 16.—Sunflowerseed, 13s. 6d. per cwt. for best, 11s. 6d. for ordinary. Cocksfoot, 44s. per cwt., for good New Zealand. Canary seed, 37s. per qr. for bold Turkish. Millet, 32s for Smyrna. (Special.)

Mark Lane, May 16.—A shilling more money is asked for buckwheat, and sixpence is obtained. The supply in June is likely to be small, while the inquiry seems to be improving. (Special.)

BUTTER.

Tuesday.—Bedale: 1s 2d to 1s 4d per 24oz. roll Gainsborough: 1s per lb. Leeds: 1s to 1s 1d per lb. Settle: 1s to 1s 1d per lb. Spalding: 8d per lb. Stone: 11d to 1s 1d per lb.

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 1s to 1s 1d per lb. Colne: 1s 2d per lb. Goole: Wholesale, 11d per lb. Keighley: Wholesale, 1s per lb. Kirbymoorside: 8d to 9d per lb. Knaresborough: Wholesale, 1s 3d; retail, 1s 4d to 1s 6d per 24oz. roll. Louth: 8d to 9d per lb. Market Weighton: 9d per lb. Northallerton: 1s 3d to 1s 5d per 24oz roll. Stockton: 10d to 1s 1d per lb. Worksop: 1s 1d to 1s 3d per lb. Hereford: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Market Drayton: Best, 11d to 1s per lb; seconds, 10d to 11d per lb. Uttoxeter: 1s to 1s 2d per lb.

Thursday.—Brigg: 9d to 10d per lb. Driffield: 8d per lb. Penistone: 1s 3d per lb. Ripon: 1s 4d to 1s 6d per 24oz. roll. Scarborough: 1s 2d per lb. Wetherby: 11d to 1s 2d per lb. Birmingham: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Kidderminster: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Wellington: 11d to 1s 1d per lb.

EGGS.

Tuesday.—Bedale: 16 for 1s. Gainsborough: 16 for 1s. Leeds: 7s 9d to 8s 3d per 120. Settle: 17 or 18 for 1s. Spalding: 16 or 17 for 1s. Stone: 16 or 17 for 1s.

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 14 or 15 for 1s. Colne: 1s 4d per score. Goole: 16 for 1s. Keighley: Wholesale, 15 for 1s; retail, 14. Kirbymoorside: 17 or 18 for 1s. Knaresborough: 14 or 15 for 1s. Louth: 18 for 1s. Market Weighton: 18 for 1s. Northallerton: 15 or 16 for 1s. Stockton: 14 and 15 for 1s. Worksop: 1s 4d to 1s 6d per score. Hereford: 17 per 1s. Market Drayton: 15 to 16 for 1s. Uttoxeter: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per score.

Thursday.—Brigg: 17 to 18 for 1s. Driffield: 18 or 19 for 1s. Penistone: 14 for 1s. Ripon: 14 to 16 for 1s. Scarborough: 16 for 1s. Wetherby: 14 for 1s. Birmingham: 13 to 15 for 1s. Kidderminster: 17 per 1s. Wellington: 15 to 17 for 1s.

Add BUTTER

CHEESE.

Newport, Wednesday.—There was a small market, and an improved demand for better qualities. Quotations:—Caerphillies, 38s to 45s; fancy dairies, 46s to 48s; Cheddars, 60s to 65s; Derbies, 61s to 63s.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—New Dunlop cheese were in the Glasgow market, but the trade in them was limited. Merchants preferred to buy Canadians and New Zealands, which brought late values. The new Dunlops were quoted from 52s to 54s per cwt. The new Cheddars offered showed good quality, but the high prices checked sales.

Market Drayton, Wednesday.—Finest Cheshire, 7½d to 9 per lb. Other qualities from 5½d per lb.

POULTRY AND GAME.

Smithfield, Thursday.—A steady demand, at firm prices. Quotations:—Fowls: Yorkshire, 2s 6d to 3s 6d; Essex, 2s 9d to 3s 3d; Boston, 2s 6d to 3s; Surrey, 4s to 5s 6d; Sussex, 3s 9d to 4s 6d; Welsh, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; Irish, 2s 6d to 3s 3d; turkeys (cocks), 6s to 7s; (hen), 4s to 4s 6d; goslings, 4s4d to 5s 6d; Aylesbury ducklings, 4s to 4s 6d; country, 3s 6d to 4s 3d; pigeons, 7d to 1s; wild rabbits, 6d to 8d; tame, 10d to 1s 3d each; Australian, 8s 3d to 10s 6d per dozen. Dutch plover eggs, 3s 6d per dozen. Russian game: Partridges, 1s 1d to 1s 4d; ptarmigan, 1s to 1s 2d; blackgame, 1s 2d to 1s 4d; brown hares, 1s 4d to 1s 8d; white, 1s to 1s 3d each.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent-Garden, Thursday.—Arrivals of both vegetables and fruit were on a fair scale this morning, and a fair business was done. Greenstuffs—Cabbages, 4s to 6s; cauliflowers, 10s to 12s per tally; carrots, 4s to 5s; turnips, 4s to 6s; mint, 3s to 5s; parsley, 3s to 5s; radishes, 6d to 1s per dozen bunches; horseradish, 1s 6d to 1s 9d per bundle; scakale, 8s to 14s per dozen punnets; rhubarb, 1s 6d to 2s 6d per dozen bundles; spring onions, 1s 6d to 2s 6d perdozen bunches. Old potatoes, 50s to 90s per ton; new, 10s to 15s per cwt. Fruit—English grapes, 3s to 5s; Belgian, 1s to 2s; French, 2s 6d to 4s per lb; Tasmanian and Australian apples, 10s to 14s per case; Denia oranges, 12s to 24s; Valencia 9s to 18s; Murcia 7s 6d to 9s per case; pineapples, 1s 6d to 5s each; Canary tomatoes, 3s to 4s per case; bananas, 7s 6d to 12s 6d per bunch; lemons, 8s to 18s per case.

POTATOES.

Borough, Thursday.—Arrivals are on a liberal scale, but with a fair demand, trade is steady. Quotations:—Scotch maincrops, 80s to 90s; Blacklands, Up-to-dates, 50s; Lincoln ditto, 60s per ton; new Jersey, 16s to 18s; Teneriffe, 10s to 12s; St. Malo, 15s to 16s per cwt; Lisbons, 4s per box.

Spitalfields, Thursday.—Arrivals rather light, but a very quiet demand was apparent for all descriptions. Best Lincoln Up-to-dates, 60s to 65s; Blackland ditto, 45s; Wisbech ditto, 55s to 60s; Scotch ditto, 65s; Scotch maincrops (grey soil), 65s to 75s; Lincoln maincrops, 70s to 80s; Reading giants, 40s; Blackland Gartons, 35s per ton; New Jersey, 18s per cwt; Teneriffe and Canary No. 2, 12s 6d; No. 3, 10s 6d; Maltese rounds, 8s 6d to 9s per cwt; Lisbon, 4s 3d to 4s 6d per box.

TITHE RENT CHARGES

For 1902	67	3	9
,, 1901	66		9
,, 1900	66		10
,, 1899	68	2	4
,, 1898	68		11
,, 1897	69		11
1896	71		7

THE BALTIC.

The London Corn Trade Association notify us that the following standards of January shipments made up for May and June use, may now be seen at 2, Lime Street Square:—Soft Red Kurrachee wheat, Soft White Kurrachee wheat, Choice White Kurrachee wheat, Kurrachee Iowaree, Calcutta Urhurseed, Calcutta White peas, Calcutta grain, Calcutta lentils.

Trade at the Baltic has been rather brisk. Wheat makes 30s. 6d. for arrived Walla Walla, 29s. 6d. for prompt shipment. Californian makes 30s. 3d. for prompt shipment, with 30s. 6d. now asked. No. 1 Northern Manitoba fetches 29s. 3d. per quarter.

Maize is rising in value. A cargo from Poti (Caucasus) fetched 22s. 3d. on Wednesday, and 21s. 9d. was paid for Galatz on Thursday. There are offers of La Plata at a guinea, but no American is quoted.

Barley makes 17s. 6d. for a f.o.b. prompt shipment, and should probably be secured at this price.

Oats, at 15s. 3d. for October shipment from Roumania, are in speculative request.

Linseed oil strong, closing fully 20s. dearer. London spot pipes £32, brown rape oil slow; ordinary spot barrels £25 10s., May-Aug. £25 10s.; crude cotton oil very firm and scarce; London spot £25 5s., May-Aug. Linseed active, Calcutta seed advancing, 1s. to 1s. 3d., La Plata and Bombay 1s. to 1s. 6d. Sales include—London: Calcutta spot 54s., afloat 53s. 6d. to 53s. 9d., April-June 53s. 6d. to 53s 9d., May-June 53s. 3d. to 54s. 3d. La Plata (s.) cargo May-June 2,500 tons 52s. 1½d. U.K. Hull: Calcutta April-June 53s. to 53s. 6d., May-June, 53s. 6d. to 54s. 3d. La Plata May-June 51s. 9d. to 51s. 10½d. Rapeseed: Brown Calcutta May-June 36s. 6d. n/t Hamburg; Brown Cawnpore May-June 36s. 9d. o/t Antwerp; Yellow Cawnpore April-June 39s. Continent; Ferozepore May-June is 37s. 6d. o/t, 38s. 9d. n/t. Cottonseed: 2s. 6d. to 3s. 9d. dearer. London: Spot £7 15s. Hull: Spot £7 15s. Bombay May-June £5 2s. Liverpool quay terms, June-July £5 Hull.

MANURES.

Liverpool, Thursday.—Brilliant sunshine has been experienced during the past week, with occasional showers, but the temperature is low, and warmth is much needed. Nitrate of soda meets a fair demand, and values are again easier at £9 10s per ton. The demand for other fertilisers is not so active, yet values are without change. The trade in feeding stuffs keeps dull, and in some instances, linseed cakes, values tend in buyers' favour. Nitrate of soda, best quality, i.e., guaranteed 95 per cent., pure, in bags, £9 10s per ton; East India bone meal, fair to prime, in bags, £4 10s to £4 15s per ton; kainit, prime 23 per cent, in bags, £2 7s 6d to £2 10s perton; palmnut cake, prime, in bags, £5 15s per ton; linseed cake, American thin oblong, in bags, £7 to £7 5s per ton; linseed cake, English, in bulk, £8 to £8 5s per ton; linseed cake, foreign, round, rich in oil, in bags, £8 to £8 2s 6d per ton; cottonseed cake, N.A., decorticated, in bags, £7 2s 6d to £7 5s per ton; cottonseed cake, English do, in bags, £7 to £7 10s per ton; cottonseed cake, English, undecorticated, prime, in bulk, £4 7s 6d to £4 12s 6d per ton; cottonseed cake, Egyptian, do, prime, in bags, nil; cottonseed cake (crushed) 20 to 25 per cent oil, prime, in bags, £7 2s 6d to £7 5s per ton; maize germ meal, prime, in bags, £5 15s to £5 17s 6d per ton; corn oil cake, 10 to 13 per cent oil, prime, in bags, £6 5s to £6 7s 6d per ton; rice meal, Rangoon, as imported, in bags, £5 2s 6d to £5 5s per ton; Indian meal, coarse to fine grinding, prime, in bulk, 13s to 13s 6d per 240lb; linseed, fine bold feeding, in bags, £3 2s 6d to £3 3s 6d per quarter, 416lb; N. A. cloverseed, new red, fair to good, in bags, nil; D.N.S. Brand, Superphosphate of lime, guaranteed, 25 to 27 sol, in bags, £2 5s to £2 7s, at depot; do, do, 30 to 31 sol, in bags, £2 10s to £2 12s at depot; do, do, 35 to 36 sol, in bags, £3 to £3 2s at depot; basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed 30 to 35 per cent phos, in bags, nominal; do, do, 35 to 40 per cent phos, in bags, nominal; finest do, 38 to 45 per cent phos, in bags, nominal.

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF FINE HOUSEHOLD FLOUR IN PARIS.

(Converted into English money for sacks of 280 lb.)

	1902.	1901.	1900.	1899.	1898.	1897.	1896.	1895.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Jan. ...	27 9	24 9	25 2	29 0	38 7	30 5½	25 10	27 9½
Feb. ...	26 3	25 9	26 3	28 3	39 4	29 10½	26 2	27 10½
March	27 0	24 0	27 3	27 6	40 1	28 9	26 0	27 5½
April...	...	24 6	26 9	27 6	42 3	28 5	25 6½	26 7
May ...	...	25 6	26 8	28 0	40 0	28 11½	25 1½	28 0
June...	...	26 3	28 6	27 6	35 6	29 3	25 8	28 10
July ...	...	28 0	26 9	27 3	32 0	31 5½	24 6	27 1
August	...	27 6	26 4	27 0	31 6	36 11	25 1	26 11
Sept....	...	27 6	26 3	25 9	31 0	38 7	27 0	27 0½
Oct.....	...	27 6	26 0	24 9	30 6	39 4	27 1½	27 9
Nov. ...	...	27 9	26 4	24 3	30 3	40 3	29 9	26 8½
Dec. ..	...	28 3	26 0	24 6	29 0	39 3	29 8	26 3
Yrly. Avrg.	...	27 3	26	2 9	35 0	33 5	26 5½	27 4½

Country Cattle.

Calne, Friday.—Present prices for prime pigs, in lots of not less than 10, on rail within 100 miles of Calne.

Prime Stores.	Thickness of fat in any part of the Back.	Price per Sc. s. d.
6 sc. 10 lbs. to 9 sc. 10 l	s. 2½ in. and under ...	10 0
Under 10 sc. ...	... Not exceeding 2½ in. ...	9
Under 11 sc. 10 lb.	... Not exceeding 2¾ in....	9 0
Under 12 sc. ...	... Not exceeding 3 in. ..	

—C. & T. Harris & Co., Ld.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW.

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS.")

Trade in the West.

Although the weather has undergone a change for the best since our last report, there is still room for further improvement, and till this takes place we can hardly expect to see trade as it should be at this season of the year, especially as regards store sheep, the great spring sales of which have already begun, the initial sale being held at Beaminster (a famous horn country) on Tuesday, followed by that at Bridport next day, and then by the largest and most important of all—that of Dorchester on Thursday. True, there have been a few nice showers in some districts, though nothing like to the extent that has been the case around London, but at the time of writing more rain is still badly wanted, and not only rain, but much warmer weather than we have been having, the nights, which seldom pass without a frost, being so intensely cold that all vegetation is checked, and frequently throughout the daytime it is very little better. Of course, these unfavourable conditions naturally tell very adversely on business, especially where store stock is concerned, as it makes people very cautious in speculating when the keep prospect is as cheer less as is the case at present. And it will take a lot of the most favourable weather we can possibly have to make up for lost time and to put things at all right, as the crops are backward, and there is but little grass anywhere except in the most favoured localities. One of the most serious effects of this is that sheep have gone back very materially in value, competent judges pronouncing most classes of sheep from 3s. to 5s. below the price they made at the corresponding period last year. This is a serious matter for flockmasters, and more especially those in Dorset and Wilts, where they depend so largely for a little ready-money on the price for which they can sell their surplus stocks. The decline in values is not altogether due to the very cold, dry season through which we have passed, but there is no doubt it has had a very material influence on prices. And we are not over sanguine that there will be any great improvement as the season advances, unless we have a specially favourable summer, of which any indications are lamentably wanting up to the present time. A few classes of sheep make fairly good prices, but this is by no means a general occurrence, prices all round being undoubtedly disappointing, the more so as flockmasters, with the knowledge of the scarcity of sheep there is in the country, had been anticipating a revival in prices—not a decline. So far store cattle, though affected, no doubt, to some extent, has not felt the effect so seriously as sheep. The best mulchers show no falling off either in demand or in price, the best still commanding their £18 to £21 apiece, and even more, whilst barreners—those nearing beef—also find a ready market at good prices—not, perhaps, as good as they were before the drought became so acute. Still, anything like forward-condition bullocks make £24 to £36 per pair, and the plainer kinds £18 to £22 or £23—not a bad price on the whole, seeing what a small margin there is between the grazing and the fat bullock. Young stock also meet fair sale, and there is but little falling-off in the demand. Fat things continue, if we except sheep and lambs, to market fairly well, good ripe bullocks bringing their 4s. and 12s. per score where they have been at all well put out of hand, and even the plainer class of cows make 10s. to 10s. 6d. Calves sell exceedingly well, the holiday season, of course, stimulating the demand a trifle, and the past week's sales may be given as from 8½d. to 9d. per lb. for the best vealers, and 7½d. to 8d. for seconds. Fat sheep, as a rule, make a bad price, except here and there in the case of a few wethers, which may make 8d.—not over; and, although Whitsuntide led to a little more demand for lamb, still the price was by no means a very satisfactory one, 10d. being an extreme figure even for best Downs. Pigs relatively met a much better sale, and the price also compared favourably with that of lamb, best qualities making up to 11s. per score and over.

LONDON.

London (Central), Wednesday.—Fair supplies, but trade remained slow, prices, however, ruled firm. Beef arrivals included 80 tons Scotch, 550 Liverpool sides, 1,500 hindquarters, and 600 forequarters American killed. Prices:—Beef, Scotch short sides, 4s 8d to 4s 10d; long, 4s 6d; English, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; American, Deptford killed, 4s 3d to 4s 5d; Liverpool, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; American, refrigerated, hindquarters, 4s 5d to 4s 8d; forequarters, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; Argentine, hindquarters, 3s 8d to 4s; forequarters, 3s to 3s 3d. Mutton: Scotch, 4s 10d to 5s; English wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d. English lamb, 5s to 5s 8d. Veal: English and Dutch, 4s to 5s. Pork: English, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; and Dutch, 4s 2d to 4s 6d per 8lb.

COUNTRY.

Basingstoke, Wednesday.—At Raynbird and Son's Sale Yard there was a good attendance of buyers to meet a supply of 36 fat beasts, 111 calves, 776 fat sheep and lambs, 195 pigs, and 94 head of dairy and store cattle, for which the following prices were realised:—Prime shorthorn steers sold up to £26 10s, and heifers made up to £21. Devon steers reached £22, heifers £21, and Devon cows up to £25; fat calves, 80s to £6; small, 20s to 50s; fat wethers and young ewes made from 42s 6d to 54s 6d; old ewes, 32s to 40s; rams, 45s to 57s; choice fat sucking lambs, 32s to 38s; ditto Exmoor ditto, 31s to 34s; fat porkers, 34s to 51s; store pigs, 19s to 33s 6d; dairy cows, £8 to £20. For fat beasts there was a brisk trade, and a clearance nearly made. A good show of fat sheep and lambs. Fat sheep on demand, and a clearance made at full prices. Fat lambs were wanted at a lower price, and a reduction from last week's figures. A few of the lots were held beyond the views of the buyers. An easy clearance was made of the short supply of dairy cows, which met a brisk trade. Store cattle showed a slightly improved trade, but still continues slow. Fat calves were shown in large numbers, prices ruling high, with a good demand. Fat porkers with a fair trade easily sold at satisfactory prices. Store pigs were exceptionally dear. Ruling values:—Prime fat Devon beasts, 7¾d to 8¼d; shorthorns, 7d to 7½d bulls, cows, and inferior beasts, 6d to 6¼d; best quality fat sheep, 8d to 8½d; second ditto, 7d to 7½d; old ewes, rams, and inferior sheep, 6d to 6½d; choice fat sucking lambs, 9d to 10d per lb. Fat calves, 6d to 9½d per lb. Fat porkers up to 11s per score.

Braintree, Wednesday — At Messrs. Balls' auction mart, fat hogs were in smart supply. Sheep sold well, and cattle advanced, heavy beasts making up to £24 15s. Stock penned: 43 beasts, 138 fat sheep, 12 store cattle, 22 calves.

Bristol, Thursday.—Beef, fair supply to-day. Trade firm. Best qualities, 68s to 70s per cwt.; secondary, 60s to 62s. Moderate number sheep penned, best light wethers fetching 7½d to 7¾d. per lb.; heavy wethers, 7d; ewes, 6d; lambs, 9d to 10d. Good supply of pigs; baconers 10s per score; porkers 10s 9d. Four hundred store cattle in market. Trade slow.

Cambridge, Monday.—Beasts, 529; sheep, 752; pigs, 561; horses, 22. Beef, 8s to 9s; mutton, 4s 4d to 5s 6d, clipped; pork, 6s to 7s 3d. A few lots store beasts, and trade not quite so good. Fat beasts short supply; trade brisk at more money. Fat sheep trade not so good as last week. Stores, a few good lots to hand, and all cleared. Fat pigs, a brisk trade all round; stores a little better show, and trade brisk. Hay, straw, and roots, fair trade.

Chester, Thursday.—A good supply of cattle and an improved demand, sellers having little difficulty in clearing their best stock at remunerative rates. Milch cows, £14 to £22; calvers, £13 to £20; barrens, £9 to £13; heifers, to £15; stirks, £6 to £11.

Dublin, Thursday. — Numbers in market: Beasts, 1,059, decrease, 145; sheep, 7,061, increase, 591; calves, 49, increase 5. Finished bullocks and heifers making fully last week's quotations. Rougher sorts and fat dairy cows easier sold. Sheep suitable for local trade easier to dispose of; shippers buying more cautiously, owing to Whitsuntide holidays. Lambs quieter. Cattle, live weight (best), 38s to 42s per cwt. Other sorts, 32s to 37s per cwt. Mutton, dead weight, 7d to 8¾d per lb.—GANLY, SONS AND CO.

Dumfries, Wednesday.—Seasonable supplies. Horned bullocks to £20; Galloway bullocks to £18; Ayrshire cows to £13; Galloway heifers, £13; polled bullocks to £15 calving cows to £14; buaals to £20.

Edinburgh, Wednesday.—Very large supplies, and trade dull. Half-bred hoggs, 34s to 37s; ewe hoggs, 32s to 37s; grey-faced, 30s to 38s; Cheviots, 22s to 27s, horned bullocks to £15 10s; stirks, to £8 10s; shorthorns, to £26 10s; Irish, £17 to £24; Ayrshire, £16 to £18 10s.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—No foreign cattle and sheep having arrived this week, the Glasgow cattle market remained firm. Top Scotch cattle, 68s per cwt secondary, 64s to 65s; top Irish, 66s. Top mutton, 9¼d per lb; secondary, 8½d. Lambs scarce; price 38s to 42s each. Dead meat in quiet demand, but values firm owing to scarcity: best Scotch, 6¾d; secondary, 6½d to 6¾d per lb.

Herefcrd, Wednesday.—Short supply of beef, with firm trade, last week's improvement being maintained. Best quality reached nearly 8d per lb; secondary, 6d to 6½d. Very little trade for store cattle. Fair supply of fat sheep, and a good clearance at last week's figures; wethers, 40s to 56s each, or 7½d to 8d per lb; ewes, 5½d to 6½d. Fat lambs, with an over supply, 9d to 10d. Fat calves moderate supply, 7½d to 8½d. Small supply of pigs.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Messrs. R. Bond and Sons report a large increase in the number of fat cattle, which did not in any way adversely affect the trade, which was extremely sharp and well maintained throughout; prices ranged from 8s 6d to 9s 3d per stone. A short entry of fat sheep, and a good trade. A heavy consignment of fat lambs, the best of which were wanted, and made rather more money. Grazing and breeding sheep met a dull trade, and lower prices had to be accepted. A large number of calves were penned, those for killing sold briskly. Fat swine were not so numerous, and fully maintained late rates; well-bred stores in request. A fair entry of grazing cattle, and a good attendance of buyers; prices were much the same as last week. A good entry of cows; the best sold well. Numbers at sales and market:—Cattle, 805; calves, 102; sheep, 2,607; swine, 1,475; horses, 30.

Leicester, Wednesday.—Buyers and dealers were well represented. Heavy consignments of Lincolnshire and Norfolk fed bullocks. Trade slower, and secondary qualities 10s to 15s per head lower. Heifers, 7d to 7½d; cows, 5¾d to 6¼; choice bullocks, 7¼d to 7½d; secondary, 6¾d to 7d per lb. Large delivery of sheep, and the supply being in excess of the demand, quotations were 5s to 7s 6d per head lower. Choice light weights 7½d to 7¾d; large sheep, 6¾d to 7d; ewes, 5¾d to 6¼d; lambs, 10d; calves, 8d to 9d per lb.

Newport, Wednesday.—There was a good attendance of buyers, and brisk business was done all round. Although the supply of beef was small, sheep were plentiful. Prices:—Best beef, 7½d; seconds, 7d to 7¼d; cows, 6¼d to 6¾d; wether mutton, 8¼d to 9d; ewes, 7d to 7½d; shorn wethers, 8d to 8¼d; lambs, 10d; veal, 7d to 8d; porker pigs, 10s 9d to 11s per score.

Nottingham, Wednesday. — There was a good supply and plenty of buyers, the demand being brisk and the prices showing an advance all round. Best beef made 9s per stone; mutton, 8d per lb; veal, 9d; and lamb, 1s.

Preston, Wednesday.—Good attendance, and very large supply of cattle, for which higher rates quoted recently were fully maintained. Sheep plentiful, but met with slow trade at high prices. Calves sold at reduced rates. Beef heifers and bullocks, 7¼d to 7½d; cows and bulls, 6d to 7d; mutton, hoggs (woolled), 9¾d, ditto (clipped), 8½d to 9d; tups and ewes, 7d to 8½d; calves, 6d to 8½d. At market:—40 2cattle, 2,854 sheep, and 22 calves.

Romford, Wednesday.—Short supply of fat beasts, trade dear. Best animals, 5s. 2d to 5s 4d per stone; middlings, 4s 8d to 5s. Calves were in very short supply, at 5s 4d to 5s 6d per stone. Lambs were in average supply, trade slow, at 6s 4d to 6s 8d per stone. Sheep is about average supply, trade about the same. Best sheep, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; middlings, 5s to 5s 2d per stone. Very few store beasts were on offer, and there was a fair demand. The pig market was again open; fair supply and moderate business at about usual rates.

Saffron Walden, Wednesday. — Fat ewes made 52s 6d. Down hoggets 61s 6d, half-breds 51s 6d, and lambs 33s 6d. Shorthorns realised £22 15s, small bullocks £19 15s, fat calves £5 5s, and weanels 43s. Hogs made 74s, porkers 45s, stores 23s 6d, fat sows 72s, and sows with pigs 145s.

Salford, Tuesday.—The supply of cattle was again smaller. There was a fair demand, and prices ruled about the same as last Tuesday. The supply of sheep and lambs was greatly in excess of last week's supply. Trade for choice sheep was slow but firm, at about late rates, but heavy grades made 2s to 3s less money. The lamb trade, owing to the cold weather, was dull. A larger show of calves, but a fair trade for choice quality at late rates. Cattle, 5d to 7¼d; sheep, 7d to 9¼d; lambs, 9d to 10½d; calves, 5d to 8¾d per lb. At market:—Cattle, 1,687, sheep and lambs, 14,324; calves, 185.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Milch beasts in fair supply; demand without animation. Best £18 to £20, secondary £13 to £17.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday.—Steady trade all round, with store pigs slightly higher in price. Fair supplies. Fat cattle firm. Quotations:—Lamb, 10¾d to 11½d; beef, 6¾d to 8d; mutton, 7¾ to 8½d; and veal, 7d to 8¾d per lb; porket pigs, 10s to 10s 6d; and bacons, 9s to 10s per score; cows, with calves, up to £18 15s; hay up to £6s 10s; and straw up to £4 7s 6d per ton. number offered:—610 lambs, 82 cattle, 75 cows with calves, 896 sheep, 188 calves, 37 fat, 100 porket, and 466 store pigs.—B. R. CROXTON, Markets Inspector.

Spalding, Tuesday.—Beef to 9s per stone; cow beef made 8s. A large show of stores. Slow trade at £10 to £15 a head. Cows in demand at high prices. A larger show of sheep. Trade slow. Best mutton, 8d per lb. Lambs sold well.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There were on offer 182 cattle, 23 calves, 260 sheep, and 118 lambs. Of best cattle there was a good show, and prices ranged from 8s 6d to 9s per stone; rougher sorts, 6s 6d to 7s 6d. Calves met with a fair demand at 6d to 9d per lb. There were more sheep, and prices were easier. Young sheep, 8½d; ewes, 7d tups, 5d to 6d; lambs, 21s to 35s.

Thame, Tuesday.—There was a good supply of all kinds of stock, beef making up to 5s 3d per stone, whilst mutton, lamb, and veal were in great demand. Messrs. Bond and Buddow's sale comprised 53 fat beasts, 323 fat and store sheep, 41 fat and weaning calves, and 193 bacon hogs and store pigs. Fat bullocks made from £19 15s to £26 15s; fat heifers, £20 to £25 5s; fat ewes, 40s to 60s; fat tegs and wethers, 50s to 69s; fat lambs, 30s to 40s 6d; fat calves, £3 10s to £5 11s; weaning cow calves, 30s to 60s bull calves, 18 to 58s; bacon hogs, 10s per score. Stores dear.

Wakefield, Wednesday. — With the exception of calves, there were slightly diminished supplies in all departments. In spite of this the stock was quite equal to the demand. Fair attendance of butchers and buyers, but trade was not as brisk as it has been lately, and dealers in many cases had to accept less money. The fat beasts were of a fairly good quality. The market opened rather slow, and butchers, in view of the holidays, only bought sparingly. Best beef made 7¼d per lb; good beef, 6¾d to 7d; inferior, 5¾d to 6¼d. Trade in dairy cattle was slow, best cows making £1 per head more than last week. Superior cattle, £16 to £23; others, £14 upwards. Business was very quiet in store cattle, the prices quoted being from £9 to £15. There was a capital show of fat calves, which included some first-class animals. The choicest made 9d per lb., and inferior ones from 5d upwards. Slow trade in sheep, the cold weather making them somewhat difficult to dispose of. Small clipped sheep, 7¾d to 8d per lb; heavy sheep, 6¾d to 7¼d; and tups, 6¼d to 6¾d per lb. A fairly good trade was done in lambs, which sold at 9¼d to 11d per lb. A moderate trade in pigs. Porkers, 6s 6d to 7s 3d per stone; stores, 25s to 55s; suckers, 15s to 22s each. Numbers at market:—Beasts, 1,337; sheep and lambs, 4,975; calves, 84; and pigs, 415.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—A moderate supply of beasts; fair trade. Sheep and lambs were in fair supply; trade slow. Calves: Fair supply and trade. Beef, 6½d to 8d per lb; mutton, 7d to 8¾d per lb; lamb, 6d to 11d per lb; veal, 7d to 8½d per lb; only a few pigs on offer.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Good show of stock, with a better supply of beef. Best beef, 7s 4d to 8s 4d; secondary, 6s to 7s per stone; best Southdown wethers and long wools, 7d to 8d; ewes, 5½d to 7d; fat lambs, 9¾d to 10d; calves, 9d to 10d per lb.

York, Thursday.—A somewhat larger offer of sheep, which met with a slow demand, due to the backwardness of the grass and the cold weather. North country hogs, 37s to 44s; twice crossed hogs, 36s to 42s; Mashams, 25s to 30s; country hogs, 38s to 44s; clipped sheep, up to 40s per head. The same causes which affected the sheep trade influenced cattle. There was a smaller show of Irish stores, and much smaller of English. Considerably fewer buyers were present than is usual. A fair number of sales were effected. Fair demand for bullocks and heifers, full of flesh, and up to three years old, and in a few cases as much as 15gns. were made; the general run of prices was from £12 10s to £14; two-year-old, £10 to £12. Little demand for stirks. Smaller offer of calving and milch cows, and although trade was good, it was not so brisk as last market, and late rates were barely maintained. Ordinary prices ranged from £15 to £18; a few exceptionally good animals fetched to £22 10s.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Wednesday.—Beast entries to-day consisted of shipments from the United States, and amounted to 299 head, this being 1,588 less than shown on Wednesday last. Trade ruled firm at 4s 10d to 5s. 790 United States sheep sold 4s 8d per 81b, sinking the offal, the demand being slow.

Yorkhill, Tuesday.—A sale of United States sheep was held this morning, 232 animals, landed by the Buenos Ayrean (s), from Philadelphia (held over from last week's sale), being offered. The shipment consisted entirely of wethers, and were very suitable for the requirements of the trade. There was a fair attendance of buyers forward, and trade was good throughout the day, the values being fully equal to those ruling at the previous sale. The animals sold at 44s a head, or an equivalent of from 8¼d to 8½d per lb.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Thursday.—Linseed has again improved, owing to an active oil market. Calcutta to London spot, passage, and April-June are now 55s; June-July, 55s 6d. La Plata, on passage, 52s 6d. Hull is also dearer. Calcutta, April-June, 54s 6d. La Plata, spot, 51s 9d; May-June, 52s 3d. To the Continet, Bombay May-June, 56s 9d; June-July, 56s 7½d, paid. Calcutta, April-June, 55s. La Plata, May-June, 53s. Linseed oil remains steady, and in good demand. We quote spot in pipes, £32; barrels, £32 June-August, £31s 15s; September-December, £30 12s 6d. Hull naked spot, £31; June-August, £31; September-December, £29 12s 6d. Linseed cakes are firm. We to-day quote London made £7 17s 6d, at £8 ex mill; American, Western, £7 7s 6d, at £7 10s; Russian, £7 12s 6d, at £7 17s 6d. Cotton cakes steady: London made £4 12s 6d, at £4 17s 6d. Rape seed firm. Brown Cawnpore, May-June, 37s 9d; brown Calcutta, spot, sold at 34s 9d; May-June, 36s 6d, wanted. To the Continent we quote yellow Guzerat, 42s; yellow Cawnpore, May-June, 40s 6d; brown Cawnpore, May-June, 37s 9d; brown Calcutta, April-June, 37s; Ferozepore, May-June, 37s 9d; Jamba, May-June, to Hull, 31s 9d. Cotton Seed continues firm, but the advanced prices asked somewhat check business. Spot London, £7 17s 6d; April-May, £7 17s 6d, sellers; November-January, £6 15s. Hull, spot, £7 16s 3d; May-June, £7 16s 3d; November-January, £6 13s 9d. Cargoes, May is held for £7 18s 9d; November-December and January, £6 16s 3d. Bombay to Hull, May-June is selling at £5 3s; May-July, £5 3s 6d.—THE PRODUCE BROKERS COMPANY, LIMITED.

Mark Lane, Friday.—Linseed cakes: The actual consumptive demand continues small, but there is a good inquiry for forward positions, and buyers have freely paid the recent advance of 2s 6d per ton asked by shippers. Russians in warehouse sell slowly at last Monday's prices. American are in good request, being by far the best value on the market, at 2s 6d per ton less money. Calcutta made in bags offer at unchanged quotations. London made are also obtainable at last week's prices, but attract very little attention. Cotton cakes: The market is well supplied with foreign, and while values are firmly held up in sympathy with seed, the amount of business passing is limited, Egyptian being quoted at slightly firmer prices, and English unchanged. Decorticated move off quietly at £6 5s to £6 12s 6d, as to quality; and meal at £6 10s. Rape cakes: Dull, East India unchanged. Maize germ meal: Arrived parcels of American may still be had at 2s 6d per ton more money, although shippers ask as much as £6 for future shipments. English is only sparingly offered at £5 15s to £6 per ton, ex mills. Rice meal: Very little offers in any position, and values are nominal at £4 10s to £4 15s, ex ship, and £5 landed.

		Per ton. £ s. d.	Per ton £ s. d.
LINSEED CAKES.			
London made	ex mill	7 15 0	to 7 17 6
American	ex ship	7 0 0	to 7 2 6
Russian, in mats	ex dock	7 7 6	to 7 10 0
Russian, in bags	ex dock	7 15 0	to 7 17 6
Calcutta		7 10 0	to 7 15 0
COTTONSEED CAKES.			
London made	ex mill	4 15 0	to 4 17 6
Egyptian	ex dock	4 10 0	to 4 12 6
Decorticated	ex dock	6 5 0	to 6 12 6
Meal	ex dock	6 10 0	to —
RAPE CAKES.			
East India		3 15 0	to 4 0 0
MAIZE.			
English germ meal	ex mill	5 15 0	to 6 0 0
American	ex dock	5 15 0	to 5 17 6
RICE MEAL.			
Rangoon	ex dock	5 0 0	to

—PINNOCK BROS., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

HAY AND STRAW.

Manchester, Wednesday.—Hay, 6¾d to 7½d; clover, 7d to 7¾d; straw (oat), 5½d to 6½d per stone.

Whitechapel, Thursday.—Plentiful supplies, but demand was extremely quiet. Best clover, £5s to 110s; inferior ditto, 80s to 90s; specially picked hay, 117s 6d; good ditto, 110s; inferior ditto, 80s to 95s; mixture and sainfoin, 95s to 105s; and straw, 30s to 45s per load.

Cumberland, Thursday.—Best selected hay, 110s to 120s; good, 95s to 110s; inferior, 75s to 95s. Prime clover, 100s to 112s 6d; good, 90s to 100s; inferior, 70s to 90s; best mixture, 105s to 112s; good, 95s to 105s. Straw, 28s to 45s per load.

The Cobden Club and the Corn Tax.

A meeting called by the Cobden Club to protest against the corn tax was held in the Free Trade Hall, Manchester, on Thursday evening. Lord Spencer presided, and with him on the platform were Mr. Asquith, M.P.; Mr. C. P. Scott, M.P., Sir Joseph Leigh, M.P., Mr. W. H. Holland, M.P., Mr. George Toulmin, M.P., Mr. George Harwood, M.P., Mr. A. Emmott, M.P., and many others.

Mrs. Unwin, a daughter of Cobden wrote:—"With my father's life-long work clearly in my mind, I appeal to you now, before it is too late, to go forth from the Free Trade Hall to-morrow filled with the spirit of the Anti-Corn Law agitators, and for your watchwords have the motto of the Cobden Club: 'Free Trade, Peace, Goodwill among Nations.' They are the words with which Mr. Bright, my father, and Mr. Gladstone did battle in your name in the past. Do battle, peaceful battle, with them for yourselves now. You have the power, create the will."

Lord Ripon wrote:—"It is fifty years within a few months since, as a young man, I was present at a great meeting in the Free Trade Hall, with Mr. George Wilson in the chair, and Mr. Cobden and Mr. Bright on the platform, to protest against any return to the system of Protection on the part of the Government of Lord Derby, who was then in office. That protest was successful, and I sincerely hope that the resistance to the renewed tax on bread may be so vigorous and general as to prevent the adoption of a measure so unsound in principle, and so fraught with evil."

Lord Spencer, in opening the meeting, said they were met at a great crisis in the political history of the country. For the first time in over sixty years the Government of the day were imposing a tax on the bread of the people. They were doing this, they said, only to raise revenue, but the Liberal party said that this might be the beginning of the reimposition of protection all along the line. It was imperative on all who were Free Traders and those who wished to support the commerce of the country on the basis on which it had prospered for so many years to do what they could to stir up the feeling of the people against the proposals of the Government. The tax was a protective tax; it would enhance the price of grain and flour produced in this country. There would also be considerable profits made by the middleman, and people would have to pay, not the £2,650,000 estimated by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, but he believed the total would reach £4,000,000, and press most seriously on the poorer inhabitants of the country. The Chancellor of the Exchequer might have adopted many other means of raising the requisite sum. He hoped the meeting would very clearly and distinctly pronounce the opinion that they did not wish the great policy of Cobden and Bright, and Villiers and Peel, and, last, but not least, Gladstone—(loud cheers)—reversed, but that they wished to make their voice heard in favour of Free Trade. (Cheers.)

Speech by Mr. Asquith.

Mr. Asquith, who was loudly applauded, moved—"That this meeting of the citizens of Manchester, assembled in the Free Trade Hall, condemns the corn tax." The audience, he said, were animated by a single and united purpose. They were there because, for the first time within the memory of almost every one of them, not only the doctrine, but also the practice of Free Trade had been put into question, not as a matter of abstract dogma or of academic debate, but by a deliberate attack on the part of the Government upon the very foundation of our fiscal system. It was nothing short of a resurrection of the old Corn Law, killed by Cobden and buried by Peel. The agitation against the tax was not artificial, as writers in the London Press had declared, but real, as the new member for Bury would be able to tell them. (Cheers.) If the tax were infinitesimal in its practical consequences it would none the less be our duty to withstand it to the end. (Cheers.) The question was, should they or should they not reinstate Protection in their economic household? (Cries of "Never.") To those who cared for principle when a new departure of this kind was proposed the important matter was, "Is the road we are asked to take the right or the wrong road?" and not "What is the distance which for the time being we are asked to travel upon it?" (Cheers.) They were told that the tax was necessary in order that they might contribute to the cost of the war, but this was not a war tax. If it were, we should have received an assurance that when the war expenditure came to an end it would be dropped, but nothing of the kind was going to take place. It was a tax that was going to be employed in the discharge of normal expenditure, and, amongst other things, in the payment of the annual subvention which the Government had so lavishly granted in its days of prosperity to the privileged classes and interests. The Government appealed to the patriotism of working men to pay their share of the cost of the war in the shape of an increase in the price of their daily bread, and in the next breath they attempted to show that the whole burden of the tax would fall upon the foreigner—(laughter)—who, according to these theorists, was good enough to supply the people of this country with food at a price which would bear no relation at all to the cost of bringing it into the market. Among fallacies in fustian, he awarded the first place to that argument. (Cheers.) It was also said that, apart from the war, it was necessary, in view of the growth of normal expenditure, to widen the basis of taxation, and that in that process the working classes should contribute their share. In answer to that, he might point out that the present sources of indirect taxation, not one of which was protective in its nature, presented very large possibilities of increase. Beer, which now paid 7s. 9d. a barrel, formerly paid 19s. The duty on tobacco was actually 2d. per lb. less than it was before the war broke out. It was idle in the face of these facts to say there was any necessity to resort to a protective duty, and to a duty on any article like corn.

The consumer, Mr. Asquith contended, was the man who would pay the tax. Bread was an article we could not do without, and we were dependent for it on foreign supplies. The importer would pay the duty in the first instance, and it would pass through the hands of the middleman, the wholesale dealer, and retail shopkeeper, who handed it to the consumer, carrying interest on each stage of the process. The consumer would pay, not only on the imported grain, but also on the home-grown grain—(hear, hear)—and this showed that the duty was protective. The tax raised the price for the benefit of one particular class of producers, and if that was done in one case, why not in others? If it was done in the case of corn, why not in the case of bacon? If it was done in favour of the home producer, why should it not be done in the case of the colonial producer? The Canadian might say: "I import into Great Britain for the British market great quantities of wheat and flour. You put a tax on my flour and wheat, but the British farmer, who produces the same commodity, pays no tax at all. Then, are we joint members of a joint Empire? We have contributed to the war that is going on of our blood and our best, and you seize this moment to discriminate against us, your fellow-subjects in the Colonies, and in favour of your fellow-subjects at home." What answer could be made? We had a good answer a year ago. We were a Free Trade country; our fiscal system was a Free Trade system; we could not, much as we valued our comradeship, upset that system, on which the prosperity of Great Britain depended, in order to make a partial exception in favour of a particular portion of the Empire. If that argument of the Canadian were yielded to, what was to be said to the Australian, who sent his wool, and to the New Zealander, who sent frozen mutton? They, too, were citizens of the Empire; they, too, had shared in its glories and its sacrifices; they were not going to be content. Why should they be on a worse footing than their Canadian fellow-subjects? And so we should get into a vicious circle—into a quagmire of differential and preferential duties and artificial discriminations, granted here to be balanced by similar discriminations there, into a morass out of which British industry was lifted by the teachings of Adam Smith and Ricardo, by the agitation of the Anti-Corn Law League, and by the statesmanship of Peel and Gladstone. (Cheers.)

Free Trade had made us the market of the world, by giving us an unrestricted supply of raw material. It had fostered capital, increased the average remuneration of labour, and raised the whole material standard of British life. He for one welcomed the conflict which had been forced upon them. He could not imagine an issue on which they could appeal with more confidence to the intelligence, the judgment, and the conscience of the people of this country. (Cheers.) Some people seemed to think this country adopted Free Trade as an alternative experiment. We adopted it, and we mean to adhere to it, not as doctrinaires, but as practical men; not because Free Trade was good for other people, but because it was good for ourselves. The departure from Free Trade, for which they were now fighting, was a tax on an article of prime necessity, a portion of which fell on those least able to bear it. Free Trade had greatly raised the general level of comfort, but they must be on their guard against the deceitfulness of averages. A large section of people spent their lives hovering on the verge of starvation. Bread was to them, in the literal sense of the phrase, the staff of life. Raise its cost, and many of them were put to a state of actual insufficiency of food, and, as regarded many others, the raising of the price would cut them off from an occasional indulgence in such things as bacon or meat by which their humble diet was diversified. This was what the tax was going to do. An additional penny on the income tax would produce almost precisely the sum attempted to be raised by this tax, and what justification was there for raising what in our swollen national balance-sheet must be regarded as, after all, a relatively paltry item by a tax which had this odious feature, that it pressed with disproportionate and excessive weight on shoulders which were least able to bear the load.

Summarising his points at the close of his speech, Mr. Asquith said the tax was not proposed as a temporary expedient to meet a passing emergency, but it was suggested that it should become a permanent part of our fiscal system. Whatever its amount, be it small or be it great, it must in the long run be protective in its nature, and, therefore, it followed oppressive to the consumer and wasteful to the State. Convenient as it was to collect, it would present an almost irresistible temptation to a Chancellor of the Exchequer of easy virtue—(laughter)—to raise the figure, and so to realise the concealed hopes of militant Protectionists, who, though they had been judiciously muzzled in the House of Commons in last week's debate, hailed its first appearance with a whoop of well-justified triumph. It deprived us of any logical answer to those who, whether at home or in the Colonies, were demanding preferential terms for British produce and a return to the old system of discriminatory and retaliatory tariffs. Worst of all, it was a tax graduated, not according to the ability, but according to the inability, of those able to pay it. (Cheers.) It was a tax on industry, on poverty, on privation; it set at defiance economic principle, fiscal policy, social expediency, and national justice. Let them resist it in its beginning and resist it to the end. (Loud cheers.)

The motion was carried with loud acclamation.



STOCK AND SHOW NOTES.

By Herdsman.

The Plymouth meeting of the Bath and West and Southern Counties' Society, to be held from Tuesday, May 27, to Saturday, May 31, inclusive, will be a most extensive one, the horses, cattle, sheep, pigs, and other live stock and farm products, totalling up to nearly 2,000 entries, whilst the exhibits of implements, machinery, carriages, etc., will be some thousands in number. There will be a working dairy on an elaborate scale, where demonstrations and butter-making contests will be held daily, and among other attractions will be a science and art and art-manufactures exhibition, a poultry show, a flower show, shoeing, shearing and milking competitions, exhibitions of bee-keeping, with explanatory lectures, and daily musical performances by the Royal Marines Band. There will also be parades of the horses and cattle, and driving, trotting, and jumping competitions, in the large ring, overlooking which a grand stand has been erected. Special efforts have been made both by the society and the local committee to render the exhibition noteworthy in the long series which the society has held, whilst the Devon County Agricultural Association has suspended its show for the year in order to co-operate in promoting its success. The prizes amount to no less than £3,500.

A sum of £1,016 16s. is offered in prizes by the Gloucestershire Agricultural Society for their show at Tewkesbury on July 22nd and two following days. In the cattle classes prizes to the amount of £353 6s. is offered; for agricultural horses, £165; hunters, hacks, and ponies, £147; sheep, £122; pigs, £62; cheese, butter, poultry, cider, perry, etc., £73 10s.; whilst £103 10s. will be given in the driving and jumping competitions; also seven silver medals for implements. It will thus be seen that all sections have been liberally catered for, and should receive very large entries. The last day of entry is Monday, June 16th, but post entries at double fees will be received up to Monday, June 23rd. Entry forms may be had on application to the secretary, Mr. J. Townsend, Ashcroft, Cirencester. Applicants should state the number of forms and for which section required.

The Cambs and Isle of Ely Agricultural Society have just issued an attractive schedule of prizes for their show at Chatteris on the 25th of July next. In the Shire and Hackney horse sections the prizes are offered in duplicate, one class being open to all England, and the other, for the same description of animals, being for competition by tenant-farmers only—this is certainly a good idea, and might be more widely adopted by other societies. Champion prizes, challenge cups, and gold and silver medals are also offered. The prizes for harness and saddles, mares, and geldings are numerous, and the classes for hunters include light-weight carrying animals, also brood mares and colt or filly foals. The cattle classes comprise prizes for shorthorns, Channel Islands, and dairy animals; whilst sheep include long-wools, Suffolk, and Hampshire Downs. Prizes for butter and cream cheese also appear in the schedule. Silver medals and certificates of merit are offered for any machine or article exhibited in the implement department considered of sufficient merit. A copy of the schedule can be had gratis on application to the secretary, Mr. R. Peters, 7, Downing Street, Cambridge.

On Thursday a deputation from the National Federation of Meat Traders' Associations Incorporated waited upon the President of the Board of Agriculture, with the object of securing the removal of the present restrictions on the importation of Argentine cattle. Mr. Hanbury informed the deputation that, while fully realising the importance of the Argentine as a source of supply to this country, he could give no definite promise as to when our ports would be reopened to South American cattle. Communications were passing between our Government and the Argentine, and he hoped at no distant date to be able to give a favourable reply.

Vol. 13 of the Hampshire Down Stock Book which has just been issued contains the entries of rams numbered 4174 to 4633. As usual, a full list of members of the Society, of officers, past presidents, etc., is given.

Messrs. Alfred Mansell and Co., of Shrewsbury, recently shipped, per S.S. "Lycia," from Avonmouth, 30 Shropshire sheep, bred by Mr. A. E. Mansell, and purchased by Mr. Robert Miller. These sheep consisted of 14 rams and 16 ewes, which, with the exception of one ram, were too young to include in the famous Harrington Dispersion Sale, so were kept by Mr. Mansell until his Final Farm Sale, at Bishton Hall, last March. These sheep are the last of Mr. Mansell's breeding Canada will obtain, and it is therefore to be hoped they will all arrive safely at their destination.

By the same steamer Messrs. Mansell dispatched four Shorthorn bulls, purchased by Mr. J. Lawrence, of Manitoba, Canada, during his recent visit to England. The bulls were really fine animals, two being bred by Mr. W. J. Hosken, and two by Mr. Roskruge, and should they reach Manitoba safely, should prove of great service in Mr. Lawrence's herd.

On the third of this month the same firm shipped, per S.S. "Tagus," from Liverpool, for Lisbon, a Shropshire ram and ewe, hailing from the noted flocks of Mr. John Harding and T. S. Minton respectively; also a Shropshire wether, bred by Mr. Frank. The sheep were accompanied by a large number of Black and Buff Orpington and Cochin China cockerels and pullets. It is understood that the sheep were required for experimental purposes.

The Board of Agriculture have received information through the Foreign Office that a Government Bill has been introduced into the Spanish Cortes, with the object of temporarily suppressing or reducing the duties on cattle and meat imported into Spain. The unprecedentedly high price of meat prevailing in that country, and the difficulty of procuring sufficient cattle for the slaughterhouses, makes it probable that this Bill will become law without delay.

Barnsley Horse Fair was held on Tuesday, and was about an average one. Business was fairly active, though there was only a moderate show of useful animals. Army remounts were quickly bought up at about £35 each; but heavy horses were rather difficult to sell. Prices reached as high as £60.

Farmer Fined for Cruelty. — Remarkable Practice. — In the Dumfries Sheriff Court, on Wednesday, David L. Crichton, farmer, Limekilns, near Annan, and his son, Robert Alexander Crichton, pleaded guilty to a charge of having burned or branded four cows after service. A veterinary surgeon's report stated that the operation must have caused the animals severe suffering. Mr. A. Cowan, solicitor, Annan, stated that the practice was a common one in Ayrshire, where Mr. Crichton came from. He held that it was necessary, and the best excuse for the experiment was its complete success. Sheriff Campion said it seemed an extraordinary and cruel practice. The full penalty of £5 was imposed, with the alternative of thirty days in gaol, on the farmer, and the boy was discharged with an admonition.



THE SHORTHORN BULL "SILVER MINT," shown above, is the property of Mr. Leopold de Rothschild, Ascott Farm, Leighton Buzzard, and was bred by Mr. W. Duthie, Collynie, Aberdeenshire, being by Silver Plate, 75,633, out of Mistleto 14th. At the Oxfordshire Show at Witney last week "Silver Mint" was winner of the Champion Prize for the best Shorthorn Bull eligible for Coates' Herd Book. He also was awarded First Prize in the class for Bulls calved in 1900.

The Lancashire County Council Agricultural School.—At the recent examination held by the Royal Agricultural Society's Examination Board, for the National Diploma in Agriculture, five pupils attending the classes, held under the auspices of the Lancashire County Council, passed in Part I., and four in Part II. In addition to these, one former student passed in Part I. and two in Part II. Thus twelve successes have been gained by pupils from the above-mentioned school, out of a total of thirty-six passes obtained for the whole of the United Kingdom.

An illustrated catalogue of beekeepers' supplies has come to hand from Mr. E. H. Taylor, of Welwyn, Herts. Mr. Taylor's various manufactures are well known to beekeepers, and have won prizes at various shows during the past few years. In this new catalogue practically everything a beekeeper requires is mentioned, as well as some poultry appliances; whilst the heads on successful bee management given in it may prove serviceable to many keepers. A copy can be had on application to Mr. Taylor.

Lincoln Hiring Fair.—The annual hirings at Lincoln took place on Wednesday. There was a fair attendance of male hands, whilst female servants were more than usual, and a good deal of hiring was done. Wages again had a decidedly upward tendency. Cooks asked £18 to £24; parlourmaids, £18 to £24; housemaids under parlourmaids, £18 to £24; housemaids, £11 to £17; house-parlourmaids, £16 to £20; young generals, £8 to £12; and older girls up to £16; kitchenmaids, £10 to £15; between maids, £8 to £12; and pages, £8 to £14 for the year.



Oxford County Show.

The little Oxfordshire town of Witney—famous for its blankets—was en fête on Tuesday and Wednesday, when the annual show of the County Agricultural Society was again held here, after an interval of twenty-eight years. The weather on the opening day was far from that usually experienced at this time of the year, and the heavy shower which came on about mid-day put a damper upon public enthusiasm and considerably affected the attendance of the general public. Breeders and exhibitors of stock were present in large numbers, friends renewing acquaintance for another show season.

Entries numbered nearly 700, and would have been considerably more but for the fact that owing to the existence of swine fever in the district pigs were not included amongst the exhibits. Cattle and sheep were in excess of last year's exhibits at Thame, but in the horse section the numbers were short by some twenty from the Thame meeting, when that section of the show was one of the, if not the, best ever held by the society.

The implement department was well ahead of the 1892 meeting by some 20 stands, which include many labour-saving machines and novelties

Cattle.

The catalogue commenced with shorthorns, which were represented by eight classes, and some well-known breeders sent some excellent specimens. The champion prize for the best bull was carried off by Mr. L. de Rothschild's Silver Mint, which had not previously been exhibited. The best cow was that belonging to Mr. J. Deane Willis, a Royal winner, while the champion prize for the best animal, the property of a tenant farmer, was awarded to Mr. Robert W. Hobbs, of Kelmscott. Turning to the classes, that for old bulls contained nine entries, and here Messrs. John Little were placed first, with that well-known dark red bull Vain Lord, bred by Mr. T. R. Hulbert, of Worcester. The second prize was awarded to a fine bull, New Year's Gift, exhibited by Mr. James T. Hibbs, Maiseyhampton. This bull was bred by Mr. W. G. Hosken, Cornwall. Mr. J. Deane Willis's Granite Chip, a nice, well-shaped roan, secured third position, leaving reserve for Mr. C. H. Joliffe's Nitrogen. Two-year-olds made a strong class of eleven. The judge placed Mr. L. de Rothschild's Silver Mint, bred by Mr. W. Duthie, before Mr. J. Deane Willis's well-known C.I.V. Mr. J. Thorley had a good look in for third with Prince of Troy, and he was closely followed by Mr. G. Freeman's Chief of Sanquhar, which was given the reserve ticket. Mr. J. Deane Willis's Bapton Florist was the best in the yearling class, while second prize was given to Mr. G. H. Simpson-Hayward's Icomb Pioneer. The best of the cows in calf or in milk, calved before or in 1898, was Mr. J. Deane Willis's White Heather; Sir J. Blundell Maple's May Duchess 25th being second, and Mr. Alexander Henderson's Grace Darling third. The following class was for heifers in milk or in calf, and the contest lay between Mr. J. Colman's Hawthorn Gem III. and Mr. Joseph Thorley's Fairy Queen, which were thus placed first and second respectively. Two-year-old heifers swelled their class out to ten, and here Mr. J. Deane Willis's roan Bapton Jewel was placed first, Mr. J. Colman's Hawthorn Queen was second, and Mr. L. de Rothschild's Ascott Passion Flower third. Yearlings made a still larger class, a dozen entries being catalogued, and here again Mr. J. Deane Willis drew to the front this time with Malmaison.

Herefords made only a small display, and one by no means representative of the breed, there being only seven entries in two classes. In the old bull class Mr. George D. Faber, M.P., with Lord Roberts, won from the Earl of Coventry's Vishnu, whilst in the female class Mr. John Tudge was an easy first with Princess Royal.

Channel Islands cattle, as is invariably the case at this show, were very numerously represented, and the majority of the exhibits were of exceptional merit, both champion prizes for Jerseys being taken for Lord Rothschild, i.e., the best bull and for the best cow. Sir James Blyth's prize for the best Jersey cow or heifer in milk, bred in Great Britain or Ireland, to be judged by inspection, was awarded to Mr. Alexander Miller-Hallett's Regina Sultana VI., bred by Lord Rothschild; the Earl of Cadogan's Beatrice being reserved. There were thirteen Jersey bulls in the senior class, which resulted in a victory for Lord Rothschild's Tudor Boy, the Hon. Mrs. Murray Smith's Mont Orgeuil being second, and Mrs. McIntosh's Brampton third, whilst Lord Sherborne was reserved with Golden Shaw 2nd. The junior class totalled one more, Mrs. W. Barrow's nicely shaped Taplow Rock being selected to fill the premier position, Lord Rothschild's Gay Boy second, and Mr. Arthur Pocock's Hercules third. There were nineteen entries in the cow class, which ended in a win for Lord Rothschild's Beresford Pride. Three-year-old heifers made a small class of eight. Mr. Alexander Miller-Hallett was fortunate with Regina Sultana VI., to beat Mr. C. McIntosh's Forget-me-not and the Bishop of Ipswich's Texture. The two-year-old-class found Lord Rothschild's Orleans Queen to the fore. But the real trial of strength came with the yearling class, in which twenty-five were entered. Mr. W. C. Cooper's Orange of Whittlebury eventually got the first prize, Lord Rothschild's Glitter was second, and Mr. Alexander Miller-Hallett's Crystalbrook Daisy third.

Guernsey made only a small collection, Mr. Frank Hargreaves and Mr. E. A. Hambro sharing the majority of the prizes between them. Kerries and Dexter Kerries, too, did not call for much attention, the principal winners being the Duchess of Devonshire, Mr. B. de Bertodane, Mr. J. Thorley, and Messrs. Robertson. The family class for the best bull, cow, and offspring, or a cow or two of her offspring, belonging to a tenant farmer, found Mr. James T. Hobbs first with shorthorns, Mr. Judge second, with Herefords, and Mr. Sanders Spencer third, with another group of shorthorns.

Horses.

Agricultural horses made only a moderate display, both as regards numbers and quality. There were but four entries of shire stallions foaled previous to 1900. This meant a rather easy win for Mr. Alfred C. Rogers's Premier. In the young stallion class Lord Llangattock took the lead with Hendre Royal Albert, thus beating Lord Rothschild's Harold Heir and Mr. P. A. Muntz's Dunsmore Lieutenant. Only four entries in the mare class, with Mr. John Thomson's Woodperry Watercress as the winner. The championships went as follows: — For the best Shire horse, Messrs. W. and J. Thompson's Desford Stonewall; reserve for same, Lord Llangattock's Hendre Royal Albert. The Shire Horse Society's Gold Medal was won by Woodperry Watercress, Mr. Robert W. Hobbs's Kelmscott June being reserved. Light horses made a fair show, although not so good as last year. The gold medal offered by the Hunters'



The photograph which we reproduce above shows the judging of the Shires for the Champion Prize at the Oxfordshire Show at Witney last week. The animal in the foreground is Desford Stonewall 2nd, bred by Messrs. W and J. Thompson, Desford, near Leicester, being by Stonewall 15,375, out of Brown Bonny 17,909. He won the Champion Prize given by Mr. A. Henderson, M.P., for the best Shire entire of any age; and also won the special for the best Shire horse in the show.



THE OXFORD DOWN RAM which forms the subject of our illustration above was born on 14th of February, and was bred by Mr. J. T. Hobbs, Maiseyhampton, Fairford, Gloucestershire. At the Oxfordshire Show at Witney last week this ram was awarded the Champion Prize for the best shearling ram, also winning First Prize in the Class for the best shearling ram of the Oxford Down breed.

Improvement Society for brood mares fell to Mr. C. Kelway Bamber, of Horley, Surrey, and the silver medal for a hunter filly by a thoroughbred went to Mr. J. W. King, of Whitesfield, Aylesbury. The silver medal for the best hackney or pony mare was carried off by Mr. H. Livesey, of Rotherfield, Sussex.

Sheep.

The sheep section, as was to be expected, found the Oxfordshire Downs in complete ascendancy, it being the best collection of the breed that has ever been seen at a gathering of the society. The chief prize-winners were Mr. Albert Brassey, M.P., who took no fewer than four firsts and two champions, Mr. J. T. Hobbs, and Mr. A. H. Wilsdon.

Hampshire Downs made a very creditable display, but they were not quite so even as usual, the exhibitors who were to the fore being Mr. C. A. Scott Murray, Lord Rothschild, Mr. James Flower, the Earl of Carnarvon, and the executors of Mr. Richard Ovey.

Southdowns were not so numerous, the best specimens being sent by Mr. C. Adeane, Colonel H. L. B. McCalmont, M.P., and Mr. J. Colman.

The Shropshires and Cotswolds were extremely short, the first prizes for the former being shared by Mr. R. B. Cooper, of Ashlyns, Berkhamsted, and Mr. W. F. Inge, of Tamworth, and the latter by Messrs. Russell Swanwick, of the Royal Agricultural College Farm, Cirencester, and Mr. H. Akers, of Blackbourton, Faringdon.

Miscellaneous.

Pigs were not represented in the show yard at all, owing to local swine fever regulations.

Three sections devoted to butter, eggs, dead poultry; honey were well filled, and attracted considerable attention, while the horse shoeing section aroused a good deal of interest.

JUDGES.

CATTLE.—Shorthorn and Family Class: J. P. Terry, Berryfield, Aylesbury. Hereford and Family Class: J. H. Yeomans, Stretton House, Hereford. Jersey: H. C. Webb, Audley End, Saffron Walden. Guernseys and Kerries: G. Titus Barham, Sudbury Park, Wembley.

HORSES.—Agricultural: Thos. B. Freshney, South Somercotes, Lincs.; William Horrell, Thorney, Peterborough. Hunters, Polo Ponies, etc.: W. H. Dunn, Wallingtons, Hungerford; Hon. A. E. Parker, Bangor-on-Dee, Wrexham. Hackneys, etc.: James Hornsby, Laxton Park, Stamford. Remounts: The Right Hon. Viscount Valentia, C.B., M.P., Bletchington Park. Jumping and Driving: The President, W. H. Dunn, James Hornsby, Hon. A. E. Parker.

SHEEP.—Oxford Down: J. P. Case, Binham Abbey, Wighton, Norfolk; W. D. Little, Estate Office, Middleton Park, Bicester, Hampshire: T. A. E. Hayter, Whitchurch, Hants. Southdown: R. Anderson, Cirencester. Shropshire: Charles Coxon, Elford Park, Tamworth. Cotswold and Any Breed: T. P. Hulbert, North Cerney, Cirencester.

Champion and Special Prizes.

CATTLE.

Champion prize, value £5, for the best Shorthorn Bull, eligible for Coates' Herd Book: Mr. L. de Rothschild (Silver Mint); r., Mr. L. de Rothschild (Lord Monmouth).

Champion prize, value £5, for the best Shorthorn Cow or Heifer, eligible for Coates' Herd Book: Mr. J. Deane Willis (White Heather); r., Mr. J. Deane Willis (Bapton Jewel).

Champion prize, value £5, for the best Shorthorn, eligible for Coates' Herd Book, the property of a tenant farmer residing in the County of Oxfordshire: Mr. F. W. P. Matthews (Peacemaker).

Champion prize, value £5, for the best Jersey Bull: Lord Rothschild (Tudor Boy); r., Mrs. W. Barron (Taplow Rock).

Champion prize, value £5, for the best Jersey Cow or Heifer: Lord Rothschild (Orleans' Queen); r., Lord Rothschild (Beresford Pride).

Silver Bowl, weighing 26oz., for the best Jersey Cow or Heifer in milk, bred in Great Britain or Ireland: Mr. Alex. Miller-Hallett (Regina Sultana VI.); r., Earl Cadogan (Beatrice).

HORSES.

The Shire Horse Society's Gold Medal and a Special prize of £5 to the breeder of the best Shire Mare or Filly, open to residents in the County of Oxfordshire: Messrs. W. and J. Thompson (Desford Stonewall 2nd); r., Lord Llangattock (Hendre Royal Albert).

Champion prize, value £10, for the best Hunter Mare or Gelding, the property of a tenant farmer residing within the limits of certain Hunts: Mr. J. W. King (Lack Nothing); r., Mr. J. J. Godwin (Clonmel).

Gold Medal or £5 and a Bronze Medal for the best Hunter Brood Mare in foal or with foal at foot: Mr. C. Kelway-Bamber (Homely Lass).

Silver Medal for the best Hunter Filly not exceeding three years old: Mr. J. W. King (Pale Face).

Silver Medal for the best Hunter Mare or Gelding: Mr. J. W. King (Lack Nothing).

Hackney Horse Society's Silver Medal for the best Hackney or Pony Mare, Filly, or Filly Foal: Mr. H. Livesay (Heresy); r., Mr. F. J. Batchelor (Enid).

SHEEP.

Champion prize, value £5, given by the Oxford Down Sheep Breeders' Association, for the best Shearling Ram: Mr. J. T. Hobbs.

Champion prize, value £5, given by the Oxford Down Sheep Breeders' Association, for the best Ram Lamb: Mr. Albert Brassey.

Champion prize, value £5, for the best pen of Females: Mr. Albert Brassey.

Champion prize, value £10, given by the Hampshire Down Sheep Breeders' Association, for the best pen of Lambs in Classes 75 or 77: Earl of Carnarvon; r., Lord Rothschild.

Silver Medal, given by the Southdown Sheep Society, for the best Male: Mr. C. Adeane; r., Col. H. L. B. McCalmont.

CATTLE.

SHORTHORN.

Bull, calved in 1897, 1898, or 1899: 1, J. Little and Sons (Vain Lord); 2, J. T. Hobbs (New Year's Gift); 3, J. Deane Willis (Granite Chip); r., C. H. Jolliffe (Nitrogen).

Bull, calved in 1900: 1, L. de Rothschild (Silver Mint); 2, J. Deane Willis (C.I.V.); r., G. Freeman (Chief of Sanguhar); c., S. E. Shirley (Crimson Rambler) and J. Thorley (Prince of Troy).

Bull, calved in 1901: 1, J. Deane Willis (Bapton Florist); 2, G. H. Simpson-Hayward (Icomb Pioneer); 3, L. de Rothschild (Lord Monmouth); r., W. C. Cooper (Dusky Prince); h.c., Alex. Henderson, M.P. (Baron Buscot); c., G. Freeman (Pride of the Hills), H. S. Leon (Conservative), D. Maclennan (Highland Chief), and Col. Makins (Ambassador).

Bull (Counties of Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire), calved in 1901: 1, L. de Rothschild (Lord Monmouth); r., Col. Makins (Ambassador).

Cow, in Milk or in Calf, calved before or in 1898: 1, J. Deane Willis (White Heather); 2, Sir J. B. Maple, Bart., M.P. (May Duchess); 3, Alex. Henderson, M.P. (Grace Darling); r., Alex. Henderson, M.P. (Ringdale Favourite the 2nd); c., Mrs. R. H. Ratcliff (Young Sims) and Sanders Spencer (Star Countess).

Heifer, in Milk or in Calf, calved in 1899: 1, J. Colman (Hawthorn Gem III.); 2, J. Thorley (Fairy Queen); r., Alex. Henderson, M.P. (Moss Rose II.); c., J. Horlick (Coquette 3rd) and H. Oakley (Fairy Ring).

Heifer, calved in 1900: 1, J. Deane Willis (Bapton Jewel); 2, J. Colman (Lady Rose); 3, L. de Rothschild (Ascott Passion Flower); r., J. Colman (Hawthorn Queen); c. (2), W. Hazell (Apple Blossom 9th and Pomegranate 4th).

Heifer, calved in 1901: 1, J. Deane Willis (Malmaison); 2, S. Dennis (Latton Fancy); 3, Col. Makins (Rotherfield Duchess); r., J. Colman (Corona); h.c., D'Arcy Reeve (Rowena); c., Sir J. B. Maple, Bart., M.P. (Childwick Duchess) and G. H. Simpson-Hayward (Tulip Leaf 22nd).

HEREFORD.

Bull, calved in 1901: 1, Mrs. W. Barron (Taplow Rock); M.P. (Lord Roberts); 2, Earl of Coventry (Vishnu) r., J. Tudge (Royal Rupert); h.c., Earl of Coventry (Methodist).

Cow or Heifer, in Milk or in Calf, of any age: 1, J. Tudge (Princess Royal); 2, G. D. Faber, M.P. (Saucebox 5th).

JERSEY.

Bull, calved in 1898, 1899, or 1900: 1, Lord Rothschild (Tudor Boy); 2, Hon. Mrs. Murray Smith (Mont Orgueil); 3, Mrs. McIntosh (Brompton); r., Lord Sherborne (Golden Shaw 2nd); h.c., Col. H. L. B. McCalmont, C.B., M.P. (Chanslor); c., W. C. Cooper (Leylands Oak).

Bull, calved in 1901: 1, Mrs. W. Barron (Taplow Rock); 2, Lord Rothschild (Gay Boy); 3, A. Pocock (Hercules); r., A. Pocock (Golden Summer); c. (2), Lord Rothschild (Shooting Star and Duke of Cartaret) and Hon. Mrs. Murray Smith (Rosy's Record).

Cow in Milk, calved before 1899: 1, Lord Rothschild (Beresford Pride); 2, Mrs. C. McIntosh (Glorissa 3rd); 3, C. W. Armitage (Clementine); r., W. C. Cooper (La Chasse Queen); h.c., Earl Cadogan, K.G. (Beatrice) and Lord Rothschild (Merciful); c., Marquis of Winchester (Guarantee 5th).

Heifer, in Milk or in Calf, calved in 1899: 1, Alex. Miller-Hallett (Regina Sultana VI.); 2, Mrs. C. McIntosh (Forget-Me-Not); 3, Bishop of Ipswich (Texture); r., Mrs. W. Barron (Rosette 5th).

Heifer, in Milk or in Calf, calved in 1900: 1, Lord Rothschild (Orleans' Queen); 2, Mrs. R. H. Ratcliff (Coralic); 3, Col. H. L. B. McCalmont, C.B., M.P. (Adieu); r., Mrs. W. Barron (Rosette 7th).

Heifer, calved in 1901: 1, W. C. Cooper (Orange of Whittlebury); 2, Lord Rothschild (Glitter); 3, Alex. Miller-Hallet (Crystalbrook Daisy); h.c., Col. H. L. B. McCalmont, C.B., M.P. (Winifred) and Lord Rothschild (Crystalbrook Tiny); c., C. W. Armitage (Farineuse 4th) and Mrs. C. McIntosh (Hovering Pearl 2nd).

GUERNSEY.

Bull, calved in 1899, 1900, or 1901: 1, F. Hargreaves (Merton Prince); 2, J. P. Morgan (Masher's Eminent); r., E. A. Hambro (Hayes Westward Ho).

Cow or Heifer, in Milk or in Calf, of any age: 1, E. A. Hambro (Hayes Rosie); 2, F. Hargreaves (Sweet Sultan); 3, F. Hargreaves (Merton Beauty of the Haut Pave); r., E. A. Hambro (Felois); h.c., J. P. Morgan (Elfine of the Vielette III.); c., J. P. Morgan (Charmette's Favourite).

KERRY.

Cow or Heifer, in Milk or in Calf, of any age: 1, Robertson and Sons (La Mancha Vesta); 2, J. Thorley (La Mancha Spring Time); r., Robertson and Sons (La Mancha Sweet Kiss).

DEXTER KERRY.

Bull, calved in 1899, 1900, or 1901: 1, Duchess of Devonshire (Compton Darky); 2, Robertson and Sons (La Mancha Boss); r., Mrs. E. A. Leatham (La Mancha Handy Man); h.c., B. de Bertodano (Cowbridge Jock).

Cow or Heifer, in Milk or in Calf, of any age: 1, B. de Bertodano (Cowbridge Love Lost); 2, B. de Bertodano (Upminster Waif); r., Duchess of Devonshire (Upminster Ruskin); h.c., Robertson and Sons (La Mancha Crown Derby); c., Duchess of Devonshire (Compton Dame).

FAMILY CLASS (ANY BREED).

Bull, Cow, and Offspring, or a Cow and two of her Offspring, the property of a tenant farmer: 1, J. T. Hobbs (Shorthorns) (New Year's Gift, Orange Blossom 13th, and calf); 2, J. Tudge (Herefords) (Royal Rupert, Rustic Maid, and G.V.R.); 3, Sanders Spencer (Shorthorns) (Manor Sebaste, Star Countess, and Star of Holywell).

HORSES.

AGRICULTURAL.

Shire Stallion, foaled previous to 1900, that shall regularly travel in Oxon or within 20 miles of Witney during the whole of this season, fee not to exceed three guineas: 1, A. C. Rogers (Buckingham Premier); 2, Chadlington Shire Horse Company (Buscot Don); r., W. Boddington (Zodiac of Hothfield).

Shire Stallion, foaled in 1900: 1, Lord Llangattock (Hendre Royal Albert); 2, Lord Rothschild (Harold's Heir); 3, P. A. Muntz, M.P. (Dunsmore Lieutenant); r., J. P. Cross (Conqueror's Boy); h.c., Sir J. B. Maple, Bart., M.P. (Childwick Harold); c., O. Faulkner (Willaston Matchless).

Shire Mare, with Foal at foot, or to Foal this season: 1, J. Thomson (Woodperry Watercress); 2, R. W. Hudson (Natchy Aurea); r., P. A. Muntz, M.P. (Dunsmore Golden).

Mare, with Foal at foot, or to foal this seanson, the property of a resident with 20 miles of Witney: 1, A. Henderson, M.P. (Moors Cambria); 2, F. C. Taylor (Bassett Ruby); r., J. T. Hewer (Fancy).

Foal, the property of a tenant farmer, exhibited with Mare in either of above classes: 1, J. T. Hewer; 2, F. C. Taylor; r., F. C. Taylor.

Shire Mare, foaled in 1898: 1, W. and J. Thompson (Desford Flower); 2, P. A. Muntz, M.P. (Buscot Flora); r., F. C. Taylor (Nuneham Blossom).

Gelding, foaled in 1898: 1, Milton Harris.

Shire Filly, foaled in 1899: 1, W. and J. Thompson (Desford Stewardess); 2, R. W. Hudson (Wern Blossom); r., J. Parnell (Sunblossom); h.c., Lord Llangattock (Birdsall Buttercup); c., Sir J. B. Maple, Bart, M.P. (Coton Ladysmith).

Gelding, foaled in 1899: 1, R. W. Hudson (Danesfield Rebel); 2, J. T. Miller (Shutford Duke); r., Lady Wantage (Lockinge Blueheard); h.c., J. Honour.

Shire Filly, foaled in 1900: 1, John Parnell (Yatesbury Flower); 2, A. Henderson, M.P. (Birdsall Stately); 3, P. A. Muntz, M.P. (Rokeby Winifred); r., Lord Llangattock (Hendre Birthright); h.c., Sir J. B. Maple, Bart., M.P. (Victoria's Queen) and Lady Wantage (Childwick Lady Betty).

Gelding, foaled in 1900: 1, Lord Rothschild (Invincible); r., Sir J. B. Maple, Bart., M.P. (Childwick Golden King).

Shire Filly, foaled in 1899 or 1900, open to residents in Oxon, Bucks, or within 20 miles of Witney: 1, R. W. Hudson (Wern Blossom); 2, A. Henderson, M.P. (Birdsall Stately); r., Lady Wantage (Childwick Lady Betty).

Shire Filly, foaled in 1901: 1, A. Henderson, M.P. (Buscot Chloris); 2, J. H. Hughes; 3, P. A. Muntz, M.P. (Dunsmore Mistress); r., Lord Llangattock (Pride Duchess); c., R. W. Hudson (Parkside Princess).

Colt or Gelding, foaled in 1901: 1, W. and J. Thompson (Desford Stonewall 2nd); 2, A. Henderson, M.P. (Buscot Plutus); 3, P. A. Muntz, M.P. (Dunsmore Masterpiece); r., R. W. Hudson (Ware Masterman).

JUMPING.

Mare or Gelding that shall jump in the best hunting form—1, J. Wheeler; 2, A. N. Smith; 3, Mrs. Dudley Smith.

Mare or Gelding, not over 14.3 hands, that shall jump in the best hunting form—1, Mrs. Bessie Brooks; 2, B. Robins.

Mare or Gelding not over 13.2 hands, that shall jump in the best hunting form—1, Ben Sims; 2, A. N. Smith.

Mare or Gelding, that shall jump in the best hunting form, the property of a tenant farmer—1, T. and H. Ward; 2, W. W. Grundy; 3, Joseph Wheeler.

OPEN JUMPING COMPETITION.

Mare or Gelding—1, J. W. Bonham; 2, Wheeler; 3, B Robins.

Mare or Gelding—1, T. Wheeler; 2, T. and H. Ward; 3, B. Robins.

HARNESS.

Pair of harness horses, over 15 hands, to be driven in harness—1, Mrs. Thornton.

Mare or gelding, 15 hands and upwards, to be driven in harness—1, W. S. Cunard; 2, Arthur Cunliffe; 3, F. J. Batchelor.

Mare or gelding, over 14.2 hands, to be driven in harness—1, Mr. R. T. Thornton; 2, Isaac Fletcher.

Mare or gelding, not over 14.2 hands, open to residents in Oxon, or within 20 miles of Witney, to be driven in harness—1, J. A. Galt; 2, P. Round Green.

Mare or gelding, over 13.2 and under 15 hands—1, Arthur Cunliffe; 2, W. S. Cunard; 3, E. Baxter.

Pony Mare or gelding, not over 13.2 hands, to be driven in harness—1, Miss Grace Clarke; 2, William Foster; 3, Miss Cunliffe; r, W S. Cunard; h c, R. Thornton.

OPEN DRIVING.

Mare or gelding—1, W. S. Cunard; 2, Miss Cunliffe; 3, J. Mitchell.

HUNTERS.

Gelding, foaled in 1900, with breeding and substance requisite for a Hunter, the property of a tenant farmer: 1, C. Anstee (Comet) 2, W. Arkell; r., E. H. Pierce (Calcot).

Filly, foaled in 1899, with breeding and substance requisite for a Hunter, the property of a tenant farmer: 1, J. W. King (Pale Face); r., P. Berridge (Rustic Lass).

Gelding, foaled in 1899, with breeding and substance requisite for a Hunter, the property of a tenant farmer: 1, E. H. Pierce (Barnum); 2, R. Hobbs, jun. (Mike).

Mare or Gelding, up to 12 stone, foaled not previously to 1897: 1, J. H. Stokes (Opal); 2, C. M. Prior (His Lordship); 3, H. B. Cory (St. Yvonne); r., J. F. Mason (Myra); c., W. L. Barton ((Coronation), W. Bury (Multum in Parvo), and T. W. Craddock.

Mare or Gelding, foaled not previously to 1896, up to not less than 13 stone: 1, J. H. Stokes (The Laird); 2, H. B. Cory; r., J. Drage (Baronet); h.c., A. E. Eagle (Kitchener).

Mare or Gelding up to 13.7 stone, bred in Oxon or Berks, or within the limits of the Bicester and Warden Hill Hunts: 1, J. W. King (Morning Star); 2, J. W. King (Sweet Face); r., J. Thomson (Mona).

Mare or Gelding, foaled in 1895, or 1896, up to 14 stone, open to residents within the limits of the Old or South Berks, Bicester and Warden Hill, Heythrop, South Oxfordshire, Vale of White Horse, or Cirencester and Cricklade Hunts: 1, J. W. King (Volunteer); 2, R. Haw-Godwin (Clonmel); 3, F. M. Gibbard (Major); r., H. J Fletcher.

Mare or Gelding, foaled in 1898, up to 14 stone, open to residents within the limits of the Old or South Berks, Bicester and Warden Hill, Heythrop, South Oxfordshire, Vale of White Horse, or Cirencester and Cricklade Hunt: 1, J. W. King (Volunteer); 2, R. Hawkins (Kathleen); r., J. Mawle.

Mare or Gelding, up to 15 stone: 1, J. Drage (Doctor); 2, J. H. Stokes; 3, T. and H. Ward (Blackthorne); r., H. B. Cory; h.c., T. H. Hawkes (Polyanthus); c., H. B. Cory and W. C. Jeffries (Magic).

Mare with Foal at foot, or to foal this season, by a thoroughbred Horse: 1, C. Kelway-Bamber (Homely Lass); 2, J. Hayman-Joyce (Beatrice); 3, J. J. Godwin (Betteen); r., S. St. Barbe Emmott (Mrs. Jorrocks).

HACKNEYS.

Mare, over 14.2, and not over 15.2 hands, with Foal at foot, or to foal this season: 1, H. Livesey (Heresy); 2, R. Thornton (Chloris).

HACKNEYS OR ROADSTERS.

Mare or Gelding, 14.2 to 15.2 hands, for general purposes, the property of a tenant farmer or tradesman: 1, F. J. Batchelor (Enid); 2, F. W. Hedderly; r., Hawes and Balding (Utility); h.c., H. J. Fletcher.

Mare or Gelding, not over 15 hands, to carry not less than 15 stone, quality and action to be an essential point: 1, J. T. Mitchell (Extravagance); 2, Hawes and Balding (Safety); r., W. Hays (Pink).

Mare or Gelding, Park Hack: 1, Hawes and Balding (Ringlet); 2, W. S. Cunard (Lady Vanity); r., F. W. Hedderly (Coquette).

SHEEP.

OXFORD DOWN.

Shearling Ram: 1, J. T. Hobbs; 2, R. W. Hobbs; 3, A. Brassey, M.P.; 4, H. W. Stilgoe; r., A. Brassey, M.P.; h.c., A. Brassey, M.P., J. C. Eady, J. T. Hobbs, H. W. Stilgoe, and W. A. Treeweeke (2); c., J. T. Hobbs (2) and G. Roberts.

Three Ram Lambs, born in 1902: 1, A. Brassey, M.P.; 2, J. T. Hobbs; 3, A. H. Wilsdon; 4, W. J. P. Reading; r., R. W. Hobbs; h.c., G. Adams (2) and W. A. Treeweeke; c., H. W. Stilgoe.

Three Shearling Ewes: 1, A. Brassey, M.P.; 2, J. C. Eady; 3, J. T. Hobbs; 4, R. W. Hobbs; r., J. T. Hobbs; h.c., J. C. Eady and W. A. Treeweeke (2).

Three Ewes Lambs, born in 1902: 1, A. Brassey, M.P.; 2, J. T. Hobbs; 3, G. Adams; 4, R. W. Hobbs; r., G. Adams; h.c., W. A. Treeweeke; c., H. W. Stilgoe.

Pen of Three Ewes in the Wool, suckling their own Lambs, and not having been housed: 1, A. Brassey, M.P.; r., A. H. Wilsdon.

Pen of Three Ewe Tegs in the Wool, and not having been housed: 1, A. H. Wilsdon; 2, F. Penson; 3, A. Brassey; 4, A. H. Wilsdon; r., F. Penson.

HAMPSHIRE DOWN.

Shearling Ram: 1, C. A. Scott Murray; 2, J. Flower; 3, Lord Rothschild; r., A. Apperly; h.c., A. Henderson, M.P.; c., Earl of Carnarvon (2) and Sir J. B. Maple, Bart, M.P.

Pen of Three Ram Lambs, born in 1902: 1, Lord Rothschild; 2, Sir J. B. Maple, Bart, M.P.; 3, J. Flower r., C. A. Scott Murray; h.c., A. Apperly and Earl of Carnarvon; c, B. Hanbury, A. Henderson, M.P., R. Ovey's Executors, and J. Thomson (2).

Pen of Three Shearling Ewes: 1, J. Flower; 2, C. A. Scott Murray; r., Sir J. B. Maple, Bart., M.P.; h.c., A.

Pen of Three Ewe Lambs, born in 1902: 1, Earl of Carnarvon; 2, J Flower; 3, Lord Rothschild; r., C. A. Scott Murray; h.c., R. Ovey's Executors and A. Henderson, M.P.; c., A. Apperly, B. Hanbury, Sir J. B. Maple, Bart., M.P., and C. A Scott Murray.

Three Ewes in the Wool, suckling their own Lambs, r., A. Henderson, M.P.

Three Ewe Tegs in the Wool, and not having been and not having been housed: 1, R. Ovey's Executors; housed: 1, Earl of Carnarvon.

SOUTHDOWN.

Shearling Ram: 1, C. Adeane; 2, Col. H. L. B. McCalmont, C.B., M.P.; 3, J. Colman; r., C. Adeane; h.c., Earl Cadogan, K.G., and Col. A. F. Walter; c, Earl Cadogan, K.G., and Col. H. L. B. McCalmont.

Three Ram Lambs, born in 1902: 1, Col. H. L. B. McCalmont; 2, E. Ellis; r., C. Adeane; h.c., Lily, Duchess of Marlborough, and Col. A. F. Walter.

Three Shearling Ewes: 1, J. Colman; 2, Col. A. F. Walter; r., Earl Cadogan, K.G.; h.c., E. Ellis, J. Joicey, and Col. H. L. B. McCalmont.

Three Ewes in the Wool, suckling their own Lambs, and not having been housed: 1, J. Colman; 2, Lily, Duchess of Marlborough; r., E. Ellis; h.c., Col. A. F. Walter.

SHROPSHIRE.

Shearling Ram: 1, R. P. Cooper; 2, W. F. Inge; r., R. P. Cooper; h.c., W. F. Inge.

Three Shearling Ewes: 1, W. F. Inge; 2, R. P. Cooper; r., R. P. Cooper.

COTSWOLD.

Shearling Ram: 1, R. Swanwick; r., R. Swanwick.

Pen of Three Ram Lambs, born in 1902: 1, H. Akers; r., R. Swanwick.

Pen of Three Ewe Lambs, born in 1902: 1, H. Akers; r., R. Swanwick.

ANY BREED.

Pen of Three Wether or Ewe Lambs, born in 1902, the property of a tenant farmer residing in Oxon or within 20 miles of Witney: 1, E. White; 2, Mrs. Middleton; r., Mrs. Middleton.

Three Ewe Tegs in the Wool, not having been housed, the property of a tenant farmer residing in Oxon or within 20 miles of Witney: 1, P. G. Timms; 2, P. G. Timms; r., P. G. Timms.

Somerset County Association's Show.

The Somerset County Agricultural Association held one of the most successful of their annual shows at Wiveliscombe on Wednesday and the two following days. This was in spite of the unfavourable weather which prevailed over the best part of the opening day, and consequently kept many from attending the show who would otherwise put in an appearance. A lovely afternoon was, however, experienced, and the inhabitants of Wiveliscombe and the surrounding country turned up in force, and practically assured the financial success of the meeting. Entries were unusually numerous, and moreover were of good quality throughout. This was doubtless due to the very liberal prize-list offered, more than £1,000 worth of prizes being competed for. The horse and poultry sections were so well supported as to create a record for the Society so far as numbers went. The following figures show the entries of this year as compared with those at Taunton in 1901:—

	1902.	1901.
Horses	231	150
Cattle	103	102
Sheep	56	41
Pigs	27	21
Wool	22	16
Cider	27	33
Cheese	34	34
Butter	31	20
Butter-making	16	20
Horse-shoeing	59	60
Poultry and pigeons	443	303
Totals	1,049	800

The townspeople did their utmost to give the show a welcome, and both by subscribing heartily to the funds of the Local Committee and by decorating the streets of their picturesque town on the days of the show.

To come to the show proper. The horse section, which was the first to claim the judge's attention, was of somewhat uneven merit. Many animals of outstanding merit were entered, especially among the heavy horses, but the rest of the classes were filled with animals without the remotest chance of success in such good company. Sir William Wills was awarded the blue ribbon in the class for mare or gelding foaled in 1899, winning it with his bay Shire filly Rickford Lass from an unusually good lot of rivals. The gainer of the chief award in the class for two-year-olds was full of merit, and should bring its owner much good fortune throughout the season. The young stallions were not as strong as one could wish. Mr. E. A. Hardwick (Worle) and Mr. R. A. Sanders were entrusted with the duty of deciding the merits of the hunters, hacks, and ponies. They were of an average stamp, and although the entries in several classes were very numerous, few other than the prize-takers and those commended call for notice. Riding, driving, and jumping contests, in some instances very keen, drew a crowd of spectators to the grand stand and around the ring.

A regrettable feature of the cattle section was the falling off in the Devon classes. This was somewhat surprising considering the nearness of Wiveliscombe to the home of the Devons. The Shorthorns and Dairy cattle, however, though not very numerous, were of good quality, and gave the judges some little trouble in placing them. The champion bull from Dublin, Lord Bruce, belonging to Mr. G. F. King, succeeded in winning chief honours, some splendid young bulls being pitted against him. Sir W. H. Wills's Royal Scotsman won the chief award amongst the youngsters.

Sheep were exceedingly good, taken as a whole. The Devon longwools and the Exmoors were among the best that have been seen at a county show, and Mr. F. White, of Torweston, was the chief prize-taker with the former. Mr. C. N. Skinner's two-tooth ram, among the Exmoor horned sheep, was the finest that the judges have come across for years. It was nearly perfect. Entries of Somerset and Dorset horned were not full, but the quality all round was very satisfactory. These breeds should be more popular than they appear to be.

Pigs were perhaps dominated in respect of quality by the Berkshires. The boar of Mr. Hudson was splendidly marked. The whites were fine and very true to character, and there were some well-bred animals among the mixed breeds.

Cheese entries were on the whole good, although the Caerphillies were hardly up to the mark. Cheddars, however, made a splendid display. Butter was not quite so good, as might be expected in a county like Somerset, and several indifferent specimens were on show, although a few excellently worked samples of good flavour could be noticed.

In Class 31, for bull calved in 1901, a protest was lodged against the exhibitor to whose animal the first prize and the Bovine special prize were awarded, on the ground that the bull was artificially coloured. The discovery was said to have been aided by the rain. The protest was sustained. The first award was given to the holder of the second, the second to the winner of the third, and the third to the reserve animal. The Bovine prize was given to Mr. Greenway's Last Century.

Judges.

HORSES.—Mr. T. B. Freshney, Louth; and Mr. J. B. Stevens, Marlborough, Wilts.

CATTLE.—Devons: Mr. B. Bucknell, Wellington; Mr. N. Cook, Tiverton. Shorthorns and Dairy Cattle: Mr. J. Peter, Berkeley; and Mr. R. Stratton, Newport. Channel Island Cattle: Mr. T. H. Weetman, Atherstone.

SHEEP.—Devon, Longwools, and Exmoors: Mr A. Lovelace, Dulverton. Somerset, Dorset, Horned, and Hampshires: Mr. J. Creed, Broadwindsor; and Mr. J. Dean, Chitterne.

PIGS.—Mr. J. Watts, Chipping Norton.

CHEESE.—Mr. J. Duder, Taunton; and Mr. W. Dyment, Bridgwater.

BUTTER AND BUTTER-MAKING.—Mr. G. Gibbons.

WOOL.—Mr. F. Ingram, Taunton.

Prize List.

HORSES.

FOR AGRICULTURAL PURPOSES.

Stallion, foaled before 1900: 1 and special, J. Hawkins (Kewstoke Harold); 2 and r. special, F. Jeffery (Duncan III.); r., J. Bucknell (Croston Fashion).

Shire Colt, foaled in 1900: 1 and second r. special, R. W. Hudson (Celtic); 2, G. Cowing; r., R. Pocock (Baymead Masterman).

Mare and Foal, or in foal: 1 and r. special, R. W. Hudson (Markeaton Wild Wave and foal); 2, T. Chapman (Orchard Countess and foal); r., T. Chapman (Orchard Lady and foal).

Mare or gelding, foaled in 1899: 1 and special, Sir W. H. Wills, Bart. (Rickford Lass); 2, W. H. Godding (Savernake Favourite); r., T. Chapman; h.c., R. W. Hudson (Danesfield Negress); c., T. Chapman (Orchard Lady) and T. Wilce (Sowerby Lass).

Filly or Gelding, foaled in 1900: 1, G. Cowing; 2, S. H. Pimm (Primeval); r., H. Chambers.

Colt, foaled in 1901: 1, G. Cowing; 2, E. H. Buncombe (Longforth Ringleader); r., C. Marshall (Lord of the Manor).

Filly, foaled in 1901: 1, R. W. Hudson (Danesfield Resound); 2, G. T. Anstee (Stanton Primrose); r., W. H. Godding (Savernake Elexandra); h.c., G. Cowing; c., Sir W. H. Wills, Bart. (Cynthia).

HUNTERS, HACKS, AND PONIES.

Mare and Foal, or in foal: 1, C. W. Francis (Clonsilla); 2, J. Vicary (Dutch Oven); r., C. L. Fox (Grey Hen).

Mare or Gelding, calculated to carry 14 stone, foaled before Jan. 1, 1899: 1, H. B. Cory; 2, J. B. Gully (Rockville); r., J. S. Pyke-Nott.

Mare or Gelding, to carry under 14 stone, foaled before Jan. 1, 1899: 1, H. B. Cory; 2, J. S. Pyke-Nott (Golden Rule); r., W. Pride Jones (Princess).

Mare or Gelding, to carry not less than 13 stone and upwards, foaled since Jan. 1, 1896, the property of residents in the County of Somerset: 1 and r., J. S. Pyke-Nott (Golden Rule and Schoolmaster) 2, J. A. Moyle (Pioneer).

Mare or Gelding, to carry not less than 13 stone, foaled since Jan. 1, 1898, the property of residents in the County of Somerset: 1, J. White (Limerick); 2, G. L. Cornish (Somerset); 3, J. S. Pyke-Nott (Golden Age).

Hack, Mare, or Gelding, over 14 hands, foaled before Jan. 1, 1899: 1, T. D. John (Quantick); 2, Miss B. Finch; r., W. E. Sellwood (Stylish).

Filly or Colt, foaled in 1900, suitable for Hunter or Hack: 1, J. S. Pyke-Nott (Contest); 2, G. L. Cornish (Sea Breeze).

Filly or Colt, foaled in 1901, suitable for Hunter or Hack: 1, C. M. Wakely; 2, J. S. Pyke-Nott (Box Hill); r., J. Hawkins (Hunting Sire).

Filly or Colt, foaled in 1901, suitable for Hunter or Hack: 1, G. P. Finch; 2, Major-General Jago-Trelawny (Sesostus); r., H. T. Brown (Hypatia).

Cob or pony, mare or gelding, 14 hands and under, foaled before 1st January, 1900—1, Mr G. H. G. Arden; 2, Mrs. A Budd, Wiveliscombe—Bobs; r, Mr W. H. Aplin, Brompton Ralph—Forester.

Hunter mare or gelding, to be ridden over hurdles, not the property of a horse dealer—1, Mrs Ernest Hancock, Wiveliscombe—Anstey; 2, Mr. P. Froude Hancock, Wiveliscombe—Colonel; r, the Rev. W. F. Newman, Wellington.—I.O.U.

Mare or gelding, over 15 hands, to be driven in single harness—1, Mr. A. J. Butcher, Bristol—Bristol Squire; 2, Mr. T. D. John, St. Fagens—Heathfield Squire; 3, Mr T. D John—Lord Bath.

Mare or gelding over 15 hands, to be tried over wall, hurdles, bank, gate, and water—1, Mr F. England, Shepton Beauchamp—Silent Tommy; 2, Mr. W. Hawkins, Bampton—Charley; 3, Mr. J. H. Glover, Ivybridge—Blink Bonny; r, Sir W. J. Trevelyan, Taunton—Countess.

Mare or gelding, not exceeding 15 hands, to be tried as aforesaid—1, Mr. G. Coles—Bampton; 2, Mr. J. Wheeler, Studley—Laddie; 3, Mr. Ben Sims, Cheltenham—Fear not; r, Mr. S. Wood, Bampton—Silverbutton.

Mare or gelding, the property of residents in the county of Somerset—1, Sir W. J. Trevelyan—Countess; 2, Messrs. Glencross Bros., Frome—Kitty; r, Miss Dorothy Moyle, South Molton—Little Eva.

Butter making—1, Miss A. Smith, Taunton; 2, Mrs H. Shepherd, Butecombe; 3, Miss Clara Monckton Limington, Ilchester.

HORSE-SHOEING.

For roadsters—1, Chas. Cook, Taunton; 2, Henry Welland, Curry Rivel; 3, James Kerslake, Williton; r C. Broomfield, Gillingham, Dorset; v h c, Henry Kerslake, Williton; h c, F. Weaver, Taunton and William W. White, Heytesbury, Wilts.

CATTLE.

DEVON.

Bull, calved in 1897, 1898, or 1899: 1, Mr. Shapland (Webby); 2, A. Bowerman (Sir Walter); 3, the Hon. E. W. B. Portman (Bestercombe General).

Bull, calved in 1900: 1, the Hon. E. W. B. Portman (Hestercombe Lord); 2, W. Greenway (Last Century); r, J. Heywood (Chairman).

Bull, calved in 1901: 1 and special, A. Bowerman (Sally's Duke); 2, C. L. Hancock (Character); 3, W. Kidner; r., I. H. Shepherd (Wembdon Model).

Cow, in Milk or in Calf, calved before 1899: 1 and r. champion, the Hon. E. W. B. Portman (Tulip 10th of Pound); 2, Messrs. W. R. and A. Trible (Fern of Halsdon); 3, A. C. Skinner (Curley 2nd of Pound); r., the Hon. E. W. B. Portman (Lowton).

Heifer, calved in 1899: 1 and champion, the Hon. C. B. Portman (Capton Bella); 2, the Hon. E. W. B. Portman (Bradfield Moss Rose 3rd); 3, Messrs. W. R. and A. Trible (Kingsford Belinda).

Pair of Devon Heifers, not exceeding three years old on Jan. 1, 1902: 1, J. Skinner (Curly 8th); 2, C. L. Hancock (Tessamina).

Heifer, calved in 1900: 1, the Hon. E. W. B. Portman (Hestercombe Rose Leaf 2nd); 2, the Hon. E. W. B. Portman (Hestercombe Daisy); 3, W. Norman (Queen of the Valley); r., W. Kidner (Fairy 4th).

Heifer, calved in 1901: 1 and special, A. C. Skinner (Pound Pansy 5th); 2, C. N. Skinner (Filipan 2nd); 3, Messrs. Bovine, Limited (Bovine Princess 2nd); r., the Hon. E. W. B. Portman (Hestercombe Myrtle).

SHORTHORN.

Bull, calved in 1897, 1898, or 1899: 1, H. Ker Colville (Royal Seal).

Bull, calved in 1900: 1, G. F. King (Lord Bruce); 2, H. Ker Colville (Viscount Monarch); 3, T. F. Roskruge (Lord Norman); r., Captain E. M. Whitting (Lord Blanche 9th); c., G. F. King (Chewton Brave Archer) and A. J. Mullins (Master Douglas).

Bull, calved in 1901: 1, Sir W. H. Wills, Bart. (Royal Scotsman); 2, A. Hiscock, jun (Dorset Duke); 3, G. F. King (Excelsior 4th); r., G. F. King (Chewton Victor 6th).

Cow, calved before 1899: 1, Mr. A. Hiscock, jun. (Honeydew 4th); 2nd, H. Ker Colville (Strowan Marchioness 5th); r., Messrs. J. Little and Sons (Ruby).

Heifer, calved in 899: 1, W. J. Hosken (Wild Duchess 20th); 2, Messrs. J. Little and Sons (Rose Blossom); r., G. F. King (Countess 56th).

Heifer, calved in 1900: 1, S. Hill (Trilby 4th); 2, G. F. King (Countess 62nd); r., H. Ker Colville (String of Pearls).

Heifer, calved in 1901: 1, Sir W. H. Wills, Bart. (Blagdon Charmer); 2, S. Hill (Langford Peony); 3, H. Ker Colville (Leatstone Sonato 6th); r., T. F. Roskruge (Rare Beauty).

Shorthorn Bull, calved in 1901, exhibited by persons residing in the Counties of Somerset and Dorset: 1, Sir W. H. Wills, Bart. (Royal Scotsman); r., A. Hiscock, jun. (Dorset Duke).

Pure Bred Pedigree Shorthorn Dairy Cow, in milk: 1, A. Hiscock (Patient Happy); 2, Messrs. J. Little and Sons (White Rose); r., G. F. King (Countess 56th).

CHANNEL ISLANDS.

Bull, any age: 1, A. Gibbs (Perry Farm Clipper); 2, E. Smith (C.I.V.); 3, A. Pocock (Sirdar); r., the Marquess of Winchester (Companion); h.c., Mrs. R. Loader Brown (Rhodes) and A. Gibbs (2) (Golden King and Sir Hubert); c., A. Pocock (Farleigh) and R. F. Wheadon (Omrah).

Cow, calved before 1899: 1, Mrs. R. Loader Brown (Remember); 2, R. P. Wheadon (Hautvilles Surprise); 3, E. Smith (Hatty); r., the Marquess of Winchester (Reticule); v.h.c., the Marquess of Winchester (Margery's Pet) h.c., A. Gibbs (Lass of Jersey).

Heifer, calved on or after Jan. 1, 1899: 1, E. Smith (Magda's Maria); 2, R. P. Wheadon (Rosy 2nd); 3, the Marquess of Winchester (Little May); r., E. Smith (White Rosebud).

DAIRY CATTLE.

Dairy Cow, calved before 1899, calculated for Dairy Purposes: 1, A. Hiscock, jun. (Kirk Levington); 2, Messrs. J. Little and Sons (White Rose); r., Messrs. J Little and Sons (Beauty).

Heifer, calved in 1899, for Dairy Purposes: 1, W. J. Hosken (Wild Duchess 20th); 2, Messrs. J. Little and Sons (Rose Blossom).

SHEEP.

DEVON LONG WOOL.

Yearling Ram: 1, 2, and r., F. White; v.h.c., H. E. Thorne.

Pair Ram Lambs: 1 and 2, F. White; r., W. Greenway.

Three Yearling Ewes: 1 and 2, F. White.

Ten Shearling Ewes: 1 and 2, C. L. Hancock; r., H. B. Bellew; h.c., W. Greenway.

SOMERSET AND DORSET HORN.

Yearling Ram: 1, S. Kidner; 2 and r., F. J. Merson.

Pair Ram Lambs: 1 and 2, F. J. Merson.

Three Yearling Ewes: 1 and 2, F. J. Merson; r., W. J. Culverwell.

EXMOOR HORN.

Yearling Ram: 1 and 2, C. N. Skinner; r. and h.c., J. H. Turner.

Ram, any age: 1 and 2, C. N. Skinner; r., J. N Norman.

Three Yearling Ewes: 1 and 2, C. N. Skinner.

HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.

Yearling Ram: 1, C. A. Scott-Murray; 2, J. Joyce; r., J. Flower.

Pair Ram Lambs: 1, C. A. Scott-Murray; 2 and h.c., J. Joyce; r., J. Flower.

Three Yearling Ewes: 1 and champion, J. Flower; 2, C. A. Scott-Murray; r., J. Joyce.

ANY OTHER PURE BREED.

Pair Ram Lambs: 1, W. O. Meade-King.

Three Yearling Ewes: 1, W. O. Meade-King.

Ten Shearling Ewes of any pure breed other than Devon Longwool: 1 and 2, J. Joyce.

PIGS.

BERKSHIRE.

Boar: 1, R. W. Hudson; 2, J. A. Fricker; r., A. Hiscock, jun.

Sow with her Young: 1, the Hon. C. B. Portman; 2, J. A. Fricker; r., A. Hiscock, jun.; c., R. W. Hudson.

WHITE BREED.

Boar: 1, Sanders Spencer; 2, A. Hiscock, jun.; c., T. Manuell.

Sow with her Young: 1, T. Manuell; 2 and r., Sanders Spencer; c., A. Hiscock, jun.

ANY OTHER PURE BREED.

Boar: 1, C. L. Hancock; 2, J. H. Glover.

Sow in Farrow, or exhibited with her Young: 1, J. H. Glover; 2, C. Marshall; r., Messrs. W. and F. Arscott; c., J. Hayman.

WOOL.

Three Devon Long Wool Fleeces of 1902: 1, H. B. Bellew; 2, F. White; c., C. L. Hancock.

Three Dorset Horn Fleeces of 1902: 1, S. Kidner.

Three Cross-Bred Fleeces of 1902: 1, F. E. Hepper; 2, J. Heywood; c., F. J. Merson.

Three Down Fleeces of 1902: 1 and 2, J. Joyce.

Three Exmoor Fleeces of 1902: 1 and 2, C. N. Skinner.

CIDER.

Cask, made in the Autumn of 1901: 1, D. J. Crofts and Son; 2, Waterman and Son; 3, Mrs. B. Chivers; r., W. T. Allen; v.h.c., A. J. Candy; h.c., Waterman and Son; c., H. J. Davis.

Twelve Bottles Cider, made in the Autumn of 1901: 1, Waterman and Son; 2, Tilley Brothers; 3, D. J. Crofts and Son; r., Mrs. B. Chivers; v.h.c., Waterman and Son; h.c., A. J. Candy; c., H. J. Davis.

CHEESE.

Four Cheeses of not less than 60lb. each, made in 1901, the property of and exhibited by the makers: 1, A. Osborne; 2, A. White; 3, F. W. J. Crocker; r., J. Burfitt.

Four Cheeses of not less than 50lb. each (open to Somerset only): 1, J. Sage; 2, A. White; 3, Mrs. C. Candy.

Eight Loaf or Truckle Cheeses: 1, H. H. Pickford; 2, H. G. Ashman; 3, Mrs. C. Candy; r., W. J. Selway.

Four Caerphilly Cheeses: 1, Miss Spratt; 2, Mrs. W. T. S. Tilley; 3, E. Dibble; r., R. Board.

BUTTER.

Fresh Butter, of not less than 4lb. weight, made from the produce of cows of the Channel Islands breed: 1, C. Hayes; 2, Mrs. L. R. Mildon; 3, Miss M. K. Harris; r., A. F. Somerville; v.h.c., the Hon. Mrs. Portman; c., T. Miles.

Fresh Butter, made from the produce of cows of Any Breed other than Channel Islands: 1, C. Hayes; 2, Mrs. Adlam; 3, Miss M. K. Harris; r., Mrs. J. E. Shepherd; v.h.c., W. Body; h.c., Mrs. L. R. Mildon; c., Miss E. Follett, Mrs. J. F. Hill, B. Read, and Miss M. Vicary.

Design of Fancy Butter: 1, Mrs. M. A. Willis; 2, Miss E. Follett; 3, Mrs. J. F. Hill.

Newark.

The thirty-fifth annual exhibition of the Newark Agricultural Society was held on Wednesday and Thursday on the usual site, the Sconce Hills. Favourable weather prevailed, and the attendance of visitors was good, whilst the entries were quite up to the average in every respect, so that the show was, as it deserves to be, an altogether successful one. Being the first of the Midland shows, it is of keen interest to agriculturists in the district and also in many parts of Lincolnshire and Yorkshire, and success here is often prized more for the prestige that it carries than for the monetary reward. The entries, although not quite so numerous as last year, were up to the average, the total being 480, made up as follows:—Agricultural horses, 83; beasts, 55; pens of sheep, 18; pigs, 40; hunters, cobs, roadsters, and hurdle jumpers, 128; butter, 35; bread, 35; eggs, 28; spring chickens, 13; ducks, 7; sheep clipping, 10; butter making competition, 28. The chief falling off was in agricultural horses and beasts, but the quality in these sections showed no falling off. As usual, an attractive list of prizes had been offered, a total sum of £380 having been set apart for this purpose. In commemoration of the Coronation year the president, Mr. E. Elsey, of Hopwell Hall, Derby, offered a champion cup worth £10 gramme was upon the same lines as previously.

The judges in the chief sections were as follows for the best hunter, but in other respects the prolows:—Horses—agricultural: Mr. John Nix, Alfreton, and Mr. R. C. Cooper, Waltham, Melton Mowbray. Cattle: Mr. Henry Dudding, Riby Grove, Stallingborough, and Mr. H. W. Woods, Scotland Farm, Worksop. Sheep: Mr. W. Roe, The Cottage, Besthorpe, Newark, and Mr. John Cartwright, Pillar Farm, Nocton, Lincoln. Pigs: Mr. John Barron, Borrowash, Derby, and Mr. Thomas Diggle, Ewerby, Sleaford. Roadsters, hurdle jumpers—first day: Mr. W. R. Brockton, Farndon, Newark, and Mr. Colin Campbell, Stapleford, Newark. Hunters, cobs, hacks, roadsters, and hurdle jumpers—second day: Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., Walton Hall, Warrington, and Mr. James Hutchinson, Manthorpe Lodge, Grantham.

Horses.

There was a very fine display of agricultural horses, and in some cases the judges had great difficulty in deciding on which to confer the awards. There were far more brood mares than is generally the case, ten having been entered. The winner was selected in Rokeby Petrel, belonging to Mr. Smith-Carington, of Ashby Folville, Melton. She is a bay with beautiful legs, excellent feet and joints, and is of the right type all through. Mr. Avis, of the Nottingham Corporation Farm, Stoke Bardolph, was second with the big bay Nottingham Sunflower, by Nottingham Conqueror. There was a keen contest for third place between Mr. Avis's chestnut, Durdham Lassie, and Wyton Duchess, a bay mare belonging to Mr. Walsh, of Thornton, Poulton-le-Fylde, but eventually the judges decided in favour of the Nottingham mare as being in better bloom than her rival, Wyton Duchess, which had not yet foaled. Mr. Smith-Carrington was again successful in carrying off the premier honours in the class for cart colt or filly foals, a daughter of Rokeby Petrel, by Nailstone Cœur de Lion, being invested with the red ribbon. Mr. Philo L. Mills (Ruddington Hall) was second with a strong-boned filly by Ruddington Premier, which should have a useful career. Mr. Walsh was again third with a chestnut filly by Holdfast. She was the brightest filly of the lot, and is truly built, but she was handicapped by her age, being only four weeks old.

Of the seven barren mares and geldings entered, the pick was the well-known Lily-of-the-Valley, sired by Southgate Honest Tom, and the property of Mr. R. A. Yerburgh, M.P., of Woodfold Park, Blackburn. Dark brown in colour, with white legs, this daughter of the famous Carlton sire is of immense substance, possesses the best of feet and joints, and excellent feather, and moves beautifully both in the walk and the trot. Later in the day she was adjudged the champion, winning the Shire Horse Society's special prize. In the grey gelding, Warren Hazel, Mr. W. Jackson, of Knottingley Hall, provided the second-class winner, the Yorkshire animal being followed by Mr. Smith-Carington's bay mare, Blackmoor Belle. In the tenant farmers' class for barren mares or geldings Mr. Gilbert, of Mickleover, came to the front with his brown four-year-old, Droitwich Fashion, which was the reserve in the preceding class. Mr. Fletcher, of Althorpe, Doncaster, was second with County Lass 2nd, which had not quite the class of bone of the other. Mr. Pennington, of Rossington, Doncaster, was third with a good gelding. The class for three-year-old cart fillies included many superior animals, but the winner was easily discovered in Mr. Jackson's celebrated Ladysmith. She is a brown of great size, standing fully 16.3 hands high, with a beautiful back quarters and a deep middle. She was the reserve to Lily-of-the-Valley for the championship. Durdham Lassie was second, and Mr. Dakin, of Weston, Newark, was third with Northea Whitefoot, a thick, heavy-limbed bay, with a deep body and a lot of substance. She afterwards won Sir Gilbert Greenall's Cup for the best animal owned by a tenant farmer. A better collection of two-year-old fillies can hardly be recalled at Newark. A baker's dozen were worthily headed by a long-made, heavy-limbed grey, belonging to Mr. James Oakes, of Ridding, Alfreton. The second winner, which was also reserve for the silver cup before the winner was a big wide bay, and also hailed from Derbyshire, having been sent by Mr. Joseph Grimes, of Chesterfield. Mr. Arthur Blackwell, of Oughtibridge, Sheffield, was the exhibitor of the third prize-taker. Mr. Avis had matters his own way in the gelding class, in which he took the first and second awards with Nottingham Saint and Nottingham Sinner. Mr. Grimes was first in the tenant farmers' class for two-year-old fillies with the animal with which he was second in the open class. Mr. Saul, of Retford, came next with a big filly of a rare sort, and when she gets in condition she will be heard of in better company. Mr. Park, of Grove, Retford, was third with a sweet little filly, but wanting in size compared with the others.

There was an exceptional lot of yearling colts, and it took the judges some time to come to a decision, but their awards did not meet with general approval. Eventually they selected for premier place Mr. Albert Armitage's Cotgrave Marmion, a wedgy sort of a colt, but not quite so good on his limbs as some of the youngsters behind him, and he might have a little more hair. Many preferred the second prize-winner, a bay of great size, shown by Mr. Adlington, of Carlton. This animal had beautiful limbs, broad legs, excellent feet and joints, and is built on the proper lines. Third honours fell to the Duchess of Newcastle for Clumber Victor, a nice bay by Royal Derby. In ascertaining the merits of the yearling fillies, the presiding authorities had another tough task. Mr. Philo L. Mills was represented by Priscilla Alden whose undeniable merits prevailed. By Moulton Councillor, she is a heavy-boned filly of great size, with beautiful hair, and capital feet. The second prize-taker, the property of Mr. Oakes, is also a massive filly, but not quite so broad in the limbs as the representative of the Ruddington Hall Stud.

The class for harness geldings or mare roadsters, 15 hands and upwards, driven in single harness, was headed by Mr. Charles Fowler (Lincoln) with his chestnut gelding, Lincoln Gentleman; and Mr. G. E. Franklin (Derby) secured the red rosette in the class for ponies, 13.2 hands and under, driven in single harness, with his five-year-old Royal Crown Derby. In the hurdle jumping, which was a great centre of attraction, Lightning, a nice brown belonging to Mr. Addison (Newton-on-Trent), who took his fences in splendid style, was given the verdict.

Many of the hunter classes had secured excellent entries, and the judges had some difficulty in arriving at a decision. The brood mare class, which was the first taken, brought out only three competitors, Mr. F. B. Wilkinson, of Edwinstowe, Newark, winning somewhat easily with an animal of the true type. She had by her side a big colt foal by Squadron Leader. Messrs. Stokes and Son, of Newark, were second with a very good mare and a foal by the hackney sire, Chocolate Junior, whilst Mr. Wilson, of Southwell, was third with Duchess and a foal by Ambletonian. There was a splendid class of yearlings. Mr. Hodgson won with his chestnut colt Kildare by Red Prince II.—a horse of rare quality—which took honours at the spring show of the Hunters' Improvement Society. Mr. Wilkinson was here second with a bay filly by Havoc, another of the produce of Lady Grosvenor. Curiously enough she also took a premier award at Islington in one of the filly classes, and both she and the winner are animals of the highest merit. The filly is rather smaller than the other, but she is possessed of excellent quality. Mr. Smethwaite was third, with a bay colt by Glory Smitten. In the class for two-year-olds a reversal of the decisions come to in London was arrived at. Upon that occasion the stable companions Coronation and Brutus, belonging to Mr. Hodgson, were first and second respectively. On Thursday the judges placed Brutus first and entirely ignored the others. Brutus is a black gelding, and is by Active Hampton. He is of excellent quality. Mr. Wilkinson was second with a fine bay gelding by Havoc, and Mr. Bemrose, of Frieston Green, Caythorpe, was the reserve with Sir Richard, a gelding by Ruddigore. More horses that gained awards at the show of the Hunters' Improvement Society in London were seen out in the class for three-year-olds. One was a gelding belonging to Mr. Brown, of Marr Grange, Doncaster, and he was placed first. He was successful in the Islington charger class, whereas Mr. Hodgson's Toreador, a chestnut gelding by Matador, which was second, took a premium in the hunter section. Mr. Hoyle, of Moorlands, Bacup, was the reserve with Rosebery, a chestnut gelding by Khartoum, which has often been to the fore.

Cattle.

Cattle made hardly such a good display as last year, but still the exhibition was quite of an average standard, and there were several animals present of superior merit. In the class for Shorthorn bulls, two years old and upwards, Mr. T. Potter, of Daybrook House, near Nottingham, won with Roseberry, thus repeating the success he gained with the same animal last year. Roseberry was second at Colwick Park, and took a first prize and the championship at Moor Green, and throughout is evenly made. He is nearly three years old, whilst Mr. Philo L. Mills' Magic Stone, which was second, is three years and four months of age. The latter is not quite such a level bull, but he is of good character. There was little to choose between Carwin Lad, belonging to Mr. Preece, of Drayton, Thrapstone, and What Not, owned by Captain Reeve, of Leadenham House, Lincoln, in the class for bulls under two years. Both were very fine specimens, and Carwin Lad carried a little more flesh than the other. He cost 210 guineas at Birmingham, where he was first in his class last year. For Shorthorn cows, in milk or in calf, there were five entries, but the judges had little difficulty in placing the leader, a taking in-calf roan, the property of Mr. F. Platt, Barnby Manor; Mr. T. Walker, Burton Joyce, being reserved. Milch cows of any breed not over four years and six months' old numbered only four, and Mr. Dakin, of Weston, Newark, carried off the chief award with a very nice dairy cow of good character. Mr. Langham was the only exhibitor in the class for heifers not ever three years of age, and he was awarded the red rosette. Mr. Mills had no difficulty in taking the chief award for heifers not over two years old with Dunmore Lovely, a nice Shorthorn, with a good, straight back, but rather inclined to be leggy. She was first at Newark last year, and she gained two premier prizes at Nottingham, those being the only occasions upon which she has been seen in public. Mr. Freer, of Deeping St. Nicholas, Spalding, was second with a Lincoln red heifer of good type. There was a fine show of Shorthorn bull calves, under twelve months old; in fact, this class was considered one of the best on the ground. There were only seven entries, but each animal was of very good quality, and the judges had by no means a light task in placing their honours. Ultimately Mr. W. J. Atkinson, Western St. Mary, Spalding, was awarded the coveted rosette for a thick, fleshy calf. Mr. G. Freer, Deeping St. Nicholas, was placed second; Mr. A. Stretton, of Sibthorpe, Newark, being highly commended. The heifer calves, too, were a taking lot altogether. Mr. J.S. Reeve, Leadenham, was awarded first prize, and though his animal was two months younger than that shown by Mr. Potter, Daybrook, it was a much bigger calf, and deserved to win. Mr. T. Walker, Burton Joyce, was once more reserved,

this time with Winning Ways, a likely-looking youngster.

Sheep.

Sheep had five classes allotted to them, three for longwools and two for shortwools, and although the entries were not numerous they made a very good show. Messrs. S. E. Dean and Sons, of Dowsby Hall, Bourne, carried off both the first and second prizes for single shearling Lincoln rams with two capital sheep. Mr. H. Smith, jun., of Cropwell Butler, being third with an animal with a fine skin. There was little to choose between Messrs. Dean's and Mr. Smith's pens of Lincoln shearling hoggs, but the former gained the first award, Mr. Smith being second, and Mr. Bayles, of Welton Cliff, Lincoln, third with an excellent pen. The last named won with three Lincoln ewes in a heavy woolled pen. In the shortwool section Mr. Sheldon, of Whisby, Lincoln, was first and second with a strong lot of shortwool or cross-bred hoggs, there being a wide difference between them and those behind them. In the class of ewes Mr. Preece, of Drayton, Trapstone, won with a useful pen, Mr. A. Stretton, Sibthorpe, being placed second with a fair sample of the Shropshire variety, and Mr. R. J. Pratt, East Stoke, Newark, third. The champion prize—£4, given by Mr. J. Dickins, Newark—was carried off by Mr. J. A. Preece, Drayton, Thrapstone, for a striking pen of three ewes with some wonderfully good lambs, the same entry as secured the premier prize in the last-named class.

Pigs.

The display of pigs at this Society's show is generally a capital one, and last week's exhibition proved no exception to the rule. In the class for breeding sows (large variety) Mr. R. M. Knowles, Colston Bassett Hall, had a litter of eight fine youngsters, the mother having good hair and shoulders, with little bone, the offspring being all good in symmetry. Mr. Philo L. Mills, Ruddington Hall, was second, his exhibit having very fine hair, little bone, and good hams and shoulders. Mr. R. Daybell, Bottesford, always a strong competitor here, was a deserving third prize taker. In the next class, that for sows with young pigs at foot, Mr. R. M. Knowles' winners in the class just alluded to was the only entry, and, of course, carried off the pink rosette. Mr. Philo L. Mills came in an easy first in the class for gilts, in pig or not, with a really fine all-round specimen, Mr. D. R. Daybell, Bottesford, being second and reserved with a couple possessing good hair and plenty of flesh. The same exhibitor carried away second honours in the boar class with an animal of good length and with little bone. Mr. A. Armitage, Nottingham, coming in third. Mr. D. R. Daybell, Bottesford, carried off both prizes in the section for breeding sows (local), and he was also awarded the same prizes in the local competition for gilts, Mr. James Dakin, Weston, Newark, being placed third for an animal of useful quality, though somewhat small. In the "any other breed" classes Mr. Charles Beaumont, East Bridgford, secured a couple of seconds and a third with noteworthy Berkshires, whilst Mr. J. Dakin, Weston, Newark, secured a couple of first and a second with typical animals of the like breed.

Prescot.

The annual show of the Prescot Agricultural Society was held on Thursday in Knowsley Park, once more kindly placed at the disposal of the Society by the Earl of Derby. Unfortunately, the weather proved most unfavourable, but this did not interfere with the attendance of visitors to such an extent as one would have thought, and a goodly number of persons passed the turnstiles. The Society has of late years been very fortunate so far as the weather is concerned, so that, although unwelcome, they did not complain very much of the poor specimen the clerk of the weather provided them with last week. As regards the entries, they were a complete success, both in number and quality. The total was 1,116, as compared with 1,174 last year, but that was a record total, and last week's number was well above the average. The slight falling off occurred in the less important classes, and horses and cattle showed a distinct improvement. Local exhibitors held their own well in the classes for heavy horses, and the animals present were generally equal to anything to be found in Lancashire or Cheshire. Among the light horses were some of the principal prize-winners of the North, including the famous Zaverda, owned by Mr. Jones, of Knotty Ash. Among the cattle the Shorthorns generally were of the milking class, and the improvement which is being manifested all over the country in this class of animal was well represented here. The Society caters for all tastes and fancies, and therefore included classes for dogs, poultry, pigeons, rabbits, cats, cavies, butter, eggs, and bread. All were well filled, and received a good amount of attention from the numerous visitors.

Mr. G. H. Tyson, Dalton-in-Furness, judged the cattle; Mr. Thomas Bentley, Driffield, Yorkshire, the light horses; Mr. John Stuart, Tatton Park, Knutsford, the heavy horses; and Mr. J. Stallas, Walton, the pigs. Their awards were as follow: —

Cattle.

Heifer: under one year old: 1, G. G. Marsh; 2, W. A. Krigg; 3, A. Joy. Heifer, over one and under two years old: 1, R. Mercer; 2, Mrs. Greenwood; 3, T. Harrison. Heifer, over two and under three years old: 1, G. G. Marsh; 2, C. Baldwin; 3, Mrs. Garnett. Shorthorn Dairy Cow: 1, W. A. Krigg; 2, T. Abraham; 3, Mrs. Garnett. Bull, under one year old: 1, G. G. Marsh; 2, R. Bennett. Stock bull, over one year and under two years old: 1, T. Miller; 2, G. G. Marsh; 3, T. Harrison. Stock Bull, over two years old: 1, T. Miller; 2, C. Bell; 3, J. Gilmore. Dairy cow, Any Variety: 1 and special: T. Abraham; 2, R. Tunstall; 3, Mrs. Garnett.

HORSES.

Light Colt, foaled in 1901: 1, A. A. Haley. 2, J. M'Laughlin. Light Gelding or Filly, foaled in 1900: 1, W. Lawson; 2, G. Smith. Light Gelding or Filly, foaled in 1899: 1, W. Lawson; 2, A. A. Haley; 3, J. H. Jones. Hackney Mare, in foal or with foal at foot: 1, A. A. Haley. Hackney Stallion: 1, T. B. Sykes; 2, E. Holmes; 3, J. Gilmore. Mare or Gelding, not exceeding 13.2 hands: 1, G. E. Franklin; 2, T. R. Evans; 3, J. Maskeague. Mare or Gelding, exceeding 13.2 hands, and not exceeding 14.2 hands: 1, J. H. Jones; 2, F. C. M'Kibbin; 3, W. J. Milton. Male or Gelding, over 14.2 hands: 1, Mrs. F. Holmes; 2, F. C. M'Kibbin; 3, T. B. Sykes. Mare or Gelding, not exceeding 13.2 hands: 1, G. E. Franklin; 2, J. R. Evans; 3, A. D. Oates. Harness Mare or Gelding, exceeding 13.2, and not exceeding 14.2 hands: 1, J. H. Jones; 2, F. C. M'Kibbin; 3, G. Ledson. Harness Mare or Gelding, over 14.2 hands: 1, S. and J. Dennis; 2, T. B. Sykes; 3, J. Heap. Harness Mare or Gelding, any height, not having won a first prize at any show: 1, J. H. Jones; 2, Halewood Stud Company; 3, W. J. Milton. Tradesman's Turnout, Mare or Gelding, exceeding 13 and not exceeding 15 hands: 1, I. Garnett; 2, H. Williams; 3, T. Smith. Tradesman's Turnout, Mare or Gelding, 15 hands and over: 1, H. White; 2, S. Reece and Sons; 3, P. Sheldon. Jumpers: 1, F. V. Grange; 2, Dr. A. C. Davies; 3, J. Taylor; 4, J. T. Heap; 5, C. Jerome. Draught Colt, foaled in 1901: 1, T. Charnock; 2, C. Bell; 3, Col. R. Ireland-Blackburn. Draught Filly, foaled in 1900: 1, C. Bell; 2, Col. Ireland Blackburn; 3, R. Jeffs. Draught Filly, foaled in 1899: 1, C. Bell; 2, H. Jagger; 3, J. Milton. Draught Mare, in foal or with foal at foot: 1, J. Dilworth; 2, Col. Ireland-Blackburn; 3, Executors of E. Charnock. Draught Gelding or Mare, four years old and upwards: 1 and 2, T. Edwards; 3, Col. Ireland-Blackburn. Draught Gelding or Mare, confined to the Society's district: 1 and 2, T. Edwards; 3, Col. Ireland-Blackburn. Draught Mare or Gelding, the property of a tenant farmer residing within the Society's district: 1, Executors of E. Charnock; 2, W. Watkin; 3, J. Leather. Shire Stallion: 1, C. Bell; 2, T. Charnock; 3, Liverpool Corporation.

PIGS.

White Boar: 2, J. Walton. White Breeding Sow: 1, J. and W. Birch; 2, T. Smith. Boar, Any other Variety: 1, J. Walton. Sow, Any other Variety: 1, H. S. Dame; 2, J. Walton.



THE HEREFORD BULL "LORD ROBERTS," which forms the subject of the above illustration, was bred by Mr. J. Price, Court House, Pembridge, Herefordshire, and is by Balfour, 18,688, out of Lottie. At the Witney Show of the Oxfordshire Agricultural Society last week, "Lord Roberts" won First Prize in the Class for the best Hereford Bull calved in 1899, 1900, or 1901; and was also being placed reserve for the Champion Prize for the best animal in the cattle classes.

Dumbartonshire.

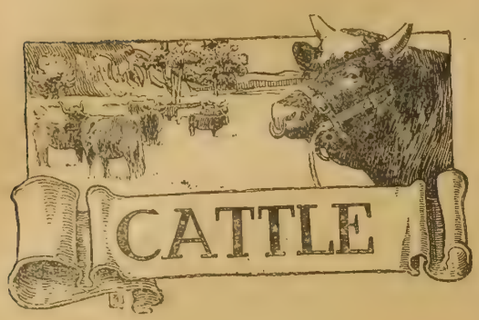
The Dumbartonshire Agricultural Society's annual show was held at Balloch, on the 3rd inst., and was attended with a gratifying success, the entries being good, both in number and quality, whilst the attendance of visitors was very large, although hardly up to the average of some past years. The entries number 825, or three more than last year, and the representation of stock did great credit to the county, especially in the Ayrshire, Clydesdale, and blackfaced sheep sections, which included several well-known animals. In the Ayrshire cattle section Mr. J. Bauchop (Auchintulloch) was one of the most successful exhibitors, he winning first in aged cows in milk; first in the Derby for three-year-old queys, with Daisy II., a home-bred three-year-old; second in the class for cows bred by exhibitor, in milk or to calve before August 1st; first in aged cows in calf, and three-year-old cows in calf; and first in the class for groups of three. Daisy II. was subsequently awarded the medal for the best cow or quey bred in the district, and was reserve for the female championship. The cup for the best female Ayrshire was won by Mr. J. M'Kean, dam of Aber, with a cow which had previously won a champion award at a Scottish show. On the present occasion she was also awarded the medal for the best cow or quey for commercial purposes. The male classes also brought out some meritorious animals. Mr. James Orr (Mains), won in the aged bull class with Imperial Chief, which was awarded the male championship, and which was first last year at Balloch, third at Glasgow, and second at Ayr. Mr. John M'Kean was second. In the two-year-old bull class, Lieut.-Col. Fergusson-Buchanan was first with The M'Kinlay, the second prize winner at Kilmarnock and Ayr, and he was reserve for the championship. Mr. M'Kean was an outstanding winner in the yearling bull class with a home-bred animal.

There was a nice display of Clydesdales. In the class for brood mares Mr. D. Riddell (Kilboure) was first with an animal of nice quality and action, which was afterwards awarded the medal for the best female. Aged yeld mares were headed by Mr. John Macdonald (Boquhanran) with an animal by Gay Prince, Mr. Bauchop following with a Sir Everard mare. Three-year-old fillies made probably the best class in the female section. Mr. Riddell was awarded first for a Good Gift filly, after a keen contest with a Gold Mine animal shown by Mr. James Robertson (Auchinleck). Yearling fillies formed a large class, Mr. Whitelaw being first with one of his own breeding, Mr. Andrew M'Gown second with a compact animal, and Mr. John Filshie third. The same animals appeared in this order in the yearling filly sweepstake. Mr. Bauchop won the medal for the best yearling bred in the district, whilst the medal for the best filly, one or two years old, entered in the Clydesdale Horse Society's stud-books, went to Mr. Whitelaw's yearling. The medal for the best mare or filly bred by exhibitor went to Mr. Riddell.

Two-year-old entire colts, as a class, were of only moderate merit. The winning horse, however, belonging to Mr. Macdonald, was a good animal, with fine forefeet, and was awarded the medal for the best entire colt. In the yearling colt Derby Mr. Macdonald was first with his second prize winner in the previous class, and also took third prize. Miss Macfarlane (Blawarthill) won the medal for the best yearling colt bred in the district, and got by St. Simon, with the fourth animal in the open class.

Considerable interest was manifested in the light-legged exhibits. Mr. Robert Watkinson (Balloch) was first in the brood mare class, with an eight-year-old chestnut, Mr. W. Watson Murray being second. Mr. Watson also won in the yearling roadster class with a filly bred by himself.

Mr. Andrew Morton (Aitkenbar) won in both the two-year-old and three-year-old roadster classes with home-bred animals, and was also awarded the medal for the best roadster, one, two, or three years old. There were also some well-filled pony and harness classes. The display of sheep was not large, but the quality was fairly good. In the Leicester section Mr. James Caldwell was the champion, while in the blackfaced classes Mr. James Veitch (Milngavie) won the Arden Cup and other two silver cups.



Sale of Lord Crofton's Aberdeen-Angus Herd.

The Right Hon. Lord Crofton's entire herd of Aberdeen-Angus cattle and other stock was dispersed on the 9th inst. at Mote Park, Ballmurry, Roscommon, Mr. Gavin Low, Dublin, being the auctioneer. Since the herd was founded in 1894 by judicious selections it has had a great record of success both in the showyard and otherwise, and the fame achieved by the herd brought together a large gathering of breeders. Bidding was at times brisk, and some fairly good prices were obtained. Seventy-seven guineas was the top figure of the sale, and this sum was paid by Sir Henry Grattan Bellew for Ella II. of Mote, calved May, 1901, sire Estafette 7516. Witch of Benton, who was bred by Mr. C. Stephenson, realised 66 guineas, together with her cow calf, Mr. M'Laren being the purchaser for Mr. Richards, Canada. Two other animals made over 50 guineas —viz., Necklett II. of Drough 28086, calved March, 1899, and her calf, sold to Mr. Barton for 53 guineas, and Gladys II. of Mote, calved April, 1900, purchased by the Marquis of Downshire for 51 guineas. A list of the principal prices is appended:—

COWS AND HEIFERS.

	Gs.
Maggie Murphy 16720, c. Aug., 1888, s. Doonmaynor Black Knight 5303 ..... Mrs. Barton	21
Minnie of Cartachy 18778, c. Feb., 1892, s. Rover of Powrie 4391 ..... Mr. Ruttledge	20
Lisette 20737, c. Nov., 1892, s. Principal 6344 ..... Mr. Anderson	20
Movrone 20740, c. April, 1893, s. Principal ..... Mr. O'Farrell	20
Tierclea Sheila 3rd 26444, c. Mar., 1895, s. Sutlej 16036 ..... Sir Henry Grattan Bellew	23½
Tierclea Juno 3rd, 26643, c. May, 1893, s. Tierclea Tom 6846, and her April c.c. Juno 3rd of Mote ..... Mr. Ruttledge	25
Sweetheart 30th 24409, c. May, 1896, s. Estafette 7516, and her April c.c. Sweetheart 2nd of Mote ..... Earl of Longford	40
Balsam of Tullynally 24328, c. May, 1896, s. Estafette, and her April c.c. Balsam 2nd of Mote ..... Mrs. Barton	26½
Queen of Mote 25232, c. April, 1897, s. Estafette 7516 ..... Mrs. Beaumont Nesbitt	37
Witch of Benton 27583, c. Jan., 1898, s. Essmond of Ballindalloch 8304, and her March c.c. Witch of Mote ..... Mr. M'Laren, for Mr. Richards, Canada	66
Maggie 3rd of Mote 26640, c. Mar., 1898, s. Estafette, and her Jan. c.c. Maiden 2nd of Mote ..... Lord Sligo	27
Sarah 2nd of Mote 28149, c. Jan., 1899, s. Gay Boaz 13459, and her Feb. b.c. Jolly Rover of Mote ..... Lord Clonbrock	25
Necklett II. of Drough 28086, c. Mar., 1899, s. Baron Inca 13160, and her Feb. b.c. Earl of Mote ..... Mrs. Barton	53
Lisette II. of Mote 28148, c. April, 1899, s. Erin's Hope 11648, and her Feb. c.c. Lizzie Royal of Mote ..... Mr. Beaumont Nesbitt	27
Erin's Queen of Mote 28833, c. Oct., 1899, s. Erin's Hope, and her b.c. ..... Mrs. Barton	23½
Pride of Snev 30015, c. Jan., 1900, s. Alick of Aberlour 12231, and her Feb. c.c. Pride of Mote ..... Mr. Robb	20
Eutoria of the Dell 30187, c. Feb., 1900, s. Gray Ambler 14430 ..... Lord Longford	43
Gladys II. of Mote 28840, c. April, 1900, s. Gay Boaz 13459 ..... Marquis of Downshire	51
Benton Queen of Mote (Vol. 26), c. Jan., 1901, s. Jolly Berton 16713 ..... Marquis of Downshire	30
Ella II. of Mote (Vol. 26), c. May, 1901, s. Estafette 7516 ..... Sir Henry Grattan Bellew	77
Maggie III. of Mote (Vol. 26), c. May, 1901, s. Erin's Hope ..... Mr. Gubbins	30

BULLS.

Erin's Hope 11648, c. April, 1894, s. Erin's Isle 9356 ..... Mr. Stevens	22½
Erin's Isle of Mote 17798, c. Jan., 1900, s. Erin's Hope 11648 ..... Lord Clonbrock	22
Water Melon 18665, c. Jan., 1900, s. Diaz 14272 ..... Lord Clonbrock	49
Boaz 2nd of Mote (Vol. 26), c. Jan., 1901, s. Gay Boaz ..... Mr. Robert Anderson	31
Estafette 3rd of Mote 10626, c. Feb., 1901, s. Estafette ..... Lord Clonbrock	30

Transactions in Store Stock.

(Reported to the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland.)

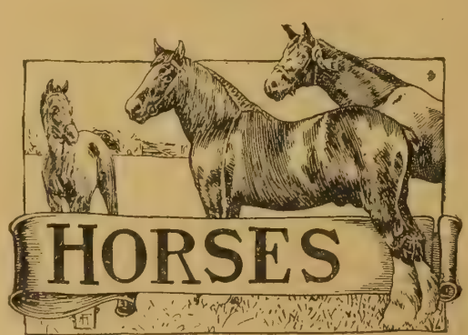
A large fair, composed chiefly of second-class two and three year old cattle in very poor condition, was held at Tuam co. Galway, on the 10th inst. Buyers were few, and demand slow throughout, a considerable number of rough, thin animals being turned out unsold. Prices:—Calves: Second class, £3 7s. 6d. ti £4; third class, £2 7s. 6d. to £3. Yearlings: Second class, £5 5s. to £6. Two-year-olds: First class £9 17s. 6d. to £11; second class, £7 7s. 6d. to £9 10s. third class, £6 to £6 10s. Three-year-olds: First class, £13 5s. to £13 17s. 6d.; second class, £9 15s. to £12 15s. third class, £8 to £8 10s. Springers: Second class, £10 10s. to £12 15s.; third class, £8 10s. to £10.

At the fair held at Midleton, co. Cork, on Monday, there was a large supply of cattle. Demand was good for those in condition, but a good many thin animals were not sold. There was but a small supply of sheep, and a fair demand prevailed for lambs suitable for shipping. Prices:—Calves: First class, £4 5s. to £5 5s.; second class, £3 10s. to £4. Yearlings: First class, £7 12s. 6d. to £9; second class, £6 to £7 10s. third class, £5 to £5 15s. Two-year-olds: First class, £10 to £12 10s.; second class, £7 15s. to £9 15s.; third class, £6 to £7 7s. 6d. Three-year-olds: First-class, £12 10s. to £13 10s. Springers: First class, £14 10s. to £16 10s.; second class, £11 to 13s.; third class, £9 10s. to £10 5s. Lambs: First class, £1 6s. 6d. to £1 11s. Over 12 and under 24 months old: First class, £1 13s. to £2 5s.; second class, £1 6s. to £1 8s. Two years old and upwards: First class, £2 to £2 5s. Young pigs, eight to ten weeks old, sold at from 18s. to 24s. each.

At Lisburn, co. Antrim, on Monday, there was a small fair, at which demand was slow and chiefly local. Prices:—Calves: Second class, £3 10s. to £4 2s. 6d. Yearlings: Second class, £5 15s. to £7 10s.; third class, £4 5s. to £4 15s. Two-year-olds: Second class, £8 5s. to £9 12s. 6d.; third class, £5 12s. 6d. to £7. Springers: First class, £16 to £17 2s. 6d.; second class, £11 10s. to £14 10s.; third class, £8 5s. to £9 12s. 6d.

Ballycastel (co. Antrim) fair, held on Tuesday, was an average-sized one, but demand was slow for both cattle and sheep. Prices:—Calves: Second class, £3 12s. 6d. to £4 2s. 6d. Yearlings: Second class, £5 13s. 4d. to £6 5s.; third class, £3 10s. to £4 2s. 6d. Two-year-olds: Second class, £7 12s. 6d. to £8 10s.; third class, £5 17s. 6d. to £7. Springers: Second class, £11 5s. to £12 10s.; third class, £7 16s. to £9 7s. 6d. Sheep: Over 12 and under 24 months old, second class, £1 5s. to £1 11s. third class, 15s. to 17s. 6d. Two years old and upwards: Third class, £1 to £1 2s. Young pigs, eight to ten weeks old averaged about 24s. each.

There was a large fair at Arklow, co. Wicklow, on Tuesday, the supply consisting chiefly of one and two year old cattle, the majority of which were in poor condition. They met a very slow demand, and many were not sold. Prices:—Calves: First class, £5. Yearlings, first class, £8 5s. second class, £5 2s. 6d. to £7. Two-year-olds: First class, £11 to £12 5s.; second class, £7 15s to £10 10s. Three-year-olds: Second class, £9 15s. to £11 15s. Springers: Second class, £14 5s. to £15 15s.



Sale at Bury St. Edmunds.

Messrs. Simpson and Sons held a sale of horses at Bury St. Edmunds on Wednesday, and it was well attended. About ninety animals were brought under the hammer, and met a fair trade at the following prices:—Suffolk colt, 2 years old, 21 gns.; a Suffolk filly, 2 years old, 21 gns.; a chestnut filly, 3 years old, 27 gns. Cart horses: Grey gelding, 6 years old, 21 gns.; bay gelding, 4 years old, 30 gns.; another bay gelding of the same age, 25½ gns.; Duke, a bay gelding, 38 gns.; a bay mare, 7 years old, 22½ gns.; a chestnut filly, 3 years old, 18 gns.; a black cart filly, of the same age, 30 gns. Other horses included a bay cob, which sold at 15 gns.; a bay mare, 14 gns.; another bay mare, 18 gns.; a roan gelding, 8 years old, 14.2 h.h., 16 gns.; a bay mare, 4 years old, 13.3 h.h., 21½ gns. Cobs, ponies, etc., included a grey cob, 6 years old, 14 h.h., which made 15 gns.; a brown cob, 16 gns.; a bay cob, 5 years old, 14 h.h., 15½ gns.; a bay pony, 6 years old, 13.1 h.h., 20 gns.

Show and Sale at Wimborne.

The annual spring show and sale of hunters and harness horses, held by Messrs. T. Ensor and Son, at Wimborne, Dorset, took place on the 9th inst., when 160 animals were offered, the number including a few useful heavy horses. Taking into consideration that three unforseen fixtures clashed with this date, a good business company was in attendance, and a capital trade ruled for the best descriptions, secondary kinds being harder to sell. There were a few nice cart horses catalogued, for which trade was particularly keen, at fully £8 apiece in advance of the special spring sale held in March last. The judging was undertaken by Mr. G. H. Bishop, Brislington, and Mr. Legg, jun., Melplash Court, and their decisions were as follows:—

Hunter, Mare or Gelding: 1, F. J. Hunt (a bay gelding, six years, 16 hands); r., T. Smith (grey gelding, six years, 16.1); v.h.c., Mr. Tucker (roan gelding, six years, 16.1).

Pair of Carriage Horses: 1, A. Butler (dark brown geldings, six and seven years, 15.3, which were sold for 78 guineas); r., H. Munro (bay geldings, five and six years, 16.1, undocked, sold for 96 guineas); v.h.c., C. Light (bay mare, seven years, 15.2).

Saddle or Harness Horse, over 15 hands: 1, Hon Mrs. Montgomerie (dark chestnut gelding, white points, six years, 15.3, sold for 50 guineas); r., G. R. Roberts (bay mare, seven years, 16 hands, sold for 41 guineas), v.h.c., Miss Carmichael (sold at 30 guineas).

Saddle or Harness Horse, under 15 hands: 1, F. Bond (brown mare, six years, 14.3); r., J. S. Passmore (brown gelding, six years, 14 hands, sold at 30 guineas) v.h.c., Mr. Dorey (black mare, four years, 14.2).

The prices obtained at the sale for light horses ranged from 28 guineas to 55 guineas; cobs and ponies, 15 guineas to 25 guineas; and heavy horses from 16 to 50 guineas.



Sale of a Dorset Horn Stock.

Mr. George Samways, of the Home Farm, Loders, having given up the farm, his entire stock was disposed of on Monday, by Messrs. Morey and Sons. The principal feature of the sale was the dispersal of Mr. Samways' noted flock of Dorset horn ewes. This was established by the owner about 20 years ago, ewes and lambs being purchased from the leading Dorset horn flockmasters of the neighbourhood, and strains of famous flocks have been drafted into this flock, so that the true breed of the Dorset horn entitles them to be entered in the Flock Book. Mr. Samways' ewes have obtained high figures in the local fairs, and the large company of buyers at the sale were able to judge of their great qualities. They made a remarkably fine show, and sold at satisfactory prices. The first lot offered was a capital pen of 25 off-going Dorset horn ewes, the bidding starting at 35s., and finally secured by Mr. Rolls, Burton Bradstock, at 43s. The remaining lots were sold as follow:—25 horn ewes, 40s 6d., Mr. Giles Frampton, Beaminster; 17 ditto, 32s., Mr. Frampton; six-teeth Dorset horn ewes, 44s., Mr. W. Manfield, Wooth; 42s., Mr. Daubeney; 43s., Mr. R. B. White; 40s., Mr. W. R. Pile; 40s., Mr. Pile; 38s., Mr. Pile; four-teeths, 46s. 6d., Mr. Salway, Milton; 49s. 6d., Mr. Albert Daubeney, Powerstock; 49s., Mr. Salway; 50s., Mr. A. G. Hicks; 43s., Mr. Salway; 42s. 6d., Mr. Salway; 39s. 6d., Mr. Legg, Symondsbury; two-teeths, 47s. 6d., Mr. J. M. Hounsell; 44s., Mr. J. Hansford, Loders; 61s., Mr. R. B. White, Shipton; 56s., Mr. J. Hansford; 50s. 6d., Mr. R. B. White; 45s., Mr. R. B. White; 40s., Mr. Legg, Symondsbury; Dorset horn chilver lambs, 35s., Mr. E. Paul; 35s., Mr. J. M. Hounsell; ten pens of chilver lambs ranged from 27s. 6d. to 42s., and 20 horn wether lambs were knocked down at 24s. apiece.

LITERARY NOTICES.

A monumental work, such as is the "Encyclopædia Britannica," has one great fault, and that is that it becomes out of date in the course of modern progress and discovery. Owing to the vastness of the task it is impossible to make a revised edition of the work, and in order to remove the stigma of "out-of-dateness" from the work, the only course is to issue supplementary volumes, in which are contained records of modern progress since the issue of the original volumes. This is the task that has been undertaken with regard to the "Encyclopædia Britannica." The demand for these supplementary volumes will doubtless be great, as the number of persons who purchased the Encyclopædia during the past four years was 40,000 in the United Kingdom, while in the States 400,000 sets were purchased.

The supplementary volumes will be eleven in number, and will contain 10,000 articles by 1,000 contributors, selected for their special knowledge, 2,500 new maps, plates, portraits, and other illustrations, in all, about 9,000 pages. To these will be added a very detailed index, comprising references to the old as well as the new volumes, and containing more than 600,000 entries. The publishers have sent us a specimen volume of the new issue, and also a very voluminous prospectus of the whole work, containing many specimen pages and illustrations. From these we are able to judge of the wonderfully complete manner in which the scope of the new issue will be carried out, and for which we must express our admiration. To mention one example, the article on agriculture occupies sixty-one pages, and is fully illustrated by a large number of splendidly reproduced pictures of typical animals of the various breeds, of agricultural machinery, etc. The article is from the pens of Dr. W. Fream, Charles W. Dabney, and other experts.

Other articles of interest to agriculturists are "Adulteration," by Mr. Otto Heiner; "Agricultural Machinery," by Mr. F. C. Skinner; "Allotments," and "The Anatomy of Plants," and also one on "Dairy Farming." All the various articles have been entrusted to men who are thoroughly capable of dealing with the various subjects. For instance, that dealing with "Arts and Crafts," is from Mr. Walter Crane; while Mr. Andrew Long is responsible for the article on "Physical Research." "Modern Music" is entrusted to Mr. J. A. Fuller Maitland, who also is the author of the article on "Bayreuth." Messrs. A. and C. Black, the publishers, have again fortunately secured the co-operation of the "Times," which will assure a large number of subscribers. The first volume was issued on May 2nd, and it is hoped that all will be out by the end of this year.

There has been issued the twenty-seventh annual report for the year ending July 31st, 1901, of the Yorkshire College, Leeds. That part of the report dealing with the agricultural section says that "The great advantages offered by the farm at Garforth to our agricultural students have been highly valued is shown by the fact that 49 individual students attended the courses last session, 45 in the two winter terms, and 27 in the summer, of whom 23 had attended the winter course, a result which must be very encouraging to those who assisted in the foundation of the agricultural department of the college. As a mark of their appreciation of the work done on the Manor Farm, as well as in the college classes and laboratories, the Board of Agriculture added £200 to their previous grant of £800 a year in aid of this department. It is encouraging to note that during the year the North Riding County Council made a grant in aid of the internal work of the agricultural department, and to that extent brought itself into line with the other two County Councils of Yorkshire in their support of this branch of the college. It is to be hoped that before long they will take a full share in the maintenance and management of the whole of the operations of the department."

The second number of the "Agricola Club Journal" of the past students of the South-Eastern Agricultural College, Wye, Kent, has come to hand. A capital photograph of Professor T. B. Smith, who is shortly leaving Wye to take up a Government appointment in South Africa, is given. The number includes several useful articles and the usual domestic matters dealing with the Agricola Club, and its members.

SOCIETIES.

Polo Pony.

Sir Patteson Nickalls (president) occupied the chair at a special meeting of the Council of the Polo Pony Society, held on the 9th inst., to consider the question of the title of the Society.

The chairman, in opening the discussion, pointed out that they had on the agenda six distinct propositions, namely:—

"A.—(a) The Polo Pony Society and Native Pony Breeds Association; or,
(b) The Polo Pony Society and Association for Preservation of Native Breeds."
"B.—The Pony Society.—Established to promote the breeding of ponies for polo, riding, and for military purposes."
"C.—The Riding and Polo Pony Society."
"D.—The Polo and Riding Pony Society.—Established to promote the breeding of ponies for polo, riding, and military purposes."
"E.—The British Riding Pony Society."
"F.—The Riding Pony Society."

He proposed to call upon each member of the Council against whose name these proposals stood, to speak to his resolution, invite discussion from other members present, and read letters from members of the Council who were unable to be present. He therefore called upon Colonel E. N. Henriques to move the proposals marked "A."

Colonel Henriques, in moving the alternative titles in his name thought that it would be inexpedient to obscure the original title under which the Society had become known and had made such great advances. He considered the basis for the present name rested upon the preface by Lord Harrington and Mr. John Hill in their first volume, of which most of their members seemed to have lost sight; in fact, he looked upon it as the Society's charter. He thought therefore that it was most important to retain their present title with any additions rendered necessary by their extended operations, and it would be a misfortune to sever themselves from the name under which they had become so well known. The Society was now on a sound basis and ought to reap the benefits from its earlier struggles. The polo pony was a prototype of the highest class of riding pony, and he thought that there was no other word which so well expressed their objects. The title was, moreover, recognised in official despatches, and the polo pony would not now be taken simply to mean the toy of idle and rich people. Lord Kitchener, in his despatch of December 11th last, specially took as his ideal for all mounted troops the well-bred, weight-carrying polo pony, and therefore the term was now well understood, and he would strongly urge that in the future this name should have a prominent place, giving the other objects of the Society in a subsequent paragraph. People would then have Polo Pony Society in their mouths, but the full meaning of the remainder would be in their minds. He hoped that whatever title was decided upon, that it should not be taken by any snatch vote, but that a strong majority should decide as to the most suitable title.

Mr. T. F. Dale, in urging the title of "The Pony Society," said that what he had stated at the last meeting indicated the position he took up, and which he would briefly recapitulate. The name "Polo Pony Society" was in itself an obstacle; from their point of view it was the standard at which they aimed, from the breeder's point of view the word polo stood in the sense of a rich man's game—a name which, in their eyes, condemned itself. The Society required to be known by a title explaining the wider views and scope of its operations, especially as regards the native breeds. Ponies had increased in numbers and value, interest in their breeding and showing was largely increasing, and the Society should make itself the great National Pony Society of the United Kingdom, and not confine itself to one breed of pony. He had purposely omitted the words "General" from their title, but it could be added later on if thought desirable. He thought the use of the word "Polo" would stand in their way when recognition came from the Government, as they would more likely countenance a national rather than a sectional society which their Society had ceased to be. Their present name would lead people to suppose that it still confined its operations to one class of pony. The name he suggested would at once express their present scope and future operations, and would indicate the position that they would in due course take amongst the other great horse-breeding societies. It was not merely a matter of title, the name was bound up with the future history of the Society. He was able to state that Sir Walter Gilbey was entirely in sympathy with his views, though that gentleman would prefer that the sub-section should read—"Established to promote the breeding of ponies for riding, polo, military, and general purposes." They all knew the interest that Sir Walter Gilbey took in horse-breeding, and his opinion must command their respect.

Mr. John Barker, in supporting Mr. Dale's views, said that the word "Polo" during his year of presidency had frightened off many likely members, as the word was to them only synonymous for an expensive game. If they decided to change the name let it be more comprehensive, otherwise the original title would be best left alone.

Professor Cossar Ewart, who was unable to attend, wrote that since the last meeting he had thought much about the proposed name for the Society, and was of opinion that it should indicate that the Society rested on a wide and comprehensive basis, and should be general enough to admit of their successors being free to adapt themselves to the needs of the day without having to again change the title. On the other hand, he deemed it expedient not to break with the past. The most embracing name suggested was undoubtedly "The Pony Society," though against this name was the absence of the word "Polo," but as polo men seemed to think the absence of their taking word was unimportant, and as the usefulness of the Society in connection with remounts and native breeds was likely to be restricted if "Polo" were retained, it might be better to leave it out in the main title and give it a prominent place in the sentence indicating the objects of the Society. Moreover, the demand for Polo ponies was very large, and would so increase that it was no longer essential that a Society should exist solely to foster their breeding. The time would never come when only the ponies bred by the Society, and included in their register, would be used for playing. At the last meeting he thought that the name suggested by Mr. Goodson—"The Riding and Polo Pony Society"—might meet the case. A visit to the Western Islands of Scotland had, however, led him to think otherwise. These islands were large natural pony farms, and from them in the future most breeders who desired to maintain hardiness and bone would find it expedient to resort for fresh blood. In conclusion, Professor Cossar Ewart suggested an addendum to the title of The Pony Society, embodying under three heads the main objects of the Society.

Mr. A. L. Goodson said the Society was primarily instituted for the encouragement of riding ponies, of which the Polo pony was the highest type. They had later on taken under their ægis the mountain and moorland breeds. Whether this was a mistake or not, they had now to name the Society in such a manner as to cover them also; and taking all things into consideration, he thought that the best name was the "Polo and Riding Pony Society." As Professor Cossar Ewart had withdrawn from supporting his original suggestion at the last meeting of the "Riding and Polo Pony Society," he had pleasure in supporting the proposal standing in the names of the Rev. D. B. Montefiore and Mr. G. Norris Midwood.

The Rev. D. B. Montefiore proposed that the Society should be called the "Polo and Riding Pony Society, established to promote the breeding of ponies for polo, riding, and military purposes, and for the encouragement of native breeds." It seemed, he said, that there was a need for change in the title, and so far as possible it needed some further definition, as the word "Polo" did not sufficiently express the wide objects of the Society, as it did not define all the ponies which the Society encouraged, and therefore he suggested the addition of the word "Riding," in order to widen the title, and also to educate the public to comprehend that useful term, "the riding pony." For the name "The Riding and Polo Pony Society" he claimed the following advantagse: It read better It sounded better. It preserved as much as possible the original title under which the Society had made great strides. It provided that the greater should precede the less, as the term "Polo" included riding, but riding did not necessarily include polo. The next reason was that the polo pony being the highest type of a riding pony, and the type that they were aiming to produce, should precede the term riding; while lastly he contended that the title aimed at would meet the views of those members who were specially interested in the development of the mountain pony, for it was acknowledged, he believed, on all hands that the mountain pony connected with their Society should be of a riding type.

Mr. G. Norris Midwood fully supported the views put forward by Mr. Montefiore. They were pleased to have the opinions put forward on behalf of "The Pony Society," but he failed to see how in the pony world, equally as in the cart-horse world, they could have a large society which would include every breed. They found Shires, Clydesdales, and Suffolks in separate Stud Books, as it was impossible to satisfactorily judge them and classify together. The riding pony was the Society's object, and it would be fatal if they should introduce the driving pony. Mr. Dale had pointed out that the word "Polo" would do

the Society no good when the name of the Society came before the Government. In his opinion he was entirely at variance with Colonel Henriques, who quoted to them the despatches from Lord Kitchener. Mr. Dale had suggested that the polo pony could not be bred, that it wanted educating; but he contended that hunter breeding was in exactly the same position, and that a four-year-old hunter would be just as awkward in the hunting field as the unmade polo pony on the polo ground. He strongly urged that the lines the Society was pursuing in the encouragement of the riding pony was the correct one, and that their Stud Book could not include driving ponies. Therefore, it was necessary the title should clearly indicate their aims.

Mr. E. Mucklow, jun., said that the original pony was of the riding type—"riding and pack ponies." One consideration practically swayed the Hackney judges in the judging ring, and that was action, which was most difficult to reproduce in breeding. He gave his vote cordially in favour of Mr. Montefiore's proposal.

Sir R. D. Green-Price, Bart., thought that the words "polo and riding" were putting the cart before the horse. The polo pony must be a riding pony before he could be a polo pony. He pointed out the danger that was likely to ensue by calling the Society "The Pony Society," as the harness pony breeder would have the same claims for consideration as the breeders of the riding pony, discord would be introduced, and they might fall between two stools. At the same time, he felt inclined to throw in his lot with the proposal of Mr. Dale, provided the objects stood as part of the title. Polo might die out, but the pony would exist, and it was essential that they should not narrow the Society, but that it should aim at doing the greatest good for the greatest number.

Lord Arthur Cecil said that there was a very strong feeling throughout England, Scotland, and Wales that their Society had become so strong that if they could abolish the word "Polo" from their main title, they would obtain the support, not only of the smaller breeder and the breeders of the semi-feral ponies of the mountains and moorlands, but also that of many rich and influential people who at present shied at the name "Polo" as representing an expensive game, unnecessary to encourage for their pockets, and most undesirable for the pockets of farmers required to attend to their business rather than breed a pleasure horse. There was also no doubt that as long as they remained the Polo Pony Society they would continue to be looked upon by the military authorities as a society something like Hurlingham and Ranelagh, merely to promote a form of amusement which increased the expenses of officers, which they professed themselves anxious to reduce, and they also might be chary of having much dealing with us. Again, if they persisted in their attempts to call themselves by any name in which "Polo" formed the prominent word, gradually the native breeds would fall away from them and start Stud Books of their own. The greatest enthusiasm prevailed in the Highlands, not only among many polo breeders, but to such an extent among the crofters that the Congested Districts Board had asked him (Lord Arthur Cecil) to accompany one of their representatives through the Western Islands, in order to prepare a report of the ponies. They seemed prepared to offer the Society every assistance in their power, but it was absurd to suppose that they would encourage crofters to breed polo ponies to carry seaweed in panniers and to starve on the mountains in the winter time. The proposed change in the name was sympathetically watched by the Welsh Cob and Pony Society, so that there would be no difficulty in making this Society a grand national movement. Lord Arthur then detailed the arrangements by which the registration of each mountain breed could be regulated by a local editing committee under the control of the central editing committee in London, who would have sole charge of the section for polo ponies. In conclusion, he said that should this scheme prove the success he anticipated, there would be only one book representing the whole pony world

Mr. T. H. Ormston Pease, speaking as a representative of the Dartmoor section, thought that it was absolutely necessary to keep the word "Polo" in front. The title of the Society should be short, and he therefore agreed with the suggested title, "The Polo and Riding Pony Society," with some alteration of the statement of the objects. He wished to impress on them that the Society should be distinctly limited to riding ponies. If the Welsh Pony and Cob Society wanted to come in they must drop the word "cob." He felt that the addition of the word "riding" would convince the farmers in this country that the Society would be useful to them. At the present time there was much confusion in his locality, and the medals offered by the Society for polo ponies and for Dartmoor ponies were often not given as the Council intended.

The Secretary then read letters from Major Kennedy favouring "The Pony Society," and from Rev. A. E. Green-Price, Mr. A. R. Midwood, and Mr. Clervaux Morley Saunders favouring "The Polo and Riding Pony Society."

The chairman, in summing up the discussion, said that the first question for them to decide was, Was it desirable and necessary to change the Society's name? The various views had been put before them in a most admirable manner, and showed that a change was undoubtedly desirable. He deprecated Lord Arthur Cecil's object in getting rid of the word "Polo" from the main title. The word used in connection with their nine years' existence as a society had attracted a large membership, and had enabled them to carry out a lot of good work, and he thought it would be most disastrous to eliminate the word "Polo" from their title. The words "Polo and Riding Pony Society" seemed to him to meet the necessities of the case.

Colonel Henriques then moved his alternative titles, but no seconder being forthcoming, the next resolution was moved by Mr. Dale, seconded by Mr. Barker, "That the Society should be called 'The Pony Society,' established to promote the breeding of ponies for polo, riding, and military purposes." This was defeated by fourteen votes to four.

The Rev. D. B. Montefiore moved and Mr. G. Norris Midwood seconded, "That the name of the Society should be 'The Polo and Riding Pony Society,' established to promote the breeding of ponies for polo, riding, and military purposes, and for the encouragement of native breeds." To this Mr. Barker moved an amendment to leave the title of the Society as it was, namely, "Polo Pony Society." This was seconded by Mr. Dale, and was lost by five votes to twelve. Mr. Pease's amendment of the sub-title and statement of objects was not upheld.

The Rev. D. B. Montefiore's resolution was then submitted, and was carried by sixteen votes to four; and Lord Arthur Cecil, Rev. D. B. Montefiore, and Sir R. D. Green-Price, Bart., were appointed as a sub-committee to make the necessary arrangements for the registration of the Society under its new title.

Annual Report of The Royal Agricultural Society.

The sixty-third anniversary meeting of Governors and Members of the Royal Agricultural Society will be held at 13, Hanover Square, on May 22nd at noon. The report of the Council will be read, and the election of the president, trustees, and vice-president, and 25 members of Council will take place.

The report of the Council, which will be presented, will show that during the year which has elapsed since the last anniversary meeting in May 1901, 8 governors, 2 honorary members, and 244 members have been admitted into the Society, and 13 members have been reinstated under Bye-law 12; whilst the deaths of 7 governors, 2 honorary members, 118 life members, and 141 annual members have been reported. A total of 319 members have resigned; whilst 17 have been struck off the books under Bye-law 10, owing to absence of addresses, and 67 under Bye-law 11, for arrears of subscriptions.

The Society has now entered into complete possession of the freehold land between Willesden and Ealing which, as announced in the last report, has been acquired for the purpose of a permanent showyard in the Metropolis. The work of preparing the site for the Society's show is being actively proceeded with, and the Council have every reason to hope that, with the co-operation of the railway and other authorities, the show of 1903 will be held on the new site at the usual time of holding the Society's meeting, viz., the week after Ascot. The Council are highly gratified to be able to announce that His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales has been graciously pleased to assent to be placed in nomination for the presidency of the Society during the ensuing year; so that the new series of the Society's annual exhibitions will commence under the happiest auspices.

The Permanent Show Fund now stands at £28,209 7s., contributed by 396 subscribers. Efforts, in which the co-operation of the general body of members is invited, are now being made by the Council to obtain further subscriptions for the capital requisite to equip the site with the necessary appliances and buildings, such as permanent stabling and the more substantial structures of a showyard. The balance-sheet to be presented at the meeting shows the total income of the year to have been £9,481 19s. 1d., and the total expenditure £8,792 3s. 9d.; thus leaving a balance of £689 16s. 3d. to be carried to account. The statments of receipts and expenditure for the Cardiff meeting shows that total receipts were £23,314 2s. 8d., while expenditure was £21,315 18s. 4d., thus leaving a profit of £1,998 4s. 4d. on the meeting. In place of the results of some of the Society's previous shows, we think this result will be found very gratifying by the members.

SOCIETY NOTES.

"The Budget as it affects Agriculture" was considered at the last meeting of the Lincolnshire Chamber of Agriculture. The Brigg, Grimsby, and Boston branches of the Chamber had each passed a resolution in favour of the corn and flour tax, but were in favour of the withdrawal of the cheque tax. These views were subsequently found to be those of the Chamber itself, resolutions embodying them being passed nem con. The members were also unanimously of the opinion that the butter regulations were satisfactory. The report of the Departmental Committee appointed to inquire into the conditions under which agricultural seeds are at present sold was also considered. The Brigg Branch Chamber approved of the report, and was of opinion that one seed testing station would be useful and quite sufficient until it was seen what use farmers made of it. The Boston branch also considered the report satisfactory, and suggested that the Government should be urged to install various stations throughout the country for the better inquiry as to the purity of all seeds, cake, manure, and other similar articles dealt with by the agricultural community. The Chamber eventually adopted the Brigg resolution.

The Worcestershire Chamber recently held a meeting to consider the Education Bill, and several resolutions were passed. It was agreed that it was unfair for Voluntary schools to have to compete with those which were supported by the rates, but objection was taken to the extra rates the Bill would impose, and the following resolution was carried without dissent:—"That education is a national service, the whole cost of which should be borne by Imperial taxation, and not by local rates." It was further agreed that the Agricultural Rates Act should apply to any rate under the Bill. Three other resolutions were unanimously passed:—(1) "That a rate upon the area served by each school would effect greater economy." (2) "That wherever a school possesses endowments those should remain the property of the school"; and (3) "That the permissive clauses of the Bill should be withdrawn." It was decided to send copies of the resolutions to the Central Chamber, the local members of Parliament, and the President of the Board of Education.

The members of the Worcestershire Farmers' Association have also discussed the Education Bill and passed a resolution to the effect that the association was strongly of opinion that any increase of taxation for educational purposes should be thrown upon the Imperial exchequer, and that the association would oppose by every means in its power any system which threw the charge upon the local rates. It was decided to send a copy of the resolution to local M.P.'s and the branch associations.

At the monthly meeting of the Berks and Oxon Chamber of Agriculture the first subject discussed was "the proposals of the Budget so far as they effect Agriculture." One member remarked that he thought the corn and flour tax would do a certain amount of good to agriculture, but he regretted that the Chancellor of the Exchequer had not doubled the duty he put on foreign flour. If he had made it 9d. per cwt. it would have practically been 1s. a bag of 140lb. One effect would have been this—they would have had from 70,000 to 75,000 tons more wheat offals to consume in this country, and it would also bring employment to about 20,000 to 25,000 able-bodied men, whose employment had been lost owing to the closing of the local mills. The extent to which the Chancellor of the Exchequer had gone was for the purpose of raising revenue, and it was not Protection. The rise in the price of wheat was, no doubt, solely due to the scarcity of wheat in the country. Whether the duty had been imposed or not, they must have had this rise. It was not a fictitious rise, but would keep on till the harvest. He moved: "That this Chamber thanks the Chancellor of the Exchequer for the help he has given to agriculture by imposing a registration duty on wheat and an import duty on flour, but regrets he did not see his way clear to double the duty on imported corn." This resolution was carried unanimously.

This Chamber also considered the report of the Committee of the Central Chamber on the conditions under which agricultural seeds are sold. Mr. Leonard Sutton said the committee sat nearly two years ago, and he thought the subject had been on the agenda before the present meeting. "He was a member of that committee, and they sat a great many times and examined a large number of witnesses, most of whom were connected with the seed trade. Generally the report would show them that it was understood the farmer did not want anything done. A few seedsmen agitated for an alteration very strongly, and brought much evidence upon the subject, and thought the new

idea would be useful to them, but because they sent seeds to be analysed would not be any guarantee that all the seeds they sold had been analysed. If every farmer, without exception, sent his seed up to a Government Station to be analysed then the scheme would do, but it would not act if only one farmer here and there had his seed examined. Again, if one hundred or possibly a thousand sent their seed to an analysing station they would have to wait a month or six weeks for the result, and therefore the scheme would not work well on that account. The Committee reported, in guarded terms, that something like that might be done, but Sir Wm. Dyer, head of Kew, and himself signed a minority report, calling attention to the fact that few farmers wanted the scheme, and pointing out the little good it would do unless farmers took an active interest in it. Apparently the Minister of Agriculture, Mr. Long, and Mr. Hanbury had taken the same view, that there was no demand by the farmers for it and that it was not probable they would use it, and if they did not use it, it would do more harm than good." The Chamber subsequently passed a resolution to the effect that no change is needed in the conditions under which agricultural seeds are sold.

A committee meeting of the Suffolk Agricultural Association was held at the Town Hall, Ipswich, on Tuesday afternoon, at which the award of premiums for 1902 to labourers, shepherds, and dairy servants were issued. It was stated that there is every prospect of the Society's forthcoming show being a good one, there being a record entry of stock. Horses number 420, cattle 121, sheep 305, and pigs 2111. The appointed judge of the farriery competition (Mr. P. M. Browne) said he thought the the awards should be made by an expert from the Farriers' Association, as being likely to be more satisfactory, while it would certainly be better for the men, who would not otherwise be entitled to the certificate of the Farriers' Association. He proposed a resolution to that effect, and it was carried unanimously.

At Newark Statute Hirings, held on Wednesday, there was a numerous attendance of farmers, but few servants showed a disposition to be hired, and demanded high prices, waggoners asking £16 to £24, and young farm hands from £14 to £18. Some servants who last year were hired for £17 asked as much as £24, and first waggoners declined to accept less than £27. Very few farmers closed yesterday. There was a great scarcity of female servants.

Chard Fair.—At this fair on Wednesday there was an unusually large attendance of buyers, and the stock made good prices, especially cattle. In sheep, prices were also well up. Single couples fetched 50s. to 55s. 6d.; double, 50s. to 56s. 6d.; hogs, 41s. 6d. to 45s. 9d.; rams, 42s. to 55s.; store ewes, 42s. to 44s.; store wethers, 39s. 6d. to 41s.; chilver hogs, 37s.; fat wethers, 52s. to 53s.; fat ewes, 45s. 5d. to 49s.; fat lambs, 25s. to 29s.

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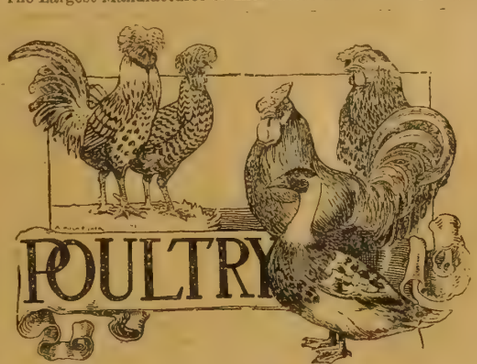
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Rearing Turkeys.

Feeding.

(*Continued from page* 605)

As we have said, the young birds should be fed every two hours during the day, and the last thing at night they should have a feed also. The scalded biscuit-meal should be given for the first meal in the morning, then a mixture of ground oats and middlings, mixed nice and crumbly, then a feed of split groats, and then biscuit-meal again, and so on, always giving groats for the last feed. After they are a week old, whole groats should be given instead of split ones, and when they are three weeks old small, best quality wheat may be substituted for the groats. The young birds should be plentifully supplied with green food. They are very fond of onions, and these chopped *very* finely with young blades of grass, make a good mixture for them. The green food for all young birds requires to be perfectly fresh and crisp, and chopped up *very* small indeed. A little roup powder added to their soft food twice a day will prevent colds and help the birds very much. The green food mentioned should be given in between the feeds in the morning, and in the afternoon may be mixed with some fine oatmeal and substituted for one of the feeds of meal. It is very important that young turkeys be kept perfectly dry. If they are allowed to get damp, and particularly before they are seven weeks old, they nearly always fall victims to inflammation of the lungs.

Constructing a Run.

In order that they may be kept quite dry it is a good plan to have a covered run attached to each coop. The run should have a wooden top and a strip of wire netting of fine mesh, six inches wide, let in along the centre of the two sides, but not at the end. The run should be 18 inches high, and 30 inches long, and this will give six inches of board top and bottom of sides, with the wire netting along the centre, so that the birds have fresh air. The coop and run should always be placed back to the wind, and should there be a storm or a little shower a sack should be covered over the side of the run where the wind blows to keep the birds dry; the other side of run will provide them with fresh air. We find it a good plan to put dry road dust or peat moss dust, to the depth of at least two inches, on the floor of the run, so that the birds' feet are kept quite dry. The run should be fastened on to the coop with small hooks, so that the young birds will be quite safe from cats. In the coop where the hen is dry road dust or peat moss dust should also be used. The young birds may be allowed out during the middle of the day with the hen after they are a fortnight old, when it is perfectly dry and sunny. We cannot sufficiently emphasise the importance of keeping the young birds quite dry. If they are protected from damp, and have good food, and a regular supply of sharp, but fine, grit, they will thrive and grow well; but if they are allowed to get a chill they will die from it; or if they are not fed regularly, that is to say, if several meals are missed out, they run down at once; and if not supplied with grit sufficiently sharp to assimilate their food quickly they will die.

Grit.

The question of sharp grit for the feathered tribes is becoming much better understood than it was formerly, and we are very glad of it, as this is a very important matter. When birds have their liberty they search about and pick up all the sharpest small stones they can get, which go into the gizzard for the purpose of grinding their food; and it is necessary that this habit of these birds should show us that it is need for some material sufficiently hard and sharp to answer this purpose for our birds which are cooped. After the turkey chicks are two days old they should have fine flint grit sprinkled on the board on which they are fed —twice a day—at the time of giving soft food, so that it adheres to this, and is eaten with the food. We believe in a supply of fresh water for young turkeys—this being given to them in a perfectly clean saucer, and renewed as often as necessary. Avoid feeding on a lot of hard-boiled egg, which is much too constipating; good, nutritious cereal food is much better for the birds, and the advantage of a good biscuit meal is, it is a perfectly cooked food.

The addition of finely chopped meat after the birds are a fortnight old is advisable, granulated meat being a good substitute where the meat is not to be had.

After the birds are a fortnight old they should have a little meat. Where insect life abounds, and the young turkeys can have their liberty in the day time, after the dew has gone from the grass, they require very little meat, but where they are unable to get insects they should have the substitute. Biscuit meal is the finest food for them, varying it with a mixture of meals, mixed, dry, and crumbly. Ground oats, barley meal, middlings, and buck wheat meal are all good meals, but we strongly advise turkey rearers to carefully pass all their meals of this class through a fine sieve, so that the husks are removed, as, unless very finely ground, they are apt to cause a stoppage, which is a very serious matter.

As we stated in the preceding article, small wheat of the best quality is the most suitable grain for them, but this can be varied by dari, and to advantage. Provided that the young birds are kept dry, it does them good to have a free run on grass, and farmers should arrange to let their birds run out where sheep are grazing, if possible, after they are fairly strong, as the sheep keep the grass down close, and unless there is a very heavy shower, the birds only get their feet damp, and so do not suffer as they would if on longer grass, so that their fluff was wet. We have found hemp-seed and French buckwheat excellent grains for turkeys when they show signs of getting tired of the ordinary corn they are having. It is not necessary to study to provide a variety after the birds are six or eight weeks old, as they are by that time much stronger, and get more exercise, and consequently have more appetite. After they are two months old barley and maize may be given in change with the wheat, and if care is taken to give them plenty of sharp flint grit of a suitable size to their age, no difficulty will be experienced with liver disease, provided that the birds are bred from unrelated parents.

The young birds need feeding frequently until they are seven weeks old, but when they have passed this age, two feeds of meal and two of grain per day will be ample. They should have plenty of fresh green food, as this is most essential to their well-being. Young onions, dandelion leaves, young lettuce, and mustard and cress, all fresh and finely chopped, are excellent things for them. Care should be taken to prepare a small quantity only at a time, then the birds eat it up greedily, and it does them good, which is not the case when a lot of food is thrown down at once, and it gets tough and stringy. The young birds should remain with the hen about eight or nine weeks, if she continues to brood them well, then they should be removed to a roomy, covered shed, with wire netting front, with dry road dust on the floor to the depth of several inches. A flat perch, at least three inches wide, should be provided, not more than fifteen inches from the ground. Round perches should never be used, as they frequently cause crooked breast bones. We know several turkey rearers who bring their young birds up without allowing them to perch at all.

(*To be continued.*)

Can We Grow Our Food Supply?*

Before we can form an opinion on this question we shall have to examine the resources at our disposal, and obtain some idea of the amount of food necessary to support our population. We must also examine the condition of other nations, and it will be well to study closely those countries which are producing food in much larger quantities than we find it possible to produce under present conditions. It is a lamentable fact that we are farther from being a self-supporting country than we ever were. In England large areas are yearly falling out of cultivation; we have accepted a position of dependence on other nations for the bulk of our food; so general has the custom become of exporting our manufactures and of importing our food. Our notion of national economy for a century has been to absorb raw materials from every country, and to work these up into manufactured goods with which to flood the markets of the world. To this end we have used all our energies to produce goods in vast quantities. We have divided labour, and so specialised effort we have employed machinery and utilised invention, always with the object of increasing output. Success in warfare on sea and land, at the beginning of the last century, opened up the markets of the world to English enterprise; we gained command of the sea, and our commerce extends to the ends of the earth. In spite of the heaping up of national wealth, however, the poverty of the masses has become more acute yearly since we turned our backs on agriculture and allowed this oldest and most important of all the arts to fall into decay. Present industrial developments have been a success in creating vast wealth for the capitalists, but this very success has caused many people to lose sight of essential facts in the true economy of the State, and unless something is done to counteract the satisfaction with what is really false economy we shall be exposed to great dangers as a nation. Conditions are changing rapidly. It is quite possible that this system will shortly become crippled by the competition of other nations. It will then cease to be productive of wealth, and the folly of neglecting all our native resources of obtaining the first necessaries of life will be apparent to all men—even to the capitalists.

One danger of depending on foreign food supplies is the danger of starvation in time of warfare. We are constantly seeing discussions on this subject in the press. A blockade of our ports; an agreement on the part of the nations who send us food to boycott us, would cause us to capitulate to the enemy in a very short time. These are eventualities which occur to the military authorities, and several schemes have been put forward to meet such contingencies. Some of us may recollect a letter recently published in the "Morning Post," in which a tax on imported corn and a bounty to English farmers for growing wheat was advocated. Such a solution would be certain at any rate to raise our daily bread to famine price, whether there was peace or war. A home supply of food stuff would be worth many war ships; it would release many vessels which, in time of war, would be detained in defence of our ports and in convoying ships containing supplies; in short, it would be a method of reducing our steadily mounting national expenditure, which is assuming such immense proportions.

Another danger, and a more probable and definite danger, however, confronts us. We, as a nation, have not the control of the capital and enterprise of the world, and we cannot, therefore, maintain a place in the competition of trade ahead of all other civilised people. Knowledge, technical and theoretical, is becoming more generally diffused; it is a possession shared by many nations, and will be inevitably exercised by them more and more. Manufactures will be carried on all over the world in time to come, often near the actual sources of the supply of raw material, as in the cotton factories now springing up, I believe, in Texas, and threatening Manchester goods. In India rapid progress has been made in the manufacture of cotton; this industry in India is carried on under very bad conditions of labour, but still the output is bound to affect Lancashire very largely. Since it is impossible to prevent nations such as Russia, Germany, or Italy manufacturing for themselves, this danger of losing markets is definite, and can be foreseen as bound to come sooner or later. When it comes it must be met, or there will be another industrial revolution, attended with as great miseries as that occasioned by the introduction of machinery, when thousands were left without employment. The only difference is that the misery occasioned by the rapid application of new inventions was difficult to foresee and to cope with, whereas the difficulties which will be occasioned by over production on account of increasing competition can be foreseen, and could be met by wise statesmanship and by proper foresight on the part of employers.

When the time arrives, as it is fast arriving, when the great food exporting nations have also developed their home industries and manufactures, we shall be thrown back on our own resources, there will have to be a return to the land which is our almost sole source of supply—on the part of the workers who now find employment in tens of thousands in our factories and towns. If these busy workers can be gradually transferred back to the land by wise foresight they can be taught the art of agriculture, horticulture, and kindred pursuits; can, in short, be taught to become actually self-supporting in the highest sense of the word: then we shall become independent as a nation. Then shall we indeed attain a position of "splendid isolation"; producing our own food, and, as far as possible, the raw materials needed for our most urgent manufactures. With such conditions we should have no wastefulness of National resources and no land falling out of cultivation in ever-increasing area; but we should have employment for all our population, under healthy conditions, and, without doubt, a plentiful and cheap food supply.

The Question Abroad.

But is it possible for a country containing upwards of 40,000,000 of people, and with a cultivable area of only 33,000,000 acres to produce for so large a population? It is impossible in the light of modern agricultural achievements, to say how much food can be produced from a given area. This is still an unknown quantity; but it is possible to demonstrate, from what is actually produced annually in several countries in Europe, that a very much greater population than 40 millions could be supported by a cultivable area of 33,000,000 acres. The application of science to agricultural industry has given marvellous results, while new results are constantly being obtained from experiments which show clearly that the soil is capable of even greater results than any that have yet become common. Japan, a civilised nation has a population greater than our own, and a total area smaller than that of the United Kingdom, with a larger percentage of uncultivable land and yet Japan still manages to be a self-supporting country, so far as foodstuffs are concerned. The Japanese, however, live largely upon vegetables and fish, a diet which is very much more economical than the diet to which, through many generations, we have accustomed ourselves. We must rather look nearer home, amongst nations where the conditions of life approach our own more nearly.

There are some surprising statistics and many interesting facts given in Prince Kropotkin's book, "Field, Factories, and Workshops." The correctness of this information, acquired with great care, is generally admitted, and from this work we learn much of the condition of agriculture in Europe. France manages to produce 9-10ths of the total food consumed, and at the same time to export £10,000,000 worth of food-produce to this country. The area under wheat crops in France is six times greater than in England thus, while we can only provide for about 125 inhabitants per square mile, France is able to feed 170 inhabitants per square mile. French agriculturists are by no means at the end of their resources, and are applying the latest theories of science to the improvement of agriculture. The development of horticulture in France is even more surprising. The market gardeners who flourish near Paris have overcome the difficulties of soil and climate. They practically make their own soil, and use acres of glass under which to grow early vegetables and fruits which need protection. It may be added that a very high rent is paid by these gardeners, amounting in the suburbs of Paris to as much as £32 per acre. Land near London could probably be rented for about £15 per acre. This kind of culture involves a great expense of labour and a considerable outlay on apparatus for forcing, irrigation, etc. Without such costly aids and with only 36 yards of frames for seedlings, vegetables are grown in the open air to the value of £200 per acre. The Paris gardener defies soil and climate. It has been said, "He has given to Paris two degrees of latitude." If it were necessary to grow all the food, animal and vegetable, of the two departments in which Paris stands, these practical gardeners maintain that it would be possible to do so. That is to admit that they believe they could produce the food of 1,076 people to the square mile. This is not, after all, impossible when we consider that fifty years ago gardening in France was quite primitive, and that all the advance which has even now been made leaves us but at the threshold of this science. Human invention can possibly achieve remarkable results by the adaptation of invention to many laborious manual operations in gardening. It has been suggested that the mixing and blending of mould may be carried on by machinery as well as the heating of the ground by hot-water pipes. There is probably much still that may be learnt by scientific research about the soil which has been called so appropriately "the living earth."

Now let us look at the

Condition of Agriculture in Belgium.

It is by studying operations in this country that we shall find a conclusive answer to our question. In Belgium we find a wheat-growing area five times greater than in England, growing an average crop of 27 8-10th bushels to the acre. In England it is the custom only to grow wheat on certain picked areas, favoured by natural conditions. The farmer then puts most of his manure on that very restricted area, and by this means we have a reputation for growing an average of 28 bushels to the acre. However, in Belgium they are only a fraction below this average, and yet they have a much greater percentage of area under wheat. In Great Britain we find only one million four hundred and seventeen thousand acres growing wheat out of a cultivable area of 33,000,000 acres. In fact, our reputation for wheat-growing rests on the average obtained from only 25 acres out of every thousand; while, in France, they grow wheat on 146 acres in every thousand, and in Belgium the cereals cover almost half the land available for culture. It is to be feared that the actual figures to-day would give a still more glaring difference, for these statistics are based on figures compiled in 1895, and since that time large areas growing cereals have been either laid down in pasture or have fallen out of cultivation in England.

Perhaps a contrast with Belgium gives us the best idea of the possibilities of food supply, because this country and Belgium have certain points in common. For instance, 1st, the population of Belgium is even denser than that of England and Wales. In Belgium there are 544 inhabitants to the square mile against 373. 2nd, Belgium is a manufacturing country, exporting home-made goods to the value of £9 per head of the population. The total exports of this country attain only £6 7s. per head. 3rd, the soil is not so rich as that of England. 4th, rent is high; in fact, of the rent being raised each nine years, many farmers have lately abstained from further improvements. This is unfortunate for our present inquiry, because we do not know the utmost that could be got out of Belgium soil. From these four facts about Belgium we see there are no special circumstances to account for her agricultural superiority over this country and yet the food of 490 inhabitants per square mile is produced, and there yet remains for export to Great Britain £1,000,000 of food.

In West Flanders, a small and naturally unfertile province, they grow the food of 580 inhabitants per square mile, and still export agricultural produce to the value of 25s. per head of the population. There is in the district of Saffelare, in East Flanders, a territory of 37,000 acres containing a population of 30,000 present inhabitants. These people produce all their own food and keep 10,720 horned cattle, 3,800 sheep, 1,815 horses, and 6,550 swine; they also grow flax, and they are still able to export various agricultural produce. When instances such as these are cited, one sometimes hears vague remarks about rich soil or genial climate. These, however, are not the causes of the wealth of produce here described. The fact is that modern methods of agriculture have completely overcome the natural difficulties of soil and climate, intelligence, and indefatigable industry have been the magic keys which have unlocked the treasure house of agricultural wealth.

Agricultural Prosperity in Jersey.

Let us examine the marvellous results obtained in Jersey in proof of this assertion. This small island is noted for the enormous supplies of vegetables it is able to send to the market, and it also nourishes its own population of two people to the acre. These industrious people have produced extraordinary crops of potatoes, and are famous for the early varieties which they have obtained through their excellent methods of selecting the tubers and in choosing suitable ground on which to grow them. The right kind of manure has been arrived at by dint of untiring experiments on the part of the labourers. They are able to obtain for these early varieties as much as £17 to £20 per ton. The potato crop alone is valued at from £250,000 to £500,000, according to the year, and this is obtained from no more than 7,500 acres under potato culture. As soon as the potatoes are out a second crop of mangold or of a quickly-growing wheat is put in; not a day is lost. There are also large areas under glass; enormous crops of tomatoes and early vegetables and salads are also grown in this way. It would be wearisome to enumerate all the wonders of fertility in Jersey; on the average they are able to obtain £50 worth of produce to each acre of land. While in England we grow six tons of potatoes to the acre, in Jersey they nearly double that average. In Jersey as well as in the Saffelare district of East

* A lecture by Miss M. M. A. Ward, M.C.A., delivered at a meeting of the Tunbridge Wells Farmers' Club.

Flanders) they manage to keep one head of horned cattle to each acre, while two or three acres are required in districts of England which are supposed to be under good cultivation.

When we examine the climate and soil of Jersey there is nothing to account for such productivity. There is an absence of sun-heat during the summer, and the cold winds of spring are prevalent until late, retarding vegetation. They also suffer from fogs and damp, which cause mildew and blight. As for the soil, it consists of decomposed granite with no organic matter originally. That which it now possesses has been made by manuring, first with seaweed and afterwards by shipments of manure and the manure from the live-stock kept by the islanders. We must, therefore, discard peculiarities of climate as accounting for the astonishing results obtained. They are more probably to be found (1) in the difference of land tenure and transfer; (2) in the intelligent industry of the people; and (3) in the fact that the people of Jersey have retained certain communal rights and privileges, such as the right to take the seaweeds; (4) in the communal habits of the people. Their methods of cultivation are not isolated; they have found strong habits of mutual help and support. Their experiments and discoveries have benefited all the cultivators, and have been used for the good of all; lastly, the taxation is light, except in the case of alcoholic liquors.

Land Tenure One of the Causes of Success.

The system of land tenure is instructive. Kropotkin gives a short account of it as follows (quoting from Quayle, and also from Ansted, Latham, and Nicolle): "More than one-half of the territory is owned by those who themselves till the soil; there is no landlord to watch the crops and raise the rent because the farmer has reaped the fruit of his improvements; there is nobody to charge so much for each cart-load of seaweeds or sand taken to the fields. Everyone takes the amount he likes, provided he cuts the weeds at a certain season of the year, and digs out the sand at a distance of 60 yards from the high-water mark. Those who buy the land can do so without becoming enslaved to the money-lender. One-fourth part only of the permanent rent which the purchaser undertakes to pay is capitalised and has to be paid down on the purchase (often less than that), the remainder being a perpetual rent in wheat, which is valued in Jersey at 50 to 54 "sous de France" per cabot. To seize property for debt is accompanied with such difficulties that it is seldom resorted to. Conveyances of land are simply acknowledged by both parties on oath, and cost nearly nothing. And the laws of inheritance are such as to preserve the homestead, notwithstanding the debts the father may have run into."

He further quotes: "In no place do we find so happy and contented a country as in the Channel Islands. The system of land tenure has contributed in no small degree to their prosperity. The purchaser becomes the absolute owner of the property, and his position cannot be touched so long as the interest of these (wheat) rents be paid. He cannot be compelled, as in the case of mortgage, to refund the principal." It is only fair, in quoting the extraordinary agricultural success of Jersey, to point out that there are certain conditions prevailing there which gives cultivators opportunities such as they do not enjoy in England. But it is necessary, perhaps, to point out that these advantages are obtained from causes other than natural fertility and genial climate.

It is interesting to note the trend of agriculture in the great

Wheat-producing areas of America.

We have heard much of the enormous areas annually reaped; the methods of organising labour whereby these areas are brought under a kind of rough cultivation the crop is sown and the labourers disbanded, to be brought on the scene again when the crop is ripe. By farming in this way, getting a small crop from each acre, but having vast prairies growing the wheat, it was calculated that the work of 300 men in a single day delivered to the consumer at Chicago the flour required for the yearly food of 250 persons. Twelve hours and a-half of work was thus sufficient to supply one man with his yearly provision of wheat-flour. This sounds an admirable way of proceeding, but it suddenly failed, owing to the fact that under such a system the soil became exhausted and the crop declined. In Iowa, in 1878, owing to the exhaustion of the soil in this way the whole wheat crop was destroyed by a disease which the debilitated wheat plants had no force to resist, and a terrible crisis followed. The system of culture called intensive agriculture, which aims at high crops on a limited area, was then adopted, and this system of high farming is being more and more adopted in America and Canada. America now produces results very little behind France in wheat culture, and they now grow an average of sixteen and a-half bushels per acre, on an area of more than 2,000,000 acres. But the Americans are not going to stop where they are now. They combine together, usually in groups of four, to buy the reaping and binding machines and other new labour-saving machinery. In short, the force of "American competition" does not lie in the possession of hundreds of acres of wheat in one block, in the mammoth farm system of prairie wheat-growing, but it lies in the ownership of the land, and in the widely-developed spirit of association.

In the States and in Canada experimental farms, under the best scientific conditions, are organised. Researches and experiments are made, the results of which are brought to the knowledge of every farmer in the country; farms are visited, advice is given, correspondence is carried on with the farmers; any farmer can get free samples of any variety of cereals sufficient in a year's time to obtain seed in a year's time to sow several acres. There are also lecturers sent out, and in the remotest townships farmers' meetings are held, local agricultural societies are formed, and discussions take place relating to every branch of of agriculture. The great point is that the farmers keenly appreciate these advantages, and take every possible opportunity of benefiting by them.

Causes of Agricultural Decay in England.

Why is it that agriculture is not advancing in England? Why are we told "it does not pay" in a country so populated? It is proved beyond question that agriculture is declining in England at a rapid rate. It certainly does not pay under present conditions, or this would not be the case; we should not have large areas passing out of cultivation if it were possible to farm English soil profitably. Every fact seems to point out that it is getting increasingly difficult to grow profitably foodstuffs for our home markets. It it be true that existing conditions cause this state of affairs, they should be examined closely and remedies should be earnestly sought and vigorously applied. We must conclude from the result of observations that the great factors of soil and climate are not to blame, because we have already seen that countries less favoured in these respects are able to beat us. We are certainly behind the rest of Europe and America in methods of culture, but is that altogether because they are better informed? Supposing agriculture were a profitable art in this country, and the only reason we failed was want of knowledge, do you not think it more than probable that enterprising farmers from abroad would step in and farm the land in England, instead of staying where they were and producing stuff which they have to send to markets here? There seems no ostensible reason to prevent this, except this excellent reason that conditions prevailing in this country are not favourable to agriculture.

The real cause of the decline of this most important art is the faults of the system under which we live. Very largely because of the conditions of land tenure. Land is allowed to become starved and foul; there is nothing to prevent a farmer who pays regular rent from starving the soil, if it suits his pocket to do so. And yet soil which is neglected positively dies; that is to say, it loses to a great extent its power of humifying manurial deposits; it loses its very life; and it can only be brought back to a high state of productivity after years of attention. This letting down of the fertile power of the soil is constantly happening, under the condition of land tenure which is prevalent. Another death-blow to agriculture is

The High Railway Rates.

So long as railway rates prevent the grower in Kent or Essex placing his crop on the market as cheaply as the grower in Belgium or Holland, it seems hopeless to expect a great advance in English horticulture. It is almost impossible for growers in the far counties to attempt to compete with foreign produce. If they could grow the stuff they could not put it on the market. Let us take a few examples in illustration of this assertion. French eggs are carried from the North of France, via Southampton, to London, 78¾ miles of the journey by rail, at the rate of 25s. per ton; from Winchester or Andover, 66½ miles, the same railway carries English eggs at the rate of 45s. per ton. French poultry is carried for 35s.; English, 45s. per ton. French butter for 20s.; English for 45s. per ton. Foreign hops are carried from Southampton to London for 6s.; while English hops for shorter distances are charged 20s. 10d. Foreign apples are 5s.; English, the same quantity, 12s. 11d. These figures are quoted from a work entitled "National Railways," by J. Hole. Such rates as these constitute a bounty on foreign goods, and are a great injustice to English growers.

Decrease of Agricultural Labourers.

Our declining agriculture is also due to the fact that so few people are employed in cultivating the soil. The agricultural labourers in England are decreasing at an alarming rate. In 1861 the agricultural labourers numbered 2,100,000, in 1884 they numbered 1,383,000, in 1891 they numbered 1,311,720. Kropotkin describes a tour he took in several agricultural districts in England. He finds no men at work in the fields and he reflects that while 16,000,000 of our population belong to the unproductive classes only 1,311,720 are farm labourers. It is obviously impossible for 1,300,000 men to properly cultivate 33,000,000 acres. Again, he finds fields round Harrow, close to London, producing only two tons of hay per acre. In France each 1,000 acres would be cultivated by at least 2,000 human beings. In South Devon he finds large areas laid down in permanent pasture; this form of cultivation he speaks of in despair. Weeds and thistles grow abundantly on the land which has been fenced and drained by the industry of our forefathers. On every hand he finds abandoned cottages, and orchards in ruin and at the same time South Devon is remarkable for its fertile soil and genial climate, permitting the production of a potato crop as early as May. He instances a farm of 370 acres, which only employs four labourers; another, of 300 acres, employs two men and two boys; another, of 800 acres, employs five men and five boys. He sums up his observations by the remark that the problem of cultivating the soil seems to have been solved by not cultivating it at all.

Let us, therefore, do all we can to bring about a discontent with the present system. The first step towards getting anything is to want it. Let us learn more about the land, and strive to understand it; let us study nature more intelligently and more reverently, and so find out some of the still hidden secrets of this living earth by which we live. Perhaps by taking some practical interest in cultivation ourselves we might be inculcating and disseminating a national love of the green fields and the fresh air, which will not only benefit us physically, but which will create that divine discontent with things as they are, without which nothing can be changed. We must learn to love the soil, and not despise it, and once we love it we shall want to possess and use it.

Conclusions.

We have very briefly noted some of the achievements of modern agriculture, and the conclusion we may therefore come to, based on the known facts presented, has been summed up by Kropotkin thus: "(1), If the soil of the United Kingdom were cultivated only as it was 35 years ago, 24,000,000 people, instead of 17,000,000, could live on home-grown food; and that culture while giving occupation to an additional 750,000 men, would give nearly 3,000,000 wealthy home customers to the British manufacturers." "(2), If the cultivable area of the United Kingdom were cultivated as the soil is cultivated on the average in Belgium, the United Kingdom would have food for at least 37,000,000 inhabitants; and it might export agricultural produce without ceasing to manufacture so as freely to supply all the needs of a wealthy population." And finally, (3rd), "if the population of this country came to be doubled, all that would be required for producing the food for 80,000,000 inhabitants would be to cultivate the soil as it is cultivated in the best farms of this country, in Lombardy, and in Flanders, and to utilise some meadows, which at present lie almost unproductive, in the same way as the neighbourhoods of the big cities in France are utilised for market gardening. All these are not fancy dreams, but mere realities; nothing but the modest conclusions from what we see round about us, without any allusion to the agriculture of the future."

Can we, therefore, produce our own food on our own island? We can, if we re-organise our methods of dealing with the land, and so make it possible to increase the fertility of the soil in accordance with the principles now recognised by modern agricultural specialists.

Ripon May Cattle Fair.—At this fair, held on Tuesday, there was a fair show of grazing beasts and milk cows, but trade was very slow on account of the continuance of cold weather and the unusually bare condition of pasturage at this time of the year. Anything likely for beef sold well, but grazers had a lower tendency. Useful milk and calving cows made £14 to £20, two-year-old heifers £8 to £12, two-year-old bullocks £9 to £10, yearlings £6 to £7, and three-year-old bullocks £12 to £14 each.

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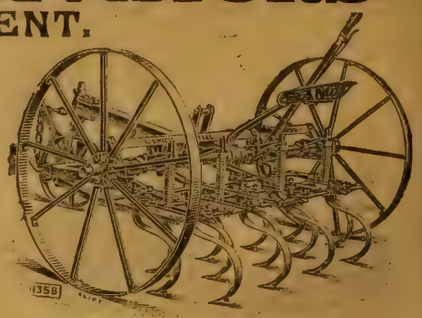
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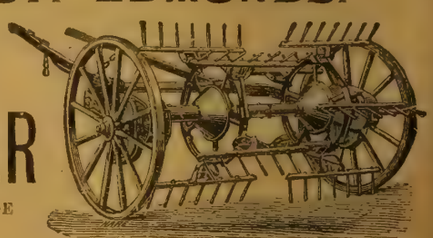
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VOL. LXXXVI. No. 3687. LONDON, MONDAY, MAY 26, 1902. THIRTY-TWO PAGES. PRICE 3D.

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(Founded June 1894.)

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HON. TREASURER.—E. ALBERT WHITE, Esq., Beltring, Kent.
SECRETARY.—THOMAS IRONMONGER.
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Entries close on Saturday, June 14th. Late Entries will be received up to June 23rd on payment of double fees.

Schedules, Forms of Entry, and particulars may be had on application to

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THE THIRTEENTH ANNUAL
OF THE
THORNEY SHIRE FOAL SOCIETY
JULY 17th, 1902,
IN THORNEY PARK.

ENTRIES CLOSE JULY 7TH.

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POLLED HERD BOOK, VOL. XXVII.

ENTRIES CLOSE on JUNE 2nd next. Schedules will be forwarded on application to the Secretary.

ALEX. RAMSAY, Secretary.
9, Old Market Place, Banff,
May 5th, 1902.

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J. H. R. HORWOOD. Pedigree Berkshires, one of the best breeders in England. Several 1st and Champions again this year. Very choice Pigs exported all over the World, and for Sale, at very reasonable prices.—Manor Farm, Drayton Beauchamp, Tring.



MORANT, EDWARD J., Pedigree Berkshire Pigs. Strains: Lord Carnarvon, A. Hiscock, jun., N. Benjafield, Edney, Hayter, and others. Boars and Gelts always for sale.—Apply Manager, Dilton, Boldre, Lymington, Hants.

MIDDLE WHITES.

DEWHIRST A., Ryecroft Farm, Dudley Hill, Bradford.—Pedigree LARGE and MIDDLE WHITE PIGS. Also few BERKSHIRES for sale. All bred on farm. 200 to select from. One champion, 28 firsts, 24 seconds, 15 thirds won this year.

ASHFORTH JOSEPH, Dronfield, Sheffield, offers Large and Middle-white Breeding Pigs; herd established over quarter of a century; prices moderate.

ILLINGWORTH, W. H., Honington, Bury St. Edmunds, Pure-bred Middle White Yorkshire Pigs. Quality and Pedigree of the finest. Inspection invited, or actual photos of Pigs sent. Trains met by appointment. Tel.: Ixworth.

LARGE WHITES.

DALMENY HERD of LARGE WHITE PEDIGREE PIGS, the property of the Earl of Rosebery, K.G. YOUNG BOARS and SOWS of the very best quality and choicest breeding for SALE at moderate prices.—Apply, MANAGER, Home Farm, Dalmeny Park, by Edinburgh.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, Stoke Farm Herd Large White Pigs, est. over 20 years. Boars and Gelts at moderate prices. Inspection invited.—A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

LARGE AND MIDDLE WHITE YORKSHIRE PIGS.—HERD of Mr. Manners' (President National Pig Breeders' Association) choice Boars and Gelts of the best strains; winners of silver and bronze medals Paris International Exhibition.—Apply MANAGER, Fornham Pk., Bury St. Edmunds.

OWTRAM, HERBERT H., Newland Herd Pedigree Large White Yorkshires, all entered or eligible for Herd Book. Winners of many Prizes leading shows.—BAILIFF, Newland Hall, Bay Horse Station, Lancaster.

PIGS—Splendid Young, Pure-bred, Large White Yorkshire Boars and Gilts for Sale; also Sows in pig, bred by owner from best blood obtainable; prices moderate; inspection solicited. HERBERT GROOM, Wissett Hall, Halesworth.

LARGE WHITE YORKSHIRE PEDIGREE PIGS of choicest breeding, all eligible for Herd Book, young sows and boars for sale; inspection invited.—Particulars from R. AYRE, Bushey Lodge, Watford, Herts, 17 miles from Euston, London.

BORROWFIELD Herd of Large White Pigs. Unprecedented success of this strain at the Royal and other Shows. Send for Illustrated Catalogue to JOHN BARRON, Elvaston House, Borrowash, Derby.

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LARGE BLACK PIGS.—Pedigree young Boars and Gilts always for sale, of the best prize-winning strains; oldest established herd in Sussex.—ROBINSON, Iford, Lewes, Sussex.

YORKSHIRES.

NEWNHAM HALL HERD of Improved Pedigree Yorkshire Pigs is one of the largest Herds of pure-bred Pigs in the United Kingdom. Boars and Gilts at moderate prices.—NEVILLE J. HINE, Newnham Hall, Baldock, Herts.

POULTRY.

MORDAUNT-LAWSON, Mrs., Evening Hill Poultry Farm, near Carlisle, Breeder and Exhibitor of Old English Game Fowls, Dorkings, and White Leghorns. High-class birds only. Correspondence invited.

AUCTION SALES.

FIXTURES FOR 1902.

MESSRS. WATERS AND RAWLENCE beg to give Preliminary Notice of the following IMPORTANT SALES OF REGISTERED HAMPSHIRE DOWN RAMS, BREEDING FLOCKS, and LIVE AND DEAD FARMING STOCK.

SALISBURY FAIR.—TUESDAY, 15th JULY.
Great Annual Sale of Pedigreed EWES AND LAMBS
from well-known Flockmasters.

MONDAY, 21st JULY.
WATERS PLACE FARM, WARE, HERTS.
Annual Sale and Letting by Auction, on the Premises of
RAM LAMBS, RAMS, AND EWES,
the property of Mr. T. F. Buxton.

WEYHILL FAIR.—25th JULY.
Annual Sale and Letting of RAM LAMBS AND RAMS,
the property of the Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon.

FRIDAY, 25th JULY.
WEYHILL FAIR.
Annual Sale and Letting of RAM LAMBS AND RAMS,
the property of Mr. H. C. Stephens, Cholderton.

WEYHILL FAIR.—25th JULY
The entire registered, old-established GREENHAM FLOCK, the property of Mr. L. H. Baxendale, who is reducing the area of land he is farming and giving up Ram Breeding.

MONDAY, 28th JULY.
FLAMSTEADBURY, REDBOURN, ST. ALBANS.
The entire Registered
BREEDING FLOCK AND RAM LAMBS,
the property of Mr. W. B. Greenfield.

TUESDAY, 29th JULY.
MARKET HOUSE, SALISBURY.
The Annual Sale and Letting of RAM LAMBS AND RAMS,
the property of Mr. Joseph Dean, Chitterne.

THURSDAY, 31st JULY.
ALRESFORD FAIR, HANTS.
Annual Sale of RAM LAMBS AND RAMS,
the property of Mr. E. Whalley-Tooker, of Hinton Daubney, Horndean; and Mr. J. Bonham-Carter, Eastmeon.

THURSDAY, 31st JULY.
ALRESFORD FAIR, HANTS.
A Selection of RAM LAMBS and the small but well-bred Registered
HAMPSHIRE DOWN FLOCK
of Mr. Edward Lyne, of Compton, who is giving up the farm.

FRIDAY, 1st AUGUST.
ILSLEY FAIR, BERKS.
Annual Sales of RAM LAMBS AND RAMS,
from the Flock of Mr. C. A. Scott-Murray, Hambleden, Henley-on-Thames.

FRIDAY, 1st AUGUST.
ILSLEY FAIR, BERKS.
(in conjunction with Messrs. Dreweatt and Watson, Newbury), the entire Registered
BREEDING FLOCK AND RAM LAMBS,
of Mr. R. Osmond, Weston, Lambourn, Berks, who is giving up Ram Breeding.

MONDAY, 4th AUGUST.
STRATFORD-SUB-CASTLE, SALISBURY.
The Annual Sale and Letting by Auction of RAM LAMBS AND RAMS,
the property of Mr. W. C. Young, on the Premises.

TUESDAY, 5th AUGUST.
MARKET HOUSE, SALISBURY.
The Annual Sale and Letting of RAM LAMBS AND RAMS,
from Mr. Dibben's Bishopstone Flock.

FRIDAY, 8th AUGUST.
MANOR FARM, WINTERBOURNE STOKE
Annual Sale and Letting of RAM LAMBS AND RAMS,
the property of Mr. Cary Coles, on the Premises.

TUESDAY, 12th AUGUST.
BRITFORD FAIR.
One Mile from Salisbury.
The Annual Sale and Letting of RAM LAMBS AND RAMS,
from Mr. James Flower, Chilmark.

BRITFORD FAIR.—12th AUGUST.
Annual Sale and Letting of RAM LAMBS AND RAMS,
from the Highly-bred Flock of Professor Wrightson, College of Agriculture, Downton.

BRITFORD FAIR.—12th AUGUST.
Annual Sale and Letting of RAM LAMBS AND RAMS,
from the well-known Flock of Mr. A. F. T. Drake, Dogdean.

BRITFORD FAIR.—12th AUGUST.
Annual Sale of RAM LAMBS,
from the Flock of Sir E. H. Hulse, Bart., Breamore.

BRITFORD FAIR.—12th AUGUST.
Great Annual Sale of Pedigreed EWES AND LAMBS,
as heretofore.

AUCTION SALES.

Messrs. Waters & Rawlence's Sales—*cont.*

TUESDAY, 19th AUGUST.
MARKET HOUSE, SALISBURY.
Sale of
RAM LAMBS AND RAMS,
from Mr. H. C. Stephens, Cholderton.

WEDNESDAY, 20th AUGUST.
THE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE
Registered BREEDING FLOCK,
the property of Professor Wrightson, who is relinquishing Ram Breeding.

THURSDAY, 28th AUGUST.
HAZELDOWN, LONGSTOCK, HANTS.
The entire Registered
BREEDING FLOCKS,
on this and the Leckford Farm, by order of the executors of the late Mr. J. East, on account of the Farms being sold.

FRIDAY, 12th SEPTEMBER.
WILTON GREAT SHEEP FAIR.
The great Annual Sale as heretofore of Pedigreed EWES, LAMBS AND RAMS, from many leading Flocks.

Catalogues of the above Sales will be issued in due course, and may, when ready, be obtained of the Auctioneers, at the Registered Office of the HAMPSHIRE DOWN SHEEP BREEDERS' ASSOCIATION, Canal, Salisbury.

HERD OF JERSEY COWS AND BULL.

THE HOME FARM, SEAL, SEVENOAKS, KENT, about one mile from S. E. & C. Ry. Station.

MESSRS. CRONK have received instructions from the Right Hon. Lord Hillingdon and W. M. Cazalet, Esq., to SELL by AUCTION, at the above, on Wednesday, May 28th, 1902, at 2 for 2.30 o'clock, a Superior Herd of 35 PURE BRED JERSEY COWS and HEIFERS, and an Excellent 2-year-old BULL. The Auctioneers have great pleasure in drawing the attention of Breeders and others to this Herd of Jersey Cows; the sires have been selected with great care and at considerable outlay, and have produced some excellent animals, and there are several beautiful animals among the Herd in excellent condition.

On view day previous to sale. Catalogues of F. G. BURROUGHES, Esq., Estate Office, Seal; C. L. FOX, Esq., Home Farm, Shipbourne; and of Messrs. CRONK, Land Agents and Surveyors, Sevenoaks, Kent, and 12, Pall Mall, S.W.

MISCELLANEOUS.

VESICO SUDORIFIC.—No Blemish! No Rest! No Cradle! Vesico Sudorific is the quickest, safest, and most famous cure for Splint, Spavin, Ringbone, Sidebone, Capped Hock and Elbow, Curb, Windgall, Tumours, and for Strengthening the legs of Horses. Price 2s. 6d. or 5s., of Chemists, or post free, GREGORY & CO., Temple, Bristol.

ALEXANDRA CREAM SEPARATORS are the most durable and efficient. Sent on free trial. Butter Churns, Milk Coolers. Testers, Railway Cans, and all dairy requisites at lowest prices.—R. A. LISTER & CO., Dursley

POWDER FOR DESTROYING LICE in CATTLE and HORSES, a sure remedy, simply sprinkled, and no washing required, and quite harmless, 1s. per lb., over 3lb. post free.—E. RUMSEY WILLIAMS & CO., Rhuddallt Fawr, Carnarvon.

CORRUGATED GALVANISED ROOFING Complete Roofs, Iron Fencing, Gates, Netting, Tubes, Felt, Troughs, Cisterns, and every Farm Requisite. Catalogues free.—J. A. REEVE, Stony Stratford.

FARM SEEDS, special offer for Clovers, Rye Grasses & Natural Grasses, Mangel, Swede, and Turnip Seeds. Special Bone Manures for all Crops. Pure Raw, Dissolved, and Steamed Bones, Superphosphates, &c. Large Illustrated Catalogue, Post Free. Best Values. Lowest Prices.—The CANNOCK AGRICULTURAL Co., Ltd. H.R. HART, Managing Director, Cannock, Staffs.

SPECIAL OFFER.—Galvanised Wire Netting, 50 yards, 3ft. wide, 3in. mesh, 4s. 4d.; 2in., 5s. 3d.; 1½in., 7s. 2d.; 1in., 9s. 8d. Poultry Houses, Roofing Felt, Galvanised Corrugated Iron, Garden Seats, &c.; lists free.—JOHN ADAMS, Iron Merchant, Leicester.

TRACTION ENGINES and WAGONS, Portable, Ploughing, and Fixed Engines, Thrashing Machines, &c., second-hand, for Sale, cheap, or to be Let on Hire-purchase. Full list free. Inquiries for all classes of Machinery solicited. Largest stock in England to be seen at our Works as below. We are also buyers of good modern Engines at all times, for cash. Large stock of Beltings, Oils, and Engineers' Requisites of all descriptions.—HENRY LEWIS & SONS, Thames Bank Iron Works, Reading.

COW MILKER! COW MILKER! The Celebrated self-acting Cow Milker supersedes hand labour. Milk each cow in four minutes effectually. Price 6s. each delivered.—Circular, with testimonials, on application, N. BUCHANAN, 9, Sandon Place, Sheffield.

RATS CAN BE AT ONCE KILLED by laying down SANFORD'S POISON! They take it readily, and are found dead. "I found 42 rats dead with it in my wheat stack.—JOHN HALL, Morden." Cats and dogs won't touch it. Farmers who have used it say it is the best they ever tried. Also POISON FOR KILLING MICE in corn stacks, and POISON FOR KILLING MOLES on land. Post free 1s. 2d., 2s., and 3s., of SANFORD & SON, Sandy, Beds.—Sold by chemists.

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BASIC SLAG, Kainit, Bones, Bone Meal, Superphosphate, &c. State quantities required and station, when prices, analysis, &c., will be sent by return of post. CLEMENT—SWAFFIELD, Derby.

BEST & CHEAPEST MANURE for all farm and garden crops, "NATIVE GUANO," a safe and reliable fertiliser, and an effectual remedy for fly, slug, wire-worm, &c.; price £3 10s. per ton in bags, 2 ton lots carriage paid, 1 cwt. paid to any station in England on receipt of P.O. for 5s. Extracts from 26th annual collection of reports: Native Guano for Grass, Grain, and Root Crops. G. Dickson, Selby: "Oats and barley did well Heavy crop of cattle cabbage. Highly satisfied." E. Stanford, Warnham: "Clover good. Stopped fly on turnips. A good manure." H. O. Habberfield, Forestfach: "Oats 60 bushels per acre. Mangolds, best crop I ever had. Very pleased." W. Price, Hardwick: "A cheap and good manure for clover and swedes." J. Knight, Wisbech St. Mary: "Very good crops of mangolds and potatoes. Biggest and finest potatoes I ever had." W. Allsopp, Bloxwich: "Mangolds the finest crop ever seen on the farm. Swedes excellent." G. W. Gilbert, Boultham: "Cannot speak too highly of it for wheat; answers well for grub and wire-worm.' J. Powell, Lulsley: "Hops, a very good crop.' —Orders to the NATIVE GUANO CO., LIMITED, 29, New Bridge Street, London, E.C., where TESTIMONIALS FROM ALL PARTS AND FOR ALL CROPS MAY BE OBTAINED. AGENTS WANTED.

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PUBLICATIONS.

THE NEW ZEALAND FARMER. Bee and Poultry Journal. An illustrated monthly publication, containing practical and scientific information on Farming, Stock Breeding, Cattle, Horses, Sheep, Dairying, Fruit Growing, &c. The only paper entirely devoted to Farming matters and circulating throughout the Colony. Price 1s.; by post, 1s. 2d. Proprietors, The Brett Printing and Publishing Co., Ltd., Auckland. London Manager, R. B. BRETT, 2 and 3, Imperial Buildings, Ludgate Circus, London, E.C.

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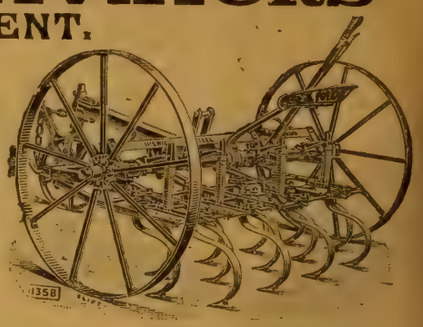
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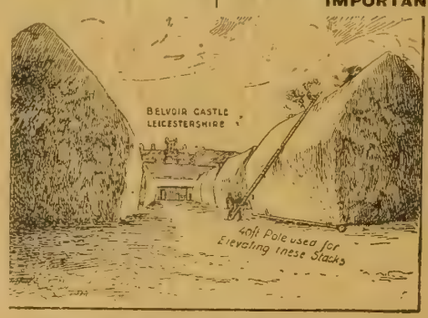
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At the official field trials at Lodi, Italy, July, 1901, lasting several days, the Deering Machines received the very Highest Awards, as follows:—

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Will close without Spanner or Screw in a few minutes, the 12ft. to 8ft. 4in., the 16ft. to 10ft., for passing gateways.

The great merits of this Rake are now well recognised, and reference to sample repeat orders gives a guarantee of the fact. Its substantial construction of the best steel, its lightness in work for boy and horse, the absence of complication, and the labour and time saving advantages of its great width must bring it more to the front.



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From John T. Woolley, The Castle Auction Mart, Salisbury, June 22nd, 1900.—Dear Sir,—Please quote me by return of post lowest cash price for one of your large Telescope Horse Rakes, similar to the one which I had last year.

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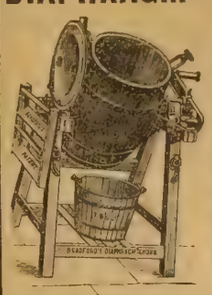
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DISEASE ENDANGERMENTS OF LIVESTOCK INTERESTS.

The Shorthorn Society has recently issued a statement which, although of an extremely gratifying nature, will nevertheless excite melancholy feelings on perusal. This is the list of exportation certificates granted from March 4th to May 6th this year. They number 228 altogether, 106 of them being for consignments to South America, 74 for Russia, 44 for Canada, 2 for the United States, and 2 for South Africa. Gratifying indeed is the consideration that the export demand has extended to these dimensions for one breed of cattle, and the fact that Russia has traded to this large extent must be especially pleasing to Shorthorn breeders. But there cannot but be bitter mingled with the sweet in the reflection that so large a proportion of the whole, amounting to nearly one-half, was for a quarter of the globe to which export has ceased altogether since, owing to an unfortunate outbreak of foot-and-mouth-disease—in reality of a trifling nature—in a flock of sheep in Kent, which was stamped out almost as soon as the spark was discovered.

Mortifying is it to think on what slight threads stupendous results sometimes depend. But for this petty foot-and-mouth outbreak, the enormous trading for the Argentine, which commenced so hopefully, would have continued throughout the present year, and our Shorthorn breeders and many other owners of pure-bred stock would have derived considerable emolument therefrom. But all at once, an important enterprise has been shipwrecked, and that, too, by mere alteration of a single word in the Argentine Ordination relating to the importation of British stock into the dominions of the Republic. In the manifesto which threw open the ports it was declared that all animals coming from a "county" in which there had been no contagious disease for twelve months, should be admitted. But since the Kent outbreak, the word "county" has been altered to "country," which of course excludes the whole of British stock. There may be some slight hope that our Board of Agriculture may be able so thoroughly to convince the Government of the Argentine Republic of the harmless nature of the late outbreak and the pre-eminently healthy character of livestock generally throughout the British dominions, that the wording of the ordination may soon be restored to its original phraseology.

But there are wheels within wheels, and there was evidently great disappointment in Argentina that our Government did not show reciprocity, when the South American ports were thrown open, by making our ports again free for the admission of South American live fat cattle and sheep, to be slaughtered on landing, as they used to be. A similar assurance to the one sent hence came from Argentina at the time that their country likewise had a clean bill of health, and no doubt it was thoroughly expected that our Government would have responded to the concession made on that side by at once restoring the free reception of Argentine stock for slaughter. Meantime, the London Meat Traders' Association is agitating for this to be done, and recently went in a deputation to Mr. Hanbury to urge the matter. The supply of American cattle from the States and Canada has fallen off owing to the bad maize crop of last year, and the consequent greater expense of the Trans-Atlantic graziers to feed them. The London butchers evidently desire Deptford to be as fully supplied with foreign meat as possible; hence their demand.

Turning to quite another feature of a very great subject, disease has evidently lessened the numbers of pigs, both at home and abroad, and made pork and bacon dear. In 1899 the breeding sows in Great Britain numbered 375,911, and there were 2,247,902 other pigs. In 1900 the respective numbers had declined to 332,521 and 2,049,411. Last year the census returns were 319,724 and 1,860,201. The total number of pigs in Great Britain decreased from 2,623,813 in 1899 to 2,179,925 last year. The cause was undoubtedly the enormous losses and harrassing difficulties of pig-keeping owing to swine fever outbreaks. In 1898 they had increased to 2,123 from 1,960 in the previous year. In 1899 they numbered 2,064, and with a still further decline to 1,659 in 1900 led to the hope that the Board of Agriculture would eventually be successful in bringing the contagion to a low ebb. But, alas! when the return of 1901 came out, it was found that the outbreaks had increased to 2,898, a larger number than for any year since 1896. Since then the Board of Agriculture has wisely enforced more stringent Orders for regulating the trade of pig-dealers and for disinfection. A special staff of veterinary inspectors has also been appointed, with instructions which give them discretionary powers to order the slaughter of diseased and in-contact pigs. Very much is it to be hoped that this new system is working satisfactorily, as there has certainly been of late a considerable decrease in the number of outbreaks. For instance, in the veterinary report adopted on the 7th inst., at the May Council Meeting of the Royal Agricultural Society, it was declared that the number of outbreaks for the preceding four weeks had been 123, whereas in the corresponding period of 1901 there had been 462, a highly satisfactory decrease surely. But this was not the only portion of the Council's Report just alluded to which had a thorough bearing on the subject being treated on, for it was declared that the existing Swine Fever Orders for Cumberland and Carlisle would absolutely have rendered it to have been impossible for any pigs to have appeared at the coming Carlisle Show, had not the local authority consented to suspend their operations so as to allow the pigs entered for exhibition from healthy districts to appear. So that pig exhibitors may deem it an extremely fortunate

circumstance that by the merest chance the same thing did not happen this year as proved to be a lamentable incidence of the York Show of 1900—a crippled display, devoid of the porcine element.

However damaging the disease itself and the working of the Swine Fever Orders to suppress it may be to porcine interests and the industries connected with them, they do not prevent large gatherings of pedigree pigs at shows that can have them. Thus there are 178 entries of pigs for the Carlisle Show, against 141 last year at Cardiff, and 147 at Maidstone in 1899. At the Plymouth Show of the Bath and West also, to open to-morrow, there will be a satisfactory display of the porcine breeds. The entries number 103; not quite so many as at Croydon last year, where the entries reached 130, but a good average number nevertheless.

TRANSPORT FACILITIES—IMPROVED MEANS OF LOCOMOTION.

Great changes have been witnessed of recent years in the direction of improved transport facilities. The advent of steam and electric power has placed our principal markets in close and easy contact with the grower. Market gardeners and fruit growers near the Metropolis have more especially profited by the increased opportunities they have in getting their perishable produce to the consumer with celerity and despatch. Possibly the greatest step was made when it was found possible to make use of the motor waggon, for it is claimed that this method is not so expensive as using horse haulage for the purpose, while it certainly renders the grower to a great extent independent of the railway companies, and at the same time enables him to dispense with a large stud of horses. As an example of how this traffic has developed, we may mention that a large firm of Kentish fruit growers have recently commenced to despatch daily to the London markets a motor waggon capable of taking a load of five tons. This vehicle successfully negotiates a journey of forty miles each day, and certainly ought to open up a new era in road locomotion, and solve a great many of the transport problems which are now demanding attention. There can be but little doubt that there are vast possibilities in front of road locomotives, more especially for the transportation of heavy loads over considerable distances and at regular intervals.

We regret to announce the death of Mr. George Gregson, a well-known gentleman farmer, who died on Wednesday at Warden Law, East Durham, at the age of 88. He was a solicitor by profession, but did not practice, and farmed his own estate. Mr. Gregson formerly kept greyhounds, and was well known at all the coursing meetings in the North of England. During his sporting career he won the Waterloo Cup. He was a county magistrate. He leaves a widow and a married daughter.

Grain Warehouse Destroyed by Fire.—A fire that soon assumed disastrous proportions broke out at the premises of the Grain and General Warehousing Company, Limited, a huge eight-storey building on Newcastle Quayside, on Wednesday morning. The interior of the building being of wood and full of dry grain, the flames spread with great rapidity. The three top stories were soon completely destroyed, and the burning of the bins liberated great quantities of grain, which, after falling to the lower part of the building, poured through the windows and doors into the street, where it accumulated in great quantities. The extent of the damage cannot at present be estimated, but it must be very considerable. One firm in Newcastle, whose mills were burnt down only a short time ago, had corn stuff to the value of £2,500 stored in the warehouse.

Lancaster Hirings.—The first Whitsuntide hiring at Lancaster was held on the 17th inst. There was a large attendance, but not much business done. The average for first-class males was £18, second-class £16, and youths £5 to £10 5s. There were very few female servants, and they were asking £14 and over.



By a Man of Mark Lane.

It is in the experience of everyone that cold in May is very uncomfortable and trying. There is no evidence, however, says the "Lancet," that the cold of spring has the same unfavourable effect in general upon the public health as has the cold of autumn and winter. According to the weekly vital statistics, the present spell of cold weather does not seem unfavourably to have affected the death-rate. On the contrary, the mortality has been steadily diminishing during the past few weeks. Undoubtedly, the sun in springtime compensates for a good deal, although the warmth of its rays may not be felt. There is no warmth in the chemically active rays of the sun, those rays which stimulate plant and animal life, and yet are so highly destructive to the materies morbi.

It is a significant observation, says the same authority, that in April and May, despite the cold winds that may prevail, the actinic power of the sun's rays reaches a maximum. At no other time of the year, not even in the hot days of July and August, are the health-giving rays of the sun so intense. Certain chemical compounds prove to be more readily decomposed and at a quicker rate in April and May than in any other months of the year. Chloroform, potassium iodide, hydrogen peroxide, and a great number of chemical salts give greater evidences of the disturbing action of light in the spring than in any other season, and Nature herself responds to this quickening power, for growth is greatest and most vigorous when the chemical activity of the sun's rays is highest, and that, of course, is in spring.

The receipts on account of Revenue from April 1, 1902, when there was a balance of £8,566,947, to May 17, 1902, were £20,063,067, against £17,064,925 in the corresponding period of the preceding financial year, which began with a balance of £5,596,918. The net expenditure was £28,478,482, against £27,928,231 to the same date in the previous year. The Treasury balances on May 17, 1902, amounted to £5,960,342, and at the same date in 1901 to £6,651,493.

Dr. Gatling, of famous gun repute, has, it is said, been turning his attention to ploughshares. He has just invented a plough operated by a gasoline motor. The plough is a gang of discs. It can be operated at the cost of 8s. 4d. per day, and the inventor holds that it will do the work of thirty men and eighty horses. The plough is to be a feature in the coming St. Louis Exposition.

The party of Essex farmers who are making a tour in Hungary arrived at Buda-Pesth on Thursday, and on the following morning went over the Market buildings, and then proceeded to the premises of the Provincial Agricultural Union. The visitors were then received at the Lower House of the Diet by Dr. Daranyi, Minister of Agriculture. Mr. E. H. Fitch, on behalf of the visitors, addressed the Minister, who replied in cordial terms. Subsequently, the party went to the Crown domains and the Royal residence of Gödöllö. Unfortunately, on their return from Gödöllö, one of the carriages was overturned, and Mr. Eady fell so heavily as to break his right leg. He returned to the capital with the party, and is receiving every attention.

On Saturday the visitors thoroughly inspected the new slaughter-house for pigs, the Agricultural Museum, and the Veterinary High School. They afterwards proceeded to visit the biggest steam mill in Hungary. At the banquet given in their honour in the evening, M. Halmos, the Mayor, proposed the health of the guests. M. Kiss, Secretary of State, speaking in the name of Dr. Daranyi, who, he said, greatly regretted that he was unable to be present, thanked the visitors for the keen interest which they displayed in Hungarian institutions. He drank to the prosperity of English agriculture, a toast which was honoured with loud cheers. Several speeches were made by members of the English party in praise of the high standard of Hungarian agriculture.

SOCIETY NOTES.

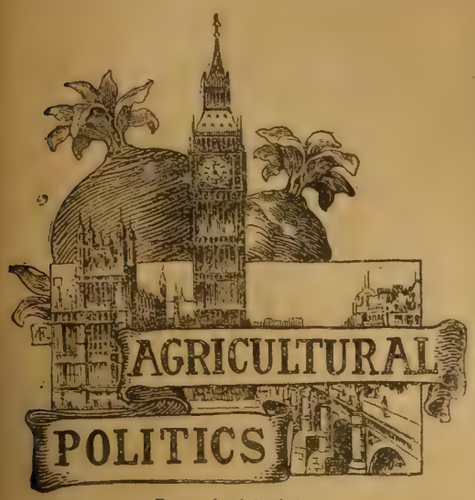
At the last Council meeting of the Devon Cattle Breeders' Society, the secretary, Mr. J. Risdon, junr., announced that the committee had held several meetings to consider the best means of furthering the interests of Devon cattle at home and abroad, and read the minutes of the meetings. The committee resolved to advertise in certain foreign newspapers, particularly some in South America and South Africa, and had adopted the following suggestions to be placed before the Council:—(a) "That the Council be recommended to have circulars sent to all members asking them to send photographs of animals, with notes, for the purpose of insertion in the foreign papers." (b) "That the Council be requested to take into consideration the question of the confusion which arises, and is likely to arise, through Devon cattle being described as 'North' Devons, or 'Somerset' Devons, and also through their being placed in the same schedule with South Devon cattle."

After a brief discussion, the meeting agreed to the first recommendation, and resolved that the photographs and notes be forwarded to the committee to deal with them as they thought best. As to the question whether living animals only should be so dealt with, or whether past animals should be included, the meeting were unanimously of opinion that only living animals should receive such attention, and resolved accordingly. The chairman, Mr. A. C. Skinner, speaking to the second suggestion, said that some agricultural papers placed the two different Devon herds together. He would suggest that the papers to which he referred be asked to place the breeds under two different headings. This was agreed to, as was also a resolution advising members to describe their cattle merely as Devons. It was resolved to hold a sale of Devon cattle at Exeter towards the end of October.

The accounts presented at the annual meeting of the Gravesend and Rochester Agricultural Society unfortunately showed an adverse balance of £12 1s. 4d., the expenditure having been £202 17s. 10d., whilst receipts only amounted to £194 10s. The Earl of Darnley has been the president for the past year, but owing to ill-health has been unable to discharge the duties of the office. On the suggestion of one of the members, it was unanimously decided to re-elect his lordship, the hope being expressed that his improved health would permit him to carry out the duties. Earl Darnley remarked that nothing would afford him greater pleasure and satisfaction than to assist the Association in every way possible. The annual sheep-shearing match will take place on June 16th at Marsh Gale Farm, Cooling.

At a special meeting of the Blandford Farmers' Club, held to consider the Education Bill, considerable discussion took place, and in the end a resolution, similar to that passed by other agricultural societies, was carried unanimously. It was as follows:—"That in the opinion of this Club the Education Bill (if passed as it at present stands) will seriously increase local taxation, which already bears very heavily upon the agricultural interests, and that, as education is a national matter, such increase should be provided out of national and not out of local funds." It was decided to send a copy of the resolution to the Members for the county and the chief Ministers of the Government.

Cockermouth Hiring Fair.—This, the principle hiring fair for agricultural servants in West Cumberland, was held on Monday, when the attendance of farmers and servants was quite up to the average of previous fairs. Farm work is fairly well forward, and as the servants held out for high wages the hiring was slow. Head men obtained from £13 to £17; second-class men from £10 to £13; lads from £7 to £10; and boys from £4 to £7 for the half-year, with board and lodgings. Women and girls were again scarce—the former secured from £9 to £11; girls, able to milk, from £7 to £9; and younger girls from £3 to £7.



By a Lobbyist.

There is no doubt that Lord Rosebery's speech at the National Liberal Club on Friday night has clearly defined the issue. The question is now declared by his Lordship to be one of Free Trade or Protection. The tax on flour, in the view of his Lordship, means Protection. This is what we have to face, and it is well to comprehend it. The saturnine humour of Mr. James Lowther will not dissipate the situation; neither will the fine heroics of Mr. Chaplin. We are in for a vigorous class fight—a class fight all the more strenuous because it has associated with it the tempered steel of Lord Rosebery's oratory, and the clear-cut cynicism of which he is so great a master. Lord Rosebery has, in a word, ranged himself on the side of the urbans in the fight. He has lent all his influence, his power, and his occasional virility to the men who misrepresent the purpose and the intention of the agricultural interest. Lord Rosebery is a landlord. Assuredly, he knows that Protection does not mean an attempt on the part of landlordism to exploit the workers of the towns.

It is a pity when you see Herod out-Heroding himself. I have myself applauded the Warwickshire Chamber of Agriculture for its excellent policy in advising the reconstruction of the Board of Agriculture. However, I am far from accepting the report which that body has recently propounded in reference to the constitution of the Board. In the opinion of the Chamber, the first duty of the Board—at all events, this is placed first in order of advice—is to be an experimental organisation. All the great necessities of legislation, all the greater necessities of administration, are neglected in favour of agricultural experiments, with their problematical, indefinite and undeciding results. The subsidiary purpose of the Board is apparently to be "a supreme Court of Appeal" for, and national supervisor of, the agricultural community. What, in the name of Cocker, does the phrase "national supervisor of" mean? The Board of Agriculture ought to be the direct personal friend of every farmer in the country, and ought to be a factor in his daily life. But to say that the Board is to be the "national supervisor of"—in a word, to assume the materfamilian role, is to beseech for it a character which it never would and never should assume. Neither the Board of Trade nor the Local Government Board has that character, and, in all sooth, it is well for them that this is so.

The Warwickshire Chamber of Agriculture is, in preferring requests of this character, the enemy of the finer resolves which possess Mr. Hanbury. The Minister for Agriculture is moved by as generous a sentiment towards agriculture as is even the author of these flamboyant ambitions in the Midlands; but if he were to present the Midland desire to the House of Commons—with its "national supervisor of"—he would be laughed at, and very rightly laughed at. The House appreciates Mr. Hanbury; and, I dare aver, sympathises with his purpose. But assuredly it is not prepared to concede him Neroesque powers. It is not inclined to make him or his successor the controller and the director of the destinies of agriculture. Of course, in this reticence, it may offend the excellent opinion which the Midlands entertains of its own abilities; but it will be doing a good thing for agriculture. We want the duties, purpose, and methods of the Board of Agriculture enlarged; but we do not want agriculture molly-coddled. "National supervisor of," forsooth! As well put agriculture in petticoats!

I have spoken more than once in this column of the improvement—I pray I may be forgiven the phrase—of Mr. Henry Chaplin's oratory. Let me say a word of the improvement in the oratorical methods of Mr. George Lambert. "Our Garge" is really going strong. The hon. member had to propose the toast of "Lord Rosebery" at the National Liberal Club, on Friday night, and he did it with a dulcetness of phrase, a directness of point, and an excellence of expression that were one to the delights of the evening. As I listened I kept marvelling to myself—why does Mr. Lambert pretend to give to humanity what is intended for agriculture? If he would bring to his House of Commons advocacy of his own measure half the subtlety of phrase, the excellence of diction, and the generosity of enthusiasm which he revealed on Friday night, he would be a greater force than he is. But, alas! Mr. Lambert is a militia captain, and hence he fancies himself an authority on military subjects. He shows a tendency to survey the imperial world from China to Peru. This omniscience is the rock on which another native-born agricultural authority, Mr. Channing, has been wrecked.

I learn that the Liberal organisers have revived their old idea of running tenant farmers as Liberal candidates. Since they first registered this resolution, they have run two men, Mr. Judd for Andover and Mr. Bolton King for Stratford-on-Avon. They did not win with either, but at least in the case of Mr. Judd they had the Tantalus cup of a possible victory almost within their reach. I doubt that Mr. Bolton King will stand again—in all probability he will be succeeded by Mr. Oscar Bowen—but Mr. Judd will, of course, inevitably re-enter the lists. How many more men do they intend to run? At one time Mr. Ridley, of South Wilts., and Mr. Devereux, of Hampshire, were fancied as party candidates. They are both very capable men—Mr. Ridley, indeed, has something of the philosopher in him. Why, however, has there been a recession of interest as Parliamentary candidates? As a fact, I look upon this revived sympathy with the idea of farmer candidates as simply intended to play off farmers against the Budget. The Liberals want to say, "Look! while the Tories are desirous of cozening the farmers by placing a small tax on flour, we actually run farmers as candidates, who tell you that it will do the agricultural interest no good." 'Tis not a great game.

The annual general meeting of the Somerset County Agricultural Association was held on the second day of the Society's recent show. There was very little business on the agenda, most of the time being taken up with the passing of votes of thanks to various officials, and also to the "Wiveliscombe local committee for their valued services and kind endeavours to make the visit of the association to Wiveliscombe a great success." Mr. S. Kidner once more drew attention to the present mode of election of members of the Council. He said a feeling prevailed outside that the same gentlemen were elected on the Council from year to year. He thought it wise that that idea should be dissipated, and that new material should be added from time to time, although it might not be as good as the old. He suggested the Council should follow the lines of the Smithfield Club, whose plan worked very well indeed. When an election was to take place there was sent to each member a ballot-paper containing double the number of names of gentlemen required to fill vacancies, and members voted for the number requisite and returned their papers, and those gentlemen nominated who received the largest number of votes were made members of the Council. Such a system with the Somerset Association would widen its scope, and members would be brought into closer touch with the Council. He moved that a recommendation such as that he had foreshadowed be considered by the Council. This proposition was carried with but two dissentients.



Encouraging Home Industries.

Sir,—In view of the alleged scarcity of beef in America, the price of that article of food has been, wherever practicable, raised to the consumer. Now, the Irish trade with England and Scotland in store bullocks has grown immensely since 1893, and, with a little more impetus from influential men in Ireland and England, enough cattle might be bred in Ireland—the finest country in the world for rearing cattle—sent to the Eastern and Southern Counties, there to be made ready for the butchers, to almost, if not entirely eliminate American beef.

The Eastern Counties could turn out many a thousand more fat cattle, and grow many a quarter more of wheat, than they do now, and as they used to do not so many years ago, if facilities were granted them. The benefit of thus enlarging the trade between England and Ireland would be immense, not only to the breeders and feeders, but to the people of those countries. The Navy League says, in its Journal for May, 1902:—Agriculture has declined—it might have been said "was deliverately sacrificed" 50 years ago—and now in 1902 England depends upon the foreigner for the greater part of its food. This being the case, what would happen in time of War? First, withdrawal of a large amount of shipping. Secondly, freights of all kinds would be raised. Thirdly, wages paid in merchant service would be considerably increased. These results would quickly put up the price of corn from 10s. to 20s. per quarter. Beef and other food necessaries would follow suit in same proportion.

In these circumstances the position of the working population would be most serious. Mr. Booth has calculated and Mr. Rowntree has agreed that about 30 per cent. of the London population are living in poverty at the present time. It would be hard to imagine the condition of these 30 per cent. in the event of war with a European power. The appreciable results in this country of the American beef trust show conclusively what a serious duty and responsibility rests upon those people in England, Ireland, and Scotland who could, and should, influence the growth of more wheat and more home-fed beef.

The Minister of Agriculture said at the Staffordshire Chamber of Agriculture:—There is no reason why corn should be ground in America which could be ground in this country. Horse feeders and farmers had lost during the last 20 years 25 million pounds' worth of offal which America has received, and our millers might have had 10 million pounds for grinding corn into flour. He hoped this great source of evil would be removed.

An Old Subscriber.

Organisation of the Milk Trade.

Sir,—The rapid increase of dairy farmers and retail milkmen's societies throughout the country has very naturally brought about the further necessity for federation and combined action. Local societies serve a very useful local purpose, but, when such bodies co-operate with others for the attainment of defined objects throughout the kingdom, a far greater interest is created, and a greatly extended influence is brought to bear upon all authorities that have the making of laws or by-laws affecting the trade generally.

A federation of dairy farmers' societies has been formed under the title of The Central Dairy Farmers' Association, and now represents some 20 strong societies. The Liverpool and Manchester retail traders have also formed the Dairymen's and Cowkeepers' Federation, and invited the co-operation of dairy farmers also. Personally, I am convinced that farmers who provide milk and retailers who distribute it should unite to put the trade on a far more satisfactory basis than at present existing. There is no room for rival action or opposing camps in these days of unlimited competition and the survival of the fittest. Our daily bread supply is in the hands of the millers and bakers; neither party is antagonistic to the other, and, by mutual arrangement, certain trade regulations are made, and reasonable prices are fixed.

As long as the general public can, by haggling and playing one tradesman off against another, save a few odd coppers in the way of buying "cheap" commodities, it is surprising what time and trouble large numbers will take to effect their purpose. But when once trades get properly organised, as are the brewers and publicans, the millers and bakers, and tobacco manufacturers and retailers, etc., and fix their own reasonable prices, the public become docile as lambs, and pay such fixed prices for their beer, bread, and 'bacca without a murmur. By such sensible resignation any amount of time, worry, shoe leather, and mental calculation is saved by the public, and the organised trades are daily respected in consequence. Why cannot dairy farmers and milk retailers follow the sensible lead of the traders above referred to? The great object of wholesale and retail milk traders should be to provide the best and safest article possible, and to induce the public to use it far more freely than is now the case. With such thoughts in my mind, I accepted an invitation to attend a conference in London on Wednesday last, held by the Dairymen's and Cowkeepers' Federation, and felt it a privilege to meet earnest men from different parts of the country for the purpose of exchanging views and offering suggestions. It fell to my lot to suggest that the Federation would do well to arrange England into five divisions—North, South, East, West, and Midland counties—and set the ball rolling in five such co-operating centres instead of attempting to organise the trade from one centre only in the North of England. I earnestly hope an exchange of views will take place between both Federations alluded to, and that united and comprehensive action may be mutually agreed upon, to the ting benefit of all engaged in the milk trade. I promised the Conference that I would ask both dairy farmers and milk retailers in the West of England to furnish any information in their power of cases in which loss has resulted in connection with the transit of milk by rail. Loss of milk or cans and neglect in delivery of milk are included in this inquiry, and the facts, dates, etc., of each case should be clearly stated. Such particulars are wanted immediately by the Federation, as a deputation to the President of the Board of Trade is being arranged, and should be sent direct to Mr. W. Scott-Walker, 7, Oldham Street, Liverpool.—Yours, etc.,

JAMES HUNT,
Secretary, Gloucester and Somerset Dairy Farmers' Society,

39, Broad Street, Bristol.

Poultry for Profit.

Sir,—Mr. Robert Brown will, I know, be thanked very much in the minds of many persons, if not by manuscript, for so kindly taking the trouble to give, by his letter in the MARK LANE EXPRESS of the 19th inst., the results, in totals, of the profit from his poultry farm. And he will have the satisfaction of, in union with other to the same end, having done a very considerable service to the community.

Mr. Brown writes "that he could give quantities and sorts of food, as well as the prices, also quantities of eggs and chicken." If not trespassing too much upon his time, it would very much oblige many persons desirous of entering upon the poultry-farming industry if he would kindly give these particulars in the MARK LANE EXPRESS, not to satisfy mere inquisitiveness, but that by being able to compare his prices with those obtainable, each in their own locality, those contemplating starting the industry would then gain a reliable assurance, whether for success or otherwise.

We are sending away to foreign countries at the least £5,000,000 annually for the importation of eggs. Surely this is a reflection upon our thriftiness, and even a scandal to us, that, having land and climate suitable, we neglect to take measures to retain this important amount of money in circulation at home! Denmark, a little country, with a severer climate, and 32 hours steam from our ports, is, by a good organisation, able to send into our markets a great portion of these egg imports. Yet we have many thousand acres of land, the owners, some so wealthy, some so indolent that they allow them to lie derelict. May it not be hoped that personal considerations and the public welfare may lead some to place many thousand heads of poultry on these lands. The outlay compared with that for other farming stock would be small, and, with a skilled manager, able to manage a very large establishment, the result would net, we have the assurance from Mr. Brown's practical experiences in his letter in the MARK LANE EXPRESS of the 28th ultimo, that they will pay more for the time and money invested in them than any other stock on the farm."—Yours truly,

ALFRED WELCH.

Southall, May 18th.

The Colonies and the Corn Tax.

Sir,—Will you permit me through your columns to make an appeal to Free Traders, without distinction of party, to support the Cobden Club in resisting the proposed corn tax?

That the tax is not required for revenue purposes is patent. In the current year, without any addition to last year's taxes, it is estimated by the Chancellor of the Exchequer that there will be a surplus over ordinary expenditure of no less than £23,000,000. This is a larger sum than has been contributed to the cost of the war out of revenue in any previous year. If additional revenue had been required, it could have been raised by increasing the present taxation of beer and tobacco.

The present tax on beer is 7s. 9d. a barrel (or about 2½d. a gallon). For many years during the past century the tax was approximately 19s. a barrel. The consumption of beer in the United Kingdom has increased in the past fifteen years from 27,000,000 barrels to 36,000,000 barrels. The yield of the Beer Tax for the year ending March 31st, 1901, was just under £14,000,000.

The present tax on unmanufactured tobacco is 3s. a pound. It was 3s. 2d. a pound shortly before the war began. The consumption of tobacco within the Kingdom has increased in the past fifteen years from 52,000,000lb. to 80,000,000lb. The yield of the tobacco tax for the year ending March 31st, 1901, was just under £13,000,000.

In the face of these figures it is incredible that the Chancellor of the Exchequer, in order to obtain the small sum of £2,600,000, should have turned aside from these increasing popular luxuries, and placed a tax on the sheer necessaries of daily existence, unless he had some ulterior motive, which it was not convenient at the time to disclose. What that motive was Mr. Chamberlain has now told the country.

The corn tax has been imposed in order to prepare the way for an Imperial Preferential Tariff; or, in simpler language, the food of the people of England, Scotland, and Ireland is to be taxed in order to increase the profits of Canadian corn growers.

Incidentally the effect of the tax is to protect one of our home industries, namely, corn-growing, at the expense of all our other home industries, but apparently this incidental evil was not foreseen by the Ministers who proposed the tax. Their only object was to prepare the way for protecting Colonial industries at the expense of the industries of the Mother Country.

The whole idea underlying this scheme is false. Mutual trading is in no way essential to friendship, and nothing is more certain to destroy friendship than an attempt to compel mutual trading in defiance of pecuniary interest.

Nor is there any reason to connect the question of Imperial Defence with the question of preferential tariffs. There is no preferential tariff between London and Edinburgh, yet each city, according to its means, contributes equally to the defence of the common Empire. If the Colonies are ready to bear their share of the common burdens, it is for them to come forward and say so. It is not for us to do injustice to ourselves in order to bribe them to do what is just.

At present Canada contributes to the cost of the Imperial Navy not one penny. Australasia contributes a small sum which does not even cover the cost of the special squadron locked up in Australasian waters for purely local defence. On the basis of population, Australasia and Canada should together contribute to the cost of the Navy not less than £6,000,000 a year.

But whatever view the Colonies may take of their pecuniary obligations to the Mother Country, it would be a fatal blunder on the part of England to weaken her position as a world power by abandoning the policy of the open door, or to diminish her economic strength by reverting to a system of taxation which plunders a dozen industries in order to add to the profits of one.

Instead, it is her duty to continue to urge upon her Colonies that they will find prosperity, not by robbing Peter to pay Paul, or by limiting their own or England's trade, but by throwing open wide their harbours to the commerce of the world.

I therefore appeal to all who realise the importance of the issues involved to assist the Cobden Club in opposing the reactionary proposals now before the country, on the double ground that they are fraught with injustice to the people of this Kingdom and with danger to the permanent strength and unity of the Empire.

This appeal is directed to the subjects of the King in all parts of the world, for I know that many of those who have crossed the seas have not forgotten their English sense of justice, and will reject with indignation an artificial advantage to themselves offered at the expense of the poorest of the poor in the Old Country.—Yours obediently,

HAROLD COX,
Secretary of the Cobden Club.

6, Raymond Buildings, Gray's Inn, W.C.

Farmers and Motor Waggons.

Sir,—One of the great difficulties which fruit-growers and market gardeners have had to contend with has been a want of early delivery to market centres in London. Those nearest to London have to some extent overcome this difficulty by sending their goods by road, which naturally entails a very heavy expense in horse-flesh. This difficulty would appear to have been successfully overcome by the enterprise of one of our leading fruit-growers in Kent, Messrs. Thomas Wood and Sons, of Swanley, who on Saturday last sent up for the first time to Spitalfields Market, in a Foden steam waggon, five tons of vegetables. It started from Swanley at night, and returned early in the morning, a distance of nearly forty miles, there and back, without a mishap.

The advantages of this new departure to those who do not rely on railway companies for the mode of transit cannot be over-estimated, and it is to be hoped that many others will follow the example.—Yours, etc. E. BALL.

Woodhurst, Lee, Kent.
May 19th, 1902.

The Importation of Flour.

A meeting of the Tendring Hundred Farmers' Club was held at the Colchester Corn Exchange on Saturday, at which an address, on "The Importation of Flour," was delivered by Mr. Thomas G. Read, who said that the import duties of 3d. per cwt. on grain, and 5d. per cwt. on flour, appear to be a step in the right direction. They indicate that the Government are adopting a more sympathetic attitude to the agricultural interest. Up to the present all suggestions by which there might be an increased production of food in the United Kingdom have received but little attention from the Government, as they were afraid of an agitation being promoted by out-of-date anti-Protectionists. These faddists have endeavoured to raise an agitation against, as they call it, "the bread tax." The country has refused to be moved. Thus it appears in the near future a Royal Commission will be appointed to inquire and report concerning our national food supplies in time of war.

Continuing, Mr. Read said, the outlook is very hopeful, that before very long some scheme will be adopted by the Government by which the country will be secured from famine anr surrender, by increasing the production of food in the United Kingdom, as that appears to be the only way by which we can feed the masses during a naval war.

It is a matter for regret that the Chancellor of the Exchequer has not seen his way to place a much higher duty on flour. No case can be made for the importation of flour, but I believe a very strong case can be made against such importations. During the past twenty years we have lost over £35,000,000 by importing flour instead of the equivalent in wheat. We have paid over £10,000,000 more for flour imported than the wheat to produce a corresponding bulk of flour would have cost, and we have left over 125,000,000 cwt. of wheat offals abroad, worth at 4s. per cwt., £25,000,000.

Our country mills have been crushed out of existence. A mill gives employment to so many indirectly besides those actually working there, that to many of our mills having stopped working has driven many able-bodied men into our purely manufacturing districts and industrial centres, there to increase the overcrowding of our slums and the misery which is far too prevalent in many of our cities.

If wheat only were admitted duty free and ground here, the offals, which mostly remain where the flour is produced, would furnish useful stock-feeding food, and the work of our labouring classes would be greatly increased. The chances of adulteration would be reduced, and the flour would be fresher. Flour that for weeks has been in a ship does not make such wholesome bread as when the flour is fresh ground.

I have recently conducted some experiments concerning the action during mastication of roller and stone-made flour, and have discovered that there is an increase of about 40 per cent. during mastication in the acidity of bread produced from roller flour, whereas there is no such increase when the bread is composed of stone-made flour. My investigations have been confirmed by analytical chemists of great experience.

Mr. Hugh Candy, chemist to the London Hospital, has tested bread for me, and reports that he found in the case of the bread composed of stone-milled flour, that the acidity remained stationary, whereas in the case of the bread composed of roller-flour, mastication appears to promote an increase of 45 per cent. in the acidity.

I have received the following report from Mr. Knight, analytical chemist to Messrs. Howard:—"Report on relative acidity in bread made from stone-ground and roller-ground flour. Average of ten tests of each. I find that the acidity in the

bread made from stone-milled flour increases to a very slight extent in the process of mastication, not more than would be accounted for by the acidity of the mouth, but with the bread made from roller-flour there is an increase of 40 per cent. in the acidity after mastication.—J. B. KNIGHT, F.C.S."

This appears to be an important reason why our small country stone mills, which formerly used to grind chiefly English wheat, should be again revived.

The importation of flour should be checked, as it is almost all roller-milled, and such flour, it has been explained, causes a great incerase in acidity. Roller milling having so largely replaced stone milling, appears to be the chief cause of the great increase in indigestion. Swallowing a quantity of acid with the food retards the action of the digestive fluids. By crushing out of existence the old stone mills, which ground chiefly English wheat, and depending so largely on the United States for flour, we have injured the health of the nation.

Owing to so much wheat-offals being left abroad the price of such feeding stuffs is, in this country, very high, and make a considerable difference to our meat producers, our dairy farmers, and even our labourers who keep pigs.

There is a good demand for wheat offals in the States, the Milwaukee and the Minneapolis products being sold at about half the price charged in this country, and used largely round Chicago for stock-feeding. Much of the pork produced in the States from cheap wheat-offals obtained from the flour sent us, competes in this country with pork we have raised on dear wheat-offals. The wealth of Chicago appears largely due to having obtained for years cheap offals by grinding flour for us.

We obtain much flour from France, and but little wheat from that country. The French port millers, on the understanding that the flour produced is exported to other countries, are allowed to import wheat duty free, although there is an import duty of 12s. 3d. per quarter on wheat in that country.

The French Government knows that the more wheat-offals there are produced in the country the greater the number of head of live stock kept, which gives an increase in the home-made manure and thus larger crops.

Were we to produce more flour, there would always be a much larger reserve of wheat and flour in this country, and thus the dangers of famine and surrender during a naval war would be reduced.

The importation of flour should be checked by a higher duty on flour, then we should increase the employment of our workers, cause our stock-rearers to have a more abundant and cheaper supply of wheat offals, keep much money annually in this country that is now going abroad for imported food for our live stock, reduce the possibilities of adulteration of flour, and furnish our people with better bread without any increase in the price.

The Corn Duty.

Mr. Chamberlain's Views.

In the course of a speech at the annual meeting of the Birmingham, Aston, and Handsworth Liberal Unionist Association, at Birmingham, on the 16th inst., Mr. Chamberlain, the Colonial Secretary, referred to the corn tax. He said the cost of the war is estimated at £228,000,000, of which £150,000,000 is to be raised by loan. "I think that we are fighting for posterity at least as much as for ourselves, and I think it is perfectly fair that they should bear their share of the burden. There remains £78,000,000 which we have to find ourselves now to our own loss and sacrifice. O that £40,000,000 is to be found by direct taxation chiefly, almost entirely—thirty-nine millions and odd of it entirely found by one class in the community, the payers of income tax. Less than half—£38,000,000—is to be found by indirect taxation, which falls on all classes of the community, but which presses with greater severity on the working classes and the poorer classes of the community.

"Well, now, taking the broad issue, does not that appear to you, as to me, a fair division of the cost? But it so happens that this thirty-eight millions of indirect taxation includes two-and-a-half millions which are to be raised by a tax of 3d. per cwt. on corn, of which about one-half would have to be found by wheat. The Opposition seeing their opportunity—I give them all credit as partisans—to fasten on this small tax, which amounts, if it is all told, to less than one-eighth of a penny on each four-pound loaf, to fasten on this tax, call it a bread tax, call it a tax on the poor, and they appeal to passion and prejudices, and they recall all the evil traditions of a time when the bread tax was indeed a serious burden, when the bread tax was not 3d. per cwt., but 20s. a quarter and even more, at a time when the wages of the working-classes were, on an average, only half what they are at present, and at a time when they were paying, not only this 20s. a quarter, but they were paying also very much more in many cases, many times more on sugar, tea, and other articles of common consumption. Well, let the tax be considered on its merits, by all means; but it is treated with gross exaggeration, and it is ridiculous and unfair and dishonest to attempt to make any kind of comparison between a tax of this kind and the state of things which existed fifty or sixty years ago, when the Corn Laws pressed so heavily on the working-classes of this country.

"The expert and the economist, who have dealt with this question, tell us that there is grave reason to doubt whether we shall pay it at all, whether it will not fall on the producers of other countries, and they quote as a proof of this that the tax on sugar has not raised the price of sugar, but that has been borne by the growers of beet on the Continent of Europe. I am sure I hope they are true. I confess I think there is a certain humour in the thought that those who have denounced us, who have calumniated us in connection with this war, will have themselves partly to pay for it. But I have not come down here to my own people to defend this tax on the ground that you won't pay any of it. I will assume that you will pay, every one of you, an average of one-eighth of a penny per four-pound loaf more than you paid before. Now, what is the argument in favour of this tax? It is raised for a war. The war is a just war, a necessary war, a righteous war. It is a war which interests every portion of the population; not one class alone—the working-class at least as much as every other class; a war to which the whole nation, rich and poor alike, should each contribute and be proud to contribute in turn."

Mr. Bryce, M.P., Protests against the Tax.

On Tuesday evening a demonstration was held in Aberdeen, to protest against the duty on corn, at which Mr. Bryce, M.P., spoke. He said the new impost, being, as it was, a tax on bread, was not only a shabby tax, but a heartless tax. They were told that the working-man must be made to pay for the war. But this tax would fall not so much on the working-man, who had a vote, as on his wife and children. If the object was to touch the working-man, the Government might have raised the taxes on beer, spirits, and tobacco. They had not done this, nor had they, as they might have done, taxed liquor licenses, or advertisements, or land values, nor had they withdrawn the doles given to the landlords. They were taxing the tea of the women and the sugar and pudding of the children, and the bread to which the poorest of the poor men, women, and children were reduced as the last and indispensable means of supporting a pinched and melancholy life. This tax had every fault a tax could have, and the greatest of its faults was that it pressed with special severity on those who could least bear it; more upon the working-man than upon the comparatively wealthy, and, among the working-men, more upon the poorer than upon the better off, and, among the poorer, more upon the women and children than upon the men. No measure could be more unsound in principle or more disastrous in its working, and he trusted it would receive the indignant condemnation of the nation.

Resolution by the Co-operative Congress.

At the Co-operative Congress, at Exeter, on Tuesday, the following resolution was carried unanimously, and it was decided to send a copy to the Government:—"That this Congress most earnestly protests against any portion of the taxes of the country being raised by a Protective impost upon corn or other breadstuffs, not only because of the effect of such taxation upon the working-class population, but also because it is a departure from the principle and practice of Free Trade, under the influence of which this country has had such remarkable prosperity."

Selkirk Petition in Favour of the Tax.

A petition in favour of the financial resolutions of the Government recently submitted to Parliament has been signed by 205 landlords, farmers, and others resident in the county of Selkirk, and forwarded to Sir Walter Thorburn, M.P., for presentation. In the course of the petition it is stated that "your petitioners approve of the registration duty to be put upon imported cereals which they do not consider calculated to increase the price of food to an appreciable extent, or even if regarded as a protective duty, to be more than sufficient to neutralise the preferential transit rates accorded to foreign importers. Such rates really act as a bounty on foreign corn when competing with corn grown in this country, and your petitioners consider that the agricultural community is entitled to similar protection to that accorded to the sugar-refining industry."

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Milk-Blended Butter.

Mr. Hanbury, M.P., President of the Board of Agriculture, has consented to receive a deputation from the Central and Associated Chambers of Agriculture and other agricultural bodies at noon on Monday, June 2, in Committee-room No. 13, House of Commons, for the purpose of protesting against the sale of "milk-blended butter" as butter.

Chester Cheese Fair.

At the cheese fair held at Chester on Wednesday there was a pitch of about 35 tons. The attendance of buyers was good, and a fairly brisk demand was experienced for fine lots. The finest Cheshire made from 55s. to 60s., and medium 48s. to 54s. Most of the lots were speedily disposed of.

British Dairy Farmers' Conference.

The programme has now been issued of the Annual Dairy Conference organised by the British Dairy Farmers' Association, which commences at Reading on Tuesday, June 3rd, and lasts till Friday, June 6th. Those taking part in the proceedings will assemble at Reading on the evening of June 2nd, and there will be a reception by the Mayor and Mayoress at the Town Hall from 8.30 to 10.30 p.m. There will be addresses of welcome by the Mayor on behalf of the town, and Mr. W. Berkeley Monck on behalf of the British Dairy Institute.

On Tuesday there will be an inspection of the British Dairy Institute and a conference in the hall of Reading College. At the latter the Earl of Warwick will preside, and the President of the Board of Agriculture has promised to attend. On the following day Pangbourne will be visited, and on the Thursday a conference will be held at the Assembly Room Municipal Buildings, Oxford, followed by a drive to Blenheim Park. On the last day there will be a conference in Buckingham Town Hall, and afterward sa luncheon at the Home Farm, Tring Park, on the invitation of the Right Hon. Lord Rothschild, and an inspection of the herds of red polls and Jerseys, and also the dairy and farm. This will bring the conference to an end, the members travelling from Tring to London by a special train.

Colonial Butter at the Dairy Show.

In February this year Messrs. Weddel and Co. suggested to the British Dairy Farmers' Association that the British dairy farmer has much to learn from his Colonial brethren, both in the manufacture of butter and its preparation for our markets, and that it would be a good incentive and a profitable example to him if a class were added to the schedule of the Dairy Show at the Agricultural Hall, Islington, next October, at which makers of Colonial butter could compete against each other. The Association has accepted the suggestion and decided to add the following classes to their schedule:—

Colonial butter, salt, in boxes containing not less than 56lbs., with a first prize of £5 and silver medal, and second prize of £3 and bronze medal.

Colonial butter, fresh, ditto.

It is to be hoped that the makers of Colonial butter will take advantage of this opportunity, and produce an attractive exhibit for the British public at the next Dairy Show.

Urban Authorities and the Milk Supply.

Mr. Tollemache, M.P., has asked the President of the Board of Agriculture whether his attention had been drawn to the loss and inconvenience caused to dairy farmers owing to the manner in which urban authorities occasionally used their powers in connection with the milk supply in their respective districts; whether he was aware that a clause enabling a farmer, who could prove unfair treatment by an urban authority, to recover compensation, had been introduced into several local Acts, among others into the Leeds Corporation Act, 1901, and the Brighton Corporation Act, 1901; and, seeing that a similar clause dealing with infectious diseases had been introduced into the London County Council Bill of this session, whether he would, in conjunction with the Local Government Board, endeavour to secure the insertion of similar clauses into all future Bills promoted by local authorities?

Mr. Hanbury replied to both questions in the affirmative.

The Butter Regulations Committee.

The Departmental Committee on Butter Regulations held meetings at the Chemical Society's Rooms, Burlington House, on the 13th inst. and the three following days. The Right Hon. Horace Plunkett presided, and the following members were present:—Sir Charles A. Cameron, C.B., M.D., Dr. T. E. Thorpe, C.B., F.R.S., Major Craigie, Professor J. M. Thomson, F.R.S., Mr. C. Dunn, J.P., Mr. G. Gibbons, Mr. J. Gilchrist, and Mr. P. Hickey. Mr. A. E. Balleine also attended as secretary to the Committee. Evidence was given by a considerable number of witnesses, including representatives of several foreign governments, magistrates, and chemists.

The American Margarine Tax.

It is stated that the President of the United States has signed the Margarine Bill, previously mentioned in these columns, which will come into operation on July 1st. The margarine manufacturers, however, have determined to contest it in the Supreme Court of the United States, and they hope to kill it, as their attorneys advise them the Bill is contrary to the constitution of the United States. The result will be watched with interest in this country.

PRACTICE WITH SCIENCE.

The first general meeting of the members of the West of Scotland Agricultural College was held at Glasgow on the 15th inst., the Rev. Dr. Gillespie (chairman of the governors) presiding. The report of the governors stated that the college was registered under the Companies Acts, 1862-1900, on 17th January of this year. At the date of incorporation the college had been in existence for nearly three years, and no material change had been made in its educational work. Since the date of incorporation the governors had resolved to enter into negotiations for the amalgamation of the Glasgow Veterinary College, provided sufficient funds could be obtained to carry on the Veterinary College without encroaching on any part of the funds at present used for agricultural and dairy instruction. A committee had been appointed to see whether a sufficient grant could be obtained from the Scottish Education Department or from the Treasury, and negotiations to this end were still in progress. The governors had also appointed a committee to consider a new site for a dairy school, and they had secured the offer of a feu at a nominal rate on the farm at Kilmarnock. They had visited dairy schools in England, and prepared plans of buildings, the estimated cost of which was £4,500. The actual income for the year ending 31st March, 1902, would meet the annual expenditure, leaving a balance due the bank of £371, compared with £374 at the end of the previous financial year. The balance of the assets of the college over liabilities was now £1,473 3s. 1d., compared with £1,515 2s. 10d. last year. The report was approved.



By Hordeum.

Cleaning Up.

Cleaning up, or, as it is better known in some parts of the country, sweeping up, is likely to be earlier in many houses this season than usual. It will certainly not be through undue warmth of the season, for May has had a longer spell of cold days and colder nights than any man under 40 can remember. In fact, the conditions of temperature have been all a maltster could wish for malt-making in most houses.

Nor need the season be shortened for want of barleys to make up, if there was a fair prospect of selling the malt when made. There seems in the minds of many a fear of unduly accumulating large stocks of old malts, and on the whole the fear is a wholesome one. As things stand, it is not wise for many men to make up all they can, trusting to selling it some time or other.

There is a great fear in the minds of many who are competent to form an opinion, that the

reduced amount of malt

used in 1901 was followed by a still greater shrinkage in the quantity brewed in the year ending September 30th, 1902, and even still further in the ensuing six months. For correct particulars of even the first year of this time we shall have to wait nearly another twelve months, but the general impression is the thing that is exercising its influence upon the trade at the present moment, and no one can be surprised it is a depressed one.

On the whole it is safer to follow it than to take an optimistic view.

Of the quantity of malt made during the season, it is difficult to form any opinion, and still harder to say what are the proportions

of Foreign and English barleys

turned into malt. The English market-returns are exceedingly deceptive or delusive upon the point, and although there may be a few dealers who could give an opinion of some value upon the probable proportion of barley imported from other countries bought by maltsters, and, of course, can speak decisively concerning our receipts from some ports, thus far they have not seen fit to say anything about it, and keep their information to themselves. In such a matter the publication of incorrect data is worse than silence.

Still, to our home growers such information would be of much use in guiding them as to their future conduct of barley-growing. We have reached a point which is urgently calling upon us to have it cleared up. Should we continue in our effort to grow fine barleys? Or shall we give it up, and sacrifice

quality for quantity?

On this point many growers would be glad to learn the opinions of their friends the maltsters, and also would like to know how brewers feel about it. All further reduction in the total bulk of malt made has a vital bearing upon the case. If smaller amounts of malt are to be brewed year by year it need not necessarily follow that such action should be allowed to shatter the industry. Other modes of working must be tried, and foremost amongst these is the deliberate adoption of the policy of throwing over all further attempts to please brewers, and to grow the greatest possible bulk of the best description of food for stock. Fortunately, it happens that the last position is a reconcilable one, and it may ultimately work out that by the use of the best types of manures to secure bulk, barley of the maximum feeding value may be grown also, and at remunerative prices.

There is another aspect of cleaning up which should not be overlooked. Many maltsters as soon as they leave off work leave everything at rest, and even if they intend to make structural improvements or enlargements, let everything stand over till later in the summer. This is a great mistake. All alterations contemplated should be commenced promptly, and in no case should

dirt and dust stand.

Its removal can be just as readily effected now as later, and if cleared away it ceases to act as a hotbed of contagion and evil.

The old idea of starting clean, is one that is best modernised into keeping clean. Cisterns, growing-floors, and kilns should be taken in hand at once, and whatever methods of purification may be used by any maltster, he is wise to put them in hand now, instead of wasting three or four of the most beautiful months of the year. The very conditions that make it impossible for him to keep on work are those that give potency for evil to dirt and filth of every type. It is better to clean up twice than to leave it now, for the ultimate cost or loss will in every case turn out smaller. Barley stores can be carefully freed from all dust, and it is wise to whitewash them. Kilns and growing-floors call for prompt treatment, but the special kind depends upon the individual judgment of their owners. Whatever is done should be better than leaving them alone.



Home Notes.

The Borough.

Business has been naturally interfered with by the Whitsun holidays, but on the whole the present tone of the market is satisfactory. Inquiries continue to be fairly numerous, and some transactions have been completed on terms that are fully equal to previous currencies. The main demand is still for choice samples, but such selections being practically non-existent, except a few parcels that are held by merchants, they can only be bought at prices which are almost prohibitive, therefore buyers are forced to accept other grades, the best of which will now command advanced figures. Some attention is also being given to the more plentiful low qualities, and in their turn they are feeling a little of the prevalent firmness, which is stimulated by the continued cold weather, and the consequent relaxation of selling pressure recently exercised by planters. The main bulk of the unsold stocks left in first hands appears to consist of Sussex and Worcester growths, and under present circumstance it is probable that the values of these lots will tend towards improvement.

From the Plantations.

I hear that, generally, the young plants are sound, but very backward. Recent reports refer to the shoots turning yellow in some places, and everywhere there has been but little progress in growth during the past fortnight. The inland parts of Kent have suffered rather severely from the keen winds and night frosts. I am told that near Maidstone, no less than 10 degrees of frost were registered on one recent occasion. It is, therefore, reasonable to expect that the delicate hop plants must have been damaged, in common with other vegetation, the whole of which is held in check by our trying climate. That this is actually the case is proved by the action of some growers, who, seeing that the shoots are weak, have decided to rouse them up by the application of strong nitrogenous manures. I trust that these will not be generally resorted to, as I am convinced that such policy is erroneous, for if any measures are taken to raise anything beyond a very moderate field, a fatal blunder will have been committed. It may result in a crop which will be far in excess of actual requirements, and accompanied by deterioration of quality, by which we have lost and are still losing so heavily. An expert correspondent writes to me: "An average crop this year will be too large to be a paying one, while a big crop will be an appalling disaster." I emphatically endorse these striking words. They are absolutely true, and should be seriously taken note of by every English planter. Therefore every stimulant to the growing hops should be studiously avoided. They should be left to take their natural course, however unfavourable the climatic conditions may be. Can it be that

growers have forgotten the existence of the cold stores, or do they disbelieve the statements made concerning this most urgent matter? Should either of these suppositions be true, let me try to emphasise the reality of the risks they are running by a short narrative of my own recent experience. Last week, in company with a friend from the Continent, I visited one of the

Largest Cold Stores

in London. I was deeply impressed, though not much surprised, by what I saw. Elaborate and costly machinery is constantly at work, supplying currents of air at 28 to 29deg. Fahrenheit to a range of warehouses with a capacity of 900,000 cubic feet, which will contain 30,000 pockets of hops. Every foot of this great space has been engaged during the whole of the season, and at the present moment over 28,000 pockets are in the stores. Had the warehouses been larger they would have been filled, as application for space for over 15,000 pockets have been declined. When we entered the massive, hermetically-closed doors, we were greeted with the delightful strong aroma of freshly-bagged hops, proving that the flavour is not in the slightest degree destroyed by the process. We passed through apparently interminable narrow alleys formed by pockets and bales, piled to the ceiling of each warehouse. The atmosphere we breathed, though intensely cold, was, in consequence of its dryness, not unpleasantly perceptible. We were informed that within 48 hours from the time the hops are warehoused the centre of each pocket becomes as cold as the exterior, and we had proof that the condition is not damaged, or even affected, by examining some pockets, from which an opening enabled us to extract the contents. There are some lots that have been kept under these conditions upwards of four years, which still retain all the characteristics of the latest growths, and the increased demand by brewers for storage space is sufficient practical evidence that they approve the system.

These are facts comparatively new in the history of our trade, the immense importance of which to the future of our industry cannot possibly be over-estimated. Our planters will realise it when they are told next September that brewers are well supplied, and can afford to postpone buying. Weariness of waiting will probably result, and if the crop is more than very moderate our produce will again be slaughtered, as brewers will be able to dictate their own terms. The only weapon we possess wherewith to defend ourselves is

Limitation of Supply.

If we may hope to sharpen the appetite of our customers, we can only do so by growing a small crop, not exceeding 200,000 to 250,000cwt. To this end farming operations this year should be regulated, and if, with such a moderate yield, exceptionally excellent quality can be secured, we may be certain that, not only will remunerative prices rule next season, but a foundation will have been laid on which a superstructure of permanent prosperity may be ultimately raised.

Hops at the Brewers' Exhibition.

At a meeting of the Executive Council of the Herefordshire and Worcestershire Hop-Growers' Association it was resolved that a prize of £25 be offered for competition in hops at the Brewers' Exhibition, October 18-24, 1902, the prizes to be awarded to any hop-grower producing the sample that upon analysis shows the greatest amount of resins, or, in other words, the best brewing properties, all hops grown in England, irrespective of district, eligible. Entrance free, but cost of analysis to be paid by entrant, except in the cases of those awarded first or scond prizes in Classes I., II., IV., and VI., who will only have to pay half the cost of analysis, the association being prepared to defray the other half, in order to secure a representative competition.

Foreign Notes.

Nuremberg.

A very moderate amount of business is passing, local buying having been much reduced. A little support was given to the market by some export orders, but these were not large enough to check the tendency towards weakness, which has been recently manifest. The range of prices is now very wide, owing to the superabundance of inferior lots still remaining unsold. Consumers will not entertain these qualities, therefore they are quoted in some instances as low as 30s. to 40s. But the value of any samples that can lay claim to colour and condition is still well maintained, best scaled Hallertons being held at 100s. to 105s., best Wurtembergs at 85s. to 90s., Badens 85s. to 95s., Saag 95s. to 105s., and Russians 80s. to 90s. Dealers are not anxious sellers of the higher grades, as they fully expect to realise better figures as the summer opens, but their patience is sorely tried by the continued cold weather, which has culminated in snow and frost in many districts.

The new growth

is being held in suspense, the progress made in April practically remaining at the same point for several weeks past. The young shoots need warmth, and although the condition of the soil has been favourable to cultivation, and the roots are healthy, the low temperature and cold rains have hindered development above ground. Nevertheless, planters are looking forward with confidence, and it appears probable that the yield throughout Germany, from the increased acreage, will be substantially larger than that of last year. In addition to the enlargement of the hop area in Germany previously referred to, I am advised that in Russia, and especially in the district of Volkynia, the plantations are more numerous this year.

Belgium.

Although business is quiet, values of hops have not materially declined. Alost 8 marks are quoted up to 48 francs, and Poperinghes stand at 47 to 48 francs. The present tendency is, however, towards lower quotations, the prolongation of the cold spring having checked the consumption of beer and diminished the output of the breweries. The plantations generally present a satisfactory aspect, although the progress of the growth is extremely slow, and warmer weather is anxiously looked for by traders in general, and by hop-growers in particular.

America.

Brewers are not buying many hops, but when compelled to replenish their stock, they do not hesitate to pay the advanced prices now firmly established. The New York market is very strong at the higher figures, which are now far in excess of the same period of two years ago. State hops are relatively holding a firmer position than Pacific Coast growths, in consequence of the scarcity of choice samples of the former, and yearlings and olds from all districts are in demand by dealers at full prices. Choice grades are being closely followed upwards by medium qualities, the lowest quotations for this class now standing at 16 to 17 cents, and the commonest Pacific being held at 11 to 12 cents.

From Madison Co. (N.Y.) I hear that new yards are being planted to replace some old ones that are ploughed up. Growers appear to be encouraged by the firm position of the market, and confidently anticipate a remunerative season this year.

The receipts of hops at New York from September 1st to May 2nd last were 79,312 bales, against 133,422 bales same time last year. Exports to Europe during this period have fallen from 58,534 bales in 1900-1 to 40,230 bales this season. Judging by the increasing consumption of beer in the U.S.A., it does not seem probable that the local demand for hops is likely to diminish. The outlook for the industry is therefore favourable on the whole survey of the position, and it does not at present appear that American competition will be a serious factor in the course of English business next season.

Appleby Whitsuntide Hirings took place on Monday, when there were plenty of masters and a good number of servants present, but business was slow, and high wages were asked. Female labour was scarce, particularly young girls. Good experienced men got £16 to £18, and in exceptional cases to £20 for the half-year to Martinmas. Second-class men £13 to £15, and young lads £6 to £8. Young women £10 to £12, and girls £9 to £10 the half-year.

Birmingham Horse Fair.—As a useful institution the Birmingham Horse Fair has practically ceased to exist. On Thursday the Whitsuntide fair took place in the Horse Fair, Bristol Street. The attendance of buyers and sellers was the smallest on record, and the market officials were unable to obtain any reliable prices. The animals were, as usual, drawn up on either side of the thoroughfare, along which they were in turn ridden or driven. Speaking generally, the animals were of an inferior character, fully a score changing hands at prices under £10. The really good cobs and heavy horses on show could have been counted on one's fingers. Very little business was done.

Carlisle Whitsuntide Hirings.—The Carlisle Whitsuntide hirings of farm servants were held on the 17th inst., in wet and stormy weather. There was a large attendance of all classes of servants, and being the first hirings in the district, high wages were asked all round. The best class of men asked up to £20 for the half-year ending Martinmas next, but £16 or £17 was, generally speaking, the highest wages obtained, anything above this being exceptional. Second-class men were engaged at from £10 to £13, and lads at from about £5 to £8, according to their age and capability. Women were scarce and difficult to hire, engagements being come to at £12 to £13 for the most experienced; others obtained from £9 or £10 upwards, whilst girls were hired at from £5 to £8, according to their age and usefulness. On the whole the hirings were slow and dragging.

SOCIETIES.

The Royal Agricultural Society.

Annual Meeting.

The sixty-third anniversary meeting of the Royal Agricultural Society was held on Thursday in the Society's House, 12, Hanover Square, London, H.R.H. Prince Christian (president) in the chair. Among those present were the Earl of Coventry, the Earl of Derby, Viscount Sidmouth, the President of the Board of Agriculture (Mr. Hanbury), Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart., Sir Oswald Mosley, Bart., Sir William Vincent, Bart., Mr. T. H. Elliott (Permanent Secretary to the Board of Agriculture), and Sir Ernest Clarke (Secretary of the Society).

The first business of the meeting was the election of president for the ensuing year, and the secretary read a letter from His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, in which His Royal Highness expressed the pleasure he would have in accepting the position, and stating that he looked upon it as a duty as well as a pleasure to accept the honour they offered him.

Mr. Hanbury, who was received with cheers, said the letter which they had just heard read from His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, accepting the office of president for the ensuing year—a letter the gracious character of which, he thought, was enhanced by the fact that the reply to their invitation was sent on the very day on which it was received—was a further proof of the active patronage and cordial co-operation which the Royal Family had always shown in connection with that great Society. Agriculture was, of course, the prince of industries, and it was surely well that our Princes should exhibit the special interest in that industry, which for so many years they had invariably shown. The presence of Prince Christian in the chair that day was proof of the distinction with which the office of president of the Society was being held during the present year. But this was not the first year, by any means, in which they had been so honoured. During 61 years, covering nearly the whole period of her illustrious reign, Queen Victoria was patron of the Society, and during the Jubilee year, when the meeting was held at Windsor, she was president of the Society. The Prince Consort was also president during another year. His Majesty King Edward VII. had been president on no less than four occasions, and now they were glad to know that the King had succeeded Queen Victoria as Patron of the Society over which, during four years, he was president. With regard to the Prince of Wales he joined the Society ten years ago, in the year 1892, as a Life Governor. In 1895 he became a Member of the Council, and in 1897, the year in which he became president of the Society, he also became a trustee. Therefore, the Prince of Wales would not enter on his duties during the ensuing year as a novice. A novice, indeed, they could not take him to be in any sense of the word, because they all knew the great success with which the Prince of Wales and the King had exhibited at their various shows. They had taken deep interest in agriculture generally, particularly in connection with the Society. Perhaps he might be allowed to refer to the speech which the Prince of Wales made on his return from his tour at the Mansion House. Possible the advice which His Royal Highness then gave, to "Wake up," might be applicable also to our oldest industry, that of agriculture, or, at any rate, to some branches of it; but he felt quite sure that the vivifying influence of His Royal Highness, as president of the Society, would have a most encouraging effect on that body. Agriculture, although the oldest industry, was one which must constantly renew its youth. Perhaps more than any other it had to deal with new discoveries, new methods, and, he was afraid also, with new competitors from year to year. Therefore it was well that they should have a president of a progressive character. It was a very high honour to be allowed to propose, as he had now the privilege of proposing, "That His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales be elected president of this Society during the year following the meeting at Carlisle.' (Cheers.)

Mr. C. S. Read, in seconding the motion, referred to the association of the King and the Prince of Wales with Norfolk, and to the deep interest they took in every charitable, patriotic, and philanthropic movement in that county. The Royal Agricultural Society, in giving up its wanderings for a settled home in London, was only too glad to be honoured with the presidency of the Prince of Wales in the coming year. (Cheers.)

The chairman congratulated the Society upon the fact that the Prince of Wales would be president during the ensuing year, and the resolution was carried.

The trustees, vice-presidents, and council having been re-elected,

The Secretary then read the annual report, extracts from which were printed in our last issue.

Sir William Vincent, in moving the adoption of the report, said it was satisfactory to note that

the assets of the society showed a considerable increase over last year, and that no insect attack had been reported. On the whole the report was satisfactory, and showed the value of such an institution constantly on the watch to help agriculturists to find out some of the causes which were a constant source of disappointment. He asked if any information could be given with regard to the attack on oak trees, which had been so prevalent where they were largely grown. The state of things with regard to the contagious diseases of animals was in some respects very satisfactory.

Mr. James Edwards (Bristol), in seconding the motion, referred to the permanent showyard near London, to which the society was committed, and said he hoped opportunity might be taken to give an area for a trial ground for tillage implements.

The President said they had suffered a great deal in Windsor Park from caterpillars. The moths laid the eggs in the bark of the trees, and the early caterpillars grew with the leaves. He had been in communication with people in Germany on the subject, but could obtain no remedy. The only thing seemed to be to encourage the starlings, which destroyed the caterpillars, as much as possible.

The report was carried unanimously.

Mr. Clare Sewell Read suggested that the Council should consider the practicability of having a permanent seed-testing establishment for national use, open to every owner, farmer, and seedsman, for certain well-regulated fees. The Central Chamber of Agriculture was about to ask the President of the Board of Agriculture to undertake the task, but he hoped that gentleman would make a better use of his money, for he thought it had better be done by the Royal Agricultural Society. (Hear, hear.)

Sir Ernest Clarke said there would be a conference on June 5 next between the delegates of the Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland and the Royal Agricultural Society for the purpose of ascertaining whether it was possible for the two national societies to agree upon a common line of action on the question and upon a uniform method of testing seeds and reporting results. (Hear, hear.) Mr. Read's suggestion would be placed before that conference.

A vote of thanks to the President terminated the proceedings.

Yorkshire Union.

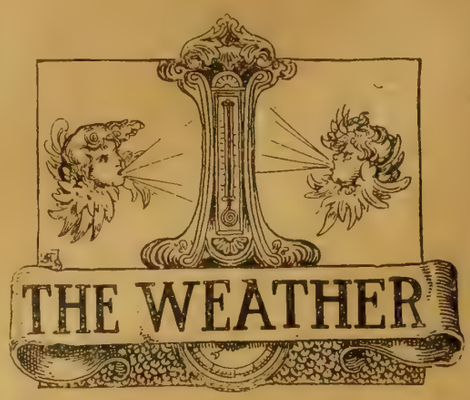
The next general meeting of the Yorkshire Union of Agricultural Clubs and Chambers of Agriculture will be held at the Agricultural Club House, Pavement, York, on Thursday, June 12th, at 2.30 p.m., the agenda for which is as follows:

1. General business.
2. Communications.
3. Sheep scab and the dipping of sheep.—Report of the General Purposes Committee.
4. The Rating of Machinery Bill and the Education Bill.—Report of the Parliamentary Committee.
5. The butter regulations.—Report of the Education and Dairying Committee.
6. The supply of empty railway waggons.—Report of the Railway Rates Committee.
7. Sheep-worrying by dogs.—To be introduced by the President.

Sleaford May Hiring.—The May hirings at Sleaford took place on Monday, when the attendance was the largest on record. Wages had an upward tendency, but a large amount of hiring was done. Milkmaids were extremely scarce, and experienced females commanded higher wages than ever previously. Head waggoners made £20 to £25; second hands, £16 to £18; horsemen, £18 to £20; plough boys, £12 to £15; farm lads, £8 to £10; young girls, £8 to £10; generals, £16 to £18; cooks, £18 to £22.

Twenty per Cent. Reduction of Rent.—At the Earl of Derby's rent audit on Thursday for the townships of Macclesfield Forest, Rainow, and Wildboarclough, the tenants received an allowance of 20 per cent. for the half-year. A telegram was received from the Earl of Derby regretting that his duties in connection with the Coronation, and as Guild Mayor of Preston, prevented him being present.

Helmsley Spring Fair.—At this fair on Monday there was a large attendance of both buyers and dealers, and a lot of stock on offer. There was a general disposition to sell, and prices were low. For sheep, good Leicester hogs in wool made 36s. to 46s.; ewes, 25s. to 40s.; and Masham hogs, 22s. to 30s. each. For bullocks, three-year-olds in forward condition made £11 to £14; two-year-olds, £7 to £10; year old, £4 to £6; and calving cows, £10 to £16. There was a big show of horses, and fairly good prices were realised. Good carters made up to £40; young carters, from two years old, up to £20; 'bus horses or light drays, £27 to £28; and army cobs, up to £30 per head. Young stock were not much in evidence, and inferior quality were a drug on the market.



Friday (May 16th).—The weather was generally very unsettled over our islands, but a considerable rise of temperature had occurred. Rain was measured nearly everywhere in the morning, as the result of the fall in the preceding twenty-four hours, but the amounts were mostly small. There was a large amount of cloud during the day over the whole country, and rain again fell in many places. There was no frost in any part of England during Thursday night, but temperatures during the day were again low for the time of year.

Saturday and Sunday (May 17th and 18th).—The weather continued very unsettled over our islands during these two days, and heavy rain fell over the whole country. On Saturday a cyclonic disturbance had its centre over Scotland, and later in the day it travelled South-Eastwards, occasioning a considerable increase of wind from the North-West. During Saturday evening a North-West gale was experienced in the English Channel, and the wind was strong on our coasts yesterday. The nights were fairly warm, the thermometer generally not falling below 40deg., but the days continued cold for the time of year, the readings nowhere touching 60deg.

Monday (May 19th).—Strong and squally North and North-West winds prevailed over our islands, and showers were again experienced in many places. Rain was measured in the morning, as the result of the fall in the preceding twenty-four hours, over the entire country, but the amounts were not generally large. The mid-day temperatures were again unseasonably low, the thermometer in the shade nowhere touching 60deg. There was a fair amount of bright sunshine during the day, especially in the Northern and Western districts.

Tuesday (May 20th).—A cold Northerly wind was blowing over our islands, and the temperature still remained very low for the time of year. Small amounts of rain were measured in the morning, as the result of the fall in the preceding twenty-four hours, except at a few of the Western stations, and slight showers were experienced again during the day. Temperature varied considerably in different part of the country during Monday night, readings ranging between 35deg. and 45deg., while during the day the highest readings were generally 10deg. or more below the average.

Wednesday (May 21st).—Fine weather prevailed in most parts of our islands, and although the wind continued chiefly from the North and North-West, it had moderated considerably. Slight rain was measured in the morning, as the result of the fall in the preceding twenty-four hours, at a few places in different parts of the Kingdom; but the air had become drier than of late. Temperature had risen in most places, although readings were still low for the time of year, the thermometer at mid-day standing highest in the South-West districts.

Thursday (May 22nd).—A considerable change has occurred in the weather over our islands, and the winds were everywhere Westerly or South-Westerly. A further rise of temperature had occurred, but, owing to the great prevalence of cloud, the day readings continued low for the time of the year. Rain was measured in the morning, as the result of the fall in the preceding twenty-four hours, at many places in the North and West, where further rain again fell during the day, and the rain area was extending to other parts of the United Kingdom. The temperature nowhere touched 60deg., and in London, where rain fell throughout the afternoon, the highest reading of the thermometer was 57deg.

Friday (May 23rd).—A further rise of temperature had, yesterday, occurred over our islands, and in Scotland and the north of England, notwithstanding that the weather was dull and rainy, the thermometer touched a higher point than on any previous occasion this month, the reading in the shade exceeding sixty degrees. Rain had fallen since Thursday morning over the entire Kingdom, and the measurements were large at some of the western stations. There was a further fall of rain in many places during the day, and fog or mist was very prevalent. The day was dull and gloomy in London, but there was no rain after the early morning; the temperature in the afternoon touched sixty degrees, which is warmer than any previous day this month.

Saturday and Sunday (May 24th and 25th).—Very fine weather prevailed over our islands during these two days, and the temperature touched a higher reading than on any previous day this year. In the Midland districts the thermometer in the shade rose to seventy degrees, and the temperature was generally above the average. The nights were also warm, and the whole character of the weather had changed in this respect. Scarcely any rain fell anywhere, and very little rain is reported from any part of Western Europe. A light westerly wind continued over the whole country.

Great Harwood Agricultural Show.

The forty-fifth annual show of the Great Harwood (Lancashire) Agricultural Society, held on Tuesday, was in every way a success. To begin with, the entries reached a record number—1,020, as compared with 935 last year. Then, the weather was most favourable and the attendance of visitors very large. The quality of the cattle and horses was of a high order, whilst the minor departments of the show were very full, dogs and poultry being particularly well represented. Luncheon was served in a marquee on the ground, the President (Captain Trappes-Lomax) being supported by Mr. J. Rutherford, M.P., and other gentlemen. In proposing the toast of the Society, the President observed that theirs was one of the most ancient agricultural shows in the county, and in this respect, he believed, it was only headed by Whalley. Since its foundation, in 1857, its history had been almost symbolic of the town it represented. The present exhibition had beaten the record for the number of entries. The horses were judged by Mr. C. W. Brierley Brimfield, and the cattle and sheep by Mr. Dewhurst (Southport); and their awards were as follows:—

CATTLE.

Bull, any age: 1, F. Miller; 2, T. Atkinson; 3, W. Walsh. Ditto calf, under 12 months: 1, R. and T. Harrison; 2, T. Atkinson; 3, exors. Thomas Horsfall. Cow for dairy purposes: 1 and silver cup, W. Walsh; 2, E. Farrow; 3, Eli Smith and Sons. Heifer, under three years: 1, John Harrison; 2, John Haslam. Ditto, not more than two broad teeth: 1, R. and T. Harrison; 2, W. Walsh. Ditto calf: 1, R. and T. Harrison; 2, John Harrison. Geld or fat cow: 1, J. and W. Lord; 2, T. Walker. Fat heifer or bullock: 1, Pickup and Oddie; 2, R. Green. Lying-off cow: 1, Eli Smith and Sons; 2, E. Farrar.

TENANT FARMERS' CLASS.

Geld cow: 1, T. Walker; 2, Wall Paper Manufacturing Co. Extra stock (open): Collection of not less than three: 1, R. and T. Harrison; 2, T. Atkinson.

SHEEP (Open).

Dodded tup hogg: 1, R. Cockshutt. Half-bred ewes, three, with lambs at foot: 1, J. Blackburn; 2, W. Walsh. Three lonk ewes: 1, J. Blackburn; 2, J. C. Ashworth. Three fat wethers, any breed: 1 and 2, R. Pickup. Three fat lambs, any breed: 1 and 2, R. Pickup. Ditto, lambed in 1902: 1, W. Walsh; 2, J. S. Haworth.

HEAVY HORSES (Open).

Colt or filly, foaled 1902: 1, J. Billington; 2, J. Crook. Ditto or gelding, foaled 1901: 1, H. W. Kearns; 2, J. Maudsley. Mare or gelding, not over two years: 1, H. W. Kearns. Ditto, not over three years: 1, J. Whittaker and Sons; 2, John Smith; 3, John Sharples. Ditto, not over four years: 1, Miss Hick; 2, T. Tomlinson. Brood mare: 1, E. Whittaker; 2, J. Crook; 3, J. Billington. Mare or gelding, not exceeding 16 hands: 1, A. M. Peebles and Son, Limited; 2, T. Hanson; 3, J. Sharples. Ditto, over 16 hands: 1, T. Edwards; 2, H. W. Kearns; 3, Miss Hick.

TENANT FARMERS' CLASS.

Mare and foal: 1, silver cup, James Crook; 2, E. Whittaker.

LOCAL CLASSES.

Mare or gelding, team or agriculture: 1, J. Whittaker and Sons; 2, A. M. Peebles and Son; 3, T. Tomlinson. Ditto for saddle or harness: 1, W. C. Moon; 2, W. Houldsworth; 3, J. S. Haworth.

LIGHT HORSES (Open).

Brood mare: 1, A. Nuttall; 2, C. V. Haworth. Colt or filly, foaled in 1902: 1, C. V. Haworth; 2, A. A. Haley. Mare or gelding, foaled in 1901: 1, J. Shorrock; 2, R. Horn. Ditto, not over two years: 1, W. Lawson; 2, A. Nuttall. Ditto, not over three years: 1, W. Lawson; 2, A. A. Haley. Ditto, not over four years: 1, J. C. Glover; 2, A. Nuttall. Ditto, for road or field: 1, silver cup, A. A. Haley; 2, A. L. Goodson; 3, T. A. Collier. Ditto hunter: 1, J. L. Irving. Cob, mare or gelding, over 14 and not exceeding 15 hands: 1, W. Lawson; 2, T. A. Collier; 3, T. C. M'Kibbin. Ditto, over 13 and not exceeding 14 hands: 1, T. R. Evans; 2, A. D. Oates; 3, T. C. M'Kibbin. Ditto, not exceeding 13 hands: 1, Richard Harrison; 2, Charles Ibbotson; 3, A. R. Robinson. Cleanest decorated mare or gelding, shown in cart gears: 1, L. and Y. Railway Company; 2, J. Sharples; 3, T. Hanson.

Ashbourne May Fair.—The annual fair for horses, cattle, and sheep at Ashbourne was held on Wednesday. The show of horned stock was about an average one, but trade was very slow, except for beef and nice young barren cows, which made good prices. Beef realised 6d. to 7½d. per lb., calving cows £15 to £20, nice fresh barren cows or heifers £10 to £12, calving stirks £10 10s. to £13, and yearling bulls £5 to £8 each. Sheep were not a large show, prices ruled low, except for mutton, which was very dear. Hogs made 30s. to 35s. each. Ewes with lambs 50s. to 60s., good fat lambs 30s to 40s. each. Not a large show of horses. Useful animals in good demand, and changed hands at high prices.

FARM PROSPECTS.

Derbyshire (West).

The weather is getting more like spring, much milder, and there has been several hours' rain to-day. The pastures are very backward, as is the spring, altogether very late. Owing to the exceptionally cold weather we have had several hail storms this week. There is a good show for fruit if the frost has not damaged the blossoms. If we get genial, warm weather, the prospect of crops will be better than last year. Beef and mutton very scarce, and selling higher than for some years past. Milch cows are milking well, where they are fed, in addition to the grass, with a little cake.—C. M. (May 22nd.)

Devon.

We have had a very cold May, the coldest the writer ever remembers. Last week there were some heavy showers, and as the temperature is getting warmer, the appearance of the country is slowly improving. Grass is very scarce on most farms, the stock having eaten it down close to the ground; more rain is wanted to ensure a crop of hay, although warmer weather will help it onward. Wheat looks well on the whole; spring corn varies a good deal, the early-sown looking very well, whereas the late-sown is backward, the cold dry weather having hindered its growth. Mangold were sown early, and are just coming up, the rain having helped them; land is now being worked for the turnip crop. Fat stock has sold well this spring, but store cattle and sheep have not been in much request lately, owing to scarcity of keep; wool keeps at a very low price. Orchards are in full blossom, and there appears to be a good prospect of fruit, unless untoward weather occurs. A good rainfall is still needed for almost everything.—L. B. G. (May 22nd.)

Essex (Mid).

The month of May has been one of the very coldest of recent years, with two nights in succession of 5deg. of frost, and unfortunately all the crops have suffered. The wheats were last to give way, but now this last few days they have wasted and turned yellow, and it is doubtful if they will recover except on lands in good heart. Early picking peas have suffered much, and all fruit outside must be next to nothing. Water is again very scarce in this district, the ponds being as low as they generally are in the middle of summer, and the prospects of next year's harvest are not very bright as things in general look at present. Wheats have risen in price, but there is very little left to sell. The young clovers have wasted very considerably, and a short crop of hay must now be the result of both clover and grass, there not being time for otherwise. Beef has been selling well, mutton fairly; pork dear, also store pigs. Store cattle only fair trade. Store sheep and lambs a bad trade on account of scarcity of feed, and fat lamb trade is only a fair market. It is difficult to understand the idea of the present Budget taxing all feeding stuffs, which is really a protection to foreign meat trade against the English farmer, and has already increased offals 5 to 7 per cent. at the very least. It is also difficult to understand increased burdens on the rates for schools, when certainly 75 per cent. of our rural population migrate into the towns, and there is no doubt that in any universal scheme for education the expense should fall on the Imperial taxes, which should be controlled by an elected committee for each school.

All parishes round here are propounding some scheme to celebrate the Coronation. One very general idea is giving about 1lb. of meat per head to all parishioners, thus securing a good feed to everyone on that day, beside getting up other festivities for the occasion.—C. P. B. (May 23rd).

Glamorgan.

As a rule, we generally expect some cold days in the month of May, but during the first three weeks of this month we have had the coldest weather I can remember for this season, without one warm day, consequently vegetation has been much checked, and grass and cereal crops are looking badly for the time of year. Yesterday we had a change; temperature became several degrees warmer, and welcome showers of warm rain continued throughout the day. This will change the outlook.

Owing to the slo wprogress of the cereal crop, the ravages of wireworm are visible in many parts, and more especially in the case of wheat, which is certainly thin in places.

A considerable area of mangolds have been drilled, but the cold and frosty nights have checked growth of the young plants. The sowing of swedes will now be commenced, and, where the land was cleaned in the autumn, can be proceeded with; but if we should get a wet time the uncleaned lands intended for swedes and turnips will be delayed in the sowing thereof. Up to the present the land is deficient in moisture. The rain we have had has only been sufficient to keep plant-life going. The present state of pools and water-storage is quite inadequate to meet farmers' requirements and enable them to get through another dry summer, and more rain at once would be acceptable and beneficial for the country. Prices of beef and mutton are now satisfactory, but there are only a few farmers who have any beef to sell at this time of year.—C. J. S. (May 24th).

Gloucestershire (North-West).

What a difference weather makes to farming. On Tuesday last we had one of the sharpest frosts of the spring, which cut all the early potatoes and made many feel anxious for their mangold plants just coming through; whilst at our local market, with beef and mutton selling at over 8d. per lb., store cattle and sheep were almost unsaleable; but two days of warm rain have greatly improved the prospects of this year, as probably we may now get fair crops of hay and clover. But as the grass will be very succullent, and stock generally is in low condition, great care will be necessary to prevent loss amongst cattle and sheep.

Wheat keeps a good colour, but is thin on the ground. Spring corn was got in well, and came up satisfactorily, but much of it is badly damaged by wire-worm, which this year are unusually prevalent. Apple and pear trees continue promising, and the nice rain we are now having should help set the fruit; but plums are almost a failure. Work is well forward, with labourers rather more plentiful.—J. H. W. (May 16th.)

Lincolnshire (South).

After a long, cold, and dry N.E. wind, we were favoured with a splendid S.W. rain last night, which should improve the outlook in this district very much.

The grass and mustards are in particular need of warmer weather. Wheats on the whole are looking well, also the barleys, oats, and peas and beans. Very little turnip seed is standing, the flies having worked the young plants last autumn, and the sharp frosts which we have had nearly every night during the past fortnight are not at all suitable for the earlier pieces, which are now in full bloom. The same may be said of the early potatoes, which have just managed to peep through, having all been levelled to the ground. A very small stock of old potatoes now remains to be cleared out, and prices have somewhat improved during the last few weeks. An old wheat stack is almost a novelty here now, and I am afraid a very little lies in the granaries; 32s and 33s. the price at market last week. Keeping is very scarce and most of the stock are now out in the fields, as nothing remained in the yards.

Those who bought in their sheep some two months ago should find them leave a fair margin for profit, as both mutton and beef are selling well. We are once more free from swine fever, and the market is open again, which is a great boon to the whole district. All kinds of pigs are very dear.—R. M. W. (May 18th.)

Salop.

I should think we could not imagine better weather for the crops all round, unless we could have rain and sunshine at the same time. The sun is gaining more power now, while the showers fall and saturate the ground. All crops look very promising, while in the stock market there is a demand in all stock and a sharp inquiry for pigs to put up to feed.—J. E. (May 23).

Somerset.

On the whole, the growing crops of corn look very promising. The cold, dry winds have told adversely on some fields of wheat, where the land is cold and thin in soil. A few fields of late wheat, barley and oats have been a good deal damaged by the wireworm. Rain, which was badly needed, came in beautiful soft showers during most of the day yesterday, also in the night. The weather is much warmer to-day, so that a fair crop of hay and roots will, in all probability, be gathered in due season from the greater part of the useful land in this county. The apple trees are in full bloom, and promise another abundant crop. Beef, pork, and mutton fell at better prices than for some time past, also grazing cattle, which are scarce and dear. There will not be much early grass beef, on account of the cold winds, which have prevented the cattle from putting on flesh, except in a few favoured and sheltered spots, and where a good deal of cake has been fed.—J. B. (May 23rd.)

Wiltshire.

The promise of an early, or at least a normal, spring has been broken by a very frosty and ungenial May, consequently the food of sheep is very scarce, and a vast area of seeds, which should have produced hay, has been eaten by them. Wheat on the best land is very gross, some dangerously heavy. Such pieces will be good if the summer is very dry, but if wet will be useless. Barley and oats promise well on light land, but are very backward on heavy soil, some only just appearing. Roots have gone in under favourable conditions. The value of all live stock has been satisfactory, except in the case of store sheep. The scarcity of food is likely to keep down prices for some months.—J. S. (May 23rd.)

Wilts (West).

With the splendid rain of yesterday, the prospect has greatly improved, but unless the weather continues genial for some time to come the season cannot be favourable, more especially to pasture farmers, grass being very short, and the hay crop is likely to be very deficient, with practically no old to fall back on, which makes the outlook somewhat serious.

Clover and sanfoin promises a fair crop. It has been a good time for working the land. Mangold, kale, and early turnip seed has never gone in better. Wheat, of which there is only a small acreage, is variable. The higher prices will benefit only a few, as nearly all last year's crop was thrashed and sold at a wretchedly low figure. Spring corn looks much as usual at this time of year. Beef, through scarcity, is making a good price. On the other hand, mutton is plentiful and has barely paid for producing. Store sheep are selling worse than for many years past.—T. P. (May 23rd).

Worcestershire (South).

Everything in this district is quite a fortnight behind what it should be, and the season is one of the latest in my remembrance; there have been frosts almost every night this month, which has done great damage to all kinds of fruit trees, plums in some plantations being nearly all destroyed; bush fruits have also suffered severely. Wheat is looking well, as a rule, but on poor, cold land, is a thin plant and a bad colour. Barley went into a good seed bed, and is looking well and healthy. Beans are fair, but will be short in the straw. Oats have suffered in many places from wire worm. Peas generally are not promising, as they have been much injured by the frost, and have made but little progress. Beef is a good trade, being very scarce. Mutton not so good. Store cattle of all kinds fetch good prices, which is rather surprising as keep is so very short. There must be a poor crop of hay. Whatever weather comes now, the outlook for next winter is a very dark one, as almost all the old haystacks are gone. Wheat has advanced in price, but that cannot benefit the farmer, as all feeding stuffs have gone up in comparison, so it is only putting the money in one pocket and taking it out of the other.—F. W. H.

Foreign Prospects.

FRANCE.—The renewal of unsettled weather, with thunderstorms in various places, is making farmers rather apprehensive of definite injury to the cereal crops; at the same time they are thereby induced to hold on to their wheat reserves, while millers buy very sparingly, and the demand for 6d to 1s. advance almost completely stopped business on Paris market.

BELGIUM.—Crop prospects are regarded as normal.

GERMANY.—The unusually cold and damp season is causing uneasiness as to the well-being of cereal crops, and higher temperature and less rain are earnestly desired. However, although vegetation is backward, prospects remain, on the whole, fairly good, but harvest is expected to be late.

HOLLAND.—Weather unsettled, and at times inclement, and crops, although backward, are not considered to be in much danger.

HUNGARY.—The recent official report tells of some damage to the cereal crops, but, in the aggregate, their condition is fairly satisfactory, and warm weather would soon restore them.

RUSSIA.—Weather has become milder, and rain fell all over Central and Southern regions. In Baltic provinces the temperature was below the normal.

ROUMANIA.—With weather fine and mild, the crop outlook is satisfactory.

SPAIN.—Cold and frosty weather is reported to have somewhat impaired the fine condition of the cereal crops.

ITALY.—Last week, rain, hail, and snow were prevalent in many parts of the country, proving injurious to autumn-sown crops, except wheat, which looks well, and interfering with the completion of spring work.

SWITZERLAND.—Cold and rainy weather has been detrimental to the crops, and wheat is losing colour.

NORTH AFRICA.—In Tunis the harvest will be backward, by reason of unfavourable weather.

ASIA MINOR.—Advices from Smyrna say crop prospects continue excellent.

UNITED STATES.—This week has been a little less uniformly favourable for vegetation than the preceding one, but the condition of all crops is maintained. The wheat condition is fairly good, but heading is low in some instances. In California slight showers fell recently, bringing the rainfall this season up to 18⅞in., compared with 20¼in. same time last year.—*Dornbusch.*

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—The attendance was moderate, and the market for wheat ruled firm for English and white foreign sorts, but American were dull and 3d to 6d lower on the week. Flour quiet, unchanged for all kinds. Maize firm and 3d to 4½d dearer, with a fair demand. Barley firm and 1½d to 3d dearer, but quiet. Oats firm and 3d to 6d dearer. Beans and peas quiet.

Mark Lane, Friday.—Prices remain at a high range, both as to bread and feeding stuffs. English wheat remains nominal here, being out of supply, and what little offers in local resorts is readily taken up. Whites range at 33s to 35s, and reds 32s 6d to 34s 6d per qr, delivered. Free on rail in country, good, 63lb, reds, held for 33s, and rather over. American reds rather easier since last Friday, owing to more liberal arrivals. The spot premium of 6d per qr, which was current a fortnight ago, has now quite disappeared, and No. 1 Northern Duluth inspection rules at 31s 6d; No. 1 Northern Manitoba, 31s 6d; and No. 2, 31s ex ship. White is smaller compass. Australian, 32s 6d to 32s 9d, ex ship, 496lb. Californian, in same position, 32s 6d, with Walla Walla held for 32s. Flour, although again manifesting a subdued tone, showed no actual weakness, while bakers' grades are still extremely scarce. Arrivals of American, while less kept down than of late, go readily into consumption, and there is no pressure to sell, 25s being quoted for Golden Lily, Pillsbury best, and 25s 6d for Mayblossom. Of second patents, Guinea Gold, 23s 6d. Of bakers' grades, Iron Duke 20s 6d, and Princess Royal 21s ex store. English unaltered. Top price town-made, 30s net; No. 1 households, 23s per sack delivered at the mill door; Cascadias, 23s to 23s 6d; whole meal, 184s per ton. Australian patents quoted at 23s 6d to 24s per 280lb ex store. Grinding barley remains firm and in small supply. Malting unaltered. Oats 3d better since Friday last, and very scarce. Common Libau, 20s 6d to 20s 9d 38lb, ex quay; Riga held for 21s ex quay; 40lb Libau, etc., fair 23s in same position, and bold 23s 6d. Fine Konigsberg, 23s 3d to 23s 6d, ex quay, 40lb. New Zealand ordinary bluff, 27s to 28s, ex store, 384lb. English oats fully supported. Black winters, 42lb, 25s 6d; and fancy qualities, 26s; grey winters, 24s to 25s 42lb. Scotch oats, weighing the same, 25s 6d up to about 27s for choice potato. Maize 3d dearer on the week for round corn, and sparingly offered. Odessa held for 22s 9d, ex ship to come up, and 23s 6d ex quay. Mixed American maize remains out of supply and nominal. Imported beans and peas unaltered.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Wheat: Owing to short supply, late high prices were sustained, though the amount of business was limited. Barleys were unaltered. Oats steadily supported recent quotations. Beans and peas scarce and dear. White wheat, 33s to 35s; brown ditto, 33s to 35s. Malting barley: None; grinding ditto, 24s to 26s. Black oats, 20s to 24s; white ditto, 22s to 26s. Old beans, 33s to 38s. Grey peas, 35s to 36s.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Wheat firm at 34s to 35s per qr for both red and white samples. Feeding corn unchanged. Household flour, 29s; whites, 30s per sack.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, red, 32s to 33s per qr. Beans, new, 37s to 38s per qr. Oats, black, 23s to 24s per qr. Wheat in small supply, with no alteration in prices.

Braintree, Wednesday.—A fair supply and quiet trade at last week's prices, reds making up to 33s 6d, and white 34s per qr.

Brighton, Thursday.—New white wheat, 33s 6d to 34s 6d; new red ditto, 33s to 33s 6d; barley, 32s to 34s; grinding ditto, 23s to 24s; English oats, 23s to 26s; English wheat, 6d per qr. lower. Oats and barley firm at last week's prices. Quiet trade. Small attendance.

Birmingham, Thursday. — Poor attendance, and trade quiet. Foreign wheats about 3d easier. English firm at 12s 9d to 13s per bag. Grinding barley unchanged to 3d dearer, realising £1 6s to £1 1s per qr Liverpool. Maize firmer, round commanding 22s 6d to 23s 6d per qr Sharpness. Galatz-Foxanian, 23s to 23s 6d Sharpness. Oats scarce and firm.

Boston, Wednesday.—Wheat, 37s 6d; oats, 24s; beans, 34s to 36s.

Bristol, Thursday.—The holidays have affected the trade this week, and in consequence there seems to have been very little doing. What English wheat was offering made fully late rates. American red wheat was, owing to rather large arrivals, about 3d lower. Maize 3d dearer. Barley and oats unaltered. Flour market quiet, owing to holidays, and not many sales.—GRACE BROTHERS.

Bury St. Edmunds, Wednesday.—Wheat: The supply was rather better. Trade was quiet, but the prices made were about equal to last week's; reds, 32s to 33s; whites, 32s to 33s per 504lb. Oats scarce and firm, and again the turn dearer; good samples now make as much as 24s 6d to 27s per qr; black, 24s to 25s 6d; German, 25s 6d to 26s per 336lb. Maize, 3d per qr. dearer, at 24s 6d, delivered. Beans, peas, and lentils firm; Dun peas making 35s to 36s; and tick beans, 36s to 39s per qr. Feeding stuffs steady.

Cambridge, Saturday.—During the week the wheat trade has been very dull; supply is too limited to drop much, but millers are indifferent buyers. At this market to-day there was only a limited supply of wheat, but buyers were careless, and sellers were forced to make a slight concession in price. Wheat, red, 32s to 33s; white up to 33s per 504lb. Spring corn was very scarce and dear, oats making up to 25s per 336lb. Beans, 36s to 38s per 384t.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Wheat scarcely so firm; oats still dearer. Ruling prices: White wheat, 33s to 35s 6d; red, 32s to 34s; grinding barley, 22s to 24s; white oats, 24s to 26s; black oats, 22s to 24s; grey peas, 35s to 36s; tick beans, 38s to 40s; mazagans, 34s to 35s; round maize, 24s to 26s; flat, 29s to 30s per qr.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Small supply of oats in our market to-day; good demand at last week's prices, 23s 9d to 25s per 336lb.—THOMAS ROBINSON.

Chester, Saturday.—Wheat and oats firm and unchanged, and beans and barley quiet at recent values. Lower grades of round Indian corn more plentiful, and 6d per sack cheaper. Quotations:—Wheat, white and red, 4s 7d to 4s 8d per 75lb; malting barley, 4s 2d to 4s 4d per 60lb; grinding barley, 3s 6d to 3s 8d per 64lb; beans, 5s 10d to 6s per 80lb; oats, new, 3s 2d to 3s 4d; old, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; Indian corn, new, 12s 6d to 14s 3d; old, 13s to 14s 9d per 240lb.

Colchester, Saturday.—There was but a small supply of wheat to-day, which sold at 6d reduction on last week's prices. Beans and oats: Prices were well maintained.—FRANCIS AND CO.

Croydon, Thursday.—White wheat, 33s to 34s; red ditto, 32s to 33s. Malting barley: None; grinding, 23s to 25s. Oats, 21s to 23s. Beans, 33s to 35s. Peas, 31s to 32s. Trade for wheat firm, only a very little on offer. Oats dearer. Beans and peas no alteration.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There was about the usual attendance at our market. Wheat and flour steady, with small trade passing. Indian corn, still none on spot; round corn 1½d to 3d per 280lb cheaper, owing to fresh arrivals. Home and foreign oats quiet trade, with prices steady. Grinding beans and Canadian pease, fair trade at late rates. Barley quiet. Bran and thirds unchanged. Oatmeal, 1s per sack dearer.—GIBSON AND CLARK.

Leeds, Tuesday.—Weather again cold and ungenial. The holidays naturally restrict business, and there is little change in the general position from last week. Wheat must be called fully as dear, with a moderate consumption demand. Maize, 6d dearer. Beans, 3d lower. Oats firmly held, but slow.—DUNNS AND CO.

Leicester, Saturday.—Fair attendance of buyers and dealers. Small supplies of home-grown wheats. Trade quiet at 31s to 35s per 36st. Oats firm.

Lewes, Tuesday.—New white wheat, 33s to 35s; new brown ditto, 33s to 34s. Malting barley, 33s to 36s; grinding ditto, 21s to 24s. Oats, 22s to 26s. Beans, 37s to 40s. Peas, 36s to 42s per qr.

Liverpool, Friday.—The market has had a fair attendance, but wheat generally has been in slow request, although in some cases a fair business has been put through, but, owing to large arrivals, prices are ½d to 1d lower than last Friday. Flour has not been in much request, but, in view of the small stock available, holders of foreign brands are very steady in their views. No change is quoted in price of either foreign or home-milled flour. Maize: Mixed is quiet; but steady at previous quotations. European experiences a quiet trade at about ½d under last Friday. Plate, new crop, owing to continued free arrivals, shows a loss of 1½d on the week, but meets a fair inquiry at the decline. Barley: Malting is very slow, and prices are unchanged. Feeding steady, but quiet. Beans: Saidis are again 6d lower, but hold steadily at the decline. Peas rather quieter owing to more liberal arrivals. Oats are firm. White English meets a fair demand at full prices, particularly for the better qualities. Foreign sorts are quiet except Canadian, which, being scarce, are held at ½d per bushel advance. Oatmeal firm, and, owing to scarcity, 6d to 1s per load is wanted for Canadian; other quotations unchanged. Oilcake: A good demand has again been experienced for cotton cakes. Linseed is only in moderate den and.—SEGAR AND TUNNICLIFFE.

Maidstone, Thursday.—Quiet wheat trade to-day, at full prices of last week, but as most millers are fairly well stocked a rise in cost is not stimulated. The high price of feed corn results in a small business; no disposition to go beyond present need. No change of any importance in other grains, seeds, or meal.

Manchester, Thursday.—A holiday tone has ruled throughout, and values have undergone little testing in any direction. English wheat and foreign also are pretty much as seven days ago. A quiet tone continues to rule in wheat, but millers on the whole are steady at quotations. Indian corn maintains late rates. Oats and barley are moving quietly at firm prices. Peas and beans on the week are scarcely firm.

Newport, Wednesday.—A small number of buyers were present, doubtless owing to the holidays, and the little business done was at last week's prices.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—A fair demand for wheat at our to-day's market at last week's quotations. Oats firm, with an upward tendency. Peas scarce and prices favouring sellers. Beans 3d to 6d per qr lower on the week. Barley unchanged, with a quiet demand. No change in flour. Maize 6d to 9d per 480lb dearer since last Saturday.—JOSEPH POLLARD AND CO.

Norwich, Saturday.—The quantity of wheat on offer here to-day was somewhat smaller than of late; the demand from the milling trade was somewhat inactive, but no reduction in prices was noted. There was no barley offering. The weather has greatly improved in Norfolk during the last day or two, to-day having been warm and genial, and calculated to bring on vegetation, which is somewhat backward.

Northampton, Saturday.—Good attendance, but a very limited number of samples of farm produce on offer. Nobody appeared anxious to do business, especially buyers. Business very quiet, at about last week's prices. White wheat, 32s to 34s; red ditto, 32s to 33s; oats, 20s to 23s; old, fine, 26s; beans, 34s to 40s; flour, 23s to 24s; fine, 28s.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Wheat: Hardly a sample offering from the grower, and full rates supported. Grinding barley: Steady trade at unaltered rates. Oats: Small supply, and 6d to 1s higher. Beans scarce, and full prices maintained.—ROBT. HUBBLE.

Norwich, Saturday.—There is no alteration to note in the wheat trade since my last report. The weather of the past week has been cold and showery, but a change has set in to-day for the better, the atmosphere being mild and balmy, with a southerly wind, which is very acceptable. Wheat, red, 32s 6d to 33s 6d per qr, weight 63lb per bushel imperial. Corn inspector's return for the week ending 19th May, 1902:—Wheat, 2,399, 31s 7d.—J. ARTHUR MILLS.

Peterborough, Saturday.—The change to more seasonable weather made the wheat trade slow to-day, and sales were only possible at 6d per qr less money. Oats still scarce and tending upwards; other feeding stuffs unaltered.—THOMAS HILL AND SON.

Reading, Saturday.—A shortness in the supply of wheat was again observable at our market to-day, and this had the effect of making trade fairly brisk; while throughout the day a firm tone prevailed, and the recent advanced figures were well upheld, ranging from 33s to 36s per qr. Grinding barley only on offer, and this, as well as oats, sold slowly at recent quotations.

Ripon, Thursday.—Poor attendance, with a very light show of samples. Wheat, English, new, 31s 6d to 32s 6d; ditto foreign, 31s to 34s 6d; barley, grinding, 23s 6d to 24s 6d; oats, 24s to 26s; round maize, 24s 6d to 26s 6d per qr; beans, 1s per stone.

Romford, Wednesday.—Wheat trade firm at last week's prices. Small supply on offer. Red wheat, 33s 6d, white wheat, 34s 6d per qr.

Rye, Wednesday.—White wheat, 32s to 34s; red ditto, 32s to 34s; white oats, 22s 6d to 26s; black ditto, 22s to 25s; grey peas, 33s to 35s; barley, 23s to 30s; tick beans, 33s to 35s.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—The Corn Exchange was sparsely attended. Business, however, was firm in tone. Wheats were held for fully last week's prices. Oats scarce. Barley and beans unchanged. Prices:—Wheat, white, 32s 6d to 34s; ditto red, 32s 6 to 34s per 504lb; oats, new white, 26s to 27s; ditto new black, 23s to 24s per 336lb; barley, grinding, 23s 6d to 24s; ditto malting, 30s to 32s per 448lb; peas, grinding, 35s to 37s; ditto blue, 53s to 80s; beans, Egyptian, 34s to 35s per 504lb; ditto English, new, 37s 6d to 38s per 532lb; Indian corn, small, 24s to 24s 6d; ditto American mixed, 28s 6d to 29s per 480lb

Spalding, Tuesday.—A small market, and very little offering. Wheat trade firm at 32s 6d to 33s; oats, 24s per qr. Beans firm and unchanged.

Stamford, Friday.—Few samples of wheat were shown, and prices realised 32s 6d to 33s in the mill; 26s was asked for foreign oats, and English oats made 27s. There was a very slow trade, and little was done in all departments.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There were few samples of farmers' wheat showing, which made 33s per qr. The foreign wheat trade keeps quiet. Red wheats were in plentiful supply, and 3d to 6d lower; white wheats unchanged. Maize, 6d dearer. Oats unchanged.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Moderate show of wheat, which made last week's prices. Little doing in barley and oats. Arrivals: Coastwise, wheat, 1,200qr; foreign, wheat, 6,643qr.—E. AND F. RICHARDSON.

Tegmouth, Thursday.—Wheat unaltered; barley, 3d dearer; maize and oats firm and unchanged. Only a fair attendance.—ORLANDO, DAVIS AND CO.

Wakefield, Friday.—There is little or no change to report in the wheat trade, which remains healthy in tone and steady in price; buyers vainly try to get in at less money, being compelled to concede full rates for both English and foreign. Feeding stuffs firm at last week's prices.—DUNS AND CO.

Wisbech, Saturday.—A very small supply of grain. Wheat sold slowly at about late rates; reds, 32s 6d. Oats fully as dear, 24s 6d to 25s 6d. Beans, 36s to 39s.—JAS. FLETCHER.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—This market was scantily attended owing to the holidays, and there was practically no business passing. Quotations were unaltered. There was no local grain on the market.

Worcester, Saturday.—Scarcely any trade during the week, and the market showed very little revival to-day. English wheat scarce and firmly held. Foreign quotations rather lower. Oats scarce and firm. Grinding barley and beans unaltered.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Very poor attendance, small show of grain at last week's full prices. Oats scarce. White wheat, 31s 6d to 32s 6d; red ditto, 31s to 32s; grinding barley, 27s to 28s; white oats, 26s to 28s; black ditto, 25s to26s; round maize, 25s to 26s 6d per qr.

York, Saturday.—Small supply of wheat, which sold slowly at last week's prices. Oats scarce and firm.

FOREIGN.

Hamburg, Saturday.—The unseasonable weather appears to have affected the rye more than the wheat plant, but subsequent favourable weather may repair the damage. Spring corn did not get well up, and, like meadows and vegetation in general, it is very backward. All feeding stuffs are in good demand at rising prices. The imports during the week amounted to: 20,758 tons wheat; 5,443 tons rye; 3,190 tons barley; 8,429 tons maize. Wheat rather quiet, prices unaltered. Hard winter 2 is offering at 28s 9d to 29s; No. 1 Northern spring Chicago at 28s 6d; No. 2 Duluth and Manitoba at 28s; 80 ho. River Plate at 29s per 400lb; Walla Walla arrived, at 30s per 500lb. Rye firm. American N. L. Western, prompt shipment, has been sold at 24s 3d; 9 10-15 South Russian at 23s 9d; August-September shipment at 21s 6d to 21s 9d per 480lb c.i.f. There is some demand for cheap malting barley, and all that was left on the spot is now sold, 24s 6d to 25s 6d per 448lb being paid for Holstein and Prussian. The young crop in Hungary has a satisfactory appearance. In Bohemia it is less so, and in Germany it is very backward. Feeding barley in brisk demand, but scarce. For 60s ld South Russian near at hand there buyers at 18s 6d to 18s 9d, July-August shipments are held at 18s 3d; September-October 1F per 400lb c.i.f. Maize more inquired after. Odessa and Danubian present and August-September shipments are selling at 23s 9d to 21s; River Plate at 21s to 21s 3d; American mixed is held at 24s 6d per 480lb c.i.f.—JOHN TATLOCK.

Hamburg, Saturday.—Barley Report.—Market rules quiet here, but prices maintained. Stocks here and in the interior are rather limited, and all will have gone into consumption before the new crop is ready. The outlook of the growing crop is quite satisfactory, although we have had a good deal of moisture, so that fine sunny days would be welcome to improve matters.

Paris, Wednesday.—Owing to the thunderstorms reported yesterday in certain places, the temperature has lowered perceptibly; it was rather cold yesterday morning in the metropolis, but conditions were a little more normal in the afternoon. This renewed inclement weather cannot but aggravate the apprehensions of farmers, who are impatiently awaiting the return of fine weather for all the cereals which are now in the greatest need of it. Native wheat: The attendance was an average one at to-day's market, which, from a business point of view, presented no interest. Here, as well as in the provinces, the same reserve as of late was noticed both on the part of buyers and sellers. This is not to be wondered at, in face of the absolutely disastrous meteorological conditions which are being experienced at this period when vegetation should be most luxuriant. It is true, the mischief is not very great at present, still anxiety is general, for unsettled weather seems likely to persist. Under these circumstances, offers of wheat to-day were most moderate, and holders not only manifested more reserve but demanded an advance of 6d and even 1s per qr., but in the face of the extreme slackness of demand, values may be considered as about unaltered on the week. Choice red wheat, 37s 5d to 38s 3d; and white, 38s 3d to 38s 9d per 480lb. Term wheat opened firm at 5c to 10c improvement, and closed quiet and easier at the following rates: May, 38s 3d to 38s 9d; June, 38s 9d to 39s 2d; July-August, 37s 10d to 38s 3d; and Sept.-Dec., 35s 8d to 36s 1d per 480lb. Consumption marks flour: The tone is quiet and unchanged; dealers and bakers continuing to purchase for their immediate requirements. Quotations are as follows: Choice marks, 31f to 32f (31s 5d to 32s 5d); first marks, 30f 50 to 31f (30s 11d to 31s 5d); good marks, 29f.75 to 30f 50 (30s 2d to 30s 11d); ordinary marks, 28f.50 to 29f 75 per 100 kilos (28s 11d to 30s 2d per 280lb). Rye: The persistence of rain is beginning to become disquieting, and there are fears for the blooming period; moreover, the plants are much "lodged" on the strong lands, while frosts have done serious damage in the East and North. Sellers are therefore more exacting, and ask 26s 1d, with buyers at 25s 8d per 480lb. Oats: The weather continues most unfavourable for this cereal, which requires dry and warm weather. Here the situation remains unchanged. Grey Beauce, 23s 2d to 23s 6d; white, 22s to 22s 4d; red, 22s 11d to 23s 2d; black, from the Central provinces, 24s 1d; white Libau is quoted 22s 7d to 22s 11d; black, 22s 11d to 23s 2d; and Swedish, 24s 4d per 320lb. Barley: There is only a retail business passing in this article, and quotations are merely nominal: Malting, 17f.50 to 17f.75 (25s 4d to 25s 9d); grinding, 17f to 17f.25 (24s 8d to 25s); and feeding, 15f to 15f.50 per 100 kilos (21s 9d to 22s 6d per 400lb). Buckwheat: This article is still supported at late rates, viz., 28s 9d per 480lb.

CORN STATISTICS.

IMPERIAL AVERAGES.

Statement showing the Quantities sold and average price of British Corn, Imperial Measure, as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended May 24, 1902, conformably with the Act of the 45th and 46th Victoria, cap. 37.

Wheat	38,288⅝ qrs.	31s. 6d.
Barley	1,138⅛ qrs.	25s. 4d.
Oats	5,973⅛ qrs.	22s. 6d.

IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGES.

	Wheat.			Barley.			Oats.		
1901.	Qrs.	s.	d.	Qrs.	s.	d.	Qrs.	s.	d.
May 25	49,822¼	27	7	1,511⅞	24	1	4,665½	19	8
June 1	46,514	27	7	859½	23	8	4,938	19	9
,, 8	42,202	27	6	221⅛	22	9	4,023⅛	20	1
,, 15	46,764	27	8	1,404⅛	24	0	5,565⅜	19	7
,, 22	29,695	27	6	336⅜	23	2	3,552⅛	20	3
,, 29	28,191⅞	27	6	692⅜	25	4	2,803⅜	20	0
July 6	19,564½	27	8	140⅜	21	9	1,805⅜	19	10
,, 13	15,231⅜	27	2	49	23	10	1,675⅜	19	9
,, 20	17,462⅜	27	3	88⅛	23	4	2,040⅜	19	11
,, 27	18,297⅜	27	3	206⅜	22	1	2,385⅜	19	4
Aug. 3	18,666½	27	6	250⅜	23	1	3,219½	20	0
,, 10	19,156	27	7	141⅜	22	1	2,143½	19	4
,, 17	22,617½	27	4	220⅞	27	2	5,982½	18	9
,, 24	37,168⅜	27	3	976⅜	23	7	9,952⅜	18	
,, 31	61,603⅛	27	0	4,877⅜	24	3	14,654⅛	17	10
Sept. 7	66,623⅛	26	5	14,342⅜	25	1	19,075⅞	17	1
,, 14	77,949⅛	26	2	34,989⅜	24	11	19,909½	17	4
,, 21	80,279½	26	0	70,096⅛	25	5	26,476⅜	17	4
,, 28	80,488	25	10	109,783⅛	25	10	22,567⅛	17	2
Oct. 5	60,376⅜	25	8	126,592⅜	26	3	21,631⅛	17	7
,, 12	63,656⅜	25	9	172,175⅜	26	5	16,815½	17	6
,, 19	58,772⅜	25	10	203,591½	26	8	15,506½	17	8
,, 26	52,984⅜	25	11	208,471⅜	26	10	13,009⅜	17	5
Nov. 2	70,314⅜	26	2	134,277⅞	26	10	13,350⅜	17	7
,, 9	62,265½	26	6	202,577⅛	27	0	20,066½	17	8
,, 16	57,884⅜	26	9	201,723⅛	26	9	20,122⅛	18	3
,, 23	63,150⅜	27	1	185,268⅛	26	10	20,612	18	7
,, 30	60,323½	27	1	193,434⅜	26	9	22,419⅛	18	9
Dec. 7	67,925½	27	1	162,996⅛	26	7	23,990⅞	19	0
,, 14	48,045½	27	2	182,212⅞	25	10	17,125½	17	1
,, 21	60,562⅜	27	7	119,398⅛	26	8	26,260½	19	
,, 28	43,718⅜	27	7	81,859⅛	26	8	16,901⅜	19	10
1902.									
Jan. 4	31,440⅝	27	7	34,777½	26	7	11,621⅛	19	10
,, 11	48,997⅞	27	8	69,120½	26	7	14,995	20	0
,, 18	74,239½	27	8	91,559⅜	26	11	19,733⅝	20	0
,, 25	74,753⅜	27	7	87,594	26	7	25,382⅛	20	3
Feb. 1	73,381½	27	4	81,408⅜	26	7	25,657½	20	2
,, 8	67,470½	27	2	69,291⅝	26	9	25,055⅝	20	3
,, 15	68,500	26	11	54,084⅛	27	5	21,824	20	3
,, 22	72,614⅜	27	1	53,201⅜	26	11	22,799	20	4
Mar. 1	79,453½	27	1	43,637⅜	26	7	22,322	20	5
,, 8	67,473½	27	0	28,847½	26	8	17,017	20	5
,, 15	60,643	27	1	24,536⅛	26	6	11,496⅞	20	6
,, 22	56,394½	27	1	15,482⅝	26	4	12,192½	20	6
,, 29	50,703	27	2	15,729½	27	2	8,950⅛	20	7
Apr. 5	31,277⅛	27	3	7,008⅛	26	5	5,994½	20	6
,, 12	37,931½	27	5	8,298⅛	26	7	6,855½	21	0
,, 19	38,037	27	7	7,237⅛	27	1	11,099⅜	21	1
,, 26	31,257½	28	9	6,263⅞	26	5	8,897⅛	21	6
May 3	46,238¾	29	9	4,226⅜	27	5	9,685	21	10
,, 10	42,534½	30	9	3,345¼	26	10	8,653½	22	6
,, 17	40,387½	31	1	674½	25	3	7,576	22	5
,, 24	38,288⅝	31	6	1,138⅛	25	4	5,973⅛	22	6

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF LONDON TOWN HOUSEHOLDS FLOUR.

(Sacks of 280 lbs. ex-mill for cash.)

	1902.		1901		1900		1899.		1898.		1897.		1896.		1895.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Jan.	21	9	24	6	21	9	23	9	29	0	25	6	18	9	18	7½
Feb.	22	0	24	0	22	0	23	6	30	0	24	7½	19	4½	17	9
March	21	9	23	9	21	6	22	3	30	0	23	11	19	3	18	0
April	23	0	24	0	21	6	22	0	31	3	23	6	19	6	18	7½
May	...		23	6	21	3	22	3	39	7	23	7	19	0	20	4½
June	...		23	0	23	6	23	1½	35	0	22	7½	18	10	22	3
July	...		22	3	24	6	21	9	29	6	22	10½	18	6	20	0½
August	...		22	3	24	0	21	9	27	6	26	8½	18	8½	19	10½
Sept.	...		22	0	25	3	22	0	26	5	30	3	19	6	19	8
Oct.	...		21	6	24	9	23	3	26	1	29	0	23	7½	18	7½
Nov.	...		21	6	24	3	22	3	25	0	29	1	25	8½	18	4½
Dec.	...		21	9	24	0	21	9	24	3	29	0	25	7½	18	1
Yrly. Avrg.	...		22	10	23	2	22	4	29	6½	25	10½	20	8½	19	2

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF FINE HOUSEHOLD FLOUR IN PARIS.

(Converted into English money for sacks of 280 lb.)

	1902.		1901.		1900.		1899.		1898.		1897.		1896.		1895.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Jan.	27	9	24	9	25	2	29	0	38	7	30	5½	25	10	27	9½
Feb.	26	3	25	6	26	3	28	3	39	4	29	10½	26	2	27	10½
March	27	0	24	0	27	3	27	6	40	1	28	9	26	0	27	5½
April	...		24	6	26	9	27	6	42	3	28	5	25	6½	26	7
May	...		25	6	26	8	28	0	40	0	28	11½	25	1½	23	0
June	...		26	3	28	6	27	6	35	6	29	3	25	8	28	10
July	...		28	0	26	9	27	3	32	0	31	5½	24	6	27	1
August	...		27	6	26	4	27	0	31	6	36	11	25	1	26	11
Sept.	...		27	6	26	3	25	9	31	0	38	7	27	0	27	0½
Oct.	...		27	6	26	0	24	9	30	6	39	4	27	1½	27	9
Nov.	...		27	9	26	4	24	3	30	3	40	3	29	9	26	8½
Dec.	...		28	3	26	0	24	6	29	0	39	3	29	8	26	3
Yrly. Avrg.	...		27	3	26		2	9	35	0	33	5	26	5½	27	4½

LONDON AVERAGES.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, May 20th, 1902.

	Total Quantities. Imperial Measure.		Total Amount.			Average Price per qr. Imperial Measure.		
	Quarters.	Bus.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Wheat	551	4	894	12	3	1	12	5
Barley	—	—	—			—		
Oats	332	6	396	8	3	1	3	8

FLUCTUATIONS IN THE AVERAGE PRICE OF WHEAT.

Price.	Apr. 19.	Apr. 26.	May 3.	May 10.	May 17.	May 24.
31s. 6d.	...	...	...	...	...	
31s. 5d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
31s. 4d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
31s. 3d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
31s. 2d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
31s. 1d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
31s. 0d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
30s. 11d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
30s. 10d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
30s. 9d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
30s. 8d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
30s. 7d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
30s. 6d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
30s. 5d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
30s. 4d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
30s. 3d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
30s. 2d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
30s. 1d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
30s. 0d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
29s. 11d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
29s. 10d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
29s. 9d	...	...	...	...	...	...
29s. 8d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
29s. 7d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
29s. 6d	...	...	...	...	...	...
29s. 5d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
29s. 4d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
29s. 3d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
29s. 2d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
29s. 1d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
29s. 0d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
28s. 11d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
28s. 10d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
28s. 9d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
28s. 8d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
28s. 7d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
28s. 6d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
28s. 5d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
28s. 4d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
28s. 3d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
28s. 2d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
28s. 1d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
28s. 0d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 11d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 10d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 9d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 8d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
27s. 7d.	...	...	...	...	...	...

COMPARATIVE AVERAGES.

Comparative statement for the corresponding week to May 24, in each of the years from 1897 to 1901.

	Wheat.			Barley.			Oats.		
	Qrs	s.	d.	Qrs.	s.	d.	Qrs.	s.	d.
1897	49,312⅜	28	2	1,836½	21	3	5,433	17	10
1898	37,734⅛	47	9	1,042⅜	26	5	6,536½	21	5
1899	78,029½	25	2	1,736	23	8	10,349⅜	17	8
1900	65,574⅜	25	5	3,521½	23	11	7,350⅜	18	2
1901	49,822⅜	27	7	1,511⅜	24	1	4,665	19	8

ENGLISH WHEAT IN 1901.

Highest of Year	27s. 7d.
Lowest of Year	25s. 10d.
Gradient	1s. 9d.
Average of Year	26s. 9d.

LONDON TOP PRICE FLOUR.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1901.

		s.	d.
September 2	(per sack)	29	0
,, 28	,,	28	0
Apr ,, 16	,,	29	0
,, 23	,,	30	0

(No official change since last date given.)

MONTHLY AVERAGES.

(196 Market Towns.)

	1901.			1902.		
	Wheat	Barley	Oats	Wheat	Barley	Oats
January	26 5	25 7	17 4	27 8	26 8	20 1
February	26 5	25 5	17 7	27 1	26 8	20 3
March	25 10	25 0	17 10	27 1	26 8	20 6
April	26 3	25 7	18 3	28 0	26 5	21 1
May	27 6	25 2	19 4			
June	27 7	23 11	19 10			
July	27 4	22 9	19 8			
August	27 4	24 0	18 10			
September	26 1	25 4	17 4			
October	25 10	25 7	17 6			
November	24 9	26 10	18 2			
December	27 4	26 8	19 5			

YEARLY AVERAGES (OFFICIAL.)

	Wheat.			Barley.			Oats.		
	s.	d.		s.	d.		s.	d.	
1890	31	9	per qr.	28	8	per qr.	18	7	per qr.
1891	37	1	,,	28	2	,,	20	0	,,
1892	30	4	,,	26	2	,,	19	11	,,
1893	26	4	,,	25	6	,,	18	9	,,
1894	22	10	,,	24	6	,,	17	1	,,
1895	23	1	,,	21	11	,,	14	6	,,
1896	26	2	,,	22	11	,,	14	9	,,
1897	30	2	,,	23	6	,,	16	11	,,
1898	34	0	,,	27	2	,,	18	5	,,
1899	25	8	,,	25	7	,,	17	0	,,
1900	26	11	,,	25	9	,,	17	9	,,
1901	26	9	,,	25	3	,,	18	5	,,

TITHE RENT CHARGES.

For 1902	67	3	9
,, 1901	66		9
,, 1900	66		10
,, 1899	68	2	4
,, 1898	68		11
,, 1897	69		11
1896	71		7

LONDON FLOUR MILLERS' ASSOCIATION

OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1901

	London Whites.				Town Households.			
	s.	d.			s.	d.		
September 2	26	0	(per sack)		23	0	(per sack)	
,, 18	25	6	,,		22	6	,,	
December 9	26	6	,,		23	0	,,	
January 29	26	0	,,		23	6	,,	
April 16	27	6	,,		24	6	,,	

ARRIVALS INTO LONDON.

May 14 to May 21, 1902, inclusive.

	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat qrs.	1,000	125,000	126,100
Barley	1,500	32,000	33,500
Malt	23,500	2,234	25,734
Oats	2,046	117,000	119,046
Rye	120	70	190
Beans	550	...	550
Peas	68	4,805	4,873
Maize	...	29,610	29,610
Buckwheat	...	77	77
Millet	...	746	746
Linseed	...	26,666	26,666
Rapeseed	...	100	100
Cottonseed	...	8,900	8,900
Farmseeds	832	120	952
Flour, sacks	25,087	93,000	118,087

THE BALTIC.

Wheat cargoes on Tuesday resumed with some firmness, but on Friday there was a reactionary tendency, and on Saturday holders were glad if they could effect sales at the terms of the previous Saturday. Actual transactions include Australian at 30s. 3d., Californian at 30s., Walla Walla at 29s. 6d., Fine Bombay at 32s., No. 2 Hard Winter at 28s. 6d., No. 1 Northern at 28s. 3d., and Hard Manitoba at 29s. 10½d. per qr. For No. 2 Calcutta 31s. 9d. is asked, but 31s. 3d. is the best offer made.

Maize favours buyers of Argentine cargoes, which are offered for June shipment at 21s. and at 20s. 9d. for July. Round corn is steady at 22s. 3d., for Galatz and 21s. 6d. Danubian.

Barley is firm for Californian Kreunz, at 24s. 6d., but weak for Taganrog feeding at 19s. 3d. per qr. Other London sales include Smyrna beans at 28s., Riga oats at 19s. 3d., Bombay linseed at 57s. 6d., and Bombay poppyseed at 46s. all per qr.

At Hull sales include La Plata linseed at 52s., Calcutta at 55s., Egyptian cottonseed at £8 1s. 3d. At Liverpool linseed oil makes £32 10s., and cottonseed oil £26 10s. These two inlets for oilseed and products are very strong.

The arrivals of grain and seed-laden vesels at ports of call for the week were 4 wheat (1 Buenos Ayres, 1 Melbourne, 1 Portland (O.), 1 San Francisco.)—1 flour (Tacoma.)—Total 5.

The sailings of grain and seed-laden vessels from ports of call for the week were: 8 wheat (1 Antwerp, 1 Belfast, 1 Birkenhead, 1 Cardiff, 1 Dublin, 2 Hamburg, 1 Plymouth.)—1 flour (Liverpool.)—1 barley and wheat (Dublin.)—Total 10.

Since 1st January, 1902, the total arrivals have been 137 wheat, 4 flour, 20 barley and wheat, 3 maize, 8 barley, 2 beans, 2 linseed, 4 canaryseed—total 180.

The Hull Corn Trade Association's price for Indian wheat cargoes are: White Kurrachee, 29s. 10½d.; Red, 29s. 1½d. per qr.

COLONIAL DAIRY PRODUCE.

London, Friday.—Butter—The demand for New Zealand butter is now confined to few sellers, and the season may be considered virtually over. The Wakanui, which arrived to-day, has brought the last shipment. Prices remain unchanged from last week, at 102s to 104s for "choicest," and 98s to 100s for "finest." Canadian does not rapidly increase in quantity, although good pastures are reported only a fair make up to end of June is expected. Prices for Canadian may be quoted at 98s to 102s for "choicest," which term, however, when applied to Canadian, expresses a wider range of quality than in Australian and New Zealand. The Copenhagen market remains firm, and the official quotation is unaltered at 90 kroner. The North of England markets are all firm for Danish butter, and the holidays appear not to have had any influence on prices. Irish butter is coming forward in increased quantities, and if the present Russian supply continues values of Irish must decline. Cheese—The demand for old Canadian and present season's New Zealand is steady at 60s to 62s for Canadian, and 59s to 60s for New Zealand. New season's Canadian is being cleared as fast as it arrives at about 56s. Grocers and cheesemongers mostly favour the new, as it brings them a few shillings per cwt. more profit than the old make.—W. WEDDEL AND Co.

SEEDS.

London, Monday.—Messrs. John Shaw and Sons, seed merchants, of Great Maze Pond, Borough, London, S.E., write that the quietude usual at this season now characterises the trade for field seeds consumptive sowing wants being naturally at a minimum, whilst no speculative business of any importance has yet sprung up. Cloverseed stocks all round turn out unusually light, and prices generally leave off at a moderate level. There is a small inquiry for new French trifolium for July delivery. Mustard seed, meantime, attracts increasing attention, and at rates which favour sellers. Rapeseed, however, remains dull and neglected. Small Koenigsberg tares appear quite exhausted. As regards canary seed, an upward movement seems to be developing, values in Turkey having advanced 3s. per qr., whilst stocks on this side have shrunk to quite narrow limits, Liverpool indeed only holding 1,630 bags. Hempseed, likewise, moves adversely to buyers. Blue peas have continued in good request at full rates, whilst the haricot market exhibits considerable firmness. The Board of Trade give the imports for last month into the United Kingdom of clover and grass seeds as 19,061 cwts., value £39,676, as against 23,686 cwts., value £51,746 for April 1901.

HOPS.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Flea is troublesome in the hop gardens, so that the change to warmer weather is greatly appreciated. On the hop market a fair amount of business has been done at the full rates lately current.

Worcester, Saturday.—Trade is very quiet on our market, only a few small orders coming in, which are executed from merchants' stocks. Prices are well maintained for any good, bright, sound lots, but lower sorts are almost unsaleable.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

Cold nights have hindered the growth of vegetation to an extent almost unparalleled in May. Grass is poor in colour as in growth, wheat shows on the whole a far better colour, but is singularly backward, no appreciable advance in stature has been made for three weeks. The April-sown barley is most unpromising, but oats have stood the season better. Everything now depends on June, but while a favourable month may do much to repair the evils of untoward weather ever since Easter, no ideas or hopes of bumper crops can possibly be entertained. Wheat threatens once more to be short in the straw, and unless we have plenty of summer heat the grain will be deficient also. In France crop prospects have retrograded somewhat seriously, but reports are in the main favourable from Spain, Italy, Hungary, Roumania and Russia.

The American states devoting over a million acres to wheat are Dacota, California, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, Minnesota, Missouri, Kansas, and Nebraska. From one only of these, California, are the reports favourable, but California is a great exception, having 3,100,000 acres in which the wheat is ripening to a full yield. Dacota has 5,500,000 acres under wheat, but is a spring wheat state, and sowings are seldom completed before the second week of May. We hear of large areas sown with oats in April in Illinois, Iowa, Wisconsin, and Minnesota, while in Kansas and Nebraska the winter wheat which failed has been we learn replaced by oats even more than by maize. America is believed to make a profit on oats for 12s. per quarter on the farm, and 5s. per quarter will cover usual costs of ferrying and the rest of the charges incidental to transit. This makes 18s. a paying price at Mark Lane, where to-day a guinea is asked for anything American. These prices naturally encourage oat sowings in the States.

So far as can yet be ascertained, the April and May wheat harvests of 1902 thus compare with the previous year:—

	1902. Qrs.	1901. Qrs.
India	24,000,000	27,500,000
Algeria	4,000,000	3,500,000
Egypt	1,000,000	1,200,000
Asia Minor	4,000,000	4,000,000
Syria	1,000,000	1,000,000
Persia	2,800,000	2,000,000
Total	35,800,000	39,200,000

Algeria has not yet completed wheat harvest, neither has Asia Minor, but Algeria is credited with an excellent crop. Persia, on the other hand, has a deficiency, and in Egypt the area devoted to wheat is diminishing. The total production of the "early" group of countries is reduced very seriously by the Indian deficit. India is now shipping wheat only, we imagine, to import it later on.

The imports of the United Kingdom last week were liberal of breadstuffs, despite the holiday interval. The supplies of feeding stuffs though below the mean were not so palpably deficient as in the week preceding. Actual supplies of bread stuffs were as follows:—

	Qrs.
British wheat	100,000
Foreign wheat	443,000
Foreign flour	139,000
Supply: Total	682,000
Requirements	567,000
Added to stocks	115,000
Stocks on 17th May	2,402,000
Stocks on 24th May	2,517,000

The sales of imported feeding stuffs were:—

	Qrs.
Maize	172,477
Oats	123,600
Barley	94,285

Total sales this season, September 1 to May 24, thus compare with the same period of last cereal year:—

	This season. Qrs.	Last season. Qrs.
Wheat	11,178,500	11,764,000
Barley	5,387,000	4,318,000
Oats	4,574,000	5,350,000
Maize	7,426,000	9,198,000

Imports of flour this season amount to 5,525,000 sacks, against 6,710,000 sacks last campaign.

The quantity of wheat on passage to the United Kingdom though still very considerable, is not quite so large as it was at Whitsuntide. It is in the Californian and Australasian items that a diminution is marked.

	Qrs.
Californian	2,045,000
American	480,000
Argentine	426,000
Russian	60,000
Indian	100,000
Australasian	700,000
Various	40,000
Total	3,851,000
A year ago	3,095,000
Two years ago	2,940,000

The quantities on passage of feeding stuffs are as follows, the comparison being with May 24 last year:—

	1902.	1901.
Maize, qrs.	805,000	795,000
Barley, qrs.	335,000	330,000
Beans, qrs.	21,000	15,000
Linseed, qrs.	175,000	270,000
Rapeseed, qrs.	15,000	9,000
Cottonseed, tons.	42,000	50,000

Of flour, there are 282,000 sacks on passage, against 384,000 sacks a year ago. Present expectations include 198,000 sacks of American.

Wheat imports since January 1 show the following percentages or origin:—

From Russia	5 per cent.
From Roumania	3 per cent.
From Atlantic Ports	45 per cent.
From Pacific Ports	20 per cent.
From Argentina	7 per cent.
From India	8 per cent.
From Australasia	7 per cent.
From Various	5 per cent.
Total	100 per cent.

"Roumania" includes Turkey in Europe, "Atlantic Ports" include Canada, and "Argentina" embraces all South America. A briefer, and at the same time interesting, division is—

From the Old World	28 per cent.
From the New World	72 per cent.
Total	100 per cent.

Of flour, the chief receipts, as usual, have been from the United States; our maize has for once been principally round corn from South-Eastern Europe; and our barley has been about equally divided between Russian grinding and Californian brewing descriptions.

Corrected returns of oilseeds imports this cereal year are as follows:—

	Linseed. Qrs.	Rapeseed. Qrs.	Cottonseed. Tons.
September	150,000	14,000	18,000
October	118,000	24,000	29,000
November	76,000	12,000	72,000
December	148,000	13,000	60,000
January	135,000	13,000	79,000
February	121,500	17,000	80,000
March	293,000	17,000	49,000
April	279,000	29,000	61,000

As these arrivals have not depressed a market sustaining high mean prices, a large and regular consumption enquiry may be judged to have prevailed, and, as a matter of fact, such an enquiry is still ruling.

The chief shipping countries last week sent off the following quantities: America, 393,000qrs. of wheat, 155,000sks. of flour; 12,000qrs. of oats, and 3,000qrs. of maize; Argentina, 115,000qrs. of wheat, 134,000qrs. of maize, and 49,000qrs. of linseed; Russia, 294,000qrs. of wheat, 79,000qrs. of barley, 81,000qrs. of oats, and 86,000qrs. of maize; Roumania, 47,000qrs. of wheat, 19,000qrs. of barley, 13,000qrs. of oats, and 93,000qrs. of maize; and India, 30,000qrs. of wheat. The totals of wheat are good, but of barley and oats they are much below an average. Those of maize are fair, but not large.

London, Monday.—Linseed cake market quiet, and lower prices accepted for Western, which were high against London made. Decorticated cotton cake and meal firm. Undecorticated as before. Linseed maintains its price. Dutch and Russian are getting scarce.

English Linseed Cake	ex mill	7 15 0	to 7 17 6
American Calcutta Linseed Cake	ex quay		
American Western ,,	ex quay	6 17 6	to 7 2 6
,, ,, ,,	ex quay		
Decorticated Cotton Cake	ex quay	6 5 0	to 6 12 6
,, ,, Meal	ex quay	6 10 0	to 6 12 6
London-made ,, Cake (best)	ex mill	4 15 0	to 4 17 6
Egyptian ,, ,, ,, (in bags)	ex quay	4 7 6	to 4 10 0
Burton Desiccated Ale Grains (bags included)	on rail, Burton	4 12 6	
Dutch Linseed (in bags), per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse	2 19 0	to 3 2 0
Calcutta Linseed in bags, per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse	2 11 0	
La Plata do. per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse	2 11 0	to 2 14 0
Clean Russian Linseed in bulk, per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse	2 19 0	

ROBERT AND JOHN HEWETSON,

THIS DAY'S MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY

[FIRST REPORT.]

The market to-day was rather better from a fortnight ago (last Monday was a *dies non*), but rather weaker from last Friday. English wheat was scarce and dear; even chicken or feeding wheat made 31s. to 31s. 6d. Foreign was not easily placed at quotations given, but holders did not abate demands. Barley was firm for fine brewing and good malting, despite the small inquiry. Feeding sorts were a little dull. Oats felt the effect of large imports and of warmer weather. The lighter sorts were a trifle in buyers' favour. Maize was a little easier for flat, round, and yellow, but there is so little of the first-named on offer that high prices continue to be quoted. Beans were quiet. Indian green peas made 31s., with 36s. offered for white. Rye, buckwheat, and millet were a little dearer on the fortnight. Cottonseed made 5s. per ton advance.

QUOTATIONS OFF STANDS.

May 26, 1902.

BRITISH GRAIN.

		s.	s.
WHEAT, White	(per 504 lb.)	32	— 35
Red	,,	32	— 34
Chicken or Feed	(per 480 lb.)	30	— 31
BARLEY, Malting	(per 448 lb.)	32	— 36
Brewing	,,	29	— 32
Feeding	(per 416 lb.)	25	— 27
MALT, English	(per 336 lb.)	36	— 42
Scotch	,,	38	— 40
Black	,,	31	— 33
Brown	,,	30	— 33
Crystallized	,,	34	— 36
OATS, English, Black Winter	,,	23	— 26
,, Black Tartary	,,	22	— 23
,, Grey Winter	,,	23	— 25
,, White Tartary	,,	22	— 23
Scotch Fine Potato	,,	26	— 27
,, Good Ordinary	,,	24	— 25
Irish	(per 304 lb.)	20	— 21
RYE, British	(per 480 lb.)	26	— 27
BEANS, Pigeon	,,	39	— 41
Winter	,,	33	— 37
Mazagan	,,	32	— 34
PEAS, Best Marrowfat	(per 504 lb.)	66	— 76
Blue (boiling)	,,	61	— 71
Dun	,,	33	— 34
Maple	,,	38	— 42
TARES, Scotch Gores	,,	79	— 8
Winter Old	,,	69	— 73
,, Ordinary	,,	57	— 65
Spring ,,	,,	51	— 53
BUCKWHEAT, English	(per 416 lb.)	26	— 28

FOREIGN GRAIN.

(Ex-Granary.)

	s.	s.
WHEAT, per 496 lb.		
Old Duluth	33	— 34
Manitoba No. 1	34	— 35
American Spring	32	— 33
Red Winter	32	— 33
Californian	32	— 33
Walla Walla	31	— 32
Australian	31	— 33
New Zealand	32	— 33
Argentine	30	— 32
Danzig	32	— 34
Saxonka	31	— 32
Azima	31	— 32
Ghirka	30	— 31
Bombay	32	— 33
Calcutta	31	— 32
Kurrachee	30	— 31
RYE, per 480 lb.		
Russian	26	— 27
MAIZE, per 480 lb.:		
Cinquantina	25	— 26
Russian	23	— 24
Roumanian	23	— 24
Turkish	23	— 24
American	28	— 29
Argentine	23	— 24
OATS:		
N' Zeal'd (Best)	29	— 31
N. Zeal'd (Bluff)	28	— 29
N. Zeal'd (Dun)	25	— 27
Canadian (320 lb.)	21	— 22
American (320 lb.)	21	— 22
Prussian (320 lb.)	22	— 23
N. Russ'n (304 lb.)	20	— 21
South ,, (304 lb.)	20	— 21
BEANS, per 480 lb.:		
Egyptian	33	— 34
Smyrna	32	— 33
Konisberg	35	— 36
LOCUST BEANS, per ton:		
Italian	104	— 108
Cyprian	112	— 118
Portuguese	107	— 110
PEAS, per 504 lb.:		
Canadian, White	36	— 37
Australian, White	41	— 42
New Zeal'd Maple	39	— 41
Indian White	35	— 36
,, Green	31	— 32
MILLET, per 416 lb.:		
White	34	— 46
Red	26	— 28
Yellow	21	— 23
Sorghum	20	— 21
DARI, per 480 lb.:		
Smyrna	26	— 27
BUCKWHEAT, per 416 lb		
French	26	— 27
Russian	27	— 28
TARES, per 504 lb.:		
Konigsberg	45	— 47
BARLEY:		
Saale (448 lb.)	none.	
Chilian (448 lb.)		
Chevalier	33	— 40
Brewing	none.	
Californian (448 lb.)		
Chevalier	33	— 35
Brewing	27	— 30
Danish (448 lb.)	none.	
Danubian (400 lb.)	22	— 23
Ouchak (400 lb.)	21	— 24
Yerli (400 lb.)	21	— 24
Russian (400 lb.)	20	— 22
MALT, per 336 lb:		
Californian	36	— 37
Smyrna	36	— 37

OIL SEEDS.

	s.	s.
LINSEED, per 416 lb.		
English	59	to 61
Dutch	55	to 60
Bombay	55	to 57
Calcutta	51	to 53
Russian	55	to 57
Argentine	48	to 50
SESAME, per 424 lb.		
Indian	53	to 55
COTTON SEED per ton.		
Egyptian	156	to 158
RAPESEED, per 416 lb		
English	57	to 59
Calcutta	37	to 40
Guzerat	42	to 44
Ferozepore	37	to 39
Jamba	30	to 31
Ravison	29	to 30
POPPYSEED, per 377 lb.		
Indian	47	to 49
SUNFLOWERSEED, per 448 lb.		
Russian	50	to 54

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

THE MARKET CLOSED RATHER AGAINST HOLDERS. FOREIGN WHEAT AND OATS, TOGETHER WITH MAIZE, BEING OBTAINED BY GOOD BUYERS AT A SLIGHT DECLINE.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, MONDAY.

There was but a dull trade in fine London makes, and Town Households were said to have been parted well at 25s. 3d. per sack. Country flour was in large supply, but kept old prices. American made 25s. 6d. for Washburn superlative, 21s. 5d for Iron Duke, 20s. 6d. for Gilt Edge, 26s. for Stars, 25s. 9d. for Ceresota, 20s. 9d. for Ceres, 20s. 6d. for Morrison's "Bakers' Grade," and 19s. 6d. for ordinary Milwaukee Bakers' Flour. Hungary offered feeding flour at 14s. 6d., while 35s. 6d. was paid for the best Hungarian. Rye flour made 22s. 6d. to 23s. Rice cones, 20s. 6d. to 24s. per sack. Groats made £16 per ton for white, and £13 10s. for brown.

LONDON FLOUR.

		s. d.
Top Price	(per sack)	— 30
Town Whites	,,	26/6
,, Households	,,	23/6
No. 2	,,	21/6

COUNTRY FLOUR.

Best Patents	(per sack)	24 — 26
Fine Roller made	,,	23 — 24
Ordinary Roller made	,,	22 — 23
Best Stone made	,,	21 — 22

FOREIGN FLOUR.

Minnesota First Patents	(per sack)	25/6— 26
,, Second Patents	,,	23/6— 24
,, First Bakers'	,,	21/6— 22
,, Second Bakers'	,,	19/6— 20
Milwaukee Patents	,,	23/6— 24
,, Bakers	,,	18/6— 19
Kansas Patents	,,	24/6— 25
,, Bakers'	,,	19/6— 20
Cascadia	,,	23 — 24
Canadian	,,	23 — 24
Australian Patents	,,	21 — 22
,, Straight	,,	20 — 21
Hungarian	,,	32 — 34
French	,,	22 — 23

MEAL, &c.

Whole Meal	(per ton	184—186
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	115—117
Bran, London Broad	,,	110—112
,, ,, Fine	,,	92— 96
,, Country Flake	,,	122—128
,, ,, Broad	,,	104—108
Pollard	,,	94— 96
Biscuit Middlings	,,	126—129
Fine Middlings	,,	120—122
Coarse Middlings	,,	108—110
Feeding Flour (Red Dog)	,,	117—119
Barley Meal	,,	129—133
Rye Flour	,,	176—186
Canadian Oatmeal	,,	210—220
Scotch Oatmeal	,,	265—305
Oat Flour	,,	345—365
Maize Flour	,,	169—171
Maize Meal	,,	118—120
Maize Cones	,,	177—179
Maize Germ Meal	,,	113—118
Pea Meal	,,	135—155
Bean Meal	,,	150—170
Rice Meal	,,	90— 95

LONDON TERM MARKET.

This market is held twice a day, except on Saturday, when there is no afternoon call. The market is open to elected members only. No business except for future delivery is done, and the smallest quantity that can be purchased is 1,000 quarters, or 4,800 centals. The name of the month stands for guaranteed delivery (if required) on or before the last day of that month, and the following have been the prices per cental recently made:—

WHEAT.—Calls	A. June. s. d.	A. Aug't. s. d.	B. Oct. s. d.
May 20 11 a.m.	6 2 ... 6	2 ... 6	5
4 p.m.	6 2 ... 6	2 ... 6	5
May 21 11 a.m.	6 1 ... 6	2 ... 6	5
4 p.m.	6 1 ... 6	2 ... 6	5
May 22 11 a.m.	6 1 ... 6	2 ... 6	5
4 p.m.	6 1 ... 6	2 ... 6	5
May 23 11 a.m.	6 1 ... 6	2 ... 6	5
4 p.m.	6 1 ... 6	1 ... 6	4
May 24 noon	6 0 ... 6	2 ... 6	4
To-day, noon	5 11 ... 6	1 ... 6	4

Maize made 4s. 5d. per cental, for June and July, and 4s. 8d. for September to October delivery.

By the letter A is signified duty to be paid by *buyer*, by B duty to be paid by *seller*. On the Finance Bill being passed, the members of the Term Market unanimously agreed to adopt the new duty as a sellers' obligation from the new cereal year (September 1). Up to that date it will fall on the buyer. In default of agreement, however, the Acts of 1876 and 1901 throw the burden on the buyer, a fact which those who operate on these prices without being members of the Term Market would do well to note.

The Term Market standard wheat is No. 1 Northern Spring American sold on the Duluth certificate. Other sorts of wheat can be bought at the above prices plus or minus agreed difference between the other sort and the standard quality. Quotations are by the "true hundredweight" or cental of 100lb. Maize, when quoted, is fair average quality from the United States.

The deposit required from members of the Term Market is £50 minimum and 1s. per quarter margin on any purchases above 1,000 quarters.

CHEESE.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—The market is of a holiday character. Merchants are not disposed to try new Cheddars and Dunlops; they prefer to work off their old stocks. New Cheddars are quoted at 54s per cwt, and new Dunlops at 52s. A moderate business is passing in New Zealands and Canadians at previous values.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORT.

Trade has been good during the past fortnight, and values have again improved in the interval. American markets generally have been firmer, as a result of the "bullish" Washington Bureau report. Maize is firm, and held for more money. Barley and oats are in good request at full rates. Supplies of English wheat have continued scanty, and holders have been able to make more money. Good reds are now selling at 34s. to 35s. per 480lb. Recent arrivals of Australian wheat have met a good demand, and values have remained about steady. We quote: 33s. to 33s. 6d. per 496lb. The supply of Australian flour is trifling, and values are nominally 6d. dearer for spot stocks. We quote: 23s. to 24s. per 280lb. for patents. Stocks of New Zealand wheat are exhausted. We quote nominally: Tuscan, 33s. to 34s.; and Hunter's and Pearl, 31s. 6d. to 32s. 6d. per 496lb.—W. WEDDELL AND CO. (Mark Lane).

Flour.—There is no material change in the flour trade during the past week. There is a fair demand; operations limited chiefly to present requirements. Values on spot are as follows:—First spring patents, 25s. 6d. to 26s. 6d.; second spring patents, 24s. 9d. to 25s. 9d.; American winter patents, 25s. to 25s. 6d.; extra fancies, 23s. 6d. to 24s.—GREENHILL BROTHERS (Belfast).

Offals.—The weather being now warmer, lower prices are being accepted for bran, and further reductions are anticipated; buyers, consequently, are indisposed to purchase, except for present requirements.—GREENHILL BROTHERS (Belfast).

Flour.—The market is steady, but the demand is rather slow. Grain.—Maize is now more plentiful, and 3d. per boll cheaper; pease and beans quiet; barley firm; Scotch and foreign oats in demand at higher prices; oatmeal firm. Mill stuffs.—Bran and thirds are the turn in buyers' favour.—MCKINNON AND MCDONALD (Glasgow).

Flour.—A quiet trade at about 3d. under last week's prices.—T. S. MEDHILL AND SONS (Mark Lane).

There has been a large arrival of American wheat, and prices have give nway 3d. to 6d. per qr., other descriptions also tending in favour of buyers. Maize is steady and unchanged. Oats quiet; lower qualities rather cheaper. Flour shows no alteration in value.—W. P. WOOD AND CO. (Mark Lane).

We have liberal arrivals of wheat and flour. They have had a ready sale. Prices of white wheat are fully supported. Red wheats are 3d. to 6d. per qr. lower. Flour is 3d. per qr. lower. Maize, barley, and oats, a slow trade at about late prices.—COVENTRY AND CO. (Mark Lane).

Milling offals.—Bran and pollard are 5s. down on the week. Coarse and fine middlings are steady at last Monday's quotations.—JOHN BAWCOME AND CO. (Mark Lane).

BUTTER.

Wednesday.—Dorchester: 10d to 1s per lb. Barnsley: 1s to 1s 1d per lb. Boston: 7d to 8d per lb. Colne: 1s 2d per lb. Goole: 11d per lb. Keighley: Wholesale 1s, retail 1s 1d per lb. Kirbymoorside: 8d to 9d per lb. Knaresborough: Wholesale 1s 3d, retail 1s 4d to 1s 5d per 24oz roll. Market Weighton: 9d per lb. Masham: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per 24oz roll. Stockton: 11d to 1s 2d per lb. Worksop: 1s 1d to 1s 3d per lb. Hereford: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Market Drayton: Best 11d to 1s per lb, seconds 10d to 11d per lb. Uttoxeter: 1s to 1s 1d per lb.

Thursday.—Brigg: 9d to 10d per lb. Driffield: 9d to 10½ per lb. Penistone: 1s 2d per lb. Ripon: 1s 4d to 1s 6d per 24oz roll. Scarborough: 1s 2d per lb. Wetherby: 11d to 1s 2d per lb.

Friday.—Easingwold: 10d to 11d per lb. Helmsley: 9d per lb. Leyburn: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per 24oz roll. Lincoln: 10½ to 1s per lb. Otley: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per 24oz. roll.

Saturday.—Appleby: 8d to 10½ per lb. Berwick: 9d to 10½ per lb. Carlisle: 10d to 1s per lb. Doncaster: 10d to 11d per lb. Grantham: 9d to 1s per lb. Doncaster: 10½ per lb. Malton: 10d to 11d per lb. Pontefract: 1s per lb. Retford: 10d to 1s per lb. Richmond: 11d to 1s 1d per lb. Stokesley: 11d to 1s per lb. Whitby: 11d to 1s per lb.

EGGS.

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 13 or 14 for 1s. Boston: 16 or 17 for 1s. Colne: 1s 4d per score. Goole: 16 for 1s. Keighley: Wholesale 15, retail 14 for 1s. Kirbymoorside: 17 to 18 for 1s. Knaresborough: 13 or 14 for 1s. Market Weighton: 18 for 1s. Masham: 16 or 17 for 1s. Stockton: 14 or 15 for 1s. Worksop: 1s 5d to 1s 6d per score. Dorchester: 8d to 9d per doz. Hereford: 16 for 1s. Market Drayton: 16 to 17 for 1s. Uttoxeter: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per score.

Thursday.—Brigg: 17 or 18 for 1s. Driffield: 18 for 1s. Penistone: 15 for 1s. Ripon: 14 to 15 for 1s. Scarborough: 16 for 1s. Wetherby: 13 to 14 for 1s.

Friday.—Easingwold: 18 to 20 for 1s. Helmsley: 15 to 17 for 1s. Leyburn: 15 or 16 for 1s. Lincoln: 15 or 16 for 1s. Otley: 14 and 15 for 1s.

Saturday.—Appleby: 15 and 16 for 1s. Berwick: 8d to 9d per dozen. Carlisle: 13 to 15 for 1s. Doncaster: 15 or 16 for 1s. Grantham: 14 and 15 for 1s. Howden: 17 for 1s. Malton: 15 or 16 for 1s. Pontefract: 13 or 14 for 1s. Retford: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per score. Richmond: 14 to 15 per 1s. Stokesley: 16 or 17 for 1s. Whitby: 15 for 1s.

CATTLE.

Mtropolitan Market, Islington.

Monday, May 26th, 1902.

	British	Total May 27, 1901.
Beasts	970	970	760
Sheep and lambs	8,490	8,490	7,780
Calves	10	10	10
Milch cows	75	75	40

Quotations per 8lbs. (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.

	Inferior.	Second.	First.
Beasts	3s 6d	4s 10d	5s 4d
Sheep	3s 8d	5s 2d	6s 2d
Lambs	5s 8d	6s 0d	6s 10d

Milch cows, per head, £16 to £23.

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, 14; Eastern counties, 573; Midland, Home, and Western Counties, 239; Devon, 20; Ireland, 124.

There was to-day a decrease of 70 in the number of beasts on offer, the majority of which consisted of Norfolks. Trade all round was of a slow nature, owing to the higher rates demanded; the advance in value must be written at fully 2d per 8lb, fat but chering cows and bulls also met with a freer sale at a corresponding advance. A clearance of this part of the market was made.

The following are top quotations per 8lb (sinking the offal):—

	To-day.	May 27, 1901.
Scotch	5s 3d to 5s 4d	4s 7d to 4s 8d
Devons	5s 2d to 5s 3d	4s 6d to 4s 7d
Norfolks	5s 2d to 5s 4d	4s 5d to 4s 6d
Lincolns	4s 10 to 5s 0d	4s 2d to 4s 4d
Irish	5s 0d to 5s 2d	— —
Fat cows	4s 4d to 4s 6d	3s 8d to 3s 10d

We note to-day an increase of 1,120 in the sheep, the supply including 290 Scotch, 2,870 from the Eastern Counties, and 300 from Yorkshire. Trade for wether sheep ruled firm, even at an advance of 2d. per 8lbs., but ewes were no dearer. Best quality lambs were in better request, and made rather more money. Undermentioned quotations are at per 8lbs. (sinking the offal), and are for the best of each class penned.

	To-day.	May 27, 1901.
7½ to 8 stone Downs	5s 10d to 6s 0d	5s 4d to 5s 6d
9 stone Downs	5s 8d to 5s 10d	5s 2d to 5s 4d
10 stone Halfbreds	5s 4d to 5s 6d	4s 8d to 4s 10d
10 stone Yorkshires	4s 8d to 4s 10d	4s 6d to 4s 8d
12 stone Lincolns	5s 2d to 5s 4d	4s 6d to 4s 8d
10 st Down ewes	4s 7d to 4s 8d	3s 10d to 4s 0d
11 st half-bred ditto	4s 6d to 4s 7d	3s 6d to 3s 8d
5 stone Down lambs	6s 8d to 6s 10d	6s 8d to 6s 10d
6 st halfbred ditto	6s 0d to 6s 2d	6s 2d to 6s 4d

Calf trade nominal. No pigs on the market. Milch cow trade firm.

Central, Monday.—Fair supplies. Slow trade. Beef carcases, As 2d to 4s 4d; hind quarters, 4s 6d to 4s 10d; roastings, 5s 6d to 5s 10d; sheep, ewe, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; wether 4s 4d to 4s 8d; hind quarters, ewe, 4s 6d to 4s 10d; wether, 5s 8d to 6s; pigs, large, 3s to 3s 8d; small, 4s 4d to 4s 8d.

St. Ives, Monday.—Beasts, 608; sheep and lambs, 706; Pigs 532; horses, 5. Beef, 8s 9d to 9s 9d; mutton, 7s 7d to 9s 11d; lamb, 9s 11d; pork, 6s 9d to 7s 6d; fat beasts very sharp trade, dearer; stores fair; fat and store sheep fair; fat and store pigs good trade; milch cows fair trade; £14 to £23.

FOREIGN CATTLE.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts, 349. To-day's supply consisted entirely of shipments from the United States, and, as regards quality, was well up to the late average. Trade was of a rather slow nature, carcase butchers wanting to buy on easier terms, with but little success; a clearance was made at the following quotations per 8lb—offal given in:—80st. beasts, best quality, 4s 11d, and occasionally 5s; seconds, 4s 9d to 4s 10d. No sheep on the market. On Saturday the supply consisted of 1,602 beasts from the United States, for which trade ruled rather slow, at from 4s 10d to 5s per 8lb.

Liverpool, Monday.—Fair demand for cattle, and prices unchanged. A few good grass cattle made fully top quotation. Sheep trade slow, but firm, at full prices for choice handy weights. Good lambs a shade better. Beef, 7¾d to 6d per lb; mutton, 9d to 6½d; lambs, 9½d to 9d; dairy cows, £14 to £25 each. At market, 478 cattle and 8,864 sheep.

THE BALTIC, 1 p.m.

STATE OF TRADE.

Wheat opens in buyers' favour for future shipment, and maize is only firm for American. Barley is fairly steady for summer shipment, but there are speculative offers for autumn (new crop) shipments at low terms. Oats are unchanged. Oilseeds are irregular, but on the whole dear; and a very fair trade.

BUSINESS DONE.

WHEAT.—Californian, 30s 9d, on passage; ditto, 30s, prompt shipment; Australian, 30s 3d, on passage; Azoff, winter, 30s 6d, June shipment; No. 2 hard winter, 28s 6d, June shipment; soft red Calcutta, 30s 3d, June shipment; white Delhi, 32s, June shipment; white Kurrachee, 29s 6d, June shipment.

BARLEY.—Tagaurog, 19s 3d, June shipment; Azoff, 17s 3d, October shipment.

OATS.—Velogda, 18s 3d, June shipment; Viatka, 18s, July shipment; Swedish, 23s, prompt shipment; Roumanian, 15s 3d, October shipment.

MAIZE.—La Plata, 21s, June shipment; Odessa, 21s 6d, on passage.

BEANS.—Saida, 29s 6d, prompt shipment; Smyrna, 28s 3d, August shipment.

LINSEED.—Calcutta, 55s 3d, on passage.

RAPESEED.—Madras, 39s, July shipment.

COTTON SEED.—Egyptian, £7 17s 6d, June shipment.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—The arrivals from Ireland for the past fortnight were 3,643 bales bacon and from foreign ports 21,864 bales bacon. Bacon—The bacon market was a very slow one last week, heavy stocks of Danish bacon having been carried over the holidays, and, with a poor demand, prices fell from 2s to 4s for all bacon, with the exception of a little top-priced Irish. Irish was ranging from 56s to 62s up to 69s; Danish from 54s to 60s up to 65s; and Canadian from 54s to 56s up to 61s. Butter—The butter market was quiet, Danish ranging from 105s to 106s; French, 90s to 104s; Irish, 90s to 102s; and Russian, 90s to 96s. Lard—The lard market was quiet. Ame-

HOPS.

Borough, Monday.—W. H. and H. Le May report there is still a consumptive demand for English hops, which continue to be the best value. Stocks are exceedingly small. The plant is in a very backward state.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW.

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS.")

Trade in London.

Owing to the chief market day of the week falling on a Bank Holiday, the supply at Islington was of a small nature, numbering only 1,040 head, of which 40 arrived from Scotland and 165 from Ireland, included in the latter being 118 stores from two to three years old, the former being quoted at from £11 10s. to £12 per head, and the latter £15 10s. to £19. For fat beasts of both prime and second quality trade was of a slow nature, entirely due to the higher rates asked, and eventually obtained, to the extent of fully 2d. per 8lb., a practical clearance being made, though on Thursday only about half of the fat beasts on offer found buyers. Fat butchering cows and bulls were in good request, and sold to rather better advantage. At the foreign cattle wharf markets were only held on Wednesday and Saturday, the supply, however, being fairly up to the late average; trade there was of a firm and steady nature, both in regard to tone and value. The total number on offer at both markets was 3,322, as against 3,673 during the previous week. The supply consisted of 1,140 British—decrease 180—and 2,182 foreign—decrease 171. These latter comprised 1,940 from the United States and 242 from Canada. The following were the top rates paid per 8lb. (sinking the offal): 80-stone polled Aberdeens, 5s. 4d.; 90-stone polled Norfolks, 5s. 1d. to 5s. 2d.; 100-stone Shorthorn ditto, 4s. 10d. to 4s. 11d.; 100-stone Lincolns, 4s. 10d.; 90-stone Irish, 4s. 10d. to 5s.; 85-stone States, 4s. 11d. to 5s.; 90-stone Canadians, 4s. 10.; 100-stone fat cows, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 100-stone fat bulls, 4s. The sheep trade, which was entirely confined to the Islington market, was of a firm nature, last week's rates governing all transactions, with a clearance of both wethers and ewes on each market day. Lambs on Monday, owing to the cold weather, met a slower sale, even at a decline of from 2d. to 4d. per 8lb., but on Thursday rates were firmer, with an early clearance of the choicest quality. The total number of sheep and lambs penned was 9,960 (previous week, 12,500), consisting entirely of British, mostly Downs and half-breds, with a few Scotch, and 400 from Yorkshire. Best pens made, per 8lb., as follows (sinking the offal): 7½ to 8-stone Downs, in the wool, 6s. 2d.; 9-stone Downs, clipped, 5s. 8d.; 10-stone ditto, 5s. 6d.; 10-stone half-breds, 5s. 4d.; 12-stone, 5s. to 5s. 2d.; 10-stone Yorkshires, 4s. 10d.; 10-stone Down ewes, in wool, 4s. 6d; 4½-stone Southdown lambs, 7s.; 5-stone Down lambs, 6s. 8d. to 6s. 10d.; 6-stone, half-bred ditto, 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d. The calf trade, with a lighter supply (90), was firmer, at a slight advance in value. The best on offer were quoted at 5s. 8d. per 8lb.

Trade in the West.

The present outlook with regard to keep is a most critical one, for when the water meadows are fed off, stock-owners will then scarce have anything else to fall upon (except in very favoured districts) but barren pastures, many of which are worth stocking. That is the position of affairs on many farms in the West; and only rain and genial sunshine now can in any way repair the mischief threatened. A matter of surprise to many is that stores continue to market as well as they do; but this is due more to scarcity than anything else. Barreners are much wanted everywhere, the demand being still stimulated to some extent by the price fat bullocks are making; but whether this will continue whilst keep is such a commodity as at present, seems a very doubtful matter. Good fresh-condition bullocks make up to £36 per pair for the best heavily-fleshed graziers that require but little in the way of finishing off. The plainer descriptions, though saleable, are by no means finding such a good market, despite the fact that some are only making £17 up to £20 per pair. The same difficulty in procuring good milchers is still being experienced, and, though prices are scarcely as high as they were a little time since, still good bullocks, either heifers or cows, are making very satisfactory prices, ranging from £16 10s. to £20 and even £21, which is the outside price now. In-calvers are also selling well, especially those coming early into profit. As regards fat bullocks, the demand keeps good and prices fairly firm, though there has been a slight reaction of late in favour of buyers; good steers now make £21 to £24 a-piece, and heifers (of lighter weights) £15 to £20, or about 11s. to 11s. 6d. per score; fat cows, too, are a trifle easier, 10s. to 10s. 6d. per score being an outside price now, except for anything very choice. A good inquiry prevails for store sheep for districts where there is no lack of sheep at slightly improved rates, as contrasted with a few weeks since; but prices still keep below those current at this time last year, except, perhaps, in the case of ewes, and also tegs soon coming into mutton, for which about last year's rates rule. Mutton keeps at a disappointingly low figure; wethers only about 8½d. per lb. and ewes 6½d. to 7d. Lamb of the best type has been a little firmer, probably influenced by the holiday demand, but whether this will be maintained now that the season is over is very uncertain; some of the best Down and crossbreds wanted for Whitsuntide made up to 11d. per lb., though a more average figure was 9½d. to 10½d. Calves still keep pace nominally dear; best well-finished veal, 8½d. to 9d. per lb.; seconds, 7½d. to 8d.; and the poorer grades 7d. Rearers also sell well, as many are now wanted to keep up the average of the dairy in butter-making and milking districts. The pig trade, too, keeps very firm all round; stores make extreme rates, and those for slaughter maintain old values; best porkers, 10s. 6d. to 11s. per score, baconers, 10s.; and heavy pigs, 8s. 6d. to 9s. 6d. Taking everything into account, there is a decidedly better trade in most things than might have been in such an adverse and trying season.

Trade in Ireland.

There was an increase of nearly 100 beasts and over 550 sheep in last Thursday's Dublin Market. The attendance of exporters was moderate, but local buyers were well represented, and business was of a decidedly brisk and satisfactory nature. Local butchers paid last week's figures readily, but the high prices ruling damped the export trade considerably in good cattle, while the lower grades were, as a rule, unsuitable for shipping. There were a great many fat cows on the market, and it was found rather difficult to dispose of them. Prime ox and heifer made from 62s. 6d. to 67s., and small lots of extra finish from 68s. to 70s. per cwt.; second quality, 54s. to 57s. 6d.; and inferior, 47s. 6d. to 52s. 6d. per cwt. Some very fine grass bullocks were on the market, and were bought up quickly. The number of beasts exposed for sale was 1,156, an increase of 97 on the previous week.

Though the mutton department was well supplied—there being 7,617 sheep offered—prices were well maintained for best qualities, and for good shorn hoggets for export trade the inquiry was better. It was rather hard to dispose of indifferent sheep, and many pens were left unsold. Prime wethers made from 7¼d. to 8¼d. per lb.; ewes, 7d. to 7¾d.; and inferior sheep, 6d. to 6½d. Small and medium-sized hoggets ran from 27s. 6d. to 37s. 6d., and heavy descriptions from 44s. to 56s. each. There was a good demand for choice lambs, which easily made more money, prime fat ones going up to 38s. and 40s. each; but there were numbers of small, thin lambs which were hard to find purchasers for at any money, and a clearance could not be effected. It was hard to get veal of the best quality, and 8d. to 9d. per lb. was freely paid for it; rough calves sold at very irregular figures. The trade for milch cows, even the best, was rather dull; but some very fine springers made up to £20 and £21 a head; small, inferior cows and middling, from £8 10s. to £13. The very backward state of the grass has had a bad effect on the store cattle trade, buyers holding on in hope of a change for the better in the weather.

The pig market was largely supplied, and there was a good attendance of buyers who were in want of the best qualities, so prices went up 1s. to 2s. per cwt. for the right sort. Choice bacon pigs sold at from 50s. to 52s. per cwt.; heavy pigs, from 46s. to 48s. per cwt.

LONDON.

London (Central). Wednesday.—Supplies moderate, but trade was dull. Beef arrivals include a fair amount of English, 40 tons Scotch, 600 Liverpool sides, 1,500 hindquarters and 650 forequarters American killed. Quotations:—Beef, Scotch short sides, 4s 6d to 4s 10d; English, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; American, Deptford-killed, 4s 3d to 4s 5d; Liverpool, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; American, refrigerated, hindquarters, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; forequarters, 3s 2d to 3s 5d. Mutton: Scotch, 4s 8d to 4s 10d; English wethers, 4s 6d to 4s 8d; ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d. English lamb, 5s 4d to 5s 8d. Veal: English and Dutch ,4s to 5s per 8lb.

London Central. Friday.—Supplies good, but generally quiet sale. Arrivals of beef included 90 tons Scotch, 500 Liverpool sides, 2,600 hind-quarters, and 1,600 fore-quarters American refrigerated. Beef: Scotch short sides, 4s 8d to 5s; long, 4s 6d to 4s 8d; English, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; American Deptford-killed 4s 2d to 4s 4d; Liverpool, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; American refrigerated hind-quarters, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; fore-quarters, 3s to 3s 4d Mutton: Scotch, 5s to 5s 4d; English wethers, 4s 8d to 4s 10d; ewes, 3s 6d to 3s 10d; Canterbury, 2s 9d to 2s 11d; Wellington, 2s 8d to 2s 10d; Sydney and River Plate, 2s 6d to 2s 7d; English lamb, 5s 8d to 6s. Veal: English and Dutch, 4s 4d to 5s 4d. Pork: English, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; and Dutch, 4s 2d to 4s 6d per 8lb.

Islington. Thursday.—Supplies of beasts were on a fair scale, and the bulk consisted of fat bulls and rough cattle. A quick demand prevailed, but prices ruled steady. Fat bulls, 3s 8d to 3s 10d. Sheep in fairly good supply, met a rather better demand at steady prices; 7½ to 8st. Down wethers (clipped) 5s 4d to 5s 6d; 9st. ditto, 5s 2d; 10st. half-breds, 5s; 10st. Down ewes, 4s 6d to 4s 8d; exceptionally, 4s 10d; 11st half-breds ditto, 4s 4d to 4s 6d. Calves steady, the best on offer making 5s 4d per 8lb, to sink the offal. No cows or pigs offered. Total supplies:—130 beasts, 2,590 sheep, and 80 calves.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Beef very dear, the best making 13s 6d per score, and average bullocks 12s 6d to 13s. Mutton unchanged; small Downs and half-breds made up to 5s 6d per 8lb, and Kents up to 5s. Pork dearer; roasters making up to 11s 6d per score.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Beef very dear, the best making 13s 6d per score, and average bullocks 12s 6d to 13s. Mutton unchanged; small Downs and half-breds made up to 5s 6d per 8lb, and Kents up to 5s. Pork dearer; roasters making up to 11s 6d per score.

Basingstoke, Wednesday.—At Raynbird and Sons' Sale Yard there was a good attendance of buyers to meet a supply of 30 fat beasts, 75 calves, 658 fat sheep and lambs, 344 pigs, and 45 head of dairy and store cattle, for which the following prices were realised:—Very choice young shorthorns made up to £23; young Welsh Runts up to £17 10s; shorthorn heifers reached £22 10s; cows, £19 15s; prime Kerry heifers up to £20 10s; some prime quality young Devon steers made up to £24, etc., etc. Fat Down wethers and young ewes realised from 42s to 55s; old ewes, 34s to 40s; Dorsets up to 38s 6d; choice Down lambs, 28s to 35s; Exmoor up to 24s 6d; Dorsets, 30s. Fat porkers, 42s to 64s; small, 31s to 40s; store pigs from 16s 6d to 33s 6d; fat calves, 80s to 100s; small, 20s to 50s; dairy cows, £8 to £19. The short supply of fat beasts was cleared at extreme prices. A shorter supply of fat sheep. Fat lambs, a few choice lots made an advance, but last week's figures ruled in most cases. A clearance nearly made. Milch cows met a ready sale, with a good demand. Store cattle are difficult to move, the enquiry being limited. Fat calves continue a brisk trade at late prices. Fat pigs of all descriptions found a ready sale. Store pigs were cleared at exceptionally high prices:—Ruling values:—Prime Devon beasts, 7¾d to 8¼d; do shorthorn beasts, 7d to 7¼d; cows, bulls, and inferior beasts, 6d to 6½d per lb; best fat sheep, 8d to 8½d; 2nd ditto, 7d to 7½d; rams, ewes, and inferior sheep, 6d to 6½d; choice three months old sucking lambs, 9d to 10d per lb; fat calves, 7d to 9½d per lb; fat porkers up to 11s per score.

Boston, Wednesday.—A good show of all classes. Stores were plentiful, but the trade was not very brisk. Strong stores realised £10 to £14. There was a good demand for in-calf beasts, cows fetching £18 to £20, heifers £15 to £20, and calves 55s to 60s each. Best beef 8s to 8s 6d, cow beef 7s to 7s 6d. The show of sheep was only moderate. Hogs realised 48s to 50s each, wether mutton 7½d to 8d, and ewe mutton 6d to 6½d.

Braintree, Wednesday.—At Messrs. Balls' auction mart the supply was shorter than usual, and the demand sharp, especially for beasts and hogs.

Bristol, Thursday.—Beef, short supply. Trade firm. Best qualities, 68s to 70s per cwt.; secondary animals, 62s. Limited number of sheep in market, best light wethers making 7¾d to 8d per lb; heavy wethers 7d to 7½d; ewes, 6d; lambs realised 9d to 10d. Fair supply of pigs; baconers, 10s per score; porkers, 10s 6d to 11s. Slow demand for store cattle.

Bury St. Edmunds. Wednesday.—At Messrs. Simpson and Sons' auction mart there was not quite so large a show of either fat or store cattle. There being a good attendance of distant and local buyers, the trade of last week was fully maintained. Fat sheep were in short supply, and the trade was brisk at advanced prices. Several lots of black-faced ewe hoggets were disposed of at prices which looked low; but, owing to the scarcity of feed, these came to market in poor condition. A fair supply of pigs sold at late rates.

Calne. Friday.—Present prices for prime pigs, in lots of not less than 10, on rail within 100 miles of Calne.

Prime Stores.	Thickness of fat in any part of the Back.	Price per Sc. s. d.
6 sc. 10 lbs. to 9 sc. 10 l s.	2½ in. and under ...	10 0
Under 10 sc.	Not exceeding 2½ in. ...	9 6
Under 11 sc. 10 lb. ...	Not exceeding 2¾ in. ...	9 0
Under 12 sc.	Not exceeding 3 in. ...	

—C. & T. Harris & Co., Ld.

Cambridge, Monday.—Beasts, 338. Beef, 7s 9d to 9s 3d. Sheep, 366. Mutton, 4s 8d to 5s 8d. Pigs, 405. Pork, 6s to 7s 3d. It being a holiday market, only a few lots of store beasts to hand, and all cleared. Fat beasts, a fair number to hand, and prices a little higher. Fat sheep a good brisk trade. Stores, very few shown. Fat pigs, a good trade at late rates. Stores not so good as last week. Hay, straw, and roots nil.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Sheep in short supply and trade not brisk. Useful working tegs ranged from 27s to 33s; better class, 35s to 37s; fat animals ranged up to 40s 6d per head. A considerable offering of young horned stock met a fair trade at recent prices.

Dorchester, Wednesday.—With moderately good, though scarcely as extensive supplies as usual, a fairly brisk business was transacted, both at Messrs. Duke's and at Messrs. Sampson's sales, at to-day's market, considering the interruption incident to the Whitsuntide holidays, which always to some extent affects the mid-weekly more than week-end markets. Values showed but very little alteration from the previous market. Fat bullocks maintained their recent firmness, the best bullocks, which are scarce, still selling at 11s to 11s 6d per score, and seconds 10s to 10s 6d. Fat sheep continue to make a dull sale at disappointing rates; and lamb, too, is by no means selling as well as could be expected, scarcely anything making 10d, and the bulk only 9d to 9½d. Veal, on the other hand, is marketing well; best calves, 8½d to 9d, and seconds 7½d to 8d. Pigs also keep well up in price, best light weight porkers making 10s 6d to 11s 3d, and baconers 10s to 10s 6d.

Dublin. Thursday.—Numbers in market:—Beasts, 1,156, increase, 97; sheep, 7,617, increase, 556; calves, 50, increase, 1. Trade for cattle on about same lines as last week, grass beef now coming forward and meeting with good demand. No alteration in price of best suitable sheep. Middling qualities more difficult to place. Lambs, except very choice, making less money. Cattle, by weight (best), 37s to 40s per cwt; Other descriptions 30s to 36s per cwt. Mutton, dead-weight, 6½d to 8¼ per lb.—GANLY, SONS AND CO.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Bullocks and cows, 525; calves, 237; sheep and lambs, 2,080; pigs (fat and sows), 13; sucking pigs, 55; pigs (stores, not more than ten), 229; pigs (stores, more than ten), 28; horses, 5. Prices of stock:—Beef, 6d to 7d; mutton, 7d to 7½d; lamb, 10d; veal, 9½d; pork, 6½d to 8d; and bacon, 5d to 6d per lb.

Ipswich. Tuesday.—Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons report shorter supplies of fat cattle, and with the usual local and distant buyers present a brisk trade was experienced, at from 8s 6d to 9s 3d per stone. A good entry of fat sheep and lambs, which were in fair demand at recent quotations. Breeding sheep and lambs met a dull sale, and could only be disposed of at a reduction on recent rates. Calves were scarce, and sold well. Fat

swine were short, and met a very sharp trade, at an advance of fully 6d per stone; well-bred stores were wanted, and sold well. This being Handford Fair, the usual annual sale of grazing cattle was held, which included several choice lots of North Country and Buckinghamshire steers. The weather and the prospect of feed had a depressing effect on the trade, only exceptionally well-bred lots and those forward in condition maintaining the prices ruling at the previous fair. Cows sold without alteration. At the Drill Hall a special sale of cart-horses was held. Trade was good for the best animals. Numbers at sales and market:—Cattle, 1,051; sheep, 3,226; swine, 922; horses, 215.

Leicester, Wednesday.—Very moderate consignments of Lincolnshire and Norfolk-fed bullocks, and, with a falling-off in the supply, prices improved 10s to 15s per head. Trade ruled rather slow, business being checked by the high prices. Choice bullocks, 7½d to 7¾d; secondary, 6¾d to 7d; cows, 6d to 6¼d; heifers, 7¼d to 7¾d per lb. Sheep were only in moderate supply, and sold very freely at 8d to 8¼d for choice light weights; large sheep, 7d to 7½d; ewes, 6d to 6¾d per lb. Lambs in strong demand, at 10d to 11d; calves, 8d to 9d per lb.

Newport, Wednesday.—Cattle were scarce, but there was a large supply of sheep and calves. A large number of buyers were present, and a very brisk market resulted. Prices: Best beef, 7½d; seconds, 6¾d to 7d; cows, 6d to 6¾d; best wether mutton, 8¼d to 9d; shorn wethers, 8¼ to 8½d; ewes, 7d to 7½d; lamb, 9½d to 10d; veal, 7d to 8¼d; porker pigs, 10s 9d to 11s per score.

Norwich, Saturday.—Supply of store cattle moderate; the lots were principally second rate, and business ruled slow at about late rates. Better show of fat beasts, but trade ruled very firm at 8s 6d to 9s 6d per 14lb. Store sheep made about former terms; keeping hoggets were quoted at 33s to 44s per head, and lambs at 15s to 24s per head. Fat sheep sold readily at 8s 6d to 9s 6d per 14lb out of their wool.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Slightly better trade for milch beasts. Newly-calved cows £18 to £23; in-calf heifers £15 to £18; strong bullocks, £13 to £15; yearling heifers, £8 to £11; younger beasts, £6 to £8. Calves, 5s dearer.

Romford, Wednesday.—Short supply of fat beasts; trade fair. Best animals, 5s 2d to 5s 4d; middlings, 5s to 5s 2d per stone. Calves in short supply; trade dear, at 5s 4d to 5s 6d per stone. Sheep in short supply; trade about the same; best sheep, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; middlings 5s to 5s 2d per stone. Lambs in average supply; trade slow, at 6s 2d to 6s 4d per stone. A few store beasts on offer; slow demand. Pigs in short supply; trade fair; small porkers up to 5s a stone.

Rye, Wednesday.—Number of entries: Sheep and lambs, 560; fat beasts, 1; store ditto, 19; calves, 33; pigs, 28; horses, 2. Heifers and steers fetched 5s to 5s 4d; second quality, 5s; maids and wethers, 5s to 5s 4d; barrens, 4s 6d; calves, 4s 8d to 5s; lambs, 7s 4d.

Salford, Tuesday.—There was a smaller supply of cattle, which met with a good demand at higher prices. The supply of sheep and lambs was much smaller. Trade for sheep was better, and sales more readily made, choice small Cheviots making up to 9d per lb. Lambs also met with a better demand. Calf trade dull, and prices lower. Quotations: Cattle, 6d to 8d; sheep, 7d to 9d; lambs, 8d to 9¼d; calves, 5d to 8d per lb. At market: Cattle, 1,537; sheep and lambs, 12,649; calves, 235.

Sheffield, Tuesday. Nothing doing in the cattle market.

Spalding, Tuesday.—A small show of fat beasts, and a keen demand. Prime, to 9s; secondary, 8s. Small supply of stores, and no demand. Best sheep, to 8d per lb; lambs, 25s to 30s each.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There were on offer 120 cattle, 14 calves, 317 sheep, 68 lambs, and 128 pigs. A small show of best cattle, which met with a firmer trade at 8s 9d to 9s per stone; rougher kinds, 7s to 7s 6d; calves, 6d to 8d; clipped sheep, 8¼d; ditto wool, 9d; ewes, 7d; tups, about 5d; lambs, 25s to 35s each.

Thame, Tuesday.—A smaller market, which is generally the case after Bank holiday, but butchers attended in large numbers, and found some difficulty in meeting their requirements. Beef can be quoted at 5s 4d; mutton, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; lamb, 7s; veal, 5s 6d, whilst bacon and pork continue very dear. Weaning calves continue very scarce and high in price. Messrs. Bond and Bunow's sale comprised 19 fat beasts, 134 fat and store sheep, 47 fat and weaning calves, and 94 pigs. Fat bullocks made from £19 to £21; fat heifers, £18 10s to £20 5s; fat ewes, 45s to 55s; short tegs, 55s to 61s; fat lambs, 28s to 33s 6d; fat calves, 60s to 75s; weaning cow calves, 30s to 65s; weaning bull calves, 20s to 60s; bacon hogs, 10s 6d per score.

Wakefield, Wednesday.—Fair attendance at market, and better trade all round. Best quality beef made up to 8d per lb, inferior sorts 5¾d to 6¼d per lb; clipped sheep made 8¼d per lb, and inferior sorts from 6¾d to 7¼ per lb. Numbers at market: Beasts, 1,338; sheep, 3,726.

Wakefield, Friday.—A very moderate attendance on Exchange to-day, and a nominal trade done in wheats, which are quoted firm at late rates. All feeding stuffs very firm at last week's prices.—MICHAEL SANDERSON AND SON, LIMITED.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Beasts small supply, fair trade. Sheep fair supply, trade slow. Lambs fair supply and trade. Calves moderate supply and trade. Beef, 6d to 8d per lb; mutton, 6¾d to 8¾d per lb; lamb, 9¼ to 11d per lb; veal, 7¾d to 8¾d per lb. There were only eight pigs in the market.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Fair attendance and good trade. Small show of beef, fair show of sheep and lambs. Best beef, 8s to 8s 6d; secondary, 7s to 7s 6d per stone; best wethers, shearlings, and long wools, to 8¼d; ewes, 6d to 7d; lamb, 10d to 11d; veal, 10d to 11d per lb.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Wednesday.—Beast supplies to-day amounted to 280 head, this being 281 more than available on Wednesday last, and consisted of 338 United States and 242 Canadian. Trade ruled firm at 4s 10d to 5s and 4s 8½ to 4s 10d per 8lb, sinking the offal respectively. 650 United States were not shown. No sheep came to hand.

Yorkhill, Tuesday.—The usual weekly sale of American cattle was held to-day, when there were on offer 241 animals landed by the Sarmatian (s), from Montreal. The cattle were the best that have been landed from Canada for a number of years back. There was the usual attendance of buyers. Bullocks realised very high prices. The number of bulls on offer was not sufficient for the requirements of the trade, and in consequence they changed hands smartly at high rates. The dead-weight quotations may be given as follow:—Bullocks, best quality, 63s to 67s per cwt.; secondary, 64s to 66s; bulls, 58s to 58s and down to 54s per cwt.

Yorkhill, Tuesday.—A sale of Canadian sheep was held in the morning, at which only forty-two sheep ex Sarmatian (s), from Montreal, were offered. The shipment consisted entirely of ewes of good quality, and suitable for trade. There was a fair attendance of buyers, and trade was good throughout, the rates realised being satisfactory. The dead-weight quotations may be given as follow:—Ewes, best quality, 7¼d per lb.; secondary and heavier, 7d.

MANURES.

Liverpool, Friday.—Nitrate of soda is not so active in demand, and with arrivals holders are desirous of realising landing parcels, and are accepting easier rates, £9 5s to £9 10s per ton, according to quantity and quality. Other fertilizers are also in less request, but at unchanged values. The trade in feeding stuffs keeps quiet, and values tend in buyers favour, excepting rice meal, which is firmly held, and also the better qualities of American decorticated cotton cakes, which are in scanty supply. At auction sales of 625 bags Peruvian cotton cake, at £5 17s 6d to £6 11s 3d ex quay, and 1,450 bags Mexican have changed hands on private terms; other values as annexed:—Nitrate of soda, best quality, i.e., guaranteed 95 per cent. nure, in bags, £9 5s to £9 10s; East India bone meal, fair to prime, in bags, £4 10s to £4 15s; Kainit, prime 23 per cent, in bags, £2 7s 6d to £2 10s; palm nut cake, prime, in bags, £5 15s; linseed cake, American thin oblong, prime, in bags, £7 to £7 2s 6d; English, prime, in bulk, £8 2s 6d to £8 7s 6d; foreign round, rich in oil, in bags, £8; cotton seed cake, N.A. decorticated, prime, scarce, in bags, £7 5s to £7 7s 6d; English ditto, prime, soft, in bags, £7 5s to 7 10s; English, undec., prime, in bulk, £4 10s to £4 15s; crushed, 20-25 per cent. oil, prime, in bags, £7 3s 9d to £7 5s; maize germ meal, prime, in bags, £5 17s 6d; corn oil cake, 10-13 per cent. oil, prime, in bags, £6 5s; rice meal, Rangoon, as imported, in bags, £5 2s 6d—per ton; Indian meal, coarse to fine grinding, prime, in bulk, £3s to 13s 6d per 240lb; linseed, fine bold feeding, in bags, £3 1s to £3 4s per qr. 416lb; D.N.S. brand superphosphate of lime, guaranteed, 25 to 27 sol, in bags, £2 5s to £2 7s per ton at depot; ditto, guaranteed, 30 to 31 sol, in bags, £2 10s to £2 12s per ton at depot; ditto, guaranteed, 35 to 36 sol, in bags, £3 to £3 2s per ton at depot; basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed, 30 to 35 per cent. phos, in bags, nominal; prime quality, guaranteed, 35 to 40 phos, in bags, nominal; finest quality, guaranteed, 38 to 45 phos, in bags, nominal.

WOOL.

London, Saturday.—English—per pk. of 240 b.—Fleeces South Down hoggs, £7 to £8 10s; half-bred hoggs, £6 to £7; half-bred wethers, £5 to £6 5s; Kent fleeces, £5 to £6; South Down ewes and wethers, £7 to £8 10s; Leicester do, £5 to £5 10s. Colonial, per lb.—Vic.—Fleece super, 1s 8d to 1s 11d; scoured good, 1s 9d to 1s 10d; scoured average, 1s 8d to 1s 8¼d; greasy average to fair, 11½d to 1s 0¼d; N. S. W., scoured average, 1s 5½d to 1s 6d; greasy average, 9d to 10d; South Australian Greasy average, 7¼d to 8d; New Zealand, scoured average, 1s 6½d to 1s 7d; grease average, 9½d to 10¼d; Cape scoured super, 1s 6d to 1s 7d; fleece average, 7½d to 8¼d; greasy average, 6¾d to 7½d; Natal, scoured, 1s 1d to 1s 2d; greasy average, 7¼d to 7¾d. Crossbreds—Grs.—Vic. good to super, 11½d to 1s 0¾d; New Zealand fine, 9½d to 10½d; do medium, 6d to 6½d; do coarse, 4¼d to 5¼d.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Improved tone in trade, and 5½d per lb has been given for old Kent fleeces. The new clip, it is hoped, will make 6d per lb. Lamb's wool is still quoted at 4d, and locks at 2d per lb.

POTATOES.

Borough, Saturday.—With adequate supplies the market remained steady. Scottish maincrops, Dunbars, quoted 80s to 90s; Blacklands, Up-to-Dates, 45s to 50s; Lincoln ditto, 60s to 65s per ton; New Jersey, 12s to 13s; Teneriffe, 9s to 11s; St. Malo, 12s per cwt; and Lisbons, 3s 9d per box.

Goole, Wednesday.—Not so many on offer here to-day. Trade was steady, with an advance of 2s 6d for Giants, which made up to 45s; best Up-to-Dates, 52s 6d per ton. A few new potatoes from Jersey have arrived.

Great Northern, Saturday.—A fair supply was delivered this morning, but trade ruled slow. Scotch maincrops, 80s to 90s; Blacklands, 35s to 40s; Lincoln maincrops, 65s to 70s; Up-to-Dates, 60s to 65s per ton. New: Jersey, 14s to 15s; St. Malo kidneys, 13s to 14s per cwt.

Southwark Waterside, Monday.—During the past week the arrivals have been moderate, and the demand being brisk, prices have slightly improved. The following are this day's quotations:—Essex and Kent Up-to-Dates, 50s to 55s; Lincoln Up-to-Dates, 55s to 60s; Blacklands Up-to-Dates, 50s; Forfar and Fife Up-to-Dates, 50s to 60s; Forfar and Fife Bruce, 50s to 55s per ton.

Spitalfields, Saturday.—A steady tone, with improved demand prevailing for a light supply. Best Lincoln Up-to-Dates, 60s to 70s; Blackland ditto, 50s; Wisbech ditto, 55s to 65s; Scotch ditto, 70s; Scotch maincrops (grey soil), 70s; Lincoln maincrops, 70s to 80s; Reading Giants, 50s; Blackland Gartons, 40s per ton. New: Jersey, 13s to 13s 6d; Teneriffe and Canary No. 2, 10s; No. 3, 9s; Maltese rounds, 8s per cwt; Lisbon, 3s 9d per box.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—A good supply of vegetables was available this morning, for which a good demand prevailed. Fair supplies of fruit were received, and met a generally steady demand. Greenstuffs:—Cabbages, 4s to 4s 6d per tally; spinach, 2s to 3s; beetroots, 2s 6d to 3s per bushel; carrots, 5s to 6s; French turnips, 4s 6d; parsley, 4s to 5s; mint, 4s; leeks, 2s 6d to 3s; radishes, 9d to 1s per dozen bunches; horseradish, 1s 6d to 1s 9d per bundle; rhubarb, 2s to 2s 6d per dozen bundles: Egyptian, 9s to 10s per bag. Potatoes:—Maincrops, 80s to 90s; Up-to-Dates, 50s to 60s; Blackland Gartons, 35s; Reading Giants, 40s per ton; new Canary, 12s; Teneriffe, 12s; Jersey, 14s; St. Malos, 12s to 13s per cwt; Lisbons, 3s 3d to 3s 6d per case.—Fruit:—Tasmanian and Australian apples, 10s to 14s per case; English grapes, 3s to 7s; Belgian, 1s 6d to 3s 6d per lb; Denia oranges, 12s to 24s; Valencia, 10s to 18s; Murcia, 7s to 10s per case; English tomatoes, 9d to 1s; Channel Islands, 6d to 9d per lb.

POULTRY AND GAME.

Smithfield, Saturday.—Fair supplies experienced a better demand, and at firm prices a fair amount of business was carried out. Quotations:—Fowls: Yorkshire, 3s to 3s 6d; Essex, 3s 3d to 4s; Boston, 2s 9d to 3s 3d; Surrey, 4s 6d to 6s; Sussex, 3s 9d to 5s; Welsh, 2s 6d to 3s; Irish, 2s 9d to 3s 3d; turkeys (cocks), 6s to 7s; (hen) 4s to 4s 6d; goslings, 4s to 5s 6d; Aylesbury ducklings, 3s 6d to 4s 6d; country, 3s 9d to 4s 3d; pigeons, 7d to 11d; quail, 8d to 10d; wild rabbits, 6d to 8d; tame, 10d to 1s each; Australian, 8s 6d to 11s per dozen. Dutch plover eggs, 2s 6d per dozen. Russian game: Partridges, 1s to 1s 4d; ptarmigan, 10d to 1s; black game, 1s 2d to 1s 5d; brown hares, 2s 3d each.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Hull, Tuesday.—Linseed—There are no arrivals in linseed. Since our last issue linseed has been steady, but quiet, the holiday tone has prevailed. Calcutta, April-June, at the close was 54s 3d. River Plate: Spot, 51s 6d; May-June, sellers, at 52s 6d. Cottonseed—With small arrivals and light shipments the market has continued firm, and is again dearer for old crop, which sold at £7 17s 6d spot, passage, and May loading. A little June done at £6 16s 3d. New crop, November-January, has not exceeded £6 13s 9d, whereat a few sales transpired, and sellers at it to-day, the tone generally being quieter, and May shipment offers at £7 16s 3d. Oils—Exports for the week ending 13th May, 1902:—Linseed oil: 1 Egypt, 4 Germany, 5 Holland, 35 Norway; total, 45 tons. Cotton oil: 249 Austria, 120 Belgium, 1 France, 147 Germany, 152 Holland, 2 Norway, 10 Sweden; total, 681 tons. The market is firm. Linseed oil: 31s 3d spot; 31s 2d June-August. Cotton oil: 25s 9d spot; 25s 9d June-August. Crude: 24s 9d spot; 24s 9d June-August. Rape oil: Jamba naked, 24s 6d spot; 1st quality, 25s spot. —KEIGHLEY MAXSTED AND CO.

London, Thursday.—Linseed—Owing to the loss of the steamer Ehrenfels, with over 3,000 tons of linseed for Hamburg, the market has improved, after declining early in the week. Calcutta to London spot sold at 54s 9d, passage 55s, April-June are now 55s 3d to 55s 6d, June-July 55s 9d. La Plata on passage, 53s. Hull is quiet. Calcutta, May-June, 55s. La Plata spot 52s, May-June 53s. To the Continent, Bombay May-June 56s 3d, June-July 57s. Calcutta May-June 55s 6d. La Plata May-June 53s 4½d. Linseed oil—The market is excited, and everything offering at current rates is eagerly bought up. We quote spot in pipes £33, barrels £33, June-August £33, September-December £32. Hull naked spot £31 15s. June-August £31 10s. September-December £30 2s 6d. Linseed cakes are firm. We to-day quote London made £7 17s 6d to £8 ex mill, American Western £7 7s 6d to £7 10s, Russian £7 12s 6d to £7 17s 6d. Cotton cakes steady, London made £4 12s 6d to £4 17s 6d. Rapeseed steady, with considerable business doing. Brown Cawnpore, May-June 37s 9d; brown Calcutta, May-June 37s. To the Continent we quote yellow Guzerat 42s 6d, yellow Cawnpore May-June 40s, brown Cawnpore May-June 37s 6d, brown Calcutta April-June 37s. Ferozepore May-June 37s 9d. Jamba, June-July to Hull 32s. Cottonseed firmer, but demand is moderate. Passage London sold at £7 17s 6d, May £7 17s 6d, June £7 18s 9d, November-January £6 15s. Hull spot £8, May-June £7 17s 6d sellers, November-January £6 13s 9d. Cargoes, May is held for £7 18s 9d, November-December and January £6 15s. Bombay to Hull May-June at £5 3s 6d. June-July £5 5s.—THE PRODUCE BROKERS COMPANY, LTD.

Mark Lane, Monday.—The demand during the past week has been small, and limited to retail orders, but with a rather firmer tone in c.i.f quotations, values are fully as dear. Russians come to hand rather more freely, while quotations are without change. Americans continue to meet a good inquiry, being relatively cheaply offered at unchanged quotations. Calcutta made in bags move off quietly. London made do not find an active demand; at the same time crushers remain firm. Cotton Cakes.—The trade rules dull, the consumption being particularly small for the time of year, and values in consequence are with difficulty held up. Egyptians may now be bought at 1s 3d to 2s 6d per ton less money, while English are unchanged. Decorticated sell slowly at unchanged prices, and meal at £6 10s. Rape cakes neglected, and unchanged in price. Maize Germ Meal.—Arrivals of American are small, but there are sellers at 3s 9d to 5s per ton less money ex quay. English is only sparingly offered at £5 15s to £5 17s 6d. Rice Meal.—Parcels of Rangoon afloat may still be bought at £4 7s 6d ex ship, while June-July shipments make £4 10s, and September December £4 12s 6d.

	Per ton. £ s. d.			Per ton £ s. d.		
LINSEED CAKES.						
London made ..... ex mill	7	15	0	to 7	17	6
American ..... ex ship	7	0	0	to 7	2	6
Russian, in mats ..... ex dock	7	7	6	to 7	10	0
Russian, in bags ..... ex dock	7	15	0	to 7	17	6
Calcutta	7	10	0	to 7	15	0
COTTONSEED CAKES.						
London made ..... ex mill	4	15	0	to 4	17	6
Egyptian ..... ex dock	4	8	9	to 4	10	0
Decorticated ..... ex dock	6	5	0	to 6	12	6
Meal ..... ex dock	6	10	0	to	—	
RAPE CAKES.						
East India	3	15	0	to 4	0	0
MAIZE.						
English germ meal ..... ex mill	5	15	0	to 5	17	6
American ..... ex dock	5	11	3	to 5	12	6
RICE MEAL.						
Rangoon ..... ex dock	5	0	0	to		

—PINNOCK BROS., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

WATERLOO ROUND FEEDING CAKES, £6 17s 6d PER TON. WATERLOO ROUND 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES, £8 10s 0d PER TON. WATERLOO ANGLO SHAPE 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES, £8 5s 0d PER TON; WATERLOO 97 PER CENT. PURE EGYPTIAN COTTONSEED CAKES, £5 2s 6d PER TON. ALL NET CASH AND F.O.R. IN HULL.

MOLASSINE FEEDING MEAL, packed in bags, of 1½cwt. each. Price per cwt., 7s. 6d. Price per ton, £6 15s., on rail at works, Silvertown, Essex, and F.O.R. Liverpool. A sample lot of 6cwt., in 4 bags of 1½cwt. each, delivered free to any station in England on receipt of remittance for £2 11s 0d.

CORK BUTTER.

—	ORDINARY. Firsts.	Seconds.	Thirds.	Fourths.	MILD CURED FIRKINS. Superfine.	Fine	Mild.	FIRKINS IN MARKET
	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.	
Monday	104	88	80	—	112	94	—	50
Tuesday	104	88	80	—	112	93	—	60
Wednesday	100	89	80	—	112	95	—	70
Thursday	104	90	80	—	115	96	—	40
Friday	104	94	81	—	115	91	—	50
Saturday	104	93	81	—	115	96	—	70

HAY AND STRAW.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—Trade ruled very quiet, prices, however, being without alteration. Best clover, 95s to 110s; inferior ditto, 80s to 90s; specially picked hay, 117s 6d; good ditto, 110s; inferior ditto, 80s to 95s; mixture and sainfoin, 95s to 105s; and straw, 30s to 45s per load.



STOCK AND SHOW NOTES.

By Herdsman.

The attendance of visitors at the Somersetshire Agriculture Association's recent show at Wiveliscombe fell considerably short of the number at the Taunton Show last year. This, however, was to be expected, for Taunton is situated in a well-populated district, whereas Wiveliscombe has only about 2,000 inhabitants and the district around is rather sparsely populated, so that the Society were dependent upon visitors from a distance, and as the weather was none too favourable these visitors did not turn up in such large numbers as expected. The "gate-money" at Wiveliscombe amounted to £439 7s. for the three days, whereas at Taunton for the total was £726 16s. 3d. Nevertheless, it is stated that the secretary, Mr. John Risdon, jun., and his energetic associates were very well, if not quite, satisfied with the attendance.

The recent rise in the price of meat has led to much talk of "trusts" and their evil ways. Although it is undoubtedly the case that a powerful organisation exists which controls the price of meat, it is no less a fact that the advance in prices was the natural outcome of the shortage of supplies which is expected to prevail until the spring grass-fed stock comes pouring into Chicago. In the meantime New York prices have been no higher than average London prices, which shows how cheaply the Americans are accustomed to be fed. American prices must slowly advance, as Western feeding grounds get divided into small farms—and the ultimate result must be the great advantage of Canada For the great plains of the North-West will become the supply source for the Americans.

The persons who control the markets and constitute the trust are six in number. These men are multi-millionaires, and are self-made. Philip Armour, who died last year, left his son £8,000,000. Nelson Morris, worth half as much, was a Jewish immigrant, whose first week's wages as an adult in Chicago were 30c. The brothers Cudahy are "Kilkenny boys," who emigrated in childhood with their parents, and began as labourers in a packing-house. G. F. Swift saw the beginning of life through the open front of a New England butcher's shop. G. H. Hammond, last of the great packers, was the only one who did not gain his daily bread in youth by the work of his hands. He inherited some money, and in thirty-three years has built up his gigantic business.

The Suffolk Agricultural Society have made an innovation in connection with their forthcoming show, which other societies would do well to copy. As a rule, the programme of arrangements for a show is printed in a very poor and cheap style, but the Suffolk Agricultural Society have this year issued a most artistic and nicely got up programme in fact, I cannot remember having ever seen one that could in any way approach this. It is printed on fine art paper, has a tasty cover, and is altogether arranged and printed in a style of the highest credit to the Society. The show will be held on June 5th and 6th, and in the programme is given every possible information required by the visitor The judges' names are given in full, the time of each event is clearly given, whilst there are particulars of the prizes offered, prices of admission, etc., and a description of the working dairy.

The Shorthorn Society have issued a list of the pedigree exportation certificates granted by them from March 4th to May 6th of the present year. The list, which is a long one, gives the names of the animals and their breeders, and contains the names of most of the well-known Shorthorn breeders. Russia received the largest number of Shorthorns during that period, South America coming next, then Canada, South Africa, and the United States. For the last-named country only two certificates were granted, and for South Africa four, but for the other countries named quite a large number were granted.

The Wisbech and District Horse Society have issued the prize schedule for their second annual show, which will be held on August Bank Holiday, August 14th. The prize money amounts to £150, whilst there will also be gold and silver medals of the Hackney Horse Society and the Shire Horse Society's silver medal. Classes, of which several are open, are provided for hackney mares and geldings, cart mares and geldings, etc., whilst there will be jumping competitions, driving competition for ladies, and tandem teams and pairs. An evening programme of sports has also been arranged, amongst the items being a polo match, so that altogether a very attractive show should be held. The entries close on July 26th. Mr. W. J. Chamberlin, Old Market, Wisbech, is the Secretary, from whom entry forms, prize schedules, etc., can be obtained.

The thirteenth annual show of the Welbeck Tenants' Agricultural Society will be held at Welbeck, on Tuesday, August 5th, whilst the show of corn, roots, potatoes, poultry, etc., will take place on Friday, October 24th. A sum of no less than £1,025 5s. is offered in prizes, and as in former years, the Duke of Portland has subscribed liberally, he giving £269 10s., whilst the Duchess gives £7. The amounts given in the various sections of the August Show are as follows:—Agricultural horses, £138; half-bred horses (including harness horses, £30), £300; pit ponies, £31 10s.; cattle, £139; sheep, £122; pigs, £33; wool, £6 15s.; butter, £7 15s.; eggs, £7 10s.; cheese, £1 10s.; dogs, £4 10s.; shoeing smiths, £6; block test, £13; long service, £20; farms, £66; growing root crops, £35 10s. Total, £932. The prizes at the October Show will be as follows:—Corn, £15 15s.; roots, £20 5s.; potatoes, £4 10s.; table poultry, £9; butter, £2 5s.; eggs, £4 10s.; poultry, £37. Total, £93 5s. The entries close on Tuesday, July 1st, with the Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. H. W. Woods, Scotland Farm, Worksop

The "Glasgow Herald" states that Mr. John Duncan, cattle salesman, Aberdeen, received a cable on Monday from his agents, Messrs. Adolfo Bulloich and Co., Buenos Ayres, stating definitely that the Argentine ports have been closed upon the importation of live-stock from any part of this country. It was understood that the Argentine authorities had intended only to exclude cattle from the County of Kent, where there was an outbreak of foot and mouth disease some weeks ago, but the embargo applies to the whole country, and will seriously affect the outlook of stock owners and exporters, as many of the latter have been buying largely on the strength of the Argentine Republic being open to British stock.

A highly successful combination sale of Shorthorns was held at Sioux City, Iowa, on May 3rd. Top price was made by the imported Dalmeny Regina 5th, which was sold for £275 to Mr. H. Weiss, of Kansas. Next highest price made was £257, which was given by Mr. J. Rasmus, Lake City, Iowa, for May Queen. The average obtained for forty-six females was £82, while twelve bulls made an average of £73 10s.



THE HAMPSHIRE DOWN RAM which forms the subject of our above illustration was bred by Mr. C. A. Scott Murray, being born in January. At the Witney Show of the Oxfordshire Agricultural Society it was awarded First Prize in the class for shearling Hampshire Down rams

The Annual Show of the Stanhope Agricultural Society will be held in the Castle Park, Stanhope, on Saturday, September 13th. Entries close September 1st. Secretary, J. H. Stephenson, Greenhead, Stanhope, R.S.O., Co. Durham.

A very liberal schedule has been arranged for the Annual Show of the Leicestershire Agricultural Society, to be held at Leicester on Wednesday and Thursday, July 2nd and 3rd. A long list of premiums is offered for farm servants and shepherds who can show a good record of faithful service. Stock of all descriptions are well catered for, prizes being offered for horses, cattle, sheep, pigs, poultry, rabbits, pigeons, and pigs, while classes are also provided for cheese, butter, and dead poultry. A large number of special prizes are offered. Jumping prizes are also provided. Applications for entry forms, etc., must be made to Mr. Ardron, Syston, Leics.

The entire herd of pure-bred Shorthorn cattle, belonging to the late Mr. George Ashburner, is to be sold by auction on June 6th, at Low Hall, Kirkby-in-Furness, Lancashire. The late Mr. George Ashburner's father bred Shorthorns at Low Hall, in Furness, as far back as the thirties, his entries being re-

corded in the fourth and fifth volumes of the Herd Book. Mr. George Ashburner succeeded his father in 1869, and continued the herd, adding occasionally some descendants of Bates blood. The most numerous family in his herd at the present day are the Rubys, lineally descended from Lady by Young Western Comet, and they have well sustained their dairy properties. The present herd contains a number of the old Bates strains, of the Duchess, Oxford, Barrington, Kirklevington, and Winsome tribes, as well as the Gwynnes and Knightleys. The more recent sires have been Cambridge Rose Duke 9th 63752, a very massive roan bull of the Heydon branch of the Cambridge Roses. Mr. Robert Thompson's Profit 64612 was also used, as well as Mr. Langdale Barrow's Fairy Duke 39th 72497, of the old Daisy tribe, and Mr. Morris' Staffordshire Miner 71666, a handsome roan bull from one of the largest dairy herds in the Midlands. Duke of Dromonby 76545, bred by Mr. Frank Dobson, North Yorkshire, full of the old Duncombe and Singleton blood, is the sire of the young stock, and Lord Millicent and Birdsall Waterloo Duke, two red yearling bulls, are in service and for sale.

Mr. George Ashburner inherited his father's good qualities of careful breeding and good management; and of late years his services as a judge were much in request, his quiet, unassuming, genial manner making him highly esteemed in a very wide circle. From 1885 to 1891 he received numerous honours, among them the R.A.S.E. first prize of £50 for the best managed stock breeding farm of 100 acres and upwards; the Earl of Bective's ten guineas prize in the Kendal district for the best general stock of cattle, the milking properties and adaptation of cattle to the district being duly considered. Prizes were won at the Royal Manchester, Liverpool, and North Lancashire Society Shows on frequent occasions, as well as at the local shows for the best Dairy Shorthorns. At the Royal at Shrewsbury, 1884, he exhibited in the family class the beautiful white cow Bride of Lorn, with four of her offspring, and was awarded the first prize. There are descendants of these animals in the sale. The breed has been long and favourably known, especially for its dairy properties, and in addition to the prize winnings, there has been a good demand for the animals by home and colonial, as well as by foreign breeders. The farm is already let, and the herd is consequently to be sold without any reserve. The sale will commence at one o'clock, and will be conducted by Messrs. John Thornton and Co.

On June 12th the above auctioneers will dispose of the entire herd of pure-bred Shorthorns belonging to Mr. D'Arcy Reeve, and a few animals from Mr. Herbert Leney's herd, the sale to take place at Cryall's Farm, Matfield, near Paddock Wood, Kent. Mr. D'Arcy Reeve's herd was founded about seven years ago by purchases from the sale of Mr. E. T. Chalk and Mr. T. Mathews' herds at Linton, and the late Mr. Charles Collard's at Canterbury. Choice animals of Bates blood were afterwards obtained, and these included several highly-bred animals of the Horsted (or Cambridge) Rose tribe, the Kirklevington, Blanche, Seraphina, and other good families of Bates' blood. Sir James Deans 71613, a fine roan bull, bred by Mr. Joseph Harris, in Cumberland, was bought from the late Mr. Charles Collard, and is the sire of many of the cows and heifers. Roan Duke 75434 has been an excellent sire, the young stock by him being of great merit. Brigham Young, a handsome red bull, who has also been in service, is a son of Sir James Deans, from Bright Daisy of the old Daisy tribe, bred by Mr. Deane Willis, at Bapton Manor, Wilts. The cows are in good ordinary breeding condition; most of them have recently calved, or are forward in calf; the in-calf heifers are large framed, handsome animals, whilst the young stock includes many young bulls of high promise. The entire flock of Southdown sheep will be sold in August, at Tunbridge Wells.

As above-mentioned, the catalogue will also include about half-a-dozen choice animals from Mr. Herbert Leney's small herd at West Farleigh. These comprise Rosetta Blanche 3rd, of the favourite old Blanche tribe, and her three heifers, two of which are by Lord Farleigh 2nd 68956, winner of the Shorthorn Society's prize at the Tunbridge Wells Show, 1895. These are not draft animals, but a regular breeding good family. A grandson of Rosetta Blanche 3rd is also included in the sale, as well as Charming Boy, a good roan two-year-old bull, of Knightley blood, which has lately been in service. Mr. Leney's animals may be seen at Court Lodge, West Farleigh, near East Farleigh Station, S.E.R., until Monday, June 9th, when they will be removed to Matfield.

The annual horse and foal show at Hitchin will take place this year on Wednesday, September 17th, the entries closing on August 26th, with the Secretary, Mr. C. Crouch, Ridgmont, Aspley Guise, R.S.O., Bedfordshire.

The schedule of the North-East Agricultural Association's Show, to be held at Belfast on the 23rd, 24th, and 25th of July, contains a long list of attractive classes. The prizes offered are very liberal, an exceptionally generous list of challenge cups and special prizes being offered. Entries close at single fees on the 28th of June, at double fees a week later. All applications should be addressed to the Secretary, Mr. Kenneth MacRae, Ulster Bank Chambers, 37, Donegall Place, Belfast.

In last week's notes I referred to the Cambridgeshire and Isle of Ely Agricultural Society's Show, and my attention has since been drawn to a printer's error that occurred in the paragraph. The date of the show was given as July 25th, whereas it should have been Wednesday, July 23rd.

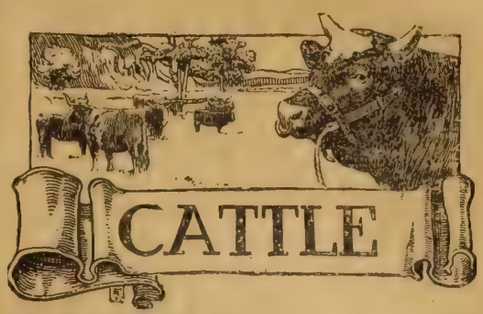
The Canadian Government have sent Mr. A. G. Hopkins, Veterinary Quarantine Officer for Canada, to this country to apply the tuberculin test to all cattle over six months old for breeding purposes, intended for export from the United Kingdom to Canada. All communications regarding the testing of animals should be addressed to Mr. Hopkins, at the Canadian Government Agency, 52, St. Enoch Square, Glasgow.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending May 20, 1902:—

Swine Fever.	Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.	No.	152	534	533	1,029	3,060	6,939
								8,676
								13,674
	Outbreaks.	No.	45	109	98	103	627	1,437
								794
								1,096
Rabies.	Cases Confirmed. Oth'r Anim'ls.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	1
								...
								...
	Dogs.	No.	2	...	...	...	11	1
								...
								1
Pleuro-Pneumonia.	Cattle Slightly'd. Exposed to Infection.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...
								...
								...
	Diseased.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...
								...
								...
	Outbreaks.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...
								...
								...
Glanders(incl. farcy).	Animals Attacked.	No.	36	43	31	10	845	555
								761
								470
	Outbreaks.	No.	11	22	16	6	438	492
								436
								263
Foot-and-Mouth Disease.	Animals Attacked.	No.	...	...	...	...	118	669
								123
								...
	Outbreaks.	No.	...	...	...	...	1	12
								9
								...
Anthrax.	Animals Attacked.	No.	17	21	16	9	500	406
								367
								445
	Outbreaks.	No.	14	21	16	9	302	281
								236
								223
Period.	Week ended May 17, 1902			Corresponding week in ...	1901	1900	1899	Total for 20 weeks, 1902 ... ...
								Corresponding period in ...	1901	1900	1899

NOTE.—The figures for the current Year are approximate only.



Sale of Red Polls at Necton Hall.

Mr. Harvey Mason's old-established herd of the old "Homebreds" is well known throughout the country, and consequently the dispersion of the entire Sparham Hall portion by Messrs. John Thornton and Co. brought a large company together at Necton Hall Farm, Swaffham, on the 15th inst. There were many choice animals for sale, and strict milk records had been kept, the Babcock tester having been regularly used. Some of the older cows went cheaply, but for the heifers there was a good demand. Lord Rothschild got the pick of the heifers in Spitfire at 45 guineas, whilst Sir Oswald Mosley obtained some of the best yearlings and that fine bull Kohinoor. Other principal purchasers were Mr. C. Barclay, Mr. W. Fleming, and Mr. Garrett Taylor. We give below a sale list with the purchasers' names and prices:—

COWS.

	Gs
Chestnut 6897, c. March 1, 1891, s. Vanguard 1648 W. Fleming	24
She 7516, c. Nov. 5, 1891, s. Paris 1974..W. Fleming	25
Twin Rosebud 6835, c. Dec. 3, 1890, s. Percy 1050 E. E. Barclay	20
Her Bull Calf, c. Feb. 26, 1902, s. Magician 5021 Hon. A. Fellowes	12
Beatrix 7668, c. Dec. 23, 1891, s. Paris 1974 W. Fleming	16
Princess Anne 9703, c. Dec. 13, 1894, s. The Ensign 3096 .....Garrett Taylor	26
Rosa 4th 9757, c. Dec. 25, 1894, s. Monk 1573 Garrett Taylor	15
Cheshunt 10093, c. Feb. 5, 1895, s. Ruthless King 3702 .....W. Fleming	17½
Her Bull Calf, c. Jan. 17, 1902, s. Crown Diamond 6104 .....Garrett Taylor	13
Pride 10646, c. Feb. 22, 1895, s. Dandy 1768 E. E. Barclay	40
Twin Rosa, 10854, twin, c. March 4, 1895, s. Monk 1753 .....J. B. Stanford	14
Twin Rose 10855, twin, c. March 4, 1895, s. Monk 1573 .....E. E. Barclay	24
Marigold 10461, c. August 20, 1895, s. Majiolini 3600 Hon. W. F. D. Smith	21
Necton Daisy 12707, c. June 13, 1897, s. Majiolini 3600 .....Lord Rothschild	25
Her Bull Calf, c. March 4, 1902, s. Crown Diamond 6104 .....Hon. A. Fellowes	13½
Dardy 12175, c. July 14, 1897, s. Majiolini 3500 Garrett Taylor	16
Ida 15108, c. Nov. 16, 1897, s. Mercutio 4042 W. Fleming	16½
Her Bull Calf, c. March 1, 1902, s. Magician 5021 E. E. Barclay	(½
Ring 15746, c. Jan. 14, 1898, s. Mercutio 4042 Garrett Taylor	17
Bess 13187, c. Feb. 14, 1898, s. Majiolini 3600 W. Fleming	20
Her Bull Calf, c. Feb. 19, 1902, s. Crown Diamond 6104 .....Hon. A. Fellowes	13
Dormouse 14840, c. Feb. 24, 1898, s. Mercutio 4042 Hon. W. F. D. Smith	28
Pixie 15605, c. Feb. 27, 1898, s. Jewel 3979 E. F. Walesby	17
Angel 14451, c. March 1, 1898, s. Mercutio 4042 H. C. Mansel Lewis	33

HEIFERS.

Spitfire 15893, c. Jan. 3, 1899, s. Tory 4689 Lord Rothschild	45
Magic 15328, c. April 29, 1899, s. Risky Barney 4620 C. E. Simpson	15
Chess 14668, c. May 8, 1899, s. Magician 5021 Hon. C. B. Hanbury	25
Lavina 15244, c. June 15, 1899, s. Risky MBarney 4620 .....H. E. Mansel Lewis	31
Roma 15755, c. July 10, 1899, s. Risky Barney 4620 Sir Oswald Mosley	16
Gerrie 14988, c. Aug. 18, 1899, s. Marmion 5674 Sir Oswald Mosley	34
Dorcas 14835, c. Dec. 7, 1899, s. Risky Barney 4620 E. F. Walesby	16½
Mischief 17176, c. Jan. 30, 1900, s. Magician 5021 H. Le Strange	22
Sunrise 17703, c. March 14, 1900, s. Crown Diamond 6104 .....Sir Oswald Mosley	34
Daisy Chain 16434, c. April 23, 1900, s. Magician 5021 R. P. Cooper	27
Tea Tray 17733, c. June 23 1900, s. Crown Diamond 6104 .....Sir Oswald Mosley	21
Rhoda 17528, c. July 20, 1900, s. Magician 5021 Hon. W. F. D. Smith	20
Florence 16557, c. Aug. 5, 1900, s. Crown Diamond 6104 .....Sir Oswald Mosley	25
Necton Rosa 17255, c. Sept. 7, 1900, s. Magician 5021 C. E. Simpson	12
Beauty 16160, c. Sept. 13, 1900 s. Magician 5021 Sir Thos. Gooch, Bart.	35
Twilight 17776, c. Sept. 15, 1900, s. Milkman 7374 T. C. Blofield	14
Emma 16568, c. Oct. 1, 1900, s. Milkman 7374 Sir Oswald Mosley	25
Gem 16696, c. Oct. 4, 1900, s. Majiolini 3600 Sir Oswald Mosley	25
Maid 17064, c. Oct. 23, 1900, s. Crown Diamond 6104 Lord Hertesbury	13½
Majolica 2nd, c. Jan. 4, 1901, s. Magician 5021 W. Fleming	35
Cherub, c. Feb. 5, 1901, s. Majiolini 3600 ..T. C. Blofield	12
Necton Daffodil, c. April 17, 1901, s. Crown Diamond 6104 .....Sir Oswald Mosley	15
Rosabelle, c. May 4, 1901, s. Crown Diamond 6104 W. Fleming	23

BULLS.

	Gs.
Magician 5021, c. June 3, 1896, s. Majiolini 3600 H. Blofield	31
Nelson 7404, c. April 9, 1899, s. Tory 4689..A. Taylor	37
Koh-i-noor 8333, c. March 25, 1900, s. Crown Diamond 6104 ..... Sir Oswald Mosley	50
Prince Rupert 8590, c. May 21, 1900, s. Crown Diamond 6104 ..... W. Fleming	23
Belisarius c. Dec. 21, 1900, s. Crown Diamond 6104 T. Fulcher	27
Dante, c. March 11, 1901, s. Crown Diamond 6104 Col. Wigpole	25
Monk, c. March 21, 1901, s. Crown Diamond 6104 E. E. Barclay	11½
Romney, c. April 20, 1901, s. Crown Diamond 6104 W. Nicholson	13

SUMMARY.

	Average. £ s. d.	Total. £ s. d.
42 Cows and Heifers	25 15 0	1,081 10 0
9 Bulls	26 6 2	236 15 6
51 Head	25 17 0	1,318 5 6

Sale of Shorthorns at Thaxted.

On Friday Messrs. J. Thornton held a sale of the herd of Shorthorns bred by Mr. J. Raven, at the Hydes, Thaxted, Essex. The sale was fairly well attended by buyers from all parts. The cattle were low in condition, especially the cows, which had been milking heavily. Some of the heifers, however, were promising, and looked like growing into good animals. Following is a list of the principal prices and purchasers:—

COWS AND HEIFERS.

	Gs.
Rose, roan, c. Feb. 16, 1891, s. Baron Carew 78312 Mr. Rhodes	17
Beauty, light roan, c. June 28, 1893, s. Baron Carew 78312 ..... Mr. H. Stokes	15
Violet 2nd, red and little white, c. March 4, 1894, s. Kinsman 51st 70722 ..... Mr. C. Adeane	31
Moss Rose 2nd, red, c. Jan. 14, 1895, s. Kinsman 51st 70722 ..... Mr. B. Duke	23½
Hyacinth, light roan, c. Nov. 29, 1895, s. Kinsman 51st 70722 ..... Mr. J. Phillips	15
Flower of Hydes, light roan, c. Nov. 27, 1895, s. Kinsman 51st 70722 ..... Mr. Roberts	25
Violet 3rd, red roan, c. March 18, 1897, s. Kinsman 51st 70722 ..... Sir W. Gilbey, Bart.	24
Moss Rose 4th, red and little white, c. Aug. 27, 1897, s. King Cole 74789 ..... Mr. Hope Brooke	19
White Rose, white, c. Dec. 1, 1897, s. King Cole 74789 ..... Mr. Stokes	14
Primrose 3rd, red and little white, c. March 3, 1898, s. King Cole 74789 ..... Mr. Riches	19
Moss Rose 5th, white, c. June 7, 1898, s. King Cole 74789 ..... Mr. Phillips	18
Moss Rose 6th, light roan, c. Sept. 24, 1898, s. King Cole 74789 ..... Mr. C. Adeane	31
Hyacinth 2nd, white, c. April 10, 1899, s. King Cole 74789 ..... Sir W. Gilbey, Bart.	26
Beauty 4th, roan, c. Feb. 14, 1900, s. King Cole 74789 Mr. Rhodes	21
Star Princess 6th, light roan, c. March 10, 1900, s. King Cole 74789 ..... Rev. C. H. Brocklebank	24
Pansy 9th, white, c. March 17, 1900, s. King Cole 74789 ..... Mr. Hope Brooke	21
Pansy 10th, red roan, c. March 21, 1900, s. Coral King 78636 ..... Captain Stone	22
Moss Rose 9th, red and white, c. Nov. 16, 1900, s. King Cole 74789 ..... Mr. Gill	16½
Rosebud, roan, c. Nov. 24, 1900, s. Star Prince 2nd 80048 ..... Mr. W. Jackson	20
Violet 6th, nearly red, c. Jan. 13, 1901, s. Lord Oxford 2nd 79294 ..... Mr. Hope Brooke	22
Moss Rose 10th, roan, c. Jan. 13, 1901, s. Lord Oxford 2nd 79294 ..... Mr. Riches	22
Violet 7th, red and little white, c. Jan. 28, 1901, s. Lord Oxford 2nd 79294 ..... Mr. Riches	18½
Primrose 6th, rich roan, c. Feb. 2, 1901, s. Lord Oxford 2nd 79294 ..... Mr. Riches	14½
Pansy 11th, red roan, c. April 6, 1901, s. Lord Oxford 2nd 79294 ..... Mr. Riches	14½
Moss Rose 11th, roan, c. Sept. 9, 1901, s. Lord Oxford 2nd 79294 ..... Mr. Haw	17½
Daisy 8th, red, c. Nov. 6, 1901, s. Lord Oxford 2nd 79294 ..... Mr. Wood	16
Violet 8th, red, c. Dec. 6, 1901, s. Lord Oxford 2nd 79294 ..... Mr. Wood	16½

BULLS.

	Gs.
Lord Oxford 2nd 79294, red, c. Feb. 4, 1899, s. Sea Lord 12th 71572 ..... Mr. Judkins	30
King Careless, roan, c. July 21, 1900, s. King Cole 74789 ..... Mr. Roberts	18
King Albert, roan, c. Dec. 14, 1900, s. King Cole 74789 Rev. C. H. Brocklebank	30
Lord Hyde, nearly red, c. Feb. 4, 1901, s. Lord Oxford 2nd 79294 ..... Mr. Hope Brooke	20
Star Prince 3rd, red, c. May 20, 1901, s. Lord Oxford 2nd 79294 ..... Mr. Radbourne	18½
Baron Hyde, roan, c. May 28, 1901, s. Lord Oxford 2nd 79294 ..... Mr. J. Haw	25
Lord Violet, nearly red, c. July 7, 1901, s. Lord Oxford 2nd 79294 ..... Mr. Rhodes	19
Lord Hyde 3rd, red, c. Oct. 4, 1901, s. Lord Oxford 2nd 79294 ..... Mr. Smith	19

SUMMARY.

	Total. £ s. d.	Average. £ s. d.
33 cows and heifers	646 16 0	19 12 0
14 bulls and calves	244 2 6	17 8 8
47	890 18 8	18 19 0

Sale of Channel Island Cattle at Hayward's Heath.

Mr. T. Bannister's annual spring sale of pure-bred Channel Island cattle was held at Hayward's Heath on the 16th inst. Despite the miserable weather which prevailed, there was a large attendance of buyers, but trade was by no means brisk. The catalogue was a heavy one, consisting of close on a hundred cows and heifers, and about a dozen bulls, the animals being from the herds of various well-known breeders. Not all the animals were sold, and those that were did not fetch good prices, the top figure of the sale being but 13 guineas, which sum was realised for a Jersey cow. Jersey bulls went at prices ranging from 3 guineas to 10 guineas, cows from 3 guineas to 13 guineas; whilst Guernsey heifers realised up to 8½ guineas, and a Guernsey bull 10 guineas.

Sale of Aberdeen-Angus.

On the 15th inst. there took place at Skilmafilly, Auchnagat, N.B., in connection with the displenish sale there, the dispersion of the small but very useful herd of Aberdeen-Angus cattle belonging to Mr. Fraser. There was a goodly company present, and the sale was very satisfactory. The highest price of the sale was 35 guineas, given by Mr. Hay for the four-year-old cow Antibes, with her calf. She is by the home-bred bull Collins, and is descended from the Millicent family. For the five-year-old cow Mary Hay and bull calf, Mr. Walker, Tillygreig, gave 27½ guineas. She is by Conrad of Gorthlick, and is descended from a Portlethen Ida family. Mr. Fowlie, Auchmaleddie, paid 26½ guineas for the seven-year-old cow Corinth by Sulla, and 26 guineas for the three-year-old La Belle France by Collins and her heifer calf. In the three-year-old Phrygia by King of Spades (a son of Conrad and a Millicent cow), Mr. Wilken, Broomfield, gave 26½ guineas. For the stock bull Junior of Morlich, a three-year-old member of the Jemima family and by Rover of Craibstone, Mr. Fowlie, Loanhead, gave 28 guineas. The average obtained for sixteen animals was £28 18s.

Sale of Shorthorns at Rettie, Boyndie, N.B.

The herd of Shorthorns bred at Rettie by Mr. G. Longmore was dispersed by auction on the 15th inst., in the presence of a large gathering. The highest price among the cows was 32 guineas given by Mr. Campbell of the new College of Agriculture of Ireland. He gave this figure for the six-year-old Lady Roy, a red and white, by the Collynie bull Marathon. She is a valuable breeding cow, having at foot a couple of nice heifer calves, which were also taken out by the same buyer at 15 guineas each. Lady Roy was succeeded in the ring by her three-year-old daughter Lady Flower, by the Newton bull Star of Destiny. At 27 guineas Mr. Anderson, Saphock, Oldmeldrum, became the purchaser. The nine-year-old cow Corinne, by the Collynie bull Lord Melville was taken out by Mr. M'William, Stoneytown, for 25 guineas.

The highest price of the sale was paid among the two-year-old heifers, Mr. Campbell, Harthill, taking out the pick of the lot at 62 guineas. This figure he gave for Malignant, a very prettily-fleshed light roan by Star of Destiny, and out of a cow by Lord Melville. Mr. Campbell had also a Rosamond heifer in Claribel by Prince of Rettie for 27 guineas, and Mr. Longmore, Baldavie, had one of the old Flowery family in Lilias, a low-standing, thick-fleshed red and white, also by Prince of Rettie by Prince of Cairnton, and out of one of the Gordon Castle Duchess family, paying for her 25 guineas. The pick of the yearling heifers, Snow Maid, a nice straight heifer with good top, and by the stock bull Massingberd, was taken out by Mr. Smith, Cragganmore, at 36 guineas, and her twin sister was acquired by Mr. Campbell at 27 guineas. Mr. Smith had also at 30 guineas the yearling Rosamond heifer Guardian Lily by Star of Destiny, and Juno, a representative of the Middleton of Troup Jewel family by Massingberd was taken out by Mr. Campbell, Ireland, at 25 guineas. The stock bull Massingberd, bred by Mr. Innes, Cushnie, a big, lengthy, thick-fleshed roan by the Heatherwick bull Roscommon, was taken out by Mr. Dawson, Gordon Castle, at 47 guineas. The average obtained for twenty-eight animals was £23 8s. 9d.

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Sale at York.

A special sale of pedigree hackneys, harness horses, and cobs, was held on Thursday by Messrs. Walker and Sons, at their York Repository. Trade for useful horses and cobs was very good, although no high prices were realised. Mr. P. Crawford, Dargavel, Dumfries, offered twelve harness horses and cobs, of which eleven were sold at prices ranging up to 50 guineas. The following were the principal prices realised:—

	Gs.
Chestnut gelding, 5 years, 15.1 h.h.	30
Bay Gelding, 4 years, 14.3 h.h.	35
Bay Mare, 5 years, 16 h.h.	30
Dark chestnut horse, 4 years off, 16 h.h.	35
Bay gelding, 5 years, 16 h.h.	30
Bay gelding, 6 years, 16 h.h.	33
Bay gelding, 5 years, 15.3 h.h.	31
Brown gelding, 6 years, 16.1 h.h.	45
Brown gelding, 6 years, 16 h.h.	39
Brown gelding, 6 years, 16.1 h.h.	37
Brown gelding, 6 years, 16.1 h.h.	40

Sale of Berry Hill Hackneys.

On Thursday Mr. W. Bainbridge, of Warrington, disposed of a number of pedigree hackney ponies, brood mares, young stock, and harness mares and geldings, the property of Mr. W. Hollin, of Berry Hill, Mansfield, Notts. The sale took place on the premises, and although wet weather prevailed there was a most representative company of breeders present, and a satisfactory sale resulted, the total amount realised being upwards of 2,500 guineas. The first fourteen lots comprised brood mares and foals, all of which fetched moderate prices. The highest figure was paid by Sir Gilbert Greenhall, who gave 100 guineas for Berry Hill Braithwaite sire Prospector, dam Miss Braithwaite II., foaled in 1897. Lady Bates, a brown, with brown filly foal, and has only been shown once, and secured the first at the Royal Show at Manchester, was secured somewhat cheaply by Mr. Rushworth, of Harrogate, for 82 guineas. Mr. A. W. Hickling paid two guineas less for Golden Fleece, a 13.3½ hands, brown, foaled in 1897, and Mr. Boydon 77 guineas for Georgina II. and foal. In this section Sir Humphrey de Trafford paid 70 guineas for Berry Hill Queen, brown mare with foal; Mr. G. Taylor, 60 guineas for Georgie, brown mare with foal; Mr. Cockburn, 55 guineas for Novelty, bay mare with foal; and Mr. Jones, of Wrexham, 52 guineas for Pink Pearl, brown mare with foal. Twenty-seven lots were offered in the harness section. Sir Humphrey de Trafford purchased Tortoiseshell, foaled in 1896, sire Lord Derby III., by Tortoise, a chestnut pony, which has won prizes at Mansfield and Welbeck, for 110 guineas, and also paid 60 guineas for a grey gelding foaled in 1897, and the same price for a bay gelding foaled in 1898. A fine bay gelding pair, both 14 hands, one foaled in 1897 and the second in 1896, were sold to Mr. G. Foster. The former, which secured second saddle and third harness awards at the Notts County Show in 1901, made 170 guineas, and the other 75 guineas. Mr. Taylor also paid 71 guineas for a bay gelding foaled in 1897. Mr. C. H. Seely paid 65 guineas and 40 guineas respectively for a chestnut gelding and a bay. The fillies averaged just under 30 guineas a-piece.

Sale of Mr. E. Nichols' Show Horses.

Mr. E. Nichols, of Harford Hill, near Droitwich, having decided to give up exhibiting horses, his four well-known show animals, together with a pair of carriage horses, were disposed of by auction on Thursday, by Messrs. Bentley, Hobbs, and Mytton. Considering the inclement weather, there was a good attendance of buyers. The catalogue comprised Jeddah, a four-year-old gelding, 16 hands high, winner of two £10 Queen's premiums at the Hunters Shows at Islington in 1900 and 1901, and of many other prizes, by Herschel out of a half-bred mare; Flying Fox, three years, and Diamond Jubilee, two years, both own brothers to above, and winners of various prizes; Volodyovski, a yearling, own brother not yet exhibited, but very promising, and a bay mare and gelding, six and seven years old respectively, 16 hands high, a capital match. Jeddah was keen competed for, and eventually realised 135 guineas; Flying Fox made 90 guineas; Diamond Jubilee, 55 guineas; Volodoyovski, 35 guineas; and the pair of carriage horses, 70 guineas.



Dorchester Spring Sheep Sale.

The annual spring sheep sale at Dorchester was held on the 15th inst., when nearly 14,000 sheep and lambs were offered at the sales conducted by Messrs. Ensor and Son and Messrs. H. Duke and Son. There was a good attendance of buyers. A very welcome rain fell in the morning, to the advantage of flockmasters, who had the satisfaction of making 2s. to 3s. a head more for their sheep than they expected, the result of the rainfall, as prices unexpectedly advanced to the extent quoted in comparison with other recent fairs. The trade, particularly for horn sheep, was brisk, and only a small proportion of the sheep remained unsold. A good deal of interest naturally centred in the prize classes, one for ewes (judged by Mr. L. C. Attrill, Isle of Wight) and the other for ram lambs (judged by Mr. J. Chick and M. C. Hawkins). Mr. W. R. Flower, West Stafford, Dorchester, carried off the first prizes of three guineas each both for ewes and rams, with some really magnificent sheep. The general quality was so good that it was found necessary to award numerous "h.c.'s" and "c.'s." As regards prices, horn ewes, with a quick sale, made, for the best, from 46s. to 48s. (Puddletown), and second, 42s. to 47s.; one grand lot of young ewes from Mr. A. Read, Hilton, Blandford, selling up to 61s. apiece; couples, 56s. to 70s.; horn chilver hogs, 41s. to 54s.; tegs, which were very dear, 45s. to 50s.; wether lambs, 24s. to 30s. Down sheep, except tegs and hogs, sold scarcely so well, comparatively speaking, as horns, though prices on the whole were very satisfactory, draft ewes making 38s. to 43s.; couples, 46s. to 60s.; wether tegs, 36s. to 4s. 6d.; chilver hogs, 34s. to 35s. 6d.; Southdown tegs, 33s. to 46s.; cross-bred lambs, 22s. to 27s. 6d. The rams offered at Messrs. Ensor's and at Messrs. Duke's sale numbered about 300 altogether, and a very meritorious lot they were. Competition was very keen. The general run for yearlings was from 5 guineas to 11 guineas; best ram lambs, 12 guineas to 20 guineas; seconds, 4½ guineas to 9 guineas.

Toller Down Fair.

This well-known West Dorset sheep fair was held on Monday, when there was a fairly good supply of sheep and attendance of buyers, but not so good as on many previous occasions. Trade ruled somewhat slow, and recent prices were not maintained excepting for the meaty lambs and wethers in forward condition, the latter of which were both wanted. Messrs. Duke were entrusted with the sale of upwards of 1,000 sheep of different sorts. 46s. 6d. was realised for Mr. John Woolmington's draft horn ewes, the top price of the fair for this class. Other horn ewes sold up to 45s. 6d.; working tegs made from 34s. to 42s.; fat lambs, 31s. to 36s.; and Down couples, 46s. to 62s. Mr. G. Symonds also disposed of a very large number at prices similar to those given above.

East Ilsley Whitsuntide Fair.

At this fair, held on Wednesday, there was a good average supply of sheep and a fair number of dealers in attendance from a distance. Trade was, however, somewhat dull. An exceptionally good lot of young ewes made 48s., but the general price for ewes was from 30s. to 44s.; tegs, from 30s. to 42s.; and lambs, from 20s. to 32s. There was a large number of cattle on offer, and there was a good inquiry at late prices.

PIGS.

Sale of Pigs at Wimborne.

A number of animals from the registered herds of Yorkshire and Berkshire pigs belonging to Mr. H. Standfield were sold by auction at Wimborne Repository on Tuesday by Messrs. T. Ensor and Son. There was a good attendance of buyers and a satisfactory sale resulted. The Yorkshires were the first to be submitted, and these ranged from 3½ guineas to 7½ guineas for elts, the latter price being realised for lot 2, a remarkably fine elt, showing all the true characteristics of the breed. Boars sold at from 3½ guineas to 5 guineas, Berkshire elts, 3 guineas to 7½ guineas, the latter price being realised by lot 5, a capital elt, and which, after keen competition, went to Mr. G. Keynes, Winterbourne Kingston, the same purchaser taking lots 3 and 4 at 6½ guineas each; boars, 2 guineas to 3½ guineas, several selling at 3 guineas each.



THE JERSEY HEIFER "ORLEANS' QUEEN" shown above was bred by J. Journeaux, Jersey, being by "Carnation's Crown" 2,747, out of "Maid of Orleans." At the recent show of the Oxfordshire Agricultural Society at Witney "Orlean's Queen" was awarded the Champion Prize for the best Jersey cow or Heifer in the Show. She also won First Prize in the class for the Jersey heifers in milk or in calf, calved in 1900.

New Agricultural Patents.

Specially compiled for MARK LANE EXPRESS by Mr. G. D. Howard (Hughes, Son, and Co.), Patent Agent, 38, Chancery Lane, London, of whom all information relating to patents, designs, and trade marks may be obtained free of charge.

10,462.—Uriah Whatley, John Whatley, and Alfred Whatley, of Chancery Lane, London, for "Improvements in mowing machines for corn and similar crops that are gathered when cut."

10,547.—Frank Horridge, of London, for "Improvements connected with pruning shears."

Patent Sealed.

23,669.—W. N. Whitely, of Springfield, Ohio, for "Mowing machines."



Nottinghamshire.

The Nottinghamshire Agricultural Society's annual show is held during Whitsun week, and it is therefore not always favoured with the kind of meteorological conditions desired for such exhibitions. On some occasions, notably when Whitsuntide has fallen rather late, the show has been held under most auspicious climatic conditions, while, on the other hand, an early Whitsun has brought with it wretched weather. That experienced last week at Colwick Park was a mixture of rain and sunshine. Tuesday morning was very dull, and boisterous winds prevailed, but in the afternoon the sun came out, and more cheerful weather prevailed, whilst on the second day fine weather was experienced nearly the whole of the day. The attendance of visitors was very good, the number paying for admission on both days being 13,500. This total was slightly exceeded last year, when, however, a record was created, so that, all things considered, the attendance of visitors was highly satisfactory. The same may be said of the entries, both as regards quality and quantity. They numbered exactly the same as last year, viz., 814, the numbers in the various sections being as follows:—Horses, 437; cattle, 174; sheep, 40; pigs, 57; implements, 66; and butter, 40. The sectional figures last year were:—Horses, 453; cattle, 173; sheep, 38; pigs, 54; implements, 64; and butter, 32. A sum of £1,100 was offered in prizes, and the gentlemen chosen to award them were:—Shires: Messrs. T. B. Freshney, South Somercotes, Louth, Lincs.; H. R. Hart, Barnsfield, Stafford. Hunters: Messrs. Maxwell Angus, Whissendine, Oakham; E. P. Rawnsley, Girsby Manor, Lincoln. Hackneys, riding and driving horses: Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., Walton Hall, Warrington; Mr. John Rowell, Bury, Huntingdon. Jumpers: Mr. T. Firr, Charnwood House, Quorn, Loughborough. Shorthorns: Messrs. Jas. Hobbs, Maisey Hampton, Fairford; T. H. Hutchinson, The Manor House, Catterick, Yorkshire. Lincoln sheep: Mr. F. Ward, Quarrington, Sleaford. Shropshire sheep: Mr. T. S. Minton, Montford, Shrewsbury. Large white pigs: Mr. H. Smith, Cropwell Buder. Berkshire pigs: Mr. T. S. Minton, Montford, Shrewsbury. Butter, etc.: Mr. J. F. Blackshaw, Midland Dairy Institute, Kingston, Derby.

Shire Horses.

The Shire horses usually form the strongest feature of the Nottinghamshire Show; they did so again last week, the display of the favourite breed being of general excellence all round; in fact, some expressed the opinion that it was one of the best ever seen at Nottingham, but that is saying a great deal. However, the judges had no easy task in making their awards, but they met with almost general approval. The yearlings included both colts, fillies, and geldings, and they were a level lot, but Mr. Goulding's Valley Prima Donna by Coalfield Tom, from Darling, won fairly easily, although New Field Beauty, the property of Mr. J. S. Bains, ran the winner somewhat close. Only a couple faced the judges in the brood mare department, but both were splendid in quality. Mr. Horner's Broughton Rose—a typical example of her class—with a beautiful foal by Tres Bon, was first, the second prize going to Mr. Joseph Waddington for a serviceable mare, accompanied by a capital foal by Nailstone Cœur de Lion. In a strong class of yearling colts the Duchess of Newcastle was to the forefront with a long, level colt on strong legs and good feet. The second prize-winner was Kingston Blaze, a capital type of colt, the property of Lord Belper, whilst Mr. Albert Armitage's Newark winner, Cotgrave Marmion, had upon this occasion to put up with third place. The shire yearling fillies constituted another strong county class. The Newark winner, Mr. P. L. Mills's Priscilla Alden, repeated her success, and although not looking quite so new as upon that occasion, is a big, heavy filly. Second prize went to Mr. Casswell's Dunsby Lady Grey, which was a good winner in Lincolnshire last year, a challenge cup at Spalding standing to her credit; Mr. Langham's Brandon Eclipse III., a sweet filly by Nailstone Cœur de Lion, was third. In the class for two-year-old Shire fillies the judges had to call in an umpire to decide between the first two animals. Eventually Mr. James Oakes repeated his Newark success with Riddings Victress Ida 2nd, a grey daughter of Bury Victor Chief, and this award met with general approval.

The second prize-winner, owned by the Nottingham Corporation Farm Committee, was Nottingham Lily, by Royal Rock, from Nottingham Florence, an animal as good as its rival, with the exception of a lack of finish about the hind legs. Mr. Avis also had the third prize-winner, but this animal did not approach the two placed in front of it either in substance or weight. A further success was in store for the Nottingham Corporation Farm in the next class, which was for three-year-old Shire fillies. The fortunate candidate was Durdham Lassie, by Royal Derby, from Durdham Flower, which was second at Newark. Durdham Lassie is a lengthy filly on good feet and nice pasterns, and although heavy in foal, looked at her best. Second came Mr. James Oakes with Riddings Gipsy 3rd, a big weighty one, with a great deal of substance and cart-horse appearance. Messrs. Forshaw and Sons were placed third with Birdsall Carnation, a filly of smaller cast, but standing on good hard legs, and of attractive make and shape. The Shire brood mares, with foal at foot, were headed by Mr. P. L. Mills' Saxon Girl, a nine-year-old bay by Norman Conqueror, from Merry Girl. Saxon Girl, which was first in London, carries her form and feather well, and is indubitably a handsome, thick, mouldy mare. She was followed by a stable companion, Caper Sauce, another big animal, which has done very well since last year. Nottingham Sunflower, from the Nottingham Corporation's Farm, was third. The winner in the colt foal class was another Stoke Bardolph foal, Nottingham St. Patrick, by St. Patrick from Nottingham Duchess. He appears likely to make a splendid colt, if only favoured by ordinary luck. The second, Mr. James Oates's bay, by Markeaton Loyal Harold, also gave promise of future excellence. Mr. Mills sent the winner in the filly class, a brown daughter of Ruddington Premier, and a big, heavy filly, which was the second prize-taker at Newark. Messrs. Moore and Sons, of Beeston Fields, came next with a bay by Nailstone Cœur de Lion, from Sedate. The Corporation carried off both first and second prizes in the class for agricultural geldings with two slashing bays, Nottingham Saint, by Nottingham Conqueror, and Nottingham Sinner, by Harold. The runner-up was Earl Manvers, who showed Warwick, a Colwick Victor colt of a useful stamp.

When the all-England classes came under the notice of the judges a big entry of 17 yearling colts had first to be reckoned with, and it was found that Mr. Jackson's London winner, Knottingley Royal, had been passed over, so far as the first prize was concerned, in favour of Mr. Whitehurst's bay, Markeaton Ransome, by Holker Conqueror, from Jenny of Astwick. In many people's opinion this colt had a very easy win indeed, for he possesses both size and quality, and is a splendid mover. Knottingley Royal is of the heavy sort, with clean legs and plenty of substance, but he lacks the size and the length of the winner. The muster of two-year-old Shire stallions constituted one of the most remarkable classes ever seen out at the Notts. show. Nearly all the fifteen entrants competed, and the candidates included winning horses from all parts of the country. After a great deal of consideration, the judges placed on top the Earl of Egerton's Tatton Chief, by Forest Chief from Millicent, a capital colt, standing on magnificent legs and feet. Alert, a lean colt belonging to Messrs. Forshaw and Sons, was placed second, the third prize going to Conqueror's Boy, a colt with a grand top and flat legs, shown by Mr. J. P. Cross. Messrs. A. Henderson and W. Jackson had first and second in the classes for yearling and two-year-old fillies. There was an extraordinarily good class of barren Shire mares, which included several London winners, and there was not a moderate mare amongst them. When the animals entered the ring, however, it was apparent that Mr. R. A. Yerburgh's Lily of the Valley would be singled out as the leader, notwithstanding that she was accompanied in the parade by Mr. Hamer Towgood's Rolleston Fuchsia, the London winner. The Lancashire filly also took the the championship and one of the Shire Horse Society's gold medals. She won at the Newark Show, and was described in our report, so that we need not repeat her good qualities, but may state that she appeared in even better form at Nottingham than she did at Newark. Rolleston Fuchsia, second in her class and reserve for the championship, is built on the brood mare lines, with plenty of length and size, and grand legs and feet. The Shire Horse Society's gold medal for stallion or entire colt was gained by the Messrs. Forshaw's Alert.

Hunters.

The light horses did not make anything like such a good show as the Shires, and some classes were rather disappointing. Hunters were a fairly good lot, but the county classes were not so strong as they might have been. Mr. Wilkinson, of Cavendish Lodge, Edwinstowe, Newark, was represented by several of the young animals with which he won at Newark, and he gained further successes. In the yearling class he was to the front with The Lady, by Havoc, an exceedingly promising filly, Mr. Linney, of Thurgarton, being second with Smiling Morn, whilst Mr. Duff, of East Bridgford, was the reserve with Jean Aberdeen, by Enterprise. Mr. Wilkinson scored with his two-year-old colt Havoc, Mrs. Kirk, of Gunthorpe Hall, being second with the well-bred Master Douglas, by Cresthampton. In the class for three-year-olds the winner was Lady Sissie, belonging to Mr. R. G. Pinder, of Bilborough. The brood mare class was a small one, and here Mr. Wilkinscon's chestnut, by Bloodshot, by Thurio, with which he carried off a first prize at Newark, again took premier honours. The best of the hunters four years old and upwards was Mr. Machin's (Rapplewick) The Friar, a very handsome horse. The open section was well filled with animals of very high quality, and here Mr. Hodgson, of Newark, repeated some of his Newark successes. He was very much in evidence with his yearlings, Kildare, by Red Prince 2nd, and Perfection, by Hindley, being placed first and second. With his two-year-olds, Coronation, by Hindley, and Brutus, by Active Hampton, he very nearly accomplished a similar triumph, for they were first and third respectively, being divided by a bay by Blankney, the property of Mr. Bankart, of Hallaton Hall, Uppingham. Mr. Hodges also scored with his three-year-old, Toreador, Mr. Hoyle, of Moorlands, Bacup, being second with Roseberry, with Mr. Pinder's Lady Cissie third. The latter also carried off the Society's silver medal, as well as one on the silver medals of the Hunters' Improvement Society. The South Notts Cup was won by Doricles, Mr. W. Pinder's Tommy being the reserve. The brood mares were a very select class. Mr. Wilkinson's celebrated Lady Grosvenor added to her laurels, and the same owner's chestnut was second, with Housemaid reserve. The hacks were not numerous, Mr. Hardy, of Bulwell Hall, winning with Silent, from Mr. Hanbury's Bobs, of Oakham. There were excellent riding classes, Messrs. W. and J. Cheney, of Gidding Grove, Peterborough, won in the class for four-year-olds with John Dory, Mr. Stokes, of Great Bowden, Market Harborough, being second with Haddon, and Mr. Hodges third with Princess. Mr. Stokes's renowned Tennis Ball met with a reverse in the class for older horses, being able to get only third. Mr. Drage, of Chapel Brampton, Northampton, was first with a fine, free moving bay, Messrs. T. and H. Ward, of Great Ayton, Yorkshire, being second with Blackthorn. Lady Grosvenor was awarded one more gold medal of the Hunters' Improvement Society, and Kildare took one of the silver medals. Another of these was captured by Mr. Drage's bay.

Hackneys.

The Hackney classes were but fair, the country classes being the weakest seen at Nottingham for some time past. A solitary exhibit turned out in the class for yearlings, but it was worthy of the first prize. This was the chestnut Beeston Queen, by Lord Den Derby, the property of the Beeston Stud Company, and its merit was proved when it turned out in the open class and again scored. In a poor class of two-year-olds, Mr. Stocker, of Gotham, Derby, was to the front with Masquerade, a nice bay mare, with good action and quality. Mr. Baddiley, of Blyth, Rotherham, scored in the three-year-old class with a harness-looking black which moved well, but he was closely followed by Mr. Stocker's Adbolton Mascotte, by Ganymede. The brood mare class was really the only one of interest. It had secured an entry of eight, and among the exhibitors was Lord Middleton. The first prize, however, was easily won by Mr. Hickling's Lady Elaine, a dark brown mare by Lord Derby II., and the winner of numerous first prizes. A well-known animal in Mascotte, now 17 years old, obtained the second prize. She belongs to Mr. Stocker, and although she is not in the bloom of her early days she carried herself nicely, and went with a great deal of courage. In the open yearling class the Beeston Stud Company were to the fore, followed by Mr. Duncan's Gunda, by McKinley, from Bletchley, Bucks, whilst Mr. Johnson, of Bishop's Stortford, was third with Luffrah Willow, by County Member. The two-year-olds also made a very good class, the first and third prize takers in London putting in an appearance. The verdict then arrived at was reversed, Mr. Oppenheimer, of Thames Ditton, Surrey, winning with Knowle Belinda, by His Majesty. The London winner, Mr. Batchelor's Hopwood Bonnie, from Alvechurch, Worcester, could get no nearer than third, Mr. Johnson's Palmflower, by County Member, being second. The three-year-old open class was an equally strong one in point of quality and numbers, containing, as it did, several London show winners. Mr. Sykes, of Poulton-le-Fylde, won with his chestnut Zazara, by the champion horse Rosador, a mare showing plenty of substance, and second came Mr. Mitchell's Mrs. Bardell, from Eccleshill, Bradford. She is built more on harness lines than the winner, but she is a magnificent mover, and well earned her place. Mr. Livesey occupied the third position with the charming three-year-old mare Miss Keyingham, by Garton Duke of Connaught—Lady Keyingham. Mr. Batchelor's Roselle, by Rosador, was in the honours list in London, but she had in this case to be content with the reserve card. The brood mares made an excellent class, and they were headed by Mr. Livesey's almost unbeaten Orange Blossom, which, in spite of her eleven years, was never seen in greater bloom. She made a magnificent display, and was eventually awarded the Hackney Society's gold medal as being the best of her breed in the show. She was followed by another well-known winner in Mr. Inman's Vivandiere, from Huddersfield, which has taken awards at Islington and many other places. In a very small class of pony brood mares Mr. Foster, of Moseley, was to the front with Mel Valley Mustard, which was second at Islington, the Beeston Stud Company taking the other prize with Beeston Wonder.

Harness Classes.

The harness classes were exceedingly interesting. There were two county classes, Mr. Surfleet, of Beckingham, winning with Miss Hemsley in the one for animals over 14 hands, beating two useful horses in Mr. C. Smith's Cliff Climber and Mr. Hobson's Wollaton Cadet. In the pony class Mr. Cheetham's Gold Dust was successful, Mrs. Hill being second and third with Frolic and Froth. At the top of a very large open class stood Mr. Sykes's Zaizan, with Mr. Scorab's Prince Edward, from Doncaster, second, and Mr. Batchelor's Wild Agnes third, all being very fine movers. Mr. Franklin was first and second in the pony class with Queen Gobang and Lady Gobang, which went in rare style. There were two county classes in the riding section. The first was for mares or geldings, of any age, exceeding 14 hands, and there were five entries. Miss Hemsley, belonging to Mr. Surfleet, of Beckingham, which won in a harness class, repeated her success, but she was very closely pressed by Mr. Hickling's Litcham Twilight, from the Adbolton stud, a chestnut four-year-old, by Rosador. In the class for pairs of mares or geldings, of any age or height, and driven together in double harness, there was never much question as to the winning couple, for Musk and Miss Howard, the property of Mr. Baxter, of Hutton, near Brentwood, Essex, made a magnificent display. Second came Rowton Blackthorn and Rowton Vinca, belonging to Miss Ella P. Ross, of Beechfield. The ponies were a small class. Here, again, the winner in harness was again successful, this being Mr. Cheetham's Gold Dust, from Scarrington, Mr. John Robinson, of Worksop Manor, being second with his beautiful Irish-bred Black Paddy. The open class for mares or geldings of any age was a very fine one. The winner was found in Mr. J. Robinson's Kempton Cannon from Harrogate. He is a fine, big gelding, by Garton Duke of Connaught, and his action was splendid. Mr. Sykes' Zaizan was second, and Mr. Baxter, of Brentwood, was third with Miss Howard, Mr. Batchelor, of Alvechurch, Worcester, being no nearer than the reserve with Wild Agnes. The gold medal of the Hackney Horse Society for the best mare or gelding in single harness was awarded to Mr. Scorab's Prince Edward from Long Sandall, Doncaster. There were jumping competitions on both days, and these were watched with interest by large assemblies.

Cattle.

In the cattle section the total entries received numbered 174, an increase of one over those competing last year. The tenant farmer classes were very poorly filled, only twelve entries being included in the five classes. Though not strong numerically, the tenant farmers' classes brought out a show of excellent stock. In the class for bulls one year old and upwards, Mr. Reuben Shelton's red Marathon secured a first in the face of strong competition. This animal, however, had not come on quite so well since last year as had been expected. Mr. Shelton was also second in the same class, and was placed first or second in the remaining tenant farmers' classes, wherein he was a competitor. Competition was again strong in the county classes, and the entries were well maintained. Lord Middleton secured premier honours in the bull calf class with Birdsall Heirloom, a nice, straight, long calf, while Earl Manvers was placed second with Osberton, a very good calf.

The bulls made an excellent show all through and a better lot has not been brought together in the county classes. Mr. T. Potter's roan yearling, Good Times, was the winner of the district prize given by the Shorthorn Society. Earl Manvers' Conqueror being placed in reserve. The premier award in the bull calf class fell to Mr. A. Henderson, M.P., for his beautiful roan Baron Buscot. This is one of the best bull calves sent out for several seasons, and possessed more substance than Colonel Makins's Rotherfield Emperor, which was put second, but the latter showed a little better on top. The two-year-old bull class brought out a good lot, the honour of first place falling to Mr. R. P. Cooper's red and white Stoneytown Archer, after the judges had called in the

assistance of a third adjudicator. Mr. T. Potter's Good Times was given second place. This bull was bought in Scotland last October, and since then has done wonderfully well. In the two-year-old selling class, the first three were all good bulls, Earl Manvers' Osberton, which was reserved for the district prize of the Shorthorn Society, being the premier prize taker. In the opinion of many experienced ringsiders, Class 17 was one of the best lots of old bulls seen out for years at the Notts Show, the first six being good enough to go into any show yard in the kingdom. Mr. George Harrison's Inspector headed the list. Mr. H. K. Colville's Royal Seal, placed second, is a fine animal, of good colour, and for a big bull is very active. Mr. Henry Dudding was first and third in the heifer calf class, the winner being considered by good judges to be one of the best heifer calves sent into the ring for many seasons. Mr. Philo L. Mills' Carlota was second, and there was little to choose between her and the third, which was taken by many for a twin to the winner. In the two-year-old class the judges could not agree, and a third had to be called in. His decision in placing Colonel Makins's red and white heifer, Ness Cloudberry II., was entirely endorsed by the majority of ringsiders. The second, Mr. A. Henderson's Lady Buscot, is also a splendid show animal, but does not possess the same width and depth as the winner. Mr. G. Harrison's Flora VI., the first in Class 20, is a wonderfully fine heifer, brought out in splendid style, and showing good hair and nice quality, but she had a hard struggle to beat Mr. H. Dudding's Riby Pansy, the two being by far the two best heifers in the yard. The winner was awarded the medal for the best female animal in Classes 3 to 21, thus repeating a similar success achieved at Otley.

Of the ten bulls entered in the shorthorn selling class, eight came under the hammer on Wednesday, the sale being conducted by Mr. W. H. Bradwell. Only two—Messrs. R. and W. Wright's Alpinstock (the third prize-winner), and Major Robertson's Pole Carew—failed to reach the reserve price, and these were withdrawn. The first prize winner, the Earl of Manvers's Osberton, went at 25 guineas, the buyer being Mr. J. Gadd, Edwalton, and the holder of the blue rosette, Newthorpe, belonging to the Rugby Colliery Company, was secured by Mr. J. Butler, Clifton, for 20½ guineas. Bountiful, the property of Earl Manvers, which was placed in reserve by the judges, was bought by Mr. W. Holbrook, Plumtree, for 21½ guineas; Mr. T. Potter's Arnold, from Daybrook, went to Mr. T. Bentley, Wilford, for 19 guineas, and the entry of Mr. T. Diggle, Ewerby, Sleaford, found a buyer in Mr. Elliott, of Wysall, at 15½ guineas.

Sheep.

There was an excellent show of sheep, this being particularly in the case in the Shropshires. There were 11 entries of Lincoln shearling rams, and Mr. T. Casswell, of Folkingham, secured first prize and the Lincoln Long Wool Sheep Breeders' Association's champion prize with a magnificent animal, especially noticeable for its well-covered head and even fleece. S. E. Dean and Sons, of Bourne, were in close competition. The third, shown by Messrs. Wright, Lincoln, is very forward in condition, and well formed. It was optional to show the ewes either shorn or in the wool, and the entries comprised two of each description. Messrs. Wright's were the largest and heaviest in the ring, and were placed first, Messrs. Dean coming second with a very even pen in the wool, broad between the ears, and well covered on the head. Messrs. Dean also obtained third prize with three shorn ewes. As before mentioned, the Shropshire rams were a fine lot, and Mrs. M. Barrs, Nuneaton, secured premier place and the society's silver medal. The second, belonging to Mr. R. P. Cooper, Lichfield, was rather small and short in the legs. It was generally conceded that a finer pen of Shropshire ewes has not previously been seen in May, as the three with which Mr. P. A. Muntz, M.P., of Rugby, headed this class, and there was not a faulty animal to be found among the seven entries.

Pigs.

This section also contained some very nice animals. The breeding pigs brought a large entry, the premier award going to the Earl of Ellesmere. The boars under one year were a good lot, and the first and second winners, belonging to the Earl of Ellesmere, had massive backs and very good feather heads. The Earl of Ellesmere was unhesitatingly placed first with the Duke of York 4th in the boars above one year, which was a splendid type of pig, and was recently bought of Mr. Ascroft, at the record price of 100 guineas. It was followed by Mr. S. Spencer's Holywell Hugh, which showed a little more of the middle bred head than the winner, but was otherwise a massive, useful sire. In the class for sows, ten magnificent animals faced the judge, who must have had great difficulty in giving his decisions. By careful selection they were narrowed down to four, and the Earl of Ellesmere again proved successful. Mr. R. M. Knowles came second with a fine specimen of the large breed, which was rearing a litter of nine.

There were four classes of Berkshires. The prize for breeding pigs was won by Mr. Philo L. Mills, who was represented by three animals of good size and nice marking. Mr. A. Henderson, M.P., was an easy winner in the boars under one year, and Mr. J. Jefferson's Peel King Edward VII. secured the third rosette in the class for older boars. The winner was of fine size, evenly fleshed and well marked. Mr. A. Henderson's exhibit, which followed, was only precluded from the previous class by a day, and among the younger stock would easily have held first place. There were nine sows before the judge, and Harborough Beauty, belonging to Sir H. F. de Trafford, was awarded the palm.

Butter, &c.

There were four classes for butter produce, and there was good competition for the prizes offered. Fourteen samples were staged in the butter class, open to all England, and Miss F. A. Leverson, of Peterborough, secured first prize; Miss Wyles, Bassingfield, being second; and the Earl of Rosebery being third. Miss Wyles succeeded in heading the local class. The whole of the prize eggs were of the white variety. A butter-making competition was held in the working dairy of the Midland Agricultural Institute, and attracted considerable attention, the operations of the competitors being watched with interest. There were eight entries, and points were awarded principally in respect of the granular condition of the produce, general style of work, and speed.

London Cart Horse Parade.

The London Cart Horse Society's seventeenth annual parade took place in Regent's Park on Monday, and although the weather was not so good as wished for, it was fairly favourable, and better than it has been on some previous occasions. The history of the society and the increasing success of the parade is well known, and details need not be given here. Its progress has been really remarkable, and the expectations of the promoters, amongst whom the Baroness Burdett-Coutts and Sir Walter Gilbey were honourably conspicuous, must have been far exceeded. The society has undoubtedly been a great power for good in the metropolitan horse world, and will assuredly continue to be so. A comparative statement of the awards for the last five years shows a steady increase in numbers, with the exception of last year, when the figures fell to 624 from 689 at the previous show. During the fifteen years over which the parade has extended, nearly 9,000 horses have been examined by the judges, and cash premiums amounting to about £5,300 have been paid to deserving drivers. Since 1895 the most successful year was 1900, when 918 horses and 777 drivers competed for the various awards. That, however, was an abnormal figure, and last year the entries reached the more usual total of 801 horses and 673 drivers. For Monday's parade, 806 horses were entered, with 680 drivers, an increase which, although slight, was considered by the judges and the Cart Horse Parade Society to be highly satisfactory. According to the arrangements upon the present occasion every winner of a red rosette received a prize of 10s. for a single horse, 15s. for a pair, and 40s. for a team, the rewards for a blue rosette being respectively 7s. 6d., 10s., and 30s., and for a white one 3s. 6d., 5s., and 10s. In addition to these, the Shire Horse and Suffolk Horse Societies offered special prizes, and the late Miss Isabel Constable prizes for long service were also awarded.

The competitors mustered as early as eight o'clock at the several entrances to the Outer Circle of Regent's Park for the purpose of undergoing a preliminary veterinary examination in Chester Road at the hands of Messrs. Chesterman, F. W. Stanley, and W. Hunting. Year by year, as the result of the much-appreciated efforts of the society, this part of the work becomes lighter, and as the number of animals rejected as being manifestly unsound, dirty, or too light to be properly classed as cart horses decreases, the labours of the judges in deciding the final questions of merit becomes proportionately heavier. Those of the competitors—and they were the great majority—which survived the rigorous veterinary test were passed into the "Inner Circle," and at nine o'clock the judges, of whom there were twelve, acting in groups, began their examination for careful grooming, proper keeping, and well fitting harness. For the premiums and diplomas given by the Parade Society, the judges were Sir Oswald Mosley, Professor Pritchard, and Messrs. H. W. Gilbey, J. W. Kenworthy, Frank and Walter Lloyd; while Messrs. E. H. Cartwright, F. W. Griffin, Thomas May, and Edward Mucklow, jun., decided as to the disposition of the medals offered by the Shire Horse Society, and Mr. A. T. Pratt and Mr. F. C. Starkie occupied a similar position in connection with the awards in the smaller Suffolk Punch class.

The usual preliminaries being settled, the judges took their places soon after half-past nine, and then the single harness classes, first the two-wheeled carts, and then the four-wheelers, began to file by. As on previous occasions, men were rewarded, not only for their skill as stablemen, but also for long service. To Thomas Wilson, who, for half a century, has worked for Messrs. Wooldridge and Co., of the Tottenham Brewery, and who made a little speech on receiving his reward, was given a special Coronation Prize of £5, in lieu of the Miss Isabel Constable prize of £3 10s., which he originally won, but which under the new arrangement was passed on to Abraham King, who has been in the employment of Messrs. T. S. and C. Parry for 43 years; while George Bardwell, John Readman, and Laban Cooke, in the respective employment of Rickett, Smith, and Co. (43 years), Messrs. Eastwood and Co. (41 years), and the New Westminster Brewery Company (40) years, received a sovereign each. Nor did this exhaust the list, as to twelve employés who had been between 28 and 38 years in one service, 15s. each was given; and to four-and-twenty more, whose employment extended to between 20 and 27 years, 10s. each was given. As these old servants also received the money attaching to their rosettes, their winnings were appreciably augmented, but the foremen in the yards doubtless share in the rosette money.

In awarding the rosettes, the points of the horses are not taken into account at all; and it is not until the other prizes are awarded that points tell. The Shire Horse Society is catholic enough to give medals or premiums in cash to a certain number of the best horses in the parade, irrespective of breed. The judges to undertake this duty were Messrs. E. H. Cartwright, F. W. Griffin, T. May, and E. Mucklow, whose awards were in favour of Messrs. J. Simpson and Sons, the Gas Light and Coke Company, the Builders' Material Supply Stores, W. Hampton and Co., Whitbread and Co., J. Walker, Watney, Combe, Reid, and Co., J. Thorley, Rickett, Smith, and Co., and the Borough Councils of Paddington, Islington, Willesden, Stepney, Westminster, and Battersea, and the Corporation of London. For pairs of horses, the winners were Messrs. J. Simpson, Watney, Combe, Reid, and Co., New London Brewery, J. W. Nicholson, M. Patrick and Sons, Truman, Hanbury, Buxton, and Co. The prizes for teams went to Messrs. Watney, Combe, Reid, and Co., Young (of Wandsworth), New Westminster Brewery, and Watney and Co.

The judging of the Suffolk horses was undertaken by Messrs. F. C. Starkie and A. T. Pratt, who gave the prizes for single horses to Messrs. Cockerell and Co., Eastwood and Co., Rickett, Smith, and Co., W. Sharp, and T. Moy. The best pairs belonged to Messrs. Eastwood and D. and W. Gibbs; but no teams were entered. The Suffolk horse has for a long time been popular in London, and the breed made a capital show. Besides the firms above-mentioned, Messrs. Nowell, Colls, the Killingbeck Colliery, and H. Hay sent some excellent specimens, as did Messrs. E. Murrel, the Tyne Main Colliery, Eastwood and Co., Messrs. Teetgen, and others.

Sir Walter Gilbey, as usual, entertained a large number of friends at Cambridge House to luncheon, and at about half-past two the Lady Mayoress, accompanied by the Lord Mayor, Sir Walter Gilbey, and others, went on to the dais to present the diplomas, badges, and premiums, and the march past at once began. The proceedings terminated with the usual votes of thanks, the Lord Mayor and Mr. Burdett-Coutts, M.P., availing themselves of the opportunity for bearing testimony to the immense services which Sir Walter Gilbey had rendered to the Cart Horse Parade.

Ormskirk and Southport.

A record number of visitors were present at the annual show of the Ormskirk and Southport Agricultural Society, which was held at Southport on Wednesday in splendid weather. Entries of stock numbered about the same as in the previous year, but a distinct advance was shown in point of quality, some strong classes being included.

The increased attention paid to horse breeding in Lancashire was reflected in the very strong classes of heavy horses shown, some of the most outstanding prize-winners in Lancashire having been entered. There was no class for aged stallions. Coming to stallions foaled after 1st January, 1901, there was only one entry. The prize was secured by Mr. James Tasker's yearling foal from the sire Sir Anthony. The gelding or mare class was one of the best in the show yard. The leading award was secured by the famous roan-grey gelding belonging to Mr. Edwards, Litherland. The Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Company gained the second award with a very weighty mare, which has not had the show yard experience of her more formidable rival. Colonel Blackburne, Hale, led with Barron Fashion in the section devoted to brood mares. The runner-up, the property of Mr. John Rimmer, Southport, was another good type of mare. The class for colts and fillies brought out some nice youngsters.

Colonel Blackburne again led here with an animal which was shown for the first time. Mr. John Rimmer was again the runner-up here. Coming next to geldings or fillies foaled in 1899, the winner was Mr. Charles Bell, Norley, Cheshire, with Halstead Queen. The second prize winner, the property of the Rev. Canon Blundell, of Halsall, was the runner-up in this class. There was a better entry in the class of geldings or fillies foaled in 1901. Here Mr. Charles Bell was again the winner with Norley Belle. The second award went to Mr. Robert Jeffs, of Warrington. In the section for geldings or fillies foaled in 1901, Colonel Blackburne came to the front with Orford Lady. The second prize was given to Mr. Woodcock, Aughton, for Moss End Rose. In the local class for geldings or mares, the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Company carried all before them.

The sections devoted to light horses contained some well-known hackneys and ponies. The show of harness horses was perhaps not quite so good as might have been expected. Mr. Fred Holmes (Shipley) won Mr. Plummer's cup with his elegant stallion, Lord Loch, from Ganymede strain. Mr. Edward Holmes was awarded the second prize with his chestnut Pedro, the sire of whom was Troubadour. The next class with hackney brood mares was not so well filled. The winner was the chestnut Lady Millie, owned by Mr. Hayley, of Malton. The second prize was won by Mr. Haworth, Poulton-le-Fylde. Foals were just a middling class, the first prize taker being owned by Mr. Hayworth. In the classes for mares and geldings 15 or 14 hands, Mr. McKibbin took the leading award with Cob, shown in very fine condition. The ponies brought out a very good entry. The first prize-winner for those under 13 hands, owned by Mr. Harrison (Preston), is a very fine, compact, snappy, free-going little animal. The winner of the local class for hackneys in saddle (Mr. Brereton) is a nice grey mare, with good flesh and muscle.

Cattle were a small section in point of numbers, but contained some very good animals. The winner of the aged bull class was Mr. T. Miller (Preston). The second winner belonged to Mr. C. Bell, Norley, Cheshire. In the young bull class there were only two entries, and the premier award went to Messrs. R. and T. Harrison, Much Hoole, Preston. In the cow class there were some very good specimens forward. Mr. W. Ackroid (Liverpool) and Messrs. Thomas Wareing, R. Sutton (Churchtown), and Jeffrey Wareing (Southport), were the leading winners. Mr. John Harrison (Preston) won both prizes for heifers, and also the cup in the aged class. In the cows for dairy purposes, Mr. W. H. Smith (Churchtown) secured the premier award with very fine cows.

An innovation was made this year in the institution of classes for fat cattle. Competition was very keen, and the judge, Mr. Bland, of Lancaster, had no little difficulty in coming to a decision in some cases. Messrs. M. H. Rhodes and Sons obtained all the silver medals in the fat stock classes for cattle and lambs. The beasts were undoubtedly some of the finest ever shown in the neighbourhood. The animals by which the firm gained their success were polled Angus heifers, in the classes for the most useful heifers for the butcher, and cross polled Angus and shorthorns in the class for fat bullocks; in the class for tup gimmer lambs the same firm were successful. Mr. Wallace Shuttleworth being runner-up in the tup section, and third for the pair of gimmer lambs.

That the step taken last year in instituting a pig section was a wise one, was proved by the number and quality of the entries, and this year again the section made a very good show. The prize-winning sows and boars were highly praiseworthy.

The judging in the various sections was carried out by the following gentlemen:—Implements, Mr. R. Webster, Litherland; cattle, Mr. George Dewhurst, Southport; fat stock, Mr. James Bland, Lancaster; heavy horses, Mr. J. Richman, Shefford, St. Albans; hackneys, Mr. A. C. Carr, Broxton; tradesmen's turnouts, jumping, and racing, pigs, game and game bantams, Mr. C. W. Brierley, Brimfield; other varieties of poultry, Mr. R. Anthony, Euxton.

Lydney Farmers' Club.

On Whit Monday last the Lydney and District Farmers' Club held their annual show in Redhill Park. Capital entries of stock were received. Entries totalled 370 in all, as compared with 297 received twelve months ago. Eight new classes were provided at the present show. The weather was cold, and frequent showers fell; but in spite of the adverse conditions, a record attendance was recorded.

The heavy horse classes, although the prize winners possessed some merit, were generally poor. Only the prize winners were worthy of notice; and best of those was Mr. Webb's Cherry Rose. Lack of merit among the cart horses was made up in the other classes, in which were embraced military horses, hunters, hacks, and harness horses. Taken all round, they were very good. So numerous and of such level excellence were the animals in Class 17 that the judges had some difficulty in awarding the prizes. Class 19 drew the largest number of competitors, and the smartest set of animals ever seen at the show. To decide their merits was no light task, as the turnouts were very complete, and the driving was splendid. Two kinds of animals being combined in Class 20, the discriminating faculties of the judges were severely exercised here also. Tandems were remarkably fine, and gained general admiration, and the same may be said of the pairs driven in double harness. Jumpers were of an average description, a few particularly good animals being among them. The other classes were commendable.

Cattle were fairly numerous, and there was an improvement in the quality of the animals. The old bulls were prime in strength and substance, if lacking in numbers. More under two years were sent, but they were not quite so good as hitherto. Mr. Cullimore's Western Lad was by far the best of all. Some exceptionally well-formed and useful dairy cows, with splendid milking qualities, were in the third class. Steers and heifers were a praiseworthy lot, but more competition was needed. The entries in the other classes were very middling.

Advance has been made in the quality of the sheep during the three years of the existence of the association, and those sent on the present occasion were the best. More were forthcoming than hitherto, and the competition was sharper. Generally speaking, the shearing was well done, but the weather was too cold for the best results to be obtained.

Butter may be spoken of generally in terms of approval, if it was not all that could be desired. The entries were numerous, and the produce was of fair quality in grain and texture and in colour. Some examples, however, were wanting in flavour, and in two or three instances the salt was too heavily sprinkled, and not evenly worked into the butter, and some of the samples lacked firmness.

Entries in the classes for poultry and eggs were rather small, but there was some excellent produce sent. Chickens were fair, but some better attention in preparing the birds for culinary purposes appeared to be needed in several instances. Ducks were small in number, yet praiseworthy in quality. About 30 competitors sent eggs, and they were of exceptional fineness, especially those which carried off the first awards. The following gentlemen acted as judges:—Cattle, Messrs. B. Read (Quedgeley) and G. F. King (Keynsham); sheep and sheep shearing, Messrs. V. Parsons and P. Price (Chepstow); cart horses, Messrs. John W. Brain (Andoversford) and J. G. Cuss (Cricklade); military horses, hunters, jumping, riding, driving, and pony racing, Messrs. John Curre (Beachley Lodge) and F. J. Townsend (Cirencester); butter, poultry, and eggs, Mr. H. A. Howman (County Council School, Gloucester); shoeing, Mr. T. J. Brain (Cheltenham); dogs, Mr. H. S. Smith, M.R.C.V.S., (Chepstow).

Edgworth and District.

The sixteenth annual show of the Edgworth and District Agricultural Association was held at Edgworth on the 17th inst. The weather, though not of an ideal character, there being frequent showers of rain during the day, did not interfere with the attendance, and the show ground was extensively patronised. There was a capital display of horses, some fine specimens of the weight-lifting type coming before Messrs. P. Blundell Kirkton and J. Whinnarah Carnforth, the judges. In the yearling class, Mr. H. W. Kearns, of Haslingden, was placed first. In the two-year old mare or geldings, Mr. Kearns was again the winner, and also obtained a special. Mr. Lindsay secured the premier card in the section for three-year-olds. There was a numerous entry in the any age class, the red card again going to Mr. Kearns. The Society's gold medal for the best team was secured by Mr. Kearns. In the open classes some keen competition was witnessed. The yearling section brought forth a useful lot. Mr. Edward Whittaker, of Windermere, taking the first and third cards. The winner, Winsome Winnie, is a fine bay, with good joints and bone, by Blythwood Hero. In the two-year-olds, Mr. Kearns obtained the premier position for his Day Dawn, who possesses nice qualities, and has a profusion of feather. In the class for best shire-bred mare, Mr. R. A. Yerburgh, M.P., won with his splendid four-year-old mare Lily of the Valley. It was hardly expected that the judges should award the Derby Challenge Cup to Mr. Yerburgh's Lily of the Valley, but from his first appearance in the ring the issue did not appear to be in doubt. Last year's winner of the handsome trophy was Mr. Ward's Bardon Extraordinary. The Shire Society's medal went to Mr. Whittaker.

The open classes were productive of much interest, and very keen competition was witnessed. In yearlings Mr. A. A. Haley, of Eddlethorpe, with his natty chestnut colt by Star of Langton, came first, and Mr. James Bury was placed second. Mr. W. Lawson, Blackpool, led the way section Mr. Haley gained the premier award. In the any age class Mr. T. B. Sykes, of Poulton-le-Fyde, with his wonderful chestnut mare Zaizan was an easy winner. In the not exceeding 15 hands class Mr. T. C. McKibbin, Windermere, gained the coveted card with Milford Maid. Much interest was evinced in the section set apart for mounted infantry cobs, over four years, and the silver cup and second prize went to Mr. O. L. Ormerod, Bolton, Mr. J. Worsley, Darwen, being third. The handsome Coronation cup for the best hunter was awarded to Mr. Arthur Sowler, of Victoria Park, Manchester, and the second prize was obtained by Mr. J. Starkie, Alderley Edge. In the polo pony class Mr. Sowler was also placed first with his bay mare.

There was a creditable display of cattle, some exceptionally fine animals of the rent-paying type being shown. The principal prize was won by Mr. T. Atkinson, Bury, with his well-known bull Senator.

Reigate Horse and Hound Show.

The second annual Reigate and Redhill Horse and Hound Show was held at Reigate on Wednesday, and, as was the case with the initial event last year, it was an unqualified success. The entries were remarkably good all round, and the weather was most favourable, whilst there was again a very large and fashionable attendance of visitors. The quality of the animals was first-rate, and many of the animals brought into the ring won unstinted encomiums from both judges and spectators. The executive were fortunate in securing the services of some eminent gentlemen to act as judges, viz.:—Agricultural horses: Messrs. A. H. Clark and J. Paisley. Hunters, hacks, and jumping: Hon. E. A. Fitzroy, M.P., and Messrs. C. McNeill, M.F.H., and James Flack. Hackneys and harness horses: Lord Alwyne Compton, M.P., and Mr. Lindsay Hogg, M.P. Hounds: Messrs. E. E. Barclay, M.F.H. (The Puckeridge), and James Bailey (huntsman to the Essex). Beagles: Mr. J. Otho Paget, M.H.

There was an entry of 44 in the thirteen classes devoted to agricultural horses, and they made a very nice display. The silver medal offered by the Shire Horse Society for the best Shire mare, filly, or filly foal, was carried off by Mr. Leopold Salomons, of Norbury Park, Dorking; Mr. T. Jones, of Quarry Farm, Godstone, being awarded the reserve number. Mr. Salomons was the most successful exhibitor in this section, carrying off, in addition to the above, three first and one second prize. In the tenant farmers' classes competition ruled very keen. The honours were fairly evenly divided between Mr. T. Jones, Quarry Farm, Godstone; Mr. T. Luckin, Thakeham Place, Pulborough, and Mr. A. Holm, Buckland. Hunters were a capital lot. The Hunters' Improvement Society's silver medal for the best hunter filly not exceeding three years old was awarded to Mr. J. Hayman-Joyce, of Brede, near Hastings, the reserve number going to the Hon. Mrs. Mark Napier, of Puttenden Manor, Lingfield. There were four classes of hackneys; they all reached 34 entries, the animals forward being much above the average. Mr. R. P. Evans, of Woodhatch House, Reigate, was awarded the silver medal offered by the Hackney Horse Society, and to Mr. R. W. Jay, of Old Southgate, W., was given the reserve number. First prizes also went to Mr. H. Milner, of Burgess Hill; Mr. R. P. Evans, Reigate; and Mr. R. T. Thornton, Brentwood. One of the most popular sections was that reserved for hacks, one class alone claiming no fewer than 28 entries. Mr. E. H. Goad, of Mead House, Redhill, met with great success, carrying off two firsts and one second in the four classes, in which premier awards also went to Mr. F. G. Colman, of Epsom Downs, and Mr. E. Blackman, of Piccadilly. As usual, the harness horses and driving classes proved a great attraction to the crowd, as did also the tradesmen's turnouts, which were wonderfully smart. The jumping classes were a great success, and it is estimated that not less than 5,000 spectators lined the ropes while these were in progress.

As last year, the hound classes were a feature of the show, there being an excellent all-round entry. With few exceptions, all the leading packs in the south were represented, the Walter Winans, the Old Surrey, the Eastbourne, and the Surrey Staghounds being among the winners in foxhounds; whilst in harriers, Mr. Quare's and Messrs. Taylor and Bowen's packs were the most choice. Away from Peterborough we have never seen a finer collection of hounds, and there is little doubt that in time the fixture will become a powerful rival to Peterborough. The judges of beagles had a very "sorty" collection, the Worcester Park, Surbiton, the Pettings, and Woodcote all getting prizes. In no class was competition one-sided, Mr. Paget having considerable difficulty several times in awarding the prizes.

The awards in the horse section were as follows:—

AGRICULTURAL HORSES.

Shire Horse Society's Silver Medal for the best Shire mare, filly, or filly foal, registered or eligible for registration in the Stud Book.—Mr. Leopold Salomons, Norbury Park Dorking; r., Mr. T. Jones, Quarry Farm, Godstone.

Entire horses, suitable for agricultural purposes, for service in any of the districts hunted over by the following packs: Burstow, Crawley and Horsham, Southdown, Old Surrey, Surrey Union Foxhounds, or Surrey Staghounds, Warnham Stag Hounds, or West Surrey Stag Hounds.—1, Mr. L. Salomons; 2, Mr. Walpole Greenwell, Marden Park.

Brood mares, with foal at foot, or to produce foal in 1902.—1, Mr. T. Jones; 2, Mr. R. Barrow, Brockham; r., Mr. C. B. Heywood, Reigate.

Colts or fillies foaled in 1901—1, Lily Duchess of Marlborough; Dorking; 2, Mr. T. Luckin, Thakeham Place, Pulborough; r., Mr. T. Jones; h. c., Mr A Holm Buckland.

Geldings or fillies, foaled in 1900—1 and 2, Mr. L. Salomons; r., Mr. R. Barrow; h.r., Mr. A. Holm.

Geldings or mares foaled in 1899—1, Mr L. Salomons; 2, Messrs. C. B Toms and W. G Mawer, Rowhook, Horsham; r. Mr. A. Holm

Geldings or mares, foaled in or before 1898—1, Mr. L. Salomons; 2 and r., Mr. A. Holm; c., Mr. D. E. Higham, Addlestone

Brood mares with foal at foot or to produce foal in 1902—1, Mr. T. Jones; 2, Mr. T. Luckin; r., Mr. R. Barrow.

Colts or fillies foaled in 1901—1, Mr. T. Luckin; 2, Mr. T Jones; r., Mr. A. Holm.

Geldings or fillies foaled in 1900—1, Mr. R. Barrow; 2, Mr. A. Holm; r., Mr. H. Harker, Nutfield.

Geldings or mares foaled in 1899—1, Mr. T. Luckin; 2, Mr. H. Harker; r., Mr. A. Holm.

Geldings or mares foaled in or before 1898—1 and 2, Mr. A. Holm; r., Mr. W. R. Malcolm, Walton Manor.

Pairs of horses, mares or geldings—1, Mr. A. Holm; 2, Mr. T. Luckin; r., Mr. I. Martin, Leigh.

Pairs of horses, mares or geldings—1, Mr. A. Holm; 2, Messrs. Hall and Co., Limited, Redhill.

HUNTERS.

Silver Medal, presented by the Hunters' Improvement Society, for the best hunter or filly not exceeding three years old and not having won the society's medal in 1902 Mr. J. Hayman-Joyce, Brede; reserve number, Hon. Mrs. Napier, Lingfield.

Entire horses (for service in any district ridden over by the local Hunts). 1st prize, £5; 2nd, £3.—1, Mr. G. Gully, South Godstone; 2, Mr. E. H. Brown, Upper Warlingham; r. Messrs. Alfred Cox and Co., Lewes.

Brood mares, with foal at foot, or to produce a foal in 1902—1, Mr. C. Kelway-Bamber, Horley; 2, Messrs. C. B. Toms and W. G. Mawer; r., Mr. J. Hayman-Joyce; c., Mr. A. G. Ashby, Reigate, and Mrs. A. F. Perkins, Holmwood.

Colts or fillies foaled in 1901—1, Mr. J. Hayman-Joyce; 2, Mr. P. J. Pelly, Merstham; r., Mr. L. Bethell, Epsom; c, Mrs. A. F. Perkins.

Geldings or fillies foaled in 1900—1, Hon. Mrs. M. Napier; 2, Mr. G. F. Young, Oxted; r., Mr. A. G. Ashby; v. h. c., Mr. A. B. Worthington Ashstead; h. c. Mrs. A. F. Perkins.

Geldings or mares foaled in 1899—1, Mr. C. Kelway-Bamber; 2, Mr. W. R. Wells, Leigh Place; r., Hon. Mrs. M. Napier.

Heavy-weight hunters foaled in or before 1898 (to be ridden).—1, Mr. T. Radmore, Cheam; 2, Mr. H. F. Courage, Bolney; r., Mr. W. P. Dare, Epsom; v. h. c., Mr. D. Kelly Surbiton; c., Mr. P. G. Pelly.

Light-weight hunters, foaled in or before 1898 (to be ridden)—1, Mr. H. M. Mackusick; 2, Mrs. A. G. Ashby; r., Mr. G. Brown, Horley.

Heavy-weight hunters, foaled in or before 1898 (to be ridden)—1, Mr. T. Radmore; 2, Mr. J. Powell, Reigate; r., Mr. D. Kelly.

Middle-weight hunter, foaled in or before 1898 (to be ridden—1, Mr. H. M. Mackusick; 2, Mrs. A. G. Ashby; r., Mr. G. Brown.

Light-weight hunter, foaled in or before 1898 (to be ridden), owned by resident within a radius of 15 miles from Market Hall, Redhill—1, Mr. Eustace Frith, Reigate; 2, Mrs. A. G. Ashby; r., Mr. F. Gregory, Earlswood.

Geldings or mares got by a thoroughbred, foaled in or before 1898 (to be ridden)—1, Mr. D. Kelly.

HACKNEYS.

Hackney Horse Society's Silver Medal, for the best hackney or pony mare, filly, or filly foal, registered or eligible for registration in society's stud book—Mr. R. P. Evans Reigate; r., Mr. R. W. May, Old Southgate, W.

Entire horses, for service over districts hunted by local packs—1, Mr. H. Milner, Burgess Hill; 2, Mr. A. Benson, Upper Gatton; r., Mr. E. J. Vaughan, Chobham; c., Mr. T. Radmore.

Brood mares with foal at foot, or to produce a foal in 1902—1, Mr. R. P. Evans; r., Mr. E. J. Vaughan; c., Mr. H. Milner.

Colts or fillies foaled in 1901—1, Mr R. T. Thornton, Brentwood; 2, Sir Weetman D. Pearson, Worth; r., Mr. R. S. L. Boulter, Godstone; c., Mr. R. P Evans.

Geldings or fillies foaled in 1899 or 1900—1, Mr. R. W. Jay; 2, Mr. R. P. Evans; r., Mr. R. T. Thornton; c., Mrs W. Oppenheimer, Thames Ditton, and Mr. E. J. Vaughan.

HACKS.

Park hack, any age—1 and r., Mr. E. H. Goad, Redhill; 2, Mr. F. G. Colman, Epsom Downs; c. Mr. E Blackman Piccadilly, and Mr. E. Baxter, Brentwood.

Covert hacks—1, Mr. E. H. Goad; 2, Mr. Walter Winans, Surrenden Park, Kent.

Covert hacks (15 hands or over, to carry not less than 12 stone).—1, Mr. E. Blackman; 2, Mr. E. Goad; r., Mr. E. Tipply, Croydon; c., Mr. W. P. Dare, Mr. E. Baxter, and Miss D. Hare, Redhill.

Ponies over 14 hands (to be ridden).—1, Mr. Colman; 2, Mr. J. Stevens, South Norwood; r., Mr. E. Blackman.

HARNESS HORSES AND DRIVING CLASSES.

Geldings or mare 15 hands or over—1, Mrs. H. F. Batt, Elgin Avenue, W.; 2, Mr. W. S. Cunard Bracknell; 3, Miss E. K. Cunliffe, Leatherhead; r. Mr. A. Cunliffe; c., Mr. E. H. Goad

Gelding or mare under 15 hands—1, Mr. G. A. Cunliffe; 2, Mr. J. T. Mitchell, Redhill; r, Mr. E. H. Goad; c, Mr. W. P Dare and Mrs. H. Batt.

Gelding or mare under 15 hands (property of a resident within 15 miles' radius of Market Hall, Redhill). 1, Mr. A. Cunliffe; 2, Mr. J. T Mitchell; 3, Mr. E. H. Goad; r., Mr. A. N. Smith, Nutfield; c., Mr. W. P. Dare and Mr. F. G. Colman.

Gelding or mare, 15 hands and over (within 15 miles' radius). 1, Mr. J. T. Mitchell; 2, Mr. A. Cunliffe; 3, Mr. E. H. Goad; r., Miss E. Platt; c., Mr. J. Stevens, Mr. A. C. Paul, Horley, and Mr. A. Benson.

Pairs of horses, geldings, or mares (to be driven in double harness).—1, Mrs. H. P. Batt; 2, Miss E. K. Cunliffe; r., Mr. R. T. Thornton; c, Mr. J. Stevens and Mr. J. J. Taylor, Godalming.

Tandems, geldings or mares, any height. 1st prize, silver cup, value £10, given by the tradesmen of Reigate).—1, Mrs. H. F. Batt; 2, Mr. T. J. Mitchell.

JUMPING CLASSES.

For the gelding or mare, 15 hands or over, that shall jump in the best form over fair hunting jumps (open).—1, Mrs. Blockley, Madeley, Staffs; 2, A N. Smith, Nutfield; 3, J. J. Taylor Godalming.

For the gelding or mare under 15 hands, that shall jump in the best form over fair hunting jumps (open). (1st prize, silver cup, value £10 (or specie), given by the tradesmen of Redhill).—1, A. N. Smith, Nutfield, bay mare, Midget; 2, Miss Pearson, Worth; 3, J. C. Buckland, Woodpigeon.

For mare or gelding belonging to bona fide tenant farmers (see schedule). Restricted to horses that have never won a first prize for jumping.—1, A. Maxwell, Tadworth, Epsom; 2, G. Hamlin, Edenbridge.

For the mare or gelding the bona fide property of a subscriber to any of the Hunts as specified in schedule. Restricted to horses that have never won a first prize for jumping.—1, E. Frith, Reigate; 2, St. G. George, East, Horsley.

King's Heath Horse Show.

A splendid show was held by the King's Heath Horse Show Society on Whit Monday. There were classes for hunters, hacks, and cart horses, and for driving, jumping, and turnouts, and in each there was a keen and close competition. There was a large attendance of spectators despite the unsettled climatic conditions. As to the show itself there was a falling off in entries in the open classes, the increased value of the prizes offered having had the effect of bringing together a stronger entry in point of quality, but frightening off those who would otherwise have entered their animals for competition. In the local classes, however, there was a distinct increase both as to quality and number of entries. The animals shown in the local classes were of exceptionally good quality for work on the roads, and the excellent show condition to which they had been brought indicated clearly that the carters had spent considerable time and care in preparing them to go before the judges.

In the open events in the class for the best one-horse turnout for horses that have never won a prize in harness, the property of residents within seven miles there were not many entries, but the class throughout was of good useful quality. Mr. F. J. Batchelor, of Alvechurch, took first honours with Knight of Hopwood. In the next competition, that for the best pair-horse turnout for gentlemen's coachmen, the first prize went to Miss Ella S. Ross, of Sale, with Rowton Blackthorne and Rowton Vinca. For the best single turnout for gentlemen's coachmen Mr. J. M. Smith, of Edgbaston, was the first prize winner. In the class for the best Hackney mare or gelding, 14 hands and over, to be shown in the saddle, Mr. F. J. Batchelor's Wild Agnes took first honours. Mr. W. Foster, Moseley, won first honours in the class for the best cob or pony not exceeding 14 hands, to be shown in the saddle, with Lady Horace, a well-made bay mare with plenty of bone and action. The class for hunters, four years old and over, qualified to carry 12 stone and upwards to hounds, was a small one, but the quality was good. Mr. J. H. Stokes, of Market Harborough, secured first prize with a bay gelding with very free action, and evidently an easy hunter. Mr. W. Foster carried off the first prize in the competition for the best cob or pony not exceeding 14 hands, to be driven in harness. Wild Agnes, Mr. F. J. Batchelor's, was the winner of the first prize in the class for the best mare or gelding over 14 hands, to be driven in harness. In the class for jumping for horses of any height the judges were unable to award a first owing to the exceedingly close competition.

The jumping resulted in a tie between Mr. F. W. Foster's Paddy, Mr. Jerome's Comet (Sutton Coldfield), and Artist, Mr. F. Firkins, of Worcester. These divided the first, second, and third prizes. Mr. Blockley, of Madeley, took the fourth prize with Alfred. Wild Agnes (Mr. F. J. Batchelor) carried off yet one more first in the class for the best tandem of any height, in which she was driven in company with Enid. In the class for the best pony not exceeding thirteen hands, to be driven in harness, Mr. W. Foster, of Moseley, was awarded first with Mel Valley Don. Mr. A. H. Dixon won the gold medal offered by the Hackney Horse Society for the best mare or gelding, not less than 15.2 hands, exhibited in single harness, with Lord Dazzler, and Mr. Philip Baker secured the reserve with Lady Langton II. The silver medal offered by the Hackney Horse Society for the best Hackney or pony mare registered or eligible for registration in the Hackney Stud Book was won by Mr. F. J. Batchelor with Wild Agnes, and the same gentleman took the reserve with Enid.

In the jumping class for horses that have not won a first prize Mr. W. Foster, of Derby, was first with Surprise. There was a capital entry in the class for tradesmen's turnouts regularly used in business for the last three months, open within a radius of seven miles. Messrs. S. E. Tolman, of Stirchley, was first; Mr. J. Whitehouse, jun., Selly Oak, second; Mr. A. J. Neale, Stirchley, third; and Mr. J. Wotherspoon, Stirchley, reserve.

Ixworth Farmers' Club.

The annual show of the Ixworth Farmers' Club was held at Bury St. Edmunds on Whit Monday, in cold and squally weather. Notwithstanding the weather, there was a good attendance of visitors during the day. The show was, of its usual excellence, the entries being somewhat in advance of previous years, but the excess was chiefly in the swine classes.

Suffolk cart horses took precedence in the catalogue, the judges being Mr. A. E. Cook, Dennington Lodge, and Mr. John Eagle, Walton Hall. The famed Cockfield stud was well represented, Mr. Robert Edgar having two entries in the first and second class. In the former, which was for mare with foal at foot, his fine seven-year-old mare, Hurricane, had to give place to Mr. J. Tiffen's Suffolk mare, Diamond. When, however, it came to be a question of foals, Hurricane's offspring was placed in front of Diamond's, Hurricane's foal being by Mr. Edgar's Titup. There were some good exhibits in competition for the best mare without foal, four years and upwards, and the first prize was awarded to the Rev. H. Taylor for his beautiful mare, Stately II., by Prince F. The same gentleman took a like position in the three-year-olds, with Tiffen III., by the same sire. In the two-year-olds, Mr. Cordy S. Wolton was first with a filly, beating a big gelding by Mars, shown by Mr. Robert Edgar, who was first in yearlings, with a choice youngster out of Hurricane.

As to agricultural horses other than Suffolk, Mr. J. Sturley Nunn was first with a big weighty mare in the mare-with-foal class. In the next two competitions mare without foal and three-year-old filly or gelding, the chief prizes went to Mr. Frank Baldwin, for his well-known Maud and Suffolk Bounce, both mares having beautiful feet and legs. Amongst the two-year-olds was a nice filly shown by Mr. T. Rolfe, while Mr. J. Sturley Nunn was to the front in yearlings, with a particularly promising filly of choice quality. The contest for the prizes for the best pair of plough horses was keen, some grand animals putting in an appearance, and eventually the chief prize went to a choice Shire mare belonging to Mr. J. Sturley Nunn.

The riding horses were judged by Mr. P. G. Barthropp, Throgmorton Street, London, and Mr. Charles J. Dawson, Nacton. The hunters made a good show, Mr. D. W. Taylor taking first prize in the two classes for mare and foal. The two-year-olds formed the best collection in the show, Mr. George Orbell winning with his Milk Boy, by Weymouth. Another specially good entry was that for light-weight hunter mare or gelding, five both prizes. The same gentleman was also first years old and upwards, Mr. D. W. Taylor taking for saddle back. The ponies and hackneys in harness showed up well. In the former, Mr. Washington Charters had a handsome grey, which took the premier place. Mr. Wentworth Reeve was first in the hackney class, 12.2 h.h., and under 15 h.h., with a choice bay mare, while Mr. J. Leatherdale took a like position amongst the 15 h.h. and upwards.

The judges of the neat stock were Mr. Fred. Smith, Woodbridge, and Mr. Shepherd Ewer, Foxearth. Messrs. W. and A. Symonds, of Whelnetham, showed a serviceable animal in the class for polled cow. As to the one for polled heifer, under three years old, Mr. Cordy S. Wolton sent a couple of red polls of a quality seldom seen at a local exhibition. The same gentleman was also first in the polled bull class, with a particularly good exhibit, Red Pepper. There was nothing very special about the other classes.

The sheep and swine also came before the same judges. As to the former, Mr. Robert Barclay, Higham, was a most successful exhibitor in the various classes, carrying off the first and the Suffolk Sheep Society's silver medal, in the class for ten ewe lambs. Mr. Barclay was also the chief winner in both classes of ewes, while as to ram lambs, there was a strong collection, Mr. Sidney Traylen coming to the front with a particularly smart lamb. Prizes were offered for ram hoggets, lambed in 1901, naturally fed in the open field, and shown in the wool, and here, once more, Mr. Robert Barclay was to the front.

There was a big show of pigs. Mr. G. Appleyard was first in the class for sow and pigs, but the largest collection was that of boars of any age and breed, there being close upon a score entries, the majority of them whites. The first honours, however, went to a large black boar, sent by Mr. A. Cobbald, Eldo House, a gentleman who has for a considerable time made a speciality of this class of pigs. Mr. Cobbald was also to the fore with young sows of the same breed, Messrs. W. and A. Symonds being second with large whites. Mr. George Manners, of Fornham Park, offered a special for the best large or middle white boar, any age, and this was taken by Mr. W. N. Champion.

The May Statutes for hiring farm servants was held at Grantham on the 17th inst., when there was a large attendance of farmers and servants, and good wages were given. Head waggoners were engaged at £20 to £26; second waggoners, £16 to £18; youths able to plough, £14; and young boys first year out, £10. The supply of female servants did not nearly meet the demand. Cooks obtained from £18 to £22; parlourmaids, £18 to £20; housemaids, £8 to £16; generals, £8 to £16; nursemaids, £6 to £10; young girls, £6.

COMING SHOWS.

Bath and West at Plymouth

It is more than a quarter of a century since the Bath and West and Southern Counties' Society last visited Plymouth, so that their show to be held there this week will be sure to be appreciated after such a long absence. In 1873 the society had a most cordial welcome, and the cordiality has been repeated on the present occasion; the local committee, representing "The Three Towns" and district, have done all in their power to make the show a success, and the Devon County Agricultural Association has suspended its show for the year in order to co-operate in promoting the success of the meeting. The entries are good, and an attractive programme has been drawn up, so that really all that is needed to make the show a successful one in every respect is fine weather, and it is to be hoped that this will prevail. From the details given below, it will be seen that the show is not exclusively of interest to agriculturists, there being several sections as attractive to dwellers in towns as the country, and this being the case there is every reason to anticipate a very large attendance of visitors. The railway companies, it may be mentioned here, will issue cheap tickets and run special and excursion trains from all parts during the week.

The prize money amounts to about £3,500, and has attracted a total entry of 1,934, a number not quite so large as last year, but well up to the average. Horses number 276; cattle, 515; sheep, 170; pigs, 103; poultry, 398; and produce, 224; whilst, in addition, there are 248 entries in the buter-making, shoeing, shearing, and milking classes. A comparison of the present number of entries with that when the society last visited Plymouth indicates in a striking manner how much the show has grown of late years. In 1873 the entries of live stock and produce numbered 1,027; in 1902 they are 1,686. Then implements and machinery occupied 5,197 feet run of shedding—now they require 5,657 feet run; whilst the open space set apart for larger agricultural exhibits has had to be increased from 5,616 square feet in 1873 to 17,987 square feet in 1902. In 1873 there was no working dairy in the show yard and no competitions outside the live stock and produce classes, except for shoeing smiths, who numbered 14. On the present occasion there are 246 competitors in the shoeing, shearing, butter-making, and milking classes, including those in the local classes provided by the Devon County Council for its pupils. In 1873 the prizes amounted to £1,352, whilst this year, as previously mentioned, they reach a total of nearly £3,500. The society's sphere of work, apart from the show, has been similarly enlarged, especially in the direction of practical education and scientific research.

The Working Dairy.

This is, as last year, a large and most completely fitted-up structure. It is substantially built, with a thatched roof, and seating accommodation is afforded for spectators. Here the butter-making contests, for which there are 115 entries, will be held each day. On the last day of the show the prize-winners of the previous days will compete for the championship and for the society's gold, silver, and bronze medals, and there will also be a local championship competition. There will be daily illustrations of the making of clotted cream and the most recent improvements in butter making, and power and hand cream separators and other dairy appliances will be shown at work.

Implements and Machinery.

There will be a very extensive exhibition of implements, machinery, etc., occupying 5,657 feet run of shedding, most of the leading agricultural firms being represented. There will be a long line of steam and gas engines and other machinery in motion, whilst in the extensive ranges of shedding elsewhere will be found an endless variety of implements adapted to the various requirements of the farm, the road, and the homestead, together with seeds, cattle foods, cattle medicines, and artificial manures, and a multitudinous assortment of miscellaneous exhibits, embracing the latest labour-saving inventions for domestic and other purposes. There will also be collections of carriages and vehicles of every description. In addition to these exhibits, no less than 17,987 square feet of open space have been taken for the display of poultry appliances, rustic houses, pottery, wind motors, etc.

Art Manufactures, Arts and Crafts, &c.

In view of the fact that there are now many more picture exhibitions held throughout the country and greater facilities for visiting them than formerly, the society have discontinued holding an exhibition of pictures on the lines hitherto adopted They have substituted for it an exhibition of work, representative of Arts and Handicrafts, executed by pupils attending classes held in connection with the Technical Education Committees. Schools of Art, and other public bodies, and have added to this an exhibition of specimens illustrating geology, entomology, botany, etc., in their relation to agriculture.

Horticulture.

In the lofty pavilion specially constructed for the purpose, there will be a choice display of exotic plants and flowers, which will be arranged with the special view of illustrating the beautiful effects which can be obtained by skilful groupings and combinations of colour.

Poultry-Keeping and Bee-Keeping.

Lectures and practical demonstrations, illustrating the cramming, killing, plucking, etc., of poultry, will be given by Mr. C. E. Stallworthy, Devon C.C. Lecturer, and practical illustration in bee-keeping by the Devon Bee-Keepers' Association.

Shoeing, Shearing, and Milking.

There will be several competitions of shoeing smiths, for which 86 have entered, including representatives from many different counties, so that unusual interest is likely to be excited in these contests. Special prizes in these competitions will be given by the Devon County Technical Education Committee for smiths who have attended courses of instruction in farriery held in connection with the County Farriery School. There will also be milking and shearing competitions.

Special Features.

There will be daily parades of the horses and cattle in the large ring in front of the grand stand, and also a series of competitions for harness horses, pairs, tandems, and singles, as well as jumping competitions. The entries in the driving and jumping classes are very numerous, and so some good sport may be anticipated.

Miscellaneous Buildings.

There are many buildings in addition to those in which the exhibits are housed. The principal entrance front of the show yard is in the style of an old English timber building, with a gabled roof and latticed windows, with a tower in the centre, and connected with it are rooms for the secretary and his staff, and for the yard stewards



MR. T. F. PLOWMAN,
Secretary of the Bath and West Agricultural Society.

and finance departments. The other stewards are provided with offices in those parts of the yard in which their respective departments are situated. Near the entrance is a commodious pavilion, comprising a suite of apartments for the use of the president and the council. There is also a reading room and writing room in the centre of the yard for the use of members of the Bath and West Society and the Devon County Agricultural Association, the offices of the latter being near at hand.

Some of the society's stewards will sleep in the yard, and for the accommodation of these a neat row of apartments has been erected. The various rooms for the Press, police, railway officials, etc., will be found in prominent positions, and other buildings include postal, telegraph, and catalogue offices, lavatories, cloak rooms, parcel offices, forage stores, stock hospital, and servants' sleeping sheds. There will be two large luncheon pavilions, whilst provision will also be made for light refreshments at counters and for workmen's dinners, etc. A special arrangement has been made for the serving of afternoon tea in the proximity of the band stand, and this is likely to afford a popular rendezvous.

A covered building has been erected near the main entrance, where cycles will be taken charge of.

Duration of Show, &c.

The exhibition will open at 9 o'clock to-morrow (Tuesday), at which hour judging will commence, and at half-past ten o'clock on the same day the exhibition will be formally inaugurated by the Mayors of Devonport and Plymouth, and the chairman of the Stonehouse District Council, who will attend in state, and will be received by the president of the society, the Earl of Morley, and council.

The show will open on the other days at the same hour, and will close each day at 7 p.m., except on Saturday, when it will close at 6 p.m. On Thursday morning the annual general meeting of the members of the society will be held, when the president for the ensuing year will be elected. Friday will be the first shilling day, when a very large attendance is anticipated.

The show will finally close at 6 p.m. on Saturday, May 31, and as exhibits will not be permitted to leave their places until after this hour, the exhibition will maintain its attractiveness up to the closing time.

Prices of Admission.

On the opening day of the show, when the judging in all the live stock classes, except those for harness and jumping horses, takes place, the charge for admission will be 5s.; on the second and third days, 2s. 6d.; and on the last two days, 1s.

Season tickets for the whole period of the show are issued at a charge of 7s. 6d. each. These permit the holder to go in and out from the show as often as he or she desires, whereas the ordinary admission payment only gives a single access to the show, and does not allow the visitor to leave the ground and re-enter it without paying again, no pass-out cheques being issued.

Annual Meeting of Members.

The annual meeting of the members of the society will be held in the show yard on Thursday, at twelve o'clock, at which the council's report for 1902 will be presented. At the outset the council state they have particular pleasure in recognising the friendly co-operation with respect to the Plymouth meeting of the Devon County Agricultural Association, who have suspended their show for the year and have contributed £100 to the prize list. Under these circumstances, the council felt that they would be acting in accordance with the feelings of the members generally if they conferred the same privileges for the meeting upon the members of the association as are enjoyed by members of the Bath and West Society, and this has accordingly been done. The council also gratefully acknowledge the receipt of special prizes from various gentlemen and societies.

The report further states that during the past year the council have continued their efforts for the promotion of technical education in agriculture by organising and conducting, on behalf of the Somerset County Council, a cheese school at Mark, and it has had, since its opening in April last, as many pupils as it was possible to accommodate. Experiments upon the improvement of grass land are in progress, and the council are also conducting, in conjunction with the Board of Agriculture, an experiment for ascertaining the influence of various manures upon the production of mutton.

With the co-operation of the Board of Agriculture and the Somerset County Education Committee, the council have embarked upon an investigation into the origin and cause of flavour in dairy produce, the cost of which will be defrayed by annual grants for three successive years of £200 from the Board of Agriculture, of £100 from the Somerset Committee, and of £150 from the Bath and West Society. The council have also followed up the practical and scientific investigations, initiated by the society a few years since, in connection with cider making, and the Board of Agriculture has borne testimony to their utility by making an annual grant in aid of them. The council have suggested to the Board the desirability of extending this work, and have asked it for some additional monetary help (to be supplemented by an increased grant from the society) towards the cost.

The council have accepted a very corial invitation to hold the annual meeting at Bristol in 1903, and recommended that the Duke of Beaufort be elected president for the ensuing year.

At the meeting votes of thanks will be moved to the local committee, representing "The Three Towns" and district for the cordiality with which they have received the society, and for their efforts to promote the success of the meeting; to those gentlemen who have kindly acted as judges in the several departments; and to the Right Hon. the Earl of Morley for presiding over it during the past year.

Official Programme of Arrangements.

Below we give the official programme of arrangements for the week:—

TUESDAY.

GENERAL PROGRAMME.

9 a.m. to 7 p.m.: Exhibition and Judging of Horses, Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, Produce, etc.; Exhibition of Implements, Machinery, Art Manufactures, Science and Art Collections, etc.; Working Dairy (see Programme below).

10.30 a.m.: Inauguration of Show by the Mayors of Devonport and Plymouth and the Chairman of the Stonehouse District Council.

11 a.m.: Performances by the Band of the Royal Marines, and also at intervals during the day.

12 noon: Practical Instruction in Bee-Keeping by the Devon Bee Keepers' Association, and at intervals during the day.

1 p.m.: Exhibition of Poultry.

2 p.m.: Horticultural Exhibition.

WORKING DAIRY PROGRAMME.

9 a.m. to 9.30 a.m.: Dairy will be open for Inspection of Appliances.

10 a.m.: Hand Cream Separator will be shown at work.

10.30 a.m.: The best method of Butter-making will be shown.

11 a.m.: The making of Clotted Cream will be shown.

11.30 a.m.: Local Butter making Competition (Class 201).

12 noon: Power Cream Separator will be shown at work.

3 p.m.: Butter-making competiton (Class 197).

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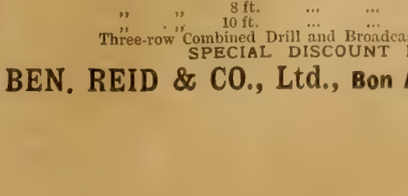
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WEDNESDAY.

GENERAL PROGRAMME.

9 a.m. to 7 p.m.: Exhibition of Horses, Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, Poultry, Cheese, Butter, Cider, etc.; Exhibition of Implements, Machinery, Art Manufactures, Science and Art Collections, etc.

10 a.m.: Shoeing Competitions (Classes 214, 215, and 216).

11 a.m.: Performances by the Band of the Royal Marines, and also at intervals during the day.

11.30 a.m.: Parade of Cattle in the large Ring (weather permitting).

12 noon: Practical Instruction in Bee-Keeping by the Devon Bee-Keepers' Association, and at intervals during the day.

1.30 p.m.: Parade of Horses and Ponies in the large Ring (weather permitting).

2 p.m.: Mr. C. E. Stalworthy, Devon County Council Lecturer, will give Demonstrations of the Cramming, Killing, Plucking, etc., of Poultry.

3 p.m.: Competitions in the large Ring, viz.:—Class 5 (Driving), Class 33 (Jumping), Class 26 (Driving), Class 34 (Jumping).

WORKING DAIRY PROGRAMME.

9 a.m. to 9.30 a.m.: Dairy will be open for Inspection of Appliances.

10 a.m.: Hand Cream Separator will be shown at work.

10 a.m.: Testing for Churnability of Sweet Cream from various breeds of Cattle.

10.30 a.m.: The best method of Butter-making will be shown.

11 a.m.: The making of Clotted Cream will be shown.

11.30 a.m.: Local Butter-making Competition (Class 202).

12 noon: Power Cream Separator will be shown at work.

2.30 p.m.: Milking Competition (Class 207).

3 p.m.: Butter-making Competition (Class 198).

THURSDAY.

GENERAL PROGRAMME.

9 a.m. to 7 p.m.: Exhibition of Horses, Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, Poultry, Cheese, Butter, Cider, etc.; Exhibition of Implements, Machinery, Art Manufactures, Science and Art Collections, etc.

10 a.m. to 7 p.m.: Horticultural Exhibition.

10 a.m.: Shoeing Competition (Class 210).

11 a.m.: Performances by the Band of the Royal Marines, and also at intervals during the day.

11.30 a.m.: Parade of Cattle in the large Ring (weather permitting).

12 noon: Practical Instruction in Bee-Keeping by the Devon Bee-Keepers' Association, and at intervals during the day.

12 noon: Annual Meeting of Members in the Council Pavilion.

1.30 p.m.: Parade of Horses and Ponies in the large Ring (weather permitting).

2 p.m.: Mr. C. E. Stalworthy, Devon County Council Lecturer, will give Demonstrations of the Cramming, Killing, Plucking, etc., of Poultry.

3 p.m.: Competitions in the large Ring, viz.:—Class 27 (Driving), Class 35 (Jumping), Class 28 (Driving), Class 36 (Jumping).

WORKING DAIRY PROGRAMME.

9 a.m. to 9.30 a.m.: Dairy will be open for Inspection of Appliances.

10 a.m.: Hand Cream Separator will be shown at work.

10 a.m.: Testing for Churnability of Ripened Cream from various breeds of cattle.

10.30 a.m.: The best method of Butter-making will be shown.

11 a.m.: The making of Clotted Cream will be shown.

11.30 a.m.: Local Butter-making Competition (Class 203).

12 noon: Power Cream Separator will be shown at work.

2.30 p.m.: Milking competition (Class 208).

3 p.m.: Butter-making Competition (Class 199).

FRIDAY.

GENERAL PROGRAMME.

9 a.m. to 7 p.m.: Exhibition of Horses, Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, Poultry, Cheese, Butter, Cider, etc.; Exhibition of Implements, Machinery, Art Manufactures, Science and Art Collections, etc.

10 a.m. to 7 p.m.: Horticultural Exhibition.

10 a.m.: Shoeing Competition (Class 211).

10 a.m.: Sheep Shearing Competitions.

11 a.m.: Performances by the Band of the Royal Marines, and also at intervals during the day.

11.30 a.m.: Parade of Cattle in the large Ring (weather permitting).

12 noon: Practical Instruction in Bee-Keeping by the Devon Bee-Keepers' Association, and at intervals during the day.

1.30 p.m.: Parade of Horses and Ponies in the large Ring (weather permitting).

2 p.m.: Mr. C. E. Stalworthy, Devon County Council Lecturer, will give Demonstrations of the Cramming, Killing, Plucking, etc., of Poultry.

3 p.m.: Competitions in the large Ring, viz.:—Class 29 (Driving), Class 37 (Jumping), Class 30 (Driving), Class 38 (Jumping).

WORKING DAIRY PROGRAMME.

9 a.m. to 9.30 a.m.: Dairy will be open for Inspection of Appliances.

10 a.m.: Hand Cream Separator will be shown at work.

10.30 a.m.: The best method of Butter-making will be shown.

11 a.m.: The making of Clotted Cream will be shown.

11.30 a.m.: Local Butter-making Competition (Class 204).

12 noon: Power Cream Separator will be shown at work.

2.30 p.m.: Milking Competition (Class 209).

3 p.m.: Butter-making Competition (Class 200).

SATURDAY.

GENERAL PROGRAMME.

9 a.m. to 6 p.m.: Exhibition of Horses, Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, Poultry, Cheese, Butter, Cider, etc.; Exhibition of Implements, Machinery, Art Manufactures, Science and Art Collections, etc.

10 a.m. to 6 p.m.: Horticultural Exhibition.

10 a.m.: Shoeing Competition (Class 212).

11 a.m.: Performances by the Band of the Royal Marines, and also at intervals during the day.

11.30 a.m.: Parade of Cattle in the large Ring (weather permitting).

12 noon: Practical Instruction in Bee-Keeping by the Devon Bee-Keepers' Association, and at intervals during the day.

1.30 p.m.: Parade of Horses and Ponies in the large Ring (weather permitting).

2 p.m.: Mr. C. E. Stalworthy, Devon County Council Lecturer, will give Demonstrations of the Cramming, Killing, Plucking, etc., of Poultry.

2 p.m.: Shoeing Competition (Class 213).

3 p.m.: Competitions in the large Ring, viz.:—Class 31 (Driving), Class 39 (Jumping), Class 32 (Trotting), Class 40 (Jumping).

6 p.m.: Show closes.

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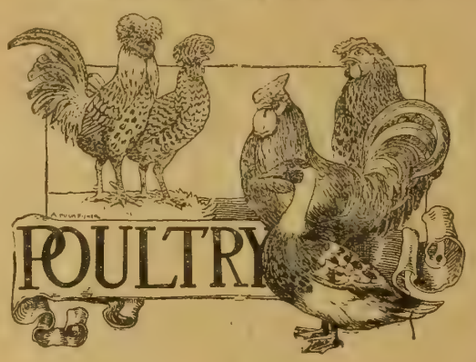
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The Largest Manufacturer of Incubators in the World.



Rearing Turkeys.

Grit

(*Continued from page* 637.)

The young birds should not be allowed to go into the houses occupied by older birds, as they must be brought up hardy if they are to escape roup and colds. Every attention is required up to the time they "shoot the red," but after that time they should not be coddled.

Turkeys do better sleeping in covered sheds with wire fronts than when more warmly housed, and if some roup-powder is added to their soft food when the weather is damp, or inclined to be cold, roup will be avoided. Turkeys, either young or old, do not require a warm house, as fowls do. Some young birds prefer roosting out of doors all the time.

Young turkeys are profitable birds, provided that one has time to give them care and attention when they are quite small, and they are not delicate after they are seven weeks old, and if provided with nourishing food and plenty of sharp flint-grit, they thrive and grow well. Broods are frequently reared in towns by those who have time to attend to young birds, and they grow into fine turkeys for table, and yield a good profit.

When turkeys are hatched early in the season they usually grow quite as heavy when reared on gravel or where there is no grass, as when they have a large grass field to run over.

This can easily be accounted for. In the first place, where a person has only a limited space of ground in towns it is an impossibility to rear many turkeys, and as a rule the owner only attempts to hatch one brood. If there are from four to seven young ones, that is quite as many as can be expected out of an early brood, and, of course, there is not such a large number running together while they are young, and as they are close to the house they can be fed several times in the day and attended to properly with but little trouble.

Those who understand this business well as regards rearing turkeys in such small places, always have a covered run for them, so that, should it come on to rain, and the little things are running about in the open, they can be placed under shelter at once. It is quite different on a farm. One often has to go a quarter-of-a-mile before he can get to them, and when he does, they are wet to the skin, which often causes death when they are very young. Young turkeys cannot stand the wet.

Then again, when there are only a few, they get looked after better, and they come in for many bits from the table; that is another advantage the townsman gets. This is not all, however; there is still another advantage which people do not often think of, that is, when the little things are 'et out to have a run in a small place there is no wet grass. As soon as it has done raining, and the sun comes out, they can run about.

A good turkey is expensive at Christmas, and that is the time when English people want them. It is found that they do not cost much for feeding; it is the labour that has to be taken into account, and where one attends to the birds themselves, and gives the time, which could not be more profitably employed, that the trouble taken in rearing a brood is well repaid.

Care should be taken to provide them with a substitute for the insects which the young birds reared on a farm get, and this can be well done by the use of granulated meat, which is soaked and then mixed with the meal.

Those who have time to prepare cooked meat, viz., a sheep's paunch, or any offal in the way of outside cuts from the butcher's shop, which can usually be had for 1½d. and 2d. per lb., will do well to give this to their young turkeys. The meat should be boiled and chopped up fine.

Where a person gets a number of good table scraps, it is not necessary to look after such sweet morsels of meat for the young turkeys. We wish our readers to distinctly understand that when turkeys are reared in confinement, unless they are given flesh food as well as corn, they will not grow anything like so fast, besides looking very rough in their plumage. It is also very important that greenstuff should be chopped up for them.

Some people imagine they have a difficulty in getting green-stuff in towns, especially during the winter, but we find it is much easier, as a rule, than in the country, as greengrocers always have a lot of refuse leaves. Those who are unable to get these should cut some grass off the bank every day and some dandelions, which should be laid on a board and cut up into pieces of a quarter-of-an-inch in length. Lettuce leaves are another splendid food, but it must be remembered when turkeys are reared it is usually summer, and though greenstuff can be easily obtained it soon withers, while in cold weather it last for days.

Green food can be grown by sowing mustard in shallow boxes with four or five inches of soil in them. By keeping seven boxes going there is a constant supply of fresh green food for the young birds. This plan is a good one to adopt also for chickens reared in confinement, as the green mustard grows very quickly, and is not much trouble if watered each evening.

Agricultural Imports.

The following is an account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended May 17, 1902, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year:—

Animals Living.	1901.	1902.		1901.	1902.
	No.	No.		Cwt.	Cwt.
Cattle ...	8,854	8,072	Wheat ...	1179,000	1,899,211
Sheep.....	5,991	5,1-9	Flour.....	45 ,400	416,907
Swine.....	—	—	Barley ...	269,100	3?0,734
*Horses...	—	956	Oats	439,100	335,373
			Peas	38,200	20,010
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Beans ...	50,200	50,185
Beef	79,632	68,075	Maize ...	709,200	739,188
Mutton...	92,207	104,689		Bunches	Bunches
Pork	9,070	7,030	Bananas	56,888	61,353
Bacon ...	89,138	108,453			
Beef, salt	2,687	3,615		Cwt.	Cwt.
Hams...	32 140	37,497	Apples ...	13,659	20,208
Pork, salt	4,817	5,269	Apricots...		
Meat, salt & Fresh	11,607	13,822	&Peaches	—	203
Do. pres.	6,248	12,631	Cherries	153	3,960
Butter ...	76,852	65,200	Currants	—	—
M'g'rine	16,596	22,057	Gooseb'r's	137	215
Cheese ...	28,186	32,482	Grapes ...	269	214
Milk, Fresh, in cans or drums.	—	10	Lemons...	30,471	8,019
			Oranges	136 022	161,307
			Pears.....	51	210
			Plums ...	—	—
			Strawb'r's	—	5
Milk ...			Oth'r Fr't	281	924
Cream.	114	47		Tons.	Tons.
			Hay	3,005	8,817
			'Straw ...	—	1,669
Milk pr's'v'd, other kinds ...	16	16	Onions ...	Bush. 166,396	Bush. 107,804
Con.Milk	15,407	18,804	Hops	Cwt. 1,033	Cwt. 262
			* Locust Beans	—	5,782
	No.	No.	Potatoes	230,723	125,266
Eggs	838,178	265,992	Tom'to's	4,923	11,369
			Other	Value.	Value.
Poultry& Game	Value. £22,008	Value. £12,994	Veg'bles	£12,292	£14,197
				Cwt.	Cwt.
			Dried ...	062	360
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Pres'v'd		
Rabbits .	4,089	4,847	by can-		
Lard	45,048	25,473	ning ...	5,471	2,369

* Not shown in 1901.

Three Unrivalled Calf Meals

The Lancaster Calf Food
13/- per cwt., or in 4 cwt. lots, 12/6 per cwt.

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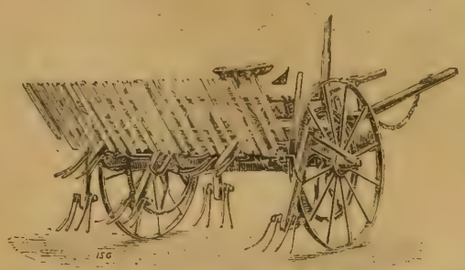
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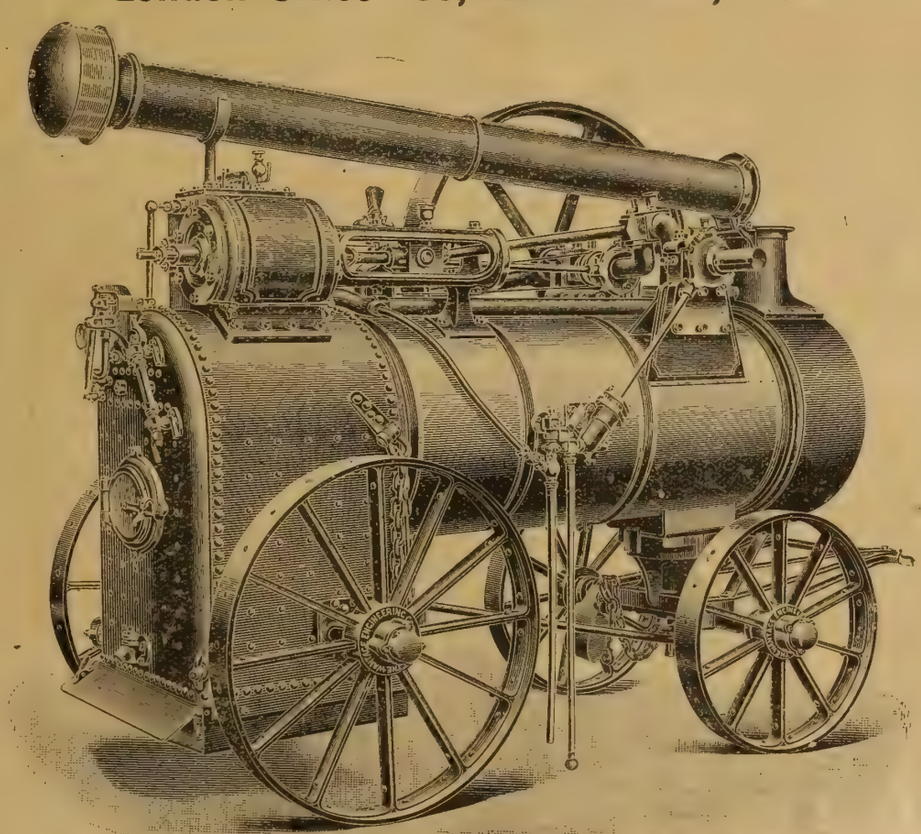
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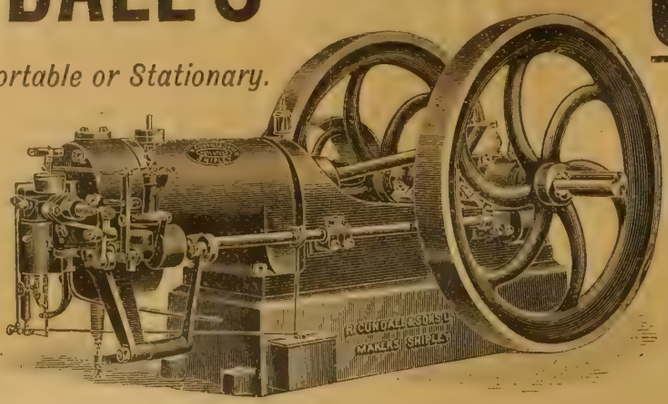
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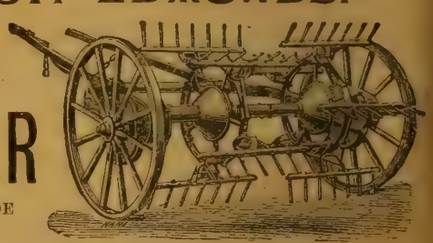
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(REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER AT THE GENERAL POST OFFICE.)

VOL. LXXXVI. No. 3688. LONDON, MONDAY, JUNE 2, 1902. THIRTY-TWO PAGES. PRICE 3D.

SOCIETIES.

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION of ENGLISH HOP GROWERS.
(Founded June 1894.)
PRESIDENT.—COLONEL BROOKFIELD, M.P.
HON. TREASURER.—E. ALBERT WHITE, Esq., Beltring, Kent.
SECRETARY.—THOMAS IRONMONGER.
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To promote united action among English hop growers as a body for the improvement of the industry.

To promote, support, or oppose such legislative and other measures as may affect the industry.

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To arrange for arbitrations in cases of dispute between sellers and buyers of hops, for the avoidance of litigation.

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PRESIDENT, 1902,
J. HERBERT BENYON, ESQ.

GREAT SHOW
ON
JUNE 10th, 11th, 12th, and 13th, 1902.
AT READING,

JUMPING AND DRIVING COMPETITIONS, WORKING DAIRY, BUTTER MAKING, HORSESHOEING, and SHEARING COMPETITIONS.

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Children under 12 years, 1s.
THURSDAY, JUNE 12th, and FRIDAY, JUNE 13th, 1s.
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FRANKLIN SIMMONS, Secretary.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

(Established 1829.)

President for 1902, The Right Hon. the EARL OF COVENTRY.

The Next Show of this Society will be held at TEWKESBURY, JULY the 22nd, 23rd and 24th, 1902.

Last day of Entry, Monday, June 16th. Post Entries (at double fees) will be received up to Monday, June 23rd.

Driving and Jumping Entries close July 7th, 1902.

F. J. TOWNSEND, Secretary, Cirencester.

GREAT YORKSHIRE SHOW, at ROUNDHAY PARK, LEEDS, July 30th, 31st, & August 1st, 1902.
£2,115 offered in PRIZES.
Entries close June 21st.
Late Entries June 28th.
For Prize Schedules & Forms of Entry apply
JOHN MAUGHAN, Secretary, Blake St., York.
Telegrams, "Yas, York."

THE THIRTEENTH ANNUAL OF THE THORNEY SHIRE FOAL SOCIETY
JULY 17th, 1902,
IN THORNEY PARK.

ENTRIES CLOSE JULY 7TH.

For Schedules and Entry Forms apply to the Secretary, H. HORRELL, THORNEY.

GREAT AGRICULTURAL SHOW at TUNBRIDGE WELLS, JULY 24th and 25th, 1902.
PRIZES £1,700.
Entries close as under:—
Agricultural Implements (for which Money Prizes or Medals are offered) ... ... 18th June.
Live Stock, Goats, &c. ... ... " "
Bread and Butter ... ... 2nd July.
Poultry and Pigeons (Prizes £1, 10s., and 5s., for 2s. 6d. and 3s. 6d. Entry Fee) ... ... " "
Rabbits (Prizes 15s., 8s., and 5s., for 2s. and 2s. 6d. Entry Fee) ... " "
Entries in some Harness Classes and all the Jumping Classes can be made on Show Days.
When applying for Prize List, please state if for Implements, Live Stock, Bread and Butter, or Poultry, &c.
WM. ROPER, Secretary.
Tunbridge Wells.

MID-KENT AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION.
SEVENTH SUMMER SHOW,
At MAIDSTONE, JULY 2nd, 1902.
Prizes offered for HORSES, CATTLE, SHEEP, BUTTER, HOME-MADE BREAD, AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS, and MOTOR CARS.
JUMPING and DRIVING COMPETITIONS.
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HORSES, CATTLE, SHEEP, &c., JUNE 11TH.
POST ENTRIES (at double fees), JUNE 18TH.
GROUND SPACES, JUNE 21ST.
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THE EAST SURREY AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION SHOW will be held at CROYDON on JULY 9th, 1902.
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ENTRIES CLOSE JUNE 21st.
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SOCIETIES.

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433 Horses, 136 Cattle, 314 Sheep, 215 Swine.
These numbers are the actual head of stock.
12 Carriages and Pairs,
8 Tandems.

DOG SHOW. PRIZES £500.

ROBERT BOND Secretary,
Offices: Butter Market, Ipswich.

THE PETERBOROUGH AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY, 1902.

Patron: HIS MAJESTY THE KING.
President for the Year:
The Most Hon. The MARQUIS OF EXETER.

The ANNUAL SHOW of HORSES, CATTLE, SHEEP, PIGS, BUTTER, DAIRYING IMPLEMENTS, &c., will take place at PETERBOROUGH, on TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, and THURSDAY, JULY 8th, 9th and 10th.
About £1,400 Awarded in Prizes.

Entries close on Saturday, June 14th. Late Entries will be received up to June 23rd on payment of double fees.

Schedules, Forms of Entry, and particulars may be had on application to
J. E. LITTLE, Secretary.
Offices, Cowgate, Peterborough.

OSSETT AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY'S
8th ANNUAL SHOW,
SATURDAY, JUNE 14th.

Hurdles and Water Jumping. Pony Racing. Driving in Harness and Riding in the Saddle.
Entries close JUNE 7th.
Schedules now ready.
FLIGG & SHAW, Secretaries.

LINCOLNSHIRE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

BOSTON EXHIBITION.

The Thirty-third Exhibition of the Society will be held at Boston on the 16th, 17th, and 18th JULY.
The Prizes offered to Agricultural Servants and Labourers, and for Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, Horses, &c., amount to £1,625.

ENTRIES CLOSE 10th JUNE.

For Prize Lists and Entry Forms apply to STEPHEN UPTON,
St. Benedict's Square, Secretary.
Lincoln, 28th May, 1902.

SOCIETIES.

DONCASTER AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

ANNUAL EXHIBITION of HORSES, CATTLE, SHEEP, BUTTER, EGGS, and IMPLEMENTS, WEDNESDAY and THURSDAY, JULY 2nd and 3rd, 1902.

DOGS, POULTRY and PIGEONS Second Day only.

PRIZES and CUPS amounting to upwards of £1,000.

Prize Lists on application (stating for which department) to
F. H. CHAFER, Secretary.
9, Market Place, Doncaster.

Entries close Saturday, June 7th.

LEICESTERSHIRE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

LEICESTER SHOW, JULY 2nd & 3rd, 1902.

OVER £1,372 IN PRIZES AND CUPS.

ENTRIES CLOSE:—
JUNE 2.—Shire Horses, Hunters, Polo Ponies, Driving Competitions, Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, and Implements.
JUNE 14.—Cheese, Butter, Butter-making, Poultry, Dogs (Fox Terriers), &c.
State Section for which Schedule is required.
Prize Lists and Entry Forms on application to H. C. ARDRON, Secretary.
Syston, Leicester.

TRING AGRICUTLURAL SHOW,
THURSDAY, AUGUST 7th, 1902.
Entries close Friday, July 4th, 1902.
£1,200 in Prizes and Cups.
Famous Milk and Butter Tests. £200. Finest Sheep Dog Trials in the South. Extensive Shire, Hunter, Jersey, Shorthorn, and other classes.
Schedules now ready of F. J. BROWN, Hon. Sec. 41, High Street, Tring.

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E. W. JEANS, Manager.

LIVE STOCK.

HORSES.

HACKNEYS, &c.

MOORE, HENRY, Burn Butts, Cranswick, Hull.—Pedigree Stud of HACKNEYS, including many prize-winners, yearlings, two years, and others.—Can be seen on application to Henry Moore.

LLOYD, WALTER, Moonhill, Cuckfield, Sussex.—Small but select Stud of PEDIGREE HACKNEYS, Mares, Fillies, and Colts of best blood, including stock by Champion Ganymede, Agility, Winnal Fireaway, Model II., and other noted Stallions at moderate prices. Appointments to view the stud (which is 1½ miles from Hayward's Heath station, L. B. and S.C. Railway), on application to the owner, as above.

LEES KNOWLES, M.P., Westwood, Pendlebury, Manchester. Breeder of Pedigree Hackneys, Stud Horses; Dane Canute, 5952, by Danegelt, 174; Dainty Duke, 7417, by Garton, Duke of Connaught, 3009; and Salford Felix, 7263, by Invincible, 1806. Stock on Sale by the above-named and other noted Sires.—For particulars apply to the STUD GROOM, Dam Head Farm, Mobberley, Cheshire, or to the Owner.

GEORGE SCOBY, Beadlam Grange Stud Farm, Nawton, Yorks. Breeder of CLEVELAND BAYS and YORKSHIRE COACH HORSES. Stallions and Mares, all ages, of purest blood for sale. This Stud won more prizes at Yorks. and Royal than any Stud in England. Prices reasonable. Telegrams: SCOBY, Nawton (free), A.B.C. code used. Farm 24 miles from York, and one mile from Helmsley, N.E.R.

WILSON-HORSFALL, F., Potto Grange, Potto Station, Northallerton, Yorks.—Winner of more prizes than any man in England with Cleveland Bays at the Royal, Great Yorkshire, and other important Shows for many years; also First Prize and Gold Medal at the Paris Exhibition, 1900, for Coaching Mare. Thoroughbreds and Shorthorns are also bred on these farms.

HALEY, ALFRED A., Hackney Stud Farm, Eddlethorpe, Malton. Stallions, Mares, and Geldings for Sale, by all the leading sires, such as Garton Duke, Pioneer, Rosador, &c. Stud Horse, Danebury 4724. Further particulars from Owner or R. Black.

SHIRES.

THE RIGHT HON. LORD ROTHSCHILD, TRING PARK, TRING, Breeder of Shire Horses, Jersey, Redpolled and Shorthorn Cattle, and Hampshire Down Sheep. For any further particulars, &c., please apply to Mr. RICHARDSON CARR, Estate Office, Tring.

MUNTZ, P. ALBERT, M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby.—SHIRE-BRED STALLIONS, COLTS, MARES, & FILLIES. About a hundred of all ages. Prize-winners London and other leading shows. Also high-class Shropshire SHEEP, winners first prize at Royal Agricultural, 1886, second in 1887, and first in 1888.—Apply, THOMAS EWART, Dunsmore Farm, Rugby.

CONCHAR, JOHN, Wylde Green, Birmingham.—Breeder of SHIRES and HACKNEYS. Some good Colts and Fillies for Sale. Five minutes from Station

SALOMONS, LEOPOLD, Norbury Park Shire Stud, Dorking. Stud Horses: Hendre Champion 18,079, Norbury Harold 18,977, Norbury Dane 16,867. Mares and Fillies usually for Sale.—For Stud Fees and particulars, apply to J. BASTIN, Norbury Park Farm, Dorking.

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THE SEAHAM STUD, Ltd., Seaham Harbour, county Durham. The largest stud of Pedigree Clydesdales in the United Kingdom. Stallions, mares, colts, fillies always on sale. Inspection solicited.—Apply, R. BRYDON, Seaham Harbour.

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MONTEFIORE, Rev. D. B., Mursley Hall, Winslow, Bucks.—Champion Arab Stallion "Mootrub," Polo Pony "Hurlingham," by Champion "Rosewater," and the thoroughbred Pony Stallion "Eheu," by "Despair." Particulars on application.

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MILLER, W. S., Forest Lodge Brecon, S. Wales, Extensive Breeder and Exporter of best class of Welsh Mountain Ponies and Cobs.

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DALMENY SHORTHORN HERD, the property of the Earl of Rosebery, K.G. Bulls and Heifers of the choicest breeding always for sale at moderate prices.—Apply, MANAGER, Home Farm, Dalmeny Park, Edinburgh.

SWINBURNE, SIR JOHN, owns one of the Largest and Best Herds of PURE BATES SHORTHORNS in existence. The Herd being large, both Males and Females, of any age, can always be obtained.—Apply to JAMES HEPPLE, Bailiff, Capheaton, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

CATTLE (*contd.*).

SHORTHORNS (*cont.*).

WORDSWORTH, REGINALD, Duffcarrig, Gorey, Co. Wexford. Herd of rent-paying Dairy Shorthorns (Cruickshank and Scotch strains). Successful in Dairy and Showyard. Young Bulls and in-calf Heifers of good colours for Sale. Exportation orders faithfully executed.

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CATTLE (*contd.*).

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COLES, CARY, Manor House, Winterbourne Stoke, Salisbury.—Registered HAMPSHIRE DOWNS, prize-winners Royal, Bath and West, and Royal Counties Shows; Salisbury Prize Sheep Fair, 1900 and 1901. Twenty-five guineas Challenge Cup best pen 3 Ram Lambs. Flock numbers 1,200. All ages for sale

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BAXTER, PAYNE, AND LEPPER, LAND AGENTS, FARM AND TIMBER VALUERS, SURVEYORS, HOUSE AGENTS, AND AUCTIONEERS, PREPARATION of PLANS, Superintending the Erection or Repairs of Farm Buildings, and Laying-out of Estates for Building, Planting, Drainage, &c.

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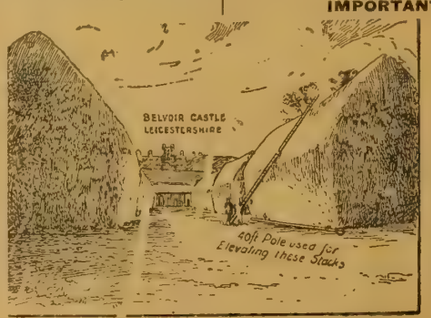
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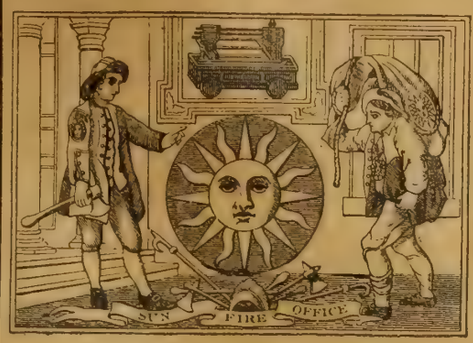


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THE BATH AND WEST AT PLYMOUTH.

The successful nature of the show which closed at Plymouth on Saturday will no doubt be highly appreciated by officials and members of the Bath and West and Southern Counties Society. The district chosen for the 1902 show was a different one to that in which last year's exhibition was held, but the society have a large district to cater for, and it is only right that they should give each section its due turn. Plymouth is undoubtedly a long way for northern exhibitors to send their stock, and this fact in all probability fully accounted for the shorter entry in the stock section as compared with the Croydon show of last year. The entry, however, was satisfactory generally speaking, although some of the sections were lamentably weak. It is rather interesting to note the great growth in the society's work and scope that has taken place since last the annual show was held in the neighbourhood of "the three towns." In 1873 the total number of horses exhibited only amounted to 73, and although it is not claimed that the horse section of the Bath and West is an exceptionally strong one, on the present occasion, the entry amounted to 276. It is in the cattle section, however, that the greatest changes are apparent. At the earlier show, 29 years ago, breeds which now are prominently before the public then had no place in the society's schedule—these including Kerries and Dexters, Red Polled, and Aberdeen Angus; but turning to the reverse side of the question we find that the Devons were forward in larger numbers than on the present occasion, the entry being 82 twenty-nine years ago, as compared with 32 now. South Devons, on the other hand, only show a difference of one between the twenty-nine years, this breed having at all events held their own during the interval—a fact that cannot be said of the Devon breed.

The site of the showyard, which, although designated Plymouth, was actually, as a matter of fact, in Devonport, was fairly convenient and easy of access, but there was some little difficulty in arranging and laying out the ground. The showyard was on both sides of a hill, so it will be easily understood that there were numerous expressions of fatigue from those whose business led them to make excursions into different portions of the showyard. The evil was an unavoidable one, however, and the hills were cheerfully tackled by all the visitors, the view from the highest point of the yard being one which repaid the fatigue involved, for it included a panorama over a greater portion of "the three towns" and their picturesque surroundings. At all events, the Plymouth Show is one that must be added to the long list of successful exhibitions held by the Bath and West, comparing, as it does, most satisfactorily with the two previous meetings at Croydon and Southampton respectively.

SHEEP-WORRYING BY DOGS.

The fact that this subject is to be discussed at the meeting of the Centrl and Associated Chambers of Agriculture, to be held this week, recalls the serious loss which is often sustained by farmers through the ravages of dogs afflicted with this dangerous propensity. Drastic measures will probably be advocated to suppress the evil, although the main obstacle to redress lies more often in the difficulty of detecting the offender, than in condemning the owner in damages when guilt can be established.

It is well known that before the owner can be held responsible for injury by his dog to human beings it is necessary to prove a previous knowledge by the owner of the mischievous propensity of the dog. The gist of the acting is the keeping of the animal after such knowledge has been attained. So it is often loosely said that every dog is entitled to one bite free. This preliminary immunity from liability in the case of human beings formerly also extended in England (although not in Scotland) to injuries to sheep and cattle. In 1865, however, an Act was passed providing that the owner of every dog shall be liable in damages for injury done to any cattle or sheep by his dog; and it is no longer necessary to show a previous mischievous propensity in such dog, or the owner's knowledge of such propensity, or that the injury was attributable to neglect on the part of the owner of the dog. The damages are recoverable in any court of competent jurisdiction, and where the sum claimed does not exceed £5, proceedings for its recovery may be taken before the justices in Petty Sessions. The County Court has concurrent jurisdiction up to £5, and it is also the appropriate Court where the claim exceeds £5, and does not exceed £50. It has been held that the word "cattle" in the Act extends to and includes horses.

The Act also makes it risky to harbour a sheep-worrying dog. To avoid any quibble as to which particular member of the family owns an offending dog, it is provided that the occupier of any house or premises where any dog was kept or permitted to live or remain at the time of the injury shall be deemed to be the owner of such dog, and shall be liable as such, unless he can prove that he was not the owner and that it was kept in his house or premises without his sanction or knowledge. But where separate apartments in a house are let off the dog is to be deemed to belong to the occupier of the particular part of the premises in which it shall have been kept or permitted to remain.

The Act does not extend to Scotland, for the simple reason that its enactments are common law there, and its object is to assimilate the law of England to that of Scotland in this respect.

Such is the existing law. Let us see in what direction it can be strengthened.

At intermittent periods the Government introduce into Parliament a Bill to Regulate the Conduct of Dogs; at least, we presume that is its object, as it is called The Dogs Regulation Bill. Its very introduction, however, seems to accomplish its object, for year by year it is quietly dropped, and our canine friends are left to evolve their regulation from their own inner consciousness.

The Dogs Bill of 1898 proposed to enable county and borough councils to make bye-laws prescribing and regulating the wearing of collars by dogs, with means of indentification inscribed, and for the protection of cattle and sheep from injury by stray dogs. The Bill of 1900, however, sought to avoid the confusion which would arise through different byelaws being adopted in different towns, by providing that if in any borough or urban district a dog were found in a highway or place of public resort not wearing a collar, inscribed with the name and address of the owner of the dog, the owner or person in charge should be liable to a fine of £1; and if the dog were not in charge of any person it might be seized and dealt with as a stray dog. It was also provided that the provisions of the section might be extended by a county council to any other part of their district, but it was not to apply to packs of hounds, or to any dog whilst being used for sporting purposes, or for the cpture or destruction of vermin. But the proposal with which we are at the moment more immediately concerned was one for enabling county councils and borough councils, with a view to the prevention of worrying of sheep, to make byelaws for preventing all or any class of dogs from straying during all or any of the hours between sunset and sunrise.

Thus the sheep-worrying byelaw would be based on the principle of keeping out of temptation, and would take the form of a regulation requiring all dogs to be in bed at a certain hour, rather than that of an injunction that no dog should engage in sheep-worrying between sunset and sunrise. We wonder what the opponents of the Muzzling Order will have to say to the institution of a Dogs Curfew!

The Corn Tax.

A Trades Union Conference.

A conference, under the auspices of the Trades Union Congress Parliamentary Committee, was held in the Holborn Restaurant on Tuesday morning to discuss the corn tax. Mr. W. C. Steadman, L.C.C., presided, and said the delegates repreists, and the object of the conference was to enter sented 70 societies, and over a million trades union-a protest against the tax. Mr. E. Cowey, of the Miners' Federation, proposed a resolution, "That this conference expresses its strongest protest against the taxation of the people's food, as is proposed by the Government Budget." Mr. A. Wilkie, of the Shipwrights' Society, seconded, and many of the delegates subsequently vehemently entered their protest against what they characterised as an iniquitous tax and a war tax, and which they attributed entirely to a war forced upon them against their will. After further discussion the resolution was carried.

On Wednesday a deputation of trades unionists waited on the Chancellor of the Exchequer to present the resolution condemning the Corn Duty, which was unanimously passed at the conference on Tuesday. The Chancellor of the Exchequer listened to their statement, and, in reply, said he was pleased to meet so representative a deputation. He assured them that any representations coming from such a body would have due weight, and would be treated with respect by himself and his colleagues in the Government, but beyond that he could not go, nor could he make them any promise.

Speech by Lord Rosebery.

In the course of a speech delivered at a political meeting held in the Coloseum, Leeds, on Friday, Lord Rosebery said: The corn tax is one of the most remarkable taxes that has ever been presented to the notice of Parliament, because it was introduced with nothing but a string of negatives. It was not Protection, that was certain. (Laughter.) Not another acre of wheat, we were told by one Minister, would be planted in consequence of this tax, which removed, to my mind, the sole inducement to vote for it, for if more of our country could be placed under wheat it would solve some of the difficulties connected with the land. It was not to be paid by the consumer; it was to be paid by somebody else. Then it was said it was nothing more than a registration duty, and the illustrious names of Peel and Gladstone were cited to support this view. But, after all, the test as to whether this tax is a registration tax or not, or whether it is Protection, and the test as to whether it is a tax that Sir Robert Peel imposed and Mr. Gladstone continued, depends, as it seems to me, entirely on the conditions of the case.

In 1847, the year after the repeal of the Corn Law, when this registration duty remained, the price of British wheat per quarter was 69s. 9d. In 1868, the year before the repeal of the duty by Mr. Lowe, under Mr. Gladstone, it was 63s. 9d. In 1901 it was 26s. 9d. The 1s. duty, therefore, represented not quite 1½ per cent. on the price in 1847, when it was imposed, and a little more than 1½ per cent. on the price of 1868, when it was going to be repealed, and exactly 3¾ per cent. on the present prices of corn, when it is proposed to reimpose it. Three and three-quarter per cent. may not be a great measure of Protection; but I strongly suspect there are many trades in this city that would not be sorry if 3¾ per cent. duty were placed on the imposts that compete with them. Of course, it may be that the percentage does not really raise the price of the loaf. But, at any rate, what is certain is this—that the imposition of this tax gives an excuse to the bakers, of which they have not always been slow to avail themselves, of raising the price of the loaf, and, therefore, whether it does, in fact, only raise it in appearance, it is very much the same to the consumer.

But there is a much graver issue connected with this Corn Tax—an issue which has in reality only recently been imported into the discussion. It is, I think, quite clear from the last speech of the Colonial Secretary that it is intended as a prelude to a sort of Zollverein or Customs Union throughout the British Empire. Now, speaking for myself, I cannot summarily dismiss any proposal for the closer union of the British Empire, because it has been the ideal of more than the last twenty years of my life. I do not say that Free Trade is a fetish, a religious dogma, which must be accepted and applied on all occasions, without consideration or reservation. I can imagine a country which had shrunk and crumbled under Free Trade being willing to divorce itself from its principles, and embark on a new career; but I confess that is not the case with us—(cheers)—and I confess I should be cautious in exchanging a system under which our prosperity has grown by leaps and bounds, for the attraction of any possible advantage to be derived from any other contingent principle. It is, in effect, to ask us to exchange the rule of commercial peace, under which we have prospered, for commercial war all over the world; and the war, the commercial war, will be formidable even to those who consider our expenditure of £230,000,000 a fleabite.

But I have one further objection to this, which I should like to mention. We have handed over to all our Colonies the control of their fiscal system. Well, I confess it seems to me a great demand at this period of our history that, for some unknown advantages, we should be called upon to give up the control of ours; for, depend upon it, that is what it would amount to. What counterbalancing advantages are there to be gained by adopting this course? I do not know; my mind is open, and I shall wait to hear. Until I hear, and am convinced by the detail of those advantages, I shall be satisfied to accept and to follow the wise and weighty words of Lord Salisbury in his last speech, where he urged the people of this country not to be in a hurry to compromise their great and inevitable destiny by entering into protective arrangements for the closer union of the Empire on a basis which had not been examined.

Chancellor of the Exchequer receives a Deputation.

On Saturday the Chancellor of the Exchequer received a deputation from London and provincial horse owners—representing an ownership of over half a million horses—who desired to point out

Captain Jessel, in introducing the deputation, pointed out that oats and maize formed the staple food of horses, and there was no known substitute. The horse owners were not in a position to bear the new tax. The prices of horses had very much increased, owing to the war, and it was calculated that the price would not fall for some three years, owing to army requirements. Electric traction already made it difficult for them to make a living. The London General Omnibus Company last year, with its million of capital, only earned £2,000. The new tax would cost from 16s. to £1 per horse per annum, or about £12,000 a year.

Mr. James Scott, on behalf of the cab trade, said the new tax would cost the London cab trade at least £21,000 per annum, or 15s. per horse, and it was a direct tax on an already overtaxed industry. It would be equal to 2s. 6d. income tax on their profits. Other representatives having spoken,

The Chancellor of the Exchequer replied. He said the deputation appeared to think that those employed in the businesses represented consumed a very large proportion of the corn on which the tax would fall. He thought that had been exaggerated very much, but, however that might be, he thought they must see that it would be impossible for him to agree to the views they had put before him to give up the tax, or to give up the tax on the two principal articles consumed, which were oats and maize. There was no reason why oats and maize should be exempt from the duty of corn than that wheat or articles consumed as human food should be exempt. He could hold out no hope that he could take any course of that kind. Just a year ago he was obliged to impose a duty on sugar, when consumers using sugar as an article of manufacture came to him and said they would be ruined, as they would not be able to raise the price. He was obliged to reply that they could pass it on to the consumer, and also that he thought lower prices for raw material would prevail i nthe future. Both those things had happened, and he thought the horse owners would be able to pass the registration duty on to the consumers as they ought to, and he also thought the present prices were exceptional, and they might look forward to lower prices in the future. He would consider the question of the cab proprietors, because they appeared to be limited in their charges by Act of Parliament, and could not pass the tax to the consumer. He did not think that could be met by altering the tax; but in another way he might have to communicate with the Home Office, and would communicate with the deputation further on the subject.

SAMPLES.

By a Man of Mark Lane.

The receipts on account of revenue from the 1st April, 1902, when there was a balance of £8,566,947, to May 24th, 1902, were £22,627,067, as against £19,051,925 in the corresponding period of the preceding financial year, which commenced with a balance of £5,596,918. The net expenditure was £30,628,482, as against £31,723,231 to the corresponding date in the previous year. The Treasury balances on May 24th, 1902, amounted to £6,358,367, and at the corresponding date of 1901 to £5,803,493.

The Technical Instruction Committee of the East Suffolk County Council have made arrangements to conduct a party of Suffolk farmers in Ireland during July to visit co-operative creameries and butter factories, and otherwise see the working of farmers' co-operative societies. I need hardly mention that during the past eleven years there has been a great revival in the dairy and farming industries in Ireland, due to the establishment of co-operative societies, of which there are now 446 in operation, and to the spread of technical instruction. It is thought that if the Suffolk farmers were to combine for the sale of their produce and for the purchase of fertilisers and feeding stuffs, as the Danes and Irish have done with so much benefit to themselves, the Suffolk farmer would be in a more flourishing condition, and the main object of the excursion to Ireland is to study the methods and principles of farming co-operation.

On the question of the Education Bill, the Hampshire County Council unanimously, on Monday, passed a resolution expressing the opinion that the additional expenditure on education rendered necessary by the Bill should not be raised out of the rates. The Earl of Northbrook remarked that real property was already too highly charged, and said that a deputation from the County Councils' Association would probably wait on the Government with regard to the subject. The representations that would be made appeared to him to be based on equity, and, so far as he could see, they would be very difficult to answer. Mr. A. F. Jeffreys, M.P., thought it would be reasonable if the Imperial Exchequer bore half the charge, and the other half was paid out of the rates. He observed that those who paid School Board rates ought to hail the Bill with acclamation, because it would relieve them of a portion of the rate by spreading it over the whole country. Mr. Evelyn Ashley urged that the whole of compulsory education should be supported by the Government, and only the cost of secondary and technical education borne by the rates.

Mr. Mansfield has given notice that he will ask the President of the Board of Trade to-morrow (Tuesday) whether he will arrange an inquiry into railway rates for agricultural produce, with a view to the rates for home produce being reduced to those charged for similar traffic from abroad.



By a Lobbyist.

I have never accepted the assurance put forward by quidnuncs who, professing to know the secrets of the Cabinet, have never been allowed to go farther than the back-door of Downing Street, that the Government intend to abandon the corn and flour duties. Of course, the hypothesis on which this assumption was based was that the War would soon be over, and that the money which would be raised by the duties would not be needed. If the Government followed the policy of abandonment they would create a grievous sense of disappointment in all but a very small section of their followers. It is true that there are a small body of Conservatives who oppose the duties, but they represent Northern constituencies, and are moved entirely by the fear that the traditional hate of Protection among the masses may operate to their electoral disadvantage. The party as a party are in favour of the duties, and whole-heartedly in favour of them. Their appreciation has been secured by two facts —the first is that the duties are another deliberate attempt to enlarge the basis of taxation, and the second is that the duties are another expression of sympathy with agriculture. I have no hesitation in saying that the abandonment of this purpose—and it must not be forgoten that it is only Radicals who prophecy it—would be sternly and even bitterly resented.

There is one interesting point which should convey a lesson to the observant politician. The original venom which was showered upon what is rather fallaciously called the bread tax has practically disappeared. The Radicals have allowed it to be supplanted by hate of the Education Bill, which means, in this instance, hate of Church and Voluntary Education. You have mass meetings arranged here, there, and everywhere against the Education Bill, at which the parsons are denounced with dervish-like fanaticism. You have no multitudinous mass meetings against the bread tax—the agitation simmered at first, but then it sank down to the spasmodic and splenetic feebleness of the National Democratic League. This organisation is a body which seeks to supplant the orthodox forces in Liberalism. It seeks to capture the Liberal machinery to its own semi-socialistic, Quixotic ends. In allying its fortunes to this bread tax business, it has been guilty of harnessing itself to a dead body. The most elementary of all physical laws teaches us that it is not the dead body which becomes inspired; the contagion of death will affect the live body. At all events, this much is certain—that the agitation is played out. No cheers can be evoked by it, the orators are uninspiring and flabby, their periods have no true ring, and their appeal to a fanciful misery which they declare battened on our past is only picturesque. To abandon the tax would, therefore please none but a few manœuvering schismatics. To persist with it—to enlarge the basis of taxation, and to hold out another friendly hand to agriculture—would mean the satisfaction and the gratification of practically the entire Tory body.

"We should be in revolt if the tax were abandoned," said a popular Southern Tory M.P. to me. And I really believe that this sentence aptly describes the present temper of Conservatism.

Surely Lord Rosebery, in his distaste of the Education Bill, allows himself to too readily accept the assurance of the Radical Nonconformists? Because some person or other at Kettering—a man who is unknown to fame, and who may have as much pretension to authority as the ordinary man in the street —says that the rate under the Education Bill will amount in rural districts to sixpence in the pound, his lordship accepts the calculation unquestioningly. Would he not have been wiser to have demanded the bases on which the calculation is reared? At all events, every authority whom I have been able to consult in reference to the matter discounts the assertion. If, however, it be justified, then it should lend a new force to the agitation to which Major Rasch has given his popular personality—the agitation whose purpose is to make Education an Imperial rather than a local charge. Lord Rosebery himself perceives that it is only by making it an Imperial charge that we can as a nation secure an effective and progressive educational system. The mere fact is — and Major Rasch and his friends have admirably emphasised this—that while Education is a local charge, you place in the hands of the needy, the penurious, and the ill-paid rate-payer a distinct inducement to use his electoral privileges only for the purpose of stunting Education. If Major Rasch and his friends are wise, they will associate themselves with Lord Rosebery over this business. Once make Education an Imperial charge, and you will remove the sting of the attacks upon the religious education of the villages.

The budget-intention of the Government to extend a more sympathetic hand towards agriculture has been followed by a quickened and more intelligent interest on the part of the general body of Members. The subject was unenthusing as compared with the lurid issues that have occupied the political firmament, but it must be confessed that the debate on the salaries and expenses of the Board of Agriculture was practically intelligent and valuable. The questions of unadulterated milk, of margarine that masquerades as butter, of the anomaly of muzzling sheep-dogs, while allowing sporting dogs to be exempt, of the purity of feeding stuffs, of agricultural education, of railway rates, of the importation of foreign cattle—all these were pertinent to the hour, and they had associated with them a debating force and ability that, I believe, has not been associated with what I may describe as purely agricultural advocacy for many a year. But how is it that all these grievances, all these excellent points, were left for just a formal hour or two in the session? Surely the welfare of agriculture—and there was scarcely one of these points that was not apposite to the debate and the subject—might have been the subject of one or two interrogations? I agree that the practice of accumulating questions upon questions has grown into somewhat of a nuisance. That is no reason why, however, agriculture should be given the go-by by the interrogators. It is the great national interest of the country, but if Parliamentary experience be accepted as an evidence, there is not an anomaly, a grievance which has demanded an explanation from the Minister for Agriculture. Apposite as was the debate on Tuesday some of the points had lost their immediacy.

The most significant point in this debate was not the re-enunciation of Mr. Hanbury's purpose—not the revived declaration that he is desirous of making the cavalry a source of profit to the farmers, not even the declaration that the Board is desirous of placing English farmers under the same favourable conditions as the Irish farmers, not even the evidence of his desire (a little less stalwart, methinks, than it once was) to deal with the railway rates' tyranny, not even the announcement that he intends to introduce a Bill dealing with sheep-worrying, and not even his refusal to open the English ports to Argentine cattle while there can be any doubt as to the non-existence of disease in that country. The most significant point was Mr. Hanbury's open and frank appeal to the Chancellor of the Exchequer to be more generous in his grant to the Board, and thus to enable it to complete and practicalise its machinery. I hold that the first necessity in connection with the Board of Agriculture is not legislative enthusiasm. The first necessity is its re-organisation and its development. The Board will never realise the hopes of the best men in agriculture unless it has something of the character of the Canadian or the Irish organisations. I wonder if Sir Michael Hicks-Beach was impressed by Mr. Hanbury's hardihood.



British Farmers in Hungary.

Can any practical good be secured by a mixed party of nearly fifty farmers, and others, visiting a highly cultivated district in Central Europe? The experiment is being made, and although we must await the results, we can watch the progress of the party with some interest and present profit. A good deal depends upon the individuals forming the group of visitors, but still more upon their hosts and guides.

The bulk of the visitors are Essex farmers, joined by others from Hertford, Lancashire, etc. The remainder are representatives of the Irish Board of Agriculture, the Highland Society, the chairman of the Barley, Judges, Brewers' Exhibition, the Cambridge Technical School, and the ardent and indefatigable head of the Essex Technical School, Mr. T. S. Dymond, upon whom the chief onus of forming and conducting the party has fallen. A number of the Instruction Committee and the chairman are with him, so with their united efforts matters work very smoothly.

The total number of the specially conducted party in Hungary is nearly fifty, including the three Hungarian leaders who give up their whole time to the safe guidance of their guests through the great number of arrangements made for the benefit of their English friends. Mr. Gyargy Endre is well known in all parts of Britain as the Agricultural Commissioner of the Royal Hungarian Government. He is ably assisted by Mr. Goger, Secretary to the Minister for Agriculture, and by Mr. Szilassy, Secretary of the National Agricultural Society. All these gentlemen spare no effort to add to the interest and comfort of everyone. The State has offered the most lavish hospitality, and is aided by the Municipality of Buda Pesth, by Count Karolyi, Count Erdödy, and many others who entertain in Royal fashion. The estates and farms they so freely show are perfectly managed and present numberless object lessons, some of which may be fruitfully remembered.

The task undertaken is a very serious and arduous one. Hungarian management of nearly all matters agricultural has been of a high order for more than a century. The successive Ministers for Agriculture have realised their duties and nobly striven to perform them for the greatest good of their country. Not one has been more vigilant and efficient than the present holder of the office, His Excellency Dr. Ignacius Darányi, to whose great courtesy and interest in the visit of English farmers the undoubted success of the visit may be attributed. Every chief point in agriculture has already been presented to them, and, without exception, in an admirable manner. State farms and institutions, some of which have been under absolute State control for very many years, in cases exceeding a century, private estates, belonging to noblemen of great wealth, enterprise, and patriotism, and wide stretches of country, owned and worked by peasants, have all alike, with utter impartiality and fairness, been submitted to scrutiny, keen inspection, and impartial criticism. In every instance there has been a strong feeling of approval of the methods adopted, but, as might easily be expected, the cultivation by peasant proprietors of small patches of ground, not equalling half a rood in area, cannot possibly be satisfactory from any point of view. Yet the visitors were impressed with the diligence, skill, and economy shown. Weeds were practically invisible, and not an inch of space between plots or separate proprietorship could be detected over wide areas of often many square miles in extent.

Peasants working with insufficient capital and with little or no machinery cannot be expected to secure the best results. Yet no intelligent man could see the actual produce of their labour with-

out feeling impressed, not only with its goodness, but with the large amount of guidance they must have had in their work.

Examination of the State farms speedily revealed the cause. Schools and other State institutions for every item only indirectly relating to farmers' duties, have been steadily working on exceedingly practical and economical lines for generations, and in no single instance can the State be accused of acting in any other way than in the best interests of agriculture and for the good of the State. Already the British farmers have seen, under complete State control, vast estates and farms managed in admirable fashion, for exceedingly diverse purposes. But in no single instance have they detected a solitary case of neglect, mismanagement, or lavish outlay. In the first week of their visit they have closely inspected many widely diverse branches of agriculture, including horse, cattle, and all other stock breeding, poultry farming bee-keeping, arboriculture, and horticulture, dairy work, wine making, and the necessary experimental stations to successfully conduct the same.

In carrying out all this a number of special experimental stations have been established, and they are all, without exception, conducted most successfully on admirable lines. In every instance the fullest care had been given to the minutest detail, but in no case can lavish outlay be detected. In the stud farms the huge stables could not be more substantially built at less cost. Two, three, and, in some cases, four sides of a square with buildings over a hundred yards long and twenty to thirty yards wide, seem gigantic, yet they are admirably adapted to their purpose, and the perfect condition and health of every type of horse shows the wisdom of the arrangement. Huge cow sheds, each allowing ample space, and the fullest accommodation for from 240 to 300 cows, sheltered superb herds it would be difficult to match in Britain.

Out in the open, fields die-square, many of them over 100 acres in area, and in most cases perfectly level, were carrying superb crops of rye, reaching in some cases to 7 and 8 feet high. Very promising fields of wheat and sundry diverse forms of fodder were growing, but the oats and barley were not quite up to the other standards, Necessarily, the advanced position Hungary has taken with regard to co-operation stood well to the front, and quite deservedly so. It seems as if the whole aim of the State and of every State official is to do all things in reason to improve any and every industry, directly or indirectly, connected with agriculture. They give themselves up accordingly quite cheerfully to the collection of eggs by co-operative methods, and have established a great trade in this fragile product in Hungary and with other countries, notably Britain. Cream, butter, pork, honey, and many such things are all taken with equal seriousness and zeal. The result is as astonishing as it is satisfactory. No State could possibly spend money more effectively and to better purpose than Hungary is doing in its agricultural stations. Some of these embrace the oldest technical instruction schools in Europe. Yet they are admirably fitted up and are replete with much that cannot fail to impress every intelligent mind with the admirable skill and judgment shown in the disposal of space, and in the purchase of stock-in-trade and apparatus.

In every department subject to State control is to be found, as a leading principle, economy, and alongside of it, with even more striking results, is efficiency. In addition, throughout every one of the State departments is to be found complete domination of all stock by kindness and love. Some of the most impressive sights to English eyes were the utter docility and quietness of every class of stock. Thoroughbreds of priceless value, such as Bona Vista, were as amenable to the influences of a lump of sugar as any domestic pet in any farmsteading in Britain.

All types of stock seem to live happily and to thrive. Some of them have in time become endued with a keen sense of sport. Probably no sight will have an equal lasting and good result in the minds of the farmers who saw it, than the natural race between 170 highly bred two and three year olds. Led round a large, wide course by four horsemen, with the long, loud whips so much used in Hungary, young stock tried to break through and have a race amongst themselves. At the proper time they were allowed to do so, and the zest with which they raced and thundered round the course was a very impressive spectacle.

It was one which is illustrative of so many of the things new to English farmers' eyes. For generations every effort has been made to encourage and help breeders to improve their stock. Very costly and perfect English and Arab sires have been acquired and placed at farmers' service at such prices and terms as to bring them within the reach of small farmers. As a consequence, the country is full of high-blooded stock of great beauty and usefulness.

All the institutions have been thrown open to the visitors in the fullest manner. Competent guides who could speak English fluently were found everywhere, and in some cases the trouble had been taken to have labels printed in English. In the experimental stations for determining the character of soils, value of manures, and diseases of plants, with their causes and cures, these labels were of great advantage. These stations for the seed testing academy at Buda Pesth made every one feel the difference in the methods of work in Britain, and proved the utility and advantages of a central station for such purposes.

In many instances these farms are worked at little or no cost. In some cases they are said to produce a profit. From the skill and care shown this is quite credible.

(To be continued.)

IN PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

The Board of Agriculture.

On Tuesday the vote of £25,716 for the Board of Agriculture came up for passing, and some remarks were then made on the work of the Board by various speakers. Sir Edward Strachey moved the reduction of the vote b y£100. He asked it Mr. Hanbury was satisfied with the working of the Food and Drugs Act of 1899, under which instructions were given to local authorities to have samples of the butter, cheese, and milk sold within their districts analysed from time to time. He had heard serious complaints from the great cities, especially from London, lately to the effect that the local authorities were not doing their duty in the matter. He thought that the Board of Agriculture should send around their inspectors occasionally to see whether the local inspectors under the Food and Drugs Act were doing their duty properly, as there was a very strong feeling indeed, that the Act was not carried out as it should be. A large quantity of butter with which margarine was mixed was still sold, and he believed that this practice would not be stopped until it was forbidden to colour margarine to represent butter. The question of milk-blended butter was also one which urgently required attention, but the President of the Board of Agriculture had already informed them that it was necessary to deal with the matter by legislation.

Other matters were commented upon by Mr. Lambert, Mr. Lloyd-Morgan, Mr. J. Hutton, Dr. Farquharson, Colonel Lockwood, Mr. Crombie, Mr. Macdona, Mr. Mansfield, Sir James Rankin, Mr. H. Lewis, Mr. Humphreys-Owen, Mr. Wharton, Mr. Eugene Wason, Mr. C. H. Seely, Mr. J. A. Dewar, Mr. H. Johnstone, and Sir J. Kinloch.

Mr. Hanbury replied to the various criticisms. With regard to the operations of the new Act dealing with the sale of food and drugs, he observed that in some of the towns of the kingdom the Act was not sufficiently carried out. The local authorities must be given time to use their powers, but if it was found that they did not use them he had a reserve force to back him up which would enable him to take the matter into his own hands. He would not hesitate to act if necessary. He had not evidence in his possession to justify the allegation which had been made that margarine was still sold as butter. As to the use of preservatives, personally, he had no wish to encourage their use in agricultural products, as he thought we ought to have these articles as pure as we could get them. (Hear, hear.) With reference to the improved breeding of horses, he regretted that the funds available for the purpose were not in the hands of his department. He might at some future time be able to induce the Chancellor of the Exchequer to aid farmers in this could do much more than they did at present to direction. But after all he thought the farmers help themselves. As to education, he agreed that the teaching in rural schools should be of that nature best suited to the needs of the children, and in regard to agricultural training colleges he mentioned that grants were given to these institutions by the Government. There was no need that the opportunities afforded by these colleges should be embraced exclusively by sons of farmers. It seemed to him that land and estate agents and others engaged in occupations in touch with agriculture might take advantage of the training given in these colleges. The question of remounts was one which had engaged his attention, and he had suggested to the War Office that they should say exactly the kind and number of horses they required for remounts, and that this information should be placed in the hands of farmers. He also thought that the army buyer should be placed in close touch with the farmers of the country. He gave his adherence to the effectiveness of the muzzling order, and said that if there was any sign of rabies breaking out he would have no hesitation in again enforcing the order.

With regard to dogs taken out of the country and brought home again, he did not think any precautions he had taken to prevent the spread of disease too severe. Hitherto a person bringing a dog from abroad was compelled to keep it in his house for three months before it was allowed to go free. That regulation was repeatedly broken, and he was compelled to make a new regulation. After all, he had to consider the public interest and the public health, and not the convenience of a small body of people, and he did not think they had any right to complain that, instead of keeping their pet dogs in their own houses for three months, observation. He was glad to say that swine fever during the first three months of this year had decreased in a very marked degree, there having been fewer cases than in any of the last six or seven years. He was exceedingly sorry, however, that anthrax, instead of decreasing, was gaining ground. He regretted that there was an almost incomprehensible amount of ignorance on this subject, and he wished the newspapers and the agricultural societies would assist the Board in disseminating information on the subject. He was doing his best, in consultation with the President of the Board of Trade, in regard to railway rates. The milk standard had, upon the whole, worked well, although it was a low one. If he had put it any higher, however, he might have done great injustice to the smaller men; and there was no possibility of raising it at present.

He felt that the Argentine in the future was going to become such a very important source of supply to this country that its cattle trade with us ought to be put upon a really steady footing, especially if the supply from the United States fell off, as he thought it gradually would. He wanted to be specially cautious before opening our ports to Argentine cattle, because it would be fatal if, after they had been opened, they had to be closed on account of an outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease. He had, therefore, represented to the Argentine Republic that we were practically their sole customers, and that they ought to take the most stringent precautions against any possible introduction of disease into their own country. He thought we had every right to expect that the Argentine Government should take precautions similar to our own, because any outbreak of disease might have the effect of again stopping the importation of cattle, which would be bad, both for Argentina and the consumers of meat in this country. He hoped to be able to introduce a Bill dealing with sheep worrying in Scotland, but he had received many representations upon the same subject from England, and he desired that his legislation should extend to the whole of Great Britain. Although he might introduce a Bill, he did not hope to pass it this session. It, however, might be fruitful of suggestions.

The amendment was, by leave, withdrawn, and the vote agreed to.

"Mark Lane Express" Diary.

June.

3. Wiltshire Agricultural Association's Show, at Swindon.
3. Meeting of the Central Chamber.
3. Sale of Hackney and Harness Horses belonging to Mr. J. Howell, at Llanmaes Stud, near Cardiff.
3. Meeting of the Shorthorn Society.
4. Yealmpton Agricultural Society's Show.
4. Meeting of the Council of the R.A.S.E.
4. Annual General Meeting of the Highland and Agricultural Society.
5. Renfrewshire Agricultural Society's Show, at Paisley.
5 and 6. Suffolk Agricultural Society's Show, at Paisley.
5 and 6. Shropshire and West Midland Agricultural Society's Show, at Shrewsbury.
6. Kintyre Agricultural Society's Show, at Campeltown.
6. Sale of the late Mr. G. Ashburner's Herd of Shorthorns, at Low Hall, Kirkby-in-Furness.
7. Ashton-under-Lyne Agricultural Society's Show.
7. Colne Agricultural Society's Show.
10. Huntingdonshire Agricultural Society's Show, at St. Neots.
10, 11, 12, and 13. Royal Counties Agricultural Society's Show, at Reading.
11. Edinburgh Agricultural Association's Show.
11 and 12. Northants Agricultural Society's Show, at Daventry.
11 and 12. Royal Cornwall Agricultural Association's Show.
11. Meeting of the Council of the British Dairy Farmers' Association.
11. Sale of Mr. W. H. Hubble's entire herd of Pure-bred Sussex Cattle, at Hunton Court, Hunton, Kent.
11, 12, and 13. Horse Sales at Wrexham.
12. Waltham Cross and Three Counties Horse and Foal Show.
12. Sale of Mr. D'Arcy Reeve's Shorthorns, at Friars Matfield, Paddock Wood, Kent.
12. Meeting of the Yorkshire Union, at York.
13. Stirling Agricultural Society's Show, at Stirling.
13 and 14. Richmond (Surrey) Horse Show, at Richmond.
14. Ossett Agricultural Society's Show
14. Ramsbottom and District Agricultural Society's Show, at Ramsbottom.

Carlisle Hirings.—At the second hirings at Carlisle, on the 24th ult., there was a good attendance of servants, and high wages were asked. Best men received £17 for the half-year, and a large number found places at £13 to £15; boys, £5 or £6. Women were scarce, and obtained up to £13.

On Monday last at West Newton, on the Sandringham estate, Sir Dighton Probyn represented the King at the funeral of Mr. Edward Thomas Sheringham, his Majesty's oldest tenant. Mr. Sheringham was 72 years of age, and took over his farm seven years before his Majesty purchased the estate in 1861. Canon Hervey, domestic chaplain to the King, officiated at the funeral, which was attended by the other tenants on the estate.

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Mr. Hanbury on Milk-Blended Butter.

On Tuesday Mr. Hanbury, the President of the Board of Agriculture, received at the House of Commons a deputation representing the provision trade, organised by the Home and Foreign Produce Exchange and the Butter Association, who urged upon the right hon. gentleman the necessity of fresh legislation with a view to prohibiting the sale of butter substitutes, and so-called butter which contained more than 16 per cent. of water.

In introducing the deputation, Mr. A. K. Lloyd, K.C., M.P., said that mixing milk with butter was a practice resorted to to increase the weight, and it was unfair to the consumer and producer. The term "butter" ought to be restricted to produce answering the description laid down by the Board of Agriculture, and the deputation asked for legislation to that effect.

Mr. Reeves, Agent-General for New Zealand, said that for several years the colony had been trying to produce a first-class butter. Exportation of inferior goods of this kind was prohibited; but a good deal was done to their butter by middlemen in London before it reached the hands of the consumer. In many instances it was mixed with an inferior quality; milk was added and the whole churned up, and then sold as "best milk-blended butter." If this practice went on the character of New Zealand produce would be ruined. The Colonies would be more severely affected by the malpractice than the home producer, who, being nearer the market, could look after himself. He was glad to see present Mr. H. Allerdale Grainger, Agent-General for South Australia; Mr. Alfred Dobson, Agent-General for Tasmania, and acting for Victoria; and the Hon. Henry Copeland, Agent-General for New South Wales, who would, he was sure, agree with what he had said.

In reply, Mr. Hanbury said he thought this was an instance in which one of our great industries was being attacked. It was a subject which affected the Mother Country and the Colonies alike; but the Colonies, probably, would suffer most severely. It was hard on them, after they had worked up and developed a trade, and had produced a good sound butter, that it should be meddled with. It had been said that by means of blending an inferior butter could be made good in quality. The production of any inferior article would in no way be encouraged by the Board of Agriculture. Some people claimed that this was a proper form of competition, but with such a view he could not agree. Adulteration was once legitimate, but that was some time ago. It was necessary that they should protect the consumer. As a matter of theory, it was very pretty to put up a notice saying that the butter contained such an amount of moisture, but the public could not, as a whole, understand what was meant. These notices were not sufficient. Regret had been expressed that the Board of Agriculture had not done something with regard to these notices before; but they could not, as the law allowed the sale of blended butter so long as the amount of excess moisture was stated. He thought the intention of Parliament was that nothing that contained an excess of moisture had a right to be called butter. He could see no object for introducing the milk but to increase the weight, and, if that were the case, legislation was necessary. The right hon. gentleman suggested that the matter should be left in his hands, and he would place it before his colleagues.

The deputation thanked Mr. Hanbury for his courteous reception and then withdrew.

British Dairy Conference.

The annual conference arranged by the British Dairy Farmers' Association, which commences on Tuesday next and extends until the following Friday, promises to be of great interest. It is the first occasion on which the association has visited the home counties, and a much larger attendance of members than usual is expected. The President of the Association (the Earl of Warwick) will preside at the opening gathering at Reading College, at which the Right Hon. R. W. Hanbury, M.P., the President of the Board of Agriculture, has promised to be present. The chairman of the conference is Mr. George Barham, J.P., who occupied a similar position on the occasion of the very successful conferences in Denmark and Sweden and the Channel Islands. Twenty members of the Council have signified their intention of being present.

The proceedings on the opening day will commence with a visit to the British Dairy Institute, the work of which is carried on in connection with the Reading College, under the auspices of the British Dairy Farmers' Association.

Papers will be read on three days, viz.: on "Practical and theoretical instruction in dairying," by Mr. Mills Benson (chief instructor at the institute), and Prof. Douglas Gilchrist (director of the Agricultural Department of Reading College), respectively, at Reading; by the Countess of Warwick, at Oxford, on "The marketing of dairy produce"; and by Prof. Long, at Buckingham, on "Some facts in relation to modern dairying."

Interesting visits will be paid to the dairy and poultry farm of Mr. Walter Palmer, M.P., at Winkfield; to Dr. Watney's farm and herd of Jerseys at Buckhold, Pangbourne; to Blenheim Park, by kind invitation of the Duke of Marlborough; to Mr. N. Coates's farms and stock at Hillesden; and to Lord Rothschild's herds and farm at Tring Park.

The conference at Reading will commence at 10 a.m. in the hall of Reading College. At Oxford, the place of meeting will be the Assembly Room, Municipal Buildings, and the hour 10.30; and at Buckingham the conference will be held in the Town Hall, at 11 a.m., when Lord Addington will welcome the members on behalf of the Bucks Dairy Farmers' Association.

All dairy farmers, whether members of the Association or not, are invited to take part in the several discussions.

Lancaster Hirings.—The second Whitsun hiring was held at Lancaster on the 24th ult., when there was a much larger number of male and female servants than the previous week. First-class men obtained £17 to £20; second-class, £10 to £15; and females £7 to £20.

Market Rasen Hirings.—There was not quite such a large attendance at the Market Rasen second hiring, held on Tuesday, and the high prices of the previous week were with difficulty maintained. Lads obtained £7 to £9, and those with experience up to £14; second waggoners, £16 and £17; and first waggoners, £18 to £22. General servants obtained £11 to £16.

A Leith Grain Warehouse Gutted.—A destructive fire raged on Sunday morning at the grain warehouse of Messrs Berry, Barclay, and Co., Salamander Road, Leith. Between 4,000 and 5,000 quarters of grain in bulk and in sacks, and about 40,000 empty sacks, were consumed, and the building was destroyed. The loss, which is believed to be covered by insurance, is estimated at about £10,000, independently of the building.

LITERARY NOTICES.

His Majesty the King has been graciously pleased to accept from Mr. Charles W. Smith a copy of his latest work, "The South African War and the 'Bear' Operator."

In our notice of Mr. C. W. Smith's last book entitled "The South African War and the 'Bear' Operator," we unfortunately stated the price at which it was published to have been 4s. This is not the case, as the book is published at 2s.

The current number of the "Nature-Study Journal," published by the South-Eastern College, Wye, Kent, contains articles on "An Hour with the Balance," by A. E. Chandler; "The Metamorphosis of Frogs," by F. Gee; "A Glance at a Bee Hive," by J. Banter; and "Flower Shapes." A letter is printed from Professor Miall, of the Yorkshire College, on collecting leaves and flowers, while reviews, editorial notes, etc., complete the contents of a very interesting number of this instructive and useful little magazine.

"The Suffolk Horse: What He Is, and Where to Find Him," is the title of a booklet issued by the Suffolk Horse Society from their Woodbridge Office. In the introduction it is stated that the booklet is issued for the convenience of those not familiar with the Eastern Counties. Inquiries are repeatedly addressed to breeders and exhibitors for information as to character and description of the breed of horses for so many years associated with the county of Suffolk; and where, with limited time at their disposal, intending purchasers residing at a distance can most readily meet with what they are in search of.

The Great Eastern Railway Company have reissued their guide, entitled "Holidays in Eastern Counties," by Mr. Percy Lindley. The same beautiful illustrations are retained, and, as before, prominence has been given to some less known districts in East Anglia.

Messrs. John Thornton and Co., of 7, Princes Street, Hanover Square, London, W., have issued a Coronation year edition of their list of shows, races, and sales from May to October. The list is very complete, being intended mainly for the use of Colonial and foreign visitors.

A defence of free trade is attempted by Lord Avebury in "Free Trade and British Commerce," a booklet which has just been issued by the Cobden Club. Plentiful statistics are given to show the increase in our commerce and imports since 1850, while towards the end of the brochure the lack of commercial education and the general backwardness of British boys are deplored.

Messrs. J. T. Hobson and Co. have issued a new catalogue for 1902, in which will be found description and prices of every sort of poultry and pigeons' houses, duck houses, coops, etc., bicycle house, dog kennels, portable wood buildings, coach houses, and stables, cricket pavilions, greenhouses, bullock bins, gates, etc. As an instance of the public appreciation of the goods manufactured by Messrs. Hobson a large number of testimonials have been printed and issued in a booklet by the firm.

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By Hordeum.

Fuel.

The consumption of fuel for sweating and drying has long been a matter of much moment to maltsters. The question of cost is serious, but the quality and effectiveness of the work done is much more important. Recently another aspect has been added to the whole question, as it seems we must admit that some classes of fuel can make the unpleasant addition to malt of arsenic.

As this last phase of the question is only very recent and is being subject to a very searching inquiry, we must wait till the Royal Commission favours us with its views and conclusions, if it arrives at any of a type that may interfere with the conduct of the malting trade, or the construction of the buildings used, and machinery employed. Much evidence has been given already, but it is understood more will follow. It is premature, and may be idle, or worse, to attempt to anticipate the result.

Two-floor Kilns

thus far have proved of advantage, where defective fuel has been burned, and it is surprising their use has not become more general, owing to the other advantages they possess. Doubtless economy is of value in its way, but soundness in drying should always be considered first. It seems obvious that malt cannot ever be heated uniformly on a single floor in any ordinary open kiln. The bottom inch must inevitably vary widely from the top one, and no ordinary amount of turning can rectify the matter.

Yet the right temperature for sound drying does not admit of wide variation. It is true some maltsters hold that malt is thoroughly dried and cured at 185 degrees, whilst others prefer to reach 230 degrees, when possible, but even these wide extremes do not equal the actual differences sometimes found in large single kilns of defective build.

Air Outlets

ten times the size of all the combined inlets will allow down draughts and cross currents of curious types that lead to the heat at one point on a floor, rising far in access of that to be found in other positions, sometimes only a few feet away.

Inadequate outlets will often lead to even more serious influences in the earlier stages of drying when the grain is still soaked with wet. As measured by degrees Fahrenheit, there may seem to be fair uniformity, but at this stage a variation, if only ten degrees, can do harm. Colour is very easily given, so long as much moisture remains, and if the work that air ought to do, has to be thrown upon the fuel, it is unsafe and costly.

Moisture is best carried away by a free current of air, and this can only be done where outlets and inlets are of

Proper Proportions.

Too small inlets are quite as frequent a source of mischief as too large outlets. Some sort of rough gauge can be applied by determining the actual amount of work done. When one kiln burns double the quantity of coal to dry off a hundred quarters that another takes to do the same work, it will pay any maltster to find out the reason. Yet there are many kilns in which the differences are greater than two to one.

The kiln should be employed which gives a result of 30 or 35 quarters malt dried to the ton of coal burned. No great amount of trouble is involved in determining this matter. As a matter of business detail, the actual efficiency of every kiln should be determined for every

Season's Work.

The quantity of malt dried, or barley steeped, is generally known, and very little care is needed to determine the amount of coal used. Probably no other item of account pays so well to check. Certainly few other calculations are so useful and valuable, and in all cases where uncertainty exists it ought not to be allowed to continue. In other cases where no attempt is made to keep an account, the sooner the practice is altered the better. If it is impracticable for a whole season there is no difficulty in trying it for a limited time, but as the state of the air has a good deal to do with drying, the results for any short period are apt to prove delusive. In that case all kilns should be tested at the same time, not one after another.



Damage by Rabbits.

A case of much interest to tenant farmers was heard by his Honour Judge Austin at Axbridge County Court, on Wednesday. Messrs. William Ed. Collings and John James Collings, tenants of the Cross Brewery Farm at Compton Bishop, claimed £20 from Mr. William Yatman, as damages caused by the last-named by overstocking the common land at Compton Bishop Manor, and thereby injuring the pasturage. The claim was made up as follows:—£3 15s. paid by the plaintiffs for grazing elsewhere than on his own land 60 sheep, which would otherwise have been pastured on the Common; and £16 5s., the estimated loss for keep of sheep on their own land, in consequence of being unable to prepare it for mowing. It was alleged that the defendant had failed to keep down the rabbits on the Common within reasonable limits from March, 1901, whereby the pasturage had been destroyed to an unreasonable amount, and the land had been seriously damaged that there was no longer sufficient keep, and the sheep would not stay upon it. Mr. Parfitt appeared for the plaintiffs, and Mr. H. R. Wansbrough for the defendant.

Mr. Parfitt said that the respondent was the lessee of some shooting rights over the Manor of Compton Bishop. The action was not brought to assert any rights, but merely against the lessee of the shooting rights to recover damages on the ground that he had allowed the common land to be overrun to an unreasonable extent by rabbits. The plaintiffs claimed the common pasturage in respect of their holdings. He thought he would be able to satisfy his Honour that, whereas up to 1900, the rabbits were kept down, since Mr. Yatman became lessee he had allowed them to increase to an unreasonable extent on the waste, and the result was that the tnants were unable to pasture their sheep there. This was an interference by Mr. Yatman to the common rights of the plaintiffs, to have their sheep pasturage upon this waste. The plaintiffs would say that up to 1900 there was sufficient pasturage left to pasture the sheep, but that now practically there was none at all. The plaintiffs did not deny Mr. Yatman's rights to the shooting, but they thought he had no right to take the privileges without the responsibilities.

William Edward Collings said that he and his brother were joint tenants of the Cross Brewery Farm. Until Mr. Yatman came the number of rabbits was always kept down. He then had the privilege of keeping down the number of rabbits himself. Up to that time he had often hunted half a day and not found one rabbit, but now there were hundreds. Up to May, 1900, he kept about 200 sheep on the waste land, but since the rabbits had increased so he had had to allow the sheep to go into one of his fields adjoining the waste, so that he had been prevented from using the field for other purposes. He considered that he was the loser of between £50 and £100 through this increase of rabbits.

Mr. Kippler, agent to the estate, stated that the number of rabbits had increased to an unreasonable extent since Mr. Yatman came.

Mr. Parfitt said the whole case was a point of law whether there was any obligation on the Lord of the Manor to take active measures to prevent an increase to an unreasonable extent of the rabbits.

Mr. Wansbrough submitted that there was no case. A person might sit still and fold his hands and say, "Well, I object to the rabbtis being killed. I do not like killing animal life," and he had a perfect right to do it.

His Honour: He certainly may, on his own land, allow them to increase, even though they may go on to his neighbour's land.

His Honour said that the cause of action was a curious one. It was one the like of which he had never seen in his experience, either at the bar or on the bench. He should find, as a fact, that there had been since the 12th May, 1900, when Mr. Yatman first had the lease, an unreasonable increase in the number of rabbits on this waste of the Manor. But that increase had been brought about, not by any active step taken by Mr. Yatman, but by simply his holding his hand. Mr. Yatman, of course, had not held his hand entirely. He had killed such rabbits as he had desired to kill, but not in such a way as to make them at all comparable in numbers with the period before he took the lease. Did that "passive action" on the part of Mr. Yatman give rise to anything in the nature of a cause of action against him? In his Honour's opinion it did not. He thought that, if a man simply sat on his land and did nothing to it, even though the effect of that passive conduct might be to injure his neighbours, and brought nothing on to the land, he was not liable for action. He knew of no case in which a grantor had been compelled to step aside from a purely "passive action," and to do something definite, because, apart from any active step taken by him, the subject matter of the grant had become of less value. For three reasons he was of opinion that no case, as a matter of law, was made out here, though, as a point of fact, he considered that there had been an unreasonable increase to the prejudice of the commoners. There would be, therefore, judgment for the defendant, and, inasmuch as it might be that the plaintiffs would carry the matter to a higher Court, he would assess the damages at £5. He would also certify that the case was one of interest to the tenants of the estate.

Agricultural Imports.

The following is an account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended May 24, 1902, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year:—

Animals Living.	1901.	1902.		1901.	1902.
	No.	No.		Cwt.	Cwt.
Cattle ...	11,043	10,269	Wheat ...	1232 5 0	1,830,697
Sheep.....	11,215	5,919	Flour	239,700	362,674
Swine.....	—	—	Barley ...	421,300	253,764
*Horses...	—	894	Oats	405,000	242,5 5
			Peas	60,900	5,985
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Beans ...	13,000	12,010
Beef	115,103	87,843	Maize ...	1022,100	1,236,666
Mutton...	66,030	93,499		Bunches	Bunches
Pork	9,114	6,990	Bananas	51,725	34,120
Bacon ...	96,025	109,769			
Beef, salt	3,450	4,008		Cwt.	Cwt.
Hams.....	42,935	29,361	Apples ...	17,754	16,942
Pork, salt	3,171	3,029	Apricots & Peaches	56	365
Meat, salt & Fresh	14,307	12,321	Cherries	1,589	6,755
Do. pres.	9,403	16,253	Currants	—	—
Butter ...	62,768	73,942	Gooseb'r's	143	109
M'rg'rine	15,480	16,595	Grapes ...	240	426
Cheese ...	40,501	27,802	Lemons...	39,389	16,823
Milk, Fresh, in cans or drums.			Oranges	115,065	122,926
			Pears.....	99	18
			Plums ...	--	—
	—	2	Straw'b'r's	387	439
Milk ...			Oth'r Frt	1,843	2,067
Cream.	133	63		Tons.	Tons.
			Hay	996	8,471
			*Straw ...	—	1,306
Milk pr's'v'd, other				Bush.	Bush.
			Onions ...	67,230	115,671
kinds ...	14	91		Cwt.	Cwt.
Con. Milk	19,554	18,296	Hops	1,258	412
			*Locust Beans	—	9,840
	No.	No.	Potatoes	171,702	161,692
Eggs	385,370	344,707	Tom'to's	7,333	12,815
			Other	Value.	Value.
Poultry & Game	Value.	Value.	Veg'bles	£12,859	£12,987
	£6,237	£11,178		Cwt.	Cwt.
			Dried ...	2,035	2,306
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Pres'v'd		
Rabbits	4,156	3,552	by canning ...	3,682	7,062
Lard	45,601	32,052			

* Not shown in 1901.

New Agricultural Patents.

Specially compiled for MARK LANE EXPRESS by Mr. G. D. Howard (Hughes, Son, and Co.), Patent Agent, 38, Chancery Lane, London, of whom all information relating to patents, designs, and trade marks may be obtained free of charge.

6,163.—John Fairburn Crowley and William Watson, of Sheffield, for "Improvements in the construction of implements for digging and gathering potatoes and the like."

5,013.—Henzel Matouch, of Acton, for "Improvements relating to harrows, weeding machines, and like implements."

Patent Sealed.

1,061.—W. T. Vicary, of Fulham, for "Shears."

22,221.—W. F. Johnston, F. D. Mercer, and J. Stephenson, of Ontario, Canada, for "Mowing machines."

A satisfactory report was presented at the annual meeting of the Dorset Horn Sheep-breeders' Association. The profit on the year's working was £4 18s. 10d., and the total balance now amounts to £236 15s. 4d. There was a fair increase in the membership of the association during the year. At the meeting some discussion took place as to where the meetings of the association should be held, and it was agreed that the interests of the Isle of Wight members, both as to the dates and place of meeting, and also as to their representation on the council, should be considered at the next meeting of the council.



Home Notes.

The Borough.

With a regular, though not extensive, demand for hops of all grades, prices remain firm, with some tendency in favour of the sellers. Especially is this the case with respect to any choice qualities that may be available. I hear that a parcel of East Kent goldings has changed hands this week at £5, the early purchaser making a handsome profit. Another lot that had been fortunately held by the grower realised 90s. These transactions indicate the strength that prevails throughout the market, affecting in due proportion the medium and lower grades, both of which have been also handled during the past week. We may congratulate ourselves upon the fact that practically the whole of the great crop of last year has been taken over. Factors state that they hardly ever knew a season, in which, at this period, the unsold stocks were so small as they are at present. If the actual value of English hops were estimated by the bareness of the market and the absence of foreign competition, the selling prices should be considerably advanced. A substantial upward movement appeared imminent last week, when reports were coming in from all districts of the suspension of growth under the influence of the then prevailing cold weather, but the improved conditions we are now conscious of, have rather checked this tendency, and although values are solid at recent rates, there is no actual improvement perceptible, except, as I have already remarked, for choice selections. Nevertheless, holders are wisely asking more money, and I have little doubt, if they maintain this position, they will eventually be successful in obtaining what they legitimately require.

American Hops

are conspicuous by their absence from our market. Only a few lots are on offer, and these are firmly held at £5 or thereabouts. Merchants who are under contract to deliver have much difficulty in providing supplies to meet their engagements, especially as the current values on the other side of the Atlantic are now far in excess of the rates at which sales were made on this side. Continentals being also deficient, there is further good reason to anticipate a stronger market for the unsold portion of our crop, as the season advances.

Concerning the Coming Crop.

I hear that, although the warmer weather has assisted the growth, the bine is still very backward and generally looks unkindly. Many complaints are heard about the severe attack of flea, by which much damage has been done. The present conditions are certainly very favourable to renewal of progress, and yet there is plenty of time for recovery from the hindrances from which the bine has hitherto suffered. Indeed, in such grounds as are sheltered from the effects of frost, and where the plant has been fairly treated, vigorous movement is already evident, but in colder situations and in gardens whose cultivation has been neglected, but little improvement is yet noticeable. In any case, I trust that no exceptional measures will be taken to promote the growth beyond what natural influences will provide. Should Nature give us a full yield, we can only abide by the consequences, but I am still convinced that a large crop cannot possibly be otherwise than unremunerative, and if any means are available by which the production can be limited, growers will be well advised to adopt them. Their interests are this year coincident with the smallest possible harvest. Quality should be the first consideration, and quantity the second. The position we have to face can only be effectively dealt with in the manner I have previously urged, and again emphasise.

Foreign Notes.

Nuremberg.

In consequence of the diminished consumption of beer caused by the continued low temperature, brewers have purchased hops recently to a small extent only. The demand for export has also fallen off; therefore the market has been exeremely quiet, and values have somewhat receded, except for the choice qualities, the scarcity of which enables holders to keep up their quotations. Although general stocks in the hands of dealers are very small, and the country supplies are practically exhausted, the immediate tendency of the trade seems to be in favour of buyers, and future business will be largely influenced by the weather of the coming summer, as, unless the output of the breweries is considerably increased during the next three months, it appears probable that brewers will be able to abstain from buying to any extent until the new crop is gathered. Further development of more seasonable climate will, however, create activity in the production of beer, and upon this expectation is based the hope that the hop market will ultimately recover its strength. The small sales that are being made at present are effected at prices not exceeding 60s. to 80s., but the best Hallertaus still realize 90s. to 105s.

The New Growth

is not making much progress. Cold rains, with occasional frosts, have hindered the plant from advancement; but, apart from this abnormal suspense, the plantations are in a sound, healthy condition, the roots having generally wintered satisfactorily. It is therefore anticipated that, with favourable climatic conditions, a full average crop will be grown, and that, throughout Germany, the increased area will assist in producing a much heavier yield than last season.

Belgium.

A rather firmer tone has replaced the lowering tendency to which I referred in my last report. Quotations have not actually advanced, as business is limited to the consumptive demand of brewers, who are buying cautiously. But sufficient business has been passing to check the downward movement of prices, which are now fairly steady. Some contracts have been concluded for hops of the new growth, at rather higher figures than were recently named. The business is, however, so entirely speculative that it can hardly be accepted as an indication of the probable course of the market.

Belgian Plantations

have suffered from the unseasonable weather. In parts of the Papernighe district, where the young shoots started vigorously, the subsequent growth has become yellow and weakly; and until the improvement in temperature which has been developed this week, the outlook was making growers very dubious as to the ultimate issue. At the moment they are in better heart, as they have confidence in the rapid restorative effect of the sunshine by which their land and its products are now being visited.

The cultivation of hops in Belgium is localised in certain districts in the privinces of Brabant and East Flanders, included in a triangle formed by the towns of Brussels, Alost, and Ninove, and also in the cantons of Papernighe, Rousbrugge, and Ypres, in West Flanders. In the first-named division, the plantations are much scattered, and are generally very small. The area in 1880 reached its highest point, being then a little under 5,500 acres, but it has since been reduced to about 5,200 acres. In the Popernighe quarter, the hop farms are larger, but here, again, the total area has fallen from about 4,100 acres to about 3,700 acres. It is estimated that the cultivation of hops in the whole country has been reduced in 15 years by 500 hectares, or about 1,200 acres. Various reasons are given for this reduction, but doubtless the most important is the loss of profit to growers, caused by the advanced cost of labour, and the displacement of Belgian hops by the growths of other countries. Efforts are now being made to restore the industry to its former remunerative condition, and to this end a movement is being organised to protect the planters from foreign competition by the enactment of a substantial import duty. The proposal is strongly resisted by the brewers, and, considering the weight of their influence in the representative body, I fear the poor hop-growers have little prospect of prevailing against it.

America.

The New York market gains in strength every week, the quotation for choice State hops having now reached 22 cents, or 11d. per lb. This figure surpasses that of the corresponding date of last year. There are numerous contracts for late spring and summer delivery still uncovered, and sellers are in much difficulty concerning the fulfilment of their engagements. The pressure may be gauged by the fact that in the week ending May 9 372 bales of American hops arrived in New York from England. The shortage of last year's crop becomes more pronounced as the comparative weekly statistics are published, and the upward movement of values is supported by intelligence from the New York State yards, which have been damaged by cold weather. As late as the first week in May heavy frosts occurred by which the young shoots, when high enough to tie, were cut off the ground. Some yards will start again, but the vine in old or partly exhausted plantations is hardly likely to recover. The trade outlook is decidedly in favour of still higher prices.



An Agricultural Letter.

Sir,—Travelling from King's Cross at Whitsuntide, I passed through the counties of Hertford, Cambridge, Bedford, Huntingdon, Northampton, Nottingham and Essex, and was pleased to see the crops of wheat, barley, and oats look so well, much better than they ought to look, considering the wretched weather we have had during the whole of May. The sharp frosty nights one would think ought to have given the cereal crops a yellow sickly look, but in only one or two cases did I notice this, and one case I afterwards discovered was the effect of wireworm; when these are present cold frosty weather is often fatal, but in a good growing time the crop often succeeds in getting out of their reach, and is sometimes all the better for a little thinning.

Grass is hardly so good as three weeks ago, in many pastures a mouse may be seen by those who have good eyesight; however, in the low meadows there is more, and a nice rain with a good shift of wind would soon bring plenty of feed.

What an opportunity there is now for the breeders of cattle in these isles of ours to make a big effort to breed all, or nearly all, we require, especially in Ireland. If only a few thousand heifer calves were kept back for a couple of years we could snap our fingers at the beef trust, and all that may result from it. Why should the comparatively small quantity of American beef (compared with our home-grown) enable Cousin Jonathan to almost rule Smithfield? Our cattle men must look to it and "wake up."

'Tis a pity that Sir William Harcourt and others of his party are trying to make a popular cry of a bread tax simply because a registration fee for grain has again bee nput on, and which never ought to have been taken o; it does not in itself raise the price of a loaf one-eighth of a penny. The reason of a rise, wherever it has occurred, is on account of the shortage of last year's crop, especially maize. Maize being generally much cheaper than wheat, there is a capital chance for the growers of that grain to use it in conjunction with wheat, and kindly send it over to us as best American flour. I hope the Chancellor of the Exchequer will next year keep the registration fee for grain and double the charge on foreign flour

Another: Sir W. H. and some of his party still harp on "Doles to the Landlord." Everyone who knows anything about rating is perfectly well aware that the farmers are unfairly rated compared with tradesmen and professional men, and that the reduction made in the case of rateable land is not a dole to the landlords, as some most unjustly try to prove, but a very small measure of justice tardily given to the farmer.

OLD SUBSCRIBER.

Compare the conditions of railway travelling twenty years ago with those of to-day and what a vast improvement you find! Holiday makers are no longer faced with the difficulty of choosing a suitable place for a holiday or of mapping out an interesting tour, nor is the railway journey of to-day fraught with the least trouble. The Great Northern Railway, for instance, makes quite a speciality of catering for holiday makers, and they leave nothing undone, not only to make travelling as easy, as comfortable, and as economical as possible, but also to be of assistance to the public in the various matters which have to be considered when holidays are in contemplation. The company's guide to seaside, farmhouse, and country lodgings and hotels on their system is a most valuable publication, for, besides making the selection of holiday apartments quite a simple matter, it contains notes on places of interest. A special feature of this year's publication is a capital article on various attractive resorts, entitled "Looking for Lodgings," which includes descriptive references to places of interest on the Great Northern system. The usefulness of this publication cannot fail to be apparent to all who consult its pages, and an especial recommendation is that it can be obtained free on application to the Superintendent of the Line, King's Cross, N. When you write for this ask also for the Tourist Programme of the Great Northern, North Eastern, and other railways in connection, and a little booklet, entitled "How About Our Luggage?" You will find them a most valuable help when you come to make your holiday arrangements.



MONDAY (May 26th).—The weather continued fine over Great Britain, although there was rather more cloud than on the preceding day or two, while in Ireland the weather had again become unsettled, and rain fell. The temperature remained high over the central and Eastern portions of England, although the thermometer in most places stood several degrees lower than on Saturday or Sunday, and over the western portion of the Kingdom the readings were below the average. The winds were generally from between South-west and North-west, and they continued light.

TUESDAY (May 27th).—Fine weather prevailed yesterday in England, but the conditions had become unsettled in Scotland and Ireland. The winds were south-westerly over the entire country, and they were strong in places on our West coasts. Rain was measured in the morning in the North and West, as the result of the fall in the preceding twenty-four hours, but the weather remained fine and dry in most parts of England. Over the Northern and Western portions of the kingdom the day was cool, the thermometer failing to touch sixty degrees.

WEDNESDAY (May 28th).—Rainy and unsettled weather prevailed in most parts of our islands, and the sky was generally very cloudy. Rain was measured in the morning, as the result of the fall in the preceding twenty-four hours, in the Northern and Western districts, and in some places the fall was heavy. A cyclonic disturbance was travelling eastwards to the North of Scotland, and under its influence the wind was westerly over the entire country. Temperature was generally lower than on the previous day, and over a large portion of the kingdom the highest readings were only about sixty degrees.

THURSDAY (May 29th).—The weather was fine in most parts of England, but rain fell at several places in Scotland and Ireland. Rain was measured in the morning in the Northern and Western districts as the result of the fall since Wednesday, but the amounts were small. The wind was from between West and North-west over the United Kingdom. Temperature was generally high, except in the North, where readings were rather below the average.

FRIDAY (May 30th).—Dull and rainy weather prevailed in most parts of the British Islands, and the temperature was generally below the average. The wind had shifted to the north-east and north over the entire kingdom, and the barometer was rising in most places in the rear of the storm area. Rain was measured in the morning nearly everywhere as the result of the fall in the preceding twenty-four hours, and the amounts were large in places. Thursday night was warm, except in the north, and in the Shetlands the sheltered thermometer fell to the freezing point. The midday temperature was mostly below the average.

SATURDAY and SUNDAY (May 31st and June 1st).—The weather continued rainy and unsettled over our islands during these two days, and thunderstorms occurred in the east and south-east of England. Rain was measured over nearly the entire kingdom on both days, and in many places the fall was heavy. The barometer was relatively higher in the north than in the south, and the winds, in consequence, were easterly and north-easterly. The weather was warm over the southern portions of the kingdom, and in the Midland districts of England the mid-day temperatures touched seventy degrees. Rain fell at times in London, but there were bright intervals, and on both days the shade temperature in the suburbs registered seventy-four degrees.

Harvest Weather Forecasts.

During the harvest season the Meteorological Council will, as before, supply forecasts of weather by telegraph to persons desirous of receiving them, upon payment of the cost of the telegrams. The forecasts will be so worded that the cost of each message will be 6d. for any one district, including an address of three words. If the address to which the forecasts are to be sent exceed three words, an addition of an halfpenny for each additional word must be made to the cost of the daily telegram.

The special harvest forecasts are prepared at 3.30 p.m. daily, from June 1 to September 30 (except Sundays), and are applicable to the 24 hours from midnight following the time of issue.

In view of the importance of checking the accuracy of the harvest forecasts, the Council will be glad to supply, to those recipients who signify their willingness to co-operate in the matter, forms on which records of the weather experienced may be entered for the purpose of enabling the Council to compare the forecasts with the subsequent weather.

The service of harvest forecasts is arranged for consecutive telegrams only, and is, in addition to the ordinary service of daily forecasts, prepared at the office at 11 a.m. and 8 p.m. Within these hours the latest forecasts for any particular day can be obtained by telegraph upon payment at any post office of a fee of 6d., in addition to the cost of the inquiry and reply telegrams.

Applications for the forecasts should be made to the Secretary of the Meteorological Council, Mr. W. N. Shaw, 63, Victoria Street, S.W.

GARDEN.

The hot weather has come in with a rush. A rise—and one which, so far, appears to be permanent—of something like 25 degs. in the temperature within about as many hours is no joke, and just at first neither ourselves nor the occupants of our gardens and greenhouses quite know what to make of it. Fortunately for the latter, the change was preceded by a considerable fall of soft and genial rain, since when the amount of progress made in nearly all departments of the garden is quite surprising, and still more gratifying.

Amongst many others, potatoes are coming on very rapidly, and doing their best to make up a lot of lee-way. Where the haulin has already been cut down by frost the new or second growths, which are usually much more numerous than the first, should be thinned out to some extent, if possible, as the size and quality of the tubers will be increased thereby. But the later plantings, only just through the soil, will give the best results this season, and in many cases will be fit for digging almost as soon as those planted a month or more earlier. Continue to mould the rows up lightly as the plants appear, and keep the intervening spaces free from weeds, and in a nice friable condition on the surface. If the soil is at all heavy or close, fork between the rows once or twice, but not after the runners or strings on which the tubers are formed have commenced to run.

Peas, too, of the latter kinds are climbing the sticks fast, and the early-sown dwarf well in bloom. The gathering of the first pods may be hastened by a week or more by pinching out the points of the plants when nicely in flower. There is still time to sow a few rows of any of the fine, late marrow peas, for gathering in September, and perhaps later.

Now is the time to get in kidney beans of both the tall and dwarf kinds in quantity. If the soil is deep and rich—as it should be—do not crowd the seeds in any way, but allow quite 6in. between those of the French varieties, and 9in. to 12in. between the runners. The new climbing French beans are very productive and useful commencing to pod early, and affording a much longer succession than the dwarf. Haricot beans should be sown as soon as possible.

Lose no time in planting out strong and well-hardened tomatoes, as far as possible against sunny walls and close fences, or in any sheltered spot, and the rest in the open. These last ought to be placed quite 2ft. apart in the rows, with spaces of 2½ft. or 3ft. between these. Where large numbers of plants are put out it is a good plan to plant two or three rows at 2ft. or so, and then allow a 3ft. space to walk along and attend to the plants. Always plant quite firmly, pinching out all side-shoots, and placing a stout stick to each, quite 4ft. out of the ground.

Plant out vegetable marrows, ridge cucumbers, gourds, etc., at once. Forward celery ought to go out also—some of the market-growers have already got thousands of plants in and growing now, and some celeriac, if the plants are ready. Sow endive, and more lettuce, and put out plenty of plants of the latter.

Make a last sowing of cauliflowers for late autumn use, and at the same time sow a small bed of the rosette coleworts. Plant out winter greens in variety, and finish thinning root crops, etc.

In some places, at any rate, there is a much better promise of fruit, and of pears and plums in particular, than would seem possible considering the terrible ordeal the trees have been through. Strawberries appear to have suffered most, and in some localities the crop will probably prove a failure. How apples will have fared remains to be seen yet, but as there was plenty of bloom, there should be some fruit, at any rate where there is a little shelter of some kind. The late varieties will probably come off best.



Durham (North-East).

From the commencement of May until the 22nd inst. we had remarkably cold and dry weather, with east winds, and, very often, frost at night, and, during that time, grass and corn made very little progress. On the 22nd we had a good deal of rain, and since then the weather has been milder, and now both grain crops and grass look more promising. It is, however, now so late in the season that a heavy hay crop is not likely to be obtained this year. The land has worked very easily, and turnips, potatoes, and mangels have been got in in capital order. Lambs have thriven well in spite of the cold, and should, in sympathy with the present high price of beef, realise good prices. Potateos have been quite a drug in the market in this district, and they have been difficult to cash at almost any price. Straw and fodder of all kinds are both scarce and dear.—R. B. (May 30th.)

Gloucester.

The sudden change from cold wintry weather to summer temperatures on the 23rd was heartily welcomed by all; the genial rain of the preceding days had so moistened the surface that the sun's genial rays caused vegetation in a few days to assume quite a verdant garb.

On the early pasture land the change, I fear, came too late for even an average crop; the same remarks apply to clovers and seeds generally. On the later lands, should we get more rains shortly with warm temperature, the crop may be an average one.

Cereals generally have improved during the past ten days. Beans show great improvement. Mangolds are somewhat disappointing when sown early, this plant being very deficient. Much cannot yet be said of the field potato crop, as generally they are not through the soil. Early varieties have suffered badly from the unusually sharp frosts during the early days, or rather nights, of the month.

Unless we get a continuation of genial rains and warm temperatures, with empty hay and straw yards, this prospect is none too encouraging.—B. R. (May 28th.)

Hampshire (East).

The recent seasonable rain has much improved the growth and appearance of all crops, and the warmer weather we are now enjoying has rendered probable a good plant of early turnips, rape, and the late mangels.

The growing wheat is the most promising of the cereals. Oats are very variable, but are improving rapidly under the present genial circumstances.

The quotation for wheat keeps up, but the milling demand seems to be only moderate.

Shearing is now proceeding, but I fear we cannot look for better prices for wool than those prevailing last year.

The value of fat stock continues to be satisfactory, and the money obtained for dry cows in good condition is remarkable.

The prices of store stock are adversely affected by the scarcity of keep.—G. S. M. (May 30th.)

Herts. (East.)

From May 1st until the 22nd weather has been cold; hail storms, frost at night, cold winds, which has kept everything in a backward state. In spite of this wheats on most lands are looking well, the exception is on clover lays that were ploughed up late in Autumn and sown on a fresh furrow; here it is weak and thin. Barley and oats look very well, that is where sown early; but barley sown late after turnips has laid in ground longer than I have ever known. In coming up clover and seeds are very backward, thin and weak, and pieces of sheep-feed had to be ploughed up and re-sown with tares.

Keep at the present time is scarce; all stock too close upon it. If it could be only kept away from it for about 9 or 10 days it would alter matters for the best. This cannot be.

On the evening of the 22nd we had a splendid rain, the best in this district for over twelve months, and with warmer weather will soon put a different face on all vegetation, and improve the prospect greatly. So much needed, stock-yards are empty, very little hay or straw left in this district, both of which (where there has been

any to sell) have been selling well. Unfortunately most of the wheat was sold before the recent rise, and what a noise has been made about this in places, fearing, I suppose, that the farmer will get an extra shilling or two per quarter. It will not make 35s. per quarter now in this neighbourhood. Mangels are showing well in the rows, and have stood the frosty nights much better than expected. Turnip or swede not yet sown, but hope to get in a good breadth next week; also maize. Much more of this crop is sown this year, where there is silos it is fine stuff to cut into chaff to put in. I do not think any crop will grow so much weight per acre in a short time. Last year a piece was 2ft. high on July 23rd, sown on June 1st; on or about the middle of September it was 10ft. high, and have often had it 11ft. to 12ft. high on highly-farmed land. When put into silos, cut into chaff, it has this advantage, it does not give off such a strong smell as rank grass, very objectionable when near a village or a gentleman's home farm; and I have had it when it could be smelt miles off, and had to be carted on the land, on account of the strong smell, a matter which the sanitary authorities are very keen about, but perhaps are not so keen about the rates a farmer has to pay. These have been much increased, in spite of the supposed advantages that councils of every description were going to bring.—A. B. (May 26th.)

Hunts (South).

A lovely warm rain is falling, which will do much to repair the serious damage caused by the severe frosts, hail and snow storms, cold, drying, northerly winds, etc., which played sad havoc with the grass, spring-sown corn and roots since I trespassed upon your space about a month since. At that time farming affairs might fairly be said to have assumed a somewhat roseate hue. Alas! for poor farmers, ere my farm notes had reached the editorial sanctum, a very severe frost had quite changed the appearance of things agricultural. We were going from bad to worse for two or three weeks, until Thursday last, when we were blessed with a gentle, warm rain, which continued for several hours. This has repaired some of the damage caused by the unseasonable weather, but the barley on the heavier lands will never entirely recover from the serious setback which they have received. The wheat plant did not suffer so much, except that it almost ceased to make any progress during three weeks, and is now very backward. Grass has grown well, and we may yet mow a good crop of grass on the later lands and meadows. Altogether, farmers are very hopeful, as is their wont.—Sanders Spencer (May 29th).

Munster.

The month of May, now concluding, was considered one of the worst months in farming records for the last thirty years. North winds and frost every night were the order.

Cereal crops doing well, especially wheat. Potatoes coming very slowly, the bulk of maincrop not up yet. Mangolds, where up, suffered severely from the frost.

Great scarcity of grass yet, and meadows will not make an average.

Beef very scarce and dear. Fat sheep fair, but store sheep a drug.

Young cattle selling badly, owing to shortage of grass. Pigs, old and young, dear.

Considering all prospects, I think it will make a better farmers' year than 1901.—P. F. (May 30th.)

Somerset (North-East).

The little rain we have had certainly has freshened things a little; it has at last brought out the ash leaf. I never remember so late a season; it is much too late to expect an average hay crop. The land is covered with flowers, and no sign of under-grass. I never knew a crop of hay after a flowery spring. All corn will be short in straw. The spring has been so very cold that cattle have not made the progress they generally do this time of the year. I fear there will not be much fat cattle ready for the Coronation; it will take three animals to weigh about what two would do in an average season by this time. I wish I could give a more cheering report of future prospects.—G. F. K. (May 30th.)

Westmoreland.

It will be difficult to recall, or even conceive, anything more disappointing to the farming community than the month of May just closing has been, for, with the exception of a few days which succeeded the refreshing rain which fell on Thursday, the 22nd inst., it has been an extremely cold, ungenial month, and the progress of vegetation has been extremely slow, and today the wind has gone round to the east, and the cold has increased the anxiety among farmers, for genial weather this season, almost equals, if not quite, that of the general public for peaceful news from South Africa, and well it may, as we are at present threatened with a late, if not deficient, hay and corn crop. The hay crop is almost bound to be light, as nearly all meadows have been eaten up to date, and in the vales are still stocked. A stronger proof of the backwardness of the season could not be produced than the backwardness of all forest trees; there is not an ash leaf to be seen, and the oaks are only just bursting, and there is not a single instance of hawthorn bloom, and it will require several warm, genial days to produce a single flower, and it is scarcely possible for the ash to be in full leaf, even if the weather should change immediately, before midsummer. The consequence is that spring corn of all descriptions is looking starved and short; in fact, in high-lying districts it is most unpromising. Taken as a whole, the outlook for farming is unsatisfactory, for although beef, mutton, and pork, now the staples of agriculture, are making good prices, the threatened shortage of keep, and the slow improvement of stock turned out to grass, coupled with their poorer condition when turned out, will undoubtedly keep marketable stock much longer out of the consuming market. The bitter hostility displayed by urban population, and especially the office-seeking portion of politicians, to the small registration fees proposed to be put upon corn and flour, shows how very little we can expect from Parliament, and especially if the "outs" should get in, for they undoubtedly are determined to ride into power, regardless of national interests, provided they only secure office.—T. B. (May 30th.)

Worcester.

May, the proverbial fickle month, has this year fully borne out the truth, as nearly the whole month has been as cold and ungenial as many of us can remember, the frost of the 13th being specially severe, all vegetation received a severe check, young oak leaves being scrumped up, mangolds killed, pea blossom destroyed; although at present enough pear, plum, and gooseberries seem to have escaped.

The apple blossom being later, not much affected at present. All corn crops in this district, on well-farmed land, look well, also artificial grasses, and the fresh pastures, when unstocked early; now with the present genial weather of the last few days, look h— growing a crop of hay.

Hops are now making rapid progress, but late-root land generally is in a forward state.

Stock of all kinds selling fairly well, especially beef. Where all the latter is to come from to celebrate the Coronation and peace festivities will puzzle the butchers.

It is to be hoped the Government will stand firm with regard to the Registration Tax on corn. They wisely gave way on the Cheque Tax. Also, we trust our County Members will vote that the expenses of education shall be put on the Imperial Exchequer. It is for the good of the whole nation, consequently the nation should pay for it—not for one class only to pay for it.—T.R.H. (May 28th.)

Ulster (East).

A late, cold spring is the universal verdict of Ulster farmers upon the present season, and, following as it does upon a more than ordinarily severe winter, there is not much room for hopefulness. Nevertheless, labour has been pushed on with determined persistence.

Cereals.

Oats, barley, and wheat are fairly well forward, considering the season, and, generally, have a healthy appearance.

Potatoes.

In light soils, especially in the lower parts of the country and in warm valleys, the potato crop was got into the ground in good time, and the early kinds are now well above the soil, and look healthy; but in higher ground and stiff clays all are late, and some fields intended for potatoes are not planted even yet.

Fruit.

In fruit-growing districts there is only a poor prospect for berries and stone fruit. The cold and frequent showers of hail have caused a good deal of injury. But apples are showing a rich and abundant bloom; in fact, I never saw anything of its kind more beautiful than the present bloom of orchards. They add such a pleasing variety to the landscape, as makes one almost forget the hard struggle for life which their owners have to make in other directions.

Meadows and Pastures.

Owing to the scarcity of winter fodder, many farmers were compelled to allow their cattle to run over the whole grass land and pick up every green mouthful during the winter and early spring. This and the cold season have kept the pastures and meadows bare, but just now grass lands are beginning to assume the rich green which is characteristic of our beautiful island.

Live Stock.

Store cattle are in rather low condition, generally, but healthy. Milk cattle have been better cared for during the winter, and are not so low in flesh, but markets are dull and prices low.—W. W. D. (May 28th).

Foreign Prospects.

France.—Apprehensions respecting the well-being of the wheat crop appear to be dispelled by the grateful change in the weather; reports are increasingly satisfactory, and hopes of a good harvest have revived.

Germany.—Crop prospects on the whole are considered to show a good average condition, and now that warmer weather has come rapid progress is expected.

Belgium.—Crop prospects are normal, but higher temperature is desirable.

Holland.—There is an improvement in crop conditions, consequent upon the changed weather.

Hungary.—Crop prospects in the aggregate are regarded as being fairly satisfactory, but there is no expectation of a bounteous harvest.

Russia.—Warm and wet weather in the Southern Governments has restored the appearance of the autumn, as well as of the spring-sown crops, and around Odessa the outlook is said to leave little to be desired.

Roumania.—Advices from Bucharest tell of continuous rain, which has injured the rapeseed crop, now about ready for cutting. Wheat and barley also are reported to have suffered from the excessive moisture.

Spain.—Although harvest will be two or three weeks later than usual, in consequence of cold and rain, the wheat crop promises an abundant yield.

Asia Minor.—Around Smyrna the crops look well, but rain is wanted on the upper plateaux.

United States.—Wheat prospects are fully maintained, or even a little better than before. Maize is starting finely, but there are some drawbacks from weeds and cut-worms. Oats show most improvement. In California crop prospects are good in the principal wheat-growing valleys, but not up to the mark in other districts. Rainfall to date, 18¾in., against 21in. same time last year.

Peace in South Africa.

The war in South Africa has at last come to an end. On Saturday afternoon news reached Pretoria from Vereeniging that the delegates of the Boer Conference were empowered and prepared to subscrib to our terms. No time was lost in acting upon this decision. By 10.30 the same evening the burghers' representatives and Lord Milner had reached the Transvaal capital, and three-quarters of an hour later Lord Kitchener telegraphed to the Secretary of State for War as follows:—

"The document containing terms of surrender was signed here this evening at half-past ten p.m. by all Boer representatives, as well as by Lord Milner and myself."

The fact that peace had been agreed to was communicated to the King yesterday (Sunday) afternoon by Mr. Brodrick, and all the other members of the Royal family were informed. Late last night his Majesty issued an address to his people, expressing his satisfaction at the conclusion of peace, and his hope that it would be speedily followed by the restoration of prosperity in his new dominions. Public announcement of the welcome intelligence was first made by the posting of a notice outside the War Office at five o'clock yesterday (Sunday) afternoon. The news naturally spread with great rapidity, and was received with great rejoicings everywhere.

At the last council meeting of the Southdown Sheep Society the officers for the ensuing year were elected as follows:—President, Sir Nigel Kingscote, K.C.B.; president-elect, Mr. Allan Cooper; hon. treasurer, Mr. Ernest Mathews; secretary, Mr. W. J. Wickison. The General Purposes Committee was elected to consist of the president, the hon. treasurer, and Messrs. Clayton, Cooper, Jennings, Padwick, Penfold, and F. N. Webb. A letter was received from the National Sheep-breeders' Association stating that the Executive Committee did not consider that the subject of sheep scab was a desirable one for discussion at the conference of sheep-breeders to be held at Carlisle. The council decided to express their regret at the decision of the committee and to inform the association that the Southdown delegates had been requested to bring the matter before the conference in accordance with Mr. Allan Cooper's resolution approved by the council at their last meeting, viz., "That as the prevalence of sheep scab in this country is a great hindrance to foreign trade, this council urgently recommends that compulsory dipping be insisted on by the Board of Agriculture."

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Malt—The rather better demand noticed in our last has been maintained. Barley dull. Wheat slow at barely late rates. Oats—In some cases 3d per qr. less money was taken. Maize rather easier. Flour 3d per sack cheaper.—NIXON, GOWER AND Co.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—At Mark Lane the attendance was small, and the market for wheat and flour ruled dull and neglected. Maize steady, but very quiet at late rates. Oats held unchanged and quiet. Barley steady, but slow. Beans and peas slow.

Mark Lane, Friday.—An undecided tendency prevailed soon after business commenced at noon on the Corn Exchange, and as the day progressed a general scarcity of orders was felt, although sellers were rather more willing to meet buyers at a shade less here and there, while the attendance was small. New York markets closed, this being Decoration-day in America. There is nothing fresh to report concerning English wheat, which remains entirely nominal for milling purposes, and scarce at local resorts. Whites, 33s to 35s; reds, 32s 6d to 34s delivered. Free on rail in country, good 63lb, reds, 33s to 33s 6d per qr. American reds unchanged to-day, and 3d easier since Friday last, with more on hand. No. 1 Northern Duluth inspection quoted at 31s ex ship and 31s 6d ex granary; No. 1. Northern Manitoba, about 30s 9d. White wheats remain scarce. Australian, 32s 6d ex ship; and Californian, 32s 6d. Flour well maintained for patents on continued scarcity, while bakers' grades of American brands are still in exceptionally small compass, and command a premium. First patents range at 25s 6d to 26s; and second at 23s to 24s. Of bakers' Iron Duke, ordinary quality, held for 21s 6d ex store; and 21s asked for Princess Royal. English unaltered. Grinding barley barely up to last week, with the market now fairly supplied. Odessa 20s ex ship to come up, and 20s 6d ex quay. Danubian in the former position, 20s. Heavy oats remain firm, light being in sufficient supply for requirements and in buyers' favour. Common Libau about 20s 6d to 20s 9d ex quay 38lb; 40lb Libau, etc., bold, 23s 6d to 24s; Riga, 20s 6d 38lb ex ship, 21s ex quay; and black Libau, none offering; fine Konigsberg, 23s to 23s 6d ex quay 40lb. English oats command enhanced rates without effort in the country. Grey winters, 42lb, 24s 6d to 25s. Maize generally unchanged on the week, and not by any means excessive at present. Odessa, 22s 3d to 22s 6d ex ship, to come up, 23s ex quay (Surrey side, 23s 6d). Mixed American remains out of order. Holders of imported beans and peas made no alteration, the latter being firmly held. Egyptian splits, 23s 6d; Mazagans, 22s 9d ex mill, 320lb; and Konigsberg, 35s 6d, 504lb. Of peas, fair to good white Indian, 35s to 36s ex store, 504lb. Canadian white continues exhausted, with nothing coming forward for some time.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Trade in wheat was slower, and demand very weak, but quotations were not materially altered, whites making up to 35s, and reds 34s. No change in other descriptions of corn, but oats very firm.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Wheat, small supply; business quiet, but owing to scarcity prices were supported. Grinding barleys unaltered. Oats maintain late quotations. Beans and peas scarce and dear. White wheat, 33s to 35s 6d; brown ditto, 32s to 35s. Malting barley, none; grinding ditto, 22s to 25s; black oats, 20s to 24s; white ditto, 22s to 26s; old beans, 33s to 38s; grey peas, 35s to 37s.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, red, 31s to 33s per qr. Beans, new, 36s to 37s per qr. Oats, black, 24s to 26s per qr. Small show and slow trade to 6d easier.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Quiet market. English wheat a shade easier, realising 36s to 36s 6d per qr. Foreign wheats, 6d to 9d per qr cheaper. Grinding barley, 3d dearer, commanding £1 to £1 6d per qr sharpness. Maize 3d cheaper. Plate making 23s sharpness, and round 22s 6d per qr Liverpool. English white oats 6d higher.

Bristol, Thursday.—Again very little English wheat offering to-day, and made late rates. Red foreign 3d to 6d lower. White unaltered. Grinding barley, turn in sellers' favour. Other feeding stuffs unchanged. English wheat, 31s to 31s 6d; American, 31s 9d to 33s 6d. Grinding barley, 19s 9d to 20s 3d. Oats: Irish black, 21s 3d to 21s 6d. Maize, round, 22s 9d to 23s.

Bristol, Thursday.—A very quiet trade since our last, still very little English wheat offering, it therefore makes late prices. Foreign red, 3d to 6d lower; white unaltered. Grinding barley very firm, with turn in sellers' favour. Maize and oats unaltered. Flour, bakers just for the present are working from hand to mouth, consequently the demand is very limited.—GRACE BROTHERS.

Cambridge, Saturday.—During the week, with forcing weather and a very dull trade, sellers have found prices very difficult to maintain. At this market to-day there was a moderate supply of wheat for the time of year, and, millers being very indifferent buyers, prices gave way a further 6d per quarter from last Saturday's rates. Prices:—Wheat, 31s to 32s; white up to 32s per 504lb. Scarcely any spring corn offering.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Wheat scarcely so firm; English corn generally very scarce. Ruling prices:—White wheat, 33s to 35s; red, 32s to 34s 6d; grinding barley, 22s to 24s; white oats, 24s to 26s; black, 22s to 24s; grey peas, 35s to 36s; tick beans, 38s to 40s; Mazagans, 34s to 35s per quarter.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Very small supply of oats in our market to-day, fair demand at late rates, 24s to 25s 6d per 336lb.—THOMAS ROBINSON.

Chester, Saturday.—English grain in small supply. Wheat and oats firmly held, and occasionally 1d per bushel dearer. Beans and barley steady. Quotations:—Wheat, white and red, 4s 7d to 4s 8d per 75lb; malting barley, 4s 2d to 4s 4d per 60lb; grinding barley, 3s 6d to 3s 8d per 64lb; beans, 5s 10d to 6s per 80lbs; oats, new, 3s 2d to 3s 4d; old, 3s 4d to 3s 6d per 46lb; Indian corn, new, 12s 6d to 14s 3d; old, 13s to 14s 9d per 240lb.

Colchester, Saturday.—Small supply wheat; slow trade, at 6d per qr reduction from last week. Beans and oats scarce and fully as dear.—FRANCIS AND Co.

Croydon, Wednesday.—White wheat, 33s to 35s; red ditto, 32s to 34s; malting barley, none; grinding, 24s to 26s; oats, 21s to 24s; beans, 33s to 35s; peas, 32s to 34s. Trade for wheat remains unaltered at last week's prices; oats firm; beans and peas remain the same.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There was the usual attendance at our market to-day. Wheat and flour very quiet, with prices tending in favour of buyers. Round corn 1½d per 280lb cheaper. Home and foreign oats firm. Canadian pease 1½d to 3d per 280lb easier. Grinding beans steady. Barley quiet. Bran and thirds unchanged, with quiet trade. Oatmeal firm.—GIBSON AND CLARK.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Small attendance. Very little English wheat offering; values about 1d to 1½d per bushel under last week, in consequence of the drop in American wheats. Oats firm. Barley no business done. Maize quiet. Quotations: Wheat, white 3s 10d to 4s 1d per bushel, red 3s 10d to 4s; barley, 3s to 4s; oats, 2s 9d to 3s 6d; beans, 4s 3d to 4s 6d; maize, 3s to 3s 3d; vetches, 6s 6d to 7s 6d.

Leeds, Tuesday.—With more genial weather and heavy shipments, the wheat trade wears a quiet aspect, but there is no giving way in prices, consumers being compelled to pay late rates for both English and foreign. Feeding stuffs in poor demand, and about unchanged in value.—DUNNS AND Co.

Leeds, Friday.—With lower prices for wheat from America, Tuesday's rates are barely maintained. English firmly held. Beans and Indian corn the turn easier. No change in flour, oats, peas, or barley, all of which have a dragging sale.

Leicester, Saturday.—Good average attendance, with very small supplies of home-grown wheats. Trade quiet and prices easier, quotations being 31s to 34s 6d per 35 stones. Fine oats very firm.

Lewes, Tuesday.—New white wheat, 33s to 35s; new brown ditto, 33s to 34s; malting barley, 32s to 36s; grinding ditto, 21s to 24s; oats, 22s to 26s; beans, 36s to 40s; peas, 36s to 39s per quarter.

Lincoln, Friday.—The trade in English wheats was very flat, and prices were somewhat easier. Reds, 32s to 33s; whites, 33s to 34s. Foreign wheats dull. Oats, maize, and beans also dull at barely late rates.

Liverpool, Friday.—The market has had a very fair attendance, but the demand for wheat is slow, the market being still under the influence of a possible abandonment of the tax. Prices for all descriptions are generally 1d lower than last Tuesday. Flour is in very quiet demand, and for foreign brands the tendency is on the easy side. Local millers make no change in their quotations. Maize.—Mixed is firm, owing to decreasing stocks, and the turn dearer, but quiet. European experiences a moderate inquiry, and prices are ¼d to 1d lower. Plate, the demand has for the moment caught up to immediate supplies, and a fair business is doing at ¼d advance from Tuesday. Barley—Only small lots of malting are changing hands, and prices favour buyers. Feeding is slow but steady, at unchanged prices. Beans have more inquiry, and prices show no alteration from Tuesday for Saidis, but Odessa is 6d lower. Peas in slow demand, but not pressed for sale, and no further change is made in prices. Oats do not move freely, but all qualities of foreign are steadily held at late rates. English in moderate demand at full prices.—SEGAR AND TUNNICLIFFE.

Maidstone, Thursday.—The attendance was poor, and consequently a quiet trade at unaltered prices, except that cotton cake was a trifle lower. Quotations:—White wheat, 34s to 36s; red ditto, 34s to 35s; grinding barley, 21s to 23s; oats, 23s to 28s; peas, 36s to 37s; white ditto, 39s to 40s; maize, 24s to 26s; beans, 36s to 40s; English linseed cake, £8 to £8 10s; foreign ditto, £7 10s. to £8; cotton cakes, £4 15s to £5.

Maidstone, Thursday.—There is a very slight disposition for business to-day. What small quantity of wheat to-day realised about the late prices, but the opinion seems to be that the apex has been reached, at least for a while. This applies to other grain generally, and in miscellaneous articles, seeds, etc. No change to note of any importance.

Manchester, Thursday.—Wheat has continued quiet throughout the week, though steady rates of quotation are maintained by salesmen. On the whole, here and there, however, the tendency is on the easy side. Flour continues dull and neglected, prices 6d per sack easier. Oats, peas, beans, and barley quiet, without new feature. Indian corn firm, with hardening tendency; demand quiet.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—A slow demand for wheat here to-day, and when sales took place the prices favoured buyers. Maize firm at last week's prices; oats, barley, peas, and beans unaltered in values, the demand being of a retail character. Flour 6d per 280lb easier.—JOSEPH POLLARD AND Co.

Newport, Wednesday.—The market was dull for all kinds of grain, prices being unchanged. Flour: Fines, 23s 6d per sack.

Northampton, Saturday.—The aspect of our market was in every way similar to last week. Buyers were very cautious, and sellers very independent. Prices for farm produce and flour same as last week. White wheat, 32s to 34s; red ditto, 31s to 33s; grinding barley, 22s to 25s; oats, 20s to 24s; old fine, 27s; beans, 34s to 40s; flour, 22s to 24s; fine 27s.

Norwich, Saturday.—Wheat was in small supply at our market to-day, with a languid trade, at 6d to 1s per qr. less money. Warmer weather has prevailed during the past week, with occasional showers. Wheat, red, 32s to 33s per qr., weight 63lbs per bushel Imperial. Corn Inspector's return for the week ending 26th May, 1902:—Wheat, 2,098, 32s.—J. A. MILLS.

Norwich, Saturday.—The wheat trade showed weakness here to-day. Business could only be done at lower terms, and a reduction of 6d to 1s per quarter upon the fortnight was conceded. There was nothing doing in barley. Averages:—Wheat, 2,098 qr, 32s 1d. The weather has undergone a great change in Norfolk during the last day or two, the temperature having risen. There has also been an ample rainfall, and vegetation has made good progress.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Wheat in rather better supply, and values declined 6d per qr. Grinding barley pppsteady. Oats but few offering, and advanced a further 6d per qr. Beans firm.—ROBERT HUBBLE.

Peterborough, Saturday. — To-day's market was fairly well supplied with wheat for the time of year, for which the trade was slow at 3d to 6d per qr less money. Oats and other feeding stuffs firm and fully as dear.—THOMAS HILL AND SON.

Reading, Saturday.—The attendance on the Exchange to-day was good. The quantity of wheat on offer proved to be rather smaller than usual, and a fair number of sales were effected at figures which varied but little from those of the previous market. Grinding barley only on offer, and oats a dragging trade, at unaltered quotations. Wheat made from 33s to 36s per quarter.

Ripon, Thursday.—Poor show of samples, and a small attendance. Foreign wheat shows a downward tendency. Wheat: English, new, 31s 6d to 32s 6d; ditto, foreign, 31s to 34s 6d; barley, grinding, 23s 6d to 24s 6d; oats, 24s to 26s; round maize, 24s 6d to 26s 6d per qr; beans, 1s per stone; bran, £5 15s to £6 5s per ton.

Romford, Wednesday.—Wheat trade slow at barely last week's prices. Only a small supply on offer. Red wheat, 32s 6d to 33sc 6d; white wheat, 33s to 34s per qr.

Spalding, Tuesday.—Wheat and other grain in small supply. For wheat there was a slow trade at 32s per qr, which was 6d lower on the week. Oats firm at late rates.

Stamford, Friday.—Very few samples of wheat showing, exchanges being made slightly under last week's prices. Oats, 26s to 27s. Beans about unchanged. No malting barley; foreign made about 25s. Attendance very small.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There was a little English wheat showing, which made 32s to 33s per qr. Foreign wheat trade quiet, and red wheats, which were pressed for sale, were 3d to 6d per qr lower. White wheats were scarce and unaltered in price. Oats and maize firm at unchanged rates.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Grain in short supply. Wheat quiet at late rates. Barley dull. Oats firm. Arrivals coastwise:—Wheat, 1,305 qrs.; oats, 150 qrs.; foreign, nil.—E. F. RICHARDSON.

Wakefield, Friday.—There is a very small business passing in wheats on to-day's market, and foreign is rather in buyers' favour, while English is steady at late rates, owing to scarcity. No alteration in feeding stuffs.—MICHAEL SANDERSON AND SON, LIMITED.

Wakefield, Friday.—Weather cold and wet. America's weakness is naturally reflected in the European exchanges, the trade ruling decidedly slow, American and Indian wheat favouring buyers. Californian and Australian is, however, no cheaper, and Russian shippers scarcely attempt to meet the market. English, too, keeps steady. Maize, beans, and oats in small demand.—DUNNS AND Co.

Winchester, Saturday.—English wheat short supply, very small demand; 34s 64lb per bushel; foreign, 6d lower. Barley, oats, and maize quiet trade, prices unchanged.—FEAR, COLEBROOK, AND Co., LTD

Wisbech, Saturday.—A small supply of grain. Wheat met a slow trade at some reduction; prices 31s to 32s. Spring corn unchanged.—JAMES FLETCHER.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—A fair attendance, with prices unchanged. Quotations: Wheat, new 12s 6d to 13s per 216lb; oats, 16s to 17s; beans, old 16s to 17s 6d, new 15s. to 16s 6d per 196lb; barley, 35s to 40s per 448lb; maize, new 27s to 28s, old 29s to 30s 6d per 480lb.

Worcester, Saturday.—A small attendance, and trade very inactive. English wheat scarce and selling slowly at unchanged rates. Foreign quotations come lower. Barley firm.

York, Saturday.—A fair attendance. Very small show of wheats, which command last week's prices. The supply of oats is very limited, and farmers are asking rather more money. Wheats, 32s to 32s 6d; white oats, 24s 6d to 25s 6d; black oats, 24s. Maize about the same as last week; bran and other feeding stuffs show no alteration.

FOREIGN.

Hamburg, Saturday.—Market quiet, with prices of wheat and rye tending slightly in buyers' favour, while feeding stuffs remain firm. American hard winter wheat No. 2 near at hand is selling at 28s 6d; Northern spring Duluth and Manitoba No. 1 is offering at 28s 3d; No. 2 at 27s 9d; red winter No. 2, August shipment, at 28s 9d; 60ko. Bahia Blanca Russo at 28s 9d per 480lb; Walla Walla or 29s 9d to 30s per 5001b. 9 15-20 South Russian Rye, June shipment, is held at 23s 9d; 9 15-20, August-September shipment, has been sold at 21s 9d; American No. 2 Western is held at 24s 3d to 24s 6d per 480lb. Malting barley quiet. The remnants of Mecklenburg and Prussian still held in the country are offering at 25s 6d to 27s 6d per 448lb. There is a good demand for feeding barley, and 60-61 ko. South Russian May shipment has been sold at 19s; June shipment is held at 18s 9d; August-September, 16s 9d per 400lb. Maize in demand. River Plate May-June shipment is selling at 21s; Odessa and Danubian near at hand at 20s 6d to 21s; mixed American December-March shipments meet some attention at 21s 3d per 480lb c.i.f. Hamburg.—JOHN TATLOCK.

Paris, Wednesday.—Favoured by splendid weather, the weekly native wheat market had attracted the usual contingent of millers and grain merchants, but fewer farmers than ordinarily, as the latter are retained on their farms for the cutting of the artificial grass lands, which promise a good yield. The return of more normal weather did not fail to exercise its influence on the provincial exchanges, where farmers' offers as of late were most restricted, but as on the other hand millers exhibit the utmost reserve; prices were appreciably unchanged, though generally denoting some firmness. On the contrary, sellers were more numerous, and it was easy for millers to find lots of good wheat at last week's rates, with even a slight concession for the average sorts. In short, prices may be quoted unaltered, with a rather quiet tendency, as follows:—Choice red wheat, 37s 10d to 38s 3d; average, 36s 6d to 36s 11d, and white wheat, 38s 3d to 38s 7d per 480lb. Term wheat opened with a more regular trade at fully supported prices, and closed firm at the following rates:—May, 37s 5d. to 37s 10d; June, 38s 3d to 38s 9d; July-August, 37s 5d to 37s 10d, and September-December, 35s 3d to 35s 8d per 480lbs. Flour.—Fleur-de-Paris.—The market opened quiet, but closed firm at 5c. to 10c. advance at the following prices:—May, 26s 10½d to 27s 1½d; May, 27s 1½d to 27s 5d; July-August, 27s 5d to 27s 8d, and September-December, 26s 7½d to 26s 10½d per 280lbs. Consumption Marks Flour.—Transactions are still slow, as dealers and bakers continue to purchase only for their immediate requirements. Quotations are as follows:—Choice Marks, 31f. to 32f. (31s 5d to 32s 5d; First Marks, 30f.50 to 31f. (30s 11d to 31s 5d; Good Marks, 29f.75 to 30f.50 (30s 2d to 30s 11d); Ordinary Marks, 28f.50 to 29f.75 per 100 kilos (28s 11d to 30s 2d per 280lb). Rye.—The return of fine, warm weather will doubtless improve the crop situation, which is not so unfavourable as at first supposed, so that much uneasiness is dispelled, and prices have given way 6d per qr. on the week. There are sellers of good corn at 28s 8d, with buyers at 28s 3d per 480lb. Oats have much improved since the setting in of fine weather. The tendency keeps firm in the provincial exchanges, owing to the scarcity of offers during the late unsettled weather, but with the return of more seasonable conditions, a quieter tone will ensue. Here the quotations remain unchanged. Grey Beauce, 25s 2d to 25s 6d; white, 22s 7d to 22s 4d; red, 22s 11d to 23s 2d; black, from the Central Provinces, 24s 1d. White Libau is quoted 22s 7d to 22s 11d; black, 22s 11d to 23s 2d, and Swedish, 24s 4d to 24s 8d per 320lb. Barley.—The campaign has almost drawn to a close, and trade, in fact, is confined to lots of very trifling importance. Quotations are merely nominal:—Malting, 17f.50 to 17f.75 (25s 4d to 25s 9d); grinding, 17f. to 17f.25 (24s 8d to 25s); and feeding, 15f. to 15f.50 per 100 kilos (21s 9d to 22s 6d per 400lb). Buckwheat.—This article continues supported at late rates, viz., 28s 9d per 480lbs.

CORN STATISTICS.

IMPERIAL AVERAGES.

Statement showing the Quantities sold and average price of British Corn, Imperial Measure, as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended May 31, 1902, conformably with the Act of the 45th and 46th Victoria, cap. 37.

Wheat	32,728⅔ qrs.	31s.	6d.
Barley	864⅔ qrs.	25s.	1d.
Oats	5,177½ qrs.	22s.	10d.

IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGES.

1901.	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
June 1	46,514	27	7	859½	23	8	4,938	19	9
,, 8	42,202	27	6	221½	22	9	4,023½	20	1
,, 15	46,764	27	8	1,404½	24	0	5,565½	19	7
,, 22	29,695	27	6	336½	23	2	3,552½	20	3
,, 29	28,191½	27	6	692½	25	4	2,803½	20	0
July 6	19,564½	27	8	140½	21	9	1,80C½	19	10
,, 13	15,231½	27	2	49	23	10	1,675½	19	9
,, 20	17,462½	27	3	88½	23	4	2,040½	19	11
,, 27	18,297½	27	3	206½	22	1	2,385½	19	4
Aug. 3	18,066½	27	6	250½	23	1	3,219½	20	0
,, 10	19,156	27	7	141½	22	1	2,143½	19	4
,, 17	22,617½	27	4	220½	27	2	5,982½	18	9
,, 24	37,168½	27	3	976½	23	7	9,952½	18	
,, 31	61,603½	27	0	4,877½	24	3	14,654½	17	10
Sept. 7	66,623½	26	5	14,342½	25	1	19,075½	17	1
,, 14	77,949½	26	2	34,989½	24	11	19,909½	17	4
,, 21	80,270½	26	0	70,096½	25	5	26,476½	17	4
,, 28	80,488	25	10	109,783½	25	10	22,567½	17	2
Oct. 5	60,376½	25	8	126,592½	26	3	21,631½	17	7
,, 12	63,656½	25	9	172,175½	26	5	16,815½	17	6
,, 19	58,772½	25	10	203,591½	26	8	15,506½	17	8
,, 26	52,984½	25	11	208,471½	26	10	18,009½	17	5
Nov. 2	70,314½	26	2	134,277½	26	10	18,350½	17	7
,, 9	62,265½	26	6	202,577½	27	0	20,066½	17	8
,, 16	57,884½	26	9	201,723½	26	9	20,122½	18	3
,, 23	63,150½	27	1	185,268½	26	10	20,612	18	7
,, 30	60,323½	27	1	193,434½	26	9	22,119½	18	9
Dec. 7	67,925½	27	1	162,996½	26	7	23,990½	19	0
,, 14	48,045½	27	2	182,212½	25	10	17,125½	17	1
,, 21	60,562½	27	7	119,398½	26	8	26,260½	19	
,, 28	43,718½	27	7	81,859½	26	8	16,901½	19	10
1902.									
Jan. 4	31,440½	27	7	34,777½	26	7	11,621½	19	10
,, 11	48,997½	27	8	69,120½	26	7	14,995	20	0
,, 18	74,230½	27	8	91,559½	26	11	19,733½	20	0
,, 25	74,753½	27	7	87,594	26	7	25,382½	20	3
Feb. 1	73,381½	27	4	81,468½	26	7	25,657½	20	2
,, 8	67,470½	27	2	69,291½	26	9	25,055½	20	3
,, 15	68,500	26	11	54,084½	27	5	21,824	20	3
,, 22	72,614½	27	1	53,201½	26	11	22,799	20	4
Mar. 1	79,453½	27	1	43,637½	26	7	22,322	20	5
,, 8	67,473½	27	0	28,847½	26	8	17,017	20	5
,, 15	60,643	27	1	24,536½	26	6	11,496½	20	6
,, 22	56,394½	27	1	15,482½	26	4	12,192½	20	6
,, 29	50,703	27	2	15,729½	27	2	8,950½	20	7
Apr. 5	31,277½	27	3	7,008½	26	5	5,994½	20	6
,, 12	37,931½	27	5	8,293½	26	7	6,855½	21	0
,, 19	38,037	27	7	7,237½	27	1	11,099½	21	1
,, 26	31,257½	28	9	6,263½	26	5	8,897½	21	6
May 3	46,238½	29	9	4,226½	27	5	9,685	21	10
,, 10	42,534½	30	9	3,745½	26	10	8,653½	22	6
,, 17	40,387½	31	1	674½	25	3	7,576	22	5
,, 24	38,283½	31	6	1,138½	25	4	5,973½	22	6
,, 31	32,728½	27	7	864½	25	1	5,177½	22	10

FLUCTUATIONS IN THE AVERAGE PRICE OF WHEAT.

PRICE.	Apr. 26.	May 3.	May 10.	May 17.	May 24.	May 31.
31s. 6d.	...	...	...	...		
31s. 5d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
31s. 4d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
31s. 3d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
31s. 2d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
31s. 1d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
31s. 0d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
30s. 11d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
30s. 10d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
30s. 9d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
30s. 8d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
30s. 7d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
30s. 6d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
30s. 5d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
30s. 4d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
30s. 3d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
30s. 2d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
30s. 1d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
30s. 0d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
29s. 11d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
29s. 10d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
29s. 9d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
29s. 8d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
29s. 7d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
29s. 6d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
29s. 5d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
29s. 4d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
29s. 3d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
29s. 2d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
29s. 1d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
29s. 0d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
28s. 11d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
28s. 10d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
28s. 9d.	...	...	...	...	...	...

MONTHLY AVERAGES.
(196 Market Towns.)

	1901. Wheat	Barley	Oats	1902. Wheat	Barley	Oats
January	26 8	25 7	17 4	27 8	26 8	20 1
February	26 5	25 5	17 7	27 1	26 8	20 3
March	25 10	25 0	17 10	27 1	26 8	20 6
April	26 3	25 7	18 3	28 0	26 5	21 1
May	27 6	25 2	19 4			
June	27 7	23 11	19 10			
July	27 4	22 9	19 8			
August	27 4	24 0	18 10			
September	26 1	25 4	17 4			
October	25 10	25 7	17 6			
November	24 9	26 10	18 2			
December	27 4	26 8	19 5			

YEARLY AVERAGES (OFFICIAL.)

	Wheat. s. d.	Barley. s. d.	Oats. s. d.
1890	31 9 per qr.	28 8 per qr.	18 7 per qr.
1891	37 1 ,,	28 2 ,,	20 0 ,,
1892	30 4 ,,	26 2 ,,	19 11 ,,
1893	26 4 ,,	25 6 ,,	18 9 ,,
1894	22 10 ,,	24 6 ,,	17 1 ,,
1895	23 1 ,,	21 11 ,,	14 6 ,,
1896	26 2 ,,	22 11 ,,	14 9 ,,
1897	30 2 ,,	23 6 ,,	16 11 ,,
1898	34 0 ,,	27 2 ,,	18 5 ,,
1899	25 8 ,,	25 7 ,,	17 0 ,,
1900	29 11 ,,	25 9 ,,	17 9 ,,
1901	26 9 ,,	25 3 ,,	18 5 ,,

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF LONDON TOWN HOUSEHOLDS FLOUR.
(Sacks of 280 lbs. ex-mill for cash.)

	1902. s.	d.	1901. s.	d.	1900. s.	d.	1899. s.	d.	1898. s.	d.	1897. s.	d.	1896. s.	d.	1895. s.	d.
Jan.	21	9	24	6	21	9	23	9	29	0	25	6	18	9	18	7½
Feb.	22	0	24	0	22	0	23	6	30	0	24	7½	19	4½	17	9
March	21	9	23	9	21	6	22	3	30	0	23	11	19	3	18	0
April	23	0	24	0	21	6	22	0	31	3	23	6	19	6	18	7½
May	...		23	6	21	3	22	3	39	7	23	7	19	0	20	4½
June	...		23	0	23	6	23	1½	35	0	22	7½	18	10	22	3
July	...		22	3	24	6	21	9	29	6	22	10½	18	6	20	0½
August	...		22	3	24	0	21	9	27	6	26	8½	18	8½	19	10½
Sept.	...		22	0	25	3	22	0	26	5	30	3	19	6	19	8
Oct.	...		21	6	24	9	23	3	26	1	29	0	23	7½	18	7½
Nov.	...		21	6	24	3	22	3	25	0	29	1	25	8½	18	4½
Dec.	...		21	9	24	0	21	9	24	3	29	0	25	7½	18	1
Yrly. Avrg.	...		22	10	23	2	22	4	29	6½	25	10½	20	8½	19	2

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF FINE HOUSEHOLD FLOUR IN PARIS.
(Converted into English money for sacks of 280 lb.)

	1902. s.	d.	1901. s.	d.	1900. s.	d.	1899. s.	d.	1898. s.	d.	1897. s.	d.	1896. s.	d.	1895. s.	d.
Jan.	27	9	24	9	25	2	29	0	38	7	30	5½	25	10	27	9½
Feb.	26	3	25	9	26	3	28	3	39	4	29	10½	26	2	27	10½
March	27	0	24	0	27	3	27	6	40	1	28	9	26	0	27	5½
April	27	3	24	6	26	9	27	6	42	3	28	5	25	6½	26	7
May	...		25	6	26	8	28	0	40	0	28	11½	25	1½	23	0
June	...		26	3	28	6	27	6	35	6	29	3	25	8	23	10
July	...		28	0	26	9	27	8	32	0	31	5½	24	6	27	1
August	...		27	6	26	4	27	0	31	6	36	11	25	1	26	11
Sept.	...		27	6	26	3	25	9	31	0	38	7	27	0	27	0½
Oct.	...		27	6	26	0	24	9	30	6	39	4	27	1½	27	9
Nov.	...		27	9	26	4	24	3	30	3	40	3	29	9	26	8½
Dec.	...		28	3	26	0	24	6	29	0	39	3	29	8	26	3
Yrly. Avrg.	...		27	3	26		2	9	35	0	33	5	26	5½	27	4½

LONDON AVERAGES.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, May 27th, 1902.

	Total Quantities. Imperial Measure. Quarters.	Bus.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.	Average Price per qr. Imperial Measure. £	s.	d.
Wheat	255	3	410	11	7	1	12	2
Barley	41	4	5	0	0	1	4	1
Oats	—	—	—			—		

COMPARATIVE AVERAGES.

Comparative statement for the corresponding week to May 24, in each of the years from 1897 to 1901.

	WHEAT. Qrs	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
1897	52,481⅝	27	10	1,477⅝	20	8	4,378⅝	17	9
1898	30,484½	46	3	735⅝	26	10	3,903⅛	21	0
1899	75,111⅞	25	4	1,944⅜	24	4	7,262¾	18	1
1900	68,906⅜	25	5	1,752⅛	24	4	6,702	18	6
1901	46,514	27	7	859½	23	8	4,938	19	9

ENGLISH WHEAT IN 1 01.

Highest of Year	27s. 7d.
Lowest of Year	25s. 10d.
Gradient	1s. 9d.
n of Year	26s. 9d.

LONDON TOP PRICE FLOUR.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1901.

		s.	d.
September 2	(per sack)	29	0
,, 28	,,	28	0
Apr ,, 16	,,	29	0
,, 23	,,	30	0

(No official change since last date given.)

TITHE RENT CHARGES.

For 1902	67	3	9
,, 1901	66		9
,, 1900	66		10
,, 1899	68	2	4
,, 1898	68		11
,, 1897	69		11
1896	71		7

LONDON FLOUR MILLERS' ASSOCIATION

OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1901

	London Whites. s.	d.		Town Households. s.	d.
September 2	(per sack) 26	0	(per sack)	23	0
,, 18	,, 25	6	,,	22	6
December 9	,, 26	6	,,	23	0
January 29	,, 26	0	,,	23	6
April 16	,, 27	6	,,	24	6

ARRIVALS INTO LONDON.

May 21 to May 28, 1902, inclusive.

	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat qrs.	1,147	77,125	78,272
Barley	246	10,596	10,842
Malt	17,181	...	17,181
Oats	676	55,031	55,707
Beans	75	190	265
Peas	38	3,100	3,138
Maize	...	19,462	19,462
Tares	10	110	120
Linseed	...	33,000	33,000
Rapeseed	100	4,095	4,195
Cottonseed	...	9,400	9,400
Millet	...	1,866	1,866
Sunflowerseed	...	97	97
Farinseeds	348	951	1,299
Flour, sacks	20,707	50,887	71,594

THE BALTIC.

The London Corn Trade Association have just made up standards of Bahia Blanca wheat, and of Ruso wheat. Both are high-class varieties of Argentine, from the Southern or less tropical provinces.

Wheat cargoes are 6d. lower on the week. Sales have included Californian at 30s., Walla Walla at 29s. 3d., Australian at 29s. 9d., Bahia Blanca at 29s. 6d., No. 1 Northern at 27s. 6d., Northern Manitoba at 28s. 3d., red Kurrachee at 29s., soft red Calcutta at 30s., and No. 1 Bombay at 30s. 9d. per qr.

Barley cargoes are firmer than the ordinary market off stands. Azoff for October shipment is quoted at 17s. 3d., for July shipment at 19s. per qr. There are offers of Californian new crop at 23s. 6d. per qr., August shipment, or 23s. 9d. if cleared before July 31st from port of shipment.

Oats are 3d. lower for all cargoes. Sales include Libau white at 19s., and black at 19s. 3d.; kinl dried Riga at 19s., Petersburg at 18s. 6d., Roumanian at 17s. 9d., black Swedish at 23s., white Konigsberg at 21s., and American at 20s. per qr.

Other cargo sales are:—Roumanian Rye at 23s. 9d., Saida beans at 29s. 6d., and white calcutta peas at 30s. 9d.—all per qr.

The arrivals of grain and seed laden vessels at ports of call for the week were 14 wheat (1 Adelaide, 5 Melbourne, 3 Portland (O.), 1 Seattle, 1 Sydney, 3 Tacoma); total, 14.

The sailings of grain and seed laden vessels from ports of call for the week were 6 wheat (1 Antwerp, 2 Cardiff, 1 Havre, 1 Hull, 1 Silloth), 1 flour (Dublin); total 7.

Since January 1st, 1902, the total arrivals have been 151 wheat, 4 flour, 20 barley and wheat, 3 maize, 8 barley, 2 beans, 2 linseed, 4 canary-seed; total, 194.

Last year, during the same time, the arrivals were 141 wheat, 4 flour, 7 barley and wheat, 14 barley, 3 beans, 4 pease, 1 pease and beans, 2 locust beans, 3 canary-seed, 3 Valonea; total, 182.

WOOL.

London, Saturday. — English—per pk. of 240lb:—Fleeces. S. Dn Hggs., £7 to £8 10s; half-bred hoggs, £6 to £7; ditto wethers, £5 to £6 5s; Kent fleeces, £5 to £6; South Down ewes and wethers, £7 to £8 10s; Leicester ditto, £5 to £5 10s; Colonial—per lb:—Vic., fleece super., 1s 8d to 1s 11d; scoured good, 1s 9d to 1s 10d; scoured average, 1s 8d to 1s 8½d; greasy avr. to fair, 11½d to 1s 0½d; N.S.W., scd. avr., 1s 5½d to 1s 6½d; greasy average, 9d to 10d; S. Aus., greasy avr., 7½d to 8d; N.Z., scoured avr., 1s 6½d to 1s 7½d; grease average, 9½d to 10½d; Cape, Scred. sup., 1s 6d to 1s 7d; fleece average, 7½d to 8½d; greasy average, 6¾d to 7½d; Natal, scoured, 1s 1½d to 1s 2½d; greasy average, 7½d to 8d; crossbreds—Grs—Vic. good to supr., 11½d to 1s 0½d; New Zealand fine, 9½d to 10½d; ditto medium, 6½d to 7d; ditto coarse, 4½d to 5½d.

London, Saturday.—The third series of London sales of Colonial wool, which commenced on the 6th inst., closed to-day. The net total available amounted to 243,000 bales. Of these, 225,000 bales have been sold, 115,000 bales for home consumption, 107,000 bales to the Continent, and 3,000 bales to America, leaving 18,000 bales to be carried forward to next series. The sales opened with a rise of 7½ per cent. on merino wools and of 10 per cent. on crossbreds. The former further improved their position under the influence of very strong and general demand, and during the best portion of the series the advance on March rates for fine wools ranged from 10 to 15 per cent., good Riverina and New England grease, shafty broken and pieces, and all good scoureds showing the improvement most. Inferior and faulty wools fully participated in the rise at first, but became somewhat easier later on. Crossbreds of the finer grades retained the opening advance steadily, but coarse sorts fluctuated to some extent. They gave way a little in the middle of the series, to become, however, stronger again during the last week. The advance on Cape wools was ¼d to ¾d on grease and 1½d on scoured. Taking the market as a whole, the series may be said to have advanced the value of the article by 10 per cent. all round. The sales were largely attended, the competition was general, and the tone very strong throughout.—HELMUTH SCHWARTZE AND CO.

London, Saturday (Colonial Wool Sales).—The third series of Colonial wool auctions was brought to a close to-day by Messrs. Charles Balme and Co., Jacomb, Son, and Co., and Buxton, Ronald, and Co., who jointly offered 7,961 bales, including a good show of merino grease and low crossbreds. The competition right up to the close was most animated, and the sales finish with a strong undertone at the full recent level of values, which is often against the buyers. During the series 231,000 bales have been catalogued out of the net available total of 239,000 bales. The home trade have purchased 115,000, the Continent 107,000, and America only 3,000 bales. About 18,500 bales will be carried forward to the next Capes have appreciated to the extent of 10 to 15 per for best qualities, and 7½ to 10 per cent. for faulty sorts. Fine crossbreds are 10 to 15 per cent. up, and coarse grades, after a slight reaction from the best point touched, close firm and 7½ per cent. dearer. Scoured Capes have appreciated to the extent o f10 to 15 per cent., while those in the grease show an improvement of about 10 per cent.

Canterbury, Saturday.—The market is rather more buoyant, and the sale of a three-years' growth at 6d per lb is reported. There is very little anticipatory trade in respect of the new clip.

HOPS.

Canterbury, Saturday.—A healthy trade has been done during the week, and prices have again advanced, £5 per cwt being paid for a large lot of choice East Kents. The tendency of the market is decidedly upward, but medium descriptions have not risen in proportion. There are fly in the gardens, but the plant is now making growth.

Worcester, Saturday.—Our market continues quiet, though prices are well maintained. The few inquiries we have are generally for bright sound lots, which are now in an exceedingly narrow compass.—PIERCY AND CO.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The mild and very showery weather of the past five days has caused a rapid growth of the wheat and spring corn, and we may expect the colour also to improve. Rye, which is the hardiest of the cereals, has come through the bitter six weeks from Easter to Whitsuntide singularly well; wheat is irregular and backward, but little permanent injury seems to have been done. The barley plant is none to promising, but oats have stood the untoward May uncommonly well. On the other hand, beans have suffered, the winter sown was just coming into blossom in the southern counties when the cold "snap" at Whitsuntide cut the growth back. Early potatoes have also suffered severely.

The average temperature of May was 50 degrees or just three degrees below the mean. This on 31 days amounts to a total deficiency of 93 degrees, and the balance of scientific opinion appears more and more to favour the idea that these excesses or deficiencies of solar heat do accumulate in the soil and affect plant life. The matter, as we have more than once indicated, is deserving of close attention from meteorologists.

The agricultural outlook in France is not at all brilliant and value is very stiffly supported, both for wheat and rye. Hungary expects fair, but not large crops. Roumania has suffered from flooding rains.

American advices give forth an uncertain sound with respect to wheat, but oats are said to be coming on very well, and the maize has been sown under favourable conditions over a large area. The American markets are weak, New York has given way 1s. per quarter for wheat, and there is a pressure of American breadstuffs on the European markets. The extremely moderate visible supply makes this weakness hard to explain, especially in a season when the growing wheat is admittedly behindhand, even in the states where a good yield is otherwise to be hoped for.

A decline of a penny per cental has occurred on the London and Liverpool Term Markets, and 6d. per quarter fall is quoted at many country exchanges. In London there has been less regularity, the price of American red declining 1s. per quarter, while white has not been obtainable at a reduction.

There are now on passage to the United Kingdom 3,876,000 quarters of wheat, against 2,350,000 quarters on January 1st.

NOMP A

	Qrs.
Californian	2,045.000
American	550,000
Argentine	341,000
Russian	55,000
Indian	180,000
Australasian	700,000
Various	5,000
Total	3,876,000

Of the above total only about a million quarters are red wheat, all the rest is white. Of flour there are 302,000 sacks on passage, against 400,000 a year ago. Of barley there are the following quantities on passage:—

	Qrs.
Californian	148,000
Russian	155,000
Roumanian	44,000
Turkish	10,000
Chilian	5,000
Total	362,000
A year ago	280,000

Of oats there are no official returns, but about 75,000 quarters are known to be on passage to the United Kingdom, against an average expectation of about 200,000 quarters. Even light oats are scarce this season.

Other supplies on passage thus compare with a year ago:—

	1902.	1901.
Maize, qrs.	850,000	930,000
Beans, qrs.	20,000	16,000
Linseed, qrs.	195,000	245,000
Rapeseed, qrs.	16,000	10,000
Poppyseed, qrs.	6,000	2,000
Cottonseed, qrs.	42,000	56,000

The maize is about two-thirds round and one-third yellow corn. Flat is unrepresented. The linseed includes 120,000qrs. of India, 65,000qrs. of Argentine, and 10,000qrs. of Russian. America is not a shipper this season. The rapeseed is Indian, and the cottonseed is Egyptian. There are 1,500qrs. of peas on passage from America, and 1,200qrs. of rye, while about 5,000qrs. of millet are coming from Burma, India, La Plata, and Asia Minor.

Average prices on the oilseed market for May thus compare for this and the previous year:—

May.	1902. £ s. d	1901. £ s. d.
Calcutta Linseed, per ton	13 10 6	13 8 9
Linseed oil, per ton	32 5 3	32 7 3
Linseed cake, per ton	7 15 6	7 13 9
Rapeseed oil, per ton	25 15 9	29 4 6
Cottonseed cake, per ton	4 13 6	4 15 3
Egyptian Cottonseed, per ton	7 16 3	6 12 0
Cottonseed oil, per ton	25 8 0	20 3 6

Evidently it is a time for prudent farmers to buy and store cottonseed cake, for it is cheaper than a year ago, despite a rise in both the seed and the oil. Rapeseed oil is cheap. Other articles in this trade appear to be dear.

Sales of bread stuffs last week were larger than requirements, so that stocks are augmented.

	Qrs.
British Wheat	95,000
Foreign Wheat	427,000
Foreign Flour	121,000
Sales: Total	643,000
Wants: Estimated	567,000
Surplus	76,000
Stocks, 24 May	2,517,000
Stocks, 31 May	2,593,000

Imports of other staples last week included 72,450qrs. of barley, 126,130qrs. of oats, 2,810qrs. of beans, 11,700qrs. of peas, and 288,450qrs. of maize, as compared with 120,764qrs. of barley, 149,000qrs. of oats, 3,030qrs. of beans, 13,500qrs. of peas, and 239,000qrs. of maize in the last week of May, 1901.

American usable supplies are cabled as follows for the leading depots east of the Rocky Mountains:—

	31 May, 1902.	31 May, 1901.
Wheat, qrs.	3,900.000	5.100.000
Maize, qrs.	540.000	1,916.000
Oats, qrs.	290,000	1,305.000
Rye, qrs.	122.000	88.000
Barley, qrs.	70,000	133,000

These figures give a general support to holders of American produce in British ports, but the large shipments of last week in the case of the American bread stuffs has completely counteracted the effect.

The average price of wheat in America for the past twelve months seems to have been just £1 per qr. on the farm. As the average price in the United Kingdom has been about 30s. per qr., we get a very useful estimate of how much of the money paid in this country actually goes to the American farmer. Maize in the United States is seldom saleable on the farm for more than 15s. per qr., but the great deficiency in the 1901 yield has caused the average for the last few months to be over a sovereign, and the average for the last twelve months comes out at 19s. 6d. per qr. Rye also averages 19s. 6d. on the American farm; but 92,101,000qrs. of oats only realised £58,731,000, 13,741,000qrs. of barley only £9,941,000, and 1,891,000qrs. of buckwheat only £1,704,000 to the actual growers.

The shipping countries were fairly active last week. The Argentine Republic sent off 39,000qrs. of wheat, 143,000qrs. of maize, and 38,000qrs. of linseed. The United States exports were 181,000 sacks of flour, 460,000qrs. of wheat, and 7,000qrs. of oats. The breadstuffs' exports will be seen to have been considerable, while of feeding-stuffs scarcely anything was shipped. Russia sent off 165,000qrs. of wheat, 55,000qrs. of barley, 94,000qrs. of oats, and 55,000qrs. of maize, while Roumanian exports comprised 100,000qrs. of wheat, 60,000qrs. of barley, and 280,000qrs. of maize. The Roumanian exports include Bulgarian and Roumelian items. India shipped 86,000qrs. of wheat and 60,000qrs. of linseed, while an export of 4,470 tons of cottonseed from Egypt completed the list of principal shipments.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Monday.—Linseed cake, very little spot trade, and tendency is easier. Cotton cake—No change in decorticated or London made, but Egyptian is easier. Linseed is down 6d.

English Linseed Cake	ex mill	7 15 0 to 7 17 6
American Calcutta Linseed Cake	ex quay	
American Western	ex quay	6 16 3 to 7 2 6
,, ,,	ex quay	7 5 0 to 7 15 0
Decorticated Cotton Cake	ex quay	6 5 0 to 6 12 6
,, ,, Meal	ex quay	6 7 6 6 10 0
London-made ,, Cake (best)	ex mill	4 15 0
Egyptian ,, ,, ,, (in bags)	ex quay	4 6 3 to 4 8 9
Burton Desiccated Ale Grains (bags included)	on rail, Burton	4 12 6
Dutch Linseed (in bags), per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse	3 0 0 to 3 2 0
Calcutta Linseed in bags, per 410 lbs.	ex warehouse	9 12 0
La Plata do. per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse	2 11 0 to 2 14 0
Clean Russian Linseed in bulk, per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse	2 19 0

ROBERT AND JOHN HEWITSON.

THIS DAY'S MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY

[FIRST REPORT.]

The scarcity of English wheat has now become very marked, and even chicken-corn makes over thirty shillings per quarter. Foreign wheat today was steady for white sorts, but red were decidedly pressed on sale, and the decline on the week was nearer a shilling than sixpence. English oats were extremely scarce, and a shilling advance on previous quotations must be recorded. Foreign oats, on the other hand, were a little cheaper for the lighter sorts. English peas were rather dearer for the dun and maple kinds, and tares likewise were dearer. Of imported staples dari, through scarcity, advanced a florin, and cottonseed also improved in position, but against these staples, which favour holders, linseed was offered at a slight decline, common millet was 1s. down, and Californian brewery barley was inclined to take the same direction. Russian barley was dull, but not cheaper. Trade was firm, but slow in rye, beans, buckwheat, and malt.

QUOTATIONS OFF STANDS.

June 2, 1902.

BRITISH GRAIN.

		s.	s.
WHEAT, White	(per 504 lb.)	33	— 35
Red	,,	33	— 34
Chicken or Feed	(per 480 lb.)	31	— 32
BARLEY, Malting	(per 448 lb.)	32	— 36
Brewing	,,	29	— 32
Feeding	(per 416 lb.)	25	— 27
MALT, English	(per 336 lb.)	36	— 42
Scotch	,,	38	— 40
Black	,,	31	— 33
Brown	,,	30	— 33
Crystallized	,,	34	— 36
OATS, English, Black Winter	,,	24	— 25
,, Black Tartary	,,	23	— 24
,, Grey Winter	,,	24	— 25
,, White Tartary	,,	23	— 24
Scotch Fine Potato	,,	26	— 27
,, Good Ordinary	,,	24	— 26
Irish	(per 304 lb.)	20	— 21
RYE, British	(per 480 lb.)	26	— 27
BEANS, Pigeon	,,	39	— 41
Winter	,,	33	— 37
Mazagan	,,	32	— 34
PEAS, Best Marrowfat	(per 504 lb.)	66	— 76
Blue (boiling)	,,	52	— 72
Dun	,,	34	— 36
Maple	,,	37	— 41
TARES, Scotch Gores	,,	78	— 80
Winter Old	,,	74	— 76
,, Ordinary	,,	70	— 74
Spring	,,	56	— 64
BUCKWHEAT, English	(per 416 lb.)	26	— 28

FOREIGN GRAIN.

(Ex-Granary.)

	s.	s.
WHEAT, per 496 lb.		
Old Duluth	33	— 34
Manitoba No. 1	33	— 34
American Spring	31	— 32
Red Winter	31	— 32
Californian	32	— 33
Walla Walla	31	— 32
Australian	31	— 33
New Zealand	32	— 33
Argentine	30	— 32
Danzig	32	— 34
Saxonka	31	— 32
Azima	31	— 32
Ghirka	30	— 31
Bombay	32	— 33
Calcutta	31	— 32
Kurrachee	30	— 31
RYE, per 480 lb.		
Russian	26	— 27
MAIZE, per 480 lb.:		
Cinquantina	25	— 26
Hungarian	24	— 25
Russian	23	— 24
Roumanian	23	— 24
Turkish	23	— 24
American	28	— 29
Argentine	23	— 24
OATS:		
N' Zeal'd (Best)	29	— 31
N. Zeal'd (Bluff)	28	— 29
Canadian (320 lb.)	21	— 22
American (320 lb.)	21	— 22
Prussian (320 lb.)	22	— 23
N. Russ'n (304 lb.)	20	— 21
South ,, (304 lb.)	20	— 21
BEANS, per 480 lb.:		
Egyptian	33	— 34
Smyrna	32	— 33
Konisberg	35	— 36
LOCUST BEANS, per ton:		
Italian	104	— 108
Cyprian	112	— 118
Portuguese	107	— 110
PEAS, per 504 lb.:		
Canadian, White	36	— 37
Australian, White	41	— 42
New Zeal'd Maple	39	— 41
Indian White	35	— 36
,, Green	31	— 32
MILLET, per 416 lb.:		
White	34	— 46
Red	26	— 28
Yellow	20	— 21
Sorghum	19	— 20
DARI, per 480 lb.:		
Smyrna	28	— 29
BUCKWHEAT, per 416 lb		
French	26	— 27
Russian	27	— 28
TARES, per 504 lb.:		
Konigsberg	46	— 48
BARLEY:		
Saale (448 lb.)	none.	
Chilian (448 lb.)		
Chevalier	33	— 40
Brewing	none.	
Californian (448 lb.)		
Chevalier	33	— 35
Brewing	27	— 28
Danish (448 lb.)	none.	
Danubian (400 lb.)	22	— 23
Ouchak (400 lb.)	21	— 24
Yerli (400 lb.)	21	— 24
Russian (400 lb.)	20	— 22
MALT, per 336 lb:		
Californian	36	— 37
Smyrna	36	— 37

OIL SEEDS.

LINSEED, per 416 lb.	s. s.	RAPESEED, per 416 lb	s. s.
English	60 to 63	English	57 to 59
Dutch	57 to 61	Madras	39 to 40
Bombay	55 to 57	Guzerat	42 to 44
Calcutta	52 to 55	Ferozepore	37 to 39
Russian	53 to 57	Jamba	32 to 33
Argentine	52 to 55	Ravison	30 to 31
SESAME, per 424 lb.		POPPYSEED, per 377 lb.	
Indian	53 to 55	Indian	47 to 49
COTTON SEED, per ton.		SUNFLOWERSEED, per 448 lb.	
Egyptian	158 to 160	Russian	50 to 54

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

THE MARKET CLOSED IN BUYERS' FAVOUR FOR ALMOST ALL ARTICLES, BUT LONDON BUSINESS, TAKING THE PEACE NEWS AS INDICATING A GENUINE SETTLEMENT, THIS TEMPORARY WEAKNESS WAS ALMOST INEVITABLE. THERE IS NO FEAR OF ANY SERIOUS REACTION IN PRICES.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, MONDAY.

Flour to-day was a dull market, while most sorts of meal gave way about half-a-crown on the ton. London makes of flour were hard to place at currencies, but the latter cannot be quoted differently from a week ago. Country flour was firm, but inquiry was not so good as in May. American flour was offered at comparatively low prices, say, 25s. 6d. for Mayblossom, 25s. for Golden Lily, 23s. 9d. for Guinea gold, 24s. for Grant's Gold and for Kenilworth. These are Minnesota types. From Kansas come Royal Lily at 23s. 9d., and Success at 24s. 3d. per sack. The finest flour of the Corbeil mills (French) was offered at 23s. 9d. per sack. Hungarian was quoted 33s. 3d. for Victoria Empress, and 33s. 9d. for Six Anchors. Maize germ meal was a little cheaper on the week, but rice meal, despite the large supplies of rice on passage, showed something of a rally. Middlings, bran, pollard, and barley meal were all somewhat cheaper to buy from a week ago.

LONDON FLOUR.		s. d.
Top Price	(per sack)	— 30
Town Whites	,,	26/6
,, Households	,,	23/6
No. 2	,,	21/6
COUNTRY FLOUR.		
Best Patents	(per sack)	24 — 26
Fine Roller made	,,	23 — 24
Ordinary Roller made	,,	22 — 23
Best Stone made	,,	21 — 22
FOREIGN FLOUR.		
Minnesota First Patents	(per sack)	25/6— 26
,, Second Patents	,,	23/6— 24
,, First Bakers'	,,	21/6— 22
,, Second Bakers'	,,	19/6— 20
Milwaukee Patents	,,	23/6— 24
,, Bakers	,,	18/6— 19
Kansas Patents	,,	24/6— 25
,, Bakers'	,,	19/6— 20
Cascadia	,,	23 — 23 6
Canadian	,,	23 — 24
Australian Patents	,,	21 — 22
,, Straight	,,	20 — 21
Hungarian	,,	32 — 34
French	,,	22 — 23
MEAL, &c.		
Whole Meal	(per ton	180—184
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	116—118
Bran, London Broad	,,	109—111
,, ,, Fine	,,	91— 95
,, Country Flake	,,	121—127
,, ,, Broad	,,	103 -107
Pollard	,,	93— 95
Biscuit Middlings	,,	125—128
Fine Middlings	,,	119 -121
Coarse Middlings	,,	107—109
Feeding Flour (Red Dog)	,,	116—118
Barley Meal	,,	129—133
Rye Flour	,,	176—186
Canadian Oatmeal	,,	210—220
Scotch Oatmeal	,,	265—305
Oat Flour	,,	345—365
Maize Flour	,,	169—171
Maize Meal	,,	118—120
Maize Cones	,,	177—179
Maize Germ Meal	,,	113—118
Pea Meal	,,	135—155
Bean Meal	,,	150—170
Rice Meal	,,	92— 94

LONDON TERM MARKET.

This market is held twice a day, except on Saturday, when there is no afternoon call. The market is open to elected members only. No business except for future delivery is done, and the smallest quantity that can be purchased is 1,000 quarters, or 4,800 centals. The name of the month stands for guaranteed delivery (if required) on or before the last day of that month, and the following have been the prices per cental recently made:—

WHEAT.—Calls.	A. June. s. d.	A. Aug't. s. d.	B. Oct. s. d.
May 26 11 a.m.	5 11 ... 6	1 ... 6	4
4 p.m.	5 11 ... 6	0 ... 6	4
May 27 11 a.m.	5 11 ... 6	0 ... 6	4
4 p.m.	5 11 ... 6	0 ... 6	4
May 28 11 a.m.	5 11 ... 6	0 ... 6	4
4 p.m.	5 11 ... 6	0 ... 6	4
May 29 11 a.m.	5 11 ... 6	0 ... 6	3
4 p.m.	5 11 ... 6	0 ... 6	3
May 30 11 a.m.	5 11 ... 6	0 ... 6	3
4 p.m.	5 11 ... 6	0 ... 6	3
May 31 noon	5 11 ... 6	0 ... 6	3
To-day, noon	5 11 ... 6	0 ... 6	3

Maize is firm at 4s. 6d. for June and 4s. 9d. for October delivery. Medium dates would come at 4s. 7d. July and August, and 4s. 8d. September.

Sales of wheat during May were 668,000qr.

By the letter A is signified duty to be paid by *buyer*, by B duty to be paid by *seller*. On the Finance Bill being passed, the members of the Term Market unanimously agreed to adopt the new duty as a sellers' obligation from the new cereal year (September 1). Up to that date it will fall on the buyer. In default of agreement, however, the Acts of 1876 and 1901 throw the burden on the buyer, a fact which those who operate on these prices without being members of the Term Market would do well to note.

The Term Market standard wheat is No. 1 Northern Spring American sold on the Duluth certificate. Other sorts of wheat can be bought at the above prices plus or minus agreed difference between the other sort and the standard quality. Quotations are by the "true hundredweight" or cental of 100lb. Maize, when quoted, is fair average quality from the United States.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORT.

Flour.—The market has been dull during the week, and buyers are holding off in anticipation of a change in the duty. **Grain.**—Maize steady and unchanged. Pease 3d. per boll lower. Beans and barley quiet. Oats continue in demand, and are 3d. per boll dearer. Oatmeal likewise in sellers' favour. **Mill Stuffs.**—Bran and thirds are more plentiful, and 2s. 6d. per ton cheaper.—McKINNON AND McDONALD (Glasgow).

Flour.—There is not much activity at present in the flour trade; buyers are more disposed to hold aloof from purchasing. Values on spot are as follows:—1st spring patents, 25s. 3d. to 26s. 3d.; 2nd spring patents, 24s. 6d. to 25s. 6d.; American winter patents, 24s. 9d. to 25s 3d.; extra fancies, 23s. 3d. to 23s. 9d. Offals.—The demand for bran is declining and further reductions in prices are being accepted. Buyers for delivery over the next three months are endeavouring to purchase at a reduction of 10s. per ton.—GREENHILL BROS.

Only a limited business in wheat has passed to-day, millers being disposed to hold off, although factors would make a slight concession from last week's values. Maize is firm, late prices being fully maintained, and occasionally slightly exceeded.—WOOD AND CO.

Wheat and flour in liberal supply. A slow trade; wheat 6d. and flour 3d. per sack lower. Maize dull, prices unchanged. Barley 3d. per quarter lower. Oats quiet trade, prices unchanged.

Milling Offals.—The demand for middlings has fallen off a bit, and occasionally 2s. 6d. per ton less is taken, but mills continue to keep fairly clear. Bran and pollard are very dull, and have dropped another 2s. 6d. per ton on the week.—JOHN BAWCOMB AND CO.

HOPS.

London, Monday.—The enquiry for good to choice English hops continues, and the few remaining parcels are being cleared from the market for consumption; prices are very firm.

HAY AND STRAW.

Lincoln, Friday.—Hay 80s to 100s, clover 90s to 100s, and straw about 50s per ton, at the stack.

Manchester, Wednesday.—Hay, 7d to 7¾d; clover, 7d to 7¾d; clover (Lincoln), 8d; wheat straw, 6½d; oat straw, 5d to 5½d per stone.

Manchester, Friday.—Hay, 7d to 7¼d; clover, 6¾d to 7¼d; straw, wheat, 6½d; ditto, oat, 5d to 5½d per stone.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—Good supplies, but the demand proved quiet, prices, however, being unaltered. Best clover, 95s to 110s; inferior ditto, 80s to 90s; specially picked hay, 117s 6d; good ditto, 110s; inferior ditto, 80s to 95s; mixture and sainfoin, 95s to 105s; and straw, 30s to 45s per load.

MANURES.

Liverpool, Friday.—Nitrate of soda further declined, and there were sellers in the early part of the week under £9, but to-day £9 to £9 2s 6d is generally asked on the spot; demand only moderate. Other fertilisers rather quiet, and also feeding stuffs; values as annexed:—Nitrate of soda, best quality, i.e., guaranteed 95 per cent, pure, in bags, £9 to £9 2s 6d per ton; East India bone meal, fair to prime, in bags, £4 10s to £4 15s per ton; Kainit, prime, 23 per cent. in bags, £2 7s 6d to £2 10s per ton; palm nut cake, prime, in bags, £5 15s per ton; linseed cake, American thin oblong, prime, in bags, £7 to £7 5s per ton; ditto, English, prime, in bulk, £8 to £8 7s 6d per ton; ditto, foreign round, prime, rich in oil, in bags, £8 per ton; cotton seed cake, N.A. decorticated, prime, in bags, £7 5s to £7 7s 6d per ton; ditto, English decorticated, prime, soft, in bags, £7 5s to £7 10s per ton; ditto, English, undecorticated, prime, in bulk, £4 10s to £4 15s; ditto, crushed, 20 to 25 per cent. oil, prime, in bags, £7 5s per ton; maize germ meal, prime, in bags, £5 17s 6d per ton; corn oil cake, 10 to 13 per cent. oil, prime, in bags, £6 5s per ton; rice meal, Rangoon, as imported, in bags, £5 per ton; Indian meal, coarse to fine grinding, prime, in bulk, 13s to 13s 6d per 240lb; linseed, fine bold feeding, in bags, £3 1s 3d to £3s 3s per qr (416lb); D.N.S. brand superphosphate of lime, guaranteed, 25 to 27 sol, in bags, £2 5s to £2 7s per ton at depot; ditto, ditto, 30 to 31 sol, in bags, £2 10s to £2 12s per ton at depot; ditto, ditto, 35 to 36 sol, in bags, £3 to £3 2s per ton at depot; basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed 30 to 35 per cent. phos, in bags, nominal; ditto, ditto, guaranteed 35 to 40 per cent. phos, in bags, nominal; ditto, finest quality, guaranteed 38 to 45 per cent. phos, in bags, nominal.—H. JONES LANGAR AND CO.

CORK BUTTER.

—	ORDINARY. Firsts.	Seconds.	Thirds.	Fourths.	MILD CURED FIRKINS. Superfine.	Fine.	Mild.	FIRKINS IN MARKET
	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.	
Monday	104	88	80	—	112	94	—	50
Tuesday	104	88	80	—	112	93	—	60
Wednesday	100	89	80	—	112	95	—	70
Thursday	104	90	80	—	115	96	—	40
Friday	104	94	81	—	115	91	—	50
Saturday	104	93	81	—	115	96	—	70

CATTLE.

Mtropolitan Market, Islington.

Monday, June 2nd, 1902.

	British.	Total. June 3rd, 1901.
Beasts	1,090	1,090 — 1,090
Sheep and lambs	9,590	9,590 — 8,480
Calves	10	10 — 10
Pigs	20	20 — —
Milch cows	50	50 — 30

Quotations per 8lb. (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.	Inferior. s. d.	Second. s. d.	First. s. d.
Beasts	3 6	4 8	5 4
Sheep	3 10	5 2	6 0
Lambs	5 2	5 10	6 6

Milch cows, per head, £16 to £22 10s.

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, 8; Eastern Counties, 639; Midland, Home, and West Counties, 261; Devon, 20; Ireland, 162.

We note to-day a rather larger supply of fat beasts, but fewer fat sheep, cows, and bulls, both these latter meeting with a firm trade at an advance of 2d per 8lb. an early clearance being made. Fat beasts, of which the supply consisted principally of Norfolks, were rather slower of sale, but fully maintained last week's currencies. The Irish arrivals included 107 stores, which were quoted at from £12 to £16 per head.

The following are top quotations, per 8lb. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day.	Monday, June 3, 1901.
Scotch	5d 3d to 5s	4d .. 4s 6d to 4s 7d
Devons	5s 2d to 5s	4d .. 4s 5d to 4s 6d
Norfolks	5s 3d to 5s	4d .. 4s 4d to 4s 6d
Runts	5s 2d to 5s	4d .. — —
Lincolns	5s 0d to 5s	3d .. 4s 2d to 4s 3d
Irish	5s 2d to 5s	3d .. — —
Fat cows	4s 6d to 4s	8d .. 3s 8d to 3s 10d

The supply in the sheep market showed an increase of 1,100, and consisted chiefly of Downs and half-breds, the supply also including 420 Scotch, 180 Yorkshires, and 3,030 from the Eastern Counties. Wether sheep sold slowly but steadily at last week's advance; but, ewes, nothwithstanding the short supply, favoured the buyer. Choice small lambs were in good request, but were bought on easier terms, rates for heavy sorts very low and irregular. Undermentioned quotations are at per 8lbs. (sinking the offal), and are for the best of each class penned.

	To-day.	Monday, June 3, 1901.
7½ to 8 stone Downs	6s 0d. to 6s	2d .. 5s 4d to 5s 6d
9 stone Downs	5s 8d to 5s	10d .. 5s 2d to 5s 4d
10 stone halfbreds	5s 4d to 5s	6d .. 4s 10d to 5s 0d
10 stone Yorkshires	5s 0d to 5s	2d .. 4s 8d to 4s 10d
12 stone Lincolns	5s 0d to 5s	2d .. 4s 6d to 4s 8d
10 stone Down ewes	4s 0d to 4s	2d .. 4s 8d to 4s 10d
11 st halfbred ditto	3s 8d to 3s	10d .. 4s 6d to 4s 8d
5 stone Down lambs	6s 4d to 6s	6d .. 6s 6d to 6s 8d
6 stone halfbred do	5s 8d to 5s	10d .. 5s 10d to 6s 0d

Calf and pig quotations not worth noting.

London (Central), Monday.—Moderate supplies; fair trade. Beef carcases, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; hind-quarters, 4s 8d to 5s; roastings, 5s 8d to 6s. Sheep—Ewe, 3s 6d to 3s 10d; wether, 4s 8d to 5s; hind-quarters, ewe, 4s 6d to 4s 10d; wether, 5s 8d to 6s. Pigs, large, 3s to 3s 8d; small, 4s to 4s 4d.

St. Ives, Monday.—Beasts, 824; sheep and lambs, 743; pigs, 424; horses, 4. Beef, 8s. 6d. to 9s. 6d.; mutton, 8s. 2d. to 9s. 11d.; lamb, 10d.; pork, 6s. 6d. to 7s. 6d. Fat cattle, good demand; stores fair. Fat sheep, good demand; stores fair. Fat and store pig, good demand. Milch cows, prices £15 to £23.

FOREIGN CATTLE.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts, 1,636. To-day's supply, compared with Monday last, showed an increase of 1,487, and consisted of 1,267 from the United States and 369 from Canada, trade for which was of a slower, but somewhat steadier, nature, at a slight advance on Saturday's quotations: The best States beasts on offer, to dress about 720lb, made from 4s. 11d. to 5s. per 8lb (offal given in); Canadians were quoted at from 4s. 8d. to 4s. 10d. No sheep in the market. On Saturday the supply consisted of 808 States beasts, and 1,435 from Canada, trade for which was dull and heavy. The best of the former were quoted at 4s 11d per 8lb, and the latter at 4s 9d. Sheep numbered 800 from the States, and were quoted at 4s 10d per 8lb, with a slow trade.

Liverpool, Monday.—Demand good for cattle, and prices unchanged. Good grass cattle easily made top quotation. Sheep met good trade at prices in sellers' favour; only really fat lambs made late rates. Beef 6d to 8d; mutton, 6½d to 9d; lambs, 8½d to 9½d per lb; dairy cows, £14 10s to £24 each. At market: 529 cattle and 9258 sheep.

THE BALTIC, 1 p.m.

STATE OF TRADE.

There is not much doing to-day, and wheat prices are sometimes 3d. lower from Saturday. Maize is steady. Barley is not in much request. Oats, beans, and millet are the turn in buyers' favour. Cottonseed keeps up in price for June shipment.

BUSINESS DONE.

WHEAT.—No. 1 Manitoba, 27s 6d, prompt shipment; No. 2 Manitoba, 27s, prompt shipment; No. 1 Northern spring, 28s, prompt shipment; No. 1 Californian, 30s 3d, on passage; Australian (Victorian), 30s 3d, on passage; Argentine, 29s 6d, on passage.

MAIZE.—Argentine, 21s, June shipment; Turkish, 21s 9d, June shipment; Caucasian, 22s, June shipment; Roumanian, 21s, on passage.

BARLEY.—Odessa, 19s 3d, on passage.

OATS.—Roumanian, 15s 3d, October shipment; Konigsberg, 21s, June shipment; Canadian, 20s 3d, on passage.

LINSEED.—Argentine, 51s 9d, on passage.

MILLET.—Roumanian, 18s 9d, prompt shipment; Smyrna, 22s, prompt shipment.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—Bacon: The arrivals from Ireland last week were 2,052 bales of bacon, and from foreign ports 9,483 bales of bacon. The bacon market was rather steadier last week, and Danish showed from 1s to 3s improvement in prices from the rates current the previous week. The market finally closed steady with Irish, 56s to 62s up to 69s; Danish, 54s to 61s up to 65s; Canadian, 55s to 56s up to 60s. Butter: The butter market was quiet, with Danish, 104s to 106s; Irish, 90s to 100s; French, 90s to 98s; Russian, 88s to 96s. Lard: The lard market was steady: Irish, 56s to 64s; Danish, 57s to 58s; American, 50s to 53s.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW.

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS.")

Trade in London.

On the chief market day of the week (Monday) trade at Islington was of a rather slower nature, owing to the higher rates demanded, and eventually obtained. The advance in value must be written at fully 2d. per 8lb., in many cases 4d., this remark applying to both prime and second quality, consignments of which were rather smaller. On Thursday but few sales were recorded, rates ruling in favour of the buyer. Fat butchering cows and bulls also met with a firmer trade, both as regards tone and value. At the foreign cattle market there was a much larger supply, with a marked downward tendency in value, markets being held on Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday, the latter being the largest, especially with regard to consignments from Canada. The total number of beasts offered for sale on both markets was 4,385, as against 3,322 during the previous week. The supply consisted of 1,035 British (decrease, 105) and 3,350 foreign (increase, 1,168). These latter comprised 1,719 from the United States and 1,631 from Canada. The following were the top rates obtained per 8lb. sinking the offal:—20-stone polled Aberdeens, 5s. 4d.; 90-stone polled Norfolks, 5s. 2d.; 100-stone Shorthorn ditto, 5s. to 5s. 2d.; 100-stone Lincolns, 4s. 10d. to 5s.; 90-stone Dublins, 5s.; 80-stone Devons, 5s. 2d.; 90-stone fat cows, 4s. 6d.; 100-stone fat bulls, 4s. to 4s. 2d. The sheep trade was confined to the Islington market, and was of a firm, steady nature, even at an advance of 2d. per 8lbs., an early clearance of best quality being made. Best Down lambs met with a ready sale on Monday, but trade for this article on Thursday proved dull and heavy, with a downward tendency in value. The total number penned was 11,320 (previous week, 9,960). Best pens made, per 8lb. as follows, sinking the offal:—7½ to 8-stone Southdowns, 6s. 2d.; 9-stone Downs, 5s. 10d.; 10-stone ditto, 5s. 8d.; 10-stone half-breds, 5s. 6d.; 10-stone Yorkshires, 5s.; 12-stone Lincolns, 5s. 2d.; 10-stone Down ewes in the wool, 4s. 10d.; 11-stone half-bred ditto, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; 4½ to 5-stone Down lambs, 6s. 8d. to 6s. 10d. on Monday, 6s. 4d. on Thursday. The calf trade, with a supply of 105, was decidedly slower, even at a decline of 2d. per 8lb.; the best were quoted at from 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.

Trade in the West.

So far the change in the weather has not brought about a corresponding improvement in values, but hardly sufficient time for this has as yet elapsed. We are looking forward hopefully to seeing better prices both for dairy beasts and barreners, in both of which there has undoubtedly been a slight reaction, whilst the wintry weather of the past fortnight prevailed, and which put a complete check on the growth of all kinds of vegetation, the frost, almost nightly, being attended with serious consequences to the young grasses. Only the very best grades of dairy beasts at present touch the prices which were general a fortnight or three weeks back, £20 being an outside value for a really good beefer (though £23 was reached in one instance at Dorchester since our last report), whilst three weeks or a month back £21 and £22 was paid for animals of a like stamp, and prices for the more ordinary runs now range from about £12 to £15 or £16, which is a much lower rate than was the case a short time since. The same may be said of barreners. Just now from £20 to £30 is the best price for useful bullocks against £32 to £38 in March and the early part of April. Fat bullocks met a fairly firm demand, though many consider the trade scarcely as strong as it was, except in the case of beefers of very choice weights and well-finished steers, which still make 11s. to 12s. per score, though a more average run for beefers and fat cows during the past week is from 10s. 6d. to 11s., and 9s. 6d. to 10s. 6d. for contract bullocks. Calves sell well; in fact, prices are as strong now as at any period of the season:—Best calves, 8½d. to 9d. per lb.; seconds, 7½d. to 8d. and the ordinary runs, 6d. to 7d. Fat sheep, though in fair demand, scarcely market as well as could be wished. Plenty of ewes of a poor stamp only make 6½d. per lb., and in some cases 7d., and wethers about 7½d., except for very well finished animals of nice weights and quality, which make 8d. Lamb has, with the advent of more genial weather, found a little more sale, though values have scarcely improved to any appreciable extent, except in special cases. In these, 10d. to 11d. is paid, and occasionally, for very well-finished Downs and cross-breds, another ½d., but the great bulk of the lamb now coming out sells from 8½d. to 9½d. Store sheep are keeping fairly firm, and for these particular classes mostly in demand a fairly good price is made, good flock ewes being very dear, as are forward condition hoggets and tegs; but some classes of lambs, from lack of demand, make a very unremunerative price. Pigs sell well, especially good-class porkers, and baconers of medium weights, which now bring 10s. to 11s. per score. Useful stores also market well.

Trade in Scotland.

The number of fat cattle on offer this week has been under an average, but the general quality good. A very active demand has been experienced throughout, and much the highest quotations of the season realised. Fat cows have also made exceptionally high prices. There was a fair supply of fat sheep, and these have met a trade nearly equal to the previous week, but in some cases 1s. a head less money had to be taken. Ewes were also the turn cheaper. Fat lambs were shown in large numbers. Owing to the continued cold, barren weather many of those on offer are very short of quality, the best selling fairly well at from 34s. to 39s., but inferior lambs making disappointing prices, some down as low as 22s. There was a very large supply of calves and a fair supply of pigs. The former met a worse trade at less money, while pigs just made about previous rates. There was a smaller supply of store sheep. Anything of a good class got easily sold at fully previous rates, but no improvement can be quoted on secondary descriptions, although a good clearance has been effected. Store cattle a small supply, owing to the high prices asked. Trade has been quiet throughout, and a portion of the secondary descriptions left over. Milch cows in much smaller numbers, and about £1 a head dearer. Quotations: Top price of cattle per live cwt., from 44s. to 47s.; current, from 41s. to 43s.; mutton, to 8½d. per lb.

Trade in Ireland.

Trade opened rather slow on Thursday morning in Dublin Market, the extreme rates which have been prevailing of late frightening off exporters. As the supply of cattle was shorter than the previous market, and really choice beasts were scarce, there was no change of price to quote in best-class beef, but for unfinished and half-meated cattle there was a very sluggish inquiry, and a large number were left over unsold. Good grass beef is beginning to come in freely, and those who bought in cattle in October and November last are realising a nice profit, in many cases as much as from £10 to £12 a head. Best ox and heifer beef made from 64s. to 66s. per cwt., and for extra choice up to 70s.; good second quality, from 56s. to 62s.; inferior, from 47s. 6d. to 52s. 6d. There was in immense market of sheep and lambs —10,423, or close on 3,000 over the previous week. With such a glut it was no wonder that a large number of inferior sheep and lambs had to be held over; but good sheep continued to sell very well, but ordinary classes were done fully 2s. per head all round. Choice lambs were scarce, and met with a fair inquiry for local trade, but thin and small lambs were practically unsaleable. Prime wether mutton was worth from 7½d. to 7⅝d. per lb.; ewe, 6½d. to 7d.; and rough sheep from 5½d. to 6d. per lb. Large heavy hoggets made from 41s. to 54s. each, and small to medium 28s. to 38s. Choice lambs sold at from 38s. up to 40s., but other qualities could be got from 15s. up. Coarse, thin sheep might be written down 3s. to 4s. on the week. Prime veal scarce, and met with fair inquiry at late rates, viz., 8d. to 9d. per lb.; coarse calves, from 4½d. per lb. Store cattle still quiet, as there will be no brisk buying till we have regular, settled, growing weather. Rather a short supply of milch cattle, and very few of the right sort, which buyers were on the look-out for. Prime, heavy springers made from £18 up to £23 per head. Inferior cows hard to part with at from £8 upwards.

The pig market was largely supplied, and with shippers in a very inactive mood prices receded fully 3s. per cwt. on the ordinary class of pigs and nice light weight pigs sold at from 47s. to 50s. per cwt., coarse from 34s. up.

LONDON.

London Central, Wednesday.—Supplies were fair, but met a dull demand, business again being slow. Beef arrivals included a few tons Scotch, 750 Liverpool sides, 1,600 hind-quarters and 700 fore-quarters American killed. Quotations:—Beef, English, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; American, Deptford killed, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; Liverpool, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; American refrigerated hind-quarters, 3s 8d to 4s 2d; fore-quarters, 2s 8d to 3s. Mutton—Scotch, 5s to 5s 2d; English wethers, 4s 8d to 5s; ewes, 3s 6d to 3s 10d. English lamb, 5s to 5s 6d. Veal—English and Dutch, 3s 8d to 4s 8d. Pork—English, 4s to 4s 4d; and Dutch, 3s 10d to 4s 2d per 8lb.

Islington, Thursday.—There was only a small number of beasts on offer this morning, mainly consisting of fat bulls and rough cattle, for which a rather quiet demand prevailed, prices, however, being about unchanged. Fat bulls, 3s 6d to 3s 10d. Sheep, in fair supply, met with quiet support at generally late prices: 7½ to 8-stone Down wethers (clipped), 5s 6d to 5s 8d; 9-stone ditto, 5s 4d; 10-stone half-breds, 5s 2d; 10-stone Down ewes (unclipped), 4s 6d to 4s 8d; 11-stone half breds ditto, 4s 2d to 4s 4d. Lamb trade quiet: 4½ to 5-stone Downs, 6s 6d to 6s 8d; 9-stone ditto, 6s to 6s 4d. Calves slow, and prices weak, the best on offer making 5s 2d per 8lb, to sink the offal. No pigs were brought forward. Total supplies—65 beasts, 2,830 sheep, 95 calves, and 5 cows.

London (Central), Friday.—Supplies were of good extent, and met a better demand at generally firm prices. Arrivals of beef comprised a fair amount of English, moderate of Deptford-killed American, 100 tons Scotch, 350 Liverpool sides, 3,600 hindquarters and 2,200 forequarters American. Beef, Scotch short sides, 5s; long, 4s 8d to 4s 10d; English, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; American, Deptford-killed, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; Liverpool, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; American refrigerated hindquarters, 4s to 4s 2d; forequarters, 2s 9d to 2s 11d. Mutton:—Scotch, 5s to 5s 4d; English wethers, 4s 8d to 5s; ewes, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; Canterbury, 2s 9d to 2s 11d; Wellington, 2s 8d to 2s 10d; Sydney and River Plate, 2s 4d to 2s 6d. English lamb, 4s 8d to 5s 4d. Veal:—English and Dutch, 2s 8d to 4s 8d. Pork:—English, 4s to 4s 2d; and Dutch, 3s 10d to 4s per 8lb.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Pork was 1s per score cheaper. Mutton, in the wool, was about 2d per 8lb dearer, and some shorn sheep made almost as much as the unshorn, owing to the low value of the fleece. Beef made 12s to 13s per score.

Basingstoke, Wednesday. — At Raynbord and Sons' sale yard there was a large attendance of buyers to meet a supply of 41 fat beasts, 65 calves, 736 fat sheep and lambs, 307 pigs, and 82 head of dairy and store cattle, for which the following prices were realised:—Prime shorthorn steers, up to £22 15s; heifers, up to £19 15s; and cows, £18. Devon steers made £18 15s; heifers, £19 10s; polled steers, £20 to £23. Prime fat Down wethers and young ewes made from 49s to 58s in the wool, and shorn up to 54s 6d; old Down ewes, 32s to 38s; Dorsets, 37s to 38s; choice three months' old sucking lambs, Downs, 28s to 42s; Southdowns, up to 30s 6d; Dorsets, 28s 6d; Exmoors, 24s to 25s, etc. Fat calves, 75s to 105s; small, 15s to 55s. Fat porkers, 40s to 59s; small, 29s to 38s; store pigs, 14s to 28s. Dairy cows, £8 to £23 15s. A clearance made of the supply of fat beasts, and late rates realised, but with less briskness in the biddings. An excellent show of fat sheep and fat lambs, both as regards numbers and quality, met a brisk inquiry and a good clearance. Milch cows were shown in large numbers, and met a good trade, a clearance being made. Store cattle met with more inquiry, and were cleared at satisfactory prices. Fat calves meet a ready sale at late high prices. Fat pigs of all descriptions are wanted, and meet a good trade. Store pigs made exceptionally high prices, and were easily cleared. Ruling values—Best quality fat beasts, 7¾d to 8¼d; 2nd ditto, 7d to 7½d; bulls, cows, and inferior, 6d to 6¼d; best quality fat sheep, 8d to 8½d; 2nd ditto, 7d to 7¾d; choice fat sucking lambs, 9d to 10d per lb; fat calves, 7d to 9½d per lb; fat porkers, up to 11s per score.

Bristol, Thursday.—Beef—Short supply to-day. Trade firm. Best qualities, 66s to 70s per cwt; secondary animals, 63s. Fair supply of mutton, steady business, best light wethers making 8d per lb; heavy wethers, 7½d; ewes, 6½d. Moderate supply of pigs, baconers making 10s per score; porkers, 10s 6d to 11s. Trade slow for store cattle.

Calne, Friday.—Present prices for prime pigs, in lots of not less than 10, on rail within 100 miles of Calne.

Prime Stores.	Thickness of fat in any part of the Back.	Price per Sc. s. d.
6 sc. 10 lbs. to 9 sc. 10 lbs.	2½ in. and under ...	10 0
Under 10 sc.	Not exceeding 2½ in. ...	9 6
Under 11 sc. 10 lb. ...	Not exceeding 2¾ in....	9 0
Under 12 sc.	Not exceeding 3 in. ...	

—C. & T. Harris & Co., Ltd.

Canterbury, Saturday.—The rain has put a little more life into the teg trade, but prices remain about the same. Ewes and lambs, 34s to 37s; yearling beasts are quoted at from £7 to £10 per head.

Carlisle, Saturday.—A large number of Irish store cattle were shown considering the extraordinary cold spell of weather which has set in, about 500 being offered. The attendance, however, was very small, and trade was dull. Small heifers realised £6 10s to £9; best specimens, £12 10s to £16 10s.

Cambridge, Monday.—Beasts, 292; beef, 8s to 9s 3d. Sheep, 851; mutton, 4s 4d to 5s 8d. Pigs, 445; pork, 6s to 7s 3d. Horses, 13. Only a few lots of store beasts shown. Fat beasts a fair show, and trade brisk. Fat sheep—A good number shown, and trade better. Stores—Some fair lots to hand, and nearly all cleared. Fat pigs—A better trade all round. Stores—A better trade than last week. Hay and straw—Short supplies.—J. WINSHIP.

Dorchester, Wednesday.—Business, after the holiday interregnum, has once again settled down into the ordinary grooves, and stocks having generally become reduced to a narrow compass, considerable scarcity was evinced on the part of buyers yesterday both at Messrs. Ensor's and also at Mr. Sampson's sales in replenishing their depleted stores, not only of fat stock, but also of dairy produce. As a consequence, sales to-day were characterised by a good deal of firmness at extreme values, this being especially the case with beef, veal, and the choicer grades of lamb, which sold very freely all round. A general range for fat bullocks may be given as from £17 10s to £22 5s (or from 11s to 11s 6d per score), cows selling at about 10s to 10s 6d. Best calves made £4 10s up to £6 5s each (or 8d to 8½d per lb); ordinary runs, 60s to 82s each (or 7d to 7½d). Fat sheep still meet a quiet sale at from 6½d to 7d for ewes, and 7½d for best wethers. Choice, well-finished cross-bred and Down lamb, 10d to 10½d; seconds, 8d to 9d.

Dublin, Thursday.—Marketed—1,120 beasts, 10,423 sheep, etc. Trade strong, for good cattle, 38s and 40s live paid to weigh; middling irregular. Sheep and lambs numerous, and 2s to 4s cheaper. Pigs 2s to 3s down. Beef, 48s to 70s; mutton, 6d to 7½d.

Dublin. Thursday.—Numbers in market—Beasts 1,129, decrease 36; sheep 10,423, increase 2,006; calves 55, increase 5. A fair market of grass beef in favour, of which stall-feds were rather neglected. Choice cattle in good demand at late rates; interior sorts and fat cows more difficult to negotiate. Sheep and lambs met a much quieter trade, with prices more in favour of buyers. Cattle—Live weight: Best, 37s to 41s per cwt; other sorts, 30s to 36s per cwt. Mutton—Dead weight, 6¾d to 8¼d per lb. GANLY, SONS, AND CO.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Beef trade scarcely so firm, but prices still dear. A three-year-old bullock sold for £30 5s; several made £27 apiece. Two bullocks purchased last week turned out to have cost 8¼d and 8⅔d per lb respectively. Yesterday fat bullocks made 6¾d to 7½d; some up to nearly 8d; secondary sorts, 6d to 7d; mutton, wether, 7½d to 8d; ewes, 6½d to 7d; lambs easier, 8d to 10d; veal also slightly cheaper, 7d to 8d; pork, for which there was a good demand, 5d to 6d.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons report a good supply of fat cattle of excellent quality. The numbers required for distant purchasers were con-

siderable, and, combined with a strong local demand, caused a sharp trade at higher prices for all the well-finished animals. Fat lambs were in fair request. Fat sheep were penned in good numbers, and sold well at advanced prices. The more genial weather caused a considerable improvement in the demand for ewes and lambs. Weaning calves were not so numerous, and sold dear. Fat swine sold freely, prices being slightly easier for all descriptions. Well-bred stores maintained recent values. The number of grazing cattle was short, but the prices advanced from 10s to £1 per head on previous weeks. Cows were in request, and realised more money. Cattle, 813; calves, 38; sheep, 2,432; swine, 1,491; horses, 81.

Leicester, Wednesday.—The deliveries of Norfolk and Lincolnshire fed bullocks were well up to the average. Trade ruled rather dragging, holders demanding 10s to 20s advance in prices. Choice bullocks, 7¾d to 8d; secondary, 7¼d to 7½d; cows, 6½d to 7d; heifers, 7¼d to 8d per lb. Sheep were in good supply, and sold freely at 8d to 8½d for choice; large sheep, 7¼d to 7¾d; ewes, 6½d to 6¾d; lambs, 9d to 10d; calves, 8d to 8½d per lb.

Newport, Wednesday.—A good attendance and large supply of mutton, beef being scarce. Business brisk all round. Best beef, 7½d to 7¾d; seconds, 7d; cows, 6½d; best wether mutton, 8d; lambs, 9½d to 10d; ewes, 7d; veal, 8d.

Norwich, Saturday.—Supply of store beasts small. Trade showed little improvement, and no change was noted in prices. Fat beasts dull at 8s 6d to 9s per 14lb. Sheep were offered to a fair extent. Trade was rather more active. Keeping hoggets, 32s to 44s per head; and lambs, 14s to 24s. Fat sheep were in steady demand at 8s 6d to 9s and 9s 6d per 14lb.

Romford, Wednesday.—Large supply of fat beasts; trade a little better. Best animals, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; middlings, 5s to 5s 2d per stone. Calves in average supply; trade about the same, at 5s 4d to 5s 6d per stone. Sheep in average supply; trade dear. Best sheep, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; middlings, 5s to 5s 2d per stone. Lambs in large supply; trade slow, at 6s to 6s 4d per stone. A very slow demand for the few store beasts offered. Pigs in small supply; slow demand.

Salford, Tuesday.—The supply of cattle was smaller than last Tuesday, and trade ruled firm and dear. There was a large increase in the number of sheep and lambs penned. Trade for sheep was worse, and buyers obtained a concession from the prices of last market day. Lambs met with a good demand, and better prices were obtained. About the same number of calves on offer at unchanged prices. Cattle, 5d to 8d; sheep, 6½d to 8¾d; lambs, 8½d to 10d; calves, 5d to 8d per lb. At market: Cattle, 1,326; sheep and lambs, 13,564; calves, 217.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—The show of milch beasts was moderate. Buyers were scarce, and only a small number of beasts changed hands. Best lots made £18 to £21, and secondary sorts £15 to £17 each. A few young stirks made £9 to £11 10s.

Spalding, Tuesday.—A fair number of fat beasts. Late rates well maintained; best quality, 8s 6d to 9s per stone. For store beasts there was an improved demand. Sheep trade brisk; mutton, 8d to 9d per lb; lambs, to 35s each.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There were on offer 143 cattle, 10 calves, 384 sheep, 107 lambs, and 252 pigs. A small show of best cattle, with a firm trade at 9s per stone, and in a few cases 3d more was asked and obtained: rougher kinds, 6s 6d to 7s 6d; calves, 5d to 8d; young sheep, 9d; wools, 9½d; ewes, 7d; tups, 6d per lb; lambs, 25s to 35s.

Thame, Tuesday.—There was a large entry of all kinds of stock. Trade was not quite so brisk as former weeks, but for good quality mutton prices ruled firm. Beef continues in great demand, with a ready clearance at late prices. At Messrs. Bond and Burrows' sale a very large company was present throughout to meet a supply of 60 fat beasts, 450 fat and store sheep and lambs, 51 fat and weaning calves, 260 fat and store pigs, and several horses. Fat bullocks made from £22 to £26 2s 6d: fat heifers, from £21 to £25 10s; fat ewes, 45s to 55s; fat wethers, 50s to 58s 6d; fat lambs, 30s to 45s; couples, up to 60s; fat calves, £3 to £4 18s; weaning cow calves, 20s to 60s; bull calves, 14s to 55s; bacon hogs, 9s 6d per score. Stores in demand.

Wakefield, Wednesday.—Fair supply and attendance, and beef trade a little slower. Best quality beef made 7¼d to 7½d per lb, and secondary sorts 6¾d to 7d per lb. Choice young sheep made 7¾d to 8¼d per lb, and secondary sorts 6¾d to 7¾d per lb. Numbers at market—Beasts, 1,569; sheep, 4,325.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Beasts a small supply: fair demand for best; sheep and lambs good supply; moderate trade; calves small supply; moderate sale. Beef, 6½d to 8¼d per lb; mutton, 6½d to 8¾d per lb; lamb, 9d to 10d per lb; veal, 6½d to 8d per lb.

Worcester, Saturday.—Good attendance, and trade fairly brisk. Best quality beef scarce, and prices very firm. Large supply of sheep and lambs. Mutton steady; lambs easier.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Wednesday.—Beast entries to-day totalled 788 head, which is a decrease of 178 as against last Wednesday's figures, and comprised 562 United States and 196 Canadian. Trade ruled dull and easier at 4s 8d to 4s 10d and 4s 6d to 4s 8d per 8lb, sinking the offal, respectively.

Yorkhill, Monday.—The usual weekly sale of Canadian cattle was held to-day, when there were in the lairages 237 cattle landed by the Marina (s.), from Montreal. The values received showed a slight increase. Small, neat, well-fed beasts secured the best inquiry, and sold very dear. Bulls met a dear trade. The dead-weight quotations may be given as follows:—Bullocks, best quality, medium weight, to 70s per cwt; secondary and heavier, 63s to 67s; bulls, best class, handy sorts, 58s to 60s, and down to 56s per cwt.

Yorkhill, Tuesday.—A sale of American cattle was held to-day, at which 127 animals, landed by the Livonian, from Montreal, were offered. They were above the average as regards quality, and were all in good condition. Small, neat, well-fed bullocks secured the best inquiry, and sold dear. The number of bulls on offer were not sufficient for the requirements of the trade, and in consequence they realised very high prices. The dead weight quotations may be given as follows:—Best bullocks, medium weights, 67s per cwt, and for really choice up to 70s; secondary and heavier, down to 65s; best bulls, 58s to 60s; secondary and heavier, down to 56s.

POULTRY AND GAME.

Smithfield, Saturday.—Smaller supplies experienced good support at firm prices. Quotations:—Fowls: Yorkshire, 2s 9d to 3s 6d; Essex, 3s to 3s 3d; Boston, 2s 6d to 3s 3d; Surrey, 3s 9d to 4s 9d; Sussex, 3s 3d to 4s; Welsh, 2s 9d to 3s 3d; Irish, 2s 6d to 3s; turkeys, cocks, 6s to 8s; hens, 3s 6d to 4s; goslings, 3s 3d to 3s 9d; Aylesbury ducklings, 3s 6d to 4s 6d; country ditto, 3s to 3s 9d; pigeons, 7d to 11d; wild rabbits, 6d to 8d; tame, 9d to 1s each; Australian, 8s to 11s per dozen. Russian game: Partridges, 1s to 1s 2d; ptarmigan, 11d to 1s; black game, 1s to 1s 3d each.

EGGS.

Tuesday.—Bedale: 14 for 1s. Gainsborough: 16 for 1s. Settle: 16 or 17 for 1s. Spalding: 15 or 16 for 1s.

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 13 and 14 for 1s. Colne: 1s 4d per score. Keighley: 13 or 14 for 1s. Kirbymoorside: 17 or 18 for 1s. Knaresborough: 13 or 14 for 1s. Louth: 18 for 1s. Market Weighton: 18 for 1s. Masham: 16 and 17 for 1s. Northallerton: 14 to 15 for 1s. Stockton 13 or 14 for 1s. Hereford: 15 to 18 for 1s. Market Drayton: 15 to 16 for 1s. Uttoxeter: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per score.

Thursday.—Brigg: 16 or 17 for 1s. Penistone: 15 for 1s. Ripon: 13 or 14 for 1s. Scarborough: 14 for 1s. Wetherby: 13 or 14 for 1s.

Friday.—Easingwold: 18 to 20 for 1s. Helmsley: 17 or 18 for 1s. Leyburn: 16 for 1s. Lincoln: 14 or 15 ford 1s. Leeds: Yorkshire, 8s 6d to 9s per 120; Irish, 6s 10d to 8s 6d; Danish, 7s to 8s; Austrian blues, 5s 6d to 5s 9d; ditto reds, 4s 11d to 5s 4d. Grimsby: Austrian, 5s 2d to 5s 10d per 120; Russian, 5s 1d to 6s 2d; Danish, 6s 9d to 7s 10d.

Saturday.—Appleby: 14 to 15 for 1s. Berwick: 10d per dozen. Carlisle: 12 to 13 for 1s. Doncaster: 15 and 16 for 1s. Grantham: 14 or 15 for 1s. Howden: 17 or 18 for 1s. Lancaster: 11 to 13 for 1s. Malton: 16 for 1s. Pontefract: 15 for 1s. Retford: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per score. Richmond: 14 or 15 for 1s. Stokesley: 16 or 17 for 1s. Whitby: 14 and 15 for 1s. York: 14 for 1s.

BUTTER.

Tuesday.—Bedale: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per 24oz roll. Gainsborough: 1s per lb. Settle: 1s to 1s 0½d per lb. Spalding: 9d per lb.

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 1s 1d per lb. Colne: 1s 1½d per lb. Keighley: 1s and 1s 1d per lb. Kirbymoorside: 8d to 9d per lb. Knaresborough: 1s 2d to 1s 4d per 24oz. roll. Louth: 7d to 8d per lb. Market: Weighton: 9d per lb. Masham: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per 24oz roll. Northallerton: 1s 2d to 1s 4d per 24oz roll. Stockton: 10d to 1s 1d per lb. Hereford: 1s to 1s 2d per lb. Market Drayton: 10d to 1s per lb. Uttoxeter: 11d and 1s per lb.

Thursday.—Brigg: 9d to 10d per lb. Penistone: 1s 2d per lb. Ripon: 1s 4d to 1s 5d per 24oz. roll. Scarborough: 1s per lb. Wetherby: 10d to 1s 1d per lb.

Friday.—Easingwold: 9d to 10d per lb. Grimsby: Danish, 108s to 112s per 112lb; Dutch, 99s to 101s; Finland, 103s. Helmsley: 8d to 11d per lb. Leeds: Danish, 102s to 110s per 112lb; Irish creameries, 98s to 106s; Colonial, 102s to 108s; York lump, 12s 6d to 13s 6d per stone; ditto long rolls, 1s 1lb, 1s 4d to 1s 6d; fresh butter, in 1lb prints, 1s to 1s 1d per lb. Leyburn: 1s 1d to 1s 3d per roll of 24oz. Lincoln: 11d to 1s per lb. Otley: 1s 3d to 1s 5d per roll of 24oz.

Saturday.—Appleby: 9d to 10d per lb. Berwick: 10d per lb. Carlisle: 9d to 10d per lb. Doncaster: 10d to 1s per lb. Grantham: 9d to 1s per lb. Howden: 9d to 10d per lb. Lancaster: 11d to 1s per lb. Malton: 9d to 11d per lb. Pontefract: 10d to 1s per lb. Retford: 1s per lb. Richmond: 10d to 11d per lb. Stokesley: 10d to 11d per lb. Whitby: 9d to 10d per lb. York: 10d to 11d per lb.

CHEESE.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Cheese arrived more liberally in the Glasgow market this week. The quality is improving. A moderate demand was experienced. Cheddars and Dunlops were quoted from 52s to 54s per cwt. There was a fair trade passing in Canadians and New Zealands at late figures. The impression is that as cheese from home farmers begins to reach the market in larger numbers values will ease.

Newport, Wednesday.—There was a big supply of cheese on hand, and a brisk trade was done. Prices were as follows:—Caerphillies, 35s to 40s; fancy dairies, 43s to 45s; Cheddars, 60s to 65s; Derbies, 61s.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—A good supply of greenstuffs was available this morning, and experienced a fair sale. Potato trade quiet. Arrivals of fruit were on a good scale, and evidenced a steady demand. Greenstuffs: Cabbages, 3s 6d to 4s; cauliflowers, 5s to 7s per tally; spinach, 2s to 2s 6d; beetroots, 3s to 4s per bushel; carrots, 4s to 6s; turnips, 5s to 6s; mint, 3s to 4s; radishes, 8d to 9d per dozen bunches; horseradish, 1s 6d to 2s per bundle; rhubarb, 2s to 2s 6d per dozen bundles; Egyptian onions, 10s per bag; spring ditto, 2s to 2s 6d per dozen bunches. Potatoes: Maincrops, 80s to 90s; Reading Giants, 35s to 40s; Blackland Up-to-Dates, 40s per ton; New Jersey, 10s to 10s 6d; Canary, 7s to 9s; Teneriffe, 8s; St. Malo, 9s per cwt; Lisbons, 3s 6d to 4s per case. Fruit: English grapes, 2s 6d to 6s 6d; Belgian, 1s 6d to 2s 6d per lb; oranges, 8s to 25s; lemons, 8s to 18s per case; English tomatoes, 6d to 10d per lb; Canary, 3s to 4s per case; pineapples, 1s 6d to 4s 6d each; Canary bananas, 7s 6d to 12s 6d per bunch; Australian and Tasmanian apples, 8s to 12s per case.

SEEDS.

London, Monday.—Messrs. John Shaw and Sons, Seed Merchants, of Great Maze Pond, Borough, London, S.E., write that the seed market, as might be expected at this dull time of the year, is now thinly attended, and presents no feature of interest. Some few transactions are reported in Chilian red clover seed, but the high prices now asked do not encourage business. For mustard and rapeseed former prices are asked meantime, notwithstanding the advanced season, a few orders continue to drop in for tares. Both canary and hemp seed must be quoted dearer—the latter substantially so, and there are indications of the advance continuing. Other kinds of bird seeds, however, show no alteration in value. For blue peas and haricot beans the market remains firm.

COLONIAL DAIRY PRODUCE

London, Friday.—Butter: The last week's import of Canadian butter was over 2,000 cwts, and the season may, therefore, be fairly said to have begun. It is 500 cwts in excess of the corresponding week last year. Prices for choicest salt Canadian in spot are 98s to 100s, and finest 94s to 96s; saltless makes about 2s per cwt more. The end of the New Zealand season is at hand, and the quantity left in holders' hands is not sufficient to make a market quotation. Danish butter still maintains its price, although the Copenhagen market is reported quiet, and it will not, therefore, be surprising if next week it falls 2 kroner, which would place it on a par with last year. Cheese: There has been a sentimental fall of value in old Canadian and New Zealand cheese of about 2s per cwt, the former of which now stands at 58s to 60s, and the latter at 56s to 58s, while during the week. New Canadian on the spot is making in new Canadian the c.i.f. prices have fallen considerably 54s to 55s, so that the relative values of old and new season's Canadian are ridiculous, and the old must reassert its value shortly.—W. WEDDEL AND CO.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Thursday.—Linseed.—Owing to restricted demand, and a quieter oil market, prices have declined, but closed with an advance. Calcutta, spot London, 54s; passage, 54s; June-July, 54s 6d. La Plata, on passage, 53s. Hull easier. Calcutta, May-June, 54s 6d; La Plata spot, 51s 6d; to the Continent, Bombay, May-June, 57s 6d; June-uly, 57s 6d; Calcutta, June-July, 54s 9d; La Plata, June-July, 52s 6d. Linseed oil has experienced a considerable decline. We quote spot in pipes £32; barrels, £32; June-August, £31 15s; September-December, £31. Hull naked spot, £31 10s; June-August, £31 5s; September-December, £30. Linseed cakes are firm. We to-day quote London-made £7 17s 6d to £8 ex mill; American Western £7 7s 6d to £7 10s; Russian, £7 12s 6d to £7 17s 6d; cotton cakes steady; London made £4 12s 6d to £4 17s 6d. Rapeseed easier. Brown Cawnpore, May-June, 36s 9d; Brown Calcutta, May-June, 36s. To the Continent we quote Yellow Guzerat 41s 6d; Yellow Cawnpore, June-July, 39s 9d; Brown Cawnpore, May-June, 36s 9d; Brown Calcutta, May-June, 35s 6d; Ferozepore, May-June, 36s 9d; Jamba, June-July, to Hull, 31s 9d sellers. Cottonseed quieter, tendency lower. Spot London, £7 17s 6d; June, £7 18s 9d; November-January, £6 13s 9d; Hull spot, £8; May-June, £7 17s 6d sellers; November-January, £6 11s 3d. Cargoes, November, £6 15s; December-January, £6 13s 9d; Bombay to Hull, June-July, £5 1s 3d.—THE PRODUCE BROKERS COMPANY, LIMITED.

Hull, Tuesday.—Linseed—There are no arrivals in linseed. The market since our last has been steady, but quiet, and closes dull; prices practically unchanged. Calcutta, April-June, 55s wanted. River Plate: There are sellers of spot seed in warehouse at 52s; May-June, 53s. Cottonseed—Value further improved for old crop, with business done on spot at £8; passage and May loading made £7 17s 6d to £7 18s 9d, and June sold at £7 17s 6d. New crop, first half October done at £7 2s 6d, and all the month £6 18s 9d, whilst November-January again sold at £6 13s 9d. To-day the market is quiet, with a tendency to lower prices in all positions, and £6 12s 6d accepted latter months, with further sellers. Linseed oil: 31s 6d spot; 31s 6d June-August; 30s September-December. Cotton oil: 25s spot; 25s June-August; 22s 4½d November-April. Crude: 24s spot; 24s June-August; 21s November-April. Rape oil: Jamba naked, 24s 3d spot; 1st quality, 25s spot. Linseed cakes: A firm market, with good trade for time of year. Cotton cakes are dearer; best makes, £5 5s; seconds, £4 10s.—KEIGHLEY MAXSTED AND CO.

Mark Lane, Monday.—The trade continues quiet and inactive, with occasional lower prices being accepted for parcels afloat. Russians are in good supply, and are 1s 3d per ton less money in mats, and 2s 6d to 5s per ton less in bags. Americans have come to hand rather more freely and with some fairly heavy arrivals; values are momentarily depressed, and to-day's quotations are 2s 6d per ton under last week's. Calcutta made in bags are unchanged in price. London made are the turn lower at 2s 6d per ton less money. Cotton cakes: The market is well supplied, while the demand is of the smallest possible character. English meet a slow sale, and prices favour buyers at 2s 6d per ton under last Monday's prices, and Egyptian slightly easier. Decorticated are not much inquired after, but holders remain firm at unchanged prices, and meal is also unchanged. Rape cakes: Quiet; East Indian unchanged. Maize germ meal: The quantity on offer is not large, but with only a retail demand, values remain steady at last week's prices for American, and 2s 6d to 5s per ton less money for English. Rice meal: Parcels of Rangoon afloat have been sold at £4 6s 3d to £4 7s 6d ex ship, but for autumn shipments £4 12s 6d to £4 15s is the price asked.—PINNOCK BROS., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

	Per ton. £ s. d.	Per ton £ s. d.
LINSEED CAKES.		
London made ..... ex mill	7 12 6	to 7 15 0
American ..... ex ship	6 17 6	to 7 0 0
Russian, in mats ..... ex dock	7 6	3 to 7 8 9
Russian, in bags ..... ex dock	7 10 0	to 7 15 0
Calcutta	7 10 0	to 7 15 0
COTTONSEED CAKES.		
London made ..... ex mill	4 12 6	to 4 15 0
Egyptian ..... ex dock	4 7 6	to 4 10 0
Decorticated ..... ex dock	6 5 0	to 6 12 6
Meal ..... ex dock	6 10 0	to —
RAPE CAKES.		
East India	3 15 0	to 4 0 0
MAIZE.		
English germ meal ..... ex mill	5 10 0	to 5 15 0
American ..... ex dock	5 11 3	to 5 12 6
RICE MEAL.		
Rangoon ..... ex dock	5 0 0	to

—PINNOCK BROS., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

WATERLOO ROUND FEEDING CAKES, £6 17s 6d PER TON. WATERLOO ROUND 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES, £8 10s 0d PER TON. WATERLOO ANGLO SHAPE 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES, £8 5s 0d PER TON; WATERLOO 97 PER CENT. PURE EGYPTIAN COTTONSEED CAKES, £5 10s 0d PER TON. ALL NET CASH AND F.O.R. IN HULL.

MOLASSINE FEEDING MEAL, packed in bags, of 1½cwt. each. Price per cwt., 7s. 6d. Price per ton, £6 15s., on rail at works, Silvertown, Essex, and F.O.R. Liverpool. A sample lot of 6cwt., in 4 bags of 1½cwt. each, delivered free to any station in England on receipt of remittance for £2 11s 0d

POTATOES.

Southwark, Monday.—During the past week the arrivals of old potatoes have been light, the demand steady, and prices firm. The following are this day's quotations:—Lincoln Up-to-Dates, 55s to 60s per ton; Blackland Up-to-Dates, 50s to 55s per ton; Forfar and Fife Up-to-Dates, 50s to 60s per ton; ditto Bruce, 50s to 60s per ton.

Borough, Saturday.—Only small arrivals, and although the demand was quiet, prices ruled firm. Scottish maincrops, 90s; Blacklands, Up-to-Dates, 50s; Lincoln ditto, 65s per ton; New Jersey, 9s 6d; Teneriffe, 8s to 10s; St. Malo, 8s 6d to 9s per cwt; and Lisbons, 3s 9d per box.

Spitalfields, Saturday.—Supplies light, but the demand ruled quieter. Quotations: Best Lincoln Up-to-Dates, 60s to 70s; Blackland ditto, 45s to 50s; Wisbech ditto, 60s to 65s; Scotch ditto, 65s; Scotch maincrops (grey soil), 70s; Lincoln maincrops, £5s to 75s; Reading Giants, 50s; Blackland Garlons, 40s per ton. New St. Malos, 9s to 9s 6d; Jersey, 10s; Teneriffe and Canary, No. 2, 10s; No. 3, 9s; Maltese rounds, 8s per cwt; and Lisbons, 3s 9d per box.

London (Great Northern), Saturday.—A fair supply was available this morning, but the attendance of buyers was small, and the demand was of a poor character. Blacklands, 45s to 50s; Lincoln maincrops, 60s to 70s; and Up-to-Dates, 55s to 60s per ton.



STOCK AND SHOW NOTES.

By Herdsman.

On Thursday and Friday next, at Ipswich, will take place the annual show of the Suffolk Agricultural Association. Ipswich has always heartily welcomed the association, and on the present occasion the Mayor and Corporation, together with the inhabitants, have done everything possible to make the show a complete success. Thanks to the liberality of local gentlemen, the association were able to offer a sum of £1,500 in prizes, and I hear that the result has been a record entry of live stock and implements. There are nearly twice as many standholders, constituting a record in this respect also, and the competition for the prizes for dairy produce, butter-making, sheep-shearing, and horse-shoeing promises to be excellent. The model co-operative dairy, exhibited in working upon the Danish principle, will be one of the most instructive and interesting exhibits of the entire show, leading up, it is hoped, to practical results, in combination amongst dairy farmers and those interested in Suffolk co-operation to reduce expenses and increase returns. The Suffolk horses have always been a grand feature at the Suffolk show, and this year Sir Cuthbert Quilter, Bart., M.P., the president of the Suffolk Horse Society, has introduced an attractive feature by offering prizes for teams of four, to be shown in harness with waggon. These will be judged and paraded in the large exhibition ring at 1 p.m. on the first day, and the director of the show (Mr. S. R. Sherwood) has decided upon a grand parade, opposite the grand stand, of the teams, and all the Suffolk horse prize-winners at 3.45 p.m., on June 5th, which should prove a most impressive and interesting sight.

I have received a copy of a private catalogue of the Aberdeen Angus herd belonging to Mr. J. H. Bridges, Langshott, Horley, Surrey. It consists of fifty cows, heifers and heifer calves, ten bull calves, and four stock bulls, the latter being: Equerry of Ballendalloch, calved in March last year, and, as its name indicates, was bred by Sir George Macpherson Grant, Bart.; Breckan, calved January 25th, 1898, bred by Mr. Alexander Geddes; Parthian, calved December 20th, 1900, bred by owner; and Prince Edward of South Ella, calved January 17th, 1901, bred by Mr. Arthur Egginton. All the animals of the herd are by first-class stock, and some have won prizes at various agricultural shows. Langshott Home Farm is half-a-mile from Horley Station (midway between London and Brighton, on the main line of the L.B. and S.C.R.). The herd can be seen by appointment with Mr. Albert Pulling, Beddington, near Croydon.

The cattle disease in South Africa, to which I referred in a previous issue, is still prevalent, and there has been considerable mortality in the districts of Salisbury and Umtali, but the loss in Matabeleland has been comparatively little, and it is anticipated that the disease will die out with the frosts during the approaching winter. The British South Africa Company states experts from Cape Colony who had been consulted in regard to the disease concurred with the chief veterinary surgeon of Rhodesia, that the disease is the ordinary redwater, which is known to have existed in South Africa for many years, although the type during the present outbreak has been severe. It is stated that the only succesful means of dealing with this disease is by protective innoculation, for which preparations are being carried out.

The Argentine Minister of Agriculture, in the course of a communication to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, states, says a news agency, that foot and mouth disease has been non-existent in Argentina for many months. In the course of the last six months 630,000 cattle and one million sheep have been brought into Buenos Ayres for the consumption of the population without a single case of disease having been detected. During the same period Argentina exported to South Africa and Brazil more than 120,000 cattle and 28,000 sheep without the occurrence of any epizootic disease. The refrigerating establishments prepared in the same six months about 500,000 cattle and 2,500,000 sheep, which were all minutely inspected and found to be healthy. The Government declares that in the event of foot and mouth disease breaking out it would be the first to notify the fact by prohibiting the exportation of live-stock, being anxious to uphold the reputation of the principal source of Argentina's wealth. It is calculated that the farmers have more than five million young cattle ready for exportation.

The Board of Agriculture are informed by the High Commissioner for Canada that the Canadian Government have sent Mr. A. G. Hopkins, Veterinary Quarantine Officer for Canada, to this country to apply the tuberculin test to all cattle over six months old intended for export, for breeding purposes, from the United Kingdom to Canada. All communications regarding the testing of animals should be addressed to Mr. Hopkins at the Canadian Government Agency, 52, St. Enoch Square, Glasgow.

Shropshire breeders will doubtless be greatly encouraged by the following paragraph taken from a Buenos Ayres paper of recent date:—"A well-known exporter, who has hitherto imported solely Lincolns, talks this season of sending out an equal number of Lincoln and Shropshires. We hear that the Shropshires are steadily coming more into favour for crossing with the Lincoln 'mestizas.' Not only in the South, but also in Cordoba, the Shropshires and other 'dirty-faced' breeds are receiving more attention."

The growth of the East Surrey Agricultural Association and local chamber of agriculture is fully shown by the additions made to the schedule of the show, to be held in the Addiscombe Road, Croydon, on Wednesday, July 9th. The horse section, as usual, takes the lead with nineteen classes, sheep have six classes, pigs three classes, bulls four, and cows and heifers nine classes. Prizes are also offered in a milking competition, and for ponies, jumping, tradesmen's turnouts, and for shepherds. All entries close on July 21st. Applications for schedules and entry forms to be made to the Secretary, Mr. H. Clark, 83, High Street, Croydon.

The entry forms for the next volume of the Hunter Stud Book have now been circulated by the Hunters' Improvement Society. I would remind those breeders who have not received the forms that when applying for same they should state what the entry will be, for there are three forms, viz., one for the entry in the Supplement of mares and fillies (winners of medals and prizes at Associated shows and inspected mares), another for the registration in the Stud Book of mares and fillies, and the other for the registration in the Stud Book of colts from such registered dams. The conditions of entry are fully set forth on each form, and they indicate the prominence given to the principle of registration by pedigree, while the Supplement offers every inducement for entry to owners of prize-winners at Associated shows. Any information required on this matter can be had of the Secretary, Mr. A. B. Charlton, 12, Hanover Square, London, W.

A most cheering report is given by that veteran breeder of Yorkshire pigs, Mr. Sanders Spencer, of the demand for his large and middle white pigs. He despatched from his large herd at Holywell Manor, near St. Ives, Hunts, over forty boars, sows, and yelts during the last week. Of these six were shipped to Holland, twenty went to Scotland, seven to Notts, one on to Norths, two to Beds, three on to Somersetshire, one to Pembrokeshire, and one to Warwickshire. His sales of boars, sows, and yelts total over two hundred since the new year, whilst the average price realised is said to exceed that of any previous year during the nearly forty years' existence of the large herd. The whole of the pigs sold, save one, were bred by Mr. Spencer.

Messrs. Alfred Mansell and Co. recently shipped to Riga, per SS. "Como," of the Wilson line, from Hull, on behalf of a Russian landed proprietor, two high-class Shorthorn bulls, two Shorthorn in-calf heifers, and three Berkshire pigs. The bulls were a short-legged massive roan Waterloo bull, Lord Newport 2nd 79285, by Premier Statesman 79589 from Lady Sherlowe by Dictator 63890; and Scottish Star, a good red sire by Star of Scotland 77964 from Duchess of Marathon by Count Marathon 54135. The heifers consisted of a beautiful two-year-old roan by Lucifer 77138 from Thurslarton Fawsley 6th by Barrington Duke, and Dewdrop, a good four-year-old by Midas from Snowdrop by Byron 5th 7007. Two in-pig Berkshire sows hailed from Mr. R. W. Hudson's well-known herd, and were of exceptional merit, viz., Danesfield Signet by Manor Favourite 7831, and Danesfield Daffodil by Jack of All Trades 6500. The boar, a well-grown good animal, nicely marked, was selected from Mr. Jefferson's celebrated prize-winning stock, and owned as his sire that very successful getter Peel Swansea 6231 from Patience 6243 by Cricketer 5887.



THE SUSSEX BULL illustrated above is "Bewbush Marquis" 1720, sire Bewbush King 1575, dam Galatea 5th 6931, by What's Wanted 1329. He was bred by, and is the property of Mr. P. F. R. Saillard, Buchan Hill, Crawley, Sussex. At the Bath and West Society's Show at Plymouth, last week, "Bewbush Marquise" was exhibited in the class for Sussex bulls calved in 1898 or 1899 (he was born on March 14, 1899), and he won the First Prize.



The Brookfield Stud Sale.

The ninth annual sale of horses belonging to Mr. Burdett-Coutts, M.P., took place on Friday at the Brookfield Stud, Highgate. Unfortunately, the weather in the morning was very threatening, and throughout the afternoon rain fell, so that the attendance of buyers, etc., was nothing like so large as usual. The Brookfield Stud is famed throughout the land, and details of Mr. Burdett-Coutts' remarkable successes would be superfluous here. Suffice it to say, that all the animals offered on Friday were of the usual high quality, and some high prices were realised. Some of the choicest lots, however, were bought in, amongst these being a pair of superbly matched brown mares, Her Grace and Worcester Juliet, a bonafide bid of 700 guineas being considered insufficient. Mr. Burdett-Coutts, M.P., wisely declined to separate them. Prior to the sale a large number of guests were entertained at luncheon, at which Mr. Burdett-Coutts presided, and, in response to the toast of "Success to the Brookfield Stud," proposed by Colonel Saunderson, the hon. gentleman referred to the introduction to our country districts of the motor car. He had, he said, frequently asked himself during the past twelve months whether or not what he might term the minor agricultural industry of horse-breeding was to be destroyed and whittled away, owing to the advent of the pest named. On serious reflection, he thought not, for horses had withstood quite as great a shock—to wit, introduction of railways. He could not, as a matter of fact, bring himself to believe that English people would be willing to resign the pleasure and the delight of handling a pair of well-matched harness horses for the fleeting enjoyment to be derived from hanging on to a wheel. In this connection it may be mentioned that the following humorous notice appeared in the catalogue:—"A motor car of more than usually hideous proportions, colour, noise, and smell will be going in the stud grounds up to the time of the sale in order to thoroughly accustom the horses to the conditions under which they have to meet these machines on country roads, which is a very different thing from meeting them in the town traffic."

At the conclusion of the luncheon the company adjourned to the sale ring, the auctioneers being Messrs. Warner, Sheppard, and Wade, Ltd., of Leicester. Competition on the whole was fairly brisk, but no sensational prices were realised. The largest bid was 700 guineas for an altogether exceptional pair of brown mares, standing just over 16 hands—a perfectly matched couple, superb in action and irreproachable in character. Large though the figure was, however, it did not as previously mentioned, result in a sale. Mr. J. H. Smith, of New York, who was a considerable buyer, paid 450 guineas, for Soapsuds and Bubbles, a chestnut pair with bold and lofty action, and also gave 250 guineas for Royal Norfolk, a perfect model of a brown mare, which has been accustomed to single harness. Mr. P. J. Marais gave 240 guineas for Qui Vive and Qui Va La, a well-matched pair of dark brown victoria or phaeton horses, standing just over fifteen hands, whilst at 330 guineas Mr. A. Mackinlay, of Glasgow, secured Sceptre and Rod, a pair of brown geldings. The Duchess of Newcastle gave 130 guineas for Amalgam, a sixteen hands five-year-old brown gelding, which has been driven about town, and is an excellent example of the value of a cross between the hackney and the coach-horse. The total realised by the sale was 4,249 guineas. Appended is a list of the chief prices:—

	Gs.
Last Cloud ..... Mr. Cory Wright	105
May Bloom ..... Mr. H. Drucker	135
Mr. President and Mrs. President .. Mr. J. H. Smith	180
Qui Vive and Qui Va La ..... Mr. Marais	240
Fortification and Rampart ..... Mr. T. E. Watson	320
Spectre and Rod ..... Mr. A. M'Kinley	330
Destiny ..... Mr Marais	135
Ariel and Prospero ..... Mr. A. Wynne Corrie	195
Royal Norfolk ..... Mr. J. H. Smith	250
Compromise ..... Mr. Stimpson	82
Fosterling ..... Mr. F. F. Greenhill	66
Miss Silverstick and The Wren .... Mr. Humphreys	360
Lady Lynwood ..... Mr. G. A. Cooper	75
Amalgam ..... Duchess of Newcastle	130
Soapsuds and Bubbles ..... Mr. J. H. Smith	450
Armiger and Armourer ..... Mr. Hollins	440
Robespierre ..... Dr. Barrow	70
Crozier and Cruciform ..... Mr. J. W. Pyman	360
Co-Heviers ..... Mr. A. W. Davies	170
I.O.U. ..... Mr. Pritchard	71

Sale of Bluntisham Hackneys.

The stud of pedigree hackney and harness horses belonging to the late Mr. John Beldham, of Bluntisham, a village near St. Ives, Hunts, has for many years enjoyed a considerable celebrity throughout the Eastern Counties, and the few sales that have taken place there have been most successful. After a lapse of seven years, another sale of animals from this stud took place on the premises on Wednesday, and it was very largely attended, some Continental and Colonial buyers being present. We may mention here that Mr. Beldam only died recently, after having made arrangements for the sale, and his demise is a distinct loss to the world of hackney breeders. It is satisfactory to know, however, that the stud is to be kept going under the management of the deceased's two sons. The animals submitted for sale last week fully maintained the reputation of the stud, and realised some capital prices, a total of 3,500gs. being obtained for fifty-four lots. Bidding was pretty brisk throughout, and not a single animal went at under 30gs. The top figure of the sale was 210gs., paid by Mr. W. J. Smith, of Cadogan Place, for Wood Vanity, a four-year-old chestnut mare, by Copalder Cadet. A five-year-old chestnut harness gelding, by the same sire realised 200gs., Dr. Meacock being the purchaser. A five-year-old roan harness gelding, by Agility, was bought by Mr. Lowenstein, for Belgium, at 160gs. Mr. Lindsay Hogg, M.P., had to bid 140gs. before he could secure the three-year-old filly, Wood Caprice, sire Copalder Cadet, and a similar sum was paid by Mr. F. Beldam for the stallion Wood Gabriel, and a brown foal in 1898, Sir S. W. W. Gabriel; whilst at 105gs. the brood mare, Wood Elegance, a bay foaled in 1894, sire Danegelt, was knocked down to Mr. J. W. Benson. No other three-figure prices were realised, the other animals going at prices ranging from 30gs. to 90gs. Below we give a list of the principal animals sold, together with purchasers' names, etc.:—

HARNESS MARES AND GELDINGS.

	Gs.
Wood Melody, roan mare, 7 years, s. Lord Bardolph ... Mr. Cole Ambrose	80
Bay gelding, 5 years, s. May Royal .... Mr. Alderson	£0
Wood Marvel, ch. mare, 6 years, s. Agility ... Mr. F. Beldam	56
Ch. gelding, 5 years, s. May Royal ... Mr. J. Gould, Brighton	82
Ch. gelding, 4 years, s. Broughton Ganymede ... Mr. J. Shuttleworth	74
Roan gelding, 5 years, s. Agility .... Mr. Lowenstein	160
Ch. gelding, 5 years, s. Copalder Cadet .. Dr. Meacock	200
Blacktoft Maid, ch. mare, 6 years, s. North Star ... Mr. Higgs	53

FOUR-YEAR-OLD MARES.

	Gs.
Wood Vanity, ch., s. Copalder Cadet ... Mr. W. J. Smith	210
Wood Delight, bay, s. Agility ..... Mr. W. J. Smith	90
Wood Charm, ch., s. Bonfire ..... Mr. Pauling	67
Wood Expectation, br., s. Goldfinder VI.. Mr. Gould	£0

FILLIES.

	Gs.
Wood Caprice, ch., f. 1899, s. Copalder Cadet ... Mr. Lindsay Hogg, M.P.	140
Wood Begonia, ch., f. 1900, Wyngelt ... Mr. Lindsay Hogg, M.P.	52

STALLIONS.

	Gs.
Wood Caxton, br., f. 1899, s. Caxton .. Mr. Mumford	62
Wood Sirdar, br., f. 1899, s. Sundial ..... Mr. Abbott	80
Wood Topper, bay, f. 1899, s. Goldfinder VI. ... Mr. Pauling	54
Wood Gabriel, br., f. 1898, s. Stow Gabriel ... Mr. F. Beldam	140

BROOD MARES AND FOALS.

	Gs.
Wood Elegance, bay, f. 1894, s. Danegelt ... Mr. J. W. Benson, London	105
Bay filly foal, s. Rosellan ..... Mr. Benson	53
Wood Pride, bay, f. 1894, s. Denmark Fireaway ... Mr. Cowley	47
Wood Romance, bl., f. 1896, s. Model II. ... Mr. E. Rowell	54

Sale of Clydesdales at Garguston, N.B.

There was a good attendance of buyers at the deplenishing sale held last week at the farm so long occupied by the late Mr. Trotter, at Garguston, N.B. The Clydesdales bred by Mr. Trotter received most attention, good prices being realised for them. Following is a list of the principal prices and purchasers:—

	Gs.
Duff 2nd of Garguston, bay, f. May, 1894 ... Mr. Bailie Taylor	43
Darling, light bay, f. May, 1894 ..... Mr. Macdonald	34
Myrtle, 13305, light bay, f. May, 1891.... Mr. Colville	47
Rose 4th of Braco, 14080, chestnut, f May, 1894 ... Mr. Robertson	48
Cinderella, dark brown, f. June, 1893 ... Messrs. Mundell	38
Maggie 2nd of Garguston, black, f. May, 1898 ... Mr. Gill	59
Isabel, bay, f. May, 1897..... Mr. Bradley Martin	54
Dandy of Bellfield, bay, f. May, 1897 ... Mr. Bailie Taylor	34
Five-year-old bay mare, s. Gold Mine ... Messrs. Mundell	58
Three-year-old filly, Rosalea of Garguston ... Messrs. Fraser Brothers	64
Two-year-old filly ..... Mr. Robertson	48
One-year-old colt A..... Mr. Bailie Taylor	36

Good prices were also made for the Shorthorns, the bulk of which went to Mr. Bailie Taylor, of Dundee, who gave 34 guineas for Ruth 8th, a red and white of 1895, bred by Mr. Cameron, Balnakyle; 32 guineas for Ruth 9th, a two-year-old heifer; and 30 guineas for Lady Rosie 2nd, an eight-year-old red cow. Mr. Macdonald, Charleston, gave 22 guineas for Lady Rosie 3rd, a red of 1898. The stock bull, Don, a white of 1898, also bred by Mr. Cameron, Balnakyle, made 30 guineas from Mr. M'Caull, Dunblane. Some fat cattle made up to £23 10s., and cross cows up to £25.

Good Prices for Hunters.

A large number of hunters were offered at Messrs. Tattersall's Monday sale at Albert Gate, Hyde Park, amongst the hunts represented being the Vine, V.W.H., Mr. Peter Ormrod's, and Cottesmore; whilst Sir Robert Wilmot, Bart., and Mr. P. Burke sent up several hunters. The best price obtained during the sale was 250 guineas, and this was paid for the bay gelding Sportsman, which had been ridden by Mr. E. Boyce Podmore, Master of the Vine Hunt. Solomon, also ridden by Mr. Podmore, made 125 guineas, but none of the other animals from the Vine Hunt reached three-figure prices. Mr. Burke obtained 220 guineas for Rockmount, a bay gelding by Speculation, and three-figure price for four others, viz.: Waterford, a bay gelding by Snaplock, 165 guineas; Maurice, another bay gelding, by Tacitus, 150 guineas; Mayboy, a brown gelding, by Mayboy, 130 guineas; and Coalbrook, a bay gelding, by reliable, 110 guineas. School Green made the highest price for Sir Wilmot's lot, namely, 150 guineas, Huntsman going at 130 guineas, and Bradfield at 122; whilst the others realised from 48 to 95 guineas. Mr. Peter Ormrod sold six of his stag hunters, at prices ranging from 50 to 70 guineas; whilst three horses, regularly hunted with the V.W.H., and the property of Mr. W. F. Felton, sold at 125 guineas, 60 guineas, and 48 guineas, the first price being obtained for Jessica, a black mare by Moses. Six Cottesmore Hunt horses, the property of Mr. Evan Hanbury, made from 40 to 75 guineas.

At Thursday's sale hunters again realised good prices, there being a large attendance of buyers. The catalogue included the entire stud of Mr. Henry Wickham, and it was one of these animals which made the top figure of the day, viz., 210 guineas. This sum was obtained for an Irish black gelding, named Negro, a very smart animal. Another of Mr. Wickham's lot sold at 150 guineas, namely, Grey Mist, a grey gelding, by Grey Friars, whilst the prices obtained for three others were 87, 67, and 50 guineas. Mr. Harold Brassey, Royal Horse Guards, sent up some nice animals, and four of them went at three-figure prices. Malden, a chestnut gelding, realised 190 guineas, Black Knight 155 guineas, whilst Allright and Holderness, two bay geldings, fetched 120 guineas each. Major Lord Charles Bentinck secured 180 guineas for Bushman, a chestnut gelding by Kirkham, and 115 guineas for Topper, a bay by Torpedo; three other hunters sold at 90, 88, and 65 guineas; whilst for his polo ponies, Lord Charles got some handsome prices. The highest was 300 guineas, and this sum was realised by a splendid bay named Carlos. Peter, a brown gelding, went at 250 guineas; Hope, also a brown, at 165 guineas; and Even May at 115 guineas. Amongst other good prices obtained for hunters were the following:—The property of Captain Boyd Cunninghame, Redburn, Irvine, N.B.: Lord Edward, bay gelding, by Master Ned, 125 guineas; Flash, bay gelding, by Harvester, 165 guineas; Hasketon, bay mare, 115 guineas. The property of Mr. J. L. Reid: Florimel, bay mare, by Radius, 185 guineas. The property of Mr. Dennis F. Boles: Nimrod, bay gelding, 120 guineas; Dorothy, bay mare, 97 guineas.

Crewe Horse Sales.

Messrs. Lloyd and Nuttall held their quarterly horse sales at Crewe last week. On Wednesday the chief feature of the catalogue was 20 match pairs suitable for broughams, and these met with keen competition, the purchasers doubtless having in mind their suitability for Coronation purposes. The highest price paid was for a pair of brown geldings, which made 190 guineas. Several others made from 120 guineas, three pairs going to London, five to Manchester and district, and others to Birmingham, Liverpool, and Leeds. Hunters and small harness horses met only a slow trade, the prices being from 30 guineas to 40 guineas. Young blood horses sold from 20 guineas to 45 guineas.

On Thursday about 140 small harness horses, stylish hacks, and cobs over 14 hands, and 100 pedigree hackneys, show cobs, and high-stepping ponies were sold. The highest price of the day was made for a six-year-old bay pony mare, Bletchton Fashion, by Confident. This pony, which has won many prizes, realised 87 guineas. Another five-year-old grey gelding sold for 74 guineas, and many others made 60 to 70 guineas. The demand for small harness horses was sluggish, and only moderate prices were obtained. Stylish hacks made from 30 guineas to 50 guineas, and useful cobs of 14 hands 25 guineas to forty guineas. Pedigree hackney brood mares met a ready sale, several being purchased for

exportation at prices ranging from 40 guineas to 70 guineas. Show cobs for the most part were purchased by Lancashire and Yorkshire exhibitors, and realised from 60 guineas to 80 guineas. Some buyers present from Paris and Berlin purchased several hackneys.

Sales at York.

Messrs. Walker and Sons' annual May race sales of horses took place at their repository, York, on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, a catalogue of nearly 100 horses being presented each day. Each sale was largely attended, and bidding was at times brisk. A feature of the first day's sale was the disposal of several studs of polo ponies, and a large number of players were in attendance. Messrs. Slocock, of Carlow, who sell annually, sent up a stud of 15 ponies, all of which were sold at prices ranging up to 74 guineas, the average being £50. Sir William Cooke, Bart., also sold three ponies—Sarah Jane, a brown mare, making 50 guineas; Peanut, a brown mare, 60 guineas; and Kruger, a chestnut gelding, 52 guineas. A pair of dark brown harness geldings, the property of Mr. G. A. Nelson, realised 160 guineas. Other sold at prices ranging from 55 guineas downwards.

On Wednesday 85 animals were offered, all of which were first-class animals. The chief feature of the sale was the disposal of Badsworth Hunt horses, the property of Mr. J. S. H. Fullerton. Out of 23 horses offered from this stud 21 were sold at an average of over 60 guineas. The highest price realised was for Gypsum, a bay mare, 7 years, which made 210 guineas. Patch, a bay mare, 7 years, realised 120 guineas. Amongst other sales, Surprise, a bay mare, 8 years, the property of Miss M. Egerton, realised 120 guineas; and Ben, a bay gelding, 6 years, the property of Captain Dougall, of the Carabiniers, realised 170 guineas. The general range of prices got for the other animals offered was from 40 to 80 guineas. On the concluding day harness horses and cobs were in chief evidence, and these met a good demand, changing hands readily at prices ranging up to 70 guineas, the average price being about 45 guineas.

Horses and Zebras

A lecture on horses and zebras was recently given at a meeting of the Zoological Society by Professor Cossar Ewart, F.R.S., who, as is well known, has done excellent work, not only in experiments in hybridisation, but in investigating the ancestors of the domestic horse. Professor Cossar Ewart said that though he might have preferred to confine himself entirely to zebras, the wider title was rendered necessary by the arrival in England of living specimens of Prejevalsky's wild horse. A question that met them at the outset was the ancestry of the domestic horse. It had been the custom of many naturalists to ascribe the origin of this form to a single stock, but he thought it not improbable that our horses came from more than one species. Then, by the aid of a map thrown on the screen, the home of Prejevalsky's wild horse was traced out, and the story told from the point when the famous Russian traveller brought to St. Petersburg the remains obtained from the camel hunters, which Poliakof describe as a new species of horse, and to which he gave Prejevalsky's name as a specific distinction. Then followed the journey of the brothers Grijimailo in the Western portion of the Gobi Desert, and they were able to obtain further remains—skins and skeletons—which bore out the views of Poliakof.

In this country, however, the late Sir William Flower expressed dissent, and suggested—what rarely occurs between equine animals under natural conditions—hybridisation, to account for the new form, the supposititious parents being, of course, the Asiatic wild ass, or kiang, and the domesticated horses of the desert tribes. In this area there were three forms of this wild horse, differing in coloration, the Western herds being of a rufous tinge, while yellow prevailed in the herds that extended their range farthest to the East. There was, it must be admitted, something in the appearance of these animals which gave colour to the view that they might be hybrids. They were, however, capable of reproducing their kind, as was proved by the fact of the capture of the foals by the Mongolians engaged by Mr. Hagenbeck for that purpose, while mules were invariably sterile. Moreover, hybrids varied greatly, whereas there was a great similarity between the individuals constituting a herd, though herds might differ in coloration according to their geographical range. So that till somebody, by crossing the kiang and the domestic horse, produced hybrids which not only resembled those wild horses in appearance, but were also capable of perpetuating the race, these animals must be regarded as constituting a distinct species, and as being the only living wild horses.

Coming to the ancestry of the domestic horse, the lecturer referred to two principal living types, the powerful cart-horses, and the small, hardy horses, once common in England, and still abundant in some isolated areas, of which Iceland might be cited as a characteristic example. Both types seemed to have sprung from horses that must have been known to Palæolithic man, since etchings of both types, easily recognisable, were found on tools and implements that had been discovered in Western Europe. Professor Ewart then dealt with the zebras, taking first the mountain zebra of Cape Colony, a form easily recognisable by its small size, the "gridiron mark" on the posterior part of the back, and the heavy striping of the legs, right down to the hoofs, which are narrow and well fitted for rocky country. In one respect this species differs not only from other zebras, but from all other members of the family in that the direction of the hair is reversed along the spine, between the rump and the withers. Somaliland had two zebras—the magnificent large form, named by Milne-Edwards in honour of President Grevy, and characterised by narrow body stripes, and large head and ears, the latter tipped with white; and the smaller Grant's zebra, of the Burchell type, but without shadow stripes. The true Burchell's zebra had broad body stripes, between which were fainter markings, to which the name of "shadow stripes" had been given, and there were no markings. The last form dealt with was the extinct quagga, in which the striping was practically confined to the withers, having been lost when the need for protective colouration ceased.

Newchurch Show.

The Newchurch and District Agricultural Society is an old established one, and its annual show is very popular in the Manchester district. It has improved every year, and that held on Monday last, was undoubtedly the best of the long series. Seven silver cups, some gold medals, and £400 in cash prizes were offered, and drew an entry of 1,086, spread over 178 classes, whereas but a half-a-dozen years since, the entries numbered 672, and the classes under one hundred. There were numerous open classes, and these filled well, but it was even more satisfactory to find the tenant farmers of the district so well support the classes provided for them. In this connection it may be mentioned that in 1896 only 39 tenant farmers of the district took sufficient interest in the matter to lead them to be exhibitors, whilst this year the number reached exactly 100, and the improved quality of the stock showed the advantage they had derived from the exhibition. It may be mentioned that the weather was fairly favourable to Monday's show, and the attendance of visitors was very good.

The handsome cups and special prizes offered by the society attracted some of the best horses in the east of the county. There was a steady improvement noticeable in all the local classes of the heavy horses, the farmers apparently being determined to go in more for size and quality. Mr. H. W. Kearns, of Blackburn, was first in the brood mares class with a very massive mare, Duchess of Bridgwater II., which has taken several honours this year. In the filly classes there was not much competition, but the winner had a good deal of quality. Probably the light horse section was the strongest and most attractive of the day, and included a very high percentage of highly-bred animals, some of the best horses in the kingdom being in competition, including Mr. T. H. Jones' Zaverda, by Polonius, a chestnut mare which has won a large number of prizes; Mr. T. B. Sykes' Zaizan, the winner of at least a hundred principal awards; Messrs. T. and H. Ward's brown hunter, which was second at the Notts County Show; and many other notable animals. The hackneys shown in hand were fairly strong in number and also in quality, whilst the hunters formed a very strong class. The saddle classes, too, were very strong. The shorthorns were of the usual rent-paying sort to be found in Rossendale, as far as the local farmers' entries were concerned, but there were one or two of the pedigree type in the open heifer classes, which have won a big series of cards. Amongst these were Messrs. R. and T. Harrison's heifer, which has already won championships and cups wherever she has been shown. In the dairy classes Mr. Duckworth, of Bury, was conspicuously successful with a big framed beast of the milch type. The local classes showed conclusively that the show had done much to stimulate the farmers in the direction of general improvement. Pigs and sheep were not numerous.

Accrington Show.

The annual show of the Accrington Agricultural Society took place on the 24th ult., in fine weather. There was a good attendance of visitors, the jumping classes in particular proving a great attraction. It is no exaggeration to say that the show of horses was the best the society has ever had on view since it was founded, in 1896. The heavy mares and geldings were good, especially the latter. They included some of the best-known animals in East Lancashire, and, of course, were of Shire type. Mr. T. Edwards's winner in the class for best mare or gelding for draught purposes is a very heavy and tall animal, that stands on good sound legs and feet. E. Whittaker's brood mare, with foal at foot, was second, and it is also well known. It also won in the brood class. J. Whittaker and Sons, of Rishton, were very successful, and Mr. H. W. Kearns had some well-bred shires in young classes, which classes, however, were not very well filled.

The light horse classes saw some good contests. In the over 15 hands class for road or field, Mr. T. B. Sykes's winner, Zaizan, is a big winner, her sire being Astonishment. She is a very fine type of Hackney mare, and was well shown indeed. There were half-a-dozen in the class, and all well bred, but Mr. R. Smith's second could not move like Zaizan. Mr. J. H. Jones's Zaverda, by Polonius, is well known in East Lancashire. She was in her best mood, and was well ridden. She subsequently took the cup given by Sir George Bullough for the best saddle horse. In the not over 14 hands class, Mr. McKibbens' Model Queen, by Berkley Model, had the most quality, and the same remark applies to Mr. A. D. Oates's Ryburn Violetta, which, although only three years old, has already won several first prizes this year. The two-year-olds, yearlings, and foals were not perhaps so good as the older classes in the section. Mr. Lees Knowles, M.P., had twice to put up with second prizes, but he won easily with the foal by Dane Canute.

The Hunter's class was a good one of half-a-dozen, and the judges were a long time deciding as to the second and third. Mr. E. Hoyle's Bonaparte was first, and can go finely. He was the best of good ones in this particular class, but it was a near thing between Messrs. Grainger's brown and Mr. A. Sowler's tall chestnut. In action there was nothing to choose, and the latter seemed to give a nice ride. The judges could not decide, and called in Mr. E. Hoyle, the owner of the first. He awarded the second to the brown.

The cattle were few, the cows being just good farmers' milkers. The exhibitors in the tenant farmers' section were, for the most part, the winners in the open. Mr. E. Newhouse showed a compact, level bull of good Shorthorn type. It was only second to Mr. Barnes's in the tenant farmers' section, however, and this fact goes to show that the latter were a meritorious lot of animals, if few in numbers. The eleven sheep shown in the five classes were good, being big and full of quality.

Pigs were only six, in three classes, and were of the Large White type—big, useful, well-fleshed animals. In the miscellaneous section there was a capital show of bread.

The judges were as follow: Cattle and sheep, Mr. J. Howard (Gargrave) and Mr. R. Carr (Skipton); horses and turnouts, Mr. R. Whitworth (Halifax) and Mr. R. Thornton (Winmarleigh).

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending May 17, 1902:—

Swine Fever.	Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.		No.	191	662 73 1,412	2,251	7,101 9,34 15,056	
	Outbreaks.		No.	47	128 10 91	674	1,565 151 1,177	
Rabies.	Cases Confirmed.	Oth'r Anim'ls.	No.	...	... ...	...	1	
		Dogs.	No.	...	... ...	11	1 ... 1	
Pleuro-Pneumonia.	Cattle Slaughter'd.	Exposed to Infection.	No.	...	... ...	...	... ...	
		Diseased.	No.	...	... ...	...	... ...	
	Outbreaks.		No.	...	... ...	...	... ...	
Glanders (including farcy).	Animals Attacked.		No.	31	47 59 13	876	902 810 487	
	Outbreaks.		No.	19	29 26 11	462	521 458 274	
Foot-and-Mouth Disease.	Animals Attacked.		No.	...	... ...	115	663 153 ...	
	Outbreaks.		No.	...	... ...	1	12 9 ...	
Anthrax.	Animals Attacked.		No.	33	20 26 25	535	426 393 470	
	Outbreaks.		No.	16	13 12 12	318	204 248 295	
Period.					Week ended May 24, 1902	Corresponding week in 1901 1900 1899	Total for 21 weeks, 1902	Corresponding period in 1901 1900 1899

NOTE.—The figures for the current Year are approximate only.



BATH AND WEST SHOW.

Success at Plymouth.

The Bath and West Show, which opened at Plymouth on Tuesday, can hardly have been said to have had most favourable weather; the show, however, turned out a most successful one. The show ground was easy of access, and the excellent arrangements made by the railway companies resulted in the attendance of large numbers of the general public. Especially noticeable was the proportion of Cornish visitors. The ground was well laid out, but regular attendants at different meetings found the hilly nature of the site somewhat trying. As mentioned above, the numbers who paid for admission was considerably in excess of those achieved in the past few years, and compares most favourably with the numbers at the Croydon and Bath Shows. The annexed table will convey some idea as to how the figures have varied during the past four years, but it should be borne in mind that in no case do the figures include the entrance of season-ticket holders, but only the paying admissions up to seven o'clock on each day:—

	Plymouth. 1902.	Croydon. 1901.	Bath. 1900.	Exeter. 1899.
Tuesday	477	768	565	1586
Wednesday	4603	4795	5982	7289
Thursday	8012	4480	5423	6930
Friday	26750	11827	12077	27120
Saturday	26750	11827	12077	27120

On Tuesday, when the weather was of a favourable character, the show was declared open by the Mayor of Devonport, who was accompanied by the Mayors of Plymouth and Stonehouse. Although the show will be known as Plymouth, as a matter of fact the ground is not in that borough at all, but in the neighbouring one of Devonport. From the success which has attended the show, the society will have cause to remember their visit to "the three towns" with feelings of pleasure. On Thursday the show was visited by Mr. Hanbury, the Minister of Agriculture, who was accompanied by Mr. T. H. Elliott, the Secretary of the Department. Mr. Hanbury's remarks at the annual meeting of members will be found in another column.

Turning to the stock section, we find that the numbers were rather below those registered at Croydon last year, but this was no doubt to a great extent due to the fact that Plymouth was rather out of the way for northern exhibitors. The following statement shows the entries in the various sections:—

	Plymouth, 1902.		Croydon, 1901.	
Horses—				
Agricultural	53		67	
Hunters, hacks, ponies, harness and jumping	223		243	
	—	276	—	310
Cattle—				
Devons	32		28	
South Devons	52		0	
Shorthorns	59		76	
Herefords	41		42	
Sussex	16		33	
Jersey	115		158	
Guernsey	67		78	
Kerry and Dexter	43		36	
Red Polled	23		24	
Aberdeen-Angus	15		54	
Dairy	52		104	
	—	515	—	633
Sheep	170		188	
Pigs	103		136	
Poultry	398		374	
Farm Produce—				
Cheese	46		65	
Butter and cream	113		94	
Cider	65		53	
	—	224	—	212
Competitions for Men and Women—				
Butter-making	117		138	
Shoeing	86		87	
Shearing	29		0	
Milking	16		18	
	—	248	—	243
Total		1934		2096

Horses.

The equine classes at this show have for many years been but very badly supported, and the Plymouth meeting this year forms no exception to its predecessors, but rather in a measure emphasises the shortcomings of past years. The place of meeting this year is very far west, entailing a long and expensive journey down from the Midlands and certain counties where the majority of the best horses of all classes are to be found. This may be assumed as one reason for the more than usually short supply, and to this may also be added the fact that the Western farmers and breeders turn their attention much more to the breeding of cattle and sheep than to horses, and so the local entries amounted to a very small reinforcement to the outside and long-distance exhibits. Another probable reason to be added for this shortage is the fact of the show continuing over so many days, thus entailing extra expense and risk of accident or sickness coming upon the animals. Whatever may be the cause or causes, there is no gainsaying the fact that it is not a good show of horses at Plymouth. In some of the classes the exhibits are doubtless of first-rate quality, and in one or two of the hunter classes a fairly good muster came into the ring, for the rest about three or four in a class was about the average.

Agricultural Horses.

These classes take precedence in the catalogue, and were the first to be judged, Mr. Crossland, who holds the reins of government at the famous Buscot Park Stud, officiating single-handed as judge, and very carefully and expeditiously he got through his work, with very few exceptions placing the animals according to ringsiders' views.

Shires are the first to be talked about, as they ought to be, both on account of their importance as draught horses, and also on account of their great value both for this work and for breeding purposes. Stallions foaled prior to 1900 were the first class in the section, and with the service season just in full swing it could not be expected that competition would be very keen in these; very few stallion owners could spare their useful horses in May for a week at a time. Four animals were entered, and all came into their places. A fairly outstanding winner turned up in these, in the shape of Mr. F. Jeffery's Duncan III., bred near Burton-on-Trent, and sired by Albert Edward, a horse that has proved himself a sire of some of the most valuable Shires in the country, and though getting into years, he came before the judge with a freshness quite his own; his joints are beautifully preserved and his quality generally and beautiful feather are very striking, whilst he also possesses good build and movement, with size and weight. The Directors of the Convict Prison at Princetown were the exhibitors of the second best horse, Royal Sovereign IV., bred in Nottinghamshire, and sired by Markeaton Royal Harold; he is only a three-year-old, and on this account has not so thoroughly filled up as some of the others, but he is a fairly correct and promising colt, and with his breeding should help in improving the heavy horses of the South-West. A second entry of Mr. Jeffery's Holcombe Conquerer obtained the reserve; he was bred in Somersetshire by Mr. Bucknell and got by Gurth 2nd; a deep-bodied, short-legged horse, and good in his quality, with a good set of fore legs, and walking well. The other stallion was perhaps all round the weightiest of the four, and he stood on some good legs and feet, as well as a real cart-horse in appearance, and he was the get of the famous sire Caitiff Lad, but for some reason or other the judge in close quarters did not approve of him, and so he was out of the luck.

There was a big entry of two-year-olds colts, but a good lot of them were absent, so that only five came in for judgment. These were very useful colts, and the first honour pretty readily fell to a well-shaped, good-quality colt, with the right kind of legs and joints, from the Tring Park herd, sired by Old Warden Royal Harold and from a Merry Lad mare; next to him was placed a rattling good Prince Harold colt of Lord Llangattock's, called Hendre Heirloom, a rough Shire stallion, with weight, make, and movement, and standing upon very good legs and feet. Sir W. H. Wills was placed third with Conqueror of Waresby, a son of that good stallion of Captain Duncombe's, Waresly Triumph; he displays a good deal of the correct character and quality of his sire, and is altogether a very useful colt, though many would have preferred the reserve one, a rattling big, well-built, broad-boned bay of Sir J. B. Maple's called Childwick Harold, by Markeaton Royal Harold out of the Bury Victor Chief mare Pratts Buttercup; this colt walks and moves like a cart horse, and has plenty of masculine appearance about him. Yearling entire colts brought out but four representatives, and again the post of honour was accorded to an entry from Lord Rothschild's stud, a grey of very promising appearance and with very classy limbs and joints, he is a grower, too, and his breeding gives assurance that he will continue to grow on; he is sired by Hertfordshire Lad, a very weighty and good sire at Tring Park, and out of Kendal Merry Lass by Prince Harold. The second colt belonged to Mr. Oakley, near Chepstow, and was sired by Sir J. B. Maple's horse Pioneer 7th, his dam by Astern Harold; his quality and formation are alike good, and he may be expected to come out a good stallion later on. Next to him was Mr. R. W. Hudson's Ware Masterman, a colt with good flat bone and generally promising, and Messrs. Marshall secured the reserve card with a distinctly useful colt of their own breeding at Plympton.

Brood mares were confined to a single entry from Mr. Hudson's stud at Danesfield, Nateby Aurea, by Parkside, a great mare in size and substance, carty in her appearance, and correct in her limbs and feet; she obtained first prize, which she well deserved. Three-year-old mares had but what may be termed a couple of entries. There were Mr. Hudson's Wern Blossom, bred in Montgomeryshire, and just about as good as a Shire filly can be expected to be; she was got by Moors Phenomenon, and besides getting first prize was also awarded the Shire horse gold medal. Lord Llangattock followed with Birdsall Buttercup, a high-priced purchase at Tring Park sale, a grand filly all over, and sired by Lord Middleton's coveted stallion Menestrel. The class was open to both sexes, and the reserve card was given to a useful colt or gelding of Mr. Cundy's, a local exhibit.

Two extremely good fillies turned up in the two-year-old class, Lord Llangattock's Hendre Marguerite, a beautiful style and breed class of filly



THE DEVON BULL "MUSA," the subject of the above illustration, won the Champion Prize of ten guineas for the best animal in the Devon Cattle classes (excluding South Devons) at the Bath and West Society's Show at Plymouth last week. "Musa," whose sire was Pretty Middling 2859, and dam Mirabel 3rd 15510, by After Thought 3375, is the property of and was bred by Mr J. C. Williams, Caerbays, St. Asutell. "Musa" was born on January 27th, 1900, and was therefore, shown in the class for Devon bulls calved in 1900, and he secured the first prize in addition to the champion award above mentioned.

got by Prince Harold, reserved for the gold medal as well as first, and Earl Egerton's Active Girl, a successful purchase at the last Tring Park sale, and a daughter of that splendid mare Saxon Girl; she has grown wonderfully, but she came out second. A very useful filly of Mr. Stokes's (local) was second. Yearlings brought out three very good fillies, the first of which, quite a new comer, and in the hands of a new exhibitor, as compared with the others, was a capital stamp of filly, well built, a cart mare all over, and with famous legs and feet; she was sired by Prince Harold and shown by her breeder, Mr. Oakby, near Chepstow. Lord Llangattock's Madrigal and Mr. R. W. Hudson's Danesfield Resound, both of them very good fillies and winners in the best company, followed.

Horses of any other agricultural breed were mostly largely of Shire blood, and do not call for any especial mention beyond that they were of a big, good, and weighty class, with activity.

Hunters.

These classes, as we have already intimated, made a more respectable muster than any of the others, as many as ten entries coming forward in some of these. The West Country, however, has some very good hunting grounds, both for "Reynard" and the more useful stags, and so with this sport so near their doors, many breeders and farmers have been induced to mate their nag mares with some of the K.P. show-bred stallions of the past several years, the result being some about as nice hunters or high-class carriage horses as could be desired.

The first class of the was for mares with foal at foot or in foal; of these there was a good entry, but for some reason only a few of them turned up. The best was Messrs. Downes's Rustic Gem, quite a quality mare, with style and substance enough to breed something choice; she also later on added the gold medal of the Hunters' Improvement Society to her first prize. The other two winning mares, Mr. Adams's Call Duck and Mr. Francis's Clonsilla, were both by thoroughbred sires, and fine class of mares, either to breed a hunter from or a carriage horse with size and style; the class that are to-day both scarce and valuable. Four-year-olds were a large and very useful class; some eleven of them came into the ring, five or six of which were very even in merit, and a valuable and useful class of horses. Mr. J. H. Stokes had sent down his beautiful gelding Haddon, by Herculean Chief, who both in quality and character was fit for anything, and as a ride in the ring is very hard to beat; he well repaid his owner for sending him such a long journey, securing first prize. Other prize-winners, and very good horses, were Mr. Pride-Jones's Tommy Atkins and Mr. Pethick's Port, both by thoroughbred sires, and a pair of capital horses. We at first thought Mr. Cory's bay would have pulled off the honour; he carried the judge in very good form, and having been a winner in strong classes previously, he must be good in hand; however, the reserve card was all that fell to his share at Plymouth.

Amongst the three-year-olds Mr. Calmody had a beautiful chestnut gelding called Mutineer, by Yard Arm, a gelding with a famous loin and capital limbs, as well as substance generally and quality; he was awarded first, and eventually a special prize as best colt likely to get up to a 15-stone rider. Major-General Jago-Trelawney's Salome, by the premium stallion Springold, and Mr. Hore's Jupiter by King Chor, both of capital class and size, were the next best. Two-year-olds were not by any means a bad collection, and Messrs. Madge and Sons and Major-General Jago-Trelawney turned out first raters for the two first horses. Proportionately, perhaps, the yearlings were quite as good as either of the preceding classes. There are some good colts and fillies on show, the best of them being Major-General Jago-Trelawney's Sosostris and a colt of Mr. Finch's by Maxwell, both animals like getting up to weight, as well as having quality. Messrs. Madge and Sons and Mr. Wakely were also close up with a couple of admirable entries.

Hackneys.

These classes, had it not been for a few entries of really good ones from the Eastern Counties, whose owners had been tempted to send them such a long distance because they were enabled to compete in several classes, such as Hackneys in hand, in saddle, and in single or double harness, and thus recoup all expenses and leave a little to the good. The local, or nearer home, exhibits were mostly of mixed breeding, though perhaps all round quite as useful practically as the more showy trained pure-bred ones from the East.

Brood mares had not a single entry, and when it came to mares or geldings foaled prior to 1898 only four came into the ring. These were shown under saddle, for which two or three of them were not at all adapted, and so it could not be said that they made a very good show. Mr. Tatem's Astonisment made first place, rather a harnessy horse and good stepper, as well as put together well. Mr. E. Jones's Lady Athol, by Athol Lad, seemed to move more easily as a saddle mare, and goes evenly, too; she was placed second; and Mr. Mortimer's Miss Cadet, another nice style of mare, was third. Mrs. Thornton's Duke of Cranbrook was the only entry foaled in 1898 or 1899, and was deservedly given first prize. Two-year-olds, though only three were entered, were perhaps the class of the section. Mr. Oppenheime's Knowle Belinda won in this class, probably about as good a two-year-old of any light breed as has ever been seen, either for size, symmetry, or action; later in the day she added the Hackney Society's gold medal to her first prize. Mr. Johnson's Inventress, another Eastern Counties entry, and Mr. Oppenheimer's Old Girl, from the same district, were both showy, good movers, and were placed as named. Next came the yearlings, of which Mrs. Thornton's Middleton Rosa, by Rosaden, a filly with style and substance, came first, and was reserved for the medal. Mr. Johnson's Let 'Em All Come and Mr. Mortimer's Stroudleigh were also both of them very promising yearlings. A very useful mixed-breed class of dual-purpose horses folowed, the property of local tenant farmers. Some of them were well bred, as well as possessing size and action.

Ponies.

In the pony classes some of the smartest animals in the light section were entered, these being eligible for some of the various classes of the later days of the show. Amongst them may be mentioned Mr. Edgar Baxter's Musk, placed third, one of the most stylish Hackneys of the year; Mr. Thornton's Hutton Mimosa, placed first, another of the high-class movers, and Mr. Baxter's Wee Jean.

Mr. C. Jones had also sent up from his stud at Manoravon Megarnia, and Mr. Baxter had sent Black and White; these, as well as Mr. Tatem's Little Eva, were all competing in the under 15 hands class. The single class for ponies likely for polo had but four entries, the ponies of this district apparently not being quite of the right class

CATTLE.

A good all-round display of the bovine breeds must be the conclusion to be drawn from the Plymouth exhibition of the Bath and West, the special feature being the large good muster of the South Devon breed, a variety not often appearing outside the South Home County and Cornwall.

Devons.

The Devon Rubies have their leading herds in North Devon and West Somerset, and they did not come to Plymouth in larger numbers than they appeared at Wiveliscombe, but the prize-winners were superior, those of Mr. J. C. Williams which did not appear at the Somerset Show contributing an improved element so far as symmetry and quality is concerned. Mr. J. F. M. Morris also brought some good animals, which were out at Wiveliscombe. Woodman, the first winner in the series old bull class, and Wheir Jack, the second winner, were both of high merit, containing an affluent mixture ofthe Flitton blue blood. Mr. Williams won both prizes in the two-year-old bull class, his bull, Foxglove, being an excellent second to Musa. Mr. Boscawen's Crab-apple, from Cornwall, was like the bulls from Caeshays, superb in quality. In the class for yearling bulls Mr. Williams again won both prizes, but his second bull, Kerble, was much preferred by outsiders to his first prize, Musa. Mr. Tribble's Fern of Holsdon, in the cow class, had large and indications of usefulness, as well as carrying good form, the second winner, owne by Mr. Morrish being also a good specimen of the breed. The Somerset breeders had hitherto been ill-matched with their more Western competitors, but in the class for heifers in milk, calved in 1899, Mr. Portman's Captive Belle repeated her Wiveliscombe victory, although it is true she had only a competitor from her own herd. Mr. Portman also won a first with his yearling heifer Hestorcome Myrtle, Mr. Morgan's first-prize two-year-old heifer being also bred by Mr. Stanley in Somerset, and Mr. Everard's second-prize two-year-old heifer was from a Somerset herd. The Champion Prize went to Mr. Williams' very shapely heifer, Musa.

South Devons.

South Devons came out admirably with eight old bulls generally deemed a fine collection, and Mr. Skerry's first winner, Cromer, was generally admired. The other bull classes had six entries in one and eleven in the other, but they were not deemed quite so high in merit as the old class. There were some deep-milking fine cows, which displayed their useful character admirably. South Devon farmers term this their rent-paying sort, and they will have to do with no others. Mr. Lus combe's first prize, Beauty 2nd, combined admirably a depth, fulness, and evenness of form to satisfaetory grazing and dairy property. Her superiority is probably due to the grand impress of her illustrious sire, Doncaster, which for several years did such good work in the herd of Mr. G. S. Wroth, and Mr. Wroth's very perfect second-prize yearling bull, The Czar, which almost everybody stated ought to have had the first premium was hed very valuable impress.

Shorthorns.

Shorthorns made an excellent display. There was some difference of opinion as to the correctness of the awards in the senior bull class, which reversed the decision at Witney in Mr. J. D. Wallis's Granite Chip, which was only third, these being selected for first prize here, while Messrs. Little and Sons' Vain Lord, which was first there, now being placed second. The bull that came between them at the Oxfordshire was Mr. J. T. Hobbs' New Year's Gift, which was not entered for this show. In the two-year-old bull class there was another reversal, which satisfied popular opinion better, as at Witney those people preferred Mr. J. D. Willis's C.I.V. to Lord Rothschild's Silver Mist. It will be seen that the latter did not take either of the three prizes here, and that C.I.V. was first, second to which came Mr. G. F. King's Lord Bruce, the Royal Dublin Champion. Mr. J. D. Willis's Bapton Florist, the first winner in the yearling class, repeated his victory at Witney, and the second yearling, Mr. Henderson's Baron Buscat, was first winner at the Notts County Show. The Shorthorn cows were several of them grand in their outlines, and there were deep milkers among them, Mr. J. D. Willis's White Heather gaining premier position everywhere. Lord Calthorpe's Warrior Queen, with which Captain Duncome won a great many prizes, was here second to her, Mr. Henderson's Ringdale Favourite 2nd, the reserve for champion at the Royal last year, having to be content with third prize. Other notable animals, which triumphed either in the Shorthorn Society's dairy class or that for three-year-old heifers in milk, were Lord Rothschild's Sunshade 2nd, Mr. Hoskin's Wild Duchess 20th, Mr. T. Coleman's Hawthorn Green 3rd, and Mr. Henderson's Moss Rose 2nd. The heifers of Mr. J. D. Willis, Mr. R. Stratton, Mr. Hoskin, and the Earl of Cawdor, which won prizes, are beautiful specimens, and all of these will no doubt be heard of again.

Herefords.

Herefords made a fair muster, many more animals appearing than could have been expected, considering the great distance of Plymouth from the counties where the Whitefaces are chiefly bred. Five old bulls had been entered, and made a good appearance in the ring. Mr. Barneby's Gambler, which was selected for premier place, is very level in conformation, of nice quality, and was placed third last year at the Herefordshire and Worcestershire Show. The Earl of Coventry's Vishnu which he now conquers was then above him. Royal Rupert, belonging to Messrs. Judge and Ferriss, was younger than those placed above him, but in rich flesh and character seemed attractive. He was second to Vishnu at Witney. Two-year-old bulls should have been nine, according to catalogue, but two were absent. Mr. Turner's firrst-prize Magnate was h.c. in the strong class at Ivesham last year. Mr. Faber's Lord Roberts was then honoured also, and received first prize at Witney. Mr. A. E. Hughes always has a good yearling bull to be first in show-rings, and his Glendower 2nd now came to the front, lengthy, straight and uniform, with four others taking honours behind him, all of considerable merit. There were only four cows and three-year-old heifers in milk—two for either class. Mr. J. Tudge's first-prize cow, Bracelet, was honoured at Croydon last year. She appeared now with a good calf at foot. In the other class Mr. Faber's Saucebox, which secured the prize, was also accompanied by a grand calf. She was bred at Leinthall, and Mr. Faber bought her at the sale of Mr. W. Judge last autumn. Mr. J. Tudge's Princess Royal, now placed reserve to her, won first prizes at the Bath and West and Royal Counties Shows last year. Royal Gem, the first-prize two-year-old heifer, was first at the Royal Counties and third at the Herefordshire last year. The yearling heifers made an exceedingly good class, Mr. R. Green's Ivy Lass, which headed them, is well-nigh faultless in form and of nice character. Lord Llangattock's Hendre Bountiful, of lengthy, straight form, is also very uniform. Daisy belonging to Messrs. Firkins, also carried a lengthy, even, outline, and the two heifers of Sir J. Cotterell, which were h.c., were remarkably pleasing in style, with even, well-shaped forms.

Sussex.

Sussex cattle made a short muster; still, a good, representative one. The three old bulls were of large size, Mr. Braby's a veritable giant. Mr. Sailland's more level one, of very rich flesh and good quality, was, however, the one for the front. Lord Derby's Grazier also possessed considerable merit. Mr. Saillard's younger bull, Marquis 2nd, with the exception of being a trifle narrow behind, was of exceeding good form. Lord Derby won first prize in the cow class with Fussy, of large stature and considerable substance. The five two-year-old heifers formed a remarkably good collection. Lord Derby's Fisk Valentine, which was placed at their head, had length and good proportion, and Mr. Montifiore came

second with a well-shaped heifer, which ran her conqueror close. All the others were honoured, which, indeed, was the good fortune of the Sussex animals generally that came to Plymouth. Earl Winterton was first in the yearling class with a very nice well-shaped one.

Jerseys.

Jersey cows were truly a grand lot, many of them showing very full udders. As many as fourteen were noticed, including the three prize-takers and the Marquis of Winchester's winner of the Blythwood Bowl. Lord Rothschild's Beresford Trick was at their head, uniting large scale to beautiful character, and carrying a very full udder. The three-year-old heifers also presented to view a number of deep-milkers, and an equally large proportion received notice. Mrs. Macintosh's Vivienne, full of quality, was first winner, but in the two-year-old class Lord Rothschild again had the ascendancy. The yearling heifers formed the largest class, there being twenty-six entries. They were, as a whole, so beautiful in character that twenty obtained notice, and Mr. Miller-Hallett might well be proud of being at the head of so splendid a class.

There have been larger musters of the Jersey breed, but seldom better ones, scarcely an inferior animal meeting the eye in this display. The old bull class was the only one with a short entry. But Lord Rothschild's Tudor Boy, the first winner at the Oxfordshire Show, was one of the two well known to be symmetrical and of beautiful character; and the first-prize bull by the Bishop of Norwich, in the milker class. Carnation's Gem, bred by Mrs. Macintosh was not only elegant in style, but rich in his markings, the second bull of Mr. Brutton being also of good conformation and character. He beats here the second winner of the Royal last year. Both two-year and yearling bulls were tolerably large classes. Admiral brought a handsome one to conquer in the yearling section, and besides three prizes several honorary distinctions were bestowed.

Guernseys.

Guernseys made an admirable display also. The old bull class had, it is true, only three, but they were first-class ones. Mr. W. A. Glynn's, which was first winner in the two-year-old class at Croydon last year. There were seven entries of two-year-old bulls, which were headed by Lady Tichborne's Rival, third to his her-companion, Master, last year. He carries now a lot of substance, but is very uniform. Mrs. Montefiore's King Edward has a good head and nice form, with excellent quality, and several of the others seemed very deserving. There were eleven entries of yearling bulls. Mr. Glynn's Sunshine, which was at their head, possessed nice quality. Lady Tichborne's Merry Anton, with his stylish head and uniform proportions, appears making magnificent development, and several of the others are likely to come out well next year.

The cows had, most of them, noticeably dairy properties. Lady Tichborne's first winner is of that quality. Mr. Hambro's two had very capacious bags, and so had Mrs. Fownes' Princess Rhea, and Mrs. Montefiore's Zaza. A large proportion of the three-year-old heifers also gave good indications of dairy usefulness. The two-year-old heifers were so generally noticeable for good forms and beautiful character that only a few could be passed over. The yearling heifers were also remarkably chaste and richly marked, the three spotted by the judge for the prizes being gems of sweet character.

Satisfactory was it to find so large a muster of the Kerry and Dexter breeds. In the bull class of the former there were six entries. The first winner, belonging to Messrs. Robertson, carried grand form and a nice skin. Mr. Thorley's Nap was of chaste, nice character, the third winner and the one which received reserve, not being quite a match for the two set above them. The cows and three-year-old heifers numbered seven, and the class was commended entirely. Several carried nice udders. Messrs. Robertson's Vista was one, and with her full-shaped form she seemed very deserving. Mr. J. Thorley's first-prize heifer had also good form and nice quality, and was placed at the head of an attractive collection.

Red Polls.

Very surprising was it to find so many Red Polls so far away from their native pastures, and the exhibits were of considerable merit. Defiance, Lord Amherst's first-prize old bull, is very rotund and uniform, with a broad, level back, Mr. Cooper's Felix being also an excellent specimen. In the younger bull class Lord Amherst could only obtain the second prize, and Mr. Corbet's Albert, which was preferred to Royal Standard, certainly had most style and quality, but the latter was better shaped. In the class for cows or heifers in milk, Mr. Cooper's Ruthless 2nd, of shapely, nice form, also carried a full udder. Earl Radnor's Necklace, bred by the late Mr. J. J. Colman, was remarkably chaste and uniform with a full udder. An evidently deep milker, Mr. Hammond's first-prize two-year-old heifer, was exceedingly attractive and very perfect in conformation. The second and reserve heifers of Lord Amherst and Sir T. V. S. Gooch were also uniform. Every heifer exhibited received notice, together with most of the bulls and older females, so that the judge had a high estimate of the character of the display. Some of the heifers were, however, light in their hindquarters, and an indifferent hindquarter is a common fault of the Red Polls.



THE DEVON LONGWOOLLED SHEARLING RAM shown above is the animal with which Mr. A. White, of Torweston, Williton, secured a First Prize at the Bath and West Society's Show at Plymouth last week. This ram was born in February last year, and was bred by Mr. White.

Aberdeen Angus.

Although the Aberdeen-Angus classes were short in numbers, the animals that appeared were very high in merit. Mr. Cridlan's old bull, Elate, had a walk-over, being the only one in the class. There were two younger bulls, Mr. J. H. Bridges and Mr. R. W. Hudson sending one each, and both were shapely and of excellent character. The first cow—Joyful—belonging to the latter, was full-shaped, carrying a lot of substance, and had a fine calf with her. Manrur, the first-prize three-year-old heifer of Mr. Bridges, seemed well-proportioned and full of quality. Mr. Hudson's two heifers, Star and Alice, were also of very faultless forms. The junior heifers were six in number. Milady, which had front place, seemed well-nigh faultless, and his herd companion, which secured third prize, was very shapely. Barbarina 2nd, belonging to Mr. Bridges, with straight outline, seemed likewise very deserving.

Dexters.

Dexters were still more numerous, and a splendid collection. The Duchess of Devonshire's Compton Darky, of a fine form and substance, had the champion premium, and is a bull of great excellence. The bulls generally were also bonny specimens. Six of the cows received notice, the Duchess of Devonshire again coming to the front, as likewise she did in the yearling heifer class, which, having eight entries, was commended entire. Seldom, if ever, has a more beautiful display of the breed come under the public eye.

SHEEP.

The sheep section at this show is always one of great interest for, generally speaking, there is always included in their schedule a larger variety of breeds than at any other show, save the Royal. This year's collection was fully typical of this, for we had the advantage to see, side by side the Devon Longwool and the South Hams, also a notable exhibit of Dartmoors and a very capital lot of Exmoors, in addition to excellent specimens of the more widely known breeds. The entries in the aggregate numbered 170, as against 188 last year at Croydon, this slight falling off was to be regretted, but reference to the catalogue for the last meeting held by this society at Plymouth shows that the total entries in this section then numbered 211, so that it will be seen that in respect to numbers the present show was considerably smaller than its predecessors. This fact is to be regretted, but it is satisfactory to know from one who was present at both shows that average of merit upon the present occasion was fully as good. The classification throughout was uniform, except for Dorset Horns, who had an extra class for ewes and lambs, in addition to those for yearling rams, pair of ram lambs, and pen of three yearling ewes.

Cotswolds, with an aggregate entry of seven in the three classes, were a good and typical entry, Mr. W. Houlton's flock being represented by a grand yearling ram of high merit, who was first, and also by a very capital lot of ewes first and r.n. Mr. Swanwick's ram lambs, which had no opposition, have developed well, and are of nice character, with capital heads.

The entry of Devon Longwools (eighteen) was hardly so large as might have been expected, seeing the breed were practically at home. Mr. F. White, with three rams, was first, r.n., and h.c. The leading ram had capital scale and character, but he lacked that firmness of handle which was so notable a feature in the best of Mr. H. E. Thorne's three, who came in for second honours. This ram might have gone to the top; he was a grand one; his flock-mates secured third and c. Whatever doubt may have existed in respect to the allocation of the leading award in the preceding class certainly did not exist in that for ram lambs; here, without question or doubt, Mr. F. White was top. He took all three honours with some beautifully selected, and well-grown lambs of fine type. Mr. W. Bunt's two entries, r.n. and c., were also worthy of notice, as they displayed careful breeding and selection. Mr. F. White met with no opposition in the yearling ewe class, which, had there been, would hardly have affected the result, for his two leading pens of them were grandly-fed, good-fleshed ewes of their breed.

The South Hems or Devons made a fine display, with twenty-one entries, the utility of which was, however, almost entirely, if not quite, spoilt by the insane manner in which they were smothered with colour, the actual result of which was to effectually prevent anyone critically examining them, except at the risk of being smothered with red ochre. Surely the example of other breeds should be enough to show these exhibitors the uselessness of this practice. Mr. J. H. Fairweather led in the yearling ram class with a finely-developed, good-top ram, whilst the same remarks, with the exception that he was a bit weak in the scrag and twist, are applicable to Mr. W. F. Sobey's second winner, but, barring its head, the better ram of the class was the third winner, from Mr. J. S. Hullett's, who however, with the defect named, could not have gone any higher. Another capital ram was also noticed, Mr. J. P. Matthews's, who was r.n., and ran the third ram very close indeed for his place. First, second, and r.n. for three pens of ram lambs is expressive enough to show the appreciation secured, and we say most worthily deserved by those excellent pens that represented Mr. J. S. Hallett's flock. In this class the third winners came from Mr. W. F. Sobey's flock; these were well matched, but were hardly so forward or as masculine in character as the leading pens. Mr. H. Fairweather's fine lot of yearling ewes, first and second, were well brought

out and handled with fine touch, being evenly drawn and with nice type, whilst the r.n. pen, from Mr. T. S. Walters, were of good merit and conformation, but lacked that uniformity of fleece that is an essential element in all flocks. The Southdown, who were, of course, far away from their district, made, however, a most typical entry with nineteen pens. A grand, symmetrical, good-fleshed ram, with typical legs and loin, secured first and male championship for Mr. W. C. Adeane, who also penned the second prize winner, a ram whose touch denoted wealth of flesh and whose conformation was of high merit. Third honours went to a very good-fleshed sheep from Colonel A. F. Walters's flock, who also had another entry commended; whilst that well-known flock, Mr. C. Ellis's, of Summersbury, secured r.n., with a ram of high merit and quality. As was the case last year, Colonel McCalmont secured easily the leading place in the ram lamb class, with a grand pair, evenly matched, with nice heads, his second string being third, with a deep-fleshed pen, from Mr. C. Adean's, who were wonderfully good in the leg and twist, second, leaving the barren honour of r.n. to a pen of most promising lambs from Colonel A. F. Walters's flock. Oxford awards in the yearling class were not maintained, Mr. J. Colman's pen of most typical ewes, with fine fleeces and heads, being put second to Colonel McCalmont's pen of deep-fleshed, wide, and well-developed ewes, which also won the Champion Medal, whose handle was better than the first-named pair; third honours and r.n. went to Colonel A. F. Walters, whose pen is one that will improve, and was well brought out; whilst a capital pen of more than ordinary merit from Mr. G. Ellis secured h.c.

The entry of Hampshire Downs (sixteen) was of a satisfactory description, and in the winning shearling ram Mr. Carey Coles owns a ram of high merit, with fine masculine type and carriage, having the size and strength needful in this description of sheep. His closest competitor was Mr. J. Flower's ram, a different type, wider, lower, and closer to the ground, with grand flesh, and good both in front and behind, a ram of high quality. Third honours also went to the Chilmark flock, for a very typical sheep. The r.n. went to a capital ram from Mr. J. Joyce's flock. In the ram lambs the Chilmark flock was well to the fore, as its two pens of fine and well-grown lambs were placed first and third, awards in which we think justice was done, though there can be no question but that Mr. Carey Coles' second-prize pen, with masculine heads and good flesh, were a very excellent pen. Both Mr. J. Joyce and Lord Rothschild secured h.c., and the latter, with his second pen, a commendation. These three pens were of nice type, particularly the foremost pen from Tring, which were lengthy, well-grown lambs, with capital backs and shoulders. Mr. J. Flower was first and second in the yearling ewe class with two pens of grand ewes, the second pen being the better of the two.

The Shropshire entry was eminently satisfactory, namely, twenty-two, and Mr. R. P. Cooper's yearling ram, who went to the top of this class of a dozen entries, was one of excellent merit and high character, with most typical head and skin; the third award also went to this flock's second entry. Mr. W. F. Lupe's better ram went into the second place, a grand type of a ram, with good masculine character and substance, with real good flesh. A pair from Mr. E. Nock were r.n. and c. The former ram, we think, had hard luck in not getting into the money, as we preferred his flesh and general character to Mr. R. P. Cooper's third sheep. Mr. T. Fenn's entries, h.c. and c., had good merit. The ram lamb awards went to Mr. R. P. Cooper and E. Nock, in the order named. The latter's did not match so well, but were of grand-flesh type. The contest for ewes was keen, but Mr. W. F. Inge maintained his place at the top, a very capital pen of ewes, good in their flesh and fleece. Second honours went to Mr. R. P. Cooper's deep and wide pen of ewes, whose quality of flesh and type was, as they say, "real good." Third honours went to Mr. T. Fenn, and r.n. to Mr. E. Nock, pens neither yet at their best, but well worthy of the awards they received.

The Oxford Down entry and competition was thoroughly good all through, there being twenty-one pens entered. The Oxford awards, namely, Mr. J. T. Hobbs first and R. W. Hobbs second, were again repeated, and, in fact, it could not really be otherwise, for both these are grand rams, the former particularly so. Mr. A. Brassey's third entry was ready a month too soon. He has been better than he is respect to flesh and touch, whilst he is hardly of sufficiently masculine type and substance for so large a sheep. Mr. J. T. Hobbs came in for r.n. with an improving ram of merit. In ram lambs, Mr. Brassey held his place with a pair of well-grown lambs, Mr. J. T. Hobbs being second and r.n. with two pens of wide and good-backed lambs, and Mr. R. W. Hobbs came in third, a very nice, useful pen. Once again here, without question, Mr. A. Brassey led in the ewe class, with a grand pen of evenly-matched ewes, a pen that, go where they will, they are bound to be of great advantage, both to their breed and breeder, on account of their high merit and quality. Mr. T. P. Hobbs was second and Mr. R. W. Hobbs third, leaving but barren honours to reward Mr. W. A. Trewake's work in the two well-brought-out pens that represented his well-known flock.

Exmoors were small in number, but high in merit, Mr. C. N. Skinner's noted flock leading in each class; in fact, all the cash awards, save second in the ewe class, went to his entries, which we need hardly say were most typical of their breed. Mr. J. Howard owned the second-prize pen of ewes, a well-matched, even pen.

As before mentioned, the Dartmoors made a grand display, and were, in fact, one of the best, if not the best, representative displays of any breed. The entry was twenty-one, eight of which were yearling rams, in which class Mr. E. P. Northey, with a grand trio, took second and r.n. The leading ram was a grand type of its breed, with a very excellent and even fleece, Mr. J. R. T. Kingwell, who was third, had also a very fine masculine ram, with even symmetry and type, merits which were seen to great advantage in the following class for ram lambs, where this exhibitor came in for first, second, and r.n., the lambs throughout being well matched and typical of their breed. Mr. W. Rouse, who was third, were hardly so good under hand, nor quite as uniform in type. Again, in the ewe class, Mr. J. R. T. Kingwell led the way with a couple of finely-brought-out pens, well done, and evenly matched, which were first and third. Mr. W. Rouse's pen, that ran the winners very close, was a good second.

The Dorset Horns had an entry of thirteen, and it is most satisfactory to record that these were not, as often has been the case, all from one exhibitor, for upon this occasion there were three competitors, a fact we are pleased to note. Mr. E. J. Merson led in the yearling ram class with a fine, typical specimen of its breed; he also came second with a promising pen of ewes, and r.n. for ram lambs and ewes and ewe lambs. Mr. W. R. Flower's well-known flock led in each class it entered, namely, ram lambs, yearling ewes, and ewes and ewe lambs, being first and second in the former and last class, and first and r.n. in the middle one, with specimens which those who are acquainted with the breed will hardly need reminding of merit and quality unsurpassed in all the essential characteristics of the breed.

Pigs.

Mr. E. Burbidge made the awards in the Berkshire classes, which were the best that have been seen out for a long time at the Bath and West. In the old boar class there were half-a-dozen entries, and here Mr. R. W. Hudson took first with Danesfield Weuria, a very fine young pig that has not as yet attained its full merit; he was second, with Danesfield Common, a year older, but not quite showing the same promise. The Earl of Carnarvon's Half Mark needed a trifle more training, as it did not hold itself in the most favourable position for the judge's inspection. The young boar class was a very good one indeed as regards quality, but not sufficient in numbers, there being only an entry of four. Here a growing, stocky pig of Mr. R. W. Hudson's was placed first, whilst Mr. J. A. Fricker pushed him very close, but had to be content with second, the reserve going to Mr. A. Hiscock's boar, that needed a bit more finish. In the breeding sow class there was a very keen competition, and rarely has such a splendid sow as the Hon. Claud B. Portman's Ethel been brought out. She has length, depth, quality, but is a trifle heavy in the jowl, and she subsequently took the championship. Mr. R. W. Hudson's Danesfield Mistress lacked the age to put on the more mature charms of the other, and had, therefore, to be content with second place, Mr. J. A. Fricker's Flawless Form not exactly fulfilling her nomenclature. The young Berkshire class (sows) was represented by an entry of five, and here again Mr. R. W. Hudson topped the class with a very fine pair, that should stand high later on. Mr. Arthur Hiscock was second, with a very compact, level pair that scarcely showed their full merit.

The exponents of the Large Blacks, after the meagre classes of last year and the general deficiency, both in numbers and quality, have evidently seen the error of their ways, and have therefore brought out a far stronger team than has been seen for years past. In the old boar class, Mr. James Trayner was placed first, with Lord Roberts the Second, which showed length, depth, and quality. He was somewhat closely run for this position by Mr. John Frayn's Black King, a pig that did not make the most of itself whilst out before the judges. Mr. J. H. Glover was third with Cornwood Squire, a downright hard, serviceable sire. In the young boar class for pairs, there was an entry of half-a-dozen, and there was no gainsaying the decision, placing Mr. E. Gimblett's pair first; they had nice typical heads, drooping ears, and well-packed loins, and nicely-turned hams. Mr. J. Wakeman's second-prize lot scarcely came up to this standard of merit, and apparently his third-prize pair came from the same litter. The breeding sow class only brought out the meagre entry of four. Here again Mr. E. Gimblett's careful breeding was recognised in Sussy 1st, a nice, well-developed sow, showing a lot of firm flesh, despite show condition. Mr. J. H. Glover was second with Cornwood Lass 1st, that showed produce progeny beloved by bacon-curers, and with rather nice loins. The young female class only produced one entry, and this one did not turn up.

The Large Whites are evidently fast assuming the position that they should take as the chief of the bacon breeds. Sir Gilbert Greenall, as usual, was placed first, with Walton What's Wanted 3rd, in the old boar class, second going to Mr. Sanders Spencer's Holywell Hugh. In the younger class for pair of boars, the competition, though smaller in number, was keener in quality. Here Mr. Sanders Spencer was first with a wonderful, growing, long-backed, strong-backed pair. Second was given to Sir Gilbert Greenall, a fine pair, but scarcely so well brought out as the others. In the breeding sow class, Sir Gilbert Greenall had a most easy victory with that superb specimen, Walton Topsy 5th, showing length and strength, and which was placed reserve for the championship. Second prize went to Mr. Manuell, of Cornwall, with Treverna Lady 7th, a rather nice sow; third going to Mr. A. Hiscock, Molecombe, Dorset, with Croydon Duchess. The young sow class was also extremely good, though only containing four entries. Sir G. Greenall again took first, with a fine, nice, deep, heavy pair, Mr. Sanders Spencer scarcely showing the requisite weight.

The Middle Whites were scarcely so representative as they might have been. Sir Gilbert Greenall took first, with Walton John, a deep, heavy pig, that will do well later, and second with another good one. In the young boar class, Mr. Arthur Hiscock was an easy first with a well-furnished pair that showed great weight, Mr. Sanders Spencer being a close second with one showing quality, but hardly size, enough.

The breeding sow class was a very strong one indeed, Mr. A. C. Twentyman being an easy first with Castlecroft Primula, as straight and even as anyone could desire, Mr. Sanders Spencer's Rosadora being a very close deep second. The young class for pair of breeding sows was not over strong either in numbers or quality. Mr. A. Hiscock was first with an even lengthy pair, which showed plenty of lean meat, Mr. Sanders Spencer's pair being smaller.

In the small white, or small black, class the contests ran between the Hon. D. P. Bouverie and Sir Gilbert Greenall, and they both sent some excellent specimens of the breed.

Tamworths, though so far from home, made a really excellent display in the old boar class. Mr E. Hamel was first with a straight even fleshed one, Middleton Mainspring, Mr. D. W. Philip being second with Whitacre Unionist. In the young boar class Mr. H. Stephens's Cholderton Salisbury was first with a very lengthy growing pair, though Mr. Philips's second-prize lot showed more quality. There were four entries in the breeding sow class; here first prize was awarded to Mr. H. C. Stephens's Whitacre Beauty, which was bred by Mr. D. W. Philip, and won numerous successes. This sow was subsequently awarded the National Pig Breeders' Association's medal. Mr. Philip took second with Whitacre Countess 9th. There were only a couple of entries in the young sow class, Mr. D. W. Philip winning easily with a long growing pair showing considerable quality.

Produce.

The cider classes this year were somewhat disappointing as far as Devon classes were concerned, the local makers evidently fighting shy. Had it not been for the four exhibits of Mr. C. Haydon the classes might have been left out of consideration, and even his exhibits varied very much in quality, though his under 4 per cent. bottled was the best of the lot, being very clean.

The Hereford makers scarcely did any better than the Devon men. In the over 4 per cent. classes there was not a prize awarded, though there were only two entries. In the under 4 per cent. of alcohol classes Mr. J. Bazley sent a very good exhibit in the cask class; in the bottle class he was placed second to Messrs. Yeoman's, they making two entries each, there being only seven entries in all the Herefordshire classes.

Somerset came well to the fore with, and made big entries in, each class. Messrs. Crofts were the leaders, and they sent some excellent cider indeed, clean, well made, and of nice flavour, and therefore he won the champion gold medal for his splendid cider in the over 4 per cent. bottle class. Messrs. Davis were very successful in the under 4 per cent. classes, and obtained the reserve

for the championship with a clean, fruity-flavoured cider, having a nice aroma. Messrs. Tilley who have won so often before, were very highly commended and placed second reserve for the championship, but their ciders were much too sweet. In the classes for cider made in counties other than Devon, Hereford, or Somerset, Messrs. Rout made the only entries in the over 4 per cent. classes, whilst Mr. Knight made three entries and Mr. H. Thomson one in the under 4 per cent. classes.

Cheese.

It was the best lot of cheese that has been seen for years at the Bath and West, the old Cheddar class being especially good. Mr. H. Travers Wills took first with a beautiful-flavoured cheese, Mr. A. Osborne, Dorset, was second with a rare old Cheddar, whilst Mr. H. White, from the same county, was placed third with a trifle teart curd. The new Cheddar class revealed some well-made specimens, Mr. J. Sage taking first with three cheeses weighing about 140lb. each, Mr. H. Cannon being second with a nice, clean-flavoured, rich cheese. The students' classes were the weakest in the show, both as regards quantity and quality. The truckle class was a very fine one, and here Mr. H. Travers had another hardly-contested victory. Mrs. Candy's well-made exhibit running him very close. The Caerphilly class contained many varieties of this make of cheese, which is becoming very popular in the West of England. The cream cheese, as usual, were weak in numbers as well as quality.

Butter.

There was a capital display of butter, and it was made additionally attractive by being shown on white tiles reposing on a bed of grass. The majority of the makes were made from scalded cream, and this had been overheated in many instances, thus rendering the butter hard and gritty to the taste. Mr. J. H. Philips, of Bideford, was a very successful competitor, as was also Mrs. S. R. Milden, Mr. A. F. Somerville, and C. Hayes. There was a great deal of uniformity about these makers' exhibits. The class for butter made without salt proved to be very insipid. The salted butter class was not a bit better than usual, containing several exhibits not of the highest quality. It was rather singular that an Irishman should be selected to make the awards in the Devonshire scalded cream class, but he got through his task remarkably well. The cream as a whole was of nice golden colour, of good consistency and capital flavour, and was well shown in suitable crocks. As a whole the produce was the best as regards quality seen at the Bath and West for years past; evidently technical education has done much to improve the old hand and tub methods out of existence.

Working Dairy.

Butter-making competitions were carried on during the week in a spacious thatched building, and attracted large crowds of spectators, who followed the process with great interest. The entries are far more numerous than is usually the case at the shows of the Bath and West Society, but that perhaps is no more than could be expected in a district that is so famed for butter and cream. In addition to the competitions in butter-making, a number of dairymaids were engaged testing for churnability of ripened cream, from various breeds of cattle, with a view to ascertaining where a certain amount of wastage takes place. Another attractive feature of this department were the hand and power separators which were shown at work daily.

Horse-Shoeing

Horse-shoeing competitions were on the programme for several days, and they took place yesterday, exciting a good deal of interest, the farriery in which they were held at the far end of the yard being well patronised by spectators, who evinced a keen interest in the work. Competitors came from all parts of the West of England, and from places even as distant as Wales.

Bee-Keeping.

Demonstrations were given at frequent intervals during the week under the auspices of the Devon Beekeepers' Association. The association aims at securing to members the highest degree of profit that can arise from successful bee culture, and to extend and encourage a public demand for honey, mead, honey vinegar, and other bee products. Further, the association offers opportunities to members in the profitable disposal of their produce, and does its best to prevent the introduction of the large quantity of foreign honey and bee produce—generally of inferior quality, if not adulterated—that passes for genuine British.

Killing and Plucking Poultry.

Mr. C. E. Stallworthy, Devon County Council lecturer, gave a number of interesting demonstrations in the cramming, killing, and plucking of poultry. In a most interesting manner the lecturer described the Sussex method of fattening, and showed the simple appliance necessary for the purpose. By the method the dead poultry are taken to the market in a perfectly fattened state instead of the ordinary store condition in which the majority of Devonshire farmers sent the dead stock to the nearest market town. The Sussex process for fattening is cheap and simple. There were special pens to be purchased at a small cost for feeding, with a trough in front, and after the birds were kept there for a week they were subjected to the cramming process. The latter is simplicity itself, and Mr. Stallworthy was able to demonstrate that he could cram with the best meal 200 poultry in an hour. The lecturer impressed upon the large audiences who attended his lectures the great benefits to be derived from the system he taught. He was certain that if Devonshire farmers gave more attention to the fattening of poultry they would get considerably enhanced prices in the market.

The Annual Meeting.

On Thursday the annual meeting of the Society was held in the Council Pavilion, the Earl of Morley (president) in the chair. Among those also present were the Right Hon. R. W. Hanbury (President of the Board of Agriculture), and Mr. T. H. Elliott (Secretary of the Board of Agriculture).

The President moved the adoption of the annual report which was presented to the meeting, thought they might congratulate themselves on having a very good show from all he heard from the reports of experts.

Lord Heytesbury seconded the motion.

Mr. Eldred Walker said the report referred to cider making. As a tenant farmer, and having made some cider, he did not think the Society went far enough in this work, either in the competitions or in other ways. It was of no use to go on with the work unless they had a means of identifying apples. Twenty out of twenty-four farmers did not know what the various apples were. The Society had a splendid collection there, but the means of identifying them did not go far enough. At French shows apples were shown in the spring with the analysis and records. That Society could not do this a few years ago, but there was now a means by cold storage.

Mr. Farwell hoped that if they could get a small grant from the Society they would be able to show pictures of the apples in the yard. They had forty or fifty specimens in the yard, but very few from Somerset.

Mr. Hanbury on Various Topics.

Mr. Hanbury, cordially received, said: I am very much obliged to you for giving me the opportunity a second time of attending one of these annual meetings, because I feel the extreme importance of the Board of Agriculture and societies of this kind working together. Pulling side by side we can do a great deal, but pulling in opposite directions we may do more harm than good. There is one thing in which we must have sympathy for one another, because I am afraid that with these societies, as with the Board of Agriculture, the great defect is want of money. (Laughter.) We all feel it. I feel it especially. Whether I shall be able to get that remedied when we have money to spend for other purposes than the war I cannot say, but I shall at any rate do my best with my colleagues to put the English Board of Agriculture a little more in that respect on a footing with the Irish, of which, I confess, I am somewhat jealous. I have always maintained that the English farmer is just as much entitled to State support as the Irish is. (Hear, hear.) At the same time, I am most careful in anything I say on this subject to try and impress on everybody that, after all, self-help is of more importance than any possible State help. Help by the State can only be given in the directions indicated by Lord Morley—in experiments and in helping technical education. One of the gentlemen who spoke on the resolution mentioned the question of the distribution of pamphlets. There, again, I am quite sure societies of this kind can help us very much. All the pamphlets of the Board of Agriculture are very good, but it is no good printing and issuing pamphlets unless we can get them to reach the men we want. And I feel that is a defect at the present time. A good deal of this information does not go to the home of the farmer as it ought to do, especially the smaller and more isolated farmer, who perhaps wants assistance of that kind more than do those who farm on a larger scale, and come more in contact with the world. If societies of this kind can help us in that direction we shall be greatly obliged to them, because that is one of our difficulties. Any suggestions that can be made to us we shall be only too happy to receive, because, after all, we have to recognise the fact that there is a great deal to be done in the way of technical education and in bringing home, especially to the small farmer, what is being done by farmers who have, perhaps, better information and greater experience. We ought to borrow even from the experience of foreign countries. We know what the Boards of Agriculture are doing in our colonies and in the United States, and it will be a thousand pities if we cannot pick their brains, adopt their experience, and adapt it to our own purposes, especially in regard to dairying, which is becoming a very prominent industry. We know by the experiments that are taking place at this show what a great deal is to be learnt, and I know, coming as I do from a dairy country, that there is a great willingness on the part of farmers to take a new interest as it were in this subject. In dairying more than anything else, they are beginning to realise that they have got a great deal to learn. Perhaps it is more difficult to get that idea diffused with regard to some of the older industries that have not developed to so great an extent as dairying has, and induce them to start in a new direction. But I am quite sure that with reference to dairying there is a keen desire on the part of nearly all our farmers to be up to date and to learn the very latest results of scientific work. (Hear, hear.) And I feel that a great many of the dairying experiments which have been made have been really of a practical nature. I know there has been a great deal of feeling that many of the experiments have been too theoretical and scientific, and savoured too much of the laboratory, and were not of use for practical work. But that cannot be said of most of these dairying experiments. They are of a really practical nature, and the more they can be driven into the heads of those engaged in dairying the better it will be for that industry. (Hear, hear.) There is another matter connected with dairying which is of special interest to you at the present moment. It is the question of our butter standard. I hope you will agree with me that if butter is sold containing more water than we have agreed ought to be the limit by our standard, then it ought to be sold under some other name than butter. (Applause.) I do not want to hit any particular firm, or any butter in particular. But I want to deal with all butters which are not up to the standard, because I am quite sure that the real road to success is not only growing the best crops and feeding the best animals, but also in making the best butter and the best cheese, and producing the best milk. It is only by doing everything in the best way that we can really hope for success; and I am not going by any act of mine to encourage the production of poor or inferior butter. (Applause.) It is said the new process helps the poorer kinds of butter. There ought to be no poorer kinds of butter. (Hear, hear.) We want to work up to a better standard. That is the true hope for the farmer, and it is for that reason that I hope, with the agreement of my colleagues, to introduce legislation which will have that effect. (Applause.) The farmer is entitled to a trade description of butter, and it ought not to be possible for anybody who sells an adulterated or impoverished article to call it butter. We must call it by some other name. (Applause.) I will say nothing further. I do not know, indeed, that in Plymouth I ought to speak at all, because the Muzzling Order is in force now, and I ought to apply it to myself. (Laughter.)

The report was then adopted.

Mr. T. Dyke said next year they were going to their best place, the city of Bristol, where in 1884 they had over 100,000 visitors to the show, which was a very successful one, and he hoped that next year's show would be equally good. It was his privilege to propose that the Duke of Beaufort be elected president for the ensuing year.

Mr. Farwell, seconding, said all would admit that the Duke of Beaufort would be the right man in the right place as president when they met at Bristol.

The motion was carried unanimously.

Mr. Conway Warne moved that the following, who had been nominated by the council, be elected members of the council for the years 1902-4:—Western Division, Rev. F. F. Buckingham, Mr. C. R. Collins, Mr. R. Marker, Sir J. Shelley, Bart., Sir W. R. Williams, Bart., and Colonel A. Wyatt-Edgell; Central Division, Mr. J. D. Allen, Colonel G. Best, Messrs. E. T. D. Foxroft, J. T. Gibson, A. J. Goodford, H. Hobhouse, M.P., Colonel E. H. Llewellyn, M.P., Mr. M. St. J. Maule, Mr. H. B. Napier, Colonel U. P. Okeden, Major C. D. Sherston, and Colonel H. M. Skrine; Southern Division, Messrs. A. F. M. Druce, C. Goring, C. R. Knollys, J. A. Rutherford, A. Stanford, and C. Whitehead, F.L.S.; North-Western Division, Colonel T. W. Chester-Master, Dr. Rutherfoord-Harris, and Messrs. G. E. Martin, C. D. Phillips, and R. Stratton; without reference to district division, Captain T. G. Best, and Messrs. F. H. T. Jervoise, T. Latham, and J. E. Ransome.

Mr. E. Lewis seconded, and the motion was carried.

Colonel E. H. Llewellyn moved, "That the thanks of the Society be presented to the Local Committee representing the three towns and district for the cordiality with which they have received the Society, and for their efforts to promote the success of the meeting."

Mr. G. E. Martin, seconding, and the motion having been carried,

Mr. J. Walling suitably replied, in the absence of Mr. Soltau-Symons.

Votes of thanks to the judges and to the Earl of Morley brought the proceedings to a close.

Judges.

HORSES.—Agricultural: W. Crosland, Estate Office, Buscot Park, Faringdon. Hunters: M. Angas, Manor House, Whissendine, Oakham. Hackneys and Ponies: J. Griggs, South Creake, Norfolk. Harness Horses and Jumping: G. Gordon, Wincombe Park, Shaftesbury, and C. N. P. Phipps, Chalcot, Westbury, Wilts.

CATTLE.—Devon: W. S. Perry, Crelake, Tavistock. South Devon: B. W. Coaker, Old Newnham, Plympton St. Mary. Shorthorn: R. L. Angas, Blenheim, Woodstock, and J. Peter, Berkeley Castle Estate Office, Berkeley, Glos. Hereford: C. Williams, Glenthorne, Holmer, Hereford. Sussex: A. Heasman, Court Wick, Littlehampton, Sussex. Red Polled: A. D. Bruce, Estate Office, Elvetham Park, Winchfield, Hants. Aberdeen Angus: Rev. C. Bolden Preston Bissett, Buckingham. Jersey: J. H. Shore, Whatley House, Frome, and E. Mathews, Chequer's Mead, Potters' Bar. Guernsey: H. J. Gibbs, Milford, Salisbury. Kerry and Dexter: F. N. Webb, Babraham, Cambridge.

SHEEP.—Cotswold: W. T. Garne, Aldsworth, Northleach. Devon Long-Woolled: W. Greenway, Manor Farm, Halse, Taunton. South Devon: B. Butland, Leigham, Plympton. Southdown: H. Senior, Tarrant Rushton, Blandford. Hampshire Down: E. Lyne, Hillus, Compton, Winchester. Shropshire: T. S. Minton, Montford, Shrewsbury. Oxford Down: C. Bryan, Southleigh, Witney. Exmoor: R. J. Stranger, Court House, North Molton. Dartmoor: R. S. Luscombe, Wisdone, Cornwood, Ivybridge. Somerset and Dorset Horned: J. Kidner, Nynehead, Wellington, Somerset.

PIGS.—Berkshire: E. Burbidge, South Wraxall, Bradford-on-Avon. Large Black: W. Orchard, Trethorne, St. Thomas, Launceston. Large, Middle, and Small White or Black, and Tamworth: J. Barron, Elvaston House, Borrowash, Derby.

PRODUCE.—Cider: J. H. Hill, New Take, Staverton, Totnes. Cheese: Francis Meade, Langport. Butter and Cream: Professor Carroll, Royal Albert Farm, Glasnevin, Dublin.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Butter-Making: Professor Carroll, Royal Albert Farm, Glasnevin, Dublin, and D. A. Gilchrist, B.Sc., University Extension College, Reading. Shoeing: A. Wheatley, F.R.C.V.S., Reading. Shearing: C. Norman, Thurloxton, Taunton. Milking: R. J. Hoskins, Hill View, Beard Hill, Shepton Mallet.

Champion and Special Prizes.

HORSES.

Shire Horse Society's gold medal, value £10, for the best mare or filly in Classes 4, 5, 6, or 7: Mr. R. W. Hudson (Wern Blossom); r., Lord Llangattock (Hendre Marguerite).

Hunters Improvement Society's gold medal, or £5 and a bronze medal, for the best Hunter Brood Mare in Class 10: Messrs. T. C. and L. H. Downes (Rustic Gem).

Special prize of £5 5s., for the best exhibit in Class 11 or 12: Mrs. Calmady (Mutineer).

Hunters Improvement Society's silver medal for the best Hunter Mare or Gelding of any age, bred by a thorough-bred or registered hunter sire: Mr. J. H. Stokes (Haddon); r., Messrs. W. Madge and Sons (Golfboy).

Silver medal for the best Hunter Filly by a thoroughbred horse or registered hunter sire in Classes 12, 13, or 14: Messrs. W. Madge and Sons (Blagdon Gem).

Silver medal for the best Hunter Colt by a thoroughbred or registered hunter sire: Mr. G. P. Finch.

Hackney Horse Society's gold medal, value £10, for the best Mare or Filly in Classes 15 to 23: W. Oppenheimer; r., Mrs. R. T. Thornton.

CATTLE.

Champion prize of £10 10s., for the best animal in Classes 41 to 47: Mr. J. C. Williams; r., Mr. J. C. Williams (Woodman).

The Devonport Challenge cup, value £52 10s., and a special prize of £20, for the best Bullock (bull, cow, or heifer) in the South Devon Classes: Mr. W. Merry (Cromer).

Shorthorn Society's champion prize of £10, for the best Bull in Classes 55, 56, 57: Mr. J. D. Willis (C.I.V.); r., Mr. G. F. King (Lord Bruce).

Polled Cattle Society's champion prize of £10, for the animal in Classes 80 to 84: Mr. J. J. Cridlan (Elate).

The Blythwood challenge silver bowl, weighing 250z., for the best Cow or Heifer in milk in any of the Jersey classes, bred in Great Britain or Ireland: Marquis of Winchester.

English Kerry and Dexter Cattle Society's champion prize of £5 5s., for the best animal in Classes 99, 100, or 101: Messrs. Robertson Sons (La Mancha Tim); r., Messrs. Robertson and Sons (La Mancha Vesta).

English Kerry and Dexter Cattle Society's champion prize of £5 5s., for the best animal in Classes 102, 103, or 104: The Duchess of Devonshire (Compton Darkey); r., the Duchess of Devonshire (Compton Dot).

SHEEP.

Southdown Sheep Society's silver medal for the best Ram or Ram Lamb in Class 121 or 122: Mr. C. Adeane.

Southdown Sheep Society's silver medal for the best pen of Ewes in Class 123: Col. H. McCalmont, C.B., M.P.

Special prize of £5 5s. for the best Ram or pen of Ewes in Classes 135 to 138: Mr. E. P. Northey.

PIGS.

British Berkshire Society's special prize of £5 for the best Pig in the Berkshire Classes: Hon. Claud B. Portman (Ethel); r., Mr. R. W. Hudson (Danesfield Warrior).

National Pig Breeders' Association's silver medal for the best Boar of the Large White, Middle White, Small White, or Tamworth breed in Classes 151 to 166: Sir G. Greenall, Bart. (Walton What's); r., Sir G. Greenall, Bart. (Walton John).

National Pig Breeders' Association's silver medal for the best Sow of the Large White, Middle White, Small White, or Tamworth breed: Mr. H. C. Stephens (Whitmore Beauty); r., Mr. A. C. Twentyman (Castlecroft Primula).

CIDER.

Gold medal and certificate for the best exhibit of Cider in any of the Classes: Messrs. D. J. Crofts and Son; r., Mr. H. Davis; v.h.c., Mr. W. T. S. Tilley.

Prize List.

HORSES

SHIRE.

Stallion, foaled before 1900: 1, F. Jeffery (Duncan III.); 2, The Directors of Convict Prisons, Princetown (Royal Sovereign IV.); r., F. Jeffery (Holcombe Conqueror).

Stallion, foaled in 1900: 1, Lord Rothschild; 2, Lord Llangattock (Hendre Heirloom); 3, Sir W. H. Wills (Conqueror of Waresley).

Colt, foaled in 1901: 1, Lord Rothschild (The Lad); 2, H. Oakley (Dewstow Pioneer); 3, R. W. Hudson (Ware Masterman).

Mare and Foal, or in-Foal: 1, R. W. Hudson (Nateby Ace

Filly or Gelding, foaled in 1899: 1, R. W. Hudson (Wern Blosson); 2, Lord Llangattock (Birdsall Buttercup); r., T. R. C. Cundy (Harold).

Filly or Gelding, foaled in 1900: 1, Lord Llangattock (Hendre Marguerite); 2, Earl Egerton of Tatton (Active Girl); 3, J. Stooke (Queen).

Filly or Gelding, foaled in 1901: 1, H. Oakley (Dewstow Matchmaker); 2, Lord Llangattock (Hendre Madrigal); r., R. W. Hudson (Danesfield Resound).

ANY OTHER AGRICULTURAL BREED.

Mare and Foal, or in-Foal: 1, J. Mann (Damsel); 2, C. Marshall; 3, G. W. Horswell (Madam); r., J. Cleave (Magpie).

ANY AGRICULTURAL BREED.

Mare and Foal, or in-Foal, the property of a tenant farmer residing in Devon or Cornwall, best suited for breeding horses for agricultural purposes: 1, J. Mann; 2, C. Marshall; r., G. W. Horswell.

HUNTERS.

Hunter Mare and Foal, or in-Foal: 1, T. C. and L. H. Downes (Rustic Gem); 2, S. W. Adams (Call Duck) 3, C. W. Francis (Clonsilla); r., J. Ford (Court Royal).

Mare or Gelding, foaled in 1898: 1, J. H. Stokes (Haddon); 2, W. Pride-Jones (Tommy Atkins); 3, J. Pethick (Port); r., H. B. Cory.

Filly or Gelding, foaled in 1899: 1, Mrs. Calmady (Mutineer); 2, Major-General J. Jago-Trelawny (Salome); 3, T. Hore (Jupiter).

Filly or Gelding, foaled in 1900: 1, W. Madge and Sons (Gay Boy); 2, Major-General J. Jago-Trelawny (Spartacus); 3, C. M. C. Wakely (Hero); r., J. M. Woodley (Empress).

Filly, Colt, or Gelding, foaled in 1901: 1, Major-General J. Jago-Trelawny (Sesostris); 2, G. P. Finch; 3, W. Madge and Sons (Blagdon Gem); r., C. M. C. Wakely (Ballet Girl).

HACKNEYS.

Mare or Gelding, foaled before 1898: 1, W. J. Tatem (Astonishment); 2, E. Jones (Lady Athol); r., W. Mortimore (Miss Cadet).

Mare or Gelding, foaled in 1898 or 1899: 1, Mrs. R. T. Thornton (Duke of Cranbrook).

Filly or Gelding, foaled in 1900: 1, W. Oppenheimer (Knowle Belinda); 2, A. Johnson (Inventress); r., Mrs. W. Oppenheimer (Ala Girl).

Filly, Colt, or Gelding, foaled in 1901: 1, R. T. Thornton (Middleton Rose); 2, A. Johnson (Let 'em All Come); r., W. Mortimore (Stroudleigh).

Mare or Gelding, under 15·3 hands, the property of a bonâ fide tenant farmer, residing in Devon or Cornwall: 1, T. Tozer (Primrose Lady); 2, W. E. Luscombe (Gladys); 3, W. Mutton, jun. (Rodney); r., A. H. Retallick.

PONIES.

Mare, over 13·2 and not over 14·2 hands, with Foal at foot or to Foal in 1902: 1, J. O. Muntz (Lily of Laguna); r., W. Mortimore (Lady Gay).

Mare or Gelding, 4 years old or over, exceeding 13 and not exceeding 14.2 hands: 1, Mrs. R. T. Thornton (Hutton Mimosa); 2, W. J. Tatem; 3, E. Baxter (Musk); r., E. Baxter (Wee Jean).

Mare or Gelding, 4 years old or over, not exceeding 13 hands: 1, E. Jones (Megania); 2, E. Baxter (Black and White); 3, W. J. Tatem (Little Eva); r., W. Mutton, jun. (Dandy Dick).

CATTLE.

DEVON.

Bull, calved in 1898 or 1899: 1, J. A. Williams (Woodman); 2, F. R. J. Morris (Union Jack); r., Hon. E. W. B. Portman (Hestercombt General).

Bull, calved in 1900: 1 and 2, J. C. Williams (Musa and Foxglove); r., Hon. J. R. de C. Boscawen (Crabapple).

Bull, calved in 1901: 1 and 2, J. C. Williams (Woodbine and Kemble); 3, Hon. J. R. de C. Boscawen (Pip); r., T. S. Morgan (Pound Mormon).

Cow, in-Milk, calved before 1899: 1, W. R. and A. Trible (Fern of Halsdon); 2, E. C. Norrish (Gay Honesty); r., Hon. E. W. B. Portman (Lowton).

Heifer, in-Milk, calved in 1899: 1, Hon. C. B. Portman (Capton Belle); r., Hon. E. W. B. Portman (Moss Rose 3rd).

Heifer, calved in 1900: 1, T. S. Morgan (Quantock Lady Curzypool No. 15); 2, R. W. Evered (Princess 4th); r., Hon. E. W. B. Portman (Hestercombe Daisy).

Heifer, calved in 1901: 1, Hon. E. W. B. Portman (Hestercombe Myrtle); 2, J. F. R. Morris (Fancy 27th); 3, W. H. Bond (Treasure); r., Bovine, Limited (Bovine Princess 2nd).

SOUTH DEVON.

Bull, calved in 1898 or 1899: 1, W. Merry (Cromer); 2, T. B. Bolitho (Nonpareil); 3, J. Wakeham (Good Gift); r., R. E. Paige, J.P. (Buller); c., T. S. Walters (Langston Lad).

Bull, calved in 1900: 1, T. R. Bolitho (Silver Prince); 2, W. Merry (Cromer); 3, Earl of Mount Edgcumbe Langford 1st); r., H. B Mildmay (The King).

Bull, calved in 1901: 1, B. Butland (Famous); 2, J. S. Wroth (The Czar); 3, E. and J. Stooke (Duke); r., T. S. Walters (Coleridge Lad).

Cow, in-Milk, calved before 1899: 1, J. Luscombe (Beauty 3rd); 2, F. T. Glovn and Sons (Crocus); 3, W. Merry (Lovely); r., F. T. Glovn and Sons (Gentle).

Heifer, calved in 1900: 1, H. Brabridge (Dolly 3rd); 2, B. Luscombe (Queenie 2nd); 3 and r., B. Butland (Rosebud and Dairymaid 2nd).

Heifer, calved in 1901: 1, B. Butland (Beauty 4th); 2, J. G. D. Moore (Lady Jane); 3, B. Butland (Princess 1st); r., B. H. Hannaford (May Flower).

SHORTHORN.

Bull, calved in 1898 or 1899: 1, J. D. Willis (Granite Chip); 2, J. Little and Sons (Vain Lord); 3, J. Coad (Rufus); r., Lord Tredegar (Prince Alko).

Bull, calved in 1900: 1, J. D. Willis (C.I.V.); 2, G. F. King (Lord Bruce); 3, L. de Rothschild (Silver Mist); r., T. F. Roskruge (Lord Norman); v.h.c., Lord Tredegar (Jester).

Bull, calved in 1901: 1, J. D. Willis (Baston Florist); 2, A. Henderson, M.P. (Baron Buscot); 3, Lord Calthorpe (Elvetham Victor); r., A. F. Bassett (Royal Duke).

Cow, in-Milk, calved before 1899: 1, J. D. Willis (White Heather); 2, Lord Calthorpe (Warrior Queen); 3, A. Henderson, M.P. (Ringdale Favourite 2nd); r., A. Hiscock, jun. (Patient Happy); v.h.c., A. Henderson, M.P. (Grace Darling).

Pure-Bred Pedigree Shorthorn Dairy Cow, in-Milk, of any age, eligible to rand entered in Coates's Herd Book (or pedigree sent for such entry before the Show), that has not previously won a first prize offered by the Shorthorn Society in a corresponding Class: 1, Lord Rothschild (Sunshade 2nd); 2, W. J. Hosken (Wild Duchess 20th); r., A. Henderson; v.h.c., G. F. King (Countess 56th).

Heifer, in-Milk, calved in 1899: 1, W. J. Hosken; 2, J. Colman; 3, A. Henderson, M.P. (Moss Rose 2nd); r., G. F. King; v.h.c., A. F. Bassett (Carnation 26th).

Heifer, calved in 1900: 1, R. Stratton (Calico Belle); 2, J. D. Willis (Baston Jewel); 3, W. J. Hosken (Lady Plithfield 12th); r., W. Nicholson (Princess 66th); v.h.c., Lord Calthorpe (Elvetham Harebell).

Heifer, calved in 1901: 1, J. D. Willis (Malmaison); 2, the Earl of Cawdor (Golden Grove Seraphina); 3, R Stratton (Daisy Chain); r., J. Colman (Corona).

HEREFORD.

Bull, calved in 1898 or 1899: 1, W. T. Barneby (Gambler); 2, Earl of Coventry (Vishnu); r., W. H. B Cave (Victor); r.c., Tudge and Fenn (Royal Rupert).

Bull, calved in 1900: 1, A. P. Turner (Magnate); 2, G. D. Faber, M.P. (Lord Roberts); 3, W. T. Barneby (Obelisk); r., Earl of Coventry (Methodist); h.c., J. Edwards (Evolution).

Bull, calved in 1901: 1, A. E. Hughes (Gleadower 2nd), 2, P. Coats (Holmer); 3, R. Green (Matterhorn); r., J. Tudge (Lionel); h.c., Earl of Coventry (Huntsman).

Cow in-Milk, calved before 1899: 1, J. Tudge (Bracelet); r., W. T. Barneby (Ringtail).

Heifer, in-Milk, calved in 1899: 1, G. D. Faber, M.P. Saucebox 5th); r., J. Tudge (Princess Royal).

Heifer, calved in 1900: 1, J. Tudge (Royal Gem); 2, W. T. Barneby (Mistletoe); r., A. E. Hughes (Bartonia).

Heifer, calved in 1901: 1, R. Green (Ivy Lass); 2, Lord Llangattock (Hendre Bountiful); 3, Firkins Bros (Daisy); r. and h.c., Sir J. Cotterell, Bart. (Rosa and Julia).

SUSSEX.

Bull, calved in 1898 or 1899: 1, P. F. R. Saillard (Bewbush Marquis); 2, Earl of Derby (Grazer); r., E. E. Braby (Drungewick Prebble).

Bull, calved in 1900 or 1901: 1, P. F. R. Saillard (Bewbush Marquis 2nd); 2, Mrs. Montefiore (Brantridge Ensign 4th); r., Earl of Derby (Grenadier).

Cow or Heifer, in Milk, calved in or before 1899: 1, Earl of Derby (Fussy); r., P. F. R. Saillard (Miss Quality).

Heifer, calved in 1900: 1, Earl of Derby (Firle Valentine); 2, Mrs. Montefiore (Dairymaid 4th); r., P. F. R. Saillard (Bewbush Ethel); h.c., Earl Winterton (Stephanotis th); c., R. P. Cooper (Hardy 29th).

Heifer, calved in 1901: 1, Earl Winterton (Simla 2nd); 2, Earl of Derby (Docility); r., P. F. R. Saillard (Bewbush Wind 3rd).

RED POLLED.

Bull, calved in 1898 or 1899: 1, Lord Amherst of Hackney (Defiance); 2, R. P. Cooper (Felix); r., F. H. Baxendale, J.P. (Eyke Don).

Bull, calved in 1901: 1, Admiral Hon. T. S. Brand (Albert); 2, Lord Amherst of Hackney (Royal Standard); r., Sir T. V. S. Gooch, Bart. (Pistol); h.c., Hon. A. E. Fellowes, M.P. (Antic).

Cow or Heifer, in Milk, calved in or before 1899: 1, R. P. Cooper (Ruthless 2nd); 2, Earl of Radnor (Necklace); r. and h.c., F. H. Baxendale, J.P. (Sarah and Red Tulip).

Heifer, calved in 1900: 1, J. Hammond, M.R.C.V.S. (Davy 204th); 2, Lord Amherst of Hackney (Popsey 6th); r., Sir T. V. S. Gooch, Bart. (Meddlesome Mattie); h.c., F. H. Baxendale, J.P. (Fansie) and R. P. Cooper (Ashlyns Firtree).

Heifer, calved in 1901: 1, Hon. A. E. Fellowes, M.P. (Avalanche); 2, R. P. Cooper (Ashlyns Chocolate); 3, Sir W. D. Corbet, Bart. (Acton Dream); r., Hon. A. E. Fellowes, M.P. (Amy); c., Sir T. V. S. Gooch, Bart. (Red Topsy) and Earl of Radnor (Jewel Case).

ABERDEEN ANGUS.

Bull, calved before December 1st, 1900: 1, J. J. Cridlan (Elate).

Bull, calved on or after December 1st, 1900: 1, J. H. Fridges (Parthian); r. and h.c., R. W. Hudson (Danesfield Jester).

Cow or Heifer, in Milk, calved before December 1st, 1899: 1, R. W. Hudson (Joyful of Danesfield); r. and h.c., J. H. Bridges (Madoqua).

Heifer, calved on or after December 1st, 1899: 1, J. H. Bridges (Maureen); 2, R. W. Hudson (Star of Danesfield 2nd); r. and h.c., R. W. Hudson (Alice of Tedfold 11th).

Heifer, calved on or after December 1st, 1900: 1, R. W. Hudson (Milady of Danesfield); 2, J. H. Bridges (Barbarina 2nd); 3, R. W. Hudson (Rhona 2nd of Danesfield); c., J. J. Cridlan (2) (Maid Marian and Pride of my Heart).

JERSEY.

Bull, calved in 1898 or 1899: 1, Lord Rothschild (Tudor Boy); r. and v.h.c., Mrs. C. McIntosh (Halburton's Prince).

Bull, calved in 1900: 1, The Bishop of Ipswich (Carnatie's Gem); 2, J. Brutton (Golden Star); 3, Mrs. C. McIntosh (Brompton); r. and v.h.c., Col. H. McCalmont, C.B., M.P. (Chanslor); v.h.c., Lady Smyth (Promotion); h.c., C. W. Armitage (Mignonne's Champion) and Miss Standish (Lord Carnation).

Bull, calved in 1901: 1, Admiral Hon. T. S. Bland (Doctor); 2, Lord Rothschild (Duke of Cartaret); r., A. Gibbs (Perry Farm Clipper); r. and v.h.c., Marquis of Winchester (Doricles); v.h.c., A. Pocock (Hercules) and Lord Rothschild (Shooting Star); h.c., J. Brutton (Dulce's Union), J. Spencer-Evans (Mousy's Owl), Col. H. McCalmont, C.B., M.P. (Black Cap), and A. Pocock (Golden Summer); c., Admiral Hon. T. S. Brand (Decimus) and Miss Standish (Viscount).

Cow, in Milk, calved before 1899: 1, Lord Rothschild (Beresford Pride); 2, Miss Standish (St. Helier's Princess); 3, Mrs. C. McIntosh (Clorissa 3rd); r. and v.h.c., C. W. Armitage (Clementine); v.h.c., A. Miller-Hallett (Carol) and the Marquis of Winchester (Guarantee 5th); h.c., Earl Cadogan (Beatrice), A. Gibbs (Lass of Jersey 2nd), Col. H. McCalmont, C.B., M.P. (Toupée), and Miss Standish (Opal); c., Mrs. R. L. Brown (Remember), Earl Cadogan (Golden Streak), Miss Standish (Electra), and R. P. Wheadon (Hantville's Surprise).

Heifer, in Milk, calved in 1899: 1, Mrs. C. McIntosh (Vivienne); 2, J. Spencer-Evans (Bagdad 2nd); 3, J. Brutton (Benita 2nd); r. and v.h.c., Sir T. V. S. Gooch, Bart. (Wild Rose); v.h.c., Marquis of Winchester (Lady Belle); h.c., J. Brutton (Mina 4th), A. Miller-Hallett (Acorn), and R. P. Wheadon (Rosy 2nd); c., Bishop of Ipswich (Texture) and E. Smith (White Rosebud).

Heifer, calved in 1900: 1, Lord Rothschild (Orleans' Queen); 2, Mrs. C. McIntosh (Marjorie); 3, Marquis of Winchester (Dusky Jane); r. and v.h.c., Col. H. McCalmont, C.B., M.P. (Adieu); v.h.c., Earl Cadogan (Sunbeam); h.c., Marquis of Winchester (Red Lilly); c., Col. H. McCalmont, C.B., M.P. (Bravura).

Heifer, calved in 1901: 1, A. Miller-Hallett (Balance), 2, Lord Rothschild (Glitter); 3, Col. H. McCalmont, C.B., M.P. (Winifred); r. and v.h.c., Earl Cadogan (Lady Disdain); v.h.c., C. W. Armitage (2) (Pilot's Legacy 12th and Farineuse 4th), J. Brutton (Golden Empress), Lord Rothschild (Legacy), E. Smith (Maisonnette Stella), and Marquis of Winchester (Lady Rotha); h.c., Lady Smyth (2) (Heartsease 1st and Nancy) and the Hon. Mrs. Tremayne (2) (Regalia and Egidia); c., J. Brutton (Brunon 5th), A. Gibbs (2) (Lady Jane and Margarite), and Earl of Mount Edgecumbe (Alexandria).

GUERNSEY.

Bull, calved in 1898 or 1899: 1, W. A. Glynn (Rowland of Seaview); 2, Col. E. St. Aubyn (Duke of Bliegs); r. and h.c., Mrs. Montefiore (Fair Boy of Calais.

Bull, calved in 1900: 1, Lady Tichborne (Rival); 2, Mrs. Montefiore (King Edward); 3, Mrs. Fownes (Freedom Sly); r. and h.c., Mrs. Fownes (Roland of the West); h.c., Hon. Mrs. A. R. Hamilton (Loyalist 2nd).

Bull, calved in 1901: 1, W. A. Glynn (Sunshine); 2, Mrs Montefiore (Marshall); 3, Lady Tichborne (Merry Anton); r., Lady Tichborne (May King); h.c., and c., Mrs. R. C. Bainbridge (Arthur and Roman Emperor).

Cow, in Milk, calved before 1899: 1, Lady Tichborne (Rohen Daisy of the Preél); 2 and 3, E. A. Hambro

(Hayes Rosie and Express); r., Mrs. Fownes (Princess Rhea); h.c., Mrs. Montefiore (Zara); c., Lady Tichborne (Itchen Primrose 2nd).

Heifer, in Milk, calved in 1899: 1, Lady Tichborne (Itchen Primrose); 2, Mrs. Fownes (Claremont Ruth 4th); 3, Lady Tichborne (Itchen Claudia); r. and h.c., Mrs. Montefiore (Lady Fashion).

Heifer, calved in 1900: 1, W. Maddick (Miss Evelyn); 2, Hon. Mrs. A. B. Hamilton (Rosemary 4th); 3, Mrs. Fownes (Princess Lilly); r., Lady Tichborne (Hey Day); h.c., Colonel H. W. Shakerley (Marie des Prevost); c., Mrs R. C. Bainbridge (Elfordleigh Milkmaid) and Major-General G. M. Battye (Evelyn).

Heifer, calved in 1901: 1, Mrs. Montefiore (La Fontaine 2nd); 2, W. A. Glynn (Florry 7th); 3, E. A. Hambro (Hayes Nellie); r., Lady Tichborne (Itchen Daisy 3rd); h.c., J. Hull (Mount Laurie).

KERRY.

Bull, calved in 1899, 1900, or 1901: 1, Robertson and Sons (La Mancha Tim); 2, J. Thorley; 3, W. Vicary (Aller Aicme Rex); r., C. J. Cory, J.P. (Llantarnam Lancelot).

Cow or Heifer, in Milk, calved in or before 1899: 1, Robertson and Sons (La Mancha Vesta); 2, W. Vicary (Maid of Kildare); 3, C. J. Cory, J.P. (La Mancha Playful); r. and h.c., Robertson and Sons (La Mancha Sweet Kiss); h.c., J. Thorley (La Mancha Gipsy Queen); c., C. J. Cory, J.P. (Prudence).

Heifer, calved in 1900 or 1901: 1, J. Thorley (La Mancha Springtime); 2, Robertson and Sons (La Mancha Pearl); 3, r. and h.c. and c., C. J. Cory, J.P. (Llantarnam Lill, La Mancha Amy, and La Mancha Olive).

DEXTER KERRY.

Bull, calved in 1899, 1900, or 1901: 1, The Duchess of Devonshire (Compton Darky); 2, G. Habgood (De Wet); 3, Robertson and Sons (La Mancha Boss); r. and h.c., the Duchess of Devonshire (Compton Dandy); h.c., B. de Bertodano (Cowbridge Jock) and W. J. Fletcher (Chantry Bob).

Cow or Heifer, in Milk, calved in or before 1899: 1, The Duchess of Devonshire (Compton Dot); 2 and 3, B. de Bertodano (Cowbridge Love Lost and Upminster Waif); r. and h.c., Robertson and Sons (La Mancha Violet); h.c., the Duchess of Devonshire (Upminster Red Skin) and W. Stallard (Malvern Signorina); c., W. J. Fletcher (Chantry Belle).

Heifer, calved in 1900 or 1901: 1, The Duchess of Devonshire (Compton Dumpling); 2, Robertson and Sons (La Mancha Jess); 3 H. M. Gibbs (Barrow Nest Egg); r. and h.c., the Duchess of Devonshire (Compton Dimple); h.c., B. de Bertodano (La Mancha Gem) and Robertson and Sons (La Mancha Goody Two Shoes); c., W. Stallard (Malvern Style).

SOUTH DEVON.

Shearling Ram: 1, H. Fairweather; 2, W. F. Sobey; 3, r., and h.c., J. S. Hallett; c., W. F. Sobey.

Pair of South Devon Ram Lambs, dropped in 1902: 1 and 2, J. S. Hallett; 3, W. F. Sobey; r., J. S. Hallett.

Pen of Three South Devon Shearling Ewes: 1 and 2, H. Fairweather; r., T. S. Walters.

SOUTH DOWN.

Southdown Shearling Ram: 1 and 2, C. Adeane; 3, Colonel A. F. Walker; r., E. Ellis; c., Colonel H. McCalmont and Colonel A. F. Walter.

Pair of Southdown Ram Lambs, dropped in 1902: 1, Colonel H. McCalmont, C.B., M.P.; 2, C. Adeane; 3, Colonel H. McCalmont, C.B., M.P.; r., Col. A. F. Walker; c., E. Ellis.

Pen of Three Southdown Shearling Ewes: 1, Colonel H. McCalmont, C.B., M.P.; 2, J. Colman; r., Colonel A. F. Walker; h.c., E. Ellis.

HAMPSHIRE DOWN.

Hampshire Down Shearling Ram: 1, C. Coles; 2 and 3, J. Flower; h.c., J. Joyce; c., Lord Rothschild.

Pair of Hampshire Down Ram Lambs, dropped in 1902: 1, J. Flower; 2, C. Coles; 3, J. Flower; h.c., J. Joyce and Lord Rothschild; c., Lord Rothschild.

Pen of Three Hampshire Down Shearling Ewes: 1 and 2, J. Flower.

SHROPSHIRE.

Shropshire Shearling Ram: 1, R. P. Cooper; 2, W. F. Inge; 3, R. P. Cooper; r., E. Nock; h.c., T. Fenn and W. F. Inge; c., T. Fenn and E. Nock.

Pair of Shropshire Ram Lambs, dropped in 1902: 1, R. P. Cooper; 2, E. Nock.

Pen of Three Shropshire Shearling Ewes: 1, W. F. Inge; 2, R. P. Cooper; 3, T. Fenn; r., E. Nock; h.c., R. P. Cooper.

OXFORD DOWN.

Shearling Ram: 1, J. T. Hobbs; 2, R. W. Hobbs; 3, A. Brassey, M.P.; r. and h.c., J. T. Hobbs.

Pair of Ram Lambs, dropped in 1902: 1, A. Brassey, M.P.; 2, J. T. Hobbs; 3, R. W. Hobbs; r. and h.c., J. T. Hobbs; c., W. A. Treweeke.

Pen of Three Shearling Ewes: 1, A. Brassey, M.P.; 2, J. T. Hobbs; 3, R. W. Hobbs; r. and h.c., W. A. Treweeke.

EXMOOR.

Shearling Ram: 1, 2, and r., C. N. Skinner.

Pair of Ram Lambs, dropped in 1902: 1, 2, and r., C. N. Skinner; h.c., J. Howard.

Pen of Three Shearling Ewes: 1, C. N. Skinner; 2, J. Howard; r. and h.c., C. N. Skinner.

DARTMOOR.

Shearling Ram: 1 and 2, E. P. Northey; 3, J. R. T. Kingwell, J.P.; r., E. P. Northey.

Pair of Ram Lambs, dropped in 1902: 1 and 2, J. R. T. Kingwell, J.P.; 3, W. Rowse; r., J. R. T. Kingwell, J.P.

Pen of Three Shearling Ewes: 1, J. R. T. Kingwell, J.P.; 2, W. Rowse; 3, J. R. T. Kingwell, J.P.; r., Ward and Chowen.

SOMERSET AND DORSET HORNED.

Shearling Ram: 1, F. J. Merson; r., W. J. Culverwell.

Pair of Ram Lambs, dropped after November 1st, 1901: 1 and 2, W. R. Flower; r., F. J. Merson.

Pen of Three Shearling Ewes: 1, W. R. Flower; 2, F. J. Merson; r., W. R. Flower; h.c., W. J. Culverwell.

Pen of Three Ewe Lambs: 1 and 2, W. R. Flower; r., F. J. Merson.

PIGS.

BERKSHIRE.

Boar, farrowed in 1899, 1900, or 1901: 1 and 2, R. W. Hudson (Danesfield Warrior and Danesfield Commons); 3, the Earl of Carnarvon (Hall Mark G.); r. and h.c., J. Lawrence (Llangibby Sultan); h.c., J. A. Fricker.

Pair of Boars, farrowed in 1902: 1, R. W. Hudson; 2, J. A. Fricker; r., A. Hiscock, jun.; h.c., the Earl of Carnarvon.

Breeding Sow, farrowed before 1902: 1, Hon. Claud P. Portman (Ethel); 2, R. W. Hudson (Danesfield Mistress); 3, J. A. Fricker (Flawless Form F.); r. and h.c., A. Hiscock, jun. (Manor Molly); c., R. W. Hudson (Danesfield Huntress) and F. J. Morgit (Lady Somerset).

Pair of Breeding Sows, farrowed in 1902: 1, R. W. Hudson; 2, A. Hiscock, jun.; r. and v.h.c., J. A. Fricker; h.c., the Earl of Carnarvon.

LARGE BLACK.

Boar, farrowed in 1899, 1900, or 1901: 1, J. Frayne (Lord Roberts 2nd); 2, John Frayn (Black King); 3, J. H. Glover (Cornwood Squire); r., W. Wills (Lustleigh Boy).

Pair of Boars, farrowed in 1902: 1, E. Gimblett; 2 and 3, J. Wakeham; r., T. Marshall.

Breeding Sow, farrowed before 1902: 1, E. Gimblett (Susy I.); 2, J. H. Glover (Cornwood Lass 1st); r., F. Allin (Halvill Duchess); h.c., W. Wills (Susannah 3rd).

LARGE WHITE.

Boar, farrowed in 1899, 1900, or 1901: 1, Sir G. Greenall, Bart. (Walton What's Wanted); 2, S. Spencer (Holywell Hugh); r., Sir G. Greenall, Bart. (Walton Turk 3rd).

Pair of Boars, farrowed in 1902: 1, S. Spencer; 2, Sir G. Greenall, Bart.; r., T. Manuell.

Breeding Sow, farrowed before 1902: 1, Sir G. Greenall, Bart. (Walton Topsy 5th); 2, T. Manuell (Trevorva Lady 7th); 3, A. Hancock, jun. (Croydon Duchess); r., S. Spencer (Holywell Czarina); h.c., Sir G. Greenall, Bart. (Walton Topsy 6th) and S. Spencer (Holywell Czarina 2nd).

Pair of Breeding Sows, farrowed in 1902: 1, Sir G. Greenall, Bart.; 2 and r., S. Spencer.

MIDDLE WHITE.

Boar, farrowed in 1899, 1900, or 1901: 1 and 2, Sir G. Greenall, Bart. (Walton John); r., A. C. Twentyman (Castlecroft Long Tom).

Pair of Boars, farrowed in 1902: 1, A. Hiscock, jun.; 2, S. Spencer; r., Sir G. Greenall, Bart.; c., S. Spencer.

Breeding Sow, farrowed before 1902: 1, A. C. Twentyman (Castlecroft Primula); 2, S. Spencer (Holywell Rosadora); 3 and r., Sir G. Greenall, Bart. (Walton Rose 11th and Rufford Snowdrop); v.h.c., A. C. Twentyman (Castlecroft Ladysmith).

Pair of Breeding Sows, farrowed in 1902: 1, A. Hiscock, jun.; 2, S. Spencer.

SMALL WHITE OR SMALL BLACK.

Boar, farrowed in 1899, 1900, or 1901: 1, Sir R. Greenall, Bart. (Walton Emperor); 2, Earl of Carnarvon (Highclere Lion); r., Sir G. Greenall, Bart. (Walton Champion); h.c., Hon. D. P. Bouverie (Coleshill Marquis).

Pair of Boars, farrowed in 1902: 1 and 2, Hon. D. P. Bouverie.

Breeding Sow, farrowed before 1902: 1, Hon. D. P. Bouverie (Coleshill Sunbeam 3rd); 2, Sir G. Greenall, Bart. (Walton Jewel 6th); r., Earl of Carnarvon.

Pair of Breeding Sows, farrowed in 1902: 1 and 2, Hon. D. P. Bouverie.

TAMWORTH.

Boar, farrowed in 1899, 1900, or 1901: 1, E. de Hamel (Middleton Mainspring); 2, D. W. Philip (Whitacre Unionist); r., H. C. Stephens.

Pair of Boars, farrowed in 1902: 1, H. C. Stephens; 2, D. W. Philip; r., E. de Hamel.

Breeding Sow, farrowed before 1902: 1, H. C. Stephens (Whitacre Beauty); 2, D. W. Philip (Whitacre Countess 9th); r., E. de Hamel (Middleton Martenella); h.c., D. W. Philip (Whitacre Beauty 3rd).

Pair of Breeding Sows, farrowed in 1902: 1, D. W. Philip; r., H. C. Stephens.

PRODUCE CLASSES

CIDER.

Cider made in Devon.—Cask of Cider, containing not less than 4 per cent. of Alcohol: 1, C. Haydon. Twelve Bottles of Cider, containing not less than 4 per cent. of Alcohol: 1, C. Haydon. Cask of Cider, containing less than 4 per cent. of Alcohol: 1, C. Haydon. Twelve Bottles of Cider, containing less than 4 per cent. of alcohol: 1, C. Haydon; 2, J. M. Came and Sons; r. and v.h.c., Bowden and Coombe.

Cider made in Herefordshire.—Cask of Cider, containing less than 4 per cent. of Alcohol: 1, J. Bazley. Twelve Bottles of Cider, containing less than 4 per cent. of Alcohol: 1, Yeomans Brothers; 2, J. Bazley.

Cider made in Somerset.—Cask of Cider, containing not less than 4 per cent. of Alcohol: 1 and 2, D. J. Crofts and Son; r. and v.h.c., H. Tucker; h.c., W. T. S. Tilley. Twelve Bottles of Cider, containing not less than 4 per cent. of Alcohol: 1, D. J. Crofts and Son; 2, W. T. S. Tilley; r. and v.h.c., D. J. Crofts and Son; h.c., C. Osborn and Son and W. T. S. Tilley; c., W. T. Allen and H. J. Davis. Cask of Cider, containing less than 4 per cent. of Alcohol: 1, D. J. Crofts and Son; 2, H. J. Davis. Twelve Bottles of Cider, containing less than 4 per cent. of Alcohol: 1 and 2, H. J. Davis; h.c., D. J. Crofts and Son.

Cider made in Counties other than Devon, Hereford, or Somerset.—Cask of Cider, containing not less than 4 per cent. of Alcohol: 2, R. Rout and Son. Twelve Bottles of Cider, containing not less than 4 per cent. of Alcohol: 1 and r., Rout and Son. Cask of Cider, containing less than 4 per cent. of Alcohol: 2, A. Knight. Twelve Bottles of Cider, containing less than 4 per cent. of Alcohol: 1, H. Thomson; 2, A. Knight.

CHEESE.

Three Cheeses, not less than 56lbs. each, made in 1901: 1, H. Travers; 2, A. Osborne; 3, H. White; r., H. Cannon; v.h.c., J. Ashby and J. Sage.

Three Cheddar Cheeses, not less than 28lbs. each, made in 1901, by a Student who has received not less than a week's instruction in one of the Society's Cheese Schools held since 1898: 1, Mrs. W. T. S. Tilley; 2, Mrs. W. W. Keel; r., Miss S. A. Steeds.

Three Cheeses, not less than 28lbs. each, made in 1902: 1, J. Sage; 2, H. Cannon; 3, N. J. Sims; r., H. White; h.c., H. Travers; c., E. T. Green.

Three Cheddar Cheeses, not less than 28lbs. each, made in 1902 by a Student who has received not less than a week's instruction in one of the Society's Cheese Schools held since 1898: 1, Miss Sage; r., Mrs. W. T. S. Tilley.

Eight Loaf or other Truckle Cheeses, made in 1902: 1, H. Travers; 2, Mrs. C. Candy; 3, F. W. J. Crocker; r., H. Cannon; c., N. J. Sims.

Three Caerphilly Cheeses, made in 1902: 1, Mrs. W. T. S. Tilley; 2, Miss Spratt; 3, W. Champion; r., Mrs. W. T. S. Tilley; h.c., H. G. Hill; c., E. Dibble.

Three Cream or other Soft Cheeses: 1, Mrs. McIntosh; 2, A. J. Kingsley; r., Miss M. G. Prideaux.

BUTTER AND CREAM.

3lbs. of Fresh (or very slightly salted) Butter, made of Cream from Cows other than Channel Island Breeds: 1, Mrs. J. H. Phillips; 2, Lord Poltimore; 3, Mrs. L. R. Mildon; 4, C. Hayes; r., Mrs. F. Ward; h.c., J. Channon and A. Gibbs; c., Llanover Trustees and W. S. Wroth.

3lbs. of Fresh (or very slightly salted) Butter, made of Cream of Cows of Channel Island Breeds only: 1, Mrs. L. R. Mildon; 2, Mrs. J. H. Phillips; 3, C. W. Armitage; 4, A. F. Somerville; r., C. E. Keyser; h.c., Lord Poltimore and Mrs. F. Ward; c., A. Gibbs.

3lbs. of Fresh (or very slightly salted) Butter, made from Scalded Cream: 1, Mrs. F. Ward; 2, Mrs. L. R. Mildon; 3, Mrs. G. Priest; 4, C. Hayes; r., Miss A. Oldrieve; v.h.c., Lord Rothschild; h.c., Mrs. J. H. Phillips, Mrs. J. H. Pyle, Mrs. Smith Neill, and A. F. Somerville; c., J. Channon, A. Gibbs, Mrs. McIntosh, Mrs. E. Dickson Park, and Lord Poltimore.

3lbs. of Butter, to which no salt whatever has been added: 1, Lord Poltimore; 2, Mrs. J. H. Phillips; 3, Lord Rothschild; 4, A. F. Somerville; r., Mrs. L. R. Mildon; h.c., A. Gibbs, C. Hayes, C. E. Keyser, Llanover Trustees, Mrs. McIntosh, and W. S. Wroth; c., Mrs. Smith Neill.

Four Half-Pounds of Clotted or Devonshire Cream: 1, Mrs. L. R. Mildon; 2, Mrs. F. Ward; 3, A. Gibbs; 4, J. and W. D. McCreath; r., W. Leverton; h.c., Lord Poltimore; c., W. Beer and T. R. C. Cundy.

Four Half-Pounds of Scalded Milk Cream, produced in Devon or Cornwall: 1, J. and W. D. McCreath; r., Mrs. L. R. Mildon; h.c., J. Dolbear.

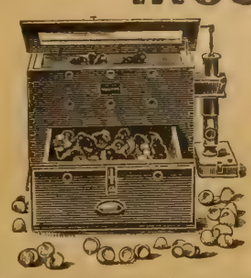
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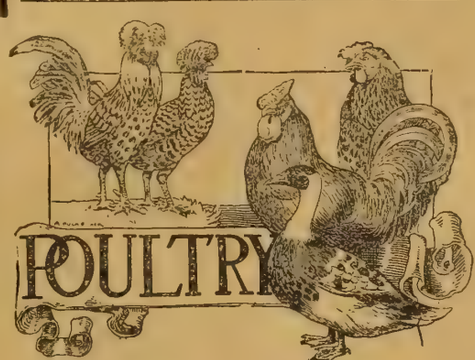
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National Poultry Organisation Society.

A meeting of the above society was held at 12, Hanover Square, London, on Thursday, Lord Burghclere presiding. The object of the organisation is to bring small poultry farmers and cottagers, who have from six to two or three dozen eggs per day to dispose of, into direct communication with retail dealers, and dispense with the middleman.

As an example of their work, it was pointed out that recently the price of eggs ruling in certain Devonshire markets was 1s. for twenty-six, while in Somerset, where the society have brought producers into touch with retail dealers, the eggs were sixteen a shilling. At the present time sufficient scope is not given to people in a small way to keep poultry in the neighbourhood of London, or, indeed, in any of the Southern counties and the Midlands. In parts of Lancashire and the West Riding of Yorkshire, farmers allow poultry-keepers to place roosts in their fields, at a charge of 10s. per annum per house accommodating twenty-five hens, the only condition being that shelters are frequently shifted, the owners having access to the fields at any time of the day. The hens have a free run of the ground, and they pick up so much natural food that they do not cost more than a penny per week to feed. The net profit amounts to between 4s. and 5s. per year for each hen.

Many of the poultry-keepers who avail themselves of this arrangement are operatives in the numerous factories of these two counties, who find a ready market for their eggs, for which the price varies, according to the season of the year, from 1s. to 1s. 6d. per dozen.

The Chairman said the members of the society might be fairly congratulated on the progress it had made in the past year, and even more so on the fact that the value of the objects the society had in view was at the present day universally recognised. They were extremely indebted to Lord Cranborne (president) and the active members of the Council for the immense amount of care and labour which they devoted to the prosecution of a work which was in close relation with the welfare of agriculture in this country.

Mr. Edward Brown (secretary) read the report, which stated the Committee viewed with gratification the increasing interest now being taken in poultry-keeping as a branch of farming by reason of the better outlet afforded for produce. Since

the establishment of the society poultry-keeping as an additional means of income to the rural population had made remarkable progress, and not the least important part of the work was the discouraging of those who, by lack of experience, unfavourable conditions, or want of capital, desired to embark in poultry-farming, so called, in the expectation that it was an easy mode of making a living. The society's main object was to encourage aviculture as a branch of agriculture, and to an increasing extent the officials were called on to afford advice in this direction. There was now a grand total of 1,861 members, and the expenditure last year was £1,044, which, in view of the wider propaganda, the Committee hoped to see increased.

On the motion of Sir James Blyth, and seconded by Mr. Walter Palmer, M.P., the report was adopted.

Mr. Hatch, the treasurer, stated that the expenditure considerably exceeded the income.

Lord Eustace Cecil recommended the establishment of branch committees in every provincial town, with the view of making the society and its aims more widely known; whilst the Hon. Mrs. Wilmot and other ladies urged the necessity for having the farmers and others practically acquainted with agriculture well represented on the Committee.

The officers and Committee were re-elected, the name of the Hon. Mrs. Wilmot being added to the latter, the proceedings closing with a vote of thanks to Lord Burghclere for having presided.

At the last meeting of the Cheshire Chamber the secretary presented the report of the committee appointed to consider the proposals of the Surveyors' Institution on a scale of compensation for feeding stuffs. The committee recommended the Chamber to approve the principle suggested by the Surveyors' Institution, that compensation representing the value to an incoming tenant should be based on the manurial value and not on the cost price of the feeding stuffs consumed, and that Messrs. Lawes and Gilbert's table 10, as published in the journal of the Royal Agricultural Society of England, December 31st, 1897, be accepted as a guide. That the Chamber, having in 1896 practically adopted No. 1 clause of the Surveyors' Institution proposals, the committee recommended the more general practice of free sale of produce and of market value being allowed for unconsumed produce, and for farmyard manure left on holdings, in which cases claims for feeding stuffs consumed be not made. The committee would, nevertheless, allow some elasticity in a valuer's practice to meet the exigencies of special cases and for solely grass land farms. The value of farmyard manure should be based on the quality of the feeding stuffs consumed and the description of the stock fed, and also on the care with which the manure had been preserved. The committee specially recommended that the condition and previous management of the holding be in every case kept in view in arriving at a valuation for unexhausted improvements. They also recommended that the Chamber invite a conference with the Surveyors' Institution with a view to a mutual arrangement. The report was adopted, including the suggestion a sto a conference with the Surveyors' Institution.

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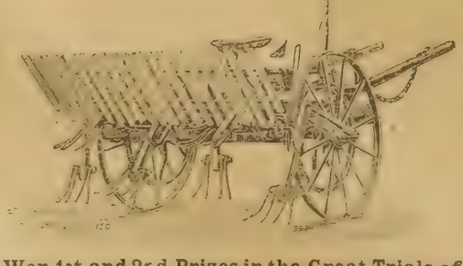


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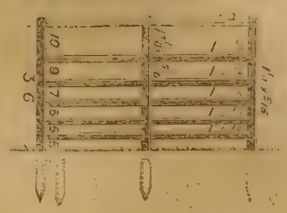
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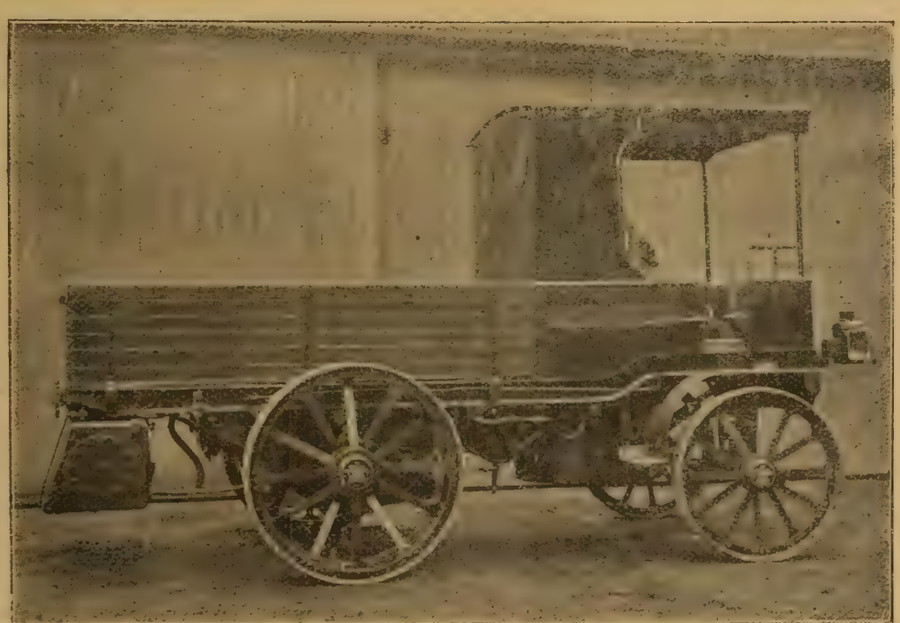
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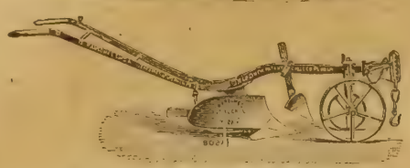
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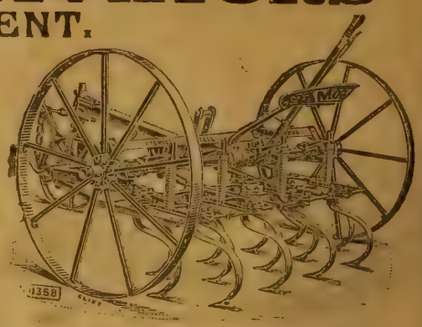
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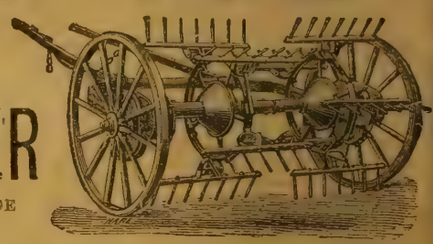
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VOL. LXXXVI. No. 3689. LONDON, MONDAY, JUNE 9, 1902. THIRTY-TWO PAGES. PRICE 3D.

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Last day of Entry, Monday, June 16th. Post Entries (at double fees) will be received up to Monday, June 23rd.

Driving and Jumping Entries close July 7th, 1902.

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Schedules now ready. Entries close July 4th.
F. J. BROWN, Hon. Sec., Tring.

THE EAST SURREY AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION SHOW will be held at CROYDON on JULY 9th, 1902.

Classes for STOCK STALLIONS, HACKS, HUNTERS, PONIES, SINGLE HARNESS, TANDEMS, PAIRS, and TRADESMEN'S TURNOUTS.

Upwards of £300 in Prizes, including about £80 for Jumpers.

ENTRIES CLOSE JUNE 21st.
HARRY FULLER, Hon. Sec.

Prize Lists and Entry Forms of HARRY M. CLARK, Acting Secretary, 83, High Street, Croydon.

LEICESTERSHIRE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

LEICESTER SHOW, JULY 2nd & 3rd, 1902.

OVER £1,372 IN PRIZES AND CUPS.

ENTRIES CLOSE:—
JUNE 2.—Shire Horses, Hunters, Polo Ponies, Driving Competitions, Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, and Implements.
JUNE 14.—Cheese, Butter, Butter-making, Poultry, Dogs (Fox Terriers), &c.
State Section for which Schedule is required.
Prize Lists and Entry Forms on application to H. C. ARDRON, Secretary.
Syston, Leicester.

AUCTION SALES.

IMPORTANT SALES OF PURE-BRED STOCK.

JOHN THORNTON & CO. will SELL by AUCTION as follows:—
THURSDAY NEXT, June 12.—Mr. D'ARCY REEVE'S SHORTHORNS, at Friars, Matfield, Paddock Wood, Kent.
WEDNESDAY, July 2.—Mr. JOHN GARNER'S SHORTHORNS, at Filkins, Lechlade, Gloucestershire.
THURSDAY, July 3.—Mr. HUGH BAKER'S SHORTHORNS, at Chedglow, Malmesbury, Wilts.
WEDNESDAY, July 9.—Lord POLWARTH'S SHORTHORNS, at Carlisle.

Catalogues may be had of JOHN THORNTON & CO., 7, Princes Street, Hanover Square, London, W., who will execute commissions.

SYDENHAM, in the Parish of Marystowe, Devonshire, one mile from Coryton Railway Station, G.W. Railway, and seven miles from Launceston and Tavistock.
IMPORTANT SALE OF NORTH DEVON AND JERSEY CATTLE, from the Hon. Mrs. Tremayne (who is giving up the Glebe Lands).

MESSRS. WARD & CHOWEN have been favoured with instructions to SELL by AUCTION at Sydenham as above, on WEDNESDAY, JUNE 18th, commencing at TWO o'clock, p.m., 26 Choice Pedigree North Devon Cattle from this old-established Herd, 7 Cross Breds, and 9 Handsome Jerseys, &c.

Catalogues of Mr. JOHN MARTIN, Sydenham, Lew Down, Devon; or of the Auctioneers at Burnville, Tavistock.

AUCTION SALES.

WILLERBY NEAR HULL.
Important unreserved SALE of PEDIGREE HACKNEYS, THOROUGHBREDS, HUNTERS, PONIES, Etc.

MESSRS. SUGDON & PEARCE-BROWN, jointly with Robert R. Leonard & Son, are instructed by Mr. Richard Willows, The Grange, Willerby, Hull, to SELL by AUCTION, THURSDAY, JUNE 19th, 1902, his entire STUD OF HORSES.

Catalogues first week in June, of the AUCTIONEERS, Beverley, and Field House, Preston, Hull.

FREEHOLD FARM, "ASHFIELDS" GREAT CANFIELD, ESSEX, 2½ miles from Station, within easy reach of Market Towns of Dunmow and Bishop's Stortford, comprising about 207a. 2r. 24p. of productive arable and meadow land, with orchard, partly bounded by River Roding, and including a commodious old-fashioned Residence, ample out-buildings, 3 yards, &c., good water supply. Let to Mr. Isaac Smith (a tenant of nearly 42 years' standing) for a term expiring Michaelmas next, at low rental of £110 per annum.

MESSRS. DUNCAN AND KIMPTON are instructed by Trustees of S. S. Gopp, Esq., to SELL the above by AUCTION at the MART, Tokenhouse Yard, London, E.C., on FRIDAY, JULY 11th, at TWO o'clock.

Particulars, &c., at the Mart; of Messrs. F. KIMBER BULL & DUNCAN, Solicitors, 65, Watling Street, E.C.; or of the Auctioneers, 40 and 42, Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C., and Westcliff-on-Sea, Essex.

ISCOED HOME FARM, FERRY SIDE.

Highly IMPORTANT SALE of very CHOICE SHORTHORN, CROSS-BRED, and JERSEY MILCH COWS, YOUNG CATTLE, HORSES and SHEEP.

MESSRS. LLOYD & THOMAS are favoured with instructions from James Brogden, Esq., to SELL by AUCTION at the above place on FRIDAY, the 13th day of JUNE, 1902, the following exceedingly valuable live stock, comprising:—

86 HEAD OF CATTLE, including 20 well-bred deep milking SHORTHORN DAIRY COWS, 16 of which will have calves at their heels on the day of sale; 8 exceedingly well-bred pedigree JERSEY MILCH COWS in full profit; 3 pedigree JERSEY BULLS, 1 GUERNSEY BULL, 3 well-bred SHORTHORN BULLS, 4 CROSS-BRED STEERS, 11 exceedingly choice two-year-old in-calf SHORTHORN HEIFERS, and 20 do. YEARLING HEIFERS.

15 HORSES, including GREY CART MARE with filly foal at foot, BAY CART MARE, 2 well-bred two-year-old CART FILLIES, 1 two-year-old CART GELDING, 4 exceedingly well-bred heavy YEARLING CART FILLIES. The HACKNEYS comprise five-year-old MARE by Confidant, three year-old MARE by Market Day (dam by Guinea Gold, granddam by Confidant), two-year-old COLT by Flying Confidence, dam Phyllis, two-year-old FILLY by Market Day, chesnut YEARLING COLT by The Viking, dam by Flashwood Again, and chesnut PONY MARE and FOAL.

90 SHEEP, including 60 well-bred SHROPSHIRE DOWN EWES and LAMBS, and 30 YEARLING EWES.

Luncheon at 11 o'clock, the sale to commence at 12 sharp.

Credit on conditions.

Catalogues with full particulars may be obtained of the AUCTIONEERS, 5, Quay Street, Carmarthen.

LIVE STOCK.

HORSES.

HACKNEYS, &c.

MOORE, HENRY, Burn Butts, Cranswick, Hull.—Pedigree Stud of HACKNEYS, including many prize-winners, yearlings, two years, and others.—Can be seen on application to Henry Moore.

LLOYD, WALTER, Moonhill, Cuckfield, Sussex. Small but select Stud of PEDIGREE HACKNEYS, Mares, Fillies, and Colts of best blood, including stock by Champion Ganymede, Agility, Winnal Fireaway, Model II., and other noted Stallions at moderate prices. Appointments to view the stud (which is 1½ miles from Hayward's Heath station, L.B. and S.C. Railway), on application to the owner, as above.

LEES KNOWLES, M.P., Westwood, Pendlebury, Manchester. Breeder of Pedigree Hackneys, Stud Horses: Dane Canute, 5952, by Danegelt, 174; Dainty Duke, 7417, by Garton, Duke of Connaught, 3009; and Salford Felix, 7263, by Invincible, 1806. Stock on Sale by the above-named and other noted Sires.—For particulars apply to the STUD GROOM, Dam Head Farm, Mobberley, Cheshire, or to the Owner.

GEORGE SCOBY, Beadlam Grange Stud Farm, Nawton, Yorks. Breeder of CLEVELAND BAYS and YORKSHIRE COACH HORSES. Stallions and Mares, all ages, of purest blood for sale. This Stud won more prizes at Yorks. and Royal than any Stud in England. Prices reasonable. Telegrams: SCOBY, Nawton (free), A.B.C. code used. Farm 24 miles from York, and one mile from Helmsley, N.E.R.

WILSON-HORSFALL, F., Potto Grange, Potto Station, Northallerton, Yorks.—Winner of more prizes than any man in England with Cleveland Bays at the Royal, Great Yorkshire, and other important Shows for many years; also First Prize and Gold Medal at the Paris Exhibition, 1900, for Coaching Mare. Thoroughbreds and Shorthorns are also bred on these farms.

HALEY, ALFRED A., Hackney Stud Farm, Eddlethorpe, Malton. Stallions, Mares, and Geldings for Sale, by all the leading sires, such as Garton Duke, Pioneer, Prosador, &c. Stud Horse, Danebury 4724. Further particulars from Owner or R. Black.

SHIRES.

THE RIGHT HON. LORD ROTHSCHILD, TRING PARK, TRING, Breeder of Shire Horses, Jersey, Redpolled and Shorthorn Cattle, and Hampshire Down Sheep. For any further particulars, &c., please apply to Mr. RICHARDSON CARR, Estate Office, Tring.

MUNTZ, P. ALBERT, M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby.—SHIRE-BRED STALLIONS, COLTS, MARES, & FILLIES. About a hundred of all ages. Prize-winners London and other leading shows. Also high-class Shropshire SHEEP, winners first prize at Royal Agricultural, 1886, second in 1887, and first in 1888.—Apply, THOMAS EWART, Dunsmore Farm, Rugby.

CONCHAR, JOHN, Wylde Green, Birmingham.—Breeder of SHIRES and HACKNEYS. Some good Colts and Fillies for Sale. Five minutes from Station.

SALOMONS, LEOPOLD, Norbury Park Shire Stud, Dorking. Stud Horses: Hendre Champion 18,079, Norbury Harold 18,977, Norbury Dane 16,867. Mares and Fillies usually for Sale.—For Stud Fees and particulars, apply to J. BASTIN, Norbury Park Farm, Dorking.

CLYDESDALES.

THE SEAHAM STUD, Ltd., Seaham Harbour, county Durham. The largest stud of Pedigree Clydesdales in the United Kingdom. Stallions, mares, colts, fillies always on sale. Inspection solicited.—Apply, R. BRYDON, Seaham Harbour.

PONIES.

MONTEFIORE, Rev. D. B., Mursley Hall, Winslow, Bucks.—Champion Arab Stallion "Mootrub," Polo Pony "Hurlingham," by Champion "Rosewater," and the thoroughbred Pony Stallion "Eheu," by "Despair." Particulars on application.

SHETLAND PONIES.—Anderson, John & Sons, Hillswick, Shetland (established 54 years), supply pedigreed Shetland Mares and Stallions of excellent breeding and quality, 9 to 11 hands, all colours. Shipments arranged for abroad.—Telegrams, ANDERSON, Hillswick.

MILLER, W. S., Forest Lodge Brecon, S. Wales, Extensive Breeder and Exporter of best class of Welsh Mountain Ponies and Cobs.

CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS.

DALMENY SHORTHORN HERD, the property of the Earl of Rosebery, K.G. Bulls and Heifers of the choicest breeding always for sale at moderate prices.—Apply, MANAGER, Home Farm, Dalmeny Park, Edinburgh.

SWINBURNE, SIR JOHN, owns one of the Largest and Best Herds of PURE BATES SHORTHORNS in existence. The Herd being large, both Males and Females, of any age, can always be obtained. —Apply to JAMES HEPPLE, Bailiff, Capheaton, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

CATTLE (*contd.*).

SHORTHORNS (*cont.*).

WORDSWORTH, REGINALD, Duffcarrig, Gorey, Co. Wexford. Herd of rent-paying Dairy Shorthorns (Cruickshank and Scotch strains). Successful in Dairy and Showyard. Young Bulls and in-calf Heifers of good colours for Sale. Exportation orders faithfully executed.

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PEDIGREE Prize-winning Ayrshire Cattle; good milkers; hardy, healthy; heifers and bulls for sale; exports to Sweden, Egypt, South Africa.—J. WALLACE, P., J. Auchenbrack, Thornhill, Scotland.

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DALMENY-ABERDEEN-ANGUS HERD, the property of the Earl of Rosebery, K.G. Bulls and Heifers of the choicest breeding always for sale at moderate prices.—Apply, MANAGER, Home Farm, Dalmeny Park, Edinburgh.

CRIDLAN, J. J., Maisemore Park, Gloucester. Erica, Pride of Aberdeen, Lady Ida, and other noted tribes. Stock Bulls, Eimeo 12450 and Elate 16513. Bull Calves by Elate, Champion and Gold Medal Winner, 1901. Station 2 miles.

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McINTYRE, JOHN, Theakston, Bedale, Yorkshire.—Aberdeen-Angus Herd. Established 1883. 150 Head. 25 Thick-fleshed Yearling Bulls on Sale. Also females of best tribes.

BLUNT, H. LAYTON, Orton Longueville, Peterborough.—Black Polled Bulls and Heifers for sale, also Grazing Steers.

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HOYLES, GEORGE, Skidby Manor, near Hull. Prize-bred Angus Bulls and Heifers and Pure Lincoln Longwool Sheep. Registered Flock No. 136. Fine long, lustrous fleeces. Shire Horses for export. Inspection invited.

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CATTLE (*contd.*).

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TICHBORNE PARK GUERNSEYS, property of Sir H. D. Tichborne, Bart. Bulls, Cows and Heifers of very best breeding for sale.—D. Michie, Tichborne Park Office, Alresford, Hants.

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ILMINSTER HERD PEDIGREE JERSEYS, winners over 500 prizes, medals, and honours. Choice 100 Cows and Heifers in profit and calving all seasons, Bulls and yearing Heifers. Prices on application. Freights insurances arranged for shipping.—R. WHEADON, Ilminster.

STERN, E. D., Fan Court, Chertsey, Surrey.—Herd of Pedigree Jersey Cattle. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers for sale.

SHEEP.

OXFORD DOWNS.

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FISHER, Exors. of the late G. S., Broughton Lodge, Kettering. The whole flock of grand Rams, Ram Lambs, Ewes, Theaves, and Ewe Lambs will be sold by Auction at Broughton Lodge on Thursday, August 7th.

HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.

COLES, CARY, Manor House, Winterbourne Stoke, Salisbury.—Registered HAMPSHIRE DOWNS, prize-winners Royal, Bath and West, and Royal Counties Shows; Salisbury Prize Sheep Fair, 1900 and 1901. Twenty-five guineas Challenge Cup best pen 8 Ram Lambs. Flock numbers 1,200. All ages for sale

FLOWER, JAMES, Chilmark, Salisbury. Undoubtedly the leading flock of the day; in show yard records at all the largest shows, including the Challenge Cup at the Salisbury Great Prize Sheep Fair six years in succession; also highest average last eight years for 100 ram lambs at annual sale at Britford Fair, August 12, Ram Lambs and Ewes. The Flock is one of the oldest existing, combining fine quality, strength constitution, and true character.

LINCOLN LONGWOOL.

DUDDING, HENRY, Riby Grove, Gt. Grimsby, Lincolnshire, has always for inspection and sale a large flock of pure LINCOLN LONGWOOL SHEEP, including many prize-winners, having taken the leading prizes for many years at the Royal and other shows for both rams and ewes, including champion medals at both the Paris Exhibitions, Vienna, Amsterdam, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and all the leading prizes at Chicago; also the first for the best collection of Lincoln fleeces of wool at the Royal Windsor Show, which proves the character of this flock, which is most famous for their great size and 125 years' good breeding: Rams from this flock made the highest average on record last year. Riby Grove is seven miles from Great Grimsby, and three from Stallingboro' Station. Telegrams, "Dudding, Keelby."

CARTWRIGHT, JAMES, Dunston Pillar, Lincoln. Pure Bred Lincoln Rams and Ewes. Flock Book No. 53. The greater part of this flock has gone to Buenos Ayres for the last 15 or 20 years. Also Pure Bred Berkshire Pigs always on sale. Inspection invited.

BROOKS, WM. JERMYN, Boughton Grange, Northampton (Flock Book No. 165) has for sale Rams and Ewes of the best blood. Great satisfaction given abroad, especially for their fine fleeces.—Telegrams, Chapel Brampton.

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COOPER, WILLIAM, AND NEPHEWS, "Cooper's Dip" Works, Berkhamsted, England. BREEDERS and EXPORTERS of PURE SHROPSHIRE SHEEP. First Prize for five Shearling Rams, Second for Shearling Ram, and Second for Shearling Ewes, at the Royal Show, Cardiff, 1901. First and Third for Ewes, Royal Show, 1898. 500 breeding Ewes. Largest export flock of Shropshires in England. Sires used this season include four First Prize Royal winners. The 310 Guinea Champion "Royal Record," "Ashlyns Knight" (winner of Six Firsts and two Champions), "Shenstone Cardiff," and "Royal Cardiff."—For particulars apply to FRANK WEBB, Estate Office, Shenstone, Lichfield, or J. P. MILNE, Ashlyns, Berkhamsted.

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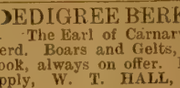
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PIGS, BERKSHIRE. — Apply, C. BEVAN, Mapledurham, Reading Pedigree Berkshire Pigs, pure-bred Boars, and Gilts of all ages, and at moderate prices.

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DEWHIRST A., Ryecroft Farm, Dudley Hill, Bradford. — Pedigree LARGE and MIDDLE WHITE PIGS. Also few BERKSHIRES for sale. All bred on farm. 200 to select from. One champion, 23 firsts, 24 seconds, 15 thirds won this year.

ASHFORTH JOSEPH, Dronfield, Sheffield, offers Large and Middle-white Breeding Pigs; herd established over quarter of a century; prices moderate.

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DALMENY HERD of LARGE WHITE PEDIGREE PIGS, the property of the Earl of Rosebery, K.G. YOUNG BOARS and SOWS of the very best quality and choicest breeding for SALE at moderate prices.—Apply, MANAGER, Home Farm, Dalmeny Park, by Edinburgh.

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LIVE STOCK (contd.).

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WILLIAM WALLET, Auctioneer and Live Stock Salesman, Castle Douglas, Kirkcudbrightshire. Established 1855. Live Stock Sales every Monday. Castle Douglas is situated in the centre of the best Herds of Galloway Cattle in Britain. The Cross Bred Lambs from the blackfaced ewe, reared in this district, are very hardy and the best of doers. Commissions judicially executed for those unable to attend. Special Sales List on application

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Several lots of Shropshire and Clun ewes, Shropshire, Oxford and Lincoln rams, and cattle of various classes on sale, which can be seen by appointment.

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SOILING, ENSILAGE, AND STABLE CONSTRUCTION. Being a revised edition of "Soiling, Summer and Winter: or, the Economy of Feeding Farm Stock." By Frank Sherman Peer. Recording the experience of the Author, giving the latest and most economical methods of Summer and Winter Feeding and Management of Farm Stock; also the Construction of Stables. With Illustrations. Price 5s. Post free, 5s. 4d.—London: LAUGHTON & CO., 1, Essex Street, Strand. New York: M. F. MANSFIELD.

"PAYING POULTRY": A Handbook for all interested in the Keeping and Rearing of Poultry. Illustrated. Price One Shilling (by post 1 2d).—WILLIAM A. MAY, "Farm Field and Fireside," 1, Essex Street, Strand, London, W.C.

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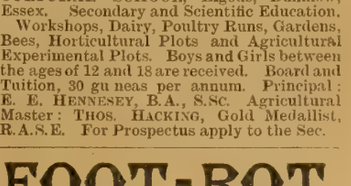
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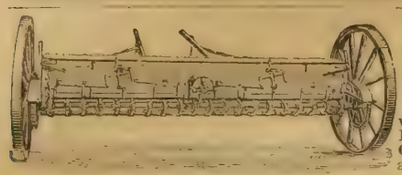
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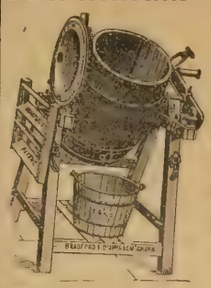
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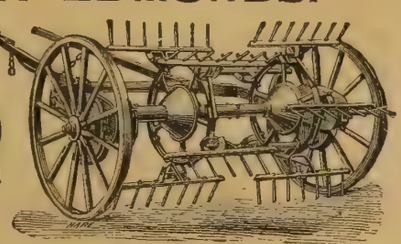
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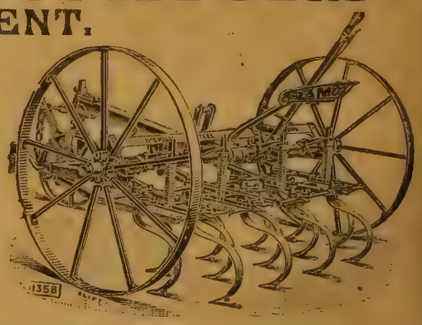
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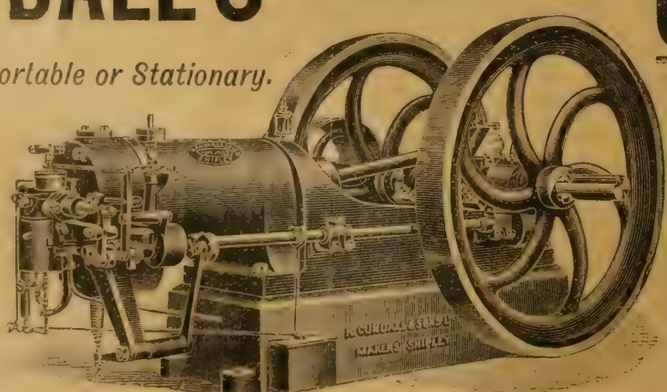
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JUNE 9, 1902.

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IMPROVED CROP PROSPECTS.

According to a very old, time-honoured proverb, "a lippy June brings everything into tune," and we appear to be realising the fact that sometimes, at least, such is the case. May proved an abnormal cold month, until towards its close. The spring opened hopefully in March, but afterwards there were six or seven weeks in which vegetation made little progress. The general opinion at the end of the third week of May was that we should have to put up with another short hay crop; and the bites of grass that had been in pastures when the cattle were turned out were diminished to such a degree that the fields bore an untoward bare appearance. Stock markets naturally reflected the evil nature of the situation, and at the big Wilton May Sheep Fair prices were down 4s. per head. The growing corn, too, not only remained stagnant in growth, but a great deal of it contracted an uncanny yellow hue.

All this has now undergone a marvellous change, as if by magic. The Goddess of Spring has wielded her wand to some purpose during the past fortnight, and in response to her benign influences the face of Nature has undergone a rapid and complete transformation. The wealth of leafage and the beauteous verdure of the entire face of the country are in very truth calculated to render the supremest gratifications to the inner senses. But what is still more gratifying is the well-founded hope that this luxuriant garb of verdure bears with it the promise of bountiful realisations to reward the farmer's toil. Anyone can just now give joyful expression to the old distich, "I went to my fields in May, And turned in sorrow away. But returning to them in June, I whistled a merry tune."

The outlook is indeed cheering, for if vegetation continues to make the same rapid progress it has been doing of late the meadow hay crop, although late, may prove anything but scanty. Very difficult is it to define the legitimate season for haying now-a-days, many farmers being accustomed to carry it out at any time in the summer, when they happen to have most grass. Not that it is at all judicious to allow the spring first yield, because scanty, to remain standing to await undergrowth. Experienced farmers will agree in opinion that it would be better to have two cuttings rather than do this, to effect which mowing machines afford every facility. Probably the greater ease with which haymaking can be effected since this valuable implement came so generally into use, and the greater fertility of meadows, owing to manurial applications, have led to the change that there is so much haying in August. Many grass fields will yield two crops of hay without the land at all suffering, if sufficiently manured. But it is a more general practice in dealing with such meadows to feed them in spring, and mow late in summer. Those who have fed bare lands intended to be mown this spring have certainly done the right thing. And if this bountiful June season of growth could have been foreseen, it would no doubt have been done in poor meadows no less than highly fertile ones.

There will now be a plenitude of feed in the grass parks, and very much is it to be hoped that both grazing and dairying are destined to yield far better returns than they have done for several years. The price of meat is high, and so far as appears likely to continue so throughout the summer. There is tolerably sure to be considerable appreciation in the sheep trade, now that all green crops are prospering so satisfactorily, and the present outlook is favourable for roots. There appears to be a full, strong mangel plant in most districts, and although it is too early to sow swedes yet in a great many parts of England, the fallows prepared for them will be so thoroughly saturated by recent rainfall that their condition must be favourable for a plant to be secured should the seeding be effected not too late. The corn harvest depends for a bountiful yield more on the nature of the kernel and ripening conditions than on anything else, but present circumstances render it to be exceedingly probable that there will be a heavy burden of straw, and where soils are in good condition the plant is appearing so strong and luxuriant that only a wet, cold, sunless summer can seemingly dash the anticipated full cup from the lip. Beans and peas, potatoes—indeed, almost everything possible to be named—look promising at present, so that the outlook is certainly much brighter than usual at the present period.

A council meeting of the Large Black Pig Society was held in the Council Pavilion on the show ground of the Bath and West Society at Plymouth, at which it was reported that the society had now the highly satisfactory total of 160 members. A report from the South Western Counties District Committee was presented, which stated that there had been an excellent demand for Large Blacks during the last six months, and it was proposed to establish an annual sale for the breed at a convenient centre in the district. The secretary presented a report from the Eastern Counties' District Committee, recommending the adoption of combined stud and ribbon ear-marks for the identification of registered animals. Experiments in marking pigs had been carried out during the last two years, and the committee were satisfied that the proposed form of ear-mark would be found effective. The stud and ribbon would each bear the society's registered trade mark, and the registered number of the animal. The recommendation of the committee was unanimously adopted. The secretary submitted a sketch of the proposed trade mark, and was directed to make the necessary application to the Board of Trade for registration of the same.

The matters at present occupying the attention of agriculturists were discussed at a meeting of the members of Staffordshire Chamber of Agriculture, held at Stafford, on the 31st ult. The chairman said that, while greatly in favour of education, he objected to any extra charge for it being thrown upon the local rates. In the course of a discussion an opinion was expressed that it would be a mistake to tax imported corn, but that a tax should be placed upon the manufactured article, corn than they grew, consequently they had to pay flour, inasmuch as many farmers had to buy more more for it; whereas, if the manufactured article were taxed it would have the effect of providing more labour in this country for people employed in the milling industry. One member said he thought he was expressing the opinions of a majority of Staffordshire farmers in saying they would be pleased to see the corn tax dropped. It was resolved that the Chamber adhere to the resolution previously passed in favour of a tax being placed upon all imported manufactured articles, and that it was desirable the present duty on flour should be retained. A discussion on the sale of milk-blended butter resulted in a resolution being passed that the law would not be satisfactory if it allowed milk-blended butter to be sold as butter, and that no milk-blended butter should be allowed to be sold with a higher percentage than 16 per cent. of the mixture.



By a Man of Mark Lane.

The receipts on account of Revenue from April 1st, 1902, when there was a balance of £8,566,947, to May 31st, 1902, were £24,195,354, against £20,431,149 in the corresponding period of the preceding financial year, which began with a balance of £5,596,918 The net expenditure was £33,708,119, against £34,432,701 to the same date in the previous year. The Treasury balances on May 31st, 1902, amounted to £5,147,017, and at the same date in 1901 to £3,885,247.

Mr. Channing has given notice to bring in a Bill to-morrow (Tuesday) to amend the Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Act, 1893, and for other purposes relating thereto.

The Bombay Department of Land Records and Agriculture has issued its final memorandum on the wheat crop of the Bombay Presidency for the season 1901-1902, which gives the corrected figures of area and estimated out-turn for the different British districts and native states of the Presidency. The latest reports show the area sown at 18.3 lakhs acres or 4 per cent. below last year's area, and 20 and 31 per cent. respectively below the average of the preceding five and ten years. The decrease is general, except in Sindh, and is due to the deficiency of late rains in the Presidency. The variations from last year's area are all unimportant. Owing chiefly to the unfavourable character of the season, and partly to the decrease in area, the total out-turn is very unsatisfactory, being only 40 per cent. of the average of the preceding 10 years. The total estimated out-turn for the entire Presidency is 271,103 tons, as compared with 421,639 tons.

The above-mentioned Department has also issued its final memorandum on the linseed and rape seeds crops in the Presidency. In round figures the total out-turn of linseed is 600 tons, or 20 per cent. in excess of the out-turn of last year, but is only one-sixth and one-seventh respectively of the averages of the preceding five and ten years. Of rape seed the total out-turn is in round figures 6,200 tons, or 30 per cent. less than the out-turn of the last year, and is 40 per cent. less than the out-turn of the preceding five years.

The total normal area under wheat in the Bengal provinces is estimated at 1,490,100 acres, while the area planted in 1900-1901 was returned at 1,498,700 acres. This year, according to the final report on the crop, issued by the Bengal Department of Land Records and Agriculture, the returns show 1,338,200 acres only, the contraction in area being due to the drought at the sowing season in Bihar. Out of the twelve chief wheat-growing districts in the Province, only Malda reports an average out-turn; in three districts the out-turn varies between 85 and 91 per cent.; in five it varies between 60 and 69 per cent.; while in the remaining three it is estimated at from 35 to 45 per cent. of an average crop. The crop for the whole of the Province may be estimated at 70 per cent. of a normal crop, and the gross out-turn at 391,000 tons, as compared with 472,600 tons of the past year.

Ripon June Cattle Fair.—At this fair, held on Thursday, there was a large show of calving and milking cows and grazing beasts. Owing to recent rains prices of stock have gone up £1 per head in some cases. Inquiries were made after useful animals, but business was only slow. Good calving cows made £15 to £20; grazing heifers, £11 to £13; two-year-old bullocks, £9 to £12; yearlings, £5 to £7. No fat stock was shown.



By a Lobbyist.

Those Radicals who anticipated, now that the war is at an end, that the Corn Tax would be abandoned, have discovered that they relied upon a misappreciation of the character of Sir Michael Hicks-Beach. They had limned delightful pictures of the Chancellor of the Exchequer being forced into financial heterodoxy at the autocratic dictation of the recreant Mr. Chamberlain, who had in this business received the inspiration at the feet of Mr. James Lowther and Sir Howard Vincent. They were convinced that he would gladly abandon the scheme, if an opportunity were provided him. They assured you that they knew that his innermost soul had been repelled by the vision which he had received of the possible effect of the impost, and that, were it dignified, he would array himself in sackcloth and ashes, and do penance at the statue of Mr. Gladstone. Well, we know now that Sir Michael intends nothing of the kind. He is sticking to the corn and flour duties as though he loved them. True, he avers that they are not Protective in character, and that they are in no way dissonant to the policy of Bright and Gladstone. This, however, is but a sentiment. The potent fact is that the duties are to be imposed. We can derive more consolation from this than from a flood of explanatory apologetics. The basis of taxation is to be enlarged—and that, let it never be forgotten, with a view to the benefit of agriculture.

Mr. Hanbury is quite wise in appreciating to the full extent the strength of the feeling which is behind the milk-blended butter agitation. Sir Edward Strachey is aware that in the protest which he made against water-loaded butter and in the demand which he uttered for the protection of the honest farmer, he has behind him a very strong body of legislative opinion. Sir Edward is himself a Liberal; but there is a tendency to regard this agitation as inherently Conservative. As a fact, a passion against all adulteration now animates the Liberal ranks. This must not be assumed to be directly due to any active sympathy with the farmer. It is rather due to an active sympathy with the general consumer. Its inspiration is to be traced to the activity of the London County Council, and particularly to the purpose of men like Mr. John Burns. Sir Edward and his friends comprehend the existence of this passion, and they will do well to take advantage of it. When Mr. Hanbury introduces his Bill dealing stringently with all butter which contains over sixteen per cent. of water—and, of course, that he has such an intention can be directly inferred from his speech to the deputation from the Central Chambers—he will be able to rely upon an effective Radical support. Of course, he will meet with antagonism; but it will not prevail. Mr. Hanbury, it is only fair to add, has always been in sympathy with the agitation against adulteration.

It is certain that a very strenuous feeling has developed within the last week in favour of making the cost of education an Imperial charge. This is not due to any special act of pertinacity on the part of Major Rasch. It has been born of a comprehension that unless this policy is adopted there must be in active operation in every parish in England, and more particularly in the rural parishes, a direct incentive to impoverish our educational machinery. The agricultural labourer, with his twelve or fourteen shillings a week, can scarcely be expected to be enthusiastic over a policy which will really fine himself. It is not in human nature to be enamoured of an affliction. The advocates of the new policy must be aware of the wisdom of not attaching any partisan character to the agitation. The principle has as warm sympathisers on the Radical, as on the Tory, benches. In this fact is the prospect of its eventually securing Parliamentary sanction.

Mr. Gerald Balfour lives in an academic atmosphere—I had almost written "a false atmosphere." Men of his philosophical temperament deliberately divorce themselves from the world and everyday facts. I should have thought that everybody knew that certain railway companies differentiate in their charges for the carrying of foreign and home produce, greatly to the advantage of the foreigner. But the matter has not penetrated the environment with which Mr. Balfour has surrounded himself. The fact has not officially and formally declared itself under his very nose. It has not called aloud to him as President of the Board of Trade, for redress. Moreover, such differentiation—the imposition of higher charges for the carriage of home produce—would be an offence against Section 27 of the Railway and Canal Traffic Act, and, after his trustful manner, Mr. Balfour cannot bring himself to believe that railway directors would be guilty of so heinous a wickedness. Why then should he grant an inquiry into the accusation? Now, this attitude on the part of Mr. Balfour imposes on all farmers and all farmers' organisations a distinct and emphatic duty. They must present every fact in their possession to either Mr. Hanbury or Mr. Balfour, or to both. Mr. Hanbury has himself strongly advised agriculturists to do this. He himself has not the same Quixotic faith as Mr. Balfour. He has no ineradicable predisposition in favour of railway directors.

In this connection we have reason to congratulate ourselves on having had revealed the existence of an interesting and friendly political personality. This is Mr. Mansfield, M.P. Both on the remount question and on this question of the unjust differentiation of rates Mr. Mansfield has shown an admirable vigour and a wise discretion. He is not the kind of man, unless I greatly mistake him, to be misled by Mr. Gerald Balfour's touching faith, or to be snubbed by that gentleman's air of pedantic aloofness. We want a man with a mission over this business. The railway rates again constitute a grave scandal. Why should not Mr. Mansfield devote himself wholly to securing a redress? He has a manner which would commend him to the House—he himself looks the agriculturist—he has the gift of capable expression, he could not be discourteous, and no one esteems him a faddist. He is the man designed by Nature for the *rôle*.

Berwick Fair.—This ancient Border market was held on the 30th ult., in dull, cold weather. For several years the number of grazing cattle exposed for sale at this fair has been about 1,000, and often considerably over that number, but owing to the peculiarity of the present season, the long-continued coldness of which has seriously checked vegetation and caused considerable scarcity of food for live stock, the number of cattle offered for sale on the present occasion was greatly below the average, as it was only 590. All the dealers reported a slow, dull sale for all classes of stock, and at the close of the market several lots of cattle were left unsold.

Tuberculous Pork: Fine £120.—At Clerkenwell Police Court on Thursday Alfred Spence, of Chapel Street, Clerkenwell, was summoned by the Finsbury Borough Council for depositing for sale unsound pork. The meat was seized by Inspector Billing and condemned by the medical officer, Dr. Newman. It was found to be portions of two pigs which had suffered from tuberculosis. For the defence it was stated that Spence himself was ignorant of the matter, and in the hands of his servants. He was not morally responsible. Mr. Baggallay imposed a fine of £120 or three months' imprisonment, and informed the defendant that he was responsible for the gross negligence that there was in the conduct of his business.



British Farmers in Hungary.

II.—*(Continued from page 680.)*

It would be futile to attempt to give any detailed description of the many objects of interest shown, or, of the immense number and diversity of the entertainments given to the English visitors to Hungary, during the fortnight they were within the boundaries of the Kingdom. Formal breakfasts, luncheons, dinners, and varied receptions were given by the King of Hungary (the revered Emperor Francis Joseph), Archdukes, Lords, the Municipal Authorities of several cities, Heads of Colleges, and Co-operative Societies, and, in any particular occasion, failing any such invitation, the gap was filled up by the munificently hospitable Minister for Agriculture. Of the warmth and cordiality of the hospitality offered by Hungarians of every rank and station there can be no doubt. The same spirit moved the humblest and poorest in the streets, who showed their feeling by cordial greetings at every point.

But it would take far too much space merely to mention briefly the names, styles, and titles of the hosts and the nature of the hospitality given in every instance with the most generous and lavish profusion. Never can any member of the party forget the cordiality and goodness shown (and, it is to be feared, the lavish outlay incurred) in the successful effort to entertain right royally.

It is singular how curiously alike in many important details the histories of the two countries, Hungary and England, have been. Both secured a free constitution within a very few years of each other—Hungary in 1222, and our own Magna Charter was forced from John in 1215. Later on the struggles for religious liberty were carried on with the same fierceness in both countries, whilst England gave large subsidies to the side of Protestantism during the 30 years' war, the more recent active sympathy shown by us during the struggles that drove so many Hungarians to our shores (of whom, perhaps, Kossuth is best remembered) has left a permanent impression on the minds of the people, to which they are never tired of referring.

But to put this sympathy, which is deep-rooted and universal, to practical use, it would be of great advantage to both nations to foster commercial relations. Hungary is a rich, fertile country over the greater part of its entire area, notably in the great and lesser plains, and it produces wheat, barley, maize, rye, wine, and many other products of very high quality.

Some of these are scarcely known in Britain, whilst others are largely used by us, but are known by other names than Hungarian. All this ought to be amended, and the first and most necessary step is that exporters should study English requirements. We could buy freely, and, with a little judicious care, a large trade in several staples could rapidly be built up.

Turning to the objects of special interest, nothing was kept back, and every effort seemed to be continually made to fully exhibit every feature. The party was shown all that could be seen of the majority of the State farms. This entirely precludes the supposition that only the show places were available. In fact, should any cynic in the party have held such views at the beginning, he would not have been in Hungary two days before dismissing the idea. On all these farms, again, nothing was concealed, and no information was withheld. Some of the guides cheerfully answered the same question put by almost every individual member of the party, and on successive days other guides in other places showed equal amiability when the same questions were reiterated.

The State farms proved conclusively the benefit of large proprietorship. The large holding secured advantages over small ones in every direction, so far as a visitor could judge. The State studs were completely inspected from end to end. As we went along, each one seemed to be better than its predecessor. The only thing that was not shown was a Hungarian regiment of cavalry mounted, but the question of remounts is just now a sore one with our kind hosts. They feel they have been victimised worse than the British were in the matter, and it is quite certain the country literally teems with splendid horses of very high quality. This is where the advantages of their system of breeding, with the aid of the State studs, are best seen. Small breeders can secure the services of first-class sires at absurdly small

fees, with the result that the whole country is full of splendid horses. Farm waggons are drawn along country roads by teams that would be looked at if they were in Rotten Row. Judicious use of the best blood from Arabia and England, lavishly renewed and crossed with their own best and hardiest strains, has given a breed of hardy, strong, but light animals of great use and beauty. Drove after drove were shown, each containing 600 to 800 horses, whilst tens of thousands were actually seen, and amongst them all could scarcely one be picked out as a useless or ugly beast. It was pleasant to see the high position taken by Bona Vista, the most expensive horse they possessed, and to hear the praises of Orme, and many other of our best horses, of which they had sons, or, in some cases, the actual sires.

The careful way in which the stud books are kept and every horse numbered was instructive, and the general conduct of the concerns, looked at merely as a breeding business, led to the conclusion that the State had been wisely led to a proper and profitable policy. And it must be remembered this is not a mere matter of yesterday, a mushroom growth that cannot stand the test of time. Generation after generation have come and gone whilst this policy has been unflaggingly pursued, and it is more firmly fixed and assured to-day than it has ever been. Farmers to breed good horses can gain much from judicious State aid, which, to be effective, should help the getting of the stock, and its disposal. On these points England can profit much by Hungarian experience.

With cattle, matters were pretty much on all fours with horses, with the exception that there seems more conservatism in breeding certain classes. It is singular that the old English bull, which has now so nearly become extinct with us, the few survivors being known as the Chillingham old English herd, is one of the most important and highly favoured classes. These so-called Simmenthal cattle are splendid creatures, but they are chiefly favoured as good strong workers. A few years at the yoke does not improve the quality of the beef when the animal is finally stalled up to fatten. Nor does there seem the care given to milking quality that one might expect, but this will soon come, as the idea of creameries and dairy co-operation is being now freely followed, and in the immediate vicinity of Budapesth alone 100 farms now send their whole produce to the central creamery in the city.

The sheep and pigs of Hungary are poor. They do not apparently receive the same careful consideration given to so many other things, or, if so, they do not respond to cultivation in the same degree. When wool was dear the Merino breeds were in high favour. Now it is cheap they are in poor repute, for, as mutton, they do not take a high position. Some crossing with Shropshire and one or two other English breeds has been done, but the results thus far have not been very encouraging. The Hungarian pig is a strange-looking animal, as it has long curly wool, but, as far as one can judge pork in June, the quality of its flesh is good.

The cultivation of the land as a rule is very good, especially on large estates. Freedom from waste and absence of weeds, are the more noticeable features. Very little draining is attempted, and the huge, square, perfectly flat fields lend themselves admirably to steam cultivation, of which, however, few signs were visible, excepting on the State farms. The chief and best crop grown is wheat. It was growing into full flag, and looked well. What it is when ripened and milled is now known to all the world, for everyone has heard of Hungarian flour, justly renowned for its fine quality and excellence. Admitting that soil and climate favour the growth of good wheat, after all, Hungary would not take the place it does had it not been for the care and skill shown by generations of professors in its technical schools and colleges. These men have studied intelligently the needs of the miller and what constitutes the right composition of fine flour.

The position Hungary takes to-day in the flour production of the world is more directly attributable to its botany professors than to any advantages of soil or climate, or of any special breeds of wheat. For whatever advantages the last named confer, and they are the greatest, all credit is due to the schoolmen who reared them.

Essex should be our premier wheat county, and could grow fine wheat. It is to be hoped the Essex men learnt their lesson. It was worth going to Hungary to see what was so generously shown and explained to them.

The next most important crop to wheat is maize. This just now is only a tiny plant, with blades two to three inches long. But after it has started the growth is rapid, and although the season is late (for it has been as cold and unfavourable a spring in Hungary as with us) it is hoped the crop this year will be a good one. The quality of the corn is good, and the yield is generally fair. As the area is over 5,000,000 acres, the crop is one of much importance. A good deal of it is used as forage, and some of last year's silos which remain were remarkably fragrant and good.

Barley is the next most important crop. The area cultivated exceeds 2,500,000 acres, and the average yield is nearly 26 bushels. This spring the crop is exceptionally backward, and only a very few fields were in ear. Generally by the time the ear has grown out the heat of summer has commenced, so that full development of the grain is rarely secured. Hence the bulk has a thin and poor appearance. Much of it is of good quality; colour and fineness of skin go with good condition in many cases.

An interesting exhibit of 56 samples had been hastily gathered together at Szerencs, at the request of one of the visitors, who had intended pointing out some variations in treatment which might be of use. These barleys had more than special value, as they showed the character of grain left in the country after it had been swept for its malting grades. After proper cleaning, many of these samples could make very fine quality malt, and as the weight per bushel is now quite immaterial, it may be hoped that proper steps will be taken to put such useful grain upon the English market. They would speedily make a name for themselves and command good prices. Most of the finest grain goes to the best brewing centres of Germany and to Holland. Some is malted prior to export, but none of the malt reaches this country. Very much improvement has been steadily taking place in the growth and cultivation of barley, and attention is now being directed to the wishes of the users, and the right sorting, cleaning, and grading of the grain. But whatever advice one may venture to suggest to the Hungarians, it is quite certain that it is as much needed by their Essex visitors.

The cultivation of sugar-beet has been carried to a state of almost perfection. One of the most interesting buildings open for inspection during the visit was the huge sugar factory and distillery, also at Szerencs. This immense structure is one of the largest in Europe, and is filled with elaborate and beautiful machinery. Although not working, as it is idle half the year, it was examined with more comfort, and perhaps was better understood. When at work the output is 220 tons of sugar per day, and the quantity of beets consumed is about 1,700 tons. What the effects of the decision of the Sugar Convention upon this industry will be is not yet settled, but it is feared it will not be a help to it. Much of the sugar made in this factory goes to India.

Many other crops of interest to English farmers are grown, and a number which we cannot and do not grow. Of the latter, wine is the most important. Much very fine wine is grown in the country, and it is greatly to be deplored that it does not reach us in the pure state and of the quality so freely and cheaply obtained in all parts of Hungary. The ravages of the Phylloxera almost shattered the industry a few years ago, but already wine-making is going on over a great part of the area formerly given to vineyards. Here again another valuable object lesson of the direct utility of technical colleges is furnished. The best steps to take to prevent spread of the evil and how to proceed with the restocking of the new vines was promptly shown to all the farmers, and they were assisted to get new wood on American stocks. But for the prompt aid so readily furnished by the State, and the fact that it was forthwith available, the vineyards of Hungary would look very different to-day, and the cellars would not be so full of choice and delicate wines, the produce of the new growths. By permission of His Majesty the King of Hungary, the party were allowed to inspect the royal cellars, containing the celebrated Tokay, and he also graciously gave them lunch. The new Tokay is a fulsomely sweet wine, quite undrinkable to anyone not accustomed to it, but it matures into a very high-class delicious wine of great potency.

Great care is given to the cultivation of tobacco. Hungary grows more than enough for home consumption, and exports a large quantity. Silk is another industry which is rapidly growing under the fostering care of the State.

When the State has been referred to above, it means in reality the Ministry for Agriculture. His Excellency Dr. Darányi has wide powers, and he exercises them freely and wisely. He does not say much, but when he speaks it is to the purpose, and in all he does, the first care is the benefit of the country and of the farmer. In his royal treatment of his British visitors, the chief thought was to further and strengthen the bonds of sympathy between the two countries and it would have been of use had the British Board of Agriculture and the Royal Agricultural Society been adequately represented. Scotland and Ireland had able men present. Among the grave errors in the conduct of the party was the absurd way in which at times it was claimed to represent the farmers of Great Britain, and on others to the loss and disadvantage of all concerned, it was isolated with narrow-minded prejudice, to the sole county of Essex. Notwithstanding this, a direct affirmative answer can be given to the question with which these articles open: "Can any practical good be secured?" Great good will, and must, follow, especially if the Essex Technical Committee will keep in mind that Great Britain is more than Essex.

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British Dairy Farmers' Conference.

The seventeenth conference held under the auspices of the British Dairy Farmers' Association opened at Reading, on Monday last, under the presidency of the Earl of Warwick. It is some time since the members of the conference have met with such a hearty official welcome as that extended to them by the town of Reading. On Monday evening, the mayor and mayoress gave a reception in the large Town Hall, which was most sumptuously furnished for the occasion. Next morning the conference began its true work by inspecting the British Dairy Institute, which is shortly to be transferred to another site, and on assembling in the hall of Reading College they were very agreeably surprised to find present the Right Hon. R. W. Hanbury, M.P., President of the Board of Agriculture, and Mr. T. H. Elliot, C.B., Secretary of the Board, come to hear what the dairy farmers had to chat about. The Earl of Warwick, in his opening address, said they all recognised agriculture was the greatest industry of the country, and, whether in town or country, they ought to unite to promote the interest of agriculture. Farmers were proceeding, he trusted, on more scientific lines than formerly, and they were getting other farmers to see that if agriculture was to be carried on with success in the face of very severe foreign competition it could only be by bringing scientific instruction most effectively to bear upon their trade. Mr. Miles Benson, chief instructor of the British Dairy Institute, read a paper on Practical Dairy Education and the Work of the British Dairy Institute, whilst Mr. Douglas A. Gilchrist, B.Sc., director of the Agricultural Department, Reading College, contributed another interesting paper on Technical Instruction in Dairying. Professor Carroll, in moving a vote of thanks to the readers of the papers, referred to the enormous importance of the question of packing butter and cheese, and the great probability of fraud, caused by the colouring of milk. Professor Wrightson stated that the great desideratum in dairying was cleanliness. Mr. F. J. Lloyd contended that they wanted further knowledge of dairying, and this should be supplied by studying Nature. Mr. Hanbury then gave a downright practical and encouraging speech. He stated that farmers should more and

more turn their attention to the production of perishable goods that could be readily placed on their own markets. If they favoured preservatives, well, they could not prevent the foreigner from using preservatives also. As regards the question of transit. After the discussion was ended the members of the conference and other invited guests were entertaind to a most recherche luncheon by Messrs. Sutton and Sons in the Abbey Hall. Mr. Martin Sutton gave the loyal toasts, and these having been honoured he gave that of the Minister of Agriculture. In doing so, he stated that he had an acquaintance with each of Mr. Hanbury's predecessors in office, and he believed that they had had more help from Mr. Chaplin since he left the Board than when he was there. Mr. Hanbury, in reply, said that they were prepared and willing to face the world under fair conditions, but they must see that these conditions were fair. He also thought that the honest trader should be entitled to the full benefit of his trade description, and that the man who dealt in an honest article should alone be entitled to that of that article. After a very hurried inspection of some of the chief features of Messrs. Sutton's establishment, the conference members were soon en route for Royal Ascot, to visit the dairy and poultry farms of Mr. Alfred Palmer, M.P., and they were very much pleased by the President and the Secretary of the Board of Agriculture accompanying them. The system of management is excellent, and has been so recently given in Mr. Palmer's widely-read book that to describe such would be mere repetition. But one thing I did note, and that was the manner in which the guardian watchdogs were given tethered freedom., A piece of strong wire, some 60ft. in length, was securely pegged down at each end, and on this the dog's chain was fixed by means of a running ring. Thus, in the dark, the dog, though secure, has all the semblance of being loose. Mr. Palmer's South Devon cattle also came in for a great deal of attention. In the evening the members of the conference were invited to dine at the Town Hall by Mr. Alderman Monck, Mr. Hanbury being again present, thus making three agricultural speeches in the course of one day.

Wednesday was a day of inspection and sight-seeing rather than talk. The boat trip up the Thames would have been much enjoyed had it not been for the rain, which somewhat mistified the landscape from Caversham Lock to Goring. From thence the members were conveyed by means of brakes to Dr. Watney's Farm at Buckhold. The cowshed is constructed on the circular American principle of wood lined with brickwork. Dr. Watney informed me that his Jersey cows always make better records in the show-yard than when at home, and that the great mistake in feeding for milk-production is that of feeding too much at the same time. A little and very often is Dr. Watney's idea. After luncheon at Buckfield we returned to Pangbourne, and from thence went by rail through an exceptionally well-farmed district to Abingdon, where a valuable hour was lost in waiting for the boat. However, at last it arrived, and this delay made our inspection of Nuneham Park a very hurried one. Next day, on the Thursday, the conference was continued in the Assembly Room of the Municipal Buildings, Oxford. Lady Warwick's paper, which it was announced would be read, however, did not turn up, and therefore Miss La Mothe gave a very practical address on the Marketing of Dairy Produce. The speaker held with the introduction of preservatives into cream to keep the trade, and also stated that nearly all British dairy produce is badly packed. Mr. F. J. Lloyd, in the discussion, supported the use of preservatives in cream, and this caused another speaker to put the test question. As to why Mr. Lloyd would not permit preservatives in cider, and yet allow them in cream. The afternoon was devoted to a drive to Blenheim, the purchase of guide-books at the entrance, and a stroll around the gardens. As there was no inn near at hand, it was a case of no refreshment until Oxford was again reached. Whilst at Oxford many members availed themselves of the opportunity of inspecting one of the most neat and compact refrigerating and cold-storage plants that I have yet seen. It was especially erected for Mr. Wigmore, to meet the contingencies of summer heat.

The final day of the conference was not promising, as rain greeted us at breakfast-time. By means of rail and brake we reached Mr. N. Coates' farm at Hillesden, who extended to one and all a right good farmer's welcome. Had not the rain by this time turned to a downpour, a large amount of knowledge would have been obtained from this practical farmer's methods. The drive was continued to Buckingham, where a paper was read by Professor Long, in the Town Hall, on "Some Facts in Relation to Modern Dairying." The discussion was somewhat curtailed by the desire to reach Tring. But the rain was pitiless. Down it came, and this made the princely reception at Tring all the more enjoyable. Mr. Richardson Carr had the very best of the live-stock. Shire horses, Shorthorn, Red Poll, and Jersey cattle paraded for our benefit. The model dairy was also thrown open and its marble floor and shelves bore ample evidence of the skill of the dairymaid, Miss Frances Coles. The members will not for a long time forget the contrasts and scenes of the tour and the final break-up at that Home Farm of hospitality at Tring, back into the rain again; and soon what had been a fraternising community were speeding away from a common centre to all points of the compass.

Milk-Blended Butter—Deputation to Mr. Hanbury.

On Monday the President of the Board of Agriculture received a deputation from the Central and Associated Chambers of Agriculture, the Grocers' Federation, and other associations of agriculture and trade, who protested against so-called milk-blended butter being sold as butter, and asking for legislation to protect the trader, farmer, and consumer. The deputation was accompanied by the Earl of Lichfield, Lord Cottesloe, Sir Edward Strachey, M.P.; Mr. James Lowther, M.P.; Mr. Laurence Hardy, M.P.; Sir J. Kennaway, M.P.; Mr. John Burns, M.P.; Mr. Jasper Moore, M.P., and many other members of Parliament.

Sir Edward Strachey, M.P., chairman of the Central Chamber of Agriculture, introduced the deputation, which, he said, represented a large number of associations and organisations connected with agriculture and also with trading interests. The vice-chairman of the Chamber of Agriculture, Lord Warwick, was unable to be present. Thirty-four members of Parliament had written expressing their sympathy with the opinions of the deputation, and there were twenty-nine chambers of Agriculture represented. The deputation wished to protest against the substance which was being sold as butter, but had been correctly described by Mr. Hanbury as "water-loaded butter." They knew the strong line Mr. Hanbury took on the question, and they had come to ask whether his colleagues in the Cabinet were in agreement with him in the legislation that he proposed to introduce to prevent milk-blended butter from being sold as butter, and whether he would give them the satisfaction of stating that the legislation was to be enacted this season.

Mr. Henry Hobhouse, M.P., president of the Bath and West of England Society, said all agricultural societies in the country were agreed in protesting against the fraud which was now being perpetrated.

Mr. J. J. Holder, president of the Grocers' Federation, Brighton, said the whole retail trade was against this milk-blended butter. The grocery trade had been already harassed enough by the differences between butter and margarine, and certainly did not want this third article introduced. Butter and margarine would certainly meet the requirements of every class in the community. Milk-blended butter, consisting of a larger proportion of water than was permitted by the standard recently set up, was a fraud upon the consumer, in that it did not give value for money.

The Earl of Lichfield said the maximum percentage of water in butter as fixed by Mr Hanbury was 16 per cent., and was considered a fair one, and the deputation asked that it be made illegal to offer as butter anything containing more than this percentage of water.

Dr. Bernard Dyer, analyist, London, and Professor Long also spoke. The latter pointed out that the term "milk-blended" was illusory and incorrect.

Mr. J. Kellitt, of the Grocers' Federation, Liverpool, said that merely labelling the article would not be sufficient to check the sale of it. He asked Mr. Hanbury to prohibit the sale of it altogether.

Mr. Hanbury replied that he had already received one deputation on the subject. The fixing of the standard of butter was the first step. It was now required to protect the producer, the trader, and the consumer from being imposed upon by labels or notices which would convey very little to the consumer's mind. The Margarine Act supplied a very good precedent. Butter was specially protected by it, and if this precedent were followed of forbidding fat to be added to butter, in the same way water might be forbidden. The Government ought to deal stringently with all butter containing above 16 per cent. of water. But he would make an exception for a certain time, say eighteen months or two years, in the case of the Irish brine salt butter trade, which had been carried on in the South of Ireland for many years. But unless this water-loaded butter trade was knocked on the head at once, it would develop a serious difficulty. There was not only the interests of England, Scotland, and Ireland to be considered, but of our colonies as well. The colonies' grievance was even severer than it was at home, in so far as their butter contained only 9 per cent. or 10 per cent. of water, and consequently lent itself to this particular kind of adulteration. In this case notices would not protect the consumer, who had generally no knowledge of what proportion of water there should be in butter. The consumer must be protected against getting water when he paid for butter. The farmer had a right to his trade description. It was part of his stock-in-trade. As to legislation, a Bill, which he was submitting to his colleagues, was on its way at that moment to them. He would press this bill very strongly on them. The matter was of great importance to the producer, the middleman, and the consumer, and it admitted of no delay. He hoped to get legislation through this session. He could not go so far as one speaker suggested, and prohibit the sale of the article, but it should not be sold as butter. It must be sold under a special name, and it should not be open to the vendor to counteract the effect of this special name by a pretence that the article was something better than butter. He was inclined to think that it shuld be clearly stated that the butter was impoverished butter. They could depend upon him to do all he could to get the legislation carried this session.

Is Irregular Milking the Cause of Poor Milk?

The adjourned cases of several milk dealers charged with having sold milk that was deficient in fat were settled by the Sunderland magistrates on Thursday. At the former hearing, which was fully reported in our issue of May 12, the prosecution contended that the poor quality of the local milk could most probably be traced to the irregular hours of milking, and suggested that a more regular system should be adopted. The case was accordingly adjourned in order for tests to be made.

At the resumed hearing, Mr. W. H. Bell, who represented the Northumberland and Durham Dairy Farmers' and Milk Producer's Association, stated that it was utterly impossible to carry out the suggestions with regard to even hours of milking. He read the results of a series of tests that had been carried out on the farms of one of the defendants, Mr. James McLaren, President of the Farmers' Association. The averages worked out as follows:—Three milkings per day, 2.95 per cent. of fat, 3.5, and 3.15 respectively. Two equal milkings, 2.46 and 4.04; two unequal milkings, 4.38 and 4.21. Mr. Bell added that the figures went to prove that the whole thing was very uncertain, the fact of the matter being that they were dealing in a natural product.

After hearing evidence, the magistrates retired, and on their return, the Chairman said that having regard to the whole of the evidence, the Court could not convict on the facts as stated. They therefore dismissed the case of Mr. McLaren, as well as four others, which rested upon it.

Nantwich Cheese Fair.

At the Cheese Fair held at Nantwich on Thursday there was a pitch of about 50 tons, and buyers were present from all the principal centres. Business commenced with a good inquiry for best lots, which sold readily at prices from 50s. to 55s., and medium down to 48s. The tone of the market was good, nearly all lots being cleared within an hour. Prices, compared with last year's corresponding fair, were a shade better.

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Home Notes.

The Borough.

"Peace, the offspring is of Power," an aphorism of one of our American cousins, whose truth has been abundantly demonstrated in our recent happy experience. Displayed in large "caps," this gladsome word, so full of precious significance, is now the concentrating point of our attention, and, realising its far reaching consequences, our hearts naturally expand in desire for the time, "When all men's good shall be each man's rule, and universal peace shall lie like a shaft of light across the land." With all loyal Britishers, I offer my humble tribute of praise to our soldiers for their enduring bravery, and to our administrators for their tactful skill in winning for our Empire "peace with honour, peace with pride." I would willingly indulge my pen, and give it further liberty to enlarge upon this inspiring theme, but am reminded that I must recall it to the record of the prosaic facts of daily life, and must try to find it something to write about the affairs, with which it is my own especial duty to deal.

Difficulty at once confronts me, inasmuch as one week in the Borough so closely resembles its predecessor, that the record of our proceedings is too monotonous to be either agreeable or instructive. The business of the past few days presents no new feature. Choice hops are still sought after, and cannot be discovered, and in their absence the medium samples, of which there is still a fair supply, are rather neglected. Nevertheless, it may be said, as we consider the time of year, that the general demand is sufficiently healthy to warrant expectation that the present firmness of prices will be maintained, and probably enhanced, as the interval of nearly four months between this and the new crop passes by. The position of holders is strengthened by the somewhat unfavourable reports from the plantations, and it appears probable that further reserve will be ultimately rewarded by higher prices.

Foreign Hops

are at present almost entirely absent from our market. I was told this morning that a buyer of even 100 bales of Californians would not be able to get them, and the same may almost be said of Continental growths, especially if attractive qualities were desired. Coupled with this state of affairs, there is the obvious fact that the unsold balance of English hops is now exceedingly small. Under these circumstances, my views as to the future course of the trade may safely be confirmed.

The Crop Prospects

have not improved much this week, on the whole, although I hear from some growers that they are satisfied with the progress made by the bine. Hops now need hot-house weather, and they are not getting it. A few days of partial sunshine have been alternated with lowered day temperature, and chilly nights, with too much rain. Consequently there is a large proportion of weak, spindly bine, and the attack of flea, is being followed by the threatening of aphis blight, which is bound to develop unless the weather improves. It may appear ungracious to say that I am not much concerned by the retardation of the growth, nor by the prospect of but a limited yield; for, feeling so strongly as I do, that the foundation of future prosperity can only be laid by a very moderate crop this year, I trust that no exceptional measures will be adopted to increase the natural production. Planters should abstain from expenditure, and devote all their attention to the perfecting of quality. I am sure they will secure more satisfactory remuneration by so doing.

Foreign Notes.

Nuremberg.

Mainly as the result of the slow development of seasonable weather, business on the hop market has fallen to a very low point, the transactions of the past few days being less than have been recorded during any week since September. The average low quality of the stocks in hands of dealers also operates against trade, brewers finding no inducement to buy, even though they are able to obtain important concessions in prices. The market is also practically destitute of export orders, and unless the consumption of beer should materially and speedily increase, it appears probable that a considerable balance of the present holdings will be left unsold when the new crop arrives. It is a singular fact, very difficult to account for, that beer seems to be losing ground as a European beverage. It may possibly be explained by the weakness of general trade, especially in manufacturing centres. If this be the cause, the diminution of consumption will not be permanent. With an improved circulation of money, the demand for beer will again become active, and the hop market will certainly feel its effects. Holders are supported by the expectation of such a revival, and are therefore not pressing for orders, but are generally content to abide the issue of events.

Concerning the New Crop,

it is much too early to form any decided opinion, although it is nearly everywhere evident that the plantations are in a most promising condition. The growth of the bine has rapidly advanced throughout Germany and Bavaria during the past fortnight, being assisted by the cessation of frosts and cold rains, their place being taken by higher temperature and sunshine. Planters are now very confident that, apart from unforseen drawbacks, a fruitful season is in front of them. Whether it will me remunerative depends upon other conditions entirely outside their control, but at present their hopes are sufficiently buoyant.

Belgium.

With only a moderate amount of business, prices for available hops remain fairly firm at recent currencies, but owing to the more favourable aspect of the plantations, quotations for forward delivery of new growths are rather lower. Both in Alost and Poperinghe districts the young plant is making good progress, under the influences of better weather and warmer nights.

Imports into Belgium during the four months ending April 30th last amounted in round figures to 9,900 cwts., hardly differing from the quantity recorded in the corresponding period of last year. American hops have not appeared in the return since 1900, but from England about 900 cwts. were received. About the same quantity was sent to England during the period named, the total Belgian exports being 6,500 cwts.

America.

But little change has taken place on the New York market. Though brewers are buying very cautiously, dealers are very firm, and will not concede a fraction from their quotations. With the extreme lowness of stocks, and the demand that must arise in the course of the next two months, there is much probability that values will advance considerably before the new crop arrives.

Further reports are to hand concerning the damage done by severe frosts in the New York State grounds. In many places the bine was cut off to the level of the soil, and but few plantations are found where the most forward shoots have not been so badly bitten that they turned black, and are since withered. In Montgomery County it is said that though the hops started well, they now look very sick, and it is questionable whether they will be liable to recover. From Oregon I hear that hops are making a rank strong growth, being low in Yamhill County four to eight feet high. In this locality the outlook is in favour of a crop half as heavy again as the yield of last year.

At a special meeting of the Lincolnshire Chamber, a resolution in favour of the compulsory dipping of sheep twice a year was adopted, and it was agreed to recommend that County Councils should have greater powers of dealing with diseases of animals, and that cases should not be made public until confirmed by the authority. On the subject of the corn tax, a member said that, as the Radicals were making a great deal of stir about the registration duty on corn and flour, and were trying to force the hands of the Government, it was an opportune time to pass a resolution urging the Government not to make any alteration in the tax, which was just and equitable, and it would naturally be construed by their opponents into great weakness on the part of the Government. The motion was carried.

A resolution was adopted, to the effect that, to prevent sheep worrying by dogs, the dog tax should be doubled, and better looked after, and that dogs found worrying sheep should be followed, identified, and destroyed by the police, no compensation being paid to the owner. The meeting also approved of dogs having to wear a metal label bearing a registration number, this to include dogs now exempt from taxation; and that the police should have power to take proceedings against owners of dogs found straying between the hours of 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. It was also resolved that the education of the country should be a national matter, and should not come out of the local rates.



By Hordeum.

Fuel.

By a curious accident last week's article was made to say the opposite of what was intended. In the last paragraph but one from the bottom of the column, page 682, "The kiln" should read "No kiln should be employed which gives a result of 30 to 35 quarters malt dried to the ton of coal burned."

Where such kilns are used, there is always a great effort made to get cheap fuel. It was the owners of such shanties who were tempted to buy gas coke when it fell to 6s. to 8s. per ton, and a pretty penny it has cost some of them before they got through.

The real lesson taught is the need to have suitable kilns, because it should be obvious that the consumption of fuel in a kiln is very largely affected by the building itself. The stoker or fireman has something to do with it, but the actual prime factors are the way the coal is burned as regulated by the construction of furnace, the relation of air inlets to outlets, and the total height of the kiln.

Right Construction

of the building is the controlling agent. The problem is a complex one, for it involves right combustion of the fuel and its best disposal over the whole of the air used in performing the work of drying.

When malt is dried there are invariably two stages, and overlapping of them must mean mischief, however it may be dealt with.

In the first stage there must be only a mean sufficiency of heat, but a full flow of air. After these means have secured sufficient dryness there need be only a sufficient flow of air, but there must be adequate heat. All through the process there must be (or ought to be) the right temperatures maintained. What these are depends upon the style of malt to be produced, and practice varies widely.

One thing should be certain, and that is, whatever temperature is determined to be the point to be maintained, the whole of the malt-drying should be kept to it.

Defective Kilns

should be tested in the dual form as to how they really do their work and the cost of doing it. Many kilns exhibit wide variations of heat on the different parts and levels of the drying-floor. However economically they work they should not be trusted. Other kilns, extravagant with fuel, maintain perfect uniformity of heat on the floor. Means should be taken to make both types of kiln do the same thing. A given quantity or fuel should do the same work in any properly constructed house of any pattern. A ton of good coal ought to dry off 40 quarters of malt, and under good conditions it can do much more.

The largest kiln in this country, which regularly dries off 400 quarters, does very much better than this.

A good two-floor or double kiln can give singular uniformity of heat to the drying floor, and a sufficiency of heat and air to the upper floor.

The Economy

is readily understood as soon as it is realised that whilst the top floor is acting as a retaining blanket to the lower one and keeping the top and bottom surfaces nearly uniform, yet all that is being done to the top floor is effected by what would in a single kiln be waste heat. All this heat would pass through the cowl, and not merely be non-productive, but the facility with which it would get away would be prejudicial to the malt it was intended to dry.

It is not possible to keep the top surface of the malt in a single-floor kiln at the same heat as the bottom, for if the attempt be made to block the outlet it has a bad effect always.

Complaints are often made about double-floor kilns that the damp of the lower floor makes the top floor wet.

Damp Air

is better for green malt than thoroughly dry air, as it is not good to dry malt too quickly. All sorts of kilns have been invented to dry malt in any period from two to twenty hours, but not one of them has ever succeeded in drying malt properly, and none of them are in use. Drying is a cooking process, and it must take time. The relation of heat to dryness is the essential point to be watched in the process, and there should be proper means of knowing the amount of air flowing through it: 1,000ft. of dry air at 150deg. has a very different influence upon a drying-floor to 400 at 160deg., although 400ft. of dry air at 160deg. can dry more than 1,000ft. if wet. In the consideration of the subject the dryness, volume, and temperature of the air used cannot be overlooked.

Cider at the Brewers' Exhibition.

The schedule has now been issued of the new cider section of the London Brewers' Exhibition. The section is to be provided for in a liberal manner, and the competition will assume an international aspect by reason of the classes which have been set aside for foreign and Colonial producers. At the show in October, for the first time the producers of cider, the merchants and the retailing and consuming public will come into touch with each other, and there is little doubt that a great impetus will be given to the industry thereby. As is right and proper, in the appropriation of classes and awards, the farmers have received preferential treatment. For bona-fide farmers, tenants, or owners farming their own land, eight classes are provided, with one silver and one champion gold medal. In each class there are three prizes of £2, £1, and 10s., respectively, with a diploma attached to each award. The admirable stipulation is made, that the cider in these classes must be made from apples grown on exhibitors' farms only. It must not be a blend of either purchased apples or purchased cider. Two classes are open to firms and cider merchants only, the exhibits to consist of either home-grown or purchased fruit, or the blend of either home-made or purchased ciders, or of ciders purchased for trade purposes. Six classes are provided for farmers or merchants in competition, while two classes are set aside for ciders made outside the United Kingdom, with a champion gold medal for the best foreign exhibit.

In the class for farmers only, the competitors are ranged according to county, an arrangement that will have much to do with the value of the competition to farmers. In the farmers' or merchants' classes, two are set aside for perry, one in bottles and one in cask.

We would remind intending exhibitors that the entries for this year's show close on October 2nd. Entries received after that date are charged at double fees. Conditions and forms of entry can be had of the managing directors, Messrs. Dale and Reynolds, 46, Cannon Street, E.C.

Agricultural Imports.

The following is an account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended May 31, 1902, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year:—

Animals Living.	1901.	1902.		1901.	1902.
	No.	No.		Cwt.	Cwt.
Cattle ...	13,245	8,982	Wheat ...	1088 8 0	2 143,227
Sheep.....	10,652	2,016	Flour.....	452 8 0	355 214
Swine.....	—	—	Barley ...	165 9 0	320 176
*Horses...	—	820	Oats	588,000	224,61
			Peas	50,100	30,101
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Beans ...	2 100	23 1 7
Beef	83,869	80,0 5	Maize ...	1:64,000	937,254
Mutton...	85,130	72,097		Bunches	Bunches
Pork	8,635	8,074	Bananas	46,502	83,493
Bacon ...	112 895	97,057			
Beef, salt	4,880	1,410		Cwt.	Cwt.
Hams.....	37,895	36,566	Apples ...	24,450	17,6 3
Pork, salt	3,720	4,777	Apricots & Peaches	215	187
Meat, salt & Fresh	10,920	15,750	Cherries	6,462	8,423
Do. pres.	9,183	14,2 8	Currants	—	—
Butter ...	72,802	74,113	Gooseb'r's	43	75
M'rg'rine	15,517	19,73	Grapes ...	203	197
Cheese ...	35,129	33,286	Lemons...	24 038	14,593
Milk, Fresh, in cans or drums.	—	6	Oranges	82 20	200,021
			Pears.....	66	50
			Plums ...	—	—
			Strawb'r's	5,941	2,37
Milk ...			Oth'r Fr't	535	747
Cream.	135	112		Tons.	Tons.
			Hay	1,8 5	11,637
			*Straw ...	—	1,851
Milk pr's'v'd, other kinds ...	26	110		Bush.	Bush.
			Onions ...	120 283	4 ,721
				Cwt.	Cwt.
Con.Milk	14,760	19,648	Hops	1,316	358
			* Locust Beans	—	5,683
	No.	No.	Potatoes	171,734	189 765
Eggs	378,565	423,943	Tom'to's	5,164	14,187
			Other Veg'bles	Value.	Value.
Poultry & Game	Value.	Value.		£14,248	£13,647
	£9,666	£4,951		Cwt.	Cwt.
			Dried ...	1,577	1,276
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Pres'v'd by canning ...	3,451	826
Rabbits	1 322	1 054			
Lard	51,543	31 495			

* Not shown in 1901.



MONDAY (June 2nd).—There was an improvement in the weather over the Southern portion of our islands, but rain again fell in other parts, and in the East of England it was accompanied by thunder and lightning. Rain was measured in the morning over nearly the entire Kingdom, as the result of the fall since Sunday, and at several places in the West the fall was heavy. The winds were easterly in Scotland, and generally from between south-east and east in England and Ireland, and they were for the most part light. The mid-day temperatures were above the average in the Midlands, but rather low in other districts.

TUESDAY (June 3rd).—The weather was fine over a large part of our islands, but fog or mist was very prevalent on the East coast of England. Rain had fallen in many places since Monday, and some of the amounts measured in the morning were large. An area of low barometer readings was still situate near our South-West coasts, and under its influence the winds continued easterly over the entire kingdom. Temperature was high, except in the North, and over a large part of the country the thermometer during Monday night did not fall below fifty degrees. The mid-day temperatures varied considerably in different parts of the kingdom, the highest temperatures ranging from nearly eighty degrees in the Southern Midlands to fifty degrees in the North-East of England.

WEDNESDAY (June 4th).—Rainy and unsettled weather prevailed over a large part of our islands. Rain was measured at most places in the morning, as the result of the fall since Tuesday; but the amounts were not generally large. The type of weather was very complex. In Ireland and in the West of England the winds were chiefly south-easterly, under the influence of an area of low barometer readings, which was situated near to our West coasts. A shallow cyclonic disturbance was situated over the South-East of England, and it occasioned a good deal of rain during the early part of the day. Thunderstorms occurred in different parts of the country.

THURSDAY (June 5th).—The weather was changeable over the British Islands, and a mild south-west wind was blowing from the Atlantic over England and Ireland, while in Scotland the wind was chiefly south-easterly. Rain was measured in the morning, as the result of the fall in the preceding 24 hours, except in parts of Ireland and in the West of England, and the fall was rather heavy at places in the North. The mid-day temperatures were low in the north and west, but were not very different from the average in the South of England.

FRIDAY, June 6th.—Rain prevailed in many parts of the British Islands, and the whole character of the weather was extremely unsettled. Rain was measured in most places in the morning, and the result of the fall in the preceding twenty-four hours, over the Northern and Western portions of the country, and the amounts were rather large in Ireland. An area of low barometer readings was situated over the South of Norway, and under its influence the wind was westerly in England and Ireland, but the direction was chiefly Easterly in Scotland. Temperature was again high during Thursday night, the thermometer not generally falling below fifty degrees. The midday temperatures were below the average, owing to the great prevalence of cloud.

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY (June 7th and 8th).—The weather has continued very unsettled over our islands during these days, and rain again fell over the entire kingdom. The night temperatures were rather colder than of late, and the mid-day readings were everywhere very low for the time of year, the thermometer scarcely anywhere touching sixty degrees. On Saturday a thunderstorm occurred over the Southern Midlands. In London the weather was cold and showery, and on Sunday the highest temperature was fifty-seven degrees, which is twelve degrees below the average. The wind was northerly over the entire country on Sunday.

The Corn Tax.

Not to be Abandoned.

In the House of Commons on Wednesday Sir Michael Hicks-Beach announced that the corn-tax and the income-tax increase would not be taken off.

Questions in Parliament.

In the House of Commons on Tuesday Mr. Nannetti asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer whether he had received a copy of a resolution passed at the Irish Trades Congress, held at Cork recently, protesting against the proposed tax on corn, and stating that it fell exclusively on the working classes; and whether, in view of similar resolutions from the workers generally, he would consider the advisability of substituting some other article which would not have such an effect on the circumstances of the poor of the whole country?

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, in reply, said: I have received this resolution. I do not think the description of the duty as falling exclusively on the working classes is at all correct, and I am not prepared to take the course suggested in the question.

Speech by Mr. Chaplin.

Addressing a large meeting in the Session House at Sleaford on Monday, Mr. Chaplin, Member for the division, remarked that the conclusion of peace brought him to a question of much domestic interest—the tax on corn, which he hoped would be retained. If he thought for a moment the question of a big loaf or a little loaf was concerned, he should be the last to support it. This registration duty was first imposed by Robert Peel, and he preferred to call it the Peel shilling duty on corn. With regard to the Education Bill, which threw additional cost on the rates, many Unionist members were completely opposed to it. The relief which was given them under the Agricultural Rating Act was apparently all to be changed, and it was just at this moment when they needed all the aid and encouragement which could be given. Education, including elementary, secondary, and technical, should be regarded as national services.

The Tax a Test of British Political Intelligence.

In a letter addressed to the Ipswich Trades Council, who protested against what they called the new bread tax, Mr. Pretyman, M.P., expresses himself strongly in favour of the proposed duty. He contends that as the necessity for indirect taxation arises, it may properly be laid on articles of common use in the order of tobacco, tea, sugar, and corn. The first three are already taxed, and the proposed duty on corn will cause no distress or inconvenience. Personally, Mr. Pretyman says he is a firm believer in free trade, not as a sentiment or fetish, but as the soundest method of conducting international commerce. He is not, however, so blinded by prejudice as not to see that our trade is being filched from us by foreigners, who make use of Government subsidies and other such means to compete unfairly with us in our own market, whilst they are careful to exclude us from their own. They believe we are blind devotees to free trade, who will on no account forsake the worship of the image we have set up. Foreigners will regard this tax as a test of the political intelligence of the British people.

Bakers and the Tax.

The National Association of Master Bakers and Confectioners, at the annual conference at Bristol on Tuesday, passed, by a large majority, a resolution declaring that the tax on wheat and flour was a source of considerable loss to them, and expressing the opinion that in practice it would result for the most part in the trade paying the tax. They therefore requested the council of the association to use every effort to obtain the removable of the objectionable impost.

New Agricultural Patents.

Specially compiled for MARK LANE EXPRESS by Mr. G. D. Howard (Hughes, Son, and Co.), Patent Agent, 38, Chancery Lane, London, of whom all information relating to patents, designs, and trade marks may be obtained free of charge.

11,602.—Lauritz Hansen, of Chancery Lane, London, for "Improvements in and connected with thrashing machines."

11,608.—Tenison Deane, of Chancery Lane, London, for "An improved food product."

11,779.—Austin Eikin Hower, of Fleet Street, London, for "Improved process for the production of a fertilizing material or top-dressing for crops, applicable also as an insecticide."

Patent Sealed.

2,128.—W. H. Havenhead, of Sheffield, for "Hoes, hand."

2,502.—J. E. Ransome and F. W. Gerrard, of Ipswich, for "Cultivators; ploughs; hoes, horse."



Pembrokeshire.

Taken as a whole, the outlook for farming is very unsatisfactory, for, although beef, mutton, and pork are making good prices. We trust our members of Parliament will vote that the expenses of education shall be put on the Imperial Exchequer. It is for the good of the whole nation, consequently the nation should pay for it, not one class only to pay for it.—(June 5th.)

Cumberland.

It is June, but our cuckoo has not yet changed tune. It sings like in May, which blew cold like March, and gave us such weather as passes Cumbrian memory. But with peace on the 1st, warmth came also, and, the ground being already moist, grass is now growing visibly about an inch per day. All is green and gives good promise of a plentiful harvest. Everything is ready for the Royal at Carlisle; the entries are complete, the last being the dairy competitors, of whom Cumberland suplies not a few. In this respect our technical classes have been a success, and consequently Cumberland butter should henceforth hold its own in any market. Just now we are fighting the fight of schools, and, however else we differ, we all agree in this, that the main cost, if not the whole, of education, should be met by Imperial taxation, just as in the case of the Army and Navy. Many, including me, say, further, that the old scholastic endowments of this country (grammar schools, Eton, etc., etc., with Oxford and Cambridge Universities) should be drawn upon for teaching teachers for all public schools.—H. M. K. (June 6th).

Somerset.

The rain and warm weather of late has greatly improved farm prospects in this district. A fortnight ago the pastures were bare and keep very short, and the hay crop promised to be a very poor one. Now we have an abundance of keep, and the hay crop, though late, promises to be a fair one; in fact, I do not hink I ever saw so great an alteration for the better in the time in my life. There is scarcely any old hay left in this neighbourhood, so we shall need to make a good crop. Cattle and sheep are improving and doing well now that they have keep. Oats and barley came up well, and promise to be a good crop. Mangolds are a good plant, but rather backward. Swedes are going on well, and what few are up are a good plant. Beef is selling well; so, also, are newly-calved cows and good store cattle. Mutton has been a dragging trade all through the spring, not selling at all well in comparison with beef. Store sheep has also been a very slow trade, but I should think must improve now, with plenty of keep. Fat pigs are selling well, and stores dear. Cheese is selling well now, through scarcity, but I suppose as soon as the new make comes out there will be a big drop in prices.—E. D. (June 6th).

Foreign Prospects.

France.—On the basis of latest reports from reliable sources, it may be stated that, taken as a whole, the wheat crop looks well; the earing, which is backward, is now being effected under good conditions; and, given fine weather during the blooming period, the yield should be excellent.

Belgium.—Recent weather has improved the condition of the cereal crops.

Holland.—The cereal crops' outlook is mainly satisfactory.

Germany.—With fine and hot weather all over the Empire, crop prospects have greatly improved, and similar reports come from nearly all other countries.

Hungary.—Weather being favourable to the crops, hopes of a fair harvest are strengthened.

Russia.—Mild and wet weather has improved to a marked extent the cereal crop outlook in Central, South-Western, and Southern Governments. Odessa reports splendid harvest prospects for both winter and spring-sown grain.

Roumania.—It was feared that recent copious rains had injured the crops, but reports from all directions are reassuring. Wheat, rye, and oats have a satisfactory appearance, and with warm weather the harvest should be one of the best of late years.

Spain.—Apparently the expectations of a large wheat crop will have to be modified, as recent reports say that cold weather in some provinces and locusts in others have done much damage to all crops.

Servia.—A report from Belgrade says cereal crops look well all over the country.

Asia Minor.—From Smyrna it is reported that weather continues favourable to the crops. Barley cutting has become general in the province.

United States.—There has been a good week for growth, and the winter wheat is filling out satisfactorily, and spring wheat progressing favourably. The condition of maize is very good, but the fields are a little weedy where the weather has been rainy. Oats promise a large yield in the chief States, but the crop is light in some of the minor Southern States. In California the rainfall to date is 19in. against 21in. same time last year.

Australia.—Owing to the protracted drought, it is proposed to suspend grain and fodder import duties in all the Australian States.

Drought in Australia.

A well-informed correspondent writes that the pastoral situation in Australia is rapidly becoming desperate. Drought upon drought during the past eight years has spelt ruin to thousands upon thousands of able and energetic men engaged in the sheep and cattle industry. The number of sheep during the last decade has dwindled to the extent of one-third—viz., from over 120,000,000 to under 80,000,000. The losses of cattle are quite as great in proportion (says the "Speaker"). There are many stations in Queensland where the number of cattle depastured has fallen from 30,000 head or more to less than 1,000. Droughts have been felt before, but the present is the widest-spread ever known. Not to mention West Australia, which at the best is always in a state of semi-drought, the whole of the country from the western boundary of South Australia, right across the northern portion of Victoria, together with most of New South Wales and Queensland, is in a pitiable condition. Over scores of thousands of square miles the lambing must be a failure, and enormous further losses of grown sheep are now certain. Owing to these continuous droughts the present clip of wool is the worst on record, but the next will be much worse.

Reappearance of the Colorado Beetle.

In spite of the stringent measures carried out by the Board of Agriculture last September, when the Colorado beetle made its appearance at Tilbury, it seems that the pest was by no means stamped out, for specimens have again been found in the same district. Potato growers are, therefore, requested to carefully examine their plants, and to send to the Board of Agriculture for identification any insects suspected to be the Colorado beetle. The pest is not an indigenous one, for the natural home of the beetle is in the Western States of America, but from Nebraska and Iowa it travelled eastward, until, in 1876, it reached the eastern shores of America, and in the autumn of 1877 specimens were found at Liverpool in a cattle-boat from Texas. From what we now know of its life-history, as well as from the fact that, though nearly twenty-five years have passed since it was first certainly known to have reached the seaports in this country, it has yet made no settlement, we may reasonably believe that we are not likely to suffer from its ravages. "With regard to remedy," the late Miss Ormerod said, "probably there is no other injurious insect attack which is so certainly known. The widespread practice of the United States and Canada has long shown the cure for attacks of the Colorado beetle to be Paris green, and if ever we should have the misfortune to be visited by this pest, immediate and certain measures of destruction could be applied within a couple of days. Paris or Emerald green is applied by spraying a solution of 2oz. to 4oz. in forty gallons of water. It is highly poisonous, and requires careful handling."

The Colorado beetle is from one-third to half an inch long, of a yellow colour, with ten longitudinal black lines down the wing cases, and with reddish yellow and black legs. The larva, when mature, is very thick in the middle, and of an orange or reddish brown hue, with black spots on the lower portions. Long, oval, yellow eggs in clusters are laid by the female beetle on the under surface of the leaves of the potato, and these may appear also in certain weeds in the vicinity. Both larvæ and beetles feed voraciously on the potato haulm, but they are also known to feed on other plants, such as tomatoes and poppies, while, failing more congenial food, they may possibly be found on rough grasses and other weeds.



Preserving Eggs.

Sir,—Having seen "water glass" mentioned in The Mark Lane Express as a good and easy preservative for eggs, I beg you to answer the following questions respecting it:—

(1) How long will eggs so preserved keep good?

(2) Should the eggs be immersed, or merely washed over with it?

(3) Should the eggs be carefully washed in water first, if dirty, and washed again when taken out of the mixture for market?

(4) Can the "water glass" be used over and over again, and what is the best proportion to use?

(5) Does it kill the germ in the egg?

(6) Is the mixture a corrosive? I have some old brewing tubs and copper coppers. Would they be suitable for storing large quantities of eggs in?

(7) Does temperature have any detrimental effect on it?

I should be glad if you could give me the most satisfactory way of preserving eggs in lime—the quantity of lime to use per gallon of water.—Yours truly,

G. Nicol.

P.S.—I should be glad with an early reply, as I am anxious to try the process while eggs are cheap.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending May 31, 1902:—

Swine Fever.	Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.		No.	229	523	866	790	3,480	8,121	10,115	15,876
	Outbreaks.		No.	44	115	62	72	718	1,680	916	1,249
Rabies.	Cases Confirmed.	Oth'r Anim'ls.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
		Dogs.	No.	1	...	...	...	12	1	...	1
Pleuro-Pneumonia.	Cattle Sl'ghter'd.	Exposed to Infection.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Diseased.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Outbreaks.		No.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Glanders(incl. farcy).	Animals Attacked.		No.	46	59	25	25	922	961	845	508
	Outbreaks.		No.	20	33	17	16	472	554	475	290
Foot-and-Mouth Disease.	Animals Attacked.		No.	...	...	...	...	118	664	123	...
	Outbreaks.		No.	...	...	...	...	1	12	9	...
Anthrax.	Animals Attacked.		No.	39	14	25	24	574	440	418	494
	Outbreaks.		No.	19	10	13	13	337	304	261	248
Period.					Week ended May 31, 1902	Corresponding week in ...	1901 / 1900 / 1899	Total for 22 weeks, 1902	Corresponding period in ...	1901 / 1900 / 1899	

NOTE.—The figures for the current Year are approximate only.

A Combination of Sheep Worryers.—At Carlisle County Court on Wednesday, Mr. Watson, farmer, High Burnthwaite, claimed £13 for lambs worried by dogs, the property of Mr. J. Miller, Oaklands, Upperby, and Mr. R. Norman, his servant. Evidence was given that several lambs were killed by a lurcher, retriever, and a boarhound, and the flocks were much damaged and the animals lamed and marked. The judge said it was an extraordinary thing that dogs associated themselves for the purpose of sheep worrying. One dog would chase the sheep into a corner, and another would worry, while the first stood outside. In this case the retriever and lurcher hunted together, and afterwards the lurcher led the boarhound into mischief. He found for plaintiff for £8.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Malt: We have no change to notice in the trade since our last. Barley was 3d per qr cheaper. Wheat: 6d per qr less money was taken. Oats firm. Maize steady. Flour declined 3d to 6d per sack.—NIXON, GOWER, AND CO.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—At Mark Lane the attendance was very limited, and the market for wheat and flour ruled dull, and nothing doing, values favour buyers. Maize quiet and lower to sell. Barley unchanged, nothing doing. Oats dull and easier. Beans and peas quiet.

Mark Lane, Friday.—The attendance was somewhat meagre at to-day's markets, and matters were again disappointing to sellers, while an uneventful week closes with occasional narrowing of prices evinced. English wheat was again nominal, with apparently nothing on hand worth naming in London, while a little more is being sent to local resorts, without tempting millers, as of late, at extreme currencies. American reds in sufficient supply, and 3d easier since last Monday. Whites maintained. Australian, held for 33s ex granary, and Californian, 32s 3d landed. Flour generally unaltered, although more in harmony with consumers' views, in face of fairly liberal supplies coming forward. American first patents (Pillsbury, Golden Lily, Ceresota), 25s. Bakers' grades are still in small compass. Iron Duke, ordinary quality, held for 21s 6d ex store. Australian patents, 23s to 23s 6d ex store, 280lb. English steady. Top price Town-made, 30s net, and No. 1 households 22s 9d to 23s per sack delivered at the mill door. Cascadians, 23s ex store. The London Millers' Association name households at 24s 6d, and whites 3s per sack more delivered to the baker. Grinding barley, 3d easier since Monday last, and more now on hand than for some little time past. Odessa, 20s ex ship; 20s 6d ex quay. Danubians, ship to come up, 19s 9d to 19s 10½d. Oats, 3d to 6d lower on the week, and more so for the lighter sorts, which are plentiful. Common Libau, 20s ex quay, 38lb; and better qualities, 20s 6d. Black Libau, 21s ex quay, 38lb; Riga, 20s ex ship, 40lb; Libau, etc., of very inferior quality, 21s 6d up to 23s 6d for bold, ex quay; fine Konigsberg, 23s ex quay, 40lb. New Zealand, ordinary bluff, 27s to 28s; ex store, 38s. Maize unchanged, but holders of round corn were inclined to a little less. Odessa, 22s 3d ex ship, 22s 9d ex quay. Danubian, 22s 6d, and Turkish, 23s 6d ex quay. Mixed American nominal, being, as of late, exhausted. Imported beans and peas unaltered. Egyptian splits, 23s 3d; and Mazagans, 22s 9d ex mill, 320lb; New Zealands, 38s to 39s, 504lb, ex store. Of peas, white Indian, 35s to 36s, according to sample. Canadian white remains out of the market. Very little American maize germ meal offers, and quotations are steady at £5 11s 3d to £5 12s 6d. English is in fair request at £5 7s 6d to £5 12s 6d per ton.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Very little English wheat, and demand small. There was a reduction of 1s per qr in the quotations, white making 33s to 34s; and red, 32s to 33s. Feeding corn generally firm. Hay and straw weaker.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat (white), 32s to 33s per qr.; ditto (red), 30s to 32s per qr.; barley, 28s to 30s per qr.; beans (new), 36s to 38s per qr.; ditto (old), 38s to 40s per qr.; oats (black), 24s to 28s per qr.; peas, 36s per qr.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Business at to-day's market was quiet, but feeding stuffs were in improved demand. English wheat unchanged at 32s 6d to 33s per qr. Foreign wheats, 6d lower. Grinding barley, £1 to £1 6s. per qr. Sharpness. Maize 6d cheaper, round commanding 22s 6d to 23s per qr., and Plate same price both at Sharpness.

Boston, Wednesday.—Wheat, 32s; oats, 24s to 25s; beans, 36s to 37s; maize, 24s.

Braintree, Wednesday.—Quiet trade; prices firm. Red wheat ,from 31s 6d to 33s per quarter; white 32s 6d to 33s 6d.

Bristol, Thursday.—There has been a small trade since our last, the declaration of peace having diverted everyone's attention. English wheat scantily offered, holders asking too much to find ready purchasers. Foreign 6d. lower. Maize and oats unaltered. Grinding barley the turn dearer. Flour not in very big demand at present. Bakers are apparently working down their stocks.—GRACE BROTHERS.

Bury St. Edmunds, Wednesday.—We had a small attendance, and a dull market, with business generally of a retail character. Wheat: Demand very quiet, at 6d. per qr. less money; reds selling at 31s to 32s per 504lbs. Other feeding corns quiet, excepting oats, which are a very firm trade, at fully last week's prices, owng to scarcity, 25s to 27s per qr. being made readily. Linseed cakes the turn lower, at £8 to £8 12s 6d per ton, and cotton at £5 5s to £5 7s 6d per ton.

Cambridge, Saturday.—During the week trade has been lifeless. Supplies are small, but equal to requirements, and millers are able to supply their wants at slightly reduced rates. At this market to-day there was only a moderate supply of wheat. Trade very quiet, and prices favoured buyers. Red wheat, 31s to 32s, and white up to 32s per 504lb. Very little Spring offering, for which trade was dull without alteration in prices.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Wheat rather cheaper; feeding corn easier. Ruling prices:White wheat, 33s to 35s; red, 32s to 33s 6d; grinding barley, 22s to 24s; white oats, 24s to 26s; black, 22s to 24s per qr.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Larger supply of oats in our market to-day; slow sale at last week's prices, 24s to 25s 6d per 336lb.—THOMAS ROBINSON.

Chester, Saturday.—There was very little English grain offering, and there is no change to note in prices. Quotations:—Wheat, white and red, 4s 7d to 4s 8d per 75lb; malting barley, 4s 2d to 4s 4d per 60lb; grinding barley, 3s 6d to 3s 8d per 64lb; beans, 6s 10d to 6s per 19lb; oats, new, 3s 2d to 3s 4d; old, 3s 4d to 3s 6d per 45lb. Indian corn, new, 12s 6d to 14s 3d; old, 13s to 14s 9d per 240lb.

Croydon, Wednesday.—White wheat, 33s to 35s; red ditto, 33s to 34s; malting barley, none; grinding, 23s to 25s; oats, 21s to 24s; beans, 33s to 35s; peas, 31s to 33s. Trade for wheat quiet at last week's prices; oats firm; beans and peas remain the same.

Colchester, Saturday.—Small supply wheat; slow trade, at 6d per qr reduction from last week. Beans and peas easier.—FRANCIS AND CO.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There was a fair attendance at our market to-day. Wheat and flour are very dull, with prices in buyers' favour. Round maize steady, but quiet. Home and foreign oats firm, with small sale. Canadian pease and grinding beans quiet at about late rates. Barley quiet. Bran and thirds rather easier. Oatmeal firm, but small sale.—GIBSON AND CLARK.

Leeds, Wednesday.—Owing to the conclusion of peace and the absence of many millers at the convention, the market to-day partakes of a holiday character, and business is extremely limited. Foreign wheat must be quoted 3d and English 6d per quarter lower on the week. Beans 6d dearer; maize and oats rather cheaper.—DUNNS AND CO.

Leicester, Saturday.—Fair attendance with small supplies of home grown wheats. Trade slow at 31s to 34s per 36 stones. Barley steady. Fine oats firm.

Lewes, Tuesday.—New white wheat, 33s to 34s; new brown ditto, 32s to 33s; malting barley, 32s to 35s; grinding ditto, 21s to 24s; oats, 23s to 26s; beans, 35s to 40s; peas, 35s to 40s per qr.

Liverpool, Friday.—The market has a fair attendance, but the trade passing in wheat is very small, and prices for all American grades are ½d lower. White wheats are very quiet, but held at last market day's rates. Flour in very quiet demand, and American Springs are quoted rather easier, but winter wheat flour is unchanged. Hungarian millers have advanced their limit owing to the scarcity of milling wheat there; this quality is consequently advanced 1s to 2s per sack on the spot. English milled flour shows no further change. Maize: Mixed is steady, but quiet, at quotations. European is very slow, and prices show a loss of about ½d from last market day's rates. Plate, owing to pressure and free arrivals, is a full 1d lower, but has resulted in a moderate business. Barley very dull for malting, and 6d to 1s lower. Feeding is quiet, unchanged. Beans are steadier, owing to less pressure on quay, but quiet. Peas in very moderate demand, and generally rather easier, but more particularly so for Indian, which are ½d to 1d per cental lower. Oats move slowly, but no change is quoted in the price of English. Canadian, being more freely offered, are the turn easier, other foreign sorts, however, hold steady at full prices. Oatmeal continues to be firmly held at extreme prices, owing to scarcity, but the demand is of the most retail character. Oilcake is still in good request for cotton cakes, but otherwise dull; no change is, however, quoted in prices.—SEGAR AND TUNNICLIFFE.

Maidstone, Thursday.—There was a good attendance, but trade quiet, with a slight advance in prices. Wheat was fully 1s dearer on the week. Quotations:—White wheat, 34s to 36s; red ditto, 33s to 34s; grinding barley, 23s; oats, 22s to 28s; peas, 38s; white ditto, 33s; maize, 24s to 26s; beans, 35s to 40s; English linseed cake, £8 to £8 10s; foreign ditto, £7 10s to £8; cotton cake, £5 to £5 5s.

Maidstone, Thursday.—Stock of English wheat in this district is running low, so the reason for non-appearance of samples to any extent not difficult to tell. The result was a very firm tone, and 6d per quarter over last market obtained; indeed, some owners preferred to hold on for more later in the season. In other grain a steady business and previous cost of most material realised to the full.

Manchester, Thursday.—The market has a tendency towards the buyer in wheat compared with seven days ago. Flour is reduced 6d per sack from last week. Indian corn 1s. in quiet demand at steady rates. Oats and barley are steady and unchanged. Peas tend on the easy when definite offers are made. Beans without new feature.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—At our to-day's market the demand for wheat was quiet, and where business was done the buyers had the advantage of 6d per qr. Maize scarce and dearer on spot; easier to arrive. Beans, peas, and barley steady at late rates. Oats favouring buyers. Flour unaltered.—JOSEPH POLLARD AND CO.

Northampton, Saturday.—The usual attendance, with a limited quantity of samples of wheat. Holders were unable to do business without making a small reduction from last week, which caused a very limited business. Upon the whole, it was a poor market—dull and inactive all round. White wheat, 33s to 34s; red ditto, 32s to 33s; grinding barley, 22s to 25s; oats, 20s to 24s; old fine, 27s; beans, 34s to 38s; flour, 23s to 24s; fine, 27s.

Norwich, Saturday.—To-day's market was rather thinly attended, and the supply of wheat offering was somewhat restricted. Millers delined to do business except at some reduction; this holders were reluctant, of course, to admit, but upon the whole prices were 6d to 1s per quarter lower upon the week. There was nothing doing in barley. Averages:—Wheat, 2,768 qrs. 31s 8d; oats, 23s 4d. The weather has greatly improved in Norfolk during the week, although yesterday and to-day were cool and rather wet.

Norwich, Saturday.—Only a small supply of wheat on offer to-day, at a further reduction of 6d to 1s per qr on the week. The weather of the past week has been showery, with much lower temperature. Wheat, red, 31s to 32s per qr; weight, 63lb per bushel imperial. Corn inspector's return for the week ending 7th June, 1902:—Wheat, 2,768, 31s 8d.—J. ARTHUR MILLS.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Very little English wheat offering; trade ruled slow, but values maintained. Grinding barley held for 6d advance. Oats and beans scarce, and prices in sellers' favour.—ROBT. HUBBLE.

Peterborough, Saturday.—There has been a poor demand for wheat to-day; prices 6d, and in some cases 1s lower than last week. Spring corn slow, without any quotable change in value.—THOMAS HILL AND SON.

Plymouth, Thursday.—There was a very poor attendance at our market here to-day, and business very quiet. Maize and oats unaltered. Wheat rather easier. Barley, dearer tendency.—ORLANDO DAVIS AND CO.

Reading, Saturday.—The persistent but nevertheless welcome rainfall, which has prevailed during the past two days, had its effect upon the attendance to-day, which was below the usual average. Business as a result proved quiet. With a limited quantity of corn on offer, very few sales were transacted, and it is difficult to quote rates. Generally, however, they were against the seller, being rather below those of recent markets.

Ripon, Thursday.—Not much doing. Everything has a downward tendency. Wheat, English, new, 31s to 32s; ditto, foreign, 30s 6d to 34s; barley, grinding, 23s 6d to 24s. 6d; oats, 24s to 26s; round maize, 24s to 26s per qr.; beans, 1s per stone.

Rye, Wednesday.—White wheat, 33s to 35s; red ditto, 33s to 35s; white oats, 21s 6d to 25s; black ditto, 22s 6d to 25s; tick beans, 35s to 38s; barley, 22s 6d to 28s; grey peas, 33s to 35s.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—There was a small attendance, and trade was quiet and slow. Last week's rates ruled. There were no English oats on offer. Quotations: Wheat, white, 32s 6d to 34s; ditto, red, 32s 6d to 34s per 504lb; barley, grinding, 23s 6d to 24s; ditto, malting, 30s to 32s per 448lb; oats, new white, 26s to 27s; ditto, new black, 23s to 24s per 336lb; peas, grinding, 35s to 37s; ditto, blue, 53s to 60s; beans, Egyptian, 33s 6d to 34s per 504lb; ditto, English, new, 37s 6d to 38s per 532lb; Indian corn, small, 24s to 24s 6d; ditto, American mixed, 28s 6d to 29s per 480lb.

Spalding, Tuesday.—The market was of a holiday character. Grain was in small supply, and quotations practically the same as last week. Wheat showed a downward tendency.

Stamford, Friday.—Holiday market. Although there were a few farmers and dealers present, not a single sample of any grain was shown.

Stockton, Wednesday.—The English wheat trade seems to be exhausted, and no samples were showing. Owing to continued weakness in America and large supplies, the price for foreign wheat showed a decline of 3d to 6d on the week, with only a moderate inquiry. Oats and maize firm and unchanged.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Limited show of grain. Wheat rather easier. Spring corn unaltered. Arrivals:—Coastwise: Oats, 150 qrs. Foreign: Nil.—E. AND F. RICHARDSON.

Wakefield, Friday.—Wheat has been dull and neglected during the past week, the arrivals being liberal and the weather more favourable. Still, all crops are late, and European want this side harvest considerable, which lends a certain strength to the trade, so that prices, except for American descriptions, show barely 3d decline. Beans 6d dearer. Maize steady. Oats rather lower, and in small demand. DUNNS AND CO.

Wakefield, Friday.—Wheat is a dragging trade on to-day's market; in English, 6d per qr less is accepted, and foreign wheats are easier in price,, with the exception of American, which maintains late rates, and but little business doing. Beans are 6d per qr dearer, and other feeding stuffs unaltered.—MICHAEL SANDERSON AND SON, LTD.

Wisbech, Saturday.—A short supply of grain. Wheat easier to buy. Prices, 31s to 31s 6d. Oats firm at full prices. Beans, 36s to 38s.—JAMES FLETCHER.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—The market was quiet, and there were no alterations in prices. Quotations: Wheat, new, 12s 6d to 13s per 216lb; oats, 16s to 17s; beans, old, 16s to 17s; new, 15s to 16s 6d per 196lb; barley, 35s to 40s per 448lb; maize, new, 27s; old, 29s 6d to 30s 6d per 480lb.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Poor attendance, and very little grain on offer, with prices practically unaltered. White wheat, 31s to 32s 6d; red wheat, 31s to 32s; grinding barley, 27s to 28s; white oats, 26s to 28s; black oats, 25s to 26s; round maize, 25s to 26s per qr.

Worcester, Saturday.—A very quiet market. Wheat was again scarce, but demand small, prices favouring buyers. Feeding stuffs steady at late rates. Wheat, white, 29s to 31s 6d; red, 27s 6d to 29s per qr.

York, Saturday.—Not much wheat offering. Last week's prices prevailed, the quotations being about 31s to 32s all round per qr of 36 stones. Feeding barley made about 24s to 26s per qr of 24 stones. Oats were scarce and firm at last week's prices; white Tartary, 22s to 23s; black, 23s to 25s; white Garton, 24s to 25s per qr of 24 stones; rye, about 8½d to 9d stone; beans, 1s ditto.

FOREIGN.

Hamburg, Saturday.—Barley market rules quiet here, and the malting season being finished, there are no transactions to report, but stocks seem also to be very small, and there will hardly be any surplus when the new barley is ready. Prospects of the new crop are in every way promising. The rather cold weather during May was followed by fine sunny days, and everything in the fields looks promising now.—FRANCIS M. TH. DUHNE.

Hamburg, Saturday.—We had several days of forcing hot weather, with intermittent rain, which worked wonders with the growing crops, and, with a continuance of fine weather, there are now prospects for a good harvest. Market quiet, but maize and feeding barley near at hand remain firm in value. Autumn shipments easier. The imports during the week amounted to 9,257 tons wheat, 3,182 tons rye, 5,135 tons barley, 6,488 tons maize. American red winter No. 2 wheat, July-August shipment, is offering at 27s 9d; hard winter 2, prompt shipment, 28s, Manitoba No. 1, June, at 28s; River Plate, Russia, at 28s 9d per 480lb; Walla Walla at 29s 3d to 29s 6d per 500lb. Rye is offered more freely from South Russia; 23s 6d per 480.lb is asked for 9 15-20 Nikolajef, June shipments; 21s 6d for August-September shipment. American Western No. 2 is selling at 24s 3d to 24s 6d per 480lb. Malting barley—According to reports from the Saale, Bohemia, and Hungary, the favourable change of weather has improved the young crops, and complaints are now less frequent. Russian and Danubian feeding barley is held at 18s 9d; July-August shipments at 17s 6d; August-September at 16s 7½d per 400lb c.i.f. Maize quiet. Odessa, prompt shipment, is held at 20s 3d; Danubian, July-August, at 20s 9d; River Plate, floating, at 20s 9d. Mixed American, December-March, was sold at 20s to 20s 3d per 480lb c.i.f.—JOHN TATLOCK.

Paris, Wednesday.—Native wheat.—There was but a small attendance at to-day's reunion, with a very poor muster of farmers, who are busy haymaking. The wheat situation remains the same as last week, offers are very limited with buyers reserved and transactions almost nil. We are entering into a period of complete quietude which will probably continue until the appearance of the new crop, and prices may be quoted the same as last week. Choice Red Wheat, 37s 10d to 38s 3d; average, 33s 6d to 36s 11d; and White Wheat, 38s 3d to 38s 9d per 480lb. Term Wheat opened with a more regular trade at fully supported prices, but closed easier at the following rates:—June, 38s 3d to 38s 9d; July, 38s 9d to 39s 2d; July-August, 37s 10d to 38s 3d; and Sept.-Dec., 35s 3d to 35s 8d per 480lbs. Flour.—Fleur-de-Paris.—The market opened, supported at 5c. to 10c. advance, but closed quieter at the following prices:—June, 27s 1½d to 27s 5d; July, 27s 5d to 27s 8d; July-Aug., 27s 5d to 27s 8d; and Sept.-Dec., 26s 7½d to 26s 10½d per 280lbs. Consumption Marks Flour.—Trade is quiet, the increased temperature restricts consumption, and there is a slight decrease in the consumptive demand. Quotations are as follows:—Choice Marks 31f. to 32f (31s 5d to 32s 5d); First Marks, 30f.50 to 31f. (30s 11d to 31s 5d); Good Marks, 29f.75 to 30f.50 (30s 2d to 30s 11d); Ordinary Marks, 28f.50 to 29f.75 per 100 kilos (28s 11d to 30s 2d per 280lb). Rye.—As might have been foreseen, with the return of fine weather, crop advices are better, and the damage by last month's unseasonable weather is not so considerable as at first thought. The caring, favoured by a northerly wind, is being accomplished in excellent conditions. Here, the tendency was firm, although trade ruled quiet—good corn is quoted at 26s 1d per 480lb. Oats.—Offers are still unimportant, but amply sufficient for the demand. Here the supply was most circumscribed, and consequently business was wanting in animation, and rates may be quoted appreciably unchanged. Grey Beauce, 23s 6d to 23s 9d; White, 22s 11d to 23s 7d; Red, 23s 2d; Black from Central Provinces, 24s 1d; White Libau is quoted 22s 7d to 22s 11d; Black, 22s 11d to 23s 2d; and Swedish, 24s 8d per 320lb. Barley.—Like the other cereals, reports of this crop have improved, but the same cannot be said of the trade, which leaves much to be desired, as both brewers and maltsters have suspended operations for the season. Dealings in grinding corn are also limited, purchases being made in proportion to actual requirements. Quotations are merely nominal:—Malting, 17f.50 to 17f.75 (25s 4d to 26s 9d); Grinding, 17f. to 17f.25 (24s 8d to 25s); and Feeding, 15f. to 15f.50 per 100 kilos (21s 9d to 22s 6d per 400lb.). Buckwheat.—This article, being scarce, continues supported at late rates—viz., 28s 9d per 480lbs.—*Dornbusch.*

CORN STATISTICS.

IMPERIAL AVERAGES.

Statement showing the Quantities sold and average price of British Corn, Imperial Measure, as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended June 7, 1902, conformably with the Act of the 45th and 46th Victoria, cap. 37.

Wheat	32,707⅜ qrs.	31s.	3d.
Barley	457⅜ qrs.	24s.	3d.
Oats	6,476⅜ qrs.	22s.	11d.

IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGES.

	Wheat.			Barley.			Oats.		
1901.	Qrs.	s.	d.	Qrs.	s.	d.	Qrs.	s.	d.
June 8	42,202	27	6	221½	22	9	4,023½	20	1
,, 15	46,764	27	8	1,404½	24	0	5,565⅜	19	7
,, 22	29,695	27	6	336⅜	23	2	3,552½	20	3
,, 29	28,191⅞	27	6	692⅜	25	4	2,803⅜	20	0
July 6	19,564½	27	8	140⅜	21	9	1,806⅛	19	10
,, 13	15,231⅞	27	2	49	23	10	1,675⅜	19	9
,, 20	17,462⅜	27	3	88⅜	23	4	2,040⅛	19	11
,, 27	18,297⅜	27	3	206⅜	22	1	2,385⅛	19	4
Aug. 3	18,666⅛	27	6	250⅜	23	1	3,219⅛	20	0
,, 10	19,156	27	7	141⅜	22	1	2,143½	19	4
,, 17	22,617½	27	4	220½	27	2	5,982	18	9
,, 24	37,168⅜	27	3	976⅜	23	7	9,952⅜	18	
,, 31	61,603⅜	27	0	4,877⅜	24	3	14,654⅛	17	10
Sept. 7	66,623⅛	26	5	14,342⅜	25	1	19,075⅛	17	1
,, 14	77,949½	26	2	34,989⅜	24	11	19,909⅛	17	4
,, 21	80,270½	26	0	70,006⅛	25	5	26,476⅜	17	4
,, 28	80,488	25	10	109,783½	25	10	22,567⅛	17	2
Oct. 5	60,376⅜	25	8	126,592⅛	26	3	21,631⅛	17	7
,, 12	63,656⅛	25	9	172,175⅜	26	5	16,815⅛	17	6
,, 19	58,772½	25	10	203,591½	26	8	15,506½	17	8
,, 26	52,984⅜	25	11	208,471⅛	25	10	18,009⅞	17	5
Nov. 2	70,314⅜	26	2	134,277⅛	26	10	18,350⅜	17	7
,, 9	62,265⅛	26	6	202,577½	27	0	20,066⅛	17	8
,, 16	57,884⅜	26	9	201,723½	26	9	20,122½	18	3
,, 23	63,150⅛	27	1	185,268⅛	26	10	20,612	18	7
,, 30	60,323⅜	27	1	193,434⅜	26	9	22,419⅛	18	9
Dec. 7	67,925½	27	1	162,996⅜	26	7	23,990⅞	19	0
,, 14	48,045⅜	27	2	182,212⅜	25	10	17,125½	17	1
,, 21	60,562½	27	7	119,398½	26	8	26,260½	19	
,, 28	43,718⅜	27	7	81,859½	26	8	16,901⅞	19	10
1902.									
Jan. 4	31,440⅜	27	7	34,777½	26	7	11,621⅛	19	10
,, 11	48,997½	27	8	69,120½	26	7	14,995	20	0
,, 18	74,239½	27	8	91,559⅜	26	11	19,733⅜	20	0
,, 25	74,753⅜	27	7	87,594	26	7	25,382½	20	3
Feb. 1	73,331½	27	4	81,468⅜	26	7	25,657	20	2
,, 8	67,470½	27	2	69,291⅜	26	9	25,055⅜	20	3
,, 15	68,500	26	11	54,084⅛	27	5	21,824	20	3
,, 22	72,614⅜	27	1	53,201⅜	26	11	22,799	20	4
Mar. 1	79,453⅜	27	1	43,637⅜	26	7	22,322	20	5
,, 8	67,475⅜	27	0	28,847⅛	26	8	17,017	20	5
,, 15	60,643	27	1	24,536⅜	26	6	11,496⅞	20	6
,, 22	56,394⅛	27	1	15,482⅜	26	4	12,192½	20	6
,, 29	50 703	27	2	15,729½	27	2	8,950⅝	20	7
Apr. 5	31,277⅜	27	3	7,008⅛	26	5	5,994½	20	6
,, 12	37,931⅛	27	5	5,208½	26	7	6,855½	21	0
,, 19	38,037	27	7	7,237⅜	27	1	11,099⅜	21	1
,, 26	31,257½	28	9	6,263⅞	26	5	8,897⅜	21	6
May 3	46,238⅜	29	9	4,226½	27	5	9,635	21	10
,, 10	42,534⅛	30	9	3,454	26	10	8,653½	22	6
,, 17	40,387⅛	31	1	674⅛	25	3	7,576	22	5
,, 24	38,288⅜	31	6	1,138⅝	25	4	5,973⅜	22	6
,, 31	32,728⅛	31	6	864⅜	25	1	5,177⅛	22	10
June 7	32,707⅜	31	3	457⅜	24	3	6,476⅜	22	11

FLUCTUATIONS IN THE AVERAGE PRICE OF WHEAT.

Price.	May 3.	May 10.	May 17.	May 24.	May 31.	June 7.
31s. 6d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
31s. 5d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
31s. 4d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
31s. 3d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
31s. 2d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
31s. 1d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
31s. 0d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
30s. 11d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
30s. 10d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
30s. 9d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
30s. 8d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
30s. 7d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
30s. 6d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
30s. 5d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
30s. 4d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
30s. 3d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
30s. 2d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
30s. 1d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
30s. 0d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
29s. 11d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
29s. 10d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
29s. 9d.	...	...	...	...	...	...

COMPARATIVE AVERAGES.

Comparative statement for the corresponding week to May 31, in each of the years from 1897 to 1901.

	Wheat.			Barley.			Oats.		
	Qrs	s.	d.	Qrs.	s.	d.	Q s.	s.	d.
1897	11,625½	27	4	1,968	22	8	2,514	17	11
1898	22,109	45	4	576½	25	8	3,041½	20	11
1899	83,243⅜	25	6	833⅜	21	1	6,561⅜	18	2
1900	64,747⅛	25	3	996⅜	23	8	6,054⅜	18	8
1901	42 202	27	6	221⅛	22	9	4,023½	20	1

ENGLISH WHEAT IN 1 01.

Highest of Year	27s. 7d.
Lowest of Year	25s. 10d.
Gradient	1s. 9d.
n of Year	26s. 9d.

LONDON TOP PRICE FLOUR.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1901.

		s.	d.
September 2	(per sack)	29	0
,, 28	,,	28	0
April 16	,,	29	0
,, 23	,,	30	0

(No official change since last date given.)

TITHE RENT CHARGES.

For 1902	67	3	9
,, 1901	66		9
,, 1900	66		10
,, 1899	68	2	4
,, 1898	68		11
,, 1897	69		11
,, 1896	71		7

MONTHLY AVERAGES.

(196 Market Towns.)

	1901.			1902.		
	Wheat	Barley	Oats	Wheat	Barley	Oats
January	26 8	25 7	17 4	27 8	26 8	20 7
February	26 5	25 5	17 7	27 1	26 8	20 3
March	25 10	25 0	17 10	27 1	26 8	20 6
April	26 3	25 7	18 3	28 0	26 5	21 1
May	27 6	25 2	19 4	30 10	26 0	22 5
June	27 7	23 11	19 10			
July	27 4	22 9	19 8			
August	27 4	24 0	18 10			
September	26 1	25 4	17 4			
October	25 10	25 7	17 6			
November	24 9	26 10	18 2			
December	27 4	26 8	19 5			

YEARLY AVERAGES (OFFICIAL.)

	Wheat.			Barley.			Oats.		
	s.	d.		s.	d.		s.	d.	
1890	31	9	per qr.	28	8	per qr.	18	7	per qr.
1891	37	1	,,	28	2	,,	20	0	,,
1892	30	4	,,	26	2	,,	19	11	,,
1893	26	4	,,	25	6	,,	18	9	,,
1894	22	10	,,	24	6	,,	17	1	,,
1895	23	1	,,	21	11	,,	14	6	,,
1896	26	2	,,	22	11	,,	14	9	,,
1897	30	2	,,	23	6	,,	16	11	,,
1898	34	0	,,	27	2	,,	18	5	,,
1899	25	8	,,	25	7	,,	17	0	,,
1900	26	11	,,	25	9	,,	17	9	,,
1901	26	9	,,	25	3	,,	18	5	,,

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF LONDON TOWN HOUSEHOLDS FLOUR.

(Sacks of 280 lbs. ex-mill for cash.)

	1902.	1901	1900	1899.	1898.	1897.	1896.	1895.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Jan.	21 9	24 6	21 9	23 9	29 0	25 6	18 9	18 7½
Feb.	22 0	24 0	22 0	23 6	30 0	24 7½	19 4½	17 9
March	21 9	23 9	21 6	22 3	30 0	23 11	19 3	18 0
April	23 0	24 0	21 6	22 0	31 3	23 6	19 6	18 7½
May	23 6	23 6	21 3	22 3	30 7	23 7	19 0	20 4½
June	...	23 0	23 6	23 1½	35 0	22 7½	18 10	22 3
July	...	22 3	24 6	21 9	29 6	22 10½	18 6	20 0½
August	...	22 3	24 0	21 9	27 6	26 8½	18 8½	19 10½
Sept.	...	22 0	25 3	22 0	26 5	30 3	19 6	19 8
Oct.	...	21 6	24 9	23 3	26 1	29 0	23 7½	18 7½
Nov.	...	21 6	24 3	22 3	25 0	29 1	25 8½	18 4½
Dec.	...	21 9	24 0	21 9	24 3	29 0	25 7½	18 1
Yrly. Avrg.	...	22 10	23 2	22 4	29 6½	25 10½	20 8½	19 2

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF FINE HOUSEHOLD FLOUR IN PARIS.

(Converted into English money for sacks of 280 lb.)

	1902.	1901.	1900.	1899.	1898.	1897.	1896.	1895.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Jan.	27 9	24 9	25 2	29 0	38 7	30 5½	25 10	27 9½
Feb.	26 3	25 9	26 3	28 3	39 4	29 10½	26 2	27 10½
March	27 0	24 0	27 3	27 6	40 1	28 9	26 0	27 5½
April	27 3	24 6	26 9	27 6	42 3	28 5	25 6½	26 7
May	27 6	25 6	26 8	28 0	40 0	28 11½	25 1½	28 0
June	...	26 3	28 6	27 6	35 6	29 3	25 8	28 10
July	...	28 0	26 9	27 3	32 0	31 5½	24 6	27 1
August	...	27 6	26 4	27 0	31 6	36 11	25 1	26 11
Sept.	...	27 6	26 3	25 9	31 0	38 7	27 0	27 0½
Oct.	...	27 6	26 0	24 9	30 6	39 4	27 1½	27 9
Nov.	...	27 9	26 4	24 3	30 3	40 3	29 9	26 8½
Dec.	...	28 3	26 0	24 6	29 0	39 3	29 8	26 3
Yrly. Avrg.	...	27 3	26 2	9	35 0	33 5	26 5½	27 4½

LONDON AVERAGES.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, June 3, 1902.

	Total Quantities. Imperial Measure.		Total Amount.			Average Price per qr. Imperial Measure.		
	Quarters.	Bus.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Wheat	2.0	7	319	12	10	1	11	10
Barley	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Oats	352	1	357	3	3	1	2	7

LONDON FLOUR MILLERS' ASSOCIATION

OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1901

		London Whites.			Town Households.		
		s.	d.			s.	d.
September 2	(per sack)	26	0	(per sack)		23	0
,, 18	,,	25	6	,,		22	6
December 9	,,	26	6	,,		23	0
January 29	,,	26	0	,,		23	6
April 16	,,	27	6	,,		24	6

ARRIVALS INTO LONDON.

May 21 to May 28, 1902, inclusive.

	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat qrs.	611	65,845	66,456
Barley	1,200	29,701	30,910
Malt	25,000	...	25,000
Oats	434	56,000	56,434
Beans	410	2,000	2,410
Peas	110	1,560	1,670
Maize	...	36,307	36,307
Tares	...	313	313
Linseed	...	18,500	18,500
Rapeseed	...	4,000	4 000
Cottonseed	...	3,500	3,500
Dari	...	975	975
Flour, sacks	21,536	65,499	87,035

THE BALTIC.

Wheat cargoes are irregularly lower on the week. White sorts resist the declining tendency better than the red kinds. The present weakness has little to do with the peace in South Africa, but is caused by the large spot arrivals of grain on passage in May. Sales include: South Australian at 29s., Victorian at 29s 6d., Walla Walla at 29s., No. 1 Northern at 27s. 6d., Manitoba at 28s., hard Manitoba at 28s. 9d., No. 2 Manitoba at 26s. 3d., and Argentine at 29s. per quarter.

Maize is 3d. cheaper for Odessa and Galatz, 6d. for Danubian. Sales have been: Argentine at 20s; Danubian at 20s. 9d.; Odessa at 21s. 6d.; Galatz at 21s. 6d.; Turkish at 22s. 6d., and flat American at 27s. per quarter.

Barley cargoes are dull, but 18s. 9d. has been paid for two from South Russia, and 19s. 3d. for one from the Danube. Roumania offers to ship new crop in October at 17s. 3d. per quarter. Oats have fetched 19s. for Odessa. Linseed has realised 48s. for La Plata, and cottonseed has made £7 17s. 6d. for Egyptian.

The arrivals of grain and seed-laden vessels at ports of call for the week were: 37 wheat (3 Geelong, 3 Melbourne, 1 Monte Video, 14 Portland (O.), 1 Port Pirie, 5 San Francisco, 1 Seattle, 5 Sydney, 3 Tacoma, 1 Wallaroo); 1 flour (San Francisco); 1 linseed (Buenos Ayres); total, 39.

The sailings of grain and seed-laden vessels from ports of call for the week were: 32 wheat (6 Antwerp, 1 Barrow-in-Furness, 1 Belfast, 3 Birkenhead, 1 Bristol, 1 Cardiff, 1 Cork, 2 Dublin, 9 Hamburg, 2 Limerick, 1 Liverpool, 1 London, 1 Malmo, 1 Shields, 1 Tyne Dock); total 32.

Since 1st January, 1902, the total arrivals have been: 188 wheat, 5 flour, 20 barley and wheat, 3 maize, 8 barley, 2 beans, 3 linseed, 4 canaryseed; total, 235.

Last year during the same time the arrivals were: 157 wheat, 4 flour, 7 barley and wheat, 14 barley, 3 beans, 4 pease, 1 pease and beans, 2 locust beans, 3 canaryseed, 3 valonea; total, 199.

HOPS.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Plants now making good growth, but complaints of vermin very general. Business slow, at the improved rates.

The Farleighs, Saturday.—The bine has grown very fast during the warm weather a few days since, but has received a check lately. There is a large quantity of fly, and have already begun to deposit; some small leaves are positively black with fly.

Worcester, Saturday.—Our market is firmer to-day, and growers are asking more money for the hops they hold, owing to the backward state of the bine, and the serious attack of blight which has appeared during the past fortnight. There has been little trade doing this week, holders not being disposed to sell their hops except at full prices.—PIERCY AND CO.

POTATOES

Borough, Saturday.—Supplies moderate, and with a fair demand, trade ruled steady. Quotations:—Scotch maincrops, 90s; Blackland. Up-to-dates, 50s; Lincoln ditto, 60s to 65s per ton; New Jersey, 8s 6d; Teneriffe, 6s to 8s; St. Malo, 8s 6d per cwt; and Lisbons, 3s 9d per box.

Southwark, Monday.—During the past week the arrivals of old potatoes have been light, and prices for best samples have improved. The following are this day's quotations:—Lincoln Up-to-Dates, 60s to 65s per ton; Blackland ditto, 55s to 60s per ton; Forfar and Fife ditto, 60s per ton; ditto Bruce, 60s per ton.—R. G. BROWN.

Spitalfields, Saturday.—Notwithstanding light arrivals, trade ruled very dull. Quotations:—Best Lincoln p-to-dates, 60s to 65s; Blackland ditto, 50s; Wisbech ditto, 60s; Scotch ditto, 60s; Scotch maincrops (greysoil), 65s; Lincoln maincrops, 60s to 70s; Reading giants, 50s; Blackland Gartons, 45s per ton. New St. Malos, 8s to 9s 6d; Jersey, 8s to 9s; Teneriffe and Canary No. 2, 9s; No. 3, 8s 6d per cwt; and Lisbons, 3s 9d to 4s per box.

HAY AND STRAW.

Manchester, Wednesday.—Hay, 6¾d to 7½d; clover, 6½d to 7¾d; clover (Lincoln), 8½d; straw (wheat), 6d to 6½d; straw (oat), 4¾d to 5½d per stone.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—Heavy supplies received, but business was quiet at late rates. Best clover, 95s to 110s; inferior ditto, 80s to 90s; specially picked hay, 117s 6d; good ditto, 110s; inferior ditto, 80s to 95s; mixture and sainfoin, 85s to 105s; and straw, 30s to 45s per load.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent-Garden, Saturday.—Arrivals of vegetables and fruit this morning were on a good scale, and a fair demand was experienced. Greenstuffs:—Cabbages, 3s 6d to 4s; cauliflowers, 6s to 8s per tally; spinach, 1s 6d to 2s per bushel; French carrots, 5s; turnips, 4s to 5s; parsley, 3s to 4s; mint, 2s 6d to 3s; leeks, 2s to 2s 6d per dozen bunches; horseradish, 1s 6d to 2s per bundle; rhubarb, 2s to 3s per dozen bundles; Egyptian onions, 10s per bag; spring ditto, 2s 6d per dozen bunches. Potatoes—Maincrops, 70s to 85s; Reading Giants, 35s to 50s; Up-to-Dates, 50s to 60s per ton; new, Jersey, 9s; St. Malo, 8s 6d per cwt; Lisbon, 4s per box. Tasmanian apples, 8s to 12s per case; English grapes, 2s to 4s; Belgian, 1s 3d to 1s 9d per lb; Valencia oranges, 8s to 16s; Denia, 12s to 14s; Murcia, 8s to 10s per case; English tomatoes, 6d to 8d per lb; Canary, 3s to 4s per case; pineapples, 1s 6d to 4s each; lemons, 8s to 18s per case; bananas, 7s 6d to 12s 6d per bunch; gooseberries, 4s to 5s 6d per half-sieve.

POULTRY AND GAME.

Smithfield, Saturday.—Supplies fair; an improved den and at steady rates. Quotations:—Fowls: Yorkshire, 3s to 3s 6d; Essex, 2s 9d to 3s 3d; Boston, 2s 6d to 3s; Surrey, 3s 6d to 4s 6d; Sussex, 3s 6d to 4s; Welsh, 2s 6d to 3s; Irish, 2s to 2s 6d; Turkeys (cock), 6s to 7s; (hen), 4s to 4s 9d; goslings, 4s to 5s; Aylesbury ducklings, 3s 6d to 4s; country ditto, 2s 9d to 3s 3d; pigeons, 7d to 1s;

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The weather has retrograded to the gloomy skies and cold rains of May, but the night temperature is ten degrees better than it was in that month. Wheat is now growing rapidly in height, but no fields are as yet in ear, and the grain when formed will require very different weather conditions before it hardens into a crop. The year's record thus far is as follows:—

1902.	Rainfall. Inches.	Sunshine. Hours.	Temperature.
Jan.	1.00	17	42.5
Feb.	0.90	21	39.5
March	1.62	40	44.5
April	0.50	135	48.0
May	2.52	144	50.0

The average rainfall of May is two inches, the sunshine 180 hours, the warmth 53.1 degrees. The under-average sunshine will, it is feared, tell on the health and stamina of vegetation.

The wheat in France is coming into ear, but very wet weather prevails, and crop prospects are considered to have deteriorated since June came in. Hot, dry, and fine weather now prevails in Central Europe from the Baltic to the Adriatic. In Russia, as in France and England, it is very wet, but the temperature is high. Spain reports a great abundance of locusts, but these pests will injure the spring-sown crops, which are still tender, rather than the wheat, which has alreay begun to be cut in Andalusia.

American weather reports since June 1st are very good, and the spring-sown wheat and oats have made a capital start, the former on a reduced, the latter on an augmented acreage. Maize was being sown over some eighty million acres during the last fortnight of May, and has been now got into the soil under satisfactory conditions. Australia cables that the drought there is the worst for some years, and all grain shipments have ceased.

The supply of wheat on passage to the United Kingdom showed a great diminution on the 7th inst., as compared with the last day of May. Present expectations are:—

	Qrs.
Californian	1,860,000
American	540,000
Argentine	221,000
Russian	60,000
Australasian	535,000
Indian	250,000
Various	10,000
Total	3,476,000
A week ago	3,876,000
A year ago	2,965,000

The imports of the United Kingdom last week were as follows, of the five leading staples:—

Wheat, 501,000 qrs.; a very heavy supply.
Flour, 141,000 sacks; a moderate supply.
Barley, 89,000 qrs.; much less than usual.
Oats, 119,000 qrs.; rather less than usual.
Maize, 219,000 qrs.; a full average.

Adding to these arrivals, we get the following totals for the cereal year to date:—

Wheat, 12,106,000 qrs.; about an average.
Flour, 5,815,200 sacks; less than usual.
Barley, 5,649,000 qrs.; more than usual.
Oats, 4,820,000 qrs.; much less than usual.
Maize, 7,933,000 qrs.; much less than usual.

The average prices of staples for May thus compare with the four preceding months:—

1902.	Household Flour. Per sack.	English Wheat. Per qr.	English Barley. Per qr.	English Oats. Per qr.
January	21s 9d	27s 8d	26s 8d	20s 1d
February	22s 0d	27s 1d	26s 8d	20s 3d
March	21s 9d	27s 1d	26s 8d	20s 6d
April	23s 0d	28s 0d	26s 5d	21s 1d
May	23s 6d	30s 10d	26s 0d	22s 5d

The May rise in household flour has now been lost, but the value of English corn is maintained. The markets for American flour are 6d. lower on the week, and there is a like decline on foreign wheat (except Californian), and on foreign oats except New Zealand). The decline on foreign feeding barley is 3d. per quarter, and that is about the measure of the decline on round and yellow maize. There are no changes in flat maize, beans, peas, or dari.

Stocks of wheat on 7th inst. were thus returned:—

	Qrs.
In Farmers' hands	982,000
In Merchants' hands	2,724,000
Total	3,706,000

Sales of British wheat during May are estimated as follows for the last seven years:—

May.	Qrs.
1902	482,000
1901	452,000
1900	691,000
1899	855,000
1898	575,000
1897	758,000
1896	305,000

Recent trade has, therefore, been of about an average extent, but the rise in prices has not brought out such large deliveries as some had expected. It is not likely that the present reserves of British wheat will be parted with at all readily, for the harvest is bound to be late, and the situation, from holders' point of view, should improve by the middle of July.

Supplies on passage of other articles than wheat are thus returned for the 7th inst.:—

	1902. Qrs.	1901. Qrs.
Maize	875,000	1,025,000
Barley	300,000	295,000
Oats	75,000	200,000
Beans	24,000	18,000
Linseed	245,000	250,000

The chief shipping countries sent off the following quantities of grain in May:—

	Russia.	Roumania.	America.	Argentina.
Wheat	1,124,000 qrs	446,000 qrs	2,094,000	441,000
Flour	—— sks	——	886,000	——
Maize	331,000 qrs	1,006,000	20,000	526,000
Barley	474,000 qrs	115,000	3,000	——
Oats	502,000 qrs	17,000	69,000	——

The Roumanian shipments of maize are extremely heavy, as are the American shipments of wheat. The other items do not exceed expectation, while American shipments of maize, barley, and oats are much below the average of recent seasons.

Last week's shipments included 230,000 quarters of wheat from Russia, with 82,000 quarters of barley, 126,000 quarters of oats, and 101,000 quarters of maize. Roumania shipped 70,000 quarters of wheat, 9,000 quarters of barley, 2,000 quarters of oats, and 1,006,000 quarters of maize. These figures include Bulgarian and Roumelian shipments. India shipped 80,000 quarters of wheat, and 70,000 quarters of linseed.

The New World's exports were 412,000 quarters of wheat, 260,000 sacks of flour, 2,000 quarters of barley, 3,000 quarters of maize, and 34,000 quarters of oats, from North America, and 39,000 quarters of wheat, 143,000 quarters of maize, and 7,000 quarters of linseed from Argentina. Chile shipped 6,000 quarters of wheat and 5,000 quarters of barley.

BUTTER.

Tuesday.—Bedale: 1s 1d to 1s 3d per 24 oz roll. Gainsborough: 1s per lb. Settle: 11½d to 1s per lb. Spalding: 9d per lb. Stone: 10d to 1s per lb.

Wednesday.—Dorchester: 9d to 1s per lb. Barnsley: 11d and 1s per lb. Boston: 6d to 8d per lb. Colne: 1s 1d per lb. Goole: 10d and 11d per lb. Keighley: 1s and 1s 1d per lb. Kirbymoorside: 9d per lb. Knaresborough: 1s 2d and 1s 3d per 24 oz. roll. Louth: 8d per lb. Market Weighton: 9d per lb. Masham: 1s to 1s 3d per 24 oz. roll. Northallerton: 1s 2d to 1s 4d per lb. Stockton: 10d to 1s per lb. Worksop: 1s 1d to 1s 3d per lb. Hereford: 1s to 1s 2d per lb. Uttoxeter: 10d to 1s 1d per lb.

Thursday.—9d to 10d per lb. Driffield: 9d per lb. Penistone: 1s 2d per lb. Ripon: 1s 2d to 1s 4d per roll of 24 oz. Scarborough: 11d to 1s per lb. Witheiby: 9d to 1s per lb.

Friday.—Easingwold: 9d to 10d per lb. Helmsley: 8d to 9d per lb. Leyburn: 1s to 1s 3d per 24oz. roll. Lincoln: 10d to 1s per lb. Otley: 1s 1d to 1s 3d per 24oz. roll.

Saturday.—Appleby: 8½d to 10d per lb. Berwick: 6d to 1s per lb. Doncaster: 11d per lb. Grantham: 8d to 1s per lb. Howden: 10d per lb. Lancaster: 11½d to 1s per lb. Malton: 9d to 10d per lb. Pontefract: 11d per lb. Retford: 11d per lb. Richmond: 11d to 1s per lb. Skipton: 11½d to 1s per lb. Stokesley: 10d to 11d per lb. Whitby: 8d to 9d per lb. York: 1s to 1s 2d per lb.

EGGS.

Wednesday.—Dorchester: 8½d to 9½d per doz. Barnsley: 12 or 13 for 1s. Boston: 16 for 1s. Colne: 1s 4d per score. Goole: 14 and 15 for 1s. Keighley: 13 and 14 for 1s. Kirbymoorside: 16 or 17 for 1s. Knaresborough: 13 or 14 for 1s. Louth: 18 for 1s. Market Weighton: 17 for 1s. Masham: 15 and 16 for 1s. Northallerton: 14 or 15 for 1s. Stockton: 12 or 14 for 1s. Worksop: 1s 4d to 1s 6d per score. Hereford: 14 to 16 for 1s. Uttoxeter: 1s 3d to 1s 5d per score.

Thursday.—Brigg: 15 or 16 for 1s. Driffield: 17 or 18 for 1s. Penistone: 14 for 1s. Ripon: 14 or 16 for 1s. Scarborough: 14 for 1s. Wetheiby: 13 or 14 for 1s.

Friday.—Easingwold: 15 or 16 for 1s. Helmsley: 16 for 1s. Leyburn: 15 or 16 for 1s. Lincoln: 14 to 15 for 1s. Otley: 14 to 15 for 1s.

Saturday.—Appleby: 14 to 15 for 1s. Berwick: 8d to 9d per doz. Doncaster: 14 for 1s. Grantham: 13 to 15 for 1s. Howden: 17 or 18 for 1s. Lancaster: 10 to 13 for 1s. Malton: 16 or 17 for 1s. Pontefract: 14 to 15 for 1s. Retford: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per score. Richmond: 14 or 15 for 1s. Skipton: 13 and 14 for 1s. Stokesley: 13 or 14 for 1s. Whitby: 14 for 1s. York: 14 for 1s.

CHEESE.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—The arrivals of home cheese were liberal, and stocks are now beginning to accumulate, and the quality is improving. There was a fair inquiry for Cheddars and Dunlops, values varying from 52s to 54s per cwt. Old Canadians are now exhausted. New States and Canadians are arriving in small quantities. The inquiry is limited, and the trade is disposed to hold off, as they expect values to go cheaper.

Newport, Wednesday.—A good pitch, which was all sold to a good attendance of buyers. Caerphillies, 36s to 42s; fancy dairies, 44s to 46s; Derbies, 60s to 61s.; doubles, 56s to 57s; Cheddars, 60s to 65s.

THIS DAY'S MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY

[FIRST REPORT.]

There has been an excellent demand for heavy and seasoned oats fit for thoroughbreds and good hunters. Up to 28s. has been made for selected English, 30s. for Scotch, and 32s. for New Zealand. With this exception the whole of to-day's market was reactionary. English wheat did not fall, but millers will no longer pay the prices demanded. Foreign wheat was quite 6d. cheaper, both yellow and round maize were again 3d. down, and feeding barley seemed quite out of request. Beans and peas were a featureless trade. Haricots were quiet at 44s. to 48s. for hand-picked Danubian. Dari, being scarce, kept up in price, and, with buckwheat, sems to gain in favour with poultry-keepers. Argentine Sorghum was rather cheaper on the week, and oilseeds were also in buyers' favour.

QUOTATIONS OFF STANDS

June 9, 1902.

BRITISH GRAIN.

		s.	s.
WHEAT, White	(per 504 lb.)	33	— 35
Red	,,	32	— 34
Chicken or Feed	(per 480 lb.)	31	— 32
BARLEY, Malting	(per 448 lb.)	nominal.	
Brewing	,,	,,	
Feeding	(per 416 lb.)	,,	
MALT, English	(per 336 lb.)	36	— 42
Scotch	,,	38	— 40
Black	,,	31	— 33
Brown	,,	30	— 33
Crystallized	,,	34	— 36
OATS, English, Black Winter	,,	25	— 26
,, Black Tartary	,,	24	— 25
,, Grey Winter	,,	25	— 26
,, White Tartary	,,	24	— 25
Scotch Fine Potato	,,	27	— 28
,, Good Ordinary	,,	25	— 27
Irish	(per 304 lb.)	20	— 21
RYE, British	(per 480 lb.)	26	— 27
BEANS, Pigeon	,,	39	— 41
Winter	,,	33	— 37
Mazagan	,,	32	— 34
PEAS, Best Marrowfat	(per 504 lb.)	66	— 76
Blue (boiling)	,,	52	— 72
Dun	,,	33	— 35
Maple	,,	34	— 40
TARES, Scotch Gores	,,	78	— 80
Winter Old	,,	74	— 76
,, Ordinary	,,	70	— 74
Spring ,,	,,	56	— 64
BUCKWHEAT, English	(per 416 lb.)	26	— 28

FOREIGN GRAIN.

(Ex-Granary.)

	s.	s.
WHEAT, per 496 lb.		
Old Duluth	33	— 34
Manitoba No. 1	33	— 34
American Spring	31	—31/6
Red Winter	31	—31/6
Californian	32	— 33
Walla Walla	31	— 32
Australian	31	— 33
New Zealand	32	— 33
Argentine	30	— 32
Danzig	32	— 34
Saxonka	31	— 32
Azima	31	— 32
Ghirka	30	— 31
Bombay	32	— 33
Calcutta	31	— 32
Kurrachee	30	— 31
RYE, per 480 lb.		
Russian	26	— 27
MAIZE, per 480 lb.:		
Cinquantina	25	— 26
Hungarian	24	— 25
Russian	22	— 23
Roumanian	22	— 23
Turkish	23	— 24
American	28	— 29
Argentine	22	— 23
OATS:		
N' Zeal'd (Best)	29	— 31
N. Zeal'd (Bluff)	28	— 29
Canadian (320 lb.)	21	— 22
American (320 lb.)	21	— 22
Prussian (320 lb.)	22	— 23
N. Russ'n (304 lb.)	19/6	— 20
South ,, (304 lb.)	19	— 20
BEANS, per 480 lb.:		
Egyptian	33	— 34
Smyrna	32	— 33
Konisberg	35	— 36

	s.	s.
LOCUST BEANS, per ton:		
Italian	100	— 102
Cyprian	108	— 110
Portuguese	95	— 100
PEAS, per 504 lb.:		
Canadian, White	36	— 37
Australian, White	41	— 42
New Zeal'd Maple	39	— 41
Indian White	35	— 36
,, Green	30	— 31
MILLET, per 416 lb.:		
White	34	— 46
Red	26	— 28
Yellow	20	— 21
Sorghum	19	— 20
DARI, per 480 lb.:		
Smyrna	27	— 29
BUCKWHEAT, per 416 lb		
French	26	— 27
Russian	27	— 28
TARES, per 504 lb.:		
Konigsberg	46	— 48
BARLEY:		
Saale (448lb.)	none.	
Chilian (448lb.)		
Chevalier	33	— 40
Brewing	none.	
Californian (448 lb.)		
Chevalier	33	— 35
Brewing	27	— 28
Danish (448 lb.)	none	
Danubian (400lb.)	21	— 22
Ouchak (400 lb.)	22	— 24
Yerli (400 lb.)	21	— 23
Russian (400 lb.)	19/6	— 24
MALT, per 336 lb:		
Californian	36	— 37
Smyrna	36	— 37

OIL SEEDS.

LINSEED. per 416 lb.	s.	s.
English	60	to 63
Dutch	57	to 61
Bombay	55	to 57
Calcutta	52	to 55
Russian	53	to 57
Argentine	52	to 55
SESAME. per 424 lb.		
Indian	53	to 55
COTTON SEED. per ton.		
Egyptian	153	to 160

RAPESEED. per 416 lb	s.	s.
English	57	to 59
Madras	39	to 40
Guzerat	42	to 44
Ferozepore	37	to 38
Jamba	32	to 34
Ravison	30	to 31
POPPYSEED. per 377 lb.		
Indian	47	to 49
SUNFLOWERSEED. per 448 lb		
Russian	50	to 54

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

THE MARKET WAS DULL AND DEPRESSED AT THE CLOSE, DESPITE THE WEATHER BEING ADVERSE TO THE GROWING CROPS.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, MONDAY.

The market for London Flour to-day was very dull, town whites falling 6d. and household sorts being hard to place at 23s. per sack. For country flour, all-English straight, 23s. was asked, but 22s. 9d. was about the best made. For French flour there was only a poor inquiry; 23s. commanded the best in the market. For American flour prices were in buyers' favour. Some choice Minneapolis patents were offered at 24s., while 21s. 6d. commanded some very satisfactory Milwaukee. Fancy bakers' grades of Minneapolis were had for a guinea. Milling offals were a most unsatisfactory market, so much so that we deem it better to quote prices 5s. per ton lower on the week, a basis on which business can be done, than to write the fall at only 2s. 6d., and have to state that stuff was not saleable even then. The following list of prices therefore gives the chief milling offals as reduced by 5s. selling value from our last quotations:—

LONDON FLOUR.

		s. d.
Top Price	(per sack)	nominal.
Town Whites	,,	26
,, Households	,,	23
No. 2	,,	21

COUNTRY FLOUR.

Best Patents	(per sack)	24 — 25
Fine Roller made	,,	23 — 24
Ordinary Roller made	,,	22 — 23
Best Stone made	,,	21 — 22

FOREIGN FLOUR.

Minnesota First Patents	(per sack)	[25—25 6
,, Second Patents	,,	[23—23/6
,, First Bakers'	,,	[21—21 6
,, Second Bakers'	,,	[19—19 6
Milwaukee Patents	,,	[23—23 6
,, Bakers	,,	[18—18 6
Kansas Patents	,,	24—24 6
,, Bakers'	,,	19—19 6
Cascadia	,,	22 — 23
Canadian	,,	23 — 24
Australian Patents	,,	21 — 22
,, Straight	,,	20 — 21
Hungarian	,,	32 — 34
French	,,	22 — 23

MEAL, &c.

Whole Meal	(per ton	175—179
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	111—113
Bran, London Broad	,,	104—106
,, ,, Fine	,,	86— 90
,, Country Flake	,,	116—122
,, ,, Broad	,,	98—102
Pollard	,,	88— 90
Biscuit Middlings	,,	120—123
Fine Middlings	,,	114—116
Coarse Middlings	,,	102—104
Feeding Flour (Red Dog)	,,	111—113
Barley Meal	,,	124—128
Rye Flour	,,	171—181
Canadian Oatmeal	,,	205—215
Scotch Oatmeal	,,	260—300
Oat Flour	,,	340—360
Maize Flour	,,	161—166
Maize Meal	,,	113—115
Maize Cones	,,	172—174
Maize Germ Meal	,,	108—113
Pea Meal	,,	135—155
Bean Meal	,,	150—170
Rice Meal	,,	92— 94

LONDON TERM MARKET.

This market is held twice a day, except on Saturday, when there is no afternoon call. The market is open to elected members only. No business except for future delivery is done, and the smallest quantity that can be purchased is 1,000 quarters, or 4,800 centals. The name of the month stands for guaranteed delivery (if required) on or before the last day of that month, and the following have been the prices per cental recently made:—

Wheat.—Calls.	A. June. s. d.	A. Aug't. s. d.	B. Oct. s. d.
June 2 11 a.m.	5 11 ... 6 0	... 6 3	
4 p.m.	5 11 ... 6 0	... 6 3	
June 3 11 a.m.	5 11 ... 6 0	... 6 3	
4 p.m.	5 11 ... 6 0	.. 6 3	
June 4 11 a.m.	5 11 ... 6 0	... 6 3	
4 p.m.	nominal		
June 5 11 a.m.	5 11 ... 6 0	... 6 2	
4 p.m.	5 11 ... 6 0	... 6 2	
June 6 11 a.m.	5 11 ... 6 0	... 6 2	
4 p.m.	5 11 ... 5 11	... 6 2	
June 7 noon	5 10 ... 5 11	... 6 2	
To-day, noon	5 10 ... 5 11	... 6 3	

Maize for future delivery is obtainable at 4s. 5d. per cental duty unpaid, or 4s. 8d. per cental duty already discovered.

By the letter A is signified duty to be paid by *buyer*, by B duty to be paid by *seller*. On the Finance Bill being passed, the members of the Term Market unanimously agreed to adopt the new duty as a sellers' obligation from the new cereal year (September 1). Up to that date it will fall on the buyer. In default of agreement, however, the Acts of 1876 and 1901 throw the burden on the buyer, a fact which those who operate on these prices without being members of the Term Market would do well to note.

The Term Market standard wheat is No. 1 Northern Spring American sold on the Duluth certificate. Other sorts of wheat can be bought at the above prices plus or minus agreed difference between the other sort and the standard quality. Quotations are by the "true hundredweight" or cental of 100lb. Maize, when quoted, is fair average quality from the United States.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORT.

Flour.—There is no material change to report in prices; there is, however, not much inquiry, and the market continues languid.—GREENHILL, BROTHERS (Belfast).

Offals.—There is a perceptible falling off in the demand for bran, and for most qualities prices have further declined 2s. 6d. to 5s. per ton.—GREENHILL, BROTHERS (Belfast).

Flour.—Owing to improved crop prospects, the American markets have been weak, and flour prices here have been reduced 6d. per sack without much business resulting. Grain.—Maize steady. Pease and beans dull. Oats very firm. Oatmeal is in good demand. Barley unchanged. Mill stuffs.—Grass being now plentiful, bran is difficult to sell, and 5s. per ton lower. Thirds, however, especially fine, remain pretty firm.—MCKINNON AND MCDONALD (Glasgow).

Flour.—Trade to-day has been firm at late rates, with rather more inquiry both on spot and forward.—T. S. MEDILL AND SONS.

The arrivals of wheat and flour the past week have been larger. At to-days market the trade was firmer, prices being 3d. to 6d. per sack lower for wheat, and 3d. to 6d. per sack for flour. Prices of maize, barley, and oats are unchanged.

Milling Offals.—A steady trade passing for middlings at last Monday's prices. Bran and

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Monday.—Linseed cake: Trade very dull and prices rather weaker. Decorticated cake and meal unchange. Undecorticated as before. Linseed rather lower on week.

English Linseed Cake	ex mill	7 15 0 to 7 17 6
American Calcutta Linseed Cake	ex quay	7 12 6
American Western ,,	ex quay	6 15 0 to 7 2 6
,, ,, ,,	ex quay	
Decorticated Cotton Cake	ex quay	6 5 0 to 6 12 6
,, ,, Meal	ex quay	6 10 0 6 12 6
London-made ,, Cake (best)	ex mill	4 15 0
Egyptian ,, ,, ,, (in bags)	ex quay	4 5 0 to 4 8 9
Burton Desiccated Ale Grains (bags included)	on rail, Burton	4 12 6
Dutch Linseed (in bags), per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse	3 2 0
Calcutta Linseed in bags, per 410 lbs.	ex warehouse	2 15 0
La Plata do. per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse	2 11 0 to 2 12 0
Clean Russian Linseed in bulk, per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse	2 19 0

ROBERT AND JOHN HEWTSON.

SEEDS.

London, Monday.—The business now doing in our market is quite insignificant. The consumptive demand is over, and so far there is nothing to tempt speculative purchasers. There is a retail demand for rape and mustard seeds for present sowing. Canaryseed is dull. —JOHN PICARD.

HOPS.

London, Monday.—W. H. and H. Le May report:—The trade continues for all classes of good hops, prices for which are very firm. Reports from the plantations speak of vermin and mould having appeared.

Irish Live Weight Quotations.

(Department of Agriculture and General Instruction for Ireland.)

The following returns are those of actual sales made in Robson's Cattle Mart, Belfast, the stock being weighed either before or after sale, for the week ending June 5th. 1902.

No. of Beasts.	Description and Quality.	Average price per head. £ s. d.	Average Live weight. c. qr. lb	Average price per cwt. £ s. d.
4	Bullocks (prime) ...	21 0 0	10 1 17	2 0 4
2	,, ,, ...	23 12 6	11 3 0	2 0 3
1	,, ,, ...	19 10 0	9 3 0	2 0 0
2	,, ,, ...	24 10 0	12 1 7	1 19 10
2	,, ,, ...	16 2 6	8 1 0	1 19 1
2	,, (very good) ...	20 0 0	10 1 17	1 18 5
2	,, ,, ...	17 10 0	9 1 0	1 17 10
1	,, ,, ...	19 5 0	10 1 0	1 17 7
3	,, ,, ...	14 15 0	8 0 9	1 16 6
2	,, (good) ...	14 2 6	7 3 21	1 15 7
1	,, ,, ...	17 15 0	10 0 0	1 15 6
1	,, (fair) ...	13 10 0	8 0 0	1 13 9
1	,, ,, ...	11 15 0	7 0 14	1 13 0
2	,, ,, ...	12 10 0	7 2 21	1 12 6
2	Heifers (prime) ...	16 12 6	8 1 0	2 0 4
2	,, ,, ...	17 5 0	8 2 7	2 0 3
2	,, ,, ...	16 17 6	8 3 10	1 18 2
2	,, ,, ...	18 12 6	9 3 7	1 18 0
2	,, ,, ...	17 2 6	9 0 7	1 17 10
2	,, ,, ...	19 0 0	10 1 21	1 16 5
1	,, (very good) ...	15 15 0	9 1 0	1 14 1
1	Cow (prime) ...	19 0 0	10 3 0	1 15 4
1	,, (very good) ...	20 5 0	12 1 14	1 12 9
1	,, ,, ...	15 0 0	9 1 0	1 12 9
1	,, (good) ...	16 0 0	10 1 21	1 10 5
1	,, ,, ...	19 0 0	12 2 14	1 19 8
1	,, ,, ...	16 15 0	11 1 0	1 9 1
1	,, ,, ...	17 15 0	12 1 0	1 9

* Indicates that the lot so marked was sold by live weigh at the price quoted.

CATTLE.

Mtropolitan Market, Islington.

Monday, June 9th, 1902.

	British.	Total.	June 10, 1901.
Beasts	1,280	1,280	1,100
Sheep and lambs	7,710	7,710	9,850
Calves	10	10	—
Pigs	—	—	50
Milch Cows	40	40	55

Quotations per 8lb (sinking the offal).

	Inferior.	Second.	First.
Beasts	3s 6d	4s 8d	5s 6d
Sheep	4s 0d	5s 6d	6s 4d
Lambs	5s 6d	6s 0d	6s 8d

Milch cows, per head, £16 to £22.

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, 11; Eastern Counties, 588; Midland, Home and Western Counties, 423; Devon, 20; Ireland, 238.

To-day's supply, compared with Monday last, showed an increase of 190 head, owing to larger arrivals from Ireland, as also of fat butchering cows; these latter met with a dull trade at less money. Fat beasts of both prime and second quality met a slower sale, higher rates being demanded, but only in exceptional cases obtained. Fat bulls sold readily at an advance of 2d per 8lb. The Irish arrivals included 168 stores, which met a dull trade at following prices per head: Yearlings, £6 5s; 2½ years old, £11 10s to £12; and 3 years old, £13 to £15.

The following are top quotations per 8lb (sinking the offal):—

	To-day.	June 10, 1901.
Scotch	5s 4d to 5s 6d ..	4s 4d to 4s 6d
Devons	5s 3d to 5s 4d ..	4s 3d to 4s 4d
Norfolks	5s 2d to 5s 4d ..	4s 4d to 4s 5d
Lincolns	4s 10d to 5s 0d ..	3s 10d to 4s 0d
Irish	5s 0d to 5s 4d ..	
Fat cows	4s 4d to 4s 6d ..	3s 8d to 3s 10d

The supply in the sheep market showed a decrease of 1,880. Trade for wethers was void of life owing to a rise of 2d per 8lb in value. Ewes sold readily at a still further advance, the supply being so short. For lambs there was less demand. Rates in consequence ruled in favour of the buyer. The total supply included 2,930 from the Eastern counties, 40 from Yorkshire, and 330 Scotch.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8lb (sinking the offal), and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day.	June 10, 1901.
7½ to 8-st. South Downs	6s 2d to 6s 4d ..	5s 3d to 5s 4d
9-st. Downs	5s 8d to 5s 10d ..	5s 0d to 5s 2d
10-st. half-breds	5s 7d to 5s 10d ..	4s 8d to 4s 10d
10-st. Yorkshires	5s 2d to 5s 4d ..	4s 6d to 4s 8d
12-st. Lincolns	5s 4d to 5s 6d ..	4s 6d to 4s 8d
10-st. Down ewes	4s 6d to 4s 8d ..	4s 0d to 4s 2d
11-st. half-bred do.	4s 2d to 4s 4d ..	3s 10d to 4s 0d
5-st. Down lambs	6s 6d to 6s 8d ..	6s 8d to 6s 10d
6-st. half-bred do.	5s 10d to 6s 0d ..	6s 2d to 6s 4d

Calves not worth quoting. No pigs.

London (Central), Monday.—Moderate supplies; fair trade. Beef carcasses, 4s 8d to 4s 10d; hind-quarters, 5s to 5s 4d; roastings, 5s 6d to 6s 2d. Sheep, ewe, 3s 6d to 3s 10d; wether, 4s 8d to 5s; hind-quarters, ewe, 4s 8d to 5s; wether, 5s 8d to 6s. Pigs, large, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; small, 4s to 4s 4d.

St. Ives, Monday.—Beasts, 652; sheep and lambs, 825; pigs, 544. Beef, 9s to 9s 8d; mutton, 8s 9d to 9s 11d; lamb 10s; pork, 6s 3d to 7s 3d; sows, 5s 9d to 6s 9d. Fat beasts very sharp trade, dearer. Stores good demand. Fat and store sheep and pigs good demand. Milch cows better trade; £14 to £23.

FOREIGN CATTLE.

Deptford Monday.—Beasts, 1,303. To-day's supply, compared with Monday last, showed a decrease of 333 head, and consisted of 460 from the United States and 843 from Canada, trade for which was of a brisk nature, even at an advance of from 2d to 4d per 8lbs, an early clearance being made at following quotations per 8lbs, offal given in:—85 to 90 stone States, 5s 4d; 90 stone Canadians, 5s to 5s 2d. No sheep on the market, and none due for several days. On Saturday the beast supply consisted of 1,281 from the United States, quoted from 4s 10d to 4s 11d, and occasionally 5s, and 75 Canadians at from 4s 7d to 4s 8d, with a sharp demand, and consequently a firm trade.

Liverpool, Monday.—Demand good for cattle, and prices about the same as last week. Trade good for sheep, and prices general for all classes. Lambs also a fair trade, but prices were no higher. Beef, 8d to 6d per lb; mutton, 9d to 6½d per lb; lambs, 9½d to 8½d per lb. At market—733 cattle and 10,934 sheep.

THE BALTIC, 1 p.m.

STATE OF TRADE.

Wheat cargoes are 3d. lower for prompt shipment. Maize is 3d. lower for Argentine. Oats are 3d. lower for all light sorts. Cargoes of barley for October shipment are offered by Russian and Roumanian houses at very low and tempting prices.

BUSINESS DONE.

WHEAT.—Walla Walla, 29s, on passage; Californian, 29s 6d, prompt shipment No. 1 Northern, 26s 6d, prompt shipment; Argentine, 28s 6d, prompt shipment; Bombay, 30s 3d, prompt shipment; white Kurrachee, 28s 9d, prompt shipment; red ditto, 28s 3d, July shipment; Russian winter, 28s 6d, July shipment.

BARLEY.—Russian new crop, 17s, October shipment; Roumanian ditto, 17s, October shipment.

OATS.—Viatka, 17s 9d, July shipment; Roumanian new crop, 14s 9d, November shipment.

MAIZE.—Turkish, 21s 3d, on passage; Odessa, 21s 3d, prompt shipment Roumanian, 21s, prompt shipment; Argentine, 20s 3d, prompt shipment.

LINSEED.—Calcutta, 53s 6d, prompt shipment.

RAPE SEED.—Yellow Calcutta, 40s 6d, prompt shipment brown ditto, 37s 6d, prompt shipment.

COTTON SEED.—Egyptian, £7 17s 6d, arrived; ditto, £7 13s 9d, on passage; ditto, £7 11s 3d, July shipment; ditto, £6 11s 3d, November shipment.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—Bacon: The arrivals from Ireland last week were 1,788, and from foreign ports 11,879 bales of bacon. With continued heavy supplies of Danish bacon and a disappointing demand, prices were generally some 1s to 2s easier, and in favour of buyers last week. Irish ranged from 56s to 61s up to 68s; Danish ranged from 50s to 60s up to 65s; Canadian from 54s to 55s up to 58s. Butter: The butter market was quiet. Danish, 104s to 106s; Irish, 90s to 100s; French, 86s to 98s; Russian, 86s to 92s. Lard: The lard market was steady, with no change in prices.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW.

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS.")

Trade in London.

At the Islington market there was a slight increase in the supply of fat beasts the majority of which consisted of consignments from Norfolk, Irish arrivals totalling 162, but 107 of these were stores. For both prime and second-quality beasts trade was of a rather slower nature, with a slight downward tendency in value, which, however, was not sufficiently marked to warrant lower rates being quoted. A practical clearance was made. Fat butchering cows and bulls on Monday met a firm trade at an advance of 2d. per 8lb., but on Thursday were most difficult to cash, so much so that only about half the arrivals were shown. At the foreign cattle Market, Deptford, sales were held on Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday. On all days there was a good demand, higher rates by from 1d. to 2d. per 8lb. being both asked and obtained. The total number of beasts offered for sale was 5,077, as against 4,385 during the previous week. The supply consisted of 1,155 British—increase 120—and 3,922 imported—increase 572. These latter comprised 3,178 from the United States, and 744 from Canada. The following were the top rates obtained per 8lb. (sinking the offal): 90-stone polled Aberdeens, 5s. 4d., occasionally 5s. 6d.; 90-stone polled Norfolks, 5s. 4d.; 80-stone Devons, 5s. 2d. to 5s. 4d.; 90-stone Runts, 5s. 2d. to 5s. 4d.; 100-stone Lincolns, 5s. 2d. to 5s. 3d.; 90-stone Irish, 5s. 3d.; 85-stone States, 4s. 11d. to 5s.; 90-stone Canadians, 4s. 10d.; 100-stone fat cows, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; 100-stone fat bulls, 4s. 2d. The sheep trade was entirely confined to the Islington market, and, so far as wethers are concerned, was firm and steady, last week's advanced rates being well maintained. On the other hand, ewes were bought on easier terms. Choice quality lambs were in good request, but on Monday were a shade lower in price; but on Thursday, owing to a light supply, were dearer. The total number penned was 11,440, all being British. Best pens made, per 8lb., as follows (sinking the offal): 7½ to 8-stone Southdowns, 6s. 2d.; 9-stone Downs, 5s. 10d.; 10-stone ditto, 5s. 8d.; 10-stone half-breds, 5s. 6d.; 10-stone Yorkshires, 5s. 2d.; 12-stone Lincolns, 5s. 2d.; 10-stone Down ewes, 6s. 2d.; 11-stone half-bred ditto, 3s. 10d.; 4½ to 5-stone Devon lambs, 6s. 6d. to 6s. 10d. Calves numbered 125, and met a slow trade, especially for second quality. The best ewes were quoted at 5s. 8d. per 8lb. Only 20 pigs on the market.

Trade in the West.

Despite the unfavourable climatic conditions prevailing, the stock markets keep even more buoyant than might be expected. Up to the present grazing bullocks continue to find a good steady sale at satisfactory rates, ranging from £20 to £30 per pair for ordinary runs of fresh condition beasts, and from £30 to £36 for animals very fresh and that require but little in the way of "finishing." Low-condition bullocks, though saleable, are not so much in favour relatively as those of a better stamp, though with the advent of bright, growing weather we shall expect to see the prices of these advanced materially with the increase of keep which is bound to result from improved weather. The inquiry for milch beasts also continues very active, especially for reliable milchers suitable for town dairies, of which there is none too many about, and when these come into the market they are readily caught up at prices ranging from £18 up to £21 or £22 apiece. A more general run for heifers and cows with calves of an ordinary stamp is from £15 to £17 or £18, whilst aged cows sell at widely-varying prices, ranging from £14 down to as low at £11 or £12 apiece. But then these are animals almost played out, and likely to produce but little profit in the future. Taken all round, there is not much to complain of, however, in the price now being made either for barreners or for milk purposes, and vendors are, as a rule, satisfied with what they get, though in some cases they want, like many other people now-a-days, "a little bit more." Young stock, too, continue to meet a fair demand at fair prices. Store sheep fluctuate but little in price, a good many waiting with some anxiety to see "how things are going to turn out"—how the season shapes, and what is to be the ultimate result of the corn crop. Fat bullocks make a very satisfactory price, the best steers and heifers—of which there is by no means a big supply offering—realising 11s. 6d. to 12s. per score, with a fair demand, and fat cows of a decent stamp make 10s. 6d. and over in some cases, and rough contract bullocks 9s. 6d. to 10s., and nearly everything brought out finds buyers. Mutton keeps a sluggish business, though prices are considered generally as a shade higher. Good wethers again touch 8d., and best ewes 7d. to 7½d., but inferior runs can still be had at 5½d. to 6d. Lamb is moving off a little better, though the absence of bright, sunshiny weather is not without its effect on the demand, and the price, too, 10d. to 10½d., being now about the best price as a general run, though 11d. is made for animals of exceptional quality and weight for high-class trade, which it is not in the power of every purveyor to give. Some poor, out-of-condition lambs make less—3½d. to 9½d. Calves keep exceptionally firm, and prices very dear, the best making 8½d. to 9d., and the more ordinary runs 7d. to 8d.; but the veal trade is one of the best things on the market now, even surpassing porkers, some of which at markets within the last week have made 11s. per score and over, a more general run for nice quality porkers and medium size baconers being 10s. to 10s. 6d. Whatever the outlook may be, very few markets are held at which a clearance is not reported.

Trade in Scotland.

The number of fat cattle on offer this week has been considerably larger, and the quality quite up to an average, with a very large attendance of town and country buyers, trade has been still very sharp, and prices quite up to the extreme rates of last week, any change being in favour of the seller, more particularly for the best class of bullocks. Fat cows and bulls have also been exceedingly dear. The show of fat sheep and lambs was rather smaller. There was a good demand, an easy clearance being effected at an advance of 2s. a head over those of last week. Lambs have also got well sold if of good quality. A small show of calves met a rather dearer trade, and pigs, which were forward in good numbers, sold well. In the store market there have been smaller supplies of store sheep, which have met a fair trade, with rather more inquiry for the best description. Store cattle have been offered in considerably larger numbers, with an improvement in the weather, there has been a better demand than has been experienced for some weeks, especially for the better class of bullocks, which have got nearly all cleared out at rather better prices, only a few stirks being left unsold. A smaller show of milch cows met a fair trade. Quotations: Extreme top price of cattle per live cwt., 45s. to 48s.; current, 42s. to 45s.; mutton, to 9½d. per lb.—JOHN SWAN AND SONS, LTD.

Trade in Ireland.

There was a good attendance of buyers, both local and shippers, at Thursday's Dublin market, and though there was an increase of over 200 head of cattle, the business was the best that has been for weeks; in fact, some of the salesmasters expressed that trade has not been so good since the "seventies." This may be going a bit too far, but there is no doubt but that things have taken a very satisfactory change, however long it may last. It was not alone the prime cattle that sold well, but the secondary and rough grades were also in much better demand, and practically nothing in the line of beef was left over, the thinner cattle being bought to finish off, as the late rains have greatly improved the pastures. Some London buyers were present—a very unusual thing—and they purchased very freely. Prime ox and heifer beef made from 68s. to 70s., and a few extra choice lots went up to 73s. per cwt.; good second class, 60s to 66s.; and other classes from 52s. 6d. upwards. Though there was a shrinkage of nearly 1,500 sheep and lambs, as compared with previous week, there was no improvement to be noted in prices, as the supply was in excess of requirements. The buying for aged wethers was slow, but there was no alteration in price. The trade in hoggets for exportation was sluggish. Prime wether mutton sold at from 7½ to 7⅞d. per lb., ewes 6½d to 7d., inferior sheep from 5½d per lb. Lambs, where not of good size and quality, are rather a drug, but for the right sort from 35s. to 40s. per head was given, but small to medium might be bought from 15s. upwards. Prime veal continues very scarce, and the few really well-fed calves on market sold freely at from 8d. to 9d. per lb., but rough sorts hard to move at from 4½d up to 6½d per lb. There were 1,335 cattle and 8,931 sheep and lambs offered for sale. A fair supply of milch cows, but these were chiefly of second quality. For prime springers and new milchers from £17 to £20 was given, but others might be were of the rubbishy order, which were hard to clear. Late rates were difficult to maintain, best light weight selling at from 48s. to 50s. per cwt., coarse from 34s. to 42s. per cwt.

LONDON.

London (Central), Wednesday.—Supplies fair; quiet demand, prices ruling steady. Arrivals of beef included 350 Liverpool sides, 1,500 hindquarters, and 550 forequarters American refrigerated. Beef: Scotch short sides, 5s, long 4s 8d; English, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; American (Deptford killed), 4s 4d to 4s 6d; Liverpool, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; American refrigerated hindquarters, 3s 10d to 4s 2d; forequarters, 2s 7d to 2s 9d. Mutton: Scotch, 5s to 5s 4d; English wethers, 4s 6d to 5s; ewes, 3s 8d to 4s 8d; English lamb, 5s to 5s 4d. Pork: English, 4s to 4s 4d; and Dutch, 3s 10d to 4s 2d per 8lb.

London (Central), Friday.—Good supplies were on offer, and met a sustained demand at fair prices. A fair quantity of English, small of Deptford killed American, 100 tons Scotch, 270 Liverpool sides, 4,500 hindquarters, and 2,400 forequarters American killed constituted the arrivals. Beef, Scotch short sides, 5s 4d to 5s 8d; long, 4s 10d to 5s 2d; English, 4s 6d to 4s 8d; American, Deptford killed, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; Liverpool, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; American refrigerated hindquarters, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; forequarters, 3s to 3s 2d. Mutton: Scotch, 5s 2d to 5s 6d; English wethers, 4s 10d to 5s 2d; ewes, 3s 8d to 4s; Canterbury, 2s 11d to 3s 1d; Wellington, 2s 8d to 2s 11d; Sydney and River Plate, 2s 5d to 2s 7d. English lamb, 5s 8d. Veal: English and Dutch, 4s to 4s 8d. Pork: English, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; and Dutch, 4s to 4s 4d per 8lb.

Islington, Thursday.—Only a small supply offered, mainly consisting of fat bulls and rough cattle. The demand was of a steady character, prices being firm. Fat bulls, 3s 10d to 4s. Sheep, in moderate supply, met with fair request for both wethers and ewes, the former being steady, and the latter 2d per stone dearer. 7½ to 8-stone Down wethers, 5s 10d to 6s; extreme, 6s 2d; 9-stone ditto, 5s 8d to 5s 10d; 10-stone half-breds, 6s 4d to 5s 6d; 10-stone Down ewes (unclipped), 4s 8d; 11-stone half-breds ditto, 4s 2d to 4s 4d. Lamb trade firm: 4½ to 5-stone Downs, 6s 6d to 6s 8d; 6-stone half-bred ditto, 5s 10d to 6s. Calves dearer, the best on offer making 5s 4d to 5s 6d per 8lb, to sink the offal. No pigs were offered. Total supplies:—65 beasts, 1,850 sheep, 5 cows, and 115 calves.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Beef trade fairly good, best bullocks making 12s to 13s per score; medium, 11s to 12s. Mutton a slow trade at late rates. Veal and lamb slow. The pork trade was disorganised by the warmth of the weather.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Beef trade fairly good, best bullocks making 12s to 13s per score; medium, 11s to 12s. Mutton, a slow trade at late rates. Veal and lamb slow. The pork trade was disorganised by the warmth of the weather.

Basingstoke, Wednesday.—At Rainbird and Sons' sale yard there was a large attendance of buyers to meet a supply of 37 fat beasts, 91 calves, 520 fat sheep and lambs 443 pigs, and 104 head of dairy and store cattle, for which the following prices were realised:—Prime young Devon steers, up to £24 5s. Polled Angus cows made up to £21 5s. Shorthorn steers, £22; others up to £23. Prime shorthorn heifers reached up to £24 10s. Prime wethers and young ewes made from 45s. to 57s; old ewes, 32s to 38s; Exmoors, 34s 6d to 38s; three months' old sucking lambs, 30s to 36s; a few fancy lots, 40s; rams, 46s to 52s; fat calves, 75s to £5 10s; small, 20s to 55s; fat porkers, 48s to 63s; small, 30s to 45s; store pigs, 16s 6d to 32s 6d; dairy cows, £7 to £19 10s. A good demand for all descriptions of fat beasts. A clearance made and prices well kept up. The show of fat sheep, rather shorter in numbers, met a good demand, the best lots of young sheep and shorn lambs making an advance. Old ewes were lower. Milch cows shown in shorter numbers, and nearly all sold, with a good inquiry. Most inquiry for store cattle, and all cleared at satisfactory prices. Fat calves and sucklers meet a ready sale, and all sold at the late high prices. A good inquiry for all sorts of fat pigs, which were all sold at about last week's prices. A large number of store pigs on offer, for which the demand keeps up. Ruling prices:—Prime Devon fat beasts, 7¾d to 8¼d; ditto shorthorns, ditto, 7d to 7¼d; bulls, cows, and inferior, 6d to 6¾; best quality fat sheep, 8¼d to 8¾d; second ditto, 7d to 7¾d; old ewes, rams, and inferior, 6d to 6¼d; three months' old sucking lambs, 9d to 10d per lb; fat calves, 7d to 9¼d per lb.; fat porkers, up to 11s per score.

Boston, Wednesday.—Strong store beasts, £14 to £16; in-calf cows, £20 to £22; heifers, £17 to £19; calves, 55s to 60s; best beef, 7s 6d to 8s; cow beef, 7s to 7s 6d; ewes and lambs, 46s to 54s; best wethers, 7½d to 8d; ewes, 6½d to 7d; fat lambs, 28s to 34s.

Braintree, Wednesday.—A good supply, but trade not very brisk. Pigs found the best sale.

Bury St. Edmunds, Wednesday.—At Messrs. Simpson and Sons' Auction Mart there was a good show of fat beasts, all of very prime quality. Good trade for all descriptions, but hardly up to last week's extreme rates, all the ripest cattle meeting with the best inquiry, and prices reached up to £26. Smaller supply of store cattle, which met a good trade. Short supply of fat sheep, and trade was at about late rates; clipped sheep making up to 66s. Fat ewes were hardly so dear on the week. Small show of fat lambs, which sold at late rates. The store sheep pens were well filled, and there was rather better inquiry for all descriptions. Mr. Taylor's Suffolk ewe hoggets went up to 48s per head; half-bred hoggets up to 44s. Several lots of poor hoggets made from 33s to 41s per head. A few lots of lambs off their mothers met a rather better trade. A few lots of couples went up to 63s. Shorter supply of fat pigs, which fetched about late rates. A brisk trade prevailed for Mr. Manners' pedigree large and middle white Yorkshire boars, sows, and yelts. Young sows made up to £5 5s per head, as did also boars.

Cambridge, Monday.—Beasts, 457; sheep, 718; pigs, 483; horses, 33. Beef, 8s to 9s 3d; mutton, 4s 4d to 5s 8d; pork, 6s to 7s 3d. A few lots of store beasts, but trade slow. Fat beasts a good brisk trade all round. Fat sheep a fair number to hand, and trade quite up to last week. Stores a few lots shown, and trade brisk Fat pigs a good trade all round. Stores trade brisk at more money. Hay and straw short supplies.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Prices a trifle higher and a good demand prevails. The best working tegs are making 35s, and ewes and lambs from 34s to 37s. Rather more inquiry for young horned stock.

Carlisle, Saturday.—The supply of Irish store cattle was smaller than last week's, and consisted of about 300 head of heifers. Fair attendance and better trade owing to the improvement in the weather and the high price of beef. Small beasts from £7 10s to £10 10s; and better sorts from £12 10s to £16 10s.

Calne, Friday.—Present prices for prime pigs, in lots of not less than 10, on rail within 100 miles of Calne.

Prime Stores.	Thickness of fat in any part of the Back.	Price per Sc. s. d.
8 sc. 10 lbs. to 9 sc. 10 lbs.	2½ in. and under ...	10 0
Under 10 sc.	Not exceeding 2¼ in. ...	9 6
Under 11 sc. 10 lb.	... Not exceeding 2¾ in....	9 0
Under 12 sc.	Not exceeding 3 in. ...	

—C. & T. Harris & Co., Ltd.

Dorchester, Wednesday.—Good supplies came to hand in all departments of to-day's market, at which sales were held by Messrs. Duke and Son and Mr. Sampson, and, with a brisk inquiry for most things, prices were, except in a few instances, pretty well maintained, poultry, if anything, rather favouring buyers. Fat bullocks maintain their firmness, and all the best grades make a good price—11s to 12s 6d per score; seconds, 10s to 10s 6d. Mutton meets a fairly steady trade—wethers, 45s to 52s (or 8d per lb); ewes, 38s to 46s (or 7d to 7½d per lb); lambs, 30s to 38s (or 9d to 9½d). Calves continue in good demand at pretty nearly full prices—best, £4 to £6 7s 6d (or 8d to 8½d per lb and over); seconds, 60s to 78s (or 7d to 7½d). Pigs in good demand at 46s to 56s for

porkers, and 65s to 94s baconers (or 10s to 11s per score); stores, 25s to 44s each.

Dublin, Thursday. — Numbers in market: Beasts, 1,335; increase, 215; sheep, 8,981; decrease, 1,442; calves, 47; decrease, 8. Brisk demand for all finished cattle at prices in advance of last week's quotations. Secondary qualities easier to dispose of. Demand quieter for sheep and lambs, but no alteration in prices. Cattle, live weight (best), 39s to 41s per cwt. Secondary and inferior descriptions, 30s to 38s per cwt. Mutton, dead weight, 6½d to 8¼d per lb.—GANLY, SONS, AND Co.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons report an excellent supply of fat cattle, which met a sharp trade, both distant and local buyers being well represented, well-finished animals making 9s 3d per stone. Fat sheep were not quite so numerous, and sold freely, prices being firmer. Grazing sheep and couples, owing to the altered conditions of feed, were in much better demand at improved prices. Fat and store swine in good supply, all descriptions being slightly easier in price. Calves sold well. This being the fourth spring sale of grazing cattle, 228 steers and heifers were penned; buyers were well represented, and prices were fully £1 per head more than the early part of last month. Cows were short, and realised higher prices. Numbers at sales and market—Cattle, 916; sheep, 2,057; swine, 1,748.

Leicester, Wednesday.—The consignments of Lincolnshire and Norfolk fat bullocks were fully equal to the demand. Trade ruled rather sluggish on account of the extreme rates demanded. Choice bullocks, 7¾d to 8d; secondary, 7½d; cows, 6¾d to 7d; heifers, 7¾d to 8d per lb. Sheep, choice, 8d to 8¼d; large sheep, 7d to 7½d; ewes, 6½d to 6¾d; lambs firm, 9d to 10d; calves, 8d to 8¼d per lb.

Newport, Wednesday.—There was a short supply of cattle, but sheep and lambs were plentiful. Trade brisk all round. Best beef, 7½d to 7¾d; seconds, 7d to 7¼d; cows, 6½d to 6¾d; wether mutton, 8¼d; shorn wethers, 8d to 8¼d; lambs, 9d to 9½d; veal, 7d to 8d; porker pigs, 10s 6d to 10s 9d per score.

Norwich, Saturday.—There was a fair supply of store beasts, and as keep prospects have improved in Norfolk, while fat beasts have been selling well of late, an advance of 5s to 10s per head was established to-day for stores. Fat beasts, which were in short supply, ruled firm at 8s 6d to 9s and 9s 6d per 14lb. Store sheep were in about average supply; trade was quiet at late rates, keeping hoggets making 34s to 44s, and lambs 15s to 25s per head. Fat sheep moved off readily at 9s to 9s 6d and 10s per 14lb. It will be observed that both fat beasts and sheep are now making better prices than they have realised for a long time past.

Rye, Wednesday. — Number of entries:—Sheep and lambs 790, store beasts 19, pigs 29. Best beef, 5s 6d; maids and wethers, 5s 6d; large wethers, 4s 8d to 5s; barrens, 4s. Lambs, 6s to 6s 4d. Calves, 4s 8d to 5s. Pigs, 3s to 3s 6d.

Salford, Tuesday.—The supply of cattle was about the same as last Tuesday. A fair trade was experienced at late rates. There was very little difference in the number of sheep and lambs penned when compared with last week. Trade for both was better, especially for sheep, choice quality of which made more money, lambs changing hands at late rates. Calf trade quiet, but last week's prices maintained. Quotations:—Cattle, 6d to 8d; sheep, 6½d to 9d; lambs, 8½d to 10d; calves, 5d to 8d per lb. At market—Cattle, 1,293; sheep and lambs, 13,594; calves, 183; pigs, 68.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Only a small number of beasts changed hands, though quite an average quality was offered. Best qualities, £22 10s.; secondary, £15 to £19; young stirks, £6 to £8.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday.—Fat cattle, pork pigs, and sheep in good demand at high prices. Store pigs slightly easier, and store cattle a slower trade. Quotations—Lamb, 10d to 11d; beef, 7d to 8d; mutton, 7½d to 8¾d; and veal, 8d to 8¾d per lb. Porket pigs 10s to 11s, and bacons 8s 6d to 9s 6d per score. Cows, with calves, up to £20 15s. Hay up to £3 5s per ton. Number offered—574 lambs, 538 cattle, 95 cows with calves, 697 sheep, 205 calves, 29 fat, 106 porket, and 643 store pigs.

Spalding, Tuesday.—The meat trade was a little easier. Beef made 8s 6d per stone, against 9s the previous week. Stores were a trifle dearer. Mutton, 7d to 8d per lb.; brisk demand for lambs.

Stockton, Wednesday. — The scarcity of cattle throughout the country was reflected at this market, where the supply was very small, whilst prices showed a steady improved tendency. Numbers—100 cattle, 4 calves, 321 sheep, 88 lambs, and 184 pigs. A firm demand for best cattle, which made up to 9s and 9s 6d; rougher kinds, 7s to 8s per stone. Sheep were dearer; clips, 9d; wools, 10d; ewes, 6d and 7d; tups, about 5l per lb; and lambs, 25s to 35s each.

Thame, Tuesday.—A large supply of all kinds of stock, with a good attendance of buyers. There was a fair demand, and prices were same as previous weeks. Beef very dear, and a ready clearance made. Messrs. Bond and Burrows' sale comprised 61 fat beasts, 341 fat and store sheep and lambs, 46 fat and weaning calves, 196 fat and store pigs. Fat heifers made £20 to £25; fat bullocks, £21 to £23 15s; fat shorn wethers, 48s to 54s 6d; fat ewes, 42s to 57s; fat lambs, 30s to 39s; fat calves, £3 10s to £5 7s 6d; weaning cow calves, 20s to 60s; bull calves, 18s to 58s; bacon hogs, 9s per score. Pork in demand and stores wanted.

Wakefield, Wednesday.—Trade better on the whole, but rather less show all round. Prime quality beef made up to 8d per lb; secondary quality, 6¾d to 7¾d per lb; choice quality sheep made ½d per lb more money up to 8d per lb; secondary sorts, 6¾d to 7¾d per lb. Numbers at market—Beasts, 1,359; sheep, 4,326.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Beasts a fair supply, moderate trade. Sheep and lambs moderate supply; fair trade. Calves small supply; slow trade. Beef, 6d to 8d per lb; mutton, 6½d to 8¼d per lb; lamb, 9d to 10d per lb; veal, 6½d to 8d per lb. Very few pigs on offer.

Worcester, Saturday.—Trade brisk all round at full prices. Beef, 8d; inferior, 7d; wether mutton, 8¼d to 9d; ewes, 6d to 7d; and veal, 8¼d per lb. Pork pigs, 10s 6d; bacons, 10s to 10s 3d per score.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Small supply of beef, but large supply of sheep, mostly stores. Lambs were not plentiful. Beef, best, 7s 9d to 8s 6d per stone; secondary, 7s to 7s 9d per stone; best wethers, 7½d to 8¼d per lb; store sheep, 27s 6d to 30s each; lamb, 10d to 11d per lb.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Wednesday.—Beast supplies fair, amounting to 930 head, an increase of 172 as against last Wednesday's figures, and consisted of 206 United States and 724 Canadian. Trade ruled steady at 4s 9d to 4s 11d, exceptionally 5s, and 4s 8d to 4s 10d per 8lb, to sink the offal, respectively.

Yorkhill, Monday.—The usual weekly sale of United States and Canadian cattle was held this afternoon. There were penned in the sheds 86 cattle landed by the Lakonia (s.), from Montreal, 209 by the Corean (s.), from Philadelphia, and 198 cattle by the Austrian (s.), from Boston. As usual, bullocks formed the majority of the consignments. There was the usual large attendance of buyers, and trade if anything was a little sharper than that ruling last week, and prices slightly better. The dead-weight quotations for United States and Canadian cattle were similar, and may be given as follow:—Best bullocks, 68s to 70s per cwt; secondary, 65s to 67s; best heifers, to 70s; heavier, down to 68s; best bulls, 60s to 62s; and secondary and heavier, 56s to 58s.

MANURES.

Liverpool, Friday.—The season for the application of nitrate of soda has practically terminated, consequently the demand on agricultural account is trivial, and, with ample supplies, values again favour buyers. £8 17s 6d to £9 per ton is the spot value of best quality, according to quantity. Other fertilisers are quiet, and values unchanged. The demand for feeding stuffs all round continues inactive; yet in some instances the tendency is to advance prices. At auction 285 bags Peruvian cotton cake sold ex quay at £6 15s per ton. Current rates are as per subscribed:—Nitrate of Soda, best quality, *i.e.*, guaranteed 95 per cent., pure, in bags, £8 17s 6d to £9 per ton; East India Bone Meal, fair to prime, in bags, £4 10s to £4 15s per ton; Kainit, prime 23 per cent., or Meal, in bags, £2 7s 6d to £2 8s 9d per ton; Palm Nut Cake, prime, in bags, £5 15s to £7 3s 9d per ton; Linseed Cake, American thin oblong, prime, in bags, £7 1s 3d per ton; Linseed Cake, English, prime, in bulk, £8 3s 9d to £8 7s 6d per ton; Linseed Cake, foreign round, prime, rich in oil, in bags, £8 to £8 2s 6d per ton; Cottonseed Cake, N.A. decorticated, prime, in bags, £7 2s 6d to £7 7s 6d per ton; Cottonseed Cake, English, decorticated, prime, soft, in bags, £7 5s to £7 10s per ton; Cottonseed Cake, English, undecorticated, prime, in bulk, £4 10s to £4 15s per ton; Cottonseed Cake (crushed), 20/25 per cent. oil, prime, in bags, £7 10s to £7 12s 6d per ton; Maize Germ Meal, prime, in bags, £5 17s 6d per ton; Corn Oil Cake, 10/13 per cent. oil, prime, in bags, £6 5s to £6 7s 6d per ton; Rice Meal, Rangoon, as imported, in bags, £5 to £5 5s per ton; Indian Meal, coarse to fine grinding, prime, in bulk, 12s to 12s 6d per 240lb; Linseed, fine bold feeding, in bags, £3 1s to £3 4s per qr, 416lb; D.N.S. Brand Superphosphate of Lime, guaranteed, 25 to 27 sol., in bags, £2 5s to £2 7s per ton at depot; D.N.S. Brand Superphosphate of Lime, guaranteed, 30 to 31 sol., in bags, £2 10s to £2 12s per ton at depot; Superphosphate of Lime, guaranteed, 35 to 36 sol., in bags, £3 to £3 2s per ton at depot; Basic Slag, prime quality, guaranteed, 30 to 35 per cent. phos., in bags, nominal; Basic Slag, prime quality, guaranteed, 35 to 40 per cent. phos., in bags, nominal; Basic Slag, finest quality, guaranteed, 38 to 45 per cent. phos., in bags, nominal.—H. JONES LANGAR AND Co.

WOOL.

London, Saturday.—English—per pk of 240lb: Fleeces, S. Dn. hoggs, £7 to £8 10s; half-bred hoggs, £6 15s; ditto wethers, £6; Kent fleeces, £5 15s; South Down ewes and wethers, £7 to £8 10s; Leicester ditto, £5 to £5 10s. Colonial—per lb: Vic. fleece super., 1s 8d to 1s 11d; scoured good, 1s 9d to 1s 10d; scoured average, 1s 8d to 1s 8¼d; greasy average to fair, 11½d to 1s 0½d; N.S.W. scoured average, 1s 5¼d to 1s 6½d; S. Aus. greasy average, 7½d to 8d; N.Z. scourged average, 1s 6½d to 1s 7½d; greasy average, 9½d to 10½d; Cape scoured sup., 1s 6d to 1s 7d; fleece average, 7½d to 8¼d; greasy average, 6¾d to 7½d; Natal scoured, 1s 1½d to 1s 2½d; greasy average, 7½d to 8d; crossbreds—Grs.—Vic. good to super., 11½d to 1s 0½d; New Zealand fine, 9½ to 10½d; ditto medium, 6½d to 7d; ditto coarse, 4½d to 5½d.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Very little old wool remaining, and new clip not yet on the market. Prices for Kent fleeces stand nominally at from 5d to 5½d per lb.

Glasgow and Leith.—The aspect of the Scotch wool market has been more cheerful during the last month. At the public sales in Leith on 6th, and Glasgow on 7th, there was a moderate attendance of buyers, and considering the advanced period of the season and the consequent smaller show of wool, a fair business was done at and after the auctions. Whitefaced wools, especially of the finest grades, are well cleared out, while medium Cheviots have also been dealt in to some extent. Blackfaced, which was already in moderate compass, has been almost entirely cleared out, partly for the home trade, but the demand has been mostly for the American market. Not for very many years will the new Blackfaced clip come on the market, with less stock of old wool on hand. It must be borne in mind that present prices are much below the average of many years past.—J. AND W. GREIG.

Liverpool, Wednesday.—The fourth and fifth public sales of River Plate wool for the season were held on April 25 and to-day. At the former 3,424 bales were brought forward, and 3,000 bales sold, at prices showing an advance on February rates of fully ¼d. per lb. on Merino and fine Crossbred, ¼d to ½d per lb. on other Crossbred fleece, and ½d to ¾d per lb. on lambs, etc. To-day 2,035 bales were offered, and 1,500 bales sold, with a fresh improvement in value of ¼d to ½d per lb. on Merino and fine crossbreds, and quite ½d per lb. on coarse crossbred fleece, while lambs, pieces, etc., went a little irregularly. The third series of periodical auctions for this year began on the 27th ultimo, East India Wool occupying three sittings, and sundry descriptions yesterday and to-day. The new arrivals of East India reached 12,850 bales, and importers still held 1,850 bales of the 2,689 bales withdrawn in March, the total offering amounting to 14 841 bales, and 13,000 bales were disposed of, the home trade taking 7,500 bales, the Continent 2,000 bales, and America 3,500 bales. There was a fair muster of buyers, and free orders for low duty qualities came from the United States, so that in spite of a hardly average choice, steady competition was secured throughout. Little change can be noticed in prices, which ruled firm at March level for all clean useful whites, while the ample supply of medium to good yellows allowed buyers to get a slight advantage sometimes, all the common sorts of whites, yellows and greys selling at full figures. A good clearance was made of everything except where shippers had set high limits, and it may be mentioned that of the 1,792 bales left in importers' hands about 400 bales are poor-coloured hair, etc.—RONALD AND RODGER.

SEEDS.

London, Monday.—Messrs. John Shaw and Sons, Seed Merchants, of Great Maze Pond, Borough, London, write that quite a holiday spirit now characterises the trade for field seeds, and transactions are few and unimportant. Meantime, some little attention is being given to red clover seed now arriving from Chili, but buyers will only operate at moderate prices. New French Trifolium for shipment next July is offering at reasonable rates. A few sales are reported of white mustard seed at last week's currencies, but rape seed is neglected. Hemp seed, on account of its extreme scarcity, continues to favour sellers; canary seed, however, shows for the moment no further improvement in value. There is now less inquiry for blue peas and haricot beans.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Thursday.—Linseed.—The market has been quiet; after a slight improvement prices have again declined. Calcutta, spot, London, 53s 9d; passage, 53s 9d to 54s; June-July, 54s. La Plata on passage, 52s 6d. Hull is also a little easier. Calcutta May-June, 54s 6d. La Plata spot, 51s 6d. To the Continent, Bombay May-June, 57s 6d; June-July, 57s 6d; Calcutta June-July, 54s 3d; La Plata June July, 52s 6d. Linseed oil inactive, and prices easier. We quote spot in pipes £32; barrels, £32 5s; July-August, £32; September-December, £31. Hull naked spot, £31 5s. June-August, £31. September-December, £30. Linseed cakes are firm: We to-day quote London-made £7 17s 6d to £8 ex mill; American Western, £7 7s 6d to £7 10s; Russian, £7 12s 6d to £7 17s 6d. Cotton cakes steady; Londonmade, £4 12s 6d to £4 17s 6d. Rapeseed has met with a good demand, and prices are dearer. Brown Cawnpore, May-June, 37s 6d; Brown Calcutta, May-June, 36s 6d. To the Continent we quote Yellow Guzerat 42s; Yellow Cawnpore, June-July, 40s 9d; Brown Cawnpore, 37s 6d; Brown Calcutta, May-June and June-July, 37s; Ferozepore, June-July, 37s 9d; Jamba, June-July, to Hull, 32s. Cottonseed has declined, and closes weak. Spot London, £7 13s 9d; June, £7 12s 6d; November-January, £6 11s 3d; Hull, spot, £8 2s 6d nominally; passage, £7 15s; June, £7 11s 3d; November-January, £6 10s buyers; cargoes, November, £6 13s 9d; December-January, £6 12s 6d; Bombay to Hull, June-July, £5.—THE PRODUCE BROKERS' COMPANY, LIMITED.

Hull, Tuesday.—Linseed.—The arrivals are 1,320 qrs. Bombay; 2,026 qrs. Buenos Ayres; 40 qrs. Harlingen; total, 3,386 qrs. Linseed since our last has been a dull and lifeless market, but prices have not given way to any extent, and the close is quietly steady. Calcutta, 54s 9d is wanted for April-June; River Plate, 51s 6d sellers spot, and for June-July 52s 6d is asked. Cottonseed.—The market has not shown much change in the past week, and only a moderate business passing; spot sellers scarce, and £8 2s 6d the value. A few sales on passage and May B-L transpired at £7 17s 6d; June changed hands at £7 17s 6d and £7 16s 3d, at which latter still sellers. New Crop firmer for October, and £7 asked, but November-January done at £6 12s 6d. At the close the market is weaker, and 1s 3d per ton down in all positions, excepting spot. Oils—Exports for the week ending 27th May, 1902:—Linseed oil: 14 Belgium, 4 Germany, 26 India, 29 Norway, 20 Russia; total, 93 tons. Cotton oil: 81 Belgium, 10 Denmark, 5 France, 85 Germany, 98 Holland, 5 Sweden; total, 284 tons. The market is firm. Linseed oil: 31s 3d spot; 31s 1½d June-August; 30s September-December. Cotton oil: 24s 10½d spot; 24s 10½d June-August; 22s November-April. Crude: 23s 9d spot; 23s 9d June-August; 20s 9d November-April. Rape oil: Jamba naked, 24s 3d spot; 1st quality, 25s spot.—KEIGHLEY MAXSTED AND Co.

Mark Lane, Monday.—The actual consumptive demand is extremely small, but country dealers are still inclined to go into stocks at present prices, and there are free buyers in forward positions at anything near spot values. Russians move off slowly, the price in mats being 1s 3d per ton less money, but in bags unchanged. Americans continue relatively the best value on the market at last Monday's prices. Calcutta made in bags are quoted at 2s 6d to 5s per ton less money. London made remain dull and without change. Cotton cakes—There has been a slightly improved demand during the past week, but, with a considerable quantity offering in second hands, quotations remain steady at 1s 3d per ton lower for Egyptians, with quotations for English unchanged, while some Bombay seed cakes offer at £3 15s. Decorticated are firmly held at £6 5s to £6 12s 6d; as to quality and meal unchanged. Rape cakes—Quiet and unchanged in price. Maize germ meal—A limited quantity of American may be bought at last week's quotations, while English is 2s 6d per ton lower on the week. Rice meal—Some near at hand parcels of Rangoon are available at £4 6s 3d to £4 7s 6d ex ship, but for autumn shipment £4 12s 6d has been freely paid.

	Per ton. £ s. d.	Per ton £ s. d.
LINSEED CAKES.		
London made ..... ex mill	7 12 6	to 7 15 0
American ..... ex ship	6 17 6	to 7 0 0
Russian, in mats ..... ex dock	7 5 0	to 7 7 6
Russian, in bags ..... ex dock	7 10 0	to 7 15 0
Calcutta	7 7 6	to 7 10 0
COTTONSEED CAKES.		
London made ..... ex mill	4 12 6	to 4 15 0
Egyptian ..... ex dock	4 6 3	to 4 8 9
Decorticated ..... ex dock	6 5 0	to 6 12 6
Meal ..... ex dock	6 10 0	to —
RAPE CAKES.		
East India	3 15 0	to 4 0 0
MAIZE.		
English germ meal ..... ex mill	5 7 6	to 5 12 6
American ..... ex dock	5 11 3	to 5 12 6
RICE MEAL.		
Rangoon ..... ex dock	5 0 0	to

—PINNOCK BROS., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

WATERLOO ROUND FEEDING CAKES, £6 17s 6d PER TON. WATERLOO ROUND 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES, £8 10s 0d PER TON. WATERLOO ANGLO SHAPE 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES, £8 5s 0d PER TON; WATERLOO 97 PER CENT. PURE EGYPTIAN COTTONSEED CAKES, £5 10s 0d PER TON. ALL NET CASH AND F.O.R. IN HULL.

MOLASSINE FEEDING MEAL, packed in bags, of 1¼cwt. each. Price per cwt., 7s. 6d. Price per ton, £6 15s., on rail at works, Silvertown, Essex, and F.O.R. Liverpool. A sample lot of 6cwt., in 4 bags of 1¼cwt. each, delivered free to any station in England on receipt of remittance for £2 11s 0d

COLONIAL DAIRY PRODUCE.

London, Friday.—Butter: The only Colonial butter on the market at the present time is Canadian, but the arrivals last week totalled only 2,905 cwts., while the total imports of all kinds of butter were 74,927 cwts., so that the Colonial supply has comparatively no effect on the market. Prices for Canadian choicest on the spot are 98s to 100s for salt, with 100s to 102s for saltless. The Copenhagen official quotation remains unchanged, with a firmer market in Denmark. The period for tinning butter is now commencing, and it, therefore, looks as if the lowest prices for Danish have been now reached. In Ireland the tinning of butter has commenced, and is causing an increased demand. Russian continues to come forward in about 13,000 cwts. per week, of which nearly 10,000 are Siberian, and is selling from 88s to 94s. Cheese: The demand for Canadian new season's cheese continues good, and shipments are cleared as fast as they arrive at about 53s to 54s for choicest goods. The demand for strictly choicest lots of last season's Canadian has improved, and prices remain at 58s to 60s, but last season's cheese of a flavoury character is selling at 52s to 54s per cwt. New Zealand cheese is selling at prices ranging from 55s to 56s for choicest first Government grade.—W. WEDDEL AND Co.



STOCK AND SHOW NOTES.

By Herdsman.

The fitting up of the Sauceries and Willow Holme—the two large holms a passenger on the Scottish railways passes on the left as he enters Carlisle—for the annual show of the Royal Agricultural Society, in the second week in July, is rapidly approaching completion. The ground has been entirely enclosed with a substantial hoarding, and a skeleton town of over 24,000 feet of shedding reared on it. The Sauceries, immediately beneath the Castle, will be given up to the exhibition of machinery, for which 11,093 feet of shedding, in 339 stands, has been provided, as against 11,651 feet at the Cardiff Show last year, 14,722 feet at York in 1900, 12,200 feet at Maidstone, and 9,781 feet at the previous show in Carlisle in 1880. The stock will be exhibited in the Willow Holme, which will be reached by two bridges across the river Caldew. Over 13,000 feet of shedding has had to be erected for the accommodation of the stock, the entries of which are as follows:—Horses, 521; cattle, 667; sheep, 545; and pigs, 178—a total of 1,911. The entries at the Cardiff Show were 1,575, at the York Show 1,997, and at the previous Carlisle Show 1,501. In addition, there are 653 entries of poultry and 461 of produce.

In reply to a question put to him in the House of Commons on Monday, Mr. Brodrick stated that the number of horses purchased for army purposes during April was 13,557, of which 2,038 were bought in the United Kingdom, 763 in Canada, 4,365 in the United States, and 6,391 in Austro-Hungary.

The schedule of prizes of the Tring Agricultural Society is now issued to members. The entries close on Friday, July 4th, and the show is to be held on August 7th, in Tring Park. Where the Society will stop is a difficult question to settle. A further £100 has been added to the prize list, making the total £1,200, about a record for a one-day's show. The classes are well distributed, 22 being devoted to Shires and farm horses, besides cups and medals, 25 for hunters, polo, and harness, with cups and medals, in addition 15 for Shorthorns and Jerseys. £200 is again liberally offered for the milk and butter tests, and sheep, pigs, poultry, honey, etc., all come in for their share. The sheep-dog trials, a great feature of the show, have liberal prizes allotted, and the Society has added prizes for sporting dogs to residents within fifteen miles radius of Tring. Polo pony breeders might well support the show, as the Society give £50, and get three silver medals from the parent Society. As a whole, it is undoubtedly one of the Societies that should be supported, as it keeps up to date, and has a good President to back it.

The Groombridge Fat Stock, Hop, and Root Show has been fixed for Thursday, December 11th, entries for hops closing on October 18th, and all other sections on November 28th. The Hon. Sec. and Treasurer is Mr. Charles Hobson, Jerningham Villa, Tunbridge Wells.

The annual two-day show of the Mallow (County Cork) Agricultural and Show Society will be held at Mallow, on July 9th and 10th. A liberal prize schedule has been drawn up, numerous prizes (confined to residents in County Cork) being provided jointly by the County Cork Committee of Agriculture and the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland. There is a large number of specials, and they are spread over all the classes, which include horses, cattle, sheep, pigs, dairy produce, flowers and vegetables, dogs, poultry, and honey. Entries close in all departments, except jumping competitions, on June 24th, with the Hon. Secretary, Mr. C. J. Wilkie, Mallow, Co. Cork.

September 3rd is the date chosen for this year's show of the Clarborough (Retford) Farming and Gardening Society, at Clarborough. The entries will close on August 23rd, with the Secretary, Mr. Joshua Walker, F.S.I., Market Place, Retford.

Tuesday, September 2nd, has been chosen as the date of this year's show of the Hawkshead Agricultural Society, the entries to close on Saturday, August 23rd. The Secretary is Mr. W. A. Rushforth, Esthwaite Hall, Hawkshead, Lancs.

It is stated that Professor Hamilton, of Aberdeen University, has, after lengthened investigation, discovered the bacilli of loupin'-ill in sheep, a disease which derives its name from the fact that it causes sheep to spring up in walking. The Professor announced to his class the other day that he had at last found and identified the germ which causes the disease. Professor Hamilton is chairman of the committee which is engaged in the investigation of braxy in sheep, and he is also conducting important experiments with regard to bovine tuberculosis and anthrax.

A successful dispersal sale of Shorthorns was held at Kansas City, U.S.A., on the 14th ult. There were offered for sale the entire herd bred by Mr. W. T. Clay, and a draft from the H. R. Clay herd. No extreme prices were realised, but the average was well sustained all through. The sale was topped by Mr. E. S. Donahey, Newton, Iowa, who gave £160 for Butterfly 2nd of Wildwood and her cow calf. The total amount obtained for the seventy head was £3,118, an average of £44 10s. Good results were also obtained at a composite sale of Herefords and Shorthorns at Indianapolis, Indiana, on May 13th and 14th. Sixty-two Herefords were consigned, and these realised an average price of £78 10s., while the number of Shorthorns consigned was sixty-four, the average price obtained for these being £84 8s.

It is now officially announced that the cattle disease prevailing in Rhodesia is texas fever, which is spread by ticks, and it is recommended to burn the veldt as a precaution until some form of protective inoculation has been discovered.

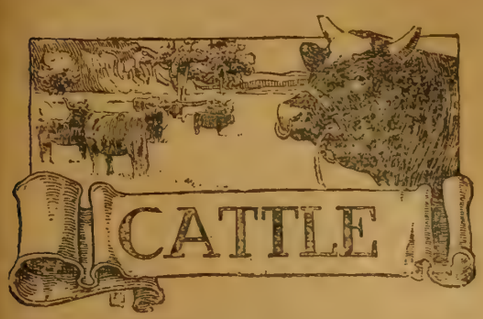
The whole of the Hon. Mrs. Tremayne's, Sydenham, herd of pure-bred North Devon cattle, together with a few Jerseys, etc., will be sold by auction at Sydenham, Marystowe, Devon, on Wednesday, the 18th inst., by Messrs. Ward and Chowen, of Burnville, Tavistock. The late Mr. John Tremayne was particular to breed only animals of clean North Devon pedigree, without the Somerset cross, and it is believed that this herd is the only one at present existing in its original purity. Animals from this herd were seldom exhibited, as Mr. Tremayne considered getting them unnaturally fat militated against their breeding, but when he was advised to, and did enter any for the shows, he generally stood in the front rank. Mr. Tremayne started the herd by two purchases, viz., Flora, from Mr. Davey's Flower, and Treasure (calved in 1836) from Dr. Rodd, Trebartha. The Flora tribe have died out, but the Treasure blood is still in the herd. From time to time other purchases have been made from the herds of the late Mr. Davey, Mrs. Langdon, Mr. Quartly, Mr. Perry, and Lord Falmouth, but in all cases only those of the purest blood found a home at Sydenham, and as the whole herd will be offered it gives purchasers an opportunity of securing North Devon blood seldom met with. There will also be sold a few pure-bred Jerseys, reserved from the sale of the Hon. Mrs. Tremayne's herd at Heligan. There will be a luncheon at one o'clock, and the sale will commence at two o'clock. Sydenham is one mile from Coryton Station (G.W.R.), and seven miles from Tavistock and Launceston.



THE HEREFORD BULL shown above is "Magnate," 21571, sire Clarence, 15944, dam, Margery 3rd by Statesman, 14938, the property of and bred by Mr. A. P. Turner, The Leen, Pembridge, Herefordshire. "Magnate" was exhibited at the Bath and West Society's recent show at Plymouth, and won the First Prize in the class for Hereford Bulls calved in 1900.

The Prince and Princess of Wales have signified their intention of being present on the opening day of the Richmond Royal Horse Show, at the Old Deer Park, Richmond, on Friday next.

The Darlington Chamber of Agriculture have passed a resolution similar to that of the Southdown Sheep Society, the former's being as follows: "That compulsory dipping with a certified dip should be required." This was carried by 14 votes to eight. Some members called attention to sheep-worrying by dogs, and a resolution to require dogs to wear collars bearing a number was, after discussion, carried unanimously. The Chamber also decided that a number should be conspicuously shown on motor cars. The Education Bill was discussed, and a resolution moved: "That in the opinion of this Chamber the cost of education should be borne by the Imperial Exchequer, and not by local rates"; but an amendment to the effect that the matter be left over until the Education Bill is in a more advanced stage was carried by a majority of four.



Sale of South Devons at Plympton.

On Monday the surplus heifers, young cows, and bulls from the herd of Mr. William J. Crossing, of Woodford, were disposed of by auction, at Plympton, by Mr. J. Pearse, of Plymouth. The attendance of buyers was fairly satisfactory, and a good average of prices was obtained. The bull Famous, owned by Mr. Butland, was also put up, but the bidding only reaching 29½ guineas, the auctioneer made a bid of 33 guineas for the owner. This animal obtained first in his class at the recent Bath and West Show, and also won at Tavistock. Following is a list of the animals sold:—Cow, Rose, calved January 1st, 1895, 22½ guineas; heifer, Violet, calved April 17th, 1898, 19; heifer, Buttercup, calved November 12th, 1898, 19½; heifer, Topsy, calved February 26th, 1899, 26½; heifer, Duchess, October 20th, 1899, 26; heifer, Daphne, calved October 29th, 1899, 26½; heifer, Dorcas, calved January 3rd, 1900, 20; heifer, Una, calved March 4th, 1900, 19; heifer, Princess, calved March 31st, 1900, sire Cromer, 20½; heifer, Trixie, calved April 17th, 1900, sire Cromer, 17½; heifer, Gipsy, calved April 25th, 1900, sire Cromer, 16½; heifer, Nora, calved June 21st, 1900, sire Cromer, 25½; heifer, Iris, calved August 3rd, 1900, sire Cromer, 24; heifer, Queen, calved September 23rd, 1900, sire Cromer, 20; heifer, Dorothy, calved November 3rd, 1900, sire Cromer, 16½; heifer, Nesta, calved February 14th, 1901, 12½; heifer, Lily, calved March 26th, 1901, 13½; heifer, Primrose, calved May 18th, 1901, 11; heifer, Dewdrop, calved June 20th, 1901, 8½; heifer, Hyacinth, calved August 20th, 1901, 7½; heifer, Beauty, calved August 21st, 1901, 15; heifer calf, eligible for entry in the Herd-Book, calved January 2nd, 1902, 8; ditto, calved January 20th, 1902, 7; bull, Victor, calved September 23rd, 1901, 16½; bull, eligible for entry in the Herd-Book, calved January 2nd, 1902, 11½

HORSES.

Sale of Hackneys at St. Fagan's.

There was a good attendance of prominent breeders and buyers at the annual sale of hackneys bred by Mr. James Howell at Llanmaes Farm, St. Fagan's, on Tuesday. Bidding was brisk, and good average prices were obtained. A fine pair, Lady Primrose and Hywel's Lady Sarah, sire and dam in both cases being Lord Primrose II., and Lady Elsmere went for 140 guineas to Mr. James Hurman, jun. Bismarck, a bay gelding, also sired by Lord Primrose II., and with Loberts as his dam, went to Mr. Harris Lebus, London, for 135 guineas. A son of Goldfinder VI., with Lady Rosebery as his female progenitor, was put up. Hywel's Lord Rosebery had, however, met with an accident to one of his fetlocks, and there was no bid for it. A dark brown mare, Mariota, with fine action and an exceptionally good pedigree, her sire being Gentleman John and d. Village Belle, took the fancy of several purchasers. Eventually the lot went to Dr. Francis, Brecon, for 86 guineas.

Following is a list of the principal prices and purchasers:—

		Gs.
Lady Muriel III.	Mr Sharhiel	42
Merrylegs	Mr. A. Thackeray	82
Merry Lad	Mr. A. Thackeray	48
Hywel's Lady Prim	Mr. J. White	60
Happy Boy	Sir T. Morrell	95
Lady Tenby	Mr. J. White	60
Hywel's Sweet Jessie	Sir Gilbert Greenall	85
Hywel's Lady Candite	Mr. Blindell	77
Bismarck	Mr. Harris Lebus	135
Bay g.	Sir Gilbert Greenall	77
Hywel's Lady Spriggs	Mr. H. Thomas	58
Tommy	Mr. W. S. Carr	66
Lady Primrose and Hywel's Lady Sarah	Mr. J. Hermon, jun.	140
Captain	Mr. Malcolm	65
Woodcock	Mr. England	72
Dr. Jim	Mr. Crocker	60
Lady Skipsea	Mr. Peacock	46
Mariota	Dr. Francis	86

At a recent meeting of the directors of the Ayrshire Agricultural Association, the secretary (Mr. John Howie) submitted the financial statement relative to the show held at Ayr at the end of April, from which it appeared that the total receipts were £2,045, and the expenditure £1,913, leaving a balance of £132.

Transactions in Store Stock.

(Reported to the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland.)

At Newtownstewart, Co. Tyrone, on Monday, there was a large fair, composed chiefly of one and two year old cattle, for which demand was slow, and a number remained unsold. Springers, however, met a fair demand. Prices:—Yearlings, 2nd class, £5 5s. to £6 7s. 6d.; 3rd class, £3 to £4 15s.; two-year-olds, 2nd class, £7 10s. to £9; 3rd class, £5 12s. 6d. to £6 17s. 6d.; springers, 1st class, £15 10s. to £16 10s.; 2nd class, £11 10s. to £14; 3rd class, £7 15s. to £9. Young pigs, 8 to 10 weeks old, sold at from 22s. 6d. to 27s. 6d. each.

At Cahir Fair, Co. Tipperary, held on Monday, there was a rather small supply of cattle, chiefly in poor condition, for which the demand was fairly active, and a fair clearance was effected. The small supply of springers met a moderate demand. There was a small supply of sheep, composed of hoggets, for which there was only moderate demand. Prices:—Yearlings, 1st class, £7 to £8; 2nd class, £5 6s. 8d. to £6 16s. 8d.; 3rd class, £3 5s. to £4 10s.; two-year-olds, 1st class, £10 17s. 6d. to £13; 2nd class, £8 6s. 8d. to £10 15s.; 3rd class, £5 10s. to £7; three-year-olds, 1st class, £13 15s.; 2nd class, £11 to £13 5s.; springers, 1st class, £15 to £16 10s.; 2nd class, £11 10s. to £14 10s.; 3rd class, £9 to £10. Sheep, and under 24 months old, 2nd class, £1 3s. to to £1 12s. 6d.; 3rd class, 17s. to £1. Young pigs, 8 to 10 weeks old, averaged about 22s. each.

The sheep fair at Loughrea, Co. Galway, on Monday was an average-sized one. An improved demand prevailed for first and second class hoggets and two-year-old wethers, but ewes with lambs at foot sold slowly, at prices which showed little improvement over recent fairs. Prices:—over 12 and under 24 months old, 2nd class, £1 3s. to £1 17s. 8d.; 2nd class, £1 3s. to £1 7s. 6d; 3rd class, £1 to £1 2s.; two years old and upwards, 1st class, £2 2s. to £2 4s.; 2nd class, £1 12s. 6d. to £1 18s. 6d.; 3rd class, £1 5s. to £1 8s. Young pigs, 8 to 10 weeks old, sold at from 22s. 6d. to 26s. each.

Downpatrick Fair (Co. Down) held on Tuesday, was a small one, at which demand was slow, except for animals in good condition. Prices: Calves, 1st class, £5 15s.; 2nd class, £3 15s. to £4 5s.; yearlings, 1st class, £7 10s. to £8 5s.; 2nd class, £5 5s. to £6 13s. 9d.; 3rd class, £3 10s.; two-year-olds, 1st class, £10 10s. to £13; 2nd class, £7 17s. 6d. to £9 10s.; 3rd class, £5 10s. to £6 15s.; springers, 1st class, £15 to £16 5s.; 2nd class, £11 10s. to £13.

At Clonmel, Co. Tipperary, on Wednesday, there was a moderate-sized fair, composed chiefly of young stock in backward condition, for which there was fair demand, the greater protion being sold. A small supply of springers met a moderate demand. Prices: Yearlings, 1st class, £7 10s. to £9 5s.; 2nd class, £5 5s. to £7 5s.; 3rd class, £3 to £3 13s. 4d.; two-year-olds, 1st class, £11 to £13; 2nd class, £8 to £10 10s.; 3rd class, £5 15s. to £7 15s.; three-year-olds, 1st class, £15 15s.; 2nd class, £10 to £12; springers, 1st class, £15 to £17; 2nd class, £11 to £14; 3rd class, £10 to £10 15s.

"Mark Lane Express" Diary.

June.
10. Huntingdonshire Agricultural Society's Show, at St. Neots.
10, 11, 12, and 13. Royal Counties Agricultural Society's Show, at Reading.
11. Edinburgh Agricultural Association's Show.
11 and 12. Northants Agricultural Society's Show, at Daventry.
11 and 12. Royal Cornwall Agricultural Association's Show.
11. Meeting of the Council of the British Dairy Farmers' Association.
11. Sale of Mr. W. H. Hubble's entire herd of Pure-bred Sussex Cattle, at Hunton Court, Hunton, Kent.
11, 12, and 13. Horse Sales at Wrexham.
12. Waltham Cross and Three Counties Horse and Foal Show.
12. Sale of Mr. D'Arcy Reeve's Shorthorns, at Friars Mattield, Paddock Wood, Kent.
12. Meeting of the Yorkshire Union, at York.
13. Stirling Agricultural Society's Show, at Stirling.
13 and 14. Richmond (Surrey) Horse Show, at Richmond.
14. Ossett Agricultural Society's Show.
14. Ramsbottom and District Agricultural Society's Show, at Ramsbottom.
17. Murrow Foal Show.
17, 18, and 19. Hereford and Worcester Agricultural Society's Show at Hereford.
18. Thorne Agricultural Society's Show at Thorne.
18 and 19. Norfolk Agricultural Society's Show at Norwich.
18 and 19. Glasgow Agricultural Society's Summer Show.
18 and 19. Sale of Horses at Wrexham.
18, 19, and 20. Horse Sales at Crewe.
19. Sale of Mr. R. Willow's entire stud at Willerby, near Hull.
19 and 20. Essex Agricultural Society's Show at Romford.
20. Waltham Cross Horse Show.
20. Sale of Mr. Cornwallis' Sussex Cattle at Frittenden, near Staplehurst.
21. Kidderminster Horse Show.



The Carriage of Live Stock by Rail.

At Carlisle County Court, on Wednesday, before Judge Stevenson, Robert Nicholson, cattle dealer, Bolton Fell, sued the North British Railway Company and Christopher Noble, farmer, Beyond the Wood, Penton, for £15 damages.

The plaintiff, it was stated, bought 30 hoggs from Mr. Telford, of Thorneylands, who had to deliver them. They were trucked with ten other sheep at Penton Station, and sent to Carlisle. Before the train left, Noble came up with a heavy sow, which he put in with the sheep, and on the arrival of the train at Carlisle one of the sheep was dead, two were much injured and bitten about the neck, and damage was also claimed in respect of the others. The sow was put in the truck after Telford signed the consignment note, in which the stationmaster made an alteration to meet the case, such alteration, the judge held, having the effect of invalidating the contract. It was contended that it was an improper thing to put a sow in among a load of sheep, but evidence for the defence was given to show that it was a common practice. Telford disclaimed all liability after signing the note.

The Judge held him to be right, and said he would advise farmers not to interfere with the loading or unloading of their stock while the latter were under the charge of the railway company. He found for plaintiff, awarding him 43s. 6d., of which 32s. 6d. was against the company and Noble, and 11s. against the company alone.

IN PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Railway Rates for Agricultural Produce.

On Tuesday Mr. Mansfield asked the President of the Board of Trade whether he would arrange an inquiry into the question of railway rates for agricultural produce, with a view to the rates for home produce being reduced to those charged for similar traffic from abroad.

Mr. Gerald Balfour said he could not undertake to arrange for such an inquiry until he had evidence of the existence of the grievance suggested. At present he had no evidence that higher charges for the same or similar services were made by railway companies for home produce as compared with imported produce. Such charges would be in direct contravention of the provisions of Section 27 of the Railway and Canal Traffic Act, 1888. Any evidence as to specific cases that might be produced to him, either directly or through the President of the Board of Agriculture, would, of course, receive careful consideration.

Cancer in Animals.

Sir James Joicey asked the Home Secretary whether his attention has been called to a recent case at the Leicester County Court, before his Honour Judge Wightman, when a statement was made by one of the meat inspectors of the Leicester Corporation that in cases where cancer occurred in an animal (presumably local) he only condemned the part of the animal affected as being unfit for human food, but passed the remaining part of the carcase; if so, whether, considering the increase of cancer in the United Kingdom, he will make regulations, or ask the local authorities to do so, to ensure in such cases the condemnation of the whole carcases of animals in any way affected by cancer.

The Home Secretary intimated in reply that he had seen a short newspaper report of the case referred to. He was advised that the course adopted would appear to have been sufficient, and it did not seem to him that there is any need to ask the local authorities to take action of the kind suggested. He had no power to make regulations on the subject.



Suffolk at Ipswich.

The show of the Suffolk Agricultural Association, held at Ipswich on Thursday and Friday last, proved a record one in every respect. To begin with, the entries reached a record total of 2,313 as compared with 1,646 at Beccles last year, and 1,567 at Ipswich in 1897; then the quality all round was somewhat above the average, and, to crown all, the total receipts at the gates were much in excess of any previous show, the total being no less than £1,362 6s. 6d. The nearest approach to this amount was taken at Bury St. Edmunds in 1899, when the total was £912, so that it will probably be hard to break the record in this respect set up by last week's show. On the first day no less than £885 14s. 6d. was taken at the gates, this being more than double the total receipts of the best first days even known in the history of the society. As we have previously mentioned, the Mayor and Corporation, together with the inhabitants of Ipswich, did everything possible to make the show a complete success, and the result must be very satisfactory to them. The last time the show was held in Ipswich was in the year of the Diamond Jubilee. Then a most hearty welcome was given the association, and the reception, combined with the unsurpassed excellence of Christchurch Park as an exhibition site, made it certain that a long interval would not elapse ere another visit was paid. In taking upon himself the responsibility of extending another invitation, the Mayor (Mr. A. C. Churchman) anticipated the wishes of the inhabitants, and the necessary sum of £500 required by the association was easily forthcoming. The beauties of Christchurch Park are now well known, and the Park being in the height of its glory, more comfortable and pleasant surroundings it would have been impossible to provide. Notes on the various sections and classes are given below.

The gentlemen who officiated as judges were as follows:—Horses—Suffolks: Mr. W. R. Hustler, Cockfield, and Mr. C. S. Wolton, Ixworth. Shires: Mr. F. W. Griffin, Borough Fen, and Mr. W. Horrell, Thorney Fen, Peterborough. Hunters: Right Hon. Lord Stradbroke, Henham Hall, and Mr. Lionel Digby, Woodcroft Castle, Market Deeping. Hackneys: Mr. C. E. E. Cooke, Hinxton Grange, Saffron Walden, and Sir R. Green Price, Bart., Presteigne, Radnorshire. Cattle—Red Poll and Shorthorns: Mr. R. Edgar, Cockfield, Bury St. Edmunds, and Mr. J. P. Terry, Aylesbury. Jerseys: Mr. W. E. Budgett, Henbury, Bristol. Sheep—Suffolks: Mr. P. Eagle, Risby, Bury St. Edmunds, and Mr. J. C. Dawson, Nacton, Ipswich. Southdowns: Mr. H. Penfold, Selsey, Chichester. Swine—Large Black Breed: Mr. E. R. Berry-Torr, Instow, Devon. White Breed: Mr. H. Cross, Great Barton, Bury St. Edmunds. Other Breeds and Cross-breeds: Messrs. E. R. Berry-Torr and H. Cross. Dairy Produce—Miss Martin, Hemingstone Hall, and Mr. E. Matthews, Chequer's Mead, Potters Bar. Butter-making—Mr. E. Matthews, Chequer's Mead, Potters Bar. Sheep-shearing—Mr. S. R. Sherwood, Playford, Ipswich, and Mr. Fred Smith, Woodbridge. Horse-shoeing—Mr. P. M. Browne, Fornham All Saints, Bury St. Edmunds.

Speech by Mr Hanbury.

On the first day a public luncheon was held in a huge marquee in the show ground, and about 400 ladies and gentlemen were present, including Mr. Hanbury, President of the Board of Agriculture; Mr. E. G. Pretyman, M.P. (Civil Lord of the Admiralty); Mr. F. S. Stevenson, M.P.; Sir W. Cuthbert Quilter, Bart., M.P.; Mr. D. Ford Goddard, M.P.; Sir Charles Dalrymple, Bart., M.P.; Colonel F. A. Lucas, M.P.; the Marquis of Bristol, Lord Rendlesham, the Mayor of Ipswich (Mr. A. C. Churchman), etc.

The toast of "The King" having been enthusiastically honoured, Sir W. Cuthbert Quilter proposed "Success to Agriculture," coupling with it the name of the Right Hon. R. W. Hanbury. He remarked that Mr. Hanbury was a Minister who could hold his own. He was a man of untiring industry, and spared no pains to acquire information as to those subjects upon which he had to adjudicate. He (Sir Cuthbert) hoped he would use his influence in the Cabinet to prevent the new Education Bill or Education Department from placing any extra burden upon the rates—(hear, hear)—and he also ventured to suggest that when restrictions upon the movement of cattle were imposed the right hon. gentleman's subordinates would carry out his orders with as much common-sense as possible. (Laughter and cheers.)

In responding, Mr. Hanbury at the outset expressed satisfaction at the termination of the war. Coming to agriculture, the President of the Board of Agriculture said he felt it his duty to come amongst those whose interests were to a certain extent committed to his hands, and whose needs and wants it was his duty everywhere to study. (Cheers.) He contended that it was for the rich markets and for the best articles that the English agriculturist had to cater, and it was by an appeal to quality rather than quantity that his success would be assured. The Board of Agriculture fought two battles on behalf of producers of the best stock, the battles against adulteration and disease, and he hoped agriculturists would support him in the measures he was about to take in regard to dairying interests. In respect to disease the Board of Agriculture was bound to fight the battle for the farmers as rigorously as it possibly could. He had at the present moment rather a difficult question to decide in regard to the importing of Argentine cattle. He had to look after the interests of the farmer and the consumer alike, for it was to their joint interest that the market should be steady and free from fluctuation. He intended to take such precautions in regard to Argentine cattle as were necessary in the interests of the British farmer and consumer. The supply of cattle from America was falling off, and he looked forward to the day when the Argentine would be the great source of England's meat supply. Therefore, every precaution must be taken to prevent disease being imported, either into this country or the Argentine. Respecting the Education Bill, the right hon. gentleman expressed the opinion that a great deal of the education given in the villages of the country was altogether unfitted to rural life, and had been in some measure responsible for the immigration to towns. The Board of Education and his own department had been working together to devise a more sensible system for rural districts, and he hoped in the result the old non-sensical system would be discontinued. (Loud cheers.) Let the country people be taught subjects which would interest them in country life and their own surroundings, not grammar and all the rest of it. He regarded the cost of education as an Imperial, not local, concern, more especially in the case of villages, and hoped that in future it would fall more upon the national exchequer than the local purse. (Loud cheers.)

Suffolk Horses.

The county breed naturally occupied the first place in the catalogue. The various classes were exceedingly well filled, and the choicest animals, representing the most prominent studs of the county, put in an appearance. The aged stallions included some grand animals, horses that have carried trophies not a few to their respective studs. Mr. Alfred J. Smith's grand horse Saturn, by Wedgewood, once more came to the front, and carried off the champion of £20, given by the president, as the best Suffolk entire horse in the show. Mr. Edward A. Cook's famous Ironside, by Border Minstrel, also the winner of numerous prizes, was second and reserved for the championship, but he secured the £10 champion presented by the Hon. W. Lowther for the best entire horse in the show, the property of a tenant farmer. There was some particularly choice three-year-old entire colts. Mr. A. H. E. Wood's Sudbourn Count, a nice, square, typical Suffolk, scored again, being also reserved for one of the champions offered for the best entire. The second prize went to Mr. Alfred Smith's Rendlesham Prince Royal, a handsome son of Queen's Diadem, the Rev. Henry Taylor's Court Fop, by Byford's Court Dandy, which has taken prizes at the local shows, being third. The two-year-olds were equally well represented. Mr. A. T. Pratt's Big Ben, by Golden Grain, went into the first place, Mr. A. H. E. Wood's Sudbourn Sheriff taking second. Of the ten yearlings the best was Harold, a very promising youngster, by the noted Border Minstrel, shown by Mr. J. Rose, Laxfield, while Mr. C. H. Berners' Sunbeam was second.

The mares and foals numbered something like a score. Sir Cuthbert Quilter, Bart., M.P., had the honour of taking both prizes, no insignificant achievement, having regard to the number and excellence of the collection, the first going to Court Pride, by Heywood's Sudbourn Duke, and the second to Courage, by Smith's Prince Albert. Mr. Alfred J. Smith sent a nice foal by Prince Albert, which was first in the colt class, the second going to Sir Cuthbert Quilter for a fine fellow by Prince Wedgewood. About half-a-score filly foals put in an appearance, the chief honour being assigned to Mr. John Symond's exhibit, a very handsome filly by Golden Grain, Mr. A. Gerald Smith taking second with a daughter of Prince Albert. The gast mares four years old and upwards were not in very strong force, but they formed an uncommonly good lot. There was no getting away from the beautiful Eclipse mare, Mr. A. H. E. Wood's Sudbourn Trinket, the winner of several prizes, and she took precedence of Mr. Edward Quilter's Bentley Duchess, by Border Minstrel, the winner of a first and special at Beccles. Mr. A. H. E. Wood's Sudbourn Arabella, a grand filly, who has been winning from the time she was a filly foal, came into the first rank on this occasion in the class for three-year-olds, Mr. W. H. Hewitt taking second in a strong class with Gippeswick Lass, by Prince Wedgewood. The two-year-old fillies looked uncommonly well in the ring. An exhibit from the Bawdsey Manor stud, Bawdsey Sweet Marjorie, a very handsome daughter of the noted Prince Wedgewood, was placed first. Mr. R. Eaton White's Boulge Maid, of nice character, standing well, was second, while her stable companion, Boulge Hebe, had to be content with third honours. Of yearlings there was only a small muster, but they were of the right sort. Mr. John Symonds, Thistleton Hall, Burgh, secured chief honour with Dorcas, a promising youngster by the noted Saturn, who has brought so many honours to the Rendlesham stud of late. It was a close fit with Bentley Dina, a choice yearling sent by Mr. Edward R. Quilter, and a worthy daughter of Border Minstrel, hailing from the Saxted country. The Hon. W. F. D. Smith, M.P., was third with Edith, by Firefly, while Mr. Robert Edgar's Princess F. added another to the honours she has won of late. There were but few Suffolk geldings, and Sir Cuthbert Quilter took both prizes. The teams of four Suffolks in competition for special prizes presented by Sir Cuthbert Quilter, M.P., and Mr. A. H. E. Wood, attracted a good deal of attention, the teams being splendidly matched. Mr. Wood won the first prize.

Shires.

The task that devolved upon the judges in the classes for Shire horses was not a very severe one, though they had to pass the eye over some uncommonly good animals, the result of the introduction of some of the most noted sires by the enterprising Suffolk and Essex Syndicate. The stallions, three-year-olds and upwards, numbered four. Mr. Trenham J. Cresswell's Blythwood Ray was first, and he also carried off the championship as the best Shire entire horse, presented by the Right Hon. Lord Iveagh. The second prize went to Lord Iveagh, for Moulton Bridegroom. Mr. Trenham J. Cresswell was first also in the class for two-year-olds, with Redlynch Blue Blood, a very stylish horse, and reserved for the championship, but was awarded the champion prize presented by the Earl Cadogan for the best Shire entire horse, the property of a tenant farmer. Mr. R. W. Hudson was second with Celtic. This gentleman was, however, first for yearlings, Captain W. H. C. Duncombe being second. The Shire mares with foal at foot made a fine appearance in the ring. Mr. Hudson took first with Markeaton Wild Ware; she had by her side a grand foal, which won the prize in the foal class. Lord Iveagh was second with a charming mare, her foal being second in the foal class. Mr. Frank Baldwin was first in the Shire gast mare collection with his well-known Suffolk Lass, the winner of many prizes, whilst Mr. Arthur Ransom won in the three-year-olds with Bank Waitress, a wonderfully good mare; which eventually proved the champion, taking the prize presented by the town of Ipswich for the best Shire mare or filly. Mr. R. W. Hudson's Danesfield Negress, a big black mare, made a good second. As to the two-year-olds, Mr. J. J. Mitchell won with Northall Rosie, a nice classy mare, which carried off the gold medal presented by the Shire Horse Society for the best mare or filly in the Shire class in the possession of a resident or occupier of agricultural land in the county, Mr. Frank Baldwin's Suffolk Lass being reserved. Mr. John R. Keeble was second in the class with his handsome bay Brantham Heroine, by Hitchin Conqueror. Amongst the yearlings was an exceedingly well bred filly by Prince Harold, which was placed first, and was an easy winner, Lord Iveagh being second with a nice bay by Lord Holt, which will doubtless be heard of again.

Hunters.

There was an excellent exhibition of light horses, one upon which the association may be congratulated. The hunter classes, as usual, came first in the catalogue, and there was an entry of three thoroughbred stallions adapted for breeding hunters. The first and second prizes were won by Mr. Eustace Barlow, with Privado, the winner of 14 races, and Deeside respectively, the latter also having won several prizes. There was a small entry of light-weight hunter brood mares and foals, and the winner was Mr. Kelway-Bamber's well-known Homely Lass, a mare of very nice quality; the judges also awarded her the special prize, presented by the Hunters' Improvement Society for the best hunter brood mare with foal at foot, in the show. In class 28 Mr. J. R. Keeble, of Brantham Hall, took first prize with a very good foal by Earwig, a son of Hampton.

Weight-carrying hunters, mares, or geldings numbered eight, and included horses of substance and quality. The winner, a good mover, belonged to Mr. J. H. Stokes, of Market Harborough, Mr. R. E. Walford taking second prize with Dorset, which was shown in rather poor condition. The largest class in the whole show was that for medium-weight hunting mares or geldings, not less than five years old, equal to

carrying 12 stone and under 15 stone. Twenty-one horses were entered, and many were of exceptional merit. The winner was Blackthorn, which has been owned by Mr. T. H. Ward, of Great Ayton, Yorkshire, since it was two years old, and which has had an almost unbroken career of success since then. He thoroughly deserved the first prize in this class, and also the championship, given by Lord Cadogan for the best hunter in the yard. The second prize winner belonged to Mr. J. H. Stokes, of Market Harborough, whilst Messrs. W. and J. H. Cheney took the third prize with a nice bay horse. The winning light-weight hunter, not less than five years old, was Mr. D. W. Taylor's Tippler, which is a fine galloper, the second going to Mr. Edward Gwilt, of the Angel Hotel, Bury St. Edmund's. The four-year-olds were a neat lot, the first prize-taker being found in Mr. J. H. Stokes's Frieston, which has had a successful career this year, while the second was Mr. Abraham Smith's Ascot, an upstanding horse with quality and bone. The three-year-olds were worthily represented, the first prize going to Mr. William Harvey, of Timworth, for Thetford. Mr. Leonard Smith, of Hasketon, was a close second with Student, which is by Galopian, one of the Hasketon sires, and a Queen's Premium winner. A couple of nice two-year-olds won in their class, belonging respectively to Mr. D. W. Taylor and Mr. George Orbell. The yearlings were a very good lot indeed, the winner being found in Magic, belonging to Mr. W. N. Fonnereau, which is by Mr. Pratt's well-known Sunstroke. The second prize taker, shown by Mr. W. Harvey, was fully as much appreciated by some judges, and a very promising filly, shown by Mr. Leonard Smith, was third and reserve. A great deal of interest was taken in the award of the championship, in which the two horses belonging to Mr. Stokes were brought out with Blackthorn, but, as has been already stated, the verdict was in favour of Mr. Ward, and this decision was generally endorsed by lookers-on.

Hackneys.

There were but two hackney stallions, and first place was given to Mr. E. C. Chapman's well-known Manifred, which had also the special for the best stallion suitable for breeding high-stepping cobs. Pirate King, a good goer, shown by Mr. Wm. Miles, was the second animal. Mr. Geo. F. Johnson, of the Braiswick Stud, Colchester, took the first prize for hackney mares with foal at foot, with the famous Cornflower, which formerly belonged to the Marquis of Winchester, and was such a great prize-taker. The mare, now 10 years old, has a foal by Forest King, but it was only a week old, and considered too young to show. There were but three hackney foals, shown by Mr. S. T. Traylen, Honington; Mr. W. Woodgate, of Burgh, and Mr. C. K. Norman, of Chelmondiston, and these were placed in the order named. Nearly all the hackneys shown "with saddle" were much more of the character of harness horses. Mrs. Hartley Batt, of Elgin Avenue, London, won first in two classes, her hackney under 15 hands, and Mr. Edgar Baxter, of the well-known Hutton Stud, Brentwood, took a second prize. In the harness class for mares or geldings 15 hands high and upwards, the first prize was won by Mr. W. S. Cunard, of Bracknell, Berks, with Silver King, the second prize going to Mr. G. F. Johnson, for Daylesford King, an animal of beautiful quality, which has won a good many prizes. Twelve harness hacks under 15h.h. entered the ring, and the red rosette went to Mr. Edgar Baxter for Miss Howard, though she was run very close by Mr. W. S. Cunard's Hawthorn Marvel, another horse which came from Mr. Johnson's stables at Woodbridge. The hackneys in the younger classes, and the cobs and ponies, made a very good show. The special presented by Mr. Harry Showell was won by Mr. W. J. Catchpole's Piety. Mr. W. H. Higginson, of Springfield, Ipswich, deservedly carried off two prizes with his fine and sharp goer, Gentle Annie, though he was beaten for first place in one class by Mr. J. H. King, of the Gull Farm, Hasketon. Out of seven pairs of carriage horses that were entered and driven in double harness, only two put in an appearance, and those well-known horses, Searchlight and Brilliance (once belonging to Mr. Johnson, but now to Mrs Dale-Lace, of Lancaster Lodge, Lancaster Gate), once more stepped rather easily into first position, while Mr. William Miles was second with another excellent pair. The first prize for pairs under 15h.h. went to Mrs. Hartley Batt, and the second to Mr. Edgar Baxter. A class for tandem teams is one which it is a long time since the Association provided, although much desired, and it was only to be expected that it would on this occasion form a most interesting feature. Five teams entered the ring, and their appearances were greeted with considerable applause. Mrs. Hartley Batt's beautiful team commanded great attention, and the way in which they were driven was an object lesson in "hands." Mr. Baxter's team and Mrs. Dale-Lace's redoubtable Brilliance and Searchlight, driven by Mr. George Johnson, were also greatly admired. The judges awarded the red ribbon to Mr. Baxter's team, in preference to Mrs. Batt's. It was certainly no hasty decision, and Brilliance and Searchlight were so close up that both they and Mrs. Batt's team were given second prizes. Mr. W. J. Catchpole, with Piety, gained the special prize offered by the Hackney Horse Society, and Mr G. F. Johnson scored another victory with Golden King, a horse of beautiful quality. The jumping afforded plenty of amusement, as usual, but was not in any way remarkable.

Cattle.

There was a more varied show of cattle than on many previous occasions, the Shorthorn classes being enriched with numerous entries of the highest quality, while the Channel Islands cattle made quite a large display. The Red Polls were fairly numerous, but certainly stronger classes of the native East Anglian cattle have been seen in the past; this was most notable among the younger cattle, and was the more striking perhaps by reason of the presence of a moderate proportion of really good animals. Lord Amherst was the most successful exhibitor of Red Poll bulls, taking the champion prize and winning first in two classes and second in another. He won in the old bull class with Defiance, a three and a-half-years old animal, bred by Mr. Harvey Mason, and in the younger bull classes with Recruit, just under a year old, of his own breeding; in the class for bulls calved in 1900, his exhibit, Royal Standard, was placed second to a very good bull, a few months younger, shown by Sir William Corbet, of Acton Reynold, Shrewsbury, which was reserved for the championship. In the strong class of cows, the first award went to the Exors. of Mr. P. K. Blofield, of Quidenham, for a high-bred cow by Ruby Prince. Mr. F. H. Baxendale took both prizes in the class for heifers calved in 1899, while Mr. J. B. Dimmock secured the leading honour in the 1900 heifers, with a heifer by Bismarck, bred by the Duchess of Hamilton. The 1901 heifers made a large class, and several new exhibitors entered the lists; the first and second prizes went to the Hon. Ailwyn Fellowes and Mr. Horace Packard, the latter exhibiting a heifer bred by the trustees of the late Duke of Hamilton. The prize for collection was awarded to Lord Amherst, who, however, did not exhibit in the cow and heifer classes, so that there was something in the nature of anomoly about the "collection" award.

The most successful exhibitor of Shorthorns was Mr. Leopold de Rothschild, who secured four first prizes; but the competition against him could hardly be described as keen. Sir Thomas Gooch, of Benacre Hall, was the solitary exhibitor of heifers calved in 1899, and was awarded the first prize. Mr. D. Abbott Green, of Fingringhoe Hall, was second to Lord Rothschild in the class for bulls calved in 1901-2, with a promising exhibit. The special presented by the Shorthorn Society, and limited to Norfolk and Suffolk, was awarded to a year-old exhibit by Mr. J. B. Dimmock, and reserved in its class. The classes for the Channel Islands breed were not only numerically strong, but the quality reached a high standard, and the competition was very keen. In the bull class, in which there were fifteen entries, Earl Cadogan took the lead with Topsy's Fox, a young bull of beautiful type, bred in Jersey. In the large class of cows (sixteen entries), Colonel McCalmont, M.P., of Cheveley, was first with Harmony, a Monmouth-bred animal, while nearly all the entries received notice from the judge. The Blythwood Bowl went to the same exhibit. The judge deemed the class so good that an extra prize was given. The heifer class was again very strong, and the judge was quite prolific in his commendations. The first prize went to Mr. E. Murray Ind, of Great Warley, for an island bred heifer of beautiful quality—a broken colour with a perfect bag—while Col. McCalmont was second with a heifer of his own breeding. Sir Thomas Gooch had numerous entries, and obtained reserve and highly-commended cards.

Sheep.

The display of sheep was, both in quantity and quality, one of the best seen at this Society's show. The Black-faced, of course, predominated as being the county breed, and in this section Mr. Herbert Smith, The Grange, Walton, took first prize with a sheep of excellent character, which carried off the gold medal offered by the Suffolk Sheep Society. Mr. S. R. Sherwood, Playford, was second. The class for shearling Suffolk rams was a large and good one, and the judges had no little difficulty in selecting the winner. It was thought that the chief honours should have gone to an entry of Mr. Thomas Goodchild's. However, the judges fixed their choice upon Mr. R. Barclay's exhibit, Mr. Goodchild was second, and Mr. S. R. Sherwood third. As usual, there was a strong muster of Suffolk ram lambs. Mr. Herbert Smith was first and third, and Mr. S. R. Sherwood second, the winners being of excellent type and character, the first winners also securing the challenge cup offered by Messrs. Robt. Bond and Sons for the best ram lamb. Suffolk shearling ewes were well represented, and here Mr. R. Barclay, Higham, was first, with Mr. Thomas Goodchild second. Suffolk ewe lambs were not quite so strong as last year, but the quality was of the very best. Mr. Herbert Smith was once again to the front, his pen being awarded the silver medal given by the Suffolk Sheep Society for the best pen of ewe lambs, and also the special given by Messrs. R. and W. Paul, Limited, for the best ewe lambs. On the other hand, there were more Suffolk ewe lambs uncoloured and untrimmed, and here again Mr. Herbert Smith was the winner, Mr. Sherwood being second, but the latter gentleman once more was first in the class for ten Suffolk shearling ewes, naturally grazed in the open fields. The animals were wonderfully even and matched in their wool. Mr. Herbert Smith was first and also second in a strong class of Suffolk lamb tups, while Mr. R. Eaton White was third. There were in all 21 entries, and as might be expected, in a collection of this magnitude, several good animals escaped notice. The special for the best collection of Suffolk sheep was taken by Mr. Herbert E. Smith.

There was but a small show of Southdowns, but these were, taken as a whole, a nice lot. Mr. Charles Adeane was first in the class for two-shear ram, which carried off the Southdown Sheep



THE TAMWORTH SOW shown above is "Whitacre Beauty" 8526, winner of First Prize and Silver Medal at the Bath and West Society's recent Show at Plymouth. She was bred by Mr. D. W. Philip, The Ashes, Whitacre, her sire being Warwickshire Monarch 4597, and her dam Whitacre Countess 2nd, but is the property of Mr. H. C. Stephens, Cholderton, Salisbury. At the show mentioned "Whitacre Beauty" was shown in the class for Tamworth breeding sows farrowed before 1902 (she was born July 10th, 1897), and won the First Prize, subsequently being awarded the National Pig Breeders' Association's Silver Medal for the best sow of the Large White, Middle White, Small White, or Tamworth breed.

Society's medal, as the best male. Mr. W. Nocton, Langham Hall, was second in this class. In the class for shearlings Colonel H. McCalmont, M.P., was first, and Mr. C. Adeane second; while the Earl of Ellesmere took the lead in lamb rams, the second going to Colonel McCalmont. There were only two entries of shearling ewes, and the best of these were those shown by the Earl Cadogan. Five pens competed in the class for ewe lambs, Colonel McCalmont being first, and taking the special for the best pen of females.

Pigs.

The show of pigs was undoubtedly the best ever seen at Ipswich, but naturally Large Blacks predominated, and the display was decidedly the best of the breed ever seen. Large black boars of any age made a very fine show, but Mr. C. F. Marriner won both prizes—the first with Royal Bodmin, of beautiful quality with good back and great depth, while the second prize animal is a boar of great length. Mr. G. P. Watkins was commended for the youngest boar in the class, a very promising one of nice quality and character. The class for sow and pigs was better filled than usual, but Mr. A. H. Cobbald was invincible, taking both prizes with exceptionally good exhibits. In the class for pair of breeding sows, farrowed in 1902, Mr. John Goddard got first, second, and reserve, a trio it would be hard to beat. The breeding sow class was a very good one throughout; all the animals were of excellent type, the prize-winners, shown by Mr. Marriner, being especially good; there were numerous h.c. and c. cards. In the Large White classes, Mr. Sanders Spencer took very nearly all the prizes with exhibits of the type familiar to all frequenters of show yards. The classes for cross-breds had numerous exhibits.

Miscellaneous.

The butter-making competitions at the working dairy established by the Eastern Counties' Dairy Institute again attracted a large amount of attention, and througout the day throngs of interested spectators watched the various processes employed. The competitions were carried out under favourable conditions, the temperature being moderate, and, as a whole, the work was exceedingly satisfactory — indeed, the judge (Mr. Matthews) experienced considerable difficulty in making his award, and, in the course of a general pronouncement on the competition, he expressed the opinion that the work was uncommonly well done.

A spacious and up-to-date forge was erected for the horse-shoeing competitions, and the work which was witnessed by a large crowd, was carried out in a thoroughly practical manner, but the judges found a lack of scientific training. Suffolk has been considerably behindhand in the matter of horse-shoeing, and the judges were very pleased to note a decided improvement, but it was said that the improvement would be more marked if the Technical Instruction Committee of the County Council followed other counties in giving instruction in this branch of work. Three sheep shearing competitions took place, and the work was so well done that the judges had some difficulty in making their awards, and in one class three men were placed equal firsts and another prize added.

Shropshire and West Midland.

The annual show of the Shropshire and West Midland Argicultural Society was held on Thursday and Friday, at Shrewsbury, on the usual site at Gravel Hill. At one time the society used to visit the various towns in the West Midlands, and though they generally received a cordial welcome, their shows did not always pay their way, and it was at last deemed advisable to have a fixed showyard at Shrewsbury. Since possessing this the matters financial have improved wonderfully, as have also the entries; in fact, the show itself has all round improved since it became a permanent fixture at Shrewsbury. The entries last week numbered 2,132, as compared with 2,178 last year, when a record was established, so that the numerical high-water mark has been well maintained. It may be mentioned that in 1899 the total was only 1,667, and in 1900 1.875, so that rapid progress has been made in this direction during the last few years. Live stock entries last week were as follows:—Horses 260, as compared with 250 last year; cattle 220, or seven more than in 1901; sheep 150, as against 155; and pigs 45, against 30. In addition, the samples of butter and cheese numbered 105, an increase of 17; there were 795 entries of dogs, 460 pens of poultry, and 68 stands of agricultural implements and machinery. It will thus be seen that the exhibition contained much that was attractive, not only to farmers, but to the general visitors.

First in the catalogue came the Shire horses, which were perhaps the best collection ever seen at this show. The class for yearling fillies or geldings (open) was a very strong one, and here first prize was secured by Lord Llangattock with Poole Duchess, Mr. P. A. Muntz coming second with Dunsmore Mistress. Lord Llangattock also took the first prize for mares or geldings foaled in 1900, and that for mares or geldings foaled in 1899. Mr. Muntz being second in the former, and Mr. E. Green, the Moors, Welshpool, second in the latter. The open class for mare and foal was exceptionally strong, and Mr. Lewis was an easy winner with Countess, a well-known animal, which just now is looking in excellent feather. She is a mare of good size, with limbs of the best quality, and had with her a very fine foal. She was subsequently awarded the Shire Horse Society's medal. The county class for mare and foal was also a strong one, and above the standard of merit of county classes. The Duke of Sutherland scored a good win with Fancy, Mr. G. Cambridge, Shifnal, coming second with Mayflower. The latter animal was later on awarded the Lythwood Challenge Cup, value £25, for the best mare or filly in the Shire classes bred in the county, and owned by a resident in the county. Mr. Lewis scored with a Shire filly foal by Buscot Harold, with stylish outline, good shoulders, and fine straight limbs. The classes for stallions were not so strong as the others. In that for stallions foaled in 1901 Messrs. W. and J. Thompson, Desford, won with Girton Magician, a very good mover, with plenty of feather. The second, Dunsmore Masterpiece, a well-known prize-winner, had perhaps a little more size, plenty of bone, and excellent feet, and though he had not quite so much feather as the first prize winner, it was the opinion of some that the positions ought to have been reversed. In the class for animals foaled in 1900 and 1899 were put into competition together, which was rather against the younger animals. The winner, shown by Mr. E. Green, Welshpool, was a weighty horse, with good shoulders and feet, but he did not appear to use himself very well. The second, the property of Messrs. Thompson, though lacking slightly in size, was well planted on the ground and a capital mover.

The hunter classes were rather disappointing as far as entries were concerned, but the quality was all that could be desired. Bilbrook Lad, which carried off the first prize in the open class for yearlings, is a very fine colt indeed; and a chestnut filly exhibited by the Hon. Alexandra Parke, of Wrexham, was a good second. The class for mare, colt, or gelding foaled in 1900, was so excellent that each animal in the class received the commended award. The winner, Captain Haywood Lonsdale's Wexford, is a clinking two-year-old colt, and should make a most valuable sire. Mr. W. Butler's Sybil, the winner of the second prize, is a beautiful animal, but a little bit on the small side. In the open class for brood mare and foal Mr. P. Everall, of Dorrington, was successful in securing first honours with Beauty, a splendid mare with a promising colt at her heels. Mr. W. Tell's (Ross) second prize winner, Aroma, is full of quality, but she had a very young foal with her, which told slightly against her. In the open class for mare or gelding up to not less than 15st. Mr. J. H. Stokes scored a meritorious win with a very well-known horse, Tennis Ball; whilst in the county class Eaton, the property of Mr. Thomas Lloyd, of Baschurch, took the first prize. It is an animal full of quality, while the second prize was taken by Mr. T. Jones with a useful horse with good galloping powers and nice manners. The open class for mare or gelding foaled in 1898 was well above the average, and Mr. Stokes's Haddon, which beat Mr. B. Cory's bay mare, was an animal of fine development and of excellent style. In the Hackney classes there was a particularly good show of quality, and, as a consequence, competition was keen. This was particularly so in what was, perhaps, the most important class of the show, that devoted to mares in the county likely to breed animals suitable for military purposes. In this class the judges were unable to decide to whom should be given the palm, and they awarded the following equal firsts, viz., Darby, a dark brown mare, shown by Mr. J. Cadman; a bay mare, five years old, exhibited by Mr. T. S. Minton; Dysney, a chestnut weight-carrying cob mare, the property of Mr. Scott-Belton Strange; and a bay mare, six years and one month, bred by Mr. H. S. Wyke. There were only four entries in the class for polo ponies, or ponies likely to make useful animals for the purposes of the game, and Nondescript, shown by the Keynsham Stud Company, was an easy winner. The three classes devoted to Welsh and mountain ponies did not produce many entries, but the quality of the diminutive animals left little to be desired. Mr. J. Marshall Dugdale, of Llanfyllin, carried off the first honours in each class, and Mr. E. Jones, of Llandilo, secured two seconds.

The cattle made a capital display, both Shorthorns and Herefords being of excellent quality. In the Shorthorn section Mr. H. K. Colville showed the best of the old bulls in Royal Seal, a red five-year-old, which was bred in Cumberland, and has won many prizes. In addition to the class award Royal Seal also won the champion prize offered for the best local Shorthorn bull of any age. The second prize in the class went to Break of Day, the two-year-old roan belonging to Mr. C. W. Kellock, which was so successful at the Staffordshire show last year. The class for bulls calved in 1900 was well represented, Mr. J. Handley's roan, Pearl King, nearly two years old, a Lancashire bred bull, being easily first. The next honours went to Stoneytown Archer, a Scotch Shorthorn, the property of Mr. R. P. Cooper, which was second at the Nottingham Show. The competition in the old bull class open to county exhibitors was only moderate, but in the next local class for yearlings the opposition was much keener. Still Mr. T. S. Minton won somewhat easily with his well-bred red Duke of Hoylecote 110th, which also carried off the Shorthorn Society's special prize for the best local yearling bull. The same useful animal was a very fair second in the open class to Mr. J. Handley's Ingram's Style, a good-looking animal which promises to develop into a capital farmer's bull. In the Shorthorn dairy cow class several valuable milkers were shown, Mr. H. K. Colville taking first prize with Melody 21st, a roan eight-year-old, and Mr. A. Green second with Lady Susan, the same age, and a capital dairy cow. Mr. Cartwright was a successful exhibitor of heifers calved in 1900, and of those a year younger Messrs. Evans were represented by a smart animal. The best local yearling was Montford May, belonging to Mr. T. S. Minton.

There were just over 50 Herefords, and they were a wonderfully good lot. Here, as in the Shorthorn section, Mr. T. S. Minton was a successful exhibitor, his Montford Kale, a lengthy, straight, compact bull, taking first place in the open bull class, and also the championship for Hereford bulls. In that class he beat, after a close fight, the well-known Gambler, the property of Mr. W. T. Barneby, which led in a very strong class at the Bath and West Show at Plymouth. In the two-year-old class Mr. A. P. Turner's Plymouth winner, the choice Magnate, was again placed first, beating a well-bred red-and-white, Long Tom, shown by Mr. E. Farr. In yearlings Mr. A. E. Hughes took first prize with his Bath and West winner, Glendower II., a bull of great promise, and he had little difficulty in beating Mr. Turner's Marcellus, a bull on the small side. Mr. Minton won the prizes in the two local classes; whilst in the cow class Mr. A. E. Hill showed a very good milker, Promise II., which only just beat Mr. J. Tudge's Princess Royal. In the two-year-old heifer class there was a reversal of form compared with the Plymouth show. Mr. Barneby's Mistletoe, a Hereford of full shape and nice character, second at Cardiff last year, was placed behind Royal Gem at the Bath and West exhibition, but now the positions were changed, Mr. Tudge's representative having to take second place. Mr. J. Rawlings won in the two-year-old local class, and Messrs. Firkins Brothers beat Lord Llangattock in the open yearling class, their exhibits being well fleshed and of excellent character; while in the local class Sir C. H. R. Boughton was at the head with a useful youngster.

There were not many Jerseys, but they made a much better show than usual. In the open cow class Mr. L. G. Gisborne and the Marquis of Winchester secured the awards with a couple of deep milking animals, Mr. Gisborne being also successful in the restricted class. The Marquis of Winchester led in the two-year-old heifer open class, and also in the yearling heifer class, his representatives being of very choice quality and good milkers. Colonel Shaw Hellier showed the best old bull, and the Marquis of Winchester won in the yearling bull class. The dairy cattle look well, and the prizes went to deep milking animals.

The Shropshire breed of sheep was not quite so well represented as in former years, owing to the fact that several well-known breeders have during the past year given up their flocks; but still there was a very good show, and in some cases competition was keen. The most attractive feature of the judging was the exciting competition for the Mansell Memorial challenge cup, offered for the best Shropshire ram. Not only did the winners of the shearling and older ram classes face the judges, but several of the best sheep in the pens of five were brought out, and a long time was occupied in arriving at a decision. Eventually the cup was awarded to the Oxford winner, a magnificent specimen owned by Mr. R. P. Cooper, and taken from a pen of five which received a third prize. The reserve honour for the trophy was given to Mrs. M. Barr's shearling, a very fine sheep, well grown, and of splendid quality. This ram, which won at Nottingham, also received the first prize in a strong class of shearling rams, beating Mr. B. Wall's typical sheep, which has made considerable improvement since the Nottingham Show. Mr. R. J. Cooper's third prize taker was a useful animal, and so is Mr. W. F. Inge's sheep, which was awarded the fourth prize. The rams of any other age were not quite so good a class, but a capital fight resulted, the prizes respectively going to representatives of Messrs. Evans and Mr. R. P. Cooper. As indicated in the references to the competition for the challenge cup, many exhibitors showed their best sheep in the class for pens of five shearling rams, and it was only after much hesitation that the prize-takers were selected. The first prize goes to a well-grown pen, perfectly matched, and brought out in splendid condition by Mrs. Barrs; but Mr. W. F. Inge's pen which received second honours was almost as good. Mr. Cooper's third-prize pen was not so evenly

matched, the winner of the challenge cup standing out from the others in an unmistakable way. The biggest sheep were found in Mr. P. A. Muntz's pen, but the quality was not so fine, and they only received the fourth prize. In the class for pens of five shearling ewes, Mr. W. F. Inge was placed first with a pen brought out in the best condition. The lambs in the open classes looked well, and the competition in the restricted classes was also keen. The Welsh mountain sheep made an excellent show, the chief prizes going to Mr. W. E. Williams and Mr. J. M. Dugdale.

The number of pigs entered was not quite as strong as last year, but the quality of the exhibits was well up to the standard. Mr. Jefferson, of Chester, as in former years, was the principal prize winner.

In connection with the exhibition of produce there was a comprehensive show by the Harper Adams Agricultural College, Newport, Salop. Here demonstrations in butter making were given, and there was an interesting exhibit of the apparatus used in the instruction given to the students. The butter and cheese exhibits were well up to the standard of previous years. Of butter there was a particularly good show, and the competition in the open class was exceedingly keen.

Wiltshire.

The Wiltshire Agricultural Association's Show, which opened at Swindon on Tuesday, was favoured with a splendid specimen of June weather, and the meeting, taken all round, proved to be one of the best held by the Association of recent years. It is four years since the Association last visited Swindon, and the townspeople and the inhabitants from the surrounding district turned up in force. The number of entries received this year totalled 636, which shows a substantial increase on the previous years. The following table shows the entries received for the three former shows as compared with those at the present meeting:—

	Salisbury. 1899.	Devizes. 1900.	Chip'ham. 1901.	Swindon. 1902.
Cart Horses	63	64	53	64
Hunters and Nags, etc.	93	93	153	117
Cattle	107	61	88	139
Sheep	52	39	29	31
Pigs	43	28	No show.	No show
Butter	48	43	47	70
Cheese	17	12	17	22

The judges in the different sections were as follows: Cart horses: Mr. James Forshaw, Newark; Mr. Thomas Chapman, Orchard Portman. Hunters: Mr. John Hill, Church Stretton; the Hon. A. E. Parker, Bangor-on-Dee. Sheep: Mr. E. J. Bennett, Chilmark; Mr. W. T. Twidell, Wallingford. Cattle: Mr. J. T. Hobbs, Maiseyhampton; Mr. J. Blackmore, Durston. Jerseys: Mr. W. E. Budgett, Henbury. Guernseys: Mr. H. J. Gibbs, Milford. Butter and cheese: Mr. Alfred Stratton, Melksham; and Mr. W. J. Hall, Swindon. Butter-making: Mr. T. Latham, Dorchester, Oxon.

Horses.

Although in one or two of the classes some weakness was noticeable, the cart horses made a fine show. Mr. G. T. Anstee, Stanton, Chippenham, headed the class for shire stallions, three years old and upwards, with Stanton Albion, a four-year-old. Mr. W. H. Godding, of Marlborough, being second, with Normoor Commander. The entire colts foaled in 1902 only brought out three. Last year's progeny filled up better, Mr. G. Cowing being the winner, and Mr. G. T. Anstee second prize-taker, with a colt by the winner of the old sires. Mr. Cowing was also to the fore in brood mares. This proved an excellent class, the competition being very good for second and third places, which were ultimately allotted respectively to Mr. W. H. Godding and Mr. G. H. Morey, of Britford, Salisbury. For fillies foaled in 1900 Mr. Cowing took both first and second awards, Mr. J. B. Stevens, Ogbourne St. George, Marlborough, being third, and Mr. G. F. King, of Chewton Keynsham, reserve, with a bay by Buscot Harold. There were four entries in the geldings, all of which were mentioned, Mr. G. H. Morey taking first, second, and reserve numbers, Mr. Joseph Stretton, of Broad Hinton, Swindon, being third. The yearling filly classes was one of the best in the exhibition, and so good was it that the judges recommended extra prizes in addition to the three at their disposal. Mr. G. T. Anstee headed the string, which exceeded a dozen, Messrs. Firkins, Bishop Froome, Worcester, being second, and Mr. G. F. King third. There was a first-rate entry for pairs. Mr. J. B. Stevens did well, being first prize-taker and reserve position holder, with Mr. W. H. Godding an excellent second. These exhibitors accounted for all the prizes in the county class, Mr. Stevens taking for his share both first and second awards, leaving the third for Mr. Godding. The special prize of £5 for the best entire was taken by the shire colt (1900) winner, the reserve being Mr. Anstee's Stanton Albion, the winner of the three years and upwards class for sires. A like special prize, for the best two-year-old in the cart classes, fell to Mr. George Cowing's winner of the fillies, whilst the special prize for the best female fell to Mr. Godding's Savernake Victoria, which also carried off the medal offered by the Shire Society.

In the hunting department the brood mares were the first catalogued, and a really first-rate lot, both in numbers and quality, were led out, several having very nice foals at foot. The class was open, and carried two prizes, both of which went out of the county, Mr. J. Hayman Joyce, of Brede, Sussex, being first. Her foal was by King's Beadsman, bred by the late Sir Julian Goldsmid. Mr. C. W. Francis, Templecombe, stood second, showing a fourteen-year-old chestnut, named Cloncilla, with a colt foal by Pantomime. Several local exhibitors shared in the minor honours, including Mr. T. Hooper Deacon. There was a small but very select class for colts or fillies. The leading position lay between Coonel Henry, of Tetbury, and Mr. L. H. Taylor, of Biddestone, Chippenham. The former carried off the leading prize with a chestnut by Mountain Dew, bred by the exhibitor. Mr. Taylor's Ginger, also a chestnut, was second. The latter exhibitor, however, headed the class for two-year-olds with a bay by Yard Arm. He was also second in the three-year-olds, with an entry by Scotch Hazell, the first prize in this class going to Mr. John Clem, with an entry by Totertco. There was fairly good competition for four-year-olds and over (not exceeding seven years old), up to 12 stone. These were ridden in the ring, and all the awards went to Swindon, the winners being Mr. H. Percy Woolcott, Mr. T. H. Deacon, and Mr. E. C. Brown. The up to 14 stone brought out a strong class, which was headed by a powerful, free-striding brown gelding, Freemason, owned by Mr. W. H. Barber, of Henley. Mr. W. E. Selwood, of Newton Abbott, was second, and Mr. H. P. Woolcott third. The best hack was held to be Mr. Selwood's Stylish. In this class Mr. James Farmer, of Cirencester, was third prize-taker and reserve position holder. The Hunters' Improvement Society's silver medals went to Mr. Frederick Corp, of Wootton Bassett, for his bay filly by Pleuron, and Mr. J. H. Joyce's chestnut brood mare, Beatrice. In the single harness class Mr. S. R. Selman, of Redland, Bristol, took second prize, with Netpool Swell.

Sheep.

Hampshire Downs practically monopolised the sheep classes, which were well filled, the entries including several Pymouth winners. For two-teeth rams, Mr. James Flower, of Chilmark, headed the class, Mr. Cary Coles, of Winterbourne Stoke, Salisbury, being in close attendance. Mr. Alfred Apperly, of Stroud, was highly commended. Mr. Flower was also to the fore for his pen of five ram lambs. Mr. Cary Coles won the ram lamb class, and for the same entry was awarded the champion prize offered by the Hampshire Down Breeders' Association.

Cattle.

The cattle section was especially a good one, the Shorthorn classes being well up to the mark. In the class for bulls calved in 1898-00 Mr. J. Deane Willis was first with his white C.I.V., by Brave Archer, which later was also adjudged the champion prize, the gift of Viscountess Bolingbroke. For the class competition Mr. G. F. King was second. There was another good entry for 1901 bull calves, and Mr. Willis was again master of the situation, this time with his roan Bapton Florist. Amongst the minor awards, Mr. G. F. King took a h.c. with Chewton Victor 6th. Mr. Arthur Hiscock, jun., took first and second in the dairy cows, and this in face of the fact that the celebrated White Heather, the property of Mr. J. D. Willis, was in the ring. The judges held that, according to the stipulations of the class, the prizes were for the best dairy cow, and not the best shorthorn. Mr. J. Thorley, of Farringdon, was first for heifers, Mr. J. D. Willis second with Cinderella, and Mr. G. F. King third with Countess 56th, by Viceroy. Mr. J. Thorley also won first prize in a novice class. For the 1901 heifers Mr. J. D. Willis added to his list of wins, and in this class Mr. G. F. King stood second with Evelyn 4th.

There was a very strong representation indeed of Jerseys, many of the best English breeders putting in an appearance. Mrs. C. McIntosh's Halburton's Bruce headed the bull class, and amongst the minor honours appeared the names of Mr. Edward Colston, M.P., and Lady Smyth, Ashton Court. Mr. Antony Gibbs led in a very strong competition for bull calves with Perry Farm Clipper. This exhibitor was also highly commended in the cow class. For 1901 heifers Lady Smyth again came in for a h.c. and c., one of the latter cards being also handed to Mr. Antony Gibbs. Amongst the other prize-takers were Lady Rothschild, the Marquess of Winchester, Mr. Arthur Pocock, and Mr. James Joicey. The Guernseys did not show up quite so strongly, chief among the prize-winners coming Messrs. W. Glynn and F. Hargreaves.

Hadleigh.

The Hadleigh Farmers' Club and Agricultural Association held a most successful annual show on Friday, the 22nd ult. A record entry was received, there being about 40 more exhibits this year than there were last. The increase was chiefly due to the Suffolks, while the neat stock showed several additions.

The Suffolks were judged by Mr. E. A. Cook, Dennington Lodge, and Mr. Arthur T. Pratt, Sproughton, the latter gentleman taking the place of Mr. Fred Lewin, who was unable to attend on account of illness. As already stated, there was a good show of Suffolks, Mr. E. F. Quilter showing choice animals from his well-known stud at Bentley. This gentleman was very successful. Several of the classes were exceedingly well filled, the best collection being perhaps that for mare or filly, three years old and upwards. There were four level good exhibits, a pair sent by Mr. E. F. Quilter beating the Rev. H. Taylor's Tiffen 3rd. The special prize for the best stallion or entire colt was also won by Mr. Quilter with Bentley Warrior, while the same gentleman's Bentley Duchess was awarded the special prize for the best mare. The silver medal for the best filly foaled in 1899, or since, also went to Bentley, the reserve being Sir Cuthbert Quilter's Bawdsey Sweet Marjorie.

The judges of the cart horses other than Suffolks were—Mr. Joseph Lankester, Old Newton, and Mr. W. H. Richardson, Doddington. The two-year-olds formed a good collection, Mr. J. Trenham Cresswell carrying off the first prize and special with his Redlynch Blue Blood. Mr. Henry Munson being a good second with his well-known Souldern Albert, by Waresley Albert. A nice Waresley Triumph colt, belonging to Mr. J. R. Keeble, was easily first in the yearling class, and the same gentleman took the same position in the one for mare with foal at foot. Mr. Keeble scored also in a big foal class with a handsome youngster by Moors Regent. Mr. F. Baldwin's handsome mare, Suffolk Lass, added to her many victories, and was reserved for the championship, which honour was awarded to a fine two-year-old sent by Mr. J. R. Keeble. There were some good yearling fillies, Mr. T. Haward, Gedgrave Hall, taking the lead with a particularly handsome filly, Mr. J. Sturley Nunn's Evening Star, by Brisbane, being second. The pairs of horses made a good show in the ring. The judges could not agree, and Mr. J. Sturley Nunn was called in, and Mr. Felix T. Cobbold was awarded first, and Mr. J. F. T. Dipnall second.

The hunters, Hackneys, and ponies came before the Rev. Sir William Hyde Parker, Bart., Long Melford, and Mr. J. C. Dawson, Nacton. Some choice hunters put in an appearance, Mr. George F. Hempson, Ardleigh, being first with his Red Letter in the weight-carrying class, Music, belonging to Mr. H. N. Dunnett, carrying off second, while in the light-weights, Mr. C. H. Westropp's Hardware was to the fore, another entry by Mr. H. N. Dunnett taking second place. The harness classes were well filled. Mr. D. Dyer's Fashion carrying off first in the largest class, which was that for mare or gelding not exceeding 15 hands. The jumping competitions as usual excited much interest on the part of the large company that had assembled on the ground.

The judges of neat stock, sheep, and swine were Mr. Herbert E. Smith (Walton), and Mr. G. P. Watkins (Culpho). As to the neat stock, the number and character of the entries did not suggest that Hadleigh was the centre of a very strong dairy district. In the bull class there were three entries, and as many varieties of bulls, the first honour going to a choice red poll belonging to Sir J. T. Rowley, Bart. There was a particularly good collection of polled cows, the chief honour going to a Suffolk from Semer, shown by Mr. R. J. Thurman.

As to the swine, Mr. C. W. Haward, Wenham, was to the fore in the class for boars of any breed with a nice Large Black, which was good enough to beat an exhibit from Eldo House, Bury St. Edmund's. Mr. A. H. Cobbald, however, was first in the sow class with a Large Black, Mr. C. W. Haward being second, but she was accompanied by her progeny, which precluded her from competing in the next class, that for sow and pigs. This was a specially strong collection, and the judges gave the first honours to a cross-bred sow, belonging to Sir Joshua T. Rowley, which secured the distinction because she had a marvellously well-matched litter of a dozen. The remainder of the exhibits consisted of Large Blacks, the second prize going to Mr. A. H. Cobbald.

With respect to sheep, there was a big entry of tups of any short-wool breed; the premier place was assigned to Mr. M. G. Hale, of Claydon, for a very useful black-faced tup, which, however, was closely run by a Southdown shown by Mr. William Nocton, of Langham. Mr. Hale was also first in long-wools; and as to the competition for pens of three Suffolk ewes, lambed in 1901, the famed Bentley Hall flock carried the sway. There might have been a better exhibition of shearling ewes; evidently the breeders in the district do not put their best foot forward in this matter. In the fat sheep class a nice pen of Southdowns, belonging to Mr. Nocton, took the premier honours. In the class for ten Suffolk ewes with their own lambs, Mr. M. G. Hale was again to the fore with a useful lot of ewes and lambs, showing good breeding. In a corresponding class of any other breed, Mr. Nocton was first with Southdowns.

SOCIETIES.

Royal Agricultural Society of England.

A monthly Council was held at the Society's House, 13, Hanover Square, W., H.R.H. Prince Christian, of Schleswig-Holstein, K.G. (President) in the chair. The minutes of the last monthly meeting of the Council, held on May 7, 1902, were taken as read, and approved.

Letter from H.R.H. the Prince of Wales.

H.R.H. the President, in moving that the letter dated May 7, 1902, from H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, accepting the office as President of the Society, be entered upon the minutes, said he was sure he was expressing the feelings of the Council when he said how much gratified they were that his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales had accepted the office of President of the Society for the ensuing year.

The motion was unanimously agreed to amid cheers.

Election of New Governor and Members.

The election of the following governor and nineteen members was proceeded with:—

GOVERNOR.

Kleinwort, Herman G., Wierton Place, Boughton, Monchelsea Kent.

MEMBERS.

Beardshaw, Edward T., Baltic Steel Works, Sheffield.
Bett, Robert, Court Lodge, Stoke, Rochester.
Bird, Oliver J. L., Belvidere, East Malling, Kent.
Cottard, Alfred, Havre, France.
Crowley, John F., Meadow Hall Iron Works, Sheffield.
Garnett, William, jun., Backwell Hill House, near Bristol.
Hill, Basil Hubert, Buston House, Lesbury, Northumberland.
Kerr, John, Gilmerton, Drem, Haddingtonshire.
Killick, William, Beddingham, Lewes.
Mitchell, Ronald Walter, Manor Farm, Ladingford, Yalding.
Morton, Nathaniel, Ballymena, co. Antrim.
Oswald, Richard Alexander, Auchincruive, Ayr, N.B.
Raingill, Sam. S., The Grange, Ringway, Altrincham, Cheshire.
Rawlinson, Thomas, Park House, Kirkby Lonsdale.
Radmayne, Hugh, Brathay Hall, Ambleside.
Shaw, George Rainger, Beechcroft, Great Missenden, Bucks.
Shield, Edward, 8, Hextoc Terrace, Hexham-on-Tyne.
Stopford, Lieut.-Colonel William, Rathmore, Kinsale, co. Cork.
Tyson, J. H., Cadeby Hall, North Thoresby, S.O., Lincs.

On the motion of Sir Nigel Kingscote, it was unanimously resolved:—

That the secretary be empowered to issue to any duly nominated candidate, on receipt of a remittance for £1 (the amount of the annual subscription of a member), a special ticket admitting the candidate to the same privileges as a member during the Carlisle Meeting; the question of the formal election as member of such candidate to be considered by the Council at their next meeting to be held in London.

The reports of the various standing committees were then presented, and adopted, as below:—

Finance.

Sir Nigel Kingscote (Chairman) reported that the accounts for the month of May, 1902, as certified by the Society's accountants, showed total receipts amounting to £784 17s. 4d., and expenditure to £3,396 5s. 10d. Accounts amounting in all to £7.062 7s. 3d. had been passed, and were recommended for payment.

Journal.

The Earl of Derby reported that further consideration had been given to the question of the contents of the next volume of the Journal, and to a variety of suggestions for articles in the Journal.

Chemical and Woburn.

Mr. Bowen-Jones (Chairman) reported the progress of the experiments at the Society's Woburn experimental farm, and the visit to the farm on May 31st of students of the Agricultural Department of the University of Cambridge. The date for the Committee's annual visit of inspection to the farm was fixed for Thursday, July 24 next.

Mr. Bowen-Jones, in presenting this report, expressed the hope that as many as possible of the members of the Council would accompany the Committee on their visit of inspection to the farm on July 24, and that they would bring their friends with them.

Botanical and Zoological.

Mr. Wheeler (Chairman) reported that the Committee had given further consideration to the arrangements for the proposed Conference with representatives of the Highland and Agricultural Society, as to the testing of farm seeds, which had been fixed for Thursday, the 5th inst. They recommended that the Society's representatives should be Mr. E. V. V. Wheeler, Lord Moreton, Mr. Alfred Ashworth, and Mr. Frederick Reynard.

The Consulting Botanist (Mr. W. Carruthers, F.R.S.) presented his report.

The Zoologist (Mr. Cecil Warburton) had submitted proofs of drawings prepared for the proposed pamphlet on "Orchard and Bush-fruit Pests and How to Combat Them." The Committee recommended that as soon as the illustrations were completed the pamphlet be published by the Society at the price of 6d. per copy.

The Committee also recommended the publication with the proceedings, of the report by the Zoologist on the Oak Tortrix.

The Consulting Chemist had reported the progress of the clover experiments now being conducted at Woburn, and it was arranged that these experiments should be personally visited and kept under observation by the consulting botanist. The committee recommended that the consulting botanist and the consulting chemist be instructed to visit the experimental plots upon which the Society's Grass experiments were carried out from 1895 to 1900, in order to ascertain the present effect of the manures and treatment then applied.

Veterinary.

The Hon. Cecil Parker (Chairman) presented the usual report by Prof. McFadyean.

During the past winter it had been ascertained that, on several farms in different parts of the country, considerable numbers of sheep had died from black quarter (quarter-evil, or "strike"), and it was therefore considered advisable to carry out at the Royal Veterinary College a series of experiments to ascertain whether the method of protective inoculation, which had been largely practised in the case of young cattle, might with safely be applied to sheep. The experiments were not yet completed, but those already carried out had yielded results very favourable to the operation, both in respect to safety and efficiency.

The Committee recommended that two more veterinary inspectors (in addition to the seven already appointed) be engaged for the Carlisle meetnig, there being 521 horses entered, as against 355 at Cardiff last year. The number of entries received for the horse-shoeing competitions at the Carlisle meeting was 29 in Class 1 (Hunters), and 49 in Class 2 (Cart Horses). It had been decided that the competitions in Class 1 should be held on Wednesday, July 9, and in Class 2 on Thursday and Friday, July 10 and 11. The lecture in the show yard on "The Horse's Foot and How to Shoe It," by Mr. John Malcolm, F.R.C.V.S., was fixed for Friday, July 11, at 3 p.m.

Stock Entries at Carlisle.

Mr. Sanday (Chairman) presented a statement showing that the number of entries received in the various classes for live stock, poultry, and produce at the Carlisle meeting compared with previous years as follows:—

Description of Shedding.	Carlisle, 1902.	Cardiff, 1901.	York, 1900.	Maidstone, 1899.	Birm'gh'm, 1898.	Carlisle, 1880.
	Feet.	Feet	Feet.	Feet.	Feet.	Feet.
Ordinary	6,693	7,245	9,454	7,455	9,350	6,662
Machinery	2,079	2,305	2,547	2,192	3,239	2,060
Special (Seeds, Models, &c.)	2,321	2,101	2,771	2,553	2,902	1,059
Total*	11,093	11,651	14,772	12,200	15,491	9,781
No. of Stands	340	358	412	395	502	288

* Exclusive of open ground space

Prizes for Wind Engines.

Mr. Frankish (Chairman) reported that the draft regulations for the trial of wind engines, prepared by the Society's consulting engineer, had been approved, and the Committee recommended that prizes of £50 and £20 be offered in 1903 for wind engines for pumping purposes; the trials to take place in the London show yard in the months of March and April, next year, and the entries to be made by January 1 next.

Implement Shedding at Carlisle.

The following tabular statement of the space taken in the implement department at the forthcoming Carlisle meeting, as compared with previous years, was also submitted:—

SHEDDING IN IMPLEMENT YARD (IN FEET).

Description of Entries.	Carlisle, 1902.	Cardiff, 1901.	York, 1900.	Maidstone, 1899.	Birmingh'm, 1898.	Carlisle, 1880.
Horses	521	355	696	424	709	479
Cattle	667	563	687	683	792	432
Sheep	545	519	614	631	624	429
Pigs	178	148	—	147	198	145
Total	1,911	1,575	1,997	1,885	2,323	1,485
Poultry	653	701	629	669	964	—
Produce	461	521	528	625	635	100

Arrangements at Carlisle.

The Earl of Derby (chairman) reported that the programme for the Carlisle meeting had been settled that morning. The Implement Department and Dairy only would be opened on Saturday, July 5th, at a charge of 1s. each person, and the judging of produce would take place on that day. All departments would open on Monday, July 7th, when the judging of live stock and poultry would take place. The charge for admission on that day would be 5s. On Tuesday, July 8th, Wednesday, July 9th, Thursday, July 10th, and Friday, July 11th, there would be daily parades in the large ring of cattle and heavy horses in the morning, commencing at 11 a.m.; and of light horses, followed by horse jumping competitions, in the afternoon, commencing at 2 p.m. The charge for admission on the Tuesday and Wednesday would be 2s. 6d., and on the Thursday and Friday 1s. Butter-making and horse-shoeing competitions would be held on the Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday. From Tuesday to Thursday three performances of music daily would be given by the full band of the Portsmouth division of the Royal Marines, under the direction of the bandmaster, Lieut. George Miller, M.V.O., Mus. Bac. Cantab. On Friday, the last day of the meetin, selections of music would be played by the band of the Border Depot.

The North-Western Railway Company had intimated their willingness to run a special train from Penrith at 7.30 a.m., arriving at Carlisle at 7.50 a.m., on Monday, July 7th, for the convenience of judges and others who wished to arrive early in the show yard. The North-Eastern Railway had also promised to continue the train leaving Newcastle at 6.20, through from Hexham to Carlisle, arriving at 8.28 a.m.

The following time table had been arranged for the meetings of breed societies in the large tent in the Carlisle show yard:—

MONDAY, JULY 7th, 1902.

Shropshire Sheep-Breeders' Association, 3 p.m.

TUESDAY, JULY 8th, 1902.

Royal Agricultural Society of England, 12.30 p.m.
Shorthorn Society (Upper End), 2.30 to 4 p.m.
Polo Pony Society (Lower End), 2.30 to 4 p.m.
National Pig-Breeders' Association (Upper End), 4 to 5 p.m.

Arrangements for the 1903 London Show.

Sir Nigel Kingscote reported that the Committee of Selection had had under consideration the holding of meetings of the Council after the Carlisle Show, in connection with the question of expediting, as far as possible, the arrangements for the show of 1903 on the society's new permanent show yard in London. The committee were of opinion that the time had arrived for the appointment of a Special Committee to consider the whole of the arrangements to be made for that show, and in considering the composition of such committee it was felt that the Council could not do better than re-appoint, with two additions, the Special Committee of 1899-1900, which reported in detail on the society's show system.

It was proposed that the new Special Committee should begin their sittings as soon as possible after the Carlisle Show was over next month, and the question of whether a special meeting of the Council should be held in October to consider their recommendations could be considered at the next ordinary meeting of the Council to be held in London—viz., on Wednesday, July 30th, prior to which the Special Committee would have held their first meeting. He desired, therefore, formally to move:—

That a Special Committee, to consist of Earl Cawdor, the Earl of Derby, the Hon. Cecil Parker, Sir Walter Gilbey, Sir Nigel Kingscote, Sir Jacob Wilson, Mr. Crutchley, Mr. Dugdale, Mr. Frankish, Mr. Marshall, Mr. Sanday, and Mr. Stanyforth, be appointed to consider the arrangements to be made for the Show of 1903, with more particular reference to the general composition of the prize-sheet, the allocation of space to the several departments, the entry fees to be paid for exhibits of live stock, machinery, etc., and the arrangements for the accommodation of visitors to the Show.

Mr. Percy Crutchley said that in his capacity, both as honorary director and as chairman of the Site Committee, he had recognised for some time that the appointment of a strong committee such as was now proposed would be an essential preliminary to the consideration by the several Standing Committees of the customary detailed arrangements for their show of next year. As the Council would remember, it had been decided at their meeting, held on July 31st, 1901, to delegate all matters connected with the administration and development of the Permanent Show Estate, which the society then formally decided to purchase, to a small Standing Committee of four members resident in or near London, so as to deal promptly and expeditiously with the numerous questions connected with the purchase of the land and its preliminary preparation for the society's purposes. The Site Committee had from time to time reported progress in the preparation of the site; but it was obvious that many questions involving other interests must come before the committee, which could not with advantage be reported for public discussion. He felt that the time had now come for considering the best means of utilising the site for the show of 1903, and he thought that for this purpose it would be best to appoint the committee, mentioned in Sir Nigel Kingscote's resolution, which he now desired to second.

Date of the 1903 Show.

Mr. Stratton asked whether the terms of reference to this Special Committee would include the

fixing of the date of the show. He thought it was unfortunate that their shows were held at a most inconvenient time for the farmers of the country—viz., in the middle of the hay harvest. It was the opinion of many that the show should be held considerably earlier in the year. He understood that it was proposed to hold the show of 1903 the week after Ascot, but his opinion was that it should be held in May. It was a matter of the utmost importance, and he would like to know whether the new committee would have the subject referred to them.

Mr. Crutchley said that there was a regular time for holding the Society's show, namely, the week after Ascot, and this date was only departed from under very exceptional circumstances, such as had occurred this year, in view of the Coronation ceremonies. He had reported from the Site Committee at the April meeting of the council that with the co-operation of the railway and other authorities, there was every reason to hope that the meeting of 1903 would be held on their new site at the usual time of holding the show, namely, the week ofter Ascot; and a paragraph based on this had appeared in the report of the council to the anniversary general meeting held on the 22nd ult. He was afraid that he could not agree with Mr. Stratton that it would be desirable to hold their first show in the month of May, whatever might be done afterwards, for he was confident that they would have quite enough to do to arrange for the show of next year being held at the usual time in June.

Sir Jacob Wilson said he had quite understood that the question with regard to the date when they would hold their show in 1903 had already been settled. The proposal to hold the show in the week after Ascot was reported to the general meeting last month, and the report was then passed. Whatever might happen afterwards, it was generally understood that the show of 1903 should take place in the week after Ascot. They must look to the convenience of other societies as well as their own, in regard to the question of altering the date, and fix a time that would meet the convenience of the country generally.

After some further discussion,

Earl Spencer said he thought the question of the date of the show of 1903 was not a matter to be referred to the Special Committee. It would be very difficult to alter the time of the meeting for this particular show. There were already objections in certain quarters to the alteration of their show system, and if they altered the date of the show, it would only add to their difficulties.

Mr. Muntz, M.P., also reminded the council that they were making a grave change at the present moment in adopting a fixed site for their show. He thought it would be most undesirable to make a further change and alter the date. Let them be satisfied with one great change at the present moment, and at a future time the question of a change of date for the show might be considered.

The subject then dropped, and the motion for the appointment of the committee was carried.

Produce Entries at Carlisle.

Mr. Dugdale (chairman) reported that the following entries of produce had been made for the Carlisle Meeting:—Butter, 159; cheese, 73; cider and perry, 75; hives and honey, 154. For the butter-making competitions at Carlisle, twenty-one entries had been made in Class I., and three entries in Class III. No entries had been made in Class II.

In view of the small number of entries in Class III. it had been decided that demonstrations should take place in the dairy on Tuesday, July 8th, and that on Wednesday, July 9th, those who had entered in Class I. should compete in the morning and in the afternoon (the division of the competitors being decided by lot). On Thursday, July 10th, there would be a demonstration in the morning, and the competition in Class III. in the afternoon. On Friday morning, July 11th, the prize-winners in Classes I. and III. would compete for the prizes offered in Class IV.

Suggestions at Anniversary General Meeting.

The council proceeded to consider the following suggestions made by members at the anniversary general meeting on May 22nd, 1902:—

(1) Sir William Vincent, Bart.: "That information be published as to the conditions under which oak trees are defoliated by caterpillars."

(2) Mr. Clare Sewell Read: "That in connection with the buildings for the society's new permanent show yard, the Council be asked to consider the question of establishing a national seed-testing station open to landowners, farmers, and seedsmen (whether members of the society or not), at stated fees."

(3) Mr. James Edwards: "That provision should be made at the new permanent show yard of ground for the trial of tillage implements."

No. 1 of the above suggestions has already been dealt with by the Botanical and Zoological Committee, and the subjects of No. 2 and No 3 will receive consideration in connection with the future arrangements for the Society's shows.

Colonial Visitors to Carlisle Meeting.

The secretary said that numerous letters had reached him from Agents-General and others, announcing the intention of representatives of their Colonies, who would shortly be arriving in London for the Coronation ceremonies, to inspect the Society's show at Carlisle next month. It would doubtless be the wish of the council that all possible facilities should be given to any distinguished visitors from the Colonies and abroad who might pay the Society a visit at Carlisle.

Date of Next Meeting.

After the transaction of some further business the council adjourned until Wednesday, July 9th, 1902, in the show-yard at Carlisle.

The Central Chamber.

A council meeting of the Central and Associated Chambers of Agriculture was held on Tuesday, at the Society of Arts, London, Sir E. Strachey, M.P., the president, occupying the chair.

At the outset of the proceedings the president congratulated the Chamber upon the definite statement that had been obtained from Mr. Hanbury on the previous day on the question of milk-blended butter.

The Education Bill.

Mr. Kidner (Taunton Farmers' Club) moved:—

That the attention of the Government be directed to the resolution passed by the Council on the 8th April last, viz., that, in the opinion of this Council, the cost of national education should be borne by the Imperial Exchequer, and not out of local rates; and that all members of the House of Commons who are members of the Chambers of Agriculture should be asked to strenuously oppose the addition to local rates which would undoubtedly follow the passing of the Education Bill now before the House in its present form.

He said that the object of the Business Committee in putting this resolution upon the agenda was simply to reiterate the previously expressed opinion of the Council, on account of a large number of resolutions which had been sent up from local Chambers on this subject. Those resolutions showed that public opinion was very strong in regarding education as a matter of entirely national concern, which should be provided for from the Imperial Exchequer, and not from the local rates. Local ratepayers felt that new burdens were being continually thrown on the shoulders of ratepayers who formed a small portion of the community. The reason why the cost of education should not be thrown on the local rates was a very strong one, inasmuch as children who were educated in rural districts went almost immediately into other parts of the country to assist in promoting the welfare of the country at large.

Mr. J. Lloyd Wharton, M.P., seconded the motion. He wished to do so, because he was one of the members of the House of Commons who sat upon the Rating Commission some years ago. There was one fact with regard to that Commission which he wished to impress upon the meeting. It was that it was composed of all sorts and conditions of men as far as their political opinions went. The Royal Commission made a schedule of the different subjects of local taxation, and put them in two different lists, one list containing those subjects which they considered of national interest, and which, consequently ought to be paid for nationally, and the other list containing those subjects which, as they considered, ought to be paid for out of local funds, and the question of education headed the list of national subjects.

Mr. James Lowther, M.P. (Darlington), said that he had given notice of several amendments to the Education Bill, to enable the House of Commons to vote straight as to whether this huge addition to the local rates, which was proposed, should be carried into an Act or not. He would not press his own individual views on this subject. He thought that a vast deal of money had been already wasted in so-called education, which, to a very large extent, did more harm than good.

Mr. Henry Chaplin, M.P., said that he was sorry that he was not present at the commencement of the proceedings, so that he might have heard all that had passed on this subject. The Bill, as at present drawn, imposed the whole addition of the new cost of education on the rates. He knew that many members of the Unionist party in the House of Commons were entirely opposed to that, and, strange to say, they were also in complete accord with some of those members on the other side of the House of Commons with whom his own practice had generally been to be at war to the knife.

The debate was continued by Mr. C. Harris Stratton, Mr. T. Christian, Mr. Gardner, Mr. Lacey Everett, Earl of Lichfield, Colonel Williams, Mr. Jasper More, M.P.

The resolution was unanimously adopted, and it was decided to send copies of the resolution to the Government, and to local Chambers of Agriculture, with a request to their secretaries to bring them before Members of Parliament.

Mr. Jasper More, M.P., suggested that a deputation from the Chamber should join a deputation from Town Councils to wait upon the Government on the subject, and the Business Committee were instructed to arrange the matter.

The Dipping of Sheep.

A resolution was introduced by Mr. Gardner "That the dipping of sheep should be compulsory." After a long discussion it was decided that the dipping of a sheep should be made compulsory with a composition approved of by the Board of Agriculture. In the course of the discussion, Mr. J. Allan urged that it was not desirable that dipping should be made compulsory. There was not a single case of scab in existence in Yorkshire, and there were more sheep in that county now than ever.

Unexhausted Improvements.

On the motion of Mr. H. T. Eve, a committee was appointed to draw up a scale of compensation for unexhausted improvements, to be sent down for consideration by the local Chambers. The following gentlemen were then appointed as members to serve on the committee:—Mr. Ackers, Mr. Clare Sewell Read, Mr. Jeffreys, M.P., Mr. Bowen-Jones, Mr. H. Trustram Eve, Mr. Frankish, Mr. Kidner, Mr. T. Latham, Mr. T. Davies, Mr. Middleton, Mr. C. Harris Stratton, Mr. H. Biddell, Mr. C. B. Davies, Mr. Bernard Dyer, Mr. F. J. Lloyd, and Mr. T. A. Dickson.

Sheep Worrying by Dogs.

Mr. Fitzherbert-Brockholes (Lancashire Farmers' Association) moved:—"That there is urgent need for further legislation for the due protection of sheep owners and others against stray and uncontrolled dogs, and that the Board of Agriculture be pressed to take up the question without delay." The resolution, on being put to the meeting, was carried unanimously.

Speed of Motor Cars.

Mr. Muntz (Warwickshire) moved a resolution that all motor cars or carriages should carry a distinctive number in front and rear; and after several amendments had been disposed of, this was carried.

The Council then adjourned until November 4th.

Royal Commission on Horse Breeding.

A meeting of the Royal Commission on Horse Breeding was held at 13, Hanover Square, on Monday. There were present, the Earl of Coventry (in the chair), Sir Jacob Wilson, Sir John Gilmour, Bart., and Mr. J. Herbert Taylor secretary. The Duke of Portland, K.G. (Master of the Horse), the Right Hon. Henry Chaplin, M.P., and Mr. J. Bowen Jones, wrote expressing regret at being unable to attend the meeting.

The reports of the District Committees were received, including the applications for nominations up to the end of May. It was also reported that two of the King's Premium Stallions had died since the season of service commenced, and their places had been filled by the respective reserve horses. Other business engaged the attention of the Commissioners, who afterwards adjourned until the autumn.

Hackney Horse.

A special meeting of the Show Committee of the Hackney Horse Society was held on Wednesday last, at the Society's offices, 12, Hanover Square, mainly to consider the question of classification at next year's London show. Sir Walter Gilbey presided.

The committee decided to increase the total prize money to £1,300, and made the following alterations in and additions to last year's premium list:—

The class for yearling entire colts will be omitted, as the committee are of opinion that owners now consider it inadvisable to submit their young animals to the necessary preparation for their appearance in the show-ring so early in the year. A fourth prize will be offered for three-year-olds, and the prizes in the classes for all stallions four years old and upwards will be made uniform in the amounts offered, namely, £20, £15, £10, £5.

The classes for yearling fillies will be omitted, but the remaining classes will stand unchanged.

In each of the three classes for hackney mares and geldings in hand a fourth prize will be given.

Four prizes will be given in each class for hackneys in harness, not over six years old, and the following fresh classes have been added:—Mare (barren) or gelding, over six years old, under 15h. 1in., £15, £10, £5. Mare (barren) or gelding, over six years old, 15h. 1in. and over, £15, £10, £5. Pair of mares or geldings (or mare and gelding), not over six years old, under 15h. 1in., £15, £10, £5. Pair of mares or geldings (or mare and gelding), not over six years old, 15h. 1in. and over, £15, £10, £5.

The hackney produce groups will remain unaltered.

An additional prize will be given for pony stallions over four years old, and also for two and three-year-old pony mares.

An entirely fresh class will be opened for pony mares and geldings in hand (which may also be exhibited in harness) as follows:—Mare (barren) or gelding, not over six years old and not exceeding 14 hands, £15, £10, £5.

In addition to the class for ponies not over six

years old in harness there will be a further class for ponies over that age as follows:—Pony mare (barren) or gelding, over six years old, not exceeding 14 hands, £15, £10, £5.

The list of special prizes was increased by the offer of two champion gold medals, one for the best hackney and one for the best pony exhibited in harness. The prize-list, with these additions, will be presented by the committee for ratification at the meeting of the council next November.

The secretary presented the replies received to date from the affiliated societies in response to the circular letter issued on the subject of the measurement of show harness horses and ponies. It was resolved to wait for further replies before presenting any report.

The committee agreed to offer gold medals for hackneys in harness at the Syracuse Show of the New York State Fair and at the Newport Show, Rhode Island, U.S.A. Also to offer a gold medal at the next show at Buenos Ayres.

The committee, after transacting other formal business, adjourned until November.

Suffolk Sheep.

A Council meeting of the Suffolk Sheep Society was held on the 25rd ult., a very small number of members being present. Mr. J. W. Eagle presided.

The secretary announced that the Marquis of Bristol had offered to replace one of the challenge cups that had been won outright. His lordship's offer was accepted, and a vote of thanks passed unanimously. The reports of the district inspectors which were received showed a general increase of interest in the breed, such increase being more noticeable in some districts than in others.

The remaining business related to an alteration in the rules of the society. This evoked much discussion, but is of purely domestic interest.

A larger number of members turned up at the subsequent luncheon. The chair was taken by Lord Rendlesham in the unavoidable absence of Lord Cadogan. In recognition of his services to the society, the Marquis of Bristol (Lord-Lieutenant of the county) was presented with the gold medal of the society, and an illuminated address.

The chairman, in proposing the health of Lord Bristol, said that the only regret he had at being called upon to propose the toast was the feeling that their president, if he had been able to attend, would have done so in far more appropriate words than he was able to command. In one respect, however, he felt that he was not lacking—no one could take greater pleasure than he did in having such an opportunity of bearing testimony to the good work that the Marquis of Bristol had done for the Suffolk Sheep Society. (Applause.) It was difficult to say much in praise of the noble Marquis, when he was sitting so close by, but there were one or two facts that he would venture to mention. The society was formed in 1886—such a comparatively short time ago that the prominent position now reached formed an extraordinary record of progress; Lord Bristol was president from the year of its inception up to and including 1901; and, during that period of 16 years, he was present at 22 out of a total of 23 annual and general meetings, and at no fewer than 38 council meetings. (Applause.) Beyond that, he had been the donor of five challenge cups for the Nor was this all, for it was largely owing to his advocacy of the merits of the breed, and to the trouble and expense he had himself taken with it, that the present high position had been attained by the society and by the Suffolk sheep. Addressing the noble Marquis, the speaker added: I feel sure you will accept with pleasure and satisfaction the beautiful gold medal of the society which I have been asked to present to you, as well as an address which is signed by the principal officials of the society.

The Marquis of Bristol in reply said: It is very difficult for me to find any words which would adequately express my feelings at the present moment. I may in the first place thank the senior vice-president of the society for the very kind terms in which he has proposed my health, and made this presentation to me. It is a matter of great satisfaction to me to feel that the slight services which I have been enabled to render this society are deemed to be thus worthy of recognition. Believe me that I shall ever have in happy recollection this day which is so memorable to me, and that this medal, and the illuminated address which accompanies it, will ever remain amongst my most cherished treasures. I should like to say just a word about the present position of the breed of Suffolk sheep and the society which is its representative. What place does the breed and the society occupy to-day? My noble friend has alluded to it, and that in very truthful language. In the words, I think, of my friend Mr. Goodchild, the position is that we are at the "top of the tree." With holding the premier class at Smithfield: with innumerable tokens of success in many a show yard, both at home and abroad; with roots which stretch out into far-lying climes and countries; with a membership vastly increased since I first remember it; with an overflowing—well, I will not say overflowing—but a fairly full exchequer; with a staff of able and painstaking inspectors of flocks and judges of sheep; with a council wholly devoted to the interests of the society; and, above all, with a secretary of great energy and of great knowledge; with all these evidences of progress, there is no difficulty in declaring the position of the society to-day.

Sir Walter Greene, M.P., subsequently proposed the toast of "Success to the Society," which was replied to by Mr. Pretyman, M.P.

Mr. Edward Packard proposed the health of the chairman, and after Lord Rendlesham's response, the proceedings terminated with the health of the new president, Lord Cadogan, proposed in flattering term sby the Marquis of Bristol.

Shire Horse.

Lord Hothfield (past President) occupied the chair at a meeting of the Council of this Society, held at 12, Hanover Square, on Tuesday, when forty-five new members were elected.

Mr. R. W. Hudson reported that Sir Walter Gilbey had been re-elected Chairman of the Finance Committee for the ensuing year, and that he himself had been elected Vice-Chairman.

The balance on the current account at the bank was £589 19s. 1d., with £750 on deposit, arrears of subscriptions £44 2s., accounts for payment £938 13s. 7d. This report was adopted.

Mr. A. C. Duncombe reported his election as Chairman of the Editing Committee for the ensuing year and the election of Mr. J. W. Kenworthy as Vice-Chairman. Applications for thirty-seven prefixes and four affixes had come before the Committee, all of which they had granted with the exception of two, which they referred back to the respective applicants.

Prefix.	Applicant.
Akeman	Philip Davis.
Barlaston	S. Holdcroft.
Barnstone	George Wallwin.
Beauvale	C. C. Chambers.
Blakesley	F. F. Sheppard.
Bordesley	E. King.
Burton	Charles Drackley.
Byfield	Edwin Ward.
Catterick	T. H. Hutchinson.
Clapgate	Robert Tong.
Dunkirk (and affix, in lieu of Copster)	Noble Richardson.
Ebnal	William Mottram.
Gringley	G. Antcliff.
Harsley	Joseph Breckon.
Hazlet-ng	E. Bramford.
Hempstead (and affix)	A. T. Umfreville.
Honeybourne	B. Ashwin.
Howell	T. R. Hides.
Hurdletree	W. K. Wright.
Hurn	C. C. Harrison.
Irchester	J. C. Eady.
Lockinge (and affix)	Lady Wantage.
Lydham	Arthur Gough.
Newry	Hugh Bennett.
Ogbourne	J. B. Stevens.
Penarth (and affix)	T. R. Thompson.
Peyton	Charles Clayden.
Posenhall	W. Bishop.
Rodens	William Parker.
St. Mary's	George Shelton.
Sennington	A. F. Chillingworth.
Southminster	R. Horner.
Sundon	W. Cooper.
Starborough	R. H. Tatham.
Tetton	W. Wilding.

The Committee had before them several Stud Book entries upon which they presented their recommendations. This report was adopted.

Lord Hothfield stated that Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart., had been re-elected Chairman of the Horse Show Committee for the ensuing year, and reported his own election as Vice-Chairman.

The Judges' Selection Committee had been reconstituted as follows: Sir Walter Gilbey, Mr. J. P. Cross, Lord Hothfield, Mr. J. W. Kenworthy, Lord Llangattock, Mr. Joseph Martin, and Mr. John Rowell. Messrs. Sexton, Grimwade, and Beck had been re-elected auctioneers of the Society for the ensuing year.

In response to an inquiry by a member of the Society, the Committee saw no objection to the auctioneer at the unreserved sale of Shires at Welshpool in October next, conducting the sale under the Society's rules, provided he gave a written guarantee that such sale would be carried out according to the rules, and provided he furnishing the Secretary with a priced catalogue, giving the full names and addresses of purchasers, etc.

The report was adopted.

The Council then adjourned until November 4.

At the last monthly meeting of the Shropshire Chamber of Agriculture it was unanimously decided to ask the President of the Board of Agriculture to attend and address a special meeting of Shropshire farmers and others interested in agriculture early in the autumn. Mr. Hanbury has since replied that if he can possibly manage to visit Shrewsbury during the autumn, and on a Saturday (the most convenient day for the Chamber), he will come. At this same meeting the Education Bill was discussed, and a resolution sent to the Central Chamber that the cost of national education should be borne by the Imperial Exchequer and not out of local rates, whilst a protest was entered against milk-blended butter.

COMING SHOWS.

Royal Counties.

The Royal Counties Agricultural Society's Show at Reading opens to-morrow (Tuesday), and will be extended over the three following days. The show-ground is at Prospect Park, and is the same site as used on the occasion of the Society's last visit in 1897. It has an area of thirty-three acres, the principal entrance being, as before, from the Bath Road, just near the borough boundary; but there are also entrances from the Liebenrood Road, etc. The entrance is an ornate group of gable buildings in the Old English style, with offices and turnstiles. They are permanent buildings, which accompany the show in its peregrinations. The large area has been covered with a framework of sheds and other buildings conveniently distributed so as to economise space and afford the maximum accommodation for the stock and exhibits. The number of trees interspersed amongst the buildings give a picturesque appearance to the show-yard, although in several cases it has been found necessary to considerably cut away the branches of the large oaks and chestnuts. The whole of the ground has been enclosed by a hoarding of stout timber 8ft. high.

On both sides of the main avenue long rows of stands have been erected for the agricultural implements and miscellaneous goods, whilst nearer to Calcot and to the left of the avenue, positions have been allotted for the machinery in motion. On the left of the entrance, about half-way up the slope, is situated the council's and secretary's office, whilst a little further on is the shed for the working dairy. Across the level ground at the top, and around the sides of three parts of the show-yard, are the sheds and horse-boxes, where the live-stock is to be located. The horse-ring, with grand-stand, is on the right of the main entrance, the stand being erected, on this occasion, so as to face the Liebenrood Road, instead of being at the opposite side of the ring facing the main avenue. This, coupled with a



MR. F. SIMMONS (Secretary of the Royal County Agricultural Society).

slightly-different position for the council's office, are the only real alterations to the plan which existed in 1897.

As will be seen from the table given below, the entries are considerably in excess of those of last year, and also on those obtained on the last occasion on which the Society visited Reading in, 1897, but a comparison between the Reading Show of the same Society in 1887 and the present year, shows the total entries to be almost identical. An especial point of congratulation is the increase in the horses department, and this is no doubt largely accounted for by the fact that the Society has made special arrangements so as not to clash with the Richmond Show, which takes place in the same week. The entry of hunters and harness horses is quite an exceptional one.

In consequence of the prevalence of swine fever in the County of Berks, and the fact that the show-yard is in itself an infected area, a case having recently occurred within 200 yards of the entrance, the council have decided to abandon the show of pigs at Reading, which, although unavoidable, is much to be regretted, on account of the excellent entry received. The entries of butter, poultry, etc., are satisfactory, and help to make up what may be regarded as an excellent total.

The following table shows at a glance how the entries for this year's exhibition compare with those of the last few years:—

	1902	1901	1900	1899	1898	1897
Sheep	251	238	227	284	221	242
Horses	242	152	136	269	147	189
Cattle	600	388	501	702	413	557
Pigs	93	78	70	101	72	84
Butter	97	62	85	86	77	111
Horse Shoeing	111	79	103	74	79	85
Butter Making	47	40	31	35	46	72
Poultry	660	430	475	533	513	465
Poultry Trussing	5	—	10	—	—	—
Sheep Shearing	24	49	8	—	—	—
Dairy Herds	13	—	—	—	—	—
	1943	1516	1652	2038	1568	1752

The show-yard will be open to the public at 9.30 a.m. on all days, closing at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, 7 p.m. on Wednesday and Thursday, and at 5 p.m. on Friday. On the first day the charge

for admission will be 2s. 6d.; on the second day the same sum up to 3.30 p.m., afterwards 1s.; and the latter will be the charge for the remaining days of the show. The popular day will undoubtedly be Thursday, for then their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales and H.R.H. Prince Christian of Schleswig-Holstein will visit the show. This visit is being looked forward to with the highest possible interest and enthusiasm, and the whole route from the station to the show-yard will be decorated in honour of the occasion. The mayor is giving a grand banquet at the Town Hall on the first night of the show, in honour of the event, and other festivities will take place on each day of the meeting.

An attractive programme has been arranged for each day. In addition to the parades of prize winners, there will be lectures and demonstrations in butter-making in the working dairy, an exposition of bee management and appliances, with lectures at intervals, under the auspices of the Berks Bee-Keepers' Association, and an exhibition of dairy and other produce in the butter-shed, under the auspices of the British Dairy Institute and Reading College, whilst there will be jumping, harness, and trade turn-out competitions, all of which should be of special interest to the visitors. Altogether there is every prospect of the show being a most successful one.

Bath and West at Bristol, 1903.

A deputation from the society, consisting of the president (the Duke of Beaufort), Lord Heytesbury, Colonel G. Best, Colonel W. D. Naper, and Messrs. C. R. Collins, T. Dyke, F. G. Farwell, G. Gibbons, W. J. Llewellyn, H. B. Napier, and Thos. F. Plowman, secretary and editor, visited Bristol yesterday (Thursday) for the purpose of inspecting the site proposed for the 1903 Exhibition and for signing the agreements in connection therewith.

The deputation was received at the Mansion House by the Lord Mayor, the Town Clerk, and other representatives of the city and neighbourhood, and the various agreements with reference to the holding of the exhibition were submitted and signed. Those present were then entertained to luncheon by the Lord Mayor, after which the site proposed on Durdham Down was inspected and approved. The Lord Mayor assured the deputation that the society would be very heartily welcomed at Bristol, and that every effort would be made to ensure a successful meeting, and one which would beat all previous records. The Duke of Beaufort expressed the thanks of the deputation to his Lordship for his good wishes and hospitality, and assured him that the cordiality with which the invitation to visit Bristol had been given was thoroughly appreciated by the society.

Warwickshire at Warwick.

The following is a list of the gentlemen who will officiate as judges at the Warwickshire Agricultural Society's Show, at Warwick, on August 27th and 28th next:—

HORSES.—Agricultural: Mr. A. H. Clark, Moulton Eaugate, Spalding; Mr. F. W. Griffin, Borough Fen, Peterborough. Hunters, Hacks, Ponies: Mr. C. Barton, Williamstrip Farm, Fairford; Mr. T. H. Hutchinson, Catterick, Yorkshire. Driving: Mr. A. W. Hickling, Adboiton, Nottingham. Cart Horse Parade: Mr. P. S. Danby, Offchurch; Mr. J. W. Lea, Thelsford. Jumping: Mr. T. Carr (N.W.H.), Kennels, Kenilworth; Mr. C. Whitemoor (A. H.), Witherley Kennels, Atherstone.

CATTLE.—Shorthorns, Dairy Cattle, etc.: Mr. T. Parton, Weston Hall, Crewe; Mr. D. Arkell, Butler's Court, Lechlade. Longhorns: Mr. W. W. Swinnerton, Styvechale, Coventry.—Channel Islands Cattle: Mr. G. P. Mead, The Woodlands, Bicton, Shrewsbury.

SHEEP.—Mr. J. Beach, The Hattons, Brewood; Mr. T. B. Eagle, Thrupp Farm, Oxford.

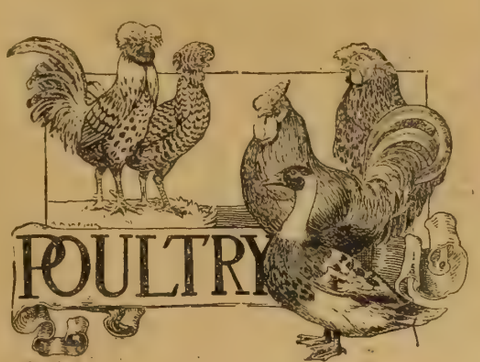
PIGS.—Mr. H. Humfrey, Shippon, Abingdon.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Implements: Mr. J. James, Whitchurch, Stratford-on-Avon. Dairy Produce, etc.: Mrs. Tilley, Walton, Warwick; Miss A. Inglis, W.C.C. Dairy School. Field Competitions: Mr. J. S. Murcott, Offchurch; Mr. P. Shepheard, Hunningham. Cottagers: Rev. Canon Flory, Rodland Lodge, Leamington.

Essex.

At a meeting of the council of the Essex Agricultural Society, held on Monday, the secretary gave some particulars of the entries received for the Society's show, to be held at Romford, on the 19th and 20th inst. Shires number 119; Suffolks, 39; agricultural horses, 18; hunters, 94; hackneys, 19; harness, 73; and turn-outs, 14—a total number of horses of 376, as compared with 415 at Colchester last year, and 257 at Clacton-on-Sea in 1900. The respective totals for cattle are 189, 235, and 186; Shorthorns numbering 53; red polls, 7; polled Angus, 39; Jerseys, 79; and dairy animals, 11. Of sheep there are 19 Southdowns, 35 Suffolks, and 19 Hampshire Downs—a total of 73, as against 108 at Colchester, and 103 at Clacton-on-Sea. Owing to the prevalence of swine fever, the pig classes have been withdrawn. As to the miscellaneous sections, it may be mentioned that dairy entries total 113, against 124 at Colchester, and 62 at Clacton-on-Sea; and implement firms, 64, against 79 at Colchester, and 61 at Clacton-on-Sea. It will have been noticed that in all the principal sections there is a falling off as against last year, but that in some there is an improvement, when compared with those of 1900.

The show will be held in the beautiful grounds of Marshall Park, Romford, which is situated about ten minutes' walk of the station, and as the town is so easy of access a very large attendance of visitors is expected. In this connection it may be mentioned that the Great Eastern Railway Company have arranged to issue return tickets at single fares to Romford on the show days, to run special trains, and to stop several expresses. Col. Lockwood, M.P., the president, will preside at the luncheon on the first day, and it is expected that he will be supported by a number of distinguished guests.



How to Make Hens Pay.

This is a subject that I wish I could thoroughly master; it is one that cannot be mastered in a single lesson or in several seasons. New conditions will be continually arising, and new obstacles will present themselves that must be met and overcome.

The great majority of farmers fail to make poultry a paying investment simply from lack of interest; they allow their hens to roost, winter and summer, in the trees, the barn, or any other place that the fowls may select. They will throw out a few handfuls of grain for forty or fifty fowls, and then if the hungry fowls try to help themselves to something to eat they are ruthlessly stoned. This is a wrong course to pursue, for the hens need as gentle treatment as any stock on the farm, and if they are well fed, they will pay a handsomer premium on the capital invested than any other stock on the farm.

It may be that a few things which I have picked up in my few years' experience with poultry would be of some interest to those who keep poultry. The first thing that should be decided in the fall is how many can be properly cared for; overcrowding should be studiously avoided. It is an invitation to failure and disaster to crowd fifty or a hundred hens into a small room where they barely have space to roost.

In arranging a house for the hens, a feeding-place should be provided. This will give them an opportunity to exercise freely by scratching in the litter, or wallowing in the dust; it should also be built so that it can be easily cleaned out. Cleanliness is essential to success in the poultry business. Vermin and disease always lurk in a foul, ill-smelling, hen-house. In constructing our hen-house we should not imagine that we get them too warm. I have never yet seen one that was too warm. If enough air should not enter the poultry-house during warm weather, some of the windows can be opened. The walls of the house should be doubled, with building paper between the two thicknesses of plank, or better yet, studding may be used, leaving a dead air-space in the walls, making the house cooler in summer and warmer in winter; some people fill this space with sawdust. I believe that this is a good idea, and mean to try it next winter. The roosts should be so arranged that they can be removed when cleaning the house out; it would be well also to have the nests so that they can be frequently taken out and cleaned.

A filthy nest is one of the best harbours for lice.

After you have decided how many you can accommodate, sort out your flock, using great care in the selection of the individual birds that make up your bunch of winter layers. Select the most vigorous and best developed pullets, rejecting undersized and undeveloped ones. The flock of winter layers should, as far as possible, be made up of early-hatched pullets. Next after these I would select yearlings; all over this age I would dispose of, as an old hen, except in rare cases, will not pay for her feed during the winter.

The pullets, if of the Mediterranean stock, should be hatched in April, or early May, to make good winter layers; if a heavier breed is used, they may be hatched in March. These, if properly cared for, will begin to lay in the fall, when the prices of eggs are advancing. It should be the aim of every farmer to have his hens in good shape for laying when the prices paid for eggs are highest.

The moulting process usually occupies about three months, and this period will be prolonged into the winter if the hens are not properly cared for. A hen that does not shed her feathers until November or December will not pay for her feed through the winter. In order to encourage early moulting, the hens should be fed rather heavily of feather-producing food; meat meal and a little sulphur twice a week will be beneficial. Sunflower seed is an excellent feed for moulting hens. Maize should be fed rather sparingly through the warmer months, although a small quantity each day will do no harm, and in the fall it will be of great benefit. A bran mash is greatly enjoyed by the hens at any time of year. All table scraps should go to the hens, while a great many other things that would be otherwise wasted, such as offal at butchering time, wheat screenings, and various other by-products, if given to the hens are quickly converted into a cash-bringing commodity in the shape of eggs.

One of the greatest mistakes made by farmers is in not giving their hens a sufficient quantity of feed; another is in not providing proper shelter, while there is a limited number who recognise the importance of providing grit for the poultry. Without grit the poultry will have poor digestion, and a flock of hens with poor digestion is usually an unprofitable flock. When a flock is confined for a few days during a cold snap the first few feeds of grain that they are given are readily eaten. Then they will eat but very little. Some may imagine that they have been overfed, but this is rarely the case; it is usually because they have not been provided with grit to digest their food, and the poultry are starving, while we are comforting ourselves with the belief that they are well fed.

The incubator, if properly handled, is almost indispensable in making poultry raising a profitable business, especially on a large scale. It should be started going in February, in order to obtain the best prices, which are paid for the first spring broilers which go into market. But in order to raise chicks by artificial means at that early season, or at any time for that matter, it is necessary to have a suitable building in which to brood them.

All chicks hatched at this early season may be prepared for market, as it is not necessary to hatch pullets for the next winter's layers thus early. These early hatches should be made from the eggs of some of the heavy breeds. Either the Plymouth Rock or Wyandotte are excellent for this purpose, as they are rapid growers and soon reach a marketable size. But for layers, the Mediterranean stock should be used. Of these there are none better than the Leghorns. This breed is surely the mortgage-lifter, and to my mind they are the most profitable breed that can be kept on the farm.

In preparing broilers for market, they should be penned up in some clean, healthful quarters and fattened. The heavier breeds will take on fat rapidly if confined and given plenty of fat-producing food; they will fatten readily on ground maize, milk, grit, and a little green stuff.—EDWARD E. HIGGINS, in an American contemporary.

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Canada at Wolverhampton.

A Highly Creditable Display by the Dominion Government.

The Canadian Minister of Agriculture, the Hon. Sydney Fisher, acted with wisdom and prescience when he resolved upon recommending his colleagues in the Cabinet to support a proposal for having a display of Canadian products at the Arts and Industrial Exhibition at Wolverhampton. Recognising the importance of such a display from various standpoints, Mr. Fisher was unanimously supported, and ample provision was made by the Minister of Finance, Hon. W. S. Fielding, to meet the necessary expenses. At the same time it was decided to make a display at the Exhibition now open at Cork. Mr. W. D. Scott's experience at Paris and Glasgow fully justified Mr. Fisher in retaining his services as Commissioner at Wolverhampton and Cork; and immediately after the close of the unique and successful Exhibition at the Royal Exchange—where Canada occupied half of the entire space allotted—he set energetically to work to get ready the Canadian displays at each of the Exhibitions which opened simultaneously on the 1st May. Both at Wolverhampton and Cork special pavilions were erected by the Canadian Government, and it is with reference to that at Wolverhampton and its contents that this article is communicated.

The pavilion is an attractive building, constructed from plans prepared by the firm of Walker and Ramsay, Glasgow. It occupies one of the best positions on the grounds, between the Industrial and Machinery halls. The visitor experiences no difficulty in determining the nature of the building when about to enter, for, in large letters, he sees in a prominent place, over the main entrance, the word "Canada"—a very suggestive word in these days when the "imperial idea" is so much in the foreground. "Canada" suggests a territory of vast extent—about 3,500 "from ocean to ocean" (east to west), and 1,400 from north to south, comprising the whole of the northern half of the North American Continent, with the exceptions of Alaska, in the west, and the Labrador coast line, still under the jurisdiction of the island of Newfoundland. "Canada" further suggests a country with a most interesting history; a country which possesses scenery unparalleled for its magnificence; vast territories rich in varied resources; forest and mineral wealth of inestimable value; a system of government incomparable in the fulness of freedom which it confers upon the people; educational advantages which cannot anywhere be excelled; millions of acres of virgin soil, which await occupation and cultivation, and which can be absolutely secured by settlers upon conditions almost equivalent to a free gift. But Canada's advantages are too numerous to attempt even to name them all in this article.

Immediately upon entering the Canadian Pavilion at Wolverhampton the visitor sees in front of him a most artistically arranged trophy of grains, grasses, and cereals, which was prepared under the direction of Mr. William Hay, of Ottawa, a member of Mr. Scott's staff of capable assistants. This trophy forms the centre-piece of the large circular dome, which rises to a height of forty feet. The trophy is circular at the base, and rises almost to the top of the dome, at the base of which, about 40 feet in circumference, four large arches are sprung to the walls, the whole being so arranged as to form a sort of temple of cereals. The grain and grasses are shown in sheaves and bunches festooned and wreathed in many varied and artistic forms. On the immense stand in the centre are grouped hundreds of bottles of all shapes and sizes, containing specimens of wheat, oats, barley, rye, Indian corn, peas, flax, millet, buckwheat, and in fact all the leading varieties of grains, grasses and fodder plants which grow to such perfection in Canada. These samples are all carefully labelled, giving the name and address of the grower, yield per acre, etc. The collection contains thousands of samples, comprising over 500 different varieties. The exhibit is probably the best of the kind ever seen in this country. It is an object lesson that cannot fail to impress everyone who sees it with the fact that Canada is a country rich in agricultural resources of almost endless variety.

Connected with each section are to be seen shields, which cannot fail to attract the attention of the visitor. On these are painted figures, which illustrate some facts in the matter of Canadian productiveness. Under the heading "Growth of Wheat in Manitoba," we are informed that on particular farms wheat had grown from 21 inches on June 17th to 59 inches on July 20th last year. Some yields of oats in Canada in the season of 1901 yielded from 100 to 110 bushels per acre. Under "Dairying in Canada," we find that the industry of late years has become one of the most important and profitable branches of Agriculture. The value of exports of dairy products has increased by 14,874,415 dollars in the last ten years, as follows:—

	1891.		1900.
Butter	602,175	...	5,122,156
Cheese	9,508,800	...	19,856,234

In the case of fruit production, Canada has developed during the last ten years to a remarkable degree. The possibilities for fruit-growing in most districts in Canada are practically unlimited. In Ontario there are 354,299 acres devoted to orchards and 12,227 acres to vineyards. The production of apples in Nova Scotia alone averages 500,000 barrels annually.

The dimensions of the forests of Canada are so vast that they seem almost incredible. It is estimated that we have no less than 2,590,000 square miles of forest and woodland. No other country offers so good a value for the profitable investment of capital in the manufacture of wood products. Abundant are material, cheap water-power, and an unfailing market. Canada is the land of the spruce-tree, so highly prized for the manufacture of paper and other purposes. It is estimated that there are 450,000,000 acres of pulp-wood forest in Canada.

Mining is one of the principal industries of the country. The value of the mineral production in 1891 was 18,976,526 dollars, and in 1900 it amounted to 63,775,000 dollars, an increase in ten years of 44,798,474 dollars. The mineral display is a very fine one, and is artistically and attractively arranged.

The following figures illustrate the advances in Canada's exports of food products between the years named:—

	1896. Dols.		1901. Dols.
Peas	1,239,491	..	2,674,712
Flour	718,438	..	4,015,266
Oats	273,861	..	2,490,521
Butter	1,052,089	..	3,245,663
Bacon	4,446,884	..	11,823,820
Cheese	13,256,571	..	20,690,951
OTHER EXPORTS.			
Wood pulp	675,777	..	1,937,000
	1896.		1900.
Fisheries	11,0 7,765	..	11,169,083
	1896.		1901.
Mineral exports	8,055,047	..	40,355,000
	1896.		1900.
Animals and their products.	36,507,641	..	56,148,897
Agricultural products ..	14,083,361	..	27,556,609
	1896.		1901.
Manufactures	30,476,932	..	41,045,000

Five Experimental Farms have been established throughout Canada by the Dominion Government—a Central Farm at Ottawa, and four branch farms. One of these branch farms is at Brandon, Manitoba, and another at Indian Head, North-West Territories. At these branch farms the best varieties of cereals and other fodder plants are tested to ascertain their relative value in those districts for stock and market. The Experimental Farms also supply information to settlers whenever needed in connection with all subjects bearing on agriculture.

Many other features of the Canadian exhibit might be touched upon, including views along the route of the Canadian Pacific Railway; arrangements for cold storage, where butter, cheese, eggs, etc., are packed, the mean temperature being about 40deg.; magnificent displays of fruit, natural and preserved; timber, in great variety, with photographs framed in the wood of each. The gold exhibit is a very valuable one, and is much admired by visitors. In every particular the Canadian display at Wolverhampton is one of the best on the ground, while the effective manner in which each section is arranged is creditable alike to the energetic Commissioner and his assistants.

J. J.

Rural Housing and Sanitation. Lord Battersea presided at a meeting held in Sion College on Friday to consider the advisability of forming a rural housing and sanitation association, and, in opening the proceedings, referred to the great necessity which existed for such an organisation. The association which it was proposed to form would be non-political and non-sectarian, and he hoped it would accomplish a large amount of useful and valuable work.

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NICOTINE SHEEP DIP

The most powerful Insecticide known to Science. GUARANTEED TO CURE SCAB. Cheap, Convenient, Efficient.

Sold in Bottles. Large size (to make 100 gallons of Dip), 8/- each; 92/- per doz. Small size (to make 50 gallons of Dip), 4/- each; 46/- per doz. Carriage paid on cases of 1 doz. Bottles.

Write for Pamphlet on Nicotine Sheep Dip, sent post free. Sole Manufacturers:—

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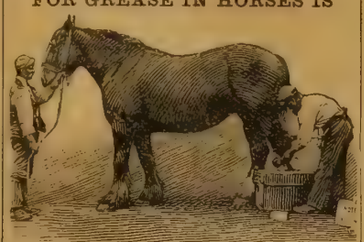
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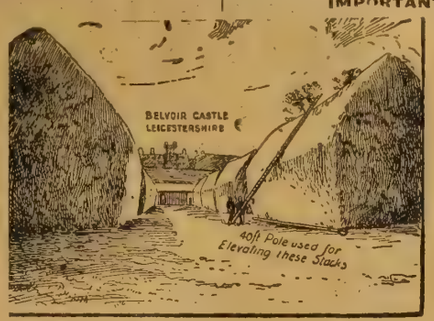
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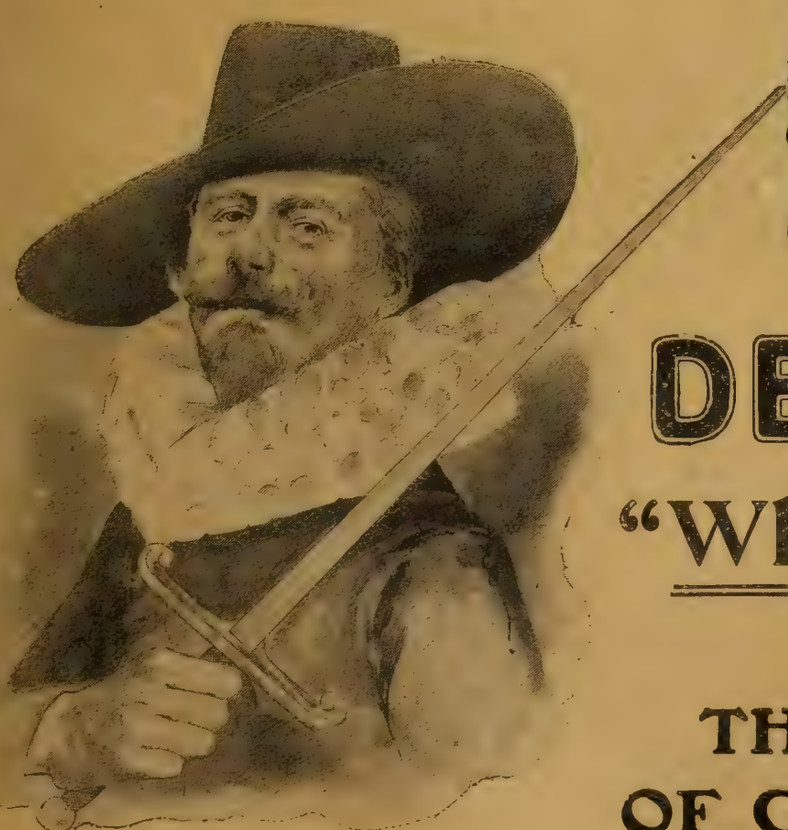
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It is Cocoa, and the Best Cocoa
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MARK LANE EXPRESS AND AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL, June 16th, 1902.

ROYAL COUNTIES & RICHMOND SHOWS.

The

Mark Lane Express

and

Agricultural Journal.

(Established 1832.)

THE LEADING BRITISH AUTHORITY ON THE PRACTICE AND SCIENCE OF THE

Farm, Live Stock, Dairy, Milling, Malting, Hops, &c.

(REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER AT THE GENERAL POST OFFICE.)

VOL. LXXXVI. No. 3690. LONDON, MONDAY, JUNE 16, 1902. THIRTY-TWO PAGES. PRICE 3D.

SOCIETIES.

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION of ENGLISH HOP GROWERS.
(Founded June 1894.)

PRESIDENT.—COLONEL BROOKFIELD, M.P.
HON. TREASURER.—E. ALBERT WHITE, Esq., Beltring, Kent.
SECRETARY.—THOMAS IRONMONGER.
CENTRAL OFFICE.—61, HOP EXCHANGE, BOROUGH, LONDON.

GENERAL OBJECTS.

To promote united action among English hop growers as a body for the improvement of the industry.

To promote, support, or oppose such legislative and other measures as may affect the industry.

To collect and publish, for the benefit of members, special statistical and other useful information relating to English and foreign hop-culture.

To arrange for arbitrations in cases of dispute between sellers and buyers of hops, for the avoidance of litigation.

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Ordinary members, 3d. per acre of hops under cultivation; honorary members, £1 1s.; hop factors, £1 1s.

GREAT YORKSHIRE SHOW, at ROUNDHAY PARK, LEEDS, July 30th, 31st, & August 1st, 1902.
£2,115 offered in PRIZES.
Entries close June 21st.
Late Entries June 28th.
For Prize Schedules & Forms of Entry apply
JOHN MAUGHAN, Secretary, Blake St., York.
Telegrams, "Yas, York."

ROYAL DUBLIN SOCIETY.

HORSE AND SHEEP SHOW.

BALL'S BRIDGE, DUBLIN, AUGUST 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 1902.

ENTRIES CLOSE FOR HORSES: Single Fees, July 24th. Double Fees, July 31st. ENTRIES for SHEEP close finally on July 17th.

For Prize Lists and Entry Forms apply to the Agricultural Superintendent, Leinster House, Dublin.

By Order,
RICHARD J. MOSS, Registrar.

CLEVELAND AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

SHOW AT MIDDLESBROUGH, WEDNESDAY, JULY 23, 1902.

£400 IN PRIZES.
COLLIE DOG CLASSES.
Entries close July 12th.
For Schedules, apply—T. S. PETCH, Sec., Liverton Lodge, Loftus R.S.O.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

(Established 1829.)

President for 1902, The Right Hon. the EARL OF COVENTRY.

The Next Show of this Society will be held at TEWKESBURY, JULY the 22nd, 23rd and 24th, 1902.
Last day of Entry, Monday, June 16th. Post Entries (at double fees) will be received up to Monday, June 23rd.
Driving and Jumping Entries close July 7th, 1902.
F. J. TOWNSEND, Secretary, Cirencester.

TRING AGRICULTURAL SHOW, held on THURSDAY, AUGUST 7th, 1902, in TRING PARK, TRING, HERTS.
£1,200 IN PRIZES.
The chief features, and where most of the money is distributed, is in the Classes for Shires, Hunters, Jumping, Harness, Polo Ponies, Jersey Cattle, Milk and Butter Tests (£200), and Sheep Dog Trials.
Schedules now ready. Entries close July 4th.
F. J. BROWN, Hon. Sec., Tring.

THE PETERBOROUGH AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY, 1902.

Patron: HIS MAJESTY THE KING.
President for the Year:
The Most Hon. The MARQUIS OF EXETER.

The ANNUAL SHOW of HORSES, CATTLE, SHEEP, PIGS, BUTTER, DAIRYING IMPLEMENTS, &c., will take place at PETERBOROUGH, on TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, and THURSDAY, JULY 8th, 9th and 10th.
About £1,400 Awarded in Prizes.
Entries close on Saturday, June 14th. Late Entries will be received up to June 23rd on payment of double fees.
Schedules, Forms of Entry, and particulars may be had on application to
J. E. LITTLE, Secretary.
Offices, Cowgate, Peterborough.

BEDFORDSHIRE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

President:
J. F. HATFEILD HARTER, Esq., J.P.

The 101st ANNUAL SHOW of HORSES, CATTLE, SHEEP, PIGS, SHEEP DOGS, BUTTER, DEAD POULTRY, HONEY, HENS' EGGS, IMPLEMENTS, &c. BLOCK TEST.
JUMPING & DRIVING COMPETITIONS, Will be held at BEDFORD, On THURSDAY, JULY 24th, 1902.
LAST DAY of ENTRY, Saturday, JUNE 21st, 1902. POST ENTRIES may be made on payment of DOUBLE FEES up to June 28th, 1902. PRIZE LISTS and ENTRY FORMS may be obtained of the Secretary,
H. R. J. SWAFFIELD, Ampthill.

MALLOW, IRELAND.

GREAT HORSE AND CATTLE SHOW, Also POULTRY, DOGS, &c.
JULY 9th and 10th, 1902.
JUMPING COMPETITIONS EACH DAY.
AUCTION SALE OF EXHIBITION STOCK, JULY 10th.
Buyers should not miss this Show.
Schedules from HON. SEC., Mallow, co. Cork.

THE THIRTEENTH ANNUAL OF THE THORNEY SHIRE FOAL SOCIETY JULY 17th, 1902, IN THORNEY PARK.

ENTRIES CLOSE JULY 7TH.

For Schedules and Entry Forms apply to the Secretary, H. HORRELL, THORNEY.

EAST BERKS HORSE SHOW at HAWTHORN HILL RACE COURSE, between BRACKNELL AND MAIDENHEAD, BERKS, THURSDAY, AUGUST 21st, 1902.

Schedules, &c., may be obtained of the Secretary, C. H. W. DIXON, 4, Henrietta Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.

THE EAST SURREY AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION SHOW will be held at CROYDON on JULY 9th, 1902.
Classes for STOCK STALLIONS, HACKS, HUNTERS, PONIES, SINGLE HARNESS, TANDEMS, PAIRS, and TRADESMEN'S TURNOUTS.
Upwards of £300 in Prizes, including about £80 for Jumpers.
ENTRIES CLOSE JUNE 21st.
HARRY FULLER, Hon. Sec.

Prize Lists and Entry Forms of HARRY M. CLARK, Acting Secretary, 83, High Street, Croydon.

BELFAST HORSE AND SHEEP SHOW
(North-East Agricultural Association's),
JULY 23rd, 24th, and 25th.

ENTRIES CLOSE JUNE 28th.
Double Fees, July 5th.

Schedules may be had on application to
KENNETH MACRAE, Secretary.
37, Donegall Place, Belfast.

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Important unreserved SALE of PEDIGREE HACKNEYS, THOROUGHBREDS, HUNTERS, PONIES, Etc.

MESSRS SUGDON & PEARCE-BROWN, jointly with Robert R. Leonard & Son, are instructed by Mr. Richard Willows, The Grange, Willerby, Hull, to SELL by AUCTION, THURSDAY, JUNE 19th, 1902, his entire STUD OF HORSES.
Catalogues first week in June, of the AUCTIONEERS, Beverley, and Field House, Preston, Hull.

FREEHOLD FARM, "ASHFIELDS" GREAT CANFIELD, ESSEX, 2½ miles from Station, within easy reach of Market Towns of Dunmow and Bishop's Stortford, comprising about 207a. 2r. 24p. of productive arable and meadow land, with orchard, partly bounded by River Roding, and including a commodious old-fashioned Residence, ample out-buildings, 3 yards, &c., good water supply. Let to Mr. Isaac Smith (a tenant of nearly 42 years' standing) for a term expiring Michaelmas next, at low rental of £110 per annum.

MESSRS. DUNCAN AND KIMPTON are instructed by Trustees of S. S. Gopp, Esq., to SELL the above by AUCTION at the MART, Tokenhouse Yard, London, E.C., on FRIDAY, JULY 11th, at TWO o'clock.
Particulars, &c., at the Mart; of Messrs. F. KIMBER BULL & DUNCAN, Solicitors, 65, Watling Street, E.C.; or of the Auctioneers, 40 and 42, Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C., and Westcliff-on-Sea, Essex.

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IMPORTANT SALE OF NORTH DEVON AND JERSEY CATTLE, from the Hon. Mrs. Tremayne (who is giving up the Glebe Lands).
MESSRS. WARD & CHOWEN have been favoured with instructions to SELL by AUCTION at Sydenham as above, on WEDNESDAY, JUNE 18th, commencing at TWO o'clock, p.m., 26 Choice Pedigree North Devon Cattle from this old-established Herd, 7 Cross Breds, and 9 Handsome Jerseys, &c.
Catalogues of Mr. JOHN MARTIN, Sydenham, Lew Down, Devon; or of the Auctioneers at Burnville, Tavistock.

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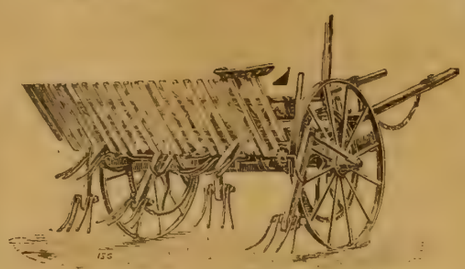
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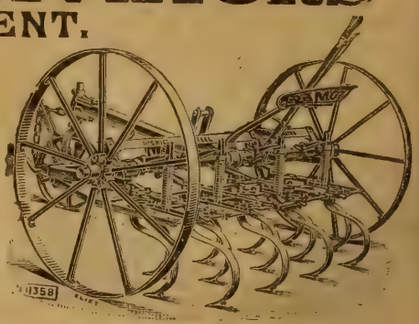
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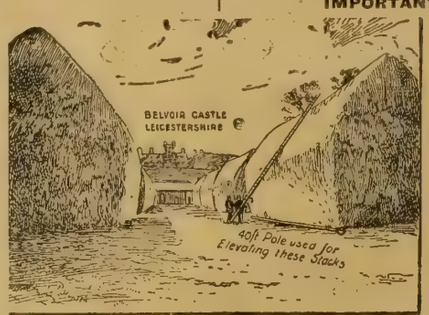
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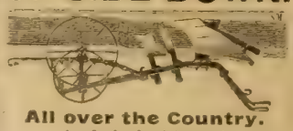
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A STANDARD FOR MANURES AND FEEDING STUFFS.

It was with considerable interest that we read the resolutions of the Ripon Agricultural Association advocating the amendment of the Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Act in the direction of fixing standards and taking samples of the articles to which it applies. When recently writing upon the Act we pointed out that it was almost a dead letter, and could not compete with the facilities for free analysis offered by many farmers' clubs. We gather, however, that the Ripon Association, in common with other agricultural bodies of a conservative disposition, does not provide free analysis for its members, and therefore is more dependent upon the provisions of the Act. A scale of standard prices and qualities of manures and cakes has for many years been issued annually by the Yorkshire Union of Agricultural Clubs, but as this scale is for the exclusive and confidential use of the associated bodies, its benefits, of course, can only be enjoyed by those associations which accept the maxim that union is strength. Moreover, this scale is not entitled to legal recognition, and would not necessarily be accepted in the laboratory at Somerset House. There is much therefore to be said, even in Yorkshire, for the fixing of an official standard for manures and cakes, as has already been done in the case of butter and milk.

The first resolution favours the fixing of a minimum percentage of oil, albuminoids, and carbo-hydrates, and the maximum percentage of moisture, woody fibre, and husk in linseed, decorticated cotton seed, and cotton-seed cakes and meals, and a statement on the invoice of the percentages of the above matters in the cakes or meals sold. As the law stands at present, if the vendor states on the invoice that the article is prepared from any particular substance or from any two or more particular substances, or is the product of any particular seeds, he is not liable to prosecution, although he may have extracted a large percentage of oil, thus reducing the feeding value of the cake. A recent analysis of decorticated cotton-seed meal disclosed a new and ingenious manner of adulteration, namely, the admixture of about 40 per cent. of finely-ground cotton-seed husk.

The second resolution advocates the fixing of a standard for manures. Disclosure in the invoice of the percentages of nitrogen, phosphates, and potash is already provided for by the Act. It is suggested that there should be fixed the minimum percentage of nitrogen and phosphates as phosphoric acid in bone meal and vitriolised bones, the phosphoric acid in basic slag, the nitrogen in nitrate of soda and sulphate of ammonia, and the potash in kainit, and that the ammonia contained in fertilisers be stated in ammonia, and that it be illegal to give it in sulphate of ammonia unless it is also stated in pure ammonia. Many farmers are deceived by the too common practice of expressing the ammonia in sulphate instead of in pure ammonia, whereby the fertiliser is made to appear four times richer in ammonia than it really is. The same device prevails with potash and sulphate of potash.

The third resolution urges the appointment of inspectors to take samples of manures and feeding stuffs at railway stations for submission to the district analyst. In the event of the result of the analysis being below the guarantee as expressed in the invoice, a prosecution by the Board of Agriculture or county council would follow as a matter of course.

The present procedure connected with the taking of samples is almost impracticable. The buyer has to give the seller three days' notice of his intention to take samples, and then must await the analyst's certificate before using the fertiliser. The inevitable delay is often a fatal objection. It rests with the buyer to start the machinery of the Act by requesting an analysis, and taking samples after due notice to the seller. This places the purchaser in an unpleasant position, as his attitude is often regarded by the vendor as unfriendly, and mutual business advantages may consequently be disturbed. We understand that several of the county councils are themselves desirous that their powers under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts should be extended to agricultural commodities. A great deal has lately been heard about the necessity of protecting farmers against unfair competition in the shape of adulteration of products; but there are thousands of farmers upon hundreds of thousands of acres who have never known the advantages of effective organisation, whose pockets are cruelly drained by adulteration of certain forms of raw material on which they rely. Is it too much to ask the Government to do for these hapless derelicts what the Yorkshire farmers have to a large extent already done for themselves?

Mons. Jean Dupuy, the French Minister of Agriculture, has been succeeded by Mons. Mougeot. Mons. Dupuy has occupied the above post for the last three years, and he leaves a good record behind him. He carefully studied those matters which have been entrusted to him, and always being open to make improvements. His successor, Mons. Mougeot, has shown great qualities of administration in the postal and telegraphic service.



By a Man of Mark Lane.

An international congress on old-age pensions, sick and benefit workmen's insurance will be held under the patronage of the German Government, in connection with the Dusseldorf Exhibition, from June 17th to 24th. All countries will be represented, and all problems relating to workmen's insurance, old-age pensions, funds for widows and orphans discussed. I may mention that the last international congress on the subject was held in 1897.

The Board of Trade Returns for the month of May are fairly satisfactory, considering the fall in prices which has taken place in certain important commodities. On the import account, returned at the estimated value of £43,353,705, there is, as against the total for May, 1901, an increase of £926,946, but as against May, 1900, a decrease of £522,722. There is a considerable decline in the entries of cattle from the United States and of sheep from that country and Canada, resulting in a decrease of £112,000 under the head of animals. Canada sent only 413 sheep during the course of the month. Fresh beef and mutton and hams, though less in quantity, are more in value, while the imports of bacon, butter, eggs, and fruits of all kinds, except raw apples and lemons, show substantial additions. Spices and fresh vegetables were very quiet. In dutiable articles of food and drink, wheat, barley, Indian corn, rice, currants and raisins, raw sugar, tea, and one or two other items show increases, but under wheatmeal, oats, oatmeal, refined sugar show large decreases. The exports for the month are given at the declared value of £22,831,974, and, as against the corresponding totals in 1901 and 1900, present respective decreases of £504,688 and £1,883,956. This net decrease is due wholly to coal, the shipment of which was 417,628 tons less than the export total of May, 1901, while the money value is £674,237 less.

According to the reports of the French Departmental Professors of Agriculture, the state of the crops is as follows:—Winter wheat: Four departments are very good; 55 departments are good; 24 satisfactory; three passable; and one medium. Rye: Five departments are considered to be very good; 65 good; 13 satisfactory; two passable; and one medium. Spring barley: Five departments are very good; 40 good; 27 satisfactory; four passable; and one medium. Oats: Four departments are very good; 48 good; 24 satisfactory; two passable; and two medium.

A synopsis of his June crop report was issued last week by the Statistician of the United States Department of Agriculture. The preliminary reports regarding the spring wheat acreage indicate a reduction of about 2,511,000 acres, or 12.6 per cent. Of 19 States reporting spring wheat, 13 report reduced acreage, Washington being the only State

having 100,000 acres or upwards that reports an increase. There is a reduction of 745,000 acres in Minnesota, and of 905,000 acres in North Dakota, due largely to unfavourable weather during the sowing time; in the Red River Valley a reduction of 400,000 acres in South Dakota, resulting mainly from an increasing tendency towards greater diversification of crops. There is also a reduction of 340,000 acres in Nebraska.

The average condition of winter wheat on June 1 is 76.1, against 76.4 last month, 87.8 last year, 82.7 two years ago, and 80.3 the mean of the averages of the last ten years. During the month of May there has been a gain of three points in Michigan, Illinois, and Kansas, of one point in Indiana, of two points in Nebraska, and of seven points in Oklahoma. On the other hand, there has been a loss of two points in California, and three points in Pennsylvania, with no measurable able change in Ohio. The total reported acreage sown in oats is about four-tenths of one per cent. in excess of the acreage harvested last year. The general average condition of the crop is 90.6, against 85.3 last year, 91.7 two years ago, and 90.0 ten years average. The acreage under barley this year exceeds the acreage harvested last year by 8.5 per cent. The condition of the crop on June 1 was 93.6, against 91.0 last year, 86.2 two years ago, and 88.6 the average of the last ten years. The acreage under rye this year shows a reduction of five-tenths of one per cent. from the acreage harvested last year. The average condition of the crop is 88.1, against 93.9 last year, 87.6 two years ago, and 89.3 the average of the last ten years.

The final forecast of the wheat crop of 1901-1902 in the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh, issued by the Department of Land Records and Agriculture for those provinces, has come to hand. In former years the forecasts issued by this Department have only shown the area under wheat, but to bring the figures for these provinces into conformity with those returned by other provinces, the present forecast includes both pure and mixed wheat. During the present year the area under wheat grown alone amounts to 5,074,930 acres, as compared with 4,794,451 acres reported for 1899-1900. The area of wheat sown with other crops amounts to 1,404,790 acres; total, 6,479,720 acres. Compared with the average areas of the preceding five and ten years, the total wheat area of the present year shows an increase of 7½ and 3½ lakhs of acres, or over 13 and 5 per cent. respectively. The out-turn of wheat sown alone is this year estimated at 1,953,508 tons, as compared with 1,950,814 tons in 1899-1900; and of wheat sown, in combination with barley and gram, at 448,432 tons; total, 2,401,940 tons, which is 16 and 18 per cent. more than the average yield of the preceding five and ten years respectively.

The total normal area under the various oil seed crops in the Province of Bengal now now stands at 4,043,500 acres, and the area cropped in the current year is estimated at 3,664,400 acres, against 3,777,600 acres of the past year. This decrease is due, it is stated in a report issued by the Bengal Department of Land Records and Agriculture, to the droughts at the sowing season. According to the district estimates, the out-turn for the province as a whole amounts to 81 per cent. of a normal crop. Taking 6 maunds per acre to be the normal rate of out-turn for linseed and rape and mustard, and 4¼ maunds per acre for other oil seeds, the gross yield of all the oil seed crops of these provinces during 1901-1902 amounts to 603,900 tons, against 578,400 tons produced in the preceding year.

The receipts on account of Revenue from April 1st, 1902, when there was a balance of £8,566,947, to June 7th, 1902, were £25,696,756, against £22,434,149 in the corresponding period of the preceding financial year, which began with a balance of £5,596.918. The net expenditure was £37,713,119, against £39,700,394 to the same date in the previous year. The Treasury balances on June 7th, 1902, amounted to £6,943.419, and at the same date in 1901 to £2,060,554.



By a Lobbyist.

Surely the Government is unwise in indulging in the luxury of divergent descriptions both over the corn and flour duties and over the suggested Zollverein. Ministers simply confuse the world when they indulge in rival definitions. For the matter of that, I care not whether they call this policy Protection or Free Trade. All I know is that the inherent spirit of both is protective, and that no subtle sophistry can disguise the fact. I am bound to say that in this business I am more in sympathy with the bold spirit of young Mr. Austen Chamberlain than with the pedantry of Sir Michael Hicks-Beach. Young Mr. Chamberlain—speaking, of course, for his father—refused to be governed or controlled by mere phrases. If the Colonies desire a Zollverein, that desire ought, he flatly affirms, to be respectfully and sympathetically considered. It must be Protective in its character; and it is useless to conceal this. On the other hand, Sir Michael balances himself nicely upon a hair-split oratorical tight-rope. He will only consent to a Free Trade Zollverein—he is a prophet of the gospel of Cobden. He believes only in open markets; but still he would differentiate in favour of ourselves and the Colonies. He will never desert Mr. Micawber, or, if he does desert him, he will only do it for his own benefit. All this is unworthy, perturbing, confusing. Why not frankly say—the altered Colonial conditions demand a revised economic policy We should then know what is ment. English farmers care nothing for these fine-drawn subtleties. They want to know if the Tories are, or are not, Protectionists. A word of frankness, and they would comprehend what to do.

This is a pretty quarrel, stands as it stands, among the more extreme politicians. The Radicals are, of course, devotedly, strenuously, fervently attached to Free Trade. They denounce any projected abandonment of it as recreance, treason, mad-malice against the poor, and what not. From Radicalism to Socialism is only one step; and yet the Socialists, or, rather, the Social Democrats, denounce Free Trade as a bloated and hoary impostor. The leaders of the Social Democratic Federation—the most important body in Socialism—do not hesitate to describe it as a "capitalists' booby trap." I do not quite know what the description means, but at least it is sufficiently forbidding and repellent to be quoted. They even go so far, too, as to say that this agitation against the so-called bread tax is an imposture and a snare, devised purely in the interest of a selfish capitalism. They would not care, indeed, if the tax were twice as much—it would not, they are persuaded, eventually affect the workers. The whole business is, they conclude, a monstrous fraud.

Now, for the moment we will disregard the political piquancy of this position. Let us regard it for a moment only for its economic significance. I have always held, as my readers will remember, that your real Socialist—a man who reflects the economy of Karl Marx—must inevitably be a Protectionist. We have only one Socialist Prime Minister in the whole of the British Empire; and this is the Radical-derided Mr. Seddon. Now, Mr. Seddon's Colony of New Zealand—one is somehow inclined to regard New Zealand as a kind of personal estate of Mr. Seddon's—is determinedly Protectionist. Of course, it will be urged that Australasia is justified in this position because it can produce everything it desires within its own borders, just as America is justified. But this suggests a more important point still. We, the British Empire, can produce everything we desire within our own borders. The fleetness of navigation, the general fact, in a word, that modern methods of communication have annihilated distance, bring the Empire nearly into the same position as America or Australasia. The general argument applying to them will apply to us as an Empire. Economically, we are almost as much justified in a policy of Protection as they are. Will the British agriculturist grasp this fact? Perhaps, however, they will argue that an Imperial Protection would destroy any hope of a recurrence of the advantage which they formerly received under national Protection. Well, at this moment I am not prepared to argue this point.

Why should not agriculturists accept the Socialist position? I know that even to suggest this is to leave myself open to the reception of multitudinous brickbats. But I hold strongly that we ought not to allow ourselves to become the victims and slaves of phraseology. If Socialism adopt a Protectionist policy, why, in the name of Heaven, should not those farmers who believe that only by national Protection can you secure the redemption of the agricultural interest, act in alliance with them—on this one point? True, the Socialists have no weight or influence in rural constituencies, but they can command no less than a dozen seats in urban England. Imagine, for a moment, the indirect advantage which the agitation would derive from possessing a solid phalanx of twelve sympathisers on the Radical benches. Of course, the natural disposition of my readers is to turn up their eyes at the very suggestion. Still, in politics we are compelled at times to be practical.

Are coming political events already casting their shadows ahead of us? In asking this question, I am concerned over the political future of Mr. George Lambert. I have just seen a placard of a meeting in protest against the corn and flour duties, to be held at Midhurst—Cobden's Midhurst. It was announced on this placard that men of the political distinction of Lord Welby, Lord Farrer, and Mr. James Bryce would attend; but it was picturesquely announced that Mr. George Lambert would be the principal speaker. Now, neither Lord Farrer nor Professor Bryce attended, but apparently, when this placard was penned, they were expected; and, though expected, "Our Jarje" was announced as the orator of the occasion. What can this portend? Mr. Seale-Hayne and Devonians generally may well wonder what new dignity awaits "the lad." Of course, this placard has no official importance; but what the rank and file of a party suggests to-day the leaders must think to-morrow.

There was a suggestion at the commencement of the week that Mr. Henry Chaplin would receive a Coronation Peerage. I do not speak with authority on this matter; but I have the best reason for saying that there is no justification in the suggestion. I need not enter into my reasons for asserting this; I am persuaded they are well-founded.

Pea Picker and Workmen's Compensation.—An interesting case under the Workmen's Compensation Act was heard at the Edmonton County Court on Tuesday, the plaintiff being a woman named Jesson, who was employed as a picker by a market gardener. She was directed to gather some peas, and as she was going to fetch a basket she tripped over a mound of earth in the field and fell, breaking her thigh.—For the defendant it was urged that as the plaintiff was not engaged in picking at the time the accident did not arise out of her employment.—Judge Tindal Atkinson, however, gave judgment for plaintiff, and awarded her 4s. 6d. a week from last July up to the end of the year, 3s. a week from Jan 1 to the end of March, and 2s. a week for the present.

Agriculturists and the Education Bill.

Central Chamber Deputation to Mr. Balfour.

On Friday afternoon Mr. Balfour received at the House of Commons a deputation from the Central and Associated Chambers of Agriculture, who desired to press upon him the desirability of the cost of national education being borne by the Imperial exchequer and not by local rates. The committee room in which the proceedings took place was crowded, among those present being the Duke of Northumberland, Mr. Chaplin, M.P., Lord Wenlock, Lord Heneage, Lord Willoughby D'Eresby, Sir E. Strachey, M.P., Mr. A. K. Loyd, M.P., Sir J. Kennaway, M.P., Mr. Griffiths-Boscawen, M.P., Major Rasch, M.P., Colonel Stopford Sackville, M.P., Mr. C. Warner, M.P., Colonel Long, M.P., Mr. Baldwin, M.P., Sir H. Fletcher, M.P., Mr. Ormesby Gore, M.P., Colonel Williams, M.P., Mr. Lloyd Wharton, M.P., and Mr. Clare Sewell Read.

Sir E. Strachey, M.P. (the Chairman of the Chambers), in introducing the deputation, said they desired to represent the views of the agriculturists of the country, who felt that they were already overburdened as regarded local purposes at the present time, and to urge upon the right hon. gentleman the importance of the entire charge for education being borne by the Imperial exchequer. (Hear, hear.) The Rural District Councils Association, representing 200 of those bodies in England and Wales, of which he was also president, had asked to be associated with the deputation.

Mr. Chaplin, M.P., said: I was asked some few days ago, and I readily agreed, to attend this deputation from the Central and Associated Chambers of Agriculture to yourself, and to express to you on their behalf the views they entertain with regard to the mode in which it is proposed under your Education Bill, to defray the additional expenditure which it will involve. That expenditure, I need hardly remind you, as at present proposed, is to fall entirely on the rates. What it will come to, no one, probably, with any accuracy can say, but in many of the poorer districts of the country they are very apprehensive that it will add considerably to their burdens. They urge that if the Bill is passed in its present shape, voluntary contributions to the maintenance of education will almost certainly cease, or be required for the fabrics alone, and that where education is supplied chiefly by voluntary schools, perhaps not of a very high standard of efficiency, that they will be required and called on to level up to the standard of the School Boards, and that that will add greatly to their expenses. In my district it is repeatedly urged upon me that it will mean an addition of 1s.—or nearly 1s.—to their rates. I hope they may be wrong, and I cannot help thinking that in this respect their fears are somewhat exaggerated. At the same time, I am bound to say that they have gone into it most carefully, and when I remember how entirely Mr. Forster's estimates of the cost of education—which was never to exceed the 3d. rate in the £—have been falsified by the result, it cannot be denied that they have some reasons for apprehension in this matter. Be that as it may, the principle which is contained in this Bill of the whole of the additional cost of the education it provides falling entirely on the rates, is a principle to which we are irreconcilably opposed, and for the reasons which I will very shortly state.

Our position in the matter is perfectly simple. We are in no way opposed to the improved education which you seek to provide in the interests of, and for the benefit of the people at large. On the contrary, we agree with those who think that it is a matter of the highest national importance, and in that view we are largely supported by the majority Report of the Royal Commission. Under education they include secondary and technical, as well as elementary education, and although it is true that for certain reasons they consider that it would have to be treated differently from the other national services which they refer to, yet they describe it as preponderantly national, and national in high degree, and they class it is national with poor relief, the police and main roads. But if that is so, if education is rightly to be regarded as a national service, then we contend that as far as possible it should be paid for by national funds, and that is a claim which it seems to me can be urged with great force by every ratepayer in the kingdom, both in town and in the country as well.

To-day, however, I address you on behalf of the Chambers of Agriculture. And representing as they do the various agricultural districts of the country, I have two other reasons in support of our claims to submit to you which are not perhaps equally open to others. One of our great difficulties in agricultural districts at the present time is to keep the people on the land, and it is our misfortune that the better and more highly you educate these people, the more certain it is that most of them will want to leave the land at once. Now that undoubtedly is a very great injury to these agricultural districts, but in spite of this they are willing and ready to bear their fair share as far as they can do of a national burden for what they admit is a great national purpose. But they are not willing, and they would consider it most unfair if they are called upon to bear a large addition to their local burdens for a purpose, which, as far as their particular district is concerned, will be an injury rather than a benefit to their particular district.

The other reason is this. That in many of the poorer districts of the country, especially the great corn-growing districts, some of them have passed, and are passing still, through a period of great difficulty and distress, and their condition is such that they really cannot afford to bear any further addition to their rates at the present time. Now this has been already largely recognised by the Government, and since Lord Salisbury's Government was formed in 1895 it has been their policy to give to them all the relief that was practicable from the rates, witness the Agricultural Rating Act, of which no one is better aware than yourself, and the many weary hours that you and I spent together in passing that Act in 1896, and they naturally complain that to put an additional burden on the rates at the present time is to reverse the policy which has been so recently pursued, and to that extent is calculated to neutralise the benefits of what has been done for them before.

Now these are the reasons why we are entirely opposed to the financial clauses of your Bill, and they induce us to urge on you, as earnestly as we can, that the additional cost of education, which will be entailed by this Bill, should be borne by imperial funds, and that this should also be the case, as far as possible, with regard to education generally. I say as far as possible, because we recognise that as long as education is locally administered there must be some check upon extravagance, and probably the most feasible, for the moment—I do not say the only check. There are others, no doubt, which could be devised by the Government—is to leave some portion of it on the rates. What that portion should be is a matter for consideration. But it should be very small. My own opinion, I confess—and especially in view of the fact that this is a national service—is this: that the national contribution should be the largest, and the rate contribution the smallest, which is consistent with effective and economic administration. (Cheers.)

The Duke of Northumberland said they were not in the least antagonistic to the general purpose of the measure—(hear, hear)—but they felt that whatever expenditure was made on education should certainly in the greatest part, probably in the whole, be borne by the general taxation of the country. (Hear, hear.)

Major Rasch, M.P., the Duke of Northumberland, Mr. Wharton, M.P., and Lord Willoughby D'Eresby, M.P., having spoken,

Mr. Balfour's Reply.

Mr. Balfour said: My lords and gentlemen, I have listened with the greatest interest to the representations made in the speeches to which we have just listened, and which I am sure very adequately and fully represent the views of the great deputation which I now have the honour to address. I came here rather to listen than to speak. It is impossible for me on the present occasion to make any declaration of policy, definite and explicit policy, on the part of the Government, but I am very desirous to hear what you have to lay before me, in order that I, in my turn, might have an opportunity of laying these views before my colleagues. Reference has been made to the report of the Commission on Local Taxation. Education is represented by it as being in the nature of a national duty, and, therefore, a national charge. The main qualification I should be disposed to make to this has been made by Mr. Chaplin, and it is that so long as you leave administration to local bodies, so long those bodies must have financial responsibility. (Hear, hear.) While I am expressing no dissent from the general views laid down by the commissioners on local taxation in this respect, of course, everybody here will understand that this is not the moment at which to attempt to have any reform of local taxation. That is a great question, and one which must inevitably come before us again owing to the fact that the Agricultural Rating Act is a temporary Act. It is not, therefore, a subject upon which a pronouncement can be desired from the Government at present.

Comment has been made upon the effect this Bill will have on education. Much alarm has been expressed with regard to the distribution of the rural population and the migration of labourers from the country districts to the town. I am not qualified to give an authoritative opinion on the latter point, and I should say if that tendency is due merely to the fact that education has improved, it is one we must face, and we must submit to; but if it is due, as I think it may be due, to this, that under our existing system of education, the training given in the country is much more suited for an urban population than a country population, then this Bill is a great reform, or may be proved to be a great reform, in the direction in which the deputation desire—(hear, hear)—because manifestly one of the great results of this Bill will be to make education less centralised all over and more local. The Bill gives to great elective bodies in the country the direct right to deal with the education of their own district in a manner suited to the needs of that district, and suited to the varying needs of the varying portions of that district, which I do not think you can expect to find under the more centralised system which now prevails. My own view is that the Education Department, if this Bill passes, will more and more recede from the position of universal manager of all schools into a great advisory body, which will no doubt have to see that the contribution of the taxpayer, which is far greater than that of the ratepayer, is properly expended. But the department will probably be more usefully occupied in aiding the local authority with expert advice and assistance than in dealing with the minute details of this or that school under the supreme control of the new authorities the Bill proposes to set up.

I hope nobody will leave this room under the impression that this Bill is a Bill injurious to the ratepayers. I am aware that this is the opinion widely spread throughout the country, fostered and fomented by speeches of many eminent persons, but it really is a view which has no foundation in fact. At present, by the law of 1870, there is an actual or contingent liability on the ratepayer for all the elementary education throughout the country. So far as voluntary schools are concerned, the obligation is only contingent, but I think it is a mistake to suppose that the system of voluntary schools, as we know it, whether it be good or bad from an educational point of view, could last indefinitely. It, no doubt, would last in some districts for a very long time, but so long as it lasted unmodified it would probably prevent any national system of education. But the ratepayers have to contemplate the fact that a large number of these voluntary schools are in considerable difficulties, and that where a voluntary school vanishes the charge thrown upon the local ratepayer is, and would be, far greater than the charge thrown upon the local ratepayer by the present Bill. (Hear, hear.) One speaker urged that he had voted against the Bill. Let us suppose that example had been followed partially by the supporters of the Government, and the Bill defeated. One result of that would have been the Bill would have gone, and the Government would have gone. Just consider from the ratepayers' point of view what the result would be. The main opponents of the Bill, the only persons, so far as I am aware, who oppose it on principle are the Nonconformists, and those who speak for them. Their avowed policy is that the voluntary schools should be slowly squeezed out of existence, and this is the only alternative to the educational policy of the Government. You have, at all events, the building of the existing voluntary schools free of charge, and the obligation thrown upon the supporters of the schools to keep them in repair and to make such additions as from time to time may be reasonable and necessary. Imagine what the charge would be upon the ratepayers if the policy of turning these schools forcibly or otherwise into national schools were adopted. You would have the whole of those subscriptions which are now given to the repair of buildings and their alterations thrown upon the ratepayers, and in addition the ratepayers would have to bear the amount, which cannot be calculated, but which we know to be enormous, necessary for the provision of buildings in which to carry on the work of elementary education. It is really necessary that everybody, considering this education scheme from the ratepayers' point of view, should never allow these considerations to escape his mind. I venture to point out to you that the present scheme, even if no additional aid could be got from the Chancellor of the Exchequer to help the ratepayer—even then this would not be an anti-ratepayers' Bill. On the contrary, it is the only feasible solution of the question of which the ratepayer would not have grievous reason to complain.

I need say very little more, except to express my sympathy with the position of the ratepayer, and especialy of the rural ratepayer. (Applause.) I think you will take that expression of sympathy as being genuine when you remember what has been done by the party and the administration to which I have the honour to belong during the last twenty or thirty years. I do not wish to go back to the immense aid given to the local ratepayers by the Unionist Government when Lord Goschen was Chancelor of the Exchequer in 1887-8; but, even since, long subsequent to that time, I think it will be remembered that we have not merely passed, amid great opposition, the Agricultural Rating Bill, but that we have also passed, against opposition hardly less strenuous, an Act which gave assistance to voluntary schools, in effect preventing them falling to the charge of the ratepayers, and the assistance fe gave to the neces-

sitous school Boards. The total amount we have given in aid of the ratepayer and in connection with education alone, leaving out of account altogether what was done by the Agricultural Rating Act to relieve the taxpayer of the charge contingently thrown upon him by the Act of 1870, amounts to no less than £800,000 a year. The fact that we have done that within the last ten years is practically conclusive proof that we have not been deaf to the appeals made to us from time to time by the ratepayers all over the country, and not less in rural districts. Within the limits of our capacity we will yield what we can to all appeals in the same direction. It is impossible to do anything like all you would like to see done in connection with this Bill. Of that I am afraid I can hold out but very little prospect. The Chancellor of the Exchequer is bound, not only to consider the needs of this or that applicant or set of applicants, but the needs of the country as a whole; but I shall certainly represent to him the strong views taken by this very important deputation upon the subject, in which we have already shown sympathetic interest, and I trust it will not be impossible to do something, at all events, in the direction in which you desire. (Applause.)

The deputation thanked the right hon. gentleman and withdrew.

The Corn Tax.

Discussion in Parliament.

During the past week the House of Commons has been considering the Finance Bill, and on Monday and Tuesday a great deal was said about the corn and flour tax, the opposition naturally taking the opportunity offered them of once more airing their views on the tax. The general opinion was that as the war was over, the corn tax and also the new income-tax were not required now. As Mr. Chaplin pertinently remarked, the debate (which, by the way, was brought about on the motion that Clause I. should stand as part of the Bill) was nothing but a storm in a tea cup, and caused by the Opposition's intense dislike and hostility to the corn tax.

Sir H. Campbell-Bannerman said a very strong feeling existed in the country as to the new tax and in opposition to it for it was not a new duty of the ordinary kind, but a duty which they were told would lead to the total subversion of the whole fiscal system of the country. The new tax was to be a permanent tax, and it was sought to impose it under the cover of the war. The changes which it was expected to make in the relations of this country and the colonies and other countries made it all the more necessary that they should look at the matter well before they accepted it.

Mr. Channing moved an amendment which would have the effect of limiting the imposition of the grain tax to one year. He contended that there was no justification for making this tax a permanent item in our financial arrangements.

Sir W. Harcourt asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer to explain the character of the tax, and to inform the House whether the duty was a war tax or a permanent tax. If it was a war tax why should it not cease with the war. He noticed the Colonial Secretary had stated that the duty would enable him to negotiate preferential duties with the colonies. If this was done this country would make commercial enemies of every nation in the world. Even the colonies would fall out over it, because they would not all want the same thing. The matter was one of the deepest possible importance, and they ought to have some official statement from the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

The above two speeches brought forth a long reply by Sir M. Hicks-Beach, who, in the course of his remarks, said that to limit the tax to one year will not increase Parliamentary control over it, and I oppose the limitation because it will make everybody uncertain as to the future. Sir W. Harcourt sees in the tax some extraordinary intention of turning it into a scheme for revolutionising our whole Customs tariff and instituting a Protectionist tariff against foreign countries. The tax was imposed for two purposes—first, to bear its share, together with the increase in the income-tax, of the cost of the war in the present year; and, secondly, to add—I hope permanently—to that part of the revenue of the country which comes from indirect taxation. I believe that such has been the growth of our expenditure during the past few years, and such is likely to be its continued growth, under any Administration that it is absolutely necessary to increase the heads of indirect taxation. . . . To my mind, but a small portion of the ideas which are floating in people's minds at the present time ought to be realised at the expense of the national exchequer. But to realise even that portion certainly involves still further increase in our ordinary expenditure. Where is the money to come from? Is it to come entirely from the income-tax payers? That is really the question which Parliament has to answer. If from indirect taxation, is it to come from piling on more and more upon tobacco or alcohol, articles already taxed over and over again beyond their value? If you want to increase your revenue from indirect taxation you must add new articles, and that is why I have added sugar and coal last year, and propose to add corn in the year before us. What is the alternative? It is to keep up the income-tax, perhaps very nearly at its present limit, in time of peace, with the result that you would raise such a feeling of injustice among a small class as had probably never been seen before. And what would become of your great financial engine in time of war? God forbid that we should in our time ever again enter into a great war, but if that should happen, and you commence a great war with the income-tax at a shilling or fourteen-pence, you will have to raise revenue by indirect taxes of which we do not now dream, and which would inflict infinitely greater injury on the trade and commerce of the country than could be imagined for a moment from such taxes as those on sugar, coal, and corn. That is my view of the financial position—that is why I propose this change in our permanent system of taxation. (Ministerial cheers.) I was never more astonished in my life than when I heard the Leader of the Opposition say that his greatest objection to the corn-tax was that it was to bring about a complete change in our fiscal system as regards our dealings with our Colonies and foreign countries. He described it as the prelude to a customs union of the Empire on a Protectionist basis. I have proposed this duty as a revenue duty, and nothing else. I know that Sir Wilfried Laurier made some observations on the subject in the Dominion House of Commons. I have the greatest respect for Sir Wilfrid Laurier as an able, loyal statesman, but then I must say that I do not think Sir Wilfrid Laurier's opinions with regard to the tendency or effect of any fiscal legislation here are of more value than mine would be with regard to similar matters in Canada. I disclaim altogether the interpretation which Sir Wilfrid Laurier has placed on the corn duty. In a few weeks we hope there will be a conference of representatives of the Colonies upon this question, as well as other questions affecting the interests of the Empire. Supposing it were possible that we should have Free Trade through the British Empire—an imperial zollverein. Do you not think that any such arrangement as that would bind together our Colonies and the Mother Country, and the Colonies themselves more perhaps than anything else that could be done? (Sir W. Harcourt: Does the right hon. gentleman mean Free Trade with all the world?) No. I mean Free Trade with the Colonies. If we should have Free Trade with our Colonies I do not see why that should necessarily involve increased duties on our part against foreign nations, although to secure such an end some sacrifice in that direction might be justified. But it is not possible that there should be Free Trade at the present time between England and her Colonies. But can we not try so to consider the commercial relations between us that we may make trade freer than it is now, and that without necessarily injuring any foreign country? My idea of dealing with this great and most important question is upon a basis of Free Trade, and not upon a basis of Protection. I know that some persons have suggested that we should impose duties as against foreign nations, in order to give an advantage to our Colonies. That is not the policy of His Majesty's Government. It is our policy, while adhering to our own principles, to do what we can to make trade between ourselves and our Colonies freer, in order, as we believe, to promote the best relations within the Empire. I have proposed this tax as revenue solely, and without prejudice to any discussions that may take place between us and the Colonial representatives on the question of commercial relations. I hope these discussions may be fruitful, but it is not with regard to them, but with regard to the necessity of raising revenue for this and future years that I have submitted this duty to the House.

Mr. Flynn moved an amendment to exempt Ireland from the imposition of the corn duty, and appealed to the Chancellor of the Exchequer to grant Ireland some relief in the matter of Indian corn, which was much used by the poorer Irish people as a food.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer could not accept the amendment, because it would involve the establishment of a separate customs house, a system which would be most injurious to Ireland and Great Britain.

In addition to the speeches reported above, numerous others were made by members on both sides of the House, but space does not permit of them being noted here, and those given above will give an idea of the whole debate on Monday. On the following day there was another very long discussion, when all of the old ground was gone over again. Sir Henry Campbell Bannerman, Sir William Harcourt, Mr. A. Chamberlain, Lord Hugh Cecil, and several other prominent members spoke, and Sir Michael Hicks-Beach replied to the criticisms at some length. In the course of his speech he said: It was really extraordinary that hon. members opposite should talk of the terrible burden which the duty had imposed or was about to impose upon the poorest classes. Hon. members opposite had urged that this was only the first step, and that having now put on 3d. per cwt., next year they would impose a duty of 3s. per cwt. When such a duty was proposed it would be time enough to fight it, and if that happened he thought they would find him on their side. This duty must be regarded, not by itself, but as part of the general system of taxation. He had proposed it because he held most strongly that every person in this country who could maintain himself was bound to contribute something to maintain the State. Hon. members opposite would confine the taxation to persons who would pay direct taxation and to those who consumed alcohol and tobacco. That would be a fatal policy, and he declined to be a party to it.

Finally the Chancellor of the Exchequer moved the closure amid loud cries of dissent from the Opposition. It was carried by a majority of 98, 282 voting for and 188 against, whilst on the motion that Clause I. stand part of the Bill 279 voted for the motion and 193 against; majority for, 86.

Protest from Leeds.

A conference of Yorkshire and North Midland trades unionists and co-operators, in opposition to the proposed duty on corn, was held at the People's Hall, Albion Street, Leeds, on the 7th inst., at which a resolution was unanimously passed, which, whilst endorsing the principle that the burden of taxation should be equally borne by all sections of the community, expressed the strong disapproval of the conference of the proposal to place a tax on corn and flour. The resolution concluded by urging upon trades unionists, co-operators, and working men generally in Yorkshire and the Northern Midlands, to express their disapproval of the proposed tax in the strongest possible manner by passing special resolutions on the subject, to be immediately forwarded to the members of Parliament concerned.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL

Crops in Germany.

The following report concerning the growing crops has been issued by the Imperial Bureau of Statistics. The favourable condition of seedlings reported in April did not continue, owing to unfavourable weather, which set in about the end of the month, with cold, north-east wind and night frosts in Central Germany, and in the East of the Empire, where drought also prevailed; rain, snow, and hail showers were frequent in other parts. The temperature was everywhere below the normal, so that vegetation was greatly checked. Summer crops have suffered most. Spring sowing is not yet quite ended.

Winter wheat has suffered less than winter rye, the note being above an average in all districts, while rye is in some places below an average. In the Rhine Provinces the bloom was cut up by the frost. Wheat is turning brown in parts of Prussia, and rust is feared. In Oldenbury and Bavaria it looks red, and fields are looking rusty in Alsace-Lorraine, Würtemburg, and Baden. Winter seedlings are yellow in Saxony, Hesse, Saxe-Meiningen, Lippe, and Alsace-Lorraine. Fears may not be realised if warm weather sets in soon. Summer sowing is not quite ended, owing to the wet weather Barley has yet to be put in, and seedlings are coming up slowly; the condition is poor on account of night frosts. Wire-worm has appeared in Saxony and Würtemburg on barley and oats.

Potatoes are not all laid yet. Those that are put in have not come up. Earlies are frost-bitten in Prussia, Oldenburg, Hesse, Bavaria, and Würtemburg, Baden, and Alsace-Lorraine. The average note for the Empire could not be given, as reports from many districts are not yet to hand. Clover is generally behind; the condition is not so good as in April, owing to night frosts. The first crop will be a small yield, and fodder famine is feared in many districts. The condition of lucerne is not so good as at the beginning of spring. Cold weather and frosts have done much harm. Large areas had to be ploughed over in Saxe-Coburg-Gotha and Hesse, owing to ravages of mice. Meadows look worse than they did in April. The young grass is thin and has suffered from the frost in many places. The first hay crop will be a small yield.



Home Notes.

The Borough.

Business during the past week has been exceptionally active, considering the period of the season at which we have arrived. The tone of the market is very firm, and in most of the recent transactions the advanced prices demanded have been accepted by buyers. Doubtless the continuance of unfavourable weather has contributed to this result, the holders of the small remainder of last year's crop being very reserved in their offers. They are confirmed in this attitude by the limited stock of yearlings and olds, and by the marked absence of foreign competition. First-class samples are naturally sought for, but cannot be obtained, therefore, the demand is directed towards medium qualities, and some of the lower grades are being taken over at higher rates than have been recently current. The present outlook is strongly in favour of still greater improvement in values, and it seems desirable that holders should wait further developments before operating.

The Board of Trade

reports that the imports of hops from the United States during May have only reached 402 cwt. From the Continent we have received 1,452 cwt., making the small total of 1,854 cwt. This is something like 3,000 cwt. less than the imports of this month in each of the two preceding years. But our exports for May were considerable, being of English hops 833 cwt. and of foreigners 835 cwt., totalling 1,668 cwt. The balance of less than 200 cwt. added to our market is therefore insignificant. The "Standard" in to-day's issue gives, in correction of a previous statement, 50,506 cwt. as the imports of the first five months of this year. The figures of the official returns for this period are 45,698 cwt. from the United States of America and 15,172 cwt. from other countries, furnishing a total of 58,870 cwt. I am at a loss to understand for what reason the "Standard" alters the official figures, which I think we must accept as correct.

Our Growing Crop

is evidently suffering from the recent and present climatic conditions. The cyclonic disturbances affecting our atmosphere have been continuous. As soon as one has passed away another has followed it, with the result that the whole kingdom has experienced cold winds from northerly or easterly points, accompanied by heavy rains. The sensitive hop plant cannot endure such treatment with impunity. It requires sunshine and genial surroundings to promote its vigorous growth, and it is now shrinking from the low temperature, and despondently drooping. I hear from many gardens in the South of the vine looking yellow and sickly, and even where the response to the short spell of warmth of a fortnight ago was shown in improved growth, this has been seriously checked, especially in cases where night frosts have been felt. Consequently the plants are daily becoming more liable to a fly attack, which is more definitely threatened. Unless sunshine and warmth speedily displace clouds and cold, the aphis blight will rapidly develop and the crop prospects will be materially depreciated. I have not yet heard of the hop-washers being brought into operation in Kent or Sussex, but a Herefordshire correspondent tells me that many growers have commenced the process in the Midland districts. I am sorry to know that any efforts are being made to avert the possibility of a small crop, and sincerely trust that growers will generally realise that their true interests are centred this year in a limited yield of good quality. This is not my opinion only, but that of all expert observers who desire to promote the prosperity of our industry.

Foreign Notes.

Nuremberg.

This market has recently shown much variation as regards the volume of business, which has followed the changes of weather in a somewhat remarkable manner. The sales, which on some days twiddled 150 bales or more, fell on succeeding days to only 30 or 40 bales. The greater part of the demand was from local brewers, orders for export being exceedingly small and infrequent. On the whole, the tone of the trade is quiet, although values are fairly well maintained, 60s. to 80s. being paid for medium samples, and up to 105s. for sealed or other special selections. The Continent has generally experienced marked uncertainty of climate, the comparatively low temperature being unfavourable for the gatherings at the public gardens and open-air restaurants in which beer is principally consumed. Thus the output of the breweries is much below the average production of this month, when genial warmth is expected. The immediate future of the hope trade will consequently mainly depend upon the summer development, which is thus far very disappointing.

Reports from the plantations

are, however, favourable, with but few exceptions. The plant grew so rapidly during the latter part of May that additional attention to cultivation was needed and given. The retardation of the growth caused by the earlier cold weather seems to have disappeared, and, according to present information, the prospect is now distinctly favourable to a full yield, assuming that no subsequent hindrances appear. A correspondent of the "Bulletin des Halcas," however, reminds his readers that a critical period of two to three months has yet to be passed through, "et qui bien souvent il y a loin de la coupe aux lèvres," or, as we say in England, that "there is many a slip 'twixt the cup and the lip."

The Continental hop area,

excluding Holland and Belgium, has been recently estimated at close upon 170,000 acres, divided as follows:—

	Acres.
Bavaria	65,750
Wurtemberg	15,000
Baden	6,625
Alsace-Lorraine	10,750
Other parts of Germany	6,875
Bohemia	31,437
Galicia	4,103
Styria	4,065
Other parts of Austria	3,340
Hungary	905
France	8,035
Russia	12,500

It is probable that the acreage of Germany will be increased this year, as the result of the heavier import duty imposed by the German Government, so that the whole European area of this season, outside of England, may be approximately taken at not much less than 200,000 acres.

The average yield

of the Continent is very far short of what we are accustomed to consider as a satisfactory crop. Germany only shows an average of about 5½ cwts. It should be noted that while the Austrian production is lowest in average quantity, the hops grown in Bohemia hold the premier position in the world for quality, and always command the highest prices.

Belgium.

The trade is quiet, but prices remain steady at 49 to 50 francs. Very few of the best qualities remain, and for these holders are firm in their demands.

The crop prospects both in Alost and Poperinghi districts are sufficiently favourable, the growth being normal, and the plant generally healthy. Some lice have made their appearance, but not yet in such quantity as to create any immediate anxiety in the minds of planters.

America.

New York State has been visited by what the "Onconta Herald" describes as "freaky weather." Severe frosts have been followed by heavy rains and hail-storms, which are reported to have seriously damaged many of the hop yards. The vine round about Waterville is slow growing and backward, and though it is supposed that the best and most vigorous yards will outgrow the injury to some extent, the outlook from the weaker yards is not at all favourable for much of a crop. On the whole it is estimated that the crops throughout the State will be light.

Increasing firmness is evident in all the trading centres, the New York market being very strong. Brewers are not buying freely, but dealers, having confidence in early improvement in values, are bidding fall prices for any disposable lots, and find difficulty in getting their offers accepted Current quotations at New York are now considerably above what they have been at this date at any time during the last three years. Farmers on the Pacific coast have contracted for 1902 hops up to 13 cents., and are now refusing to extend business, unless at advanced prices. Crop prospect on the Pacific coats are generally favourable.

A fire of a serious nature broke out at seven o'clock yesterday (Sunday) morning, at Ellershaw's oil mills, Hull. The outbreak was discovered at the top of a five-storeyed warehouse, which extended from Wincolmlee to the edge of the river Hull. It contained a very heavy stock of cake linseed and cottonseed. The warehouse was obviously doomed, and the energies of the brigade were successfully directed towards preventing the fire spreading to the mill proper and the adjoining mill. Two firemen had a narrow escape, only just avoiding a falling wall, whilst playing on a fire from the housetop. The damage is estimated at between £7,000 and £8,000. The mill was practically destroyed by fire nine years ago.



By Hordeum.

Beer Dilution.

The "Brewing Trade Review" takes strong exception to the articles which appeared here concerning the dilution of beer by brewers, and dealing with the facts and figures relating to brewers' returns. The fairness of the criticisms offered can be gauged from the following excerpts, which practically amount, apparently, to all the writer has to say:—

"The writer, a well-known agitator in the 'pure' beer interest, has now discovered that the source of all the trouble to the farmer is the brewer's practice of sending out his beer at a strength often below the standard fixed for the purpose of charging duty." "He (the writer) evidently desires that all beer should be of the strongest character and pay the maximum amount of duty." "All the barley grower apparently demands is that every other interest should give way to that of the agriculturist."

"All he wants is, first, that barley malt alone should be used; and, secondly, as much of it as possible should be put into the beer—that is to say, that, at any rate, the public should never be allowed to have their beer at a less specific gravity than 1.055deg, a figure fixed solely for Revenue purposes. The hopelessness of the argument is apparent to any reasonable person."

No reasonable person endowed with any intelligence and having only a very small knowledge of brewing can possibly read any such "argument" into the articles on pages 572 and 604 ante.

Why does not this official organ of the country brewers deal with the very serious charges made in connection with their general practice of diluting, to the loss of the Revenue and to the defrauding of consumers?

Brewers and Buttermen

will have to be equal in the eyes of the law some day; meanwhile it is a great safeguard to consumers to put them in possession of the actual facts. It is not merely a barley-growers' question. It concerns all beer-drinkers much more closely, and it affects every taxpayer in Britain. Barley-growers do not want to see every other interest made to give way to brewers. By what can be best described as an artifice brewers evade payment of duty of several millions sterling per annum. Were beer brewed now with the same proportions of material as were used twenty years ago, not merely would much more material be used (and it is the extract yielded by the material upon which duty is charged, not the number of barrels made), but consumers would get 50 per cent. more value for their money.

There has always been low-gravity beer made. The very word itself implies this, but an ordinary eightpenny beer of twenty years ago would be as strong or stronger as the ordinary shilling beer of to-day.

Honest brewers could then make a profit on both classes of beer sold at 8d. and 1s. per gallon. Can they be surprised if their honesty is called in question if they now supply

Weaker Shilling Beer

than they formerly sent in at 8d.? It must be borne in mind that brewers have themselves established a sliding-scale of prices very largely ruled by this one question of gravity or the initial strength of the beer prior to fermentation. Solely because one beer contained more malt and hops than another, 50 or even 100 per cent more money was demanded. There was no difference in quality of the material used or age of the beer; the sole difference was quantity or gravity. This quantity has been steadily diminished with no alteration made to the price of beer, and consumers would be kept in the dark were it not esteemed by some to be a stern and very painful duty to expose the facts.



Preserving Eggs.

Sir,—In answer to your correspondent, Mr. S. Nichol, whose letter appears in your issue of the 9th inst., I may say:—

(1) It is claimed by users that by means of water-glass eggs have been kept perfectly fresh for a twelve month. As, however, so much depends on the circumstances prevailing at the time of use, no definite limit can be assigned as to the length of time during which the eggs will remain in a fresh condition.

(2) The eggs must be completely covered by the solution and left thus until required.

(3) It would be better to wash very dirty eggs before placing them in the water-glass; but they do not need to be washed before being sent to market.

(4) By repeated use the water-glass would become useless for the purpose of preserving eggs, and a fresh supply should be obtained. The proportion generally used is one pound of water-glass to ten pounds of water. Ten pounds of water measure one gallon.

(5) The water-glass is not the active cause of the death of the germ of the egg. In a fortnight's time from being laid (at the outside), the germ in an egg dies naturally, unless it has been fostered and commenced development by the application of heat, as given by a hen or an incubator.

(6) It is preferable to use wooden or earthenware vessels for storing the eggs in, but I do not think copper vessels would be unsuitable.

(7) The casks when full should be placed in a fairly cool situation, but the temperature ordinarily observed during an English summer would not have any detrimental effect.—Yours truly,

F. G. P.

GARDEN.

The heat-wave has passed away, and once more we are depressed by cloudy skies, cold northerly winds, and chilly nights, but this state of things, it is to be hoped, will not last long—surely we shall get at least some real summer weather before long!

Cool, showery weather, such as has been experienced lately, at this season, affords an excellent opportunity for getting a good batch of winter greens put out, and it is now high time for at least the more forward plants to be in their places. Brussels sprouts for early or autumn use ought to have been planted out a month or more since, and be now making a rapid and sturdy growth. Keep the ground between the rows well hoed, and if at all "leggy" (as usual with this subject), draw up a little soil on each side, to support them. The last batch of plants, from the March or early April sowing, ought to be put out at once.

Plant out a good breadth of savoys, and plenty of brocoli also. Of these the medium and later kinds should be got to work first, as a rule. There is time enough for kale (borecole) yet, unless this is required in the autumn or early winter, which is very seldom the case. Most of this class of plant are usually put out on ground that has carried a crop of early potatoes previously, merely clearing and levelling it a little, giving just a sprinkling of soot, or some good fertiliser, perhaps, and then dibbling in the plants. But—to use a somewhat contradictory expression—the early potatoes are very late this season, and those who wait for even the most forward to be lifted will be all "behind the fair" with their winter green stuff, so the only alternative is to plant between the rows of the former. There is no great objection to this plan, though the "spuds" must be dug rather more carefully than usual; when this is done it is a very simple matter to earth the plants up to any extent, and, indeed, they must be put in rather shallowey, or they will become unduly buried. It is also advisable, for obvious reasons, to plant in each alternate furrow only.

Cucumbers are extremely plentiful and low in price just now, and in the large metropolitan markets seem to be almost a drug, in spite of the enormous demand. Very fair "cu's" can be obtained now at a shilling or eighteenpence per dozen, although the season is young yet; how the growers can produce them at the price is a mystery, but the competition is now so great in this line that they are really "cutting each other's throats" at

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A Dairy Show at Hamburgh.

After considerable preparation, a committee has been formed at Hamburg for the formation and holding of a general dairy show in 1903, during the first half of the year. The show, for which an adequate sum of money has been guaranteed, will be on the same lines as the great International Dairy Show of 1877. Herr Senator Hachmann has been appointed as president of the executive committee, his deputy being Herr Schröder. A working committee has also been formed under the direction of Herr Senator Helle, who will take charge of the lectures. The programme, which has been drafted by Professor Boysen, will be the especial care of this committee. It will probably be ready for issue some time during the current month.

The Milk-blended Butter Bill.

This Bill, which has been introduced by Mr. Hanbury to amend the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, provides that where butterine (butter to which any substance has been added whereby the amount of water in the butter is increased) is offered for sale, the label or paper wrapper shall contain a legibly printed statement indicating that the article has been adulterated and to what extent water has been added.

Arsenic in Beer.—The Royal Commission appointed to inquire into the presence of arsenic in beer, on Friday resumed its sittings at Westminster, Lord Kelvin presiding. Mr. Otto Hehner, of the Society of Chemical Industries, was recalled. He gave evidence as to inquiries made by the committee of the Society of Public Analysts and the Society of Chemical Industries, and said they were unanimously of the opinion that of the processes for ascertaining the quantity of arsenic in beer the March Berzelius process was the best. The result of his own investigation had been that if the law were to insist upon beer being absolutely free from arsenic they would have to close up all the breweries in England. No beer could possibly be guaranteed as absolutely free from arsenic, but, with careful use of ingredients, what arsenic there was in beer would be quite harmless. Mr. A. C. Chapman, City Analyst, and Dr. S. Delepine, of Manchester, also gave evidence.



Monday (June 9th).—Cold and inclement weather prevailed over our islands, but the conditions were drier than of late, and although showers were experienced in many places, they were not generally heavy. The wind was northerly over the entire country, and was being drawn from the cold Arctic regions. The highest temperatures during the day were considerably below the average, the thermometer nowhere touching sixty degrees.

Tuesday (June 10th).—Owing to the dying away of the Northerly wind, and also to the presence of a little more sunshine, the weather was not quite so cold as on Sunday and Monday. In no part of the United Kingdom, however, did the thermometer reach sixty degrees, and in nearly all the more northern districts it failed even to reach fifty-five degrees. In London, where the day was mostly fair, and at times quite fine and sunny, the maximum shade temperature recorded was fifty-nine degrees, being five degrees higher than on Monday, but as many as eleven degrees below the average for the month of June.

Wednesday (June 11th).—The type of weather had undergone a considerable change, and we were again coming under the influence of cyclonic disturbances, which were arriving over the northern portion of our islands from the Atlantic. The winds were light, and generally from between south-east and south-west. Temperature was low over the northern portion of the country during Tuesday night, but in most parts of England it ranged between forty-five and fifty degrees. The mid-day temperatures were again very low for the time of year, and it was only in the south of England that the thermometer rose to sixty degrees.

Thursday (June 12th).—Rainy and unsettled weather prevailed in most parts of the British Islands, and the wind was strong in the south and east of England. A cyclonic disturbance arrived from the Atlantic during Wednesday night, and its centre yesterday was situated at the entrance to the English Channel. Rain was measured in the morning, as the result of the fall in the preceding 24 hours, over nearly the entire country, but the amounts were mostly small. Wednesday night was generally warm, and at several places in the south of England the temperature did not fall below 50 degrees. The mid-day temperatures were, however, everywhere low.

Friday (June 13th).—The weather continued very unsettled over the entire area of the British Islands, and rain fell again throughout the day in most places. Rain was measured in the morning, as the result of the fall in the preceding twenty-four hours, everywhere in the United Kingdom, and the amounts were generally rather large. Temperatures were everywhere low, the highest readings nowhere touching sixty degrees, and in many places only slightly exceeding fifty degrees.

Saturday and Sunday (June 14th and 15th).—The weather continued generally unsettled, and further heavy falls of rain occurred over the greater part of our Islands. The winds were, for the most part, North-Westerly, and they were strong on Sunday at places on our West coasts. The nights continued generally warm, but the days remained very cold for the time of year, and the midday temperatures on both days were nearly everywhere below 60deg., while in many places they were scarcely above 50deg.

Strange Sheep Disease in Wales.—A mysterious malady is affecting the flocks in Cardiganshire, which caused the death of hundreds of sheep. It appears that a peculiar kind of parasite enters the nostrils of the animal, and works its way to the brain. A sheep affected soon becomes thin and languid, and its painful snuffling has led farmers to call the disease "snuff." Washing out the nostrils with diluted turpentine has been tried as a remedy without success, and the flockmasters, who have already sustained severe losses, have failed so far to discover a means to check the outbreak.



Bucks (Central),

After some nice showers, more or less cold, we have had a splendid rain, enough to stop hoeing the roots, which have not grown at all well. The fly, on those two or three warm days the week before last, played sad havoc with the young swedes and kale; some have to be re-planted. It has been quite enough rain for the corn, which now wants sunshine. The rains hardly came soon enough for the forward grass, but will now quite set up that on the backward lands. Pastures are getting fairly good, but they want sun, too, now. I think all corn crops are looking fairly well, but late. The scarcity of fat beasts makes the trade quite good for beef, but lamb has been quite a dragging trade, big lambs making no more per lb. than small mutton; but the mutton trade has not generally been very fast. Now wheat makes a bit more money, scarcely anyone has any to sell. The wool trade is reported to be worse than ever. I cannot but think that the Imperial Exchequer should pay the cost of this new Education Bill, for as far as agriculturalists go it is not fair for them to pay for the education of children that, as soon as they have done school, go away into other occupations. —J. T. (June 13th.)

Devon.

If at the early part of May, when March weather was the rule, some anxiety was felt as to the crops, it has now been dispelled, and taking the country generally prospects on this date are decidedly fair. The hay crop from rotation grasses will be a good one, of full average. And from permanent pasture almost an average. Some cutting will soon commence, but in view of the Coronation festivities, farmers will probably delay the cutting of permanent grass, and not have much down during the holiday, as work will be at a standstill, as farmers are His Majesty's most loyal subjects, and the enjoyment in the rural districts, if not so excitable as in the Metropolis, will be kept up with great spirit. Even if farmers are not making money, they give freely a hogshead of cider and subscribe to a band, etc., for their workmen.

Mangolds have come up very well, and have been in many places hoed and thinned; whilst kale, which now seems to be coming into favour, has been rather extensively sown, and looks well. Experiments are tried with drilling and broad cast. Flat poll cabbages, also a valuable fodder crop have been planted under favourable conditions. It is just about the time for sowing swedes now and all work of preparation for the crop is well advanced, the ground being all ready for the drill.

Corn crops are thin in some places, and wire-worm have been plentiful; and all except the very late barley will, from present appearances, be a full crop.

Apples and pears, too, promise good crops generally, but plums vary.

Live stock and beef and mutton sell well, and the lambing season has been good. Is the following a record so far as mortality is concerned? Two hundred ewes produced 260 lambs, now living, and not one ewe was lost in lambing. This, so far as I know, is a record, for I don't look upon it as bad if two or three per cent. die.—G. H. (June 11.)

Dorset (West).

The month of June has brought us better prospects for keep, yet the hay crop must be a light one, as well as a late one; and this means cutting into what should be after-grass. Now and again, one can observe a field of ray grass, or Tripolium, being cut, but there will be no general haymaking before the end of June. Corn crops have certainly progressed amazingly, and the straw crop on well-managed lands is likely to be heavy. It is many years ago the old hay and straw was so closely fed up. Ricks of either are miles apart The swedes are now being put in, and the mangolds are being busily hoed; the plant is generally good.

All kinds of good store and fat cattle are selling well, and the same applies to good fat wether mutton; but ewe mutton sells very badly. Good fat lambs are scarce and dear. Fat calves and bacon pigs are making fair prices, and store pigs still sell quite as dear as of late.

Farming prospects generally are by no means good. It is with great difficulty the best farmers who till the land as it should be done can make both ends meet. The corn tax will take more out of their pockets than they will derive from the bit of wheat they grow, for which, if good enough, they can get 16s. per sack; whilst the very low price of malting barley (the main and staple crop of arable farming) and the very low price of wool, with the expensive clipping, and the rates and taxes heaped more and more on the farmers, can only end in landlords who own arable lands and want them cultivated in a proper manner, and their household maintained in a just and suitable way for reletting, to lower the rents still more, to keep suitable tenants on the soil.—G. S. (June 12th.)

Kent (West).

Grass-cutting was commenced last week, though there has not yet been any haymaking weather; indeed the spring has been even less genial than usual. It is customary to grumble at the springs in this country but this year there has really been some justification for exercising the Englishman's privilege to grumble. The Colonies are rather fond of boasting of the things in which they can beat the Old Country, but I think the Australian cricket team will go home fully convinced that England still holds top position for variableness of climate. Still, the farm crops seem generally to have struggled through the ordeal better than might have been expected, and if we only get some warm, forcing weather during the next week or two a lot of leeway will be made up, though the season must necessarily be a backward one. Hops are specially belated, and there are reports that in some parts of the Weald of Kent and also in Sussex the struggling bine has already been attacked by agilus; but more favourable conditions are looked upon as imminent, and there is yet time for the plantations to put on quite a different appearance.

I never like to make an early forecast of any crop, and for that reason I have not sooner sent you some remarks about the fruit prospects. If I had done so a month ago I should have found myself all wrong now, for the fair promise then existing has since been to a large extent annihilated. The cold winds and frequent frosts experienced in May, and extending even into June, have played sad havoc with the fruit crops. Strawberries, cherries, currants, and gooseberries have all suffered severely. Apple-trees bloomed late, and to this circumstance may be attributed the fact that they escaped the devastation so generally observable in most other kinds of fruit. There are plenty of large cherry-trees that will produce absolutely nothing, the blossom having been completely withered by the frost; and black currants, which did not promise to be very abundant, have suffered in like manner. Unless some parts of the country are more favoured than Kent, the supply of home-grown strawberries will be smaller than it has been for some years. Altogether, the outlook for fruit-growers in this county is unusually gloomy, and should form an object lesson to those enthusiasts who are so fond of recommending English farmers to go in extensively for fruit-growing. If they would only be good enough to change the climate, the advice would perhaps be more acceptable, though even then its wisdom might be doubtful.—(M. J., June 14.)

Leicester.

Any quantity of grass now in pastures, but there does not seem enough cattle in the markets at any price to eat it off. Likely to be a very heavy crop of both seeds and meadow hay, but late. Both corn and root crops look very well, excepting light lands, where barley is getting yellow. We want some warm weather, then farmers will have the best year they have had for a long time. We have had no weight of rain, but a great many days lately on which rain has fallen; about 6½ inches this year.—J. P. (June 12th.)

Lincolnshire (North).

The rain it raineth every day, and night too, but we all know that. Still, it is on everybody's lips, for, alas! it is playing havoc on our farms; I have been South having a look round. Now, on my return, the weeds have grown apace amongst the corn, for we cannot finish; thistles are showing, although we have plenty of labour. Cabbage and mangolds get flat-hoed when it is too wet for the weeders in the corn. We are not sowing more turnips, and we are not working fellows, and we are not earthing up our potatoes, which are wanting it so; so altogether things are not roseate.

The wheat and barley are showing visibly that they do not like the wet, but oats look better for it. They can do with moisture. Some of mine were so gross that I am going to mow them off the flag, or they will be down, and then, the binders work so badly.

Sheep are healthy, but lambs grow badly. Last year I had sold about 100, but I cannot at present get the butcher to think they are fat enough, although the ewes get a pound of cake. Sheep progress better with roast meal than with boiled, a common saying here.

Both mutton and beef are inquired for, and seem permanently dearer. I fancy there is a shortage of meat all the world over, I hope so, at least.

Actinomycosis has been troublesome on my cattle. I wonder if others have suffered this winter. We think we get it on our peety-clayey pastures. I do not use the iodide of potassium cure, but have them dressed with a sheep blister, and they usually go away; still, they are nasty things.

Perhaps before your next week's issue we shall be revelling in a hot season.—North Lindsey (June 12th.)

Westmoreland (South).

The season is an exceedingly backward one. Seldom has May been of so ungenial a nature. Not only was there a complete absence of sun, but frequent night frosts occurred, and snow lay more or less on the high hills through the month. As a consequence, crops of all kinds are at least two weeks late, and even yet sunshine is much to be desired. With favourable weather, the hay crop may yet be a satisfactory one, which is much to be desired, as many farmers have for some time back had to buy hay for their stock. Pastures are for the season good. Oats and barley are well planted, and seem free of wireworm and other pests. Potatoes and root crops very backward, but turnips have all been got in in good order. All sorts of lean stock have sold well this spring, and beef is at a more satisfactory price than for a good many years past.—W. S. (June 13th.)

Foreign Prospects.

FRANCE.—The agricultural situation, although better than it was ten days ago, is still not quite satisfactory, as higher temperature is needed to promote the earing and blooming of the wheat crop, which presents on the whole a fine appearance, but an early harvest is not considered probable.

BELGIUM.—Crops prospects continue favourable.

GERMANY.—Forcing weather, with intermittent rain, is said to have worked wonders on the cereal crops; consequently harvest prospects are regarded with more equanimity.

HOLLAND.—Recent weather has improved the appearance of the crops.

HUNGARY.—Warm and dry weather has almost removed the traces of last month's inclemency, and crops generally have improved.

RUSSIA.—Crop prospects in Azoff regions and around Odessa are reported to be very favourable, with the exception of linseed, which appears to have suffered considerably from frost in May. Wheat generally looks well, and barley and rye promise an abundant harvest.

ROUMANIA.—Our correspondent writes weather continues favourable to the crops. The cutting of rapeseed has begun.

ITALY.—With favourable weather, the wheat crop has improved, and will shortly be in bloom.

SPAIN.—Rain and higher temperature have partially counteracted the cold, dry weather, and the outlook is for a good crop of wheat in the principal provinces, but harvest may be later than usual.

INDIA.—The monsoon has burst.

UNITED STATES.—Excessive rains have been a slight drawback, but all crops are now progressing favourably. The moisture is somewhat prejudicial to the quality of a portion of the wheat crop. Oats indicate large yields in the chief States, and in others moderate. The stand of maize is very good. The interior supplies of maize and oats are light, and of wheat moderate.

AUSTRALIA.—The drought has been relieved by splendid rains all over the country.—*Dornbusch.*

Sun Insurance Office.—The report of the Directors of the Sun Insurance Office for the year ending December 31st, presented at the annual meeting stated that the balance brought forward from last year amounted to £172,026 11s. 7d. There has been carried to pension fund £4,000, paid for dividends in respect of the business of the year 1900 £102,000, leaving a credit balance of £66,026 11s. 7d., which, by the operations of the year, has been increased to £204,731 7s. 1d. Out of this amount an interim dividend at the rate of four shillings per share, absorbing £48,000, was paid in January last, and the directors have declared a further dividend of four shillings and sixpence per share, payable on the 11th July, which will absorb a further sum of £54,000, and leave £102,731 7s. 1d. to be carried forward. The funds of the office will then stand as follows:—Capital paid-up, £120,000; general reserve, £1,200,000; special reserve, £100,000; dividend reserve, £100,000; reserve for risks not yet expired, £466,138 13s; investment reserve, £42,604 1s. 5d.; pension fund, £42,221 18s. 4d.; balance at credit of profit and loss account, after payment of dividends, £102,731 7s. 1d.; total, £2,173,695 19s. 10d

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Malt; We have had a moderate demand during the past week. Barley dull. Wheat was 6d per qr lower. Oats and maize steady. Flour rather dearer.—NIXON, GOWER, AND CO.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—The attendance was small, and the market for wheat ruled dull, with an easier tendency. Flour quiet, and rather easier. Maize very little doing, and values rather favour buyers. Oats only a retail trade, and unchanged. Barley slow and without change. Beans and peas quiet.

Mark Lane, Friday.—The attendance was small, while weather conditions were unfavourable all along, without the faintest developing signs in general, and the small movements going on since noon were mostly of a nature against the views of sellers. English wheat remains out of supply, and hence nominal, at 33s 6d per qr for good reds, delivered up. Country millers still turn their attention to American reds, and reluctantly pay the prices asked, good reds being offered at 32s to 32s 6d. Foreign unchanged. Whites maintained. Australian, 32s, ex ship; 33s to 33s 6d, landed. Californian, 31s 6d; and Walla, 31s, ex ship. American brands of flour continue in small stock here, but there is a good deal coming forward, and except for fine and choice grades, consumers are not disposed to entertain rates generally demanded. Pillsbury, Golden Lily, Ceresota, etc., first patents, 24s 6d; and second ditto, 23s 6d to 24s. Bakers' grades remain very scarce, and command full prices. Iron Duke, ordinary quality, held for 21s 6d, ex store. English without improvement. Top price town-made, 30s net; No. 1 households quoted at 22s 6d cash at the mill-door. Cascadias, 23s; Australian patents, 23s to 23s 6d, 280lb, ex store. Grinding barley continues in ample supply an deasy. Odessa, 19s 9d to 20s, ex ship to come up; 20s 6d ex quay. Danubian, in the former position, 19s 9d, and 20s 3d, ex quay. Oats, 3d lower since last Friday, with a little more inquiry at the decline, heavy sorts being in most favour. English oats still command high prices without effort. Grey winters, 42lb, 25s to 25s 6d; and Scotch oats, very fine potato, range at 26s 6d to 28s. New Zealands nominal. Ordinary bluff, 27s to 28s, ex store, 384lb. Maize unchanged. Holders of imported beans and peas made no alteration. Egyptian splits, 23s; Mazagans, 22s 9d, ex mill, 320lb. Indian white peas in continued good supply, the general range being 34s to 34s, ex store.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Trade quiet and little doing in English wheat. White, 33s to 34s; and red, 32s to 33s per qr. Flour dull, and 1s per sack cheaper. Feeding corn slow, unaltered.

Boston, Wednesday.—Wheat, 30s 6d to 31s; grinding barley, 23s 9d; oats, 24s to 25s; beans, 36s; maize, 23s.

Braintree, Wednesday.—The price of wheat fell 6d. per quarter on the week, red samples making from 30s to 32s 6d, and whites up to 33s. The supply was limited, and trade quiet.

Bristol, Thursday.—There has been a quiet trade since our last; there was but a short supply of English wheat at our market to-day, which was held for late rates; foreign from 3d to 6d lower. Grinding barley and oats unchanged. Maize 3d to 6d decline. Flour but very little inclination to speculate.—GRACE, BROTHERS.

Bury St. Edmunds, Wednesday.—Market dull, and but poorly attended. Wheat demand very quiet, and prices 6d per quarter lower on the week, at 30s to 31s per 504lbs. for reds. Oats firm at full prices, 25s 6d to 27s per qr.; black, 24s 6d to 25s 6d.; winter, 24s 6d to 25s 6d; Konigsberg, quiet, at 24s 6d to 25s per quarter. Maize unchanged at 24s to 24s 3d per quarter. Other feeding corns and stuffs unaltered.

Cambridge, Saturday.—The downward tendency of the wheat trade has this week been checked, and prices remain unaltered, with short supplies. Much rain has fallen during the last three weeks, and sunshine is now wanted. At this market to-day there was a small supply of corn, and farmers held their wheats very stiffly. The small trade done was at last week's full prices. Red wheat, 31s to 32s; and white up to 32s per 504lb. A few samples of oats and beans offering, for which the demand was dull, without change in values.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Wheat: Prices from 6d to 1s per qr. cheaper. Feeding corn also shows a lower tendency.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Large quantity of oats shown in our market to-day for the time of year. Slow sale at rather easier prices: 24s 9d to 25s 3d per 336lbs. Feeding stuffs easier to buy.—THOMAS ROBINSON.

Chester, Saturday.—Very little English grain offering, and no change on the week. Indian corn in fair supply, and lower grades 6d per sack cheaper. Quotations:—Wheat, white and red, 4s 7d to 4s 8d per 75lb; malting barley, 4s 2d to 4s 4d per60lb; grinding barley, 3s 6d to 3s 8d per 64lb; beans, 5s 10d to 6s per 80lb; oats, new, 3s 2d to 3s 4d; old, 3s 4d to 3s 6d per 46lb; Indian corn, 11s 6d to 14s 6d per 240lb.

Croydon, Wednesday.—White wheat, 33s to 35s; red ditto, 32s to 34s; malting barley, none; grinding, 23s to 25s; oats, 21s to 23s; beans, 33s to 35s; peas, 31s to 32s. Trade for wheat quiet; oats, 6d per quarter cheaper; beans and peas no alteration.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There was a small attendance at our market to-day. Wheat and flour are slow, with prices in buyers' favour. Home and foreign oats firm, but quiet trade. Grinding beans rather easier, owing to fresh arrivals. Canadian pease quiet, unchanged. Round maize steady. Barley quiet. Bran and Thirds unchanged. Oatmeal steady.—GIBSON AND CLARK.

Leeds, Tuesday.—Notwithstanding the cold, ungenial weather, the trade continues to rule very dull, under the influence of heavy arrivals in the ports and off coast, and a slack consumptive demand. English wheat, though scarce, is 6d per qr lower, and a similar decline must be quoted on most descriptions of foreign. Maize and oats slow at 3d decline. Beans steady.—DUNNS AND CO.

Leeds, Friday.—There is still a limited demand for both English and foreign wheats at Tuesday's prices for the former, with a slight advance for Americans. Maize the turn easier. Oats, beans, peas, maize, and flour steady.

Leicester, Saturday.—Fair attendance, with small supplies of home-grown wheats. Trade quiet, and prices a shade easier. Wheat, 31s to 34s per 36 stones. Barley steady. Fine oats very firm.

Lewes, Tuesday.—New white wheat, 33s to 34s; new brown ditto, 21s to 24s; malting barley, 32s to 36s; grinding ditto, 21s to 24s.; oats, 23s to 26s; beans, 35s to 40s; peas, 35s to 40s per qr.

Lincoln, Friday. — Small supply of English wheat. Scarcely any trade doing, and prices were easier. Reds, 32s to 33s; whites, 33s to 34s; foreign wheats dull. Oats, maize, beans, all firm at late rates.

Liverpool, Friday.—The market has had a good attendance, and wheat experiences a good improvement in demand, prices being generally a 1d dearer than last Tuesday. Flour is steadily held owing to small stocks, with a quiet consumptive trade passing at unchanged quotations. Local millers report a better inquiry, but no change is made in the minimum price of Bakers. Maize—Mixed is quiet, but previous quotations are maintained. European has a very fair inquiry, but prices are the turn in buyers' favour. Plate also meets a fair demand, and prices are about unchanged from Tuesday. Barley is very slow for malting. Feeding quiet, unchanged. Beans are very steady at 3d advance for Sadis. Peas quiet and 1d lower for Canadians. Oats—English are slow and lower to sell. Foreign are very quiet, but unchanged. Oatmeal firm, with a small business at unchanged prices. Oilcake is very steady, and meets a fairly good trade, but values have been slightly shaded in a few instances.—SEGAR AND TUNNICLIFFE.

Maidstone, Thursday.—About the average attendance at the market to-day, but business slack in all departments. Wheat about the same figure as last week. Barley and oats slight decline. Maize rather weak and tends to lower price. The cost of other grain does not display any important variation.

Newport, Wednesday.—The trade for wheat was slow, and rather cheaper. Maize 3d to 6d lower. All other grain without quotable change. Flour, 23s per sack for fines.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—At our to-day's market wheat was held for last week's prices. Demand, however, was of a retail character. Maize firm, in favour of the seller, owing to scarcity. No change in peas, beans, or barley. Oats steady at late rates.—JOSEPH POLLARD AND CO.

Northampton, Saturday.—The unfavourable weather caused a smaller market than usual, with a limited quantity on offer, especially wheat, which had a quiet demand at about the quotation of last week. Flour was an inactive trade, unless a little less was asked. White malting barley, 4s 2d to 4s 4d per 60lb; grinding barley 23s to 26s; oats, 21s to 24s; old fine, 28s; beans, 32s to 38s; flour, 23s to 24s; fine, 27s.

Norwich, Saturday.—Wheat is still in small supply to-day, with a fair trade at late rates. Continued wet weather prevails, with low temperature; warmer atmosphere much needed. Wheat, red, 31s to 32s per qr., weight 63lbs per bushel imperial. Corn Inspector's return for the week ending 9th June, 1902:—Wheat, 1,333, 30s 11d. —J. ARTHUR MILLS.

Norwich, Saturday.—The supply of wheat on offer here to-day was moderate, and the samples brought forward realised fully late rates. There was, at the same time, rather more business passing. There was nothing doing in barley. The weather in Norfolk has been of an extraordinary character during the past week—cold and ungenial, with a large quantity of rain. To-day exhibited scarcely any improvement, and more sunshine is now urgently required.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Scarcely a sample of English wheat on offer, and full rates maintained. Grinding barley firm. Oats and beans scarce, and prices in sellers' favour.—ROBERT HUBBLE.

Peterborough, Saturday.—There has been very little wheat on offer to-day, and a slow trade, with value about the same as last week. Not much doing in spring corn, and no quotable change in prices. Weather wet.—THOMAS HILL AND SON.

Plymouth, Thursday.—There was a fairly good attendance at our market here to-day. Oats and maize unaltered. Barley dearer. Wheat slow, unchanged.—ORLANDO DAVIS AND CO.

Reading, Saturday.—The attendance in the Exchange to-day was much smaller than usual, and trade in every department ruled quiet. Wheat again came to hand but sparingly, particularly English grown sorts. Trade ruled firm, and where transactions were effected recent currencies were obtained. Other descriptions of corn were in short supply, and changed hands at unaltered values.

Ripon, Thursday.—A limited show of farmers' wheat. Bran has a downward tendency. Business slow. Wheat, English (new), 31s to 32s; ditto, foreign, 30s 6d to 34s; barley, grinding, 23s 6d to 24s 6d; oats, 24s to 26s; round maize, 24s to 26s per qr.; beans, 1s per stone.

Romford, Wednesday.—Very slow trade at 1s. per qr. decline Small supply. Red wheat, 31s; white wheat, 32s to 33s per qr.

Spalding, Tuesday.—A remarkably small show of grain, and limited attendance of farmers. Wheat, 31s to 31s 6d per qr. Oats unchanged. Beans and peas maintained late rates.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—There was another poor attendance and an indifferent show at market to-day. Trade was very slow. There was difficulty is securing quoted prices, wheat holders having to accept 6d per qr less. Beans were firm at full prices. Quotations:—Wheat, white, 32s 6d to 34s; ditto red, 32s 6d to 34s per 504lb; oats, new white, 26s to 27s; ditto new black, 23s to 24s per 336lb; barley, grinding, 23s 6d to 24s; ditto malting, 30s to 32s per 448lb; peas, grinding, 36s to 37s; ditto, blue, 53s to 80s; beans, Egyptian, 33s 6d to 34s per 504lb; ditto English, new, 37s 6d to 38s per 532lb; Indian corn, small, 24s to 24s 6d; ditto American mixed, 28s 6d to 29s per 480lb.

Stamford, Friday.—Hardly any corn on the market. A few samples of oats made about 27s. Wheat and beans made about the same as last week.

St. Neots, Thursday.—There was rather more wheat showing to-day, but buyers could only be found by making some concession in price, the fall in most cases being 6d per quarter. Oats very scarce, and rather dearer. Beans firm.—ELGOOD AND SON.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There was very little farmer's wheat, showing, and prices were 6d to 1s lower on the week. The trade keeps very dull in foreign wheat, and millers bought very sparingly at a decline of 3d to 6d on the week. Oats and maize weak, and 3d to 6d lower.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Grain in better supply. Wheat quite at late rates. Barley and oats steady. Arrivals coast wise: Wheat, 1,124qrs; oats, 1,165qrs. Foreign nil.—E. AND F. RICHARDSON.

Wakefield, Friday.—Rather small attendance to-day, and business quiet. English wheat, to sell, made rather less money; foreign wheat steady at last week's prices; feeding stuffs unaltered.

Wakefield, Friday.—We quote both English and foreign wheats 3d to 6d per quarter lower, with a firmer feeling, and but little business doing.—MICHAEL SANDERSON AND SON.

Wakefield, Friday.—The weather continues cold and wet. The publication of the American Bureau report for June has imparted a firmer tone to the wheat trade since Tuesday, but holders have been unable to obtain any advance, as the demand shows as yet no improvement. Feeding stuffs without material change.—DUNNS AND CO.

Winchester, Saturday.—Wheat in short supply, which met a firm trade at fully last week's prices, ranging from 32s to 33s, 64lb. Oats quiet, late rates difficult to maintain. Maize and grinding barley unaltered. Flour steady at 23s to 24s.—FEAR, COLEBROOK AND CO., LTD.

Wisbech, Saturday.—Very little grain offering. Wheat a very slow trade. Reds, 30s to 30s 6d Spring corn unchanged.—JAMES FLETCHER.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—There was a very quiet market. Quotations: Wheat, new, 12s 6d to 13s per 216lb.; oats, 16s to 17s; beans, old, 16s to 17s 6d; new, 15s to 16s 6d per 196lb.; barley, 25s to 40s per 448lb; maize, new, 26s to 27s; old, 29s 6d to 30s 6d per 480lb.

Worcester, Saturday.—Wheat trade very quiet, and the few samples on offer appear to be quite equal to all requirements. Sales to-day could only be effected at a reduction. Oats and beans steady. Other feeding stuffs dull and easier.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Very dull market, very little grain on offer, and prices practically unchanged. White wheat, 31s to 32s 6d.; red wheat, 31s to 32s; grinding barley, 27s. to 28s; white oats, 26s to 28s; black oats, 25s to 26s round maize, 25s to 26s 6d per quarter.

York, Saturday.—Wheat is slow, but the very small quantity on offer prevents any less money being taken. Oats quiet.

FOREIGN.

Hamburg, Saturday.—Market quiet for all articles except feeding barley, which is in demand for prompt and later delivery Arrivals of wheat are heavy, but they are not depressing the market, though trade is quiet. Hard winter, No. 2, prompt, is offering at 28s 3½; August shipment at 27s 9d; Northern spring, No. 1, at 27s 6d; Northern Duluth, No. 2, at 27s 3½ per 480lb; Walla Walla, at 29s 3d to 29s 6d per 500lb. There is some demand for rye near at hand for the North. American Western, No. 2, is selling at 24s 3½ to 24s 6d, 9.15-20; Nikolajef floating at 23s 6d, 9.15-20; South Russian, August-September shipment, is offering at 20s 9d per 480lb cif. Malting barley: Latest reports from Bohemia say that the young crop is rather backward in growth and thin on the ground, while it is already shooting into ear, and good weather is now urgently required to improve the prospects. Reports from the Saale district are still satisfactory. The plant is strong in stem, owing to slow development, and will not be in danger of being laid. Russian and Danubian feeding barley near at hand is scarce, and selling at 19s to 19s 3d; August-September shipment is offering at 16s 9d per 400lb cif. Maize quiet. River Plate floating is offering at 20s 6d; June-July shipment is selling at 19s 9d per 480lb cif. Rye terms: Odessa maize, prompt shipment, 20s 3d cif; September-December, 19s 6d; mixed maize, December-March, 20s 9d per 480lb cif.—JOHN TABLOCK.

Paris, Wednesday.—Native wheat.—There is the same apathy in the trade; farmers, before lowering their prices, are naturally awaiting some definite opinion upon the crop outlook, and holders are asking unapproachable prices for their produce, consequently the tendency remained firm during the seance with a little brisker inquiry than of late, if not on millers' part, at least on the side of merchants, who are becoming more sensible to the unfavourable accounts now disseminated respecting the growing wheat. In short, prices were unchanged for the secondary sorts, which were rather freely offered, but fully 6d. per quarter dearer for the finer descriptions. Choice Red Wheat, 37s 10d to 38s 3½; average, 36s 11d to Term wheat opened with a regular trade and a firm 37s 5d; and White Wheat, 38s 9d to 39s 7d per 480lbs. tendency at 5c. to 10c. advance, and closed with a further improvement of 10c. to 15c. at the following rates: June, 39s 2d to 39s 7d; July, 39s 7d to 40s; July-August, 38s 9d to 39s 2d; and Sept.-Dec., 36s 1d to 36s 6d per 480lbs. Flour.—Fleur-de Paris.—The market opened firm at 5c advance, but closed 15c. to 25c. dearer at the following prices:—June, 28s 5d to 28s 8d; July, 28s 8d to 28s 11d; July-August, 28s 3d to 28s 11d; and Sept.-Dec., 27s 8d to 27s 11d per 280lb. Consumption Marks Flour. In spite of the rise in Mark Cobbett, dealers and bakers reckoning upon the return of fine weather, are still disinclined to operate, and only purchase in proportion to their requirements. Quotations are as follows: Choice Marks, 31f. 50 to 32f. (31s 11d to 32s 5d); First Marks, 31f. to 31f. 50 (31s 5d to 31s 11d); Good Marks, 30f.50 to 31f.25 (30s 11d to 31s 8d); Ordinary Marks, 29f.75 to 30f.50 per 100 kilos (30s 2d to 30s 11d per 280lb.). Rye. While last year the crop gave satisfactory results, this year, on the contrary, the cereal has suffered from the inclement weather since May, and whatever happens the yield will be deficient, and the quality will feel the effects of the absence of sunshine and warmth, the earing and blooming being effected in bad conditions. Offers are most limited, and prices firmly held at 26s 1d to 26s 6d per 480lb. Oats. The crop has been greatly benefited by the recent alternations of humidity and warmth, and the fields now look very well. This cereal was rather firm in the provinces, but here, after a few upward movements, the feeling has become very quiet. Quotations are as follows: Grey Beance, 23s 6d to 23s 9d; White, 22s 11d to 22s 7d; Red, 23s 2d; Black from the Central provinces, 24s 1d; White Libau is quoted 22s 7d to 22s 11d; Black, 22s 11d to 23s 2d; and Swedish, 24s 8d per 320lb. Barley.—This cereal looks fairly well, but the return of fine weather would much improve its aspect. Transactions are still wanting in animation and prices remain stationary, and quotations, therefore, are merely nominal, as follow: — Malting, 17f.50 to 17f.75 (25s 4d to 25s 9d); Grinding, 17f. to 17f.25 (24s 8d to 25s); and Feeding, 15f. to 15f.50 per 100 kilos (21s 9d to 22s 6d per 400lb.).

CORN STATISTICS.

IMPERIAL AVERAGES.

Statement showing the Quantities sold and average price of British Corn, Imperial Measure, as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended June 14, 1902, conformably with the Act of the 45th and 46th Victoria, cap. 37.

Wheat	28,046¾ qrs.	31s. 11d.
Barley	664¾ qrs.	23s. 8d.
Oats	4,247¾ qrs.	22s. 8d.

MONTHLY AVERAGES.
(196 Market Towns.)

	1901.			1902.		
	Wheat	Barley	Oats	Wheat	Barley	Oats
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
January	26 8	25 7	17 4	27 8	26 8	20 2
February	26 5	25 6	17 7	27 1	26 8	20 3
March	25 10	25 0	17 10	27 1	26 8	20 6
April	26 3	25 7	18 3	28 0	26 5	21 1
May	27 6	25 2	19 4	30 10	26 0	22 5
June	27 7	23 11	19 10			
July	27 4	22 9	19 8			
August	27 4	24 0	18 10			
September	26 1	25 4	17 4			
October	25 10	25 7	17 6			
November	24 9	26 10	18 2			
December	27 4	26 8	19 5			

IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGES.

1901.	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
June15	46,764	27	8	1,404½	24	0	5,565⅔	19	7
,, 22	29,695	27	6	336⅓	23	2	3,552½	20	3
,, 29	28,191⅔	27	6	692⅓	25	4	2,803⅓	20	0
July 6	19,564½	27	8	140⅓	21	9	1,800⅔	19	10
,, 13	15,231⅔	27	2	49	23	10	1,675⅓	19	9
,, 20	17,462⅔	27	3	88⅓	23	4	2,040½	19	11
,, 27	18,297⅔	27	3	206⅓	22	1	2,385⅓	19	4
Aug. 3	18,666½	27	6	250⅔	23	1	3,219½	20	0
,, 10	19,156	27	7	141⅔	22	1	2,143⅓	19	4
,, 17	22,617½	27	4	220⅔	27	2	5,952½	18	9
,, 24	37,168⅔	27	3	976⅔	23	7	9,952⅓	18	
,, 31	61,603⅔	27	0	4,877⅓	24	3	14,654⅓	17	10
Sept. 7	66,623⅔	26	5	14,342⅔	25	1	19,075⅔	17	1
,, 14	77,949⅔	26	2	34,989⅔	24	11	19,909½	17	4
,, 21	80,279½	26	0	70,096⅔	25	5	26,476⅔	17	4
,, 28	80,488	25	10	109,783⅔	25	10	22,567⅓	17	2
Oct. 5	60,376⅔	25	8	126,592⅔	26	3	21,631⅓	17	7
,, 12	63,656⅔	25	9	172,175⅔	26	5	16,815⅓	17	6
,, 19	58,772⅔	25	10	203,591⅔	26	8	15,506⅓	17	8
,, 26	52,984⅔	25	11	208,471⅔	26	10	18,009⅔	17	5
Nov. 2	70,314⅔	26	2	134,277⅔	26	10	18,350⅔	17	7
,, 9	62,265⅓	26	6	202,577⅓	27	0	20,066⅓	17	8
,, 16	57,884⅔	26	9	201,723⅓	26	9	20,122⅓	18	3
,, 23	63,150⅔	27	1	185,265⅔	26	10	20,612	18	7
,, 30	60,323⅔	27	1	193,434⅔	26	9	22,419⅓	18	9
Dec. 7	67,925⅓	27	1	162,996⅔	26	7	23,990⅔	19	0
,, 14	48,045⅓	27	2	182,212⅔	25	10	17,125⅓	17	1
,, 21	60,562⅔	27	7	119,398⅓	26	8	26,260⅓	19	
,, 28	43,718⅔	27	7	81,859⅓	26	8	16,901⅔	19	10
1902.									
Jan. 4	31,446⅔	27	7	34,777⅔	26	7	11,621⅓	19	10
,, 11	48,997⅔	27	8	69,120⅓	26	7	14,995	20	0
,, 18	74,239⅓	27	8	91,559⅔	26	11	19,733⅔	20	0
,, 25	74,753⅔	27	7	87,594	26	7	25,382⅓	20	3
Feb. 1	73,381⅓	27	4	81,468⅔	26	7	25,657⅓	20	2
,, 8	67,470⅓	27	2	69,291⅔	26	9	25,055⅔	20	3
,, 15	68,500	26	11	54,084⅓	27	5	21,824	20	3
,, 22	72,614⅔	27	1	53,201⅔	26	11	22,799	20	4
Mar. 1	79,453⅔	27	1	43,637⅔	26	7	22,322	20	5
,, 8	67,473⅔	27	0	28,847⅔	26	8	17,017	20	5
,, 15	60,643	27	1	24,536⅓	26	6	11,496⅔	20	6
,, 22	56,394⅓	27	1	15,482⅔	26	4	12,192⅓	20	6
,, 29	50,703	27	2	15,729⅓	27	2	8,950⅓	20	7
Apr. 5	31,277⅔	27	3	7,008⅓	26	5	5,994⅓	20	6
,, 12	37,931⅔	27	5	8,298⅓	26	7	6,855⅓	21	0
,, 19	38,037	27	7	7,237⅔	27	1	11,099⅔	21	1
,, 26	31,257⅓	28	9	6,263⅓	26	5	8,897⅓	21	6
May 3	46,238⅓	29	9	4,226⅔	27	5	9,625	21	10
,, 10	42,534⅓	30	9	3,245⅓	26	10	8,653⅓	22	6
,, 17	40,387⅓	31	1	674⅓	25	3	7,576	22	5
,, 24	38,285⅔	31	6	1,138⅓	25	4	5,973⅔	22	6
,, 31	32,728⅓	31	6	864⅓	25	1	5,177⅓	22	10
June 7	32,707⅔	31	3	457⅔	24	3	6,476⅔	22	11
,, 14	28,046⅓	30	11	664⅓	23	8	4,247⅔	22	8

FLUCTUATIONS IN THE AVERAGE PRICE OF WHEAT.

Price.	May 10.	May 17.	May 24.	May 31.	June 7.	June 14.
31s. 6d	...	...			...	...
31s. 5d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
31s. 4d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
31s. 3d	...	...	...	...	...	...
31s. 2d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
31s. 1d	...	...	...	...	...	...
31s. 0d	..	...	...	...	...	...
30s. 11d	..	...	...	...	...	...
30s. 10d	...	...	...	...	...	...
30s. 9d		...	...	...	...	...

COMPARATIVE AVERAGES.

Comparative statement for the corresponding week to June 14, in each of the years from 1897 to 1901.

	Wheat. Qrs	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
1897	30,771⅓ ...	27	0	1,313⅓ ...	23	9	4,680⅓ ...	18	0
1898	18,788⅓ ...	42	4	231⅔ ...	26	1	2,445⅓ ...	20	5
1899	75,465⅔ ...	25	7	626⅔ ...	23	1	5,594⅔ ...	17	10
1900	55,340⅓ ...	25	6	1,486⅓ ...	23	8	7,228⅔ ...	18	11
1901	46,764 ...	27	8	1,404½ ...	24	0	5,565⅔ ...	19	7

ENGLISH WHEAT IN 1901.

Highest of Year	27s. 7d.
Lowest of Year	25s. 10d.
Gradient	1s. 9d.
Mean of Year	26s. 9d.

LONDON TOP PRICE FLOUR.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1901.

		s.	d.
September 2	(per sack)	29	0
,, 28	,,	28	0
April 16	,,	29	0
,, 23	,,	30	0

(No official change since last date given.)

ARRIVALS INTO LONDON.

June 4 to 4, 1902, inclusive.

	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat qrs.	176	145,146	142,532
Barley	2,511	37,992	40,466
Malt	24,027	...	24,027
Oats	152	106,435	106,587
Beans	358	252	610
Peas	47	3,754	3,801
Maize	...	47,053	47,053
Buckwheat	...	1,650	1,650
Rice	...	4,130	4,130
Dari	...	473	473
Tares	...	203	203
Farmseeds	357	1,600	1,975
Flour, sacks	22,560	109,313	131,873

LONDON AVERAGES.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, June 10, 1902.

	Total Quantities. Imperial Measure. Quarters.	Bus.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.	Average Price per qr. Imperial Measure. £	s.	d.
Wheat ...	116	5 ...	182	16	3	... 1	11	4
Barley ...	—	— ...	—			...	—	
Oats ...	32	0 ...	86	8	11	... 1	2	9

TITHE RENT CHARGES.

For 1902	67	3	9
,, 1901	66		9
,, 1900	66		10
,, 1899	68	2	4
,, 1898	68		11
,, 1897	69		11
,, 1896	71		7

LONDON FLOUR MILLERS' ASSOCIATION

OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1901

	London Whites. s. d.		Town Households. s. d.
September 2	(per sack) 26 0	(per sack)	23 0
,, 18	,, 25 6	,,	22 6
December 9	,, 26 6	,,	23 6
January 29	,, 26 0	,,	23 0
April 16	,, 27 6	,,	24 6

YEARLY AVERAGES (OFFICIAL.)

	Wheat. s. d.	Barley. s. d.	Oats. s. d.
1890	31 9 per qr.	28 8 per qr.	18 7 per qr.
1891	37 1 ,,	28 2 ,,	20 0 ,,
1892	30 4 ,,	26 2 ,,	19 11 ,,
1893	26 4 ,,	25 6 ,,	18 9 ,,
1894	22 10 ,,	24 6 ,,	17 1 ,,
1895	23 1 ,,	21 11 ,,	14 6 ,,
1896	26 2 ,,	22 11 ,,	14 9 ,,
1897	30 2 ,,	23 6 ,,	16 11 ,,
1898	34 0 ,,	27 2 ,,	18 5 ,,
1899	25 8 ,,	25 7 ,,	17 0 ,,
1900	26 11 ,,	25 9 ,,	17 9 ,,
1901	26 9 ,,	25 3 ,,	18 5 ,,

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF LONDON TOWN HOUSEHOLDS FLOUR.

(Sacks of 280 lbs. ex-mill for cash.)

	1902. s.	d.	1901 s.	d.	1900 s.	d.	1899. s.	d.	1898. s.	d.	1897. s.	d.	1896. s.	d	1895. s.	d.
Jan. ...	21	9	24	6	21	9	23	9	29	0	25	6	18	9	18	7½
Feb. ...	22	0	24	0	22	0	23	6	30	0	24	7½	19	4½	17	9
March	21	9	23	9	21	6	22	3	30	0	23	11	19	3	18	0
April...	23	0	24	0	21	6	22	0	31	3	23	6	19	6	18	7½
May ...	23	6	23	6	21	3	22	3	39	7	23	7	19	0	20	4½
June ...	...		23	0	23	6	23	1½	35	0	22	7½	18	10	22	3
July ...	...		22	3	24	6	21	9	20	6	22	10½	18	6	20	0½
August	...		22	3	24	0	21	9	27	6	26	8½	18	8½	19	10½
Sept....	...		22	0	25	3	22	0	26	5	30	3	19	6	19	8
Oct. ...	...		21	6	24	9	23	3	26	1	29	0	23	7½	18	7½
Nov....	...		21	6	24	3	22	3	25	0	20	1	25	8½	18	4½
Dec. ...	...		21	9	24	0	21	9	24	3	29	0	25	7½	18	1
Yrly. Avrg.	...		22	10	23	2	22	4	29	6½	25	10½	20	8½	19	2

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF FINE HOUSEHOLD FLOUR IN PARIS.

(Converted into English money for sacks of 280 lb.)

	1902. s.	d.	1901. s.	d.	1900. s.	d.	1899. s.	d.	1898. s.	d.	1897. s.	d.	1896. s.	d.	1895. s.	d.
Jan. ...	27	9	24	9	25	2	29	0	38	7	30	5½	25	10	27	9½
Feb. ...	26	3	25	9	26	3	28	3	39	4	29	10½	26	2	27	10½
March	27	0	24	0	27	3	27	6	40	1	28	9	26	0	27	5½
April...	27	3	24	6	26	9	27	6	42	3	28	5	25	6½	26	7
May ...	27	6	25	6	26	8	28	0	40	0	28	11½	25	1½	28	0
June...	...		26	3	28	6	27	6	35	6	29	3	25	8	28	10
July ...	...		28	0	26	9	27	3	32	0	31	5½	24	6	27	1
August	...		27	6	26	4	27	0	31	6	36	11	25	1	26	11
Sept....	...		27	6	26	3	25	9	31	0	38	7	27	0	27	0½
Oct.....	...		27	6	26	0	24	9	30	6	39	4	27	1½	27	9
Nov. ...	...		27	9	26	4	24	3	30	3	40	3	29	9	26	8½
Dec. ...	...		28	3	26	0	24	6	29	0	39	3	29	8	26	3
Yrly. Avrg.	...		27	3	26		2	9	35	0	33	5	26	5½	27	4½

MANURES.

Liverpool, Friday.—The weather is exceptionally cold for this period of the year, and warmth and sunshine are much needed by agriculturists. All fertilisers are quiet, and values of nitrate of soda are again lower, £8 10s to £8 12s 6d per ton, according to quality, being the current rates, whilst later on in the year it is not improbable that artificial manures will be sought for in this market for export to a greater extent. The trade in feeding stuffs is quiet, and values are without change, excepting American decorticated cotton cake, the best qualities of which are 2s 6d dearer, owing to scarcity. Nitrate of Soda, best quality, *i.e.*, guaranteed 95 per cent., pure, in bags, £8 12s 6d per ton; East India Bone Meal, fair to prime, in bags, £4 10s to £4 15s per ton; Kainit, prime 23 per cent., in bags, £2 7s 6d to £2 8s 9d per ton; Palm Nut Cake, prime, in bags, £5 15s per ton; Linseed Cake, American thin oblong, prime, in bags, £7 2s 6d to £7 5s per ton; Linseed Cake, English, prime, in bulk, £8 2s 6d to £8 7s 6d per ton; Linseed Cake, foreign, round, prime, rich in oil, in bags, £8 per ton; Cottonseed Cake, N.A. decorticated, prime, in bags, £7 3s 9d to £7 7s 6d per ton; Cottonseed Cake, English, decorticated, prime, soft, in bags, £7 5s to £7 10s per ton; Cottonseed Cake, English, undecorticated, prime, in bulk, £4 10s to £4 15s per ton; Cottonseed Cake (crushed), 20/25 per cent. oil, prime, in bags, £7 10s to £7 12s 6d per ton; Maize Germ Meal, prime, in bags, £5 15s per ton; Corn Oil Cake, 10/13 per cent. oil, prime, in bags, £6 5s per ton; Rice Meal, Rangoon, as imported, in bags, £5 to £5 2s 6d per ton; Indian Meal, coarse to fine grinding, prime, in bulk, 12s to 12s 6d per 240lb; Linseed, fine bold feeding, in bags, £3 2s per qr, 416lb; D.N.S. Brand Superphosphate of Lime, guaranteed, 25 to 27 sol., in bags, £2 8s to £2 7s per ton at depot; D.N.S. Brand Superphosphate of Lime, guaranteed, 30 to 31 sol.; in bags, £2 10s to £2 12s per ton at depot; Superphosphate of Lime, guaranteed, 35 to 36 sol., in bags, £3 to £3 2s per ton at depot.—H. Jones Langar and Co.

HAY AND STRAW.

Manchester, Wednesday.—Hay, 6½d to 7½d; clover, 6½d to 7½d; straw, wheat, 5½d to 6d; ditto oat, 4½d to 5½d per stone.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—Arrivals liberal, but demand very slow, and only small business. Values without alteration. Best clover, 95s to 110s; inferior, 80s to 90s; specially picked hay, 117s 6d; good, 110s; inferior, 80s to 95s; mixture and sainfoin, 95s to 105s; straw, 30s to 45s per load.

THE BALTIC.

Mr. Seth Taylor, the well-known miller and operator on the Term Market, has been elected Chairman of the "Baltic," and in this capacity has had the privilege of formally congratulating the King and Lord Kitchener on the Peace. He has received a gracious reply from His Majesty and a very hearty telegram from the distinguished general.

The London Corn Trade Association notify us that the following standards—Choice White Kurrachee wheat, February shipment; soft White Kurrachee wheat, February shipment; soft Red Kurrachee wheat, February shipment; choice Red Kurrachee wheat, February shipment; Bombay lentils, February shipment; Kurrachee maize, February shipment; Calcutta urhurseed, February shipment; White Calcutta peas, February shipment; Calcutta gram, February shipment, are now available for arbitration purposes, and also for reference. Small standard samples can be obtained at 2, Lime Street Square on payment of a moderate fee per sample. Standards for lentils, gram, and urhurseed are useful additions to trade convenience.

The cargo market was steadier on Friday and Saturday than it had been on the three preceding days. Sales included Californian wheat at 30s., Australian at 29s. 3d., Argentine at 29s., No. 1 Northern at 27s. 3d., No. 2 Hard Winter at 27s. 9d., Hard Manitoba at 28s. 9d., Red Kurrachee at 28s. 3d., and No. 1 Bombay at 30s. 9d. per quarter. Maize fetched 20s. 6d. for a cargo of Danubian, and 20s. for one of La Plata. Barley realised 17s. for October shipment of Russian new crop. Californian brewing (new crop) was offered at 24s. for August shipment. Other cargo sales of the week have embraced White Libau oats for prompt shipment at 19s., Black at 18s., Kiludiced Riga at 18s. 3d., Petersburg at 18s., Danubian for October shipment at 14s. 6d., and American for July shipment at 19s. 9d. As yet American New Crop for autumn shipment is not on offer. Linseed has realised 52s. 9d. for a calcutta cargo, rapeseed 38s. 3d., Brown Cawnpore and Bombay cottonseed £4 18s. 9d. for July shipment.

The arrivals of grain and seed-laden vessels at ports-of-call for the week were—8 wheat (1 Melbourne, 2 Portland (O.), 1 Rosario, 4 San Francisco); total 8.

The sailings of grain and seed-laden vessels from ports-of-call for the week were—17 wheat (2 Birkenhead, 1 Laurvig, 1 Limerick, 1 Havre, 3 Hull, 1 Laurvig, 1 Limerick, 1 Liverpool, 1 London, 2 North Shields, 1 Penzance, 1 Sharpness); 1 flour (Liverpool); 1 linseed (Boston); total 19.

Since January 1st, 1902, the total arrivals have been—196 wheat, 5 flour, 20 barley and wheat, 3 maize, 8 barley, 2 beans, 3 linseed, 4 canarysced; total 241.

Last year during the same time the arrivals were—157 wheat, 4 flour, 7 barley and wheat, 14 barley, 3 beans, 4 peas, 1 peas and beans, 2 locust beans, 3 canaryseed, 3 valonea; total 198.

POULTRY AND GAME.

Smithfield, Saturday.—Fairly good supplies, but dull sale, prices being weak. Fowls: Yorkshire, 2s 9d to 3s 6d; Essex, 3s to 3s 3d; Boston, 2s 6d to 3s; Surrey, 3s 6d to 4s 3d; Sussex, 3s 3d to 3s 9d; Welsh, 2s 6d to 3s; Irish, 2s to 2s 6d; turkeys, cocks, 5s to 6s; hens, 3s to 4s; goslings, 4s to 5s; Aylesbury ducklings, 3s to 4s; country, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; Bordeaux pigeons, 9d to 11d; feathered, 7d to 9d; quail, 10d to 1s 3d; wild rabbits, 7d to 9d; tame, 9d to 1s 3d each; Australian, 8s 6d to 15s 6d per dozen. Russian game: Black game, 1s 2d to 1s 4d; partridges, 1s 3d to 1s 6d; ptarmigan, 1s to 1s 2d each.

SEEDS.

London, Monday.—Messrs. John Shaw and Sons, seed merchants, of Great Maze Pond, Borough, London, S.E., write that the quietude customary at this season now characterises the trade for farm seeds. Meantime, a little business has been passing in the new Chilian red clover-seed now arriving; the prices realised for same have been moderate, and the quality of the seed proves good. Trefoil, on account of bad crop prospects, is held for more money. Transactions in mustard and rape seed have been small and unimportant. A few sowing orders, late as it is, still drop in for spring tares. French trifolium, for shipment next month, can now be obtained at reasonable figures. Blue peas and haricot beans keep steady. The Board of Trade returns give the imports last month into the United Kingdom of clover and grass seeds as 3,516 cwts., value £7,480, as against 2,633 cwts., value £5,654 for May, 1901.

WOOL.

London, Saturday.—English—per pk. of 240lb.:—Fleeces S. Dn Hggs., £7 to £8 10s; half-bred hoggs, £6 10s to £6 15s; half-bred wethers, £5 10s to £6; Kent fleeces, £5 10s to £5 15s; South Down ewes and wethers, £7 to £8 10s; Leicester ditto, £5 to £5 10s. Colonial, per lb.—Vic.—Fleece super., 1s 8d to 1s 11d; scoured good, 1s 9d to 1s 10d; scoured average, 1s 8d to 1s 8½d; greasy, average to fair, 11½d to 1s 0½d; N.S.W., scoured average, 1s 5½d to 1s 6½d; greasy average, 9d to 10d; S. Aus., greasy average, 7½d to 8d; N.Z.—Scoured average, 1s 6½d to 1s 7½d; grease average, 9½d to 10½d; Cape scred. sup., 1s 6d to 1s 7d; fleece average, 7½d to 8½d; greasy average, 6½d to 7½d; Natal—Scoured, 1s 1½d to 1s 2½d; greasy average, 7½d to 8d; cross-breds—grs.—Vic. good to supr., 11½d to 1s 0½d; New Zealand fine, 9½d to 10½d; New Zealand medium, 6½d to 7d; New Zealand coarse, 4½d to 5½d.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Trade is very slow indeed, sellers, refusing 5d per lb, a few lots have been sold at 5½d per lb, but growers appear to be in no hurry to sell their stock.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The low temperature has been very adverse to the growing wheat, but a liberal rainfall has greatly improved the prospects of the hay, and this has reacted in a depressing manner on the value of spring corn. The news from France is more favourable, but is only official up to the 6th inst., since when eight wet and chilly days must have altered conditions rather seriously. The American Bureau report, issued on the 11th, shows that winter wheat, the cutting of which has commenced, is reckoned at a bigger crop than in 1900, but a much smaller one than in 1901, the following being the figures:—

	Bushels.
1902	340,000,000
1901	423,000,000
1900	330,000,000
1899	296,000,000
1898	382,000,000

These returns and estimates relate to winter wheat only. The spring wheat is reckoned as promising about 4 per cent. above the average on an area 12 per cent. below the mean. Thus, spring wheat is not likely to make up for the deficiency in the winter crop. The weather of April may render a spring wheat sowing in the Dacotas almost impossible, and 1,305,000 acres decline in the area is attributed to this one region.

A non-official estimate puts the American wheat prospects, including spring wheat, at 640,000,000 bushels, but this appears to be as much as 100,000,000 bushels above what the Government reports would indicate. The New York market is stationary, and appears undecided in its views of the year for wheat.

With respect to oats, the situation is different. The preliminary crop as follows:—

	Bushels.
1902	899,700,000
1901	776,000,000

We must therefore be prepared to find America entering the arena with offers for October and subsequent shipment at substantially under present terms. The acreage shows 115,000 acres increase, which is less than anticipated.

The yield of barley is expected to exceed the very short crop of 1901 by fully ten per cent, and there is four per cent. improvement in the anticipations of the rye crop. If these forecasts be accurate, Sir Michael Hicks-Beach will find prices ebbing after harvest, even as he anticipated in mid-April.

At that date the prophecy savoured of the hazardous, but circumstances have since then run in the Chancellor's favour. The poor promise of the home crop is the chief drawback to the existing situation, but a fine July and August might give up nearly average harvests, even if the ingathering is now found to be exceedingly late.

Corrected returns of May imports thus compare with figures for April:—

	May.	April.
Wheat (qrs.)	2,124,000	1,447,000
Flour (sacks	689,000	480,000
Maize (qrs.)	937,000	622,000
Barley (qrs.)	377,000	321,000
Oats (qrs.)	606,000	394,000
Beans (qrs.)	38,000	31,000
Peas (qrs.)	35,000	26,000
Linseed (qrs.)	186,000	279,000
Rapeseed (qrs.)	11,000	29,000
Cottonseed (qrs.)	150,000	305,000

The falling-off in receipts of oilseed has steadied that market, which the time of year might otherwise have caused to favour buyers. The market for the first season staples must be stated to have followed in the main on the returns of arrivals.

The imports of the United Kingdom last week were as follows:—

Wheat: 654,000qrs.; a very heavy supply.
Flour: 169,000qrs.; an average supply.
Barley: 133,800qrs.; a fair supply.
Oats: 165,400qrs.; a trifle over an average.
Maize: 240,016qrs.; a good supply.

The total arrivals from abroad since 1st September are now returned as follows:—

Wheat: 12,751,000qrs.; a full average.
Flour: 5,983,000 sacks; less than usual.
Barley: 5,783,000qrs.; a good supply.
Oats: 4,925,000qrs.; less than usual.
Maize: 8,173,000qrs.; a very short supply.

The good supply of barley by no means makes up for the deficiencies in oats and maize.

The following are the quantities of wheat at present on passage to the United Kingdom. The total, though still very large, is steadily in process of diminution:—

	Qrs.
Californian	1,750,000
American	600,000
Argentine	250,000
Russian	70,000
Australasian	485,000
Indian	260,000
Various	15,000
Total	3,430,000
A week ago	3,475,000
A year ago	3,615,000

Of other staples than wheat the following quantities are on passage now as compared with a year ago:—

	1902.	1901.
Maize, qrs.	920,000	1,080,000
Barley, qrs.	245,000	320,000
Beans, qrs.	21,000	17,000
Linseed, qrs.	265,000	205,000
Rapeseed, qrs.	24,000	11,000
Cottonseed, qrs.	42,000	56,000

There are no returns of oats or peas on passage, but in each case the total is known to be much below the average.

The London wheat average shows 10d. decline on the fortnight, but it is difficult to quote any good samples or types as lower on the period. No barley average has been struck in London since May 28th.

Prices per cental thus compare:—

6s 6d commands good American spring wheat, English chicken wheat, Argentine wheat.
6s 5d commands Calcutta wheat.
6s 1d commands Californian barley.
5s 11d commands American maize.
5s 3d commands Argentine maize, good middlings, Roumanian rye, Egyptian cottonseed.

No English milling wheat, no English oats, are to be obtained at 6s. 6d. or under. The cheapest maize in the market is Russian, at 4s. 8d. per cental. Locust beans (Portuguese) are about as cheap as anything on the present market. These, if reduced to the cental, would work out at about 3s. 9d. Decidedly dear articles are English oats, which make 7s. 6d. to 8s. per cental, and New Zealand oats at 8s. to 8s. 2d. per cental.

The principal shipping centres last week displayed considerable activity. America shipped 374,000qrs. of wheat, 104,000 sacks of flour, and 27,000qrs. of oats, and Argentina sent off 206,000qrs. of maize, 39,000qrs. of wheat, and 37,000qrs. of linseed. There were 11,000qrs. of wheat shipped from Uruguay and 6,000qrs. of barley from Chile.

Russia exported 246,000qrs. of wheat, 137,000qrs. of barley, 25,000qrs. of oats, and 115,000qrs. of maize, while Roumania and Bulgaria shipped 320,000qrs. of maize, 121,000qrs. of wheat, and 11,000qrs. of barley. India shipped 79,000qrs. of wheat and 60,000qrs. of linseed. Australasia shipped no grain, America no barley. The exports of cottonseed from Egypt were 2,242 tons.

POTATOES.

Borough, Saturday.—Supplies light, but trade quiet, values being firm. Scotch maincrops, 90s; Lincoln Up-to-Date, 65s to 70s per ton; New Jersey, 7s 6d to 8s; Teneriffe, 6s to 8s; Cherbourgs, 6s 6d to 7s; St. Malos, 7s 6d to 8s per cwt.

Southwark, Saturday.—During the past week the markets have been well supplied with potatoes; the trade has been steady, and prices of old potatoes of prime quality and samples have improved. The following are this day's quotations:—Lincoln Up-to-Dates, 65s to 75 per ton; Blackhead Up-to-Dates, 60s to 65s per ton; Forfar and Fife maincrops, 70s per ton; Forfar and Fife Bruce, 60s to 70s per ton; Jersey flukes, 155s to 165s per ton; Cherbourg flukes, 135s to 145s per ton.—R. G. BROWN.

Spitalfields, Saturday.—Arrivals again small, and old potatoes experienced better attention, new descriptions being steady. Best Lincoln Up-to-Dates, 65s to 70s; Blackland, 55s; Wisbech, 60s to 65s; Scotch, 65s; Scotch maincrops (grey soil), 60s; Lincoln maincrops, 60s to 70s; Reading Giants, 50s per ton; New Cherbourgs, 7s to 7s 6d; St. Malo, 7s 9d to 8s; Jersey, 8s; Teneriffe and Canary No. 2, 8s 6d; No. 3, 6s 6d per cwt; Lisbons, 3s 9d per box.

Irish Live Weight Quotations.

(Department of Agriculture and General Instruction for Ireland.)

The following returns are those of actual sales made in Robson's Cattle Mart, Belfast, the stock being weighed either before or after sale, for the week ending June 12th, 1902.

No. of Beasts.	Description and Quality.	Average price per head.	Average Live weight.	Average price per cwt.
		£ s. d.	c. qr. lb	£ s. d.
1	Bullock (prime) ...	22 15 0	10 1 14	2 3 10
2	,, ,, ...	22 7 6	10 2 10	2 2 3
2	,, ,, ...	22 2 6	10 2 14	2 1 8
*1	,, (very good) ...	17 0 8	8 2 14	1 19 6
*4	,, ,, ...	17 16 1	9 1 0	1 18 6
3	,, ,, ...	19 15 0	10 1 26	1 17 8
*1	,, ,, ...	13 11 10	7 1 0	1 17 6
*1	,, ,, ...	16 19 11	9 0 21	1 17 0
*2	,, ,, ...	20 0 0	10 3 7	1 17 0
1	,, (good) ...	16 15 0	9 0 0	1 17 3
2	,, ,, ...	18 0 0	9 3 7	1 16 8
2	,, ,, ...	14 0 0	7 2 24	1 16 3
1	,, ,, ...	13 15 0	7 3 0	1 15 6
1	,, ,, ...	13 10 0	7 2 14	1 15 5
1	,, ,, ...	17 15 0	10 1 0	1 14 8
1	,, ,, ...	12 10 0	7 1 0	1 14 6
2	,, ,, ...	13 0 0	7 2 7	1 14 5
*1	Heifer (prime) ...	18 7 10	9 1 7	1 19 6
*1	,, ,, ...	16 5 10	8 1 0	1 19 6
1	,, (good) ...	14 10 0	8 0 14	1 15 8
*1	Cow (prime) ...	17 9 3	9 1 7	1 17 6
2	,, ,, ...	19 10 0	11 0 14	1 15 1

* Indicates that the lot so marked was sold by live weight at the price quoted.

THIS DAY'S MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY

[FIRST REPORT.]

Wheat ears from Sussex, the Isle of Thanet, and from Suffolk were in evidence at Mark Lane to-day. They were well out, but were quite sixteen days behind the average date of first appearance. Farmers speak of wheat as badly lodged on the heavy lands. The demand for English wheat is equal to taking the very modest supply at full prices, but foreign sorts to-day were fully 6d. lower on the week. The actual tone of business, however, was improved from the 11th to the 13th insts. Foreign barley was weak on spot, mainly owing to lower forward prices quoted by "Baltic" operators. English was hardly offered. English oats were as dear as ever, but foreign were 6d. to 1s. cheaper, largely owing to the Government unloading stores bought for South Africa. Maize was 3d. cheaper for round and yellow, but not for flat corn. Beans, peas, and millet favoured buyers, and rice tended in the same direction.

QUOTATIONS OFF STANDS

June 16, 1902.

BRITISH GRAIN.

		s.	s.
WHEAT, White	(per 504 lb.)	33	— 35
Red	,,	32	— 34
Chicken or Feed	(per 480 lb.)	31	— 32
BARLEY, Malting	(per 448 lb.)	nominal.	
Brewing	,,	,,	
Feeding	(per 416 lb.)	24	— 25
MALT, English	(per 336 lb.)	37	— 43
Scotch	,,	36	— 40
Black	,,	29	— 32
Brown	,,	27	— 32
Crystallized	,,	32	— 35
OATS, English, Black Winter	,,	25	— 26
,, Black Tartary	,,	24	— 25
,, Grey Winter	,,	25	— 26
,, White Tartary	,,	24	— 25
Scotch Fine Potato	,,	27	— 28
,, Good Ordinary	,,	25	— 27
Irish	(per 304 lb.)	23	— 24
RYE, British	(per 480 lb.)	25	— 26
BEANS, Pigeon	,,	39	— 41
Winter	,,	33	— 37
Mazagan	,,	33	— 35
PEAS, Best Marrowfat	(per 504 lb.)	66	— 76
Blue (boiling)	,,	52	— 72
Partridge	,,	37	— 39
Dun	,,	33	— 35
Maple	,,	38	— 40
TARES, Scotch Gores	,,	86	— 88
Winter Old	,,	78	— 84
,, Ordinary	,,	74	— 76
Spring	,,	56	— 64
BUCKWHEAT, English	(per 416 lb.)	26	— 28

FOREIGN GRAIN.

(Ex-Granary.)

	s.	s.
WHEAT, per 496 lb.		
Old Duluth	33	— 34
Manitoba	32	— 33
American Spring	30 9	— 31
Red Winter	31	— 31 6
Californian	31 9	— 32
Walla Walla	31	— 31 6
Australian	31	— 33
New Zealand	32	— 33
Argentine	30	— 32
Danzig	32	— 34
Saxonka	31	— 32
Azima	31	— 32
Ghirka	30	— 31
Bombay	32	— 33
Calcutta	31	— 32
Kurrachee	30	— 31
RYE, per 480 lb.		
Russian	26	— 27
MAIZE, per 480 lb.:		
Cinquantina	25	— 26
Hungarian	24	— 25
Russian	22	— 23
Roumanian	22	— 23
Turkish	22	— 23
American	28	— 29
Argentine	22	— 23
OATS:		
N' Zeal'd (Best)	29	— 31
N. Zeal'd (Bluff)	28	— 29
Canadian (320 lb.)	21	— 22
American (320 lb.)	21	— 22
Prussian (320 lb.)	22	— 23
N. Russ'n (304 lb.)	19/6	— 20
South ,, (304 lb.)	19	— 20
BEANS, per 480 lb.:		
Egyptian	33	— 34
Smyrna	32	— 33
Konisberg	35	— 36
LOCUST BEANS, per ton:		
Italian	98	— 100
Cyprian	105	— 107
Portuguese	90	— 94
PEAS, per 504 lb.:		
Canadian, White	36	— 37
Australian, White	41	— 42
New Zeal'd Maple	39	— 41
Indian White	35	— 36
,, Green	30	— 31
MILLET, per 416 lb.:		
White	34	— 46
Red	26	— 28
Yellow	20	— 21
Sorghum	19	— 20
DARI, per 480 lb.:		
Smyrna	27	— 29
BUCKWHEAT, per 416 lb		
French	26	— 27
Russian	27	— 28
TARES, per 504 lb.:		
Konigsberg	46	— 48
BARLEY:		
Saale (448 lb.)	none.	
Chilian (448 lb.)		
Chevalier	33	— 40
Brewing	none.	
Californian (448 lb.)		
Chevalier	33	— 35
Brewing	27	— 28
Danish (448 lb.)	none.	
Dannbian (400 lb.)	21	— 22
Ouchak (400 lb.)	22	— 24
Yerli (400 lb.)	21	— 23
Russian (400 lb.)	19 6	— 24
MALT, per 336 lb:		
Californian	36	— 37
Smyrna	36	— 37

OIL SEEDS.

LINSEED, per 416 lb.	s.	s.	RAPESEED, per 416 lb	s.	s.
English	60	to 63	English	57	to 59
Dutch	57	to 61	Madras	39	to 40
Bombay	55	to 57	Guzerat	42	to 44
Calcutta	52	to 55	Ferozepore	37	to 38
Russian	53	to 57	Jamba	32	to 33
Argentine	52	to 55	Ravison	30	to 31
SESAME, per 424 lb.			POPPYSEED, per 377 lb.		
Indian	53	to 55	Indian	47	to 49
COTTON SEED, per ton.			SUNFLOWERSEED, per 448 lb		
Egyptian	153	to 160	Russian	50	to 54

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

THE MARKET CLOSED WITH A LITTLE INCREASED CONFIDENCE ON THE PART OF HOLDERS, THE WEATHER IMPROVING BUT SLOWLY AND THE EFFECT OF LARGE ARRIVALS DIMINISHING WITH THE SALE, EVEN IF AT SOME SACRIFICE, OF THE EXCESSIVE IMPORTS.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, MONDAY.

American flour to-day was in fair request at 25s. for May Blossom, 23s. 9d. for Security, 23s. 3d. for Guinea Gold, 23s. 6d. for Kenilworth, and 22s. 9d. for Uniform, all Minnesota types. Kansas flour commanded 23s. 6d. for Royal Lily, and 24s. 3d. for Success. Best Oregon made 23s. English flour was 6d. down for country sorts, and London descriptions, though not quotably cheaper, were very hard to place at currencies. The London Flour Millers' Association, which has not modified its prices since the Budget rise of 1s. 6d. per sack, is now grotesquely out in its quotations, the early modification of which is therefore a tolerably safe prediction. A few samples of fine Russian flour made the good price of 28s. per sack to-day.

LONDON FLOUR.

		s. d.
Top Price	(per sack)	nominal.
Town Whites	,,	26
,, Households	,,	23
No. 2	,,	21

COUNTRY FLOUR.

Best Patents	(per sack)	24 — 25
Fine Roller made	,,	23 — 24
Ordinary Roller made	,,	22 — 23
Best Stone made	,,	21 — 22

FOREIGN FLOUR.

Minnesota First Patents	(per sack)	24 — 25
,, Second Patents	,,	21 — 23
,, First Bakers'	,,	20 — 21
,, Second Bakers'	,,	18 — 19
Milwaukee Patents	,,	22 — 23
,, Bakers	,,	19 — 20
Kansas Patents	,,	23 — 24
,, Bakers'	,,	19 — 20
Cascadia	,,	22 — 23
Canadian	,,	24 — 25
Australian Patents	,,	23 — 24
,, Straight	,,	22 — 23
Hungarian	,,	27 — 33
French	,,	21 — 23

MEAL, &c.

Whole Meal	(per ton	180—184
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	114—116
Bran, London Broad	,,	104—106
,, ,, Fine	,,	86— 90
,, Country Flake	,,	116—122
,, ,, Broad	,,	98—102
Pollard	,,	80— 86
Biscuit Middlings	,,	118—120
Fine Middlings	,,	114—116
Coarse Middlings	,,	102—104
Feeding Flour (Red Dog)	,,	111—113
Barley Meal	,,	124—128
Rye Flour	,,	171—181
Canadian Oatmeal	,,	205—215
Scotch Oatmeal	,,	260—300
Oat Flour	,,	340—360
Maize Flour	,,	164—166
Maize Meal	,,	113—115
Maize Cones	,,	172—174
Maize Germ Meal	,,	108—113
Pea Meal	,,	135—155
Bean Meal	,,	150—170
Rice Meal	,,	92— 94

LONDON TERM MARKET.

This market is held twice a day, except on Saturday, when there is no afternoon call. The market is open to elected members only. No business except for future delivery is done, and the smallest quantity that can be purchased is 1,000 quarters, or 4,800 centals. The name of the month stands for guaranteed delivery (if required) on or before the last day of that month, and the following have been the prices per cental recently made:—

WHEAT.—Calls.	A. June. s. d.	A. Aug't. s. d.	B. Oct. s. d.
June 9 11 a.m.	5 10	5 11	6 3
4 p.m.	5 10	5 11	6 2
June 10 11 a.m.	5 10	5 11	6 2
4 p.m.	5 10	5 11	6 2
June 11 11 a.m.	5 10	5 11	6 2
4 p.m.	5 10	5 11	6 2
June 12 11 a.m.	5 10	6 0	6 2
4 p.m.	5 10	6 0	6 2
June 13 11 a.m.	5 10	6 0	6 2
4 p.m.	5 10	6 0	6 2
June 14 noon	5 10	6 0	6 3
To-day, noon	5 11	6 1	6 3

The forward market for maize was steady at 4s. 5d. per cental for July delivery.

By the letter A is signified duty to be paid by *buyer*, by B duty to be paid by *seller*. On the Finance Bill being passed, the members of the Term Market unanimously agreed to adopt the new duty as a sellers' obligation from the new cereal year (September 1). Up to that date it will fall on the buyer. In default of agreement, however, the Acts of 1876 and 1901 throw the burden on the buyer, a fact which those who operate on these prices without being members of the Term Market would do well to note.

The Term Market standard wheat is No. 1 Northern Spring American sold on the Duluth certificate. Other sorts of wheat can be bought at the above prices plus or minus agreed difference between the other sort and the standard quality. Quotations are by the "true hundredweight" or cental of 100lb. Maize, when quoted, is fair average quality from the United States.

The deposit required from members of the Term Market has been fixed at £50 minimum and 1s. per quarter margin on any purchases above 1,000 quarters.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORT.

Flour.—The tendency of prices is again easier, and spot flour is being offered, especially by re-sellers, at a further reduction of 6d. per sack. Offals.—The demand for bran is now languid as usual at this season of the year, and prices for most qualities have further declined about 2s. 6d. per ton.—GREENHILL BROTHERS (Belfast).

Flour.—The market has improved this week, and American millers are not such anxious sellers for new crop shipment. Prices have consequently improved somewhat, but buyers here are still afraid to operate. Spot flour is a slow sale on account of the premium asked over new crop quotations. Grain.—Maize is 3d. to 4½d. per boll lower to arrive. Pease and beans slow. Oats and oatmeal very firm. Millstuffs.—Bran, 2s. 6d. per ton lower. Thirds unchanged.—MCKINNON AND MCDONALD (Glasgow).

Flour.—Flour has met a very quick demand to-day, at about last Monday's prices.—T. S. MEDILL AND SONS (Mark Lane).

Milling Offals.—Bran and pollard are again 2s. 6d. per ton cheaper. Middlings are slow, but unchanged.—JOHN BAWCOMB AND CO. (Mark Lane).

Wheat and flour arrivals are large. Trade is firmer, and prices are 3d. per quarter higher for wheat. Flour unchanged. Maize and barley sell slowly at late prices. Oats are dull; fine qualities are 1s lower. Common qualities, being in small supply, are 3d. lower.—COVENTRY, (Mark Lane).

In spite of the continued unsettled weather, factors fail to establish a rise in arrived wheats, of which imports are heavy. Maize quiet and unchanged.—W. WOODS AND CO. (Mark Lane).

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Monday.—Linseed cake: Trade on spot so slow that lower prices must be taken to induce sales; forward positions steady. Decorticated cottoncake and meal strong from scarcity; undecorticated firmer. Linseed: Calcutta is 1s down on the week; very little trade.

English Linseed Cake	ex mill	7 12 6 to 7 16 3
American Calcutta Linseed Cake	ex quay	7 12 6
American Western ,,	ex quay	6 13 9 to 7 0 0
,, ,, ,,	ex quay	
Decorticated Cotton Cake	ex quay	6 5 0 to 6 12 6
,, ,, Meal	ex quay	6 10 0 6 12 6
London-made ,, Cake (best)	ex mill	4 15 0
Egyptian ,, ,, ,, (in bags)	ex quay	4 7 6 to 4 10 0
Burton Desiccated Ale Grains (bags included)	on rail, Burton	4 12 6
Dutch Linseed (in bags), per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse	3 2 0
Calcutta Linseed in bags, per 410 lbs.	ex warehouse	9 13 0
La Plata do. per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse	2 13 0
Clean Russian Linseed in bulk, per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse	2 19 0

ROBERT AND JOHN HEWTSON.

HOPS.

Canterbury, Saturday.—The rain of the past week has helped on the growth considerably, and the plant is making fair progress. Warm weather though is greatly needed, because the present conditions have a great tendency in favour of the fly and lice, which are exceedingly plentiful in the plantations.

Worcester, Saturday.—Our market is firmer to-day for all classes of hops, owing to the very unsatisfactory reports to hand from the plantations. The growing plant is very backward, and in most places covered with blight, and unless we get a change to hot, sunny weather there is every prospect of a very short crop indeed.—PIERCY AND CO.

London, Monday.—W. H. and H. Le May report:—There has been a considerable clearance of all descriptions of hops during the past week. Stocks are now smaller than they have been for very many years. The plantations are in a very unsatisfactory state; the temperature is far too low, and there is a general attack of Aphis blight.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—Bacon: The arrivals from Ireland last week were 2,225, and from foreign ports 11,524 bales of bacon. The bacon market became steadier last week on a slightly improved demand, and prices showed but little alteration from the previous week. Butter: The butter market was steady, and prices inclined to be stronger, but otherwise showed little alteration. Lard: Lard steady and unchanged.

CORK BUTTER.

	Ordinary. Firsts.	Seconds.	Thirds.	Fourths.	Mild Cured Firkins. Superfine.	Fine.	Mild.	Firkins in Market
	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.	
Monday	104	88	80	—	112	94	—	50
Tuesday	104	88	80	—	112	93	—	60
Wednesday	100	89	80	—	112	95	—	70
Thursday	104	90	80	—	115	90	—	40
Friday	104	94	81	—	115	91	—	50
Saturday	104	93	81	—	115	96	—	70

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

Monday, June 16th, 1902.

	British.	Total.	June 17, 1901.
Beasts	1,680	1,680	1,260
Sheep and lambs	10,610	10,610	10,160
Calves	10	10	10
Milch cows	50	50	70

Quotations per 8lb. (sinking the offal).

	Inferior.	Second.	First.
Beasts	3s 6d	4s 8d	5s 6d
Sheep	3s 10d	5s 4d	6s 2d
Lambs	5s 4d	5s 8d	6s 4d

Milch cows, per head, £15 to £22.

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, 5; Eastern counties, 584; Midland, Home, and Western counties, 667; Devon, 30; Ireland, 374.

In the beast market to-day the supply numbered 400 more than on Monday last, that included a few more from Midland Counties, Norfolks numbering much about the same. Trade for fat beasts proved dull and dragging, rates somewhat favouring the buyer. The finish proved extremely heavy, a few being left unsold. The Irish arrivals included 204 stores, three-year-olds being quoted at £16 10s to £17 per head, and yearlings, £6 10s to £7. There being less demand by country buyers for butchering cows, lower rates had to be accepted; the few fat bulls found buyers at late rates.

The following are top quotations per 8lb (sinking the offal)—:

	To-day.	June 17, 1901.
Devons	5s 4d to 5s 6d	4s 5d to 4s 6d
Herefords	5s 4d to 5s 6d	4s 4d to 4s 6d
Norfolks	5s 3d to 5s 4d	4s 4d to 4s 6d
Lincolns	4s 10d to 5s 2d	4s 2d to 4s 4d
Irish	5s 2d to 5s 4d	
Fat cows	4s 4d to 4s 6d	3s 8d to 3s 10d

There was an increase of 2,900 in the number penned in the sheep market. Trade for both wethers and ewes was dull and dragging, the former at 2d and the latter at 4d per 8lbs less money, a difficulty being experienced in effecting a clearance. The weather being unfavourable for lambs, lower rates had to be accepted, even for the very choicest.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8lbs (sinking the offal), and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day.	June 17, 1901.
8st Downs	6s 0d to 6s 2d	5s 2d to 5s 4d
9st Downs	5s 8d to 5s 10d	5s 0d to 5s 2d
10st Half-breds	5s 4d to 5s 6d	4s 7d to 4s 8d
10st Yorkshires	5s 2d to 5s 4d	4s 4d to 4s 6d
12st Lincolns	5s 0d to 5s 2d	4s 4d to 4s 6d
10st Irish	5s 2d to 5s 4d	— —
10st Down ewes	4s 4d to 4s 6d	3s 10d to 4s 0d
11st Half-bred do	4s 0d to 4s 2d	3s 8d to 3s 10d
5st Down lambs	6s 2d to 6s 4d	5s 2d to 5s 4d
6st Half-bred do	5s 6d to 5s 8d	5s 8d to 5s 10d

Calves not worth quoting.

London (Central), Monday.—Good supplies; trade slow. Beef carcasses, 4s 8d to 4s 10d; hindquarters, 5s to 5s 4d; roastings, 6s to 6s 4d. Sheep—Ewe, 3s 8d to 4s; wether, 4s 8d to 5s; hindquarters, ewe, 5s to 5s 4d; wether, 6s to 6s 4d. Pigs, large, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; small, 4s to 4s 4d.

St. Ives, Monday.—Beasts, 955; sheep and lambs, 859; pigs, 590; horses 34. Beef, 8s 9d to 9s 9d; mutton, 7s 7d to 9s 11d; lamb, 10s; pork, 6s 6d to 7s; fat and store cattle, sheep and pigs good demand. Milch cows fair show, good demand. Prices, £14 to £24.

FOREIGN CATTLE.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts, 1,306. To-day's supply, compared with Monday last, numbered almost exactly the same, and consisted of 814 from the United States and 492 from Canada. Trade, owing to the unsteady state of the dead meat market, was of a slower nature, carcass butchers wanting to buy on easier terms. Late rates were, however, upheld, a practical clearance being made at following quotations per 8lb—offal given in:—Best States, to dress from 680 to 720 lb, 5s 4d, and occasionally 5s 5d; Canadians were quoted at from 5s 2d to 5s 4d. Sheep numbered 655 from the United States, which met with a dull and heavy trade at from 4s 4d to 4s 6d per 8lb. On Saturday the supply consisted of 1,180 beasts from the United States, which, with a slow trade, were quoted at from 5s 2d to 5s 4d, and occasionally 5s 5d per 8lb—offal given in.

Liverpool, Monday.—Demand slow, and prices, except for very well-finished cattle, rather lower. Sheep trade slow, and prices easier; middling kinds in particular meeting a worse trade. Lambs also in favour of buyers. Beef, 6d to 8d per lb; mutton, 6½d to 9d per lb; lambs, 8d to 9½d per lb. At market, 1,007 cattle and 13,479 sheep.

THE BALTIC, 1 p.m.

STATE OF TRADE.

Wheat cargoes are selling rather well at the lower prices accepted last week. Maize is steady, with a fair inquiry. Barley and oats are steady for near, but weak for autumn dates. Oilseeds are slow, but steady.

BUSINESS DONE.

WHEAT.—No. 1 Northern Manitoba, 27s 6d, on passage; No. 2 Northern Manitoba, 26s, on passage; No. 2 Club Calcutta, 29s 9d, on passage; Californian, 29s, on passage; Australian, 28s, on passage; South Australian, 29s, on passage; Argentine, 29s, on passage; Russian Azima, 30s, prompt shipment.

BARLEY.—Azoff, 17s, October shipment; Odessa, 17s 9d, August shipment.

OATS.—White Konigsberg, 21s 3d, June shipment; white Canadian, 19s 9d, June shipment.

MAIZE.—Danubian, 21s, on passage; Turkish, 20s 9d, on passage; Argentine, 19s 6d, on passage; Argentine, 19s 3d, prompt shipment.

LENTILS.—Egyptian, 31s, July shipment.

CANARYSEED.—Turkish, 36s, prompt shipment.

MILLET.—Smyrna, 31s, prompt shipment; Italian, 33s, prompt shipment.

BUCKWHEAT.—French, 26s, prompt shipment.

LINSEED.—Morocco, 58s, prompt shipment; Dutch, 58s, prompt shipment.

SEEDS

London, Monday.—We have absolutely nothing to report about the seed trade. Business is almost at a stand, and prices quite unchanged.—JOHN PICKARD AND CO.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW.

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS.")

Trade in London.

We note this week, so far as the British supply of beasts, chiefly due to heavier arrivals of fat butchering cows and stores from Ireland, a few Runts and Herefords were on Monday also on sale, Norfolks being shorter in number, as is expected to be the case as the weeks progress. For fat beasts of both prime and second quality trade was of a slower nature owing to the higher rates both asked and obtained; this remark applies to both market days at Islington. Of butchering cows and bulls the supply was larger, and there being less demand for the former, less money by fully 2d. per 8lb. had to be accepted. At Deptford markets were held on Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday, the supply being a fair average one both in regard to number and quality, more than half being States cattle. Trade ruled very firm and steady, even at an advance of from 2d. to 4d. per 8lb. The total number of beasts offered for sale on both markets was 4,844, as against 5,077 during the previous week. The supply consisted of 1,410 British (increase 255) and 3,434 foreign (decrease 488); these latter comprised 2,371 from the United States and 1,063 from Canada. The following were the top rates paid per 8lb. (sinking the offal):—85-stone Polled Aberdeens, 5s. 6d.; 90-stone Polled Norfolks, 5s. 4d.; 100-stone Shorthorn ditto, 5s. 2d.; 100-stone Lincolns, 5s. 2d.; 90-stone Dublins, 5s. 4d.; 90-stone Waterfords, 5s.; 85-stone States, 5s. 4d: to 5s. 5d.; 90-stone Canadians, 5s. 2d. to 5s. 4d.; 100-stone fat cows, 4s. 6d.; 100-stone fat bulls, 4s. 2d.

The sheep trade was entirely confined to the Islington, the number penned, including lambs, being 11,180, as against 11,440 during the previous week. Both heifers and ewes met firm, steady trades at an advance of 2d. for the former, and from 2d. to 4d. for the latter. The lamb trade, owing to the cold weather, was extremely slow, with a slight downward tendency in value. Best pens made, per 8lb., as follows:—8-stone South Downs, 6s. 2d.; 9-stone Downs, 6s.; 10-stone ditto, 5s. 10d.; 10-stone halfbreds, 5s. 8d.; 10-stone Yorkshires, 5s. 4d.; 12-stone Lincolns, 5s. 4d.; 10-stone Down ewes, 4s. 8d.; 11-stone halfbred ditto, 4s. 4d.; 5-stone fat Down lambs, 6s. 6d. to 6s. 8d. The calf trade was dull, but late rates governed all transactions; best on offer made 5s. 8d. per 8lb.

Trade in the West.

The late rains have had a very stimulating effect on the pastures. With the improved keep, prospects, as far as immediate wants are concerned, the demand for stores has increased very materially. In spite of the by no means too encouraging outlook, prices have not appreciably suffered so far; on the contrary, with a quick demand for stores, sales generally rule in the sellers' favour. Grazing bullocks, as is well known, are very scarce throughout the country, and this, coupled with plentifulness of keep in almost every district, has imparted an exceptionally buoyant tone to the trade, not only for graziers, but equally so for milch beasts, from £18 10s. up to £23 15s. being frequently made now for really good dairy bullocks suitable for town purposes, young heifers of a good stamp, and even for cows with reliable udders. This refers, of course, to the very best types; the more ordinary runs commanding an equally ready market at £16 to £17 15s., and the older bullocks at from £11 10s. to £15 10s. Young, fresh-condition barreners soon coming into beef are quickly bought up at from £24 to £32 per pair, and older bullocks from £17 5s. to £22 or £23, and this is matter for little surprise, seeing the steady way in which beef is creeping up in value, good steers and heifers selling now at 13s. per score and over, as they stand in their pens, whilst cows and anything at all like quality in beef sell from 11s. to 12s., only very rough contract bullocks or old cows being obtainable now on lower terms than we have quoted; in fact, the beef trade is better just now than we recollect for a long time past. And the price by no means affects the sale, the demand being as brisk as ever, with a promise, whilst foreign supplies continue so limited, of a brisk trade till larger offers come to hand. Mutton, too, as a consequence, has evinced greater firmness than for some time past, good wethers of nice weights selling at 8½d. per lb., and more ordinary runs of wethers and ewes from 7d. to 8d., only very poor-class ewes being obtainable in this district at a lower figure than we have quoted. Lamb, though the cold weather is no doubt against business, has hardened in price very materially during the past week, best Downs and cross-breds of nice finish selling up to 10d. per lb. and over; and we expect, with the extra demand in connection with the Coronation festivities, to see prices even higher, that is if the weather settles down at all to anything like favourable conditions. Calves have not been marketing scarcely as well during the past week; still, in view of the prices at present ruling, trade cannot by any means be considered bad, with best calves still making 7½d. up to 8½d. per lb., and seconds 6½d. to 7d. Pigs continue to maintain their value, especially the lighter weights in porkers, which make 11s. per score and over, and baconers 10s. to 10s. 6d.—a very good price indeed for this class of meat. As regards store sheep, buyers are showing less hesitation in speculating than they did recently, when the keep problem was such a serious matter; and, from all we can glean, we think we are justified in quoting wether sheep as well as lamb from 1s. to 2s. dearer than they were; good wethers making up to 48s. each; Down ewes, over 46s.; and lambs, 27s. to 35s. or 36s.—a very satisfactory range, all things considered; for flock purposes, 43s. to 57s. 6d. each, and in one instance 70s. (made by Mr. Keynes at his sale at Chescombe, near Dorchester), 136 four-months producing the excellent average of 57s. 6d.

Trade in Scotland.

The supplies of fat cattle on offer this week have been quite up to the average, and the quality exceedingly good. With a spirited demand on the part of both butchers and dealers, trade has remained very dear, and the extreme prices current for the last two weeks have been easily maintained, any change being in favour of the seller. Fat cows and bulls, which were not forward in such large numbers, have made exceedingly dear prices. The supply of fat sheep has been exceedingly larger. With the improved returns from the south markets and a good attendance of local butchers trade has been better, and a rise of quite 2s. apiece obtained. Fat lambs have been forward in very large numbers, and the quality in a great many cases has been inferior. Trade, except for the very best class, has been stiff, and prices in buyers' favour. Fat calves and pigs a small show, and both met a good market. In the store markets there has been a good number of sheep for the time of year. The best class of hogs met a good inquiry, and were easily sold. Secondary, however, not in much request. Store cattle have been a large and quite the best show that has been offered for many weeks. There was a good demand for bullocks in forward condition of a good class, but the high prices asked by dealers have a tendency to check sales, and a good number have been left unsold. Milch cows rather larger and better show, and the best class met a dearer trade at an advance of 10s. a head. Quotations:—Extreme top price of best cattle per live cwt., 46s. to 49s.; current, from 43s. to 46s.; secondary, from 41s. to 43s.; mutton, from 8½d. to 9½d. per lb.—JOHN SWAN AND SONS, LTD.

Trade in Ireland.

The advance in price of beef and mutton had the effect of creating a very large market last Thursday in Dublin, the number of cattle—2,023—being the biggest June market ever remembered, and showing an increase of nearly 1,000 head on the corresponding weeks of 1901 and 1900. Even with the exceptionally large increase of 638 over the previous week, cattle sold remarkably well, more than maintaining the high figures of previous market. Many stock-owners, realising the fact that it is very unlikely those inflated prices will continue long, are rushing in any cattle at all fit, instead of holding over, as is usual, until autumn. The attendance of English and Scotch buyers was a marked feature of the market, and it is supposed that the approaching Coronation has a good deal to say to the activity. For the best descriptions of heifers and bullocks there was a keen demand, and for other sorts with any pretensions to beef-buying was also brisk. Prime ox and heifer beef sold from 67s. 6d. to 72s. 6d. per cwt., and it was said that some extra choice were sold at 80s. per cwt.; medium made from 60s. to 66s.; and other sorts from 50s. to 57s. per cwt. An early clearance was effected.

Sheep numbered 10,343, an increase of 1,362 over previous week, and, despite the large supply, prices for best sheep might be quoted 1s. per head better in the earlier part of the day; but business slackened off as the day advanced. Home trade wethers were scarce, and one nice lot of two-year-olds made the excellent price of 67s. 6d. each. Coarse ewes plentiful, and rather hard to get rid of. Good lambs met a fair trade; but thin and indifferent difficult to dispose of. Choice wether mutton from 7d. to 7¾d. per lb.; ewe, 6½d. to 7½d.; and inferior from 6d. to 6½d. per lb. Prime large lambs made 38s. to 40s. a head; and small and medium from 16s. to 28s. Best veal was worth from 8d to 9d. per lb., and coarse from 5d. upwards. Milch cows lower in value, and with the exception of choice springers and new milch cows, difficult to sell. A good supply in the pig market, with steady prices and active demand. Best light-weight pigs made from 48s. to 52s. per cwt.; coarse, 42s. to 45s.; and inferior, from 37s. 6d. upwards. An early clearance. The store cattle trade has got a great fillip, especially for cattle in good forward condition.

Mr. Gavin Low held a very large sale, and disposed of some 1,700 or 1,800 beasts. There was a great gathering of English, Scotch, and local graziers, who made liberal investments. Amongst the English buyers was a representative of the Duke of Westminster. Polled cattle sold very well, some lots selling as high as £17 10s. per head. The prices, according to condition, would range from 35s. to 42s. per cwt. on foot.

LONDON.

Islington, Thursday.—A fair supply of beasts for Thursday's market, but consisted largely of fat bulls and rough cattle. The demand proved of a steady nature, prices ruling about unchanged. Fat bulls, 3s 10d to 4s 2d. Fairly good supplies of sheep were penned, and met with fair support at generally late prices. 7¼ to 8-stone Down wethers (clipped), 6s to 6s 3d; 9-stone ditto, 5s 6d to 5s 8d; 10-stone halfbreds, 5s 6d; 10 stone Down ewes, 4s 6d to 4s 8d; 11-stone halfbred ditto, 4s 2d. to 4s 4d. Lambs quiet. 4½ to 5-stone Downs, 6s 6d to 6s 8d; 6-stone halfbreds, 5s 10d to 6s 4d. Calves slow, the best on offer making 5s 4d per 8lb., to sink the offal. No pigs offered. Total supplies—130 beasts, 3,470 sheep, 10 cows, and 110 calves.

London Central, Wednesday.—Supplies fair, and met with steady support at generally firm prices. Arrivals of beef included 35 tons Scotch, 420 Liverpool sides, 1,500 hindquarters, and 600 forequarters American refrigerated. Beef: Scotch short sides, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; long, 4s 10d to 5s; English, 4s 8d to 5s; American, Deptford-killed, 4s 6d to 4s 10d; Liverpool, 4s 6d to 4s 8d; American refrigerated hindquarters, 4s 10d; forequarters, 3s 2d to 3s 4d. Mutton: Scotch, 5s 2d to 5s 6d; English wethers, 4s 8d to 5s; ewes, 3s 8d to 4s; English lamb, 5s to 5s 8d. Veal: English and Dutch, 4s to 5s. Pork: Dutch, 4s to 4s 4d per 8lb.

London (Central). Friday.—Supplies were good, but a subdued demand prevailed, and business made quieter progress. A fair amount of English, moderate of Deptford killed American, 80 tons Scotch, 540 Liverpool sides, 3,500 hind-quarters, and 2,200 fore-quarters American killed constituted the arrivals of beef this morning. Quotations:—Beef, Scotch, short sides, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; long, 5s; English, 4s 8d to 4s 10d; American, Deptford killed, 4s 6d to 4s 9d; Liverpool, 4s 6d to 4s 8d; American refrigerated hind-quarters, 4s 10d to 5s; fore-quarters, 3s to 3s 4d. Mutton: Scotch, 5s 2d to 5s 6d; English wethers, 4s 8d to 5s; ewes, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; Canterbury, 2s 10d to 3s; Wellington: 2s 8d to 2s 10d; Sydney and River Plate, 2s 6d to 2s 7d; English lamb, 5s to 5s 8d. Veal: English and Dutch, 4s to 5s. Pork: English, 4s to 4s 4d; Dutch, 3s 10d to 4s per 8lb.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Beef advanced 1s per score, and made 14s in the case of the primest quality. Kent wether mutton made 4s 10d to 5s 4d per stone, and Downs and half-breds up to 5s 10d. Lamb, 6s 8d per 8lb. Pork (roasters) did not exceed 9s per score.

Basingstoke, Wednesday.—At Raynbird and Sons' sale yard there was a fair attendance of buyers to meet a supply consisting of 41 fat beasts, 79 calves, 523 fat sheep and lambs, 213 pigs, and 124 head of dairy and store cattle, for which the following prices were realised: Fat shorthorn steers, up to £25 15s; and heifers to £21 15s; Devon steers reached £24 10s; Kerry heifers up to £20 15s; black polled bull, £20 10s; shorthorn bulls up to £18 15s; prime quality Hampshire Down wethers and young ewes made from 45s to 58s 6d; old ewes, 35s to 40s; rams, 45s to 59s 6d; 3 months old sucking lambs (Downs), 25s to 36s; Cheviots, 23s 6d to 30s 6d; Exmoors, 24s 6d to 29s; Kent ewes, 41s; fat calves, 70s to £5; small, 20s to 45s; fat porkers, 45s to 62s; small, 28s to 42s; store pigs, 12s 6d to 26s 6d; dairy cows up to £21 10s. The show of fat beasts included some excellent Devons and shorthorns, for which there was a brisk trade, and a clearance made at extreme prices. A good show of fat sheep, as regards quality, but short in numbers; an average supply of fat lambs. Fat sheep met a quick clearance at an advance. The trade for fat lambs was slower, but with no material change in values. For the best description of dairy cows there was a good demand; secondary sorts made less money. Store cattle sold readily with a brisk trade. Fat calves met a slower trade. Fat porkers, with a short supply, met a fair trade. Store pigs are wanted, and an easy clearance was made at satisfactory prices. Ruling values:—Prime Devon beasts, 8d to 8½d; ditto shorthorns, 7½d to 8d; bulls, cows, and inferior, 6½d to 7d per lb; best quality fat sheep, 8½d to 9d; second ditto, 7½d to 8d; old ewes, rams, and inferior sheep, 6½d to 7d; three months old sucking lambs, 9d to 10d per lb; fat calves, 7½d to 8½d per lb; fat porkers, up to 11s per score.

Boston, Wednesday.—Store beasts, £12 to £13; strong stores, £14 to £16; in-calf cows, £20 to £22; heifers, £16 to £18; calves, 55s. to 60s each; best beef, 8s 6d to 8s 9d; cow beef, 7s 6d to 8s per stone; best wethers, 7½d to 8d; ewes, 7d to 7½d per lb.; fat lambs, 28s to 34s each.

Braintree, Wednesday.—Trade was brisk at Messrs. Ball's auction mart, and good prices were made, especially in the bullock classes, prime beasts making as much as £27. Fat sheep sold slowly; hogs moderate.

Bury St. Edmunds. Wednesday.—At Messrs. Simpson and Sons' Auction Mart, there was a good show of fat beasts, all of exceptionally prime quality, and a very sharp trade prevailed, at a trifle higher rates, prices reaching up to £28 10s, most of the heavier cattle being bought for the Midland Counties. Short supply of store beasts, which met a decidedly better demand, prices going up to £13 7s 6d for Mr. W. Hervey's polled steers. Very short supply of fat sheep, the supply proving insufficient to satisfy local requirements, and all descriptions were dearer. Rather more fat lambs on offer. These also met a better demand. Good supply of store sheep, for which also trade was brisker than last week. Mr. J. E. Brand's Suffolk ewe hoggets made up to 52s; other lots of hoggets went up to 42s 6d per head. A half-bred flock of ewes reached up to 34s 6d per head. Very good entry of lambs, being the first large entry of the season; they attracted considerable interest, and sold well, considering the early time of year. Messrs. Sturgeon's Suffolk lambs made from 31s 6d to 33s; Mr. J. Fyson's Suffolk lambs averaged 25s; Mr. G. Jillings' consignment made from 26s 6d to 22s per head. Half-bred lambs sent by Mr. F. Fyson made from 27s to 26s 6d per head. Mr. Mayes' lambs fetched 23s per head; Mr. Duncan Parker's lambs, 23s 6d per head. Several other lots made from 24s to 15s 6d per head. Shorter supply of pigs, for which trade was at about late rates.

Calne. Friday.—Present prices for prime pigs, in lots of not less than 10, on rail within 100 miles of Calne.

Prime Stores.	Thickness of fat in any part of the Back.	Price per Sc. s. d.
6 sc. 10 lbs. to 9 sc. 10 lbs.	2½ in. and under ...	10 0
Under 10 sc.	Not exceeding 2½ in. ...	9 6
Under 11 sc. 10 lb. ...	Not exceeding 2¾ in. ...	9 0
Under 12 sc.	Not exceeding 3 in. ...	

—C. & T. Harris & Co., Ld.

Canterbury. Saturday.—The stock of bullocks was small, except in Irish beasts. Demand somewhat larger, and prices were as follows: Yearlings, £5 10s to £8 10s; stronger classes £9 to £10 10s; two-year-old bullocks, £12 to £13 5s. Several lots of ewes and lambs realised 38s to 43s, while some better classes fetched 55s.

Carlisle. Saturday.—The supply of Irish store cattle on Saturday was larger than last week's, and consisted of 500 head of heifers, generally of useful quality. Better attendance and trade maintaining the improvement of last week at about the same prices. Small heifers, £8 to £10 10s; better sorts, £12 10s to £16 10s; and exceptionally good qualities up to £19.

Cambridge. Tuesday.—Beasts, 400; sheep, 381; pigs, 587; horses, 56. Beef, 8s to 9s 6d; mutton, 4s 4d to 5s; pork, 6s 6d to 7s 3d. A few lots small store beasts, and trade slow; fat beasts very short supply, and trade brisk at more money. Fat sheep a smaller show, and prices unchanged. Stores, scarcely any to hand; fat pigs a fair trade at late rates; stores a good brisk trade all round. Hay and straw nil.

Dorchester. Wednesday.—Full average supplies came to hand to-day, especially of calves, lambs, and pigs. Buyers were fully represented, with a quick demand, trade being a shade against buyers. Fat bullocks made a ready sale, at 11s to 12s for good qualities. Mutton a steady, mut by no means a slow sale, at 7½d. to 8d. for best wethers, and ewes, 7d to 7¾d per lb.; lambs, 9d to 10d. Best calves sold at 8d to 8½d, and seconds, 7d to 7¾d, poorer grades, 6½d. Pigs were firm, both in demand and sale, porkers making up to 11s per score, heavier fat pigs, 8s 6d to 9s 6d.

Dublin. Thursday.—Numbers in market: Beasts 2,023, increase 638; sheep 10,343, increase 1,362; calves 75, increase 28. Notwithstanding a large increase in numbers, finished cattle were in good demand at somewhat higher prices. Rough and unfinished sorts were more difficult to sell, and prices moved more in favour of buyers. Some choice Aberdeen Angus heifers, bred and fed by Mr. James Talbot Power, made the extreme quotation of the market. Sheep and lambs met a brisker trade at last week's prices, and a good clearance effected. Cattle, live weight (best), 37s to 41s per cwt.; extreme, 45s per cwt.; secondary descriptions, 32s to 36s per cwt. Mutton, dead weight, 5½d to 7¾d per lb.; lambs, each, 17s to 38s.—CANLY, SONS, AND CO.

Hereford. Wednesday.—Bullocks and cows, 651; calves, 178; sheep and lambs, 2,194; pigs (fat and sows), 24; sucking pigs, 155; pigs (stores, not more than 10), 146; pigs (stores, more than 10), 61; horses, 8. Prices in cattle market: Beef, 6½d to 7½d; mutton, 6½d to 9d; lamb, 8½ to 9d; veal, 9½d; pork, 6½d to 8d; and bacon, 5½ to 6½ per lb.

Leicester. Wednesday.—The supply of home-fed bullocks was rather short, and an active trade was done, prices showing a further advance of 20s per head. Choice bullocks made 8½d per lb; secondary, 7¾d to 8d; cows, 6½d to 7d; and heifers, 7¾d to 8½d per lb. Sheep were a fair delivery, and changed hands freely at 8d to 8½d per lb for choice light weights; large sheep, 7d to 7½d; ewes, 6½d; lambs, 9d to 10½ per lb; calves steady at 8½d per lb.

Newport. Wednesday.—Quotations were: best beef, 8½ per lb.; secondary sorts,, 7½d to 7¾d; cows, 6½d to 7d; best weather mutton, shorn, 8d to 8½d; ewes, 7d to 7½d; lamb, 9d to 10½; veal, 7d to 8d. Porker pigs, 10s 9d to 11s 3d per score. A short supply all round, and an exceptionally brisk trade.

Norwich. Saturday.—The supply of store beasts here to-day showed some increase; business was scarcely so active, and prices were the turn in favour of buyers. The supply of fat beasts was moderate; trade ruled firm at 8s 6d to 9s 6d per 14lb. The supply of store sheep was about an average, and a good business was passing at an advance of 1s per head, hoggets making from 35s to 45s, and keeping shearlings from 33s to 45s per head, while lambs brought 15s to 26s each. The great quantity of rain which has fallen in Norfolk during the past few days has, at any rate, had the effect of improving keep prospects in the county; there is, accordingly, a better demand for store sheep. Fat sheep, which were in moderate supply to-day, sold readily at 9s to 9s 6d and 10s per 14lb.

Romford. Wednesday.—Average supply of fat beasts, trade much better. Best animals, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; middlings, 5s to 5s 2d per stone. Average supply of calves, trade about the same, at 5s 2d to 5s 4d per stone. Sheep in fair supply, trade dear; best sheep, 5s 6d to 5s 8d; middlings, 5s 2d to 5s 4d per stone. Lambs in average supply, trade a little better, at 6s 2d to 6s 4d per stone. Good demand for the few store beasts on offer. Pig trade rather quiet. Small porkers, 4s to 4s 4d; large hogs, 3s 8d to 3s 10d per stone.

Salford. Tuesday.—A few more cattle on show than last week. Trade slow but firm for all kinds; prices slightly advanced over last week. There was a good demand for both sheep and lambs at the full price of last market. Cattle, 6½d to 8½d per lb; sheep, 7d to 9d per lb; lamb, 9d to 10½d per lb; calves, 5d to 8d per lb. At market:—Cattle, 1,427 (increase 100); sheep and lambs, 15,868 (increase 1,000); calves, 168.

Sheffield. Tuesday.—Poor show of milch beasts. Past lots were a moderate trade, at £17 to £20. Secondary sorts stationary, at £10 to £15 per head.

Spalding. Tuesday.—A fair show of fat beasts. Trade good. Primest quality realised high prices. Store beasts sold well. In the sheep market there was a moderate show, and brisk trade at 7d to 8d per lb.

Stockton. Wednesday.—There were on offer 125 cattle, 5 calves, 280 sheep, 23 lambs, and 230 pigs. The supply of best cattle was again short, and recent prices were well maintained. Few customers, and trade firm. Best beef, 9s 6d to 10s; rougher kinds, 8s 6d to 8s per stone; young sheep, 9d; ewes, 7½d; tups, 6d per lb; lambs, 25s to 35s each.

Thame. Tuesday.—The market is now putting on its summer appearance, hotel yards filling with vehicles, and the rail bringing numerous purveyors and dealers from Reading, Henley, High Wycombe, Oxford, and surrounding districts. Grass fed beasts and sheep are freely coming to hand, in first rate condition. Beef still continues dear, an advance on last week's quotations being noticeable. Sheep and lambs were in much greater demand, and were fully 3s per head dearer than the previous week. Veal and bacon are realising top quotations. Messrs. Rond and Burrows' sale comprised 67 fat bullocks and heifers. 312 fat and store sheep, 179 fat and store pigs, and 33 fat and weaning calves. Fat bullocks made £20 to £24; fat heifers, £21 to £26 15s; fat wethers, up to 62s; fat ewes to 59s; fat lambs to 42s; fat calves, £4 to £6 7s 6d; weaning cow calves, 20s to 55s; bull calves, 18s to 50s; bacon hogs, 9s 6d per score.

Wakefield. Wednesday.—In spite of the fact that both beef and mutton was dearer, a clearance was soon effected; particularly for sheep, of which there was a smaller show. Beef of the best quality made 8½d per lb., and other sorts varied from 6½d; small sheep, 9d; heavy animals, 7½d to 8½d; ewes and tups, 6d to 7d. Sheep in market 3,916, beasts 1,334.

Wolverhampton. Wednesday.—Beasts, sheep, and lambs in fair supply, and fair trade; calves in moderate supply, fair demand. Quotations: Beef, 6d to 8½d per lb.; mutton, 6½d to 8½d per lb.; lamb, 9d to 10d per lb.; veal, 6½d to 8d per lb. Very few pigs on offer.

Worcester. Saturday.—Good attendance and a fair all-round supply. Cattle sold freely at late rates. Sheep trade steady. Veal sold well, and pork was inclined to be dearer.

Worksop. Wednesday.—Fair show of stock, with the exception of beef. Best beef, 7s 6d to 8s 6d; secondary, 7s to 7s 6d per stone. Sheep plentiful; best wethers, 7½d to 8½d; ewes, 5½d to 7d per lb; store sheep, 25s to 35s each; lamb, 9d to 10d; veal, 8½d to 9½d per lb.

FOREIGN.

Deptford. Wednesday.—east Bentries amounted to 951 head, being 21 more than on Wednesday last, and comprised 731 United States and 220 Canadian. Trade firm at 5s 3d to 5s 5d, and 5s 2d to 5s 4d per 8lbs., to sink the offal.

Yorkhill. Monday.—At the usual weekly sale of American cattle held to-day there were in the lairages 235 cattle landed by the Kastalia (s.), from Montreal, and 302 by the Pomeranian (s.), also from the same port. Bullocks formed the greater proportion of the total number, but there were also a number of bulls included. The cattle were a very fine lot, and very suitable for the requirements of the trade. There was the usual attendance of buyers, and demand was keen, prices all round showing an increase on those ruling on the previous Monday. The dead weight quotations may be given as follows:—Best bullocks, 74s per cwt, and for really choice up to 76s; best bulls, 62s to 64s; and for secondary and heavier, down to 60s.

BUTTER.

Tuesday.—Bedale: 1s to 1s 2d per 24oz roll. Gainsborough: 1s per lb. Settle: 11d to 11½d per lb. Spalding: 10d per lb.

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 11d and 1s per lb. Boston: 9d to 10d per lb. Colne: 1s 1d per lb. Goole: 10d per lb. Keighley: 1s and 1s 1d per lb. Kirbymoorside: 8d to 9d per lb. Knaresborough: 1s and 1s 2d per 24oz. roll. Louth: 9d per lb. Market Weighton: 10d per lb. Masham: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per 24oz. roll. Northallerton: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per 24oz roll. Stockton: 10d to 1s 1d per lb. Worksop: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Market Drayton: 10d to 1s per lb. Uttoxeter: 10d to 11d per lb.

Thursday.—Penistone: 1s to 1s 1d per lb. Ripon: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per 24oz. roll. Scarborough: 11d to 1s per lb. Wetherby: 9d to 1s per lb. Brigg: 9d to 10d per lb. Driffield: 1s to 1s 2d per lb. Kidderminster: 1s 2d per lb. Wellington 11d to 1s per lb.

Friday.—Leeds: 1s to 1s 1d per lb. Stockport: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Congleton: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Knutsford: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Chester: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Altrincham: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Crewe: 1s per lb. Macclesfield: 1s per lb. Easingwold: 9d to 10d per lb. Helmsley: 8d to 9d per lb. Leyburn: 1s to 1s 2d per roll of 24oz. Lincoln: 10d to 11d per lb. Otley: 1s to 1s 2d per 24oz roll.

Saturday.—Appleby: 8½d to 10½ per lb. Berwick: 8d to 10d per lb. Carlisle: 9d to 10d per lb. Doncaster: 11d to 1s per lb. Grantham: 10d to 11d per lb. Howden: 11d to 1s per lb. Malton: 9d to 10d per lb. Pontefract: 10d to 11d per lb. Retford: 10d to 11d per lb. Richmond: 10d per lb. Skipton: 1s 1d per lb. Stokesley: 9d to 10½ per lb. Whitby: 9d per lb. York: 1s per lb.

EGGS.

Tuesday.—Bedale: 15 to 17 for 1s. Gainsborough: 15 for 1s. Settle: 15 to 16 for 1s. Spalding: 15 for 1s.

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 12 or 13 for 1s. Boston: 15 for 1s. Colne: 1s 5d per score. Goole: 15 for 1s. Keighley: 12 and 13 for 1s. Kirbymoorside: 15 or 17 for 1s. Knaresborough: 13 or 14 for 1s. Louth: 16 for 1s. Market Weighton: 17 for 1s. Masham: 17 and 18 for 1s. Northallerton: 14 to 15 for 1s. Stockton: 13 or 14 for 1s. Worksop: 1s 4d to 1s 5d per score. Market Drayton: 14 to 15 per 1s. Uttoxeter 1s 4d per score.

Thursday.—Brigg: 15 to 16 for 1s. Driffield 17 or 18 for 1s. Penistone: 13 for 1s. Ripon: 14 or 15 for 1s. Scarborough: 14 for 1s. Wetherby: 13 to 14 for 1s. Kidderminster: 17 per 1s. Wellington: 14 to 16 per 1s.

Friday.—Leeds: 9s to 9s 6d per 120. Stockport: 11 or 12 for 1s. Northwich: 13 or 14 for 1s. Nantwich: 14 or 15 for 1s. Easingwold: 14 to 15 for 1s. Helmsley: 16 or 17 for 1s. Leyburn: 16 to 18 for 1s. Lincoln 14 or 15 for 1s. Otley: 14 or 15 for 1s.

Saturday.—Appleby: 14 or 15 for 1s. Berwick: 9d to 10½ per doz. Carlisle: 14 or 15 for 1s. Doncaster: 14 for 1s. Grantham: 14 or 15 for 1s. Howden: 16 for 1s. Lancaster: 10 to 14 for 1s. Malton: 16 to 18 for 1s. Pontefract: 14 for 1s. Retford: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per score. Richmond: 14 or 15 for 1s. Skipton: 14 or 15 for 1s. Stokesley: 14 or 15 for 1s. Whitby: 14 to 15 for 1s. York: 12 or 14 for 1s.

CHEESE.

Glasgow. Wednesday.—Moderate arrivals, and inquiry fair for both Cheddars and Dunlops. Prices continue steady, consumers refusing to concede any advance; quotations, 52s to 56s per cwt. The offering of new Canadians were very small, prices still regarded as too high, and reduction probable. New Zealands practically over for the season.

Newport. Wednesday.—Quotations:—Caerphillies, 36s to 44s; fancy dairies, 45s to 47s; inferior, nil; Derbys, 56s to 58s; truckles, nil; and Cheddars, 60s to 65s. There was a good supply and demand.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden. Saturday.—Supplies of fruit good, and steady sale. Greenstuffs in good supply and demand. Potatoes met moderate inquiry. English grapes, 2s to 4s; Belgian, 1s to 1s 9d per lb; Valencia oranges, 10s to 16s; Denia, 12s to 25s; Murcia, 7s 6d to 10s 6d per case; English tomatoes, 6s to 8s per dozen lbs; Canary, 3s to 4s per case; pineapples, 1s 6d to 4s 6d each; bananas, 7s 6d to 12s per bunch; gooseberries, 4s to 5s per half-sieve; Tasmanian apples, 9s to 14s per case; cabbages, 3s 6d to 4s 6d per tally; spinach, 1s 6d to 2s per bushel; carrots, 3s 6d to 4s 6d; turnips, 4s to 6s; leeks, 3s to 3s 6d; parsley, 2s to 4s; mint, 2s to 3s per dozen bunches; horseradish, 2s to 2s 3d per bundle; mushrooms, 6s to 8s per dozen lbs; spring onions, 3s to 4s per dozen bunches; Egyptian ditto, 11s per bag. Potatoes: Maincrops, 70s to 80s; Reading Giants, 40s to 50s; Up-to-Dates, 60s per ton; New Canary, 7s; Teneriffe, 8s; Jersey, 8s 6d; St. Malo, 8s per cwt; Lisbons, 4s per box.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London. Thursday.—Owing to heavy shipments and decreased demand, prices have declined, and the market closes weak. Calcutta, spot London, 52s 6d; passage, 52s 9d to 53s; July-August, 53s 3d. Hull is also lower. Calcutta May-June 53s. La Plata spot, 50s 6d; June-July, 51s 6d; December-January, 47s 3d; January-February, 46s 3d. To the Continent, Bombay, June-July, 57s; Calcutta, June-July, 53s 6d; La Plata, June-July, 51s 9d; Azoff seed, October-November, 49s 6d c.i.f. Linseed oil still very quiet, and lower rates ruling. We quote spot in pipes, £31; barrels, £31 5s; July August, £30 15s; September-December, £29 15s. Hull naked spot £30; July-August, £30; September-December, £29. Linseed cakes are firm We to-day quote London-made £7 17s 6d to £8 ex mill; American Western £7 7s 6d to £7 10s; Russian, £7 12s 6d to £7 17s 6d. Cotton cakes steady; London-made, £4 12s 6d to £4 17s 6d. Rapeseed slow, and prices have declined somewhat. Brown Cawnpore, May-June, 37s 3d; brown Calcutta, spot 35s, June-July, 35s 3d. To the Continent we quote Yellow Guzerat 41s 6d; Yellow Cawnpore, June-July, 40s 4½d; Brown Cawnpore, 37s 6d; Brown Calcutta, May-June and June-July, 37s, sellers; Ferozepore, June-July, 37s; Jamba, June-July, to Hull, 31s 6d. Cottonseed very dull. Spot London, £7 13s 9d; June, £7 11s 3d sellers; July, £7 11s 3d; November-January £6 11s 3d, sellers; Hull spot, £7 10s; June, £7 7s 6d; November-January, £6 10s buyers; cargoes, November, £6 12s 6d; December-January, £6 11s 3d; Bombay to Hull, June-July, £4 18s 9d, sellers.—THE PRODUCE BROKERS' COMPANY, LIMITED.

Hull. Tuesday.—Linseed: The only arrival is 1,010 qrs from Riga. A dull and lifeless market. Calcutta was quoted early last week at 54s 9d April-June, but has since declined, and closes with 53s 6d accepted for this position. Black Sea quoted 52s 6d Sept.-October. American has shared in the general decline, and Oct.-Nov., which was worth 52s 6d last week, can now be bought at 50s 6d. River Plate: Spot, 51s; June-July, 51s 9d; Dec.-Jan., 47s 3d. Cotton seed: The market has ruled very dull all the week, and spot can now be bought at £7 12s 6d, ex steamer just arrived. A little business was done in passage thereat, and June at £7 10, whereat still sellers. A few hundred tons monthly, Nov.-Jan., changed hands at £6 10s, and £6 16s 3d to £6 17s 6d paid for October, which are to-day's values, but not much inquiry. Oils: Exports for the week ending June 3rd, 1902:—Linseed oil: 1 Germany, 1 Holland, 23 Norway, 2 Turkey; total, 27 tons. Cotton: oil: 126 Belgium, 12 Denmark, 16 France, 98 Germany, 165 Holland, 1 Norway, 25 Sweden; total, 443 tons. The market is quiet. Linseed oil: 30s 4½d spot, 30s 4½d June-Aug., 29s 4½d Sept.-Dec. Cotton oil: 25s 3d spot, 25s 3d June-Aug., 21s 9d Nov.-April. Crude: 24s spot, 24s June-August, 20s 7½d Nov.-April. Rape oil: Jamba naked, 24s 3d spot; first quality, 25s spot. Oil seed cakes: Linseed cakes firm, with good deliveries for time of the year. Cotton cakes are 2s 6d to 5s below the extreme prices of last week, with steady market.—FEIGHLEY MAXTED AND CO.

Mark Lane. Monday.—Linseed cakes: The trade appears to have come suddenly to a standstill, there being practically no consumptive demand whatever. At the same time, values are fully as dear in consequence of the firm attitude on the part of shippers. Russians still offer at last week's prices. Americans are also quoted at unchanged prices. Calcutta-made in bags remain unchanged. London-made meet a poor inquiry, but prices remain as last quoted: Cotton cakes: There is no improvement to note in the demand, but, with only a limited quantity available to come in, values remain steady. Decorticated sell slowly at last Monday's quotations, and meal at £6 10s. Rape cakes: Quiet and unchanged. Maize germ meal: Stocks of American are small, and holders still ask last week's prices for parcels in warehouse, while English is obtainable on slightly easier terms. Rice meal: Arrived parcels of Rangoon have found buyers at £4 6s 3d to £4 7s 6d ex ship, but fully 5s per ton more money is demanded for autumn shipments.

	Per ton. £ s. d.	Per ton. £ s. d.
LINSEED CAKES.		
London made ....ex mill	7 12 6	to 7 15 0
American ....ex ship	6 17 6	to 7 0 0
Russian, in mats ....ex dock	7 5 0	to 7 7 6
Russian, in bags ....ex dock	7 10 0	to 7 12 6
Calcutta ....ex dock	7 7 6	to 7 10 0
COTTONSEED CAKES.		
London made ....ex mill	4 12 6	to 4 15 0
Egyptian ....ex dock	4 6 3	to 4 8 9
Decorticated ....ex dock	6 5 0	to 6 12 6
Meal ....ex dock	6 10 0	to —
RAPE CAKES.		
East India	3 15 0	to 4 0 0
MAIZE.		
English germ meal....ex mill	5 5 0	to 5 10 0
American .... ex dock	5 11 3	to 5 12 6
RICE MEAL.		
Rangoon ....ex dock	5 0 0	to

—PINNOCK BROS., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

WATERLOO ROUND FEEDING CAKES, £6 17s 6d PER TON. WATERLOO ROUND 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES, £8 10s 0d PER TON. WATERLOO ANGLO SHAPE 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES, £8 5s 0d PER TON; WATERLOO 97 PER CENT. PURE EGYPTIAN COTTONSEED CAKES, £5 7s 6d PER TON. ALL NET CASH AND F.O.R. IN HULL.

MOLASSINE FEEDING MEAL, packed in bags, of 1¼cwt. each. Price per ton, £6 15s., in ton lots and upwards. £7 10s. per ton in less than ton lots. Uniform delivered price for small quantities, 11s. per bag of 1¼cwt. Free on rail, Liverpool or London.

COLONIAL DAIRY PRODUCE.

London. Friday.—The demand for Canadian butter, although far from being brisk, has shown improvement during the last few days, but the amount arriving is more than sufficient for current consumption, and, consequently, a certain quantity is going into cold store, to await a larger demand with an almost certainty of higher prices. The quality of most of the Canadian creamery is good, considering that it is not yet pure grass butter, especially that which is made from "gathered cream"—that is, from cream separated by the farmer at his homestead, and not by the Co-operative Company at the factory or creamery. The price of choicest Canadian creamery is about 96s to 100s per cwt. for salt, with 2s more for saltless. Finest grade ranges from 92s to 94s. The quantity of Canadian butter exported from Montreal for the week ended 31st May was 2,592 cwts., against 7,068 cwts. last year, and 3,166 cwts. for the year before. The total export for the month was 23,806 cwts. this year, 19,238 cwts. last year, and 8,061 cwts. the year before. The demand for new season's Canadian cheese continues good, but increased arrivals have lowered values about 1s per cwt. on the week, both coloured and white bringing the same money. In old cheese prices are very erratic, largely owing to an offer of 10,000 boxes at 53s, which has been circularised amongst the trade. Prices of this class of goods run from 53s to 57s for white, rising to 58s for lots perfect in colour.—W. WEDDEL AND CO.



STOCK AND SHOW NOTES.

For the accommodation of exhibitors and others wishing to get from the Royal Show at Carlisle to Peterborough, for the Peterborough Society's Show, on July 8th, 9th, and 10th, arrangements have been made with the Midland Railway Company to stop the express train leaving Carlisle at 3.55 p.m. on Monday, July 7th, at Melton Station, which will enable passengers for Peterborough to arrive at 10.30 p.m.

The Secretary of the Hackney Horse Society has received an official intimation that the pony mare 12453 Berry Hill Sniff, exhibited by Mr. William Hollins, of Pleasley Vale, Mansfield, and winner of the first prize in Class 27 at the last London Hackney Show, has not produced a foal, in accordance with the Society's regulations. Under these circumstances, the award will be cancelled, and Mr. William Foster's 12927 Mel-Valley Custard will take first prize; Mr. Alfred S. Day's 13014 Peggy Sure IV. will take second prize, whilst the reserve number, Mr. David Mitchell's Marsline, becomes entitled to third prize.

The entire herd of pure-bred Shorthorns, belonging to Mr. John Garne, of Filkins, Lechlade, Oxfordshire, is to be sold without reserve, on Wednesday, July 2nd, at Filkins, Messrs. J. Thornton and Co. being the auctioneers. The sale is caused through Mr. J. Garne, who is eighty-three years old, being about to relinquish farming. Mr. John Garne is a brother of the late Mr. Robert Garne, of Aldsworth, and is the last of the old generation of Garnes, famous for their Shorthorns. Mr. John Garne's herd was established in May, 1873, by the purchase of Pink of Fashion at the Broadmoor sale for 80gs.; afterwards Pink 27th and Blooming Pink were bought from his kinsman at Clapton, the entire herd being now descended from these three cows. They are all of one family, the well-known Garne P. or Pye tribe, of the old Mason blood, which was brought down from Earl Spencer's herd at Wiseton by the late Lord Sherborne, about the year 1840, and has since been bred with considerable success in Yorkshire; it is famous both for milk and flesh, and its excellent breeding properties.

The earlier bulls used by the family were mostly brought out of the North from Mr. Wiley, Mr. Fawkes, and Mr. Peel in Yorkshire. Home-bred bulls were frequently used with good results, and followed by the occasional service of bulls owned by Mr. T. Mace, of Eastleach. Mr. J. Houlton's Pedestrian 73186 is now in service, and for sale. He is the son of that well-known sire Now or Never, long used at Aldsworth, where he became the sire of the champion heifer Aldsworth Jewel, and is now in service in Mr. Henderson's herd at Buscot. Lord Lowther, by Lord Lonsdale, also a son of Now or Never, is the sire of a first rate lot of yearling heifers and calves. The herd has been kept hardy without any pampering, the animals running out night and day all the year through, with only the shelter of the Cotswold hovels.

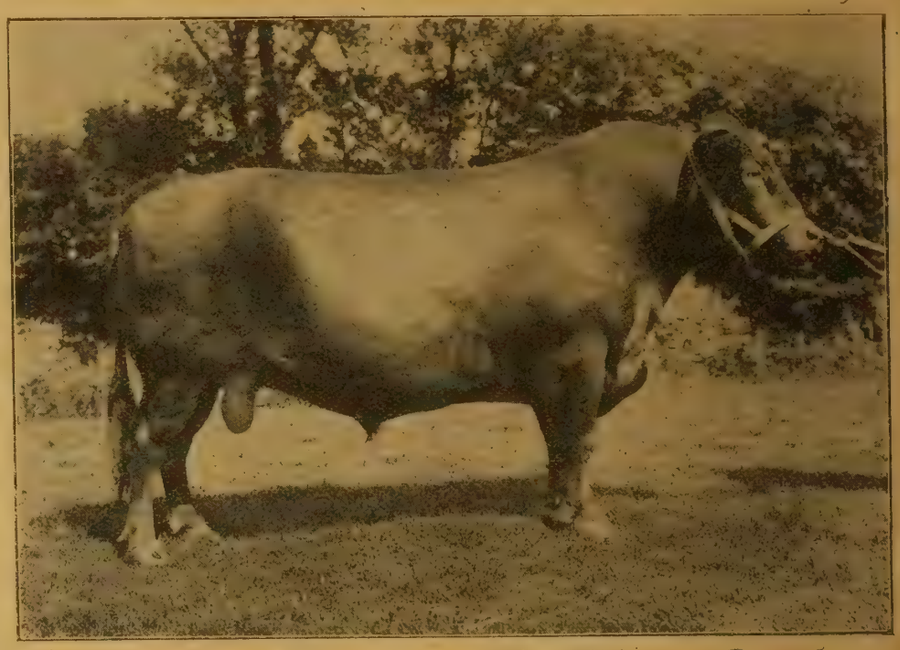
On the day after the above sale, the same auctioneers will dispose of sixty pure-bred Shorthorns, belonging to Mr. Hugh Baker, at Chedglow Manor, Malmesbury. The herd has become too numerous to be carried through the winter, hence the sale, the catalogue of which comprises the younger cows and heifers, about fifty females in all, as well as a choice lot of promising young bulls. Norse Chief 75144, a handsome dark roan bull, bred in the Duke of Northumberland's herd at Alnwick, from one of the best tribes in that well-known herd, is the sire now in service. The animals at Chedglow have always been bred with a view to producing the class of Shorthorns for which this district is famous, viz., cattle which should be able to milk well and carry good natural flesh and hair, showing constitution and breeding qualitites. Prizes have been obtained at the West of England and local shows; the bulls have been in good demand locally, as well as at Birmingham, where they have often won prizes and sold well. Some good and highly-bred young heifers of the wellknown Ruth, Quicksilver, J. Seraphina, and Waterloo families from Mr. L. J. Bakers' herd at Ottershaw, Surrey, will also be offered for unreserved sale.

The members of the Westmorland and Kendal District Agricultural Society have approved of the idea of a combined agricultural show for the North. At a meeting held to consider the matter, it was decided to support the scheme at a conference of agricultural societies, to be held in Carlisle during the week of the Royal Show. The migratory show would be held at Kendal every seventh year, and some of the members feared that this might injuriously affect the subscription list of the Westmorland Society, so that the vote was not entirely unanimous. As previously mentioned in these columns, the combined show is proposed on the ground that now that the Royal Show is to be permanently established near London, North of England agriculturists will be deprived of having any great agricultural exhibition in their locality.

I would remind intending exhibitors at the Yorkshire Agricultural Society's Show, at Leeds on July 30th and two following days, that the entries close on Saturday next, the 21st inst., but entries at double fees will be received up to the following Saturday. A very liberal list of prizes is provided, the total value of which is £2,115. The prizes are offered for horses, cattle, sheep, pigs, jumping, and harness competitions, shoeing competitions, butter, cheese, bee-appliances, and honey. For prize schedules and forms of entry apply Mr. John Maughan, secretary, Blake Street, York.

The Herefordshire and Worcestershire Agricultural Society's Show will be held at Hereford this week, opening to-morrow (Tuesday), and extending over Wednesday and Thursday. The site of the showyard is an admirable one, being on the racecourse. The entries are more numerous than in any year since the show at Worcester, in 1895. The total is 600, as against 509 at Evesham last year, 545 at Leominster in 1900, 460 at Stourbridge in 1899, 593 at Hereford in 1898, 435 at Redditch in 1897, 438 at Monmouth in 1896, 621 at Worcester in 1895, and 567 at Hereford in 1894. The 600 are made up of 235 cattle, 77 sheep, 17 pigs, 158 horses, 88 cider and perry, 2 wool, and 23 butter and cheese. The display of implements will also be a large one.

It will be remembered by my readers that Sir Walter Gilbey recently delivered an address before the Bishop's Stortford Farmers' Club, on the subject with which he is so closely identified, namely, the breeding of army remounts. The address has now been published in pamphlet form. In it Sir Walter urges the formation of ten permanent remount depots, each capable of accommodating 400 horses, with the necessary staff to tend, break, and train them. These should be stationed in different parts of the United Kingdom, and each should be worked as any business house is worked—that is, quarterly and audited accounts should be punctually rendered from each to the War Office, which would have entire control of the depots.



The South Devon Bull "Cromer" 969, which forms the subject of the above illustration, is the property of Mr. W. Merry, Great Woodford, Plympton, St. Mary, and was bred by Mr. J. D. Ellis, Dunston, Yealmpton, its sire being Lo-Ben 625, and its dam Beauty 3rd 2497, by Grand Dam Beauty 193. "Cromer" was exhibited at the Bath and West Society recent show at Plymouth, and won First Prize in the class for South Devon Bulls calved in 1898 or 1899 (he was born January 4th, 1898), and also the Devonport Challenger Cup, value fifty guineas, for the best bullock (bull, cow, or heifer) in the South Devon classes, with which was given a special prize of £20.

He estimates that, for the expenditure of £250,000, ten perfectly equipped depots might be formed, and he claims that by the adoption of his suggestions (1) the Army would obtain all the horses it requires, i.e., 4,000 a year; (2) the horses, being purchased at three years or three years and a half for the same price as is now paid for five-year-olds, would be of a better class; (3) the existence of a constant and profitable market for three-years-olds would give a very real stimulus to the now neglected industry of light horse-breeding; (4) the personnel of the remount depots would provide a corps of trained officers and men for the important work of buying horses in foreign countries in time of emergency; (5) the depots would provide much-needed facilities for teaching recruits to ride, and for teaching the elements of horse mastery; (6) the creation of separate depots would facilitate comparison of each depot with others in buying horses, cost of fodder, and general results.

The proposal recently made at a meeting of the Cumberland Agricultural Society to hold a migratory cattle show in the four northern counties of England and the three southern

counties north of the border, which was reported in this paper at the time, has been submitted to the societies which would be concerned in the amalgamation. It was discussed at a recent meeting of the Dumfries Agricultural Society, but, as it was pointed out, that next year the Highland and Agricultural Society's Show will be held at Dumfries, and in these circumstances it was decided not to take any steps in the matter at present.

The prize list for the Great Guild Show of the Royal Lancashire Agricultural Society, to be held at Moor Park, Preston, on September 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th next, has been issued. The total amount of prize money offered is £3,256, exclusive of a large number of champion and special prizes, being £1,000 more than was offered last year at St. Helens. The list is a most comprehensive one, and embraces all sections of livestock, and there are exceptional features in connection with the holding of the show during the celebration of the Ancient Guild Festival of Preston, with which the society has been associated for the past eighty years. The Guild occurs once in twenty years, and the esteemed President of the Society (the Right Hon. the Earl of Derby, K.G., G.C.B.) is Guild Mayor. Mr. Edward Bohane, Miller Arcade, Preston, is Secretary to the Society, and intending exhibitors should not delay obtaining the fullest information from him.

Some good results were obtained at a recent series of Shorthorn sales at Ohio. We quote the words of an American contemporary:—"The series of Shorthorn sales held in Ohio last week was perhaps the most noted ever held in that State. Many chapters of very interesting history in the career of the 'red, white, and roans' has been made in the Buckeye State, and now another is added. Beginning on Monday, and continuing for four days, the crowds as well as the interest gradually increased with each day, closing with a better demand and greatly increased prices. That a great work was done along the line of interesting new men in this industry in Ohio there can be no doubt, and some of the good effects were felt even before the week closed." The top price of the entire series was made the last day by the imported cow Proud Fancy and bull calf bred by Mr. Duthie, got by Pride of Morning, and sold by W. I. Wood to W. T. Miller and Sons, Winchester, Indiana, for £410. Great interest centred in the two young bulls Choice of the Ring, a son of the cow just mentioned, and sold by Mr. Wood, and Master of the Ring, out of a Missie cow, and sold at Mr. Gerlaugh's sale. The opinion of those who attended both sales was about equally divided as to which of these bulls was the better, and it seemed a hard matter to settle. However, the Gerlaugh bull came into the ring all right in every way, and made the best price (£341), while his half brother had a hind leg considerably out of shape from a barb wire cut, and made £310. Another imported cow, Missie, which went to Mr. E. S. Kelly, an Ohio breeder, for £305.

The Smithfield Club has now issued the prize schedule for this year's show, which will be held on Monday, December 8th, and four following days, the venue, as usual, being the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington. From a comparison with last year's prize-list I find that very few alterations have been made. The two classes for small cross-bred cattle have been withdrawn, but otherwise the whole of the cattle, sheep, pigs, and poultry classes are the same as in 1901, the class prizes being of the same value, whilst all the special and champion awards are again offered. Amongst the latter there are, however, two notable additions. His Majesty the King has given a challenge cup, to be called "The King's Challenge Cup," value £150, and H.R.H. the Prince of Wales a cup of the value of £100. The former will be given for the best beast in the show bred by the exhibitor, and will have to be won two years in succession or three years at intervals by the same exhibitor before becoming his absolute property. The Prince of Wales' Challenge Cup is offered for the best pen of three sheep or lambs in the show bred by the exhibitor, and the conditions are the same as those of the King's Cup. There is one other alteration, I notice, and that is that the champion prize in the carcase competition has been raised from £5 to £10, both in the cattle and sheep section.

A new feature has been introduced into the schedule itself, viz., a statement of the breeds and ages of the animals, together with names of breeder and exhibitor, which have won the gold medals, silver cups, and champion plates offered by the club for cattle, sheep, and pigs, at each show up to 1901 inclusive. It is interesting to note that the Society's first show, in 1799 (when its title was the Smithfield Cattle and Sheep Society) a sum of £52 10s. was offered, and there were but two classes for cattle and two for sheep. In 1839 the sum had increased to £300 and the classes to seven for cattle, six for sheep, and one for pigs. The first show held at the Agricultural Hall took place in 1862, and on that occasion the prize-money had increased to £2,072, and was spread over 29 classes for cattle, 17 sheep, and four for pigs. This year cattle classes number 34, sheep 30, pigs 18, carcase competitions seven, and table poultry 25, whilst the prize-money amounts to £3,843 10s. As to the membership it may be stated that when the first show was held in 1799 the number was 113, and it had only increased to 400 in 1862, but in 1898 the number was no less than 1,120, and now the membership stands at 1,053. From the figures given above it will be seen that the club has made great strides within the past thirty or forty years. The prize schedule, entry forms, etc., can be had on application to the secretary, Mr. E. J. Powell, 12, Hanover Square, W.

I would remind my readers that the entries for the July Horse, Cattle, Dog, and Poultry Show of the Mallow (Co. Cork) Agricultural and Show Society close on the 24th inst.

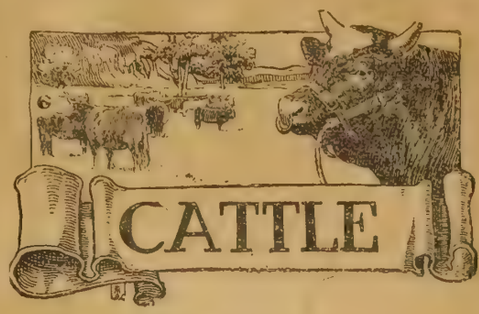
Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending June 10, 1902:—

Swine Fever.	Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.		No.	169	511	447	948	3,649	8,655	10,532	16,824
	Outbreaks.		No.	98	105	45	66	746	1,735	961	1,315
Rabies.	Cases Confirmed.	Oth'r Anim'ls.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
		Dogs.	No.	...	...	...	...	12	1	...	1
Pleuro-Pneumonia.	Cattle Slaughter'd	Exposed to Infection.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Diseased.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Outbreaks.		No.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Glanders (incl. farcy).	Animals Attacked.		No.	33	40	21	19	900	1,001	866	527
	Outbreaks.		No.	93	21	14	15	501	575	439	305
Foot-and-Mouth Disease.	Animals Attacked.		No.	...	...	...	...	118	609	123	...
	Outbreaks.		No.	...	...	...	...	1	12	9	...
Anthrax.	Animals Attacked.		No.	15	19	14	16	589	439	432	510
	Outbreaks.		No.	12	16	12	13	349	320	273	261
Period.	Week ended June 7, 1902				1901	1900	1899	Total for 23 weeks, 1902	Corresponding period in ...	1901	1900	1899
	Corresponding week in ...											

NOTE.—The figures for the current Year are approximate only.

Poultry Keeping Examinations.—A few weeks' course in poultry-keeping was held at Reading College from March 20th to April 23rd last, and the results of the examination have just been published. Those who passed with distinction were Mrs. Julia Scott and Mr. Edwin L. Harvey. Those who passed were:—Bride Murphy, Annie Shee, Emily Burkitt, Samuel Lesser, Eliza A. Jones, Edith K. Le Lacheur, Charles H. Beauchamp, Mary Graham, Elizabeth L. Henderson, Isabella K. Scott, Kathleen M. O'Donovan, Brigid M. Macmanus, Amelia Haldon, Walter Rowland Turner, Arthur P. Manning. The examiners were:—Mr. Charles E. Brooke, Professor Douglas A. Gilchrist, and Mr. Edward Brown.



The Late Mr. George Ashburner's Shorthorns.

There was a large company of breeders and farmers at Low Hall, Kirkby-in-Furness, on the 6th inst., when the late Mr. George Ashburner's herd of Shorthorns was sold by Messrs. Thornton and Co. Owing to the lamented death of the owner, the cattle had not been prepared for sale, and consequently were in rather poor condition. There was a good demand, several of the best cows and heifers being purchased to go to Ireland, among them being—Cambridge Bright Eyes and her bull calf (67 guineas), and also her yearling heifer Bright Eyes 3rd (38 guineas), sold to Mr. Kirker. A number of dairy cows were also sold up to 15 guineas. We give below a list of the principal lots, with purchasers' names and prices:—

COWS AND HEIFERS.

	Gs.
Conishead Lally 5th, c. June 28, 1893; s. Earl of Barrington 5th 60727 ..... Mr. Pearson	17
Barrington Empress 3rd, c. April 14th, 1894; s. Barringtonian 4th 60341 ..... T. Vondy	18½
Baroness Gwynne 4th, c. March 10th, 1895; s. Cambridge Rose Duke 9th 63752 ..... Mr. Pearson	17
Pauline 2nd, c. November 8th, 1895; s. Duke of Kirkby 13th 60686 ..... T. Thompson	22
Cambridge Bright Eyes, c. January 5th, 1896; s. Cambridge Rose Duke 9th 63752 ..... Mr. Kirker	42
Bull Calf, c. April 11th, 1902 ..... Mr. Kirker	15
Lady Fawsley 23rd, c. June 30th, 1896; s. Duke of Barrington 44th 68494 ..... G. Moore	19
Ruby 39th, c. April 4th, 1897; s. Cambridge Rose Duke 9th 63752 ..... G. Dickson	27
Kirklevington 37th, c. June 29th, 1897; s. Profit 64612 ..... T. Vondy	18½
Ruby 40th, c. July 11th, 1897; s. Profit 64612 ..... T. Hutchinson	19
Ruby 41st, c. August 31st, 1897; s. Cambridge Rose Duke 9th 63752 ..... Mr. Ellwood	21
Duchess of Lorne 8th, c. December 13th, 1897; s. Cambridge Rose Duke 9th 63752 ..... Mr. Robinson	21
Kirklevington Lady 13th, c. April 22nd, 1898; s. Geneva Gwynne 70499 ..... J. Wright	18
Hubback Lass 2nd, c. August 23rd, 1898; s. White Prince 69806 ..... J. Wright	17
Baroness Gwynne 7th, c. September 1st, 1898; s. Staffordshire Minor 71666 ..... Mr. Langdale	18
Ruby 44th, c. November 27, 1898; s. Staffordshire Minor 71666 ..... Mr. Riddick	20
Belle of Oxford 25th, c. February 20th, 1899; s. Dauntless 54155 ..... Mr. Kirker	40
Cosford Grand Duchess 4th, c. May 22nd, 1899; s. Duke of York 15th 68547 ..... Mr. Hutchinson	16½
Ruby 47th, c. November 24th, 1899; s. Lord Winsome 8th 72938 ..... Mr. Langdale	16
Fairy Blanche, c. December 11th, 1899; s. Fairy Duke 39th 72497 ..... Mr. Pearson	16½
Duchess of Barrington 4th, c. January 19th, 1900; s. Fairy Duke 39th 72497 ..... R. W. Ashburner	17
Ruby 48th, c. March 15th, 1900; s. Fairy Duke 39th 72497 ..... Mr. Kirker	30
Lady Fawsley 24th, c. March 19th, 1900; s. Lord Winsome 8th 72938 ..... Mr. Kirker	42
Ruby 50th, c. September 1st, 1900; s. Fairy Duke 39th 72497 ..... T. Vondy	17½
Oxford 28th, c. September 13th, 1900; s. Fairy Duke 39th 72497 ..... Mr. Kirker	22
Baroness Gwynne 9th, c. October 18th, 1900; s. Fairy Duke 39th 72497 ..... Mr. Kirker	35
Kirklevington 40th, c. March 14th, 1901; s. Duke of Dromonby 76545 ..... J. Naylor	26
Bright Eyes 3rd, c. April 10th, 1901; s. Duke of Dromonby 76545 ..... Mr. Kirker	38
Lady Fawsley 25th, c. June 1st, 1901; s. Duke of Dromonby 76545 ..... G. Moore	25
Ruby 52nd, c. July 18th, 1901; s. Duke of Dromonby 76545 ..... J. Naylor	16½
Ruby 53rd, c. December 14th, 1901; s. Duke of Dromonby 76545 ..... Mr. Kellock	20

BULLS.

Lord Millicent 73284, c. October 19th, 1900; s. Wild Eyes Duke 73907 ..... Mr. Ruddick	35
Irdsall Waterloo Duke, c. March 10th, 1901; s. Sirdar 75649 ..... J. D. Owen	31
Hale Waterloo, c. March 27th, 1901; s. Hale Duke 74679 ..... T. Thompson	19
Baron Kirkby 10th, c. April 4th, 1901; s. Duke of Dromonby 76545 ..... Mr. Hutchinson	31
Potentate, c. April 15th, 1901; s. Duke of Dromonby 76545 ..... Mr. Mattinson	26
Baron Kirkby 11th, c. May 24th, 1901; s. Duke of Dromonby 76545 ..... Mr. Bradley	22
Kirkby Kirklevington, c. September 2nd, 1901; s. Duke of Dromonby 76545 ..... Mr. Pearson	16½

SUMMARY.

	Average. £ s. d.	Total. £ s. d.
38 Cows	237 6 0	888 6 0
9 Bulls	239 0 0	211 1 0
47 Head	237 9 0	1099 7 0

Sale of the Hunton Court Sussex Cattle.

The whole of Mr. W. W. Hubble's well-known herd of pedigree Sussex cattle was disposed of by auction at Hunton Court, Hunton, Kent, on Wednesday, the auctioneers being Messrs. Winch and Sons. This herd of Sussex cattle was established

some thirty years ago by Mr. William Lee Hubble, and was taken over by his son, Mr. W. W. Hubble, in 1896, when the latter made improvements by the purchase of animals from Mr. G. W. White, Mr. Saillard, Lord Derby, and the late Mr. Agate. From time to time he has been very successful at the Royal, Bath and West, Royal Counties, and local shows, gaining considerable reputation for his stock. It was not surprising, therefore, that the selling off of the herd on Wednesday was largely attended by some of the best breeders in Kent and Sussex, and the prices realised exceeded expectation. There were 50 lots in all, and in each case the owner's reserve price was exceeded, in some instances considerably, and the day's business tends clearly to show that the Sussex breed is still paramount in this part of the country. The total amount realised was £1,360 16s., or an average per head of £27 4s. The highest figure realised was 52gs. for Perrywinkle, sire Oxford Duke, dam Maybloom, dam of Poeony, a winner of many prizes in 1900 and 1901, the buyer being Mr. Speed, of Knowlton Estate, Canterbury, who, as will be seen from the list is given below, made several important purchases. Colonel Borton, of Chevening, Hunton, and Mr. J. D. Large, of Goudhurst, both of whom are just starting new herds, also acquired several lots, but the stock was generally well distributed. The principal prices realised were as follows:—

COWS AND HEIFERS.—Fearless, Mr. T. B. Marchant, Woodchurch, 25 guineas; Faithful, Colonel Borton, 30 guineas; Careful, Colonel Borton, 50 guineas; Careless Lass 5th, Mr. Speed, Knowlton Estate, Canterbury, 26 guineas; Peep-Bo, Mrs. Montefiore, Worth Park, Crawley, 30 guineas; Laura A., Mr. J. D. Large, 26 guineas; Balsam 3rd, Mr. W. Winch, Cranbrook, 32 guineas; Zephyr 2nd, Mr. W. Winch, 30 guineas; Bashful, Mr. D'Arcy Reeve, Brenchley, 39 guineas; Yum-Yum, Mr. Speed, 30 guineas; Minerva, Mrs. Montefiore, 50 guineas; Her Heifer Calf, Colonel Borton, 27 guineas; Perrywinkle, Mr. Speed, 52 guineas; Celia, Mr. Lawrence Hardy, M.P., 27 guineas; Medusa, Mr. T. B. Marchant, 35 guineas; Susan, Mr. Speed, 25 guineas; Bluebell, Mr. Lawrence Hardy, M.P., 25 guineas; Careless Lassie, Lord Ashburnham, Battle, 35 guineas; Mimosa, Mrs. Montefiore, 40 guineas; Petunia, Lord Ashburnham, 36 guineas; Zoe, Colonel Borton, 41 guineas (the highest prize for a heifer.

BULLS.—Buxom Lord, Mr. H. Hubble, 31 guineas; Khartoum, Mr. Henry Amos (East Kent), 33 guineas; Buxom Baron, Mr. G. C. Froud, East Farleigh, 27 guineas.

Sale of Mr. D'Arcy Reeve's Shorthorns.

In very inclement weather, the herd of Shorthorn cattle belonging to Mr. D'Arcy Reeve, together with a selection from Mr. H. Leney, of West Farleigh, was dispersed by Messrs. John Thornton and Co., at The Friars, near Paddock Wood, on Thursday. The herd had only been established about seven years, but some very useful cattle were offered, many of them being bred from the late Mr. Charles Collard's stock at Little Barton, or from Mr. Herbert Leney's, at West Farleigh. The pick of the sale was Farleigh Blanche 2nd (Mr. Herbert Leney's), winner of the first prize at the Maidstone Show, who went to Colonel Barton at 50gs. An average of £23 6s. 4d. was obtained for the 56 lots sold. A sale list is appended:—

COWS AND HEIFERS.

	Gs
Blushing Rose, roan, c. Oct. 30, 1883, s. Duke of Durlington 11th 52756 ..... Mr. C. Barkaway	21
Bright Daisy, roan, c. March 9, 1891, s. Bright Star 56980 ..... Mr. C. Barkaway	17
Horsted Rose 8th, red roan, c. Dec. 17, 1891, s. Cambridge Duke 26th 58582 ..... Mr. Marchmont	18½
Acorite, roan, c. Oct. 8, 1892, s. Star King 52206 ..... Mr. C. Barkaway	20
Honeymoon, red, c. March 7, 1893, s. Paradox 63084 ..... Messrs. Langridge and Filder	17
Thalia 4th, roan, c. Sept. 15, 1893, s. Star King 52206 ..... Mr. E. M. Denny	23
Blushing Lady, nearly red, c. Jan. 20, 1894, s. Thorndale Duke 5th 63439 ..... Mr. Lewis	20
Rosetta Blanche 3rd (Mr. H. Leney's), roan, c. April 23, 1895, s. Charming Count 9th 65247 ..... Mr. E. M. Denny	35
Her roan B.C. ..... Mr. E. M. Denny	13½
Fairhill Kirklevington 2nd, roan, c. Jan. 29, 1896, s. Fairhill Prince 70402 ..... Mr. W. Winch	15
Antidote, red, c. May 15, 1897, s. Reformation 67716 ..... Mr. H. Hatch	21
Fairhill Kirklevington 3rd, white, c. May 17, 1897, s. Lord Farleigh 2nd 68256 ..... Mr. W. Reynolds	23
Canterbury Belle, roan, c. July 7, 1897, s. Sir James Deans 71613 ..... Mr. Lewis	30
Strawberry Cream, roan, c. April 22, 1898, s. Highland Snowstorm 62709 ..... Mr. H. Hatch	21
Her red and little white B.B. ..... Mr. H. Hatch	7½
White Lady, white, c. April 25, 1898, s. Sir James Deans 71613 ..... Mr. H. Hatch	28
Her C.C. ..... Mr. W. Jackson	4½
Moss Rose, roan, c. June 20, 1898, s. Sir James Deans 71613 ..... Capt. Stone	19½
Friars Sockburnia, roan, c. Oct. 25, 1898, s. Lord Farleigh 2nd 68256 ..... Col. Barton	31
Farleigh Blanche (Mr. H. Leney's), roan, c. Feb. 1, 1899, s. Lord Farleigh 2nd 68256 ..... Mr. E. M. Denny	34
Lady Maud, red roan, c. May 29, 1899, s. Sir James Deans 71613 ..... Mr. Lewis	21
Honeysuckle, red, c. June 1, 1899, s. Sir James Deans 71613 ..... Mr. C. Barkaway	17
Friars Rose, roan, c. June 24, 1899, s. Sir James Deans 71613 ..... Mr. Lewis	24
Farleigh Blanche 2nd (Mr. H. Leney's), red roan, c. Jan. 15, 1900, s. Lord Farleigh 2nd 68256 ..... Col. Barton	50
Dodo, roan, c. March 20, 1900, s. Roan Duke 75434 ..... Mr. C. Collard	31
Lady Margaret, red and little white, c. June 14, 1900, s. Roan Duke 75434 ..... Mr. J. Barnetby	18½
Farleigh Blanche 3rd (Mr. H. Leney's), red and little white, c. Jan. 6, 1901, s. St. Clere 17th 69523 ..... Mr. H. D. de Vitre	23
Fair Rosamond, roan, c. Jan. 16, 1901, s. Roan Duke 75434 ..... Mr. W. M. Cazalet	26
Jasmine, red, c. April 4, 1901, s. Roan Duke 75434 ..... Mr. W. Wood	16
Cinderella, red, c. April 18, 1901, s. Roan Duke 75434 ..... Mr. W. Jackson	16
Woodbine, roan, c. May 9, 1901, s. Roan Duke 75434 ..... Mr. J. Lee	16
Sweetbriar, rich roan, c. May 28, 1901, s. Roan Duke 75434 ..... Mr. W. Jackson	16½
Rowena, roan, c. June 18, 1901, s. Brigham Young 78456 ..... Mr. W. M. Cazalet	33

BULLS.

Roan Duke 75434, roan, c. Nov. 9, 1897, s. Duke of Cumberland 5th 70303 ..... Mr. E. Cooper	31
Brigham Young 78456, red, c. April 13, 1899, s. Sir James Deans 71613 ..... Mr. W. Reynolds	28
Charming Boy 78567 (Mr. H. Leney's), roan, c. May 13, 1900, s. Promise 73327 ..... Mr. J. Pears	31
Captain Christy 78529, roan, c. Sept. 26, 1900, s. Roan Duke 75434 ..... Mr. Herbert	26
Cremorne, roan, c. Jan. 29, 1901, s. Roan Duke 75434 ..... Mr. J. Edwards	21
Duke Humphrey, roan, c. Feb. 5, 1901, s. Roan Duke 75434 ..... Sir H. Dering	31
Brancaster, roan, c. March 19, 1901, s. Brigham Young 78456 ..... Mr. W. C. Morland	20
Farleigh Squire 2nd (Mr. H. Leney's), red, c. Sept. 8, 1901, s. St. Clere 17th 69529 .. Mr. H. D. de Vitre	26

SUMMARY.

	Average.	Total.
45 cows and heifers	£23 1 0	£1037 8 0
11 bulls	24 7 9	268 5 6
56 head	23 6 4	1305 13 6

Transactions in Store Stock.

(Reported to the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland.)

The fair held at Stranorlar, Co. Donegal, on the 7th inst., was an average-sized one, composed chiefly of one and two-year-old cattle, the majority of which were in poor condition, and met a dull sale. Good demand for cattle in fair condition, whilst springers met a demand at advanced prices. Quotations:—Yearlings, 1st class, £7 2s. 6d.; 2nd class, £5 5s. to £6 2s. 6d.; 3rd class, £3 10s. to £4 17s. 6d.; two-year-olds, 1st class, £10 10s. to £10 15s.; 2nd class, £7 1s. 8d. to £9 17s. 6d.; 3rd class, £5 10s. to £6 17s. 6d.; three-year-olds, 2nd class, £9 to £11 5s.; springers, 2nd class, £11 to £14 10s.; 3rd class, £9 to £10; young pigs, eight to ten weeks old, sold at from 22s. to 28s. 9d. each.

At Letterkenny, Co. Donegal, on Monday, there was a large fair of thin cattle, for which the demand was slow. An average supply of sheep met a slow demand, and very few were sold. Prices:—Cattle: Yearlings, 2nd class, £4 1s. 6d. to £5 13s. 9d.; 3rd class, £2 12s. 6d. to £3 12s. 6d.; two-year-olds, 2nd class, £7 10s. to £8 10s.; 3rd class, £4 10s. to £6 15s.; three-year-olds, 2nd class, £10 5s.; 3rd class, £7 10s.; springers, 2nd class, £11 5s. to £14; 3rd class, £7 10s. to £10. Sheep: Over 12 and under 24 months old, 2nd class, £1 3s. to £1 8s.; 3rd class, 14s. to 15s.; two years old and upwards, 2nd class, £1 10s. to £1 12s.; 3rd class, 19s. to £1 1s. Young pigs, eight to ten weeks old, averaged about 18s. each.

At the fair held at Longford on Tuesday a very good demand was experienced for two and three-year-old cattle in condition, all of which were sold, but yearlings, unless in very forward condition, were unsaleable. A large supply of lambs, the demand for which was only local, and very few were sold. Prices:—Calves, 1st class, £2 5s. to £5 5s.; 2nd class, £1 14s. to £4; yearlings, 1st class, £7 13s. 4d. to £8 10s.; 2nd class, £5 15s to £6; two-year-olds, 1st class, £12 to £13; 2nd class, £8 10s. to £10 10s.; three-year-olds, 1st class, £14 to £16 15s.; 2nd class, £12 to £13 10s.; springers, 1st class, £16 10s. to £18; 2nd class, £13 6s. 8d. to £15. Lambs, 1st class, 18s. to £1 1s.; 2nd class, 15s. to 16s. Young pigs, eight to ten weeks old, sold at from 24s. to 30s. each.

HORSES.

Sale at Ipswich.

A sale of cart-horses, colts, and hackneys was held at the Drill Hall, Ipswich, on Tuesday, by Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons, and it was very largely attended. The catalogue comprised 117 animals, and a good trade was experienced for all the best class animals, but for secondary animals the trade was slow. The top price for cart-horses was 39 guineas, obtained for a six-year-old brown mare named Dapper, sent by Mr. E. Hicks, Ashfield. A chestnut gelding of the same age, forwarded by Mr. J. R. Lilley, Thorpele-Soken, realised 33½ guineas, and at half a guinea less Mr. W. Keeble, Kelsale, disposed of a seven-year-old bay gelding. Others went at prices ranging from 30 guineas downwards. The colts realised up to 25 guineas, whilst the harness horses sold up to 30½ guineas. A number of imported cobs went at from 13 to 18 guineas.



Sale of the Chescombe Flock.

Mr. T. Keynes, Chescombe, flock of Down sheep was disposed of by Messrs. Roberts, Son, and Tory on the 5th inst in the presence of a large and influential company. In his opening remarks Mr. Tory commented on the fact that the flock had been established more than half-a-century; it had been handed down from a previous generation, and Mr Keynes had spared neither time nor money in bringing it up to its present high standard. They were the typical West Country Down, becoming more popular every year, and eagerly sought after at the fairs. It was a great credit to Mr. Tom Keynes to place such a grand lot of sheep before them; he need say no more, for the sheep told their own tale and recommended themselves. The biddings then started with the six-teeths. Mr. John Strange securing the first pen at 43s.; Mr. Henry Spicer was the purchaser of the next at 47s. 6d. Twenty good ewes fell to Mr. Symes at 52s. 6d.; other pens fetching 48s., 46s., and 47s., the age making an average of 47s. 6d. The four-teeth age made from 44s. to 57s. 6d., three good pens being secured by Mr. Candy, one by Mr. Fred Johnson, and two by Mr. Hide, resulting in a 50s. 9d. average. The two-teeths were an unusually good lot, and excited a good deal of competition, the prices ranging from 45s. to 70s., Mr. Candy, Mr. Hambro, and Mr. Vye being the largest purchasers. The 136 six-teeth ewes brought the satisfactory average of 57s. 6d. Offgoing ewes made up to 43s. Several nice pens of ewe lambs made 27s., 28s., 28s. 6d., and 29s. 6d.; whilst the wethers fetched up to 27s.

PIGS.

The Borrowfield Herd of Large Whites.

The following is a list of the sales from Mr. J. Barron's Borrowfield herd of large white pigs since our last report:—

One boar to Mr. R. P. Cooper, Mr. W. H. Palmer, Messrs. Heal Bros., Mr. W. Sutton, and Mr. Godwin; a boar and gilt to Mr. W. B. Wood Roe; five gilts to the Right Hon. Earl of Rosebery, K.G.; one boar to Mr. Jobling, Mr. F. R. Stoneham, Mr. Robt. Wilkinson, Mr. J. Jones, Mr. J. Tibbett, sen., Messrs. C. and T. Harris and Co., Ltd., the Corporation of Nottingham Sewage Farm, and Mr. John Storr; six boars to the Right Hon. Earl of Rosebery, K.G.; one sow to Mr. F. T. Stanley, M.R.C.V.S.; one boar to Mr. A. W. Harrison; two gilts to Mr. G. Ashworth; a boar to Mr. H. G. Barnham and Mr. E. L. Bowen; four gilts to Mr. T. H. Vallis; one boar to Mr. H. D. Squier; two gilts to Mr. A. Reid; one gilt to Mr. G. Lees; three gilts to Sir Theo. Pecl, Bart.; a boar to Mr. A. E. Todd; a gilt to Right Hon. Earl of Rosebery, K.G.; a sow to Mr. Tibbett, sen.; a sow to Sir G. Greenall, Bart.; a gilt to Mr. M. H. Barnard; a boar to Mr. Ramsden; a gilt to Mr. H. Cranidge; a boar and three gilts to Her Grace the Duchess of Hamilton; a boar to Mr. R. Stuart and to Nottingham Sewage Farm; a boar and a gilt to Mr. F. Attrill; two gilts to Mr. J. G. Wilson; a gilt to Mr. J. H. Bradwell; a gilt to Mr. Thos. Burrowes; one gilt to Mr. H. Bullock; a gilt to Mr. A. G. Scorer; a boar and two gilts to Mr. Fleetwood Sandeman for export to Norway; a boar to Mr. E. G. Bowerman, Mr. J. Jephson, and Mr. Ingram; a boar and a gilt to Mr. Thos. Rippon; a sow to the Nottingham Sewage Farm; a sow to Mr. Ramsden; three sows and two boars to Prof. Carroll (Dublin); ten boars and a gilt to the Irish Bacon Curers' Association (Cork); a boar and a gilt to Mr. J. Hill; a boar to Mr. R. Stuart; a boar to Mr. W. Barron; two boars to Messrs. Henry Briggs and Son; a boar to Mr. G. Lewis, Mr. J. Handley, Mr. F. T. L. Howse, and Mr. H. Sutton; a gilt to Mr. W. Aulton, M.R.C.V.S.; a gilt to Mr. J. Atkinson; four gilts to Mr T. C. Greensmith; a boar to Mr. T. Bowler and Mr. D. Clayton; a boar and gilt to Mr. J. H. Powell; a boar to the Rev. T. J. Davies; four boars to the Right Hon. Earl of Rosebery, K.G.; a boar and two gilts to Mr. J. Wight; a boar to Mr. J. B. Ormond, Mr. W. A. Holdsworth, Mr. E. Druce, Mr. R. Lawton, Mr. Thos. Noden, and to Mr. G. Goodwin; a boar and a gilt to the Right Hon. Earl of Ellesmere; a boar to Mr. M. How, Mr. D. M. Barton, and to the Commissioners of Woods and Forests; a gilt to Mr. Hosking; a boar to Mr. T. Hart; a boar to Mr. Stone; a gilt to Mr. E. Bracewell; a boar to Mr. H. Smith; a gilt to Mr. T. J. Jones Williams; a boar to Mr. F. W. Hood and Mr. G. Thompson; a sow to Mr. R. A. Ayre; a boar to Mr. H. S. Cantley; a gilt to the Right Hon. Earl of Rosebery, K.G.; a boar to Mr. S. Gardner; a boar to Mr. S. W. Dawkins, Mr. Baldwin, Mr. L. W. Vallis, and to Sir J. Beard; eight gilts to the Right Hon. Earl of Rosebery, K.G.; a gilt to Mr. G. Lees; a boar to Mr. S. Noyes; a boar and a gilt to Mr. J. Boulton; a boar to Mr. G. Stone; a gilt to Mr. Davis; a boar to Mr. H. G. Attwood; a gilt to Mr. H. F. Derricourt; a boar to Mr. J. C. Smith; two gilts to Mr. D. Thomson; a gilt to the Rev. T. J. Davies; a boar to Mr. J. A. Weldridge; a sow and gilt to Mr. J. H. Kirkby; a gilt to Mr. W. Simon; a boar to Mr. W. Lord, Mr. J. W. Moore, and Mr. C. D. Wise; a gilt to Mr. F. Davis; a boar to Mr. Enoch, Mr. Chas. Pratt, Mr. Geo. Lynn, and to Mr. V. B. Wright; two boars to Mr. E. T. Hooley; a boar to Mr. C. D. White; a boar and a sow to the Right Hon. Earl of Ellesmere; a boar to Mr. J. Fowler.



Royal Counties Show.

Royalties at Reading.

The fortieth annual show of the Royal Counties Agricultural Society opened at Reading on Tuesday last and continued over the three succeeding days. The entry of stock was almost a record one, but the attendance of the general public was not up to what had been registered on many previous occasions. The ground was a most convenient and picturesque one, being the same as was utilised when the society visited Reading a few years ago.

On Thursday Their Royal Highnesses Prince and Princess of Wales, accompanied by Prince Christian, the Maharajah of Idar, and Maraharajah Kumar Dolat Tingh visited the showyard. At Reading the Royal party were received by the President of the Show, the Mayor, and the Town Clerk, and the Princess was presented with a bouquet by the Mayoress. At the Town Hall, an address of welcome was presented to Their Royal Highnesses, and the Prince, in the course of his reply, said:—"I thank you sincerely for the kind words with which you welcomed me on this my first visit to your ancient and loyal borough, and also for the feeling terms in which you allude to the Princess of Wales, whom I am glad to have with me today, when I first come amongst you in the capacity of High Steward of the Borough, which office was conferred on me by our late beloved Sovereign. It gives me pleasure to have this opportunity of visiting the Royal Counties' Agricultural Show, as I fully realise the importance of those exhibitions for the furtherance of the general agricultural interests of the country. I am glad to learn that, thanks to the cordial welcome given to the society by the authorities and the local committee, this is the largest show, with one exception, in the history of the Society." Their Royal Highnesses subsequently proceeded to the showyard, and from the Royal box on the grand-stand witnessed the parade of prize cattle, and afterwards took luncheon in the Mayor's pavilion.

Another important visitor to the showyard was King Lewanika and suite, who visited Reading on Wednesday. After being received by the Mayor of Reading, the Barotse King drove to Messrs. Sutton and Sons' Royal seed establishment, over which he was conducted, and evinced much interest in the packing of the seeds now being sent out, as a Coronation gift, to the British troops in South Africa. At the show ground the African visitor was received by the president of the society, Mr. J. Herbert Benyon, and at once proceeded to the horse ring. Subsequently he lunched with the council.

As mentioned above, visitors to the show were scarcely so numerous as in many previous years. The following table showing the attendance on each of the four days will be of interest, and show how Reading compared with other exhibitions held by the society:—

	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday.	Friday.
Reading, 1902 ..	1,300	4,191	13,745	1,859
Weymouth, 1901..	1,330	7,979	15,759	2,889
Winchester, 1900.	1,157	6,140	9,450	2,336
Windsor, 1899..	1,804	2,614	19,130	7,660

Sheep.

The sheep exhibit was fully up to the average of previous years, and, taken in the aggregate, we think nearly every breed was satisfactorily represented. The Hampshire Downs numbered eighty-six, as against ninety last year, of which the yearling rams numbered sixteen, at the head of which one from Lord Rothschild's flock was placed, a ram of good length and grand back and loin, but weak in head and neck. Next him came Mr. Carey Coles's B. and W.E. winner, a ram of considerable merit, with better head and good colour, a second entry from this flock being h.c. Mr. James Flower was third with one of that character of flesh and fleece that is fully typical of its breed, whilst the second entry from this flocks, a very capital ram of nice symmetry and conformation, came in h.c. A notable trio of highly-bred rams of even symmetry and fine character, with good merit, secured r.n., h.c., and c. for Mr. F. F. Buxton, Mr. C. A. Scott Murray being v.h.c. for his Somerset winner, but, strange though it be, his Oxford winner, one of the best in the class, was passed without acknowledgment. Two others of very nice quality secured h.c. for Mr. A. Apperly and Sir J. Blundell Maple, and that which represented Earl Carnarvon took a commend. There were seven of rams of any other age to contest for the three awards, the first of which went to a notably good ram from Mr. James Flower, whose back, loin, and legs were of the highest merit. Next came one bred by Mr. R. Coles, who won for his owner, Sir J. Blundell Maple, a thoroughly-deserved second prize. With the exception of a tendency to weakness at his fetlock and a slight weakness outside his thigh, we think this ram one of high merit. The Earl of Carnarvon's lengthy, nice-quality ram was r.n. Five pens made up a real good class of yearling ewes, wherein Mr. J. Flower's two pens romped away with both cash awards. The leading pen were of exceptional merit, as is shown by their winning the champion prize for best Hampshire exhibit. Mr. C. A. Scott-Murray's evenly-matched and well-brought-out pen were r.n., and a couple of level pens with evenness of character and type secured commendations for Sir J. Blundell Maple and Mr. A. Henderson, M.P. The single ram lamb class was a very capital class, with an entry of twenty-one, Mr. Carey Coles here, as at Swindon, last week, headed the class, though not without a keen struggle. His lamb, rather on the effeminate side, has a grand top, back, and loin, and was worthy of his place. A wide, symmetrical lamb, not quite well covered on his loin, but with a good head, won second place for Mr. R. Ovey. A lengthy, good-topped lamb of capital quality secured third honours for Mr. Buxton. These three were chopped and changed about a good deal before they were finally placed. A ram of high merit and very fine quality came in r.n. for the Earl of Carnarvon's flock. Two of splendid type, with grand flesh, took h.c. for Mr. J. Flower. A like honour was given to one from Lord Rothschild's flock, which gave promise of making a sire of value. Two which represented Mr. C. A. Scott-Murray's fine flock came in for commends, and one from Mr. H. C. Stephens was similarly honoured. There were no less than seventeen pens in the class for three ram lambs. In this class, after a keen contest, Mr. T. F. Buxton's grand trio of fine, masculine lambs won without much question, and they also took the special prize as best pen of lambs in the section. Mr. H. C. Stephens's flock came in for second honours, a pen well brought out, with good backs, these in turn being followed by Mr. James Flower's pen, which might have taken precedence on the ground of better flesh and fleece; the second Chilmark pen being h.c., whilst a pen of high quality, hardly strong enough in the head, from the Earl of Carnarvon's flock, r.n.; and a well-grown pen from Mr. C. A. Scott-Murray were commended. The ewe lamb class was, if anything, a stronger one than the ram lambs. There were no less than twenty entries, at the head of which the Earl of Carnarvon's pen again, as at Oxford and Swindon, led the way. This pen is of very capital merit, and well matched. Mr. T. F. Buxton ran them close with a pen of greater scale, but hardly so even or well covered; whilst Mr. H. C. Stephen's pen, remarkably well brought out, secured third honours, the r.n. going to Mr. James Flower, Mr. C. A. Scott-Murray's pen being v.h.c., and Mr. R. Ovey's h.c., with commendations to Lord Rothschild and Messrs. E. Lyne and J. Bonham Carter.

The Southdowns numbered eighty-three entries, against seventy-six last year, and were a capital lot, with many good sheep. Of the aggregate entries twenty-six were found in the yearling ram class, which was one of high merit and quality. In this class the high character and quality of Mr. C. Adeane's flock met with just reward, for he came in for both first and second honours. The leading ram was of fine quality, with an excellent back, good dock, legs, and twist. To him went also the champion prize for best Southdown exhibit and also the gold medal of the Southdown Society. The second ram was not so good a ram as the winner; his fleece was hardly as good, nor did we quite approve of his walk and carriage; in fact, it is more than probable that a better result would have been secured had Mr. McCalmont's third winner been interposed between them. This ram has real merit and good flesh. Colonel A. F. Walter's flock from Bearwood, whose show-yard career began last season, is to be congratulated upon the prominent place it has secured so far as the present season has gone; in this class a ram from it was made r.n., a lucky win when the notable quality of the next one, Mr. J. Colman's, who was h.c., is realised. This latter ram had hard luck in not getting more forward, whilst another h.c. went to the Earl of Cadogan's exhibit, a thick-set, good ram.



THE SOUTHDOWN SHEARLING RAM shown above is the animal which won the Championship of the breed at the Royal Counties Show at Reading last week, and also at the Bath and West Society's recent show at Plymouth. It was born about February 1st last year, and is the property of Mr. C. Adeane, Babraham Hall, Cambridge.

The old ram class, with an entry of thirteen, was a strong and good class. Its winner, Mr. J. Colman's fine ram, only lacked a better head to have been a topper, for his conformation and symmetry was first class. Mr. E. Ellis, whom we are pleased to see once more close up in the award list, was represented by a fine, masculine ram, not quite so well covered in the back as the winner, but a ram of fine quality and flesh. Following these, as r.n., was a typical ram from the Earl of Cadogan, who was not quite so good forward, but handled well along his back, dock, and twist, whilst a well-deserved h.c. fell to the Earl of Ellesmere's three-shear ram, whose masculine carriage and fine flesh fully entitled him thereto. Seven pens of yearling ewes faced the judges, a capital class, with a strong
Colonel Walters's deep-fleshed and wide-spread ewes took first place. One was not so firm as might have been, and we fancy, in the champion contest, it was a close shave in their favour that secured them the champion prize for best pen of females. We much liked the Earl of Cadogan's pen, which, whilst being individually good, were hardly evenly matched. Next, for r.n., came Colonel McCalmont's third winner been interposed some would have even put at the top; this pen handled right well, and were deserving of a better place than bare r.n. No other pen was noticed, though several were of notable merit. Seventeen single ram lambs made another very capital class. The leader was no trouble to get, for it was a grand ram of high quality, with good back and grand flesh, fleece, and head. He came from Lord Ellesmere's flock, and was got by a ram

from the Pagham Harbour Company. Mr. C. Adeane won second honours, with a good lamb but hardly so wide or well developed as his next door neighbour. Colonel McCalmont's good-fleshed ram, of very fine quality and merit, though third, might have made a good second. Mr. C. Adeane also came in for the r.n., whilst two lambs of fine quality and typical character from the Pagham Harbour Company had to be content with a bare commendation, a similar honour going to two pens from Colonel A. F. Walter and also to Colonel McCalmont's second pen. There were nine pens of three ram lambs, and it was a surprise to find the judges only noticed three pens. First, with notable ease, came a fine and typical trio from Colonel McCalmont, a pen of notable merit and good flesh; indeed, so highly were they thought of that they were made the second best pen of their breed, being r.n. for the champion prize and also for the gold medal for the best pen of males. Next came a pen of most promising lambs from Lord Ellesmere's flock, which, though hardly so firm and as sound, were, when examined, found to be of high merit and quality and worthily deserving of their place. Colonel A. F. Walter was r.n. with a capital and even trio of excellent lambs, whose quality of flesh Barwas very good indeed. Eleven pens made up a capital class of ewe lambs, in which the awards went to the same breeders as in the preceding class. Colonel McCalmont's pen were runners-up for the female champion prize, a grand pen of good-fleshed lambs of fine type and quality.

The Shropshire classes were hardly so well filled as we have seen them, the entry being sixteen, as against eighteen last year. Eight of these were in the ram class, in which Mr. P. A. Muntz was fortunate in securing preference over a really typical, good-backed ram from Mr. W. F. Juge, whose better back, head, and skin, with rather finer quality of flesh, should have secured him, at any rate, first place. However, it was not so, and thus the order was as given, Mr. Muntz also coming in for r.n. with another well-bred ram having good scale, but, like the winner, not well covered on the back, Mr. R. P. Cooper's entry, which was of fine merit, being commended. The ram lamb class was a weak one, precedence being taken by Mr. B. H. Mander, whose pen of well-matched lambs showed fine and good quality, but were hardly finished in condition. Next them came Mr. R. P. Cooper's pen, which were not so evenly matched nor quite as good in their character of wool. The yearling ewe class, with five entries, was one in which we found good merit. The winners, Mr. P. A. Muntz's two first at Nottingham, were a typical pen of stud ewes, a bit stronger in character than the second pen, but at the same time a pen of fine quality and good flesh, Mr. W. J Juge's pen. The second-prize pen were out of the five that won at Shrewsbury, last week; then their hight merit and good flesh was favourably commented upon, and though we agree with the present award, they are a very capital and good pen; Mr. R. P. Cooper's pen being a very good third, or r.n.

The entry of the Kent or Romney Marsh was two more than last year, but we cannot say we think them to be of as good merit as upon that occasion. The winning ram, from Mr. F. Neave's flock, was correctly placed. This ram has a very fine and good fleece, with plenty of bone and good flesh, although exception could reasonably be taken to him on the ground of shortness of wool on the purse and points. Next him came another from the same flock, a fortunate ram to get above Mr. W. Millen's h.c., whose capital carcase and good bone we thought was worthy of higher honours than h.c. The r.n. was a most symmetrical, even, and good-fleshed ram from Mr. C. Files, whose want of masculine character and lightness of bone probably accounted for his position. The yearling ewes were headed by Mr. F. Neave's pen, whose quality of flesh, fine wool, and even fleeces secured them precedence over a very meritorious, well-matched pen of typical ewes from Mr. George Furness's flock, a pen whose place would have been more proper at the top, instead of second. Following these came a second pen from Mr. Furness's flock, two which were very good sheep, but one was hardly a match for them. Two pens from Mr. W. Millen secured h.c. and c., out of which we should not be surprised to see come a winning pen at future shows.

The Oxford Downs made a very much larger and better display than we have had at this show during recent years. There were twenty-seven entries as against sixteen last year. As throughout the whole of this season, Mr. J. T. Hobbs led in the yearling ram class, with that notable ram who won at Oxford and Plymouth, but in Mr. A. Brassey's second-prize winner we found a ram who has much improved since Oxford, where he was second. His more successful opponent then, Mr. R. W. Hobbs's yearling ram, was now third, or r.n. This ram has lost touch, and needs rest. Mr. Brassey's third at Plymouth was commended. The three lamb class, with the same number of entries as in the preceding class, nine, was headed by a very much improved pen of lambs from Mr. A. Brassey's flock. These lambs are thickening, and are better under hand than they were. Mr. J. T. Hobbs came in second with a very typical, good-fleshed pen, and Mr. G. Adams, who had two pens, receives r.n. and c., the former pen being recommended for a third prize. We liked these lambs, but they are somewhat wanting in masculine character. Two pens of high merit won h.c. for Mr. R. W. Hobbs, and Mr. James Horlick's pen came in for a commendation. The numbers in the ewe lamb class were also nine, and here, as in the ram lamb class, first and second honours went to Messrs. A. Brassey, M.P., and J. T. Hobbs, both pens being of good merit and nice character. R.n. and commendation were given to Mr. G. Adams's two evenly and well-matched pens, whose flesh and general conformation was most typical, this leading two meritorous and well-brought-out pens from Mr. R. W. Hobbs's flock; simply the barren honours of h.c. and c. for Mr. James Horlick's very typical pen of nice type.

The Somerset or Dorset Horn sheep were not so largely represented as last year, but the entry was, in one way, satisfactory, for there were three competitors, all of whom figured in the award list, Mr. S. Kidner taking the lead in the yearling ram class with a noble specimen of the breed, whose lengthy carcase and grand, typical head made him a very fine specimen of the breed. Mr. Frank J. Munro was second with a ram of nice flesh and good quality, and he also secured second place in the yearling ewe class, with a pen of very excellent ewes, the first and third in the class being won by Mr. W. R. Flowers, with a couple of grandly-matched and most typical pens.

The Suffolks made their appearance at this show for the first time. Their entry in four classes was ten, but only four were present, two in each class, which were for ram and ewe lambs. Mr. H. E. Smith's pen won in both cases. They were very superior lambs, and Mr. S. R. Sherwood's which were the only other entries, came in second. These showed possibly rather more quality, but lacked the wider and greater development of the leading pens.

Horses.

The show of horses was exceptionally good for the Royal Counties, the increased entries being attributable to the special arrangements made by which horses were sent on straight from Reading to the Richmond Show. Shire horses were well represented. Lord Rothschild headed the older shire stallions with Blythwood Kingmaker. Mr. P A. Muntz's Dunsmore Lieutenant was adjudged the best of the 1900 entire colts, one of Lord Rothschild's entries being second. There was an excellent show of last year's colts, the winner being a promising youngster shown by Messrs. Thompson, of Desford, Leicester. This firm also won the premium for brood mares. There was a capital competition for the 1899 fillies, Mr. R. W. Hudson getting home; but Sir W. H. Wills, Bart., was close on the heels of the winner with Rickford Lass. Mr. A. Henderson, M.P., took first prize in a very good class of fillies foaled in 1900, and he repeated the performance in the class for fillies foaled in 1901. There was a good class for mare or gelding foaled previous to 1899, and in this Mr. Henry Oakley was first. The champion plate presented by the King for the best entire fell to Messrs. W. and J. Thompson's Desford Stonewall II., and the same firm won both silver trophies for the best females.

Hunters made a good entry, most of our prominent exhibitors being represented in this section. There was not a numerous entry for hunting sires, only four being entered, and the winner was Sir Walter Gilbey's Merry Matchmaker. There was more like a competition for the prizes for brood mares, the first selection being Beatrice by Truefit, the entry of Mr. J. Hayman Joyce, of Brede, Sussex. Mr. J. L. Nichisson, of Bracknell, Berks, headed the colt geldings or fillies foaled in 1901 with a chestnut filly, Witchcraft, bred by Mr. Owen Holt-Needham, sire Yardarm. For mares or geldings foaled in 1900, Mr. G. H. Digby, of Cattistock, Dorchester, won with a bay named Hazeline, by Scotch Hazel. For mares or geldings foaled in 1898, Mr. J. H. Stokes, of Market Harborough, headed a strong class with Frieston, by Ruddygore. A chestnut gelding shown by Mr. H. B. Cory, of Castleton, Cardiff, was second.

Cattle.

The collection in the bovine classes was a good one, not only numerically, but the quality left little to be desired. Shorthorns came first in the catalogue, and for this breed His Majesty the King offered a champion piece of plate for the best animal, and the Shorthorn Society a special prize of £10, for the best bull belonging to an exhibitor in Berkshire, Wiltshire, and Hampshire. The judging commenced with the bulls calved previous to 1900, and nearly a dozen were brought into the ring. The King's entry was Royal Duke, calved in March, 1898, bred by her late Majesty Queen Victoria. The class was in all respects a good one, but Royal Duke from the first was stamped as leader, and that position was allotted him, Mr. H. Ker Colville being second with Royal Seal.

As good a class as anyone could wish to see was paraded in the bulls calved in 1900. Mr. J. Deane Willis headed this with C.I.V., and Mr. G. F. King was second with Lord Bruce. Last year's bulls were also full of merit, and in this Mr. J. D. Willis came out top with Bapton Florist. In all, seven competitors received recognition in one degree or another by the judges. Cows and heifers made a good show. White Heather, the celebrated cow of Mr. J. Deane Willis, headed the class for cows in milk or in calf, Lord Calthorpe's Warrior Queen being second. Another notable lot were the heifers calved in 1900, the leading premium being well won by His Majesty the King, with Ruby, a beautiful roan. For heifers calved in 1901, the whole of the entries had to make way for Mr. J D. Willis's Malmaison, a roan by Silverplate, His Majesty being second with Rosanna. The winner of His Majesty's special champion plate was Mr. J. D. Willis's grand young bull, C.I.V., the King's own entry, Royal Duke, receiving the reserve card. Mr. J. D. Willis was successful in carrying off the Shorthorn Society's prize for the best bull belonging to an exhibitor in Berkshire, Wiltshire, or Hampshire, doing this with Bapton Florist. The Shorthorn dairy class was regarded with a good deal of interest, the first prize (£10) being offered by the Shorthorn Society. Lord Baring won this with a six-year-old cow, named Louisa III., sire Merry Archer.

Aberdeen-Angus cattle were represented in five classes, and a capital show they made, a better exhibition having rarely been seen in this part of the country. The English Aberdeen-Angus Cattle Association contributed liberally to the prize list, including two silver medals. The old bull class was won by Elate, the property of Mr. J. J. Cridlan, who was a very successful exhibitor, in this section, securing some recognition from the judges in every class he was represented in. Elate won the silver medal for the best male, while Mr. Hudson, in addition to a number of class prizes, took the silver medal for the best cow with Effulgent of Danesfield.

Sussex cattle are usually forward in large force at the Royal Counties Show, but such was not the case this year. The five classes were only moderately well filled, but many of the exhibits were well known in the showyard. Mr. E. Braby captured the first prize in the old bull class with Drungewick Prebble, while Mr. Saillard was very successful in the subsequent classes, taking first for yearling bulls and first in both the heifer classes. The Hon. R. P. Nevill supplied the leading cow—Old Mayflower VIII.—in the senior class.

The Devons were a better lot than those at Plymouth, which was rather surprising considering that they were farther away from their native pastures. Mr. J. F. R. Morris headed the bulls with Union Jack, Colonel Walker being second, and His Majesty the King reserve with Benedictine. For the bull calves, His Majesty was the winner with Pleader, Colonel Walter taking the other distinctions. For cows in milk or in calf, the Hon. Claud B. Portman, of Blandford, was first, Colonel Walter second, the Hon. E. W. B. Portman reserve. This exhibitor also carried off leading positions in the class for heifers calved in 1900-1.

Herefords were rather short in numbers. In the old bull class the King landed an easy winner with Earsfield by Excellence, a bull which was bred by Mr. J. Lawton-Mone, and Mr. W. T. Barnaby was second. Last year's bulls, although not numerous, stood out for the great promise shown. All five brought out figured in the judge's return, the best being pronounced to be Mr. A. E. Hughes' Glendower II. The Earl of Coventry was placed second.

The Jersey classes attracted a tremendous entry, and the competition was very keen in the various classes. Among Jersey bulls calved in 1901 or 1902 Mr. Arthur Pocock won with Golden Summer, bred by Colonel McCalmont, C.B., M.P., Lord Rothschild, the Marquess of Winchester, the Hon. Mrs. Murray Smith, Colonel McCalmont, Mrs. Charlotte McIntosh, and Colonel Shaw-Hellier all appeared as prize-takers. In the class for cows in milk or in calf Lord Rothschild won with Beresford Pride. The Jersey Champion Prize of £10 was swon by Lord Rothschild's Beresford Pride, and the same breeder's Tudor Boy being reserve.

In the Guernsey classes the champion prize fell to Mr. W. A. Glynn, Seaview, Isle of Wight, with his bull Roland, Mr. E. A. Hambro, of Hayes, Kent, being reserve with his cow Express.

Kerries and Dexters made some fair classes. The champion distinction for the former fell to Lord Manchin's Tom Tit, shown by Messrs. Robertson and Sons, of Babraham, Cambs., the winner of the old bull class. In the Dexter-Kerry class, Mr. B. de Bertodano, of Malmesbury, took first prize in the cow class, and with this entry

also won the silver challenge shield offered by the Kerry and Dexter Cattle Society.

Butter and Butter-making Classes.

There were only a couple of classes for butter, but they were both well filled. The first of these was one pound of butter free from salt, and for which there were just fifty competitors. The Earl of Rosebery was first prize-taker, with an excellent exhibit from his dairy at Leighton Buzzard. Lord Rosebery also won first prize in the butter slightly salted, second prize being taken by Mr. A. F. Somerville, of Wells. Lord Rosebery's exhibit also won the champion prize offered for the best butter in the show. There was a fair entry in the butter-making competitions, and, as usual, this portion of the show was keenly appreciated by the public.

Judges.

SHEEP.—Hampshire Down: C. Stanford, Breamore, Salisbury; George Judd, Cocum, Micheldever. South Down: Edward Hobgen, Shripney, Bognor, Sussex; George Jonas, Duxford, Cambs. Shropshire: J. E. Farmer, Felton, Ludlow. Kent: A. Amos, Spring Grove, Wye. Oxford Down: J. Treadwell, Upper Winchenden, Aylesbury. Somerset and Dorset Horn: J. Kidner, Nynehead, Wellington, Somerset. Suffolk: J. W. Eagle, The Hall, Walton-on-Naze.

HORSES.—Agricultural: E. Green, The Moors, Welshpool: H. Smith, Cropwell Butler, Nottingham. Hunters: G. Evans, Merton Grange, Sandy, Beds.; the Earl of Orkney, Wing Lodge, Leighton Buzzard. Harness Horses, Hacks, and Ponies: Sir Robert Wilmot, Bart., Binfield Grove, Bracknell; W. Waterhouse, Starborough Castle, Edenbridge, Kent.

CATTLE.—Shorthorn: J. T. Hobbs, Maisey Hampton, Fairford, Gloucester; W. T. Garne, A'dsworth, Northleach. Aberdeen Angus: Clement Stephenson, Sandyford Villa, Newcastle-on-Tyne. Sussex: D. Swaffer, Mumford, Kingsnorth, Kent. Devon: J. Kidner, Nynehead, Wellington, Somerset. Hereford: W. Price, The Vern, near Leominster. Jersey: Colonel F. Willan, Thornhill Park, Bitterne, Hants.; J. B. Fis[illegible]re, Newport, Isle of Wight. Guernsey: George Long, Ogbourne St. Andrew, Marlborough; C. J. Drewitt, Drayton, Chichester. Kerry and Dexter: F. A. Hordern, Buxted, Sussex. Dairy Class: James Stratton, Chilcombe, Winchester; H. J. Gibbs, Milford, Salisbury.

SPECIAL JUMPING AND HARNESS COMPETITIONS.—Sir R. Wilmot, Bart., Binfield Grove; Seymour De Bourg, M.F.H., South Berks Kennels; Arthur Jervoise, M.F.H., Herriard Grange, Hants.; E. Boyce Podmore, M.F.H., Basingstoke; W. F. Holt-Peever, Mill End, Henley-on-Thames.

BUTTER.—Miles Benson, British Dairy Institute, Reading.

BUTTER-MAKING AND SHEEP-SHEARING COMPETITIONS.—Thomas Latham, Dorchester, Oxon.

HORSE-SHOEING COMPETITION. — F. Wragg, F.R.C.V.S., Whitechapel, London; R. C. Tennant, M.R.C.V.S., Windsor.

Champion and Special Prizes.

SHEEP.

Champion prize of £10 for the best exhibit in the Hampshire Down classes: J. Flower; r., T. F. Buxton.

Hampshire Down Sheep Breeders' Association's special prize of £2 for the best pen of Hampshire Down lambs in the Show: T. F. Buxton; r., Earl of Carnarvon.

Champion prize of £10 for the best exhibit in the Southdown classes: C. Adeane; r., Col. H. McCalmont, C.B., M.P.

Southdown Sheep Society's gold medal, value 10gs., for the best Southdown ram or ram lamb: C. Adeane; r., Col. H. McCalmont.

Southdown Sheep Society's silver medal for the best pen of female Southdowns: Col. A. F. Walker; r., Col. H. B. McCalmont.

HORSES.

Champion piece of plate, given by His Majesty the King, for the best Cart stallion or entire Cart colt: Messrs. W. and J. Thompson (Desford Stonewall II.; r., Lord Rothschild (Blythwood Kingmaker).

Champion prize of £10 for the best mare or filly in the Agricultural classes: Messrs. W. and J. Thompson (Worsley Princess VII.); r., R. W. Hudson (Wern Blossom).

Shire Horse Society's silver medal for the best Shire mare, filly, or filly foal: Messrs. W. and J. Thompson (Worsley Princess VII.); r., Messrs. W. and J. Thompson (Saxon Flower).

Hunters' Improvement Society's silver medal for the best Hunter filly: G. H. Digby (Hazeline); r., J. L. Nichisson (Witchcraft).

Hunters' Improvement Society's silver medal for the best Hunter mare or gelding: W. H. Barber (Freemason).

Hunters' Improvement Society's silver medal for the best Hunter colt: J. L. Nichisson (March Winds); r., J. L. Nichisson (Beech Hill).

Champion prize of £10 for the best Hunter in Classes 37, 38, 39, and 40: J. H. Stokes (Tennis Ball); r., H. B. Cory.

CATTLE.

Champion piece of plate, given by His Majesty the King, for the best animal in the Shorthorn classes: J. Deane Willis (C.I.V.); r., His Majesty the King (Royal Duke).

Shorthorn Society's special price of £10 for the best bull in Class 63, the property of an exhibitor in Berkshire, Wiltshire, or Hampshire: J. Deane Willis (Bapton Florist); r., A. Henderson (Baron Buscot).

The English Aberdeen Angus Cattle Association's silver medal for the best male in the Aberdeen Angus classes: J. J. Cridlan.

English Aberdeen Angus Association's silver medal for the best female in the Aberdeen Angus classes: R. W. Hudson (Effulgent of Danesfield).

Champion prize of £10 for the best animal in the Jersey classes: Lord Rothschild (Beresford Pride); r., Lord Rothschild (Tudor Boy).

Champion prize of £10 for the best animal in the Guernsey classes: W. A. Glynn (Roland of Sea View II.); r., E. A. Hambro (Hayes Rosy).



The animal illustrated above is the Kentish Ram which won the First Prize in the class for Kent or Romney Marsh Shearling Rams at the Royal Counties Show at Reading last week. It is a little over a year and two months old, and is the property of Mr. Frederick Neame, Macknade, Faversham.

Kerry and Dexter Cattle Society's silver challenge shield for the best Kerry animal in the show: Messrs. Robertson and Sons (La Mancha Tom Tit); r., C. J. Cory (Grenagh Laura).

Kerry and Dexter Cattle Society's silver challenge shield for the best Dexter animal in the show: B. de Bertodano (Cowbridge Lovelost).

Prize List.

SHEEP.

HAMPSHIRE DOWN.

Shearling Ram: 1, Lord Rothschild; 2, C. Coles; 3, J. Flower; r. and v.h.c., T. F. Buxton; v.h.c., C. A. Scott-Murray; h.c., J. Flower, T. F. Buxton, C. Coles, and Sir J. B. Maple, Bart.; c., T. F. Buxton, Earl of Carnarvon, and A. Apperly.

Ram of any age: 1, J. Flower; 2, Sir J. B. Maple; r., Earl of Carnarvon.

Pen of Three Shearling Ewes: 1 and 2, J. Flower; r. and v.h.c., C. A. Scott-Murray; c., A. Henderson, M.P., and Sir J. B. Maple, Bart.

Ram Lamb bred by exhibitor: 1, C. Coles; 2, R. Ovey; 3, T. F. Buxton; r. and v.h.c., Earl of Carnarvon; h.c., Lord Rothschild, J. Flower (2), and Sir J. B. Maple, Bart., M.P.

Pen of Three Ram Lambs bred by exhibitor: 1, T. F. Buxton; 2, H. C. Stephens; 3, J. Flower; r. and v.h.c., Earl of Carnarvon; h.c., J. Flower; c., C. A. Scott-Murray.

Pen of Three Ewe Lambs bred by exhibitor: 1, Earl of Carnarvon; 2, T. F. Buxton; 3, H. C. Stephens; r. and v.h.c., J. Flower; v.h.c., C. A. Scott-Murray; h.c., Lord Rothschild, E. Lyne, J. B. Carter, and R. Ovey.

SOUTHDOWN.

Shearling Ram: 1 and 2, C. Adeane; 3, Colonel H. McCalmont, C.B., M.P.; r. and v.h.c., Colonel A. F. Walter; h.c., J. Colman and Earl Cadogan.

Ram of any age: 1, J. Colman; 2, E. Ellis; r. and v.h.c., Earl Cadogan; h.c., Earl of Ellesmere.

Pen of Three Shearling Ewes: 1, Colonel A. F. Walter; 2, Earl Cadogan; r. and v.h.c., Colonel H. McCalmont, C.B., M.P.

Ram Lamb bred by exhibitor: 1, Earl of Ellesmere; 2, C. Adeane; 3, Colonel H. McCalmont, C.B., M.P.; r. and v.h.c., C. Adeane; c., Colonel H. McCalmont, C.B., M.P., Pagham Harbour Co. (2), Earl of Ellesmere, and Colonel A. F. Walter (2).

Pen of Three Ram Lambs bred by exhibitor: 1, Colonel H. McCalmont, C.B., M.P.; 2, Earl of Ellesmere; r. and v.h.c., Colonel A. F. Walter.

Pen of Three Ewe Lambs bred by exhibitor: 1, Colonel H. McCalmont, C.B., M.P.; 2, Earl of Ellesmere; r. and v.h.c., Colonel A. F. Walter.

SHROPSHIRE.

Shearling Ram: 1, P. A. Muntz, M.P.; 2, W. F. Inge; r. and h.c., P. A. Muntz, M.P.; c., R. P. Cooper and W. F. Inge.

Pen of Three Shearling Ewes: 1, P. A. Muntz, M.P.; 2, W. F. Inge; r. and h.c., R. P. Cooper.

Pen of Three Ram Lambs bred by exhibitor: 1, B. H. Mander; r. and h.c., R. P. Cooper.

KENT OR ROMNEY MARSH.

Shearling Ram: 1 and 2, F. Neame; r. and v.h.c., C. File; h.c., W. Millen; c., J. E. Quested.

Pen of Three Shearling Ewes: 1, F. Neame; 2 and r., G. Farmer; h.c. and c., W. Millen.

OXFORD DOWN.

Shearling Ram: 1, J. T. Hobbs; 2, A. Brassey, M.P.; r. and h.c., R. W. Hobbs; c., A. Brassey, M.P.

Pen of Three Ram Lambs bred by exhibitor: 1, A. Brassey, M.P.; 2, J. T. Hobbs; rec. for 3, G. Adams; rec. for r. and h.c., and h.c., R. W. Hobbs; c., G. Adams and J. Horlick.

Pen of Three Ewe Lambs bred by exhibitor: 1, A. Brassey, M.P.; 2, J. T. Hobbs; rec. for 3, G. Adams; rec. for r. and h.c., R. W. Hobbs; c., G. Adams, J. Horlick, and R. W. Hobbs.

SOMERSET OR DORSET HORN.

Shearling Ram: 1, S. Kidner; rec. for 2, F. J. Merson.

Pen of Three Shearling Ewes: 1, W. R. Flower; 2, F. J. Merson; r., W. R. Flower.

SUFFOLK.

Pen of Three Ewe Lambs: 1, H. E. Smith; 2, S. R. Sherwood.

HORSES.

AGRICULTURAL.

Stallion foaled in the year 1898 or 1899: Lord Rothschild (Blythwood Kingmaker); 2, L. Salomons (Norbury Harold); r. and h.c., W. and J. Thompson (Lad II.); c., G. Osenton (Beggarman).

Entire Colt, foaled in 1900: 1, P. A. Muntz, M.P. (Dunsmore Lieutenant); 2, Lord Rothschild; r. and h.c., Sir J. B. Maple, Bart., M.P. (Childwick Cœur de Leon); h.c., G. Osenton (Eden Chief); c., Sir W. H. Wills, Bart. (Conqueror of Waresley) and J. Stopps (Bledlow Hero III.)

Entire Colt foaled in 1901: 1, W. and J. Thompson; 2, Lord Rothschild (Girton Charmer); r. and h.c., A. Henderson, M.P. (Buscot Plutus); h.c., P. A. Muntz, M.P.; c., H. Oakley (Dewstow Pioneer).

Mare of any age with foal at foot: 1, W. and J. Thompson (Saxon Flower); 2, W. Greenwell (Stanney Commotion); 3, Lady Wantage (Blythwood Guelder Rose); r. and h.c., A. Henderson, M.P. (Blythwood Nora Creina); h.c., R. W. Hudson (Nateby Aurea); c., M. Michaelis (Hendre Heiress) and P. A. Muntz, M.P. (Dunsmore Heiress).

Filly foaled in 1899: 1, R. W. Hudson (Wern Blossom); 2, Sir W. H. Wills, Bart. (Rickford Lass); r. and h.c., W. and J. Thompson (Holker Festive); h.c., W. H. Godding (Savernake Favourite).

Filly foaled in 1900: 1, A. Henderson, M.P. (Birdsall Stately); 2, L. Salomons (Norbury Bliss); r. and h.c., Lady Wantage (Childwick Lady Betty); h.c., L. Salomons (Norbury Gem); c., G. Osenton (Eden Marigold).

Filly foaled in 1901: 1, A. Henderson, M.P. (Buscot Chloris); 2, R. W. Hudson (Danesfield Belladonna); r. and h.c., P. A. Muntz, M.P. (Dunsmore Mistress); h.c., H. Oakley (Dewstow Matchmaker); c., G. Osenton (Eden Calmia).

Mare or Gelding foaled previous to 1899: 1, W. and J. Thompson (Worsly Princess VII.); 2, Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart. (Fenland Lady); r. and v.h.c., F. Crisp (Queen of the Shires); h.c., Lady Wantage (Kelvedon Marguerite), Sir J. B. Maple, M.P. (Cowdale Starlight), P. A. Muntz, M.P. (Lady Franklin), and H. Oakley (Blythwood Nora).

HUNTERS.

Stallion for getting Hunters: 1, Sir W. Gilbey, Bart. (Merry Matchmaker); 2, H. Dyson (Boscawen); r., Miss A. W. Edwards (Fool's Paradise).

Brood Mare, suitable for breeding Hunters, with foal at foot: 1, J. Hayman-Joyce (H.I.S.); 2, C. Kelway-Bamber (Homely Lass); r., Miss A. Edwards (Fairylight).

Colt, Gelding, or Filly, foaled in 1901: 1, J. L. Nichisson (Witchcraft); 2, J. A. Mullens (Irish Point); r., Major H. C. Simonds.

Mare or Gelding foaled in 1900: 1, G. H. Digby (Hazeline); 2, J. L. Nichisson (Beech Hill); r., Miss A. Edwards (Bright Star).

Mare or Gelding foaled in 1899: 1, J. L. Nichisson (March Winds); 2, C. Kelway-Bamber (Lord Marmion); r., P. Berridge (Rustic Lass).

Mare or Gelding foaled in 1898: J. H. Stokes (Frieston); 2, H. B. Cory; r., W. McIlroy (Rufus)

Mare or Gelding, to carry 14 stone or upwards: 1, J. H. Stokes (Tennis Ball); 2, H. B. Cory; r., R. R. Talbot (Topthorn).

Mare or Gelding, to carry under 14 stone: 1, H. B. Cory; 2, J. H. Stokes; 3, W. H. Barber.

HACKS.

Hackney Stallion not under 14 hands 2 inches.—1, Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart. (Bonny Danegelt); 2, Harry Livesey (Dissenter); r., Robert Jay (Towthorpe Performer); h. c., Thomas Radmore (Armada)

Brood Mare suitable for breeding Hackneys or Roadsters, with foal at foot.—1, Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart. (Smart Lady Denmark); 2, Harry Livesey (Heresy); r., R. T. Thornton (Princess May); c., R. P. Evans (B.B. Iris).

Mare or Gelding for riding purposes, exceeding 15 hands.—1, W. E. Selwood (Stylish); 2, Targetts, Limited (Lady); r., R. T. Thornton (Duke of Cranbrook).

Mare or Gelding for riding purposes, 15 hands and under.—1, W. S. Cunard (Lady Vanity); 2, R. T. Hermon Hodge, M.P. (Busy Bee); r., W. H. Cave (Fairy).

PONIES.

Mare or Gelding foaled before 1899, 13 hands and not exceeding 14 hands, to be ridden.—1, G. E. Franklin (Queen Gobang); 2, W. Foster (Lady Horace); r., F. B. Blosset-Maule (Browick Coquette); c, W. S Cunard (Lucy Glitters).

Mare or Gelding under 13 hands, to be ridden.—1, A. Wheatley (Nigger).

HARNESS.

Mare or Gelding of any age, 14 hands 2in. and over, to compete in the Show Yard in harness.—1, W. S. Cunard (Hawthorn Marvel); 2, F. J. Batcheler (Wild Agnes); 3, Miss E. K. Cunliffe (Von Harbinger); r., A. Butcher (Bristol Squire); c., R. T. Thornton (Duke of Cranbrook); F. J. Batcheler (Miss Terry).

Mare or Gelding of any age, 13 hands 2 inches, and under 14 hands 2 inches, to compete in the Show Yard in harness.—1, G. E. Franklin (Queen Gobang), 2, R. T. Thornton (Hutton Mimosa); 3, James Mitchell (Norbury Lincoln); r., Major William Duncan (Enchantress); c., F. B. Blossett-Maule (Browick Coquette); S. R. Selman (Netpool Swell).

Mare or Gelding under 13 hands 2 inches, to compete in the Show Yard in harness.—1, Wm. Foster (Lady Horace); 2, W. S. Cunard (Lucy Glitters); 3, Miss E. K.

Cunliffe (Mel Valley Champion); r., R. T. Thornton (Model Rosa); h. c., Miss Clarke (Berkeley Bobs); c., Albert Wheatley (Tit-Bits).

SPECIAL COMPETITIONS.

Mare or Gelding of any age or height, which shall jump in the best form.—1, Mr. W. W. Grundy (Worcester); 2, Mr. Grange, Farndon, Chester; 3, Mr. F. W. J. Firkins, Leigh, Worcester; r., Mr. J. Wheeler, Studley.

Mare or Gelding of any age or height, which shall jump in the best form.—Mr. F. Grange; 2, Mrs. Blackby; 3, Mr. J. Wheeler.

Pair of Horses of any age or height, to be driven in harness.—1, Mr. F. J. Batchelor; 2, Miss Cunliffe; 3, Mr. R. J. Thornton.

Mare or Gelding of any age or height, the proprety of an exhibitor residing in the county of Berks, or within a radius of 15 miles of Reading, which shall jump in the best form.—1, Mr. P. Headington; 2, Messrs Targetts, Limited; 3, Mr. G. Loane.

Tradesmen's Turn-out (4-wheel).—1, The Reading Steam Laundry Co.

Tradesmen's Turn-out (2-wheel).—1, Mr. H. Childs.

BUTTER-MAKING.

Open to Farmers' Wives and Daughters, or to Female Assistants in a dairy (churn makers, vendors, or their assistants, and winners of a champion prize at any show of the Royal Agricultural Society of England, the Bath and West of England, the Royal Counties' Society, or the London Dairy Show excepted).—1, Miss Jane Garbutt; 2, Miss Lillie Walker; 3, Miss H. L. Young; 4, Miss Gertrude Lawrence; h. c., Miss A. A. Pinnock.

HORSE-SHOEING COMPETITIONS.

To the Smith who shall exhibit the greatest skill in shoeing Roadsters (open).—1, W. Rudge; 2, W. D. Lane; 3, J. H. Wright.

Cart Horses.—Open to Smiths who, as residents in Berks, have made satisfactory attendances at the Berks County Council Farriery School.—1, C. Double; 2, G. Westbrook; 3, T. Kerr; 4, C. Gibbs.

Harness Horses.—Open to Smiths who, as residents in Berks, have made satisfactory attendances at the Berks County Council Farriery School.—1, C. Dougle; 2, J. L. Hilldon; 3, T. Kerr.

CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS.

Bull, calved previous to 1900: 1, H.M. the King (Royal Duke); 2, H. K. Colville (Royal Seal); r. and h.c., J. D. Willis (Granite Chip); v.h.c., J. Little and Sons (Vain Lord) and H. Dudding (Ingram's Perfection); h.c., P. L. Mills (Brilliant Star).

Bull, calved in 1900: 1, J. D. Willis (C.I.V.); 2, G. F. King (Lord Bruce); r. and h.c., P. L. Mills (Duke of Hamilton III.); v.h.c., H.M. the King (Majestic), G. F. King (Chewton Braye Archer), and Hon. W. F. D. Smith, M.P. (H.R.H.); c., J. Coleman (Percival).

Bull, calved in 1901: 1, J. D. Willis (Bapton Florist); 2, A. Henderson, M.P. (Baron Buscot); r. and v.h.c., G. Freeman (Pride of the Hills); h.c., H.M. the King (Orlando) and Sir W. H. Wills, Bart. (Royal Scotsman); c., Lord Calthorpe (Elvetham Victor) and A. Hiscock, jun. (Dorset Duke).

Cow in milk or in calf, if in milk having had a calf within six months or the 1st of June, 1902: 1, J. D. Willis (White Heather); 2, Lord Calthorpe (Warrior Queen); r. and h.c, A. Henderson, M.P. (Ringdale Favourite II.); h.c., A. Hiscock, jun. (2) (Honey Dew IV. and Dorset Kirklevington) and H. K. Colville (Strowan Marchioness V.); c., Sir J. B. Maple, Bart. (May Duchess XXV.).

Heifer, calved in 1899, in calf or if in milk, having had a calf within six months of 1st of June, 1902: 1, H. Dudding (Hawthorn Blossom X.); 2, J. Coleman (Hawthorn Gem III.); r. and h.c., J. Horlick (Coquette III.).

Heifer, calved in 1900: 1, H.M. the King (Ruby); 2, W. Greenwell (Acomb Scottish Bride); r. and h.c., J. D. Willis (Bapton Jewel); v.h.c., W. Nicholson (Princess LXVI.); h.c., J. Coleman (Lady Rose); c., P. L. Mills (Dainty Lass' Daughter), Lord Calthorpe (Elvetham Harebell), and A. Henderson, M.P. (Lady Buscot).

Heifer, calved in 1901 1, J. D. Willis (Malmaison); 2, H.M. the King (Rosanna); r. and h.c., Sir W. H. Wills, Bart. (Blagdon Charmer); v.h.c., Earl Cawdor (Golden Grove Seraphina); c., J. Coleman (Hawthorn Flower) and Viscount Baring (Stratton Empress).

SHORTHORN DAIRY CLASS.

Pedigree Shorthorn Dairy Cow, in milk, of any age: 1, Viscount Baring (Louisa III.); 2, Lord Calthorpe (Fanny LIV.); r. and h.c., J. Little and Sons (Rose Blossom).

ABERDEEN ANGUS.

Bull, calved before December 1st, 1900: 1, J. J. Cridlan (Elate); 2, C. W. Schroeter (Mailbag); h.c., Rev. C. Bolden (Bonny Face of Preston) and L. A. Macpherson (Burnatum); c., Sir E. Vincent, M.P. (Primus of Danesfield), G. Hudson (Barber), and G. W. Tyser (Lancelot of Skegby).

Bull, calved on or after December 1st, 1900: 1, J. H. Bridges (Farthaen); 2, R. W. Hudson (Danesfield Jester); r. and v.h.c., F. Crisp (Nelson of Southgate II.); h.c., W. Dannatt (Bonny Ben); c., J. J. Cridlan (Body Guard).

Cow, calved previous to December 1st, 1899, in calf, or if in milk, having had a calf within six months of the 1st of June, 1902: 1, R. W. Hudson (Effulgent of Danesfield); 2, J. H. Bridges (Cumbria V.); h.c, J. J. Cridlan (Pride of Kippendaire XIII.).

Heifer, calved on or after December 1st, 1899: 1, R. W. Hudson (Star of Danesfield II.); 2, J. H. Bridges (Maureen); r and h.c., G. Osenton (Colleen of Mariners); h.c., W. Cattley (Queen Mona V. of Skegby) and R. W. Hudson (Alice of Tedfodl XI.); c., G. Osenton (Pauline of Mariners), Rev. C. Bolden (Verity of Preston), and L. A. Macpherson (Ida VII.).

Heifer, calved on or after December 1st, 1900: 1, C. W. Shroeter (Lady Bare Rae VII. of Skegby); 2, R. W. Hudson (Rhona II. of Danesfield); rec. for 3, r. and v.h.c., R. W. Hudson (Milady of Danesfield); h.c., C. W. Shroeter (Euryale), J. H. Bridges (Barbarina II.), G. Osenton (Princess of Mariners), and G. F. Gush (Milkmaid of Hotepur); c., Colonel Tuinell (Mons. Meg).

SUSSEX.

Bull, calved in or previous to 1900: 1, E. E. Braby (Drungewick Prebble); 2, P. Saillard (Bewbush Marquis); r., Earl of Derby (Grazer); c., Mrs. Montefiore (Brantridge Ensign IV.), P. Saillard (Alfred), and Hon. R. P. Nevill (Lord Comp).

Bull, calved in 1901: 1, P. Saillard (Bewbush Pirate); 2, J. Godman (Prince Napier IV.); r., Earl of Derby (Benedict).

Cow, calved previous to or in 1899, in calf, or if in milk, having had a calf within six months of the 1st of June, 1902: 1, Hon. R. P. Nevill (Old Mayflower VIII.); 2, P. Saillard (Miss Quality); r., F. J. Maitland (Woodmancote).

Heifer, calved in 1900: 1, P. Saillard (Bewbush Wind II.); 2, Earl Winterton (Stephanotis VII.); r. and h.c., Earl of Derby (Firle Valentine); h.c., P. Saillard (Bewbush Ethel); c., Mrs. Montefiore (Dairy Maid IV.) and A. F. Waterhouse (Forest Queen).

Heifer, calved in 1901: 1, P. Saillard (Bewbush Wind III.); 2, Earl of Winterton (Simla II.); r., J. Godman (Royal Weston XXI.); c., Earl of Derby (Docility).

DEVON.

Bull, calved in or previous to 1900: 1, J. F. R. Morris (Union Jack); 2, Colonel A. F. Walter (Bearwood Rival); r. and h.c., H.M. the King Benedictine); c., Hon. E. W. B. Portman (Hestercombe General).

Bull, calved in 1901: 1, H.M. the King (Pleader); 2 and r.,Colonel A. F. Walter (Duke of Raddon and Look-Me-Over).

Cow, calved previous to or in 1899, in calf, or if in milk, having had a calf within six months of the 1st of June: 1, Hon. C. B. Portman (Capton Belle); 2, Colonel A. F. Walter (Belinda V.); r. and h.c., Hon. E. W. B. Portman (Lowton).

Heifer, calved in 1900: 1, Hon. E. W. B. Portman (Hestercombe Roseleaf II.); 2, Colonel A. F. Walter (Bearwood Countess); h. and h.c., R. W. C. Evered (Princess IV.).

Heifer, calved in 1901: 1, Hon. E. W. B. Portman (Hestercombe Myrtle); 2, Colonel A. F. Walter (Bearwood Constance); r. and h.c., H.M. the King (Missel Thrush); c., W. H. Bond (Treasure) and J. F. R. Morris (Fancy XXVII.).

HEREFORD.

Bull, calved in or previous to 1900: 1, H.M. the King (Earlsfield); 2, W. T. Barneby (Gambler); h.c., Earl of Coventry (Methodist) and J. R. West (Whitfield Bage).

Bull, calved in 1901: 1, A. E. Hughes (Glendower II.); 2, Earl of Coventry (Huntsman); r., J. Tudge (Lionel); v.h.c., H.M. the King (Fire King); c., Earl of Coventry (Hero).

Cow, calved previous to or in 1899, in calf, or if in milk, having had a calf within six months of the 1st of June, 1902: 1, W. T. Barneby (Ringtail); 2, G. D. Faber, M.P. (Saucebox V.).

Heifer, calved in 1900: 1, A. E. Hughes (Bartonia), 2, W. T. Barneby (Mistletoe); rec. for 3, r. and v.h.c., J. Tudge (Royal Gem).

Heifer, calved in 1901: 1, Firkins Bros.; 2, H.M. the King (Deodora); r., Earl of Coventry (Relic); h.c., J. Tudge (Shotover) and Firkins Bros.

JERSEY.

Bull, calved previous to 1900: 1, Lord Rothschild (Tudor Boy); 2, R. B. Ward (Silken Lad); 3, C. Combe (Fancier); r. and v.h.c., Mrs. C. McIntosh (Albertons Prince); h.c., E. D. Stern (Perry Farm Reminder) and Captain J. E. P. Spicer (Bismarck's Boy).

Bull, calved in 1900: 1, Mrs. C. McIntosh (Brompton); 2, Bishop of Ipswich (Carnaties Gem); 3, Captain A. B. S. Fraser (Fearnone); r. and v.h.c., Colonel T. B. Shaw-Hellier (Richmond); h.c., C. W. Armitage (Mignonne's Champion II.); c., Colonel H. McCalmont, C.B., M.P. (Chanslor), A. H. Thursby (Lord Fox), and Mrs. A. F. Perkins (Cape Boy).

Bull, calved in 1901 or 1902: 1, A. Pocock (Golden Summer); 2, Captain A. B. S. Fraser (Brook Hill Fox); 3, Mrs. W. Barron (Taplow Rock); r. and v.h.c., Mrs. A. F. Perkins (Confidence); v.h.c., Marquis of Winchester (Doricles), W. D. Tucker (Laddie), and A. Pocock (Hercules); h.c., Earl of Carnarvon, Admiral Hon. T. S. Brand (Doctor), Colonel H. McCalmont, C.B., M.P. (Black Cap), J. R. Corbett (Trinity Prince), H. Howard-Vyse (Duke of Parma), and A. Gibbs (Perry Farm Clipper); c., Admiral Hon. T. S. Brand (Decimus), C. E. Keyser (Dusseldorf's Pride), J. R. Corbett (Mab's Boy II.), J. S. Evans (Mousy's Owl), H. Howard-Vyse (Lord Derby), and Miss Lucy Standish (Viscount).

Cow, in milk or in calf, if in milk, having had a calf within six months of the 1st of June, 1902: 1, Lord Rothschild (Beresford Pride); 2, Marquis of Winchester (Guarantee V.); 3, Hon. Mrs. M. Smith (La Chane Camelia); r. and v.h.c., C. F. Young (Melbourne Blue Bell); v.h.c., Lord Rothschild (Jolly Brown) and W. D. Tucker (Miramme V.); h.c., Colonel H. McCalmont, C.B., M.P. (Harmony), A. Miller-Hallett (Carol), C. W. Armitage (Melvina III.), and A. Gibbs (Lass of Jersey II.); c., Captain J. W. Smith-Neill (Psyche), G. W. Tyser (Starlight), Miss L. Standish (3) (St. Helier's Princess, Electra, and Opal), and W. Buckley (Genteel II.).

Heifer, calved in 1899, in calf, or if in milk, having had a calf within six months of the 1st of June, 1902: 1, J. S. Evans (Bagdad II.); 2, Mrs. W. Barron (Rosette V.); 3, Mrs. C. McIntosh (Forget-Me-Not); r. and v.h.c, Mrs. L. Brown (Deborah); hc., Marquis of Winchester (Lady Belle); c., Mrs. C. McIntosh (Vivienne) and Colonel T. B. Shaw-Hellier (Reminder's Beauty).

Heifer, calved in 1900: 1, Marquis of Winchester (Dusky Jane); 2, Lord Rothschild (Orleans Queen); 3, Captain A. B. S. Fraser (Perry Farm Pansy); r. and v.h.c., C. W. Armitage (Tiger Lily III.); v.h.c., J. R. Corbett (Ella); h.c., Hon. Mrs. M. Smith (Firefly II.), Colonel H. McCalmont, C.B., M.P. (Bravura), and Mrs. W. Barron (Rosette VII.); c., Marquis of Winchester (Red Lilly), Mrs. A. F. Perkins (Guarantee), A. Gibbs (Hope), and W. B. Roderick (Goodig Balm II.).

Heifer, calved in 1901: 1, Lord Rothschild (Glitter); 2, Hon. Mrs. M. Smith (Regina); 3, Colonel H. McCalmont, C.B., M.P. (Winifred); r. and v.h.c., A. M. Hallet (Balance); h.c., Marquis of Winchester (Lady Rotha), A. M Hallet (Godington Alicante), J. R. Corbett (Camilla XXII.), M. G. Megaw (2) (Golfina and Sayda), Viscount Enfield (Evening Star), C. W. Armitage (Pilot Legacy XIII.), Mrs. W. Barron (Rosette VIII.), and Sir W. G. Pearce, Bart. (Golden Drop III.); c., Hon. Mrs. M. Smith (Little Christina), Lord Rothschild (Myra), Captain J. W. Smith-Neill (Countess Kate), E. D. Stern (Dawn), M. G. Megaw (2) (Motion and Maud Gomme), Viscount Enfield (Easter Egg), Mrs. A. F. Perkins (Ida of Oakdene), H. Howard-Vyse, A. Gibbs (2) (Margarite), R. B. Ward (Countess Coral), G. W. Tyser (Lettuce), Captain A. B. S. Fraser (Lady Like), Mrs. W. Barron (Lady Tidy VIII.), Sir W. G. Pearce, Bart. (Pretty Maid IV.), W. B. Roderick (Goodig Violet), H. C. Smith (Drosera), and Colonel T. B. Shaw-Hellier (Dairy-maid); r. c., Earl of Cadogan (Lady Disdain).

GUERNSEY.

Bull, calved previous to 1900: 1, W. A. Glynn (Roland of Sea View II.); 2, H. F. Plumptre (Red Path); 3, H. J. Gibbs (Bendigo); h. and v.h.c., J. C. Forster (Captain Lyons); h.c., F. Hargreaves (Merton Prince); c., J. A. Mullens (Holden of Longcross).

Bull, calved in 1900: 1 and 2, Mrs. Fownes (Freedown Sly and Roland of the West); 3, Lady Tichborne (Rival); r. and v.h.c., Mrs. Montefiore (King Edward); h.c., Earl of Ashburnham (Compact of Ashburnham); c., J. D. T. Parsons (Itchen Masher).

Bull, calved in 1901: 1, Lady Tichborne (Merry Anton); 2, W. A. Glynn (Sunshine); r. and v.h.c., Mrs. Montefiore (Marshal); h.c., Colonel E. A. Fitzroy (The King) and Earl of Ashburnham (Christopher); c., F. Hargreaves (Squire of Merton).

Cow, in milk or in calf, if in milk, having had a calf within six months of the 1st of June, 1902: 2, F. Hargreaves (Sweet Sultan); 3, Lady Tichborne (Itchen Beda); r. and v.h.c., Lady Tichborne (Itchen Daisy of the Preel); c., Mrs. Fownes (Princess Rebecca) and E. A. Hambro (Hayes Rosy).

Heifer, calved in 1899, in calf, or if in milk, having had a calf within six months of the 1st of June, 1902: 1, W. A. Glynn (Phyllis III.); 2, Lady Tichborne (Itchen Primrose); rec. for 3, r. and v.h.c., J. Forster (Ma Charmante II.); h.c., Lady Tichborne (Itchen Claudia); c., Mrs. Fownes (Claremont Ruth IV.).

Heifer, calved in 1900: 1, J. Maidment (Lady Durant); 2, Colonel H. W. Shakerley (Marie des Prevost); 3, W. A. Glynn (Hettie IV.); r. and v.h.c., Mrs. Fownes (Princess Lily); h.c., F. Hargreaves (Merton Lily).

Heifer, calved in 1901: 1, Lady Tichborne (Handsome); 2, H. F. Plumptre (Muriel XII.); 3, E. A. Hambro (Hayes Nellie); r. and v.h.c., F. Hargreaves (Merton Sweet Marjoram); h.c., Earl of Ashburnham (Princess Eva), J. Hull (Mount Lourie), and W. A. Glynn (Island Queen III.); c., T. D. T. Parsons (Ashurst Primrose).

KERRY.

Bull, calved in 1899 or 1900, or 1901: 1, Robertson and Sons (La Mancha Tom-Tit); 2, J. Thorley (Nap); r., Colonel V. W. Bates Van de Weyer (Forest Royer); h.c., C. J. Cory (Llantarnam Lancelot); Colonel V. W. Bates Van de Weyer (Forest Taurns).

Cow, calved previous to or in 1899, in calf, or if in milk, having had a calf within six months of the 1st of June, 1902: 1, C. J. Cory (Grenagh Laura); 2, Robertson and Sons (La Mancha Vesta); r., Colonel V. W. Bates de Weyer (Forest Sloe); v.h.c., Robertson and Sons (La Mancha Sweet Kiss).

Heifer, calved in 1900 or 1901: 1, Robertson and Sons (La Mancha Pearl); 2, J. Thorley (La Mancha Springtime); r., Colonel V. W. Bates de Weyer (Forest Beryl); h.c., C. J. Cory (2) (La Mancha Amy and La Mancha Olive); c., Colonel V. W. Bates de Weyer (Forest Viary).

DEXTER KERRY.

Bull, calved in 1899, 1900, or 1901: 1, Robertson and Sons (La Mancha Boss); 2, Her Grace the Duchess of Devonshire (Compton Darky); r., B. de Bertodano (Cowbridge Little Joe); h.c., Her Grace the Duchess of Devonshire (Compton Dandy); c., Mrs. E. A. Leatham (La Mancha Handyman).

Cow, calved previous to or in 1899, in calf, or if in milk, having had a calf within six months of the 1st June, 1902: 1, B. de Bertodano (Cowbridge Lovelost); 2, Her Grace the Duchess of Devonshire (Compton Dot); rec. for 3, r. and v.h.c., Robertson and Sons (La Mancha Violet Aicme Cuff); v.h.c., Her Grace the Duchess of Devonshire (Compton Darling); h.c., Robertson and Sons (La Mancha Bonny Lass); c., B. de Bertodano (Little Cherry).

Heifer, calved in 1900 or 1901: 1, Robertson and Sons (La Mancha Tess); 2 and r., Duchess of Devonshire (Compton Dimple and Compton Dainty); c., Robertson and Sons (2) (La Mancha Soddy Two Shoes and La Mancha Modest Moll).

BUTTER.

One pound of Butter, free from salt: 1, Earl of Rosebery; 2, A. Palmer; 3, L. M. Mildon; 4, C. Hayes; r., J. W. Phillips; v.h.c., C. Combe, Mrs. F. Ward, J. Hull, Mrs. R. Ashford, and A. F. Somerville; h.c., Mrs. H. W. Cobb, Mrs. C. McIntosh, R. Underwood, Hon. Mrs. Crutchley, and W. H. Palmer; c., C. E. Keyser.

One pound of Butter, slightly salted: 1, Earl of Rosebery; 2, A. F. Somerville; 3, A. Palmer; 4, L. M. Mildon; r., C. Hayes; v.h.c., C. Combe, Mrs. F. Ward, and J. Hull; h.c., T. P. Cobden, Mrs. E. Smith-Neill, H. H. Howard-Vyse, G. W. Palmer, M.P., and Lady Calthorpe; c., T. D. T. Parsons and Mrs. R. Ashford.

Royal Horse Show, Richmond;

The eleventh annual horse show, under the auspices of this society, was held on Friday and Saturday, in the picturesque old Deer Park, within three minutes' walk of the railway station. Year after year the shows that have been held here, almost without exception since the formation of the society, have been favoured with brilliant weather, Queen's weather, as it was called, being almost assured upon such occasions. The present show, however, experienced the reverse of all this, and cold and miserable rainy days heralded and concluded the event. So great, however, is the love even of Londoners for the high-class gee gee, either for riding or driving, that, in spite of these untoward circumstances, a large number of visitors, including a large sprinkling of ladies, graced the scene by their presence, and so one way or other the gloom that the cold and wet might have caused was in a measure minimised and a tone of brightness given to the proceedings that outsiders would have thought quite impossible, seeing the mud and water under foot and the necessity for umbrellas overhead that had to be contended with.

Coming to the great cause for this assembly, the horses themselves, there is no doubt the quality was of a very high order, an improved order from most previous shows, whilst in numbers there was in many of the classes a decrease rather considerably in some of the classes, not more than half the entries having put in an appearance, so that from this view the show would be called scarcely as good as usual.

The catalogue commenced with the hunters, which contained a number of well known animals that have been out and won since the present season commenced, as well as many that have won at this show and other leading shows for the past several years; indeed, the cream of the hunter and carriage horses of the country were to be seen at Richmond on Friday and Saturday last.

The hunter judges given in the catalogue were the Earl of Coventry and Mr. Mamisel Richardson, whose duties in catalogue order commenced with hunters up to not less than 14 stone. There were fifteen entries of these; only seven, however, put in an appearance, so there was not a large field to choose from. Mr. John Drage's Cork, a well-shaped horse for going, which he did in good form, and so full of muscle that he was well up to weight, headed the class. He is all round a good one, and shows quality with it. His breeding is not mentioned. Next to him came Mr. J. H. Stokes's Musket, by Carouse, a horse of charming contour, and with good manners as well as a good ride. He, too, is master of the weight. Such good horses as Mr. Radmore's Courtier (3rd), Mr. Cecil Chaplin's Lyddite (reserve), Mr. Hardie-Jackson's Foxhunter, and Mr. Swinfen-Brown's Bally Hooly, all well known concluded the class.

In the class suitable for weights under 14 stone a good deal of quality was apparent, Mr. J. H.

Stokes taking first honours with Chips, a dark brown, full of quality, and with fine shoulders, giving apparently a very nice seat, but he had not any too much under the saddle for a long day. Messrs. Cheney's John Dory, a well known and good one by Castleknock, bred for Lord Lonsdale, and Mr. John Drage's Waterloo, a strong useful gelding, were the other winners in the order named. There is a good deal of repetition in the classes at Richmond, too many entries rather duplicated, and so several of these horses already mentioned came before the judges in the novice class also. There was a very large entry in this class, and in addition to those selected for the prizes, there were a number of horses of a very highly useful description, either suitable for the saddle or for harness, or even for remounts, should they fail to reach a higher figure for other purposes from any cause, and these are a class of horses that the country can do with, and save so much money going into the hands of the foreigner. The winners amongst these novices were Mr. Sellwood's Huntsman, a capital horse with a good reaching gallop, Mr. Drage's Cork, previously named, and Mr. Tatem's Colonel. One or two others were also highly commended.

The hunters' champion class brought into the ring some extraordinary good horses, foremost amongst them being a well-known old friend, Gendarme, now shown by Mr. H. B. Cory, and who once more easily carried off the first prize of £20. This good horse, if memory serves rightly, commenced his career in the showyard when in the hands of Lord Dysart, and a magnificent colt he was, though upon his début he was beaten by his stable companion of similar colour. This defeat, however, was the first, and very nearly the last, as he has almost invariably since that time held the field, and on Saturday last captured, for the sixth time the first prize at the Richmond Show. As a horse Gendarme is a grand specimen; he is fit to take either a light or heavy weight, and the style in which he carries himself and the ease with which he gallops are a treat, both to those at the ring side,as well as his rider, and there is no doubt, should Fate decree such an end for him, he would make a harness horse second to none. We were delighted to see him take his wonted place once more, and remark that he is a credit to thoroughbred blood, and to Blueblood, his sire. The next best horses in this class were Mr. Drage's Doctor and Mr. J. H. Stokes's beautiful and well-known London winner, Tennis Ball.

Covert hacks any height followed the hunters, the judges of these being Lord Orkney and Mr. Hugh Owen. There were some very handy stuff in these classes, Mr. Harris's Kilmartin, Mr. Gooch's Silverwing, and Mr. Gouldsmith's Hoar Frost won the prizes. Hacks of 15 hands and over were also a very good lot. Mr. J. V. Gooch's Badminton was first in the class, and also carried off the Hack Challenge Cup. He is just about good enough for anything. His stable companion, Connaught Queen, and Mr. Astor's Ringlet were next best, all quality horses. Amongst the hacks under 15 hands and in the novice class that followed, such beautiful horses as Miss Violet Haine's Dolly Gray, Mr. Gooch's Silverwing, Mr. Tresham Gilbey's Reward, and the champion Badminton, were the best and most remarkable animals.

Harness horses are always an important section of this show, both for style and pace, and the display of American horses, trotters and otherwise, that can be seen at this show is not equalled anywhere else in England. The first class in this section was that for single harness horses over 15 hands high. There was a large entry and wonderfully good class of these, but even the best of them, with such heavy ground, could scarcely make their usual good show, except when on the hard portion of the drive. Action, of course, played the most important part in the selections upon this occasion, so that it was not surprising that that great winner, Forest King, shown as an entire in his younger days and now as a gelding, and in the hands of Mr. C. J. Wertheimer, should take the first position. He is a son of His Majesty, and he certainly made a fine show at Richmond, going in parklike style. Mr. J. D. Johns' Heathfield Squire also made a very fine show, and was quick; he came out second, and Mr. Tom Mitchell's well-known horse, Sam Weller, by Ganymede, was next.

In the class from 14 to 15 hands, there was also a large entry, and equally good winners. Mrs. T. D. Johns' Lady Windsor, Messrs. Dennis' Shooting Star, and Mr. Tatem's Astonishment were best in these; whilst in the novice class, Forest King, the cup-winner, again turned up, Mr. Howard's Coronation and Mr. Whitehouse's Silverton, with Mr. Batchelor's Miss Terry, being the best of them—quite what may be termed a small lot.

In the lower standard and pony classes, there was a large entry of cobs and ponies that have been well-known winners upon many occasions, such good goers as Mr. Franklin's Queen Go Bang, Mr. Tatem's Meloally Princess, Mr. W. V. Cunard's Lucy Glitters, Mr. Reginald Heaton's Extravagance, Mr. Ledon's Sensation, and Mr. Gooch's Golden Bells taking the money.

The ladies' single harness class, the horses to be driven by themselves or a member of their family (very useful conditions), brought out some first-raters, a very easy winner, we should say, being Miss Ross's beautiful horse, Rowton Blackthorn, though he does not at present give quite such sensational performances as he could accomplish at the close of last season, probably owing to the heavy ground. Mrs. Batt's Lady Nell followed.

Pace and action horses followed, and certainly the former property was well in evidence on Saturday, for the time some of these occupied in going round the big track at Richmond was scarcely noticeable, it was so brief, and as regards action, a number of them were quite showy enough to satisfy the most fastidious.

This season Mr. W. Winan's Little Tobe carried off the cup. He is a remarkably pretty goer, and quick, too. A very good horse in this performance was Direction Fay, from the same stables. His going, both as regards pace and movement, was simply marvellous, but for reasons unknown to the writer, he disappeared from the course rather early. Other winners were Mr. Harry Sims' good horse, Piloteer, who won the cup last year, and Mrs. Whitehouse's Silverton.

American-bred horses followed, and in these there was a lot of very useful-looking stuff, quite fit to make up a good show. The four-horse team class had but a couple of entries, Mr. Vervaek's and Mr. John Finch's, which was placed as named. The former, a powerful, good, steady team, and the latter a nicely-matched set of greys, with good looks and quality about them.

In single-horses, American-bred, Mr. Winan's Little Tobe, already mentioned, was the winner.

The soft ground was very difficult for the single harness horses, but for the pairs it was infinitely worse, especially when proceeding over the deeply-cut-up portions; and so it did not seem that these classes gave quite their customary display. Mr. Wertheimer's Hopwood Squire and Jubilee King, well known last year, were best in the 15 hands and over class; and under 15 hands, the same exhibitor's Frivolous and Frivolity. Other good pairs were Mr. Edgar Baxter's Musk and Miss Howard, and Mrs. Batt's Sir George and Lady Wills, the latter a very beautiful pair.

In the double harness class, any height, Miss Ross's beautiful pair, we were pleased to see, obtained the cup (Rowton Blackthorn and Rowton Vinca).

Several of the horses already mentioned were the winners in the tandem class, and the challenge cup for four-in-hands, it is pleasing to know, fell to the lot of a team of blue roans shown by Mr. E. D. Stern.

The tradesmen's classes were capitally supported, having a very large entry.

Suffolks.

The show of these handsome and useful East Anglian chestnuts was perhaps rather small numerically, but, like the light horses, their quality was good enough. Stallions foaled in 1899 or previous were the first class, and of these some four were entered, the best of them being Mr. A. J. Smith's fine six-year-old Saturn, by Wedgewood. He is quite a stallion, with capital neck, back, and quarters, and sis limbs good, too. Mr. A. H. E. Wood's Sudbourn Lord, a well-moving horse, well built and with capital feet, also fills the eye well, and came second, with Mr. C. A. Cork's Ironside, by Border Minstrel, third, a horse with great bone and good limbs and feet. Three or four very good colts came out, also, in the two-year-old class, though one or two of them did not seem any too big. Mr. E. F. Quilter's Bently Valentine, by Prince Wedgewood, headed them, a colt with quality and better joints than some of the others. The second, Mr. A. J. Smith's Rendlesham Albert, by Prince Albert, came in second. He stands upon capital feet, with a good set of legs, and nicely put together. Mr. Pratt's third, Sproughton Chief, is also a compact, well-couple colt, with the right kind of hard, blue feet.

Mares foaled in, or previous to, 1899 were a level, beautiful lot, with shape, size, and quality about them, stylish, too, in their general appearance and character. Mr. Quilter's Bently Duchess, Mr. Wood's Sudbourn Trinket, and her companion, Sudbourn Matchet, were the recipients of the prizes, and Mr. A. J. Smith's Rendelsham Matchless was third.

There were seven entries of two-year-old fillies, some of which were exceptionally nice fillies, Sir Cuthbert Quilter's first, Bawdsey Sweet Marjorie, full of quality and good at the ground, it seemed to this reporter had not much in hand over her stable companion, Bently Christine, who was placed second, a beautifully-moulded filly and stylish. Mr. R. Eaton White's Boulge Hebe had certainly a beautiful class of bone, but was shown excessively fat, which gave her rather a heavy appearance.

Geldings of any age were well represented, several capital horses, just fit for town work, being included in the class. The best of these were shown by Mr. C. F. Quilter, Sir Cuthbert Quilter, and Mr. John Symonds.

Northamptonshire.

The show of the Northamptonshire Agricultural Society, which opened at Daventry on Wednesday, was not favoured with very bright weather, although rain fortunately kept off. The entries totalled 938 this year, as compared with 924 last year, when the show was held at Thrapston. The entries of cattle numbered 135, as compared with 124, and those of horses 348, against 259. There were only 61 pens of sheep, as against 92 a year ago, but compensation was found for this reduction in the display of 23 pens of pigs, a gratifying feature when it is remembered that last year, owing to the existence of swine fever in the county, the show of pigs had to be abanabandoned. The quality of the stock, on the whole, was very creditable, particularly in the cattle and horse sections, and the judging and parades were watched with considerable interest, whi'e the jumping competitions were a most attractive feature. Large numbers of people were interested in the dairy department, in which the samples of butter numbered 24, as compared with 26 last year, and there were 15 entries in the butter-making competition, against 16 at Thrapston. There was also an excellent show of implements and machinery, and a very fine exhibition of poultry, the entries numbering 236, as compared with 308 twelve months ago.

The display of cattle was well up to the county average, the Shorthorn classes being particularly well filled. The bulls between two and three years old were a good lot. Mr. Leopold de Rothschild, of Leighton Buzzard, carried off the chief award with his roan, Silver Mint, by Silver Plate, Mr. Cooper, of Berkhamstead, being second with Stoneytown Archer. There was also a capital class of bulls between one and two years, Mr. Preece, of Thrapston, winning with Canvin Lad, and he afterwards secured a special prize as being the best beast belonging to a tenant farmer. A good class of bull calves was headed by Rotherfield Emperor, by Rotherfield Augustus, owned by Colonel Makins, of Henley-on-Thames. There was a splendid class of cows, and here Miss Alice de Rothschild won with Bructer Queen, by Lord Violet. In a smaller class for heifers above two and under three years old Mr. Thorley, of Farringdon, Berks., took premier prize with Fairy Queen, by Joe Munro. In the class for heifers between one and two years old Colonel Makins scored again with Ness Cloudberry 2nd, and Mr. de Rothschild came to the front with a pair of heifer calves.

The Channel Islands cattle were not very numerous, but they made a good show. Mr. Cooper took the first prize for bulls with Leylands Oak, being closely pressed by Mr. Gisborne, with Newcomer. The cow class enabled Charlotte 6th, belonging to Lady de Rothschild, to add to her laurels, the Hon. Mrs. Murray Smith being second with Christina, and in the heifer class Mr. E. Smith, of Bromsgrove, won with White Rosebud, Mrs. Ratcliff's Coralie coming second. The Aberdeen Angus cattle classes also were not very well patronised, but the qua'ity of the animals was excellent. Mr. Greenfield, of Bedford, was represented in the class for bulls with Quinton of Haynes, which managed to defeat Leo of the Hyde, owned by Mr. James, of Broughton, Kettering. Mr. Hudson, of Danesfield Marlow, obtained the chief award for cows with Black Queen 3rd, of Woodland, Mr. James being second, and Mr. Hudson was also first with his heifer, May of Danesfield 3rd, Mr. Greenfield's Darling of Haynes 2nd coming next.

There was a large and interesting show of horses, quality, both in the heavy and light classes, being well up to the mark. In a strong class for cart mares with foals at foot Mr. G. G. Atterbury (West Haddon) took first prize with D'Arcy Fuchsia. A number of splendid cart foals were on view, the best being a daughter of Dunsmore Masterman, shown by Mr. K. H. Wright (Velvertoft). Mr. Atterbury's D'Arcy Fuchsia also headed the tenant farmers' class for mares, beating Sea Poppy, the property of Mr. F. J. Steward (Brigstock), the champion last year. In the foal class for tenant farmers Mr. Lowick's colt easily won chief place, defeating a bay colt of nice quality with plenty of feather, the property of Mr. J. Bromwich (Daventry). The open class for cart colts, foaled in 1900, was small but good. Mr. P. A. Mutz, M.P. (Rugby), took first prize with the bay stallion, Umberslade Victor, which is out for the first time. He is deep-

bodied, has powerful limbs, and a profusion of silky hair. In the next class, for geldings or fillies, foaled in 1900, the leader was a filly, Yatesbury Flower, shown by Mr. J. Parnell (Rugby), which also received the silver medal of the Shire Horse Society for the best mare, filly, or filly foal. Mr. Muntz was successful in the class for colts foaled in 1901, with the stylish black, Dunsmore Masterpiece, which defeated a useful animal belonging to Mr. A. C. Norman, Tar Langton. Mr. J. Bromwich led the class for fillies foaled in 1901 with a well-grown youngster, a smart and improving bay filly belonging to Mr. Muntz running her closely in the contest. The tenant farmers' classes were all well filled, and some admirable Shires were shown.

A good show of hunters is always assured at the Northamptonshire Society's exhibition, and the one at Daventry takes high rank. Not very many yearlings were seen out on Wednesday, but the class for fillies included Mr. Wilkinson's beautiful bay by Havoc, from Edwinstowe, Newark, whilst the same owner's bay gelding, also by Havoc, scored in the class for two-year-olds. There was a capital class of three-year-olds. Captain Elmhirst, of Blisworth, gained the red rosette with the well bred chestnut filly, Gallene, by Gallican. Messrs. W. and J. A. Cheney, of Gidding Grove, Peterborough, were second with the bay roan gelding Conductor, by First Consul. The open class for mares and foals, the latter being by thoroughbred horses, was one of the best in the yard. Mr. Wilkinson was again successful, and his mare afterwards carried off the gold medal of the Hunters' Improvement Society, whilst her colt foal by Havoc divided the honours in his class with Mr. M. B. Bletsoe's bay colt by Old Buck. The hackneys were not of very much account, but there was a very good class for cobs, Mr. Franklin, of Derby, winning with his Empress Alexandra Gobang, which did so well at Nottingham, with Mr. Foster, of Moseley, second with Mel Valleys Flyer. Mr. Foster had matters pretty much his own way in two classes for ponies, taking both the first awards with Mel Valley Bantam and Mel Valley Don.

Although in some instances capital animals were shown, the average of the sheep section was not very high.

Messrs. S. E. Dean and Sons, of Dowsby Hall, Bourne, took all the prizes for Lincoln long-woolled theaves and tups; Mr. Brooks, of Boughton Grange, Northampton; Messrs. J. Brown and Son, of Northampton; and Mr. J. Preece, of Thrapston, also gaining successes with animals of this breed. There were some splendid Hampshire Down sheep shown, and probably for the first time at this show Shropshires were placed in front of Oxford Down sheep in the cross-bred classes, a Shropshire shearling ram beating an Oxford Down ram, and Shropshire shearling ewes being in front of Oxford Down theaves. The special prize of the Oxford Down Sheep Breeders' Association was won by Mr. Eady, of Irchester Grange, Wellingborough, with the ram which was defeated by the Shropshire.

Quality in the pig section was also very uneven, although the average of the exhibition was good. In the class for boars Mr. Spencer, of St. Ives, Hunts., won with one of his well-known Whites, a Berkshire owned by Mr. Woodward, of Towcester, being second. Sir Humphrey de Trafford, of Hill Crest, Market Harborough, however, brought out a Berkshire sow and five Berkshire pigs, which scored in their classes, the first-mentioned overcoming Mr. Henson's large white sow from Peterborough.

There was a good show of poultry, while the butter and butter-making competitions excited a good deal of interest.

Royal Cornwall.

Fine weather favoured the opening of the Royal Cornwall Agricultural Society's Show at Camborne on Wednesday, and the attendance of visitors was consequently good, and something like a record was achieved. In number the entries of stock showed a slight falling off, they being seven less this year than at last year's show at Bodmin. The entries in the different sections were:—Horses, 147; cattle, 128; sheep, 62; pigs, 32.

The collection of horses was well up to the average of recent years. The heavy horse classes formed a strong group of useful animals, and some of them were so evenly matched that the judges had no little difficulty in determining the destination of the awards. In the agricultural stallion class Mr. Jeffery's well-known Duncan III. added to its laurels, beating a younger and well-built brown stallion from the Tehidy Estate. Two-year-old stallions were a very promising lot, the chief award going to a good bay from St. Austell. Only three hackney stallions paraded in the ring, and the red rosette was deservedly bestowed on Mr. Mead's three-year-old chestnut Trelawny, which distinguished itself in the ring by its action and speed. Thoroughbred stallions formed an imposing little group, the chief award going to a massive bay from Lamerton. Numerically the agricultural brood mares were rather weak, but the winners have all good qualities. Three-year-old geldings or fillies were an excellent class, and the judges hesitated a good deal before giving their preference to a brown gelding from St. Kew, which was run very close by a bay filly from Kenwyn.

Two-year-old geldings or fillies produced only four entries, and the chief award went to a well-built bay filly from St. Austell. Colts were exceedingly strong, no less than 13 being paraded in the ring. Of uniformly high quality, they gave the judges a good deal of trouble. For a considerable time the judges hesitated between a good-looking chestnut from Bodmin and a nice bay from Plympton, but eventually preferred the former. Taken as a whole, the hunters were a very high-class lot. Brood mares were comparatively few, but were all of good type for breeding hunters. Three-year-old mares and geldings were of unusual excellence, and in this competition Mrs. Calmady's chestnut gelding Mutineer, which is well known as a winner in the West of England, added another to its laurels.

Though not so uniformly excellent, the two-year-old fillies or geldings formed a decidedly interesting group, the chief prize deservedly going to Maj-Gen. Jago Trelawny for a shapely chestnut filly from the Coldrenick stud farm. Exceedingly choice were the heavy-weight hunters. The red rosette was deservedly bestowed upon Mr. Jackman's chestnut mare Ruby, which showed good speed and action. If anything, the light-weight hunters were even better than the heavy-weights. In this class also Mr. Jackman was successful, winning the first prize with a shapely chestnut, which galloped in good style, second honours going to Mr. Retallack for a younger bay gelding, which was greatly admired for its good manners. Weight-carrying hunters bred by exhibitors were also a very creditable lot, the chief prize going to a useful brown gelding from Penzance. Hack or hunter colts were numerically weak, and, except the first prize winner, scarcely rose above the level of mediocrity. Hacks, however, filled five useful classes. The brood mares were nearly all of a good type, while both the three and two-year-old hacks were decidedly above the average, most of the horses moving with grace and ease. In the class for mares or geldings not exceeding six years, up to 14 stone, premier honours went to a brown gelding from Bodmin of superior pace and style. Several good-looking hacks were paraded with the light-weights, and the chief award was bestowed on a dark bay mare from Stoke, with good action and manners.

There was a good show of cobs in point of quality, although the classes were numerically weak. Jumping attracted a deal of popular interest, but little good work was shown.

The cattle section was a very strong one, both as regards numbers and quality. Devons, however, were few in several cases, but there was some first-class quality. The old Devon bulls were an excellent lot, Mr. J. C. Williams being closely run by the Hon. E. W. B. Portman. The third, entered by Mr. H. E. L. Pearse, was a very useful animal. Mr. J. C. Williams took the lead in the bulls of 1900 and 1901. In Devon cows the second animal failed by reason of narrowness about her hind legs, a defect which nullified her perfection about the rump. Mr. Pearse's 1901 heifer took the first in its class, and won Lord Falmouth's prize offered for Cornish tenant farmers. South Devons were of good quality, and some classes were well filled, and included winners at the Bath and West and other shows.

The yearling bulls were especially strong, and the awards reversed those at the Bath and West Show. Mr. Sparrow Wroth, second at Plymouth, was placed first, beating Mr. Butland. The Czar, of Mr. Wroth, was regarded as more symmetrical and better in his back and quarters than Mr. Butland's exhibit. The yearling and two-year-old heifers were strong, the Devonshire breeders easily defeating their Cornish competitors, notably Messrs. Butland and Luscombe. The shorthorns, as a whole, were the best seen in Cornwall for years. In the old bull class five grand animals competed, including Mr. Coad's, which won at the Bath and West. The young bull class was very strong. The Shorthorn Society's prize was won by Mr. W. James with a splendid young bull, bred from W. Duthie's Aberdeenshire stock. Both Jersey and Guernsey breeds were well represented, the different classes being fully supported, and an excellent type of animal shown.

There was a good exhibition of sheep, many of the Bath and West animals being entered, but in several cases being awarded different places. In the South Ham rams the decisions of the Bath and West and Tavistock shows were reversed. Mr. Sobey, who was the winner on Wednesday, was placed second at the former shows; Mr. Fairweather, who was placed second at Camborne, gained a first at the Bath and West; while Mr. Hallett, third place at Camborne, took the lead at Tavistock. The short wool sheep were a remarkable class, and the long wools attracted a great deal of favourable notice, all the prizes being taken by one breeder, Mr. F. White, of Williton.

In the pig section most notice was attracted by the large black breed, of which there were four well-filled classes. The pairs of sows were of particular merit, the chief award being carried off by Mr. Olver, who also took the lead for boars. There were fewer of the large white breed, the chief honours being taken off by Mr. T. Manwell.

The dairying department attracted the usual amount of interest, as also did the horse-shoeing competitions.

Waltham Cross.

The Waltham Cross and Three Counties (Essex, Herts, and Middlesex) Horse and Foal Society held their annual show at Waltham Cross, on Thursday, when the weather was, unfortunately, cold and showery. Nevertheless, there was a fair attendance of visitors. In numbers the entries were an improvement upon last year, due to the addition of a Yeomanry class, whilst the quality was quite up to the average. The heavy horses showed up remarkably well, the first class being devoted to draught mares, with foal at foot, open to tenant farmers, and the animals formed a very creditable collection. Six were entered in the open class for Shire mares, with foal at foot, and they showed up well in the ring. Mr. C. S. Marsh (Little Offley, Hitchin) scored with a nice class of mare, by Cashier II., Mr. G. A. Cobb (Theobald's Park, Waltham Cross—who was a most successful competitor in the various classes—being second with a handsome daughter of Bar None. Amongst the Shire colt foals, confined to tenant farmers, were several promising youngsters, Mr. M. McMullen taking first with a nice foal by Iron Chancellor. Mr. C. H. Boughtwood (Great Burstead, Billericay) was third with a foal by Hulton Baron, a position which he took in the next class, open to the United Kingdom. In this latter collection was a handsome, well-grown colt belonging to Mr. M. McMullen (Hertingfordbury), which secured the special as the best foal. The corresponding class for filly foals confined to tenant farmers was equally good, but the next one, open to the United Kingdom, produced the best Shire filly, which was shown by Mr. C. S. Marsh, (Little Offley, Hitchin). Of yearling colts there was but a small entry, the chief honour going to Mr. J. H. Fielding, of Woodham Ferris, for a good-looking exhibit by Markeaton Gaffer. Mr. A. Amey (Chingford) carried off the chief honour in a big class for Shire yearling fillies open to tenant farmers, but here again the pick of the collection was found in the open class, namely, a youngster with plenty of size and substance, sent by Mr. A. J. Chingford. In the next class, Mr. A. J. Hollington (Enfield) obtained the special for Shire yearling. Mr. J. Holm (Ongar) and Mr. W. Graham (Nazeing) were the chief winners with draught geldings. Mr. S. Pigg (Furneaux Pelham) was first with two-year-old colts, and Mr. J. H. Fielding (Woodham Ferris) second, whilst Mr. G. A. Cobb took the lead with three-year-old fillies with a nice upstanding mare with plenty of width. The pairs of plough horses shown by tenant farmers constituted a grand collection, the chief honour going to Mr. S. Wallace (Essenden), who also carried off the Enfield Chase Stag Hounds prize in the open class with the same pair.

There were but few hackneys entered or eligible for the Stud Book. Mr. A. Collen (Saffron Walden) was the only exhibitor in the class "not exceeding 15 hands, with foal at foot." He sent a nice mare by Wildfire, and her foal secured the prize for the best foal, beating a choice one by Bonny Danegelt, sent by Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart. The hon. baronet had a couple of entries in the class "exceeding 15 hands, with foal at foot," Lady Dunham, by Cadet, taking the leading place. There were but three two-year-olds, Mr. A. Collen (Saffron Walden) carrying off first, and Mr. A. Johnson (Woodlands, Bishops Stortford) second. The riding and driving competitions were keen, and the contests excited a good deal of attention on the part of the visitors. The riding classes were, perhaps, in this respect the most attractive, especially the one in which the hacks were to be ridden only by ladies. There were about a dozen in the ring. A bay gelding, belonging to Mr. — Martindale, pluckily ridden by a lady, carried off the chief prize, the second prize going to Mrs. Graves (Tolleshunt D'Arcy). Mrs. Hartley Batt sent a beautiful brown mare, which was unmistakably first amongst mares or geldings over 15 hands; but this lady's Sir George had to give place to Miss Howard, belonging to Mr. E. Baxter (Brentwood), and well-known throughout the country by her achievements in the prize-ring. Mr. Baxter came to the front also in the next class, over 15 hands, with his Midnight Echo, a black, shown in harness. Perhaps the best lot in the harness competitions were those not exceeding 15 hands, and here Mrs. Hartley F. Batt's well-known Lady Wiles was placed in the first position, beating Mr. E. Baxter.

The hunters were quite equal in point of quality with the hackneys. The first to come into the ring were the mares with foal at foot. Mr. C. Kelway Bamber, of London, sent his Oxford and Reading winner, and she maintained the place she took at those shows this year. Mr. J. Hayman-Joyce was first with foals, and Lieut.-Colonel Colvin, C.B. (Monkhams, Waltham Abbey),

second with a filly by Senanus. Lieut.-Colonel R. B. Colvin's brown gelding, Monkham, was conspicuously first in the two-year-old or three-year-old class with a fine mover of grand quality. Mr. C. Kelway Bamber's Lord Marmion, second at Ipswich, was only reserved here, and was considered worthy of better treatment. There were several good horses amongst the light-weights, Mr. A. C. Cory-Wright (Totteridge) won with his Helen, a well-known mare that looks like going across country. Mr. G. C. Poole (Chelmsford) was awarded second for The Major. In the heavy weights, Mr. D. Christy, jun. (Margaretting Hall, Ingatestone) was the victor with his bay gelding (Woodman) which carries himself well and goes.

Huntingdonshire.

The Huntingdonshire Agricultural Society held their sixty-sixth annual show on Tuesday at St. Neots, in Priory Park, which was lent for the purpose by Mr. C. F. Rowley. The entries were unprecedented in the annals of the society, the total number being 629 against 608 last year. They were divided as follows:—Cart-horses 90, nags 191, beasts 58, sheep 15, butter 14, poultry 261. St. Neots gave the society a cordial welcome, and the decorated streets gave an air of general festivity to the town.

The quality of the animals in the heavy horse section was very good, the number of Shires shown this year being much in excess of those in previous exhibitions. The prize-takers in the class for mares and foals were the property of Mr. F. J. Steward (Brigstock), Mr. Hamer Toogood (Little Shelford), and Captain Duncombe respectively, being all very good animals, and in the class for two-year-old fillies Girton Charm, a splendid black filly, the property of Mr. Jacob Frohock, of Lolworth Grange, took first prize, with Mr. Hamer Toogood's Shelford Locket, and Mr. James Jones's (Doddington) Doddington Smart, a useful grey, not far behind. Yearling fillies were also exceptionally good, Messrs. Millard Bros., of Eltisley, taking the red ribbon with a grand brown filly, and Mr. F. W. Griffin, of Boro' Fen, second, and Mr. John Hunt, of Coton, third. The championship prize of ten guineas, given by the president, for the best mare, filly, or filly foal in the yard, was won by Mr. Hamer Toogood's Grey Fashion, a fine grey mare ten years old, the same animal also taking the Shire Horse Society's gold medal for the best mare or filly in the Shire classes. In the foal classes there were also some smart animals, Captain Duncombe's bay colt securing the champion prize.

The hunter section made a fairly good show, and included some handsome specimens The Hackneys were also a grand lot, and keen competition took place in some of the classes. Mr. John Rowell, as usual, showed some very fine animals, as did Mr. A. Fuller, Mr. R. G. Heaton, and other well-known breeders. In the polo pony class Messrs. Smith and Balding's exhibit was closely followed by Mr. A. Stourton's and Mr. Montgomery's animals. The polo bending race was productive of a good deal of interest, and jumping of about average quality was witnessed. The harness classes brought out some rare specimens, and in the classes for pace and action the action of the winner was remarkably fine, and the animal was easily first. There were only five entries for the trade turnout, and Mr. J. R. Purvis was awarded first prize, Mr. W. Yarnold taking second place, and Messrs. Jordan and Addington third.

The entries in the cattle section achieved a record in point of numbers, while the quality was well up to the average. In the Shorthorn classes Mr. Rowland Wood took two firsts for bulls above two years and under one year with some splendid specimens, whilst Mr. Sanders Spencer took a couple of firsts, a second, and reserve with promising animals. The heifer belonging to Captain Duncombe, which secured premier place in the class for heifers under two years old, was well placed. Mr. H. Goodman secured the red ribbon for the class open to Channel Island, Kerry or Dexter Kerry stock with a six years' old Jersey cow, there being only five entries for this class.

Edinburgh.

The nineteenth annual show of the Edinburgh Agricultural Association was held at the Hawkhill Recreation Grounds on Wednesday, and, as has been the case on many previous occasions, the weather was far from favourable to the Society. In the morning rain fell, and the outlook was most unpromising; but the rain cleared off about noon, and the remander of the day was fine, though unsettled and cold. This naturally affected the attendance of visitors, and the takings at the gates fell short of last year's total by about £20, the sum taken being £266 17s. 6d. Taken all over, the number of entries in the various classes of stock was about the same as last year, though there was a disappointing decrease in the cattle section. Horses, both Clydesdales and light-legged, were again the feature of the show, while sheep made, as in former years, an excellent display. There was also an interesting exhibition of machinery.

Clydesdale Horses.

Horses occupied the premier position in the catalogue, and, of course, the breed to first recieve attention were the Clydesdales, of which there was a very good show, all the classes being well filled, and in many classes competition was very keen. A notable feature in this section was the marked success of the produce of that remarkable sire, Baron's Pride, the offspring of Messrs. A. and W. Montgomery's fine horse securing all the three championships of the breed. The best class of the section was that for two-year-old stallions, which numbered a dozen. The Messrs. Montgomery had a capital first in King's Crest, a horse sired by Up-to-Time, which was afterwards reserve for the championship. Mr. William Renwick was second with Urieside, a Prince Thomas colt, which was first at Aberdeen as a yearling. There were a dozen yearling colts, and here Messrs. Montgomery again came well to the front with Baron Stirling, a symmetrical animal with excellent bones, Mr. Gray, Birkenwood, being second with Gartly Agnes, a sweet-looking colt, whilst the third ticket went to Mr. Renwick for a well-bred, promising colt, which was second at Aberdeen this year. Mr. St. Clair Cunningham was fourth with a Baron's Pride colt of his own breeding, which was afterwards first in the Derby. There was a capital display of geldings, some powerful draught horses being among the prize-winners. There were three brood mares forward, and the first place was given to Baron's Blossom, a big three-year-old Baron's Pride mare, with a foal at foot. Mr. St. Clair Cunningham was second with his well-known five-year-old, Maggie Holmes, who had at foot a very neat Gay Everard foal. In the yeld mare class, Mr. Alex. Guild was easily first with his splendid black four-year-old, Topsy Pride, which has had a remarkably successful career during the past three years. Although she was shown in rather fat condition on Wednesday, she was with general assent awarded the championship for the best female of the breed. Lord Rosebery was second in this class with the five-year-old brown mare, Princess of Glassnick. She combines both Darnley and Prince of Wales blood in a marked degree, and was shown in fine bloom. Mr. St. Clair Cunningham was third with the seven-year-old May Light, and Mr. Guild only got the fourth place with his well-known, prize-winning mare, Maid of Athens. A neat lot of half a dozen three-year-old fillies were headed by Mr. St. Clair Cunningham's White Heather, a daughter of Baron's Pride. She is a nice, compact little mare, and was reserve for the championship. Mr. Kerr, of Harviestoun, was second with Baron's Blossom, another Baron's Pride filly, and Mr. Curr, Merylea, was third, with Lady Peggie, also one of Baron's Pride's produce. Lord Rosebery had the best of the eight two-year-old fillies in Pyrene, a Baron's Pride filly, which was later awarded the Clydesdale Horse Society's medal as the best young filly of the breed. The reserve animal was Lady Mac, first-prize winner in the yearling filly class, shown by Mr. M'Nee, Crieff. Mr. Kerr, of Harviestoun, was second in the yearling filly class, with Favourite, a neat specimen of his own breeding, which was first in the Derby.

Hunters.

The show of light-legged horses is invariably a good one at this exhibition, and Wednesday's display was quite up to, if not above, those of previous years. Hunters were a very strong section, the class for brood mares being exceptionally good, and here Captain Clayhills Henderson was first with a six-year-old chestnut, Rosemary, a beautiful animal, which was first at the Highland Society's show last year. The pick of the hunters, however, was found in Mr. Robert Henderson's Rhona, a two-year-old chestnut filly bred by the exhibitor at Mount Hooly, Jedburgh, which was deservedly awarded the silver medal offered by the Hunters' Improvement Society as the best filly in the yard. She was shown in excellent condition. She is sired by Swillington, whose sire, in turn, was Hermit, the winner of the Derby in 1867. Mr. Henderson was also second in the class with Rud, another of Swillington's progeny, whilst the winner in the class for three-year-old mares or geldings was also sired by Swillington. This was Swindle, a stylish chestnut shown by Mr. George Dove. Mr. John Cairns' Lady Peggie, which was second in the two-year-old class at the Highland Show last year, was second. Four-year-olds were topped by Mr. George Dove's John Bell, which was also sired by Swillington out of Belle Brunnell. In a good class for five-year-olds and upwards, up to 14 stone, Mr. Fred Usher was first with Hawford, and Mr. C. A. Blom was second with Johnny, which was sired by Scene-shifter. With Core, a mare of rare quality, Mr. Fred Usher was first in the class for five-year-olds and upwards, up to 12 stone. Mr. William Armstrong being second with Coronation, and Mr. C. H. Scott Plummer third with a six-year-old bay.

Hackneys.

Hackneys, though not numerous, made a capital show, high quality being conspicuous in all classes. The winner of the premier award in the class for brood mares, Mr. Liddell Grainger's Ayton Sweet Nancy, a stylish mare of good action, and close on foaling, was selected for the Hackney Society's silver medal, although she was closely followed for this distinction by Mr. William Scott's Barony, the first-prize winner in the class for two-year-old fillies. The challenge cup presented by Mr. Liddell Grainger for the best Hackney stallion was gained by Mr. Alex. Gemmell's Cossack, which was first in this class, and which won at Ayr last month, the reserve for this honour being Mr. Charles E. Galbraith's Administrator. Hackneys to ride or drive, shown in saddle, were a remarkably fine class, the principal top animals, belonging to Messrs. John Kerr, Gilmerton, and Charles E. Galbraith, Terregles, being distinguished for their quality and style. The best of the ponies, shown in saddle, was Mr. Alexander Gemmell's Little Woman, which was acknowledged to be as fine a pony under 14 hands as has been seen in Scotland for many a day. The competitions for driving turnouts and for jumping were well contested, there being two jumping contests in the afternoon and one in the evening.

Cattle.

The cattle section was a disappointing one, the two leading breeds, Shorthorns and Aberdeen-Angus, being represented by but 18 animals—six Shorthorns and a dozen doddies. The Jerseys made the best display, and were undoubtedly the redeeming feature of this section. Mr. Duncan Stewart, Millhills, Crieff, was first for Shorthorn bulls calved before January 1, 1901, with the three-year-old Strathern Lad, which last year was champion at Perth. The second was a white bull, Charming Lad, shown by Mr. Lawrence Johnstone, of Sands, and the winner of several prizes. In the cow class Mr. Stewart was first with a very sweet three-year-old heifer, with a beautiful head, which has not been shown before. The second was an old cow, shown by Mr. James Scott, Softlaw East Mains, Kelso. For Aberdeen-Angus aged bulls, Mr. Lawrence Johnston's Buttress came to the front. He possesses very nice quality, is a good, level animal, and promises well. A well-known bull, Egmont of Pitpointie, brought to its owner, Mr. T. H. Bainbridge, Eshott Hall, Felton, Northumberland, the second prize, whilst the third fell to a useful-loking bull, belonging to the Messrs. Meiklem, Begg, Kirkcaldy, who also showed the only yearling bull. Mr. Bainbridge was first and second for cows. His first, Neat Nellie, bred by Mr. Archibald Whyte, Kirriemuir, was second at the Royal and Highland shows last year. In the two-year-old heifer class, Mr. Kerr, of Harviestoun, Dollar, led with a very sweet animal, successfully shown at local shows last year. The second prize went to Mr. Bainbridge, for a heifer which is a little higher standing than the first; while the third ticket went to Mr. Bainbridge for a good, short-legged heifer. In the yearling female class, Mr. Bainbridge was first. There were three classes of Jerseys, and they made a nice display. Mr Elliot, Clifton Park, had first for cows in milk, and for heifers in calf or in milk, Lord Hopetoun being the runner-up. His lordship, however, came in first for yearling heifers, Mr. Elliot being second.

Sheep.

The sheep were strong, both in numbers and quality. Cheviots were the best, and in this section Mr. John Elliot, Hindhope, was successful in gaining the chief awards. His first-prize aged tup, Lochiel, was first as a shearling at the Highland and Agricultural Society. His first-prize shearling is a splendid type of Cheviot, though he was run very closely for the premier award by a shearling exhibited by Mr. James Moffat, Craick, Hawick. Blackfaces were not very numerous. The top animals were of very level merit, Messrs. Cadzow, Borland, winning the chief awards. Border Leicesters were up to the average of quality seen at previous Edinburgh shows, and here Mr. T. M'Intosh, Balquharn, Brechin, had everything his own way, he showing three very outstanding animals in the shearling class. The gimmer glass was also of good quality, the first prize winners being sheep of good substance and handling well. The second prize pen was shown by Mr. Hume, Barrelwell, Brechin. There was a small display of half-bred sheep, the chief prize-winner being Mr. J. Bertram, Addenston, Lauder, who secured two first, one second, and a third prize.

Renfrewshire.

The centenary show of the Renfrewshire Agricultural Society took place at Paisley on the 5th inst., and proved to be one of the most successful of the long series. To fittingly recognise their centenary the directors and the secretary had made special efforts to invest this year's show with more than an ordinary interest for visitors as well as breeders of stock. In this direction they were

admirably supported by various of their subscribers giving handsome special prizes for competition in the more important classes. The prize-money and value of cups and medals amounted to £533 10s., an increase of about £70 over the total of last year; and it is satisfactory to be able to state that the number of entries received created a record. They totalled 915, as against 818 last year, and, excepting sheep, the increase was over all classes. Ayrshires had 270 entries, increase 47; Clydesdales, 113 females and 127 males—240, an increase of 18; hunters and roadsters 70, increase 11; hackneys, ponies, cobs, and harness horses 152, increase 12; sheep 47, decrease 5; dogs 110, increase 5; dairy produce 26, increase 9. In the matter of weather, the show was also this year specially favoured. During the early part of the day the weather was somewhat dull, with indications of rain, but as the forenoon advanced it cleared up beautifully, and the remainder of the day was all that could have been desired. As a result in great measure of the fine weather conditions which prevailed, there was a very large attendance of visitors, especially in the afternoon, when the leaping and parade of prize stock took place.

In the cattle section the Ayrshire classes were the first to claim attention, and in these there was an increase of 18; hunters and roadsters 70, in-of the classes were filled with animals of fair average quality, and but few crocks were noticed. There was an entry of 20 for the Derby for three-year-old cows. Mr. James Wilson, Boghall, was first with a brown quey, bred by Messrs. J. and A. Wilson, Boghall, which was out for the first time. She won the annual champion cup given by Lord Blythswood for the best three-year-old cow bred within the county, Mr. Bine Renshaw's silver medal for the best female, and the Ayrshire Cattle Herd-Book Society's silver medal. In the male section Mr. Andrew Clark, Fingart, won first in the aged bull class with a bull of a good type, which also won the championship of the section, and Sir John Stirling Maxwell's cup for the best male. He did not compete for the Ayrshire Cattle Herd-Book Society's medal, which was given to the second-prize old bull shown by Messrs. D. and J. Miller, Berfern. Sir M. R. Shaw-Stewart won Mr. William Reid secured Sir M. R. Shaw-Stewart's silver cup for the best yearling or two-year-old female with his two-year-old heifer in calf, whilst the silver medal for the animal with the best head and horns was awarded to Mr. Alexander Walker, Paisley. There was an interesting display of Clydesdale horses, and the female championship was awarded to the winner in the three-year-old filly class, Mr. John M'Kay's (Crossmill Farm) Miss Taylor, a mare of great quality. In the two-year-old filly class Mr. James Davie, Bogton, was first with a big-sized "Up-to-Time" filly, which was first at Barrhead. Yearling fillies were led with a nice animal shown by Mr. Holmes, which secured Sir Thomas Glen-Coats' silver cup for the best one-year-old filly bred in the county went to Mr. Holmes. Mr. James Davie secured the Clydesdale Horse Society's bronze medal for the best yearling or two-year-old filly, whilst Mr. David Whyte, Auchans, won the group medal, and Mr. Holmes the medal for mare with two of her offspring. The male section was well filled. Mr. William Clark, Netherlea, was first in the yearling class. In the Derby competition for yearling colts Mr. W. S. Park was first with a colt sired by Ascot. The silver cup for the best yearling colt or gelding was awarded to Mr. Clark's exhibit. Mr. Clark was also first in the two-year-old gelding class, and was first in the three-year-old gelding class. The turnout of light horses was of an exceptional character in respect of both numbers and quality. The silver cup for the best light-weight carrying mare or gelding carrying 11 to 13 stones was awarded to Mrs. J. George Clark, Glasgow. Mr. Andrew Wilson won the medal for the best pony stallion not exceeding 14 hands, and there were several other interesting pony classes. Miss Craig, Comedie Farm, won the ladies' driving competition. Mr. John Pollock, jun., Springside, supplied all the Leicester sheep exhibits, and secured all the awards. Mr. Andrew Fleming, Threepland, Eaglesham, was first and second in the aged tup class in the black-faced sheep section. Mr. John Stewart, Carrot, won for tup hoggs; Mr. Fleming was first and second for ewes with lambs at foot; and Mr. Stewart for ewe hoggs. Mr. Fleming won the medal for the best sheep in the section.

Stow Green Horse Fair.—This annual fair was held on Stow Green, near Billingborough, on Thursday, and attracted buyers from all parts of the country. Between 700 and 800 animals were exhibited. For the best agricultural horses there was an exceptionally good trade, the majority being bought from London and the provincial towns, at prices ranging up to 75gs. There was a slightly-improved demand for nags, and 35gs. to 45gs. were paid for the best. Similar prices were also obtained for van horses. Irish horses fetched from 20gs. to 35gs. Ponies were dear, at prices varying from £8 to £20.

COMING SHOWS.

Norfolk.

The annual summer show of the Norfolk Agricultural Association will take place at Norwich, on Wednesday and Thursday of this week, under the presidency of the Mayor of Norwich, Mr. Russell J. Colman, J.P. This is the sixth occasion on which the County Show has pitched its tents in the city of Norwich since the year 1860, viz., in the years 1860, 1865, 1874, 1882, 1893, and 1902. In 1886 The Royal Agricultural Society of England held its exhibition there, and the County Show was amalgamated with it. A very wide difference in the show now to what it was in the year 1860, when it was then in its infancy, may be gathered from the fact that in that year a sum under £100 was the total amount received for admissions, whilst in 1893 the gate-money exceeded £1,000. Provided the weather is favourable, a large muster of visitors will be sure to put in an appearance at the show this week, for the railway companies are offering every facility for the conveyance of the public from all Norfolk and other stations in the Eastern Counties, and are running excursions both days, and special trains in addition to their ordinary service.

The show ground adjoins the Ipswich road, within a short distance of the electric tramway route and not far from Victoria Station, and is situated on three meadows surrounding "The Grove," the residence of Mr. Alex. R. Chamberlin, who kindly placed them at the disposal of the society. The total acreage of the grounds extending to about 17 acres have been laid out with long ranges of shedding for the accommodation of horses, cattle, sheep, pigs, and exhibitor's stands, together with large erections for horse shoeing and butter making competitions, poultry dressing, etc., and a large grand stand from which the riding, driving, and jumping competitions can be viewed with great comfort, providing shelter from the sun or rain.

A large entry of horses, cattle, sheep, and pigs from noted breeders (including Royalty) have been received from various parts of the kingdom, whilst the implement yard covers an area of about six acres, and will be covered with implements and machinery, well-known firms in all parts having taken stands. The Technical Education Committee of the Norfolk County Council will hold competitions on the ground in horse shoeing and butter making. Under the same auspices there will be practical demonstrations and lectures in poultry dressing, cramming, and trussing, by the well-known expert, Mr. E. Brown (the secretary of the National Poultry Organisation Society); whilst Mr. H. Beswick (the expert on bee-keeping) will conduct demonstrations and exhibitions of the most practical way of dealing with the keeping of bees.

The show will open at 9 o'clock on Wednesday morning (admission 2s. 6d.), and judging in all sections will commence punctually at that hour, at which time also catalogues may be obtained on the ground at the catalogue stand near the entrance. The showyard will also open at 9 o'clock on Thursday morning (admission 1s.), and the exhibition will cose both days at 6 o'clock p.m.

Essex.

On Thursday and Friday next the Essex Agricultural Society holds its forty-fifth annual show at Romford, and it is expected that it will prove most successful, as the town is so easy of access from all parts of the country, whilst the Great Eastern Railway will issue return tickets at single fares and run special trains, so that the attendance of visitors should, providing the weather is fine, be very large indeed. The local committee were fortunate to secure such a splendid site as Marshall's Park, looking at the present time at its best. The show ground also has the great advantage of being within five minutes' walk of the High Street and ten minutes' walk of the two railway stations at Romford.

The entries in the chief sections of the show, as stated in a previous issue, are not quite so large as last year, but are much in advance of some previous years. That some really good animals will be seen in the rings may be gathered from the fact that amongst some 300 exhibitors appear the names of Lord Rothschild, Lord Rayleigh, Sir Cuthbert Quilter, Bart., M.P., Sir Edgar Vincent, K.C.M.G., M.P., Sir W. J. Farrer, Bart., Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart., Major-General Sir Henry Ewart, K.C.B., Colonel H. McCalmont, C.B., M.P., Mr. A. Henderson, M.P., Mrs. McIntosh, Colonel W. T. Makins, Colonel W. N. Tufnell, Mr. Walpole Greenwell, etc.

No formal opening of the show takes place, the public being admitted at 9 a.m. on Thursday, the judging in the various classes being timed to commence at 9.15 sharp. The public luncheon will take place on the first day at 1.30, when the president, Colonel Lockwood, M.P., will, of course, preside, and a large and distinguished company is expected to be present.

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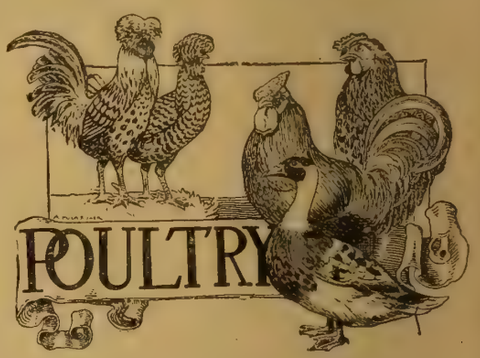
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Seasonable Notes.

Poultry keepers have been much disappointed in the weather, as we usually look forward to a lovely month, but evidently not only poultry people are disappointed at such very cold severe weather as we have had this month. It has been a very serious matter, particularly for fruit growers in Kent, and large florists in the same county in the same way have suffered loss. It has wrought great havoc among all young life, not only among flowers, animals, and birds, but with the grass and corn crops, which have been cut down almost as brown as a berry. It has been most trying all round, and, of course, poultry people have not escaped.

We would advise all breeders, whatever their position, to clear out their cockerels, or even their pullets that are hatched early, and are likely to lay early in the summer, should be cleared out and turned into money, as there will be a great demand during the Coronation festivities, and if kept, these pullets, after they had laid a little while, would shed their feathers in the autumn like old hens, and not do very much in the way of egg production just when the birds are deasest, but the later-hatched birds will produce winter layers that will take their places and do better. We particularly recommend the early-hatched pullets to be turned into money. We would point out that there would be a great demand for hens for boiling, as many thousands of those will be used for providing cold food, so those who have good, plump hens, and can spare them, we would advise to let them go for the Coronation. Also old stock cockerels, that people have finished with, no doubt will make an extra 1s. 9d or 2s. at that time. Those who buy them will know how to cook them; we need not give any information about that.

We are sorry for all poultry keepers who hatched out last month, as it was so severe. The cold and beating rain made it worse than we have ever known. We are interested in wild birds, as well as domestic fowls, and we have been watching the nests of various wild birds. Blackbirds, thrushes, chaffinches, etc., that generally reared four or five, only reared one or two this year. These birds have nests that are open at the top, and either the eggs wereunfertile, or the birds died in the shell. One variety of wild birds, however, have become great enemies to us in our yards—viz., the ordinary sparrows. They have grown so numerous that

we destroy over 2,00 a year, and on our place over 200 nests have been destroyed in one day; and they appear to be more numerous this year than ever. We are obliged to keep them down, but among all the hundreds of nests we never found more than two birds in each nest, and they were very poor and stunted. We found three very small young ones in one of the nests.

Our readers will know that an ordinary sparrow's nest is very thickly lined with feathers and closed at the top, especially on a poultry farm, where they can pick up plenty; yet the results in those beautiful, warm nests show that some of the sparrows did not have a fertile egg, and where they were fertile the young ones died off. The average of the young ones found in the nest has been two, while in ordinary years the average has been four, as sparrows frequently lay five eggs, and sometimes six. Our readers may think it cruel to destroy these little birds, but it becomes a very serious matter when the fowls are being fed economically, as the sparrows will eat more than about two birds in each nest, and they away or destroyed. A great many chickens—one, two, and three in a brood—have not grown out this year as fast as their fellows.

Usually a certain number, or at least one in a brood, show signs of general debility and do not get on, but the percentage this year is larger than normal—three out of ten are seen. Not only do they not grow, but they are devoid of feathering round the head and neck. When such chickens are examined their skin is very tight. As tightness of skin, of course, in all animals, is a sign of bad condition, this not only stops their growth, but indicates something worse, and in the case of chickens, as with other live things, the cause is internal, and in the case of chickens the skin is to be softened with vaseline, petroleum jelly, or oil of petrol. These are all preparations from petroleum of varied refinement, and will soften the skin, as petroleum will penetrate even where water will not.

As soon as a chicken becomes weakened through any organ not working properly, or nipped up with cold, worms begin to breed in the intestines, and 19 out of every 20 chickens, after they become a month old, are found infested with worms, and not one exception have we known where these weakly chickens have been examined to this rule. But our readers will want to know if a cure is possible. Yes, if they have not become too bad. But where chickens are like this they eat a great deal more than healthy ones, and yet lose flesh, because the worms take the nutriment out of the food. Not only that, but they also take the lining of the intestines, beginning with the mucous membrane, and gradually eating out to the end, if not stopped, so that gradually the intestines are denuded of their lining, and only the bare, sore entrails are left. We have taken over 500 of these worms out of one chicken, worms averaging from 1¼in. to 2¼in., out of a bird 3½ months old. Not only that, but a number of small ones grow, and pass through the bowels, and do not grow larger when they have reached a certain size.

The best remedy for all this is to let the chickens fast for 24 hours. Nothing but water should be given them to drink. Chickens a month old should have one heaped-up teaspoonful of roup powder divided among four chickens, and this should be mixed with a little fat and vinegar, either given in little pills, or all mixed up and thrown down to the birds. If there are not many, it is best to put the pills down their throats, but if a large number are affected it should be thrown down, so that they can pick it up for themselves; and some linseed should also be stewed, mixed up with ordinary chickens' meal, and in the place of the water the stewed liquid should be used. This is not only strengthening to the chickens generally, but it also helps to bring back the mucous to the stomach and intestines sooner than anything we have tried. The skin becomes loose and pliable, and the chickens begin to grow.

We always say "Prevention is better than cure." We cannot say but that we occasionally get a few of these chickens we have mentioned, but sometimes not one in 200, as we give them a little roup powder about three times a week in their meal, and occasionally a little stewed linseed in their food. This helps them to grow quicker, and is better than any other remedy we have tried. If chickens are kept strong and healthy they are less likely to breed worms.

New Agricultural Patents.

Specially compiled for MARK LANE EXPRESS by Mr. G. D. Howard (Hughes, Son and Co.), Patent Agent, 38, Chancery Lane, London, of whom all information relating to patents, designs and trade marks may be obtained free of charge.

12,037.—Malcolm Guthrie and Herbert Guthrie, of Chancery Lane, London, for "A new or improved apparatus for treatment of grain and hops and similar purposes."

12,331.—Martin Schichtl, of Kingston-on-Thames, for "Improvements in harrows."

12,378.—Augustus Clifford Arter, of Barham, for "Improvement in mowing and reaping machines."

Patents Sealed.

C. F. Grohmann, of Germany, for "Potato diggers."

2,993.—A. W. Molloy, of London, for "Seeds, sowing; manuring and fertilising; boxes and cases; envelopes."

Balla Fair (Co. Mayo) was held on Wednesday. There was an average supply of cattle, for which a very brisk demand was experienced, at prices considerably in advance of recent fairs. Quotations:—Calves, 2nd class, £2 10s. to £3 3s. 9d.; yearlings, 2nd class, £5 10s. to £6 10s.; 3rd class, £4 5s. to £5; two-year-olds, 2nd class, £8 10s. to £10; 3rd class, £6 to £7 10s.; three-year-olds, 1st class, £14 to £14 10s.; 2nd class, £11 to £13; 3rd class, £8 to £9; springers, 2nd class, £11 10s. to £13; 3rd class, £7 15s. to £8 10s.; lambs, 1st class, £1 1s. to £1 1s. 6d.; over 12 and under 24 months olds, 3rd class, 18s. to £1 2s.

Agricultural Imports.

The following is an account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended June 7, 1902, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year:—

Animals Living.	1901.	1902.		1901.	1902.
	No.	No.		Cwt.	Cwt.
Cattle ...	10,106	8,203	Wheat ...	1552,400	2,765,372
Sheep.....	10,383	3,697	Flour	458 300	422,796
Swine.....	—	—	Barley ...	202,600	382,371
*Horses...	—	602	Oats	875,000	448,975
			Peas	57,700	32,454
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Beans ...	19.600	35,125
Beef	83,157	107,445	Maize ...	888,700	874,354
Mutton...	76,771	110,428		Bunches	Bunches
Pork	6,229	6,174	Bananas	46,074	42,921
Bacon ...	98,743	85,205			
Beef, salt	6,980	2,507		Cwt.	Cwt.
Hams.....	39,902	25,520	Apples ...	10,857	17,874
Pork, salt	2,264	5,269	Apricots		
Meat, salt & Fresh	13,110	12,243	&Peaches	361	480
Do. pres.	12,137	26,611	Cherries	18,924	9,761
Butter ...	65,602	75,037	Currants	—	—
M'rg'rine	20,978	18,337	Goosebr's	1,450	83
Cheese ...	32,630	33,989	Grapes ...	176	281
Milk, Fresh, in cans or drums.	—	—	Lemons...	16,619	12,509
			Oranges	70,717	154,345
			Pears	2	6
			Plums ...	—	3
			Strawb'r's	6,550	3,395
			Oth'r Fr't	916	1,930
Milk ...				Tons.	Tons.
Cream.	27	107	Hay	1,827	9,092
			*Straw ...	—	1,925
Milk pr's'v'd, other kinds ...	22	41		Bush.	Bush.
			Onions ...	46,146	15,497
				Cwt.	Cwt.
Con.Milk	21,212	18,196	Hops	474	521
			* Locust Beans	—	29,325
	No.	No.	Potatoes	295,433	297.014
Eggs	438,923	503,997	Tom'to's	6,798	37,332
			Other	Value.	Value.
Poultry& Game	Value. £5,504	Value. £10,141	Veg'bles	£13,393	£12,803
				Cwt.	Cwt.
			Dried ...	1,906	2,759
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Pres'v'd		
Rabbits	719	7,519	by canning ...	2,030	3,272
Lard	50,168	35,037			

* Not shown in 1901.

"Mark Lane Express" Diary.

June.
17. Murrow Foal Show.
17, 18, and 19. Hereford and Worcester Agricultural Society's Show at Hereford.
18. Thorne Agricultural Society's Show at Thorne.
18 and 19. Norfolk Agricultural Society's Show at Norwich.
18 and 19. Glasgow Agricultural Society's Summer Show.
18 and 19. Sale of Horses at Wrexham.
18, 19, and 20. Horse Sales at Crewe.
19. Sale of Mr. R. Willow's entire stud at Willerby, near Hull.
19 and 20. Essex Agricultural Society's Show at Romford.
20. Waltham Cross Horse Show.
20. Sale of Mr. Cornwallis' Sussex Cattle at Frittenden, near Staplehurst.
21. Kidderminster Horse Show.
24 and 25. North West of Ireland Agricultural Society's Show, at Londonderry.
28. Dalkeith Agricultural Society's Show, at Dalkeith.
28. Keighley Agricultural Society's Show, at Keighley.



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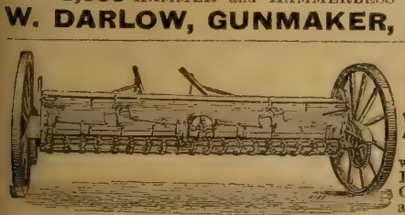
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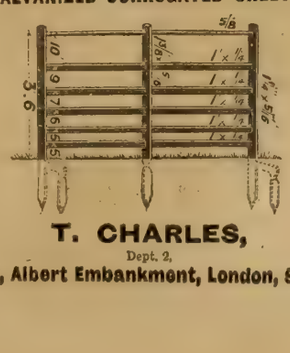
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Starch, Mucilage, Sugar ...	32·55	Starch, Mucilage, Sugar ...	25·11
Indigestible Woody Fibre ...	19·28	Woody Fibre	15·36
Mineral Matter (Ash)	4·70	Mineral Matters (Ash)	4·20
	100·00		100·00
✱Containing Nitrogen ...	4·24	✱Containing Nitrogen ...	3·76
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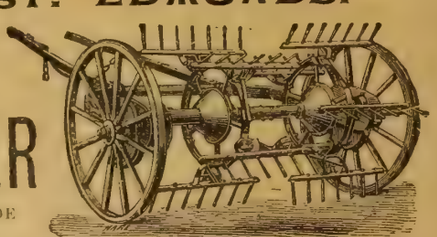
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A NEW FEATURE IN THE SHOW SYSTEM.

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Vol. LXXXVI. No. 3691. LONDON, MONDAY, JUNE 23, 1902. THIRTY-TWO PAGES. PRICE 3D.

SOCIETIES.

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION of ENGLISH HOP GROWERS.
(Founded June 1894.)
PRESIDENT.—COLONEL BROOKFIELD, M.P.
HON. TREASURER.—E. ALBERT WHITE, Esq., Beltring, Kent.
SECRETARY.—THOMAS IRONMONGER.
CENTRAL OFFICE.—61, HOP EXCHANGE, BOROUGH, LONDON.

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To promote united action among English hop growers as a body for the improvement of the industry.
To promote, support, or oppose such legislative and other measures as may affect the industry.
To collect and publish, for the benefit of members, special statistical and other useful information relating to English and foreign hop-culture.
To arrange for arbitrations in cases of dispute between sellers and buyers of hops, for the avoidance of litigation.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS.
Ordinary members, 3d. per acre of hops under cultivation; honorary members, £1 1s.; hop factors, £1 1s.

GREAT YORKSHIRE SHOW, at ROUNDHAY PARK, LEEDS, July 30th, 31st, & August 1st, 1902.
£2,115 offered in PRIZES.
Entries closed June 21st.
Late Entries June 28th.
For Prize Schedules & Forms of Entry apply
JOHN MAUGHAN, Secretary, Blake St., York.
Telegrams, "Yas, York."

MID-KENT AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION.

President: The Hon. R. P. NEVILL.

SEVENTH GRAND SUMMER SHOW, LOCK MEADOW, MAIDSTONE, WEDNESDAY, JULY 2nd, 1902.

Horses, Cattle, Sheep, Butter, Home-made Bread, Agricultural Implements, Motor Cars, &c.
Horse Parades. Jumping and Driving Competitions in the Large Horse Ring.
THE MAIDSTONE CORPORATION BAND will perform.
Luncheon provided on the ground.
Open to the public at 10 a.m. Admission 1s. Carriages 2s. 6d., and 6d. extra for each occupant. Grand Stand 2s. Enclosure 6d.
PHILIP CHAMPION, Hon. Sec., 3, Market Buildings, Maidstone.

THE PETERBOROUGH AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY, 1902.

Patron: HIS MAJESTY THE KING.
President for the Year:
The Most Hon. The MARQUIS OF EXETER.

The ANNUAL SHOW of HORSES, CATTLE, SHEEP, PIGS, BUTTER, DAIRYING IMPLEMENTS, &c., will take place at PETERBOROUGH, on TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, and THURSDAY, JULY 8th, 9th and 10th.
About £1,400 Awarded in Prizes.
Entries closed on Saturday, June 14th. Late Entries will be received up to June 23rd on payment of double fees.
Schedules, Forms of Entry, and particulars may be had on application to
J. E. LITTLE, Secretary.
Offices, Cowgate, Peterborough.

SOCIETIES.

THE EAST SURREY AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION SHOW will be held at CROYDON on JULY 9th, 1902.
Classes for STOCK STALLIONS, HACKS, HUNTERS, PONIES, SINGLE HARNESS, TANDEMS, PAIRS, and TRADESMEN'S TURNOUTS.
Upwards of £300 in Prizes, including about £80 for Jumpers.
ENTRIES CLOSED JUNE 21st.
HARRY FULLER, Hon. Sec.

Prize Lists and Entry Forms of HARRY M. CLARK, Acting Secretary, 83, High Street, Croydon.

BELFAST HORSE AND SHEEP SHOW
(North-East Agricultural Association's),
JULY 23rd, 24th, and 25th.

ENTRIES CLOSE JUNE 28th.
Double Fees, July 5th.

Schedules may be had on application to
KENNETH MACRAE, Secretary.
37, Donegall Place, Belfast.

BEDFORDSHIRE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

President:
J. F. HATFEILD HARTER, Esq., J.P.

The 101st ANNUAL SHOW of HORSES, CATTLE, SHEEP, PIGS, SHEEP DOGS, BUTTER, DEAD POULTRY, HONEY, HENS' EGGS, IMPLEMENTS, &c.
BLOCK TEST.
JUMPING & DRIVING COMPETITIONS, Will be held at BEDFORD, On THURSDAY, JULY 24th, 1902.
LAST DAY of ENTRY, Saturday, JUNE 21st, 1902. POST ENTRIES may be made on payment of DOUBLE FEES up to June 28th, 1902. PRIZE LISTS and ENTRY FORMS may be obtained of the Secretary,
H. R. J. SWAFFIELD, Ampthill.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

(Established 1839.)

President for 1902, The Right Hon. the EARL OF COVENTRY.

The Next Show of this Society will be held at TEWKESBURY, JULY the 22nd, 23rd and 24th, 1902.
Last day of Entry, Monday, June 16th. Post Entries (at double fees) will be received up to Monday, June 23rd.
Driving and Jumping Entries close July 7th, 1902.
F. J. TOWNSEND, Secretary, Cirencester.

THE THIRTEENTH ANNUAL OF THE THORNEY SHIRE FOAL SOCIETY JULY 17th, 1902, IN THORNEY PARK.

ENTRIES CLOSE JULY 7TH.

For Schedules and Entry Forms apply to the Secretary, H. HORRELL, THORNEY.

MALLOW, IRELAND.

GREAT HORSE AND CATTLE SHOW, Also POULTRY, DOGS, &c.
JULY 9th and 10th, 1902.
JUMPING COMPETITIONS EACH DAY.
AUCTION SALE OF EXHIBITION STOCK, JULY 10th.
Buyers should not miss this Show.
Schedules from HON. SEC., Mallow, Co. Cork.

SOCIETIES.

EAST BERKS HORSE SHOW at HAWTHORN HILL RACE COURSE, between BRACKNELL AND MAIDENHEAD, BERKS, THURSDAY, AUGUST 21st, 1902.

Schedules, &c., may be obtained of the Secretary, C. H. W. DIXON, 4, Henrietta Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.

TRING AGRICULTURAL SHOW, held on THURSDAY, AUGUST 7th, 1902, in TRING PARK, TRING, HERTS.
£1,200 IN PRIZES.
The chief features, and where most of the money is distributed, is in the Classes for Shires, Hunters, Jumping, Harness, Polo Ponies, Jersey Cattle, Milk and Butter Tests (£200), and Sheep Dog Trials.
Schedules now ready. Entries close July 4th.
F. J. BROWN, Hon. Sec., Tring.

CLEVELAND AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

SHOW AT MIDDLESBROUGH, WEDNESDAY, JULY 23, 1902.

£400 IN PRIZES.
COLLIE DOG CLASSES.
Entries close July 12th.
For Schedules, apply—T. S. PETCH, Sec., Liverton Lodge, Loftus R.S.O.

CAMBS AND ISLE OF ELY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.
SHOW AT CHATTERIS, JULY 23rd, 1902.
150 Prizes, Challenge Cups, and Medals. Prizes for Shires and Hackneys, open to all England. Separate Classes for same description of animal, open to Tenant Farmers only. All Prizes for Sheep open to all England. Medals and Certificates of Merit in Implement Departments. Entries close for Stock, June 30th; Implements, July 5th. Post Entries at Double Fees. Schedules to be obtained of Mr. R. PETERS, Secretary.
7, Downing Street, Cambridge.

SHEFFIELD & ECCLESFIELD FARMERS' CLUB.
59th ANNUAL SHOW, HILLSBRO' PARK, SHEFFIELD, BANK HOLIDAY, AUGUST 4th, 1902.
SCHEDULES NOW READY, may be had on application to
V. SIDDALL, Secretary, Wadsley Bridge, Sheffield;
and Victoria Hotel, Sheffield, Tuesdays and Thursdays.

WARRINGTON & DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.
President: Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart.
Vice-President: Col. R. Ireland Blackburne.
THIRTEENTH ANNUAL SHOW
Will be held in Walton Park, near Warrington, On THURSDAY, August 7th, 1902.

Prizes and Cups value £770.
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Hunters' Improvement Society's 3 Silver Medals.
Hackney Horse Society's Silver Medal.
Classes (Open and District) for: Shire Mares, Foals, One, Two, and Three-year-old Fillies, Draught Geldings, Hunter Mares and Foals, Hackney Mares and Foals, Ponies Turnouts, Tradesmen's Turnouts (District); Cattle, Pigs, Cheese, Butter, Eggs, Dressed Poultry and Potatoes (District), Open Class for Jumpers (prizes £50).
ENTRIES CLOSE WEDNESDAY, JULY 16th.
For full particulars, prize schedules, and entry forms, apply
H. BERESFORD MELVILLE, Secretary.
23, Bold Street, Warrington.

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CATTLE (*contd.*).

JERSEYS & GUERNSEYS (*continued*).

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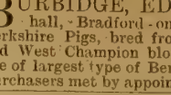
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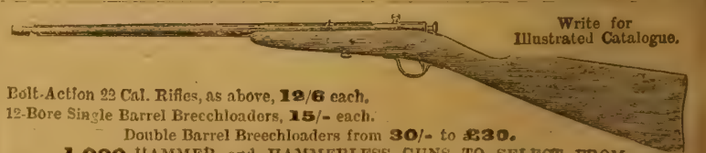
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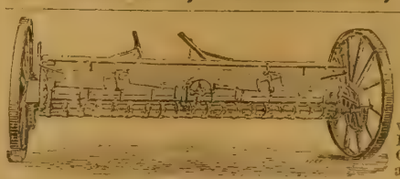


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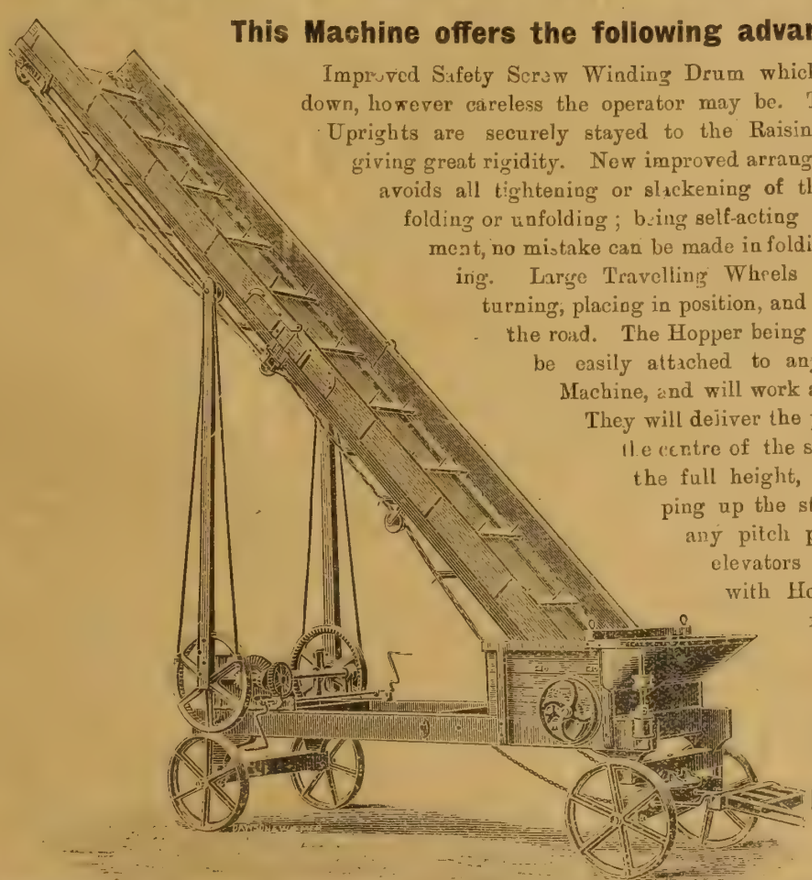
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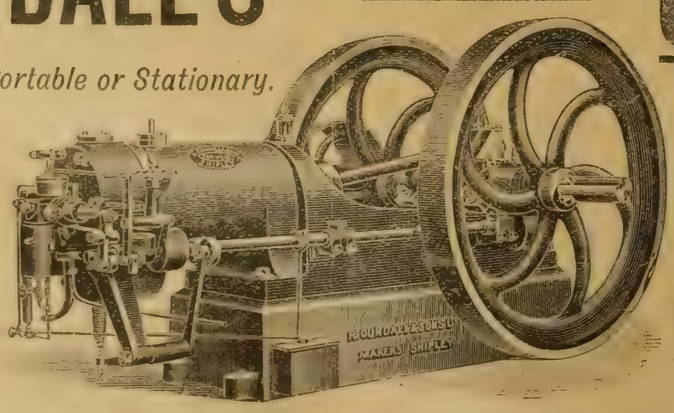
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JUNE 23, 1902.

Correspondents are requested to address all communications for the Editorial Department to THE EDITOR, "Mark Lane Express," 1, Essex Street, Strand, London, W.C.

Advertisements, Subscriptions, and business communications should be addressed to THE PUBLISHER, "Mark Lane Express," 1, Essex Street, Strand, London, W.C.

A NEW FEATURE IN THE AGRICULTURAL SHOW SYSTEM.

Dairy farmers have to thank Mr. Martin John Sutton for a new idea, which at the recent Royal Counties Show, caused a novel, but highly serviceable, addition to the competitive cattle classes in which they were specially interested. He suggested two additional ones for Dairy Herds, and provided the money—£50—for carrying out the object. The herds were divided into two sets: one where more than 50 cows were kept in profit, and the other for smaller ones, comprising from 20 to 30 cows. The prizes offered were £15 and £10 in either class, and the judges, previous to the show, went the round and inspected all of those that had been entered for the competition, just as the judges of farms used to do before the Royal took the backward step of discontinuing the offer of prizes for farms. The competition was wisely restricted to *bonâ fide* tenant farmers, and there were three entries in the class for the larger herds and eight in that for the smaller ones, a very creditable outcome, considering that the competition was limited to the county in which the show was held—Berkshire.

Circumstances in recent years have very much tended to enhance the importance of dairy farming, which has become the farmer's sheet anchor in innumerable cases in a tenfold degree, more than it used to be in olden times. Many are old enough to remember when those who made their chief living out of the products of the dairy were rather looked down upon as a subordinate class by others of the farming community. In those days farmers, who occupied mixed corn and grass holdings on which it was desirable and profitable to keep milch cows, let them to dairymen, whereby they relieved themselves and their wives and daughters of the sloppy, slavish labours of the milk-rooms, and still be able to breed from the cows young cattle available for grazing. This, it is true, was oftener left alone, for the bulls then employed were not often pedigree ones, or those calculated to make the progeny or dairy herds valuable for grazing.

But two things have altered all this, and absolutely revolutionised dairy farming in England. The cream separator has done away with the toilsome drudgery of the milk-room and along with it the degradation associated therewith. Dairying has become an interesting pastime, and ladies of title, and even Princesses of the Royal blood have their *recherché* temples dedicated to Unos, in which they take infinite delight in the industry of butter-making. The other change has made so many of our largest and most wealthy farmers not only owners of immense dairy herds, but purveyors of the milk they yield. The railway network covering the face of the country has knit town and country so intimately together that the latter supplies the former with milk day by day, in increasing volume. Thus Mr. Geo. Adams, who won second prize in the competition of the largest Berkshire Herds above referred to has as many as 500 cows in profit, and nearly the whole of the milk they yield is twice a day sent off to London.

Moreover, pedigree herds now very largely share in the direct milk supply trade, and several of our leading Shorthorn breeders carry on the dual industries of raising valuable young bulls for the Birmingham March Mart or for private sale from cows yielding immense quantities of milk for the Metropolis or some other large town. There is another class of herds' pedigree in all but name, and made so by the persistent employment of registered sires for many successive generations. The owners of these herds send their milk away like the others, and their male calves are exceedingly valuable for grazing purposes.

Thus it will be seen that a very large proportion of leading tenant farmers have now to do with dairying, and this being the case, it has claims on the councils of agricultural societies which cannot be gainsaid. Still, it is not chiefly on that ground that we would counsel Mr. Sutton's laudable prize system to be more generally adopted, but on the utility of stimulating improvement in ordinary herds by the emulating influence of the mode of competition indicated. The dairy herd is a production on which some of our best farmers build for large returns. Those of the humbler ones are very slight, for with mongrel cows the calves are not worth much. There has, no doubt, been considerable improvement wrought in recent years in some of the humbler ones, but nothing like what it might be. Let this Reading example, then, not be lost sight of. Often has it been said that our past show system has only affected improvement in the upper strata of cattle. Offering prizes for Dairy Herds upon such lines as at the Reading Show would be likely to do something for the rank and file.

A fire occurred on Tuesday evening on the premises of Thomas Ovens and Sons (Limited), oilcake and manure merchants, Leith, and oilcake and feeding stuffs valued at £10,000 and machinery valued at £4,000 were destroyed.



By A Man of Mark Lane.

Of interest to manufacturers of agricultural implements is a recent despatch which has been received at the Foreign Office from H.M. Commissioner and Consul-General at Zomba, and in which it is stated that the amount of land under cultivation in the British Central Africa Protectorate by Europeans is not very great in extent, and owing to the low price of coffee, planters and farmers are laying out as little money as possible on their properties. Unskilled labour being extremely cheap in British Central Africa, a large amount of manual work is done by natives, which would in most countries be more cheaply done by machinery. H.M. Commissioner adds that in the event of a rise in the price of coffee, or should the endeavours of the planters at Zomba to open a tobacco market in South Africa prove successful, there is no doubt that there would be an increased market there for the more simple descriptions of agricultural implements.

In reply to various questions with regard to the trade of the country in industrial and agricultural machinery, H.M. Commissioner reports that practically no agricultural implements made locally are in use in the country, and that very few native hoes are now made. Up till lately only coffee pulpers were imported, but recently harrows, ploughs, cultivators, and traction engines have arrived, the last being, as yet, used solely for transport purposes. It is said that any improved types of labour-saving machinery for agricultural purposes, such as machinery suitable for clearing weeds from coffee gardens, and suitable types of engines for taking heavy gradients and soft roads would be likely to sell there if properly put before the users. As regards machinery for industrial purposes, only two fixed steam engines have at present been introduced, and these are believed to have been of Scotch make. The classes of machinery not at present in use in the country which would be likely to sell there if properly put before the users, are stated to be corn mills and a good class of pumps, also cheap and effective well sinkers

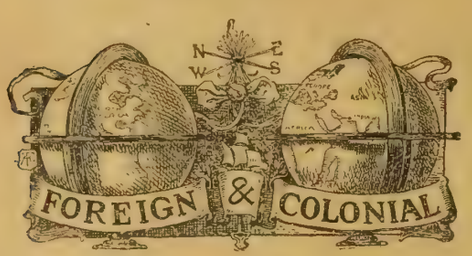
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Reports received from all over the country show that farm labourers were, generally speaking, in regular employment during May. In several districts, however, some casual labourers were not in constant work, particularly in the early part of the month, owing chiefly to the growth of crops being retarded by cold weather, with consequent delay of hoeing and weeding. Towards the end of the month, the weather was more favourable to the growth of corn crops and roots, and the demand for extra men increased somewhat.

At the present time the recent discovery in a Brussels bric-a-brac shop of a relic of the great Free Trade agitation has a peculiar in-

terest in view of the hullabaloo being organised in certain quarters against the registration duty on corn. This relic is a large-sized copper medal, bearing on the obverse a bust in relief of Queen Victoria, with the date A.D. 1849, and a legend of the names of the Ministers who in that year were members of the Cabinet, while on the reverse are engraved, in characters so small as to be only recognisable with the aid of a powerful magnifying-glass, the names of the members of the House of Commons in 1849. The article was presented by the purchaser to his friend, Mr. H. J. Reckitt, M.P. for the Brigg Division of Lincolnshire, who brought it with him to England, and sought, for some time without success, to discover its history. Ultimately it was brought under the notice of the authorities of the Medal Room of the British Museum, who pronounced it to be one of a small number of medals which were struck in commemoration of the triumph of the agitation for the repeal of the Corn Laws.

The receipts on account of Revenue from April 1st, 1902, when there was a balance of £8,566,947, to June 14th, 1902, were £27,908,756, against £23,612,287 in the corresponding period of the preceding financial year, which began with a balance of £5,596,918. The net expenditure was £39,909,129, against £41,304,779 to the same date in the previous year. The Treasury balances on June 14th, 1902, amounted to £6,445,409, and at the same date in 1901 to £2,159,307.



Crops in Austria.

The subjoined table, which was issued from Vienna in the year-books of the Ministry of Agriculture for 1901, gives the yield of the principal cereal crops, together with the area under cultivation:—

	Area cultivated. Acres.
Wheat	2,674,322
Rye	4,526,840
Barley	3,026,942
Oats	4,676,532
Maize	830,352

The total yield expressed in 100 kgs. of the above-named crops was as under:—

	Total yield.
Wheat	11,982,260
Rye	19,181,565
Barley	14,607,361
Oats	17,155,368
Maize	4,454,218

A comparison of these figures with the results of the preceding years shows that there was an increase in the area cultivated to the principal cereal crops in 1901. In the case of wheat it was 11,045 acres; rye, 262,562 acres. There was a decrease in the area cultivated to barley of 58,290; oats, 71,527 acres. The decrease in the case of maize was 7,122 acres. The total yield of the crops in 1901 exceeded that of 1900; in the case of wheat by 843,115 qr., or 100 kgs.; rye, 5,263,707 qr., or 100 kgs; oats, 12,510 qr., or 100 kgs.; maize, 30,5826 qr., or 100 kgs., or a total of 7,871,720 qr., or 100 kgs.

New Agricultural Patents.

Specially compiled for MARK LANE EXPRESS by Mr. G. D. Howard (Hughes, Son and Co.), Patent Agent, 38, Chancery Lane, London, of whom all information relating to patents, designs and trade marks may be obtained free of charge.

12,522.—Thomas Walter Hugh Clarke, of London, for "Improvements relating to hoes."

12,789.—Marie Ferdinand François Keelhoff, of London, for "Improved hay-making machine."

Patents Sealed.

3,442.—A. Jolles, of Vienna, for "Food preparations."

3,590.—R. Schrader, of Hamburg, Germany, for "Food for animals mixing machines."



By a Lobbyist.

There is no use attempting to draw consolation from the debates this week on the corn and flour duties. As a fact, there is none to be drawn. Neither the discussion or the suggested Zollverein nor the discussion on the main question of the wisdom of the policy of the budget had the redeeming quality of being inspired by sympathy with the British agriculturist. It may seem strange, but as a fact the British agriculturist was one of the last personages who intruded himself upon the attention of the debaters. The main idea inspiring the proposed Zollverein, so far as Sir Wilfrid Laurier is concerned, is to benefit the Canadian agriculturist, and not to benefit the British farmer—is, in a word, to make the illimitable fields of the Dominion a source of supply for the mother-country. The main idea inspiring the clever crusading of Sir Howard Vincent is to benefit our Sheffields rather than our Arcadias. His colleagues and comrades, Mr. Chaplin and Mr. James Lowther, are, of course, differently moved, but I am afraid that I must regard Sir Howard as a more dominant factor in the business. The British agriculturist was, I repeat, a person of no serious importance in the considerations generally influencing the debates.

If we be Protectionists, the mere decision to partially exclude Irish maize from the new duties imposed under the budget can, again, afford us little satisfaction. It shows little confidence in the principle we have espoused. It is held by the antagonists of the new principle that that principle makes for the heightening of prices—that it means rendering dearer the articles of everyday life to the Irish cottier. The exclusion of maize from the new policy is a practical admission of the truth of this contention. This admission strikes a blow at the very arguments which have been used by Protectionists to justify the duties. It has been held, in a word, that they will not in any sense heighten the cost of necessaries to the consumer, and that the only real practical result will simply be a benefit to the Exchequer. The principle of giving a bounty to agriculture—for that, in a sense, I esteemed the new duties to be—has thus been denounced by its own promoters and advocates. The duties cannot thus be accepted as a portent of the forecoming of Protection.

If I were asked—and I am repeating in this the view of some of the more strenuous advocates of Protection in the House of Commons—what is the meaning of the speeches which Sir Michael Hicks-Beach has delivered during the week, I should say that they are frankly anti-Protectionist. If I were asked to describe Sir Michael Hicks-Beach himself, I should dub him the Strephon of political economics. His head has taken him in one direction, while his legs have taken him in another. His brain induces him to a wholehearted and vigorous sympathy with Free Trade; his legs, which have proved themselves more subservient to the Chamberlain discipline, induced him to seek salvation in something at least that savours of Protection. At one time he certainly seemed to have accepted the companionship of Mr. Chaplin, Mr. Lowther, and Sir Howard Vincent (in saying this I am borrowing an idea from that subtle cartoonist, "F. C. G."); but he assuredly very emphatically in the end renounced all association or sympathy with them. The speech on the Zollverein question was as anti-Protectionist as the most strenuous Cobdenites could desire. Sir Michael seemed to have broken with the Chamberlainite influence with a very emphatic wrench. His declaration against the Zollverein—and though this policy was not inspired by any sympathy with the British farmer, it would have tended in its very trend to his advantage—was subsequently given a new force by the antagonism to that some policy of the Premier of the Australian Commonwealth. The criticism of the two men means the death of the idea—at least for a moment. But economic ambitions have always the capacity of resurrection.

A more significant evidence of the fact that Protection cannot yet be regarded as an accepted article of the Conservative charter is provided in the abstentions from the division. I doubt whether in the history of any great economic revolution—(and, if they were intended to be followed up, this is what these corn and flour duties are)—was ever accepted by so numerically weak a majority. The Parliamentary observer and critic could not but ask himself again and again during the week what had become of the Government majority? More than once it fell to a third of its strength. As significant in its way as the numerical decline was the absence of certain members. My readers know that I have heralded the advent of a man like Mr. Spears into the House of Commons as an incident of promise to agriculture. He was absent from more than one crucial division. Major "Jack" Seeley is another member of the same political kidney; that is, he is a Liberal-Unionist. He was not merely absent from the Government majority; but he spoke forcefully against the Government policy. I repeat then that all the omens of the week are against the idea of the early intrusion of a Protective policy into our national economics. It is well to admit this; it would, indeed, be folly to disguise it. Should any repetition or extension of the corn and flour duties be attempted, it would be opposed with a tenfold force and ardour. Conservatism, or, rather, Unionism, is not at this moment ripe for Protection.

Why do the Radicals now desire—and in this they are against their policy of a generation past—to make education a charge upon the local rates, rather than an Imperial charge? I am sorry to say that it is because they desire to maintain a provoked feeling against the voluntary schools. Let me explain: In every part of England men are taking oaths, which I believe they will in many cases keep, that they will suffer any disability, any inconvenience, any martyrdom (?) rather than pay the rate under the new Education Act. Their purpose in this is to kill the voluntary system, and the enhanced recognition which the Act will give to that system. If the cost of education were an Imperial charge, this martyrdom would be impossible. The cost would, in fact, be an indirecti infliction, and would be automatically and silently imposed. Education ought not to be made a kind of shuttlecock of partisans—'tis too sacred a subject. The increasing recognition of this is one of the most significant Parliamentary incidents of the moment. I doubt, however, that Major Rasch's propaganda will be immediately successful; but the time is near at hand when it will be.

By the way, Major Seely—whom I have got into the habit of regarding as a purely agricultural member; he is, I believe the Commander-Designate of the Hampshire Yeomanry Cavalry—is beset by a danger which has encompassed many another good man. He shows too great a concern to impose himself on the House of Commons. He has posed as military expert, as a South African authority, as an agricultural authority, and, finally, as an economist. I am bound to say that his appearance in the last *rôle* was infinitely to his credit. Without being called upon to agree with everything that he said, I must confess that he revealed an economic grasp and a capacity of exposition which greatly commended him to his fellows.

Agricultural Returns for the United Kingdom.

Complete returns have now been issued by the Board of Agriculture showing the acreage and produce of crops, prices of corn, and the number of live stock, with agricultural statistics for the United Kingdom, British possessions, and foreign countries, for 1901.

In the course of his introduction to the various tables, Major P. J. Cragie of the Board of Agriculture, calls attention to the decline in arable cultivation, and the consequent extension of the area under permanent pasture, which formed a most distinctive movement during the later years of the nineteenth century. He contrasts the quinquennial periods — 1867-71 and 18971901—in a table which shows that the arable area in England in 1867-71 was 13,511,000 acres, or 58 per cent. of the total cultivated area; while in 1897-1901 the arable area was 11,451,000 acres or 46 per cent. of the total cultivated area. In Wales the arabie area in 1867-71 was 1,074,000 acres or 43 per cent. of the total cultivated area; while in 1897-1901 the arable area was 897,000 acres, or 32 per cent. of the total cultivated area.

In Scotland the arable area in 1867-71 was 3,388,000 acres, or 76 per cent. of the total cultivated area; while in 1897-1901 the arable area was 3,498,000 acres, or 71 per cent. of the total cultivated area. It will thus be seen that while the land under the plough has fallen in England from 58 to 46 per cent. of the cultivated area ,in Scotland the decline has only been from 76 to 71 per cent. The variations in particular districts have, of course, been still greater. Thus in Surrey, the proportion of arable land has fallen from 65 to 45 per cent., in Sussex from 61 to 42 per cent., and in Monmouth from 40 to 20 per cent.; of the area under cultivation. In some of the principal counties, however, the withdrawal of land from the plough has been relatively much less, although the areas affected are considerably larger than where the proportionate change has been more striking. Thus in Lincolnshire, out of every 100 acres of farm land 71 were in tillage in 1867-71, and of these 67 still remained in 1837-1901.

In Suffolk and Cambridgeshire also more than three-fourths of the agricultural land is still arable counties, however, the withdrawal of land amounted to only five and eight acres respectively out of every hundred. In Scotland, also, although in a few counties, such as Fife in the east, and Inverness in the north, there has been an appreciable reduction of ploughed land, there are many others which show comparatively little change.

The total areas devoted to crops in the United Kingdom are as follows:—

United Kingdom.	1899. Acres.	1900. Acres.	1901. Acres.
Area under all crops and grass	47,796,000	47,795,000	47,761,000
Permanent pasture	28,092,000	28,267,000	28,374,000
Arable land	19,704,000	19,528,000	19,387,000
Corn crops	8,804,000	8,706,000	8,477,000
Green crops	4,274,000	4,301,000	4,231,000
Clover and rotation grasses	6,115,000	6,025,000	6,141,000
Flax	35,000	48,000	56,000
Hops	52,000	51,000	51,000
Small fruit	77,000	79,000	81,000
Bare fallow	347,000	316,000	350,000

Live Stock.

The returns of the number of live stock on the agricultural holdings of Great Britain on June 4th, 1901, were disappointing as showing a general diminution, and indicating therefore, to that extent, a decrease of farmers' capital.

The only exception to the general tendency was found in the case of horses, which showed a slight increase of less than one per cent., the increase occurring in the category of "horses used solely for agriculture and mares kept for breeding." In view of the fact that the steady decline of arable cultivation can scarcely fail to reduce the requirements for horse labour on the land, it may reasonably be assumed that the maintenance of the numbers under this head indicates that mares are retained by farmers for breeding, which would be disposed of if the necessities of farm work were the only consideration in view. In fact, it seems reasonable to infer that it is the increased attention given to horse-breeding which has served to prevent the reduction in the number of horses naturally to be expected from the economic changes in the general position of agriculture. Except on this hypothesis, it would be difficult to explain why the number of agricultural horses in the country has not only not decreased, but has appreciably increased during the past fifteen or twenty years. The demands of the Army Remount Department are alluded to by several collectors as having affected the returns of the past year, being in some cases mentioned as explaining an increase by the stimulation of breeding, and in other cases as accounting for a decrease by the sales which were effected by farmers. If the returns of unbroken horses under one year be taken as some index of progress of horse-breeding among farmers, it will be observed that the numbers under that heading showed a slight gain on the year.

A reduction by 41,000 of the total number of cattle in Great Britain is not, on the total herd of nearly 7,000,000, of much statistical importance, but it gives the first check to the progress year by year recorded since 1894. It unfortunately, however, includes a further decline in the number of cows and heifers, beyond that which was made the subject of special comment in last year's report. The decrease shown under the heading of cattle under one year may perhaps be considered consequential, and, as the losses and gains among other cattle balance one another, the actual reduction of the horned stock of the country is represented by the smaller total of milch cows, heifers, and calves enumerated in June last, in nearly every part of the country, Wales being relatively the greatest sufferer, and the most noticeable exceptions to the rule occurring in the West Riding of Yorkshire, Devon, Lancashire, and Forfarshire.

As in the case of cattle so also in that of sheep, it is a matter for regret that a distinct reduction of numbers occurred among the breeding stock. The number of ewes kept for breeding was less in 1901 than in 1900 by 188,000, or 1.8 per cent. If this be added to the previous year's loss of 111,000 the total diminution of the ewe flock in the course of two seasons reaches 300,000. On the other hand, the lambing season of 1901 appears to have been on the whole successful, and as large a number of sheep under one year was returned from the reduced number of ewes as that recorded a year previously. In Scotland this was especially noticeable, as, notwithstanding a loss of 26,000 ewes, the number of sheep under one year showed an increase of no less than 73,000. Among sheep over one year, other than breeding ewes, there was a small net loss of 23,000 in Great Britain, but this figure is the balance of remarkably diverse local changes. Thus in the East Riding of Yorkshire there was an increase of 43,000, in Cumberland of 18,000, in Norfolk of 17,000, and in the West Riding of 16,000. On the other hand 32 English counties showed a decline, amounting in Kent to 16,000, in Northampton to 14,000, and in Devon to 11,000. In Wales the reduction was greater and more universal than in England, but in Scotland the majority of counties showed increases amounting in Berwick to 12,000, in Dumfries to 10,000, and in Fife and Roxburgh to 6,000. The chief exceptions to this rule occurred in the Western and North-Western Highlands, reductions of 8,000, 6,000, and 4,000 respectively being reported from the counties of Inverness, Argyll, and Sutherland. Among the causes to which the decline in sheep is attributed, scarcity of keep in the autumn of 1900 is mentioned by some collectors, and reference is also made by others to the depressing effect on the sheep-breeding industry of the low price of wool.

Pigs showed a decrease of 202,000, or 8½ per cent., in Great Britain, the total number standing at a lower level than in any year since 1893. The effect of the restrictions necessitated by the existence of swine fever is referred to in some instances as one of the causes of this reduction. In Cheshire an explanation is offered by one of the collectors which may possibly have wider application. He remarks that "farmers are giving up cheese and butter-making and sending their milk to Manchester and Liverpool or to dairy factories. The whey produced in cheese-making was an important part of the pig-feed."

Firing a Haystack.—At the Essex Assizes at Chelmsford on Friday, Peter Wakelin, labourer, was sentenced to three years' penal servitude for setting fire to a haystack at Hornchurch, near Romford.

Dumfries Hirings.—A hiring fair was held at Dumfries on Wednesday, but business was almost at a standstill. Many farmers are still unsupplied with servants, and the girl servants who attended the fair refused to hire, though offered high rates, preferring to wait till after the Coronation. As a result farmers have not been able to secure an adequate staff for their work, causing them no little inconvenience and annoyance. Girls command up to £10 10s. for the half-year, with board, lads to £7 10s., and ploughmen to £14.

The Royal Commission appointed to consider the question of arsenical poison in beer sat again on Friday. Mr. Arthur Ling, of the Society of Chemical Industry, was called to give evidence as to the presence of arsenic in fuel. He said that in the course of a very large experience with malting fuel he had never met with a sample free from arsenic, and proceeded to give a minute description of the process of testing the fuel. Anthracite coal often, when carefully selected, contained an amount of volatile arsenic equal to from 1-20th to 1-50th of a grain per pound. Anthracite was so variable that it was difficult to select samples sufficiently free from arsenic for malting purposes. From his experience he thought that by the use of fuel treated with a base (lime and soda) the arsenic in malt could be greatly reduced. Mr. C. S. Beavem, of Warminster, gave similar evidence, and the committee adjourned.

IN PARLIAMENT.

House of Lords.

Horse Breeders and Army Remounts.

On Friday Lord Barnard asked the Under Secretary for War whether the War Office received reports from the officers engaged in purchasing remounts and other horses for military purposes at various places in this country, and, if so, whether in the interests of agriculturists and horse-breeders, those reports or summaries of them could be made public. The noble Lord said a great many farmers were ignorant on this subject, and there was a disinclination to breed horses suitable for military purposes. Nothing, however, was done to induce agriculturists to breed such horses, and it was with a view to encouraging them that he desired to obtain this information.

Lord Raglan said the question really referred more to the subject of breeding horses than to that of remounts, and perhaps the noble Lord would have got a more satisfactory answer if he had addressed his question to the Board of Agriculture. The War Office, of course, received reports from the officers and those engaged in the purchase of remounts, but these reports were entirely drawn up from the point of view of the horse-purchaser, and not of the horse-breeder. They had supplied the Board of Agriculture with information as to the specification of the horses which were required for Army purposes in peace as well as in war, and they were of course naturally anxious to do anything they could to assist in improving the system of horse-breeding in this country with any information in their power. It was impossible, however, for them to publish the reports as a whole, but if there was any particular point as to which the noble Lord would make any suggestion, he would see if the information could be supplied.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

More Corn Tax Discussions. Reduction on Maize Offals.

On Monday the House resumed the consideration of the Finance Bill, when Mr. Flynn moved to leave out maize from the schedule of articles to be taxed on the ground that it would affect the very poorest of the poor in Ireland, and several members made speeches in support of the amendment.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, however, declined to entertain the proposal, on the ground that if maize were exempted it would be impossible to maintain the corn duty at all, because it was estimated that the amount which the duty on maize would realise would be £600,000 a year, or not very far short of one-fourth of the total yield of the tax. It must also be remembered that the increase in the imports of maize was out of all proportion to the increase in the imports of other kinds of corn, having risen from 18,000,000 cwt. in 1882 to 51,000,000 cwt. to-day. He admitted that the use of maize in Ireland was larger in proportion than in Great Britain. It was used by the very poor, by the cottiers as food in place of other kinds of meal. But what was the position of those cottiers as compared with the very poor in our great towns? The latter were practically at the mercy of the baker, but the Irish cottier always had his land on which it was open to him to grow oats, and oatmeal, he would venture to say, for he was in the habit of using it, was as good a food as anyone could desire. In his belief, it would be infinitely better for the people of this country or for the people of Ireland who had land if they would use a little more of it for the purposes of arable cultivation, instead of allowing it to go down into that miserable grass which was called meadowing grass in Ireland, where it could not possibly produce anything like what it would under arable cultivation. He did not think the position would be so terrible as hon. members supposed, and in his belief the threepenny tax on maize would be as nothing compared with the variations in price.

Mr. T. W. Russell ridiculed the suggestion of the Chancellor of the Exchequer that the poor Irish peasantry should cultivate oats, because in some districts the only harvest reaped for three years was one of stones. The tax would only produce £600,000, and if dropped it would not seriously affect the Budget, but would only reduce the surplus which might be applied to English education.

Sir H. Fowler said he regarded its effect on Ireland as one of the most painful consequences of this deplorable tax on the food of the people. He agreed that there was nothing protective in this duty, but it was one which, to the last farthing, would have to be paid by the consumer. Were the resources of the nation completely exhausted that it was necessary to tax the food of the poorest of the poor? He repudiated that doctrine altogether, and it was a mockery to tell

the wealthy people of this country that it was necessary. They did not believe it, nor did they wish to have this tax imposed.

After speeches by several other members, Sir William Harcourt spoke, and said that the proposed tax on maize was merely a subsidiary tax, which was to be imposed simply with the object of bolstering up the tax on wheat. But for this he ventured to assert that the Chancellor of the Exchequer would never have dreamt of putting a tax on maize, having regard to its effect on the food of the people and on agricultural feeding stuffs.

Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, in reply, denied that the tax on maize was proposed in order to bolster up the tax on wheat. A duty on corn, he said, must be a duty on corn all through, or else it was useless to propose it at all. When the previous tax on corn was proposed it covered exactly the same articles as were now to be taxed. That tax existed for 20 years without any of the terrible consequences which were then prophesied, and he had no doubt that would be the experience in this case. He sympathised with what had been said with regard to the condition of the poor people in the west of Ireland, but he submitted that the way to improve that condition was not to reject the tax, which would be borne by the whole country, but to make such grants from the Exchequer as would enable the Congested Districts Board to carry out the work which had already done so much to help the inhabitants of Ireland.

Mr. Dillon ridiculed the idea of the Irish peasant farmers being advised to grow more corn so as to avoid having to pay the duty on maize. Outside Bedlam he could hardly imagine a set of lunatics governing Ireland who would make such suggestions as this.

Ultimately the Chancellor of the Exchequer moved the closure, and on a division it was carried by 248 to 165; majority 83. The committee then divided on the amendment, which was rejected by 23 to 175, majority 68. The result was received with Opposition cheers.

Mr. H. Reckitt moved to omit from the schedule locust beans, on the ground that they were not beans at all—(laughter)—and certainly not grain. The seeds were so hard that stones would not crush them.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer agreed that these beans had never before been taxed, and as there was some doubt whether the beans were beans, he did not object to the amendment. The amendment was therefore agreed to.

Mr. Reckitt moved to omit rice from the schedule, and pointed out that nearly half the rice imported into London was re-exported from London to Liverpool. A further argument in favour of the exemption of rice from taxation was that it came largely from India and Burma.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer said he was afraid he could not agree to the amendment, as it would be unreasonable to impose a duty on wheat and maize and to exempt rice, which was grain, and which was used for precisely similar purposes as the other two articles.

The committee divided, when the amendment was rejected by 250 to 167.

Mr. O. Williams moved to reduce the duty on wheat offals from threepence to three-halfpence per cwt.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer said if the committee desired that offals used for feeding stuffs should be more favourably treated, he was prepared to accept the amendment in the modified form of making the duty only half of that proposed in the Bill for feeding purposes.

Mr. Williams withdrew his amendment, and one giving effect to the concession of the Chancellor of the Exchequer was agreed to. This provides that any offals which were feeding stuffs and were proved to the satisfaction of the Commissioners of Customs not to contain more than 50 per cent. of starch should be charged at the rate of 1½d. per cwt. Offals were defined as including bran, pollards, husks, culme, and other similar bye-products.

Mr. Flynn proposed that the duty on wheat, barley, oats, and other articles in the first schedule should be 2s. 6d. per ton instead of 3d. per cwt.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer said he could not possibly accept an amendment which would have the effect of reducing the duty on all kinds of grain from 3d. to 1½d. per cwt. At the same time he promised as a concession to the wishes of the Irish members to consider whether it was possible to make a distinction between the duty on maize and the duty on other kinds of grain, and if he found it practicable he would be very glad to do so.

Mr. T. W. Russell welcomed the promise of the Chancellor of the Exchequer in view of the serious state of things prevailing in the West of Ireland, where, owing to the fact that the potatoes were actually being washed out of the ground by the continued rain, the people were likely to have to depend very largely on maize for their food in the coming winter.

Sir H. Campbell-Bannerman congratulated the Chancellor of the Exchequer on the direct sympathy which he had shown with the object of the amendment, and expressed the hope that the right hon. gentleman, after looking into the matter with a view to avoiding any possible dangers that there might be in making the suggested distinction in the case of the duty on maize, would find himself able to give this substantial relief to those who very much needed it. The amendment was withdrawn.

Mr. Kearley moved to reduce the duty on flour and meal from fivepence to fourpence per cwt. This, he maintained, was the proper correlative duty of threepence per cwt. on wheat, and a duty of fivepence amounted to protection.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer said he could not accept the amendment. Of the present imports one-eighth consisted of flour, and that was a very bad thing for this country. This country wanted to import more grain, and he frankly admitted that he had made the proposal in order to get the whole grain. The average duty upon flour ought to be more than 50 per cent. above the duty on grain, and he had therefore fixed it at 5d. as against the 3d. on grain. He did so for the reason, also, that the product of fine flour out of a cwt. of grain had been considerably altered since the days of stone milling. The hon. member was more in favour of the foreign exporter than the foreign exporter himself. He quoted from the organ of American millers to show that they were generally of opinion that the duty would have no serious effect on them.

After some discussion, a division took place, when the amendment was rejected by 216 to 145. The first schedule was then agreed to, and the second schedule having been adopted, the Bill was reported to the House for third reading.

The Tax on Maize Reduced.

Yet another long discussion on the corn tax took place on Wednesday, when the House was considering the Finance Bill on the report stages. At the outset, Sir E. Strachey moved to add the following clause:—"If it is proved to the satisfaction of the Commissioners of Customs that any article mentioned in the First Schedule to this Act, and liable to duty of threehalfpence thereunder, has been manufactured in Great Britain or Ireland from grain, having paid a duty of threepence, a rebate of twopence shall be allowed per hundredweight on such article."

The Chancellor of the Exchequer pointed out that the clause would give something to the English millers to which they were not entitled. The amendment was negatived without a division.

Then followed a lengthy speech by Mr. Morley, who moved to omit clause 1, which imposes the duties on grain and flour. The right hon. gentleman canvassed the whole policy of the tax, on concrete and practical grounds, as well as on the abstract principle, and declared that the Chancellor of the Echequer was breaking down the ramparts of the fiscal system which had developed the prosperity of the country.

Mr. Emmott, Mr. A. Elliot, Sir Charles Dilke, Mr. Chaplin, Mr. Caine, and Sir M. Stewart, Mr. Asquith, Mr. M'Kenna, and Mr. Hobhouse were among the speakers who carried on the debate, to which the Chancellor of the Exchequer replied at some length.

In the course of his remarks Sir Michael Hicks-Beach said that he could appreciate the speeches of Mr. Morley and Mr. Asquith, although he did not agree with them. Throughout his speech Mr. Asquith absolutely begged the question. He assumed without the slightest reason that this was a protective tax, and could not be justified by the necessities of the time. Surely it was a necessity of any time to pay our debts. We had incurred an enormous expenditure, and borrowed for that expenditure beyond the amount required, and it was calmly argued that it would be justifiable to get rid of taxation which had been in force for two months, and to use in place of it the money we had borrowed. He entirely demurred to that assumption. The right hon. gentleman suggested that the tax should be ear-marked for a particular purpose. That was never done, and never could be done, in the financial history of this country. As to the insinuation about the relief of rates, everybody who had looked at the Education Bill knew that not a penny could be expended under it during the present financial year. Therefore the imputation was simply absurd. They were told the tax would add 2d. in the £ income-tax on the earnings of the poor man with a large family. He had read in the "Labour Gazette" that according to figures based on 367 returns from co-operative societies in Great Britain, the mean price of the 4lb. loaf was practically the same as on June 3, 1901, and only .08 above the price of March 3 in the present year. He would not say that this was proof that the tax had no influence on the present price of corn, but that it was absurd to regard it as a burden upon the country. Mr. Morley said it was a reversal of our fiscal policy. He had never been able quite to appreciate that argument. No one for a moment suggested that it would diminish the imports of food. He did not know what more he could say to convince right hon. members opposite that the Government did not intend to change the fiscal policy. He thought the tax necessary to deal honestly with the financial affairs of the nation in the present year, and to pay our way in future with any fair regard to the allocation of taxation between the different classes of the country. It would be largely productive, easily levied, and would confer neither hardship on the people nor difficulty on commerce.

On a division the clause was carried by 251 to 178—majority 73.

On the motion of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the schedule of the Bill was so amended that persons who had already paid the full threepenny tax on maize and maize meal might have the excess remitted on proving to the Inland Revenue Commissioners that they had paid it and had not had it returned from any other quarter. Earlier in the evening Sir Michael had announced that he would take this course, for he had been very much impressed with the views expressed in the course of the debate with regard to the effect of the tax upon Ireland, and also with regard to the effect generally as a tax upon what may be called the raw material of the agricultural breeding and stock-raising industry throughout the whole of the United Kingdom. No doubt, as the tax at present stands the percentage rate, although not large, is higher than that on other articles. Therefore altogether he thought it would be right and just to accept the amendment proposed to reduce the tax by one-half.

Sir F. Strachey, on the consideration of Schedule 1, moved to abolish the proposed duty of 1½d. per cwt. on offals, which are feeding stuffs.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer declined to accept the amendment, remarking that in committee he reduced the duty from 3d. to 1½d. per cwt. That was then accepted by the committee as a fair concession. The hon. member appeared to him to be like a famous character in fiction, always "asking for more."

After some remarks by Mr. S. Buxton and Mr. C. Grant, the House divided, when the amendment was rejected by 230 votes to 136.

Mr. Channing afterwards proposed an amendment, with the object of raising the whole question of the flour duty, and of giving the Chancellor of the Exchequer an opportunity of arriving at the proper figures, which would enable the Government to place the duty on an equitable basis as compared with the duty on wheat.

Sir M. Hicks-Beach stated that the effect of the amendment would be to reject altogether the duty on flour, although the House had already agreed to impose a tax on grain, and on a division, the amendment was rejected by 143 votes to 98—majority 45.

An amendment to exempt arrowroot, proposed by Mr. Channing, was negatived by 161 votes against 107—majority 54.

The Bill passed the report stage, and the third reading was fixed for to-day (Monday).

Horses from the War.

On Monday Mr. A. Davies asked the Secretary of State for War whether he intended to sell or return to England the horses and other animals used during the recent war.

Mr. A. Chamberlain, replying for Mr. Brodrick, said:—The disposal of the horses and other animals is now being carefully considered, and my right hon. friend is not in a position, therefore, to reply to the question at present.

Corn Tax and Government Contracts.

Mr. Hayden asked the Secretary of State for War on Monday whether the War Office had issued notice to contractors informing them that allowance would be made in payments for their contracts for the duty imposed on corn, flour, and other grains, provided contractors produced evidence that the duty was actually paid; and whether this condition would be insisted upon in view of the fact that contractors who had goods in stock in accordance with the usual custom of trade prior to the imposition of the duty must replace them with goods upon which the duty must be paid.

Mr. A. Chamberlain.—The reply is in the affirmative. It is necessary to insist on this condition, as there would be otherwise a waste of public money. The contractor is not entitled to be paid anything for duty which he has not himself paid.

A resolution that on and after June 17, 1902, the duties and customs on imported glucose should be 3s. 3d. for solid glucose and 2s. 6d. for liquid glucose was agreed to on Tuesday.

Duty on Offals.

Sir Edward Strachey asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer on Wednesday if he would state what amount he estimated would be received from the 1½d. duty upon offals which were feeding stuffs; and what did he estimate would be the cost of the collection of this duty.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer—The quantity of offals imported during the year ended 31st March last have been estimated at 3,050,000 cwts. Practically the whole of this may be taken to have been feeding stuffs, which, at the rate of 1½d. per cwt., would have produced a revenue of £19,062. I do not expect that the cost of collecting the whole corn duty will exceed one per cent., but I do not think there would be any practical saving by omitting offals.



Home Notes.

The Borough.

The hindrances to our traffic arising from preparations for the Royal progress on Friday next have not interfered with our special business, which, in view of the comparatively unfavourable reports from the country, continues to be fairly active on a market that is daily gaining increment of strength. Several lots have been withdrawn from offer, or are being held for higher figures than last week. A considerable reduction of stock of all grades have been effected within the past month, and it appears quite safe to predict that before the new crop arrives we shall see further substantial advances in value. Unfortunately, the profit accruing will be chiefly handled by intermediate men. Growers will enjoy but little benefit, and I can only hope that they will have their turn when they are bringing forward the hops whose condition they are now watching with some doubt and anxiety. Opinions concerning the prospects are

Various and Contradictory.

I have met with some observers, who claim to be experts, and whose long experience entitles them to respect, who definitely declare that we are unquestionably in front of another big crop. I am loth to accept such an estimate of the future, knowing how disastrous its fulfilment would be. I am therefore pleased to have contrary evidence, which leads me to think, according to my hopes, that we shall not be able to gather even an average harvest. Before me at this moment are many recent reports. Several of them include expressions, of which the following are representative:—"Bine is very backward." "Hops are very uneven and turning yellow." "Cold nights have retarded growth." "Foliage is losing colour." "Growth is very slow." "Slackness of bine in many gardens." "Ungenial weather, bine making little or no progress." "Growth has been seriously checked." "The plant is not strong enough to withstand an attack of blight." "Although plants are fairly healthy, they do not look so well as they did a week ago." "Owing to cold rains and average low temperature, the bine is not getting a fair chance." These are some of the details given by planters in the Southern districts, and when meeting several of the best Midland growers, at Worcester on Tuesday last, I found that their general experience is of a similar character. I was then told of backwardness and irregularity of growth, with weakness of the plants, and the increasing conviction that the 1902 crop will certainly be under an average, the prospect not having been so unfavourable since the cold wet summer of 1888, when, as I am informed, there was actually a fall of snow, immediately before the commencement of hop picking. In addition, to the abnormal climatic conditions, our plantations are everywhere visited by an

Attack of Blight

which threatens to develop into very serious proportions. The soil being so sodden with rain, ordinary washing machinery is not available, and only those advanced planters who have adopted systems of washing by steam power, can at present work effectively in preventive measures. The risks of the crop are therefore, increased, for unless the bine and foliage are able to cast off their weakness they must become victims to the myriads of insects that will settle upon them, and feed upon their enfeebled vitality. The opening of Coronation week does not appear to bring much brightness. We have certainly enjoyed a little sunshine, and been free from rain for a few brief spaces, but we are regularly disappointed, the clouds gather round us again, and undesirable showers falls too frequently, either for general comfort or profit. I do not intend to convey in my previous remarks, that all my reports are unsatisfactory, as there are a few exceptions, from which I learn that some growers in all districts are

Satisfied withthe Progress

and condition of their plantations. Sheltered grounds, with light, absorbent soils, will probably gain advantage by the climate from which the majority suffer. But, taking a general survey of the outlook, I am inclined to be responsible for the estimate, that our crop this year will be considerably under the average, and I may repeat my desire that it will not exceed 250,000 cwts., by which quantity the requirements of the market will be amply supplied, and probably remunerative prices may be obtained. Such an outlook is, under existing circumstances, rather bright than gloomy. Therefore, I cannot persuade myself to grumble at the unpleasant weather, when I consider only the interests of the hop growing industry, however keenly I lament the inconvenience and loss it may bring to myself and other members of the general community.

Colonial Hop Growing.

Returns just issued by the Board of Agriculture show that our Colonial brethren continue to give attention to our special cultivation. Victoria has 401 acres and Tasmania 624 acres under hops, which are also grown to a small extent in other parts of Australia, where the separate acreage is not given. In New Zealand there are 1,050 acres, and 1,054 acres in Ontario. I understand that about 500 acres are also cultivated in British Columbia. From these figures we may safely estimate that the industry is gradually increasing in our Colonies, and that their area approximately totals 4,000 acres, perhaps representing an average annual output of 40,000 cwt.

Foreign Notes.

Nuremberg.

Business in hops has been somewhat irregular, an active market being followed by a quiet one, and vice versa. On the whole the volume of passing trade is fully equal to the average of the season, and values are fairly well upheld. The scarcity of attractive qualities becomes more pronounced, and their prices remain very firm, but some concessions have been made by holders of the lower grades in order to secure sales. Nevertheless, arrivals are so much reduced that stocks are perceptibly diminishing, and even tis fact cannot induce further supplies, for the country districts have practically none to send to market. Calmness with sufficient strength is the present characteristic of the market, and if the immediate tendency appears to denote continued limitation of business, there is ground for expectation that the development of a higher temperature, which is now beginning to be evident, will bring affairs into a normal condition, and that the close of the season will be satisfactory to sellers.

The Growing Crop

is still favourably reported upon. The plant is generally growing rapidly and looks healthy and vigorous. Aphis blight has appeared in some districts, and is likely to increase under present climatic conditions. But thus far no alarm is felt by growers, who seem to learn from the experience of English planters that an increased crop secured by the destruction of the fly is likely to be unprofitable. They wisely prefer a moderate yield of good quality, that can be sold at a remunerative price, than a big harvest, which must be sacrificed at low figures.

Belgium.

Market values remain in about same position as when I reported last. A steady, though moderate, demand exists, and the present tendency is in favour of continued firmness, which may probably be accentuated. The plantation reports are fairly favourable. Growth is progressing, though fly increases, and some growers are getting anxious about the possible development of the attack.

America.

New York returns from September 1st to end of May last show that the receipts of hops were 80,715 bales, against 134,924 bales same time last year. The exports to Europe during this period were 40,521 bales, and last season they ran up to 58,244 bales. The evidence thus provided of the smallness of the 1901 crop, coupled with the difficulty of finding any hops remaining in first hands, causes the market to be extremely strong. Higher prices are demanded, and though brewers are very slow to follow the advance the firm position held by dealers compels their customers to yield.

Reports from the Yards

in New York State are unanimous concerning the probable lightness of this year's crop. Continuance of cold, wet weather holds back the growth, even in grounds that escaped the frost. Where the plants have advanced sufficiently for tying the vine is very brittle, so that tying is almost impossible. On the Pacific coast the aspect is more favourable. In Washington, Oregon, and California, the vine has grown vigorously from the start. The present outlook for the new crop is therefore in favour of a full yield, largely in excess of last year. Dealers are, however, still anxious to contract at full prices, while growers are reticent, as they have confidence in the realisation of higher figures than are now offered.

Serious Bog Slide in Ireland.—Great excitement was caused in the neighbourhood of Carrick-on-Shannon, county Leith, on Monday evening, when the news spread that a vast area of bog, comprising several hundred acres, split in two portions and moved a considerable distance, occasioning much destruction to property in the vicinity. A house has been swallowed up, but happily no lives were lost.



By Hordeum.

Agricultural Returns.

The heavy volume just issued by the Board of Agriculture, giving the completed returns up to date, is one of much interest and value. In the most lucid Report is one table of very special moment that would profitably reward many southern farmers if they could be taught why it is in Scotland there is an actual increase in the area of land under arable cultivation, contrasting the present time with thirty years ago. Whilst England has lost 2,100,000 acres of arable land out of 13,500,000, and Wales nearly 200,000 out of just over one million, Scotland has made an actual gain of 100,000 acres.

This cannot be accounted for by the supposition which is so general, but which is quite a fallacy, that Scotland has only a small extent of her soil under the plough. England is shown to have 46 per cent. of her total cultivated area arable; Wales has only 32 per cent.; whilst Scotland has no less than 71 per cent., and, as a consequence, Scotch farmers are mainly dependent upon the return from the arable portion of their farms.

The yield per acre

may be taken as a good indication of the ability of the cultivators at their work, plus, of course, the quality of soil and the character of climate, but the two latter are far less important than the first. Now, if we turn to our English yields of barley, a number of our good and large barley-growing counties gave to their farmers last year little more than half returned from Scotch counties. Thus Bedford made the miserable show of only 24.7 bush. per acre, and, taking the average of ten years, of 31.0 bushels, whilst every county in Scotland having a larger breadth of barley than Bedford exceeded 34 bushels for the same long average, and a number went over 40 bushels per acre last year. Edinburgh yielded no less than 46.6 bushels per acre from 5,800 acres, and Linlithgow 47.6 bushels from 3,500 acres.

Berkshire again yielded only 24.9 bushels, Bucks 25.3 bushels, and the fair county of Hampshire only 29.3 bushels. Of the English counties the highest yields are credited to Northumberland and Durham (omitting London), with 37.4 and 37.3 bushels respectively. Taking the average of ten years, Kent heads the list with 36.8 bushels, which, however, is exceeded by no less than nine Scotch counties, the top record being made by Edinburgh at 43.9 bushels per acre.

The returns enable us to look much wider afield and permit comparisons with a long list of foreign countries. The poorest return comes from European Russia of only 10 bushels per acre. This is followed by North Caucasia, with only 14.4 bushels, and by Poland, with 16.8. The acreage of these districts exceeded our own almost exactly by ten times, amounting to the large figure of over 21,000,000 acres. The best European country is Austro-Hungary, with 20.6 bushels, followed closely by France, with 19.4 bushels. But here again

Cultivation tells.

Some of the best cultivated barley lands to be found in Europe are to be seen in Hungary, and there the farmers have gained by the lessons taught at their old-established technical colleges and schools. As a consequence, they grow better grain and more of it than any of their neighbours. Turning for further comparison with our Colonies, it is pleasing to note that New Zealand outstrips our own country, the yield being 33.3 bushels per acre. This is well followed by Canada, with a yield of 28.1 bushels. Amongst the States producing small amounts, the two most highly cultivated head the list; Holland grows no less than 43.2 bushels, and Belgium 38.6 bushels per acre. It is satisfactory that Scotch counties can excel these figures, high as they seem.

One table is not given, and perhaps it would be impossible to obtain, although it would be of much advantage. This is the amount of seed-corn used. We have absurdly wide variations in our own counties, but it is impossible to con-

jecture what amounts some of the other countries and Colonies use.

The tables set out the sales in the registered markets for a century, both quantity and price, but it is a matter for deep regret that in both cases the malting, distilling, and feeding are all included in one column. It would be a very great advantage to all barley-growers and dealers if this return were split into two, giving the quantity and value of malting barley separate from grinding and distilling, and such a return made from each market would be of value in a variety of ways to many men.

The returns are, however, in their present form of very great utility, and, considering the date of some of them, reflect the highest credit upon the skill and promptitude of the Department.



Instruction in Principles and Practice of Agricultural Co-operation.

The Board of Agriculture has called the attention of clerks of County Councils in England and Wales to the fact that the Board of Education recently sanctioned instruction in the principles and practice of agricultural co-operation, under section 8 of the Technical Instruction Act, 1889. This minute, a copy of which was laid before Parliament last week, is in the following terms:—

"Read letter from Mr. C. G. Watkins (organising secretary), dated March 21, 1902, notifying that the committee to whom the Bucks County Council have delegated certain of their powers under the Technical Instruction Acts are of opinion that instruction in the principles and practice of agricultural co-operation—which subject is not included in the branches of science and art enumerated in the directory with respect to which grants are at present made by the Board of Education—is required by the circumstances of the district. The Board is pleased to sanction this form of instruction under section 8 of the Technical Instruction Act, 1889, for the County of Buckingham, and this minute will be laid before Parliament in accordance therewith."

The Board of Education has intimated to the Board of Agriculture that they are prepared to sanction this form of instruction in the case of all County Councils which may make application to them in terms of section 8 of the Technical Instruction Act, 1889, with a representation that such a form of instruction is required by the circumstances of the district, and the latter Board has suggested to the County Council clerks that the matter is one which might with advantage be brought to the notice of their Technical Instruction Committee.

GARDEN.

During the last day or two a slight improvement in the weather has taken place, and though one is afraid to be too hopeful, the prospects generally are more promising than they were. The sun shows his almost unfamiliar face again occasionally, and the sky presents a kinder appearance than for some time past. A decided change for the better may take place on or about the 21st—the summer solstice—especially as the moon will be at the full at about the same time—and it is to be devoutly hoped that this may "come off" all right.

Just now the work in the vegetable garden is chiefly of a routine character, the majority of the summer crops having been sown or planted by this time, and being now in active growth. That invaluable implement, the hoe, should be kept going almost constantly, with the double object of destroying weeds and keeping the surface of the soil in a friable and well-aërated condition. When the weather is showery the weeds had better be raked off after hoeing, as if left on the ground many of them will grow again; much the best way to dispose of anything of the kind is to throw them on a good "smother" fire, which in gardens of any magnitude should be kept going in some out-of-the-way corner. But in dry or bright periods they may as well be left as they fall—if not too large or strong—as a few hours of exposure to hot sun will wither them beyond recall, the only danger attached to this course being that some may ripen and shed their seeds, and thus reproduce themselves.

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Butter Regulations in Germany.

Whatever may be said against the Germans in some other matters, they certainly show the courage of their convictions where food science is concerned. In dealing with food adulteration they act logically and thoroughly, with the result, as somebody has said, that German physique is improving, whilst the physique of Englishmen is deteriorating. The fact is that the Germans long ago recognised, whilst our own slow-coaches have but just discovered it, that it is no longer the poor little retailer who sophisticates food, but the big manufacturer who can employ the best skilled chemical assistance in his operations; and having arrived at that perception, the Germans, with their customary logical thoroughness, have set themselves determinedly to thwart the big adulterator—or sophisticator—wherever they find him. Years ago they legislated drastically regarding margarine, and we have from time to time reported how they have dealt with meat and have barred out American abominations of one kind and another. They have now dealt, as we here ought to have dealt, with the up-to-date question of the water and other constituents of butter. Some months ago it was pointed out in "The Grocer" that Government ought not only to lay down a maximum point beyond which the water in butter should not be allowed, but also should lay down a minimum for the butter fat. The German Government has gone upon those lines. It has enacted that from July 1, 1902, no butter, if in unsalted condition, that contains more than 18 per cent. of moisture, or, if salted, more than 16 per cent. of moisture, may be sold or offered for sale in the German Empire. Nor may butter of any kind be sold or offered for sale if it contains less than 80 per cent. butter fat. Meanwhile we in this country are still laboriously plodding through the bogs and pitfalls of legal casuistry to discover whether or not the plain intentions of Parliament, the plain desires and needs of the country, and the plain dictates of honesty cannot successfully be thwarted by a combination of interested people.—*The Grocer.*



MONDAY (June 16th).—The weather was again dull and rainy in most parts of Great Britain, and fog or mist was experienced at several of the English stations. The barometer was low over the North Sea and on our east coasts, and the wind was chiefly northerly, except in the south of England, where the direction was westerly. Rain was measured in the morning, except at a few places in the east of England, but the amounts were generally small. The mid-day temperatures were everywhere very low for the time of year, and at places in Scotland and the north of England the highest readings were about 50 degrees.

TUESDAY (June 17th).—The weather was rather finer than of late, but showers still occurred in many parts of England, and the temperature was everywhere very low for the time of year. The wind was generally light from between north and north-east, but a light southerly wind had set in on the south-west coast of Ireland during the day. There was still a great deal of cloud, and slight rain fell again in many parts of England. Rain was measured in the morning, as the result of the fall in the preceding 24 hours, in the southern and eastern portions of the Kingdom, but the amounts were mostly small. The mid-day temperatures showed a slight increase, the thermometer in the shade touching 60 degrees at several places in the south and west.

WEDNESDAY (June 18th).—There was a further slight rise of temperature during the day, and the weather was finer and more settled than of late over Great Britain. Rain had only fallen at a few places in the United Kingdom since Tuesday morning, and the amounts measured were mostly small. Tuesday night was cold in parts of Scotland, and at Nairn the sheltered thermometer fell to within two degrees of the freezing point. In the south-west of England the temperature did not fall below 50 degrees. The mid-day readings exceeded 60 degrees in the south and west.

THURSDAY (June 19th).—The weather was very fine in the south-east of England, but rain again fell at many places in the west of England, as well as in Ireland and Scotland. The winds were southerly and south-easterly over the entire kingdom, and they were strong in the west. Rain was measured in the morning, as the result of the fall in the preceding twenty-four hours, at most of the western stations, but elsewhere the weather had been dry. A further rise of temperature was experienced during the day, and in the midland and southern parts of England the thermometer touched seventy degrees.

FRIDAY (June 20th).—The weather was again rainy and unsettled over the greater part of our Islands, and temperature had fallen generally. Rain was measured in the morning, as the result of the fall in the preceding 24 hours, at all the western stations, and in parts of Ireland the amounts were large. The wind was generally from between south-east and east, and it was strong at several places on our coasts. The mid-day temperatures were below 60 degrees over a large portion of the country.

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY (June 21 and 22).—Rain fell in several places during these last two days, but the weather was generally less unsettled than for some time past. The winds continue from between south-east and south-west, and they were for the most part light. Temperatures were very irregular, the nights being warm over nearly the entire kingdom, and in many parts of England the lowest readings were above fifty degrees. The days were generally cool, and it was only in the Midland and Southern districts of England that the thermometer was in agreement with the average.

The King's Fat Stock.—The King sent a good consignment of stock from the Royal farms at Windsor to the Slough Cattle Market on Tuesday. Five prime Devon bullocks fed by his Majesty fetched more than £120; 15 grass lambs from 28s. to 29s. 6d. per head; and 10 sheep from 43s. to 47s. each. Two of the bullocks will be used for the Coronation dinner to the poor of Llangollen.



Berkshire.

The weather was very cold till the middle of June, and since this month came in we have had a lot of rain; this has made a great improvement in the appearance of the crops. Wheat is strong and good on the heavy land, but on the light land it is thin on the ground. Barley and oats never looked better and promise to be a good crop. Beans look fairly well, and vetches will probably be too bulky to save for seed. The rains have so much improved the grasses that there will now be more than an average crop of hay, but fine weather is now required to secure it in good condition. Mangolds have come on well, but they are generally full of weeds, and it is impossible to do much to them this wet weather. Swedes and rape are coming on well, and the fly has not been quite so busy as usual. Meat is dearer, and consequently beasts are selling well; and there is now a good trade for sheep at higher prices. There is not so much inquiry for horses, and they are dull of sale. The Swine Fever Order prevents much knowledge of the store pig trade, but bacon about keeps its price. Labour is still rather scarce, but with the improved machinery there will be no difficulty in securing the crops, but if it should be very wet the great trouble will be with the roots.—I. L. (June 19th.)

Herefordshire (North).

We have had more or less rain most days during the month, and crop prospects have much improved, more than could have been expected, considering it is generally cold, with little or no sun—this we are much in need of now to bring the crops to maturity. Some of the clovers are heavy and want cutting, if there was any prospect of its being made. We must hope for a change in weather before long, or else the good crops growing will not be much help unless well gathered. Mangolds, though a fair plant, have not made much growth, the weather being too cold. Part of the swedes are unplanted, the land being wet; those that are up seem free from fly.

Fruit prospects are bad. The blossom was grand, and gave every appearance of a good crop, but the blight is so severe that the whole crop of different kinds is reduced to about one-third, or less. I have heard of many orchards of cherries clean gone. The hops, too, in this part are covered with blight, and the cold weather is very unfavourable for them, but a third of a crop is all that is required. Many are washing, but this will not avail much without sun. There is a great demand for store stock of all kinds, and fat has been selling well, but is a little lower, though a good price.—W. H. (June 20th.)

Notts. (North).

The weather has been more propitious, with a higher temperature prevailing. There has certainly been rain enough, which has been welcome, only the absence of genial sunshine has been a serious drawback to the growing crops making headway. But under the more favourable influences the wheat plant and the cereals will probably regain their lost colour. However, many pieces of corn are now presenting a very "off" and indifferent appearance. It is feared whatever sort of grand weather is vouchsafed they will be very light and unsatisfactory, although there is plenty of time to improve. The late frosts did an incalculable amount of harm, especially on the low-lying grounds. The fields "laid" up for mowing have failed to make any bulk, and the grass has attenuated and run up very thin; thus a late hay-time must necessarily follow in consequence. The crops may be said to be making progress now, but everything is fully a month behindhand. The same remark applies to the fruit, of which there will be only a scanty crop in too many places. The early potatoes got cut off by the late frosts, and the kidney beans suffered in a similar manner severely, and a deal of damage was done. Mangels, swedes, and turnips have certainly made a start, and most of the latter crops have been sown under favourable conditions. Live stock is doing well on the green pastures, and small pigs are scarce and dear. Labour is also very scarce and dear, making it worse for the already over-burdened farmer to pay; but corn keeps up pretty well; however, the worst of that is very few have any to sell. The outlook yet is far from being "rosy" in North Notts.—"Agrestic." (June 19th.)

Shropshir e (South).

The crop prospects in this district are much better than at this time last year. Wheat is looking well, but I have seen several fields thin owing to wireworm. Oats are a good plant and of a good colour; they look like being a much better crop than last year's. Barley looks well, but is now losing colour, owing to deficient sunshine. Clovers for hay will be a light crop. Grass for mowing much better than last year. Mangels are a good plant, where they have escaped the fly, but some of my own I have had to re-sow, owing to this pest. Swedes, where put in last days of May, a good plant, and not much troubled with the fly. Cattle and sheep have now plenty of keep in the meadows, and doing well. Beef dear; mutton not selling so well the last few weeks, owing, I think, to so many fat lambs being on the market. Weather very dull and cold for June, and what we want now is bright sunshine, which I hope we shall get before the Coronation. Wool, a worse price than any one can remember.—J. O. B. (June 16th.)

Shropshire:

We are now having much of what we have wished for, viz., warmer weather, but heavy rain continues to fall. The ground has now assumed a richer green colour, and the enquiry for stock is better, at improved prices.—J. G. (June 20).

Somerset.

Corn crops promise a good yield of straw, but the earing stage is late, and warmer weather is badly wanted for developing the grain. Mangolds are a good plant, but grow very slowly, and are badly over-run with weeds. Swedes have been sown under poor conditions, a great deal of the land being too wet to work and clean.

The grain is late, and will not be fit for mowing for another ten days or so. The crop will be about an average one, but varies a great deal.

Dairy cows and other cattle are doing well, but shorn sheep have suffered badly through the weather, and losses have occurred.

There is a free sale for all classes of live stock at moderate prices, with fat cattle in decidedly short supply.—C. P. (June 19.)

Somerset (Cheddar).

The quantity of rain that has fallen of late has covered the low land over with water, which is a very unusual occurrence at this season of the year. Should we now be favoured with warm weather all vegetation would grow fast. The prospect of a crop of hay is good on the low land; the grass is thin on the land on the uplands at present. A few have commenced to cut their hay, but the prospect of stacking it in good condition is not very bright now. Others will, now the copious rain has fallen, let it remain until the undergrowth comes on; but the quality of such hay will not be so good, as the seed from the first growth will have ripened and been shed on the land before the other is sufficiently matured to be cut, owing to the ungenial weather. Consequently, not being the usual quantity of grass on the pastures, fattening cattle and sheep are not so forward in condition as usual; consequently, butchers find some difficulty now in procuring good, matured fat cattle and sheep for their purpose, which are fetching good prices, which will also apply to the price of pork. Mangolds are a good plant, and are now being hoed. Potatoes, which are now being earthed up, are not so good or regular in the row as usual, which, I presume, is due to the cold, dry weather that prevailed a short time since.—A. L. O. (June 20th.)

Somerset (North).

On June 10, last year, we commenced mowing, while now, on the 20th, this year, we are only thinking about it, while waiting for better weather to make the hay.

The pastures are full of grass, and all kinds of stock are doing well. The corn crops, of which no great breadths are grown around here, are looking well, and so are the root crops, with promise of a bountiful season all round. The prices obtained for beef and mutton at yesterday's Bristol market was a disappointment to many. The market was more full of stock than it had been for several years. 'Tis true much of it was only half fat, but brought out in view of the big Coronation demand that was expected. But the buyers had been about weeks before, thinking to forestall this supposed great demand, and had stocked up at high prices; and now they were left with them, as the Yankees say.

I attended a meeting yesterday, called by the agent of one of the largest estates about here for the proprose of devising some plan of profitably disposing of surplus fruit when the glut in the market takes place, which usually happens every autumn. Fruit-drying, cold-storing, jam and cider-making were all discussed, and a good deal of useful information obtained from experts who were present, and, as it was admitted that when the glut came the inferior qualities suffered the biggest drop, therefor information should be spread about as to the best sorts to cultivate and the best means of marketing. In the end, a committee of three were appointed to visit preserving factories, etc., and report to an adjourned meeting. Afterwards, in company of one of the committee, I visited a large cold-storage place in the City of Bristol, and found the foreigner took full advantage of these places; and we thought it was time the British farmer did the same, as that might enable him to get over the difficulty of the glut in the markets.—R. B. (June 20th).

Staffordshire (Mid).

The weather has been so showery and, until the last few days, so cold for the time of year, that there is at present no sign of beginning the hay harvest. We have had to-day (June 20th) a very heavy fall of rain, but the temperature is decidedly higher, so that it is almost certain that the grass and clover crops will be very bulky. Also all green crops are very promising. With swedes and mangolds hoed out, farm work is so forward that next week some mowing will be done if the weather be suitable. Notwithstanding the expressed opinion of the Meteorological authorities, at the present time the change of the moon is still looked upon by the older farmers amongst us as being accompanied often with a change of weather. It is well within my recollection that a table of times of change of moon was an annual affair; and the time of change, with the direction of the wind at the change and after the change, stamped the moon's change as favourable or unfavourable to fine weather following.

On Saturday, June 21st, the early morning change of moon would have been looked upon by my father as a favourable change, according to the theory of Admiral Fitzroy.

If at midsummer we should be blessed with the setting in of sunny weather, it is fairly certain that the season will be a good time for farmers, and, possibly, may hereafter be spoken of as Coronation Year.—T. C. S. (June 20th.)

Sussex (Mid).

The spring has been very unkind in this neighbourhood; but notwithstanding the inordinate amount of wet, the wheats as a rule are looking better than might be expected. More sunshine is what is needed. Oats are looking well. Barley, none grown. Beans and peas promise well, but, like other crops, want fine weather now. There is a good crop of clover and grass; both are quite fit, or more, to be cut, but I have not seen any down yet; the treacherous weather has deterred everybody from beginning. Mangolds, although a good plant, do not seem to be enjoying themselves; they will no doubt soon pick up if the sun will but shine more. The effect of the bad time upon all fruit trees and bushes is simply disastrous. A more splendid show of bloom could not be imagined, but frost and wind, followed by a universal blight, have too effectually done their work. Gooseberries and currants, both black and red, have disappeared. Apples, pears, and plums are in the same state; their foliage looks black and most unhealthy.—F. C. C. (June 20th.)

Foreign Prospects.

FRANCE.—In spite of unfavourable weather the cereal crops are said to require nothing but plenty of sunshine to bring them to a good, if somewhat tardy, finish, in earlier districts where wheat is earing and rye blooming, heavy rain has laid many of the finest fields, but hope is still superior to apprehension, and a fair harvest is expected.

BELGIUM.—Crop prospects continue satisfactory, but sunshine is wanted.

GERMANY.—Our Berlin correspondent reports the prevalence of fine weather, and the crop outlook for all cereals is most hopeful.

HOLLAND.—Improved harvest prospects have caused a quieter feeling in the markets.

HUNGARY.—Weather changeable, but not detrimental to the crops.

RUSSIA.—Advices continue to speak favourably of crop prospects, although there are not wanting rumours to the effect that excessive heat is causing injury to the grain fields.

ROUMANIA.—With fine weather, the general crop outlook continues promising.

UNITED STATES.—With growing weather, winter wheat is heading well in the northern section of the wheat belt. Harvesting in the southern section is progressing, with some drawbacks by rain, but the rains are less copious than in the previous week. Spring wheat and maize maintain their high promise. Oats are good, but too rank, and in some places "lodging" is reported. In California the rainfall to date is 19 inches, compared with 21 inches last year.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Malt—A quiet trade at late rates. Barley slow. Wheat was 6d per qr. cheaper. Oats declined 9d to 1s per qr. Maize 3d per qr lower. Flour 3d per sack cheaper.—NIXON, GOWER, AND CO.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—At Mark Lane to-day the attendance was very small, and the finer weather had a quietening effect on the market. English and foreign wheat and flour were held for Monday's prices, but demand very limited. Maize steadily held, but inactive. Oats, limited business done at late rates. Barley steady, quiet.

Mark Lane, Friday.—This was a very undecided day on the Corn Exchange, causes at present being attributable to approaching Coronation; but, although trading was kept down, sellers had no cause for complaint as a rule, and the few dealings in feeding stuffs were accomplished at a range marking occasional gains since Friday last. With the supply of English wheat here exhausted, rates remain nominal, good 63lb reds delivered up ruling at 33s. Good reds, free on rail, quoted at about 31s 6d per qr. American descriptions 6d firmer since last Friday, cargoes arriving being mostly ordered away to their destinations. Australian maintained at late rates. Californian, 32s ex ship, and Walla Walla out of offer for the present. American brands of flour show a decidedly steady course, while 3d firmer since last Friday in some cases, and stocks here continue small, but there is a good deal coming forward, although not at the moment. Top patents remain scarce, and quoted up to 25s; Pillsbury, best, Golden Lily Ceresota, fancy patents, 24s. Australian patents remain sparingly offered at 23s 6d to 24s ex store, 280lb. English moves distinctly in buyers' favour. Top price town made 30s net; No. 1 households, 22s 6d per sack cash delivered at the mill door, and extras 1s more. Cascadias, 22s 9d ex store. French of second quality, 22s ex store; and best Hungarians, 33s, being still very scarce. Grinding barley in ample supply, but sellers are not disposed to take less. Odessa, 19s 10½d ex ship, and 20s 6d ex quay. Danubian, in the former position, 19s 9d, and 20s 3d ex quay. Oats occasionally held for 3d advance since Friday last, although buyers respond slowly. English oats remain at a premium. Maize unchanged. Mixed American continues out of the market, and nominal in absence of supply.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Wheat—Trade small at late reduced prices; supply small. Barleys unaltered. Oats fairly maintained their high value. Beans and peas at nominal quotations. White wheat, 33s to 34s; brown ditto, 32s to 33s 6d. Malting barley—None; grinding ditto, 22s to 26s. Black oats, 21s to 24s; white ditto, 22s to 26s. Old beans, 33s to 38s. Grey peas, 36s to 37s.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat (red), 30s to 31s per qr.; beans, 36s to 38s per qr.; oats (black), 24s to 26s per qr. Trade firm, but not enough business or wheat offering to test prices.

Boston, Wednesday.—A very small show; wheat, 30s; grinding barley, 29s; oats, 24s and 26s; beans, 36s; maize, 22s 9d to 23s 3d per qr.

Braintree, Wednesday. — Wheat trade small, reds making from 31s 6d to 32s, and whites, 32s to 33s. per quarter.

Bristol, Thursday.—Very little doing since our last. There was little English wheat offering to-day. Prices unchanged. Foreign very firm, the turn in sellers' favour. Maize, owing to the reduction in duty, was 3d lower. Barley and oats unaltered. Flour very little inquiry, and consequently no improvement in prices.—GRACE, BROS.

Bury St. Edmunds, Wednesday.—The attendance was very limited, and trade generally of small dimensions. Very little corn of any sort offering, and few sales were recorded. The supply of wheat was small, being scarcely up to the average of previous weeks, and the market can be quoted as steady, at the late prevailing quotations of 30s to 31s for fine reds, and 31s to 32s for white. Maize unchanged. Offals in larger supply, and quieter. Farmers complained of damage locally by the extremely heavy rains of the last week, and fears were entertained as to securing the hay crop in good condition. The question of ensilage being again raised as a safe method of securing crops satisfactorily.

Cambridge, Saturday.—The weather this week, although showery, has shown a distinct improvement, and we have had a fair amount of sunshine. Wheat looks well, but barley requires warmth and sun. Supplies of wheat are very small, and prices are against the buyer. At this market to-day there was a very small supply of wheat, which sold readily at 6d per qr advance on last Saturday's rates. Red, 31s to 32s; and white, up to 32s per 504lb. Oats and beans are scarcely offered, and prices remain firm.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Wheat rather firmer; other articles unchanged. Ruling prices:—White wheat, 33s to 35s; red, 32s to 34s; grinding barley, 22s to 24s, white oats, 24s to 26s; black oats, 22s to 24s; grey peas, 36s to 37s; tick beans, 38s to 40s.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Small supply of oats in our market to-day; fair sale at last week's prices, 23s 6d to 24s 9d per 336lbs.—THOMAS ROBINSON.

Chester, Saturday.—English grain was sparingly offered, and maintained its price. Indian corn, lower grades, 3d per sack higher on the week. Quotations:—Wheat, white and red, 4s 7d to 4s 8d per 75lb; malting barley, 4s 2d to 4s 4d per 60lb; grinding barley, 3s 6d to 3s 8d per 60lb; beans, 5s 10d to 6s per 80lb; oats, new, 3s 2d to 3s 4d; old, 3s 4d to 3s 6d per 45lb; Indian corn, 140s to 14s 6d per 240lb.

Colchester, Saturday.—Very little wheat offering; firm trade at fully last week's prices. Practically nothing offering in spring corn.—FRANCIS AND CO.

Crowdon, Wednesday.—White wheat, 32s to 34s; red ditto, 31s to 33s. Malting barley—None; grinding, 22s to 25s. Oats, 20s to 24s. Beans, 33s to 35s. Peas, 31s to 33s. Trade for wheat quiet; no change in prices. Oats cheaper. Beans and peas remain the same.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There was a small attendance at our market to-day. Wheat and flour are fairly steady in price, but almost nothing doing. Round maize, 1½d per 280lb easier. Grinding beans, 3d per 280lb cheaper; quiet trade. Canadian pease steady, but slow. Home and foreign oats, quiet trade, with prices about unchanged. Beans and thirds dull and unchanged. Oatmeal, 6d per sack dearer; slow sale.—GIBSON AND CLARK.

Leeds, Tuesday.—The unseasonably cold, wet weather is beginning to have its effect on the trade both in this country and in France, as it seriously endangers crop prospects. Wheat is more firmly held to-day, and meets with improved inquiry, American and Russian descriptions being 3d per qr dearer; whites unchanged. Feeding stuffs rather favour buyers.—DUNNS AND CO.

Leeds, Friday.—With American still hardening, Tuesday's prices for both English and foreign wheats are fully maintained, with a slight advance for choice lots. Maize and beans the turn dearer. Peas, oats, maize, flour, and other articles firmly held.

Leicester, Saturday.—Fair attendance, with small supply. Wheat trade slow at 31s to 34s per 36 stone. Barley and beans steady. Fine oats very firm.

Lincoln, Friday.—Small supply of English wheat. Trade slow at late rates. Reds, 31s to 32s; whites, 32s to 33s; foreign firm. Very little doing in oats, and prices were the same. Maize and beans quiet.

Maidstone, Thursday.—There was a very small attendance and trade quiet, farmers being busy at home with their hay crops and hop washing. Wheat was a trifle easier, otherwise prices were the same as last week. Quotations:—White wheat, 33s to 35s; red ditto, 33s to 34s; grinding barley, 23s; oats, 22s to 26s; peas, 38s; white ditto, 39s; maize, 24s to 26s; beans, 38s to 40s; English linseed cake, £8 to £8 10s; foreign ditto, £7 10s to £8; cotton cake, £5 to £5 5s.

Maidstone, Thursday.—Market inactive. Wheat—Trade about the same as last week, 31s to 36s per qr. Barley—Business is decidedly slow, and the cost of the article rather less than recently. Oats are not quite so dear as last week, but the decrease in price is but trifling, especially for best black descriptions, the favourite sort here. Maize is rather weak; also other kinds of corn for feeding, as the millers' offals are to be obtained at cheaper rates than of late. In other materials no alteration in value.

Manchester, Wednesday.—Hay, 6½d to 7½d; clover, 6½d to 8d; clover, Lincoln, 8d; straw, wheat, 5½d to 6½d; straw, oat, 5½d to 5¾d per stone.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—A fair demand for wheat, and prices in sellers' favour. Maize remains firm at late rates. Beans and peas steady; demand limited. Barley unaltered.—JOSEPH FOLLARD AND CO.

Northampton, Saturday.—Small attendance, and not much wheat or other produce on offer. A very quiet market and featureless. Small business, same as last week's:—White wheat, 32s to 34s; red, 31s to 32s; grinding barley, 26s to 26s; oats, 20s to 24s; old fine, 26s; beans, 32s to 38s; peas, 26s to 36s; flour, 22s to 24s; fine, 27s.

Norwich, Saturday.—The attendance here to-day was thin, and there was no great quantity of wheat offering; trade ruled firm at about late rates. It was noticed that business is beginning to be affected by the close approach of the Coronation holidays. Averages:—Wheat, 1333qr, 30s 11d; oats, 64qr, 21s 1d. There has been a great improvement in the weather in Norfolk since Wednesday. Up to that day it was cold and wet, but the temperature then began to rise, and yesterday and to-day were warm and summer-like. Farmers are rejoicing at the welcome change.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Wheat in very small supply, and prices were in sellers' favour. Oats and beans—But few offering, and maintained full values.—ROBT. HUBBLE.

Norwich, Saturday.—There is no quotable alteration in the wheat trade to-day, which remains firm, with a small supply. The weather of the past week has been a decided improvement, being much warmer, with bright sunshine. Wheat, red, 31s to 32s per qr, weight 63lb per bushel imperial.—J. ARTHUR MILLS.

Peterborough, Saturday.—There has been very little wheat at market to-day, and, though the demand was not active, it made, from actual scarcity, rather more money than last week. Oats and beans firm at late rates.—THOMAS HILL AND SON.

Reading, Saturday.—The supply of corn and the attendance at the exchange to-day were alike very small. Wheat continues to come to hand sparingly, and meets a fair inquiry, in which recent quotations are well maintained. Malting barley moved off very slowly at unaltered figures, and for oats, which were in good demand, late quotations were always obtainable.

Ripon, Thursday.—An average attendance, but not much showing. Trade steady. Oats firm at last week's prices. Wheat, English, new, 31s to 32s; ditto, foreign, 30s 6d to 34s; barley, grinding, 23s 6d to 24s 6d; oats, 24s to 26s; round maize, 24s to 26s per qr; beans, 1s per stone.

Romford, Wednesday.—Wheat trade very slow; practically no wheat on the market. Prices merely nominal. Red wheat, 30s to 32s; white wheat, 32s to 34s per quarter.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—The attendance of buyers was small. The demand for wheat, both English and foreign, was weak, and sellers accepted 6d per qr less. Maize sold fairly well at last week's prices. Trade in beans and oats quiet at late rates. Quotations:—Wheat, white, 32s 6d to 34s; ditto red, 32s 6d to 34s per 504lb; oats, new white, 26s to 27s; ditto new black, 23s to 24s per 336lb; peas, grinding, 36s to 37s; ditto blue, 53s to 80s; beans, Egyptian, 33s 6d to 34s per 504lb; ditto English, new, 37s 6d to 38s per 532lb; Indian corn, small, 24s to 24s 6d; ditto American mixed, 28s 6d to 29s per 480lb.

Spalding, Tuesday.—A small market, and very little business doing. Prices unchanged. Wheat, 31s to 31s 6d per qr. Oats, beans, and peas sold at late rates.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There was a very short supply of English wheat, which made 32s per qr. Trade in foreign wheat keeps steady, with a fair demand from millers. Prices show no change on the week. Oats and maize unchanged.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Fair show of wheat, which sold at last week's prices. Little doing in spring corn. Arrivals:—Coastwise: Nil. Foreign: Wheat, 8,440qrs.—E. AND F. RICHARDSON.

Wisbech, Saturday.—Small attendance at market, and only a few odd samples of grain offering. Prices unchanged. Wheat, 30s to 31s. Oats, 25s to 26s. Beans, 36s to 38s.—JAMES FLETCHER.

Winchester, Saturday.—A very short supply of wheat on our market to-day, which sold readily at 6d to 1s advance on the week. Barley firm, with more inquiry for grinding descriptions. Maize unaltered. Oats generally 3d lower. Flour—Fair demand at fully late rates.—FEAR, COLEBROOK AND CO., LTD.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—There was not a large attendance, and business was quiet. Quotations:—Wheat, new, 12s 6d to 13s per 216lb; oats, 16s to 17s; beans, old, 16s to 17s 6d; new, 15s to 16s 6d per 196lb; barley, 35s to 40s per 448lb; maize, new, 25s 6d to 26s 6d; old, 29s 6d to 30s6d per 480lb.

Worcester, Saturday.—Small attendance and very little doing. Wheat was scarce, and sold slowly at last week's rates. Barley and oats unaltered. Beans steady.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Very poor attendance, and small show of grain. Wheat and oats were up about 6d per qr. White wheat, 31s 6d to 33s; red wheat, 31s to 32s; grinding barley, 27s to 28s; white oats, 26s 6d to 28s 6d; black oats, 25s 6d to 26s 6d; round maize, 26s 6d; old, 29s 6d to 30s 6d per 480lb.

York, Saturday.—Thin attendance, and farmers offered very few samples. Wheat was a trifle firmer on the week, making up to 32s per qr of 36st for the best. Oats were offered very sparingly, but scarcely maintained late rates, good white making 24s to 24s 6d per qr of 24st.

FOREIGN.

Hamburg, Saturday.—Unseasonable, cold weather continued during the greatest part of the week; since yesterday it is milder and sunny. Vegetation is backward, but the growing crops in general are in good condition. Trade quiet, at unaltered prices. The imports during the week amounted to 766 tons wheat, 2,658 tons rye, 3,300 tons barley, 8,054 tons maize. Wheat meets a slow sale, but is firm in value, supplies falling off. American hard winter No. 2 is held at 28s 6d; August shipment, 28s; red winter No. 2, July shipment, at 28s 7½d; Northern Duluth No. 1, 28s; Manitoba No. 1, afloat, 28s 3d per 480lb; Walla Walla, on the spot, 29s 3d per 500lb. Rye is selling at last week's prices. American Western No. 2, afloat, at 24s 3d; 9 15-20 Nikolajef, afloat, at 23s 3d per 480lb. The growing crop of barley is making slow progress, and the prospects in general are not so favourable as last year. Russian and Danubian feeding barley, being scarce on the spot, is selling at 19s to 19s 3d. Speculators are offering August-September shipments at 16s 6d to 16s 9d per 400lb c.i.f., while direct offers from reliable shippers at these rates are wanting. Maize quiet. River Plate, June-July, is offering at 20s 6d; Odessa, prompt, at 20s 3d; Danubian, afloat, at 20s 6d; mixed American, prompt, 24s 9d; December shipment at 19s 9d per 480lb c.i.f.—JOHN TATLOCK.

Paris, Wednesday.—Native Wheat.—Trade to-day was still of little importance, as much on account of the demands of farmers, who, encouraged by the rise of the last few days in the Marche de Paris, asked 1s to 1s 6d per quarter more money on the week, as to the reserve of millers who did not deem it advisable to make any purchases, in view of the good condition of the growing wheat and the poor sale of their products, all these circumstances combined were not of a nature to precipitate transactions, so much the more as purchases could be made cheaper on the Marche de Paris. In short, business was very tedious, and the total sales effected were certainly within modest dimensions. Choice Red, 39s 7d to 40s.; average, 38s 3d to 39s 2d; and White Wheat, 40s 5d to 40s 11d per 480lb. Term wheat opened weak with a decline of 5c. to 20c., and closed with a slight advance, at the following rates:—June, 40s; July, 40s to 40s 5d; July-August, 37s 9d to 40s; and Sept.-Dec., 36s to 36s 11d per 480lb. Flour.—Fleur-de-Paris.—The market opened weaker at an average declension of 5c. to 35c., but closed quiet at the following prices:—June, 29s 8d to 29s 11d; July, 29s 11d to 30s 2d; July-August, 29s 11d; and Sept.-Dec., 28s 2d to 28s 5d per 280lb. Consumption Marks Flour.—Trade among dealers and bakers was a little brisker, and rates were fully supported at the recent advance. Quotations are as follows: — Choice Marks, 32f.50 to 33f.50 (32s 11d to 33s 11d); First Marks, 32f. to 32f.50 (32s 5d to 3s 11d.); Good Marks, 31f.25 to 32f. (31s 8d to 32s 5d); Ordinary Marks, 30f. to 31f.25 per 100 kilos (30s 5d to 31s 8d per 280lbs.). Rye.—The condition of the crop still leaves something to be desired in a number of regions and the crop threatens to be considerably under an average. Trade is insignificant in the absence of offers, and prices firmly held at 26s 1d to 26s 6d per 480lb. Oats.—This cereal is quiet in the provinces. The crop, moreover, still looks fairly well. The stock diminished to-day about 3,500 qrs. Here offers were still most restricted, and consequently trade was wanting in animation, the tendency was quieter, and prices appreciably unchanged on the week. Quotations are as follows:—Grey Beauce, 23s 6d to 23s 9d; white, 22s 11d to 22s 7d; Red, 23s 2d; Black from the Central Provinces, 24s 1d to 24s 4d; White Libau is quoted 22s 7d to 22s 11d; Black, 22s 11d to 23s 2d; and Swedish, 24s 1d to 24s 4d per 320lb. Barley.—Advices concerning the crop are still satisfactory, but warmer weather is needed to stimulate vegetation. Trade in general is exceedingly quiet and reduced to its minimum, but rates are firmly held at about 17f per 100 kilos (24s 8d per 400lbs.) for Beauce, Sarthe, and Mayenne Corn. Grinding is quoted 17f. to 17f.25 (24s 8d to 25s), and Feeding, 15f. to 15f.50 per 100 kilos (21s 9d to 22s 6d per 400lb.). The position of buckwheat is firmer, and produce is now held at 29s 2d per 480lb.—*Dornbusch*.

CORN STATISTICS.

IMPERIAL AVERAGES.

Statement showing the Quantities sold and average price of British Corn, Imperial Measure, as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended June 21, 1902, conformably with the Act of the 45th and 46th Victoria, cap. 37.

Wheat	25,926½ qrs.	30s.	6d.
Barley	371¼ qrs.	23s.	5d.
Oats	4,295½ qrs.	23s.	0d.

COMPARATIVE AVERAGES.

Comparative statement for the corresponding week to June 21, in each of the years from 1897 to 1901.

	WHEAT.			BARLEY.			OATS.		
	Qrs	s.	d.	Qrs.	s.	d.	Qrs.	s.	d.
1897	35,677	27	0	963¾	19	9	3,862½	18	6
1898	15,096¾	40	8	168¼	24	3	4,282¼	20	7
1899	71,204¾	25	7	262¼	26	2	6,639½	17	11
1900	54,324½	25	9	1,312¼	23	5	5,314¼	18	11
1901	29,695	27	6	336¾	23	2	3,552½	20	3

ENGLISH WHEAT IN 1.01.

Highest of Year	27s. 7d.
Lowest of Year	25s. 10d.
Gradient	1s. 9d.
Mean of Year	26s. 9d.

LONDON TOP PRICE FLOUR.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1901.

		s.	d.
September 2	(per sack)	29	0
,, 28	,,	28	0
April 16	,,	29	0
,, 23	,,	30	0

(No official change since last date given.)

MONTHLY AVERAGES.

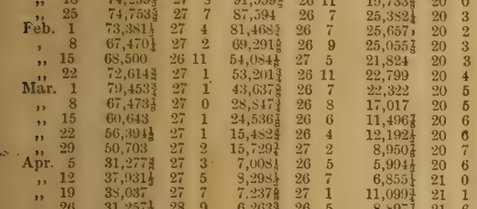
(196 Market Towns.)

	1901.			1902.		
	Wheat	Barley	Oats	Wheat	Barley	Oats
January	26 8	25 7	17 4	27 8	26 8	20 3
February	26 5	25 5	17 7	27 1	26 8	20 3
March	26 10	25 0	17 10	27 1	26 8	20 6
April	26 3	25 7	18 3	28 0	26 5	21 1
May	27 6	25 2	19 4	30 10	26 0	22 5
June	27 7	23 11	19 10			
July	27 4	22 9	19 8			
August	27 4	24 0	18 10			
September	26 1	25 4	17 4			
October	25 10	25 7	17 6			
November	26 9	26 10	18 2			
December	27 4	26 8	19 5			

IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGES.

1901.	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
June 22	29,695	27	6	336⅜	23	2	3,552½	20	3
,, 29	28,191½	27	6	692¼	25	4	2,803¼	20	0
July 6	19,564½	27	8	140¾	21	9	1,805⅝	19	10
,, 13	15,231½	27	2	49	23,10		1,675⅝	19	9
,, 20	17,162⅜	27	2	85¾	23	4	2,040½	19	11
,, 27	18,287⅜	27	8	206¾	22	11	2,385½	19	4
Aug. 3	18,666½	27	6	250¾	23	1	3,219½	20	0
,, 10	19,156	27	7	141¾	22	1	2,143½	19	4
,, 17	22,617½	27	4	220¾	27	2	5,982½	18	9
,, 24	37,168⅜	27	3	976⅜	23	7	9,952⅜	18	
,, 31	61,603⅜	27	0	4,877⅜	24	3	14,654½	17	10
Sept. 7	66,623½	26	5	14,342⅜	25	1	19,075½	17	1
,, 14	77,949¼	26	2	34,989½	24	11	19,909½	17	4
,, 21	80,279¼	26	0	70,096½	25	5	26,476½	17	4
,, 28	80,488	25	10	109,783½	25	10	22,567½	17	2
Oct. 5	60,376⅜	25	8	126,592½	26	3	21,631¼	17	7
,, 12	63,656⅜	25	9	172,175⅜	26	5	16,815½	17	6
,, 19	58,772½	25	10	203,591½	26	8	15,506¼	17	8
,, 26	52,984⅜	25	11	208,471⅜	26	10	18,009½	17	5
Nov. 2	70,314⅜	26	2	134,277½	26	10	18,350⅜	17	7
,, 9	62,265½	26	6	202,577½	27	0	20,066½	17	8
,, 16	57,884⅜	26	9	201,723⅜	26	9	20,122½	18	3
,, 23	63,150⅜	27	1	185,268½	26	10	20,612	18	7
,, 30	60,323½	27	1	193,434⅜	26	9	22,419½	18	9
Dec. 7	67,925½	27	1	162,996⅜	26	7	23,990⅜	19	0
,, 14	48,045⅜	27	2	182,212½	25	10	17,125½	17	1
,, 21	60,562⅜	27	7	119,398¼	26	8	26,260½	19	
,, 28	43,718⅜	27	7	81,859½	26	8	16,901⅝	19	10
1902.									
Jan. 4	31,440⅝	27	7	34,777½	26	7	11,621½	19	10
,, 11	48,997½	27	8	69,120½	26	7	14,995	20	0
,, 18	74,239½	27	8	91,559½	26	11	19,733⅝	20	0
,, 25	74,753½	27	7	87,594	26	7	25,382¼	20	3
Feb. 1	73,381¼	27	4	81,468½	26	7	25,657½	20	2
,, 8	67,470½	27	2	69,291⅝	26	9	25,055⅝	20	3
,, 15	68,500	26	11	54,084¼	27	5	21,824	20	3
,, 22	72,614⅜	27	1	53,201⅜	26	11	22,799	20	4
Mar. 1	79,453⅜	27	1	43,637⅝	26	7	22,322	20	5
,, 8	67,473⅜	27	0	28,847½	26	8	17,017	20	5
,, 15	60,643	27	1	24,536⅜	26	6	11,496⅞	20	6
,, 22	56,394½	27	1	15,482⅝	26	4	12,192½	20	6
,, 29	50,703	27	2	15,729½	27	2	8,950½	20	7
Apr. 5	31,277⅜	27	3	7,008¼	26	5	5,994½	20	6
,, 12	37,931¼	27	5	8,298½	26	7	6,855½	21	0
,, 19	38,037	27	7	7,237⅝	27	1	11,099¾	21	1
,, 26	31,257½	28	9	6,263⅜	26	5	8,897¼	21	6
May 3	46,238⅜	29	9	4,226⅜	27	5	9,685	21	10
,, 10	42,534⅜	30	9	3,345½	26	10	8,653½	22	6
,, 17	40,387¼	31	1	674¼	25	3	7,576	22	5
,, 24	38,288⅝	31	6	1,138⅜	25	4	5,973⅜	22	6
,, 31	32,728⅜	31	6	864⅜	25	1	5,177⅜	22	10
June 7	32,707⅜	31	3	457⅜	24	3	6,476⅜	22	11
,, 14	28,046¼	30	11	664½	23	8	4,247½	22	8
,, 21	25,926½	30	6	371⅛	23	5	4,295⅛	23	0

FLUCTUATIONS IN THE AVERAGE PRICE OF WHEAT.



ARRIVALS INTO LONDON.

June 11 to 18, 1902, inclusive.

	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat ....qrs.	122	87,798	87,920
Barley.....	750	4,100	4,850
Malt.....	22,885	...	22,885
Oats.....	329	91,000	91,329
Rye	...	1,147	1,147
Beans	82	546	628
Peas.....	70	1,250	1,420
Maize	...	11,883	11,883
Tares	...	150	150
Lentils.....	...	1,512	1,512
Canaryseed	...	100	100
Linseed	...	20,000	20,000
Rapeseed	...	6,000	6,000
Sunflowerseed	...	100	100
Flour, sacks	25,286	54,938	80,224

LONDON AVERAGES.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, June 17, 1902.

	Total Quantities. Imperial Measure. Quarters.	Bus.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.	Average Price per qr. Imperial Measure. £	s.	d.
Wheat ...	80	2 ...	124	12	0	... 1	11	1
Barley ...	6	1 ...	7	13	0	... 1	5	0
Oats ...	70	0 ...	81	4	5	... 1	3	2

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF LONDON TOWN HOUSEHOLDS FLOUR.

(Sacks of 280 lbs. ex-mill for cash.)

	1902. s.	d.	1901 s.	d.	1900 s.	d.	1899. s.	d.	1898. s.	d.	1897. s.	d.	1896. s.	d.	1895. s.	d.
Jan. ...	21	9	24	6	21	9	23	9	29	0	25	6	18	9	18	7½
Feb. ...	22	0	24	0	22	0	23	6	30	0	24	7½	19	4½	17	9
March	21	9	23	9	21	6	22	3	30	0	23	11	19	8	18	0
April...	23	0	24	0	21	6	22	0	31	3	23	6	19	6	18	7½
May ...	23	6	23	6	21	3	22	3	39	7	23	7	19	0	20	4½
June ...	...		23	0	23	6	23	1½	35	0	22	7½	18	10	22	3
July ...	...		22	3	24	6	21	9	29	6	22	10½	18	6	20	0½
August	...		22	3	24	0	21	9	27	6	26	8½	18	8½	19	10½
Sept....	...		22	0	25	3	22	0	26	5	30	3	19	6	19	8
Oct. ...	...		21	6	24	9	23	3	26	1	29	0	23	7½	18	7½
Nov. ...	...		21	6	24	3	22	3	25	0	29	1	25	8½	18	4½
Dec. ...	...		21	9	24	0	21	9	24	3	29	0	25	7½	18	1
Yrly. Avrg.	...		22	10	23	2	22	4	29	6½	25	10½	20	8½	19	2

TITHE RENT CHARGES.

For 1902	67	3	9
,, 1901	66		9
,, 1900	66		10
,, 1899	68	2	4
,, 1898	68		11
,, 1897	69		11
,, 1896	71		7

LONDON FLOUR MILLERS' ASSOCIATION OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1901

	London Whites. s.	d.	Town Households. s.	d.
September 2 .....(per sack)	26	0	..... (per sack)	23	0
,, 18 ..... ,,	25	6	..... ,,	22	6
December 9 ..... ,,	26	6	..... ,,	23	6
January 29 ..... ,,	26	0	..... ,,	23	0
April 16 ..... ,,	27	6	..... ,,	24	6

YEARLY AVERAGES (OFFICIAL.)

	Wheat. s.	d.	Barley. s.	d.	Oats. s.	d.
1890 ...	31 9 per qr.	...	28 8 per qr.	...	18 7 per qr.	
1891 ...	37 1 ,,	...	28 2 ,,	...	20 0 ,,	
1892 ...	30 4 ,,	...	26 2 ,,	...	19 11 ,,	
1893 ...	26 4 ,,	...	25 6 ,,	...	18 9 ,,	
1894 ...	22 10 ,,	...	24 6 ,,	...	17 1 ,,	
1895 ...	23 1 ,,	...	21 11 ,,	...	14 6 ,,	
1896 ...	26 2 ,,	...	22 11 ,,	...	14 9 ,,	
1897 ...	30 2 ,,	...	23 6 ,,	...	16 11 ,,	
1898 ...	34 0 ,,	...	27 2 ,,	...	18 5 ,,	
1899 ...	25 8 ,,	...	25 7 ,,	...	17 0 ,,	
1900 ...	28 11 ,,	...	25 9 ,,	...	17 9 ,,	
1901 ...	26 9 ,,	...	25 3 ,,	...	18 5 ,,	

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF FINE HOUSEHOLD FLOUR IN PARIS.

(Converted into English money for sacks of 280 lb.)

	1902. s.	d.	1901. s.	d.	1900. s.	d.	1899. s.	d.	1898. s.	d.	1897. s.	d.	1896. s.	d.	1895. s.	d.
Jan. ...	27	9	24	9	25	2	29	0	38	7	30	5½	25	10	27	9½
Feb. ...	26	3	25	9	26	3	28	3	39	4	29	10½	26	2	27	10½
March	27	0	24	0	27	3	27	6	40	1	28	9	26	0	27	5½
April...	27	3	24	6	26	9	27	6	42	3	28	5	25	6½	26	7
May ...	27	6	25	6	26	8	28	0	40	0	28	11½	25	1½	28	0
June...	...		26	3	28	6	27	6	35	6	29	3	25	8	28	10
July ...	...		28	0	26	9	27	3	32	0	31	5½	24	6	27	1
August	...		27	6	26	4	27	0	31	6	36	11	25	1	26	11
Sept....	...		27	6	26	3	25	9	31	0	38	7	27	0	27	0½
Oct.....	...		27	6	26	0	24	9	30	6	39	4	27	1½	27	9
Nov. ...	...		27	9	26	4	24	3	30	3	40	3	29	9	26	8½
Dec. ...	...		28	3	26	0	24	6	29	0	39	3	29	8	26	3
Yrly. Avrg.	...		27	3	26		2	9	35	0	33	5	26	5½	27	4½

POULTRY AND GAME.

Smithfield, Saturday.—Supplies moderate, and good demand, at firm prices Fowls: Yorkshire, 2s 6d to 3s; Essex, 2s 6d to 3s; Boston, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; Surrey, 3s 6d to 4s 6d; Sussex, 3s 3d to 4s; Welsh, 2s to 2s 9d; Irish, 2s to 2s 6d. Turkeys, cocks, 5s to 6s; hens, 4s to 4s 6d. Goslings: 4s 3d to 5s 6d. Aylesbury ducklings, 2s 9d; country, 2s 3d to 2s 6d. Pigeons: 8d to 1s. Quail: 1s to 1s 6d. Wild rabbits, 6d to 8d; tame, 1s to 1s 4d each; Australian, 8s 3d to 10s 6d per dozen.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—Good supplies of fruit, and fair demand. Moderate quantity of greenstuffs, and fairly good sales. Potatoes in fair request. English grapes, 2s to 4s; Belgian, 1s to 2s per lb; Valencia oranges, 12s to 20s; Denia, 14s to 26s; Murcia, 10s to 16s per case; English tomatoes, 4s to 8s per dozen lb; pineapples, 1s 6d to 4s 6d each; bananas, 7s 6d to 12s 6d per bunch; gooseberries, 3s 6d to 4s 6d per half-sieve; lemons, 8s to 18s per case; Tasmanian and Australian apples, 8s to 14s per case; cabbages, 5s to 6s.

MANURES.

Liverpool, Friday.—The trade in fertilisers is inactive, and values of nitrate of soda again favour buyers. Feeding stuffs are likewise quiet, but prices firm. Nitrate of Soda, best quality, *i.e.*, guaranteed 95 per cent., pure, in bags, £8 10s to £8 15s per ton; East India Bone Meal, fair to prime, in bags, £4 10s to £4 15s per ton; Kainit, prime 23 per cent., in bags, £2 7s 6d to £2 10s per ton; Palm Nut Cake, prime, in bags, £5 15s per ton; Linseed Cake, American thin oblong, prime, in bags, £7 to £7 5s per ton; Linseed Cake, English, prime, in bulk, £8 to £8 7s 6d per ton; Linseed Cake, foreign, round, prime, soft and oily, in bags, £8 per ton; Cottonseed Cake, N.A. decorticated, prime, in bags, £7 2s 6d to £7 7s 6d per ton; Cottonseed Cake, English, decorticated, prime, soft, in bags, £7 5s to £7 8s 9d per ton; Cottonseed Cake, English, undecorticated, prime, in bulk, £4 10s to £4 15s per ton; Cottonseed Cake (crushed), 20/25 per cent. oil, prime, in bags, £7 10s per ton; Maize Germ Meal, prime, in bags, £5 15s per ton; Corn Oil Cake, 10/13 per cent. oil, prime, in bags, £6 5s per ton; Rice Meal, Rangoon, as imported, in bags, £5 per ton; Indian Meal, coarse to fine grinding, prime, in bulk, 12s 6d per 240lb; Linseed, fine bold feeding, in bags, £3 to £3 2s per qr, 416lb; D.N.S. Brand Superphosphate of Lime, guaranteed, 25 to 27 sol., in bags, £2 5s to £2 7s per ton at depot; D.N.S. Brand Superphosphate of Lime, guaranteed, 30 to 31 sol., in bags, £2 10s to £2 12s per ton at depot; Superphosphate of Lime, guaranteed, 35 to 36 sol., in bags, £3 to £3 2s per ton at depot; Basic Slag, prime quality, 30 to 35 per cent. phos., in bags, nominal; Basic Slag, prime quality, 35 to 40 per cent. phos., in bags, nominal; Basic Slag, finest quality, 38 to 45 per cent. phos., in bags, nominal.—H. JONES LANGAR AND CO.

WOOL.

London, Saturday.—English, per pk. of 240 lb.—Fleeces, S. Dn. hggs., £7 to £8 10s; half-bred hoggs, £6 10s to £6 15s; half-bred wethers, £6 10s to £6; Kent fleeces, £5 10s to £5 15s; South Down ewes and wethers, £7 to £8 10s; Leicester do., £5 to £5 10s. Colonial, per lb.—Vic.—Fleece super., 1s 8d to 1s 11d; scoured good, 1s 9d to 1s 10d; scoured average, 1s 8d to 1s 8½d; greasy, average to fair; 11½d to 1s 0½d; N.S.W., scd., avr., 1s 5½d to 1s 6½d; greasy, average, 9d to 10d; S. Aus., greasy, avr., 7½d to 8d; N.Z., scoured avr., 1s 6½d to 1s 7½d; grease, average, 9½d to 10½d; Cape, scred. sup., 1s 6d to 1s 7d; fleece, average, 7½d to 8½d; greasy, average, 6¾d to 7½d; Natal, scoured, 1s 1½d to 1s 2½d; greasy, average, 7½d to 8d. Crossbreds—Grs.—Vic., good to supr., 11½d to 1s 0½d; New Zealand, fine, 9½d to 10½d; New Zealand, medium, 6½d to 7d; New Zealand, coarse, 4½d to 5½d.

THE BALTIC.

The event of the week has been the opening of Dover as a port of call. When the magnificent harbour is completed the importance of Dover in the grain trade will be considerable, and the place as an entrepot, as well as a port of call, may come to compete with Antwerp.

The wheat cargo trade was quiet on Tuesday, firm on Wednesday and Thursday, and 3d. dearer on Friday and Saturday, thus a progressive, if moderate, improvement has been manifested. The sales include Californian at 30s. 3d., Walla Walla at 29s. 3d., Australian at 29s. 9d., Argentine at 29s., No. 1 Northern at 28s. 3d., No. 2 Hard Winter at 28s. 3d., Secondary Manitoba at 27s. 9d., White Kurrachee at 28s. 9d., Soft Red Calcutta at 28s. 6d., and finest Bombay at 30. 3d. per quarter.

Maize is held for a slight advance. Sales include Odessa at 21s.-3d., Roumanian at 21s., Galatz at 21s. 6d., and Cinquantina at 24s. per quarter. Cargoes of flat and yellow are held above buyers' ideas, and no sales are therefore to be recorded.

Barley sales have comprised a cargo of Californian at 24s. 6d., of Nicolaiff at 18s. 9d., and of Odessa at 18s. 6d. per quarter. Oats have been firmer since Thursday. On Saturday a cargo of White Konigsberg fetched a guinea. On Friday a cargo of White Calcutta peas made 30s. 9d. per quarter.

The arrivals of grain and seed-laden vessels at ports-of-call for the week were—20 wheat (4 Melbourne, 6 Portland (O.), 2 Port Pirie, 2 San Francisco, 1 Sydney, 2 Tacoma, 1 Talcahuano, 2 Wallaroo); 3 barley (2 San Francisco, 1 Valparaiso); 1 linseed (Buenos Ayres); total 24.

The sailings of grain and seed-laden vessels from ports-of-call for the week were—10 wheat (4 Antwerp, 2 Belfast, 1 Birkenhead, 1 Bremen, 1 Cardiff, 2 Cork, 1 Hamburg; 2 Hull, 1 Kalmar, 1 London, 1 Sharpness, 1 Sunderland, 1 Weymouth); 1 barley (Ipswich); 1 linseed (Gothenburg); total 21.

Since January 1st, 1902, the total arrivals have been 216 wheat, 5 flour, 20 barley and wheat, 3 maize, 11 barley, 2 beans, 4 linseed, 4 canaryseed; total 265.

Last year during the same time the arrivals were 161 wheat, 4 flour, 7 barley and wheat, 14 barley, 3 beans, 4 peas, 1 pease and beans, 2 locust beans, 3 carnaryseed, 3 valonea; total 202.

BUTTER.

Tuesday.—Bedale: 1s 1d to 1s 3d per 24oz roll. Gainsborough: 1s per lb. Settle: 11d to 11½d per lb. Spalding: 10d per lb.

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 11d to 1s per lb. Boston: 9d to 10d per lb. Colne: 1s 1d per lb. Goole: 10d per lb. Keighley: 1s and 1s 1d per lb. Kirbymoorside: 7d to 8d per lb. Knaresborough: 1s 1d and 1s 3d pe r24oz for 1s. Masham: 1s 1d to 1s 3d per 24oz roll. Northallerton: 1s to 1s 3d per 24oz. Stockton: 10d to 1s 1d per lb. Worksop: 11d to 1s 1d per lb.

Thursday.—Brigg: 9d to 11d per lb. Driffield: 9d per lb. Penistone: 1s per lb. Ripon: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per 24oz roll. Scarborough: 10d to 11d per lb. Wetherby: 9d to 1s per lb. Birmingham: 1s 1d to 1s 3d per lb. Kidderminster: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Wellington: 11d to 1s per lb.

Friday.—Leeds: 1s to 1s 1d per lb. Easingwold: 9d to 10d pe lb. Helmsley: 8d per lb. Leyburn: 1s to 1s 2d per 24oz. roll. Lincoln: 10d to 1s per lb. Otley: 1s to 1s 2d per lb.

Saturday.—Appleby: 8d to 10d per lb. Berwick: 8d to 10d per lb. Grantham: 10d to 11d per lb. Howden: 11d to 1s per lb. Lancaster: 11d to 11½d per lb. Malton: 9d per lb. Pontefract: 11d per lb. Retford: 10d to 1s 2d per lb. Richmond: 11d to 1s per lb. Skipton: 1s per lb. Stokesley: 9d to 10d per lb. Whitby: 9d to 10d per lb.

EGGS.

Tuesday.—Bedale: 15 to 16 for 1s. Gainsborough: 14 and 15 for 1s. Settle: 15 or 16 for 1s. Spalding: 14 and 15 for 1s.

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 12 or 13 for 1s. Boston: 15 for 1s. Colne: 1s 5d per score. Goole: 14 and 15 for 1s. Keighley: 12 and 13 for 1s. Kirbymoorside: 16 or 17 for 1s. Knaresborough: 14 or 15 for 1s. Louth: 16 for 1s. Market Weighton: 16 or 17 for 1s. Masham: 16 or 17 for 1s. Northallerton: 15 or 16 for 1s. Stockton: 12 and 13 for 1s. Worksop: 1s 3d to 1s 5d per score.

Thursday.—Brigg: 16 or 16 for 1s. Driffield: 17 or 18 for 1s. Penistone: 14 for 1s. Ripon: 15 to 16 for 1s. Scarborough: 14 or 15 for 1s. Wetherby: 13 or 14 for 1s. Birmingham: 12 to 14 for 1s. Kidderminster: 15 and 16 for 1s. Wellington: 14 to 16 for 1s.

Friday.—Leeds: 9s to 9s 6d per 120. Easingwold: 17 to 18 for 1s. Helmsley: 16 for 1s. Leyburn: 17 or 18 or 1s. Lincoln: 14 or 15 for 1s.

Saturday.—Appleby: 14 to 16 for 1s. Berwick: 9d to 10d per dozen. Grantham: 15 to 16 for 1s. Howden: 15 for 1s. Lancaster: 10 to 13 for 1s. Malton: 16 or 17 for 1s. Pontefract: 14 for 1s. Retford: 1s 4d per score. Richmond: 14 for 1s. Skipton: 14 or 15 for 1s. Stokesley: 14 or 15 for 1s. Whitby: 15 or 16 for 1s.

CHEESE.

Glasgow Wednesday.—Arrivals not so liberal. Trade fair for all grades, but business somewhat checked by the disposition of sellers not to concede prices, which remain at 52s to 56s per cwt for new Cheddars and Dunlops. Canadians quiet, s buyers continue to hold off in anticipation of cheaper rates.

Newport, Wednesday.—Quotations: Caerphillies, 38s to 45s; fancy dairies, 48s to 49s; Derbys, 56s to 59s; truckles, 60s to 65s; and Cheddars, 60s to 65s. There was a supply and a good demand, an advance of several shillings per cwt being recorded.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The past week has seen a welcome rise in the temperature, but there has again been a heavy rainfall. What is badly lodged in the clay districts. Barley is going off in colour, but oats continue to improve. Swedes, turnips, and mangolds have made a rapid and promising growth. Trefoil is in blossom, and the wheat fields are at last well in ear in all counties south of the Trent. Early peas are in bloom, and so are the winter beans. Tares have grown rapidly, but want sun. Rye is tall but rather weak in the stem. Warmth and settled weather is now urgently required by all crops, even the meadows need sunshine rather than any more rain. France, like us, is having a terribly wet June.

The publication, on June 19th, of Blue Book, Cd. 1,121, enable us to complete a table of wheat prices which for the past seven years it has been our desire to present to the readers of the MARK LANE EXPRESS.

WHEAT ACREAGES OF FOUR-AND-TWENTY CHIEF MARKETS.

	1894.	1895.	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
London	24 3	23 11	27 1	31 4	34 9	25 6	27 10	27 7
Chelmsford	23 11	23 4	27 4	29 0	36 6	25 0	28 4	27 6
Aylesbury	23 10	23 3	26 8	29 9	32 11	25 5	26 10	26 11
Oxford	21 11	23 9	28 5	30 7	33 7	25 8	27 7	26 8
Salisbury	23 2	22 8	25 5	29 10	36 6	25 8	29 1	26 10
Reading	24 3	24 6	28 8	32 8	34 5	27 1	28 11	26 8
Guildford	26 5	24 10	28 8	31 10	35 7	27 6	28 11	26 8
Maidstone	25 8	24 3	27 4	31 5	34 6	26 2	27 8	26 8
Chichester	23 8	24 6	27 7	31 5	35 4	26 9	27 5	26 8
Winchester	24 6	24 5	27 7	31 11	32 2	24 10	27 6	26 8
Plymouth	20 2	21 6	28 9	31 7	32 10	25 7	27 6	26 8
Bristol	23 6	23 7	25 11	31 0	34 0	25 9	27 6	26 8
Gloucester	24 1	24 0	27 1	31 6	32 10	25 2	27 6	26 8
Shrewsbury	23 2	23 7	26 6	31 5	33 3	26 11	27 6	26 8
Chester	24 3	23 10	27 0	31 7	33 9	—	27 6	26 8
Birmingham	20 2	21 3	25 7	31 5	33 3	—	28	26 8
Huntingdon	23 5	22 3	25 11	30 7	34 0	25 2	26 3	26 8
Cambridge	22 5	22 3	25 7	29 9	35 7	26 10	27 6	26 8
Ipswich	22 10	23 10	25 7	30 2	34 7	25 9	26 6	26 8
Norwich	22 3	23 3	26 10	30 3	34 1	25 9	26 8	26 8
Lincoln	23 0	23 3	26 9	30 9	34 7	26 3	27 2	26 8
Nottingham	22 8	23 3	26 9	29 9	34 1	25 10	26 8	26 8
York	23 0	23 3	26 2	29 4	34 7	25 10	26 8	26 8
Newcastle	23 9	23 3	26 9	29 4	34 7	25 10	26 8	26 8

Readers who do not file this journal or find it for reference may find it useful to cut out the above table. It is, of course, a compilation merely, but it is from eight blue books, five of which are now out of print. The Agricultural Department for Great Britain is sadly hampered for want of funds, and cannot make its blue books as full or as retrospective as those of the better endowed Irish Agricultural Department. Huntingdon has ceased to be a statute market; the present list has come down, therefore, to 195 exchanges. Sales at Huntingdon had become so small that the supersession was wise; in fact, one complaint to the agricultural minster, is of an opposite tenour, namely, that several other markets, long since practically obsolete, are retained on the list and affect the averages.

A fairly trustworthy estimate of the Argentine crops shows that the yield of wheat is about 560lb. per acre, against 1,800lb. per acre in Great Britain and 1,100lb. per acre in France. Barley is hardly grown at all. The area under maize is about 3,100,000 acres, but there are no estimates of the yield from any authorised source. About 20 bushels would give 62,000,000 bushels on the area. Linseed yields about 7,674,000 cwt., but the area is extending, and perhaps eight millions may be assumed for the last crop.

Bulgaria is gradually increasing in civilisation, and is now an agricultural country of considerable resources. About 4,000,000 quarters of wheat, 1,500,000 quarters of barley, 1,000,000 quarters of oats, 4,000,000 quarters of maize, and 160,000 quarters of buckwheat are grown. The rose is here an agricultural crop, to which 12,582 acres are devoted. The last yield of flowers was 134,000 cwt. Servia is now credited with nearly a million quarters of wheat, and with 3,750,000 quarters of maize, but no figures, not even estimates of area, are obtainable from Turkey.

Sales of British wheat last week were only 70,000 quarters at 195 markets, and in London only 80 quarters of home-grown wheat were sold. Imports into the United Kingdom were as follows:—

Wheat: 564,000qrs.; a large supply.
Flour: 152,000 sacks; a moderate supply.
Maize: 190,000qrs.; nearly a fair supply.
Barley: 48,000qrs.; extremely small arrivals.
Oats: 154,000qrs.; a full supply.

The total imports of the United Kingdom since September 1st are thus returned:—

Wheat: 13,215,000qrs.; rather more than last season.
Flour: 6,144,000 sacks; less than last season.
Maize: 8,363,000qrs.; a very small supply.
Barley: 5,830,000qrs.; a fairly good supply.
Oats: 5,139,000qrs.; less than last season.

The supplies now on passage to the United Kingdom thus compare with the totals for June 21st, 1901:—

	1902.	1901.
Wheat	3,200,000qrs.	2,495,000qrs.
Flour	405,000 sacks.	500,000 sacks.
Maize	925,000qrs.	1,010,000qrs.
Barley	260,000qrs.	320,000qrs.
Beans	20,000qrs.	40,000qrs.

The wheat comprises 1,600,000 quarters of Californian, 545,000 quarters of American, 180,000 quarters of Argentine, 65,000 quarters of Russian, 307,000 quarters of Indian, 475,000 quarters of Australasian, and 28,000 quarters "other countries." The barley is made up of 120,000 quarters Russian and Danubian, 120,000 quarters Californian, and 20,000 quarters from Turkey in Europe and in Asia.

The course of recent markets argues that when the large arrivals of wheat since May are once placed in a number of more retail hands, a process which is in steady progress, steadiness will succeed to dulness, and present prices be readily paid. The crop prospects at home and abroad will by that date, say, mid July, have become dominant influences, and further prediction would therefore be indiscreet. As eyt the weather has exerted less than an usual degree of market influence. The trade in fine malting barley is over for the season, but feeding sorts continue to meet with a certain sale at about previous rates. For oats rather less money than formerly is taken, and the Government, "unloading" on the Peace, has distinctly weakened trade. Beans, peas, and rye show very little change. The price of milling offals is generally reduced from a week ago, but the finest biscuit middlings and also best flake bran are an exception to the rule. Flour itself is not more than 3d. lower on the week for London and country sorts, while American and Hungarian are at least as dear as a week ago.

The chief shipping countries last week sent off a liberal quantity of wheat and maize, but under average quantities of barley and oats. The American shipments were 345,000 qrs. of wheat, 173,000 sacks of flour, and 31,000 qrs. of oats. Argentina sent off 108,000 qrs. of wheat, 205,000 qrs. of maize, and 18,000 qrs of linseed.

The old world's chief exporting countries were Russia and Roumania. From the first there were shipped 274,000 qrs. of wheat, 70,000 qrs. of barley, 120,000 qrs. of oats, and 125,000 qrs. of maize; while from the second, the exports were 158,000 qrs. of wheat, 15,000 qrs. of barley, 7,0000 qrs. qrs. of wheat, 15,000 qrs. of barley. India shipped 72,000 qrs. of wheat, New Zealand 5,000 qrs. of oats, and Egypt 5,000 tons of cottonseed.

The great fleet of ships which starts from the White Sea port of Archangel on June 1 has been forced to return, owing to the thickness of the ice off the North of Lapland. This argues an unusually severe and protracted winter in the extreme North.

The trade in oilseeds presents very little change on the week. There are now on passage to the United Kingdom 285,000 qrs. of linseed, 23,000 qrs. of rapeseed, and 70,000 qrs. of cottonseed, against 210,000 qrs. of linseed, 21,000 qrs. of rapeseed, and 35,000 qrs. of cottonseed, on June 21, 1901. The total im ports of linseed into London, from January 1 to June 21, were 347,000 qrs.; which is one-third more than in the same period of 1901. As prices have been stiffly supported and remain good, an uncommonly well-sustained inquiry is disclosed.

COLONIAL DAIRY PRODUCE.

London, Friday.—The demand for Canadian butter, and, indeed, for all kinds of butter, continues good, and, although imports are much larger than last year, prices are stiffening. No doubt, the cold weather we have been having has been stimulating to the consumption of butter. The butter now arriving from Canada shows unmistakable signs of genuine grass flavour, and is about the best value on the market, notwithstanding the great temptation that Siberian has in this respect. The prices of Canadian have advanced about 2s per cwt on the week, and choicest salt now brings 98s to 100s, with saltless 2s higher. The market in Copenhagen continues firm, and the official quotation remains unchanged. Tinning operations are in full swing, and will last for two or three weeks longer. The general opinion is that prices for all European butters are at their lowest. American export is still impossible owing to the high prices existing there, and there does not seem any probability of Canada being able to swamp our markets while American remains so high. Cheese—The demand for Canadian cheese is good, and arrivals go direct into consumption at about 50s to 51s for choicest. The amount of finest, selling at less money, is almost infinitesimal. Old Canadian is very irregular in price, ranging from 53s to 56s. Old New Zealand is making 50s to 54s.—WEDDEL AND CO.

THIS DAY'S MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MON

[FIRST EDITION.]

There was a **fair sale for English wheat to-day**, and supply being **small, as usual at midsummer**, holders had rather the best of the market. Foreign wheat was saleable at 3d. per quarter advance and 6d. rise was often demanded. Barley was dull for all kinds. Oats were less depressed than a week ago. Maize was not dearer on spot as the 6d. per quarter rebate on the duty wipes out the advance of 6d. in actual prices. For future shipment maize is 6d. dearer on the week. Beans were steady for English, but Egyptian tended in buyers' favour. Peas were quiet. There was a good sale for Indian, but only when low prices were accepted. Oilcakes were in buyers' favour. The market for wheat futures was not so strong as that on spot, but control of the exchanges is now passing directly under weather influences.

QUOTATIONS OFF STANDS.

June 23, 1902.

BRITISH GRAIN.

		s.	s.
WHEAT, White	(per 504 lb.)	33	— 35
Red	,,	32	— 34
Chicken or Feed	(per 480 lb.)	31	— 32
BARLEY, Malting	(per 448 lb.)	nominal.	
Brewing	,,	,,	
Feeding	(per 416 lb.)	24	— 25
MALT, English	(per 336 lb.)	37	— 43
Scotch	,,	36	— 40
Black	,,	29	— 32
Brown	,,	27	— 32
Crystallized	,,	32	— 35
OATS, English, Black Winter	,,	25	— 26
,, Black Tartary	,,	24	— 25
,, Grey Winter	,,	25	— 26
,, White Tartary	,,	24	— 25
Scotch Fine Potato	,,	27	— 28
,, Good Ordinary	,,	25	— 27
Irish	(per 304 lb.)	23	— 24
RYE, British	(per 480 lb.)	25	— 26
BEANS, Pigeon	,,	39	— 41
Winter	,,	33	— 37
Mazagan	,,	33	— 35
PEAS, Best Marrowfat	(per 504 lb.)	58	— 72
Blue (boiling)	,,	48	— 68
Partridge	,,	38	— 40
Dun	,,	33	— 35
Maple	,,	39	— 41
TARES, Scotch Gores	,,	86	— 88
Winter Old	,,	78	— 84
,, Ordinary	,,	74	— 76
Spring ,,	,,	56	— 64
BUCKWHEAT, English	(per 416 lb.)	26	— 28

FOREIGN GRAIN.

(Ex-Granary.)

	s.	s.
WHEAT, per 496 lb.		
Old Duluth	33	— 34
Manitoba	32	— 33
American Spring	30/9	— 31
Red Winter	31	—31/6
Californian	31/6	— 32
Walla Walla	31/	—31/3
Australian	31	— 33
New Zealand	32	— 33
Argentine	30	— 32
Danzig	32	— 34
Saxonka	31	— 32
Azima	31	— 32
Ghirka	30	— 31
Bombay	32	— 33
Calcutta	31	— 32
Kurrachee	30	— 31
RYE, per 480 lb.		
Russian	26	— 27
MAIZE, per 480 lb.:		
Cinquantina	25/6	— 26
Hungarian	24/6	— 25
Russian	22/6	— 23
Roumanian	22/6	— 23
Turkish	22/6	— 23
American	27	— 28
Argentine	23	— 24
OATS:		
N' Zeal'd (Best)	29	— 31
N. Zeal'd (Bluff)	28	— 29
Canadian (320 lb.)	20	— 21
American (320 lb.)	20	— 21
Prussian (320 lb.)	21	— 22
N. Russ'n (304 lb.)	19	—19/6
South ,, (304 lb.)	18/9	— 19
BEANS, per 480 lb.:		
Egyptian	33	— 34
Smyrna	32	— 33
Konisberg	35	— 36
LOCUST BEANS, per ton:		
Italian	98	— 100
Cyprian	105	— 107
Portuguese	90	— 94
PEAS, per 504 lb.:		
Canadian, White	36	— 37
Australian, White	41	— 42
New Zeal'd Maple	39	— 41
Indian White	35	— 36
,, Green	30	— 31
MILLET, per 416 lb.:		
White	34	— 46
Red	26	— 28
Yellow	20	— 21
Sorghum	19	— 20
DARI, per 480 lb.:		
Smyrna	27	— 29
BUCKWHEAT, per 416 lb.		
French	26	— 27
Russian	27	— 28
TARES, per 504 lb.:		
Konigsberg	46	— 48
BARLEY:		
Saale (448 lb.)	none.	
Chilian (448 lb.)		
Chevalier	33	— 40
Brewing	none.	
Californian (448 lb.)		
Chevalier	33	— 35
Brewing	27	— 28
Danish (448 lb.)	none.	
Danubian (400 lb.)	21	— 22
Ouchak (400 lb.)	22	— 21
Yerli (400 lb.)	21	— 23
Russian (400 lb.)	20	— 22
MALT, per 336 lb:		
Californian	36	— 37
Smyrna	36	— 37

OIL SEEDS.

LINSEED. per 416 lb.	s.	s.
English	60	to 63
Dutch	57	to 61
Bombay	56	to 58
Calcutta	53	to 54
Russian	54	to 56
Argentine	50	to 53
SESAME. per 424 lb.		
Indian	53	to 55
COTTON SEED per ton.		
Egyptian	156	to 158

RAPESEED. per 416 lb	s.	s.
English	57	to 59
Madras	39	to 40
Guzerat	42	to 44
Ferozepore	37	to 38
Jamba	32	to 33
Ravison	30	to 31
POPPYSEED. per 377 lb.		
Indian	47	to 49
SUNFLOWERSEED. per 448 lb.		
Russian	50	to 54

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

THERE WILL BE NO MARKET ON FRIDAY NEXT, AND CONSEQUENTLY THERE ARE INCREASED RETAIL PURCHASES TODAY. ALL THE LEADING STAPLES ARE A LITTLE DEARER FROM MONDAY LAST, MORE ESPECIALLY WHERE PROMPT DELIVERY IS REQUIRED.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, MONDAY.

There was a good sale of flour to-day, but prices were very irregular. London makes declined 3d. on the week, while country flour was sometimes 6d. cheaper. American and Californian sorts, on the other hand, were held for 6d. advance, with 3d. more money paid. Pollard and bran continued to show a declining tendency, but middlings have become steady at currencies. Sales included "Mayblossom" at 25s., "Security." at 23s. 9d., "Grant's Gold" at 23s. 9d., "Silver Sand" at 23s. 9d., and "Uniform" at 22s. 9d. These are all Minnesota special sorts. Kansas flour made 23s. 9d. for "Royal Lily," and 24s. 3d. for "Success." Hungarian flour was firm, with 33s. 3d. paid for "Six Anchors" grade.

LONDON FLOUR.

		s. d.
Top Price	(per sack)	nominal.
Town Whites	,,	25/9
,, Households	,,	22/9
No. 2	,,	20/9

COUNTRY FLOUR.

Best Patents	(per sack)	24 — 26
Fine Roller made	,,	23 — 24
Ordinary Roller made	,,	22 — 23
Best Stone made	,,	20/6 — 21

FOREIGN FLOUR.

Minnesota First Patents	(per sack)	24 —25/3
,, Second Patents	,,	21 — 23
,, First Bakers'	,,	20 — 21
,, Second Bakers'	,,	18 — 19
Milwaukee Patents	,,	22 — 23
,, Bakers	,,	19 — 20
Kansas Patents	,,	23 — 24
,, Bakers'	,,	19 — 20
Cascadia	,,	22/6 — 23
Canadian	,,	24 — 25
Australian Patents	,,	23 — 24
,, Straight	,,	22 — 23
Hungarian	,,	27 — 33
French	,,	21 — 23

MEAL, &c.

Whole Meal	(per ton	180—184
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	114—116
Bran, London Broad	,,	104—106
,, ,, Fine	,,	86— 90
,, Country Flake	,,	116—122
,, ,, Broad	,,	98—102
Pollard	,,	80— 82
Biscuit Middlings	,,	118—120
Fine Middlings	,,	114—116
Coarse Middlings	,,	102—104
Feeding Flour (Red Dog)	,,	111—113
Barley Meal	,,	121—128
Rye Flour	,,	171—181
Canadian Oatmeal	,,	205—215
Scotch Oatmeal	,,	260—300
Oat Flour	,,	340—360
Maize Flour	,,	164—166
Maize Meal	,,	113—115
Maize Cones	,,	172—174
Maize Germ Meal	,,	108—113
Pea Meal	,,	135—155
Bean Meal	,,	150—170
Rice Meal	,,	90— 93

LONDON TERM MARKET.

This market is held twice a day, except on Saturday, when there is no afternoon call. The market is open to elected members only. No business except for future delivery is done, and the smallest quantity that can be purchased is 1,000 quarters, or 4,800 centals. The name of the month stands for guaranteed delivery (if required) on or before the last day of that month, and the following have been the prices per cental recently made:—

WHEAT.—Calls	A. June. s. d.	A. Aug't. s. d.	B. Oct. s. d.
June 16 11 a.m.	5 11	6 1	6 3
4 p.m.	5 11	6 1	6 3
June 17 11 a.m.	5 11	6 1	6 3
4 p.m.	5 11	6 1	6 3
June 18 11 a.m.	5 11	6 1	6 3
4 p.m.	5 11	6 1	6 3
June 19 11 a.m.	5 11	6 1	6 3
4 p.m.	5 11	6 1	6 3
June 20 11 a.m.	6 0	6 1	6 4
4 p.m.	6 0	6 1	6 4
June 21 noon	6 0	6 1	6 4
To-day, noon	5 11	6 0	6 3

June, 5s. 11d.; August, 6s.; October, 6s. 3d. Maize made 4s. 6d. per cental for June delivery; 4s. 7d. asked for July.

By the letter A is signified duty to be paid by *buyer*, by B duty to be paid by *seller*. On the Finance Bill being passed, the members of the Term Market unanimously agreed to adopt the new duty as a sellers' obligation from the new cereal year (September 1). Up to that date it will fall on the buyer. In default of agreement, however, the Acts of 1876 and 1901 throw the burden on the buyer, a fact which those who operate on these prices without being members of the Term Market would do well to note.

The Term Market standard wheat is No. 1 Northern Spring American sold on the Duluth certificate. Other sorts of wheat can be bought at the above prices plus or minus agreed difference between the other sort and the standard quality. Quotations are by the "true hundredweight" or cental of 100lb. Maize, when quoted, is fair average quality from the United States.

The deposit required from members of the Term Market has been fixed at £50 minimum and 1s. per quarter margin on any purchases above 1,000 quarters.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORT.

Offals.—The demand for bran has fallen off considerably, and the present dulness will probably continue for some time to come. Buyers are anticipating lower prices.—GREENHILL, BROTHERS (Belfast).

Flour.—Trade continues somewhat languid; buyers are not eager to purchase except for present requirements. No further change in prices.—GREENHILL, BROTHERS (Belfast).

Flour.—The market has improved this week, and American millers are not such anxious sellers for new crop shipment. Prices have consequently improved, but buyers here are still afraid to operate. Spot flour is a slow sale, on account of the premium asked over new crop quotations. Grain.—Maize 1½d. to 3d. per boll lower. Pease and beans slow. Oats firm. Canadian oatmeal exhausted on spot. Mill Stuffs.—Bran 2s. 6d per ton lower. Thirds unchanged.—MCKINNON AND MCDONALD (Glasgow).

Wheat and flour arrivals have again been liberal. Trade is firm. Wheat 3d. and 6d. dearer. Flour unchanged. Maize rather lower. Barley and oats unchanged.—COVENTRY (Mark Lane).

Flour has met a quiet trade to-day at 3d. to 6d. advance on the week.—T. S. MEDILL AND SONS (Mark Lane).

There is little inclination for business to-day, as millers prefer to wait on until after the Coronation festivities are over. Wheat is generally held for 6d. advance on last Monday's rates. Maize is steady, unaltered.

Middlings are quite firm, and in better demand. Bran and pollard dull and unchanged.—J. BAWCOMB AND CO. (Mark Lane).

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—Bacon.—The arrivals from Ireland last week were 1,973 and from foreign ports 10,383 bales of bacon. There was a very good demand for bacon throughout last week, prices being slightly against buyers. Irish, 54s to 61s, up to 68s; Danish, 52s to 61s, up to 65s; Canadian, 54s to 55s, up to 58s. Butter—The butter market was steady, with Irish 90s to 105s; Danish, 106s to 107s; French, 86s to 103s; Canadian, 94s to 100s. Lard was quiet, but a fair enquiry for American pails, from 52s to 52s 6d.

HOPS.

London, Monday.—W. H. and H. Le May report the market is very strong, and stocks are the smallest on record. The plantation reports are very unfavourable.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Monday.—Linseed cake trade very dull; no change in prices. Decorticated cotton cake and meal as before. Undecorticated is a moderate sale at last quotations. Linseed firm, unchanged.

English Linseed Cake	ex mill	7 12 6	to 7 16 0
American Calcutta Linseed Cake	ex quay	7 12 6	
American Western ,,	ex quay	6 15 0	to 7 0 0
,, ,,	ex quay		
Decorticated Cotton Cake	ex quay	6 5 0	to 6 12 6
,, ,, Meal	ex quay	6 10 0	
London-made ,, Cake (best)	ex mill	4 12 6	4 15 0
Egyptian ,, ,, ,, (in bags)	ex quay	4 6 3	to 8 0
Burton Desiccated Ale Grains (bags included)	on rail, Burton	4 12 6	
Dutch Linseed (in bags), per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse	3 3 0	
Calcutta Linseed in bags, per 410 lbs.	ex warehouse	9 13 0	
La Plata do. per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse	2 13 0	
Clean Russian Linseed in bulk, per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse	2 19 0	

ROBERT AND JOHN HEWTSON.

Irish Live Weight Quotations.

(Department of Agriculture and General Instruction for Ireland.)

The following returns are those of actual sales made in Robson's Cattle Mart, Belfast, the stock being weighed either before or after sale, for the week ending June 17th, 1902.

No. of Beasts.	Description and Quality.	Average price per head.	Average Live weight.	Average price per cwt.
		£ s. d.	c. qr. lb.	£ s. d.
2	Bullock (prime) ...	22 2 6	11 0 0	2 0 3
2	,, ,, ...	20 5 0	10 0 14	2 0 0
1	,, ,, ...	19 15 0	10 0 21	1 18 9
2	,, (very goo ...	20 17 6	10 3 21	1 18 2
2	,, ,, ...	16 12 6	8 3 3	1 17 10
2	,, ,, ...	19 0 0	10 0 7	1 17 9
1	,, ,, ...	20 10 0	11 0 0	1 17 3
1	,, (good) ...	16 5 0	9 0 0	1 16 1
1	,, ,, ...	17 5 0	9 2 21	1 15 7
*4	,, ,, ...	14 1 8	8 0 5	1 15 0
1	,, ,, ...	14 0 0	8 0 7	1 14 9
4	,, (fair) ...	16 0 0	9 2 0	1 13 8
1	Heifer (prime) ...	18 15 0	9 2 0	1 19 6
1	,, (very good) ...	15 15 0	8 1 14	1 17 7
1	Cow (prime) ...	17 5 0	9 1 7	1 17 1
1	,, (very good) ...	15 5 0	9 1 0	1 13 0

* Indicates that the lot so marked was sold by live weight at the price quoted.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

Monday, June 23rd, 1902.

	British.	Total.	June 24, 1901.
Beasts	1,430	1,430	830
Sheep and lambs	9,330	9,330	7,960
Calves	50	50	20
Milch cows	50	50	60

Quotations per 8lb. (sinking the offal)

ENGLISH.

	Inferior. s. d.	Second. s. d.	First. s. d.
Beasts	3 4 ..	4 8 ..	5 4
Sheep	3 10 ..	5 2 ..	5 10
Lambs	5 0 ..	5 6 ..	6 0

Milch cows, per head, £15 to £22.

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, 5; Eastern counties, 348; Midland, Home, and Western counties, 598; Devon, 30; Ireland, 449.

To-day practically opens the season for grass-fed cattle from the Midland counties, consignments from Norfolk being very short, and will each week gradually get less and less. Irish arrivals were strong, and included 305 stores, which were quoted as follows:—Yearlings, £7 to £7 5s per head; two years, £10 to £11; three years, £13 to £15. Trade for fat beasts was dull and heavy, at a decline of 2d per 8lb, at which reduction a clearance cannot be made; less demand by country buyers for butchering cows and bulls.

The following are top quotations per 8lb (sinking the offal):—

	To-day.	June 24, 1901.
Devons	5s 0d to 5s 2d ..	4s 4d to 4s 5d
Herefords	5s 2d to 5s 4d ..	4s 4d to 4s 5d
Norfolks	5s 0d to 5s 2d ..	4s 4d to 4s 5d
Runts	5s 0d to 5s 2d ..	4s 3d to 4s 4d
Lincolns	4s 10d to 5s 0d ..	4s 2d to 4s 3d
Irish	4s 10d to 5s 0d ..	—
Fat cows	4s 4d to 4s 6d ..	3s 8d to 3s 10d

There was a decrease of 1,280 in the number penned in the sheep market, the supply including 2,820 from the Eastern Counties, 380 Scotch, and 1,050 Irish. For sheep, both wethers and ewes, trade was of a very slow nature, rates ruling fully 2d per 8lb in favour of the buyer. Even at this decline a clearance is not expected to be made. Choice quality lambs sold steadily at Thursday's rates, but heavy descriptions were exceptionally low in price and difficult to cash.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8lb (sinking the offal), and are for the best of each class penned.

	To-day.	June 24, 1901
7½ to 8-stone Downs	5s 8d to 5s 10d ..	5s 2d to 5s 4d
9-st ditto	5s 6d to 5s 8d ..	5s 0d to 5s 2d
10-st half-breds	5s 3d to 5s 4d ..	4s 7d to 4s 8d
12-st Lincolns	5s 0d to 5s 2d ..	4s 4d to 4s 6d
10-st Irish	5s 0d to 5s 2d .	
10-st Down lambs	4s 4d to 4s 6d ..	3s 10d to 4s 0d
11-st half-bred ditto	4s 2d to 4s 4d ..	3s 8d to 3s 10d
5-st Down lambs	5s 10d to 6s 0d ..	6s 2d to 6s 4d
6-st half-bred ditto	5s 4d to 5s 6d ..	5s 8d to 5s 10d

No inquiry for calves.

London (Central), Monday.—Good supplies; trade very slow. Beef carcases, 4s 6d to 4s 8d; hind quarters, 5s to 5s 2d; roastings, 6s to 6s 4d. Sheep: Ewe, 3s 8d to 4s; wether, 4s 8d to 5s; hind quarters, ewe, 4s 8d to 5s; wether, 5s 2d to 6s. Pigs: Large, 3s to 3s 8d; small, 4s to 4s 4d.

St. Ives, Monday.—Beasts, 702; sheep and lambs, 1,468; pigs, 549; horses, 5. Beef, 8s to 9s; mutton, 7s 7d to 9s 4d; lamb, 9s to 10s; pigs, 6s 3d to 7s; fat and store cattle slower trade; fat and store sheep ditto; fat and store pigs fair; milch cows fair trade; prices £14 to £23.

FOREIGN CATTLE.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts, 797. To-day's supply, compared with Monday last, showed a decrease of 503, and consisted of 666 from the United States and 131 from Canada. Owing to the lower rates prevailing at the dead meat market, combined with the warmer weather, trade was of a slower nature, at a decline of from 2d to 3d per 8lbs, sales being rather forced at following quotations per 8lbs, offal given in; 90-stone States beasts, 5s; Canadians, 4s 8d to 4s 9d. No sheep on the market. On Saturday, June 21, the supply consisted of 1,438 States beasts and 685 from Canada, for which there was a very slow trade; the best of the former were quoted from 5s to 5s 1d per 8lbs, and the latter from 4s 10d to 4s 11d. Sheep numbered 798 from the United States, and were quoted at from 4s 4d to 4s 6d, and occasionally 4s 8d per 8lbs.

Liverpool, Monday.—Demand slow for cattle, and prices lower for all sorts. Trade was irregular, owing to this being holiday week. Sheep trade slow, and excepting prime handy weights, prices were in buyers' favour. Lambs also against sellers. Beef, 7¾d to 6d per lb; mutton, 8½d to 6½d; lambs, 9d to 8d per lb. At market 214 cattle and 11,706 sheep.

THE BALTIC, 1 p.m.

STATE OF TRADE.

Wheat cargoes are in fair request at 3d. advance from Saturday. There is a brisk trade doing in prize at the slight rise established at the close of last week. Barley is 3d. dearer from Saturday. Oats are not more than firm at currencies. Beans and peas are held for prices 6d. above buyers' ideas. The "Baltic" will be closed from 4.30 p.m., on Wednesday to 10 a.m. on Monday, and there will be no calls on the Term Market during the same period. The "Atlantic," at Liverpool, will be similarly closed.

BUSINESS DONE.

WHEAT.—Californiuan, 30s 6d, on passage; Walla Walla, 29s 9d, on passage; Australian, 29s 6d, on passage; Azoff, 28s 6d, on passage; Argentine, 28s 9d, on passage; No. 1 hard Manitoba, 29s 3d, August shipment; No. 1 Northern Duluth, 28s 6d, October shipment; secondary Manitoba, 28s, July shipment; red Kurrachee, 28s 6d, July shipment; No. 2 club Calcutta, 30s, July shipment.

MAIZE.—Danubian, 21s, on passage; Galatz, 21s 9d, on passage; Argentine, 21s, on passage; American, 27s 6d, July shipment.

BARLEY.—Odessa, 18s 9d, July shipment; Californian, 23s, August shipment; Kustendje, 18s 6d, prompt shipment; Novorossisk, 19s 9d, prompt shipment.

OATS.—Black Libau, 18s, prompt shipment; American, 17s 6d, October shipment.

LINSEED.—Calcutta, 52s, arrived.

RAPESEED.—Yellow Cawnpore, 40s 6d, on passage.

COTTONSEED.—Egyptian, £7 12s 6d, July shipment.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW.

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS.")

Trade in London

With a larger supply of fat beasts at the Islington market, trade, which was chiefly confined to Monday, was of a decidedly slower nature, with a marked downward tendency in value, business in the early hours opening with an entire absence of life, both as regards prime and second quality. Salesmen held out for the previous week's rates, but only in very exceptional cases were they obtained. Towards noon, and especially at the finish, sales had to be forced without a clearance being made. On Thursday but few transactions were recorded. For fat butchering cows there was less demand by country buyers; rates, consequently, had to be lowered fully 2d. per 8lb. With regard to bulls, no alteration in value can be noted, as the supply was very short. The arrivals from Ireland numbered 394, of which 204 consisted of stores, which were in steady demand, prices being quoted as follows: Yearlings, £6 10s. to £7 per head; 2½ years old, £13 to £14; three years, £16 to £17. At the foreign cattle market there was a more than average supply so far as numbers were concerned, but quality was rather poorer, a good many half-finished beasts being sent, doubtless attracted by the high rates obtained during the last few weeks. Trade on all three market days proved firm and steady, both in regard to tone and value, last week's rates being well upheld. The total number on offer at both markets was 5,668, as against 4,844 during the previous week. The supply consisted of 1,780 British—increase 370—and 3,888 imported—increase 454. These latter comprised 2,911 from the United States and 977 from Canada. The following were the top rates paid per 8lb. (sinking the offal): 90-stone Herefords, 5s. 6d.; 80-stone Devons, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; 90-stone polled Norfolks, 5s. 4d.; 100-stone Shorthorn ditto, 5s. 2d.; 90-stone runts, 5s. 4d.; 90-stone Dublins, 5s. 2d. to 5s. 4d.; 100-stone Waterfords, 5s. to 5s. 2d.; 85-stone States, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 5d.; 90-stone Canadians, 5s. 2d. to 5s. 4d.; 90-stone fat cows, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 100-stone fat bulls, 4s. 2d. There was a marked increase in the sheep and lamb arrivals, the total being 15,883, as against 11,180 during the previous week. The supply consisted of 14,430 British and 1,453 American. Trade for sheep, both wethers and ewes, was of a decidedly slower nature, at a decline of fully 2d. per 8lb. Primest quality lambs were in steady request, but were bought on rather easier terms. Heavy sorts, especially if half-meaty, were difficult to dispose of, and were very low and irregular in price. Best pens of sheep made per 8lb. as follows (sinking the offal): 8-stone Downs, 6s. to 6s. 2d.; 8-stone Scotch, 6s.; 9-stone Downs, 5s. 10d.; 10-stone ditto, 5s. 8d.; 10-stone half-breds, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; 12-stone Lincolns, 5s. 2d.; 10-stone Irish, 5s. 4d.; 8-stone States, 4s. 6d.; 10-stone Down ewes, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 11-stone half-bred ditto, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 5-stone fat Down lambs, 6s. to 6s. 4d.; 6-stone half-bred ditto, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 8d. Calves numbered 155, and met a very dull and heavy trade, the very best being easily bought at 5s. 4d. per 8lb. No pigs on offer.

Trade in the West.

With a continuance of wet the agricultural outlook is growing more and more serious daily. Most of the grass crop is now ready for the machine or scythe, but on the face of the weather, farmers show but little disposition to begin cutting, preferring to let the crop take its chance to getting it down and then be unable to stack it. Such is the prospect at present, and a most discouraging one it is for those immediately concerned. And the growing corn is affected to a similar degree, though fortunately the elements took a little more favourable turn on Wednesday, succeeding on a very cold night in which 5 deg. of frost was registered! In spite of these drawbacks, the stock markets keep unusually buoyant, store stock from the prevailing, and fat things from the extra, demands consequent on the Coronation festivities, for which great preparations are in progress. Milch beasts have shown no falling off in demand, whilst prices keep as high as ever, good heifers, with their first calves, selling up to £22 or £23, ranging down to £17 10s.; whilst more ordinary runs and cows with calves make £17 down to £12 or £13 for aged animals, soon becoming dry. Barreners are likewise in as much request as ever, the inquiry being largely stimulated by the abundance of keep everywhere, which it is difficult to find sufficient stock for, as, with the present precarious weather, many are feeding off their pastures as far as possible, to save further risk. Should this practice become general we may expect to see hay exceedingly dear next winter. The best barreners—those soon coming for death—sell from £26 to £36 per pair, whilst ordinary runs make £19 to £24 or £25, and very old cows £16 to £18. Some of the younger bullocks still sell at what many consider beef price, very little margin being allowed for profit in these cases. Young bullocks, too, are by no means any too plentiful, hence the price they make. Up to the present store sheep are marketing very well, but if we do not soon get an improvement in the weather we doubt if the present prices will be maintained, and we have also grave fears soon of hearing of sheep being "coethed" with so much wet, especially in the low-lying lands. We hope this will not prove to be so, but there is certainly a very grave risk, which only fine weather can obviate. Fat bullocks, which still come to hand only in very limited numbers, find a very ready sale at high prices, the best steers and heifers realising 13s. to 14s. per score, and fat cows 11s. to 12s.; whilst the rougher grades make 9s. 6d. to 10s. 6d. And everything is quickly caught up as it is offered, as a result of the shortened supplies in the country. Mutton, too, is a firmer trade all round, best light-weight wethers making up to 8½d. and over well-finished animals; whilst ewes sell from 7d. to 7½d. for the best, and rough aged ewes at 6½d. Lamb, despite cold cheerless weather, is marketing fairly well, though by no means as well as would have been the case had only favourable weather prevailed instead of what we are now experiencing. The best Downs and crossbreds—those fit for present requirements—are selling from 10d. to 11d., and in exceptional cases up to 1s. where only the very best is wanted. Fat calves likewise meet a quick sale at full values; best, 8½d. to 9d. per lb.; seconds, 7½d. to 8d.; and poor-class lots, 6½d. to 7d. Considering the very exceptional character of the season, fat stock in nearly every case is bringing a fairly satisfactory return.

Trade in Scotland.

The supplies of fat cattle on offer have been exceedingly large. With plenty demand on the part of both butchers and dealers, trade has continued very dear, and an easy clearance effected at prices quite up to the extreme rates of the last two weeks. Fat cows and bulls have also maintained the late very high prices. There was a smaller show of fat sheep and lambs on offer. For the former a good trade was experienced, and young sheep would get easily sold at prices from 1s. to 2s. a head higher than those of last week. Fat lambs, which were a large and rather better show in point of quality than last week, also experienced a similar rise in prices. There was a small number of fat calves on offer, which met a fairly good trade. Fat pigs, of which there were rather more on offer, were the turn in favour of the buyer.

In the store markets there has been a fair supply of sheep, which have met with a dragging trade, the weather still being very backward. Store cattle were a large and good show, but except for the very best bullocks, in forward condition, which were inquired after, trade was very dull, and sales very difficult to effect, this being caused mainly by the high prices asked by dealers. Milch cows were rather a smaller show than last week, and met a better trade at an advance of from 10s. to 20s. a head. Quotations:—Top price of best bullocks per live cwt. from 44s. 6d. to 47s. 6d.; current from 42s. 6d. to 45s.; secondary from 40s. to 42s.; mutton from 8½d. to 9½d. per lb.—JOHN SWAN AND SONS, LTD.

Trade in Ireland.

Tempted by the high rates that have been going for the last couple of weeks, the supply of both cattle and sheep at Thursday's Dublin market was largely in excess of the big one of the previous Thursday. A number of half-meated and inferior beasts were run in, owners hoping to profit by present high prices, but, as might be expected, there was general disappointment. In the first place trade had not been nearly so good during the week in England and Scotland, and secondly, the attendance of cross-Channel was much smaller, and the operations of those attending were very cautious. The consequence was that business was of a much quieter tone, and prices were on a lower basis for all grades of beef. Prime cattle did not suffer so much as inferior, but the fall may be put down as from 20s. to 40s. per head. The number of cattle offered for sale was 2,265, being 242 in excess of preceding, and 1,164 in excess of corresponding week of 1901. Best ox and heifer beef sold at from 63s. to 66s. per cwt., while some special lots of Aberdeen Angus went as high as 70s.; good, second class, 58s. to 62s.; and other classes from 48s. upward. A clearance was not effected. In the mutton department, there was also a huge supply, no less than 11,701 sheep and lambs being on offer. This supply was quite in excess of requirements, and a very large proportion remained unsold at the close of business. Choice wethers for home trade met with a good sale, at rates about the same as last day, but for inferior sheep and lambs business was very made from 7d. to 7½d. per lb.; ewe, 6½d. to 7d.; dull and disappointing. Prime wether mutton and coarse sheep, from 5½d. per lb. Hoggets sold from 28s. each for light small, up to 54s. for large heavy. Lambs made from 16s. for small, up to 38s. for large fat. Veal still remarkably scarce, prime calves making 8d. to 9d. per lb.; coarse ditto, from 4½d.; choice large springers and new milch cows brought from £17 to £20 each; inferior cows neglected. The pig market was sparingly supplied, and trade was fairly active at late rates for choice light weights; but for inferior quality, weaker. Nice medium weight pigs, 48s. to 50s. per cwt.; coarse, from 34s. to 40s. per cwt.

LONDON.

London (Central), Wednesday.—Fair supplies, but trade ruled slow and prices weak. Arrivals of beef included 40 tons of Scotch, 600 Liverpool sides, 1,500 hindquarters, and 800 forequarters American killed. Quotations:—Beef, Scotch short sides, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; long, 4s 10d to 5s; English, 4s 8d; American, Deptford killed, 4s 6d to 4s 8d; Liverpool, 4s 5d to 4s 7d; American refrigerated hindquarters, 4s 6d to 4s 10d; forequarters, 3s to 3s 3d. Mutton: Scotch, 5s to 5s 4d; English wethers, 4s 8d to 4s 10d; ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; English lamb, 5s to 5s 4d. Veal: English and Dutch, 4s to 4s 8d per 8lb. Pork: Dutch, 4s to 4s 4d per 8lb.

London (Central), Friday.—Good supplies met with slow support, while prices tended downwards. A fair quantity of English, moderate of Deptford-killed American, 100 tons of Scotch, 380 Liverpool sides, 3,500 hindquarters and 2,100 forequarters American killed constituted arrivals. Prices:—Beef, Scotch short sides, 6s to 5s 4d; long, 4s 8d to 5s; English, 4s 8d to 4s 10d; American, Deptford killed, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; Liverpool, 4s 4d to 4s 7d; American refrigerated hindquarters, 5s to 5s 2d; forequarters, 2s 10d to 3s. Mutton—Scotch, 4s 10d to 5s 2d; English wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; ewes, 3s to 3s 4d; Canterbury, 2s 10d to 3s; Wellington, 2s 6d to 2s 10d; Sydney and River Plate, 2s 5d to 2s 7d; English lamb, 5s to 5s 8d. Veal—English and Dutch, 3s 8d to 4s 8d. Pork—English, 4s to 4s 4d; and Dutch, 3s 10d to 4s 2d per 8lb

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Trade rather slower. Beef was quoted at 1s a score less than at the last market. Mutton sold at late rates for all good qualities. Pork sold well at late rates. Veal cheaper.

Basingstoke, Wednesday.—At Raynbird and Sons Sale Yard there was a large attendance of buyers to meet a larger supply of cattle, consisting of 68 fat beasts, 130 calves, 714 fat sheep and lambs, 268 pigs, and 144 head of dairy and store cattle, for which the following prices were realised:—Prime Devon fat beasts from General Holley reached £24 10s.; shorthorn steers from G. Judd, Esq., £23s 5s; Mr. W. Street, £25 15s; from Colonel G. Ives, £20 5s; heifers from Mr. A. Follett, S. Hatton, Esq., Lord Ashburton, £21 10s, £21 5s, £23; bulls made from £16 to £20 5s; shorn wethers and young ewes made from 44s to 50s; old ewes, 32s to 38s; rams, 42s to 54s; 3 months old sucking lambs, Downs, 28s to 36s; a few extra pens up to 45s; Exmoor lambs, 23s to 28s; South Downs, 30s to 33s 6d; fat porkers, 42s to 53s; smaller, 30s to 41s; store pigs, 14s to 28s 6d; fat calves, 80s to £5 15s; smaller 20s to 52s 6d; dairy cows, £8 to £19 10s; etc, etc. There was an increase in the number of fat cattle; the show included some excellent Devons and shorthorns, for which there was an active demand. Fat bulls and cows also sold well, but second rate and half fat beasts were worse to sell. Fat sheep and fat lambs were penned in good numbers; prime quality wethers and young ewes met a good clearance at full prices. A good business done in fat lambs, but at rather lower prices. Old ewes and inferior lambs and sheep were difficult to sell, and prices lower. A good demand for all best descriptions of dairy cows at higher prices. Store cattle sold readily, with more inquiry. Fat calves met a firm trade at late rates. Fat and store pigs were easily cleared, at prices satisfactory to the vendors. Ruling values:—Prime Devon beasts, 8d to 8½d; shorthorn ditto, 7½d to 8d; bulls, cows, and inferior beasts, 6d to 7d per lb; best fat sheep, 8½d to 9d; second ditto, 7½d to 8d; old ewes, rams, and inferior sheep, 6d to 7d; choice three months old sucking lambs, 9d to 9½d; fat calves, 7½d to 8½d per lb; fat porkers, up to 11s per score.

Boston, Wednesday.—Small supply of stock. In-calvers met a quiet trade. Good show of beef at extreme prices. Sheep and lambs were inquired for. Pork dear. Store beasts, £14 to £16; useful drapes, £12 to £14; in-calf cows, £20 to £22; heifers, £16 to £18; calves, 55s to 60s; best beef, 9s and 9s 3d; cow beef, 8s and 8s 6d per stone; store sheep, 35s to 40s; best wethers, 7½d and 8d; ewes, 6½d and 7d; store pigs, 40s to 50s; suckers, 24s to 30s each; porkers, 6s 9d to 7s per stone.

Braintrse, Wednesday.—There was an excellent show of fat stock at Messrs Ball's auction mart, fat beasts making up to £28. Trade was brisk.

Bury St. Edmunds, Wednesday. — At Messrs. Simpson and Sons auction mart there was a very large supply of fat bullocks, all of exceptionally prime quality. There being a full attendance of distant county and local buyers, a good trade prevailed throughout for all descriptions, especially for the heaviest and ripest cattle, which made up to £31; most of the heavy cattle being purchased by Midland county buyers, and several to go to Surrey. Rather short supply of store beasts, which met a very sharp trade at considerably more money. Some Hereford steers, consigned from Timworth, by Mr. W. Harvey, made from £13 15s to £11 17s 6d per head. Several other lots sold equally dear. Better show of sheep than last week; but not up to the average for the time of year. Brisk trade for all descriptions at fully late rates. Short supply of store sheep, and more demand for all descriptions. Several lots of lambs sold well. Smaller supply of pigs, which sold at late rates.

Calne, Friday.—Present prices for prime pigs, in lots of not less than 10, on rail within 100 miles of Calne.

Prime Stores.	Thickness of fat in any part of the Back.	Price per Sc. s. d.
6 sc. 10 lbs. to 9 sc. 10 lbs.	2½ in. and under ...	10 0
Under 10 sc. ...	... Not exceeding 2½ in. ...	9 6
Under 11 sc. 10 lb.	... Not exceeding 2⅔ in....	9 0
Under 12 sc. ...	... Not exceeding 3 in. ...	

—C. & T. Harris & Co., Ld.

Cambridge, Monday.—Beasts 606, beef 8s to 9s 6d; sheep 860, mutton 4s 4d to 5s 6d; pigs 495, pork 6s 3d to 7s 3d; horses, 20. A better show of store beasts, and all sold. Fat beasts—A large number to hand, and trade brisk. Fat sheep—A sharp trade at late rates.—Stores—

Some good lots of ewes and lambs, and all sold. Fat pigs—A large show; trade brisk at late rates. Stores not quite so good as last week.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Trade was not very brisk. A fair offering of store beasts, with yearlings selling at from £6 15s to £9 10s; better-class two-year-olds, £11 10s to £13.

Carlisle, Saturday.—The supply of Irish store cattle was rather smaller than last week's, and consisted of about 400 head of heifers. Fair attendance, and inquiry at about last week's prices. Small heifers, from £8 to £10 10s; better sorts, £12 10s to £16 10s; and exceptionally well-formed heifers up to £18 10s.

Dorchester, Wednesday.—The market was well supplied throughout, and trade ruled firm for most things, at full prices. Fat bullocks a good sale, at 11s 6d to 12s 6d for best qualities, and 10s 6d to 11s for cows. Best calves sold at 8d to 8½d, and seconds 7d to 7½d. Mutton made 8d to 8½d for best wethers, and ewes, 7d to 7½d per lb; lambs, 9½d to 10½d. Pigs were in good demand, light-weight porkers making 10s 6d to 11s 6d per score; heavier pigs, 9s to 9s 6d. Chickens, 5s to 8s per couple; and hens, 3s to 4s. Best cheese made 45s to 58s per cwt, and seconds, 25s to 42s. Butter, 10d to 1s 1d per lb. Eggs, 9d to 11d per dozen.

Dublin, Thursday.—Numbers in market: Beasts 2,265, increase, 242; sheep 11,701, increase, 1,359; calves 46, decrease, 29. Increased numbers on offer, together with worse trade across Channel, caused a dull and disappointing market this morning. All classes of cattle must be quoted in buyers' favour, from 1s to 3s per cwt., alive, according to quality. Sheep and lambs of all classes made less money. Cattle, live weight (best), 37s to 39s per cwt. Other descriptions, 32s to 36s per cwt. Mutton, dead weight, 52d to 7½d per lb.—GANLY, SONS, AND CO.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Bullocks and cows, 505; calves, 198; sheep and lambs, 2,094; pigs (fat and sows), 32; sucking pigs, 26; pigs (stores, not more than 10); 135; pigs (stores, not more than 10), 56; horses, 3; colts (sucking), 1. Prices of stock:—Beef, 6½d to 7½d; mutton, 6½d to 9d; lamb, 8d to 9d; veal, 9½d; pork, 6½d to 8d; and bacon, 5d to 6d per lb.

Ipswich, Wednesday.—Messrs. R. Bond and Sons report that a very heavy supply of fat cattle was forwarded, in view of the Coronation requirements, many coming from adjoining counties; distant and local buyers were in strong force, and notwithstanding the heavy supply, prices were well maintained throughout, making up to 9s per stone, though not quite up to the level of last week, when supplies were rather short, and very dear in consequence, in some instances being then above 10s per stone. Most attention was given to thoroughly ripe cattle, with plenty of size and weight. A good supply of fat sheep, and a good trade was experienced, ewes being in considerable request. Fat lambs were numerous, but did not make very high figures. Lambs and ewes were short, and sold without alteration. A capital entry of fat calves, for which the demand was very brisk, at higher rates; but a short supply of weaning calves. A fair number of fat swine, and the recent satisfactory prices were well maintained, competition being sharp. Well bred stores wanted, and sold freely; sows dear. Grazing cattle met a good trade. Cows were well represented, and made more money, up to £23. Numbers at market:—Beasts, 966; calves, 59; sheep, 3,157; swine, 1,272; horses, 29.

Leicester, Wednesday.—The consignments of Norfolk and Lincolnshire fed bullocks came to hand in excellent condition, but they were much in excess of requirements, and a speculative market resulted in very heavy losses. Buyers and dealers were well represented, but trade ruled sluggish, and so far from there being a scarcity as anticipated, prices declined fully £2 per head, and many lots were left unsold. Choice bullocks, 7¼d per lb; secondary, 7d to 7¼d; heifers, 7d to 7½d; cows, 6d to 6½d per lb. Sheep were a full delivery, and sold rather slowly; choice lots, 7¾d to 8d; large sheep, 7d to 7½d; ewes, 6d to 6½d; lambs, 9d; calves, 8d to 8½d per lb.

Liverpool, Friday.—The market has had a fair attendance, and wheat is firmly held for a full ¼d advance, which has checked business, but any shading in values has resulted in a fair trade. Flour—There has been a better demand for home milled flour, but no change is made in limit. Foreign, on the other hand, is a quiet trade, but sellers hold firmly at full rates owing to the small stock. Maize—Mixed rules steady, with a quiet trade at unchanged prices. Plate is in fair demand, and, owing to smaller supplies, is steadily held for a full 1d over last Tuesday. European is ¼d dearer, with a fair business passing. Barley is steady at unchanged prices for malting. Feeding slow and ¼d lower. Beans are steady at unchanged prices. Peas in quiet demand, but no change is quoted in values. Oats move very quietly, but show little change in prices, although the trading is against sellers. Oatmeal is very scarce, and full prices have to be paid. Oilcake on the spot experienced only a moderate demand, but forward a good trade is doing up to September shipment.—SEGAR AND TENNICLIFFE.

Newport, Wednesday.—Quotations were: Best beef, 8d to 10d per lb; secondary sorts, 7d to 7½d; cows, 6½d to 7d; best wether mutton, shorn, 8d to 8½d; ewes, 6½d to 7d; lamb, 9d to 10d; veal, 7d to 8d; porker pigs, 10s 9d to 11s 3d per score. A much larger supply of sheep and cattle, and with a brisk trade a clearance was effected at satisfactory prices.

Norwich, Saturday.—The supply of store cattle offering here to-day was large; trade was dull and sales were carried through with some difficulty. Fat beasts, which were in about average supply, moved off slowly at 8s to 8s 6d and 9s per 14lb. The supply of store sheep and lambs was fair; trade was dull, at barely former terms, keeping shearlings making 35s to 45s; and lambs, 16s to 28s per head. The supply of fat sheep was not large; trade ruled steady at 9s to 9s 6d and 10s per 14lb. The abundant rains which fell in the first half of the month have at any rate had the effect of ensuring good supplies of keep for the remainder of the summer.

Romford, Wednesday:—Large supply of fat beasts, trade very slow. Best animals, 5s to 5s 2d; middlings, 4s 4d to 4s 6d per stone. Large supply of calves, trade slow, at 5s to 5s 4d per stone. Average supply of sheep, trade about the same; best sheep, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; middlings, 5s to 5s 2d per stone. Very large supply of lambs, trade slow, at 6s to 6s 2d per stone. Very few store beasts on offer; fair demand. Pigs in large supply, trade poor. Small porkers, 4s to 4s 4d; large hogs, 3s 8d to 3s 10d per stone.

Salford, Tuesday.—There was a larger show of cattle and a quiet demand, prices being lower. The supply of sheep and lambs was much larger. Trade for both was slow, and buyers obtained a concession from the prices of last week. A large display of calves, and a quiet trade at reduced prices. Quotations:—Cattle, 6d to 7½d; sheep, 6d to 9d; lambs, 7½d to 9d; calves, 6d to 7½d per lb. At market—Cattle, 1,736; sheep and lambs, 19,738; calves, 207.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Not many milch beasts were offered, but those penned were of fairly good quality, and for the best lots there was good demand. Best sorts, £18 to £22; secondary, £15 to £17. The pig market was again closed.

Spalding, Tuesday.—In the cattle market there was a fair show. Best beef met with a good trade at 9s per stone; secondary, 8s to 8s 6d; sheep, 7d to 8d per lb. Lambs met with a brisk trade.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There were on offer 166 cattle, 5 calves, 432 sheep, 120 lambs, and 203 pigs. Rather a better show of best cattle, and prices were slightly easier. Best cattle, 9s 6d; rougher kinds, 6s 6d to 7s 6d; calves, 6d to 8d per lb. There were more sheep, and prices fell ½d per lb all round at 8½d for young sheep, 6½d for ewes, and 5½d for tups; lambs, 21s to 35s each. Trade quiet.

Thame, Tuesday.—Farmers, anticipating a demand for Coronation week, sent into the market a large supply of prime beef and first class mutton—in fact, it was the general opinion that this was a record market for the time of year. Trade was brisk for heifers and bullocks, late prices being fully maintained, practically every head of stock offered changing hands. Wethers, lambs, and ewe mutton showed a slight falling off on last week. Messrs. Bond and Burrows' sale comprised 147 fat bullocks and heifers and 10 store heifers, 506 fat wethers, ewes, and lambs, 120 bacon hogs, porkers, and store pigs, and 54 fat and weaning calves. Fat heifers made from £17 to £25 7s 6d; fat oxen, £17 10s to £24 15s; fat wethers, 45s to 59s; fat ewes, 38s to 58s; fat lambs, 29s to 42s; fat calves, £3 17s 6d to £6 15s; weaning cow calves, 20s to 55s; bull calves, 16s to 50s; fat hogs, 9s 6d per score. Stores dear.

Wakefield, Wednesday.—Owing to increased supply to-day trade for sheep and beasts was slower, at prices in favour of buyers. Choice heifers and bullocks were 8d per lb, and other quality was quoted at 6½d and upwards. The best sheep realised 8½d per lb, and other sorts varied from 6d. Number of sheep and lambs, 5,017; beasts, 1,542.

Wakefield, Friday.—The weather has turned more summerlike since Tuesday, without, however, checking the hardening tendency in the trade. France and America are leading the way of the upward movement, and though we cannot report an active business in wheat, this is chiefly checked by the higher pretensions of holders. We quote prices 3d to 6d higher on the week. Spring corn in small demand at rather less money. The market will be closed next week.—DUNNS AND CO.

Wakefield, Friday.—At to-day's market wheat is firm and rather dearer, with very little business passing. No alteration in feeding stuffs.—MICHAEL SANDERSON AND SON, LIMITED.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Fair supply, and slow trade all round. Beef, 6d to 8¼d per lb; mutton, 6½d to 8¾d per lb; lamb, 8½d to 9½d per lb; veal, 6½d to 8d per lb.

Worcester, Saturday.—Fair supplies of cattle and sheep, with a brisk demand for all the better qualities. Fat lambs were wanted, and prices generally ruled firm. Beef 7d to 8d, inferior 6d to 7d. Wether mutton 8d to 9d per lb.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Fair show of stock except beef, which was scarce, and late rates fully maintained. Best beef, 7s 9d to 8s 6d; secondary, 7s to 7s 9d per stone; best South Down wethers, 7d to 8½d; ewes, etc., 6d to 7d; lamb, 10d; veal, 8½d to 9½d per lb.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Wednesday.—Beast supplies to-day consisted of shipments from the United States, and totalled 659 head, which is a decrease of 292 as compared with last Wednesday's figures. Despite quality being poorer, trade ruled steady, at 5s 1d to 5s 3d, exceptionally 5s 4d per 8lb, to sink the offal. 300 United States beasts and 798 ditto sheep were withdrawn from sale.

Yorkhill, Monday.—At the sale of American cattle held here this afternoon there were in the lairages 207 cattle landed by the Alcides (s), from Montreal, and 302 by the Norwegian (s), also from the same port. Small, neat, well-fed bullocks secured the best inquiry, but they dropped from 10s to 20s a head on last week's rates, and secondary and heavier dropped from 25s to 30s a head. Bulls met a good selling trade, and sold relatively dear. Heifers made similar prices to those ruling for the bullocks. The dead weight quotations may be given as follows —Best bullocks, 68s to 70s per cwt, and for really choice up to 72s; secondary and heavier, 66s; heifers, 68s to 70s; secondary and plainer, 64s to 66s per cwt; and bulls, 60s to 62s per cwt, according to quality and finish.

Yorkhill, Monday.—A sale of Canadian sheep was held here to-day, 412 sheep landed by the Norwegian (s), from Montreal, being offered. The shipment consisted principally of ewes, but there were also a number of tups included. The dead weight quotations may be given as follows:—Best-class ewes, 6½d to 7d per lb; secondary and heavier, 6d; tups, 5d to 5½d, according to quality.

SEEDS

London, Monday.—Messrs. John Shaw and Sons, Seed Merchants, of Great Maze Pond, Borough, London, S.E., write that the seed trade, as might be expected at this season, presents just now no feature either of interest or importance. Some little business has been passing in Chilian red clover seed, and the small parcels as they arrive are readily placed at the moderate rates now accepted. The quality of this seed proves satisfactory. Trefoil with bad crop prospects is firmly held. Tares seem no longer wanted. There is no change in either mustard or rape seed. The chief point in last week's trading was a sudden and smart advance of some shillings in the price of canary seed. Smyrna telegrams now ask 46s c.i.f. per qr; whilst the stock in Liverpool is reduced to the unprecedentedly small quantity of 350 bags. The late rise in hemp seed is well maintained. Blue peas and haricot beans command former terms.

HOPS.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Should the welcome change in the weather continue, the hop plant will soon make good deficiencies in the growth. The gardens, however, are much infested with vermin, and washing has already commenced. More trade than usual is being done, and prices are higher.

Canterbury, Saturday.—But little business is being done, as the new clip is not yet fairly on the market. Prices remain unchanged, with Kent wool at 5d. per lb.

Worcester, Monday.—Our reports from the plantations continue very unfavourable; the cold wet weather has checked the growth of the plant (already very backward), while vermin is spreading very fast; washing is being carried on where practicable, but in most places the ground is too wet to get on it. The market is rather dearer, and a little more trade doing.

HAY AND STRAW.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—Good supplies, for which moderate demand, prices being steady. Best clover, 95s to 110s; inferior, 80s to 90s; specially picked hay, 117s 6d; good, 110s; inferior, 80s to 95s; mixture and sainfoin, 95s to 105s; straw, 30s to 45s per load.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Hull, Tuesday.—Linseed—The only arrival is 1,010 qrs from Riga. Linseed has been a dull and inactive market, and prices have declined from 3d for spot seed to 1s 3d per qr for forward seed. The close is, however, a trifle steadier. Calcutta opened with sellers of May-June at 53s 6d, and closes with 52s 3d paid for the same position. River Plate shows a decline on the week of 1s to 1s 3d per qr for forward positions; spot about 6d lower. We quote spot 50s; June-July, nominally 50s 6d; December-January, 46s, sellers. Cottonseed—There has been a further decline in old crop, and down to £7 6s 3d accepted spot, passage and June loading, but since yesterday the market shows a little more steadiness, with business done spot at £7 7s 6d, and buyers at it June, also July, in which latter a little done last week. New crop remains unaltered, with, however, scarcely anything doing in it. October, £6 16s 3d; November-January, £6 10s. Market closes quieter all positions. Oils—Exports for the week ending 10th June, 1902:—Linseed oil: 7 America, 2 Austria, 3 Denmark, 4 Germany, 1 Holland, 29 Norway; total, 46 tons. Cotton oil: 149 Austria, 213 Belgium, 58 Germany, 160 Holland, 1 Norway, 6 Russia, 31 Sweden; total, 618 tons. The market is quiet. Linseed oil: 29s 9d spot, 29s 9d June-August, 28s 9d September-December. Cotton oil: 24s 6d spot, 24s 7½d June-August, 21s 6d November-April. Crude: 23s 3d spot, 23s 3d June-August, 20s 1½d November-April. Rape oil: Jamba naked, 24s 3d spot; 1st quality, 25s spot.—KEIGHLEY MAXSTED AND CO.

London, Thursday.—Linseed—A moderate business has been passing at unchanged prices. Calcutta, spot London, 52s 3d sellers, passage 52s 3d; July-August, after 53s 9d had been paid, 52s 9d has been accepted at the close. Hull is very quiet. Calcutta, afloat, 52s 3d; La Plata, spot, 49s 6d; June-July, 51s 3d; December-January, 46s; January-February, 45s 6d. To the Continent—Bombay, June-July, 57s; July-August, 57s 6d; Calcutta, June-July, 53s 3d; La Plata, June-July, 51s; December-January, 46s 6d. Azoff seed, October-November, 49s 3d c.i.f. Linseed oil has further declined in value. We quote spot in pipes, £30 5s; barrels, £30 10s; July-August, £30 5s; September-December, £29 10s. Hull naked, spot, £29 10s; July-August, £29 10s; September-December, £28 12s 6d. Linseed cakes are quiet. We today quote London made £7 12s 6d to £7 17s 6d ex mill; American Western, £7 to £7 2s 6d; Russian, £7 10s to £7 15s. Cotton cakes steady; London made, £4 10s to £4 17s 6d. Rapeseed quiet. Brown Cawnpore, June-July, 37s; brown Calcutta, June-July, 36s 3d. To the Continent we quote yellow Guzerat, 41s 6d; yellow Cawnpore- June-July, 40s 3d; brown Cawnpore, 37s 3d; brown Calcutta, May-June and June-July, 37s; Ferozepore, June-July, 37s 3d. Cottonseed continues dull. Spot London, £7 11s 3d nominal; June and July, £7 11s 3d; November-January, £6 11s 3d; Hull spot, £7 7s 6d; June, £7 7s 6d buyers; November-January, £6 10s buyers; cargoes, November, £6 12s 6d; December-January, £6 11s 3d; Bombay to Hull, June-July, £4 18s 9d.—THE PRODUCE BROKERS' COMPANY, LIMITED.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed cakes: The trade still rules dull and inactive, with scarcely any country demand, but, with only limited stocks and light shipments, values are fully as dear. Russians meet a slow sale at unchanged prices. Americans remain relatively cheap at last Monday's prices. Calcutta-made in bags are also unchanged, and London-made move off slowly at about late rates. Cotton cakes: There has been a decided improvement in the demand during the past week, while arrivals have been comparatively small, and holders are inclined to advance prices. Egyptian, however, are still quoted as last Monday, which is also the case with English, while some Bombay seed cakes offer at £3 15s. Decorticated are without change, and meal at £6 10s. Rape cakes: Quiet. East India, £3 17s 6d to £4. Maize germ meal: Arrived parcels of American find very little inquiry, with sellers at slightly easier terms. English is in moderate request at £5 5s to £5 7s 6d. Rice meal: Near at hand parcels of Rangoon are firmly held at £4 7s 6d to £4 8s 9d ex ship, with shippers asking 5s per ton premium for autumn shipments.

	Per ton. £ s. d.	Per ton. £ s. d
LINSEED CAKES.		
London made ..... ex mill	7 12 6	to 7 15 0
American ..... ex mill	6 17 6	to 7 0 0
Russian, in mats ..... ex dock	7 5 0	to 7 7 6
Russian, in bags ..... ex dock	7 10 0	to 7 12 6
Calcutta	7 7 6	to 7 10 0
COTTONSEED CAKES.		
London made ..... ex mill	4 12 6	to 4 15 0
Egyptian ..... ex dock	4 6 3	to 4 8 9
Decorticated ..... ex dock	6 5 0	to 6 12 6
Meal ..... ex dock	6 10 0	to —
RAPE CAKES.		
East India	3 17 6	to 4 0 0
MAIZE.		
English germ meal ..... ex mill	5 5 0	to 5 7 6
American ..... ex dock	5 10 0	to 5 12 6
RICE MEAL.		
Rangoon ..... ex dock	5 0 0	to

—PINNOCK BROS., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

WATERLOO ROUND FEEDING CAKES, £6 17s 6d PER TON. WATERLOO ROUND 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES, £8 10s 0d PER TON. WATERLOO ANGLO SHAPE 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES, £8 5s 0d PER TON; WATERLOO 97 PER CENT. PURE EGYPTIAN COTTONSEED CAKES, £5 7s 6d PER TON. ALL NET CASH AND F.O.R. IN HULL.

MOLASSINE FEEDING MEAL, packed in bags, of 1¼cwt. each. Price per ton, £6 15s., in ton lots and upwards. £7 10s. per ton in less than ton lots. Free on rail, Liverpool or London. Uniform delivered price for small quantities, 11s. per bag of 1¼cwt.

POTATOES.

Borough, Saturday.—A light supply on offer, and fair demand at steady values. Scotch Maincrops, 90s; Lincoln Up-to-Dates, 60s to 70s per ton. New: Jersey, 7s! Teneriffe, 5s to 7s; St. Malos, 7s; Cherbourg, 6s to 6s 6d per cwt.

Spitalfields, Saturday.—Small supplies, and fair business. Best Lincoln Up-to-Dates, 70s; Wisbech, 65s to 70s; Scotch, 70s; Scotch Maincrops (grey soil), 70s; Lincoln Maincrops, 70s; Reading Giants, 60s per ton. New: St. Malo, 7s to 7s 6d; Jersey, 7s to 7s 6d; Teneriffe and Canary No. 2, 8s; No. 3, 6s 6d; Cherbourgs, 6s 3d to 6s 9d per cwt; Lisbons, 3s 9d per box.

Southwark (Waterside), Monday.—During the past week the arrivals of new potatoes have been moderate, for which the demand has been steady. Good samples of old potatoes have been scarce, with prices maintained. The following are this day's quotations:—Up-to-Dates, 60s to 75s per ton; maincrops, 60s to 75s per ton; Jersey flukes, 130s to 140s per ton; Cherbourg flukes, 120s to 125s per ton.—R. G. BROWN.



STOCK AND SHOW NOTES.

By Herdsman.

The entries have now closed for the Highland and Agricultural Society's Show at Aberdeen, on Tuesday, July 15th, and three following days. Cattle number 330, as compared with 360 at Inverness last year, and 314 at Aberdeen in 1894; horses total 254, or three less than at Inverness, and 70 fewer than at Aberdeen in 1894; of sheep there are 242 entries, as against 204 in 1901 and 184 in 1894, whilst the respective figures of pigs are 42, 22, and y4. The poultry, dairy produce, and wool entries are about the average. It will thus be seen that the entries in the leading sections, when added together, total about the average number. In the implement department there will be a very large display, the extent of space taken being close on 5,700ft. Again, as at recent shows, the jumping contests will also be an interesting feature of the Aberdeen Show. The prizes for jumping amount to £139. Entries for jumping are received in the showyard up till the evening preceding each day's competitions, and for the jumping on Wednesday and Thursday evenings up till six p.m. on these days. An interesting feature of the show will be an extensive forestry exhibition, organised by the Royal Scottish Arboricultural Society.

From the prize schedule recently issued, I see that a sum of £1,670 is offered in prizes at the Staffordshire Agricultural Society's Show at Uttoxeter, on August 27th and 28th. The amounts in the various sections are as follow:—Hunters, hacks, and harness horses, and jumping, £231; agricultural horses, £264; cattle, £325; sheep, £119; pigs, £50; cheese and butter, £113; butter-making, £33; horse-shoeing, £18; implements and carriages, £30; poultry and pigeons, £217 10s.; honey, etc., £17. The sum of £250 is also offered in prizes for green crops and skilled labour throughout the various districts of the society. The classes for hunters and harness horses are continued as last year, while in the classes for agricultural horses the prizes for aged stallions and yearling geldings are discontinued, owing to lack of competition for some years past. Special prizes are again offered in most of the classes confined to tenant farmers, and the stipulation which was enforced last year that they must not have taken a first or second prize in the open classes has been withdrawn. Additional prizes have this year been offered to the breeders of the best yearling and two-year-old Shire fillies, providing such breeders is a resident within the society's limits. The Shire Horse Society's gold medal, value £10, and the president's champion prize of £10 10s. for the best Shire mare or filly in the yard are continued, and Major Ratcliffe, M.P., offers a silver cup, value £10 10s., for the best two or three-year-old Shire filly, the property of a tenant farmer resident in the Burton Parliamentary division.

As to the cattle section, I may mention that the classes for Shorthorns and dairy cattle are the same as last year, and include the Shorthorn Society's prize of £10 for the best Shorthorn bull, confined to the county of Stafford, bred in 1901. With the object of encouraging more competition, four classes of Jersey cattle and two of Aberdeen-Angus cattle are thrown open to the United Kingdom, and the same number of classes are also offered for residents within the society's limits. The prizes for sheep remain as last year, and in the pig section two classes are this year provided for boars and sows of the Tamworth breed, the prizes for which are contributed by Sir Oswald Mosley, Bart. The various other sections are on similar lines as in past years. An excellent site has been secured for the exhibition, comprising upwards of 20 acres of good level sound land adjoining the main road leading from Uttoxeter to the Potteries. The entries for stock and produce close on July 19th, and for poultry, pigeons, and honey on August 2nd.

The local Committee appointed at Leeds in connection with the forthcoming show of the Yorkshire Agricultural Society have succeeded in raising a substantial sum. The amount already paid in or promised is a little over £1,500, in addition to three special prizes of £25 each, given by the Lord Mayor (Alderman A. E. Butler), Mr. F. W. Tannett Walker, and Mr. T. G. Mylchreest. The amount guaranteed by the local Committee has already been secured, but there are certain expenses in addition that are to be provided for. A few more contributions are expected. The preparations for the show are proceeding satisfactorily. For several weeks past a staff of workmen has been busy on the site adjoining Prince's Avenue, and passengers on the Roundhay tramcars have seen the wooden structures steadily rising from the long stretch of turf. The erection of the stalls and sheds and the familiar facade is rapidly nearing completion, though there is, of course, still a good deal of detailed work to be done. Generally speaking, the ground is being laid out on the lines of the 1898 meeting, with certain deviations which the experience of that show suggested.

The schedule has now reached me of the Royal Dublin Society's Horse Show, to be held at Ball's Bridge on August 26th and the three following days. The schedule follows the lines of previous years, the same generous list of prizes being offered. Ten of the Society's premiums for thorough-bred stallions are to be competed for. Entries close on July 24th, at single fees, and on July 31st at double fees. Applications for forms to be made to the Agricultural Superintendent, Leinster House, Dublin.

At the next meeting of the County Councils Association the following resolution will be submitted:—"That in view of the national importance of an adequate supply of sound horses, legislation should be introduced empowering county councils to prohibit the use for hire within their districts of stallions suffering from hereditary disease."

I hear that certain Russian horse dealers have been hard hit by the declaration of peace. In the belief that the war would last for many months to come, they purchased large numbers of horses for use by the British cavalry, and now they are being sold at ridiculous prices in Warsaw.

A telegram from Paris, dated the 17th inst., reports that Dr. Garnault, who made a sensational challenge to Professor Koch last year on the subject of bovine tuberculosis, innoculated himself at the Villette abattoirs with consumptive matter taken from a diseased cow, which had been seized and ordered to be destroyed. The operation was performed in the presence of Drs. Baudoin, Barlerin, and Demeurisse. Dr. Garnault anticipates no result for two or three weeks. The disease may then manifest itself in the form of a local affection, and spread finally to the lungs, or the lungs may be attacked immediately and directly. On the other hand, nothing may ensue. Should the expected development occur, Dr. Garnault will place himself at the disposition of Dr. Theodore Smith, of Boston, who first exposed the dreadful possibility of contamination from bovine tuberculosis, and pointed out various experiments which might be advantageously risked for the benefit of humanity at large.

The prospects of the Mid-Kent Agricultural Association's seventh summer show, which is to be held at Maidstone on July 2nd next, are very promising, and with favourable weather a good attendance is looked forward to. The entries are good, and among the exhibitors of agricultural horses may be found the names of Lord Hothfield, Lord A. Cecil, F. S. W. Cornwallis, Esq., Hon. R. P. Nevill, Messrs. J. and T. C. Robertson, Messrs. H. White and Son, Walpole Greenwell, Esq., G. E. Champion, Esq., A. Miskin, Esq., H. W. Tyrwhitt Drake, Esq., and other well-known breeders. In the Hunter classes animals belonging to Messrs. Walter Winans, Julian Winans, Paul Winans, S. Lee Smith, J. C. Buckland, C. Kelway Bamber, etc., will compete. The driving competitions should prove very attractive. Animals belonging to Captain R. Alexander, Hon. R. P. Nevill, Messrs. Walpole Greenwell, H. Lenay, W. T. Fremlin, F. S. W. Cornwallis, A. J. Thomas, Colonel A. C. Porton, exors. of W. Elny, J. Colman, F. Neame, C. Gordon Neame, and G. Farmer are entered in the cattle and sheep classes. Among other attractions, not the least interesting item in the day's programme, will be the jumping competitions in the large horse ring.



RICHMOND HORSE SHOW: COACHES DRIVING PAST THE STANDS.

The paragraph relating to the Mallow (County Cork) Agricultural and Show Society's exhibition at Mallow, on July 9th and 10th, was, it has been pointed out to me, misread by some. It was stated that "a liberal prize schedule has been drawn up, numerous prizes (confined to residents in County Cork) being provided jointly by the

County Cork Committee of Agriculture and the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland." Of course, I did not mean to infer that the whole of the classes were confined to residents in County Cork, but only those in which the prizes were provided by the Department of Agriculture. The show is a very open one, about half the horse, cattle, sheep, and pig classes being open, as well as all those for dogs, poultry, butter, etc.

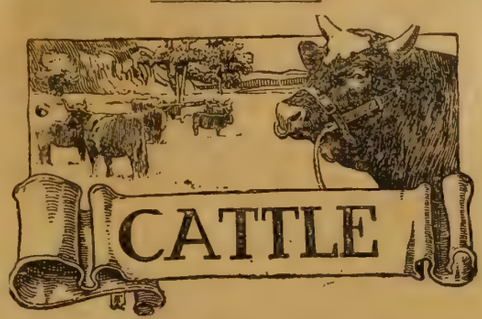
Volume sixteen of the Suffolk Flock Book has just been issued by the Suffolk Sheep Society. It contains particulars of rams Nos. 6,759 to 7,333, and details concerning the establishing and replenishing of flocks, with list of sires used in 1901. As a frontispiece to the volume is given a portrait of the late Mr. George Dobito, of Lidgate, born 1812, died 1871, who was one of the earliest and most enthusiastic supporters of Suffolk sheep, and the establishment of those sheep as a distinct breed was mainly due to his efforts.

An important shipment of Large Black pigs was made on Thursday, when a consignment of nine sows and two boars was shipped, per the Brier Holme, from London to Hobart (Tasmania), to the order of Mr. Andrew E. Mansell, the well-known breeder of Shropshire sheep, who has recently taken up his residence in Tasmania. The eleven animals now exported are typical specimens of the breed and had been selected with great care by Mr. Ernest Prentice, the Secretary of the Large Black Pig Society, from the following prize winning herds in East Anglia, viz., four sows from Mr. C. F. Marriner, Hasketon; one sow (winner of the silver medal, Beccles, 1901) from Mr. A. H. E. Wood, Sudbourne Hall; two sows from Mr. B. B. Booth, Plashwood, Haughley; one sow from Mr. John Goddard, Tunstall; one sow from Mr. J. B. Dimmock, Harleston; one boar from Mr. R. Eaton White, Boulge Hall; and one boar from Mr. Joseph Watkins, Claydon. Mr. Mansell evidently considers these animals, from their quiet, docile habits and nature, to be well suited for a country where fencing is not abundant.

The herd of pure-bred Shorthorns belonging to the Right Hon. Lord Polwarth, of Mertoun House, St. Boswells, Berwickshire, has increased so much of late years that it has now been found necessary to reduce it, and on the third day of the Royal Show at Carlisle (July 9th), Messrs. Thornton and Co. will dispose of about fifty head from the herd, at the Tower Farm, Rickerby, which is about a mile from the entrance to the Royal showyard. The catalogue will comprise about thirty females and twenty males, a choice selection from this well-known herd, and they will all be sold without reserve.

Mertoun lies away over the hills in Berwickshire, on the banks of Tweed, between Newtown St. Boswells and Kelso. It has long been famous for its Leicester sheep and Shorthorn cattle, the former having been established in 1760-70 from Mr. Culley, who had them direct from Bakewell. The herd has a high in the showyards. The bulls used of reputation and a most distinguished career the Wave and kindred families, with others from Warlaby, so that the herd has gradually assumed a type and character of its own.

By careful breeding and able management, the Mertoun herd has become greatly distinguished, especially for its high-class bulls, and its successes in the "family classes" at the Highland Society and great Yorkshire Shows. At the National meetings of the Royal Agricultural Society of England and the Highland Society of Scotland, many prizes have been won, including the great family prize at the Highland Society's Centenary Show at Edinburgh, in 1884. The capacity of the herd for producing first-class sires has been displayed by the remarkably fine animals that have been so often exhibited. Royal champion honours were awarded in 1889, 1891, 1895, and 1896; among the most famous bulls being Ironclad (first and champion at the R.A.S.E., at Windsor, subsequently champion at the great International Show at Beunos Ayres), and Windsor Royal (first at the Highland Society, at Dundee, and first and champion at the R.A.S.E., at Doncaster). Showing has not been practised so much of late, but a small selection will be exhibited at the Royal Show at Carlisle of kindred breeding and type to those offered for sale.



Sale of Store Stock at Shrewsbury.

On Friday, the 13th of June, Alfred Mansell and Co. conducted their 21st annual June sale in the Shrewsbury, Smithfield. One thousand, one hundred and eighty-three cattle passed over the weighbridge, and, under the baton of the auctioneer, found new owners in exactly three hours. The quality of the various breeds was quite up to the standard, which with pastures filled with keep, induced buyers to out-distance all previous records for the past 20 years.

The oldest attendant of these renowned sales never before witnessed anything approaching such a number of buyers at any one sale in Shrewsbury Market; and the rapidity with which biddings were given clearly indicated a grasp of the situation. £25 each for a bunch of blue-greys was the highest price recorded—equal to 44s. 6d. per cwt. from this they graded down to useful young stirks, 10 to 12 months old, which sold from £8 10s. to £11. Mr. Logan got £19 17s. 6d. for Angus crossbreds, which worked out 44s. 1d. Mr. Condell forwarded some useful Shorthorn bullocks, which sold for £19 each, or slightly over 40s. per cwt. Mr. Brown forwarded his usual consignment of good Co. Limerick young bullocks, which made from £17 7s. 6d. each down to £15 5s. Mr. McCullock's Shorthorn heifers sold for £16, and clearly crossed the 40s. line, which seemed to be the halfway house or first stopping place for most of the ordinary class of cattle. Mr. McDonagh forwarded 113 cattle, which realised from £15 15s. down to £14 for Angus crosses, equal to 43s. 6d. down to 41s. 3d. per cwt. These were just a few of the representative lots from each class, and consignors present returned to the Emerald Isle well pleased with the day's work. The next sale is fixed for the 11th of July.

Below are some of the prices of the respective Breeds:—

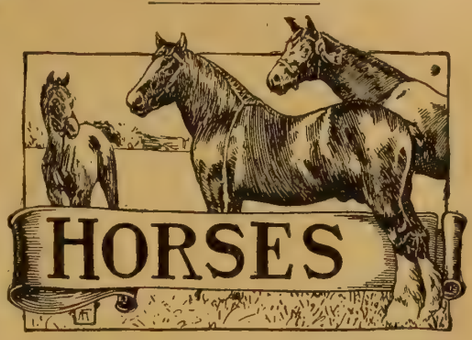
Hereford Bullocks: £16 15s., £16 12s. 6d., £16, £15 17s. 6d., £15, £14 2s. 6d., £13 17s. 6d., £12 17s. 6d. Hereford heifers: £13 15s., £13 5s., £12 15s., £12 12s. 6d., £10 17s. 6d. Shorthorn bullocks: £19, £17 17s. 6d., £17 7s. 6d., £16 10s., £16 2s. 6d., £15 7s. 6d., £15 5s., £14 17s. 6d., £16, £15 15s., £14 15s., £14 10s., £14 2s. 6d., £14 15s., £14, £12 17s. 6d. Shorthorn heifers: £14, £13 12s. 6d., £13 10s., £13, £12 5s., £11 15s., £11 5s. Shorthorn barrens: £13 10s., £13, £12 15s., £10 17s. 6d., £10 7s. 6d. Black Polled bullocks: £19 7s. 6d., £17 15s., £17 12s. 6d., £16, £15 10s., £14 15s., £14 7s. 6d., £14 5s., £14. Black Polled heifers: £14 10s., £14, £13 15s., £12 17s. 6d., £12 2s. 6d. Blue-Grey bullocks: £25, £18 10s., £17, £14 15s. West Highlanders: £14 7s. 6d., £14, £12 17s. 6d., £11. Crossbred bullocks: £15 15s., £14 2s. 6d., £13 17s. 6d., £13 10s., £12, £11 15s.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending June 17, 1902:—

Swine Fever.	Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.	No.	185	685	603	638	3,834	9,220
								11,135
								17,462
	Outbreaks.	No.	57	117	68	64	803	1,902
								1,029
								1,373
Rabies.	Cases Confirmed. Oth'r Anim'ls.	No.	2	...	...	...	2	1
								...
	Dogs.	No.	...	...	...	...	12	1
								...
								1
Pleuro-Pneumonia.	Cattle Sl'ghter'd. Exposed to Infection.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...
								...
								...
	Diseased.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...
								...
								...
	Outbreaks.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...
								...
								...
Glanders (incl. farcy).	Animals Attacked.	No.	32	36	29	19	99½	1,077
								895
								546
	Outbreaks.	No.	17	19	20	13	518	594
								509
								318
Foot-and-Mouth Disease.	Animals Attacked.	No.	...	...	...	...	113	669
								123
								...
	Outbreaks.	No.	...	...	...	...	1	12
								9
								...
Anthrax.	Animals Attacked.	No.	24	11	24	14	613	470
								456
								524
	Outbreaks.	No.	10	9	11	8	308	329
								284
								269
Period.	Week ended June 14, 1902 ...			1901	1900	1899	Total for 24 weeks, 1902 ...	Corresponding period in ... 1901
	Corresponding week in ...							1900
								1899

NOTE.—The figures for the current Year are approximate only.



Sale of Harness and Hackney Horses at York.

Messrs. Walker and Sons, at their Repository at York, held a sale on Thursday of pedigree harness and hackney horses. There were ninety-three lots in the catalogue. The attendance of buyers was numerous, and bidding was fairly brisk, although several horses were unsold in consequence of the high reserves placed upon them. Prices ranged from 30 to 50 guineas.

The chief lots were as follows:—

	Gs.
Dark chestnut mare, 5 years, 15.3h.h.	35
Dark chestnut horse, 5 years, 15.2½h.h.	40
Black mare, 7 years, 15.2 h.h.	36
Dark chestnut gelding, 4 years, 16.1 h.h.	41
Brown gelding, rising 5 years, 15.1 h.h.	37
Mabella, bay mare, 5 years, 14.1½ h.h.	37
Black gelding, rising 5 years, 15.2½ h.h.	37
Bay gelding 7 years, 16.1 h.h.	37
Black gelding, 6 years, 15.3 h.h.	50
Chestnut harness mare, 4 years, 15.1 h.h.	50
Brown horse, 5 years, 16.1 h.h.	41
Bay mare, 6 years, 15 h.h.	40
Chestnut hackney mare, 5 years, 15 h.h.	41
Brown gelding ,5 years, 15.1½ h.h.	30
Brown mare, 4 years, about 15.1 h.h.	34
Bay gelding, 7 years, 16.1 h.h.	30
Bay mare, 10 years, 16.1 h.h.	42
Brown mare, 5 years, 15.1½ h.h.	31
Bay mare, 6 years, 15.3½ h.h.	35
Chestnut mare, 5 years, 16 h.h.	40
Dark brown mare, 5 years, 15.1 h.h.	33

Sales at Crewe Repository.

Messrs. Manley opened their June sales of horses at Crewe Repository on Wednesday, the attendance of buyers being very satisfactory. The catalogue contained over 900 horses, most of which were contributed by Lancashire and Yorkshire breeders.

Of those offered on the first day, Messrs. Bowater Bros., Baildon, sent nine excellent animals. The best of these, Young King, a brown gelding, by Chocolate Junior, secured first prize in the single harness class, and sold for 90 guineas, Mr. Egan, of Paris, being the purchaser. Mr. R. G. Fothergill, Harrogate, sold a pair of dark bay carriage geldings with black points, five years old, for 215 guineas. This pair would undoubtedly have taken first prize, but, in consequence of Mr. Fothergill being one of the judges, they were debarred. Mr. T. Macnair, Manchester, sold a pair of carriage geldings for 160 guineas. Other match pairs made from 100 to 140 guineas. The trade for a poorer class of horses was very depressed, but better class animals easily found buyers. A four-year-old by Sir Modred, dam Rosemary, made 86 guineas. A bay gelding by Lord Fitzwilliam realised 65 guineas. Numerous others made from 40 to 55 guineas.

The second day's sale included 150 noted prize-winning show cobs and ponies, small harness cobs and hacks, also 140 smart-stepping cobs 14.2 and under, and ponies 13.2 and under. There was again an exceptionally large attendance of buyers, including representatives from Berlin, France, and Switzerland.

The highest price of the day was 300 guineas for a pair of show horses, a brown mare and gelding, five and six years respectively. Mr J. Astley, Nelson, Lancashire, sold a beautiful

chestnut show gelding, four years, by Garton Duke of Connaught, for 68 guineas. The Hon. Mrs. Ward, Old Colwyn, made 90 guineas for a stylish four-year-old hackney-bred cob. Mr. F. Boyes, Burnden House, Bolton, Lancs., realised 120 guineas for a chestnut gelding by Skipps Performer, and also sold an eight-year-old chestnut gelding by Cassius for 60 guineas. Mr. L. Knowles, M.P., sold eight fashionably-bred hackneys, his best making 55 guineas. Fashionable horses again found plenty of purchasers, but for medium sorts there was little demand. Cobs and ponies made from 30 guineas to 50 guineas.

On the concluding day of the sale over 300 horses suitable for heavy town traffic, light lurry, and parcel vans were sold. The attendance of buyers was the largest of the three days, and horses easily found purchasers. The highest price of the day was 100 guineas, paid for a five-year-old black Shire gelding. Numerous others made from 60 guineas to 80 guineas. Several of the best animals were purchased for abroad, and Corporations' light lurry and parcel van horses met a good trade, making from 40 guineas to 60 guineas.



Colchester Wool Sale.

The seventh annual wool sale was conducted at Colchester by Messrs. Fenn and Co., on Thursday, when over 20,000 fleeces were put up. There was a large attendance of buyers. In accordance with the present state of the market, the prices were very full and appreciably above those of last year, being considerably in favour of the seller. In 1900, the unwashed descriptions brought proportionately the best prices, but in 1901, and at this years sale, the washed wool made the most; owing to the shortness of water during the last season, however, more unwashed wool than usual was put in.

The top figure of the sale for washed wool was 8½d. per lb., realised by the Southdown hogget from Mr. G. F. Hempson, of Ardleigh; the highest price last year was ¼d. per lb. more made by the Southdown hogget of Colonel Tyssen-Holroyd, of Donyland Lodge. The second place was secured by Mr. W. Nocton, Langham Hall, with 8¼d. per lb. for his Southdown hogget, and 8d. for Southdown ewe. This year Col. Holroyd only made 7½d. for his Southdown hogget. The highest price realised for black-faced hogget was 7½d., and those whose consignments attained this figure were Messrs. C. Morley (Stoke), H. Low (Kirby), C. S. Fairhead, and W. G. Fairhead (Messing), J. F. Wainwright, and J. Smith, jun. The top figure for black-faced ewe was 7d., and this was shared by Earl Onslow, Sir J. Johnson, the executors of Mr. J. Fairhead, and Messrs. E. A. Fairhead, C. Morley, T. Lilley (St. Osyth), S. P. Greenslade (Ulting); whilst the leading figure for half-bred hogget was made by Mr. T. B. Pertwee (Lagenhoe), 7d. per lb.

As examples of the prices made for unwashed fleeces we might mention the following:—R. F. Cross, Southdown ewe 4¾d., Southdown hogget 5d., black-faced ewe and hogget 4½d.; H. C. Baker, half-bred hogget, 4¼d.; A. Cross, half-bred ewe, 4¼d.

Wool Sales in Dublin.

This seasons sales were opened on Thursday in Dublin, and at the old-established warerooms of Messrs. Ganly, Sons and Co. a catalogue embracing some 300 lots composed of the various descriptions of Irish-grown wools was submitted to buyers, of whom there was a full representative attendance. Prices ruled low, especially for mountain, seaside and Shrop, but demand at these lower quotations must be considered as quite equal to anticiputions. Some few choice lots of well-bred hogs and wethers elicited keen competition, but the general feature in connection with this class of wool was the great irregularity in prices given.

Following are the quotations for the various kinds:—Shrops, 6¼d. to 7d.; super hogs, 6¼d to 6⅝d.; strong hogs, 5⅞d to 6d.; super wethers, 5½d. to 6d.; strong wethers, 5d. to 5½; mountain and seaside, 4½d. to 5d.; washed Scotch and cross-bred, 3⅞d. to 4¼d.; greasy black-face and Scotch, 2½d. to 3½d., low oddments of which there is an unusually large proportion this season, selling from 1½d. to 3d. The total quantity disposed of was over 1,000 packs, a great portion of which seemed to be purchased by English and Scotch buyers.



NORFOLK.

The Norfolk Agricultural Association held their show at Norwich on Wednesday and Thursday, after having been absent from the capital of the county since 1893. The town supported the society liberally, so far as money was concerned, for the prize list, but they did not go much further, for the town was but little decorated to welcome the society, and the attendance of visitors was not so large as was expected would be the case. The total number on the first day, when the charge for admission was 2s. 6d., was 2,400, and this compares favourably with previous years, but on the popular and shilling day the number who passed the turnstiles was less than at last year's show at North Walsham, the respective totals being 8,743 and 9,130. May be, the nearness of the Coronation had something to do with the falling off, for the weather was most favourable. The entries also, unfortunately, showed a considerable decline, when compared with those received when the society last visited Norwich in1893, but they compared favourably with those received at the past few shows. The following table will show at a glance how this year's totals, compared with the previous five years and the Norwich Show of 1893:—

	Horses.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.
1902—Norwich	358	132	178	75
1901—North Walsham	266	127	131	63
1900—Downham Market	320	140	249	49
1899—Diss	277	127	273	53
1898—Lynn	312	124	205	48
1897—Fakenham	321	113	196	51
1893—Norwich	447	183	270	68

The site of the show yard was "The Grove," kindly lent by Mr. Alex R. Chamberlin, and it was altogether an excellent and most convenient show yard. It adjoined the Ipswich Road, was not far from Victoria Station, and within a short distance of the electric tramway route, and ample space for shedding and judging rings was found on three meadows surrounding the pleasant residence of the proprietor. The show was, all round, a fairly successful one, but not what might have been expected, seeing that it was held in the capital of the county.

The gentlemen who officiated as judges were:—Shires.—Mr. T. B. Freshney, South Somercotes, Louth, Lincs.; Mr. Joseph Paisley, Waresley, Sandy, Hunts. Hunters.—Mr. Henry G. Lepper, Aylesbury; Mr. T. H. Hutchinson, The Manor House, Catterick, York. Hackneys (breeding).—Sir Gilbert Greenall, Walton Hall, Warrington, Lancs.; Mr. P. M. Browne, Fornham, All Saints, Bury St. Edmunds. Hackneys (riding and driving).—Sir Humphrey F. de Trafford, Bart., Hill Crest, Market Harborough; Mr. A. W. Hickling, Adbolton, Nottingham. Shorthorn, Red Polled, and Fat Cattle.—Mr. A. D. Bruce, Elvetham, Winchfield, Hants; Mr. W. Wright, Scamblesby House, Horncastle, Lincs. Jerseys.—Mr. J. T. Keddie, Blythwood Lodge, Stansted, Essex. Sheep and Pigs.—Mr. S. Treadwell, Windmill Hill, Waddesdon, Aylesbury; Mr. S. W. Slater, Dotterel Hall, Balsham, Cambs.

Horses.

The Shire horses usually make a capital display at this show, and last week's exhibition proved no exception to the rule. Though not particularly numerous, the quality was all that could be desired, many of the animals coming from some of the best studs in the kingdom. The interest of the show was very materially added to by the stalling of the prize-winners at the Norwich Spring Show in March, the pick of the horses in the district being on view. The two-year-olds came into competition on Wednesday, when Redlynch Blue Blood, belonging to Mr. Trenham J. Cresswell, again came to the front, the same promising youngster which was first at Ipswich, where he also took the tenant farmers' champion, thus following up his previous achievements, having taken first and special at Hadleigh and first at Lynn. On this occasion he also took the special given by Mr. A. W. Soames, M.P., for the best stallion in the possession of a resident or occupier of agricultural land in the county. Mr. A. H. Clark, Moulton Eaugate, was first in the yearling class, with a particularly nice youngster, whilst his Majesty the King was second for Ethelred, by Benedick, and reserved for Mr. Soames's special. His Majesty, however, did better in the next class—that for brood mares with foal at foot—for here he took the two chief prizes, first with Dorothy Drew, by Prince Harold, and second with Queen of Bohemia, by Prince William, the former carrying off the Shire Horse Society's gold medal for the best mare or filly, the latter being reserved. Dorothy Drew also took the Shire Horse Society's special prize as the winner of the Society's gold medal. Mr. Edward Rowell's Bury Heiress, reserved in the class, took the King's ten-guinea special for the best mare or filly not exceeding five years old, the property of a Norfolk tenant farmer. Mr. E. W. Bett's Tulip was reserved. The King was first and second in the class for foals. Mr. J. J. Mitchell, Hepworth, Diss, again scored with his Northall Rosie, a beautiful filly, by Prince Harold. In the class for yearling fillies, Danesfield Resound, by Prince Harold, belonging to Mr. R. W. Hudson, repeated her Ipswich achievement. Mr. A. Ransom was awarded the second prize, and Mr. John Hunt, Coton, Cambs., the third.

Hunters came next in the catalogue, and though the display was not a large one, it was, on the whole, good. Six brood mares with foal at foot entered the ring, and both first and second prizes were taken by Mr. F. B. Wilkinson, of Newark, the well-known breeder and dealer. Sir Humphrey de Trafford was rightly awarded the first prize for weight-carrying mares or geldings, his exhibit being Bright Light. Second came Mr. J. H. Stokes, of Great Bowden, with a nice free mover, but perhaps not quite the quality of the winner. The class for mares or geldings not up to 14 stone was the largest of the section, and here the winner was readily picked out in The Laird, a horse belonging to Mr. Stokes, which was second to the champion at Ipswich. Mr. Lionel Digby was second with a taking, short-legged horse of a different stamp to the winner, but quite as good in his way. The two exhibitors last mentioned occupied the same position in the next class, which was for four-year-old mares or geldings. Mr. Stokes had the red rosette for Frieston, which was seen at Ipswich, and Mr. Digby took second with Julie, by Cobbler. The young classes were not very well filled, and do not call for particular mention. The Laird brought the Hunter Improvement Society's silver medal to Mr. Stokes; Lord Albemarle's special for the best four-year-old hunter bred in Norfolk went to Mr. C. Waters, of Postwick; and Sir H. de Trafford won a silver medal with the two-year-old Milk Weed.

Then came the Hackneys, and they were undoubtedly the feature of the show. The first class was for two-year-olds, in which the first prize went to Mr. H. V. Sherringham, South Creake, Fakenham, for a big upstanding horse, Creake Matchless, which was awarded the special prize of a silver medal, given by the Hackney Horse Society. The second prize in the class went to Mr. Harry Livesey, of Rotherfield, Sussex, with Medway, a nice horse, but one that did not go like the winner. The yearling colts were only five in number, and none of them showed promise of extraordinary action, though Mr. E. C. Chapman's Alethorpe Confidence, by Manifred, was much admired. The brood mares were a grand lot, Mr. Livesey having the best in Queen of the South, which was a very fine mover indeed. Mrs. R. T. Thornton, of Middleton Hall, Brentwood, was second with Langton Lily, a fine-looking mare when standing still, but not with the action of the first-prize-taker. Of the brood mares 15 hands and under, the best was found in Spinna, belonging to Mr. A. Johnson, of Bishop Stortford, a taking, short-legged mare. The Hackney colt foals were hardly such a class as might have been expected in the county of Norfolk, but amongst the filly foals Mr. Sherringham had an exceedingly pretty animal, which took first prize. Mrs. Thornton was first in the class for three-year-old mares or geldings with Middleton Bohemian, and Mr. E. C. Chapman second with Alethorpe Olive, by Manifred, which was reserve for one of the championships. Amongst the two-year-olds, there was found the finest goer in the show next to Mr. Livesey's Queen of the South. This was Royal Victoria, belonging to Mr. G. H. K. Frances, of Mattishall, which was awarded the King's special prize of £10 for the best mare or filly not exceeding five years old, the property of a tenant farmer. In this class, however, the judges were doubtless right in putting her second, and giving the first prize to Mr. W. Oppenheimer, of Thames Ditton, for Knowle Belinda, which is an exceptionally fine young mare, taking her right through. Mr. Livesey's Queen of the South gained two specials. The classes for riding horses were well filled, and nothing was watched with greater interest than the judging of these animals in their smart turn-outs. Mr. William Miles, Woodbridge, won a first prize with Barton Prima Donna, and was similarly successful in the double harness class against several formidable competitors. Amongst them was Mrs. Hartley Batt, Elgin Avenue, London, who exhibited with so much success at Ipswich, and this lady beat Mr. Miles in the competition for tandem teams. The jumping provided exceedingly good competition and interest for the spectators.

Cattle.

Taken all round the cattle section was a good one, but the Shorthorns were not so numerous as could have been wished for; Red Polls, however, were a nice lot, and the pick of the section, Mr. L. de Rothschild's well-known Silver Mint, carried off the chief honour in the aged bull collection, beating Clipper Prince, shown by His Majesty the King, the reserve going to an exhibit belonging to Sir Thos. Gooch, Bart., Benacre Hall. Mr. Willis J. Deane was first in yearling bulls with Bapton Florist, beating Mr. Colman's Hayle Speculator, and two exhibits by the King. There were but two entries of cows, Mr. Willis J. Deane being first, and Messrs. Abbot Bros., Thurston, second. Sir Thos. Gooch, Bart., was assigned the premier place in the class for three-year-old heifers, with his Royal Jewel, taking precedence of Mr. Jeremiah Colman's Hawthorn Jem III., whilst Mr. Willis J. Deane, who was a most successful exhibitor, took the lead in the two-year-old heifers, and was first also in yearlings, the King being second; His Majesty's entry was also awarded Lord Amherst of Hackney's Special, as the best Shorthorn cow or heifer bred or owned by an exhibitor in Norfolk.

The Red Polls made a capital display, the classes being specially well filled. There was a particularly good lot of old bulls, and the best of these was Mr. Richard P. Cooper's (Ashlyns) Felix, which added another honour to his list of achievements, being not only first, but carrying off Lord Hastings' special prize, as the best Red Poll bull in the first three classes. Lord Amherst was second with his Defiance, a typical example of the breed. The two-year-old bulls were equally good in point of quality, and here Sir Walter Corbet's exhibit was placed first, beating Lord Amherst's Royal Standard, a previous prize-winner; Sir Thomas Gooch was placed third. There were but three yearlings, Lord Amherst's Recruit taking first, while the second went to the Exors. of Mr. P. K. Blofield, Quidenham, for Lord Rattler, which some thought showed rather more quality than the first-prize winner. The latter exhibitors secured the first position in the cow class with Bruna, a famous Red Poll, which this time had the advantage of Sir Thomas Gooch's Dormouse, a grand animal that had, we believe, never been beaten before. She fetched the high price of 500 guineas at the late Mr. Colman's sale, but she was not this time shown in quite the same blooming condition as on previous occasions. Bruna was subsequently awarded the Prince of Wales's silver cup for the best Red Polled cow or heifer. The three-year-old heifers were also exceedingly good. The first and second prizes were taken by the Hon. Ailwyn Fellowes, M.P., Honingham Hall. The first-prize winner was a charming animal, which has made her mark on previous occasions, the second prize winner being Anthea, purchased as a calf at the Easton sale. There were some specially good animals amongst the two-year-old heifers, but Mr. John Hammond's Davy C.C.I.V., was conspicuously first. She is a magnificent animal, and she ran the winner very close in the competition for the silver cup. Lord Amherst was second, whilst Mr. J. B. Dimmock, whose exhibit was first at Ipswich, was third, and some thought she was worthy of a higher position on this occasion. The yearlings brought together the pair which had such a tussle at Ipswich, the Hon. Ailwyn E. Fellowes' Avalanche and Shotley Duchess, belonging to Mr. Horace W. Packard. Both are very fine heifers, and ultimately the judgment at Ipswich was confirmed, Avalanche being placed first.

There were eight classes provided for Jerseys, and they were well filled. Colonel Harry McCalmont, M.P., was first in aged bulls, Lady de Rothschild second, the Bishop of Ipswich and Sir Thos. Gooch highly commended. Mr. Russell J. Colman took the lead in younger bulls, Colonel McCalmont being second. The cows formed one of the largest collections in the show, Lady de Rothschild's Charlotte VI. was first, and Earl Cadogan, Culford Hall, second, while his Lordship's exhibit carried off the Blythwood Silver Challenge bowl for the best Jersey cow or heifer, in milk, bred in Great Britain or Ireland. The heifers were equally numerous, the winners including Colonel McCalmont, whose heifer was reserved for the Blythwood challenge cup. The gallant Colonel was also first in yearling heifers, and Mr. Russell J. Colman second, and Earl Cadogan reserved.

Sheep.

The first of the sheep classes was for Southdown shearling rams, which numbered about a dozen, and the contest lay between His Majesty the King and Colonel McCalmont. The latter was the victor, also securing the Southdown Sheep Society's silver medal for the best male. The competition in the class for three ram lambs was a keen one. The chief place was assigned to the Earl of Ellesmere's pen, which included the first winner at Reading show as a single ram. Mr. C. R. W. Adeane was second. Earl Cadogan came to the front in the class for three shearling ewes with a pen sent in good form, but hardly so good in the legs as the second prize lot.

There were four classes of Oxford Downs, but they were poorly filled, Mr. T. Fulcher, Elmham, and Mr. J. P. Case, Binham Abbey, Wighton, S.O., having matters all their own way. The former won four prizes and a special, and the latter the three other prizes.

There was, however, a fairly good exhibition of Suffolks. Amongst the shearling rams were some that had met at previous shows. The first honours went to Lieut.-Colonel Baird for a sheep that was not noticed at Ipswich; while the second prize one, shown by Mr. Thomas Goodchild, met with similar treatment at the Suffolk show. The judges recommended a third prize to Mr. Goodchild for another exhibit, and some of the spectators thought that the second and third prize winners were of rather better type than the first, and were somewhat smarter in their features. The first prize pen took the cup presented by the Suffolk Sheep Society for the best pen of Suffolk sheep in the first two classes. In the competition for three ram lambs, Mr. Herbert Smith had an easy win. Lieut.-Colonel Baird came to the front again in the class for three shearling ewes of the same flock, Mr. R. Barclay, Higham, taking second. It was a close fight between the first and second prize winners. The position might have been reversed if the second prize pen had been a little more matchy. A nice lot of ewe lambs of the same flock put in an appearance. Mr. Herbert Smith's were far away the best, Mr. Sidney Traylen taking second, a very creditable performance in such company, considering that he has only a comparatively small flock. Mr. W. N. Champion offered special prizes for five Suffolk ewe lambs untrimmed, and the winners were shown by Mr. Herbert Smith, but they were perhaps scarcely so well matched as Mr. S. R. Sherwood's, which were placed in the second position.



THE PAIR OF HARNESS HORSES shown above are Mr. C. J. Wertheimer's well-known "Jubilee King" and "Hopwood Squire," who were winners of the double harness prize at the recent Richmond Horse Show. "Hopwood Squire" was bred by Mr Enson, of Strethall Hall, Littlebury, Saffron Walden, and is by "Old Times," out of a daughter of "County Member," 948. His companion, "Hopwood Squire," was bred by Mr. W. Belamy, of Copalder, Doddington, Cambs, and is a son of "Copalder Cadet" and "Lady of the Lake."

Pigs.

The pigs made one of the best shows seen at this society's exhibition for some years past. The Berkshire classes were the best. Colonel McCalmont, M.P., secured first in the class for boars, farrowed in 1900 or 1901, and second for breeding sows, Mr. R. W. Hudson being first in the latter class, and first also for three breeding pigs of the same sex. With respect to Large or Middle White, Mr. Sanders Spencer was, as usual, a most successful exhibitor, and he took the National Pig Breeders' Association silver medal for the best boar, and a similar medal for the best sow. As to the Large Blacks, Mr. F. C. Marriner, Thorpe Hall, Hasketon, who has proved a strong competitor of late with this breed, took both the principal prizes for breeding sows, farrowed in or before 1901, while Mr. J. W. Goddard, Tunstall, took the same honours in the class for three breeding pigs of the same sex, farrowed in 1902.

Miscellaneous.

The working dairy was, as usual, a great centre of attraction to the visitors. As for many years past, it was equipped and was under the direction of the Eastern Counties Dairy Institute, Ipswich. In addition to the butter-making competitions, there were lectures and demonstrations in butter and cream cheese making, milk testing, and other scientific dairy processes. The bee tent also attracted considerable attention, and the demonstrations by Mr. H. Beswick (the expert on bee-keeping) of the most practical way to deal with bees, greatly amused and instructed; albeit, they struck terror into the minds of many of the onlookers, when the demonstrator took up a handful of bees, and showed that if they were not squeezed they were perfectly harmless. The method of shifting bees from skep to skep was also shown, and the superstition that bees must be informed of a death in the house sarcastically remarked upon.

The Essex Show.

The Essex Agricultural Society's forty-fifth annual show was held at Romford on Thursday and Friday, and what promised to be a conspicuous success was unfortunately marred by rain. The first day was beautifully fine, and a large attendance of visitors was recorded. But on Friday rain fell heavily throughout the morning, with the result that the show was but poorly patronised. This state of affairs was the more regrettable in that a party of about 400 Indian soldiers in England were opposed towards the show. The site of the showyard on Friday, and naturally they saw their first English agricultural show at a great disadvantage. The display of stock was an excellent one, though not so numerous as usual, and the society, together with the local committee, had done everything possible to make the exhibition an attractive and successful one, so that it is a great pity the Clerk of the Weather was not favourably disposed towards the show. The site of the show was Marshall's Park, which was admirably suited for the purpose, being within five minutes' walk of the High Street and ten minutes of the two railway stations, whilst it lent itself to a convenient disposal of the various departments, and visitors had no difficulty in finding any section they desired to inspect. As to the entries, it will be seen from the table given below that the principal sections were smaller than usual, this doubtless being accounted for to some extent by the fact that the fixture clashed with the Norfolk Agricultural Society's Show at Norwich. The subsidiary shows helped to make up about an average total, these being well supported. The poultry and pigeon show, which was run by the parent society, had a record, over 750 entries having been made in this section, whilst the Dog Show secured over 600 entries. The Horticultural Show, promoted by the Romford and Essex Horticultural Society, was likewise a popular item.

The following table shows the entries in the main show last week and for the preceding years—

	Horses.	Cattle.	Sheep.
1902—Romford	376	189	73
1901—Colchester	415	235	108
1900—Clacton-on-Sea	257	186	103
1899—Epping	415	242	91
1898—Braintree	424	157	85
1897—Chelmsford	510	174	75

The judges in the chief section were as follows:—Horses.—Shires—Mr. A. H. Clark, Moulton Eaugate, Spalding; Mr. J. Sturley Nunn, Welmetham Hall, Bury Suffolks—Mr. Wm. Toller, Orford, Suffolk; Mr. Horace Wolton, Crescent Road, Ipswich. Agricultural Horses—Mr. J. Sturley Nunn, Welnetham Hall, Bury St. Edmunds. Hunters—Mr. James E. Darrell, West Ayton, York; Mr. Robert Lockwood, Cottles, Atworth, Wilts. Hackneys and Harness Classes—Mr. H. Moore, Burn Butts, Cranswick, Hull; Mr. Alfred Rowell, West Rudham Hall, King's Lynn. Leaping—Lieut-Col. Lockwood, M.P. (President); Mr. C. E. Ridley, Chelmsford, and Mr. E. E. Barclay, M.A.H. Cattle—Shorthorns and Red Polled—Mr. E. H. Cartwright, Keddington Grange, Louth, Lincs.; Mr. J. P. Terry, Berry Field, Aylesbury. Polled Angus—Mr. Clement

Stephenson, Newcastle-on-Tyne. Jerseys—Mr. F. Freeman Thomas, M.P., Ratton, Willingdon, Sussex; Captain A. B. Fraser, Byron Hall, Worthing. Sheep—Mr. S. R. Sherwood, Playford, Ipswich; Mr. Hugh Penfold, Selsey, Chichester.

Horses.

Seeing that the Shire horse is so popular in Essex, it was natural that the breed should occupy the premier position in the horse section, and for the benefit of tenant farmers many classes were for them only. That for Shire mare and foal contained some very good examples of the breed, but in the open class were exhibits from some of the most noted studs in the kingdom. The filly foals (open) were few in numbers, as were also the Shire mares belonging to the tenant farmers of the county. Mares from various parts of the country, however, were stronger in numbers, Mr. R. W. Hudson, Danesfield, taking the chief place with his Wern Blossom, a powerful bay by Moor's Phenomenon, though pressed closely by Rokeby Lady Love, belonging to Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart. The Essex farmers sent some specially nice two-year-old fillies, Mr. R. Barnard securing first with Thaxted Irene, which also took the special given by Mr. John Holm, for the best mare or filly in the Shire classes. The competition for the open prizes was keen, Sir Walter Gilbey taking the lead with a charming filly, Saxon Lily, by Blythwood Conqueror. The yearlings from the county constituted one of the largest collections in the show, though there were more in the open competition, Mr. A. Henderson, M.P., Buscot Park, taking first with Buscot Chloris, by Buscot Harold, and Sir Walter Gilbey the second, with Saxon Eleanor, by Markeaton Royal Harold. The aged mares presented a fine appearance in the ring, Mr. Fred. Crisp's Queen of the Shires, by Harold, adding another honour to the many she has gained previously. Sir Walter Gilbey was second with Fenland Lady, by Blythwood Conqueror, which was awarded the Shire Horse Society's gold medal for the best mare or filly belonging to a resident occupier of land in Essex.

The stallion classes were also well filled. Sir Walter Gilbey gave two prizes for the best stallion foaled in 1901, bred by a tenant farmer in Essex, and the first went to Mr. H. Murton, Southminster, for a youngster by Lockinge Albert. Mr. Henry Gifford, Harlow, was first in the two-year-old open class with Markeaton Typewriter, and the same horse took the county prize. This animal was reserved for the Shire Horse Society's gold medal for the best stallion or entire colt, bred by or in the possession of a resident or occupier of land in Essex, but the coveted medal itself went to Mr. A. J. Hollington for Bishopthorpe Duke.

Suffolk horses were well represented, and the awards at the Suffolk Show were on the whole maintained. Suffolk mares with foal at foot stood first, and the class was headed by the Suffolk winner, Court Pride, by Heywood's Sudbourn Duke, belonging to Sir Cuthbert Quilter, Bart., M.P., again taking the lead. Mr. John Symonds' Duchess, a typical Suffolk, by Everitt's Warrior, passed over at Ipswich, went into the second place here, while Mr. Alfred J. Smith's Eyke Scandal, which received similar treatment at the Suffolk Show, was reserved. There were ten two-year-old Suffolk fillies, including many Suffolk Show winners. Sir Cuthbert Quilter's Baudsey Sweet Marjorie, a beautiful mare, was again first, while Mr. R. Eaton White's Boulge Maid repeated the Ipswich honour by going into the second position. Another exhibit from the Boulge Hall Stud, Boulge Hebe, by Golden Grain, third at Ipswich, was reserved here, there being no third prize. There were but two yearling Suffolk fillies, but they were grand examples of the breed. Here there was a reversal of the Ipswich judgment, Mr. John Symonds' Dorcas, by the Suffolk champion, Saturn, first of the Suffolk Show, was placed in the second rank, having to give place to Mr. E. F. Quilter's Diana, by Border Minstrel, which was second on the occasion referred to. The three-year-olds contained some of the pick of the mares to be found in the country. The Ipswich champion, Mr. A. H. E. Wood's Sudbourn Trinket, was unnoticed at Richmond, but here she was again first. The first prize mare at Richmond, Mr. E. F. Quilter's Bentley Duchess, was this time second, a place assigned to her at Ipswich. The stallions included some of the best-known horses from various parts of Suffolk. Mr. E. F. Quilter's promising Bentley Valentine, by Prince Wedgewood, first at Woodbridge, unnoticed at Ipswich, but first at Richmond, again went into the premier place. Mr. A. H. E. Wood's Sudbourn Sheriff, second at Ipswich, took the same place this time. The reversal of the judgment in the aged stallion class created something like a sensation to lookers-on outside the ring, Mr. Alfred J. Smith's Saturn, the champion at the Suffolk Show, and the winner of the handsome cup of the Suffolk Horse Society, at Richmond, having to be content with the second place. The judges could not agree as to the relative merits of this horse and Mr. A. H. E. Wood's Sudbourn Count, and it was necessary to call in an umpire. Mr. J. Sturley Nunn responded to the call made upon him, and gave the chief honour to Sudbourn Count. The honour was not unworthily bestowed, for Sudbourn Count won almost everything in his class last year as a two-year-old, and was first at Ipswich as a three-year-old, but was beaten at Richmond in consequence of having to compete with the aged horses.

The hunters made a very fine show, the entries including many well-known prize winners. Mr. James Christy's Mainsail was awarded first prize in the class for mare with foal at foot, open to residents in Essex only, and also the Hunters' Improvement Society's gold medal; whilst Mr. Kelway-Bamber's Homely Lass took the premier prize in the open section. Mr. Christy, with Bella, won the special for the best hunter filly not exceeding three years old, and Mr. R. A. Brice, of Rivenhall, a similar prize for the best gelding. In the county class for hunters four years old, up to not less than 14 stone, Mr. Abraham Smith, of Braintree, was deservedly first with Ascot, while Mr. George Hempson took second with his fine chestnut gelding Red Letter. Nine horses were entered as weight-carriers, up to not less than 15 stone, and the judges gave premier place to Tennis Ball, belonging to Mr. J. H. Stokes, Market Harborough, which has taken prizes everywhere. The horse did not look so well up to 15 stone, however, as Mr. John Drage's Northampton, which took second prize, and the Richmond judges gave expression to this opinion by placing the two in a reverse position. Mr. G. F. Johnson's Woodcraft was reserved. In the estimation of many onlookers, several horses better than those which received prizes were sent out of the ring unnoticed, in the class for hunters not up to less than 12 stone, regularly hunted during last season in Essex. There was a big entry in the novice class. The judges gave the first prize, as also the Hunt Championship special, to a five-year-old gelding, shown by Mr. George A. Newman, and the second to Mr. R. Foster. In an open class for hunters up to not less than 14 stone, Mr. Herbert B. Cory, of Castleton, near Cardiff, won with Gendarme—champion at Richmond and many other places. Mr. A. Smith's Dewhallow was the first in the corresponding county competition, but Mr. David Christy's Woodman, placed second, seemed to be a much sharper mover. In respect to some decisions, in fact, the judging evoked somewhat more than the usual measure of criticism.

The show of Hackneys was not large, and in the class for mares, 15.2 h.h. or over, with foal at foot, Sir Walter Gilbey had a walk over with Smart Lady Denmark. In the next class, that for mares 14 hands and under 15.2, with foal at foot (open), Mr. R. P. Evans, Reigate, came first with Iris, a bay by Chocolate Junr.; Mr. George Johnson's Cornflower, formerly belonging to the Marquis of Winchester, being a close second. In the class for mare or gelding for harness purposes, foaled in 1898 or since, 15.1 hands or over, by a registered Hackney sire (open), Sir Walter Gilbey took another first, and a gold medal, with Merry Sunlight, the winner of last year's championship; second honours fell to Mr. E. Baxter for Amaze, sire Pomfret Performer. Mr. Arthur Collen, of Saffron Walden, with three fine stallions. Mr. Edward Baxter, of the Hutton Stud, Brentwood, was even more successful in the harness classes, while Mr. George Johnson gained two more first prizes with Daylesford King and Golden King, the latter bred by Mr. J. H. Coker, of Earsham. Daylesford King went with his usual dash and pace, quite eclipsing all rivals, and Golden King, though he did not quite settle down at first, went splendidly at the finish, while his quality stood him in good stead. Having already won such a prize, the horse was now ineligible for the Hackney Horse Society's gold medal, and this went to Miss Ross, of Sale, Cheshire, for Rowton Blackthorn. Miss Ross's beautiful blacks won in the tandem class, as also in that for pairs, though hard pressed by Mr. Baxter's well-known Miss Howard and Musk, while Colonel Lockwood took second prize with an interesting pair of Arab descent.

Cattle.

Taken as a whole, the shorthorn classes made a good show, though one or two were poorly supported. The cow class was a rather weak one, but amongst the two-year-old-heifers were some noticeable animals, including Mr. J. Thorley's Fairy Queen, which took the champion prize, given by Mrs. McIntosh for the best shorthorn cow or heifer. The class for bull calves was a very strong one, Mr. J. Deane Willis taking first. In the corresponding collection, confined to the county, Mr. D. Abbott Green, of Fingringhoe Hall, was first and reserve with two very fine animals. Mr. J. Deane Willis was first in yearling bulls with C.I.V., which won the champion at the Royal Counties, the Bath and West of England, beating the King's Royal Duke Champion. Mr. D. Abbott Green came to the front in the county class with Royalty, a handsome bull, which was also first in the open class, and the judges awarded him the Shorthorn Society's special prize for the best shorthorn bull in Essex and Cambridgeshire, calved in 1901, but he was a few weeks too old, and the special therefore went to Mr. Chas. Adeane, Babraham Hall, for his handsome roan Fairy Prince.

No doubt on account of the Norwich Show clashing with this fixture, the Red Polls were not up to the usual mark for the Essex Show. There was but one entry in the cow class, two in the two-year-old heifers, and a like number in the yearlings, Mr. R. P. Cooper being the chief winner. The Polled Angus showed up much better. Mr. R. W. Hudson, invariably a strong exhibitor, was first in the cow class with a handsome, compact animal. The second honours went to Essex, to Mr. W. Dannatt, of Great Waltham, but Mr. R. W. Hudson came to the front again in the three-year-old class with Star of Danesfield. Of two-year-olds, there was a very choice collection of a dozen entries. Here Mr. Hudson had to give place to Mr. C. W. Schroeter, who came off the chief winner in grand ocmapny, and to Mr. W. B. Greenfield, who was second with a typical exhibit, Mr. R. W. Hudson having to be content with a reserved and highly commended card. Only three bulls were entered in the three-year-old collection, the chief prize going to Mr. F. Crisp, of Shire horse notoriety. Of two-year-olds there was a much better entry, Mr. J. H. Bridges taking precedence of Mr. W. B. Greenfield, who was second, and Mr. R. W. Hudson, who was reserved. Mr. R. W. Hudson's beautiful cow Effulgent of Danesfield secured the silver medal given by the English Aberdeen Angus Cattle Association.

There was as usual at this show a grand collection of Jerseys. The competition was keen in the cow class confined to the county, but Mrs. Charlotte McIntosh's Gloriosa III. took the lead, and this fine animal was first also in a big open class. The chief prize-winners in the heifer classes were Mr. E. Murray Ind and Mr. J. R. Corbett. Mr. C. H. Berners, Woolerstone Park, was a comparatively new exhibitor in this department of the show. Mrs. Charlotte McIntosh's Halburton Prince came to the front amongst the two-year-old bulls, and the same lady also carried off second. Close upon a score animals were entered in the open class for yearlings, amongst the list being consignments from various parts of the country. Admiral the Hon. T. S. Brand was first with Doctor, a beautiful whole colour, the second going to Mr. A. W. Ruggles-Brise.

Sheep.

The first of the sheep classes were for Southdowns, and in this section Colonel H. McCalmont, M.P., swept everything before him, winning the first prize in each of the four classes. In the class for pen of three rams, Mr. Edward Ellis's exhibits ran the prize-winners very close indeed. The gallant Colonel carried off the Southdown Sheep Society's silver medal for the best male Southdown, as well as the society's medal for the best female. There was a capital display of Suffolks, and here there was again a little further reversal of previous judgments. The second prize ram at Ipswich was here reserved, Mr. Thos. Goodchild winning first with a ram of good carcase, while Mr. Herbert Smith's second prize winner was a fresh sheep that had not been out this year, but won first prize as a lamb in the untrimmed class last year at the Suffolk Show. There were nine exhibits only of ram lambs, a comparatively small number, due to the Essex and Norfolk Shows clashing, the result being to spoil the shows in this section at both places. The judges were some time in making up their minds between the first and second prize-winners, but they eventually awarded the premier position to Mr. Goodchild, Mr. H. E. Smith being second. Mr. Goodchild also won both first and second prizes for shearling ewes, which were a poor lot in comparison with the numbers usually seen at Essex. Nor did the ewe lambs compare favourably with last year. Here Mr. Goodchild was second to Mr. D. A. Green, but there was not much to choose between the two pens. Mr. Green came to the front in the open class with a nice pen of three ewe lambs. For six shearling ewes, open to the county, there were but two competitors, Mr. Goodchild and Mr. J. W. Eagle, who won in the order given. Mr. Goodchild was also an easy winner in the ram class, open to Essex, so that altogether this gentleman met with great success. There were three classes for Hampshire Downs, with about eighteen entries. Mr. T. F. Buxton practically swept the board, he winning the first and second prizes in each class, and the Hampshire Down Sheep Breeders' Association's special prize for the best pen of lambs, for which prize he was also reserved.

Miscellaneous.

The dairy classes were well supported, but the dog show, which forms a ver yimportant part of this exhibition, was not quite so attractive as in some former years, no application of the sweepstake principle in the apportionment of the prize money in some of the sections accounting for the absence of not a few prominent exhibitors, who have previously supported the show. The exhibition of poultry and pigeons, as usual, proved an attractive adjunct to the show, this being indicated by the large numbers who visited this department.

The entries totalled upwards of 750, but it was rather noticeable that there was not an altogether large contingent of local exhibitors, most of the birds entered belonging to fanciers living in various parts of the country. An horticultural display was also included in the programme, this being chiefly a local affair, which received its fair share of attention from the visitors. Implements, trade exhibits, although not nearly so numerous as last year at Colchester, showed a marked increase as compared with the exhibition at Romford nine years ago.

Herefordshire and Worcestershire

The hundred and fourth show of the Herefordshire and Worcestershire Agricultural Society was held in the capital of the former county, the site being the racecourse, which was in every way the best possible show yard that could be obtained in the city. The entries were excellent, a total of 600 being received, or only 21 fewer than the record obtained at the memorable show held at Worcester in 1895, the year of the amalgamation of the two counties. Cattle number 235, as compared with 174 at Evesham last year, 170 in 1900, at Leamington, and 179 at Hereford in 1898; in fact, the cattle entries were the largest received for many years, and probably broke the record. Of horses, there were 158, as against 166 last year, 173 in 1900, and 220 at Hereford in 1898; sheep totalled 77, a slight decrease on the average number; pigs numbered 17, as against 10 last year, 20 in 1900 and 1898; whilst cider and perry entries were the largest on record, being 88, as compared with 54 in 1901, 67 in 1900, and 53 when the society last visited Hereford. The quality of the exhibits was all round good, and the show in this respect was a complete success. Unfortunately, the weather was far from favourable on the first and last day, though fine on the second, and it had a bad effect on the attendances, so that the financial result of the show fell short of previous years. The total sum taken for admission and grand stand was £865 10s. 6d., as compared with £1,023 9s. 9d., at Evesham last year, and £1,011 6s. 5d. on the last occasion on which the society visited Hereford. On the first day the show was visited, in civic state, by the Mayors and members of the Corporations of Hereford, Worcester, and Leominster, and public representatives attended officially from Kidderminster, Monmouth, Evesham, and Ross. They were received by Sir John Cotterill, Bart., who gave them a hearty welcome, and the Mayors of Hereford and Worcester briefly acknowledged the reception.

The judges were:—Cattle: Herefords: Messrs. F. Evans, The Weston, Bredwardine, and Mr. T. R. Minton, Shrewsbury; Shorthorns and dairy cattle: Messrs. C. W. Brierley, The Firs, Brimfield, and F. Punchard, Kirkby Lonsdale, Westmoreland. Jerseys: Mr. George Joseph Farnham, Surrey. Horses, agricultural: Messrs. F. W. Griffin, Borough Fen, Peterborough, and H. T. Smith, Messrs R. L. Angus, Blenheim, Woodstock, and The Grove, Crosswell. Hunters and hacks: T. H. Hutchinson, Manor House, Catterick. Shropshire sheep and pigs: Messrs. W. Barrs, Odswal Hall, Nuneaton, and J. E. Farmer, Felton, Ludlow. Ryeland sheep: Mr. H. W. Taylor, Showle Court, Ledbury. Cider and perry: Messrs. F. J. Lloyd, Muscovy House, Trinity Square, London, and John Wootton, Byford, Hereford.

Cattle.

Naturally enough, Herefords occupied the premier position in the cattle section, and they made a splendid display, well worthy of the breed so closely associated with the county. The fourteen classes provided for the breed were all well filled, and in many the judges had no little difficulty in making their awards. In the first class, that for bull, cow, and offspring, the calf to be bred by the exhibitor, and not exceeding one year old, there were four entries only, but so high was the quality of all that the judges took some time before making their award. Finally, they gave first prize to the society's president (Sir John Cotterell), who showed his three-year-old bull Ricardo and a seven year-old cow named Rose, with their offspring, which was nearly four months old. Second prize went to Mr. Lawton Moore, Brampton Brian, for an excellent trio, but he had a very close rival in Mr. Britten, Worcester, whilst Mr. Edward Caddick, Ledbury, got the reserve ticket. Bulls calved last year formed one of the strongest classes of the section. So close was the competition that the judges were unable to agree, and Mr. T. Powell was called in as referee. The result was that Mr. Peter Coats's Holmer was placed ahead of Mr. Hughes's Glendower II., the winner at the Royal Counties Show. The two did not meet at the Royal Counties Show, but at the Bath and West Glendower II. was placed above her victor on the present occasion. Both animals are splendid specimens of the breed, and were shown in good condition. Mr. Turner's Marcellus, a stylish descendant of Perthshire, was a good third, and the reserve card fell to Mr. R. Green with Matterhorn, whilst Lord Llangattock had to be content with a commended card for his Hendre Albion.

The second class of bull calves of the same year also attracted a good number of promising animals, the restriction being that no exhibitor should compete who within the last ten years has won a prize for Herefords at the Royal or the Bath and West. Holmer again headed the list, and this time was an easy winner, and was followed by Captain Heygate's Cherry Stone, Mr. Lawton Moore being a good third with Bonanza.

Of the fourteen entries in the class for two-year-old bulls twelve were shown by residents of Herefordshire, and it was in this class that the champion animal was found, namely, Mr. Turner's Magnet, a bull of imposing appearance, and possessed of character and great scale. Mr. Edwards' herd at Tutley supplied the second winner in the class—a good specimen of the breed, named Evolution. The other animals in this class were not of any great merit. The class for bulls calved previous to January, 1900, brought together six fine and typical Herefords. First prize went to Mr. Barneby's Gambler, which was run pretty closely by Mr. Cave's Victor.

The class for last year's heifers was a capital one, amongst the eighteen forward being several animals of the highest quality. First prize was gained by Messrs. Firkens Brothers' Daisy, a beautiful type of Hereford, which was subsequently reserve for the female championship. The Hendre strain was well represented in Lord Llangattock's Hendre Bountiful, which was placed second after close competition with Capella, a stylish heifer, fifteen months old, from the herd of the late Mr. H. Heywood. There was a good show of heifers in the class restricted to exhibitors who have not within the last ten years won a first prize at the Royal or the Bath and West exhibitions. In this Daisy had no difficulty in asserting her superiority, and she was again followed by Hendre Bountiful. Mr. Hall's Rosalind, a useful type of heifer, was placed third. The class for heifers in pairs was not a big one, but on this account quality does not suffer. The winning couple were Priceless and Calliope, shown by the executors of the late Mr. H. Haywood. Sir John Cottrell's animals were placed second, and Mr. Davies's third. Seventeen animals turned out in the class for two-year-old heifers, and a very representative lot they were. Honours were divided between Mr. Barneby, with Mistletoe, a daughter of the well-known Happy Hampton, and Mr. R. W. Hall, who in the restricted class won with Silva IV. Heifers in milk, calved in 1899, were rather less numerous than usual, but some excellent specimens were stalled, mostly from the country herds. Mr. J. Smith won with Beautiful, a serviceable heifer rightly named, which also won the champion prize for the best cow or heifer. In the other classes in the section, which were made up of milch cows and one-year-old steers, there was nothing of particularly outstanding merit. Mr. D. Evans won in the cow class with Pretty Tulip II., aged seven years, while the principal award in the other class falls to Mr. R. Green with Whittern Brook.

Although shows in a district where very little bred, the Shorthorns attracted a great deal of attention, which they thoroughly deserved, for though not so numerous as the Herefords, they certainly were of as high quality, many noted herds in various parts of the country being represented. The society, it may be mentioned, treat the shorthorns with the same liberality as is accorded to the Herefords in the matter of championship distinction, and in addition to this the Shorthorn Society gave a prize of £10 for the best shorthorn bull born in 1901, the property of a resident in Herefordshire or Worcestershire. Mr. H. Ker Colville won the first prize in the bull, cow, and offspring class, the victory being in a large measure due to the undoubted claims of the bull Royal Seal and the smart little calf. Royal Seal attracted a great amount of attenion. Lord Tredegar came second with Snowdrop 8th, undoubtedly the pick of the collection, and Sybil, whilst third honours went to Mr. J. Powell. An old exhibitor and patron of the breed, Mr. G. Harrison, of Darlington, headed last year's bull calves with Star of Roses, which is by Lovat Star. The judges experienced some difficulty in awarding second and third honours, but ultimately second place fell to Mr. R. Stretton with Guardsman, a bull of fine type, whilst Dusky Prince, a massive specimen from the Towcaster herd, the exhibit of Mr. W. C. Cooper, was given the third prize. There was another capital competition in the class for bulls calved in 1900, and this ended in the premier honours being acquired by Mr. R. P. Cooper, of Lichfield, with Stoneyton-Archer, which has won several prizes this season, Lord Tredegar coming up very close with Jester, which carried off the second prize. Next came Mr. John Hobson's Hopeful Lad, another very good exhibit. Mr. Harrison headed the class for bulls calved previous to January, 1900, with his fine five-year-old Inspector, which was also placed reserve to the champion. Lord Tredegar and Messrs. J. Little and Sons took second and third positions respectively. Last year's heifers made quite a nice little display, and first prize was deservedly given to Mr. Stratton's Plume, which, it will be remembered, won a third prize at the recent Bath and West Show at Plymouth. On Tuesday she was reserved for the female championship. Second position in the class was taken by Rose Martin, a promising animal, shown by Mr. H. Wynne. The two-year-old heifers were not numerous, but the class contained two or three worthy of a good deal more than a casual glance. Mr. G. Harrison won with Flora 6th, by Easter Gift, an exceedingly nice heifer, full of quality, which later on was awarded the female championship. Mr. H. Ker Colville was well entitled to second place with his String of Pearls, and Mr. D. H. Mylton, of Welshpool, stood third with a stylish entry named Delight, one of the progeny of Baron Hobbs. The shorthorn dairy cows, a numerous collection, were headed by Janette 26th, the exhibit of Mr. W. S. Carless, who also showed the best pair of heifers in milk.

The Jerseys made a good show indeed by the side of their weightier rivals, the Herefords and Shorthorns. Mr. Edmund Smith, of Bromsgrove, won the old bull class with C.I.V., Lord Sherborne's Golden Shaw 2nd being second, and Mr. W. C. Cooper third with Leylands Oak. Miss Peel headed the bulls calved in 1901 with Bylett's Swell, the Marquess of Winchester running very close with Doricles. The noble marquess was,



THE WELSH BULL "GOLDSEEKER," which forms the subject of the above illustration, is the property of Mr. O. Parry Jones, Plas Llechylched, Bryngwran, Anglesey. At the Cardiff Show of the Royal Society last year "Goldseeker" was winner of first prize in his class, and was also placed reserve for the Champion Cup offered by the North Wales Black Cattle Society for the best Welsh Bull in the Show. "Goldseeker" was bred on the farm of the University College of North Wales at Llangefni.

however, well to the fore in the cows or heifers in milk, his successful entry being Pearl 4th. Mr. Edward Smith, Miss Peel, and Lord Winchester won the first, second and third prizes respectively in the class for 1901 heifers.

Horses.

Agricultural horses made one of the best collections ever seen at Hereford, the entries being both numerous and of high quality. There was a first rate muster for Shire colts foaled in 1901, and the judge selected Mr. Peter Stubs, of Newnham, Gloucestershire, to lead, with Blaisdon Harold 2nd, which was also reserved in the competition for the champion prize, presented by the president, for the best male in the agricultural horse classes and for the silver medal for the best Shire stallion, entire colt, or colt foal. He is a big colt, very true in his movements, and bears every promise if making a good sire. Mr. Henry Oakley, of Chepstow, was second, with Dewston Pioneer, which took a similar position at the Bath and West of England Show. In the class for Shire colts foaled in 1900 Lord Llangattock secured the first prize with Hendre Heirloom, and the president's champion prize for the best-made in the agricultural horse classes; also the silver medal for the best Shire stallion, entire colt, or colt foal. Hendre Heirloom won second honours at the Bath and West of England Show on the first occasion upon which he was shown; he possesses great weight and power, and was far and away the best animal in the class. Mr. Stubs' Eckington Conqueror, to which was awarded the second prize in the class, is in capital feather, but he does not possess the weight of the winner. The third prize was given to Mr. J. Powell for Bar None Victor, the winner of a first at Evesham last year. Lord Llangattock was also successful in the class for Shire fillies foaled in 1900, taking, in addition to the first prize in the class, champion honours for the best female in the agricultural horse classes, and the silver medal for the best Shire mare, filly, or filly foal with Hendre Marguerite, a filly with hard-wearing legs and good feet, and the winner of first and champion prizes at other shows. Messrs. Firkins' Paunton Rosebud was awarded second prize, and she is a useful animal in fine feather. For Shire mares with foal at foot, both first and second prizes went to Mr. Peter Coats, of Clifford, the third falling to Mr. Henry Oakley, of Dewston, Chepstow, with Chilwick Victoria, with a bay colt foal by Dromster. Duchess of York, the winner of the first prize, is a typical brown mare, and has won several prizes, whilst the second winner, Inlake Grace, also possesses great weight and size. In the local class for Shire mare with foal at foot Mr. Coates secured another win with the Duchess of York, and reserve for the silver medal for the best Shire mare, filly, or filly foal. There was a very useful lot of animals in the local class for colt or gelding foaled in 1901, and Mr. W. Darlington, with Clevedole Bar William, scored a meritorious win. The local fillies, foaled in 1901, were excellent in every respect. Paunton Jealous, the property of Messrs. Firkin Bros., which took first prize in the class, also being reserve for the special prize offered by Lord Llangattock for the best Shire mare or filly entered, the property of a tenant farmer in the counties of Hereford, Worcester, or Monmouth. The filly shown by Mr. Hodgkiss, of Holme, Lacy, took the second prize, whilst the same exhibitor secured the first prize in the local class for fillies foaled in 1900, and also took Lord Llangattock's prize for the best Shire filly shown from the counties of Hereford, Worcester, and Monmouth.

The light horses were generally up to the standard of previous shows, but were not quite so numerous as usual. In the hack class there was an exceedingly meritorious collection of animals, and they were considerably in front of the hunters. The two classes devoted to cobs and ponies were not very large, and they would no doubt have been better patronised had the weather proved of a more seasonable character. The three winners in the class confined to the counties of Hereford and Worcester, for a colt or filly foaled in 1901 showed useful quality and good breeding, and indicated every possibility of turning out excellent hunters in the future. The winner was Mr. Mynor's gelding, sired by Royal Meath, who secured second honours at the Hereford Show as a foal a year ago. The class for filly or gelding foaled in 1900, was a good all-round class, and the first-prize winner, which also secured a special, won first honours as a yearling at Ludlow. The second prize-winner, exhibited by Mr. Gough, of Bodenham, was third in the sameclass with the winner at Evesham last year. The class for filly or gelding foaled in 1899, was composed of blood animals, in which Mr. G. H. Green took first and special with Hark. Gladys, the winner in the class for filly or gelding foaled in 1898, was an animal of splendid promise, and far above the other animals against which it competed. The class for coach and carriage horses, not more than five years old, bred in the counties of Worcester or Hereford, was not quite up to the standard. It was a difficult class to judge, and all that can be said about the winners is that they were typical carriage horses. An irregular class was that devoted to mare or gelding hunters, for riders from 13st. 7lb. to 15st., and Mr. H. Cory secured first and champion honours easily. Rustic Gem, the property of Messrs. Downes, of Richard's Castle, the winner in the class for brood mare with foal at foot, the mare to be not less than 15 hands, is a capital animal of excellent substance, and it is in the matter of substance that she just beat Mr. Everall's Beauty, a twenty-one-year-old animal, which, however, shows very little signs of age. The Hunters' Improvement Society's gold medal fell to Mr. J. C. Jones's aged mare by Wild Fern, and the silver medal to Mr. P. Baldwin's Queen's Birthday.

With but one or two exceptions the hackneys and ponies show no special merit. Druid, which took first prize in the class for hackney mare or gelding not exceeding 15 hands 2 inches, was a first-rate winner at Islington, and the second, Duchess, is a promising four-year-old. Mr R. Jones, of Swansea, secured a good win in the class for cob, mare, or gelding, not exceeding 14 hands 3 inches, with My Lady, whilst the winner in that devoted to pony, mare, or gelding, not exceeding 13 hands 2 inches, was Mr. Foster's Melvalley Marvel. The harness classes opened with the tandems, and eight as pretty teams as one could wish to see were driven into the ring. The winner was Mr. T. D. John, of Cardiff, his team being made up of Heathfield Squire and Heathfield; Mr. F. J. Batchelor's Wild Agnes and Enid being second, and Mr. W. J. Tatem (Cardiff) third, with Surprise and Astonishment. The single-harness competition for entries 14.2 and over brought out nine candidates. The real competition was between Mr. Frank J. Batchelor and Mr. T. D. John. The latter was eventually adjudged the winner, with Heathfield Squire; Mr. Batchelor's Chiswick second, and Heathfield third. There were several minor honours. A very interesting competition indeed was the bending race, for ponies not less than 14 hands, and not exceeding 14.2. There were nine entries, eight of which were from the area of the society, and one from Somerset—the Keynsham Stud Company's Nondescript. From the first this latter shaped all like winning, and ultimately secured the verdict; Mr. Whiteman (Leominster) being second, with Mystery; and Mr. H. J. Stedman (Hereford), reserve, with Alacris. The jumping events were, as usual, witnessed with interest by a large company.

Sheep.

The sheep made a somewhat larger display than usual, and the quality was, taken all round, of the very best. Mr. W. F. Inge, of Thorpe Hall, Tamworth, secured first in the class for Shropshire shearling rams with a typical animal, which afterwards was awarded the championship. First honours in the class for rams of any age were taken by Mr. R. Cooper, of Lichfield. The competition in the class for pen of three ram lambs was very strong, the animals all being very forward; indeed, the class, as a whole, was much stronger than is generally the case at shows held at this time of the year. Mr. Denton Gibson, of Leamington, however, scored a somewhat easy win with three very fine lambs. In the class for pen of three yearling ewes, Mr. Inge was first, with three entirely fresh specimens. The Ryelands, though not numerous as to entries, were excellent in quality, very fine as to wool, and all of the true Ryeland type.

Miscellaneous.

Fou rclasses were devoted to pigs, and though the entries were small, the animals on view were of good quality. Mr. J. Jefferson, of Peel Hall, Chester, one of the best known of the black breeders, carried off the honours awarded in classes devoted to blacks, and Mr. Denston, of Leamington, was almost as successful in the classes devoted to whites.

As to the produce section, it may be mentioned that the entries in the classes for cider were strong, and the quality so good that each competitor received the commended award. The judges had only one fault to find—that the cider is a trifle too sweet. Butter and cheese formed an interesting show. The quality was good and the entries were all well put on. The class for potted butter was small, and the quality not of a very high standard, owing to the fact that it is a trifle too early in the year for this class of produce. Cream cheeses were excellent, though not so numerous as usual.

Glasgow.

The summer show of the Glasgow Agricultural Society has in former years been held in April, and being sandwiched between the Kilmarnock and Ayr shows, it undoubtedly, and perhaps the others, suffered somewhat from three such large affairs being held so close upon each other in such a circumscribed area. The directors, therefore, decided to make a change this year, and the show took place on Wednesday and Thursday last, and the change was attended with a gratifying measure of success. More favourable weather was experienced, and among the entries were several Kilmarnock and Ayr exhibits, which it is very doubtful would have been forward if the show had been held in April. The number of entries was about 600, a total slightly below that of last year, but this is mainly accounted for by the fact that a new rule was imposed, that winners in the hackney section could not compete in the hand and saddle classes for roadsters. There was a substantial increase in the number of Ayrshire cattle, of which there were 108, as compared with 97 last year; Clydesdale horses, however, fell from 175 to 136; hackneys numbered 40, against 44; and there were about 140 roadsters and ponies, as compared with a similar entry a year ago; sheep numbered 61, as against 77; and in the new classes there were 15 Aberdeen-Angus cattle and 7 shorthorns, whilst the entries in the dairy produce section numbered 33, about the same as last year. An alteration that was much appreciatd by visitors on the first day was that all the sections were open to view, instead of, as in former years, the cattle and sheep being shown on the second day only.

The judges were:—Cattle.—Ayrshire—Messrs. James Wilson, Boghall; William Howie, Finnoch Bog, and William Reid, Titwood. Aberdeen-Angus—Mr. A. H. Anderson, Kippendavie Estate Office, Dunblane. Shorthorn and Cross—Mr. George Sinclair, Home Farm, Dalmeny Park. Horses:—Clydesdale Mares and Fillies.—Messrs. William M'Keich, Woodend; David A. Hood, Balgreddan; and A. B. Matthews, Newton-Stewart. Clydesdale Horses and Colts—Messrs. William Park, Glenshinnoch; John P. Sleigh, St John's Wells, Fyvie, and John Hastie, Eddlewood. Hunters—Messrs. Archibald Kerr, Mouswald; David Stevenson, Crossburn, and J. S. Johnston, Crailing Hall, Jedburgh. Registered Hackneys—Mr. Richard Ford, Wakefield. Sheep—Leicester—Messrs. Andrew Smith, Longniddry; John Wallace, Auchenbrain; and Robert Clark, Oldhamstocks Mains. Blackfaced—Messrs. John Craig, Innergeldie; Alexander Cowan, Spittalhill, and John Fisher, Auchrioch.

Ayrshire Cattle.

Previous to this year the cattle classes were confined to the Ayrshire breed, but on the present occasion classes were provided for Aberdeen-Angus and Shorthorns, and they met with a fair amount of support. The section was a more varied one than formerly. Ayrshire, of course, occupied the premier position, and the change of date of the show seems to have had a marked effect here, for the entries were more numerous and the quality was, perhaps, above the average, both in the male and female sections. Aged cows in milk were headed by Mr James Lawrie's Beauty, a five-year-old daughter of Silver Heels, which later on was awarded the Glasgow Licensed Victuallers' Cup given for the best cow or quey of the breed. A very good four-year-old, owned by Mr. Samuel Hamilton, and got by King of Castlehill, was second in the class, Mr. James M'Alister's well-known four-year-old Pennylands being third. Three-year-olds in milk were scarcely up to the standard of quality reached by the aged class, but still there was a fair show. Mr. James Lawrie's Blossom, a brindled daughter of Silver Heels, which was first at Hamilton, again led. Mr. John M'Alister was second and third with two of his own breeding. In the class confined to cows or queys bred by exhibitors, Mr. Robert Wilson's broken-horned animal, which led the uncalved class at Paisley, once more showed the way. Mr. Wilson was likewise second, his representative being the leader of the three-year-olds in calf at Paisley. Four-year-old cows in calf made a fair show. Joan, a sweet, big brown cow, owned by Mr. James Kinloch, was first, a big commercial animal, belonging to Mr. Robert Wilson, coming second, and Mr. Jas. Neill was third with Exceptional. Three-year-olds in calf formed a better class. Another short-legged, thick daughter of King of Castlehill, belonging to Mr. Samuel Hamilton, was first. Mr. Robert Wilson was second with his Paisley winner; and Mr. James M'Alister's Whity II. was third. The Derby was led by Mr. James Laurie's Blossom, Mr. James Wilson's Melrose being second. In a very good class of two-year-olds in milk Mr. James M'Alister's East Kilbride winner, Beauty, by Silver Heels, easily took precedence, Mr. Robert Wilson coming next with an animal which was second at Paisley. In the yield section competition was keen. The two-year-olds, which formed, perhaps, the better of the two classes, were headed by Mr. Andrew Mitchell's recently-purchased Aileen Aroon, which has so far been unbeaten in her class this season. Mr. Robert Wardrop's beautiful Vesta Tilley followed, and the third ticket fell to an exhibit by Mr. Mitchell. In a very good lot of queys stirks, Mr. James Howie led with the sweet, stylish, upstanding heifer, Mr. Thomas Barr being second with a strong specimen, while third place was allotted a sweet heifer owned by Mr. Wardrop, and named Miss Meglerie.

The first of the bull classes was for animals calved January 1st, 1900, and the best of them was Mr. James Howie's Not Likely, which had also the distinction of securing the Glasgow Licensed

Victuallers' Cup as the best bull. This bull has had a very successful career. He gained the championship at Kilmarnock and Ayr both this and last year, whilst he won first at the Glasgow and Highland shows of 1901. In the two-year-old bull class, Mr. Andrew Mitchell lead with Surprise, which has hitherto had to be content with an inferior place. Colonel Fergusson-Buchanan's The M'Kinlay was second. Mr. Archibald M'Kay's Robin Adair, a sweet bull that took the championship at Rothesay, being third. There was, as regards quality, a very good class of yearling bulls, though the numbers were somewhat small. Mr. James Howie came to the front with Hope On, a stylish, thick-set bull, which was reserve for the championship. Mr. Robert Wardrop's Valentine, a good animal, which was first at Kilmarnock, came next, while Gentleman John, a very sweet son of Not Likely, and bred by Mr. Hunter, was third.

Aberdeen-Angus and Shorthorns.

The four new classes for Aberdeen-Angus attracted fifteen entries, the quality of which was excellent, and there is every prospect of the doddies becoming a good show in years to come. In a class of four old bulls Mr. Sharp, Bardrill was first with Rover of Morlich II., a two-year-old, sired by Rover of Craibstone, which was also the sire of the second prize heifer and the first prize cow. Mr. Sharp's bull was first at Stirling last week, but it was then beaten for the championship by Mr. Kerr's cow, Queen Marjory, but on Wednesday was placed third in the class for heifers calved after December 1, 1899, which was first at the Royal Society's Show last year. Rover of Morlich II. was awarded the cup as the best bull of the breed shown. The second prize in the bull class went to Mrs. Reid, Auchterarder House, for Envoy of Benton, a five-year-old, sired by Esmond of Ballindalloch, out of a dam by Cerberus. Mr. James Kennedy, of Doonholm, got the third ticket for Mondamin, which he purchased at the Perth spring sale last year. Only two yearling bulls were entered. Mr. Kennedy carried off the leading honour with Prileno, sire Proud Duke of Ballindalloch. Messrs. Meiklem were second with Proud Makine, a bull of their own breeding, and showing Auchorachan blood. There were half a dozen heifers forward in the class for animals calved after December 1st, 1899, and here Mr. Kennedy took the two principal tickets, although there was some difference of opinion as to the order in which they should have been placed. The first prize was given to Quines, a very neat two-year-old, bought at Mr. Eggington's sale, and out of the South Ella dam, Black Empress, which was the champion at Birmingham Fat Stock Show. Mr. Kennedy's second heifer was the yearling, Myrica, of his own breeding, and sired by Rover of Craibstone. Mr. Kennedy was also first in a small but good class of cows in calf or with calf at foot, with Jemima XXXIV. of Morlich, a five-year-old, by Rover of Craibstone, which had a very promising calf at foot. Messrs. Meiklem were second with a cow bred by Colonel Smith Grant of Auchorachan, and which has done well in the showyards for several seasons.

There was but a small show of Shorthorns, and nearly all the prizes were taken by Mr. Mathew Marshall. In the class for yearling bulls there was no competition, and the prize went to Mr. Marshall's Count Marksman, a roan bred by Mr. Grainger, Coupar-Angus. For yearling heifers Mr. Marshall was first, second, and highly commended, the highest award going to a white of his own breeding, and the others to Christmas Belle, a roan, and Sweet Maid III., a red, both bred by Mr. F. W. Christie, Cupar. In the class for cows in milk or in calf Messrs. Meiklem were first and Messrs. Andrews and Sons, Paisley, second.

Clydesdale Horses.

The Clydesdales were not so numerous as usual, but the quality was excellent, and the display all round was a capital one. In the three-year-old stallion class there were six entries, and every exhibit was deemed worthy of a ticket. Mr. William Park, Brunstane, came to the front with his splendid brown colt Marmion, of his own breeding, which has had a most successful showyard career. The second ticket went to Mr. John Pollock for King Edward, a sweet and stylish son of the champion Hiawatha, Mr. Matthew Marshall following with Marconi, also a son of Hiawatha. There were nine two-year-old colts, and they were a very good lot, six of them being included in the prize-list. Mr. Walter Park was first with Royal Chattan, a well-built colt, and almost without a fault, Mr. James Kilpatrick being second with Pearl Stone, a big, upstanding colt, bred by Principal M'Call, and which was similarly placed at the Spring Stallion Show. Mr. Walter S. Park came third with Ardlethan, which was first in his class at the stallion show. Fifteen yearling colts came before the judges, who had some difficulty in making their awards, all the animals being of high quality. Mr. Peter Dewar was first with a son of Royal Favourite; Mr. Wm. Clark, Netherlea, second, with a particularly good get of Prince Thomas; third place was taken by Mr. James Gray with another Royal Favourite colt, Gartly Again; whilst Mr. James Kilpatrick was fourth with still another son of Royal Favourite. Brood mares were a small class, but they comprised at least three well-known animals. Mr. Kerr was first with his five-year-old Baron's Pride mare, Lady Garnet, which was first at Kilmarnock and Edinburgh; Mr. John M'Millan, Strathaven, coming second with Bent Darling, a five-year-old, by Flashwood Last; while the third position fell to Mr. William Taylor for his well-known mare Legacy, by Sir Everard, which was not looking her best. The judges had no difficulty in dealing with the yeld mare class, an outstanding winner being furnished in Mr. Alexander Guild's handsome six-year-old, Lady Margaret, which was champion at Glasgow, Ayr, and Edinburgh last year. Mr. St. Clair Cunningham's Minnie of Walkinshaw, which has stood well for several seasons in the principal showyards, came second, and Mr. David Riddell was third with Scottish Peeress. In a fairly large class of three-year-old mares and fillies Mr. St. Clair Cunningham led, as at Edinburgh, with his beautiful White Heather, a daughter of that wonderfully successful sire, Baron's Pride. The second prize went to Mr. John M'Kay, Barrhead, for Miss Taylor, sired by Sir Everard; whilst Mr. David Curr, Cathcart, was third with Lady Peggie, also by Baron's Pride. The best of the two-year-old fillies was Mr. James Davie's (Bogton, Cathcart) Beauty's Pride, a daughter of Up to Time. She was followed by Mary Weir, a big, substantial filly from Townhead, Lanark, but many thought Mr. David Mitchell's Princess Roberta should have occupied the position. The yearling fillies were undoubtedly the best class in the Clydesdale section. They numbered fifteen, and their merit was such that the judges placed no fewer than eight of them. Mr. Henry Gray, Kincardine-on-Forth, had the credit of leading with the very stylish dark brown animal by Royal Favourite breeding. Mr. Peter Dewar, Arnprior, was second with a nicely-built brown filly, also by Royal Favourite. The third ticket going to Mr. John M'Nee, Crieff, for a Montrave Mac filly which won at Edinburgh; Mr. St. Clair Cunningham was fourth with the Baron's Pride, get Longland Mary; Mr. David Mitchell coming next with a daughter of Marcellus; and Mr. Cunningham following with Bell Heather, another of the numerous progeny of Baron's Pride.

The Derbies for yearling fillies and yearling colts were not judged until the second day, when also some champion awards were decided. Although there were thirteen animals nominated for the yearling filly Derby, only three were forward, and with the exception of Mr. William Wood's filly by Royal Gartly's Heir, which was placed seventh on Wednesday, none of the animals which gained prizes in the open class competed. The Braco filly was given the first ticket; Mr. William Taylor, Park Mains, being second; and Sir John Gilmour third, with the Baron's Pride filly, Montrave Rena. The Derby for yearling colts had an entry of sixteen, most of which were forward. In the absence of the first and second prize-takers in the open class, Mr. Gray, Birkenwood, was placed first with the Royal Favourite filly, Gartly Again, and Mr. Kerr's filly by the same sire, got the second ticket. There was only one entry in the class for sires of the best three yearling colts, geldings, or fillies of the Clydesdale breed. This was the five-year-old Royal Favourite, belonging to Mr. Peter Dewar, Arnprior, Port of Monteith, and sired by Royal Gartly out of a Brooklyn dam. The prize offered for family groups of mare and two offspring also drew out only one entry, but it was a highly meritorious exhibit that could have faced a deal of competition. It consisted of Mr. William Park's seven-year-old mare, Lady Rose; her well-known three-year-old son, Marmion, the first-prize three-year-old colt; and her two-year-old daughter, Floradora, both got by Mr. Park's horse, Prince of Brunstane. The competitors for the president's silver plate, given by Lord Provost Chisholm for the best male Clydesdale in the show were Mr. Walter Park's two-year-old, Royal Chattan; Mr. William Park's three-year-old, Marmion; and Mr. Peter Dewar's first-prize yearling colt. The coveted honour was awarded to Mr. Walter Park's colt, Mr. William Park's Marmion being reserve. For the Licensed Victuallers' Cup of 50gs. for the best female Clydesdale the winners in all the classes competed, but the extraordinary quality of the Royal Favourite yearling filly, belonging to Mr. Henry Gray, Hawkhill, Kincardine-on-Forth, again carried her to the front for the championship, Mr. St. Clair Cunningham's three-year-old White Heather being reserve. The Hawkhill yearling filly also gained the Clydesdale Horse Society's medal for the best female in the young classes, Mr. Peter Dewar's second-prize yearling filly, by Royal Favourite, ling filly, by Royal Favourite, being reserve being reserve, and Mr. Weir's second-prize two-year-old filly being placed next in order. Mr. Davie's first-prize two-year-old filly was not eligible to compete, having won the medal at Paisley the other day. The cup for the best gelding was awarded to Mr. William Clark's aged horse, the first-prize three-year-old, belonging to Messrs. Caulfield Brothers, Hurlford, being reserve.

Hunters.

The hunter classes were not strong numerically, but they comprised some very fair quality. There was a splendid lot of heavy weights, which probably formed as good a class as has been seen in Glasgow. Messrs. T. and H. Ward, Great Ayton, secured first prize, with a beautiful black five-year-old horse; Mr. Alexander Gemmell, Ayr, was second with Champion Royal Flush, which was first at Ayr; whilst Mr. James Kennedy, of Doonholm, was third with Patrician. In the lightweight class, Mr. Edward Hoyle, Bacup, was placed first with Bonaparte, a beautiful horse; and the second prize went to Messrs. Ward for a very nice animal. The three-year-old class was of only average merit, and here Mr. David Fleming was first with a brown animal, and Mr. Hoyle's Rosebery second. Two-year-olds were a better lot. Mr. J. A. Campbell's Ballyhough, the Ayr winner, led, and was followed by Mr. Alexander Kennedy's Ladybird II. Ballyhough has more bone than Ladybird II., but the latter is a mare of very good quality, and was awarded the Hunters Improvement Society's medal for the best hunter filly which had not previously won it this season. Mr. J. A. Campbell also exhibited two outstanding animals in the class for yearlings, and they were placed first and second. The winner was a chestnut by North Mayo, and was bred at Craigie House; while the second was Westlands, likewise a chestnut, bred at Westlands, Newcastle, and got by Carnmint.

The Hunters' Improvement Society's silver medal for the best hunter filly which has not previously won the medal in 1902 was gained by Mr. A. Kennedy, Anniesland, with his second-prize two-year-old, the same society's medal for the best hunter mare or gelding of any age being awarded to Mr. Edward Hoyle, Moorlands, Bacup, for Bonaparte, the winner in the lightweight class. The reserve was the winning yearling of Mr. J. A. Campbell, Craigie.

Hackneys.

The Hackney horses made a most interesting display, they being more numerous than last year, whilst the quality all round was good. Two very good brood mares, 15 hands and upwards, headed their class. The first was Lady Millie, belonging to Mr. A. A. Haley, Eddlethorpe, and was of outstanding quality. Mrs. Mackenzie Fraser, of Castle Fraser, owns the second, Mascotte, which was first at Kilmarnock this year. Lady Caxton, a chestnut, by Caxton, belonging to Mr. David Riddell, was third. Only one brood mare under 15 hands was forward, and this was Frodingham Flora, the property of Mr. Seton M. Thomson, and she deserved the first prize given here. There was nothing very special among the three-year-old fillies. The leading award fell to Love Knott, a nice wide, useful mare, sired by Lavengro, belonging to Mr. William Scott. Messrs. W. C. Harvie and Co. were second with Spinaway II., a bay got by Lord Seaham, and Mr. Andrew Morton was third with a dark brown get of Link's Boy. Two-year-old fillies were a very good lot, and the prize-winners were all outstanding animals. Mr. William Scott's Corydalis, by Mathias, took precedence. Mr. Scott also won the second prize with Bryony, got by the same sire. A nice, well-known filly, Bothwell Star, owned and bred by Mr. James Prentice, came third. Among the yearling fillies, Mr. George R. Watson led with a bay got by Hedon Sensation, a wonderful goer and of nice quality. The Kilmarnock winner Mr. Galbraith's Princess Mercedes, was second; whilst Ganydora, by Ganymede, belonging to Mr. David Mitchell was third. Mr. Alexander Gemmell's Cossack, the Edinburgh champion, was the only aged stallion forward, and he attracted much attention. Two-year-olds formed the largest class of colts. Mr. Galbraith's very useful Administrator, first at Kilmarnock and Ayr, again took precedence. Mr. William Scott was second with a get of Mathias called Lord Jersey, a very smart horse, though perhaps a little short as regards size; and a Hull-bred animal, Brentham Squire, owned by Mr. William Alexander, came third. Another of the Terregles stud, Roosevelt, by M'Kinlay, showed the way, as at Kilmarnock and Ayr, among the yearling colts, Mr. Haley's (Malton) a fine-looking animal, Imperialist, which made rather a bad show, coming second.

The Hackney Horse Society's gold medal for the best mare or filly in the hackney and pony classes went to Mr. A. A. Haley, Eddlethorpe, for Lady Millie, his first prize brood mare over 15 hands.

The roadsters, which were judged on Wednesday, made a very good display. In a small class of brood mares, Mr. David Riddell, Blackhall, won with Swallow, whilst in the three-year-old class Mr. George R. Watson was the only exhibitor, his exhibit being Happy Thought. Only two yearlings were entered, Mr. J. S. Cuthbertson, Kilmarnock, receiving the first prize for Sister Dora. The pony classes were well filled. Mr.

Alexander Gemmell, Chelston, Ayr, took the first prize in the class for mares and geldings under 14 hands with Little Woman, which won in her class at Edinburgh, and he was also second with Lord Dalkeith, a four-year-old pony displaying fine action. Mares and geldings under 15 hands were headed by Mr. John Kerr of Gilmerton with Lord Burnham, a successful show-ring animal, which was afterwards selected for the silver cup for the best mare, gelding, cob, or pony shown in harness, consideration being given to style, action, and neatness of turnout. Mr. William S. Miller, Dumbrock, was second with Whitesocks, which was third at Kilmarnock. Mr. John Kerr led in the saddle class for mares and geldings, 15 hands high and upwards, with Zoba, a five-year-old sired by Garton Duke of Connaught. This animal was the hackney champion at Ayr in the spring, and was reserve last week for the Hackney Society's medal. There were some very good animals in the driving classes, in which Mr. Alexander Gemmell was a successful exhibitor, horses bred by him and in the hands of other exhibitors also figuring in the prize list. He was first in the class for mares and geldings under 14 hands with Lord Dalkeith. The second prize was won by Mr. John Brown, Ardross, with Forward, a high-moving seven-year old. Mr. John Wotherspoon was first in the class under 14.2 hands with Early Bird, a chestnut animal with good action, which was the champion pony at Kilmarnock, whilst Mr. John Brown was second with Sir Thomas. In the class for harness mares and geldings under 15 hands Mr. Kerr again led with Lord Burnham, Mr. Wotherspoon coming second with Patronus. Mr. Gemmel was first in the class for mares and geldings over 15 hands with Capital, a grand six-year-old horse, which was reserve to Lord Burnham for the cup for the best harness animal. There was an interesting turnout of Shetland ponies, the neat and smart little animals in the two classes attracting considerable attention. Mr. William Mungal, Dunfermline, was the winner in the stallion class with Hector, a black ten-year-old, bred by the Marquis of Londonderry. Mrs. Wentworth Hope Johnstone, Edenbridge, winning in the mare class with Emerald. The silver cup for the best mare or gelding in the hunter, hackney, and roadster sections was awarded to Messrs. T. and H. Ward, Pinchinthorpe, Yorkshire, for their first-prize heavy-weight hunter. The reserve was Mr. Haly's first-prize hackney brood mare, Lady Millie.

Sheep.

The display of sheep was quite as good, both in point of numbers and quality, as has been seen in former years. Border Leicesters were better than usual, and Mr. M'Intosh, Balquharn, took the chief honours with some well-bred sheep. His first-prize old tup was a well-balanced three-shear, bred by Mr. Fletcher of Roschaugh, and shown for the first time. His three prize shearling rams were placed in the same order as at Edinburgh, and the first prize-taker was awarded the cup as the best of the breed. With the exception of the shearling rams, the classes for black-faced sheep were rather small, but the merit was high. In the Shorthorn section there was only one aged tup forward. He was shown by his breeder, Mr. Thomas Scott, Bogside, Carluke, and he also carried off the cup. For two-year-old tups Mr. James Veitch was first with a sheep of good frame. Mr. John Millar being second with a very fair specimen. Mr. Thomas Scott was first, second, and third for shearling tups, the winner being a particularly good, thick sheep. In the class for unshorn aged tups Mr. John Millar led with a sheep of excellent quality, but somewhat deficient in the head. Ewes lambed before January 1st, 1901, with lamb at foot, were a strong class in point of quality, and here Mr. Thomas C. Wilson won with a five-year-old of his own breeding, which was also awarded the cup for the best blackface ewe of any age.

Thorne.

The Thorne Agricultural Society were very fortunate in being favoured with one of the few bright days we have had this month for their forty-ninth exhibition, which was held on Wednesday. Consequently there was a good attendance of visitors to the show ground. A sum of close upon £400 was offered in prizes. A fair proportion of this was absorbed by poultry, pigeons, and rabbits, which were the strongest classes numerically. In point of number horses were not up to the average of recent years, but there was no perceptible falling off in quality. They numbered 163 as against 180 last year, and 174 the year before. A hundred and sixty-five dogs were benched, and they were more numerous than has been the case for the past six years. Sheep formed a very small section indeed, due, no doubt, to the fact of its being confined to local classes. Dairy produce made a very good display, the butter exhibits especially being very noteworthy. The total entries in all sections numbered 1,483, being nearly eighty in advance of last year, and coming pretty close to the Society's record year.

The entries of heavy horses were very creditable, some excellent animals being included. The winner was a first-rate quality mare by Prince Brilliant, with a filly foal by Minstrel. Foals and yearlings accounted for several very interesting classes. The Shire Horse Society's medal was won by Mr. W. Coulman, of Goole, who also secured the chief place in the pairs of agricultural draught horses.

The average of quality among the hunters was fair, nothing very startling being catalogued. Mr. C. Clark, of North Ferriby, was an easy winner with a big, upstanding chestnut full of quality and a good goer. For roadster mares and foals chief honours went to Mr. Willis Crookes, of Sheffield. The mare moved nicely, and has capital limbs and a good look-out. Similar qualities were exhibited in her colt foal, which very properly headed the foal class. One of the best youngsters out was that shown by Mr. R. H. Savory, of Chertsey, which the judges had no scruple in placing first in the yearling colt class, the second, though a good goer, being rather short of quality. In the other yearling class Mr. Robt. Whitworth, of Market Weighton, led with one of the best fillies out this year. She was placed second at London, and first at Otley, and is altogether a very promising animal. The same owner's two-year-old mare Advertisement added another to her many successes, the judges being much impressed with her good all-round qualities. In the contest of three-year-olds Mr. C. H. Hart, of Appletree Farm, York, won with a nice brown gelding, one of the old stamp. The second, belonging to Mr. C. Robinson, of Batley, was likewise a good goer, but a trifle out of its class, being a bit leggy. In the any age riding class Mr. John Robinson, of Harrogate, obtained premier honours with a well-balanced chestnut, possessing fine neck and shoulders and a good look-out. Ladies' hackneys were a small class, but the harness classes were well worth seeing, and created a good deal of interest.

As above mentioned, the dairy section was a very strong and commendable one. The butter exhibits were numerous, and of good quality. Doubtless this is owing to the classes for dairy produce being open ones. Local dairymen consequently found themselves in competition with well-known dairies, but the local competitors showed out well. Lord Rosebery sent several dairy exhibits, but in no case did he succeed in taking premier honours, having to be content with second and third places. As is to be expected at Thorne, dogs were a strong show, sporting dogs generally attracting most attention. The judges of the principal sections were:—Draught horses, sheep, and implements, Mr. F. W. Park, Retford, and Mr. H. B. Wardle, Derby; hunters and nags, Mr. Tom Mitchell, Eccleshill, Bradford, and Mr. Geo. Burton, Selby; dogs, Mr. Geo. Raper, Gomersal.

Agricultural Imports.

The following is an account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended June 14, 1902, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year:—

Animals Living.	1901.	1902.		1901.	1902.
	No.	No.		Cwt.	Cwt.
Cattle ...	13,586	9,350	Wheat ...	1 666200	1 989 551
Sheep.....	9,014	5,169	Flour.....	684 400	383,713
Swine.....	—	—	Barley ...	365,900	169,795
*Horses...	—	699	Oats	588,400	417,814
			Peas	27,400	36,327
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Beans ...	26 500	86,249
Beef	88,990	89,624	Maize ...	1547,000	813 030
Mutton...	46,968	103,198		Bunches	Bunches
Pork	9,287	5,849	Bananas	57,184	72,367
Bacon ...	111,374	89,001			
Beef, salt	3,299	5,722		Cwt.	Cwt.
Hams.....	49,063	27,190	Apples ...	4,908	4,987
Pork, salt	3,228	3,650	Apricots & Peaches	626	523
Meat, salt & Fresh	11,404	13,143	Cherries	28,630	18,585
Do. pres.	15,922	27,440	Currants	—	45
Butter ...	62,372	79,671	Goosebr's	4,290	3,124
M'rg'rine	16,185	15,146	Grapes ...	138	32
Cheese ...	50,085	46,330	Lemons...	13,981	24,7.8
Milk, Fresh, in cans or drums.	—	—	Oranges	36,368	81,461
			Pears.....	1	—
			Plums ...	—	—
			Strawb'r's	8,155	4,085
Milk ...			Oth'r Fr't	2,186	1,213
Cream.	222	116		Tons.	Tons.
			Hay	1,795	10,543
			*Straw ...	—	1,464
Milk pr's'v'd, other kinds ...				Bush.	Bush.
			Onions ...	33 993	29,746
				Cwt.	Cwt.
	22	61	Hops	1,241	497
Con. Milk	14,516	18,355	* Locust Beans	—	17,208
	No.	No.	Potatoes	391,813	373,497
Eggs	353,784	427,585	Tom'to's	28,483	41,588
			Other Veg'bles	Value.	Value.
Poultry & Game	Value. £12,554	Value. £9,476		£11,729	£11,514
				Cwt.	Cwt.
			Dried ...	921	1,233
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Pres'v'd by canning ...	2,969	2,902
Rabbits	169	4,833			
Lard	59,974	58,598			

* Not shown in 1901.

SOCIETIES.

Hunters' Improvement.

A meeting of the Council of the Hunters' Improvement Society was held at 12, Hanover Square, W., recently, Captain H. Heywood, Lonsdale (President), in the chair. Six new members were elected.

Lieut-Colonel G. C. Ricardo reported his election as Chairman of the Finance Committee for the ensuing year, with Mr. Tresham Gilbey as Vice-Chairman. The balance at the bank on June 2nd was £682 5s. 6d. Receipts since the last meeting, £421 13s. 5d.; arrears of subscriptions, £130 4s.; accounts for payment, £373 3s. The Committee recommended that £200 be placed upon deposit This report was adopted.

Hon. Alexander Parker reported that he had been elected Chairman of the Editing Committee for the ensuing year, and Mr. J. B. Kingscote Vice-Chairman. The entry of Buttercup, belonging to Mr. J. H. Large, and awarded a gold medal at the recent Lechlade Show, was accepted, thereby confirming this award made at such show. Two inspections were placed in the hands of Lieut-Colonel G. C. Ricardo, while the entry of a Cleveland Bay mare entered for inspection was refused. This report was adopted.

Mr. J. B. Kingscote reported his election as Chairman of the Horse Show Committee for the ensuing year, with Mr. C. W. Tindall as Vice-Chairman. He stated that the Committee had that morning conferred with a Sub-Committee of the Polo Pony Society specially appointed to arrange for a fourth spring show in conjunction with the Hunters' Improvement Society in 1903. They had reported that they were in negotiation with the Royal Agricultural Hall Company for an extra day's show on the Saturday, and after fully discussing the question with them, the Committee submitted proposals and terms for the Friday's show, which were considered fair and equal to both Societies. The proposals would restrict the respective shows—the Thoroughbred and Hunter section—to the Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, and the Polo Pony section to the Friday and Saturday, though the Polo Pony Society were prepared to provide one of their competitions on the Thursday afternoon after the Parade of Hunters. The alternative which the Committee suggested was—that the Council should themselves provide two jumping classes, to follow the parade of prize and reserve animals on the Thursday afternoon.

The report having been presented, Mr. Tindall formally moved, and Mr. Tresham Gilbey seconded, that there should be classes for jumping as recommended by the Committee.

In reply to Sir Nigel Kingscote's inquiry, it was unanimously decided that the competition should be open and not restricted to animals competing in the hunter classes.

Lord Middleton thought that jumping was more in accordance with the Society's programme than the Polo Pony competition suggested.

Mr. Nickisson said that the parade was most important and necessary, as it afforded the one opportunity in the show to educate the public; if it were possible, he should like to see the whole of the horses paraded, so that people might compare for themselves the prize-winners and the unnoticed animals. In the interest of members they must, under no circumstances, curtail their parade.

The Chairman, in presenting the report of the Committee for adoption, said that it was for the Council now to decide whether they would have a jumping competition to follow the parade. The stewards could parade the prize-winners and reserve animals in the hour and a half allotted, but it would be impossible to parade all the horses and to hold a jumping competition.

The motion of Mr. Tindall was then put to the meeting, and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted.

Mr. Green asked to call attention to the desirability of rules being drawn up to insure that the young stock at the Society's show should be shown in natural condition. He did not mean that they should be shown in a starved condition, but in the ring those exhibited in a rough state did not compare favourably with those kept in warm boxes and rugged up. He did not know whether any gentleman had followed up the career of their premium winners as yearlings and two-year-olds, but he was sorry to say that few had become good hunters. It was a very difficult question to deal with, but if something could be devised—some rules or instructions by this Society to get over this difficulty, he felt sure that it would be taken up by other Societies, and do national good. Judges should be instructed to take into consideration not the condition, but the general symmetry, action, bone, and feet of young stock. Mr. Green also urged that instructions should be given to the Horse Show Committee to appoint as judges gentlemen who had bred young stock.

Colonel Sir Nigel Kingscote said that the question raised by Mr. Green was of great importance, but thought that it was impossible to lay down any definite rules. He felt sure that no instructions

would give effect to Mr. Green's wishes; they must leave them to the judges.

Mr. Joicey sympathised with Mr. Green's proposals, but doubted whether they could enforce them; the Society had taken a step in this direction by requiring all young stock exhibited to be undocked; he thought that perhaps they might go one step further, and make a rule that no horse under three years old should be exhibited clipped, or with saddle marks.

Mr. Withers thought that all these matters they must leave entirely to the discretion of the judges.

The Council eventually decided to refer the questions raised by Mr. Green to the Horse Show Committee, and adjourned till Thursday, October 23rd.

Polo Pony.

Sir Patteson Nickalls (president) occupied the chair at a meeting of the council of the Polo Pony Society, held at 12, Hanover Square, W., recently.

The minutes of the special council meeting held on May 9th having been read and congrmed, it was resolved that a general meeting of members to confirm the proposed new title—Polo and Riding Pony Society—should take place in London on the same day as the next meeting of the council, namely, November 6th.

Three new members were elected, and the names of five other candidates were presented, which were ordered to be printed for election at the general meeting to be held in the Carlisle show-yard.

Mr. Tresham Gilbey reported his election as chairman of the Finance Committee for the ensuing year. The balance at the bank on current account, £259 19s. 9d.; receipts since the last meeting, £25 19s. 11d.; arrears of subscriptions, £65; accounts for payment, including the prizes offered in the polo pony classes at the Royal Show at Carlisle, £219 6s. 5d. This report was adopted.

Rev. D. B. Montfiore reported that the Editing Committee had accepted for registration the entry of Mr. Harry Dyson's Exmoor stallion Twilight; and that of Mr. W. B. Brumby's Coleby Squire, for the polo pony section. Mr. J. H. Munro Mackenzie, the convener of the Highland section, had kindly promised to draw up a short history of the Highland pony to preface that section of the next Stud Book. The secretary was instructed to convey to Mr. Josiah Newman their sincere thanks for the presentation copy of his "International Polo Club Guide for 1902." This report was adopted.

Mr. G. Norris Midwood reported that he had been re-elected chairman of the Horse Show Committee for the ensuing year. Negotiations had been opened with the Royal Agricultural Hall Company and the Hunters Improvement Society with a view to the extension of the Society's show to the Saturday of the Hunter Show week, subject to the acceptance of the terms by the council. By this arrangement the Society would be entitled to two whole days, namely, the Friday and the Saturday, which would enable the committee to introduce several new features and classes. The committee had also considered several suggestions put forward by Mr. Dale, and they thought it desirable that the veterinary examination should be regulated by the schedule of diseases accepted by the Royal Commission on Horse Breeding, and that bigger prizes should be given for the jumping competition, and that there should be a bending class for novices; while they recommended, in the case of the award of the gold medals at Islington, that no winner should be eligible to take more than one in the same section in two successive years. The desirability of having a class for Irish ponies and one for studs, limited to four, was deferred, together with several suggestions made by the judges of the last show.

The council, in adopting the report, instructed the sub-committee to make the necessary arrangements for accommodating the Society's exhibits so that they might be able to enter the show on the Thursday evening after the boxes had been vacated by the hunters and thoroughbreds.

On the motion of Mr. G. Norris Midwood, it was resolved:—"That a committee consisting of seven members shall be appointed annually in June, to be called 'The Judges' Selection Committee.' That suitable forms be sent out to each member of the council, inviting them to nominate two suitable judges for each section. That with the assistance of such list the committee shall recommend to the council at their November meeting the names of suitable judges on the following basis:—Three judges each for breeding, and the mountain and moorland classes; three judges each for the riding and army remount classes, and the competitions. Each class shall be judged by two of the three gentlemen appointed, the selection to be determined by ballot and no two succeeding classes to be judged by the same two judges.

The following gentlemen were appointed as members of this committee:—Lord Arthur Cecil, Mr. T. F. Dale, Mr. Tresham Gilbey, Captain F. Egerton-Green, Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., Sir R. D. Green-Price, Bart., and Mr. G. Norris Midwood.

The report of the council to the general meeting of members at Carlisle having been drawn up, Mr. Dale thought that it was desirable that some organised effort should be made to bring the work and claims of the Society before the polo players of the United Kingdom. He thought that a letter should be written to the secretary of each polo club during the present polo season, including a statement of the work and position of the Society, together with selected extracts from the judges' reports, and that the Editing Committee be requested to decide what should be the form of this enclosure; further, he thought that the secretaries might be asked to allow the appeal to be posted in the pavilions of their respective clubs. Mr. Barker agreed, and the secretary was instructed to bring the matter before the Editing Committee with a view to this being carried out.

Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution.

Recently this society held its annual general meeting to receive the annual report of the council for the year ended December 31st, 1901, and for the election of officers and pensioners, the Earl of Northbrook in the chair.

In presenting their forty-second annual report, the council announced that there are on the books of this Society:—248 married pensioners (124 couples), costing £4,960 per annum; 226 male pensioners, costing £5,876 per annum; 624 female pensioners, costing £12,480 per annum.

At the present election, there will be added fifteen married couples, fifteen males, and thirty females, thereby increasing the annual charge to £24,906, exclusive of octogenarians and other grantees, for whom provision is made under the rules. The trustees of the Queen Victoria Gifts Fund have again signified a kindly intention to give twenty-five grants of £10 each to the five male, the five married, and the fifteen female unsuccessful candidates who polled the highest number of votes and are not in recipt of grants from any other source. The subscriptions, donations, and church collections for the year ended December 31st, 1901, amounted to £21,862 9s. 8d., being £436 15s. 6d. in excess of the sum, received under those heads, in the immediately preceding year. As the increase is due to the larger recognition by the clergy of the claims of the institution on the occasions of their harvest offertories, the Society owe a tribute of thanks to them, and especially to his Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury, who warmly approved the purposes of the Society in a timely letter. The council have to regret the death of Mr. Thomas Duckham, who was for many years one of the governing body and an energetic local secretary.

To the honorary local secretaries, upon whom a large part of the Society's task has fallen, the council took this opportunity of expressing their grateful and deep indebtedness. But for the self-sacrificng efforts of these gentlemen, the Society could not have achieved the measure of success which is now reported. The council confidently rely upon a continuance of hearty popular support. It should not be forgotten that agriculture is the main essential industry of England, and that those who silently suffer in their endeavour to carry it on have a special claim upon the philanthropic consideration of their countrymen. The report having been carried—on the motion of the Earl of Northbrook, seconded by Mr. W. B. Parsons—the Earl of Cork, Sir Walter Gilbey, Messrs. Stephen H. Allen, Marriott Hall, and W. Hanson Sale, retiring members of the council, were re-elected, and Mr. E. B. Jay was elected in the place of Mr. Thomas Duckham (deceased).

Hampshire Down Sheep Breeders.

A meeting of the Editing Committee of the Hampshire Down Sheep Breeders' Association was held in the Council Tent at the Royal Counties Show-yard, Reading (by kind permission), on Wednesday, to go through the returns in the Shepherds' Prize Competitions and award the prizes. The lamb-rearing is divided into three classes—for flocks of 600 ewes and upwards, 300 ewes to 600, and 100 ewes to 300—four prizes of £4, £2, £1, and 10s. being given in each class, and a framed certificate to each winning shepherd. The result was that in Class I. the shepherds of Colonel Hanning-Lee, Messrs. F. Mills, T. Lavington, and C. Coles took the prizes, in the order named; in Class II., the shepherds of Messrs. C. A. Scott-Murray, A. E. Philippi, A. Parsons and Son, and John Brown were the respective winners; and in Class III., the shepherds of Messrs. H. Dampney, T. N. Bartlett, H. Clark, and W. H. Clark were respectively successful.

No fewer than 56 flocks in all competed, with an aggregate of 26,785 ewes and 31,292 lambs, or the excelent percentage of lambs reared up to May 4 of 116.82, the percentage of ewes lost or sold between December 1 and May 4 being the extremely small one of 2.34. The ewe teg flocks are divided into two classes, for upwards of 150 tegs and under 150, with three prizes in each class of £2, £1, and 10s., but as the competition produced no less than eight flocks in each class which had not lost a single teg, it was resolved to give the shepherds of these flocks 10s. each, with a framed certificate. Forty-seven flocks competed, with an aggregate of 8,836 head, the percentage of loss on the whole, either by death or sale, from December 1 to May 4 being the remarkably low one of 72.

Shorthorn.

Meetings of the committees and council of the Shorthorn Society were held at the Society's rooms, 12, Hanover Square, W., recently, Colonel Sir Nigel Kingscote, K.C.B. (president), in the chair. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed, and three new members elected.

Lord Brougham and Vaux reported that since the last meeting of the Editing Committee pedigree exportation certificates had been issued for fifty-one animals, namely, for Australia, 1; Canada, 45; Russia, 4; South America, 1.

A number of new and other pedigrees were examined by the committee with the certificates in support of their correctness, some of which were accepted for entry in the forthcoming volume of the Herd Book, and others referred back for further inquiry.

The committee recommended the registration of the name "Annagh," on the application of Mr. H. Pringle.

This report was adopted.

Lord Middleton reported that the accounts for the month of May had been examined by Messrs. Welton, Jones, and Co., and the committee, and were found to be correct; that the receipts for the month had been £40 11s. 6d., the balance of the Society's current account at the bankers' being £212 14s. 2d., and that the committee recommended that cheques be drawn in payment of prizes, rent, and salaries due at midsummer, amounting to £384 9s. 5d., the secretary to withdraw the sum of £300 from deposit if necessary.

Applications for Herd Books were considered by the committee, and the secretary instructed thereon.

The committee recommended that the names of life members whose addresses had been unknown for five years be removed from the list of members of the Society.

This report was adopted.

The draft report from the council to the general meeting of members was considered and adopted.

The next meeting of the council was fixed for Tuesday, July 29th.

Clydesdale Horse.

A meeting of the Council of the Clydesdale Horse Society was held on Tuesday at Glasgow, Mr. John M. Martin presiding.

The Editing Committee reported that they had confirmed the pedigrees which had been under discussion of two horses entered in last volume. The result of the investigation into the pedigrees of the six prize-winning geldings at the Chicago Show was submitted, and considered satisfactory. It was reported that part of Volume XXIV. of the Stud Book had been destroyed by fire, but that it had now been replaced, and it was hoped that the volume would be issued by the end of this month.

The Finance Committee reported on the income and expenditure for April and May, and authorised payments amounting to £18 10s. 6d. for June.

The following motion was adopted, and a committee appointed, Mr. Martin convener, viz.: "That a committee be appointed to consider and report as to the procedure to be adopted on receipt of applications for readmission to the membership of the Society from individuals whose names had been removed from the list of members otherwise than at their own request, or from their annual subscriptions having fallen into arrears."

Applications for affiliation were received from the Ayrshire Agricultural Association, Upper Ward of Lanarkshire Agricultural Association, Windermere Agricultural Society, and the Border Union Agricultural Society. These were granted, and intimation of award of medals was received from the Kilmarnock Farmers' Society and the Ayrshire Agricultural Association.

The next meeting was appointed to be held on Wednesday, July 16, in the Highland and Agricultural Society's show-yard at Aberdeen.

Chester Horse Fair.—The supply of high-class horses at the Chester Horse Fair on Thursday was not equal to the demand, for sales were quickly effected, but the bulk of the horses were not very attractive, and trade and prices were irregular. Generally prices were unchanged from last month's quotations. Best horses realised £60 to £75, good cart horses £40 to £50, crap horses £14 to £35, and others £14 to £30.

LITERARY NOTICES.

The second of the additional volumes of the "Encyclopædia Britannica" (Messrs. Black, Edinburgh, and "The Times," London), which forms Vol. XXVI. of the completed work, has now been issued. As in the former volume, the illustrations are plentiful and good. Among some of the longer articles may be mentioned "Brewing," by Mr. Philip Schidrowitz, Ph.D., F.C.S., which deals fully with recent methods of brewing "beer," while the contentions of the pure beer party are also summarised. The present volume is, however, especially rich in biographies, among which may be mentioned—Browning, Carlyle, Burne Jones, Ford Madox Brown, John Bright, and Beaconsfield. The latter, which is by Mr. F. Greenwood, is particularly well written, and comprehensive. An article extending over nearly 40 pages is devoted to recent developments and discoveries in chemistry. The volume extends from Austria-Hungary to Chicacole. A prefatory essay on recent political progress is contributed by Mr. E. Dicey, C.B.

Since our last notice of the first of the additional volumes of the Encyclopædia, we have been able to further examine the many interesting matters treated on our attention, of course, being more particularly directed to the lengthy and extremely useful article on agriculture. This, *the* industry of the country, has received adequate treatment from three different authorities. The largest part of the section, namely, that dealing with agriculture in the United Kingdom, is the work of Dr. W. Fream; the history of the industry in the United States of America, is written by Mr. C. W. Dabney, Ph.D., who is president of the University of Tennessee. Mr. F. C. Skinner, who is a well-known American authority, treats of agricultural machinery.

Dr. Fream's general survey of agriculture, which embraces the years from 1875-1900, is very comprehensive and minute. The review is evidently meant to serve for purposes of reference in the future, and will undoubtedly prove a very handy source of knowledge on agricultural history. A very large number of tables are also provided, and do much to elucidate the text. In such a work as this survey, statistics are very necessary, and wherever possible they have been dealt with in the ideal manner, that is to say, they have been collected into handy tables, which show the tendency of the figures at a glance. The changes that have taken place in the breeds of live stock during the last quarter of a century are fully dealt with. The early maturity developments are described and fittingly illustrated by a table giving the results of the block test at the 1900 show of the Smithfield Club. The difference between breeds of horses, cattle, sheep, and pigs, are illustrated from photographs of typical specimens. The section dealing with crops and cropping is prefaced by an appreciation of the work done by Messrs. Lawes and Gilbert, at Rothamsted. Many of the experiments which were carried out there are described. The tables in this section are of very permanent interest, being most useful for purposes of reference, and the work entailed in gathering these figures and arranging the tables must have been stupendous. On the whole, we can heartily congratulate Dr. Fream on having made such good use of the great opportunity provided him of bringing the records of agricultural history up to date. Mr. Dabney tells the story of agriculture in the United States, largely by means of figures, which is perhaps the best means of treating a very large subject in a small space. It is to be regretted that the task of writing on agricultural machinery was not entrusted to an English expert, surely such a one exists. However, no one can complain of Mr. Skinner's treatment of his subject, and it is very pleasing to notice that he writes of ploughs, and not "plows." It is explained at the commencement of the article that it is written from a purely American standpoint, and no attempt is made to treat it historically, the article simply is a survey of present day implements and methods as they prevail in the United States of America. As to the history of the implements in England, Dr. Fream treats on the subject in his lengthy article.

Mr. Alfred Welch, that most ardent advocate of the apple orchard, has issued a pamphlet on his pet subject, entitled "Institution of the Apple Orchard, with full details, and in combination with Poultry Farming." The object of the pamphlet may best be shown by quoting from Mr. Welch's introduction, in which he says: "We are paying more than one million sterling a year for imports of apples, which, and many more thousand bushels, of superior quality, could be grown in England to great profit to our country. There is no soil nor climate more suitable than our own to produce this wholesome and delicious fruit to perfection. The charm of the orchard in bloom has been the theme of the poet for centuries. We have many Landowners with hundreds of acres of good land contiguous to their residences, who could secure much profit to themselves, and incidentally to the country also, and to posterity, by devoting any number of their acres to establish such a valuable and charming domain as an apple orchard; the fragrance of the blossom of the trees, the charm to the eye, the lulling hum of bees wallowing in the flowers, the verdure of the turf, and the frollicking of the lambs on the pasture would present an earthly paradise. The cleanliness of the work, and the comparatively slight demand on the physical power required from the occupation of the apple orchard on turf land combined with poultry farm, constitute it specially adapted to woman's industry. Prime sorts of keeping apples, of which there are many kinds, are in much request from November to May—the season 1901 to 1902 quotations of wholesale prices of English apples in Covent Garden Market have ranged from 10s. to 12s. top rates per bushel." In spite, however, of his occasional outbreak into poetry, Mr. Welch is essentially practical, and he shows in detail and with many figures, cost and labour, and how to establish the orchard to gain a satisfactory result, a result which consists of the prosaic, necessary £. s. d., as well as the "fragrance of the blossom, charm to the eye, lulling hum of bees, verdure of turf, and frollicking of lambs."

An interesting article on horse breeding is contributed by Mr. Burdett-Coutts, M.P., to the July number of the "Empire Review," which appears next week. The article will especially interest the breeders of harness horses and hacks, as it deals mainly with the hackney breed, which, after a long experience, Mr. Burdett-Coutts considers to be the basis of all profitable breeding of such horses. The writer shows how it has played the chief part, either in its pure or derivative form, in the production of the fine horses which have commanded such high prices at the Brookfield Stud during the past fifteen years. The whole subject is handled from the practical, or expert's, point of view, and a full explanation is given of the various "out-crosses," by which Mr. Burdett-Coutts has created new and saleable types of harness horses and hacks. The breeding of army horses is also dealt with.

A new and revised edition of the guide to London, compiled by the late Mr. Herbert Fry, has been issued under the title of "London in 1902." It is illustrated by twenty birds-eye views of the principal thoroughfares of the metropolis, whilst there is a large sheet map of Central London. The reading matter is written in a flowing style, and gives much interesting information concerning places of historic interest in and around London. Visitors to London for the Coronation will find this work of great usefulness when they are "doing the sights." It is published at one shilling by Messrs. Simpkin, Marshall, Hamilton, Kent, and Co., Ltd., London, and Messrs. Love and Malcolmson, Ltd., Great Queen Street, W.C.

We have received a pamphlet from Mr. John Hughes, F.I.C., which contains his article on "Basic Superphosphate, its Composition and Use as a Manure," which appeared in the last volume of the Journal of the Bath and West and Southern Counties' Society.

We have received a copy of the annual report of the Governors and statement of accounts for the Munster Dairy School and Agricultural Institute, Cork, which is under the control of the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland. The report is a most satisfactory one, showing that good work has been done during the past year for the improvement of Irish dairying. The balance-sheet is also satisfactory, showing a substantial balance in hand.

Professor Robert Wallace has compiled a record of students who studied in the Edinburgh University Department of Agriculture between the years 1885-86 and 1900-01 inclusive, and it has been published in pamphlet form. The class rolls for the sixteen years show a grand total of 404 students, of which about 74 received public distinction by examination, and of these 22 are now engaged in farming or in estate management. Of 57 students of agriculture who graduated, 31 secured in addition, by examination, at least one diploma. Professor Wallace remarks that only three of these diploma holders began their course of scientific study before they were nineteen years of age; and of 17 diploma holders who did not graduate, only one began to study before he was twenty. On the whole, a considerable majority of the students who have been most successful in securing by open competition certificates of merit have been twenty-one years of age before they began their course of study in Edinburgh. We may mention here that the Calendar of the College for 1902-1903, giving full particulars of all courses, is now ready, and can be had on application to the secretary and treasurer, Mr. Scott Stevenson, F.E.I.S., India Buildings, George IV. Bridge, Edinburgh.

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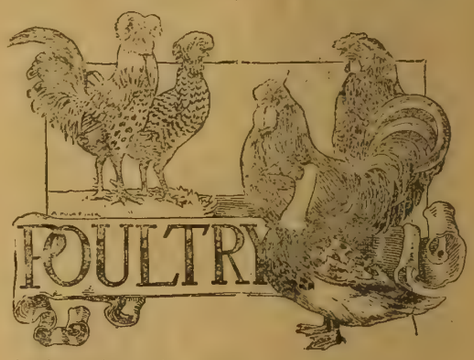
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The Care of the Chickens.

At the present time a great deal of attention is being paid to the chickens. Unfortunately the weather during the past fortnight has been very trying for young birds of all ages, but particularly for those which have been between the ages of a week and a month. Quite a number have died from acute inflammation of the lungs, owing to chills contracted from the continual damp. We think that on the whole chickens in foster mothers have fared worse than those under hens. We are quite convinced on one point, which is that the chickens in towns have been less affected than those in the country. Town poultry-keepers are apt to think that their birds do less well than those in the country, but, for once, they have had a distinct advantage. Owing to the heavy rains the grass and weeds of all kinds have grown up very quickly, and as poultry-keepers are in the habit of allowing their young birds free access to their grass in other years, they have in many cases not made any exception this year, and the consequence has been that they have died in large numbers owing to the chills they have contracted running in the long, wet grass.

Calling on a large poultry-breeder the other day, we found him bemoaning the loss of over four hundred beautiful chicks of varying ages. He had not given the question of the wet grass a thought, and he was so vexed at his oversight as a number of the birds had been already bespoken. We have met with many similar instances, and would warn readers who have their chickens cooped on grass to take steps to avoid similar losses. Then we have found a good many chickens have been suffering from diarrhœa, and have after a few days died. When diarrhœa appears each bird should have a small dose of warmed castor oil at once and an entire change of food. There are several makes of biscuit meal on the market which cause diarrhœa owing to being over-baked; these should be avoided, and all food should be as fresh as possible. Always taste the groats and ground oats and all cereal meals given to chickens to see if perfectly fresh and sweet, as this is very essential to the progress of the chickens. When they taste hot and sharp the meals should be discarded. Whole meal (wheat finely crushed) is excellent, for young chickens, in change with biscuit meal, as they make excellent progress on it.

We find it is still necessary to draw the attention of poultry-keepers to the cleanliness of the chickens when they hae diarrhœa. The fluff round the vent becomes matted, and frequently causes a stoppage there. In addition to this, the insects corrode when the birds are in this condition. As soon as the young birds commence to make a shrill noise instead of their usual contented chirrup they should be caught and examined, as attention given then frequently prevents losses. We have found a great deal of chicken-pox amongst chickens and turkeys this season. This is a most troublesome disease, as it is very tedious to treat. A sharp lookout over the birds should be kept, and if any spots are noticed they should be immediately treated with permanganate of potash (dissolved in water), this being painted over the spots. This will very quickly remove them if the birds have a dose of Epsom salts, followed by nettle tea to drink.

Poultry-keepers should remember that nettles are very valuable for fowls as well as chickens, and that dandelions should be used at least once a week, as they are excellent for acting on the birds' livers. The nettles and dandelions should both be treated alike. After they have been washed under the tap they should be placed in a large bowl and boiling water poured over them, and the vessel should be covered with a cloth to keep the steam in. When the water is cold it should be poured off and used to mix the soft food with, and it may be given to the birds to drink with advantage in place of water. When the supply of dandelions and nettles is limited, the leaves can also be used for the birds by mixing them in the soft food. When this plan is adopted, it is advisable to chop the leaves up small before pouring the water over them. Perfect cleanliness with regard to the drinking vessels of the fowls and chickens is necessary. Colds and roup are spread by inattention to this detail more than any other. When fowls or chickens have a cold they generally have a running from their nostrils, and when they are drinking the water is contaminated, and healthy chickens following affected ones at the drinking troughs frequently contract a bad cold, and this goes all through the stock; and roup powder given does not have the same effect it otherwise would have when the birds are all drinking from these dirty vessels.

Every one should be carefully scrubbed out each day, and perfectly clean water given. Where rain water has to be used, as is the case in many country places, it should be carefully boiled.

There is another item too frequently forgotten, although often referred to—viz., sharp grit. Chickens are often cooped on grass, where they cannot get a particle of sharp grit; and others are penned up in back yards, where all the sharp grit has been extracted from the ground. It is very essential that chickens should have sharp grit, as this is the only method by which they can digest their food. When chickens have to be kept on for stock birds, it makes a difference more or less.

When chickens or fowls die, or are killed, and they are in good condition, the gizzard should be hard, and the outer skin very tight, not flabby and soft. When chickens and fowls lack sharp grit, it is not an unusual thing for the gall to overflow on the liver, and thousands of chickens die through this one thing. After they have grown a good size (sometimes more than half-grown) they droop and die. It is not always through the lack of sharp grit, as an insufficient supply of green food will bring it on. Chickens should have some fine sharp grit the first week.

Chickens reared in artificial mothers should always have a little sharp grit mixed in the food, as when they are with hens their mothers teach them to peck up the grit.

DAIRYING IN RUSSIA.

The Great Cream-Separator Trials at MOSCOW, which were protracted over three consecutive days, have recently terminated.

The HIGHEST AWARD was unanimously bestowed on the "ALFA-LAVAL," quite a ruck of would-be competitors and more or less imitating machines being classed in the rear.

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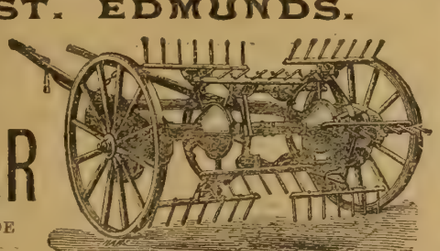
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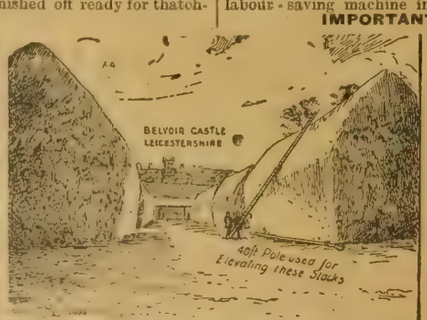
OR ELEVATOR,

For Stacking Hay or Loose Corn.

This illustration, taken from a photograph, shows five large 60-ton stacks, pulled and finished off ready for thatching.

Each stack was elevated by one of **Pogson's Patent Forks.** During the last two years over 800 have been sold, and as each fork was sent on approval, and customers could have returned them unless they were perfectly satisfied—from this fact alone it may be safely said that **Pogson's Patent Pitch Fork** is the best and cheapest labour-saving machine in the market.

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FOR FINE HEALTHY CALVES USE

VESTA CREAM MEAL

This, our latest Calf Meal, has been specially made for use with either Skim or Separated Milk, and after the first few days can be used alone.

It is very nutritious, easily digested, prevents scour, and imparts a beautiful sleek skin.

It is one of the richest milk substitutes obtainable, and fine healthy thriving calves are reared on it by the leading breeders of cattle.

It is therefore a *perfect milk substitute.*

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THE LAW OF AGISTMENT.

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THE LEADING BRITISH AUTHORITY ON THE PRACTICE AND SCIENCE OF THE

Farm, Live Stock, Dairy, Milling, Malting, Hops, &c.

(Registered as a Newspaper at the General Post Office.)

Vol. LXXXVI. No. 3692. LONDON, MONDAY, JUNE 30, 1902. THIRTY-TWO PAGES. PRICE 3D.

SOCIETIES.

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION of ENGLISH HOP GROWERS.
(Founded June 1894.)
PRESIDENT.—COLONEL BROOKFIELD, M.P.
HON. TREASURER.—E. ALBERT WHITE, Esq., Beltring, Kent.
SECRETARY.—THOMAS IRONMONGER.
CENTRAL OFFICE.—61, HOP EXCHANGE, BOROUGH, LONDON.

GENERAL OBJECTS.
To promote united action among English hop growers as a body for the improvement of the industry.
To promote, support, or oppose such legislative and other measures as may affect the industry.
To collect and publish, for the benefit of members, special statistical and other useful information relating to English and foreign hop-culture.
To arrange for arbitrations in cases of dispute between sellers and buyers of hops, for the avoidance of litigation.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS.
Ordinary members, 3d. per acre of hops under cultivation; honorary members, £1 1s.; hop factors, £1 1s.

ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF ENGLAND.

CARLISLE MEETING,
JULY 5th to 11th, 1902.

GREAT SHOW
Of Horses, Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, Poultry, Farm and Dairy Produce, Implements, &c.
Butter-making Competitions.
Competitions of Shoeing Smiths. Horse-Jumping Competitions.
Daily Parades of Horses and Cattle.
Military Band on July 8—11.
Prices of Admission:

Saturday, July 5th (Implement Yard only)	1s. 0d.
Monday, July 7th	5s. 0d.
Tuesday and Wednesday, July 8th and 9th	2s. 6d.
Thursday, July 10th	1s. 0d.
Friday, July 11th	1s. 0d.

Detailed Programmes on application.
ERNEST CLARKE, Secretary.
12, Hanover Square, London, W.

ROYAL DUBLIN SOCIETY.

HORSE AND SHEEP SHOW,

BALL'S BRIDGE, DUBLIN,
AUGUST 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 1902.

ENTRIES CLOSE FOR HORSES:
Single Fees, July 24th. Double Fees, July 31st.
ENTRIES for SHEEP close finally on July 17th.

For Prize Lists and Entry Forms apply to the Agricultural Superintendent, Leinster House, Dublin.

By Order,
RICHARD J. MOSS, Registrar.

CAMBS AND ISLE OF ELY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.
SHOW AT CHATTERIS, JULY 23rd, 1902.
150 Prizes, Challenge Cups, and Medals. Prizes for Shires and Hackneys, open to all England. Separate Classes for same description of animal, open to Tenant Farmers only. All Prizes for Sheep open to all England. Medals and Certificates of Merit in Implement Departments. Entries close for Stock, June 30th; Implements, July 5th. Post Entries at Double Fees. Schedules to be obtained of Mr. R. PETERS, Secretary.
7, Downing Street, Cambridge.

TRING AGRICULTURAL SHOW, held on THURSDAY, AUGUST 7th, 1902 in TRING PARK, TRING, HERTS.
£1,200 IN PRIZES.
The chief features, and where most of the money is distributed, is in the Classes for Shires, Hunters, Jumping, Harness, Polo Ponies, Jersey Cattle, Milk and Butter Tests (£200), and Sheep Dog Trials.
Schedules now ready. Entries close July 4th.
F. J. BROWN, Hon. Sec., Tring.

CLEVELAND AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

SHOW AT MIDDLESBROUGH,
WEDNESDAY, JULY 23, 1902.

£400 IN PRIZES.
COLLIE DOG CLASSES.
Entries close July 12th.
For Schedules, apply—T. S. PETCH, Sec., Liverton Lodge, Loftus R.S.O.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.
MEETING AT BRIGHTON,
AUGUST 14th and 15th, 1902.
The Entries for Local and Open Classes close as follows:—Sheep, Dairy, Sussex, Jersey, Guernsey, Aberdeen Angus and Dexter Kerry Cattle, Agricultural Horses, Butter, Table Poultry, and Eggs, July 10th. Post Entries (at Double Fees) will be received up to July 17th.
Hunters, Thoroughbreds, Hackneys, Shetland Ponies, Hacks, Jumping and Driving Classes, and Butter Making Competitions, July 23rd. Post Entries (at Double Fees) July 30th.
Agricultural Implements, Machinery, &c., July 23rd.
Prize Schedules and Entry Forms on application.
The Band and Pipers of the 1st Battalion Gordon Highlanders will play each day.
F. B. DYER, Secretary,
2, St. Andrew's Place, Lewes.
Telegrams, "Survey," Lewes.

EAST BERKS HORSE SHOW
at
HAWTHORN HILL RACE COURSE,
between
BRACKNELL AND MAIDENHEAD,
BERKS,
THURSDAY, AUGUST 21st, 1902.

Schedules, &c., may be obtained of the Secretary, C. H. W. DIXON, 4, Henrietta Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.

STAFFORDSHIRE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.
EXHIBITION AT UTTOXETER.
AUGUST 27th and 28th, 1902.
TOTAL AMOUNT OFFERED IN PRIZES, Over **£1,670.**
In addition to the prizes for Horses, Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, and Produce, the competition for which is confined to residents within a radius of sixteen miles from the borders of Staffordshire, the following prizes are open for competition to the United Kingdom:—
£27 in PRIZES for SHIRE STALLIONS, 2 and 3 years old.
£15, £10, £5, £2 for HORSE LEAPING.
£20 for JERSEY CATTLE.
£20 for ABERDEEN ANGUS CATTLE.
£5 and TWENTY SILVER MEDALS for IMPLEMENTS and DOMESTIC ARTICLES.
£5 5s. and TWO MEDALS for CARRIAGES.
£217 10s. for POULTRY and PIGEONS.
Entries close: Live Stock, Produce, and Implements, July 19th; Poultry and Pigeons, August 2nd.
Prize Lists and Entry Forms may be had on application to
J. P. JONES, Secretary.
Newcastle, Staffs.

SOCIETIES.

THE THIRTEENTH ANNUAL SHOW OF THE THORNEY SHIRE FOAL SOCIETY.
JULY 17th, 1902,
IN THORNEY PARK.

ENTRIES CLOSE JULY 7TH.

For Schedules and Entry Forms apply to the Secretary, H. HORRELL, THORNEY.

SHEFFIELD & ECCLESFIELD FARMERS' CLUB.
59th ANNUAL SHOW,
HILLSBRO' PARK, SHEFFIELD,
BANK HOLIDAY, AUGUST 4th, 1902.
SCHEDULES NOW READY, may be had on application to
V. SIDDALL, Secretary,
Wadsley Bridge, Sheffield;
and Victoria Hotel, Sheffield, Tuesdays and Thursdays.

OXTED AND GODSTONE AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION.

THIRTEENTH ANNUAL SHOW will be held at OXTED, two minutes' walk from the station (L. B. & S. C. and S. E. & C. R.), on MONDAY, AUGUST 4th, 1902.
Upwards of £400 in PRIZES together with FIVE SILVER MEDALS and CORONATION CHALLENGE CUP.
JUMPING & DRIVING COMPETITIONS.
Good band. Cheap railway fares.
Entries close Saturday, July 12th, 1902.
Schedules and forms of entry may be obtained of the Secretary,
J. STANLEY.
Tandridge, Oxted.

FARMS, ESTATES, MILLS, BUSINESSES, &c.

MESSRS. CRONK'S LIST of FARMS, containing particulars of numerous Farms in Kent, Surrey, Sussex, and elsewhere, to be obtained gratis at their offices or will be sent by post on receipt of a stamp. Properties inserted free.—12, Pall Mall, London, S.W., and Sevenoaks, Kent.

FARMS.—Rents from 10s. Acre; prices £7 Acre. Monthly List 2 stamps. RUTTER, 10, Norfolk Street, Strand, London.

TO BE LET, at Michaelmas next, in ESSEX, Good MIXED SOIL FARM, 300 Acres, one-third good old Meadow Land; capital Water Supply, excellent Farmhouse and Premises, with Covered Yards and Six Cottages; close to Village, and 3 miles from Market Town.—Particulars, apply A. BLOMFIELD, Orange Hall, Gosfield, near Halstead, Essex.

FARMS.—MAPLE HAYES ESTATE, 2 miles from Lichfield.—To be LET from Lady-day, 1903, the following superior FARMS upon this Estate:—

PIPE HALL FARM, containing—

	A.	R.	P.
ARABLE	181	1	9
PASTURE and MEADOW	130	2	31
Total	A.312	0	0

HILL FARM, containing—

	A.	R.	P.
ARABLE	119	0	29
PASTURE	84	2	26
Total	A.203	3	15

Good HOMESTEADS, Buildings, and COTTAGES. Rent moderate.
Apply, Messrs. INGE & MADAN, Lichfield.

FARMS, ESTATES, MILLS, BUSINESSES, &c.

NORFOLK.—To be Let, a capital FARM of 400 acres, good house and shooting.—IRELANDS, Auctioneers, Norwich.

FARM of about 483 acres about 16 miles South of London, TO BE LET from Michaelmas next, chiefly a good mixed soil, very suitable for sheep, with farmhouse, homestead, convenient off premises, and eight cottages, adjoining a station on the L.B. and S.C. Ry. (with a siding therefrom), within short distances of several other stations, and in the centre of the great Racehorse Trainers' Quarters; good hunting district. The farm has been for many years in the occupation of a first-class tenant, who is quitting on account of failing health.—Full particulars of Messrs. DEBENHAM, TEWSON, FARMER & BRIDGEWATER, Land and Estate Agents, 80, Cheapside, London, E.C.

THE BICKLEY ESTATE, IN THE COUNTIES OF WORCESTER AND SALOP, possessing an area of about 1,420 acres, in and near the exceedingly beautiful, very fertile, and fruitful valley of the Teme, including many remarkable fruit orchards and hop gardens, with the railway station of Newnham Bridge upon the property, about 19 miles from the city of Worcester and three from the market town of Tenbury. It affords first-class agricultural investments, and offers also special attractions to any gentleman who desires a residential estate in the centre of this fine district. Messrs.

DEBENHAM, TEWSON, FARMER and BRIDGEWATER will SELL, on TUESDAY, JULY 29TH, at THREE, at the SWAN HOTEL, TENBURY, in 30 lots (unless an acceptable offer for the whole be previously made by private contract), the valuable FREEHOLD ESTATE (very small parts Leasehold and Copyhold), known as "Bickley," situate in the parishes of Knighton-on-Teme, Neen, Sollars, Milson, Nash, and Boraston, an exceedingly beautiful agricultural property of about 1,420 acres, with exceptionally good farm houses, first-class homesteads, cottages, and numerous small occupations, offering also a choice of fine sites for the erection of a gentleman's mansion, for which the extreme beauty of the locality and the facilities of access yield special attractions. The estate is intersected by excellent roads, and a portion is bounded by the River Rea and the Trapnell Brook. Every farm and all the small occupations are let to excellent tenants, producing, with the estimated value of the woods, &c., a total rent-roll of about £1,375 per annum. There is good hunting with the Worcestershire, Ludlow, Ledbury, and Herefordshire hounds, all of which are within easy distance. The estate will be divided as follows:—

Lts.	Description.	Quantity. A.	R.	P.
1	Bickley Farm	310	1	14
2	Great House Farm	192	1	31
3	Pool Cottage, outbuildings, and grounds, two heavily-timbered woods, three cottages, joiners' shop, smithy, saw-yard, gardens, &c. ...	42	2	2
4	The Field and Lowbourne Farms	209	3	10
5	Oxnall Farm	103	3	8
6	Sturts Farm	140	3	30
7	Bank Farm	57	3	32
8	Milson Wood	45	0	7
9	Underley Farm	46	3	22
10	May Hill Farm	84	0	2
11	Pasture and woodland ...	40	0	38
12	Common Wood Farm	96	2	10
13 to 30	Several cottages, woodland, and small holdings ...	49	2	8

Particulars, with plan and conditions of sale, may be obtained of Messrs. CLAUDE LEATHAM & CO., Solicitors, Wakefield, Pontefract, and Castleford; of Mr. Arthur Fawcett, C.E., Surveyor, Wakefield; and of the Auctioneers, 80, Cheapside, London.

LIVE STOCK.

HORSES.

HACKNEYS, &c.

MOORE, HENRY, Burn Butts, Cranswick, Hull.—Pedigree Stud of HACKNEYS, including many prize-winners, yearlings, two years, and others.—Can be seen on application to Henry Moore.

LLOYD, WALTER, Moonhill, Cuckfield, Sussex.—Small but select Stud of PEDIGREE HACKNEYS, Mares, Fillies, and Colts of best blood, including stock by Champion Ganymede, Agility, Winnal Fireaway, Model II., and other noted Stallions at moderate prices. Appointments to view the stud (which is 1½ miles from Hayward's Heath station, L.B. and S.C. Railway), on application to the owner, as above.

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SHIRES.

THE RIGHT HON. LORD ROTHSCHILD, TRING PARK, TRING, Breeder of Shire Horses, Jersey, Redpolled and Shorthorn Cattle, and Hampshire Down Sheep. For any further particulars, &c., please apply to Mr. RICHARDSON CARR, Estate Office, Tring.

MUNTZ, P. ALBERT, M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby.—SHIRE-BRED STALLIONS, COLTS, MARES, & FILLIES. About a hundred of all ages. Prize-winners London and other leading shows. Also high-class Shropshire SHEEP, winners first prize at Royal Agricultural, 1886, second in 1887, and first in 1888.—Apply, THOMAS EWART, Dunsmore Farm, Rugby.

CONCHAR, JOHN, Wylde Green, Birmingham.—Breeder of SHIRES and HACKNEYS. Some good Colts and Fillies for Sale. Five minutes from Station.

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SHETLAND PONIES.—Anderson, John & Sons, Hillswick. Shetland (established 54 years), supply pedigreed Shetland Mares and Stallions of excellent breeding and quality, 9 to 11 hands, all colours. Shipments arranged for abroad.—Telegrams, ANDERSON, Hillswick.

MILLER, W. S., Forest Lodge, Brecon, S. Wales, Extensive Breeder and Exporter of best class of Welsh Mountain Ponies and Cobs.

CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS.

SWINBURNE, SIR JOHN, owns one of the Largest and Best Herds of PURE BATES SHORTHORNS in existence. The Herd being large, both Males and Females, of any age, can always be obtained. —Apply to JAMES HEPPLE, Bailiff, Cheveston, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WOOD, ROWLAND, Clapton, Thrapston, has on sale pure-bred Shorthorns (pedigree, constitution, and milk considered). Shire Horses, Berkshire Pigs.—Thorpe Station, N.W.R.

CATTLE (*contd.*).

SHORTHORNS (*cont.*).

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ECROYD, EDWARD, Armathwaite, Cumberland. Herd 100 pedigree Shorthorns, Bates' strains, strengthened by careful introduction Booth and Cruickshank blood. Tel., Station, Armathwaite.

PREECE, JOHN ADNEY, Drayton Home Farm, Thrapston, Northamptonshire. Herd of 150 pure Shorthorns. Bulls fit for service always for sale, by Royal and Highland champions; also a few pure Bates and Booth.

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PEDIGREE Prize-winning Ayrshire Cattle; good milkers; hardy, healthy; heifers and bulls for sale; exports to Sweden, Egypt, South Africa.—J. WALLACE, P., J. Auchenbrack, Thornhill, Scotland.

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CRIDLAN, J. J., Maisemore Park, Gloucester. Erica, Pride of Aberdeen, Lady Ida, and other noted tribes. Stock Bulls, Eimeo 12459 and Elate 16513. Bull Calves by Elate, Champion and Gold Medal Winner, 1901. Station 2 miles.

OSENTON, GEORGE, Mariners, Westerham. — Pedigree Aberdeen-Angus Cattle.

McINTYRE, JOHN, Theakston, Bedale, Yorkshire.—Aberdeen-Angus Herd. Established 1883. 150 Head, 25 Thick-fleshed Yearling Bulls on Sale. Also females of best tribes.

BLUNT, H. LAYTON, Orton Longueville, Peterborough.—Black Polled Bulls and Heifers for sale, also Grazing Steers.

GRANT, GEO. SMITH, Auchorachan, Ballindalloch, Scotland. Aberdeen-Angus Cattle. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers for sale.

HOYLES, GEORGE, Skidby Manor, near Hull. Prize-bred Angus Bulls and Heifers and Pure Lincoln Longwool Sheep. Registered Flock No. 136. Fine long, lustrous fleeces. Shire Horses for export. Inspection invited.

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GUSH, GERALD F., Motspur Park, Malden, Surrey.—Herd of Aberdeen-Angus Cattle, Roses of Westertoun, Trojan, Ericas, &c. Several Bulls and Heifers for sale. Euroclydon 13400 and Earl Ito 16489 bulls used in herd.

SMITH, THOMAS VALENTINE, Ardtornish, Morvern, Argyleshire. Breeder of pure West Highland Cattle. Largest prize-taker at the Highland Society's Show for many years.

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BOWERMAN, ALFRED, Capton, Williton, Taunton, Somerset. Breeder of Pedigree DEVON CATTLE, Royal prize winners, noted for size, symmetry, and robust constitutions.

NORTH DEVONS.

PORTMAN, HON. CLAUDE, Child-Okeford, Blandford, Dorset.—Breeder of pure North Devon Cattle. Animals of all ages for sale. Apply as above.

SOUTH DEVONS.

ROWE, F. W., Trevego, Lostwithiel, Cornwall. Breeder of pure-bred South Devon Cattle of best and purest strains of blood. Bulls, Cows and Heifers for inspection and sale.

HEREFORDS.

TAYLOR, HENRY W., Showle Court, Ledbury, Herefordshire. Bulls and Heifers of first-class Pedigree for Sale at reasonable prices. This Herd has won hundreds of Prizes.

JERSEYS & GUERNSEYS.

TICHBORNE PARK GUERNSEYS, property of Sir H. D. Tichborne, Bart. Bulls, Cows and Heifers of very best breeding for sale.—D. Michie Tichborne Park Office, Alresford, Hants.

LE BROCQ F. W., Maitland, Trinity Road, Jersey.—Breeder and Exporter of pedigree Jersey Cattle. Young Bulls and down-calving Heifers for Sale.

CATTLE (*contd.*).

JERSEYS & GUERNSEYS (*continued*).

MAISONNETTE Jerseys, select high-class herd of noted butter strains, cows, heifers, and bulls always on sale at moderate prices. 238 first prizes and honours awarded. Inspection invited.—Apply to EDWARD SMITH, Newton Farm, Bromsgrove.

ILMINSTER HERD PEDIGREE JERSEYS, winners over 500 prizes, medals, and honours. Choice 100 Cows and Heifers in profit and calving all seasons, Bulls and yearing Heifers. Prices on application. Freights insurances arranged for shipping.—R. WHEADON, Ilminster.

STERN, E. D., Fan Court, Chertsey, Surrey.—Herd of Pedigree Jersey Cattle. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers for sale.

SHEEP.

OXFORD DOWNS.

TREADWELL, JOHN, Upper Winchendon, Aylesbury. Oxford Down Sheep. Annual Ram Sale, first Wednesday in August. Prizes won at R.A.S.E, 24 years in succession. Ewes for sale.

FISHER, Exors. of the late G. S., Broughton Lodge, Kettering. The whole flock of grand Rams, Ram Lambs, Ewes, Theaves, and Ewe Lambs will be sold by Auction at Broughton Lodge on Thursday, August 7th.

HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.

COLES, CARY, Manor House, Winterbourne Stoke, Salisbury.—Registered HAMPSHIRE DOWNS, prize-winners Royal, Bath and West, and Royal Counties Shows; Salisbury Prize Sheep Fair, 1900 and 1901. Twenty-five guineas Challenge Cup best pen 8 Ram Lambs. Flock numbers 1,200. All ages for sale

FLOWER, JAMES, Chilmark, Salisbury. Undoubtedly the leading flock of the day; in show yard records at all the largest shows, including the Challenge Cup at the Salisbury Great Prize Sheep Fair six years in succession; also highest average last eight years for 100 ram lambs at annual sale at Britford Fair, August 12, Ram Lambs and Ewes. The Flock is one of the oldest existing, combining fine quality, strength, constitution, and true character.

LINCOLN LONGWOOL.

DUDDING, HENRY, Riby Grove, Gt. Grimsby, Lincolnshire, has always for inspection and sale a large flock of pure LINCOLN LONGWOOL SHEEP, including many prize-winners, having taken the leading prizes for many years at the Royal and other shows for both rams and ewes, including champion medals at both the Paris Exhibitions, Vienna, Amsterdam, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and all the leading prizes at Chicago; also the first for the best collection of Lincoln fleeces of wool at the Royal Windsor Show, which proves the character of this flock, which is most famous for their great size and 125 years' good breeding: Rams from this flock made the highest average on record last year. Riby Grove is seven miles from Great Grimsby, and three from Stallingboro' Station. Telegrams, "Dudding, Keelby."

CARTWRIGHT, JAMES, Dunston Pillar, Lincoln. Pure Bred Lincoln Rams and Ewes. Flock Book No. 53. The greater part of this flock has gone to Buenos Ayres for the last 15 or 20 years. Also Pure Bred Berkshire Pigs always on sale. Inspection invited.

BROOKS, WM. JERMYN, Boughton Grange, Northampton (Flock Book No. 165) has for sale Rams and Ewes of the best blood. Great satisfaction given abroad, especially for their fine fleeces.—Telegrams, Chapel Brampton.

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COOPER, WILLIAM, AND NEPHEWS, "Cooper's Dip" Works, Berkhamsted, England. BREEDERS and EXPORTERS of PURE SHROPSHIRE SHEEP. First Prize for five Shearling Rams, Second for Shearling Ram, and Second for Shearling Ewes, at the Royal Show, Cardiff, 1901. First and Third for Ewes, Royal Show, 1898. 500 breeding Ewes. Largest export flock of Shropshires in England. Sires used this season include four First Prize Royal winners. The 310 Guinea Champion "Royal Record," "Ashlyns Knight" (winner of Six Firsts and two Champions), "Shenstone Cardiff," and "Royal Cardiff."—For particulars apply to FRANK WEBB, Estate Office, Shenstone, Lichfield, or J. P. MILNE, Ashlyns, Berkhamsted.

NOCK, EDWARD, Sutton Maddock, Shifnal, Salop.—Owner of the old Sutton Maddock Pedigree Shropshire Flock. Founded 1832. Purest strains of blood. Registered in Flock Book.

PIGS.

BERKSHIRES.

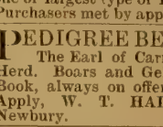
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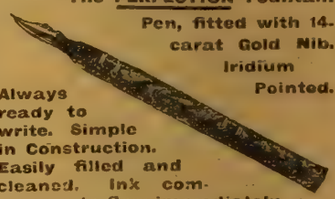
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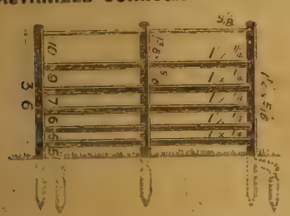
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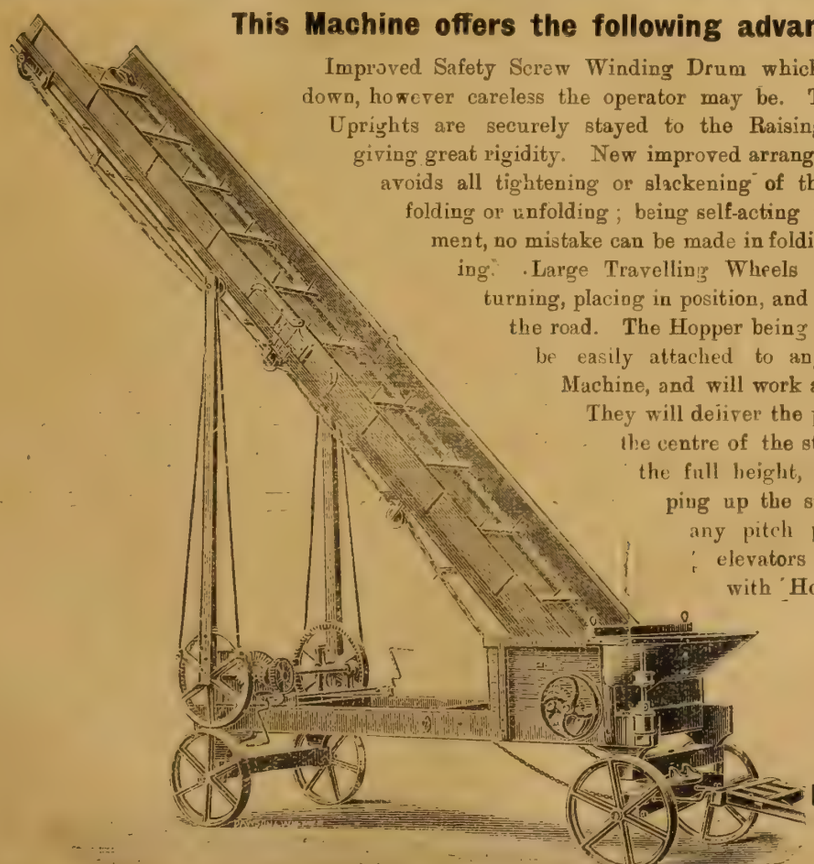
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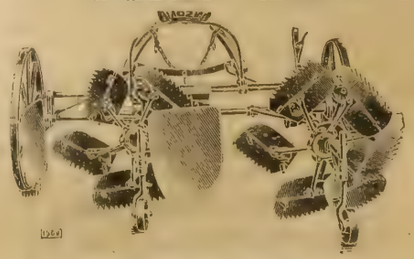
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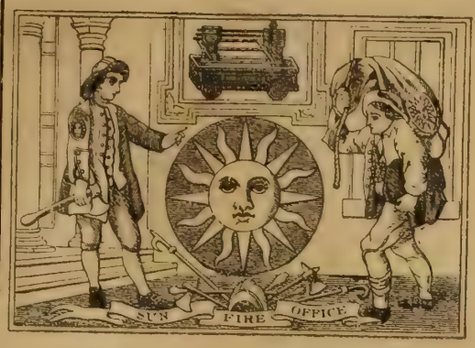
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H.M. THE KING.
POSTPONEMENT OF THE CORONATION.

The news that His Majesty the King was seriously ill came as a thunderbolt on Tuesday last, and was received with the utmost regret by all throughout the United Kingdom, and it may be added throughout the world. That His Majesty was not in his usual state of health was evidenced when he arrived in London on Monday, but it was not expected he was in such a serious condition. A bulletin issued at noon on Tuesday stated that the King was suffering from perityphlitis, or appendicitis, and that a surgical operation had become absolutely necessary. Later in the day the news was received with general gratification that the operation had proved successful, and that His Majesty was in a satisfactory condition. This happy state of affairs has continued, and at the time of going to press His Majesty was progressing most favourably, and has been declared by his eminent medical advisers to be out of immediate danger. Of course, the Coronation ceremony was at once postponed indefinitely, as were also the various festivities; but the King, with his usual thoughtfulness, ordained that the poor should not be deprived of the dinner which he had provided for them. The heartfelt desire of every subject, of whom there are none more loyal than the farming community, is that His Majesty will make a rapid recovery, and live long to reign over us.

Mr. J. R. Dunstan, M.A., F.R.S.E., Director of the Midland Agricultural and Dairy Institute, and Director of Technical Instruction, Notts County Council, has been appointed Principal of the South-Eastern Agricultural College, Wye, in succession to Mr. A. D. Hall, who, it will be remembered, has been appointed Director of the Rothamsted Experimental Station.

AGISTMENT.

Although agisters are not insurers in the sense of being answerable for the wantonness or mischief of others, yet they are bound to take every reasonable care of the animals entrusted to them. If, owing to their negligence, the cattle be lost or injured, they will be liable to make good the loss. This liability is a serious risk, which often is not fully appreciated until the agister is rudely convinced of it by being compelled to pay. And it occasionally happens that the owner of the cattle may be able to obtain compensation from an agister for a loss for which he would have had no remedy had it occurred on his own farm.

In one case a farmer had taken a horse to agist, but it strayed out of the field with a number of other horses belonging to the farmer, and was lost. The others were merely impounded. The farmer did what he could to find it by advertising, but without result. It did not positively appear that the loss of the horse was occasioned by the defect of the fences, or that it had strayed through the gates at the time that the witnesses spoke to their being open, but evidence was given of the general bad condition of the fences on the farm, and of negligence as to leaving gates open. The judge directed the jury that if the horse had been taken from the farm, or had been lost by accidents which the farmer could not guard against, he would not be responsible; but if there was a want of due care and diligence generally, he would be liable. The question was: Were the fences in an improper state when the horse was taken in to agist, and did the farmer apply such a degree of care and diligence to the custody of the horse as the owner had a right to expect? On the evidence before them the jury found in favour of the owner of the horse, and the unfortunate farmer had to pay the damage.

Again, another farmer who had taken a horse to agist placed it in a field with a number of heifers, knowing that a bull kept on the adjoining land had several times been found in the field, and that there was no sufficient fence to keep it out. The horse was gored by the bull, and killed. The farmer was held liable, since his contract as agister was to take reasonable care of the horse, and he had failed to do so. The fact that the farmer had no knowledge of the mischievous disposition of the bull was held to make no difference.

In a recent County Court action a farmer was sued for damages for the loss of three bullocks which had been poisoned whilst under his care for agistment. Eleven bullocks had been agisted with the farmer, and the three in question had been poisoned by eating of a yew tree in a grotto adjoining the farm, which was not adequately fenced. It was alleged (but denied) that the farmer had said he knew the grotto fencing was dangerous and bad, and that he had urged the estate agent to have it repaired. The judge held that there was practically no defence, and gave a verdict for the amount claimed.

With this onerous liability resting upon them, agisters have certain rights in the agisted stock to enable them to discharge their liability. Their possession of the cattle is sufficient to enable them to bring an action in respect of the cattle in certain circumstances, as to recover them if stolen, or if they have suffered injury by the negligence of a third person. Thus, a man sent his horse for the night to a friend, who turned it out after dark into his pasture, adjoining to and separated from the field of a neighbour by a fence which the neighbour was bound to repair. Owing to the bad state of the fence the horse fell down a deep drop from one field to the other and was killed. It was held that the tenant of the first field might maintain an action to recover the value of the horse, although he was not the owner, and was merely taking gratuitous charge of it. He was entitled to the benefit of his field, not only for the use of his own cattle, but also for putting in the cattle of others; and by the negligence of the neighbour in rendering the field unsafe he was deprived in some degree of the means of exercising his right of using that field for either of these purposes. Moreover, he might himself have been held liable to the owner of the horse, and he had a right to protect himself by claiming the damages from the party whose wrongful act or omission really caused the loss. Of course, he would have to hand over the damages to the owner of the horse.

A difficult question might arise as to the liability for damage done by the trespass of agisted stock. The farmer taking in such stock would generally be liable to anyone on whose land they strayed, but we are inclined to think there would be a double-barrelled remedy in such a case, and that the action could be brought either against the agister or the owner of the stock, but not against both.

Contrary to the general belief, an agister of cattle has no lien on them at common law. He may not retain them against the price of the agistment, but is bound to restore them to their owner on demand. He must permit the owner to retake them, but is not obliged to re-deliver them himself. Such a lien might be conferred by express agreement, but in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred the question of a lien is never mentioned, at all events, until it is too late to enforce it.

It will be remembered that under the Agricultural Holdings Act agisted cattle are re-

lieved from liability to distraint for the agister's rent, except to the extent of the moneys owing for the agistment. But the exemption is limited to cattle "taken in at a fair price agreed to be paid." If an impecunious acquaintance allows us to turn our pony into his field now and again out of pure friendship we may some day find it seized to pay his rent. Neither does it apply to a contract for the sale of the exclusive right of eatage of certain land for a fixed time. In this case the payment is not for taking in cattle at a fair price, but is in the nature of a rent for use and occupation; in fact, a sub-tenancy.

SAMPLES.

By A Man of Mark Lane.

The Department of Land Records and Agriculture for the Central Provinces of India issued on May 12th, a final report on the wheat crop of those provinces, for 1902, and a copy has just come to hand. It states that the actual area under wheat amounts to 2,590,209 acres, which is 21 and 18 per cent., respectively, larger than that of last year and of the quinquennial average, and 15 per cent. below the decennial average. The recovery is most marked in the important wheat-growing districts of Saugor, Seoni, Hoshangabad, Chhindwara, Wardha, and Nagpur. There has been steady recovery for the past two years; but the area is still far short of the four million acres devoted to wheat before the commencement of the cycle of bad seasons.

The estimated yield for the whole of the Central Provinces is 84 per cent. of a normal crop. A normal out turn is reported from Mandla, Jubbulpore, and Narsinghpur, where the crop greatly benefited by the showers in January. In other districts, where wheat is of importance, the yield generally ranges between 75 to 90 per cent. In Wardha and Betul rats did considerable damage when the wheat was in ear, the out-turn being lowered to 45 and 50, respectively. Expressed in tons, the yield of this season's crop is estimated at 561,574 tons, as compared with 440,909 tons in the preceding year. The out-turn is 49 and 7 per cent. respectively, above the averages of the previous five and ten years.

Now that summer has really come the tall story season has also made a start, as evidenced by the following, which is culled from a provincial daily: — "A gentleman, who, while reading the newspaper, felt bothered by the buzzing of a wasp about his head, knocked it down. It fell through the open window, and lay on the sill as if dead. A few seconds afterwards, to his great surprise, a large wasp flew on to the window sill, and after buzzing around his wounded brother for a few minutes, began to lick him all over. The sick wasp seemed to revive under this treatment, and his friend then dragged him gently to the edge, grasped him round the body, and flew away with him. It was plain that the stranger, finding a wounded companion, gave him "first aid" as well as he could, and then bore him away home."

Mr. Hanbury has announced his intention of excluding from the operation of his Food and Drugs (Amendment) Bill, Irish brine butters. The right hon. gentleman, it is said, has been induced to come to this decision by reason of the opposition offered by the Nationalist members. The Bill is now practically limited to milk-blended butter, which will, after the Bill becomes law, have to be called "butterine."

Major Craigie, the assistant secretary of the Board of Agriculture, and who is responsible for many of the valuable and elaborate tables issued by the Board, has, I am pleased to hear, been elected to succeed Lord Avebury as President of the Royal Statistical Society, for the ensuing year. Major Craigie has for many years been Honorary Secretary of the society, and in this position he will be succeeded by his colleague at the Board of Agriculture, Mr. R. H. Rew.

AGRICULTURAL POLITICS.

By a Lobbyist.

We have all of us every reason to be profoundly thankful at the great change which has been effected in the character of the Education Bill. The principle which formerly inspired it—the principle of rate-aid—has been in a large measure abandoned. We have it confessed by this grant of nine hundred thousand pounds from the Exchequer that the cost of education should be an imperial charge. I need not examine for the moment the incidence of the new policy—I need not proceed to justify the policy of restricting the grant to four shillings when a penny rate produces ten shillings; I need not ask whether it be fair to make this huge grant to voluntary schools without insisting on new conditions. The one patent fact is that the Government has accepted the only policy under which education could ever be effective or complete in the poorer urban and the small rural centres. Of course, the old sneer of "doles" will be revived. We shall be told that the intention is simpy to put more public money into the hands of the parson. We shall be told inevitably that the Government preferred to do this rather than relieve the people's bread of a miserable tax. All this will be venomously proclaimed from the house-tops. Well, let the proclamation be made. What we have to be thankful for is the relief of the poorer rural centres—for it is they who are chiefly affected from what would have been a dire infliction.

Now, in this connection a most watchful eye will have to be maintained; and I hope that the friends of rural education will not be diverted from this duty. Certain Radicals have striven to excite Churchmen to suspicion by reminding them that they have lost their specific aid-grant. Others have sought to inspire distrust in Nonconformists by subtle questions as to what kind of rating control is to be exercised. The plain duty of the friends of rural education is not to be drawn aside by these interesting but scarcely vital matters. They must remember that the principle governing this new Exchequer grant is that a district will be relieved according to its poverty. In other words, there is to be an universal grant of four shillings, and the remainder is to be distributed by a ratio of poverty calculated on the rating assessments. The only limit of aid is that the Exchequer will never contribute more than three-fourths of the expense of the school. "Oh, the whole idea is too complex," say the critics who would find fault with aught the Government did, even though it were embodied perfection. It seems to me, however, that nothing could be simpler. All that will be required is a close observation by the individual county authorities. We all know of cases in which, where financial help has been given to town and country alike, the major portion has been absorbed by the more assertive towns. This must not be allowed to happen in the present case. Already the warning has been given by the friends of the towns that the poorer urban centres must be adequately protected. The warning is unnecessary—they will inevitably be. What I would remind the friends of education in the rural centres is that the one idea underlying the original suggestion was the relief of the country districts. The grant is primarily a measure of relief to the rural rates.

Why should it be assumed that only the local authority of the rural districts is opposed to secondary education? This, at all events, was the assumption governing the more important debate on the Education Bill this week; and I am compelled to say that both Mr. Chaplin and Mr. Lowther helped unconsciously to strengthen this mischievous view. Of course, we expect this kind of profession from politicians of the type of Mr. Hobhouse; but we have a right to expect something different from politicians who do not dwell in the serene altitude above the snow-line of common-sense. The whole of the discussion both upon Mr. Hobhouse's and Mr. Mather's amendments was naught but an arrangement of the (assumed) selfish lack of sympathy of the rural districts with an improved education. You would imagine to listen to these speeches that in every village there is an embittered, malevolent conspiracy against education, that every squire is against it, that every landlord is inevitably and inherently against it, and that education has in the past placed a burden upon local rates which no man nowadays cares to accept. Every man of moment in the local life of the villages is held to be an educational Little Englander. This is a perniciously foolish idea; and the sooner it is rebuked and abandoned the better. Why should Mr. Chaplin by the very nature of his observations accentuate this assumption?

The inclusion of Mr. Arthur Jeffreys and Mr. James Round among the Privy Councillors is a compliment to agriculture. The Right Hon. Arthur Jeffreys had shown himself a most excellent private member; but it is in the chair that his real capacity has been revealed. There be men who will seek to discover flecks upon the sun; and, of course, Mr. Jeffreys is not without his critics. For instance, it is declared that in a recent Irish scene he did not exhibit sufficient nerve, and thus allowed himself to be hurried into a false position. All this may be true, though I am prepared to dispute it, but at least it is confessed that the right honourable gentleman has honourably maintained the traditions of high-minded courtesy associated with the chair, has revealed a general appreciation of the temper of the House which is admirable, and has indicated that he possesses a most excellent sense of its forms and usages. Mr. Jeffreys has shown himself to be a strong man. I only wish he had given to purely agricultural politics the great ability he is now giving to the control of the committee work of the House.

Of course, Mr. Round has rather effaced himself in the House of Commons; but he has the ability which, were it given an assertive character, would be of grave value to agriculture. I am bound to confess that he has in his private capacity given a very practical evidence of his interest in the agricultural labourer; and that the allotments on his estate are among the best to be found in Essex. An Etonian, a Christ Churchman, a barrister of the Inner Temple, Mr. Round has the personal distinction which should have—(had he, I repeat, been assertive)—made him a considerable figure in Parliamentary life. The House loves a sportsman, and he entered St. Stephen's with the reputation of being one of the best wicket-keepers in England. He has, however, preferred the rôle of the quiet man; and he has thus rendered himself distinguished by his very modesty. Mr. Round is in this, too, a type of the agricultural member. They are all too self-restrained; and self-restraint is not a fertile political commodity. Give me your Bull of Bashan. You can judge his efficacy by the fruits of his work.

I am not holding up the pertinacity of the Irish members as altogether providing the Parliamentary M.P.'s representing rural constituencies with a desirable example; but, at all events, their very activity presents us with an interesting moral. Mr. Hanbury has been induced by them to exempt Irish brine butters from the operation of his Food and Drugs (Amendment) Bill. It is a maleficent concession; and I regret that a man like Mr. Hanbury, who does possess a backbone, should have been induced to make it. This, however, is not my point. When shall we be able to make such an announcement as this: "Mr. Hanbury has, thanks to the activity of the English agricultural members, now announced that he will extend the Agricultural Holdings Act Amendment Act in the direction suggested by Mr. George Lambert's Bill?" I believe that even at the Kalends pertinacity and pressure such as I here advise will still be only an aspiration. Our agricultural M.P.'s too sedulously harness themselves to the car of partisanism to be able to indulge in an assertive action against the official Minister.

Coronation Honours and Agriculture.

Agriculture finds representation in the Coronation honours list issued on Wednesday, three well-known men in the agricultural world—Lord Rothschild, Mr. A. F. Jeffreys, and Mr. James Round—being made Privy Councillors, whilst two breeders—Mr. Alexander Henderson and Mr. P. A. Muntz—have been made baronets; whilst the Secretary (Mr. T. H. Elliott, C.B.) and Assistant Secretary (Major P. J. Craigie), of the Board of Agriculture, have been created respectively Knight Commander of the Bath and Companion of the Bath. A brief biography of each of the recipients of such auspicious honours is appended.

Lord Rothschild has been created a Privy Councillor, a fitting honour to one who has done so much for agricultural pursuits. As is generally known, his lordship, who was raised to the peerage has on several occasions been visited by agricultural parties, and it will be remembered that



The Right Hon. Lord Rothschild, P.C.

as recently as the beginning of this month the members of the British Dairy Farmers' Conference visited the dairy, stud, and herd, and so pleased were they with what they saw that the British Dairy Farmers' Association awarded Lord Rothsin 1885, is a most enthusiastic breeder of Shire horses and Jersey and other cattle. His dairy is a model o fwhat such an important farm building should be. Lord Rothschild's farm at Tring, Herts, child the Association's gold medal "for the businesslike character of his farms and the exceptionally high dairy qualities of his several breeds of cattle." It may be further mentioned that Lord Rothschild is the senior partner in the famous banking house, and head of the English branch of the family, and is a hard-working and shrewd financier.

Mr. Arthur Frederick Jeffreys, M.P., ex-Chairman of the Central and Associated Chambers of Agriculture, has been made a Privy Councillor. It is perhaps needless to add that Mr. Jeffreys has at all times taken a great interest in matters agricultural, and may well be called an agricultural member. He represents the Basingstoke Division as a Unionist, and is a considerable landowner in Hants, farming his own property. Though called to the Bar early in the seventies, he has for many years acted the part of a country gentleman. His family hails from Denbighshire, and he boasts his descent from the tenth century. He was educated at Oxford, where he took mathematical honours. It will be recalled that a



Sir T. H. Elliott, K.C.B.
(Secretary of the Board of Agriculture).

couple of months ago he was appointed to the new office of Deputy-Chairman of Ways and Means in the House of Commons, and has given general satisfaction, even to the Irish members.

Another Privy Councillor is Mr. James Round, M.P., who has played so prominent a part for agriculturists in connection with the Education Bill. He comes from an old Essex family, one of whom sat for Colchester during five Parliaments in the last century. Called to the Bar in 1868, Mr. Round was elected for East Essex in the same year, retaining the seat until 1885, when, on the passing of the Redistribution Act, he became member for the Harwich Division, where he enjoys such widespread popularity that when a contest occurs his majority generally runs into thousands. He is a large landowner, and has numerous allotment tenants, and it is his boast that he has only heard of one malcontent. At Oxford Mr. Round was known as "the trivial Round," though triviality is the last thing he would now be suspected of.

Mr. P. A. Muntz, M.P., the well-known breeder of Shropshire sheep and Shire horses, has been made a baronet. He has represented the Tamworth Division of Warwickshire as a Conservative since 1884, prior to which he was a follower of Mr. Gladstone, but in the year mentioned he joined the Unionist ranks on account of his difference of opinion on the Irish and Egyptian questions.

The new baronets also included another Shire horse-breeder, namely, Mr. Alex. Henderson, M.P., whose stud has been so much to the front of recent years. Mr. Henderson is a Liberal Unionist in politics, and represents West Staffordshire, having been chosen by the constituency on the death of Mr. Hamar Bass. As a member of the Stock Exchange, he is well known in financial circles. He is a director of several big commercial undertakings, including the Manchester Ship Canal and the Great Central Railway.

Major Craigie, who has been made a C.B., is the Assistant-Secretary of the Board of Agricul ture, and the author of many of the valuable statistics, reports, papers, etc., on agricultural and rating, issued by the Board of Agriculture. He is the son of the late Mr. David Craigie, and was born at Perth in 1843. He was educated at Edinburgh University and St. Catherine's College, Cambridge; and, from 1861 to 1882, served in the Royal Perth Militia and the 2nd Royal Highlanders. He was Secretary of the Local Taxation Committee, and of the Central Chamber of Agriculture, from 1879 to 1890; and was appointed Assistant Secretary of the Board of Agriculture in 1897.

The Secretary of the Board of Agriculture, Mr. Thomas Henry Elliott has for some time past been



Sir A. Henderson, Bart., M.P.

a Companion of the Order of the Bath, and it has now pleased the King to make him a Knight Commander of the Bath. The honour has been well earned, for he has done good work at the Board of Agriculture for many years past.

The Education Bill: Exchequer Grant.

In the House of Commons on Monday Mr. Balfour made an important and far-reaching statement as to the financial changes the Government proposed to make in the Education Bill. The aid given to elementary schools out of the Exchequer is to be supplemented to the extent of over £900,000. At present, apart from the ordinary grants both to Board Schools and Voluntary schools, assistance is given by the State in the shape of the grants to necessitous schools of both classes, amounting last year to £860,000 in the aggregate. The amount of State aid in this form is rather more than doubled, and will take the shape of a new grant of £1,760,000 in all to the ne wauthorities responsible for all primary schools. This will be divided into two parts, a fixed amount of 4s. per child being given in every district, and the balance divided according to a sort of sliding scale as greater or less necessity is shown. The test of necessity is the produce per child of a penny rate which nowhere at present produces more than 10s. per head, and in such well-to-do districts the payment out of the new grant will be 4s. per head and no more. In the extremely poor districts the additional grant may amount to as much as 8s. 6d. per scholar. The proposals are naturally causing a good deal of discussion.



Haymaking.

Within the last ten or fifteen years the practice of haymaking has become so much modified that it is now a completely different operation, or series of operations, from that which obtained in the boyhood of men still young. The writer can remember when the scythe, rake, pitchfork and cart



Sir P. A. Muntz, Bart., M.P.

were absolutely the whole outfit needed for the work, while now nearly everyone of these—even the pitchfork—has been practically discarded, and all the labour is now done by horse-driven implements, excepting where haymaking is carried out on a small scale. To show wherein this advance has been made, it will perhaps be best to take up each operation seriatim, and point out what are now considered the most approved and advanced methods, beginning with the cutting of the grass. The mowing machine has been in use for over thirty years, but the machine of to-day is a very different article from what it was a generation ago. Without going into details, it need only be pointed out that in those early days a swathe of three feet to three feet and a half wide was the usual thing, while now five and six feet are quite common, and the work is quite as well within the power of two horses as the old size was in its time—so much more easily and more perfectly are all the details of the mechanism made to work now. The chief trouble is with the land; if the surface of the field is irregular, or if there are deep furrows in it, then the short knife bar makes the best job, but where the land is fairly even the long bar works perfectly well, while, of course, it gets over the ground much more quickly. To assist the low cutting of the grass and its removal from the knife bar, a self driven reel is now attached to the mower—this arrangement being a great help where the crop is tangled or leaning away from the machine.



Major P. G. Craigie, C.B
(Assistant Secretary to Board of Agriculture).

Paradoxical or heretical as it may seem, it is deliberately affirmed, that in nine cases out of ten more harm than good has been done to hay in turning it over. It may be perhaps necessary here to state that the writer has had a long experience in haymaking, both in England and in Scotland, in

all sorts of weather and with all kinds of crop: he has waded for a whole day up to the knees in water to save the hay-cocks from being swept away by the floods in Nithsdale, and has sweated under the blazing sun of Essex, where there is but little rain: he makes about 300 acres of hay per annum, and has handled probably 8,000 acres in his lifetime—not as a spectator, but as one taking his share of the burden and heat of the day: and he has also had the advantage of seeing how things are done in several countries abroad. And the result of all this experience is that he affirms that in the great majority of cases the hay is best left to make itself and ought not to be touched at all until it is fit to carry. The exceptional case is where there is continual wet weather, whereby the hay is battered into the ground and the grass begins to shoot up through it again. In such a case the chance should be taken of a gleam of sunshine to turn it up to keep it in evidence lest it rot. In Scotland it would turn at least yellow underneath if not moved. In ordinary, moderately fine weather, however, the most desirable course is to leave it alone after cutting it until it is partly dried and "made" on the top of the swathe, then rake it together into windrows and cock it up, when it is safe from either sun or rain. If there is much green and damp stuff in the swathes when raked up, then the windrows can be left for an hour or two before cocking up; but otherwise in the southern half of England this is all that is needed, and the writer has made thousands of tons of hay in this way.

In connection with this point it should be noted that hay lying in the swathe, as deposited by the mowing machine, is in such a position that it shoots the water off without getting very wet. The natural glaze on the stems assists this process, and thus a shower of rain or a wet day or two does little harm. On the other hand, when the hay is turned the stems are broken, thus letting the sap out and the wet in, while the clover leaves get badly knocked off, and there is a waste of labour in addition. Where there is a very heavy crop—say over two tons per acre—it may be necessary sometimes to teaze the stuff out, but usually this necessity does not arise. The writer has a tedder which is brought out to the field at the beginning of the season in case it may be wanted, but last year it was never used, and not one acre of the whole crop was turned at all.

The keynote of haymaking is cocking or "quiling." If there is continuous fine weather this may not be necessary where the carrying can keep pace with the cutting, but if the hay is likely to have to lie some time then it should be cocked to keep its colour and prevent it from becoming sunburnt. On the other hand, in broken weather if the stuff can be got to the half-dried stage, let it be put into cocks, and it is then safe from further wasting. Rain only wets the outside straws, while an occasional spell of sunshine allows of the cocks being turned over, shaken up, and *re-made*, but not shaken *out*. A properly made cock will stand a week's rain without much harm, but it must be properly made by shaking up the stuff in the first place and thatching the last layers evenly over the top.

It is remarkable what good hay can be made in bad weather by keeping the stuff in cocks, and how quickly a fieldful of cocks can be "turned" and re-made, when every man takes a row by himself, and the master sets the pace. But even with cocking, as with turning the swathe, the benefit depends much on the subsequent weather, for it often happens that hay which was let alone will dry faster and be fit to carry when the sun and the wind comes, before cocks alongside, which may be slightly clammy inside, and require to be split or turned over for an hour or so before carrying. As stated above, it is generally better to let the hay lie in the swathe untouched.

After the hay is "made," the next process is the carrying and stacking, and it is here that there has been such a tremendous evolution of labour-saving machinery within the past few years. The old way—which, of course, is still the most popular—is to have the hay ready in cocks or windrows, to pick it up with pitchforks, and to put it on to a cart or waggon, where it is piled by one or two men, roped down, and then hauled to the stack. The writer has been told by some of his men that in the old days when beer was plentiful, it sometimes took two hours to load a waggon, while in one of our standard books on farming there is an illustration of a waggon being loaded up with hay, and with three horses in it—as if this were the pattern to follow.

Having got the hay to the stack, the next process is to get it placed on it. Many devices for this purpose are in use in America, and the one the author has adopted in practice is a combination of the principle of an American stacker adapted to an English elevator. The long tines or teeth rest on the ground in the reverse way of the sweeprake, and when a load is brought up on the latter it is driven straight on to the elevator tines—the teeth of the sweeprake interlocking with these—and the load deposited by backing as above mentioned. By winding a handle with drum and ratchet attachment, the elevator tines are next wound up as required, and the load of hay gradually tipped on to the revolving web of the elevator, and carried upwards in the ordinary way; a movable reversed sweeprake thus taking the place of the hopper on the elevator. It will thus be seen that, in ordinary, fine weather, the hay is made, carried, and put on to the stack without ever being touched by hand tools at all, as it is only in the building of the stack that forks come into use at the end.

It may be objected that it is only in the case of large fields and with a large acreage of hay that this system can be adopted. But it can be carried out on a small scale with an ordinary elevator, or even a horse fork (though the latter is not so suitable for this purpose), and one sweeprake. And where the fields are small, it is only necessary to enlarge some of the gaps which usually exist in most farm fences, to make a gangway through from one field to another, and thus bring the produce of several fields to one centre. The only drawback to this modern system is that the hay must be stacked in the field where it is grown, as the sweeploads cannot be taken along a road to a stack-yard or a hay-shed. In the latter case, some of the "loaders" used on carts with frames would be the best arrangement.

The invention of the horse-rake was one of the greatest advances made in haymaking, as those will know who can remember the time when the stuff was windrowed by hand-rakes and forks. But now the horse-rake itself is undergoing a great development—has, indeed, undergone it already.

It is obvious that the system described is not applicable to Scotland, the north of England, Ireland, or any district which has a large rainfall The method of procedure and many of the implements are radically different, and by no possibility could the two styles be approximated. This difference is one wholly of climate or rainfall, owing to which there is not only a greater difficulty in getting sufficient sunshine to dry the hay, but the hay itself contains a greater proportion of moisture both before and after it is made.—Mr. P. McConnell, in the Journal of the Board of Agriculture.

Coffee Husks as an Adulterant of Feeding Stuffs.

Attention is again being directed by the Royal Agricultural Society to the use, as an adulterant of compound feeding stuffs, of coffee husks (the so-called "parchment" of the coffee berry), of which worthless material there is a large importation into this country.

The existence of this new form of adulteration was reported to the Council of the Royal Agricultural Society in May, 1898, by its consulting chemist, Dr. Voelcker, who, in his annual report for that year, thus refers to the subject:—

"The husk, or 'parchment' skin, of the coffee berry, which envelops the berry after the fleshy pericarp has been removed by the washing and macerating processes to which the fruit is subjected on the estates where the coffee is grown, and which, in turn, is removed by hand before the coffee is roasted, has hitherto been rightly looked upon as useless for feeding purposes. Lately, however, it appears to have been introduced as a convenient component of certain of those frequently very 'doubtful' articles known as 'compound' or 'feeding' cakes. The microscopical appearances presented by coffee husks are distinctive, and somewhat resemble those of earth-nut."

Dr. Voelcker has mentioned, in one of his periodical reports presented to the Council of the Royal Agricultural Society, an instance of the direct sale as a feeding substance of the material by itself, which, though sold at 20s. per ton, was quite worthless, and useless for feeding purposes.

A favourite medium for the employment of the admixtures seems to be common or undecorticated cotton cake, as the presence of the coffee husks in it is only with difficulty detected. It is not infrequently found also as a constituent of mixed feeding cakes.

Silage-making.

The Board of Agriculture desire to acquaint persons desirous of making silage that copies of a leaflet containing information on the subject of ensilage may be obtained post free and free of charge on application to the Secretary, Board of Agriculture, 4, Whitehall Place, London, S.W. Letters of application so addressed need not be stamped.

Boroughbridge Barnaby Fair.—There was a good show of cattle at this fair, held on Monday, and early in the morning trade was fairly brisk. One-year-old bullocks made £6 to £6 10s.; two-year-old bullocks, £8 to £12; two-year-old heifers, £9 to £13; three-year-old bullocks, £16; geld heifers, £14; new calven cows, £19 15s. to £22; and cows in milk, £20 to £22.

Highland.

The annual general meeting of the members of the Highland and Agricultural Society was held on the 4th inst. at Edinburgh, Sir Ralph Anstruther presiding, in the absence of the Earl of Aberdeen, president of the Society. Two hundred and forty-nine new members were balloted for and duly admitted.

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of a loyal address to the King on the occasion of the Coronation, said His Majesty had taken the liveliest interest in the affairs of the Society. He was president of the Society during the highly successful show held at Edinburgh three years ago, he was a life member of the Society, and he was not only a patron of agriculture, but a practical agriculturist himself. He thought there was no public body that could more fittingly present such an address to His Majesty.

The Right Hon. Lord Herries was elected president for next year, and the Earl of Dalkeith, M.P.; Sir Ralph Anstruther of Balcaskie, Bart.; Sir Mark John M'Taggart Stewart of Southwick, Bart., M.P.; W. J. H. Maxwell of Munches, M.P., vice-presidents.

Mr. Leith Hay, of Leith Hall, reported that the arrangements were well advanced for the Society's show, to be held at Aberdeen on the 15th July, and three following days. The town of Aberdeen had subscribed £100, besides giving a site and supply of water free of charge. It was fully expected that there would be a large display both of live stock and implements. He was sure the Society would meet with a most cordial reception in Aberdeen, there being evidence throughout the county of the greatest interest in the show.

Mr. Shirra Gibb, Boon, reported that the arrangements for the Dumfries Show of 1903 were progressing satisfactorily. An admirable field for the show had been secured at Tinwald Downs. For the Dumfries Show of 1895 a local fund of no less than £1,701 was raised, and it was confidently expected that the show of next year would receive equally liberal support from the district. The town of Dumfries had intimated a subscription of £75 from burgh funds, and it was hoped that, as in 1895, a further sum would be raised in the town by private subscriptions. The County Councils of Dumfries, Kirkcudbright, and Wigtown had taken steps for raising contributions to the local fund by means of voluntary assessments on owners of lands and heritages, as was done in 1895.

Regarding the arrangements for the show of 1904, to be held at Peerth, Sir James H. Gibson-Craig reported that the Town Council of Perth had been good enough to grant the use of the South Inch as a site for the show, and also to give a supply of water free of charge. The County Councils of Perth (Eastern Division) and of Forfar (Western Division) had taken steps for raising contributions in aid of the expenses of the show by means of voluntary assessments on owners of lands and heritages, and it was expected that, as for the Perth Show of 1896, the County Councils of Fife and Kinross would adopt the same course.

The report of the Science Committee presented by Mr. E. Hedley Smith was adopted. It stated that during the past year 137 samples of fertilisers, feeding stuffs, and agricultural products had been analysed for members of the Society, and for which the Society had paid half the cost of analysis. That was the largest number of such substances that had been analysed for members under the Society's scheme during any one year. The greatest increase had occurred under the heading of feeding stuffs, which were now being bought under a guarantee of analysis to a much greater extent that formerly, and it was found by the Society's chemist that, with very few exceptions, the quality of both feeding stuffs and manures had been very satisfactory. In addition to the above samples, there had been forty-seven samples of water analysed for members. There was good reason to believe that cases of roguery were now very rare; but there were still to be found in the market some very worthless materials that were strongly recommended and widely advertised in such a manner as to deceive the unwary, and there was still much need of local organisations to protect farmers against the injury and loss which their purchase might involve.

some parts of the country. Tall fescue also seemed to be coming more into use.

Mr. M'Alpine, the Society's botanist, reported that during the past season he had tested the purity and germination of about one hundred samples of grass and clover seeds. For the first time in his experience, the farmers were sending in samples of Burnet chicory and kidney vetch, plants which were evidently undergoing trial in

On the motion of Mr. John Wilson, seconded by Mr. Alexander Glendinning, Newmains, a committee was appointed to co-operate with the Perth County Council on the question of preferential railway rates being given for foreign, as against home produce.



Home Notes.

The Borough

presented an unusual outward attraction a week ago. Men were busy digging holes for the foundation of a triumphal arch, of which the framework was lying about, impeding the pedestrian traffic. Some ropes crossed the sky-line from side to side of the street, the sound of hammers was constant, denoting preparation for the expected pageant, but the actual decorations were practically invisible. By Monday all was changed. The classical columns of the arch were erected, above them was suspended a great crown, from which, in graceful curves, was draped a mass of crimson silk plush, bordered with bullion fringe, and bearing the legend, "South London welcomes its King and Queen." Wreaths of artificial flowers of gay colours formed a continuous canopy over the roadway. Flags and banners fluttered in the breeze, and the sunshine gave brightness and beauty to the scene. Then came Tuesday's bad news. The King was seriously ill. We stood amazed, knowing that "this sickness doth infest the very life blood of our enterprise." After a pause of suspense, the gladsome work of preparation was succeeded by demolition, and to-day (Saturday) hardly a fragment of our gay surroundings is to be seen, save the solitary and forsaken columns which rear their heads as sorrowful evidence of the disappointment we feel in the vanishment of our joyous hopes. Well, "kings do their best, and they and we must answer for the intent, and not the event"; we can only humbly accept the inscrutable degrees of Providence, and wait for the day, when, "with joy and gratitude, we see restored, crowned with success, and safe, our much-loved lord."

Under such varied and exciting outward circumstances, it is hardly possible to suppose that much attention has been given to business. It is commonly admitted that if the hop trade sees the chance of a holiday, it will be eagerly seized. Therefore, although the occasion for holiday was postponed, the offices of the merchants and factors remained closed during Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, and as, during the first three days of the week the Coronation possibilities were uppermost in our minds, we have had a practical suspension during the whole period.

When the Sun Shines

and hops are growing, the Borough is quiet. This is recognised as an axiom, and we are now feeling its influence to some extent. Should the present weather be continued our market will certainly be affected by it. Thus far recent advances in value are maintained in consequence of the scarcity of good samples and the general reduction of all stocks, which are declared to be "the smallest on record." But as we are drawing very near to the next harvest, buyers will probably be calculating upon future results, and it can hardly be wondered at if they anticipated that affairs will tend in their favour. I am therefore prepared for a slight depression of prices, which, however, may be counterbalanced by the threatened and actual spread of blight in the plantations, and the increased consumption of beer, the natural consequence of the summer heat.

Concerning the Growing Crop

there appears to be practical unanimity of opinion that the bine has made good progress during the past week. With but few exceptions, growers tell me that arrears of growth are now caught up, and that, apart from the attack of fly, the plants are as healthy as they desire. But there is no doubt that the blight is an important feature of the present position. Coming late, it has come in strength, and will probably be persistent. If not eradicated by washing, it will increase, and become unmanageable, and farmers are sorely exercised as to the best course to take. If they spend money in washing, and so secure a full average crop, they are faced with the probability of unremunerative prices, and consequent loss. Yet I can understand how hard it is for them to decide to save the money and withhold the remedy, and to see their plants going daily to the bad. I can only refer to my previous remarks, and, unpleasant as it is to tender such advice, I would repeat that the wisest course this year is to leave the crop to Nature; spend only necessary cash and save every possible sovereign. Pick only such hops as arrive at perfection; if the crop be small, be thankful; if the quality be good, be doubly thankful. At all events, let the growth look after itself, but exercise judgment and skill when the harvest has come and curing demands attention.

The Action at Law

recently heard at Worcester, in which Messrs. Jones and Attwood, engineers, of Stourbridge, were plaintiffs, and Messrs. Jones Brothers, hop growers, of Northington, defendants, has terminated in a judgment with costs in favour of the plaintiffs, both with respect to the claim and the counter claim. The action arose out of a dispute as to the execution of an order for machinery comprised in the newly-invented hop-drying patent, erected last season at Northingtown, near Worcester, and fully described in the MARK LANE EXPRESS of September 30, 1901.

Foreign Notes.

Nuremberg.

Business moves slowly, but with a fairly steady progress, which is sufficient to maintain general values at recent level. Brewers, looking at the favourable reports of the growing crop, are regulating their purchases by their immediate necessities, but it is clear that they will find it almost impossible to get through the next two months, assuming that the consumption of beer continues at the usual average.

The movements of hops through the Central Railway Station during May were comparatively unimportant, the arrivals only amounting to 955 cwts., while the quantity dispatched totalled 11,505 cwts. Examining the returns of the business done by rail from September 1st, 1901, to May 31, 1902, it appears that 185,220 cwts. arrived, while 232,696 cwts. were sent away. These figures demonstrate the important reduction of stock that must have occurred, and justify the expectation of holders that the balance on hand will realise more money before the new crop comes forward. Of the arrivals during the nine months referred to, about one-third was produced in Bavaria, and the remainder by other districts, whose supplies are approximately shown in the following figures:—

	Cwts.		Cwts.
Bohemia	42,000	Baden	12,700
Wurtemberg	25,100	Russia	3,100
Austria-Hungary	21,000	Belgium	390
Alsace	17,100	France	190
North Germany	14,300	Other countries	200

The New Growth

has suffered somewhat from the recent unseasonable weather, and a serious attack of fly blight is generally threatened, and seems likely to develop. As remedial measures against this pest are not usually adopted in Continental plantations, growers note its approach with considerable anxiety. But the tone of the majority of my reports is favourable, and I gather therefrom that the plant is in most districts making healthy progress, which will be assisted by the higher temperature we are now enjoying.

Belgium.

The hop market remains quiet, without any material change in values. The arrival of better weather, which is giving material help to the plantations, may tend to depress the market, for it hardly possesses sufficient inherent strength to resist such an influence. The hops are growing well, and have made rapid progress within the last few days. Aphides are too plentiful, but as no material damage has yet been done, it is hoped that all anxiety may be removed by the hot sunshine which is now benefiting the plants.

America.

While there is little or no improvement in the actual demand, as brewers are only buying to supply their immediate needs, the market remains strong, with a slight tendency towards further advancement of quotations. The present shortness of stocks is not alone responsible for this condition of business, but also the outlook with respect to the new crop. It appears pretty certain that the yield of New York State must be small. From Schoharie Co. it is reported that the crop will probably be the poorest and lightest for 30 years, and from Oneida Co. I hear that growers are feeling rather "blue," as there has been no substantial recovery from the effects of the May freeze, therefore a light crop is inevitable, even under the most favourable conditions.

The prospects on the Pacific Coast continue to be favourable, and it seems probable that a full average crop will be harvested. Prices are still firm at recent currency, growers having become more reserved in contracting for new crop deliveries.



By Hordeum.

The Finance Bill.

Now that the Finance Bill has passed, and all the alterations are finally agreed upon, it is well to look at it as a whole. The unprecedented methods of dealing with so grave a measure misled all those who attempted to prognosticate results, so it was more than ever necessary this year to deal with innumerable resolutions and amendments with caution.

A fact which is far too little recognised or acted upon, but which remains a very stern fact, indeed, can be expressed thus:—The true interests of agriculture are more affected by the variations in duties made through Finance Bills, than by all other classes of legislation put together. But to be able to confirm this truism one has to have the faculty of being able to read between the lines. Now, let us take as an illustration the effects of this year's Bill upon the price of materials used by brewers. Most people imagine that for once the Beer Duty, the brewers, and in fact the whole "Trade," have been left alone. But this is not so. The new Registration Duty on corn meant a rise to the brewer of a shilling a quarter on all the barley, maize, sugar, and other materials of the kind that he employs.

Few brewers rose in the House and said so, but the whole weight of the brewing interest was thrown behind the Irish members, who complained so bitterly of the gross injustice to the poorest of their poor, who had to live upon "yellow meal," and the increased cost of 3d. per cwt. meant actual starvation and ruin to them. It is very evident the Chancellor of the Exchequer gave way on this point, and made the material reduction of 1½d. per cwt., more out of consideration of the breweries, to whom it meant 6d. per quarter on glucose, than in the interest of food prices for Irish peasants. The unfairness of the competition of substitutes for barley-malt has been enhanced to the extent of 6d. per quarter by the unholy combination of the brewers with the Irish members in advancing arguments that would not have been listened to in any other legislative assembly in the world.

The astonishing way the Chancellor of the Exchequer permitted this grave interference with his whole scheme leads to very uneasy reflections. It throws into bolder prominence one of the seemingly minor points, which has so far entirely escaped comment and criticism.

Sir Michael Hicks Beach very considerately and wisely did not oppose the additional clause moved by Mr. Haldane on June 11th to admit of the use of

Duty-free

by scientists and manufacturers in all cases where pure alcohol was a necessity. In the very short debate on this point Mr. Fletcher Moulton brought before the consideration of the Chancellor a matter which has seemingly nothing whatever to do with the price of brewing materials. He stated that as well as aniline dyes, there were products of coal-tar which he inferred were overtaxed. "He trusted that the Chancellor of the Exchequer, in accepting the clause, would consult the very skilled chemist at his command to see whether at the same time burdens could not be taken off other agents of great value which were used for the purpose of manufacture."

One of these is Saccharin, the intensely sweet product of coal-tar, a large use for which is found in manufacturing lemonade and other mineral waters, and which has very extended uses for the purposes of adulterating many articles of food and drink in which sugar enters. The existing duty, heavy as it seems, is still insufficient upon this substance, and any undue favour shown it will be directly a source of reduction in the values of brewing material. The connection is much more direct than is commonly recognised, and it behoves the Chancellor of the Exchequer to be especially wary when the arguments in favour of a reduction of duty on saccharin are laid before him. All

we have to guide us as to his views at present is contained in the speech he made directly Mr. Moulton had spoken, when he is reported to have said "He did not wish to enter into the subject, but he would make enquiry and see if it was possible to extend the clause in the manner suggested" (by Mr. Moulton).

GARDEN.

Mid-summer is past, and in a very few days more we shall be in July. By this time summer vegetables of most kinds ought to have made the greater part of their growth, and have now little or nothing to do but mature, form their pods, roots, hearts, or what not—"in short," as Mr. Micawber would say, "to become productive."

As far as my observations have extended of late, Pears are shockingly poor and "thin," as well as late, this year. At least, such is the case in this district, and as reports of a similar state of things have reached me from various parts of the country also, I presume it is fairly general, while the appearance of such Peas as are to be seen in the markets and shops amply support the theory. In very few gardens about here have even the most forward rows got much beyond the flowering stage—when they ought to be in full profit—while, with very few exceptions, the rows, as well as the pods, are "thin," patchy, weak, and altogether miserable-looking.

I am gradually coming to the conclusion that the average London or suburban gardener, whether amateur or professional, has only a very limited knowledge of vegetable culture generally. In many cases he is an adept in flower culture, and one frequently sees admirable examples of this phase of gardening where the choicest subjects are judiciously planted and well kept. But when it comes to growing vegetables he seems to be lost, and it is very seldom, indeed, that a really well-stocked and well-managed plot of vegetables is met with. I frequently take a walk through a large area—many acres—of allotment gardens close by—there are some hundreds of them—but with very few exceptions the results obtained are what I should consider simply wretched, though the occupiers devote a large share of time and labour to their cultivation, and the situation is beautifully open, and yet, to some extent, sheltered also. Now, as a rule both the soil and water of the metropolitan district is of excellent quality, the former being exceptionally pure, and the latter unusually fertile, so the fault must lie elsewhere.

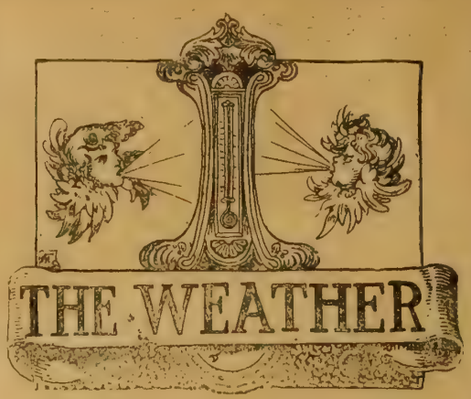
To put the matter briefly, if one wants to see an abundance of beautiful and well-grown flowers, come to London, but in order to find vegetable gardening at its best, one must go down into the country.

Endive may be sown freely now, a good date for sowing for the main winter supplies being about the middle of July, or one sowing may be made early and another late in the month. When sown too early—before about the end of May—Endive is very liable to "bolt," or run to flower prematurely, but it is quite safe now. There are two distinct types of this useful autumn and winter vegetable—the curled-leaved kinds and the broad-leaved or Batavian type, which bears some resemblance to an ordinary cabbage lettuce. The first is the more useful subject, being largely used for garnishing purposes, as well as for salads, but some of both had better be sown now.

One more sowing of Peas, for late use, may be made, but get the seed in at once, in good soil and an open and airy position. It will be safer to select a good early variety or two now, such as English Wonder (dwarf), or Gradus, but should the autumn prove fine, a late variety, such as Autocrat or G. F. Wilson, may do well yet.

Persevere with the "summer-pruning" of hardy fruit trees of all kinds, which are making a great deal of growth this season, as a rule. If this thinning out and stopping of the young shoots is properly attended to now there will be comparatively little pruning with the knife necessary next winter, and the trees will probably be loaded with fruit-buds. It is a direct waste of material and energy to allow such trees to make a lot of strong growth during the summer, and then have to cut it nearly all away after the fall of the leaf.

Roses are beginning to expand at last, though there will be very few outdoor flowers in time for the Coronation. Keep the plants free from both the destructive maggot and the aphirs, or green fly, and if some of the long, strong shoots that are being made now—especially by plants that are carrying but few buds, or have lost them—are "stopped" presently they will break out at the axils of the leaves below, and bloom beautifully towards the autumn. Support the stems of carnations with neat sticks, and thin out the buds moderately if extra fine flowers are desired.



MONDAY (June 23rd).—There was a still further improvement in the general conditions of the weather. The winds were everywhere light, and were chiefly blowing from between west and south. Rain was measured in the morning, as the result of the fall in the preceding 24 hours, over nearly the entire Kingdom, but the amounts were mostly small. Sunday night was warm, and at many places in Ireland, as well as in the east of England, the temperature did not fall below fifty-five degrees. The mid-day temperatures again touched seventy degrees in the Midlands.

TUESDAY (June 24th).—The weather was very fine over the greater portion of our Islands, but fog was prevalent on our coasts in the south of England, and slight rain fell in Scotland and in the north of Ireland. Rain was measured in the morning, as the result of the fall in the preceding 24 hours, at a few places in the north and north-west, but the amounts were everywhere small. The wind was generally light, the direction being for the most part between south-east and south-west. Temperature was high during Mouday night, and in many places the thermometer did not fall below fifty-five degrees. The mid-day temperature touched eighty degrees in the Midlands.

WEDNESDAY (June 26th).—Brilliant weather prevailed over nearly the entire area of our islands, and high summer temperatures were generally experienced. No appreciable rain had fallen anywhere in England since Tuesday morning, and the amounts which were reported from Ireland and from the extreme north of Scotland were only small. The wind was easterly over the entire kingdom, and the force was light, except in places on our West coasts. Tuesday night was very warm, the thermometer in many places not falling below fifty-five degrees. The mid-day temperatures were again high over the central parts of England.

THURSDAY (June 26th).—Very fine weather prevailed over the whole of our islands, and the temperature was generally in good agreement with the average. Scarcely any appreciable rain has fallen since Wednesday morning, and no rain was reported as falling during the day at any of the stations from which the Meteorological Office receives information. A large anticyclone embraced the whole of the United Kingdom, and the winds were everywhere easterly, while they were light in force, except on our South and West coasts. The mid-day temperatures rose to about eighty degrees over the central parts of England, but over the Northern portion of the kingdom the thermometer in places only slightly exceeded sixty degrees.

FRIDAY (June 27th).—Magnificent weather was experienced again over the entire area of the British Islands, and temperatures were high over England. No rain had fallen in any part of Great Britain since Thursday morning, and in Ireland the slight rain reported was limited to the South-West. The type of weather had become rather more complex, but the greater portion of the United Kingdom remained under the influence of the anticyclone which has embraced our islands during the last few days. The winds were Easterly, and they were for the most part light. In many places the temperature during Thursday night did not fall below 55deg., and the thermometer in the shade yesterday rose to 80deg. over the central parts of England. The day was again brilliantly fine in London, and the temperature registered 81deg., which is 8deg. above the average.

SATURDAY and SUNDAY (June 28th and 29th).—Fine weather continued to prevail in nearly all parts of our islands, although on Sunday the conditions had become generally less settled than on several previous days, and slight rain occurred in places. On Saturday brilliant sunshine was experienced over nearly the entire kingdom, but there was more cloud on Sunday, and fog or mist was reported in the morning at several of our coast stations. The nights continued very warm, and in many parts of England the thermometer did not fall below sixty degrees on either night. The mid-day temperatures on both days exceeded eighty degrees over the central and south-western districts.

SOCIETY NOTES.

The question of valuation for unexhausted improvements, motor cars, and matters affecting sheep breeders were discussed at the last meeting of the West Riding Chamber. With regard to the question of valuation for unexhausted improvements, it was agreed, on the suggestion of the chairman, to draw renewed attention to the report of the committee appointed by the Central Chamber in 1884, and to suggest that it should be re-issued to the provincial chambers. As to motor cars, a resolution was passed expressing the opinion that the safety of all passengers on ordinary vehicles drawn by horses should have the first consideration, that the amount of traffic on the road and the width of the same should govern the speed allowed to motors, and that in all cases a conspicuous number should be affixed to the vehicle so as to afford a means of identification. Resolutions were adopted in favour of the doubling of the dog tax, and supporting the recommendation of the Central Chamber that sheep should be dipped at least once a year with an effective composition.

Several interesting subjects were discussed at the last meeting of the Cheshire Chamber of Agriculture. First of all the prevention of sheep scab was dealt with. The secretary (Mr. C. B. Davies) submitted a return showing the number of outbreaks there had been in the last three or four years, and said that so far as Cheshire was concerned the trouble was gradually decreasing. A member moved a resolution to the effect that the County Council be asked to make rules requiring all imported sheep (unless they came from districts quite free from the disease) to be dipped immediately on arrival and 14 days afterwards. This did not meet with general approval, it being pointed out that the rule would act harshly on the bulk of sheep breeders; but the resolution was eventually carried by seven votes to four against. Sheep worrying by dogs was next considered, and as many members have suffered loss by dogs worrying their sheep, some strong remarks were made on the matter. One member moved: "That dogs be fastened up from an hour after sunset to an hour before sunrise," he pointing out that most cases of sheep worrying occurred in the night. It was moved as an amendment that, while sympathising with the resolution, the Chamber was of opinion that so long as the dog was on the owner's premises no action should be taken against it." Seven voted for the amendment and eleven against, so that the original resolution was carried. The speed of motor cars was subsequently discussed, and after rejecting the proposal that the speed should not exceed fifteen miles an hour, the Chamber adopted a suggestion that a ("reasonable limit" should be put to the speed of motor cars.

The report presented at the annual meeting of the Warwickshire Farmers' Association showed that the association has been making steady progress. The Marquis of Hertford, who presided, said they had now 505 members, and the number was constantly growing, while, what was more, the members had been thoroughly loyal to the association, which had not always been the case. It was no use laying down a minimum rate of 7d. and 9d. per imperial gallon as the wholesale price for milk in Birmingham, and then underselling the other members at 6½d. and 8½d. per gallon. He wondered why the Warwickshire farmers did not make more cheese, as they used to do, instead of flooding the market with milk. The dairy at Coventry was also doing good work, and with more capital such creameries could be profitably multiplied in the country. He appealed to the farmers and landowners to support the society, and to foxhunters to purchase their corn and hay from the people over whose land they delighted to gallop. The Marquis of Hertford was subsequently re-elected president of the association.

The members of the Shropshire Chamber of Agriculture recently held a special meeting for the purpose of discussing the Education Bill. After a long discussion, the following resolution was agreed to: "That in the opinion of this Chamber the cost of national education should be borne by the Imperial Exchequer and not out of the rates." With but one dissentient, it was also agreed to add the following to the above: "That, failing that, this Chamber strongly urges the Government to re-consider the rating area, and respectfully points out that the substitution of the county for the parish as the rating area will throw a very unfair share of this cost on the rural as compared with the urban districts."



Cornwall.

A welcome change of weather has at last come, and an attempt will no doubt at once be made to save the hay crop. The recent rains have not done so much injury as might have been anticipated. On all sides farmers admit that corn is looking remarkably well, and, given a favourable time from now until harvest, there is every likelihood of an abundant crop. The mangold plant have come up very irregularly, and have not made much progress during the cold weather. It has been very unfavourable for hoeing. The present price of beef has caused some butchers to go in for the frozen article, and this has in some cases been strongly resented by their good customers.—E. C. B. (June 28th.)

Cornwall (West).

The weather up to this week has been very cold and wet. Everyone has been asking if summer was ever coming. It has come at last, and this week has been hot, and just what we want to ripen strawberries and get in the hay. All farmers are very busy now cutting the hay, and if it keeps fine, as it has every appearance of doing, next week will see a lot carried in fine condition. The crop is not by any means heavy, the bottom being thin. Grass is fairly good, and cattle are doing well. Mangolds are not forward, owing to the cold and wet, but will grow fast now. Wheat looks very well indeed, so does most of the oats and barley. The beef trade is good, 60s. to 65s. cwt. Lambs not so fast. The early potato crop, on the whole, has not been heavy; prices began low, and now is only about £5 per ton, which does not leave any profit for the grower, as we reckon it costs £40 per acre to grow them. A good lot of brocoli has been planted, the weather being all we could desire. The strawberry season is now in full swing. Crops are fair, but are not heavy. Prices are very good. Gooseberries are a good crop. Apples and pears are only a quarter crop. Currants and raspberries are fair. The prospects are fairly good for the season.—F. C. (June 28th.)

Essex.

Wheat in ear, and looks like being a splendid crop. Grass, heavy crop. Good plant of mangold, but it has been difficult to get them clean and singled. Stock doing well.—E. R. C. (June 27th).

Salop.

Weather keeps very dry, although the barometer has been falling for a couple of days. Now South Africa is conquered, English farmers emigrating must take with them muscle, bone and brain, and all the scientific knowledge they have acquired. They have new ground to break up. Science must test its character and its adaptation. J. G. (June 24th).

Worcester.

The continued rain we have had during this season threatened to spoil all crops, but the beautiful sunshine of the past week has put quite a different aspect on things. Wheat, as a rule, is looking fairly well, although a good many fields have lost plant and are much too thin. Oats promise to be a full crop, and barley generally is looking well. It has been impossible to hoe corn, on account of the rain, and most cornfields are full of weeds which cannot now be got rid of. The fine weather has come just in time to save crops of peas and beans, which were beginning to suffer from so much rain. It has been very difficult to clean plants of mangolds, and many fields had to be ploughed up on account of being choked with weeds.

There is an abundance of grass, and sheep and cow stock are doing well. A considerable rise in price of mutton and beef has been a great help to those who were able to hold on to their fat stock. The prospects for corn and for grazing are better this season than last, but the outlook for fruit crop is very disappointing.—R. B. (June 27th).

AGRICULTURAL SHOWS
FOR
1902.

JULY 1.—Bishop Auckland Agricultural Society, at Bishop Auckland. Entries close June 24. Secretary, W. Burkitt, Grange Hill, Bishop Auckland.

JULY 2.—Barnstaple Agricultural Society, at Pilton Park. Hon. Secretary, T. Yeo, Barnstaple.

JULY 2.—Mid-Kent Agricultural Association, at Maidstone. Entries close, June 11. Secretary, P. Champion, 3, Market Buildings, Maidstone.

JULY 2.—Scunthorpe Agricultural Society, at Scunthorpe. Entries close, June 25. Secretary, G. W. Johnson, 40, High Street, Scunthorpe.

JULY 2.—Mansfield and District Agricultural Society. Secretary, G. Cox, West Gate House, Mansfield.

JULY 2 and 3.—Leicestershire Agricultural Society, at Leicester. Secretary, H. C. Ardron, Syston, Leicester.

JULY 2 and 3.—Doncaster Agricultural Society, at Doncaster Race Common. Entries close, June 7. Secretary, F. H. Chafer, 9, Market Place, Doncaster.

JULY 2 and 3.—County Cork Agricultural Society's Summer Horse and Sheep Show, at Show Yard, Cork Park, Cork. Entries close, June 9. Secretary, E. Corrigan, 21, Cook Street, Cork.

JULY 3.—Brentwood and Mid-Essex Horse Show Society, at Middleton Hall, Brentwood. Entries close, June 21. Secretary, F. A. Thorne, Brentwood, Essex.

JULY 4.—Ripon and District Agricultural Society, at Ripon. Entries close, June 26. Secretary, B. North, 31, Market Place, Ripon.

JULY 4.—Malton Agricultural Society, at Malton. Entries close, June 14. Secretary, T. Mitchell, the Mount, Malton.

JULY 5.—West of Fife Agricultural Society, at Dunfermline. Entries close, June 21. Secretary, R. Husband, Solicitor, Dunfermline.

JULY 5.—United East Lothian Agricultural Society, at Amisfield Park, Haddington. Fntries close, June 20. Secretary, J. Stirling, Haddington.

JULY 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, and 11.—Royal Agricultural Society of England, at Carlisle. Entries close: Implements, &c., March 15; post entries, at double fees, April 1. Live Stock (horses, cattle, sheep, pigs), April 15; at post entry fees, April 30; late fees (last day), May 15. Poultry and Farm Produce, April 30, at ordinary fees; at post entry fees (last day), May 15. Secretary, Sir Ernest Clarke, 13, Hanover Square, London, W.

JULY 8, 9, and 10.—Peterborough Agricultural Society, at Peterborough. Entries close, June 14. Secretary, J. E. Little, Cowgate, Peterborough.

JULY 9.—Southmolton Agricultural Association, at Southmolton. Entries close, June 27. Secretary, J. Blackford, F.A.I., Castle House, Southmolton, N. Devon.

JULY 9.—East Surrey Agricultural Association, at Addiscombe Farm, Croydon. Secretary, Harry Fuller, 83, High Street, Croydon.

JULY 9 and 10.—Mallow Agricultural and Show Society, at Mallow. Secretary, N. F. Davin, Mallow, Co. Cork.

JULY 15, 16, 17, and 18.—Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland, at Aberdeen. Entries close: Implements, May 12; Stock, June 9. Secretary, J. Macdonald, 3, George IV. Bridge, Edinburgh.

JULY 16 and 17.—East Kent Agricultural Society, at Ashford. Entries close, June 2; post entries, double fees, June 9. Secretary, P. M. Collard, Little Barton, Canterbury.

JULY 16, 17, and 18.—Lincolnshire Agricultural Society, at Boston. Entries close, June 10. Secretary, S. Upton, St. Benedict's Square, Lincoln.

JULY 17.—Halesworth Horse Show Society, at Halesworth. Hon. Sec., H. Brown, Halesworth.

JULY 17.—Great Chesterford Colt and Foal Society. Entries close, July 5. Secretaries, Messrs. C. Edward E. Cooke, Hinxton Grange, Saffron Walden, and W. C. Emson, Strethall Hall, Littlebury, Saffron Walden.

JULY 17.—Herts Agricultural Society, at Hatfield. Entries close, June 26. Secretary, W. A. Sherriff, Hatfield, Herts.

JULY 17.—Royal Isle of Wight Agricultural Society, at Newport, I.W. Entries close, June 17. Hon. Sec., H. J. Way, Newport, Isle of Wight.

JULY 17.—Stratton and Holesworthy Agricultural Society, at Bude. Secretary, H. J. Mackenzie, Granville Estate Office, Bude, North Cornwall.

JULY 17.—Thorney Shire Foal Society, at Thorney Park. Entries close, July 10. Secretary, H. Horrell, Thorney, Peterborough.

JULY 18.—Driffield and East Riding Agricultural Society, at Great Driffield. Entries close: Stock, July 3; dogs, July 8; poultry, etc., July 10. Secretary, T. Holtby, Exchange Street, Driffield, Yorks.

JULY 22, 23, and 24.—Gloucestershire Agricultural Society, at Tewkesbury. Entries close, June 16; post entries (double fees), June 23. Driving and Jumping, entries close, July 7. Secretary, F. J. Townsend, Cirencester.

JULY 23.—Bridlington Agricultural Society, at Bridlington. Entries close, July 12; post, July 14. Secretary, B. M. Townsend, Quay Road, Bridlington.

JULY 23.—Cambridgeshire and Isle of Ely Agricultural Society, at Chatteris. Entries close, Stock, June 30; post entries (double fees), July 5; Implements, July 5. Secretary, R. Peters, 7, Downing Street, Cambridge.

JULY 23.—Chesterfield and East Derbyshire Agricultural Society, at Chesterfield. Entries close, July 8. Secretary, T. Wardle, Auctioneer and Valuer, Chesterfield.

JULY 23.—Cleveland Agricultural Society, at Middlesbro'. Entries close, July 12. Secretary, T. S. Petch, Liverton Lodge, Loftus, R.S.O., Yorks.

JULY 23.—Wadebridge District Agricultural Association, at Wadebridge Hon. Secretary, T. Rickard, Cleveland House, Wadebridge.

JULY 23.—Chiltern Hills and Southern Bucks Agricultural Association, at Slough. Secretary, J. Bliss, 26, High Street, High Wycombe.

JULY 23.—Perry Barr and District Agricultural and Horticultural Society, at Perry Hall Park. Secretary, J. R. Ross, Perry Barr, Birmingham.

JULY 23.—Upholland Horse Show. Secretary, J. H. Wright, Sunny Bank, Orrell Port, near Wigan.

JULY 23, 24, and 25.—Northumberland Agricultural Society, at Newcastle-on-Tyne. Entries close, June 28. Secretary, W. J. Bolam, Berwick-upon-Tweed.

JULY 23, 24, and 25.—North-east of Ireland Agricultural Association's Horse and Sheep Show, at Belfast. Entries close, June 28. Secretary, K. MacRae, 37, Donegall Place, Belfast.

JULY 24.—Bedfordshire Agricultural Society, at Bedford. Entries close, June 21; post entries, double fees, June 28. Secretary, H. R. J. Swaffield, Ampthill.

JULY 24.—Maltby Horse and Foal Association, at Maltby. Secretary, J. R. Spear, 12, Carlton Avenue, Rotherham.

JULY 24 and 25.—Tunbridge Wells and South-Eastern Counties Agricultural Society, at Eridge Road, Tunbridge Wells. Entries close:—Live stock, June 18; post entries, June 23; implements, June 18; late entries, June 23. Secretary, W. Roper, 6, Kentish Buildings, Tunbridge Wells.

JULY 25.—Hutton Cranswick Horse, Foal, and Horticultural Society, at Hutton Cranswick. Entries close, July 21. Secretary, G. Rayner, Hutton Cranswick, Hull.

JULY 26.—Lauderdale Agricultural Society, at Lauder. Entries close, July 11. Secretary, G. L. Broomfield, Lauder.

JULY 28.—Shirley Horse Show, at Shirley. Entries close, July 22. Secretary, J. Clews, Shirley, near Birmingham.

JULY 29 and 30.—Devon and Exeter Horse Show, at County Ground, Exeter. Hon. Secretaries, C. J. Ross and P. Whitton, 24, Gandy Street, Exeter.

JULY 30.—Morayshire Farmers' Club, at Public Park, Elgin. Entries close, July 16. Secretary, W. Rose Black, Town and County Bank, Limited, Elgin.

JULY 30.—Burton-on-Trent and District Shire Horse Society, at Burton-on-Trent. Secretary, F. D. Winterton, Walton Warren, Burton-on-Trent.

JULY 30.—Long Sutton Agricultural Society, at Long Sutton. Entries close, July 23. Secretary, H. Garthwaite, Long Sutton.

JULY 30, 31, and August 1.—Yorkshire Agricultural Society, at Leeds. Entries close, June 21; late entries, June 28. Secretary, J. Maughan, Blake Street, York.

JULY 31.—Launceston Agricultural Society, at Launceston. Entries close, July 12. Secretary, J. Kittow, West Holm, Launceston.

JULY 31.—Lismore Farming Society, at Lismore. Entries close, July 16. Hon. Sec., E. W. Becher, South Mall, Lismore, Co. Waterford.

JULY 31.—Newport and District Agricultural Society, at Newport, Salop. Hon. Secretary, W. H. Burton, Newport, Salop.

JULY 31.—Wainfleet Foal Show Association, at Wainfleet. Entries close, July 28. Secs., C. Lucas and W. M. Epton, Wainfleet, Lincs.

JULY.—Inverness-shire Farmers' Society, at Inverness. Entries close, middle of July. Secretary, D. Gray, 36, Union Street, Inverness.

JULY.—Stranraer and Rhins of Galloway Agricultural Society, at Stranraer. Secretary, J. Bennoch, Solicitor, Stranraer.

AUGUST 2.—Craven Agricultural Society and Farmers' Club, at Skipton, Yorkshire. Entries close, July 25. Secretary, R. Wilson, Bank Buildings, Skipton.

AUGUST 4.—Wisbech and District Horse Society, at Wisbech. Entries close, July 24. Secretary, W. J. Chamberlin, Cornhill, Wisbech.

AUGUST 4.—Chepstow Agricultural Society, at Preecefield Park. Entries close, July 25. Secretary, Louis C. Wrigley, Trellick Grange, Chepstow.

AUGUST 4.—Tyneside Agricultural Society, at Hexham. Secretary, R. Ord, Beaufront, Wood Head, Hexham.

AUGUST 4.—Lutterworth and District Agricultural Society, at Bitteswell Road, Lutterworth. Entries close, July 10. Secretary, T. C. Bodycote, Lutterworth.

AUGUST 4.—Ecclesfield Farmers' Club, at Hillsboro' Park, Sheffield. Entries close, July 23. Secretary, V. Siddall, Wadsley Bridge, Sheffield.

AUGUST 4.—Oxted and Godstone Agricultural Association, at Oxted. Entries close, July 12. Secretary, J. Stanley, Tandridge, Oxted.

AUGUST 4.—Herefordshire Horse Show Society, at Edgar Street, Hereford. Entries close, July 12. Secretary, W. T. Williams, 6, St. John Street, Hereford.

AUGUST 4.—Ludlow Agricultural Society, at Ludford, Ludlow. Entries close, July 21. Secretary, E. H. Wood, 30, Broad Street, Ludlow.

AUGUST 4 (probably).—South Brent and District Dartmoor Pony, Sheep, and Horse Society, at South Brent, Devon. Secretary, Wyndham Hull, South Brent, Devon.

AUGUST 4.—Whalley Agricultural Society, at Whalley. Entries close, July 23. Secretary, J. M. Rawcliffe, Regent Terrace, Whalley, near Blackburn.

AUGUST 4.—Brentnor and Lydford Pony Society, at Lydford Junction, Devon. Entries close, July 9th. Hon Secretary, J. N. Jackman, Burnville, Tavistock.

AUGUST 4.—Gainsborough Agricultural Society, at Gainsborough. Entries close, July 29. Secretary, T. J. Dixon, 17, Morton Terrace, Gainsborough.

AUGUST 5.—Border Union Agricultural Society, at Kelso. Entries close, July 11. Secretary, A. Stevenson, Kelso.

AUGUST 5.—Welbeck Tenants' Agricultural Society, at Welbeck. Entries close, July 1. Secretary, H. W. Woods, Scotland Farm, Worksop.

AUGUST 5.—Waterford Agricultural Society at Waterford. Entries close, July 19. Secretary, M. J. Murphy, Tranmore, co. Waterford.

AUGUST 6.—Adlington and District Agricultural Society, at Alderley Edge. Secretary, W. J. Trotter, 4, Church Street West, Macclesfield.

AUGUST 6.—Badminton Farmers' Club, at Badminton, Glos. Entries close, July 7. Secretary, Ward Soames, Badminton, S.O., Glos.

AUGUST 6.—Mid-Sussex Horse Show, at Oat Hall, Haywards Heath. Entries close, July 24. Secretary, J. Wood, Broad Street, Cuckfield, Sussex.

AUGUST 7.—Alford and District Horse and Foal Show. Secretary, S. B. Carnley, Alford, Lincs.

AUGUST 7.—Madresfield Agricultural Club, at Madresfield Court. Entries close, July 10. Secretary, A. D. Melvin, Madresfield, Malvern.

AUGUST 7 (probably).— Market Bosworth Agricultural and Horticultural Society, at Bosworth Park. Entries close, July 26 (probably). Secretary, J. Thorpe, Nailstone, Nuneaton.

AUGUST 7.—Keele Agricultural Society, at Keele Park, Keele, Staffs. Entries close, July 24. Secretary, W. A. Benson, Parkfields, Silverdale, Staffs.

AUGUST 7.—Tring Agricultural Society, at Tring Park, Tring. Entries close, July 4; post entries, July 11. Secretary, F. J. Brown, 41, High Street, Tring.

AUGUST 7.—Warrington and District Agricultural Society, at Walton Park, near Warrington. Entries close, July 16. Secretary, H. Beresford Melville, Estate Offices, Warrington.

AUGUST 8.—Radnorshire Agricultural Society, at Penybont. Entries close, July 26. Secretary, J. Hamer, Greenfield, Penybont, Radnorshire.

AUGUST 26.—Cartmel Agricultural Society, at The Parks, Cartmel. Entries close, August 14. Secretary, W. Crigg, Cartmel, via Carnforth.

AUGUST 27.—Guildford Summer Show. Entries close, August 9. Secretary, E. H. Ellis, 30, High Street, Guildford, Surrey.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Malt—A quiet trade. Barley remains dull. Wheat advanced 3d to 6d per qr. Oats steady. Maize rather dearer on the week. Flour improved 3d to 6d per sack.—NIXON, GOWER, AND CO.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—Attendance very limited, and the trade of a holiday character. Wheat and flour, limited business done at about Monday's prices. Maize steady, inactive. Oats quiet, small business late rates. Barley dull. Beans and peas quiet.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Wheat was the turn against sellers, and nothing was quoted above 33s 6d. Red wheat was sold at practically the same price. Very little doing in other kinds of corn, but prices unchanged.

Cambridge, Saturday.—During the week trade has been interrupted, and with brilliant weather the tendency is dull. The crops are making splendid progress. A good deal of hay is cut, and farmers are very busy. At this market to-day there was a very small attendance. Farmers, being busy with the hay crop, offered very little wheat, and prices remained unchanged. Red wheat, 31s to 32s; and white up to 32s per 504lb. Spring corn very scarce, and quite as dear.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Very small attendance, no change in prices. Ruling rates:—White wheat, 33s to 35s; red, 32s to 34s; grinding barley, 22s to 24s; white oats, 24s to 26s; black oats, 22s to 24s; grey peas, 36s to 37s per qr.

Chester, Saturday.—Splendid harvesting weather was accountable for a meagre attendance. Wheat and oats are unchanged, but beans are 3d per sack dearer. Wheat, white and red, 4s 6d to 4s 8d per 75lb; malting barley, 4s 2d to 4s 4d per 60lb; grinding barley, 3s 6d to 3s 8d per 64lb; beans, 5s 11d to 6s per 86lb; oats, new, 3s 2d to 3s 4d; old, 3s 4d to 3s 6d per 46lb; Indian corn, 14s to 14s 9d per 240lb.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Only a few samples of oats were displayed, and trade was quiet at prices similar to last week's, viz., 24s 6d to 26s per qr.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Small supply of oats in our market to-day; good demand at last week's prices, 23s 6d to 25s per 336lb.—THOMAS ROBINSON.

Colchester, Saturday.—The market was of a holiday character. Very little grain offering. Prices nominally not altered.—FRANCIS AND CO.

Dublin, Wednesday. — Numbers in market: Beasts 1,278, decrease 987; sheep 6,198, decrease 5,905; calves 54, increase 8. Market was of a very holiday character; numbers small and buyers few. Prices still show a weakening tendency, even for the very best qualities. Sheep and lambs slow trade at last week's prices. Cattle (live weight), best, 36s to 38s per cwt.; other sorts, 30s to 35s per cwt. Mutton (dead weight), 5¾d to 7½d per lb.—GANLY, SONS, AND CO.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There was a small attendance at our market to-day. Wheat and flour very quiet, with prices unchanged. Round maize steady. Grinding beans and Canadian pease, very little inquiry, with prices unaltered. Home and foreign oats firm, with small trade. Barley quiet. Bran and Thirds unchanged. Oatmeal steady, with practically nothing doing.—GIBSON AND CLARK.

Leeds, Tuesday.—The weather has been fine and hot the last few days. The unexpected relapse in America on Saturday, and equally quick recovery yesterday, beyond unsettling the option markets, has had no effect on the wheat trade, which, with smaller shipments and increasing uncertainty as to the French crop, remains extremely firm, prices on the week being 3d dearer, with a fair consumptive demand. Maize 6d dearer. Beans unchanged. Oats 5d lower.—DUNNS AND CO.

Leicester, Saturday.—Good attendance of buyers and dealers, with small supplies of wheat, which met a dragging trade at 31s to 34s per 36 stone. Barley quiet. Fine oats very firm.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—Our market quite of a holiday character. Nothing doing to test values.—JOSEPH POLLARD AND CO.

Northampton, Saturday.—A very small market indeed, very few samples of any sort of farm produce on offer. Wheat was a quiet trade, scarcely at last week's prices; flour quite as much as last week, but little or nothing doing. Supply and demand very quiet and inactive. White wheat 32s to 33s; red ditto, 30s to 32s; grinding barley, 24s to 27s; oats, scarcely any offering, and dearer; beans, 32s to 38s: flour, 22s to 23s.

Norwich, Saturday.—The attendance here to-day was moderate, and many farmers being occupied with their hay harvest. Under these circumstances the supply of wheat brought forword was much reduced. Prices showed scarcely any change. There was practically nothing doing in barley. Averages:—Wheat, 847qr, 29s 8d. The weather has experienced a very welcome change in Norfolk during the last few days, which have been gloriously fine. The effect upon the crops must be highly beneficial.

Norwich, Saturday.—Very little wheat on offer today, with no alteration in the trade. Hot weather, with brilliant sunshine, has prevailed during the past week, doing good to all growing crops. Wheat, red, 31s to 32s per qr, weight 63lb per bushel imperial. Corn inspector's return for the week ending 23rd June, 1902:—Wheat, 849, 29s 7d.—J. ARTHUR MILLS.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Very meagre attendance and not sufficient business, passing to less values. — ROBT. HUBBLE.

Peterborough, Saturday.—There has been so little business doing to-day that it is difficult to quote values, but the two or three samples of wheat that changed made about last week's prices. Spring corn steady at late rates.—THOMAS HILL AND SON.

Reading, Saturday.—Although in this town the Coronation festivities were abandoned, and business for the most part proceeded as usual, this did not extend to the Corn Market, which was very poorly attended; business to all intents and purposes was at a standstill. In the case of the few sales that did take place, there was no alteration in values.

Ripon, Wednesday.—Owing to our market being held a day earlier, there is scarcely anything being done. No local samples on offer. Wheat, English (new), 31s to 32s; ditto foreign, 30s 6d to 34s; barley (grinding), 23s 6d to 24s 6d; oats, 24s to 26s; round maize, 24s to 26s per qr; beans, 1s per stone.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Foreign wheat met with a steady sale at last week's quotations. English wheat and oats were scarce. Late rates prevailed for beans and corn, which were not in great demand. Flour values were unaltered. Quotations:—Wheat, white, 32s 6d to 34s; ditto red, 32s 6d to 34s per 504lb; oats, new white, 26s to 27s; ditto new black, 23s to 24s per 336lb; grinding barley, 23s 6d to 24s; malting ditto, 30s to 32s per 448lb; peas, grinding, 36s to 37s; ditto blue, 63s to 80s per 504lb; beans, Egyptian, 33s 6d to 34s per 448lb; ditto English, new, 38s to 40s per 532lb; Indian corn, small, 23s 6d to 24s 6d; ditto American mixed, 28s 6d to 29s per 480lb.

Spalding, Tuesday.—At the Corn Exchange there was a very small market owing to the Coronation. Wheat was scarce, and in demand at 1s per qr advance, at 32s. Oats, beans, and peas unchanged.

Stamford, Wednesday.—Owing to the Coronation the market was held to-day instead of on Friday, but not a single buyer or seller attended, the market being deserted.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There were two or three samples of English wheat showing, which made 33s per qr. Owing to the brilliant weather the foreign wheat trade is quiet, and with the holidays intervening, very little business was doing at late prices. Maize 3d dearer. Oats unchanged.

Sunderland, Saturday.—A holiday market, and prices of all descriptions of grain remain nominally unaltered. Arrivals:—Coastwise: Wheat, 1,353 qrs. Foreign: Nil.—E. AND F. RICHARDSON.

Wisbech, Saturday.—Small attendance at market. Wheat—Unusually short supply, consequently needy millers have to give late rates—viz., 30s to 31s. Spring corn unchanged.—JAMES FLETCHER.

Wolverhampton.—The market was of a holiday character. Quotations: Wheat, new, 12s 6d to 13s per 216lb; oats, 16s to 17s; beans, old, 16s to 17s 6d; new, 15s to 16s 6d per 196lb; barley, 35s to 40s per 448lb; maize, new, 25s 6d to 26s 6d; old, 29s 6d to 30s 6d per 480lb.

Worcester, Saturday.—The hay harvest is now in progress, and there were very few farmers at market. Wheat sparingly offered, and trade dull at unchanged prices. Little doing in barleys. Oats and beans were firm, with a fair demand.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Small attendance, and very little doing. White wheat, 31s 6d to 32s 6d; red wheat, 31s to 32s; grinding barley, 28s to 29s; white oats, 27s. to 29s; black oats, 25s to 27s; round maize, 25s to 26s per qr.

York, Saturday.—Farmers have practically no wheat left, and very little offering sells slowly at last week's prices. Feeding barley, 22s to 26s per qr of 32 stones. Oats very scarce and firm. Rye, 9d per bushel; beans, 1s ditto.

FOREIGN.

Hamburg, Saturday.—Trade quiet, without material alteration in prices. Wheat maintains its value, but the demand is not brisk. Hard winter No. 2, July, is offering at 28s 3d; Duluth No. 1 has been sold at 28s; red winter No. 2, July shipment, is held at 28s 6d per 480lb; Walla Walla at 29s 6d per 500lb; 61lb new Halstein wheat, for September-October delivery, was sold at 28s 9d per 504lb, duty deducted. Rye, near at hand, is in demand. 9 18-20 South Russian, now loading, was sold at 23s 3d; American Western No. 2, about due, at 24s 3d; 9 15-20 Nikolajef, August-September, is offering at 21s per 480lb. The growing crop of barley is making satisfactory progress, and looks promising in most of the growing districts. Russian feeding barley for prompt delivery continues in demand at 19s to 19s 3d; August-September shipments are offering at 16s 6d per 4001b. There is a fair trade doing in maize, Odessa and Danubian on the spot selling at 20s 3d to 20s 6d per 480lb; floating and August-September shipments are held at the same price. For mixed maize, prompt, 25s 6d is asked; December shipment is offering at 19s 6d per 480lb c.i.f.—JOHN TATLOCK.

CORN STATISTICS.

IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGES.

1901.	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
June 29	28,191⅜	27	6	692⅜	25	4	2,803⅜	20	0
July 6	19,564⅛	27	8	140⅜	21	9	1,806⅛	19	10
,, 13	15,231⅜	27	2	49	23	10	1,675⅜	19	9
,, 20	17,462⅜	27	3	88⅜	23	4	2,040⅛	19	11
,, 27	18,297⅜	27	3	206⅜	22	1	2,385⅛	19	4
Aug. 3	18,666⅛	27	6	250⅜	23	1	3,219⅛	20	0
,, 10	19,156	27	7	141⅜	22	1	2,143⅛	19	4
,, 17	22,617⅛	27	4	220⅞	27	2	5,982⅛	18	9
,, 24	37,168⅜	27	3	976⅜	23	7	9,952⅛	18	
,, 31	61,603⅜	27	0	4,877⅜	24	3	14,654⅞	17	10
Sept. 7	66,623⅛	26	5	14,342⅜	25	1	19,075⅞	17	1
,, 14	77,949⅜	26	2	34,989⅛	24	11	19,909⅛	17	4
,, 21	80,279⅛	26	0	70,090⅛	25	5	26,476⅜	17	4
,, 28	80,488	25	10	109,783⅛	25	10	22,567⅛	17	2
Oct. 5	60,376⅜	25	8	126,592⅜	26	3	21,631⅛	17	7
,, 12	63,656⅜	25	9	172,175⅜	26	5	16,815⅛	17	6
,, 19	58,772⅜	25	10	203,591⅛	26	8	15,506⅛	17	8
,, 26	52,984⅜	25	11	208,471⅜	26	10	18,009⅛	17	5
Nov. 2	70,314⅜	26	2	134,277⅜	26	10	18,350⅜	17	7
,, 9	62,265⅛	26	6	202,577⅛	27	0	20,066⅛	17	8
,, 16	57,884⅜	26	9	201,723⅞	26	9	20,122⅛	18	3
,, 23	63,150⅞	27	1	185,268⅛	26	10	20,612	18	7
,, 30	60,323⅜	27	1	193,434⅜	26	9	22,419⅛	18	9
Dec. 7	67,925⅞	27	1	162,996⅜	26	7	23,990⅞	19	0
,, 14	48,045⅞	27	2	182,212⅞	25	10	17,125⅛	17	1
,, 21	60,562⅜	27	7	119,398⅛	26	8	26,260⅛	19	
,, 28	43,718⅜	27	7	81,859⅛	26	8	16,901⅜	19	10
1902.									
,, 11	48,997⅜	27	8	69,120⅛	26	7	14,995	20	0
,, 18	74,239⅜	27	8	91,559⅜	26	11	19,738⅜	20	0
,, 25	74,753⅜	27	7	87,594	26	7	25,382⅛	20	3
Feb. 1	73,381⅛	27	4	81,468⅜	26	7	25,657⅛	20	2
,, 8	67,470⅛	27	2	69,291⅜	26	9	25,055⅞	20	3
,, 15	68,500	26	11	54,084⅛	27	5	21,824	20	3
,, 22	72,614⅜	27	1	53,201⅞	26	11	22,799	20	4
Mar. 1	79,453⅜	27	1	43,637⅜	26	7	22,322	20	5
,, 8	67,473⅛	27	0	28,847⅞	26	8	17,017	20	5
,, 15	60,643	27	1	24,536⅞	26	6	11,496⅜	20	6
,, 22	56,394⅛	27	1	15,482⅜	26	4	12,192⅛	20	6
,, 29	50,703	27	2	15,729⅛	27	2	8,950⅛	20	7
Apr. 5	31,277⅜	27	3	7,003⅛	26	5	5,994⅛	20	6
,, 12	37,931⅛	27	5	8,298⅛	26	7	6,855⅛	21	0
,, 19	38,037	27	7	7,237⅜	27	1	11,099⅜	21	1
,, 26	31,257⅛	28	9	6,263⅞	26	5	8,897⅛	21	6
May 3	46,238⅜	29	9	4,226⅛	27	5	9,685	21	10
,, 10	42,534⅛	30	9	3,745⅛	26	10	8,653⅛	22	6
,, 17	40,387⅛	31	1	671⅛	25	3	7,576	22	5
,, 24	38,288⅜	31	6	1,138⅜	25	4	5,973⅜	22	6
,, 31	32,728⅜	31	6	861⅜	25	1	5,177⅜	22	10
June 7	32,707⅜	31	3	457⅜	24	3	6,476⅜	22	11
,, 14	28,046⅛	30	11	664⅛	23	8	4,247⅜	22	8
,, 21	25,926⅛	30	6	371⅛	23	5	4,2 5⅛	23	0
,, 28	19,278⅛	30	5	325⅜	24	3	3,341⅛	22	9

IMPERIAL AVERAGES.

Statement showing the Quantities sold and average price of British Corn, Imperial Measure, as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended June 28, 1902, conformably with the Act of the 45th and 46th Victoria, cap. 37.

Wheat	19,278⅛ qrs.	30s.	5d.
Barley	325⅜ qrs.	24s.	3d.
Oats	3,341⅛ qrs.	22s.	9d.

FLUCTUATIONS IN THE AVERAGE PRICE OF WHEAT.

PRICE.	May 24.	May 31.	June 7.	June 14.	June 21.	June 28.
31s. 6d.	———	———	...	...	...	...
31s. 5d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
31s. 4d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
31s. 3d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
31s. 2d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
31s. 1d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
31s. 0d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
30s. 11d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
30s. 10d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
30s. 9d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
30s. 8d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
30s. 7d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
30s. 6d.	...	...	...	...	...	...
30s. 5d.	...	...	...	...	...	...

ARRIVALS INTO LONDON.

June 11 to 18, 1902, inclusive.

	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat ..... qrs.	122	87,798	87,920
Barley	750	4,100	4,850
Malt	22,885	...	22,885
Oats	329	91,000	91,329
Rye	...	1,147	1,147
Beans	82	546	628
Peas	70	1,250	1,420
Maize	...	11,888	11,888
Tares	...	150	150
Lentils	...	1,512	1,512
Canaryseed	...	100	100
Linseed	...	20,000	20,000
Rapeseed	...	6,000	6,000
Sunflowerseed	...	100	100
Flour, sacks	25,286	54,938	80,224

LONDON AVERAGES.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, June 24, 1902.

	Total Quantities. Imperial Measure. Quarters.	Bus.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.	Average Price per qr. Imperial Measure. £	s.	d.
Wheat ...	23	2 ...	36	5	0	... 1	11	2
Barley ...	46	6 ...	57	7	6	... 1	4	7
Oats ...	113	0 ...	133	9	2	... 1	3	7

COMPARATIVE AVERAGES.

Comparative statement for the corresponding week to June 28, in each of the years from 1897 to 1901.

	WHEAT. Qrs	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
1897	19,873⅜ ...	27	1	944 ...	18	10	1,701 ...	18	7
1898	9,506¼ ...	38	3	414⅜ ...	23	4	2,598⅛ ...	20	8
1899	56,972 ...	25	7	1,346⅛ ...	24	2	3,779⅜ ...	18	0
1900	44,920⅛ ...	26	11	495⅜ ...	23	4	4,706⅛ ...	19	3
1901	28,191⅜ ...	27	6	692⅜ ...	25	4	2,803⅜ ...	20	0

ENGLISH WHEAT IN 1901.

Highest of Year	27s. 7d.
Lowest of Year	25s. 10d.
Gradient	1s. 9d.
Mean of Year	26s. 9d.

LONDON TOP PRICE FLOUR.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1901.

		s.	d.
September 2	(per sack)	29	0
,, 28	,,	28	0
April ,, 16	,,	29	0
,, 23	,,	30	0

(No official change since last date given.)

MONTHLY AVERAGES.

(196 Market Towns.)

	1901. Wheat	Barley	Oats	1902. Wheat	Barley	Oats
January	26 8	25 7	17 4	27 8	26 8	20 2
February	26 5	25 5	17 7	27 1	26 8	20 3
March	25 10	25 0	17 10	27 1	26 8	20 6
April	26 3	25 7	18 3	28 0	26 5	21 1
May	27 6	25 2	19 4	30 10	26 0	22 5
June	27 7	23 11	19 10			
July	27 4	22 9	19 8			
August	27 4	24 0	18 10			
September	26 1	25 4	17 4			
October	25 10	25 7	17 6			
November	24 9	26 10	18 2			
December	27 4	26 8	19 5			

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF LONDON TOWN HOUSEHOLDS FLOUR.

(Sacks of 280 lbs. ex-mill for cash.)

	1902. s.	d.	1901 s.	d.	1900 s.	d.	1899. s.	d.	1898. s.	d.	1897. s.	d.	1896. s.	d.	1895. s.	d.
Jan. ...	21	9	24	6	21	9	23	9	29	0	25	6	18	9	18	7½
Feb. ...	22	0	24	0	22	0	23	6	30	0	24	7½	19	4½	17	9
March	21	9	23	9	21	6	22	3	30	0	23	11	19	3	18	0
April ...	23	0	24	0	21	6	22	0	31	3	23	6	19	6	18	7½
May ...	23	6	23	6	21	3	22	3	30	7	23	7	19	9	20	4½
June ...	...		23	0	23	6	23	1½	35	0	22	7½	18	10	22	3
July ...	...		22	3	24	6	21	9	29	6	22	10½	18	6	20	0½
August	...		22	3	24	0	21	9	27	6	26	8½	18	8½	19	10½
Sept. ...	...		22	0	25	3	22	0	26	5	30	3	19	6	19	8
Oct. ...	...		21	6	24	9	23	3	26	1	29	0	23	7½	18	7½
Nov. ...	...		21	6	24	3	22	3	25	0	29	1	25	8½	18	4½
Dec. ...	...		21	9	24	0	21	9	24	3	29	0	25	7½	18	1
Yrly. Avrg.	...		22	10	25	2	22	4	29	6½	25	10½	20	8½	19	2

TITHE RENT CHARGES

For 1902	67	3	9
,, 1901	66		9
,, 1900	66		10
,, 1899	68	2	4
,, 1898	68		11
,, 1897	69		11
,, 1896	71		7

LONDON FLOUR MILLERS' ASSOCIATION
OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1901

	London Whites.	Town Households.
	s. d.	s. d.
September 2	(per sack) 26 0	(per sack) 23 0
,, 18	,, 25 6	,, 22 6
December 9	,, 26 6	,, 23 6
January 29	,, 26 0	,, 23 0
April 16	,, 27 6	,, 24 6

YEARLY AVERAGES (OFFICIAL.)

	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1890	31 9 per qr.	28 8 per qr.	18 7 per qr.
1891	37 1 ,,	28 2 ,,	20 0 ,,
1892	30 4 ,,	26 2 ,,	19 11 ,,
1893	26 4 ,,	25 6 ,,	18 9 ,,
1894	22 10 ,,	24 6 ,,	17 1 ,,
1895	23 1 ,,	21 11 ,,	14 6 ,,
1896	26 2 ,,	22 11 ,,	14 9 ,,
1897	30 2 ,,	23 6 ,,	16 11 ,,
1898	34 0 ,,	27 2 ,,	18 5 ,,
1899	25 8 ,,	25 7 ,,	17 0 ,,
1900	26 11 ,,	25 9 ,,	17 9 ,,
1901	26 9 ,,	25 3 ,,	18 5 ,,

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF FINE HOUSEHOLD FLOUR IN PARIS.

(Converted into English money for sacks of 280 lb.)

	1902.	1901.	1900.	1899.	1898.	1897.	1896.	1895.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Jan.	27 9	24 9	25 2	29 0	33 7	30 5½	25 10	27 9½
Feb.	26 3	25 9	26 3	28 3	39 4	29 10½	26 2	27 10½
March	27 0	24 0	27 3	27 6	40 1	28 9	26 0	27 5½
April	27 3	24 6	26 9	27 6	42 3	28 5	25 6½	26 7
May	27 6	25 6	26 8	28 0	40 0	28 11½	25 1½	28 0
June	...	26 3	28 6	27 6	35 6	29 3	25 8	28 10
July	...	28 0	26 9	27 3	32 0	31 5½	24 6	27 1
August	...	27 6	26 4	27 0	31 6	36 11	25 1	26 11
Sept.	...	27 6	26 3	25 9	31 0	38 7	27 0	27 0½
Oct.	...	27 6	26 0	24 9	30 6	39 4	27 1½	27 9
Nov.	...	27 9	26 4	24 3	30 3	40 3	29 9	26 8½
Dec.	...	28 3	26 0	24 6	29 0	39 3	29 8	26 3
Yrly. Avrg.	...	27 3	26 2	9	35 0	33 5	26 5½	27 4½

BUTTER.

Tuesday.—Bedale: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per 24oz roll. Gainsborough: 1s per lb. Settle: 11d to 11½d per lb. Spalding: 15 for 1s.

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 1s to 1s 3d per lb. Boston: 9d and 10d per lb. Brigg: 9d to 10d per lb. Colne: 1s 0½d per lb. Driffield: 9d per lb. Keighley: 1s and 1s 1d per lb. Kirbymoorside: 7d to 8d per lb. Knaresborough: 1s 1d to 1s 3d per 24oz roll. Leyburn: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per 24oz roll. Louth: 9d per lb. Market Weighton: 10d per lb. Masham: 1s 1d to 1s 3d per 24oz roll. Northallerton: 1s 1d to 1s 3d per 24oz roll. Penistone: 1s per lb. Ripon: 1s to 1s 3d per 24oz roll. Scarborough: 11d to 1s per lb. Stockton: 10d to 1s 1d per lb. Wetherby: 9d to 1s per lb. Worksop: 11d to 1s per lb.

Friday.—Leeds: Yorkshire, 1s to 1s 1d per lb. Helmsley: 7d to 8d per lb. Lincoln: 10d to 1s per lb. Otley: 1s to 1s 2d per 24oz roll.

Saturday.—Appleby: 8½d to 9½d per lb. Berwick: 8d to 10d per lb. Carlisle: 9d to 10d per lb. Doncaster: 11d per lb. Grantham: 10d to 1s per lb. Howden: 9d to 1s per lb. Lancaster: 11d to 1s per lb. Malton: 8d to 9d per lb. Pontefract: 11d per lb. Retford: 10d to 1s per lb. Richmond: 10d to 11d per lb. Stokesley: 9d to 10d per lb. Whitby: 10d per lb. York: 10d to 1s per lb.

EGGS.

Tuesday.—Bedale: 15 or 16 for 1s. Gainsborough: 14 for 1s. Settle: 15 or 16 for 1s. Spalding: 15 for 1s.

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 12 or 13 for 1s. Boston: 15 for 1s. Brigg: 15 or 16 for 1s. Colne: 1s 6d per score. Driffield: 17 or 18 for 1s. Keighley: 12 and 13 for 1s. Kirbymoorside: 16 for 1s. Knaresborough: 14 or 15 for 1s. Leyburn: 18 for 1s. Louth: 16 or 17 for 1s. Masham: 15 for 1s. Northallerton: 16 for 1s. Penistone: 14 for 1s. Ripon: 15 or 16 for 1s. Scarborough: 14 for 1s. Stockton: 12 or 13 for 1s. Worksop: 1s 1d to 1s 4d per score.

Friday.—Leeds: Yorkshire, 8s 6d to 9s per 120. Helmsley: 16 for 1s. Lincoln: 14 to 15 for 1s. Otley: 14 or 15 for 1s.

Saturday.—Appleby: 14 to 16 for 1s. Berwick: 9d to 10d per dozen. Carlisle: 14 for 1s. Doncaster: 14 for 1s. Grantham: 15 or 16 for 1s. Howden: 16 to 18 for 1s. Lancaster: 13 for 1s. Malton: 16 to 17 for 1s. Pontefract: 14 for 1s. Retford: 1s 4d per score. Richmond: 14 and 15 for 1s. Stokesley: 14 or 15 for 1s. Whitby: 15 or 16 for 1s. York: 14 for 1s.

CHEESE.

Glasgow. Wednesday.—Market generally quiet. There were some further fresh arrivals this week of new Cheddars and Dunlops, and floors are now well covered. However, few concessions were made, and prices remain at 52s to 58s per cwt. Only a retail inquiry for Americans and New Zealand descriptions at late rates.

Newport. Wednesday.—Quotations:—Caerphillies, 44s to 50s; fancy dairies, 51s to 52s; doubles, 55s to 56s; Derbys, 59s; truckles, 65s; and Cheddars, 60s to 65s. There was a short supply.

POTATOES.

Borough. Saturday.—Supplies very small, but demand slow, and only small business. Scotch maincrops, 90s per ton. New: Jersey, 7s to 7s 6d; Teneriffe, 5s to 7s; St. Malos, 7s to 7s 6d; Cherbourg, 6s to 6s 6d per cwt.

Spitalfields. Saturday.—Arrivals very light, and good demand. Best Lincoln Up-to-dates, 70s to 75s; Blackland, 65s; Wisbech ditto, 70s; Scotch, 70s; Scotch maincrops (grey soil), 70s; Lincoln maincrops, 70s per ton. New: St. Malo, 7s 6d; Jersey, 7s 6d to 8s; Teneriffe and Canary, 8s 6d; Cherbourgs, 6s 6d to 7s per cwt; Lisbons, 3s 9d per box.

THE BALTIC.

We congratulate Mr. W. P. Wood on being elected president of the London Corn Trade Association for the second time. This office resembles that of the Lord Mayor in being annual and in the holder being scarcely ever re-elected. As in the case of the Lord Mayor, too, the honour is a very special and distinctive one.

The Hull Corn Trade Association have fixed the price of 28s. 7½d. for white Kurrachee, and of 28s. for red Kurrachee cargoes. London values would be 4½d. and 3d. higher for the two grades.

The "Atlantic" at Liverpool quotes 5s. 11d. per cental for American red winter wheat July and 6s. 2d. September delivery.

Trade at the "Baltic" has been much interrupted by the vexatious compulsory holidays, which could not be cancelled after the occasion for them had unhappily disappeared. The feeling is universal that in the future greater adaptability of Government orders to modern conditions will have to be arranged.

Such cargo sales as can be ascertained have been as follows:—

	On passage.	July shipment.	Autumn shipment.
Californian wheat	30s 3d	30s 0d	29s 6d
No. 1 Northern do.	29s 0d	28s 6d	28s 3d
No. 2 Calcutta do.	30s 0d	29s 9d	—
Galatz maize	21s 9d	21s 6d	22s 0d
Russian barley	18s 6d	18s 3d	17s 3d
Smyrna beans	30s 0d	—	28s 6d

Linseed cargoes come firm and dearer. Calcutta: Spot, 52s. 9d. nearest; near, 52s. 9d. paid; June-July, 53s. buyers; July-August, 53s. 9d. sellers, 53s. 6d. buyers. River Plate: Spot, 49s. 6d.; June-July to Hamburg, 53s. 9d. buyers; July-August, 54s. buyers, shippers ask 55s.

Rapeseed cargoes are steady. Ravison to Hull, September, 28s. buyers. Jamba: July-August to Hull, 31s. 6d. Brown Cawnpore afloat to Havre, 37s. 9d. o-t paid; June-July, 37s. 9d. sellers, 37s. 6d. buyers; July-August, 37s. 9d. o-t asked; 38s. 9d. n-t sellers, 38s. 3d. buyers; August-September, 37s. 9d. o-t sellers. Yellow Cawnpore: June-July, 39s. 9d. buyers. Brown Calcutta: June-July, 36s. 6d. sellers; to Hamburg, 37s. to 37s. 3d. n-t sellers. Ferozepore: June-July, 37s. 9d. o-t sellers to Antwerp or Hamburg; 38s. 9d. n-t sellers.

The Roumanian Rapeseed Crop is estimated as yielding 100,000 tons above home requirements.

Poppyseed is firm. Bombay: June-July to Antwerp, 45s. 6d. sellers.

Cottonseed to London is steady. Spot Egyptian, £7 15s.; July, £7 17s. 6d.; August, £7 18s. 9d. sellers; November-January, £6 12s. 6d. sellers. Bombay, little offering. To Hull: June-July, £5 sellers, £4 18s. 9d. buyers; July-August, £5 2s. 6d. quoted; December-January, £4 13s. 9d. buyers. Cottonseed is dearer at Alexandria, which cables July, 80p. 25 (£7 4s.); November-January, 67p. (£6 3s. 2d.) per ton.

A small cargo of Russian sunflowerseed for September shipment has realised 11s. per cwt.

HOPS.

Canterbury. Saturday.—There has not been much business on the hop market this week, but trade is firm. The plant is making better progress, but it continues to be infested with vermin, and washing operations are necessitated.

Worcester. Saturday.—The change to very hot weather during this week has had a beneficial effect upon a few of the very best grounds where washing has taken place, but the majority of the plantations are so badly blighted, and the plant is so weak, that it is almost impossible for some of them to recover, while the others can only produce a very short crop under the most favourable conditions. There has been a fair trade doing during this week, but very few hops are being offered by growers. —PIERCY AND CO.

POULTRY AND GAME.

Smithfield. Saturday.—Supplies fair, and met better demand at firmer prices. Fowls: Yorkshire, 2s 6d to 2s 9d; Essex, 2s 6d to 3s; Boston, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; Surrey, 3s 9d to 4s 6d; Sussex, 3s 6d to 4s; Welsh, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; Irish, 2s to 2s 6d; turkeys, cock, 5s to 6s; hen, 3s to 4s; goslings, 4s to 5s; Aylesbury ducklings, 3s to 3s 6d; country, 2s 6d to 3s 3d; Bordeaux pigeons, 9d to 11d; feathered, 7d to 9d; quail, 10d to 11d; wild rabbits, 6d to 8d; tame, 9d to 11d each; Australian, 8s 3d to 11s per dozen.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden. Saturday.—Fairly good supplies of fruit and vegetables, and fair demand at steady prices. Tasmanian apples, 10s to 14s per case; English tomatoes, 5s to 8s; Channel Islands, 4s to 5s per dozen lb; Valencia oranges, 14s to 24s; Denia, 16s to 26s per case; gooseberries, 3s to 4s per half-sieve; pineapples, 1s 6d to 3s 6d each; bananas, 7s 6d to 12s 6d per bunch; lemons, 10s to 20s per case; French apricots, 9d to 1s 6d per box; French cherries, 5s to 8s per half-sieve; cabbages, 4s to 6s per tally; spinach, 2s to 3s; beetroots, 2s to 3s per bushel; carrots, 3s 6d to 5s 6d; turnips, 4s to 5s; radishes, 8d to 10d per dozen bunches; horseradish, 1s 6d to 2s; asparagus, 9d to 3s per bundle; mushrooms, 5s to 9s per dozen lb; lettuce, 9d to 1s 6d per score; peas, 5s to 6s per bushel; potatoes, 50s to 90s per ton; New Jersey, 7s to 8s; Canary, 7s 6d to 8s 6d; Teneriffe, 7s to 8s; St. Malo, 7s to 7s 6d; Cherbourg, 6s to 7s per cwt.

WOOL.

Canterbury. Saturday.—Holders do not seem disposed to take present prices, and are waiting the results of the next Colonial wool sales. Values are nominally: Kent fleeces, 5d; Down fleeces, 6½d to 7½d; cross-breds, 5d to 5½d; lambswool, 3½d to 4d; locks, 2d per lb.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Hull. Tuesday.—Linseed—The only arrival is 500 qrs from Riga. A dull and inactive market, though prices are a shade steadier. Calcutta, 52s 3d afloat and May-June. River Plate, spot 49s 6d sellers, 49s 3d buyers; December-January, 46s 9d first-hand sellers, 46s 3d buyers. Cottonseed—In the past week the market has shown some improvement, and old crop on spot sold at up to £7 10s, sellers now asking £7 11s 3d. A fair quantity June changed hands at £7 10s to £7 11s 3d. July made £7 11s 3d to £7 12s 6d, also same paid August. New crop has scarcely been dealt in, buyers declining to pay the advance of £6 17s 6d October, £6 11s 3d November-January. The market closes quiet to-day. Oils—Exports for the week ending 17th June, 1902:—Linseed oil: 1 America, 1 Denmark, 7 Germany, 8 Holland, 24 India, 15 Norway, 43 Russia, 4 Turkey; total, 103 tons. Cotton oil: 30 Austria, 123 Belgium, 18 Denmark, 101 Germany, 136 Holland, 4 Norway, 12 Sweden; total, 424 tons. The market is quiet. Linseed oil: 29s 9d spot; 29s 9d June-August; 28s 9d September-December. Cotton oil: 24s 10½d spot; 24s 9d June-August; 21s 7½d November-April. Crude: 23s 6d spot; 23s 6d June-August; 20s 4½d November-April. Rape oil: Jamba naked, 24s 3d spot; 1st quality, 25s spot. Oil seed cakes—Linseed cakes: A steady demand at previous prices. Cotton cakes are 2s 6d per ton cheaper, with steady demand for the time of year.—KEIGHLEY MAXSTED AND CO.

Mark Lane. Monday.—Linseed Cakes.—The trade still rules extremely dull and inactive, but while the Continent continues to absorb the greater part of the foreign supplies, values are firmly held up. Russians are only in moderate supply, and fully as dear. Americans sell quietly, being relatively cheaply offered. East India seed in bags offer at late rates. London-made move off slowly, and are without change. Cotton Cakes.—There has been a slightly improved demand during the past week, but with fairly heavy stocks and some further arrivals of foreign, prices remain steady, while English are not quotably dearer. Decorticated cake and meal are a dragging trade, and, if anything, the turn in buyers' favour. Rape cakes unchanged. Maize Germ Meal.—American is the turn dearer on account of scarcity, while English may still be bought on the same terms. Rice Meal.—Arrived parcels of Rangoon are obtainable on very favourable terms, while a premium of 5s per ton has been paid for autumn shipments.

	Per ton. £ s. d.	Per ton. £ s. d.
LINSEED CAKES.		
London made ex mill	7 12 6	to 7 15 0
American ex ship	6 17 6	to 7 0 0
Russian, in mats ex dock	7 5 0	to 7 7 6
Russian, in bags ex dock	7 10 0	to 7 12 6
Calcutta	7 5 0	to 7 10 0
COTTONSEED CAKES.		
London made ex mill	4 12 6	to 4 15 0
Egyptian ex dock	4 6 3	to 4 8 9
Decorticated ex dock	6 5 0	to 6 12 6
Meal ex dock	6 10 0	to —
RAPE CAKES.		
East India	3 17 6	to 4 0 0
MAIZE.		
English germ meal ex mill	5 5 0	to 5 7 6
American ex dock	5 12 6	to 5 13 9
RICE MEAL.		
Rangoon ex dock	4 15 0	to 4 17 6

—PINNOCK BROS., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

WATERLOO ROUND FEEDING CAKES, £6 17s 6d PER TON. WATERLOO ROUND 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES, £8 10s 0d PER TON. WATERLOO ANGLO SHAPE 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES, £8 5s 0d PER TON; WATERLOO 97 PER CENT. PURE EGYPTIAN COTTONSEED CAKES, £5 7s 6d PER TON. ALL NET CASH AND F.O.R. IN HULL.

MOLASSINE FEEDING MEAL, packed in bags, of 1¼cwt. each. Price per ton, £6 15s., in ton lots and upwards. £7 10s. per ton in less than ton lots. Free on rail, Liverpool or London. Uniform delivered price for small quantities, 11s. per bag of 1¼cwt.

MANURES.

Liverpool. Wednesday.—As usual, the trade in fertilisers and feeding stuffs at this season is extremely limited, and is more so at the present time, owing to the Coronation holidays—marred, as they must be, by the untimely illness of our Sovereign—and the produce markets close this evening for the week. Current rates are as per subscribed, but in the absence of business in many instances are purely nominal. Nitrate of soda, best quality, i.e., guaranteed 95 per cent. pure, in bags, £8 10s to £8 15s per ton; East India bone meal, fair to prime, in bags, £4 10s to £4 15s per ton; kainit, prime, 23 per cent., in bags, £2 7s 6d to £2 10s per ton; palm nut cake, prime, in bags, £5 15s per ton; linseed cake, American thin oblong, prime, in bags, £7 to £7 5s per ton; linseed cake, English, prime, in bulk, £8 to £8 7s 6d per ton; linseed cake, foreign round, soft and oily, in bags, £8 per ton; cottonseed cake, N.A. decorticated, prime, in bags, £7 2s 6d to £7 7s 6d per ton; cottonseed cake, English, decorticated, prime, soft, in bags, £7 5s to £7 8s 9d per ton; cottonseed cake, English, undecorticated, prime, in bulk, £4 10s to £4 15s per ton; cottonseed cake (crushed), 20 to 25 per cent. oil, prime, in bags, £7 10s per ton; maize germ meal, prime, in bags, £7 15s per ton; corn oil cake, 10 to 13 per cent. oil, prime, in bags, £6 5s per ton; rice meal, Rangoon, as imported, prime, in bags, £5 per ton; Indian meal, coarse to fine grinding, prime, in bulk, 12s 6d per 240lb; linseed, fine bold feeding, in bags, £3 to £3 2s per qr., 416lb; D.N.S. Brand superphosphate of lime, guaranteed, 25 to 27 sol., in bags, £2 5s to £2 7s per cwt. at depot; D.N.S. Brand superphosphate of lime, guaranteed 30 to 31 sol., in bags, £2 10s to £2 12s per ton at depot; superphosphate of lime, guaranteed 35 to 36 sol., in bags, £3 to £3 2s per ton at depot; basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed 30 to 35 per cent. phos., in bags, nominal; basic slag, prime quality, 35 to 40 per cent. phos., in bags, nominal; basic slag, finest quality, 38 to 45 per cent. phos., nominal.—H. JONES LANGAR AND CO.

COLONIAL DAIRY PRODUCE.

London. Wednesday.—Butter.—The demand for Canadian butter is quiet, but there is no change in prices. Saltless Canadian butter is still in good demand, and the quality on the whole shows an improvement of last year. At the time of writing the Copenhagen official quotation for next week has not been declared. Danish prices, however, on London markets keep well up, although Russian continues to come forward in large quantities. Some of it is of very high quality—especially late arrivals of genuine grass butter. The season in Siberia is reported to be a very gooo done. In the United States prices remain high, and imports from there are consequently low. The season there also is a very good one, but it will be another month before prices will fall low enough to make exporting profitable. Cheese.—The demand for Canadian is sluggish, and prices are about a shilling lower on the week. New Zealand is now in very small compass, and values are about 2s. lower than last week.—W. WEDDEL AND CO.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

Wheat has improved in colour since the fine weather arrived, and the sunshine should do much to repair the injury wrought by heavy and flooding rains from the early weeks of May to the third week of June. That entire reparation can be wrought we think unlikely, and we shall certainly be very lucky if we get a thirty bushel yield. Oats are promising, they did not mind the heavy rains, and now they are exulting in the stimulating heat. The growth of barley is unsatisfactory and the colour very poor. Peas have come on at a tremendous rate, soaking moisture, followed by strong heat, being peculiarly forcing to this crop. There seems to be a good undergrowth of meadow grass. The root crops are coming on splendidly, but the hoe is needed to keep down the weeds, and hoeing makes an ugly addition to the labour bill. The promise of the orchards is rather better than the cold May might have led us to expect.

The growing crops of wheat are now regarded as promising, above an average in Russia, Roumania, Spain, and Italy, as indicating a full yield in Germany, Austria, Hungary, and Dalmatia, and as threatening a deficient yield in France. The American advices indicate a sharp divergency, winter wheat being below, but spring wheat above an average.

Official returns of what constitutes an average wheat yield show that New Zealand attains as high a yield per acre, 30 to 32 bushels as the United Kingdom. Germany, with 23 to 24 bushels, is better cultivated than France with 17 to 18, Canada, with 20 to 22, is "smarter" than the United States, with 13 to 15, and Roumania, with 16 to 18 bushels, does markedly better than the Austro-Hungarian Empire, with 14 to 15 bushels only. The four countries possessing the unenviable position of giving less than ten bushels to the acre in an average year are Argentina, Australia, Russia, and Persia. In India the average wheat yield, as estimated by the Council, is 11.20 bushels to the acre.

The average wheat crop of the United Kingdom for the past nine years is officially returned at 30.32 bushels, which, on an average acreage of 1,888,000 acres, gave an average yield of 57,250,000 bushels.

Imports of the United Kingdom last week were as follows:—

Wheat: 463,000 qrs.; a heavy supply.
Flour: 149,800 sacks; a moderate supply.
Maize: 281,C00 qrs.; a heavy supply.
Barley: 80,000 qrs.; much below the mean.
Oats: 110,000 qrs.; a very moderate arrival.

Stocks of wheat on the 28th inst. were thus estimated:—

	Qrs.
In farmers' hands	780,000
In merchants' hands	3,278,000
Total	4,058,000
A month ago the total was	3,655,000

The quantity of wheat now on passage to the United Kingdom is considerable, but it shows a decided decrease from May 17, when a total of four millions was nearly reached; the exact figure was 3,994,000 qrs. The high-water period of supplies on passage may be said to have extended from March 15, when 3,820,000 qrs. were recorded to May 31, when 3,876,000 qrs. were on passage. The present return (for June 28) is as follows:—

	Qrs.
Californian	1,580,000
American	456,000
Argentine	175,000
Russian	70,000
Indian	330,000
Australasian	365,000
Various	15,000
Total	3,011,000

An average quantity on figures of the last ten years, is 2½ million qrs.

Of maize, there are 900,000 qrs. on passage, against 1,035,000 qrs. a year ago. Of present expectations, 500,000 qrs. are round, 360,000 qrs. are yellow, and only 40,000 qrs. are flat corn. Of barley, the following is the quantity now on passage:

	Qrs.
Russian	60,000
Roumanian	15,000
Turkish	10,000
Chilian	6,000
Californian	110,000
Total	201,000
A year ago	260,000

Of oats, about 120,000 qrs. are on passage, or rather less than half an average quantity.

Wheat prices abroad are unsettled, for France shows a decided advance, while Germany indicates an equally decided decline. The markets of New York and Antwerp are fairly steady, but Austria-Hungary shows markets favouring buyers. The following are June prices in English money per quarter.

	New York.	Paris.	Berlin.	Buda-Pesth.	Antwerp.
4 June	26s. 6d.	38s. 10d.	37s. 6d.	30s. 0d.	23s. 7d.
11 June	26s. 6d.	39s. 9d.	37s. 9d.	28s. 6d.	23s. 6d.
18 June	27s. 0d.	41s. 0d.	38s. 9d.	29s. 0d.	30s. 0d.
25 June	26s. 9d.	41s. 9d.	35s. 6d.	28s. 9d.	23s. 3d.

The flour trade in England has been adversely affected by the hot weather which set in at the summer solstice, but there has been a good sale to bakers of sound second quality and spring wheat patents, and at 22s., 25s., and 28s., London sorts of the household, white, and top grade respectively would probably sell well too. As, however, these types are held for 23s., 26s., and 30s., the baker naturally is rather shy of them. The French sorts are a little dearer on the week in sympathy with the rise at Paris. Hungarian flour is steady and Cascadia is firm. Wheat at the recent markets has been steady for the scanty remainder of the home crop, and firm for Australian and Indian discriptions. For the Canadian, Manitoban, American, and Californian types a little less money has sometimes been accepted. Very little Russian or Roumanian is on offer. With respect to maize, prices for round and flat are unchanged, but yellow has declined 6d. per quarter with increased supplies at hand. Oats are a little lower at most markets. Feeding barley is neglected, and malting is scarcely offered. Beans make 41s. to 42s. per five sacks, while peas have sold well for the blue sorts.

The market for oilseeds is strong, considering the time of year. Fine Bombay linseed touches 57s., and 53s. is paid for cargoes of Calcutta. Arrived Egyptian cottonseed makes £7 15s. per ton, and the same price is paid for the finest samples of English linseed cake. East Indian rapeseed cake at £3 17s. 6d. is about the cheapest cake in the market, for cotton cake makes £4 15s. for London ordinary, and £6 10s. for good decorticated. Linseed oil in casks costs £30 10s. per ton, cottonseed oil £25 crude, and £27 10s. refined.

The chief shipping countries last week were fairly, but not extraordinarily, busy. America shipped 278,000 quarters of wheat, 133,000 sacks of flour, 12,000 quarters of oats, and 6,000 quarters of maize; while Argentina sent off 108,000 quarters of wheat, 205,000 quarters of maize, and 18,000 quarters of linseed. Russia did a very good export business on the whole, but nearly all her shipments were to France, Italy, and Spain. The totals sent off were—wheat 235,000 quarters, flour 10,000 sacks, barley 77,000 quarters, oats 125,000 quarters, and maize 80,000 quarters. Roumanian exports were limited to wheat, 80,000 quarters, and maize, 251,000 quarters; the latter, of course, was an unusually large quantity:—

	London arrivals, June 18 to 25.		
Qrs.	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat	347	69,459	69,806
Barley	752	23	775
Malt	29,716	—	29,716
Oats	331	98,414	98,745
Beans	—	1,496	1,496
Peas	79	512	591
Maize	—	19,326	19,326
Buckwheat	—	3,149	3,149
Lentils	—	4,000	4,000
Dari	—	543	543
Cottonseed	—	6,096	6,096
Linseed	—	25,000	25,000
Rapeseed	—	4,000	4,000
Millet	—	50	50
Sks.			
Flour	24,325	71,263	95,588

Irish Live Weight Quotations.

(Department of Agriculture and General Instruction for Ireland.)

The following returns are those of actual sales made in Robson's Cattle Mart, Belfast, the stock being weighed either before or after sale, for the week ending June 24, 1902.

No. of Beasts.	Description and Quality.	Average price per head.	Average Live weight.	Average price per cwt.
		£ s. d.	c. qr. lb	£ s. d.
*2	Bullock (prime) ...	19 7 4	10 1 24	1 17 0
1	,, (very good) ...	15 10 0	8 2 21	1 15 8
2	,, ,, ...	14 0 0	7 3 21	1 15 3
2	,, ,, ...	15 7 6	8 3 0	1 15 2
2	,, ,, ...	13 5 0	7 2 7	1 15 0
2	,, (good) ...	16 0 0	9 1 24	1 13 10
1	,, ,, ...	15 0 0	8 3 14	1 13 10
2	,, ,, ...	15 0 0	9 0 0	1 13 4
2	Heifers (prime) ...	18 2 6	9 1 14	1 18 8
2	,, ,, ...	17 2 6	8 3 17	1 18 5
1	,, ,, ...	18 10 6	9 3 0	1 18 0
2	,, (very good) ..	13 17 6	7 1 24	1 17 2
1	,, ,, ...	15 10 0	8 2 0	1 16 6
1	Cow (prime)	15 0 0	9 1 14	1 12 0

* Indicates that the lot so marked was sold by live weight at the price quoted.

THIS DAY'S MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY.

[FIRST REPORT.]

English wheat to-day was so scarce that no price modification could be recorded. The trade in foreign wheat has not yet recovered from the holiday feeling, and with very brilliant weather, is in buyers' favour. Maize was a dull market; firm for flat, slow for round, and 3d. to 6d. cheaper for yellow corn. Barley was not in request either for malting or feeding. Oats were 6d. lower for all kinds. Beans were a slow sale, but not as a rule quotably lower. Peas were a fair business, particularly for the better sorts. Prices as on Monday last. Oilcakes keep up in value despite the fine weather, and there is a decidedly strong feeling in the market for oilseeds.

QUOTATIONS OFF STANDS.

June 30, 1902.

BRITISH GRAIN.

	s.	s.
WHEAT, White (per 504 lb.)	33	— 35
Red ,,	32	— 34
Chicken or Feed (per 480 lb.)	31	— 32
BARLEY, Malting (per 448 lb.)	nominal.	
Brewing ,,	,,	
Feeding (per 416 lb.)	24	— 25
MALT, English (per 336 lb.)	37	— 43
Scotch ,,	36	— 40
Black ,,	29	— 32
Brown ,,	27	— 32
Crystallized ,,	32	— 35
OATS, English, Black Winter ,,	25	— 26
,, Black Tartary ,,	24	— 25
,, Grey Winter ,,	25	— 26
,, White Tartary ,,	24	— 25
Scotch Fine Potato ,,	27	— 28
,, Good Ordinary ,,	25	— 27
Irish (per 304 lb.)	none.	
RYE, British (per 480 lb.)	25	— 26
BEANS, Pigeon ,,	39	— 41
Winter ,,	33	— 37
Mazagan ,,	33	— 35
PEAS, Best Marrowfat (per 504 lb.)	60	— 70
Blue (boiling) ,,	48	— 68
Partridge ,,	38	— 40
Dun ,,	33	— 35
Maple ,,	39	— 41
TARES, Scotch Gorcs ,,	86	— 88
Winter Old ,,	78	— 84
,, Ordinary ,,	74	— 76
Spring ,,	56	— 64
BUCKWHEAT, English (per 416 lb.)	26	— 28

FOREIGN GRAIN.

(Ex-Granary.)

	s.	s.
WHEAT, per 496 lb.		
Old Duluth	33	— 34
Manitoba	32	— 33
American Spring	30	— 31
Red Winter	31	— 32
Californian	31	— 32
Walla Walla	30	— 31
Australian	31	— 33
New Zealand	32	— 33
Argentine	30	— 32
Danzig	32	— 34
Saxonka	31	— 32
Azima	31	— 32
Ghirka	30	— 31
Bombay	32	— 33
Calcutta	31	— 32
Kurrachee	30	— 31
RYE, per 480 lb.		
Russian	26	— 27
MAIZE, per 480 lb.:		
Cinquantina	25/6	— 26
Hungarian	24/6	— 25
Russian	22/6	— 23
Roumanian	22/6	— 23
Turkish	22/6	— 23
American	27	— 23
Argentine	22/6	— 23
OATS:		
N' Zeal'd (Best)	29	— 31
N. Zeal'd (Bluff)	28	— 29
Canadian (320 lb.)	20	— 21
American (320 lb.)	20	— 21
Prussian (320 lb.)	21	— 22
N. Russ'n (304 lb.)	18/9	— 19
South ,, (304 lb.)	18/3	— 19
BEANS, per 480 lb.:		
Egyptian	33	— 34
Smyrna	32	— 33
Konisberg	35	— 36
LOCUST BEANS, per ton:		
Italian	98	— 100
Cyprian	105	— 107
Portuguese	92	— 96
PEAS, per 504 lb.:		
Prussian, Blue	48	— 50
Canadian, White	36	— 37
Australian, White	41	— 42
New Zeal'd Maple	39	— 41
Indian White	35	— 36
,, Green	30	— 31
MILLET, per 416 lb.:		
White	32	— 40
Red	26	— 28
Yellow	20	— 21
Sorghum	19	— 20
DARI, per 480 lb.:		
Smyrna	27	— 29
BUCKWHEAT, per 416 lb.		
French	26	— 27
Russian	27	— 28
TARES, per 504 lb.:		
Konigsberg	46	— 48
BARLEY:		
Saale (448 lb.)	none.	
Chilian (448 lb.)		
Chevalier	33	— 40
Brewing	none.	
Californian (448 lb.)		
Chevalier	33	— 35
Brewing	27	— 28
Danish (448 lb.)	none.	
Danubian (400 lb.)	21	— 22
Ouchak (400 lb.)	21	— 24
Yerli (400 lb.)	20	— 22
Russian (400 lb.)	19	— 21
MALT, per 336 lb:		
Californian	36	— 37
Smyrna	36	— 37

OIL SEEDS.

LINSEED. per 416 lb.	s.	s.
English	60	to 63
Dutch	57	to 61
Bombay	56	to 58
Calcutta	53	to 54
Russian	54	to 56
Argentine	50	to 53
SESAME. per 424 lb.		
Indian	53	to 55
COTTON SEED per ton.		
Egyptian	156	to 158

RAPESEED. per 416 lb	s.	s.
English	57	to 59
French	47	to 49
Guzerat	42	to 44
Ferozepore	37	to 38
Jamba	32	to 33
Ravison	30	to 31
POPPYSEED. per 377 lb.		
Indian	47	to 49
SUNFLOWERSEED. per 448 lb		
Russian	44	to 52

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

THE MARKET WAS DECIDEDLY WEAK AT ITS CLOSE FOR BREADSTUFFS, BUT MAIZE, OATS, AND FEEDING BARLEY WERE HELD WITH MORE CONFIDENCE THAN THE BRILLIANT WEATHER MIGHT HAVE LED ONE TO EXPECT.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, MONDAY.

The retail consumption for bread is now at its lowest, for the hot weather causes a large demand for green vegetable food, and the wet weather, which prevailed till within ten days of the present date has caused the supply of such food to be large, cheap, and good. Bakers expected to-day to get all sorts of flour at 6d. less money than on the 23rd. Resistance to this decline was irregular, but, on the whole, the tendency of the market was in buyers' favour. Bran and pollard were put on sale at 2s. 6d. per ton below even the low prices of the 23rd. Maizemeal, oatmeal, and ricemeal also tended to be quoted rather lower from a week ago.

LONDON FLOUR.

		s. d
Top Price	(per sack)	nominal.
Town Whites	,,	25/6 — 26
,, Households	,,	22/6 — 23
No. 2	,,	20 6 — 21

COUNTRY FLOUR.

Best Patents	(per sack)	24 — 26
Fine Roller made	,,	23 — 24
Ordinary Roller made	,,	21 — 22
Best Stone made	,,	20 — 21

FOREIGN FLOUR.

Minnesota First Patents	(per sack)	24 — 25
,, Second Patents	,,	21 — 23
,, First Bakers'	,,	20 — 21
,, Second Bakers'	,,	18 — 19
Milwaukee Patents	,,	22 — 23
,, Bakers	,,	19 — 20
Kansas Patents	,,	23 — 24
,, Bakers'	,,	19 — 20
Cascadia	,,	22/9 — 23
Canadian	,,	24 — 25
Australian Patents	,,	23 — 24
,, Straight	,,	22 — 23
Hungarian	,,	28 — 32
French	,,	22 — 23

MEAL, &c.

Whole Meal	(per ton	180—182
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	116—118
Bran, London Broad	,,	104—106
,, ,, Fine	,,	86— 90
,, Country Flake	,,	116—122
,, ,, Broad	,,	98—102
Pollard	,,	78— 80
Biscuit Middlings	,,	118—120
Fine Middlings	,,	114—116
Coarse Middlings	,,	102—104
Feeding Flour (Red Dog)	,,	112—114
Barley Meal	,,	124—128
Rye Flour	,,	170—180
Canadian Oatmeal	,,	205—215
Scotch Oatmeal	,,	260—300
Oat Flour	,,	340—360
Maize Flour	,,	164—166
Maize Meal	,,	113—115
Maize Cones	,,	172—174
Maize Germ Meal	,,	108—113
Pea Meal	,,	135—155
Bean Meal	,,	150—170
Rice Meal	,,	92— 94

LONDON TERM MARKET.

This market is held twice a day, except on Saturday, when there is no afternoon call. The market is open to elected members only. No business except for future delivery is done, and the smallest quantity that can be purchased is 1,000 quarters, or 4,800 centals. The name of the month stands for guaranteed delivery (if required) on or before the last day of that month, and the following have been the prices per cental recently made:—

WHEAT.—Calls	A. June. s. d.	A. Aug't. s. d.	B. Oct. s. d.
June 23 11 a.m.	5 11	6 0	6 3
4 p.m.	5 11	6 0	6 3
June 24 11 a.m.	5 11	6 0	6 3
4 p.m.	5 11	6 0	6 3
June 25 11 a.m.	5 11	6 0	6 3
4 p.m.	5 11	6 0	6 3
To-day, noon	—	6 2	6 3

A parcel of No. 1 Northern for July delivery was sold to-day for 6s. per cental. Maize made 4s. 8d. per cental for September delivery, but there were no buyers for July or August.

By the letter A is signified duty to be paid by *buyer*, by B duty to be paid by *seller*. On the Finance Bill being passed, the members of the Term Market unanimously agreed to adopt the new duty as a sellers' obligation from the new cereal year (September 1). Up to that date it will fall on the buyer. In default of agreement, however, the Acts of 1876 and 1901 throw the burden on the buyer, a fact which those who operate on these prices without being members of the Term Market would do well to note.

The Term Market standard wheat is No. 1 Northern Spring American sold on the Duluth certificate. Other sorts of wheat can be bought at the above prices plus or minus agreed difference between the other sort and the standard quality. Quotations are by the "true hundredweight" or cental of 100lb. Maize, when quoted, is fair average quality from the United States.

The deposit required from members of the Term Market has been fixed at £50 minimum and 1s. per quarter margin on any purchases above 1,000 quarters.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORT.

Business has been considerably interrupted this week by the holidays. Flour.—The market is steady, but the demand is only moderate. Grain.—Maize steady, and in fair demand. Peas and beans slow. Foreign oats more plentiful, but still firm in price. Barley unchanged. Mill Stuffs.—Bran slow of sale. Thirds in good demand.—McKINNON AND McDONALD (Glasgow).

The wheat market has been very quiet, millers being indisposed to operate except for the supply of their more immediate needs, and last Monday's prices are with difficulty maintained. Maize steady, unchanged. Oats and barley firm, and occasionally rather dearer.—W. S. WOOD AND CO. (Mark Lane).

Supplies of wheat and flour continued to be liberal. At to-day's market demand was restricted and prices were unchanged. Maize, barley, and oats met a fair demand at prices of last week.

Middlings in fair demand at late rates. Bran and pollard dull, but unchanged.—JOHN BAWCOMBE AND CO. (Mark Lane).

SEEDS

London, Monday.—Nothing is passing in the trade for farm seeds worthy of report. The trefoil and trifolium crops cannot fail to benefit by the present favourable weather. Canary seed continues to advance, following the rise in Turkey.—JOHN PICARD AND CO.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—Bacon—The arrivals last week from Ireland were 1,647 and from foreign ports 6,845 bales of bacon. There was a very good demand for bacon last week, and prices in consequence were some 1s to 2s higher on Danish, and Irish and Canadian were receiving more attention. Butter—The butter market was quiet, without alteration in prices. Lard—Lard was steady, but quiet.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Monday.—Linseed cake, no change on the week. Market quiet. Cotton cake—The position is without alteration. Linseed—Market better. Russian and La Plata scarce.

English Linseed Cake	ex mill	7	12	6 to	7	15 0
American Calcutta Linseed Cake	ex quay	7	12	6		
American Western ,,	ex quay	6	15	0 to	7	0 0
,, ,, ,,	ex quay					
Decorticated Cotton Cake	ex quay	6	5	0 to	6	12 6
,, ,, Meal	ex quay	6	10	0		
London-made ,, Cake (best)	ex mill	4	12	6	4	15 0
Egyptian ,, ,, ,, (in bags)	ex quay	4	6	3 to	8	9
Burton Desiccated Ale Grains (bags included)	on rail, Burton	4	12	6		
Dutch Linseed (in bags), per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse	3	2	6		
Calcutta Linseed in bags, per 410 lbs.	ex warehouse	9	13	6		
La Plata do. per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse	2	10	0	2	13 0
Clean Russian Linseed in bulk, per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse	2	19	0		

ROBERT AND JOHN HEWETSON.

THE BALTIC, 1 p.m.

STATE OF TRADE.

Trade has not yet recovered from the paralysis of last week, but wheat, maize, and oats have opened in buyers' favour, while barley is neglected. Only oilseed cargoes are rather better from a week ago. Cargoes of rye, beans, peas, and locust beans find a few buyers at old terms.

BUSINESS DONE.

WHEAT.—Walla Walla, 29s 9d, arrived; South Australian, 30s, arrived; Victorian, 30s, arrived; No 1 hard Manitoba, 29s, July shipment; No. 2 hard winter, 28s, July shipment; soft red Calcutta, 28s 6d, July shipment; Californian, 30s 3d, July shipment; Russian winter, 28s, September shipment.

MAIZE.—Danubian, 21s, July shipment; Galatz, 21s 3d, July shipment; Argentine, 20s 9d, July shipment; Argentine, 20s 3d, August shipment.

BARLEY.—Taganrog, 20s, July shipment.

OATS.—Riga, 14s 9d, October shipment; Viatka, 17s 3d, July shipment; Danubian, 14s 6d, September shipment.

LINSEED.—Calcutta, 53s, July shipment; Argentine, 46s 9d, December shipment.

RAPESEED.—Yellow Cawnpore, 39s 9d, July shipment; brown Calcutta, 36s 3d, July shipment.

BEANS.—Egyptian, 30s 3d, August shipment; Smyrna, 28s 6d, August shipment.

Early Potato Crops.—In Scotland the early potato crops are being lifted, the first potatoes of the season being lifted last week on the farm of Mr. Dougan Straid, six miles south of Girvan, and despatched to market. The consignment consisted of 70 barrels of Puritans. In view of the backwardness of the season, the crop is not unusually late. The total quantity of early potatoes sent from Girvan railway station last season was about 12,000 tons. The general crops of potatoes in Scotland are looking well.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

Monday, June 30th, 1902.

	British.	Total.	July 1st, 1901.
Beasts	1,070	1,070	1,020
Sheep and lambs	5,650	5,650	8,080
Calves	5	5	—
Milch cows	45	45	60

Quotations per 8lb. (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.	Inferior. s. d.	Second. s. d.	First. s. d.
Beasts	3 4 ..	4 8 ..	5 4
Sheep	4 0 ..	5 6 ..	6 4
Lambs	5 8 ..	6 4 ..	7 0

Milch cows, per head, £17 to £23.

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, nil; Eastern Counties, 148; Midland, Home, and Western Counties, 476; Devon, 30; Ireland, 416.

We note to-day a great falling-off in the supply of fat beasts, especially from Norfolk, arrivals from the Midland counties, consisting of Herefords, runts, and Lincoins being, however, stronger. Trade proved slower, but late rates were upheld, owing to the smaller number on offer. Fat butchering cows and bulls were more difficult to cash, even at less money, though the supply was very short. 280 Irish stores were quoted as follows:—Yearlings, £7 per head; 2½ years, £12 to £13; and 3 year olds, £14 to £15. The following are top quotations per 8 lbs. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day.	Monday, July 1st, 1901.
Devons	5s 2d to 5s 4d ..	4s 4d to 4s 5d
Herefords	5s 3d to 5s 4d ..	4s 4d to 4s 6d
Norfolks	5s 1d to 5s 2d ..	4s 4d to 4s 5d
Runts	5s 2d to 5s 3d ..	4s 3d to 4s 5d
Lincolns	4s 10d to 5s 0d ..	4s 4d to 4s 5d
Irish	4s 10d to 5s 0d ..	—
Fat cows	4s 2d to 4s 4d ..	3s 6d to 3s 8d

There was a decrease of 3,680 in the number penned in the sheep market, among which was a fair proportion of lambs, the choicest of which made fully 8d. per 8lb. more money. Wether sheep were in good request, even at an advance of 4d. The same remark also applies to ewes, of which an early clearance was made. The total supply included 1,650 from the Eastern counties, 230 Scotch, and 710 Irish. The season for Yorkshire sheep is closed this year earlier than usual.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8lb. (sinking the offal), and are for the best of each class penned.

	To-day	Monday, July 1, 1901.
7½st to 8st Downs	6s 2d to 6s 4d ..	5s 2d to 5s 4d
8st Downs	6s 0d to 6s 2d ..	4s 11d to 5s 0d
10st Half-breds	5s 8d to 5s 10d ..	4s 7d to 4s 8d
12st Lincolns	5s 7d to 5s 8d ..	4s 4d to 4s 6d
10st Irish	5s 7d to 5s 8d ..	—
10st Down ewes	4s 8d to 4s 10d ..	3s 10d to 4s 0d
11st Half-bred ewes	4s 6d to 4s 8d ..	3s 8d to 3s 10d
8st Down lambs	6s 10 to 7s 0d ..	6s 2d to 6s 4d
6st Half-bred lambs	5s 10 to 6s 0d ..	5s 6d to 5s 8d

Calf trade nominal. No pigs on the market.

London (Central), Monday.—Fair supplies; weather hot; trade slow. Beef carcasses, 4s 6d to 4s 8d; hindquarters, 5s to 5s 2d; roastings, 6s to 6s 4d; sheep, ewe, 3s 8d to 4s; wether, 4s 8d to 5s; hind-quarters, ewe, 4s 8d to 5s; wether, 5s 8d to 6s; pigs, large, 3s to 3s 8d; small, 4s to 4s 4d.

St. Ives, Monday.—Beasts, 332; sheep and lambs, 2,053; pigs, 388; horses, 35. Beef, 8s 3d to 9s 3d; mutton, 7s 7d to 9s 11d; lamb, 10d; pork, 6s to 7s. Fat beasts sharp trade; fat sheep fair; store cattle and sheep slow; fat and store pigs fair; milch cows fair prices, £15 to £23

FOREIGN CATTLE.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts, 1,144. To-day's supply, compared with Monday last, showed an increase of 347, and consisted of 300 from the United States and 844 from Canada, trade for which was of a rather slower nature, with a downward tendency in value, sales being more forced at following quotations per 8 lb—offal given in:—Best States beasts to dress about 680lb, 4s 11d; seconds, 4s 9d; best Canadians, 4s 8d to 4s 10d. Sheep, 609, consisting of shipments from Canada. These, however, did not include all arrivals, 791 from the United States being held back. Trade was of a dull nature, best pens being quoted at 4s 8d per 8lb. On Saturday the supply of beasts consisted of 1,428 from the United States and 200 from Canada, trade for which was firm and steady; the best of the former were quoted at from 4s 10d to 5s, and the latter from 4s 9d to 4s 10d. Sheep numbered 794 from the United States, and met a slow sale at from 4s 4d to 4s 6d per 8lb.

Liverpool, Monday.—Smaller supply of cattle; demand good, and prices about same as last week. Sheep supply larger; trade slow, and prices again in buyers' favour. Lambs met a better trade. Beef, 6d to 7¾d per lb; mutton, 6d to 8d per lb; lambs, 7¼d to 8¾d per lb. At market, 598 cattle and 12,516 sheep.

HOPS.

London, Monday.—Messrs. W. H. and H. Le May report the market was closed the latter half of last week, and opens to-day with a very fair inquiry. The plantation reports speak of the continued attack of aphis blight.

Mash as a Food for Poultry.—Mr. A. G. Gilbert, poultry manager to the Canadian Experimental Farms, states in his annual report for 1901 that the experience of the poultry department, after many years' trials, points to the conclusion that the "mash," as part of the daily ration of poultry, is beneficial when judiciously used. When fed in too great quantity to one and two year old hens, it is apt to create an over-fat condition. In the case of the latter, if of the heavy breeds, the over-fat condition is likely to be fatal. If fed in too great quantity as a morning ration, it is likely to make the hens disinclined for exercise. It is a valuable aid to moulting hens, and is a convenient form of utilising much of the farm and farm-house waste. Where hens have a comparatively free run, its beneficial effect in egg production has been noticeable.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW.

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS.")

Trade in London

The beast trade this week at Islington was entirely confined to Monday, as Thursday was declared a Bank Holiday owing to the expected Coronation, notwithstanding which, a market was held; but no beasts were shown on open market; trade for both prime and second quality was of a decidedly slower nature at a decline of fully 2d. per 8lb., at which reduction a clearance could not be made, about 50 being turned out unsold. Consignments from Norfolk were much shorter, whilst those from Ireland were stronger. Included in these latter, were 305 stores, which were quoted as follows:—Yearlings, £7 5s. per head; two-year-olds, £10 to £11; three-year-olds, £13 to £15. For fat butchering cows and bulls there was a slacker demand by country buyers; prices in consequence ruled easier. At Deptford markets were held on Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday. Trade on all days was extremely dull, rates on the first day proving 4d. per 8lb. lower, with a gradual decline on other days, this being chiefly due to the hot weather and general dislocation of business. The total number of beasts on offer at both markets was 4,558, as against 5,668 during the previous week. The supply consisted of 1,430 British (decrease 350) and 3,128 imported (decrease 760); the latter comprised 2,797 from the United States and 331 from Canada. The following were the top rates paid per 8lb. (sinking the offal):—80 to 90 stone Devons, 5s. 2d.; 90 to 95 stone Herefords, 5s. 4d.; 95-stone runts, 5s. 2d.; 90 stone Norfolks, 5s. 2d.; 100-stone Shorthorns, 5s.; 110-stone ditto, 4s. 10d.; 90-stone Irish, 5s.; 85-stone States, 4s. 10d. to 4s. 11d.; 80-stone Canadians, 4s. 9d.; 90-stone fat cows, 4s. 6d. The sheep trade, which is practically confined to the Islington Market, was of a dull and heavy nature, at 2d. per 8lb. less money for both wethers and ewes; lambs also were very difficult to sell, except the very choicest, which were exceptionally scarce; heavy breeds were fully 6d. per 8lb. lower in value. The total number on offer at both markets was 10,704, consisting of 9,910 British and 794 from the United States. Best pens made per 8lb. as follows, sinking the offal:—7½ to 8 stone Downs, 5s. 10d.; 8-stone Scotch, 5s. 10.d; 9-stone Downs, 5s. 8d.; 10-stone Irish, 5s. 2d.; 10-stone Downs, 5s. 6d.; 10-stone halfbreds, 5s. 4d.; 10-stone ewes, 4s. 6d.; 11-stone Hampshires, 5s. 6d.; 12-stone Lincolns, 5s. 2d.; 5-stone fat Down lambs, 6s.; 6-stone halfbred ditto, 5s. 6d. For calves there was practically no demand, and the supply was limited to 64 head. No pigs on offer.

Trade in the West.

The festivities incident to the Coronation in this district, as, indeed, throughout the country at large, so thoroughly dislocated business of all kinds for the time, that we have very little indeed to report.

Sales, except to meet hand-to-mouth requirements, may be truthfully described as almost nil, the extra purchases made prior to the Coronation proving sufficient to tide over most purveyors till the jubilation was over and things had once more settled down into their ordinary groove. Beef hardly maintained its price during the sales just prior to the Coronation, but this may be ascribed as much as anything to the extra demands there were for the time for veal, lamb, and all the more dainty grades of meat so popular at holiday seasons. Calves found an exceptionally good sale at almost every market, prices in many cases going up to 9d. per lb., and even the more ordinary grades fetched 7d. to 8d. A similar result was experienced as regards lamb, some of the choicest of which made 11d. to 1s. per lb., and the more general runs 9d. to 10d. (or up to 40s. 6d. each for ripe, well-finished Downs). The demand in the way of pigs was largely restricted to porkers and baconers of the best type, the latter realising 11s. per score, if not over, and baconers 9s. to 10s., according to quality, as it was only the best qualities wanted of late—nothing coarse or weighty. In store things the few transactions passing, either in barreners or milch beasts, have been at extreme quotations, milch beasts selling from £17 to £22 5s., and barreners from £24 to £31 10s. for best and £17 to £23 for plainer kinds.

Trade in Ireland.

Owing to Thursday having been fixed as Coronation Day, Dublin market was held on Wednesday, when despite an enormous decrease in supplies of both cattle and sheep, business was of a very disappointing character. There were only 1,278 cattle sent in for sale, a falling off of nearly 1,000 head. Buyers were also in small attendance, and a quiet tone pervaded, so different from the animated state of things a fortnight or three weeks ago. It could not be said that there was any decided fall in price, but it was hard to clear the limited supply on market, and many lots of half-finished stock were left unsold. Prime bullock and heifer beef made from 63s. to 66s. 6d., while some extra good lots fetched up to 68s., and in a few cases 70s. per cwt.; good second-class, 58s. to 62s.; and inferior sorts from 50s. up. The number of sheep and lambs in market was only 6,198, a falling off of very close on 6,000 on the previous week. Trade opened sluggishly enough, but short supplies told towards the close of market, when better business was done, and best classes of wethers made from 1s. to 2s. a head more money. There was a fair inquiry for good hoggets for the export trade, but, taking the market all round, there was really no change in price to note. A large number of rough ewes on offer, which were hard to place, and most left over unsold. Prime wether mutton made from 7d. to 7½d. per lb.; ewe, 6½d. to 7d.; rough sheep, from 6d. per lb. Light hoggets rated from 28s. to 38s., and heavy up to 54s. each. With warmer weather, the trade for lambs was much brisker, with an all-round advance of 2s. per head. Small lambs were worth from 17s. to 26s., and large heavy made up to 38s. and 48s. each. Veal calves continue scarce and dear, so far as really well-fed quality goes. This is worth from 8d. to 9d. per lb., but rough can be had from 5d. up. Milch cows in moderate supply, and quiet demand at late figures. Store cattle, owing to the collapse of the beef market, and to discouraging reports from across Channel, have got a check, and prices were easier at the large sales held by Messrs. Ganly during the week. Cattle in forward condition, however, brought satisfactory figures. Lord Ardilaun got nearly £16 per head for a fine lot of Aberdeen-Angus cross bullock three-year-olds. The highest price was paid for some grand polled bullocks sent in by Mr. Russell, of Westmeath, which made £18 12s. 6d. a head. Over 1,200 head were offered for sale, and most were bought for exportation to England and Scotland. There was a very small supply of pigs, and the market was quickly cleared at smart prices.

LONDON.

London (Central), Wednesday.—Dull, and prices in buyers' favour. Arrivals of beef included 75 tons Scotch, 600 Liverpool sides, 2,100 hindquarters, and 200 forequarters American refrigerated. Beef: Scotch, short sides, 5s to 5s 4d; long, 4s 4d to 4s 6d. English, 4s 8d; American, Deptford killed, 4s 4d to 4s 7d; Liverpool, 4s to 4s 4d; American refrigerated hindquarters, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; forequarters, 2s 2d to 2s 4d. Mutton: Scotch, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; English wethers, 4s to 4s 4d; ewes, 2s 10d to 3s 2d. English, lamb, 4s 4d to 5s. Veal: English and Dutch, 3s 6d to 4s 4d. Pork: English, 4s to 4s 4d; and Dutch, 3s 8d to 4s per 8lb.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Trade slow, with a reduction in prices all round, except for beef, which was nominally the same as a week ago, and made up to 13s per score.

Basingstoke, Wednesday.—At Raynbird and Sons sale yard the attendance of buyers was small to meet a supply of 25 fat beasts, 36 calves, 240 fat sheep and lambs, 115 pigs, and 106 head of dairy and show cattle, for which the following prices were realised:—Fat beasts, £14 15s to £19 10s; fat calves up to 85s; sucklers up to 42s 6d; fat wethers and young ewes, 45s to 58s; old ewes, 32s to 38s; Dorsets 36s 6d; three-months-old suckling lambs, 30s to 36s; Exmoor do, 21s to 26s; fat

Bridgwater, Wednesday.—There was only a very small supply of fat sheep and lambs and fat and store cattle, and these met a fairly good clearance, but prices ruled in favour of buyers. There was only a small supply of store sheep, but a clearance was not effected.

Boston, Wednesday.—The market was extremely dull, with practically nothing doing. Very few stare beasts were on offer. There was a small show of incalvers, and little trade was done at last week's prices. porkers up to 51s 6d; store pigs, 1os 6d to 21s; dairy cows up to £19 15s. The demand for the short supply of fat beasts was not sufficient to test quotations, and prices remain nominally as before. A clearance nearly made of the short supply of fat sheep and lambs, last week's prices ruling in most instances. There was a good demand for all best-class milch cows. Store cattle showed a slower trade, the inquiry of last week not being maintained. Fat calves met a dull trade. Fat and store pigs sold readily at late rates. Ruling values:—Best fat beasts, 7½d to 8d; secondary ditto, 6½d to 7d; bulls, cows, and inferior, 6d to 6½d per lb; best fat sheep, 8½d to 9d; secondary ditto, 7½d to 8d; old ewes, rams, and inferior sheep, 6d to 7d; choice fat lambs, 9d to 9½d per lb; fat calves, 7d to 8d per lb; fat porkers, 9s to 10s score.

Calne, Friday.—Present prices for prime pigs, in lots of not less than 10, on rail within 100 miles of Calne.

Prime Stores.	Thickness of fat in any part of Back.	Price per Sc. s. d.
6 sc. 10 lb. to 9 sc. 10 lb.	2½ in. and under	10 0
Under 10 sc. ...	Not exceeding 2½ in. ...	9 6
Under 11 sc. 10 lb. ...	2¾ in. ...	9 0

—C. & T. Harris & Co., Ltd.

Cambridge, Monday.—Beasts, 699; beef, 8s to 9s 3d; sheep, 648; mutton, 4s 4d to 5s 8d; pigs, 533, pork, 6s 6d to 7s 3d; horses, 3. A larger show store beasts, and nearly all cleared. Fat beasts a good show, and made not quite so good. Fat sheep a good brisk trade. Stores only a few lots to hand, and made a little better. Pigs a larger number to hand, and trade brisk. Stores a fair trade all round.

Canterbury, Saturday.—There were a few lots of Irish bullocks and home-bred yearlings on offer; the latter failed to find purchasers, and for the others there was a slow sale at recent values.

Carlisle, Saturday.—About 350 heifers constituted the supply of Irish store cattle, the number being rather less than a week ago. The weather having undergone a rapid change to heat, there was more inquiry, and beasts changed hands at £8 10s up to £16 10s, according to size and quality. A few young pigs met a slow sale at 24s each.

Leicester, Wednesday.—The consignments of Lincolnshire and Norfolk fed bullocks, although smaller, were more than equal to requirements. Buyers and dealers were well represented, but trade ruled very sluggish, and quotations showed a further fall of £1 0s to 2 per head, an unprecedented decline of £3 10s per head in eight days. Choice bullocks, 7d per lb; secondary, 6½d; heifers, 6½d to 7d; cows, 5½d to 6d per lb. Sheep were a very small supply, but trade ruled sluggish at 7½d to 8d for choice qualities; large sheep, 6½d to 7d; ewes, 6d; lambs, 8½d to 9d; calves (depressed), 6d to 6½d per lb.

Newport, Wednesday.—Quotations were:—Best beef, 7½d to 7¾d per lb; secondary sorts, 6½d to 7d; best wether mutton, shorn, 8d to 10d; ewes, 6½d to 7d; lamb, 8½d to 10d; veal, 7d to 8d. Porker pigs, 10s 6d to 11s per score. A short supply, but trade not so brisk as last week.

Norwich, Saturday.—The supply of store beasts here to-day was large, but was scarcely so heavy as that of last week. Trade was slow at late rates, a number of the lots on offer being left on hand. The supply of fat beasts was moderate; the business done was effected at 8s 6d to 9s and 9s 6d per 14lb. The supply of store sheep and lambs was not particularly large; trade was steady at former terms, keeping shearlings making 35s to 44s; and lambs, 16s to 30s per head. Fat sheep, which were in small supply, moved off at 8s 6d to 9s 6d and 10s per 14 lb. Keep prospects are still good in Norfolk, the sub-soil having previously accumulated a good reserve of moisture.

Salford, Tuesday.—There was a smaller supply of cattle, and trade was dull, and prices lower, our top quotations being an extreme figure got in a few cases only. The supply of sheep and lambs was also smaller. Notwithstanding this, the demand for sheep was very slow, and prices, though not quotably lower, were in favour of the buyer. The lamb trade was slow at late rates. About the same number of calves on offer, but trade worse than last Tuesday, and prices lower. Quotations: Cattle, 6d to 7½d; sheep, 6d to 9d; lambs, 7½d to 9d; calves, 5d to 7½d. At market:—Cattle, 1,473; sheep and lambs, 17,645; calves, 163.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Brisk demand for the only moderate stock on offer. Prices realised for best animals £18 to £22; secondary, £13 to £17.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday.—Store cattle and calves a fair trade. Beef firm at late rates. Pigs slower at lower prices. Mutton trade slightly worse. Quotations:—Lamb, 8d to 9½d; beef, 6½d to 8d; mutton, 7½d to 8d; and veal, 7d to 8½d per lb. Porket pigs, 9s to 10s; and bacons, 8s 6d to 9s 6d per score; cows with calves, up to £23. Number offered, 907 lambs, 822 cattle, 63 cows, with calves, 1,189 sheep, 153 calves, 22 fat, 89 porket, and 385 store pigs.

Spalding, Tuesday.—Beef, 7s. 6d. per stone, against 9s. a fortnight ago. Store beasts met with a slow sale, and several lots were unsold. In the sheep market prices were not quite so good. Lambs sold fairly well.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There were on offer 115 cattle, 14 calves, 327 sheep, 73 lambs, and 164 pigs. A small show of best cattle, and customers were few. Prices showed a slight reduction. Best beef, 9s to 9s 6d; rougher kinds, 6s to 7s 6d per stone; calves, 6d to 7d; young sheep, 8½d; ewes, 7d; tups, 5d per lb; lambs, 20s to 30s each.

Thame, Tuesday.—The sales came too close to the Coronation-holidays, and, although well supplied for regular buyers, the absence of many purveyors made trade slow. Messrs. Bond and Burrows's sale comprised 30 fat beasts, 262 sheep, 66 fat and store pigs, and 49 fat and weaning calves. Fat bullocks made from £20 to £21; fat heifers, £17 10s. to £21; fat wethers, 48s to 53s 6d; fat ewes, 40s to 45s; fat lambs, 28s to 35s 6d; fat calves, £3 to £4; weaning cow calves, 30s to 60s; bull calves, 20s to 60s; store pigs, porkets, and bacon hogs, slower trade. Telegram into market of King's indisposition cast a gloom over the market.

Wakefield, Wednesday.—Market of a holiday character, and little business done at last week's figures, although there was a downward tendency. Beef, 6½ to 8d; and sheep, 6d to 8½d. Numbers:—Beasts, 1,268; sheep, 3,417.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Fair supply of stock and very slow trade all round. Beef, 6d to 8d per lb; mutton, 6½d to 8½d per lb; lamb, 8d to 9d per lb; veal, 6½d to 8d per lb.

Worcester, Saturday.—There was a good average supply, but a considerable falling-off in the demand all round. Beef favoured buyers, and mutton sold slowly at late rates. Pigs easier. Beef, 6d to 7½d; mutton, 7d to 8½d; lamb, 8½d; and veal, 8d per lb. Pork pigs, 10s 6d; bacons, 9s 6d per score.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Fair show of stock, prices all round fully up to late rates. Best beef, 7s 6d to 8s 4d; secondary, 7s to 7s 6d per stone; best wethers, 7d to 8½d; ewes, 6d to 7d; lamb, 10d; veal (scarce), 10d per lb.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Wednesday.—Beast supplies, 703 head, a decrease of 45, as compared with last Wednesday's figures, and consisted of shipments from the United States. Trade ruled slower at 4s 6d to 4s 8d, exceptionally 4s 9d to 8lb. to sink the offal; 442 beasts were not shown.

Yorkhill, Monday.—The usual weekly sale of American cattle, was held this afternoon, when there were in the lairages, 301 cattle, landed by the "Tritonia" (s.), from Montreal, and 300 ex "Saimatian" (s.), also from the same port. The cattle, as regards quality, were up to the usual standard, many of the bullocks being prime beasts. Buyers were forward from all parts of the city and surrounding districts, and trade was of a satisfactory character. The dead weight quotations may be given as follows:—Best bullocks, 66s to 68s per cwt., and for really choice up to 70s.; secondary and heavier, down to 64s; heifers, 66s to 67s; secondary, down to 63s.; bulls, 58s to 60s., and in a few cases a little more, all according to quality and finish.

Yorkhill, Monday.—A sale of Canadian sheep was held to-day, when there were penned in the sheds 294 sheep, landed by the "Tritonia" (s.), from Montreal. The consignment consisted principally of ewes and wedders, but there were also a number of hogs and tups included. All the sheep were clipped, and up to the average quality. A fair trade was experienced, and the previous week's values fully maintained. The dead-weight quotations may be given as follows:—Best ewes, 6½d. per lb.; secondary and heavier, 6½d.; wedders, to 7½d.; secondary, down to 7d.; hoggs, 7½d.; and tups, od to 5½d., according to quality and finish.

Bullock-Feeding Experiment.

An experiment was carried out in 1900-01 by the Midland Agricultural and Dairy Institute with the object of comparing the feeding value of undecorticated cotton cake, linseed and cotton cake mixed, and linseed decorticated meal and maize meal mixed.

Nine bullocks under two years old were chosen and divided into three lots of three each. From December 12th to December 27th they all received the same daily ration, viz.:—5lb. undecorticated cotton cake, 56lb. swedes, with hay, barley straw, and chaff, ad lib. The experiment proper commenced on the 28th December each bullock receiving the same amount of roots, hay, and straw; but lot A had in addition 3lb. undecorticated cotton cake and 3lb. linseed cake; lot B had 1lb. linseed cake, 1½lb. decorticated cotton meal, and 3lb. maize meal; while lot C got 6lb. undecorticated cotton cake. The quantity of all these artificials was increased by a third on January 25th, and again by the same amount on February 22nd. On April 8th, 15th, and 22nd, one bullock was chosen from each lot, the live weight recorded, and the carcase weight taken three days after. The bullocks were sold at 7s. 6d. per stone, and their value per head worked out as follows:—Lot A, £17 0s. 10d.; lot B, £17 2. 6d.; lot C, £16 12s. 2d. The daily gain had been 2.18, 2.10, and 1.73 lb. per head respectively; while lot C showed a somewhat higher percentage of carcase. The cost of the food was, however, lowest in the case of lot C, and substracting the original value of the bullocks on December 12th, and the cost of the food from the final value on April 15th (average of the dates when they were killed) there was shown a nett profit per head of 3s. 5d. in the case of A, 7s. 7d. in the case of lot B, and 5s. 11d. in the case of lot C. The butcher's report was that lot A were good cutters and nice quality; lot B were first class, full of quality, and the meat was extra; lot C was a little short of meat, and required more help.

The conclusion drawn from this experiment was that the profit from such winter feeding is very small, as after debiting rent and labour, and crediting value of manure, the receipts and expenditure nearly balance; and the difference in the profits obtained is not great enough to warrant any distinct inference being drawn.

Irish Peat and Electrical Energy

A movement is on foot to turn the Irish peat bogs to economical account, it being maintained that a great impetus would be given to certain industries in Ireland were the turf converted into electrical power at convenient spots. It is thought that by canalising the bogs the fuel could be delivered at those points cheap enough to compete with coal. This is by no means an original suggestion, but savours of the opinions held by prominent Irish geologists some 75 years since. An important factor, however, is that in those days there were no railways, and water carriage was the only feasible method of getting the turf from the bogs to more convenient centres. There is no doubt that peat is a valuable asset in Ireland. Except here and there, it has been practically untouched, and that it could be utilised with advantage is unquestionable. We must also recognise that as the country roads are so frequently made on a peat foundation, no heavy loads can be dragged along many of them. Consequently, even light traction engines cannot be brought into requisition, except in very few localities. But whilst we thoroughly agree that more of the fuel could be used to greater advantage than at present, and may be made suitable for the generation of electrical energy, the solution of the carriage problem seems to us to lie rather with the further development of light railways than in the construction of waterways. It is maintained that by the use of turf as fuel we shall see provision made for the generation of electrical energy applicable to every form of industrial activity, not only for railways, tramways, factories, heating and lighting of towns, etc., but also not improbably in the near future to most agricultural operations. Without being quite so sanguine about all these things coming to pass and without endorsing the opinion that the quantity of peat in Ireland is practically inexhaustible, we may concede that if the question of carriage could be satisfactorily disposed of, the material would be in much greater demand in industrial centres than it is at present.—The "Builder."

Gamekeeper's Right to Shoot a Dog.—A case of interest to game-breeders was heard at Beaconsfield Petty Sessions on Monday, when Henry Lloyd, gamekeeper to Mr. Henry White, First Secretary to the American Embassy, was summoned for wounding a dog belonging to Mr. Frederick Rolfe, a local farmer. The defendant admitted shooting the dog while it was chasing pheasants, added that, as it was wounded, he followed it and again hit it.—The Bench held that while the defendant was justified in his first shot for the protection of his game, the second one was not justifiable, and they fined him £1 inclusive.

Farmers and Footpaths.

The other day I heard a farmer deploring the fact that there was not a single field on the whole of his two-hundred-acre holding that had not got a footpath running through it. Of course, this is an exceptional case, but when you come to look into it, I wonder how many miles of footpaths there are intersecting fields and woodlands in the country. Who made them no one knows, and in some cases their uses are almost equally mysterious. For instance, you often observe a stile set in the hedge, and a path runs first inside the field and parallel to the road for a certain distance, when it again emerges into the highway, without saving a single yard. Of course, people make use of such a path purely from force of habit, or else owing to an inherited desire to regain the useless right of way. There is no doubt about the fact that the public is particularly jealous of its footpaths. Try and shut one up, and you will soon find this out, even though you may offer another road which is more convenient. One can make a fair guess at the origin of many of the poothpaths that just cut across the corners of fields, and bisect parks, very much to the annoyance of the owners, who have no remedy except making the best of it.

The roads in the old days were not so good as they are now, and people, of course, did not travel on bicycles or motors. Neither was trespass a word with a very terrible meaning, and therefore our pedestrian forefathers were doubtless in the habit of making short cuts across the country in order to arrive at desired points. The broader tracks in time became roads, the narrow ones remained only as footpaths, but they grew to be public property, and nowadays the average Englishman—who, by the way, does not own the land over which they run—thinks as much of the footpaths as he does of his birthright, and will stand at nothing in the way of obstacles when any ill-advised land-owner conceives the idea of closing one. There is no such thing as a modern footpath. They are all handed down to us from former generations, just as we shall pass them on to posterity, to be a blessing or a nuisance to our grandchildren, according to the circumstances under which they are placed.

From the pedestrian's point of view, who has no particular interest in agriculture, footpaths are a blessing for which he is indebted to his forefathers, and is, or ought to be, truly thankful. What a relief it is, on a hot sunny day, to be able to leave the dusty highway and strike into green fields, where the turf is soft to the feet and you can enjoy the odour of sweet-scented flowers, knowing all the time that by this pleasant change you are shortening your walk a mile or two. Again, we have to thank the originator of footpaths for many a pleasant country ramble. Without this undisputed right of way the public would never enjoy the privilege of passing through fields, parklands, wood, and coppice. Not a bit of it; they would have to stick to the highway, for, generally speaking, landowners are not particularly willing to allow their less fortunate neighbours the privilege of crossing their domains unless there happens to be a narrow trodden track over which they have no control. As a convenience, again, footpaths are a blessing to the pedestrian. He may see the place he wants to get a mile or two away, and in order to reach it by the road he must pass along two sides of a triangle. To avoid this he naturally looks for a footpath, and generally finds one, for the persons who originally made it doubtless had the same object in view.

But there are two sides to every question—even that of footpaths, and we must now look at the other side. With the farmer who has to put up with there being a right of way though every field he is holding, including the fruit orchard, we can agree that it is possible to have rather too much of a good thing, but one can sympathise even more with the farmer who has to tolerate the inconvenience of having a footpath run right through his farmyard. This sounds like carrying a privilege too far, and can only be accounted for by the fact that the farmyard must have been formed on the site of the footpath, and the public, with its characteristic tenacity in this respect, would not give up its right. Our forefathers were certainly expert in the art of making short cuts. They apparently would not do so much as go round a churchyard even, as may be observed in the cases of many hallowed acres that are intersected by footpaths. There is no fear of this generation giving up the right of way, because it is well known that if established paths are lost there will be no replacement, as new footpaths are commodities unknown.

It is a curious fact that many footpaths have a knack of running alongside hedgerows, and in these cases farmers are everlastingly repairing the fences. It is so easy for the stick-picker to break off a rail or pull up a pile when passing, with a view to replenishing the household fire, and if the farmer comes along the article is quietly dropped, and the individual passes by unconcerned. If he were trespassing the farmer would have a hold on him, but he is on the footpath—a public right of way—and as for disturbing the fence, he can deny that, of course, unless he happens to be caught red-handed, and so the farmer has to repair it with the best grace he can muster. The public are very jealous of their footpaths, but they are by no means so particular about sticking to them. In a field of mowing grass or standing corn the crop is invariably trodden down for several yards on either side of the path, and the farmer has to stand the loss, for the pathway is included in the rent account, and has to be paid for like the rest of the field. There is a very poor chance of preserving mushrooms in the pasture with a footpath through it. The individual who seeks the tasty fungus fails to see that his right does not extend beyond the narrow beaten track, so he saunters off it, and sidles back if he observes anyone approaching, apparently under the impression that the fact of a footpath running across the field gives him the right to perambulate the whole of it. But the man who has a footpath through his orchard claims my sympathy. He has no power to keep the people out, and it is curious what an incentive there is for the youngster to pass that way to school, though a may be half a mile further, just at the time when the fruit is ripening. But there, you know, schoolboys are only human.

It is a little tantalising to the intending house-builder, after finding just the site that serves his purpose, to find that it is crossed by a footpath which he has no power to divert, and in many cases owners of pretentious mansions have to put up with pedestrians crossing the park almost under their windows. But footpaths are no respecters of persons. We find them everywhere, intersecting the best fields, and winding about in the most unlooked-for places. They are a privilege of the people and a boon to many, and if everybody knew just how far his rights extended there would be little need for the farmer whose holding is intersected by footpaths to grumble.

RUSTICUS.

Breeding Stock for South Africa.

The official journal of the Cape Department of Agriculture states that there can be no doubt that the opportunity to get possession of cattle of first-class breed would be eagerly seized by many stock-breeders in Cape Colony. "Throughout South Africa," the journal states, "there are numerous well-to-do farmers, who, if the chance were given them to inspect high-priced animals of good pedigree, landed at Cape Town, Port Elizabeth, or East London, would willingly take the trip and pay the price. For the enterprising breeder oversea there is a good thing to be done in this way, if he will venture, gradually at first if he chooses, to approach our markets with his samples. To him we would offer excuses for any timidity shown by our farmers in reference to sending orders abroad 'on spec.,' for they have been so beset by diseases and 'political' troubles that 'Wacht een beetje' seems to have become a kind of industrial creed for the nonce. Still, we think they will yield readily to temptation if presented in the way suggested."

The General Purposes Committee of Carlisle Town Council have agreed that the Council be recommended to ask Prince Christian to unveil the Carlisle Memorial to Queen Victoria during the Royal Show week; and to present His Royal Highness with the freedom of the city and an address. A meeting of the Council in Committee will be held to-day (Monday) to consider the recommendation.

Mr. Percy Crutchley, the hon. director of the Royal Agricultural Society, visited the show ground at Carlisle last week, and expressed himself highly satisfied with the arrangements, and with the forward state of the work generally. The railway companies, who have conveyed horses and lorries to Carlisle from London, Liverpool, Manchester, and other large centres, have been busy for several days past taking implements into the yard, but as yet considerably less than half the space is occupied.

Sheep Maggot Fly.—The question of keeping the maggot fly off sheep is fully dealt with by Tomlinson and Hayward, Limited, manufacturing chemists, Lincoln. For several years past farmers, especially in the North of England, have used Hayward's "Yellow Paste" dip, which is a really effective preparation. The sheep are dipped previous to the period when the fly is prevalent, and this saves the shepherd and his helpers a lot of work, and undoubtedly is of considerable gain to the farmers. Tomlinson and Hayward, Limited, have been manufacturers of sheep dip and veterinary preparations since 1842, and their name is well known in all sheep and stock-raising countries.



STOCK AND SHOW NOTES.

By Herdsman.

The proposal to establish an agricultural society for the four Northern Counties of England and the three South Scotland counties appears to be meeting with general favour, and a large number of agricultural societies in the area concerned have appointed representatives to attend the meeting to be held in Carlisle on Wednesday of the Royal Show week, and vote in favour of the show being held.

At a recent meeting of the Finance Committee of Aberdeen County Council the clerk stated that the voluntary assessment imposed upon proprietors for the purpose of giving a contribution to the Highland and Agricultural Society, whose show is to be held in Aberdeen next month, amounted to £585 8s. 11d., and of that sum there had been collected £570 6s. 3d. Payment of £13 2s. 6d. had been refused. It was agreed that the £570 6s. 3d. should be handed over to the society.

The fourteenth volume of the Oxford Down Flock Book has just been issued from the offices of the association, at 16, Queen Street, Oxford. The volume contains entries of rams Nos. 3575-3798, and of ewes Nos. 1397-1436. The book is prefaced by the annual report of the Council for 1901 and the show record of registered flocks of Oxford Down sheep during the same period.

Dealing with the ravages caused by the recent drought, the "Sydney Morning Herald" describes a visit paid by the New South Wales Minister for Lands to a place where sheep brought from the interior of the State were being hand-fed in the hope of keeping them alive. They had come long distances, from places where the severe drought had destroyed all fodder for them, and they were being nurtured at a cost which probably will never be recovered. In some cases they were valuable brood ewes. The "Sydney Herald" says: "They (the sheep) were three days and nights without anything to eat or drink. Early this morning men began the work of unloading them from the railway trucks. The poor beasts were weak and famishing, and 150 of them were found to be dead. . . . As quickly as possible those that could stand on their feet were driven to the bed of the river, where tons of chaff were spread about to save the animals from starvation. . . . . Emaciated, and almost living skeletons, the poor animals followed the buggies under the impression that they were food carts. Some had lain down to die, and the crows were at work picking their eyes out. Others lay in the muddy water, struggling to get out of the bog, but were unable to do so through weakness."

Messrs. John Thornton and Co. announce that they have received instructions to dispose of Mr. Thomas Dudney's entire flocks of Southdown sheep, at North House, Portslade, on Friday, September 12th. This old-established flock of Southdown sheep is one of the noted Hill flocks in Sussex, the father of the present owner having started the flock in 1868 from the stock of Mr. G. Hodson, the previous tenant of the North House Farm. Rams have been used from Mr. H. Rigden, Mr. H. Webb, Mr. Hugh Penfold, Mr. Carew Gibson, Mr. J. J. Colman, Mr. J. Morris, and other well-known breeders. Mr. Dudney's hundred wether lambs, sold each year at Lewes Fair, have been known for many years as a feature at that meeting, where they have usually realised the top price, and the hardy constitution and true type and character of the flock are well known to breeders. The flock, which will be unreservedly sold, comprises about 600 ewes of various ages, and 200 yearling ewes and 200 ewe lambs.

The last important American stock sale during May was that held at Linden Grove on the 30th and 31st of that month, when a large number of Jerseys, imported by Mr. T. S. Cooper, of Coopersburg, Pa., were disposed of. These are the figures:—168 head sold for a total of £11,634, an average of £68. Of this number 112 were under three years old, 44 were calves under twelve months old. These facts lend additional emphasis to the average. Imported cattle to the number of 126, the majority of them under three years old, sold at an average of £85. Other Jersey sales have resulted in larger averages, but none approaches this in the number sold, the quality of the consignments, the attendance in number and representative character, and the territory over which the cattle were scattered.



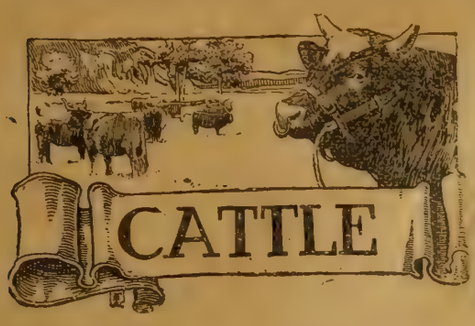
THE DEVON COW "FERN OF HALSDON," which forms the subject of the above illustration, is the property of and was bred by Messrs. W. R. and A. Trible, Halsdon Barton, Cookbury, North Devon. It was born on 1st March, 1896, its sire being "Lord Blagdon," 2999, and its dam "Duke of Halsdon," 2961. At the Bath and West and Southern Counties Society's Show at Plymouth, "Fern of Halsdon" was first in the class for Devon cows in milk, calved before 1899.

Sixty buyers took cattle with them to eighteen States and to Ontario. Highest price was made by the champion bull Flying Fox, which went to Mr. T. W. Lawson for £1,500.

Of the sales during the present month we may mention the very successful sale of Aberdeen-Angus cattle which took place at Chicago on 10th and 11th inst. The animals sold were consigned by various breeders. The top price was £400, which was given by Mr. Silas Igo, Iowa, for the seven-year-old Heather Bloom cow Belle Bloomer 2nd, consigned by Messrs. Cantine Brothers and Stevenson. Another Heather Bloom cow, from the same breeders, the four-year-old Edgewood Bell, went to the same purchaser for £301. The highest price for a bull was £200, which was given by Mr. Webster, Pleasant Hill, Illinois, for Black Jam Junior, a yearling, consigned by Messrs. Lantz. A great sale of Shorthorns, the property of the well-known breeders, Messrs. C. C. Bigler and Sons, Hartwick, Iowa, took place on 5th and 6th June, at Victor, Iowa. The top price of the sale was given for the Bates cow Wild Eyes 61st, by Airdrie D. of Hazelburst, which was taken out by Messrs. G. W. Brown and Randolph Bros., Indiancia, at £608. Cherry Folumnia 2nd, a seven-year-old, by Spartan Hero, a bull bred by the late A. Cruickshank, was taken out by Messrs. J. W. Smith and Sons, Allerton, at £340, while Golden Feather, a three-year-old red, by Royal Prince, a Scotch bred bull, made £350.

Mr. Ernest Prentice, secretary of the Suffolk Sheep Society, has sent me a pocket-card containing a list of the principal sales of Suffolk sheep during this year. The first sale takes place to-day (Monday), when will be held the annual lamb sale at Newmarket, which will be followed by similar sales at Stowmarket (Haverhill), Great Bentley, Sutton (Woodbridge), Saxmundham, Kesgrave (Ipswich), and two special sales at Ipswich, all of which take place during July, whilst there are a number of important sales fixed for August and a couple in September. Fuller particulars can be had on application to Mr. Prentice, whose address is 64, Orford Street, Ipswich.

The tenth annual sale of Kerry and Dexter Cattle belonging to Messrs. Robertson and Sons, of La Mancha, Malahide, Dublin, and Church Farm, Babraham, will take place at Babraham on Wednesday, July 16th. As readers of this journal are aware, animals from Messrs. Robertson's herd have been most successfully exhibited at our leading shows, and their successes being so well known, I need not give any details here. I, however, will mention one great honour achieved by the herd, and that is the winning outright of the two fifty-guinea Challenge Cups presented by Lord Ashburton for the best Kerry bull at the Royal Counties Show, these cups having been won three years in succession. The catalogue of the forthcoming sale includes the animals which have been prize winners, amongst them being the Kerry cow Vesta, first at the Bath and West Show at Plymouth, and the Dexters Little Emblem, first at Belfast, Violet, first at the Royal Dublin Show, Tess, first at the Royal Counties at Reading, and the handsome bull Boss, first and reserve number for the Challenge Shield for the best Dexter animal at the same show, as well as a choice lot of very promising young breeding animals suitable for future exhibition. There will also be offered some cross-bred cattle in good condition for showing at the winter fat-stock shows. Messrs. J. Thornton and Co. will be the auctioneers, and from them catalogues, etc., can be had. I may mention that the train service given in the catalogue has since been corrected. The down train will leave Liverpool Street at 9.10 a.m., and the up train, leaving Cambridge at 4.55 p.m., will stop at Whittlesford.



Mr. Cornwallis's Sussex Cattle.

A sale of Sussex cattle belonging to Mr. F. S. W. Cornwallis, of Linton Park, near Maidstone, took place at Tolehurst Farm, Frittenden, near Staplehurst Station, on the 20th inst., and the weather being favourable, there was a good attendance of buyers. The animals were a nice lot, and they made satisfactory prices, the average per head, including the few calves and steers, working out at £19 13s. 9d., the total proceeds being £910 5s. 6d. Yearling heifers sold exceedingly well, and there was a good demand for both bull and heifer calves. The highest price paid for a single heifer was 29 guineas, which was given in two cases—viz., by Mr. Taylor, for Valerian,, a two-year-old, and by Mr. Budd for the yearling Mabel of Linton 2nd. There were only three bulls, and Herondale Prince, a very wide animal, three years old, made top price, 30 guineas, the purchaser being Mr. W. Reynolds. A list of the principle prices realised, purchasers' names, etc., is appended:—

COWS AND HEIFERS.

	Gs
Bonette XIV., c May 29th, 1891, s Oxford Duke IV. Mr. H. Rigden	24
Barbara, c May 2nd, 1893, s Churchwarden..Mr. Taylor	21
Her heifer calf, by Herondale Prince....Mr. Taylor	17
Fairy Godmother, c June 7th, 1895, s Prince John 1261 Mr. Dungey	24
Anxious, c June 5th, 1895, s Prince John..Mr. Weston	25
Cherry Ripe, c Feb. 14th, 1896, s Prince John Mr. Batten	20
Mabel of Linton, c Aug. 5th, 1896, s Lord Oxeye III. Mr. Hickman	22
Hyacinth, c Feb. 16th, 1897, s Beacon Capt. W. J. C. Boteler	23
Iris, c Jan. 2nd, 1897, s Prince John....Mr. H. Missing	24
Fartsia, c March 6th, 1898, s Prince John..Mr. Dungey	21
Hawthorne, c Feb. 7th, 1898, s Prince John Mr. T. Weston	23
Eyebright, c Feb. 17th, 1898, s Red Knight Mr. W. Reynolds	20
Linton Crumple, c Jan. 3rd, 1899, s Aldon II. Mr. G. Farmer	20
Anxiety, c July 26th, 1899, s Lord Linton..Mr. F. Winch	22
Broom II., c Feb. 14th, 1899, s Prince John Mr. T. Weston	24
Bilberry, c March 25th, 1900, s Prince John Mr. Butcher	23
Valerian, c Feb. 19th, 1900, s Red Knight..Mr. Taylor	29
Begonia, c April 27th, 1901, s Herondale Prince Mr. Rayner	24
Bonnie IV., c Feb. 28th, 1901, s Herondale Prince Mr. Reeves	25
Eagle VI., c March 6th, 1901, s Herondale Prince Mr. Rayner	23
Mabel of Linton II., c May 10th, 1901, s Commander Mr. Budd	29

BULLS.

Herondale Prince, c March 31st, 1899, s Gladsome Prince.....Mr. W. Reynolds	30
Powerful, c March 30th, 1901, s Herondale Prince Mr. E. W. Hussey	26
Crown Prince, c Jan. 30th, 1901, s Herondale Prince Major Neeve	20

Particulars of Transactions in Store Stock.

(Reported to the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland.)

At the fair held at Milford, Co. Donegal, on Monday, there was but a small supply, and an improved demand. Prices: Calves, third class, £1 15s. to £2; yearlings, second class, £4 17s. 6d. to £5 5s.; third class, £3 2s. 6d. to £4; two-year-olds, second class, £7 15s. to £9; third class, £5 to £7 5s.; three-year-olds, third class, £8 10s.; springers, second class, £10 15s. to £12; third class, £6 15s. to £8 17s. 6d. Sheep: Over 12 and under 24 months old, third class, 12s. to 15s.; two years old and upwards, third class, 17s. 6d. to 19s. Young pigs, eight to 10 weeks old, sold at from 14s. to 18s. each.

Wicklow Fair, held on Tuesday, was also a small one, and here demand was slow, except for cattle in forward condition. Prices: Yearlings, second class, £5 2s. 6d. to £7; third class. £4; two-year-olds, first class, £12 to £14; second class, £7 12s. 6d. to £10 15s.; third class, £6 17s. 6d.; three-year-olds, second class, £12 10s.



The Hackney.

The following extracts are from the article contributed by Mr. Burdett-Coutts, M.P., to the July number of "The Empire Review":—

The chief characteristics of the Hackney are type, or shapes, and action. The Hackney type is the correct one in relation to the draught of carriages. There are two forces by which draught can be effected by animal power. The first is the application of weight to weight. Of this an obvious instance is the cart horse. A cart horse by simply leaning the greater part of his weight in front of his centre of gravity will move a load. The second is nervous or muscular energy. Of this we used to see plenty of instances in the streets of London, when omnibuses were drawn by tall, weedy, hunter "misfits" by thoroughbred stallions; and it is found all over the south of Europe, where light shelly horses are seen struggling and fighting with the weight behind them. A very distressing spectacle it is. The only proper method of draught, and that which is least exertion to the horse, is the combination of these two forces, or the mean between them. That you have in the Hackney, when applied to harness work. He has substance enough not to put an undue strain upon his muscular energy, and he has energy enough to make full use of his substance.

There is, moreover, the æsthetic side of the question, an important factor in the price of all commodities that appeal to the eye, still more of *articles de luxe*. A pair of Hackneys on short legs with depth and quality look better in front of a carriage, which implies the necessity of substance, than the lighter shapes of the thoroughbred. It seems to be making an unfair demand upon the shapes of the thoroughbred, an unworthy use of his nervous energy, to make him draw weight.

We will pass to action. The essential property to make harness horses pay is action; and action is the essential property of the Hackney breed. The idea that the action of the Hackney is manufactured or increased by artificial means is all nonsense. Some dealers have various dodges for that purpose which they try to apply to horses that are not Hackneys. But action has been handed on in the Hackney breed from generation to generation. It is ingrained in the blood, and the simplest of all proofs is that afforded by the fact that when you first turn a Hackney mare with her pure-bred Hackney foal a week old out of their box, the Hackney foal will trot alongside of its dam, stepping like a made park-horse, while the thoroughbred foal will canter.

It may be well to give a definition of the right sort of action in the Hackney. It should be not only lofty at the knee, but free at the shoulder and with good delivery of the foot, the hocks at the same time being vigorously flexed to support and propel the weight of the body. With such action, the highest goer will stand any amount of road work, and is a far safer horse to drive than the daisy-cutter, where stone, not daisies, lie. The old prejudice that action knocks a horse's legs to pieces was founded on the "up and down" stepping of a certain type of English Hackneys, and still more on that of the "foreigners" which pump their knees up and round the foot back to the same place, and drag their hocks behind them. The prejudice has been exploded by experience of the truer sort of Hackney action in work; while the merest tyro in horse-flesh cannot have a moment's doubt as to which style is the more beautiful.

Indeed, it is a charm of the Hackney that every æsthetic virtue has its material value. There is a material value, for instance, underlying this delightful attribute of movement, which becomes more obvious when we consier his hind action. An especial feature in Hackney action is the flexing of the hocks underneath the horse. There is no breed that has anything like it in the trot, and its importance for harness purposes cannot be exaggerated. Without it the whole weight of the horse's carcase is thrown on to the joints and tendons of each foreleg as it touches the ground, whereas good hind action secures one hind leg being always underneath the centre of gravity, receiving and lifting the weight, and so lessens the strain on the forelegs and leaves them full and airy play. Consequently a horse with good hind action will last twice as long as one with bad hind action. Moreover, good hind action is of infinite importance on the slippery pavements so common now in cities. In the ordinary "mistakes" that horses may make with their forefeet on town pavements, they are saved from disaster by good hind action. If a horse who has his hocks outside him slips in front he has no support, he cannot "get" his other foreleg in time, so down he pitches. If, on the other hand, he is flexing his hock underneath him at the moment of slipping, his centre of gravity is at once supported by the hind leg, and he is saved from a fall. For many years I have driven high-stepping and high-couraged Hackneys of my own breeding in London, and in many parts of it where people rarely drive themselves. It is literally true that I have never had a horse down.

Action therefore does not interefere with utility. High action, provided always it is the right sort, will not prevent a horse going a long or a fast journey. The only effect of such work on the action will be to lower the height to which the knee is raised. If he has action to start with he will soon convert the superfluous energy, which is expended in raising his knee to a great height, into throwing his foot forward, and he will certainly clear the ground in his stride. In the true Hackney the process of resolving high action into fast action, or of controlling fast action into high action, while dependent on the use to which the horse is put, is a perfectly natural one. That is why he is at once both the best road horse for the country and the finest harness horse for the town.

We must pass over somewhat hastily three other important properties of the Hackney, soundness, tractability, and long life, which are all hereditary. I believe the Hackney breed to be the soundest breed of horses that exists in these islands. That is my experience. The Hackney breed is the most tractable of all light horses. They are easily handled and broken, and in all my long experience in breaking hundreds of horses I do not remember half a dozen cases where I found any insuperable difficulty in breaking a Hackney to harness. A Hackney in regular work and fairly treated lasts longer than any other horse I have had to deal with, except possibly the Yorkshire Coach Horse. More noticeable still is the longevity, unimpaired, of the great sires of the breed. Fireaway and Denmark in Yorkshire, and old Confidence in Norfolk—the great triumvirate of Hackney potentates at the time of the formation of the Society—lived to the ages of 31, 26, and 25 respectively. Fireaway left plenty of foals behind him at the age of 30.

Finally we come to the most important question of all, from the utilitarian point of view, endurance. This I must preface by one observation. High-stepping horses are not trained for long distances. Many of the finest horses of the Hackney breed are undoubtedly kept all their lives for "show" harness purposes. To ask a horse kept and used for luxury to perform a long journey is obviously unfair, and if he cannot perform the journey it is no argument against him.

Endurance is an original property of the Hackney breed, as evidenced both by the old tests, and by the work they used to perform. The work they used to perform before railways existed, 30 miles to market and 30 miles back in the day at high speed, proves plenty of endurance; and hundreds of instances of great staying power and speed combined in the Hackney, both in former and recent times, could be quoted.

Too little space remains to discuss the Hackney as a valuable out-cross with other breeds. For this purpose it is necessary to state two propositions, the first of which need hardly be argued. The characteristics of the Hackney are fixed by heredity. The second flows from the first logically. Prepotence is in proportion to heredity. That is to say, the older the back-blood of the type, the more certain the type is to be handed on. If it has been received through a long line of forbears, repeating itself in each individual for successive generations, then its prepotence or power of reproduction in the future is almost certain. The Hackney is not a chance horse. He is a horse of very old breeding, and therefore a horse for breeders to trust. This applies to both sexes of the breed. For this reason foreign countries, who foster horse-breeding with all the resources, financial and scientific, of a Government department, have imported the breed for half a century, until at one time this country was almost depleted of the best strains. It required all the care and capital available to re-establish the breed on its old basis.

From that time, by careful selection and systematic breeding the type has been greatly improved within itself, that is, by pure Hackney blood on both sides. When the Brookfield Stud was founded nearly 20 years ago the average height of the Hackney was 15 hands to 15.1. The necks were too heavy, and the quarters, particularly in Norfolk strains, inclined to be "carty" with the tail set too low down. Pure Hackneys are now bred at Brookfield 15.2½ in height, and even 16 hands and over; the "quality" at both ends has

been greatly improved, and blood-like harness-horses with depth and short legs are the result.

The out-crosses I have pursued, for the definite purpose of obtaining fine harness horses and hacks, are of two kinds. First, in order to produce the 16-hand horse, with more height, length of neck, and sweeping top line, than the Hackney, and more substance, action, and shorter legs than the Yorkshire Coach Horse (an old breed standing 16.2 and supplying the typical "Barouche" or "State Coach" horse), I cross the two breeds. This cross has produced practically a new type, and many of the highest-priced carriage horses at Brookfield during the past ten years have been derived from it. Secondly, I cross the Hackney with the Thoroughbred, losing perhaps some of the high action of the former, but gaining quality and courage from the latter. Many beautiful riding horses have been the outcome of this cross. Both these crosses, pursued on anything like a system, are original in my stud. Scientifically, the experiment of crossing the Hackney and the Coach Horse was almost certain to succeed. It is a law of breeding, constantly violated with disastrous results to the breeder, that you must not join two extremes to obtain the mean. The Hackney and the Coach Horse, though differing in size, and to a certain extent in type, are both essentially harness breeds; there is no strong or characteristic antipathy between them. The same remark applies to the cross of the Hackney with the American Trotter. Both are harness breeds, and breeders in the States are following this cross with admirable results.

It only remains to add that for breeding army horses for cavalry and mounted infantry, the Hackney in my opinion is a very valuable factor. The sire should be a Thoroughbred, big-boned, short-legged, and well-coupled. But it is very difficult to find this combination in a breed whose sole *métier* has been speed on the top of the ground, and for a mile or two only. The beauty of form, the substance, bone, short legs, good coupling, above all the action which lifts his weight from the hocks and clears the ground in front, are to be obtained from the Hackney because they are all hereditary in the breed. Courage, resistance, speed, elasticity, can all be improved by the Thoroughbred. Breeders in all countries know well that these are the varied points for which military buyers search, too often without success. The mating of the Hackney and Thoroughbred has the same virtue of congruity just referred to. For the Hackney possesses many riding characteristics, and on the hard road where the trot is essential there is no better hack than a cob with good shoulders, blood-like neck, and regular clockwork action. I believe that this cross, ranch-bred in our colonies or in the States at a cost that would leave a handsome profit, would produce a better type of cavalry horse than is to be found elsewhere in the world.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending June 24, 1902:—

Swine Fever.	Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.	No.	150	503	677	968	3,984	9 723
	Outbreaks.	No.	33	109	76	81	836	2,011
								1,105
								11,812
								8,430
Rabies.	Cases Confirmed. Oth'r Anim'ls.	No.	2	...	...	...	2	1
	Dogs.	No.	...	...	...	...	12	1
Pleuro-Pneumonia.	Cattle slaughter'd. Exposed to Infection.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Diseased.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Outbreaks.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...
Glanders (including Farcy).	Animals Attacked.	No.	36	43	27	14	1,023	1,080
								992
								560
	Outbreaks.	No.	25	27	18	9	543	621
								537
								397
Foot-and-Mouth Disease.	Animals Attacked.	No.	...	...	...	...	118	669
								123
								...
	Outbreaks.	No.	...	...	...	...	1	12
								9
								...
Anthrax.	Animals Attacked.	No.	12	24	22	21	695	494
								478
								545
	Outbreaks.	No.	12	17	10	9	380	346
								291
								278
Period.	Week ended June 21, 1902 ...			1501			Total for 25 weeks, 1902 ...	1901
	Corresponding week in ...			1900				1900
				1899			Corresponding period in ...	1899

NOTE.—The figures for the current Year are approximate only.



Diss Lamb Sale.

The twenty-fifth annual sale at Diss took place on Tuesday, under the most favourable circumstances, the auctioneer being Mr. T. W. Gaze. The sheep were not so numerous as last year, but the attendance of buyers was most satisfactory, and a good trade was done, lambs selling at advances of from 2s. to 3s. per head on the prices realised at Norwich market on the previous Saturday. Below we give some of the prices realised, which will give an idea of how business ruled.

The sale opened, as usual, with Mr. T. W. Gaze's own consignment of first-cross lambs, of which 100 ewe averaged 28s. 3d. (best 50, 30s.); 100 wether, 28s. 6d.; and 150 mixed, 23s. 8d.; whilst 60 Black-faced wether made 30s., and 21 ditto 20s. 6d. Mr. George Holt Wilson's 39 ear-marked, Black-faced ewe lambs fetched 39s., and 40 eligible for registration 26s. 6d., 50 wethers 30s., 80 mixed, 22s.; 200 half-breds averaged 28s. 6d. (best 100, 30s. 6d.), and 120 more 22s. 4½d. Mr. William Brothers, Wattisfield, averaged 28s. 1½d. for 400 first-cross lambs (best 100, 32s. 6d.), 60 more going for 20s.; and from the Hon. Charles Hanbury, 65 Black-faced lambs from registered flock realised 21s., and 295 first-cross mixed ranged from 22s. to 12s. From Mr. Edward Mann, Thelveton, 100 first-cross ewe lambs averaged 28s. 9d. (top 50, 31s.), 100 wether 29s. 6d., 150 mixed 22s. 6d., and eight ram lambs nearly 49s. Mr. Jonathan Boyce, Tivetshall, had 100 half-bred lambs, which made 33s., one of the best prices of the day, 219 more going at from 29s. 6d. to 17s. 3d. Mr. William Jaggard, from his Thelnetham farm, had 70 Black-faced ewe lambs, which brought the leading figure of the sale, 34s. 6d., another pen of 70 mixed making 29s. 6d., and 140 more from 24s. 6d. to 23s. A consignment of 150 first-cross from Mr. Charles Goodrich, Palgrave, were a feature of the day, and, sold in fifties, went at 33s. 6d., 28s. 6d., and 27s., and 33s. 6d. was also the figure given for 60 half-bred from Mr. R. H. Amies, Bressingham, 30 more going at 26s. 6d.

The shearling ewes were a nice lot, but 70 Black-faced from Mr. A. Neave, Stokesby, easily came to the top, three score averaging 52s. 2d. (best score 56s. 6d.), 10 43s.; 20 from Mr. S. Baker, Shelfanger, 51s. 6d.; 24 from Mr. Fred Gowing, 46s. 6d.; 20 from Mr. L. Lewin, Marlingford, 43s. 6d., 15 42s. 6d.; 20 from Mr. Charles Tacon, 33s. 6d., 16 25s.; 24 from Mr. J. W. Smith, Pulham St. Mary, 31s. 6d.; and 29 three-shear from Mr. H. Hardesty, 39s. 6d. Six score first-cross from Mr. R. H. Hammond ranged from 48s. 6d. to 41s.; 80 from Mr. Frank Hammond, 45s. to 40s.; 20 from Mr. James Leatch, 33s. 6d.; and 110 half-bred from Captain R. B. Clarke, 27s. 6d. to 20s. 6d.; and 47 from Mr. A. R. Stammers, Livermere, over 36s.

The receipts on account of Revenue from April 1, 1902, when there was a balance of £8,566,947, to June 21, 1902, were £30,833,756, against £26,020,287 in the corresponding period of the preceding financial year, which began with a balance of £5,596,918. The net eexpenditure was £43,501,930, against £44,567,529 to the same date in the previous year. The Treasury balances on June 21, 1902 amounted to £6,803,108, and at the same date in 1901 to £7,239,557.

At Vaas, Co. Kildare, on Wednesday there was a small fair, at which a good demand for well-conditioned cattle, but young and thin animals were rather hard to sell. There was a moderate supply of sheep, consisting chiefly of three-year-old mountain wedders and lambs, the former being in fair demand. Prices: Calves, second class, £3 10s. to £4 7s. 6d.; yearlings, second class, £5 5s. to £6 15s.; two-year-olds, first class, £11 10s. to £13 10s.; second class, £8 to £10 10s.; third class, £6 10s. to £7 5s.; three-year-olds, first class, £14 10s. to £14 15s.; second class, £11; springers, second class, £14 to £15. Lambs, second class, £1 2s. to £1 4s.; over twelve and under twenty-four months, second class, £1 2s.; two-year-old and upwards, second class, £1 2s. to £1 10s.

Keighley Society.

The annual show of the Keighley Agricultural Society was held on Saturday, in most beautiful weather, with the result that the attendance of visitors was very large, and the society should be able to make good some of the loss sustained at some previous shows, which unfortunately were marred by bad weather. The entries numbered 1,509, as compared with 1,033 last year, 996 in 1900, in both of which years, however, there were no pigs shown. The increases occurred chiefly in the sections not strictly agricultural, dogs being the most notable, for here the entries number 594, or more than double those received at the three previous shows. Horses numbered 108, against 88 last year, and 105 in 1900; cattle, 29, 28, and 14 respectively; sheed, 34, as compared with 37 last year, and 19 in 1900, and pigs 16. The horses were up to the usual high standard, the youngsters including the progeny of such well-known sires as Rosador and Garton Duke of Connaught, whilst among the winners in the mature classes were Blucher, with which Mrs. Fred Holmes, of Shipley, has taken quite a trophy of prizes, Kempton Cannon, owned by Mrs. Robinson, of Harrogate, and St. Thomas, a son of Garton Duke of Connaught, with which Mr. Hall, of Langton, led a nice class of hackney stallions. To Silver Ness, owned by Mr. Inman, of Huddersfield, was awarded the Hackney Society's medal. It may be mentioned here that objections were laid against the winners of first and second prizes in the local class for horse or mare over 14.2 hands in harness. In the cattle section, Mr. Samuel W. Hackney, of Leeds, Mr. Rayner, of Seacroft, Mr. W. Walsh, of Bingley, Mr. Haggas, of Keighley, were the most successful exhibitors, whilst the sheep awards went to local exhibitors. Objection was taken to the winner of the first prize in local class for three Lonk ewes to be suckling lambs.

In the pig section Mr. Dewhurst, Bradford, won four firsts and two second prizes, Mr. J. Veevers, Brierfield, Colne, securing the other two seconds. The shows of dogs, poultry, pigeons, and rabbits were good ones, and received considerable attention from the large company present.

The judges of horses were:—Mr. John Harrison, Bawtry; Mr. H. P. Webster, Brompton; and Mr. T. A. Atkins, of Leeds; of cattle and sheep, Mr. Thomas Leake, Swillington; whilst Mr. Edward Smith, Cowling, judged the pigs. Dogs: Mr. J. R. Anderson, Leeds; Mr. T. H. Stretch, Ormskirk; Mr. H. Croft, Bradford; and Mr. George Roper, Gomersal. Poultry: Mr. W. H. Robinson, Keighley; Mr. D. Butterfield, Morton; and Mr. P. Proud, Formby. Pigeons: Mr. G. B. Goodfellow, Stockport; Mr. S. Shackleton, Keighley; and Mr. T. H. Stretch, Southport. Rabbits: Mr. J. H. Roberts, Armley. Butter and eggs: Mrs. Pinder, Howden Park.

The horses, cattle, and sheep awards were as follows:—

HORSES.

Draught or Agricultural.—Best horse or mare (local)—1, T. Taylor and Co.; 2, F. Whitaker. Best horse or mare (open)—1 and 3, A. Sheard; 2, T. Edwards. Draught or Agricultural Entire (open)—1, W. Tillotson; 2, S. Terry.

Hackneys.—Mare in foal, or with foal at foot, or having had a foal during 1902—1, J. W. Astley; 2, A. A. Haley. Foals, Colt or Filly, foaled 1902—1 A. A. Haley; 2, J. W. Astley; 3, J. Burton and Sons. Yearlings, Colt, Gelding, or Filly, foaled 1901—1, W. Mathieson. Two-Year-Old Colt, foaled 1900—1, G. Hall; 2, C. Robinson. Gelding or Mare, not to exceed 14.2 h.h., to be ridden (local)—1, H. Wilkinson; 2 and 3, J. Davy.

Gelding or Mare, not to exceed 14.2 h.h., to be ridden—1, J. H. Jones; 2, T. T. Campion; 3, G. E Franklin Gelding or Mare, over 14.2 h.h., to be ridden—1, Mrs. Robinson; 2, T. Hall; 3, T. C. McKibbin. Gelding or mare, not to exceed 14.2 h.h., in harness—1, J. H. Jones; 2, T. C. McKibbin; 3, G. E. Franklin. Gelding or mare, over 14.2 h.h., in harness—1, Mrs. Fred Holmes; 2, G. Tyson; 3, T. Hall. Best Groomed Gelding or Mare and Gears (without vehicle)—1, T. Taylor and Co.; 2, W. Moore; 3, F. Whitaker.

Hackney Stallion—1, T. Hall; 2, C. Robinson. Best Horse or Mare, not to exceed 14.2 h.h., in harness (local)—1 and 2, J. Davy.

Pony in harness, not exceeding 13.2 h.h. (local)—1, H. Wilkinson; 2, J. A. E. Mitchell; 3, J. W. Anderton.

CATTLE.

Laying-off Cow, due to calve from August 1 to November 30, 1902 (Open)—1, M. Raynor; 2, E. Farrow. Cow for dairy purposes, the property of a farmer regularly supplying milk into the borough of Keighley—1, T. Bushby, 2, C. Smith, Howden. Two Cows in milk, or due to calve before November 30, 1902 (open)—1, S. W. Hackney; 2, W. C. Walsh; 3, E. Farrow. Bull, any age (open)—1, T. Miller; 2, W. Walsh. Heifer for breeding purposes, under 2 years (open)—1, R. and T. Harrison; 2, Mrs. Cass. Fat Beast (Local)—1, H. Haggas; 2, H. Wright.

SHEEP.

Leicester, or any other Long or Short-wooled Ram, except Mountain (open)—1, C. Smith; 2, J. Wrathall; Long-wooled Tup Lambs, except Mountain (open)—1 and 2, C. Smith, Lonk or Mountain Tup Lamb (open)—1 and 2, J. Blackburn. Three Lonk Ewes to be suckling lambs—1, C. Smith; 2, J. Bailey. Three Lonk Gimmer Lambs (open)—1, Blackburn and Ashworth; 2, F. Ormerod. Lonk Gimmer Lamb (Local)—1, T. Snowden; 2, J. Hollingdrake. Three Half-bred Lonk ewes or Gimmer Shearlings (open)—1, J. Blackburn; 2, W. Walsh. Three Half-bred Lonk Gimmer Lambs (Local)—C. Smith.

PIGS.

Boar, any breed—1, A Dewhirst; 2, T. Veevers. Sow, any breed—1, A. Dewhirst; 2, T. Veevers. Store Pig Segs and Sows not to compete—1 and 2, A. Dewhirst. Pen of 3 Pork Pigs—1 and 2, A. Dewhirst.

SOCIETIES.

Scottish Chamber.

A meeting of the directors of the Scottish Chamber of Agriculture was held at Edinburgh on the 4th inst., Mr. Thomas Elder, Stevenson Mains, Haddington, presiding.

The Secretary (Mr. Isaac Connell, S.S.C.) read a communication from the County Council of Perth asking the support of the Chamber to a movement having for its object the ascertainment of facts pointing to undue and unequal railway rates being charged, and the making of a representation to the Board of Agriculture on the subject.

Mr. Hutcheson, Beechwood, Perth, moved that the Chamber accede to the request, and the motion being adopted, a committee was appointed to co-operate with the representatives of County Councils in getting at the desired information, and to submit it to the Minister of Agriculture.

The Secretary said it was proposed to make a special effort this year in favour of the funds of the Royal Scottish Benevolent Institution. As showing the success which had attended the institution since it was founded in 1897, he said it had provided life pensions to no fewer than 50 aged or infirm necessitous representatives, male and female, of the agricultural class in Scotland. There were at present on the roll of pensioners 40 names, 10 pensioners having died, but there were as many as 19 eligible applicants who had had to be refused assistance on account of want of funds. He thought the credit of Scottish agriculturists was involved in a matter of that kind, and he would not be satisfied until a strenuous effort had been made to put it right. (Hear, hear.) He accordingly asked the meeting to pass a resolution, strongly urging the directors and members to give their loyal and substantial support to the institution.

On the motion of Mr. Geo. Prentice, Strathore Thornton, a resolution in these terms was unanimously agreed to.

Mr. Prentice drew attention to the subject of the breeding of horses. He said the Government gave certain encouragement to the breeding of light-legged horses, a number of horses being sent through the country for the purpose of breeding that class of horse. The Government no doubt looked to the fact that if they encouraged breeding in that direction they would have a source from which to draw army remount horses. But the whole was a failure, and for one reason. They all understood the difficulty of the farmer, and his disinclination to breed light-legged horses when he could breed Clydesdale or work horses which he could use. If the farmer bred light-legged horses, the Government required him to keep them till they were four years old, and to break them. Now, most farmers were not in a position to keep that class of horse for that length of time, and few of them could properly break them, while the Government could only offer for such animals as other people would not buy. He was firmly convinced that success would attend the efforts of the Government in this direction if they would take these horses from the farmer unbroken at three years old. But the Government must send them horses that would breed the class of horses they required. At present they had too many broken-down racehorses sent, and horses they could breed a hunter or a coach horse from; but there was far too much "daylight" in them. He suggested that a committee be appointed to communicate with the Minister of Agriculture on the subject.

Mr. David Cunningham, Dalachy, Aberdour, seconded, and the motion was adopted.

Yorkshire Union.

A meeting of the Yorkshire Union of Agricultural Clubs and Chambers of Agriculture was held at York on the 12th inst., Mr. J. Allen, of Waplington Grange, presiding.

A communication was received from the Monmouth Chamber of Agriculture on the subject of Army remounts, and forwarding a resolution passed by them, to the effect that the President of the Board of Agriculture "should open up negotiations with the War Office as soon as possible, with a view to securing for the British agriculturist the supply of all the horses that the War Office may require."

Major Dent, who has had much to do with the question, opened a discussion. He said the Government could obtain enough horses in England in peace time, but they required to keep in touch with those countries from which they obtained their horses in time of war. It was quite impossible that Great Britain could supply all the horses required in a war like that in South Africa. The ordinary peace supply of horses was 2,000 a year; in the late war we had been using up that number weekly. The Government's attitude in time of peace had been in reality that recommended by the resolution.

Mr. Ridsdale considered that the price which the Government paid was inadequate. Farmers could not afford to rear four and five-year-olds and sell them at between £30 and £40, and until the Government gave a better price the average farmer would not be able to do anything in breeding remounts.

Colonel Legard concurred with Major Dent, and added that from his experience in the Artillery, the horses which the Government required for the Army were practically a special and particular class. He believed that we could not breed these horses in the United Kingdom for the price which the Government offered.

Major Dent, replying, said he was convinced that in Yorkshire it would never pay to breed remounts as such. He advised them to breed first-class hunters and harness horses, and sell their misfits for remounts. The present price was from £40 to £42, rising four years old. While it would not pay them to breed at that price, it would not pay the Government to give English horse-breeders more when they could buy the horses they wanted abroad at a lower price. At present the remount officers had attended certain markets, but the farmers had not responded to the appeals in a way which might have been expected. They had taken some misfits and some horses manifestly unsound, and they expected to get £40 a piece for them. The officers rejected them, and the farmers seemed to have been very disappointed.

The Chairman also expressed the opinion that it would not pay the Yorkshire farmer to aim at breeding remounts.

No resolution was adopted, but it was understood that the matter will be raised at the next meeting.

The Parliamentary Committee reported that they had considered the Education Bill, chiefly in its financial aspect as affecting agriculture. They were of opinion "that inasmuch as education is a national object, the large additional charges which will be thrown upon county authorities under the Bill should be met by a corresponding increase in the local taxation grants, instead of falling upon the rates, which are levied on one class of property alone." The Committee's resolution was adopted, on the motion of Mr. Newton, seconded by Colonel Legard, and Lord Herries and Mr. Liverside, jun., were appointed to join the deputation.

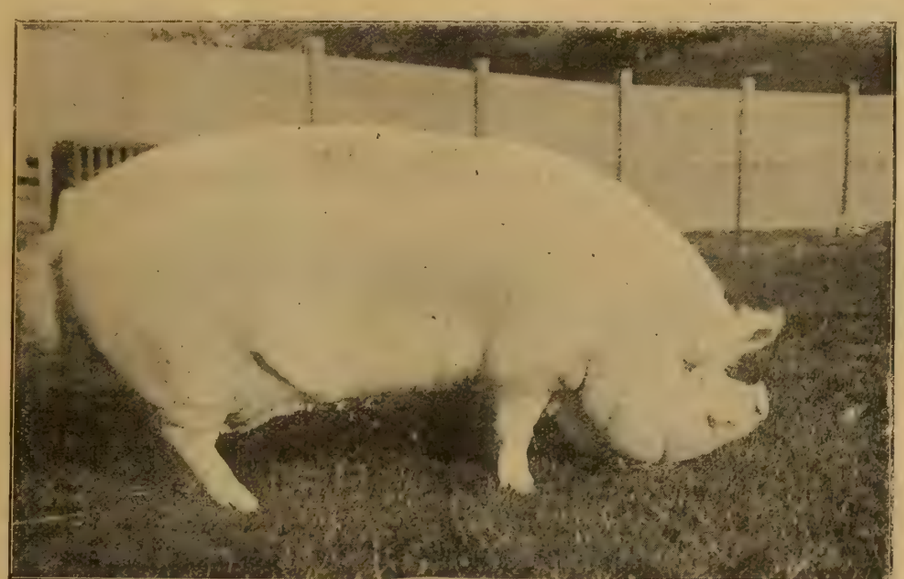
In the report of the General Purposes Committee it was stated that they had considered the following resolution of the North Cotswold Farmers' Association, referred to them by the general meeting of the Union, viz.: "That in the opinion of this Association, compulsory dipping of sheep is desirable, being the best means of stamping out sheep scab, and that the Board of Agriculture be requested to issue an Order to that effect"; and had come to the conclusion "that compulsory dipping of healthy sheep is not desirable." And they did not recommend the Union to adopt the resolution.

A discussion took place on the subject of sheep-worrying by dogs, and a resolution was passed, with some dissentients, in favour of the dog tax being increased, all dogs being required to wear identification collars, and be fastened up from an hour after sunset to an hour before sunrise; that all stray dogs found without a collar should be destroyed, and owners of sheep authorised to shoot dogs found worrying them.

Polo Pony.

A general meeting of the members of the Polo Pony Society will be held in the Royal Showyard at Carlisle on Tuesday, July 8th, at 2.30 p.m. The report of the Council to be presented at that meeting states that there has been a steady accession of new members, the total number now upon the Society's books being 530, composed of 3 honorary, 498 annual, and 29 life members. As compared with the report presented at the corresponding meeting last year, it indicates that the membership has increased by 115 during the intervening period. The third London show was, it states, as successful as the other two. After increasing the prize-money by no less than £70, the Council were able, due to the excellent entry received, to carry through the show at a total outlay of £268, the actual loss being £117 less than in the preceding year.

Negotiations are pending for a two-days' show in London in the spring of 1903, viz., the Friday and Saturday of the Hunter Show week. The additional time placed at the disposal of the Council will be utilised to provide new classes and to improve the bending and other competitions, and thus enable the Council to make the show still more attractive to the public. Suggestions for a produce class, classes for Irish ponies, and for studs limited to four ponies, bigger prizes for jumping and bending class for novices are under consideration.



THE LARGE WHITE SOW illustrated above is "Walton Topsy 6th," sire "Walton Topsman," 3623 dam "Walton Eclipse," 3621, the property of and bred by Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., Walton Hall, Warrington. At the Bath and West and Southern Counties Society's Show at Plymouth recently, "Walton Topsy 6th" won first prize in the class for large white breeding sows, farrowed before 1902, and reserve for the championship.

The Council refer to the fact that it is proposed to alter the name of the society from the "Polo Pony Society" to the "Polo and Riding Pony Society," "established to promote the breeding of Ponies for Polo, Riding and Military purposes, and for the encouragement of Native Breeds," subject to the confirmation by the members at a special meeting to be held at the Society's Office, 12, Hanover Square, on November 6th next. Members are reminded that the entries for Vol. VII. of the Stud Book and the Annual Supplement for 1902 will close on October 1st next. The various entry forms, on the back of which are given the conditions, have been issued, and can be had on application to the secretary, Mr. A. B. Charlton, 12, Hanover Square, W. Applicants should state the nature of their entry, for separate forms are provided for stallions and mares for the Stud Book, whilst another form is used for the Supplement.

Leeds Smithfield Club.

The annual meeting of the Leeds Smithfield Club was held on Monday, at which the principal question discussed was as to where future shows should be held. For years past the committee have lamented the want of a permanent hall in some central position, because each year it involves them in the necessity of erecting a wooden structure on their own account, and as they had to demolish it last year earlier than usual—the ground being wanted for other purposes—they had no chance of recouping themselves by letting, which means a loss on the year of between £400 and

£500, the actual loss on the show being £430 19s. 3d.

Mr. A. Edmanson, chairman of the Committee, who presided, regretted that they had the same old story, a loss, but that loss was likely to continue, he said, until they could get a permanent building, or be successful in letting that which they erected for the show. It was very disheartening for the members of the committee to give time and money to the enterprise if they must face such a financial result. The Corporation obtained the necessary powers to erect a permanent hall some time ago, and it only wanted a resolution of the Council to proceed with the business. But, he continued, I am sorry we have not more enterprising men on our Leeds Corporation to take hold of this matter and put it through.

To show that such a structure would be a paying concern to the Corporation, Mr. Edmanson spoke of the uses to which it could be put, apart from the three days that the Smithfield Club would be renting it. Exhibitions and other shows would keep it occupied pretty well all the year round. Bingley Hall, Birmingham, paid a big dividend. They ran four shows a year there, and thousands of people were brought into the city. One gentleman paid £100 a week for 12 weeks, and said he would have paid £70 a week in Leeds if he could have had the building during March and April. Glancing at a suggestion that the committee should hold the show in the market building at Copley Hill, Mr. Edmanson said they had to consider the question of distance from the city. From the public point of view the show had always been a success; but unless they could work on a different basis they would follow a long line of similar societies, and die a natural death.

The report was adopted.

Some discussion followed as to where the next show should be held, but the matter was left open for the decision of the committee.

Diseased Beef at the Central Market.—At the Guildhall Police Court on Tuesday John Fitter, meat salesman, of 134, Central Meat Market, was summoned for being in the possession of and selling certain forequarters of beef which were in an unfit state for food, knowing the same to be unwholesome.—Mr. Ricketts prosecuted on behalf of the Borough of Finsbury, and said that a sanitary inspector named Billins saw the meat carried out of the defendant's shop and placed in a cart which belonged to a butcher, of Enfield Highway. Some of the forequarter seized was found to be green, decomposed, and suppurating on the flanks. The inspector called upon defendant and spoke to him about it. Defendant said he had the fellow forequarter, and pointed it out to the inspector, who found that this also was green and mouldy in parts. Defendant then said he supposed "the whole of the Danish beef was in bad condition as it was delayed in transit." The meat was so bad that anybody could see its condition. The person who bought it has no opportunity of seeing what it was, because it was artfully wedged in with some other beef.—A fine of £10, with £3 3s. costs, was imposed.

Good Prices for Polo Ponies and Hunters.—Several hunters and polo ponies were offered at Messrs. Tattersall's sale at Albert Gate on Monday, and some good prices were realised, there being a very large and distinguished company present. The best price for a polo pony was obtained by that well-known player Mr. W. S. Buckmaster, who secured 570 guineas for Rufus, a beautiful bay; whilst for another bay, named Mullata, he got 400 guineas. In all he sold a half dozen animals for 1,715 guineas, or the excellent average per head of nearly £286 guineas. Mr. R. L. Agassiz also disposed of half a dozen polo ponies, but these did not sell so well as expected, only two going at three-figure prices, and both of these realised 145 guineas. Mr. A. Rawlin obtained much better prices for his five ponies, Sequel, a chestnut, realising 270 guineas; Sweetheart, a bay, and Circe, a chestnut, 220 guineas each; whilst Santel, a brown, bought from 7th Hussars, and a bay named Shamrock, sold at 135 and 95 guineas respectively. Lord Cowley disposed of 13 horses that had been regularly hunted with the Quorn, Belvoir, Mr. Fernies, and Cottesmore Hounds, and only one of the 13 failed to reach a three-figure price—and this by only three guineas. Four hundred guineas was got twice, for Exchange and Volunteer, both bay geldings. The next highest price was 280 guineas, and this was also secured on two occasions, the animals being, Paris, a brown gelding, and Brother Pat, a chestnut. Lord Southampton secured capital prices for his hunters, Theorist, a brown gelding, by Theosophist, realising 400 guineas; Prince, a bay gelding, by Brown Prince, 280 guineas; Grey Leg, a brown gelding, by Pythias, and Bohemian, a bay, by Ishmael, 270 guineas each; Jena, a brown gelding, by The Penman, 240, and Willy, a bay, 210 guineas. The best price for the dozen Belvoir Hunt horses sent up by Sir Gilbert Greenhall, Bart., was 290 guineas, given for Fielder, ten guineas less being got for Sandsfield, whilst six others went at prices well over the 100 guineas.

Agricultural Imports for 1901.

Later Information.

In previous years, says Major Craigie, C.B., in the Journal of the Board of Agriculture for June, it has been impossible in many cases to exhibit full particulars, especially as regards the countries from when the imports came, down to a later date than the year before that to which the other information in the volume mainly relates, and I have to acknowledge the courtesy of the Statistical Department of H.M. Customs, in placing fuller details at an earlier date at the disposal of this Board, which must enhance the value of the statistical matter.

Live Animals.

The number of cattle imported alive in 1901 was 495,634, or almost exactly the same as in the preceding year, the arrivals of 1900 having been 495,645. These totals, it may be observed, show only a very insignificant decline from the aggregate of 503,504 head of cattle imported in 1899, when the ports were continuously open to South American live stock. With the exception of the usual small number of Channel Islands cattle, the supplies came only from the United States and Canada, sources which proved adequate to furnish an equivalent for the Argentine quota contributed during the months of 1900 in which that trade continued. The total number of sheep imported was 384,000 in 1901 as compared with 314,000 in 1900, any deficiency from other quarters being far more than made good by the largely increased arrivals from the United States and Canada. In this connection it is not without interest to observe that the imports of live cattle into the United Kingdom were nearly as great in 1883 as at the present time, while those of sheep have fluctuated considerably from a maximum of 1,124,000 head in 1882 to a minimum of 63,000 head as lately as 1893.

Dead Meat.

The relative unimportance of the live stock import trade is, however, again suggested by comparing it with the rapidly growing trade in dead meat imports, which year by year of late have risen by more or less material annual increments. In this case the aggregate increase of 1901 over 1900 is greater than was then recorded over the twelve months immediately preceding. The remarkable expansion of this trade since so recent a date as 1893 must be recognised when it is observed that the quantity of beef, mutton, and pigmeat of all kinds imported, has very nearly doubled in this interval, rising from a total of 465,000 tons to 919,000 tons—a rate of development much outstripping that of population, as may be shown by the growth of these imports per head of the people of the United Kingdom from 27lb. in 1893 to 49½lb. in 1901.

It is, however, a matter of much interest to trace the sources of this large and growing section of the animal food of the country in recent years. The supplies from foreign countries—wherein the contribution of the United States of America has always been the dominant factor—furnish much the largest quota of the sea-borne meat consumed—or 756,000 tons in 1901, as compared with 163,000 tons from Colonial sources. For similarly contrasted periods, the dead meat annually landed in this country from the Canadian Dominion, from the Commonwealth of Australia, and from New Zealand, which are the three Colonial sources of supply, gives the following comparison:—

Period.	Canada.	Australia.	New Zealand	Total.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
		17,000		
1881-85.	11,000			28,000
1886-90.	18,000	7,000	30,000	55,000
1891-95.	16,000	37,000	51,000	104,000
1896-00.	34,000	70,000	75,000	179,000
1901.	30,000	46,000	87,000	163,000

Analysing more closely the elements of which the meat imports are composed, it may be observed that fresh beef increased by 19,000 tons to a total of 225,000 tons, which may be regarded as the equivalent of a herd of over 700,000 fat cattle. Fresh mutton rose once again, to a total of over 180,000 tons, the aggregate weight imported representing some 7,000,000 carcases of sheep and lambs. Both of these descriptions of imported meat have, in fact, doubled in bulk within the past seven years.

Dairy Produce.

The importation of butter, which appeared to receive a slight check in 1900, more than recovered its former position in 1901, the total quantity received being 185,000 tons, or an increase of nearly 10 per cent. To Denmark alone was attributed a total of nearly 80,000 tons, the advance in this case on the year accounting for a considerable portion of the increased quantity received. Treating the exports of the several Australasian colonies as a unit, their contribution comes next in bulk to that of Denmark with an aggregate of 20,775 tons, while the Russian butter exports to this country have exhibited the most remarkable extension in the year, the receipts rising from 10,500 to 18,900 tons, or very little below the Australasian quota. Canada and the United States practically recovered the ground which they lost as butter exporters in the preceding year. The imports of Cheese fell below the large total of 1900, a reduction being shown from all the principal sources except Canada, whose supremacy in this trade has become still more marked, the Canadian supplies last year accounting for three-fifths of the total quantity received at our ports.

Grain.

The total quantity of wheat and flour, expressed in its equivalent of grain, imported last year slightly exceeded 5,000,000 tons, or more than in any previous year since 1893. Of this quantity nearly one-fifth, or 975,000 tons, was furnished by British Possessions, but the proportions due to each source of supply fluctuate considerably. The large diminution in the supplies shown to have come from Argentina is the most striking feature of the past year, but the reduction in this respect has been more than made good by the increase attributable to the United States. It may be added that the importation of flour, which fell off somewhat in 1900 from the level of the preceding year, nearly reached again in 1901 the total recorded in 1899.

The imports of barley amounted to 22,000,000cwts., or about 5,000,000cwts. above those of either of the two years immediately preceding, though less by nearly 2,600,000cwts. than the total for 1898. Oats also were received from abroad in considerably larger quantities than in 1900, and in both these cereals the augmented supplies came mainly from Russia, although in the case of barley, Roumania was responsible for a considerable increase. The net addition of some 7,200,000cwts. to the imports of barley and oats, it may be observed, very much more than counterbalanced the diminution, which ultimately proved less than half this figure, in the arrivals of maize, the gap left by the reduction of the United States' supply of that cereal being filled by Roumania and Argentina.

International Conference of Sheep-Breeders.

The third International Conference of sheep-breeders, held by the National Sheep Breeders' Association, will take place on Saturday next, July 5th, at the Town Hall, Carlisle, kindly lent for the occasion by the Mayor and Corporation of Carlisle. The chief item on the agenda is the reading of a paper by Mr. Mansell, on "The Deleterious Effects produced by the Use of Substitutes for Wool in the Manufacture of so-called Woollen Articles in England, America, and on the Continent; their Injurious Effect on the Prices of Wool, and the desirability of Legislation to prevent the Sale of such goods as Woollen Goods." This paper should prove a most interesting one to sheep-breeders, and, seeing that the conference will be held on the first day of the Royal Agricultural Society's Show at Carlisle, there will doubtless be a large attendance. A discussion on the paper will take place, and the other business to be transacted will be the consideration of communications and replies in connection with the business of the conference, and any other matter that may arise.

The report presented at the annual meeting of the Galloway Cattle Society stated that the sum of £40 10s. was being offered as special prizes during the current year, including two ten-guinea cups, at the Royal Show at Carlisle. Rev. Dr. Gillespie (Mouswald), the secretary and treasurer, in submitting the report, stated that the Society was going on smoothly and doing its work fairly well. It had now been twenty-five years in existence, having been started in June, 1877. He hoped that the Society would go on flourishing and to prosper. They had, no doubt, a splendid breed—a breed which was being more and more valued for many purposes. He appealed to the owners and admirers of Galloways to bring them out, both at the breeding and fat stock shows, and trusted that there would be a large and meritorious show of Galloways at the Highland Society's show at Dumfries next year. The report was adopted, as was also the financial statement, which showed that there was a balance in hand of £234. The Duke of Buccleuch was re-appointed president and Sir Robert Jardine vice-president, and Dr. Gillespie was again elected secretary and treasurer.

The Irish Export Trade

The Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland has just issued a full statement, covering the year 1901, of the proceedings which were taken in the course of that year within its jurisdiction under the Diseases of Animals Acts This statement has just been laid on the table of the House of Commons, and it is certain to be read with much satisfaction by all who are interested in the cattle trade of Ireland, at least so far as the question of disease is concerned, says the "Irish Times." At the outset of the return an interesting table is printed to show in succinct form the incidence during 1901 of outbreaks of the different diseases scheduled under the Diseases of Animals Acts among the several classes of stock in Ireland. This table may well be given here:—

Kind of Stock.	Total Number kept in Country.	No. of Outbreaks of Scheduled Diseases in 1901.	Description of Disease.
Cattle ..	4,673,323	.. 2 ..	Anthrax
Sheep ..	4,378,750	.. 545 ..	Sheep Scab
Swine ..	1,219,135	.. 221 ..	Swine Fever (220), Rabies (1).

Commenting on these figures, the official statement says that an analysis of them reveals some interesting features. It will be noticed, we are told—

(a) That the immunity which Ireland has now so long enjoyed from oversea invasion of the more serious animal plagues has been preserved unbroken throughout 1901, the outbreaks of scheduled diseases recorded as occurring among the stock of the country during the year having been limited to anthrax, sheep-scab, swine fever, rabies, glanders, and parasitic mange.

(b) That, while three of these six diseases—viz., sheep-scab, swine fever, and, in a less degree, parasitic mange—were sufficiently prevalent to demand constant vigilance, no one of them can be said to have been exceptionally so when regard is had to the large stocks of animals kept in the country.

(c) That of the remaining three diseases, glanders and anthrax were merely occasional in their appearance, while rabies, which has given so much trouble in the past, sank to an unprecedentedly low level, and, it is hoped, has been finally suppressed.

(d) That the cattle of the country, the most numerous and by far the most important of its live stock, have during the year enjoyed an almost complete freedom from the maladies scheduled under the Diseases of Animals Acts.

These facts, the Department claims, constitute an effective testimony to the utility of the Acts, through the operation and administration of which such encouraging results have been obtained.

Speaking of the foot-and-mouth disease, the statement points out that no case of this disease has occurred in Ireland for close upon 18 years. At the beginning of 1901, however, the foot-and-mouth disease outbreaks, which commenced in England in the early part of the previous year, though prevented by the effective measure taken by the Board of Agriculture for Great Britain from gaining any widespread hold, had not altogether ceased, and there was still undeniable ground for fear that an extension of the malady to Ireland might unfortunately take place. The prohibition against the importation into Ireland from any part of Great Britain south of the Scotch border of animals liable to that malady—that is to say, of ruminant animals and swine—was consequently still strictly maintained; but as the year advanced, and as the position of England improved, it was found practicable to narrow the area from which importations were strictly excluded to a portion of the south-east of England, embracing 14 counties, and, later on, when it became apparent that the disease had been stamped out, all special prohibition against importation was definitely cancelled, and the normal regulations were then reverted to.

The effect of this altered condition of things is strikingly shown by the importation statistics, for whereas only 162 cattle, 1,911 sheep, and 5 swine were imported from Great Britain into Ireland in the year 1900, during the greater portion of which prohibitory regulations were in force, the corresponding figures for the year 1901 were 611 cattle, 31,245 sheep, and 47 swine. This freer admission of animals, which, in the interests of the country at large, it had been needful to postpone so long as it seemed liable to be attended by any risk of introduction of so dreaded a scourge as foot-and-mouth disease, has been a welcome concession to many. Breeders of stock in Ireland have thereby been enabled to introduce fresh blood into their herds from leading British strains, and the usual large autumn movement of sheep from Scotland to the North of Ireland for grazing purposes has been carried on unimpeded, this latter traffic being one of considerable moment, not only to pasture owners but to shipping companies trading between Ulster ports and Scotland.

Passing to the question of pleuro-pneumonia, we are informed that the records for the year are again nil. The history of this disease, which, after much effort and expense, was eradicated from the United Kingdom, clearly illustrates the advantages that result to Irish cattle owners from the insular situation of their country and the absence of any import trade in foreign animals, inasmuch as, owing to these favourable conditions, the possibility of re-introduction of infection is reduced to a minimum.

This statement of the Agricultural Department is not, however, without its regrettable side. In 24 of its pages we have detailed statistical information given to us in a number of tables respecting the exportation and importation of animals from and into Ireland. The remarkable feature about these tables is the great decline in the cattle export trade of 1901 as compared with 1900. The total decrease was as much as 103,048. The decrease amounted in the month of September alone to 22,603. The next greatest monthly decrease was in July ,when the number was 20,046. In the month of June the decline registered was 19,263.

This great falling off in the export trade of cattle to Great Britain in 1901 was due to the shortage of grass and roots in Great Britain, and the consequent disinclination of the farmers of that country to purchase stock when fodder and feeding stuffs were at a high price. It appears that in the cross-Channel trade in cattle between Ireland and Great Britain 883 animals were killed or injured in 1901, as against 904 so killed or injured in 1900.

Taking the totals of the cattle exports we find that the figures for 1901 were:—Cattle, 642,638; sheep, 843,325; and swine, 596,129, or a total of 2,082,092. The figures for the preceding year were:—Cattle, 745,519; sheep, 862,263; and swine, 715,202, or a total of 2,322,984.

From a table giving the expenditure during the year ending December 31st, 1901, in connection with swine fever and rabies we learn that the gross expenditure in Ireland was £17,831 5s. 6d. As, however, a sum of £2,929 8s. 2d. was realised by the sale of carcases the net expenditure was £14,901 17s. 4d.

PRACTICE WITH SCIENCE.

West of Scotland Agricultural College Farm.

The opening demonstration at the West of Scotland Agricultural Farm took place at Holmes, Kilmarnock, on the 7th inst. There was a large turnout of the directorate and farmers in the district, about seventy being present. Dr. Gillespie, chairman of the governors, referred to the educative value of the college farm, and considered that by its experimental work the West of Scotland Agricultural College had conferred innumerable benefits on the farmers in the South-West of Scotland. This year the experiments would be on a more reliable scale than in the previous year, and should be even more educative than in 1901. In carrying out these experiments Dr. Gillespie considered that the college did not receive money from the public funds as it was entitled to do. He made a comparison with the grants given to Ireland for this purpose, and considered that in this, as in many other things, the Irishmen were too liberally dealt with. He also referred to the fact that an application had been made by the governors to the Board of Agriculture for a grant, but they had refused to subsidise the college. Nevertheless he hoped that in the near future a satisfactory grant would be received.

In referring to the new movement of the governors—the establishment of a thoroughly-equipped dairy school—Dr. Gillespie paid an excellent tribute to the landlords and other who had maintained the dairy school in the past. It would take £4,500 to equip the proposed building, and he hoped that the landowners and others who had so liberally contributed in the past would again take the deepest interest in the matter. He (Dr. Gillespie) had a most interesting interview with Lord Balfour of Burleigh and Sir Henry Craik the other day, and they expressed their deepest appreciation of the proposed scheme, and he considered that the grant received from the Education Department would largely depend on the amount subscribed by the landowners, public societies, and others.

Principal Wright then gave some interesting notes of the experiments which are being conducted during the present year. Thereafter the company adjourned to the experiment field, which extends to 22 acres, and the visitors were highly delighted with what they saw and the lucid explanations given by Principal Wright and Professor M'Alpine.



Judging Shorthorns.

SIR,—Many writers in the MARK LANE EXPRESS and other leading agricultural journals have for years pointed out with justice the advantage the Shorthorn possesses over other breeds, in that the same animal may with equal facility be profitably turned either to the production of milk or of beef; and many breeders—myself among them—have striven to breed animals of pleasing character, possessing both good milking (not fatty) udders and good backs. Animals of this combined character are not produced in a year, but only after long and careful selection. A few of such animals are to be seen at some of the shows this year, but they do not seem to find favour in the sight of the judges; why, it is hard to say, for there are three or four really good specimens among them.

At the two shows I have attended, the prize for the pedigree dairy Shorthorn was awarded to animals of the "lean," or Jersey, type, and the prizes for the best Shorthorn cow or heifer were given to animals of a distinctly beef type, and animals almost equal in point of udder to the former and practically equal in symmetry and flesh to the latter, received but scant notice. Does all this indicate that we are to have two distinct types of Shorthorns or two separate herd books? I hope not, for, in addition to the confusion that will arise, the breed will lose that premier position the combined qualities for milk and beef production have gained for it, and the purely beef-producing Shorthorn will have to compete with the Devon, the Sussex, and the Hereford, and will probably be worsted in the bout, while the lean-fleshed milker will hardly beat the Jersey, Guernsey, etc. It is to be hoped that at the Royal, at any rate, this policy of encouraging two distinct types of Shorthorns will be checked, and that the judges will give to animals possessing both a good udder and a good back, and thereby do something towards preserving the characteristics that have made the pedigree Shorthorn so famous.

A BREEDER.

Education, Reformation, Taxation.

Sir,—The Cumberland and Westmorland Chamber of Agriculture met in time to press the plea, through local M.P.'s, for more money from the Treasury on behalf of more and better education. The argument in favour of Imperial taxation in major part—was, as I put it, twofold—

1. America and Germany have three times the population of Great Britain, spend more, per capita, on education, and turn out, in consequence better products, living or dead. As further consequence, these counties are running off with our trade on sea and land.

2. Get more money from taxation, and more control must, in time, be given to the taxpayers. This involves "reformation." All our Government offices need overhauling.

The meeting was held in Carlisle on Saturday, and presided over by Colonel Irwin, vice-president.—Yours truly,

H. W. KENNEDY,
Vicar of Plumpton.

Cumberland, June 27th, 1902.

LITERARY NOTICES.

The Countess de Maurovich, who is perhaps more widely known as Nellie Reid, has published a book entitled "Instruction in Riding and Training Horses." Although, as was to be expected, this popular equestrienne has something to say about trick-riding, the book contains many practical hints for ladies who would shine on horseback. Several photographs adorn the book, which is issued by Messrs. C. W. Bradley and Co., at two shillings and sixpence.

In "War Horses, Present and Future," Mr Sydney Galvayne deals with the vexed question of Army remounts. It will be remembered that Mr. Galvayne was employed by the Remount Department in South Africa, and therefore has a knowledge of facts. The book contains many interesting incidents, some of them being somewhat

of a startling nature, which should interest everyone connected with horses. It also appeals most strongly to farmers, breeders, dealers, and importers of horses, who may gather from it information of a most valuable nature. The book is published by Messrs. R. A. Everett and Co.

The June number of the Journal of the Board of Agriculture opens with an illustrated article by Mr. Primrose McConnell, B.Sc., F.G.S., on haymaking, which is followed by a most useful article on "The Purchase of Feeding Stuffs." A capital coloured plate is given to illustrate the article on "Black Dry Rot in Swedes," which is contributed by Messrs. T. H. Middleton, M.Sc., and M. C. Potter, M.A. Other articles which go to make up a very interesting, useful article are "Farmers' Co-operative Societies," "Agricultural Credit Banks" (by Mr. C. H. Devine), "Feeding Trials with Dairy Cows," "Domestic Animals in the United States." "Cattle Insurance in Bavaria," "The Poultry Exhibition at Madrid," and the usual agricultural and miscellaneous notes and official tables and returns.

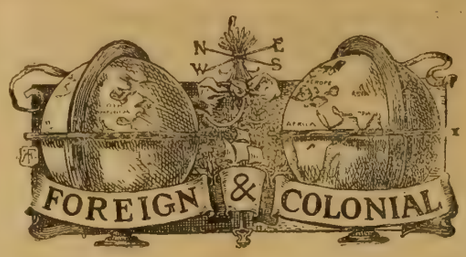
The 1902 edition of the Royal Lancashire Society's Annual Journal contains but four articles of general interest, and they are: "Horse Breeding and the Treatment of the Mare and Foal," by T. F. Hutchinson, M.R.C.V.S.; "Water in Butter," by Miss M. Macqueen, Lancashire County Council Farm; "The Digestibility and Manurial Value of Purchased Feeding Stuffs," by Alfred Smethan, F.I.C., F.C.S.; and "Agricultural Experiment Stations; Their Function, Object, and Future Development in Great Britain," by John Stewart Remington, Consulting Botanist to the Society. The remainder of the Journal—which consists of over two hundred octavo pages—is taken up with details of the society, description of, and the prize awards at, last year's show, the long list for this year's show at Preston in September, and proceedings at meetings, etc. Numerous illustrations of prize winners at the St. Helens Show last year are given.

Messrs. Rud. Sack, of Leipzig-Plagwitz, have favoured us with a copy of an export edition of their catalogue of agricultural implements, which is fully illustrated, the descriptions and text being in English. Perhaps one of the most notable implements enumerated in this catalogue is the Universal Steel Plough, which is capable of being converted into a number of implements for different uses, in all, twenty-six changes can be effected. The sole English agents for Rud. Sack's are Messrs. H. and F. Bönten, 8, Elder Street, Norton Folgate, Bishopsgate Street Without, London, E.C., from whom catalogues and all information can be obtained.

The Great Eastern Railway Company have issued a pretty booklet, entitled "Holidays in Denmark and Scandinavia." It is fully illustrated, and contains many pictures and descriptions of the scenes where our Queen passed her childhood.

There has come to hand a copy of the eighth annual report on the field and other trials carried out by the Agricultural Department of Reading College during 1901 in co-operation with the County Councils of Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Dorset, Hampshire, and Oxfordshire. Professor Douglas A. Gilchrist, B.Sc., F.R.S.E., Director of the Department, compiled the report, in which it is stated that, during the past year the scope of the trials has been considerably extended. The effects of manures on hay and pasture in different districts and on different classes of soils have been fully dealt with in this and previous reports, as well as the effects of manures throughout a rotation of crops. Trials have been made of seeds mixtures for from one to three years' ley, and some striking results have been given by the inclusion of lucerne and other plants in a mixture for a three years' ley. The trials on different varieties of barley for malting purposes on various classes of soil have already given interesting results, and the continuation of this work should lead to results of great practical value to growers of malting barley.

The report also deals with preliminary trials on the growth and composition of different varieties of mangels and sugar mangels, different feeding rations for milch cows, as well as the results of trials in the British Dairy Institute of the effects of variations in the ripening and churning of cream on the butter produced. The landowners and farmers at the different centres have readily given facilities for carrying on the experimental work by placing land at the disposal of the College, and by giving every assistance in the cultivation of the plots. Appended to the report are sections giving concise information on the more important manures and suggestions as to the manuring of various crops.



Colonial and Foreign Statistics concerning Agriculture.

The colonial and foreign statistics issued this year by the Board of Agriculture have been again extended in their scope by the addition of details for the Colony of Natal, for the several States of what is now the Australian Commonwealth, and for the Provinces of the Canadian Dominion, which supply official returns. The recently-established annual statistics of Belgium have allowed the supply of fuller particulars respecting the distribution of the crops in a country in which the position of the agricultural industry more closely resembles that of England than any other in Europe in relation to the density of population. At the eastern extremity of the Continent, the details now furnished for Northern Caucasia bring also a new section of Russian territory under review, while the recently-compiled results of the census of live stock taken in 1900, for the Russian Empire as a whole, have supplemented in an important particular the official information we possess as to the agricultural conditions of the largest, but perhaps least densely people, of Continental States, says Major Craigie, C.B., in his summary in the June number of the Journal of the Board.

Later returns of the numbers of live stock also this year become available, as the results of special enumerations where annual records are not forthcoming on this head from countries such as Austria, Germany, Belgium, Switzerland, Servia, and Roumania. In all the instances in which a more recent survey can thus be made of the animal wealth of our Continental neighbours, increases, more or less material, in the number of their cattle are accounted for.

Live Stock in Foreign Countries.

Much the largest addition to the recorded herds of Europe appears in the Russian Empire. Omitting Poland, where a slight decrease appears, the fifty European Governments of Russia proper returned in 1900 close upon 33,000,000 head of cattle, as against 24,600,000 at the last enumeration in 1888. Germany, where 19,000,000 cattle are now accounted for, possesses the next largest of European herds, and continues to exhibit a continued development in her stock of cattle, which are now more numerous than in 1883, by 20 per cent. Very noticeable also is the increase in the number of pigs shown in nearly all the European States in recent years, and this is more especially visible in Germany, where not far short of 17,000,000 head are now returned.

On the other hand, the continued decline in the numbers of sheep, to which attention has been frequently drawn in earlier reports, is once again emphasised by the latest Continental returns. Except in Russia proper, where, owing to the unfortunate circumstance that goats are now included with the ordinary flocks—a practice not adopted in the earlier figures—there is a slight uncertainty as to the comparability of the latest totals, the returns for 1900 exhibit further losses. The last recorded reduction in the flocks alike of France, of Germany, and of Roumania respectively, will be found to exceed 1,000,000 head in each instance, and they amount altogether to a considerable figure elsewhere. In extra-European countries, although a later estimate from Uruguay than has been previously available shows some increase in the flocks of that part of South America, the very serious losses reported in recent years in the sheep of our Australian Colonies are continued in the latest figures, the aggregate decline apparently exceeding 28,000,000 head in the last decade. The flocks of New Zealand have not participated in the Australian reduction, although their growth since 1895 has been relatively inconsiderable to the extension of earlier years.

American Statistics.

Although the issue of the present statistics has been somewhat delayed, in the hope that the important results of the Agricultural portion of the twelfth census of the United States of America might be incorporated, with full official confirmation and with such corrections of the earlier records as the new investigations might involve, it has not been found practicable thus to embody the new data in the tables. It has been, therefore, necessary to retain for the present the earlier statistics, as supplied in official form by the Government of the United States, although the totals of the census figures semi-officially communicated in the case of live stock are given among the international comparisons supplied for the most recent dates in the four closing tables of this volume.

In successive years I have felt it my duty in submitting these international comparisons to recommend the exercise of some degree of caution in accepting data of this nature as strictly parallel in every instance as between one country and another, owing to the diversity of the methods adopted by the various States of the world, the different degrees of accuracy secured in practice in the collection of their agricultural statistics, and the varying length of the periods permitted to elapse between one enumeration and another. This subject has been once more under consideration by the International Statistical Institute, and, as the result of the latest deliberations, in which I have been permitted to take part at the Congress held at Buda-Pest in October last, a detailed explanation of the systems in use by various countries is now being formulated.

As a rule, however, in such tables as are furnished in this volume, whatever degree of uncertainty may attend the international comparability of the absolute figures, it has been generally assumed to be safe to regard as legitimate such comparisons as are suggested between the acreage or live stock of different periods within the limits of a single country, wherein approximate continuity of statistical method may be assumed. It is therefore necessary on this occasion to extend the scope of the caution above referred to and to invite attention to the explanation in the report of the Chief Statistician for Agriculture to the Director of the latest American Census (Bulletin No. 156, April 14, 1902), that the total of the animals now shown as existing in the United States on June 1, 1900, includes such young animals as may have been born in the spring of the census year. This course would not appear to have been followed on earlier occasions. The scope of the data collected in 1900 would also appear to have been enlarged. The use of an individual farm schedule to be filled up by the "operators" of farms, plantations, and ranges in all parts of the country, was supplemented by a second schedule for the recording by special agents of the statistics of the larger ranches of the Western and South-Western States, and by a further enumeration, not previously attempted, of the number of domestic animals not upon farms and ranges, especially in cities, towns, and villages. The aggregate results of the census of 1900, thus obtained, may be summarised as under:—

Live Stock enumerated June 1, 1900.	On Farms or Ranges.	Not on Farms or Ranges.	Total.
Dairy cows	17,140,0 0	973,000	18,113,000
Other cows	11,592,000	76,000	11,668,0 0
Calves under 1 year old	15,333,000	262,000	15,595,000
Other cattle	23,757,000	306,000	24,063,000
Total cattle	67,822,000	1,617,000	69,439,000
Sheep (including lambs)	61,606,000	231,000	61,837,000
Swine	62,876,000	1,818,000	64,694,000
Horses	18,280,000	2,937,000	21,217,000

Although no exact comparison of these results with any previously issued figures is practicable, it may be added that, notwithstanding the large apparent excess which these totals exhibit over the official estimates of earlier years, the Census Statistician, in the bulletin above quoted gives it as his opinion that, taking into account the deficiencies of former enumerations, the cattle and sheep of the United States were, in fact, somewhat less numerous in 1900 than in 1890. The decrease, he estimates, was "probably not more than seven per cent." in the case of cattle, and about two per cent in the case of "wool-bearing sheep" on farms and ranges. On the other hand, the totals of swine on farms and ranges are, he states, greater by 10 per cent. in the decade, while the horses, exclusive of colts under one year, have increased 11 per cent.

The precise results of the final census enumeration of crop areas in the United States have not yet been received, and although the forecasts which are current in the Press suggest here, also, very large modifications of the older official figures, which, if ultimately confirmed, would add several million acres to the areas both of wheat and of maize, appearing in the annual figures of the Washington Department, it is necessary to reserve on this occasion any comments on the effect which the American statistics in this respect may have on general estimates of production.

COMING SHOWS.

Northumberland,

The following gentlemen have agreed to act as judges at the Northumberland Agricultural Society's Show, to be held at Newcastle-on-Tyne on Wednesday, July 23rd and two following days:—

CATTLE.—Shorthorn: Mr. John Vickers, Kirby Lonsdale, and Mr. J. C. Coppin, Musgrave Hall, Penrith. Aberdeen-Angus: Mr. W. Whyte, Hatton of Eassie, Glamis. Galloway: Mr. A. Montgomery, Nether Hall, Castle Douglas.

SHEEP.—Leicester: Mr. John H. Laurie, Hardens, Duns, and Mr. M. Ridley, Peel Well, Haydon Bridge. Cheviot: Mr. H. Thompson, Cleughbrae, Otterburn, and Mr. R. Thornton, West Kielder. Blackfaced: Mr. J. S. Paterson, Potholm, Langholm, and Mr. J. J. Macmillan, Glencrosh, Thornhill. Half-bred: Mr. W. Robinson, Snipe House, Alnwick, and Mr. R. D. Little, North Charlton, Chathill. Oxford: Mr. W. Elliot, Hollybush, Galashiels.

HORSES.—Agricultural (males): Mr. W. Clark, Nether Ice, Cathcart, and Mr. T. Ewart, Dunsmore, Rugby. Agricultural (fillies and mares): Mr. Matt. Marshall, Stranraer, and Mr. J. Noble, Amerside Law, Chillingham, Belford. Hunters: Mr. T. Calder, Swinton Hill, Coldstream, and Mr. T. H. Tomlinson, Willington, Derbyshire. Hackneys and ponies: Mr. H. Moore, Barnbutts, Cranswick, Hull, and Mr. George Dove, Whitehouse, St. Boswells.

"Mark Lane Express" Diary.

July.

1. Bishop Auckland Agricultural Society's Show.
2. Barnstaple Agricultural Society's Show.
2. Mid-Kent Agricultural Society's Show, at Maidstone.
2. Scunthorpe Agricultural Society's Show.
2. Mansfield Agricultural Society's Show.
2 and 3. Leicestershire Agricultural Society's Show, at Leicestershire.
2 and 3. Doncaster Agricultural Society's Show.
2 and 3. Co. Cork Agricultural Society's Summer Horse and Sheep Show, at Cork.
2. Sale of Mr. J. Garne's Shorthorns.
2. Sale of Mr. R. Thornton's pedigree hackneys at Middleton Hall, Brentwood, Essex.
3. Brentwood and Mid-Essex Horse Show, at Brentwood.
4. Ripon and District Agricultural Society's Show.
4. Malton Agricultural Society's Show, at Malton.
4. Sale of pedigree hackneys and harness horses, at Peterboro'.
4. Sale of pedigree Sussex cattle, the property of Major Best, at Bonley, Maidstone.
5. West of Fife Agricultural Society's Show, at Dunfermline.
5. United East Lothian Agricultural Society's Show, at Haddington.
5. 7, 8, 9, 10, and 11. Royal Agricultural Society of England's Show, at Carlisle.
5. Sale of Arabian horses belonging to Mr. Wilfrid Scawen Blunt, at Crabbet Park, Three Bridges.
7. Meeting of the Shropshire Sheep Breeders' Association, at Carlisle.

Agricultural Imports.

The following is an account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended June 21, 1902, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year:—

Animals Living.	1901.	1902.		1901.	1902.
	No.	No.		Cwt.	Cwt.
Cattle ...	10,383	7,941	Wheat ...	1 157,400	1 983 226
Sheep.....	6,068	2,830	Flour.....	434 100	372 923
Swine.....	—	—	Barley ...	457,900	526,686
*Horses...	—	968	Oats	494,800	400,725
			Peas	12,700	38,660
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Beans ...	120,500	37,360
Beef	75,443	89,601	Maize ...	1356,400	1,203,060
Mutton...	64,541	110,599		Bunches	Bunches
Pork	6,784	6,742	Bananas	31,803	48,162
Bacon ...	107,017	109,656			
Beef, salt	4,618	2,283		Cwt.	Cwt.
Hams.....	50,562	26,871	Apples ...	1,053	216
Pork, salt	6,316	5,893	Apricots & Peaches	615	339
Meat, salt & Fresh	11,838	16,957	Cherries	45,427	12,220
Do. pres.	16,910	37,851	Currants	185	500
Butter ...	93,124	85,181	Gooseb'rs	5,302	4,883
Mrg'rine	17,540	21,943	Grapes ...	185	267
Cheese ...	57,833	60,974	Lemons...	42,749	13,688
Milk, Fresh, in cans or drums.	10	—	Oranges	23,121	71,507
			Pears.....	961	50
			Plums ...	—	19
			Strawb'r's	8,014	7,019
			Oth'r Fr't	2 247	803
Milk ...				Tons.	Tons.
Cream.	151	113	Hay	2,281	6,563
			*Straw ...	—	1,011
				Bush.	Bush.
Milk pr's'v'd, other kinds ...			Onions ...	45,158	43,690
				Cwt.	Cwt.
	16	33	Hops	405	264
Con. Milk	15,256	15,882	* Locust Beans	—	—
	No.	No.	Potatoes	414,206	475,274
Eggs	334,688	571,163	Tom'to's	29,311	26,446
			Other	Value.	Value.
Poultry & Game	Value.	Value.	Veg'bles	£9,206	£10,354
	£3,263	£14,213		Cwt.	Cwt.
			Dried ...	1,130	2,518
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Pres'v'd		
Rabbits	2,773	1,836	by canning ...	5,485	2,353
Lard	43,705	36,943			

* Not shown in 1901.

Farmer's Tragic Death.—Thomas Shelley, 28, a farmer from Shifnal, residing near Cheswardine, Shropshire, early on Thursday morning requested his wife to fetch up the cows, and when she returned she was horrified to find her husband lying dead on the bedroom floor. Shelley had evidently loaded his gun, fastened a cord round the trigger, connected it with his foot, and blown out his brains. Deceased had recently served with the Shropshire Yeomanry in South Africa.

IN PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

The Corn Tax Again.

More discussion on the Corn Tax took place on Wednesday, on the motion for the third reading of the Finance Bill.

Mr. Lough moved, as an amendment, that the third reading should be postponed for six months. He complained that the Bill broadened the basis of taxation, contrary to the policy by which the country has grown prosperous. The corn tax would be a profound interference with the development of trade in this country. Too much had been said about the big and little loaf. They ought to avoid dragging in questions of high principle, and go in for expediency. (Ministerial laughter.) Having referred to what he characterised as the unfair treatment of Ireland under this Budget, he concluded by moving the rejection of the Bill.

Mr. Fitzallan Hope seconded the motion, and argued in favour of protection. He called attention to the growing disparity between our exports and imports. The balance of imports over exports had long been considerable, and was growing every year. Moreover, shipping freight had fallen very greatly during the last few years. This disparity was due to the fact that we were, so to speak, exporting our capital. He welcomed the grant in the cause of education, but all this meant an additional charge upon the Imperial Exchequer. Everyone admitted that expenditure could not be increased. For purposes of revenue, first put your revenue on the foreign producer and next on luxuries, but not until last on industry. Then per cent. on the foreign producer would not only give them their revenue, but it would also give them a weapon of offence and defence, and he did not think the people would suffer thereby. Nor did he think the people would stand in South Africa, after all we had suffered there, that those who had opposed us in every way should be permitted to enjoy equally with us the advantages of our sacrifices. He believed that the doctrine of Free Trade was becoming a sentiment, and he believed that the Chancellor of the Exchequer would soon come to realise that this old and dead policy must go the way of all these dead illusions.

Mr. Bryce welcomed the reduction of duty on maize, and thanked the Chancellor of the Exchequer for the fair consideration he had given to the questions raised. Yet they contended that the luxuries of the rich were too lightly taxed, whilst necessaries were too heavily burdened. Taxes on beer, spirits, and tobacco, for instance, would bear more than the necessaries of life. He warmly deprecated the tax upon bread, which hit the poorest, and it was the least calculated to bring home the responsibilities of war upon those who paid it, because it bore on a class who had little or no influence as voters. The tax marked a new departure, and was a reversion of the policy of 1869. The tax, moreover, although imposed for revenue purposes, yet operated as a protective one, and it would be used as an argument in favour of similar enactments upon other articles of food. As to the colonies, they could not give protection to one colony, but must give Protection all round. He felt bound to repeat his emphatic protest against the measure.

Mr. H. Craig opposed the grain tax.

Sir H. Vincent pointed out that this was in no sense a Protectionist measure. Our system was not free trade at all, but free imports without reciprocity. There was no serious agitation in the country against the reimposition of the registration duty on corn.

Mr. Robson said that in framing this taxation the right hon. gentleman had not put one penny on property, and not only had he not done that, but he had put the bread tax on labour in order to relieve property. (Ministerial cries of "No.") The right hon. gentleman had left untouched scarcely a single article of food of the labouring poor. (Opposition cheers.)

Sir T. Wrightson maintained that the foreign exporter, rather than lose his market, would pay the shilling duty on corn. He believed that the raising of revenue by a moderate tax of this kind was absolutely sound.

Sir E. Lees believed unless some such tax upon the necessaries of life as this was imposed upon the great mass of the electors there was nothing to prevent them from thinking that they might have all the excitement and glory of war without contributing in the slightest degree towards its cost.

Mr. Cremer supported the rejection of the Bill. He objected to the tax proposed on bread, which he contended would seriously affect the poorest of the people. Instead of reimposing the registration duty on corn, the Chancellor of the Exchequer could have obtained the money by doubling the duty on public-house licences and increasing the duty on spirits.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer said he approached this question as a Free Trader, and he still believed in Free Trade—(Ministerial and Opposition cheers)—though he had been denounced for Protectionist principles. But he had never believed that the United States or countries like Canada or Australasia, with their almost limitless extent and resources and great variety of climate, might not prosper exceedingly under a policy of Protection. (Hear, hear.) As a matter of fact, they had so prospered. But when he came to consider the circumstances of this country, he confessed that to his mind the adoption of Protection in the United Kingdom would be the beginning of grievous social and fiscal dangers. (Opposition and Ministerial cheers.) He was astonished to hear the hon. member for the Brightside Division (Mr. Hope) suggesting asone of the best means of raising revenue an interference with our foreign trade. The hon. member was grieved at the disparity between our imports and exports, and desired to initiate a policy of retaliation. The answer to that could be given in a single sentence. He referred the hon. member to the growth of our income-tax returns and to the many obvious proofs of the improved condition of every class in the country. (Hear, hear.) The policy advocated by the hon. member was not a policy which this country ought to adopt. The hon. member wanted to impose duties of considerable amount in all foreign-manufactured goods, but he did not say where the line was to be drawn between raw materials and manufactured goods. (Hear, hear.) There was a variety of opinion exhibited also on the other side of the House, but he believed that there was a general feeling that taxation under the existing circumstances ought to be continued, and that the sole objection to this Budget was the nature of one of the particular taxes—the corn duty—which the Budget imposed. (Hear, hear.) If anyone could show for a moment when this tax previously existed that it was practical Protection, or that it increased the price of corn or stimulated its production in this country or kept out foreign corn, he would have shown an argument against this Budget, but no attempt had been made to show anything of the kind. (Ministerial cheers.) It was said the Government had made a new departure, and were reversing their fiscal policy by changing their policy of Free Trade to one of Protection, but if that were so would the country have remained quiescent, would the benches opposite be empty, would the Press of the whole country display such a lack of interest in the matter? (Hear, hear.) The fact was, there had been an attempted agitation on this question, but it had failed. There was really no truth in this talk of a reaction in their policy, and as he had already told the House, it was merely necessary to increase the heads of our indirect taxation. The ordinary expenditure of the country, to say nothing of the cost of the war, had grown so enormously that it was impossible to keep taxation on the same narrow basis as before. He began the broadening policy last year. He knew that gentlemen opposite thought that no taxes should be levied on such things as corn and sugar. They talked about the effects on the poorest of the poor, but it was impossible to impose any indirect taxes without to some extent affecting the very poorest. The duty on corn had been attacked as bitterly and unfairly as the export duty on coal was assailed last year. The agitation had, however, failed. (Ministerial cheers.) As soon as the Bill became law the agitation would cease, and no long time would elapse before it was found that the corn duty, while yielding largely to the Exchequer, inflicted no hardship on the masses of the people. (Cheers.)

Sir W. Harcourt said their objection to this tax was that it was protective in character and re-opened a question which they all believed ought to have been by this time closed. (Opposition cheers.) This new departure in the fiscal policy of this country raised very embarrassing questions of preferential treatment with regard to the colonies. The right hon. gentleman had avoided that in his speech, because he could not answer it. This Budget was to be condemned on the ground that it raised questions of a fiscal and commercial character which were most dangerous and injurious in their nature. (Opposition cheers.) He wished to enter his strong protest against the right hon. gentleman's proposals at this the last stage of the Budget.

Mr. Harwood vigorously opposed the grain tax.

Mr. J. Wilson (Falkirk) said that in spite of the right hon. gentleman's promises last year he had made no alteration in the coal tax, which was levied in a most unjust way, and was felt severely in Scotland.

Mr. B. Langley was exceedingly pleased that the Chancellor of the Exchequer had in clear and unmistakable language given the Government view on the question of Protection

Mr. J. Wilson (Durham) asked what the Chancellor of the Exchequer had done since he had

been in office to prove that he was a Free Trader. The essence of Free Trade was the removal of taxation from the necessaries of life, and yet the Chancellor of the Exchequer had taxed coal, sugar, and bread. He said, without fear of contradiction, that throughout the North of England there was a protest against the taxes on coal and grain. Taxation should be put upon those who were best able to bear it, and he argued that there was plenty of wealth in this country to bear taxation if that taxation were properly applied.

The House divided

For the third reading	286
Against	181
Majority for	105

The Bill was then read a third time

Registration of Motor Cars.

On Tuesday Mr. Scott-Montagu brought in a Bill to provide for the registration of motor vehicles, and to amend the Locomotives on Highways Act, 1896.

On Wednesday Sir Howard Vincent asked the President of the Local Government Board if his attention had been called to instances in which motorists, having brought about carriage accidents, had driven away at full speed, without affording an opportunity for their indentification; and if his Majesty's Government would introduce legislation without delay to compel all motors to bear a conspicuous number, lettered by counties, on their vehicles, as in France, the United States, and other countries.

Mr. Long: My attention has been called to some instances of the kind referred to by my hon. and gallant friend. The question of securing the identification of motor cars is under my consideration, but I cannot undertake to propose legislation on the subject during the present session.

Organised Co-operation in Agriculture.*

Co-operation amongst farmers and agriculturists generally is steadily, though slowly, gaining ground. Many other countries, notably France, Norway, and Sweden and Denmark, are far and away ahead of us, and are profiting accordingly. The agricultural co-operative movement that was started in Ireland in 1899 has spread and succeeded in a wonderful manner, and has been the means of putting thousands of pounds into the pockets of Irish farmers. In 1895 five societies clubbed together in a certain district in Ireland, where a good deal of artificial manure was used. The members of these five societies purchased £14,000 worth. A calculation was made at the time that the amount purchased in the usual manner hitherto in vogue would have cost over £19,000. But the saving of £5,000 was small, compared with the fact that they knew for the first time in their lives what they were getting for their money. This was owing to the provisions for analysis being practically a dead letter, as far as the individual farmer was concerned. The result of the co-operative movement in Ireland has had, according to Mr. Plunkett, the effect of reducing the price of manures throughout the country by some 25 per cent., a total saving to the Irish farmer of at least £100,000. The progress of agricultural co-operation in England has been hampered by much misunderstanding and ignorance. In the first place, many persons, perhaps the large majority, associate co-operation with extensive buildings, large stocks of goods, and a staff of employees. This is a great mistake. It is true that co-operative stores on these lines have been most successful, and are of very great benefit in large centres of population, but it is not co-operative undertakings of that character that are advocated in the interests of farmers in country districts. No outlay on buildings is necessary, no stocks, and no staff of paid employees are required for simple forms of co-operative purchasing. All that is necessary is that not less than seven persons should agree to form themselves into a co-operative society under proper rules, and register the society under the Industrial and Provident Societies Act. One of

the first points to be clearly grasped

is the difference between co-operative undertakings under the Industrial and Provident Societies' Act and those formed as joint stock companies. In the former case no articles of association and other more or less heavy initial expenses are needed, and none of the profits are required for the payment of interest to shareholders, but the whole of whatever profits there may be after the payment of bare working expenses go to members, in proportion to their dealings. Co-operative undertakings may be of many and various kinds, ranging from a small circle of seven or eight members combining to buy feeding-stuffs, manures, or some machine, say a reaper and binder for the use of members, up to the large co-operative societies such as are to be found in Ireland and abroad, or the co-operative stores that are now to be found flourishing in most large towns.

What co-operative societies may do.

Broadly speaking, agricultural co-operative societies may be divided into the following classes:—

1. Co-operative societies such as creameries or cheeseries, where farming products are collected and worked up into marketable form and sold.
2. Co-operative societies for the purpose of purchasing goods for its members.
3. Egg and poultry societies, also those for improving the breed of cattle and horses.
4. Co-operative credit banks.

Though there might be some places in Lancashire where classes 1 or 3 might answer—and I feel that in time, when the methods and advantages of co-operative credit banks become better understood by the public, they also will answer and be of the greatest benefit in many places—there is no doubt that it is the second named class that is calculated to take root and be of material benefit to farmers in Lancashire at the present time. I shall therefore confine my remarks to this class. The work of

purchasing and distributing farming requisites

is admirably adapted for co-operative societies, formed on purely co-operative principles, under the Industrial and Provident Societies Act. Of course, the larger and more regular are the purchases such a society makes for its members, the more favourable will be the terms it will get; but as long as its purchases are large enough to be able to procure manure or other articles, in reasonable quantities at a time, it will be able to secure for its members the benefit of lower prices than they would have to pay if each member bought his lot separately. The cost of an occasional analysis is an inappreciable addition to the total cost when articles are bought in large quantities. Members of the Co-operative Society can have the enormous benefit of having their manures, etc., analysed from time to time, and so making certain that they are getting value for their money, without any expense worth mentioning. A farmer who buys £5 worth of manure may hesitate to add the 5s. or 10s. to the price for an analysis, but if his £5 worth was only part of a £50 order, a 5s. analysis would only add 6d. to his £5 share of the order. Making sure, however, of getting full value for his money should be considered of greater importance than being able to get the article at a slightly lower price. Further, by combining orders and buying in quantities, considerable saving can be made in railway carriage. The waste in paying high railway rates for small lots is a regular waste all round, and does no good to anybody. The railway companies themselves would far sooner convey goods at lower rates by the truck-loads than at higher rates in limited quantities.

co-operation v. individual effort.

As it might be thought by some that there is no need to form a co-operative society to secure the foregoing advantages, and that it would suffice for two or three or more persons to agree together to combine orders when purchasing. I had better say a word or two to show that it is impossible to secure the full advantages to be derived from combining for purchasing purposes except by means of a properly organised co-operative society. A co-operative society, when properly constituted, becomes a body that can sue and be sued, and the advantages of this is so well known to the trade that a co-operative society can almost always get lower quotations than can individuals. Moreover, it is possible for a co-operative society to purchase direct from the manufacturers, should they desire, whereas many manufacturers, by the rules of their trade, are unable to sell direct to individuals on the lowest terms possible. I should mention, also, that the Joint Stock Banks recognise co-operative societies registered under the Industrial and Provident Societies Acts, and are prepared to give the same terms as to a joint stock company. Further, such societies offer considerable advantages to manufacturing firms by saving them the trouble of collecting small accounts, and thereby offer inducements to them to quote the lowest possible terms.

I will now try to put shortly and clearly what steps have to be taken when forming a co-operative society on the simplest possible lines for purchasing purposes.

1. No less than seven members must sign properly drawn up rules.

Model rules can be obtained from the Agricultural Organisation Society, through our secretary, also advice and assistance in adapting them to suit the special requirements of any locality.

2. The rules then are sent to the Agricultural Organisation Society in London, who will examine and see that everything is in order. If this is so, the secretary of this Society will forward the rules and applictaion form to the Registrar of Friendly Societies. After he has examined them and seen that everything is in accordance with the Act of Parliament, he will issue the certificate of registration, and the Co-operative Society from that moment commences its existence and becomes a corporate body capable of trading.

3. The original seven or more names that signed the rules continue in office as the committee until the first general meeting of members takes place.

4. It is most advisable to secure some one of position and business knowledge as chairman.

5. Societies begun in this way (and this is the style that has been so successful in Ireland, in France, and elsewhere) do not entail much secretarial work. At first, probably some suitable person will be found to be hon. secretary, and if the secretarial work develops, it has often been found that the local schoolmaster makes a very efficient secretary. In such a case a small stipend would, of course, be necessary.

6. It must be understood that a Co-operative Society formed on these lines is a complete and independent body, and nobody can become a member unless he signs a member's application form, and is subsequently elected by the members themselves.

7. Though no capital is required in this method of co-operation for buildings, stock in hand and employees, a small amount of capital is required to enable orders to be paid for on delivery, without having to wait the few days that may elapse before the money is collected from the various members who may have shared in an order. This may sound to some as if it might lead to a risk of bad debts, but it must be remembered that no member should be allowed by the rules to give another order, unless his last order was paid for; also that the Society can sue him for what he owes, and I have it on excellent authority that there has never been known an instance of a loss from this cause where a Society has been carefully managed in accordance with its rules.

There are different ways of raising the small amount of capital necessary to start trading in this way, but probably the simplest and best is by an issue of 10s. shares to members, 2s. 6d. to be paid up, and the rest at the convenience of members. As a fully paid up share would bear interest, some will probably be paid up, and supplemented by a small loan, or a guarantee to the bank, would suffice to raise the £50 or so, which would be ample for a start. During the first few months of its existence a reserve fund should be built up, out of the trading profits, and then the need of any loan or guarantee will cease. The value of the shares, the conditions to be laid down as regards the amount of the first and subsequent instalments, and all such details are matters to be arranged to suit the particular circumstances and the wishes of the members in each case when a Co-operative Society is started.

The Agricultural Organisation Society referred to in the paper is, for the first time, as far as England is concerned, making a comprehensive and systematic attempt to apply the practice of co-operation, with its educative principles of self-help, as a remedy for the great depression which has so long existed in the agriculture of this country. The Society is only too willing so far as its too limited funds will permit, to aid in every way possible the formation of Co-operative Agricultural Societies. It has been calculated that for every £1,000 spent in propagating co-operation in agriculture in Ireland the farmers have benefited to the extent of £60,000. I have merely endeavoured in this paper to put as shortly and clearly as I can the main advantages of agricultural co-operation for purchasing purposes, and to point out how to set about an Agricultural Co-operative undertaking on the simplest and most manageable lines.

* A paper read by Mr. Fitzherbert-Brockholes before the Lancashire Farmers' Association

New Agricultural Patents.

Specially compiled for MARK LANE EXPRESS by Mr. G. D. Howard (Hughes, Son and Co.), Patent Agent, 38, Chancery Lane, London, of whom all information relating to patents, designs and trade marks may be obtained free of charge

13,071.—Edward Oberlin Adcock, of Norwich, for "An improvement in hoe, for hoeing land."

13,162.—Jemima Lucinda Hope Johnstone, of Bradford-on-Avon, for "A trowel hoe."

13,249.—John Marshall, of Glasgow, for "Improvements in machines for distributing artificial manure."

Patents Sealed.

3,818.—A. E. Heck, of West Virginia, U.S.A., for "Chaff-cutters."

4,248.—T. C. Sargeant, of Northampton, for "Seeds, sowing; manuring and fertilising."

Horncastle June Fair.—At this fair, held on Monday, there was a large show of horses, but few buyers. Trade was very slow, except for best nags and cart horses. Good horses were scarce. Nags sold at £30 to £35; good heavy animals for town dray work, £55 to £70; good riding and driving horses, £40 to £60; three-year-old cart horses, £33 to £38; trappers, £22 to £37; Welsh drove horses, £18 to £28; ponies, £10 to £26; and cobs, £12 to £21.

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Economy in the Power Plant and its Connections.

The flour trade has been, and still continues to be, very dull and lifeless, and a drop of 1s. per sack since these notes last appeared has had no effect in bringing more business. The uncertainty attaching to the grain tax the partial expectation that, in the event of peace being declared, it would be taken out of the budget no doubt had a great deal to do with the state of the trade some little time ago, but when the Chancellor decided to let the tax remain there was no improvement in trade. Had the duty been removed, more difficul- grain tax—the partial expectation that, in the event of peace being declared, it would be taken out of the budget—no doubt had a great deal to do with this, and now that the Chancellor of the Exchequer has definitely decided to let it remain a fresh impulse will in all probability be given to trade. Had the duty been removed, more difficulties and greater confusion than ever would have been the result; such a course would have entailed the refunding of money, and it would have resulted in disputes between corn merchants and millers, as well as between the millers and bakers. As it is, matters have very nearly settled down on the old lines, and most members of the milling trade are fully aware that the discrimination in the duty placed on wheat, as against flour, places them in a good position in regard to their competitors abroad.

Offals have not gone off quite so well of late, while they are gradually going down in price; for all this, however, the writer does not believe that the price will be as low this year as is usually the case during the summer months. The reduction of the tax on imported stuff will help the British farmer, while it will not injure the British miller, who, in the opinion of the writer, would do well to hold bran, where there is convenient storage. Having regard to present wheat prices, especially English, and the sluggish trade in flour,

the Fall-Off in the Offal Trade

is distinctly against the miller at the present time. At any rate, there is a great deal of grumbling, although some millers still manage to make a very good thing out of milling. This will be generally found in those establishments where the commercial, manufacturing, and clerical departments are all in competent hands. To ensure a profit all the sections of the business must be carefully watched and regulated. The raw material must be bought to the best advantage, both as regards quality and price; it must be prepared for reduction by skilled hands, under a competent head miller; it must be milled with care and the flour divided to the best advantage; and last, but not least, the manufactured products must be distributed at the cheapest cost, consistent with paying results. Many millers never realise what a large amount small leakages come to in the course of a year; in some mills they are sufficient to put the balance on the wrong side of the book.

The question of power, too, is an all-important one, because loss of power means loss of money. Many millers are content to go on taking their power from an old worn-out engine, forgetting that the installation of an up-to-date prime motor would pay for itself in a very short time. If a miller wishes to make his mill a money-making concern—and this is what every mill should be, or it ought to be shut down—he will pay particular attention to this question of power, because it is one of the most important with which he has to deal. All the modern appliances, such as feed-water heaters, water softeners, and automatic stokers, which have been devised to cheapen the cost of power, and so of production, should find a place in modern mills. The feed-water heater, especially, which raises the temperature of the water to nearly boiling point before it enters the boiler, is

Particularly Economical.

But even if the engine is all which it ought to be power can be wasted in many other ways, among others by neglecting to keep all shafting in line and all connections in good order, by failing to keep all machines in the mill well braced, and by improper attention to lubrication. All shafting will absorb a certain amount of power on account of friction in the bearings and the resistance of the air to pulleys, etc. All shafting, too, is subject to two strains, a tortional strain and a bending strain, the former on account of the rotative power transmitted through it, and the latter owing to its own weight, and the weight of the pulleys on it, taken in conjunction with the pull of the belts. It is the latter which principally causes the friction in the bearings, which friction should be avoided as much as possible by the arrangement of the belts and efficient lubrication.

The strength of shafting to resist the tortional strain varies according to the cube of its diameter. It may not be generally known—but it is a fact to be learnt from this rule—that a two-inch shaft is only one-eighth as strong as a four-inch shaft, and only about one-fifth as strong as a shaft five inches in diameter. It may here be pointed out too that when a belt is too small to transmit the power required it will run unsteadily on the pulleys, or it will slide off altogether. The pulleys too often become very warm when the belt is too small for the work it has to do.

Coming back to the engine, it may be stated that for ordinary mills the best and most efficient type is the horizontal, compound condensing engine, fitted with Corliss gear and used in connection with the power-saving appliances already mentioned. If it makes from 60 to 80 revolutions per minute it gives the main shafting

a Very Suitable Speed for Driving the First-line Shaft.

The very large mills, however, now use vertical engines of the marine type, with triple expansion. These are a great success, but for smaller establishments nothing can beat the type of engine already mentioned.

A question is often asked as to the amount of power required to make a sack of flour. This principally depends on the engine, but with such a type as has been described, from 8 to 9 h.p. should be sufficient, although many mills are using from 12, 15, or even more i.h.p. Boilers in good condition, and when in connection with the most modern engines, should make a sack of flour for about 3lb. of coal. If all the conditions are good, of course the cost of making a sack of 280lb. will depend on the price of coal. Some mills, however, are independent of steam, and take their power from a water-wheel or turbines; and, of course, there is a great saving in these cases.

The Millers' Conference.

The Millers' Conference, which concluded on Friday, the 6th inst., was very successful; business meetings were mixed up with pleasure trips, and a very pleasant an useful time was passed. There are quite a number of subjects which are under the consideration of the trade at the present time, the chief of which are:—Local associations, technical education, fire insurance reform, and improved seed wheat, and all these were under discussion at the Conference. Some time ago the Millers' Association voted £50 to spend in experiments with a view to growing stronger wheats, and a committee was appointed to go into the question. Experimental plots have been sown in several parts of the country, and it will be interesting to know the results.

MILLER FARMER.



What is Cheese? An Hygienic View

What is the matter with the cheese? Simply this, answers the "Dietetic and Hygienic Gazette," that it has come to be an almost universal belief that coagulated casein and butter fat, which are its constituents, must be "cured." This "curing" process is chiefly accomplished by time. It is not considered fit to eat until it is old enough and rank enough—from gradual processes of decomposition—to be buried. The average palate has been gradually educated to relish cheese after it has undergone butyric acid fermentation, and is, in fact, putrid. This is plain English, and it flies in the face of reigning authorities on gustatory standards. Certain brands of the stuff, as Roquefort, Limburger, and several other varieties, sell at enormous prices simply because they represent the ideal degree of rankness—putridity. This butyric fermentation has its proper bacillus, and in case of the special varieties present in Limburger and other delectable brands the characteristic odour is vile enough and strong enough to bar attempts at counterfeiting or substitution. The flavour comports with the smell, and either one would cause a respectable canine to drop his astonished tail and sneak out of the rankest soap factory or tan-yard on the face of the earth. Every normal stomach rebels at it, and every normal palate repudiates it at sight, taste, or smell.

Years ago, when all the small dairymen made little cheese for their own use, if not for the market, they began to eat it before it was a fortnight old, ate it as freely as they did bread, and never thought of it as being difficult of digestion. Nor was it. To put such compressed casein before a lover of Limburger would be to offer him an unpardonable insult. And yet, from a health standpoint, it is the only cheese that can be approved. Of the semi-putrid, rank smelling, and acrid tasting stuff now sold for cheese any person cannot partake with impunity; and those who do eat it are compelled to be very sparing in their indulgence, making it a relish or condiment rather than a food. This is because it belongs with "embalmed beef," mouldy bread, and gangrenous "game," for which some palates either profess or possess a gu to.

Preston Cheese Fair

The monthly cheese fair held at Preston on Tuesday in brilliant weather was well supplied and largely attended. Business was slow, and prices were fully 5s. per cwt. lower than last fair. Common made from 40s. to 45s., medium 47s. 6d., best 50s. to 52s. 6d., with one or two lots ranging up to 56s. per cwt.

Messrs. Sutton and Sons' Annual Excursion.—The usual annual excursion which this well-known firm of seed merchants provide for their employees was carried out on Tuesday, the 17th inst. The programme arranged for was of even more than the usual generous character. The arrangements made included a special train to convey the large party to Portsmouth, the chartering of the fine steamer the Duchess of Kent for the day, and the gift to every employee of a sum of money amply sufficient to cover all expenditure on refreshments, etc. In addition to this, the announcement was made just before leaving Reading that two days' holiday would be given on the 26th and 27th, the days on which the Coronation was to take place, while each employee would receive an extra week's salary as a Coronation gift.

Spalding June Cattle Fair.—The annual June Fair at Spalding took place on Tuesday, and was attended by buyers from all the principal centres, but business was slow. Beef realised 7s. 6d. per stone, some of the best bullocks fetching £24 10s. per head. The store beasts on offer consisted principally of young cattle, for which the sale was slow. Cows and in-calvers in demand at high prices. In the sheep market there was a small show, but trade was fairly brisk. From 7d. to 8d. per lb. was the quotation. A small number of horses. Anything useful sold readily.

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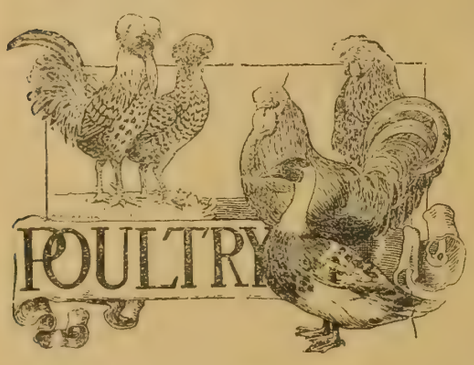
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Hatching and Rearing Pheasants.

Farmers who hatch these eggs as a rule use ordinary hens, as they make far better mothers than pheasant hens do. The latter do not do well confined in a coop, as they are too restless; therefore, those who hatch a lot of pheasants should always be prepared with a good class of hens for sitting. Experienced pheasant keepers usually look out and get a hen which has only four toes on each foot, as when a hen has five she often crushes the young birds when hatched, a great deal more than those which have four. Fowls with a lot of feathers on the legs should be avoided as much as possible. Half-bred Dorkings make splendid sitters and mothers for pheasants, especially those which come with four toes.

Of course, early in the season all those who hatch pheasants are wise to get any broody hens they can lay hands on, but where they are bred especially for sitting purposes we like Orpington-Game, Plymouth Rock-Game, Game-Cochin, and Game-Brahma. When any variety is crossed with a Minorca, Leghorn, or some other non-sitting variety, they will often commence laying at from eighteen to twenty-one days after the birds are hatched, and are liable to peck their young family, instead of protecting and taking care of them. It is always well to get Game blood if possible in a broody hen, as they are such splendid birds to keep to their young ones, and do not come on to lay as a rule so soon as other breeds after the period of incubation.

Some people do not like heavy hens for hatching pheasant eggs, but it is not weight so much as breed. Cochins and Brahmas in their pure state are big, heavy, clumsy birds, but when they are crassed with other breeds, especially Game, they are very careful in going on the nest. It is not always the heaviest birds which break the eggs or kill the chickens. The best hens to use for sitting on pheasants' and partridges' eggs are Silkies. They are small hens, and are very careful both with the eggs and young ones, which makes them very valuable for sitting purposes; in fact, where partridges are reared these hens should always be kept. If a good-sized Silky cock can be obtained and crossed with small Indian Game hens or Black-breasted Red Game hens, the pullets they produce are the best sitters of any breed we know of, but there are so few people who will take the trouble to breed them.

The next thing is the number of eggs which should be put under the hen. Opinions differ in this respect, but as a rule we do not put less than twenty under a fair-sized hen. Fifteen or seventeen under a small hen is sufficient, but in case of an extra-large hen, she should never have more than twenty or twenty-three. Of course, the hen might cover more, but the eggs are more liable to roll on the top of each other, and are liable to get crushed. A hen should always be dusted well with insect powder when sitting, and at the same time should be allowed a dust bath, but no lime should be put in the dust. During the hatching season there should always be slack-lime put in the bottom of the nest and fine hay on the top of that before a hen is set, as vermin breed very fast while the hen is sitting. These small lice are the same colour as the skin of the pheasant, so it is only those who are experienced and know where to look for them are able to find them, as they run very fast.

When setting pheasants eggs it is always best to make the nest with soil, then a thin coat of lime and some fine hay on the top of that. The pheasants usually hatch out much better if the nests are made with damp soil. When they make their own nests it is in almost every case on the ground. The warmth from the pheasant's body draws the moisture from the ground, which softens the inner membrane of the egg. If there is not a good thickness of soil when the hen is sitting upon pheasant eggs, it is well to sprinkle a little water on the eggs the last four days, so that the water runs to the bottom of the nest, then the warmth from the hen's body draws the moisture round the eggs, making it warm by the heat which comes from her body. As a rule, pheasant's eggs are very fertile, and hatch out better than hens' eggs. These eggs take twenty-four days to hatch, but occasionally they will come out on the twenty-third day, and in a few cases go twenty-six days, but that is unusual.

It is often a mystery to people when pheasants lay from fifteen to nineteen eggs in a nest. As a rule they hatch out well, because it is always thought the eggs require turning. That is quite right, and both pheasants and partridges turn their eggs over when they go to lay an egg in the nest. This can easily be told by marking the eggs. When pheasant's eggs have to be kept any length of time, it is best to keep them on the small end. They will keep from fifteen to twenty-eight days, and hatch out well; but of course it is much better to set fresh.

Many pheasants are hatched for selling, and also to turn down for shooting purposes. This practice is becoming very common in England at the present time. Years ago pheasant-rearing used to be confined to just a few large breeders, but now in some parts of the country even cottagers rear these birds and sell them, particularly in Buckinghamshire. The young birds require much care the first few weeks of their existence. They are more healthy and do much better when the stock birds have not been fed upon maize. When first hatched they should have hard-boiled egg, chopped up fine and the shell mixed with it. They should not be allowed much water. If they drink twice a day, that is quite sufficient.

Groats, hempseed, and fine biscuit meal are the best foods which can be used for young pheasants. There are several good meals, already prepared, which these birds do well upon. If young pheasants are looked after and fed well for the first three weeks or a month they are usually out of danger, but the principal thing is to keep them out of the wet grass very early in the morning when it is covered with dew.

When the young birds are first hatched, they often get out of the coop and run away from the hen, and cannot find their way back again Keepers and those who understand pheasants usually have a frame in front of the coop. This should be about six or eight inches high, and from three to four feet long. Two feet six inches would do, but the greater length is better. Small mesh wire should be placed over the top of the frame, otherwise the young birds would get out at the top and run away. They should be kept in this way for at least a week or ten days, and the coop moved every day, so that they are on fresh ground. By this time the young pheasants are calmed down and well accustomed to the hen.

When they are brought up in a wood, with good shelter, where there are large trees and high-standing underwood, and no grass, if the weather is dry, after the young birds are ten days old, it is well to let the hen out to scratch for them. She will get a lot of maggots and insect life for her little brood, and if the coop is put ready she will usually go back to it every night.

Green mustard is a good thing for young pheasants when they are first hatched. It should be chopped up fine. The meal should be mixed with skim milk, new milk as a rule is too rich for young pheasants.

British Dairy Farming.

A meeting of the Council of the British Dairy Farmers' Association was held at 12, Hanover Square, London, W., on Wednesday, Mr. George Barham, J.P. (vice-president), in the chair when eight new members were elected.

The Finance and General Purposes Committee brought up the usual monthly report upon the Society's accounts, and on their recommendation cheques amounting to £64 15s. 2d. were passed for payment. A return was presented showing the imports of milk and cream into the United Kingdom in the four weeks ended May 31. From this it appeared that only 23cwts. of fresh milk were imported, and none in the corresponding period of last year; while 273cwts. of cream were received, against 475cwts.; of condensed milk, 74,759cwts., compared with 67,726cwts.; and of preserved milk, 237cwts., against 365cwts. The report was adopted.

The Conference Committee submitted a report upon the very successful Dairy Conference of 1902, commencing on the evening of Monday, June 2, and ended on the fololwing Friday. It was mentioned that all the proceedings passed off without a hitch, and the Committee desired to place on record their appreciation of the arrangements made and carried out by the secretary. The report was adopted, with a special vote of thanks to the chairman for his services during the conference, and after a conversation it was resolved that the gold medal of the Association be awarded to Lord Rothschild for the business-like character of his farms and the exceptionally high dairy qualities of his several breeds of cattle; and also to Dr. Watney, in recognition of his valuable work in developing the butter-making qualities of his Jersey herd.

Professor Long, as Chairman of the Show Committee reported that, in reply to a circular addressed to exhibitors of Cheddar, Cheshire, and Stilton cheese, forty-six had expressed themselves in favour of allowing each cheese to be bored once before exhibition, and twenty-two against such permission. The Committee recommended that liberty be given to cheese-makers to bore their exhibits once before the show. The Committee also presented a list of judges whom they suggested should be invited to act in the several classes. The report was adopted, and the Council revised the proposed schedule of prizes, of which proofs had been previously circulated.

The following report from the examiners (Messrs. F. Ashcroft, T. C. Candy, and F. J. Lloyd) of candidates for the Society's diplomas and certificates at the British Dairy Institute, Reading, on May 22, 23, and 24, was submitted and endorsed: "We consider that all the practical work at this examination was very well done. The butter-making, without an exception, was uniformly good, and the cheese examiner (Mr. Candy) thought the work in the cheese dairy decidedly better than anything he had previously seen at the Dairy Institute. The paper work was not so even, and several candidates had to be rejected. We make the following awards: Diploma to Miss Forman; butter and cheese-making certificates to Mr. J. H. McLaine and Miss Kate A. Baynon; butter and cheese-making certificate to Miss Emily Milne; Cheddar cheese-making certificate to Miss M. F. B. Merriman; butter-making certificates to Miss Bertha Bachelor, Miss Helen L. Young, Mrs. M. A. Bourne, and Miss A. E. Pearson."

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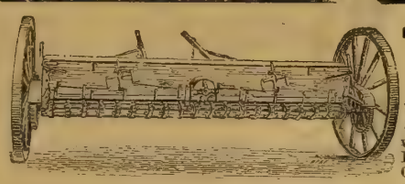
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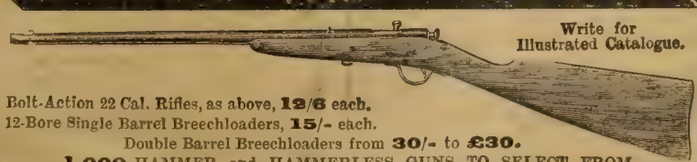
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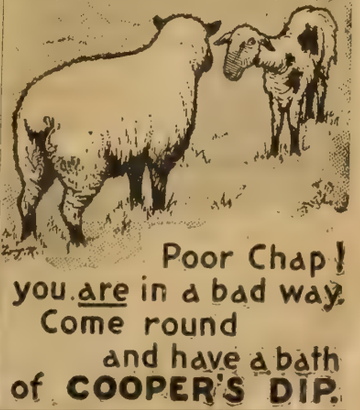
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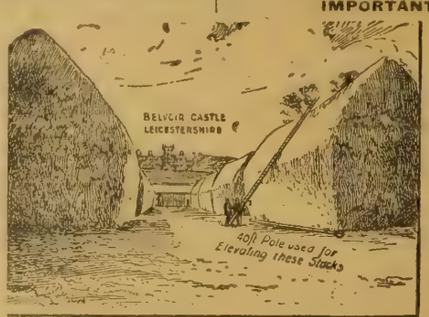
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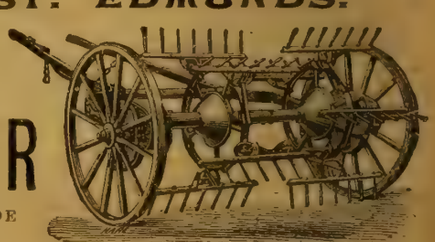
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